

North View News

April 2011



North View Easter Egg Hunt!

*Join us for a great time at this Hopping
Happening and meet the Easter Bunny!
Come and celebrate Easter
with your family, friends and neighbors at the
North View Community Center (Pool)*

Saturday April 16th

12:00noon to 2:00pm

**(To volunteer to help out during
this event please call
Belinda at 832-229-1443)**

Hello, from "The Square Corner"©

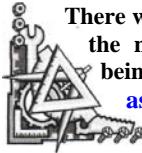
I've had several homeowners inquire about fence repair/replacement. So I decided to write a few installments on the topic.

First of all, I'm glad to see interest on this subject. So many homeowners take advantage of their neighbor thinking the fence is "their responsibility, it's not mine", "I don't have a dog", or "the pickets are on their side". As a homeowner, maintenance plays a major part of added value to your property; for resale. I for one would not enjoy living in a neighborhood that looks run down and not kept. Your homeowner's organization plays a major part in this; the value of your property. Now, let's get to the matters at hand, "YOUR FENCE".

"YOUR FENCE", affords you a certain amount of privacy & safety. If pickets need replacing, that will be the least of your problems. Make sure your pickets are made of the same wood as those you are replacing (Cedar, Red Wood or Pressure Treated Pine); this will make for a better looking repair job. Thickness is not as important as width; (wood is being milled smaller these days to conserve trees). Looking at the width of the board you're replacing, remember that this board has dried in the sun and weather & is smaller in width than your replacement, & that is ok, just remember to center your board in the gap that's to be filled. Oh.... I almost forgot.... make sure the dog ear (top profile) matches the rest of the fence & is at the right height.

There will be more on fence building in the next newsletter and thanks for being a responsible home owner.

asksquarecorner@sbcglobal.net



ASK SQUARE CORNER ©

CONSTABLE

GPS SAFETY:

O If you have a GPS in your car be sure to keep it hidden from view when you're not in the vehicle, especially if you have pre programmed addresses in it. **R** GPS are one of the most popular targets for thieves, and keeping it in plain sight is an invitation for someone to break your car window and take it.

And if that's not enough...consider this: You're out shopping & a thief steals your GPS. They turn it on and click on "HOME" from your list of pre-programmed addresses. By the time you return to your car, contact the police, and have a report written up, the thief, knowing that you're out shopping, will have already broken into your home.

Realistically, you probably don't need to program your GPS to "HOME". Chances are you already know how to get there without any help, but when we get new toys...we put all kinds of stuff in them! If you really want to program that feature, call it something else. Label it Bob or Alice. That way only you know your home address. It could save you a lot of hassle.



WE ARE YOUR HOUSE & YARD-HELP US!

It was a very hard winter on me and my friend, Yard, & we need your attention. The hard winter, ice and freezing temperatures have caused my skin problems. Can you please take a walk around me? My gutters had freezing water in them, pulling them away from the house, please fix them so they don't fall out. My paint has mildew growing on it, (yuk, I hate mildew), and if you'll give it a power wash, I think it can wait for a paint job. That will save you some money. My front door took a beating in the wind and rain, since you use it so often, you probably don't know it needs to be cleaned. The driveway took most of the dirt on the car & it washed down on the driveway. While you have the pressure washer out for the house, could the driveway get a bath too? Lots of the shrubs in the yard froze to death, and should be removed. When you walk around looking at my friend, House, will you please take a close look at me & all of my friends that make your house so beautiful???? The hibiscus and palms really got hit hard, & may come back if you trim them, but watch them closely. They may need to be removed. Some of my other friends probably did not make it thru the winter & will have to be removed from our yard. Sad, but they sure are not doing anything for our curb appeal in their present condition. Spring is right around the corner, the weather is getting nice, so let's spend some time together. Just me and you.



North View Neighborhood Watch

- *Faster than a midnight car thief!
- *More powerful than a lurking burglar!
- *Able to stop graffiti with a single call!

Look! Out on the street! It's a Mom! It's a Dad! It's a Teen! Yes! It's...
North View Neighbor Watch!

Each of us can stop crime in North View. If you see something unusual or suspicious on your way to or from work, school, the store or any time at all, call the Constables at

281 376-3472

We're their eyes & ears.

If you see something, Say Something!



Texting And Driving... lol

There's no sugar coating it. Texting & driving is a BAD idea. Studies have shown that you are 23 percent more likely to be in an accident while texting and driving, and yet we see it being done everyday. Some of us even do it every day. Think about it. You know that drinking and driving impairs your vision & your driving, but if you are texting and driving, there is no impaired vision. You totally take your eyes off the road. You may as well close them... but what responsible driver would do that? Your life, the life of your children in the car with you, the friend in the car with you, the mother and child in the car heading your way...Is that message worth it? It doesn't just happen to other people. Bring them home alive, North View. Let everyone go home alive.



Ponderosa FD Round Up

The Ponderosa Fire Department responded to a total of 1,396 emergencies in 2010. The gross number doesn't tell the whole story --- we are still seeing a significant number of cooking fires, and the intensity of structure fires increased demanding more resources from neighboring departments. This may be due to an increase in population and the age of our buildings.

Total fire loss was estimated at a little over \$1,000,000 and the estimated save was about \$4,680,000. There were no fire related deaths or civilian injuries and no firefighter injuries - a great year for you and us. We assisted Cypress Creek EMS on 388 responses. The cost per capita for our total operations was a little over \$38.00 the same as previous years.

We are cost competitive with our neighboring departments and our per capita cost is about 25% of full career departments. Our combination system of full time, part time and volunteer members is a very effective solution in today's cost conscious world. Your property tax is 10 cents per hundred dollars of evaluation, the maximum available to Emergency Services Districts. A \$150,000 property is about \$150.00 per year.

Your new fire station construction continues at a fast pace. Watch the progress on our website: www.ponderosavfd.org



Spring Has Sprung!

*North View
Yard Of The Month*
Program will be from
March through October
This year and
Yard of the Month
Winners will receive a
\$25 gift certificate
compliments of
Houston Plants & Garden

North View Pre Event Fundraiser!

Our pre event fundraiser to help raise money for the fight against cancer will be held April 16th from 12Noon-2PM at the Community Pool along with the Easter Egg Hunt.

We will have nachos cotton candy, baked goods, snow cones and face painting at this event.

If you would like to donate your old cell phones, IPODS, MP3 players or any type of electronic device that you no longer use, the Soldiers For Life team will also be collecting those things to raise funds for the fight against cancer. These items will be recycled and a portion of the proceeds will be donated to Relay For Life. So please come out, bring your family, enjoy the day and join and support our North View team; Soldiers For Life.

For more information please contact Belinda at 832 229-1443



Relay For Life
April 29th at 7:00pm
Klein Oak High School

Do you want to help your community and have fun doing it? Anyone who wants to Fight Back against cancer is welcome! Join the North View Soldiers For Life team, make a donation, purchase a luminaria or become a sponsor!

**Join North View in the fight
against cancer for the
2011 Relay For Life
of Northwest Harris County**

April 29th – 30th, 2011
7:00pm – 7:00am
at Klein Oak High School

www.relayforlife.org/northwesttx

For more information
contact Belinda Shelby
832 229-1443 or
karigriggs@aol.com



Celebrate Remember Fight Back

Notice of Annual Meeting

You are invited to attend the
ANNUAL MEETING
Of the membership for the
North View Homeowners Association
Thursday, March 24th at 7:30 PM
Ponderosa Fire Station
On Imperial Valley Dr.

The purpose of the Annual Meeting is the election of three (3) positions to the Board of Directors of the North View Homeowners Association to serve for a three year term; and any other business that may be properly presented.

Please bring the proxy ballot that you received in the mail with you to the meeting on March 24th or fold, Address, stamp & mail it directly to
Chaparral Management



WIN \$200!!!

Each Proxy/ballot returned will be entered into a drawing for a \$100, \$75 or \$50 prize. You must return the proxy/ballot to be entered and there must be at least 63 proxies received for money to be awarded. The prize doubles if you attend the meeting!

Report Nonworking Streetlights

to Center Point Energy at 713-207-2222 or 1-888-572-4399. Give the operator (or answering machine) the street address that the pole is in front of and the pole number, which can be found on the pole. The website is:

CenterPointEnergy.Com/Outage/

North View News Advertising

To advertise your business in the North View News contact us by clicking on the email address below: Rates per newsletter are:

Business Card Size: \$10
1/8th Page: \$15 1/4 Page: \$25
1/2 Page: \$50 Full Page: \$90

For more information or to place an ad in our newsletter, please contact northview.barbara@sbcglobal.net

Spring Gardening Tips

Perennials are becoming more popular to gardeners because of their staying power. They are plants that you set out once, and they return year after year for your enjoyment. Perennials are often plants that can be divided, shared and passed on to family and friends.

They do best when they are incorporated into the landscape with other plants. While shrubs provide the backbone to your beds, perennials will contribute color at certain times of the year. Mixing groupings of the same type of perennials will give your landscape a nice splash of color. Most often, perennials die back in the winter & emerge again in the Spring.

You can also use perennials in a "cutting garden." Plant a few evergreen shrubs for interest but allow most of the bed for perennials. Select varieties that will bloom at different times of the year so something will always be in bloom. The charm of a "cutting garden" is the fact that it changes month by month, bringing new blooms to enjoy.



\$2400.00 Can you guess what that number is? Can you afford to pay that amount? Not many of us can, but that is just what North View residents paid out *again* last year to clean up branches, trees trash & other debris that both residents & folks that don't even live in North View dumped on the pipeline between North Place and North Rock. Please, be a good neighbor. Don't dump tree branches, trimmings, or any other debris on the pipeline. If you see anyone commit this crime call Precinct 4 at 281 376-3472 with a vehicle description & license plate number immediately or call Chaparral Management at 281 537-057 with the address of the offender. You can do this anonymously, and no-one will ever know that you called.



RECYCLING TIP: CLOTH GROCERY BAGS HANDLE WITH CARE

Paper and plastic grocery bags both pose a threat to the environment, but the popular green alternative, reusable cloth grocery bags—may carry a health risk if not used properly. A recent study says that cloth bags can harbor bacteria. More than 85 percent of the 60 bags tested showed some level of contamination. You don't need to stop using cloth bags, just play it safe.

Wash the cloth bags after carrying fresh produce, meat, poultry or fish. If you're not sure if they're machine washable, wash by hand in hot soapy water.

Separate meat & fish. Put fresh or frozen raw meat, poultry & fish in separate bags from other foods.

Reserve the bags for groceries only. Don't use them to carry other stuff, especially potential germ carriers like gym clothes, diapers, and dirty laundry.

Store them properly. After unpacking your groceries, let the bags air out so any moisture can evaporate. Don't immediately stick them back into a cabinet or the trunk of your car. Hang them in the garage or on a clothesline in the laundry room until they're dry.

Keep the bags clean. Wash cloth bags often.

North View 2011 Events

- March 24: Annual Meeting
- April 16: Easter Egg Hunt
- May: Annual NV Garage Sale Pool Opens
- June: Pool Opening Celebration
- October: National Night Out Fall Festival
- November: Fall Garage Sale
- December: Christmas Caroling

The North View Social and Recreational Committee needs your help! If you can volunteer to help during the Easter Egg Hunt on April 16th Contact Belinda: 832 229-1443

Volunteers are asked to be at the pool at 10:00am to hide Easter eggs for the kids and help decorate the pool area.

Where You Can Recycle!

Paper products: Fire Department on Imperial Valley.

Cans & bottles: Take to recycle bin behind West Marine store on I-45 feeder between 1960 & Bammel

Waste oil: Take it to Mr. Car Wash on FM 1960 between I 45 and Imperial Valley Dr.

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

Chaparral Management
Community Manager
Gloria: 281 537-0957 x27

Betty: ACC Applications

Gloria: Deed Restriction Violation
Report park or pool area maintenance problems.
Questions regarding your statement and accounting.

Precinct 4 Constable Department:
Emergency: 281 376-3472

Centerpoint Energy:
www.centerpointenergy.com/outage/
713 207-2222 or 1 888 572-4399
Choose option 1 for English, option 4 for street light outages.

Harris County Vicious Dog Info:
www.countypets.com/webbad.html
281 999-3191

IMPORTANT WEBSITES

NORTHVIEW
www.northviewnews.com

Precinct 4 - Community Assistance:
www.cp4.hctx.net/cad/index/html

Precinct 4 Constable Department
www.co.harris.tx.us/pct4/

Harris County Health Department:
www.hd.co.harris.tx.us/Display.html

Cypress Creek Flood Control
Coalition: www.ccfcc.org

Join us Easter Sunday for a special Easter Service at Spring Woods UMC!

Traditional Celebration at 9:30 am or the 11:00am *ARISE* Contemporary Celebration
We are located between Kuykendahl and Ella at:
1711 FM 1960 West, Houston, Texas 77090
281-444-6468 info@sw-umc.org



*"March winds and
April showers, bring
forth May Flowers"*
~ M. A. Denham

North View HOA
P.O. Box 681007
Houston TX 77268-1007

