



The Sherwood Forest CRIER for January/February 2026

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@sherwoodforestneighborhood.org, and our treasurer will let you know your status.

Mark the Date: Quarterly General Meeting **Wednesday, February 11th**.

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 (once approved) and videos from our past meetings are located [Here](#).

Neighborhood Events – mark your calendar:

- **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"). See details below.
- **Adopt-A-Highway** cleanup, February 21st, 10:00 – 11:30 am.
- **Art in the Forest:** Join the us Sunday, March 15 from 1pm-4pm to celebrate both the visual and performing arts under the beautiful canopy of the Belser Arboretum. Partnering with Gemini Arts, the free event encourages you to stroll through the arboretum at your leisure and enjoy meeting live local artists. Featured will be an array of visual, music, theatre and literary artists, among others. Additional information coming soon.



2026 Holiday Party:

Our annual "**Twelfth Night of Christmas**" adult social gathering is Friday, January 9th, 6 – 9pm. Hosted by Regina Monteith at 530 Kilbourne Road. Her home is known as *Bloomwood*, the original 1920's home of W. Gordon Belser. We are grateful for her gracious hospitality over the years.

This is a traditional potluck so bring a dish to share. A **spiral ham** and **beverages** (beer, wine, soft drinks) will be furnished by the association. It is a great time to catch-up with pals and friends and meet your neighbors. This festive event is for **members and about to be members**. Begin or renew your annual \$20 **membership** today. See sidebar above to pay online.

Please do not park in the driveway. Use the driveway for handicap drop offs. Park instead in the Piggly Wiggly lot that offers a pathway up from the back lot corner to the Kilbourne Road sidewalk.

No RSVP is required. Not feeling well? Plan to join us next year!

From your Neighborhood Association President:

Sherwood Forest Neighbors - Welcome to 2026! We are grateful for the association's actions of the past year.

- Additional gateway sign installations have led to a greater sense of identity for us and visitors.
- We have hosted informative presentations by SCDOT, Columbia Waterworks and county recycling.
- We have been very involved in the Columbia Council of Neighborhoods—serving as an example to other neighborhoods.
- Our annual Halloween event and yard sale were enjoyed by many.
- Our block captains are more involved in keeping us all more informed.

These successes only happen because of the volunteerism in our community. I recently heard about a study that determined Gen X and Millennials are volunteering in big numbers to support environmental and care-giving events and organizations — not financially, but with hours of attention, and they are involving their families. We offer you that opportunity. What is your passion or pet peeve? Bring it to your officers or to our next meeting (Feb 11) This is the way we take pride and nurturing roots for a better neighborhood. *Gail Wojtowicz, President, SFNA*

Forest Friends:

Sherwood Forest Neighborhood Launches **Community Wildlife Habitat Certification!**

Our neighborhood approved working on getting certified as a Wildlife Habitat some time ago and we are now moving ahead with this project. Certification involves a lot of fun projects, so keep your ears and eyes open for them in the coming months. Valerie Marcil and Pat Mason will co-chair this project. We are looking for other interested neighbors to join us! (Email us!)

One of the first things we need to do is get 20-40 individual yards certified as Wildlife Habitats through the South Carolina Wildlife Federation (and the National Wildlife Federation). If your yard has already been certified, please contact Valerie (vallg29205@gmail.com) or Pat (gpmason8146@gmail.com).

If you are interested in getting certified, it's easy – check out what you need to do here: <https://www.nwf.org/Native-Plant-Habitats/Create-and-Certify/At-Home>



We'll be providing a lot more information about the neighborhood certification in coming months, but you can read all about it here: <https://communitywildlifehabitat.nwf.org/Home/About>

Your Sherwood Forest: A Columbia Community Character Protection Overlay District

Hey Neighbors! In keeping with our stated theme, "Taking Pride", the PDF link below is a reminder that the Sherwood Forest Neighborhood Association voted unanimously (many years ago) to adopt and become

protected by the regulations as described. We are privileged to be one of very few Columbia neighborhoods certified by this Character Protection code. Should you or your general contractor have plans for major architectural design changes and or demolition, this is a document you will want to review carefully to be in full compliance.

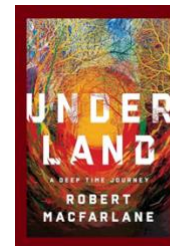
[OV-CCP Community-Character-Protection-Overlay-District.pdf](#)



Adopt-A-Highway: Sherwood Forest Clean-up Friends gathering Saturday, **February 21st 10-11:30.** Rendezvous for photos at the Pig parking lot. Join with kids and scouts for 90-minutes of easy fun keeping us tidy.
Please wear closed-toe shoes. Vests, pickers and trash bags are provided.

W. Gordon Belser Arboretum: The December 2025 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
- **Book Club Sunday, January 18th and March 1st.**
For more details and to register go to the [Book Club Eventbrite site](#).
- **Art in the Forest, March 15th** In conjunction with the monthly open house (see details above).



BOOK CLUB AT THE ARBORETUM

Discussing *Underland, A Deep Time Journey*
by Robert Macfarlane
Led by Jennifer Pournelle

Sunday, January 18, 2026
3:00 - 4:30 p.m.
4080 Bloomwood Rd., Columbia, SC 29205

McCauley College of Arts and Sciences
UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA

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. Newsome is known for creating healthy smiles and for his legendary collection of funny socks. When he's not cheering on the Gamecocks, he's enjoying time with his family while keeping patients of all ages and expert team laughing with his upbeat, outgoing personality. Appointments: **803-782-6966**

Click logo for their website.

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

[LOURIE CENTER](#) Hosts TRUE PHARMACY (A SFNA Business Friend)

Senior Wellness Series – Presented by True Pharmacy: “[New Year, New Health Goals](#)”

Friday, January 9 | 11:00 AM

Start 2026 with simple, realistic steps to improve your health. Learn how to set achievable goals and make small habit changes that lead to big results. A pharmacist will explain key health topics and answer your questions.

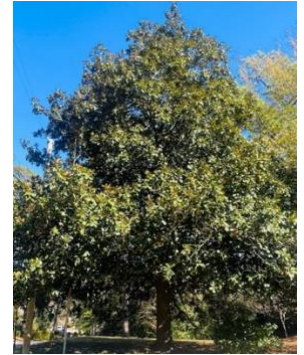
Neighborhood News:

From Starlyn Baxter: As I quickly walked my dog and got some fresh air I ran into little Jake Hammond on Blossom St (at Poinsettia and Bloomwood) selling hot chocolate! He told me he was trying to “make a little money!” [I did have permission to take a picture.] I thought he was cute and very businesslike. Hope this puts a little smile on your face.



Sherwood Forest Wins a Treasured Tree Award! Recognizing and honoring keystone trees across Columbia has been a welcome tradition for many years.

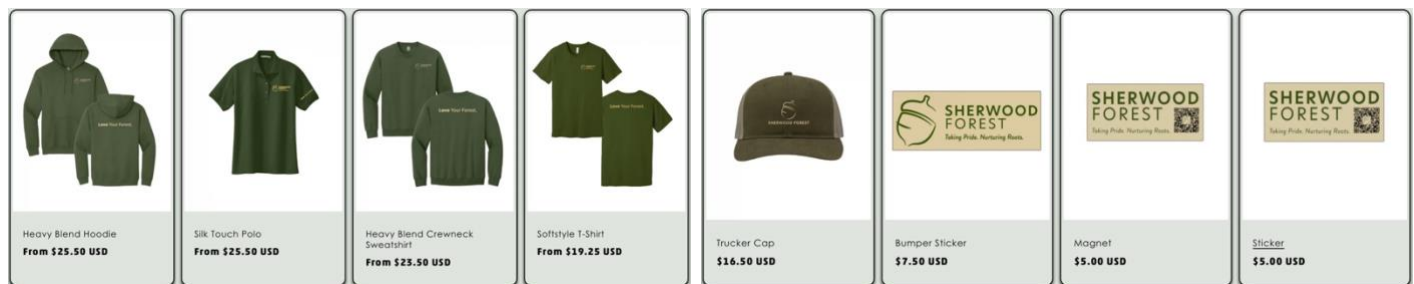
The Sherwood Forest Neighborhood Association, Forest Friends and long-term property owner, Mr. Lyman Munson, are enthused to accept the award saluting our 75-year-old, 60-foot tall, 80-inch trunk, Magnolia Grandiflora. Her Majesty adorns the five corners atop Kalmia Drive as she gazes down over 400 Kalmia and her 100+ hardwood cousins flourishing in the 9-acre, USC Belser Arboretum.



Slightly lonesome because her home has been mostly empty for a decade. Meanwhile, love pours-in on her from the 600 residents and visitors rollin' through Sherwood Forest. We all appreciate her annual splendor of 12-inch white fragranced flowers - by the hundreds. Colonel Gail even keeps her low-hanging limb "locks" trimmed cute. Thanks to those on the Columbia Forestry & Beautification Division team and Columbia Treasured Tree advocate, Susie Heyward, for recognizing this beauty!

*Have a Sherwood Forest tree worth "treasuring"? Set a calendar reminder to have some fun creating your 2026 nomination in October 2026 (<https://publicworks.columbiasc.gov/treasured-trees/>).

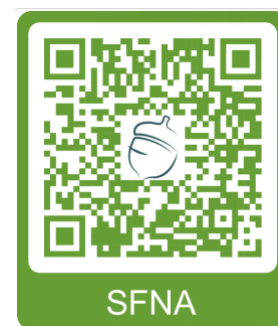
Sherwood Forest Neighborhood Merchandise: *Time to build pride and nurture our roots!* We now have shirts, hoodies, hats, stickers and magnets available with the Sherwood Forest logo and tag line. Click on the below image or go to <https://n-graphix.com/collections/sherwood-forest-neighborhood> to order 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-Grahix Store, very near COSTCO: 4046 Fernandina Road (Suite F) • 803-230-9437.



Block Captain Zones



Love Your Forest.



Scan to go to our website.

LOVE YOUR FOREST

Click the map for more information about our Block Captains