



Volume 37
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Jefferson

Message from the Parish President. . .

A Special Thank You

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you for your hard work during the first year of this administration. Jefferson Parish continues to be one of the greatest places to work and live because of the selfless service you offer to the citizens of the Parish.

We have become more transparent, and we have worked to eliminate wasteful spending, abuse, and fraud, all while working to improve the lives of all of our citizens.

This administration has seen a number of successes this year due mainly in part to the strong support and trust of the Parish employees who give their very best every day.

As we continue to work harder, smarter, and more efficiently, our success will be measured by the many positive things we have been able to achieve through your efforts and teamwork. The goal is to get the job done right the first time so it ensures positive change for the people of this wonderful parish.

We should never forget the impact we as a team have on the community and the citizens we serve. That positive impact will be the lasting effect citizens remember when they speak of our accomplishments and why they



Michael Yenni
Parish President

continue to believe Jefferson Parish is the best place for their families.

Looking Ahead

As we look ahead to 2017, we must remain vigilant in our daily efforts to provide the best customer service and remain mindful that what we do has to be with the interest of the parish in mind. I believe some of our best days are ahead of us; and as we continue on this path of success, this administration will do everything to ensure the well-being of our citizens and make sure our employees are adequately equipped for the job.

In the new year ahead, we will continue to think of innovative ways to push the parish forward, while showing respect to every individual we encounter. We will continue to be honest and show pride in everything we do. I want to wish you all happy holidays and thank you once again for all you do for Jefferson Parish.

JeffTalk

Editor.....Peggy O. Barton
 Managing Editor.....Greg Alexander

Departmental Reporters

- Alario Center** Deirdre Cummings
- Animal Shelter**
Sheila L. Rodrigue
- Citizens' Affairs** Brandie Lange
- Community Development**
Open
- Drainage** Sheena Quinn Bauer
- Emergency Management**
Sandra Ancar-Encalade
- Engineering** Helen McGee
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Robin Lanusse
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- Juvenile Services** Vicki Borja
- Library** Irene Lunkin
- Parks & Recreation**
Antoinette Holmes &
William Cangemi
- Parkways** Karen Jackson
- Planning** Nedra Tate
- PMZ** Open
- Purchasing** Misty Camardelle
- Security** A'delle Joseph
- Sewerage** Venice Cooper
- Streets** Kenya Johnson
- Traffic Engineering**
Brandy Chism & David Stout
- Transit** Patricia Lyons
- Water** Amy Truesdell
- Workforce Connection**
Carolyn Haynes

Editor's



Notes

**Good News
Regarding Sick Leave!**

I have some news to share with you that I'm sure will be welcome by all of our employees. The Personnel Rules and Executive Pay Plan regarding Sick Leave have just been revised, and the change is very good news for employees.

Until now employees could only use Sick Leave if they were sick themselves or had their own doctor's appointment. Employees who needed time off to take care of someone else who was sick had to request Annual Leave. Those who were out of Annual Leave or who were newly hired and not yet eligible to take it were forced to request Leave Without Pay.

But now they have another option! The definition of Sick Leave as stated in Personnel Rule 1, Item 58, and Ordinance 13709 of the Executive Pay Plan, now allows both classified and unclassified Parish employees to utilize Sick Leave to care for an immediate family member that has an illness or injury. Immediate family members as defined in the Rules are the employee's "parents, grandparents, brothers, sisters, spouse, children, stepparents/children, and, if living under the same roof with the employee, other blood relatives or relatives by marriage."



Peggy O. Barton, Editor

Keep in mind that you will still have to observe your department's doctor note policy, regardless of the reason for the Sick Leave. I'm sure you will all welcome this very positive change to our leave policies. Please share the news with your fellow employees.

Floating Holiday Reminder

While I'm on the subject of Leave, and since the end of the year is quickly approaching, I want to remind those of you who have not yet taken your Floating Holiday for 2016 to be sure to schedule it very soon. Remember that we are all entitled to a Floating Holiday every calendar year, and if we do not utilize it, we lose to.

Don't wait till the last minute to try to schedule your Floating Holiday. Many of your co-workers may have scheduled time off around the end of the year, and it's possible that your department may not be able to accommodate your request if you wait too long.

I hope you all have a very joyous holiday season with your friends, family, and loved ones.

Code Enforcement

By
Amanda Wardwell

Congratulations!

Somebody was promoted!!! Previously a Typist Clerk III in the Building Department, **Robin Lanusse** is the new Administrative Assistant in Inspection & Code Enforcement for the East Bank. Congratulations and we know you will do a fantastic job!! Way to go!



Codes's new Administrative Assistant Robin Lanusse receives her 15-year pin from Director Aimee Vallot

Welcome Aboard!

We have more than just a few new faces around. So let's all welcome Code Enforcement's new employees: Plan Reviewers **Josh Lopez** and **Dwight Rixner**, Typist Clerk III (Mechanical) **Shantell Richoux**, Typist Clerk III's (Electrical) **Shane Johnson** and **Elizabeth Castille**, and Building Inspector I **Keith Nicosia**. Welcome to Inspection & Code Enforcement. We are glad you are part of our team.



Pink Fridays for Breast Cancer Awareness month. West Bank office, Top Left to Right: Yolanda Howard, Cynthia Krantz [PMZ], Gerard Gutierrez; Middle Left to Right: Adonna White, Nancy Sanders, Erin Myers; Bottom Left to right: Sharon Salvato [PMZ], Chandelyn Whitehead [PMZ], Billie Bates

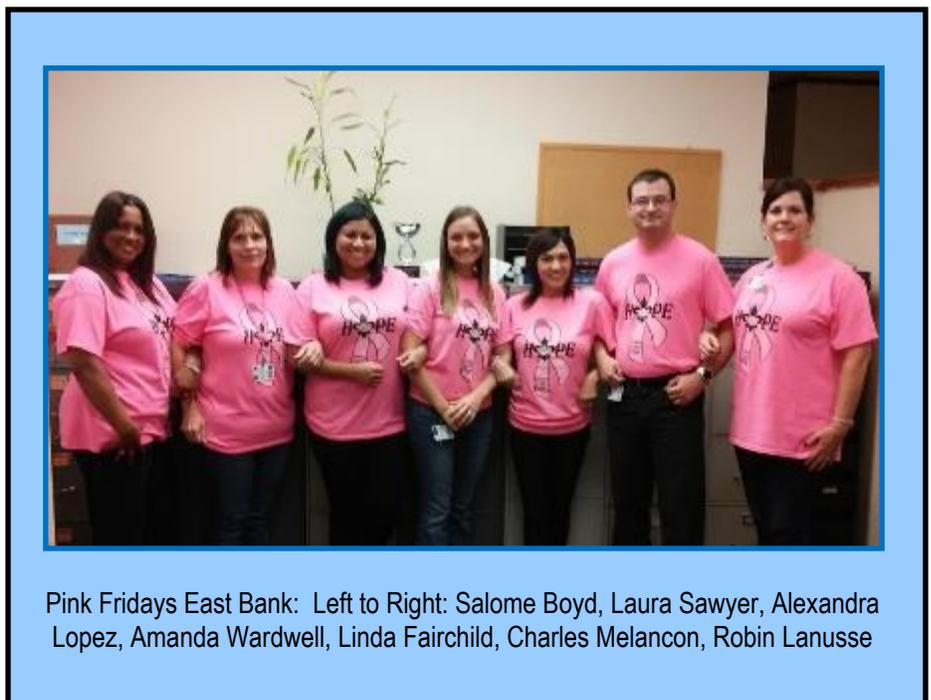
And Fond Farewells!

When we say hello to new faces, we must say goodbye to a few great employees that are no longer with us. Farewell to Building Typist Clerk III **Karen Jackson**, who transferred to the Streets & Parkways Department. Also gone are Administrative Assistant **Amanda Wardwell** and Ac-

count Clerk **Gaye Brown**. You all will be greatly missed. Good luck in the future; we wish you the very best!

Pink Fridays!

During October, Code Enforcement showed off their Pink t-shirts in support of breast cancer awareness on Fridays. Fighting for the cure!



Pink Fridays East Bank: Left to Right: Salome Boyd, Laura Sawyer, Alexandra Lopez, Amanda Wardwell, Linda Fairchild, Charles Melancon, Robin Lanusse

Water

By
Amy Truesdell

The Water Department has been very busy since the last *Jef-ffTalk* issue, and with the holidays fast approaching, we are looking forward to some fun-filled parties and holiday cheer. We have had some retirements, promotions, and new additions. So let's get to the news!

Retirements

We have had two long-time employees retire last month. **Miss Lillian Nelson**, Utility Billing Supervisor, retired from the West Bank Utility Billing office after 36 years of service. We will never be able to replace her dedication and hard work--and her fashion sense: Miss Lillian always made sure to look her best and dress in style.

George Roth, Public Works Project Coordinator, probably known by all within Jefferson Parish, retired in September. George was truly one of a kind, always ready for an emergency, and never missed an opportunity to get his hands dirty. Employees like Miss Lillian and George are hard to find!

Promotions

Believe it or not, we did find an employee who is equal to George Roth! **Sidney Bazley** has been promoted into the Public Works Project Coordinator position. Sidney is soft-spoken and unassuming, but he stepped into George's shoes and took off running.

Along with our new Engineer Inspector III **LaShawn Camese**, who transferred from



Lillian Nelson celebrates her retirement after 36 years

Engineering, we are expecting this dynamic duo to accomplish great things. Congratulations also go out to **David Mahner, Jr.**, our new WB Water Plant Superintendent II; **Rudolph Augustine**, promoted to Waterline Maintenance Foreman; **Betty Turner**, promoted to Service Inspector III; and **Lyndon Ross** and **Jerren Sheppard**, both of whom were promoted to Water Service Inspector II's.

New Hires

Please welcome **David Bailey III** and **Joshua Ard**, WB Laborers; Plant Laborer **Donald Block**; Utility Billing Clerk **Martine Aubin**; Water Purification Superintendents **William Roe** and **Clyde Linam**; Water Quality Scientist **Matthew Hellmers**; **Leonard Iron**, Water Purification Operator who transferred from General Services; and welcome back Water Service Inspector I **Brandy Maillet**.

Goodbyes

We said good bye to Water Service Inspector II **Percy McCray**; Utility Billing Clerk **Christy Roche**; Laborer **Bryson Smith**; Waterline Maintenance Foreman **Aaron Foster**, and Water Service Inspector II **Donyeal Morgan**.

Accomplishments, etc

Congratulations are in order for **Daniel Ory**, who received his Water Treatment, Production, and Distribution II licenses; **Hugh Castleberry**, who received his Water Treatment III license; and **Jessica Gober**, who received her Treatment, Production, and Distribution I licenses. Also, Water Quality Scientist **Ramonte Pinkins** welcomed Baby Adeline on September 14, weighing 7 lbs. 2 oz.; and Payroll Clerk **Keyon Kent** changed her name to Nana when Brandon Joseph was born on July 30, weighing in at 7 lbs. and 14 oz.. Proud Nana Keyon says Brandon is the sunshine of her life.



Public Works Project Coordinator George Roth at his retirement party

Juvenile Services

By
Vicki Borja

Luis Bustamante and **Tammy Eursin** attended the BI Incorporated Training and Technology Forum in Anderson, Indiana, in October. The training enhanced their monitoring skills/techniques, thereby improving supervision of youth and increasing safety/security for our community.

NEW EMPLOYEES:

We would like to welcome **Dnai Mitchell**, and **KeShawn Harris**, who were both hired for the position of Juvenile Detention Officer I.

EMPLOYEES OF THE MONTH:

We would also like to congratulate the following employees for being Employee of the Month:

August 2016

Detention: **Allison Toups**, Juvenile Detention Officer
Probation: **Matt Villio**, Administrative Management Specialist III

September 2016

Detention: **Herman Riley**, Juvenile Detention Officer
Probation: **Brittany Grice**, Probation Officer I

October 2016

Detention: **Donald Joseph**, Juvenile Detention Officer
Probation: **Luis Bustamante**, Probation Officer II

November 2016

Detention: **Joan Miller**, Juvenile Detention Officer
Probation: **Ronjela Clay**, Probation Officer II

DEPARTURES:

We send our best wishes to **Travis Turnage**, who resigned in September, and **Carlus Lemon**, who resigned in November.

BLOOD DRIVE:

Juvenile Services held onto the Bloodhound trophy and surpassed our previous record of 32 units by collecting 37 units for September, and we had 21 attempts and 19 successful donations in October! Thanks to everyone who participated.

Engineering

By
Helen McGee

Happy Holidays from Director **Mark Drewes** and the Engineering Department. Can you all believe that we are in December already?

Our Public Works Director **Kazem Alikhani** retired in August with over thirty-four years of service with the Parish. The employees of Public Works celebrated Kazem with a Grand Celebratory Retirement Party. Best Wishes to The Legend, Mr. Kazem Alikhani, you will be missed.



Mark Drewes and Kazem Alikhani



Engineering Inspections Utilities wishes all the best of luck to **LaShawn Camese**, who transferred to the Water Department, and to **Sharell Chatman**, who will be moving over to Errol Martin's crew for Roads and Bridges. They will be missed!



Juvenile Services' Luis Bustamante and Tammy Eursin at the Training & Technology Forum

Please help me welcome **Andrew Huynh** and **Russell (Rick) Wells** to SCADA; and **Shenay Starks** by way of JeffCAP to the Engineering Department. Welcome Aboard!

The Warehouse welcomes **Marille Fauchaux** and **Shelitia Thompson**. We also want to welcome **Neil Couvillion**, who comes to us from Building Inspections, and **Leslie Gardner**, who comes to us from Property Maintenance Zoning/Quality of Life. We are happy to have them and glad to welcome them to our team!

Congratulations **Jennifer Martin**, West Bank Warehouse, on the birth of your son. Grayson James Martin was born October 20 at 2:03 pm, 8 lbs 5 oz, 20" long.

Congratulations to Street Lighting Manager **Margaret (Peggy) McMurray**, who will retire on December 23 with 23.5 years of Service with the Parish. We will miss you! Enjoy, Peggy!

Purchasing

By
Misty Camardelle

The Purchasing Department would like to give a big welcome to **Doris Abraham**. Doris is a new Buyer I. Welcome, Doris!



Doris Abraham

Congratulations to **Jenifer Lotz** on the birth of her new grandson Jonathan Ismael Leal! Jenifer became a second-time

grandmother on August 8, 2016. Congrats on this little cutie pie! We would also like to Congratulate Jennifer for receiving her 15-year service pin.

Purchasing would like to say a farewell to our Summer Intern, **Jeramie Pichon**. Good Luck at ULL!

Coming soon

The Financial Management System will soon be upgraded to New World Logos. Thank you all, in advance, for your assistance in this upcoming upgrade.

Fiscal Year End Closing 2016 Timeline for Bid Requests and Purchase Orders

In an effort to ensure timely processing of purchase orders and bid requests to be posted in FY2016, please accept the following timeline:

- Contract Purchase Orders, Departmental Purchase Orders and State Purchase Orders will be processed through December 16, 2016.
- Requisitions/Bids that are greater than > \$1000 and less than < \$30,000 requiring quotes will be accepted until November 23, 2016. This will allow encumbrances to be made by year end 2016.
- Provide the Assigned Buyer in the Purchasing Department with copies of Blank Resolutions by November 22, 2016 to meet the December 7 Council meeting deadline.
- PO Closeout – All POs needing to be completed (closed out) should be emailed to nwhitney@jeffparish.net or jlotz@jeffparish.net no later than December 16, 2016.



Jefferson Parish Engineering Goes Pink

Traffic Engineering

By
Brandy Chism

Huge thank you to Traffic Engineering Signal Supervisor **David Stout** for once again coordinating and scheduling the di-electric testing of Parish aerial trucks to ensure all equipment is free from major defects. Testing was performed on all aerial trucks from the Traffic Engineering Division, SCADA, Streets, Drainage, Parkways, Sewerage, and Recreation Departments.



All of our Parish trucks passed with zero failures. This is a huge testament for our operators, Fleet Management, and the Safety Division for keeping our trucks safe annually. Di-electric testing is performed to determine if the insulation in the bucket is adequate enough to protect the user from electric shock while working.



New Sign Technician
Gregory Firven

Parks & Recreation

By
Antoinette Holmes

Lafreniere Park will host the annual “Christmas in the Park” event. The lighting ceremony will be held on December 3, 2016, at 5:30 pm. The entrance is on Napoleon Avenue. There is a \$5 fee for vehicles to enter the Christmas lighting exhibit.



WESTBANK UPDATES:

Avondale Playground is constructing a new press box, repairing batting cages, and installing surveillance cameras and scoreboards. Kennedy Heights is getting a new tot lot.

EASTBANK UPDATES:

Ree Alario Special Needs Center is a new Multi-Purpose and Achievement Center with 17,983 square feet. The facility includes a full-size gym with volleyball and basketball courts. (See photo Page 21)

Diversity Advisory Board

By
M. Selena Muhoberac

On October 25, 2016, members of the Jefferson Parish Employee Diversity Advisory Board (JPEDAB) met at the North Kenner Library. The minutes from the July 12 meeting were accepted. New members were welcomed and introduced. Treasurer **Cheryl Legohn-Tubbs** provided a budget/expense report.

The Board broke into groups of three as part of a group activity to share thoughts on traditions and family. **Ingrid Johnson** addressed the incoming Board on the continued distribution of the *Diversity Matters* newsletter.

The JPEDAB July retreat was also discussed and incoming members were encouraged to offer it earlier in the year. Diversity Week activities were also discussed and feedback was given on participation this year.

Ingrid Johnson informed new members of the positions that will become available when the old Board retires. She stated the positions of the two Co-chairs and the Treasurer will be voted upon. **Betina Noveh** was introduced as the incoming Secretary for the new Board.

The final meeting of the year was also discussed, which was a Potluck meeting held on November 10 at the Lafreniere Park Foundation Center. The next Jefferson Parish Employee DAB meeting will be announced at a later date.

Human Resources

By
Glenn Schiro

Congratulations, Yvonne

In August, Training Specialist II **Yvonne Keller** celebrated her five-year anniversary with the Parish. Yvonne does a great job providing a wide range of computer skills classes for employees.

On September 9, Yvonne represented HR at a breakfast and tour at the Cullier Career Center. The program displayed educational and training programs offered at the Career Tech facilities of the Jefferson Parish School System.

We also applaud Assistant Director **Nicole Thompson** on her appointment as HR Advisor for the Employee Diversity Advisory Board. Nicole will serve in this position during 2017 and 2018.

Continuing Education

On October 7, Director **Peggy Barton**, HR Managers **Fran Robichaux**, **Nancy Rodriguez**, and **Jonas Perriott**, as well as Training Specialists Yvonne Keller and **Glenn Schiro** attended the NOLA SHRM (Society for Human Resource Management) 2016 Conference in New Orleans.

On September 21, Fran Robichaux, Jonas Perriott, Training Specialist III **Greg Alexander**, and Yvonne Keller attended a NOLA SHRM luncheon which featured a presentation on social media.

Fran, Yvonne, and Safety Office **Wayne Jones** participated in a NOLA SHRM luncheon on November 16 which included cooperative safety participation in the state, as well as safety aspects of active shooter scenarios.

Webinars continue to be an important aspect of HR continuing



HR Director Peggy Barton, Assistant Director Nicole Thompson, and Training Specialist III Greg Alexander congratulate Yvonne Keller for her five years with the Parish

education. Nancy Rodriguez completed Tackle Your HR Strategic Plan for 2017, Show Me the Money: HR as a Value and Profit Center, and Empowering the CFO of the Future. Greg Alexander attended the How to Give Helpful Financial Guidance to Employees.

Volunteering at Head Start Centers

Nancy Rodriguez, Safety Manager **Nolan Guidry**, Wayne Jones, and **Karen Marie Jones**—area nutrition agent for the LSU Ag Center—participated in the Jump Start Read Program on October 27.

Benefits

Nationwide is offering a free, paperless way to receive information about retirement accounts. For information, contact Retirement Specialist **David Miller** at 985-436-1514 or at milld30@nationwide.com.

Safety Continuing Education

Nurse **Peggy Branam** attended the 2016 LA Association of Occupational Health Nurses Con-

ference in August. The conference covered various topics related to health in the workplace.

Wayne Jones recently completed Roads Scholar Course 4, Temporary Traffic Control for Local Agencies, offered by the Louisiana Technical Assistance Program (LTAP). Employees from Public Works, Sewerage, Drainage, and Streets also completed this useful program.

On September 14, Wayne attended Road Safety 365: A Safety Workshop for Local Governments, also offered by LTAP. This program provided practical and effective ways to implement safety solutions into day-to-day activities and projects.



Safety Manager Nolan Guidry inspects the new WB Animal Shelter

Alario Center

By
Deirdre Cummings

What's happening at the Alario Center!

Budget Highlights

We are pleased to announce that revenues as of October 2016 are greater than 26% above 2015 revenues and are over projected revenues.

Expenses are approximately 5% less than the year 2015 and are currently 37% less than were projected for the year 2016.

Event Highlights

- ⇒ Annual Boys Allstate Sugar Bowl Classic
- ⇒ Month-long movie production, stage, set and filming
- ⇒ Debut of Mardi Gras Nationals Annual Gymnastics Event
- ⇒ AAU Basketball, Cheerleading, Grappling, Volleyball and USA Weightlifting National Tryouts
- ⇒ Mardi Gras Balls, Homecoming Dances, Graduation Ceremonies, Senior Banquet and Band Camp

Community Events

- ⇒ Jefferson Parish Job Fair
- ⇒ La. Mom free dental clinic
- ⇒ Dog Shows, Exotic Reptile Shows, Craft Fairs, Gem & Mineral Show
- ⇒ Southern Sportsmen's Festival and Expo, and Westbank Heritage Festival
- ⇒ Home Field for Loyola Baseball and New Home team addition of Nola South Shore Baseball

Capital Projects

- ⇒ Currently in Phase I (of IV)



The LaMOM temporary dental clinic at the Alario Center

of plaza improvements, hardscaping, decorative paving and irrigation system installation

- ⇒ Repairs to Hall C and Hall B Kitchen Addition are in design phase

2017 Goals and Events

- ⇒ Inaugural Event
- ⇒ Girls' Allstate Sugar Bowl Weekend
- ⇒ Expand Advertising Sales and Increase Sponsorships
- ⇒ Bathroom Renovations
- ⇒ New Scorer's Tables
- ⇒ T-Rex Dinosaur Experience
- ⇒ Target travel market to bring in national, regional and/or state-wide events

Welcome Aboard!

All of us in the Alario Center Family would like to give a big welcome to **Lionel Jones!** Lionel has joined the operations division as our new laborer, and he is already a great asset to our department.

For more information on the John A. Alario, Sr. Event Center or to schedule an event, please contact the Alario Center office at (504) 349-5525. You can also visit

us at www.alariocenter.com
or www.facebook.com/alariocenter.

Workforce Connection

By
Carolyn Haynes

Staff Acknowledgements

Jefferson Workforce Connection (JWC) Diversity Board Member, **Ms. Laurie Cancienne**, provided staff with our orange ribbons as we celebrated Diversity Awareness Week. Staff wore their orange ribbons proudly the entire week as they provided services to the public and our business sector. Thank you, Laurie!

JWC also appreciates the coordination of work during Breast Cancer Month performed by **Ms. Cheryl Morgan**, Youth Clerk Typist. Cheryl assisted with the ordering of T-shirts via Jefferson Parish and monies raised for the cure of breast cancer. Thanks also to staff who purchased T-shirts for such a worthy cause.

Notes

JWC wishes everyone a happy and safe holiday season.

Parkways

By
Karen P. Jackson

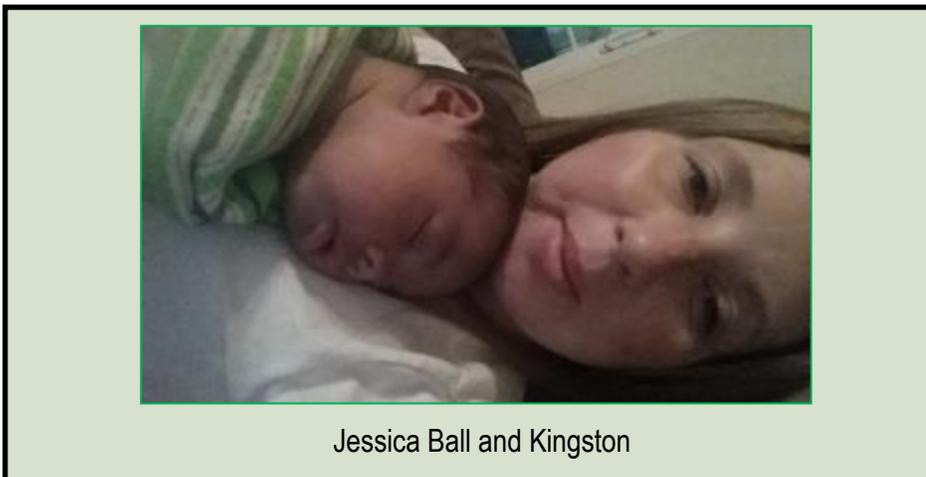
Parkways welcomes its newest employees: Typist Clerk III **Karen Jackson** (Our New Ace Reporter) has been with the Parish for eight years. Karen transferred from Eastbank Code Enforcement – Building Department. Karen replaces **Marilyn Slutsky**, who recently retired from the Parish after 15 years of service. We know she'll enjoy her retirement, so good luck Marilyn!



Karen P. Jackson

And welcome to Typist Clerk II **Leah Evans**. This is Leah's entry into the Parish. Let's wish her well and longevity with us. She hails from Emmett, Idaho (near Boise) and has a Masters in Music. Leah's instrument of choice is the clarinet.

Inspector **Jessica Ball** has re-



Jessica Ball and Kingston

cently returned to work after maternity leave. We welcomed Kingston, her healthy baby boy. As the newest member of the Parkways Family, little Kingston weighed in at 7 pounds, 9 ounces and 21 inches long at birth. He's already a handful and keeping Mom busy.



Leah Evans

Superintendent I – **Laura Camper** was promoted to Superintendent II and Jason **Montagino** has left us to further his career as Superintendent III in the Streets Department. We wish them well in their new positions.



Laura Camper

Planning

By
Nedra Tate

Yenni Award!

A big round of applause for our Assistant Director **Juliette Cassagne**. Juliette was selected to receive the 2016 Joseph S. Yenni Award by the Jefferson Chamber.

We are all so proud and happy to have her as our Assistant Director. Some people take others for granted, and I know I speak for all of us in Planning when I say Juliette truly deserves this honor. We have watched her continuously give 100 % and more as she finds new and better ways to accomplish our goals, always managing to keep that same cute smile.

Juliette received her award at the State of the Parish Address, which was held at the Crowne Plaza in Kenner on November 15. Congrats, Juliette!



COO Keith Conley
with Juliette Cassagne

BEST WISHES

Planner II **Brian Markey** has moved out of Louisiana and is looking forward to a new chapter in his life. He was a dedicated worker and a joy to have around and always had a good sense of humor. Brian was a Planner II from December of 2012 until November 2016. Best wishes, Brian, from the Planning Department!

Library

By
Irene Lunkin

All Together for a Fun-filled Event

In October the Library held an "All Staff Day" event at the East Bank Regional Library where over 200 employees from the Library's 15 locations attended the event. Chief Operating Officer **Keith Conley** and Administration CAA **Diane Roussel** opened the event with an encouraging speech to the staff and a presentation of the upcoming millage renewals and the 7/8 cent sales tax.

Our guest speaker, WWL-TV News Anchor Sally-Ann Roberts gave an uplifting and motivational speech encouraging staff to continue to be helpful to patrons of all ages and spoke about how libraries were beneficial to people in her life. At the end of her speech, she took a picture of our staff and showed it on the next day's *Eye-witness Morning News*. I can't go without mentioning she sang *Happy Birthday* to those with October birthdays.



WWL's Sally-Ann Roberts speaks at the All Staff Day

Other presenters included **Peggy Thomassie** from the Parish's Retirement Office, who explained the DROP and Retirement Plan and Ren Dimond from NewsBank, who showed staff alternative ways to search the *Times Picayune's*



Jean Genovese (second from left) receives her Retirement Certificate from Supervisors Anna LeBlanc and Selena Muhoberac and Library Director Marylyn Haddican.

online database (*The Times Picayune's* Historical Archive includes articles from 1937 - 1988). The event was a SUCCESS!

Retirements

Farewell wishes to Library Technician **Jean Genovese**, who recently retired after 33 years of service. Jean's journey began in 1983 as a Mail Runner with General Service/Property Management Division before joining the Library's Technical Service Department in 1993. Jean's retirement plans includes traveling and living life to the fullest. Her ultimate goal is to travel to Italy. The Library wishes Jean a happy retirement and smooth sailing in her new adventures!

Promotions

Clerk III/Meeting Room Coordinator **Kimberly Reid** transferred to the Department of Property Maintenance, Zoning / Quality of Life for a promotional opportunity. Kim is an awesome employee and will be a valuable asset to PMZ. She is missed by many here at the Library!

Congratulations to the following employees on their promotion to higher positions within the Library Department: Library Maintenance Superintendent **Roy Burst**, Old Metairie Library Associate **Westley Boyd**, EBR Library Associates **Megan Crozat** and **Kimberly Francis**, Library Technician **Maria Rodriguez**, and Westwego Branch Manager/Librarian II **Breagh Wirth**.



Maria Rodriguez

New Team Players

This past quarter the Library welcomed a dozen new employees. We welcomed Lakeshore Library Associate **Patrick Cabading**, Maintenance Repairman **Irvan Connors**, Grand Isle Library Page **Deborah Dixon**, Floater Library Associates **Carolyn**

Finley and Debra Fleming, WBR Children’s Librarian II **Melodie Franklin**, Rosedale Library Associate **Christian Gruber**, Laborer **Ramon Jackson**, Belle Terre Library Associates **Amber Lewis** and **Daniel Perez**, Clerk III **Ernestine Williams**, and EBR Library Associate **Kristen Young**.



Amber Lewis and Daniel Perez

Thanking Our Friends

Anna Campos, President of the Friends of the Jefferson Public Library, presented Library Director **Marylyn Haddican** with a donation of \$100,000 from their bi-annual "Big Book Sale." We are grateful for the Friends, who take the time out to sort through the various donated items to sell as a way to support the Library. They



Anna Campos, President of Friends of the Jefferson Public Library and Library Director Marylyn Haddican

have always been a group that works for the enrichment of the library system as a whole. Visit www.friendsofjeffersonlibrary.org to learn more about the Friends.

Construction In Progress

Rosedale Library is temporarily closed for renovations. The interior renovations include new carpet, lighting, shelving and furniture, freshly painted walls, upgraded restrooms, new computers, and updated electri-

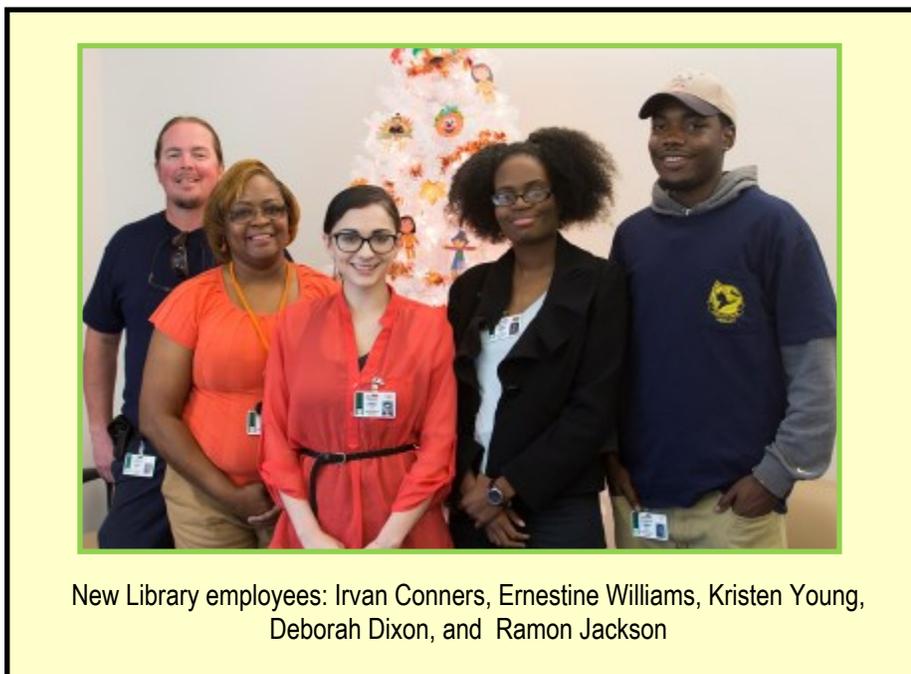
cal and HVAC systems. Exterior renovations include additional parking, new paint, and roof coating. The renovated library is expected to reopen in February.

In September a groundbreaking ceremony was held on the site of the future River Ridge Library. The new library, currently being constructed at 8825 Jefferson Highway (next door to Hazel Park Elementary) will be an estimated 10,500 square foot one story building, and will include a meeting room, study rooms, separate children and adult areas, computers, and a full collection of items available for check-out. We anticipate the library’s opening fall 2017.

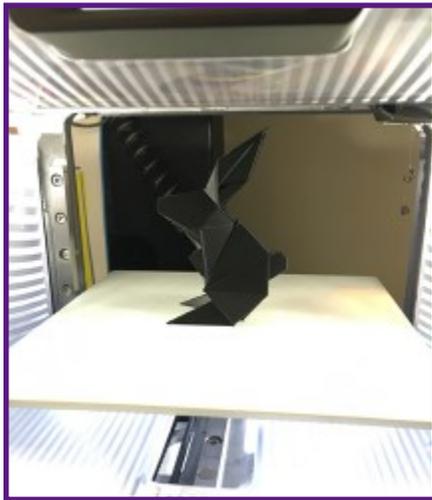
Forward with Technology

3D Printing was introduced to our patrons this past August. 3D Printing, also known as additive manufacturing, is a process which can create a three-dimensional object with some type of filament (often plastic). Unlike a normal printer which can print a picture of a ball, a 3D printer can print an actual ball.

Our printer can print prototypes, models, scans, crafts, jew-



New Library employees: Irvan Connors, Ernestine Williams, Kristen Young, Deborah Dixon, and Ramon Jackson



Rabbit statue printed from the 3D Printer

elry, and more.

Library Associate **Shannon Kitchens** assists patrons in the 3D Printer Lab and monitors the printer as objects are being printed. The 3D Printer Lab is only at the EB Regional Library and opens every Tuesday from 2:00 – 8:00 pm and the third Saturday of each month 10:00 am – 4:00 pm. For more about our 3D Printer, visit www.jplibrary.net/3dprinting.

Holiday Spirit

Our talented team is gearing up for this year’s Christmas in the Park event at Lafreniere Park. Library staff will be on site signing up people for library cards, performing Storytimes, playing Library Trivia, and informing people of services the Library provides. You can find them at the Library’s booth on the following nights during the opening hours of the event: 12/2, 12/3, 12/9, 12/10, 12/16 - 12/18, 12/23, and 12/30.

Stop by your local library to sign up for a library card. It’ll allow you access to endless possibilities, the proof is on the website: www.jplibrary.net

General Services

By
Tessa St. Pierre

Welcome and Goodbyes

Welcome to our newest employees **Kraig Kennedy**, **Langdon Mickens**, and **Larry Webb**! Kraig and Larry are our new Engineers; they will be making sure we stay warm this winter.

If your lightbulbs are not coming on or not shining as bright, then Langdon Mickens will be there for you; he is our new Electrician. Congrats to **Leonard Iron** on his promotion to Water Purification Operator for the Water Department. We will miss him and wish him the best of luck at his new job.

Congratulations

Congratulations are in order for **Brian Williams** on being promoted to Stationary Engineer II and **Alex Thompson** on being promoted to Trades Helper.

Outside of work we are proud

of our very own **Ryan Babcock**. Archbishop Shaw High School recently recognized him for his volunteer services for their Alumni Association and the work he does for the community.

Retirement Life

On October 14 our famous plumber retired. **Wayne Guillot** worked for Jefferson Parish for nineteen years. Through those years he worked in multiple Jefferson Parish buildings and made sure every toilet flushed. We wish him the best of luck and to finally relax.

Green Light for Veterans

Greenlight a Vet is a campaign to establish visible national support for our veterans by changing one light to green. This green light represents Jefferson Parish’s appreciation for what all veterans have done and do every day. You can find the green light on the east side of the Yenni Building and in the front of the General Government Building.



General Services Assistant Director Ryan Babcock (left) receives his Archbishop Shaw Alumni Association award

Jefferson Parish Goes Pink for Breast Cancer Awareness Month

During the month of October, Jefferson Parish participated in and sponsored many events surrounding its initiative to support Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

To kick off the campaign, several Jefferson Parish employees were part of the “Jefferson Parish Walking Warriors” and participated in the Making Strides Walk in Champions Square on Saturday, October 1, 2016. We had a wonderful turnout!

In addition, employees also purchased “Jefferson Goes Pink” t-shirts which were worn every Friday in October. The Parish also sold pink strips of

paper which were used to write a memorable note or name in honor of a fighter, survivor, or one who may have lost his or her breast

hung throughout the General Government Building and Yenni Building. Our festivities looked great!

Food trucks were also stationed at both sites throughout the month of October, an added treat and fundraising mechanism for staff members. A portion of the sales of our food truck vendors, as well as proceeds from our t-shirts and paper chain links were all donated to the American Cancer Society, Making Strides Against Breast Cancer. Thanks to everyone who purchased and participated in Jefferson Parish Goes Pink for Breast Cancer Awareness Month!!!



cancer battle. Jefferson Parish “LINKED” together to help find a cure. The paper strips were connected and



Sewerage

By
Venice Cooper

“JEFFERSON GOES PINK”

Department of Sewerage staff joined in the Jefferson Goes Pink campaign in October to support Breast Cancer Awareness. **Michele Wilson** and **Kellie Minjarez** represented our department in the “go pink” ribbon photo. Many of us purchased pink “Hope” t-shirts, pink papers that were added as links to the pink chains in the lobby, and tasty items from the food trucks at the Yenni Building. The proceeds from those events were donated to the American Cancer Society.



Kellie Minjarez, Michele Wilson, and Yvette Russo “go Pink”

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to **Eva “Lucie” Claverie** and **Frederick Chopin** on their recent retirement. Lucie retired on October 7, 2016, with 26 years of service. She was Payroll Administrative Assistant for the Department of Sewerage.



Eva “Lucie” Claverie

Fred retired on October 31, 2016, with 34 years of service. He was an Equipment Operator III in our Westbank Lines Division. We wish both Lucie and Fred the best as they begin new chapters of their lives.



Fred Chopin (Center) with Superintendents Donald Jackson and George Gandy

Congratulations to the following employees on their recent promotions:

Brandon Owens was promoted to Pump Equipment Mechanic at Westbank Lift Stations.

Kendall Jones was promoted to Equipment Operator I at Eastbank Lift Stations.

Julian Jessie was promoted to Superintendent I at Westbank Lines.

Tory Hart was promoted to Trades Helper at Westbank Lift Stations.

Jaron Coler was promoted to Foreman at Westbank Lines.

Raymond Sauerwin was promoted to Pump Equipment Mechanic at Eastbank Lift Stations.

Devence Hampton was promoted to Foreman at Eastbank Lines.

Javon Coler was promoted to Pump Equipment Mechanic at Eastbank Lift Stations.

Anthony Reid was promoted to Treatment Plant Operator Class 1 at the Eastbank Plant.

James Kellum was promoted

to Treatment Plant Operator Class 3 at the Marrero Plant.

Congratulations to the following employees who recently received their service pin awards:

15 YEARS: **Tramael Drake** and **Germaie Louis**

10 YEARS: **Christopher Forster**, **Brandon Jones**, and **Joe Smith** (see photos Page 19)

5 YEARS: **Mike Rogers** and **Matthew Solares**

WELCOME

Welcome to the following newly hired employees:

Kendall Adams – Laborer, Westbank Lines

Jason Brown – Trades Helper, Westbank Lift Stations

Don Carmardelle – Pump Equipment Mechanic, Eastbank Plant

Ryan Dupre – Truck Driver II, Westbank Lines

Bruce Ingram – Lift Station Inspector, Eastbank Lift Stations

Daniel Johnson – Equipment Operator III, Westbank Lines

Henry McDowell – Lift Station Inspector, Eastbank Lift Stations

Richard Robinson – Laborer, Westbank Lines



Tramael Drake (center) is congratulated by Assistant Director Brett Todd and Superintendent Adolph Grimes

Streets

By
Kenya Johnson

Get Well

Get well wishes go to **Suzzette Odom**, our Laborer. We miss you Suzzette and hope you're feeling better.

New Employees

We would like to welcome the following Laborers: **Van Rodney** and **Demone Robinson**. We hope you both have many happy years with our department.

Promotions

Congratulations to **Caleb Webb** and **Freddie Gloston**, who were promoted to Laborer Semi-skilled.

Also congratulations to **Jeremiah Willis** and **Joshua Brown**, who were promoted to Equipment Operator IIIs.

Last but not least, we would like to say congratulations to **Eric Williams**, who was promoted to

Engineering Supervisor.

Condolences

Our condolences go to our Laborer **Quinise Howard** on the recent loss of her grandmother, Rosalie Howard. We're very sorry for your loss, Quinise. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.

Retirements

Congratulations to **Wilton DeMuth**, our Engineering Division Supervisor, who retired on August 12, 2016, with 33 years of service. He will be greatly missed.

Congratulations to **David Macaluso**, also our Public Works Project Coordinator, who retired on September 9, 2016, with 31 years of service. We miss you, David, and really hope you enjoy your retirement.

Congrats also to **Patricia Stoltz**, our Data Entry Operator II, who retired on October 3, 2016, with 13 years and 3 months of service. She will be truly missed.

Environmental

By
Kathy Russo

The Department of Environmental Affairs has received a sub-grant from the UNO Technology Foundation to help educate construction contractors on reducing stormwater pollution from construction sites. The prime-grant was awarded to UNO from the United States EPA Lake Pontchartrain Basin Restoration Program. The final workshops were held on September 22 at the Mel Ott Recreation Center in Gretna and on October 12 in the Yenni Building Council Chambers.

Our Storm Water Division staff worked with high school students from the Jefferson Chamber Foundation Academy, a charter focused on helping overaged students graduate from high school. The students and their science teacher worked on a sewer science project, wherein students learned about municipal wastewater treatment via a hands-on laboratory, using specially designed tanks, analytical equipment, and a student work-book. The project is usually followed with a classroom visit to our East Bank Wastewater Treatment Plant. The same project will be conducted next with Archbishop Shaw High School.

On October 18, **Sami Khalil**, Stormwater Supervisor, **Diane Coughlin**, Stormwater Specialist, **Katherine Costanza**, Administrative Management Specialist, and **Sarah LaRock**, Administrative Management Specialist, participated in the Jefferson Night Out Against Crime at the Bonnabel Boat Launch. They handed out educational material about mos-



Patricia Stoltz (center) is congratulated by Streets Assistant Director Don Hogan and Administrative Assistant Sharon Cline

quito control, stormwater management, and recycling. Participants also discussed various environmental issues.

On September 17, **Sami Khalil**, **Diane Coughlin**, and **Gary Hebert** participated, along with Floodplain Management and Hazards Mitigation Department's **Michele Gonzales** and **Maggie Olivier**, and their JUMP Volunteers, in the annual Lake Pontchartrain Basin Foundation Sweep.

Partnering with LPBF and almost 1,512 volunteers resulted in picking up 690 bags of trash, approximately 11,728 pounds of trash that will not wash into our beautiful Lake Pontchartrain. Hundreds of bilingual storm drain educational markers are systemically placed on our storm drains to remind residents not to dump anything into the storm drains.

Members of the Industrial Pretreatment Program and Stormwater Program staffs attended the WEFTEC Conference in New Orleans in September. This is the largest water quality conference in the world, attended by more than 20,000 visitors from all over the world.

Kathy Russo, Environmental Quality Supervisor, met with representatives from the Singapore water and sewer agency to discuss issues facing sewer systems. It is interesting that Jefferson Parish has a lot of common problems and similar solutions to those in Singapore.

At WEFTEC, the Department was awarded a 2016 MS4 Stormwater and Green Infrastructure Awards gold certificate for inno-



Environmental staff at the Night Out Against Crime

vation and management of their Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System and for going above and beyond regulatory requirements. The program recognizes high-performing regulated MS4s and inspires them to exceed requirements through innovative, cost-effective approaches. Jefferson Parish was recognized on the Louisiana

Department of Environmental Quality's website for this achievement. Congratulations to all that made this possible and thanks for your dedication.

On September 23, The Water Environment Federation's Students and Young Professionals Committee organized a regional Water Palooza event, an educa-



Environmental Quality Supervisor Kathy Russo with representatives from the Singapore water and sewer agency at WEFTEC

tion day that engages students in hands-on, demonstrative activities that promote the value of water and encourage students to become stewards of their own water environment. Jefferson Parish Stormwater Division and the Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans played an instrumental role in helping organize this year's event at Einstein Charter School Sherwood Forest in New Orleans.

On November 4, **Sami Khalil** was invited to Speak at Gainey's 2016 Stormwater Conference in Holden, LA, about Jefferson Parish's Construction Sites Inspections. Attendees learned about the parish's regulations and enforcement program.

The Solid Waste Division hosted two field trips led by **Sarah LaRock** for the Yenni Building Recycling Coordinators to tour the Material Recovery Facility in Baton Rouge where our recyclables are taken for processing. The attendees learned a lot about recycling and materials separation.

Health Issues

By
Peggy Branan, RN



Coping with Holiday Stress!

It is hard to believe that we are now in the midst of the holiday season! With one down and two more to go, the emotions that can consume us are still percolating. While the holidays are a great time of excitement for many, for others, they can be an emotionally painful time.

Poor time management, excessive financial expenses, physical/mental health issues, and relationship issues are some factors that can result in a down-spiraling for many.

So, what can we do to survive this time of year?

Because celebrating the holidays is so deeply rooted in our American traditions, many feel an obligation to participate. Many families celebrate the holidays in ways they've done for generations, so don't dare break that family tradition! Wow, talk about stress!

Constant holiday reminders bombard us through the media with television/radio commercials, holiday specials, and, of course, holiday music. Stores, decked out with holiday theme decorations, have everything you could want or need to make the holidays complete! From holiday clothing to decorations to presents, the list is endless, not to mention Santa's list!

Dread the Holidays?

What is one to do if they dread the holidays? It is important that they contemplate what their true feelings are related to the holidays. What specifically do they find upsetting? Is it over a petty issue, creating "a mountain out of a molehill?" Do they even remember what started the negative feelings? What can or cannot be changed? Is there any room for compromise? Is it possible to start a "new" tradition? Is it possible to develop a "new" way of looking at the situation at hand to make peace with it?

Manage Your Time

If time management is a problem, obtaining an appointment calendar that allows you to record notes in 15-minute increments is a great start. Use



Gary Hebert, Sami Khalil, and Diane Coughlin accept the award at WEFTEC

a pencil to record any questionable entries. Once confirmed, change the pencil entry to ink. Always keep a pocket calendar with you. On a daily basis, write down the highlights for what needs to be done that day and, if needed, break it down by the time. As soon as you become aware of any activity you need to do, record it in your calendar immediately.

Don't take a chance of forgetting something important. Don't agree to something until you can verify there are no other conflicts and it is something that you want to do. Helpful reminder notes are a major help!

Also, factor in travel time and miscellaneous last-minute

errands. If possible, keep your pantry well stocked with staples and last-minute party foods. Also, keep a supply of gifts for any unexpected gift-giving needs.

Financial Anxieties?

If the holidays create a financial hardship, creating a budget and sticking to it is essential. Partner with family or friends to buy food in bulk for a better price. Catching sales and using coupons leading up to the holidays are also a great way to take some of the bite out of the cost of dinners! OUCH! Creative craft making can produce heartwarming sentimental gifts for a fraction of the cost. Don't underestimate how much money you can save by put-

ting away a few dollars every week for one year. The bottom line is, if you can't afford it, don't get it.

With all the changes in your routine: sleep habits, meals, and stress that comes with preparing for and participating in the holidays, your health may become compromised. Always take into consideration the impact of the holidays on your health. Make all necessary changes to ensure you stay healthy.

Be Mentally Healthy

Mental health issues are particularly troublesome during the holidays. For individuals already under treatment, the additional stressors and activities the holidays bring may exacerbate their condition. Even individuals without a diagnosed mental condition may find themselves fighting against feelings of depression, loneliness, and anxiety. Anyone feeling as though they are not coping well should seek help from their doctor immediately or for our Employee Assistance Program, call Care24 services at 1-888-887-4114.

For the one who would just prefer to avoid the holidays, it just isn't going to happen unless you have your own island to escape to for a couple of months. But, strategizing a new approach may be the answer. Decide what is really important to you. Identify what you want or need to change and come up with a plan to make it happen. Set limits and prioritize all that comes your way. And YES, learn to say NO!

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!



Sewerage Assistant Director Brett Todd congratulates Brandon Owens (top) and Joe Smith for their ten years with the Parish



Service Pin Awards



President Yenni, along with Deputy COO Natalie Newton and COO Keith Conley, presents 5-year service pins to :

Row 1: Robin Beaulieu with CAA Diane Roussel ; Brenda Campos with Finance Director Tim Palmatier; Tommy Fikes

Row 2: Beth Gegenheimer with Parish Attorney Mike Power; Kelly Hopkins; Jesse Schudmak;

Row 3: Christine Thomas. And a 15-year pin to Roy Juncker with CAA Steve Caraway

Retirements

Lillian Nelson
Water
38 years

Kazem Alikhani
Public Works
34 years

Alvin Perrin
Sewerage
33 years

Tammy Allen
Accounting
33 years

Frederick Chopin
Sewerage
33 years

Jean Genovese
Library
33 years

Dawn Caple
Parks & Recreation
33 years

Wayne Dorsey
Streets
32 years

Cheryl Hannibal
Parks & Recreation
31 years

Wayne Guillot
General Services
31 years

David Macaluso
Streets
30 years

George Roth
Public Works
29 years

Irvin Diemer
Library
28 years

Eva Claverie
Sewerage
26 years

Jerome Seymore
Drainage
26 years

Ree Alario Special Needs Center



Ribbon-cutting for new facility on Saints Drive was October 25, 2016.