

THE GATEPOST of Sharon Woods

MADE BY VOLUNTEERS

| SPRING 2023

| SHARONWOODSCA.ORG

A Letter from the President

BY ROGER HECKEL, PRESIDENT

Is winter almost over? Can we finally get to spring? I sure hope so...

Happy spring, everyone! I want to give you a couple of updates about recent developments in our community. First, our association has been making progress on several projects:

- Our *welcoming committee* is preparing kits with free goodies to provide to new homeowners in Sharon Woods. These kits will inform them about our association and give them an opportunity to meet some of their new neighbors.
- Our *online payments committee* has recommended a service for our association which will make it easy for us to accept registrations, payments for annual dues, and donations online. This service will be implemented soon!

The 2023 Northland Independence Day Parade (*see photos, right*) committee is meeting monthly, and volunteers will be needed as that event draws near. Check out **page 5** for more information and how to help out.

Each month, Jordan Reeves and I attend the Northland Community Council (NCC) Development Committee. I represent our neighborhood, while Jordan serves on the NCC board as Secretary. The past few months have been quite active in those meetings!

- Our association, along with associations from Devonshire and Forest Park, voted to *disapprove* a case from the Community Shelter Board for 82 units at 1289 Dublin Granville Road to be used as permanent supportive housing for the homeless. The case was then presented before the City of Columbus' Development Commission, which voted to *table* the case in light of serious doubts as to whether the proposal is appropriate and/or practical. The Community Shelter Board plans to spend "a couple of weeks to regroup internally and also discuss with [their] partner Homefull the way forward" before exploring next steps. Watch the livestream recording from the Development Commission at SharonWoodsCA.org/HousingVideo.
- A case was submitted for permanent parking of a food truck at 2400 East Dublin Granville Road. We *tabled* the case because the owner did not present the correct documents.



Northland Independence Day Parade photos
courtesy of Dave Paul Photography.



Lastly, **we have open positions for several key volunteer roles.** We're looking for a new Editor of *The Gatepost* to help out immediately. Check out **page 6** for more info. We've also resumed hand-delivery of *The Gatepost* to save costs on postage, so we're seeking volunteers who can help with packing and delivery. If either of these interest you, please contact us and we'll help you get connected!

Upcoming Events

Visit SharonWoodsCA.org/Calendar for more information on these and other activities.



Association Meetings

**First Thursdays
7:00 PM**

**Church of the
Good Shepherd**

6176 Sharon Woods Boulevard

All residents are invited to discuss topics and activities that impact Sharon Woods. We meet the first Thursday of each month (except August and December) at 7:00 PM at the Church of the Good Shepherd and on Zoom. To access the online meeting, visit SharonWoodsCA.org/Zoom.



Sharon Woods Easter Egg Hunt (Plus Pancake & Sausage Breakfast)

**Saturday, April 8
10:00 AM, Church of the
Good Shepherd**

6176 Sharon Woods Boulevard

FREE event! Kids can meet the Easter Bunny and hunt for eggs in different age groups. *Bring a basket for each child.* Arrive between 8:30–10:30 AM for a pancake and sausage breakfast from the Columbus Beechcroft Lions Club! Breakfast is \$6 per adult, \$3 per child (ages 3–12), and free for kids under 3.



Other Events

Save these dates!

**Blooms & Butterflies at
Franklin Park Conservatory**
Now Through May 29

COSI Science Fest May 3–6

Columbus Arts Fest June 9–11

**Creekside Blues & Jazz
Festival** June 16–18

Red, White & BOOM! July 3

**Northland Independence
Day Parade** July 4

National Night Out August 1

**Sharon Woods Community
Garage Sale** September 1–4

Connect with us online and you'll be the first to hear about what's going on!



Our Website

Visit SharonWoodsCA.org for updates, volunteer opportunities, our calendar of events, previous editions of *The Gatepost*, membership info, and more!



Email Notifications

When you visit our site, sign up to receive emails. You'll get our blog posts in your inbox, and we won't spam you or sell your email address to anyone. You can also opt-in on **page 11**.



Follow Us on Facebook

If you're on Facebook, be sure to follow Sharon Woods Civic Association for photos, news, helpful reminders, and more.



Call or Text

Want to get in touch with a board member or trustee? Just call or text **614-600-2469** and your message will be sent along to the appropriate person.

Spring Gardening Tips

BY LISA DOVE, GUEST CONTRIBUTOR

Spring has arrived, so it's time to prepare your garden for planting!

Start preparing your garden by cleaning up leaf litter, tilling the soil, and preparing your vegetable beds. It's also a good time to apply the first lawn fertilizer and weed preventer. Be mindful of the **estimated frost date** for Columbus — April 27 — as planting before this date risks having your blooms nipped by frost.

When purchasing plants at a garden store, look for the **Planting Hardiness Zone** listed on the tags. This number indicates the amount of cold a plant can handle. (The higher the number, the less cold the plant can tolerate.) If you buy a plant with a hardiness rating higher than 5B or 6A, you'll need to bring it inside during the colder months.

Annuals are flowering plants and vegetables that grow and bloom in one season. These plants are bright bloomers and can be planted after the frost date, continuing to bloom until the first killing frost in mid-October. Cold-weather annuals like Pansies and Primrose can tolerate colder temperatures and die back in the summer, reblooming in the fall. Cold-weather annual vegetables like peas, lettuce, spinach, and cabbage can be planted in April.

Perennials are plants that live for more than two years and typically improve with age. These stalwarts of the garden include daisies, garden phlox, strawberries, daylilies, and clematis. Perennials often don't do much in their first season, but after the first winter, they can change dramatically. While more expensive, buying perennials in gallon-size containers that are already blooming can be a good investment. After four years, you may see them decline, at which point it's time to divide them and share them with your neighbors.

Biennials are plants that bloom every other year, taking two years for the cycle to complete. In one year, you'll have blooms, and in the next, just a rosette of leaves. Many biennial species reseed easily, increasing the number of plants in your garden. Examples of biennials include Hollyhocks, Black-Eyed Susans, Delphiniums, and Foxglove.

Follow these tips and enjoy the beauty of your garden throughout the season!

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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, spacious and shaded grassy areas, a shelter house, and more! **Northland Swim Club is back and ready for the 2023 swim season...ARE YOU?**

We are currently hiring lifeguards! To apply, please email Info@NorthlandSwimClub.com.

Purchase your membership to enjoy all the fun and sun! Learn more at NorthlandSwimClub.com.



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The 2023 Northland Fourth of July Parade

BY LAURA BASTIN, SECRETARY



Photos courtesy of Dave Paul Photography.

The Northland Community Council (NCC) is in the midst of planning its 59th Annual Community Independence Day Parade! This year's theme will be "Stronger Together." The parade will take place rain or shine at 11:00 AM on July 4 and will follow Morse Road, typically lasting about two hours.

There are many opportunities to participate and help plan this event. Planning meetings take place from 1:00–2:00 PM on the third Saturday of the month at Epworth United Methodist Church (5100 Karl Road). If you're interested in joining the team, just send an email to Chair@NorthlandParade.org. To volunteer before or after the parade, send an email to the same address. *Many volunteers are needed, so please consider helping out.* Sponsorships are open now, as are applications to be in the procession itself.

We are really looking forward to this special event! For more information, just visit NorthlandParade.org.

Resources for Those Experiencing Homelessness

It's sometimes hard to know the best way to help.

Homelessness is a complex issue, and it's not just about finding people a place to sleep. Often, homeless individuals struggle to connect with the resources they need to get back on their feet, such as food, clothing, and employment opportunities.

If you or someone you know needs assistance, a great place to start is the **Community Shelter Board (CSB.org)**. They coordinate with 20 agencies across Columbus and Franklin County (including many in the list below) to help people access much-needed resources. Their homeless hotline (**614-274-7000**) is operated 24/7 to intake men, women, children, and families.



Scan this code for contact info and resources from CSB.org.

Housing Resources in Central Ohio

Men's Shelters

Faith Mission
Friends of the Homeless
Volunteers of America

Women's Shelters

Nancy's Place
Rebecca's Place
Choices

Family Shelters

YWCA Family Center

Low Income & Section 8 Housing

Columbus Metro. Housing Auth.
Homeport
Community Properties

Supportive & Transitional Housing

YMCA/YWCA
Friends of the Homeless
Community Housing Network
National Church Residences
The EXIT Program (NISRE, Inc.)
Maryhaven

The Next Chapter...

BY TYLER MITCHELL, (FORMER) EDITOR OF THE GATEPOST

This is “farewell,” but not “goodbye.”

This is my final issue as Editor of *The Gatepost*. With mixed emotions I say goodbye to a role that’s been part of my life for more than two years. Nevertheless, now’s the time to hand over the reins to others who can take this newsletter to new heights!

It’s been an honor to serve Sharon Woods as Editor. During my tenure I witnessed our publication go in new directions, helped along by dozens of collaborators — board members, Trustees, community leaders, and residents alike. I’m proud to know that *The Gatepost* has reflected well on our association and neighborhood, and it was an honor to be recognized with an award by the Northland Community Council.

Thank you for allowing me to own this role and have fun. I’ve learned about keeping articles and processes organized, asking for money through ads, and the importance of anticipating and researching issues and topics that are important to our neighbors. I’m grateful to everyone who collaborated on *The Gatepost* and made it shine; your enthusiasm, feedback, and contributions have made it what it is today!

We now need one or two volunteers to carry on the work. We’re looking for a new Editor and Associate Editor who can continue to keep residents informed and connected through *The Gatepost*. If you or another Sharon Woods resident you know is organized and enjoys storytelling, then this may be the perfect volunteer opportunity! It’s a fun mix of editorial planning, assigning articles, copywriting and editing, and print layout design. I’ve documented processes for this role, so the transition should be relatively smooth. (Of course, the next Editor is welcome to propose changes to how things are done.)

To learn more and serve, please contact President Roger Heckel (740-971-7495; Roger@SharonWoodsCA.org). I plan to remain connected to our association and help in multiple ways, including mentoring the next volunteers, if desired. *Thanks for considering this opportunity or informing someone who may be interested!*

I’m confident that *The Gatepost* will continue to be a valuable resource for Sharon Woods, and I wish my successor(s) all the best in carrying on! I can’t wait to read the next chapter...

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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 over 1,850 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). *Thanks for your partnership 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 more information on your 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)

Additional Options

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

2023 Garage Sale Ad (\$5 Total):

Sept. 1 Sept. 2

Sept. 3 Sept. 4

Monetary Donation for Community Projects:

\$

I am interested in volunteering as a Trustee. (See reverse side for more information.)

Total Amount Enclosed:

\$

Will you help make Sharon Woods better? Tell us how you can help.

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



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

Our vision is to establish rapport with the community, building and cultivating a strong commitment to represent common issues and concerns of all who live and work in Sharon Woods. 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 one of the addresses below.



**Become a member today and help us better the community!
See the reverse side for more information and instructions.**

Our Executive Board

Members of the Executive Board serve voluntarily for two or more years, overseeing official business and stewarding association resources for the civic betterment of Sharon Woods.

Roger Heckel

President

Roger@SharonWoodsCA.org

Thomas A. Page, Jr.

Vice President

Thomas@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 our activities, 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 us (614-600-2469; Info@SharonWoodsCA.org) to learn more.

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OPEN VOLUNTEER POSITIONS:

Editor of The Gatepost

Associate Editor of The Gatepost

See page 6 for more information.
Please contact us to volunteer.