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www.ShepherdForest.org

February 2018

Happy Hour 2018 – Our First Social of the Year



Join us on Monday, February 19th, as we kick off the first Social meeting of the year at The Union Kitchen on Ella.

If you haven't been to Union Kitchen yet, this is a great opportunity to experience the warm, friendly atmosphere and delicious fresh food they offer. Aside from being a great addition to our neighborhood, The Greater Houston Restaurant Association

awarded owners Doris and Paul Miller their top honors of Restaurateur of the Year and the People's Choice Award at their annual event last month.

We will also bring to the table the topic of our recently formed Security Task Force, and the results of their first official meeting. They have some interesting things to share with us, and more plans for how we can improve the overall security of Shepherd Forest. We are looking forward to your suggestions and comments, so please come to share them with us.

Don't miss the opportunity to meet your neighbors, possibly win a door prize, and enjoy Happy Hour with us!

NEXT Shepherd Forest Civic Club Monthly Meeting

Monday, February 19th 2018 @ 6:00 pm
The Union Kitchen – 3452 Ella Blvd.

TOPIC: Security Task Force – Next Step

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

Have You Paid Your Membership Dues Yet?

Its never too late to become an official member of the Civic Club. The fee is only \$20 for the year, and you can pay at any general meeting, like the one mentioned above. You can also take the quick-and-easy route by going to our website: www.ShepherdForest.org and follow the link to Paypal. At the moment we have only 130 members who have paid their dues, which represents only 14% of all homes in Shepherd Forest. We want to hear from you whether you own or rent your home. If you have any questions, or want to get involved with Beautification, Security, or just have suggestions about the Civic Club or the Shepherd Forest in general, reach out to info@shepherdforest.org and let us know what's on your mind. **We are VERY interested in hearing what you think about how we can improve our neighborhood!**



Citizens Patrol Security Report

Our cars continue to be the primary target of local crime. Our parked vehicles are always vulnerable, and windows can be smashed and valuables taken even in public places. A Shepherd Forest resident was a recent victim of a smash-and-grab when she stopped for coffee at a nearby place on the North Loop. In the time it took for her to go in and come out, her car window was smashed and purse stolen from the front seat of her car. NEVER LEAVE VISIBLE VALUABLE IN YOUR CAR WHEN YOU PARK IT ANYWHERE.

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

DATE	SEC	BLOCK	STREET	INCIDENT
1/2/18	3	4100	Gardendale	Theft
1/12/18	1	1000	Stonecrest	Theft - tires & rims
1/23/18	1	900	Stonecrest	Car entered and rifled through
1/30/18	2	2200	Stonecrest	Burglary
2/1/18	1	1700	Wilde Rock	Burglary
2/3/18	1	1400	Stonecrest	Theft
2/4/18	1	1000	Stonecrest	Theft
2/7/18	1	3000	Attridge	Truck broken into
2/10/18	1	3000	Attridge	Theft -- Shed broken into

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.

~~~~~ Security Taskforce Update ~~~~~



(From Patricia Williams, Security Task Force Chair): On Monday, January 22, Major Jacob Montgomery from S.E.A.L. (Strategic Executive and Logistical Security Solutions) provided the Shepherd Forest Security Task Force with a colorful booklet that explained their Community Patrol Program, and he expanded on the details during our meeting. S.E.A.L. currently serves Timbergrove. Here are a few benefits mentioned during the meeting.

- 24 hour hotline exclusive to Shepherd Forest;
- An officer would work 40 hours per week;
- Marked security car with K-9 included; and
- Authority to arrest but not transport, would coordinate with HPD.

Our next Shepherd Forest Security Task Force meeting will be held **on Monday, February 26, from 7:00 p.m. until 8:15 p.m. at the YMCA, located at 1234 West 34th Street.** Captain Hennessy, Lt. Alfred, and Chief Harrison from the Constable's Office will be our speakers. That office staff currently serves Garden Oaks and Shepherd Park Plaza. All SF residents and owners are welcome to attend and join the Task Force.

In addition, we discussed the Citizens on Patrol Program (COP) at both the last task force and board meetings. If you are interested in attending the one- hour-thirty-minute training session and volunteering to patrol in your section, you may sign up at either the Civic Club social on February 19 or the Task Force meeting on February 26.

Feel free to contact me at paw@earthlink.net if you have additional questions or comments.

Party Line

Wishing happy February birthdays to **Angie Joe** (2/16) and **Gene Hightower** (2/27). Wishing happy March birthdays to **Jonathan Evanicky** (3/18), and **Delores Muske** (3/29).

Condolences to the family of long-time Section 2 resident **James Knapik**, who passed away February 3.

Congratulations to **Taylor and Heather Evans** on the birth of their twin boys **Watson and Jackson** on January 11. They are growing up in their family's Section 1 home where Taylor spent his childhood.

Congratulations to Section 2 residents **Richard and Delinda Holland**, on the birth of their twin granddaughters **Natasha** and **Layla** on February 7. Proud parents are **Travis and Ula Holland** of Camp Pendleton, CA.

Congratulations to Section 2 residents **Louis and Juvie Cruz Cardenas** on the birth of their son **Rome** on February 14.

Congratulations to Section 2 resident **Kristie Grizzle** and new Shepherd Forest resident **Martin Gollwitzer** on their marriage February 10.

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

Thanks and a tip of the hat to ...

Mary Ellen Restivo, who took time to stop at the Shepherd Forest sign nearest her house, and pick up some of the trash and papers that had accumulated there. This is a reminder that spring is the time of year when we begin to think about another organized cleanup of trash along the 610 feeder that borders Sections 1 and 2.

The anonymous resident in Section 3 who made the effort and used their own resources to secure the gate at the end of Vollmer Street. Vandals had broken the iron bar that was welded to this gate, enabling foot traffic to travel through that part of Section 3. This resident used their own chain and lock to keep the gate closed until the damage can be repaired.

Make Plans to attend The SF Easter Egg Hunt!

The excitement is building as plans continue for the Shepherd Forest Civic Club **EASTER EGG HUNT** scheduled for **Saturday, March 24th at 10:00am**. This much anticipated civic club event will again be held at **Stonecrest Park**, located on East T.C. Jester at Stonecrest. All Shepherd Forest residents and their children or grandchildren are invited and encouraged to attend this special family event. *No one* is too young or too old to attend the Egg Hunt! And **EVERY** participant will win a prize. We can always use some extra help at this event, and donations are gratefully accepted for candy and favors, so contact Delinda Holland (713-416-1888)



UPDATE ON HEAVY TRASH

As of February 14, 2018, contracted storm debris collection is still in place, and will be until February 28. Therefore, **City Junk Waste/Tree Waste crews will resume the regular scheduled Tree Waste and Junk Waste collections on March 1, 2018.**

Section 1 & 2 pickup on the 3rd Thursday (3/15) (4/19) (5/17) (6/21)

Section 3 pickup on the 4th Tuesday (3/27) (4/23) (5/22) (6/26)

SAVE THOSE ALUMINUM CANS! Call Section 3 resident **John Carter**, (713-682-5111) who will pick up and recycle them, with the proceeds donated to the Civic Club COP fund.

Spring Comes Early to White Oak Bayou

If the banks of the bayou along East T.C. Jester at 34th seems a little greener these days, its not just because of all the rain we've had recently. Within the past week, 50 new young trees were planted there by volunteers from **Coca-Cola Southwest** and **Trees for Houston**, partnered with the **Houston Parks Board**. This was part of the Bayou Greenways 2020 initiative, dedicated to beautifying the area's bayous.

According to *The Leader* Newspaper, Trees For Houston Executive Director Barry Ward said "They're going to create shade and cool this entire area down, so this cement will last longer due to the shade and cooling effect; plus, all of this will be much nicer, and easier for people to use."

In addition to providing volunteers, Coca-Cola made a generous \$10,000 donation to assist in the purchase, planting and future upkeep of the area



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Beautification Committee Chairman – POSITION OPEN

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

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