

THE PLAZA PULSE

SHEPHERD PARK PLAZA CIVIC CLUB

August 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

Annual July 4th Bike Parade and Holiday Yard Awards

By Rachel Mathews, Plaza Pulse Editor

The parade is back!

After an unpredictable year, the annual 4th of July parade returned in full force! Hundreds came out to socialize, celebrate, and of course, enjoy Kona Ice and ice cream sandwiches! This year, the parade featured both a walking/bike route and a car parade route. Huge thanks to Plaza Moms and the SPP Civic Club for coordinating this event for the residents!

As always, thank you to the Constables for their presence during the parade! We are very close to meeting our fundraising effort. If you are ready to join the Constable Contract, you can pay by check, Venmo (@SPPCC), scan the provided QR code, or visit the link below. Checks should be made out to SPPCC and can be mailed to SPPCC P.O. Box 10453 Houston, TX 77206. Please include your name and address in the memo. Constable Program contribution is requested at \$295; however, any amount is appreciated!

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

Can't remember if you contributed? Check link online or email
Membership@shepherdparkplaza.com.



If you haven't received your 2021 Constable Program sticker, please contact your Section Rep.

July 4th Yard Decoration Award Winners!

Section 1: 975 Curtin
Section 2: 1079 Thornton
Section 3: 1031 Martin
Section 4: 1056 Richelieu



2

DEPUTY CONSTABLE PROGRAM RESPONSE CALLS

FIGURES ARE FOR ENTIRE CONTRACT, INCLUDING SPP AND CANDLELIGHT PLAZA

JUNE 2021

CONTRACT CHECKS... 245	MILES PATROLLED... 1,197	MEET THE CITIZEN... 16
VACATION WATCH... 196	OPEN DOOR / WINDOW... 3	ALARM... 0
BURGLARY... 0	SUSPICIOUS PERSON... 5	SUSPICIOUS VEHICLE... 1
CRIMINAL MISCHIEF... 0	WELFARE CHECK... 3	INFORMATION CHECK... 2
DISTURBANCE LOUD NOISE... 1	TRAFFIC... 0	FOLLOW UP... 0
ANIMAL... 0	PARK CHECK... 8	SCHOOL CHECK... 1

****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

Lock-Up Checklist

Shared by Bill Scheel, Deputy Constable Committee Chair

As Deputy William Purcell shared in the March 'Meet Your Constables' article, *"the vast majority of burglary of vehicle calls were committed on vehicles that were left unsecured overnight. ... I believe that Shepherd Park Plaza is fully capable of having zero burglary of vehicles if all vehicles left outside were locked overnight and there was nothing of value left in plain view to tempt a criminal from making entry in the vehicle."* Let's keep this in mind as we lock up our homes for when we leave for a quick trip, a long vacation, and on a regular basis each day. Consider the below as you secure your home and personal effects on a regular basis.

OUTSIDE

- ◇ Autos – All valuables (computers, sunglasses, etc.) are removed or are completely out of sight. Do not leave anything of value in your car or truck. Make sure all autos are locked, especially if they are parked on the driveway or on the street. If you have a pick-up, consider installing a tailgate lock. If you have an alarm, make sure it is on. If parked in a garage, it is still a good idea to lock your car.
- ◇ Lighting – There is debate on if outdoor lighting makes it easier for crooks to see what they are after or not. The key is to be consistent in your use of lighting. Have your outdoor lights on timers or motion sensors. Crooks will look to see if your lights are off when you are gone. Our deputies like the light because it makes it easier for them to see your house and garage.
- ◇ Security alarms – Be consistent in using your alarm. Even if you are making a quick trip to Kroger, turn on your alarm. Consider having one installed if you don't own one.
- ◇ Security cameras – More and more residents are having security cameras installed. Check them from time to time to make sure you have the best view of approaches to your house. Spend the extra money and get one that works well at night.
- ◇ If you hear anything outside, don't be a hero and rush outside. **Call the constable at 713-755-7628.**

GARAGE

- ◇ Garage door is closed and locked.
- ◇ Side door into garage is locked. It is also a good idea to install a deadbolt lock, as well as the knob lock, on these types of doors.
- ◇ Make sure all lawn equipment is locked up in the garage. Leave nothing outside. This also goes for bicycles and other equipment.
- ◇ If you have a gate across your breezeway that blocks access to your garage side door or backyard, make sure the gate is locked if so equipped, and if not, install a quality padlock on the slide bar.
- ◇ If you have an attached garage with an entry door into your home, make doubly sure it is locked and also consider a deadbolt.

HOUSE

- ◇ Make sure all windows are locked, especially sliding patio doors.
- ◇ Make sure all doors are locked: the front door, back door, patio door, or any other access to your home.
- ◇ If you have an alarm, use it!
- ◇ When you are away, have someone pickup your newspaper and mail. Nothing tells a crook you are gone more than newspapers stacked up in your yard. Same goes for mail.
- ◇ If you are a member of the Constable Patrol Contract, be sure and turn in a vacation watch. <https://pct1constable.net/sign-up/vacation-watch/>

Do all you can to protect your property and home.

Criminals are looking for the quick and easy. An unlocked door on your home or car is an invitation to others.

Most do not want to confront people or locks, so make their attempt more difficult so they move on.

A few simple steps on your part will help move the opportunity out of SPP.

For more information, check out the recent Leader article from Constable Alan Rosen:

https://www.theleadernews.com/simple-prevention-steps-help-keep-homes-safe/article_8bd31fd6-e4ba-11eb-8446-1fd68719e498.html



SPP Garden Club The Garden Club is taking its annual summer break.
Meetings will resume again in the fall. We wish you happy gardening!

Garden Club Tip of the Month:

Noticed any low spots in your garden that hold water after a rain? Consider turning that soggy spot into a rain garden. A rain garden is a shallow, landscaped depression in the ground used to filter water runoff from roofs, pavement, and other drainage. You'll help filter the water and also attract local butterflies, birds, and bees. Choose plants that can withstand several days of heat, but can also live ~3 days in waterlogged soil. Some suggested flowering plants are Turk's cap, swamp milkweed, canna, or lamb's ear. Suggested shrubs or small trees include American beauty berry, yaupon, dwarf palmetto, or Southern wax myrtle.

Garden Club Monthly Local Highlight:

The Shepherd Park sign bed recently received a facelift with new bend-a-board edging, additional gravel in the curved walk, and additional rock placement in front of the sign. Stop by the park and check out this cleaned-up look! Thank you to the Shepherd Park Plaza Garden Club Beautification committee for their hard work in revitalizing the Shepherd Park sign bed and to all Garden Club members for their support of this project!

Positive Interaction Program 'P.I.P' - North Division

Attended by Deborah DeBram and Katherine Peale, City Liaison Committee Chair
Guest Speaker: Commander K. D. Anthony-Miller, Human Trafficking HPD, Vice Division

Houston is a hub for human trafficking because it is a large city, connected to primary transport corridors, and in a port with access to sea, land, and air. Most human trafficking victims are women and children who may already be in vulnerable situations (runaways, substance abuse, etc.). However, anyone can be susceptible. Victims are recruited with promises of acceptance, love, and protection and may be recruited online, at clubs, bars, and schools, or anywhere in public, even churches, stores, and airports. Victims may be recruited, induced, groomed, or kidnapped and forced to earn money for traffickers for the purposes of illegal activities.

The HPD helps fight human trafficking through training, outreach, education, and awareness programs, by creating victim support programs, and by increasing penalties for those promoting trafficking. Please help by reporting trafficking concerns to 1-888-373-7888.

Please join for future PIP meetings at the North Police Station, 9455 West Montgomery Road.
Meetings are held on the 3rd Tuesday of the month.



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Save the Date for the Annual Season Kick-Off Party! Thursday, August 26th 7-10pm

Plaza Moms want to "thank you for being a friend" with a Golden Girls-themed evening, including sassy libations on the lanai, light bites, and a chance to catch up with all your golden girl moms, because everything's better with cheesecake and friends, right?

So grab your best 80s floral frock and come enjoy a night out to kick off our 2021-22 season at Kelly Laning's house, 1134 Curtin St. RSVP to plaza.moms.houston@gmail.com, and please watch your email for your invoice to pay dues online.

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.

Editor's Eats: Jellyfish Sushi

By Rachel Mathews, Plaza Pulse Editor

A relatively new spot, Jellyfish is a much-appreciated addition to the neighborhood. The menu boasts standard appetizers like edamame and tempura, and you'll find typical sushi and sashimi options, regular sushi rolls, and specialty rolls, such as the Be Someone roll and the Texas Hamachi roll. We tried several items (the Wasabi Tuna is stellar), and everything was extremely fresh and presented beautifully. If you're not looking to go the sushi route, Jellyfish also offers hibachi options, as well as noodles and rice. A lunch menu and an all-day menu are available.

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<https://www.jellyfishsushi.com/>



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Letter from the Durham Elementary President:

Dear Neighbor,

I have a few exciting midsummer updates for you!

CAMPUS CONSTRUCTION

This summer the Durham Elementary campus is undergoing construction to improve drainage around the school facility and grounds. Both of the retention ponds (located on Brinkman and Dunsmere) will be connected to main city drain lines. I'm pleased to report that work has already begun and is proceeding as planned. This work does not impact the pond in our Durham Garden.

SCHOOL STAFFING & ENROLLMENT

Monday through Thursday from 7:00 am to 5:30 pm. Please contact Mrs. Solomon at (713) 613-2527 or at csolomon@houstonisd.org. Enrollment paperwork can be submitted online or in person by appointment. Please contact her with any questions regarding new student enrollment.

WELCOME TO CAMPUS EVENT

Parents, mark your calendars!

- * Pre-K & Kinder Parent Orientation on August 11, 2021 Session 1: 8:00-9:30 am & Session 2: 1:00-2:30 pm. Meeting held in the Dalmatian Café.
- * Meet the Teacher on Wednesday, August 18 from 4 pm to 5:30 pm.
- * Boo Hoo/Yahoo Breakfast following the first bell on Monday, August 23: Enjoy some refreshments with other tearful (and joyful!) parents in the library after dropping the kids off for their first day of school.

FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL

The first day of school for the 2021-2022 school year is **Monday, August 23**. Please be patient with the noise and congestion as we re-establish our procedures for drop off and pick up. Things will get better after a few weeks, we promise! Hope you all are staying healthy and cool this summer. We look forward to welcoming our students, parents, and community members back on campus this fall.

Warm regards,
Carrie Flores
Principal, Durham Elementary School

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT Save the Date! October 5, 2021

National Night Out (NNO) is an opportunity to meet your neighbors, discuss safety, enjoy some good food, and just GET OUTSIDE! This year's NNO is on Tuesday, October 5, 2021.

Want to be a NNO host for your street? As a host, you are welcoming neighbors to join you in your front yard/driveway for food, fun, and community. Your house will be marked on the SPP NNO map so your block will know where to gather. Email vp@shepherdparkplaza.org to register as a host.



NNO Sidewalk Chalk Art Competition

This year we will have a sidewalk chalk art competition.

The judging categories will be:

- ** National Night Out **
- ** Houston Sports Teams **
- ** Public Safety Thank You **
- ** Shepherd Park Plaza **

Judging will take place during the event.

<https://natw.org/>



Candlelight Plaza Constable Program Fundraiser

Information contributed by Daniel Cannon of Candlelight Plaza



Candlelight Plaza recently hosted its first annual Candlelight Plaza Constable Program fundraiser cornhole tournament! With more than a dozen teams and more than 40 people in attendance, this first annual event was a success. While rainy weather required multiple rain date reschedules, much fun was had. Participants played a total of three single elimination tournaments, and as teams played and were eliminated, new alliances were formed.

For those ready to eat, pulled pork sandwiches were available for a donation, complete with chips and drink. While this was the first annual Candlelight Plaza Constable Program fundraiser cornhole tournament, there is much interest to expand this event to be joint with Shepherd Park Plaza! Perhaps there could even be separate Candlelight Plaza and Shepherd Park Plaza brackets and ultimate top four teams from each neighborhood play in a 'Champions League' final bracket for top bragging rights! We better get to practicing, Shepherd Park Plaza!



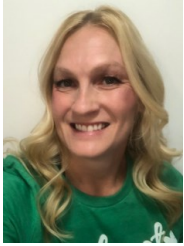
Shepherd Park Plaza and Candlelight Plaza share the Constable Program contract and split contribution requirements 70/30 based upon count of homes in respective neighborhoods. Shepherd Park Plaza has been a participant in the Harris County Precinct 1 Contract Deputy Constable Program for several years. Through this program, SPP and CP have benefited from contracted constables patrolling the neighborhood, creating high visibility which helps reduce crimes in the area. As deputies are specifically assigned to a contracted area, the program is known for rapid response to calls for service.

Did you know that the Precinct One Constable office also offers free home safety inspections? They are conducted by state-certified crime prevention specialists, and the service includes inspecting residences, identifying potential vulnerabilities, and advising residents on ways to make their homes more secure. To schedule a free home inspection, send an email to toni.mascione@cn1.hctx.net.

Check out the other resources available from the Precinct One Constable office:

<https://pct1constable.net/public-safety/>
<https://pct1constable.net/child-safety-seat-inspection/>
<https://pct1constable.net/community/crime-prevention-division/r-a-d-system/#>

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: Holly Inderrieden

Position on Civic Club: Advertising and Publicity Committee Chair

What street do you live on? Candlelight Lane

Why did you join the Civic Club Board? I've always loved that we have an active Civic Club in SPP and have a heart to serve to continue to make SPP a great place to live!

What do you hope to do as a Board Member? In my current role, build community by supporting local entrepreneurs and businesses. Securing advertising for the Plaza Pulse helps the Board to cover the costs of communicating through the Plaza Pulse and providing it to the whole neighborhood for free. Keeping us all connected is my why.

What's your favorite SPPCC event and why? I'm partial to the **Oktoberfest** that we initiated a few years ago. It's fun, provides additional connection opportunities for friends and neighbors of all ages, supports each of our neighborhood clubs, plus there's German food!

What is your favorite local hot spot and why? Such a hard question since we have so many great local options! My kids would say Chick -Fil-A or Gabby's but Local Poke is one of our favorites that the whole family enjoys!

What's a fun fact you want to share? Creston and I are high school sweethearts and love to travel – work hard, play hard! We'd love to chat about your next adventure!



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We want YOU!

The greatest asset of any community is its people. The barometer of that value is the willingness of the people to become volunteers. The greatest compliment you can pay your neighbors is to devote your time and effort to protect the neighborhood you share with them!

Please join the Shepherd
Park Plaza
Citizens Patrol!

You can become a volunteer by signing up today! Training is just a few hours and YOU can help protect our neighborhood. For more information, please contact Jeff Berlat at 713-502-3529 (leave a voice message) or jberlat@yahoo.com, or contact August Galiano at aeg3579@gmail.com.

CITIZENS PATROL

June 2021

WEEK	TOTAL DRIVING HOURS
1	4.5
2	5
3	7.5
4	5
TOTAL	22

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 **Katherine Peale!** Thank you to all our volunteers!



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IMPORTANT CONTACTS

POLICE/FIRE: 911

CITY HELPLINE: 311

Constable Dispatch 713-755-7628	HPD (non-emergency) 713-884-3131	Plaza Pulse Editor pulse@shepherdparkplaza.com	Plaza Pulse Advertising 832-477-7871	SPP Membership 303-588-0424
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 303-588-0424
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

August 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 HEAVY TRASH JUNK WASTE	20	21
22	23 	24 	25	26  Kick Off Party	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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**NEW CLIENTS
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July Yard of the Month

Section 1: Carolyn Long 1063 Chamboard	Section 2: David Hall 1047 Thornton
Section 3: The Taylor Richard Residence 1032 Martin St	Section 4: Ken and Colette Robichau 1014 Candlelight



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