

February 2019



Broadmoor News

Published by Broadmoor Residents' Association

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A Message from the President

As Broadmoor moves into a new year, the Broadmoor Residents' Association has a new President. Me. Did I ever think I would be doing this? No. But things don't get better standing by; so here I am.

First, I want to thank our BRA Board and the Executive Committee for putting their trust in me. I will do my best to make sure I keep that trust.

Second, I want to thank our outgoing President, Terry Lawrence, who in a few short years has done so much to improve our neighborhood. Without Terry we wouldn't have a Christmas Parade or our no-solicitation ordinance. He spent endless hours on issues large and small, and has been an example for us all. Terry will still be active in BRA, and I will seek his counsel.

In 2019, Broadmoor has much to offer. We have a new elementary school. Home sales in the area are steady and property values continue to increase. We are one of the safest neighborhoods in Baton Rouge. And people are discovering what we already knew – Broadmoor is a great place to live!

I want to keep Broadmoor a safe, family-friendly neighborhood, and will work with our Broadmoor Crime Commission and City officials to keep it that way. But please be patient – the City moves... slowly. Very, very, slowly. We will keep after 311 complaints and people not following the local Ordinances or Deed restrictions. However, we are not riding around looking for violations, so please call our BRA Member Helpline (926.9829) and let us know when there is a problem. **You are the eyes and ears of our neighborhood.**

And I encourage each of you to get involved somehow. Join Broadmoor Residents' Association. Join Neighborhood Watch. Volunteer to help with the Christmas Parade. Help an elderly neighbor with yard work. Come to a meeting and join one of our many committees. We can always use your help!

Ellen Grout—2019 Broadmoor Residents' Association President

Helpline: 225.926.9829

Email:
broadmoor@broadmoor-br.org

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Send questions or comments to:

Broadmoor Residents' Association
P. O. Box 15312
Baton Rouge, LA 70895

Editor: Amy Delaney

What Do BRA and BCPID DO?

Below is a list of the benefits Broadmoor residents receive from the work of the **Broadmoor Residents' Association (BRA)** and the **Broadmoor Crime Prevention Improvement District (BCPID)**. BRA and BCPID board members are volunteers. No one is paid for their time, efforts and expertise.

Broadmoor Residents' Association voluntary dues—\$35 per senior household; \$50 for other households

Broadmoor Crime Prevention Improvement District—\$100 required property tax assessment

Broadmoor Residents' Association Benefits

Communication

1. Serve as a source of communication for residents, updating them on Broadmoor and Baton Rouge developments. Hundreds of emails are distributed each year in response to inquiries.
2. Monitor/maintain the nextdoor.com forum, the Broadmoor Facebook page, Broadmoor website, and the Broadmoor HelpLine. BRA members research and respond to over 200 HelpLine and email requests for information and help each year. These requests frequently require contacting city officials, writing letters, etc.
3. Write, publish and mail out 6,300 newsletters to residents each year.
4. Write and publish a 40 page booklet, which provides important information about numerous topics that impact Broadmoor residents. The booklet has been given to new residents. The second edition will be published this year.
5. Provide Baton Rouge businesses the opportunity to advertise in Broadmoor publications to help offset the cost of publication.

Representation

1. Annually hold six public meetings and numerous other meetings dealing with a variety of issues (zoning issues, working with DPW, working with elected officials, working with nearby neighborhoods, etc.) Detailed records of meeting agendas, minutes and all financial records are maintained.
2. BRA members declared Broadmoor a 'No Soliciting' neighborhood, making it illegal to do door-to-door selling in Broadmoor. Approximately 20 signs have been placed at entrances alerting visitors.
3. Attend 'Federation of Civic Associations' meetings, representing Broadmoor and Broadmoor residents' interests.

Neighborhood Improvement

1. Ensured that bicycle/walking lanes were added to Marilyn and Cora.
2. After many hours of working with the city, BRA members have gotten three derelict houses torn down.
3. Continue to work with the owners of the Broadmoor Mall to increase retail businesses.
4. At the request of neighbors, worked with residents and officials to shut down several at-home car repair businesses. This type of at-home business is against city code and was proving to be a nuisance to their neighbors.
5. Ensure that residents adhere to neighborhood yard sale rules. A house is allowed three per year.



Broadmoor Residents' Association Benefits continued**Community Spirit**

1. A "Welcome to Broadmoor" committee visits the homes of new residents and gives them a bag of welcome gifts. Approximately 100 welcome packages are distributed each year.
2. Host an annual Broadmoor Christmas Parade, which traditionally has 500-600 participants and 1500-2000+ watching.
3. Annually recognize four Broadmoor residents for outstanding yards.
4. BCPID printed and BRA mailed out over 4,000 decal (B) stickers for residents' cars to help police patrols identify a car as belonging in Broadmoor. If you lost your stickers, please let us know and we will arrange to get them in your hands.

**Broadmoor Crime Prevention Improvement District Benefits (BCPID)**

Did you know? Broadmoor has a lower crime/incident rate than other nearby neighborhoods (incident rate per household).

1. Hire and manage approximately 3,000+ hours of police patrols per year. This has continued to reduce crime.
2. Our Police Patrols respond on average to 100+ calls a month (medical emergencies, vehicle collisions, property fire, 911 calls, traffic tickets issued, responding to home security alarms going off, stopping solicitors, stopping people just 'passing through' and acting suspicious, etc.)
3. Installed new posts with colorful banners on Goodwood Blvd.
4. Decorate entrances for the different holidays.
5. Manage an active Neighborhood Watch Program. If you can help, call the HelpLine at 926-9829 and let us know.
6. Annually hold four public meetings for all residents.
7. Replaced all of the Broadmoor entrance signs.
8. Maintain Broadmoor entrance signs.
9. Maintain flowers and landscape at the Broadmoor entrances.
10. Will soon be installing cameras at major entrances.

All of this for only \$135-\$150 a year! Voluntary membership in BRA ranges from 250 to 500 households per year. This means 1/4 of the households support the efforts for just under 2,000 homes. Your help and support are needed. As a group of volunteers, we have the best interests of Broadmoor at heart and do all we can with the time and resources we have available.



There is a lot happening in Broadmoor. *Can you help out?* If so, contact us at 225-926-9829 or Broadmoor@broadmoor-br.org.

Broadmoor Has Bicycle Lanes!

By Hallie Dozier

Broadmoor bicyclists (and pedestrians) now have a dedicated north/south route that loops from Frances Harriet Drive at Goodwood Boulevard north to Donna Drive. On Donna it runs east to Cora Drive where it turns south again to reconnect with Goodwood. The whole loop is approximately 1.54 miles long and provides a safer, more visible route for bicyclists and pedestrians to tool around our neighborhood. The loop also ties into existing bike lanes that run east/west along Goodwood from East Riveroaks Drive to Flannery Road. Below are tips to ensure cyclists enjoy a safe ride.



Tips for Cyclists.

Bicyclists have the same rights and *responsibilities* as motorists. This means cyclists must do the following:

1. Obey traffic laws, signs and lights as though they were driving a car. In other words, stop at stop signs and (red) traffic lights, use hand signals, stay in your lane and respect others on the road.
2. Bicyclists are to ride on the right side of the road – so northbound riders should use the lane on Frances Harriet and southbound riders must use the lane on Cora.
3. Be a friendly cyclist – that means be visible, be predictable and be safe.
4. When you are riding with a group, remember that Louisiana law allows for only two riders abreast. My advice is that if you are riding two abreast and you are approached from the rear by a motor vehicle, move into a single file formation – for your safety – until the motorist has safely passed.
5. If you are riding at nighttime, you must use bike lights and reflectors (white for the front, red for the back). These devices must be visible from at least 500 feet away.
6. **Never ride your bicycle against traffic!**
7. When you encounter pedestrians in the lane, you must give them the right of way.
8. When you approach a pedestrian please be courteous and call out clearly to let them know you are coming their way and that you plan to pass (in legalese, “give an audible signal before overtaking and passing”).
9. Louisiana laws require that all children under the age of 12 wear a helmet while on a bicycle. Children who weigh less than 40 pounds or are shorter than 40 inches tall must be in a restraining seat (as a passenger).
10. Stay in the lane when a bicycle lane is available, and when no lane is available, stay as far to the right as is practical. If there is debris or other obstacles such as drainage grates or garbage cans that make it impossible to ride safely all the way to the right, move left into the lane far enough for you to ride safely.
11. Bicycle riding on the sidewalk is *illegal* in East Baton Rouge.

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Business Spotlight: KG Jewelers

By Amy Delaney

For more than two decades KG Moutafian has been helping Broadmoor residents commemorate life's big moments, from engagements and anniversaries to that perfect Valentine's Day or Christmas gift. Located in the Broadmoor Shopping Center, **KG Jewelers** has a dedicated clientele stretching back five generations.

Jewelry is so much more than gold, silver and sparkling gems for KG. He says he enjoys being a part of a family's story when they purchase from him. "I love doing this," he says. "The challenge is to deliver where you're blown away. When I see you smile I have done my job."

Personal attention to detail and truly getting to know his clients are what sets KG apart in the jewelry business. He spends time one-on-one with customers discussing

their needs and budget, and determining how a piece can be customized to become a memorable family heirloom. There is no pressure to purchase as KG will often ask a client to think about it before they even open their wallet. In fact, KG says he has actually recommended a client make a non-jewelry gift purchase if he felt it would make a more appropriate gift.



The resurgence of the Broadmoor Shopping Center is something KG is happy to see. "I care about this shopping center," he says looking out at the parking lot that is now busier thanks to several

new additions. It's obvious that KG takes pride in his location, similar to the pride he feels in matching the right ring to the right finger.



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Halloween in Broadmoor

by Rachel Bergin

Halloween 2018 was enjoyed throughout Broadmoor by residents of all ages thanks to a little planning and preparation. With the help of 10/31 Consortium, a Baton Rouge-based nonprofit dedicated to making Halloween safe, we developed a plan to determine how to make Broadmoor's Trick or Treating even better. After finding that the main concerns for improvement were traffic safety, we asked the BRA to hire police officers to instruct people who were creating the unsafe street traffic to park and walk with their children instead of drive. The BRA Board generously agreed to hire two police officers for the night.

"We have the nicest neighbors!"

We are so lucky in Broadmoor to have such fun and vibrant Halloween festivities. Many children in Baton Rouge do not live in a neighborhood that participates or is safe enough to participate in Trick or Treat. It was the intent to welcome these children, but create a safer and more pleasant night for all. The police officers made a huge difference this past Halloween. It greatly reduced the amount of cars and we were able to enjoy the night much more than before.

We have some of the most generous and fun neighbors in Broadmoor. There were teenagers putting on haunted houses, friendly neighbors, creative decorations, and of course, CANDY! After my kids got home this past Halloween, my oldest kid said, "We have the nicest neighbors!" If you also love Halloween and would like to get involved in making the festivities in Broadmoor even better, contact the BRA. Possible ideas for next Halloween include a house decorating contest.



By Terry Lawrence
BREC's Sharp Road Park located at 501 Sharp Road is open again after the 2016 flood. To contact BREC about the facility, call them at 225-272-9200, email the supervisor Pam Turner at pturner@brec.org, or even better drop by the park and look at all of the changes.

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"Neighbors do business
with people they know"

Another successful Broadmoor Christmas parade

By Terry Lawrence

December 1, 2018 was the 5th annual Broadmoor Christmas parade. What a great day with about 600 parade participants and probably a couple of thousand spectators.

It is nice that Santa and the Elves were able to take some time out of their busy pre-Christmas schedule to visit Broadmoor. Once again, the Broadmoor High School band, JROTC, and cheerleaders helped enormously with their participation. Other participants that added so much to the day are: Ace Crew & Friends; Arlington Preparatory Academy; Baton Rouge Beign-Yays; Bayous & Beyond; Beat The Streets Drum & Bugle Corp; The Bridge Agency; Bike Baton Rouge; Broadmoor Baptist Church; Broadmoor United Methodist Church; Dance Therapy; Council Woman Donna Collins-Lewis; Representative Paula Davis; Frank Filardo; HiNabor Supermarket; Krewe de Patwa'; Kumon Math & Reading; Villa del Rey Magnet School, Parker's Pharmacy; Montalbano's Seafood & Catering; West Van Place Krewe; and St Thomas More.

SAVE THE DATE!

2019 Broadmoor Christmas Parade:
Saturday, December 7th at 2 pm



As you can tell by the picture of the donated food items, we collected a lot of food for the food pantry on Sharp Rd. Thanks to everyone who donated and made this a special day.

Put December 7th, 2019, 2:00 pm on your calendar for our next parade. Please plan to join us in being a participant or spectator. You will enjoy the day.



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Join us on Nextdoor.Com

Broadmoor now has a page on **Nextdoor.com**, a social networking site for neighborhoods that allows users to connect with neighbors. The site provides a forum for posting (1) news of interest to the neighborhood; (2) general interest items; (3) classified listings for buying, selling or giving away things; and (4) a database for neighbor-recommended local services.

You don't need to visit the website to stay abreast of postings. Opt for posts by e-mail, immediately or in daily digests, or get text messages in the case of urgent alerts.

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Get It Growing, Broadmoor



January is the perfect time to plant potatoes. Try growing red and white potatoes vertically. Just add dirt as the plant grows. Make sure the bottom of the bucket has been removed. This bottomless bucket method is a great way to green up the garden, while increasing the harvest and saving space. The kids are sure to love digging up the harvest too.

Give vegetable gardening a go this year

By Lee Rouse, Source: *The Baton Rouge Advocate*

Vegetable gardening is one of the most rewarding types of gardening. If you have never tried your hand at it or have had little luck, I encourage you to give it a go in 2019.

You can find many excellent books on vegetable gardening, but, honestly, my best advice is to jump right in. Here's some tips to help you gain some gardening know-how:

Start small — Quite often, a gardener successfully grows one tomato on their patio, and, the next thing you know, they are ready to sell the house and start a farm. I appreciate the ambition, but leaping from a pot to an acre is huge. A 4-by-8-foot raised bed is a great starting size for new gardeners. It's just enough room to give you a meaningful harvest but small enough to manage.

Know where to get the best info — You could fill the Library of Congress with all the books, videos, articles and blogs on how to vegetable garden. And, you certainly might want a few books or to peruse a few websites, but some of the best and most concise information is in the "Louisiana Vegetable Planting Guide" found at LSUAgCenter.com. Also know how to get in touch with your parish extension agent, which also can be found at the AgCenter's website.

Where's the water — Before choosing a location to start your vegetable garden, determine the closest water source. There is nothing worse than having to haul pails of water to the garden or needlessly connecting multiple hoses and dragging them across the yard every time you need to water.

Tried and true varieties — Most vegetables are annual crops, and new varieties come out each year. But, just because there's a new variety of tomatoes or peppers does not mean it is necessarily better, especially here in Louisiana. Again, check out the "Louisiana Vegetable Planting Guide," where you'll find the varieties the LSU AgCenter has tested in Louisiana and that have performed best.

Failure is also a success — I always emphasize to gardeners that they should keep a gardening journal. It allows you to record what did well in the garden so you can repeat it the following year. But, more importantly, it allows you to keep track of what didn't do well and what you may need to do differently next time. Failure is only failure if you don't learn.

Email gardennews@agcenter.lsu.edu. Follow Lee Rouse on Instagram, @rouses_horticulture.

Thanks to LSU Extension Agent, Lee Rouse, who wrote the article above for the *Baton Rouge Advocate* and agreed to share it with Broadmoor.

Legal Reasons For Wanting the Grass to Be Greener On Your Side of the Fence

by Stanley Bordelon, Esq.

Longer days and warmer temperatures provide relief from the cold, gloomy days of winter and turn thoughts to spring. Spring brings budding flowers, green leaves on the trees, and lush new grass that seems to grow over night. Before long, grass cutting season will be in full swing. Mowing, weeding, and edging can be a chore, but part of being a good neighbor is to keep a clean yard.

The Baton Rouge City-Parish Code of Ordinances requires landowners to cut their grass. Grass taller than 12 inches over the majority of the property constitutes a violation of section 12:405 – Maintenance of Property of the City-Parish Code of Ordinances. The fine for overgrown, unmaintained property is \$125.00 for the first offense; \$250.00 for the second offense; and \$500.00 for the third offense.

After the grass is cut, the weeds are pulled and the sidewalks are edged, how to properly dispose of the debris becomes an issue. Although it may be easiest to blow everything into the street or down the storm drain, it is also prohibited. It is in violation of city ordinance to “impede or obstruct the passage flow of water of any street, gutter, ditch or drain on any property either owned by the city or the parish.” Section 12:401 also prohibits blowing leaves, branches, and “other debris” into the street and obstructing drainage. The fine for leaving grass clippings, leaves, and other debris on the street and obstructing drainage is \$100.00 per occurrence.

The LSU Ag Center advises that it is actually most beneficial to let grass clippings decompose in the yard because the clippings release beneficial nutrients into the soil and act as a natural fertilizer. Other options for disposing of yard waste include composting and bagging it for the regular trash collection.

As the saying goes, “Don’t let grass grow under your feet.” Be a good neighbor this spring and summer by not letting the grass grow too tall under your feet. Keeping your yard free of debris and rubbish increases the value of your home by adding curb appeal and enhances the overall quality of life in Broadmoor. Properly disposing of your leaves and grass clippings after your chore is finished is not only the neighborly thing to do, but it is the law.

Legal Disclaimer: This column includes information about legal issues and legal developments. It is for informational purposes only and may not reflect the most current legal developments. These informational materials are not intended, and should not be taken, as legal advice on any particular set of facts or circumstances. You should contact an attorney for advice on specific legal problems.

Garbage and refuse pickup reminders

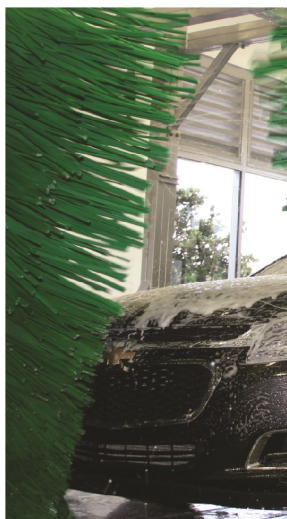
By Terry Lawrence

If you are new to Broadmoor you may not be totally familiar with the garbage pickup schedules. Every house should have two garbage cans. The larger black container is for garbage and the smaller gray one is for recycle items. Garbage is picked up every Monday and Thursday and the recycle can is picked up on just Thursdays. Yard waste and bulk items (furniture, etc.) are also picked up on Thursdays. Be sure to keep containers and piles at least 3 feet apart.

The city requires contractors who do work on your property to take the debris they create off of your property and dispose of it. If they leave it at the curb for the city, there is a good chance the city will require you to remove the items or charge you for the removal. Ensure your contractor does what he is supposed to do.

Broadmoor Calendar of Events

Sunday	March 10 th	Daylight Savings Time starts
Monday	March 18 th	BRA meeting, 6:30 pm, at BUMC
Sunday	April 21 st	Easter Sunday
Monday	April 29 th	BCPID meeting, 5:30 pm, at BUMC
Sunday	May 12 th	Mother's Day
Saturday	May 18 th	Armed Forces Day
Monday	May 20 th	BRA meeting, 6:30 pm, at BUMC
Monday	May 27 th	Memorial Day
BCPID = Broadmoor Crime Prevention and Improvement District BRA = Broadmoor Residents' Association, BUMC = Broadmoor United Methodist Church, Adult Center, corner of Sharp Rd and Mollylea		



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