

# FLEETWOOD WEST COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2013

EDITOR RICHARD GOLDEN



## PRESIDENT'S NOTES

President's Message by Keith Reed

Neighbors, your board is pleased to report that our Video Surveillance System is complete, paid for and operational at all entrances and exits from Fleetwood West and Fleetwood at Crossroads on the south side. See the Security Report below for details about how the system should help you, and what you need to do in case you experience a break-in or have a need to call for police assistance. Our association with "Big Fleetwood" to gain full coverage is one we are very proud to report.

At this time we have email addresses for 88 of our 90 member owners. We will email all newsletters and Security Alerts to you periodically, along with notices of Board Meetings. If your property is rented, please promptly forward our Security Alerts to your tenants.

If you wish to bring something to the attention of your board, contact me via email or phone, and we will schedule time for you to speak to us. We plan to meet three times in 2013 and we will email members with those dates, times, locations and agendas.

Our committees are in place and we are pleased to report that Eddie Brown (931 Fleetwood Place) has agreed to chair our Architectural Control Committee. If you plan any changes outside your home, check the Fleetwood West Property Manual to determine if you need approval. The form to complete is in the manual, or you can email me and I will forward it to you.

The Texas Legislature has passed laws applicable to home owner associations, and we will be taking board actions necessary to comply during the year. When completed, we will distribute the changes to you.

Contact me or any board member or officer with any suggestions you would like for us to consider during the coming year. Thank you for your interest and active participation.

## TRAFFIC CONTROL



Be considerate of others and reduce your speed to 20 MPH while driving throughout Fleetwood. Accidents happen in a split second. Do not become a Fleetwood statistic, Spring is just around the corner. The weather is warming up and more residents will be out and about. BE AWARE and SLOW DOWN PLEASE.

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## SECURITY



I am pleased to report Fleetwood has joined us in expanding our new digital security surveillance video system to include the Crossroads South and North entrances off Memorial Drive. This expansion will ensure clear, legible license plate images of all vehicles entering Fleetwood or Fleetwood West will be securely recorded should law enforcement require it. In other words, anyone with nefarious intentions driving into Fleetwood/Fleetwood West will no longer be able to do so without impunity.

Should criminal activity occur on your property here's how to leverage the new video surveillance system to your advantage; ask the police officer taking your report to contact me directly and I will gladly provide them with evidence quality video. I may be contacted at;

Chris Culberson / Fleetwood West Security Director / (713) 899-8698 / fwsec@comcast.net

It would of course also be very helpful if you can provide the officer with as many details possible regarding 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.

Finally, I also wish to voice caution that our new surveillance video system is not intended to replace the need for your own personal security at home. The new system is designed to enhance our collective security, not to eliminate the need for good home security practices such as installing a monitored alarm system, keeping your doors locked, garage closed, etc. Deterrence is always the best scenario, so my sincere hope is we will see measurable results of our collective security improvements in 2013.

Best Regards, Chris

## ANIMAL CONTROL



Children playing, residents walking, home owners barbecuing and outdoor parties are happening throughout Fleetwood. Poop smells and invites bacteria and bugs. Please be considerate and pick up Oscars poop. Thank You.

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## Coming Events

**FLEETWOOD FUN WINE TASTING** You are invited to a Wine Tasting Event at the home of Gay and Dan Bonner, 15919 River Roads on Saturday, March 23, at 7:00p.m.. Their phone number is 281 796-9922. Come and enjoy a variety of wines for tasting that will be centered around a common theme. The cost per person in advance: \$15.00. Remit to Rick Morrow by Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> at 1130 Daria Dr., phone 281 748-6536. Email [rixster-morrow@hotmail.com](mailto:rixster-morrow@hotmail.com). Please bring a favorite hors d'oeuvre to be enjoyed with the wine. For more information call Brenda Bush 281 558-4279 ([brendabush@hal-ps.org](mailto:brendabush@hal-ps.org)).

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### **Fleetwood Fun Event Day Trip to Galveston Wednesday, April 17, 2013**

Join us for a fun filled day on The Strand visiting the many gift shops, antique stores, restaurants, museums, wine bars, winery, art galleries and much, much more. Everyone is invited. Bring your spouses, partners, family and friends! The bus is free. A list of attractions and prices will be provided. To reserve your seat on the bus, contact Carolyn

Haynes at:

[chaynes82@hotmail.com](mailto:chaynes82@hotmail.com) or 281 497-7338

If email, please include your telephone number.

Meet at Bear Creek Community Center parking lot 2033 Bear Creek Drive.



## Fleetwood Information

The board suggests that Fleetwood West security alerts be posted on Nextdoor Fleetwood by Chris Culberson, BUT would not discourage one of our FW neighbors from posting an event on his/her own. Said neighbor may actually see or hear something that either prevents a crime or helps catch a criminal. For example, guys with clipboards taking "surveys" on whether you need your roof fixed, or folks selling meat hammering on doors or gates.

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Save 5 % to 10% on your homeowners insurance when you have a FREE HOME INSPECTION SURVEY (depending on carrier). Get simple suggestions on how to better secure your home. Call the PCTS CONSTABLE'S OFFICE AT 281-463-6666 and ask for SERGEANT MITCH HUTTER ([mitchell.hutter@cn5.hctx.net](mailto:mitchell.hutter@cn5.hctx.net)). His direct line 281-704-6825

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Barkers Landing has invited Fleetwood residents to join their Pool Club (there is a membership fee). They also have a swim team for ages 4 to 18. For more information, go to their website at [www.swimbarkers.org](http://www.swimbarkers.org).

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There is a neighborhood playgroup. If interested, contact [dannalair@blairvolution.com](mailto:dannalair@blairvolution.com).

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## BITS OF WISDOM

In the energy corridor, there are 22 million square feet of office space currently. New construction will add 3 million sq. ft. and on the drawing board there are plans for 4 million more sq. ft. There is also construction now going on for 300 apartments and some town houses by Skanska Development next to Café Benedicte. There are other apartments in construction on Memorial Drive. Traffic, traffic, and more traffic.. Please be aware of consideration by the City of adding two new lanes to Memorial Drive. All of this will impact your drive time on Memorial. Please read page 5 and 6 of this newsletter and send a letter of support for this project (sample on page 6) to the address on page 5 .

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The City will start to put sidewalks on the NORTH SIDE OF MEMORIAL in approximately one month. It will be the same design as the walks that were added a few months ago at Barkers Landing.. The project should take 30 to 45 days to complete. As far as I know, the project should complete the sidewalk on the north side to Highway Six.

## JUST A GIGGLE



Psychiatrists  
 While attending a convention, three psychiatrists take a walk.  
 "People are always coming to us with their guilt and fears," one says, "but we have no one to go to with our own problems."  
 "Since we're all professionals," another suggests, "why don't we hear each other out right now?"  
 They agreed this is a good idea.  
 The first psychiatrist confesses, "I'm a compulsive shopper and deeply in debt, so I usually overbill my patients as often as I can."  
 The second admits, "I have a drug problem that's out of control, and I frequently pressure my patients into buying illegal drugs for me."  
 The third psychiatrist says, "I know it's wrong, but no matter how hard I try, I just can't keep a secret."



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## **MEMORIAL DRIVE LANE EXPANSION**

The City of Houston has started a large Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) project to rebuild Memorial Drive from Kirkwood to Eldridge. This is a mobility project that when finished, will solve many of the traffic problems we now experience. The Super Neighborhood Council has been assured that the finished project will include curbs, gutters, and sidewalks. The existing ditches will be gone. Public comment is taken into consideration before final approval of funding decisions. It is important for H-GAC to understand that there is strong public support for the Memorial Drive project.

**Requested Action: Submit public comments in support of the Memorial Drive reconstruction project during the 30 day open comment period which runs from March 6, to April 5, 2013. Sample letter is included. Please copy, sign and send to address or email below. If you desire, please personalize your comments to point out a benefit that may be specific to your or your HOA. There are examples below for residents whose children need to cross Memorial to go to elementary school.**

Comments can be submitted electronically to the following email address:

**publiccomments@h-gac.com**

Comments can be submitted in writing to:

**Transportation Public Information  
Houston-Galveston Area Council  
P.O. Box 22777  
Houston, TX 77227-2777**

**Please cc: the Memorial Super Neighborhood at [memorialsn16@gmail.com](mailto:memorialsn16@gmail.com) so that we can make sure your comments are incorporated in the public comment for the project.**

Below is important data to reference in public comments.

### Regional Significance

Project limits encompass Memorial City and the Energy Corridor, the fastest growing real estate submarket in the Houston region.

Memorial Drive is central to the community and the focal point for retail development connecting the 2 commercial activity centers.

Memorial Drive runs parallel to the Katy Freeway from SH 6 to downtown.

Every day Memorial Drive functions as an alternate and reliever to the Katy Freeway.

Today, during the morning and evening rush hours, it is not uncommon to wait through several traffic signal cycles to cross any of the intersections in the project area.

New office buildings and apartment complexes being built in the area will add to existing congestion.

There will be delay benefits with Memorial Drive reconstruction.

Turn lanes at Eldridge, Dairy Ashford and Kirkwood will improve throughout and decrease congestion.

**H-GAC**

**These comments are submitted in support of the City of Houston Memorial Drive reconstruction project. Please find the project in the 2013-2019 TIP.**

**Memorial Drive connects the Energy Corridor and Memorial City, two of the fastest growing parts of the Houston region. It also connects neighborhoods to each other, those activity centers, schools and shops. It is an essential road both for our community and the region. Memorial Drive is an alternate to the Katy Freeway for travel to downtown. The intersection in the project provides access to and from the Katy Freeway, most notably during rush hour.**

**Today's traffic during morning and evening rush hours causes long delays at intersections. It is my understanding that additional turn lanes will provide noticeable reduction in wait times at Kirkwood, Dairy Ashford and Eldridge. This is very important now and will become more important with all of the new office and high density residential development planned for the area.**

**In addition, the project will add sidewalks and medians which will make it easier to walk along and cross Memorial Drive to access shops and schools. The median should also reduce accidents caused by left turns onto Memorial Dr. There are many families in the area that do not allow new teen drivers to turn left onto Memorial Drive at location without traffic signals because of the high accident risk.**

**Memorial Drive reconstruction should be funded in the 2013-2014 TIP so congestion will not worsen with the major increase in economical activity along the corridor.**

**Sincerely,**