



NEWS RELEASE

JOHN F. YOUNG, JR.
PARISH PRESIDENT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
November 30, 2010

Construction on the New Grand Isle Library Begins December 6th with Groundbreaking Ceremony at New Site

New library will be high-tech, high off the ground, and able to withstand hurricane-force winds

WHAT: Groundbreaking Ceremony for New Grand Isle Library

WHEN: Monday, December 6th, 2010, at 10:30 a.m.

WHERE: New Grand Isle Library site, corner of Ludwig and LA 1, in front of Grand Isle School

CONTACT: Mark Deane, (504) 838-1100 x 262, mdeane@jefferson.lib.la.us

Jefferson Parish Library is "Building Back Better" with a brand new library in Grand Isle. Construction will begin on the new Grand Isle Library with a Groundbreaking Ceremony on **Monday, December 6th, at 10:30 a.m.**, at the site of the new library on the corner of Ludwig and LA 1, in front of Grand Isle School.

The new Grand Isle Library will be a destination for Grand Isle residents to get the information they need the way they want it—in books, audiobooks, DVDs, CDs, on a computer or off the shelf. The library will be full of high-tech resources, including eight public access computers (compared with two before Hurricane Katrina), Metro Ethernet for high-speed internet, free wireless internet, and laptops for use in the library. There will also be spots for library users to sit and plug in their laptops for power.

The new building's design will emphasize comfort and usability. There will be seating for 29 people, with wide aisles and face-out shelving, which displays a book's eye-catching front cover rather than its spine. The children's area will feature kid-size furniture to make sure everyone has a place to sit down, get comfortable, and enjoy the library.

The new Grand Isle Library will be built for life on a barrier island. It will be 26 feet off the ground and strong enough to withstand hurricane-force winds. There will be an elevator to ensure all library users have easy access to the raised library.

Hurricane Katrina's winds ripped a large hole in the old library's roof, destroying the entire collection and everything inside. Grand Isle Library reopened in temporary facilities in 2006, thanks to a Cybermobile on loan from Muncie (IN) Public Library and a bookmobile donated by Waukegan (IL) Public Library. The library continues to operate in the two buses located at 2757-1 La. Hwy. 1.

The public is invited to attend the Groundbreaking Ceremony for the New Grand Isle Library. For more information, please contact Jefferson Parish Library Information Specialist Mark Deane at (504) 838-1100 x 262, or (504) 849-8826, or by email at mdeane@jefferson.lib.la.us.

###