



Volume 31  
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EM Realite

## Message from the Parish President. . .

As your new Parish President, I would like to begin by thanking each and every employee of Jefferson Parish for your time, your talent, and most of all your commitment to working together to improve all of our lives in these tough and challenging times.

### An Introduction.

For those of you who do not know me, I am a life-long resident of Metairie. I graduated from De La Salle High School and went on to receive a Bachelor of Public Administration from Loyola University in 1979. In 1982, I received a Juris Doctor from Loyola University School of Law.

I began my career in Jefferson Parish as an Assistant District Attorney in 1997 and served there until 2004. During my tenure, I was Chief of Administration and Chief of Parish Courts. In 2004, I was elected as Jefferson Parish Councilman-At-Large for District A and was re-elected in 2007. As Council Chairman in 2008 and 2010 I have strived to bring reforms and transparency to government.

### Restoring Confidence

Now as your Parish President, we have an opportunity to achieve a new beginning in Jefferson Parish. The members of our administration, working



John F. Young  
Parish President

with over 2,900 Jefferson Parish employees, can begin the process to restore confidence and regain the trust of our citizens through transparency and an ongoing commitment to ethics reform.

As public servants, it is our responsibility to continue to provide programs and services and to find innovative ways of doing so. It's important that we work together as we navigate through difficult times. We know that Jefferson Parish is a great place to live, and our challenge is to improve it.

As we enter the holiday season, keep in mind what is truly important to us. This season of joy should be a time of thanksgiving for the blessings we enjoy as well as a time we share with our family and friends. Wishing you all a very happy and safe holiday.

*En Réalité*

Editor.....F. Mendoza, Jr.  
 Managing Editor.....Greg Alexander

**Departmental Reporters**

- Alario Center**  
Deirdre Cummings
- Animal Shelter**  
Cokeisha Washington
- Citizens' Affairs**  
Tracie Chaix
- Community Development**  
Sevilla White Finley
- Diversity Advisory Board**  
Open
- Drainage**  
Sheena Quinn
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Sandra Ancar-Encalade
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- Environmental Affairs**  
Barbara Arcement
- Finance Authority**  
Sheila Rodrigue
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Jill Relick
- Human Resource Management**  
Dana LeBherz
- Code Enforcement**  
Linda Roy
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Aretha Frison
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Arlyn Smith
- Library**  
Mark Deane
- Parks & Recreation**  
Gwen Styron & Jerry Savarese
- Parkways**  
Chantell Prestenbach
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Marilyn Slutsky
- Purchasing**  
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- Streets**  
Debbie Tunstall
- Telecommunications**  
Paul Ferrara
- Traffic Engineering**  
Brandy Chism
- Transit**  
Patricia Lyons
- Water**  
Susie Cunningham
- Workforce Connection**

*Editor's*



*Notes*

**Benefits 2011**

Since Open Enrollment recently concluded, you should be aware of the changes to our employee benefits package for 2011. Many of these changes are significant. Let me outline and explain the most important changes:

**New Provider.** The Parish will switch to Coventry as our health-care provider. We will have a 23% premium increase. I know that many of you are alarmed at the increase, but please realize that our premiums are based on the claims that our employees file, and we have had a very high claims history in recent years.

United Healthcare, our provider for the past two years, required a 39% increase to maintain our same coverage. Because that was so high, we initiated a request for proposals. Some of the proposals we discussed with the interested companies would have given us less coverage and high out-of-pocket deductibles that our employees would have had to bear. In order to maintain the coverage that our employees are used to, the Coventry bid was the best proposal.

**Mail Order Drugs.** Employees using mail-order maintenance drugs will no longer be able to get a three-month supply for the cost of two months. Mail order is still available, but the state passed a bill that requires consumers to pay the full three-month price.



Feleciano Mendoza, Jr.  
Editor

**Dependents.** President Obama's new healthcare law mandates coverage for dependents until their 26<sup>th</sup> birthday. Formerly, dependents aged 21-25 had to be full-time students. As of January 1, 2011, the student status requirement will no longer exist.

In 2011, dependents will be eligible for coverage up until their 26<sup>th</sup> birthday even if they are married, gainfully employed, and eligible for coverage elsewhere. Dependents are eligible regardless of where they live.

**Preventive Procedures.** Another provision of the law that some of you may welcome is that some well-care procedures will have no co-pays. Certain procedures will require no out-of-pocket cost *as long as they are strictly preventive*. Be sure to verify with Coventry that your procedure is strictly preventive before assuming that there will be no charge.

Don't hesitate to call HR's Benefits office if you have any questions about the 2011 package. Enjoy the holiday season, and let's work toward a healthy and prosperous new year for the Parish and its employees.

**Citizens' Affairs**

By  
Tracie Chaix

It is a pleasure to announce our new Director, **Sean P. Burke**, who previously worked as an Aide to former Councilman-at-Large-Division A, John Young, Jr.



New CA Director Sean Burke

**SENIOR EXPO 2010**

For TV fans, there was an appearance by Donna Douglas, who portrayed Elly May on "The Beverly Hillbillies" television show, during the 10<sup>th</sup> annual Jefferson Parish Senior Exposition at the Alario Center in Westwego on Wednesday, October 20, 2010. More than 2,000 Senior Citizens browsed through more than 130 booths that provided information on public and private agencies, health screenings, and services for seniors. Lunch and admission were free.

This year's Jefferson Parish Senior Citizen Exposition was a huge success! **Wayne Ory**, Coordinator of Senior Citizens' Services has always said, "It's not an Exposition, it's becoming an Extravaganza, as it gets bigger and bigger every year!"

Next year's Senior Exposition will be held on October 19, 2011, at the Pontchartrain Center.

**CAROL SCALISE AWARD**

Each year the Carol Scalise Award is given to a Jefferson Parish Senior who has shown exemplary volunteer work that benefits seniors in Jefferson Parish. **Katherine Hoover**, Coordinator of Citizens with Disabilities, nominated this year's award winner, Lieutenant Abel Guidry. Ms. Hoover has worked with Lieutenant Guidry for about 14 years on parking issues and ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) accessibility. She is always amazed at his effectiveness in getting better handicap parking and enforcement.

Lieutenant Guidry was recognized at the 2010 Senior Citizens' Exposition and the Council Meeting on November 3, 2010. President John F. Young Jr. presented a proclamation recognizing his volunteer work in handicap parking enforcement and ADA parking consultation with businesses and hospitals.

President Young introduced Congressman Steve Scalise, who recognized his mother's commu-

nity activism benefiting Jefferson Parish. Upon her passing, the award was named in her honor commemorating her dedication and leadership in the senior community. Congressman Scalise presented the Carol Scalise Award and a \$1,000 check donated by Entergy benefiting the recipient's chosen charity. This year's recipient chose the Children's Hospital Cancer Unit.

Sheriff Newell Normand was also in attendance and gave his congratulations and thanks to Lieutenant Guidry for his many years of work. Sheriff Normand offered background information on the "Quad Squad" that was formed close to 20 years ago by the late Sheriff Harry Lee and run by Colonel Nick Carrone.

We encourage everyone to submit a nomination for the 2011 Carol Scalise Award. Nominations are taken most of the year with the cut-off a month prior to the Senior Citizens' Exposition, which will be held next year on October 19, 2011. The form and information for next year's nomination will be updated soon.



Donna Douglas, known to millions as Elly May Clampett, signs autographs at the Senior Expo

**Planning**

By  
Marilyn Slutsky

Congratulations to three Planning Department employees who received their service award pins. Secretary **Carolyn Hidalgo** and Typist Clerk III **Marilyn Slutsky** both reached ten years, while Planner II **Jessica Duet** has five years. All three are pictured below with Planning Director **Ed Durabb**.



Carolyn Hidalgo



Marilyn Slutsky (Center)



Jessica Duet

**Diana Soileau**, who works in our Design Review Section, is pleased to announce the birth of her grandson, Brayden Marshall Hirstius, born November 15 weighing 9 pounds.

**Environmental**

By  
Barbara Aecement

Please join Environmental Affairs in welcoming **Susan Nakyanzi**, to our Environmental family. **Susan** is our new Environmental Quality Technician II in the Industrial Pre-Treatment Division. Susan comes to us all the way from Uganda, East Africa. We welcome her aboard and wish her luck.

On October 12, Environmental Quality Technician **Sami Khalil** hosted a fundraising lunch to raise money for the American Lung Association of Louisiana. The lunch was followed by the American Lung Association of Louisiana’s “Fight for Air” walk on Saturday October 23 at Audubon Park. Several Environmental employees took part in the walk. On November 16, Environmental Quality Specialist **James Schultz** hosted another fundraising lunch to raise money for the American Heart Association. Several Environmental employees took part in the American Heart Association’s “New Orleans Start! Heart Walk” held on

November 20, 2010, at Audubon Park. Everyone had a great time at both events. Environmental would like to thank **Sami** and **James** for their time and dedication to both causes.

Once again, Environmental Affairs took part in the annual Senior Citizen EXPO held on October 20 at the Alario Center. **Inga Dupré** and **James Schultz** handed out candy and provided seniors with information about mosquito control, garbage collection, and storm water issues and provided some treats to the seniors.

We are all very proud of our Coastal Program Supervisor, **Jason Smith**, who was presented a certificate of merit at the September 22, 2010, Council meeting for his outstanding service in implementation of the FEMA/U.S. Coast Guard Marine Debris Removal Program, wherein marine debris resulting from Hurricanes Katrina, Rita, Gustav, and Ike was removed from Jefferson Parish waterways.

Finally, the staff of Environmental Affairs would like to wish everyone a happy and safe holiday season. We will see you next year.



Jason Smith with Steve Theriot and John Young

### Traffic Engineering

By  
Brandy Chism

Traffic Engineering would like to welcome our newest Sign Technicians **Peter Williams** and **Bryant Juneau** to the Sign Division. Peter and Bryant are doing well in their new position, and we are extremely happy to have them here!



Bryant Juneau & Peter Williams

**Rigoberto Rodriguez**, Signal Tech II, received his 15-year service pin. Thank you, Ringo, for all that you do!



"Ringo" Rodriguez

Double congratulations to **Michael Ricks** on his recent promotion to Sign Designer as well as receiving his 10-year service pin. Mike has moved from screening signs to designing them and is al-



Michael Ricks

ready doing a fantastic job! Well deserved, Mike!

And, for our biggest news to share: Congratulations to our new Traffic Engineering Supervisor, **Jody M. Savoie**. Jody is a 25-year employee with Jefferson Parish and started his career in 1985 in the Public Utilities Department, now known as Public Works.



Jody Savoie

In 1988 Jody transferred to the Traffic Engineering Division in search of better opportunities. Jody worked hard and rose through the ranks as a Signal Technician I and II until he decided to further his career by returning to college to earn his En-

gineering degree. Jody transferred from the field to the administration office, first as a Traffic Control Analyst Trainee, to Traffic Control Analyst, to Traffic Engineer N.P., Engineer in Training, until earning his Engineering Degree in 2009 when he was promoted to Professional Engineer I. In September of this year Jody was again promoted to Traffic Engineering Supervisor. He oversees the daily operation of signs, signals, pavement markings, traffic control, and roadway construction projects.

We are so very proud of Jody for every milestone of his career and future accomplishments to come!

### Purchasing

By  
Gail Petrie

Purchasing is experiencing more necessary changes, as most of you know. Your cooperation through these procedures is appreciated. Feel free to ask questions whenever needed.

Congratulations to **Sidney Duffy** and **Bryson Osborne**. Sidney has been promoted to a Buyer II from a Buyer 1. Bryson was a Typist III and is now a Buyer 1.

Sidney and I will be assisting the Purchasing Department's collection of Senior Citizens' baskets. I have had the pleasure of making deliveries for the past two years. This does bring happy tears to the eyes. There are some real needy and grateful senior citizens in Jefferson Parish.

May you all have happy, fun, blessed holidays.

## Health Issues

By  
Peggy Branan, RN



Can you believe 2010 is coming to a close? Consider how your year has unfolded. For most of us, in the midst of the daily grind, we allow our health to take a back seat. Which category do you fall under? Do you want to make a change?

So, what change do you need to make? To eat healthy and get to a healthy weight? To start exercising? Or to give up an addiction that's ruining your life?

If you want to change, you have to believe that with every new day, you have the ability to make better choices. We are only human, and we will have good days and not so good days. You cannot be too hard on yourself if you backslide. If you fall down, just get yourself up again and start over!

All change can only start with

a desire to change, then the attitude that you WILL change. Next you will need a strategy on how to proceed. Many people do better with a support group, such as Weight Watchers and Alcoholics Anonymous. Look back on your prior successes and give it another try!

I want to encourage all to ob-

tain a baseline physical with the start of the New Year. If you are paying premiums for health insurance, you may as well learn how you are doing medically. Then, with your doctor's recommendations, put together a plan.

Over the years, co-workers have teamed up to support one another as they proceeded with a diet and/or walking/exercise program. It can be a lot of fun, not to mention helpful, when working towards a goal as a group.

If you or your department would like some health materials to get started on the road to better health, let me know!

"SSSSHHH," I know of a group of co-workers in a particular department who have decided to lose weight. I won't tell which department it is for now, but see if you see a pattern of certain people making healthier choices and perhaps walking more. I'll give you more details in our next *EnRealite'*, so stay tuned!

## JeffCAP & Sally-Ann



JeffCAP's Yvonne Dumas, RSVP Clerk Amber Martinez, Executive Secretary Karin Maurer, Executive Assistant Pam Lapping, RSVP Coordinator Elizabeth Cook, Director Nicole Ferrier, and Head Start Disability Specialist Linda Ellison with WWL-TV's Sally-Ann Roberts (3rd from right) during the 30<sup>th</sup> Annual RSVP Luncheon at the Best Western Hotel in Metairie.



Engineering's Norman Ronquille receives his 10-year pin from supervisor Paul Schouest and Director Mark Drewes

**Juvenile Services**

By  
Arlyn Smith

Welcome to new employees: Vocational Counselor **Shanell Williams** and Mental Health Professional **Patrick Brammell**.

Farewell to **Patricia Gordon**, East Bank Receptionist, who accepted a promotion with JeffCAP.

Welcome back to **Ron Ellison**, Maintenance Repairman, who returned after military leave with the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill. Also, **Kenneth Cyprian** and **Brett Jackson, Jr.**, Juvenile Detention Officers, returned from leave.

**BABY NEWS:** Congratulations to Probation Officer **Troy Phares** and his wife, proud parents of a new baby boy – Lee Hendry, born November 12.

**AWARDS:** Volunteer Coordinator **Nancy Arceneaux** was awarded Delgado Circles of Excellence Outstanding Alumni Award at a dinner at Andrea’s Restaurant. This award honors Delgado alumni achievements, services, and contributions to the community. “Way to go, Nancy!”

Assistant Director **Chris Troclair**, Brown Bag Lunch Campaign Coordinator, is proud to an-

nounce a total of \$13,579 collected Parish-wide. A great big “**THANK YOU**” to all who helped to make the fundraiser such as a success.

After a long hard day as a Probation Officer, **Tion McGhee** volunteers every Wednesday to read for the blind at Radio Station WRBH 88.3.

She says this is to show how grateful she is for the gift of sight. Ms. McGhee said, “It gives me the feeling that I belong to a much bigger world than my reality allows me to see day in/day out.”

In August 2010, JS employees were served a delicious lunch and were awarded their service pins. Congratulations to the following employees for their dedicated service:

**5 YEARS:** **Rhonda Oliver**, Juvenile Detention Officer, and Probation Officers **Allan Kagan**, **Elydia Ketchens**, **Danielle Phillips** and **Tiyeshe Washington**

**10 YEARS:** Probation Officers **Deanna Lavigne-Lawson** and **Lashaunda Thomas**

**15 YEARS:** **Linda Bostick**, Probation Officer, and **Violet Troulliet**, Detention Home Assistant Supervisor.

**Retirement Office**

By  
Peggy Thomassie

Congratulations to Assistant Retirement System Manager **Rachelle Dufrene** for achieving ten years of Parish service.



Retirement System Manager Peggy Thomassie with Rachelle Dufrene

**Peggy Thomassie** will be participating in a DROP seminar for Parish employees on January 27 at the Alario Center.

**Retirement System Update.**

The Retirement System would like to recognize that SB 100, which was legislation to implement five-year averaging of salary instead of three-year averaging of salary to calculate a retirement benefit, DID NOT pass through the legislature.

The bill was dismissed because of opposition from the participating employers. However, HB 85 did pass as legislation which allows the Parochial Retirement Board to set the employee contribution rate within the range of 8% - 11%. Although this bill passed, the Board chose to keep the current contribution rate at 9.50% for 2011.

Please make a note that when you receive any information about Parochial Retirement, ALL Jefferson Parish employees and retirees are members of Plan A.



JS’s service pin recipients posed for a group photo

## Sewerage

By  
Venice Cooper

### WELCOME!

We welcome the employees of the East Bank Wastewater Treatment Plant to the Department of Sewerage. The Parish assumed operation of the EB Plant on November 1, when the contract with American Water Services expired.

We welcome Superintendent II **Kurt LeGlue, Robert Benoit, Charles Chauvin, Shirley Eskridge, Mark Gardner, Robert Heckler, Ronald Huffman, Vernon James, John LeBlanc, Eddie Marbury, Brad McAdam, Godfrey Rixner III, Craig Saragusa, Royal Terrell, and Kevin Woods** to Sewerage. We are happy to have all of you with us.

### CONGRATULATIONS!

Congratulations to **Rodney Blanchard**. Rodney has been promoted to Superintendent I, Harvey Sewer Treatment Plant. He replaces **Donald Murray**, who was recently promoted to General Plant Superintendent for the West Bank Treatment Plants.

Rodney has worked in the Department of Sewerage for over 15 years. He has a Louisiana Class IV Operators License in both wastewater collection and wastewater treatment. Rodney also has an Associate's Degree in Business Administration. Rodney says that he is looking forward to keeping the momentum going at the Harvey Plant.

### AMERICAN HEART ASSOCIATION FUND RAISER!

The American Heart Association held the New Orleans Heart Walk on November 20, 2010, at



Rodney Blanchard

Audubon Park. Sewerage supported this event with various fund-raising efforts. We thank Team Captain **Suzette Collins** for her efforts in coordinating this project. The Department of Sewerage donated a total of \$237.00. We also thank all of our donors and those who supported our fundraisers.

### **10<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL JEFFERSON PARISH SENIOR CITIZEN EXPOSITION!**

The Jefferson Parish Senior Citizen Exposition was held on October 20, 2010, at the Alario Center in Westwego. The Department of Sewerage shared a booth at the expo with the Department of Water. We thank **Jane Lennie** and **Yvette Russo** for representing the Department of Sewerage in our booth, along with **Lori Roth** and **Monica Winston** from the Department of Water. They provided information for the seniors about the public sewer and water systems.

Jane and Yvette shared that the seniors enjoyed our booth, as there was New Orleans Saints music playing, and that it was rewarding and uplifting to take part in an event for the seniors of our parish. But most of all, the seniors enjoyed all of the candy and goodies they received at the expo.



15 Year Service Pins – Seated: Linwood Simien and Stanley Lenox; Standing – Denis Mire (2<sup>nd</sup> from left), Mary Kropog (3<sup>rd</sup> from left), Russell Norris (4<sup>th</sup> from right). Pictured with Superintendent Bill Hartline (far left), Director Brett P. Todd (4<sup>th</sup> from left), Superintendent David Orgeron (3<sup>rd</sup> from right), Superintendent Clifford Pierre (2<sup>nd</sup> from right), and Superintendent David Dennis (far right).

**WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT SEWER OVERFLOWS!  
(PART 2)**

Did you know that sewer overflows are usually the result of inappropriate materials flowing into the sewer system? Approximately 80% of grease-related sewer blockages and overflows originate in residential areas.

The results can be:

- Raw sewage overflowing into your home or your neighbor’s home
- An expensive and unpleasant cleanup that often must be paid for by the home or business owner
- Raw sewage overflowing into public places, yards, streets, and drains
- Potential environmental impacts to Lake Pontchartrain and surrounding public waterways
- An increase in operation and maintenance costs for the Department of Sewerage, which may cause higher sewer bills for customers

All households play an important role in preventing neighborhood sewer system blockages. How can you help?

- Refrain from pouring fats, oils, and grease down sinks or garbage disposals. They are not designed to properly handle these materials.
- Before washing, scrape and dry-wipe pots, pans, and dishes with paper towels and dispose of the materials in the trash.
- Pour fats, oils, and grease into a container such as an empty jar or coffee can. Once the materials have cooled and solidified, secure the lid, and dispose of the container in the trash.
- Use sink strainers to catch food items. Then empty the strainer into the trash.

Look for more information about sewer backups and overflows in the next *En Realite* edition.

—Venice Cooper



Mary Jo Callahan receives her 10-year pin from Sewerage Director Brett Todd and supervisor Chris Fernandez

**Transit**  
By  
Patricia Lyons

**2010 Senior Citizen Expo**

On October 20, Jefferson Transit participated in the 10<sup>th</sup> annual Senior Citizen Exposition at the Alario Center in Westwego. **Deborah Duker** and **Patricia Lyons** provided information on MITS paratransit service and fixed route service, which included the following handouts: schedules, half fare cards, System Maps 2010, monthly passes, and fares. The participants were very excited while being informed of the services provided by Jefferson Transit. Deborah and Patricia also handed out fare pouches, pens, key chains, and candy to participants. Overall the event was a great success!

**Tour de Jefferson -2010**

On November 14, bike riders took part in the annual Tour de Jefferson, which started at Bayou Segnette in Westwego and extended to Jean Lafitte National Park before returning to Bayou Segnette.

Jefferson Transit hosted a table at Tour de Jefferson and had a bus on display to show riders how to place a bike on the bus bike rack. In addition, a video was shown and an explanation of the three-step procedure on how to obtain a permit to use JeT bus bike racks was given.

Jefferson Transit also handed out brochures on “Bikes and Buses” to interested bikers. One biker signed up and received his permit to transport his bike on the bus bike rack. Several bikers expressed an interest and will sign up at a later date.

### Human Resources

By  
Dana LeBherz

#### Congratulations!

Congratulations go out to several people in the HRM department. First up: Congratulations to **Nancy Rodriguez**, our newest Human Resource Manager! Nancy has been with the Parish since 2001, first as a Training Specialist, then as the Training Administrator. We wish you the best of luck in your new position!



Nancy Rodriguez

Congratulations also go out to Substance Use Program Manager **Frances Robichaux**! Fran recently became a Certified Professional by the International Public Management Association for Human Resources (IPMA-HR). In order to achieve this professional designation, Fran had to complete a review of her experience in the HR field, as well as pass a professional exam.



Fran Robichaux

Finally, congratulations to **Dana Le Bherz** (Training Specialist II) on passing the SPHR (Senior Professional in Human Resources) exam! The SPHR is a national certification offered by the Society for Human Resource Management. Dana passed the four-hour exam after completing a review of her professional experience and a six-week training program.



Dana LeBherz, SPHR!

#### Soup's On!

On Thursday, November 18, 2010, three departments got together to head up Soup Day! Representatives from General Services, Human Resource Management, and C.J.A. cooked up

some real culinary treasures in the name of charity! Chicken gumbo, minestrone, and beef vegetable were some of the soups on hand, as well as fresh bread and rolls, and even some bread bowls. The delicious aromas wafting through the Yenni building brought all kinds of folks, including our new Parish President John Young! All together, the departments raised over \$450 for the American Heart Association. Good work, y'all! Can we do it again soon? I didn't get to try the gumbo!

#### Basic Supervision

The Basic Supervision series wrapped up for the year in November. The training division is proud to have another fourteen supervisors graduate the program! The series begins again in January. Check with **Greg Alexander** (x6126) or Dana Le Bherz (x6127) if you are unsure when you are scheduled or need to sign up a new supervisor for the program.



Safety Officer Larry Guchereau (far right) leads a Forklift Safety class for Traffic Engineering

**Streets**

By  
Debbie Tunstall

**Senior Expo**

**Denise Chavers, Marie Ricks, and Sheila Clinton** worked at the Streets Department booth for the Jefferson Parish Senior Expo, October 20, handing out information to Senior Citizens.

The Expo, now in its 10th year at the Alario Center, has grown into the largest event of its size in the state, and one of the largest in the South. The Expo featured 125 vendors and approximately 3,500 seniors. The seniors enjoyed a buffet lunch and entertainment. Donna Douglas (Elly May) from *The Beverly Hillbillies* was also there signing autographs.

The Expo is an important community resource for health information for many seniors. Medical professionals from Expo sponsors Ochsner, West Jefferson Medical Center, East Jefferson General Hospital, Humana, and People's Health provided important information to seniors.



Pat Stoltz donates blood

Representatives from our Parish government were also at the Expo to provide information from recreation to taxes.

Other major sponsors for the Expo included Entergy, the Senior Resource Guide, Print-All, Southern Vein and Laser Institute, and Crystal Clear Imaging.

**2010 American Heart Association**

**Sharon Cline** held a luncheon on October 29 to raise funds

for The American Heart Association. A total of \$186.00 was raised thanks to the generosity of everyone. Sharon was also in charge of the New Orleans Heart Walk for our department on November 20 at Audubon Park. An amazing \$611.00 was collected from the Streets and Parkways Departments for the year. Thanks so much to everyone who contributed.

**C.O.E. Employees**

We would like to welcome our new C.O.E. Student workers **Rea Chanel Howard** and **Maya Johnson** to our Department. We hope you enjoy your time with the Streets Department and that the experiences you gain from working with us will benefit you in the future.

**Blood Drive**

The Blood Center held a blood drive November 18 for the Streets and Parkways employees. Thanks to all who donated. Your thoughtfulness will help save lives.

Finally, Happy Holidays to all! May your Christmas and New Years holidays be filled with joy.



Marie Ricks and Denise Chavers at the 2010 Senior Expo

## Code Enforcement

By  
Linda Roy

Well – We Did It – Code held its very first departmental picnic at Lafreniere Park!

It was a beautiful day to kick back and relax, enjoy good food and good company.

We ate delicious dishes prepared by employees and barbecue hot dogs, hamburgers, and sausage cooked by our very own gourmet cooks, **Warren Probst** and **Kurt Cavalier**. They even had nachos and cheese and cotton candy.

There were volleyball, football, and cabbage ball games. We got to watch **John Piglia** trip over a bench and **Dave Williams** bend a finger playing ball. Guys, you are not as young as you think!

Four-year-old Travis, **Jerry Gutierrez's** son, joined in the volleyball and softball games and ran around trying to kiss all the girls, telling them don't be shy! Cute!

We had a great time.



Code Director Loren Marino presents Paul Pham with a 15-year service award

Thank you to everyone who participated and special thanks to our Director, **Loren Marino**, for organizing this wonderful get together. When can we do it again?!

Congratulations to our inspectors and plan reviewers who passed certification exams in their respective fields and good luck to those taking future tests. Congratulations also to **Sal Puleo** on his recent promotion to Building Plan Reviewer II. Good Job, Sal!

Precious Smiles! **Lenny Guardina** is a grandfather for the first time. His daughter gave birth to a beautiful bouncing boy. And **Melvin Chaix** is granddad for the second time to a precious little girl! Start those savings accounts now!



Plumbing Chief Warren Bergeron marks ten years of service

Congratulations to Building Plan Reviewer III **Paul Pham** for 15 years of service, Plumbing Inspector III **Warren Bergeron** for 10 years, and Typist Clerk III **Adonna White** for five years.

Condolences to **Roslyn Cimino** and **Wanda Willhoft** on the loss of their moms. Our prayers are with you.

As the holidays approach, let us remember our troops, their families, and those less fortunate. Happy Holidays!



Code Enforcement's Director Loren Marino (# 12 center) and her staff observe "Saints Day" at the West Bank office

## Community Development

By  
Sevilla Finley

Director **Anatola Thompson**, Parish Planner III **Faye Galland**, and our newest addition, Parish Planner II **Jody Moreau**, held two Public Hearings for the HOME Consortium on the 2011 proposed budget. Anatola gave the introductions and welcome. Faye gave an overview of Community Development programs and budgets.

Faye also gave a brief history of the programs and noted that beneficiaries are low- to moderate-income citizens. Activities include repairs on homes, ramps and handicapped modifications, and first-time homebuyer assistance. The Parish Council will approve the 2011 Action Plan (budget) on May 11, 2011.

Faye noted the goal of the Public Hearing was to get input on the needs of the community, and she distributed copies of a two-page Needs Assessment Survey as well as other departmental literature and fair housing flyers. She noted 15% of funds or \$300,000 to \$400,000 can be used for Public Services such as summer camps, programs for teens, or tutorials administered by non-profits.

CDBG funds can be used as a match for federal programs. The purpose of the meetings was to solicit ideas regarding community needs and priorities for programs. Citizens participated and expressed their needs and concerns.

Typist Clerk III **Patricia Beebe** is a dedicated blood drive coordinator. This year's event is scheduled for December 9. Beebe donates blood three times a year when the Parish hosts the drive and tries to donate the maximum

allowable—every eight weeks—at the Hammond Blood Center in her neighborhood.

October 20 marked another successful Senior Expo at the Alario Center. Among CD staff who participated were Housing Improvement Counselor II **Liz Ruth**, Housing Improvement Counselor I **Emann Batiste**, Building Maintenance Supervisor **Sam Oliver**, Information Specialist **Sevilla Finley**, and Administrative Management Specialist III **June Durnin**.

Community Development welcomes its newest staff members: Parish Planner II **Jody Moreau**, formerly of JeffCAP; Receptionist **Orinetta Common**; and Housing Counselor III **Toya Jones**.

Condolences to Director **Anatola Thompson** on the death of her Uncle, Willie Barnes Jr., who was like a father to her, and to Housing Rehab Program Manager **Kim Thompson** on the recent passing of his dad, Theodore "Ted" Thompson.

## Water

By  
Susie Cunningham

### Retirement

A fond farewell to **Joe Lapine**, Water Purification Superintendent II. Joe retired on September 24 after 27 years of hard work and dedicated service. At his retirement party, colleagues gathered to celebrate his career and wish him a happy retirement. He plans to travel and attend dog shows.

### Promotions

Water would like to congratulate the following employees on their recent promotions: **David Bertucci**, Water Purification Superintendent II; and **Osai Bailey**, Waterline Maintenance Foreman.

### New Employees

We have several employees to welcome: **Robert Kaigler**, Pump Equipment Mechanic; **Christopher Toppins**, Water Service Inspector I; **Almethia Wells**, Water Service Inspector I; **Roger Henderson**, Laborer; and **Donald White**, Laborer. We wish them well as they begin their Water Department careers.



Joe Lapine is congratulated upon his retirement by Water Director Mitch Theriot

Water Dept continued

### Service Pin Awards

Congratulations to the following employees who recently received pins for their dedicated service to Jefferson Parish. A five-year pin was awarded to **Robert Armand**. Ten-year pins were awarded to **Richard Coleman**, **Heather Davis**, **Terry Hull**, and **Laura Pagoaga**. **Diana Evans** received her fifteen-year pin.

### Fundraisers

Water participated in the Brown Bag Lunch Campaign and raised \$76 for the Children's Advocacy Center. Thanks to our coordinator, **Laura Pagoaga**, and to all who have contributed. We are in the midst of collecting for two other fundraisers. American Heart Association (coordinator **Kathy Theriot**) and The United Way (coordinator **Destiny Bratton**). Please consider donating to these worthy causes.

From all of us at Water, a Happy Holiday season and best wishes for the New Year.

## Emergency Management

By

Sandra Ancar-Encalade

The 2010 Hurricane Season ended November 30. Wind shears, which normally can tear storms apart and were weaker this season, and the warm waters of the Atlantic Ocean created an ideal breeding ground for hurricanes. We began the season with Hurricane Alex on June 25 and ended with Hurricane Tomas which formed on October 29. Only two alphabetic names, Virginie and Walter, were left to be used. The 2010 Hurricane Season produced seven (7) tropical storms, (7) seven hurricanes, and (5) five major hurricanes. We were very fortunate this season.

Is it too early to prepare for the 2011 hurricane season? The answer is an emphatic "NO." Emergency kit supplies may go on sale as out-of-season so stocking up now makes good planning. Your emergency kit

and plan should apply to any "hazard" condition which may include tornadoes, floods, hail and icy conditions, and man-made hazards (terrorist attack, train derailment, etc.) which have no "seasons." If you need assistance preparing a plan or kit, please call us at 349-5360.

We would like to say "farewell" to **Thomas J. Rodrigue, Jr.**, Flood Plain Manager and Community Rating System Coordinator, as he moves on after ten years with this department. Tom's dedication and tireless work ethic have proven beneficial to the Parish and its citizens. His presence will be sorely missed. God speed, Tommy!

As we enter the holiday season, please remember the soldiers, sailors, airmen, and Marines who will be away from their families and friends defending this great country. Without their sacrifice and dedication we would not be able to enjoy the freedoms that so many in this world seek for. There are many programs available where you can send a card and/or care package to any military member during the holiday season, as well as anytime throughout the year. Please contact me at 349-5360 if you would like more information.

We in the Emergency Management Department wish all a Happy Holiday Season (Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah, Muharram, and Kwanzaa) and, of course, a great New Year to all in our Jefferson Parish employee family and to your family and friends.



During a fire training at JeffCAP's Harvey Community Center. Michael McAuliffe, Paulette Taylor, Polly Ra'oof, Darlene McKinnies, Mary Mason, and Stacey Brown

## Parkways

By  
Chantelle Prestenbach

For starters, in August Jefferson Parish Parkways Department, along with the Drainage Department, was awarded one of the highest national honors by Quality Vegetation Management (QVM) Project Habitat in 2009. This was the second national award received in 2009 recognizing Public Works' Tree & Turf Maintenance, Herbicide Application, and Canal Bank Restoration programs.

During these past few months, we have helped with preparation work for events such as the Comedy & Tragedy Mask Projects, Tour De Jefferson, and the Autumn Affair hosted by Friends of Jefferson the Beautiful.

Beautification continues to happen in Jefferson Parish: Next time you drive down Jefferson Hwy. and Causeway Blvd., take notice of the new and beautiful trees that have been added along the median. This project was

sponsored by Friends of Jefferson the Beautiful and Jefferson Beautification, Inc.

Parkways has also recently planted thirty-six 45 gallon Live Oaks along Bonnabel Blvd and along the West Bank of Jefferson, 70 Ornamental Nelly R's and Little Gem magnolias have been added on 4<sup>th</sup> St. between Baratavia Blvd. & Destrehan.

Don't think for one second Parkways is finished sprucing up Jefferson Parish. When one project is finished, another begins, and it will start in Terrytown along Carol Sue and Carol Sue.

"Thank you to **Kai Adams**, **Lance Stansberry**, and the rest of the Parkways Department crew who made the Autumn Affair perfect. Without them we could not raise the funds we do to make Jefferson Parish beautiful. We are truly blessed to have government workers who are so dedicated to our community," said Carey Hammett, Friends of Jefferson the Beautiful.

## Alario Center

By  
Deidre Cummings

### Toys For Tots Concert

The Marine Forces Reserve Band will perform a concert at the Alario Center on Friday, December 10, 2010, as part of their 2010 *Toys for Tots Tour*. The performance is free and open to the public and will begin promptly at 7:30 p.m.

This 90-minute holiday spectacular will feature the concert band, in addition to nearly every small-ensemble within the unit. Suitable for all ages and musical tastes, the 51-piece band will perform traditional as well as contemporary holiday music.

Donations of a new, unwrapped toy for the U.S. Marine Corps Toys for Tots Foundation are also being collected but are not required for entry to the program. Collection barrels for toys will be located in the Alario Center, and all toys will be distributed locally.

The United States Marine Forces Reserve Band-New Orleans was established in 1978 and operates under the control of the Marine Forces Reserve. The unit is comprised of active duty Marines stationed at the Naval Support Activity Base in New Orleans. Each year, the band travels throughout the United States, performing more than 250 concerts, parades, and ceremonies, entertaining over 6 million people. AWESOME!

We hope to see you here on December 10!



Parkways' Jefferson Highway Tree Planting Project

## Library

By  
Mark Deane

Jefferson Parish Library and its staff are continuing to “build back better” with recent renovations at five libraries: West Bank Regional, Terrytown, Old Metairie, Harahan, and Charles A. Wagner. Each library has a new look, emphasizing comfort and usability, including high-tech upgrades such as more public access computers and improved wireless internet. The libraries also have new shelving, including face-out shelving, which displays a book’s eye-catching front cover rather than its spine.

Two new libraries are also going up. A new Lakeshore Library is under construction at the site of the old library building. Presently, Lakeshore is operating out of a temporary facility made possible by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. And construction on the new Grand Isle Library will begin this month. The new Grand Isle Library will be located next to Grand Isle School and will be built for life on a barrier island. The building will be 26 feet off the ground and able to withstand hurricane-force winds. Grand Isle Library reopened in temporary facilities in 2006, thanks to a Cybermobile on loan from Muncie Public Library and a bookmobile donated by Waukegan Public Library.

Live Oak Library users are catching up on their basic computer skills, thanks to a dedicated library staff member. Library Associate **Carl Price** has been offering basic computer tutorials at the library. Branch Manager **Eric**

**Krieger** says patrons like Carl’s classes because they leave with all the knowledge they need for using computers, the Internet, and their own e-mail accounts.

The Library said good bye to two long-time employees. Librarian II **Bill Romig** retired in September. Bill started working for the Library in 1985 at Lobby Library on North Causeway and worked at several branches before settling in Technical Services at East Bank Regional. Library Page **Annette Rousell** retired this month. Her first job with the Library was at the old Marrero Library in 1982. Annette says there will never be another library page like her on the West Bank—and her coworkers agree. She also said all of her West Bank patrons will miss her because she had a “savvy” way with them.

The Library welcomes many new faces, including Library Page **Catrina Nealy**, Children’s Librarian **Lara Rohrer**, Library Page **Catherine Singleton**, and the members of the new Marketing and Development team: Marketing and Development Administrator **Chris Corcoran**, Library Development Director **Ann Maier**, Adult Programming Manager **Chris Smith**, Grants/Fiscal Specialist I **Yusuf Young**, and Webmaster **Trey Green**.

For this year’s Heart Walk, Library staff donated their money and time to raise funds for the American Heart Association. Account Clerk II **Tanisha Love** and Marketing and Development Administrator **Chris Corcoran** organized hot dog lunches and a bake sale to col-

lect donations. They set a goal of \$500 and exceeded it.

At the Library All-Staff Day on October 11, the following employees were awarded service pins: 30 years—Library Associate **Marilyn Barbato**; 25 years—Library Associate **Charlotte Lewis**; 20 years—Librarian IV **Thomas Huston** and Library Page **Mary Johnson**; 15 years—Library Associate **Jacques Abadie**, Library Associate **Joseph Anzalone Jr.**, Library Associate **Carolyn Cooley**, Library Page **Virgie Couret**, Librarian I **Al Domingue Jr.**, Library Associate **Dawn Garton**, Librarian I **Verna Geihlsler**, Payroll Clerk **Paula Harris**, and Typist Clerk III **Eileen Noullet**; 10 years—Librarian IV **Elizabeth Reso**, Library Associate **Esther Gutierrez**, Library Associate **Joseph Ketry**, Library Associate **Carlos Martinez III**, and Library Associate **Cheryl Smith**; 5 years—Librarian II **Erin Korosi**.

The Library would also like to welcome Librarian IV **Marylyn Haddican’s** granddaughter Camille Grace Haddican into the Library family. Camille was born November 1. Marylyn says Big Brother Henry (four years old) is very happy. Congratulations!



Roseann Miquet and Denise Stein at  
Soup Day 2011

## General Services

By  
Jill Relick

This year's Surplus Auction was held on October 23 at 920 David Drive in Metairie. The successful auction grossed over \$460K. We would like to thank Lone Star Auctioneers of Fort Worth, Texas. .

Special thanks to the many employees who helped make this auction operate so smoothly. **Revy Antoine, Don Barrios, John Davis, Jerry Durant, Janet Gray, Lionel Harris, Shanna Parria, Jill Relick, Troy Sanchez, James Troxclair, Dales Esteves, Mike Lemoine, George Folse, Mark Spears Jr., David Fos, and Director Anthony Francis.**



James Troxclair and Dale Esteves admire an antique phonograph at the Surplus Auction

Every year we can't give enough thanks to the hard-working Fleet Management staff for making the auction successful. **Diane Spencer, Roy Luthjens, Gary Lampard, Victor Rodrigues, Bob Morgan and Director Nick Digerolamo** deserve accolades for their participation.

Remember to contact General Services regarding any items that need relocation to Surplus Property. We look forward to seeing everyone at the 2011 auction.

## Fire Extinguisher Training

Tim Gautreau of the Community Emergency Response Team "CERT" instructed our department in a Fire Safety Class in October. All participants were allowed to experience how heavy an extinguisher is and how it feels to effectively discharge an extinguisher.

A special thanks to Jefferson Parish Safety Program staff for initiating this opportunity to better ensure the safety of Jefferson Parish.

## Staff News

A special General Service welcome to **DorLisa Fobb** and **Steven Johnson**.

Congrats to newly promoted staff: **Linda Fountain, Kevin Blackwell, Kenneth Burst** and **Aleen Bernard**.

We are so glad Parish President **John Young** has been motivated with the American Heart Association. Our department partnered with Human Resources and Community Justice Agency and raised almost \$500.00 with our Heart Walk Soup Fundraiser.

The soup prize winner was **Roseann Miquet**. She promises to make her award-winning chili next year. The Thanksgiving Floral Arrangement was presented by **Denise Stein** of Community Justice to **Charlene Singleton** from The Water Department during the close of this festive day. Thanks to **MaryAnn Adorno** from Photography. She kept the table settings organized and replenished throughout the event.

Congrats to our General Services Service Award recipients. Wait until the next issue!

## Drainage

By  
Sheena Quinn

## Welcome New Employees!

The fall season is upon us and along with the arrival of crisp cool breezes comes the bright faces of our newest Department of Drainage employees. Both East Bank and West Bank divisions of the department received new members to their staff, which include **Joseph Napper, Samyra Paul, Devin Satcher, Venus Williams, Dwayne Freeman, Lamar Heisser, Jeremy Swilley, Cornelius Hurst, and Joel Dyer.**

## Promotions!

Also special congratulations go out to the hard-working Drainage employees that received well-deserved promotions: **Curtis Coleman, Nam Nguyen, Eldwin St. Cyr, Jr., Kirk Craig, George Withers, Willie Bacchus, Clinton Daigrepoint, and Herman Harman III.** Way to go, everyone! We can't wait to see how well you excel in your new positions.

Lastly, we would like to take this opportunity to congratulate our Director, **Kazem Alikhani**, on being appointed as the new Director of Public Works by our newly elected Parish President, **Mr. John Young**. After many years as the dedicated Director of Drainage, we couldn't think of a better person for the job. We wish you the best of luck on your new journey.

We hope that everyone has a safe and happy holiday. See you in 2011!

## Diversity Advisory Board

By  
Nancy Rodriguez

The Employee Diversity Advisory Board has been meeting bi-monthly this year. Since the establishment of the board in January 2010, members have been at work developing a clear statement of our mission, vision, goals, rules of organization, and a logo for the board as well.

In the coming months, the Board will be putting up posters, sending out flyers, and setting up a page on the Employee Intranet Portal. Board members will be visiting departments as well.

Fourteen members, who were nominated by their directors and appointed by the department's CAAs, comprise the Jefferson Parish Employee Diversity Advisory Board. Recently, one of our co-chairpersons, **Aretha Frison**, has left Parish employment, so currently the Board has thirteen members:

- ◇ **Karen Daviss**, Emergency Management, Co-Chairperson;
- ◇ **Deidre Cummings**, Alario Center, Recording Secretary;
- ◇ **Francois Ancar**, Planning;
- ◇ **Deborah Bourgeois**, Risk Management;
- ◇ **Jim Bush**, Community Development;
- ◇ **Jelena Franklin**, Engineering;
- ◇ **Gloria Helaire**, Accounting;
- ◇ **Henry King**, Fire;
- ◇ **Nedra Lagarde**, Animal Shelter;
- ◇ **Maria Rose**, MIS;
- ◇ **Linda Roy**, Code;
- ◇ **Billy Sanders**, Environmental;
- ◇ **Keith Thornton**, Drainage.



### Defining Diversity

by Karen Daviss

The concept of diversity encompasses acceptance and respect. It means understanding that each individual is unique and recognizing our individual differences. These can be along the dimensions of race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, socioeconomic status, age, physical abilities, religious beliefs, political beliefs, or other ideologies. It is the exploration of these differences in a safe,

positive, and nurturing environment. It is about understanding each other; moving beyond simple tolerance and celebrating the rich dimensions of diversity contained within each individual.

### Animal Pet Drive

by Deborah Bourgeois

The Diversity Advisory Board's Pet Drive this past summer originated with the idea of how to help our residents of Grand Isle and Lafitte affected by the BP oil spill. This was our first event involving all our employees. And our employees did an outstanding job. We collected about 300 items in one week.

Some of the items we collected were pet food, shampoos, brushes, collars, leashes, treats, and toys. The pet supplies were given to the Lafitte and Grand Isle communities to distribute.

We are so grateful for all who helped, donated, and supported this project. The generosity of Parish employees was greatly appreciated by both animals and humans.



# ★ ★ Our Military Heroes ★ ★

While we enjoy our holidays, the men and women of the armed forces guard our freedom. During this festive time, please take a moment to think of those serving far from home. Give thanks for the freedom we enjoy, and the special men and women who protect it. The next three pages honor a few of our homegrown heroes.



*Pictured clockwise, starting top right::*

SSGT Jordan Malbrough,  
US Army  
Nephew of **Debby Henry**

Cpt. Jason Coleman  
USAF  
Nephew of **Sharon Salvato**

SGT Adam Figueredo  
US Army  
Cousin of **Danielle Breaux**

Chief Euclides (Clie) Sanchez



US Navy  
Son-in-law  
of **Debbie Parnell**



# ★ ★ Our Military Heroes ★ ★



*Pictured clockwise, starting top center:*

SSG Metoyer Jordan  
US Army  
Nephew of **Juanara Jordan-Williams**

MSGT Frank Tunstall  
LA Air National Guard  
Husband of **Debbie Tunstall**

SSGT Mark Perez-Sandi  
LA Air National Guard  
Son of **Jeannette Perez-Sandi**

SPC Jessica Malbrough  
US ARMY  
Niece of **Debby Henry**

Petty Officer Keith Allo  
US Navy  
Nephew of **Debby Henry**

LCPL Jordan Encalade  
USMC  
Son of **Sarah Ancar-Encalade**



# ★ ★ Our Military Heroes ★ ★



Pictured top left:  
Specialist Brandon Plaisance  
US Army  
Nephew of **Dawn Caple**

Pictured bottom left:  
SSGT Weldon Malbrough  
US Army  
Nephew of **Debby Henry**

Not pictured:  
Sergeant Albert Simoneaux, Jr.  
National Guard  
Nephew of **Sharon Cline**



# Retirements

**Angela Pacaccio**  
President's Office  
30 years

**Carl Woodall**  
Fleet Management  
30 years

**Kenneth Washington**  
Water  
30 years

**Linda Mosley**  
Parkways  
30 years

**Norma Briscoe**  
Animal Shelter  
30 years

**José Gonzalez**  
President's Office  
29 years

**Joseph Beale**  
Fleet Management  
28 years

**Joseph Lapine, Jr**  
Water  
27 years

**Bert Smith, Jr.**  
President's Office  
27 years

**William Romig**  
Library  
26 years

**Lynn Hauck**  
Code Enforcement  
26 years

**Jerry Leicher, Jr.**  
Drainage  
25 years

**Annette Roussell**  
Library  
22 years

**Paul Ferrara, Jr.**  
Telecommunications  
20 years

**Gary Dufrene**  
Streets  
19 years

## ***Terry Parkway Landscaping Sculptures***



**—Thanks to Parkways Department**