



THE PLAZA PULSE

SHEPHERD PARK PLAZA CIVIC CLUB

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June 2010

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Support SPP with Annual Dues!

It's time once again for Shepherd Park Plaza residents to pay annual Civic Club dues. Your \$25.00 dues payment helps maintain the outstanding neighborhood we all call home. The Shepherd Park Plaza Civic Club is comprised of residents who generously volunteer their time and talents to help preserve the quality of life we've come to enjoy. While our association is volunteer-run, it does take money to make some things happen. As of May 5, 212 homes or 15% of residents had paid their 2010-2011 dues—thank you for your support!

Your \$25 helps with:

- Deed Restriction Enforcement & Architectural Control—protecting our property values
- Constable Patrol Program*—coordinating the activities of the full-time Harris County Constable who patrols the neighborhood
- Safety & Security—attending regular meetings with Houston Police Department and other enforcement agencies regarding crime prevention and analysis and supporting the SPP Citizens Patrol program
- Beautification & Decoration—honoring holiday yard displays and recognizing residents with Yard of the Month awards
- Community Relations—communicating regularly with the City of Houston and other area civic clubs on matters such as roads, utilities, neighborhood crime prevention, trash collection, and parks
- Property Maintenance—maintaining signs and plantings at neighborhood entrances and regularly mowing drainage ditches to minimize flooding
- Resident Communication—distributing *The Plaza Pulse*, managing www.shepherdparkplaza.com, sending email alerts and other periodic notices, and compiling a resident directory
- Prevention & Preparedness—painting curbside address markers to facilitate emergency response and spraying to minimize mosquitoes
- Neighborhood Gatherings—organizing neighborhood meetings in the fall and spring and other events such as National Night Out block parties **If you've not yet paid your 2010-2011 dues, please send them in today—simply download an application at www.shepherdparkplaza.com!** For more information, contact Tom Dornak at 713-683-6502 or TRDornak@spectraenergy.com.

Member Directory Coming Soon!

An updated SPPCC membership directory is scheduled for delivery in mid June. This directory will include contact information for current SPPCC members as of April 30, 2010. We hope that this will make it easier to stay in touch with your neighbors. Special thanks to **Rhonda D'Eramo** for putting the directory together and to Tom Dornak and Billy Hartman for their assistance with the project.

Flags Fly High Again!

SPP's flags will be on display this summer in observance of Memorial Day, Flag Day and Independence Day.

Jim Worthing, long-time SPP resident, Civic Club volunteer and military veteran, continues to lead the effort to raise and retrieve the flags during the year. He is more than happy to have assistance with this effort. This would be a great project for older Boy or Girl Scouts, church youth groups or individuals looking for a way to volunteer in the neighborhood. If you are interested in helping, please contact Jim at 713-688-4315 or dwjw56@att.net.



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

[Officers]

President Jennifer Lamb

Vice President Eileen Hartman

Secretary Romi Sandel

Treasurer Tom Caver

[Committees]

Architectural Control Steve Rogers

Citizens Patrol/Traffic & Safety
Karen Cruse

Constable Patrol Coordinator
David Barrett & Creston Inderrieden

Block Captain Coordinator Mike Clark

Restrictions Enforcement
Billy Hartman & Matt Schulte

Landscape Maintenance Monica Krause

Greeter Eileen Hartman

Historian August Galiano

Hospitality
Chas Biediger, Jennifer Brown & Caroline Marciano

Membership Tom Dornak

Parks/City Liaison/DRT/PIP Ted Dwigans

Publicity/Pulse Advertising Steve Loden

Website Publisher Kirby Leshner

[Representatives]

Section 1 Rep. Jason & Tara Williams

Section 2 Rep.
Jonathan Sterbanz & Barbara Bryant

Section 3 Rep. Lynn Myers

Section 4 Rep. Norma Salazar

Garden Club Rep. Alice Bongers

Plaza Moms Co-Rep.
Trisha Roberts & Julie Landreth

Men's Group Rep. Chuck Blesener

Pulse Editor: Laurie Hardwick
713-956-2474

Pulse Design: Paula Collins
713-594-5295
pulse@shepherdparkplaza.com

Help Light Up the Night!

SPPCC has been awarded a City of Houston grant to help install solar lighting at the neighborhood's 12 entrances. The grant requires that SPPCC raise matching funds from residents and sponsors. Last year, we received tremendous support when we repainted, and we again are inviting our residents to chip in and sponsor our entrance lighting. The estimated cost for each lighting package is \$400, and you can help with a \$200 sponsorship. Installation will take place by mid-year. Charlie Hebert and his company Heights Electric have volunteered to assist with the installation. Thanks in advance for everyone's support! To participate, simply make your check payable to SPPCC, note that it is a contribution to the lighting project and mail to:



Shepherd Park Plaza Civic Club
Attn: Treasurer
P.O. Box 10453
Houston TX, 77206

Be Captain of Your Block!

To involve more SPP residents and to assist our section reps, the SPPCC Board is actively recruiting block captains. Thanks to those of you who have already volunteered, but we still need about 15 more! Block captains will:

- Be the most local connection between SPP Civic Club and residents,
- Notify others of news and happenings on your block,
- Welcome new neighbors and encourage more resident interaction, and
- Assist their section rep in distributing information and communicating to residents.

If you'd like to get involved as a block captain, contact Mike Clark at 713-906-4148 or by email at mike@hartmanassociates.com.

Take Care of Those Trash Bags

By Chuck Blesener

By now, everyone should be using the new compostable trash bags for leaves and lawn clippings. The prices for these vary widely, from 45-99 cents per bag, so shop around. The best price I have found so far is at Costco. The bags must be transparent and City-approved with the City of Houston logo on them. Some residents are trying to use paper bags, sold by some local stores as lawn and trash bags, because they are biodegradable. The City says these bags are not approved and are unacceptable because it is not possible to see what is inside of them.

Compostable bags should be stored in a cool, dry area away from direct sunlight and heat. Your house would be a better place than your garage. The bags begin decomposing as soon as you take them out of the box, and the bags are thin to start with so you should not overfill them or let them sit outside in the weather for any prolonged period. If you do fill some early, they should be stored in the garage until collection day. If the bags do break, you should not put the trash in your black garbage container. City ordinances prohibit this and provide for some steep fines if you are caught.



BASEBALL INSTRUCTION
Mike Evans
Waltrip Varsity Baseball Coach
Former Kansas City Royal
SPP resident
713-553-5414
mevans@houstonisd.org

Patrol Hours <i>Prepared by Robin McClung</i>	SECTIONS				Total
	1	2	3	4	
Auto Patrol Hours	7	20	3	20	50
Walk/Bike Patrol Hours	16.75	14.75	0	32.25	63.75
Total Patrol Hours	23.75	54.75	3	52.25	113.75
Base Station Hours	0	45	0	0	45
TOTAL HOURS	23.75	99.75	3	52.25	158.75

Interested in patrolling? Contact Karen Cruse at 713-824-4799 or kjcfm4954@yahoo.com for information. Required Citizens Patrol certification/re-certification training is usually held on the second Tuesday of each month at 10 am and 7 pm at 9455 W. Montgomery. New members must fill out the application forms and return them one week prior to the training date. Certification is good for two years. For more information about the training, call 281-405-5341.

The \$10 Winners for April are Melba Bruce, Ernest Gessner, Angeline Heinrich and Robert Mullins. To qualify for monthly drawings, patrol hours must be turned in by the 5th of each month.

NOTICE TO ALL PATROLLERS: Patrol hours should now be turned in to Charli Merchant at 4615 Dunsmere.

Looking for Lost CP Equipment

If you have any Citizens Patrol magnetic signs, radios, antennae, or other equipment you are not using, or know of someone else who does, please let us know. We will gladly pick it up and let one of our active patrollers put it to good use. We have a lot of equipment out in the neighborhood and it probably is not all being used. If you are no longer patrolling or are moving out of the neighborhood, please return any signs, shirts, jackets, or caps with the HPD/SPP logos on them. We do not want them getting into the wrong hands where someone might pose as a patroller to gain the confidence of a resident. Do not give Patrol equipment or clothing to a charity.

HPD Offers PIP

Concerned citizens are invited to attend the Houston Police Department's North Division Positive Interaction Program (PIP) meetings. Held the third Tuesday of each month at 7 pm, these meetings are open to the public and provide direct interaction with officers that police our area of the City. The meetings are held at the North Command Station at 9455 W. Montgomery on the second floor.

adding an automatic driver license suspension for first-time offenders and increased suspensions for repeat offenders. Removes DPS authority to suspend concealed handgun license (CHL) for failure to display. Eliminates student loan

defaults as disqualifier for CHL, and mandates suspension of CHL for subjects of an emergency protective order.

SB 1317 requires that driver license applicants between age 18 and 24 complete an approved driver education course and a driving skills test to become a licensed driver.

HB 2730 & HB 339 requires all applicants for driver licenses under 18 take the driving skills exam, increases behind-the-wheel driving instruction to 34 hours, restricts cell phone usage completely.

SB 1967 requires applicants for licenses to drive a motorcycle provide evidence of completion of an approved motorcycle operator training course. Citizens who need to re-instate their driver license or get a copy of their driver record must submit their required documentation online at <http://www.texasonline.com> or via federal mail, rather than at DPS offices.

HB 558 allows minors to be charged with public intoxication.

HB 1282 makes it a Class B misdemeanor to steal a driver license or personal identification.

SB 689 restricts Internet usage by certain registered sex offenders and requires them to provide email addresses.

New Texas Laws in Effect

By Chuck Blesener

The following new laws are now in effect in Texas—are you aware of them all?

HB 537 requires ALL occupants of a vehicle to be secured by a safety belt regardless of age or where they are seated in the vehicle. Children under age five on a motorcycle must be seated in a sidecar.

SB 61 requires children younger than 8 be restrained in an approved child passenger safety seat unless the child is at least 4 feet, 9 inches in height.

HB 55 makes it illegal to use a cell phone in a school zone unless the vehicle is stopped or the driver is using a hands-free device. Signs must be posted at the beginning of each school zone to be effective.

HB 2730 increases the penalty for DWI with a child passenger by

Call Deputy Dispatch 713-755-7628

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CHECKING IN WITH OUR DEPUTY
CONSTABLE

Crime continues to increase as unemployment and temperatures rise. Be cautious while walking. Try to walk with a friend or family member. Just outside our neighborhood, there was an armed robbery in April. Keep watch for any suspicious people driving or walking through the neighborhood. There is no call too small to call the Constable Dispatch phone number to alert a Deputy to something that does not look right. Better to be cautious than sorry later.

School is out for the summer, so please watch out for children playing outside during the day. And with summer vacations on the horizon, Constable program contributors are also encouraged to take advantage of the Constable's Vacation Watch program. Download a Vacation Watch form at www.shepherdparkplaza.com and turn it in to the Constable several days before you leave. Your home will then be added to the patrol schedule, so that special checks can be made while you're away.

CALLS HANDLED BY DEPUTY MARTIN

Miles Patrolled... 960



Arrests 0
Alarm Responses..... 3
Citizen Contacts 63
Disturbances..... 1
Investigations..... 0
Park Checks 32
Vacation Watch..... 9
Misc. Calls..... 82
Dispatched Calls..... 8
Total Calls..... 185

APRIL 2010

Traffic
Verbal/Written Warnings... 16
Citations... 10 for 13 court violations

EILEEN HARTMAN
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EILEEN@HARTMANASSOCIATES.COM

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& ASSOCIATES

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- SPP BOARD MEMBER
- SRES (Senior Specialist)

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around the neighborhood

By Romi Sandel & Laurie Hardwick

- ▶ **New Arrival**—Trisha and Matt Roberts welcomed Brett Matthew on May 3, 2010. Mom, dad and big sister Amy are enjoying the new addition to their family.
- ▶ **In Sympathy**—Our condolences to the family of Joyce Holliday who passed away April 13, 2010. A long-time SPP resident, Joyce was the widow of Glenn Holliday, the first president of SPPCC. She died following a long battle with Parkinson's disease.
- ▶ **Mother's Day Surprise**—Beth Galiano received a surprise on Sunday May 9, **Mother's Day**. **Daughter** Elizabeth Nelson and hubby Paul spirited Beth and August Galiano away to San Antonio for a visit to La Mansion del Rio, the Omni hotel right on the River Walk. Howard Peacock, nature writer for *Texas Highways* magazine (and **August's brother-in-law**) met the group for lunch and acted as tour guide for their trip to the San Antonio Botanical Gardens. Beth is a Harris County Master Gardener, so the tour was high on her list of things to see in San Antonio. She especially enjoyed the Old Fashioned Garden, fragrances in the Rose Garden and the unique Japanese Garden, a gift from San Antonio's Sister City of Kumamoto. A special **Mother's Day buffet at the Menger Hotel** was followed by a trip to the McNay Museum, home to nearly 20,000 works including modern, medieval and renaissance art. When it was all over Beth said, "This is the best Mother's Day I have ever spent."
- ▶ **Hats Off!** Congratulations to Valerie Robichau, daughter of Ken & Colette Robichau, for receiving her Bachelor's degree on Mother's Day weekend from Texas Christian University. Valerie is going to follow in her father's footsteps and pursue an accounting career.



Outdoor Décor—Alice and Calvin Bongers may have won Yard of the Month, but their grandchildren had a great time enhancing their outdoor décor.



One Hot Night—The 2nd annual SPPCC Crawfish Boil was a big hit! Held on May 1, the event attracted close to 120 people of all ages who consumed 230 pounds of crawfish! The event raised more than \$2,000! Thanks again to hosts John and Dee Davis, event coordinators Tom and Patricia Dornak, cooks Shawn Boatman and Mike Chiasson and sponsors

Shawn and Amy Boatman, Eileen and Billy Hartman, Amber and Tom Caver, Kim and Mike Evans, and Cathy and Bill French.

- ▶ **One Proud Grammy!** Judy Bunosky has been busy celebrating the graduations of two of her grandchildren. Kyle Hoelscher graduated from the University of Texas School of Business with a degree in Supply Chain Management and a minor in Finance. He is the son of Cindy (Bunosky) Hoelscher and Derek Hoelscher. Megan Florian graduated from Waltrip High School and will be attending Texas A&M University. She is the daughter of Cathy (Bunosky) and Eddie Florian.
- ▶ **On the Mend**—Get well wishes go to Michael McClung, who was recently in an automobile accident. We hope you have a speedy recovery!
- ▶ **Special Gift** - Sherry Pearce got an early **Mother's Day gift** when her son Sergeant Derek Myers visited for two weeks in April during leave from his military duties in Iraq. We appreciate his service and hope for your safe return.

Moving Forward! SPP is home to many 2010 high school graduates:

- Rebecca Jean Mayberry Hoffman graduated from St. Pius X High School and will attend Texas Christian University. She is the daughter of Martha Mayberry Hoffman and Fred Hoffman.
- Kelsey French graduated from Lamar High School and will attend the University of Kansas. She is the daughter of Cathy and Bill French.
- **Jake D'Eramo** graduated from St. Pius X High School and will attend Sam Houston State University. He is the son of **Rhonda and Len D'Eramo**.
- Ryan Moroney graduated from Waltrip High School and will attend either Texas Tech University or Texas A&M University. He is the son of Kathy and Ryan Moroney.
- Jared Klasen graduated from Waltrip High School and will attend Lone Star College, followed by Texas State University. He is the son of Karen and Rusty Klasen.
- Michael Rogers graduated from St. Thomas High School and will attend either University of Mississippi or Texas A&M University. He is the son of Pam and Steve Rogers.
- Reilly McClellan graduated from Lamar High School and will attend the University of Texas at Austin. She is the daughter of Anne and Mike McClellan.
- Chelsea Kathleen Fain graduated from Waltrip High School and will attend Texas A&M University in the fall. She is the daughter of Candy and George Fain.
- Keaton Opila graduated from St. Thomas High School and will attend either Texas Tech University or Texas A&M University. He is the son of Ray and Cassie Opila.
- Nicky Gavlick graduated from Waltrip High school and will attend Texas A&M University at Galveston. He is the son of Cristy Gavlick and Bob Gavlick.

Congratulations to them all! If you have a family member or neighbor who is graduating this year, please let us know so that we may recognize their accomplishment in our next issue.



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Share Your News—Please pass along any news of note about SPP residents so that 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 contacting Romi Sandel at 713-962-4171.

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

POLICE/FIRE: 911

CITY HELPLINE: 311

Citizens Patrol
713-824-5799

Deed Restrictions
713-305-5035

Traffic & Safety
713-824-5799

New Neighbor/Greeter
713-305-5036

Garden Club
713-681-6049

CP Vacation Watch
713-682-5959

Architectural Guidelines
713-956-1167

Plaza Pulse News
713-956-2474

SPP Historian
713-682-0920

Plaza Moms
713-476-9466

SPP Membership
713-683-6502

Park & City Liaison
713-688-7979

Pulse Advertising
713-398-3917

Men's Group
713-683-9945



SPP CALENDAR

JUNE 2010



= Trash and Yard Waste



= Curbside Recycling

SUNDAY MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY

<p>Deputy Constable Dispatch 713-755-7628</p>	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	<p>A Note About Trash: You can legally put your heavy trash out at 6:00 PM the Friday before your heavy trash day. To facilitate curbside pick-up, leave 3 feet between trash & recycling cans.</p>				

Oak Forest Veterinary Clinic

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Men's Group Off to Ballpark June 3

by Chuck Blesener

The active members of the SPP Men's Group met at Yank Sing Restaurant in May for their monthly lunch and meeting. The group's next meeting will be Thursday, June 10, 11:30 am at Live Oak Bar & Grill, 10444 Hempstead & Dacoma. All men of the neighborhood are invited to join them for lunch and friendly conversation.

The group's next trip is planned for Thursday, June 3 when they will travel to Minute Maid Park to see the Astros play the Washington Nationals in a day game. The trip will include lunch and a tour of the stadium. Their next trip will be a late summer museum trip on Wednesday, August 25. While this may be a Men's Group, the trips are open to all men and women of Shepherd Park Plaza and their friends over the age of 50.

For more information, contact Chuck Blesener at ccbles@earthlink.net or 713-683-9945.



Shop & Swap with Plaza Moms

In June, please join the Plaza Moms for the Purge > Recycle > Donate > SWAP Meeting Monday, June 21, 7 pm at the home of Susan Fitzpatrick, 902 Bethlehem. What's a PURGE > RECYCLE > DONATE > Swap Meeting?

Ladies, we have all done it... You were at the store, you saw a great blouse or maybe a scarf that you just had to have. You bought it, and there it hung in your closet. Perhaps you still have a skirt in your closet that still has the tags. Maybe there is a scoop neck on the hanger that you wore once but just can't seem to wear it again. Now is your chance to jump on the recycle wagon. Bring between 1 and 3 of these items you don't wear, just can't seem to part with, but would love to see them put to good use on someone else. At the meeting, we will all have a chance to swap our wearable items. And those that don't find a good home – we will donate. So join your friends and neighbors for a fun evening of noshing & swapping!

Summer is here and so are Plaza Moms Summer Nights Out! Bring the whole family for an evening of fun in the cul-de-sac at 1053 Candlelight around 6:30 pm. Bring some food to throw on the grill, drinks, bug spray, riding toys for the kids. And get ready to enjoy a fun summer evening with your neighbors. For more information about Plaza Moms, contact Julie Landreth at julie@julielandreth.com or 713-476-9466.



Garden Club Working to Beautify SPP

Installation of SPP Garden club officers was held May 10 at Sweet Temptations Restaurant. New officers for 2010-2011 are: Alice Bongers - President, Monica Krause - 1st Vice-President, Pat Kubin - 2nd Vice- President, Sherry Pearce - Secretary, Romi Sandel - Treasurer. Each officer was presented with a beautiful flower covered hat and long-stem metal flower to match their hats. Everyone had a wonderful time. Cindy Wolfram received the May Yard of the Month award.

The Garden Club is finishing up the work on the Ella and Thornton entrance beds and the flowerbeds at the park. The Garden Club has also begun work on the JoAnne Payne Memorial Butterfly Garden in the cul-de-sac on the 1000 block of Richelieu. Donations for this memorial are still being accepted as the project is about \$300 short of funds. JoAnne Payne was very instrumental in forming the Garden Club in 1975 and was the group's first president. She also was instrumental in forming many, many programs that our neighborhood still enjoys today. Donations for this project can be made out to the SPP Garden Club and mailed to 1038 Richelieu Lane, 77018. Please come out and see the work that the Garden Club is working on to beautify our neighborhood.



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Welcome to the Neighborhood!

SECTION 1 Bill & Stephanie Kearney
955 Chamboard

SECTION 3 Paul & Linda Griffin
1063 Martin

SECTION 4 Greg Walls & Nikki Bui
1028 Candlelight

April YARDS OF THE MONTH

Section 1:
GARY & DEBBIE CARAWAY
1023 CHAMBOARD

Section 3:
JOHN DECKER
1010 CHESHIRE

Section 2:
JAMES & RITA ROGERS
1127 CHANTILLY

Section 4:
BOB & PAULETTE PARTIN
1062 CANDLELIGHT

SPP Wants to Welcome You

Thanks again to Rainbow Lodge, 2011 Ella, for the donation of gift certificates to new neighbors! The Rainbow Lodge offers dinner, lunch and Sunday brunch—check out their menu at www.rainbow-lodge.com. If you have moved into the neighborhood recently and have not yet been greeted by the SPP Civic Club, please contact Eileen Hartman at 713-305-5036 or eileen@hartmanassociates.com.

Got Email?

If you provide the SPP Civic Club with your email address, you can receive periodic alerts about important news in our area. And if your email address changes, please be sure to provide your updated address to SPPCC at membership@shepherdparkplaza.com and advertising@shepherdparkplaza.com.

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Josef F. Buenker
Shepherd Park Plaza Resident

1201 Prince Street
Houston, Texas 77008
Phone: (713)868-3388



LEANN SALMONS
BROKER ASSOCIATE

832-868-9453

lsalmons@marthaturner.com

Area Specialist

Circle of Excellence Award Winner

Certified Marketing Specialist

Lifelong Shepherd Park Plaza Resident

Martha Turner

PROPERTIES