



THE SHEPHERD FOREST | JANUARY 2024 TIMES

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE SHEPHERD FOREST CIVIC CLUB

VOLUME 40, ISSUE 1

CENTERPOINT TO ADDRESS RESIDENTS TREE CONCERNS

Shepherd Forest residents have recently expressed their outrage with the progressive removal of trees by CenterPoint on the easement east of Ella Blvd, with no notification to those affected. Concerns expressed by residents include the potential impact on quality of life, destruction of wildlife habitat, the loss of green space and natural sound barrier, light pollution, visual blight, and decreased property values. In addition, the tall flood lights facing south toward Stonecrest that were installed in the easement west of Oak Forest, have residents complaining about the bright lights glaring in their homes at night.



CenterPoint's responses to residents on these issues have been vague, and the Civic Club has

asked them to attend the **January 15th** meeting of the SFCC to address residents concerns and discuss any future plans they may have for the easement. Make plans now to attend this informative meeting and let your voice be heard.

SHEPHERD FOREST CIVIC CLUB MEETING
Monday, January 15th @ 7pm – Topic: CenterPoint
Garden Oaks Baptist Church (3206 N. Shepherd)

GREAT INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITY!

A great investment opportunity is now available for everyone in Shepherd Forest! **For only \$25 per household,**



residents can invest in their community and home values by simply joining the Shepherd Forest Civic Club. This very small investment has **BIG RETURNS**, including to help fund and make possible civic club events and activities. This includes the Easter Egg Hunt & Photos, Picnic in the Park, Socials, Christmas Dinner, Photos with Santa, Citizens on Patrol, Beautification, Yard Decoration Contests, Shepherd Forest Entry signs, Deed Restriction enforcement, printing of the SF Times, SFCC website maintenance, and much, much more. What an investment!!



We've made it easy for you to join. Mail your payment and membership form in the envelope enclosed in this newsletter. Prefer to pay online? Visit <http://www.shepherdforest.org> and click on "Join SFCC", or scan the QR code and complete the online membership form & make your payment **via credit card**.

Every household that pays their dues by the **January 15th** meeting will automatically be entered into a **DRAWING for our Lottery Tree (20 Scratch Off tickets)** to be given away that night. Will you make an investment and support a civic club that works every day on your behalf? Do your part and join today – you may be a lucky winner!

SFCC OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

PRESIDENT – Brandon Caire
VICE-PRESIDENT – Paul Berry
TREASURER – Jeanne Berry
SECRETARY – Phil Kownslar

Pay Dues Here



BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Katie Hassett Tasha Leverton
Bid Nutt Eric Oliver
Shirley Evanicky

The annual SFCC **Photos with Santa** event was another huge success thanks to the efforts of Social Chairman Kim Syrinek. Residents spent the morning enjoying making Christmas crafts, activities, and having their photo taken with Santa. Our deepest appreciation to **KEVIN & NATALIE DUNN and PORTRAIT EFX** for taking the fabulous photos. Also, a huge thank you to our Community Partners: **MEMORIAL HERMANN HEIGHTS HOSPITAL, HEB, and FIFTH CORNER**, for their continued generous support that made the event possible. Thanks also go to **Jasons Deli** (11120 NW Frwy) and **Shipleys Donuts** (3410 Ella) for the snacks and to **Childrens Lighthouse** for the use of their facilities.



2024
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PARTY LINE

Best wishes for a very Happy Birthday are sent to the following neighbors who celebrate birthdays in January: **Carolyn Brock** (1/3), **Bob Williamson** (1/11), **Kendra Benson** (1/21), **Rowan Andrew** (1/25), **Wesley Yanez** (1/28), **Katy Cattoni** (1/30), **Teddy Kownslar** (1/31), and **Jean Jungbauer** (1/31). Celebrating an early February birthday will be **Shirley Evanicky** (2/9). Best wishes for a very Happy Birthday to all of you !!

Congratulations and Happy Anniversary wishes are sent to **Kim & Jason Syrinek** on 1/14 and to **Johnny & Mary Farmer** who celebrate on 1/21.

A huge “Thank You” is sent to **Greg Restivo** for again underwriting the SFCC December Christmas Dinner in memory of his wife and long-time SFCC volunteer, Mary Ellen. Many Shepherd Forest residents attended the festive event and enjoyed a delicious BBQ dinner and some great Christmas music provided by SaxWorx.

If you are new to the neighborhood or have any news you would like to share in the PartyLine, please send the information to info@shepherdforest.org.

recycle your tree The SFCC encourages residents to recycle their live Christmas trees instead of tossing them in the garbage. This holiday season, help the City preserve the environment and repurpose your live tree into mulch (or other landscape materials) by dropping off your tree at any of the 23 drop-off locations provided by the City of Houston Solid Waste Management. Trees may be dropped off until January 26, 2024. The drop-off location nearest Shepherd Forest is **TC JESTER PARK located at 4200 West TC Jester**. Make sure to remove all decorations, tinsel, plastic bags, tree stands and water bowls before dropping off your tree. A complete list of Christmas tree recycling drop-off centers is available at <http://houstontx.gov/solidwaste> or by calling the City of Houston Helpline at 311.



SECURITY/CITIZENS ON PATROL NEWS

Suspicious vehicles and people wandering through the neighborhood were reported several times during the holidays. Please remember to stay alert to everything going on around you, and make a mental or written note of descriptions of vehicles and people that seem suspicious to you. Security Coordinator Paul Berry also reminds us that it's extremely important for residents to **report ALL CRIME** to HPD, regardless of how insignificant it may seem. The number of HPD patrol units assigned to our area is based on the number of calls to HPD we make. HPD also encourages residents to report suspicious people/activity so they will know what is going on in our neighborhood and then also notify our Security Coordinator at 915-373-8820 and report what has happened. The following crimes in our area were reported to HPD – no specific addresses, only blocks are reported by Spot Crime who compiles this list:

11/04 - 2100 block Wilde Rock – theft of vehicle parts
12/05 – 900 block W. 31st – theft of building materials
12/15 – 3000 block Ella – assault at convenience store
12/15 – 1200 block W. 34th – theft from motor vehicle
12/23 – 900 block W. 34th – theft from motor vehicle

The SFCC would like to send an enormous thank you to each of our Citizens on Patrol volunteers that managed to patrol during the busy holidays. Their time spent patrolling and keeping a watchful eye on the neighborhood was especially appreciated at a time of the year when theft crime is typically at its highest. The Security Committee is in need of more patrollers and would appreciate any time our residents are available to help out with our Citizens on Patrol efforts. If you would like more information about the program, or to volunteer your time, contact Paul Berry, at 915-373-8820.

Shepherd Forest Civic Club Citizens on Patrol



GARBAGE NEWS

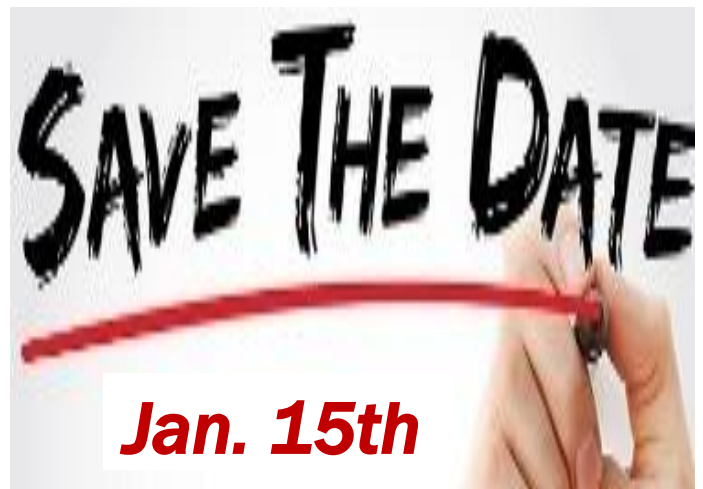
Here's the scoop on garbage and recycle collection. If you live in **Sections 1 or Section 2 (both are EAST of TC Jester)**, your household weekly garbage pickup day is on **Tuesday**. Your curbside Recycling is every other **Tuesday** and heavy trash is on the **third Thursday** of each month.

If you live in **Section 3 (WEST of TC Jester)**, your household weekly garbage pickup day is on **Thursday**. Your curbside Recycling is every other **Thursday** and heavy trash is on the **fourth Tuesday** of each month.



For more info about your garbage schedule, to download the app, sign up for alerts & more, visit: www.houstontx.gov/solidwaste/htxcollects.html. You can also check out holiday schedules, delays with trash pickup, check out recycling questions and news, and much more at this informative website or by calling the City's Helpline by dialing 311.

Don't miss the SF Civic Club meeting to address concerns related to CenterPoint's recent massive removal of trees in the easement of SF Section One.





**Christmas
DECORATING CONTEST**

In December, Christmas decorations shone brightly throughout Shepherd Forest, and many homes were beautifully decorated. Beautification Chairman Jeanne Berry reports there was a huge interest in Christmas decorating again this year, including participation by many of our residents. Although the decisions were difficult for the judges, two homes in each section were selected as the 2023 Decorating Contest winners. Congratulations go to the following:

Section 1 – 1st Place – 1514 Ansbury



The Eddington Family

Section 1 – 2nd Place – 1042 West 31st



Racquel and Devin Feeley

Section 2 – 1st Place – 2211 Wilde Rock



The Sibouyeh Family

Section 2 – 2nd Place -2322 Bron Holly



Chris and Melinda Guillory

Section 3 – 1st Place – 4402 Marlborough



Ricky and Toye Byrd

Section 3 – 2nd Place – 4303 Marlborough



Peter Barnett