



# THE PLAZA PULSE

SHEPHERD PARK PLAZA CIVIC CLUB

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### October 2015

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- Peace and Joy Day
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- Halloween Decorating Award



#### 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)

### TWO BIG EVENTS IN OCTOBER FOR SPP RESIDENTS!

FRIDAY, October 2nd at 6:00 p.m.—Annual Fall meeting. See details below.

TUESDAY, October 6th at 6:00 p.m.—National Night Out. See host locations on page 2.

Shepherd Park Plaza  
PRESENTS

# OKTOBERFEST

OCTOBER 2, 2015  
6:00 - 9:30PM

MUSIC, GAMES,  
CAKE WALK  
& SILENT AUCTION!

WINE AND BEER AVAILABLE AT CASH BAR!  
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 Section 4 Rep. **Holly & Creston Inderrieden**  
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 Plaza Moms Co-Rep.  
**Sarah Morrissey, Megan Rasmussen**  
**Men's Group Rep.** **Chuck Blesener**  
 Pulse Editor: **Roni Sandel**  
**713-316-9688 or [pulse@shepherdparkplaza.com](mailto:pulse@shepherdparkplaza.com)**  
 Pulse Co-Editor: **Laurie Hardwick**

SAVE THE DATE!  
 NOVEMBER 21st  
 For the 2nd Annual SPP Wine Crawl.

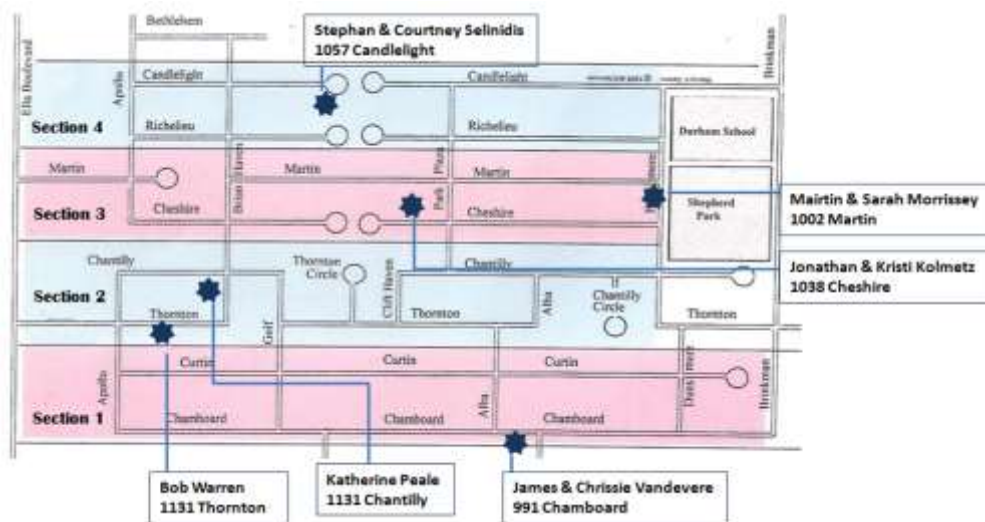
The details and host addresses will follow in the November Pulse.



## National Night Out

Tuesday, October 6th, 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

National Night Out is an annual community event to promote crime prevention activities, police-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie. The SPP community has always been a wonderful place to live and NNO is a further opportunity to solidify relationships with each other and ensure SPP continues to be a safe place to raise our families. Please stop by anytime between 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. to meet your neighbors and learn about the Constable Program sponsored by the Civic Club. This is also a great opportunity to finalize Holiday themes with your street or cul-de-sac! The hosts this year are listed below. If you are interested in being a host, please contact the Pulse Editor through our website.



## HALLOWEEN IS NEAR!

HALLOWEEN DECORATING AWARDS WILL BE GIVEN OUT IN THE FOLLOWING CATEGORIES FOR 1ST AND 2ND PLACE WINNERS:

- ⇒ BEST OVERALL
- ⇒ SCARIEST
- ⇒ MOST ORIGINAL

JUDGING WILL BE MONDAY,  
 OCTOBER 19TH—EVENING

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# Citizens Patrol Stats

## August 2015 Patrol Hours *Prepared by Chuck Blesener* New Patrollers are Needed!!

WEEK	Driving	Walking/ Biking
1	15	3
2	14	3
3	17	3
4	18	4
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>13</b>

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.

The winner of the random \$10 bonus for August is Jeannette Blesener. 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!



**LEANN SALMONS**  
BROKER ASSOCIATE  
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[lsalmons@marthaturner.com](mailto:lsalmons@marthaturner.com)

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- \* Group Homes Services
- \* Veterinary Pharmacy Services
- \* Medication Management for Memory Care, Dementia, Alzheimer's
- \* Care & Group Homes
- \* Competitive Pricing Program

## UTILITY CONTRACTORS IN SPP

by: Chuck Blesener

The City of Houston has hired a contractor to replace the sanitary sewer lines in our neighborhood. Previous contractors using cameras in the sewers determined that many of the existing concrete sewer lines were caving in. They were using Shepherd Park as a staging area but the COH Parks Department made them move. They have equipment all over the neighborhood and are making a lot of noise with the track-hoes and pulling machines. They use a cable through the old pipe to simultaneously pulverize the old pipe and pull in the new pipe. They are replacing the existing eight inch concrete pipe with ten inch thick-walled plastic pipe, except where there are twenty or more homes on a line and then they are using twelve inch pipe. They are using twelve inch pipe on the lateral lines running north and south where they are having to dig large holes in corner yards to keep the lines separated from the new water mains installed a couple of years ago. They can only pull in a limited amount of pipe at a time because it disables your sewer line when they do. It is necessary for them to enter most back yards to dig a hole and reconnect your home sewer line to the new pipe.

Some residents are unhappy with the contractor having to take down fences and dig up landscaping and shrubbery. Remember there is a ten foot utility easement running down each block - five feet on each side of the property line. City ordinance prohibits building any permanent structures on these easements and all fences and landscaping were placed with the knowledge that they may be removed by the city, utilities, or their contractors. Where there is a swimming pool in the back yard, they dig the hole by hand and not with their heavy equipment. They are replanting grass where necessary and restoring fences and landscaping to their original condition as much as possible.



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Susan Cardenas, DVM  
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# around the neighborhood

Condolences go to the family of SPP resident Glenn Gates, who passed away in early September. He and his wife lived in the neighborhood for about 15 years.

Long time resident Betty Perry passed away in September. In recent years, Mrs. Perry was living in the Brenham area. She was a nurse until she and her husband retired to enjoy traveling in their RV. She enjoyed dancing, reading, painting and much more.



## SHEPHERD PARK PLAZA TRAVELERS

The group will be traveling on Tuesday, October 20th, to George Ranch Historical Park. Call Chuck Blesener for more information.



## SHEPHERD PARK PLAZA MEN'S GROUP

The SPP Men's Group met for lunch and discussion at Pizza Inn at 18th & Mangum on October 8th. If you are retired, or still working and can take a long lunch break, come join our group. We meet at various local neighborhoods and enjoy visiting and eating at a leisurely pace. There are no commitments, dues or officers-just friendly conversation and good food.



## FLAG AMBASSADOR NEEDED!

SPP is still looking for a new Flag Ambassador to display American flags in our neighborhood about four times per year. If you are interested or want more information please contact our Civic Club President, Tom Caver at [www.President@ShepherdParkPlaza.com](mailto:www.President@ShepherdParkPlaza.com)



## Cook's Corner



### Crock Pot French Onion Soup

3 cans beef broth  
3 cans of water  
1/4 crock pot filled with sliced onions  
1/4 c. red wine  
1 tsp brown sugar

Place all ingredients in crock pot. Cook on low for 24 hours. Serve in oven-proof mug or bowl with slice of French bread and top with Swiss or provolone cheese slice.

Optional: Broil until cheese is melted.

*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.*

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

★ Veterans Day ★

★ Veterans Day is an official United States federal holiday that is observed annually on November 11th, honoring people who have served in the U.S. Armed Forces. If you are a veteran of the U. S. Armed Forces and a resident of Shepherd Park Plaza, we would like to recognize you in the November Pulse. If you want to be included, please email the Pulse editor at [Pulse@shepherdparkplaza.com](mailto:Pulse@shepherdparkplaza.com) by October 10th. And THANK YOU for your service. ★

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

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# Call is handled by Deputy Constable

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



AUGUST 2015

Suspicious vehicle...6	Miles patrol led...3444	TRAFFIC STOP ...15
Accident...1	Citizen contacts...345	Traffic initiative...9
SOLICITORS...1	Traffic hazard...5	Vacation watch...50
Theft...3	Suspicious person...2	Park check...39

August was a very low crime month in Shepherd Park Plaza and Candlelight Plaza with no major crimes thanks to our deputies.

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

## 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.

## *Christmas in July Continued!*

*Momentum is gaining in SPP for decorating streets or cul-de-sacs with themes. Take a few minutes during National Night Out to get with your neighbors and get the creative juices flowing on a unique theme for your street. Please contact Elizabeth Cardner at [EFryer6@gmail.com](mailto:EFryer6@gmail.com) if you want to be put in contact with someone that can help you with one of the following:*



*Yard Signs made*



*Building or purchasing street arches*



*Installing Christmas lights*

*Don't wait too long to contact them if you need these services, since these individuals get quite busy this time of year!*

## Durham Elementary by Principal Amy Poerschke—Part 1 (see calendar page for part 2)

We will be hosting our **Fall Festival Saturday, October 24th from 11:00 p.m. -3:00pm**. There will be activity booths, entertainment, video games, bounce house, food, and much, much more. Over 250 volunteer hours are needed. **DON'T delay - SIGN-UP to help TODAY!** Visit the Volunteer Spot link at <http://vols.pt/Dakgfs> to reserve your volunteer spots for Fall Festival 2015. If you are a parent, grandparent, older teenager, aunt, uncle, community member, or a neighbor, you can volunteer at this event beginning at 10:30 a.m. on the 24th. These fundraising efforts go towards our outdoor classroom. If you can't volunteer, come out and enjoy the activities.

*Eileen Gamel Hartman*  
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## GARDEN CLUB NEWS



### Gardening Season Begins

A small but enthusiastic group kicked off the Garden Club's season Tuesday, September 8th, at Vicki Brandt's home. The club has an exciting year planned, including programs on landscaping, building a natural wildlife habitat, and creating living wreaths. Its next meeting, Monday, October 12th (Columbus Day), will be a morning visit to Buchanan's for a tour of the nursery and Q&A with master gardeners.

The Garden Club will be sponsoring a free Jr. Gardener table at the Oktoberfest, October 2nd—all wanna-be little gardeners are welcome to participate and create their own little gardens.

If you have a green (or brown) thumb and would like to learn more about gardening with fellow “dirt movers”, please join us at our October meeting. For more information, please contact Vicki Brandt at 281-888-6306.

### Yard of the Month

Carolyn Long—1163 Chamboard

“My landscaping theme, which works perfectly in our climate, is to walk a bit on the wild side. There are so many fantastic native plants that not only feed the birds and butterflies, but also require less water. The hummingbird show that started around the end of August is in full swing. I have several feeders and use a home made nectar, 1:4 sugar to water, that I bring to a boil and store in the refrigerator. It's important not to let the feeders get moldy so I wash them with soapy water every week and every couple of weeks soak them in a bleach solution - 1/4 C to 1 gal water and rinse well.”



### PROCLAMATION!

Mayor Annise Parker has declared October 1, 2015, PEACE AND JOY DAY in the City of Houston. SPP Resident Shannon Zierau is behind this great idea, so join Shannon and other residents at Ann's Labyrinth in Shepherd Park on October 1, 2015 at 6:00 p.m.

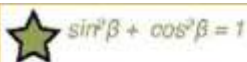
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### Plaza Moms Group



Plaza  
Moms

Plaza Moms' Ladies Night Out will be October 1st at Cottonwood at 8:00 p.m. The group is also hosting a KIDS EVENT on Saturday, October 17th—more info to follow via email to members. Plaza Moms would like to thank our 2015/16 season sponsors; without their support we wouldn't be able to hold such great events for all our families. Super Hero Sponsors: Houston Dance Works, IndyQuest Properties, Lavish Linens, The Lift on 19th, Luxury Lawns, Oaks Wealth Management, Sweet Tooth Stationary. Super Friend Sponsors: Bouchet Images, Houston Yard Art, Stella & Dot. Friend Sponsor: Magnolia Chiropractic Clinic Inc.



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 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



SPP CALENDAR

October 2015



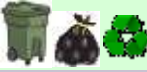





= Trash and Yard Waste



= Curbside Recycling

SUNDAY
 MONDAY
 TUESDAY
 WEDNESDAY
 THURSDAY
 FRIDAY
 SATURDAY

Reminder about Heavy Trash: Our heavy trash pickup is the <u>3rd Thursday</u> of each month. Tree waste is picked up in ODD months, and Junk waste in the EVEN months.					September 25	26
27	28	29 	30	October 1 <div>Plaza Moms Ladies Night Out</div> <div>Peace and Joy Day</div>	 2                     SPP Oktoberfest	3
4	5	6 <div>National Night Out</div> 	7 <div>SPPCC Board Mtg</div>	8 <div>Men's Group Meeting</div>	9	10
11	12 <div>Garden Club Meeting—Buchanan's 10:00 a.m.</div>	13 	14	15 <div>Heavy trash Junk Waste</div>	16	17 <div>Plaza Moms Kids Event</div>
18	19 <div>SPP Travelers</div> 	20	21	22	23	24 <div>Durham ES Fall Festival</div>
25	26 	27	28	29 <div>Durham ES Character Parade</div>	30	31 <div>HALLOWEEN</div>

Durham Elementary News by Principal Amy Poerschke—Part 2

We need your help with our Campus Beautification Project. Our work day will be on **Saturday, October 10th**. Please join us from 8:00 a.m.-11:00 am. Please come out and lend a hand as we work to beautify our campus.

Durham Students will participate in a **Character Day Parade Friday, Oct. 30th**. Students are encouraged to dress as a character from a story, and bring the book to school with them. Each teacher will need a parent volunteer to assist with candy distribution. If you are available to volunteer please let us know. If you have any questions or would like to volunteer, you may contact us at [www.durhampta.org](http://www.durhampta.org) or call us directly at 713-613-2527.





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

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## September Yards of the Month

### Section 1:

1023 Chamboard  
Deborah & Gary  
Caraway

### Section 3:

1105 Martin  
Raycene & Robert  
Hilsher

### Section 2:

1127 Chantilly  
Rita & James Rogers

### Section 4:

1103 Candlelight  
Polly & Dale Wilhelm

**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](mailto:myers.lynn@yahoo.com)  
so we can welcome you officially.