



# THE PLAZA PULSE

SHEPHERD PARK PLAZA CIVIC CLUB

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December 2012

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## 2013 Fundraising Campaign Update *By Tom Dornak*

September's 2013 Fundraising Kickoff to request dues, constable patrol and other donations has had a favorable response. As of mid-November 44% of residents have submitted dues and 40% of residents have contributed to our Deputy Constable Program. Additionally 11% of residents have contributed to the Citizens Patrol Program. These percentages are in line with last year's November progress. Thanks to all of you who responded so far. Our progress thus far is approximately 60% of past years final campaign participation, so please take steps to participate this month. A reminder statement will be mailed in January to residents who haven't responded or only made a partial contribution for the Constable patrol Program. Remember you have multiple ways to send in your contribution; either by mail or drop off to my mail slot, or by Pay-Pal by using link at our web site, [www.ShepherdParkPlaza.com](http://www.ShepherdParkPlaza.com). Some residents also send bank checks from the electronic bill pay feature offered usually free from their bank.



### Support SPP Safety Give to the Constable Program

The requested Constable Patrol contribution for the coming year is \$200 per household. With the recent increase in crime in our area, it's important that we deter potential criminals with the visibility and authority provided the Constable Program. We all benefit through a safer neighborhood, lower crime, and higher property

values, and it's an investment worth making to keep SPP a wonderful and safe place to live!

**What do you get for \$200?** A full-time armed and uniformed deputy patrolling our neighborhood in a marked vehicle 40 hours per week. Officers from the Constable's patrol division make numerous sweeps of SPP when our deputy is not on duty. **Deputy James Moulden** is assigned to our neighborhood, and he is very dedicated and committed to keeping SPP safe. His work hours are set by the SPPCC board and are based on crime statistics for our neighborhood and the patrol hours of our Citizens Patrol. A great part of the time, our deputy is patrolling while we are fast asleep.

**Can you contribute in installments?** We realize that a lump sum payment may not be feasible for everyone, so you are welcome to contribute in installments. You may do so by mailing periodic payments or by making online payments as you are able. However, we are not able to send out reminders or more frequent bills, so you are asked to set up your own reminder system so that you can make your desired contributions in a timely manner. No donation is too small... even \$5 a month can make a difference!

**Please send your contribution today!** The sooner we receive your \$200 contribution, the better able we are to budget for the coming year. If you can't immediately afford the \$200, please send what you can—contributions in any amount are welcome. In fact, we are now able to accept recurring contributions through PayPal at [www.shepherdparkplaza.com](http://www.shepherdparkplaza.com). Or you may mail your contribution to SPPCC Membership Director, 1135 Richelieu, Houston, 77018.

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

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

**Pulse Design:** Paula Collins  
713-594-5295  
[pulse@shepherdparkplaza.com](mailto:pulse@shepherdparkplaza.com)

## Holiday Judging Set for December 16

There are rumors that many streets, corners and cul-de-sacs in SPP are planning for some spectacular holiday displays this year. Don't be "out lit!" Talk to your neighbors to see what you all can do together to perpetuate the season of lights in SPP.

**Best Overall**—Contains a bit of everything; does not necessarily have a theme, but must combine elements of religious, traditional display, and Christmas lighting. Best overall is intended to include door and/or window decorations.

**Best Religious**—Devoted strictly to a religious theme/design, Christ child, angels, Virgin Mary, stained glass windows, doves, manger displays, wise men, animals (sheep, camels, cattle, etc.) painted Bible verses, religious, music/carols, decorative Christmas lighting and flood lights.

**Most Original**—Best design solution—religious, traditional, novelty or lighting—presenting original artwork, theme design, storytelling, automation, and not generally typical of other designs or displays.

**Best Traditional**—Devoted to traditional Christmas themes, i.e., Santa Claus, Ms. Claus, reindeer, sleighs, snowmen, toys, Christmas trees, garland, tinsel, wrapped/painted Christmas packages, poinsettias, wreaths, lighting, ornaments (not cartoons, fairy tales, characters) and flood lighting.

**Best Novelty**—Decorations, cutout displays/characters other than "strictly religious" identified under Best Religious Display, i.e., cartoon characters, toys, fairy tale characters, Santas, Christmas trees, Christmas decorations, Christmas packages, signs, churches, lights, garland, flood lights, etc.

**Best Lighting**—Décor limited entirely to Christmas lights on the house, roof, in trees, and in the yard, illuminated Christmas characters such as Santas, toy soldiers, snowmen, wreaths and similar

lighted items, flood lighting, and illuminated/decorated Christmas trees.

**Best Door**—Display can be religious, traditional or novelty theme. Should be the predominate feature of an overall Christmas decoration or design.

**Best Window(s)**—Same as for best door display except award can be given for a single window or group of windows.

**Best Cul-de-sac**—No restriction as to the type/amount of decorations and lighting in cul-de-sac. Award can be based on decorations limited to the cul-de-sac area only or the cul-de-sac and its entering street. Individual homes on a cul-de-sac are still eligible for individual Christmas decoration awards.

*After winners in these categories are chosen, the following categories are judged. Homes that have already received an award are not eligible in these categories.*

**Section Favorites**—One Section Favorite award to be selected by each section representative in the four SPP sections.

**Children's Favorites**—One Children's Favorite award to be selected in each of the four SPP sections by two children (age 6-12 years) in each section. Section representatives will choose the child judges for each section. The chosen winner will be the best house/yard display or favorite as perceived by the child judges.

*Note: Judges have the discretion to recognize only one winner per category if participation within a category is limited. No home may receive more than one award.*



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

WEEK	WALK/BIKE PATROL	AUTO PATROL	TOTAL HOURS
1	26.25	31	57.25
2	36.25	21	57.25
3	26.25	17.5	43.75
4	25.5	37	63
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>114.25</b>	<b>107</b>	<b>221.25</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.

Winner of the random drawing for the \$10 gas bonus this month is **Bruno Majewski**. To be eligible, auto patrollers must turn in at least 4 hours by the 5th of the month

**Safety Notes for the Holidays**

With the holidays coming, it is time to be especially wary about home safety—both inside and out. Shepherd Park Plaza's Civic Club will again hire a private security company to assist the Constable with patrolling the neighborhood during this busy season.

There are also some precautions we neighbors can take to protect ourselves and each other. Turn porch lights on in the evenings. Be sure to lock your doors, gates and garages. Speak to your neighbors! The weather is beautiful, and we can now stay outside longer than one's endurance for fighting mosquitoes. Enjoy the time outdoors and get re-acquainted with the folks around you. And while you are at it, establish a buddy system for any decorating you are planning in high places. Please be careful on ladders, rooftops and in trees. Remember that any decorations stretching across the street must be a minimum of 14 feet high.

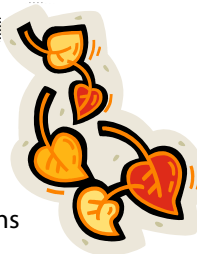
Inside the house, take care with electricity and fire. Be sure all electrical connections are secure and watertight. Do not overload outlets, and limit the number of extension cords. Protect any wiring across sidewalks, driveways and streets. Light candles in controlled environments for a limited time, and never on or around a live Christmas tree (which we know you will water regularly to keep the needles as fresh as possible).

With increased car traffic to the neighborhood, please consider parking your vehicle off the street whenever possible. If your car is parked outside your garage (in the driveway or on the street), remove any objects of temptation from plain view.

Finally, we know you are proud of your hard work decorating for the holidays! Take a photo or two to document your results, label décor you might be attached to, and be sure to tie down Frosty lest the inflatable snow man get carried away by a gust of wind (or sticky fingers)!

***And the Winners Were...***

*SPPCC recognized the following for outstanding Autumn decor.... congratulations!*

**Best Decoration**

- 1st — 1047 Candlelight, Michael & Kimberly Evans  
2nd — 1107 Richelieu, Michael & Rachelle Vento

**Best Scarecrow(s)**

- 1st — 4615 Dunsmere, Karen Cruse  
2nd — 1105 Martin, Robert & Raycene Hilsher

**Most Original**

- 1st — 1030 Cheshire, Chris Woolridge & Sally Ring  
2nd — 1008 Candlelight, Creston & Holly Inderrieden

**What's Your Section?**

Did you know that you reside in one of SPP's four sections? Your Section Rep—someone who lives in your section—represents you on the SPP Civic Club board. These folks distribute neighborhood flyers, choose the Yard of the Month winners and help organize neighborhood-wide events.

**Section 1—Dan & Jamie Kelly**

4400-4511 Apollo, 900-1191 Chamboard, 900-1187 Curtin

**Section 2—Sheri Beasley**

4602-4214 Alba, 4703-4715 Apollo, 902-1106 Chantilly, 4802-4619 Chantilly Circle, 4703-4719 Clift Haven, 4603-4619 Dunsmere, 4815-4718 Golf, 942-1174 Thornton, 4702-4719 Thornton Circle

**Section 3—Lynn Myers**

4723-4729 Apollo, 4702-4729 Brian Haven, 1002-1125 Cheshire, 1002-1116 Martin

**Section 4—Renee Botti**

4803-4907 Apollo, 4803-4805 Brian Haven, 1002-1139 Candlelight, 1002-1139 Richelieu

If you have questions, concerns or would like to help out, please contact these folks. They'd love to hear from you!

## CALLS HANDLED BY DEPUTY CONSTABLE



### OCTOBER 2012

Arrests.....	2	Park Checks.....	15	Miles Patrolled...	940
Alarm Responses .....	13	Vacation Watch .....	27	Traffic:	
Citizen Contacts .....	94	Misc. Calls .....	27	Verbal/Written Warnings...	2
Disturbances .....	1	Dispatched Calls .....	26	Citations...	0
Investigations .....	4	Total Calls .....	197		

## What's Happening Around Houston *By Carol Jean Hebert*

### McFaddin-Ward House

The McFaddin-Ward House was built in 1905-06 in the striking and distinctive Beaux-Arts Colonial style. The structure and its furnishings reflect the lifestyle of the prominent family who lived in the house for seventy-five years.

When W. P. H. and Ida Caldwell McFaddin moved their young family, into their house in 1907, Beaumont was still enjoying the economic effects of the discovery of oil at nearby Spindletop. Having already accumulated considerable wealth from the cattle business, rice farming and milling, commercial real estate, and trapping, the family prospered even more after Spindletop, since Mr. McFaddin owned part interest in the land where oil was discovered.

The McFaddin home was one of a number of grand residences built in town by local architect Henry Conrad Mauer during the early twentieth century. The house served as

a lavish backdrop for the frequent entertainments and elegant parties the McFaddins hosted. In 1919, the McFaddins' daughter Mamie married Carroll Ward, and the couple moved into this house with her parents. They lived their entire lives there, making few changes to the house or its décor after 1950.

Today, visitors to the house receive guided tours of three lavishly furnished floors in the home. Trained guides combine family stories and local history with information about the house and its furnishings to tell the story of the McFaddin family and the era 1906-1950.

All tours begin at the McFaddin-Ward House Visitor Center located at the corner of Calder Avenue and Third Street. Guided tours last ninety minutes. Afterward, guests are invited to stroll through the gardens and visit the carriage house on the block behind the McFaddin-Ward House Museum. Guided tours are \$3 per person. Group tours are \$2 per person. Tours are offered Tuesday through Saturday at 10 a.m., 11 a.m., 1:30 p.m. and 2:30 p.m. and are limited to eight or fewer guests.



**McFaddin-Ward Visitor Center, 1906 Calder Avenue, Beaumont  
(409) 832-1906 or (409) 832-2134**

**Holidays at the McFaddin-Ward House are celebrated from  
November 28—December 30.**

**There is a Free Holiday Open House on Saturday, December 15 from  
1 pm to 4 pm.**





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--Jessica K., Houston, TX

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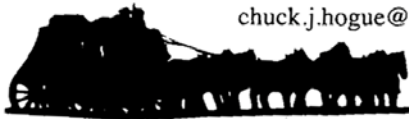
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## IMPORTANT NUMBERS

## POLICE/FIRE: 911

## CITY HELPLINE: 311

Citizens Patrol  
713-824-4799

Deed Restrictions  
713-305-5035

Plaza Moms  
713-775-0307 or 832-477-7871

New Neighbor/Greeter  
713-305-5036

Garden Club  
713-344-7013

CP Vacation Watch  
713-682-5959

Architectural Guidelines  
713-301-4054

Plaza Pulse News  
713-628-4210

SPP Historian  
713-681-1552

Traffic & Safety  
713-824-4799

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



## SPP CALENDAR

DECEMBER 2012



= Trash and Yard Waste

= Curbside Recycling

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

A Note About Trash: You can legally put your heavy trash out at 6pm the Friday before your heavy trash day. **Note that our heavy trash has been moved to the 3rd Thursday of each month** ([http://www.houstontx.gov/solidwaste/2012\\_heavytrashroute.html](http://www.houstontx.gov/solidwaste/2012_heavytrashroute.html)).



Plaza Moms  
BREAKFAST  
WITH SANTA

1

2

3



4



5

6

7



HAPPY  
HANUKKAH  
DEC. 8-16th

8

9



Plaza Moms  
MEETING

10



11



12



13

14

15

Holiday  
Decoration  
Judging

16



Garden Club  
MEETING

17



18

19

Heavy trash  
JUNK waste only

20



First Day of Winter

21

22

23

24



25



26



27

28

29

30

31



Emergency—911

Constable Dispatch—713-755-7628

HPD—713-884-3131

Clip & Save

**Share Your News**—Please pass along any news of note about SPP residents so that 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 contacting **Romi Sandel** at 713-962-4171.



## Plaza Moms Host White Elephant Gift Exchange

**Tuesday, December 11, 7 to 9 pm**  
**At the home of Melissa DeLaunay**  
**1034 Thornton**

Join us for a white elephant gift exchange! Don't buy a gift—find one you'd like to give away! This won't be a junky/gag exchange—just trade a small item you don't need for something new.



## Breakfast with Santa

Here Comes Santa Claus right down Brinkman Lane! Plaza Moms is hosting our Annual Breakfast with Santa!

Saturday December 1 from 9 to 11 am

at Durham Elementary on the corner of Brinkman and Candlelight.

Why wait in those long mall lines for pictures with Santa? Join us for a free breakfast of El Rey Breakfast tacos, donut holes and kolaches (provided by Hartman & Associates) and pictures with Santa! It has been rumored Santa will arrive at 9:30 am. So grab your camera and bring your appetite as we dine with our friends and family while snapping off a few pictures with jolly old Saint Nick!

There will also be crafts for the kids.

The event is free for all Plaza Mom members and \$10 per family for non-Plaza Mom's members

**\*\*Please RSVP on Big Tent or to Emily Eldridge or Shannon Zierau.**



## Men's Club

Breaking with their usual tradition of not meeting in December, the Shepherd Park Plaza Men's group will meet for lunch at 11:30 am on Thursday, December 13, and have invited their wives to join them. They will meet at the Live Oak Grill, 10444 Hempstead @ Dacoma.

At this time they will congratulate the winner of their 2012 John Wayne Award. This award is given annually by the group to a resident of our neighborhood who gives the extra effort to better our neighborhood and community. The group proudly announces this year's winner is **Beth Galiano**, our own master gardener who tirelessly works the community garden on Alba. She keeps local food pantries supplied in fresh produce.

The SPP Men's Group is an informal organization of mostly retired men of our neighborhood who meet monthly for lunch and to discuss topics of interest and neighborhood events. Everyone is welcome and for more information contact **Chuck Blesener** at [ccbles77@gmail.com](mailto:ccbles77@gmail.com), or 713-683-9945.



## Garden Club

The November monthly meeting of the Shepherd Park Plaza Garden club was the grand start of the holiday celebrations for the members and guests. An outstanding presentation by Susan Tate, nationally acclaimed and accredited floral designer and co-owner of Darlene's Flowers, was received with kudos and whispers around the room of "I can do that too!" Two arrangements were made and then presented to the club as door prizes. Darlene's has now opened a boutique within the flower shop, and Susan brought items from the boutique show the group.

Hostess for the evening was **Barbara Raines**, and co-hostesses assisting with dinner items were **Corinne Oppermann, Linda Morgan, Bess Moseley, Carolyn Long, and Evonne Alford Sturm**. Delicious lasagna, salads, desserts and the trimmings were served to a large and hungry group.

Membership directories were distributed to membership for the 2012-2013 year. The hard work to publish and print the directories is the product of several months' work by **Linda Morgan, Cindi Phelps, and Romi Sandel**.

**Alice Bongers** reported on the upcoming Poinsettia sale, and stated that delivery will be December 3 for those who have made a purchase.

**Corinne Opperman** distributed invitation for the Christmas Party, which replaces the Dec. regular meeting. Collina's on 19<sup>th</sup> will be the location, and the party room will rock with laughter and Christmas cheer.

Proceeds of the highly successful silent auction, under the capable supervision of **Monica Krause**, netted the garden club funds for upcoming projects in the neighborhood. The Beautification Committee headed by **Sarrah Moseley** will be undertaking an assessment of the needs of the neighborhood overall, and will report back to membership at the January meeting for a membership vote on the projects/maintenance to be undertaken by the garden club.



**GARDENING TIP OF THE MONTH:** It is time to winterize your lawn and prepare for the spring growing season. An old home

remedy for lawn fertilizer is available in your home cabinets. Mix 1 cup Listerine mouthwash, 1 cup Epsom salts, 1 cup ammonia, and enough beer to make a quart, about 1 cup. Add this mixture to a garden sprayer, and spray your lawn twice, in early fall/winter and again in the spring.





# THE PLAZA PULSE

SHEPHERD PARK PLAZA CIVIC CLUB

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## October YARDS OF THE MONTH

### Section 1:

1019 CURTIN ST.  
MICHAEL & LINDA PIWETZ

### Section 3:

1026 CHESHIRE  
JOHN WILE & RHONDA RHODES

### Section 2:

1071 THORNTON  
NELSON & MARTI TURNER

### Section 4:

1033 RICHELIEU LANE  
LENA McCLAIN

# SPP

## Wants to Welcome You

Thanks to **Spaghetti Western**, 1608 Shepherd Drive (713) 861-1313, who graciously donated gift certificates for our newest neighbors.

<http://www.spagwesthouston.com/>.

New to the neighborhood? Even if you are not-so-new, but haven't gotten around to introducing yourself yet, contact **Eileen Hartman** at 713-305-5036 or [Eileen@hartmanassociates.com](mailto:Eileen@hartmanassociates.com) so we can welcome you officially.

**EILEEN HARTMAN**

OWNER/REALTOR

CELL: 713.305.5036

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