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www.ShepherdForest.org

October 2017

Make a Difference – Be The Change

Every year the Shepherd Forest Civic Club – YOUR Civic Club – holds elections for Officers and member of the Board of Directors. It is a crucial time for the Civic Club – a time when some officers step down, new officers assume new positions, and everyone in the Civic Club gets an opportunity to step up and serve. This is your annual chance to bring your ideas and opinions into the mix that ultimately makes Shepherd Forest the place you want to live, raise your family, and enjoy life.

“Be the change you wish to see in the world” ... Mahatma Gandhi

If you have lived in Shepherd Forest for a while, you are already aware of some of the things the Civic Club has done to improve life here – the **Beautification Committee** has devoted countless hours to picking up trash and trim bushes and brush along out thoroughfares; Civic Club officers joined forces with City officials to have **neglected properties** improved and maintained, and Deed Restrictions enforced; **neighborhood identity signs** have been placed in 10 strategic locations to let those who drive through our neighborhood know that we take pride in our property and our subdivision. And everyone knows about our wonderful **Annual Picnic, Easter Egg Hunt, Christmas Party, National Night Out gatherings, and bi-monthly Social events**.

But these are just the obvious results. You may not know that in the past 4 years, over 75 new residents have received “**Welcome Packets**” from the Civic Club – these packets includes a 14-page Handbook for residents to help them get to know the area, a copy of their section’s Deed Restrictions, car stickers, and coupons and offers from local businesses. **The Architectural Committee** has been busy reviewing plans for new homes and renovations, so that the appearance of our community can remain consistent. **Citizens on Patrol** have logged countless hours on the streets, both walking and more often in their cars at their own expense, patrolling all three sections of Shepherd Forest to be a visual deterrent to crime.

Even if you do not plan to join the Board or serve as an Officer, PLEASE COME TO THIS IMPORTANT MEETING and **vote for the people who will lead the Civic Club next year**. We will explain the minimal requirements of time and effort these positions require, and hope that you’ll bring your ideas and energy to help keep Shepherd Forest “A Place We Call Home”.

NEXT Shepherd Forest Civic Club Monthly Meeting

Monday, October 16th 2017 @ 7:00 pm
Temple Oaks Baptist Church – 2101 W 34th Street
(parking and entrance behind the church)

TOPIC: Officer Elections

*SFCC meetings are held on the third Monday of every month
All Shepherd Forest residents are ENCOURAGED to attend.*

Citizens Patrol Security Report

The aftermath of Hurricane Harvey seems to have bumped up criminal activity on some levels, as empty houses offer an opportunity for thieves. The Newsletter is sad to report that 2 houses on flood-ravaged Gardendale in Section 3 were victims of burglary in September. Vehicle break-ins continue to be reported in nearby Oak Forest and Garden Oaks. Some residents have been leaving their cars Unlocked with no valuables inside, thinking that this would at least keep thieves from breaking their car windows. Doing so, however, makes it even easier for someone to steal the whole car. HPD recommends ALWAYS locking your car, and never leave valuables in the car, visible or otherwise.

Here's what has been reported since the last newsletter:

9/13/17 Sec 1 1600 block Stonecrest – Theft
9/22/17 Sec 3 3800 block Gardendale – Burglary
9/23/17 Sec 3 3800 block Gardendale – Burglary
9/25/17 Sec 1 1400 block Ansbury – Theft
10/5/17 Sec 1 1400 block Ansbury – Theft
10/9/17 Sec 2 2200 block Wilde Rock – Theft

Report all crime to HPD. Citizens Patrol reminds us to call HPD (911 if it is an emergency, or 713-884-3131) if you should see anything or anyone that appears to be “suspicious,” AFTER you have made the call to HPD, notify our Citizens Patrol by reporting it to our new COP Coordinator Debby Fisher 434-221-6222.

OFFICER ELECTIONS – WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW



As you read on the front page, we will be electing Civic Club Officers and Board Members on Monday Night. Here are the positions that are open, and what is required:

President

- Chairs board meetings and sets the strategic direction of the Civic Club
- Must have previously served on the Board of Directors at some point*

Board Member Two 2-year spots and One 1-year (replacement) positions are open for upcoming term

- Provides input and votes on key Civic Club decisions
- Helps with various initiatives as appropriate

*This restriction can be lifted for someone who seriously wants to lead our Civic Club.

Other current Officers and Board Members have stepped up to take positions as Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary, but if anyone ELSE is interested in serving in these positions, you are MORE THAN WELCOME to come to the meeting and throw you had in the ring. Its an election – may the best candidates win!

Recycling? No, not yet ...

You may have seen a few trucks around in other areas picking up from the green recycling bins, but as of this week, the City of Houston has **still suspended recycling until further notice due to the need of extra personnel for debris collection related to disaster recovery.** For more information, visit www.HoustonSolidWaste.org or call 3-1-1. Until recycling resumes, you can call Section 3 resident John Carter, (713-683-5111) who recycles ALUMINUM CANS, with the proceeds donated to the Civic Club COP fund. Call him to arrange pickup. There are bins for GLASS ONLY in the parking lot at T C Jester Park. When regular service resumes, we will be publishing our quarterly Calendar of Heavy Trash and Recycling dates to help you remember.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

November 20th General Meeting – Salute to Veterans
December 11th – Annual Christmas Party

Party Line

Wishing a belated happy October birthday to **Brian Miller (10/3)**. Happy October birthday to **Jan Hughes (10/23)**. Happy November birthdays for **Gerry Barbeau (11/1)**, **Ricardo Tristan (11/4)**, **Lisa Nieto (11/5)**, **Justin Alvarez (11/6)**, **Travis Holland (11/7)**, and **Eva Kirten (11/15)**

Congratulations to proud parents **Wendy and Keith Burmaster** on the arrival of their new daughter, **Tessa**, born October 8.

And a hearty Shepherd Forest welcome is extended to **Peyton and Angela Arens**, and **Tim, Angela and Sammy Hider**, all new residents in Section 1.

If you have news of birthdays, new neighbors, illnesses, anniversaries, or any other news to share, please contact the editor at 281-488-3216 or by e-mail Lambmn1011@aol.com

The SF Annual Picnic – Record-breaking Attendance!

Beautiful weather and record-setting attendance helped to make this year's Annual Shepherd Forest Picnic a huge success. Residents from babies in arms to our most senior of "seniors" came out to Stonecrest Park on Sunday September 24th to enjoy hot dogs, watermelon and good times with their friends and neighbors. The crowd was estimated at almost 150 adults and kids, enjoying the bouncy castle, the petting zoo, and toys and games for the little ones. Several people joined the Civic Club, as Treasurer Mark Landress was on site to collect their dues. A big shout out goes to **Nell Baham**, who organized and led the Children's Parade along the bike path near the bayou, and provided American flags for the kids to wave. Special thanks go to **Patricia Williams** for manning the Membership table and selling T-shirts, **Krista Ripper** for bringing favors for the kids, "chef" **Raymond Dietrich** and his backup, **Clyde Muske** for cooking the hot dogs, and **Richard Holland** and his team of servers for making sure no one left hungry. Congratulations to **Delinda Holland** and her organizing skills for making this event a rousing success.



Please take a moment to patronize and/or thank our Sponsors:

Dr Gleem – Marcia's Petting Zoo
HEB on 18th – Hot Dogs and Buns
Jan Hughes – Sponsor in Kind

National Night Out – Dampened But Not Defeated



Although a day-long rainstorm threatened to derail this event, hosts and helpers in all three sections set up their tents, lawn chairs and snacks to attract those who wanted to meet their neighbors and weren't afraid to get wet. As many as 35 adults and kids were at the Holland residence to support Section 2. Section 1 had two gatherings – 23 visitors to the Muske home (including some new residents) and Patricia Williams hosted 15 people (also some new neighbors) on 31st St.(see photo). Attendance was somewhat lighter than usual for the Dietrichs in Section 3 (17) and the Thompson family on Larknolls had 10, including Civic Club President Kurt Schoeffler. Thanks to everyone who hosted, and we look forward to better participation (and better weather!) next year.

News from the Beautification Committee

Earlier this month a vehicle struck and knocked down our neighborhood sign at the corner of Guese and the feeder along 610. Quick to the rescue was neighbor **Mary Ann Restivo**, who brought the sign back to her house for safekeeping. Sign "adopters" **Keith and Wendy Burmaster** noticed right away that it was gone, and after a few messages on social media, the sign was returned to its original spot. Thanks to everyone for efforts and taking the time of keep our signs looking good.

Thanks to Section 1 resident **Mark Landress**, who recently chopped down some scraggly trees that were blocking the view of the Attridge exit on the 610 feeder from motorists. While doing so, he reported that several drivers slowed down to thank him!

Shepherd Forest's youngest Hurricane Hero



A few days after Hurricane Harvey passed through Houston, Section 1 resident Auden Trevino decided she wanted to do something to help victims and the city rebuild. But when you're only 8 years old, your resources are somewhat limited. With the support of her mom (via Facebook) and local residents, she set up a lemonade stand in front of her house. It was a warm day, and cold lemonade selling at 50 cent a cup really hit the spot. Within hours, she had raised \$108.50. Her family matched that amount several times over, and Auden was able to donate that \$108.50 to the American Red Cross, and \$242.00 in matching funds to the JJ Watt Hurricane Relief Fund. Thanks to Auden, and her mom Melissa Trevino, for making this happen!!

Officers and Directors for Shepherd Forest Civic Club

Officers

President – Kurt Schoeffler (3) 281-217-1122
Vice President – Debby Fischer (3) 434-221-6222
Secretary – Delinda Holland (temporary)
Treasurer – Mark Landress (1) 713-880-4847
Newsletter – Mary Lamb (1) 281-488-3216

Board of Directors

Glenn Cessna (2) 832-659-2069
Bid Nutt (3) 713-681-9367
Edward Vargas (1) 713-864-8127
Mary Lamb (1) 281-488-3216
POSITION OPEN

Beautification Committee Chairman – POSITION OPEN

Citizens on Patrol Officer – Debby Fischer (3) 434-221-6222

Shepherd Forest Civic Club P.O. Box 925282, Houston TX 77292-5292



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