



THE PLAZA PULSE

SHEPHERD PARK PLAZA CIVIC CLUB

August 2017

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Pulse Editor: Romi Sandel
713-316-9688 or pulse@shepherdparkplaza.com

Back to School



Backpack? Check! New clothes? Check! New school supplies? Check! Sounds **like you're ready for back to school (or at least Mom & Dad are ready for you to go back to school!)**. HI SD is geared up and ready to go for another great year of education, sports, competitions and after-school activities. HI SD is officially back in session on Monday, August 28th. St. Ambrose, St. Rose of Lima and St. Pius X High School start Monday, August 14th.

Remember that school zones have a lower speed limit than the surrounding area and are no-cell-phone zones. Safety first!

And don't forget about tax-free weekend on August 11th-13th. There are no Texas sales tax on these days for all purchases of clothing, shoes, school supplies and backpacks under \$100 per item.



Look for more information on page 3 about on back-to-school activities for Durham Elementary.

SAVE THE DATE!!



The Fall Oktoberfest for the neighborhood will be Friday, October 13th from 6:00 p.m.—9:00 p.m. at the Liederkrantz Hall on Ella Blvd. There will be an auction, games, good food and a lot of fun! This event will have activities for the adults and the kids. **And they're talking about bringing back the CAKE WALK!** So mark your calendars, tell a neighbor and make plans to attend.

Thanks to our Pulse Advertisers who keep this publication going!

Cal I s handl ed by Deputy Constabl e

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



June 2017

Al arm...6	CONTRACT CHECKS...331	SOLICITORS...6
Traffic Citations...1	Mil es Patrol l ed...3446	Information Cal l ...1
Traffic Initiative...1	MEET THE CITIZEN...257	Wel fare Checks...3
Suspicious Vehicl e...6	Suspicious Person...4	Traffic Stops...9
Discharge of firearm...1	Fol low Up...3	Park Checks...17
Vacation Watch...127	Writ...1	Accident ...1

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 cl ick News! etter

SEE THE NUMBERS IN THE TABLE ABOVE? THAT'S JUST A SMALL SAMPLING OF WHAT THE CONSTABLES DO AS part of our annual contract. In addition to the items above, our Deputy Constabl e James Moul den al ways goes the extra mil e to track down stol en and/or pawned items.

IF YOU HAVEN'T DONATED TO THE CONSTABLE PROGRAM THIS YEAR, PLEASE CONSIDER MAKING THE donation TODAY! The \$250 per year per househol d goes a l ong way to deter crime. You might not see the resul ts yoursel f, but l ook at the numbers above and you can see the situations OUR DEPUTIES HANDLE. \$250 A LITTLE TOO STEEP FOR YOUR BUDGET? WE'LL TAKE AND APPRECIATE ANY amount. The contribution is vol untary and every l ittl e bit counts. Go to <http://shepherdparkplaza.com/pay-constable-and-membership-dues/>

To those who have al ready donated—THANKS!



2017-2018 Kick Off Party
Wednesday, August 23rd
8:00 p.m.—10:00 p.m.
1036 Martin Street



Join Plaza Moms to Kick Off a new year with an adult celebration! The evening will feature lite bites and plenty of “mom juice”! Bring a SPP or CP neighbor (or nearby!) mom or mom-to-be with you or come solo to this casual come and go event. The Kick Off is a great time to meet joining members and catch up with the current ones. Please use this time to pay your annual dues of \$35. This covers all of our fun events throughout the year including the Fall Festival, Breakfast with Santa, Easter Egg Hunt, 4th of July Parade and much more! Sign-ups will be available to volunteer for Plaza Moms activities throughout the year. We look forward to seeing you there!

4th of July Celebration

A BIG thank you to all who volunteered to help make the celebration such a success. We also want to give a big shout out to Kristi Kolmetz of The Carolyn Bryant Team of REMAX Metro and Jonathan Kolmetz of Oaks Wealth Management for leading the parade! Check out the photos from sponsor Bouchet Images: <https://bouchetimages.shootproof.com/gallery/4704946/>

Join Plaza Moms Today!

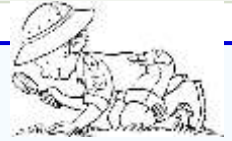
Membership dues are \$35 per school year. Please note that we will no longer be using BigTent to track membership information and dues, so please don't pay online. We are working on a new system, so look for an email soon from the new website and further details on the Plaza Moms Facebook page. Also, keep an eye out for a postcard with membership information in your mailbox later this month!

Find us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/groups/plazamoms *Note: This is a closed group for members who are current on their membership dues.

around the neighborhood



NATIONAL NIGHT OUT 2017



National Night Out is an opportunity to meet your neighbors, discuss safety, enjoy some good food and just **GET OUTSIDE!** This year's NNO is **Tuesday, October 3, 2017. We are looking for hosts, so if you are interested in hosting** your block or street in SPP or just want more information, 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. And don't forget this is also a great chance to discuss Christmas decorating on your street** to come up with a theme or expand the one already in the works!



SPP MENS GROUP SEEKING NEW COORDINATOR

Welcome to the Shepherd Park Plaza Mens Group that was formed in 2001 by August Galiano and Chuck Blesener to give the men of the neighborhood a means to meet with neighbors for lunch and have conversations on topics of interest, including the neighborhood. The group is very informal and has no rules, no dues, and no officers. The group is looking for a new coordinator, so if you're interested in finding out more about this role, please contact Chuck Blesener at 713-683-9945 or ccbles77@gmail.com, or August Galiano at 713-682-0920 or aeg3579@gmail.com.



Durham Elementary News

It's hard to believe that a new school year will begin on August 28th at Durham Elementary. School hours are 8:00 a.m. -- 3:20 p.m. Please be aware of increased traffic in the area both before and after school. For everyone's safety, watch out for kids on foot and bicycles crossing the roads and obey speed limits as well.

Durham will host their annual Ice Cream Social Open House on August 24th from 5:00 p.m. –7:00 p.m. This is a great opportunity for students to meet their teachers, locate their classrooms, and get the scoop on the happenings for the school year. You'll also be able to join the PTA and order Spirit Wear tax free!

Want to make a difference in your local community? Please consider volunteering at Durham! There are countless ways for neighborhood members to help out- listening to children read, making copies for teachers, helping with large events, and so many more! Contact the school office at 713-613-2527 or contact PTA at pta@durhampta.org.

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Citizens Patrol Stats

June 2017 Patrol Hours

Prepared by Deborah DeBram & Katherine Peale

WEEK	Walking/ Biking	Drive
1	6	15
2	1	12
3	2	14
4	0	21
TOTAL	9	62

SHEPHERD PARK PLAZA CITIZENS PATROL WELCOMES VOLUNTEERS!

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 volunteer by signing up today! Contact Deborah DeBram or Katherine Peale at 713-812-7626 or algebrakp@aol.com for more information.

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.

The winner of the \$10 random drawing is Mary Kleinhenz. Patrollers who turn in at least 4 driving hours by the 5th of the month are eligible for this drawing.

We need volunteers. Training is just a few hours and you can be on your way to helping us protect the neighborhood.

"Your Shepherd Park Plaza Neighbor & Realtor!"

Contact me with all your Real Estate needs:

Leann Salmons
BROKER ASSOCIATE - CLHMS
832.868.9453
leann.salmons@sothebysrealty.com

Martha Sotheby's
Turner



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



Want up to the minute conversations on our neighborhood? Check out our Facebook page for the latest on traffic, lost pets, services, neighbors asking for tips or other social items.

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/>

Rollout Houston!—check out the app for figuring out the COH trash pickup schedule.

Report a pothole at <http://www.houstontx.gov/potholes/>



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

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

Tues: 11-3
Wed-Fri: 10-4
Sat: 10-3

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Mike Clark, Broker Assoc.
mike@clarkkotzurteam.com
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Debbie Kotzur, REALTOR®
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Shepherd Park Plaza
Garden Club

Well in these dog days of summer it's challenging to find a bright spot in our gardens. But thanks to one of the Garden Club's expert gardeners, Beth Galiano, there are some plants that like these hot sultry days, gingers. What a spectacular example from Beth's backyard and some quick facts about ginger plants.

Here is a *Curcuma Roscoeana*. Curcumas offer lush foliage.

The plants within the genus *Curcuma* are sometimes known collectively as "ginger" or "turmeric" plants. Yet the plant commonly called ginger is *Zingiber officinale* -- and it's generally only the species *Curcuma longa* that is used to harvest the spice turmeric. Botanical quibbles aside, curcuma plants make interesting flowering ornamentals, and all have similar growing needs. If you live in a Mediterranean climate or even a cooler one, these tropical and subtropical beauties are still appropriate for growing as annuals or houseplants. If you live in U.S. Department of Agriculture hardiness zone 10 or higher, grow curcumas as perennial outdoor plants.



As you may know the Garden Club takes the summer off, but the Garden Club officers are busy behind the scenes making plans for the new year starting in September. Think about joining us for one of our monthly meetings.

And the Winners are:

Congratulations to the winners of the **FIRST** Patriotic Awards for Shepherd Park Plaza.

Section I—Sandra & Randolph Klander, 975 Curtin
Section II—Priscilla & Malcolm Phillips, 4618 Chantilly Circle
Section III—Geraldine & Daniel Melott, 1043 Martin
Section IV—Carolyn & Daniel Barrett, 1119 Candlelight



LIGHTS & LIGHTING



We've said it before but we'll say it again—**LIGHT UP THOSE HOUSES!** For your personal safety and the safety of your home and belongings, turn those outdoor lights on at night. Front yard, back yard, driveway, flower beds, garage—turn 'em on! Invest a few dollars in a timer for your porch light (super-easy to install), a timer for an interior lamp, timers for landscape lights and remote control for driveway or garage. Crooks don't like to be seen and lights put a spotlight on them that they don't want!



Plaza Moms 4th of July Parade



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www.plumbcohouston.com




Important Numbers
 Police/Fire: 911
 City Helpline: 311

Citizens Patrol 713-812-7626	Deed Restrictions 713-316-5255	Plaza Moms 281-216-3452	New Neighbor/Greeter 713-775-0307	Garden Club 713-201-3322
Architectural Guidelines 713-316-5255	Plaza Pulse News 713-316-9688	SPP Historian 713-851-3000	Traffic & Safety 713-681-7479	Constable Dispatch 713-755-7628
SPP Membership 832-576-1353	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

August 2017

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
July 30	31	Aug 1	2	3	4	5
		 <div>SPPC Board Mtg </div>				
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
		 				
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
St. Ambrose, St. Rose & St. Pius School starts				HEAVY Trash Junk Waste		
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
		  <div>PLAZA MOMS Kick Off Party </div>		Durham ES Ice Cream Social Open House		
27	28	29	30	31	Sept 1	2
	HISD Back to School					



 = Trash and Yard Waste
 
 = Curbside Recycling (no glass!)

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.

SOLICITORS AT YOUR DOOR (Repeat Article from August 2016)

We continue to see a high number of solicitors going door to door in our neighborhood. We have gotten many complaints that they are rude, intrusive, seeking money fraudulently, and showing up late into the evening. While our Deputies and HPD officers can't run them off, they can check them out and discourage them. HPD and the Constable recommend you always respond to someone at your door so they won't try and break into your home with you there. You do not have to open the door to anyone you don't recognize. Just tell them you are not interested in whatever they are selling and to go away or you will call the police. If they say they are from a utility or company to do work in your home or yard, verify their identification, verify they are in a marked company vehicle, and call the company to verify they are supposed to be there. Also, the latest scam is to get you to take an "alleged" company representative to your backyard, leaving a 2nd person to come through the front door and burglarize your home. In any case, if they appear suspicious or refuse to leave, call Constable Dispatch at 713-755-7628 or HPD at 911.



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

PRSR STD
US POSTAGE
PAID
DMR, 77041

July Yards of the Month

Section 1:

1023 Chamboard
Deborah & Gary
Caraway

Section 3:

1032 Martin
Melissa & Alex
Taylor

Section 2:

1123 Chantilly
JoAnn & Chris
Scardino

Section 4:

1009 Richelieu
Deborah & Raymond
Pantoja

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.