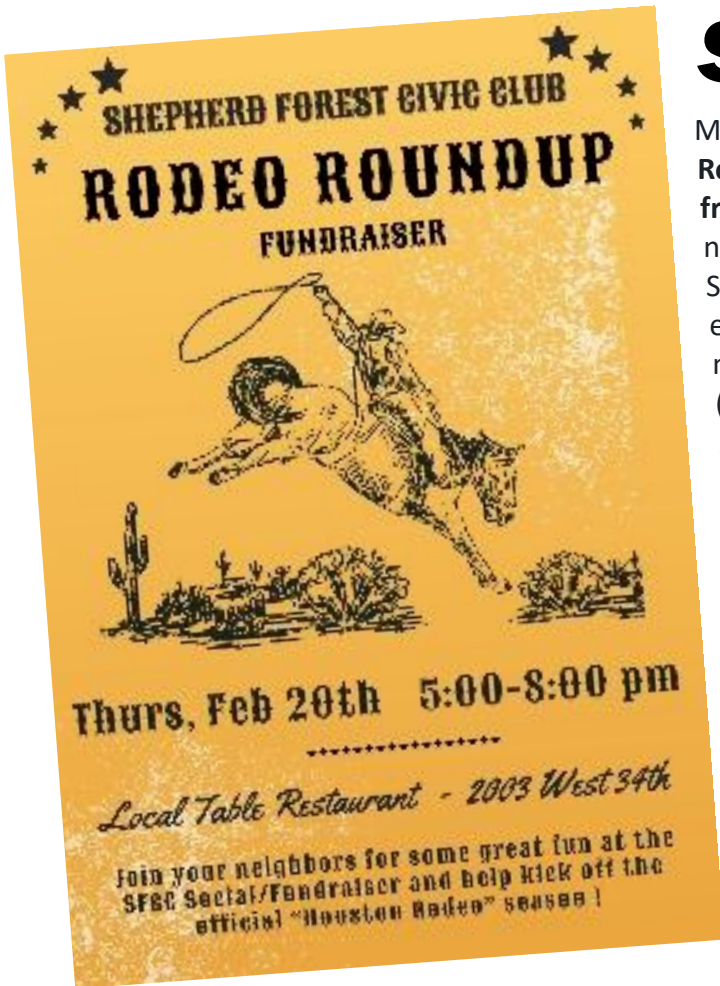




THE SHEPHERD FOREST | FEBRUARY 2025 TIMES

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE SHEPHERD FOREST CIVIC CLUB

VOLUME 41, ISSUE 2



SFCC FUNDRAISER

Make plans now to attend the Shepherd Forest Civic Club's Rodeo RoundUp Fundraiser on Thursday, February 20th from 5:00 – 8:00 pm and have a fun evening with your neighbors while helping to raise funds for your Civic Club. All Shepherd Forest residents and families are invited and encouraged to attend this special event which will be held at nearby restaurant, **Local Table**, located at 2003 West 34th (Across from Waltrip High School).

The Rodeo themed event will have news and tidbits directly from the Rodeo Speakers Committee & will serve as a fundraiser for the SFCC with a percentage of restaurant sales that evening being donated back to the Shepherd Forest Civic Club. A large variety of food and beverage options from the restaurant menu will be available for you to purchase. All you need to do is come enjoy a great meal (or enjoy takeout) and be sure to mention "Shepherd Forest Civic Club", and a portion of the money you spend will be donated directly back to the SFCC. What an easy way to help raise needed funds for your Civic Club. And.....twelve lucky attendees will receive **Free YMCA Guest Passes!** Don't miss out - hope to see ya there!

CIVIC CLUB MEMBER? HERE'S WHY YOU SHOULD JOIN

Membership dues for 2025 are now due for everyone and are still **only \$25 per household**, one of the *lowest* civic club membership dues across our City. This small fee helps fund this newsletter and upcoming events such as Easter Egg Hunt & Bunny photos, Fall picnic (members receive a \$25 Dr. Gleem Car Wash certificate), Socials, Halloween event, Professional Photos with Santa, Christmas dinner, as well as Beautification projects, Citizens on Patrol, Deed Restriction enforcement, Civic Club website, and much more. **These are just a few of the FREE benefits your \$25 Shepherd Forest Civic Club membership dues provide for you all year long!**

It's very easy for you to join or renew your membership. You can mail membership dues to SFCC, PO Box 925282,



Houston, Texas 77292-5282. Prefer to pay online? Visit <http://www.shepherdforest.org> and click on Join SFCC, or scan the QR code on this page. All members will be entered into a **drawing for an Academy Sports & Outdoors gift Card**

to be given away at the February Fundraiser. Just another good reason to join the SF Civic Club today!





PARTY LINE

Warm Happy Birthday wishes are sent to our neighbors **ANGIE JOE** who celebrates on 2/16 and **JESSICA CABALLERO** who celebrates on 2/22. Special Happy Birthday wishes also go to **NORA BERRY** on 2/23 and to **JUSTIN BERRY** on 2/28. Several neighbors will be celebrating their birthdays in early March, including **COOKIE DAVENPORT** on 3/04 and **BID NUTT** on 3/10.

Hope each one of you have a wonderful birthday!

Happy Wedding Anniversary wishes are sent to **SHARON & IAN KINLOCH** who will celebrate March 6th.

A huge "Congratulations!" is sent to Bron Holly residents **MICHAEL and MICHELLE SCHMIDT** on the October 13th arrival of their precious baby girl, **EMSLEIGH**. Proud brother **GAVIN** has been enjoying his beautiful new baby sister and his role as a "big brother."



Congratulations are sent to the lucky winners of the SFCC Membership Drive Raffle in January. They are:

WINNERS

\$25 Amazon Gift Card – Laurie Pythyon

\$25 Target Gift Card – Leslie Sparacino

Lottery tree (Lottery tickets) – Ashley & Eric Garner

Another lucky winner will receive a gift card to Academy Sports & Outdoors at the February SFCC Fundraiser. All paid members will be automatically entered into the drawing, so join or renew your SFCC membership today!

If you are a new neighbor, have birthdays, anniversaries, new baby, or other news you would like to share, please send the information to info@shepherdforest.org and we'll include it in the Times.



March 2nd – Texas Independence Day

Texas Independence Day is a state holiday that commemorates the adoption of the Texas Declaration of Independence on March 2, 1836. On that date, delegates met at the small riverside village of Washington-on-the-Brazos, and overnight wrote, and then adopted (without debate), the **Texas Declaration of Independence** which declared their independence from Mexico and created the Republic of Texas. Today, the only remaining (of the original five) copy of this document can be seen at the Texas State Archives in Austin, Texas. Show your Texas Pride and celebrate this important Texas holiday!



OAK FOREST HOUSING DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

Several weeks ago the SFCC received notification from Councilmember Abbie Kamin that on 1/14/25, the Houston Public Works Dept. had approved the Site Development plan for Marigny Heights, the housing project currently being built on the south end of Oak Forest at Ansbury. Despite protests from residents and many reports made to 311, the owner was actively working on purchasing permits that would allow him to proceed with site development. Councilmember Kamin reached out to the Public Works director to voice our concerns and frustration, and the SFCC has since received confirmation that holds have been placed on the project to prevent the permits from being issued. Although the owner was allowed to pay off his citations from last year, a new citation was written last week and City inspectors have plans to return to check the site soon.



An enormous thank you goes to every resident that has taken the time to file a 311 complaint or contact Councilmember Kamin. The SFCC continues to monitor and report on this project, but we need our residents to **continue filing complaints** with the City. If you see **any activity** taking place at the construction site, please immediately report it to 311 and refer to work being done without permits on City projects **#22098538** and **#22115495** at 2002 Oak Forest. We need the support and assistance of all residents to fight this project.



SECURITY NEWS

Please pay attention to what you see around you and don't hesitate to contact HPD if something doesn't look right. You never know how your information could be related to another crime or how the picture you just snapped could help solve a

crime ring in the neighborhood. We must all get involved, talk to our neighbors, and **report all crime**, regardless of how insignificant it may seem at the time. After you have made an HPD report, please notify **Security Coordinator Paul Berry (915) 373-8820** that a crime has occurred in your area. The number of HPD units assigned to our area is directly linked to the number of calls for service that HPD receives from our residents. So be sure that you report *everything* to HPD when it occurs! According to SpotCrime, several assaults and automobile burglaries were reported at apartments in the 1700, 2100, and 4200 blocks of West 34th. In addition, the following crimes near the Shepherd Forest area were reported to HPD recently:



- 01/18 – 1700 block of Wilde Rock – theft
- 01/23 – 3000 block of Ella – assault in a parking lot
- 01/29 – 1700 block of West 34th - assault in a parking lot

Once again, we send our thanks and appreciation to our very dedicated Citizens on Patrol members who patrol our neighborhood to keep a watchful eye on what is going on. If you would like to join this dedicated group or get more info about the SF Citizen on Patrol Program, please contact Security Coordinator Paul Berry.

NEW 621 AREA CODE

The Houston area is growing so quickly that we're expected to run out of area codes by the end of next year. As a result, for the first time in nearly 10 years, a new area code was added to the Houston area on January 23rd. Once telecommunications carriers have exhausted all telephone numbers with the current 713/281/832/346 area codes, new numbers will be assigned the new 621 area code. At that time, if you request new service or add an additional line, you will get the 621 area code. The 621 code will cover the same geographic areas that our current area codes cover -- meaning the greater metro area of the City of Houston and surrounding cities including, Baytown, League City, Missouri City, Pasadena, Pearland, Sugar Land, The Woodlands, and more.

Houston's original area code, 713, was created in 1947 as one of the original four area codes assigned to Texas. In 1996, the 713 area code was split into two, switching most Houston suburbs to the 281 area code. Two years later, the 832 area code was added. As a result, Houston residents were required to start ten-digit dialing (area code+phone number) for local calls. In 2013, the 346 was added, and now 13 years later, we have the new 621 area code. The new 621 area code is expected to have enough numbers to last nine years.

Happy Valentine's Day



ARE YOU REMODELING OR UPDATING YOUR HOME? The Shepherd Forest Deed Restrictions require residents to submit all building and/or construction plans to the Shepherd Forest Civic Club Architectural Committee for approval BEFORE any work begins on their project. To find out more information about this issue or to find a Building Approval Application, visit the Civic Club website at www.shepherdforest.org and look under the "Quick Links" tab.



The Shepherd Forest Civic Club Yard of the Month Contest will begin in April, with judging of yards being done on the **last full weekend of each month**. Yards are judged on best “overall appearance” and a variety of beautiful yards have won the award. Past award winners included lawns with beautiful shrubs and greenery and other yards that were filled with flowers of beautiful spring colors. All types of yards, and both homeowners **and** renters, are eligible to win the Yard of the Month Contest, so there are no excuses for not getting your yard into shape this spring.

Additional volunteers are needed to serve as judges for this contest. What a great volunteer job - it takes less than an hour a month (April through September) and your help would be greatly appreciated. This is a wonderful opportunity for you to get

involved with your civic club, especially if *your time is very limited*. Contact the Civic Club at info@shepherdforest.org for more information about the Yard of the Month Contest or if you are willing to serve as a judge

Registering your pet is the law.

The City of Houston Municipal Code (Section 6) requires that anyone who owns, keeps, possesses, or has control of a dog or cat four months of age or older must have his or her pet registered, vaccinated



against rabies every year, and a registered microchip. The City’s pet registration identifies and protects your pet in case it becomes lost. (Even indoor pets can get out and become lost.) You are required to renew your registration yearly

and update when you move and/or your pet is given away, lost, stolen or is deceased.

DON'T MISS THIS

Feb 20th – Civic Club Rodeo Roundup Fundraiser

Local Table Restaurant – 2003 W. 34th

Support the SFCC between 5 & 8:00pm

Be sure to mention “Shepherd Forest!”

March 17th – SFCC Meeting

Topic: Lawns, Trees, and Gardens

April 12th – Annual Easter Egg Hunt and

Professional photos with the Easter Bunny

April 21st thru 25th – SFCC Citizens on Patrol

Aluminum Can Drive – save your aluminum!!!



Mark your calendars now for the SFCC’s Annual Easter Egg Hunt and Photos with the Easter Bunny. The event will take place on **SATURDAY, APRIL 12TH**, at 10:00 am at Stonecrest Park on East TC Jester. Everyone is welcome to attend and children of all ages are encouraged to participate. Be sure to watch for more details in the next issue of the SF Times.

VALENTINE'S SALE!

**COLOR PRINTS
8.5 X11 SHEETS
.12 PER COPY**

**CUSTOM T-SHIRTS
8.00 -10.00
EMAIL FOR QUOTE**

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