



Volume 27
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En Réalité

Message from the Parish President. . .

Dear Fellow Employees,

In an unusual move and through extensive negotiations between the Parish and Coventry Health Care, Parish employees and their families will now have a richer health benefits plan. The plan will go into effect on August 1, 2006, and will remain in place until the end of 2007. The amount taken out of your paycheck will remain the same until the end of 2006. The Parish will also absorb the additional cost of the plan for the balance of 2006, an amount of over \$1.2 million.



Aaron Broussard, Parish President

Below are some of the differences associated with the plan:

Plan design March 2006-July 2006	Plan for August 2006-December '07
Other than doctor visits, there is a \$500 deductible, and a fee of 10% of the balance for any covered medical services	There is no deductible
There is an individual \$3,000 annual maximum out of pocket, then the plan pays at 100%.	In hospital confinements will cost \$150/day up to three days (\$450 max). Outpatient surgery is \$200.
There is a family \$6,000 annual maximum out of pocket then the plan pays at 100%. (A hospital stay almost assures the individual will pay \$3,000.)	Maximum annual individual out of pocket expense is \$1,500 and family is \$3,000.
Primary care doctor visit is \$20.00	Primary care doctor visit is \$15.00

The new plan is the same as was in effect prior to Hurricane Katrina. As we recover from the past year, we are able to allow for more opportunity. We know how valuable you are to parish government and to our citizens. Restoring insurance benefits is, hopefully, the first of several plans which will make Jefferson Parish more attractive to both our current and new employees.



En Realité

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Editor's



Notes

The benefits of taking an active role in educating ourselves about wellness cannot be overstated. When we learn about major health risks and how to minimize these risks, we are taking steps to improve and preserve our health.

With the generous cooperation of West Jefferson Medical Center and East Jefferson General Hospital, Human Resources was able to schedule eight Health Sessions from April through July to address health issues that directly affect our employees. The topics dealt with health concerns of importance to our employees as identified through surveys conducted during screening sessions at the Health Fairs in summer 2005.

Four of the sessions were conducted on the West Bank by physicians and health care providers associated with West Jefferson Medical Center:

April 13 - Stroke Awareness & Risk Factors/Exercise/Nutrition – presented by Dr. Christopher Richards; Dr. E. Ken Kerut; Lisa Clark, LCSW, CEAP; Tim Bracey; Brooke Conner Ritchie, RN, LDN

May 11 - Heart Disease & High Blood Pressure/Nutrition – presented by Jennifer Steel, RN; Dr. E. Ken Kerut; Brooke Conner Ritchie, RN, LDN

June 8 - Diabetes/ — by Dr.



Feleciano Mendoza, Jr.
Editor

Scott Acosta; Ronald Chisholm, PhD; Brooke Conner Ritchie, RN, LDN
July 13 - Cancer Prevention/ Nutrition – presented by Dr. Brent Wallis; Brooke Conner Ritchie, RN, LDN

Four of the sessions were conducted on the East Bank by health care providers associated with East Jefferson General Hospital and WJMC:

April 11 - Stroke Awareness & Risk Factors/Exercise/ Nutrition – by Tim Bracey
May 9 - Symptoms and Causes of Diabetes/ Effective Ways to Manage Diabetes – by Rose Wade

June 6 - Colon and Rectal Cancer – by Sherry Allen
July 11 - Heart Disease and High Blood Pressure – presented by Marie Orth

A total of 218 employees attended the eight sessions. Thanks to all who attended and helped make these Health Sessions 2006 a success. If these sessions help just a few people improve their health or avoid a health crisis, they are well worth our efforts.

Burke McFerrin Wins Yenni Award

At a special awards ceremony held on Friday, June 2, at the Hilton New Orleans Airport, **Burke McFerrin** received the Joseph Yenni Award as Jefferson Parish Government Employee of the Year for 2005.

Ms. McFerrin, who was also Employee of the Year for the Library Department, is the Library's Youth Services Coordinator. She and Library Director **Lon Dickerson** recently appeared on the Channel 4 Morning Show to promote the Library's Summer reading Program, which she coordinates.

The awards ceremony was part of a luncheon sponsored by Omni Bank and the Jefferson Chamber to recognize small business award winners and Jefferson Parish's outstanding employee.

Prior to Burke's appointment as Youth Services Coordinator in 2005, the Library had not had a children's and teen services coordinator in several years. She hit the ground running and

hasn't slowed down since. Burke took over the direct supervision of youth services at both regional libraries and the coordination of these services at the other branches.

Burke attended the American Library Association conference in 2005 and returned with a number of new initiatives to implement early childhood development programs. She planned a fall workshop and invited children's librarians from around the country to share their ideas.

In addition to participating in two state-sponsored reading workshops in 2005, Burke conducted an in-house workshop in March. She also collaborated with the programming coordinator at New Orleans Public Library to develop a program for booking performers for the summer reading program.

Burke's type of leadership and collaboration is invigorating. Her efforts will enable the Library to provide a much richer level of services to the youth of the parish and to enhance the educational and reading opportunities available to children.

Director Lon Dickerson says, "During Katrina, Burke was the link between the Library and many people. She did a tremendous job keeping the staff together and in boosting morale. Burke gave people tasks to do at their evacuation sites so that we could provide new programs once we were able to reopen."

Congratulations to Burke McFerrin from all of us at Jefferson Parish Government.



Burke smiles over her Joseph Yenni Award—and a juicy piece of cheesecake!



HR Director Junior Mendoza congratulates Yenni Award winner Burke McFerrin at the Jefferson Chamber luncheon in her honor

Human Resources

By
Greg Alexander

Human Resources welcomes our new Executive Assistant, **Nicole Thompson**. Nicole has been with the Parish for nine years and comes to us from Public Works Administration, where she was Administrative Assistant for four years.



HR's new Executive Assistant
Nicole Thompson

Nicole has an undergraduate degree from Southern University and an MBA from the University of Phoenix. As our Executive Assistant, she will be handling budget, monitoring HR contracts, and supervising our clerical staff.



Safety Officers Millie Brady and Larry Guchereau conducting a recent Defensive Driving session for East Bank Streets employees.

Safety Manager **Nolan Guidry** wants to congratulate the entire East Bank Streets department for successfully completing our Defensive Driving course. Thanks to a request by Superintendent **Charlie Zweifel** and the support of Streets Director **Randy Nicholson**, six sessions of the class were conducted in May, June, and July; and 79 EB Streets and Parkways employees attended. Safety Officers **Millie Brady** and **Larry Guchereau** conducted the classes.

“This is a life-saving class,” says Millie. “Most of us consider ourselves safe drivers, but how many of us are really defensive drivers? This class teaches us how. We’re so happy that the Streets Department showed the interest in the safety of its employees to allow so many to attend.”

Defensive Driving is regularly offered on a monthly basis. To inquire about the class, call Safety at 736-6129.

Health Issues

By
Peggy Branan



Be Alert to Infections

One morning while walking, your ankle brushes up against a twig. A couple days later you begin to have some discomfort to the area. It has taken on a pinkish-reddish color and is warm and tender to touch. Being busy, you try to convince yourself that it will get better. The next evening you notice that the area has enlarged, is hot to touch, and bright red in color. Your doctor’s office is closed for the day, so you leave a message on their recorder. The following day, they return your call and schedule an appointment that afternoon. By then your leg has swelling and a red streak up to the knee. The pain is unbearable when any weight is put on it. You are immediately put in the hospital for intensive antibiotic therapy. While this may be a bit of an extreme situation, it can happen. So, how can you avoid this predicament?

Numerous factors affect the infectious process: the type and amount of bacteria, the health and age of the individual, the location of the infection, and the medical treatment received. Because of the different factors, each infection is unique.

Continued on page 8

Sewerage

By
Bobbie Fose

Sewerage Comes Together for Children's Advocacy

The Department of Sewerage held a fundraiser for the Jefferson Children's Advocacy Center for abused children. A luncheon was held in which everyone enjoyed fried fish, chicken, potato salad, red beans and rice, and various other dishes and desserts. We raised over \$250.00 for this very worthwhile cause. Our main chef for this event was **Kendall Jones**. We would like to thank him and everyone who helped to make this event a big success.

A Worthwhile Cause

Please note, this is important information for all of us to have. The Jefferson Chil-



Earlier this year Sewerage Director Brett Todd presented 10-year service pin awards to several Sewerage Department employees. Left to right are Linwood Simien, Russell Norris, Jr., Stanley Lenox, Director Todd, Mary Kropog, and Superintendent Glenn Miller

dren's Advocacy Center is a place where children ages 3 through 14 can be interviewed about reports of child abuse in a safe and homelike setting. This makes it possible in most cases that children are not

taken from agency to agency. If there is a suspicion of child abuse, anyone can call Child Protective Services at 736-7033 (East Bank) or 361-6083 (West Bank), or law enforcement at 911. The Children's Advocacy Center in Gretna will provide information and referral services. For assistance call 504-364-3857.



Plant Maintenance Electrician Doyle Roe (center), Employee of the Year for the Department of Sewerage, is congratulated by Superintendent Monroe Tanner and Director Brett Todd

Employee Milestones

Service Pin Awards were presented to Department of Sewerage employees with five, ten, and fifteen years of service with Jefferson Parish. **Terrence Lee, Carl Brignac, Tramael Drake, Germaie Louis, Karen Planche, and Allen Bourgeois** all received five-year pins. **Rose Martin, Keith Jones, and Danny Ponder** received ten year pins. **Alvin Williams, Jr.**, received his pin for 15 years of service. Congratulations to all of you.

Animal Shelter

By
Kay Levy

Plan for Pets This Year

As we are approaching the anniversary of Hurricane Katrina, we reminisce on the events following the evacuation and recovery of the lost pets to their owners. As the weeks and months passed by, residents of Jefferson Parish, Orleans Parish, and St. Bernard Parish came into the shelters in search of their lost pets. There were many joyous moments of successful reunion, but sadly many tears were shed by those whose searches ended in vain.

Let us hope that pet owners now know the importance of proper identification of their pets. Everyone should have their animals micro-chipped and also wear rabies tags to assure that if their pets are lost, they can be found and re-claimed.

Pet Adoption Days

The Animal Shelter has several upcoming off-premise pet adoptions. We will offer a large selection of cats, kittens, puppies, and dogs all wanting new homes this year. The adoption fee for cats and dogs 12 weeks and over is \$57.00 and kittens and puppies 12 weeks of age and under is \$50.00. This fee includes the first set of vaccinations for the pet and also includes spaying or neutering of the pet.

All pets have been checked for good health and friendliness

by the veterinarians and kennel masters.

There will be two locations for Pet Adoption Days: Jefferson Feed & Garden Center (Central Avenue and Jefferson Highway) and PetCo (Williams Blvd and West Esplanade). The Jefferson Feed adoption days will be August 19, October 21, and November 18. Pet Adoption at PetCo will take place on September 23 and December 16. Adoption hours at both locations will be 10:00 a.m till 2:00 p.m.

The Animal Shelter also has pets for adoption daily at the East Bank and West Bank Shelters. Adoption hours are Monday through Friday 9:00 A.M. until 5:30 P.M. and Saturday 10:00 A.M. until 3:00 P.M.

Expo Bird Fair

The Animal Shelter was represented at the Greater New Orleans Expo Bird Fair held at the Alario Center on July 8 and 9.

Norma H. Briscoe, East Bank Shelter Manager; **Jackie Booker**, West Bank Shelter Manager; and **Zakita Mitchell** greeted attendees and handed out brochures for hurricane preparedness and animal shelter ordinances.

Newspapers Needed

Jackie Booker, West Bank Shelter Manager, requests that newspapers be recycled and brought to the shelter at 1869 Ames Boulevard. Newspaper is used for the lining of the cat cages.

Staff Accomplishments

We would like to welcome **Elizabeth Lewis**, Kennel Worker I, to the East Bank Shelter and also **Troy Brown**, Clerk II to the West Bank Shelter. We also send our congratulations to **Ashley Roussel**, West Bank Kennel Worker, on receiving her 5 year service pin.



Benefits Specialist Cathy Leumont receives her 15-year service award from Human Resources Director Junior Mendoza

Community Development

By
Sevilla Finley

CD Observes National Homeownership Month

Director **Anatola Thompson** and staff recently commemorated National Homeownership Month with weeklong activities. CD collaborated with Kenner's CD and NOMAR (the New Orleans Metropolitan Association of Realtors) on events at various Kenner centers, including the Hispanic Resource Center, the Westwego Senior Center, and the Gretna Community Center. Events highlighted affordable housing and other programs for seniors.

CD staff will soon begin pilot testing modular housing as part of its Replacement Housing Program funded by HOME. **Helen White**, Housing Rehab Program Manager, noted the modular



Liz Ruth, Housing Counselor II, explains the First-Time Homebuyer's Assistance Program at the Westwego Senior Center as part of CD's observation of National Homeownership Month

housing will be offered to clients already signed up whose housing is beyond repair. "The pilot program allows us to be more efficient and effective," said White. The program will apply to those who have already applied, not to new applicants at this time. **Jim Bush**, Project Coordinator, and **Dianne Washington**, Housing Counselor Supervisor III, at-

tended a workshop in Baton Rouge on modular housing.

Roof Assistance Coming

Off with the blue, on with the new – roof, that is! C.D. will be accepting applications in August at the various centers to replace storm damaged roofs. The program is for those who had no insurance or were under-insured.



Celebrating National Homeownership Month: Councilman Byron Lee; CD Director Anatola Thompson; Councilmen Elton Lagasse and Louis Congemi; Conchita Sulli of NOMAR); Diana LeBlanc; NOMAR President Dee Luscy; Missy Whittington; President Aaron Broussard; and Council members Jennifer Sneed and John Young.

CD continued

To qualify, potential applicants must provide proof of home ownership, occupy the home that needs a replaced roof, and show proof of income for all householders. And income must not exceed HUD guidelines. Helen White noted that applicants *must provide copies* of all documents at the time they apply. The program is funded under the Emergency Repair Program.

Children's Advocacy Luncheon

"Guten Tag – Good Day!"

On July 14 C.D. staff enjoyed lunch and a mini German lesson provided by the German-American Cultural Center, 519 Huey P. Long Ave. in Gretna. The luncheon benefited the Children's Advocacy Center. **Christopher J. Trosclair**, Assistant Director of Juvenile Services, who is spearheading the program, spoke. The menu

included grilled bratwurst, sauerkraut, creamed potatoes, carrots and peas, salad and dessert. *Danke Schoen!*



Director Anatola Thompson with Dianne Washington.

Community Development offers its congratulations and appreciation to **Dianne Washington** and **Ron Johnson**. Dianne, Housing Improvement Officer III, is celebrating 15 years of service to the Parish, and Ron, Housing Improvement Coun-

selor II, is marking 10 years of service.



Anatola Thompson and Ron Johnson

Health Issues continued

The type of bacteria is an important factor. There are a growing number of bacteria that have become resistant to antibiotics. Sometimes the doctor may need to obtain a wound specimen and have it tested to see what specific antibiotic will kill it.

The general health and age of the individual is important. Various medical conditions can affect the immune response. For example, poor blood flow into the tissues does not allow for removal of toxic waste byproducts and prevents the inflow of nutrients, resulting in delayed healing. A suppressed immune system does not allow for the body's natural fighting abilities. Organs already diseased can easily become over-burdened and fail. The young and elderly are more vulnerable.

The location of the infection is critical. The closer the bacteria are to a major organ, the more dangerous the situation is. The



The German-American Cultural Center served sausage and sauerkraut to CD staff to benefit the Children's Advocacy Center, July 14. Chris Trosclair, Assistant Director of Juvenile Services (standing), was the featured speaker

bacteria in an infected wound located alongside of a blood vessel can potentially enter into the vessel and travel throughout the body, resulting in septicemia.

The amount of bacteria introduced into the body is important. The strength of the immune reaction is proportioned to the amount of bacteria in the body. For example, one bite of contaminated food is easier for the body to react to than an entire meal that is contaminated.

The final outcome may be totally dependent upon when and what type of medical treatment one receives. Delays in treatment can worsen a condition. Delayed suturing allows an easy entrance site for bacteria. If the bacteria do not respond to the prescribed antibiotic, a new course of antibiotic therapy must be started, thus delaying the healing process.

If immediate attention would have been given in our scenario, a much different outcome would have probably occurred. Be on the alert for the signs and symptoms of an infection: redness, swelling, heat/fever, discomfort, & drainage. Once medical care has begun, especially with antibiotics, the condition should steadily improve. If not, a different treatment may be necessary. Delays in treatment can be deadly; so, if in doubt for what to do, get it

Planning

By
Terri Wilkinson

Parish planners **Adam Williams** and **Julie Buffa** represented Planning at the “Design for Pedestrian Safety” conference held at the New Orleans office of the Regional Planning Commission in June. The conference focused on highway and street design that incorporates planning for pedestrian activities and facilities. Adam and Julie analyzed aerial photographs of several problematic intersections in the New Orleans CBD and actually visited the intersections for site analysis. They concluded the conference with design charrettes that enabled them to transform the vehicle-dominated intersections into ones that accommodated pedestrians in a more people-friendly way.

As the next step in the recovery plans underway in parishes affected by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, the LRA (Louisiana Recovery Authority) held *Louisiana Speaks* regional plan Stakeholder Workshops in July in New Orleans, Baton Rouge, Lafayette, and Lake Charles. Planning Director **Ed Durabb** and planner **Terri Wilkinson** were stakeholders; and planners **Julie Buffa**, **Juliette Cassagne**, **Lacey Guidry**, **Don Lapeyrolerie**, and **Adam Williams** were facilitators at the New Orleans regional workshop. They participated in small group discussions and interactive exercises focused on the topics of coastal restoration and protection, community growth and transportation, and economic development. These sessions will help formulate a vision and long-range regional

plan for South Louisiana and establish priority policies and strategies that will cohesively guide the plan. For more information visit the LRA’s planning website at www.louisianaspeaks.org.



Planning Director Ed Durabb with Planner Julie Buffa (standing) at the LRA Workshop

Despite the logistical challenges of its post-Katrina dislocation, Planning rallied together for the July Brown Bag Luncheon and raised \$272 for the Jefferson Children’s Advocacy Center. Coordinator **Rene Maggio** raffled an authentic 2006 Indy 500 t-shirt that he bought firsthand at this year’s race. Thanks to Rene for taking the lead and congratulations to Personnel’s **Ana Louviere** for winning the t-shirt.

Planner **Juliette Cassagne** announces that the American Cancer Society’s fund-raising walk “Making Strides Against Breast Cancer,” which was cancelled last year because of Hurricane Katrina, will be held on October 21, starting at Audubon Park’s Shelter # 10. E-mail Juliette at jcassagne if you would like more information or are interested in participating in the walk.

Traffic Engineering

By
Carole Leteff & David Stout

Michael Howell, Sign Technician II, was recently promoted to a Sign and Marking Foreman. Michael has been with Traffic Engineering for 8 years and oversees roadway projects in the layout and installation of roadway markings on our Jefferson Parish streets. Congratulations, Michael. We are fortunate to have you in our Division.

Work in Progress

New traffic signal installations are ongoing at Manhattan south of Gretna Blvd. and Fountain Park North and South.

Service Pins

Congratulations to all of this year's Traffic Engineering's service pin recipients pictured below. They received their service pins on June 29, 2006.



Front row- Alfred Maggio, 10 yrs.; Marilyn Slutsky, 5 yrs.; Dawn Daleo, 10 yrs.; Eric Scott, 5 yrs. Back row- Rigoberto Rodriguez, 10 yrs.; Kevin Moore, Traffic Eng. Supervisor; James Lambert, 15 yrs; Mark Drewes, Engineering Director. Not pictured- Scott Bairnsfather, 5 yrs.

Environmental

By
Barbara Arcement

Environmental Affairs Director **Marnie Winter** is pleased to announce that she has chosen Environmental Quality Supervisor **Katherine Costanza** as the new Assistant Director to replace Paul O'Rourke, who retired on June 2, 2006. All of the staff at Environmental would like to congratulate Katherine, and we wish her luck in this new endeavor.

Mosquito season is in full swing and we thought some mosquito control tips would be helpful:

- Wear insect repellent and apply according to the manufacturer's instructions.
- Wear light-colored long pants and long sleeves to cover exposed skin.
- Repair holes in door and window screens.
- Add sand to plant pot drip trays to absorb excess water.

- Get rid of old tires, buckets, drums, bottles or any water-holding containers.
- Fill in or drain any low places (puddles, ruts) in the yard.
- Keep drains, ditches, and culverts clean of weeds and trash so water will drain properly.
- Cover trash cans to keep out rain-water.
- Empty plastic wading pools four to five times a week and store indoors when not in use.
- Tree rot holes and hollow stumps can hold water; make sure they are filled with sand or concrete.
- Change water in birdbaths and plant pots or drip trays four to five times a week.
- Keep your grass cut short and shrubbery well trimmed around the house so adult mosquitoes will not hide there.
- For places like stagnant ponds, rain barrels and low-lying wet areas, use environmentally friendly larvicides, which kill mosquito larvae without danger to people, pets, or wildlife.

Storm Debris Info

Since we gave you some tips on controlling mosquitoes, we thought we would also give you some tips for getting rid of your storm debris: If you are placing your debris curbside for pick up, remember to keep your storm debris separate from your household garbage. Try not to place debris next to poles, fire hydrants, or mail boxes.

FEMA will not pick up reconstruction debris or debris generated by the remodeling of storm damaged structures. Additionally, FEMA will not pick up debris generated from commercial structures. It is the responsibility of the property owner to have this debris removed from the site.

Environmental continued

Jefferson Parish residents may also bring trash and storm debris to one of the regular Waste Management Trash Drop-off Sites located at:

- 400 David Drive in Metairie
- End of City Park Boulevard in Lafitte
- Wall Boulevard in Gretna (one block south of Lapalco Boulevard)
- 6250 Lapalco Boulevard in Marrero

The Waste Management Trash Drop-off Sites are open from 10 a.m. to 6:30 p.m., Tuesday through Sunday. All sites are closed on Monday. The sites are free to Jefferson Parish residents. Residents must show proof of Jefferson Parish residency in the form of a valid driver's license.

Contractors using the Waste Management Trash Drop-off Sites will be charged the following to use these sites: \$14 for pick-up trucks and \$20 for trailers. Waste Management may direct contractors and residents to the Jefferson Parish landfill for disposal depending on space constraints and the size of the vehicle. The Jefferson Parish Sanitary Landfill at 5800 Highway 90 West in Waggaman, is open daily from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Saturday, and from 6 a.m. to noon on Sunday. There is no charge for Jefferson Parish residents to use the landfill. Contractors will be charged a tipping fee of \$28 per ton to use the Jefferson Parish Landfill.

Parkways

By
Angela Winchester

Yee Haw!!!! It's Grand Isle Rodeo time again. Parkways employees are once again busting their—well, they're working hard. They're mowing, spraying, planting, sweating-- you know, the same stuff they do when they're here. We're left with a skeleton crew, but man can those bones work. Our old/new Director **Kai Adams**, is down there also, learning the ropes and help-

ing our guys out.

The Queen of Parkways, **Patsy Blackman**, Foreman II, received her 25 year pin; it's count-down time, but we're not letting her leave. Nope, not yet. **Collis Linson**, Superintendent I, received the Employee of the Year award. Congratulations to Collis; your 25 years with the Parish have finally paid off!

We're slowly rebuilding our personnel, one laborer at a time. It's a slow process, but we're coming along as I'm sure every other Parish department is also.

See ya next time.



Parkways Employee of the Year Collis Linson receives his award from President Aaron Broussard



Patsy Blackman accepts congratulations upon 25 years of service from President Broussard and Parkway Director Kai Adams

Juvenile Services

By
Arlyn Smith

The Department of Juvenile Services is proud to report we collected \$610.00 for the Brown Bag Lunch Campaign for the Jefferson Children's Advocacy Center.

Assistant Director **Chris Trosclair** led the campaign for the entire Parish and reports a parish-wide contribution of \$6000. Thanks to all who contributed to this worthy cause.

We want to thank the following individuals who help us during the summer months: Intern **Nikki Johnson**; Clerks **Danielle Hebert**, **Megan Guillot**, and **Matthew Villio**; Teachers **Lucy Bates**, **Beverly Davis**, **Beverly Gilbert**, **Marble Pierre**, **Mary Sawyer-Williams** & **Frank Williams**. We appreciate all their assistance during the summer months.

The Director recently pre-

sented Juvenile Services employees with 2006 Service Award Pins:

5 years: **Julia Roy**, **Gaynell Hymel**, and **Tiyeshe Washington**

10 years: **Lawrence Price, Jr.**, **Barbara Rose**, **Allison Toups**, **John Ryals, Jr.**, and **Melicia Dupaquier**

15 years: **Patricia Barry**, **Eugene Thomas**, and **Jessie Taylor**

Welcome to **Tara Williams**, Juvenile Detention Officer; and Cooks **Demetris England**, **Dezandee Lawson**, and **Denita Hunter**, who are working at the Rivarde Detention Center; and Probation Officer **Nicole Jones** at our East Bank Office.

Farewell to **James Jefferson**, **Herbert Green**, and **Lawrence Price**, who recently resigned their positions of Juvenile Detention Officers at the Rivarde Detention Center. We wish them well in their new endeavors.

Emergency Management

By
Sandra Ancar-Encalade

Hurricane Season Is Here: Get Ready, Get the Facts!

Since the commencement of the 2006 hurricane season on June 1, two named storms, Alberto and Beryl, have developed. The prediction for the 2006 hurricane season is 11 to 15 named storms, six to eight hurricanes, and two to four major hurricanes. In 2005, the Atlantic hurricane season contained a record 28 storms, including 15 hurricanes. Seven of these hurricanes were considered "major," of which four hit the United States.

All citizens residing in travel trailers should pay close attention to radio and television reports to receive important information from local and state officials concerning hurricane precautions. No travel trailer or mobile home can be a safe shelter from storm force winds.

EIS

By
Angele Alexander

Rae Perkins, Administrative Assistant, will be leaving EIS to take a position at the Alario Center. It has been a pleasure working with Rae. The department wishes her well as she moves on.

A.J. Tapie, GIS Manager, retired after 27 years of service with Jefferson Parish. Congratulations on your retirement, A.J.

Service Pins were awarded to **Rae Perkins**, Administrative Assistant, and **Ken Martin**, Senior Systems Analyst, for 20 years of service. Congratulations from the EIS staff.



Human Resources recently hosted an "Ice Cream Social" for the Department Contacts who helped schedule the successful supervisory harassment training. Left to right are Liz Mitchell (Recreation), Nancy Rodriguez (HR), Cita Marchese (Recreation), Marie Ricks (Streets), and Irene Williams (Library)

General Services

By
Kathy Theriot

Council Meeting Returns to Yenni Building

On Wednesday, July 19, 2006, the Jefferson Parish Council gathered in the Council Chambers on the second floor of the Joseph S. Yenni Building for the first time since Hurricane Katrina. Our government's return to the East Bank Chambers is an important sign of Jefferson Parish's progress toward normalcy.

We would like to thank all of our General Services employees who worked to prepare the Council Chambers for the meeting.

Staff Recognition

Several General Services employees received years of service pins this month. They are as follows:

Peter Marx—25 years



Executive Assistant Janet Gray (left) and General Services Director Anthony Francis congratulate Shanna Parria, Michelle Dufrene, and Rachel Riego on their new positions

George Folse—20 years

Arthur Moore—20 years

Van Taylor—20 years

Janet Gray—15 years

Michelle Dufrene—15 years

Shanna Parria—5 years

William Hamm—5 years

We have several promotions to announce:

Shanna Parria: Typist Clerk III

Michelle Dufrene: Administrative Assistant

Rachel Riego: Secretary

Mike Scardino—Property Manager, Yenni Building

Dale Esteves: Assistant Property Manager

Gary Vukich: Assistant Property Manager

Gregory Jeffery: Trades Helper

Rick Peart: Trades Helper

Jerry Lehrmann: Staff Engineer II



Assistant Property Manager George Folse, Van Taylor, Arthur Moore, and Peter Marx received service certificates from General Services Director Anthony Francis and Property Manager Mike Lemoine.

General Services offers special congratulations to **Arthur Moore, Jr.**, who is retiring after 20 years of service to Jefferson Parish.

Our department welcomes the following employees who have joined our department: **Richard Thibodeaux, Clarence Jackson, Shanna Parria** and **Myles Jenkins**. We are sorry to say that **Jeanette Berthelot**, Typist Clerk III, has decided to leave General Services. We wish her the best.

Streets

By
Michelle Swenson

Streets is pleased to welcome our new Executive Superintendent, **Amber Breaux**. She comes to us from General Services, where she worked as an administrative assistant. Amber has been here only a short time but has quickly become part of the Street Department family.

We have some other new faces. **Cody Mayet** and **Jeremy Ballew** started working in our East Bank maintenance division, and **Ryan Pike** and **Keiron Walker** started in our West Bank maintenance division. We are pleased to have you on board. We would also like to welcome our summer workers: **Simone Delahoussaye**, **Dwight Galliano**, **Ashley Holmes**, **Rachel Kass**, **Shane Leonard** and **Kristy Sevin**. We will be sorry when you all go since you have been such an asset. Good luck to you all in your futures, and I am sure we will see some of you next year.

I would also like to add that **Kristy Sevin** received a Bank Scholarship Award sponsored by Street Department's very own **Kori Allemand**. Way to go, Kristy!

Maria Gibson organized the JCAC Brown Bag Lunch Campaign for our department, and we were able to collect \$250.00 to go towards this worthy cause. Our thanks to Maria for all the work she put into it. We would like to wish **Rosalie Dyer** well, and we all hope to see her back soon.

Parks & Recreation

By
Gwen Styron

Our 2006 FALL Activity Guide will be available on our website at www.jeffparish.net – Parks & Recreation page (Adobe Acrobat Reader required) by mid August and can be obtained at all local playgrounds and libraries the week of August 24. It will be inserted into the August 24 edition of the *Times-Picayune*. For more information call 736-6999 or 349-5000 or e-mail jprecreation@jeffparish.net

Football, volleyball, and cheerleading registration will begin in August. To participate, a child must have reached the age of 6 by September 1, 2006.

Welcome to Recreation . . .

- **Cheryl Anderson** as Payroll Clerk in EB Main Office
- **Chris Guillot** as Groundskeeper at Waggaman
- **Tiffany Joseph** as ½ Asst. Center Supervisor – Girls Programs at PARD
- **Jeffrey Lewis** as Asst. Center Supervisor at Waggaman
- **Jeffrey Marquette** as Groundskeeper at LaSalle Park
- **Melvin McElwee** as Groundskeeper at Lemon
- **Rox Anne Sclafani** as Administrative Assistant in the EB Main Office
- **Timothy Rogers** as Groundskeeper in EB Maintenance
- **Joseph Tiffany** as ½ Asst. Center Supervisor at Terrytown

Appointments . . .

- **Brendan Burns** as Recreation Zone Manager in WB Administration
- **Rebecca Firmin** as Typist Clerk

III in WB Maintenance

- **Harold Mitchell** as Equipment Operator III in WB Maintenance
- **Paul Pace** as Truck Driver I in EB Maintenance
- **Mike Scott** as Area Coordinator of WB Maintenance

Congratulations to the Employees of the Month . . .

- March - **Jeffrey Lewis**, ½ Assistant Center Supervisor – Nights at Terrytown
- April - **Cornell Garrison**, Groundskeeper at Nicholson
- May - **Lizette Mitchell**, Administrative Assistant at the West Bank Office
- June - **Walter “Joe” Gordon**, Groundskeeper at Terrytown
- July – **Rhonda Collins**, Typist Clerk III at the West Bank Office

We will sadly miss . . .

- **Darlene Witmeyer**, Administrative Assistant, who has relocated to Denver.
- **Annette Parker**, Typist Clerk III, who has relocated to Indiana.
- **Poorng Choum**, Typist Clerk III

Retiring . . .

Georgette Ragan, Typist Clerk III at the Main Office



President Broussard congratulates Mark Drewes for 5 years of service and for his promotion to Director of Engineering

Drainage

By
Maria Cervini

The Drainage Department would like to welcome our new employees: **Benita Smith, Fredrick Carter, Joe Smith, Jude Richard, Keith Craig, Leslie Alegria, Paul Babcock, Robert Weems, Stephanie Wade, and Thomas Ziglar.** We are very happy to have them on board with us and wish them the very best.

Please extend, along with me, a great big welcome and congratulations to **Claire Delyea**, Secretary to Director, **Kazem Alikhani**. Claire started her employment with the Parish in 1991 as a Clerk Typist in the Federal Program of Employment and Training; moved to the West Bank President's office in the same capacity in 1999, and briefly worked (5 months) in the building section of Inspection and Code Enforcement before her promotion to Secretary. We wish her the very best with her new endeavor.

Drainage would like to commend a West Bank team consisting of **Roland Cola**, Equipment Operator IV, and **Ernest Harris**, Trades Helper, on a job well done while they were recently on assignment. The Jefferson Parish Sheriff's Department called their Supervisor, **Frank Maness**, Superintendent II, to commend them on their professionalism and attitude on the job while cleaning the drains with the Vac-truck.

We would also like to congratulate the following employ-



Observing Rene "Big Buford" Keller's retirement are Albert Berry, Drainage Director Kazem Alikhani, Big Buford, and Drainage managers Frank Maness and Lonnie Robinson

ees on their recent promotions. **Michael Picou**, Equipment Operator III East Bank Drainage, has been with the Parish five years and recently became Equipment Operator IV. **Jac Barnett**, Laborer Semi Skilled East Bank Drainage, has been with the Parish two years and was recently promoted to Forman I. **Clinton Daigrepoint**, Laborer Semi Skilled West

Bank Drainage, has been with the Parish two years and was recently promoted to Trades Helper.

We wish our retirees, **Rene "Big Buford" Keller, Malcolm Dubois, and Harrison Davis** the very best and know they'll enjoy their retirement. Thank you for your dedication and hard work coupled with a combined service of many years.



Recently Director Alikhani presented Drainage employees Clayton Michaud, Randy Rivero, and Brian Ladieu with 20-year service pins.

Library

By
Jim Davis

Grand Isle Library Reopens

Jefferson Parish Library celebrated the “Grand” Grand Isle Library Reopening on Thursday, June 7, with Grand Isle dignitaries and library representatives in attendance. Though it will be some time before the library building can be restored, the generosity of two libraries has enabled us to provide basic library services to the area.

Gertie the Bookmobile was a gift from the Waukegan Public Library. The “Cybermobile” is a loaner from the Muncie Public Library. They are located in the Grand Isle Library’s parking lot. Hours are 10:00am – 6:00pm, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Fridays, and Saturdays.

EBR Hosts Gates Foundation Press Conference

EB Regional’s Children’s Wing was chosen as the site for

the world-wide Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation media event announcing the \$12.2 million library grants for Louisiana and Mississippi. Participating in the program were **Governor Blanco** and **Lieutenant Governor Mitch Landreau**.

The Institute for Museum and Library Services announced an additional contribution of \$500,000 to support staffing of the temporary libraries. Jefferson Parish Library anticipates benefiting from the Gates grant by getting two state-of-the-art temporary facilities at two severely damaged locations, Lakeshore and Belle Terre. At the same time, it was announced that the Bush-Clinton Katrina Fund is making \$5 million available to support new reconstruction and recovery of Gulf Coast public libraries. Jefferson Parish Library anticipates getting its fair share of the Bush-Clinton contribution as well. We thank Councilman Capella and Councilman Young for representing Jefferson Parish at this significant event.

Encounter Group

EB Regional Library will host “*Encounter in Louisiana: Conflict and Confluence in Literary Currents*,” a six-week series of readings and discussions about Louisiana’s cultural diversity as expressed in literature.

The program is free and open to the public and will be held on Wednesdays from 7:00 to 9:00 p. m., from September 6 through October 11.

“Encounter in Louisiana” will be conducted by Dr. Gary Richards, Associate Professor of English at the University of New Orleans. Registration is required because of limited book sets for the series; register by calling 838-1100, x274.

ALA comes to Jefferson

During the American Library Association convention in New Orleans in June, Jefferson Parish Library received assistance from 75 volunteer librarians from around the U.S. as part of the ALA “Libraries Build Communities” project. These volunteer librarians worked with the Friends of the Jefferson Public Library to host two book sales and assisted our staff in numerous ways. “The amount of work they did was amazing. They were a huge help,” said Selena Muhoberac, the coordinator of the effort for the Jefferson Parish Library.

Also, during the ALA conference, Jefferson Parish Library hosted tours of damaged libraries and a social event for the visiting librarians. On Sunday, June 25, librarians who worked for libraries that had donated to



Participating in the ribbon cutting at the Grand Isle reopening are Elizabeth Reso, Assistant Branch Supervisor; Alice' Thomas, Grand Isle Library Page; Eurus Dubois, Chief of Police; Carroll Allemand, Council Member, Grand Isle; Verdie Richburg, Branch Supervisor; Ray Santiny, Council Member and Town Clerk, Grand Isle; Tim Kirby, Grand Isle Library Branch Manager; and Lon Dickerson, Jefferson Parish Library Director.

Jefferson Parish Library were escorted on a tour of four damaged libraries. Then the librarians attended an evening soiree at EB Regional, where Director **Lon Dickerson** gave a short presentation on the status of the Jefferson Parish Library. "We couldn't have done it without help from our faithful volunteers, the Friends," said Lon.

Many Friends left with the commitment to redouble their efforts back home to increase their donations to Friends to aid in our libraries' recovery.

Voices of Louisiana

Jefferson Parish Library will host The Evacuation Theatre Troupe's *Voices of Louisiana*, a local preview premiere of the production before the troupe's national tour. The performance will be Tuesday, August 8, at 7:00 p.m. in the Jefferson-Napoleon Meeting Room at EB Regional Library, 4747 West Napoleon Ave. The program, which will include a discussion by the playwright, is free and open to the public and entertaining for all ages. Registration is not required, but attendance is limited to posted room capacity. Please join us to enjoy the program and to send the Troupe off on its tour of the lands of the Louisiana Purchase with the appreciative support of us folks back home.

Voices of Louisiana, written by Arabi playwright Barry Lemoine, (creator of the acclaimed *An Evening with Betsy: Voices from the Storm*) and a production of the Voices Foundation, is both a hilarious look at

the events leading up to the Louisiana Purchase—still the best deal ever made—as well as a poignant look at the contributions and recent hardships of Louisiana. More than that, VOICES is a reminder that, just as in 1803, we are all neighbors, and delivers the message that "Our story is your story" to the nation.

Coffee and Conversation

We will begin our fifth year of the Coffee and Conversation series on August 15, 7:00 p.m. at EBR with Jed Horne of the *Times Picayune*, author of the excellent *Breach of Faith*. Other authors in the series, running August through November, include Tom Franklin (*Smonk: A Southerner*), Christine Wiltz (*The Last Madame*), John Magill and Peggy Scott Laborde (*Canal Street: The Great Wide Way*), Elizabeth Dewberry (*His Lovely Wife*), and Pulitzer Prize winner Robert Olen Butler (*A Good Scent from a Strange Mountain*). In September, there's also Richard Campanella (*The Geographies of New Orleans*); in October, bestselling author Erica Spindler (*Copycats*) will visit us;

in November, we'll have Fred Turner (*Redemption*, set in Storyville) and Carl T. Smith (*Louisiana Burn*).

For further information about these and other upcoming programs, see Jefferson Parish Library's website at www.jefferson.lib.la.us or call Jim Davis, Information Specialist, at (504) 838-1100, x262. All library programs are free and open to the public; registration is required for programs as indicated.

Retirements

Usually it is **Brenda Howard**, our Administrative Assistant for Personnel, who lets me know others to mention here. Sadly for us, but well earned for her, Brenda has just retired. Since she is a faithful attendee at library programs, especially when we have guest authors, and since she is a writer herself, we know we will be seeing her, but still she will be missed at work. We bid her a fond adieu, as well as **Joanne Warner** and **Rosemary Orphys** (who, on a personal note, I have to thank for being here; she was the person who told me that the Library



President Broussard presents Public Information Officer Jacqueline Bauer with her 15-year service pin award

Retirements

Monroe Tanner
Sewerage
30 years

Rene Keller, Jr.
Drainage
30 years

Rosemary Orphys
Library
27 years

Sherman Johnson
Streets
26 years

Brenda Howard
Library
26 years

Michael Cannatella
water
25 years

C.M. Joy Alfortish
Citizens' Affairs
24 years

Robert Jones, Jr.
Parkways
21 years

Gary Dufour
Engineering
21 years

Emile Lafourcade
Criminal Justice
19 years

Georgette Ragan
Recreation
13 years

Lucien Sabathe
General Services
13 years

JoAnn Warner
Library
10 years

Back in Their Old Digs



On July 19 President Broussard and the Council held the first Council Meeting on the East Bank since Katrina. Thanks to the General Services staff for the fine work they did to make the return possible.