



Volume 32  
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**EMERGENCY**

## Message from the Parish President . .

### Emergency Preparedness Plans

I am pleased to announce the official opening of the new Jefferson Parish 911/Emergency Operations Center (EOC). The EOC, located at 910 Third Street in Gretna, is a 67,000 square-foot state-of-the-art facility capable of sustaining itself and emergency personnel for up to 14 days. The EOC will provide continuity and coordination of government and emergency operations in the event a catastrophic event.

The new EOC will provide the JP Sheriff's Office, Emergency Telecommunications, Emergency Operations, and the President's office and staff with a command and operations center that will ensure that all of our emergency needs are provided for. In addition, we will be able to handle live broadcasts from the center so that our citizens are continually informed of our progress during an emergency.

Jefferson Parish already provides JPAAlert, a free notification system that allows officials to immediately contact Parish residents in the event of a major crisis or emergency. Alerts and notifications can be received by email, cell phone, pager, smartphone, and other handheld devices. With JPAAlert, Jefferson Parish residents can rest assured that they are connected to the most up-to-date emergency information available at any given time. Citizens can sign up for JPAAlert at [www.jpalert.org](http://www.jpalert.org).

I also strongly urge Jefferson Parish businesses to update their business continuity plans so that they are best prepared for and able



John F. Young  
 Parish President

to respond to and recover from any emergency or disaster. This includes updating re-entry placards through the JumpStart Jefferson program to ensure that, in the event of an evacuation, Jefferson Parish businesses will be among the first to come back and recover. Placards can be checked and updated by going to [www.jumpstartjefferson.com](http://www.jumpstartjefferson.com).

I feel confident that with the opening of the brand new EOC, as well as the availability of information and recovery through JPAAlert and JumpStart Jefferson, our parish will be able to manage any emergency event with the utmost speed, security, and safety. We are very proud of Jefferson Parish's commitment to emergency preparedness and believe that with these major safety systems in place, Jefferson Parish will be prepared to quickly and efficiently recover from any potential catastrophic event. This is an important addition to Jefferson Parish and another example of how we are working together to make our parish a better and safer place to live, work, and raise a family.

*En Realité*

Editor.....Peggy O. Barton  
 Managing Editor.....Greg Alexander

**Departmental Reporters**

- Alario Center**  
Deirdre Cummings
- Animal Shelter**  
Danielle Williams
- Citizens' Affairs**  
Tracie Chaix
- Community Development**  
Sevilla White Finley
- Drainage**  
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Patricia Lyons
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Frances Turner

*Editor's*



*Notes*

**It's that time again...**

Starting June 1, 2011, we have officially entered 2011's Hurricane Season. Although no one can predict the future with certainty, weather experts predict an "above-normal" 2011 Atlantic hurricane season, one that could bring 12 to 18 named storms with winds of 39 mph or higher. With the six-month hurricane season beginning, I encourage employees to prepare themselves and their families for a possible hurricane.

**Remember JPAAlert**

One way to prepare yourself is to sign up for JPAAlert, the Jefferson Parish Community Alert system. You can sign up to receive notifications during a hurricane or other type of emergency at [www.jpalert.org](http://www.jpalert.org). The system will notify you during a major crisis or emergency and can deliver important alerts and updates to electronic devices including email and cell phones. Please keep in mind that while JPAAlert is a free service, your wireless carrier may charge you to receive messages on your cell phone or other electronic device.

**Emergency Leave Policies**

And, since hurricane season is the most likely time for an emergency to be declared, I'd like to



Peggy O. Barton  
 Editor

encourage all employees to review the Parish's policies regarding Emergency Leave as presented in Personnel Rule 9, Section 4.

It is particularly important to remember that Emergency Leave will not be granted to employees who are on Leave Without Pay immediately before and after the declared emergency. Also, recall that in order to qualify for Emergency Leave, an employee must be available for work and otherwise scheduled to work. For example, if an employee had already scheduled Annual Leave for a period of time when an emergency was declared, he would not be placed on Emergency Leave but would have to use his scheduled Annual Leave. If you have any questions, please contact your supervisor.

You'll find other hurricane-preparedness articles in this and future editions of *En Realité*. For example, see President Young's message and Emergency Management's article on Page 14.

I wish you and your family a safe and gentle hurricane season.

## Planning

By  
Marilyn Slutsky

**Larry Massey**, Planner in the Research Section, was a speaker at the American Planning Association New Orleans Metro Section's luncheon held on April 1 at the University of New Orleans. He and other panel members spoke about their professional experiences to students enrolled in UNO's Urban Planning Program.

On April 8, Planning Department staff wished **Jessica Duet**, Planner in the Land Use Section for six years, a fond farewell. Jessica relocated to Houston, where she joined the City of Sugar Land Planning Department.

The eleventh Annual Tree School, sponsored by Friends of Jefferson the Beautiful, was held on April 13 at the Jefferson Parish East Bank Regional Library. Planners **Juliette Cassagne**, **Rob Johnston**, **James Borsos**, **Larry Massey**, **Bess Renfrow**, **Katrina**



Juliette Cassagne and Planning Director Ed Durabb congratulate Alex Carter (center) for her Master's Degree in Urban and Regional Planning

**Van Every**, **Adam Williams**, and Graduate Assistant Interns **Alex Carter** and **Devon McGuinness** attended this workshop on the care and preservation of tree canopy in the urban landscape. Planning Director **Ed Durabb** gave a presentation entitled *The Importance of Planning before Planting*.

**Juliette Cassagne** and **Adam Williams** attended the Designing

Streets for Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety Workshop with engineers and other planners held April 18-20 at the Regional Transportation Management Center in New Orleans. They learned good design principles for pedestrian and bicycle facilities such as intersection design, signalization, and dedicated bicycle lanes.

We are happy to announce the birth of **Abbye Sanaa Johnson** on April 25 to Planner **Tanisha Johnson** and her husband Rance Johnson. Abbye is beautiful!

For Administrative Professionals Day on April 27, Planning staff treated administrative staff members **Kivana Cole**, Typist Clerk III; **Darlene Duet**, Stenographer III; **Sue Durabb**, Planning Aide; **Carolyn Hidalgo**, Secretary; **Marilyn Slutsky**, Typist Clerk III; and **Diana Soileau**, Typist Clerk III, to a delicious raspberry chocolate cake from Sucré, long stemmed red roses, flowers, and chocolates in appreciation for their assistance throughout the year.



Planning's Kivana Cole, Darlene Duet, and Carolyn Hidalgo (front row);and Sue Durabb and Marilyn Slutsky (back row) observe Administrative Professionals Day

**Streets**

By  
Debbie Tunstall

**Graduation**

Our C.O.E. student **Maya Johnson** has graduated from Higgins High School and will now attend the University of Lafayette. We thank you, **Maya**, for all of your much needed help in our department.



Maya Johnson of Streets

**New Employees**

We extend a big welcome to new employees **Ashton Bolton** (Truck Driver II, WB Streets), and **Lodis Perkins** (Equipment Operator III, WB Streets).

**Promotions**

Congratulations to the following employees on their recent promotions: **Donald Boudreaux** (Road Maintenance Superintendent I, WB Streets); **Nicolle Byars** (Executive Assistant, Purchasing Dept.); **Cedric James** (Road Maintenance Foreman, WB Streets); **Edgar McKnight**

(Laborer Semi-Skilled, WB Streets); **Ryan Pike** (Equipment Operator III, WB Streets); **Dustin Rojas** (Laborer Semi-Skilled, EB Streets); **Keon Robinson** (Laborer Semi-Skilled, EB Streets); and **Sarah Ruttlely** (Typist Clerk III, WB Streets).

**Retirements**



Newly Promoted Executive Assistant Nicolle Byars

Good luck and congratulations on the recent retirements of **Melvin Boudreaux** (Equipment Operator III, WB Streets); **John Harper** (Semi-Skilled Laborer, WB Streets); **Eddie Polizzi** (Equipment Operator III, WB Streets), **Rosell Taylor** (Truck Driver II, WB Streets), and **Wayne Peanut Williams** (Superintendent III, EB Streets).

**Condolences**

We extend our deepest sympathy to Engineering Inspector **Steve Roth**, who recently lost his father. Our prayers are with you and your family, Steve.

**Community Development**

By  
Sevilla Finley

Anniversaries and budgets dotted the April and May calendars for staff at the Department of Community Development.

Spearheaded by Director **Anatola Thompson**, Parish Planner III **Faye Galland**, and Planner II **Jody Moreau**, the department's 2011 Action Plan (budget) has been published and is available on the Parish website. There's still time to attend the June 15 public hearing in conjunction with the regular Council meeting on the East Bank at 10 a.m.

C.D. staff participated in commemorating the 25th anniversary of National Community Development Week on April 27, 2011 with a double header which also marked the Marrero Community Senior Center's second anniversary. **Councilman Byron L. Lee**, who headlined the event as Master of Ceremonies, gave the welcome and intros. **President John Young Jr.** stopped in to give a compelling speech on the importance of CDBG funding for the parish.

The presence of Laverne Saulney, who represented U.S. Senator Mary Landrieu, De Shannon Russell for U.S. Rep. Cedric Richmond, and HUD Director of Planning and Development Cheryl Breaux added to the festive occasion. Dr. Nivan Fields gave the invocation, and Mrs. Lois Hensley beautifully sang "The Star Spangled Banner."

Community Development Director **Anatola Thompson** gave the closing remarks and cited examples of CDBG and HOME

funding accomplishments, noting the Marrero Center as an example.

Among the guests were CAAs **Darryl Ward** and **Royce Blanchard**, Council Aide **Casey Jeanpierre**, State Rep. Gerard Jackson, Parish Attorney **Mark Spears**, JeffCAP Director **Jedidiah Jackson**, and center supervisors **Patricia Tolliver** and **Clara Byes**, to name a few.

Following the program, guests were treated to refreshments and tours of the facility. Guests perused the handmade crafts made by the seniors at the Center.

C.D. staff also held an Open House April 29 to celebrate CD Week, spearheaded by project coordinator **Jim Bush Jr.** The Open House at 9303 East Claiborne Parkway in the Beechgrove Subdivision showcased the affordable new homes for sale. A HUD grant of up to \$50,000 is available for eligible low- to moderate-income first-time homebuyers.

## Diversity Advisory Board

### New DAB Members

The Diversity Advisory Board welcomes a few new members to replace those who have left our ranks in the last few months. We welcome **Maria Cervini**, of Public Works; **Darcell Florence**, of JeffCAP; and **Alice White**, of Workforce Investment Board.

Alice didn't waste any time getting involved with the DAB: She volunteered to help **Francois Ancar** create the diversity posters for May and June. We are looking forward to seeing those posters around the Parish.

### Asian-Pacific American Heritage Month!

One of the many functions of the Diversity Advisory Board is to raise awareness of diversity issues. You may not know it,

but May was Asian-Pacific American Heritage Month.

In May, the people of our country celebrate the heritage and contributions of people of Asia and the Pacific Islands to the United States. The term "Asian-Pacific" is a rather broad term because it includes the entire Asian continent and the Pacific islands of Melanesia, Micronesia, and Polynesia.

The month of May was chosen as Asian-Pacific Heritage month because it was in the month of May that the first Japanese immigrants came to the United States in 1843. May also honors the Chinese immigrants who comprised the majority of workers who worked on and completed the Transcontinental Railroad in May of 1869.

### Juneteenth!

In the month of June, we celebrate many things, including *Juneteenth*, which commemorates the Union soldiers' arrival in Galveston, Texas, on June 19, 1865, at the end of the Civil War.

Led by General Granger, they proclaimed that the Civil War had ended, and the enslaved were now free.

June is also Gay and Lesbian Pride month, a month to welcome diversity into communities regardless of a person's sexual orientation. June was the month chosen to commemorate a riot that occurred in Manhattan in 1969 at the Stonewall Inn. This event is thought to be the beginning of the gay liberation movement in the United States.



Community Development's Jody Moreau, June Durnin, and Emann Batiste during National Community Development Week

## JeffCAP

By  
Elizabeth Cook

The JeffCAP Head Start program has ongoing registration for children for the Fall program. Please refer parents to the Head Start programs in their area.

On May 13, 2011, 263 Head Start students graduated in an event held at the Alario Center. **Gloria Calvert-MacKenzie**, a teacher advisor with the program, chaired the event, with **Juli Bartholemew**, teacher advisor, co-chairing. All of the Head Start teacher advisors assisted with the preparation of the event, along with parents of the graduates.

“The graduation is for the children, parents, and community to celebrate their achievement and moving on,” said Ms. Gloria. “The children were excited to be performing, to dress up, and also excited about going to the ‘big school’ next fall.”

Jefferson Parish President John Young attended and encouraged the young graduates to strive for their very best. Also attending were Guest Speaker Ronald Henderson, Director of Educator’s Delight, and **Jedidiah Jackson**, Director of JeffCAP, who helped introduce guests to the audience. Attending as well were hundreds of parents and friends.

Entertainment was provided by the New Orleans Jazz and Heritage Brass Band. Also performing were the Jones Sisters, a singing group of sisters of various ages, one of whom graduated from Head Start. The graduates themselves were engaged to recite the Pledge of Allegiance, the invoca-



Head Start Graduation: May 13, 2011, at the Alario Center in Westwego

tion and a poem. Several also performed a dance and gave the welcome for the audience.

The graduates will be going on to kindergarten. During the course of the school year, Head Start students are brought to visit a kindergarten to help prepare them for the transition. “We have something called a transitional period where we bring them to an actual school setting so that they can interact with the other children and the move won’t be so alarming or scary,” said Ms. Gloria.

Ms. **Darcell Florence** has taken the helm of supervisor of the Watson Community Center, after the retirement in May of Ms.

**Luisa Cazabon**. Ms. Florence has been with JeffCAP a little over a year, working in the LAHEAP program. She sees this opportunity as a welcome challenge. “It’s an opportunity to make a difference and assist people in need,” she said. “I’m going to take it as my challenge to get everything flowing, provide assistance to the community, and have people leave the center feeling good about JeffCAP.”

Ms. Florence brings to the table her experience and education. She graduated from Southern University in 2009 with a masters in social work with an emphasis in administration policy and organization.



New Watson Community Center Supervisor Darcell Florence

## Drainage

By  
Sheena Quinn

### And The Family Continues To Grow...

The Department of Drainage had lots of exciting and memorable moments since our last article! Among the most noticeable changes are the newest additions to the department. The new hires consist of **Jeremy Henry** and **Guyderick Barnes**.

A special “job well done” goes out to those commendable Drainage employees that received promotions these past few months. They include **Sheena Quinn**, who was promoted to Administrative Assistant; **Venus Williams**, recently appointed Typist Clerk III; and **Joseph Knapper**, Truck Driver I. Congratulations to you all, and we anticipate seeing more promotions in the future.

A friendly and familiar face has returned to the Department of Drainage. Congratulations to **Mitch Theriot** on his appointment to Director of Drainage. It is great to have him back. We wel-

come you with open arms and look forward to working with you every day.

### Events Galore!

On May 21 Jefferson Parish hosted the Hurricane Pep Rally in Lafreniere Park from 10am to 4pm. There was lots of great information readily available to all that came. Everything was there: from interactive booths for Entergy and the Jefferson Parish Fire Department to popcorn being served at Councilman Lagasse’s tent. Along with our Director, others that participated included Administrative Assistant **Sheena Quinn**, Superinten-

dent III for East Bank Pump Stations **Manny Aspuria**, and Superintendent I for East Bank Drainage **Mike Picou** with special appearances from **Mr. John Young**, Public Works Director **Kazem Alikhani**, and former Assistant Director **Bill Duplaisir**. A great time was had by all.

### A Fond Farewell

While new faces were being introduced to our Department of Drainage family, we said goodbye to a very dedicated Drainage employee that retired after many years of dedication and hard work. **Diane Smith Sumler**, Drainage Administrative Assistant, retired April 29 after 30 years of service to the department. From her days on Helois to working with her every day here in the Joseph Yenni Building, she always tackled the day with a smile on her face. She was a great teacher, and everyone that had the chance to work with her will remember her always. She will be missed!

With the Hurricane Season fast approaching, be sure to pay special attention to your catch basins and make sure they are clear of any debris. The smallest things will make the biggest impact!



Drainage Director Mitch Theriot (center) and Superintendent Manny Aspuria (right) talk with a citizen at the Hurricane Pep Rally



Diane Sumler (center) with daughter Tasha, grandson Trey, and husband Patrick Sumler

## Animal Shelter

By  
Danielle Williams

### New Employees:

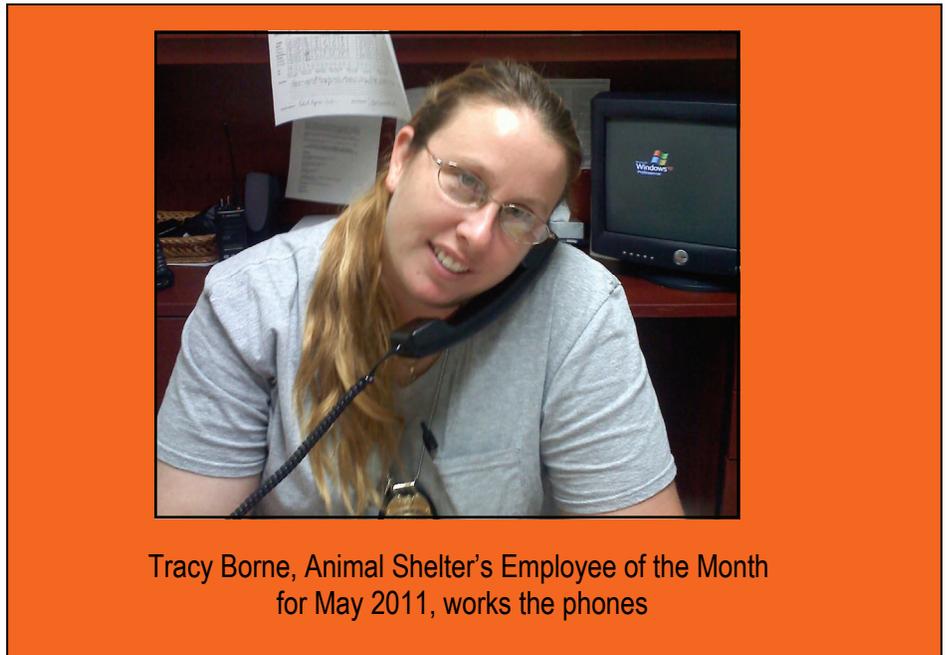
We would like to welcome a few new employees to the Animal Shelter: **Marshall Blosser**, Kennel Worker I; **Michelle Adams**, Kennel Worker I; **Nicole Jenkins**, Kennel Worker I; **David Ruiz**, Kennel Worker I; and **Erianne Vicks North**, Kennel Worker I.

### Farewell

We would like to wish three of our employees the best of luck in their new jobs. **Rosa Campos** is leaving the Shelter for a job with the Streets Department. **Lakeisha Ellis** is leaving us to take a promotion in the Library Department. **Erin Myers** is moving on to Code Enforcement. We will miss all of you ladies and wish you luck with your future endeavors.

### Service Award

Congratulations to one of our Animal Control Officers, **Rebecca Creppel**, who received a service pin for 5 years of service to Jefferson Parish. Congratulations Becky, and keep up the good work!



Tracy Borne, Animal Shelter's Employee of the Month for May 2011, works the phones

### Employee of the Month

Our Employee of the Month for the month of May is Animal Control Officer **Tracy Borne**. Congratulations, Tracy!

### Rabies Vaccination Clinic

The Animal Shelter held a rabies vaccination clinic on April 17 at six locations parish-wide. Parish residents could bring their pets for rabies vaccinations for only \$15. In all, 1,275 animals were vaccinated. The campaign was very successful, and we look forward to doing this again. Thanks goes out to the many volunteers who helped make this day a success.

### Spay/Neuter

As you know, the summer is upon us. Here at the Animal Shelter, we know summer as "kitten" season. This is the time of year that the shelter receives an alarming number of kittens and stray cats. Sometimes we receive four litters of kittens a day, or more!

In an effort to stop unwanted litters coming into the shelter, the Jefferson SPCA and the Friends of the Jefferson Animal Shelter created a new spay/neuter program. The "Fix-A-Feline" program is offering FREE spay/neuter surgeries for feral and stray cats. Also, cat owners can get their cats spayed or neutered for only \$10.

Take advantage of this opportunity fast. It is good until June 30. Contact the Jefferson SPCA at 504-733-5870 or [www.JeffersonSPCA.org](http://www.JeffersonSPCA.org).

### Free Cats

For the entire month of June, adoption fees for all cats and kittens will be waived. Adoption Hours: Mon.-Wed.& Fri.-9am-5:30pm, Thurs, 9am-7pm, Saturday, 10am-3:30pm



Animal Shelter's loss is Library's gain as Lakeisha Ellis changes departments for a promotion

## Juvenile Services

By  
Arlyn Smith

The Department of Juvenile Services has been very busy hiring new employees as we move forward with our reform work, reduce detention costs, restructure our probation department, and make it a model for the rest of the state.

### Welcome:

Probation Officers: **Amanda Boehm, Cassandra Cutno, Jennifer Damshroder, Mark Duplessis, Shawnta Gardner, Phil Hinton, Dayton House, and Charissa Williams.**

Detention: **Michelle Allen,** Juvenile Detention Home Security Guard; **Gwendolyn Brown,** Cook I; and **Lloyd Morgan,** Juvenile Detention Officer.

The following employees were recognized and received their service pins for 2011:

**5 YEARS:** Detention Officers **Alvin Dabney, Jr., Gerald Daniels, Brett Jackson,** and **Stanley LeBlanc,** Institutional Housekeeper **Margaret Lumas,** Probation Officers **Chantrell Cook, Kelly Keller, Tion McGhee,** and **Kiana Washington.**

**10 YEARS:** Director **Roy L. Juncker, Jr.,** Cook **Julia Roy,** Typist Clerk **Myrle P. Hymel** and Probation Officer **Tiyeshe Washington.**

**15 YEARS:** Assistant Detention Home Supervisor **Barbara J. Rose,** Administrative Assistant **Allison Toups,** and Evaluation and Treatment Manager **John S. Ryals, Jr.**

In December of this year, employees with 20 or more years of service will be honored at a separate pin ceremony. We will recognize them in a later issue.

### Employees of the Month

**APRIL: Brett Jackson,** Detention Officer, and **Herman Price,** Maintenance Repairman

**MAY: Marvin Lowe,** Warehouse Supervisor, and **Stanley LeBlanc,** Detention Officer

On April 29, Correctional Options Program Probationers and Job Developer **Shanell Williams** visited Delgado Community College – Technical Division (West Jefferson site). The probationers learned of the programs offered at the site, which included Cosmetology, Electrician Certification, and Welding. After the tour, everyone enjoyed pizza at Gretna Park. Mental Health Professional **Patrick Brammel** and Probation Officer **Roberta Brown** helped chaperone the event. The tour was a great success!

### Yenni Award Winner!

Join us in congratulating Probation Manager **Stephen J. Cabal,** who was selected as our 2010 Departmental Employee of the Year. Mr. Cabal was also selected as the 2010 Joseph Yenni Award winner for the Jefferson Parish Employee of the Year and was also awarded the prestigious 2011 Don E. Wydra Memorial Award at the Louisiana Governor's Conference on Juvenile Justice April 28. The Wydra Memorial is the most prestigious award a public servant in the juvenile justice arena can earn in Louisiana. Stephen is the third employee in our department to receive this award since its inception.

Steve began his 31-year career with the Department of Juvenile Services in 1980. He has been serving as Probation Manager for 27 years. He currently supervises a cadre of more than 36 juvenile probation officers and is responsible for the oversight of all probation activities within Juvenile Services. Steve has spent his life serving the public, and we are proud of him!



JS Director Roy Juncker and Parish President John Young with Yenni Award winner and JS Employee of the Year Stephen Cabal

### Alario Center

By  
Deidre Cummings

#### EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR!

**Patrick Bode**, Property Manager Assistant, was awarded the Alario Center’s 2010 Employee of the Year Award. Patrick is an energetic and dedicated employee who strives to provide top quality services to the Alario Center. Way to go, Pat!



Patrick Bode with Greg Guthrie

#### SERVICE PINS AWARDED!

Congratulations go out to Alario Center employees receiving their services pins. **Greg Guthrie**, General Manager, presented Administrative Assistant **Deidre Cummings** with her 15-year service pin. Marketing & Sales Associate **Dana Cook** and Secretary **Andrina Davis** received 5-year pins.

#### FAREWELL!

We say goodbye to **Gregory Guthrie**, who served as General Manager of the Alario Center, and **Andrina Davis**, Secretary to the General Manager. Our best wishes go out to them in their future endeavors.



Greg Guthrie congratulates service pin recipients Deidre Cummings (standing), Dana Cook, and Andrina Davis

#### NEW EDITIONS!

The Alario Center staff welcomes **Ms. Lydia Folse** as the new General Manager of the Alario Center. Ms. Folse comes to us from Parish President John Young’s office.

We also welcome **Ms. Sharon McDowell** as our new Secretary. Ms. McDowell comes to us from the Purchasing Department.



Sharon McDowell

#### UPCOMING EVENTS

- Exotic Pet Expo and Sale, June 4 and 5
- AAU Basketball Governor’s Games – June 10-12

Please visit our website for additional event information [www.alariocenter.com](http://www.alariocenter.com)



New Alario Center General Manager  
Lydia Folse

## Environmental

By  
Barbara Arcement

Congratulations to Typist Clerk III **Pat Reed**, who celebrated her 10-year anniversary with Jefferson Parish in March!

Environmental Quality Specialists **Lauren Barton, James Schultz**, and **Sami Khalil**, as well as Environmental Quality Supervisor **Jason Smith**, have been participating with the Shoreline Cleanup Assessment Techniques (SCAT) teams who are working to ensure that all of the beaches and marshes that were impacted by last year's oil spill have been cleaned.

Our team has been making frequent trips to Grand Isle and surrounding areas to participate in the surveys where they ride in boats to all of the marshy areas and walk the beaches looking for tar balls, tar mats, oily vegetation, and any other indication of oil (photo Page 22).

Environmental Affairs participated in the Hurricane Prep Rally at Lafreniere Park held on May 21, 2011. **Kathy Russo** and **Michele Van Pelt Smith** distributed information to citizens regarding mosquito control and the safe and efficient collection and disposal of all solid waste after a storm. They also distributed information about mold removal and remediation, creating a healthy home after a flood, and salvaging wet books, documents, photographs, and flood-damaged appliances.

Our department would like to thank everyone who volunteered and participated in the Electronic

Waste Collection Event held on Saturday, May 14, 2011. The event was held in conjunction with the Capital Area Corporate Recycling Council (CACRC). Thanks to everyone who came out.

The Department of Environmental Affairs would like to remind everyone of the garbage container specifications for curbside collection in Jefferson Parish:

- Containers must be between twenty (20) gallons and thirty-five (35) gallons in capacity.
- The combined weight of container and contents may not exceed seventy-five (75) pounds.

Containers must be constructed of durable metal or plastic, and must be tapered, rust-resistant, non-absorbent, water-tight, and leak-proof.

Containers must have a close-fitting insect/rodent-proof lid that can be removed (not secured or fastened to container) and must have adequate handles to facilitate handling.

In areas where the Parish has implemented semi-automated garbage collection service or at properties receiving semi-automated collection by private subscription, a specific container, as provided by the contractor, is the only acceptable container.

For more information, please feel free to contact Environmental Affairs at 731-4612.

## Purchasing

By  
Gail Petrie

The Purchasing Department welcomes **Brenda Campos** as our new Purchasing Director. Ms. Campos comes to Jefferson Parish from Kenner City Government, where she held the position of Purchasing Director. Brenda had previously been employed by Mayor Muniz after her tenure in the Jefferson Parish Citizens' Affairs Department.

We also welcome back **Nicolle Byars** as the Purchasing Executive Assistant. Nicolle began in Purchasing from high school graduation as a Clerk Typist III and was promoted to a Buyer I position. She went to the Streets Department as the Administrative Assistant before returning to Purchasing. We congratulate her on this promotion!

May you all have a happy, blessed summer.



Purchasing's new Director  
Brenda Campos

## Sewerage

By  
Venice Cooper

### CONGRATULATIONS!

Congratulations to **Stanley Lenox** and **Albert Cornish** upon their retirements from the Department of Sewerage. **Stanley** retired from our East Bank Lines Division on June 3, 2011, with over 15 years of service. **Albert** retired from our East Bank Lift Stations Division on May 6, 2011, with over 14 years of service. Best wishes to both for many happy years of retirement.



Superintendent Glenn Miller, Director Linda Daly, and Superintendent Bill Hartline congratulate Albert Cornish (second from left) upon his retirement



Superintendent David Mahner and Director Daly award Carl Brignac a ten-year service pin

## Human Resources

By  
Dana LeBherz

### Ann Woods Retires

Lots of changes in our department this spring! We bid a fond adieu to Typist Clerk III **Ann Woods** in April. Throughout her 15-year tenure, Ann supported the Safety Division. Thanks to her, certificates quickly got to the right students, records and documents were always easily accessible, and she made sense of the busy schedules of the Safety Manager, four Safety Officers, and an Occupational Health Nurse.

One of the sweetest people in the department, Ann will be missed for her smile and her wisdom. At the same time, however, we wish her a retirement filled with enjoyment and relaxation. You've earned it, Ann! Congratulations!

Of course we couldn't let Ann leave without a party! The Safety Division did her proud, arranging decorations, a custom cake, and great party food. Lots of her family and friends, as well as many employees from several departments, came in to help celebrate.



Interim HR Director Peggy Barton and Safety Manager Nolan Guidry with Ann Woods (center)

Human Resources continued

**Early Prescription Refills: Emergency Waiver**

As we enter hurricane season, Coventry Healthcare has some good news for our employees who are insured with them. In the event of a “declared emergency,” Coventry will waive its usual 30-day wait for refilling current prescriptions.

Under normal circumstances, if we fill a prescription and receive a 30-day supply of a medicine, we cannot refill that prescription until those 30 days are nearly up. But in the event of a declared emergency, Coventry will allow us to refill our prescriptions early.

Chain pharmacies should have our prescriptions in their systems, allowing us to get early refills both locally and out of the area in the event of an emergency evacuation.



Glenn Schiro

**New Training Specialist**

We would like to welcome **Glenn Schiro**, our new Training Specialist II, to the department! Glenn comes to us with an extensive background in adult education, including over 25 years with UNO and Delgado. He specialized there in career planning services and administering the Meyers-Briggs type indicator. We are sure he’ll apply his insights to make our classes even better! When not working, Glenn spends time with his family and is an historical fiction buff. Welcome to the team, Glenn!

**Code Enforcement**

By  
Linda Roy

WELCOME ABOARD: Ms. **Tiffany Wilken** has been appointed Director of Inspection and Code Enforcement. Ms. Wilken worked in the Parish Attorney’s Office handling Code cases. Her knowledge, expertise, and work ethic will be an asset to the department. We are glad to have her join our Code family. We look forward to working with her and training her in our Code ways!

We also welcome **Erin Myers**, Data Entry Operator II; **Tramone Chetta**, Building Plan Reviewer I; and **Paula Blackwell**, Floodplain Manager. It is a pleasure having you with us!

CONGRATULATIONS! Several of our employees recently received service pins. For 15 years of service: **Bonnie Beatson**, **Steve Blakesley** and **Ruth Day**. For 10 years of service: **Marci Bourg** and **Robin Lanusse**. For 5 years of service: **Roland Creson, Jr.**, **Mike Hale**, **Peter Mire**, **Daniel Montz, Jr.**, **Susan Williams**, **Jacque Judevine** and **Kelli Trapp**. Good Job!

COMING ATTRACTION! The Department is developing an informational program for the public to view. The program will provide answers to questions such as Why do I need a building permit? What documents do I need to get a permit? Can I be my own contractor, and much more! The program will provide basic information and give the public an insight into what Code does. It will be played in our receptionist areas in both our East and West Bank offices. LOOK FOR IT SOON!



Benefits Specialist Cathy Leaumont, Benefits Manager Aubrey Devillier, Director Peggy Barton, and Training Specialist (and Ace Reporter!) Dana Le Bherz represented HR at the April March of Dimes charity walk

IT'S SUMMER ALL RIGHT! It's summer time and it's hot. If you lived in Louisiana most of your life, you think you would be used to the hot, humid weather. But I think this year it's gotten too hot too fast. Office personnel have the luxury of being in an air conditioned building, but not our inspectors. They are in the field most of the day, getting in and out of their cars to do inspections. We ask our inspectors to make sure they stay hydrated, stay cool, and call for help if feeling ill. Work smart and be Safe!

On behalf of the employees of Inspection and Code Enforcement, I would like to extend our sympathies to **Cheryl Dufrene** on the loss of her mother and to **Nicole Meynard** and **Kurt Cavalier** on the loss of their dads. May they be at Peace!

I would also like to express my sympathy and best wishes to **Cathy Leumont** in Human Resources. Cathy recently lost her husband, Gene. Cathy has always been helpful to me and to the department in resolving health insurance issues. My prayers are with Cathy and her family.

## Emergency Management

By  
Sandra Ancar-Encalade

In addition to spring arriving with melting snow from up North leaving many areas of South Central Louisiana experiencing flooding, the 2011 hurricane season is here. The 2011 named hurricanes are:

Arlene	Bret	Cindy
Don	Emily	Franklin
Gert	Harvey	Irene
José	Katia	Lee
Maria	Nate	Ophelia
Philippe	Rina	Sean
Tammy	Vince	Whitney

Disaster can strike without warning, forcing you and your loved ones to go for days without basic necessities or to evacuate your home. You need to be prepared by regularly reviewing and

practicing your family's emergency plans. As forecasters predict an extremely active hurricane season, staying informed and alert for "all-hazards," especially during this hurricane season, is crucial. Hurricane hazards include storms, high winds, tornadoes, and flooding. Preparation isn't about fear; it's about being ready.

Congratulations to **Timothy S. Gautreau, Jr.**, LEM, on his certification as a Louisiana Emergency Manager (LEM). The certification requirements include experience, hard work, continuing education, dedication, integrity, and creativity. **Charles M. Hudson**, Assistant Director, received his LEM certification in 2009.

We would like to express our condolences to **Timothy S. Gautreau, Jr.** on the loss of his mother and father on May 8, 2011.

## Citizens' Affairs

By  
Tracie Chaix

### Hurricane Prep Rally

The Jefferson Parish Hurricane Prep Rally, which was held on Saturday, May 21, 2011, from 10am until 4pm at Lafreniere Park Pavilion in Metairie, was a huge success! This event gave Jefferson Parish citizens helpful information on how to prepare for an approaching hurricane. Citizens' Affairs, along with several other Parish departments, participated and we hope to see a large turnout again next year!

This will be my last issue as CA's Ace Reporter as I have accepted a promotion in the Animal Shelter Department.



New Inspection & Code Director Tiffany Wilken

**Parkways**

By  
Chantell Prestenbach

**Another Great Parade Season!**

Once again Mardi Gras has come and gone along with the St. Patrick's Day Parade and the Irish/Italian Parade. We'd like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who helped in the preparations and with the clean-up efforts for this year's Parade Season.

**Parkways and the Zurich Classic**

April was a very busy month in our area with activities, events, and festivals, including Louisiana's premier golf tournament, the Zurich Classic at our very own TPC in Avondale. Once again Parkways proudly helped with the preparation and clean-up efforts that go towards making this event beautiful and spectacular.

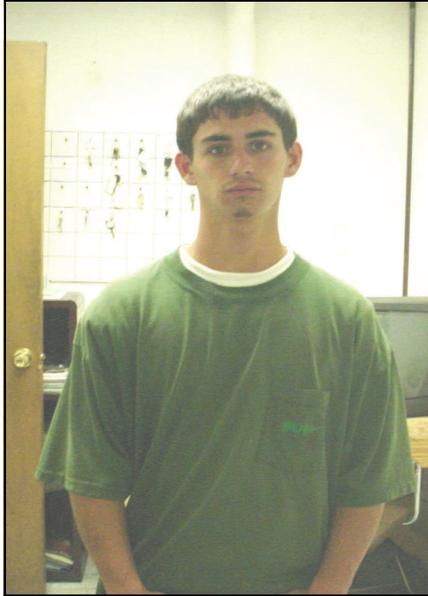
This year's event "teed off" on April 25 and concluded on May 1. Congratulations to Bubba Watson, who shot a 3-under 69, to win his second PGA Tour event of the year. For more information regarding this event, please visit: [www.zurichgolfclassic.com](http://www.zurichgolfclassic.com).

**Tree Plaques at LaSalle Park**

Thanks to Ms. Beulah Oswald with Jefferson Beautification, Inc., along with Parkways Arborist **Bernie Wisnowski** and Horticulturalist **Don Cole**, there are now information plaques that have been placed along the track at LaSalle Park. The plaques help to identify the significant species of trees along the walking track.

**New Employees**

Parkways would like to take this time to welcome two new employees to the West Bank: **Jaret Palmisano** and **Christopher Williams**.



Jaret Palmisano

**Getting Through the Drought**

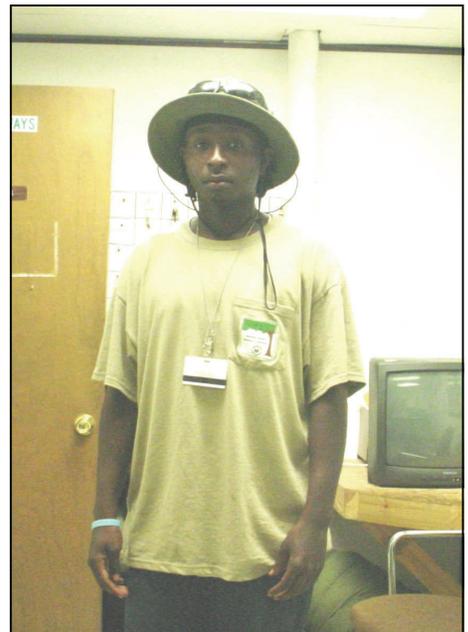
As most of you may know, our area has been going through a drought, and not only do we feel the effects of it but so do our beautiful plants and trees. But not to worry because our local Fire Departments have helped Parkways with watering in order to keep Jefferson Parish thriving and beautiful. Parkways would like to thank the following employees and their departments for all their efforts: Randy Bean with Live Oak Manor, Tommy Berggren with Harvey-Gretna Station #64, and Robert Wilson with Marrero-Ragusa Station #3.

**Tornado Cleanup**

In March we had some dev-

astating weather that spouted tornadoes all throughout Jefferson Parish. Our thanks go to our hard-working men and women in the Parkways Department along with other departments. They hit the streets and put Jefferson Parish back together by tackling the path of destruction that was left behind after the tornadoes spun through various areas. Thanks to them, Jefferson Parish is just as beautiful as ever.

July is fast approaching, which means the return of the "Grand Isle Tarpon Rodeo." Last year, due to the oil spill, the Tarpon Rodeo was replaced by the "Island Aid 2010" music festival. Even though "Island Aid" was a great success, it is great to see the return of the "Tarpon Rodeo." As always, Jefferson Parish Parkways will be there for all the preparation efforts in making this "Tarpon Rodeo" bigger and better than ever! This year's festivities will kick off on Thursday, July 28 –Saturday, July 30. For the latest information on this year's event, please visit [www.tarponrodeo.org](http://www.tarponrodeo.org)



Christopher Williams

**Transit**

By  
Patricia Lyons

**Bike Rack Permits – No Longer Required**

The Jefferson Parish Department of Transit Administration is very proud to announce that permits are no longer required to use bike racks on Jefferson Transit buses. Eliminating the bike rack permit requirement for JeT riders will make it easier for transit riders to use their bicycles to reach any “last-mile” destination in both Jefferson and Orleans Parishes. Each rack is labeled with instructions on its use.

All Jefferson Transit buses are equipped with a bike rack. Riders can take their bicycle to downtown New Orleans or take their bicycle on any routes connecting with RTA routes in New Orleans.

Jefferson Transit is excited to join with RTA and the Regional Planning Commission in this regional effort to link our communities together through transit and cycling.

Jefferson Transit thanks its loyal riders and encourages new riders to use the streamlined bicycle rack program to travel throughout the parish and the New Orleans area. Riders use the racks at no additional cost.

Please see our website at: <http://www.jeffersontransit.org/bikes.htm> where more information is available.

**Health Issues**

By  
Peggy Brannan, RN

**Eat Mediterranean!**

Chances are that over the last several years, you have heard comments regarding the benefits of eating a Mediterranean diet. Just what is the Mediterranean diet? And why has there been so much interest in it of late?

**No Fast-Food Invasion Over There!**

Back in the 1950s and 1960s the fast food phenomena took off in the United States. With it came foods high in unhealthy fats, high intakes of salt, and little, if any, healthy vegetables in the diet. As a result, the weight, not to mention medical conditions for Americans, started to rise.

Fortunately, the fast food phenomena did not invade the countries in the region of the Mediterranean Sea. Instead, the centuries-old traditional meals consisting of high fiber whole grains, beans, vegetables, fruits, unsaturated “good” fats, especially olive oil, lean protein, and fish remained unchanged.

**Lower Disease Rates**

So, why has it gained so much attention? Studies were conducted comparing the incidence of chronic diseases/conditions among residents in the Mediterranean countries and America. During the 1990s it was recognized as being a model for healthy eating, with much lower rates of cardiovascular disease, diabetes, cancer, and obesity as compared to Americans.

**Olive Oil: The Magic Ingredient!**

A major component in this diet is olive oil. Olive oil is a monounsaturated fat. It has high levels of antioxidants, which means that it protects the cells of the body from attack by free radicals that are released by the body during metabolism. It is believed to lower the bad cholesterol levels and raise the good cholesterol levels, which can lower one’s risk for cardiovascular disease.

The overall diet is thought to reduce inflammation in the body, which can possibly reduce one’s risk for cancer and other medical conditions. Please note that you should keep olive oil away from heat and light to prevent it from becoming rancid. Store it in a cool dark place and make sure that it is tightly sealed.

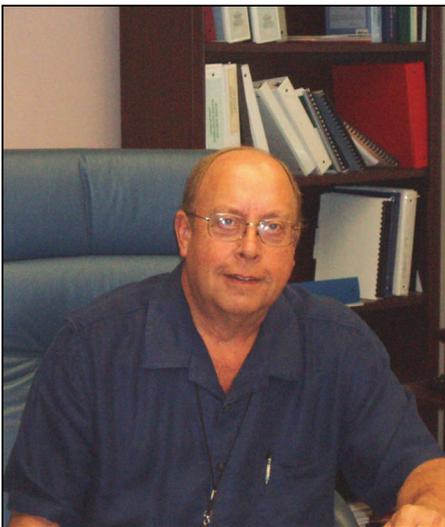
So, with so many healthy benefits, not to mention the wonderful flavors found in these dishes, how can one go wrong? Be daring and try something different! You may discover new favorite tasty dishes, not to mention a healthier body and weight.

**Water**

By  
Susie Cunningham

**New Interim Director**

Our new interim Director, **Doug Vincent**, began his career with Jefferson Parish on May 2, 2011. We welcome Doug to our Department, as he comes with a wealth of experience in water and wastewater design, troubleshooting and compliance, along with an extensive administration background. A graduate of Tulane University in New Orleans, Doug holds a B.S. in Civil Engineering. He was employed by the State of Louisiana in the Department of Health and Hospitals for many years. He and his family reside in Metairie.



Water's new Interim Director  
Doug Vincent

**Employee of the Year**

Congratulations to our Employee of the Year, Public Works Project Coordinator **George Roth**. George has been employed with Jefferson Parish for over twenty-four years and has served with dedication throughout. George received a plaque honoring his outstanding performance at the Jefferson Parish Council Meeting on April 6, 2011.



Water's Employee of the Year George Roth with Interim Director Doug Vincent

**Retirements**

We have had three recent retirements in the Department of Water. Congratulations to **Gloria Stewart** from our East Bank Utility Billing office, who retired on May 31, 2011 with 31 years of dedicated service; **Rodrick Watts** from our West Bank Outside Maintenance Department, who retired on April 22, 2011 with 30 ½ years of dedicated service; and **Clara Coffey** from our West Bank Utility Billing office, who retired on February 25, 2011 with five years of dedicated service. We wish you all the very best!

**New Employees**

Welcome to the following new employees: **Anthony Adams**, Equipment Operator III; **David Aldridge**, Pump Equipment Mechanic; **Mark Buttery** and **Jackqueline Smith**, Shipping & Receiving Stock Clerks; **Eugenia Francois**, Water Service Inspector I; **Tamisha Washington** and **Dorina Gauthreaux**, Utility Billing Collector I's; **George Brown** and **Christy Burgau**, Laborers; **Larry Cambrice** and **Eugene Stanson**, Water Purification Operators; and **Rose Shelton-Singleton**, Utility Billing Clerk I.

**Promotions**

Congratulations to the following employees on their recent promotions: **Monica Broom**, Water Purification Operator; **Michele Wilson**, Data Entry Operator III; **Christopher Toppins**, Water Service Inspector II; and **Aaron Foster**, Waterline Maintenance Foreman. We wish you all the best in your new positions!



Superintendent Harold Robert congratulates Rodrick Watts for his 30 years of Parish service

## Library

By  
Christine Corcoran

### Books by Mail

The “Books By Mail” service assists people of all ages who live in Jefferson Parish and are unable to come to the library because of a permanent or temporary disability. Eligible individuals can register for the program by filling out an application which must be signed by a physician, nurse, or social worker.

The application creates a profile with pertinent information plus the customer’s preferences as to “format,” “language,” and “age.” The customer may ask that the librarian select books and materials based on their interests, or they may specifically request items. There is a three-week return policy.

Once they have completed registration, customers will receive deliveries about once a month. The materials come in a reusable envelope through the United State Postal Service. They must be returned in the same envelope attaching the enclosed pre-paid card addressed to the library.

Applications may be downloaded on the computer, picked up by a family member or friend, or by calling the library and having one sent through the mail. The contact person is **Lisa Ciravolo**; she can be reached at 504-838-1100.

Correction: The name of **Ed Stucke**, Library Business Manager, was misspelled in last month’s *En Realité*. We regret the error.

**T Diemer’s** father, Irvin T “Bill” Diemer passed away on

March 14. He was 93. He died peacefully in Louisville, Kentucky.

### 60th Annual Summer Reading Program, “One World, Many Stories” To Kick Off in June With LIBRARYPALOOZA!

The Jefferson Parish Library 2011 Summer Reading Program (SRP) is the most ambitious annual program presented by the library. This free program is entering its 60th year with greater focus on inclusive outreach and programming to reach youth most vulnerable to “summer learning loss.” Extra emphasis is placed on recruiting and retaining participation from populations with limited English, lower income levels, minorities, rural areas, and at-risk families.

The 2011 Summer Reading Program provides special programming and incentives by age level from birth through adult to encourage youth and adults to keep reading throughout the summer months. Early online registration and outreach to all parish schools began in April. Registration can also be done through the Library website.



Outreach Coordinator Lisa Ciravolo

Activities, held at all fifteen library branches, continue through July 30, 2011. Children and teens will earn a t-shirt or a book of their choice when they reach their first reading goal (10 books for children, 5 books for teens) and continue to earn prizes the more they read, culminating in the chance to win an iPad, Nook color, or Leapster Explorer!

Summer Reading Programs have measurable impact in limiting academic loss during the months students are away from school. More than half of the achievement gap between lower- and higher-income youth can be explained by unequal access to summer learning opportunities. As a result, low-income youth are less likely to graduate from high school or enter college. Children lose more than academic knowledge over the summer. Most children—particularly children at high risk of obesity—gain weight more rapidly when they are out of school during summer break.

The **Librarypalooza** kickoff for the 2011 Summer Reading Program took place on Saturday, June 4, at both the East Bank Regional and West Bank Regional Library sites. **Librarypalooza** will generate excitement and encourage reader enrollment for the two months of literacy programs and activities. This year’s theme is “One World, Many Stories.”

### Laptops for Checkout

Jefferson Parish Library recently acquired ten laptop computers from the State Library of Louisiana. These computers are specifically intended for use outside the library over a three-day period and under stated library guidelines.

The laptops are at East Bank Regional, West Bank Regional, North Kenner, and Metairie Libraries.

## General Services

By  
Jill Relick

You may have seen Mr **Eric Romain** walking through your office recently in the Yenni Bldg. He is our new Assistant Property Manager for General Services' East Bank Buildings. Eric has learned the building layout and is very anxious to work with his new staff and you. He always carries a small tablet and pen and is ready to note any of your needs. Just ask him. Stop by our office and introduce yourself.



*Eric Romain*

Special congratulations to **Don Barrios**, the recipient of the General Services 2010 Employee of the Year award. Don has been with Jefferson Parish for thirteen years. He truly is an asset to his plumbing profession. He has many fun stories, as you can imagine.

The landscaping department has been busy following their Checklist for Summer. **Van Taylor** and his crew have planted warm-season bedding plants around many Parish Buildings. Just a few tips for your garden from **Charlene Painter**:

- Cut faded flowers from flowering annuals and perennials to encourage new growth and flowers.
- Prune azaleas no later than

mid-July. Pruning azaleas after early to midsummer may remove next season's developing flower buds.

**Kenneth Kline, Chris Fonseca** and **Alex Thompson** have joined our groundskeeper crew and JUST IN TIME! Welcome, guys.

The General Government Building has added a new attraction. The staff is creating a pocket park between the Parking Garage and the General Government Complex. The added attraction is a clock donated to Jefferson Parish from the West Bank Rotary Club. Thanks to the following for their efforts with the clock's installation: **Clifford Pierre, Lawrence Scieneaux, George Gandy, David Orgeron, Pascal Rotolo** from Sewerage and our GS employees: **George Folse, Gary Vukich, Fred Carreras, Donald Jumpiere, George Murray, and Gregory Jeffery**. Also, our Landscaping crew provided assistance placing the clock in its

ideal location: **Van Taylor, Claude Daniels, Charlene Painter, Stanford Young, Roger Brooks, Chris Fonseca, and Kenny Kline**.

A special thanks to **Mike Fonseca** and the General Services crew for their contribution with the LSU Ag Center Open House. The open house was held in the Yenni Bldg and showcased the three program areas the Ag Center features. Legislators, Council Members, School Board members, Community Stake Holders from the Jefferson Community, and employees from all the departments in the Yenni Bldg viewed the many exhibits. Alexis Navarro will be glad to entertain any questions regarding her departments and the impact their efforts make in Jefferson Parish.

We want to thank Central Printing and the Total Copy Center for their hard work during the administration transition over the last several months. They have taken on a huge load with new stationery for several departments.



Current and former employees of Traffic Engineering gather to wish Royal Jackson (center) a happy retirement

# ★ ★ Our Military Heroes ★ ★



*Pictured clockwise, starting top left:*

BM2(SW) Jay M. Ryalls, Jr.  
US Navy  
Recently returned from Afghanistan  
Godson and Nephew of John Ryalls

MSGT Frank Tunstall  
LA Air National Guard  
Pictured with wife, Debbie Tunstall

LCPL Jordan Encalade  
USMC and Sarah (official mascot of the Jefferson Parish

Animal Shelter)  
Son of Sandra Ancar-Encalade

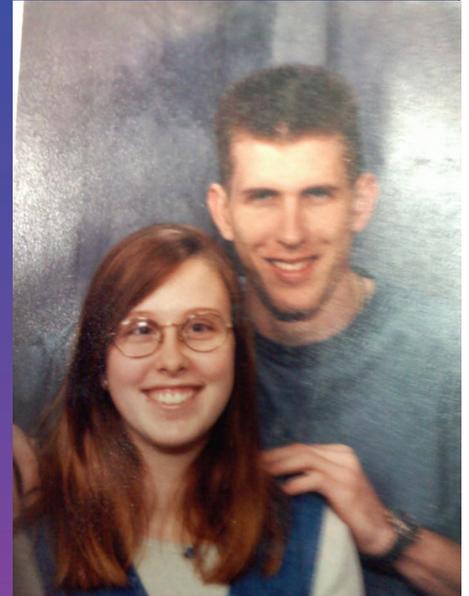
SSG Metoyer Jordan  
US Army  
Nephew of Juanara Jordan-Williams



# ★ ★ Our Military Heroes ★ ★



*Pictured top left:*  
SGT Christopher Canedo  
US Army  
Veteran of two tours of the  
Gulf Region  
Employee of Parkways



*Pictured top right:*  
Chief William Todd Robbins  
US Navy  
Pictured with his sister, Tracy  
Borne, of Animal Shelter

*Pictured bottom left:*  
Tech Sergeant Jonathan Soileau  
USAF  
Son of Lawrence and Deborah  
Soileau  
Veteran of two tours in Iraq



*Pictured bottom right:*  
PFC Timothy M. Tucker  
Louisiana National Guard  
Son of Dennis Tucker



# Retirements

**Wayne “Peanut” Williams**  
Streets  
33 years

**Gloria Stewart**  
Water  
31 years

**Diane Sumler**  
Drainage  
30 years

**Rosell Taylor**  
Streets  
30 years

**Rodrick Watts**  
Water  
30 years

**Kevin Rhea**  
Streets  
30 years

**Luisa Cazabon**  
JeffCAP  
28 years

**Michael Scott**  
Recreation  
27 years

**Gay Burke**  
Library  
27 years

**Geraldine Nea**  
Personnel  
21 years

**Stanley Lenox**  
Sewerage  
15 years

**Ann Woods**  
Human Resources  
15 years

**Kenneth McColley**  
Lafreniere Park  
14 years

**Albert Cornish**  
Sewerage  
14 years

**Royal Jackson, Jr**  
Traffic Engineering  
6 years



## SCAT crews clear the beach at Grand Isle

—photo by Environmental Department; see Page 11