



THE PLAZA PULSE

SHEPHERD PARK PLAZA CIVIC CLUB

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* City of Houston Connect

Cook's Corner

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 or by contacting your section rep (see names on p.2)



4th of July Patriotic Parade and Celebration

Save the date for this annual event! It's a great opportunity to get out and socialize with the neighbors and celebrate our nation's independence!

When: Saturday, July 4th, Time to be announced in the July Pulse

Where: Parade begins at the corner of Bethlehem and Apollo

Go grab your red, white & blue hats, flags, banners and join us! Bikers and faster vehicles start here, and slower walkers with strollers, wagons and such can jump in at Bethlehem and Alba. Follow the parade route with us along Alba to Candlelight to Dunsmere and all the way to Shepherd Park for a post-parade celebration. We again welcome our constable deputies and local firefighters to join the fun! We hope you will be there, too.

LIGHTS, CAMERA, ACTION!!

On April 25th, the Leather Apron Foundation presented a movie at Durham Elementary. It was great to have so many folks from the neighborhood and the school come out for this great event. About 250 people came out to enjoy the movie Big Hero 6 and share food and conversation with friends and neighbors. With the variety of food trucks selling everything from chicken fingers, Mediterranean, Thai food, gourmet cupcakes, and shaved ice, everybody found something to munch on.

For the first hour or two everyone ate, talked and played on the big open field. Then the movie started! We hope this will be the first of many enjoyable events that provide an opportunity for all of the families in our neighborhood to **gather together**. And a **"BIG HERO 6"** thanks to the **Leather Apron Foundation**. Check out their website at: www.leatherapronfoundation.org/



It's that time of year when we start seeing the American Flags flying in our neighborhood. A big thanks to Mike Evans and his all-volunteer crew for displaying and removing these flags throughout the year! And thanks to Brandon Brown for driving the volunteers around in his truck.

Board of Directors

[Officers]

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Vice President Aurelien Bouchet
Secretary Vicki Brandt
Treasurer Ken Covington

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Citizens Patrol Chuck Blesener
Constable Patrol Coordinator Chuck Blesener
Deed Restrictions Darryl Rickaway
Entrance Bed Maintenance Monica Krause
Greeter Lynn Myers
Historian Elizabeth Cardner
Hospitality Shannon Zierau, Leann Salmons,
Courtney Selinidis
Membership Tom Dornak
Parks/DRT/PIP Liaison Ted Dwigans
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Section 2 Rep. Sarrah Moseley
Section 3 Rep. Sarah & Mairtin Morrissey
Section 4 Rep. Holly & Creston Inderrieden
Garden Club Rep. Carol Jean Hebert
Plaza Moms Co-Rep.
Shannon Zierau, Megan Rasmussen

Men's Group Rep. Chuck Blesener
Pulse Editor: Romi Sandel
713-316-9688 or pulse@shepherdparkplaza.com
Pulse Co-Editor: Laurie Hardwick

Tips to Stay Safe from HPD

by Chuck Blesener

Driving After 9:00 p.m.- HPD recommends that you drive in the right or middle lanes on the freeway after 9:00 p.m. since most drunk drivers driving the wrong way on the freeway usually drive in what they think is their right lane, which is your left lane. This action on your part might help prevent a fatal high-speed head-on collision.

Don't Resist - Do not contest your arrest or detention during an arrest process. Even if you are innocent, let your attorney handle the matter after the fact. You can be charged with resisting arrest or evading arrest even if not guilty of the original charge. You can calmly explain your **situation, but do follow the officers' commands and keep your hands visible at all times.** Body cameras are coming for all officers and should provide a record of all arrests.

Utility Scam - Seniors are being robbed by crooks posing as utility workers. While the resident takes one man into the backyard, a second man goes into the home and steals valuables. All workers will have picture ID and many have distinctive uniforms. Demand to see identification and if you have doubts, call the company. You do not have to accompany any worker in the backyard. If you have a dog or a locked gate, ask them to wait while you lock your front door and go to unlock the gate or contain the dog. Let them access their equipment by themselves and never let them into your home.

Drinking & Driving Puts Everyone at Risk

by Chuck Blesener

Harris County has the highest number of DWI's and DWI fatalities in the nation. We have all heard why we should not drink and drive, and the social, financial, medical, and criminal consequences of doing it. As rational adults, it is up to each of us to make that decision to not drive after drinking or suffer the consequences. Unfortunately others, such as homeowners and innocent children, sometimes also suffer from our careless acts.

Recently this problem has struck close to home. Since December 2014, there have been three homes in Shepherd Park Plaza hit and damaged by vehicles driven by drunk drivers. Candlelight Plaza has had the brickwork destroyed on two of their entrance signs--one by a drunk driver. In the latest incident, a two-year-old girl on Chamboard came close to being seriously injured or killed while asleep in her bed. If the worst had happened and you had been behind the wheel, would you want to live with that on your conscience for the rest of your life?

These drivers are not always strangers. The driver in December was a resident of Candlelight Plaza and the April incident was caused by a resident of Ella Lee Forest. These are drivers cutting through our neighborhood to get home, some of whom are impaired and don't make it without incident. Our deputies do try and discourage this outside traffic and do write tickets when warranted. However, it is up to each of us to make sure we are not part of this problem in our neighborhood or any other neighborhood. You can drink, you can drive, just not at the same time.



Citizens Patrol Stats

Patrol Hours *Prepared by Chuck Blesener*

WEEK	April
1	19.25
2	25.25
3	36.75
4	52.25
TOTAL	133.50

New Patrollers are Needed!!

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 pm. Anyone in the neighborhood is invited to join the COP group. More eyes on our neighborhood means more awareness of suspicious activity.

The winner of the random \$10 bonus for April is Michelle Ganter. 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!

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/

City Ordinances—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/

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/>

SPP Christmas in July: Save the Date



The Holiday Season in Shepard Park Plaza is a magical time of year! Many of our residents light up their homes with incredible decorations that rival Rockefeller Center. To all of you in that category, we truly appreciate the work you put into your holiday decorations. You make SPP a wonderful place to call home.

We would like to keep the traditions of SPP strong by starting the planning process early to avoid the last minute rush before the holidays. Are you a decorating super star? We want to hear your tips and tricks! Are you looking for help getting started with your decorations or want to coordinate with your neighbors? We will be brainstorming ideas! Are you looking to outsource your decorations? We will have vendors available to help out!

SPP Christmas in July will be on Wednesday, July 15th from 7-9:00 p.m. at Berryhill on 43rd in the Palapa area. Please come out to start the planning process and meet your neighbors. Hope to see you there!




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**It's not just my business,
It's my neighborhood.**

Where do you want to live?



SPP TRAVELERS



The group has a bus trip scheduled for June 16th for a tour and lunch at the Brookwood Community in Brookshire. Brookwood is a not-for-profit community providing spiritual, educational and vocational opportunities for adults with special needs.

The Travellers obtained an extra bus in May for a special birthday trip to the Hilltop Herb Farm in Cleveland. The group celebrated a milestone birthday with Melba Bruce, a long-time member and neighbor. Melba is seated in the rocker in the center of the picture.

Coming in the July Pulse...More information on the multi-part safety program for women sponsored by Harris County Precinct 1 Constable's office.

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Cook's Corner



BLACK BEAN SALSA

Salsa:

2 15-oz cans of black beans, drained & rinsed
2 cups whole kernel corn, drained
1 can Rotel tomatoes (original)
1 small onion, chopped fine
Mix all ingredients in large bowl and set aside.

Marinade:

6-8 TBs of olive oil
3-4 TBs of lime juice
1-2 TBs of rice vinegar
1 tsp minced garlic
1/2-1 tsp chili powder
1 tsp cumin
Mix all ingredients with whisk and pour over Salsa. Refrigerate for one hour. Stir gently.
Serve with tortilla chips.
Optional ingredients: cilantro, jalapeno, red bell pepper, salt.

All recipes are printed without being tested. Cook at your own risk! Want to submit a recipe? Go to our website and email the Pulse Editor.

Garage Sale Recap

The SPP and Candlelight Plaza Neighborhood Garage Sale had approximately 50 households that participated. The original date for this event, April 25th, was rained out, as it started raining at 7:00 a.m. This event was rescheduled to the following Saturday and communicated to all on the **Shepherd Park Plaza Facebook** page. Many residents, especially our Senior residents don't subscribe to Facebook and may not have gotten this information. Some residents did open for business in the rain and reported good sales. The rescheduled garage sale on May 2nd had perfect weather. Many residents reported many shoppers resulting in good sales. Thanks to **Patricia Dornak** and **MANNA** for coordinating this event.



HURRICANE SEASON IS UPON US!

June 1st to November 30th is Hurricane Season. The last few years have been rather quiet for the Houston/Galveston region, but it never hurts to be prepared. Take a minute to look at information about Hurricane preparedness at ShepherdParkPlaza.com

Cal I s handl ed by Deputy Constabl e

*Figures are for entire contract incl uding SPP and Candl el ight Pl aza



April 2015

ROBBERY.... 1	TRAFFIC INITIATIVE... 15	SUSPICIOUS PERSON... 14
MILES PATROLLED.... 3972	FORGERY... 1	PARK CHECK... 17
TRAFFIC STOP.... 16	CRIMINAL MISCHIEF...2	OPEN DOOR... 1
BURGLARY.... 1	TRAFFIC HAZARD... 1	SUSPICIOUS VEHICLE... 7
MEET THE CITIZEN...558	DISTURBANCE... 1	VACATION WATCH... 12

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

CONSTABLE PROGRAM VACATION WATCH

Vacation season is here! And so are the burglars. While you're at the beach enjoying the sun and surf, your house might be at higher risk for burglary if there is a lack of activity around your home during the time you're away. As part of our neighborhood's participation in the Constable Program, you can request that the Constable's office check on your home periodically during your vacation by signing up a week in advance at the following website: <http://pct1constable.net/sign-up/vacation-watch/>



LEANN SALMONS
BROKER ASSOCIATE
832-868-9453
lsalmons@marthaturner.com

Area Specialist
Circle of Excellence Award Winner
Certified Marketing Specialist
Lifelong Shepherd Park Plaza Resident

Martha Turner
PROPERTIES



New Dimension Pharmacy
713-263-7680

- * Bedside Delivery
- * Hospice Care Services
- * Free Home/Office Delivery
- * Non-Emergency Medical Transportation
- * Compounding (hormone replacement, Pain management)
- * Disability Care Services
- * Group Homes Services
- * Veterinary Pharmacy Services
- * Medication Management for Memory Care, Dementia, Alzheimer's Care & Group Homes
- * Competitive Pricing Program

Great Fun at the SPP Crawfish Event



The 7th Annual SPP Crawfish Boil dodged the rainy weather this May and resulted in a large turnout. In attendance were 112 adults, and 30 Children. The crawfish were larger this year, seasoned just right and included Andouille sausage, corn on the cob, red potatoes, and mushrooms. The event was hosted at a new location on Candlelight Ln, in the west cul-de-sac, by **Jennifer & Brandon Brown**. The cooks this year were the same as in the past; **Shawn & Amy Boatman**, formerly SPP residents on Candlelight Ln, now living in Tomball, and **Mike & Kim Evans of Candlelight Ln**. This event was a successful fundraiser for the Civic Club. The Civic Club thanks all who participated in helping this event be a success.

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MEN'S GROUP

The Shepherd Park Plaza Men's Group will gather for their monthly luncheon and meeting on Thursday, June 11, at 11:30 a.m at Berryhill's on Ella @ 43rd for lunch and conversation.

All men of the neighborhood are welcome to join the group, bring a friend or neighbor, a good appetite, and an inquiring mind. Discussions and questions are open on any subject, with an emphasis on neighborhood events. There are no dues, no officers, and no rules. For more information contact Chuck Blesener at ccbles77@gmail.com.

Garden Club News

The Shepherd Park Plaza Garden Club met on Monday, May 11, 2015, at the home of Lori Kubin, 1107 Cheshire Lane. Although El Tiempo catered the meal, Lori and several helpers were busy with drinks, table decorations, set up and a multitude of other tasks. The Members were thrilled that Pat Kubin could attend this meeting. They also welcomed back Melba Bruce who has been unable to attend several meetings this year. The Yard of the Month for May was very appropriately given to Lori Kubin, 1107 Cheshire Lane!

This was the SPPGC's annual Installation of New Officers. They are as follows: President - Vicki Brandt, First Vice President - Colette Robichau, Second Vice President - Carolyn Long, Treasurer - Ruth Rock and Secretary - Susan Fitzpatrick. A warm Thank You was extended by all to the outgoing Board: President - Carol Jean Hebert, First Vice President - Beth Galiano, Second Vice Presidents - Debbie Elliott and Lori Kubin, Treasurer - Colette Robichau and Secretary - Susan Fitzpatrick. The members presented a beautiful bouquet and a gift basket to Carol Jean Hebert for her two years of service as President. Carol Jean in turn gave each Member of her outgoing Board a token gift chosen especially for each lady. Door Prizes were the beautiful Gerber Daisy Centerpieces. Winners were: Melba Bruce, Pat Kubin and Lou Rice.

The SPPGC's next meeting will be in September of 2015. Vicki Brandt and her officers will be busy over the summer designing creative plans for the upcoming year. Meetings are held on the Second Monday of 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.



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Principal's Corner from Principal Angie Sugarek—Durham Elementary



Summer days are full of sunshine and fun and the students are really excited about moving up to the next grade. Summer is also the perfect opportunity to enhance your child's reading skills! READ EVERY DAY and your child will grow over the summer and be ready when school starts again on August 24th. Visit our website for our summer reading lists and program at www.houstonisd.org/durhames.

You may also notice some activity on campus for the month of June. That's because we are implementing Dual Language classes starting in the Fall 2015 for PreK, Kinder and 1st Grade! Our upcoming English speaking students for 1st Grade will be receiving Spanish instruction in June in order to prepare them for this program. We are excited about this transition and the bridges that will be built across our Durham families to create an even stronger Durham community!

PreK - Registration Dates are by Student's Last Name

Friday, June 26 from 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. - A through M

Monday, June 29 from 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. - N through Z

Tuesday, June 30 from 8:00 a.m. 1:00 p.m. - Anyone not able to attend during their time

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
713-681-1552

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



SPP CALENDAR

JUNE 2015



= 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.

					May 29	30
31	June 1	2 	2 	4 	4	F6
7	8	9 	10	11 	12	13
14 	15	16 	17	18 Heavy trash JUNK Waste	19	20
21	22	23 	24	25	26	27
28	29	30 	July 1 	2	3	4



The Plaza Moms monthly meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 16th. The location and time will be announced to the members in late May.



June 19th, or Juneteenth, dates back to 1865 when word spread to Texas (more specifically in Galveston) that slavery had been abolished by the Emancipation Proclamation. It is most commonly recognized in Texas by celebrations and parades.



Shepherd Park Plaza Civic Club
P. O. Box 10453
Houston, TX 77206
www.ShepherdParkPlaza.com

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May Yards of the Month

Section 1:

934 Chamboard
Marcia West & Michael
Erickson

Section 3:

1027 Cheshire
Lisa Hess

Section 2:

939 Chantilly
Jennifer & Thomas Peterson

Section 4:

1018 Richelieu
David Balthazor

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
or myers.lynn@yahoo.com
so we can welcome you officially.

Summer Safety Tips

HYDRATION

- Your body is 60% water
- Drink at least 9 cups of water per day (13, if you are male)
- Drink 4-8 oz. every 15-20 minutes during exercise
- Caffeinated and alcoholic drinks actually dehydrate

ROAD SAFETY

- *Jumper Cables*
- *A flashlight*
- *First aid kit*
- *Plenty of snacks and water*
- *Extra cell phone charger*

never

Leave a pet
in a hot car

PROTECT YOUR SKIN

- **IDEAL SUNSCREEN AMOUNT** is 1 oz. of sunscreen (a shot glass) each time you apply
- **REAPPLY** sunscreen every 2 hours
- **LIMIT TIME IN THE SUN** from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
- **USE MULTIPLE SHADE OPTIONS** including sunglasses, hats, and protective clothing

AT THE POOL

Fence Around the Pool
Have Pool Rules
Keep Your Eyes on the Kids
Put Away All Pool Toys
After Use

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