

Fleetwood West Newsletter

JULY 2014

EDITOR: RICHARD GOLDEN

President's Message:

On behalf of our entire Fleetwood West Board, I thank all of our homeowners for your attention to paying your annual maintenance fee on a timely basis. Many associations are not so lucky. All of our fees are in and we thank you. We are within budget and beginning to plan for next year.

Our video surveillance system is our security deterrent now, and it continues to meet our expectations. Fleetwood West Security Director, Chris Culberson, shares more details on page 4.

We encourage everyone to slow down when you enter the subdivision this summer and to drive safely.

Feel free to contact me or any board member or officer with your questions, suggestions or concerns.

Enjoy your summer.

Sincerely,
Keith Reed

Fleetwood West Residents:

School is out and our children are playing. Residents are taking casual walks and walking family pets. Pedestrian safety should be your number one thought when driving through Fleetwood Place Drive, Bayou River Drive, Bayou River Court, Redwood Place and Cranberry Hill Court. Please remember to keep your speed under 20 MPH. It is your neighbors' family member or pet who might get hurt, so *please drive carefully!*



**Neighborhood
Speed Limit:
20 MPH**



UPDATE: TRASH AND RECYCLE PICKUP

WCA's trash and recycle collection schedule recently changed for Fleetwood. The current schedule is:

Regular Trash/Garbage Pickup - Wednesday & Saturday collection begins at 7:00 AM. Residents are encouraged to put their trash and garbage out the night before.

Heavy Trash - Saturday collection will begin at 7:00 AM. Residents are encouraged to put their heavy trash out the night before.

Recycling - Wednesday, beginning around Noon (separately from collection of trash and garbage).



My name is Fido. I was walking ON MY LEASH with my brother, Pete. During our walk, I got the urge to relieve myself. Afterwards, I waited for PETE to pick up my poop. I was given four paws instead of two legs and two arms. I can only hope that Pete will help the situation and pick it up, and he always does. IT IS THE RIGHT THING TO DO. Please note that Pete and I were walking with a leash. It is the law in Houston.

Interesting Pets



A man is driving down the highway and passes a state motorcycle officer. The officer notices the man and also sees that he has 4 penguins in the backseat of the car. The officer chases down the car and pulls the man over, and after a short inspection of the vehicle says to the driver, "What are you doing with 4 penguins in your car?" To which the man replies, "Just taking them for a ride, officer." Visibly upset, the cop instructs the man to take the penguins to the zoo.

The next day the same man is driving down the same highway and is spotted by the same cop. Again the cop gives chase, pulls the car over, and upon inspection sees the same 4 penguins in the backseat - only this time the penguins are wearing brightly-colored swim trunks and sun glasses. The cop, really ticked off this time, says, "I thought I told you to take those penguins to the zoo yesterday!" The man smiles and replies, "I did! They liked that so much that today I decided to take them to the beach!"



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FLEETWOOD FALL FESTIVAL
10TH ANNIVERSARY OF MAKING MEMORIES



Folks of Fleetwood West, there is one neighborhood event that Fleetwood West helps to sponsor. It is the Fleetwood Fall Festival, and we encourage you and your family to mark your calendar now for this year's family fun street festival, set for **Sunday, Oct. 26th**.

Many new residents and settled residents are not aware of this festival. It is a street festival for all to roam, enjoy and have fun. Meet your neighbors and friends. Enjoy free food, supplied by local restaurants, and be entertained by all the clubs and groups of Fleetwood West and Fleetwood. For adults last year, there were door prizes, a dessert bake off, booths explaining the garden club, lunch and dinner groups and wine tasting. Free food was supplied by our fabulous local restaurants. It was amazing!

The children last year had rock climbing, games to play, free ice cream and hot dogs supplied by the festival, along with drinks, face painting and more. This year's event is our 10th anniversary. There will be a free photo booth with unlimited picture-taking by professionals, props provided. If you can fit it in a booth, it becomes an instant photograph. Everyone can be a star - your pets, infants, youngsters, teenagers, young adults and lets not forget our seniors!

Last year's major festival event was when the children of Fleetwood paraded through the street, (up to the age 13). Children dressed up in costumes, families built floats, and the children rode their decorated bikes. They all paraded around the streets, showing off their creativity. As they went by, their facial expressions were indescribable. We encourage every family to enter their children. What a happy time for the kids and a great family fun project. There will be three categories this year. Children wearing dress-up costumes, floats (that are pushed or pulled), and decorated bicycles. And back by request, you can show off your dressed-up pet. Trophies will be awarded for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place in each of the three categories.

The Fall Festival is jointly funded by neighbors in Fleetwood and Fleetwood West. Let's create a spectacular Fall Festival this year, in celebration of our 10th anniversary! Please let us know if you are willing to contribute your skills, talents, or ideas to this year's Festival planning and make the kind of difference only you can make. For more specifics on the planning committee, please email or call at your earliest opportunity. Please help us make this the best Festival in 10 years. Help and volunteer. Contact Judith Bruni, jbruni@sbcglobal.net or 281-556-1908. We look forward to hearing from you!

SECURITY



As our **digital video surveillance system** celebrated its first anniversary this spring, an informal review indicates it has met, and in several metrics, exceeded our original goal of cost-effective crime deterrence. Houston Police Department crime statistics for Fleetwood West/

Fleetwood reflect this notion with a reduced 2013 crime rate as compared to 2012. Overall, we enjoy one of the lowest crime rates in West Houston. Regardless, Fleetwood & Fleetwood West still had a few home and vehicle burglaries in 2013, which is a reminder no criminal deterrence solution is 100% effective against bold criminals.

Should criminal activity occur on your property, please remember to tell the police officer taking your report to contact me directly and I will gladly provide them with any relevant video evidence that may have been recorded. It would also be very helpful if you can provide the officer with as many details as possible, such as the time frame of the event, vehicle description, etc. Having this information will expedite the historical video search effort plus significantly improve validity of the evidence.

If you do not have your **Fleetwood vehicle ID sticker** on your rear window, please contact me. This sticker is important because it allows all of us to quickly determine if a vehicle belongs within Fleetwood. If you do see suspicious activity in our neighborhood please don't hesitate to call the Houston Police Department Emergency number: **911**. For non-emergencies (to file a crime report, etc.) please call HPD at **713-884-3131**.

Please keep in mind the best criminal deterrence starts with you by following good home security practices, such as installing a monitored alarm system, keeping your doors locked, garage closed, etc. The Houston Police Department has some great crime prevention tips online at http://www.houstontx.gov/police/crime_prevention. If you are interested in a professional assessment of your home's security, I recommend contacting Sergeant Mitch Hutter of the Harris Count Precinct 5 Constable's office at mitchell.hutter@cn5.hctx.net.

Best Regards,

Chris Culberson
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