



Volume 34
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Jefferson

Message from the Parish President. . .

Be Prepared for the Season

Hurricane season is well underway, and I am hopeful you have already taken the necessary steps to prepare your family and home.

The 2013 Atlantic hurricane season officially began June 1 and ends November 30. National Hurricane Center forecasters expect an “active” hurricane season, estimating there could be anywhere from 13-20 named storms, 7-11 of which are expected to become hurricanes. The peak season generally is from mid-August to late October, but we should be on alert if a storm or hurricane enters the Gulf of Mexico at any time.

Jefferson Parish departments, agencies, and first responders continue to participate in training exercises such as Zero Hour, WebEOC, and exercises in pet evacuations aimed at strengthening preparedness and response to better assist our citizens and businesses in an emergency.

I encourage you to take the time to prepare a disaster supply kit for your family. Be sure to include

- Important documents
- Water – at least enough for 3 to 7 days
- Food – non-perishable packaged or canned
- food/juices
- Blankets, pillows, etc.
- Clothing
- First-aid kit, medicines and prescription drugs
- Special Items – for babies and the elderly
- Toiletries, hygiene items, and moist wipes



John F. Young
Parish President

- Flashlight and batteries
- Radio – Battery operated and NOAA weather radio
- Emergency numbers and road maps in glove compartment
- Telephones – fully charged cell phone, chargers
- Extra battery and a traditional (not cordless) telephone set
- Cash – with some small bills and credit cards
- Keys
- Tools
- Vehicle fuel tanks filled
- Toys, books, and games

Don't forget about your family pets. Be sure to plan a disaster 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 your family evacuates, call ahead to your destination to make sure pets are accepted.

I would like to thank each of you for your continued service to the citizens of Jefferson Parish.

JeffTalk

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Maryanne Adorno
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Glenn Schiro
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Editor's



Notes

Our Health Plan for 2014

If you haven't heard yet, Coventry will once again be our health insurance carrier in 2014. Our rates will go up 6.5%, which is well below the national average of between 10-12%. And we will maintain the same high quality insurance we have now. There will be no plan changes for 2014.

Great News about Co-Pays!

Our plan has always included no deductibles. Instead, we have "co-pays," which are small charges that the insured individual is responsible for. We meet our co-pay for a doctor visit, prescription, or other medical care service, and Coventry pays the rest of the charge.

Our plan features a \$1500 out-of-pocket maximum for individuals and \$3,000 for employee + spouse or employee + family. However, only charges labeled "co-insurance" counted toward this maximum, and very few charges fall under "co-insurance." Charges considered "co-payments" did not count toward our maximum out-of-pocket. But beginning in 2014, they will!

This means that the majority of charges that our employees and their families incur will count toward their max out-of-pocket. For example, prescrip-



Peggy O. Barton, Editor

tion and doctor visit co-pays will count, as will co-pays for ER visits, in-patient hospital care, diagnostic tests, and a variety of other charges that many of our employees incur regularly.

This means that once an individual with employee only coverage has paid his \$1500 worth of co-pays, his care for the rest of the year will be paid in full! For those with family or spouse coverage, once the collective group has reached \$3,000, all are covered. And, if any individual in the family group hits \$1500, that individual's care is paid in full for the rest of the year. Under these new guidelines for calculating out-of-pocket expenses, many of our employees will save significantly.

We will be able to access our total out-of pocket expenses on Coventry's website by going to CHCLA.com, which can now be downloaded on your smart phone or tablet, as well as through Coventry's customer service department. Nevertheless, I'd suggest you keep your own records of your co-pays in case of an oversight.

You will be hearing more about our 2014 benefits package as Open Enrollment approaches.

Water

By
Amy T. Miller

June means it's time for the Pin Ceremony Awards, and we have three groups receiving honors this summer. The Five-Year Pin was awarded to **Monica Broom**, **Lynette Jones**, **Brent Lewis** and **Charlene Singleton** of Utility Billing; **Johnny Campbell**, **Jason Holmes**, **Samuel Lewis III**, and **Tyrone Thompson** of Outside Maintenance; and **Michael Smith** of the Water Quality Lab. The Ten-Year Pin was awarded to **Kathleen Theriot**, our Administrative Secretary; **Hue Lewis** and **Renada Thompson** of Outside Maintenance; and **Mark Williams** of the East Bank Plant. The Fifteen-Year Pin was awarded to **Kellie Minjarez** and **Arnell Alexander** of Utility Billing; **Frank Button** and **Thomas Leefe** from the Water Plants; **Stacey Bernard Grant** from the Water Lab; and **Vincent Laprime** from Outside Maintenance. Congratulations to all!

New Employees-

We have several new employees this summer. We would like to welcome aboard **Phillip Brown**, Laborer for WB Outside Maintenance; **Joseph Pembo**, Laborer for the EB Water Plant; **Jaentell Martin**, Water Quality Scientist I of the Water Lab; **Nuyaka Williams**, Utility Billing Clerk I for EB Utility Billing; and **Gennard Davis**, who has transferred from the Sewage Department to the WB Water Plant as a Water Purification Operator.

Bon Voyage-

Two of our employees have retired this month. **Anita Turner**,

Water Quality Scientist III from the Water Plant, and **Richard Coleman**, Laborer from WB Outside Maintenance, are both ready for some well-deserved R and R. We bid farewell to **Houston Hunter** and **Joseph Burse**, both Equipment Operator III's for WB Outside Maintenance. Another Equipment Operator III from WB Outside Maintenance, **Eric Thompson**, has been promoted to Foreman in Parks and Recreation. **Jovoid Robinson** and **Jeremy Johnson**, both Laborers from EB Outside Maintenance, are leaving the Water Family; and **Dianne Claffey**, a Data Entry Operator II in Utility Billing, is headed to Environmental as a Data Entry Operator III-Good Luck to all!

Accomplishments-

Several of our employees have been achieving great accomplishments this summer. From the West Bank Plant- **Kevin Howard** passed the Distribution

1 and Production 1 exams, and **Hugh Castleberry** passed the Distribution 1, Production 1, and Treatment 1 exams. **Chandra Alexander** and **Doretha Parker** of the East Bank Utility Billing Department were promoted from Utility Billing Collector I to II.

Congratulations-

Junior Downs, a Water Service Inspector II from WB Utility Billing, welcomed a baby girl- Akayla Downs, 6lbs 15oz, born 07-16-2013. We are very happy for you and your family!

Condolences-

In November we announced that **Richard Babin**, Foreman for EB Outside Maintenance, retired. We are sorry to announce Richard passed away June 9, 2013. Richard continued to visit Outside Maintenance and will be missed by his fellow employees. Our thoughts and prayers are with the Babin Family.



Director Doug Vincent (right) and Superintendent Tyrell Chatman (center) congratulate Water's 10-year employees: Kathleen Theriot, Renada Thompson, and Hue Lewis

Code Enforcement

By
Ruth "Kappy" Day

UPDATE ON *MY PERMIT NOW*

Code Enforcement continues its implementation of *My Permit Now* to track and issue building permits and inspections. Anyone listed as a contact on a permit may now be notified via email about various activities occurring on that permit such as inspection activity. And regulatory inspections may now be requested online via the *My Permit Now* customer portal. Coming soon:

- Online payments by credit card, allowing customers to apply for a permit online from any computer;
- Computers will be placed in the Department's lobbies to allow customers to apply for permits online before seeing a plan reviewer; and
- Online uploading of plans and other documents from any computer for permits within MPN.

INS AND OUTS

Code Enforcement welcomes the following new employees: **Pat Gordon** and **Charles Melancon**, EB Plan Review; and **Rebecca Crepel**, WB PMZ. Thanks for joining our team. We say goodbye to these employees: **Jeanne** and **Tommy Baxter** (retired); **John Singletary** and **Derek Francis** (accepted promotions with other Parish departments); and **Catherine Bennett** (transferred to another Parish department). We'll miss you all!

We are sad to report the passing of **Kevin Toups**, who recently transferred to us from the Animal Shelter.



New Inspector IIIs Gary Lay and Lenny Guardina

CONGRATULATIONS

Code is pleased to announce the following promotions: **Lenny Guardina** to EB Mechanical Inspector III, and **Gary Lay** to WB Building Inspector III. We're also happy to report that **Paul Landry** recently passed the Plan Reviewer Residential Test, and **Mark Cooley** passed the Building Residential Test. Attaboys!

SPECIAL HONOR

One of Code's employees has

received the highest award given by the Knights of Columbus of LA to a fellow Knight who has dedicated his time and talents to boy scouting. On June 24, **Dennis Tucker**, WB Dangerous Building Inspector II, was presented the "Francis Parater Scouting Award" by Council 3091 Grand Knight **Myron Romero** (WB Water Department). This is the first time Council 3091 has presented this award in its 65-year existence. Congratulations, Dennis. We're proud of you!



Dennis Tucker with Grand Knight Myron Romero of the Water Department

Drainage

By
Ron Fuxan

Welcome and Congratulations!

We welcome the following new employees to the Drainage Department: **Bryan Gaudin, Dolan Ellsworth, Devin Cook, Joseph Pittman, Joseph Burse, and Tyrrell Molette.**

Also, congratulations to the following for their recent promotions: **Sterling Jackson** as Laborer Semi-skilled Lead Worker, **Ken Babin** as EB Superintendent II, **Joseph Whitley** as Maintenance Foreman, **Roy Brown** as Tradeshelper, **Raymond Coster** as Laborer Semi-skilled Lead Worker, **Jerome Seymore, Jr.** as Pump Station Operator II, **Curtis Johnson** as Foreman I, **Milton Betton** as Foreman I, **Derrin Robinson** as Engineering Inspector III, **Keith Matherne** as Maintenance Supt. I, and **Earl Peters** as Maintenance Supt. I.

With Great Sadness

We extend our sincere condolences to the families of **To Cao** and **Brandon Simmons**, who have passed away recently. Mr. Cao, was our East Bank Drainage Maintenance Superintendent I (GIS), and Mr. Simmons was our West Bank Truck Driver II.

Also, we would like to extend our sincere condolences to our Secretary, **Venus Williams**, who has just lost a dear uncle.

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: **Barbara Carter** (W.B. Drainage), **William Brignac** (E.B. Pumps).

Workforce Connection

By
Carolyn G. Haynes

Awards & Achievements

Jefferson Workforce Connection (JWC) is proud that we exceeded the nine Performance Measures for our Workforce Investment Act Indicators during the 3rd Quarter of 2012. Performance Measures include number of individuals we help become employed, Dislocated Workers employed, and Youth.

We are also proud to announce the receipt of *the Louisiana Quality 2012 Level 1 LA Performance Excellence Award*. The award was granted for closely working with Loyola University's graduate students in an effort to maximize quality of services rendered to our Business Sector and Community. Our Director, **Ms. Sharon Wegner**, received the award at the Governor's Mansion on June 18. Congratulations to our East and West Jefferson Business and Career Solutions Centers for achieving Level 1 and receiving this excellent recognition.

Employee of the Year

Congratulations to *JWC's* Employee of the Year, **Ms. Karen A.**

James, Career Specialist, West Bank Office. Ms. James has 11 years of service with *JWC* and was instrumental in rendering service under the Oil Spill Grant. She assisted job seekers impacted by the spill in finding new skills and helped businesses become operational after the oil spill.

Farewell

JWC bids farewell to **Natacha Paige**, Career Specialist, who accepted a position outside the Parish. Best wishes, Ms. Paige; we will miss you!

Condolences

JWC will also sadly miss **Charmaine Lanclos**, Career Specialist. Charmaine passed away on April 12. Our heartfelt sympathy was given to the family. Her smile and loving personality will be missed.

Service Pin Recipients

Recent Service Award Pin Recipients are the following: 5-Year Pins - **Tanya R. Bates, Janet James, Troy Powell, Deanna Stewart-Dawson, Nedra Tate**; 10-Year Pins – **Karen A. James, Carolyn G. Haynes**; 15-Year Pin – **Judy Haberstone.**



At the Governor's Mansion: Parish President John Young Jr, JWC Director Sharon Wegner, Loyola University Business Graduate Program's Ron Schulingkamp, and CAA of Community Programs Darryl Ward.

Citizens' Affairs

By
Suzanne Lollis

Citizens' Affairs

Citizens' Affairs was pleased to participate in the NCLR Hispanic Family Expo, July 20-22. Two employees from our office manned the booth each day, giving us the opportunity to reach out to Jefferson Parish residents in the Hispanic community.

Evacuation information, Parish departmental contact pamphlets, and Carnival schedules for 2014 were some of the handouts given to attendees—and of course lots of beads, which delighted all our visitors. We also thank the Jefferson Convention and Visitors Bureau for providing us with beautiful signs and travel guides for the out-of-town guests so that they could “experience Jefferson” while in New Orleans.

Senior Services

The Senior Bean Bag Baseball Tournament was held June 14, at Pontiff Playground. There were over 300 in attendance with the final standings as follows:

- 1st place-Jefferson's Pink Panthers
- 2nd place- Metairie Sluggers
- 3rd place-Metairie Blue Birds
- 4th place-Lafitte Cajuns

Kudos to Senior Services for a great turnout and the oodles of



CA's booth at the NCLR Hispanic Family Expo



Citizens' Affairs Director Sean Burke (left) with Jefferson's Pink Panthers

fun for all in attendance!

The Office of Citizens' Affairs and its sub-departments would like to welcome **Kalondra Ellison** to our little family as RSVP (Retired Senior Volunteer Program) Coordinator. We are very happy to have her!

Citizens with Disabilities Are You Ready?

Emergency preparedness is not just about hurricanes, but most people are more vigilant during hurricane season. Are you prepared for the range of emergency events prevalent in our area? Flooding, straight line winds, tornadoes, hurricanes, chemical spills, fires etc. Why fires? Fire is one of the most frequent emergencies. How fast can you get out of your residence with copies of important documents and basic survival supplies?

For those of you who see the need to be ready for it all--- the information from www.72hours.org will help you plan and prepare. Prepare for yourself and your family and lend a helping hand to older or disabled neighbors to help them prepare.

To register for the Parish Assisted Transportation Program, please call 349-5360 or go on line to jeffparish.net and select Emergency Management.

Traffic Engineering

By
Brandy Chism & David Stout

On June 7, we said congratulations and farewell to **Armand J. Kerlec**, Sign & Marking Superintendent II after 36 years here in Traffic Engineering. Armand was hired as Sign Mechanic in 1977, then promoted to Sign Technician, Sign & Marking Foreman, Sign & Marking Superintendent I, and finally Sign & Marking Superintendent II. When asked what he'll remember most while here at Traffic, Armand replied, “working with a fine group of people.” We all wish Armand a great retirement!!



Armand Kerlec with Jody Savoie

Human Resources

By
Glenn Schiro

Safe Driving is recognized

We are pleased to recognize the safe driving performance of Parish employees who have driven Parish vehicles without any avoidable accidents or citations. **Nolan Guidry**, our Safety Manager, has begun awarding the certificates to our Parish drivers from various departments for their many years of safe driving.

Mr. **Lionel Harris**, from General Services, received a Safe Driving certificate for a remarkable **36** years of safe driving. We congratulate Lionel and this special group of excellent Parish drivers who demonstrate on a daily basis what it means to operate a Parish vehicle safely. (See names and photos next page.)

We wish you well, Vivian

We say good bye to **Vivian Lasseigne**, who has retired after 32 years of service to the Parish. Vivian has been a member of the Human Resource Management



Monique Porrazzo (second from left) with HR Director Peggy Barton, Executive Assistant Susie Cunningham, and Assistant Director John Dumas

team for nearly seven years. We appreciate Vivian's many years of service, and we wish her the best as she enjoys her retirement.

Congratulations, Monique

Congratulations to **Monique Porrazzo**, who has been with the Parish for five years. Monique is Typist Clerk III in HR's Substance Use Program. We recently awarded Monique a certificate for her service to the Parish and to our Department.

Wellness 2013: A Message from Wellness Coordinator Cathy Leaumont

July 22 was the first day of the last week in the "Walk of Life" walking program. This 10-week program consisted of weekly emails containing a message for seven days. The messages would give instructions on how to start a walking routine, how to walk, how to stretch, and how to prevent injuries.

Different sections of the daily message would have nutritional tips and healthy recipes. Attachments were included in the weekly email that would touch specific topics like safety, the benefits of walking, and tips on the best things to wear and not to wear.

Initially 135 employees signed up for the program. Out of those, twenty-six employees sent updates by email, and here are the results:

1st Place - Pam Fontana- Pam walks at least five days a week, 4-5 miles a day. Notice she lost inches.



John Dumas, Vivian Lasseigne, Substance Use Manager Fran Robichaux, and Peggy Barton

2nd Place – **Aubrey DeVillier**-
Aubrey walks 2-5 times a week, 2
miles a day. Cholesterol numbers
are in check.

3rd Place- **Wayne Jones** - Wayne
walks at least 2-4 days week, 3
miles a day.

There were several other em-
ployees who made incredible pro-
gress following the walking pro-
gram that were not physically ac-
tive at all. They are the biggest
winners to me; they started from
scratch and picked themselves up
and MOVED! They genuinely
made lifestyle changes to improve
their health. And even though
they may not have walked the far-
thest or lost the most weight, they
are heroes to me. Those employ-
ees were rewarded separately in
private.

Comments of how the program
influenced them were very inspir-
ing. Several e-mailed me that the
program motivated them to make
several lifestyle changes in addi-
tion to the walking. Other em-
ployees were grateful for the pro-
gram because they lost weight and
inches by following the pro-
gram. Some got off to a slow
start but became more conscious
of living a healthy lifestyle by
adding some form of physical ac-
tivity and watching what they
ate. The most touching comments
were from employees that incor-
porated the program and eating
habits into their family’s life and
made it a family affair.

I hope all of you that partici-
pated in the program were moti-
vated to make walking and any
lifestyle changes a lifetime mis-
sion. I hope you enjoyed the ma-
terials and continue to improve
your health by taking the two
magic pills—physical activity and
smart eating habits—once a day.

Safe Driving Superstars



Lionel Harris, 36 years of safe driving, pictured with Safety Manager Nolan Guidry and General Services Director Anthony Francis



Engineering’s Hagan Schouest,
32 years of safe driving



Water’s Richard Braud,
32 years of safe driving

Name	#Years	Dept
David Bertucci	29	Water
James Boulware	28	Water
Jeff Tassin	28	EB Water
Van Taylor	28	GS (General Services)
Doug Pertuit	27	Water
Myron Romero	26	Water
Jerry Adams	25	GS
Mark McDonald	25	Engineering
Kathy Russo	25	Environmental
Milton LeBlanc	24	Engineering
David Richard	24	Inspection and Code Enforcement
Chris Smith	22	Water
John Segura	21	CE (Code Enforcement)
Brian Aubert	20	Water
Mike Furr	19	CE
Tim Guidry	19	Engineering
Roxanna Sullivan	18	CE
Stephen Blakesley	16	CE
Dennis Tucker, Sr.	16	CE
Thomas Baxter	15	CE
Edgar Lane	15	years- Engineering
Agnes Gaines	14	CE
Janet Phillippe	14	GS
Tim Anderson	13	GS
Gwen Sanders	13	Water
Michael Fonseca	12	GS
Donald Jumpiere	12	GS
Darnell Ellis	10	GS
Gregory Jeffery	10	GS
Mike Lemoine	10	GS
Reid Macaluso	10	CE
Carlton Overton	10	Engineering
David Segura	10	General Services
Gary Vukich	10	General Services
Mike Scardino	8	Engineering

Streets

By
Debbie Tunstall

I hope everyone is having a great summer. The great thing about living in our Metropolitan area is that there is always something to do. There are concerts, plays, festivals, museums, our lovely parks, and many other activities one can enjoy. I think some of us take this for granted until we hear of someone visiting from another town because these things aren't available to them.

Welcome

We welcome our new employees **Joseph Aveton**, Engineering Inspector II; and **Craig Noel**, Truck Driver I, Westbank Streets. Welcome to our department. We hope you both enjoy working with the Streets Department and will be with us for many years to come.

Retirement

We recently had two employees retire from our Department, and we wish them a very happy

retirement. We all hope they will keep in touch and not forget us.

Richard Lamoureux, Executive Assistant, retired from our department with 10 years, 7 months of service. Congratulations and good luck to you, Richard. We'll miss you. We hope you're enjoying your retirement and having a great time with new adventures.



Richard Lamoureux

Marie Ricks, Administrative Assistant with Westbank Streets, retired with 33 years of service. Congratulations and good luck to you also, Marie. You also will be missed very much, and we hope you're enjoying your retirement as well.

Alario Center

By
Deidre Cummings

TOURNAMENTS!

Basketball! Basketball! Basketball!

The month of July brought forth two huge Basketball Tournaments to our beautiful facility on the Westbank: Quannas Basketball for Boys and Basketball on the Bayou for Girls. Players, coaches, scouts, family, and friends traveled from near and far to support these tournaments. These are re-occurring events, so we hope to see you here next year.

SWEET SOUNDS!

Holy Cross High School made a joyful noise here at the Alario Center during their week-long band camp rehearsals. Practice makes perfect!

IMPROVEMENTS!

We are excited to report Phase I of the roof/HVAC replacement projects is near completion, and the new marquee is in the planning/design phase.

UPCOMING EVENTS!

- People's Health / Health Fair – August 1
- Muslim Prayer Service – August 9
- Senior Citizen Gala – August 23
- JPSO Graduation – August 27

Please visit our website at www.alariocenter.com for information regarding upcoming events.



Streets Director Randy Nicholson (center) and Superintendents Rodney Lyons and Kenneth Lemieux congratulate Marie Ricks

Juvenile Services

By
Arlyn Smith

FAREWELL/RESIGNATION:

All the best to **Geraldmiah Green** and **Kianna Simmons**, who resigned from their position of Juvenile Detention Officer I to pursue other career opportunities.

THANK YOU to **Beverly Davis**, **Lisa McLendon**, **Glinda Morton**, and **Marble Pierre**, temporary Educational Specialist IIIs, who work five weeks during the summer to continue the educational program at the Rivarde Detention Center.

RETIREMENT:

Congratulations to Juvenile Detention Officer II **Mose Sam**, who retired July 26, after 33 years of service to Jefferson Parish. 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.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

As of July 1, 2013, the Rivarde Juvenile Detention Center earned its first ever State of Louisiana

Detention Center Operating License. This was accomplished by complying with the toughest minimum State Detention Center standards in the country.

First time... Great Success!!!

Our Volunteer/Mentoring Program held a Summer Reading Program where the kids actually had fun learning. Creatively led by volunteer **Allison Pritchett** (summer volunteer from Virginia) and assisted by **Nicole Soileau**, **Dominique Williams** and **Alex Lewis** (early entry interns from Delgado Westbank). Without these fabulous volunteers, the program could not have taken place.

EMPLOYEES OF THE MONTH

JUNE 2013: Administration/
Probation: **Pierre Hollins**, Juv. Probation Officer I
Detention: **Kianna Simmons**, Juv. Detention Officer I

JULY 2013: Administration/
Probation: **Danielle Phillips**, Juv. Probation Officer II
Detention: **Charon Jules**, Juvenile Detention Officer II

Finance Authority

By
Sheila Rodrigue

New Employee

Welcome to **Johnson Singletary**, who was recently promoted as our Administrative Assistant. John has a long history with Jefferson Parish, most recently in Code Enforcement. We look forward to working with John.



John Singletary

Employee Farewell

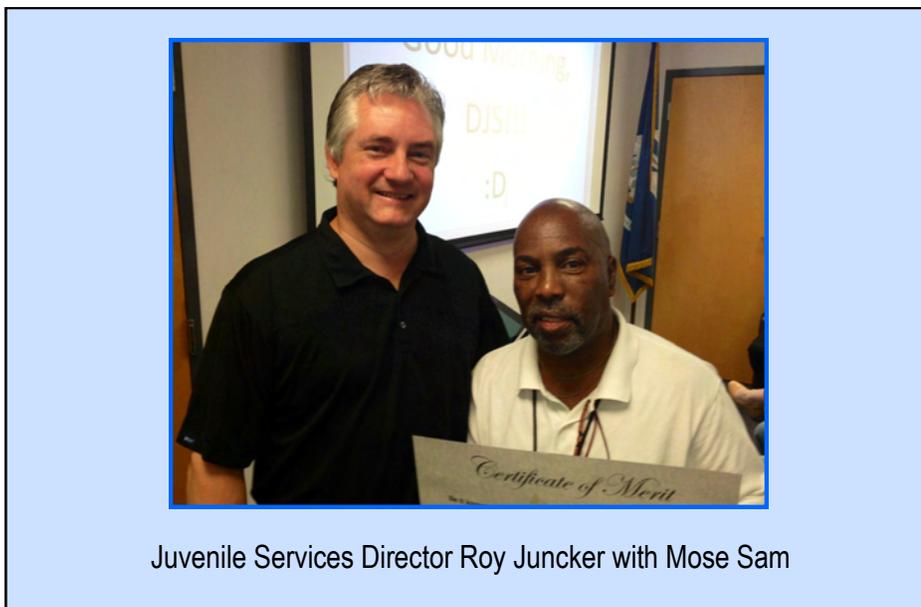
We said goodbye in May to **Jillian Campbell**, our Administrative Assistant. Jillian decided to stay home with her new daughter, who was born in February. We know Jillian will enjoy the time with her very adorable baby.

Condolences

Our condolences to **Terry McCarthy**, our Executive Director, who recently lost his father, James R. McCarthy. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.

New Home Loan Program

With our current home buyer bond program winding down, we are working on a new home loan program. We plan to have the program ready in the next few months. Since it will not be a bond program, it will not have the same restrictions as past bond programs had. Look for more information in the next issue.



Juvenile Services Director Roy Juncker with Mose Sam

Sewerage

By
Venice Cooper

“SPOTLIGHT” SEGMENT



Every day, we speak with co-workers in other departments and never get to learn much about them or what they do in the Parish. In each *JeffTalk* issue, I’ll be “spotlighting” a Sewerage employee by sharing information about them and what they do.

In this issue, “*The Spotlight is on Ann Williams.*” Ann is a Typist Clerk III at our Eastbank Field Office. She has been with the Parish for 24 years. We asked Ann to share her feelings about the job:



Ann Williams

“As a co-worker of mine would say, ‘I love my job!’ I really do. Although it can be hectic, I work with the best people, in the office and in the field. Co-workers play a big part in making your day go smoother. They are there for you when you get stressed, to make you laugh, or when you need a shoulder to cry or complain on. My job duties include receiving and dispatching complaints from residents, issuing work orders, typing for all superintendents, doing accident reports, updating our equipment list with new vehicles, and any other help needed by my co-workers.”

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to **Patricia Portier** (Sewerage Treatment Plant Operator IV), who retired on July 19, 2013. Patricia retired from our Bridge City Wastewater Treatment Plant with 29 years of service.



Patricia Portier

Congratulations to these recent promotions:

Bernard Propps III, from Pump Station Operator II in Drainage to Pump Equipment Mechanic with our Eastbank Lift Stations. Bernard has been employed with the Parish for 17 years.

Michael Rogers, from Laborer Semi-Skilled at our Marrero Plant to Trades Helper with Westbank Lift Stations. Michael has been employed with the Parish for two years.

Jaron Coler, from Laborer Unskilled to Laborer Semi-Skilled with our Westbank Lines

Division. Jaron has been with the Parish for nine months.

Congratulations to the employees at our Eastbank Wastewater Treatment Plant, the first division in our department to complete their online Sexual Harassment training. Keep up the good work, Eastbank Plant!

Congratulations to our employees who recently received their Service Pin Awards:

15 YEARS: Gary Alexis, Kendall Jones, Herman Garrison, Jr., and Lawrence Scieneaux

10 YEARS: John Bumgarden, Thomas Hoyt, and Willie Detiege, III

5 YEARS: Wayne Breaux, Glenise Holmes, James Ford, Bruce Lemieux, and Yvette Russo

WELCOME

Welcome to the following newly hired employees:

Kailumnn Reynolds – Sewerage Treatment Plant Operator, Marrero Plant

Wayne Parker – Laborer, Eastbank Lines

Jeremiah Lewis – Lift Station Inspector, Eastbank Lift Stations

Robert Dusang – College Intern, Administration



The East Bank wastewater treatment plant is sure to be harassment free as they were the first division in Sewerage to complete the mandatory on-line sexual harassment program

Animal Shelter

By
Brooke Biourgeois

On June 12, the Jefferson Parish Animal Shelter participated in a nationwide event called the "Just One Day Initiative." The shelter took a vow not to euthanize any animal, and instead, to spend the day promoting them on various media outlets such as Facebook and Twitter. The shelter extended its business hours, and the success was huge! 78 animals found their loving homes! The shelter also received national recognition for its participation!

The JP Animal Shelter received the Level 1 – Louisiana Quality Foundation award as the result of our partnership with the Loyola MBA program. The award was received at the Governor's Mansion in Baton Rouge on June 18 and was published in the *Times Picayune*.

On June 20, the Animal Shelter partnered with East Jefferson General Hospital employees, who volunteered at Clearview Mall for an adoption event. 23 animals went home with forever families!

The Animal Shelter received a grant from the Humane Society of the United States totaling more than \$100,000, and as we enter our second year, we have received an additional \$60,000. This money funds the vaccinations and spay/neuter in low-income areas. We held our second vaccination drive on July 29 at the Lapalco Headstart, and the event was well attended.

We congratulate Humane Officer **Tracy Borne** as our Employee of the Year! Tracy is a dedicated, diligent, and huge-hearted team member. She has worked tremendously hard, receiving her post-certification training through the Sheriff's Office, which allows her to be more involved in the judicial process when prosecuting offenders. Tracy is invaluable to the department and to the animals. Kudos!

We would also like to welcome the newest member of the Animal Shelter family! Clerk I **Ashley Bell** gave birth to a beautiful, healthy son, Reuben. Both Mom and baby are doing wonderfully!

Library

By
Daniel Gitlin

East Bank Regional Library Honored

The East Bank Regional Library was recently ranked #1 in the "Favorite Library Branch" category of a reader-submitted survey for *NOLA Baby & Family* magazine. The category included all libraries from the New Orleans metro area.

Congratulations to **Michael Smith**, East Bank Regional Branch Manager, and the entire staff of East Bank Regional Library for this outstanding accomplishment!

Summer Reading Wraps Up a Terrific Summer

The Library wrapped up its 2013 Summer Reading program on Saturday, August 3, with raffle drawings at all Library branches to reward kids and teens who have read all summer.

Participants of the program that had read at least 10 books throughout the summer were eligible to be entered in a drawing for a group of gift cards that included Toys R Us, Adventure Quest Laser Tag, AMC Theatres, and Best Buy.

All prizes for Summer Reading were purchased by the Friends of the Jefferson Public Library.

"After such a wonderful summer of reading, programs, and special events, it was great to end it on a high note by raffling off our grand prizes," said **Erin Korosi**, Youth Services Coordinator, who noted that attendance for the summer programs, which included musicians, magicians,



President Young with the Animal Shelter staff at the Governor's Mansion

and special storytellers, had risen dramatically in 2013.

The Library’s annual Summer Reading program encourages kids and teens to read, which not only helps promote the Library’s services but also aids the participants in retaining reading skills they’ve learned during the previous school year.

“As librarians we really enjoy entertaining kids and promoting reading, and this program helps us accomplish both at the same time,” said Erin Korosi. “We are already excited to be planning for next summer!”

Thank You, Christine Borne

The entire Library community warmly thanks **Christine Borne**, East Bank Regional Assistant Manager, for over 30 years of service to the Library.

Christine retired last month after a sterling career which included promotions from a Library Associate to Librarian I, Librarian II, and Librarian III. During her time with the Library, she managed several branches and was instrumental in the growth of the Library over the past few decades.

Christine was a terrific librarian because she is both extremely



Christine Borne is congratulated by Library Director Marylyn Haddican, Assistant Director Debbie Troxclair, and EB Regional Manager Michael Smith

intelligent and very patient – two key components essential when answering challenging questions for patrons who might not understand how to find specific research materials or access an electronic database.

Library Director **Marylyn Haddican** noted that Christine was not only extremely helpful with patrons but also terrific in assisting staff members whenever they needed help. “She was always available for anyone when they needed anything,” said Haddican in a recent email to the staff thanking and recognizing Christine for her years of service.

The Library, like any department, is stronger and has a more

positive impact on the community when driven by staff members who have commitment and professionalism – two qualities that Christine brought with her for over 30 years to the Jefferson Parish Library.

“I want to wish Christine the best,” said Haddican, “on behalf of the Library, in this new phase of her life and thank her for all of the information she has willingly passed down to the ‘new’ people.”

Promotions and New Hires

Congratulations to **Asahel Barahona**, who was recently promoted to Computer Network Specialist. Asahel, or “AB” as he is known to his co-workers in the Library, is an important member of the Information Technology team that helps support all of the Library branches.

Welcome to **Anamaria Brandon**, Librarian II (West Bank Regional Reference Dept.), **Nicole Cross**, Library Page (East Bank Regional), **Kayla Singletary**, Library Associate (Old Metairie Library), and **Mary Sandra Apostolos**, Library Associate (East Bank Regional Reference Dept.)



The Audubon Institute visited the Library to promote Summer Reading

Diversity Advisory Board

By
Crystal Heine

The Employee DAB (Diversity Advisory Board) met for a Leadership Retreat and its Quarterly Meeting on July 30, 2013. The retreat included team building activities and diversity training.

Glenn Schiro, Training Specialist with the Human Resources Department, discussed the Myers-Briggs Type Indicator (MBTI) assessment. The MBTI is a psychometric questionnaire designed to measure psychological preferences in how people perceive the world and make decisions. Such preferences include but are not limited to interests, needs, values, and motivation. Mr. Schiro provided a great example of diversity when he said we may have “different ways but the same goal.”

Dottie Reese of DMM & Associates spoke with the DAB about diversity and inclusion along with the role of the DAB and its members. She discussed the importance of the DAB and helping to provide a workplace in which

people can be “authentic” along with the importance of “inclusive behavior.”

Parish President **John Young** addressed the DAB and stated that he supports the DAB and believes there is strength in diversity as it makes us a better and stronger community.

Diversity Outreach Week is planned to take place the week of October 16, 2013. This week will be devoted to recognizing the diversity of all Parish employees. Diversity includes everyone and the many ways we are different.

The DAB cookbook was such a success in 2012 that the DAB has started working on a 2013 edition to come out in December. Stay tuned for details and how you can contribute!

If you have questions or ideas relative to diversity or diversity projects, please contact your DAB representative or myself. The DAB encourages participation so that we can work together in becoming a parish in which diversity is respected and appreciated.

Emergency Management

By
Sandra M. Ancar-Encalade

Keep these three steps in mind as the 2013 hurricane season is gearing up for the most active “peak” months of the season, August, September, and October:

MAKE A PLAN.

Have a family plan so each family member knows exactly what to do. Decide where to go, what to take, and how to stay in contact.

MAKE A KIT

Have and store the following items: water, food, clothes, medications, important papers, flashlight, radio, personal care items, first aid supplies, and activities for kids.

STAY INFORMED

Stay informed with the local news media and listen to local authorities.

The following tropical storms have been named but were no threat to the US: Andrea, Barry, Chantal, and Dorian. The following are the remaining names for the 2013 Atlantic Hurricane Season: Erin, Fernand, Gabrielle, Humberto, Ingrid, Jerry, Karen, Lorenzo, Melissa, Nestor, Olga, Pablo, Rebekah, Sebastien, Tanya, Van, and Wendy.

Please visit our departmental information in regard to emergency preparedness on our jeffparish.net website or contact our office at 349-5360.

Be sure to read President Young’s message on Page 1 for a more comprehensive list of essential items to have on hand. Be Safe and Be Prepared.



HR's Glenn Schiro addresses the DAB at its Leadership Retreat

Engineering

By
Helen McGee

We are at the end of summer already, time to get the children ready for school. Hope everyone had a great summer.

Congratulations are in order for **Dean Martin** and **Drew Holsi** of Scada. Dean retires with 32 years of Service and Drew with 33 years. Enjoy your retirement. You will be missed.

Happy Retirement to **Cheri McKenna**, of Street Lighting. Cheri was with the Parish for over 21 years. Best of Luck.

The West Bank Warehouse would like to welcome back and congratulate **Ms. Jackqueline Smith** on the May 28 birth of her son, Robert L. Reynolds, Jr. Welcome Back, Jackqueline!

The West Bank Warehouse also would like to welcome **Brian Boudreaux** to our staff as a Shipping and Receiving Clerk by way of the Recreation Dept.

Congratulations to **Errol Martin** on his promotion to Engineering Supervisor. Errol replaces the retired **Paul Schouest**.

Congrats to **Karen Gilley** on five years of service with the Parish! Way to go, Karen!

I am Maw Maw again. My daughter Kayla McGee gave birth to a healthy baby girl on July 18. Faith Lynette Clay tipped the scale at 6lbs and 9ozs. We are thankful for this blessing.



Helen and Baby Faith

Our condolences and prayers to our Director, **Mark Drewes** and family, for the loss of his father-in-law, Mr. Ray Coates.

Phillip Dubone, Ricardo de los Reyes, and I participated in the Walk of Life Program. Phillip & Ricardo brought home honorable mentions while I finished 4th! The program has helped us in lifestyle changes. We are now walking more and eating healthier. It's not too late to get it started!

JeffCAP

By
Catina Ward

LiHeap:

The Liheap coordinators would like to give a Big Shout out to the hardest working Community Center Counselors and all the clerks in Jefferson Parish including Ms. **Amy Hellmers** for all their hard work. In the middle of the program service period, major changes took place and needed to be implemented immediately, and they didn't skip a beat. We were still able to help serve all clients in a timely manner.

RSVP:

Jefferson Community Action Programs held their 32nd annual Retired Volunteer Senior (RSVP) Recognition Luncheon on Thursday, June 13, to honor over 500 senior volunteers. The Theme of this year's Luncheon was: Reflection of Resilience.

What better person to have as a guest speaker than Bob Breck, a life-long resident of New Orleans and the essence of resilience. The seniors were entertained with Bob's wit and the soulful sounds of the Delgado Jazz Band. Also in attendance were several employees from Citizens' Affairs: Director **Sean Burke**, Senior Citizens Services Coordinator **Maria Cervini**, and **Mary Nelson**. A special thanks goes out to all the volunteers who helped make this luncheon a success.

Head Start:

Hear-ye Hear-ye, all you Teachers, Teacher Assistants, Clerks, Cooks, and Custodians. The time has come to put away the Flip Flops, Swim suits, and Maxi dresses; school starts on Au-



Ricardo de los Reyes, Helen McGee, and Philip Dubone took part in the Walk of Life

gust 19. We are hopeful that you haven't used all of your energy vacationing because you'll need it during the preparation for the new year. We welcome the entire staff back and look forward to a wonderful school year.

A special thanks to two amazing young college students, Ms. Corin Berry and Ms. Nicole Luke, for taking time out of their very busy schedules to help out Head-Start by answering phones while the staff is out of the office attending meetings and trainings.

Retirements:

Linda Ellison:

Ms. Linda has been with JeffCAP for over 30 years and has always been an educator and motivator. Not only has she been able to inspire inside the classroom but even after she left the class scene, she was still motivating everyone around her. You could hear her any day of the week encouraging the young and old not to let life's struggles get you down.



Linda Ellison

Through her strong faith foundation she has managed to reach so many youth. She has a wall of success stories, a face to go with every child she inspired. On behalf of the JeffCAP Administration, it's hard to see you leave but



Mary Nelson, Catina Ward, Bob Breck, Kalondra Ellison; RSVP Coordinator, Linda Ellison and Yvonne Dumas

we know there's so much more for you to see. Farewell!

Deaths:

Esther Enamorado:

I can hardly contain my thoughts when I think of the endless amounts of words I could use to describe the loss of Ms. Esther. She was the glue that held everything together. Although Esther had not been with Head-Start as long as others, she was the only one who knew EVERYTHING! I featured her in *JeffTalk* as a quiet hero. Ms. Esther wore so many hats. She was a faithful wife, a dedicated mother, a loving sister, a VERY helpful colleague, and an inspirational testimony to her church family.

She gave everything she had to anyone who needed her selflessly. Most people you ask "how would you like to be remembered when you die" may come up with a number of things they want people to remember them

by: accomplishments, wit etc.. Esther led her life as an example of how she wanted to be remembered, an endless giver.

The prayer reads:
 God grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change,
 The courage to change the things that I can,
 And the wisdom to know the difference.

I say to her family and friends keep this prayer close to your heart. When you get sad, remember that death we cannot change but how we see the lost we can. Don't bother yourself about words unspoken or time that will never be spent. Comfort your heart with all the good times you did share. And remember that being happy for a loved one who is no longer suffering is ok.

On behalf of the entire Agency, it was a pleasure and honor to have been graced with her presence

Environmental

By
Kathy Russo

We would like to congratulate **Emily Federer**, Environmental Quality Technician II, on the birth of her second child. Moon Anthony Federer was born on July 17. Mother and baby are both doing well.

We also like to congratulate **Rick Buller**, our Landfill Engineer. Rick's daughter, Rebecca, recently starred in the new Superman movie "Man of Steel" where she played news reporter, Jenny. Rebecca also got married on July 27. Congratulations, Rick!

On July 19, longtime Parish employee, **Billy "LSU" Sanders**, finally underwent a liver transplant and is now at home recovering. Billy faces a long road to recovery. A liver transplant fund has been set up at Capital One Bank in Billy's name to help with living and medical expenses while he is out of work.



Billy "LSU" Sanders

Tom Cooper recently returned from a month-long vacation in Australia where he visited his son, Cary, who is a mining engineer. Tom really enjoyed the change of pace and spending the time with his son.

Our stormwater staff, **Sami Khalil, Nancy Woodlock** and **Diane Coughlin** recently attended and assisted the New Orleans Sewerage and Water Board with hosting the annual EPA Region 6 Stormwater Conference. They learned a lot of information from the conference and got to interact with other stormwater personnel from throughout the 5-state region.

Chsritina Duggar, Environmental Quality Specialist, and **Lily Zhou and Diane Coughlin**, Environmental Quality Technician II's, recently attended a 40-hour HAZWOPER training course so they can respond to oil and hazardous material spills in the parish. The training was a very valuable educational and safety tool.

Storm Debris Tips

The peak of hurricane season is now upon us. The Department of Environmental Affairs would like to remind everyone that if we are impacted by a hurricane this year, proper separation of storm-generated debris at the curb will expedite pickup.

Storm debris is not collected on the same schedule as regular garbage, and residents should be patient. We have to follow a certain process in order to get reimbursed by FEMA. Debris should be separated into separate piles: Vegetation, building materials, household contents, white goods, etc. should all be kept in separate piles and apart from household garbage or other bagged waste. Bagged wastes will be collected by our regular garbage contractor, while separate contractors will collect storm debris.

General Services

By
Jill Relick

Surplus Property will accept your equipment and surplus items until September 20, 2013. We will begin our inventory process to prepare for this year's auction, which is scheduled for Saturday, October 26, 2013. **Dale Esteves**, Property Manager, advises us he will continue to allow departments to transfer items OUT of Surplus Property two weeks prior to the October 26 auction. Do not hesitate to contact Dale at 736-8485 if you have any questions and/or concerns.

General Services has a new EASTBANK inter-office mail courier . . . **Tim Anderson** is taking over the mail duties. He has performed inter-office mail services in the past; however he is not familiar with names only. Therefore it is imperative for all inter-office mail envelopes to have the following information:

FROM:
Name
Department
Building
Suite #

TO:
Name
Department
Building
Suite #

How are your Single Stream Recycling efforts? **Jan Gray**, Executive Superintendent, made a suggestion that has proven to be a good time management procedure. Any items you use in your office that you find are non-recyclable, place into a plastic grocery bag throughout the day.

As you leave your office, place the bag into the non-recyclable container.

We're saying goodbye and good luck to **Judy Aleses**. Judy, better known as our "Jefferson Parish Pony Tail Express" has relocated. Judy was with General Services for 16 years, and we will miss her "Express" expertise.



Judy Aleses

Safe Driving Awards are a goal for all of our employees that drive a Parish vehicle. . .The award means No citations and No avoidable auto accidents. Congratulations to our many recipients.

Safety Director **Nolan Guidry** presented awards to the following: Also make note of the years of service of each recipient.

Van Taylor-28 yrs, **Jerry Adams**-25yrs, **Janet Phillippe**-14yrs, **Tim Anderson**-13 years, **Mike Fonseca**-12 years, **Darnell Ellis**-10 yrs, **Gregory Jeffery**-10 yrs, **Mike Lemoine**-10 yrs, **David Segura**-10yrs, **Gary Vukich**-10yrs. Also, we are so proud of **Lionel Harris** for his 36 years of "No Accidents Serving Jefferson Parish Government." (See photo of Lionel on Page 8.)

Health Issues

By
Peggy Branam, RN



DID YOU KNOW:

Ibuprofen and Aspirin

Taking Ibuprofen less than eight hours before or less than 30 minutes after taking a regular 81 mg aspirin cancels out the blood-thinning effect of the aspirin. If you take aspirin to prevent clot formation and need additional medication for a painful condition, always check with your doctor for instructions.

Stem Cell Therapy

Thousands of regenerative and reparative therapies have been successful using adult stem cell technology. One example of an amazing adult stem cell application was a 2-year-old born without a trachea (windpipe). Stem cells from her bone marrow were removed and placed onto a plastic scaffold. Within three weeks the cells multiplied, creating a new trachea, which was then successfully implanted. So, if you or a loved one has a life-altering diagnosis, ask your doctor in case you are a candidate for stem cell technology!

Overactive Bladder

Do you relate more than you'd like to the commercials about over-active bladder? If so, then it is probably time to talk with your doctor about your situation. Various prescription drugs are available to help re-

duce frequent urination. Don't suffer any longer; consult with your doctor.

Shingles

Another commercial talks about the dire effects of shingles. Shingles is caused by the virus that causes chicken-pox and then goes dormant in the body. At a later date, the "sleeping" virus awakens, inflaming the nerves. Sufferers complain of an intense burning sensation. Drainage from the weeping lesions is contagious, spreading to those who've never had chicken-pox. An unborn baby is in particular danger if the mother becomes infected and passes the virus on to her baby. While in most cases, shingles will run its course and become only a painful memory, in some cases the lesions can result in permanent nerve damage with blindness, deafness, or a chronic pain condition. One pro-active measure to reduce the risk for developing shingles is to take the shingles vaccine. Consult your doctor if you think you may have shingles or to find out more about the shingles vaccine.

High Blood Pressure & Dementia

The public has known for years how high blood pressure can lead to heart attacks and stroke but may not be aware of its connection to dementia. Vascular dementia can occur when blood flow to the brain tissue is impaired and it does not receive the necessary oxygen and nourishment to maintain normal brain functioning. When the amount of pressure within a blood vessel rises too high, it can weaken or even rupture the vessel, leading to tissue death. So we have another very good reason to keep our blood pressure under control!

Retirements

René T. Poole
Purchasing
34 years

Drew Hosli
Engineering
33 years

Anita Tyrner
Water
33 years

Esther “Marie” Ricks
Streets
33 years

Mose Sam
Juvenile Services
33 years

Gary Lampard
Fleet Management
33 years

Vivian Lasseigne
Human Resources
32 years

Ruby Keefe
Council
32 years

Christine Borne
Library
31 years

Dean Martin
Engineering
31 years

Rosa Campos
Streets
31 years

Mike Quebedeaux
Engineering
30 years

Forklift Training Graduates



West Bank Water Treatment staff recently completed Safety Officer Wayne Jones’s Forklift Safety Training course. Pictured are Chris Gai, Wayne Harris, Prentiss Washington, Kevin Howard, Adrin Cannon, Chris Smith, Brian E. Gray Sr., and Hugh Castleberry.