



Volume 41  
Number 1  
February 2020

Jefferson

## Message from the Parish President. . .

### Looking Forward to Serving the Parish Together

#### The Best Team!

Jefferson Parish would be nothing without our dedicated staff who work so hard to make our community a positive place to live, work, and play. As your new Parish President, I am committed to serving alongside you to continue to make Jefferson Parish even greater.

Each of you plays a critical role in the future of our Parish, and I am fortunate for the time, talents, energy, and resources that you give each and every day for the good of our citizens and our community. I truly believe I have the best team.

Serving the citizens of Jefferson Parish for the past ten years as the District 5 Councilwoman and then as Councilwoman at-Large for Division B was such a joy; however, I am now thrilled to be on the Administration side and involved in the day-to-day tasks of running a successful government.

#### Working Together

One of my top priorities as your Parish President is unity among our staff, de-



Cynthia Lee Sheng  
Parish President

partments, and entire region. You can achieve so much more by working together, and you can even have fun in the process.

#### Excellence: Our Mission

It is our mission and goal to serve the public. The citizens of our great Parish expect and deserve excellence, and we have the opportunity to make that come true through our daily work and dedication.

#### An Exciting New Decade

A new decade brings a new opportunity for growth for Jefferson Parish and our region, where we can work together united by a spirit to achieve. I am honored and humbled to serve as your new Parish President, and I look forward to what we can accomplish together as a team.

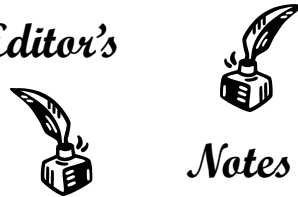
*JeffTalk*

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 Managing Editor.....Greg Alexander

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- Coastal Management**  
Seamus Riley
- Community Development**  
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- Planning** Nedra McKinney
- PMZ** Rebecca Daisy
- Purchasing** Mark Buttery
- Security** A'delle Joseph
- Sewerage** Venice Cooper
- Streets** Kenya Johnson
- Traffic Engineering**  
Brandy & David Stout
- Transit** Connie Preston
- Water** Alecia Washington
- Workforce Connection**  
Carolyn Haynes

*Editor's*



*Notes*

**Getting Acquainted!**

As the new Editor of *JeffTalk* and Director of HRM (the Department of Human Resource Management), I thought I'd devote my first column to introducing myself.

I would have never imagined that when I first began my career at Jefferson Parish as a student worker in the Public Works Department that I would eventually become the Director of HRM! My employment with the Parish has provided me with several professional mentors and job opportunities that have prepared me for this new phase in my professional life.

And the same can happen to you. Jefferson Parish Government can be a great place to work: Our retirement system provides security for those who are concerned for the future of themselves and their families, and as I can personally attest to, there is plenty of opportunity for advancement for those seeking to further their careers with more responsibilities.



Nicole Thompson, Editor

I look forward to creating a new vision for HRM that will help employees to not only think of us when they are having a workplace problem or benefits issue. While we are happy to assist with those things, we would like to cultivate additional positive ways to serve you, our employees.

We recently launched the Jefferson Parish employment survey, and it is our goal to use this information to better assist you. Thank you to all of the employees that took the time to participate in the survey. I, along with my HR staff, am committed to helping you enjoy and benefit from your employment with Jefferson Parish.

Finally, as the new Editor of *JeffTalk*, I want to encourage all departments to contribute to our Parish employee newsletter. If you do not see your department represented within these pages, please let your managers know. Maybe you can volunteer to be your department's reporter yourself!



### Fleet Management

By  
Amy Truesdell

Once again, Fleet participated in the Christmas Toys for Tots program. We have a lot of fun every year collecting toys; it always adds to our Christmas spirit.



Collecting Toys for Tots: Karen Gilley, Director Randy Belanger, Gail Gregoire, and Carla May

Big Announcement! After years of hard work, our new Repair and Service Shop for Fire Fleet is complete. Renovations were made to an existing warehouse to allow the space to be repurposed to serve as a full-service shop for Jefferson Parish fire trucks and equipment. The facility consists of approximately 30,000 square feet of area to service and repair, as well as two offices, a parts room, a lubrication room, and a break room. On December 20, 2019, a ribbon-cutting ceremony was held to celebrate. (See pic last Page)

We want to welcome new employees Auto Mechanic **Alec Whittenberger** and Data Entry Operator II **Joni Clement**. Congratulations to **Wanda Rivera-Pagan**, who accepted a promotion to Typist Clerk III; and congratulations go out to Auto Superintendent **Bruce Vosbein**, who received a certificate for 35 years of service, and to Auto Mechanic Foreman **Melisa Miller** for 20 years of service.

### Code Enforcement

By  
Mary Ann Benitez

#### Retirements/Resignations:

The entire staff of Inspection and Code Enforcement would like to congratulate Typist Clerk III **Billie Bates** on her retirement after thirteen years with Jefferson Parish. Her retirement party was held on Friday, January 17, where she was recognized for her years of service. Best of luck to you, Billie!



Billie Bates's retirement party

Congratulations to **Nolty Kiff** for receiving his 5 year service pin.



Paul Pham, Nolty Kiff, and Code Director Aimee Vallot

#### Welcome:

Welcome new employees, Typist Clerk III, **Courtney Bertucci** and **Monica Trosclair**. Monica was promoted from a Typist Clerk II position.



West Bank Inspection and Code Enforcement employees showed their support for the LSU TIGERS for the SEC Championship game.

## Human Resources

By  
Glenn Schiro

### Good bye and congratulations

After nearly nine years as Director of Human Resource Management, **Peggy Barton** has been appointed Parish Attorney. Although we are sad to be losing Peggy and her many leadership skills, we know that she will use her vast knowledge of the Parish and legal matters to be an effective Parish Attorney.

We congratulate our former Assistant Director **Nicole Thompson**, who has been appointed HR Director. During her 21+ years with the Parish, Nicole has become a knowledgeable professional who understands and knows how to handle the many challenges of HR. Nicole is a daily role model of the importance of teamwork to get the job done.



New HR Director Nicole Thompson

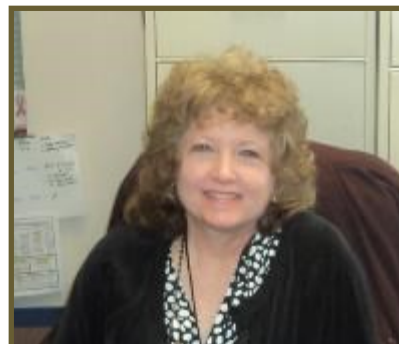
### A Century of service

During the 2019 Service Award Pin Ceremony on December 4, four HR employees received recognition for their service to the Parish. HR Manager **Fran Robichaux** was recognized for her *40 years of service*- and outstanding



Peggy Barton with Safety Manager Wayne Jones at Peggy's farewell to HR party

achievement. Peggy Barton and Safety Officer **Peggy Branam** celebrated 25 years with the Parish. And Training Specialist **Greg Alexander** was recognized for his 20 years of employment. Together, our four HR employees were recognized for a total of *110 years of service* to Jefferson Parish and its employees.



Peggy Branam

### 1000 and counting

According to Greg Alexander, 1000 Supervisors have completed the Basic Supervision series since we began keeping records in 1999. The series includes ten classes that assist supervisors in improving their managerial knowledge and skills.

### Continuing Education

Safety Program Manager **Wayne Jones** completed a webinar on motor vehicle records. The program focused on the CDL driver.

Safety Officer **Greg Reynolds** attended a two-day class: *Implementing Safe Work Zone Operations Strategies*. Held in Baton Rouge, the training was taught by the Local Technical Assistance Program, LTAP.



HR's Fran Robichaux marks 40 years with the Parish



## Purchasing

By

Mark Buttery & Nichole Gaubert

The entire Finance Department wishes everyone a happy and prosperous 2020.

Jefferson Parish held the *FEMA Fundamentals of Grant Management training* at the East Bank Regional Library in Metairie on January 14, 15, and 16, 2020. This training was taught by *DHS-FEMA Grant Management Specialist Michael Brown, Region VI* and multiple subject matter experts from the *FEMA EMI Institute*. This free, three-day training covered many types of FEMA federal grants. There were over 65 participants in attendance, 35 from Jefferson Parish.

This federal grant training gave students an overview of the complete federal grant cycle including areas of award, compliance, monitoring, and audit. This training allowed students to take their knowledge back to their organization in order to increase efficiency and fund retention.

The Finance Department's Accountant III-Disaster Recovery **Nichole Gaubert** completed her training in April 2019. She requested approval to work with FEMA Region VI staff to hold this



FEMA Region VI and EMI Institute Grant Management, Legal and EHP Trainers with Nichole Gaubert, Finance

training in Jefferson Parish for our fiscal, legal, and grant staff. The goal was to send representatives from all the departments that have a stake in the federal grant process. Nichole stated, "For our Purchasing department in particular, it was essential to bring in the Buyer II's so that they see firsthand how the federal grant process works. This helped them to relate how important their work on the front end procuring materials and services relates to both receiving and retaining grant funds."

Congratulations to Assistant Finance Director **Kerry Schrieff** on earning her Certified Government Finance Officer (CGFO) certification through the Government Finance Officers Association of Louisiana.

## ACCOUNTING

### New Employees & Promotions

We want to welcome Clerk Typist III **Jasmine Hamilton**. Jasmine comes to us from JeffCAP where she was a Clerk Typist II. Last, but certainly not least, Accountant II **Nhi Bui** has returned to our office in the Grants Division, after working for JeffCAP and Workforce. Welcome and Congratulations to all!

## BUDGET

The Jefferson Parish Budget Department received the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for the 26th consecutive year. Kudos to the Budget Department for the budget preparation and presentation for 2019.



FEMA Attendees from Jefferson Parish Departments of Accounting, Finance, Purchasing, Public Safety, Emergency Management, Environmental, Floodplain, Coastal Zone, Library, and JeffCAP

A few notable accomplishments for the 2020 Budget, adopted unanimously by the Council at the December 18 Council meeting are that it contains a 5% merit increase for employees with no change in Health Insurance rates and employee contributions. The General Fund continues to be a challenge; departments funded by the General Fund are urged to hold down costs when possible.

**PUBLIC SAFETY & ADMINISTRATION**

We would like to extend a warm welcome to **Matt Burnell**. Mr. Burnell, an LSU graduate, comes to us from the private sector where he focused on Development and Project Management for both public and private clients for the past 10 years. He recently joined Jefferson Parish as the Director of Public Safety Grants and Administration out of a desire to serve the community he has lived in his entire life.

**PURCHASING**

The Purchasing Department’s Buyer I **Raelynn Hartman** organized a Bake Sale on January 13 to raise money for an employee in need. We want to acknowledge everyone in the Finance area who also participated, and give a HUGE Thank you to all.

**PMZ**  
By  
Rebecca Daisy

PMZ would like to recognize and thank Weed Control Supervisor **Chandelyn Whitehead** for her 20 years of service to Jefferson Parish. Mrs. Whitehead received her 20-year pin on December 4. Congrats Chandelyn!



PMZ would also like to congratulate Inspector II **Ashley Roberts**, who was wed on January 11, 2020 to Landry Agoff in a ceremony held in Townsend, Tennessee. Best of luck to the happy couple!

A warm welcome goes out to our newest member Typist Clerk III **Vicki Lore**, who will be working in our Short-Term Rental Department. Welcome Aboard, Vicki!

**Diversity Advisory Board**

Upcoming Events:

**Lunch -N- Learns -**

Bring your own lunch to our voluntary meetings, training sessions or presentations that will take place during lunchtime. The lunch n learn will be held once a month where employees can gather to collaborate and learn about various topics that others may also find interesting and relevant.

**Tuesday, February 18, 2020, noon in Yenni, Suite 405**

Topic: Mardi Gras

Come join us to share in some Mardi Gras history; Guest speakers may include members from the Zulu Social Aid & Pleasure Club.

**Quarterly Meetings:**

Tuesday, April 7, time and location TBA

Tuesday, July 7, time & location TBA

Tuesday, October 6, time & Location TBA

**Useful links:**

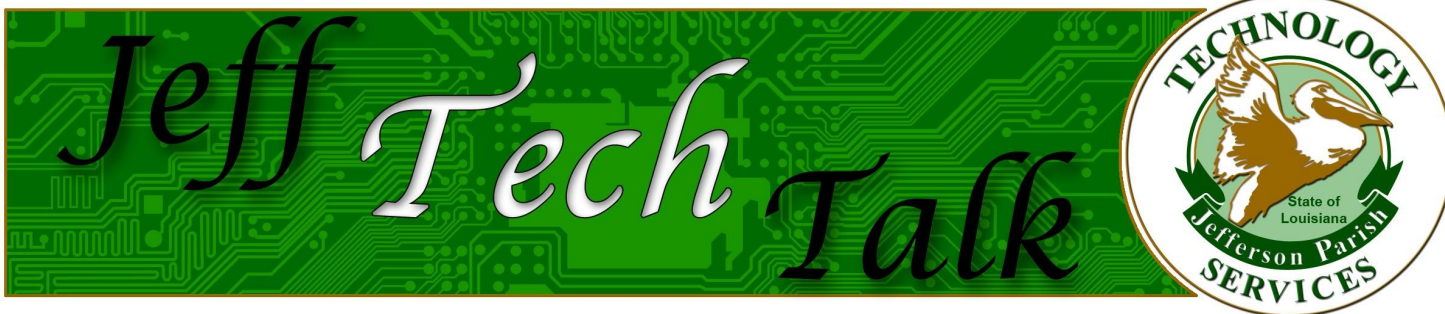
<http://www.jeffparish.net/government/boards-and-commissions/diversity---inclusion-advisory-board>

<http://jpnet/home/Documents/Diversity/DABResponseForm081916.docx>



Daphne Nelson, Nicolle Whitney, and Melissa Ovalle at the Bake Sale





# Tech News

With -Buddy B.

*Time for* another installment of the EIS News page! Here, I'll try to keep you up to date on IT, GIS, and Telecom happenings, as well as important information about the Jeff Parish Tech world and how it may benefit you.

## What's happening? Still on Windows 7?!

We'll be helping you with that! January 14, 2020 marked the **end** of Windows 7. Bye, Bye, Windows 7, it was fun. Your help and patience during this required upgrade process was very much appreciated.

All computers on our network must be running the latest version of Windows 10. Now, more than ever, keeping computers up to date is a must. The security of our network depends on it!

Support for Windows 7 has ended. So, if you still have a computer running Windows 7 please call 736-6720 and let the IT department know.

# Files&Folders

(revisited)

All files must be saved to network file servers. Use your "U:\\" drive to save YOUR documents and the "N:\\" drive to save documents that are used by more than one person in your department.

Remember, files stored on your PC's hard drive are NOT backed up, and therefore cannot be restored if your computer crashes or becomes infected with Malware.

## Email Archives

Our email upgrade is complete and there's plenty of space for your archived emails! So, you should be moving them from your old archived folders to the archive folder in your Email account. Moving your old archives will make them available even via web mail, and keep you from losing them when you transition to a new computer.

# Computer updates while you sleep!

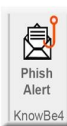
Most updates are applied afterhours while you sleep, which requires the computer to be powered ON. Please do not shut down your computer unless specifically instructed to do so by the IT Department. Instead, save your work, and then Sign Out or Lock your computer.

# Hotkey Corner

By Heather Glass

Got a lot of windows open? If you need to quickly get back to your desktop – without closing a bunch of windows – there's a hotkey for that!

Hold down your Windows key and type D (for Desktop)! This is very useful when IT calls and needs you to look up your IP address (usually located at the bottom-right corner of your desktop picture). Give it a try today!



If you don't have a Phish Alert button in your Outlook email client, please let IT KnowBe4 you get your next Phishing email.

## KnowBe4

## Engineering

By  
Helen Sharpe McGee

Happy New Year! Let us all make it a Great One!

### Welcome Back!

Engineering welcomes back **Jason Montagino**. Jason is in our Inspections Division on the Westbank.

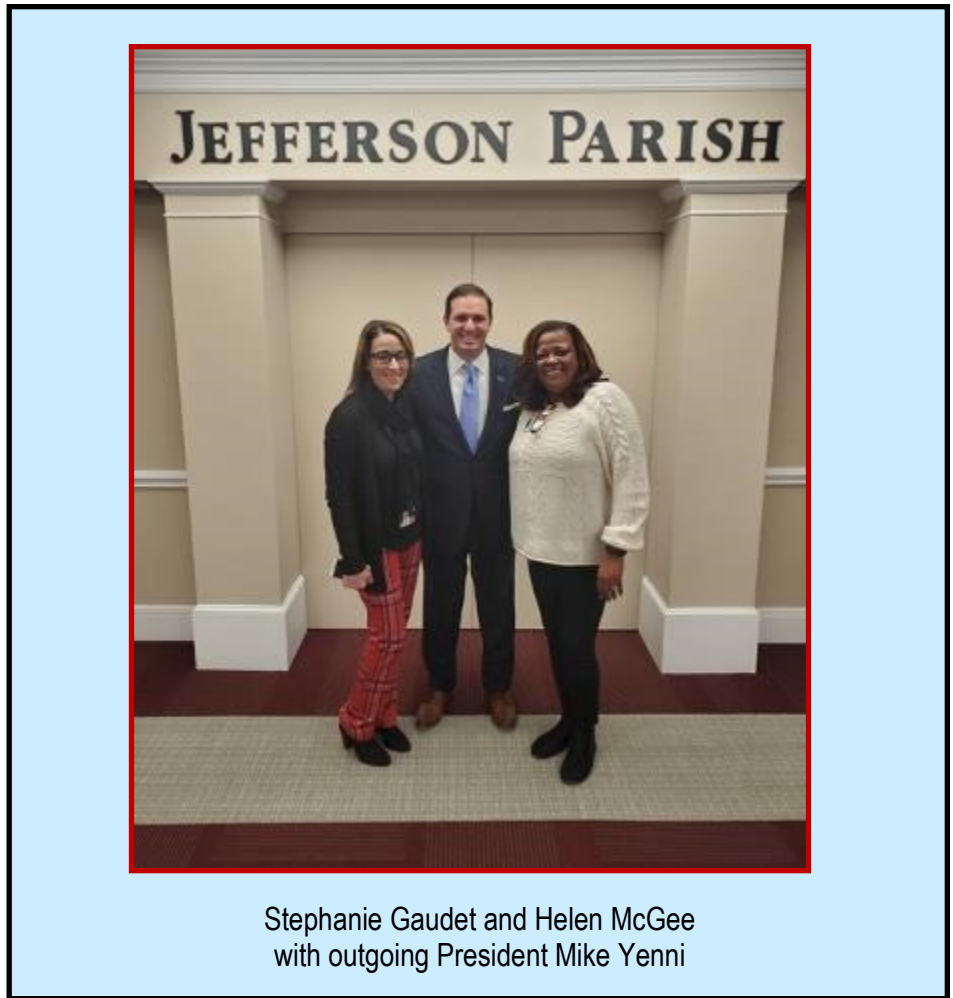
### Congrats, Professional Engineers!

Congratulations to **Chloe Bristow** on passing the Professional Engineering Exam. Chloe works in Traffic Engineering! Way to Go, Chole.

Hats off to **Kee Lua**, Kee also passed the Professional Engineering Exam and works in the Engineering Office. We are very proud of you, Kee.

### Goodbye to a Great Pres!

**Stephanie Gaudet** and I surprised President Yenni on his last day with Chentilly Cupcakes. We just want to let Mr. Yenni know what a



Stephanie Gaudet and Helen McGee with outgoing President Mike Yenni

GREAT job he did as our Parish President. Best wishes, we'll see you later, Mr. Yenni.

Engineering Director. Ryan has been here with Jefferson Parish Engineering for over 19 years. Congratulations, Ryan.

### New PW Director

Congratulations to our **Mark Drewes**, the newly appointed, Public Works Director. Mr. Drewes served previously as Jefferson Parish Engineering's Director. Mr. Drewes is now the head of Water, Sewerage, Drainage, Streets, Parkways, Engineering, Environmental, Floodplain, and Capital Projects. Congratulations, Mr. Drewes. We will miss you! It's great to know that you are only one floor up.

### Interim Engineering Director

**Ryan Breaux**, Chief Engineer, is now the Interim



Chief Engineer Ryan Breaux



New PW Director Mark Drewes



### General Services

By  
Maryanne Adorno

#### Congratulations

On December 4, 2019 **Darnell Ellis**, Custodial Worker Supervisor, received her 25-year service pin award. Darnell pictured here with Property Manager Eric Romain, and Asst. Property Manager Mike Fonseca.



Our newly elected Parish President Cynthia Lee Sheng and Valerie Brolin Deputy CAA pictured below with the staff of General Services, which include: **Eric Romain, Mike Fonseca, Mike Limjuco, Jerry Durant, Darrell Restivo, Jimmie Smith, Neal Lavin, Andrea Padilla, Langdon Mickens, Thomas Lawson, Michael Tilquit, Eric Folse, Cornell Jackson, Alex Thompson and Darius Bovie**, thanking them for a great job they did moving furniture, painting, etc.

#### Promotions

Congratulations to **Tessa St. Pierre** for being promoted to Print Room Supervisor. We are extremely proud of her accomplishments.

### Community Development

By  
Stephanie Brumfield

#### Condolences

The department of Community Development would like to extend our sincere condolences to those that have lost someone near and dear to their hearts this year. **Cassandra Cormick**, who was our Accountant II for a short time, passed away on New Year's Day. We send our deepest sympathies to her family and friends.



#### LSU Game Day

As you all know, LSU are the national champions; and so is our staff! Community Development staff showed support for our champions on Game Day by

wearing team colors, and we also got our picture posted on the Parish's Facebook page. Way to go, team! Thanks for participat-



ing. Pictured: above are **Michelle Nuss, Christi Langoni, Ariane Morgan, Laura Cheramie, Don Lapeyrolerie, Ke'Aria Banks, Patrick Haughey, and Jocelyn Nevis**)



**Streets**

By  
Kenya Johnson

Mardi Gras is slowly approaching our city. Through the next month or so, there will be plenty of parades on both sides of the river (Westbank and Eastbank).

We all know that everyone will be having a great time at these parades during the Mardi Gras season, but most of all our Streets Department employees will be making sure that the streets of Jefferson Parish remain clean and safe.

**New Employees**

We would like to welcome our new member to the Streets Department: **Anthony Landry** as our Laborer for the Westbank. We hope you enjoy working with the Streets Department and are with us for many years to come.

**Birth**

Congratulations to our Superintendent II, **Derrin Robinson**, on the birth of his granddaughter **Kylani Paris Holmes**. Let's all welcome



Myra White with Brook Burmaster and James Thompson

Kylani. She was born on December 8, 2019, at 6lbs and 19 ¾ long.

**Service Pins**

Congratulations to the following employees who have received service pins for their years of service with the Parish.: Carl Firven, 30 years; Troy Gilmore, 20 myears,

**Promotions**

Congratulations to **Troy Gilmore**, who was recently promoted to a *Foreman*.

**Condolences**

Our condolences and deepest sympathy goes to **Patricia Gordon**, for the loss of her sister-in-law, Tanya Theresa Gordon. She passed away on December 11, 2019, at the age of 51. We are so very sorry for your loss, and

our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.

**Retirement**

Congrats to **Myra White** with the Westbank Maintenance Department, who retired on December 30, 2019, with 7 years of service. We will miss you Myra, and we hope you enjoy your retirement.

**Workforce Connection**

By  
Carolyn Haynes

**Welcome Aboard**

Jefferson **Workforce Connection (JWC)** West Bank Office, welcomes our new employee, Ms. **Ashley Foddrill**, Typist Clerk III. Ms. Foddrill is an excellent asset to our office. She brings with her a great deal of experience working in federal programs and is doing very well with training in her new position.

Welcome aboard, Ms. Ashley!



### Juvenile Services

By  
Vicki Borja

Our supervisors and staff had a wonderful opportunity to attend the American Probation and Parole Association’s 2020 Winter Training Institute in New Orleans January 5-8<sup>th</sup>. The theme of the conference was *Safer Communities: Belief is the Foundation of Success*. Our officers had a great time participating and gaining knowledge from other probation departments’ presentations from around both the USA and Canada. The conference was not only a great networking opportunity, but a chance to be humble and have a great understanding that Jefferson Parish is at the forefront when it comes to probation practices.

#### NEW EMPLOYEES:

We would like to introduce the following new employees: **Marcus Crosby**, who was hired as a Mental Health Professional; the new Rivarde Detention Manager **Ralph Sacks** as well as the following new Rivarde Detention Officers: **Lionel Breaux**, **Robert Warren**, and **Corey Taplet**.



Marcus Crosby

#### EMPLOYEES OF THE MONTH:

Congratulations to the following employees for their dedicated service and being selected Employee of the Month. Keep up the good work!



Ralph Sacks

#### December 2019

Detention: **Patrick Brammell**, Mental Health Professional  
Probation: **Antonio Condley**, Probation Officer I

#### January 2020

Detention: **Katina Bills**, Detention Officer II  
Probation: **Tammy Eursin**, Probation Officer II



Corey Taplet

#### PROMOTION:

We would like to congratulate **Tim Ittenbach** on his promotion to Maintenance Repairman.



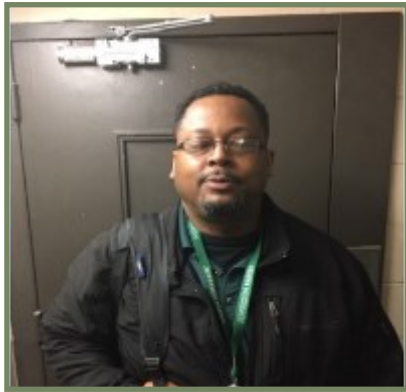
Robert Warren

#### DEPARTURES:

Farewell and best wishes to **Kathleen DeVaughn** who accepted a position at the Eastbank Regional Library, as well as **Deon Landry** who left the department in December.



At the APPA Institute: Erin Ronquille, Jill Downes, Krista Jerome-Tobin, Sheena Campbell, Cassandra Cutno, and Kisha Calix



Lionel Breaux

**SYMPATHIES:**

Our deepest sympathies to **Charles Ward** whose wife Brenda passed away on Friday, January 17, 2020. We send our prayers to Mr. Charlie and his family.

**BLOOD DRIVE:**

DJS lost the Bloodhound Award to the DA's Office in the December blood drive. Thanks to all who attempted to donate.

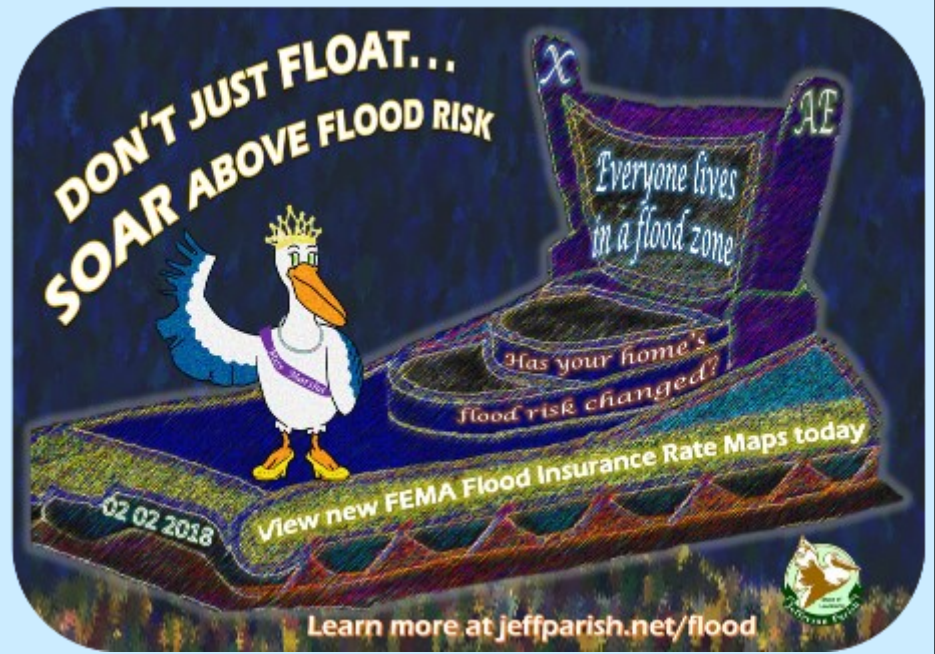
**CELEBRATIONS:**

On Friday, December 6, DJS hosted the annual Christmas party. A great time was had by all!

## Floodplain Management/ Hazard Mitigation

By  
Maggie Talley

The Department of Floodplain Management and Hazard Mitigation would like to remind you that you can easily find out your flood risk. Visit [www.jeffparish.net/flood](http://www.jeffparish.net/flood) to view your flood zone and/or request a Flood Zone Determination Letter. Whether you're in Zone X or AE, flooding knows no boundaries. Protect yourself and your property by purchasing flood insurance.



TOP LEFT: Danielle Phillips, Mark Duplessis, Lisa Cole, Debra Story, Steve Bozeman, Tammy Eursin, and Gail McWilliams FAR RIGHT: Elydia Ketchens BOTTOM RIGHT: Tammy Eursin, Shernell Marshall, and Amber Aragon



# Sewerage

By  
Venice Cooper

## WELCOME TO OUR NEW DIRECTOR

We'd like to welcome Michael **P. Lockwood** as the new Director of the Department of Sewerage. Mike was previously the Director of Environmental Affairs. Many years ago, he managed our Eastbank Wastewater Treatment Plant, when it was privately operated.



New Sewerage Director Mike Lockwood

## RETIREMENTS

Congratulations to the following employees on their recent retirements:

**Mary Kropog** retired from Eastbank Lift Stations on December 30, 2019, with over 24 years of service.

**Louis Morris** retired from Eastbank Lines on December 18, 2019, with over 29 years of service.

## PROMOTIONS

Congratulations to the following employees on their recent promotions:

**Venice Cooper** – Public Works Business Manager, Administration  
**Maurice Felder** – Operator Class

I, Marrero Plant  
**Tony Guidry** – Operator Class II, Marrero Plant  
**Keriston Lewis** – Laborer Semi-Skilled, Eastbank Lines  
**Joshua Payne** - Operator Class II, Marrero Plant  
**Christopher Thompson** - Laborer Semi-Skilled, Eastbank Lines  
**Rickie Vinet** – Lift Station Inspector, Eastbank Lift Stations

**35 YEARS:** **Venice Cooper, Glenn Miller, Ronald Williams**

**30 YEARS:** **Dwayne C. Thomas, Brett P. Todd**

**25 YEARS:** **Timothy Engel, Diane Landry, Phillip Wright**

**20 YEARS:** **Dwayne Holmes, Daniel C. Johnson, Jason T. Johnson**

## SERVICE PIN AWARDS

Congratulations to the following Sewerage employees who received their Service Pin Awards on December 4, 2019:

## WELCOME

Welcome to newly hired eTrades Helper **Ronnie Walker**.



Service Pin Award: Glenn Miller (35 years), Brett Todd (30 years), Venice Cooper (35 years), Diane Landry (25 years)



The Sewerage Administration Clerical Staff Christmas Luncheon, December 2019

### Planning

By  
Nedra McKinney

#### CONGRATULATIONS!

Please join us in a big round of applause for **Juliette Cassagne & Terri Wilkinson!** Juliette was promoted from Assistant Director to Director of the Planning Department. Terri was promoted from Director of Planning to CAA of Land Use and Development.

This is such a well-deserved accomplishment for them both; and the staff here in the Planning Department appreciates all of their hard work and dedication they have shown in the past. We know they will continue to do a great job!

#### RETIREMENT

Congratulations to **James Borsos** on his retirement. James was with the Planning Department for ten years before his retirement in January 2020. We send best wishes as he enjoys his retirement.

#### WELCOME

Let's give a great big welcome to **Ryan-Paul Johnson**. Ryan-



Planning Director Juliette Cassagne  
& CAA-Land Use & Development Terri Wilkinson

Paul is our student intern from the University of New Orleans (UNO). He is working on his Master's Degree in Urban Regional Planning. Welcome aboard, Ryan-Paul!



Ryan-Paul Johnson

#### LSU

The Planning Department cheered on LSU the day of the National Championship. Way to go, Tigers!



Planning staff celebrated LSU on winning the State Championship!



## Emergency Management

By  
Dorina Gauthreaux

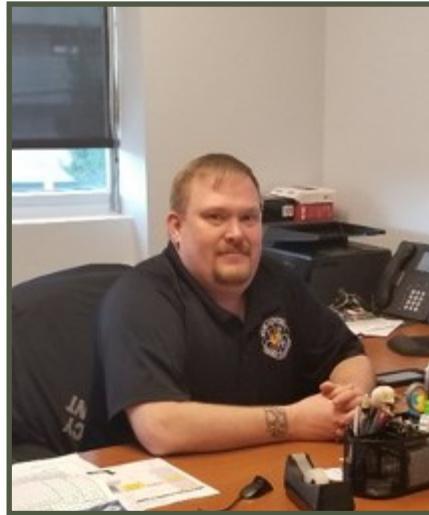
Emergency Management is busy getting things ready for the New Year. We have been working on updating our contact lists and filling positions in case of an activation. With Mardi Gras right around the corner, we are working hard to make sure we are prepared for the parade season.

**Claire Ward** has been busy taking an EMT Refresher course and passed with a grade of 98%. This course is required for her to be an EMS Compliance Officer. Every year she has to continue her education to maintain her EMS status as an Emergency Medical Technician. She also passed the American Heart Association Basic Life Support (CPR & AED).



Claire Ward

**Dustin Guidroz** is currently working on the JP Placard program. The program is undergoing some major renovations undergoing a revamp on the front end (business side) and the back end (Administrator side) of the Jumpstartjefferson.com website. After the completion of the 2019 Hurricane Season; Jeb Tate (Director, Telecommunications) and Dustin Guidroz (Placard



Dustin Guidroz

Program Administrator) met with a representative from New Era Technologies to discuss enhancements to the program's website.

The goal is to make the program more user friendly as well as provide the administrators of the program some valuable tools to better assist the businesses of Jefferson Parish.

Some of the enhancements will be:

- ◆ A better archival system
- ◆ An added requirement for business justification
- ◆ A “smarter” website which better educates the business customer to cut down on duplicate accounts

Furthermore, with President Lee Sheng taking over the reins of Jefferson Parish, all placards and renewal decals from past years are all no longer valid and can be safely destroyed.

We look to begin issuing the new placards after the 2020 Carnival Season. We hope everyone has a safe Carnival Season!

## Alario Center

By  
Deirdre Cummings

Congratulations to Carroll Castille, affectionately known as “Mr. Carl,” recently recognized for his long-time service and dedication to Jefferson Parish along with fellow employees serving longer than 20 years. “Mr. Carl” began in 1999 as a laborer with the Alario Center, a mere 6 months after we opened our doors. He is still currently assigned as our Foreman and helped us celebrate the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the building in April with a rededication ceremony. Thank you for your contributions at the Alario Center!



“Mr. Carl” Castille

### N.O. Pet Expo!

Pet lovers, pet parents, pets, and their families are gearing up for the winter 2020 debut of the New Orleans Pet Expo. The first annual event is being held at the Alario Center, and opens to the public on Saturday, February 8, 10:00 a.m.-5 pm., and Sunday, February 9, 11:00 a.m. –4 p.m. Pets are welcome and encouraged to attend! Any attendee with a canned, or dry pet food item, pet toys, or supplies will receive free entry to the event. Items will benefit participating rescue organizations.

For more information on the John A. Alario, Sr. Event Center or to schedule an event, call (504) 349-5525. Or visit us at [www.alariocenter.com](http://www.alariocenter.com) or [www.facebook.com/alariocenter](https://www.facebook.com/alariocenter).

## Drainage

By  
Sheena Quinn

### Welcome & Congratulations!

As the year gets into full swing, the Department of Drainage continues to expand with the addition of new employees: **Richard Durant**, Laborer-Unskilled; **Furman Shaw III**, Laborer-Unskilled; **Teonia Elliott**, Typist Clerk II; **Devin Tatum**, Laborer-Unskilled; **Steven Hill**, Laborer-Unskilled; **Kenneth Webster**, Equipment Operator IV and **Millicent Videau**, Laborer-Unskilled.

Also, we are very pleased to announce several promotions within our department:

**Jennifer Williams** has been promoted from Truck Driver II to Foreman I with East Bank Drainage.

**Sean Kinzey** has been promoted from Laborer-Unskilled to Trades Helper with East Bank Drainage.

**Troy Dent** has been promoted from Laborer-Unskilled to Laborer Semi-Skilled with West Bank Drainage.

**Alan Jefferson** has been promoted from Foreman I to Drainage Maintenance Foreman with East Bank Drainage. **Troy Hobbs** has been promoted from Trades Helper to Truck Driver II with WB Drainage.

### Service Pin Superstars

The Department awarded service pins to employees that have been with us for 5, 10, and 15 years. The following dedicated employees received service pins for 5 years: **Ben Lepine**, **Jerry Kaywood III**, **Thomas Leefe**, **Timothy Gaubert**, **Daniel Johnson**, **Johnny Krummel**, **Reginald Matthews** and **Leotha Terrell III**; 10 years: **Cory Durr**, **Qiana Bates**, **Jonathan Clark**, **Lodis Perkins**, **Roy Brown III**, and **Eldwin St. Cyr.**; and 15 years: **Clinton Hotard**. 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.

And we're even more delighted to announce that a few of our awesome employees received accolades for reaching 20, 25, 30, and even 35



Kenneth O'Neal

years with Jefferson Parish! **Jerome Seymore Jr.** has been with us for 20 years; both Pump Station Superintendent II **Kenneth O'Neal** and Public Works Business Manager **Davelynn James** have achieved 25 years with Jefferson Parish; Engineering Inspector III **Alvin Billiot** has 30 years under his belt; and last but not least, Operations and Maintenance Manager **Richard Davis** has been working with us here at the Drainage Department for an astounding 35 years. We appreciate all of your hard work and dedication over the countless years. Thank you!



Alvin Billiot

### With Great Sadness

We would like to take the time to extend our sincere condolences to those that have lost someone near and dear to their hearts. **Richard Honea**, Pump Station Operator I with West Bank Pump Stations, passed away on January 2, 2020.

Have a safe and happy Mardi Gras!!



President Yenni congratulates Richard Davis for 35 years of service



### Water

By  
Alicia Washington

TEAM WATER Would like to welcome new employees, **Kirk Bodley** (Water Service Inspector II), **Linwood Benoit** (Pump Equipment Mechanic), Devonta **Mansion** (Laborer), **Rosetta Myles** (Water Service Inspector I), **Kendra Washington** (Water Service Inspector II), **Henry Williams** (Laborer)

Welcome from the Library **Lakeisha Joseph** (Payroll Clerk).

Congratulation on the following promotions  
**James Eckholdt** (Water Purification Superintendent I)  
**Christopher Livingston** (Water Purification Superintendent I)

Special Congratulations are in order for **Lisa Johnson** for 30 years of Service, **Mario Kennedy** for 25 years of service, **Mariea Lucas** for 25 years of service,

**Monica Stanton** for 20 Years of Service, **Louis Jackson** for 20 Years of Service, **Destiny Bratton** for 20 Years of Service, **Jesse**



Mario Kennedy with Sidney Bazley

**Rosenfeld** for 20 years of service, **Patrick Sumler** on 20 years of service,  
Hugh **Castleberry** for 10

years of service, **Lance Price** for 10 years of Service, **Louis Lepkosky** for 10 years of service, **Lashawn Camese** for 5 years of Service,



Louis Jackson



Monica Stanton

**Akeila Lockett** for 5 years of Service, Alecia Washington for 5 years of service, **Brandon Theriot** for 5 years of service, and **Ormie Ellzey** for 5 years of service

Congratulation **Robert Spahn** on his retirement after 8 Years of Service



Interim Director Sidney Bazley with Water's service pin recipients

### Parks & Recreation

By  
Antoinette Holmes

JPRD would like to welcome our newest team members. **Tiffanie Winingham** transferred from Eastbank Animal Shelter, where she started as a Clerk I and was promoted up to a Clerk III. Tiffanie will enter requests into the FMS and answer calls and schedule meetings for our Assistant Director **Leo Webb**. We're excited to have her join Jefferson Parish Parks & Recreation.



Tiffanie Winingham

**Latasha Dunmore** transferred from Risk Management. Latasha will pay utility bills and invoices. She has made the transition after Antoinette William's retirement super smooth. We are delighted to have her as a part of our department.

**Mario Bazile** is the new Parks & Recreation Director. Mario's determination and origi-



Latasha Dunmore

nal personality fit in well here. Every day we find ourselves learning as we are invited to view subjects from a new perspective. We are all excited to see how Mario will contribute to Parks and Recreation's growth.

#### Little Farms Tot Lot

JPRD is proud to announce the opening of its new tot lot located at Little Farms Playground. The new play equipment intends to inspire creative and community play; children can meet friends, get their needed exercise, and spend time outdoors! The playground structure consist of three areas to create a playground with structures and play features for children of age groups 2-12. The tot lot will provide loads of fun in addition to developmental benefits of cooperation, imaginative play, and social skills.

### Environmental

By  
Kathy Russo

We would like to bid farewell to our Director, **Mike Lockwood**, and wish him well in his new position as Sewerage Director.

Congratulations to **Katherine Costanza** on her 20 years of service to the Parish and **Michele Van Pelt Smith** on her 25 years of service. They were recognized at the service pin ceremony in December. Thank you for your dedication to the residents of Jefferson Parish.



Michelle Van Pelt Smith

#### Hazpower Training

On December 6, 2019, our employees attended a free 8-hour HAZWOPER Refresher Training Course at the Fire Training Center in Bridge City. The course designed for HAZWOPER certified parish employees and addressed responding to Hazmat incidents involving oil and chemical spills, proper containment, handling and storage of chemicals/products, State/Federal Environmental regulations of chemical material including reporting requirements, how to read SDS sheets and



The new Little Farms Tot Lot



Emergency Response Guidebook, etc.... We would like to thank the Fire Training Center for providing this free training. The class was taught and organized by **Captain Robert McNamara, Chief Scott Berthelot, and Sami Khalil.**

**Stormcrete**

On January 21, 2020 , **Sami Khalil** hosted **Stormcrete®** precast porous concrete, a precast porous concrete product that can be placed in street gutters, parking lots, sidewalks, and alleyways and only requires two technicians to install. Green Infrastructure Infiltration / CSO Runoff Reduction work to reduce impervious cover within the ROW, providing a large storage volume and infiltrative footprint, thereby reducing flow into the municipal Stormwater system.

Representatives from our Environmental, Streets, Engineering, and Floodplain Management Departments attended the educational seminar in an effort to mitigate flooding and enhance water quality in our parish.

**EPA Stormwater Conference**

It was very difficult to select a city to host this year's 2020 EPA Region 6 Stormwater Conference, but after careful review and consideration of all applicant cities/regions, the EPA Region 6 Stormwater Pre-Conference Planning Committee has selected New Orleans and Jefferson Parish to host the 22<sup>nd</sup> EPA Region 6 Stormwater Conference. **Sami Khalil** has been working closely with both the New Orleans Sewerage and Water Board and the City of New Orleans on a joint application to host the conference that will take place the week of August 9, 2020.

EPA Region 6 consists of New Mexico, Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, and Texas, including the federal operators and/or facilities on tribal lands in this region. This conference enables knowledge sharing, education, and discussion on Municipal, Construction & Industrial Stormwater Manage-

ment, Watershed Protection Planning & Implementation, and Advancing Resiliency in Water Infrastructure, Special Water Programs, and other innovative Stormwater Management topics.

**Community Compost Program**

The Solid Waste/Recycling Division, which manages Keep Jefferson Parish Beautiful, was awarded one of ten highly coveted Keep Louisiana Beautiful grants to begin a farmer's market community compost pilot project. The division has partnered with Schmelly's Dirt Farm and the Crescent City Farmer's Markets to provide space, collection, and composting of residential frozen food scraps beginning on January 3. The program operates on Wednesdays and Fridays from 3pm-7pm at the Ochsner Jefferson Highway and Bucktown Marina markets.

At the booth, residents may deposit their food scraps and also learn about curbside recycling updates, household hazardous waste events, and other waste diversion projects. The food scraps are picked up by Schmelly's and entered into a six-month process which produces nutrient-rich compost. Using compost in your yard helps soil retain water, and reduces the need for herbicides and pesticides. Beginning the second week of February until May 1, the project will host a master composter from Schmelly's at the booth to provide compost workshops.

**Bead Recycling**

Mardi Gras bead and throw



Attendees at Stormcrete presentation



Composting Project at Farmer's Market

ignated dumpsters at 400 David Drive and 6440 Lapalco and will be accessible throughout the year.

**FEMA Grant Workshop**

In mid-January, **Kathy Russo**, **Michele Van Pelt Smith** and **Katherine Costanza** attended a FEMA 3-day grant workshop at the East bank Regional Library. The workshop was very informative for anyone who deals with federal grants, especially those from FEMA. **Nicole Gaubert** with Finance arranged for the workshop to be held in Jefferson Parish, and it was attended by representatives from many departments, including, Finance, Accounting, Parish Attorney, Purchasing, Emergency Management, Environmental Affairs, Coastal Management, and the Library. **Antoinette Scott** with the Library Department facilitated the use of the facility and made sure all the needs were met. May thanks to Nicole and Antoinette for arranging this very informative workshop

recycling will return again thanks to a partnership created between the Environmental Solid Waste/Recycling Division, ArcGNO, and the Jefferson Parish Libraries. Last year, over 4.13 tons of beads and throws were collected at Parish drop sites and recycled to create wage-earning jobs for individuals with intellectual disabilities. This supports the mission of ArcGNO, and strongly supports the Parish goals of reducing the municipal waste stream and protecting our drainage system.

You may deposit your beads and throws at the East Bank and West Bank Regional libraries in designated receptacles beginning February 12 and until March 4. You can also throw your beads during the Jefferson Parish parades into the ArcGNO throwback float, a program created by Councilwoman Jennifer VanVrancken.

Building upon our overall waste diversion efforts, the

Environmental Solid Waste/Recycling Division, in coordination with Waste Connections Bayou, Inc., implemented a holiday light recycling program at two Parish trash/recycling drop sites. The program encourages residents to deposit their unused, broken, and burned out holiday light strands in des-



Throws collected at Mardi Gras throw recycling drop-off



# Retirements

**Mary Williams**  
Parks & Recreation  
41 years

**Verdie Richburg**  
Library  
40 years

**Clinton (CJ) Gibson**  
Parks & Recreation  
37 years

**Cynthia Roth**  
President's Office  
36 years

**Catherine Cuttress**  
Parks & Recreation  
35 years

**Rebecca Letort**  
Parks & Recreation  
35 years

**Antoinette Williams**  
Parks & Recreation  
34 years

**Darryl Ward**  
President's Office  
33 years

**Paul Bourg**  
Animal Shelter  
30 years

**Louis Morris**  
Sewerage  
28 years

**Rhonda Collins**  
Public Information  
28 years

**Ronald Jones**  
JeffCAP  
24 years

## Service Shop for Fire Fleet



**The December 20 Ribbon-Cutting Ceremony for the new 30,000 square foot facility  
—See Fleet Management's article, Page 3**