



## The *Sherwood Forest CRIER* for April 2024 Newsletter of the [Sherwood Forest Neighborhood Association](#)

### Quarterly General Meeting Wednesday, May 8<sup>th</sup> — Special Guest Speaker:

[Heather Bauer](#), our representative for SC House District 75 will be our guest speaker at this meeting! We'll also discuss other initiatives to make Sherwood Forest a better place to live. See the complete meeting agenda [Here](#).

Join us at the Sherwood Forest ARP Church from 6:30 – 7:30 pm or on Zoom (see agenda for login information). Door opens by 6pm to allow for set up and collaboration. Please bring a snack to share.

### Forest Friends:

**Support Migrating Birds:** Did you know that birds migrate largely at night – millions of them pass across South Carolina skies in a single night! The dark night skies allow the migrating birds to avoid predators, take advantage of calmer air, and utilize the moon and stars for navigation. Bright lights left on around homes and businesses can disorient the birds, cause exhaustion, and death. We know that many folks use lights around their homes at night to improve their sense of security, but the South Carolina Wildlife Federation suggests a compromise: Turn off exterior decorative and nonessential lighting from 11:00 pm to 6:00 am from April 1 through June 1. This is peak spring migration time. Be a friend of our neighborhood forest and all the wonderful birds it supports!

### Dominion Energy powerline right of way clearing:

Some homes in our neighborhood are slated for powerline clearing in the next few weeks. You should get an email (or possibly a letter) from Dominion to this effect if you have lines running through your yard that are being included. Many folks dread what can seem like drastic tree trimming and clearing, including spraying of strong herbicides. Keep in mind, however, that Dominion is doing this to reduce power outages during storms, etc. Click [Here](#) to learn how to manage the plantings under powerlines in your yard to eliminate or minimize problems. Use [this link](#) to get additional information about maintenance of the powerline areas. If you have specific questions and concerns, you can contact Jenna Eaves at 803-217-9202. She can visit your property and discuss how it will be affected and provide guidance. She will even accompany the clearing crew if it seems necessary.

**Urban Heat Island Mapping Initiative:** Extreme heat kills more Americans than any other weather event, but not everyone's risk is the same. This summer, NOAA/NIHHIS and community scientists will map the hottest parts of 14 U.S. cities and counties and, for the first time, two international cities. One of those sites is right here, in Columbia & Richland County. Click [Here](#) to read the report.

### USC Belser Arboretum:

All are invited to Arboretum Open House, the 3rd Sunday of every month, 1-4 p.m. Gates open at 4080 Bloomwood Rd. and on Wilmot Dr. just west of Duncan. Open weekly for visitors and volunteers: Wednesdays & Saturdays: 9 a.m. - Noon, Thursdays: 4 p.m. – dusk. Weather and work schedules may change these times.

Contact Us: [arboretum@sc.edu](mailto:arboretum@sc.edu)



**Branding Task Force:** Believe it or not, since February 2023, the ongoing dedication and volunteering of the SF Branding Taskforce is about to deliver on our first two gateway beautification signs. And, that will call for a few volunteers to join Col. Gail Wojtowicz on the installation project. So, if you can find a couple of hours in the next few weeks, we'd love your help. Just email [pmason@carolinliving.com](mailto:pmason@carolinliving.com) to get involved.

### **Columbia Council of Neighborhoods (CCN):**

For 26 years, leaders from among the approximately 117 individual neighborhoods around Columbia, have joined together as an umbrella organization to strengthen the voice of Columbia residents as we advocate for rational administration of the county and the city government. New executive committee leadership has recently approved a three-year strategic plan that involved 18 dedicated volunteers (80+ work hours) with thanks to Anne Sinclair for her expert facilitation. The "STRATPLAN" focus is on building engagement, credibility, funds, membership and robust meeting programs. Your SFNA Vice President, Pat Mason, serves as Assistant Secretary, and your SFNA President, Gail Wojtowicz, also regularly attends the [Richland County Council of Neighborhoods](#).

Please join us in a big salute to our President, Gail Wojtowicz, for her spontaneous volunteering to assist in the Columbia Council of Neighborhoods annual awards event held April 4th in conjunction with the 50th anniversary of Columbia's Community Development Department. Her task master skills organized a splendid awards ceremony to the delight of 200 in attendance. *Thanks Gail!*

**Sherwood Forest Safety & Security:** Please report incidents of vandalism and trespassing in the hood to your Block Captain and our assigned officer, MPO David Gibb, Resident Patrol Officer (Lance Corporal) MPO, Columbia Police Department (Southeast Region):

[David.Gibb@ColumbiaSC.gov](mailto:David.Gibb@ColumbiaSC.gov)

803-737-5895 (day cell)

[www.ColumbiaPD.net](http://www.ColumbiaPD.net)

### **Everything you need to know about Recycling:**

- [Recycle Here SC](#) — a GIS map of recycling locations and what materials they accept
- [Richland County Recycling Locations](#)
- [Recycling Hard-to-Manage Items](#)
- [What Not to Recycle: Recycling's Dirty Dozen](#)
- [The Waste Wizard](#) — enter an item and find out how to recycle or dispose of it
- [Columbia, SC Solid Waste app](#) available on the Apple App Store (Includes the Waste Wizard)
- [Richland Solid Waste app](#) available on the Apple App Store (Includes the Waste Wizard)

### **Have You Paid Your Annual SFNA Dues?**

If you haven't yet, please pay your \$20 dues. If you're not sure, send a text or email ([henryn215@aol.com](mailto:henryn215@aol.com)) and our treasurer will let you know your status. And, now that we are a 501(c)(3) organization, you may be able to deduct it as a charitable donation.

Your \$20 pays for parties, events, signage, doggie poop bags, the gardens outside of the arboretum, Forest Friends free tree distribution, web & domaine fees, and other such costs. You can send or deliver a check to Henry Nechemias, Treasurer, 4 Robin Hood Ct. 29205, pay through PayPal or set up an automatic annual payment also through PayPal: [Pay Dues Online - Sherwood Forest Neighborhood - Columbia SC](#)

[What are the benefits of membership?](#)

[Join the Sherwood Forest Neighborhood Association](#)