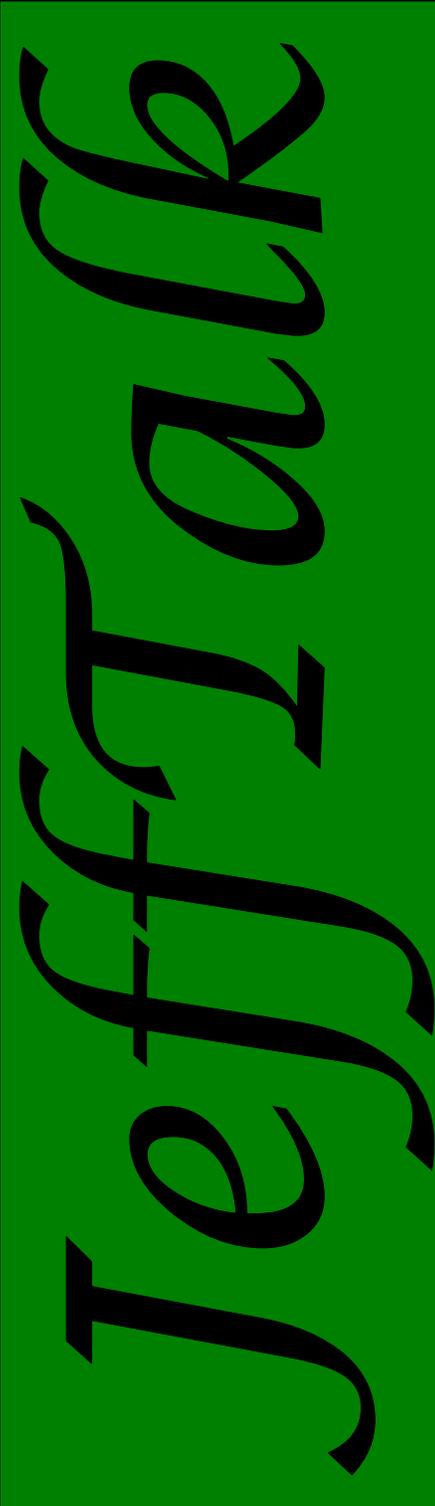




Volume 35  
Number 1  
February 2014



## Message from the Parish President. . .

### Jefferson Transit: We're on a Roll!

Our Jefferson Transit is on a roll, and now it is more convenient than ever for our citizens to plan the easiest route to help them get to their destination.



John F. Young  
Parish President

#### Google Maps

We are proud to announce that Jefferson Transit is partnering with Google Maps to offer a free, online trip planning tool that will make traveling through Jefferson Parish on public transit even easier.

Google Maps is the most popular online mapping website in the world and now provides citizens and visitors access to seamlessly plan a transit trip in Jefferson Parish. This new tool provides riders helpful information at their fingertips about their public transit system and allows them the ability to visually pinpoint and plan the route to their destination using a smart phone or hand-held device with Internet ac-

cess. This service is available in 40 different languages.

Jefferson Transit is now among 72 other cities in the United States and 12 countries abroad where Google Transit Planner is available for public transit riders.

With your help, Jefferson Parish continues to be a progressive community seeking innovative, exciting programs and services, such as our partnership with Google Maps, to continue to improve the quality of life for our citizens. There is more information available at the Jefferson Parish Department of Transit website, [www.jeffersontransit.org](http://www.jeffersontransit.org).



*JeffTalk*

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

**Departmental Reporters**

- Alario Center**  
Deirdre Cummings
- Animal Shelter**  
Danielle Williams
- Citizens' Affairs**  
Suzanne Lollis
- Community Development**  
Toya Jones
- Drainage**  
Sheena Quinn
- Emergency Management**  
Sandra Ancar-Encalade
- Engineering**  
Helen McGee
- Environmental Affairs**  
Kathy Russo
- Finance Authority**  
Sheila Rodrigue
- Fleet Management**  
Stephanie Gaudet
- General Services**  
Maryanne Adorno
- Human Resource Management**  
Glenn Schiro
- Code Enforcement**  
Ruth "Kappy" Day
- JeffCAP**  
Catina Ward
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Arlyn Smith
- Library**  
Daniel Gitlin
- Parks & Recreation**  
Gwen Styron & Jerry Savarese
- Parkways**  
Chantell Prestenbach
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Nicolle Whitney
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Venice Cooper
- Streets**  
Debbie Tunstall
- Traffic Engineering**  
Brandy Chism & David Stout
- Transit**  
Patricia Lyons
- Water**  
Amy Miller
- Workforce Connection**  
Carolyn Haynes

*Editor's*



*Notes*

**Putting the Public First**

The Parish has embarked on an important long-term project that will affect all Parish departments and improve the quality of service that is provided to the citizens of Jefferson Parish: the Customer Service Initiative.

The Initiative actually began last year as a pilot project involving five Parish departments:

- Code Enforcement
- Animal Shelter
- JeffCAP
- Library
- Water

In 2014, the Initiative will expand to include all departments. The purpose of the Initiative will be to see that all employees have the skills and training required to effectively and respectfully serve the public. These skills must be practiced wherever we meet our customers—in the field, over the telephone and internet, or in our public buildings.

As a Parish-wide project, the Customer Service Initiative will involve the Administration, Human Resource Management, and the individual departments.

**The Administration.** President Young has appointed an Executive Steering Committee to head the Initiative. The committee consists of President Young's Deputy COO Jacques Molaison, the CAA for Operations Brian Fitzsimmons, and Citizens' Affairs Assistant Director Cheryl Legohn-Tubbs. The Executive Committee will be issuing direc-



Peggy O. Barton, Editor

tives and setting deadlines as the Initiative progresses.

**Human Resource Management.** The Training Unit of Human Resources will be available to assist individual departments as they survey their employees and identify areas to improve customer service.

**The Departments.** Individual department responsibilities will include adding a CS (Customer Service) component to their orientation programs, including CS skills in job descriptions, and appointing a departmental CS committee. With the assistance and cooperation of the Executive Steering Committee and Human Resource Management, the departmental committees will train employees in CS skills, investigate CS-related problems, meet with employees to discover CS problems, and establish CS "protocols" or methods to address or handle difficult, problematic CS situations that arise in the department.

Let your Directors' Office know if you would like to serve on your department's Customer Service Committee. People with positive attitudes who sincerely believe that we can improve customer service are especially welcome. By honestly examining the job we are doing and striving to do better, we can take a big step together toward improving the quality of government service in Jefferson Parish.

## Water

By  
Amy Miller

It is pin ceremony time once again, and we had numerous employees awarded for their continuing years of service to Jefferson Parish. The five-year recipients are: WB Distribution Laborer **Harold Booker**; EB Utility Billing Clerk II **Elizabeth Bourgeois**; WB Treatment Plant Pump Equipment Mechanic **Adrin Cannon**; EB Distribution Laborer **Kendrick Hawkins**; EB Utility Billing Clerk II **Tracy Johnson**; WB Water Service Inspector II **Jude Loupe**; EB Distribution Inspector **Percy McCray**; EB Distribution Laborer **Jarren Sheppard**; and WB Distribution Laborer **Kendrick Stack**. The ten-year recipients are: EB Water Service Inspector II **Joshua Chiasson**; EB Water Service Inspector **Jonathan Frank**; EB Water Purification Superintendent **Mervin Graves**; EB Distribution Foreman **Tremaine Ivey**; WB Utility Billing Collector **Elizabeth Nelson**; EB Utility Billing

Supervisor **Cassandra Swims**; and EB Distribution Inspector **Winchell Turner**. Finally, the fifteen-year recipient is Equipment Operator III **Roil Simons**.

Several of our employees were invited to attend the 25 years of service ceremony in the Council Chambers. Among those who were awarded a certificate were: EB Equipment Operator III **Brian Aubert**, EB Treatment Plant Superintendent II **David Bertucci**; WB Distribution Equipment Operator III **Corey Bethley**; WB Water Superintendent I **James Boulware**; Water Quality Scientist III **Steve Brodie**; EB Water Service Inspector Supervisor **Gary Centanni**; EB Distribution Equipment Operator III **Monday Coleman**; EB Distribution Clerk III **Cynthia Dominique**; WB Distribution Foreman **James Francis**; EB Distribution Waterline Superintendent I **Mark Martin**; WB Distribution Waterline Maintenance Superintendent II **Harold**

**Robert**; and WB Billing Superintendent Assistant **Lori Roth**. We would like to thank all of the above mentioned employees for their dedication and hard work.

### New Employees-

We have had many new employees join our staff over the past few months. Let's give a warm welcome to the following new additions: EB Pump Equipment Mechanic **Roy Domini**; WB Water Service Inspector **Jayda Jackson**; EB Utility Billing Clerk **America Brooks**; WB Distribution Laborer **Travis Williams**; WB Water Service Inspector **Emmanuel Becknel**; EB Water Purification Operator **James Eckholdt**; Grand Isle Laborer **Keaton Leblanc**; Water Quality Scientist I **Kirbye Sullivan**, who is a third generation Parish employee; EB Treatment Plant Pump Equipment Mechanic **Kenneth O'Neal**; WB Laborers **Cody Wiley** and **Randy Jones**; and WB Utility Billing Collector **Bessie Lewis**.

Welcome aboard, everybody!



Water Director Doug Vincent (center) with 25-year employees James Francis, Mark Martin, Gary Centanni, Harold Robert, David Bertucci, and James Boulware

Fond Farewells-

We also had to say goodbye to several of our employees: WB Distribution Equipment Operator III **Eric Windsor** transferred to Recreation; WB Utility Billing Collector II **Dorina Gautreaux** transferred to the Planning Department; EB Distribution Laborer **Donald White**; and EB Treatment Plant Mechanic **Rhett Johnston**. We would like to wish you all the best of luck!

PROMOTIONS-

Several employees received promotions. Among them are: EB Distribution's **Darnell Hawkins** was promoted from Laborer to Equipment Operator III; WB Treatment Plant's **Christopher Gai** was promoted from Shipping/Receiving Stock Clerk to Water Purification Operator; WB Distribution's **Keven Sampey** was promoted from Foreman to Waterline Maintenance Superintendent I; and EB Treatment Plant's **Joseph Pembo** was promoted from Laborer to Pump Equipment Mechanic. Good Job!!!!!!

Congratulations-

We had two new additions to our Water family: Grand Isle Superintendent **Robert Armand** welcomed Miss Paisley Armand to his family. She was born November 25 and weighed in at exactly 7 pounds. EB Distribution's **Joseph Butler** welcomed a son, Kamryn on December 6, weighing 4 pounds, 10 oz. We would also like to extend best wishes to our Water Quality Scientist III **Kristen Rivero**. Kristen married Mr. Francis Ragan III at Immaculate Conception Jesuit Church in New Orleans on January 18.

Retirement-

With a heavy heart we said goodbye to WB Distribution's Waterline Maintenance Foreman **James Fisher, Jr.** Jimmy has been a fixture in the department since 1982 and retired January 15, 2014. We hope Jimmy enjoys his well-deserved retirement and wish him all the best.

**Workforce Investment**

**Dr. Mary P. Bartholomew**, Workforce Investment Board Director, was recently promoted to a national office in the Chaîne des Rôtisseurs in Washington, D.C. at the French Embassy.

Chaîne des Rôtisseurs is the world's oldest international gastronomic society, founded in Paris in 1248. Dr. Bartholomew was promoted to the office of Vice Conseiller Culinaire et des Professionnels National, where she will assist with the National Young Chefs competition.



Mary Bartholomew (center) with George Brown and Marie Jones, of Chaîne des Rôtisseurs

The first Young Chefs competition was organized in 1977 in Switzerland to support and promote future young chefs by giving them the opportunity to demonstrate their skills in a mystery basket competition. The competition was started in 1990 in the United States and continues to grow every year.

In May of 2012, Dr. Bartholomew hosted the National Young Chefs competition in New Orleans, LA. Dr. Bartholomew has been a local and regional officer prior to this promotion and was the chairperson of several regional competitions.



Director Vincent (second from right) with Water's 10-year pin recipients Cassandra Swims, Elizabeth Nelson, Jonathan Frank, and Mervin Graves

### Traffic Engineering

By  
Brandy Chism

Happy retirement!! On January 3, 2014, Sign & Marking Superintendent I **Larry Soileau** retired with 36 years of service. Larry has always been a pleasure to work with; always very kind, thoughtful, and helpful to others. I asked Larry what some of his most memorable moments were while working at Traffic. Larry recalls when the Huey P. Long Bridge was hit back in the 90's and had to sign it for the motoring public. Larry scoffs at some of the choice comments he received from the public but insists that deciding to work for the Parish back in 1978 was one of the best decisions of his life. No regrets. Congratulations to Larry on his retirement. We will miss you!!

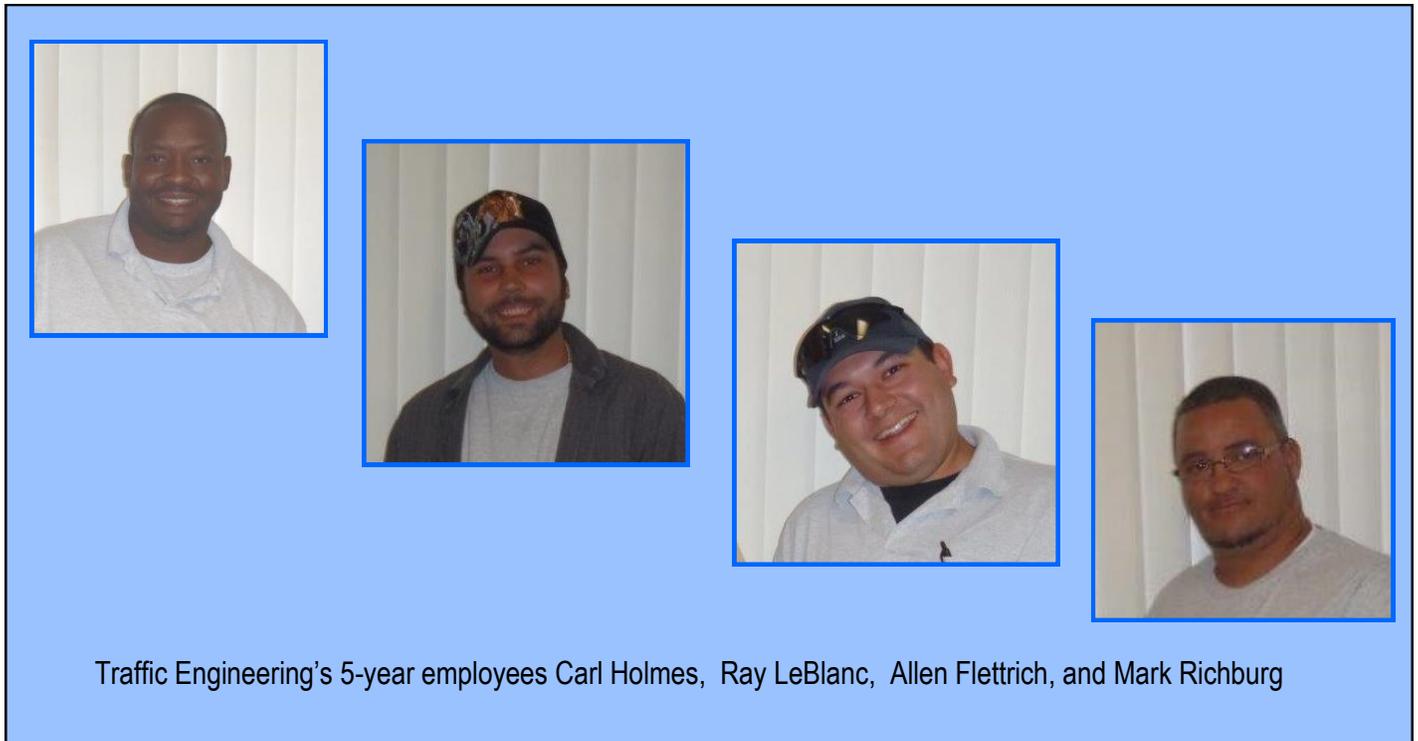
We are all geared up for Mardi Gras 2014!! Our staff has already started coordinating, planning, and working together with various de-



Traffic's Larry Soileau cuts his retirement cake

partments as well as the JPSO in order to ensure a successful carnival season. The sign crews will meet the challenge of installing the signs throughout the parade routes, removing, and replacing them for St. Patrick's Day and then the Irish-Italian parades. The Division's signal crews will

escort floats before, during, and after the parades as well as ensuring all traffic signals are properly raised, relocated, or removed to allow for the clearance of the floats and riders. Our team continues to perform exceptionally well, and this year, no doubt, will be no different.



Traffic Engineering's 5-year employees Carl Holmes, Ray LeBlanc, Allen Flettrich, and Mark Richburg

**Streets**

By  
Debbie Tunstall

**New Employees**

We welcome our new Typist Clerk II **Bernadette Weber** to our department. Bernadette is our new Receptionist/Switchboard Operator. We hope you enjoy working with us, Bernadette, and will be with us for many years to come.



Bernadette Weber

**Retirement**

Congratulations to Project Coordinator **Milton Baker**, who retired on December 13, 2013, with 28 years and 9 months of service.

Also, congratulations to Typist Clerk III **Kori Allemand**, who retired on January 14, 2014, with 16 years and 9 months of service.

We hope you both enjoy retire-

ment, and you will be truly missed.



Kori Allemand

**Service Pins**

Congratulations to Engineering Inspector III **Raymond Andras**, who recently received his service pin for 30 years of service with the Parish; and also to Equipment Operator IV **Randy Bernard**, who received his service pin for 25 years of service.

**Get Well**

We send get well wishes to Administrative Assistant **Pam Bourgeois**. We're glad everything went well for you, **Pam**, and hope you're feeling better soon.



Raymond Andras

**Birth**

Congratulations to Executive Assistant **Maria Cooper**. Her beautiful baby boy, Shaun Ryan Cooper, Jr., was born on December 30, weighing 8 lbs. 11 oz., and was 21" in length. How wonderful for you and your family on the arrival of your little one, Maria.



Randy Bernard

**Condolences**

Our sincere sympathy goes to Administrative Assistant **Denise Chavers**, whose father Dennis F. Dunn passed away on November 28, 2013. Captain Dennis F. Dunn was a dedicated Police Officer with the Gretna Police Department for 39 years. We're very sorry for your loss, Denise. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family during this difficult time.



Milton Baker (Center) with Streets Assistant Director Don Hogan and Director Randy Nicholson

## Emergency Management

By

Sandra Ancar-Encalade & Charles Hudson

Our director, **Charles M. Hudson**, was selected to attend the Hurricane Preparedness for Decision Makers course held at the National Hurricane Center (NHC) in Miami, Florida, from January 13 – 17, 2014.

Mr. Hudson joined other decision makers throughout the Southeast Gulf Coast region and received extensive information and instructions on how to plan for and make decisions when executing evacuations, particularly hurricanes. Charles was given a behind-the-scenes tour of the National Hurricane Center and participated in a hurricane exercise showing how the information received throughout the course is carried out into action.

We have kicked off our 2014 training calendar with an Incident Command Systems (ICS) class taught by **Timothy S. Gautreau, Jr.**, Coordinator II, held January 22 – 24, 2014 at the Westwego Fire Station. Attendees included representatives of fire departments, law enforcement, emergency management, and military personnel. We have a very active training calendar for 2014 for preparations of any type of disaster, natural and/or man-made.

Congratulations to **Sandra M. Ancar-Encalade**, Executive Assistant, on her 25th year of service to Jefferson Parish obtained on January 14. Sandra has been a very important part of the Emergency Management Department and we look forward to her continued service.

## Diversity Advisory Board

By

Crystal Heine

The Diversity Advisory Board met on January 13 for its first quarterly meeting of 2014. At the meeting, the members were informed that the Department of Human Resources has added a new training class to its array called *Workplace Diversity: Respecting Different Paths to Shared Success*. The class will focus on both workplace and social diversity and how to deal with cultural and hidden biases, including identifying and dealing with micro-inequities. The first class will be held on Thursday, February 27, 2014, 9:00-11:00, Yenni Bldg., Room 208. The HR Training Division plans to offer this class quarterly.

**Katherine Hoover**, from the Department of Citizens' Affairs in the Citizens' with Disabilities Section, was the guest speaker at the January meeting. She discussed her background, including an injury which led her to get a Master's of Health Science in Rehabilitation Counseling. Four types of disabilities were discussed: Vision, Cognitive,

Physical, and Hearing and Speech. Suggestions were made on how to let employees know that there is assistance available to them and that people should not be afraid or embarrassed to contact their supervisor or her office to ask for accommodation. Ms. Hoover advised that, under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), the definition of an individual with a disability is an individual who has a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more of his/her major life activities.

The Diversity Advisory Board will be seeking new members in the summer of 2014. If you are interested in participating or becoming a board member, please advise your supervisor or your Director.

*"Inclusive leadership is about recognizing and valuing diversity or difference, and valuing people, recognizing them for their skills, experience and talent, and treating them equally and fairly – irrespective of their ethnic background, gender, age, sexual orientation, religion, belief, or of any disability they may have."*

- Morvia Gooden



Emergency Management Director Charles M. Hudson (second from left) at the National Hurricane Center in Miami

### Engineering

By  
Helen Sharpe McGee

Greetings from Engineering!  
We hope you all are doing well in Parish Land.

Congratulations to **Ronald Boudreaux**, Westbank Warehouse, who will be reigning as King of the Mystic Knights of Adonis. Ronald's granddaughter will reign as his Queen.

Engineering welcomes and congratulates **Cindy Gallo**, our new Executive Superintendent. Welcome, Cindy!



Cindy Gallo

We would also like to welcome our new employee, **Richard Bettis**, who has been hired as Engineer in Training. Richard Graduated from the University of New Orleans. We are happy to have you on board, Richard.

Also welcome **George "Julie" Martin**, surveying crew.

Our deepest sorrow to **Shelly Bordelon** for the loss of her mother, Karen Braai White. Prayers are with family.



Peter Blaha

The Engineering department enjoyed the Saints Season. We had Rob Ryan (Bruce Cook) and Peter Blaha all dressed up and shouting WHO DAT!



Bruce Cook

Recipients receiving Service Pins with 40 years: **Jane Guimbellot**; 30 years of service: **Jeff Wassermann**, Drafting; and 25 years of Service: **Erroll J Martin**, Westbank Inspector. Congratulations!



Jeff Wasserman

**James Barbier** of SCADA also retired with 24 years of service. Enjoy your retirement, James!

Congratulations and Happy Retirement to **Carlton Guillot**, Engineer. Carlton had 14 years of service with Engineering.

*Have a safe and Happy Mardi Gras!*



Carlton Guillot with Juan Gutierrez

## Drainage

By  
Sheena Quinn

### Welcome & Congratulations!

As 2014 begins, The Department of Drainage has had lots of exciting and memorable moments since our last article. Among the most noticeable changes are the newest additions to the department and recent promotions. **Terry Hill, Watson Tran, Dwayne Monette Jr., Alan Moore, Karlton Charles, Adam Williams, Ricquel Bryant, Tony Junot, Gary Clarks Jr., Ronnie Mack, and Landis Woodruff** have all begun their careers with the Department of Drainage.

Also, we would like to congratulate the following for their recent promotions: **George Davis, Qiana Bates, Shawn Casbon, Michael Herbert, Douglas Ellzey, John Braswell, Devin Cook, Errol Deggs, and James Wing.** And a big warm welcome back to **Sheena Quinn**, who returned to her position as Administrative Assistant, and **Erron Robinson**, Truck Driver I for our East Bank Drainage division.



President Young with Jeffrey Rivet

Good luck and congratulations, everyone!

### Award Pins

The Department of Drainage awarded service pins to employees that have been with us for 15, 20, 25, and 30 years. The following dedicated employees received service pins for 15 years: **Chris DiBenedetto, Ann Lefort, and Juana Gonzalo;** 20 years: **Jacob Leglue, Jr., Jamal Singleton, Anthony Taylor, and Sidney Williams;** 25 years: **Jeffrey Rivet;** and 30 years:

**Manuel Aspuria, Frank Boudreaux, Larry Brown, Kevin Calcagno, and Roland Cola, Sr.** We would like to thank you for your hard work thus far and look forward to seeing what you all will accomplish in the future.

### Fond Farewells

While new faces were being introduced to our Department of Drainage family, we said goodbye to six amazing hard-working people that retired after countless years of dedication and hard work. **Benjy Perkins**, Trades Helper, retired on November 4 after 30 years of service to our West Bank Drainage division. Also from our West Bank Pump Station division, **Larry Brown**, Pump Station Operator II, retired on January 10 after 30 years.



Joe Rivere

Lastly, Drainage Pump Station Superintendent III, **Joseph Rivere**, retired on January 10. Joe was an asset to the Drainage Department for over 27 years. We appreciate everything that they have done for the Department and wish them all the best on the beginning of their retirement!

Hope everyone has a safe and happy Mardi Gras!!!



Manny Aspuria is congratulated by President John Young for his 30 years of service to the Parish

### Workforce Connection

By  
Carolyn Haynes

#### Service Pin Recipients :

JWC is excited to announce three 20-year pin recipients! Recent Service Award Pin Recipients are the following: Accountant II **Grayling Walker**, Career Specialist **Kenneth McMillon**, and Eastbank Supervisor **Mary McMiller**. Congratulations!



Kenneth McMillon

ment Director **Detrich Hebert** were also invited as guests to attend the WB Training. JWC thanks those who presented for sharing with us valuable information as we strive for continued excellence in Customer Service to our community.

#### Farewell

JWC bids a fond farewell to Youth Supervisor **Ms. Francis Turner**. Francis was Youth Supervisor for 13 years, received an Employee of the Year Award, and was also the former Reporter for *JeffTalk*. We will miss you and wish you the best in your future endeavors.

JWC wishes everyone a Happy & Safe Mardi Gras!



Mary McMiller

#### Thank You's & Acknowledgement

Jefferson Workforce Connection extends a thank you to Ron Schulingkamp of Loyola University and Jessica Whiteman of the Ritz-Carlton for an excellent Customer Service Training presentation at our EB & WB monthly meetings. The Animal Shelter staff and Community Develop-

### Scholarship Opportunity for High School Seniors

#### NACo/Nationwide Scholarship

Nationwide Retirement Solutions, our 457 deferred compensation provider, is once again teaming with NACo (the National Association of Counties) to sponsor an essay contest for high school seniors. The seniors must submit a short essay on why early saving for retirement is important to public sector employees.

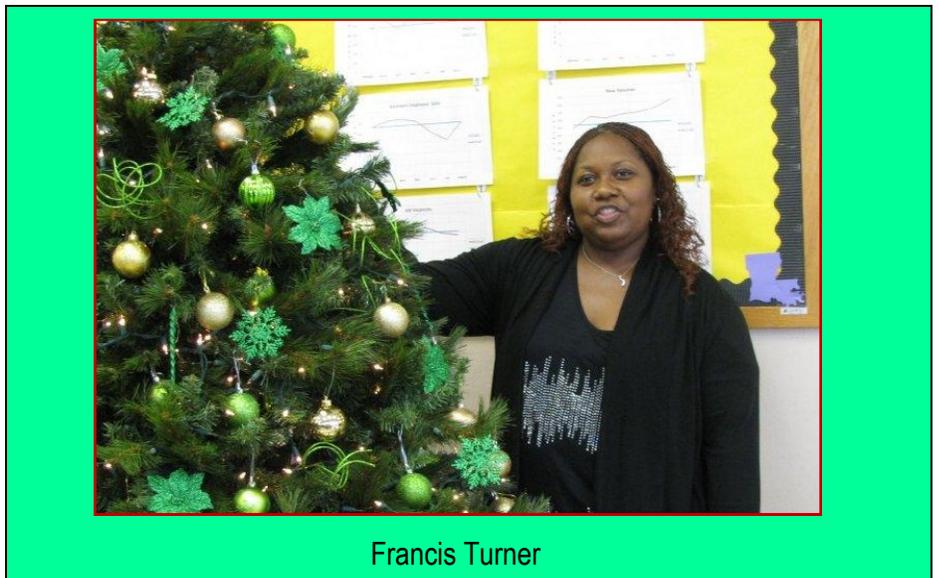
To be eligible for the contest, students must be high school seniors with a parent or grandparent currently enrolled in a NACo 457 Deferred Comp Program. The students must also enroll in a full-time undergraduate course of study by the fall of 2014.

Applications can be found online and must be submitted by March 2, 2014. You can find the application and more information on Nationwide's site: [www.nrsforu.com/scholarship](http://www.nrsforu.com/scholarship).

A recent NACO scholarship was won by the son of one of our fellow Parish employees. Let's see if we can win another!



Grayling Walker



Francis Turner

## Community Development

By  
Toya Jones

### Welcome:

Community Development welcomes our New Director **Detrich D. Hebert, JD, MBA**. She earned a Master of Business Administration degree from the University of New Orleans and a Juris Doctor from Southern University Law Center.

Ms. Hebert most recently served as Senior Assistant Parish Attorney in Jefferson Parish, where she acted as general counsel for several Parish departments. She worked as an Assistant City Attorney for the City of New Orleans and as an Assistant Attorney General for the State of Louisiana. We are extremely excited to have her as the Director of Community Development.

We also want to welcome **Tony Brual**, Administrative Management Specialist IV, aboard and we know he will be an asset to the department. We hope he enjoys his stay with Community Development.

### Celebrations:

We would like to celebrate with a few of our employees in receiving their Service Award Pins. **Patricia Beebe**, Clerk Typist III, received her 25-year Service Award Pin; **June Durnin**, Administrative Management Specialist III, received her 15-year Service Award Pin; and **Emann Batiste**, Housing Counselor II, received her 5-year Service Award Pin. Congratulations to all these employees for their continued service with Jefferson Parish.



Patricia Beebe

### Retiree:

Community Development said farewell to Building Maintenance Supervisor, **Samuel Oliver**. Mr. Oliver had 20 years of dedicated service. We wish him the best on this new chapter in his life. Congratulations!!!

### Promotions:

We want to congratulate **Ariane Morgan**, who was promoted from Account Clerk III to an Accountant I, she has been with the Parish for one year.



June Durnin

### Our CD Motto:

“The Department of Community Development is committed to delivering personalized services, improving housing conditions and enhancing the quality of life for Jefferson Parish resident.”

## Juvenile Services

By  
Arlyn Smith

**WELCOME:** **Lilliam Rivera** was reinstated as a Juvenile Detention Officer I, and **Reginald M. White II** was appointed to Mental Health Professional I.

**RETIREMENT:** **Julia Roy, Cook II**, retired from Juvenile Services on January 10, after 11 years, 6 months of employment. We wish her all the best and want to thank her for her years of service and the delicious meals she prepared and served to the youth of detention and others.

**PROMOTION:** **Ronjela Clay** was promoted from Juvenile Probation I to Probation Officer II.

### EMPLOYEES OF THE MONTH

#### **DECEMBER 2013:**

**John Beauregard**, Detention Officer  
**Tion McGhee**, Probation Officer

#### **JANUARY 2014:**

**Wynton Grady**, Juvenile Detention Officer  
**Donya Snowton**, Juvenile Probation Officer

**BABY NEWS:** *Congratulations* to Probation Officer **Julie House**, A.K.A. “GRAMMY,” who welcomed her first grandchild “Nathan Francis,” born to her daughter in New Jersey, on January 8 weighing in at 7 lbs., 8 oz.

*Congratulations* to the following DJS employees who were recognized by Parish President John Young for their years of service to Jefferson Parish:

**20 Years:**

**Colleen George**, Juv. Probation Officer; **Calvin Thompson**, Juv. Detention Officer

**25 Years:** **Luis Campos**, Property Manager, Assistant; **Keith Guess**, Juv. Detention Home Supervisor, Assistant

DJS has some awesome staff members! Drug Court, Alternatives to Detention, and Intensive Probation Programs got together and adopted a family from the Metropolitan Battered Women’s Shelter. They contributed willingly and generously, and went above and beyond to make a family’s holiday special.

Speaking of “awesome”, **Julie House**, **Allan Kagan**, **Carolyn Robinson**, and **Debra Story**, who form the “FUN” Raising committee, worked hard to put together Juvenile Services’ Thanksgiving and Christmas celebrations. All staff who participated enjoyed the festivities.

**Alario Center**  
By  
**Deidre Cummings**

**WELCOME ABOARD!**

We would like to welcome **Ryan Favret** to our staff. Ryan is the newest Marketing Sales Associate for the Alario Center and Segnette Field.



Ryan Favret

**IMPROVEMENTS!**

Phase I Hall B Roof/HVAC Replacement - near substantial completion pending factory resolution of RTU #3 issues.  
Replaced flat roof

Installed all (5) new rooftop HVAC units

Phase II Hall A Roof Replacement – at 50% completion

On-site fabrication to replace barrel roof  
Replacement of (12) damaged wall panels

Hall C Renovations

Selective demolition – 80% completion  
Epoxy floor coating for concrete subflooring – 50% completion  
Refinishing hardwood courts – scheduled to begin March 2014

Exterior Marquee

Electronic module board on order  
Site visit to measure/assess area scheduled for 1/23/14  
Expected date of completion March 1, 2014

Exterior Landscaping

Creating bid specs

Wi-Fi Installation

State contract proposal and pricing obtained  
Awaiting Parish vendor to provide comparison estimate

\*More capital improvements to be announced.

**WAY TO GO!**

We recently negotiated a contract to host an exclusive annual event beginning in August 2014. This will be an exciting event that’s expected to generate over \$30K in revenue over a three-day weekend utilizing every available space inside and outside both the Alario Center’s main complex and Segnette Field – stay tuned for the details and official announcement!



Juvenile Services’ Adopted Family Christmas

## Human Resources

By  
Glenn Schiro

### Welcome to our New Employee

We welcome **Deborah Glinky**, who joined our Department in December. Deborah worked in Code Enforcement as a Typist Clerk II before moving to HR as a Typist Clerk III working in our Substance Use office. Deborah is enjoying her HR job, which she finds “very interesting.” Sports and traveling are some of Deborah’s leisure activities. We are glad you have become a part of the HR team, Deborah.



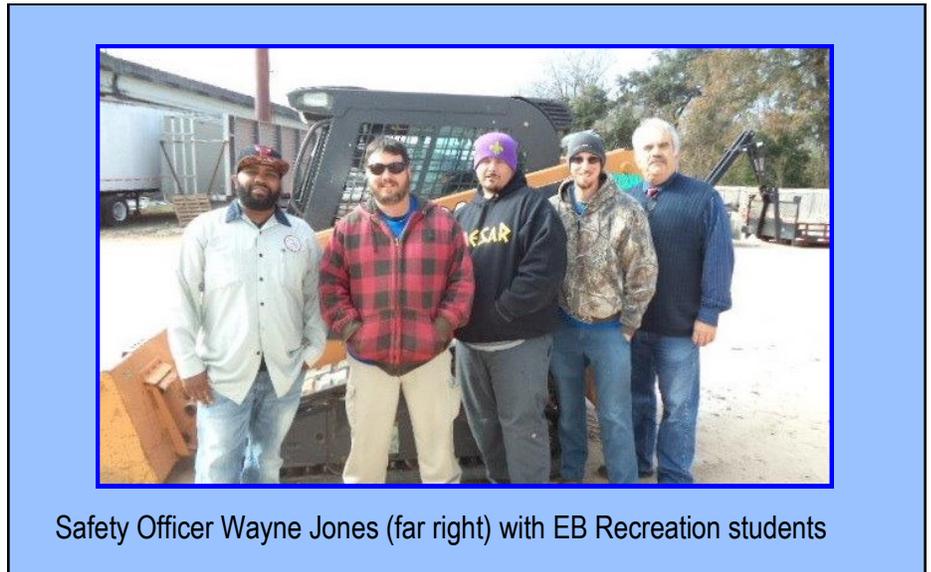
Deborah Glinky

### Congratulations to our Newest HR Professional

Congratulations to **Yvonne Keller**, Training Specialist II, who passed the Professional in Human Resources (PHR) exam on Friday, December 6. Yvonne completed a rigorous preparation course and spent many hours of study to pass this very difficult and challenging exam. Great achievement, Yvonne.

### New Safety Class

On January 23, Safety Officer **Wayne Jones** taught a new course for four members of EB Recreation. Participants in the new Safety Training course enti-



Safety Officer Wayne Jones (far right) with EB Recreation students

ted *Skid-Steer Loader Operator Safety* were **Maverick Charles, Mark Maunoir, Anthony Corpora** and **Kris Christoffel**. Wayne looks forward to offering this new class to interested employees. Please contact him for further details at 736-6134.

### Continuing Education

Our Assistant Director **John Dumas** and HR Manager **Nicole Thompson** attended an Archer Job Analysis seminar on January 21 and 22. HR Managers **Fran Robichaux** and **Nancy Rodriguez** and Training Specialists **Yvonne Keller** and **Glenn Schi-**

**ro** attended a lunch meeting of the Human Resources Management Association of Greater New Orleans on Wednesday, January 15. Ted Quant from Loyola’s Twomey Center for Peace talked about conflict resolution in the workplace.

### Our Condolences

The entire HR staff expresses our heartfelt condolences to HR Manager **Nicole Thompson**, who recently lost her father, Samuel O’Neal Covington. Be assured of our thoughts and prayers, Nicole.



Lois Lartigue (second from left) is congratulated for 15 years with the Parish by HR Director Peggy Barton, Executive Assistant Susie Cunningham, and HR Assistant Director John Dumas

**Sewerage**

By  
Venice Cooper

**“SPOTLIGHT” SEGMENT**



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

In this issue, **“The Spotlight is on Ron Huffman.”** Ron is a Superintendent at the East Bank Wastewater Treatment Plant, and is **Kurt LeGlue’s** assistant when he is not at the plant. He also manages the laboratory and handles all reporting to the Parish and State as well as safety/accident reporting. Ron began work with the Parish in 1979 as a plant operator at the now retired Helios Wastewater Treatment Plant and in 1983 was promoted to manage the now retired West Napoleon Wastewater Treatment Plant.

In 1987, a private company was contracted to oversee the new plant at #2 Humane Way in Harahan, and Ron decided to leave the Parish as an employee. From 1988, when the new East Bank Plant came online, until October of 2010, several different managers and companies came through to oversee the operations and management of the plant. In October 2010, the Parish again took over management of the plant, and those who worked there were again Parish employees.

Ron says that he is very glad to be back with the Parish. “It’s great being able to relate to Parish

employees again like in the ‘old days.’ Everyone is so helpful and kind, and I missed that. It’s like coming home to family again. The attitude I encounter wherever I go is ‘How can I help you, Ron’ and I appreciate that.”



Ron Huffman

**CONDOLENCES**

We offer our sincere condolences to **Keith Jones** at our Eastbank Lines Division, on the loss of his father, Edward Jones, in November 2013.

**CONGRATULATIONS**

Congratulations to **Yvette Russo** (Payroll Clerk) on becoming a “Grammie” for the very first time. Allie Hedrick was born to Yvette’s daughter and son-in-law, Mandy & Chris Hedrick, on November 9, 2013.



Yvette Russo's granddaughter  
Allie Hedrick

Congratulations to the following employees on their recent promotions:

**Tyrone Clofer** was promoted to Laborer Semi-skilled at our Eastbank Lift Stations Division. Tyrone has been employed with the Parish for 9 months.

**Jaron Coler** was promoted to Equipment Operator III at our Westbank Lines Division. Jaron has been employed with the Parish for 3 months.

**Venice Cooper** was promoted to Executive Assistant in our Administration Office. Venice has been employed with the Parish for 29 years.

**Thomas Hoyt** was promoted to Sewerage Maintenance Superintendent with our Westbank Lift Stations Division. Thomas has been employed with the Parish for 11 years.

The following Department of Sewerage employees with 20 or more years of service received service pin awards from Parish President John Young on December 13, 2013:

**Craig Bradley, Donald Canatella, Michael Chauvin, Eric Harris, Donald Jackson, Patricia Johnson, Howard Lange Jr., Donald Murray, Alvin Perrin Jr., Michael Stevens, and Ann Williams.**

**WELCOME**

Welcome to the following newly hired employees:

**Joseph Briscoe** – Truck Driver II,  
**Laurendine Daniels** – Laborer Unskilled,

**Michael Green** – Laborer Unskilled

**Clarence Joseph**– Truck Driver II  
**Michael McBride** – Laborer Unskilled

**Adam Solares** – Lift Station Inspector

### Animal Shelter

By  
Brooke Bourgeois

#### NEW HIRES:

We would like to welcome the following Animal Care Attendants to the Animal Shelter Family: **Kyle Ching**, **Shantrell George**, **Alexandria Hill**, and **Jzannah Thomas**.

#### PROMOTION:

Congratulations to **Erianne North**! Erianne has worked as an Animal Care Attendant for the past two years and has recently been promoted to Animal Care Specialist at the East Bank location! Kudos and job well done, Erianne!

#### NUPTIALS:

Love was in the air at the Animal Shelter when two of our special employees met on the job and tied the knot on June 22, 2013, before a crowd of supportive coworkers! Congratulations to **Kim Kuhne Murry**, Account Clerk, and Animal Control Officer **Brian Murry** on your nuptials! We wish you a lifetime of happiness and memories!



Newlyweds  
Kim and Brian

HAPPY BIRTHDAY to General Services Director **Anthony Francis**'s beautiful dog Bindie, who was adopted from the West Bank shelter last year and turned a year old with a celebratory cake!



Bindie Francis

#### EVENTS:

The Animal Shelter attended its annual Pet Fest event on November 3, 2013; it was a gorgeous, sunny day, and 30 dogs from the shelter attended, many finding their forever homes!

On January 18, 2014, the Animal Shelter held another "Just One Day" adoption event, in which the shelter took a vow not to euthanize any animal, and instead, spent the day promoting them on various media outlets such as Facebook and Twitter. This effort resulted in over 50 adoptions between both East and West Bank shelters!

On January 26, 2014, the Animal Shelter, in conjunction with the Louisiana Humane Society, held a Pit Bull Appreciation Day at Jefferson Feed to raise awareness about this often afflicted breed and to celebrate the wonderful temperament of this misunderstood breed. The event was well attended by local res-

cue groups, and several "bullies" found their forever homes!

#### KITTEN SEASON:

Kitten season will be here before we know it, and both shelters will be inundated with orphan kittens too young to survive without their mothers. We will be seeking bottle feeders to care for the kittens until they are old enough to be placed up for adoption. If interested, please call the East Bank Shelter at 736-6111 or call the West Bank Shelter at 349-5111.

### Planning

By  
Marilyn Slutsky

We in the Planning Department are happy to announce that we have two new members of our staff, **Dorina Gauthreaux**, Data Entry Operator III, and **Liz Pfafflin**, Planner II.

Congratulations to **Rob Johnston**, Planner II, who received his service pin for twenty years of service in December.



President Young congratulates  
Rob Johnston

## Environmental

By  
Kathy Russo

We would like to welcome Landfill Specialist **Laura Becker** to our staff. Laura has a Bachelor's degree in meteorology and a Master's degree in climatology and is currently working on her Ph.D.

Congratulations to **Richard Mayer**, Landfill Specialist, on receiving his Professional Engineering license in Louisiana. Richard now holds P.E. licenses in both Louisiana and Florida.

Congratulations to **Barbara Arcement**, Solid Waste Inspector, on her 20 years of service with the Parish. Barbara received her 20-year pin from Parish President John Young at a December ceremony.

**Billy "LSU" Sanders**, Solid Waste Inspector, has returned to work and is doing well. We wish the best for Billy and are thrilled to have him back!

We were happy to be able to send several of our technical staff



Environmental's Barbara Arcement with President Young

to the 8-Hour HAZWOPER refresher training class on December 5, 2013, at the Fire Training Center, especially as the training was very relevant and was offered free of charge.

The 24th Annual Christmas Tree Marsh Restoration Project was recently completed on January 11, by placing several thousand recycled Christmas trees in pre-constructed shoreline fences to trap sediment to restore and protect fragile wetlands near the Town of Jean Lafitte. This year, all Christmas trees collected were recycled for a beneficial re-use, either in marsh restoration

or brought to Wood Materials, LLC, to be chipped and used for composting.

This year's project would not be possible without recognizing our hard working staff members and department project partners, the Departments of Parkways, Streets, Fleet Management, Recreation, and Engineering, who worked in advance and during the volunteer event.

We want to give special thanks to Judge John Molaison for assigning court-appointed community service workers to help with the labor-intensive tasks and recognize the outstanding service of the Jefferson Parish Sheriff's Office LASER Division and local Fire Departments including East Bank Consolidated, Kenner, Lafitte Barataria, Crown Point, Avondale, Live Oak Manor, and Westwego, all of whom provided crews and shallow draft boats to help transport trees. A big thank you goes out to the Department of Juvenile Services, Food Services Division's Rivarde staff, for providing a delicious spaghetti lunch for our volunteers; and to Cochiara's Marina for providing a staging site.



The 24th Annual Christmas Tree Restoration Project

## Library

By  
Daniel Gitlin

### Way To Go, Selena!

Congratulations are in order for Melissa “**Selena**” **Muhoberac, Librarian IV**, who was recently promoted and is now the **Head of the Cataloguing Department**. Selena has been with the library since 2004 and most recently worked as **Teen Librarian** at East Bank Regional.

According to **Assistant Director Debbie Troxclair**, “Selena has expressed a desire and willingness to do whatever is necessary to keep the department operating efficiently.”



Library Associate Angela Leblanc  
at Holiday in the Park

### New Hires Join the Team

The Library would like to welcome the following employees who recently joined the Library team: **Clifford James**, Librarian II, East Bank Regional; **Robert King**, Electrician; **Alfred Ledesma**, Librarian Associate, West Bank Regional; **Elyon Sentino**, Library Page, East Bank Regional; and **Barret Burquieres**, Library Associate, West Bank Regional.

## Health Issues

By  
Peggy Branam, RN



### Make Resolutions Count!

A Happy New Year to all! If you made a New Year’s resolution to lose weight, then you are not alone. In fact, the desire to lose weight is the most common resolution that people make. And needless to say, within days or weeks, the old habits return and most give up trying.

Of course it doesn’t help that the TV commercials bombard us with the “all you can eat” or other irresistible ads with the intent to break you down so you quickly give up on your resolutions. Keep in mind that the sooner the food industry entices you back as a consumer, the sooner they resume their profits.

What is one to do? If you cannot resist the temptation(s), give in to only what you cannot live without. If possible, eat a smaller amount than you usually would. Make every attempt to cut back on other items, such as soft drinks, to compensate for the indulgence(s) and/or, perform some type of exercise to burn up the additional calories. Always consult with your doctor regarding what type of exercise is appropriate for you. Resolutions need not only start on January 1<sup>st</sup>! If you fall off the wagon, just hop back on no matter how

many times you need to!

Most of our time is spent on activities of little to no significance. This year set aside some time to dare to turn off all of your electronics and spend your time immersed in an activity. Take up a new hobby such as soap/candle making; woodwork; learn how to design wreaths; etc. Our Parks & Recreation Department offers many awesome classes you can take!

Make plans to reconnect with a long-overdue phone call or visit with that special person. Your time is precious, so don’t waste it.

Now is also a good time to better organize and add structure to your life. The body functions much better with a consistent pattern/time for activities. For example: consistent time for meals, bedtime, waking time, relaxation, exercise, etc. Check the expiration dates on medications, food items, and other items and dispose of them as needed. Of particular importance, check the items in your first aid kit.

Clean out the clutter and items that you don’t need! Create a checklist of items that you need and projects that need to be done over the following months and follow through with it. Perhaps the most important list is a medical-related checklist. What questions have you been putting off for your doctor? What doctor appointments have you neglected making? Create a filing system to use throughout the year to maintain important records. Obtain a pocket-calendar and use it.

Make 2014 a year of changes that improve your health, pocketbook, and life! You’re worth it!!

# Retirements

**Jane Guimbellot**  
Engineering  
40 years

**Lionel Harris**  
General Services  
37 years

**Anna Winfield**  
Parks & Recreation  
36 years

**Elaine Hart**  
Parks & Recreation  
35 years

**Lawrence Soileau**  
Traffic Engineering  
35 years

**Delores Wallace**  
JeffCAP  
33 years

**Thomas Bryant**  
Parks & Recreation  
32 years

**James Fisher, Jr.**  
Water  
31 years

**Larry Brown**  
Drainage  
30 years

**Ray Walker**  
Streets  
30 years

**Milton Baker**  
Streets  
28 years

**Charles Harris, Jr.**  
Parks & Recreation  
28 years

**Joe Rivere**  
Drainage  
26 years

**James Barbier**  
Engineering  
24 years

**Debbie Boudreaux**  
Library  
23 years

**Cherie McKenna**  
Engineering  
21 years

**Gail Petrie**  
Purchasing  
21 years

**Randy Doucet**  
Sewerage  
20 years



**Library employees receiving service pin awards: Mary Lu Cooper, T. Diemer, Parish President Young, Andrea Heingarten, Doug Deichmann, Debbie Troxclair, Ed Stucke, Jean Genovese, and Director Marylyn Haddican.**