

# SECURITY REPORT

According to SpotCrime, the following crimes near Shepherd Forest were recently reported to HPD:

- 2/25 – 1600 blk Ansbury - theft
- 3/05 – 2100 blk W. 34<sup>th</sup> – Assault in a parking lot
- 3/22 – 1700 blk W. 34<sup>th</sup> – Theft of motor vehicle

A suspicious man has been seen several times wandering through Section 2 and HPD has been notified. Increased vehicle related crimes were once again reported along Loop 610 between Ella Blvd and TC Jester and assaults were reported at several apartments along West 34th. Be aware of your surroundings at all times and report anything that looks suspicious to HPD immediately.

## SFCC EGG HUNT A SUCCESS

The recent SFCC Easter Egg Hunt and Photos with the Easter Bunny set an all time record attendance. An estimated crowd of 150 people, including nearly 60 excited children, along with parents, grandparents, friends and neighbors gathered for a festive morning filled with fun, photos with the Easter Bunny (free benefit for SFCC members), an egg hunt, and refreshments. Every child took home a prize.....and great memories as well.

Our deepest appreciation is sent to each of our Community Partners who made this most memorable event possible for our residents. They are: **Memorial Hermann Greater Heights Hospital, HEB (Heights) Grocery, Portrait EFX, and Dr. Gleem Car Wash.** Please patronize these businesses and let them know how much we appreciate their continued support of the Shepherd Forest Civic Club throughout the year.



Helping Here.®



## KITCHEN TRICKS FROM GRANDMA:

**REMOVING STUCK ON FOOD:** Tired of scrubbing stubborn, stuck-on food from your microwave? Fill a microwave-safe bowl with water, add a splash of lemon juice or vinegar, and heat it for 2-3 minutes. The steam loosens all the grime and grease—just wipe it clean with a paper towel. No elbow grease required.

**STOP BOIL-OVERS WHILE COOKING:** We've all been there—you turn your back on a boiling pot for one second and suddenly water is spilling everywhere. The fix? Keep a wooden spoon within arm's reach. Place it across the top of your pot when you step away—it breaks the bubbles and prevents messy boil-overs while you multitask on the rest of your meal.

**STORE UNUSED TOMATO SAUCE** in an ice cube tray in the freezer. Once frozen solid, transfer to a plastic freezer bag and use frozen cubes directly in recipes.

## SHEPHERD FOREST CIVIC CLUB 2026 OFFICERS & DIRECTORS

### OFFICERS:

- PRESIDENT** – Patricia Williams
- VICE-PRESIDENT** – Katie Hassett
- TREASURER** – Wanda Matthews
- SECRETARY** – vacant

### DIRECTORS:

- Shirley Evanicky
- Brandon Caire
- JP Campion
- Kevin Dunn
- Grant Mottershaw

- Security Coordinator – Paul Berry
- Newsletter – Delinda Holland



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# THE SHEPHERD FOREST | APRIL 2026 TIMES

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Pets come in all types, shapes, sizes, and ages and are often considered a member of our family. Caring for our pets means not only providing them with love, but everything they

need to live well. Pets need clean water, healthy food, and a safe place to rest. Regular visits to the vet help ensure our pets will live a long and healthy life.

Join us at the next Shepherd Forest Civic Club meeting to hear Dr. Jennifer Ahlquist from The Corner Vet in the Heights speak on how to care for our pets. Topics to be discussed may include a variety of things, from allergies, dentistry, behavioral modification, illnesses, vaccinations, nutrition, senior pets, and even pet acupuncture.

## HAPPY EASTER Sunday, April 5th

Shepherd Forest  
Civic Club Meeting  
"Caring for our Pets"  
Mon., April 20th

April 27th is the last day  
to register to vote for the  
May 26th Republican and  
Democratic run-off  
elections

## SHEPHERD FOREST CIVIC CLUB MEETING MONDAY, APRIL 20<sup>TH</sup> AT 7:00 PM

GARDEN OAKS BAPTIST CHURCH – 3206 N. Shepherd

TOPIC: CARING FOR OUR PETS

SPEAKER: DR. JENNIFER AHLQUIST (The Corner Vet)



Pets are an integral part of many people's lives, providing companionship, love, and joy. However, taking care of pets is a responsibility that should not be taken lightly. There are many factors to consider when it comes to ensuring the health and happiness of our furry friends. Don't miss the April 20<sup>th</sup> meeting to find out more!

Don't forget Mother's Day  
is just around the corner.  
Sunday, May 10th



**NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK - APRIL 19-25<sup>th</sup>**  
The Shepherd Forest Civic Club salutes our very  
dedicated Civic Club Volunteers and Citizens on Patrol  
members for their many hours of hard work put in each  
day on our behalf. **Hats off to each one of you!**

# Houston Switching to On-Demand Heavy Trash Pickup

The City will soon have a new method for collecting heavy trash. Instead of scheduled collection days, Solid Waste said residents will call 311 to request heavy trash collection. Each address may request up to **four collections** per calendar year. City officials say the change is designed to reduce delays, clear backlogs, and create a more efficient and accountable service. Appointments for pick-ups will start to open soon, but in the meantime, residents can continue using City drop-off and neighborhood depository sites across Houston for heavy trash, recycling, and household items.

Under the previous system, solid waste crews drove every street on set heavy trash days – whether there was trash out or not. This approach led to delays and backlogs, leaving residents frustrated by unpredictable service. Under the new model, crews go out only when a resident has requested service.

## How to Schedule a Heavy Trash Pickup after the new program begins:

- \* Call 311 to submit a service request
- \* Your request will be reviewed and scheduled by the City
- \* You will be notified of your pickup date by phone or email
- \* Once your appointment is scheduled, collection will be completed within five working days of the scheduled date.
- \* After pickup, the city will verify completion.
- \* Residents are encouraged to confirm the exact volume limits when they call 311



While the on-demand program was expected to roll out on March 2<sup>nd</sup>, officials say additional details on scheduling and implementation are still being finalized, and a new start date will be announced soon.

## What can be set out as heavy trash?

- \*Furniture
- \* Appliances
- \* Other bulk household items and large heavy trash

Important: Residential contractors are responsible for hauling away their own debris. Construction, remodeling, or landscaping contractors should not leave trash at the curb for City pickup.

## Residential Drop-Off Centers

<h3>Neighborhood Depositories</h3> <p><b>North</b> – 9003 N Main 77022  <b>Northwest</b> – 14400 Sommermeyer 77041  <b>Northeast</b> – 5565 Kirkpatrick 77028  <b>Southeast</b> – 2240 Central Street 77017  <b>South</b> – 5100 Sunbeam 77033  <b>Southwest</b> – 10785 SW Freeway 77074                  Tuesday – Saturday: 9:00 a.m. – 6 p.m.</p> <h3>Recycling Centers</h3> <p><b>Westpark Center</b> – 5900 Westpark 77057                  Tuesday – Saturday 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.</p> <p><b>Clear Lake/Ellington Airport</b> – 246 Loop Rd. 77034                  Open 7 days a week: 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.</p> <p><b>Kingwood</b> – 3210 W. Lake Houston Pkwy 77339                  Saturday and Sundays: 8 a.m. – 6 p.m.</p>	<h3>ACCEPTABLE ITEMS</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Ad inserts</li> <li>▪ Aerosol Cans</li> <li>▪ Aluminum Cans</li> <li>▪ Cardboard</li> <li>▪ Cartons – shelf stable and refrigerated</li> <li>▪ Catalogs</li> <li>▪ Concrete</li> <li>▪ Glass bottles and Jars</li> <li>▪ Magazines</li> <li>▪ Mattresses</li> <li>▪ Newspapers</li> <li>▪ All Plastics – All numbers and symbols accepted)</li> <li>▪ Steel cans</li> <li>▪ Telephone Books</li> <li>▪ Tin cans</li> <li>▪ Tree and yard waste</li> <li>▪ Up to five (5) automobile tires</li> </ul>
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Until the new program is fully underway, and even after it starts, residents can continue using City drop-off sites and neighborhood depository centers for heavy trash, recycling, and household items. Neighborhood depositories are open Tuesday through Saturday, 9:00 am to 6:00pm and are closed on Sunday and Monday. More information can be found at <https://www.houstontx.gov/solidwaste/depository.html>

# YARD OF THE MONTH CONTEST

The Shepherd Forest Civic Club Yard of the Month Contest will begin this month, with judging of yards being done on the **third 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 were filled with flowers of beautiful spring colors. 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. If you see a potential Yard of the Month winner, feel free to nominate them.



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](mailto:info@shepherdforest.org) to volunteer or to nominate a yard for consideration as a Yard of the Month winner.



Happy Birthday wishes are sent to our neighbors who will be celebrating their birthdays soon: **MARTI NELSON** (4/11), **PHIL KOWNSLAR** (4/13), **RUBEN ALVAREZ** (4/23), and **PAYTON ARENS** (4/27). A huge Happy Birthday wish is also sent to **MAYA DAVIS** who celebrates on May 1<sup>st</sup>.



Best wishes are sent to **PAUL BERRY** who is home and recovering from a recent surgery.

If you have a 2026 graduate, you are new to the neighborhood or have news of births, illnesses, deaths, birthdays, anniversaries, or any congratulations that you would like to share with your neighbors in the next issue of the SF Times, please send your name, news to share, along with your contact information to [info@shepherdforest.org](mailto:info@shepherdforest.org)

If you haven't yet paid your **2026 Shepherd Forest Civic Club Membership Dues**, there is still time. Household membership dues are only \$25 annually.

Don't miss out on the numerous benefits you will receive including the SF Times, special family events, dinners, beautification projects, socials, deed restriction enforcement, Citizens on Patrol, and much more. Without YOUR membership dues, none of this would be possible. Scan the QR code and join the Shepherd Forest Civic Club today!



As part of its commitment to keeping customers informed of the progress to strengthen the

electric grid around Houston, CenterPoint Energy has launched its new **Community Progress Tracker**. This new customer-focused map provides direct access to the public to track and measure **progress on electric infrastructure upgrades** in their neighborhood. Accessible online and on mobile devices, the tracker lets users search by address or ZIP code to view completed work across CenterPoint's 12-county service area. Updates on the tracker include installing new storm-resilient poles, burying underground power lines, tree trimming, clearing vegetation, and underground and automated equipment installed since August 2024. To explore the Community Progress Tracker, visit [CenterPointEnergy.com/Progress](https://CenterPointEnergy.com/Progress)

The **Community Progress Tracker** differs from CenterPoint's **Energy Outage Tracker** which provides up-to-date **information on outages and**



**restoration efforts** throughout CenterPoint's service territory. The Outage Tracker can be found by visiting <https://tracker.centerpointenergy.com/map/texas> This Centerpoint site provides live outage status, storm impacts and real-time updates during power outages. It shows which areas are affected, how many customers are impacted, estimated restoration times and more. It's designed to help customers stay informed during emergencies or service disruptions.