

THE GATEPOST *of Sharon Woods*

FALL 2021

SHARONWOODSCA.ORG

Honoring Our Local Heroes

BY JOHN KIRKPATRICK, PRESIDENT

Let's take a moment to show our appreciation for some of the heroes in our community!

The firefighters who work at Station #6 on Maple Canyon are some of those heroes. At a recent meeting of the Sharon Woods Civic Association, I asked the firefighters in attendance if anyone in their department had caught COVID-19. They said about half of their station had contracted it, but only one firefighter had to be hospitalized. These firefighters make between 35–40 runs per day, and they are our true community heroes.

Many of us take for granted simple realities that these heroes deal with every day. For example, I recently followed a fire truck on Jewett Drive where traffic calming speed bumps have recently been installed. The bumps are meant to be driven over at 25 MPH, which cars can do easily. However, the fire truck had to slow down to no more than 5 MPH to cross those bumps safely. I understand that school buses that go over these bumps at 25 MPH give the kids in the very back of the bus a thrill. Our association has not been in favor of speed bumps for the reason that our firefighters need to get to emergencies as fast as possible and don't need anything to slow them down.

Another "thank you" goes out to our many community volunteers. Several people went door-to-door to deliver our summer 2021 issue of *The Gatepost*, ensuring all our Sharon Woods neighbors received a copy. Many others worked to remove weeds from the islands at 161 and Sharon Woods Boulevard. Others put in effort to maintain our sign at Schrock Road and Sharon Woods Boulevard. Corbin Robinson, Mike Shannon, Dave Kilboy, and Pete Frisch helped by trimming the trees at Schrock Road and Sharon Woods Boulevard and by mowing the grass and edging around the sidewalk there. Our volunteers are few in number but do a great job serving our community!

Finally, I want to let you know that several members of our association attend Northland Community Council (NCC) meetings and NCC's community development meetings. NCC is made up of 24 civic, condo, and homeowner associations that meet monthly to discuss issues which relate to the Northland area as well as whether builders meet the Northland Plan when they are planning new development in our area. Being a member of NCC provides our association with access to city officers and an audience to voice our opinion about what most benefits those in our community. A big "thanks" goes to those who represent us in those important meetings!



If you haven't renewed your membership in the last year, check out page 11 or visit SharonWoodsCA.org/Membership to start the process.

Announcing Our 2021 Chalk the Walk Contest Winners

BY IAN C & CHRISSEY M, SHARON WOODS RESIDENTS

Thank you to all who participated in our *Chalk the Walk* community contest in July! When we create and share inspirational art, we build up the character of our beautiful neighborhood...so thanks for making Sharon Woods a little brighter. We had many beautiful submissions to our contest, and we are proud to announce the winners of our \$25 Amazon gift cards:

- “Our Neighborhood” by Payton Perkins, Age 8 (for the Kids Ages 3–12 Category)
- “Stay Kind” by Ava Goode, Age 11 (Best of Show)
- “Be a Froot Loop” by Timi, Age 49 & Hazel, Age 73 (Honorable Mention)

Congratulations to our winners! Check your email inbox for your digital gift card prize.



“Stay Kind” by Ava Goode

Get Connected

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



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.



“Be a Froot Loop” by Timi & Hazel



“Our Neighborhood” by Payton Perkins



Above: A Submission by Parker Perkins • Below: A Submission by Aria Goode



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Upcoming Events



Sharon Woods Civic Association Meetings

7:00 PM on the First Thursday of Each Month

Our association meets each month to discuss issues pertinent to our community, and all Sharon Woods residents are invited! In-person meetings are hosted at the Church of the Good Shepherd (6176 Sharon Woods Boulevard). Zoom simulcasts are available for those who cannot attend in-person or in the event that a meeting must take place online-only. 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.

Island Update Day

9:00 AM on Saturday, October 23

Help us make Sharon Woods more welcoming! On 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 finish well before noon!



Looking Out for Each Other

BY TONYA W, SHARON WOODS RESIDENT

I'd like to thank an anonymous neighbor who notified me that someone was in or around my home while I was away. I received a letter addressed by "Angela" about the incident, and she recommended that I contact the police after providing some information about what she observed.

Thanks, Angela, for keeping a watchful eye out!

Sincerely, Your Skywae Neighbor-Friend



Real Estate Trends in Our Community

BY KARIN WATERSCHOOT-PEREZ, TRUSTEE

Anyone who has looked into buying or selling a home recently knows Columbus has a strong seller's market.

In Franklin County and surrounding areas there are only 2,500 active listings, and most sell within a few days of being listed. Limited inventory and historically low interest rates continue to push property prices up. The average price of a home sold in June in Franklin County was \$316,207, an increase of 15.8% from a year ago. The median sale price was \$275,000, an increase of 14.1% over June 2020.

According to the MLS (multiple listing service), a total of 69 properties have sold in the Sharon Woods community since the beginning of the year. The median price during that period was \$252,250 and the highest price was \$310,000. With such a high demand for houses in this fast-moving market, sellers should be ready to move when listing their home! Here are a few tips to help potential sellers prepare for success:

- Take care of any maintenance to-dos or fixes around the house.
- Maximize curb appeal by maintaining your lawn and landscaping, staying on top of leaf/snow buildup.
- Work indoors on cool days to clean, paint, or reorganize.
- Add warm seasonal decor or foliage, both indoors and out.

If you're interested in learning more about this unique market or buying/selling your home, contact a local realtor today. Having a professional in your corner is a *must* at times like these, and our Sharon Woods community boasts several great options!



Columbus Beechcroft Lions Club Volunteer Opportunities

Friday–Saturday, October 22–23: White Cane Fundraiser
Saturday, December 18: Christmas Baskets Donations

Final details are coming together for these upcoming opportunities. For the latest info, please contact Roger Heckel (Roger@SharonWoodsCA.org; 614-882-6245) or visit e-clubhouse.org/sites/columbusbeechcroft.

The 2021 Holiday Lighting Community Contest

Sunday–Saturday, December 5–11

All Sharon Woods households are invited to take part in this fun and easy contest to beautify our community for the holidays. Check out **page 8** for all the details on this initiative and how to participate.



The Sharon Woods Luminaria Tradition

Christmas Eve, December 24

Take part in this 50-year tradition by lighting up your property on Christmas Eve. Check out **page 9** for all the details on this initiative and how to participate.





LOCAL OUTDOOR EXPERTS



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We make sure to take the extra steps during service. The same quote that you approve is the same quote the team members see during service - we want everyone on the same page!

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Hi There! My name is Franklin and I own Nextdoor Lawn and Landscape. I am a resident of Sharon Woods and hope that this flyer finds you in good health.

I focus on serving Sharon Woods because I want our neighborhood to be a beautiful, inviting neighborhood for its residents, visitors, and future neighbors! Please give my company the opportunity to show you why we are the best in Sharon Woods and Greater Columbus!

Our Team

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The 2021 Holiday Lighting Community Contest

Decorate your property by December 5!

BY KAREN OSMOND, TREASURER

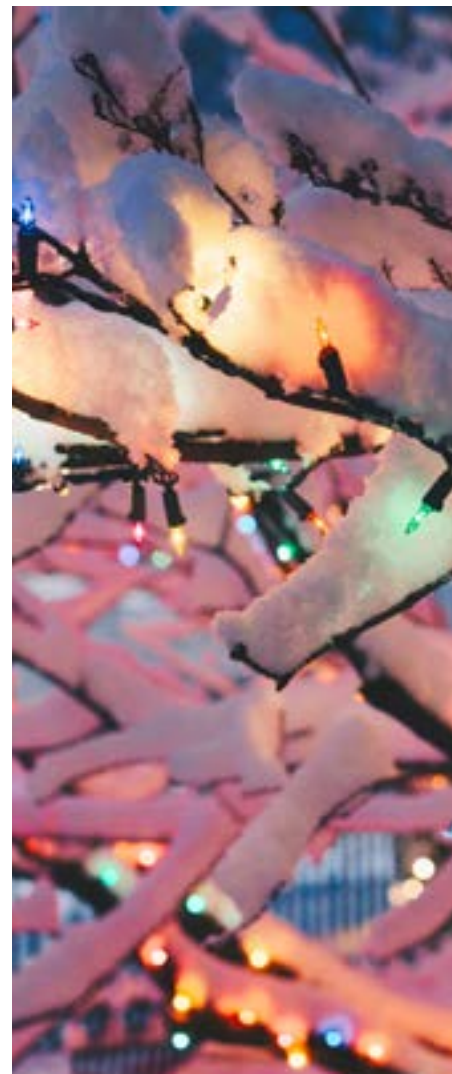
'Tis the season to shine! Back by popular demand is the annual Sharon Woods Holiday Lighting Contest.

All homes, condos, and apartments in the Sharon Woods community are invited to participate in this contest. If you wish to participate, decorate your property's exterior by early December, and ensure it is lit up from December 5 until December 11. Sharon Woods Civic Association volunteers will be perusing the neighborhood during that time and making nominations for the following categories:

- Best Religious Theme
- Best Use of White or Colored Lights
- Most Festive
- Best Overall

On December 14, judges from the Columbus Beechcroft Lions Club will determine the winning homes. Photos of each category winner will be published in the January 2022 *Gatepost*, on our Facebook page, and on our website. If you wish to nominate a particular home for our judges' consideration or to serve as a nominating judge, please email Karen Osmond (Karen@SharonWoodsCA.org) or Deonna Maiden (Deonna@WOWway.com).

Let's light up our neighborhood this December and spread some holiday cheer!



The Sharon Woods Luminaria Tradition

Light up your property this Christmas Eve!

BY JOHN KIRKPATRICK, PRESIDENT

With the changing seasons and cooler weather comes favorite holiday traditions.

Whether it's a family recipe passed down for generations, a favorite movie watched with loved ones, or delivering sweet treats to neighbors, we all have special things that mark the season. Our Sharon Woods community is no different. For the past 50 years, we have held onto a cherished tradition called "Luminaria," which is the lighting of candles on our property fronts on Christmas Eve.

The Sharon Woods Civic Association invites all residents to participate in this unique experience by placing candles (usually 6–9) in paper bags or plastic milk jugs, weighed down with sand or kitty litter, and placing them along the front of their property on Christmas Eve.

You can purchase your candles, 3 for \$1, from our association by filling out the form on **page 11** and mailing it with a check to the address indicated on the form. **Please send us your order by Friday, November 26.** Candles will be delivered in early December.

We hope you'll join us in lighting up Sharon Woods this Christmas Eve!



Chad Kohler
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chad@altrealtors.com
3637 North High Street
Columbus, OH 43214
www.altrealtors.com

While being a resident in the Sharon Woods community for almost eight years, being a part of Weichert lets me do even more for you as your neighbor!

If you are in the market to buy or sell a home, please feel free to contact me with any questions.

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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 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:
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

Street Address in Columbus, Ohio 43229:

Phone Number:	Email Address:
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

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):	Monetary Donation for Community Projects:
<input type="text"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>

Total Amount Enclosed:	What can our association do to make Sharon Woods even better?
\$ <input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

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 are employed 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 the addresses listed below.

Join our association today and help us fulfill our mission to better Sharon Woods. See page 11 for more information and instructions.

Looking to serve on our board? We're currently looking for a Beautification Chairperson. This individual will participate in our monthly meetings and work with volunteers to maintain our entrance islands at Sharon Woods Boulevard and 161. They will organize work dates to weed, trim, and pick up trash from the area. It's a great way to give back to your community! If you're interested in discussing this opportunity, please contact President John Kirkpatrick (John@SharonWoodsCA.org).

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

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