



# THE PLAZA PULSE

SHEPHERD PARK PLAZA CIVIC CLUB



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October 2013

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## 2014 SPP Civic Club Fundraising Campaign has Begun

*by Tom Dornak*

By now, you have received a mailed letter and statement kicking off the **2014 SPP Civic Club Fundraising** for both Civic Club Membership and the Constable Patrol Program. The 2014 campaign runs from September 1, 2013 through August 31, 2014, and while donations are received all year long, we request your prompt reply as our 2014 contract with Harris County for our Deputy Patroller must be signed and executed in December.

While participation in each program is voluntary, the neighborhood has historically seen strong participation, which is evident in the care our neighbors take in our properties and our neighbors and friends around us. We urge neighbors to participate as your continuous support helps maintain successful operations.

Membership dues are \$25 per year. The requested donation to the Constable Patrol Program is \$200 per household.

### Membership and Constable Stats

The below statistics show the number of neighbors who have contributed in each program over the last five years.

Year	SPP Civic Club Members	%	Constable Patrol Participation	%
2013	543	74.5%	463	63.5%
2012	550	75.4%	460	63.1%
2011	544	74.6%	490	67.2%
2010	552	75.7%	440	60.4%
2009	540	74.1%	445	61.0%

**Total SPP Residents: 729**

Year after year, the majority of our residents have an interest in renewing their SPP membership which provides funding to maintain landscaping at our neighborhood entrances, publish a monthly newsletter, manage an email alert system, monitor and report violations to city ordinances & deed restrictions and support improvement projects. All these things directly reflect the healthy increase of property values in SPP.

Residents are genuinely interested in donating to the Constable Patrol program as it tremendously helps reduce crime and increase safety in our neighborhood.

### 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](mailto:pulse@shepherdparkplaza.com) or by contacting Romi Sandel at 713-962-4171.

## Board of Directors

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**Hospitality** Shannon Zierau

**Membership** Tom Dornak

**Parks/DRT/PIP Liaison** Chuck Blesener

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**Plaza Moms Co-Rep.**

Emily Eldridge, Shannon Zierau

**Men's Group Rep.** Chuck Blesener

**Pulse Editor:** Emily Leffler  
713-628-4210

[pulse@shepherdparkplaza.com](mailto:pulse@shepherdparkplaza.com)

# around the neighborhood

- ▶ **October 1** is National Night Out! Have fun visiting with neighbors.
- ▶ The annual **SPP Fall Festival** will be held Saturday, October 19 from 5pm—7:30pm. We enjoyed such a successful “update” to last year’s event, we are again embracing the “festival” atmosphere. We will still have our traditional sit-down dinner, but will also enjoy games and activities for everyone to enjoy! See the enclosed flyer for details.

- ▶ **Trick or Treat!**  
Halloween is here again! Get those decorations out and get ready for trick-or-treaters. Be sure to post the enclosed flyer on your door and turn porch lights on.

- ▶ **Halloween Decoration Judging will occur October 27**

- ▶ **Oops! Incorrect YOM posting**—Our apologies to Michael Erickson and Marcia West at 943 Chamboard! After all their hard work in the yard, we gave the December 2012 Yard of the Month award to someone else! We are so sorry!



### Bartulas Celebrate 50 Years!

Ray and Lynnette Bartula recently celebrated their 50 year wedding anniversary with several celebrations. They went on a Caribbean cruise with their children, their children’s spouses and their grandchildren. They followed that event up with a party near their daughter’s home in Cypress, Texas. The Archdiocese is recognizing this milestone with a celebration for couples in the diocese that celebrated their 25 year or 50 year wedding anniversary and the Bartulas are being honored at this celebration. Ray Bartula’s great grandparents settled in Bremond, Texas, nearly 140 years ago and the town of Bremond honored the family recently during the Polish Day Festival and parade. The great grandparents were also honored with a historical marker on their graves. During the parade

in Bremond, Ray Bartula got to show off his restored Model A Ford, one of his prized treasures. Congratulations to the Bartulas!

**Patrol Hours** *Prepared by Charli Merchant*

WEEK	HOURS PATROLLED
1	22.5
2	30.5
3	18.25
4	38.75
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>110</b>

**Interested in patrolling?** Contact **Karen Cruse** at 713-824-4799 or [kjcfm4954@yahoo.com](mailto: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 this month 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.

**Durham Elementary Principal’s Corner**

*by Emily Leffler, for Principal Sugarek*

The Durham Elementary PTA, along with Ms. Sugarek and all the Durham faculty and staff, wish to express their appreciation for the patience of the neighbors during the start of school! We know that at drop off, pick up and during special events, parents will park near your homes and walk their children to and from the school and we imagine that this could potentially be an inconvenience for you.

A few dates to keep in mind that have historically caused potential parking issues this time of year include:

- Every Wednesday, 1:00 pm—Early Dismissal (Regular dismissal is at 3:30, Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri)
- 2nd Tuesday of Every Month, 6:00 pm—PTA Meeting
- 4th Tuesday of Every Month, 8:30 am and 6:00 pm—Principal Meetings with Parents
- Saturday, October 26th, 11:00 am –3:00 pm—Fall Festival

We hope that you will be as tolerant and graceful as you have been in the past while families are refamiliarized with safely parking around the school. And please don’t hesitate to contact the school at 713-613-2527 if you witness unsafe or un-neighborly behavior. We have kicked off a wonderful school year and it is made even better when we have the support of the community.

**Are you still looking to volunteer at Durham? October 12 is Campus Beautification Day!** Join us from 8am—noon to help weed and tidy our gardens. No VIPS clearance required!

\*A sweet note about fundraising\*

KONA Ice will be at Durham the first and third Friday of each month after school is dismissed at 3:30. Shaved ice treats are priced at \$2, \$3 and \$4 and proceeds go to Durham’s PTA fund. Even if you don’t have a child attending Durham, come over for a cool treat!

Also, be aware that you can designate your Kroger shopping card to benefit Durham. The school also collects Box Tops from food packages so be on the lookout and drop your clippings by the school periodically.

## Call s handled by Deputy Constable



# August 2013

Arrests..... 0  
 Alarm Responses..... 4  
 Citizen Contacts..... 183  
 Disturbances..... 0  
 Welfare Checks..... 3  
 Park Checks..... 18

Vacation Watch..... 113  
 Burglary of Motor Vehicle. 0  
 Burglary of Habitation..... 0  
 Theft..... 0  
 Accident Reports..... 0  
 Miles Patrolled..... 2,570

Traffic:  
 Traffic Stops..... 10  
 Citations..... 3  
 Suspicious Persons..... 4  
 Suspicious Vehicles..... 2  
 Medical Emergencies..... 4

### Citizens On Patrol—Training Update!

If you are a new patroller, or you have been patrolling and need to be certified, the last training session for the year will be held:

Tuesday, **October 8th** at 7:00 p.m.  
 9455 West Montgomery

All required paperwork will have to be turned in a week before that date.



Lived in SPP since 1982; Garden Club Member; Experienced in Residential & Bank REO Foreclosures

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### SPP Fall Neighborhood Garage Sale October 12

by Patricia Dornak

**Date:** Saturday, October 12th, 8 AM to Noon

**Rain Date:** Saturday, October 19th, 8 AM to Noon

Contact Patricia Dornak at PDornak@gmail.com or 713-683-6502 to participate and have your address included in handout maps. Our neighbors in Candlelight Plaza will again join us in hosting garage sales this Fall. This event has had a healthy participation since it started 2 years ago. Last Spring 26 SPP Residents and 11 Candlelight Residents held a Garage Sale. Have fun selling and shopping!

Here are a few tips for a successful garage sale:

- Be visible from the street. Put a sign or balloons in your yard if you are holding your sale at the back of your driveway or in your garage.
- Make items visible. Consider moving some items to your driveway, toward the front of your house.
- Hang clothes instead of leaving them in boxes or folded on tables.
- Price some items. It is not necessary to price every single item, but give shoppers an idea of what prices you expect so they aren't scared to ask.
- Save your used grocery sacks to bag up items shoppers buy.
- Have plenty of change and small denominations ready.
- Be prepared for early bird shoppers arriving at or before 8 AM!

MANNA (Ministry Assistance of the Near Northwest Alliance) located at 43rd St @ Rosslyn will pick up any unsold or unwanted items beginning at 12 noon if desired. Or you can take steps to deliver to them. If you plan to participate, please contact Patricia Dornak at Pdornak@gmail.com or 713-683-6502 to get your address included in the advertising publications and indicate whether you want to donate to MANNA.

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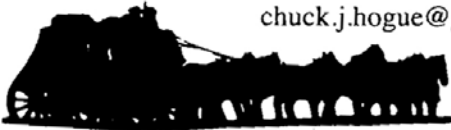
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## Important Numbers

Police/Fire: 911

City Helpline: 311

Citizens Patrol  
713-824-4799

Deed Restrictions  
713-681-3600

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

New Neighbor/Greeter  
281-344-7013

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

City Liaison  
713-683-9945

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

Men's Group  
713-683-9945

HPD  
713-884-3131



# SPP CALENDAR

October 2013



= Trash and Yard Waste

= Curbside Recycling

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

		 1 Nat'l Night Out	2	 3 LADIES' NIGHT OUT	4	5	
6	7	 8	9	10	11	12 SPP-Wide Garage Sale Durham El em. Campus Clean-Up Day	
13	 Garden Club MEETING	14	15	16	17 Heavy trash JUNK waste SPP TRAVELERS	18	19 SPP Fall Festival
20	21	 22	23	24	25	26 Durham Elementary Fall Festival	
27 Halloween Decoration Judging	28	 29	30	 31	Nov 1	2	
3	4	 5	6	7	8	9	



## Garden Club

The Shepherd Park Plaza Garden Club met on Monday, September 9, 2013 at the home of Carol Jean Hebert. This organizational meeting set the tone for a productive and contributory upcoming year. In addition to normal business functions, the group discussed their role in the upcoming SPP Fall Festival. The SPPGC will once again set up and coordinate the dessert table and they will sponsor a Silent Auction. All funds raised will go to the beautification and upkeep of SPP.

**SPPGC has received a request from Durham Elementary school to assist with the school's gardens and pond area. The SPPGC fully supports such an endeavor. Ms. Lacy Heck, the science lab teacher at Durham, will speak at next month's meeting and a program will be developed. Note: you do not have to be a SPPGC Member to help with this effort.**

The next meeting will be held on Monday, October 14, 2013, 7:00 p.m., at the home of Sarrah Moseley, 1147 Thornton.

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.



Plaza Moms has a busy October ahead with lots of different opportunities for families to get involved in a variety of events.

**Thursday, October 3**—Ladies Night Out, 7pm, Cottonwood

**Thursday, October 17**—Durham Elementary's PTA Invites us to join them at "Salsa & Salsa" (the kind you eat, and the kind you dance) at Durham Elementary

**Saturday, October 19**—Neighborhood Fall Festival

**Saturday, October 26**—Durham Elementary Fall Festival



## Shepherd Park Plaza Travelers

### Thursday, October 17 Road Trip!

After staying in Houston on the last two trips, the Shepherd Park Plaza Travelers will be on the road again for their next trip on Thursday, October 17th.

After a delicious family style lunch right off the stove at Hotel Blessing in Blessing, Texas, the group will be treated to a guided tour of the STNP Nuclear Power Plant in Palacios.

To reserve your seat on the bus, contact Chuck Blesener at ccbles77@gmail.com or 713-683-9945.

\*\*\*\*\*

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  
September Yard of the Month Award goes to:

**Robin McClung**  
1178 Curtin





# THE PLAZA PULSE

SHEPHERD PARK PLAZA CIVIC CLUB

Shepherd Park Plaza Civic Club  
P. O. Box 10453  
Houston, TX 77206  
[www.ShepherdParkPlaza.com](http://www.ShepherdParkPlaza.com)

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## SEPTEMBER Yards of the Month

### Section 1:

994 Chamboard  
Steven & Paula Murphy

### Section 3:

1025 Martin  
Paul & Laurie Harwick

### Section 2:

974 Thornton  
Joseph & Amy Termina

### Section 4:

Aug: 1103 Candlelight  
Dale & Polly Wilhelm  
Sept: 1034 Candlelight  
JJ Scardino



New to the neighborhood?

Even if you are not-so-new, but haven't gotten around to introducing yourself yet, contact **Evonne Alford Sturm** at 281-344-7013 or [EvonneAlford@comcast.net](mailto:EvonneAlford@comcast.net) so we can welcome you officially.