



**SHERWOOD  
FOREST**

*Taking Pride. Nurturing Roots.*

## The Sherwood Forest CRIER for May-June 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@sherwoodforestneighbors.org](mailto:treasurer@sherwoodforestneighbors.org), and our treasurer will let you know your status.

#### Mark the Date: Quarterly General Meeting **Wednesday, May 13<sup>th</sup>**.

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.

**Guest Speaker:** Jessica Daly, Location Manager [Richland Library Wheatley](#)

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:

- **Adopt-A-Highway** cleanup, Saturday, May 16<sup>th</sup>, 10:00 – 11:30 am.
- **Sherwood Forest Community Wildlife Habitat Certification Launch**, W. Gordon Belser Arboretum, Sunday, May 17, 1:00 – 4:00 pm

#### Statewide Primary Election, June 9, 2026

Go to <https://vremsscvotes.sc.gov/Voter/Login> and login to see your “My Voter Info” including your polling location. You will also see a blue button for “Early Voting Locations.”

On the top menu of the My Voter Info page select “Sample Ballot” and you will see the only date listed is 6/9/2026, Statewide Primary. Select your party from the dropdown and click “View Sample.” A PDF document will open with the list of candidates for each race (only for the party selected). You may print this or save it to your digital files. It is a great tool to use when researching the candidates, and you can take it with you to the polling location.





## Letter from the President: What’s happening in Our Neck of the Woods?

I am excited to share the news that [Sprouts Farmer’s Market](#) is moving into the Old Piggly Wiggly. Construction is in progress with no opening date identified. The property developer, Frank Cason, says this is the first Columbia location with high expectations for success. We believe they are a great fit with our motto “Nurturing Roots.”

See the announcement article with an artist’s rendition of the site from *The State* newspaper [HERE](#).

We continue to install gateway signs to help establish a sense of neighborhood identity. And all of this is paid for by County, City and perhaps AARP grants, along with support from our Business Friends. Please show your generous support to our [Business Friends](#). We are better together.

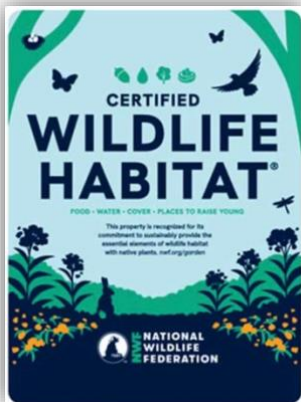
In the middle of our ‘hood is what, some call “5 Corners or 5 Points” because of the odd intersection with a US postbox. Because of its centralized location and high traffic visibility, we are looking to establish a neighborhood information kiosk. The design planning has been funded and is in progress. Ideally, its construction will be complete in 2026 with grant support.

At that same intersection is 400 Kalmia. This site is home to Columbia’s latest Treasured Tree – the 60-foot Magnolia on the corner. The property owner, Lyman Munson, shared the story about his home. Built by Pete Borders in 1953, Pete and his wife lived there until the mid 90s. Pete was a well-liked and respected coach at Dreher High. Lyman says he and his wife enjoyed the home for many years, before she passed on site. We all tackle grief in our own way and on our own timeline. Lyman was unable to live there any longer, so he rented it out several times but can’t return. I have heard criticism about the deterioration seen on the property. Lyman does not want to be negligent. He is in talks with a developer to see what can be done on that site. All of this is being written to provide insight. Once you get to know your neighbor, you better understand the story and empathize with the circumstances.



Don’t forget, we have shirts, hats, and stickers to show off your sense of community. All of this is available at our website or at our quarterly meeting (see last page of this newsletter).

Be that listening neighbor. Come participate in our quarterly meeting, May 13 at 6:30. Let’s fill the church reception hall. *Gail Wojtowicz, SFNA President*



### Sherwood Forest Community Wildlife Habitat Certification Launch

Sherwood Forest Neighborhood Association has registered to become a Community Wildlife Habitat through the National Wildlife Federation. This program offers many bonuses for our neighborhood. It will:

- Help residents to understand the benefits of gardening for wildlife and give them tools to do it.
- Encourage even greater community building.
- Increase plant diversity and the beauty of our neighborhood.
- Ensure that our neighborhood is a place where both wildlife and people thrive.
- Increase opportunities for children to connect with nature.

\*Little known fact – about a dozen neighborhood properties are already individually certified as Wildlife Habitats, including the Belser Arboretum!

We will need at least 26 more neighbors to get their properties certified. And to that end, we are having a launch celebration at the Belser Arboretum on Sunday May 17 between 1 and 4 PM with fun giveaways and lots of support for getting your yard certified as a Wildlife Habitat. Bring yourself, bring your family and neighbors. If you want a peek at what getting certified involves (it's easy!), take a look at this checklist: [https://www.nwf.org/-/media/PDFs/Garden-for-Wildlife/Certified-Wildlife-Habitat/NWF\\_Garden-Certification-Checklist.pdf](https://www.nwf.org/-/media/PDFs/Garden-for-Wildlife/Certified-Wildlife-Habitat/NWF_Garden-Certification-Checklist.pdf)

Additionally, a neighbor's Wildlife Habitat Certified yard that is adjacent to the Arboretum will be open for you to see examples of what can easily be done to qualify for certification.

So come with your questions and ideas! NOTE: The neighborhood association will reimburse a portion of the application fees, so come and find out how much you might save!

### **Neighborhood Gateway Sign Plantings**

Forest Friends have planted around our gateway signs in a somewhat unconventional manner to use both native plants, and plants that tolerate sun and drought without irrigation -- not an easy order to fill! We are having success with the variegated yuccas and creeping junipers as foundation plants. We are experimenting with several other perennials to try to add some seasonal color. We are beginning to find a few things that tolerate the tough conditions. In addition, we are trying to improve our ability to water by hand and have recently acquired a good hose that is helping. We were previously hauling water and wearing out our backs, but the hose has made the job much easier. We would love some volunteers to help with the care of these signs. If you have any planting ideas or would like to adopt a sign, please contact Valerie Marcil (803-331-1138). Thank you!



### **Sherwood Forest Five Corners Project Status**

As presented at our February 2026 Quarterly meeting, this project builds-on our objective to image and position Sherwood Forest as a unique, safe and friendly place to live.

The Richland County \$1,500 NIP grant is being earmarked to fund the planning/design in compliance with SC DOT right-of-way EPPS stipulations. We plan to review first drafts soon. Lyman Munson, the 400 Kalmia property owner is in close communication. Many fingers are crossed regarding our AARP grant application (\$15,000) that would fund fabrication and installation. They award in May.

The following motion will be introduced at the May 13th meeting:

“Following the vision of the Sherwood Forest Branding Task Force, calling for careful creation of a safe, friendly, low-key forest themed image and positioning for the neighborhood, we move to approve fabrication and installation of a pedestrian mini-HUB on the ROW corner site at 400 Kalmia Drive.”



Component attributes of this keystone permanent (vandal proof) asset will include kiosk, seating, book nook exchange, tribute plaque, trash/doggie bag receptacles, logoed signage, T-MOBILE emergency phone and other appropriate features. Design will deliver an artistic-forest theme.

Positioned adjacent to the 75-year-old, Magnolia Grandiflora, our 2025 Columbia Certified Treasured tree, the site will be dedicated and known as “MAGNOLIA POINT”.

### Blossom/Dollar General Gateway Beautification Status

Discussions are ongoing with Dollar General, corporate officials and the property owner to manage litter, and conceal carts and bulk waste stored at their back door. Our vision is to install our Sherwood Forest sign, raise the cinder block wall 3-feet, and dedicate the south facing portion to a beautiful forest themed mural.

### Sherwood Forest's Own Larry Hembree named as 2026 Stephen G. Morrison Visionary Award Recipient



One Columbia for Arts and Culture is thrilled to announce Larry Andrew Hembree as the 2026 recipient of the prestigious Stephen G. Morrison Visionary Award. This honor recognizes Hembree's exceptional leadership, creativity, and enduring contributions to the arts and cultural fabric of Columbia and beyond.

Read the entire announcement article [HERE](#). *Congratulations, Larry!*

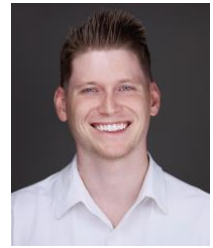
**W. Gordon Belser Arboretum:** The April 2026 issue of the arboretum newsletter is available [Here](#).

- **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
- **Arboretum Book Club** will reconvene again this Fall.

**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](tel:803-782-6966)  
*Click logo for their website.*



Welcome to our newest Business Friend Beau Carver, Agent, State Farm Insurance Companies, 614 Beltline Blvd!  
Beau has joined at the Sweetgum level (\$750)  
*Click logo for his website.*

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

### Neighborhood News:

- **Poll Workers Needed:** Richland County is seeking precinct Poll Manager volunteers (age 18+) supporting the integrity of upcoming primary and mid-term elections. Also, any 16 or 17-year-old can apply to be a PM volunteer assistant.  
Expect excellent training. Easy way to be a patriotic citizen. And you get paid a stipend!  
Find out more: 803-576-2240, and at <https://www.richlandcountysc.gov/Government/Voting-and-Elections/Election-Workers#section-1>
- **National Overview: Facts and Figures on Materials, Wastes and Recycling:** Learn what the facts are and what you can do to contribute to improving our environment.

**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.



Block Captain Zones



Love Your Forest.

LOVE YOUR FOREST



Scan to go to our website.

Click the map for more information about our Block Captains