



THE PLAZA PULSE

SHEPHERD PARK PLAZA CIVIC CLUB

December 2019

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5TH ANNUAL *Wine &* **CRAFT BEER** C R A W L

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2019
3:30-5:30 P.M. | CHANTILLY LN

TICKETS ARE \$50 (\$30 FOR "FOOD ONLY")

PURCHASE EVENT TICKETS

ONLINE AT SHEPHERDPARKPLAZA.COM

OR CASH/ CHECKS PAYABLE TO: SPPCC, INC

C/O EMILY & TOM LEFFLER, 1067 CHANTILLY LN 713-628-4210

See Page 4 for more information on this year's Wine & Craft Beer Crawl



SPP
Wants to Welcome You

New to the neighborhood?
Contact Fatima Gilbert at
Fatima.Gilbert8@gmail.com
so we can welcome you
officially.

Safety!

We can't stress it enough, but there are lots of ways to help you and your family stay safe this Christmas season. Take a look at the "Around the Neighborhood" section and PIP article in this issue of the Pulse. We cover porch pirates, shopping mall safety, car safety, and much more. Don't get so "wrapped" up in the Holiday season that you don't pay attention to your surroundings. We've even covered New Year's Eve!

CHRISTMAS DECORATING AWARD JUDGING SET TO BEGIN DECEMBER 15TH

It's that time of year again where our residents, nearby neighbors and other Houstonians look forward to the yard decorations for the holidays in Shepherd Park Plaza. Whether you favor arches or a whimsical theme or you're going more along the lines of Clark Griswold, it's time to drag those decorations out of storage and get them set up. But you better hurry—the judges (aka Santa's elves) will have their tally sheets ready to go on several evenings in mid-December. Try your hand at one of the categories below to see if you can win one of the following in 1st or 2nd place:

- | | | |
|--------------------|------------------|-----------------------------|
| * Best Overall | * Best Religious | * Most Original |
| * Best Traditional | * Best Novelty | * Best Lighting |
| * Best Door | * Best Window | * Best Street or Cul-de-sac |

After winners in the above categories are chosen, the following categories are judged by Section Representatives for each of the four sections. Homes that have already received an award are not eligible in these categories.

- | | |
|---------------------|------------------------|
| * Section Favorites | * Children's Favorites |
|---------------------|------------------------|

Positive Interaction Program (“PIP”) Meeting October 17, 2019

By: Katherine Peale

Commander J. Stevens, the new Division Commander of Vehicular Crimes Division made a presentation on vehicular crashes, Injuries, crimes and accident reporting process. Some reminders:

- ◆ In a vehicular event, remain calm, check for injuries, call 911, note details of event (use note pad, pencil, cellphone pictures), get insurance and contact info from other party, and contact info from witnesses, be safe, do not smoke (it might ignite spilled fuel). Get your vehicle off the road if it is drivable, if not, put on warning lights, you get off road and wait for officers.
- ◆ Road cameras may not be working, so take your own pictures.
- ◆ Complete CR2 Form (this used to be Form CR 3) – include other driver's insurance information and driver's license number – give this to your insurance provider. It is no longer necessary to give this form to police. No incident reference number will be issued. You may have to go to headquarters to get a copy of their report. You can go to the Patrol Station to make your report.
- ◆ Tow truck drivers must stay 100 feet away. You can call and use your own AAA driver. Tell tow driver where you want your vehicle to go. Get the copy of tow slip.
- ◆ If you are injured and cannot get your possessions out of vehicle, ask the officer to inventory your possessions and record for you.
- ◆ Special note: If someone is committing *road rage* do not engage with them! Get away from it. Go to safe area. If gangs throw eggs at you, get away. Do not yell at them!

New Year's Eve Safety Tips

If you are planning to celebrate the arrival of 2020, please remember a few safety tips:

- ◆ If you drink, don't drive. When you head out for the evening, have the number of a taxi service or Uber in your cell phone.
- ◆ Have your cell phone fully charged before going out.
- ◆ Keep your money, phone and credit cards in a pocket or pouch under your clothing.
- ◆ Use marked sidewalks/crosswalks.
- ◆ Use the “buddy” system. If you go out alone, let someone know when to expect you home and at what time.



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Prevent Porch Package Theft NOW!

We are days away from the holidays and the delivery of thousands of packages at homes in the area. Thieves know this and are planning, right now, to rip you off! Taking a few simple steps can protect you from falling victim to porch pirates. Ruin their plans not your Christmas!

Precinct One Constable Alan Rosen would like to remind you to consider these options in protecting yourself from porch package theft:

- Use a lock box or locker.
- Consider delivering packages to your office instead of home.
- Install security cameras.
- Give instructions to package delivery service. Both UPS and FEDEX will allow you to designate a specific location other than the porch where a package can be left or you can instruct them to leave it with a neighbor.
- Sign up for alerts so you know when your package arrives. Some delivery services will tell you when a package has been delivered. That can help you realize it's there so you can get it before someone else does.
- Require a signature for delivery if you can require it. That keeps the delivery person from leaving the package on the porch for someone to steal.
- Check your front porch frequently if you are expecting a package.

More Holiday Safety Suggestions

Houston Police Department also had some holiday safety tips that they passed along during their most recent Positive Interaction Program (PIP) Meeting.

- ◆ Be aware of surroundings.
- ◆ Maintain personal safety zone.
- ◆ Be aware of who is just sitting in a car.
- ◆ Park close to store entrances or in well-lit areas.
- ◆ Look under, behind and inside your car before getting in.
- ◆ Carry only what is necessary and use non-descript shopping bags.
- ◆ Watch for skimming devices at credit card machines and ATMs.
- ◆ Stay 1 1/2 car lengths behind car in front of you, especially at stop lights and stop signs.



TIME CHANGE AND SAFETY TIPS!

With the recent return to standard time, it gets darker earlier than the previous months. Combine that with holiday shopping frenzies and a little too much alcohol on occasion, and walkers and joggers and bikers can be at a higher risk. Please wear reflective clothing or blinking lights and stick to the sidewalks.

November Yards of the Month

Section 1: 975 Cur tin Sandy & Randy Klander	Section 3: 1115 Mar tin Terri & Eugene Toy
Section 2: 1026 Thor nton Donna & Steve Pakebusch	Section 4: 1054 Candl elight Raquel & Cliff Roeder

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& ASSOCIATES

BILLY HARTMAN
713.305.5035

*It's not just my business,
It's my neighborhood.*

Where do you want to live?

Cal I s handl ed by Deputy Constabl e
*Figures are for entire contract incl uding SPP and Candl el ight Pl aza

October 2019

ANIMAL/HUMANE...2	Contract checks...309	DISTURBANCE/LOUD NOISE...3
Mental Heal th...1	Mil es Patrol l ed...3016	Special Assignment...2
School Check...1	MEET THE CITIZEN... 134	Arson/Fire...1
Suspicious Vehicl e...5	Suspicious Persons...3	Traffic Stops...8
Al arm...2	Traffic Initiative...1	Traffic Citations...4
Information cal l ...3	Park Checks...11	Other...1
Vacation Watch...80	Incident report...1	*****

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 cl ick Newslet ter



Durham Elementary News

November was full of excitement with the fall Book Fair, Pizza & Game Night hosted by the Men's Committee, Veterans Day Celebration, Thanksgiving lunch and the annual Turkey Trot!

Mark your calendar for Durham's International Festival on January 25 from 11am - 2pm! Everyone is invited to come experience this unique, and much anticipated, event. Each grade level turns their hallway into their country of focus and showcases the culture through food, drinks, and crafts. This is a great opportunity to come see what makes Durham ES an amazing International Baccalaureate school.

Applications for Durham's Pre-K program for the 2020-2021 school year are available on the school website: <https://www.houstonisd.org/durhames>. All interested parents, regardless of zoned status, must complete the application. It is important to note that the Pre-K application process is different than other grades; registration for zoned students in Kinder through 5th grade will take place in the spring.

MORE DETAILS ON THE WINE AND BEER CRAWL

CHECK-IN AT 1067 CHANTILLY LN

TICKETS ARE \$50 PER ADULT (21 AND OVER) or \$30 *FOR 5 TASTES OF FOOD ONLY*
includes 5 "tastes" of wine/beer plus an accompanying appetizer with each.

Purchase event tickets online at ShepherdParkPlaza.com or cash/check payable to: SPPCC, Inc. c/o Emily & Tom Leffler, 1067 Chantilly Ln. 713-628-4210. Please include "SPP" or "CP" to indicate your preferred designation of Constable Program funds.

RAIN DATE: SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8, 3:30 p.m. -5:30 p.m.



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Citizens Patrol Stats

October 2019 Patrol Hours

Prepared by Deborah DeBram & Katherine Peale

WEEK	Drive
1	5
2	8
3	9
4	11
TOTAL	35

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 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 Bob Wottrich. 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.**



On the evening of November 11th, The Garden Club met at the home of Ruth Rock for an informative presentation by Darla Harris of Fern Plantation. She spoke about ferns which grow so abundantly in our shady yards. Did you know that ferns are members of a group of vascular plants that reproduce via spores and have neither seeds nor flowers. Ferns are some of the oldest plants in the world. They first appear in the fossil record about 360 million years ago. Ferns can grow indoors or outside, mostly in shade or partly shaded areas. But indoor ferns need high humidity, which is hard for us to achieve with the air conditioner on during the summer and the heater on during the winter. For most ferns, keep the soil moist and add mulch on top of the soil to keep the moisture in. But they don't like to stand in water, so be sure you have proper drainage holes if you have your ferns in pots. There are about 10,560 known species of fern. Darla brought many of them for us to see. Some had fronds that looked like crocodile skin, some were mounted on a board, some that could be grown to 3' x 3', and others so tiny and delicate they could be indoors in a terrarium. She even had a rabbit's foot fern that had rhizomes that looked like a rabbit's foot. Some ferns are being studied as a help to counteract rising greenhouse gas emissions and global temperatures.

Our November Yard of the Month goes to Marti Turner! Marti enjoys fall flowers and her yard includes colorful narrow leaf and profusion zinnias, coleus, coreopsis, and chrysanthemums. Zinnias are a favorite because they are easy to grow in Houston's heat. Butterflies enjoy flitting among the zinnias in early autumn but have now gone south. In addition, the front yard still has a few blooms to enjoy from the summer impatiens and a knockout rose. As a transition to winter garden color, pansies were recently planted next to the zinnias. Background plants include daylilies, ferns, holly, and pittosporum, while liriopse lines the walkway.



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Breakfast with Santa

Saturday, December 7th 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.; Durham Elementary

Please join us for the Annual Plaza Moms' Breakfast with Santa! IndyQuest will be sponsoring breakfast and we will have a photographer on hand to capture pictures with Santa (personal cameras welcome). There will also be craft stations. Reminder: this will be a Plaza Moms member event.



December Social - White Elephant Gift Exchange

Tuesday, December 17th, **Jeannine Petree's Home, 1053 Martin Street**

Eat, drink, and be merry! Join us for our Annual White Elephant Party, each guest is asked to bring a \$10 gift exchange (not required). We will have a few extra surprises as well!



Save the Date! January Social - Pamper yourself!

Tuesday, January 21st, **Courtney Siegmund's Home, 1035 Martin**

Phew, we made it through the holidays! Now it is time for us to pamper ourselves. Join us for some socializing, massages and more!

Join/Renew Your Plaza Moms Membership Today!

Interested in joining? Please e-mail plaza.moms.houston@gmail.com for more info or with questions you might have about membership, events, or anything else! Find us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/groups/plazamoms

Please Note: All Plaza Moms events (except for Movie in the Park and Fourth of July Parade) as well as our FB page are for Plaza Moms members only. We wouldn't want you to miss out on all of the fun, so join/renew your membership today!

OUR GARDEN HAS A NEW GREENHOUSE!

The Shepherd Park Plaza/Garden Oak Community Garden has been an integral and active part of our area since its start in 1985. It was established by neighbors who wanted to provide a place to grow their own food and meet fellow residents with gardening interests. It is located on Alba St, between Sue Barnett and Chamboard.

Master Gardener Beth Galiano took over the garden when its founder Jan Koenig moved away from SPP. Beth recently received a gift from her husband of a new 12 x 20 greenhouse! The greenhouse is designed to protect new plants just budding and from garden pests. Neighbors are welcome to visit the garden and chat with workers about what they are doing...and volunteer to help if the mood strikes!

These days you don't need to look to rural fields or hundred acre farms to find food growing. Chances are, there's food growing right in the neighborhood. Community gardens add great value to neighborhoods by bringing people together, providing a healthy outdoor activity and by providing much need food for low income families free of charge.



Shown above Tim and Debbie Elliott, and Beth Galiano

"Your Shepherd Park Plaza Neighbor & Realtor."

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Citizens Patrol 713-812-7626	Deed Restrictions 713-316-5255	Plaza Moms 713-858-9201	New Neighbor/Greeter 713-775-0307	Garden Club 713-956-2638
Architectural Guidelines 713-316-5255	Plaza Pulse News 713-303-6436	SPP Historian 832-538-2384	Traffic & Safety 713-681-7479	Constable Dispatch 713-755-7628
SPP Membership 713-338-2989	City Liaison 713-688-7979	Pulse Advertising 832-477-7871	Durham Elementary 713-613-2527	HPD 713-884-3131

SPP CALENDAR

December 2019

SUNDAY MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY

Nov 24	25	26 	27	28 	29	30
Dec 1	2 	3	4 	5	6	7  Wine & Beer Crawl
8 Garden Club Christmas Party	9	10 	11	12	13 <i>Christmas Yard Decorating judging starts</i>	14
15	16	17  	18	19 	20	21
22 	23	24 	25 	26	27	28
29	30	31 	JAN 1 	2	3	4

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