



Westminster Pine Park Newsletter

October 2021

From the President

Welcome Fall!

What a year we have had! Ice storm, tornado, flood, and Hurricane Ida. Somehow we all managed to get through it. Many neighbors who were total strangers helped other neighbors with cleaning out their homes. Some neighbors even brought meals to total strangers. What great neighbors we have in W-PP.

The great May flood caused many homes that had never flooded before to flood. Hopefully the Parish is addressing the issue with the widening of Ward Creek. They recently cleaned out every drain in the neighborhood. Our drainage system can only handle so much water, and we have never had 12" of rain in such a short period.

The Jefferson Highway project, currently in the end process of phase 1, was from Corporate to Essen Lane. The second phase will be from Essen to Airline Highway. I hate to say it, but it is going to be a nightmare! After the completion of both phases, the State Highway Department will turn it over to the City to maintain.

Have a safe and wonderful holiday season.

John

Neighbor Spotlight

David Carnes and his wife Charlotte have lived in Westminster Pine Park since 1994. David says, "This neighborhood has been a wonderful place to raise our two daughters." He is President of our Crime Prevention and Neighborhood Improvement District, and he is honored to have been our own Santa Claus for 20 years. David is a petroleum landman and telecom consultant, owning and operating cellular towers in Texas and Louisiana. He also serves as a commissioner for the St. George Fire Department. To quote David: "2020 and 2021 have really put our neighborhood to the test (coronavirus, tornado, May flood, and hurricane Ida), but folks here have weathered the storms. We are a safe and welcoming neighborhood full of friendly and resilient families. Westminster Pine Park is now, and will continue to be, a wonderful place to live."

Thank you David for what you do to make W-PP a more secure neighborhood. We are looking forward to seeing you on luminary night.

Ho Ho Ho,
John Pray

WPP Crime Prevention & Neighborhood Improvement District

W-PP Crime Report - EBR Sheriff detectives were diligent in their efforts to find and arrest the armed car thieves who hit Pine Park in early August. According to police, our neighbors provided high def video and other info that greatly assisted the investigation, especially my friends across the street who had their car stolen. Luckily, their car was found in St. John Parish, and not badly damaged. That's where one of the perpetrators was caught. Hats off to everyone for staying alert and being vigilant. **SECURE YOUR POSSESSIONS**, (bikes, mowers, etc.) **LOCK YOUR SHEDS** and please **LOCK YOUR CARS**. Folks with security cameras can always help by checking them when crimes occur (often late night or in pre-dawn hours). Report it on Next Door and get it on our Phone Tree. Keeping everyone informed prevents other crimes.

Crime Cameras – We are researching security camera systems for W-PP. I've visited four other Crime Prevention Districts to view different systems, and we have met with four companies that design and install them. Additionally, our off-duty patrol coordinator, Chad Jones, has helped us as well as Lt. Payer, who handles crime cameras for the Sherriff's Office.

Hurricane Ida Damage & Cleanup – Fortunately, Ida moved a bit eastward thereby sparing us the wrath that had originally forecast the eye of the hurricane to travel right over BR. Nonetheless, some of us suffered some damage with downed trees. Whatever our opinions of FEMA might be, they got to us pretty quickly, and they did a good job. Most of us in W-PP were out of power for close to a week, but it sure was a glorious moment when power was restored!

FEMA Homes – The four FEMA homes on Chelsea are scheduled to be demolished this month.

David L. Carnes

davidcarnes@cox.net

225-266-4822

New Neighbors

Welcome Home to all of our new neighbors!:

3835 Pine Park Drive - Yancy & Sogona Tiblier
3821 Blecker Drive - Genevieve & Gidget Fields
4023 Fleet Drive - Ashton Knight
3975 Strand Drive - Brian & Dawn Bateman
4009 Downing Drive - Branson Leonard
4220 Fleet Drive - Emilie & Preston Robinson
4376 Blecker Drive - Troy & Kelly Robertson
4322 Drusilla Drive - Christopher & Victoria Therlot
4335 Drusilla Drive - Kyle Hilliard
3923 Pine Park Drive - Jayant & Angela Patel

New home sales listed under management companies or businesses:

4750 Drusilla Drive - Azar Management, LLC
4123 N Maiden - Volunteers Of America, Greater Baton Rouge
4068 Fleet Drive - Starlight Hills Properties 3, LLC

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.

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 Steve Foster (coordinator) at 225-328-8424 or email stevenliz91@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. Put that number into your contacts so you will not think it is spam. If you call that 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! Steve Foster

Miscellaneous Info

Please don't blow grass in the street. And keep the neighborhood looking nice by edging the sidewalk and curb in your yard.

Pick up your dog's poop when walking in the neighborhood. And ensure your pets have tags with a phone number in case they get lost.

Don't put any signs about lost pets, garage sales, etc. on stop signs or light poles. These will be removed for safety and aesthetic reasons. Take down garage sale signs after the sale is over.

As a reminder, 80% of the crime prevention district dues are used to pay the Sheriffs patrolling our neighborhood. EBR Sheriff: 389-5000 or 389-5511 (Burbank Station Direct)

CALL 311 about messy houses/yards, drainage problems, trash in the yard, limbs blocking sidewalks, burned out street lights, etc.

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 Saturday, October 30.

Luminary Display

The annual Westminster/Pine Park luminary celebration is scheduled for Sunday, December 19 from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm. Supplies will be available at the pool Saturday, December 18 from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm and Sunday, December 19 from 1:00 to 3:00. Any money raised over expenses funds 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.

Civic Association Calendar:

Halloween decoration judging, Oct. 30

Christmas decoration judging, Dec. 16

Luminary sale: Dec. 18 (10 am - 2 pm)

Dec. 19 (1 - 3 pm)

Pictures with Santa (free), Dec. 19 (afternoon)

Luminary display, Dec. 19 (6 - 8 pm)

Annual mtg. Jan. 24, 2022 (6:30 pm @ Jefferson Baptist)

Yards of the Month

May - Raven Residence - 4113 Pine Park Dr.

June - Rhodes Residence - 3913 Blecker Dr.

July - McKee Residence - 9094 Baker Dr.

Aug - Kramer residence - 4415 Fleet Dr.

Sept - Hurricane Ida

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/Phone Tree)	328-8424
Steve Long (Treasurer/Crime Prev District Rep)	445-2437
Rick Martin (Newsletter/Social/Fundraising)	924-5680
Darren & Aimee Rasche (Publicity/Welcome)	369-3562
Alicia Elam (Public Works)	235-2768
Bill Roger	936-9120
Glen Guilbeau	907-8701
Sharon Hedges	456-1828

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

David L. Carnes (President)	266-4822
Larry Johnson (Treasurer)	937-6575
Steve Long (Secretary, W-PP Representative)	445-2437
John Pray (W-PP Representative)	933-9253
Bridgett Balhoff Leitner (Security)	892-2061