



THE SHEPHERD FOREST | MAY 2020 TIMES

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE SHEPHERD FOREST CIVIC CLUB

VOLUME 33, ISSUE 4

COVID-19 UPDATE

Due to the current Coronavirus outbreak in our City and to protect the health and safety of our residents, the Shepherd Forest Civic has suspended all scheduled meetings and events until further notice. Please check our website at www.shepherdforest.org, our FaceBook page, and future newsletters for all updates and information related to the resumption of SFCC activities. You may also call 713-742-2470 and leave a message.

IT'S PROPERTY TAX PROTEST TIME

This is the time of year when most homeowners have received their property tax evaluations and are considering whether or not to officially protest their appraisals. The Harris County Appraisal District (HCAD) is responsible for all appraisals and the appeals process.

Most property owners in Harris County have until May 15 to protest the values assigned by the Harris County Appraisal District, which is encouraging online protests during the COVID-19 pandemic. HCAD said in a recent news release that some property owners have not yet received value notices and will have 30 days to file protests once their value notice is received. "HCAD must operate under the guidelines and deadlines set out in the state Tax Code, so we do not have the flexibility to change the protest deadline despite the closures and social distancing caused by the pandemic," chief appraiser Roland Altinger said.

Notice of Protest forms are included in value notices from HCAD and can be downloaded at www.hcad.org. Protests may be brought to HCAD's office at 13013 Northwest Fwy. or mailed to P.O. Box 922004, Houston, TX 77292-2004. Mailed protests must be postmarked by May 15. Property owners also can protest their appraised values electronically by using HCAD's iFile and iSettle programs. Unique iFile numbers needed to file a protest can be found near the property account number in the upper-right corner of the value notice or retrieved from HCAD's mobile app by scanning the property owner's Texas driver's license, assuming the name and address on the ID match the information in HCAD's system. Within five days of filing a protest through iFile, those who choose to use iSettle can upload supporting documents such as deeds, photos, closing statements, repair estimates or comparable sales information. If a settlement through the online system isn't possible once HCAD makes an offer, the property owner will be scheduled for a hearing with the Appraisal Review Board.

A video explaining how to file an online protest and use the residential iSettle system is available at www.hcad.org under the "help" heading. Questions about iSettle can be submitted to isettle@hcad.org. "Using iFile to submit your protest and then selecting iSettle is the quickest and easiest way to file and resolve your protest without having to appear at HCAD's offices, especially this year in light of the COVID-19 pandemic," Altinger said. "With iSettle, you can submit electronic documentation to support your opinion of value, and an appraiser will review it. If the appraiser responds with a new value and you accept, your protest is done for the year."



For any questions regarding property accounts or HCAD protest procedures, residents may also call the Harris County Appraisal District at 713-957-7800 or send email to help@hcad.org.

CITIZENS ON PATROL SECURITY REPORT

Our Citizens on Patrol volunteers continue to do a great job as they patrol our streets and keep a watchful eye on our neighborhood with the number of patrol hours increasing again last month. Despite their efforts, Shepherd Forest experienced a high number of calls to HPD recently, which include the following:

- 3/20/20 – 3000 block of Ella – Assault in a parking lot
- 4/04/20 – 3000 block of Attridge – Theft from a motor vehicle
- 4/07/20 – 3000 block of Ella – Disorderly conduct
- 4/07/20 – 3000 block of Ella – Assault
- 4/07/20 – 3000 block of Ella – Theft at gas station
- 4/12/20 – 2000 block of West 34th – Robbery at gas station
- 4/16/20 – 3000 block of Ella – Shoplifting at convenience store
- 4/22/20 – 3500 block of Ella – Assault at a restraint
- 4/24/20 – 2300 Stonecrest – Assault
- 4/27/20 – 2000 block of West 34th – Vandalism in parking lot
- 5/05/20 – 1000 block of West 30th – Suspicious person ringing doorbell

HPD says is extremely important that residents report ALL CRIME to HPD, regardless of how insignificant it may seem. AFTER you have contacted HPD, please call our SFCC Security Coordinator Paul Berry and report what has happened. Here are the numbers to report SF crime:

- HPD immediate or Life threatening emergencies – 911
- HPD Non-emergency (burglaries, stolen property...) – 713-884-3131

SFCC Security Coordinator - Paul Berry 915-373-8820

YARD OF THE MONTH CONTEST

The SFCC Yard of the Month Contest is in full swing, with the judging of our beautiful neighborhood yards being done on the first full weekend of every month from April through September. Congratulations are sent to the following residents who were chosen as our May Yard of the Month winners:

MAY

- Section 1 – Oliver Dyke – 1214 W 30th
- Section 2 – David and Yolanda Gutierrez – 3026 Oak Forest
- Section 3 – Clint Hale and Lauren Kattchee – 3019 Stally

A monthly winner is chosen from each of the three sections of Shepherd Forest and they are recognized in this newsletter and at the following civic club meeting. Every home in Shepherd Forest is eligible to be considered for this contest.



PARTY LINE

Belated birthday wishes are sent to Marti Nelson (4/11) and Ruben Alvarez (4/23). Both are Bron Holly residents and were honored on their birthdays with car parades and lots of honking! Other Happy Birthday wishes are sent to our neighbors who will be celebrating this month and in early June. They are Clyde Muske (5/13), Janelle Daniels (5/15), Carla Byrom (6/4), Mary Lamb (6/5), Seri Davis (6/8), Hadie Boul (6/9), and Michael Moore (6/11). Best wishes to all of you!

Sending best wishes for a speedy recovery to our current Civic Club President, Patricia Williams who is recuperating from recent knee surgery. Also recuperating from knee surgery is former Civic Club President Jennifer Woodruff. Hope you are both out and about soon!

Sincere sympathy is sent to family and friends of Stonecrest resident Judy Guterrez who passed away recently. Judy and her husband, Ben, were the recipients of the SFCC Yard of the Month award several times.

We would love to share your special news! If you have information about birthdays, anniversaries, new neighbors, special events.... please contact any officer/director listed in this newsletter or email us at info@shepherdforest.org.

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WHATS BEING BUILT ALONG WEST 34TH ??

So many SF residents have asked this question recently and the answer in just a few words isA LOT OF THINGS !!!! It's an exciting time in our neighborhood with multiple new developments stretching along West 34th from Durham to TC Jester. Included in this major expansion of 34th businesses are the following:

STOMPING GROUNDS – Developer: RE:VIVE – Location: 1225 West 34th (near Alba)

In addition to the community green space and sleek warehouse-inspired design, SF residents have been excited about this property's top-notch tenant list since news of its arrival first broke. Camerata in The Oaks will offer sips, bites, and grab-and-go options, much like its super-hip sister restaurant in Montrose. Fat Cat Creamery will open a second location here, only about two miles from its first one, and a cocktail bar will occupy a small house on the property. Beauty and retail tenants—like Flowe Studio, Threadfare Children's Boutique, WowMom's, and Becca Cakes—are also moving in with an anticipated opening of Spring 2020.

33 ½ @34th Phase Two – Developer: Crescere Capital LLP – Location: West 34th/Ella

Planning to open in Spring 2020, Upper Kirby's Luce Ave Coffee Roasters and Atlanta's Tropical Smoothie Café will soon join popular Vietnamese restaurant Les Ba'get and swanky nail salon Brushbox in the larger of the development's built-out properties. Construction on a third building is slated to run through the summer and opening late 2020; word is Crescere is targeting more fast-casual restaurants, along with medical and retail tenants, there.

ELLA OAKS – Phase Two – Developer: RE:VIVE – Location: 1737 West 34th/Ella

Phase One of Ella Oaks brought SF residents Aladdin Mediterranean, BB's Café, and Local Poke, along with shopping, fitness, and wellness options. Phase Two will include the former tire shop on the corner of 34th Street and Ella repurposed into a drive-thru Vietnamese street food spot, Saigon Hustle, and the former RJ's Boots shop will be home to a fast-casual version of Montrose's La Mexicana, dubbed La Mex. In addition, BLK APHCRY, a coffee shop, healthy eatery, and CBD outpost, will move in next door, while a new freestanding building will house a pediatric dentist and a Sports Clips barbershop. The freestanding building is expected to open summer 2020; Saigon Hustle and BLK APHCRY, late summer 2020; and La Mex, late 2020.

OAK FOREST ACADEMY – Developer: Texana Builders – Location: 1901 West 34th

Just recently opened, Oak Forest Academy offers premium day care and schooling—including STEAM, character-building, and foreign language curriculums—for infants to kindergarteners, in a brand-new three-story building.

2001 WEST 34TH – Developer: Braun Enterprises - Location: 2001 West 34th

Located on the former Aztec Rental warehouses across from Waltrip High School, a portion of this multi-acre plot will soon offer some quality dining options. Tex-Mex Garage, a new concept from the Cyclone Anaya's family, and an outpost of Bellaire's 401 Table and Tap will occupy the development's two largest spaces. Also planned is Citizen Pilates and circuit-training concept F45. All scheduled to open mid-2020.

2015 WEST 34TH – Developer: Braun Enterprises - Location: 2015 West 34th

Developer Braun plans an extensive facelift for this property next to the Circle K at Oak Forest. No tenants have been announced at this time.

APARTMENTS

In addition to the new 34th street retailers and restaurants, two major housing developments are being planned. Hines Development is planning a five acre, multifamily midrise apartment project in the 1000 block of West 34th (at Alba) consisting of five connected buildings, two enclosed courtyards, and a pool in the west courtyard. While the residential component for the project is four stories, the parking garage component will have seven levels and space for 556 vehicles.

A second apartment complex is being developed by Avenue Community Development Corporation at 2136 West 34th on the site of the former Doyles Restaurant. This project will be a government subsidized four story apartment complex comprised of 70 units of which 80% will be reserved for low to moderate income tenants. Developers said they plan to use bond money and Federal Disaster Recovery Funds from Hurricane Harvey in addition to traditional funding for this project.

FORMER TEMPLE OAKS PROPERTY

As this newsletter goes to print, the former Temple Oaks Baptist Church property on West 34th at Oak Forest is being cleared, but phone calls to the developer have not been returned. Watch future newsletters for more information about this property.

HONORING OUR GRADUATES

Graduation time is here and for the Class of 2020, COVID 19 will make it one of the most unforgettable times in history. As most graduates will not have traditional graduation ceremonies, the SFCC wants to send special congratulations and recognition all our 2020 graduates. We salute and honor each of the following Shepherd Forest graduates:

JULIE EVANICKY (Highest Honors) – Waltrip High School – Parents: Johnny & Shirley Evanicky

JONATHAN RODRIGUEZ – Waltrip High School – Parents: Pedro Capetillo & Angelica Marin-Capetillo

VICTORIA TRISTAN – Waltrip High School – Parents: Brandon & Claudia Tristan

SEEMA SIBOUYEH – Waltrip High School – Parents: Sam & Sylvia Sibouyeh

RAY LLANITO – Waltrip High School

JONATHAN EVANICKY – Texas A&M University – Parents: Johnny & Shirley Evanicky

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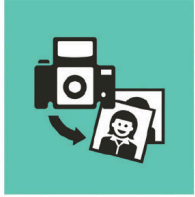
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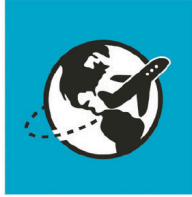
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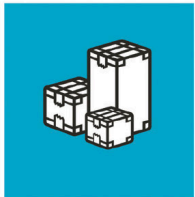
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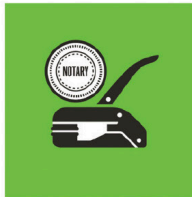
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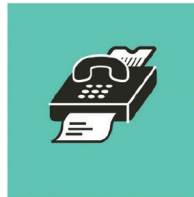
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 (346) 701-7195 Store6929@theUPSstore.com

ANOTHER “FEE” FOR HOUSTON RESIDENTS?

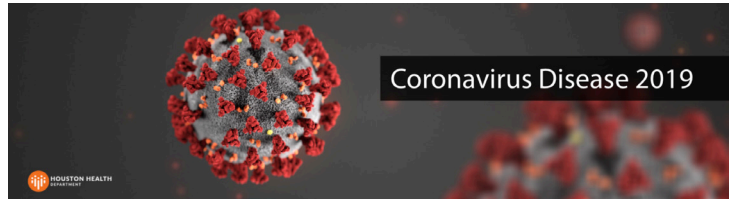
Houston City Council members voted yesterday to pass a proposed “lease fee” for garbage and recycling containers. The bin lease will be \$1.14 per household per month and would show up on your monthly water bill, starting in July. The Solid Waste Management Department proposed the lease fee to remove delays in ordering replacement containers for customers, provide enough staff and maintenance equipment to meet the demand for service, as well as address the backlog of customer service requests created by underfunding of supplies and staff. Although Houston is the only major city that does not currently charge a garbage fee, the “lease” charge is not a garbage fee—it would only go to cover the costs of containers, spare parts, and container support personnel and equipment.



A vote on this issue had previously been delayed at the last two Council meetings to provide City residents more information, and to give more time to Council to study the issue and the expected impact on the department’s operations if the fee was not passed.

CORONAVIRUS DISEASE INFORMATION

For the latest information on COVID 19 cases, risks, symptoms, testing sites, mask distribution, Work Safe and Face Covering orders, virus prevention, and much more, please check out the City of Houston website at <https://houstonemergency.org/covid19/> or call the COVID-19 Call Center at 832-393-4220





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