



THE PLAZA PULSE

SHEPHERD PARK PLAZA CIVIC CLUB

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June 2016

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Share Your News!

Please pass along any news of note about SPP residents so 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 by contacting your section rep (see names on p.2)

MEETING ON SPEED CUSHIONS SET FOR JUNE 28TH

On June 28th, at 6:00 p.m. at Durham Elementary, the City of Houston will host a "Community Feedback" meeting to discuss a proposal to install "speed cushions" in Shepherd Park Plaza and Candlelight Plaza as a result of a recent traffic study. Speed cushions are less likely to interfere with emergency vehicle (firetruck, ambulance, police) access than speed bumps. Please join the meeting to learn more about this proposal or to provide some feedback on your personal experiences or thoughts on the matter. For more information, click on this link: <http://www.houstontx.gov/council/committees/tti/20140911/ntmp.pdf> OR <https://www.publicworks.houstontx.gov/traffic/programs.html>



For a map of the proposed speed cushions, please refer to the SPP website.



PLAZA MOMS 4th of July Patriotic Parade and Celebration

Save the date for this annual event! It's a great opportunity to get out and socialize with the neighbors and celebrate our nation's independence!

When: Monday, July 4th, 9:00 a.m.

Where: Parade begins at 4919 Apollo

Go grab your red, white & blue hats, flags, banners and join us! Bikers and faster vehicles start here, and slower walkers with strollers, wagons and such can jump in at Bethlehem and Alba. Follow the parade route with us along Alba to Candlelight to Dunsmere and all the way to Shepherd Park for a post-parade celebration. There will be a waterslide this year so bring your sunscreen and sense of adventure! We again welcome our constable deputies and local firefighters to join the fun! We hope you will be there, too.

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Garden Club Rep. Vicki Brandt
Plaza Moms Co-Rep.
Shauna Tysor, Nicole Fowler
Men's Group Rep. Chuck Blesener
Pulse Editor: Roni Sandel
713-316-9688 or pulse@shepherdparkplaza.com
Pulse Co-Editor: Laurie Hardwick

Just a reminder that
the speed limit in
Shepherd Park Plaza
is 30 mph.



SPP Christmas in July: Save the Date

It's that time of year for the Second Annual Christmas In July gathering. The Holiday Season in Shepherd Park Plaza is a magical time of year! Lights, moveable figures, themed streets, musical lights—we've got it all.

We would like to keep the traditions of SPP strong by keeping the momentum going to further expand our Holiday spirit, so we're going to start the planning process for the 2016 decorating season. Join us for a night of idea-sharing and presentations by professionals. Invite a neighbor, drive over to Berryhill on 43rd, grab a margarita and come out to the Palapa to hear the following:

- ⇒ Street themes (old and new)
- ⇒ Lighting from a professional's viewpoint
- ⇒ Timers for lights and decorations
- ⇒ Wooden Artwork from Houston Yard Art
- ⇒ Street arch construction

SPP Christmas in July will be on **Wednesday, July 20th from 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.** at Berryhill on 43rd in the Palapa area.



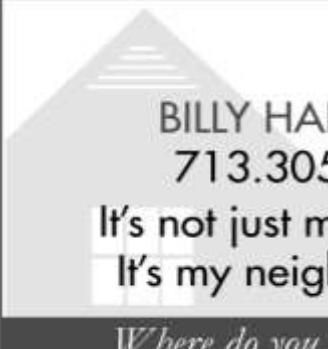
SHEPHERD PARK PLAZA TRAVELERS

The SPP Travelers group will board the bus and head north of Houston to Moorhead's Blueberry Farm to pick blueberries on their next bus trip on Friday, June 17th. After they have picked and eaten their fill, the group will go to IHOP in Porter for brunch. They have a smaller bus for this trip with a limited number of seats. For more information on this, or any future trip, contact Chuck Blesener at 713-683-9945 or ccbles77@gmail.com.

FRAUD ALERTS!

Every day, thousands of people are victims of identity theft. The scams can range from telephone solicitations, to stolen mail, to promises of a cash windfall. A couple of tips to safeguard your personal information:

- ⇒ Don't provide social security numbers or account numbers to someone initiating a call TO you.
- ⇒ Shred all credit card solicitations received in the mail before discarding.
- ⇒ Don't respond to emails promising a cash back reward, or a cash refund reward in return for sending them a check first for a "processing" fee.
- ⇒ Don't respond to phone calls saying a loved one needs immediate cash while they're traveling or because they are in jail without some sort of verification of their identity. Consider establishing a family "identity" question that you can ask to confirm it's actually your loved one.



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Citizens Patrol Stats

April 2016 Patrol Hours

Prepared by Rick Zebrak

WEEK	Driving	Walking/ Biking
1	17	4
2	16	9
3	16	6
4	20	3
TOTAL	69	22

The winner of the random \$10 bonus for April is Bob Wottrich. Patrollers who turn in at least 4 hours by the 5th of the month are eligible for a random drawing for a \$10 card. Gift cards for accumulated driving hours will be distributed at the monthly meeting. Please turn in your hours on time!

SHEPHERD PARK PLAZA CITIZENS PATROL WELCOMES VOLUNTEERS! YOU CAN SIGN UP TODAY

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 respected volunteer by signing up today!

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 nationwide.

Contact Rick Zebrak at 713-686-8873 or rickzee@att.net for information. Training for Citizen Patrol certification is the second Tuesday of each month at 9455 West Montgomery at 7:00 p.m. Anyone in the neighborhood is invited to join the COP group. More eyes on our neighborhood means more awareness of suspicious activity. HPD Citizen Patrol Applications can be downloaded at http://www.houstontx.gov/police/vip/vip_citzpatrol.htm. The applications must be sent in one week prior to the training.

SAFETY FOR SCHOOL KIDS!



School's out for the Summer! Not only is that a song from a few years ago, it's a warning to watch for school children outside playing more on the streets and sidewalks and near parks. They're out walking, bike riding and playing ball. Watch your driving speed! Watch your distractions from cell phones! Stay focused and prevent accidents!

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Mike Clark, Broker Assoc.
mike@clarkkotzurteam.com
713.906.4148 Cell
SFP Resident

Debbie Kotzur, REALTOR®
debbie@debbiekotzur.com
713.822.4951 Cell

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

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- Bedside Delivery
- Hospice Care Services
- Free Home/Office Delivery
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- Compounding (hormone replacement, Pain management)
- Disability Care Services
- Group Homes Services
- Veterinary Pharmacy Services
- Medication Management for Memory Care, Dementia, Alzheimer's
- Care & Group Homes
- Competitive Pricing Program

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around the neighborhood

Congratulations to Mikayla McClung, daughter of Michael & Robin McClung. Mikayla graduates from Waltrip High School on May 28th.



Congratulations to Bruno and Merle Majewski who just celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary. We're hoping Bruno has a speedy recovery from his recent health issues.

Prayers to Mel Lofton for a return to strong health after some health issues. Mel recently celebrated his 89th birthday, so we know he's tough enough to weather the storm.

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**Plaza
Moms**

Plaza Moms Group

June Meeting: Tuesday, June 14th at 7:00 p.m. @ 5019 Alba

Need a babysitter this summer? Join us at the June meeting to meet some neighborhood babysitters and get their contact info. (If you have a high school or college student who is looking for sitting jobs this summer have them contact Lorraine at lmcintosh03@hotmail.com. They can attend the meeting and hand out contact info.)

Host: Lorraine Cole Co-Hosts: Susan Bradley, Ginny Sandlin

Play Date (Weekend, All Ages), Saturday, June 18th at 10:00 a.m. @ Shepherd Park

The monthly play date on weekends will be held the third Saturday of every month. This play date is open to all ages.

Ladies Night Out, Wednesday, June 22nd at 8:00 p.m. @ Plonk!

Come have a glass of wine or a cold beer!

SAVE THE DATE!

July 4th Parade & Celebration, Monday, July 4th at 9:00 a.m.

4th of July Parade will be on 4th of July. We will start the parade at 4919 Apollo (at Bethlehem) and parade to the park at 9am. We will have a waterslide and snow cones at the park.

2016/2017 Plaza Moms Kick Off Party, Monday, August 29th at 8:00 p.m.

Join us for the annual Plaza Moms Society Kick Off Party on Mon. Aug. 29 from 8-10pm. Location TBD. There will be drinks and lite bites. Come mix and mingle, pay your annual dues, meet your new officers for the 2016/17 season, and sign up to volunteer for events.

If you would like to get more involved with Plaza Moms think about becoming an officer next season. We are in search of a new Treasurer, Ladies Night Out Coordinator, Sponsorship Officer, and a new role of Play Date Coordinator. If you would like more information on any of these roles email plaza.moms.houston@gmail.com. An added perk is your dues for the season will be waived. Find us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/groups/plazamoms

Call is handled by Deputy Constable

*Figures are for entire contract including SPP and Candlelight Plaza



April 2016

ALARM...7	ANIMAL/HUMANE...1	BURGLARY OF HABITAT...1
Burglary of vehicle...1	MILES PATROLLED...4218	Traffic initiative...4
Information call...2	CITIZEN CONTACTS...348	Welfare checks...2
Suspicious Vehicle...1	Criminal mischief...1	Traffic Stops...3
Solicitors...3	Thefts...1	Park Checks...7
Home Invasion...1	Open Door/Window...3	Vacation Watch...57
Traffic Accident...1	SUSPICIOUS PERSON...5	*****

Vacation Watch registry (1 week in advance)...<http://pct1constable.net/sign-up/vacation-watch/>

Because of changes in how patrolling is being done, our Citizens Patrol Group no longer has a help line or the capability to handle house watches or vacation watches. This function is better done by our Constable's Deputies. To have your home placed on a watch list you can go online to <http://pct1constable.net/sign-up/vacation-watch/> and enter the information. You can also use this site to sign up for email alerts from the Constable's office. If you do not have a computer or online capability, there are a few paper copies of the required form in the Citizens Patrol box on the porch at 1010 Richelieu. The paper copy must be faxed or mailed at least one week before the requested watch date. Stay tuned for updates to our website for links to the vacation watch set-up.

MEET OUR NEW DEPUTY

We are pleased to welcome Deputy Amaro Garza, Jr. to the SPP family. Deputy Garza is a Houstonian and a graduate of the University of Houston. He played linebacker for the Oklahoma Sooners until an injury ended his football career. His law enforcement experience includes eight years with the Precinct 3 Harris County Constable's office and two years with the Houston Independent School District Police Department. Deputy Garza says that he loves our neighborhood and looks forward to meeting everyone. He will be patrolling at night and Deputy Moulden will remain our daytime deputy. We are extremely fortunate to have this dedicated law enforcement professional on our team.



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CURB NUMBER PAINTING

By: **Chuck Blesener**

We have recently had the basic curb numbers repainted in front of the homes in section three. Your civic club negotiated a lower price with a contractor and locked in this price for four years. Next year we will do section four and then start over again with section one the following year. We are painting two numbers at each home. On corner lots the numbers are located in front of the home and at the corner. On all other homes the numbers are on each side of the driveway near the curb.

While everyone is supposed to have address numbers posted on their home, these highly visible reflective numbers painted at the curb helps emergency vehicles find your address when seconds count. We often have other people coming into the neighborhood offering to paint custom numbers in other colors, school logos, or logos of sports teams. Use caution in dealing with unknown individuals and businesses.



GARDEN CLUB NEWS



SPP Garden Club Meeting

The **May** meeting was held Monday, May 9th, at Ruth Rock's home. It was the club's annual banquet and Installation of Officers for the 2016-2017 year. Although the club does not meet during the summer months, its officers and board will be busy planning programs and events for the new term which starts in September. If you would like to know more about the Garden Club, please call Debbie Elliott, Membership Chair, at 713-686-7571 or Vicki Brandt, President, at 281-888-6306.



June Yard of the Month

Ruth Rock – 1143 Chamboard

Ruth and her husband love their large trees as they provide shade, but they find it a challenge to grow anything that flowers in such heavy shade. Each year Ruth experiments with what looks great at the garden center and if it works, replicates it the next year, such as the Mona Lavender, which does wonderfully in the shade. Ruth has also found advice from Garden Club members helpful for suggesting 'no care' shade plants – like Ginger plants. Ruth commented, "I am learning that it takes a variety of shapes and colors to make a pleasing garden, and embracing plants that add light to the dark green foliage and deep shade". Her yard is evidence that she is a quick study!



The beautiful Mona Lavender in Ruth's yard is a cultivar (see picture at right); it has abundant lavender-purple flowers that complement its dark green leaves – with purple undersides and stems. These plants are shade lovers and easy to grow. They can be planted from cuttings in fertile, well-drained soil. They also do well in-doors as well. Such a beautiful and versatile plant!



SPP MEN'S GROUP

The SPP Men's Group will meet for their regular monthly luncheon on Thursday, June 9th, at La Hacienda Mexican Restaurant. They will be considering nominations for their annual John Wayne award, to be given to a deserving resident of the Shepherd Park Plaza neighborhood.

The group is open to all men of the neighborhood and meets at 11:30 a.m. on the second Tuesday of each month. For more information contact Chuck Blesener at 713-683-9945 or ccbles77@gmail.com.

FATHER'S DAY IS SUNDAY, JUNE 19TH.

Have you thought about sports tickets, a skydiving adventure, movie tickets or a couple of golf lessons for the hard-to-buy-for Dad in your life?

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Important Numbers Police/Fire: 911 City Helpline: 311

Citizens Patrol 713-686-8873	Deed Restrictions 713-316-5255	Plaza Moms 281-216-3452	New Neighbor/Greeter 713-775-0307	Garden Club 281-888-6306
Architectural Guidelines 713-316-5255	Plaza Pulse News 713-316-9688	SPP Historian 281-382-0493	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

June 2016



= Trash and Yard Waste



= Curbside Recycling

SUNDAY

MONDAY





TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

Reminder about Heavy Trash: Our heavy trash pickup is the <u>3rd Thursday</u> of each month. Tree waste is picked up in ODD months, and Junk waste in the EVEN months.					May 27	28
29	30 	31	June 1 SPPCC Board Mtg 	2	3	4
5	6	7 	8	9 Men's Group 	10	11
12	13	14 Plaza Moms Meeting 	15	16 HEAVY JUNK Waste	17 SPP Travelers Trip	18 Plaza Moms Play Date
19 HAPPY FATHER'S DAY 	20	21 	22 Plaza Moms Ladies Night Out	23	24	25
26	27	28 	29	30	July 1	2

Just a reminder to all residents that the curbside at Chamboard and Alba is not a location to place **your tree waste or dump other unwanted items. Remind your yard crews of this also. It's illegal** to dump items at this location, as well as unsightly. Please be vigilant if you notice someone dumping items on this site and contact 3-1-1 and report it to the City of Houston for removal. Or you can visit the 3-1-1 website at http://www.houstontx.gov/311/garbage_etc.html. You can also contact the **Constable's office to report offenders.**





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

PRSR STD
US POSTAGE
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MAY Yards of the Month

Section 1:

1051 Curtin
Brenda & James McKee

Section 3:

1038 Martin
Martha & Britt
Braddick

Section 2:

1138 Thornton
Sheri Beasley

Section 4:

1062 Candlight
Paulette & Bob Martin

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.

Summer Safety Tips

HYDRATION

- Your body is 60% water
- Drink at least 9 cups of water per day (13, if you are male)
- Drink 4-8 oz. every 15-20 minutes during exercise
- Caffeinated and alcoholic drinks actually dehydrate

ROAD SAFETY

- *Jumper Cables*
- *A flashlight*
- *First aid kit*
- *Plenty of snacks and water*
- *Extra cell phone charger*

never

Leave a pet
in a hot car

PROTECT YOUR SKIN

- **IDEAL SUNSCREEN AMOUNT** is 1 oz. of sunscreen (a shot glass) each time you apply
- **REAPPLY** sunscreen every 2 hours
- **LIMIT TIME IN THE SUN** from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
- **USE MULTIPLE SHADE OPTIONS** including sunglasses, hats, and protective clothing

AT THE POOL

Fence Around the Pool
Have Pool Rules
Keep Your Eyes on the Kids
Put Away All Pool Toys
After Use

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