



SF TIMES

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SHEPHERD FOREST CIVIC CLUB ANNUAL PICNIC PLANNED FOR SUNDAY, SEPT. 27TH

The Shepherd Forest Civic Club has been making exciting plans for the annual Fall Picnic and we hope you and your neighbors will take the time to participate and enjoy the fun-filled afternoon. On **Sunday, September 27th**, the **21st Annual SFCC Fall Picnic** will be held from **4 to 6 pm** at Stonecrest Park on East T.C. Jester. Bring out your family, neighbors, and a lawn chair and help the SFCC celebrate **21 years of neighborhood unity and community involvement**. Spend the afternoon visiting with old and new neighbors as you enjoy some great **hot dogs** and **watermelon**, **games** for children and adults, **face painting**, a **singing cowboy**, **door prizes** and much more - all provided free by the Shepherd Forest Civic Club. As always, there will be a **petting zoo** (underwritten by Dr. Gleem Car Wash) and Houston Rodeo clowns for all to enjoy.

**BIG
EVENT!**



The picnic will again be held at **Stonecrest Park** (East T.C. Jester @ Stonecrest.) Several area businesses have made generous donations for the picnic, including **Dr. Gleem Car Wash**, **HEB Grocery (West 18th @ TC Jester)**, **Roznovsky's Hamburgers**, and **Doyle's**. Please patronize these businesses and thank them for their continued support of the SFCC. The annual picnic is one of the biggest events sponsored by your civic club - mark your calendars for **Sunday, September 27th!!** If you would like to be a sponsor, want to volunteer, or just need more picnic information, call Delinda Holland @ 713-680-3956. In addition to the picnic, all *homeowners* in Section 1 & 2 that have not done so will have an opportunity to **sign our amended Deed Restrictions before a notary** provided by the civic club at no charge. Please take a few minutes of your time to sign these Deed Restrictions and **help preserve and protect the integrity of our neighborhood**. We hope to see you, your family and neighbors at the picnic on **Sunday, September 27th!**

- **MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 21st - 7 PM** - Garden Oaks Baptist Church
SFCC Meeting, Election of officers, & Dog Whisperer to speak
- **SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 27th - 4:00 - 6:00 PM**
21th Annual SF Civic Club Picnic & Celebration
at Stonecrest Park (East T.C. Jester @ Stonecrest)
Free Food, Games, Prizes & Petting Zoo
- **TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6th - 6:00 AM - 9:00 PM**
National Night Out (see inside story for details)

PRINTING OF THIS NEWSLETTER GENEROUSLY DONATED BY **BUILDERS BLUE PRINT**

YARD OF THE MONTH CONTEST ENDS

September signals the end of the SFCC Annual Yard of the Month Contest with the final judging for this year being held last weekend. Congratulations to each of our neighbors who have, over the summer, maintained their beautiful yards for all of us to enjoy. A special congratulation goes to the following Yard of the Month winners for September. They are:

Section I – BROOKE BENESTANTE & CASEY CURRY – 951 West 30th

This well groomed yard is decorated with a variety of summer blooming plants, including brightly colored hibiscus, marigolds, and beautiful roses. Healthy oleanders and two palm trees accent the yard and an eye-catching border in front of the flowerbed adds to beauty of this sure winner.

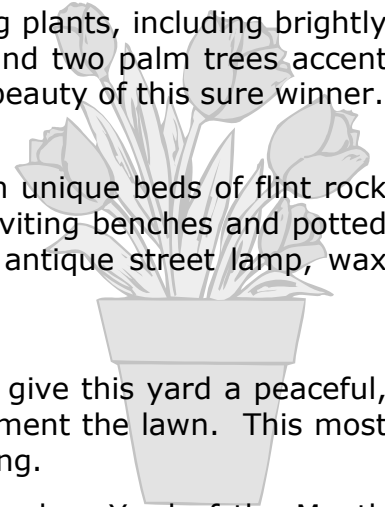
Section II - VAN KNOX – 2302 Ansbury

This cool, shady yard is dominated by beautiful old oak trees sitting in unique beds of flint rock gravel. A large side yard gravel patio is decorated with potted ivy, inviting benches and potted bromeliads. Highlighting the front yard is an attractive replica of an antique street lamp, wax leaf ligustrums, azaleas and amaryllis.

Section III – RICHARD COOK – 4110 Marlborough

A large variety of palms, blooming yuccas, hibiscus and sweet William give this yard a peaceful, serene appearance. Beautiful gazing balls and bromeliads also compliment the lawn. This most attractive yard seems to invite you to just sit down and relax all day long.

Many, many thanks are sent to each one of the volunteers who served as Yard of the Month contest judges over the summer. Your time and efforts were greatly appreciated by all !!



Dog Whisperer Rescheduled for September Meeting

Micahla Vaccaro, a local **Dog Whisperer**, will be the guest speaker at the next SF civic club meeting on **Monday, September 21st**. Previously scheduled to speak last month, Ms. Vaccaro had to cancel at the last minute, but has graciously agreed to come and speak to us this month. In case you are wondering, a **Dog Whisperer is a Canine Behaviorist** that specializes in eliminating troublesome, stressful behaviors without ever hitting, yelling, or using painful devices such as shock collars, on your dog. Don't miss this most interesting and informative meeting that could change the lives of you and your dog forever !!!!



Best wishes for a Happy September birthday are sent to **ELIZABETH GOULD (9/19), WILMA KUNETKA (9/30), and VICTORIA TRISTAN (9/30)**.....Several other residents will be

celebrating birthdays in early October and we wish them a very Happy Birthday, too. They are: **KARSON BATTARBEE (10/3), HELEN JENKINS (10/4), MARJORIE RIVETTE (10/7), JOHNNY & JULIE EVANICKY (10/8), JAMES TAYLOR (10/12), and DARRELL TIDWELL (10/13)**.....Wedding anniversary congratulations are sent to **CLYDE & DELORES MUSKE** as they celebrate a very special 50th wedding anniversary on September 26th and to **TORRY & VIRGINIA HILL** who will celebrate on October 14th..... Best wishes for continued recovery are sent to **FRANK OWENS** who is back home after a long hospital and rehab stay and to **JOHN CARTER** who continues to recover from recent eye surgery.....Deepest sympathy is sent to **JENNIE & JAN HUGHES** on the recent passing of their husband and father, **ROBERT HUGHES**..... If you have ANY news of new neighbors, birthdays, illnesses, anniversaries.....that you would like to share with your neighbors, please call the **SF PartyLine** at (713) 868-4062 and leave a detailed message.

SEX OFFENDER INFORMATION - Check out www.records.txdps.state.tx.us to find out more about the **four registered sex offenders actually living in Shepherd Forest** as well as those living on nearby streets. It's public information and its free !

Become an Urban ForestTree Keeper

If you are interested in learning about how to plant, prune, fertilize and identify trees, then the **Urban ForestTree Keeper Program** sponsored by Trees For Houston is the course for you! In October, Trees for Houston will have a course consisting of 6 hours of classroom instruction, one tree planting day, and one tree identification workshop at the Houston Arboretum. After you have completed the course, you will receive a certificate of completion, Trees For Houston hat, and be a certified Urban ForestTree Keeper.

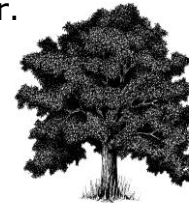
Class I: Monday, October 5th from 6:00pm to 8:00pm

Tree Planting: Saturday, October 10th site location to be announced

Class II: Monday, October 12th from 6:00pm to 8:00pm

Class III: Monday, October 19th from 6:00pm to 8:00pm

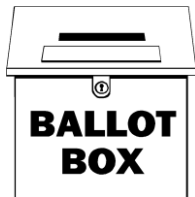
Workshop: Saturday, October 31st from 9:00am-12:00pm at the Houston Arboretum.



Each class will be held at the Greater Houston Community Foundation Room located at 4550 Post Oak Place Drive, Suite 100. If you are interested in or want to register for this **FREE** course, visit www.treesforhouston.org or call 713-840-8733 for more information.

SHEPHERD FOREST CIVIC CLUB TO ELECT 2009 – 2010 OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

At the September 21st monthly meeting, the Shepherd Forest Civic Club will elect **new civic club officers** (President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer) and **three members to the Board of Directors**. In an effort to fairly represent all three sections of our neighborhood, the SFCC is seeking residents from each section to get involved and seek these positions. In addition, the SFCC is looking for Chairman and/or volunteers to help with our **Citizens on Patrol, Yard of the Month & Christmas Decorating Contest, Membership Committee, Welcome Committee, Senior Trip Committee, Beautification Committee, Newsletter, Deed Restriction Enforcement Committee** and much more!



Our past officers and directors have worked countless hours to keep abreast of issues facing our residents. Now it's **your turn** to get involved. Please call any Civic Club Board Member or Officer to volunteer to serve your community or to nominate someone else for one of these positions. *Whatever* your interest, we have a place for you to volunteer. If you have ideas for programs and projects for our neighborhood, **now** is your chance to speak up and get involved. Please consider volunteering and help make a difference !



OCTOBER 6th IS NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

The Shepherd Forest Civic Club is proud to again partner with HPD and promote **National Night Out (NNO)** in our community. Mark your calendars now for **Tuesday, October 6th** and plan to participate in this important event. **National Night Out** is a chance for residents to meet and mingle with their neighbors and **promote neighborhood unity** in the fight against crime in Shepherd Forest. The easiest step to crime prevention is getting to **know your neighbors** and watching out for each other. **Turn on your porch light from 6:00 – 9:00 pm, grab a lawn chair, lock your doors, and go outside and join your neighbors (or have your own block party) as they unite against crime in Shepherd Forest.** More information regarding National Night Out and SF scheduled Neighborhood Block Parties will be available at the Shepherd Forest Civic Club meeting next **Monday, September 21st** or can be obtained by calling 713-680-3956.

SHEPHERD FOREST SECURITY REPORT

Security Coordinator Ruth Lepler reports that a **homeless person** was wandering through Section 1 and acting suspiciously. HPD was called to handle the matter. Ruth also stated that an alert neighbor reported seeing three **men fleeing from the Reliant easement** in Section 2 and jumping into a waiting car on East T.C. Jester. The men were followed by the resident until HPD was notified and able to pursue the suspicious men. Many thanks to the alert neighbor who decided to "get involved" in the matter. Residents in the 3000 block of Vollmer reported a **theft from their vehicle**. Many thanks are sent to our dedicated SFCC patrollers who logged in over 114 hours last month. We continue to appreciate each one of you for your time and service !! As always, remember to stay alert and report anything suspicious to HPD immediately and later to SF Security Coordinator Ruth at 713-681-4143.

New HPD Interactive Crime Stats Website

In an effort to increase public safety and crime prevention awareness across Houston, the Houston Police Department has created a new interactive crime tool for all citizens to access at <http://mycity.houstontx.gov/crime/>. Users of the website can track and map crime trends in neighborhoods throughout the city. Citizens will be able to watch emerging crime patterns and search for

crime incidents as far back as 30 days or as recent as within the previous 24 hours by address, area, Council District, Super Neighborhood or police beat. Additionally, users will be provided monthly Uniform Crime Reports (UCR) of Part I crimes by police beats and districts in a tabular data form dating as far back as early 2006. Checkout this valuable tool in following crime in our neighborhood and in our city!

New Laws Effective September 1, 2009

Just a few of the notable laws passed in the recent Legislative session are as follows:

- * *HB 537* requires all occupants of a vehicle, no matter their age, to be secured by a **safety belt**, no matter where they are seated in the vehicle.
- * *SB 43* requires that any child younger than 8 years of age be restrained in an approved **child passenger safety seat** unless the child is at least 4 feet, 9 inches in height.
- * *HB 55* makes it **illegal to use a wireless communication device** in a school zone unless the vehicle is stopped or a hands-free device is used.
- * *HB 2730* requires that all applicants under the age of 18 take the **driving skills exam** to receive a driver license. It also prohibits DPS from **issuing a driver license** or identification card to a person who has not established a domicile in Texas.
- * *SB 328* gives DPS the power to **suspend a minors driver license** if they fail a breath or blood alcohol test while operating a watercraft.
- * *HB 2730* removes DPS authority to suspend a **concealed handgun license** (CHL) for the holder's failure to display the CHL to a peace officer on demand.
- * *SB 589* requires that a vehicle equipment safety **compliance label** be placed on a windshield, side or rear window stating that the window tinting complies with the appropriate provisions of the Transportation Code.



The deadline to register to vote in the Nov. 3 election (Constitutional Amendments, Mayor, City Council...) is Monday, October 5th. Call 713-368-2200 or 713-755-6965 for more voting and election information.