



THE PLAZA PULSE

SHEPHERD PARK PLAZA CIVIC CLUB

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August 2014

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4th of July Photo Album

The 4th of July was as explosive as ever! Even though the fire truck was called away to an emergency, the parade was bigger than ever! We learned our sno cone lesson, too—back to popsicles next year! Thanks to everyone for making the day super-terrific in spite of the morning's challenges!

Thanks to all our volunteers for the morning, and especially our fantastic photographers!! Here are a few of the photos—be sure to visit our Facebook page for the full albums.



Share Your News!

Please pass along any news of note about SPP residents so we can spotlight them in future issues of the Pulse.

If you have news to share, please let us know by emailing pulse@shepherdparkplaza.com or by contacting Romi Sandel at 713-962-4171.

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pulse@shepherdparkplaza.com

around the neighborhood



Mosquito Spraying Q & A

Each warm season, the SPP Civic Club employs a company to spray for mosquitos. The method uses a truck that drives in the streets and sprays the mosquito-killing agent. We have had some questions about the contents of those chemicals, and the civic club board would like to share that with our neighbors. The full **Material Safety Data Sheet** (MSDS) is posted on the neighborhood Facebook page under "files" [msds kontrol 30-30.pdf](#).

Summary answers to your questions (from the MSDS):

1. I am out walking my dog when the truck drives by—do I want to run away from the spray? **Answer:** There are no identified health hazards for skin absorption or inhalation.
2. The chemicals may kill mosquitos carrying West Nile, but is it instead causing Cancer in those individuals in the spray zone? **Answer:** the potential for causing cancer (or oncogenic potential) is extremely weak or nonexistent
3. Will my exposure to the spray during pregnancy cause birth defects in my baby? **Answer:** Research indicates exposure has no effect on mothers or fetuses. There is also no indication of interference with fertility.

Anecdotes—take 'em or leave 'em...

The truth is that some people get bitten more than others. I am one who gets bitten A LOT, so I have low tolerance for mosquitos. Especially when my children were babies, I wanted to be as holistic as possible in my pest control. Here are some practices you might experiment with (I have tried many of these and frankly none compares to Deep Woods OFF with DEET).

- Some claim hanging plastic zip top bags filled with water from a clothesline will "scare" mosquitos away by their distorted reflection.
- Heavily fragranced (unused) dryer sheets are supposed to repel mosquitos and other stinging insects, and they make the patio smell nice.
- I once dated a Marine who swore by taking a shot of white vinegar every morning to keep the bugs away. It kept other things away, too...
- Use citronella candles. I recall once wishing I could pour the melted wax on my legs to keep the bugs from biting.
- I have read that mosquitos are drawn to carbon dioxide. I have considered buying some dry ice to lure them away from people—this would be especially effective on Halloween, and much better than last year when I put citronella enhanced fuel in my tiki torches and nearly burned half of my yard when one fell over.
- Finally, my children just yesterday (after watching an episode of "Wild Kratts" on PBS) that mosquitos drink our blood so they can make eggs. They seemed satisfied with this explanation and not bothered at all that this meant MORE mosquitos. Oh well, at least they are learning science.

Most of all, folks, please enjoy the rest of your summer; out of doors as much as possible!! Think of Olaf.

Emily Leffler, Pulse Editor



June 2014 Citizens Patrol Stats

Patrol Hours *Prepared by Charli Merchant*

WEEK	Hours Patrolled
1	23.5
2	17
3	15
4	24
TOTAL	79.5

New Patrollers are Needed!! Contact **Karen Cruse** at 713-824-4799 or kjcfm4954@yahoo.com for information.

Training for Citizen Patrol certification is the second Tuesday of each month at 9455 West Montgomery at 7 pm. Anyone who regularly walks in the neighborhood is invited to join the COP group. More eyes on our neighborhood means more watching for suspicious activity.

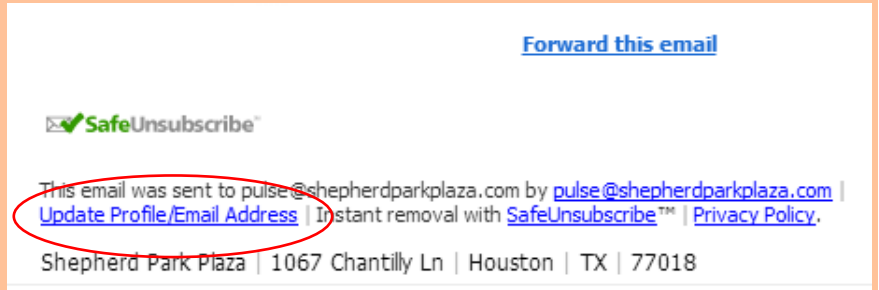
The winner of the random \$10 gas bonus for June is **August Galiano**.

Congratulations August! Patrollers who turn in at least 4 hours by the 5th of the month are eligible for a random drawing for a \$10 gas card. Gift cards for accumulated driving hours will be distributed at the monthly meeting.

Already receiving emails via Shepherd Park Plaza email communications? What if your email address changes? Here is how to manage your information.

Every email message you receive from SPP has the following information at the bottom of the message:

Click on "Update Profile/Email Address" to change your email address. It is THAT easy!



This year has brought numerous changes... this move being the best!



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June 2014

Arrests..... 0
 Alarm Responses 0
 Contract Check..... 0
 Information Calls 9
 School Check 1
 Park Checks 19
 Open Door 1

Vacation Watch28
 Vehicle—Speeding..... 1
 Parking Lot Check 4
 Traffic Stop..... 1
 Medical Emergency..... 1
 Miles Patrolled..... 1,574

Meet the Citizen..... 303
 Discharge of Weapon..... 0
 Terrorist Threat..... 1
 Home invasion..... 0
 Suspicious Persons.....5
 Suspicious Vehicle..... 9
 Animal (Humane) 0



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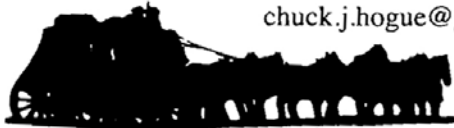
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Important Numbers

Police/Fire: 911

City Helpline: 311

Citizens Patrol
713-824-4799

Deed Restrictions
713-316-5255

Plaza Moms
281-779-5623 or 713-775-0307

New Neighbor/Greeter
713-688-5016

Garden Club
713-681-1552

Architectural Guidelines
713-316-5255

Plaza Pulse News
713-628-4210

SPP Historian
713-681-1552

Traffic & Safety
713-824-4799

Constable Dispatch
713-755-7628

SPP Membership
713-683-6502

City Liaison
713-688-7979

Pulse Advertising
713-688-0574 or 713-681-3600

Men's Group
713-683-9945

HPD
713-884-3131



SPP CALENDAR

August 2014



= Trash and Yard Waste

= Curbside Recycling

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					Aug 1	2
<p>Reminder about Heavy Trash: Our heavy trash pickup is the <u>3rd Thursday</u> of each month. Tree waste is picked up in ODD months, and Junk waste in the EVEN months.</p>						
3	4	5  	6	7	8	9
10 	11 Plaza Moms Kick-off Party	12 	13	14  Men's Group MEETING	15	16
17	18	19  	20	21 Heavy trash JUNK waste	22	23
24	25 HISD First Day of School 	26 	27	28	29	30
31	Sept 1 	2	3  	4	5	6



Plaza Moms is 20! Join us for our annual kick-off party to celebrate.

August 11, 7pm



Men's Group

The SPP Men's Group continues to meet for lunch during the summer! Our next luncheon and meeting is Thursday, August 14. Contact Chuck for location details.

For more information on the group, contact Chuck Blesener at ccbles77@gmail.com or 713-683-9945.



Shepherd Park Plaza Travelers

The SPP Travelers are going by bus to Orange, Texas on Wednesday, July 9th to visit the W. H. Stark House and the Stark Museum of Art. The group will have lunch at the Old Orange Cafe. Call Chuck Blesener for details and to reserve your spot.

For more information about the SPP Travelers, contact Chuck Blesener at ccbles77@gmail.com or 713-683-9945. Chuck sends periodic emails to the Travelers group—send him an email if you'd like to be included in future messages.



Garden Club

Getting to Know the Garden Club

Beth and August Galiano are long time Shepherd Park Plaza residents where Beth has been a loyal member of the SPPGC for many years. She served as President from 1987-89, 1993-94 and 2000-01. Beth and August raised two daughters, Margaret and Elizabeth, in our neighborhood. Today, Margaret and her two daughters live in Alaska!

Margaret's daughter, Christin Anderson, displayed the Galiano "love of nature" gene at an early age. During her childhood in Death Valley National Park, six year old Christin found her passion for fungi at the local library, when she discovered a book called "Mushrooms and Toadstools." This was the seed that grew into her love of mycology.

Today, Christin is working on her Master's Degree in Natural Resources Management at the University of Alaska, Fairbanks. She is researching the "Capability of Fungi to Clean Contaminated Soil."

Christin has served as a mentor for Rural Alaska Honors Institute students this summer and is a Natural Resources Technician for the Fairbanks Soil and Water Conservation District.

Christin will assist on weekend mycological field trips to Denali National Park and the Kenai. Her talk for the American Microbiology Society Alaska Branch Meeting in Denali National Park in May was voted as the best student presentation.



Right: Christin working in the Univ. of Alaska lab

Our next meeting will be held on Monday, September 8, 2014 at 7:00 p.m., at the home of Carol Jean Hebert, 1103 Cheshire Lane. This will be our social and organizational meeting. Anyone interested in the Shepherd Park Plaza Garden Club is most welcome and encouraged to attend this or any meeting.

Garden Club meetings are held on the Second Monday of the month, September through May at 7:00 p.m.

*If you are interested please contact **Carol Jean Hebert** at (713) 681-1552 or CarolJeanHebert@yahoo.com for further details.*



The Garden Club's
July
Yard of the Month
Award goes to:

Barbara DePrato
1112 Martin



THE PLAZA PULSE

SHEPHERD PARK PLAZA CIVIC CLUB

Shepherd Park Plaza Civic Club
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July Yards of the Month

Section 1:

1023 Chamboard
Gary & Deborah
Caraway

Section 3:

1009 Martin
Gerald & Norma Garcia

Section 2:

1127 Chantilly Ln
James & Rita Rogers

Section 4:

1053 Candlelight
Brandon & Jennifer
Brown

SPP
Wants to Welcome You

New to the neighborhood?

Even if you are not-so-new, but haven't gotten around to introducing yourself yet, contact **Sheri Beasley** at 713-688-5016 or MammaMia_54@yahoo.com so we can welcome you officially.