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Message from the Parish President. . .

Flood Insurance & the Biggert-Waters Act

We would like to take this opportunity to bring you up to date on the progress we are making to address problems produced by recent changes to the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) and FEMA preliminary flood maps.

We, along with GNO, Inc., the regional economic alliance, a team of more than eight parish presidents and more than a dozen parish leaders from across south Louisiana, recently traveled to Washington, D.C., to introduce an amendment to delay the implementation of the Biggert-Waters Act of 2012.

The consequences of the initial Biggert-Waters Act unintentionally would have had a more devastating impact on coastal communities in Louisiana and throughout the United States than all of the storms and hurricanes we have endured since Hurricane Katrina. Many citizens and homeowners across our parish, our state, and the country would be facing the new, astronomical and unaffordable cost of flood insurance, leaving most with no choice but to do without. This, in turn, would nega-



John F. Young
Parish President

tively impact the real estate market, banking industry, local governments, and our overall economy.

While that amendment to delay the Biggert-Waters Act for five years was defeated, our trip was successful in drawing attention to the unintended consequences of the Biggert-Waters Act. There is a continuing united effort underway to amend and/or delay Biggert-Waters and restore grandfathering provisions to reduce flood insurance costs. We will remain diligent in fighting to ensure Jefferson Parish citizens and citizens across the country are protected and have available to them flood insurance which is fair, reasonable, and affordable.

JeffTalk

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Departmental Reporters

- Alario Center**
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- Animal Shelter**
Danielle Williams
- Citizens' Affairs**
Suzanne Lollis
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Editor's



Notes

New Administrative Management Policies

The Parish's new *Administrative Management Policies* manual went into effect in April. All current employees should have signed a receipt stating that they are aware of the new policies, know how to access them, and intend to comply with them. We will be making new employees aware of the policies in New Employee Orientation. The manual can be viewed on the Employee Intranet (<http://jpnet/home>) and on Human Resource Management's home page of the Parish website (www.jeffparish.net). Your department should have a printed copy available for employees to use.

Please make an effort to familiarize yourself with the new policies manual. You'll see that it is divided into six sections plus several appendices. The appendices contain some important forms, such as the grievance form, secondary employment form, and the President's essential workforce directive.

Some policies in the manual are new; others are revisions of older policies or procedures. In cases of revisions, the new policies replace any earlier policies that covered the same subjects. For example, the new "Prohibition Against Harassment (Section 508) replaces our former Sexual Harassment and Workplace Harassment policies. The new policies



Peggy O. Barton, Editor

manual also replaces the *Employee Regulations of Conduct*.

Here are a few important new or revised policies that you should know about. Please read the full text for a complete understanding of any policy.

- 503: The media communications policy instructs employees on the proper procedure if they are asked for information or interviews by the media.
- 504: The secondary employment policy states that Parish employees must disclose any secondary sources of income using the Secondary Employment Form. All secondary employment must be in compliance with the Code of Government Ethics.
- 513.2: The technology and communications policy covers the proper use of computers and electronic communication. All data on Parish computers or electronic devices are to be considered Parish property.
- 602.3: The policy on fines and restitution clarifies employees' responsibilities for the loss or damage of Parish property.

All Parish employees should review the new policies manual. See your supervisor if you have questions about any policies in the manual.

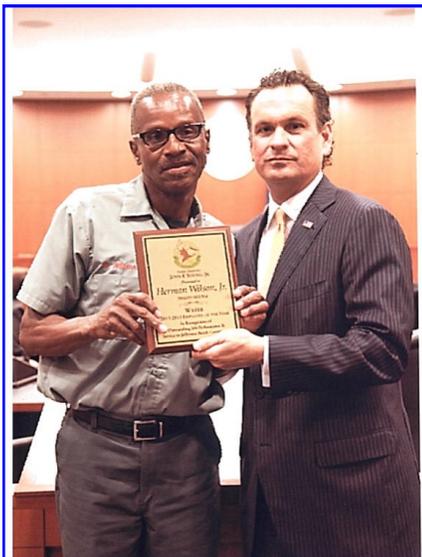
Water

By
Amy T. Miller

The Water Department has some exciting news coming from our East Bank Treatment Plant.

We would like to congratulate **Herman Wilson**, recently selected as our Employee of the Year. Herman said he was completely taken off guard by the news.

Herman has been with the Parish for 16 years. He loves to stay busy and is willing to take on any task to help make his department run smoothly. **David Bertucci**, Superintendent for the Plant, describes Herman as an employee who starts new projects without being asked and takes the lead in getting the job done. He demonstrates respect toward his fellow employees and is concerned about the plant, going so far as to pick up trash around the area because he wants the general public to have a positive view of the Water Plant. David reported that whenever he asks Herman to do a new project, Herman's reply is "You know I will get the job done"....and he always does.



Water's Employee of the Year
Herman Wilson with President Young

A round of applause for **Laura Pagoaga**, of the East Bank Water Plant. Laura graduated from Tulane University on May 18 with a Bachelor of Arts Degree. Laura has been attending night classes for several years and has often said that nothing was going to stop her from getting her degree. Way to go, Laura! You did it!



Laura Pagoaga, BA

We have some hard workers in our West Bank Treatment Plant as well. **Brian Belsome** recently passed his Class III Water Purification exams, and **Larry Cambridge** has started taking his tests and has become a Water Purification Operator I.

The Water Department would like to welcome a new arrival-Dewayne Davon Mitchell. He was born on March 25 and weighed in at 8lbs 3 oz. His mother, **Tamisha Washington**, Utility Billing Collector I of WB Utility Billing, and baby are doing well.

NEW EMPLOYEES-

We have several new employees joining our Water family-**Eric Windsor**, Equipment Operator III, transferred to WB

Distribution from Parks and Recreation; **Timothy Bradberry** is a new Laborer for our Grand Isle division; **Dennis Vaughn** has joined the WB Utility Billing Department as a Water Service Inspector I; **Lorna Robichaux** is a new Utility Billing Collector I for EB Utility Billing; **Jeremy Johnson** is a new Laborer for EB Distribution. Welcome back, **Mark Veith**. Mark served as a Water Service Inspector II several years ago and is back checking meters for EB Utility Billing.

Movin' on Up-

Several employees have been promoted to new positions, and we wish them the best of luck. **Wardell Stewart** has been promoted from Laborer to Forman at WB Distribution. **Eric Thompson** left our EB Distribution division as a Laborer to join our WB Distribution division as an Equipment Operator III. **Brigid Smith-Johnson** has made the leap from Utility Billing Clerk II to III in the EB Utility Billing Department.

Goodbye-

We would like to wish **Kimberly Videau** a fond farewell. She will be leaving the Utility Billing Department as a Utility Billing Collector II to transfer to the Library.

Our condolences to **Monica Stanton**, Assistant Utility Billing Superintendent for EB Utility Billing. She lost her mother, Mercedes Winston, on April 28. **Chantell Barrios**, Utility Billing Collector I for the WB Utility Billing department, lost her grandmother Betty Danos earlier this month. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your families.

Drainage

By
Ron Fuxan

Welcome and Congratulations!

We would like to welcome the following new employees to the Department of Drainage: **Charlene Painter, Travis Ardoin, Kim Kelly, Herman Champagne, Shawn Casbon, and Ryan Sievers.**



Joe Rivere with Drainage Director Mitch Theriot

Also, we would like to congratulate the following for their recent promotions: **Jonathan Clark** as Truck Driver I, **Latrenda McGhee** as Drainage Maintenance Supt. II, **Dominick Ditcharo** as Drainage Maintenance Supt. II, and **Jason Alexander** as Equipment Operator IV (Vac Con).

A Special Congratulations!

We would like to give a special congratulations to **Joe Rivere**, W.B. Pump Stations Supt. III, as he was awarded "Employee of the Year."

Fond Farewells

We would like to give a sincere thank you and good-bye to our retirees who have left over the past few months: **Uyen Tran** (E.B. Drainage) and **Kevin Calcano** (W.B. Pumps).

Diversity Advisory Board

By
Crystal Heine

The Diversity Advisory Board (DAB) is proud to say that every Parish department now is represented by a DAB member. Those departments who do not currently have an employee serving as a member on the board should be expecting or should have already received a communication from their representative member. DAB encourages all departments to get involved.

The DAB Activity Committee is working on putting together a quilt, which will include logos for each Parish department. If your department does not have a logo, DAB encourages you to design one and submit to DAB for inclusion.

DAB's third quarterly meeting in July will include a leader-

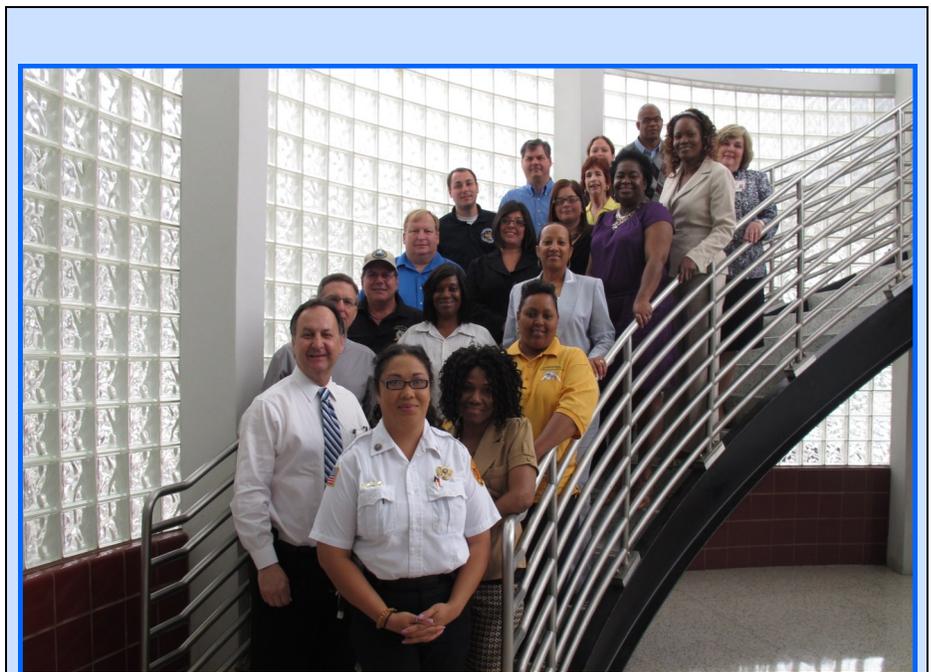
ship seminar. It will be held at the Lafreniere Park Foundation Center and will also include team-building opportunities so that DAB members can get to know each other better.

DAB encourages members and non-members to submit diversity articles and/or quotes for the bi-annual newsletter *Diversity Matters* to **Brian Duplaisir**, of Emergency Management.

Quote:

Inclusion is about a sense of belonging, about feeling respected, valued for who you are. It is an all-encompassing practice of ensuring that people of differing abilities related to, for example, sex, age, and race, feel a sense of belonging, are engaged, and are connected to the goals and objectives of the whole wider society."

- Buyie Masuku, Head of the Management Committee for the Federation of Disabled People in Swaziland



The Diversity Advisory Board at their recent meeting at the Alario Center

Code Enforcement

By
Ruth "Kappy" Day

INS AND OUTS

Code Enforcement welcomes the following new employees: **Jamise Harvey** and **Paul Landry**, EB Plan Review; **Yolanda Howard** and **Brenda Conlee**, WB Building; **Deborah Glinky**, WB Property Maintenance/Zoning; and **Clayton Toups**, EB Electrical. Thanks for joining our team. We say goodbye to these employees: **Jared Barcia**, **Joseph Carrillo**, **Judy Champagne**, **Karen Hamilton**, **Reid Macaluso**, **Tori Thompson**, and **Kelli Trapp**. We'll miss you!

CONGRATULATIONS

Code is pleased to announce the following promotions: **Steve Blakesley** to Electrical Inspector III, and **Sal Puleo** to Plan Reviewer III. We're also happy to report that **Donny Phillips** recently passed the Building Residential Test, and **Jeremy Harrison** passed the Plan Reviewer Residential Test. Attaboys!



Code's new Electrical Inspector III Steve Blakesley and Plan Reviewer III Sal Puleo

BABY NEWS

Code welcomes another baby to our family. **Wanda Wilhoft** became a grandmother again when BrynnLee Elizabeth was born May 8. Love and best wishes to all!



Donny Phillips and
Jeremy Harrison

CONDOLENCES

Code extends our sincerest sympathy to **Mike Furr** and his family on the loss of his daughter, Stacey. Our love and prayers are with you all. And Mike wants to thank everyone for the concern and support he has received from his Code family.

Streets

By
Debbie Tunstall

Summer is almost here, reminding us that we should take a much needed vacation where we can unwind and have a good time.

Welcome

We welcome our new employee **Craig Noel**, Truck Driver II in West Bank Maintenance. We hope you enjoy working with our department, Craig.

Congratulations

We are proud to report that April was an "Accident Free" month for EB Streets. Keep up the good work!

The following East Bank employees completed backhoe training: **Dustin Rojas**, **Ralph Mitchell** and **Corey Bethley**.

Promotion

Congratulations to **Janice Adams**, promoted to Truck Driver II in West Bank Maintenance.

Baby News

Dustin Rojas of East Bank Streets – TDII, welcomed a baby boy, Brantley John Rojas, 8 lbs. 14 oz., May 3. Congratulations, Dustin. How wonderful for you and your family.

Graduation

Richard Bettis, an intern from UNO, graduated with a degree in Engineering. Richard has been working with Don Hogan and our Streets Inspectors learning more about Civil Engineering. Congratulations, Richard.

Get Well

We hope **Rachel Perez** returns soon. We miss you, **Rachel**, and hope you're feeling better.

Planning

By
Marilyn Slutsky

The Planning Department would like to welcome the following new employees: Planner I—**Evelyn Cade**; Planner IIs—**Carnell Brame, Brian Markey,** and **Shane Yokum**; and Planner III—**Shakeeb Shariff**. Evelyn is a former intern who recently graduated from the University of New Orleans with a Masters in Urban and Regional Planning. We are thrilled to have her working with us full time! While Shane is also a graduate from UNO, Shakeeb received his Master’s degree from Bradley University in Illinois, Carnell from Georgia Tech, and Brian from Conway School of Landscape Design in Massachusetts. We are excited for all of them to bring their knowledge and experience to our department.

Planning would also like to recognize our administrative staff: **Darlene Duet, Mary Mason, Marilyn Slutsky, Diana Soileau,** and **Kim Thibodeaux**. They were treated to delicious pastries on Administrative Professionals Day in appreciation of their daily contribution to the department.

Engineering

By
Helen McGee

Our Executive Superintendent, **Jane Guimbellot**, was honored as Employee of the Year for 2012 -2013. Jane has been employed in the Jefferson Parish Department of Engineering for Forty Years!



Jane Guimbellot

Mark Drewes, Director of Engineering, says “Ms. Guimbellot’s work ethic and dedication to the Engineering Department sets a positive example to fellow employees and presents a model for how to approach and resolve the daily problems associated with public service.” Big congratulations to Jane and congratulations on your 40 years of Service!

Congratulations to **Chanen Joseph** on his promotion to a Professional Engineer. Chanen recently passed the Principles and Practice of Engineering Exam (PE) on his FIRST time taking the test. Congratulations, Chanen; we are so proud of you!



Chanen Joseph

Our condolences to our Director, **Mark Drewes**, and family for the loss of his mother-in-law, Mrs. Miriam Huerstel Coates. Our prayers are with you and the family.

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to the following Department of Engineering employees upon their retirements:

Engineering Div. Supervisor **Paul Schouest** retired on June 07, 2013, with 33 years of service. Best of Luck on your retirement and Enjoy!! You will be missed! **Michael Quebedeaux**, SCADA Division Telemetry Technician II, retires June 14, 2013, with 30 years of Service. Mike has provided a significant service to the citizens of Jefferson Parish. He will truly be missed! Congratulations and God Bless, Mike!”



New Planners Evelyn Cade, Shakeeb Shariff, Brian Markey, Shane Yokum, and Carnell Brame

Juvenile Services

By
Arlyn Smith

WELCOME

DJS welcomes new employees **Joel Sweeney**, **Freeman Wright**, **Rayshad Rogers**, Juvenile Detention Officers; **Ted Wilson**, Juvenile Detention Home Security Guard; and **Ramona Trufant**, Cook I, who transferred to us from Community Action/Jeff Cap.

FAREWELL

Justin Ramogasse, Juvenile Detention Home Security Guard

RETIREMENT

Congratulations to Juvenile Probation Officer II **Ramon Solares**, who retired June 5, after 33 years of service to Jefferson Parish. Ramon began his career with Jefferson Parish in 1980, beginning with the Recreation Department, and in May 1983, trans-



Retiring Probation Officer II Ramon Solares (at head of table) and Juvenile Services staff enjoy the cookout.

ferred to Juvenile Services. We wish him much happiness as he begins this new chapter in his life, and thank him for his dedicated service over the years to the youth of Jefferson Parish.

EMPLOYEES OF THE MONTH:

APRIL 2013:

Herman Price, Maintenance Repairman

Julie House, Juvenile Probation Officer

MAY 2013:

Gwendolyn Bridgewater, Cook I
Ramon Solares, Juvenile Probation Officer



New DJS employees Freeman Wright, Joel Sweeney, and Rayshad Rogers



Everyone enjoyed the Juvenile Services Staff Appreciation Cookout

STAFF APPRECIATION COOKOUT

On Friday, May 24, the “Fun Raising” Committee along with Director **Roy Juncker**, served up an employee appreciation “Cook Out.” It was delicious and enjoyed by all. Thanks to all who worked so hard to make this event so successful.

Human Resources

By
Glenn Schiro, PHR

Congratulations to **John Dumas**, who has been promoted to Assistant Director of the Department of Human Resource Management. John worked in Personnel for the Parish from 1990 to 1993. John then spent fifteen years doing HR management in banking. He then returned to the Parish in 2009 as an HR Manager from which position he was promoted to HR Administrator in charge of our HR Managers. In addition to his wealth of HR experience, John completed a Master of Public Administration degree at UNO and an undergraduate degree in Business and Economics from SUNO. We welcome John to his new position, our Department's first Assistant Director, and we know he will continue to be an outstanding asset to our Department, the Parish, and its employees.



HR Assistant Director John Dumas

We also congratulate **Greg Reynolds**, Safety Officer, who has been with the Parish for fifteen years. You may have had Greg as an instructor in the CPR, Defensive Driving, or CDL prep courses that he teaches on a regular basis. We look forward to Greg's many continuous contributions to Safety in our Parish.



HR Director Peggy Barton and Safety Manager Nolan Guidry with 15-year Safety Officer Gregory Reynolds

Walk of Life Employee Walking Program

On May 21, Wellness Coordinator **Cathy Leumont** kicked off the *Walk of Life* employee walking program. There has been a great response with over 180 employees signing up for the e-mail program. Each employee receives one e-mail a week which includes seven days of walking instructions, tips, recipes, and other walking and health-related information. This ten-week program is free. The goal of the program is to get Jefferson Parish employees moving and to motivate them to live a healthy lifestyle. You have nothing to lose except bad test results, weight, and a bad lifestyle. If you would like to receive these e-mails, contact cleumont@jeffparish.net.

Healthy Lunch Day

Once a week, HR employees have a healthy lunch. A topic is selected and employees bring something healthy to the table. Our last healthy lunch was Italian. We had heart-healthy meat sauce made with lean ground beef, Dreamfields spaghetti, steamed broccoli, Italian salad, homemade whole wheat bread, and sugar-free chocolate pudding for dessert. This meal came

to 458 calories, 8 g of fat, and 46 carbs. The Dreamfields spaghetti gave us a reduced amount of digestible carbs – five carbs instead of 41 for the spaghetti. By fixing the heart healthy version, we saved 767 calories, 8 g of fat, and 81 carbs. We encourage other departments to try a healthy lunch day. Start with a small group and try it out. We had fun, and everyone enjoyed a healthy lunch.

Professional Certification

Congratulations to our latest HR professional, Glenn Schiro. On May 10, Glenn achieved PHR (Professional in Human Resources) status from the Human Resource Certification Institute. PHR certification requires months of study and the passing of a rigorous standardized test.



Glenn Schiro, PHR, with John Dumas and Peggy Barton

Purchasing

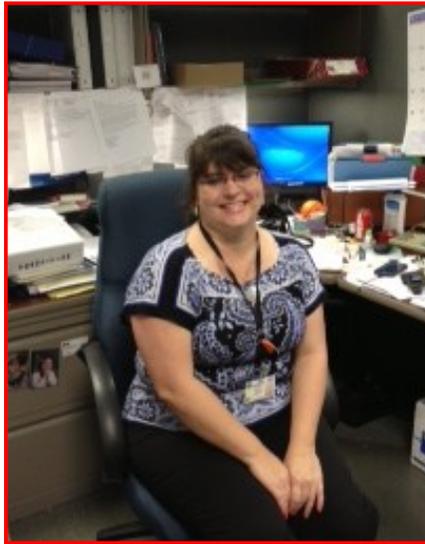
By
Nicolle Whitney

The Purchasing Department would like to say farewell to **Stella Vasquez**, who retired on May 31, 2013. We would like to thank Stella for her hard work and years of dedication. We wish you all the best!!

Purchasing would also like to say farewell to **Rene' T. Poole**, who will be retiring July 12, 2013. Rene is retiring after 33 years of service, all of which was in the Purchasing Department. Thank you for all of your hard work and years of dedication. We wish you all the best!!

Jenifer Lotz has been promoted to Chief Buyer and will be replacing Rene' upon her retirement. Congratulations and we know you will do great!

Congratulations to **Erin Rose** who graduated from Tulane University on Saturday, May 18, 2013. Good luck on all of your future endeavors!



Purchasing's new Chief Buyer
Jennifer Lotz

We will hold Purchasing Training on June 17 (EB Regional Library) from 9:00 – 12:00 and on June 19 (WB Regional Library) from 9:30 – 12:30. If you are interested in attending one of the classes, please email Nicolle Whitney (nwhitney@jeffparish.net) and let me know which date you will be attending. Hope to see you all there!!

Have a Great Summer!!

Environmental

By
Kathy Russo

We would like to congratulate **Nancy Woodlock**, Environmental Quality Specialist with our Stormwater Division, as departmental employee of the year. Keep up the excellent work!

Kathy Russo and **Diane Coughlin** participated in the Earth Day Festival held by Jefferson Beautification at LaSalle Park on April 30. The Earth Day event was attended by 300 fifth graders from Jefferson Parish schools. Our department did Enviroscope presentations for the students. The Enviroscope is an interactive model of a typical community with various land uses that shows students what happens when various pollutants enter the storm drainage system.

During the week of May 13, **Kathleen Collins**, who oversees our federal Brownfields grants, attended the National Brownfields conference in Atlanta. Kathleen had the opportunity to interact with Brownfields program managers from across the country. A brownfield is an underutilized or vacant property with real or perceived environmental contamination. The EPA has provided the Parish grants to assess the properties in an effort to bring them back into commerce.

On April 17, the department hosted its 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 3rd -8th graders in Jefferson Parish. 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners were chosen from



Purchasing retirees Stella Vasquez and Rene T. Poole
with Director Brenda Campos (right)

each grade level and received a trophy. The winners, their parents, teachers, and school principals attended the ceremony, and a good time was had by all.



Sami Khalil, Stormwater Supervisor, with President Young and Jeff Dauzat of the LA Department of Environmental Quality at the poster/essay contest

From May 20 – 24, **Katherine Costanza** and **Rick Buller** attended the international WasteExpo conference, the largest solid waste conference and exposition in the world, in New Orleans. Both learned a wealth of information on managing solid waste, recycling composting, etc.

Now that the weather is getting warm, remember that mosquito season is upon us. Although the Parish sprays for mosquitoes, residents must do everything they can to prevent mosquito breeding. Mosquitoes can breed in a container as small as a bottle cap. It is important to eliminate breeding sources on your property. Empty all pet dishes and flower pot bowls frequently. Remove other sources of standing water, and keep your swimming pool in good working order. We all need to do our part to prevent the West Nile virus and other mosquito-borne diseases.

Traffic Engineering

By
Brandy Chism

On April 19 we celebrated the retirement of our Shop Carpenter, **Chris Nelson**, who left with 10 years of service. Friends and family visited for a farewell lunch. When asked what he'll miss most about Traffic Engineering, Chris replied "my coworkers." I would agree. Many blessings to Chris on retirement!



Superintendent Larry Soileau with Chris Nelson

Welcome!! **Edgar Allen** is our newest Sign Technician I. Allen comes to us courtesy of the Sewerage Department. Edgar is eagerly learning the ropes and fitting right into our growing Traffic family.



Edgar Allen

JeffCAP

By
Catina Ward

New Hire:

We would like to give a great big welcome to Ms. **Carol Montalbano**, our long-awaited new payroll clerk.

Community Center:

Avondale Community Center

JeffCap is excited to inform all the Jefferson Parish residents who frequent the Avondale Community Center that the center will be reopening soon. We are working diligently to reopen it and do realize that the Community Center is a vital part of the community. We extend our deepest regrets for any inconvenience this may have caused you and really appreciate your patience.

Marrero Community Center

Marrero Community Center hosted a health fair, and we would like to thank the center supervisor Mrs. **Patricia Tolver** and the entire staff at the Marrero Center for their help. The fair was a huge success; we had over 70 participants. The vendors were very pleased and are looking forward to hosting it again.

Head-Start:

Hip Hip Hooray! We have once again ended a great school year. This year's Head Start graduation will go down as the most exhilarating graduation yet. We had over 300 students graduating from kindergarten and moving up from both pre k3 and pre k4. And through the hail and high water, everybody and

their grandmother came out to show support. We had a very talented line-up this year. There were songs and dances, cheers and praise. All over the building you could hear the voices of moms and dads yelling with pride "That's my baby." The kids really showed off all they had learned throughout the school year. Yes, school.

Head-Start is not a daycare; it is a catalyst for learning. Our preschool centers are moving fast forward with new state-of-the-art technology to better educate our kids. To show how dedicated our administration is and how important educating our kids is to us, our staff will accompany many educators throughout Louisiana to our state Capitol to showcase the profound results of early childhood education.

So let's hear it for our dedicated staff: Hip Hip Hooray!

And on behalf of our Administrator Ms. **Rochelle Ra-bathaly** and Assistant Administrator Mrs. **Michelle Luke** to all the Teachers, Teacher assistants, Cooks, and Custodians, thanks for all your hard work. We couldn't have done it without all of you. Have a great and safe summer!

Special Thanks:

A special thanks to Mrs. **Ann Bridges** and Mrs. **Yvonne Dumas** for really picking up the slack while their co-worker is out on leave. All your extra efforts are greatly appreciated, and this is a show of team spirit.

Animal Shelter

By
Brooke Bourgeois

We would like to welcome the newest Animal Shelter employees and are thrilled to add some new happy faces to our team!

Correy Estelle, Tiffany Handy, Jayda Jackson, Shannon Neal, and Martha Young.

Jefferson SPCA and JPAS are excited to announce a partnership with Doggone Express From the Big House to Your House program.

Doggoneexpress, Inc., a Louisiana Corporation, has a project that provides offender dog training classes at correctional institutes in the state of Louisiana. We have a comprehensive training program that teaches the offenders necessary basic skills to train dogs that have been selected from kill shelters. Doggoneexpress has chosen Jefferson SPCA and Jefferson Parish Animal Shelter as their primary shelter partner to provide dogs for the program.

The selected shelter dogs are trained in 6-week modules with several trainers in basic behaviors and commands. Once the shelter dogs have been successfully trained to: Sit, Down, Come, Drop it, and Heel as well as crate trained, leash trained, and house-broken, the now trained dogs are returned to the shelters for adoption.

KITTEN SEASON

The East and West Bank Shelters are inundated with cats and kittens due to a short winter season. Many of these kittens are orphans and arrive at the shelters without their mothers. The shelters are desperately seeking bottle moms to feed litters of kittens until they are old enough to be placed up for adoption. For more information, please contact the East Bank Shelter at 504-736-6380 and the West Bank Shelter at 504-349-5111.

Shelter Dog Debuts in *People Magazine's* Adopt Me Pet!

On May 9, 2013, *People Magazine's* online Pet section featured a dog named Swayze as its Adopt Me pet! Swayze is at the West Bank Shelter, and it was such an honor to have a Jefferson Parish Animal Shelter featured for the whole world to see!



West Bank Animal Shelter's Swayze, in his *People* photo shoot

Sewerage

By
Venice Cooper

EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR

Mr. Lawrence Scieneaux has been selected as Employee of the Year for the Department of Sewerage. Lawrence is a Sewerage Maintenance Foreman at our Westbank Lines Division. He's been with the Parish for 14 years.



Lawrence Scieneaux

Lawrence's supervisors had this to say about him: "As the first representative of the Sewerage Department, Lawrence's customer service skills are an asset to the Department. No matter how difficult the situation, Lawrence always maintains his composure and treats the customer with respect, courtesy, and professionalism. He listens to their complaint in order to obtain as much information as possible to properly investigate. He has a calm demeanor, respect for others, and is very soft spoken in his response to residents, as well as co-workers. Lawrence is an asset to the Department and the Parish. He sets a fine example of dedication and pride in his work. He is always willing to go that extra mile for the residents and for his co-workers."

Director **Linda Daly** treated all of our clerical staff members to a delicious lunch on April 24, 2013, in honor of Administrative Professionals Day.

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to **Robert Lutz**, who will retire in June with over 26 years of service. Robert was a Lift Station Inspector with our West Bank Lift Stations Division. We wish him many happy years in retirement.

Congratulations to **Herbert Moore** on his recent promotion from Equipment Operator III to Equipment Operator IV at our Marrero Treatment Plant. Herbert has been employed with the Parish for three years.

Congratulations to **Wilbert Joseph** on his recent promotion from Truck Driver II ----to Equipment Operator III with our West Bank Lines Division. Wilbert has been employed with the Parish for two years.

Congratulations to **Travis St. Junior** on his recent promotion from Laborer to Truck Driver II with our East Bank Lines Division. Travis has been employed with the Parish for one year.

Congratulations to **Charles Mushatt** on his recent promotion from Equipment Operator III to Sewerage Maintenance Foreman with our East Bank Lines Division. Charles has been employed with the Parish for six years.

WELCOME

Welcome to the following newly hired employees:

- Scott Bivona** – SCADA Dispatcher, Administration
- Wayne Boudreaux** – Machinist, WB Lift Stations
- Tyrone Clofer** – EB Laborer
- Lionel Everson** – EB Laborer
- Jessie Frazier** – Lift Station Inspector, EB Lift Stations
- Donald Marshall** – EB Laborer
- Lionel Oliver** – EB Laborer
- Anthony Roussell** – EB Laborer
- Noland Sharpe** – EB Laborer



Administrative Professionals' Day in the Sewerage Department

Library

By
Daniel Gitlin

Library Hours Extended at Many Branches

Library Director **Marylyn Haddican** recently announced the expansion of hours for many branches in the library system. The change comes just in time for the summer months when many branches host a large assortment of programs for children and teens in association with the Summer Reading Program.

To simplify the system, Haddican designed branch hours to fit into one of two categories: either a 64-hour operating schedule (Monday – Thursdays: 9am - 9pm, Friday-Saturday: 9am-5pm), or a 48-hour operating schedule (Monday-Tuesday: 12pm-8pm, Wednesday-Thursday: 10am-6pm, Friday-Saturday: 9am-5pm). The busier branches (Lakeshore, Old Metairie, Westwego, Belle Terre, Harahan, and North Kenner) were given the 64-hour operating schedule while the other branches received the 48-hour schedule (Live Oak, Terrytown, Gretna, Rosedale, Wagner and Lafitte). The hours at the two regional libraries were unchanged and remain with an operating schedule that includes being open 7 days of the week.

“The new hours will be more consistent with library use and will render more efficient staffing due to the changing needs of the library,” says **Ms. Haddican**. “The system will now have 120 additional hours of operation per week considering the total locations of both East and West Banks.

Summer Reading Mixes Learning and Fun For Kids and Teens

Perhaps the busiest and most exciting time for all of the libraries is during Summer Reading, a program designed to help kids retain what they’ve learned in school the previous year while still having fun and taking part in exciting activities.

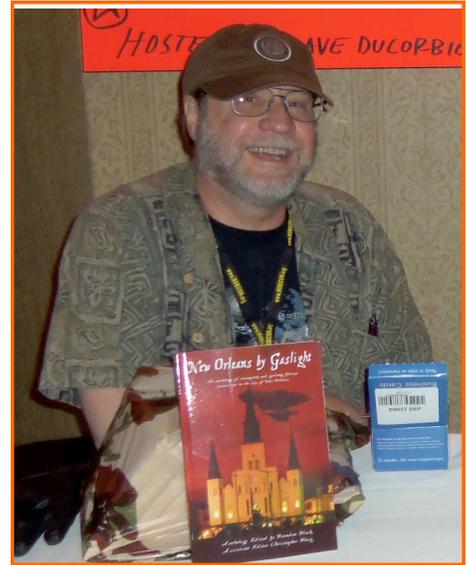
Children and teens are encouraged to read throughout the summer. Participants enroll in the program and create an online log where they keep track of all the books they read through the summer. The more books they read – the more prizes they can win at the library. In addition, the library holds special programs throughout the summer to help educate and entertain kids and teens.

Throughout the Summer Reading Program, every branch of Jefferson Parish Library will have special events with performers and community educators. The events include popular storytellers and musicians, the Audubon Zoo’s Zoomobile, Bugmobile, Wetlands Express, and AquaVan, plus magicians Irwin Royes and Glen Ghiradi. Registration is free and open to the public. Children and teens can sign up at any library branch or by visiting the library website at www.jpplibrary.net.

Library’s Gary Bourgeois Has Short Stories Published

Congratulations to **Gary Bourgeois**, Library Associate, who has two short stories appearing in the recently published steampunk anthology *New Orleans by Gaslight*. The stories, *Farewell and Adieu* and *Kilkarney’s Map*, take place in

an alternate history nineteenth century New Orleans. At the invitation of the anthology’s editor, Brandon Black, Gary also participated in the panel discussion of the steampunk genre at the Mobicon convention in Mobile, Alabama.



Gary Bourgeois

Employment Exploration Students Work Closely with Library Employee

Daisy Griffin, Librarian II, spends most of her time at work managing the circulation department at East Bank Regional. The EBR circulation department is the largest in the library system, comprised of over 20 employees, who work daily to get materials checked in and back on the shelves while providing outstanding customer service at the same time. Overseeing the department is literally “a full time job,” and Griffin finds that most days are filled to the brim with excitement and challenges.

“Every day is a new adventure,” she says. “I love my job. I love the people and being able to be a part of providing the services

that we offer here at the library.”

It's even more impressive, taking into consideration her daily job responsibilities, that she is able to provide time on specific days at work to students from the Jefferson Parish School District's Employment Exploration program – a program that provides Special Education Students the opportunity to experience working in local area businesses.

Under Griffin's supervision, the library serves as one of many area locations which take in special education students – working in constant contact with the students' teachers – to provide a safe, friendly environment to learn basic job skills.

Daisy, though always busy with tasks and responsibilities, is someone who always has a smile on her face and who prides herself on looking on the bright side of things.

Perhaps the only thing bigger than her responsibilities at the library is her heart. The Library, and the students in the Employment Exploration program, are both lucky to have Daisy!



Daisy Griffin

Staff News

Congratulations to **Elizabeth Figures**, who was promoted to Library Associate and works at the Harahan Library Branch.



Elizabeth Figures

Thank you to **Susan Kinler** and **Frank Dalier**, who both recently retired from the Library. Susan's career extended more than 35 years for the Library. She most recently worked in Branch Supervision. Frank worked with the Library since 1999 assisting library patrons on a daily basis while working in the Reference Department at East Bank Regional.

Welcome to the following team members who recently joined the library: **Deville Aguilard** (Library Associate), **Evelyn Brown** (Children's Librarian), **Judith Carlyle** (Library Associate), **Margaret Clare** (Library Page), **George Forbes** (Truck Driver), **John Gallagher** (Library Associate), **Anna Jensen** (Branch Manager – Terrytown), **Juanika LaSalle** (Library Associate), **Kimberly Meyer-Manger** (Children's Librarian), **Lynne Podany** (Library Associate) and **Kimberly Videau** (Receptionist/Meeting Room Coordinator).

Emergency Management

By
Sandra Ancar-Encalade

Hurricane Sandy, which devastated the coastal communities on the east coast, had her name retired from the official hurricane list. Hurricane Sandy ranks behind Katrina as being the second costliest storm in U.S. history. Hurricanes that are so deadly or so costly will have their name retired and never used again.

The 2013 hurricane season begins June 1, and an active or extremely active season is predicted. Predictions are 13 to 20 named storms (winds of 39 mph or higher), of which 7 to 11 could become hurricanes (winds of 74 mph or higher) with 3 to 6 major hurricanes (winds of 111 mph or higher).

The names for this season are: *Andrea, Barry, Chantal, Dorian, Erin, Fernand, Gabrielle, Humberto, Ingrid, Jerry, Karen, Lorenzo, Melissa, Nestor, Olga, Pablo, Rebekah, Sebastien, Tanya, Van and Wendy.*

June 1 is a reminder to have your families ready for the next big storm. Preparedness now can make a difference. JPAAlert is an alert notification system that allows officials to immediately contact you during a major crisis or emergency and can deliver important emergency alerts, notifications, and updates to you via email, cell phone, smartphone, and other handheld devices. Sign up at jeffparish.net or contact our office at 349-5360 if you do not have access to a computer.

Congratulations to **Charles M. Hudson**, who was appointed Director of Emergency Management on May 1, 2013. Charles is a cer-

tified Louisiana Emergency Manager and has assisted in the supervision of the Emergency Management Department since 2007. Charles's experience includes 26 years in the fire service with Jefferson Parish.

Welcome to **Claire F. Ward**, Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Program Compliance Specialist, who has joined our staff. Claire joins us with 27 years of EMS experience. She is responsible for licensing EMTs/Paramedics as well as ambulances and non-emergency transport units. Clair is married to Ted Ward, Deputy Chief, Marrero-Harvey F.D. She has four children and three grandchildren.

Hats off to **Timothy S. Gautreau, Jr.**, who recently completed the Master Exercise Practitioner course in Emmitsburg, Maryland, and received this certification.



Claire F. Ward

Parks & Recreation

By
Gwen Styron

Our 2013 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 – Parks & Recreation page, or can be obtained at all local playgrounds and libraries. The 2013 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

Congratulations to the following on their promotions – **Jeb Klink** to Recreation Center Supervisor at Estelle Playground; **David Abadie** to Assistant Recreation Center Supervisor at Pontiff Playground; **Cody Berthelot** to Assistant Recreation Supervisor at Oakdale Playground.

Employees of the Month – JANUARY: **Anna Winfield** (EB Leisure Service); FEBRUARY: **Darrin Labourdette** (Cleary Playground); MARCH: **Tom Littleton** (Bright Playground) and Anthony Richard (WB Maintenance); APRIL: **Lee Edmunson** (Miley Playground) and **Jack Scott** (M.L. King Playground); and MAY: **Norman Lestrick** (WB Maintenance)

Congratulations to our RETIREE! **Ivory Arbuthnot** (M.L. King Playground – May)

Our sympathy to the families

of the following who passed away during the month of May: **Wayne Hendricks** (On-Call Assistant Center Supervisor at Belle Terre); Sandra Strada (Wife of **Adolph Strada**, retired EB Center Supervisor); Clara Klink (wife of **Jeb Klink**, Center Supervisor at Estelle Playground); and **Jay Pichon** (longtime volunteer coach at Little Farms Playground).

Reminder to all – In March, an Ordinance was passed requiring all dogs to be on a leash in any public recreation area. Please put a leash on your dogs and pick up behind them!

WEST BANK PROJECT

UPDATE:

Avondale and Waggaman Gym air conditioning - work is in progress.

Bridge City Tot Lot (Marrero Ave) will soon have new play equipment installed

Kennedy Heights Playground Gym air conditioning work will be going out for bid

Kings Grant Elevator/Room renovations – Elevator work soon to begin and room work to be done after Summer Camp ends

Lincolnshire - two new elliptical machines installed

Interior gym - metal ceilings/walls at PARD, Oakdale and Waggaman – work in progress.

Parc des Familles Pressbox/Concession is nearing completion and construction of a new parking lot in progress

Terrytown Playground Tot Lot was dedicated April 3, 2013.

Thomas Jefferson Walk Track should soon see the new shelter which was donated by the Waggaman Civic Group.

Westbank Recreation Office/Warehouse - Additional adjacent



The Spray Park at Lafreniere Park

property being acquired for parking

EAST BANK PROJECT UPDATE:

Girard Playground – new roof over rooms and gym air conditioning/heating work is in progress and will soon be completed. Bids will soon be advertised to repaint the gym.

Jefferson Playground – new shelter installed

Owens Playground – work is in the final stages on the major interior and exterior renovations with the Dedication set for Thursday, June 13, at 10:30 am

BONNABEL BOAT LAUNCH

The fishing pier is closed until further notice due to structural damage from Hurricane Isaac.

BUCKTOWN HARBOR

Bucktown Bash is being planned for July 4 – Watch for details.

LAFRENIERE PARK UPDATE:

Spray Park (for ages 10 & under) is now open seven days per week through Friday, August 9 (after August 9 – weekends only

through Labor Day) from 9:30 am – 11:30 am (private rentals only); Noon – 7:00 pm (Public sessions). Public session is \$5 per person (Maximum of 75 in Spray Park area at one time). It is located near the Carousel.

Lafreniere Live (Spring Concert) on Thursday, May 30 – Bucktown All Stars

Uncle Sam Jam – Wednesday, July 3 – Watch for details!

Watch for details on the proposed Al Copeland memorial and stage.

Citizens' Affairs

By
Suzanne Lollis

Citizens' Affairs would like to announce a new Carnival Krewe. The Krewe of Atlantis will be parading on the East Bank. Check next issue for date and time Atlantis will roll in 2014.

Senior Services

Senior Citizens Services is holding the RSVP luncheon on June 13 at the Best Western Landmark Hotel at 2601 Severn Avenue. The event starts at 11:00a.m. with doors opening for 10:30a.m.

They are also hosting their annual Bean Bag Baseball Tournament on Friday, June 14, from 9:00a.m.-3:00p.m. at Pontiff Playground, 1521 Palm St., Metairie.

You can view the PSA on jeffparish.net. The next upcoming event will be the Senior Dance Gala on August 23, 2013 from 11:00a.m.-3:00p.m. at the Alario Center.

Check out the lobby of the GGB for the artwork created by the Lafitte Senior Center.



Cutting the ribbon for the new Tot Lot at Terrytown Playground are Tony DiGerolamo, Councilman Ricky Templet, President John Young Jr., Royce Blanchard, and Leo Webb Sr.

General Services

By

Maryanne Adorno & Shanna Folse

Where do we put the staples?

What about the envelope clasps or our used ink cartridges? Thank you for everyone's questions and cooperation during this Yenni Building Recycling program. You have made the program a success. The General Government Building will initiate the Recycling program in June. **Mike Fonseca** and **Eric Romain** will be happy to address any questions, 736-6036.

Above answers are: Staples and envelope clasps can be placed inside the CLEAR TRASH BAGS for recycling. Environmental advised that we return the used cartridge to a cartridge box and complete the return label located inside the box. Contact UPS to retrieve the box.

Surplus Property, 920 David Dr., gladly welcomes **Neal Lavin** to our team. Neal started with Jefferson Parish Recreation in June of 2012. In six months Neal was promoted to Truck Driver I and currently is part of our Surplus Property staff. He has mastered his new responsibilities and has proven an asset. When he comes to your office, ask him about his culinary skills.

We are happy to announce the promotions of **Chris Frazier** to Stationary Engineer III over the Central Plant, Yenni Building, and outside buildings; New Daddy **Kenny Burst** to Stationary Engineer III in the Correction Center; and **Scott Chachere** as our facilities Superintendent. Assistant Director **Ryan Babcock** is looking forward to working with his new crew.



Donald Jumpierre

Donald Jumpiere started with Jefferson Parish in 2000 as a Laborer and was later promoted to Maintenance Repairman. Donald says that a real positive he has gained from working for Jefferson Parish is meeting the greatest friends ever: "If I would have to take anyone to war with me, it would be General Services with **Anthony Francis** as my general." When asked what he will do now, he stated, "Live life to the fullest."

Donald will be greatly missed. He is laid back and always willing to lend a hand. We wish him the best as he begins the next phase of life.

Roy Burst, proud Papa again and Library Property Manager,

is announcing a new "Burst" of joy named Evan Paul Burst to our Kenny Burst. Kenny and his wife Dana are so proud of their 7 lb. 1.5 oz., 20" long baby Evan.

REMINDER from **Jerry Durant**, our chair for the *General Services Safety by Committee*: If you spot an unsafe situation or hazard, contact your supervisor and/or correct the issue before any unsafe incidents occur.

Michelle Dufrene has been with Jefferson Parish for almost 22 years. Michelle started as a C.O.E. student her senior year in high school in 1990. After graduating she started working in Personnel in September 1991. Through hard work, Michelle has been promoted to a Typist Clerk II, then III, Secretary, and then to her current position as an Administrative Assistant. "Nominating Michelle for employee of the year was an easy choice as she has worked hard and filled gaps when and where needed for General Services to run efficiently and progressively. Michelle is a wonderful person and a most valued asset to Jefferson Parish." Anthony Francis, Director.



General Services Employee of the Year Michelle Dufrene with Director Anthony Francis

Health Issues

By
Peggy Brannan, RN



Summer Safety

After having enjoyed the coolest spring that I can ever recall, it is hard to believe that summer is right around the corner! While summer is a time for fun activities outdoors, there are many dangers that one needs to be conscious of. What steps can you take to have a safe and fun summer?

Prepare for Work Outside

Try to avoid the warrior weekend syndrome performing yard tasks. Better to gradually build up the amount of time

working in the yard so you can avoid injuries. Make sure you have the correct yard tools for the task at hand; it can make the job a whole lot easier, not to mention safer!!

Heat can take its toll on the body before you are even aware of it. I recall the story last year of the man who was just a few minutes away from completing his lawn work when he was overcome by heat and died. If you know you are going to be out in the heat, hydrate before, during, and afterwards. A large wide-brimmed straw hat works wonders. Use your sunscreen to block dangerous UV rays.

Pace Yourself

Take frequent breaks. Pay attention to your body! Take action to cool down if you start to feel light-headed, fatigued, headaches, or are unable to perform tasks as usual. Re-hydrate as needed with non-caffeine drinks or water and cool the body down. More severe cases

may require immediate emergency medical intervention. Always keep in mind that the young and elderly are more prone to a more rapid decline in health when exposed to heat.

Remember Car Heat Safety

Formulate a car safety routine to prevent forgetting your children or animals in a car that can literally heat up within a few minutes, resulting in a tragedy. Take measures to prevent children from playing in the car when an adult is not around.

Teach your children how to call 911! The 911 emergency personnel are there to help!

Always think safety first when around water. If you don't know how to swim, maybe this could be the year to learn! If you go into a boat, always wear a life-jacket. Be careful walking in natural waterways. Drowning can occur when one steps into an unforeseen hole or an abrupt descent takes place that covers one's head. Always be aware of any wildlife in the area. Stay away from sites that may harbor nesting places for snakes and alligators.

Do you find you are spending too much time perpetuating a negative attitude? If you want to get that monkey off your back, then decide throughout the day to contemplate what you have to be grateful for. For example, you have a job; you are able to move about all day long without any complaints of pain to your feet, back, hands, neck, etc.; you don't have to follow a regimented diet due to diabetes, kidney disease, heart disease, etc..

Have a great and safe SUMMER!



WB Recreation employees who recently completed Dozer/Crawler Safety Certification: Left to right – Harold Mitchell, Sammie McGowan, Derick Williams, Dominick Leone, Howard Blalock, and Charles Harris

Retirements

Armand Kerlec
Traffic Engineering
36 years

Uyen Tran
Drainage
34 years

Ivory Arbuthnot
Parks & Recreation
33 years

Fanette Craft
Code Enforcement
33 years

Michael Garvey
Workforce Investment
33 years

Ramon Solares
Juvenile Services
33 years

Hagan Schouest
Engineering
33 years

Kevin Calcagno
Drainage
30 years

Gary Hebert
Code Enforcement
26 years

Karen Hamilton
Code Enforcement
22 years

Stella Vasquez
Purchasing
16 years

Ron Sessum
Personnel
15 years



Cutting the ribbon for the new Tot Lot at Westminster Walk Track on March 28, 2013: Dollie Birden, Jean Scrubbs, Claudette Scrubbs, Councilman Mark Spears, Parish President John Young, CAA Royce Blanchard, and Chad Thomassie.