



# THE PLAZA PULSE

SHEPHERD PARK PLAZA CIVIC CLUB

May 2020

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### [Officers]

President Courtney Selinidis  
Vice President Jesse Yoburn  
Secretary Kelly McNeill  
Treasurer Tom Caver

### [Committees]

Architectural Control Darryl Rickaway  
Citizens Patrol Deborah DeBram/  
Katherine Peale  
Constable Patrol Coordinator Bill  
Scheel  
Deed Restrictions Darryl Rickaway  
Entrance Bed Maintenance Garden  
Club  
Greeters Shannon Zierau, Ally Hilsher,  
Courtney Siegmund  
Historian Aurelien Bouchet  
Hospitality Leslie Bordelon  
Membership Open  
Decorating Award Chair Paige Locke  
Publicity/Pulse Advertising  
Holly Inderrieden  
Website Publisher  
Aurelien Bouchet

### [Representatives]

Section 1 Rep. Kelly Sebesta  
Section 2 Rep. Davi Garza  
Section 3 Rep. Romi Sandel  
Section 4 Rep. David Barrett  
Garden Club Rep. Susan Fitzpatrick  
Plaza Moms Co-Rep.  
Ami Brockman  
Men's Group Rep. Open  
Pulse Editor: Rachel Mathews  
Pulse Co-Editor: Laurie Hardwick

## Covid-19 Updates & Reminders

- The City of Houston is now implementing a rule that masks must be worn in public places.
- Visit Johns Hopkins University's website for the latest information on cases in the U. S.
- Visit the CDC's website for recommendations on staying healthy.
- Wash your hands at least 20 seconds after touching any surfaces.
- Use gloves at gas pumps.
- Use curbside pick up at grocery stores. You can make a list on-line and schedule a pick up time.
- Check on your elderly neighbors.
- Consider a zoom meeting with family or friends that you can't visit in person.
- If you have a loved one at an Assisted Living Facility, check with them to see if you can have a "window visit" using your cell phone.
- Spray or wipe down your mail or delivery boxes before touching with bare hands.



## KIDS KORNER

Has the Covid-19 stay-at-home situation got you running dry on ideas to keep the kids entertained? We've seen lots of bike riders, scooter riders, dog walkers, strollers, and walkers, so some of you have figured out how healthy the great outdoors is in this situation. But if you need something, try these ideas:

- ◆ Listen to storytime from celebs at Storyline Online.
- ◆ Listen to Astronauts at Story Time From Space.
- ◆ Do a daily lunch doodle with children's book author and illustrator Mo Willems.
- ◆ Check out some dance routines from GoNoodle.
- ◆ Take a virtual field trip to a museum or theater.
- ◆ Check out a livestream from a zoo or aquarium.
- ◆ Bake using cheerios, candy, sprinkles, chocolate chips, coconut, or M&Ms.
- ◆ Play some interactive games at Highlights.
- ◆ Ask a friend to mail them a letter or card.
- ◆ Create an obstacle using toys, games, tools or boxes from your garage.
- ◆ Pop a tent in the backyard at night and look at the stars.
- ◆ Plant a garden.
- ◆ Name a squirrel and watch his activity each day.
- ◆ Dye their hair (temporary).
- ◆ Buy a StoryCubes game.
- ◆ Build a jenga game out of sticks in the back yard.
- ◆ Go on a picnic in the back of a truck or SUV.
- ◆ Cut out words from magazines and have them "write" a note to send to a grandparent.
- ◆ Teach your kids pig Latin.
- ◆ Have a backwards day. Shirt backwards, dinner for breakfast, dessert before dinner.



Are you good with Excel spreadsheets?

Are you organized?

Do you like to volunteer?

Do you want to join a fun group of volunteers dedicated to serving the neighborhood?

Did you check one or more of the boxes above? Then you would be a great candidate for the membership chair of The Shepherd Park Plaza Civic Club. Need more info—email [President@shepherdparkplaza.com](mailto:President@shepherdparkplaza.com) for more information.

## Election of Civic Club Board And Members 2020-2021

In March, the residents of Shepherd Park Plaza attended the annual business meeting, which was a pancake breakfast held at Durham Elementary. Even though it was breakfast, the Garden Club members had desserts for sale to enjoy later in the day. After some introductions and presentations by various groups in the neighborhood, the residents in attendance elected the Board and Committee members for the 2020 –2021 calendar year. The Board members and Committee members are shown in the table to the right. Special thanks to Fajita Pete’s for some door prizes for our drawings and to the Hospitality Committee for getting this event planned, and to Durham Elementary for the use of the building.

Please make note that we are looking for a volunteer to fill the open spot of Membership Chair (see article above).

The Board members and Committee members look forward to serving this neighborhood over the next year.

Position	2020
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	Elissa Walters
Greeters	Shannon Zierau Ally Hilsher Courtney Siegmund
Hospitality	Leslie Bordelon
Decorating Award Chair (new position)	Paige Locke
Historian	Aurelien Bouchet
Membership	Open Position
Parks/City Liaison	Deborah DeBram Katherine Peale
Publicity/Advertising	Holly Inderrieden
Webmaster / Facebook	Aurelien Bouchet
Pulse Editor	Rachel Mathews
Pulse Co-Editor	Romi Sandel/Laurie Hardwick
Section I Rep	Kelly Sebesta
Section II Rep	Davi Case Garza
Section III Rep	Romi Sandel
Section IV Rep	Dave Barrett

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On Monday, March 9, the Garden Club welcomed Jennifer Trandell from the Botanical Journey to present a program on how to properly plant succulents. We also had the opportunity to purchase a kit to plant our own succulents at home in any container, such as a gravy boat or antique teacup! Jennifer is a certified Texas Master Naturalist and shared a wealth of knowledge regarding the great diversity of Houston's flora and fauna, as well as shared helpful information on how to keep succulents and plants in tip top shape. Did you know that cutting the roots of your potted plants is not only safe, but it is encouraged! Cutting back the roots of your plants is similar to giving them a haircut and helps ensure your potted plants stay healthy and live longer in their container.

In other news: The Garden Club hosted a dessert table for the March 7th Civic Club Breakfast meeting. And stop and look at the entrance beds as you come into the neighborhood. Our support of the civic club effort is starting to pay off and the beds are transforming.

In tough times people turn to gardening. We have recently seen panic buying at grocery stores, and been told to stay home. Maybe now is the time to start your Victory Garden. The Victory Gardens of the past were used to boost morale, express patriotism, and help secure the food supply. Any time spent in your garden will boost your spirit and working outside helps strengthen the immune system and reduce stress. Wabash Feed & Garden is within walking distance of our neighborhood and carries a variety of seeds, and has advice for every level of gardener. Children naturally take to planting and watching things grow.

As always, we welcome newcomers and visitors, so come and join us on the second Monday of the month once we are able to resume. Please contact Club President Susan Fitzpatrick, [susanfitz1@att.net](mailto:susanfitz1@att.net), for the address of the home where the meeting will be held. We would love to have you.

Our April Yard of the Month goes to Kelcie Berry! Kelcie's yard includes three mature live oaks. Since they shade the majority of their yard, they have had to be selective about choosing "shade lovers". Foxtail ferns, giant Liriope, pink Oleanders and ponytail plants have made themselves at home in their yard. Their front flower beds are a mix of pink, coral, and white nightshade begonias. To accentuate their tree, they added rings of pink and white polka dot plants and pink night shade begonias around its base. This is the first spring with their daughter so they landscaped "Camille's Corner" which is a multicolored bed of Impatiens and Coleus, backstopped by purple Alium.



### SAFETY REMINDER

Due to the stay-at-home guidelines in place, many more neighbors and their kids are riding bikes and scooters, or walking their dogs throughout the day. Please drive no more than 20 mph, keep your eyes on the road and put your cell phone down. Also, triple check as you back out of your driveway. The little ones on bikes can often not be seen through the rear windshield. It takes all of us to pay attention in order to avoid a tragedy.




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## Calls handled by Deputy Constable

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

### March 2020

TRAFFIC STOP...6	Contract checks...488	WELFARE CHECK...2
Follow-Up...2	Miles Patrolled...3409	Stolen vehicle...1
Welfare check...2	Meet the Citizen...109	Animal Humane...3
Suspicious Vehicle...1	Disturbance Loud Noise..	Recovered stolen vehicle...1
Alarm...2	Traffic Citations...4	Speeding vehicle...1
Information call...4	Park Checks...11	Burglary Motor Vehicle...1
Vacation Watch...53	Theft other...1	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

## Calls handled by Deputy Constable

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

### Full Year 2019

TRAFFIC STOP... 182	Contract checks...2167	SCHOOL CHECK...34
Follow-Up...24	Miles Patrolled...30534	Burglary motor vehicle...11
Writ...34	Meet the Citizen...958	Welfare Check...11
Suspicious Vehicle...72	Suspicious Persons...83	Disturbance...31
Alarm...34	Traffic Citations...58	Special Assignment...19
Information call...31	Park Checks...70	Theft Vehicle/Bike/Other...8
Vacation Watch...777	Traffic Initiative...58	Other...66



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April Yards of the Month	
<b>Section 1:</b> 1174 Chamboard Renata & Clint Holland	<b>Section 3:</b> 1049 Martin Donna & Ron Kleist
<b>Section 2:</b> 954 Thornton Diane Gleason	<b>Section 4:</b> 1014 Richelieu Paula Ayers

# Citizens Patrol Stats

## February 2020 Patrol Hours

Prepared by Deborah DeBram & Katherine Peale

WEEK	Driving
1	12
2	9
3	9
4	16
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>46</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 Michelle Ganter. 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.**

## Got Time? Volunteer Virtually

Big Brothers Big Sisters provides 1:1 mentoring services to children across Greater Houston and is looking for volunteers (“Bigs”) who can commit 4 hours a month to spend with a mentee (“Little”). Currently, there are **38 children within a 15 minute drive of Shepherd Park Plaza** who are waiting for a mentor. And now, more than ever, children are looking for guidance and mentorship. Could you be the match to help end their wait?

At this time, Big Brothers Big Sisters is committed to matching Bigs and Littles virtually to keep the social in social distancing.

Big Brothers Big Sisters match Bigs and Littles based off of compatibility and proximity, making sure you and your Little have common interests and are nearby. To apply today, please visit [www.bbbstx.org/houston](http://www.bbbstx.org/houston) or email our Shepherd Park Plaza neighbor, Carlee Morgan, at [cmorgan@bbbstx.org](mailto:cmorgan@bbbstx.org)



Check out the Shepherd Park Plaza Facebook page for the most recent discussions, news, alerts, ideas, recommendations and neighborhood events. It's also a good place to post about lost pets or lost items.



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.



### Neighborly reminder

Check on your elderly neighbors and make sure they have the food and cleaning supplies and toiletries that they need. Ask them if they want to borrow a book or a puzzle. Pass along your phone number in case they need to call for something. Offer to pick up groceries for them when you pick up yours.





Hope

Our thoughts are with all our neighbors and their families during this time. Again, please reach out if there is anything we can do to help! While the uncertainty remains, we have decided to cancel our monthly social in May. This social was an opportunity for babysitters to attend and introduce themselves and get their names out in the neighborhood. If your child/friend/neighbor would like their name on the babysitters list, please send their contact info, availability, and short bio to [plaza.moms.houston@gmail.com](mailto:plaza.moms.houston@gmail.com). The information will be compiled and e-mailed out to our moms and posted to our FB page.

We are currently looking for volunteers to be officers for the 2020-2021 year starting in August. Current positions available are Special Events, Treasurer, Membership, and Hospitality. Please e-mail [plaza.moms.houston@gmail.com](mailto:plaza.moms.houston@gmail.com) for more details!

Join/Renew Your Plaza Moms Membership Today! Interested in joining? Please e-mail [plaza.moms.houston@gmail.com](mailto: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](http://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!

*Cheerfully Serving Shepherd Park Plaza*

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## HANDWASHING RECOMMENDATIONS



- Wet hands with water
- apply enough soap to cover all hand surfaces.
- Rub hands palm to palm
- right palm over left dorsum with interlaced fingers and vice versa
- palm to palm with fingers interlaced
- backs of fingers to opposing palms with fingers interlocked
- rotational rubbing of left thumb clasped in right palm and vice versa
- rotational rubbing, backwards and forwards with clasped fingers of right hand in left palm and vice versa.
- Rinse hands with water
- dry thoroughly with a single use towel
- use towel to turn off faucet
- ...and your hands are safe.

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 Open	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** **May 2020**

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
26	27	28	29	April 30	May 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
May 31	Memorial Day					

 = Trash and Yard Waste  
 = Curbside Recycling

**Reminder about Heavy Trash:** Our heavy trash pickup is the 3rd Thursday of each month. Tree waste is picked up in ODD months, and Junk waste in the EVEN months.

**Back in my day... there was so much toilet paper, people used to literally string it up in the trees of their enemies**

**ALL EVENTS SPONSORED BY THE SHEPHERD PARK PLAZA CIVIC CLUB OR SHEPHERD PARK PLAZA GROUPS ARE CANCELLED FOR MAY.**



Shepherd Park Plaza Civic Club  
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