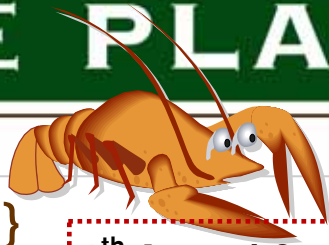




THE PLAZA PULSE

SHEPHERD PARK PLAZA CIVIC CLUB



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May 2014

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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.

6th Annual Crawfish Boil Set for Saturday, May 17th

This event is right around the corner! It's a great opportunity for some good eats and socializing. Bring your friends and neighbors! Proceeds benefit the SPP Civic Club. RSVPs taken first come, first served, until we reach 100 guests or May 12.

When Saturday, May 17th, 6PM till ?
Where 1050 Candlelight Ln, in the cul-de-sac
How Much \$30 per Person; \$10 per child 5-12 yrs old

Sign Me Up!! RSVP to Patricia Dornak
713-683-6502 or pdornak@gmail.com

What does your ticket buy?

Boiled Crawfish with Andouille sausage, corn on the cob, red potatoes, mushrooms, and spices galore. Appetizers, desserts, sodas, beer and margaritas are also included for the donation or \$30 per person, Children, 5-12 years in age are \$10 each.

Did You Spot the Errors??



By now, my readers are used to regular errors in the Pulse, but April contained a few doozies! Did you notice them?

MISTAKE: The Constable program has a suggested donation of \$200 per month.

FACT: While we may all feel James is deserving of such a level of compensation, the Constable program has a suggested donation of \$200 per YEAR (though many neighbors give above and beyond!)

MISTAKE: Heavy Trash was noted as Tree Waste and was on the calendar for the 4th Thursday.

FACT: Heavy Trash is actually scheduled every THIRD Thursday and even months are Junk Waste.

Thank you to all my friendly neighbors for pointing these mistakes out to me! Keep the corrections coming.

Emily Leffler, Editor

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Men's Group Rep. Chuck Blesener

Pulse Editor: Emily Leffler
713-628-4210

pulse@shepherdparkplaza.com

around the neighborhood



- Sydney Dornak, daughter of longtime SPP residents and board member, Patricia and Tom Dornak, graduates on May 24th from St Agnes Academy. She is graduating with high honors, is a member of the National Honor Society, Science Honor Society, President of the St. Agnes Academy Habitat for Humanity Chapter, Eucharist minister for St. Agnes Academy, serves on the Student Council and is on the Dominican Preaching Team. Sydney also makes time to give back to her community, volunteering as a Servant Leader at her church, St. Michael Catholic Church; the Houston Food Bank; Camp M.I. Way, a camp for multiple impaired children, and as an assistant Volleyball coach for the past 2 years at two different YMCA's as well as other various nonprofits.

Sydney will be attending Texas Tech University this fall and will be majoring in Chemical Engineering. Sydney is the recipient of Texas Tech's Presidential Scholarship for her academic achievement. She is also a recipient of an academic scholarship from Tom's employer, Spectra Energy Corp.

Do you have a student who is graduating this month? Tell us all about it! We will run more graduates in the June Pulse and through the summer as reported. Email us at Pulse@ShepherdParkPlaza.com.

- James "Jim" H. Morgan 89, passed away at home on April 17, 2014. Jim was a long-time Shepherd Park Plaza resident, an avid pilot and golfer; he enjoyed playing at the El Dorado Country Club. Jim was a loving husband, father, wonderful grandfather and uncle. Jim had a great sense of humor and was known as a fun jokester, even when the jokes were on him. Jim is survived by the love of his life, Linda, to whom he was married for 38 years.
- Kenneth Kelly, age 72, long time Shepherd Park Plaza resident, passed away March 24, 2014. Kenneth was a long time member of Our Savior Lutheran Church. He graduated from Reagan High School in 1959. On leave from the US Army before shipping out to Korea he married his high school sweetheart, Bobbie. They were married for 53 years. He is survived by his wife Bobbie Kelly, son Michael Kelly, daughter Terri Kelly Langdon, sister Barbara Johns and their respective families and many life long friends and neighbors.

Our SPP Facebook page has been a flurry of activity over a variety of parking ticket woes. Thanks to neighbor Dennis Woodward for summarizing the rules and regulations of parking in our neighborhood and beyond.

A Ticket in Front of Your House!

By Dennis Woodward

Do not stop in front of your house, run inside for just a moment, and then run outside and get back in your car. Well, go ahead if your car is facing the right direction. Don't block the sidewalk either. This past month a SPP resident of 25 years parked the wrong way on a cul-de-sac in front of their home and was cited for parking the wrong way on the street. I wish there was some vicious, malicious, and underhanded story to write about. The truth is that it is illegal to park with your car facing the wrong way on the street; and, it is illegal block the sidewalk with your car. Don't put out your heavy trash too early either. The government does not care that the water heater burst and all of your stuff is wet, moldy, and nasty inside the garage (story from another neighborhood). Just store it beside the garage under a tarp until the law says you can put it out. A broken down car in front of your home will get you a citation as well.

February and March 2014 Citizens Patrol Stats

Patrol Hours *Prepared by Charli Merchant*

WEEK	February	March
1	10	13
2	8.5	12
3	11	13
4	19	15
TOTAL	48.5	53

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 February is **August Galiano** and for March is **Karen Cruse**! 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.

Home Security Tips from the Citizen Patrollers

- If you have a driveway gate, remember to close it!
- Keep porch lights on at night.
- Lock doors.
- Keep cars in garage or inside gate. Lock car doors.
- If you have a house alarm, USE IT!

With Mother's Day, Graduations & Wedding Season upon us, I would love to help you shop for gorgeous gifts and stylish accessories from **Stella & Dot**. To be wowed by our latest collection of boutique style jewelry, charms, purses, totes & scarves AND to shop online, visit: www.stelladot.com/larabaker

Want to see the pieces in person? I live locally in Timbergrove, so let's invite your friends over for coffee or wine & you'll receive **\$250 in free** accessories (on average) as a thank you for hosting!

Or want a fun & flexible way to earn extra income? Let's chat about the Stylist opportunity! Contact me,

LARA BAKER, *Stella & Dot Star Stylist*
cell 281.658.6450 larabaker1030@gmail.com



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Safety Tips for Summer

1. MOW YOUR GRASS. unkempt lawns invite mischief—the assumption is the house is vacant.
2. Use outdoor lighting at night. Light deters those who prefer their "work" be done in the dark.
3. Use your house alarm if you have one—loud noises effectively scare criminals. If you have a driveway gate, park behind it, and close it. Patrollers report open gates frequently—and not during daylight hours. Protect yourself!
4. Lock your houses and your cars. Leave nothing of value in your cars, especially if it is in sight, or if you park outside a garage or gate.
5. If you will be gone, let neighbors and our deputy know, arrange for mail and newspaper pickup, and put lights on a timer.
6. Know your neighbors. New neighbors move in all the time, so get to know them.
7. With warmer weather and longer daylight, more people are out later, walking and riding bikes. Be vigilant about sharing the road with walkers and bikers. Observe the speed limit in the neighborhood—we are not exempt from the law just because we live here.
8. And, on the subject of safety, don't forget your pets! Check your fences, shelters from heat, availability of water, and make sure your leashes are secure for walks. Leashes are mandatory by law unless a dog is in a fenced yard—let's all work together to keep our pets safe and healthy.

AND a reminder about park rules: park hours are dawn to dusk—these hours help keep our park safe. Alcohol is not allowed in the park. If you see folks in the park when they should not be, or breaking the posted rules, call the Constable Dispatch number to report it.

713.755.7628 is the Constable Dispatch—call to report anything you see that is suspicious

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

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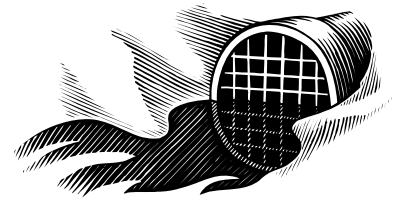
Lived in SPP since 1982; Garden Club Member; Experienced in Residential & Bank REO Foreclosures. Interact with investors nationally & internationally.

Volunteer and Fund Raiser for the 100 Club, the Ronald McDonald House, the HLS&R, the Food Pantry at St. Rose of Lima and the TX Cattlewomen's Organization.

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Solutions to Area Flooding to Begin Soon

The City of Houston Public Works and Engineering department has reported on upcoming drainage improvements for our area. Thanks to Chuck Blesener for summarizing the report's impact on our neighborhood, which begins relatively soon.



The report is found here: http://mycity.rebuildhouston.org/CIP_PDFs/Final%202014-2018%20FormAs/Inventory/Inv_M-000285_EFS_Garden_Oaks.pdf (sorry for the long url – check out the Pulse online to access the link directly)

Items of note to look for as you read the report:

- The locations of three retention ponds
- The increased size and direction of flow on major new storm drains
- The associated replacement and upgrading of much infrastructure – most notably, streets and sidewalks
- The relationship of this project to the Pinemont repaving project

The projects will have a major impact on traffic and access on Pinemont, Brinkman, Alba, and the far Eastern end of Chamberboard. The reconstruction of Brinkman will affect the bus loading area for Durham Elementary and Shepherd Park access from the East. In the end it should alleviate storm water run-off problems and home flooding in the Eastern section of our neighborhood and much of the North Shepherd area.

Public Works and Engineering Project numbers ---

M-000285-0001-3	Garden Oaks and Shepherd Forest Drainage and Paving Sub-Project 1
	Design Start July 2011 Construction Start January 2015
N-000475-0002-3	Pinemont Drive from Ella to N. Shepherd Drive
	Design Start May 2011 Construction Start October 2014

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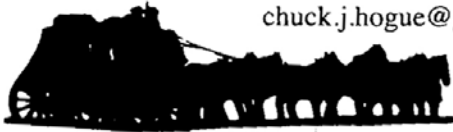
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713-681-3600

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

New Neighbor/Greeter
713-688-5016

Garden Club
713-681-1552

Architectural Guidelines
713-681-3600

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

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713-683-9945

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713-688-0574 or 713-681-3600

Men's Group
713-683-9945

HPD
713-884-3131



SPP CALENDAR

May 2014



= Trash and Yard Waste

= Curbside Recycling

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

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.					1	2	3
					LADIES' NIGHT OUT		
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
				Men's Group MEETING			
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	
Happy Mother's Day	Garden Club MEETING			Heavy trash TREE waste		SPP Crawfish Boil	
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	
	Plaza Moms Meeting						
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	
	*		28		28	SPP TRAVELERS	
June 1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
		3					



Upcoming Spring Activities

It's not summer yet! Come out and join Plaza Moms for our May events!

Thursday, May 1—Ladies Night Out, 8pm, Cottonwood

Monday, May 19—Monthly meeting, 7pm, at the home of Melissa deLaunay, 1034 Thornton

Want to learn more about Plaza Moms? Email Megan Rasmussen at chefmegan@gmail.com.



Men's Group

The SPP Men's Group will meet for lunch at Spaghetti Western (the NEW location), 1951 West T.C. Jester, on Thursday, May 8th at 11:30 a.m.

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



Shepherd Park Plaza Travelers

The SPP Travelers will try once again to venture down Buffalo Bayou on the boat Sam Houston, and have lunch at Brady's Landing. In the afternoon the group will travel by bus to visit the City's new Waterworks Education Center near Lake Houston. The trip is planned for Friday, May 30th.

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.



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

Bess Moseley
1033 Candlelight



Garden Club

The Shepherd Park Plaza Garden Club met on Monday, April 14, 2014 at the home of Barbara Raines, 1191 Chamboard.. Vickie Brandt, Beth Galiano and Addie Smith were co-hostesses



This was the annual Plant Swap Meeting. Each Member brought one super special plant and numbers were drawn for a "White Elephant" type of exchange. Many Members also brought extra plants that were added to the Door Prizes. The result was that all in attendance went home, one plant or more richer.

At the Spring Fling, the SPPGC Silent Auction item was well received and the Dessert Table was, once again, a yummy success.

The slate of Candidates for the upcoming year was presented and they were unanimously voted into office.

The SPPGC Yard of the month for April 2014 was awarded to Bess Moseley, 1033 Candlelight.



Our next meeting will be held on Monday, May 12, 2014 at 7:00 p.m., at Table 19, on west 19th Street in the Heights. The Officers for the upcoming year will be installed at this 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.*





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APRIL Yards of the Month

Section 1:

943 Chamboard
Michael Erickson &
Marcia West

Section 3:

1105 Martin
Bob & Raycene Hilsher

Section 2:

1039 Thornton
Craig Dietz &
Don Oberlander

Section 4:

1009 Richelieu
Raymond & Deborah
Pantaja



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.