



Volume 29  
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EM Realite

## Message from the Parish President. .

### New Security Measures In Effect In Yenni Building

Dear Fellow Employee:

As most of you know, we have installed a new security system in the Yenni Building. We are taking this proactive approach to provide a safe environment and work atmosphere for all who work or have business in this building. These measures may be inconvenient at times but are essential for the security of us all.

During this transition period, we ask for your patience and consideration of others. To enable the Jefferson Parish Sheriff's Deputies to process you quickly, please have your I.D. on your person. As a Parish employee, you will be allowed to use both entrances to this building. Until all security devices are in place, if you choose to enter the north side (Citrus Boulevard side) of the building, you must present your I.D. and proceed through security devices. If you use the south entrance (K-Mart side), you will not



Aaron Broussard, Parish President

need your I.D. and will proceed through an x-ray machine and metal detector.

For your protection we ask that you do not enter with an item that may be considered a weapon or deemed a threat by the security officer.

This type of security system has been installed in other Parish buildings and has proven to be quite effective in providing a secure environment for all who enter.



# *En Realité*

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## *Editor's*

## *Notes*

### **Departmental Orientation Programs**

I want to make you all aware of a new Administrative Policy that was recently signed by President Broussard. Policy Number 1.09 requires that all Parish departments develop their own orientation programs for new employees.

As you probably already know, all newly hired Parish employees attend a general orientation program, which is presented by the Department of Human Resource Management. That program is conducted every two weeks, and it includes basic information that new employees need, including segments on Safety, Substance Abuse, and Benefits; but since we have employees from a variety of departments in our program, we cannot give them any information that is specific to their departments. That is why the Administration saw the need for separate orientation programs, developed and delivered by each department.

Effective orientation programs should do more than simply give new employees information about their employers. Here are a few things that your departmental orientation program should accomplish:

- Welcome new employees
- Motivate them to take pride in their department
- Educate them about the department's mission, purpose, and responsibilities
- Promote a positive picture of the department



Feleciano Mendoza, Jr.  
Editor

- Help new employees feel at ease
- Develop in new employees a commitment to Jefferson Parish

As a first step toward complying with the new policy, each department will name an "Orientation Manager." This person will be in charge of developing the department's program and seeing that it is implemented. But the departmental orientation program will not be a "one-man or -woman show"; the orientation manager will depend on the new employee's supervisor and even co-workers to assist in "orientating" the new hire. This fall Human Resources will be conducting workshops for the newly appointed departmental orientation managers to help them design and organize their programs.

I am very excited about what Policy 1.09 can do for our new employees. Studies have shown that well-designed orientation programs greatly improve employee morale and retention. I hope all of you will work with your orientation manager to maximize the potential benefits of the new policy in your department.

## Community Development

By  
Sevilla Finley

### Block Grant Renovates Damaged Community Center

**Anatola B. Thompson**, Director of Community Development, and several staff members attended the July 17 ribbon-cutting at the Hazel Rhea Hurst Community Center in Shrewsbury. The Center was damaged during Hurricane Katrina, and the renovations cost \$267,920.

The Department of Community Development, which administers the federal entitlement grants under the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), funded the renovation with a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG).

This renovation is one of many examples of our tax money being returned to our local communities to enhance Jefferson's quality of life. Community Development project manager, **Ken Krey**, said the renovation took five months to complete. The Hurst Community Center is operated by Jefferson Parish Community Action Programs (JeffCAP).

### Neighborhood Beautification:

Director **Anatola Thompson** and **Mike Strausser**, Parish Planner II, are collaborating with the Parkways Department and landscape architect Greg Cantrell, Inc., on a beautification project using CDBG funds. The project entails planting dozens of trees and the installation of three new subdivision signs at an estimated cost of \$60,000.

Live oak, cypress, and crepe myrtle trees will be planted in and

around Ivy, Milan, and Macon Streets in the Bunche Village and Little Farms area. Strausser said planting will begin in mid-October, when the cool weather will be more beneficial to the growth of the young trees.

Of the three new subdivision signs, one will be installed in the Lincolnshire area in Marrero, a second in Claiborne Estates, and a third near the intersection of Little Farms Avenue and Ivy Street.

This will mark the first major beautification and landscape project in the Bunche Village and Little Farms areas since 1981.

### Marrero Community Senior Center:

Project Manager **Ken Krey** reports that work on the new Marrero Center, located at 1855 Ames Blvd., is moving

along and is 37% complete. The new Center, estimated to cost \$1,641,400, is funded by CDBG with an outlay of \$300,000 from the state.

Formerly located at 2001 Lincolnshire Ave., the Marrero Community Center was damaged by the hurricanes, and a temporary center is being operated at 1425 Cross St. in Marrero. The new Center, which is located next to the parish health unit, is targeted to open in November 2008, Krey said. It will provide about 6,000 square feet for a variety of community activities.

Ken also reported that the quarter-mile asphalt walking trail in Lincolnshire Subdivision has been completed. Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funded the construction of the track.

Community Development congratulates our own **June Durnin**, who celebrates ten years of Parish service in August.



CD Director Anatola Thompson (left) presents Administrative Management Specialist III June Durnin with her 10-year service pin award

## Juvenile Services

By  
Arlyn Smith

Juvenile Services welcomes new employees **Ariann Knox** and **Shundrea Nunnery-Landix**, Juvenile Probation Officers.

We bid farewell and Best Wishes to **Jamyle Phillips**, Probation Officer, and **Jerry Leighton**, Volunteer Services Coordinator, who recently resigned to pursue other career goals.

We will miss **Sharon Salvato**, Typist Clerk II, who recently left us to join WB Code Enforcement. Thank you, Sharon, for all your hard work at DJS!

We would also like to send a special thank you to all our summer staff who help us tremendously: Clerks **Jonathan Alario**, **Latoia Bazile**, and **Megan Guillot**; and Educational Specialists who keep the educational component of Rivarde Detention Center and Correctional Options Program running—**Lucy Bates**, **Beverly Davis**, **Jennifer Jenkins**, **Bernadine LaMothe**, **Glinda Morton**, and **Marble Pierre**.

Assistant Director **Christopher Trosclair** once again served as chair for the Jefferson Parish Brown Bag Lunch Campaign, which benefitted the Jefferson

Children's Advocacy Center. We have, with your help, already set an all-time record of collecting over \$10,000 with more expected to come in! The money will help the JCAC continue its fight to prevent child abuse in Jefferson Parish.

### Queen of Bingo Benefit

As part of our Brown Bag efforts to benefit JCAC, The Jefferson Performing Arts Society and Krewe Des Sept Productions will present three special performances of *The Queen of Bingo*, starring *Becky Allen*. An opening night extravaganza kicks off this limited run on August 8, which will be hosted by local personality John "Spud" McConnell. The night includes a silent auction, dinner, and drinks.

*The Queen of Bingo* runs August 8–10 at the Teatro Wego Dinner Theatre, 177 Sala Avenue in Westwego. The August 8 performance includes the Opening Night Extravaganza at 8pm. Tickets for the Extravaganza are \$50 a person or \$75 for couples. Performances are August 9 at 8pm and August 10 at 2pm. Tickets August 9 & 10 are \$25. Please call (504) 400-8949 to reserve tickets. Come have fun and help to raise money for a worthy organization!



Cast of *The Queen of Bingo*

## Streets

By  
Sheena Quinn & Andrea Williams

### Congrats, Farewells, and Condolences

The past few months for the Streets Department have seen many personnel changes. With the start of the new year, several new hires have come to call Jefferson Parish home. **Juanara Jordan** (Typist Clerk II in Employee Services), **Denise Stine** (Typist Clerk II in Purchasing), **Hope Zamora** (Typist Clerk III in Complaints), **Sheena Quinn** (Typist Clerk II in Complaints), **Gerard Bergeron** (Truck Driver II in Heavy Equipment), **Keith Howard**, **Kendric Benard**, and **Clinton Hamburg** (laborers in Drainage), **Ivan Chopin** (laborer in Asphalt), and **Lance Savage** (laborer in Concrete). We would like to welcome them all. Also, we saw the addition of departmental summer employees—Brandon Lawler and Ashley Holmes and Kimberly LaGarde of West Bank Maintenance. "We really appreciate the help they gave to everyone this summer and hope they enjoy their Senior year and return next summer," says **Marie Ricks** of West Bank Maintenance.

With hellos came a few fond farewells. A few beloved workers retired this year after countless years of dedication. Mrs. **Patsy Camardelle** retired after 25 years in the Streets Department. Her party consisted of familiar faces from past and present. Everyone stopped by to say thanks and return the love that she has shared with everyone over the 25 years that she was part of the Streets family.



Patsy Camardelle at her retirement party with Streets Director Randy Nicholson

Also saying a fond farewell this year is Mr. **O.J. Mire** after an amazing 30 years, **Horace Husser** after 20 years, **Cecilia Orgeron** with 17 years, **Dewey Rousell** after 24 years, **L.J. Harper** with 18 years, and finally Joseph Blunt after 20 years. Their hard work and dedication will be missed.

We would also like to extend congrats to **Maria G. Cooper** on her beautiful wedding on April 5, 2008. It was an event to remember. On a sadder note, we would like to send our condolences to **Maebelle Cheramie** for the passing of her mother. And also, COE employee Latasha Smith lost her grandfather in March. They will be missed and were greatly loved.

**Departmental Achievements and Fundraisers**

On May 20, 2008, many of the department members attended the APWA Public Works Luncheon. Director **Randy Nicholson**, a Member at Large for the APWA, was awarded the Patricia Fretwell Leadership Award. Also **Mitch Demuth** received the Award of Merit.

Continuing on with the honors, a few promotions were awarded as well to very deserving Parish workers. **Rodney Lyons** was promoted to Superintendent III with 26 years of service; **Chris Mire** from E.O. IV to Foreman in Drainage; and **Tyrone Dukes** from E.O. III to E.O. IV with Heavy Equipment. Congratulations, everyone.

Streets has been feeling very generous these past few months. Along with the JCAC hot dog luncheon that raised over \$160 plus teddy bear donations for the

kids, the Streets and Parkways Departments managed to also hold a blood drive in honor of Kendill Molette, grandson of retiree Clarence Harris, who is suffering from Sick Cell Anemia. We would like to show gratitude to the 23 participants that came by on June 30, 2008 to help out someone in need. **Rose Lanansa** of Westbank Maintenance put together a great raffle for March of Dimes this year. Prizes consisted of everything from fantastic scrap-booking kits to dinner for two at the Cracker Barrel. Streets and Parkways raised over \$650 from the raffle, hot dog luncheon, and snack sale. Participants of the March of Dimes Walk consisted of **Andrea Williams**, her daughter Tomina Burrell and granddaughter, Gnya Gross, **Natasha Dorsey**, her daughter, Kira Carter, **Rose Lanansa**, and her son, Cody Lanansa. Hopefully, next year we can get some guys to walk.

As the new Reporters for Streets, we need to thank **Sharon Cline, Michelle Swenson, Denise Chavers, Marie Ricks, and Rose Lanansa** for their help with this article.



Director Randy Nicholson presents Mitch Demuth the Award of Merit at the APWA Luncheon

## Environmental

By  
Barbara Arcement

### Majoria Wins Yenni Award

As a result of his outstanding service to Jefferson Parish, Environmental Quality Specialist **Randy Majoria** will be honored as the recipient of the Joseph S. Yenni award for 2007. When asked how he felt about receiving such an important honor, Randy replied, "The public taxpayers pay my salary, so it is my responsibility to provide the best possible service to them that I can. I am so grateful to have been chosen for this award because they could've chosen a number of other hard-working Parish workers. I was just doing my job, and I will cherish this award for the rest of my life. This is a team award as far as I am concerned. I thank my department for all their help and all of the other Parish departments I have worked with. I have learned that good government is a lot like sports: You are only as good as your team. In order to be successful at public service it takes a will-



Environmental thanks Scoutmaster Kathy Bourg and the guys of Troop 497 for their help with the June Recycling Event

ingness to go the extra mile in helping the public; but, it is equally important that departments and agencies work together like a team to get the job done. I accept this award on behalf of all of the governmental workers I work with on a regular basis. I enjoy serving the public, and I am grateful to work for Jefferson Parish. I will continue to provide the best possible public service that I can." Congratulations Randy, you deserve it.

Environmental would like to welcome **Nancy Woodlock** and

**Lauren Barton** to the family. Nancy came to us all the way from Connecticut to be our new Environmental Quality Technician II for the Coastal Programs Division. Lauren, a recent graduate of Southeastern Louisiana University, will be our new Environmental Quality Technician II for the Storm Water Division.

We would like to thank everyone who participated in the Recycling Drop-off Days held on June 28 and July 26. We would also like to thank all who volunteered to help with our recycling events. Parish residents dropped off approximately 41,740 lbs or 20.9 tons of paper, plastic, and aluminum at the June 28 drop-off event. Future Recycling Drop-off Days for Parish residents will be on August 23, and September 20, 2008 from 9:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon.

East Bank residents may drop off their recyclables in the parking lot of the Joseph S. Yenni Building located at 1221 Elmwood Park Blvd., Jefferson. West Bank residents may drop-off their recyclables in the parking lot of the Alario Center located at 2000 Segnette Boulevard, Westwego. We hope to see you there.



Yenni Award winner Randy Majoria receives the congratulations of a grateful President Aaron Broussard

## Traffic Engineering

By  
Brandy Chism

Traffic Engineering welcomes new Sign Technicians **Allen Flettrich** and **Mack Richburg** to our department. Allen and Mack are a great addition to our staff, and we are happy to have them with us.

We would like to wish our Superintendent II, **Armand Kerlec** a speedy recovery. We're all thinking of you; get well soon, Armand!

Service Pins were recently awarded to the following dedicated employees:

**Ray J. Heffner, Jr.** 5-Years  
**Michael A. Howell, Jr.** 10-Years  
**Brandy A. Chism** 15 Years  
**Nancy B. Earnest** 15 Years

A quick reminder to our readers that school will be starting soon. Please be aware of the school zones and speed limits. We want to keep our children safe.

## Planning

By  
Terri Wilkinson

Congratulations to **Sue Durabb**, who the department chose as this year's Employee of the Year. Sue is a Planning/Zoning Aide and consistently does a good job.



Planning's Employee of the Year  
Sue Durabb with Supervisor  
Francois Ancar

The Planning Department welcomes its newest urban planners, **Bess Renfro**, who is working with subdivisions and rezonings; **Patricia Dillon**, who is doing design review; and **Simonne Caesar**, who is undertaking zoning studies.

Welcome back to Planner **Adam Williams**, who left for a stint in Slidell but has returned to the fold.

Congratulations also to **Joyce Dean** on her retirement at the end of July. Joyce, an outstanding employee who the Planning Department chose as Employee of the Year twice, was a stenographer clerk with the Parish for eight years after ten years with the state Department of Education and seventeen years with the YMCA of Greater New Orleans.



Two-time Planning Employee  
of the Year Joyce Dean, looking  
forward to retirement



Water Department Employee of the Year —  
Utility Billing Superintendent Betty Durr

In retirement Joyce will join her husband, Robert, who retired from the Parish after ten years with the Department of General Services. Together, they will travel, spend time with family, particularly grandchildren, and whittle down the honey-do list of home improvements. The department wishes Joyce the best!

## **JeffCAP**

By  
Yvonne Dumas

### **RSVP Luncheon Coming Up**

This September 18, 2008, JeffCAP will celebrate its 28<sup>th</sup> Annual RSVP Luncheon at the Best Western Landmark Hotel in Metairie. The luncheon is to thank the 606 volunteers who serve at 25 different volunteer stations throughout the parish.

We will honor our new 90+ inductees for their dedication to the program. Those inductees are: Edna Adams, Norma Falgout (Westwego Senior Center); Thelma Hamilton, Mary Miller (Kenner Senior Center); Guy Naquin and Eva Reis (East Jefferson General Hospital). It is with great pleasure that we recognize our oldest active volunteers who are 99 years young; Eliza Robinson (Dorothy B. Watson Community Center) and Clair Joseph (Gretna Community Center).

### **Head Start**

On Monday, June 9, 2008, the

LAEYC (Louisiana Association for the Education of Young Children) honored **Elaine O'Conner**, Head Start Administrator, as one of Louisiana's Early Childhood Champions at the New Orleans Marriott. Congratulations to Elaine for her dedication and hard work.

### **Service Pins**

*5 years:*

**Carolyn Mendoza and Polly Ra'oof**

*10 years:*

**Donald Cimino, Stacy Brown, Lillian Coston, Deidra Warmington, Laura Cullen, Karin Maurer, Ferdinand Francis**

*15 years:*

(Pictured below in back row): **Evandus Lambert, Elaine O'Conner, Sam Ridgley, Anthony Williams, Nicole Ferrier (Director), and Yvonne Dumas** (Front Row): **Cheryl Eglen, Jody Moreau, Mary Mason, Linda Lambert and Ed Stucke.**



Director Nicole Ferrier (5th from right) with JeffCAP's 15-year service pin award recipients

## **Library**

By  
Linda Molinario

Jefferson Parish Library congratulates **Tachel Ferguson**, Typist Clerk III, who had been with us since last year but was recently promoted and transferred to Code Enforcement.

We would especially like to thank **Iris Swords**, Data Entry Operator II, for the more than 17 years of service that preceded her retirement in May. All of us at Library wish her well.

Starting Friday, August 1, through Monday, September 1, the Gretna Library branch will be closed for re-location. We expect to re-open on Tuesday, September 2 on the other side of the parking lot. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause and invite you to visit Terrytown & West Bank Regional libraries during this period.

### **Friends' Fundraiser Coming Up**

The Friends of the Library will have its major fundraiser, the semiannual Book Sale, from October 30 through November 2 at the Pontchartrain Center. The book sales promote literacy by getting affordable books into homes. They also support the library by providing funds for needed items for all the branches. The Friends' Store on the first floor of East Bank Regional is open year-round, with small gift items, postcards, stationary, and previously owned books, all at very attractive prices.

Thanks to **Jennifer Chan** and **Paula Harris** for their help with this article.

## Citizens' Affairs

By  
Joanna Lee

### Hurricane Preparedness

**Katherine Hoover**, Disability Affairs Specialist, will be working with evacuees with disabilities at the Yenni Building staging area, whenever necessary, to stage an evacuation. She wants to remind everyone of the importance of being prepared for all emergencies.



Disabilities Affairs Specialist  
Katherine Hoover

House fires, thunderstorms with high winds, tornadoes, and chemical/bio spills could make it necessary to evacuate your home on short notice. Have a "Go" bag ready for each person in your household. Children's bags should have a small toy, favorite coloring book or hand held game, and a favorite non-perishable snack. This "Go" bag is for a "quick" exit. Add clothing, medication, and grooming items and you are ready to roll. Don't forget the pets! They need a "Go" bag too, such as: food, water, vaccination information, medical information, leash, toy, etc.

Please check with all of your family members and neighbors to see if they need preparation assistance. Jefferson Parish has an as-

sisted evacuation plan. If you or someone you know does not have transportation to evacuate, contact Emergency Management to get an Assisted Evacuation Assessment Form and mail it back. The form is also available on the jeffparish.net home page.

### Senior Expo

The Senior Citizens' Expo will be on October 22, 2008, from 9:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. This event will be held at the Alario Center with over 120 vendors. The theme is "**Halloween**," and for entertainment, lunch will be served along with door prizes

### Senior Fitness

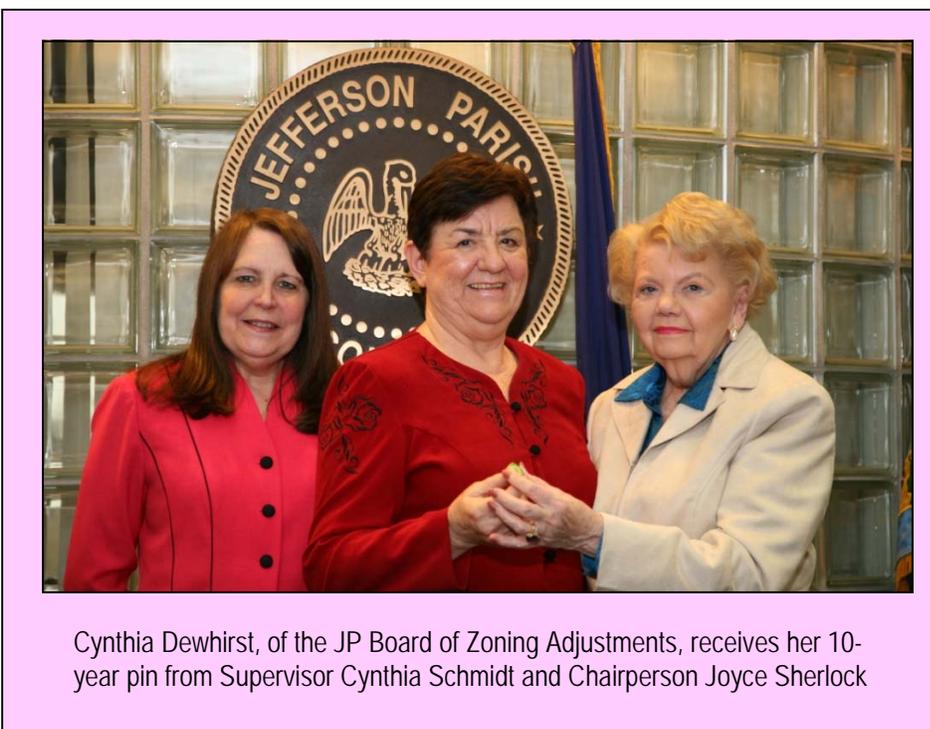
**Wayne Ory**, Coordinator for Senior Citizens Services for Jefferson Parish, recently hosted a Health and fitness Seminar at the Holy Guardian Angels Youth Center. **Barbara Levy**, Director of the Bridge City Senior Center, and the many seniors from the center helped put together this

seminar. It was well-received by seniors from all over Jefferson Parish. Seniors from the Bridge City, Estelle, Gretna, Westwego, Marrero, Metairie, and Lafitte senior centers participated in the program. More than 140 attended. After the seminar, Wayne had a great lunch catered for the seniors: spaghetti and meatballs, salad, garlic bread and bread pudding.

On June 17, Bridge City Senior Center had its monthly birthday party. The theme was Crazy Tie for Father's Day. Music was by Rudy and his Hip Cats. Everyone had a great time and enjoyed the birthday celebration, which also included lunch.

### Memorial Statue

On Wednesday, October 1, 2008, there will be an unveiling of the Harry Lee Memorial Statue at the Veterans Memorial Square. More information will be available later on the time for those of you who would like to witness this honorable event.



Cynthia Dewhirst, of the JP Board of Zoning Adjustments, receives her 10-year pin from Supervisor Cynthia Schmidt and Chairperson Joyce Sherlock

## Drainage

By

Maria Cervini & Marilyn Slutsky

Congratulations to **Cedrick Frank**, who was promoted to Trades Helper with the West Bank Pumps; and **Randy Petty**, who was promoted to Equipment Operator IV with East Bank Drainage.

### Service Pins

Service pin awards will be given to the following employees:

*15 years* – **Jamal Singleton**, Pump Station Operator II; **Anthony Taylor**, Pump Station Operator II; and **Sidney Williams**, Equipment Operator IV.

*10 years* – **Christopher DiBenedetto**, GIS Operator II; **Juana Gonzalo**, Laborer; **Sylvia Joseph**, Data Entry Operator II; **Ann Lefort**, Typist Clerk III; **Vuong Nguyen**, Engineer-in-Training; **Brian Stansbury**, Pump Station Operator II; and **Kelvin Washington**, Trades Helper.

*5 years* – **Alfred Chan**, Stationary Diesel Specialist; **Corey Collins**, Laborer; **Brian Joseph**, Laborer; **Ronnie Leblanc**, Truck Driver I; **James Mason**, Laborer; **Keith Matherne**, Equipment Operator IV; and **Oscar Mendoza**, Pump Station Operator I.

Welcome to our new employees **Joseph Gibson**, **Rashad Rose**, **Clydel Stiles**, **Christopher Thomas**, **Peter Williams**, and **Francasio Yu**.

### Praise From the Public

Compliments to **Michael Picou**, Superintendent I, for his prompt response in dispatching a truck to jet wash the street drains that were clogged at a townhouse which had recently been renovated. A note of praise from the vice-president of a property management company in Jefferson Parish was sent to **President Aaron Broussard** expressing appreciation for a job well done.

## Health Issues

By

Peggy Branan, RN



### Understanding Varicose Veins

Just like every other body system, the vascular system has its share of problems. Weakened vein vessel walls and valves can result in varicose veins. One problem in particular is varicose veins.

The word “varicose” is taken from the Latin “varix,” which means “twisted.” If you have ever seen a severe case of varicose veins, you know they have a twisted cord appearance, bulging at the surface of the skin. Varicose veins may be nothing more than a cosmetic nuisance for some, or it may indicate a more serious problem for others. It is a very common condition, with up to 25% of women and up to 15% of men affected.

Varicose veins can cause the following complaints: heaviness, pain, a burning sensation, muscle cramping, throbbing, and swelling in the lower legs. Prolonged standing or sitting can worsen the complaints. Itching may occur around one or more of the veins. A medical emergency occurs if skin ulcers develop near the ankle, which indicates a severe form of vascular disease.

Varicose veins can be blue or dark purple. They take on a cord-like appearance, bulging and twisted. They are usually located on the backs of the calves or on the inside part of the leg, but they can be found anywhere on the leg.

### New Adoption



Mary Course, of the East Bank Animal Shelter, with “Buster,” her new German Shepherd mix puppy. Mary adopted Buster earlier this year.

**Causes.** As we age, veins begin to lose their elasticity, which causes them to stretch out of shape. The valves in the veins can become weakened, which allows blood to flow backwards. This back-flowing blood then pools in the veins, causing them to enlarge. The veins take on a bluish appearance because the blood does not have oxygen in it. Pregnant women can develop varicose veins due to the increased volume of blood in their body and a decrease in the flow of blood from the legs to the pelvis. Note: hemorrhoids are varicose veins.

**Risk Factors.** The aging process puts all at risk with the wear and tear on the valves in the veins, leading to malfunction. Women are more prone due to hormonal factors and pregnancy. Genetics seems to be a factor. Obesity creates more pressure on the veins. Prolonged standing doesn't allow for the easy flow of blood back to the heart.

**Medical Advice.** A medical emergency results if you are developing an ulcer. Extremely painful sores can develop on the skin near the varicose veins, especially near the ankles. The increase of blood in the vessels in the lower extremities results in fluid collecting in these tissues. The ulcers occur as a result of the surrounding tissues becoming "waterlogged" from this pooling of fluid. The skin will begin to take on a brownish appearance prior to developing into an ulcer. Your doctor will examine your legs and have you describe what is happening. An ultrasound test can see if the valves are functioning properly, plus rule out a blood clot.

**Prevention.** Exercise to promote blood circulation in the legs. Losing the extra weight takes the ad-

ditional strain off the vessels. Consume a low-salt and high-fiber diet to avoid water retention and constipation. Wear low-heeled shoes that work the calf muscles. Avoid tight clothes around your waist, legs, or groin. Take several short breaks and elevate your legs. Avoid prolonged sitting or standing by moving around at least every 30 minutes. And, never cross your legs, as this impedes blood circulation.

**Treatments.** Depending on the severity of the condition, there are various treatments available. Compression hose help force the blood up to the heart. For more severe conditions, the following procedures may be necessary: sclerotherapy, laser surgeries, catheter-assisted procedures, vein stripping, ambulatory phlebectomy, endoscopic vein surgery.

Well, we have another good reason to either stay healthy or to take the necessary steps to become healthier. So, now is the time to eat right, lose the extra pounds, and see your doctor for ANYTHING that you are concerned about!

### Correction

*In the June issue it was reported that Jim Davis was named Jefferson Parish Employee of the Year. Jim was in fact Library's Employee of the Year and was therefore nominated for the overall Parish honor.*

*However, as reported on Page 6 of this issue, Environmental's Randy Majoria is the Parish's 2007 Employee of the Year and recipient of the Yenni Award.*

## Combe Named Chairman of Personnel Board

In May 2008, John Combe, Jr., was reappointed to the Jefferson Parish Personnel Board. He was also re-elected unanimously by the Board to continue as its Chairman.



Personnel Board Chairman  
John Combe

Mr. Combe is a long-standing senior member of the Personnel Board, having been appointed by President Joseph S. Yenni in 1983. He has served as the Board's Chairman since 1995.

Mr. Combe, a resident of Metairie, is a graduate of Tulane University Law School. He and his wife Lynn have three children.

Mr. Combe possesses vast legal and administrative knowledge and experience of civil service and public employment law and has assisted Jefferson Parish through the years with the many issues and problems. He has contributed his time and talent to maintaining the best principles of civil service, public employment, and personnel management. Jefferson Parish is fortunate to have a person of Mr. Combe's caliber at the helm of the Personnel Board and looks forward to his continued guidance and assistance.

## Human Resources

By  
Greg Alexander

### Financial Awareness Seminar Well Attended

Human Resources hosted a Financial Awareness seminar in June that was subtitled “What you Need to Know *Now* About Social Security, Parochial Retirement, and Deferred Compensation.” The morning’s three presenters were Maria Alvarez, Social Security’s Public Affairs Specialist for the New Orleans area; Peggy Thomassie, of our Retirement Office; and Mikaela Ford, our Nationwide deferred compensation representative.

Unlike our regular retirement seminars, this meeting was open to all Parish employees who were interested in learning about these three important topics in order to prepare for their financial future. Over eighty employees from a variety of Parish departments attended the seminar, which was held in the Jefferson Room of the



Maria Alvarez, of the Social Security Administration, speaks at the June Financial Awareness seminar

East Bank Regional Library. “The seminar was very well received,” said Training Administrator **Nancy Rodriguez**. “We hope to make this a yearly event.”

### Safety In Action

Safety Officers **Millie Brady** and **Larry Guchereau** conducted a program on lawn

mower and tractor safety at EB Recreation’s headquarters on Saints Drive. The program was attended by about 40 supervisors and assistant supervisors. Millie and Larry also spoke about the dangers of heat stress during these summer months.

On July 29 and 30 Safety hosted a Work Zone Safety clinic for Streets and Water. Dave McFarland, of the Louisiana Technical Assistance Program, presented the programs at the Yenni Building and at the Fire Training Center in Bridge City.

Safety Officer Larry Guchereau conducted classes on Material Safety Data Sheets for employees of General Services.

### Harassment Training in Full Swing

The Parish’s regular harassment training for all managers began in July and will continue through August. Over 500 Parish supervisors—from Foremen to Assistant Directors—will attend one of the 30 sessions. The administration mandates this training every two years.



Millie Brady and Larry Guchereau with employees of EB Recreation

# Retirements

**Eugene Sissac**  
**Fire**  
**32 years**

**Virginia Ural**  
**Workforce Investment**  
**30 years**

**Anthony Guidry**  
**Recreation**  
**30 years**

**Paul Joseph**  
**Fire**  
**27 years**

**Alton Hawkins**  
**Water**  
**22 years**

**Joyce Dean**  
**Planning**  
**18 years**

**Cecilia Orgeron**  
**Streets**  
**17 years**

**Iris Swords**  
**Library**  
**17 years**

**Louis Savoye, Jr.**  
**Code Enforcement**  
**13 years**

**Robert Frye**  
**Recreation**  
**11 years**

## Code Director Retires



Councilman Tom Capella and President Aaron Broussard congratulate retiring Code Enforcement Director Louis Savoye Jr.