



# THE PLAZA PULSE

SHEPHERD PARK PLAZA CIVIC CLUB

April 2019

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Vice President Courtney Selinidis  
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Plaza Moms Co-Rep. Rachel Nolan, Jeannine Petree  
**Men's Group Rep.** Chris Woodridge  
Pulse Editor: Romi Sandel  
713-316-9688 or [pulse@shepherdparkplaza.com](mailto:pulse@shepherdparkplaza.com)  
Pulse Co-Editor: Laurie Hardwick



## Backyard Garden Tour

Sunday April 7, 2019

11:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

(Rain Date is April 14, 2019)

Plan to join us for the 2019 Shepherd Park Plaza Backyard Tour including:

- ◆ Viewing four beautiful, distinct neighborhood backyards
- ◆ Exploring the Durham Elementary Outdoor Garden Classroom
- ◆ Buying plants for your own garden
- ◆ **Supporting the Girls Scouts' lemonade stands**

Tour benefits the neighborhood Constable Program & Durham Elementary

**Tickets \$10 (\$15 day of the event), children under 10 free**

Purchase online at [shepherdparkplaza.org](http://shepherdparkplaza.org),

from Garden Club members, or at 281-748-8126

(Available on the tour day at Durham Elementary and 1147 Thornton)

Have you always wondered what was hidden behind the gate on some of the **neighborhood's most interesting yards? Explore four of these yards and be amazed** at a gorgeous backyard pool oasis, a flourishing organic garden of vegetables, herbs and flowers, a backyard of fun edible plants, and a spectacular potted plant haven. **These yards capture their owners' individually unique and pleasing landscaping styles** - a delight for all to see.

Begin or end your tour with a stop at the Durham Elementary Gardens to see what the students have been busy planting!

If you get thirsty on your trek, lemonade will be available at one of the tour stops, compliments of Girl Scout Troops 122309 & 122272.

Once inspired, plan to purchase plants (1147 Thornton). This sale supports the **Garden Club's beautification projects. Great deals will be offered and the Boy Scouts** will be there to help load your purchases.

SPP

Wants to Welcome You

New to the neighborhood?  
Contact Shannon Zierau at  
713-775-0307 or  
[szierau@yahoo.com](mailto:szierau@yahoo.com) so we can  
welcome you officially.



## FIRST ANNUAL BBQ COOKOFF (Cinco de BBQ) MAY 5, 2019

Ladies and Gentlemen....**START YOUR COOKERS!** Shepherd Park Plaza and Candlelight Plaza's First Annual BBQ Cookoff (Cinco de BBQ) is scheduled for May 5th! This is a chance to show your thrilling grilling skills! But don't forget—this is still a good ole competition amongst neighbors. You'll get to grill, smoke and spice up your favorite meat for our panel of hungry judges. And if you don't want to compete in the meat category, try your hand at a pie or cobbler.

May 5, 2019 at 2:00 p.m. until the cows come home  
Candlelight Westside cul-de-sac

\$20 per adult, \$10 for children under 12, and free for kids under 5.

\$20 gets you 4 tickets to use on a meat serving, a side, a drink and a dessert. Additional tickets for \$5 each for those that want more! This event is open to all SPP residents and CP residents.

**The final details of the contestant's rules will be provided on our website by May 1st, but we're looking at four categories: Brisket, Ribs, Pork Butt and pie. Competitors will provide their own cooked meats or pies at the event. Due to logistics, it is recommended that contestants bring their cooked items to the event in warming trays.**

Contact Courtney Selinidis at [Courtney.Selinidis@gmail.com](mailto:Courtney.Selinidis@gmail.com) if you want to participate in this fun competitive event. All net proceeds benefit the Constable Patrol Program.



## NEIGHBORHOOD GARAGE SALE

The Annual SPP Neighborhood Garage Sale is scheduled for Saturday, April 27th starting at 8:00 a.m. If you are interested in participating, just clean out the garage, the spare bedroom and some closets and set up shop! The SPP Neighborhood Garage Sale has been occurring since 2012 and has become more popular every year. Have fun selling and shopping!

A few helpful tips for a successful garage sale:

- ◇ Be visible from the street. Put a sign or balloons in your yard if you are holding your sale at the back of your driveway.
- ◇ Make items visible. Move some items to your driveway toward the front of your house.
- ◇ Hang clothes instead of leaving them in boxes or folded on tables.
- ◇ **Price some items. It's not necessary to price every single item, but give shoppers an idea of what prices you expect so they aren't scared to ask.**
- ◇ Save your used grocery sacks to bag up items shoppers buy.
- ◇ Have plenty of change and small denominations ready.
- ◇ Be prepared for early bird shoppers arriving at or before 8:00 a.m.
- ◇ **Have a few very inexpensive items so people feel like they've gotten a bargain.**



Each home hosting a garage sale can place a sign in their yard and do other types of advertising. The Civic Club will have signs placed near the major entrances of SPP on the morning of the garage sale and place an ad in The Leader. In years past, we've had maps available, but this year we're going to advertise in The Leader instead. Good luck!



# SPRING FLING UPDATE



The Shepherd Park Plaza Civic Club held its Annual Business Meeting at the Spring Fling at Durham Elementary on March 24th. The event was changed up this year by making it a breakfast for dinner! There was a lively crowd, with a lot of young families, new residents, and long time residents that got to learn more about the groups and activities of our neighborhood.

The program was kicked off by the Civic Club President, Aurelien Bouchet and Hospitality Chair, Leslie Bordelon. A special appearance by two of our Constables was appreciated by the crowd, especially Deputy Preston's comment "see something, say something". The program included brief presentations by various groups in the neighborhood and Board members about all the activities in SPP. They talked about the Constable Program, Citizens Patrol Group, Plaza Moms, The Garden Club, the Christmas arches, Durham Elementary, the annual garage sale and more. Durham Elementary Principal, Dr. Amy Poerschke spoke briefly about Durham, especially the upcoming 50th Anniversary.

A special thanks to Leslie Bordelon, Courtney Selinidis, and the Board members who cooked pancakes, and to Garden Club for serving desserts. Thanks also to the Plaza Moms group for providing babysitting.

Last but not least, the new Board, Section Reps and Committee Chairmen were elected (see list at right).

Position	2019
President	Courtney Selinidis
Vice President	Jesse Yoburn
Treasurer	Tom Caver
Secretary	Kelly McNeill
Constable Patrol Coordinator	Bill Scheel
Citizens Patrol Coordinator	Deborah DeBram
	Katherine Peale
Deed Restrictions & Architectural Control	Darryl Rickaway
Entrance Bed Maintenance	Garden Club TBD
	Shannon Zierau
	Fatima Gilbert
Greeters	Courtney Siegmund
	Leslie Bordelon
Hospitality	Leslie Bordelon
Historian	Aurelien Bouchet
Membership	Maureen Sullivan
Parks/City Liaison	Deborah DeBram
	Katherine Peale
Publicity/Advertising	Holly Inderrieden
Webmaster / Facebook	Jesse Yoburn
Pulse Editor	Diane Scardino
Pulse Co-Editors	Romi Sandel & Laurie Hardwick
	Monique Krause
Section I Rep	Monique Krause
Section II Rep	Haley New
Section III Rep	Romi Sandel
Section IV Rep	Natalie Denise

See related article on page 6 about special recognition to Chuck Blesener.



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## Call is handled by Deputy Constable

\*Figures are for entire contract including SPP and Candlight Plaza

### February 2019

TRAFFIC STOP...13	Contract checks...148	DISTURBANCE/LOUD NOISE...5
Follow-Up...2	Miles Patrolled...5344	Animal Aggressive...1
Writ...4	MEET THE CITIZEN...76	Disturbance (ALL)...4
Suspicious Vehicle...5	Suspicious Persons...6	Discharge Firearms...1
Alarm...4	Traffic Citations...1	Special Assignment...4
Information call...1	Park Checks...4	Abandoned Vehicle...2
Vacation Watch...19	Traffic Initiative...17	Other...2

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

SIGN UP FOR THE CONSTABLE OFFICE'S NEWSLETTER...<http://pct1constable.net/sign-up> then click Newsletter



## Durham Elementary News

Spring is in the air at Durham Elementary, and we have lots of fun community events planned! Join us for Durham's 50th birthday celebration on April 6th and much more! Go to [www.DurhamTurns50.com](http://www.DurhamTurns50.com) for more information.

**durham elementary**  
**50TH BIRTHDAY PARTY!**  
 APRIL 6, 2019 | 1 - 4 PM | 4803 BRINKMAN

- FREE FOR THE ENTIRE COMMUNITY!
- WE INVITE OUR NEIGHBORS TO WALK OR BIKE TO THE EVENT
- PRE-ORDER YOUR 50TH COOKBOOK AT [DURHAMTURNS50.COM](http://DURHAMTURNS50.COM) BY APRIL 3

As a neighborhood resident, you can make an impact on your local school just by participating in our Spirit Nights at local businesses. When you **mention Durham at checkout, we'll receive a portion of the proceeds.** This month's Spirit Night is at Chil-Fila (at 925 North Loop by Home Depot) on April 10th from 5:00 p.m.—8:00 p.m. Check our Facebook page for more information.

Durham PTA is also hosting a book fair this month. Community members are invited to come purchase books on Wednesday, April 17th from 3:00 p.m.—6:00 p.m. **For every book you purchase, you'll be able to get one of equal or lesser value FREE!** All proceeds will go toward new books for our school library.

Follow Spotty all the way to Durham Elementary!



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# Citizens Patrol Stats

## February 2019 Patrol Hours

Prepared by Deborah DeBram & Katherine Peale

WEEK	Walking/ Biking	Driving
1	1	9
2	0	6
3	1	10
4	0	12
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>37</b>

### SHEPHERD PARK PLAZA CITIZENS PATROL WELCOMES VOLUNTEERS!

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 volunteer by signing up today! Contact Deborah DeBram or Katherine Peale at 713-812-7626 or [algebrakp@aol.com](mailto:algebrakp@aol.com) for more information.

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.

The winner of the \$10 random drawing is Rick Zebrak. Patrollers who turn in at least 4 driving hours by the 5th of the month are eligible for this drawing. **We need volunteers. Training is just a few hours and you can be on your way to helping us protect the neighborhood.**



During the SPP Garden Club's March 11th meeting at the lovely home of Julie Hetrick (thanks Julie!), the members created a mixed container for sun or shade to take home. Each pot consisted of a "Thriller, Spiller and Filler", the magic formula to mix different plants into one container and create a wonderful arrangement to adorn patios or front porches. Daisy Woodward brought some succulents to share with the members from her mother's (Colleen Roberts) garden.

Of course the 2nd Biennial Garden Tour planning is progressing nicely. All of our members have tickets to sell, so look for one of your neighbors to purchase your tickets. It is not too late to volunteer to help with the tour or plant sale on Sunday, April 7th.

Our next meeting is graciously hosted by Maureen Sullivan at her home at 1054 Cheshire. The program on Native Plants/Pollinators has Traci Henderson as our speaker. The meeting starts at 6:45 p.m. on Monday, April 15th (Note: this is a date change from our regular meeting!) We would love to have you join us!

*Shepherd Park Plaza Garden Club is open to all SPP residents, whether green thumb or brown. Meetings and outings are held monthly throughout the school year. For information about any of our events, please reach out to Colette Robichau 713-201-3322 [crobichau@comcast.net](mailto:crobichau@comcast.net)*

### YARD OF THE MONTH:

Congratulations to Ruth Rock at 1143 Chamboard Lane! She is our March Yard of the Month recipient. Her yard has beautiful blooming azaleas, knock out roses, rosemary, ginger, Japanese yews and jasmine ground cover. In addition to 2 magnificent trees, she has a lovely container of snapdragons and pansies.



  
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Save the Date! Plaza Moms Annual Easter Egg Hunt  
 Saturday, April 13<sup>th</sup> 9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. @ Shepherd Park  
 Join your fellow Plaza Moms for the annual Easter Egg Hunt. Please look for more details on GroupSpaces and the Plaza Moms FB page. As a reminder, this will be a Member Only Event. Rain Date - Saturday, April 20<sup>th</sup>



April Social - Pamper Yourself  
 Tuesday, April 16<sup>th</sup>, 7:30 p.m. - **Courtney Siegmund's Home @ 1035 Martin**  
**As a mom you spend a lot of time taking care of others and it's easy to forget that you deserve to be pampered too.** Take a break from your daily routine and pamper yourself. We have lots of surprises in store, so please join us for a night of pampering.



May Social - Babysitters Resource  
 Tuesday, May 21<sup>st</sup>, 7:30 p.m. - Plaza Mom Member Home - TBD  
**Did you know that Plaza Mom's has Babysitter Resource on Facebook under Files (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/plazamoms/files/>).** Everyone knows that a good babysitter is a treasure - come by and meet some of our neighborhood favorites. Some of the sitters even provide other services like pet sitting, lifeguarding, or decorative cookies for parties.

New Plaza Moms Officers Needed for the 2019/20 School Year  
 Would you like to be more involved in Plaza Moms? Well you are in luck as we are looking for some new fresh faces to replace those of us that are finishing up our terms as Plaza Moms Officers in August. We would love to have you join us! If you are interested **please don't hesitate to reach out at our next Social or via Facebook.**

Join Plaza Moms Today!  
 Pay your dues online at <http://groupspaces.com/PlazaMoms/> - 2018/19 dues are \$35 per school year and can be paid online or at our next event via cash or check. Find us on Facebook: [www.facebook.com/groups/plazamoms](http://www.facebook.com/groups/plazamoms)

**\*Note: All Plaza Moms events as well as our FB page will be members only again this year. We wouldn't want you to miss out on all of the fun, so join/renew your membership today!**

Special Recognition for Chuck Blesener

Longtime resident Chuck Blesener joined the Spring Fling gathering but wasn't told the reason for the request for his attendance until he got there! Chuck was honored for all his hard work in the neighborhood and especially Ann's Labyrinth in Shepherd Park by a commemorative plaque on the Labyrinth bench. A framed, signed picture of the plaque was given to Chuck as a special memento. Next time you're in Shepherd Park, stop by and take a look at this plaque.



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Important Numbers Police/Fire: 911 City Helpline: 311

Citizens Patrol 713-812-7626	Deed Restrictions 713-316-5255	Plaza Moms 281-216-3452	New Neighbor/Greeter 713-775-0307	Garden Club 713-201-3322
Architectural Guidelines 713-316-5255	Plaza Pulse News 713-316-9688	SPP Historian 713-851-3000	Traffic & Safety 713-681-7479	Constable Dispatch 713-755-7628
SPP Membership 713-338-2989	City Liaison 713-688-7979	Pulse Advertising 713-688-0574 or 713-681-3600	Men's Group 832-623-4268	HPD 713-884-3131

**SPP CALENDAR** April 2019

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Mar 31	April 1	2	3	4	5	6
			SPPCC Board Mtg			Durham elementary 50th BIRTHDAY PARTY!
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Backyard Garden Tour						Plaza Moms Easter Egg Hunt
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
	Garden Club Meeting		Durham ES Book Sale	HEAVY JUNK Waste		
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
Happy Easter						Neighborhood Garage Sale
28	29	30	May 1	2	3	4
			SPPCC Board Mtg			

= Trash and Yard Waste  
 = Curbside Recycling (no glass!)



Street sign down? Traffic light blinking? Tree limb down over the street? The City of Houston has a dedicated phone line for these types of non-emergency related issues. You can dial 3-1-1 from any land or cellular line or you can download the app to your SmartPhone.



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March Yards of the Month	
<b>Section 1:</b> 1146 Chamboard Kelley Damiani & Michael McKenna	<b>Section 3:</b> 1016 Cheshire Veloyce & Michael Dorn
<b>Section 2:</b> 1238 Thornton Sheri Beasley	<b>Section 4:</b> 1119 Candlelight Carolyn & Daniel Barrett



# THE PLAZA PULSE

SHEPHERD PARK PLAZA CIVIC CLUB

Shepherd Park Plaza Civic Club  
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