



The Sherwood Forest CRIER for September/October 2025

Newsletter of the [Sherwood Forest Neighborhood Association](#)

Have You Paid Your Annual SFNA Dues?



Scan here to pay your dues with PayPal. A fee of 1.9% + \$0.10 is charged, so please consider paying \$20.48 to cover the fee.



venmo

Scan here to pay your dues with Venmo. A fee of 1.9% + \$0.10 is charged, so please consider paying \$20.48 to cover the fee.

[Pay Dues Online - Sherwood Forest Neighborhood - Columbia SC](#)

If you are not sure, send a text to (215) 888-5104 or email treasurer@sherwoodforestneighbors.org, and our treasurer will let you know your status.

Mark the Date: Quarterly General Meeting **Wednesday, November 12th**.

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, collaboration and socializing. The meeting agenda will be published via our Google Group email prior to the meeting. Please consider bringing a snack to share.

1. Join Zoom Meeting:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86389906648?pwd=eHpld0duYk8welp0LytmWkxKY3VjZz09>
2. Meeting ID: 863 8990 6648; Passcode: 649565
3. The video recording of the meeting will be made available immediately after the meeting.
4. Minutes and video from our August 13th meeting are located [Here](#).

Columbia Council of Neighborhoods (CCN) and Richland County Neighborhood Council (RCNC)

Sherwood Forest is being nominated for the CCN Neighborhood of the Year award based on our recent achievements.

Gateway Beautification

Installation has been completed for two new gateway signs, at Kalmia @ Devine and Kalmia @ Rosewood. Thanks to gracious permissions and cooperation from Don Weaver and Dr. Ron Miles. And thanks too for the resident install team: Gail Wojtowicz, Pat Blackwell, Valerie Marcil, Ron Miles and Pat Mason. (See images below).

City and County grants have been spent to fabricate two more signs. First sign install planned for Yale @ Kilbourne and the second, destined for the Dollar General right-of-way at Blossom @ Beltline.

Neighborhood Events – mark your calendar:

- **Lourie Center Presentation about the Sherwood Forest Neighborhood:** October 22nd from 11:30 – 12:30pm
Our President, Gail Wojtowicz, will make a presentation as part of the Lourie Lectures about Sherwood Forest's multicultural roots, tree-lined hills, and neighborhood pride. Visit their [Website Here](#) for details and to register.

- **Halloween in the Forest (Location Change):** October 31st from 5-7pm at the top of Kalmia (5 Points) in front of the Powers' House, 401 Kalmia Drive. More detailed information coming soon.
- **Neighborhood-Wide Yard Sale:** Saturday, November 8, at the home of Laura and Boyd Yound, 4229 Wilmot, or in your own yard. See details below.
- **12th Night in the Forest:** Our annual adults-only party January 9, 2026, from 6-9pm at the home of Regina Monteith, 530 Kilbourne Road ("Bloomwood").
- **Art in the Forest:** Rescheduled for March 15, 2026, as part of the regularly scheduled Arboretum Open House. Mark your calendar, and more information coming soon.



Sherwood Forest Adopt-a Highway Champs!

Hats go off to your "SF Clean-up Friends" neighbors who found 90-minutes on Saturday, 8/16 to don safety vests, gloves, with cool litter picker tools to tidy the perimeter, filling seven plastic bags of, well, trash. Coordinated quarterly for the past ten years by Dave & Sue Nelson, last week's project included Virginia & John Hart, Gail Wojtowicz, Pat Blackwell (dog Willow), Leyla & Pat Mason. Easy fun. Important work.



W. Gordon Belser Arboretum: The August issue of the arboretum newsletter is available [Here](#).

- **Open House** The third Sunday of every month, 1 – 4 pm. 4080 Bloomwood Road, Columbia, SC 29205
- **Arboretum Hours:** Wednesdays & Saturdays 9am – Noon; Thursdays 4 – 6:30pm
- **Fall Book Club Selections have been announced.** For more details about the following selections go to the [Book Club Eventbrite site](#).



Neighborhood Yard Sale November 8th: From Laura and Boyd Young:

This year marks the 16th annual *Christmas Project* yard sale at our house, 4229 Wilmot! We use all proceeds from this event to purchase Christmas presents for kids who have an incarcerated parent. Many of the kids we serve have Dads that are either on death row or are facing a capital trial. Last year we raised \$4705 and bought presents for 33 kids. We have grown a little each year and I sure hope we can do the same this year. The presents go to children in need and help foster and maintain the relationship between parent and child. You can help with this cause in several ways:



1. Clean out your closets, attics and garages and **donate items** we can sell. We can make arrangements to pick up items if needed.
2. **Help the day of the yard sale** by showing up before the sun, placing items on the yard, selling things and collecting money. We all know I sell way too low so I need the assistance.
3. Come by and **do some shopping** - as a reward we always have food, adult beverages and football!
4. **Donate** money without shopping and encourage others to do so. Contributions are tax deductible. Checks can be given to me (made out to Justice 360 with "Christmas Project" written in the memo line) and dropped off at 4229 Wilmot anytime.

Host Your Own Yard Sale November 8th: The Sherwood Forest Neighborhood Association will advertise this date for the entire neighborhood on multiple platforms and pay the city permit fees. If you would like, add your address to the QR code linked document to have it included in the advertisements.



SFNA Business Friends: Please support our business friends who help us make our neighborhood a great place to live. The certified Business Friends of the Sherwood Forest Neighborhood Association include the following.



Dr. Jonathon Suber, DVM, DACVS, is a third generation Veterinarian His participation at the Mighty Oak level (\$1,500) is ear marked to support our gateway beautification project.

Click image for their website.



Lani Stringer Mustard, and her MUSTARD Graphics team, is a valued Business Friend.

Click image for their website.



Please reach out to our newest SF "Business Friend" member: **Soda City Smiles** @ 3809 Rosewood Ave. Dr. Jarrett Newsome, DMD, P.C. acquired the MERCI building and has completed a beautiful renovation for his experienced friendly team. They are welcoming new patients!

FREE TEETH WHITENING WITH NEW PATIENT EXAM & CLEANING!!

CALL OR TEXT TODAY TO SCHEDULE YOUR APPOINTMENT!

803-782-6966

SODACITYSMILES@GMAIL.COM
WWW.SODACITYSMILES.COM

Click image for their website.

The Devine Dunbar Dignity team led by Fifth generation owner, Greg Dunbar is a valued Business Friend of Sherwood Forest.

Click image for their website.



For information about our Business Friends program go to our website [Here](#).

Sherwood Forest 2025-26 Strategic Plan

On Monday, August 4th Six residents created action plans (supported by budget documents) that can be achieved over the next 16 months. The below draft recommendations are all tied to our theme purpose to *improve quality of life, take pride and nurture roots.*

1. Producing a Sherwood Forest briefing for the Lourie Senior Center program on historic Columbia neighborhoods. (October 22 at 11:30, Gail)
2. Continue monitoring traffic and safety opportunities. Our thanks to Harriott Madden's alert resulting in the installation of the pedestrian crosswalk across Kilbourne Road at Yale!
3. Certifying Sherwood Forest as an SC Wildlife Federation Neighborhood Habitat.
4. Plan, design, permit, fund and install a permanent low-key/functional kiosk and bench on right-of-way at a five points intersection.
5. Enroll SF "Block Captain Friends" for all 25 SF Zones. (Got an hour a week for your forest?)
6. Generate google sheets ZONE documents for Block Captains that include the "paid" columns allowing for targeted enrollment.
7. Boost engagement by delivering "door" flyers quarterly, and signs acknowledging births, graduations, and new residents.
8. Join Boyd and Laura Young (4229 Wilmot) to expand their annual charity Yard Sale (Saturday, 11/8) to all residents.
9. Explore Business Friend interest in displaying a sign acknowledging SF appreciation of their enterprise and membership.
10. Continue two annual social events: Halloween and 12th Night.
11. Continue applying for city and county grants totaling \$3,300 a year to fund gateway beautification and mural projects.
12. Continue enrolling "Business Friends" for mutual support activities.
13. "Forest Friends" will explore feasibility, leadership and funding to create a demonstration, education, and display garden (irrigated).
14. "Artist Friends" to launch the first annual *Art in the Forest* in the Arboretum with thanks to Larry Hembree, Ron Hagell and Gemini Arts. Date TBD.
15. Continue to build the SF digital communications platform with huge thanks for the dedicated professional contributions of Ed Tilden.
16. As we grow the Association, expand the leadership volunteers to ensure vitality and share responsibility.

With deep gratitude to initial planning participants: Regina Monteith, Gail Wojtowicz, Cary Perry, Larry Hembree, Skosh Forman, and Pat Mason.



November 2025 Election: The City of Columbia Municipal Election will be held on Tuesday, November 4, 2025, for the office of Mayor and Councilmembers for District One, District Four and At-Large seats. For a list of the candidates visit <https://columbiasc.gov/candidates-for-2025-city-of-columbia-municipal-election/>. Be prepared and make certain your vote counts!



Sherwood Forest Neighborhood Association Bylaws Updated: At our August 13 meeting we approved our revised association bylaws. View the updated bylaws online [Here](#). Note that the end of the document includes a summary of the latest update.



SHERWOOD FOREST NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

Taking Pride. Nurturing Roots.

Welcome!

News

Calendar

Forest Friends

Business Friends

Neighborhood Merchandise

Documents

Contact Us

Sherwood Forest Neighborhood Association Website Resources: Go to our website:

<https://sherwoodforestneighbors.org>. The following are a summary of the contents under each top-level menu item.

Welcome: A brief history of our neighborhood as well as a description of where we are located and what resources are close by.

News: CRIER newsletters and general announcements (See also **Recent Posts** in banner section on right side of page.

Calendar: Neighborhood events, Arboretum open houses/events, and trash and recycling pickup days.

Forest Friends: About Forest Friends and valuable resource links

- **Tree Planting and Care Guidance**
- **Power line tree trimming and spraying**
- **Benefits of Native Trees**
- **More Info:** Dogwoods and Native Plants for Wildlife

Business Friends: Overview and Business Friends Enrollment benefits and procedures

Neighborhood Merchandise: SFNA branded clothing, stickers and magnets available for purchase

Documents: Officers, Committee Chairs, Belser Arboretum Endowment Fund, and William Gorden Belser biographical information

- **Benefits of Membership**
- **Current SFNA Officers**
- **Block Captains**
- **Welcome Packet**
- **CRIER Newsletter**
- **Volunteer ROI Calculator**
- **Information Quick Reference**
- **More Documents:** History of Sherwood Forest, SFNA Bylaws, General Meeting Minutes (PDF) and video recordings (MP4)

Banner Side Bar on most pages: Recent Posts, Today's Weather, **Business Friends advertisements (rotating)**

Footer on all pages: Join/Renew Today link, SFNA Facebook Page/Group links

Neighborhood Safety Coordinator Needed! As safety is a primary function of our association, we need someone willing to volunteer a few hours a month to coordinate such safety issues as making our neighborhood safer for walking, biking, gathering, and driving, etc. We recently had a volunteer solicit the city to lower our speed limit to 25mph and add a crosswalk at Yale and Kilbourne. However, we really need a single go-to-person who neighbors can contact about issues such as potholes, stop signs, and speed humps, as well as someone to promote safety at home and around the neighborhood. If you are a person who is passionate about making your neighborhood a safer place to live, please contact Ed Tilden, aetilden@gmail.com.



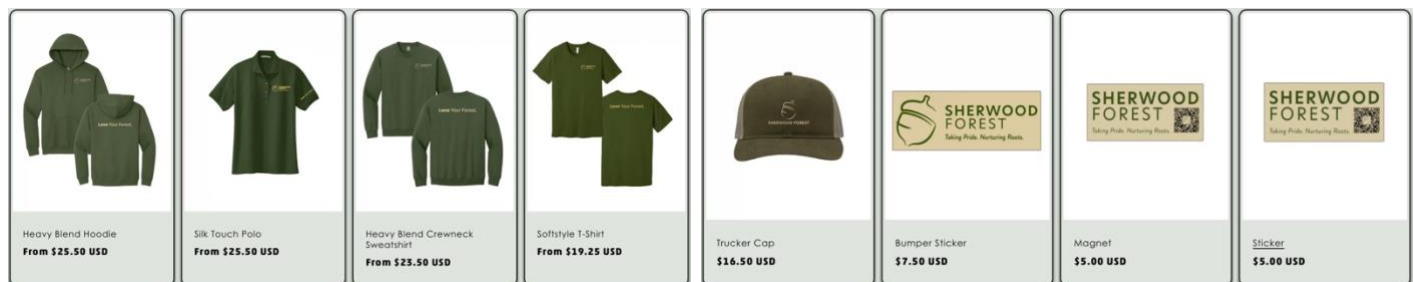
Neighborhood News:

- **Status of the old Piggly Wiggly site:** Based on recent conversations with Frank Cason of the [Cason Development Group](#), the property is being marketed to retail prospects. Mr. Cason indicates they are not expecting any zoning changes. There may be some more news in time for our November 12th meeting.
- **Reimagine Richland – Richland County 2025 Comprehensive Plan:** Richland County is updating its Comprehensive Plan! The participation of residents, property owners, business owners, and others interested in the future of the county is crucial. Through a planning process that will take approximately 10 months, the County will prepare the Comprehensive Plan with input from all who participate. The resulting plan will provide a consistent framework for making decisions about future development and conservation. It will present the vision and goals and outline specific actions the County and its partners can take to ensure that vision is realized. Visit their [Website Here](#) for details about community meetings, announcements, important events, documents to review, and opportunities to share your ideas.
- **Real Estate Intel:** Closed sales were down Year Over Year (YoY) in a lot of national markets but finished up 2.7% in South Carolina 🤔. New listings in July were up 10.4% YoY in SC while active inventory was up 24.3% YoY and trailed 2019 levels by just 0.2%. The Palmetto State is outperforming a lot of the national trends 🌱!

There's still a strong demand for Columbia homes if you can find one under \$350,000. Then, the luxury home market over \$1 million is doing quite well with most paying cash. Seems the wealthy are just getting wealthier and have more income to spend on housing, and the middle ranges are just trying to get into a decent house, but the interest rates are really hurting them. The entry levels are finding rental rates high so it still makes sense to buy if you can find a good home under \$350,000. ZIP Codes 29205, 29206, and 29204 still show good demand. Two recent closings in Sherwood Forest sold at \$300 per square foot.

Sherwood Forest Neighborhood Merchandise: *Time to build pride and nurture our roots!*

We now have shirts, hoodies, hats, stickers and magnets available with the Sherwood Forest logo and tag line. Click on the below image or go to <https://n-graphix.com/collections/sherwood-forest-neighborhood> to order your items, and then pick them up at our next quarterly meeting. Or, if you're in a rush, you can pick them up at the N-Graphix Store, very near COSTCO: 4046 Fernandina Road (Suite F) • 803-230-9437.

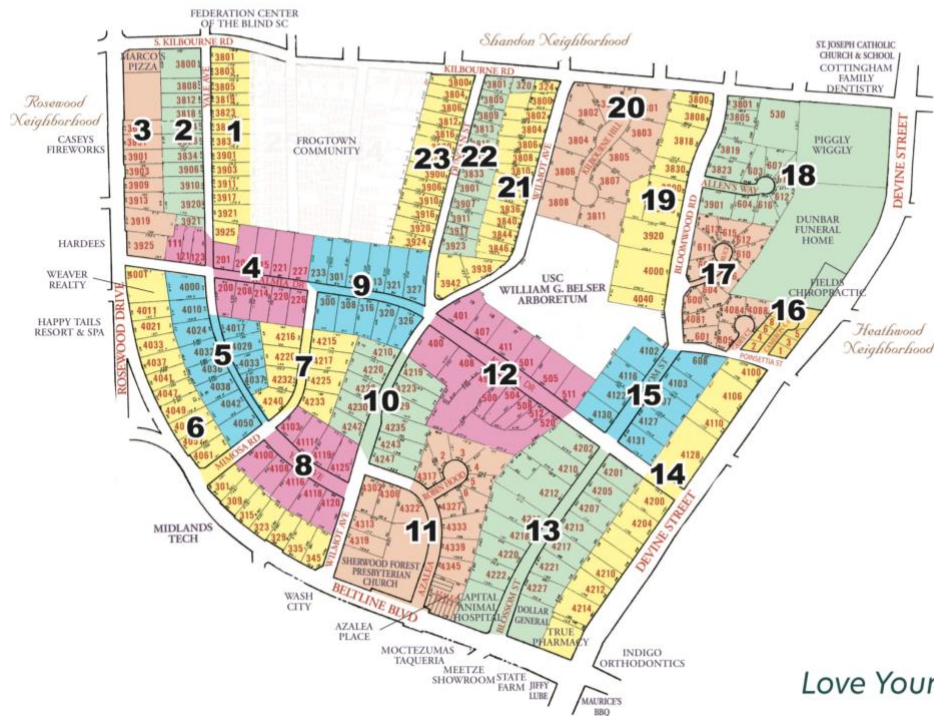


Love Your Forest



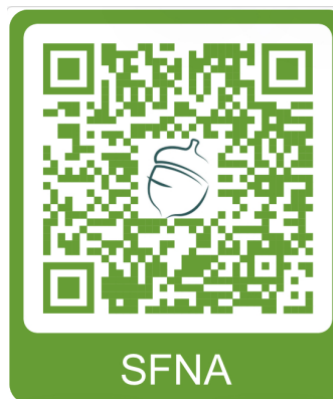
**SHERWOOD
FOREST** (EST. 1940)
Taking Pride. Nurturing Roots.

Block Captain Zones



Love Your Forest.

Click the map for more information about our Block Captains



Scan to go to our website.