

Jefferson Parish
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P.O. Box 9
Gretna, LA 70054-0009

Table with 2 columns: Category and Phone Number. Rows include Citizens Affairs, General code violations, Environmental affairs, Weed control, Jefferson Transit, Abandoned vehicles, Stray animals, Garbage pickup, Recycling, Mosquito control, Water, Streets, and Drainage.

The PECA newsletter is published quarterly by the Association Board in an effort to keep all residents apprised of items of interest to our community. It is delivered to all residents of the subdivision without charge. We welcome your comments, suggestions and ideas.

Plantation Estates
Community Association Inc.

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PLANTATION ESTATES ARCHITECTURAL
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348-7066

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DEBI LaJAUNIE
341-8441
DISTRICT 3
RICHARD BORDENAVE
340-1419
DISTRICT 4
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DISTRICT 5
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347-4934
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DREW LUKINOVICH
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STEPHANIE TOMLINSON RICAU
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PLANTATION ESTATES
NEWSLETTER
December, 2009 • Volume No. 54

Plantation Estates Community Association • P. O. Box 683 • Marrero, LA 70073

Web Site: www.plantationestates.org

President's Report

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

As our final newsletter for the 2009 year, I would like to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

At our October Homeowners Meeting, we introduced the new Board & Officers. We have several new people on the Board and the remaining members have agreed to serve for another year. You either enjoy the VOLUNTEER time we dedicate or you must know what this job pays. HA-HA !!! Many of us donate an excessive amount of time every week to this association. I have two main motivations – my family and the overwhelming support I receive from homeowners who continue to join and support our association each year. It would not be possible without you.

A homeowners meeting that included both PECA and non-PECA members was held on Sunday, October 11, 2009 in order to receive input and feedback on the topic of PE Security. We made every effort to choose a weekend day when most people would not be working and the Saints would have a bye-week. Thanks to all who attended and participated. Based on the input from the meeting, we placed the 2 proposals on a survey to identify which proposal most PE homeowners would prefer on the ballot. We recognized this may have taken time for some homeowners to consider the options; therefore, we gave several weeks with a deadline of November 15 to return the survey. The surveys were hand-delivered to every door, emailed to those in our database and posted to our website. We then used the week of Nov 16 to Nov 22 with the help of about 20 volunteers throughout the neighborhood to make an attempt to approach those homeowners who did not return the survey by the deadline. We then counted the surveys returned to us. A total of 17% supported the \$370 option and 83% supported the \$500 option. The PE Board met to discuss the surveys and unanimously approved the \$500 option since the overwhelming support was for this option. The increase will be phased in slowly in years 1, 4 and 7 to prevent a significant jump at one

time. This security tax, which will replace the current tax, will be placed on the May ballot.

I don't want to pay higher taxes either; however, our PE Security Assessment is one exception I make since we all see a direct benefit in Plantation Estates. I have lived on the Westbank my entire life. In a fairly good economy, we've enjoyed the extra security. In a bad economy, we need the extra security. Times are definitely different than 10 to 20 years ago. Plantation Estates is located between 2 of the most criminally active neighborhoods in all of Jefferson Parish. I want to thank Col. Fortunato for volunteering his time to handle our security. He staggers the shifts to offer a variety of coverage both day and night. Criminals don't seem to check their watch before committing a crime. I defer to Col. Fortunato's expertise when it comes to security. His family lives here too.

If you don't already know what kind of activity we have been experiencing in Jefferson Parish, mark your calendar to watch the new A&E show called "Lawman" featuring Steven Seagal and filmed right here in Jefferson Parish. Col. Fortunato and even some of our police details are featured in some episodes. The show is real and not staged in Hollywood. It began on Wednesday, December 2, 2009.

I would like to thank all homeowners who took the time to return the surveys to us and especially the volunteers who helped get some of the remaining surveys that were not returned by the deadline.

Thanks for your continued support.

Your neighbor,

Charles Miller, III
Plantation Estates Community Association, President

Neighborhood News



Do you need a copy of the Plantation Estates Covenants & Restrictions?

We occasionally hear from new homeowners that they were not informed of restrictions either by their real estate agent or their home was purchased as a *For Sale by Owner*. If you need a copy, visit our website at <http://www.plantationestates.org>.

We are seeking a Newsletter Chair for the Plantation Estates Community Association

Pat Ketcham has been the chairman for 5 1/2 years and wishes to retire.

The position is a one-year term and includes the responsibilities:

- Work with the President and Board to schedule four publications per year
- Request articles from those who contribute and assist in editing
- Work with the printer to develop an interesting newsletter layout
- Work with the advertisers to make sure their message is properly displayed. Set up payment and collection schedule
- Distribute copies of the newsletter to the District Representatives.

If you are interested, please call Charlie Miller. If you want more information, please call Pat Ketcham at 340-8100.

Best Dressed Halloween / Fall 2009 Winners

By Debbie Blanchard

M/M Michael J. Killeen, Jr.	42 Burleigh Ct. N	District 2
M/M Lawrence Palmisano, III	23 Seven Oaks	District 5
Mr. John Ledet	30 Seven Oaks	District 5
M/M Norman Gauthreaux	25 Shadows Ct	District 6
M/M Richard Difebbo	22 Oak Alley	District 4
M/M Gerald Reites	18 Oakley	District 6
Mr. Charles Giardina	41 Seven Oaks	District 5

Volunteer needed to make our PE member yard signs

The association occasionally gets requests from homeowners to deliver a PE yard sign or replace an existing sign for members of the civic association. We can use a volunteer to help us make the signs. It's not much work and we don't get lots of request, but you can be a huge help to spread the workload for us. Every

little bit helps and you can do this on your own time. If interested, please email president@plantationestates.org or call Charles Miller at 439-3164.

News about our neighbors

Theresa Plaisance, a 6-5 post basketball player has signed with the LSU Lady Tigers and will be eligible to compete during the 2010-11 season. Plaisance, ranked the No. 8 post player in the nation and the No. 40 overall by ESPN, posted 17.5 points, 9.2 rebounds and 1.2 blocks per contest last season. She was named the New Orleans Times Picayune's Female Athlete of the Year as a sophomore at Ursuline. Theresa is the daughter of Scott and DoBee Plaisance, who are Plantation Estates homeowners. DoBee Plaisance is the current women's basketball head coach at Nicholls State University. Congratulations, Theresa!

If you have neighborhood news or similar information to share, please let us know)

New Garden & Sign Lights

A special thanks to Bob Jensen (and his wife Candy for loaning him to us). He donated his time to hookup the new and brighter sign spotlight at our Barataria entrance as well as fixing the garden lights that were broken. The wires were a mess and we greatly appreciate the hours you spent to fix it.



Please Pickup After Your Pets

First, thanks to many animal walkers who take the time to scoop their pet's poop and respect the property of others. We continue to get complaints from homeowners about poop that is left on their property, which is very disrespectful. When you walk your pet, please pick up after them. Your neighbors will appreciate it!! Jefferson Parish Ordinances requires it!! And our neighborhood looks cleaner without the poop on our streets, curbs and lawns. Please be responsible and considerate to your fellow neighbors. Below is the law pertaining to the *Removal of feces* according to the Jefferson Parish Code of Ordinances.

PART II - CODE OF ORDINANCES

Chapter 7 - ANIMALS AND FOWL

ARTICLE II - ANIMAL CONTROL AND WELFARE

DIVISION 7 - PUBLIC NUISANCES

Sec. 7-157 - Removal of feces.

In the case of a nuisance by defecation, the owner or keeper must remove all feces and dispose of them in a sanitary manner.

CAUTION

WALKERS—Always walk against (Facing) Traffic. Stay on the extreme left side of the road, especially around curves in the road.

BIKERS—Always ride with traffic. Stay on the right side of the road.



**To Report Traffic Related Complaints
Call the JPSO Traffic Division 465-1480**



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Restriction Committee

By: Candy Jensen

The Christmas Holiday season will be all too soon. Enjoy your families' visits but try to comply with our neighborhood and Parish rules:

NO parking on the street overnight or within 30 feet of an intersection. Parking on our lawn is not a good excuse to remedy these problems. Yard parking is also wrong.

There are still too many visible boats in the neighborhood as well as trailers Response to our correspondence and/or phone calls for correction seems acceptable; but, action often never does happen. Please work on that.

Granted, not everyone complies as quickly as a neighbor or other homeowner would like. That does not give anyone the right to spray paint NO PARKING in front of another homeowner's residence (twice). Such an incident happened recently and is disappointing to our committee because this is not the solution.

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**PARKING AND VEHICULAR
CODE VIOLATIONS:**

LOUISIANA STATUTES

RS 32:144 Improper parking (vehicles parked
against the flow of traffic)

RS 32:143 Posted parking (no parking)

JEFFERSON PARISH ORDINANCES

36:4 No parking on a sidewalk

36:5 No parking on servitude

36:88 No parking of a vehicle on a
street for more than 48 hours

36:92 No parking on a neutral ground

36:93 No parking within 30 feet of an
intersection

36:94 Blocking a driveway (parked directly
across from or 3 feet of either side)

36:95 No parking within 20 feet of a fire hydrant

36:129 Abandon, junk or wrecked vehicles



Garden of the Month

By Debbie Blanchard

September 2009

M/M Alphonse Hebert, Jr.	33 Hermitage	District 2
M/M Ritchie Lajaunie	14 Catalpa	District 2
M/M Frank Dimaggio, Jr.	39 Seven Oaks	District 5
Bobby Nguyen	88 Longwood	District 3
M/M Bryn J. Chico, Sr.	30 Gainswood East	District 7

October 2009

M/M Ray Torres	5 Gainswood East	District 4
M/M John Glancey	84 Longwood	District 3
M/M Tim Branch	34 Seven Oaks	District 5
M/M John Randazzo	9 Millwood	District 2

November 2009

M/M David Jouandot	24 Shadows Ct	District 6
M/M John Combel	10 Oakley	District 7
M/M Gary Payne	36 Nottoway	District 7
M/M Cline Matherne	50 Oak Alley	District 4
M/M Warner J. Thibodeaux	68 Anchorage	District 1

The Gardens of the Month are featured with photos under the
"Members Only" section of the website.

**Post your pets on the
Plantation Estates website
located at:**

www.plantationestates.org
at no charge to all active
Association members. This
service is offered in an
effort to help locate the
owner of a lost pet(s)
immediately and contact
you as soon as possible.
Email a picture of your
pet(s) and contact
information to be posted
online to
info@plantationestates.org

PLANTATION ESTATES COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION MEETING/BLOCK PARTY

OCTOBER 11, 2009 - 3:00 P.M.

By Michele Cavalier, Secretary

PECA BOARD ELECTION

Drew Lukinovich explained the election procedures for the PECA 2010 board. Candidates for at-large representatives were announced and introduced. Motion was passed to seat all at-large reps. 2010 officers, reps, and committee chairpersons were introduced.

RENEWAL OF 2010 PECA SECURITY TAX DISTRICT

Charles Miller introduced Byron Lee. As our district rep, Mr. Lee will represent the resolution for our 2010 security tax district. Mr. Lee also spoke about the \$15,000 that he obtained for our security cameras that are currently in use. We will be working with attorney Bill Becknell in order to prepare resolution to be placed on ballot.

Charles Miller explained that the resolution must be ready to go by December 1, 2009. It must additionally be sent to the Bond Commission and then the Secretary of State. We are hoping for a May, 2010 election date. Mr. Miller discussed our current benefits from the security tax district which include; JPSO patrols, cameras, decals, payroll records for detail officers, door hangers, Night Out Against Crime, etc.

Charles Miller went over the increase in detail rates over the past years. He also gave a comparison of that to private security companies.

Charles Miller handed the floor over to Vice President of Security, John Fortunato. Mr. Fortunato went over the recent car burglaries. The floor was opened to questions and discussion which led to different ideas being brought up. It was suggested that we look into changing the car decals.

Charles Miller went over the two proposals which will be sent out to homeowners, in an effort to decide what the resolution will state. Mr. Pat Ketcham explained some of the figures on the proposals. Different proposal ideas were discussed. The majority agreed that we should go with the two proposals listed. Amount of security and holidays were discussed. A sheet was passed around for volunteers to speak with neighbors about the security tax district. Charles Miller stated that we need 50%, plus 1 to pass the resolution on the ballot. Charles Miller also reminded everyone to make sure they have current voter registration cards.

John Fortunato answered some questions concerning home surveillance systems. Mr. Fortunato adjourned the meeting and stated that he would answer additional questions after the meeting.

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Security

By: Colonel John Fortunato, Jefferson Parish Sheriff's Office

Hello again,

The holidays are a time when thieves and con artists are frequently on the prowl. Here are some tips I would like to offer to help keep your home, your car, your possessions, and most importantly, your family safe.

Keeping Your Home Safe

- We all want our homes to reflect the joy of the season, but avoid displaying gifts where they can be seen from a window or doorway. Please make arrangements to have packages delivered to a neighbor if you're not home to receive them. Packages left on porches or doorsteps are "easy picking" for thieves. It also draws unwanted attention to your home. Elaborate or large lawn pieces are often stolen right out of the lawn. Secure them properly. Be sure not to obscure the view from your windows.
- Always lock your home's doors and windows, even if you're only gone for a few minutes. And please lock your vehicles. Compact or dispose of packaging discreetly. Often criminals will spot something you've discarded and can target you for their next burglary or theft.
- When leaving town, have a trusted friend or neighbor take care of your home. If you are going to be away from your home for an extended period of time have someone collect your mail, newspapers, and other services. Notify JPSO Headquarters by calling 911 to request a "patrol request" for your home while you're away.

Staying Safe While Shopping

- As hectic as this time of the year becomes, always lock your vehicle and close the windows, even if you're only gone a few moments. When possible, place all merchandise or packages in the trunk of your vehicle. If your vehicle doesn't have a trunk, bring along some type of covering to place over your packages.

- Whenever possible, shop with at least one partner. Safety in numbers always works best. Have your car or house keys in your hand as you approach the door. If attacked use those keys as weapons! Stay alert to your surroundings and the people around you. Look inside your car and around it as you approach.
- Be extra careful with purses and wallets. Carry a purse under your arm. Keep wallets in an inside pocket.
- Avoid carrying large amounts of cash. Always avoid street vendors — many times these hucksters are selling stolen or unlicensed merchandise.
- Plan your trips well. Instead of one big shopping trip, try several small ones. This will cut down on the amount of money you carry, the packages you'll be encumbered with, and it will make your shopping less stressful.
- Walk everywhere with a sense of purpose - show you are calm, confident and know where you are going.
- Park in well-lighted areas and as close to the stores your are patronizing.

Keeping Your Credit and Identity Safe

- If you are planning on writing checks, use only the necessary information, name, address, phone number. Never give your social security number to a merchant. Safeguard your credit cards and checks as you do cash. Do not leave them in jacket pockets or sitting out in restaurants, stores or hotel rooms. Keep your purse or wallet on you at all times. Shoulder straps should cross your body, not dangling from your shoulder. Do not lay them in a shopping basket. Be sure they are closed securely.
- Make a list of all your credit cards, debit cards and checks with account numbers. Keep the list in a secure place at home if, in the event your purse or wallet is stolen. Notify issuers immediately if your card is lost, stolen or misused. Take your time when making a purchase. Be sure you collect your license, credit card, or check book and your receipt. Keep your receipts and reconcile your statement. Promptly report any discrepancies to the issuer.

ABOVEALL, IF YOU ARE VICTIMIZED, REPORT IT TO POLICE IMMEDIATELY.

Featured Article

This section of the newsletter is dedicated to professional articles contributed by OUR OWN homeowners. Call or email us if you might be interested in writing an article for the next newsletter.

Contributed by C. Patrick Stubbs, Vice President Morrison Insurance Agency 504-888-9393

Residential Excess Flood Insurance

Whether it's a torrential downpour or a hurricane, we all know that flooding is certainly a major concern in South Louisiana. As such, insurance protection for the peril of flood should be a high priority.

The best flood insurance protection is with the purchase of the National Flood Insurance Program policy when available from the NFIP direct or "Write-Your-Own" carrier. It is important to note that the National Flood Insurance Program is limited in the amount of coverage afforded to the consumer both in the limit per property and in the scope of coverage.

Excess Flood Insurance is an important protection that is available to you in the insurance marketplace. Be sure and ask your current primary flood insurance carrier to give you a quote on excess flood insurance before the next rainstorm or hurricane. Just remember that it is not subsidized by the federal government so the rates and/or insurance premiums will be substantially higher for excess flood than what you pay for the maximum available through NFIP (\$250,000 on residence and \$100,000 on contents). For example, I had an individual in Plantation Estates come to me last year requesting excess flood insurance on his home. At the time, he was paying \$328 annual premium for the maximum available through NFIP and he wanted to buy \$100,000 excess on his residence and \$100,000 excess on his contents. I was able to place that coverage for him for an \$898 annual premium. Like I said before, while it isn't cheap, excess flood insurance is available. Be sure to call your current insurance agent and discuss your insurance needs with him before you have to file a flood claim.

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New PE Sign Installed and Landscaping Freshened Up



Plantation Estates received \$1,000 grant to help with the project from Jefferson Parish and Friends of Jefferson the Beautiful, which was offered to any civic association in Jefferson Parish for signage at the entrance of neighborhoods. Plantation Estates wish to thank the following people for their efforts in our new granite sign:

- Intrepid Stone (348-2861) for the granite work and installation
- Mario Mannina with Distinctive Construction (388-4445) for building the frame, handling the electrical work, designed the artwork, etc.
- Councilman Byron Lee, Tony Digerolamo, Debbie Villio & others with Jefferson Parish that helped us along the way with the permits, special Council resolution with Parish related items.

A special thanks to Dale and Glenda Giroir (still PE homeowners) that designed and built the original Plantation Estates sign in 1986 for Marrero Land. All the work was done by hand. Below is some photos of the original installation that cost \$2,600. The sign was made of 4x4 clear heart redwood and took 3 months to build the sign. Also thanks to Bob Jensen who re-painted the front of the sign about 4 years ago that gave us some years with the sign. The wooden sign lasted 23 year at our front entrance and was a beautiful attraction over the years; however, it was getting worn and badly weathered.

Visit our website at www.plantationestates.org to see stages of the project, including some older archive photos when the wooden sign was installed back in 1986.

CHILD CARE SERVICES AVAILABLE

The following residents of Plantation Estates are available to provide baby sitting services:

Cassie Graziano - 341-3284

Tiffany Mosel - 340-9281

Danielle Boudreaux - 340-4789

Allyson Graziano - 341-3284

If you are under 21 and would like your name listed for this or any other service within Plantation Estates please contact Pat Ketcham at 340-8100.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year Plantation Estates

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Pumpkin Painting Party By Beth Martin



We had a wonderful turn out for our annual Pumpkin Painting Party this year. We estimate approximately 90 pumpkins were painted and taken home for decorations. Several children enjoyed the tattoos and everyone enjoyed the wonderful yard of Theo and Marzile Stafford. I would like to thank all our volunteers, especially Charlie Miller for his help, Matrana's Produce for donating all the pumpkins, Big John Combel for all the drinks and Halloween bags that we stuffed with goodies from The Plantation Estates Community Association, Westley Boudreaux, Debbie and Danny Blanchard, Christy Barrios, George and Diane Simpson, Beth Owens and Emily Martin. Without all of these volunteers, these types of events would not be possible. If you would like to help with Plantation Estates events in the future, please give me a call, Beth Martin 347-0424 or 228-9744.

