



THE SHEPHERD FOREST | JANUARY 2026 TIMES

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE SHEPHERD FOREST CIVIC CLUB

VOLUME 42, ISSUE 1

Shepherd Forest Tree Planting Scheduled for January 24th

The Shepherd Forest Civic Club and the City of Houston's Parks and Recreation Department are working collaboratively on a late January tree planting project for our neighborhood - *and we need your help!* Because of past droughts, historical windstorms, and a derecho last year, Shepherd Forest has unfortunately lost many beautiful trees that were previously planted in the area by Shepherd Forest Civic Club volunteers over 25 years ago. Stonecrest Parkway, along East TC Jester (between Loop 610 and West 34th) was hit extremely hard and very few trees remain in the park. As part of their Riparian Restoration Initiative, the City is currently undertaking a \$4 million project targeting all parks adjacent to waterways for reforestation, which would help mitigate flooding, improve water quality, reduce erosion, create wildlife habitat, and much more. Fortunately, Stonecrest Park was included in the project and a massive tree planting will take place **on Saturday, January 24th, 2026** in the park. More detailed information about the City of Houston's Riparian Restoration Initiative can be found on the City's Parks and Recreation website .



The City will provide a diverse mix of over 150 native trees, along with mulch, tools, shovels, and gloves for each volunteer. Holes for the trees will be dug by the City *prior to* the actual event. Volunteers are desperately needed for this community project and will only need to place the tree in the hole and fill with dirt and mulch. Volunteers for this fun event should meet at the park between 8:30 and 9:00am to receive their equipment and instructions for planting the trees. After signing up to volunteer, you will receive an email with more detailed event information. If you, or anyone you know, are willing to help with this project, please sign up at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F45ABA62FAAF4CE9-60735149-tree>. This would be a great opportunity for any individual, school, Boy Scout troop, corporate volunteer groups.....or anyone looking for a community service project. For more information, contact Katie Hassett at katiehassett@gmail.com.



SHEPHERD FOREST CIVIC CLUB MEETING

Monday, January 26th @ 7pm

**Topic: City Legal Dept. will discuss Deed Restrictions
Garden Oaks Baptist Church - 3206 N. Shepherd
(Please submit any specific Deed Restriction related questions
you may have to katiehassett@gmail.com before January 12th)**

***Don't miss this informative meeting and announcement of
the lucky SFCC Membership Drive \$50 gift card winner !***



PARTY LINE

Oops! A belated but sincere Happy Birthday wish is sent to **Richard Brock** who celebrated his big day on 12/19. Best wishes for a very Happy Birthday are also sent to the following neighbors who celebrate birthdays in January: **Jax Javier Fuentes** (1/7), **Bob Williamson** (1/11), **Kendra Benson** (1/21), **Rowan Andrew** (1/25), **Wesley Yanez** (1/28), **Katy Cattoni** (1/30), **Teddy Kownslar** (1/31), and **Jean Jungbauer** (1/31). Celebrating an early February birthday will be **Shirley Evanicky** (2/9). Best wishes for a very Happy Birthday to all of you !!

Congratulations and Happy Anniversary wishes are sent to **Kim & Jason Syrinek** who will celebrate on 1/14.

The SFCC sends it deep appreciation to **LaViva Mexican Restaurant** on West 43rd for their recent hosting of our October Civic Club social. A huge thank you also goes to **GABBY'S BBQ** on N. Shepherd for their generosity and help making the SFCC Annual Christmas dinner a great success. If you missed this event, you missed some great food & musical entertainment by SaxWorx. Thanks also go to all the volunteers that worked hard on this event.

Hats off to **Kim Syrinek** and the volunteers that helped with the SFCC Annual Photos with Santa event. A huge turnout of neighbors for the fun-filled morning enjoyed the snacks, activities, and visits with Santa that Kim had planned. A special debt of gratitude goes to **Kevin Dunn and Portrait EfX**, **Jasons Deli (Hwy 290@34th)**, and **Shipleys Donuts on Ella**...and as always, THANK YOU to our Community Partners, **Memorial Hermann Heights Hospital**, **HEB Grocery**, and **Dr. Gleem Car Wash on Ella**. Please patronize these local businesses and let them know how much we appreciate their continued support which helps to make our SFCC events possible.

Deepest sympathy is sent to Patsy Klahn and family on the recent passing of her husband, **FRANK KLAHN**. Frank and Patsy were longtime residents of Shepherd Forest and Frank served on the board and other capacities as a faithful volunteer for the Shepherd Forest Civic Club.

Sincere condolences are also sent to **PAUL & JEANNE BERRY** and family on the recent passing of his brother.

Best wishes for continued recovery are sent to **KEN MINGUS** as he recovers from recent surgery.

If you are new to the neighborhood or have any news you would like to share in the PartyLine, please send the information to info@shepherdforest.org.

JOIN THE SFCC TODAY *YOU may be a winner!*

Its time for you to pay or renew your 2026 Shepherd Forest Civic Club Membership Dues! If you haven't done so, please **scan this convenient QR code** and join or renew your Civic Club membership. If you prefer to pay your Membership Dues online, please visit the SF Civic Club website at <http://www.shepherdforest.org> and click on "Join SFCC" to pay your dues.



For only \$25 per household, you can make an investment in your community and home value by simply joining the Shepherd Forest Civic Club. This small investment has BIG returns including to help fund and make possible many civic club events and activities. This includes the Easter Egg Hunt & Photos, Picnic in the Park, Socials, Christmas Dinner & Photos with Santa, Citizens on Patrol, Beautification projects, Decorating contests, Shepherd Forest Entry signs, Deed Restriction enforcement, printing of this newsletter, SFCC website maintenance, and much, much more. What a great investment in your neighborhood for **ONLY \$25 annually per household!**



Every household that pays their dues by the **January 26th** meeting will *automatically be entered* into a DRAWING for a **\$50 gift Card**. Will you make an investment and support a civic club that works every day on your behalf? It's time to show your support by joining for **ONLY \$25 per household**. Do your part & join today - and **YOU** may be a lucky winner!

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PRESIDENT – Patricia Williams
VICE-PRESIDENT – Katie Hassett
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BOARD OF DIRECTORS

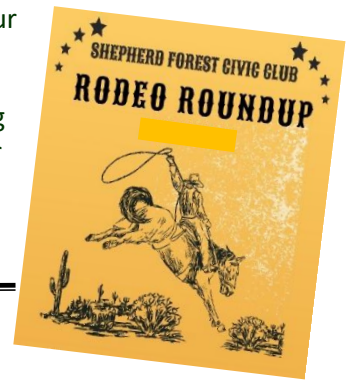
Shirley Evanicky JP Campione
Brandon Caire Kevin Dunn
Eileen Montgomery

SFCC "RODEO ROUNDUP" SOCIAL!

Mark your calendar now for the SFCC "Rodeo RoundUp Social" which is scheduled for

Thursday, February 12th at Demeris BBQ (Loop 610 @ West 18th) from 5 to 8pm. Bring your family and friends and enjoy some great food as you meet and mingle with your neighbors.

Help kick off Rodeo Season in Houston as we hear the latest "hot tips" and interesting information about the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo from officials. Don't forget to wear your favorite boots or western duds to help everyone get into the Rodeo Spirit! Attendees may purchase dinner or drinks from the extensive menu offered by Demeris. Don't miss this fun Civic Club social on Thursday, February 12th – hope to see you there!



SECURITY NEWS

As often happens during the holidays, suspicious vehicles and people roaming through the neighborhood were again reported to HPD in December. Please remember to stay alert to everything going on around you, and make a mental or written note of descriptions of vehicles and people that seem suspicious to you. Security Coordinator Paul Berry also reminds us that it's extremely important for residents to **report ALL CRIME** to HPD, regardless of how insignificant it may seem. The number of HPD patrol units assigned to our area is based on the number of calls to HPD we make. HPD also encourages residents to report suspicious people/activity so they will know what is going on in our neighborhood and then also notify our Security Coordinator at 915-373-8820 and report what has happened.

In addition to several reports of assaults and thefts at apartments along West 34th, the following crimes in our area were reported to HPD during the month of December (no specific addresses, only blocks are reported by Spot Crime who compiles this list):

- 12/04 – 1200 block of West 34th – Theft from motor vehicle in parking lot
- 12/06 – 3500 block of Guese – Theft from motor vehicle
- 12/17 – 3000 block of Greenhaven – Assault
- 12/19 – 2100 block of West 34th – Theft from motor vehicle in parking lot
- 12/21 – 2100 block of West 34th – Theft of a motor vehicle in parking lot
- 12/23 – 1400 block of Ansbury – theft
- 12/27 – 3400 block of West 34th - assault



The SFCC would like to send an enormous thank you to each of our Citizens on Patrol volunteers that managed to patrol during the busy holidays. Their time spent patrolling and keeping a watchful eye on the neighborhood was especially appreciated at a time of the year when theft crime is typically at its highest. The Security Committee is in need of more patrollers and would appreciate any time our residents are available to help out with our Citizens on Patrol efforts. If you would like more information about the program, or to volunteer your time, contact Paul Berry at 915-373-8820.



As we look ahead to the coming year, the Shepherd Forest Civic Club wants to make sure our

neighborhood reflects the needs of the people who live here. To do that, we are asking each resident to complete a short survey. Your input will help us decide what projects, events, and improvements to focus on, whether it's community gatherings, safety initiatives, beautification, or new programs. Go to <https://www.shepherdforest.org/survey.html> or scan the QR code provided in this newsletter to begin the survey. We want to hear YOUR FEEDBACK!





Christmas DECORATING CONTEST

In December, Shepherd Forest shown brightly with many beautifully decorated homes and lawns, making the Christmas Decorating Contest difficult for the judges. Many new and interesting decorations appeared throughout the neighborhood and there was great participation by many residents. Two homes in each section were selected as the 2025 Decorating Contest winners. Congratulations go to the following:

SECTION 1

1st Place – 1110 West 30th
Mark Starnes/Jon DeFourneaux

2nd Place – 1514 Ansbury
The Eddington Family

SECTION 2

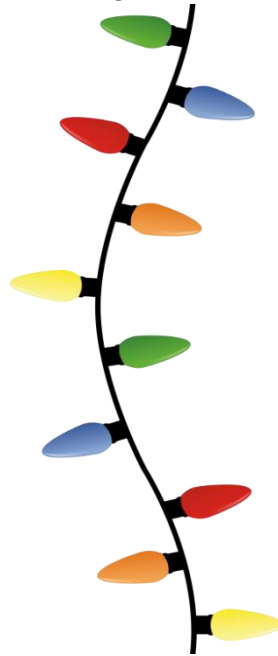
1st Place – 2306 Wilde Rock
The Millner Family

2nd Place – 2202 Bron Holly
The Allen Family

SECTION 3

1st Place – 4006 Marlborough
Dustin Vasco/Josh Mathis

2nd Place – 3003 Greenhaven
The Yanez Family



Now that the holidays are over and its time to take down the decorations, don't forget that you can recycle your **live** Christmas tree by dropping it off at TC Jester Park, 4200 West TC Jester thru January 24th. Remember- no flocked, artificial trees, or tinsel will be accepted.

TEXAS POWER GRID STABLE

The Texas power grid is expected to hold up this winter, officials with the Electric Reliability Council of Texas said in December. This is due in part to the "tremendous supply growth on the ERCOT grid," said ERCOT CEO Pable Vegas.

Since last winter, over 11,000 megawatts of generating capacity have been added to the ERCOT grid, Vegas said. That growth, which largely comes from battery storage and solar facilities, could be used to power about 2.8 million homes during periods of peak electric demand. Under most weather conditions, there is a less than 2% chance of a grid emergency through February.

ARE YOU REMODELING OR UPDATING YOUR HOME?

Shepherd Forest Deed Restrictions require residents to submit all building plans to the SFCC Architectural Committee for approval BEFORE any work begins. To find out more information about this issue or to find a Building Approval Application, visit the SFCC website at www.shepherdforest.org and look under the "Quick Links" tab.

MEMORIAL PARK GOLF PROJECT

Last year, City Council members approved \$1.52 million for improvements to the Memorial Park Golf Course Driving Range. The renovation project includes:

- Improve surface water runoff
- Soften severe slopes on the driving range
- Install new drainage infrastructure
- Replace irrigation system

The entire 12.5-acre range floor will also be drained, irrigated and sodded with the most intensive repairs concentrated within the central 8.5 acres. The project should take 10 weeks to complete and the range will be closed during the renovations.

HAPPY
New Year

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CREATIVE

PROUDLY PRINTS

The Shepherd Forest Times

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