



JAN/FEB 2014

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## From the PRESIDENT. ....



2013 is all but over but what a year it has been. We have had a number of notable events in Fleetwood that hopefully will continue to keep Fleetwood pointed in a positive direction. After much review we made a decision to change our management company. Although it has only been a short time since switching to Crest Management Company, the difference has been quite positive. The plan was to make the change early on so that the new management company would be well in place when the new Board is seated in February; we are well on target to make sure this happens.

We continued to make improvements with our security and it seems these efforts are bearing fruit; it has been very quiet. The surveillance cameras continue to aid in our efforts as both a way to document incidents to assist law enforcement and just as important as a deterrent. We have recently illuminated the signs at the entrances announcing the presence of surveillance cameras. We decided to do this, paid for by voluntary contributions from homeowners, because we were noticing incidences where cars would enter Fleetwood and Fleetwood West late at night, slow down when they saw the signs and turn around and leave the area. We feel by lighting up the signs we will make it easier for them to make the correct decision.

During 2013, Fleetwood held two Town Hall meetings. The first meeting was held in May and our speaker was Officer Maurer of the Houston Police Department. The main focus was security in our homes and in the community. This was very informative and it appeared many Fleetwood residents benefited from the presentation. The second Town Hall meeting was held in October and our guest speaker was the general manager of the Energy Corridor District, Clark Martinson. We can all see the vast amount of development that is going up in our community. Clark was able to expand upon current construction and plans for future development. Yes, traffic will become more of an issue but our home values will be going up. According to Mary Ann Sterrett Russell home prices in Fleetwood are up approximately 9% year on year.

After much discussion and input, we will finally have recycling in Fleetwood. When I attend the monthly Memorial Super Neighborhood meetings I have an opportunity to speak to other POA and HOA representatives. Fleetwood was definitely in the minority when it came to recycling and I am happy to say we are now with the majority. Beginning in January we will have weekly "back door" pickup of recyclable materials and this is for the bargain price of \$50 per home, per year. This is completely voluntary and no Fleetwood funds were used in this endeavor. I would like to thank all of the people that were part of the grassroots efforts to make this a reality.



## From the PRESIDENT. . . . . Continued

I am very happy with the strong cooperation being forged between Fleetwood and Fleetwood West. Although no association funds have been commingled or joint contracts signed, in many ways we are seeing the "strength in numbers" benefitting both associations. By working together we have increased the efficiency of our security efforts, our combined efforts regarding recycling helped both associations make recycling a reality and we have extended invitations to Fleetwood West to attend our Town Hall meetings. Hopefully the cooperation and exchange of ideas will continue to move forward and more benefits to our community will be realized.

I look forward to our continuing progress in 2014.

Andy Nunmaker  
President  
Fleetwood POA



**HAPPY NEW YEAR!!**

### Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING Jr.



RETURNING VIOLENCE FOR VIOLENCE  
MULTIPLIES VIOLENCE,  
ADDING DEEPER DARKNESS  
TO A NIGHT ALREADY DEVOID OF STARS.  
DARKNESS CANNOT DRIVE OUT HATE;  
ONLY LOVE CAN DO THAT. **Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.**

*National Holiday*

*Monday, January 20th*



### Fleetwood Security Officer Recognition



Please let our wonderful guards know how much we value them this holiday season. You all know Nancy Hill, our longtime daytime guard. Since I started in this volunteer position, I have worked closely with Nancy and have been so impressed with her dedication to our neighborhood. She takes great personal pride in looking out for us all, and very often our pets too! We also have two other guards that have recently joined us, Sheba Bethel and Rhoads Blagrove. You may not see them as often because they are patrolling when most of us are sleeping. You can drop it off to me or place it in my locked mailbox at 815 Silvergate Drive, and I can get it to them.

Phyllis Weller  
Security

## Fleetwood POA Board of Directors for 2013 - 2014

<b>Andy Nunmaker, President</b>	<a href="mailto:ajn@costalsecurities.com">ajn@costalsecurities.com</a> 281-558-6329
Stephanie Quade, Vice President Bylaws Policies, Contracts & Legal Liaison	<a href="mailto:squade@robertsmarkel.com">squade@robertsmarkel.com</a> 281-493-6638
Fred Coveler Treasurer	<a href="mailto:fcoveler@coveler.com">fcoveler@coveler.com</a> 281-493-6619
Gary Muslin, Secretary Walls, Streets, Alleys, Sewers & Lights	<a href="mailto:ghmuslin@beecomc.com">ghmuslin@beecomc.com</a> 281-496-4388
Phyllis Weller, Security	<a href="mailto:pgweller@gmail.com">pgweller@gmail.com</a> 832-229-8839
Lourez Bullock, Chairperson Architectural Control	<a href="mailto:lourez_bullock@sbcglobal.net">lourez_bullock@sbcglobal.net</a> 281-497-5573
Richard Ogrin, Landscaping & Irrigation	<a href="mailto:rogrin@sbcglobal.net">rogrin@sbcglobal.net</a> 281-493-0664
Crest Management Company Liz Trapolino , CMCA 17171 Park Row, Suite 310 Houston, TX 77084	<a href="mailto:liz.trapolino@crest-management.com">liz.trapolino@crest-management.com</a> Direct: 281-945-4645 Main: 281-579-0761 ext 654 Fax: 281-579-7062
P.O. Box 219320 Houston, TX 77218-9320	
SECURITY GUARD (direct line)	281-224-3048
FLEETWOOD HOTLINE	713-867-3979
TRASHPORTERS	713-733-1600
FLEETWOOD WEBSITE	<a href="http://www.fleetwoodpoa.com">www.fleetwoodpoa.com</a>
Memorial Super Neighborhood 16 Website:	<a href="http://www.memorialsn.org">www.memorialsn.org</a>
Fleetwood & FW Subdivision: Website:	Fleetwood NexdoorNeighborhood <a href="https://fleetwoodneighborhood.nextdoor.com/login/">https://fleetwoodneighborhood.nextdoor.com/login/</a>



**Fleetwood  
Annual Meeting  
Thursday, February 27th  
at 7:00 p.m.**

**at BridgePoint Bible Church  
13277 Katy Freeway  
Houston, 77079**

Just West of Eldridge  
Between Memorial and I-10  
Across from Apartments



## Fleetwood Garden Club

**Next Meeting:  
Tuesday, January 7, 2014, 10am  
Teme Sappenfield's house:  
803 Walkwood Court**

Janet Miller, Ph.D  
[janet1465@sbcgloval.net](mailto:janet1465@sbcgloval.net)



## Treasurer's Report



You have now received your **2014 Maintenance Assessment Invoice** which was mailed out by Crest Management, the Association's management company in November. As a reminder, payment must be RECEIVED by the Association on or before **December 31, 2013**, in order to be timely paid.

The Association's Trash Recycling Program is moving forward. The recycling bins will be delivered on **Thursday, December 26th, 2013**. The first pick up will occur on **Wednesday, January 8th, 2014**. For those who have not signed up and paid to start on that date, the next entry date into the program will be **April 1, 2014** and payment of **\$37.50** will need to be received by Crest Management, along with a completed participation application form no later than **February 28, 2014**. That will cover the balance of the **2014** year. If you need a sign up form please email to me and I will send you one.

The Annual Meeting for the Association is scheduled to be held on **Thursday, February 27, 2014**, at BridgePoint Bible Church at which time additional financial information will be distributed. You will be notified shortly by mail.

I wanted to take this opportunity to thank you for the privilege of serving on the Association's Board for the last two years and as Treasurer of the Association. I, and your Board, have accomplished all of the goals that were originally set when we first took office and much beyond. It is now time for others to continue the work that needs to be done in Fleetwood. Believe me when I say there are always new challenges and issues.

If you have any questions regarding the above please let me know.

Regards,  
Fred Coveler  
Treasurer

Email: [fcoveler@coveler.com](mailto:fcoveler@coveler.com)  
Office Phone: 713-984-8222  
Home Phone: 281-493-6619

**SUNDAY MARCH 7th**

### Less sleep Sunday



**Remember to SPRING FORWARD!**



**SLOW DOWN!**  
**In Fleetwood Subdivision!**



**There are KIDS and adults  
walking, biking, skating,  
skate boarding and especially kids  
playing in front yards close to  
streets!**

## FLEETWOOD DINNER GROUP ANNUAL KICKOFF PARTY



### MAKE FRIENDS WHILE DINING

**WHEN:** January 18, 2014  
**WHERE:** 818 Silvergate Drive  
**TIME:** 7 PM



**Hosted by Charles and Beverly Roberts**

The Fleetwood Dinner Group is a wonderful way to meet your neighbors and develop lasting friendships. Whether you are new to the neighborhood, lived here for years, young or old, married or single, all are welcome to attend.

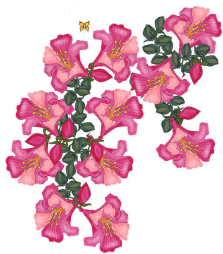
Everyone who has an interest in learning more about this neighborhood activity should come to the annual STARTER SOCIAL to be held at the home of Charles and Beverly Roberts at 818 Silvergate Drive. There is no obligation to join. Just come and enjoy the party.

After the social, those who choose to participate will be placed in dinner groups of 8. Each couple or single person will host a meal in their home during the year at the group's convenience. The dinner can be home cooked, catered, barbecued or whatever suits your fancy as a host.

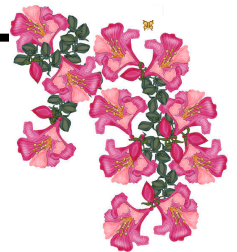
All those attending the Starter Social are requested to bring a bottle of wine and a plate of hors d'oeuvres.

Please RSVP by January 15, 2014 to Beverly or Charles at [bjuhlmer1@sbcglobal.net](mailto:bjuhlmer1@sbcglobal.net) (preferred) or 832-443-8109.

If you are new to the group or want to continue to participate in the 2014 dinner groups but are unable to attend the social, please contact Carolyn Haynes at 281-497-7338 or [chaynes82@hotmail.com](mailto:chaynes82@hotmail.com).



## *Welcome* *New Neighbors!*



**Su Goh**  
**Lionel Israel**  
**Yesid Valencia**  
**Yu Shi**  
**Stephen Williams**  
**Christopher & Stephanie Colman**  
**Simon & Kimberly McMahon**

**715 Saint Ives Court**  
**903 Crossroads Dr.**  
**823 Daria Dr.**  
**1010 Crossroads Dr.**  
**15807 Fleetwood Oaks**  
**818 Ivy Wall Dr.**  
**823 Ivy Wall Dr.**

Please welcome our newest residents and help them to get to know our great area!  
(Sept 20th, 2013 through December 9, 2013)



# Fleetwood Fun Events!

## February Wine Tasting Event

### Mardi Gras Wine Tasting!

Wine Selection from Trader Joe's

You are invited to a Wine Tasting on  
Saturday, February 15, 2014 at 7:00 p.m.

At the home of Nicole and Chris Barton, 15803 River Roads,

Cost per person \$15.00

RSVP by February 8th, 2014 to:

Co-host Susan Brzowskie and Martin Buckley

1002 Fleetwood Place Drive

(281)610-8537 / [susanbrzowskie@gmail.com](mailto:susanbrzowskie@gmail.com)

Please bring a favorite hors d'oeuvre to share and \$15 contribution for  
the wine

We look forward to seeing you.



## LADIES OF FLEETWOOD!

What woman can resist lunch over a delicious meal with lively conversation,  
especially with the friendly and fun-seeking ladies in Fleetwood. You are invited to  
a Pot Luck Luncheon at the home of:

Ilsa Bonham

810 Ivy Wall Drive

Tuesday, January 21, 2014 11:30 A.M

Come and find out more about our Lunch Bunch Groups with other Fleetwood ladies  
starting in the New Year.

And a reunion for all those who have participated in Lunch Bunch in previous years.  
Renew old friendships and begin new ones. All are welcome!

R.S.V.P. by Sunday, January 13 Sponsored by Fleetwood Fun

Ilsa Bonham 832-276-2727 (prefer text to RSVP)

832-276-2727 phone

[Ilsa.bonham@rocketmail.com](mailto:Ilsa.bonham@rocketmail.com)



## YONDER WAY FARM

We are pleased to announce that Fleetwood and Barker's Landing residents have partnered together to create a West Houston delivery option through Yonder Way Farm. Yonder Way Farm is a local farm that delivers grass-fed beef, pastured pork and free range chicken and eggs. All animals are raised in a natural environment without the use of antibiotics, growth hormones, synthetics or chemicals of any kind. Yonder Way also offers seasonal produce baskets and raw milk.

Deliveries will be made at the main parking lot of Terry Hershey Park, 15200 Memorial Dr. between 3- 3:45 PM.

### January - May. Delivery Schedule:

Thursday, Jan 16

Thursday, Feb 13

Thursday, Mar. 13

Thursday, April 10

Thursday, May 8

If you are interested in placing an order, go the following link and choose Barker's Landing Subdivision as your delivery option: <http://yonderwayfarm.com/order-form/>

Our neighborhood contact is Amy Atwood: [send2amy@gmail.com](mailto:send2amy@gmail.com)

For questions regarding the farm: [sales@YonderWayFarm.com](mailto:sales@YonderWayFarm.com) or call toll free [866-577-2589](tel:866-577-2589)

### Fleetwood Yards of the Month

#### North

**Nov** 15707 Foxgate Court

**Dec** 15811 Fleetwood Oaks

#### South

**Nov** 15826 River Roads

**Dec** 831 Crossroads Dr.

**Congratulations to all!**  
**Happy Gardening!**



*Friday, February 14th,  
(Hallmark Holiday!)*

## FLEETWOOD FALL FESTIVAL

Grand Prize winner of the Fleetwood Fun wine basket- Nicole Barton. Pictures left to right - Nicole Barton and JoAnn Lowe

Special thanks to Teme Sappenfiled and all the Ladies who helped with the sales of the raffle tickets, bringing items for the baskets and preparing the baskets for the raffle. All the monies will go towards the Fleetwood newcomer's party and Fleetwood Fun activities.

If you would like to be added to the Fleetwood Fun mailing list of activities (ladies luncheons, happy hour,s wine tastings and more) please email:

MaryAnn at [m.sterrett2@att.net](mailto:m.sterrett2@att.net)



### Fleetwood Neighborhood Nextdoor

A great way to keep up with what's going on in the neighborhood. It is a great place to discuss topics of concern or interest to the neighborhood, find contractor recommendations, and to share upcoming events.

To join, visit:

<https://fleetwoodneighborhood.nextdoor.com/join>

or send and email to

[fleetwoodnextdoor@gmail.com](mailto:fleetwoodnextdoor@gmail.com)

This is a separate website from the official website:

[www.fleetwoodpoa.com](http://www.fleetwoodpoa.com)

where you will find Board meeting notices and minutes, Architectural Control forms, Deed Restrictions, By-Laws, and other forms and documents.



**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 2nd**

## AC/s Pet-Sitting Service

**NEED SOMEONE TO CHECK ON YOUR PET  
WHILE YOU ARE AT WORK OR OUT OF TOWN?**

*I provide a fun and loveable pet service. Enjoy the security of your pets in your own home. Basic feeding, walking, and playing are included. Prices vary on location and quantity of pets. I can be flexible. I previously worked at an animal hospital and now stay home.*

**281-543-1305**

[acspetservice@maceo.net](mailto:acspetservice@maceo.net)

Now Accepting Credit Cards







**Tuesday, March 4th**

**Monday, February 17th 2014**



**President Washington's Birthday  
National Holiday**

**BE A GOOD NEIGHBOR  
PICK UP AFTER YOUR PETS!**

From time to time, we need to remind all the pet owners in the neighborhood to be considerate of their neighbors and pick up your animal's waste droppings especially if they are in the street and someone's yard (or on the median/ Crossroads Dr.). It is your responsibility to pick up after our pet ad to keep our area free of pet waste.



We should also be aware that not picking up after your pet is also against the law.

City of Houston Code of Ordinance Section 6-24 states:

Not to clean up after your pet is punishable by a fine  
starting at \$75 or no more than \$500.



**NEIGHBORHOOD PLAYGROUP  
Come and join the fun!**

If you have kids and want to meet others in the area who also have kids, this is an easy way to get connected. We are growing group of friends who have kids of all ages, living in Barker's Landing or Fleetwood (and a few friends from nearby neighborhoods).

Friday afternoons we will meet at a host's house, at a neighborhood pool or playground or at another fun location. This is a great way for our kids to grow up together, and to further enrich our sense of community. It is also a wonderful way for moms and dads to meet other parents.

If interested in joining the email list, Please contact: [donni.blair@blairevolution.com](mailto:donni.blair@blairevolution.com)



## Fleetwood Security

I'm very happy to say that there have been no security incidents to report. To continue this trend during the holiday season, we need to be vigilant. You may remember that last year, Fleetwood and many neighborhoods throughout Houston experienced thefts of packages left by the front door. Our guards try to look out for packages and will attempt to hide a package so that it's not visible from the street or will try to contact residents to let them know something has been delivered. I'd also encourage you to ask neighbors to keep watch and retrieve packages for you. Please also remember to stop your newspaper and mail delivery if you will be going out of town. You can contact the security guard to request a special watch if you will be out of town. If you haven't already done so, please provide the security guard with your emergency contact phone number.

There is no single way to prevent crime and ensure that Fleetwood continues to be a very safe and quiet place to live; it's really a task of many, many mostly small steps. Our security patrol is vital but we do have a large area to patrol. Our video cameras have been a tremendous deterrent. Occasionally footage is reviewed to check the cameras' operation, and frequently cars can be seen slowing to read the surveillance sign and then making a hasty exit. We recently added decorative lights to better illuminate the signs at night – another piece of our security “puzzle”. The lights were paid for by donations by Fleetwood residents earlier this year. The labor and expertise were donated by Fleetwood West resident, Chris Culberson. Please be sure to thank him for donating his time for this.

In the next few weeks, we will be distributing the updated Neighborhood Directory to each home. Advertisers solicited by Fleetwood resident, Mary Ann Sterrett-Russell, paid for this printing. This is a great resource for reaching out to your neighbors. Many of you provided your email address and those will be used to send out security alerts as needed. We will also continue to use “Fleetbook” for security alerts.

We will also be implementing a vehicle decal program. Working with Fleetwood West, we selected a decal that we would like for residents to place on the rear windshield. The decal we selected is very small and inconspicuous, but highly reflective. It does not identify Fleetwood in any way. It is just another small piece of the security puzzle. Years ago when I had crying infants that refused to fall asleep, I would drive around the neighborhood at late hours and would often find security truck following me because of my “suspicious” behavior. This small decal helps the guards identify cars that belong here so that they can better allocate their patrol time. The decal will also be a resource to quickly identify Fleetwood vehicles if a crime occurs in the neighborhood and we need to review video footage. The small cost of the decals was also funded by the security donations fund.

One last reminder – please keep the security truck phone number handy – 281-224-3048, and remember that if there is no guard on duty, you can leave a message, but, of course, call 911 if it's an emergency. If you leave a message, please say your name and whether you would like a return phone call, and if so, provide a phone number. Also, please let me know if you have a security-related incident. We occasionally adjust the patrol schedule to respond to neighborhood activity. I can be reached at [pgweller@gmail.com](mailto:pgweller@gmail.com).

Phyllis Weller  
Security

## Memorial Super Neighborhood 16



Fleetwood is in Memorial Super Neighborhood 16, which meets monthly, every 4th Monday of the month, to discuss important issues relative to our neighborhoods. Currently we have 26 Home Owners Associations present at these meetings. We have monthly updates and input on crime from Houston Police Dept. and local Constables, City Council Representatives, along with reports on drainage, infrastructure and beautification. Next, meetings are:

**Monday, January 27th , 2014 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm**

**Monday, February 24th 2014 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm**

**13194 Memorial Drive MDUMC “The Gate” (on the west end of the TJ Maxx shopping center)**

For more information on Memorial SN 16, go to: [www.memorialsn.org](http://www.memorialsn.org)

For more information on our district, go to: [www.houstontx.gov/council/g/](http://www.houstontx.gov/council/g/)

MaryAnn Sterrett-Russell

Fleetwood Super Neighborhood Representative (volunteer)

**\*Below is an excerpt from Nov. 25th Memorial SN16 meeting minutes:**

**Website:** [www.memorialsn.org](http://www.memorialsn.org)

### **II. Houston Police Department Update – HPD Senior Police Officer Michael D. Prause**

Officer Prause gave an update of the last 30-day crime statistics from 10/26 to 11/24 as compared to 9/26 to 10/25:

<b>Crime</b>	<b>9/26 to 10/25</b>	<b>10/26 to 11/24</b>	<b>% Change</b>
Murder	0	0	0%
Sexual Assault	1	1	0%
Robbery	12	9	-25%
Aggravated Assault	7	7	0%
Total Violent Crime	20	17	-15%
Burglary Habitation	15	24	60%
Burglary Building	11	3	-73%
Burglary of Motor Vehicle	59	77	31%
Theft	87	101	16%
Auto Theft	17	16	-6%
Total Non-Violent Crime	189	221	17%
Grand Total	209	238	14%

Officer Prause stated that burglaries tend to jump around different locations in the city. The crime that entails the most police reports are burglary of motor vehicles and is also one of the crimes that can be most prevented by hiding belongings from sight. Officer Prause stated that burglary and theft tend to increase with the holidays season. One reason that theft increased this month is that the police are cracking down on mall theft and put extra focus using undercover officers to deter holiday crime.

There were 53 arrests in the last 30 days: 0 robbery, 42 theft (mall targeting), 4 narcotics, 6 assaults, 0 burglary of habitation and 1 weapons violation.

# **FLEETWOOD SALES**

## **HAPPY & PROSPEROUS 2014**

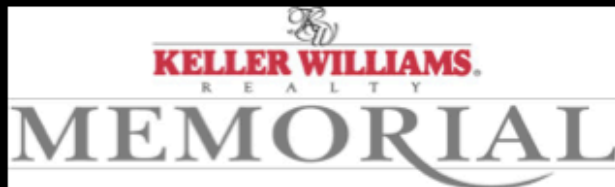
### **Good News**

**Sales prices Increased 14.3% and price  
per sq. foot increased 9% from 2012-2013**

**For more information on sales in Fleetwood  
contact MaryAnn**



### **Your Fleetwood Neighbor**



**MaryAnn Sterrett-Russell**  
**maryannrealtor@EnergyCorridorGroup.com**  
**Office: 713.461.9393 ext 117**  
**Cell: 281.235.9709**  
**www.EnergyCorridorGroup.com**



### **Fleetwood Newsletter Information**

Please see our website ([www.fleetwoodpoa.com](http://www.fleetwoodpoa.com)) for current news and alerts. The Newsletter is also available on the website and back issues are posted there.

If you have any information for the newsletter, send to me, Suzanne Smith at [smithsb0929@gmail.com](mailto:smithsb0929@gmail.com). Jeffrey Roeth, [jeffrey@roeth1.com](mailto:jeffrey@roeth1.com) handles the website.

Please help your next door neighbors and make a copy for those that have no access to a computer. You are always welcome to email me and we can make further arrangements.

Thanks to those who have shared information and articles that impact Fleetwood. A big thanks to MaryAnn Sterrett-Russell, Beverly Roberts and Lourez Bullock.



## Green is the color of money

*Recycling isn't just a noble pursuit, said Adam Minter—it's a profit-driven business.*

**R**ECYCLING IS NOT the most glamorous work, and it's generally not the sort of thing that politicians and environmentalists discuss when they discuss "green jobs." But for the right person, it's an opportunity as endless as anything dreamed up by Silicon Valley.

Alan Bachrach is the right kind of person. As a director of recycling for Waste Management Corp., North America's largest recycler of household waste, he has a professional, profit-driven interest in recycling. If there are those who feel shame for working in an industry that handles other people's waste, Alan Bachrach isn't one of them. He loves it.

We meet early in the visitor's area of Waste Management's new recycling plant in Houston. Bachrach's eyes don't focus on me, but rather on what's on the other side of a plate-glass window and two stories down: swiftly moving Class A rapids of plastic bottles, cardboard, and paper, riding up and down conveyors, over and under, around and around, until they emerge as perfectly sorted hay-bale sized blocks of bottles, cardboard, and paper, tied together with steel ties.

Waste Management's single-stream recycling plant sorts between 600,000 and 700,000 pounds of recycling per day. That's roughly the weight of an Airbus A380 jet—measured out in newspapers, plastic milk jugs, beer cans, and shoe boxes. When I ask for an estimate of just how many households those pounds represent, Alan tells me that, on average, a Houston family generates 50 pounds of single-stream recycling per month.

"You ready to take a walk?" Alan asks me with a child-like gleam. We walk outside and around the building, to an enclosed receiving area where a truck is tipping a load of recycling onto the concrete floor. Single-stream recycling hisses more than it clanks, mostly due to the fact that 70 percent of it is paper—junk mail, newspaper, office paper. A front-end loader of the sort most people are accustomed to seeing



*American recycling in the 21st century: Cans sorted by machine*

dig in the dirt at construction sites rolls up and digs into this mass of well-intentioned waste, picks it up, and dumps it into a device that feeds the stuff onto conveyors.

**W**E ENTER INTO the Walmart-size space that I saw from above, and I swear, the first thing that comes to mind is Willy Wonka's chocolate factory: conveyors of trash rush upward and release their cargo into spinning stars that toss it about in a manner that I can only describe as joyful, like popcorn jumping in a frying pan. Some continues along, some drops away. I see detergent and shampoo bottles zipping by, and I see milk bottles dropping, from points unknown, into a giant cage.

We climb a stairway to what Alan calls the "pre-sort." Here two workers stand

over a high-speed conveyor that carries freshly arrived, unsorted recycling. One of them reaches out and grabs a brown plastic bag from the blur, and just as quickly it disappears, sucked up by a large vacuum tube positioned directly above them. Then he does it again. "Not everybody can hack this job," Alan leans over to say, nodding at the speeding, blurry line. "Some people get dizzy, throw up."

One of the sorters grabs a hunk of something—it happens so fast I can't tell what—and drops it down a square chute. "The other job is to pull out big pieces of plastic and trash," he adds and points me farther along to the spinning stars I saw from below.

The conveyor feeds into the stars and newspaper bounces and froths atop them like white water on churning waves. The stars—they're made of a specialized plastic that wears well—are spaced at intervals to allow plastic, glass, and aluminum to fall down onto another line. The newspaper, meanwhile, dances right across the stars and emerges on the other end, separated. Meanwhile, below, the material that dropped through the stars, including more paper, is conveyed into yet more stars,

spaced at smaller intervals that convey out even more paper—in smaller sizes—while the plastics, glass, and cans continue to fall away. It's a cascade, each step angled steeper than the last, and at each level paper and plastic are separated.

Below, aluminum cans are literally ejected from the system by a device that creates an electrical current that repulses metals. The glass, meanwhile, is removed by several processes that take advantage of the obvious fact that glass is heavier than paper. Think of it this way: If you place a beer bottle next to a pile of newspaper coupons, and aim a hair dryer at both, you'll likely be left with only a beer bottle. That's a rough approximation of the physics that Waste Management uses to separate the two materials.