

THE PLAZA PULSE

SHEPHERD PARK PLAZA CIVIC CLUB

May 2021

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Share Your News!

Do you have an interesting story or news you want to share? Do you have ideas about content that you would like to see in future Plaza Pulse Newsletters?

We want to hear from you! Please let us know by emailing
Pulse@shepherdparkplaza.com

Deadline for submissions is the
15th of each month



Celebrating Memorial Day by flying the US flag in SPP

Thank you to our neighbors and family members of our neighbors who have served in the US Military. We recognize and appreciate all that you do for our country. On Memorial Day, we especially honor those that have given their lives while serving in the US Military.

Thank you to our volunteer flag team who raise the US flags within our neighborhood for the national holidays such as Memorial Day, July 4th, and Veterans Day. We greatly appreciate you time and energy in bringing this visible patriotism to our neighborhood!

If you are interested in participating on the volunteer flag team, please contact Pulse@shepherdparkplaza.com.

Thank you to neighbors who contribute their annual \$25 Civic Club dues. We use these funds in numerous ways - one of them being supporting the volunteer flag team that coordinates the placement and flying of the US flag on our streets for national holidays.

Calling All SPP Kids!



Do your kids or grandkids love to draw? Do they want to a chance to win a prize?

The design for the new neighborhood directory is underway and we want to feature our kids' artwork on the cover!

The artwork can be of one of the SPP entrances or the local Shepherd Park. Submissions should be in color and on blank non-lined paper. Feel free to have your artist sign their masterpiece (with the understanding any information will be included in the directory, if selected).

Please send submissions to historian@shepherdparkplaza.com no later than **May 31st**. We will announce the winners prior to printing. Stay tuned!



Transportation Services for Day Trips

Did you know that transportation services are available so Harris County Precinct 4 residents, 50 and older, can participate in local educational and recreational events? These organized groups can be local community service groups, gardening clubs, men's or women's groups, and more! The Harris County Precinct 4 transportation fleet includes several wheelchair-accessible buses, but please note, buses are not equipped with restrooms.

Events for May include a Wounded Warrior Event on May 13 and a Fishing Fest on May 27.

To register to be a trip coordinator and organize a trip, visit <https://www.hcp4.net/encore/daytrips/> and complete and submit the Trip Coordinator and Group Contact Form.

Trip coordinator training is available online or in person.
Visit the website above for additional details and contact information.

DEPUTY CONSTABLE PROGRAM RESPONSE CALLS
FIGURES ARE FOR ENTIRE CONTRACT, INCLUDING SPP AND CANDLELIGHT PLAZA

MARCH 2021

CONTRACT CHECKS...237	MILES PATROLLED...3,104	MEET THE CITIZEN...85
VACATION WATCH...103	OPEN DOOR / WINDOW...1	ALARM...3
BURGLARY...1	SUSPICIOUS PERSON...3	SUSPICIOUS VEHICLE...3
CRIMINAL MISCHIEF...0	WELFARE CHECK...1	INFORMATION CHECK...2
DISTURBANCE LOUD NOISE...2	TRAFFIC...6	FOLLOW UP...4
ANIMAL...1	PARK CHECK...18	SCHOOL CHECK...0

****SEE SOMETHING, SAY SOMETHING - CALL CONSTABLE DISPATCH AT 713-755-7628****

VACATION WATCH REGISTRY (*2 WEEK NOTICE*)...[HTTP://PCT1CONSTABLE.NET/SIGN-UP/VACATION-WATCH/](http://PCT1CONSTABLE.NET/SIGN-UP/VACATION-WATCH/)
SIGN UP FOR THE CONSTABLE OFFICE'S CRIME ALERTS AND NEWSLETTER...[HTTPS://PCT1CONSTABLE.NET](https://PCT1CONSTABLE.NET)
SELECT SIGN-UP > CRIME ALERTS ; NEWSLETTER

Catalytic Converter Theft

There has been a large uptick in the theft of catalytic converters in Houston, with impact to our own SPP residents. As reported by KHOU 11, HPD reported 85 catalytic converter thefts in 2018. In 2019, it increased to 375. By October 2020, it was nearly 1,400 in one year. It doesn't seem like Houston is the only area being hit. According to the National Insurance Crime Bureau, theft of catalytic converters has been on an exponential rise since the pandemic.

How can you help combat and protect yourself from this growing trend?

When you can, park in a garage, behind a gate, or in a secured parking lot. This helps deter potential criminals who are looking for an easy act. However, since theft more often occurs in open parking lots, when around town, and increasingly - even in broad daylight - be prepared to take extra measures. Tips include: purchasing an after market shield or cage that attaches to the underside of the vehicle, making it more difficult to steal the catalytic converter. Spray your whole catalytic converter with bright, high-temperature paint, which makes it less desirable to thieves who have to scrape off the paint before selling.

HPD is also working with city leaders and state lawmakers to make it harder to sell catalytic converters. The City of Houston has recently adopted new rules that require sellers to provide the year, make, model, and VIN for each catalytic converter they bring in.

REMEMBER: **See Something, Say Something - Call Constable Dispatch at 713-755-7628**

Your neighborhood expert.



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SPP Garden Club meetings are held on the second Monday of the month at 7pm. All meetings are currently being held outside and masks are required. New members and visitors are always welcome! Please contact our Club President, Susan Fitzpatrick, at gardenclub@shepherdparkplaza.com for details on our next meeting location. We would love to have you!

Garden Club Tip of the Month:

You still have time to plan that vegetable garden! Peppers, okra, beans, snap peas, cucumbers, and tomatoes are all great options. Plant from seed or use veggie transplants from one of our local nurseries. If you are a new to vegetable gardening, check out Urban Harvest's May 4th virtual event "In the Garden: Summer Vegetable Planting." Learn more at www.urbanharvest.org/events.

Garden Club Monthly Local Highlight:

Did you know the spring bird migration continues through mid-May in Houston? Depending on weather conditions, birds can be common in Houston city limits. Clean birdbaths often and keep feeders full, and clean them after rainstorms to prevent soggy, spoiled seed. As a result, you may have some feathered friends pay you a visit as they pass through town! To enjoy more bird sightings, travel east to High Island Bird Sanctuary, west to the Attwater Prairie Chicken National Wildlife Refuge, or south to Brazos Bend State Park.

Garden Club Member Yard of the Month:

Our May Yard of the Month is Angela Kelly. "Snowpocalypse" gave her the chance to start over in several beds and use what she's learned about zone hardiness and what works best in her yard. Salvia has always been a favorite because of the year round color, so she brought in more color with Scarlet Sage and the red pops have not disappointed. The Mealycup Sage cut back after the freeze has already grown exponentially and has new buds! Also in the yard are several Jerusalem Sage, Red Tiara Azaleas, Texas Sage, and Yellow Bulbine. She feels an east-facing yard is a gardener's dream with the morning sun that serves as a spotlight for all the early-morning beauty! She looks forward to continuing to add in more Texas Natives this spring.



Angel Oak

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Tues, May 18 @ 7:30pm Babysitter Night

Get recommendations from other Plaza Moms & personally meet some of the top babysitters/nannies in the neighborhood.

Questions or want to join Plaza Moms?

Send an email to plaza.moms.houston@gmail.com and we'll get you set up for just \$35 for the season.



Over the course of every school year, the Durham PTA works hard to raise money and support our school. You've probably seen it here - join PTA, attend the gala, support "spirit nights" at local restaurants, become a sponsor. So where does this money go?

In the 2020-2021 school year, the PTA has proudly provided these "gifts" to Durham, totaling more than \$50k:

STEAM week activities
Classroom projectors
Safety radios
International Baccalaureate books and materials
Yoga mats
Classroom document cameras
Clever touches
Special grade-level activities/speakers/virtual "field trips"
Teacher grants for classroom supplies/activities

But it's not just about the money! We can't host our usual engagement events, but we do have some fun in the works. To close out the school year, PTA is planning a virtual scavenger hunt, a trivia night, and a talent show for our students, as well as some treats for the staff to celebrate Teacher & Staff Appreciation week. It will certainly be a sweet end to a crazy year!

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The 2021 - 2022 SPPCC Board Members are looking forward to supporting this great neighborhood we live within. To help you get to know the volunteer-based board and committee, we will be featuring a 'Meet Your Civic Club Member' article highlighting fun facts and insights into your volunteer Civic Club leaders. We look forward to serving you in 2021 - 2022!



Meet Your Civic Club Member!

Name: Jesse Yoburn
Position on Civic Club: President

What street do you live on? Thornton, just east of Apollo

Why did you join the Civic Club Board? I've never lived in a neighborhood with such an amazing sense of community. I wanted to join it to be more involved and help make it even better!

What do you hope to do as a Board Member? I'm hoping we can continue our great traditions, and find some new ones that allow everyone to be safe in this crazy world we find ourselves in. The health and safety of everyone in the neighborhood is my top priority.

What's your favorite SPPCC event and why? I *really* enjoyed our BBQ cookoff a few years ago, and hope we can restart that soon when it's safe. But the participation we had for this past year's holiday arch lighting & parade was truly amazing.

What is your favorite local hot spot and why? I was a big fan of Petrol Station when it was open, as another SPP resident and I helped build the wooden train that was there. But I've recently started to really enjoy the beers at Great Heights Brewing on Wakefield.

What's a fun fact you want to share? I enjoy woodworking, building, and fixing things. I've recently rediscovered my love of winter sports.

Tres Amigos Cafe y Cantina Is Open!

We all know there isn't a shortage of delicious Tex-Mex in our city. Add one more to the list! Tres Amigos Cafe y Cantina at 3402 N. Shepherd is now open!

This location was previously Shepherd Park Draught House. You can get your fill of enchiladas, tacos, queso, local beer, as well as margaritas made with Pura Vida tequila, all served up with a side of ZZ Top memorabilia to check out while you dine. The restaurant name is an homage to the ZZ Top album Tres Hombres.

75% of proceeds will go to the St. Jude Foundation.



CITIZENS PATROL

March 2021 Patrol Hours

WEEK	TOTAL DRIVING HOURS
1	5
2	3
3	5
4	7
TOTAL	20

Patrollers who turn in at least 4 driving hours by the 5th of the month are eligible for a random drawing. The winner of this month's \$10 random drawing is **Shannon Zierau**. Thank you to all of our volunteers!

The Houston Police Department is concerned about crime in the neighborhoods and communities throughout the city. The Citizen Patrol Program was established in an effort to bring the citizens and the police department together for a common goal: improve the quality of life by preventing, reducing, or eliminating crime. The Citizen Patrol Program is designed to provide a means for citizens to organize into patrol groups for the purpose of being visible 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.

You can become a volunteer by signing up today! Training is just a few hours and **YOU** can help protect our neighborhood.
www.houstontx.gov/police/vip/vip_citzpatrol.htm

IRS Tax Extension

The IRS is giving all Texas residents and businesses an additional two months to file their federal income taxes. Extension date is June 15.

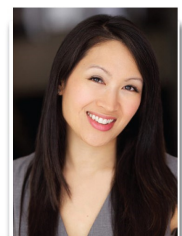


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CITY HELPLINE: 311

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Deed Restrictions 713-316-5255	Architecture Control 713-316-5255	Entrance Bed 713-501-3695	Plaza Moms Rep plaza.moms.houston@gmail.com	Garden Club Rep 713-956-2638
Section 1 Rep 713-882-8613	Section 2 Rep Section2@shepherdparkplaza.com	Section 3 Rep 832-655-3425	Section 4 Rep 713-291-4485	SPP Civic Club president@shepherdparkplaza.com

SPP CALENDAR

May 2021

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					



= Trash and Yard Waste



= Curbside Recycling



Please leave 3 ft between your bins and any other objects. This gives the trucks room without damage to nearby items.

Reminder about Heavy Trash: TREE waste is picked up in ODD months, and JUNK waste in the EVEN months. TREE waste is defined as "clean" wood waste such as tree limbs, branches, and stumps. Lumber, furniture, and treated wood will NOT be accepted as Tree Waste. JUNK is defined as items such as furniture, appliances, and other bulky material.

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April Yard of the Month

Section 1:

Bill and Aileen Hartman
1062 Curtin

Section 2:

Abby and Ryan Dempsey
1114 Thornton

Section 3:

Britt and Martha Braddick
1038 Martin

Section 4:

Calvin and Alice Bongers
1038 Richelieu



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