

THE GATEPOST of Sharon Woods

SUMMER 2021

SHARONWOODSCA.ORG

The Times, They Are a-Changin'

BY JOHN KIRKPATRICK, PRESIDENT

After being shut down for the past 16 months, your Sharon Woods Civic Association is now back up-and-running!

Our association is now meeting at 7:00 PM on the first Thursday of each month in the Church of the Good Shepherd (6176 Sharon Woods Boulevard). We'll be taking the month of August off, but make plans to join us at an upcoming meeting to hear what is going on in our community and lend your voice. We plan to host special guests from the Columbus Division of Police and the Columbus Division of Fire at our July meeting.

We've also recently inducted two new members to our Board of Trustees: Jordan Reeves and Deacon Hooper. *Welcome to the team, guys!* If you or anyone you know in Sharon Woods has interest in becoming a Trustee or has questions, just contact me to learn more (614-600-2469; John@SharonWoodsCA.org).

We've had a number of residents apply recently for membership. *Welcome to you all; we're very glad to have your support and participation!* If you're interested in becoming a member or if you need to renew your membership, visit SharonWoodsCA.org/Membership or check out **page 7**. As part of our application process, we invite residents to ask questions or share comments. Here are a few of the recent submissions, along with some responses:

Can the speed on Sharon Woods Boulevard be changed to 25 MPH? Sharon Woods is a major through street for Schrock Road and 161, and as such, the speed limit must be 35 to keep traffic moving. If you'd like to report speeding violations, the City of Columbus' 311 Service Center (614-645-3111; 311@Columbus.gov) is the best place to do so. Our community's police liaison recommends that you also request a motorcycle unit to be dispatched to monitor the situation.

How did Jewett Drive get speed bumps? Speed bumps were approved for Jewett Drive in 2018 because at least 60% of the property owners on that street requested them and signed a petition. Speed bumps can only be installed on streets with a 25 MPH speed limit.

What are the rules on grass length? Grass must be kept under 12 inches. You can contact the City of Columbus' 311 Service Center if a household has very tall grass or has excessive junk and trash in its yard.

Why are there so many panhandlers along 161 and Karl Road now? The City of Columbus initiated emergency contracts with three motels along the 161 corridor and The Continent to house homeless residents, providing them with safe shelter during the pandemic. These contracts are coming to an end, so a majority of homeless individuals living in those facilities will likely move somewhere else.

How do I get street lights on my street? Streetlamps like the ones on Sharon Woods Boulevard require a petition signed by a minimum of 60% of the property owners on a given street, and homeowners on that street are required to bear about half the cost of the project. Contact the City of Columbus for more info.

Check out our list of upcoming events on **page 2**, such as the *Chalk the Walk* Community Contest and our Community Garage Sale. There are fun things on the horizon, and you're invited!

If you haven't renewed your membership in the last year, check out **page 7** or visit SharonWoodsCA.org/Membership to start the process.



Upcoming Events

Association Meetings

7:00 PM on the First Thursday of Each Month at the Church of the Good Shepherd (6176 Sharon Woods Boulevard) & on Zoom

The Sharon Woods Civic Association is now gathering in-person at the Church of the Good Shepherd for our monthly meetings! We will also host Zoom simulcasts of our meetings for those who cannot attend in-person. Join our email list at SharonWoodsCA.org for reminders of upcoming meetings, notices about any meeting changes, links to join via Zoom, and post-meeting minutes. *Note: We won't meet in August.*



Local Food Trucks

Moose Lodge

Each Wednesday (5:00–8:00 PM), Thursday (4:00–7:00 PM), and Friday (5:00–8:00 PM) the Moose Lodge (1970 Schrock Road) hosts a food truck in their parking lot. They also host events on the second and fourth Saturday of the month which feature at least one food truck.

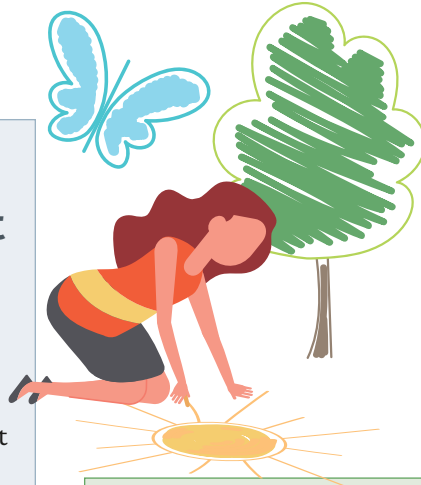
Sharon Woods Church

Each Thursday from 5:00–7:00 PM in July, Sharon Woods Church (5959 Sharon Woods Boulevard) will host two food trucks — one serving main dishes and another serving desserts. Mark your calendar and plan to bring the whole family for some good eats!

Chalk the Walk Community Contest

Monday–Sunday, July 19–25

We invite you and your family to take part in this fun and easy contest to help make Sharon Woods more beautiful! Check out **page 4** for all the details on this initiative and how to participate.



Island Update Days

Saturday, August 7 & October 23

Help us make Sharon Woods more welcoming! On August 7 and October 23, we'll gather in the Jiffy Lube parking lot at 9:00 AM to clean up and remove weeds from the island located at 161 and Sharon Woods Boulevard. Bring work gloves. With your help and several volunteers from the Columbus Beechcroft Lions Club, we'll be done well before noon!



Sharon Woods Community Garage Sale

Friday–Sunday, September 3–5

If you live in the Sharon Woods community, consider hosting a garage sale on Labor Day weekend! You'll benefit from heightened visibility thanks to the many households also hosting sales in our area. The Sharon Woods Civic Association will be promoting our Community Garage Sale dates online, on social media, in The Gatepost, on community flyers, and via the Columbus Dispatch. Each household will be responsible for organizing and hosting their own sale. If you have any questions, please send an email to Info@SharonWoodsCA.org.

If you would like to advertise your garage sale to the community, fill out and submit the form on **page 7**. If you purchase an advertisement, your address will be published alongside other garage sale addresses on a community flyer and our website. *Please submit your advertisement purchase before August 23.* Only ads from households located in the Sharon Woods community will be accepted.



Paul Benjamin joined association board members to present our 2021 scholarship to award winner Molly Goldsmith.

Molly Goldsmith is Our 2021 Scholarship Winner

BY LAURA BASTIN, SECRETARY

The Sharon Woods Civic Association is proud to announce that Molly Goldsmith, senior at St. Francis DeSales High School, is the recipient of our first academic scholarship! Molly plans to attend Wright State University in the fall. The funds contributed to this scholarship by our association were matched by Sharon Woods resident Paul Benjamin. Molly was selected as this year's award recipient after submitting a well-written article in response to our invitation for applications from local high school students.

Thank you, Paul, for your generous donation, and best of luck in your studies, Molly!



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Get Connected

Connect with us online and you'll be the first to hear about what's going on in our community.



Our Website

Visit SharonWoodsCA.org to find updates, volunteer opportunities, our calendar of events, previous editions of *The Gatepost*, annual membership application/renewal, and more!



Email Notifications

When you visit our website, sign up to receive updates via email! When we publish new posts on the site, you'll receive a copy in your email inbox. We won't spam you or sell your email address to anyone.



Follow Us on Facebook

If you have a Facebook account, follow Sharon Woods Civic Association for photos, news, and helpful reminders.



Call or Text

Have a message you'd like to pass along to a member of our Executive Board or Board of Trustees? Call or text **614-600-2469** with your message and it'll be sent along to the appropriate person.



Chalk the Walk Community Contest: July 19–25

BY CHRISSY M, RESIDENT

Sharon Woods is celebrating summer with a week-long outdoor contest, and anyone can participate!

We encourage you to help bring joy to others throughout your community by showing off your art skills in our 2021 *Chalk the Walk* Community Contest. Create an inspirational message on your sidewalk for neighbors to see, paint rocks to look like ladybugs with your kids, or decorate your door in brown and gold to show support for our Beechcroft Cougars. Plus, **have a chance to win one of three \$25 Amazon digital gift cards** and have your art shared in the next issue of *The Gatepost*.

How to Participate Outdoors:

- Chalk Art on Driveways & Sidewalks
- Rock Painting (Any Size Will Work)
- Door or Window Decoration

\$25 Amazon Digital Gift Cards Will Be Awarded for Three Categories:

- Kids (Ages 3–12)
- Team Spirit (Schools Local to Sharon Woods)
- Best of Show

How to Enter the Contest:

Take a photo of your art and email it along with your name and address to Chrissy@SharonWoodsCA.org. The deadline for submissions is July 25. The winners will then be announced on our website and will be featured in the next issue of *The Gatepost*.



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A “Good News Neighbor”

BY MICHELE W, RESIDENT

Too often we hear stories about irresponsible pet owners, and rarely do we have opportunities to celebrate responsible people who do the right thing. So, I’d like to share about an incident where a neighbor went above and beyond...

Recently a neighbor was walking her little dog with her young daughter. As they walked along at a slow but steady pace, the little pooch sniffed out a choice spot in a random yard and “paused for the cause,” much to the owner’s dismay. Other folks would have discreetly kept going because such a small blight on someone’s yard probably would have gone unnoticed. However, this mother and her daughter shared a brief and somewhat frantic exchange before they continued walking. About 8–10 minutes later, a large SUV drove up and stopped, and the same woman got out with a bag, collected that small bit of debris, and continued on her way. It turned out she didn’t have a cleanup bag with her while on her walk, but that didn’t stop her from taking care of her neighbor’s yard by cleaning up after her dog.

This wasn’t just a neighborly gesture; it was also an opportunity for this woman to model to her young daughter how responsible pet owners care for their canine and their community.

I say *kudos* to this woman...she’s a “good news neighbor!” While I don’t personally know her, I’m glad she’s here and I hope we meet one day. In the words of Mr. Rogers: “It’s a beautiful day in the neighborhood...won’t you be my neighbor?”

Ad



SWIM LOCAL

You already know that buying goods and services locally is a great thing. Why not swim local too?

Nestled in the centrally-located Woodward Park neighborhood at 5006 Almont Drive, Northland Swim Club is North Columbus’ community pool. We offer large open swim areas, six Olympic-length (50 meter) lanes, a lap lane, three diving boards, a water slide, shaded grassy areas, a shelter house, and more! **Northland Swim Club is back and ready for the 2021 swim season...ARE YOU?**

We’ve kept our low rates from the 2019 season! Learn more at NorthlandSwimClub.com.



Annual Membership Application / Renewal

Support your Sharon Woods community! Complete and mail the form below or visit SharonWoodsCA.org/Membership to apply for new membership, renew your existing membership, or make a donation.

Your annual membership dues and donations help the Sharon Woods Civic Association operate and fulfill its mission of bettering the Sharon Woods community. With about 1,800 residences in our area, we need all the help we can get to keep Sharon Woods safe, clean, and active! In addition to your membership and optional donation, consider serving as a volunteer or by joining our Board of Trustees (see reverse side for more information).

Many of our community events were canceled in 2020 due to the pandemic, but our association remained very productive! We were able to complete beautification projects, conduct a holiday lighting contest, and host our annual luminary candle sale for Christmas Eve. We kept our community informed by delivering *The Gatepost* and other timely updates to mailboxes and email inboxes throughout the year. Finally, our Board of Trustees was well-represented at monthly Northland Community Council and development meetings, prioritizing the needs of Sharon Woods residents.

Thanks for your help in making our association a vital link between the residents of Sharon Woods and greater Columbus!

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION / RENEWAL FORM

Your membership renewal date is one year from the month you submit this form. If you need information on your membership status or renewal date, please contact Secretary Laura Bastin (614-600-2469; Laura@SharonWoodsCA.org).

Today's Date:

First Name:

Last Name:

Street Address in Columbus, Ohio 43229:

Phone Number:

Email Address:

We do not share your email address; we use it to communicate with you only when necessary.

Member Type (Select One):

Household (\$18)

Senior Age 60+ (\$15)

Business (\$25)

Additional Options

of Christmas Eve Luminary Candles (3 for \$1):

Advertise My Garage Sale on Labor Day Weekend (\$5 Total):

Fri Sat Sun

Monetary Donation for Community Projects:

Total Amount Enclosed:

What can our association do to make Sharon Woods even better?

Mail completed form with payment to: Sharon Woods Civic Association, P.O. Box 297974, Columbus, Ohio 43229

Become an active member of your local civic association!

Join the Sharon Woods Civic Association and partner with us to fulfill our mission of bettering the Sharon Woods community.
See page 7 for more information and instructions.



The Sharon Woods Civic Association is a local not-for-profit corporation operated exclusively for the civic betterment of the Sharon Woods community.

The vision of the Sharon Woods Civic Association is to establish rapport with the community, building and cultivating a strong commitment to represent common issues and concerns of all who live and are employed in the community. To contact a member of our Executive Board or Board of Trustees, call or text **614-600-2469** with your message or send an email using the addresses listed below.

Our Executive Board

Members of the Executive Board serve voluntarily by overseeing official association business and stewarding association resources for the civic betterment of Sharon Woods.

John Kirkpatrick, *President*
John@SharonWoodsCA.org

Ann Trimble, *Vice President*
Ann@SharonWoodsCA.org

Laura Bastin, *Secretary*
Laura@SharonWoodsCA.org

Karen Osmond, *Treasurer*
Karen@SharonWoodsCA.org

Our Board of Trustees

Members of the Board of Trustees are elected to serve our community voluntarily for two or more years by participating in association meetings, taking an active part in the association, and overseeing one or more committees focused on the civic betterment of Sharon Woods. *We're currently seeking new trustees to serve!* If you're interested, please contact President John Kirkpatrick (John@SharonWoodsCA.org) to learn more.

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Columbus Beechcroft Lions Club Liaison
Roger@SharonWoodsCA.org

Deacon Hooper
Deacon@SharonWoodsCA.org

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