



THE PLAZA PULSE

SHEPHERD PARK PLAZA CIVIC CLUB

February 2018

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

SHAKING THINGS UP A BIT FOR THE ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING!

The Civic Club is shaking things up at the Annual Spring Business Meeting....How? The time, the event, everything! To start with, it will be in the morning. So, what goes good with morning? Pancakes! Throw in a little coffee and some milk for the kids and we've turned this event on its ear! After breakfast, we'll elect the new Civic Club Board and talk about how to get involved, so stick around, cast your vote and find out about various groups in SPP.

Bring the kids because weather permitting Plaza Moms will keep an eye on them on the playground during the Business Meeting portion of the meeting.

Like the arches during the holidays? Find out more about how to get the plans and materials for your street.

MEN'S GROUP is back! Get more information about their 2018 mission, social events and trips.

Garden Club will have yogurt parfaits for sale.

All SPP residents are invited to this event!



Details:

Pancake Breakfast
Saturday, March 3rd

Durham Elementary Cafeteria

9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. Breakfast

10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. Business Meeting

Donations accepted with proceeds going to fund our neighborhood Constable Program



SPP
Wants to Welcome You

New to the neighborhood?
Contact Shannon Zierau at
713-775-0307 or
szierau@yahoo.com so we can
welcome you officially.



Saturday, April 28th sounds like a good date for the neighborhood garage sale! Start packing up some old Christmas decorations, baby clothes, toys, dishes, tools, linens and anything else that might be a treasure for someone to buy. More details to follow.

Drainage Construction Moves Into SPP

The next phase of the Garden Oaks and Shepherd Park (Central) Paving and Drainage Project has moved from Garden Oaks into our neighborhood. The project, which began in 2016, includes construction of storm drainage improvements, concrete paving, curbs, sidewalks, driveways and underground utilities to reduce the risk of structural flooding. Improvements include modification of street conveyance and sheet flow and provide detention in the areas of Shepherd Forest, Garden Oaks, Shepherd Park Plaza, Candlelight Plaza, and the Pinemont and Oak Grove areas.



The construction has moved up Alba, across 43rd Street to Chamboard, then will turn east to Brinkman and head north along Brinkman to Janisch, where the improvements will connect to existing work on Pinemont. Construction on the project will affect storm sewers, waterlines, sanitary sewers, underground utilities and paving along the route. As a result, adjoining property owners will experience issues with parking, driveway access and garbage pickup during construction.

Residents along the construction route will receive a door hanger with information about who to contact with questions or problems. Please hold on to this information until construction is completed. Those residents not directly located on the construction route should be aware that the work will create changes in traffic patterns and street access. Please stay aware and patient as the work progresses.

JFT Construction, the project contractor, will take photos prior to the start of work and will attempt to restore most things to their original condition. Homeowners should also take pictures of sprinkler systems, driveways and landscaping. Some trees may be removed and others will be impacted by the construction.

To report any problems, please reference WBS #M-000285-001-4, Project Garden Oaks and Shepherd Park (Central).



For non-emergency concerns, Dial 311 or call the City of Houston Project Manager Dotun Ogundare at 832-395-2389. Should an emergency situation occur, contact Joseph Tahtouh, JFT Construction Project Manager, at 281-250-7733. For more complete information about this project visit shepherdparkplaza.com or <https://www.houstontx.gov/council/c/Garden-Oaks-Shepherd-Park-Project-Handout.pdf>

HELP STOP HUMAN TRAFFICKING

Houston ranks as one of the top areas for human trafficking. This crime involves forcing humans against their will into various types of labor. It's a serious human rights violation that involves force, coercion, and fear tactics, to remove a person's basic freedoms. The problem is being tackled from many angles from various law enforcement groups. You can do your part by speaking with your family about using caution when being approached by strangers promising jobs, money, or other similar opportunities. You can learn more about the signs of someone that may be a victim of human trafficking by visiting the link below:

<http://polarisproject.org/human-trafficking/recognize-signs>

In addition, you can learn more about the City's efforts to recognize and reduce human trafficking at the link below:

<http://humantraffickinghouston.org/>

GET HELP NOW! Call the National Human Trafficking Resource Center at 1-888-373-7888.

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MEN'S GROUP NEWS!

HAPPY NEW YEAR! On Saturday, January 6th at 4:00 p.m., the first Men's Group meeting for 2018 took place. In attendance were August Galiano, Walter Shepherd, Chris Wooldridge, Troy Lubbers and Brandon Siegmund. (see picture at right). After acquaintances were made, the business of the Men's Group was addressed with urgency.



All members agreed that key to the revitalization of the club was to select a service mission. All are enthusiastically in favor of adopting the park. We feel that this will allow the Men's Group to progress from our legacy and move to opportunities of involvement for men of all ages, both longtime residents and more recent arrivals. Walter Shepherd will head up initial outreach efforts to contact precinct, city and state leaders and establish protocol on project support. Any working knowledge of ongoing projects is welcome!

Next up was communication. Troy Lubbers will work with August Galiano to edit copy and artwork for all correspondence. Both have substantial experience in these endeavors.

Finally, Chris Wooldridge, with the help of Brandon Siegmund, will begin making the rounds to other civic club meetings to meet members and learn how the Men's Group can support their initiatives.

Before I close, I want to extend a special thanks to Philip Billeaud for his enthusiastic support of the club and his ideas for new member outreach. Unprompted, Philip contacted us to learn about the club's direction and immediately offered support. We need more of this from more men in the neighborhood!

Our next meeting will take place on Saturday, February 3rd at 4:00 p.m. at the Foster YMCA Chapel. If you have questions, please call me at 832-623-4268 or email me at chris@chris-properties.com

Glass Recycling to Return in 2019

The Houston City Council authorized a 15-year, \$38 million contract with Fomento de Contruccion Y Contratas Inc ("FCC") for processing Houston's recyclables. FCC will build a new, state-of-the-art processing plant in northeast Houston which will employ 100-140 people. Construction is expected to be completed in approximately 14 months, at which point the facility will be given to the City and curbside glass recycling will resume and Houstonians will be able to recycle plastic shopping bags for the first time.



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



Check out the Shepherd Park Plaza Facebook page for the most recent discussions, news, alerts, ideas, recommendations and neighborhood events.

January Yards of the Month

Section 1: 1171 Chamboard Kelley Sebesta	Section 3: 1040 Martin Rachel & John Nolan
Section 2: 4607 Dunsmer e Elise & Dennis DeSilva	Section 4: N/A



Cal I s handl ed by Deputy Constabl e

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



December 2017

Discharge fireworks...3	Contract checks...413	FOLLOW UP...4
Traffic Citations...2	Mil es Patrol l ed...3780	Information Cal l ...3
Traffic Hazard...1	MEET THE CITIZEN...303	Wel fare Checks...2
Suspicious Vehicl e...12	Suspicious Person...6	Traffic Stops...11
Al arm...5	Theft/Residence...1	Park Checks...9
Warrant Service...1	Property Found...1	Sol icitors...1
Vacation Watch...99	Writ...4	Other ...2

Annual 2017 Constabl e Resul ts

Meet the Officer...15	Contract checks...2,703	FOLLOW UP...14
Traffic Citations...31	Mil es Patrol l ed...54,117	Information Cal l s...22
Traffic Hazard...17	MEET THE CITIZEN...3,040	Wel fare Checks...18
Suspicious Vehicl e...137	Suspicious Person...79	Traffic Stops...116
Al arm...52	Burgl ary of vehicl e...14	Park Checks...157
Open Door/Window...19	Drug OD/Possession...5	Sol icitors...17
Vacation Watch...684	Traffic Initiative...18	Other ...106

In the stats above, notice how many miles the Constables patrolled in 2017—54,117! That presence helps keep crime in our area lower than many other areas in Houston. A very special thanks to all the residents of SPP that have contributed to the 2017 Constable Patrol Program and to the dedicated men and women of the Precinct One Constable's Office for their devoted service, especially during and after Hurricane Harvey to keep us safe. If you haven't contributed to the 2018 program, please do so.

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 Newsl etter



Durham Elementary News

In January Durham's Dual Language Team hosted Dr. Wayne Thomas and Dr. Virginia Collier from George Mason University. Their 30+ years of research has been instrumental in bringing to light the benefits of a dual language education. They commented on the positive culture and top notch instruction occurring across our classrooms and how the International Baccalaureate education model seamlessly incorporates into our dual language classes.

The 5th Annual International Festival will be held on Saturday, February 10th from 11 a.m.—2:00 p.m. The community is welcome to come explore the hallways of Durham as they are transformed into countries from around the world. Samples **of traditional foods and activities will be available free of charge.** **If you have any items you're willing to loan or special knowledge about showcased US Protectorates or countries, please contact Ms. Knupp at LKnupp@houstonisd.org:** Guam, Puerto Rico, Brazil, India, Madagascar, France, and Tasmania. Neighborhood volunteers to help create the spectacular scenes and man the booths are also encouraged.

Do you have a hidden theater talent – stage prop design or construction, costume creation or just want to be around kids **having fun? Please consider helping out with the Dalmatian Theater's production of Aladdin! Contact Aladdin Production** Chairperson Ms. Ogden at nichole.hirning@houstonisd.org or Parent Chairperson Zara Labardini.

Want to make a difference at your local school? You don't need to have a child that attends Durham to volunteer - just a desire to help out! Volunteers are needed to work one-on-one with students, in small groups, and to help teachers with behind-the-scenes tasks: 1 - 2 days a week, or as often as you are able. No experience is necessary! Visit the office, email Anne Baumgarten abaumgar@houstonisd.org, or call 713-613-2527 for more information.

Citizens Patrol Stats

December 2017 Patrol Hours

Prepared by Deborah DeBram & Katherine Peale

WEEK	Walking/ Biking	Drive
1	4	13
2	3	10
3	3	14
4	4	14
TOTAL	14	51

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 Bob Wottrich. 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.



Wabash Feed & Garden presented an awesome organic gardening program at the January meeting. Two very helpful handouts were provided; one on setting up a raised bed and the second one included a full year schedule for vegetable planting and a full year schedule for herb planting. Additionally the speaker provided numerous options for the care and maintenance of our lawns and gardens using only organic materials. Even our master gardeners found new helpful information. We all left the meeting with a list in our heads of what we need to do for our lawns. A big thank you to Wabash for such an informative presentation.

The February meeting will be held at 1042 Cheshire on February 12th, and the program will be Gardening Motif Paper Crafting. If you are interested in attending please reach out to Colette Robichau, 713-201-3322.

YARD OF THE MONTH

December yard of the month winner is Colleen Roberts at 943 Thornton. Colleen's yard currently has many cold hardy blooming plants including pansies, blanket flower, snapdragons, roses and dianthus. Colleen has beautiful mature fruit trees (including Satsuma and fig) in the front and back yard. In addition to the orange trees in the front, she has loblolly pines, crepe myrtles, lemon grass, American beauty berry, cassia and turks cap. Framing the door are loropetalum, roses, liriopie and Privet. Unfortunately, the Alba construction is now blocking some of the view of Colleen's yard.





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February Social – Couples Mixer

Saturday, February 17th, 8:00 a.m.- 11:00 p.m. @ 1003 Cheshire

Call the sitter! It's time for the Annual Plaza Moms Society and Shepherd Park Plaza Beer Club joint Couples Mixer. Look for more details on our FB page and at <http://groupsaces.com/PlazaMoms/>. Please note the date change.

** Ticket Purchase Options**

The cost is \$10 per couple. Drop off check or cash (reference your last name) at 1046 Candlelight or pay via Group Spaces. Space is limited so RSVP today!



February Play Date – all ages welcome

Saturday, February 10th, 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. @ Garden Oaks Spark Park. Note: Rain date February 24th (check FB and Group Spaces for updates)



March Ladies Night Out

Thursday, March 8th, 8:00 p.m.- 10:00 p.m. @ Petrol Station

Put the little ones to bed and join your fellow Plaza Moms for craft beers, burgers and friendly conversation at Petrol Station (985 Wakefield Dr).



Save the Date!!

Saturday, March 24th, 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. @ Shepherd Park

Join your fellow Plaza Moms for the annual Easter Egg Hunt. More details to come in next month's issue. As a reminder, this will be a Member Only Event.

Join/Renew Your Plaza Moms Membership Today!

We are excited to announce that we have a new website for Plaza Moms Society. The website: <http://groupsaces.com/PlazaMoms/> will allow you to pay your dues online and will be another way to keep up with Plaza Moms. Please login today to create your account. 2017/18 dues are \$35/school year and can be paid online or at our next event via cash or check. Find us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/groups/plazamoms **Please Note:** All Plaza Moms events as well as our FB page will be for members only this year. We wouldn't want you to miss out on all of the fun, so join/renew your membership today!

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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 832-623-4268	HPD 713-884-3131

SPP CALENDAR

February 2018

SUNDAY MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY

Jan 28	29	30	31	Feb 1	2	3
						 Men's Group Meeting
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
		 	 SPPCC Board Mtg			 Durham ES Int'l Festival
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
	Garden Club Meeting		 Happy Valentine's Day			 Plaza Moms Mixer
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
		 				
25	26	27	28	Mar 1	2	3
						Pancake Breakfast & Business Meeting

Yard and Tree Waste has resumed. This is yard trimmings, leaves and small tree branches that can be placed curbside in the APPROVED COMPOSTABLE BAGS ONLY. This is **NOT** HEAVY TREE OR JUNK WASTE!


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PRESIDENT'S DAY TRIVIA

George Washington was the 1st President & on the \$1 bill.
 Future Presidents John Adams and Thomas Jefferson signed the Declaration of Independence.
 Abraham Lincoln, James Garfield, William McKinley & John F. Kennedy were assassinated while in office. Another 6 nearly perished in assassination attempts.
 Mount Rushmore in S. Dakota has the carved likenesses of George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, Abraham Lincoln and Theodore Roosevelt.



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