

Dear New Neighbor:

On behalf of the Shepherd Park Plaza Civic Club, welcome to the best neighborhood in the City of Houston! We are glad to have you here.

The Shepherd Park Plaza Civic Club is your Civic Club, comprised of caring and concerned neighbors who generously volunteer their time and talents toward preserving our property values and the stability of the quality of the life we enjoy in this great neighborhood.

Some of the services your Civic Club provides are:

- **Deed Restriction Enforcement and Architectural Control** - protecting the quality of life and property values in SPP.
- **Constable Patrol Program** - coordinating the activities of our full-time Harris County Deputy Constables patrolling Shepherd Park Plaza.
- **Safety and Security** - regularly meeting with HPD to discuss crime prevention. Building rapport with local law enforcement and fire department first responders through frequent interaction and demonstrations of appreciation; supporting SPP's Citizen's Patrol program.
- **Recognition of Yard of Month and Holiday Yard Décor Award Winners** - to encourage neighborhood holiday spirit and property beautification.
- **Community Relations** - close involvement and communication with the City and other area civic clubs on matters of mutual concern such as roads, utilities, neighborhood crime prevention, park maintenance and other activities.
- **Common Area Maintenance** - maintaining signs and flowerbeds at SPP's entrances. The Civic Club also regularly has painted curb numbers repainted so guests and first responders can easily find their destination.
- **The Plaza Pulse** - our monthly newsletter to keep you informed.
- **SPP Website** - contains valuable information including important contact information for the City, Civic Club officers and electronic copies of current and past issues of the Plaza Pulse newsletter.
- **Neighborhood Social Gatherings** - The Civic Club organizes and supports social gatherings to help maintain the sense of community within SPP. These include the annual business meeting in the spring (the "Spring Fling") when officer elections are held.

The above list represents only a portion of the many projects that the Civic Club undertakes each year. We extend an invitation to you to join us and participate in this

worthwhile activity. Annual membership dues are only \$25. As you are completing the SPPCC membership form, **please** consider financially supporting our Constable Patrol Program and volunteering some time for our Citizen's Patrol. The Shepherd Park Plaza Citizens on Patrol program has been recognized as the most successful and active citizen's patrol program in the City of Houston and contributes significantly to maintaining the safety and security of our neighborhood.

Sincere regards and welcome to the neighborhood!

Shepherd Park Plaza Civic Club, Inc.

## **SHEPHERD PARK PLAZA SECTION INFORMATION**

Did you know that you not only live in one of the best kept secrets in Houston subdivisions, but one of only 4 with value growth for seven consecutive years? Within Shepherd Park Plaza are four Sections constituting of just more than 700 homes. Each Section has a Section Representative, a resident of the Section they represent on the Civic Club board. These Representatives distribute neighborhood flyers, choose the Yard of the Month winners, and help organize neighborhood-wide events.

Deed restrictions for all sections are available online at [www.shepherdparkplaza.com](http://www.shepherdparkplaza.com)

### **Section One:**

4400-4511 Apollo, 900-1191 Chamboard, 900-1187 Curtin

Contact: [section1@shepherdparkplaza.com](mailto:section1@shepherdparkplaza.com)

### **Section Two:**

4602-4614 Alba, 4703-4714 Apollo, 902-11-6 Chantilly, 4602-4619 Chantilly Circle, 4703-4719 Clift Haven, 4603-4619 Dunsmere, 4615-4718 Golf, 942-1147 Thornton, 4702-4719 Thornton Circle

Contact: [section2@shepherdparkplaza.com](mailto:section2@shepherdparkplaza.com)

### **Section Three:**

4723-4729 Apollo, 4702-4729 Brian Haven, 1002-1125 Cheshire, 1002-1116 Martin

Contact: [section3@shepherdparkplaza.com](mailto:section3@shepherdparkplaza.com)

### **Section Four:**

48-3-4907 Apollo, 4803-4805 Brian Haven, 1002-1139 Candlelight, 1002-1139 Richelieu

Contact: [section4@shepherdparkplaza.com](mailto:section4@shepherdparkplaza.com)



## TALKING TRASH

Our regular collection day is **Tuesday** trash can be placed on the curb for pickup no earlier than 6 pm on Monday evening. This includes our rolling bins as well as bags of lawn clippings. When you place your bins, be sure they are curbside (not in the street) and placed at least 3 ft. apart. *Generally speaking* after a Monday holiday, trash and recycling will be picked up on Wednesday.

Lawn clippings must be bagged in the approved clear, biodegradable bags with the city-approved logo. If you pay a lawn service to bag your clippings, they are responsible for removing them from your property. Please do not leave lawn clipping bags or bundles on the curb beyond the Monday evening thru pick up time frame. If you are self-bagging your clippings, please do not place on the curbside until the stated pick up time frame.

Heavy trash collection is the 3rd Thursday of each month. Tree waste is collected in the odd numbered months and junk waste is collected in the even numbered months.

If you have damaged containers or are in need of the registered containers, call the City of Houston at 3-1-1.

## **A Short History of Shepherd Park Plaza by Dorothy Lofton**

Long before the white man came, Orcoquisac Indians hunted deer, bear and buffalo in this area. They were a small tribe, which roamed the lower San Jacinto and Trinity River valleys, fishing and hunting in family groups along the upper reaches of Galveston Bay.

Evidence of several of their camps has been uncovered along Spring and Cypress creeks. In winter they settled into semi-permanent villages in the northern part of Harris County where they hunted and sometimes cultivated maize.

Farming has long been a part of life in this area. (Even today we have a Community Garden, managed by SPP's own Beth Galiano, at the entrance to our subdivision on Alba.) Glenn Holliday, first president of our Civic Club, recalled growing up in the early 1920s on a truck farm on what is now Donovan Street.

The area where we live (here in Shepherd Park Plaza) was once the location of vegetable and dairy farms; the Farmers Market on Airline was created to provide a place for these small truck farmers to sell their produce. The subdivision as we know it today began with the sale of 222 lots on 10 blocks in what is now called Section One.

This sale was made to Suburban Homes Lumber / Oak Glen building Company on May 29, 1958 by Sweeney Estates, owned by John S. Mellinger, an attorney with offices in the old Union National Bank Building. In October 1958 the neighborhood newspaper, *The Leader*, reported that Ella Boulevard had been re-topped from W. 43rd to Pinemont. And, in September 1959 *The Leader* reported that "extensive... residential development was taking place right at our doorstep." Five model homes were built on Chamboard in Section One, just east of Alba.

Shepherd Park Plaza today encompasses four sections and 729 homes and is considered one of the best neighborhoods in the city - and one of the safest. In 1993 Shepherd Park Plaza's "Citizens on Patrol" under the leadership of Don Blaise was cited by the Houston Police Department for significantly reducing neighborhood crime.

## **CITIZEN PATROL**

*Sponsored By*

## **POLICE DEPARTMENT, CITY OF HOUSTON**

Dear New Resident:

Shepherd Park Plaza Patrol (SPPCP) was formed in August, 1991 and is made up of neighbors like yourself who have volunteered to patrol the neighborhood at scheduled times. Since the patrol started, crime has dropped by approximately 75%. One hour a week is the normally s patrol time. There are quarterly meetings to meet other volunteers, learn about the program, etc. The Patrol is completely financed by donations from Shepherd Park Plaza residents. As a Patroller, you are furnished with signs for your car so you are easily recognizable to the public.

Vacation Watch is available for weekends, vacations, etc. through our Constable Program. Patrollers are greatly needed, and we would appreciate your participation. Patrollers meet their neighbors, earn gas card credits for hours patrolled, and provide a valuable service to the new address you call home. For an application check the HPD website, or for more information contact me and let's discuss your options and interests.

For Vacation Watch information, please go the Constable's website via the link below:

<http://pct1constable.net/sign-up/vacation-watch>

## **SPP Constable Program**

SPPCC's 2023 Deputy Constable Patrol Fundraising Campaign is underway and if you've not yet contributed, it's not too late. The suggested donation is \$325 or just 90 cents a day—a lot less than a cup of Starbuck's coffee.

### **What do you get for \$325?**

Two uniformed deputies patrolling our neighborhood in a marked vehicle 80 hours per week. With these two shifts, we now have night and day coverage! Additionally, officers from the Constable's patrol division make numerous sweeps of SPP when our deputy is not on duty. There are not more dedicated officers on the force. They consider SPP their own neighborhood and are resolved to keep SPP a safe place to live. Their work hours are set by the SPP Board and are based on crime statistics for our neighborhood and the patrol hours of our Citizens Patrol. A great part of the time, our deputy is patrolling while we are all fast asleep.

### **Why do we need a Deputy Constable Patrol?**

Just open the newspaper and read about the crime in our city! The Houston Police Department is stretched to the limit and we have had instances in SPP where the police never responded to a call. Having an officer only a minute away is a great comfort and an even better deterrent to criminals.

### **Won't you send in your contribution today?**

The quicker we receive your donation, the better able we are to budget for the coming year. It also saves us the cost of mailing a second notice. If you can't afford the \$325 fee, please send what you can. Sadly, only 61% of SPP residents contribute to the program. The other 39% receive the benefits but contribute nothing to the program. If this trend continues, we will not have a program. If we had 100% participation, we could add an extra deputy to the program. Let's all get on board and support this important security program for our neighborhood.

<https://shepherdparkplaza.com/dues>



# Plaza GARDEN CLUB

Est. 1975

The Plaza Garden Club (established in 1975 as the Shepherd Park Plaza Garden Club) has been promoting the love of gardening, supporting neighborhood events and projects, and fostering friendship for over 40 years.



Monthly meetings are held at 6:45 pm the 2nd Monday of each month, September through May. The meetings typically include snacks and desserts, a program, a business meeting, and socializing. Programs are varied and include guest speakers, hands-on projects, and demonstrations. In December, in lieu of a meeting, members enjoy a festive annual Holiday Party.

The club also coordinates occasional outings, participates in various civic projects around the neighborhood, and hosts fundraising events.

Civic projects and fundraising events of the Garden Club include:

- Maintaining the Memorial Beds in Shepherd Park
- Gardening activities at Durham ES
- Assisting in the care of the GO/SPP Garden on Alba
- Supporting the maintenance of Ann's Labyrinth in Shepherd Park
- Hosting a biennial backyard garden tour of various neighborhood homes and points of interest where proceeds go towards local causes
- Hosting an annual plant sale fundraiser



Whether you are a master gardener, or just a beginner, we welcome all men and women in both **Shepherd Park Plaza** and **Candlelight Plaza** to join the Plaza Garden Club. No green thumb required! Annual dues are \$35.

**Want to know more? Contact us or visit our website for meeting dates and locations!**

Email: [gardenclub@shepherdparkplaza.com](mailto:gardenclub@shepherdparkplaza.com)

Website: <https://shepherdparkplaza.com/plaza-garden-club/>