



# SF TIMES

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## ELDER ABUSE PREVENTION IS EVERYONE'S BUSINESS

Shepherd Forest is the home of many elderly residents and many times we are not aware that some form of abuse is taking place inside their homes. As our elderly population continues to grow and baby boomers are reaching the golden years, neglect, abuse and financial exploitation of adults who are elderly or disabled has become an increasing problem. We must educate ourselves about this problem, as protecting our elderly from becoming victims is now "everyone's business."

**Neglect** means "the failure to provide for one's self the goods or services, including medical services, which are necessary to avoid physical or emotional harm or pain or the failure of a caretaker to provide such goods or services." Neglect may result in **starvation, dehydration**, over or under medication, **unsanitary living conditions**, or lack of heat, running water, electricity, medical care, or personal hygiene. **Abuse** means the "negligent or willful infliction of **injury**, unreasonable **confinement, intimidation**, or cruel punishment with resulting **physical or emotional harm** or pain by a caretaker, family member, or other individual who has an ongoing relationship with the person." Abuse includes **sexual assault, verbal, psychological, and physical abuse**. Obvious symptoms are **scratches, cuts, bruises, burns, and broken bones**. **Exploitation** means "the illegal or improper act or process of a caretaker, family member, or other individual who has an ongoing relationship with the elderly or disabled person, using the resources of an elderly or disabled person for monetary or personal benefit, profit, or gain without the informed consent of the elderly or disabled person." **Financial exploitation** is the illegal or improper use of another person's money or property. This includes taking Social Security or SSI (Supplemental Security Income) checks, abusing a joint checking account, and taking property or other resources that belong to the elderly person.

The Texas Department of Family & Protective Services and Adult Protective Services have jointly launched a campaign to help educate members of the community about the problems faced by the elderly and adults with disabilities, as well as how to prevent adult abuse, neglect, and exploitation. A guest speaker at the next meeting of the Shepherd Forest Civic Club will discuss this issue and how we can become aware of elder abuse that may be taking place in our own neighborhood.

### Shepherd Forest Civic Club Monthly Meeting

Monday, August 15th at 7:00 pm

Temple Oaks Baptist Church, 2103 West 34th @ Oak Forest

Topic: Abuse, Neglect, & Exploitation of the Elderly

Shepherd Forest Civic Club meetings are held on the third Monday of each month and all residents of are invited and encouraged to attend. To join the civic club, mail your \$20 per household membership dues to the SFCC at the address listed above.

**Adult Abuse & Exploitation - It's Everyone's Business !**

Visit [www.everyonesbusiness.org](http://www.everyonesbusiness.org) or call 1-800-252-5400 if you suspect that an elderly person is being abused.

## SFCC YARD OF THE MONTH WINNERS

With severe heat advisories every day, many residents are wisely doing their yard work during the early morning or late evening hours to avoid overexposure to heat and sun. Their hard work has paid off with some gorgeous yards & we congratulate the contest winners for this month. They are:

### Section 1 – ROBERTA SUGGS – 1134 West 30th

This beautiful yard provides a natural, native setting that includes knock out roses over 6 feet tall. A variety of caladiums, rudbeckia (black-eyed Susan), Spanish bird of paradise, bright sweet potato vine, and Texas cactus make this yard an easy winner.

### Section 2 - EVA KIRTEN & COOKIE DAVENPORT – 2118 Bron Holly

A massive old oak tree and beds of Dusty Miller, plumbago, blood lilies, and hummingbird plant catch the eye of neighbors passing by. Indian hawthorne hedges, nandina, and a bed of herbs, lilies, and sago palm add to the beauty of this outstanding Yard of the Month.

### Section 3 – ROGER & GERRY BARBEAU – 4106 Marlborough

Spectacular blooms stand tall on the giant vinca found in this attractive yard. Bright yellow esperanza combined with healthy fox tail ferns help make this yard a beauty. Also heat and sun loving is the upcoming trumpet plant working to make its mark in the center of the yard.

Congratulations to each of the SFCC Yard of the Month Contest winners. Each winner will be recognized at the next SF Civic Club meeting, which will be held on Monday, August 15<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm.



With one in four children in Texas not properly immunized, it is vitally important to make sure *your children* are immunized. Several places around Houston are offering **free or low cost shots** for children ages birth through 18 years old. This is the perfect opportunity to get your children up-to-date on their immunizations just in time for school. Some immunization opportunities are as follows:

### **BlueCross BlueShield Care Van**

If your child needs to catch up on shots, look no further than your local fire station or school. The BlueCross BlueShield Care Van gives **free childhood vaccinations to children (birth to 18 years)** at many locations each month. Each child must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. Be sure to bring your child's immunization records. Check out [www.carevan.org](http://www.carevan.org) for more information.

### **Texas Children's Hospital**

If you're into the old-school ways or can't read English, call **Texas Children's Immunization Help Line at 832-824-2061** for vaccine information by zip code. If you punch in your zip code, the line will give you events nearest you that offer free or inexpensive immunizations. You can also use the help line to hear information about vaccines appropriate for your child's age. The information is available in **English, Spanish and Vietnamese**. You can also visit their web site at [www.texaschildren.org](http://www.texaschildren.org).

### **Houston Children's Museum**

The Children's Museum of Houston is helping get their kids ready for school by offering free immunizations. As part of the giveaway, the first 150 people in line 18 years old and younger will receive a free immunization shot. The event is held at the museum (1400 Binz St.) and runs from 5

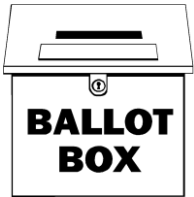
p.m. to 7 p.m. every Thursday until August 25th. Those receiving the immunizations will need to bring their shot records. Contact The Children's Museum at **713-522-1138** for more information.

For the latest information about neighborhood related issues, SF civic club programs & projects, local schools, weather, traffic, and much more, please check out our website at [www.shepherdforest.org](http://www.shepherdforest.org).



## SHEPHERD FOREST CIVIC CLUB URGES YOU TO "GET INVOLVED"

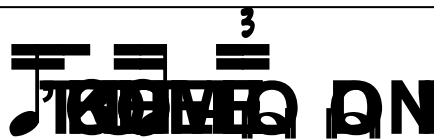
At the September 19th monthly meeting, the Shepherd Forest Civic Club will elect a new **President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer**, as well as **three members of the Board of Directors**. We urge all residents to consider serving. In an effort to fairly represent all three sections of our neighborhood, the SFCC is seeking residents from each section to get involved and seek these positions. In addition, the SFCC is looking for Chairpersons and/or volunteers for our **Citizens on Patrol, Yard of the Month & Christmas Decorating Contest, Membership Committee, Welcome Committee, Beautification Committee, Deed Restriction Enforcement Committee, Architectural Control Committee, Program Chairman, Newsletter distributors.....**



It's time for new faces to fill the positions within the SFCC – and **we need YOU** to help keep this organization strong. *Whatever* your interest, we have a place for you to volunteer. If you have ideas for programs and projects for our neighborhood, now is your chance to speak up and get involved. Please consider volunteering to help make a difference in Shepherd Forest. Our past officers and board members have worked countless hours to keep abreast of issues facing our residents. Now it's your turn to get involved. It takes **all of us working together** to preserve our neighborhood. **We MUST have your help if we are to continue as a strong civic club** and work on behalf of all of our residents. Please contact any SFCC officer or Board Member to volunteer to serve or to nominate someone else for any one of these positions.

### Party Line

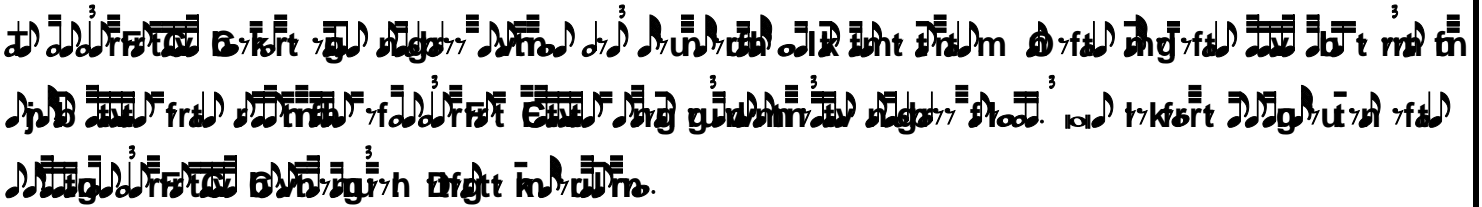
Best wishes for a very Happy Birthday are to sent to our neighbors celebrating upcoming birthdays. They include **JC MOSIER (8/7), MARY ELLEN RESTIVO (8/15), NELL BAHAM (8/20), CORBIN LEVERTON (8/20), ROBERT HAMMOND (8/24), MARY FARMER (8/25), RUTH EVANS (8/25), GREG RESTIVO (8/29), BRANDON TRISTAN (8/30), and LORI BATTARBEE (8/31).....**Belated birthday wishes are sent to **BECKY BAUMAN** who celebrated her birthday on July 11<sup>th</sup>.....Congratulations are sent to those Shepherd Forest couples celebrating late August wedding anniversaries – **STANLEY & JANIE KOPP (8/26), and BILL & SANDY RITTENHOUSE (8/28).....**Happy Birthday wishes are sent to those who will be celebrating early September birthdays, including **PAUL DAVIS, JR. (9/5), KEN MINGUS (9/7), JOE JUNGBAUER (9/9), KENNY BATTARBEE (9/10), and ELSIE HALEY (9/12).....**A big Shepherd Forest "Welcome" goes to new neighbors **RON, TASHA, & CORBIN LEVERTON**. We're so glad that you are here!.....Best wishes for a speedy recovery are sent to **ESTHER HILDEBRAND** who has been facing back problems recently..... If you have news of birthdays, new neighbors, anniversaries or any other news to share, call the **SF PartyLine** at (713) 868-4062 and leave a detailed message.



Don't forget it's time for most local schools to be back in session (some HISD starts **August 15<sup>th</sup>**). Use **caution and proceed slowly** when driving through *any* school zone. Motorists should pay close attention to **flashing school zone lights** as well as posted speed limit signs. **HPD** reports that laser and motorcycle units are keeping a watchful eye



on drivers who **exceed** the school zone speed limit. Motorists who **pass a stopped school bus** with its red lights flashing will face a \$200 to \$1,000 fine **Slow Down – it's the Law !!**



## Citizens on Patrol Security Report

Our Citizens on Patrol (COP) report is fortunately short this month. It was reported that HPD surrounded a home in the **2200 block of Bron Holly** and arrested a robbery suspect found hiding in the attic of the house. A Chevy Tahoe was stolen from the **1800 block of Ansbury**. Suspicious people were seen throughout **Sections 1 and 3** soliciting for a supposed burglar alarm company. Another outstanding job was done by our Citizens on Patrol volunteers last month and we applaud all of their efforts. Our Citizens on Patrol reminds us to **call HPD if you should see anything or anyone that appears to be "suspicious,"** regardless of how insignificant it may seem at the time. Then, **AFTER** you have made the call to HPD, please notify our Citizens On Patrol by calling Cookie Davenport at 713-291-2321.



## SF CIVIC CLUB HOSTS PICNIC & PARADE KIDS PARADE LOOKING FOR PARTICIPANTS

The Shepherd Forest Civic Club will celebrate their **23rd Annual Fall Picnic** on **Sunday, September 25th** from 4:00 – 6:00 pm and you are invited!!! This year's added attraction and first ever **Kids Parade** is looking for participants. Don't miss the opportunity to let your kids shine and take part in the parade. Whether the kids are being pushed in a baby buggy, riding in a wagon, riding a tricycle, bicycle, or just walking, we want to see them in the parade. Decorate, dress up, or just show up and let our Shepherd Forest kids participate in this good old fashion fun. The annual picnic will again be held at **Stonecrest Park** (East T.C. Jester at Stonecrest) and as always, we will be serving delicious **hot dogs and watermelon** at the picnic. Don't forget to mark your calendars now for **Sunday, September 25th** – Come participate and enjoy the show! Bring your neighbors and lawn chairs and enjoy an afternoon of free food and lots of fun for all ages. For more picnic information or to sign up to participate in the **SFCC Kids Parade**, watch for the September issue of the SF Times or call Delinda Holland at 713-680-3956. **Bring your bike, decorate your trike, grab your stroller and dress the part. You can participate and join us in the short walk or just enjoy watching the parade! This is a good old fashion neighborhood celebration and fun for all ages!**



## TAX FREE SCHOOL SHOPPING NEXT WEEK

Once again, Texas shoppers will get a break from state and local sales taxes on **August 19th, 20th, and 21st** – known as the **Texas tax free shopping holiday**. On these days, purchases of school related **clothing, footwear, backpacks and school supplies** priced at less than \$100 will be tax free. If you should have any questions about the sales tax holiday, want a list of list of eligible tax-free items, or want additional information about other potential savings, please contact **the State of Texas Comptroller's office** by logging on to <http://www.window.state.tx.us> or calling **1-800-252-5555**.

GET  
READY  
TO  
SAVE

## NEIGHBORHOOD SALE TO BE HELD OCTOBER 1ST

As a community service to our neighbors, the Shepherd Forest Civic Club is again offering residents the opportunity to sell their unwanted items at the annual **SFCC Neighborhood Sale**, held in the Waltrip High School parking lot at 1900 West 34<sup>th</sup>. (**Residents** always keep *all the profits* from their sales – this is NOT a civic club benefit or fundraiser!). Planning is now underway for a Shepherd Forest Neighborhood Sale scheduled on **October 1st**. Information sheets and sign up forms will soon be available at [ww.shepherdforest.org](http://ww.shepherdforest.org). Watch for more details coming in the August SF Times newsletter or contact our SF Neighborhood Sale Chairman, Kevin Taylor, at 832-489-9004.