

# THE PLAZA PULSE

SHEPHERD PARK PLAZA CIVIC CLUB

# {CONTENTS}

# September 2016

# [Departments]

- Citizens Patrol
- Deputy Constable Patrol
- SPP Clubs

Men's Group Plaza Moms Group Garden Club SPP Travelers

#### [Features]

- Oktoberfest
- National Night Out
- Back to School
- MANNA event
- Notes from the Mayor's meeting

#### [Reviews]

- Yards of the Month
- Calendar

#### [Included in this issue]

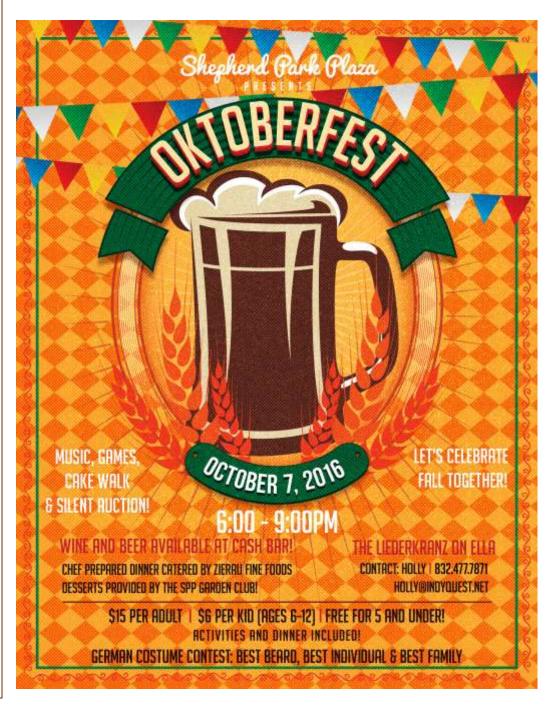
- Back to School Safety
- Run, Hide, Fight
- Women's Safety Class
- 2017 Civic Club & Constable Fundraising Kickoff

#### **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)





#### Board of Directors

#### [Officers]

President Tom Caver
Vice President Aurelien Bouchet
Secretary Courtney Selinis
Treasurer Ken Covington

#### [Committees]

Architectural Control Darryl Rickaway
Citizens Patrol RickZebrak
Constable Patrol Coordinator Bill Scheel
Deed Restrictions Darryl Rickaway
Entrance Bed Maintenance Carolyn Long
Greeter Shannon Zierau
Historian Fatima Gilbert
Hospitality Holly Inderrieden
Membership Philip Billeaud
Parks/DRT/PIP Liaison Chuck Blesener
Publicity/Pulse Advertising

Laurie Rickaway Website Publisher Aurelien Bouchet

## [Representatives]

Section 1 Rep. RobinMcClung
Section 2 Rep. Jesse Yoburn

Section 3 Rep. Sarah & Mairtin Morrissey
Section 4 Rep. Brian & Elizabeth Cardner

Garden Club Rep. Vicki Brandt

Plaza Moms Co-Rep.

Shauna Tysor, Nicole Fowler

Men's Group Rep. Chuck Blesener

Pulse Editor: RomiSandel

713-316-9688 or <u>pu ke@shepherdparkplaza.com</u>

Pulse Co-Editor: Laurie Hardwick

#### COMMENTS FROM THE MAYOR

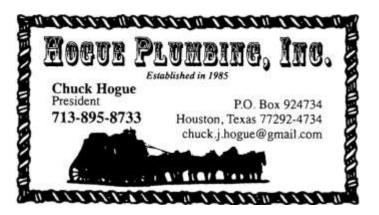
At a recent meeting **Houston Mayor Sylvester Turner** made the following comments:

BY: Chuck Blesener

- Since he took office the City has filled over 300,000 potholes, 95% within 24 hours of being reported.
- The City has received \$311 million from the federal government and \$147 million from the Texas Water Board to fund four or five major drainage projects.
- ♦ Houston has 5200 police officers but needs twice that many. One third of the police force is currently eligible to retire. They have approved one additional police academy cadet class making it five classes for this year.
- Negotiations have been ongoing since 2001 on City employee pensions and he is determined to solve this problem.
- In response to the Zika Virus the City has collected over 23,000 junk tires and received \$1.5 million from the CDC. The state of Texas has over \$100 million in funds for this purpose and has yet to release any of it.
- By the end of 2008 \$2.5 billion had been spent on Interstate 10 West and it was 26 lanes wide, the widest freeway in the world. It is now the 8th most congested freeway in Texas. Houston adds the equivalent of the population of Atlanta each year, three million more in 15 years. He wants to increase bike lanes, make buses more attractive, promote walking/biking to work/shopping, and make contraflow lanes two way.
- Curbside glass recycling was discontinued because of the cost factor and the budget shortfall. It will return even better.
- Water bill problems are handled on a case by case basis. Call 832-395-1400.
- Crime in Houston has increased by 9% compared with some other cities where it has gone up by up to 500%. HPD is using overtime to increase patrols. (Note: HPD says crime in the North Division is actually down by 10%.)

Regarding residents' property lines, Gary Norman, Director of the Public Works
Department commented after the meeting that residents actually own the property to
the center of the street and the City has an easement for the road, curbs, and
sidewalk. While the City will maintain the street, it is the responsibility of the
property owner to maintain the curbs and sidewalk. This includes broken sidewalks
due to tree roots, exposed roots, broken curbs on driveways, etc.







#### Citizens Patrol Stats

#### July 2016 Patrol Hours Prepared by Rick Zebrak

WEEK	Driving	Walking/ Biking	
1	13	4	
2	12	3	
3	15	3	
4	15	2	
TOTAL	55	12	

The winner of the random \$10 bonus for July is Chuck 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!

#### 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 Rick Zebrak at 713-686-8873 or rickzee@att.net 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. The applications must be sent in one week prior to the training.





Street sign down? Traffic light blinking? Tree limb down over the street? The City of Houston has a dedicated phone line for these types of non -emergency related issues. You can dial 3-1-1 from any land or cellular line or you can download the app to your SmartPhone.



#### I'VE GOT PLENTY OF TIME ...?

That's what we all say, but there is never enough TIME! So goes it with getting prepared for the upcoming holiday seasons. October starts the decorating season in Shepherd Park Plaza. Beginning with Halloween decorations and ending with Christmas decorations, our neighborhood pulls out all the stops to get in the holiday(s) spirit! So if you're up to the challenge, set your calendars to be ready to compete on these (tentative) dates:

Halloween Awards Judging in October will be Monday, October 17<sup>th</sup>

Fall Awards Judging in November will be Wednesday, November 16<sup>th</sup>

Christmas Awards Judging in December will be Wednesday & Thursday, December 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>

#### 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/

<u>City Ordinances</u>—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/ Rollout—check out the app for figuring out the COH trash pickup schedule.







Durham Elementary News

By Principal: Amy Poerschke

Thanks for your patience as we get back to school at Durham. We are very aware how our location impacts your neighborhood and we appreciate your patience as we get back into the routine.

This next year at Durham will be an exciting one! We are grateful to be implementing our 2<sup>nd</sup> year of our Dual Language Academy with classes from Pre-K through 2<sup>nd</sup> grade and will be building on our growth and performance improvements from last year. We are making great strides at Durham so keep watching!

**Coffee with the Principal**. Thursday, September 8<sup>th</sup>, 8:30 a.m. or 6:00 p.m. Come and learn the great strides in performance we made last school year and plan to make this year!

PTA Meeting. Tuesday, September 13th; 6:00 p.m. The 1st General PTA Meeting of the school year in the cafeteria. Mix and mingle at 5:45 p.m. with official business to begin at 6:00 p.m. Join PTA at <a href="https://www.durhampta.org">www.durhampta.org</a>! Your voice counts too!

Open House. Thursday, September 15<sup>th</sup>; 5:00-7:00 p.m. Durham families will meet with their child's teacher and learn about the school year and expectations.

**Hispanic Heritage Celebration.** Thursday, September 22<sup>nd</sup>; 6:00 p.m. A fun-filled night with games hosted by FIESTA and dinner for purchase. Watch the Facebook group for Durham Elementary School PTA for details!

Paint the School – Part II. Saturday, September 24<sup>th</sup>; 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. We are partnering with *Leather Apron Foundation* in their *Day of Service* to complete Phase 2 of 2 in painting the school project! Our focus will be the exterior walls of Durham and we will need many volunteers and friends to help us complete this task. If you've seen the fresh interior walls – you know what a difference a little paint has made at this campus. Now, it's our turn to transform the exterior of the school too! Please join us!

Want to get involved or volunteer at Durham? Just call us and we'll be happy to connect you with a great opportunity to impact the lives of Durham students!

#### BACK TO SCHOOL SAFETY

By: Chuck Blesener

While you may or may not have children or grandchildren in our local schools, you must be aware that school has started, school zones are active again, and we must all drive more carefully where children walk or play. Children are smaller and harder to see, do not always look where they are going and will often run into the street or suddenly appear between cars. As adult drivers we must be extra cautious, control our speed, and watch out for them. It's important to note also that the use of cell phones is prohibited in School Zones.

The speed limit in school zones is 20 MPH but even that can be too fast at times. The fines for speeding in a school zone are expensive, but remember - a child's life is priceless. The times for school zones do vary between schools but because of early dismissals and other events, children are often on the street at other than the posted times. If in doubt always drive slower around any school, at any time of the day.















We need hosts! If you'd like to host National Night Out on Tuesday, October 4, 2016, please contact the Pulse Editor at Pulse@ShepherdParkPlaza.com. Hosting is mostly about having a central place on your block for neighbors to gather, but it can also be organizing a meal, getting volunteers to bring snacks and drinks, having kids games available, or any combination of these. This evening is for meeting new neighbors, catching up with old friends, and generally enjoying what great residents our neighborhood has!

Best wishes to Melba Bruce for a speedy recovery from her recent health issues. We know she'll be back in the game soon!





#### SHEPHERD PARK PLAZA TRAVELERS

Our merry band of travelers are planning to go by bus to NASA for an exciting tour on Friday, September 23th.



#### SPP MEN'S GROUP

The SPP Men's Group had a good representation of retired gentlemen from the neighborhood at their August luncheon. They discussed local neighborhood events, crime in the area and in general, the proposed speed cushions, and the Mayor's comments at a recent meeting. They will have their next monthly luncheon at Live Oak Grill on Thursday, September 8th, and have a short video presentation.





# ILLEGAL DUMPING By: Chuck Blesener

The HPD Major Offenders Division - Environmental Crimes Unit has six officers and six civilian investigators who respond 24 hours a day to 300 reports each month of illegal dumping. Because of a glitch in the system, they do not currently receive calls through the 311 system and you must call 713-525-2728 to report illegal activity. The severity of the crime is determined by the weight of the dumped material. Up to 500 lbs. is a class B misdemeanor punishable by up to 180 days in jail and a \$2000 fine. Over 1000 lbs. is a felony punishable by up to two years in jail and a \$10,000 fine. The group has a 99.7% conviction rate on violators they take to court.

#### RUN, HIDE, FIGHT

#### By: Chuck Blesener

With all the news about terrorism in the world and at home, we might become a little paranoid and be living our lives in fear. Even our police forces and military personnel are sometimes victims of mentally deranged persons with guns. We should remember that statistics show we are still more likely to be killed by lightning than by a terrorist. Doctors say that humans have a natural fight/flight response when confronted with traumatic events such as a shooter with a gun. Our police forces have developed a program to help us channel those instincts - Run, Hide, Fight.

The first thing everyone must learn to do is always be observant and aware of their surroundings. If you are uncomfortable with the people around you or the location where you find yourself, go somewhere else. Always know where the nearest and safest exit is in any building, event or gathering. Plan ahead about what you would do in most situations so as not to panic if it happens. If you find yourself in a dangerous situation with one or more individuals who are shooting or threatening to shoot, here is what the police recommend:

RUN - The first choice in any event is to escape the threat, run away but only if you can do so safely. Take others with you but only if doing so does not endanger your own life. Run through a door, window, or opening to a street, building, or open area with your hands visible, preferably raised. Remember - the police do know not how many shooters there are, or if you are one of them.

HIDE - If you can't escape the situation, you must remove yourself from the view of the shooter. Pick a place where you can't be seen, the shooter is not likely to look, and bullets are not likely to penetrate. Under desks is not a good spot and remember that bullets will go through doors and sheetrock walls. Remain hidden until the police come in and secure the area.

FIGHT - If you can't run or hide and it becomes obvious you will become a victim, you and/or others should try to neutralize the threat. Do not become a casualty without making an attempt to save yourself. Why wait for the shooter to get to you? Even petite females have been able to overcome a threat when joining together or using a well-conceived plan of action. Use a fire extinguisher, or whatever is available, as a weapon to stop the shooter and escape the situation alive. The objective is to survive the encounter.

#### WOMEN'S SELF DEFENSE CLASSES

The Precinct 1 Constable's Office provides a free women's self-defense course as one of the ways they work to keep residents safe from sexual assault, robbery and other violent crimes. It's called the Rape Aggression Defense system (R.A.D.), and they offer several of these four-night classes throughout the year at various locations. Participants must be 18 or older – with no maximum age limit – and attendance all four nights is mandatory.

The class is led by deputies that provide four days of instruction including breaking free of wrist grabs or choke holds, striking motions, and kicking actions, all of which takes the participants to a final day where they get to put their training to the test! It empowers women and makes them feel safe, more confident and more alert about their surroundings. To see a list of locations and dates, go to the Precinct 1 Constable Home Page at <a href="http://pct1constable.net/">http://pct1constable.net/</a>; click the "Community Tab", then "Crime Prevention Division" and finally "R.A.D. System". Classes fill-up quickly and there are no waiting lists.



be safe

save your life

Some personal safety tips:

- \* Have your car keys in your hand before exiting a building.
- \* Use a lock or passcode on your cell phone.
- \* Have a taxi cab or Uber number handy when out with friends in case you've had too much to drink.
- \* If running or walking at night, use sidewalks and reflective clothing or shoes.
- \* Cover the key pad at an ATM machine or at a store checkout when entering your PI N.
- \* Don't be afraid to ask security personnel at a store to walk you to your car if something makes you feel uncomfortable.

# Calls handled by Deputy Constable

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



July 2016

ALARM6	CONTRACT CHECKS108	Warrant/Writ Service1	
Theft1	MILES PATROLLED3395	Vehicl e speeding1	
Information Calls3	CITIZEN CONTACTS229	Discharge of firearm1	
Suspicious Vehicl e7	Loud Noise Disturbance1	Traffic Stops20	
Meet the officer3	Follow-Up1	Park Checks8	
Burglary1	Wel fare4	Vacation Watch237	
Traffic Citations1	Suspicious Person2	Discharge of fireworks1	
Accident/Minor1	Special Assignment2	* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *	

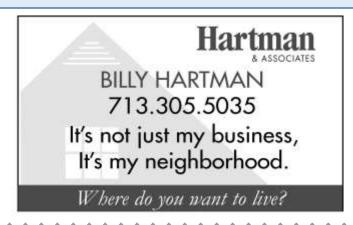
Vacation Watch registry (1 week in advance)...http://pct1constable.net/sign-up/vacation-watch/

SIGN UP FOR THE CONSTABLE OFFICE'S NEWSLETTER... http://pct1constable.net/sign-up then click Newsletter

There has been a surge in crimes in the Oak Forest area in recent months, many of those crimes including residents being held up at gunpoint in their driveways and held up at gunpoint at local businesses. As part of our Constable Patrol program, residents of SPP CAN HAVE A SECURITY CHECK OF THEIR HOME PERFORMED BY THE CONSTABLE'S OFFICE. SEE THE HOME Security checklist in the link below. Most importantly, all residents should be vigil ant at all times. See safety tips later in this issue.

http://pct1constable.net/wp-content/uploads/2015/04/Home-Security-Checklist.pdf







SAVE THE DATE — SATURDAY, OCTOBER 1st MANNA'S 3rd ANNUAL BBQ & AUCTION DENIMS & DIAMONDS



ENJOY DANCING TO THE MUSIC OF THE TELSTARS, FOOD BY GATLIN'S BBQ AND A SILENT AUCTION WITH a great variety of items. All funds raised will be used to help support the operations of MANNA'S PROGRAMS.

Cel ebrating 27 years in the community, MANNA currently serves nearly 1,000 individuals each month with one or more of its services for those who are rebuilding their lives. They are Located Locally and SPP Resident Patricia Dornak is their Executive Director.

When: Saturday, October 1st 7:00 – 10:00 p.m.

Where: Houston Liederkranz Hall - 5100 Ella Blvd.



#### 2016/17 Plaza Moms Society Officers

PMS is proud to announce the 2016/17 leadership team with a few new role additions. Thank you ladies for stepping up to make this a banner year.

Co-Chair	Niki Fowler		
Co-Chair	Shauna Tysor		
Treasurer	Elizabeth Cardner		
Membership	Sarah Morrissey		
Ladies Night Out	Erin Simpson		
Play Date	Michelle Witowski		
Hospitality	Jamie Bartula		
Hospitality	Carlecia Wright		
Hospitality	Michelle Bruce		
Sponsorship	Courtney Zavala		
Special Events	Susannah Causey		

#### Save the Dates!

#### **Fall Family Festival**

#### Saturday, October 15th, 4:00 -6:00 p. m.; Durham Elementary

Wear Your Costumes and join in some family fun! There will be pumpkin painting, face painting, bouncy houses, photo ops, and crafts. A light dinner will be provided. FREE event for family and friends (members and non-members).

#### **Breakfast with Santa**

#### Saturday, December 3rd, 9:00—11:00 a.m.; Durham Elementary

Please join us for the Annual Plaza Moms' Breakfast with Santa on Saturday, December 3<sup>rd</sup> from 9:00 -11;00 a.m. at Durham Elementary. Breakfast will be provided by IndyQuest and Bouchet Images will be there to capture pictures with Santa (personal cameras welcome). There will also be craft stations. Members: FREE; Non-members: \$10 (cash or check at the door).

#### Volunteers Needed

If you would like to volunteer for these events, please contact us via email or Facebook. Volunteer opportunities are available for prep well before the event date, set-up before the event begins, help during the event, and take down after each

#### **General Meeting**

#### Monday, September 12th, 7:00 p.m.; Courtney Zavala's House at 1018 Candlelight

The meeting will feature professional organizer Angela Earl talking about meal/lunch prep for busy families.

#### **Ladies Night Out**

#### Thursday, September 22nd, 8:00 p.m.; Liberty Kitchen Garden Oaks

Take a much deserved night off with PMS for our monthly Ladies Night Out on Thursday, September 22nd at 8:00 p.m. at the new Liberty Kitchen in Garden Oaks (3715 Alba Rd.). We look forward to seeing you there!

#### **Kick Off Party Kudos**

A big thank you to Kick Off Host Courtney Selinidis and to PMSs new Special Events Officer Susannah Causey as well as the many volunteers who made the annual Kick Off a complete success. We hope that you all had a great night out!

#### **Play Date**

#### Saturday, September 17th, 10:00 a.m.; Chick-fil-a on Loop (925 N Loop W)

All ages are welcome to meet up for some fun at Chic-fil-a. Play on the indoor playground or grab a bite to eat!

#### Join Plaza Moms Today!

Membership dues are \$35 per school year. Pay at our next event/meeting with cash or check OR drop a check off in envelope to Treasurer Elizabeth Cardner at 1046 Candlelight. If you would like to pay by credit card you may contact Membership Officer Sarah Morrissey at the <a href="mailto:plaza.moms.houston@gmail.com">plaza.moms.houston@gmail.com</a> and she will send you a Big Tent payment link. Make checks payable to <a href="mailto:plaza.moms.houston@gmail.com">plaza.moms.houston@gmail.com</a> and she will send you a Big Tent payment link. Make checks

Find us on Facebook: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/groups/plazamoms">www.facebook.com/groups/plazamoms</a> \*Note: This is a closed group for members who are current on their membership dues.

Notice the business card size ads throughout the Pulse? These are our gracious advertisers who support this publication. Next time you have a need for a service they provide, give 'em a shot at earning your business! Many of these advertisers live in Shepherd Park Plaza.



## **GARDEN CLUB NEWS**



#### August Yard of the Month

Susan Fitzpatrick – 902 Bethlehem

With the stifling hot weather this summer, Susan has selected plants and shrubs that tolerate the heat very well. Some of her winners include wasabi coleus, coral geraniums, orange rock lilies, and hummingbird plants. Wasabi coleus does well in both full sun and shade, it is low-maintenance and the serrated chartreuse leaves hold their brilliant color without fading. Orange rock lilies are clumping perennials with narrow, foot-long succulent type foliage. They reach 1 to 2 feet tall and 2 to 3 feet wide and produce numerous orange flower spikes that reach several inches above the leaves. Good drainage is important. They, too, will flourish in sun to partial shade.



#### **Garden Club Monthly Meetings to Resume in September**

Our 2016-2017 Garden Club season kicks off on September 12, 2016. Our first meeting will be held at Vicki Brandt's home, 979 Curtin at 6:45pm; a salad dinner will be served. The program for the evening will be the announcement of events and programs scheduled for this garden year. To learn more about the Garden Club, please see below and read about us!



The Shepherd Park Plaza (SPP) Garden Club has been promoting the love of gardening, supporting neighborhood events and projects, and fostering friendship for over 40 years. Monthly meetings are held the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday evening of each month, September through May. The meetings begin at 6:45 pm and typically include a light meal, program, business meeting and fellowship. Programs are varied and can include guest speakers, hands-on projects, or demonstrations. The club also coordinates occasional outings to gardens or other areas of interest. In December, In lieu of a meeting, members revel at their annual Christmas Party. Please check the calendar in the Plaza Pulse for dates and locations.



In addition to holding monthly meetings, we help the community in which we live by maintaining the Shepherd Park flower beds, participating in the development and support of gardening projects at Durham Elementary School, and assisting in the care of the Garden Oaks/Shepherd Park Plaza Community Garden on Alba. The membership is active in Civic Club events by providing desserts at the semi-annual neighborhood meetings and sponsoring a Junior Gardener activity at the fall event.

Annual dues are only \$25. Whether you are a master gardener or want to learn the basics in gardening, we welcome all men and women in the neighborhood to join the SPP Garden Club. If you would like to visit one of our meetings, please contact us; we would be thrilled to have you check us out!

Membership: Debbie Elliott at 713-686-7571 or delliott9@hotmail.com President: Vicki Brandt at 281-888-6306 or brandts2@yahoo.com



Benefits local animal rescue. Donations accepted! New and used items.

2128 W 34th (Next door to Doyle's)

Thursdays: 10-4 Fridays: 10-3 Saturdays: 9-2



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

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



# 2017 Fundraising Campaign for Dues & Constable Patrol Program Kicks Off in September

The 2017 fundraising efforts for both the Civic Club Membership Dues and Constable Patrol Program kicks off in September. Membership dues will remain at \$25 per year and the Constable Patrol Program will increase to \$250 per year. Both the membership to the Civic Club as well as the Constable Patrol Program are voluntary, but we ask for your continued support to maintain these successful operations. Your prompt reply is also needed as our 2017 contract with Harris County for our Contract Deputy Patroller must be signed and executed in January.

We ask all residents not currently participating to consider joining the Civic Club and donating to the Constable Patrol program (in any amount!). Our neighborhood doesn't have annual mandatory Homeowners' Association dues, yet services are provided that benefit ALL residents in SPP. It's convenient to pay both dues at the same time using a credit card on our website...check out the link below:

http://shepherdparkplaza.com/pay-constable-and-membership-dues/

What are the benefits of becoming an SPP Civic Club Member and Constable Patrol Program Supporter? Below is a list of the many areas of service that your \$25 supports as an SPP Civic Club Member.

- Generate our monthly newsletter The Pulse, as well as sell ads to cover cost of publication.
- Operate a Citizens Patrol Program of neighborhood volunteers to patrol SPP.
- Hold monthly board meetings to manage all operations, projects and financials.
- Enforce deed restrictions including Architecture Control for remodeling.
- Support and monitor violation of City Ordinances.
- Hold 2 general meetings per year.
- Maintain our curb painting of address numbers (now replaced on a 4-year rotation).
- Manage Yard of the Month recognition as well as various holiday decoration contests.
- Hold various fundraising/neighborhood social events.
- ♦ Maintain flower beds at entrances to subdivision and paint/replace signs as needed.
- Welcome new neighbors as they move in.
- Fly the U.S. Flag on our street lights during national holidays.
- Organize annual neighborhood garage sale.
- Perform occasional special projects and fundraising to support these if needed.

What are the benefits of contributing \$250 per year to the Deputy Constable Program?

- Contract for Harris County Deputy Constable Patrollers for 80 hours per week in SPP. This was increased from 40 hours per week in 2015 as a result of partnering with Candlelight Plaza Subdivision to have 2 Harris County Deputies patrol both neighborhoods.
- Vacation watch when traveling (must be requested).
- Increased patrolling for speeding and other driving violations.
- Lower crime rates for SPP.

#### How Strong is our Membership?

The Civic Club Board is pleased to publish our membership statistics. Our participation by our residents is unparalleled by our neighboring subdivisions with voluntary programs, however, it has dropped off in 2016, so we need your help. We're working to increase these numbers to previous years' levels and beyond so that we can continue with the Constable Program which helps ensure the safety of our neighborhood. Please donate today!

Year	SPP Civic Club Members	%	Constable Patrol Participation	%
2016	505	69%	445	61%
2015	543	74%	447	61%
2014	532	73%	451	62%
2013	543	74%	463	64%
2012	550	75%	460	63%
2011	544	75%	490	67%

Total SPP Residents: 729

# Important Numbers Police/Fire: 911 City Helpline: 311

Citizens Patrol **Deed Restrictions** 713-686-8873

713-316-5255

Plaza Moms 281-216-3452 New Neighbor/Greeter 713-775-0307

Garden Club 281-888-6306

713-884-3131

Architectural Guidelines 713-316-5255

Plaza Pulse News 713-316-9688

SPP Historian 281-382-0493 Traffic & Safety 713-681-7479

Men's Group

Constable Dispatch 713-755-7628

SPP Membership 832-576-1353

City Liaison 713-688-7979 Pulse Advertising

713-688-0574 or 713-681-3600

713-683-9945

= Trash and Yard Waste

HPD



= Curbside Recycling



September 2016

**SUNDAY MONDAY TUESDAY** WEDNESDAY **THURSDAY** FRIDAY **SATURDAY** 

<b>Reminder about Heavy Trash:</b> 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.				August 26	27	
28	29	30	31	Sept 1	2	3
4	5 LABOR DAY	6	SPPCCMMM 7 Board Mtg	Men's Group	9	10
11	Garden Club 12 Meeting  PLAZA MOMS  General Meeting	Durham ES PTA meeting	14	Durham ES Open House HEAVY TREE Waste	16	17 Plaza Moms Play Date
18	19	20	21	PLAZA MOMS Ladies Night Out	SPP Travelers Trip	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	Oct 1  MANNA BBQ & Auction Event

# Labor Day History

Observed on the first Monday in September, Labor Day recognizes the achievements and contributions of American workers. It became a federal holiday in 1894.



Shepherd Park PI aza Civic CI ub P. O. Box 10453 Houston, TX 77206 www.ShepherdParkPI aza.com PRSRT STD US POSTAGE PAID DMR, 77041

# August Yards of the Month

#### **Section 1:**

975 Curtin Sandra & Randolf Klander

# Section 3:

1036 Martin Michelle Liu & Brian Mei

## Section 2:

4618 Chantilly Circle Priscilla & Malcolm Phillips

# **Section 4:**

1119 Candlelight Carolyn & Daniel Barrett

# 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 Shannon Zierau at 713-775-0307 or szierau@yahoo.com so we can welcome you officially.



# FallFun



# Wishing you a Fall full of fun! If there's anything we can do for you, please don't hesitate to contact us!

- o Rake leaves and jump in the piles!
- o Roast pumpkin seeds
- o Visit a pumpkin patch
- o Carve your pumpkins
- o Take some pumpkins to a neighbor
- o Make chili
- o Roast marshmallows
- o Bake delicious pies
- o Buy Fall-scented candles
- o Make leaf rubbings
- o Bob for apples
- o Make homemade applesauce

- o Eat doughnuts on a string
- o Get a head start on Christmas shopping
- o Make a scarecrow for your yard
- o Drink hot apple cider
- o Go for a hayride
- o Bake pumpkin bread
- o Take your family photo for Christmas
- o Visit Starbucks for a Pumpkin Spice drink
- o Dip apples in caramel
- o Go to a craft bazaar or fair
- o Attend a High School football game
- o Attend the SPPCC Fall Fling on October 2nd!



Creston and Holly Inderrieden

832.981.7500 or <u>www.indyquest.net</u>

2902 N. Shepherd Dr., Suite F, Houston, TX 77008