

THE PLAZA PULSE

SHEPHERD PARK PLAZA CIVIC CLUB

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November 2012

FALL FESTIVAL PHOTO ALBUM

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Approximately 160 neighbors came out for the Shepherd Park Plaza Civic Club and Plaza Moms Fall Festival on October 13th at Durham Elementary.

Attendees enjoyed: dinner by Spaghetti Western, a variety of crafts and a coloring contest, a silent auction to benefit the SPP Garden Club, bounce houses, a cake raffle, face painting, Halloween costumes, and delicious Garden Club desserts.

Thanks to all of the volunteers who helped make the event a success!



Halloween Decoration Winners

- Best Overall, 1st place: 4707 Apollo | Christopher and Kimberly Schultea
- Best Overall, 2nd place: 1063 Thornton | Ricardo Calderoni
- Scariest, 1st place: 1028 Candlelight | Greg Walls and Nikki Bui
- Scariest, 2nd place: 1159 Curtin | Philip and Leann Salmons,
- Most Original, 1st place: 1118 Richelieu | Amy and Roberto Perez
- Most Original 2nd place: 1127 Thornton | Evonne Alford

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Men's Group Rep. Chuck Blesener

Pulse Editor: Emily Leffler

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pulse@shepherdparkplaza.com



Thanks to all the neighbors who came out for National Night Out and to all our wonderful hosts!























SEPTEMBER 2012

CITIZENS PATROL STATS

Patrol Hours Prepared by Charli Merchant

WEEK	WALK/BIKE PATROL	AUTO PATROL	TOTAL HOURS
1	16.75	17	33.75
2	14.5	24.5	39
3	25	18	43
4	21.25	27.5	48.75
TOTAL	77.5	87	164.5

Interested in patrolling? Contact **Karen Cruse** at 713-824-4799 or <u>kjcfm4954@yahoo.com</u> 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 Melba Bruce. To be eligible, auto patrollers must turn in at least 4 hours by the 5th of the month

Citizen Patrol Changes By Chuck Blesener

We recently learned that the Houston Police Department plans to discontinue its support of the walking and biking portions of the Citizen Patrol program. Additional details below were provided to us by Sgt. Frank Escobedo.

The change was initiated by the City Legal Department because of possible liabilities involved with the City's involvement and sponsorship of the program. The change has already been approved by City Council, the Mayor, and the Police Chief. It will not go into effect though until new training manuals are printed and that is expected to be sometime next year.

It is not too late to stop this change. There has not been a single incident or problem with walking or biking patrollers since the inception of the program. Almost half of our current patrollers are walkers and bikers. It is imperative we let the Mayor, City Council, and the Police Chief know that we are happy with the current program and do not want to see it changed. I urge you to write or email these officials and let them know how you feel.

Our Citizens Patrol works very well. Prior to initiating the program 21 years ago, we had an extremely high crime rate - almost a burglary per day. We have prevented an untold number of crimes in our neighborhood by our visibility on the streets and our calls for service. Safety is always our primary concern. If we feel it is unsafe to walk or bike on our streets, we will be the first ones to stop and seek help from HPD and the City to make changes. It is not necessary for the City to mandate those changes.

Our Deputy Constable Patrol has also helped tremendously in keeping crime down but he is only here forty hours each week. As we have seen recently, crime happens whether our deputy is on duty or not. We still need our Citizen Patrollers out on the street in their cars, on foot, or on bikes - watching, observing, and reporting suspicious persons and vehicles. Continue to patrol as you always have, put in more hours if you can, and if you are not a patroller - consider joining us. It is our neighborhood, our homes, and our families we are trying to protect.

Contact Information for our council member, mayor, and police chief.

District C Council Member	Mayor	Chief Of Police
Ellen R Cohen	Annise D. Parker	Charles A. McClelland Jr.
900 Bagby, First Floor Houston, TX 77002	City of Houston PO Box 1562 Houston, TX 77251	1200 Travis St. Houston, TX 77002
832-393-3004	713-837-0031	713-884-3131
district@houstontx.gov	mayor@houstontx.gov	www.houstontx.gov/police/chief



Remember to Vote!

Election Day is Tuesday, November 6th and includes national, state and local issues. According to the Harris County Clerk's website as of October 16, 2012, the voting location for Shepherd Park Plaza residents is Durham Elementary on Brinkman. Visit the County Clerk's Election Division website at http://www.harrisvotes.org/ for more information, including early voting locations and dates.

CALLS HANDLED BY DEPUTY CONSTABLE



SEPTEMBER 2012

Arrests	••••	1
Alarm Responses	•••	2
Citizen Contacts	13	86
Disturbances	•••	2
Investigations	•••	0

Park Checks	10
Vacation Watch	25
Misc. Calls	27
Dispatched Calls	12
Total Calls 2	201

Miles Patrolled... 934

Traffic:

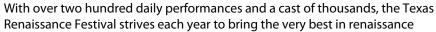
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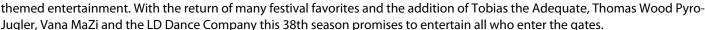
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What's Happening Around Houston By Carol Jean Hebert

Texas Renaissance Festival

The Texas Renaissance Festival is the nation's largest and most acclaimed Renaissance theme park where the sights, sounds, tastes and beauty of the 16th Century come alive for eight magically themed weekends. The Texas Renaissance Festival welcomes nearly half a million guests annually and features nearly 500 costumed performers on 17 stages, 400 shops including international food purveyors, unique artisans, merchants and craft vendors, human powered rides, an abundance of strolling performers and the Royal Finale at dusk.





The Festival is held Saturdays, Sundays and Thanksgiving Friday. The Texas Renaissance Festival is located 50 miles northwest of Houston on more than 50 acres of beautifully landscaped grounds on FM 1774, between Magnolia and Plantersville. Parking is free.

Directions: Take I-45 north towards Conroe. Take Highway 105 West (left under the freeway) and follow 105 approximately 22 miles to Plantersville. In Plantersville, turn left on FM 1774 and go six miles to the Festival entrance. There are signs and officers directing traffic in Plantersville and at the Festival entrance.

Address & Contact: 21778 FM 1774, Todd Mission, Texas 77363 | 800-458-3435 | info@texrenfest.com | www.texrenfest.com

Dates & Times: October 6—November 25, 2012 | 9 am – 8 pm.



Pumpkin Pie Recipe

1 ½ cups pumpkin puree
1¼ tsp. salt
2/3 cup condensed milk
(canned)
1 tsp. cinnamon
1 cup water
½ cup sugar
½ tsp. ground ginger
Uncooked pie/pastry shell
¼ cup honey
1¼ tsp. ground cloves
2 slightly beaten eggs
1¼ tsp. ground nutmeg

Combine all ingredients except pie shell. Note: Mixture will be very thin. Place pie shell in pie plate and press down gently. Pour mixture in pie plate. Cook at 425 degrees for 15 minutes. Cook at 350 degrees for an additional 45 minutes. Serve chilled with whipped topping.





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--Byron and Shirley T., Houston, TX

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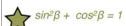


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IMPORTANT NUMBERS POLICE/FIRE: 911 CITY HELPLINE: 311

Citizens Patrol **Deed Restrictions** Plaza Moms New Neighbor/Greeter Garden Club 713-824-4799 713-305-5035 713-775-0307 or 832-477-7871 713-305-5036 713-344-7013 **CP Vacation Watch Architectural Guidelines** Plaza Pulse News SPP Historian Traffic & Safety 713-682-5959 713-301-4054 713-628-4210 713-681-1552 713-824-4799

 SPP Membership
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 Men's Group

 713-683-6502
 713-683-9945
 713-688-0574 or 713-681-3600
 713-683-9945

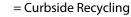


SPP CALENDAR

November 2012



= Trash and Yard Waste



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
day. Note that our heav	an legally put your heavy tr y trash has been moved lidwaste/2012 heavytr	ash out at 6pm the Friday b I to the 3rd Thursday of 6 ashreroute.html)	efore your heavy trash each month (<u>http://</u>	1	2	3
FALL BACK	5	VOTE	7	Men's Group MEETING	9	10
VETERAN'S DAY	Plaza Moms 12 MEETING Garden Club MEETING	13	14	Heavy trash TREE waste only	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

Home Security Tips from the Citizen Patrollers

- Lit porch lights deter crime.
- Keep gates closed.
- Lock your doors.
- If you have an alarm, be sure to set it.

- A well-kept yard shows that people are home and that they are mindful of their homes.
- Park cars in garages or behind gates to deter theft from vehicles
- If you do not have SPP stickers on your vehicles, please get them.



Plaza Moms

November Meeting: November 12 at 7 pm at the home of Emily Eldridge, 1003 Cheshire. This meeting will be a pot-luck

and recipe sharing gathering. Bring a dish of your favorite quick dinner to share and share the recipe.



Men's Club

The Shepherd Park Plaza Men's Group will meet for lunch and conversation at the Live Oak Grill, 10444

Hempstead @ Dacoma, on Thursday, November 8th at 11: 30. August Galiano will present an entertaining program and the group will vote on their nominees for their annual John Wayne Award.

Remember - you too can join the fun - no dues, no officers, and no commitments. Call **Chuck Blesener** at 713-683-9945 or ccbles77@gmail.com for more information.



Emergency—911 Constable Dispatch—713-755-7628 HPD—713-884-3131

Clip & Save

Garden Club



hostesses were **Sheri Beasley**, **Robin McClung**, **Fran Marino**, and **Bob Warren** and **Michael Pate**. Sarrah opened the beautifully landscaped backyard of her home for the meeting, and filled it with fall décor, lighting, and wonderful food. The program was presented by John Stubbing from Clown Alley Orchids on the growing and care of orchids. **Linda Morgan**, first vice-president, presided over the short business meeting.

Poinsettia sales are going on now and orders will be taken until the 3rd week of November. **Alice Bongers** is the contact.

The October yard-of-the-month was awarded to club president, **Evonne Alford**, now **Evonne Sturm**, for the yard layout as well as the bride and groom scarecrows and "just married" sign posted in the yard.

The Garden Club held a silent auction at the Fall Festival, and this fundraising project was in the skilled and experienced hands of **Monica Krause**, assisted by 2nd vice-president **Corrinne Oppermann** and other club members. Proceeds of this fundraiser are earmarked for flower bed maintenance and updates.

The November meeting is always a special treat, and will be held November 12 at 7 pm in the home of **Barbara Raines**, 1191 Chamboard. Guest speaker/demonstrator will be Darlene's Flower Shop co-owner Susan Tate who always presents a creative arrangement or two. The November meeting is customarily a learning tool for the members and guests and a great preparation for the upcoming holiday decorating season.

Vice president **Linda Morgan** and **Romi Sandel** are currently working on the membership directory to be distributed at the November meeting. Membership dues of \$20 must be paid in order to be included in the new directory.



By Romi Sandel



In Memoriam—Kyle Eickenhorst, age 18, died October 11, 2012. Kyle lived on Chamboard and is survived by his mother, **Dana Stoerkel**, sister **Kailey** and brother **Justin**.

It's a girl!—**Gena and Dan Burke** of 1114 Thornton welcomed **Penelope Lynn Burke**, "Ellie," on October 10 at 10:33 am. She weighed in at 6lbs, 11ozs, and was 20 inches long. Gena and Ellie are home now with Dad and proud big sister **Becca**.

One of our neighbors has lost a precious item. A 1957 well-worn black Bible fell off the trunk of a car around Martin and Park Plaza. If you have any information about this, please contact Billy Hartman billy@hartmanassociates.com.



SHEPHERD PARK PLAZA CIVIC CLUB P. O. Box 10453 HOUSTON, TX 77206 WWW.SHEPHERDPARKPLAZA.COM

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September Yards of the Month Section 1: Section 3: Paul & Linda Griffin Martha Quinilla 1187 CHAMBOARD **1063** Martin Section 2: Section 4: JOHN & KAY FRY Len & Rhonda D'eramo 1042 THORNTON 1064 CANDLELIGHT



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-sonew, but haven't gotten around to introducing yourself yet, contact **Eileen Hartman** at 713-305-5036 or Eileen@hartmanassociates.com so we can welcome you officially.

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