



# THE PLAZA PULSE

SHEPHERD PARK PLAZA CIVIC CLUB

## May 2018

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713-316-9688 or [pulse@shepherdparkplaza.com](mailto:pulse@shepherdparkplaza.com)  
Pulse Co-Editor: Laurie Hardwick

### TIME TO SIGN-UP OR RENEW YOUR CONSTABLE PATROL CONTRIBUTION

Shepherd Park Plaza has a contract with Harris County Precinct One's Constable to have our neighborhood patrolled by two Deputies at various times. This service is paid for by contributions from SPP residents. Historically about 60% of residents contribute to this program, but we need MORE! Not only do they patrol the area, but they will provide a home safety inspection, vacation watch, and a women's multi-part personal safety class. Over the years, they've also investigated thefts and recovered stolen property. They watch for speeding cars using SPP as a cut-through from Ella to Shepherd. But just as important is their presence in our neighborhood that deters criminals.

NOW IT IS YOUR TURN - Signing up is easy. Go to <http://shepherdparkplaza.com/> and click the tab at the top of the page "Pay Constable and Membership Dues" and complete your transaction. If you prefer to write a check, send your contribution to Maureen Sullivan, SPP Membership Director, 1054 Cheshire, Houston, TX. 77018. You can write one check and break out your contribution on the memo line; Constable/SPP dues/Citizens Patrol.

The suggested contribution is \$290. This pays for two (2) deputies each patrolling forty (40) hours per week (in combination with Candlelight Plaza). That works out to only \$1.12 per day.



### Have a Seat!



Have you noticed the colorful pairs of chairs in many of your neighbors' front yards? They have a great message and hopefully more residents will jump on the bandwagon. The purpose of these chairs is to encourage people to sit in their front yards and meet their neighbors as they walk, bike or even drive by. So if you see these chairs with someone sitting in them, strike up a conversation about the upcoming Plaza Moms July 4th parade or our Fall Festiva or how you enjoyed the crawfish boil or how successful your garage sale was or the latest, greatest restaurant you visited. **Maybe you'll find you have kids the same age or that you attended the same college.**

SPP  
Wants to Welcome You

New to the neighborhood?  
Contact Shannon Zierau at  
713-775-0307 or  
[szierau@yahoo.com](mailto:szierau@yahoo.com) so we can  
welcome you officially.

### SUPPORT LOCAL BUSINESSES!

So many great things happening in our area with new shopping centers, new restaurants, frozen treat vendors, and much more. Make May the month to support one or more of the local businesses and let's keep them going.



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**Nice Weather – Here Come the Scammers**

Nice days bring spring cleaning and other projects and the scammers are taking advantage of it. They are posing as roof inspectors, cable company workers, building inspectors, driveway repair and the old standby, tree trimmers. Their whole purpose is to get you out of the house so they can occupy you outside while their cohorts burglarize your home.

Follow these simple rules:

- Never let anyone into your home or yard that you do not know.
- Never be lured out of your home.
- Keep your doors locked especially if you go outside.
- Legitimate employees of construction and utility companies will have an ID.
- If you are approached by anyone that seems suspicious, **call the Constable immediately at 713-755-7628.**

**Big Favor To Ask**

A lot of these scams are perpetrated on our neighbors who are senior citizens. We have written numerous articles in the *Pulse* about these scams. If you have a neighbor who is a senior citizen, do them a favor and talk to them about letting strangers into their home or even on their property. We want everyone to be safe.

**CITIZENS POLICE ACADEMY**

**By: Bill Scheel**

I can tell you that it was a great experience and I am very happy I did it. I think the one thing I came away with is the professionalism of Constable Rosen’s staff. There is even a PhD candidate serving as a Lieutenant. They are truly dedicated and care deeply about the people they protect.

The task of the Precinct One office is so much more than patrol and we learned all aspects of their duties although I found the patrol division to be the most fascinating. Our class participated in nighttime simulated traffic stops covering all types of scenarios from the cooperative to the belligerent armed drug dealer. I have a deep appreciation of the danger our officers face whenever they make a traffic stop.

We also studied other areas tasked to Precinct One such as criminology, mental health, juvenile detention, warrants, crowd control, and building security just to name a few.

If you or someone you know who would enjoy and benefit from the class, go to <https://pct1constable.net/citizens-police-academy/> for more information and a link to the application. Don’t delay. The class will be limited to fifteen (15) citizens and begins June 12<sup>th</sup>. It does take some dedication and time to attend. Classes are held on Tuesday nights from 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. Most of the classes are held in Constable Rosen’s office downtown.



Bill Scheel is presented his diploma as a graduate of Constable Al Rosen’s Citizens Police Academy Class Number One

## MEN'S GROUP NEWS!

**By: Chris Wooldridge**

The SPP Men's Group kicked off April by meeting with representatives from the Houston City Parks Organization as we are continuing to push forward with our re-forestation of native "understory" grasses, shrubs and small trees. Dennis Woodward led a meeting with City Parks representative Marilu De La Fuente (Park Adoption Coordinator) and Kelli Ondracek (Parks Naturalist). Kelli and Dennis will work closely to choose plant especially native to our area. Dennis will lead the effort to plant in selected areas. The Men's Group will take advantage of this opportunity to engage the Garden Club members and gardeners at large as well as school children from Durham Elementary and Oak Forest Elementary to help with planting and care of the new additions to our park.

Our Spring BBQ in the park was a great success! Early weather reports were intimidating, however, as the day advanced the sun broke through to provide us with a wonderful, cool afternoon. Troy Lubbers and Victor Des Suza manned the grills and we served our guests hamburgers, hot dogs, watermelon and fire roasted marshmallows for dessert. A truly great time for neighborhood fellowship.

We will plan our second social gathering to take place sometime in late summer to celebrate the return to school. More to follow in the June Plaza Pulse.

Going forward, the Men's Group will conduct business matters at our Third Thursday Lunches, the next one being Thursday, May 17th at Wakefield Crowbar at 954 Wakefield. With all of the spring and summer extracurricular activities on the weekends, we are sensitive to the value of family time and do not want to add to the weekend to-do list. We will report on our April 19th third Thursday business and social happenings in the June Plaza Pulse.

Good things are continuing to happen within the Men's Group! Please contact Chris Wooldridge at 832-623-4268 or [chris@chris-prperties.com](mailto:chris@chris-prperties.com)



## Save the Date!



Wednesday, July 4th will be the Plaza Moms annual July 4th parade in the neighborhood, so shine and polish those bikes, dust off that banner, unfurl the flags and get ready for a fun family event to celebrate our **nation's Independence!** **The parade will start at 8:30 a.m., and it will be followed by activities at Shepherd Park until around 10:30 a.m.**



Street sign down? Traffic light blinking? Tree limb down over the street? The City of Houston has a dedicated phone line for these types of non-emergency related issues. You can dial 3-1-1 from any land or cellular line or you can download the app to your SmartPhone.



Check out the Shepherd Park Plaza Facebook page for the most recent discussions, news, alerts, ideas, recommendations and **neighborhood events.** **It's also a good place to post about lost pets or lost items.**

### April Yards of the Month

<p><b>Section 1:</b> 1043 Chamboard Irene &amp; Damon Brotherton</p>	<p><b>Section 3:</b> 1038 Martin Martha &amp; Britt Braddick</p>
<p><b>Section 2:</b> 4706 Thornton Cir Susan &amp; Melvin Clayton</p>	<p><b>Section 4:</b> 1103 Candlelight Polly &amp; Dale Wilhelm</p>



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## Call is handled by Deputy Constable

\*Figures are for entire contract including SPP and Candlight Plaza



March 2018

Disturbance/Loud noise...3	Contract checks...296	DRUG/OD/POSSESSION... 1
Traffic Citations...3	Miles Patrol Led...3785	Welfare Check...1
Writ...6	MEET THE CITIZEN...207	Park Checks... 14
Suspicious Vehicle...6	Suspicious Person...4	Traffic Stops...12
Alarm...7	Open Window/Other...4	Traffic Initiative...10
Burglary/Motor Vehicle...3	Meet the Officer...3	Vehicle Recovery...1
Vacation Watch...14	Property Lost /Found...2	Other...6

Vacation Watch registry (1 week in advance)...<http://pct1constable.net/sign-up/vacation-watch/>

SIGN UP FOR THE CONSTABLE OFFICE'S NEWSLETTER...<http://pct1constable.net/sign-up> then click Newsletter

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## Durham Elementary News

**Summer is just around the corner, but there's lots going on at Durham Elementary!**

During the week of May 7<sup>th</sup>, we will be celebrating our teachers during Teacher Appreciation Week. Our amazing staff gives so much to our students and school. We want them to know how much they are appreciated! The administration and PTA have teamed up to shower the staff with fun treats and surprises every day of their special week.

**The Durham Theater Group is proud to present "Disney's Aladdin Jr." on May 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>.** Performances will be held at Frank Black Middle School on Friday, May 18<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m., and Saturday, May 19<sup>th</sup> at 12:00 p.m. Be looking for **information on Facebook on how to purchase tickets. We'd love to see lots of faces from the community at the shows!**

Our 5<sup>th</sup> grade students are working on their Exhibition Projects. This right of passage from the elementary school International Baccalaureate program to middle school, allows each student to apply what they have learned and create an actionable project on an issue that is personally significant. If you would like to mentor a student or help with this process, please contact Lisa Knupp, IB Coordinator, at [LKNUPP@houstonisd.org](mailto:LKNUPP@houstonisd.org). The community is invited to join in a celebration of learning on Friday May 24<sup>th</sup> from 5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. where the students will showcase their Exhibition Projects. Please keep in mind that the last day of the 2017-2018 school year will be on June 1<sup>st</sup>. Summer School will be taking place on campus for the duration of the month of June. While driving in the area, please watch out for children and slow moving vehicles. Have a great summer!

Want to make a difference at your local school? You don't need to have a child that attends Durham to volunteer - just a desire to help out! Volunteers are needed to work one-on-one with students, in small groups, and to help teachers with behind-the-scenes tasks: 1 - 2 days a week, or as often as you are able. No experience is necessary! Visit the office, email Anne Baumgarten at [abaumgar@houstonisd.org](mailto:abaumgar@houstonisd.org), or call 713-613-2527 for more information.

# Citizens Patrol Stats

## March 2018 Patrol Hours Prepared by Deborah DeBram & Katherine Peale

WEEK	Walking/ Biking	Drive
1	1	9
2	2	12
3	0	10
4	1	14
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>45</b>

### SHEPHERD PARK PLAZA CITIZENS PATROL WELCOMES VOLUNTEERS!

The Houston Police Department is concerned about crime in the neighborhoods and communities throughout the city. In response, the Citizen Patrol Program was established in an effort to bring the citizens and the police department together for a common goal, and that is to improve the quality of life by eliminating crime. You can become a volunteer by signing up today! Contact Deborah DeBram or Katherine Peale at 713-812-7626 or algebrakp@aol.com for more information.

The Citizen Patrol Program is designed to provide a means for citizens to organize into patrol groups for the purpose of reducing crime in their community. Citizen Patrollers are the additional eyes and ears the police can count on to make Houston a safe place to live and work. The value of police/citizen cooperation is well illustrated by the success of the Citizen Patrol Program.

The winner of the \$10 random drawing is Rick Zebrak. Patrollers who turn in at least 4 driving hours by the 5th of the month are eligible for this drawing.

**We need volunteers. Training is just a few hours and you can be on your way to helping us protect the neighborhood.**



The Garden Club April meeting was our traditional brown bag / plant swap. This was a fun time and an internal fundraiser for the club. Each member brought a plant or gardening related item to donate. Each item was added to the "auction" with a brown lunch bag placed in front. Members purchased \$1 tickets and then dropped their tickets into the brown bag of each item they liked. There was a lovely variety of plants and gardening books and all had fun hoping to win their favorite item. All proceeds go to the club treasury.

The final meeting of the Garden Club will be held on May 14<sup>th</sup> at Cindy Wolfram's house, 4507 Apollo for the annual banquet and installation of officers. The Garden Club does not meet during the summer months.

### YARD OF THE MONTH


We are happy to announce that Marti Turner at 1071 Thornton Rd. is the April Garden Club yard of the month recipient! Marti's yard pops with a colorful variety of plants. Pansies, violas, marigolds, snap dragons, bell peppers and knockout roses are all in bloom. Liriope line the walkway and there are containers with colorful impatiens. Coreopsis and coleus have yet to bloom.



### MEMORIAL DAY



Memorial Day is a day to honor those who died in active military service. Although the exact date that the practice started is in dispute, by most accounts it started during the Civil War.



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May Social - Babysitter Resources

Tuesday, May 15<sup>th</sup>, 7:30 p.m. - **Alex Elam's Home @ 4910 Candletree**

Did you know that Plaza Mom's has Babysitter Resource on Facebook under Files (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/plazamoms/files/>). Everyone knows that a good babysitter is a treasure - come by and meet some of our neighborhood favorites. Some of the sitters even provide other services like pet sitting, lifeguarding, or decorative cookies for parties.



May Ladies Night Out

Thursday, May 31<sup>st</sup>, 8:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. @ Plonk! Beer and Wine Bistro

**School's almost out for summer!! Before the kids take over during summer vacation, we need a little mom time together.** So, come join your fellow Plaza Moms for some summer fun on the patio at Plonk!



June Social / Ladies Night Out

Thursday, June 21<sup>st</sup> 8:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. @ Great Heights Brewing Company

Due to busy summer schedules there will not be a June Social. Instead we will have a summer Escape LNO at the Great Heights Brewing Company. Cheers to summer fun!



SAVE THE DATE - 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade and Celebration

Wednesday, July 4<sup>th</sup>, 8:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. @ the corner of Apollo and Bethlehem

Wear your red, white & blue, decorate your bikes & wagons and join Plaza Moms for the Annual 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade. It is a great opportunity to get out and socialize with neighbors and celebrate our nation's independence! **Volunteers needed. More details to come in the June issue.**

Join/Renew Your Plaza Moms Membership Today!

We are excited to announce that we have a new website for Plaza Moms Society. The website: <http://groupspaces.com/PlazaMoms/> will allow you to pay your dues online and will be another way to keep up with Plaza Moms. Please login today to create your account. 2017/18 dues are \$35/school year and can be paid online or at our next event via cash or check. Find us on Facebook: [www.facebook.com/groups/plazamoms](http://www.facebook.com/groups/plazamoms) Please Note: All Plaza Moms events as well as our FB page will be for members only this year. We wouldn't want you to miss out on all of the fun, so join/renew your membership today!

A special thanks to our flag steward, Marc Myers, for putting up the American flags throughout the neighborhood for Memorial Day, Veterans Day and Independence Day. We appreciate the time that he and his crew spend several times a year to put out the flags and take them down.

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Important Numbers Police/Fire: 911 City Helpline: 311

Citizens Patrol 713-812-7626	Deed Restrictions 713-316-5255	Plaza Moms 281-216-3452	New Neighbor/Greeter 713-775-0307	Garden Club 713-201-3322
Architectural Guidelines 713-316-5255	Plaza Pulse News 713-316-9688	SPP Historian 713-851-3000	Traffic & Safety 713-681-7479	Constable Dispatch 713-755-7628
SPP Membership 713-338-2989	City Liaison 713-688-7979	Pulse Advertising 713-688-0574 or 713-681-3600	Men's Group 832-623-4268	HPD 713-884-3131

**SPP CALENDAR** May 2018

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
April 29	30	May 1	2	3	4	5
			<b>SPPCC Board Mtg</b>			
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
	Garden Club Meeting	<b>PLAZA MOMS</b> General Meeting				
				<b>HEAVY TREE Waste</b>		
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31	June 1	2
					School's Out for the Summer!	

**Reminder about Heavy Trash:** Our heavy trash pickup is the 3rd Thursday of each month. Tree waste is picked up in ODD months, and Junk waste in the EVEN months.

- = Trash and Yard Waste
- = Curbside Recycling (no glass!)

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**School's Out for the Summer on June 1st**

For the safety of kids in our area, please be extra vigilant as you drive around. Slow down, do a double-take, honk to give an alert, don't text while driving and watch for these kids who are excited to be out of school! Some may be learning to ride a bike or playing ball in their front yard or crossing the street to a friend's house. They may not be watching but YOU should watch for them. Stay alert!



# THE PLAZA PULSE

SHEPHERD PARK PLAZA CIVIC CLUB

Shepherd Park Plaza Civic Club  
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