



Westminster Pine Park Newsletter

October 2025

From the President:

Fall and football season are here!! What a great time of year to get our yards ready for the fall. It's time to get ready for Halloween. Get those pumpkins, ghosts, and mummies out!

The new city of St. George's municipal services is out working to help clean up and enforce neighborhood codes. We gave Kerry Ruiz (Code Enforcement Officer) a list of violations in the neighborhood. And yes, they are getting cleaned up. Our understanding is that St. George will take over the FEMA lots in the neighborhood and mow them on a regular basis. This will save our association money that we can use elsewhere for improvement projects

We had the boulevard on Chelsea cleaned and the sprinkler system repaired, as well as having the dead tree removed.

As Fall and the holidays approach, let's get ready for our annual luminary display on Sunday, December 14. We will have hot chocolate stands where Santa will stop. Let's make this one the brightest one of them all.

Wishing you and your family a safe and peaceful holiday season.

John Pray.

Westminster school closing:

As you all know, the school is definitely closed. At our special meeting they told us that the school will eventually be turned over to St. George. The city of St. George will upgrade or replace the school. In the meantime, the property will be kept up by the school board. We just have to wait and see.

Reminders: This is a non-soliciting neighborhood. Don't give money to anyone coming to your door any reason. And please review the parking regulations on page 4.

Neighborhood Spotlight: If you appreciate the nice, clear water of our neighborhood pool or wonder who manages the lifeguards every summer, then give a shout out to Amy Punkay! Amy has been involved at the W-PP pool for over 20 years. She used to manage the whole W-PP swim team but now she focuses on overseeing the lifeguards and maintaining the clarity of the pool water.

Stephen and Amy have lived in W-PP for over 26 years. Stephen is an engineer and contractor in the petrochemical industry and Amy is super-involved in the community and in local homeschool co-ops. They both serve faithfully in their local church as well. They raised all six of their children in Westminster and they have always loved the neighborhood feel and sense of community in W-PP. In fact, as their family grew, they decided to add onto their home three times rather than move somewhere else!

W-PP is a family affair for the Punkays. Their parents and in-laws live in the neighborhood and now two of their sons have recently purchased homes in the neighborhood for their families.

We are so thankful to have the Punkays in Westminster-Pine Park!

By Steve Foster

WPP Crime Prevention & Neighborhood Improvement District

Crime Prevention Report - At our September Board meeting, we were pleased to be joined by our Councilman, Drew Murrell, who gave us an update on our new City of St. George. He and the other elected officials were sworn in July 1st and they had already hit the ground with their feet running. Thankfully, we have little to no crime to report. As they say, no news is good news. We have 4 off-duty deputies who patrol W-PP for a weekly average of 30 hours (mainly from sunup to sundown). Their presence is an effective crime deterrent. Homeless people have become more prevalent throughout the City-Parish, and St. George is addressing this by doing the best they can. The homeless have been removed from their past encampments along Wards Creek on 2 or 3 occasions in the past few years. Please secure your backyard fences on Drusilla as much as possible to keep these folks from trespassing through your yards. Check security cameras and Ring doorbells if crimes occur. Call the Sheriff's office (389-5000), post it on NextDoor and report it on our Phone Tree (Beau Dennis: 215-272-0675 or David Carnes: 225-266-4822). Keep us informed; it prevents crimes. LOCK SHEDS and CARS. Keep bikes and mowers secure. Please lock all doors on your homes, too. We now have a Code Enforcement Department that is enforcing our ordinances, which had been largely ignored by the City-Parish for the past few years. City of St. George code enforcement will now address the following: blight, litter, out of control grass and weeds, parking in front yards, blocking sidewalks with vehicles, parking on streets of trailers and vehicles that impede the safe flow of traffic (like in curves), etc. These issues are now being enforced aggressively. They have already closed numerous massage parlors that were very likely involved in human trafficking. On a closing note, our Board wants to recognize the efforts of our Treasurer and board member, Larry Johnson, who has been ill. Larry was one of the founders of our Crime Prevention District, and he has been a loyal and steadfast steward for the past 15 years. Many thanks to Larry and his wife Valerie for the dedication they have shown. It is greatly appreciated.

David L. Carnes, President

225-266-4822, davidcarnes@cox.net

Street Light Outage Reporting

Street light outages can be reported either by calling 800-968-8243 or by going online at www.energy-louisiana.com and navigating to Residential Customers->Products and Services->Report Street Lights Out->Report a Lighting Issue->Street Light->Continue. Then enter the address, choose the light, enter your name, and submit the report

Real Estate Report

As of September 19 there are 5 houses on the market in Westminster and 2 in Pine Park. Since April 1 there have been 9 closures in Westminster and 3 in Pine Park. The average days on the market for the sold properties is 52 in Westminster and 19 in Pine Park. The average sales price is \$325,500 in Westminster and \$462,500 in Pine Park. The demand for homes in the neighborhood is still there thanks to our location, the quality of the neighborhood itself, and the size of the homes.



The Westminster Aquatic Club had an another amazing swim season! With the addition of new events like Movie on the Courts, Fourth of July Bash, Pickle Ball Tournaments, and an End of Summer Blowout, there was always something happening! Just because the pool is closed until May doesn't mean the fun will stop! Pickle ball tournaments and leagues, Movie on the Courts, and other events are still to come! Be sure to follow our Facebook page and reach out so you can be a part of the action!

Lisa King

Phone Tree

If you want to receive notifications of crimes, emergencies, and neighborhood-wide events, be sure your phone number is registered in our W-PP phone tree. Cell phone numbers will receive notifications via text while home numbers will receive a recorded phone call. Steve Foster is our phone tree coordinator. Please submit requests to be added to the system or to remove or change a phone number to Steve.

If you have been the victim of a crime we would like to warn our neighbors, but you must inform us before we can do a broadcast. You can contact Beau Dennis (coordinator) at 215-272-0675 or email beaudennis92@gmail.com or David Carnes (Crime Prevention) at 225-266-4822 or email davidcarnes@cox.net.

When you receive a call or text from our phone tree, the call will be identified as coming from 877-565-8456 and the texts from 225-427-1832. Put those numbers into your contacts so you will not think they are spam. For lost pets or other general announcements, please use Nextdoor or Facebook. If you call the 877 number from a phone that is registered in our system you will hear a replay of the most recent message (if it is within seven days of the broadcast). The system will attempt to call your phone three different times. If your line is busy or you have no answering machine, you will not receive the phone tree message. We generally do not do a follow-up message, but if a crime has occurred someone on the crime prevention board usually does a post in Nextdoor.com with more details and follow-up. Thanks! Beau Dennis

Welcome New Neighbors!

Welcome to the following people who have moved into the neighborhood since April:

4368 Blecker Dr
4133 Fleet Dr
4151 Fleet Dr
4731 Blecker Dr
4230 Pine Ridge Dr
4247 Fleet Dr
4536 Chelsea Dr
4243 Chelsea Dr
4546 Fleet Dr
4605 Pine Ridge Dr

We're glad you chose Westminster-Pine Park. If you haven't yet received an Information Packet for New Neighbors, please contact Aimee Rasche 225-369-3562 (text or voice), and she will get one to you.

Halloween Decoration Contest

It's that time of the year again: Halloween decoration contest time! Skeletons in the grass, graveyards on the front lawn, witches hanging from the trees and spiders crawling on the driveways. Let your creativity out and decorate your yard for our contest. Judges will be driving around the evening of Sunday, October 26.

Luminary Display

The annual Westminster/Pine Park luminary celebration is scheduled for Sunday, December 14 from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm. Supplies will be available at the pool Saturday, December 13 from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm and Sunday, December 14 from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm. Any money raised in excess of expenses will fund projects that do not fit within the scope of the crime prevention and neighborhood improvement district or that do not fit within the CPD budget for the year. Hot chocolate stands will be set up at several locations in the neighborhood, and Santa will be riding around. Please let Rick Martin know at braces@coxmail.com if you would be interested in hosting a hot chocolate stand.

Civic Association Calendar:

Halloween decoration judging, Oct. 26
Christmas decoration judging, Dec. 12
Luminary sale: Dec. 13 (10 am - 2 pm)
Dec. 14 (1 - 3 pm)
Luminary display, Dec. 14 (6 - 8 pm)
Annual meeting (tentative) January 26, 2026
(6:30 pm @ Jefferson Baptist Church)

Yards of the Month

May – 4524 Pine Ridge Dr.
June – 4431 Blecker Dr.
July – 4288 Drusilla Dr.
Aug – 4212 Blecker Dr.

Congratulations to the YOM winners, and thank you for making our neighborhood a nice-looking one. We all appreciate it.

Westminster-Pine Park Civic Assn.
4220 N. Maiden Drive
Baton Rouge, LA 70809



Be sure to LIKE us on Facebook. Search for Westminster Pine Park.

Check out our website for zoning restrictions and other info: www.w-pp.org

Parking regulations: Available at <https://www.municode.com/library/la> under Baton Rouge Title 11 Chapter 28.

Here are some highlights:

Vehicles must be parked in the direction of traffic within 18 inches of the curb.

Vehicles cannot be parked on the street for more than 9 consecutive hours.

Vehicles cannot be parked on the sidewalk or the grass between the house and street.

Vehicle can't block mailbox or driveway.

Please contact Aimee Rasche at 369-3562 for a W/PP sticker for your car to help the sheriff identify non-neighborhood cars.

W-PP Civic Association Board

John Pray (Pres/CrimePrevDistrict/Beautification)	933-9253
Steve Foster (Vice Pres/Secretary)	328-8424
Steve Long (Treasurer)	445-2437
Rick Martin (Newsletter/Social/Fundraising)	924-5680
Darren & Aimee Rasche (Publicity/Welcome)	369-3562
Alicia Elam (Public Works)	235-2768
Roy Hill (Crime Prev District Rep)	329-5325
Lynda Butler	975-7366
Beau Dennis (Phone Tree)	215-272-0675
Sydney André	200-8850

W-PP Crime Prevention & Neighborhood Improvement District Board of Directors

David L. Carnes (President)	266-4822
Larry Johnson (Treasurer)	937-6575
Roy Hill (Secretary, W-PP Representative)	329-5325
John Pray (W-PP Representative)	933-9253
Brendan Rush	202-6586