



Volume 29
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EM Realite

Message from the Parish President. .

Jefferson Parish Libraries: A Source of Education for Every Age

From the time that we were young, libraries have been a source of educational influence. The thrill of looking in a particular section and finding a book or two you were searching for is something you never forget.

Here in Jefferson Parish, we are very fortunate to have a library system that is second to none. In addition to the many books on the shelves, our residents can turn to 195 public access computers to research topics worldwide. That number is expected to exceed 400 in 2008.

Every one of our libraries provides free Wi-Fi access now! There are endless databases available, which include newspaper articles, full-text magazine indexing, educational aids to prepare students for tests such as the LEAP, GED, and more.

One of the library's newest and most popular databases is Rosetta Stone, which is an excellent online tool for learning Arabic, Chinese, English, French, German, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Portuguese, and Spanish. The Jefferson Parish Library also provides the opportunity to download digital audio books for people with low reading skills.

Among our program sponsors are the Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities, Historic New Orleans Collection, the New Orleans Museum of Art, the Ogden Museum of



Aaron Broussard, Parish President

Southern Art, and the Tennessee Williams Festival.

Jefferson Parish has recently received a \$1.2 million grant from the Bush-Clinton-Katrina Fund for enhancements at eight libraries: Grand Isle, Live Oak, West Bank Regional and Westwego on the West Bank; and East Bank Regional, Harahan, North Kenner, and Old Metairie on the East Bank. Jefferson Parish libraries are recovering and serve a tremendous purpose for citizens of all ages.

On Saturday, March 8, voters will be asked to consider renewing the existing 6.5 mill library millage. Operations and maintenance of the library system are fully funded through a parish-wide millage. This millage renewal will be used to maintain the quality of service currently provided by Jefferson Parish Library and to reopen libraries damaged by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

For more information about library services and programs, visit www.jefferson.lib.la.us or call the library at 504-838-1100.

En Realité

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WORKFORCE CONNECTION

Joan Vaughn

Editor's

Notes

Red Light Enforcement Program: Keeping Our Roads Safer

With Carnival season following so closely behind the holidays this year, many of us are more conscious than ever of traffic. Just over a month ago we were hustling to the malls to do our last-minute shopping, and now we're making our way through those same streets to enjoy the parades. Hopefully we are all planning ahead so that we are not rushed and tempted to drive unsafely.

But we know that there are those among us who will disregard traffic signs and signals in the interest of getting to their destination a minute or two faster. They may not think it's a big deal to occasionally speed up when a light turns yellow, even if it becomes red when they're half-way through the intersection; but such behavior is breaking the law.

In the interest of discouraging such dangerous behavior, Jefferson Parish has recently instituted the Photo Red Light Enforcement Program. Many of you no doubt have noticed the cameras that have been placed at selected major intersections on both banks of the river. The cameras automatically snap a photo of any vehicle that runs a red light.

In order to comply with Red Light Program, the administration just amended Administrative Policy 3.02, which deals with employee use of Parish-owned vehicles. The policy now outlines our procedures for handling Parish vehicles that receive citations as a result of those cameras:

The department that the vehicle belongs to will identify the driver of the



Feleciano Mendoza, Jr.
Editor

vehicle, and that driver will be *personally* liable for payment of the fine. In addition, the offending driver will be subject to a pre-disciplinary hearing, which will be attended by his or her Director, an HR Manager, and a Safety Officer. As unpleasant as it may be to discuss disciplinary action, I think it's important for you all to know how committed the Parish is to the safe and lawful operation of its vehicles and to the safety of its employees and the general public.

Policy 3.02 also addresses accurate record-keeping with regard to Parish vehicles. Each department will be establishing a system to keep track of its vehicles and operators on a daily basis. The system will ensure that the department is able to precisely identify who was driving a Parish vehicle at any given time. The record must reflect every time a new driver takes over the operation of a vehicle and record the exact time that the driver operated the vehicle.

If you operate a Parish vehicle, I urge you to drive safely at all times, to cooperate with the Parish's driving policies, and to encourage others to do so as well. Here's wishing all of you happy and safe motoring!

Parish Employees Enjoy Retirement Seminar

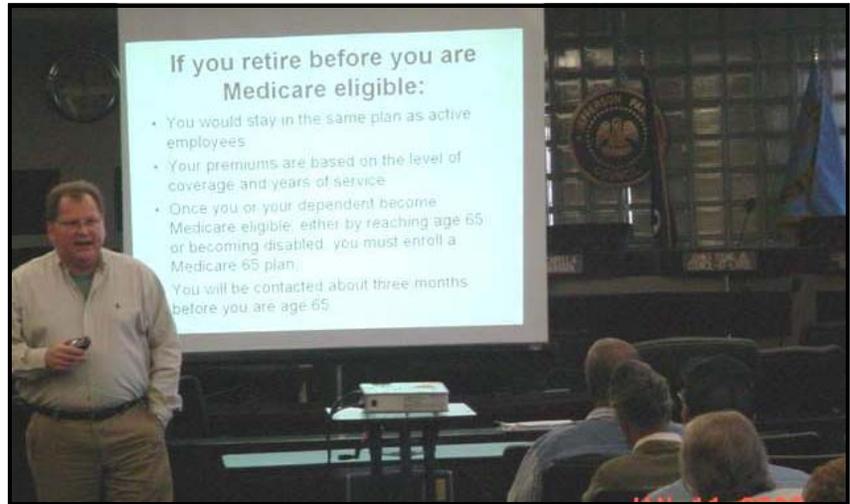
Human Resources once again hosted a two-day seminar for Parish employees who are contemplating retirement in the next few years. *Retirement—Ready or Not* has become a regular event on HR's training schedule, offered every other year.

Nancy Rodriguez and **Greg Alexander**, of HR's Training Division, served as co-hosts of this year's seminar, which was held on the mornings of January 10 and 11 in the East Bank Council Chambers. Over 70 Parish employees attended both days. They all enjoyed coffee and donuts and were entertained and informed by a variety of professional speakers on topics such as legal issues, the Parochial Retirement System, real estate, health and wellness, IRAs, and Social Security.



Kick-off Speaker Marian Arnoult-Jackson

The event began with Marian Arnoult-Jackson, of Prudential Gardner Realtors. Marian has been our kick-off speaker for every one of our retirement seminars since 1999. Marian and her colleague Donna Nold, of Best Mortgage, discussed the local real estate markets, reverse mortgages, and credit scores.



Aubrey Devillier, Parish Benefits Administrator, speaks about Medicare to potential Parish retirees at *Retirement—Ready or Not*

Tim Bracey, a Senior Director of WJ Hospital, and Jennifer Steel, RN, WJ's Chief Community Relations Officer, discussed options for staying healthy through the retirement years. Day One wrapped up with a Social Security presentation by Maria Alvarez, SSA's Public Affairs Specialist.

Five speakers filled the bill for Day Two: Parish Attorney **Gerry Garvey** discussed legal issues after retirement; Nationwide Retirement Specialist Mi-

kaela Ford spoke on deferred comp. Susan O'Neill, of the JP Employees Credit Union, spoke about IRAs.

The Parochial Retirement System's **Peggy Thomassie** enlightened the audience about what they can expect to receive from Parochial upon retirement. Finally, the seminar concluded with HR's Benefits Administrator **Aubrey DeVillier**, who presented vital information about retiree health benefits.



Nationwide's Mikaela Ford addresses the retirement audience

Environmental

By
Barbara Arcement

Environmental would like to welcome back Storm Water Specialist **Kathleen Deubler**, who recently left the department but could not live without us so she has returned. Welcome back, Kathleen.

“O Christmas Tree, O Christmas Tree, how lovely are your branches” that help save Jefferson Parish’s marshes. The Jefferson Parish Christmas Tree Marsh Restoration Project, now in its 17th year, uses donated Christmas trees to build sediment-trapping fences that protect and restore wetlands in the Barataria Basin.

This award-winning project could not take place without a tremendous volunteer effort and generous corporate donations. Christmas trees were collected in the parish by waste haulers on January 10, 11, and 12 and delivered to the staging site at Cochiara’s Marina in Lafitte. On January 12, more than 120 volunteers with the help of 17 boats helped transport thousands of Christmas trees and placed them in pre-constructed cribs along the western side of Goose Bayou, just east of Lafitte.



The LA Army National Guard helps with the Christmas Tree Restoration Project

The Environmental Department would like to thank all the volunteers and those who loaned boats to transport trees and place them in the marsh. We want to thank the Louisiana National Guard and the Barataria Terrebonne National Estuary Program for providing boats and personnel; SHAW Coastal for cooking and providing lunch; and Coke for donating all the beverages. Also, special thanks go out to the Departments of Streets, Parkways, Fleet Management, and Juvenile Services for their help with this project.

We would also like to thank everyone who participated in the Recycling Drop-off Day on January 26. The next Recycling Day will be February 23 from 9:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon.

East Bank residents may drop off their recyclables in the parking lot of the Yenni Building at 1221 Elmwood Park Blvd. West Bank residents may drop off their recyclables in the parking lot of the Alario Center in Westwego.

For information about what items will be accepted, please call the Environmental Department at 731-4612. We hope to see you there.

Streets

By
Michelle Swenson

The Streets Department bids farewell to **Lovonia Cola**, who retired on October 26. She worked for Streets Administration for all of her 30+ years. We celebrated her retirement with a wonderful party on October 19 and brought back some of our retirees including **Gary Theriot**, **Cliff Dufrene Sr.**, **Linda Hourcade**, **Ashvini Pandit**, **Tommy Laborie**, and of course Lovonia’s close friend **Rosalie Dyer**. We would also like to congratulate Lovonia on the birth of her granddaughter, Chassity Mallory Ann Hudson, born October 26.

We also had to bid farewell to **Geri Jackson**, who left for a promotion with Fleet Management. We wish you the best of luck. **Tess Verret** joined us for a short time, replacing Geri on the switchboard, but she soon left for a promotion with Code Enforcement. It was a pleasure working with you and good luck in your new position.

Fortunately we have some people to welcome as well. We have three new CEO workers. All three are seniors at Higgins High School. Welcome to **Latasha Smith**, **Michelle Simoneaux**, and **Latia Brown**. They have been with us since the beginning of this school year, and we are fortunate to have them working with us.

Henry Austin graduated from the Road Scholar Program sponsored by LTAP on August 28. Henry is an Equipment operator IV with our West Bank Maintenance Division. Congratulations, Henry!

Continued on page 6

Drainage

By

Maria Cervini & Marilyn Slutsky

On Friday, January 4, **Fran Hemenway's** retirement party was held in the Yenni Building. Fran was Public Works Administrative Operations Coordinator and is shown receiving her retirement certificate for 39 years of service with **José González**, Director of Public Works. She will be missed by everyone.

Chris Dunn, East Bank Drainage Superintendent I, retired in December after 25 years of loyal service.

Welcome to our new hires – Laborers-Unskilled, **Richard Johnson**, **Emanuel Jordan**, **Dwayne Curtis** for East Bank Drainage, and **Albert Baumann, Jr.** for East Bank Pump Station.

Appreciation from the Public

Several calls of praise were received by West Bank Drainage from citizens for the following employees: Crew 450's **Donald Smith**, Equipment Operator IV, and **Ernest Harris**, Trades Helper, and Crew 438's **Roland**



Fran Hemenway accepts thanks and congratulations from Public Works Director José Gonzalez for her remarkable 39 years of service

Cola, Equipment Operator IV, and **Clarence Matthews**, Laborer, were praised for doing great work and being so pleasant. Crew 466 – **Dominick Ditcharo**, Foreman, **Corey Chopin**, **Aaron Brown**, and **Hoa Tran**, Laborers, were commended by a citizen for being polite and considerate of her when performing work in front of her home.

We will miss **Aaron Brown**, Laborer-Semiskilled for West Bank Drainage, who passed away on December 20. **Mr. Brown** worked for Drainage for fifteen years.

Congratulations to **Richard Davis** and **Michael Picou**, who were promoted to East Bank Drainage Maintenance Superintendents. Formerly both Richard and Michael had been East Bank Drainage Equipment Operators IV.



Drainage Assistant Director Bill Duplaisir (right) congratulates Louis Giordano for his 18 years of service



Drainage Director Kazem Alikhani congratulates retiring Superintendent Chris Dunn

Michael Frerene, who also is employed with East Bank Drainage, was promoted to Laborer-Semiskilled.

Thanks to all of the Drainage Department employees for their donations to the annual Senior Christmas Wish List program. This year was the most successful year ever for the Drainage Department in the collection of donations and distribution of baskets for needy senior citizens!

Streets, continued from Page 4

Congratulations also to **Maria Gibson** for graduating from Delgado with a degree in accounting on December 14. You should be proud of this great achievement!

Streets, with the help of Parkways, raised \$535.00 for the 2007 American Heart Association Heart Walk thanks to our team captain, **Sharon Cline**. We would also like to thank **Rose Lanasa**, who raised \$111.00 of the money from our West Bank Maintenance Division.

The Streets Department would like to extend our sympathies to **Pam Bourgeois** and her family on the passing of her husband, *John Bourgeois*, and to **Todd Louque** and his family on the passing of his brother, Scott Louque. And our sympathies also go to the family of retiree **Loretta Johnson**, who recently passed away. Our thoughts and prayers are with you all.

Finally, I would like to mention our employees with Streets and Parkways who received their 15yr service pins at the pin luncheon held in November but were unfortunately excluded from the last article:

2007:

Denise Bourg, Keith Ellis, Paul Ellis, James Barton, and Billy Lane, Jr.

2006:

Cecilia Orgeron, Durell Jones, and Christopher Mire

2005:

Thomas Dillworth, Jr., Sharon Cline, Joe Walker, and Gary Aragon.

Human Resources

By
Greg Alexander

We in HR would like to congratulate **Andrina Davis**, who recently left our department for a promotion at the Alario Center. We are happy for Andrina, who we know is glad to be back on the West Bank!

Head Start Safety Seminars

In January our Safety Division completed the presentation of its annual safety seminars for all Head Start center employees. Safety Officer **Millie Brady** visited all seven Parish Head Start centers on both banks of the river. She spoke on accident and injury statistics. The #1 cause of injuries at the centers is slips, trips, and falls, so Millie discussed how to avoid these hazards. Fire safety was another important topic that Millie addressed. She discussed fire drills and extinguishers and gave some general fire safety tips. The

seminars included a film on playground safety and a presentation on Material Safety Data Sheets and child safety. Each program concluded with a brief quiz and question & answer session. Everyone who attended Millie's program will receive a certificate of attendance.

Alario Center employees recently attended CPR/AED training at the General Government Building in Gretna. Instructors Millie Brady and **Gregory Reynolds** want to thank the management of the Alario Center for providing this important program for their employees.

Millie and Greg are once again conducting this program on the East Bank in the Yenni Building once a month. Everyone is invited to register. Important changes were made to the program in 2006, so if you have not taken it in a while you may want to consider a refresher course. Call our Safety Division (736-6421) for details about class offerings.



Safety Officers Gregory Reynolds (far left) and Millie Brady (right) lead Alario Center employees in a hands-on course in CPR/AED techniques

Health Issues

By
Peggy Branan

Start the New Year Right!

The New Year is a great time to take a survey of your life. What is and is not working for you: medically, emotionally, nutritionally, socially, professionally, financially, etc.? Sometimes we get so entrenched in negative behaviors/lifestyles that we don't even recognize them for what they are.

Are you tired of carrying that monkey on your back? Once you identify problem areas in your life, it is up to you to decide if you really want to change them.

Every great military expert knows that proper strategic planning is necessary to win a war. Well, declare war now on what is holding you back in your life. Write down what it is that you want to achieve and the steps to help get you there. To help you stay focused, you may want to use a journal or a calendar. Place en-

couraging reminder notes where you can read them throughout your day. Develop multiple short-term achievable goals leading up to the big goal. Start your day contemplating your short- and long-term goals and what you will do to stay focused and how you would deal with obstacles. At the end of the day, review your progress. Remember to reward your achievements and make adjustments as needed.

Learn as much as you can: Is the problem too complex for you to tackle alone? If necessary, obtain professional help. Surround yourself with those who will support your efforts. Unfortunately, some well-meaning people may unconsciously sabotage your efforts. If you have people like this in your life, you may need to avoid telling them your plans. A common example is when you need to diet and those who truly love you shower you with your favorite dishes and desserts!!

A major obstacle for many is

trying to live in denial that their situation will get better or that they have time to deal with it later. Unfortunately, what could have been a smaller problem then takes on a life of its own. Never delay actions to nip a problem in the bud!

If you start a plan for change and fall, just pick yourself up and start over. It isn't our falling that will defeat us, but deciding not to get back up. So let today be the start of a new outlook! Be optimistic in all areas of your life. Don't entertain any negativity.

May this be your year to shine and may many blessings come your way!

Blood Donations

If you have never donated blood before or it has been a while since your last donation, I'd like to encourage you to commit to giving this year. Did you know that for every unit donated, you can help up to three people? Why donate? Our area blood banks are at an all-time low in donations since Katrina. Those who need blood and blood products can wait up to 24 hours.

You should know that the Parish medical insurance plan will cover the administration cost of blood but does *not* pay for the cost of the blood and blood products. By donating blood, you have the option to be in a blood replacement program. Check with your department's blood drive coordinator to find out when and where the Parish blood drives will be.

Be a hero and donate today. You never know when the blood that is being donated will end up in your or your family member's veins!



Safety Program Manager Nolan Guidry (pictured) and Risk Management's John Bryant visited Fire Station 13 to demonstrate the application of the "Three Points of Contact" rule for boarding and exiting a fire truck

Juvenile Services

By
Arlyn Smith

DJS Welcomes New Staff!

Welcome to new Detention Officer **Hassan Williams**; Probation Officers **Thomas Knight & Gloria Meiskey**, and Volunteer Services Coordinator **Jerry Leighton**. **Tracye Casteel** will soon transfer from Juvenile Detention Officer I to promotional Juvenile Probation Officer I.

Mr. Oliver Antoine, Trades Helper with DJS, will retire February 29, 2008. Mr. Antoine was a loyal, dedicated, hard-working employee. We will miss him, but we wish him much health and happiness in his retirement.

This reporter apologizes for omitting from the last issue our employees who were awarded 2007 Service Award Pins at the Alario Center on December 5:

25 Years Service:

Herman Price, Maintenance Repairman



President Aaron Broussard and Juvenile Services Director Roy Juncker, Jr., flank DJS service pin recipients Terence Dixon, Herman Price, Arlyn Smith and Tom Adoue

Joseph Robinson, Juvenile Detention Home Security Guard.

The Stork has been busy making deliveries at DJS – Detention Officer **Myron Hayes** became the proud father of son Dewuan on November 26, weighing in at 5 lbs., 8 ounces,

18” long; and Probation Officer **Sandra Williams** gave birth to son Kurt on January 21, weighing in at 6 lbs., 13 ounces, and 19 ½ inches long.

EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR

Congratulations to **Mose Sam**, Juvenile Detention Officer II at the Rivarde Detention Center, who has been selected as DJS Employee of the Year. Mr. Sam has been employed by DJS over 27 years.

The experience and pride that Mose brings to the job make him invaluable. He is an advocate for detention reform and assists in the overall reform efforts to make the facility run efficiently and fairly. His dedication to the citizens of Jefferson Parish and his co-workers is exemplary. Mr. Sam is very proud of this title. However, the one he’s most proud of is “Paw-Paw Podna” which was bestowed upon him by his two grandsons!



Rivarde Detention Center Supervisor Chris Bruno with Juvenile Services’ Employee of the Year Mose Sam

Community Development

By
Sevilla Finley

Director Anatola B. Thompson recently attended the grand opening of the Safe Haven Community Center in Harvey. Community Development is partnering with Operation REACH a community-based non-profit, which is operating the Center to provide local children with supervised learning activities.

Among the special guests who attended were State Representative Girod Jackson III and folks from the Jefferson Parish Sheriff's Office and the Jefferson Parish Fire Department. The Center will help local children strengthen their learning skills. Volunteers are needed; to volunteer call Rosana Gonzalez at 529-1922, Ext. 105.

Ron Johnson, Housing Improvement Counselor II, said adieu and moved to Texas to join his family who evacuated during Hurricane Katrina. Ron didn't want a luncheon, so staff gave him a couple of miniature cars for his craft collection.

Housing Update: **Director Anatola Thompson** reports that **Kim Thompson**, Housing Rehab Program Manager; **Jim Bush**, Project Coordinator, and **Liz Ruth**, Housing Counselor II, have been busy working with non-profit community development organizations through the federally funded HOME Program to bring new affordable housing to the West Bank.

To be a first-time homebuyer, one can't have owned a home in the last three years. The program offers up to \$50,000 to eligible

participants (low to moderate income citizens) to make the homes affordable.

Nine new homes are being built in the Lincolnshire Subdivision in Marrero. In Gretna, seven modular homes on Hancock Street are being built by Volunteers of America. The Gretna homes are expected to be completed by March.

Sixteen new townhouses in the Jacqueline Court Subdivision in Harvey, built by Peoples Community Subsidiary, are now complete. Sales are brisk. Six town homes have gone to acts of sale and the remaining ten are under contract. Interested participants in the First-time Homebuyers Assistance Program can call Community Development at 736-6262 or call Sevilla Finley at 736-6282.

On January 10 Parish Planners **Faye Galland** and **Michael Strausser** held Public Hearings at the Westwego Public Library on the HOME Consortium for Jefferson and St. Charles Parishes and the City of Kenner. On January 17, the East Bank Public Hearing was held at the Yenni Building. The purpose was to solicit ideas regarding community needs and priorities for public improvements, public services, and housing and economic development activities to be considered for 2008 funding programs.

The next Public Hearing is scheduled on February 13 at 10 a.m. in the West Bank Council Chambers on the Amendments to the FY-2006 and FY-2007 Action Plans. The public is invited to attend. Citizens are also invited to submit comments to the Department by February 13.

Water

By
Kathy Theriot

With 35 years of service to the Jefferson Parish Water Department, **Wayne Koffskey**, Chief Chemist, retired on December 28, 2007. There was a reception held at the Water Lab, and co-workers gathered to wish him well as he goes on to a new chapter in his life.

Congratulations to Wayne for his numerous accomplishments and outstanding contributions to the Jefferson Parish Water Department. We will all miss him, but wish him the best!

East Bank Utility Billing was the scene for a retirement party for **Samuel Carter**. Samuel began his career with Jefferson Parish in 1983 and was a valuable addition to the department. Many friends gathered to wish him a great retirement. He will be missed by all who knew and worked with him. We hope he has a wonderful retirement.

Water welcomes its latest employees: Data Entry Operator **Wanda Taylor** and Laborers **Thao Nguyen** and **Tyrone Thompson, Jr.**



Water Director Randy Schuler
with retiring Chief Chemist
Wayne Koffskey

Citizens' Affairs

By
Joanna Lee

Congratulations!!

We congratulate **Terry McCarthy** on his promotion to Executive Assistant to the Parish President. Terry did a wonderful job at running the department, and we were all sorry to see him leave. However, all is not lost, because we have the pleasure of frequent visits from Terry. Good luck, Terry, on your new position!



New Executive Assistant
Terry McCarthy

CA Gets New Director

Congratulations to **Karen Wood**, who is now the Director of Citizens' Affairs. Karen was Special Events & Services Coordinator. Karen was recently featured in a great biographical article in the *Times Picayune*.



Citizens' Affairs new Director
Karen Wood

Also, we would like to acknowledge **Joanna Lee**, who has been promoted to Typist Clerk III, a well-deserved recognition for an excellent asset to our very busy and professional department.

Carol Champagne, whose job it is to handle Special Events' permits, is quite busy. She is now wrapping up the coordination of Mardi Gras vendor permits for the 2008 Mardi Gras season. Springtime brings a rush of fairs, festivals, craft fairs, road races, block parties, special events at East and West Bank playgrounds, and other outside activities that all require permits. Carol does a fantastic job of coordinating all the paperwork required prior to submitting the necessary resolution for Council approval.

Transit News

Ryan Brown, Transit Coordinator, informs us that Jefferson is the first parish in Southeastern Louisiana to pump bio-diesel—a fuel partly refined from soy, canola, and palm oils—into its public buses. There are a lot of benefits to using bio-diesel. The switch is meant to improve air quality in the parish and reduce greenhouse gases. It will also do a small part toward lessening the domestic dependency on foreign oil.

“The process began December 6, 2007, and should include all 33 parish transit buses by the end of January 2008,” says Ryan. “It is certainly a great day for Jefferson Parish, as well as surrounding parishes.”

Library

By
Jim Davis & Linda Molinaro

The Jefferson Workforce Connection East Bank office's Mobile Unit will be in the parking lot of East Bank Regional, 4747 West Napoleon, Monday-Friday 7:30am-3:00pm for the next month. Services available on the Mobile unit include Career Searches, Occupational Information, Job Search Information, School and Scholarships Guides, and access to the Louisiana LA-VOS job website at www.laworks.net.

East Bank Regional Library will host (from the National Institutes of Health, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, and National Eye Institute) the national tour of The EYE SITE. It's an interactive exhibit, part of the NEI's nationwide program to increase awareness about low vision: impairment not correctable by regular glasses, contact lenses, medicine, or surgery. When the tour ends, it will have visited 44 states and the District of Columbia. For more information, visit www.nei.nih.gov/nehep/eyesite.

On February 13 at 7pm, Historian Edward Branley will examine “Going West: The New Orleans-Jefferson Streetcar Connection” which linked the city with her western suburbs, Metairie and Kenner. A question-and-answer session and book signing will follow. Books will be available for purchase, made possible by and benefiting Friends of Jefferson Public Library, facilitated by Octavia Books of New Orleans. This program is free and open to the public. Registration is not required.

Guest Lecturer Dr. Mary Jo Watson, Director of the School of Art at the University of Oklahoma, will speak on February 16 at 3:30pm, introduced by Joanna Sternberg, Assistant Director for Education at NOMA. Her topic will be “The Beauty of Diversity: The Aesthetics of Blue Winds Dancing—the Whitecloud Collection Of Native American Art.”



Tribal communities across the U.S. have developed distinct and specialized aesthetic expressions, evident in both the functional and decorative objects they produce. Drawing upon the cultures represented in the Museum’s current exhibition, Dr. Watson will explore the artistic canons of the



Safety Officer Millie Brady conducts a safety meeting at Lafitte Head Start

geographic regions as well as the distinctive motifs and influences that distinguish one group from another. This lecture is presented in partnership with NOMA and is made possible in part by a grant from the Ruby K. Worner Charitable Trust and NOMA.

Author Christine Vella (*Intimate Enemies, Indecent Secrets*) leads a literary panel on “The Classics: Are They Worth the Effort?” February 19 at 7pm,

including Dr. Joe Riehl, Professor of English, University of Louisiana-Lafayette, and Dr. Bill Robison, Professor of History, Southeastern Louisiana University. The panel will discuss classic works of literature, biography, history—what is worth the effort, and what isn’t. A question-and-answer session will follow. This program is free and open to the public, with no registration required.

Jefferson Parish Library Millage Renewal

Operations and maintenance of the library system are fully funded through a parish-wide millage. On Saturday, March 8, 2008, voters will be asked to consider renewing the existing 6.5 mill library millage. This millage renewal will be used to maintain the quality of service currently provided by Jefferson Parish Library and to reopen libraries damaged by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. For the value of library services you’ve enjoyed, go to <http://www.jefferson.lib.la.us/LibraryCalculator.htm>.



Sewerage Director Brett Todd (second from right) presents 10-year service pin awards to Anthony Puglise, Tammy Guillot, and Manuel Vergara

Retirements

Frances Hemenway
Drainage
39 years

Wayne Koffskey
Water
35 years

Gaynel Kliebert
Water
33 years

Elizabeth Sevin
Accounting
33 years

Gwendolyn Rogers
Code Enforcement
30 years

Carl Dillard
Sewerage
30 years

Jules Simoneaux
Streets
30 years

Chris Dunn
Drainage
26 years

Keith LeJeune
Water
25 years

Clarence Buchta
General Services
20 years

Sheldon Gebbs
Code Enforcement
19 years

Louis Giordano
Drainage
17 years



Streets & Parkways employees gathered at Lafreniere Park for a delightful Pin Luncheon on November 2, 2007. Congratulations to all!