



Volume 33  
Number 3  
June 2012

Jefferson

## Message from the Parish President. . .

### Being Prepared

Hurricane season is in full swing, and I encourage you to take steps now to prepare your family and home.

The 2012 Atlantic hurricane season officially begins June 1 and ends November 30. The peak season generally is from mid-August till late October, but we should be on alert should a storm or hurricane enter the Gulf of Mexico at any time.

Jefferson Parish is better prepared for an emergency now than ever before. Many of our Parish departments, agencies, and first responders recently participated in a series of training exercises designed to strengthen our preparedness, response, and capability to assist our citizens and businesses if there is a need for evacuation.

If you haven't done so already, please take the time to prepare a disaster supply kit for your family. Be sure to include:

- Important documents
- Water – enough for 3 to 7 days
- Food – non-perishable
- Juices
- Blankets, pillows, etc.
- Clothing
- First-aid kit, medicines and prescription drugs
- Special Items – for babies and the elderly
- Toiletries and hygiene items
- Flashlight and batteries
- Radio – Battery operated and NOAA weather



John F. Young  
Parish President

- Cell phones and chargers
- Telephone set
- Cash – with some small bills and credit cards
- Keys
- Toys, books, and games
- Tools
- Vehicle fuel tanks filled

Don't forget about your pets. Plan a readiness kit for your pet which includes food, water, medicines, first-aid supplies, feeding supplies, a leash, carrier or cage, muzzle, and proper identification and immunization records. If you evacuate, call your destination to make sure pets are accepted.

As public servants of Jefferson Parish, each of us should do our part in reducing street flooding and keeping our drainage system working to its capacity. Check the catch basins near your home and clear any debris, grass, or leaves.

Thank you for your dedicated service to the citizens of Jefferson Parish. I hope you all have a safe and enjoyable summer.

*JeffTalk*

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

**Departmental Reporters**

- Alario Center**  
Deirdre Cummings
- Animal Shelter**  
Danielle Williams
- Citizens' Affairs**  
Suzanne Lollis
- Community Development**  
Open
- Drainage**  
Sheena Quinn Bauer
- Emergency Management**  
Sandra Ancar-Encalade
- Engineering**  
Open
- Environmental Affairs**  
Kathy Russo
- Finance Authority**  
Sheila Rodrigue
- Fleet Management**  
Stephanie Gaudet
- General Services**  
Jill Relick
- Human Resource Management**  
Glenn Schiro
- Code Enforcement**  
Linda Roy
- JeffCAP**  
Catina Ward
- Juvenile Services**  
Arlyn Smith
- Library**  
Daniel Gitlin
- Parks & Recreation**  
Gwen Styron & Jerry Savarese
- Parkways**  
Chantell Prestenbach
- Planning**  
Marilyn Slutsky
- Purchasing**  
Nicolle Byars
- Sewerage**  
Venice Cooper
- Streets**  
Debbie Tunstall
- Traffic Engineering**  
Brandy Chism & David Stout
- Transit**  
Patricia Lyons
- Water**  
Susie Cunningham
- Workforce Connection**  
Frances Turner

*Editor's*



*Notes*

**Mid-Year Open Enrollment**

As this issue of the Parish employee newsletter under its new name *JeffTalk* is being published, we are in the midst of our mid-year Open Enrollment for Supplemental Benefits. Open Enrollment is generally conducted in the fall of every year, and it is during that time employees are allowed to change their benefits and elect to add or discontinue benefits. You will recall that during our fall 2011 Open Enrollment, we were only allowed to make changes to our “Core Benefits”—health insurance, dental, Flexible Spending Accounts, and additional life insurance.

Our mid-year Open Enrollment, which will end on June 13, will be for Supplemental Benefits. The benefits will take effect on July 1, 2012, and remain in effect through the end of 2013. Supplemental benefits include Accidental Death & Dismemberment (AD & D), Cancer, Critical Illness, Hospital Confinement, Term Life, Universal Life, Long-Term Disability (LTD), and Short-Term Disability (STD.)

The Parish reviewed supplemental benefits plan proposals from several carriers earlier this year. As a result of the review, three new carriers will be providing benefits currently provided by Colonial: Aflac for our Accident benefit; Cigna for LTD; and Allstate for Universal Life. Our AD & D will continue to be provided



Peggy O. Barton  
Editor

by Cigna, and Colonial will continue to provide all other supplemental benefits.

For this special mid-year Open Enrollment, you only have to meet with an enroller if you want to make a change regarding a supplemental benefit. If you do not meet with an enroller, your current supplemental benefits will automatically continue with the same carrier. The only exception is Long-Term Disability: If you have The Standard LTD plan, you will automatically be moved to Cigna’s LTD. The Cigna plan has the same coverage as The Standard, but the premiums are lower.

Employees will not be able to make any Core Benefits changes during this mid-year enrollment. We will have another Open Enrollment for Core Benefits in the fall of this year. Any changes you make then will take effect on January 1 and will be in effect throughout 2013. Of course, employees can always make changes to their benefits if they experience a qualified event/status change.

If you have any questions about mid-year Open enrollment, please contact your department’s Benefits Coordinator or the Benefits Division of Human Resource Management.

## Streets

By  
Debbie Tunstall

### Promotions

Congratulations to the following employees who have received promotions with our department. **Gerard Bergeron**, promoted to Equipment Operator III, Asphalt Section, Westbank Maint.; **Troy Gilmore**, promoted to Equipment Operator IV, Concrete Section, Westbank Maint.; **Keith Howard**, promoted to Laborer, Semi-Skilled, Concrete Section, Westbank Maint.; **Nicholas Thibodeaux**, promoted to Equipment Operator IV, Heavy Equipment Section, Westbank Maint.; **Dennis Beraud**, promoted to Equipment Operator III, Asphalt, Eastbank Maint.

**Marlon Harding** has been promoted to Road Maintenance Superintendent I, Drainage Section, Eastbank Maint. **Sean Duckett** of Westbank Maint. was promoted to Road Maintenance Superintendent I, Concrete Section, Eastbank Maint. The Westbank Maintenance Department said they are really happy for Sean and know that he will do a great job in his new position. He will be greatly missed by those who have worked with him on the Westbank. Congratulations to all of you, and I hope you will be happy in your new positions.

### New Hires

I would like to extend a big welcome to our new employees **Michael Landry**, Truck Driver II, Westbank Maintenance; **Michael McGowan**, Laborer, Westbank Maintenance;

and **Adolph Riggins**, Laborer, Westbank Maintenance. We hope you all enjoy working with our department and will be with us for many years to come.

### Condolences

Our deepest sympathy goes to our dear friend **Richard Lamoureux**, who lost his wife Marie after a long illness on May 12. Our thoughts and prayers are with you, Richard, during this difficult time.



East Bank Streets  
new Road Maintenance Superintendent  
Sean Duckett

## Diversity Advisory Board

At the May 14, 2012, meeting of the Employee Diversity Advisory Board, Dottie Reese and Margaret Montgomery-Richard, of DMM & Associates, gave an interactive presentation to the board. We discussed how we see our role on the diversity board and what we can do to improve the board. Members generated lots of ideas, including many items the diversity board should be focused on. Some of our priorities included communicating with and educating employees about diversity and to make sure “everyone” is represented.

We said thank you and farewell to one of the original members of the Diversity Advisory Board who resigned from the board this month, **Linda Roy**. As she is preparing to retire in the near future after 34 years with the Parish, she is very busy preparing others to fill her shoes in Inspection & Code Enforcement. Linda was a great asset to the board, and she will certainly be missed.

The cookbook project is nearing completion – everyone agrees that it was a much bigger task than we all thought it would be. After a final once-over, it will be submitted to the administration for final approval. We are set to release it in mid-June.

You may have noticed our members wearing shirts with the Diversity Advisory Board logo. The shirts were provided to us by Mr. Fred Parker. Look for members wearing these shirts on Fridays and on days that we have meetings.

We hope the departments enjoyed the Administrative Professionals Day poster that the Diversity Advisory Board put together for April. Thanks so much to our co-chairpersons **Alice White** and **Darcell Florence** for their work in gathering pictures Parish-wide for the poster, and to **Maria Rose**, a former member of the Diversity Board who put all those photos together. Thanks for your efforts – it looks great!

## Human Resources

By  
Glenn Schiro

### Yenni Award Winner!

Congratulations to HR Manager **Mary Jo Arcement**, who has received the Joseph S. Yenni Award as the Jefferson Parish Employee of the Year for 2012. Mary Jo received this prestigious award from Parish President John Young on May 17 at a luncheon sponsored by the Jefferson Parish Chamber of Commerce. This is the second time Mary Jo has been recognized as employee of the year during her 26 years of outstanding service to Jefferson Parish. She is the only employee who has received the Yenni award twice since this very special recognition began in 1989.

For those of us who have had the good fortune of working with Mary Jo, we have witnessed on a daily basis the untiring efforts of a true public servant dedicated to Jefferson Parish and its employees. We wish Mary Jo the best as she plans to retire in August. We will always be grateful to Mary Jo for her legacy of unparalleled service and commitment to Jefferson Parish.



Mary Jo Arcement  
with her second Yenni Award!

### Kudos to Peggy Barton

HR extends Kudos to our Director **Peggy Barton**, who recently obtained the Professional in Human Resources (PHR) credential from the Human Resource Certification Institute

Through a challenging on-line program, Peggy mastered a wide range of information regarding relevant HR topics, legislation, regulations, and compliance issues.

Congratulations, Peggy, for earning this recognition as a Human Resource Professional.

### Health Screenings

Coventry, East Jefferson Wellness Center, and West Jefferson Hospital are sponsoring free health screenings for Jefferson Parish employees enrolled in Coventry Health Care.

The screenings include cholesterol, glucose, blood pressure, and body mass readings. Please note that fasting is required, so do not eat or drink after midnight the day before the screenings. Also, please remember to bring your Coventry ID Card.

Check with your Department's Coordinator to find out the dates, times, and locations (East Bank and West Bank) of the health screenings that will be held during June. Please participate in this very important screening provided by Coventry, with the help of East Jefferson Wellness Center and West Jefferson Hospital.

### Exercise Classes

Please take advantage of the exercise classes which are being offered as a part of the Parish's Wellness Program. The Jefferson Parish Recreation Department is offering these classes to

Jefferson Parish employees. The Recreation Department provides the classes and the instructors to conduct classes at our East Bank and West Bank locations. The classes are held on Tuesdays and Thursdays, from 4:45 to 5:45 in the Yenni Bldg. and in the General Government Bldg.

To start the registration process, go to the Intranet, select Human Resource Management – Training then press Click here for Class Registration form. Please send the completed form to **Cathy Leaumont**, Benefits, Human Resource Management. Through the efforts of Jefferson Parish Recreation Department, we are offering these opportunities for our employees to move more and to live a healthy lifestyle through scheduled exercises.

**Please note:** Monthly Wellness Newsletters are now being posted on the Intranet. Go to *Departments* then select *Human Resource Management - Benefits* site. The current month and the prior month are posted along with the most recent MHNNet Newsletter. The handouts that are sent with the newsletters are also available at this site.



Robert McCants (center), GIS Operator, is congratulated by Leo Lay and Engineering Director Mark Drewes upon his retirement after 30 years with the Parish.

## Juvenile Services

By  
Arlyn Smith

**WELCOME:** Welcome to **Lisa Cole**, Vocational Counselor II, and **Lanika Parker, Patricia Green-Metz**, and **Cindy McGee**, Juvenile Probation Officer I's. We're happy to have you on board.

We would also like to thank the following individuals who are hired as temporary Education Specialists III and provide continuation of the educational services at Rivarde to the residents during the summer months: **Beverly Davis, Lisa McLendon, Glinda Morton, Marble Pierre**, and **Betsy Rapps**.

**FAREWELL:** **Lisa Bolden** and **Janice Jenkins**, Juvenile Detention Officers who resigned to pursue other opportunities. Ms. Jenkins has been employed by DJS for 35 years, and we thank her for her dedicated years of service to the youth of Jefferson Parish.

### EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH:

April: **John Beauregard**, Juvenile Detention Officer, and **Myrle "Gay" Hymel**, Typist Clerk II

May: **Akassa Smith**, Juvenile Detention Officer, and **Brittany Webb**, Juvenile Probation Officer II

**SYMPATHY:** DJS expresses our deepest sympathy to Probation Officer **Roberta Brown** and Warehouse Supervisor **Marvin Lowe** on the death of their fa-

thers.

**Director Roy Juncker, Jr.**, presented the following employees with their service pins at the May monthly staff meeting:

**5 Years:** **Jessica "Nikki" Johnson, Malcolm Fredericks, Linda Bon, Gloria Meiskey, Nelda Breaux, Shelana Martin, Tino Lyons, Thomas Knight, Vandyke Hester, Gwendolyn Bridgewater, Herlin Riley**, and **Matthew Villio**.

**10 Years:** **Vicki Borja** and **Charon Jules**

**15 Years:** **Sandra Williams**

## Animal Shelter

By  
Danielle Williams

### Congratulations:

Congratulations go out to a few of our employees who were rewarded with service pins:

Ms. **Linda Girard** (Administrative Assistant), **Tracy Borne** (Humane Officer), and **Laquita "Ketha" Goudy** (Clerk II) were awarded pins for 5 years of service. **Steven Phillippe** (Animal Control Officer) was awarded a pin for 10 years of service. Congratulations to you all and thank you for all the hard work that you do.

### Rabies Campaign:

On April 1, the Animal Shelter held our annual rabies campaign. During the campaign, parish residents could bring their pets to get rabies vaccinations at a low cost.

The vaccination clinics were held at several playgrounds throughout the parish. Over

2,000 pets were vaccinated on this one day. A special thank you goes out to all the volunteers who made this day so successful: Jefferson SPCA, Jefferson Parish Recreation, The City of Kenner, The City of Gretna, local veterinarians, shelter staff, and community volunteers.

### Rabies Vaccinations:

Rabies vaccinations are offered at both the East Bank and West Bank shelters weekly. Vaccines are offered at the West Bank shelter on Tuesdays from 10am-12pm and at the East Bank shelter on Wednesdays from 10-11:30am.

### Adoptions:

Animals are available for adoption on Mondays through Wednesdays and Fridays from 9am till 5:30pm, and on Thursdays from 9am-7pm, Saturday 10am till 3:30pm.



Animal Shelter's Laquita Goudy proudly displays her certificate for 5 years of service

## Code Enforcement

By  
Linda Roy

WELCOME ABOARD: Code has several new employees since our last reporting. **Cody Belanger**, Account Clerk II; **Donald Morgan**, Building Plan Reviewer; **Vernon Boudreaux**, Building Inspector I; **Chris McDonnell**, Building Plan Reviewer III; **Kymeikio Thompson**, Data Entry Operator II; **David Cobb**, Assistant Regulatory Manager; **Ashley Roberts**, Property Maintenance Inspector I; **Kenneth Brown**, Property Maintenance Inspector I; **Justin Guillot**, Property Maintenance Inspector I; and **Gloria Smith**, Clerk I. Glad to have you Guys!!

CONGRATULATIONS! **Donald Landrieu** was chosen as Code's Employee of the Year! Don joined our ranks in 2003 as a Plumbing Inspector I. In 2008 he was promoted to Plumbing Inspector II. He has achieved the Louisiana Residential and Commercial Plumbing Inspector certifications. He always has a smile, treats everyone with respect, and is willing to help whenever he can. It is a pleasure to work with Don, and we are honored to have him as our Employee of the Year. Great job—You deserve it!!

SAIL ON INTO THE SUNSET We envy **Bernard Klumpp** and **Jerry Roy** as they retired to kick back and enjoy their lives. Enjoy while you can, because the honey do lists await!!!!

Our employees in Code are hard-working, dedicated individuals who face a lot of adversities day in and day out. Not often

enough do we take the time to acknowledge their efforts. Everyone is doing a Great Job – Keep Up the Good Work and Hang in There!!

This article will be my last for *En Realite*, or its new name, *JeffTalk*. I have been the reporter for Code Enforcement for over 20 years. At times, it has been a challenge, but most of the time it has been Fun!! It is time to turn over the pen as I prepare for my retirement at the end of the year. Please welcome **Ruth “Kappy” Day**. She will be the writer for future articles. She will do a fine job. Thank You for being my Audience!!

## Planning

By  
Marilyn Slutsky

**Phil Tiller**, Planner II, retired on April 13 after over 26 years in the Planning Department as a Planner in the Land Use Section. We miss Phil and wish him a happy retirement!

Congratulations to **Bess Renfrow**, Planner II, for being selected Planning's Employee of the Year. Bess, who is starting law school in the fall, will begin working in the Parish Attorney's Office in mid-May.



President Young with Bess Renfrow

## Alario Center

By  
Deidre Cummings

### Employee of the Year!

Congratulations to all 2012 Employees of the Year. A super pick for our department is **Lebaron Simmons**. Lebaron joined our Operations team in 2008. He is as enthusiastic and energetic today as he was when he first started. Keep up the good work!



Lebaron Simmons and President Young

### Wild Game Dinner

On May 16, Judge John Molaison hosted the Annual Wild Game dinner. We would like to thank the committee and guests for making the Alario Center home again this year.

### Helping Hand

Councilman Mark Spears hosted a Senior Luncheon on May 17. Over 800 Jefferson Parish seniors were in attendance at this wonderful event. A few Alario Center employees stepped in to lend a helping hand in serving the large crowd.

### What's Going On!

June brings AAU Basketball to the Alario Center. For more information, please visit [www.alariocenter.com](http://www.alariocenter.com) for upcoming events.

**Drainage**

By  
Sheena Quinn

**Award Pins**

The Department of Drainage awarded service pins to employees that have been with us for 5, 10, and 15 years.

15 years: **Ronald Fuxan Jr., James Caston Jr., Clay Ledet, Damian Dent, Michael Gray, Romalace James, Deborah McCracken, and Lawrence Williams.** And our Director, **Mitchell T. Theriot**, also received his service pin after 15 years of wonderful service to Jefferson Parish! We thank you for your hard work and look forward to seeing what you will accomplish in the future.



Ronald Fuxan, Jr.

10 years: **Terrell Power, Corey Chopin, Murphy Clark, and Ricky White Jr.**



Damien Dent

The following dedicated employees received service pins for 5 years: **Dawn Calloway, Raymond Coster III, Cedrick**

**Frank, Jerone Justin, Chris Bourgeois, Edward Carter, Tyrone Granger, John Nguyen, Arthur Nicholas, Fujikol Simpson, Phan Tran, and Melvin Washington.**



Lawrence Williams

**Welcome & Congratulations!**

As 2012 begins, Drainage has had lots of exciting, memorable moments since our last article. Among the most noticeable changes are the newest additions to the department and recent promotions. **Anthony Giglio, Andrew Smith, Roger McCathern, and Ernest Harris** have begun their careers with the Department of Drainage.

Also, we would like to congratulate the following for their recent promotions: **Renard Foster, Eldwin St. Cyr, Jonathan Clark, Van Hughes, Chad Westley, Jac Barnett, Troy Alexander, Joseph Knapper III, Daniel Johnson and Alfred Chan.** Good luck and congratulations, everyone!



Clay Ledet

**Great Accomplishments**

During the Council meeting held on April 14, 2012, the Departmental Employee of the Year was recognized for the Department of Drainage. We would like to announce that this high honor was presented to **Latrenda McGhee**, an East Bank Drainage employee since 1996. Latrenda, a Drainage Maintenance Superintendent I, has shown exemplary dedication to all that she does.

She recently received praise from a Parish citizen that she assisted with concerns about a servitude along Soniat Canal behind her home. She truly leads by example. Congrats, Latrenda!



Drainage Employee of the Year  
Latrenda McGhee

**Fond Farewells**

While new faces were being introduced to our Department of Drainage family, we said goodbye to two amazingly hard-working people that retired after countless years of dedication and hard work. **Tue Tran**, Laborer Semi-skilled, Lead Worker for our WB Drainage office, and **Robert Smith**, Drainage Maintenance Foreman for EB Drainage. We appreciate everything that they have done for the Department and wish them all the best on the beginning of their retirement!

## Water

By  
Susie Cunningham

### Employee of the Year

Our Assistant Director, **Douglas Pertuit, Jr.**, was honored as Employee of the Year for 2011-2012. Douglas has been employed with the Jefferson Parish Department of Water for over twenty-six years. Parish President John Young presented Douglas with a special plaque for his superb performance at the Council Meeting on April 18, 2012. Great, big congratulations to Douglas on this very special achievement!



Water Director Doug Vincent with his Administrative Professionals

### New Employees

Welcome to our new employees: **Theodore Thompson, III**, Laborer; **Rhett Johnston**, Pump Equipment Mechanic; **Houston Hunter, Jr.** and **Lavernon Jones**, Equipment Operator III's

### Promotions

Congratulations to the following employees on their recent promotions: **Marion Holt**, Utility Billing Collection Supervisor; **Christopher Douse**, **Jerren Sheppard**, and **Lyndon Ross**, Laborers, Semi-Skilled;



President Young congratulates Water's Employee of the Year, Assistant Director Douglas Pertuit

### Administrative Professionals Day

In recognition of Administrative Professionals Day on April 25, 2012, Director of Water **Doug Vincent** and his office staff celebrated by enjoying lunch at Copeland's of New Orleans. Everyone had a great time. Thanks, Doug!

### Condolences

We extend our deepest condolences to the Hull Family, who recently lost their loved one, **Terry Hull**. Terry was a retiree of the Department of Water.

The Public Works Warehouse was under the Department of Water for over thirty years, but effective April 7, 2012, is under the Engineering Department. The transition proved to be a smooth one.

The entire staff of the Water Department wishes everyone a wonderful summer!

### Citizens' Affairs

By  
Suzanne Lollis

Citizens Affairs would like to welcome our new Assistant Director **Cheryl Legohn-Tubbs** and Bus Driver **Marille Fauchaux**. We hope you both will enjoy a long and prosperous career with our department.

A fond farewell to Mr. **Wayne Ory**, Coordinator of Senior Services. Citizens' Affairs appreciates Mr. Ory's years of dedication to the Seniors of Jefferson Parish.



Cheryl Legohn-Tubbs is the new Assistant Director of Citizens' Affairs

**Sewerage**

By  
Venice Cooper

**EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR**

Congratulations to **David Mahner**, Department of Sewerage Employee of the Year. David is Superintendent at the Bridge City Wastewater Treatment Plant. He's been employed with the Parish for 30 years. When asked what this honor means to him, David stated, "It's an honor to be recognized, but the real credit goes to the dedicated men and women of the Bridge City and Lafitte Plants. Whatever success I've had, I owe to them." David and other Departmental Employees of the Year were honored with a presentation during the April 18 Council Meeting.



Sewerage Employee of the Year  
David Mahner

**CONGRATULATIONS**

Congratulations to the following employees on their recent promotions:

**Sterling Lane** was promoted from Superintendent II to General Superintendent, Lines Division. Sterling has been employed with the Parish for 29 years.

**Adolph Grimes** was promoted from Superintendent I to Superintendent II with our Westbank Lines Division. He has been with the Parish for 27 years.

**Lawrence Scieneaux** was promoted from Equipment Operator III to Sewerage Maintenance Foreman. Lawrence has been with the Parish for 14 years.

**Leo Williams** was promoted from Equipment Operator III to Sewerage Maintenance Foreman. Leo has been employed with the Parish for 13 years.

**Wilbert Joseph** was promoted from Laborer to Truck Driver II with our Westbank Lines Division. Wilbert has been employed with the Parish for 2 years.

Congratulations to **Donald Robinson**, **Joe Smith**, and **Brandon Owens**. They recently received their 5-Year Service Pin Awards. Donald is a Trades Helper at Westbank Lift Stations. Joe and Brandon are Trades Helpers at our Eastbank Lift Stations Division.

Congratulations to **Germaie Louis**. Germaie recently received his 10-Year Service Pin Award. He is employed as a Pump Equipment Mechanic at Westbank Lift Stations.

Congratulations to **Roy Dominick** for completing the ten-part Basic Supervision series



Recent Basic Supervision graduate Roy Dominick



Sewerage Director Linda Daly  
with Germaie Lewis

on May 10, 2012. Roy is a Pump Equipment Mechanic with our Eastbank Lift Stations Division. He's been employed with the Parish for 10 years.

**WELCOME**

Welcome to the following newly hired employees:

**Gary Livesey**, Welder, Marrero Wastewater Treatment Plant

**Andre Russell**, Laborer, Eastbank Lines Division

**Gerald Brown**, Laborer, Eastbank Lift Stations

**Brandon Lefort**, Pump Equipment Mechanic, Westbank Lift Stations

**Chad Gillespie**, Laborer, Westbank Lift Stations

**ADMINISTRATIVE PROFESSIONALS' DAY 2012**

Our Administrative Staff members were treated to lunch by Director **Linda Daly** on Administrative Professionals' Day, April 25. We'd like to thank Linda for the delicious lunch. Also, thanks to **Brett Todd** for picking up the food, setting up everything in our conference room, and answering the phones so that we could all eat together. Everyone enjoyed coming together for fellowship and a delicious meal.

## Library

By  
Daniel Gitlin

### Associate Creates Videos to Promote Summer Reading

In an effort to promote the Summer Reading Program at all of the branches of the Library, **Shannon Kitchens**, East Bank Regional Library Associate, recently worked with the Library marketing team to create two short videos starring Library employees and young Library patrons. Shannon, in her spare time, is a promising young filmmaker who has a Film Studies degree from U.N.O.

The two videos target both the Children and Teen Summer Reading Programs. The Children's video is about three bored children who, with the help of a Magical Librarian (played by **Daisy Griffin**, East Bank Regional Circulation Librarian), discover the fun and magic of Summer Reading.

The teen video takes a different approach. Filmed like a horror movie trailer, brave teens, as-

sisted by **Selena Muhoberac**, East Bank Regional Teen Librarian, fight off the zombie-like books by reading them. In one scene, books even fly off the shelves at the teens! **Erin Korosi**, Youth Services Coordinator, helped with the filming and creation of both projects.

"It's great to see staff working on creative projects together," says **Lon Dickerson**, Library Director. "Social and digital media have become a major device in marketing public entities, and having employees who can assist in that effort is extremely valuable."

The videos were sent to local schools and camps, and are available to watch online at <https://vimeo.com/41385503> (children) and <https://vimeo.com/41818642> (teen).

Throughout the Summer Reading Program, which runs from June 1 – August 4, children can earn prizes and participate in free events at all Library locations. Studies show that

Summer Reading is a great way to keep kids mentally active during the summer months and they are less likely to lose the key reading skills they learned during the previous school year.

All Parish employees are encouraged to sign their children up to be part of the fun this summer! You can sign your child up at any Library branch or online at the Library website: <http://www.jefferson.lib.la.us>.

### Employee Finds Himself on Ancestry.com

After **Douglas Deichmann**, East Bank Regional Librarian II, lost his mother earlier this year, he started looking through one of the many online databases offered to library card members to learn more about his family history.

He searched "Ancestry.com" and not only found out interesting details about his family, but was fascinated to see his graduation picture from his 1976 high school yearbook!

If you are interested in learning more about your family history, please come see Doug or any of the library staff at any of our branches, and they will be happy to help you!

### Staff Updates

The Library would like to thank **Janet Perry**, Librarian II, who recently retired from the library after more than 20 years of providing outstanding service. Janet, most recently, was the head librarian at the Harahan library.

Welcome to **Jennifer Dumas** and **Jaymie LaFleur**, East Bank Regional Pages, who joined the Library team in the past few months!



Shannon Kitchens directs Daisy Griffin in a promotional video for summer reading

**JeffCAP**

By  
Catina Ward

**Central Office Clerks**

On behalf of management a Very Big Thank You goes out to all of the central office staff that kept things going by volunteering their time to help out while we were short staffed. Way to show teamwork!

**Quiet Hero**

In every department there is one person that you can call your quiet hero. In JeffCAP that person is Mrs. **Esther Enamorado**, and I'm sure I speak for everyone when I say she is always someone you can count on. From all of JeffCAP, thanks, Mrs. Esther, for all your tireless efforts. We really appreciate you.



Esther Enamorado

**Head Start**

Congratulations to **Mrs. Linda Morris** as Employee of the Year. It is an honor to have such a dedicated staff member setting great standards for our future leaders. (See photo next page.)

We would also like to say congratulations to all of the staff—both Head Start and Central office—who graduated this year after continuing their education. And as the saying goes “Knowledge is power,” so keep reaching for the stars.

**New Hire**

As you may know, earlier this year our RSVP Coordinator Ms. **Aretha Frison** resigned, but we are happy to announce that we have replaced her with the very knowledgeable Ms. **Sevilla Finley**. Ms Finley transferred from Community Development, where she worked for many years as the information specialist, and we are very happy to have her on board.



New RSVP Coordinator  
Sevilla Finley

**Renaming the Avondale Community Center**

The Avondale Community Center has been renamed after a Community Activist, the late Mr. J. C. Simmons. Mr. Simmons was known for his deep roots in the Avondale Community. He played a major role in the creation of the West Bank Civic Association, in which he held the position of Vice Chairman for many years and also held the position of Chairman of the 3<sup>rd</sup> District Civic Association after the districts were divided until his death. These meetings are still held monthly at what's now known as the J. C. Simmons Community Center, giving the community an outlet to vent their concerns about what's going on within the community.

**Emergency Management**

By  
Sandra Ancar-Encalade

The hurricane season officially began June 1; however, we had two named storms that formed in May: Alberto and Beryl. The 2012 forecast, issued by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, calls for 9 to 15 named storms with 4 to 8 expected to become hurricanes and one to three major hurricanes (Category 3 or higher). This prediction is for a less active season than recent years, but truly it only takes ONE. Everyone needs to prepare, and with planning, you can be ready for the unexpected.

The 2012 named hurricanes are Alberto, Beryl, Chris, Debby, Ernesto, Florence, Gordon, Helene, Isaac, Joyce, Kirk, Leslie, Michael, Nadine, Oscar, Patty, Rafael, Sandy, Tony, Valerie and William. If we deplete any year's supply of names, we will utilize the Greek alphabet and have Alpha, Beta, Gamma, Delta, etc.

We welcome **Sean Hurly**, Emergency Management Coordinator II. Sean received his BS degree from Missouri Southern State in Joplin, Missouri, and is enrolled in the Homeland Security Studies Masters of Public Safety at Tulane. Sean's background in emergency management includes the BP Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill and the 5-22-11 Joplin, Missouri, tornado. Sean is a resident of Kenner. Welcome, Sean!



Sean Hurley

## Parks & Recreation

By  
Gwen Styron

Our 2012 Summer Activity Guide, which includes Summer Camp plus other activities and programs for April through August is available on our website at [www.jeffparish.net](http://www.jeffparish.net) – Parks & Recreation page, or can be obtained at all local playgrounds and libraries. The Fall Guide will be available in late August. For information about any of our programs, call the respective office (East Bank – 736-6999 or West Bank 349-5000) or e-mail [jprecreation@jeffparish.net](mailto:jprecreation@jeffparish.net)

Congratulations to the following employees for the second quarter of 2012 for their years of service:

5 years – **Anthony Centanni, Jr, Sean Ruffin, Rayfield Gaston IV, Chuck Kelly III, Robert Schoen, Roy Warren, Jeff Mumphrey**  
10 years – **Chris Naumann**  
15 years – **Amy Denny, Eugene Mauberret III**

Congratulations to our Employees of the Month for 2011:

**East Bank –**  
January - **Sidney Watkins – Maintenance**  
February – **Vincent Mastracchio – Bright Playground**  
March – **Miriam Miller – Athletics**  
April – **Antoinette Williams – Administration**  
May – **Cherie Dunn – Miley Playground**  
June – **Jerry Corona – Delta Playground**  
July - **Scott Elwood – Girard Playground**

August – **Warren Melanie – Cleary Playground**  
September – **Kyle Beske – Maintenance**  
October – **Justin Mayeaux – Maintenance**  
November – **Brad Roth – Pontiff Playground**  
December – **Becky Letort – Administration**  
EB Employee for 2011 – **Jerry Corona – Delta Playground**

Lafreniere Park Employee for 2011 - **Steven Accardo**

### West Bank –

October 2010 - **Rudy Luke – Oakdale Playground**  
November 2010 - **Stanley Schofield – Kennedy Heights Playground**  
December 2010 - **Gary Orgeron – Rose Thorne Playground**  
January 2011 - **Steven Williams – Maintenance**  
February 2011 - **Wayne Powell – Maintenance**  
March 2011 - **Charles Vasquez – Oakdale Playground**  
May 2011 - **Emile Grabert – Oakdale Playground**  
June 2011 - **J.R. Prowell – PARD Playground**  
July 2011 – **Randy Tallon - Maintenance**  
August 2011 - **Wayne Hendricks – Belle Terre Playground**  
September 2011 - **Jarette Carmouche**  
September 2011 - **Charles Harris – Maintenance**  
WB Employee for 2011 – **Emile Grabert – Oakdale Playground**

Our sincerest sympathy to the family of **Glenn Camardelle**, supervisor of Waggaman Playground, who passed away on May 6, 2012.

**West Bank Project Update:**  
Parc des Familles Ball Fields (Quadraplex) are complete with a new Press box under construction

### East Bank Project Update

Lakeshore Playground – work should begin in the next few months on a tennis court.  
Mike Miley and Little Farms Playground tot lots will be completed this summer.  
Owens Playground – work will soon begin on the major interior and exterior renovations.

### Bucktown Marina

Work should soon be completed on the Marina walking trail

### Lafreniere Park Update:

The new Splash Park will soon be opening for young children to enjoy. It will consist of 14 features, ranging from in-ground spray features to colorful above ground sprays, including a rainbow arch and even large water cannons.



JeffCAP's Employee of the Year Linda Morris

## Environmental

By  
Kathy Russo

Environmental Affairs congratulates **Sami Khalil** on his promotion to Stormwater Supervisor and **Nancy Woodlock** on her promotion to Stormwater Specialist. We know both will do a good job.

After almost 7 years, on July 2, 2012, curbside recycling will return to the unincorporated areas of the Parish and the town of Jean Lafitte. Progressive Waste Solutions began delivering the new green recycling bins on May 28; and bin delivery will continue through June. Recycling will be collected on the East Bank on the first garbage collection day and on the West Bank on the second collection day. We urge all to participate in the program!

On April 5, 2012, the department held a social at Rock N Bowl to congratulate our Director, **Marnie Winter**, on her 30 years of service to the Parish. Many current and former employees attended and had an enjoyable evening bowling and socializing.

On April 19 we held our annual Non-Point Source Pollution and Solutions Poster/Essay contest awards ceremony at the East Bank Regional Library. The poster/essay contest is open to all students in the third through eighth grades in Jefferson Parish Schools. Students in the third through sixth grades submit a poster, and students in the seventh and eighth grades submit a one-page essay on non-point source pollution and how to prevent it. We would like to thank the department staff for judging the posters and the Human Resources staff for judging the essays. The



Newly promoted Sami Khalil and Nancy Woodlock pose with poster/essay awards

winning posters were on display in the East Bank Regional Library through May, and they are now on display at the West Bank Regional Library through July.

### Mosquito Time!

Due to this winter's mild temperatures, we are reminding employees to control mosquitoes and stem the spread of viruses that they carry. Residents are advised to police their own property for standing water. Mosquitoes need water to complete their life cycle.

Remember, just about anything that can hold water, even a bottle cap, could be an ideal place for mosquitoes to lay their eggs. Proper control measures can go a long way in stopping the spread of mosquito-borne illnesses like the West Nile virus. Residents are encouraged to take the following precautions around the home:

- ◇ Empty any containers holding water.
- ◇ Flush bird baths, kiddie pools, pet water bowls, and bromeliads at least once per week.
- ◇ Remove water from saucer under potted plants weekly.

- ◇ Make sure that swimming pools, fountains, ponds, or water gardens have a pump that keeps water circulating. Stock ponds with minnows.
- ◇ Treat swimming pools with appropriate chemicals on a regular basis.
- ◇ Check roof gutters to make sure they are not clogged or holding water.
- ◇ Maintain yard: keep grass mowed; control weeds.
- ◇ Fill and grade low spots, indentations, and tire tracks.
- ◇ Remove trash and spare parts from your yard.
- ◇ Keep boats, barbecue grills, etc. covered (make sure tarp is tight and doesn't hold water) or drain regularly.
- ◇ Remove old tires from yard by placing them curbside for collection (4/week/home) or bring them to the nearest trash drop off site for disposal.
- ◇ Fill tree holes and hollow stumps with sand or concrete.

Protect yourself from mosquito bites: avoid being outdoors at dawn and dusk, wear long sleeves and long pants when outside, use repellent containing DEET according to label directions. All window and door screens should be bug-tight.

## General Services

By  
Jill Relick

Welcome to **Rachel Mitchell**. She has become very important; fast in the front office position in our General Service West Bank office. She has attended Delgado and loves a good movie. She also spends a lot of time encouraging her daughter to dance. Stop by her desk to see a pic of her Fred Astaire.

**Scott Allemand** has joined our Library electrical staff. We're not sure how our Libraries functioned without him.

Special thanks to our Landscaping Department for keeping our grass green and groomed. Remember the grass is always greener after the Landscape Staff has added their special talents.

Department office moves have been the talk of the Joseph S. Yenni Building during the last two months. Make sure you check the building floor directories for the relocation of the **Fire Department Headquarters, Hazardous Materials, and the Parish Attorney Office.**

Two hundred thirty-one lay persons who have devoted themselves to the work of the Catholic Church throughout the Archdiocese were awarded the order of St. Louis IX Medallion on May 6 at the St. Louis Cathedral. Archbishop Gregory Aymond presented the awards. Our **Leandro Lopez** was a recipient of this award for his contributions of his time and talents to the church. Leo is an engineer at our Jefferson Parish Correction Center.

The LSU AgCenter is the Joseph S Yenni Building's most recent new tenant. The LSU AgCenter is dedicated to provid-

ing innovative research, information, and education to improve people's lives. Working in a unique statewide network of parish extension offices, the LSU AgCenter helps Louisiana citizens make the best use of community resources. **Alexis Navarro** is the Parish Chair of the extension office located in Suite 300. She oversees Horticulture, Nutrition and Health, as well as 4-H Youth and Family Development programming. Ms Navarro is a past recipient of the State Team Award recognizing outstanding effort by faculty responding to and incorporating one or more of the National Initiatives with local educational community outreach. Stop by and introduce yourself to Alexis. She'll be glad to share information on the summer "Lunch and Learn" series of classes.

## Transit

By  
Patricia Lyons

### Jefferson Transit Receives Three Supervisors' Vehicles

Jefferson Parish Department of Transit Administration (JPDTA) received funding from the Federal Transit Administration's (FTA) Section 5307 Urbanized Area Formula Program to purchase three (3) new Ford utility vehicles.

The vehicles are used by Transit supervisors in various capacities. They are used for emergencies, to monitor bus routes, security checks, and ride-by checks (monitoring bus drivers on the road). Also, supervisors monitor the traffic flow and relieve drivers. Lastly, the utility vehicles are used to assist in transporting passengers.

JPDTA is very excited about the new utility vehicles for Transit supervisors.



One of Transit's three new supervisors' vehicles

## Health Issues

By  
Peggy Branan, RN



The human mind, while more complex than the most sophisticated computer, can become quite fragile and vulnerable when it comes to one's emotions and mental state. From the beginning of time, much has been learned regarding what makes us tick and what can influence our thoughts, emotions, and behaviors. But in spite of the volumes of books that profess to "know it all" when it comes to the psychology of man, are we any better off individually or as a society?

One only needs to read or watch the headlines in the news to see that in our world as compared to prior generations, something is drastically different, and not for the better. Violence, indifference, substance abuse, detachment, depression, and lack of purpose are just a few examples of areas of concern that can cripple the potential and very life of the individual. Given the right set of circumstances, this cancer can then spread and eventually threaten even the very life of society as we know it.

One of the most powerful means of influencing society is through the media. The mental and physical health of a society can hang in the balance depending on the messages, be it subliminal or overt, that are found through all means of communication. While much good has come about through technology, there are al-

ways those who seek a way to pervert the good technology has to offer through manipulating it and harming all for their own gain. The mass media is constantly trying to sell something! It has a way of marketing the message that the way you look is not GOOD enough. You must have this surgical procedure or change this or that about your body to be "acceptable." Or, by taking this or that pill, you can cure whatever ails you or you think ails you. Once upon a time there was truth in advertising, I'm not so sure that it still exists.

The movie and music industries make huge profits by promoting the devaluation of the human being. Individuals are often treated as objects to be used and abused by others or they are demeaned like an animal, so often seen in the "reality" shows. Do people believe this "stuff" is real? Is it behavior to be admired and mimicked? Substance abuse is glamorized. The love of money and excessive living are the ultimate to achieve in life. In the model industry, for some time the "cover-girl" look was replaced by the "cocaine-girl" look. Models had to compromise their very health by abusing their bodies into an emaciated appearance. Due to the rise in opposition towards that "look," the model industry, to a degree, began to open up the runways and magazine shots to the various body types, reflecting a more realistic cross-section of women.

Perhaps the most vulnerable are the young who are exposed to these messages. Because their minds are not yet capable of critical thinking/reasoning/compartmentalizing,

etc., there is often a blurring of what is and is not real. But, even adults are not immune to being manipulated. In the early 1900s, a woman claiming to be a physician wrote a book on how to be healed of virtually every ill. Her "magical cure" was to literally starve her patients to death as they came to her to be spoon-fed broth. As their health declined, they allowed the "good doctor" to take charge of their finances. Needless to say, she swindled all they had as she buried them. How many other books and magazines are promoting similar miracle cures that are doing more harm than good?

You have to wonder how one can reject good common-sense and sound facts and accept subtle deceptions and outright lies. What are some of the important questions we can reflect on to help guide us to be make more grounded decisions? What/who is the source of the information? What is really being promoted? What are their credentials? What is the opposing view? What are their credentials? Who will benefit from such an action? What price will I have to pay, be it economically, emotionally, physically, etc.? What are some unintended consequences? Do not hesitate to question your doctor regarding your physical and/or mental health care. Don't feel guilty if you choose to seek out a second opinion!

Wisdom, based on good sound knowledge, can help us to discern the truth. Next, do we have the courage to move forward to make life better for ourselves and the next generation, based on these truths? What are our possibilities? They are endless!

# Retirements

**Gerard Roy**  
**Code Enforcement**  
**33 years**

**Mark Demoruelle**  
**Fleet Management**  
**32 years**

**Kim Calcagno**  
**Accounting**  
**31 years**

**Robert McCants**  
**Engineering**  
**30 years**

**Tue Tran**  
**Draiang**  
**30 years**

**Edwin Durabb**  
**Planning**  
**27 years**

**Wayne Powell**  
**Recreation**  
**27 years**

**Phillip Tiller**  
**Planning**  
**27 years**

**Janet Perry**  
**Library**  
**24 years**

**Robert Smith**  
**Drainage**  
**22 years**

**Delia Grabert**  
**Workforce Connection**  
**21 years**

**Claire Delyea**  
**Drainage**  
**20 years**

## Spouting Off!



**Twin water spouts over Barataria Bay  
as seen from Grand Isle—May 2012**