



# THE PLAZA PULSE

SHEPHERD PARK PLAZA CIVIC CLUB

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February 2016

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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](mailto:pulse@shepherdparkplaza.com) or by contacting your section rep (see names on p.2)



SAVE THE DATE!

MARCH 5th



The Spring Fling will be Saturday, March 5th, at Durham Elementary in the afternoon/early evening.

This is the annual meeting to elect the Civic Club Board and Representatives, so please plan to attend so your vote will be counted.

**Also, you'll hear about our Constable Program.**

More details on the event will be provided in the March Pulse.



#### School Fundraiser

Durham Elementary PTA is proud to present an All-In for Durham Elementary Casino Night. This is an adults- only event to be held Friday, February 5<sup>th</sup> at the SPJST Lodge 88 on 1435 Beall St, Houston, Texas 77008 at 6:30 p.m.

Tickets are \$50 per person. Each ticket includes dinner, **play money for casino games, and a silent auction.** It's an **additional \$40 per person to enter the Texas Hold'em Poker Tournament.**



#### Child Care is AVAILABLE! Sign -up by February 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Child care is available for the night the fundraising event to make it that much easier for you to attend the casino night fundraiser. The staff of After3 will provide child care for \$10 per child.

The kids will enjoy a "pajama party" that includes a pizza dinner, a movie, and indoor games in the Durham cafeteria. Students are encouraged to bring sleeping bags, pillows, etc. You are welcome to drop off your child(ren) as early as 5:30 p.m. Children must be picked up by 11:00 p.m. that night. Please note that only potty-trained kids between the ages of 3 and 12 years old can be registered.

#### How do I sign up?

Book and Pay for your child care reservation @ <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/all-in-pjs-pizza-childwatch-by-after3-staff-registration-8343089405ref=esfb>

## Board of Directors

### [Officers]

President Tom Caver  
Vice President Aurelien Bouchet  
Secretary Vicki Brandt  
Treasurer Ken Covington

### [Committees]

Architectural Control Darryl Rickaway  
Citizens Patrol Chuck Blesener  
Constable Patrol Coordinator Chuck Blesener  
Deed Restrictions Darryl Rickaway  
Entrance Bed Maintenance Monika Krause  
Greeter Lynn Myers  
Historian Elizabeth Cardner  
Hospitality Shannon Zierau, Leann Salmons,  
Courtney Selindis  
Membership Tom Dornak  
Parks/DRT/PIP Liaison Ted Dwigans  
Publicity/Pulse Advertising  
Laurie Rickaway  
Website Publisher  
Kirby Lesher, Aurelien Bouchet

### [Representatives]

Section 1 Rep. Philip Billeaud  
Section 2 Rep. Sarrah Moseley  
Section 3 Rep. Sarah & Martin Morrissey  
Section 4 Rep. Holly & Creston Inderrieden  
Garden Club Rep. Vicki Brandt  
Plaza Moms Co-Rep.  
Shauna Tysor, Nikole Fowler  
**Men's Group Rep.** Chuck Blesener  
Pulse Editor: Romi Sandel  
713-316-9688 or [pulse@shepherdparkplaza.com](mailto:pulse@shepherdparkplaza.com)  
Pulse Co-Editor: Laurie Hardwick

## 2016 Fundraising Campaign Progress Report by Tom Dornak

The 2016 SPP Constable Program and Civic Club Dues Fundraising Campaign is in full swing. A second mailing went out on Jan 15<sup>th</sup> to non-members and to members who either have not participated or have only partially donated the requested donation of \$200 for the Constable Patrol Program. As of January 15<sup>th</sup> the percentage of 2016 SPP Civic Club Membership renewals is 54%. The percentage of Constable Patrol Program participants is 47%. Our goal is to increase levels of participation in both programs upwards to 75%.

We are on our second year of operating our Constable Patrol Program utilizing two deputy patrollers as opposed to one deputy patroller in the past. Last year many residents increased their level of donation to help with the extra funds needed to support this program. The Civic Club fundraising events like the Crawfish Boil and Wine Crawl also help with raising funds for this program, **however, we didn't fully meet the 2015 budget to sustain two patrollers.** The best way to meet budget is to get more residents to participate in our fundraising. Please keep in mind that as burglary and speeding is lower in our neighborhood versus other nearby neighborhoods without a Constable Program, many residents may take this for granted and may forget to participate. If you **haven't yet mailed in your donation, please do so today.** And while the requested amount for the Constable Patrol Program is \$200, we appreciate any amount of donation.



Plaza  
Moms

### Plaza Moms Group

We will be holding a Couples Mixer in February. Please look for more details to come on the Plaza Moms Facebook and Big Tent pages.

Our next meeting will be on Monday, March 7th at Jamie Bartula's house, 1232 Thornton (just west of Ella).

Due to the Couples Mixer the next Ladies Night Out will be in March.

FIND US ONLINE AT [www.bigtent.com/groups/pms1](http://www.bigtent.com/groups/pms1) [www.facebook.com/groups/plazamoms](http://www.facebook.com/groups/plazamoms)

Want to be part of a group of area moms that has fun and shares information? Then check out Plaza Moms. Learn more at <http://shepherdparkplaza.com/plaza-moms/>

Need a neighborhood directory? Please email [Pulse@ShepherdParkPlaza.com](mailto:Pulse@ShepherdParkPlaza.com) for a copy of the 2014 directory.



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# Citizens Patrol Stats

## December 2015 Patrol Hours

Prepared by Chuck Blesener

WEEK	Driving	Walking/ Biking
1	14	2
2	17	2
3	13	1
4	22	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>5</b>

The winner of the random \$10 bonus for December is Mary Kleinhenze. Patrollers who turn in at least 4 hours by the 5th of the month are eligible for a random drawing for a \$10 card. Gift cards for accumulated driving hours will be distributed at the monthly meeting. Please turn in your hours on time!

### SHEPHERD PARK PLAZA CITIZENS PATROL WELCOMES VOLUNTEERS! YOU CAN SIGN UP TODAY

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 respected volunteer by signing up today!

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 nationwide.

Contact Chuck Blesener at 713-683-9945 or ccbles77@gmail.com for information. Training for Citizen Patrol certification is the second Tuesday of each month at 9455 West Montgomery at 7:00 p.m. Anyone in the neighborhood is invited to join the COP group. More eyes on our neighborhood means more awareness of suspicious activity. HPD Citizen Patrol Applications can be downloaded at [http://www.houstontx.gov/police/vip/vip\\_citzpatrol.htm](http://www.houstontx.gov/police/vip/vip_citzpatrol.htm). The applications must be sent in one week prior to the training.



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## LEAP YEAR

Leap Year occurs every four years as a corrective measure to the original Roman and Gregorian calendars, **because the earth doesn't revolve around the sun in exactly 365 days.** Leap day is February 29th, with the regular calendar having only 28 days in February. People born on February 29th can choose to celebrate on the 28th or on March 1st. Some cultures actually designate which day is appropriate. Folk lore in England and Ireland have it that women can propose marriage to men on Leap Day. In Greece, it's considered unlucky to be married in a leap year. In case you didn't know where we are headed with this, 2016 is a Leap Year, so make the most of that extra day!



**Don't forget your sweetie on Valentine's Day, which is Sunday, February 14th.** Whether you prefer flowers, a sports outing, chocolate, jewelry, a fancy meal, a night on the town or a concert, we hope it's a good one spent with the one you love.



**CLARK/KOTZUR**  
— REAL ESTATE TEAM —

Mike Clark, Broker Assoc.  
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Debbie Kotzur, REALTOR®  
[debbie@debbiekotzur.com](mailto:debbie@debbiekotzur.com)  
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# around the neighborhood

**Monica Rose Szymczak Krause.** Shepherd Park Plaza lost one of its most active residents recently with the passing of Monica Krause on December 26, 2015. Monica served as President of the Civic Club twice (1968-69, 1986), serving the Board over 40 years in various capacities. She was also a member of the SPP Garden Club, including holding the position of President. In addition to our neighborhood, she served various groups affiliated with the Catholic Church, the Harris County Pharmaceutical Association and various PTA organizations. She served the St. Stanislaus Catholic Church (Anderson, TX) in various roles over the years, including co-chairing their Church Bazaar and coordinating the compilation of their cookbook. She was bestowed an Apostolic Blessing by Pope John Paul II. Her love of cooking was instrumental in compiling several cookbooks for various organizations over the years. She and her husband, Clarence (Mickey), were married for over 50 years. She is preceded in death by her son, Samuel. She is survived by Mickey, and her children, Michael, Monique and Darrell Krause and four grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. She is also survived by her sisters Ann Marie Szymczak, Matilda Salinas and husband Bruce, and Rita Szymczak. She also has numerous nieces, nephews, cousins and a host of friends. Monica will be fondly remembered for her service to various organizations over the years. The Shepherd Park Civic Club Board members would like to extend their condolences.



**Kathleen Pali.** Long time resident, Kathy Pali passed away on December 4th, 2015. Mrs. Pali is survived by her husband of 54 years, Louis Pali. She is also survived by her sister, Pamela Pettit, her son David Pali and wife Monica, and her daughter Kimberly Copeland and husband Jeff, along with numerous other family members and friends.



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## SHEPHERD PARK PLAZA TRAVELERS

The Travelers have acquired an additional bus for another trip on Friday, February 19th. They will venture to the Carriage House Café on Fallbrook and then see a 50's era musical at the Houston Family Arts Center on Grant Road. The group will enjoy the hilarious production of 'FOREVER PLAID'. Then on Thursday, March 31st, they will travel to Woodville to see the dogwoods blooming. Bus trips are open to all SPP residents and their friends over the age of fifty and originate and terminate at Shepherd Park. For more information about this and all future trips, contact Chuck Blesener at 713-683-9945 or [ccbles77@gmail.com](mailto:ccbles77@gmail.com).



## SHEPHERD PARK PLAZA MEN'S GROUP

The SPP Men's Group met at Live Oak Grill on Thursday, January 14th. August Galiano presented a short video presentation and then the group celebrated his 89th birthday with cake and merriment. The guys will celebrate Mardi Gras, Chinese New Year, and Valentine's Day all wrapped into one next month. They will meet at Spaghetti Western on T. C. Jester on Thursday, February 11th. They will bring the special woman in their life to help them celebrate.



Pictured above:  
August Galiano

For more information about the group, contact Chuck Blesener at 713-683-9945, or [ccbles77@gmail.com](mailto:ccbles77@gmail.com).

If you want to know when crime happens in our area, consider signing up with Harris County Precinct 1 Constable's Office to receive crime alerts via email or text. Please make sure to select our neighborhood when signing up for this service. Click the link below to learn more about this service.

Crime Alert Sign up with Precinct 1:  
<http://pct1constable.net/sign-up/crime-alerts/>



# Call is handled by Deputy Constable

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



December 2015

SUSPICIOUS VEHICLE...5	MILES PATROLLED...4273	TRAFFIC STOP ...42
ANIMAL HUMANE... 1	TRAFFIC HAZARD... 1	TRAFFIC INITIATIVE...3
ALARM RESPONSE...6	CITIZEN CONTACTS...256	VACATION WATCH...84
DRUG OD/POSSESSION... 1	THEFT... 1	Park check...10
BURGLARY VEHICLE...6	SUSPICIOUS PERSON... 11	Solicitors...5
Medical emergency...	Disturbance...1	N/A

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



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## STORM SEWER AND ROAD PAVING STORM PROJECTS

By: Chuck Blesener

The contractor hired by the City to replace the sanitary sewer lines in our neighborhood is back under a new contract to finish what was not on the first contract. They are using the south end of Brinkman as a staging area for their work. A contractor for CenterPoint is still relocating gas lines in preparation for stormsewer and paving work.

After many delays, City Council awarded the construction contract for the upcoming **Garden Oaks and Shepherd Park Capital Improvement Project (CIP)** to **Pierce Goodwin Alexander & Linville, Inc.** This project will provide for the construction of storm drainage improvements, necessary concrete paving, and underground utilities for portions of the **Garden Oaks, Shepherd Park Plaza, and Candlelight Plaza** communities. Improvements will include modification of street conveyance and sheet flow and detention as needed for flood mitigation.

Be prepared for major construction in the area and possibly altering your normal driving routes.



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## GARDEN CLUB NEWS



### SPP Garden Club Meeting

In January, Kim Ellis of HABITATs spoke on developing a habitat garden. Some key points she shared with us:

- Plant native or well adapted plants
- Plant color in masses to better attract pollinators - their sense of smell is not as developed as their sense of sight
- Provide a reliable year-round, clean water source like a birdbath
- Protect your garden visitors by making your yard a pesticide free zone

Our February meeting will be held Monday, February 8th at Linda Morgan's home, 1151 Chamboard at 6:45 p.m. Gaye Hammond, a member of the Houston and American Rose Societies will speak on *Pruning and Caring for Roses*. Thinking about joining? Visitors and potential new members are always welcome!

### Garden Club Work Day

On Saturday, January 16th, a number of members (and significant others) joined Beautification Chair, Colleen Roberts, in 'sprucing up' the Shepherd Park Memorial Garden and the Thornton/Ella entrance beds.



### January Yard of the Month

Lou Rice - 1108 Martin

After removing pine and yaupon trees some years ago, Lou had a landscaper help her develop a good basic design for her yard. She has been enhancing the beds with flowers and shrubs ever since. The focal point of her front walk are two stunning urns teeming with continuous blooming firecracker plants and overflowing purple verberna. A beautiful yard!





Hallie Ray Moore, DVM  
Stephen Turek, DVM  
Susan Cardenas, DVM  
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## **CITY OF HOUSTON CONNECT**

Have you ever wondered how to contact particular Departments at the City of Houston? This new section of the Pulse should give you some direction. Check back frequently, as new items may be added. The main number is 713-837-0311.

Website—[www.houstontx.gov/](http://www.houstontx.gov/)

City Ordinances—[www.houstontx.gov/codes/](http://www.houstontx.gov/codes/)

Non-emergency concerns (street issues, traffic signal problems, fire hydrant issues).

<http://hfdapp.houstontx.gov/311/index.php> or Dial 3-1-1. There is also a mobile phone app for this.

Permit questions—[www.houstonpermittingcenter.org/](http://www.houstonpermittingcenter.org/)

Interactive map (to find information about your City Council district, police department, solid waste schedule)—<http://mycity.houstontx.gov/public>

CenterPoint Energy has a new website to report street lights that are out at <http://gis.centerpointenergy.com/sloreporting/>

Rollout—check out the app for figuring out the COH trash pickup schedule.

Report a pothole at <http://www.houstontx.gov/potholes/>



Important Numbers
 Police/Fire: 911
 City Helpline: 311

Citizens Patrol 713-683-9945	Deed Restrictions 713-316-5255	Plaza Moms 713-775-0307	New Neighbor/Greeter 713-824-8684	Garden Club 281-888-6306
Architectural Guidelines 713-316-5255	Plaza Pulse News 713-628-4210	SPP Historian 713-681-1552	Traffic & Safety 713-683-9945	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

= Trash and Yard Waste  
 = Curbside Recycling

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
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.					January 29	30
31	February 1	2	3	4	5	6
			SPPCC Board Mtg		Durham Elementary PTA Fundraiser	
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	Garden Club Meeting			Men's Group Meeting		
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Happy Valentine's Day	Presidents Day			Heavy JUNK Waste		
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	March 1	2	3	4	5

### Black History Month

Durham Elementary will honor African American History throughout the month of February in recognition of Black History Month. This year's event will be called "Spotlight on the Arts". It will be held Thursday, February 25th at 5:30 p.m. in the cafeteria. Come out and enjoy singing, dancing, poems, skits, and much, more.



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

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## January Yards of the Month

### Section 1:

979 Curtin  
Vicki & Terry Brandt

### Section 3:

4725 Apollo  
Pat & Kenneth Thompson

### Section 2:

1030 Chantilly  
Christina & Kirby Leshner

### Section 4:

1126 Candlelight  
Lynette & Raymond  
Bartula

**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 **Lynn Myers**  
at 713-824-8684  
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so we can welcome you officially.