



Volume 28  
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EMERGENCY

## Message from the Parish President. .

Dear Fellow Employees:

We are all living in a time of increased stress. In South Louisiana, we have additional stress with the beginning of hurricane season. The recent tragedy at Virginia Tech University is a vivid reminder of the impact that stress can take on our emotional well-being.

According to Jo Ellen Lundin, of Regional Healthcare, Post Traumatic Stress Disorder is a serious condition that results from a traumatic or extremely psychologically distressing event. Extreme trauma that can lead to PTSD evokes fear and a sense of helplessness.

Traumatic experiences can leave people overwhelmed, affecting their ability to cope with daily life. The response to trauma can vary widely. PTSD symptoms occur in three-symptom categories or "clusters."

- **Re-living the event** through recurring nightmares, flashbacks, or other intrusive thoughts that pop into one's head at any time. People who suffer with PTSD also may have extreme physiological and emotional reactions.
- **Avoiding reminders of the event** including people, places, thoughts, or other activities associated with the trauma.
- **Hyper arousal or being on guard at all times**, including irritability or sudden anger, difficulty sleeping, lack of concentration, being overly alert or easily startled.

All of us react differently to stress. It is important to realize that people on the "frontline" have additional stress. Symptoms are often not noticed until weeks, months, or even years later. There are a number of different treatment options; however, the most important thing is to recognize the symptoms.

If you think you may need assistance, the Coventry Medical Plan offered by Jefferson Parish covers:



Aaron Broussard, Parish President

- Inpatient mental health, with a co-payment of \$150 per day and a maximum co-payment of \$450 per admission, limited to 45 inpatient days per calendar year.
- Inpatient coverage has a co-payment of \$30 per individual or group session, limited to 52 visits per calendar year.
- Individuals in need of mental health care should contact APS, not Coventry, at 1-800-752-7242 (the number on back of the Coventry ID card).

Additional programs include:

- **Louisiana Spirit**, a federally funded crisis counseling program for individuals, families, and groups affected by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. For information, contact the crisis line at 1-800-273 TALK.
- The Red Cross' Access to Care: [www.a2care.org](http://www.a2care.org) or 1-866-794-HOPE provides \$2,000 per person assistance for mental health services for individuals in affected hurricane recovery areas.
- The Jefferson Parish Department of Human Resources is scheduled to host stress management-type workshops at the end of June.

# En Realité

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## Editor's

## Notes

### Safety on the Job

Summer is here again, and with it come many concerns that seem to be part of summer. It's not just hurricanes that should concern us. It's also a good time to remind ourselves to be safe, not just in new places we visit on vacation, but in some of our most familiar surroundings – the workplace.

Jefferson Parish Government is committed to providing the safest working conditions possible. Human Resources has the responsibility of implementing and maintaining a comprehensive safety and occupational health program for Parish employees. One way we provide for safety in the workplace is through training classes.

One class that HR's Safety Division offers to all employees is CPR/AED training, a hands-on class that teaches cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and the use of the automated external defibrillator (AED). This program can provide the confidence needed to respond in an emergency and the skills to save a life. In fact, all Directors and Executive Staff will attend a group CPR/AED training in June.

We employees are all required to include good safety procedures into our everyday work performance. To this end, we need a working knowledge of safety rules and policies. At New Employee Orientation, all new employees are provided with a Safety Manual and an overview of the functions of the HR Safety Division, and are charged



Feleciano Mendoza, Jr.  
Editor

with keeping themselves safe and accident-free on the job.

But lately, the number of new employees getting injured on the job has been increasing, with a high incidence of occurrence for those in labor-intensive jobs: Trades Helper, Maintenance, Laborer, and Groundskeeper. To address this problem, a program has been added to Orientation that provides more job-specific training to these employees in the departments of Animal Shelter, Drainage, General Services, JeffCAP, Juvenile Services, Library, Parkways, Recreation, Sewerage, Streets, and Water. This new program, *Safety on the Job*, is designed to teach new employees specific safety procedures and techniques to help keep them safe on the job.

It is ultimately the responsibility of each of us to make sure we follow safety rules so that we may prevent accidents and keep ourselves safe. Only through the commitment and cooperation of every employee to recognize the importance of safety in the workplace can the goal of an accident- and injury-free workplace be achieved.

# Administrative Professionals Day: Food and Fun Marked the Occasion

By  
Nancy Rodriguez

The Department of Human Resource Management hosted the Parish's Administrative Professionals Day Luncheon Celebration on Tuesday, April 24, 2007.

**Junior Mendoza**, Director of Human Resources, welcomed everyone to the event, followed by Council Chairman **Thomas Capella**, who praised the administrative professionals of the Parish for their untiring efforts in making the Parish run so well. Judge James Cannella pronounced the invocation, and all were then treated to a feast of Italian salad, crawfish etouffee, beef stroganoff pasta, and spinach Madeline. The lunch was delicious, but the main meal was outshined by a sumptuous dessert of praline cheesecake.

After the meal, Parish President **Aaron Broussard** spoke to the assembly, comparing the



EIS Director Ridley Boudreaux with Deborah Bourgeois and EIS Employee of the Year Angele Alexander

Parish workforce to a mosaic, made up of many unique and beautiful but different pieces. He complimented the work that employees do and reminded us that each employee represents the whole Parish to the citizens we serve – and that the vast majority of citizens are impressed with how well the Parish is run. President Broussard then presented the Proclamation for Administrative Professionals Day to **Carolyn Melling**, of Engineering.

President Broussard acknowledged that although we are under much stress in our post-Katrina world, it's not just therapy or prescription drugs that can help relieve that stress. According to Mr. Broussard, one of the greatest medicines for stress is laughter. On that note, he introduced the speaker for the celebration, Becky Allen.



Becky Allen

Ms. Allen noted that she says she's from New Orleans, although she was born in Metairie. "New Orleans," to her way of thinking, refers to the greater New Orleans area. And then she posed the question, "How do



The Alario Center's Greg Guthrie, Deidre Cummings, and Rae Perkins

Admin. Prof. Day continued

you know if you're from New Orleans? You know how to step on a roach and put just enough pressure on it to kill it without messing up the carpet." She kept the audience laughing, sharing her insights into what makes New Orleanians unique, and she noted our

special ability "to grab the love from each other," an ability that makes us strong enough to overcome our Katrina experience.

The festivities wrapped up with the benediction from Judge Cannella. The good company and good food left everyone feeling appreciated and looking forward to next year!

## Health & Wellness

By  
Peggy Branan, RN



### Skin Cancer Dangers

Summer is here! And as we all know, so is the hot, blistering sun. Summer also brings more outdoor activities, such as sports, yard work, picnicking, and unfortunately for too many, sunbathing. For many, being outdoors in the sun can result in skin cancer. But skin cancer is not only for sun worshipers!! Are you at risk??

Skin cancer is the # 1 cancer in the United States. Skin cancers are broken down into four major categories: Actinic Keratosis, Basal Cell Carcinoma, Squamous Cell Carcinoma, and Malignant Melanoma. Skin cancers may be found on any part of the body—regardless of whether it is exposed to the sun or not.

### Four Types of Skin Cancer

*Actinic keratosis* is a precancerous condition. If untreated, it can develop into a squamous cell cancer. The surface of the skin will appear to be rough with red or brown scaly patches.

*Basal cell carcinoma* accounts for more than 90 percent of all skin cancers. The surface of the skin will appear as a small pink bump or patch. Untreated sores will ulcerate, bleed, and crust over. It is more commonly found on the head or neck area. This is a slow-growing cancer

HR's Nicole Thompson checks the flower arrangements



Director Anthony Francis with David Segura and Gary Vukich, of General Services

Water's Stephanie Gaudet, Donna Guidroz, and Assistant Director Bob Dale



## Parkways

By  
Angela Winchester

### Major Promotions Announced:

- **Stansberry to Superintendent III**
- **Linson to Superintendent II**
- **Blackman Becomes First Female Superintendent in Department History**

Congratulations to **Lance Stansberry**, who has been promoted to Superintendent III—a well-deserved recognition for an excellent asset to our department.



New Parkway Superintendent III  
Lance Stansberry

There's a new Sheriff in town and he's making waves, good ones; you can already see the change in the department's morale, work mode, dedication, and confidence that Parkways will shine as a department. Lance was also nominated and chosen as our Departmental Employee of the Year. What's next: President?

Other news, **Collis Linson** has been promoted to Superintendent II. Collis has been with the Parish for 25 years, but now he's kicked into Supt. II mode. Congratulations.



Superintendent II  
Collis Linson

Last but certainly not least, Ms. Parkways herself, **Patsy Blackman**, is the first female Superintendent I ever in the history of Parkways. This honor is long overdue, and well deserved. Girl Power, full speed ahead! Congratulations to all; especially my girl!!



Ms. Parkways: Superintendent I Patsy Blackman

### Welcome new employee

We also welcome a new old employee. **Chantell Prestenbach**, Typist Clerk II, used to work for Streets. Now we have her in Parkways. An excellent addition to the crew.

### *Health & Wellness continued*

that does not usually spread to other areas if treated early.

*Squamous cell carcinoma* may look like the basal cell cancer; however, it tends to be more rough and scaly. It is often found on the head and neck. It also tends to grow on the lips, ears, and the backs of arms and hands. It is a more aggressive cancer and can spread throughout the body. If treated early, it is potentially curable.

*Malignant melanoma* is the least common, but most dangerous. It may appear as an irregular brown, black and/or red spot or a changing mole. A gender/racial pattern tends to appear. Melanoma sites for white men are usually on the trunk; for white women, usually on the lower leg. Melanoma is rare among blacks, but is found on the palms, soles of the feet, and under the nails. If treated early, it is potentially curable.

### Exposure risks

Risks include excessive exposure to unprotected natural sunlight and artificial sunlight; fair skin, blue/green/hazel eyes, red or blond hair, extensive freckling; skin with multiple or unusual-looking moles. Other factors to consider are a personal or family history of skin cancer; immunosuppression, particularly after being an organ recipient; having worked around coal tar, arsenic compounds, creosote, pitch, or paraffin oil; skin that has been traumatized, such as burn areas or major scars; exposure to excessive amounts of radium or x-rays; or living in sunny or mountainous areas.

*(continued)*

### **What to do**

What can you do to reduce your risk of skin cancer? Severe sun burns as a child can cause permanent damage with changes to the deeper layers of the skin that may not show up till later in life. So it is important to avoid unnecessary sun exposure, especially between 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. If you must go into the sun, wear a sunscreen with a Sun Protection Factor (SPF) of at least a 15 or higher. Find a product that protects against UVA and UVB rays. Remember to protect your lips, tops of your ears, all areas of the head without hair, back of the neck, and your hands and feet. The sunscreen should be applied 30 minutes before going into the sun. Wear protective clothing such as long-sleeved shirt, pants, wide-brimmed hats, and sunglasses with UV protection. Seek shady areas and use umbrellas. Remember that burns can also occur on a cloudy day. Never use a sunlamp or tanning bed.

As with any cancer, the earlier the treatment, your chance for a better outcome increases. Although the majority of skin cancers do not appear until after the age of 50, get to know the skin you are in now! Check it out every month looking for any changes in the skin or any changes in a mole and keep a record. Report any changes immediately to your doctor.

For more information, contact the National Cancer Institute toll-free at 1-800-422-6237. The web site is: [www.cancer.gov/cancerinformation](http://www.cancer.gov/cancerinformation).

### **Sewerage**

By  
Bobbie Fose

The Department of Sewerage extends our deepest sympathy to **Joy Armstrong** and her family on the recent loss of her mother. Also our deepest sympathy to **Randy Doucet** and family on the loss of his brother. Our prayers are with you both.

We would like to welcome nine new employees to our department. **Derrick Harris, Larry Watson, Lawrence Aynami, Ryan Houston, Allen Bourgeois, Lyle Hingle, Joseph Rudolph, Brandon Hurst, and Lisa Guidry.** Welcome aboard!

Also, we want to acknowledge the following employees who have been promoted. **Marshall Robinson** to Trades Helper; **William Sayles** to Truck Driver II; **Germaie Louis** to Pump Equipment Me-

chanic; **Roy Dominick** to Pump Equipment Mechanic; and **Gary Alexis** to Sewer Maintenance Foreman. Congratulations to all of you.

Congratulations to Brandi and **Shane Camardelle** on the birth of their son, Aiden Michael Camardelle who was born on 4/27/07. The proud parents and baby are all doing well.

**Bobbie Fose and Jane Lennie** will once again be co-chairing as Departmental Campaign Managers for the Brown Bag Lunch Campaign. They will be spearheading this fundraising campaign to raise monies for the Jefferson Children's Advocacy Center (JCAC), which provides assistance to abused children and their families in Jefferson Parish. Parish President Aaron Broussard says his goal is to have 100% participation in 100% of Parish Departments.



Bobbie Fose, Lucie Claverie, and Venice Cooper—of the Sewerage Department—strike a pose at the Administrative Professionals Day luncheon.

## Code Enforcement

By  
Linda Roy

We have many new additions to Code: **Mirt Dugas, Karen Favorite, Charlene Jones, Juanika Lassalle, Rene Maggio, Tim Pierre, John Singletary, Dan Suchand, Sam Territo, Alena Wright, and Danielle Helms.** Welcome Aboard!!

We're Sorry to See You Go! We said our Goodbyes to **Cynthia Johnson**, who left Code to pursue a new venture with the Gas Company – All is not lost, as we can see her at the MILL on Fridays.

Congratulations to **Warren Bergeron** for his promotion to Chief Plumbing Inspector; **Dennis Tucker, Sr.**, to Building Inspector II; and **Tom Scott**, to Building Plan Reviewer II.



New Plumbing Chief  
Warren Bergeron

What is a Secretary? Webster's dictionary defines a secretary as "an assistant who handles correspondence and clerical work for a boss or an organization." But a secretary is much more than that. A secretary is a teacher; a mother; a listener, an organizer, and sometimes a counselor. A secretary works long hours to get the job done and often brings work home. A

secretary keeps the boss on time and prepared for meetings. A secretary is the hub of an organization. This year, The Department of Inspection and Code Enforcement has chosen **Ms. Ruth "Kappy" Day**, Secretary, as its Employee of The Year! An honor well deserved.



Ruth "Kappy" Day

Congratulations to **John Maxwell, Esther Freeman, Angel Gonzales, Lois Smith, Deborah Gautreaux, Dennis Tucker, Jr., Bertie Sessions, Roy Boudoin, Lorraine Sander, Roxanna Sullivan, Sheldon Gebbs, Frank Vloutis, Ron Biccocchi, Lynette Florent, Agnes McPherson, Liz Berge, Dave Chiasson, Bill Howard and Brian Kennedy** on their promotions to our Property Maintenance Division.

### West Bank Changes

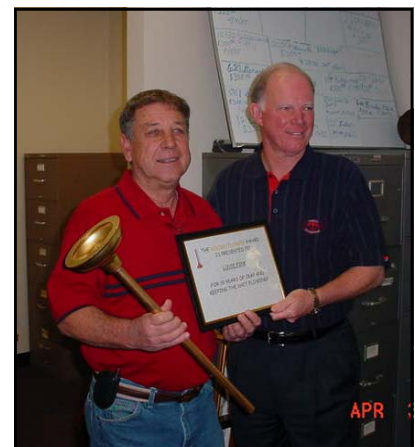
Things are a-Changing! Come and visit our WB Code Enforcement Office, where you will hear the sound of hammers, drills, and saws. We've added new office trailers for our Property Maintenance Division and added office space for our Plan Reviewers. Our Receptionist area is taking on a new look with an extended lobby. Thanks to **Mike Furr** and his gang of in-

spectors and plan reviewers who have worked long, tedious hours. And, Yes, we have our PERMIT!

Louie, Louie!!! On April 6, 2007, **Louie Fink**, Chief Plumbing Inspector, retired with nineteen years of service to Code. We retired his Badge and presented him with a plaque. Most importantly, he was presented with the Golden Plunger Award!!! Now, That's what I'm Talking About!

All of us at Code would like to extend our prayers to **Laura Sawyer** and her family. Laura lost her Mom to cancer. We will always be here for you! We would also like to extend our prayers to **John Roquemore** and his family. They lost their son to a tragedy. John retired in May to explore new ventures. The Cashier Office has enjoyed a good working relationship with John for many years. We wish him the very best!

Hello and Welcome Back to all of our friends who have re-



Retiring Plumbing Chief Louis Fink accepts the coveted "Golden Plunger" Award from Code Enforcement Director Louis Savoye

## Fire Department

By  
Cindy Schouest

The Fire Department has finally moved back into its newly renovated office in the Yenni Building Suite 704. The EMS office has also relocated to the 7<sup>th</sup> floor along with the HazMat Office. We'd also like to welcome our new employees **Mike Joseph**, Safety Officer; **Chantell Darby Schaefer**, Fire Records Clerk; and our summer worker Erin Rose.

The Fire Department is preparing for the upcoming Hurricane Season. Our newly formed water rescue team demonstrated a rescue drill for the media at the Bonnabel Boat Launch. The HazMat Division recently held a modified full-scale simulated HazMat incident exercise at Zephyr Stadium. There were at least 60 EMS and Fire participants, and although the day was faced with heavy rains, the event was successfully completed.

**Chief Saunders** is happy to

announce that four new Fire Trucks have been ordered and the fire contracts for Stations 14 & 16 were accepted. New construction will begin in the near future. Please note that Station 16 moved into the trailers located next to Station 13 at Calumet and Airline Hwy.

Congratulations to Chantell and **David Schaefer** on their recent marriage. They took a leap of faith into the swimming pool along with several guests. The wedding bash was a blast and ended in a real splash!

Congratulations to our retirees: **John Roquemore**, EMS Supervisor on June 25; and **John Alfortish**, Fire Prevention Inspector on July 1, 2007. Thanks for your dedicated years of service with Jefferson Parish. Although you will both be missed, we wish you well.

The Fire Department extends our deepest condolences to Captain **Bruce Saltalamachia**, **John Roquemore**, and **Troy Mire** and their families on their recent losses. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.



Fire's new Water Rescue Team at the Bonnabel Boat Launch

## Drainage

By  
Maria Cervini & Marilyn Slutsky

Congratulations to **Gary Richoux** and **John Sell**, who retired from the Drainage Department. John Sell had 25 years of service, and Gary Richoux had 10 years of service.

### Promotions!

Congratulations to the Drainage Pump Station employees on their recent promotions. **Kenneth Babin** and **George Davis** were both promoted to Superintendent II. **Freddie Frazier**, **Bernard Propps III**, **William Brignac**, and **Brian Rebaldo** were promoted to Operator II. **Perry Andras** was promoted to Equipment Operator IV, and **Gregory Foster** was promoted to Trades Helper.

Also congratulations are extended to **Ricky White** on his promotion to Equipment Operator III, and **Hai Nguyen** and **Michah Polius**, who were promoted to Trades Helpers.

### Welcome New Hires!

Our new hires are **Cynthia Tassin** and **Timothy Whatley**, Laborers for the Drainage Pump Station Division. Other new hires are **Darnell Henry**, **Darren Molden**, **Louis Noel**, **Ronald J. Hill**, **Michael Frerene**, **Alan J. Morris**, **James E. McGinnis**, **Wendel Irvin**, **Joe McGinnis** and **Byron Hawks**, who are all Laborers. **Charlene Painter**, who transferred from the Streets Department, was promoted to Grass Foreman

The ladies of the Drainage Department attended a Mother's Day luncheon on May 10.

*Drainage continued*

On Friday, May 11, the Drainage Department held a seafood boil and barbecue and tour of the Bayou Segnette Pump Station Safe Room at Segnette Field in Westwego. Invitees were Pump Station Operators and Screen Cleaners who were joined by **President Broussard** and members of his staff.

We would like to commend Superintendent **Morris Bouvier** and Foreman **Pierre Smith** for a job well done in following the Standard Operating Procedure for accidental gas line breakage. The procedure was followed thoroughly and in place due to the safety meetings they conduct on a regular basis.

Also, kudos to **Yvette Hurst** for providing an excellent accident report submitted to Safety.

We would also like to recognize the crew of **Latrenda McGhee, Keith Landry, Joe Smith, Stanley Griffin, Emanuel Leblanc, Woodrow Johnson, and Melvin Lyons** for their work in addressing the Bonnabel Canal Right-of-Way.

## Environmental

By  
Barbara Arcement

Environmental would like to thank everyone who participated in the Recycling Drop-off Day, April 14. The event was such a success that we will hold another July 28 from 9:00 a.m. until noon. East Bank residents may drop off their recyclables in the parking lot of the Yenni Building in Elmwood. West Bank residents may drop off theirs in the parking lot of the Alario Center in Westwego. For information about what items will be accepted, please call Environmental at 731-4612.

Environmental would like to welcome our newest family members into our Industrial Pretreatment Division, **Sámi Khalil**, and **Shantia White**. Sámi was with the Department of Health and Hospitals and will be filling the role of Environmental Quality Specialist. Shantia is a recent graduate of Dillard University and will be our Environmental Quality Technician II. We welcome them both into our Environmental Family.

Congratulations to Environmental Affairs Employee of the Year for 2006, **Rick Buller**. For 12 years, Rick has served as our Landfill Engineer, and for the past two years has excelled as a Parish Employee. Mr. Buller managed much of the hurricane debris operations for the Parish while keeping our landfill in compliance with state and federal regulations. Meanwhile Rick was helping the landfill complete a Landfill Methane Outreach Program, which won the EPA's Landfill Methane Outreach Program Project of the Year Award for 2006.

We congratulate the winners of the 8<sup>th</sup> annual Non-point Source Storm Water Pollution and Solutions Poster/Essay Contest. The winners were announced at an Awards Banquet on April 16 at the East Bank Regional Library. This annual contest is open to students in all Jefferson public, private, and parochial schools. Grades 3 through 5 participate in a poster contest, and grades 6 through 8 participate in an essay contest, depicting a potential solution to a source of non-point source pollution. University professors and environmental professionals judged the contest entries. The Department of Environmental Affairs and the cities of Gretna, Harahan, Kenner, and Westwego co-sponsored the contest, which was developed to raise public awareness of non-point source pollution. Non-point sources, such as leakage of automotive fluids, overuse of fertilizers and pesticides, pet wastes, etc., are one of the primary causes of storm water pollution.



Environmental Director Marnie Winter and Environmental Quality Supervisor Scott Finney (rear) with the winners of the Non-point Source Storm Water Pollution and Solutions Poster/Essay Contest

## Animal Shelter

By  
Kay Levy

Preparations for the hurricane season have begun; the Animal Shelter participated in the Hurricane Summit at the Alario Center on Monday, May 21, 2007. The Animal Shelter employees **Norma H. Briscoe**, East Bank Shelter Manager; **Jackie Booker**, West Bank Shelter Manager; **Hope Zamora**, West Bank Clerk III; and **Michael Bordelon**, Animal Control Officer, handed out brochures containing information regarding traveling with pets. We gave out names of hotels and motels that allow pets and other important informational materials that would make your evacuation go smoothly. In addition, we had one of our emergency animal evacuation trailers on display.

### Pet Prep for Hurricanes

It is important to make hurricane preparedness plans early. Be prepared to take your pets with you: Most evacuation shelters do not allow owners to bring their pets. Find a pet-friendly hotel. Many allow pets in emergencies. There are several websites that you can check: dogfriendly.com, Petswelcome.com, 1clickpethotels.com, and florida-pets.net.

Be sure to transport your pets safely. All dogs should be on a leash and cats and small dogs in kennels. When you arrive at a rest area, please have your dog leashed and under your control before opening a car door. All pets should be vaccinated and micro chipped with your current information and wearing rabies

tags. If you are not sure if a microchip has been registered, call your microchip company or veterinarian and verify the information. It is also important to have photographs of your pet and keep your pet information with all of your other personal paperwork. Boarding facilities require this information. Bring at least a week's worth of food, water, medication, cat litter, or any other supplies your pet needs on a regular basis. Also, attach an owner information tag with owner's name and cell phone number on your dog or cat's collar.

### Off-Premise Adoptions

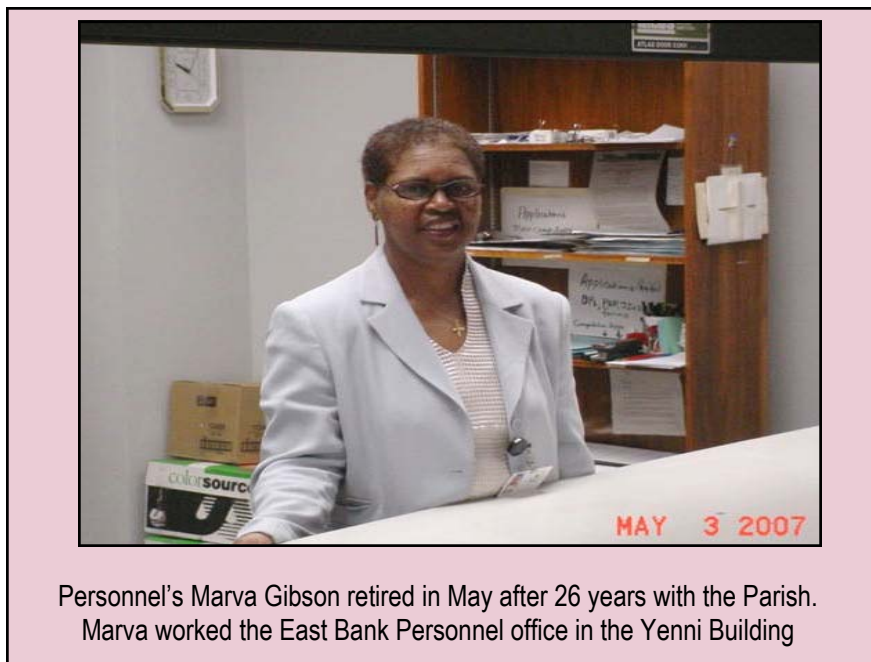
Jefferson Parish Animal Shelter will be at Jefferson Feed and Garden Center (Central Avenue @Jefferson Highway) on Saturday, June 16, 2007, for our off-premise adoption from 10:00AM until 2:00 PM. In addition, the West Bank Shelter will be taking a few animals to the Home Depot at 4900 Lapalco Boulevard in Marrero on the first Saturday

of every month for the public to adopt. The East Bank shelter brings a dog every Tuesday to ASI on Citrus Boulevard in Harahan to be adopted.

**Norma H. Briscoe**, East Bank Shelter Manager; **Jackie Booker**, West Bank Shelter Manager; **Erica Palmer**, East Bank Kennel Master; and **Ashley Roussel**, West Bank Kennel Tech II, attended classes in Dallas, Texas, for The Animal Care Expo.

In April, students from Memorial Baptist Preschool collected pennies through their "Pennies for Puppies" program; they presented the Animal Shelter with \$49.58 in pennies. On Wednesday, May 30, 2007, students and teachers from St. Mathew the Apostle School presented a generous donation to the Animal Shelter that they had raised at the school.

We would like to welcome our new Animal Control Officer, **Michael Bordelon**, to the Animal Shelter.



## Parks & Recreation

By  
Gwen Styron

Our 2007 Fall Activity Guide, which includes activities and programs for both the East Bank and West Bank, will be available in mid-August on our website at [www.jeffparish.net](http://www.jeffparish.net) – Parks & Recreation page or can be obtained at all local playgrounds and libraries the last week of August. For information about any of our programs, call the respective office (East Bank – 736-6999 or West Bank 349-5000) or e-mail [jprecreation@jeffparish.net](mailto:jprecreation@jeffparish.net)

Baseball/Softball is now in full swing. Registration for football, volleyball, and cheerleading will be taken in August. The age-determining date is September 1, 2007 (child must have attained the age of 6 on or before this date).

Best wishes to **Joe Morello**, Groundskeeper at Lafreniere Park, who is retiring June 9 with 10 ½ years of service.

Get Well Wishes to **Nelson Dabavol**, ½ Asst. Center Supervisor – Nights at Miley Playground, and to **Marion Doucet**, Groundskeeper in the EB Main Office.

### Employees of the Month:

January: **Gerry Constant**, Special Program Supervisor, in WB Athletics

**Mary Puderer**, Administrative Assistant, in the EB office

February: **Dennis Seal**, A/C Heat Mechanic, WB Maintenance

**Chris Naumann**, Center Supervisor, Jefferson Playground  
March: **Rudy Luke**, Center Supervisor, Oakdale Playground

**Rodney Piglia**, Assistant Center Supervisor, Miley Playground

April: **Cliff Dufrene**, ½ Asst. Center Supervisor – Girls Programs, at PARD

**Carl Abadie**, ½ Asst. Center Supervisor – Nights, at PARD

**Timothy Jones**, Truck Driver II, in EB Maintenance

May: **Annette Parker**, Clerk Typist III, WB Main Office

### Appointments:

**Rayfield Gaston IV** – ½ Asst. Center Supervisor – Nights at Nicholson

**Charles Hunt**, Amusement Ride Operator at Lafreniere Park

**Charles Kelly** – ½ Asst. Center Supervisor – Nights at Lakeshore

**Damien Manchester** – Groundskeeper at Lasalle Park

**Lori Moore** – Groundskeeper at Lafreniere Park

**Nicole Moore** – Amusement Ride Operator at Lafreniere Park  
**Jeff Mumphrey** – Asst. Center Supervisor at Cleary

**Sean Ruffin** – Groundskeeper at Girard

**Robert Schoen** – Groundskeeper at Pontiff

**Roy Warren** – ½ Asst. Center Supervisor – Girls at Terrytown

**Allen Wiggins** – ½ Asst. Center Supervisor - Nights at Pontiff

### Promotions:

**Sandra Bealer** to Center Supervisor at Rose Thorne Playground  
**Malcolm Fredericks** to Equipment Operator I in WB Maintenance

**Timothy Rogers** to Tradeshelper in EB Maintenance

**Randy Tallon** to Maintenance Repairman in WB Maintenance

### On the Personal Side:

**Janey Witt Perez** (EB Leisure Service) will be competing for a gold medal at the National Senior Olympics in Louisville, Kentucky, in July. Her volleyball team will be representing Louisiana.



Purchasing's Rosa Campos and HR's Benefits Specialist Cathy Leaumont strike a pose at the Administrative Professionals Day Luncheon

## Juvenile Services

By  
Arlyn Smith

Welcome to our new employees **Vicki Borja**, Typist Clerk III; **Sharon Salvato**, Typist Clerk II; Juv. Probation Officers **Jeramie Foret** and **Arlene Conrad**; Cook I **Gwendolyn Bridgewater**; and Juvenile Counselors **Salvadore Gendusa**, **Lloyd Phipps**, and **Herlin Riley**.

Farewell to Probation Officers **Larry Jackson** and **Nicole Jones-Banford**, and Volunteer Services Coordinator **Sarah Schouest-Goodwin**, who recently resigned. We wish them all the best in their future career endeavors.

Congratulations to Probation Officer **Kelly Keller** and his wife Melissa, who welcomed their new baby boy "Brian Louis" on April 18, weighing in at 7 pounds, 12 ounces, and 20 ½ inches long.

Graduation News: Probation Officer **Julie Cuber** just received her Master of Arts in Marriage and Family Counseling

from Our Lady of Holy Cross College. Way to go, **Julie!**

The Department of Juvenile Services participated in the "Relay for Life" held April 21 at Jefferson Playground. We are proud to report we contributed \$300.00 to this worthy cause and hope to meet or exceed this amount next year.

Our Interim Director **Christopher Trosclair** will again this year chair the Jefferson Parish Brown Bag Lunch Campaign. The kick-off will be June 8 at Lafreniere Park. We look forward to it and hope all Jefferson Parish departments participate and hope to top last year's contribution of over \$6000.00!

### Employees of the Quarter

Detention Support – **Ernest Hunter**; Detention Officer – **Terence Dixon**

Probation Support – **Gaynell Hymel**; Probation Officer – **Eugene Thomas**

Supervisor – **Violet Troulliet**  
DJS Employee of Quarter – **Oliver Antoine**

## Workforce Connection

By  
Joan Vaughn

### Success Stories: Career Solutions Center Works!

The Career Solution Center would like to congratulate Denise Whimpers, who successfully completed truck driving training with Coastal Driving College. Denise was very eager to attend training because she needed a secure job. She was immediately hired with Werner Driving Corporation; she did not have a problem with traveling across the road. Upon completion of training, Denise Whimpers returned to the Career Solution Center, thanking everyone for her accomplishments. She continues to work with Werner Corp.

It was a pleasure to assist Joan Evans with a job search. Ms. Evans worked 23 years with Celotex Company in Westwego. After the disaster with hurricane Katrina, many employees were laid off. Ms. Evans was in need of a job, so I referred her to the *Times Picayune* for an administrative position. I hand wrote her a referral as usual, and she went to the office to apply. She was interviewed a few times for the position, and she was hired. She stated to me that she really enjoys the job.

The Career Solution Center is looking forward to work with others and to assist the public with the best assistance we can offer.



Juvenile Services and Community Justice were on hand at the Administrative Professionals Day Luncheon

## Citizens' Affairs

By  
Joanna Lee

Congratulations to **Ryan D. Brown**, Coordinator of Transit Administration, and **Derrick E. Breun**, the General Manager for Veolia, one of the largest transit companies in the world, which operates the transit system for Jefferson Parish. They were featured on the front cover of *Busline*, a trade magazine. **Terry McCarthy**, Director for Citizens' Affairs, was also interviewed for the magazine article, which highlighted the success and progress of our Jefferson Transportation system throughout the Parish.

Congratulations to two staff members upon completion of their supervisory classes. **Gennie Hebert** graduated on May 17, and **Mary Nelson** graduated on May 23. This is a ten-part series offered by Human Resources.

### Relocation

**Wayne Ory** of Citizens with Disabilities has moved his office to the West Bank. He's now located at 1601 Bridge City Ave., Bridge City.

### What's Keeping Us from Being Idle

**Dorothia Halligan**, has been very busy wrapping up the 2007 Carnival season, compiling a report on all the aspects that go into making a successful Mardi Gras.

The constant requests for permits for Special Events keep **Carol Champagne** busy. **Gen-**

**nie Hebert** is preparing the department's budget.

**Mary Nelson** has lots of requisitions to pay. **Joanna Lee**, keeps her cool while answering all the different questions from incoming callers, as well as preparing for the *En Realite'* article. **Brandie Lange** makes sure all paperwork gets to the right persons.



Gennie Hebert and Brandie Lange, of Citizens' Affairs

All of Jefferson Parish first responder trailer sites are now empty, says **Karen Wood** of Special Events & Services. We had 110 families, 420 people living in the three sites after Katrina. They were temporary housing until their homes or apartments were ready to re-occupy. We wish everyone well with their new arrangements.

**Katherine Hoover**, Disability Affairs Specialist, would like to remind folks to ask their families and neighbors if they are prepared for emergencies and to help those who need assistance to put together a preparedness kit that includes a listing of all medications with the dosage information, prescribing Physician's name, and the reason the medication is being taken.

## Emergency Management

By  
Sandra M. Ancar-Encalade

- Are you ready for the hurricane season?
- Do you have a family safety plan?
- Do you have a disaster kit?
- Have you mapped an evacuation route?

Your response should be "Yes" to all these questions because hurricane season began June 1, and experts predict an above-average hurricane season. The warm sea surface temperature in the Atlantic Ocean warrants these predictions.

Items for a family to survive three to five days should be purchased prior to the hurricane season. Your disaster kit should include non-perishable foods, first-aid supplies and medications, tools and supplies, clothing and bedding, and important family documents.

The names for the 2007 hurricane season are Andrea, Barry, Chantal, Dean, Erin, Felix, Gabrielle, Humberto, Ingrid, Jerry, Karen, Lorenzo, Melissa, Noel, Olga, Pablo, Rebekah, Sebastien, Tanya, Van, Wendy.

Warm welcome to **Kenneth L. Padgett**, Director, and **Charles M. Hudson**, Emergency Coordinator II. Charlie is president of Marrero-Harvey Volunteer Fire Department and Chairman of the Jefferson Parish Presidents' and Chief's Association. He is married to Leslie, and they have a six-year-old daughter, Katelyn.

Congratulations to **Ben Williams**, Building Maintenance Supervisor, who celebrated 26 years with the Parish in April.

## Streets

By  
Michelle Swenson

Hello, all! First, we would like to congratulate **Richard Lamoureux** for making Employee of the Year for 2006. Mr. Lamoureux is our Administrative Assistant, working in the Administrative Office on the West Bank. Although he has only been with the Parish since January 2003, Richard is already a vital part of Streets Administration.

Congrats also to **Debbie Tunstall**, who recently made her 10 years with the Parish. Debbie is a Typist Clerk III in our Administrative office.

### March of Dimes Success

We would like to recognize **Kori Allemand** with the help of **Denise Bourg** and **Rose Lanansa** for their efforts on the fundraisers for the March of Dimes. \$655.00 was raised by the Streets Department with the help of the Parkways Department. Thanks to everyone who contributed to this worthy cause.

Congratulations to **Jessica Washington** and **Caress George** who both recently graduated from Higgins High School. They have been working with us part-time as student workers while they finished their last year of high school. We are pleased to announce they both have decided to continue with us for the summer. We would also like to welcome our Summer Workers for this year: **Dwight Galiano**, **Kelsey Kerner**, **Simone Delahoussaye**, **Ashley Holmes** and **Sahara Clark**. Have a great summer.

## Community Development

By  
Sevilla Finley

Congratulations! **Anatola B. Thompson**, Director of Community Development Programs, celebrated her *Leadership Jefferson* graduation with 19 other parish business leaders on May 30. The eight-month course is a program of the Jefferson Chamber. *Leadership Jefferson 2007* was sponsored by Iberia Bank and co-sponsored by Atmos Energy and a host of session sponsors and supporters.



CD Director Anatola Thompson

### First-Time Homebuyers' Assistance Increased!

**Red hot news!** Director **Anatola B. Thompson** and HOME Program Manager **Kim Thompson**, with blessings from the Parish Council, are making housing more affordable in Jefferson Parish by increasing the First-Time Homebuyer Assistance grant to up to \$50,000 for eligible citizens. The grant increase helps to lower the monthly mortgage payment to make the home affordable, which in turn will help foster employment in the Parish. **Liz Ruth**, Housing Counselor II,

is working with realtors, lenders, and client applicants to make the program become a reality on a first-come, first-serve basis.

Applicants must meet eligibility requirements established by HUD and must attend two classes: Homeownership Training and Financial Fitness. The assistance is secured by a deferred mortgage on the property for a term of 15 years. The monthly mortgage payment for the contemplated home purchase (a single family dwelling) may not exceed 30% of the applicant's monthly household income. To be qualified income eligible, an applicant may not have owned a home in the past three years and must meet household income limits, based on family size.

"*The 7 Steps to Buying a House*" packet may be picked up in person at the Department of Community Development, Suite 605, 1221 Elmwood Park Blvd. in Harahan.

Director **Anatola Thompson** and Parish Planners **Faye Galand** and **Mike Strausser** have completed the 2007 Action Plan (budget), which the Parish Council approved on May 23. The Action Plan outlines the programs, projects, and activities to be funded under the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program, the Home Investment Partnership Program (HOME), and the Emergency Shelter Grants Program (ESG). Copies of the Action Plan can be reviewed at the East Bank and West Bank Regional Libraries, and at our office in Suite 605, at the Yenni Building. Call 736-6262 or 6282 for info.

## Library

By  
Jim Davis

Jefferson Parish Library congratulates **Denise Harris**, Library Page, Westwego Library, upon her retirement, and **Patricia Rambeau** upon her promotion; our loss is the Drainage Department's gain. But we welcome three new employees: **Willie Randle** and **Calvin Harris**, Maintenance Repairmen, and **Latanya Tibbs**, Typist Clerk II, Technical Services.

### Summer Reading

Summer Reading Programs are set to begin at Jefferson Parish Library on June 1, 2007, and will run through August 10th. Read below about all the fun activities planned, incentives to be earned, and prizes to be won for participating in "Book a Trip" for kids, "Library Quest" for teens, and the Fifth Annual Big Readers Summer Book Club for adults. Lots of entertaining activities and prize drawings are planned to keep you coming back for more to read throughout the summer.

Kids can "Book a Trip" and take a spin around the globe by reading books and attending programs. Librarians will serve as tour guides by presenting programs, storytimes, and skits about the people and animals around the world. Weekly activities including storytelling, music, dance, drama, magic, puppetry, animals, crafts, and nature programs make up the special events planned for summer reading. Many professional performers for children have been scheduled, with programs slated for all open locations.

Kids are invited to visit their local library beginning June 1<sup>st</sup> to sign up for the 2007 Summer Reading Program, "Book a Trip." When children sign up, they will get their own beautifully designed reading log so they can keep a record of their reading progress, a special bookmark, a sticker, 2-for-1 skate coupon, and a FREE BOOK to get started (while supplies last)!

Once children read 10 books, they return their reading log and receive a sailor hat, a pencil, and

a certificate. For every extra 10 books read, children earn a raffle ticket for additional prizes and passes from Audubon Nature Institute's Zoo and Aquarium, Rivertown Museums, the Louisiana Children's Museum, the New Orleans Steamboat Company, Shoney's, Build-a-Bear, New Orleans Zephyrs, Octavia Books, Kidsports, Little Quincy and Pigs Bouncing Castles, and more. The more kids read, the better their chances of winning one of the raffle prizes.

There is even a Read-to-Me component to the Summer Reading Program for pre-readers. The caregiver reads to the child, and the child is eligible for the certificate and giveaways available to the "readers."

"Louisiana's annual summer reading campaign is designed to attract children to local public libraries and encourage them to read over the summer," said Lt. Governor Mitch Landrieu. "Studies indicate that children who read during the summer return to school in the fall at or above their spring reading levels. Library programs combine reading motivation with exposure to the cultural heritage of Louisiana."

### Library Quest for Teens

While kids are traveling through books, teens at Jefferson Parish Library will journey through the past, present, and future with books and programs that explore the wonders of the universe. Beginning June 1, teens can sign up for the summer program and receive a compass key chain and a



Library Director Lon Dickerson with Irene Lunkin and Sharon Rohli

free book (while supplies last). Jefferson Parish Library offers a bingo-card participation game and incentives for teens to read books and magazines, attend programs, volunteer, and participate in other library activities.

The Teen Summer Reading Program is designed for twelve- to eighteen-year-olds (7th-12th graders). Teens will receive an invisible pen for completion of one horizontal row on the bingo card or for submitting a list of five books read. For each additional five books read or horizontal bingo row completed, they will receive a raffle ticket for additional end-of-summer prizes, including prizes from the New Orleans Saints, the New Orleans Steamboat Company, New Orleans Zephyrs, Adventure Quest Laser Tag, Octavia Books, and gift certificates from area merchants.

A dragon is the icon for finding teen activities on the library website calendars. Teens can pursue their summer reading quest by looking for the dragon icon on the library website calendars and enjoy the many events planned specifically for teenagers including "art attack" craft classes, music programs, magic lessons, and more! Begin the adventure at the library's website calendar to search for summer reading events and activities.



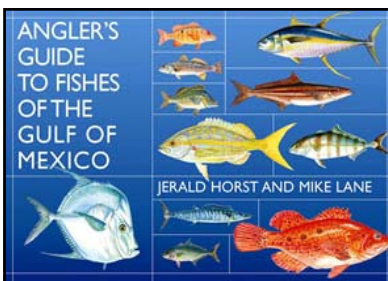
Families and individuals are urged to contact their local Jefferson Parish Library or check out the website calendar at [www.jefferson.lib.la.us](http://www.jefferson.lib.la.us) to learn more about the enriching, entertaining, and educational programs available free of charge this summer.

### **Special Programs and Guests:**

Here are some of the programs already scheduled for grown-ups. Watch for announcements of other special author visits and other programs geared toward adults throughout the summer. Some other surprises are being planned, but cannot be announced until confirmed.

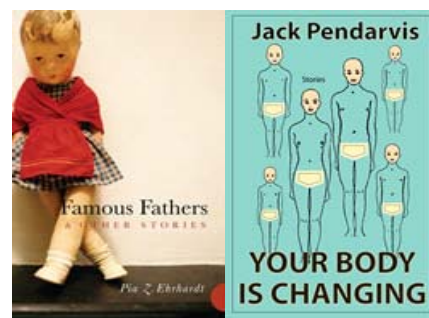
Tues., June 12 – 7:00 PM

*Gulf Fish: The Prolific Gulf of Mexico and Its Bountiful Fishes* Mike Lane and Jerald Horst. (If you're angling for a gift just before Father's Day, an autographed copy would make a great gift)



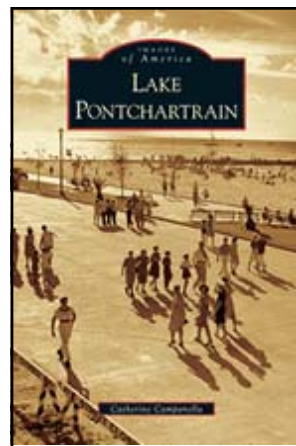
Tues., June 26 – 7:00 PM

*The Line Between Comedy & Tragedy: Two Emerging Short Story Writers.* Jack Pendarvis, author of *Your Body Is Changing*, returns to East Bank Regional with Pia Z. Ehrhardt of New Orleans, author of *Famous Fathers and Other Stories*



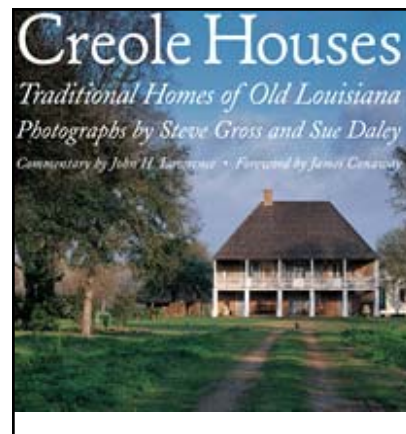
Tues., July 10 – 7:00 PM

*Wide Water: Memories of Lake Pontchartrain.* Author Catherine Campanella discusses her book, *Lake Pontchartrain.*



Tues., July 24 – 7:00 PM

*Creole Houses*, presented by John Lawrence of The Historic New Orleans Collection



# Retirements

**Joyce Hughes**  
**Water**  
**33 years**

**Denise Harris**  
**Library**  
**30 years**

**Gwendolyn Miller**  
**Accounting**  
**28 years**

**John Sell**  
**Drainage**  
**27 years**

**Marva Gibson**  
**Personnel**  
**26 years**

**Betty Paulhus**  
**Library**  
**18 years**

## **Basic Supervision Graduates:**

**Eleven New Supervisors Completed the 10-Part Management Program in May**



Gennie Hebert (Citizens' Affairs; Randy Arnold (Water); M. Selena Muhoberac (Library); Angele Alexander (EIS); and Steve Accardo (Lafreniere Park) celebrate their graduation with donuts and cake on May 17.

Chris Smith (Water); Steve Sweatt (GS Print Shop); Mary Nelson (Citizens' Affairs); Natalie Stoufflet (Recreation); Rudy Luke (Recreation); and Vince Mastracchio (Recreation) pose for their graduation photo on May 23.

