



SHERWOOD FOREST

Taking Pride. Nurturing Roots.

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



Annual Halloween Party and Neighborhood Night Out: Oct.31st 5:00-7PM, The 400 and 500 blocks of Kalmia will be blocked off for the party. Dress up your kids, your pets and yourself. Hot Dogs provided. Neighbors can bring sides or a dessert. BYOB and a chair if you would like. Parade down to the party with your neighbors! Yale side of the neighborhood gather at Mimosa and Kalmia at 5:00. Bloomwood side, gather at 4000 Bloomwood at 5:00. Come and enjoy spending time with your neighbors and having a fun time! Hope to see you there!

Quarterly General Meeting Wednesday, November 13th:

Join us at the Sherwood Forest ARP Church from 6:30 – 7:30 pm or on Zoom. Door opens by 6pm to allow for set up and collaboration. Topics will include our annual election of officers, and a review/edits to our bylaws which have not been updated in years. We will also have a guest speaker, Daniel Long, True Pharmacy Director of Compliance & Specialty, to tell us about True Pharmacy which will be moving into the old Burnettes Cleaners building. A more detailed agenda will be published prior to the meeting. Please bring a snack to share.

November Association Officer Election: We'll vote for our association officers at our November meeting. The current slate of nominees includes:

- **President:** Gail Wojtowicz (incumbent)
- **Vice President:** Pat Mason (incumbent)
- **Secretary:** Susan Susan M. DeLoach Culler (incumbent)
- **Treasurer:** Henry Nechemias (incumbent)

Additional nominees for these positions will be accepted up until 1 week prior to the election (Nov 6th). Please get concurrence from the nominee first, and then submit all nominee names to [Gail Wojtowicz](#) by Nov 6th.

November National Election: Early voting in the national election starts October 21st! Go to [scVotes.gov](https://scvotes.gov) for details about where to vote early, Nov 5th polling places, and your sample ballot (including a Statewide Constitutional Amendment and two Local Questions). Be prepared and make certain your vote counts!

Forest Friends:



Hurricanes and Trees: Mitigating Tree Risks

We are proud of our forested neighborhood and love the benefits that trees provide, but, as we've all just witnessed, trees also come with risks. We lost a lot of trees in Sherwood Forest from Hurricane Helene, September 26 and 27. Some residents even endured traumatic and costly damage to their homes from tree falls. I know from experience that a natural reaction to sustaining or witnessing such damage is to remove more trees to try to eliminate all possible future tree-fall problems.

Sometimes that is a good thing, sometimes not. Let's talk about tree removal to mitigate the risks of potential tree falls. Trees that are aging, or weakened from disease or previous damage, may be more prone to snapping or toppling in a storm. Ironically, lone trees are also more vulnerable. Trees tend to have strengths in numbers as their roots and branches intertwine and support each other. Trees whose root growth is restricted by pavement can also be more vulnerable as they have a less extensive root system to stabilize the upper part of the tree. If you are concerned about a tree possibly falling on your house or that of a neighbor, please get an arborist to help you evaluate the wisdom of tree removal. Sometimes other measures can be taken to minimize risk.

And the risks of a tree fall, as with all risks in life, need to be balanced with benefits. Don't forget that the more trees you have, the more that the water of heavy rainfalls can be absorbed. Trees can actually buffer our homes from high winds. And they certainly cool our yards and homes during scalding summers. They provide habitat for wildlife and add beauty, and health-giving properties to our neighborhood.

Having said all that, if you would like to replace a lost tree or add more trees to your yard, this is the time to consider it. Please see the following article.

If you need help finding an arborist, please contact Valerie Marcil (vallg29205@gmail.com).

Free Trees! Don't Miss this Opportunity!

My husband and I were just musing as to why our outdoor thermometer always indicates a temperature 5-10 degrees lower than what our weather apps say. I preach this all the time, but it finally struck me that our yard, with tons of trees in and around it, is a perfect example of how tree cover reduces urban heat. So, if you were struggling with heat this past summer, consider planting a tree or two!

Late fall and winter are the perfect times to plant trees. You have two great options for free trees this year!

If you need or want a new street tree (one that is within the right of way lining your street), contact the Reforestation Program Coordinator at the City of Columbia (fun fact, he used to work at the Riverbanks Botanical Gardens): Weston Beck: Weston.Beck@columbiasc.gov, 803-545-3863. Weston is very friendly, will give you a visit, and help choose an appropriate tree.

If you want a tree for any other spot in your yard, take advantage of the five-year Beat the Heat program, co-managed by Columbia Green and the City of Columbia, and made possible by a federal grant in cooperation with the Arbor Day Foundation. You can get a free meal out of this on October 19, or just apply online. Here's the link with more information -- very simple: <https://www.columbiagreen.org/beattheheat>.

Contact Valerie Marcil (vallg29205@gmail.com), Pat Mason (pmayson@carolinainliving.com), or Regina Monteith (reginamonteith@gmail.com) if you have questions or need more information.



On another note, take a look at the new planting around our neighborhood entryway signs – a variety of Yucca that is native to our area, in a striking variegated form. Yuccas thrive in dry, sunny locations, so should not need watering once established.



USC Belser Arboretum: The September Issue of the [W. Gordon Belser Arboretum newsletter](#) is now available. To join the mailing list for upcoming newsletters click [Here](#).

BOOK CLUB AT THE ARBORETUM
Bailey Slice Parker, Executive Director, Gills Creek Watershed Association, will lead our discussion of *Reconciliation in a Michigan Watershed*
Sunday, October 13, 2024
3 - 4:30 p.m.
4080 Bloomwood Rd., Columbia, SC 29205
Please register: <https://bit.ly/BookOctober24>
Arts and Sciences
UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Book Club at the Belser Arboretum Sunday, October 13, 3 p.m.

Reconciliation in a Michigan Watershed: Restoring Ken-O-Sha by Gail Gunst Heffner and David P. Warners. Discussion with Bailey Slice Parker, Executive Director, Gills Creek Watershed Association.

[Details and Registration.](#)

City News: City of Columbia Launches MyCOLASC Application



MyCOLASC is an exciting new service request platform for the City of Columbia, SC. This useful, free app allows residents and visitors to report non-emergency issues to city staff, and then track request status online, from submission to resolution.

Designed to improve communication and service delivery, while making our community a better place, MyCOLASC allows citizens to use mobile phones or computers to pinpoint a location on the map, upload photos, and submit issues about potholes, fallen trees, damaged park equipment, broken streetlights, or other local concerns. For best servicing, and to track updates, register and use your MyCOLASC account today.

Watch the MyCOLASC tutorial video here: <https://youtu.be/vMDHrjRtn9g>

To download the app, visit: <https://columbiasc.gov/MyCOLASC>

Regional Bike & Pedestrian Planning: The South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT) is working collaboratively with regional partners to promote, prioritize, and coordinate the demand and feasibility of walking, biking, and transit accommodations for all users of the state-owned highway system in South Carolina. This process will review the state-owned roadway system for prioritized walking/biking improvements. You can contribute to the plan by marking up an [interactive map](#) with Points of Interest – barriers to biking and walking, speeding issues, safety hazards, and destinations you visit often. For more information visit <https://www.bikepedsc.com>.

Have You Paid Your Annual SFNA Dues?

If you haven't yet, please pay your \$20 dues. If you are not sure, send a text or email (henryn215@gmail.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 & domain 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](#)



The Weaver Realty team and Prime Financial Services is a certified Business Friend of the Sherwood Forest Neighborhood Association.