



THE PLAZA PULSE

SHEPHERD PARK PLAZA CIVIC CLUB

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July 2011

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New Deputy Patrolling the Neighborhood *by Charli Merchant*

On June 6, 2011, Deputy James Moulden became the SPP deputy constable, following the reassignment of Deputy Ebdon.

Moulden is a proud native Texan, who was born and raised in Houston. After marrying his high school sweetheart, he became the father of three children, now 19, 14, and 11. Heritage means something to him, "I am a fourth generation Texan—my kids are fifth generation Texans," he said. Moulden, whose ancestors came to

Texas in the early 1800's, has logged 20 years in law enforcement. His experience includes 14 years in patrol, during which he began one of the first contracts in the Near Northwest Area of Houston. He has also worked in the Marine Division, as well as the Juvenile Justice area, K-9 Unit, and the Bomb Squad.

With such a varied background in active police work, Moulden brings a needed skill set to SPP. He will be visible in the neighborhood, enforcing laws for everyone.

Please remember that laws are made for safety, and apply to everyone, not just a few. If a law is broken, even if the offender is a resident of SPP, a ticket may be given. Speeding, running stop signs, improper parking of vehicles, loud parties, disorderly behavior are all violations and citations can be given, whether you live in the neighborhood or not. Calls to the Constable Dispatch, members of the Civic Club Board, or Constable Liaison will not fix the citation.

Police Beat *By Chuck Blesener*

Captain Victor Rodriguez has retired from HPD as commander of the North Division and has accepted the position of Chief of the Metro Police Department. The new North Division Commander is Captain Tom Runyan, formerly head of the Air Support Division (helicopters).

The HPD Mounted Patrol has moved their offices and horse stables to 5005 Little York, near Hirsch Rd. They do offer tours so this is a neat place to take the kids or grandkids during the summer.

The Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission (TABC) says that it only takes one person to stand up and protest to start an investigation on the granting of a new liquor license, or the renewal of an existing one at a problem location. They need the assistance of citizens to help police the 14,000 licensed liquor establishments in Harris County; however, the state of Texas wants all the liquor licenses to remain because of the large amount of taxes they generate. The large number of establishments, along with the widespread abuse of liquor laws, might explain why Harris County leads the nation in DWI cases and fatalities.



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713-503-2552

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713-594-5295

pulse@shepherdparkplaza.com

Labyrinth Help Greatly Appreciated *by Alice Bongers*

Many of you have been enjoying Ann's Labyrinth. We just wanted to say a huge thank you to following donors:

Chuck & Jeanette Blesener, Calvin & Alice Bongers, Brandon & Jennifer Brown, Melba Bruce, Tom & Amber Caver, The Citizen's Patrol, Susan Davis, David Eng, Susan & Harvey Fitzpatrick, August & Beth Galiano, Robert Gilbert, Geraldine Gurley, Charlie & Carol Jean Herbert, Walter & Donna Heineman, Creston & Holly Inderrieden, Charles & Pat Kubin, Brian & Jennifer Lamb, Ralph & Alexandria Lillich, Eric & Audrey Lokker, Frank & Dottie Lopez, Mike & Robin McClung, Kelly McNeill, Dan & Mildred Mohel, Dottie Odom, Helen Oncken, Gus and Corinne Oppermann, Katherine Peale, Don & Cynthia Phelps, Johnnie Scardino, Sherry Scardino, M.K. & Sarah Shelton, Sandra White, William & Gladys Young, White Oak Studios for their beautiful drawings, San Jacinto Stone for all of the help they gave us, and the many neighbors who put cash in the jar.

This would not have happened without the many hours of work by the following:

Chuck & Jeanette Blesener and "John Dear," **Calvin & Alice Bongers, Nicholas Romero, Johnny Gavlick, Taylor Bowen, Melba Bruce, Mildred & Dan Mohel, Charles Herbert, Katherine Peale, Karen Cruse, Charli Merchant, Sylvia Carranza, Sue Davis, Matt Hoover, Kelly McNeill, Elizabeth Ayres, Jackie Leal, Creston Inderrieden, Robin Woodward,** and the many folks who stopped by with words of encouragement.

Local Artist Creates Art Car Winner

Area resident artist and educator **Patrick Renner** and his crew of student artists from HISD's Houston International High School created an Art Car for the Art Car Parade held on Sunday, May 22, 2011. The entry known as the "Mammothmobile" was selected for the top prize in the show, the "Mayor's Cup" award. The car was a donated old Chrysler Sebring convertible that made the trip from Sharpstown Middle School where his small charter high school is sited, through Downtown Houston, and back to Sharpstown without breaking down or boiling over. Now that is truly amazing. The "Mammothmobile" can be seen on display at International HS which is sited on the campus of Sharpstown Middle School. An additional piece of artwork created by **Patrick Renner** can be seen on the wall in the entryway at Oak Forest Elementary School. Patrick has an amazing ability to visualize and execute some impressive work.



["Mammothmobile" rampaging through Downtown Houston]



[Patrick and his crew from Houston International High School]

Patrol Hours <i>Prepared by Charli Merchant</i>	SECTIONS				Total
	1	2	3	4	
Auto Patrol Hours	15	45	11	27.5	98.5
Walk/Bike Patrol Hours	21	11.75	0	33	65.75
Base Station Hours	0	21	0	0	21
TOTAL HOURS	36	77.5	11	60.5	185.25

Interested in patrolling? Contact **Karen Cruse** at 713-824-4799 or kjcfm4954@yahoo.com for information.

Training for Citizen Patrol certification is still 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.

At the last COP meeting, it was decided to give one \$20 award each month, and the winner of the \$20 gas bonus this month is: **Johnnie Scardino**. To qualify for the drawing, one must patrol at least 5 hours, and must turn in the patrol sheet by the 5th of the month.

Hours are markedly down this month. Anyone interested in being a patroller, either auto or walk/bike, should contact **Karen Cruse** at 713-824-4799 or kjcfm4954@yahoo.com. Patrollers ride, walk or bike on their own schedules—there is no rigid expectation or inflexible scheduling for this important volunteer activity; however, one must attend a short training session with HPD every two years to be certified or recertified as a patroller.

The next Patrollers' meeting will be the fourth Thursday in July at Durham Elementary.

We have had reports of scams in the neighborhood. Do not allow anyone in your house or backyard if you do not know him or her. It does not matter if they claim to know someone *you* know. If you don't know the person, don't believe that they know your friends!

In case of an emergency or to report a crime, please call 911 or the Constable Dispatch at 713-755-7628. Then call **Karen Cruse** at 713-824-4799 if you wish. Please, for your own safety and for a quicker response from law enforcement, make the emergency call first before calling **Karen**.

What's Happening Around Houston

by Carol Jean Hebert

Ocean Star Offshore Drilling Rig Museum on Pier 19 – Harborside Drive Galveston, Texas (409) 766-7827.

The Offshore Energy Center is dedicated to expanding awareness of the vast energy resources available beneath the world's oceans, and to chronicle the unique heritage and technological accomplishments of the industry that discovers, produces, and delivers these resources to mankind in a safe and environmentally responsible way.

The museum is a self-guided facility. Museum guidebooks are available for purchase in the gift shop and an audio tour package is available for those guests that want a more in-depth experience. Reservations are not required for individuals or family groups.

Visitors board the retired jackup drilling rig and view a video about the offshore industry. The museum features three floors of models and interactive displays illustrating the story of offshore oil and gas from seismic technology to exploration and production. Scale models of production platforms, actual drill bits, and remotely-operated vehicles (ROVs) as well as videos and exhibits explain drilling, geology, seismic, well servicing, and production.

Open Daily 10:00 am – 5:00 pm
 Admission Rates: Adults - \$8.00
 Seniors (55 and older) - \$5.00
 Students (7-18) - \$5.00
 Children (6 & under) FREE



Welcome to the Neighborhood!

SECTION 2 **Aubrey Waddail & Tori Foerste**
 4614 Alba

Hector & Monique DeLaTorre
 958 Thornton

Matthew Zechmeister
 958 Thornton

SECTION 3 **Francis Moore**
 1007 Cheshire

SECTION 4 **Rob & Stacy Grazak**
 4819 Apollo



Clean Out Your Closets and Garages

Shepherd Park Plaza will hold an annual neighborhood wide garage sale in October so start gathering items now. More details to follow.

around the neighborhood

By Romi Sandel & Laurie Hardwick

▶ **New Arrival—Jay & Lydia Ochoa** are proud first-time grandparents! The Ochoas' daughter, Margaret and her husband Erich welcomed their new baby girl Ella in Dallas in late May. Congratulations to the entire family!

▶ Please help us congratulate **Kim & Johnathan Gilbert** on the arrival of **Jett Morris**. He was born on May 20 and was 5 lbs 15 oz and 18.5 inches long. We are so happy for them and the addition to their new family!

▶ **Well Wishes—Elwaine Barrett** came home from the hospital in May after a short stay at M. D. Anderson. We wish him a speedy recovery.

▶ **Pat Kubin** recently went to Methodist Hospital with a broken hip. Please keep her and **Charles** in your thoughts.

▶ **Long-Lasting Love—Bobby & Paulette Partin** celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary on June 16. They are original SPP residents and built their home here in 1971.

▶ **Sophia Rose** was born on April 30 to proud parents **Cristalle & Jeremy Yzaguirre**. She was 4 lbs 14 oz and 18 inches long.

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 or contacting **Romi Sandel** at 713-962-4171.

Calls handled by Deputy Constable	
Miles Patrolled...	1,256
Arrests.....	0
Alarm Responses	1
Citizen Contacts	52
Disturbances	4
Investigations	11
Park Checks.....	51
Vacation Watch	0
Misc. Calls	122
Dispatched Calls	8
Total Calls	272
Traffic	
Verbal/Written Warnings...	1
Citations...	1



May 2011

Reduce Homeowners Insurance Costs

by Chuck Blesener

In accordance with Chapter 5, Texas Insurance Code, amended Article 5.33A, homeowners are eligible for a 5% reduction in their homeowner's insurance premiums when they comply with the following standards:

- Exterior doors must be metal or solid core wooden doors that are at least 1 3/8 inches thick and secured by dead bolts with a minimum bolt throw of 1 inch that penetrates a metal strike plate with at least 3 inch screws. If the door has breakable glass within 40 inches of the lock, the lock must be key operated from both sides.
- Exterior French Doors or Double Doors must also have the inactive door secured by header and threshold bolts that penetrate metal strike plates. If glass is located within 40 inches of these bolts, the bolts must be flush-mounted in the edge of the door.
- Sliding glass doors must be secured by secondary locking devices to prevent lifting and prying.
- Dutch doors must have concealed flush bolt locking devices to interlock upper and lower halves and be secured by a double cylinder deadbolt lock.
- Garage doors must be equipped with key operated locking devices.
- Windows must be secured by auxiliary locking devices such as wooden dowel pins, pinning devices, or key operated locks, in addition to the locking device that comes with the window. Metal bars or grating may be substituted for auxiliary locking devices and must be installed over Jalousie or louvered windows.

When you have complied with these requirements, call the Houston Police Department Community Services Division at 713-308-3200, or the Harris County Precinct One Constable Dispatch at 713-755-7628 to arrange an appointment for a free inspection of your home.

The Texas Insurance Code Chapter 5, Amended Article 5.33A, Section 6(a)(2) allows for a 15% premium reduction for any property which is equipped with an electronic burglar alarm that meets the following:

- All exterior structure openings are contacted or covered by glass break or motion detector sensors.
- The system includes an interior and exterior siren.
- The system is monitored and U.L. approved.

Sales, service, installation, and monitoring of the system are done in compliance with the Private Investigations and Private Security Agencies Act.

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Important Numbers

Police/Fire: 911

City Helpline: 311

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713-824-4799

Deed Restrictions
713-305-5035

Traffic & Safety
713-824-4799

New Neighbor/Greeter
713-305-5036

Garden Club
713-681-6049

CP Vacation Watch
713-682-5959

Architectural Guidelines
713-956-1167

Plaza Pulse News
713-503-2552

SPP Historian
713-683-9945

Plaza Moms
281-888-4533

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

July 2011



= Trash and Yard Waste



= Curbside Recycling

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

<p>Call Deputy Dispatch 713-755-7628</p>						1	2	
3		4	5	 	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	 	13	14	15	16	
17	18	19		20	21	22	23	
24	25	26	 Heavy trash TREE waste only	27	28	29	30	
31	<p>A Note About Trash: You can legally put your heavy trash out at 6pm the Friday before your heavy trash day.</p>							

Oak Forest Veterinary Clinic

Mon - Fri: 7 AM - 6 PM
Sat: 7:30 - 11:30 AM

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Sente MORTGAGE



Plaza Moms Hosts Patriotic Parade

When: Saturday, July 2 at 9:00 am

Where: The corner of Bethlehem and Apollo with a celebration at Durham Elementary following the parade



Calling all Plaza Moms and their families— Pull out your stars, flags and red, white and blue to decorate your bikes, trikes, wagons and strollers!! Let's get ready for our annual **Patriotic Parade and Celebration** coming up on **Saturday, July 2**. Lead by a fire truck and escorted by the constable, the parade starts at **9:00 am** at the corner of Bethlehem at Apollo and weaves through CP and SPP until we reach a patriotic celebration at Durham Elementary.

There will be prizes for your patriotism and décor including Most Unique, Most Sparkles, Best U.S. Flag Display, Oldest Participant, Youngest Participant, and more. So start thinking of how you will join in the fun!

Join the party! Come and cool off and have some more patriotic fun with us at Durham Elementary following the parade. The fun will include:

- Freshly-popped popcorn and donut holes
- Flavored Shaved Ice
- Water and drinks
- Playground fun
- Bounce house
- Patriotic tattoo station
- Water relay for older kids
- Fishing fun for little ones
- And, of course, the annual water balloon fight!

This is a Plaza Moms favorite so please send your RSVP via Big Tent or call **Holly Inderrieden** at 832-477-7871 by June 30.

Family Night Out will be rescheduled soon. Keep an eye out for the invite via Big Tent or email notification for the date and location! Come join us for our summer night out with your family, Plaza Moms members, and your neighbors!

Join Plaza Moms for our annual kick-off party "Beat the Texas Heat" to start the new year on Tuesday, August 9 at the home of **Erin Field** at 4703 Apollo Street.

For information on these, upcoming Plaza Moms events, or membership please contact **Holly Inderrieden** hollyindy@yahoo.com or **Erin Field** efield@tmcortho.com.



Men's Group to Meet for Lunch

The Shepherd Park Plaza Men's Group will meet for lunch and friendly discussion on Thursday, July 14, at 11:30 am, at Yank Sing Restaurant, 1801 Mangum. The group is open to all men of the neighborhood and has no formal rules, officers, or dues. They discuss neighborhood events, topics of interest, and occasionally have a program or short film. The group's next bus trip is planned for Wednesday, August 24 and anyone interested should contact **Chuck Blesener** at cables77@gmail.com or 713-683-9945.



Garden Club Awards Yard of the Month

SPP Garden Club Yard of the Month for June goes to longtime member, past president, and resident **Melba Bruce** at 1036 Candlelight. Melba is doing a great job keeping her yard alive during this extreme heat and drought, when many of our yards and gardens are suffering. There will be no meetings of the Garden Club during the summer months. The next meeting will be September 12. All membership payments will be due at that time, and the slate of fun and exciting programs and activities for the year will begin. The Garden Club is open to men and women of Shepherd Park Plaza, and the objective is "to promote neighborliness through the beautification of homes and gardens and to assist in civic improvement."



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June Yards of the Month

Section 1:

J. Royce & Vickie Simpson
967 Chamboard

Section 3:

Jon & Lisa Phillips
1059 Martin

Section 2:

Malcolm & Priscilla Phillips
4618 Chantilly Cir.

Section 4:

Genaro & Norma Salazar
1044 Candlelight



Find us on
Facebook

Join your neighbors in the
Shepherd Park Plaza group
on Facebook. Share your
thoughts or pictures and join
in on discussions.

SPP

Wants to Welcome You

Thanks to **Doyles**, 2136 W. 34th Street, www.doylesofhouston.com, 713-686-8271, who graciously donated gift certificates for our newest neighbors.

If you have moved into the neighborhood recently and have not yet been greeted by the SPP Civic Club, please contact **Eileen Hartman** at 713-305-5036 or eileen@hartmanassociates.com.

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