JeffTalk

Jefferson Parish Employee Newsletter

Volume 47, Issue 3 September 2026

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Message from the President



Cynthia Lee Sheng

I wanted to take some time to provide some exciting financial updates. As you all know, we have officially transitioned from our legacy AS400 system, first implemented in 1995, to a new Enterprise Resource Planning system. We knew the modernization of our ERP and financial systems would be a huge undertaking that would impact every department. But we also knew we were up to the challenge and wanted to leave things better than we found it. The switch from the decades-old AS400 "green screen" system to BRIDGE, powered by Infor, is the largest internal technology project in the Parish's history.

Because of your hard work, we have successfully made that transition, and BRIDGE is now supporting the Parish's core financial operations. Our departments are utilizing the system to create requisitions, issue purchase orders, put out bids, process invoices, manage contracts, and perform payroll and human resources-related activities.

I want to recognize that the successful implementation of BRIDGE has truly been a team effort. This project has been made possible through the collaboration and commitment of departments across the Parish. Employees have demonstrated exceptional adaptability during this transition, and their continued feedback and engagement remain essential to the success of the new system. I'd like to thank the implementation team for their dedication throughout this multi-year effort. I would also like to recognize the Change Champions, departmental representatives, IT staff, Finance, Budget, Accounting, Purchasing

Payroll, Personnel, Human Resource Management, and the many employees across the Parish who have contributed countless hours to make this implementation successful. While there is still work ahead as we continue to stabilize and optimize the system, we have reached an important milestone. We remain committed to building upon this success and delivering a modern, efficient and sustainable financial management system that will serve Jefferson Parish for many years to come.

In addition to all of this, we are now in the next phase of our organization redesign. Through the creation of an Office of Central Grants and Administration, we will be able to oversee our large portfolio of grants. This will promote consistency and internal coordination and allow for timely financial reporting. The creation of a Comptroller position will allow us to focus on general ledger oversight, closing processes, internal control, and audit preparation.

We are also evolving beyond the traditional budgeting that we have always done by creating the Financial

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Editor's Notes

Crystal Heine

Getting to Know HR

The Department of Human Resource Management is often misjudged and its function not completely understood. The department not only addresses compliance, performance issues, employee grievances, and complaints, but we also provide proactive problem-solving, effective organizational development, engaging learning and development, benefits programs, and team member mentoring.

We strive to have a clear and measurable impact on the overall operations of Jefferson Parish. Human Resources is a department that is constantly changing and growing as we focus on changes in the law, organizational processes, programs, and initiatives that impact our employees.

Our Focus

Human Resources is focused on people. We are specifically focused on our Jefferson Parish employees. We do this by asking the questions no one else asks.

When a member of Human Resources is in the room, we listen to the issues, and talk to the employees involved to help us make the best possible decisions while considering the applicable laws and policies. On a daily basis, the department stands in the middle and at all times balances decisions based on the law and policies all while being empathetic and composed.

Neutral Party

The department strives for neutrality. We make decisions in the best interest and expectations of Jefferson Parish all while considering the facts, human emotions and concerns. We have a duty to support employees while protecting the parish. This requires us to ensure fairness throughout Jefferson Parish.

Human Resources is always exploring the best, most competitive, and affordable systems and benefits we can offer our employees. We also look to enhance the skills and abilities of our team members when we must make operational shifts.

Take the time to get to know and experience all that Jefferson Parish Human Resources has to offer.

Building Permits

Yasmenda Hart

Welcome

Three employees have joined our team:

Donjanae Hayes - Office Support Specialist

Wilson Hughes - Plan Reviewer I

Tecarsha Taylor - Office Support Specialist

Promotion

Hilda Rossignoli was promoted to Administrative Assistant.

Retirement

We wish **Kimberly Tarleton** well on her future endeavors.

Condolences

Building Permits sends condolences to the family of **George Faustermann**; he was our Commercial Plan Reviewer. He passed away in June 2026.

Service Pins

5 years

Zachary Lemoine

Kelly Siggio

Kudos

Our team would like to congratulate **Marion Scott Fritscher** for passing his Commercial Certification test.

Farewell

We had to say goodbye to Commercial Plan Reviewer Supervisor **Paul Pham**. We congratulate Paul on his retirement from the Department of Building Permits.





Clara Braai, Employee of the Month June



Dorene Calmes, Employee of the Month July

Community Development

Matthew McKay

A.P. Clay Groundbreaking

On August 20 Community Development joined stakeholders from the City of Kenner, Jefferson Parish, and InclusivCare broke ground on the reconstruction of the Arthur P. Clay Community Center. The A.P. Clay Community Center will serve as a hub to offer the Kenner community healthcare, an onsite pharmacy, and a community gathering place all in one location. A portion of the funding for the project is provided through the Resilient Communities Infrastructure Program, which is a Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery grant aimed at assisting in long-term recovery and restoration of communities affected by hurricanes and other natural disasters. Seeing the passion that the City of Kenner and other stakeholders have for the project as well as the positive impact the center will have on the community, our department is very excited to be a part of the new A.P. Clay Center.

New Arrivals and Departures

The Community Development team wants to extend our warmest welcome to our new Project Coordinator, **Nolty Kiff**. Nolty comes to us with years of experience in Code Compliance and Enforcement, and his expertise will be vital in coordinating the many projects

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Matthew McKay, Darcell Florence, and Director Stephanie Brumfield

Community Development, page 3

that the Department of Community Development undertakes around the Parish.

We also bid farewell to **Fang "Flora" Zhou**, who is leaving our office to join the Accounting Department. We wish Flora the best and know that she will continue to use her knowledge and skills to serve the residents of Jefferson Parish.



Nolty Kiff



Fang"Flora" Zhou

Ecosystem and Coastal Management

Cassie Callais

Grand Isle Planting Assessment Update

In fall 2025 Jefferson Parish and the Coalition to Restore Coastal Louisiana (CRCL) partnered to conduct a beach planting restoration project with funds from the Louisiana Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority (CPRA). Over 20,000 Bitter Panicum grass plants were planted along 4.5 miles of beach front from Caminada Pass to mile marker 4.3, in areas where the dunes were destroyed by Hurricane Ida.

As of June 26 over 95% of the plants had survived and are thriving. Most plants measure about 20 inches tall with several of the plants growing taller than three feet. The area that was planted has been marked off to help keep pedestrians and sport vehicles off the new vegetation. In addition to plants and dunes, we are seeing new habitat. Several Least Tern birds' nests have been spotted on the beach area where the planting occurred.

2026 Grand Isle Tarpon Rodeo

On July 24 the Ecosystem and Coastal Management and Environmental Affairs departments paired up to promote, Keep Louisiana Beautiful "Love our Waterways," a statewide campaign initiative.

Water is critical to Louisiana's recreation, tourism, and seafood industries. Litter threatens these industries and damages our coastal ecosystems. Research shows that approximately 80% of marine debris

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Marsha promoting statewide campaign "Love our Waterways"





(Above) Before and (right) after photos showing the progress of the Grand Isle restoration project

Tarpon Rodeo, page 4

originates from land and is carried into waterways through stormwater systems and drainage channels. Promoting this campaign brings attention to this issue and mobilizes the people of Jefferson Parish to pitch in and clean up our Sportsman's Paradise.



(Right) Barbara Arcement, Alexander Adams, Cassie Callais, Marsha, Diane Procchi, Jason Smith, Stacie Kerry, Michael DeSoto, Michelle Gonzales

Emergency Management

Dorina Gauthreaux

The Emergency Management Department has been busy strengthening our team through ongoing training and professional development. We held our Annual Emergency Operations Center (EOC) Activation Training on June 22–23, providing staff with an opportunity to review EOC activation procedures, roles, and responsibilities.

On July 29 we held our Annual Essential Duty Employee Tracker Training along with Meal Tracker Training, ensuring staff and departments are prepared to use these systems effectively during emergency operations. On August 10–11 the department hosted the 305: All-Hazards Incident Management Team (AHIMT) Type 3 Refresher course for our Activation Team, reinforcing important incident management and emergency response skills. Most recently, we hosted Sequestration Training on August 14, providing additional preparation and knowledge to support our emergency operations.

In addition to department-led training, our staff also participated in continuing education opportunities, including the Communications Unit Leader (COML) class, the Pipeline Safety Program, and the Planning Manager Urban Search and Rescue Response course. We appreciate everyone who participated in and supported these trainings and remain committed to keeping our staff prepared, knowledgeable, and ready to respond when needed.



Urban Search and Rescue Response Planning Manager class



Director Ray Guedry presenting

Emergency Management Month

August is a time to recognize the important work of emergency management professionals and the critical role they play in keeping our communities safe and prepared. The Emergency Management Department is proud to support Jefferson Parish through preparedness, planning, response, recovery, and coordination with our departments, partner agencies, and community organizations. This designated month also provides an opportunity to recognize the dedication and hard work of our staff, whose commitment helps ensure that Jefferson Parish is ready to respond to emergencies and support our residents when they need

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Emergency Management, page 5

us most. We are proud of the work we do and grateful to everyone who contributes to making our community stronger and more resilient.

JPAware is Live

The Jefferson Parish Department of Emergency Management has collaborated with the Public Information Office to launch the Parish's official emergency preparedness and response social media campaign: JPAware. The purpose of this informational awareness initiative is to help residents plan, stay informed, and recover from disasters and emergencies. Keeping residents prepared and aware is crucial for the resilience of Jefferson Parish against all hazards.

Follow JPAware on Instagram @JP_Aware, Facebook @JeffParishAware, and X @JP_Aware.



Allen Dyess Recognized by International Association

Jefferson Parish Emergency Management supervisor and on-staff meteorologist, Allen Dyess, was named to the International Association of Emergency Managers (IAEM) 2026 40 Under 40 list. This recognition highlights outstanding emergency management professionals for their leadership and contributions to the field.

Allen leads planning initiatives and supports preparedness efforts across the parish. As a meteorologist, he also provides expertise on weather hazards, helping Jefferson Parish better prepare for and respond to severe weather.

We are proud to have Allen on our team and congratulate him on this well-deserved recognition.

Engineering

Amy Ross

Welcome

The Department of Engineering welcomes the following new college interns:

- **Minh Do**
- **Troy Dossman Jr.**

Promotions

We celebrate the following staff members for their recent promotions:

- **Archelle Thomas** to Public Works Business Manager-Department of Engineering.
- **Edward Monk** to Engineering Inspector II C2 - Engineering Utilities Inspections Division
- **James Duncan** to GIS Analyst II - Department of Engineering, GIS Drafting Division
- **Matthew Tetlow** to Land Survey Tech II - Engineering Utilities Inspections Division

Continued, page 7



Archelle Thomas, Director Matthew Zeringue



Edward Monk



James Duncan

Engineering, page 6

Service Awards

The Department of Engineering recognized the following staff members for receiving their service pin Awards:

5 years

- **Jared Arnold** Engineering Professional I - Department of Engineering
- **Tung Nguyen** Engineering Professional I - Department of Engineering

10 years

- **Archelle Thomas** - Public Works Business Manager - Department of Engineering
- **Denzel Terrance** - Sign and Marking Superintendent I-Traffic Engineering Division
- **John Scruggs** - System Technician II, C2- Engineering SCADA Operations Division
- **Nolan Carreras** - Engineering Professional I - Department of Engineering

15 years

- **Leslie Gardner** - Public Works Project Coordinator - Engineering Utilities Inspections Division



Randal Bonura, Jared Arnold



Tung Nguyen, Director Matthew Zeringue



James Vasquez, Denzel Terrance, Director Matthew Zeringue



Garrick Huhner, John Scruggs



Leslie Gardner, Michael Calecas



Nolan Carreras, Director Matthew Zeringue

Environmental Affairs

Barbara Arcement

Farewells

We sadly say goodbye and good luck to Environmental Quality Specialists **Danielle Orcutt** and **Dakota Guillory**. We will miss having them as part of our Environmental Affairs team and wish them both the very best as they begin new and exciting endeavors.

Welcome New Team Member

Please join us in giving a warm welcome to the newest member of our Industrial Pretreatment Program, Environmental Quality Technician II **Kate Moise**. We are excited to have Kate join the Environmental Affairs team and look forward to working with her.

Congratulations

Congratulations to Keep Jefferson Parish Beautiful (KJPB) for being awarded a Greener Grounds Grant from Keep Louisiana Beautiful.

Keep Louisiana Beautiful's Greener Grounds Grant provides funding, resources, and education to help organizers of large outdoor events incorporate practical strategies for waste reduction, recycling, and litter prevention. The program helps ensure that waste generated at outdoor events is properly managed and does not negatively impact the environment.

Keep Jefferson Parish Beautiful will use the grant to bring recycling to the 2027 Family Gras Festival, helping make one of Jefferson Parish's largest community celebrations a little greener.

Summer Fun

Environmental Affairs staff visited the Jefferson Parish Recreation Department (JPRD) STEM Summer

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Environmental Affairs, page 7

Camps this summer to teach campers about stormwater pollution and litter prevention, the dos and don'ts of recycling and how to prevent sewer clogs by learning what not to flush, including wipes, hair, and toys, as well as how to properly dispose of fats, oils, and grease (F.O.G.).

JPRD STEM Summer Camps combine hands-on science, technology, engineering, and math activities with traditional camp games, arts and crafts, providing a fun opportunity for our staff to share important environmental lessons with Jefferson Parish youth.

Conferences

Environmental Quality Technician **Sarah Kohoutek** and Environmental Compliance Supervisor **William Pestoff** attended the Environmental Protection Agency's Region VI Pretreatment Association Conference in Albuquerque, New Mexico in July to get the latest updates on federal pre-treatment guidelines and F.O.G. treatment methods.

Environmental Affairs and Ecosystems and Coastal Management Director **Michelle Gonzales** and Environmental Quality Supervisor **Sami Khalil** attended the 2026 Georgia Association of Water Professionals Annual Conference in Savannah, Georgia. The conference provided professional development related to stormwater management, environmental compliance, and industry knowledge.

Community Outreach

Keep Jefferson Parish Beautiful was on hand at the Louisiana Seafood Cook-Off, held at the Pontchartrain Center on June 26. KJPB provided anti-litter outreach highlighting the connection between litter, clean waterways, and Louisiana's seafood industry.

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(Right) Barbara Arcement, Michael DeSoto, Cate Boisjolie educating Louisiana Seafood Cook-Off attendees on the connection between litter, clean waterways, and Louisiana's seafood industry



William Pestoff shows campers how fats, oils and grease clog drains



Tisha St Cyr and Ian Sarussen at STEM camp demonstrating what not to flush



Danielle Orcutt and Dakota Guillory present Enviroscape at STEM Camp



Environmental Affairs, page 8

Recycling

Keep Jefferson Parish Beautiful joined in the celebration of the United States' 250th birthday by providing recycling at this year's Uncle Sam Jam, held July 3 at Lafreniere Park. Thanks to festivalgoers who recycled. 106 pounds of plastic bottles and aluminum cans were diverted from the waste stream.



Environmental Affairs staff pose for a celebratory photo after a long hot day working the HHW drop-off event in July

Household Hazardous Waste Drop-Off Event

Our July 11 Household Hazardous Waste Drop-Off Event at the John J. Alario Event Center was a great success, with nearly 300 vehicles serviced.

Environmental Affairs collected more than 18,000 pounds of materials, including:

- 6,600 pounds of electronic waste
- 275 pounds of batteries
- 25 fire extinguishers
- 1,250 gallons of paint

Thank you to everyone who participated and helped ensure these potentially hazardous materials were properly handled and kept out of our community and environment.

Fleet Management

Amy Truesdell

Employee of Year

The department is proud to introduce the Employee of Year for Fleet Management, **Emily Mulvany**. Emily has been with Jefferson Parish for a short time. She started in December of 2022 as a Office Support Specialist II ordering office supplies and working with the Tire Department ordering equipment and parts.

When the Payroll Clerk position suddenly opened, Emily was asked to take on the role temporarily until the position could be filled. Emily enjoyed working with payroll and took the job very seriously. The department soon realized we did not need to fill the position because we had the right person for the job.

Emily was promoted to an Administrative Assistant responsible for ordering supplies and working with payroll. She played a vital part of helping IT develop the new payroll system and worked diligently to ensure it was functioning properly. Emily is dependable, reliable and friendly. What more could anyone ask for in an employee? She is a great asset to our department and we are thankful she is so dedicated to Fleet Management.



Emily Mulvany accepting her Employee of the Year Award from Parish President Cynthia Lee Sheng

Comings and Goings

Fleet Management has lost one of our chief supervisors, Auto Line Supervisor **Keith Nicholas**. Keith has been with our department for seventeen years. He began as a mechanic, was promoted to Auto Line supervisor and eventually became the Auto Line Superintendent.

While overseeing the daily operations of the garage Keith was also in charge of the Fire Department vehicles. He worked closely with the Fire Department ensuring the trucks were safe and ready to go out to a call whenever needed. Keith decided that it was time to retire and start enjoying himself.

On his last day his bags were packed and he was catching a plane to New York as soon as the work day was done. Keith's main retirement goals are to sleep late, spend more time at his beach house in Orange Beach, travel and spend quality time with his family.

Knowing Keith, he won't be relaxing for too long. His energy and spirit keep him moving and his many interests will definitely keep him busy. The department would like to thank Keith for being such a dedicated employee. We wish him well.



Keith Nicholas showing off his 15 years of service pin with Director Randy Belanger

Floodplain Management and Hazard Mitigation

Diane Procchi

Continuing Education

Our staff attended the Association of State Floodplain Managers (ASFPM) Conference May 31 – June 5 in Milwaukee, WI. Director **Maggie Talley** and **Diane Procchi** presented on navigating a Community Rating System (CRS) class change announcement and lessons for local programs. **Randi Ezell** presented on incorporating wind mitigation into an established elevation program. Diane and Randi also attended a technical tour to see how the City of Milwaukee made improvements to three watersheds connected to the Milwaukee River to improve fish passage and migration.

Summer Camps

Over the summer our department partnered with Environmental Affairs and Ecosystem and Coastal Management to participate in the Recreation Departmen's STEM summer camps. Campers participated in hands-on activities to learn about flood education and awareness using the floodplain model. Campers also learned about the 14 environmental hazards Jefferson Parish is susceptible to, coastal activities, and environmental issues using the Miss Marsha Meme game.

Senior Expo

Our staff participated in the Senior Expo event on June 25. Our senior residents learned about flood education and awareness. They also got to take photos with Miss Marsha.

Summer Workshop

On July 17 **Diane Procchi** attended the Louisiana Floodplain Management Association (LFMA) Summer Workshop in Shreveport, LA. There were informative discussions on substantial damage assessments following Tropical Storm Arthur and how the storm affected north Louisiana. The workshop was well attended.



Maggie Talley talking about Jefferson Parish at ASFPM



Diane Procchi discussing the press release announcing the CRS Class 3 at ASFPM



Randi Ezell at ASFPM talking about adding wind mitigation to the elevation grant program



Brittany Martin, Kate Alley (as Miss Marsha), Kimberly Thibodeaux, Michelle Gonzales and Alex Adams participated at Senior Expo event



Barbara Arcement, Alex Adams, Cassie Callais, Kate Alley (as Marsha), Diane Procchi, Jason Smith, Stacie Kerri, Michael DeSoto, Michelle Gonzales enjoying the Tarpon Rodeo

Grand Isle Tarpon Rodeo

On July 23–25 **Diane Procchi** joined the many departments that help make the Grand Tarpon Rodeo a great success. She interacted with individuals visiting the coastal community and provided information on its vulnerabilities to wind, flood, and storm surge.

General Services

Ashley Foddrill

Welcome

We are thrilled to welcome our new employees to General Services:

- **Roderick Johnson** - Building Maintenance Supervisor
- **Brayden Watson** - Maintenance Assistant I



Roderick Johnson



Brayden Watson

Special Thanks

We offer our special thanks to our team members who provided snowballs for employees to kick off the BRIDGE: **Ronald Gaudet Jr.** and **Christopher Moore**. The snowballs were a refreshing treat for everyone to enjoy while learning the new system. We also thank part of our administrative staff: **Kellie Minjarez**, **Ashley Foddrill**, **Tessa Dove**, **Stephanie Bush**, and **Christy Calmette.** They coordinated from both the East Bank and West Bank offices to attend in-person training and offered helpful tips to make this transition to the new system much smoother.

President's Message, page 1

Planning and Treasury Department, which will allow us to focus on long-term forecasting, millage life cycles, cash management, investment activity, and capital adequacy. These improvements will allow us to run day-to-day operations in a more modern way, create a system to roll into the annual audit more easily, and establish a framework that can handle increases in grant volume.

Our team is checking off a big box, and I again want to thank each and every one of you. We could not do it without your support.



Jefferson Parish would like to remind you that flooded streets can be dangerous and not to drive down flooded streets



Director Crystal Heine

Human Resource Management

Duane Darcey

New Director

The HR team welcomes our new director, **Crystal Heine**. Appointed in September, Crystal has devoted more than 25 years to Jefferson Parish, the majority of which she spent in the Parish Attorney's Office. In the last ten years she worked with HR handling employment law matters.

We congratulate Crystal for her appointment and look forward to all of the new energy she will bring to our team.



LaTanya Tibbs with Parish President Cynthia Lee Sheng

Employee of the Year

We offer our enthusiastic congratulations to **LaTanya Tibbs** for being named HR's Employee of the Year. LaTanya has served the Parish for nearly 20 years. She started with the East Bank Regional Library, later transferring to JeffCAP before moving to HR. During her tenure with our team, she rose from Secretary to Administrative Assistant to her current position as Executive Superintendent. Her award is richly deserved.

Leadership Training

One of Jefferson Parish's key values is the pursuit of excellence. As part of that continuous process, supervisors work to develop their skills so that they can become the most inspiring and effective leaders possible. Strong leadership is key to retaining talented employees across departments.

To help supervisors enhance their abilities, the Training Team made an intensive effort this year to guide over 60 leaders to the successful completion of our ten-course program required for all first-level supervisors. The training consists of five in-person classes and five online courses covering topics such as occupational safety, strategic thinking, performance appraisals, and communication skills.

The feedback we have received from those in training has been excellent. The courses are available on an ongoing basis. The Training Team looks forward to helping Parish supervisors realize their full leadership potential.

Work Permits

The process for obtaining Employment Certificates, also known as work permits, has changed under Louisiana House Bill 232 (2026). Effective immediately, schools are no longer responsible for issuing these certificates.

What students, families, and employers need to know:

- After a minor accepts a job, the employer will provide the Employment Certificate form.
- The employer will complete the form and submit it to EmploymentCertificate@la.gov.
- The certificate is considered issued once the employer receives a confirmation email from the Louisiana Workforce Commission.

The Employment Certificate form is available at www.laworks.net

For questions or additional assistance, please contact:

EmploymentCertificate@la.gov

(225) 342-2683

Basic Supervision Training

-Required for all first-level supervisors

-Must be completed by the end of probationary period

- Contact your departmental Training Coordinator

Inspector General

Britney Majure

Advancing Excellence: Staff Earns National Inspector General Certifications

Congratulations to two members of our team for earning additional professional certifications through the Association of Inspectors General (AIG).

Deputy Inspector General **Jeff Adolph** successfully completed the week-long Certified Inspector General Auditor (CIGA) course and earned his certification.

Attorney **Conrad Huber** successfully completed the week-long Certified Inspector General Counsel (CIGC) course and earned his certification.

The nonprofit and nonpartisan AIG supports independent offices of inspector general in their fight to combat government waste, fraud, and abuse — and protect taxpayers' investment in government across the U.S. and internationally. The AIG hosts training events and webinars throughout the year to advance the knowledge and skills of the international IG community, including an annual training conference. The AIG certification programs provide specialized training for federal, state, local, and military IG professionals in the principles, standards, and professional practices applicable to the Inspector General community.

This humble reporter received two certifications from the AIG – Certified Inspector General Investigator and Certified Inspector General Evaluator. I especially appreciate attending these trainings to learn how other offices work and to acquire Best Practices for our office.

These recent certifications reflect our office's continued commitment to professional development and maintaining a highly trained, multidisciplinary team dedicated to promoting accountability, integrity, and efficiency in Jefferson Parish government.



Jeff Adolph

"Earning the Certified Inspector General Auditor certification was a valuable opportunity to strengthen my knowledge of auditing principles and practices specifically within the Inspector General community. The Institute provided an opportunity to learn from experienced professionals from oversight organizations across the country and to bring those ideas and best practices back to our office. Continuing to develop our professional knowledge and skills helps us strengthen the work we perform and better serve the citizens of Jefferson Parish." – Jeff Adolph



Conrad Huber

"Having the privilege of earning the Certified Inspector General Counsel credential reinforces our office's dedication to national best practices, ensuring the guidance we provide is consistently grounded in fairness, objective legal standards, and our shared responsibility as public servants to protect parish resources." – Conrad Huber



Kim Raines Chatelain, Jefferson Parish Inspector General; Robert Storch, first Inspector General for the newly established State of Delaware Inspector General's Office and former U.S. Department of Defense and National Security Agency Inspector General

Tip of the Month: Demystifying Document Requests and Subpoenas

As your independent watchdog, the JPOIG's objective reviews rely on access to Parish records. Thanks to our Parish colleagues, gathering this information is routinely a collaborative process.

In certain instances, our office uses formal subpoenas to request documents. This is often a necessary procedural step to obtain information outside of the Parish and to support the secure transfer of sensitive data. Employing this routine legal mechanism ensures that we maintain the highest standards of transparency while protecting the integrity of the review process. We value your continued cooperation in helping us ensure that your tax dollars are spent efficiently.

See Something? Say Something.

If you suspect something isn't right, please let us know. Your tips can be completely confidential.

Visit Us: 990 N. Corporate Dr., Suite 300, Elmwood, LA 70123

Main Office: (504) 736-8962 | Confidential Tip Line: (504) 528-4444

Report Online: jpoig.net/report

Follow Us: Connect with us on Facebook and Instagram for regular updates.

Jeff Fit

Employee Health and Wellness Program

Steve J. Roch Jr., RD, LDN – JeffFit Onsite Wellness Coordinator

Summer Review

Onsite Health Tools Making the Workplace Healthier

In June Steve Roch distributed digital weight scales and automatic blood pressure machines to many departments. The departments are keeping these items on hand for colleagues to use whenever they feel the need. Employees can speak with their department JeffFit Wellness Committee member to learn where these onsite health tools are located.



Colleagues having fun playing games winning prizes while getting their nutrition questions answered by the registered dietitians at the JeffFit Summer Health Fair

Summer Health Fair Events Mark JeffFit's 10th Anniversary

On July 24 at the Yenni Building and again on July 31, JeffFit hosted two new onsite summer health fairs. Many new vendors participated, offering onsite services as well as information on nutrition, physical activity, and financial and emotional behavioral health benefits. These events were designed to be smaller and more exclusive than our fall health fairs offered in September. The target audience are those who were not able to travel to other fair events. JeffFit hopes to continue these summer fairs, making them annual onsite activities offered to all Parish team members.



Tracy Louis (24th Judicial Court) experiencing what an extra 20 lbs. feels like wearing an educational weighted vest at the JeffFit Summer Health Fair



Westbank Athletic Club vendor giving a manual massage at the JeffFit Summer Health Fair

JPAWS

Gloria Soto

New Hires

JPAWS welcomes Administrative Assistant **Jill Applegate**, Information Specialist **John McCusker** and Humane Officer **Ashley Boesch**. We are excited to have them join us at JPAWS.

Events

JPAWS held a pet adoption event at the Jefferson Parish "America's 250th Birthday" event held in June.



Ann Fleming at the JPAWS adoption event



(Right) Mr. Sidney looking for his "furever" home and getting adopted



A happy adoption for Mr. Brice and Missy JPAWS

Juvenile Services

Vicki Borja

Employee of the Year

Congratulations to **Ron Ellison** for being selected as Employee of the Year. We thank Ron for all that he does for our department.

Employees of the Month

We congratulate the following employees for their dedicated service and for being selected Employee of the Month.

June

Detention: **Carol Stewart**

Probation: **Ray Bridges**

July

Detention: **Travis Turnage**

Probation: **Jaceda Gordon**

Promotion

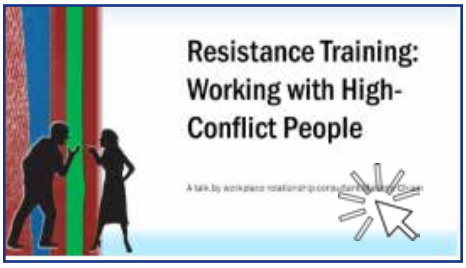
Congratulations to **Gail McWilliams** for her promotion to Evaluation and Treatment Supervisor. Gail will be officially assuming her position when **Dr. John Ryals** retires in September, but she was promoted in May so she can shadow and be trained for the position.

New Employees

Introducing our new employees: Detention Officer **Troy Powell** and Executive Operations Manager **Deirdre Cummings**. Deirdre comes to us from the Alario Center where she served as Executive Assistant.

Departures

Best of luck to **Dani Brown** who left our department in June.





Ron Ellison receiving the Employee of the Year award from Parish President Cynthia Lee Sheng



Troy Powell



Deirdre Cummings

Library

David Johnson

Summer Reading Challenge, Statistically Speaking

The Jefferson Parish Library concluded the 2026 Summer Reading Challenge on July 31 after two months of programming that encouraged Parish residents to engage with books and programs at all 17 branch locations.

The statistics presented here in round numbers speak for themselves: More than 5,000 library cardholders enrolled in a reading challenge that encouraged kids, teens and adults to measure the amount of time they spent reading over the course of June and July. The sum total surpassed 1.2 million minutes of reading from more than 35,000 books.

Participation in events hosted by the libraries surpassed 2,800. Libraries hosted 1,169 programs over 61 days and attendance was measured at 22,721.

A raffle drawing in early August awarded those who had completed their log forms prizes supplied courtesy of the Friends of the Jefferson Public Library.

For the first time in the history of summer programming, JPL hosted adults-only kickoff parties, one each at the East Bank Regional and West Bank Regional Libraries, presented with a Back to the '90s nostalgia theme. Attendees at these full-house, after-hours events sang group karaoke, engaged in craft activities, including a custom T-shirt station, and savored a loaded nacho bar plus mocktails.

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A Back to the '90s party hosted by East Bank Regional Library drew a full house for a kickoff to the Summer Reading Challenge

Library, page 15

The success of these parties continued, sparking a Dolly Parton Tribute held at the East Bank Regional Library on September 25. Ms. Parton's longtime support of literacy and placing books in the hands of children were recognized, along with a lookalike contest, singalongs, crafts and bingo.

Librarians Recognized for Academic Achievements

Librarians **Isabella Bodin**, **Asrael Bourgeois**, **Paris Hughes**, and **Michael Scott** were honored with a graduation party to mark their conferment of a Masters in Library Science degree. The social occasion, held on July 29 at the East Bank Regional Library, was underwritten by the Friends of the Jefferson Public Library.

Ukulele Orchestra Plans Holiday Sing-Along

For the past two years the Jefferson Parish Library has hosted bi-monthly ukulele lessons that have drawn both library patrons and staff members at both the East Bank Regional and Gretna branch libraries. The pint-sized Portuguese guitars, most associated with Hawaiian music, are available for check-out through the Beyond Books: Library of Things collection but most of the musicians brought their own instruments. The volunteer instructor will lead a Holiday Hoedown Sing-Along of yuletide classics on Thursday, December 17, starting at 6:00 p.m. The public is invited to this unique musical performance.



Librarian Paris Hughes and Library Director Jessica Styons



Librarian Michael Scott, Library Director Jessica Styons, and Librarian Isabella Bodin



Librarian Asrael Bourgeois and Library Director Jessica Styons

Parks and Recreation

Joseph LaCava

A Warm Welcome to Our New Team Members

Welcome to all of the new hires joining the Recreation Department. We are excited to welcome these individuals to the Recreation Department team as they begin serving our community across Jefferson Parish.

Special Program Supervisor

- **Tya Rogers**–Leisure Services

Groundskeepers

- **Chase Zito**–Jefferson Playground
- **Courtney Ward** – LaSalle Sportsplex
- **Edison Ponthieux** – Kennedy Heights Playground
- **Emmanuel Lane** – Jefferson Playground
- **Gauge Gisclair** – Lakeshore Playground
- **Jonathan Jones** – Mike Miley Playground
- **Luis Hernandez** – Terrytown Playground
- **Tyler Frickey** – Kings Grant Playground

Security Officer

- **Angelica Sheridan** – Administration

Recreation Center Supervisor Assistants

- **Harold Patterson** – Nicholson Playground
- **Juan Jones** –Harvey Playground
- **Sedrick Prier** – Segnette Field

Celebrating Our Team Promotions

Congratulations to the employees who have recently earned promotions within the Recreation Department. Their hard work, leadership, and commitment continue to strengthen our department and community.

Administrative Assistants

- **Bianca McClinton**–Administration
- **Kimberly Johnson**–Administration

Recreation Center Supervisor Assistant

- **Landon Cannova** – M.L. King Playground

Recreation Maintenance Supervisor

- **Brandon Melancon**–PARD

Reinstatement

We are pleased to welcome back our reinstated staff members and look forward to their continued contributions and service to Jefferson Parish Recreation.

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Parks and Recreation, page 16

Groundskeeper

Joshua George – Johnny Jacobs Playground

Retirements

We wish our retiring staff members a happy and fulfilling retirement and thank them for their years of dedicated service to Jefferson Parish Recreation.

Building Maintenance Supervisors

- **Anthony Centanni Jr.** – Eastbank Maintenance
- **Rebecca Loyola** – Alario Center

Groundskeeper

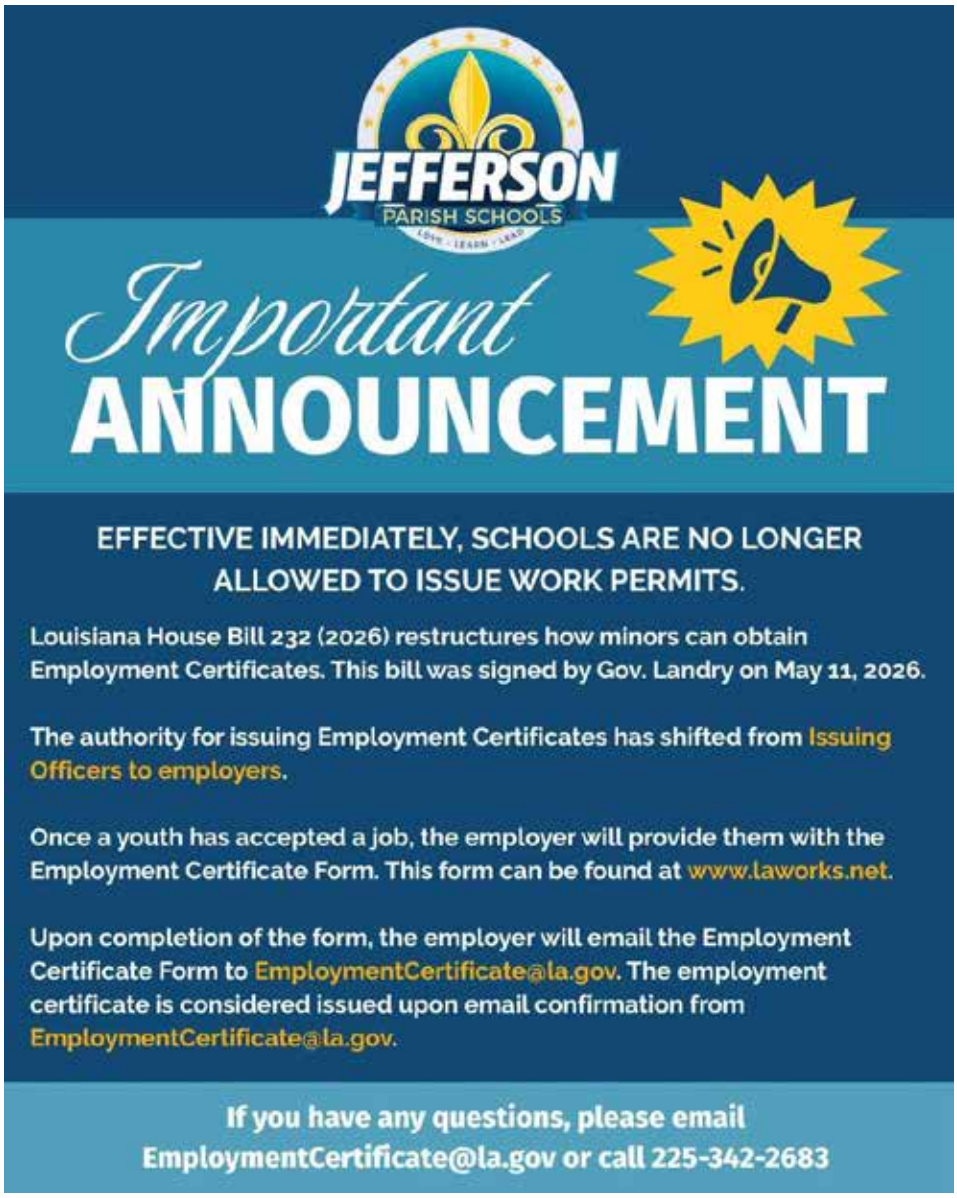
- **Carl Bolotte** – Westbank Maintenance

Segnette Field Renovation

JPRD Westbank Capital Projects staff collaborated with Parish Administration and Council members to complete a series of improvements at Segnette Field in Westwego. The completed renovations include the repainting of the grandstand, dugouts, and other stadium structures, giving the facility a refreshed and modern appearance.

Concrete repairs were also completed beneath the grandstand and throughout the facility to improve safety and durability. Additional enhancements included the removal and replacement of the outfield fencing, as well as new perimeter fencing installed along the foul lines. A new turf infield was also installed to improve playability and field conditions for athletes.

To further enhance the facility, exterior security lighting was added around the grandstand and concession stand areas, providing increased visibility and safety for visitors during evening events and activities. The parking lot was also restriped to improve traffic flow and accessibility.



The completion of these improvements comes as Jefferson Parish celebrates 25 years of baseball at Segnette Field. Since opening in 2002, the facility has hosted numerous Jefferson Parish Recreation Department championship events, state and regional tournaments, and has served as the home field for Loyola University baseball.

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JPRD Westbank Capital Projects staff at the ribbon-cutting ceremony celebrating the newly renovated Segnette Field

Parks and Recreation, page 17

JPRD Summer Camp Comes to a Close

JPRD Leisure Services Division wrapped up another successful summer camp season filled with fun, learning, recreation, and memorable experiences for children throughout Jefferson Parish. Over the summer campers participated in a variety of activities designed to encourage creativity, teamwork, physical activity, and friendships while providing families with a safe and engaging environment. A special thank you to the JPRD staff and camp counselors who helped make another successful summer possible and created positive experiences for campers across the Parish.



Camp Counselor Jacob Dantin skates with campers during JPRD Summer Camp

Recreation Employee of the Year

Kyle Beske was recognized as the Employee of the Year for Recreation during JPRD's Annual Employee of the Year Breakfast. A member of the Maintenance Division, Kyle was recognized for his dedication, hard work, and continued commitment to supporting JPRD facilities and operations throughout Jefferson Parish. His efforts help ensure that recreation facilities remain safe, functional, and welcoming for the residents and families who use them each day.



Director of Parks Leo Webb, Recreation Employee of the Year Kyle Beske, and Director of Recreation Harold Buhler

Parks Employee of the Year

John Braswell was recognized as the Employee of the Year for Parks during JPRD's Annual Employee of the Year Breakfast. John oversees Parc des Familles and its day-to-day operations, helping support the continued growth and development of one of Jefferson Parish's unique recreational destinations.

As Parc des Familles continues to grow and develop, John remains committed to maintaining the park, supporting its operations, and helping provide visitors with a safe, welcoming, and enjoyable experience.



Director of Recreation Harold Buhler, Parks Employee of the Year John Braswell, Director of Parks Leo Webb, and Capital Projects Administrator Brent Griffin

Planning

Katina Webb

As we finish the summer and prepare for the months ahead, we continue to work together, support one another and build on the progress we have made thus far.

As we move through the third quarter of the year, it gives us an opportunity to reflect on our accomplishments, recognize the dedication of our team and refocus on the goals ahead.

We want to take the time to celebrate recent achievements, share departmental updates, and highlight achievements and special moments of our team members who make our workplace stronger.

Celebrations

Love is in the air. We are extending our heartfelt congratulations to Office Support Specialist II Eastbank Division **Cinthya Chacon** and her husband on their recent marriage. As they begin this beautiful new chapter, we wish them a lifetime filled with love, laughter, and happiness.

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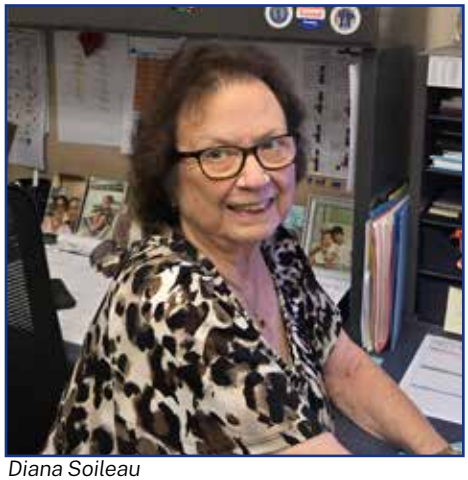
Cinthya Chacon

Planning, page 18

BRIDGE Powered by Infor

The Planning Department continues to embrace new initiatives, changes, and challenges for success in our department. We are excited to recognize Executive Assistant **Diana Soileau** and Administrative Assistant **Katina Webb** for their hard work, dedication, and commitment to helping bring BRIDGE to life in our department.

We appreciate them for accepting this new challenge and taking an important step forward for our department. Their efforts have not gone unnoticed. We are looking forward to seeing the positive impact this new program will have in our department.



Diana Soileau



Katina Webb

Awards and Recognitions

Congratulations to Planner III Current Planning Westbank Division Supervisor **Logan Dougherty**, the Planning Department's Employee of the Year for 2025-2026 for his hard work and dedication. It is a pleasure to have him on our team. Logan's honor is well deserved.



Employee of the Year Logan Dougherty with Parish President Cynthia Lee Sheng

Looking Forward

With exciting initiatives on the horizon, the Planning Department welcomes and embraces exciting new changes and challenges and eagerly await what the rest of the year has in store.

Purchasing

Stacey Champagne

Retirement Announcement

Congratulations to **Shanna Folse** on her retirement after 25 years of dedicated service with Jefferson Parish. Shanna began her career with the Parish on May 19, 2001 in the Parish Attorney's Office before spending a year in Code Enforcement. She later served nine years in General Services before joining the Purchasing Department, where she advanced from Purchasing Specialist I to Purchasing Specialist III in a supervisory role during her 11 years with the department.

Shanna celebrated her 25-year service anniversary on May 19, and her last official day with the Parish was July 10. Known for her cheerful personality and positive energy, Shanna will be greatly missed by her coworkers and everyone who had the pleasure of working with her. We thank her for her years of dedication and wish her all the best in retirement.

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(Right) Shanna Folse

Purchasing, page 19

Employee of the Year

Congratulations to **Stacey Champagne** for receiving Employee of the Year. Since joining Purchasing in 2024 she has shown her dedication and commitment to learning the procurement system. She is a joy to work with and is always willing to help any coworker in need.

BRIDGE Communications

Employees who are having technical issues with BRIDGE should send an email to the Bridge Help Desk at BRIDGEHelp@jeffparish.gov. Bridge Channels and Coffee Talk are also available.

Supplier Portal Registration is now live. We ask for employees' assistance in notifying vendors to complete their registration, which can be done by visiting the following link:

Supplier Portal

An overview of the change, along with a training video, is available on the Procurement System Update webpage.

Safety and Security

Joseph Waguespack

Pursuing a Culture of Safety

Our Safety team is pleased to spotlight several joint efforts to boost safety training and awareness Parish-wide.

Charlie Rispoli was recently promoted to Safety Manager for the Safety and Security Department. Charlie has been with Jefferson Parish for approximately four years and brings over a decade of law enforcement experience to the role. Previously, Charlie was one of two people responsible for managing the Parish's extensive network of physical security and access-control systems.

In a short time, Charlie partnered with several Parish departments to launch a series of safety initiatives.

In mid-summer the Safety and Security Department teamed with **Damian Dent** and the Drainage Department for excavator safety training, concluding with a hands-on exercise using several excavators at the Alario Center in June.

To kick off the month of July, we partnered with Chief **Stephen Guidroz** and the Westbank Fire Services to assist with a Fourth of July fireworks safety training event. That same month, Charlie and Safety Officer **Craig Pond** launched the first in a series of CPR/AED training events, aimed primarily at front-facing, public-serving departments. The response was overwhelming, and more sessions are planned throughout the year.

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Charlie Rispoli and Sami Khalil at the Environmental Hazardous Waste Safety Training



Environmental and Fire Services Hazardous Chemical Safety Training Event



Drainage Department Excavator Safety Training Event



Drainage Department Excavator Safety Training Event



Joe Waguespack and Chief Stephen Guidroz at the 4th of July Fireworks Safety event



Craig Pond (left) at a CPR/AED Training Event

Safety and Security, page 20

In August Charlie partnered with the Environmental Department's **Sami Khalil** and Fire Services **Alex Gorman** to host a hazardous chemical and environmentally safe-handling training event. Aimed at supervisors and departmental policy makers, the session promoted best practices in hazardous chemical and waste handling — another strong success.

These events reflect the Safety and Security Department's ongoing commitment to promulgating a safety culture across Jefferson Parish, in support of our mission to prevent and reduce accidents, loss, and injury. Every employee plays a role in that mission, and through continued education and training, Jefferson Parish will remain a leader in governmental safety initiatives.

Streets

Kenya Johnson

Service Pins

Congratulations to the following employees who have received service pins for their years of service with the Parish. The following dedicated employees received service pins for: **Helen McGee** was honored for her 15 years with the Parish. We truly appreciate her dedication and hard work.

Condolences

We extend our heartfelt condolences and deepest sympathies to **Maria Cooper** on the loss of her aunt, Ann Marie Gibson Butler. We are truly sorry for Maria's loss, and our thoughts and prayers are with her and her family during this difficult time.



Maria Cooper, Helen McGee and Brook Burmaster

Water

Lakeisha Joseph

Welcome to Team Water

The Water Department is excited to welcome the following new employees:

- **Chester Valentine** - Utility Services Technician
- **Joseph Paddio III** - Maintenance Assistant I

Customer Relations Specialist I

- **Anastasia Allen**
- **Marco Cabrero Jr.**
- **Maria Mack**
- **Jacob Wisler**



Mario Kennedy and Kevin Sampey

Retirement

After an incredible 30 years and five months of dedication, hard work and commitment, **Kevin Sampey** retired last spring.

Retirements

Rodney Blanchard
Sewerage (31 years)

Carl Bollotte
Recreation (13 years)

David Boudreaux
Eastbank Consolidated (28 years)

Anthony Centanni Jr.
Recreation (19 years)

Janice Chiasson
District Courts (18 years)

Shanna Folse
Purchasing (25 years)

Gregory Hunter
Streets (30 years)

Bernelle Lauricella
First Parish Court (21 years)

Kshama Misra
Library (34 years)

Paul Pham
Building Permits (31 years)

Maria Rose
Electronic Information Systems Management (23 years)

John Ryals
Juvenile Services (31 years)

Jaqueline Stewart
JeffCAP Head Start (10 years)

Kimberly Tarleton
Building Permits (22 years)

Kelvin Washington
PW Investigation and Rehab (28 years)