WHO? Fosters Mill Village Residents

**WHAT?** Newsletter

WHEN? September 30, 2025, and TBA as needed.

WHY? To share information and answer questions about Fosters Mill

**HOW?** By e-mail <u>fostersmillnews25@gmail.com</u> and the Fosters Mill website fostersmill.org

Did you know that a chupacabra has been spotted twice in East End Park? Well, that is not true......**BUT**......

Did you know that George Foreman (two-time world heavyweight boxing champion, Olympic gold medalist) was once a resident of Fosters Mill? He could be seen driving one of his many exotic cars and being patient with young admirers venturing near his home on Golden Pond.

Did you know a lending library is located by the entrance to the Fosters Mill community pool? Borrow a book. Donate books of your own.

Did you know that you might see possums, raccoons, deer, feral hogs, or coyotes at night? This **IS** the livable forest! And speaking of our trees (hence, **KINGWOOD**), please value their presence and remember that our deed restrictions forbid cutting down trees without permission. How do you get permission? The form is on our website referenced earlier.

Did you know that the land on which Kingwood was built was owned by the Foster Lumber Company? This company was formed in the late nineteenth century, operating a mill and establishing a community. Although our village was developed in the 1980s, the name "Fosters Mill" still refers to both the historic foster family's presence and the lumber operations pre-Kingwood. Fosters Mill Village has been touted for its custom homes, golf course access, and manicured landscaping.

To our new residents, in particular, some of the most frequently asked questions relate to the following:

# THE FACTS ABOUT TRASH AND GARBAGE COLLECTION IN FOSTERS MILL

BACKDOOR PICKUP\* is between 7 a.m. and 7 p.m. Monday and Thursday.

- Household garbage must be in containers or in bags not over forty gallons or forty pounds.
- Recyclables must be in the container furnished by GFL or in paper bags or corrugated cardboard boxes.

\*PLEASE note that if your car is in the way of pickup, you must place your containers in front of your car because collectors will not take a chance on damaging your car in the collection process.

### **CURB PICKUP**

- Tree and yard waste must be put out by the curb in containers or bags not over forty gallons or weighing forty pounds. Trees, shrubs, brush trimmings, and fencing MUST be bundled in lengths no greater than four feet with no branch diameter exceeding three inches. These restrictions are necessary to accommodate quick pick-up and to avoid damage to the equipment in the crushing process.
- In addition, bulky items are to be placed at the curb area. Items, such as the following will be picked up on EITHER day: appliances, furniture, carpet (up to one room, rolled up four feet wide and less than 50 pounds), and cardboard boxes flattened. Items containing freon may not be put out unless there is written proof the freon has been removed.
- Items that WILL NOT be picked up are dirt, rocks, bricks, concrete, tires, batteries, motor oil, cooking oil, hazardous materials, and waste from private contractors.

\*PLEASE help the collection crews be consistent with backdoor pickup by your being consistent in following the guidelines above.

GFL can be contacted at 281-449-8500.

Items that can be collected at the curb either pickup day are mattresses, box springs, bicycles, toys, car seats, grills (no propane tanks), televisions, sofas, chairs, tables.

#### **DEED RESTRICTIONS**

#### **FACT or FICTION?**

1. Because trees are plentiful in Kingwood, removing a few trees in one's yard will not make any difference. **FICTION** 

FACT: In Fosters Mill, homeowners must apply for and receive permission to remove healthy trees. It is a violation of the deed restrictions to do otherwise.

2.HOA board members drive around once a month to record new deed violations and follow up on old violations. **FICTION** 

FACT: A Kingwood Association Management\* employee drives through Fosters Mill once a month, noting and reporting violations.

\*Kingwood Association Management, owned by Ethel McCormick, is Fosters Mill HOA's advisory and management entity with whom it works hand and hand. Many of the HOAs and trails associations in Kingwood are also working with KAM.

**BY LAW,** when closing on your home, you are supposed to have received and signed for the documents relating to Fosters Mill's deed restrictions, covenants, and governance. You can view these documents on our website <u>fostersmill.org</u> as well as download them.

The most frequently cited violations of deed restrictions are failing to get approval for tree removal and exterior home improvements. For example, changing the color of paint on the trim, replacing a door, replacing a roof, or replacing a fence, when it is a change from its current state, requires approval. These forms are available on our website.

The city of Houston has laws as well; open meetings (**Positive Interaction Program-PIP**) with the Houston Police Department (HPD) are held at the Kingwood Church of Christ, 2901 Woodland Hills, on the third Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m.

Our greenbelts and trails are governed by the **Kings Point Trail Association**, which has its own rules and regulations. Open meetings are held on the fourth Monday of the month at 7 p.m. at the Reserve of Kings Point pool house. Please visit their website <u>Kingspointtrail.com</u> to create a login and get information.

**NOTE: PAYMENT OF ASSESSMENTS:** Fosters Mill homeowners pay assessments to **both** the Fosters Mill Village Community Association and Kings Point Trail Association. These bills are not linked together; the assessments go to different entities, so do not confuse the two. Please note that these are not automatically paid by your mortgage company.

## **The Village News:** (send news to fostersmillnews25@gmail.com)

- Golden Pond resident Jana Strickland's granddaughter and friends raised \$10,000 to benefit the Kerr Country flood victims. The bake sale was held at the Fosters Mill Village Community Center. You may have seen the Channel 2 coverage.
- We are sad to report that long time Golden Pond residents Jan and Paul Hufford died within two months of each other, both unexpectedly. Private services for the family were held.

 Golden Pond residents of the 2300-2500 blocks enjoyed a Summer Fun potluck dinner in July. This group had enjoyed several parties that had begun before COVID interrupted and has now resumed.

## **MEET THE BOARD:**

President-Maryanne Fortson (24 years...WHAT???)
KSA Secretary/KSA Parks Steward

Vice-President-Rick Himel (2 years served)
Public Safety/Pool Maintenance

Retired-formerly in purchasing, then global logistics for oil and gas projects

**Treasurer-John Miller** (8 months served)

Retired-CPA

**Secretary-Diana Broussard** (6 years served) **Communication** 

Retired-English Department Head, teacher, instructional coach at Kingwood High School

## Communication-Paulina Crossett (2 years, 2

Months served)

Works in theatre production

General Maintenance-Bob Black (14 years served; RETIRED FOR 15 YEARS-YOU do the math on his volunteerism!)

Retired from working with water and waste-water industry with companies supplying equipment and operating services If the fountains stop working, the irrigation system fails, or graffiti occurs, or the playground equipment needs repairing, the benches need washing, the parking lot stripes need repainting, the poop bags need replenishing, the bulkheads need supporting and it goes on and on and on Bob works to keep all in working order. He is indispensable and always ready to help with a smile.

Landscape Maintenance-Molly Sullivan (6 years served)

United Airlines Pilot/Captain; enjoys working with former board member, Gary Miller, on her projects.

## **Special Projects-David Fox** (5 months served)

VP in consulting and client solutions; travel industry

## **Deed Restrictions-Jack Stout** (2 months served)

I am a chemical engineer who works as a consultant with digital and automation software technologies in the oil and gas, refining and chemicals industries.

# PET ETIQUETTE

(*Emily Post*, Revised edition; Houston City Pet Ordinances)

- 1. Kindly use the poop bags provided for you at the ponds and playground. It is the law that you must pick up your dog whether he poops on the greenbelts or in your neighbor's yard.
- 2. Although you might like to enjoy a run in the evening, dogs are not permitted to leave your home to make an unaccompanied and unleashed run. It is against the law.
- 3. Feral cats become your responsibility when you regularly feed them; you are considered the owner.
- 4. After 4 months of age, all cats and dogs are to be registered upon being vaccinated and microchipped.

#### Golf Carts-True or False.

- 1. Drivers of golf carts do not have to have a valid driver's license.
- 2. Drivers of golf carts do not have to obey stop signs.
- 3. Any golf cart is "street legal."
- 4. Golf carts can be driven anywhere in Kingwood; for example, they can be driven from Fosters Mill to HEB.

## ALL OF THE ABOVE ARE FALSE. Here are the facts:

- 1. Golf carts may be driven on streets in our village because we have an HOA, are part of a master-planned community, and have a speed limit below 35 MPH.
- 2. The cart must display a slow-moving vehicle emblem on the back of it.

- 3. If it is driven at night, it must have proper lighting.
- 4. Minors without a license are NOT permitted to drive a cart on public streets.
- 5. 6500 children were injured nation-wide in 2021 because sharp turns were made at high speed, unrestrained passengers fell out, tipped over on uneven surfaces, and youths operating carts driven without adult supervision.
- 6. A "golf cart" license plate must be obtained at the Harris County Tax Assessor-Collector (Form 130-U).
- 7. The following equipment must be on the cart: headlamps, tail lamps, reflectors, parking brake, mirrors, as well as previously mentioned items (2, 6).

A final reminder-get a "K" sticker for your car as it is required at our KSA-funded parks. You pay for the upkeep of these parks through your HOA assessment.

It can be obtained in person at the KSA office, 1075 Kingwood Drive, Suite 100, Monday-Friday 9-5. This building is behind Chase Bank and is accessed best by using the side parking lot adjacent to the bank off Kingwood Drive. It does not cost anything, but you MUST provide your Texas driver's license, current vehicle renewal receipt, and current vehicle proof of insurance. Wait to apply if you have temporary tags.