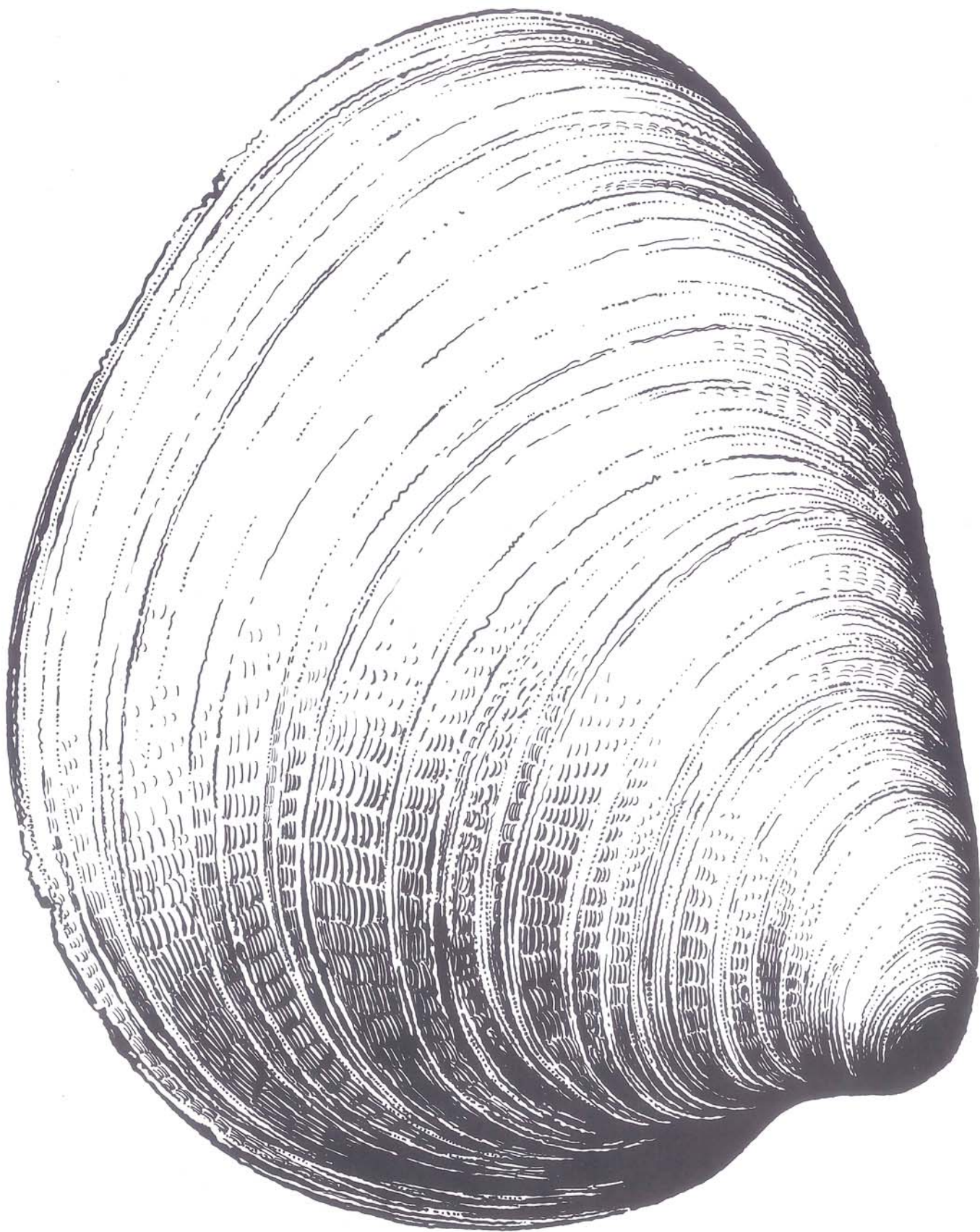


# The Jefferson Parish Yearly Review

1980 Edition

A dramatic photograph of an offshore oil rig in the Gulf of Mexico. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a bright, hazy glow that reflects off the choppy water. The rig's complex structure, including a tall derrick and various platforms, is silhouetted against the sky. In the bottom right corner, a portion of a person's arm and hand is visible, suggesting the photo was taken from a boat.

**Jefferson  
Moves Into  
the Eighties!**



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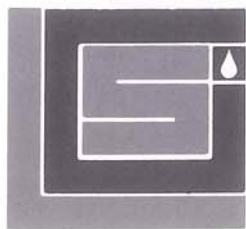
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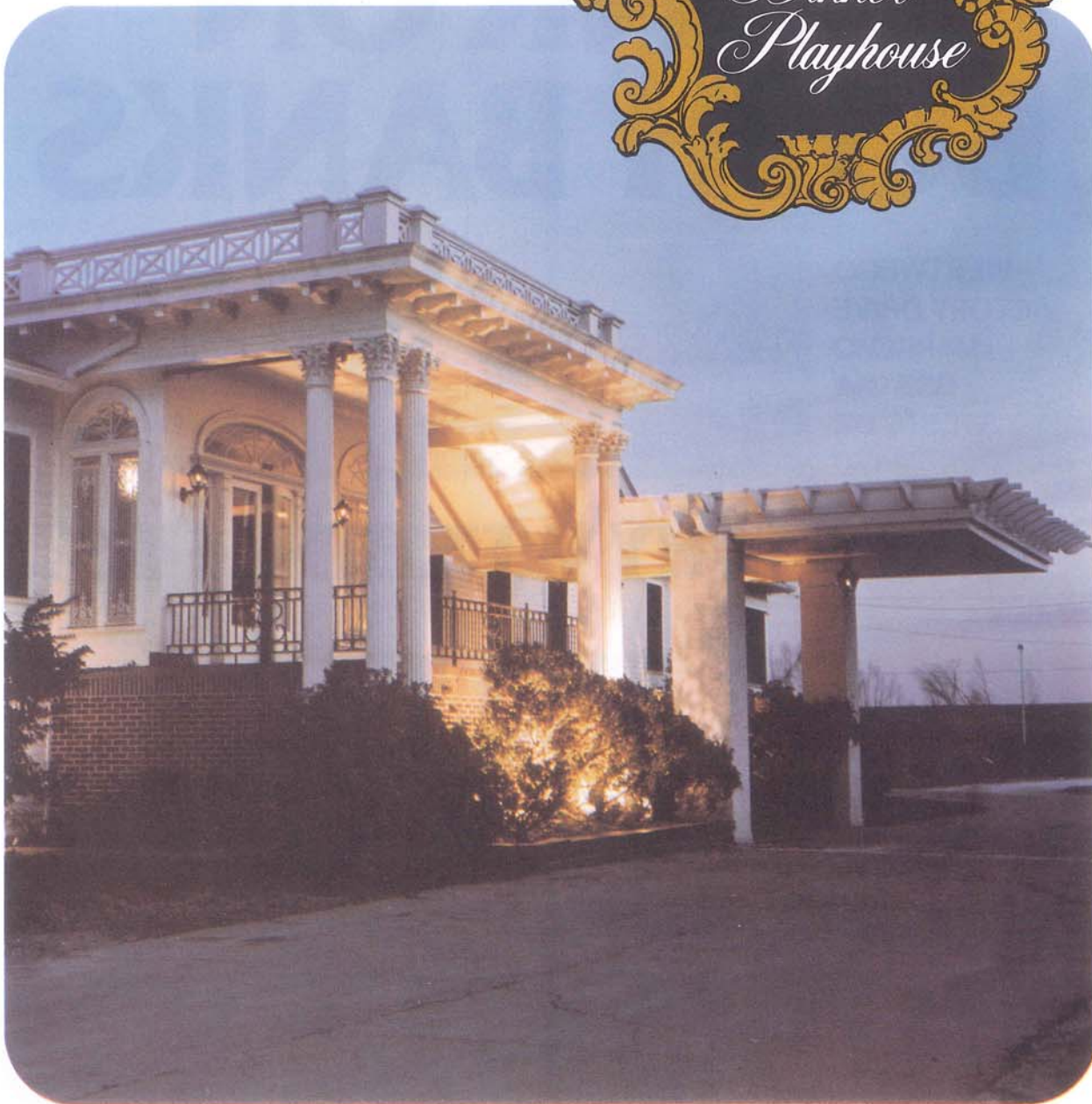
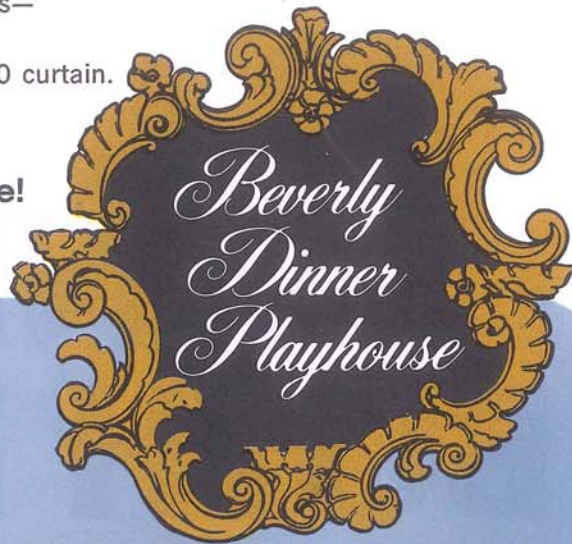
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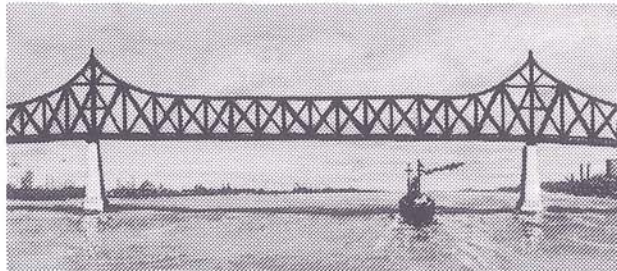
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# **The Jefferson Parish Yearly Review**

An Annual Progress Report  
of Jefferson Parish, Louisiana

## **1980 Edition**

Joseph S. Yenni, Parish President  
Robert Evans, Council Chairman  
Willie Hof, East Bank Councilman-at-Large  
T.V. "Butch" Ward, First District Councilman  
James E. Lawson, Second District Councilman  
Aaron Broussard, Third District Councilman  
Ken Hollis, Fourth District Councilman

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Barbara B. Lacour  
Contributing Editor

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# New Faces For Jefferson!



**Joseph S. Yenni**  
**New Parish President**

One newscaster called it a cliff-hanger, and that's exactly what the Louisiana governor's election was. Winning by less than ten thousand votes, former Congressman David C. Treen became the first resident of Jefferson Parish—and the first Republican in over a century—to be elected governor of the State. The race contrasted sharply with the Jefferson Parish president's election, in which the popular mayor of Kenner—Joseph S. Yenni, successfully won the office with a majority of the vote in the first primary.

Other Parish officials reclaiming their posts included Lloyd F. Giardina, West Bank councilman-at-large; Aaron Broussard, Third

District councilman; Lawrence E. Chehardy, assessor; William M. Justice, Jr., clerk of court; and Dr. Charles B. Odom, coroner. Councilman James E. Lawson made history by being the first incumbent from District Two to be re-elected.

In the December run-offs, new names with new goals and promises entered the political scene, with Robert Evans winning the important council chairman's post. Willie Hof became councilman-at-large for the East Bank, with Ken Hollis winning the council post for the Fourth District. T. J. "Butch" Ward claimed the First District seat when his opposition withdrew from the run-off.

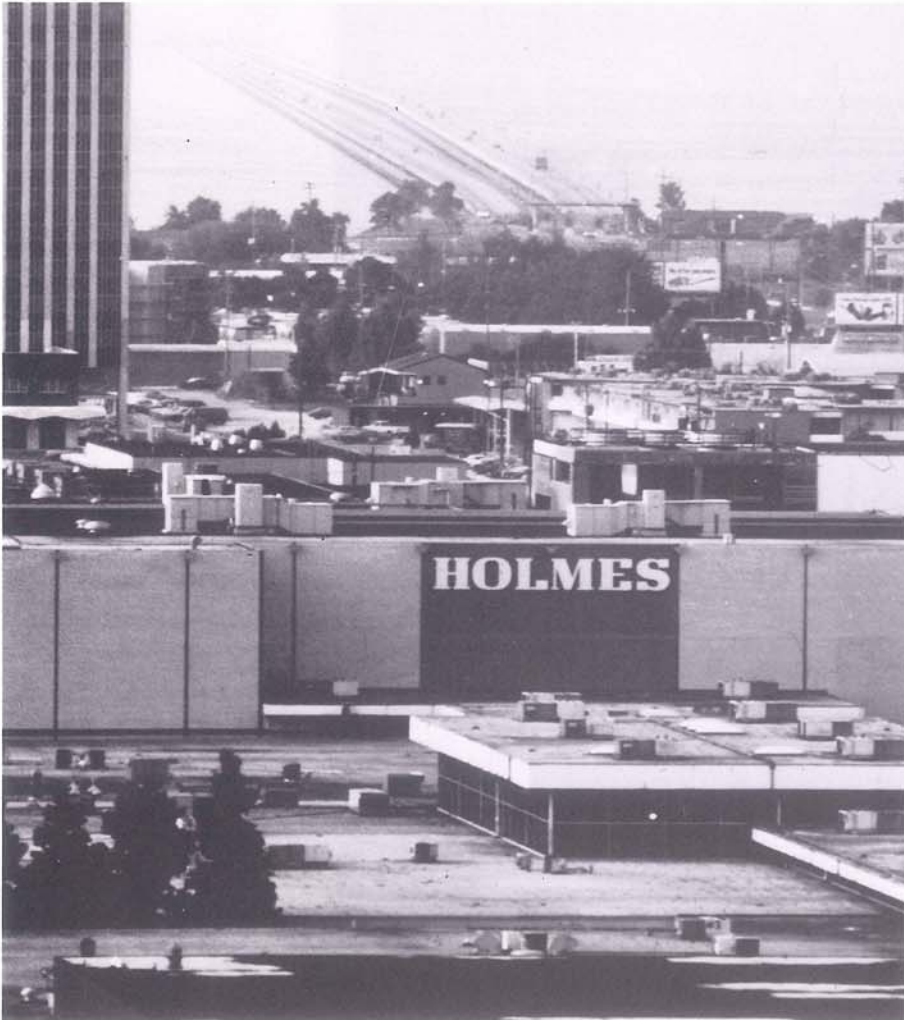
Joe Yenni, the Parish's new president, has been active in politics since 1966. He was a Kenner alderman for four years before being elected mayor of that city, serving as its chief executive for two consecutive terms. Prior to his political career, Yenni worked in the Jefferson Parish School System, first as a coach, then athletic supervisor and finally transportation supervisor for the East Bank. He holds a bachelor's and a master's degree in education and physical education, and is a member of numerous boards and organizations throughout the state.

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A complete roster of Parish and State Officials appears at the back of this issue.

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# Jefferson



# Moves Into the Eighties!



First the good news. Camp David Pope John Paul II, Salt II, solar energy and jogging. Now the bad news. Jonestown, Iran, Afganastan, inflation, gas shortages, crime and violence.

Overall, the good things outweighed the bad in the world during the final months of 1978 and the first quarter of 1979. As a microcosm of that world, Jefferson Parish reflected those opposing elements in its own way, recovering from political controversy with a critical self-analysis and re-organization of its government.

The internal reformation began on May 31, 1978 when local officials were presented with specific recommendations for the reorganization. The months that followed were significant ones, as some departments were re-aligned for greater effectiveness and new ones created to coordinate services or handle specialized areas of activity.

Six cabinet-level "superdepartments" evolved during that period—including Finance, Planning, Environmental Services, Emergency Management, Public Utilities and Public Works—each supervising numerous sub-departments having duties relating to but not overlapping one another.

A special department of Management Services was initiated to ensure that Parish services remained effective through a continuous program of research and analysis. A management team consisting of a director, management analysts and internal auditors were engaged to study the efficiency of existing programs and evaluate new procedures and programs for economy and increased effectiveness parish-wide.

As Jefferson continued its reorganization, turmoil surfaced

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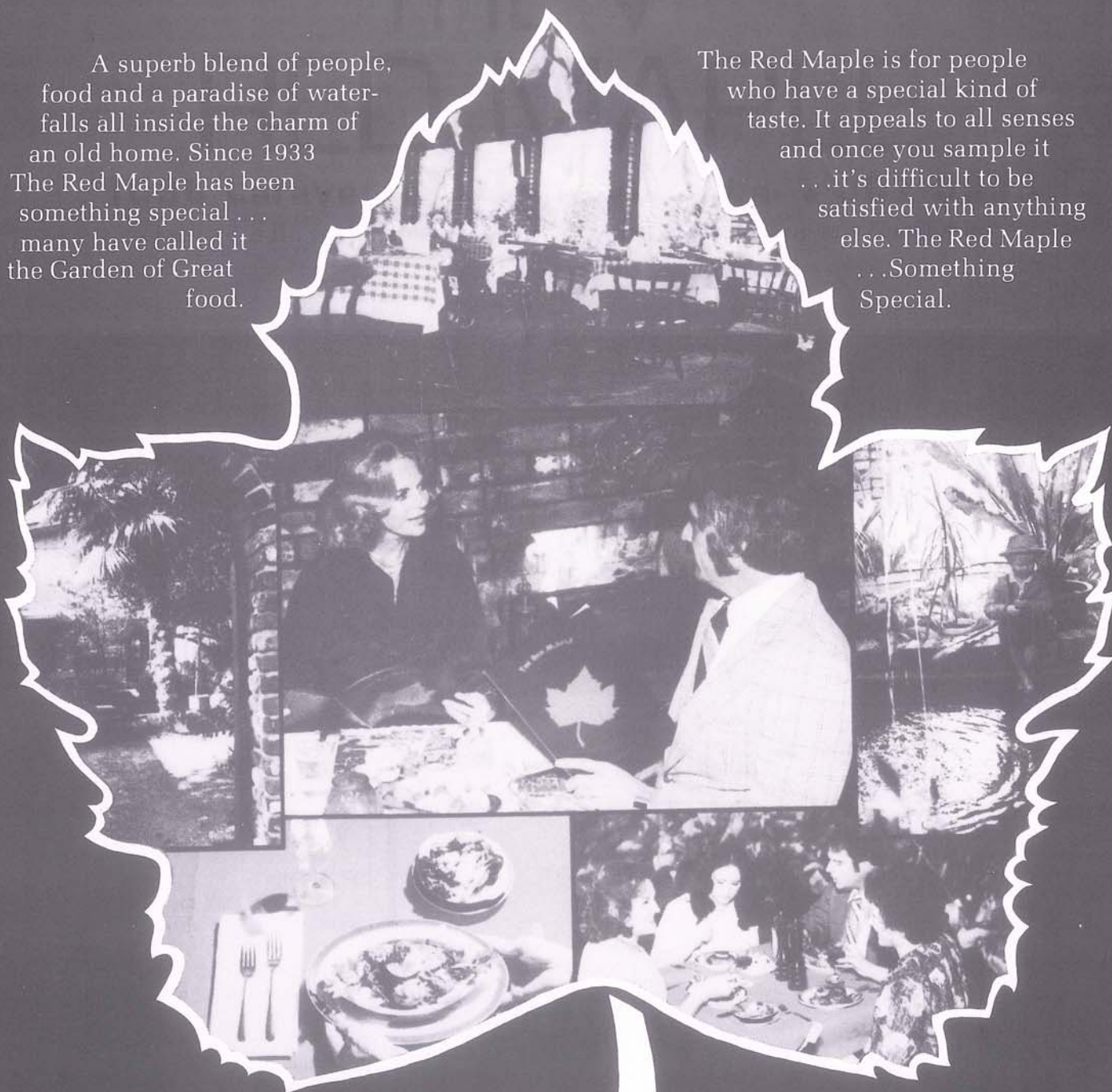
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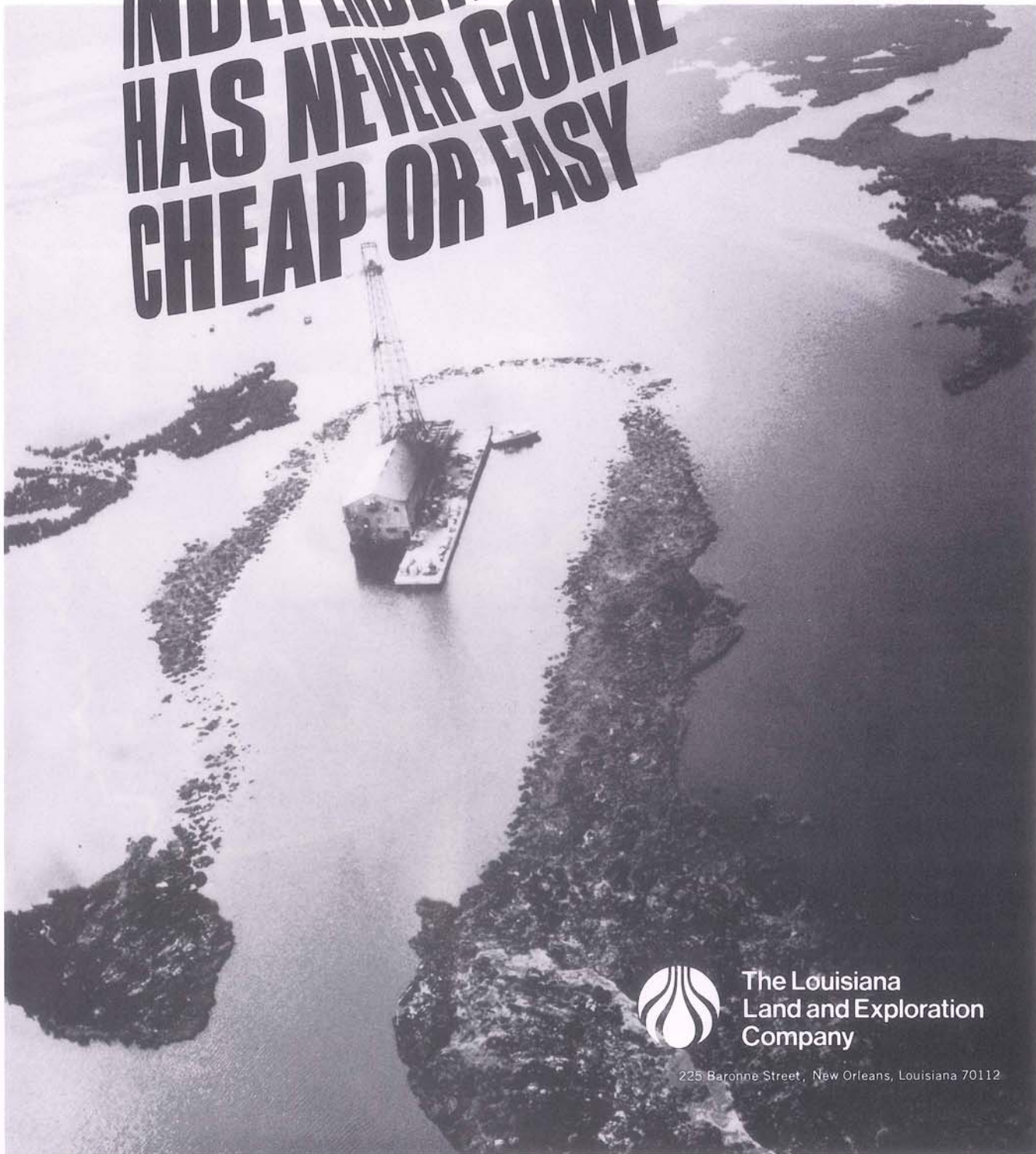
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in various parts of the world, with crime and violence skyrocketing in many major American cities, including the Parish's neighbor, New Orleans. But Jefferson remained relatively peaceful, with the largest number of violent deaths resulting from highway accidents rather than criminal activity. The Parish did have its share of excitement however, with the Department of Emergency Management responding to nearly 5,000 emergencies on the East and West Banks, including a large fire which destroyed Elmwood Plantation, a well-known historical landmark and restaurant. Local civil defense units handled a variety of situations, from chemical spills, fires and explosions to train derailments, tornado-type winds and major flooding.

As the physical fitness craze swept the United States, residents of Jefferson joined in the fun, too, with 6,373 playing baseball, 6,323 basketball, 5,645 track, 5,639 football, 1,864 softball and 1,472 volleyball. Recreational programs and facilities on the West Bank were emphasized, with the completion of an \$8.5 million bond issue, as well as a million dollar bond issue for the Oakdale Playground in District 15. On the East Bank, an intensive redevelopment of facilities was initiated, with a \$200,000 playground lighting project and \$300,000 in repairs to numerous playgrounds and other sites.

In Metairie, Jefferson's first park—a 125-acre recreational site named Lafreniere—completed the majority of its Phase I construction, with lagoons defined and major earth-moving completed. Future improvements will include a large lagoon, picnic and landscaped areas and cycling trails.

Another part of the physical fitness concept included the promotion of good health and nutritional habits through the Parish's health unit. This office conducted numerous free clinics, as well as health fairs for young and old. In March 1979, a two-day children's health fair screened nearly 300 youngsters for hearing and vision defects; in May, 1979 a fair for senior citizens attracted

400 elderly residents for eight screenings as well as counseling and referral.

Other departments did their part to prevent disease in the Parish, with the Pollution Control Office conducting *Project: Pride*, a major clean-up campaign in Bunche Village. The department also coordinated educational programs on the proper disposal of all solid waste in Jefferson, and collected over 200 loads of trash during the campaign. The Mosquito Control Department contributed to the overall health of the Parish by maintaining a vigilant watch over the mosquitoes, reducing their population from last year and reporting a decrease in numbers by 75% between 1969 and 1979. The Animal Shelter also did its part, picking up strays and handling nearly 19,000 animals between 1978-79.

As the energy crisis caused utility bills to soar throughout the country, Jefferson began seeking alternatives in providing various services to its residents. In the Environmental and Development Control department alone, two projects were proposed using economical solar energy to dry sewerage sludge and to monitor water quality. Also, with

protection of the environment becoming such an increasingly important topic, this department anticipated grants to help stabilize banks in the Barataria-Lafitte area and aerate drainage canals to reduce odors and benefit aquatic wildlife. The Park and Recreation Department also showed concern for Jefferson's environment, with the development of a \$121,000 grant to operate a young adult conservation corps. The project provides persons 16 to 23 years of age with conservation-oriented work experiences, including the beautification of parish buildings and facilities, and the development of a greenhouse for the production of landscaping materials.

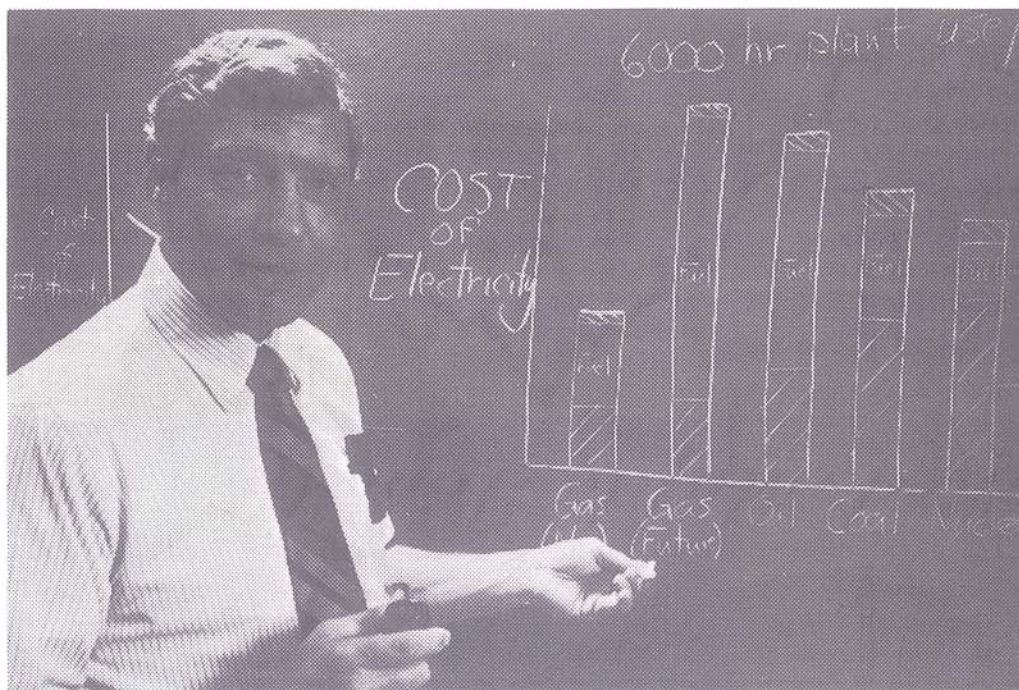
While inflation caused cutbacks in many areas, it also promoted more thoughtful and cautious spending of existing funds. And although Jefferson successfully handled most of its problems independently, federal dollars also were used to maintain that quality of life which makes Jefferson one of the outstanding parishes in Louisiana.

The Water Department, which treats over 70 million gallons daily, continued its study of techniques for removing organic



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substances from drinking water, thanks to a \$1.3 million dollar research grant. With \$705,248 of federal monies, the Department of Drainage installed a pumping station in Catahouatche and excavated nearly two miles of major canals. And a grant from the Community Development Program for over \$1.1 million allowed the Sewerage Department to complete repairs to the major sewer line on Ames Boulevard on the West Bank.

With the addition of a Jefferson representative to the Greater New Orleans Tourist and Convention Commission, the parish increased its number of state and regional conventions during 1978-79, and attracted many visitors to the "Fat City Festival" in Metairie. Grand Isle—a favorite vacation spot for New Orleanians and out-of-towners alike—was given a boost with the construction of a one million gallon water storage tank to help

alleviate seasonal shortages during the summer months.

While the cost of living and streamlining government plagued U.S. President Jimmy Carter in 1979, Jefferson took action against these problems, with the Personnel Department updating pay ranges for Parish employees, making their salaries competitive in the labor market. Parish government was streamlined, particularly in its new Fleet Management Department, which consolidated all vehicle maintenance facilities for the Parish under one division, established uniform repair standards at those facilities and uniform specifications for equipment as well.

With an eye toward the future, the Planning Department participated in numerous research projects, including studies for Jefferson's economic development and improvement of the transit system. A profile of the

Parish also was compiled for publication by the National Association of Counties.

Evidence of Jefferson's popularity as a suburban community could be found in many areas, from the increased number of citizens registering to vote, to the staggering number of building permits issued—nearly 33,000 between 1968-78. In 1978 alone, 242 subdivisions were approved, with 2,983 lots created for the scores of people moving to the area.

Approximately 531,000 persons made the Parish their home in 1978, with 631,000 expected by 1990. The 1980 census being prepared by the Planning Department should give exact numbers for the record books, but only the people who reside in Jefferson can explain to outsiders what those statistics really mean. . . that Jefferson is not only a nice place to visit, but also a very nice place to live. ●

## Jeffersonian Elected Governor

On December 8, 1979, Jefferson Parish was honored with the election of David C. Treen—a long-time resident of Metairie—to the governorship of Louisiana.

Treen's rise to the state's highest office began on July 16, 1928 when he was born in Baton Rouge, La. He attended public grammar school in East Baton Rouge briefly before his parents moved to the New Orleans area, where he continued his education at public schools in Jefferson and Orleans parishes. He graduated from Fortier High School in 1945, after serving as president of his graduating class, as a lieutenant colonel in the high school ROTC, and participating in numerous other activities as well. He entered Tulane University, where he was president of the freshman class, a member of the honor board for the College of Arts and Sciences and an officer and member of various campus organizations. After receiving a



**David C. Treen**

bachelor of arts degree in political science and history in 1948, Treen enrolled in Tulane's Law School, being elected to ODK, national leadership fraternity and Order of the Coif, highest legal scholastic fraternity. He also was a member of Phi Delta Phi legal fraternity, and served on the winning team of the

Junior-Senior Moot Court competition before graduating with honors. Following graduation, Treen became an associate attorney with Deutsch, Kerrigan and Stiles before beginning a stint in the military, being commissioned a first lieutenant in the U. S. Air Force in December, 1950. He served as defense council and prosecuting counsel in numerous general and special courts-martial at Sheppard Air Force Base in Wichita Falls, Texas, and at the Third Air Force Headquarters in London, England. Married in 1951 to Dolores "Dodie" Brisbi of Metairie, Treen returned to life in the States and the practice of law in 1952, becoming vice-president and legal counsel of Simplex Manufacturing Corporation of New Orleans. In 1957, he served as an associate attorney with a local law firm, where he subsequently became a partner in Beard, Blue, Schmitt and Treen.

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It was during this period that the new governor became prominent in the Louisiana Republican Party. Treen has been a member of the State Central Committee since 1962 and was chairman of the Louisiana Young Republican Federation between 1962-64. He chaired Jefferson Parish's Executive Committee between 1963-67, and was a delegate to the 1964, 1968, 1972 and 1976 Republican National Conventions. He chaired the Louisiana delegation in 1968 and 1972, and served on several convention committees, being honored for his work with the Distinguished Service Award of the National Young Republican Federation in 1968.

The new governor's political career began in 1962, when he unsuccessfully ran against the late Hale Boggs for the Second Congressional District. He ran again in 1964, and in 1968 received 49% of the vote. Four years later he received the highest vote for governor by a Republican candidate in the century, garnering 43%. Following reapportionment, Treen found himself living in the Third Congressional District, and decided to run for that seat, winning a post in the U. S. Congress in 1972. He was re-elected in 1974 and 1976, and retained the seat in 1978 without opposition. In Congress, Treen served on the Committee on Armed Services, the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries, the Select Committee on the Outer Continental Shelf and the Executive Committee of the Republican Congressional Campaign Committee. He also chaired the Republican Study Committee, which includes Republican congressmen researching issues and promoting or opposing as a group various legislation in the House of Representatives.

With this impressive background, it is obvious that Dave Treen is ready to be governor of Louisiana. All of Jefferson Parish takes pride in withing our "home-town" son the best of luck in this most important office. ●

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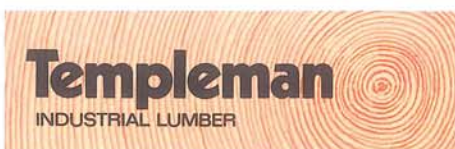
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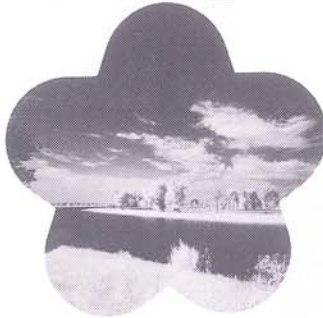
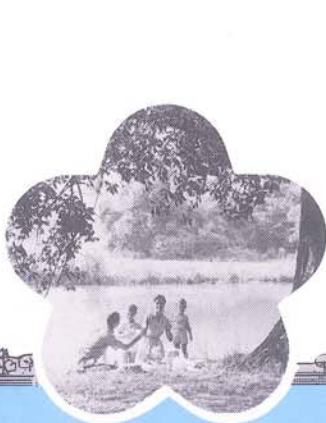
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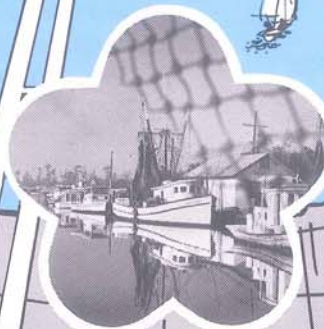


## Serene St. Tammany

History lives gently along the breeze-swept shores and rolling pine forests of St. Tammany Parish. In the Covington area English settlers arrived as early as 1769 to put down roots and enjoy the bracing climate and relaxing atmosphere that still makes this resort community popular. Mandeville was named for the fabulous Bernard Xavier de Marigny de Mandeville, who carved the town from his vast land holdings. This wealthy gambler also established nearby Fontainebleau plantation, now a superb state park. And today history marches on, with new chapters being written at space program and health research centers situated in this lively, livable section.

## Thriving Jefferson

Jefferson Parish, just past its 150th birthday, offers contrasting scenes of accelerated economic growth and peaceful bayou settings, where the pirate Jean Lafitte once headquartered his brigands. These same pirates-turned-patriots joined Andrew Jackson's troops to help defeat the British at the Battle of New Orleans in 1815. And what more can be said about historic New Orleans itself, where almost every corner reveals a living part of a city older than the nation itself. Flags of France and Spain were unfurled from the flagstaff in Place d'Armes long before the city became part of the United States with the Louisiana Purchase in 1803. And tomorrow's history is happening today at the Superdome, the Space Center, the Port, and throughout this ever-changing city nestled in a sweeping bend of a mighty river.



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Malcolm T. Stein, Sr.  
General Manager

# The Chamber



## EAST JEFFERSON COUNCIL

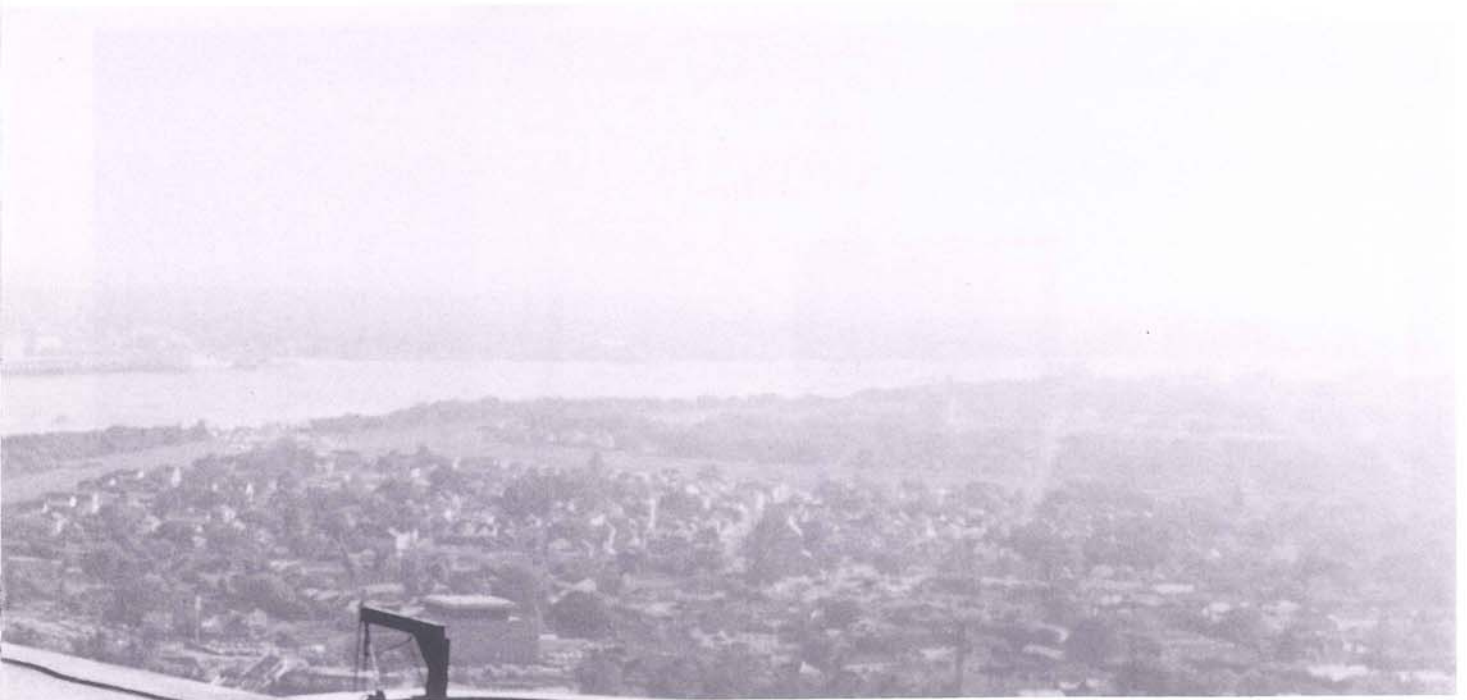
The East Jefferson Council was involved in education issues in 1979.

- The council, with John Arthurs as chairman, persuaded parish sewerage officials to locate a treatment plant on property that would not force a business, interested in the same property, to relocate to another parish. An **economic impact** study determined the loss of the business would have a greater impact on the parish's economy than the construction of the plant for the property in question.
- Early in the year, an update of the **1978 Manpower Study** was completed.
- Through the **Speakers' Bureau**, members ventured into high school classrooms to discuss practical subjects such as finding a job, buying a car, or renting an apartment.
- Opposed the efforts of School Board members who attempted to **redirect funds** to an elementary school away from two career education centers. The opposition was successful.
- The Executive Committee of the School Board requested the East Jefferson and West Bank Councils to design an equitable and objective method for the **selection of architects and engineers** for School Board projects. This was the only comprehensive package submitted to the Board.

- The council sponsored the dedication of the East Jefferson **Vocational-Technical School** in August, and hosted a reception following the ceremony.
- **Teachers' Strike.** The East Jefferson and West Bank Councils held a news conference to condemn the strike by public employees and to urge the federal negotiator to return both parties to the bargaining table. Intervening in a court suit brought by a parents' organization which sought to close the schools, the Councils maintained that the school must be kept open so education could continue. This suit was dismissed by the court and the schools remained opened as the councils desired.
- The council repeated its support for the **Jefferson-Jefferson bridge**, which had its initial funding for feasibility studies appropriated in 1978.
- The council named a representative to the **Jefferson Parish Aviation Advisory Committee** which is responsible for improvements to the Moisant and Westwego airport facilities.
- To avert a threatened **firemen's strike**, the Council offered its resources to the parish and the firemen, to resolve the issues before an actual strike broke out.
- Because the business community felt **sign regulations** were too restrictive, the East Jefferson and West Bank Councils worked to amend the regulations so businesses would not suffer economic setbacks in complying with the law.
- With the knowledge that the **levee protection system** in East Jefferson is inadequate, particularly in the face of a major hurricane, the council investigated the possibilities of obtaining an adequate levee system to avert political disaster.

# of Commerce Report

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## WEST BANK COUNCIL

Realizing the potential for industrial development and population growth, the West Bank Council actively participated in the planning needed for well-balanced land use, including extensive work on the Coastal Zone Management Task Force. After five years of intensive effort, the council saw construction begin on the Westbank Expressway. Additionally, the council, under the direction of Lloyd Hymel, strove to improve relations with local and state government officials, featuring several as guest speakers at council meetings.

- Opposed the **strike** by the Jefferson Federation of Teachers, and successfully intervened in a law suit to close the schools.
- Instrumental in the School Board's acceptance of an in-depth **Management Assistance** study of the school system, to be performed by Jefferson Parish Chamber members.
- Proposed a new method for the equitable **selection of architects and engineers** for school construction projects.
- Sponsored the dedication of the new West Bank **Vo-Tech** School.
- While working to obtain federal funding for an adequate water supply to **Lafitte**, the council adamantly opposed the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) attempts to exceed its regulatory authority in limiting further development of the

Parish. The opposition was successful and EPA objections were overridden to obtain funding for the water lines.

- Participated in the creation of, and land acquisition for, **Jean Lafitte Historical Park**, the first national park of its kind.
- Played a role in the development of a multi-million dollar new **waste-water treatment** facilities plan for West Jefferson. When completed, the plan will be implemented in the unincorporated parts of the West Bank.
- Supported a **beach erosion and hurricane protection** plan for Grand Isle.
- The council expressed concern over the delays involved in relocating the utility lines along the proposed elevated **Westbank Expressway**, and successfully opposed the Parish's attempt to receive state funding to replace local responsibility for relocating the utilities.
- Reviewed and advised the Parish on the **Pro Data, Ltd.** study recommendations for future economic development of the West Bank. The recommendations of the study would have affected growth in all of Jefferson Parish.
- Participated on the Jefferson Parish **Manpower** Advisory Planning Council.
- Worked with the Regional Planning Commission (RPC) in support of a future **Regional Transit Authority**.
- Urged state approval for a project that would provide substantial improvements along **Peters Road** in Harvey.
- At the encouragement of the council, the Parish approved a trial **bus service** for Engineers Road/Peters Road.



Newly elected Chief of Police B. H. Miller, Jr., (left) is congratulated by Mayor William J. White on his election Oct. 27, 1979 to succeed his dad, Beauregard Miller (photo on wall) who died in office on April 2, 1979. A Jefferson Parish Councilman for 21 years, B. H., Jr., resigned that position on May 10, 1979 when he was appointed police chief.

# Gretna

Death, as it must to all men, came on April 2, 1979 to our beloved Chief of Police, Beauregard H. Miller, Sr.

"Burry", as he was affectionately known had been our police chief since 1925 when he was sworn in as Marshal.

This 54 years of continuous service is a national record.

In my proclamation of April 1, 1979, I noted that Chief Miller had served the City of Gretna and its people "unselfishly, professionally, with compassion where warranted and with determination and justice in other instances."

In August 1975, we honored "Burry" on his 50th Anniversary in office. Tributes came from Governor Edwin W. Edwards, Congresswoman Lindy Boggs, other State, Parish and City Officials, civic, fraternal and religious groups and many individual citizens and friends. It was the greatest civic celebration ever held in Gretna.

## Parades, Services Praised

Citizen appreciation for our municipal garbage collection system is still being heard after seven years. In 1972, we began furnishing heavy, water-proofed 33 gallon paper bags for refuse disposal, and in 1975 began hauling it to a sanitary landfill beyond the City limits where it is buried.

The twice-a-week collection was the subject of a letter of appreciation from a grateful lady who was restoring an old home. To see "bags and bags of trash" collected so quickly and efficiently was "an exceptional public service", she wrote.

Other letter of appreciation from Gretnites as well as out-of-towners praised City officials for hosting four New Orleans parades, orphaned by the police strike there. Besides the usual Carnival Krewe which parade in Gretna, the City welcomed Choctaw, Hercules, The Elks Krewe of Orleanians and the

the informal get together were 600 youngsters, 8 to 18, who participated in baseball, softball, football, bowling and volleyball. Also attending were 55 volunteer G.R.I.D. coaches, 11 assistants, and proud parents.

City recreational facilities include four parks, four playgrounds, six lighted tennis courts and two swimming pools.

## Senior Citizen Center

HUD funds totaling \$610,000 for the 1979-80 Community Development year included \$200,000 for renovation of the old St. Joseph Catholic Church Convent as a Senior Citizens Center.

Other block grant funds were allocated for subsurface drainage and resurfacing on Huey P. Long Avenue in the Jonestown Area (\$230,000) and recreation improvements to the Fried Street Playground site (\$50,000).

In McDonoghville, \$50,000 will be spent on sidewalk improvements and \$80,000 for subsurface drainage improvements on Hancock Street. Jonestown and McDonoghville were designated by HUD as Community Development target areas.

Another grant-in-aid of \$150,000 from the U. S. office of Coastal Zone Management was awarded for the installation of steel "dolphins" to protect the City's water intake structure.

Block grant funds from the previous year enabled the City to repair a 24" force main on Hancock Street.

The biggest capital improvement during 1978, of course, was our \$6.5 million completely modern sewage treatment plant which went into full operation in December.

Built with 75% federal funds, it treats and shrinks a full day's liquid

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**In 'Seventy-Nine, on April the Second, our Chief slipped away, his Chief had beckoned. The heritage he left was best said by his wife: "He breathed law and order every day of his life."**

---

Beauregard H. Miller, Sr. is gone, but his brilliant law enforcement career is our priceless heritage today.

All of Gretna and "Burry's" family in particular, were consoled and reassured when another "Chief Miller" (B. H. Miller, Jr.) was appointed Chief of Police on May 10, 1979.

A final tribute to "Burry" came on October 27, 1979 when B. H. was elected to fill out his dad's unexpired term of office.

Krewe of Crescent City. Officials of the Cleveland Board of Education, attending a convention at the Superdome, crossed the river and "ran smack into the most fun we've had in years" they said, "we have never experienced such a spontaneous outpouring of warmth and hospitality. That's quite a town you have there."

The Gretna Recreational and Instructional Department (G.R.I.D.) Annual Leson Chevrolet "Awards Day" program was held on May 5, 1979 at Mel Ott Park. Attending

# Gretna



Newly elected Chief of Police B. H. Miller, Jr., seated, left and Alderman Salvador "Sammy" Marchese, standing, right were sworn into office on January 7, 1980. Others in the picture, taken at the meeting, are Mayor William J. White (seated, center) and Alderman and Mayor Pro-Tem Louis A. LeBoeuf, Jr., at right. Standing are Aldermen James G. "Chick" Bush, Sr.; Gerard E. Schexnayder and Hubert F. "Bunny" Uzee. The new officials carry on a family tradition. Chief Miller's dad served 54 years as marshal and chief of police. Alderman Marchese's brother, Don, was alderman for 16 years. Both died in office.

sludge down to a mere 10 cubic yards of dirt-like solid material which is hauled to the City's landfill. It's closed-cycle construction is designed to eliminate insects and odors through an oxygen scrubbing process. The entire plant, from the entrance to the sludge room, can be sealed from the outside.

## Ambulance, Rescue Service

Gretna's class four insurance rate was achieved through the excellence of our five fire stations operated by 340 volunteer fire-fighters, 17 full time firemen with modern equipment at the Gould and David Crockett Fire Companies. In an April 7, 1979 election voters approved four mills to furnish two ambulances and an emergency rescue unit which are now operated

by the David Crockett Fire Company.

For the third consecutive year, Gretna earned the Louisiana Garden Federation's Cleanest City Award for cities its size.

On the fiscal front, the City budget is at an all time high — \$5,704,750. The budget has been tied into a computer to give department heads instant knowledge of current revenues and expenditures within their departments. All City files and records have also been "computerized."

The pictures of restaurants accompanying this article typify the many fine dining places in Gretna. Occupational licenses were issued in 1979 to sixty-one restaurants, sandwich shops and catering

services doing business in the City of Gretna.

## Police Complex Renovations

One of Chief B. H. Miller, Jr.'s first priorities was to complete major renovations to the Gretna Police Department Complex at 200 Fifth Street.

When it was completed he issued his first "Report to the People". Some of the highlights of that report:

- A 24 hour communications desk to supply information, handle requests and complaints about Gretna police matters
- State accreditation for the Gretna Police Academy, with certified training officers
- 240 hours of training for full time and reserve officers plus men

from other police departments. Also firearms training for businessmen, housewives and other interested citizens

- A computer terminal, state-wide teletype system and nation-wide exchange of criminal activity through membership in the Regional Organized Crime Information Center

- Cooperation with businesses to get forgeries and NSF checks reported more efficiently

- Approval of a \$277,097 Federal Grant for new equipment, including 12 patrol cars, 3 motor cycles, a police van, 40 walkie-talkies, etc.

The Police complex renovation work was "done entirely by police officers, within the department's budget."

The Department now has 42 full time police officers, five detectives and nine school guards. The newly created Reserve Police Force had 44 candidates at mid-summer receiving the same training as full time officers.

The continued progress and prosperity of the City of Gretna can be attributed to the full cooperation of its officials, employees and civic-minded citizens. ●

The GR in Gretna could easily stand for Great Restaurants. Rapid growth on the West Bank since the 1964 removal of bridge tolls increased the need for more restaurants. Gretna, the closest community to the downtown New Orleans tourist trade, boasts many fine restaurants. The five pictured here are representative

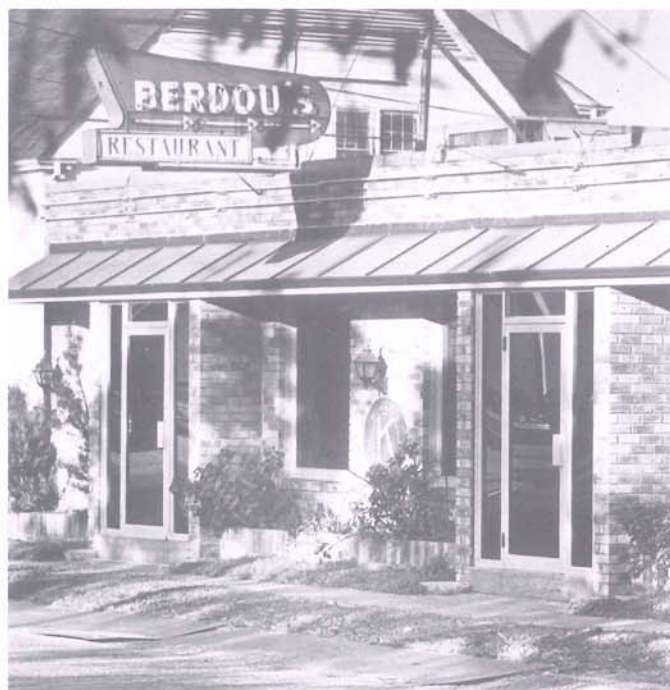
of that group and are among the best known in the area. One, LeRuth's, is internationally acclaimed and rated among the world's eating places. The other four and some of the newer establishments are fast becoming a regular habit for local gourmets and a welcome boost to Gretna's economy.



Visko's has grown by leaps and bounds since it opened in April, 1970. Located on Gretna Blvd., just off the Belle Chasse Highway, it specializes in seafood.



Belson's Steak and Seafood restaurant was one of the first restaurants to locate on the Belle Chasse Highway in Gretna. Opened in 1964, it is already a landmark. It offers a large banquet room.



Specializing in French Food, Berdou's has become a weekly habit for many area gourmets. A small family type restaurant, it opened August 25, 1955 at 300 Monroe Street near the Orleans Parish line.

# Gretna



Another well known restaurant, on Lafayette Street, is the Red Maple on Lafayette Street. It has been open since 1960, serving lunch and dinner Monday through Friday, dinner only on Saturday.



LeRuth's is one of only 13 restaurants in the U.S. (and the only one in Louisiana) to get a five star rating from the Mobile Travel Guide. It has won many other high ratings, nationally and internationally. It opened in 1966.

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6000 Highway 90 East  
Telephone 384-4990

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814 Eraste Landry Road  
Telephone 235-9076

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**By Joseph Yenni, Mayor**

My last administrative report to the Council and citizens of the City of Kenner focused on the multiple

growth and progress experienced during the past nine years. Revenues received for this fiscal year 1978-79 in the General Fund

were \$6,946,946, with expenditures and transfers at \$6,887,001, or an excess of revenues over expenditures and transfers of \$59,945 for



**ELECTED OFFICIALS**—Left to right: Front Row: Raoul A. Galan, Jr., Councilman-at-Large; Joseph S. Yenni, Mayor; Nicholas J. "Nick" Baroni, Councilman, District 4; Arthur B. Troncoso, Jr., Interim Councilman, District 3. Back Row: John T. Lavarine, Councilman, District 2; Henry L. "Teddy" Stewart, Interim Councilman, District 1; Salvador J. Lentini, Chief of Police; Larry J. Hooper, Councilman-at-Large and Council President; Kenneth W. Hipp, Councilman, District 5.

# Kenner

this fiscal year.

The City of Kenner had a surplus of \$2,308,533 at the close of this fiscal year (1979-80). Of this surplus, \$2,022,398 has been appropriated in our current (1979-80) operating and capital projects budgets, leaving an unappropriated surplus balance of \$297,135.

Mrs. Dora Mae Aucoin, Director of Finance has begun implementation of a Property Control System, which includes an inventory of Fixed Assets. Alexander Grant & Company, Certified Public Accountants prepared a study for the Property Control System, also executed a program to be added to our computer for financial reporting.

Mrs. Aucoin is also proud to report that \$4,009,423 has been earned in interest from the investment of idle funds for the period July 1, 1970 through June 30, 1979.

The Personnel Director, J. Eugene Martin, Jr. reports that an amended Personnel Policy Manual was released including Rules and Regulations for all employees. Also, he states that a new manual revising all job descriptions and pay schedules was made.

Matthew Chiro, Director of the Department of Regulatory Inspections recorded over 1,312 building permits, comprising 1,701 housing units, which totals \$58 million for construction.

A special census was undertaken this year, and certified by the State of Louisiana, which shows a total population of 61,540. New codes for fire protection were implemented in this department requiring all residential buildings to install smoke detectors and multi-family units to have a one hour fire wall.

The Regulatory Department also revised the specifications for new sidewalks and driveways as a result of the Soil Subsidence Study spear-

headed by Royce Waters, Public Works Director.

Roy Brondum, Director of Community Services reports continued growth in this department. He reports the completion of the Huey P. Fassbender Center for \$205,000 which houses ceramics, weightlifting, and boxing; began construction of the Wentwood South Playground with Phase 1 and 2 costing \$340,000; began construction of the Kenner Neighborhood Playground with Phase 1 costing \$260,000, and completed the Mini-Park at Beachview Heights.

Mr. Brondum reports that the City of Kenner recently was named one of the seven cities in Louisiana eligible to receive federal funds under the Urban Recreation and Recovery Act, and a formal application is being prepared at this time.

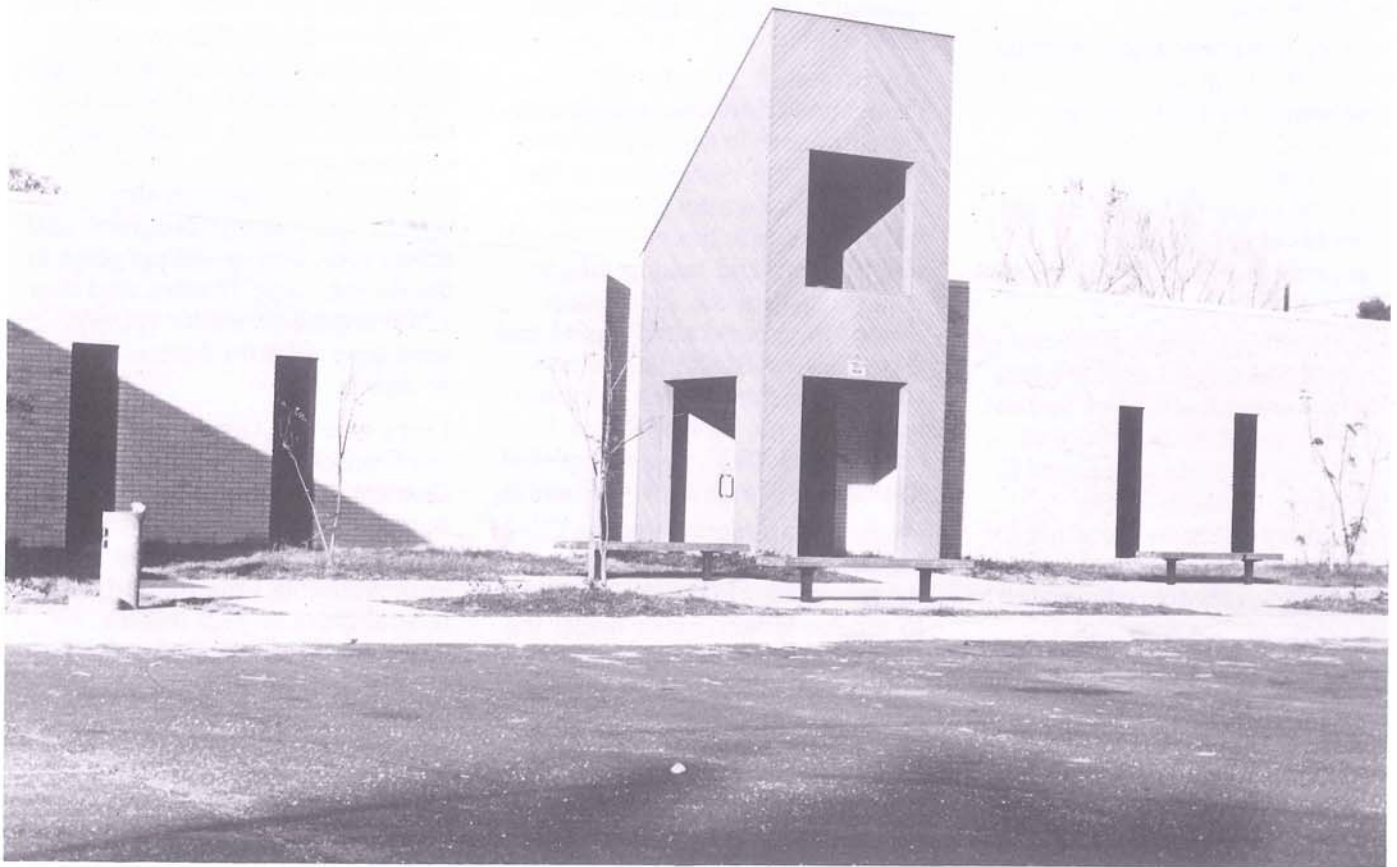
During the past twelve months Mr. Brondum reports that over 5,557 children participated in track, cheer-leading, basketball, volleyball, baseball, baton twirling, dancing and tumbling. In addition, some 220 ladies participated in ceramics. 100 ladies in our exercise program, 150 actors took part in various plays in the Kenner Little Theatre, and over 1,500 registered senior citizens were serviced at the Kenner Council on Aging.

Leroy Keating, Genral Manager for our Consolidatedm Sewerage Districts stated they are now nearing completion of the rehabilitation of sewer lines and lift stations. These improvements were funded by a federal grant of \$2.5 million.

He reports further that a twenty-four hour answering service to accomodate citizens when they have



Left to Right: Front Row: Phil Biondillo, Director of Planning; J. Eugene Martin, Jr., Chief Administrative Officer; Dora Mae Aucoin, Director of Finance; Hubert A. Vondenstein, City Attorney; Dominick J. Mumphy, Jr., Fire Chief; George W. Giacobbe, Assistant City Attorney. Back Row: Matthew J. Chiro, Jr., Director of Regulatory Inspections; Roy Brondum, Director of Community Services; Le Roy Keating, Acting General Manager, Sewerage Department; Royce K. Waters, Director of Public Works. Missing from photo: Gwen Boynton, Clerk of the Council; Frank Mamola, Maintenance Supervisor.



**FASSBENDER CENTER**—Named in honor of former Councilman Huey P. Fassbender, who passed away in the summer of 1979. Located on the corner of Kentucky Avenue and Roosevelt Boulevard, it houses the ceramic, weightlifting and boxing departments.

## Kenner

complaints has been established.

Mr. Keating also announced that in order to keep abreast of the City's growth, the sewerage department is now in Phase 2 of the design for construction of a third sewer plant which will have 5.25 million gallons per day capacity.

The Planning Department, under the directorship of Philip Biondillo, reports that he has added two full time planners to his staff, and with the recent charter change, they are now responsible for updating all maps of the City of Kenner.

Also established is a Grants Division within the Planning Department, and with the population over 50,000, the City of Kenner will be eligible for more federal. This department has also completed a Future Land Use Plan for the City of Kenner for 1979-1994, funded through a 701 HUD Planning Grant in the amount of \$12,000. funds, and are prepared to make these applications.

The Fire Chief, D. J. Mumphrey reports a reduction of the number of incidents, in spite of Kenner's growth.

1978 — 1,190 incidents for a dollar loss \$565,602.

1977 — 1,316 incidents for a dollar loss \$897,679.

The Chief reports his Training Department has had six fire employees receive a total of 412 hours of classroom training at Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge.

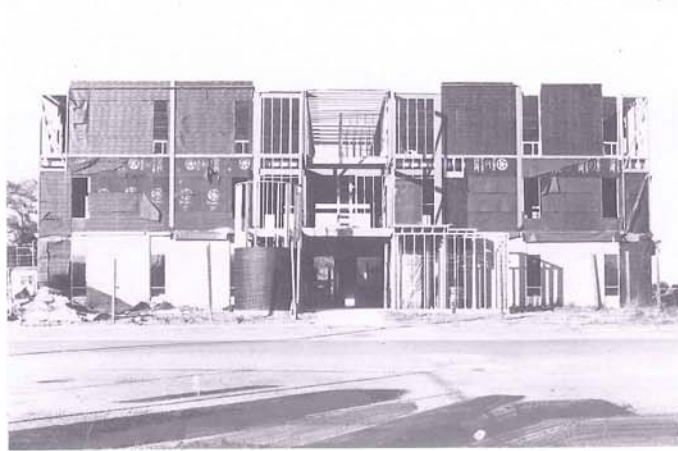
Chief Mumphrey reports the Prevention and Inspection Department went out on 1,298 regular inspections, 44 lectures at schools and civic organizations for prevention, 70 fire investigations and 18 arson investigations.

The Kenner Fire Department, reports Chief Mumphrey now has 52 paid firemen. The Volunteer Company which greatly assists the City has 57 volunteers, making a total of 5,545 calls for 1979.

Our Clerk of Court, Miss Rita



**WENTWOOD SOUTH PLAYGROUND**—Located on West Esplanade at the intersection of Loyola Drive.



**CITY HALL ANNEX BUILDING**—Second and third story additions. Second floor will be used by the Fire Department and the Planning Department.



**KENNER NEIGHBORHOOD PLAYGROUND**—Adjacent to the A. C. Alexander Elementary School on West Esplanade.

Mistretta reported that during the last fiscal year, her office handled 10,078 citations as outlined below:

**Police Department, 9,532; Fire Department, 446; Humane Department, 69; and Regulatory Department, 31.**

Miss Mistretta reports with this excessive number of citations her department is preparing to implement a microfilm system within the Clerk of Court's Office.

J. Eugene Martin, Jr., Civil Defense Director reports a recently completed Disaster Preparedness Manual for the City of Kenner. Last year Mr. Martin reported the City suffered losses by a tornado, a flood, and a minor hurricane. All of these disasters were minimal, and

served as good practice drills.

At this time Mr. Martin reports that we have a complete communications system under the Civil Defense Program.

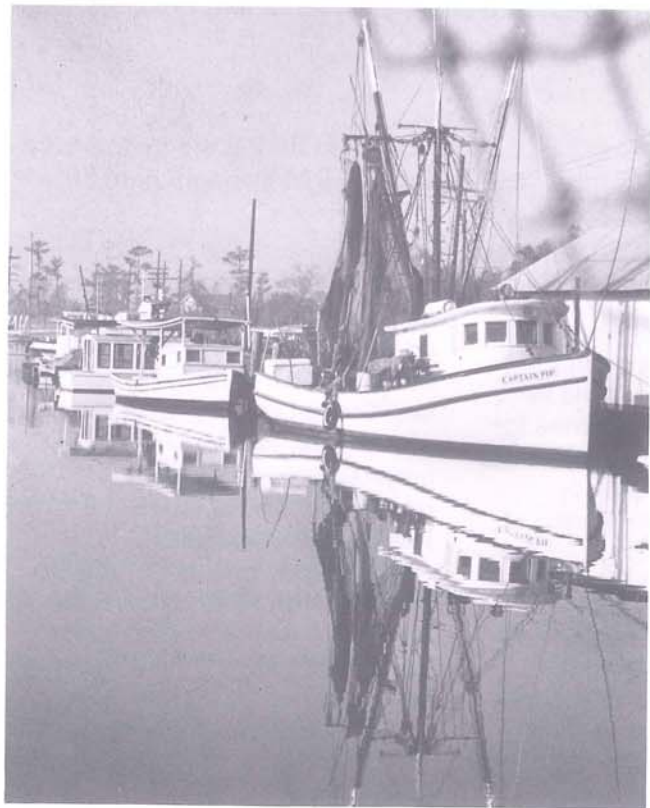
Under Community Development Mr. Martin reports that beginning October 1, 1980 Kenner will become an entitlement grantee for Community Development, and will receive federal funds directly, rather than through the Parish of Jefferson.

In our Humane Department, Mr. Roy Brondum reports that in February 1978 an Ordinance was adopted creating this department. He reports that 2,828 complaint calls of stray animals were recorded, of which 2,196 animals were

picked up during the period from July 1, 1978 through June 30, 1979.

In General, with the City continuing to grow we have begun the construction of a second and third floor addition to the City Hall Annex Building. This will provide adequate facilities to properly serve the ever-growing city needs. The cost of this project is expected to run \$635,000, and will be funded through Federal Revenue Sharing funds.

And finally, we are preparing to celebrate the 125th anniversary of the City of Kenner which will be observed in March, 1980. During the history of Kenner we have watched a farming village grow into the sixth largest city in the State of Louisiana. ●



# Parish, Then And Now



## Introduction

1979 was a period of change in Jefferson Parish. As Jefferson's government was reorganized in the early months of the year, many new faces were added to the Parish work force. And with the general election in the fall, a new administration took office.

As Jefferson continues to develop, it becomes more and more exciting to live in the Parish, with its attractive suburbs, lively entertainment centers, fine restaurants and successful businesses and industries. We ask that you contribute your opinions and support local government, becoming an active part of this dynamic community. It is only through your cooperation that the Parish can achieve its full potential.

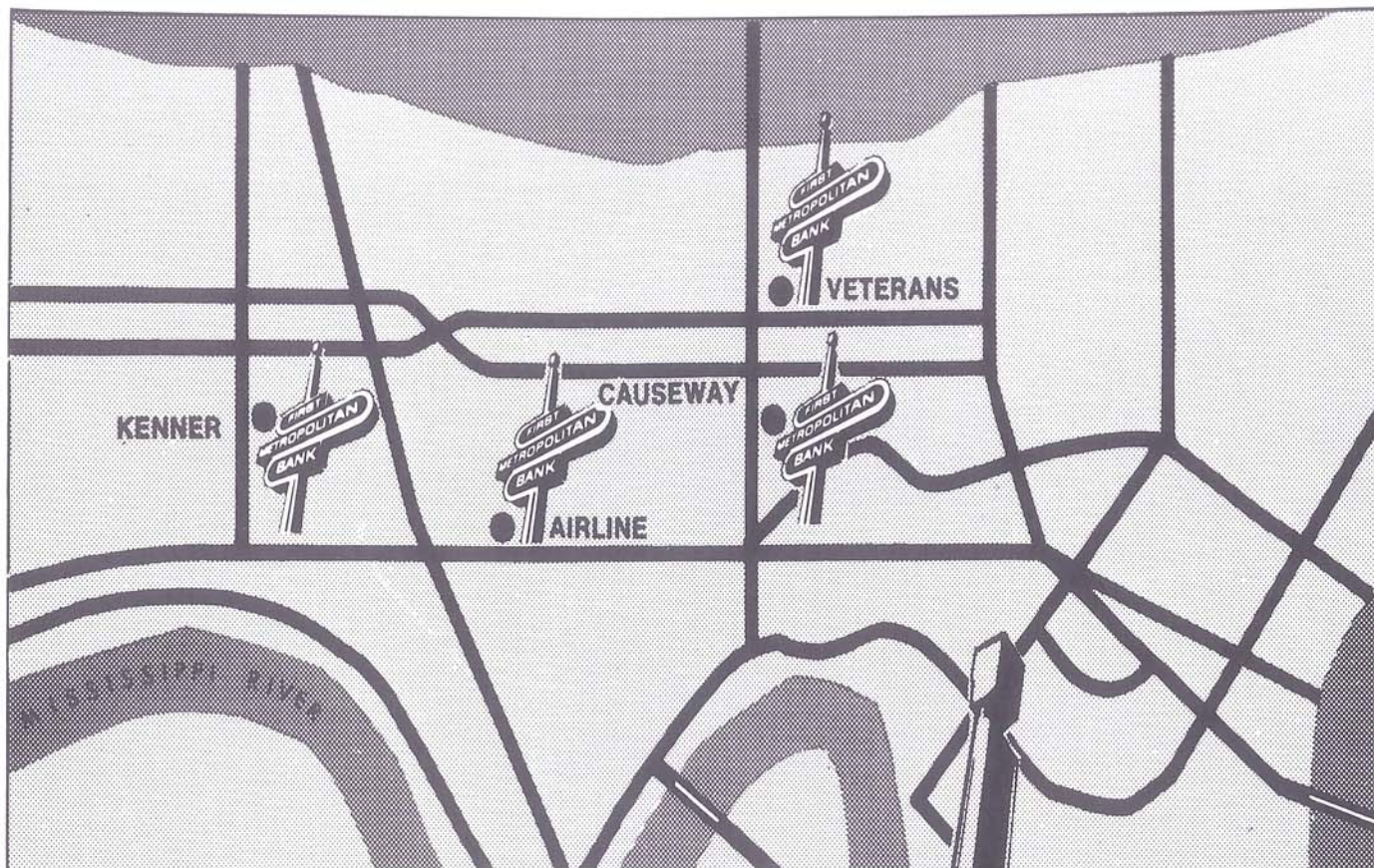
We hope that the special article which follows will help you understand part of Jefferson's history and how the Parish is governed, and encourage you to become involved in local civic affairs.

*The Editors*

## Jefferson Parish

*Jefferson Parish is located West of the City of New Orleans in the State of Louisiana. The shores of Lake Pontchartrain border it on the North as it stretches 60 miles to the Gulf of Mexico on the South, with St. Charles and Lafourche Parishes on the West and Orleans and Plaquemines on the East. It straddles the Mississippi River, and covers 608 square miles of area. 445 square miles of this represents actual land area, which is twice the 199.4 square miles of land area of neighboring Orleans Parish.*

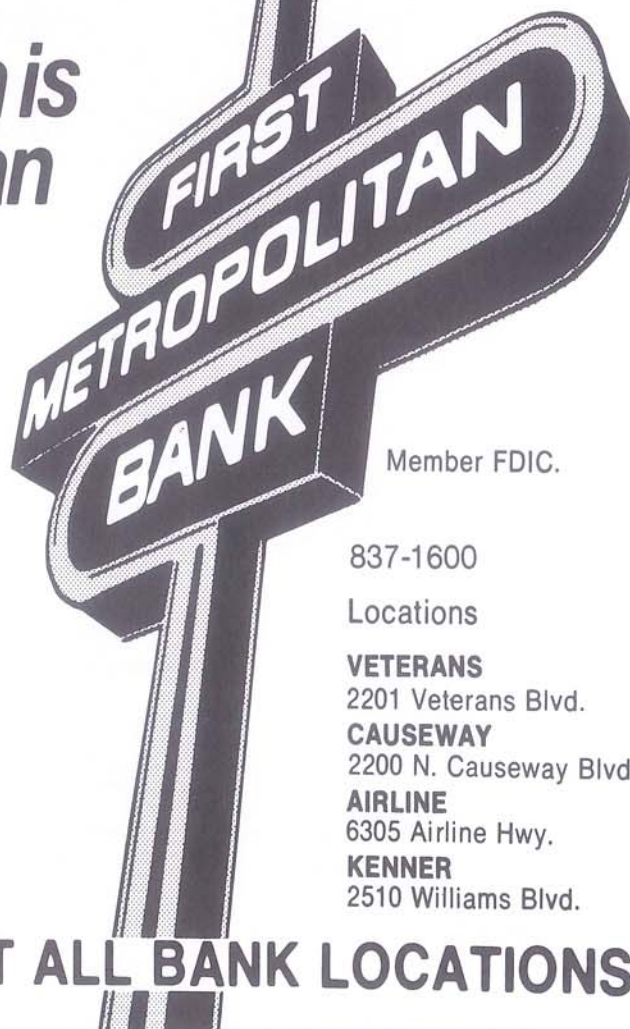
*The land is flat and fertile, and is interlaced with numerous bayous, bays and waterways. It is divided by the Mississippi River, with the salt waters of the Gulf of Mexico splashing on its long stretch of sandy beach at Grand Isle on the South and the shores of Lake Pontchartrain on the North.*



## *Jefferson Parish is First Metropolitan Bank Territory...*

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**AIRLINE**

6305 Airline Hwy.

**KENNER**

2510 Williams Blvd.

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*In Jefferson Parish, the climate generally is mild and semi-tropical with the surrounding bodies of water usually preventing extremes of temperature. The sun shines most of the time and the average monthly temperature goes from 55.11 in January to 82.71 in July. The rainfall averages 63.54 inches a year, with the monthly average running from 3.66 inches in October to 7.09 inches in July.*

## **History:**

### **by Betsy Swanson**

Author of "Jefferson: from Shore to Shore" an authentically documented and beautifully illustrated history of the parish

In the geographical center of Jefferson Parish, thirty miles equidistant from the lapping waves of Lake Pontchartrain and the rolling breakers of the Gulf of Mexico, lies an oak-shrouded bayou juncture where fable and history meet to summarize the rich heritage of the parish. At the confluence of Bayou Barataria and Bayou des Oies (Bayou of the Geese), an old cemetery covers a pre-historic Indian midden, or refuse heap, which marks a former village site of Jefferson's original natives.

These ancient people, who were largely decimated or annihilated in this area soon after the arrival of European settlers, were hunters, fishermen, and farmers. They lived in thatched conical huts on the natural levees of the river and bayous, and erected pyramidal mounds to their gods. Stored in this bayou midden is record of their lifestyle: the archaeological evidence of bones, shells, pottery fragments, fossil seeds and pollens, and the like.

The old cemetery forms an historic layer above the pre-historic remains of the midden, and the quaint grave site long ago inspired a myth among the bayou people. The legend originated so many years ago that no one can remember when Baratarians began to single out three graves, lying side by side, as those of Jean Lafitte, John Paul Jones, and Napoleon Bonaparte—with the Lafitte "grave" in the middle, as if for the bayou folk he served as a link between the other two heroes and

thus as a bond between the old world and the new in the settlement and development of the Parish.

At the time of his rule, Napoleon was esteemed, and even idolized, in Louisiana which had been settled by Frenchmen in the early 1700s. In 1803, Napoleon sold the Louisiana Territory, comprising all or part of thirteen present-day states, to the United States. It was under the administration of Thomas Jefferson, third president of the United States, that the Louisiana Purchase was consummated, and when the Parish of Jefferson was created 22 years later it was named in his honor. An influx of Americans of Anglo-Saxon descent followed the Louisiana Purchase and some obtained sugar plantations, with their gracious, wide-galleried dwellings that crowded the river banks of the Parish, or settled in neat villages that were springing up near New Orleans on former plantation land. The Americans mingled with the largely Creole native population. These descendants of the French and Spanish colonials also enthusiastically embraced the new democracy, which soon tested their patriotism on the field of battle at Chalmette.

There is no historic evidence to connect John Paul Jones, an American naval officer and Revolutionary hero, with Louisiana. However, his exploits against British men-of-war on the high seas on behalf of American independence won admiration in France and he died in that country. Charges by the English that Jones was a pirate were galling to him, and the bayou residents of Barataria who venerated Jean Lafitte—the local privateer whom authorities also labeled as a pirate—perhaps so sympathized with American hero John Paul Jones that they designated a final resting place for him on their bayou. For while Jones played an important role in the War of Independence, Lafitte served his adopted land with equal patriotism in America's second war with Great Britain, and the Baratarians followed him into battle.

In 1805, Jean Lafitte came to Louisiana from Haiti and

organized the privateers of Barataria, making his headquarters on the western tip of Grand Terre Island, fronting Barataria Pass and the Gulf of Mexico. His privateers sailed legally under the flag of Carthagenia (Colombia), with letters of marque from that country entitling them to prey upon Spanish vessels in the Gulf. Authorities in Louisiana placed a price on Lafitte's head because he smuggled slaves and contraband goods through the swampland of Barataria to the New Orleans market, disrupting the economy. Smuggling, however, had been a long-established part of the commerce of Louisiana and the low cost of smuggled goods was welcomed by residents.

Vexed at the privateers' flagrant disregard for customs laws and fearful that the British, in their impending invasion of Louisiana, would secure the aid of the corsairs, Louisiana Governor William C. C. Claiborne was successful in securing the cooperation of federal forces to raid the Grande Terre stronghold in September of 1814.

Lafitte, who had been offered 30,000 British pounds sterling and a commission in the British navy to collaborate with the invaders, but who had been doing battle with them off the Louisiana coast and meanwhile sending messages to Governor Claiborne to warn of their approach, ordered his men not to fire upon the American flag, but to abandon Grand Terre. The privateers fled into the bayous but some, including his brother Dominique You, were taken prisoner. Lafitte's ships and the wealth of goods in his storehouses on Grand Terre were confiscated and the buildings on the island were burned, thus ending Grande Terre's occupation by corsairs.

Lafitte brazenly forced interviews with Governor Claiborne and General Andrew Jackson, who had arrived to take command of the American forces, and convinced these authorities of his sincere desire and ability to help defend New Orleans. His offer was accepted and his brother and men were released from prison to participate in the

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battle.

According to Lafitte's alleged journal, he furnished Jackson at Chalmette with 366 cannons, 6,400 kilos of gunpowder, approximately 300,000 flints (all from his hidden storehouses in the Barataria swamps) as well as 1,515 men, including 400 "battle-tryed artillerymen."

It can be speculated that without the significant aid lent by Lafitte to the American forces at Chalmette, the battle would have been won by the British and the United States would have lost the entire Louisiana Territory. Although a peace treaty had been signed at Ghent in Belgium on the eve of the Battle of New Orleans it provided for the *status quo ante bellum* which the British interpreted to mean that the Louisiana Territory did not belong to the United States before the war.

Several years after the Battle of New Orleans, Jean Lafitte sailed out of the Gulf of Mexico and into legend, an appropriate element of which, perhaps, is his "grave" on Bayou Barataria between his two "compatriots."

On February 11, 1825, during the administration of Governor Henry S. Johnson, Jefferson Parish was created as a civil jurisdiction through the division of the State of Louisiana into senatorial districts in accordance with the state's first constitution. The new parish was largely agricultural; the rich alluvial soil was as productive as the French settlers found it to be when concessions, or land grants, were designated a hundred years earlier and the land first cleared for the cultivation of indigo, rice, corn, tobacco, and beans. By the time the parish was established, sugar cane had replaced indigo as the primary crop, but fruits also were grown on plantations, and cattle, sheep, and swine were raised in large numbers. Some planters operated brickyards and sawmills on their plantations, and logging—which had been begun by the French—became a major industry in the parish. Plantations in Jefferson Parish were extensive and largely self-sufficient establishments. Many produced almost all their own foodstuffs and some

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maintained chapels and hospitals for their slaves. During this period (the second quarter of the nineteenth century) plantation life reached its "Golden Age." The planters' columned homes tended to be lavishly furnished and set amidst luxuriant formal gardens of various geometric patterns, or at the end of an alley of oaks leading to the river, the public road, and the boat landing.

As the parish grew and prospered (the 1830 census showed a total population of 6,846) towns began to form as commercial and agricultural centers and as suburban residential areas. Some had been subdivided before the creation of the parish, such as McDonoghville (now part of Gretna), which was divided into lots in 1815 by John McDonogh, the educational philanthropist who gained the reputation of a recluse and miser. Following the establishment of the parish, however, the construction of railroads along both river banks encouraged the development of a number of thriving little cities. Because of its proximity to the populous City of New Orleans, that area of Jefferson Parish above the original boundary line on the East Bank at Felicity Street was the first to relinquish a succession of old sugar plantations to allow the formation of villages and suburbs. Largest were the incorporated cities of Lafayette (1833), Jefferson (1850), and Carrollton (1833). The first Jefferson Parish courthouse was located in the City of Lafayette, an area now known as the Garden District which was annexed to New Orleans in 1852. The parish seat was then transferred to Carrollton and a fine classical style courthouse, now the Benjamin Franklin School on Carrollton Avenue, was erected to house the parish government. The City of Jefferson was incorporated into New Orleans in 1870, and Carrollton was absorbed by New Orleans four years later when the boundary line between the parishes was placed at its present location, at Monticello Street and the Seventeenth Street Canal.

With this last annexation the seat of parish government was

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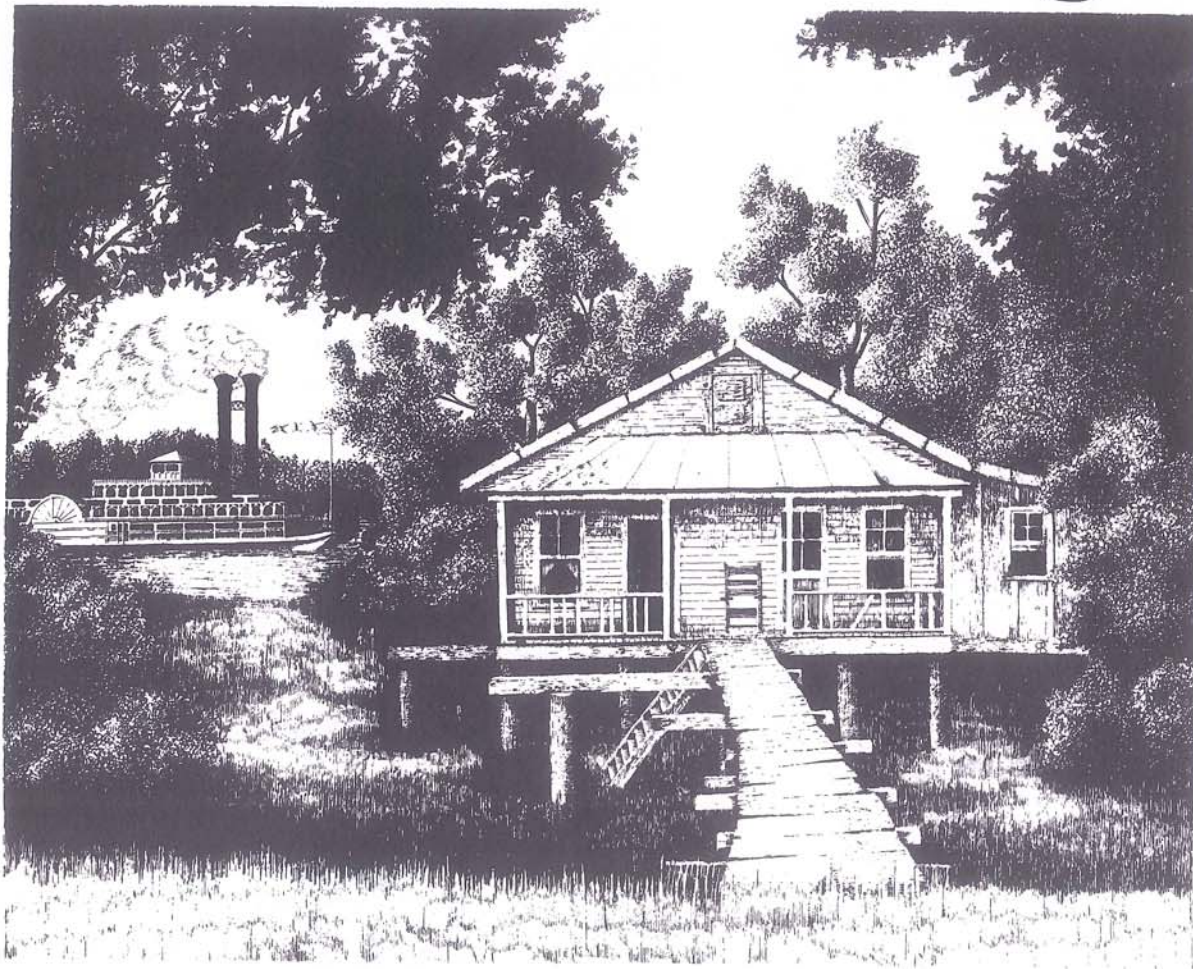
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More recent inhabitants were artists, and poets, or, just freeloaders, who in the '50's sought a cheaper way to live. And live they did—self-sufficiently, quite happily—on land which ownership is still being contested.

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moved to the West Bank of the river in order to service the largest remaining population center of the parish. Gretna, which had been laid out in 1836, was by this time a bustling community and boasted some of the major industries of the parish. The members of the Jefferson Parish Police Jury selected for their government seat a castellated, Gothic-style plantation house known as Harvey's Castle, which formerly stood near the Harvey Canal. In 1884, the parish seat was moved to the William Tell Fire Hall, which still stands at the corner of Newton and Third Streets in Gretna. An impressive neo-classic style courthouse (now Gretna City Hall on Huey P. Long Avenue) was built in 1907. The present modern West Bank Courthouse at Derbigny and Dolhonde Streets in Gretna was built in 1955. Around the same time, the first East Bank Office Building was built on Metairie Road for the convenience of East Bank residents. Later, in 1976, a streamlined four-story office building was erected on Causeway Boulevard in East Jefferson to meet the expansion in departments and during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, population increases occurred on both banks of the river with the development of commercial interests, industry, and residential subdivisions.

In the aftermath of the Civil War, Jefferson's extensive plantations were slowly divided into small farms, and industries such as foundries, ship yards, and steam sawmills gained in importance. Fishing villages in the wetlands of the parish also saw increases in population, as did those of Grand Isle and Cheniere Caminada (which had so large a population that one thousand of its residents were drowned in the disastrous hurricane of 1893). Well into this century, however, the swamp lands which were the haunt of Jean Lafitte remained a wilderness area largely isolated from civilization, until the discovery of vast oil reserves in the area. The establishment of this major industry in the parish, in addition to the key location of the parish, initiated the

population boom of the 1940s and started a chain reaction that mushroomed into the hub of activity that Jefferson Parish is today. Cow-pastures blossomed into subdivisions; cowpaths became roadways; and as traffic changed from a meager trickle to a steady stream, main traffic arteries began to wind their way through the whole parish. Manufacturing plants and industry grew throughout the parish and on the West Bank the Harvey Canal, which leads from the river to the Gulf of Mexico, became the site of Jefferson's major manufacturing and shipping center. Thus it was that Jefferson Parish started its quick but steady stride toward the present. Today, Jefferson Parish stands as a monument to progress and prosperity. It is as modern as tomorrow in its populated regions, having been for many years one of the finest residential sections in the Greater New Orleans area. Its homes, businesses, subdivisions, shopping centers and highways make an uninterrupted transition from one to the other. It is a community for the young (Public Affairs Research Council of Louisiana, Inc., gives the median age as 26.5 years) and for the young in heart. It is a friendly place in which to live, for there is blended the gracious hospitality of the South with the warm friendliness of the West.

Its population has increased four-fold within the past few years and is expanding at an even more rapid rate. It is over 98% industrial, having four industrial enterprises for every mile of its length; and it offers unlimited possibilities in the field of skilled labor.

With its tremendous industrial capacity, Jefferson Parish is one of the most commercially active parishes in Louisiana.

At the time the parish was created meetings of the police jury were required to be held semi-annually in accordance with existing laws. Unfortunately, there are no records of actual elections and meetings of police jury members between 1825 and 1834. If records were kept they may have been destroyed, since it was not until 1834 that the jury

was required by law to keep records. It appears that Jean Murville Harang was the first Judge-President of the police jury and meetings were probably held in his home in Faubourg Livaudais (later part of the City of Lafayette). However, the minutes of the police jury, June 11, 1860, state that the Jefferson Parish police jury was organized by an act of the state legislature on January 30, 1834 (pp. 15-20), which provided that the jury should be composed of "not less than eight nor more than 12 members," and that the parish should be re-districted with the number decided upon.

Elections for members of the police jury were to be held annually, but in case of failure to hold such elections, those already in office were to remain until such time as their successors were inducted.

On February 7 of that year, the jury decided the number of members should remain at 12, six to represent the right bank, two the City of Lafayette, and the other four the remainder of the parish of the left bank. The parish judge was directed to preside over the police jury, with meetings to be held at such times as were deemed proper.

In 1858 friction developed within the governing body, and two police juries were formed—"Police Jury of Jefferson, Right Bank" and "Police Jury of Jefferson, Left Bank."

From the capture of New Orleans by Federal forces in 1862 until 1868, Jefferson was under military occupation. In 1869 the unsavory Metropolitan Police took over and placed the Parish under five commissioners, whose regime lasted ten years. After Rutherford B. Hayes became President of the United States in 1877 and removed occupying Federal troops from the South, free elections were held and the carpetbag state governments were all ousted.

Thus, with the election in 1877 of a new governor (Francis T. Nicholls), and legislature, local parish governments were reinstated and the two Jefferson Parish Police Juries resumed control of their own affairs.



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In 1884 they were consolidated into one, and the Parish governing body was the Police Jury until 1958.

### Early Government

After the Louisiana Purchase (1803), the first Territorial Legislature divided the Territory of Orleans into twelve counties. This Territory of Orleans was approximately the present state of Louisiana, with the exception of the "Florida Parishes", which were then a part of Spanish West Florida. One of these counties, the Comte D'Orleans, comprised the present area of the parishes of Plaquemines, Orleans, St. Bernard and Jefferson.

At the second session of the Territorial Legislature this system was abandoned, and 19 civil parishes were formed in 1807. The eastern part of the County of Orleans was set aside as the parishes of Plaquemines and St. Bernard.

When Louisiana was admitted into the Union as the eighteenth state in 1812, its first constitution (1812) provided that the state be divided into senatorial districts for the purpose of representation.

The First Senatorial District was the parishes of Plaquemines and St. Bernard, previously created in 1807; the Second District comprised the City of New Orleans, whose boundaries extended from the Canal des Pecheurs (Rigolets) to the Nuns' Plantation (Felicity Street).

The Third Senatorial District was the remainder of the County of Orleans, which in 1825 became Jefferson Parish. The legislation which created the Parish provided that a committee composed of prominent planters and citizens including Lucien Labranche, L. Dussuan, Jean Baptiste Lebreton, J. Holliday, F. B. de Labarre, L. Volant Labarre, Francois Dorville, D. Villars, L. Dussuan de Lacroix, Joseph Verloin, and Felix Delery, or a majority of them, divide the parish into 12 wards so that the electors of each ward could elect one member to serve on the police jury. The members so elected were to serve for a term of two years, one-half being elected each year.



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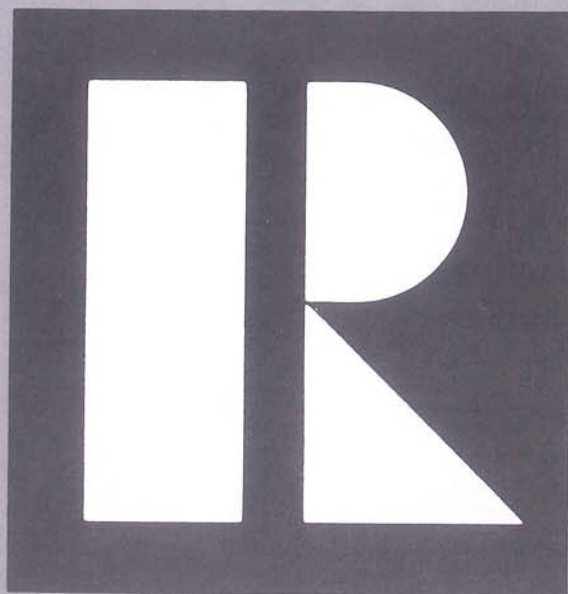
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## **Present Government**

By Barbara B. Lacour

In 1956, after a study by a citizens' group, an abortive attempt was made to create a Commission Council form of government. Candidates for office were elected, but the legislative act empowering the election was held unconstitutional by the Louisiana Supreme Court. The preceding Police Jury, whose terms had expired, held the reins for the period in which a decision was made as to another form of government.

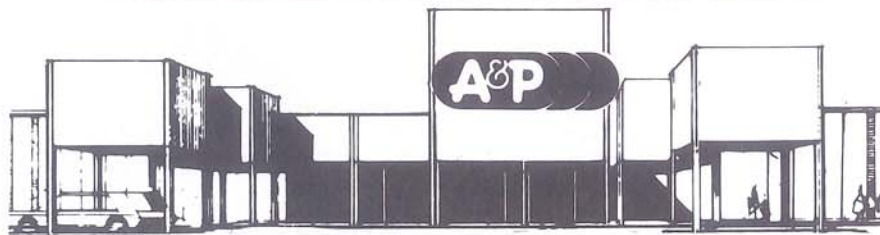
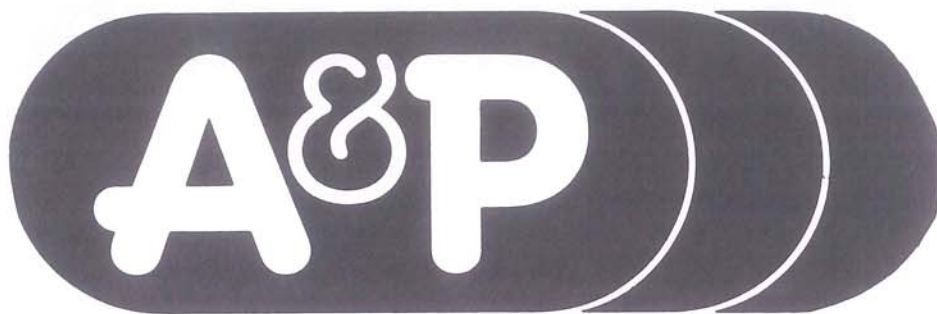
After a study by a legislatively-empowered Charter Commission, the Parish secured a Home Rule Charter through a parishwide election. Under this Charter, a President (administrator) and a seven-member Council were elected. The Parish President and the Council Chairman were elected parishwide, with Councilmen being selected on the basis of one for each district, plus one at-large for each bank of the River.

In September, 1977 a consulting firm was retained by Jefferson to conduct an intensive study of the Parish's operations and practices, and to make recommendations for improving efficiency in local government. On May 31, 1978, these recommendations were submitted to the Council by the Parish President, with a top priority being the reorganization or realignment of various departments to improve public services.

Throughout the remainder of 1978 and 1979, changes affecting nearly every department in the Parish were made, resulting in a new and more effective governmental structure.

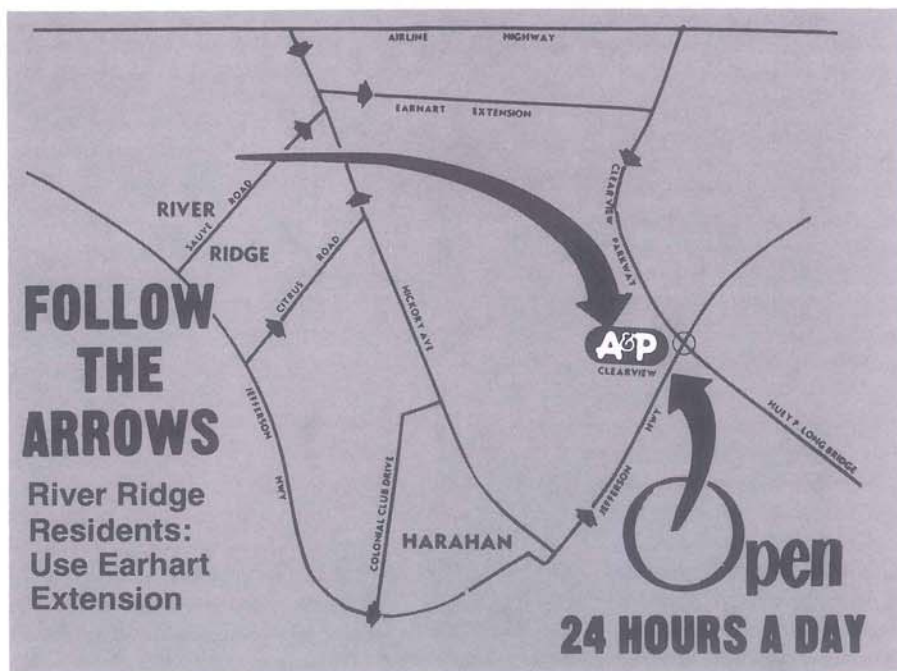
### **Governing Authority**

The authority of the President and the Council is confined to the unincorporated areas of the Parish, although the voters of the incorporated towns and cities (Gretna, Harahan, Kenner, Lafitte, Westwego and Grand Isle) participate in the election of these officials and their citizens are



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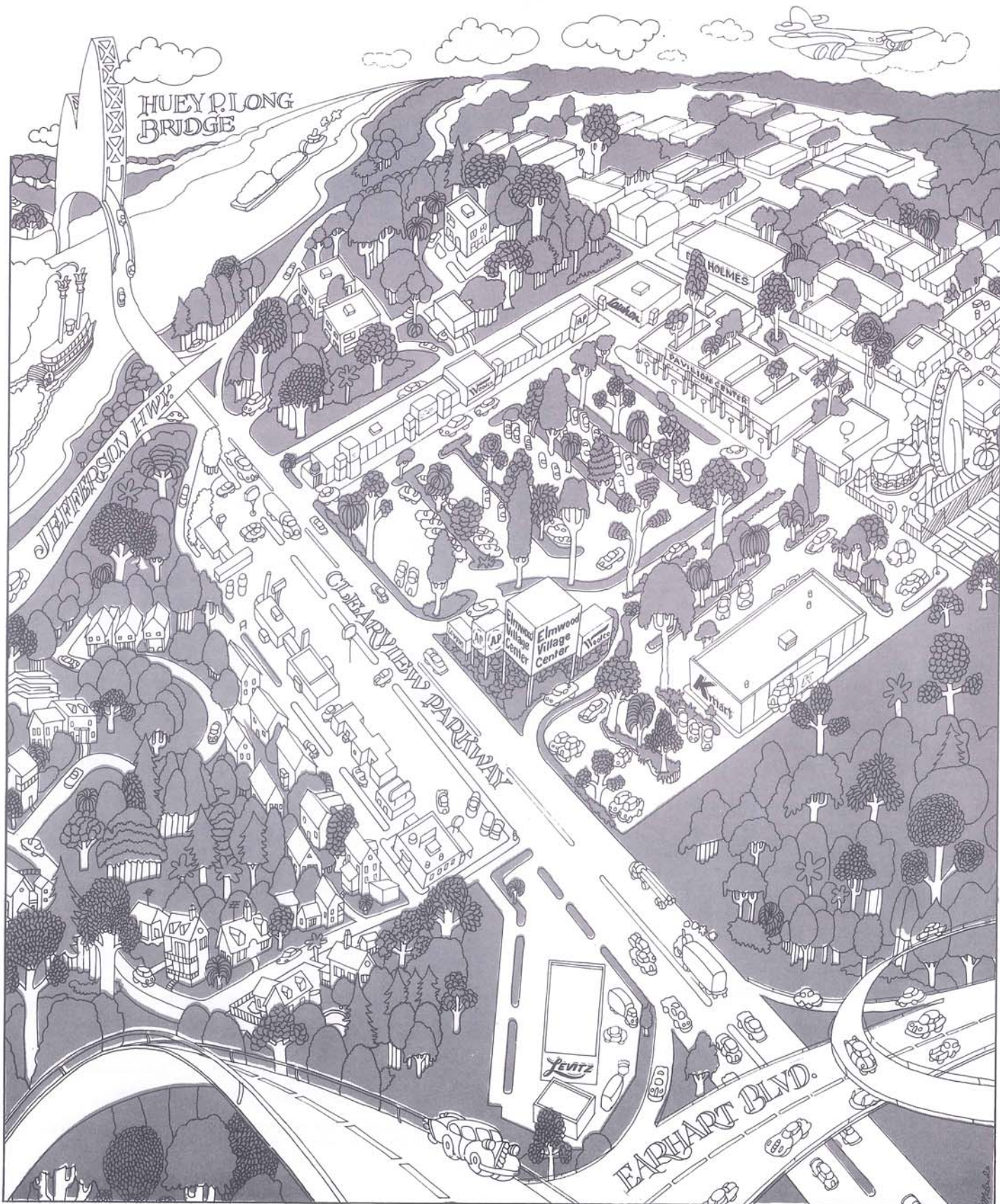
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The idea for Elmwood has been around for centuries. It was already here. In the trees. In open and green spaces. They inspired a unique development idea, the commercial park. Elmwood is a self-contained commercial community set apart from the frantic hustle and bustle of the city and dedicated to making shopping and working the pleasures that they ought to be. It is located in the historic lands of Monsieur Nicholas Chauvin de la Freniere's Elmwood, one of the oldest plantations in the Mississippi Valley. Just 20 minutes from downtown New Orleans, Elmwood is bound by the Jefferson Highway, Airline Highway and the Clearview extension of I-10. The Huey P. Long Bridge connects Elmwood with the West Bank, and with the opening of the first leg of the Earhart Boulevard extension from Hickory to Clearview, River Ridge, Harahan and beyond are closer than ever. When the Earhart Boulevard extension is fully completed, Elmwood and Uptown New Orleans as well as the Central Business District will practically be neighbors.



## Elmwood Commercial Villages

From the East Bank, from the West Bank, from all over the region, thousands of people are already shopping and playing in Elmwood. Such retail giants as Woolco, A & P, John F. Lawhon Furniture, Weiner Contract Furniture Rental, Compass Furniture, D.H. Holmes Warehouse Store, Levitz, Singer Lumber Mart, Campo Appliances and others are drawing record crowds. Soon to come is a major K-Mart store. Skate Country and an amusement area called Kiddieland are now open. Scheduled for early completion is a major tennis facility with a dozen tournament-quality courts.

## The Pavilion Center

One of the most desirable aspects of Elmwood for the retailer and the shopper is the development of the Pavilion Center Complex. The Center is a beautifully landscaped community center shopping facility featuring space for a variety of tenants. Some of the major tenants already committed and open in the Pavilion Center are: Fasullo Drugs; Jefferson Bank & Trust; A & G Cafeteria; Tape City USA; Elmwood Cinemas I, II, III & IV; The Elmwood Olympic Ice Skating Rink and several men's and women's boutique fashion shops. Prime space is still available in the 200,000 square foot Pavilion Center.

## Elmwood Corporate Village

The tallest things in Elmwood Corporate Village are the trees. The 1,100,000 square feet of office space in Corporate Village could have been squeezed into a 50-story skyscraper. But it wasn't. Spread out among 45 acres of trees will be a series of low-rise buildings with services integrated to foster a park-like atmosphere. Parking is off-street. Electrical and telephone wires are placed underground, wherever possible.

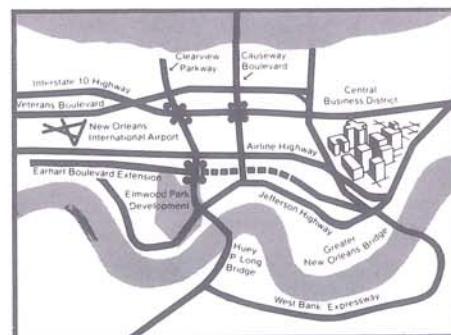
The office park, with three buildings containing 220,000 square feet, has been in existence for two years. Five new buildings, (three five-story structures and two three-story buildings) are being added to the "village." The new structures will be completed in a year and will increase the office space in the development to 640,000 square feet. Such national and local tenants as Honeywell Systems, General Electric, First National City Bank, NBC of Jefferson and many others are already



working in or are committed to Elmwood Corporate Village.

## Elmwood. Population 20,000.

Elmwood is not a dream. It is a place where 20,000 people are already hard at work. When fully completed 34,000 will work in Elmwood. Many thousands of others will daily shop and play here. The new Elmwood Mall, a 1,500,000 square foot shopping complex will be open by fall of 1981. Elmwood is an exciting place. And it's happening now. Shouldn't you be a part of it?



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eligible to run for election to Parish offices.

The Charter places the offices of the Sheriff, Clerk of Court, Assessor, Coroner, and School Board outside the jurisdiction of the Council. These positions are elective. They derive their authority from the state constitution.

### **Parish President**

The Parish President is the chief administrative officer of the Parish and is responsible to the Parish Council for carrying out policies adopted by the Council and supervision of all Parish departments, offices, agencies, and special districts. He has the power to appoint and remove, subject to the provisions of the Charter, all administrative officers and employees responsible to him.

He shall submit the Parish budget to the Council for approval, at least 60 days before the end of the fiscal year. He must also submit any reports from the departments under his supervision which the Council may require.

The Council may create new offices or departments only upon his recommendation.

The President does not have veto power over legislative acts of the Council.

He may designate a qualified administrative employee of the Parish to assume his duties and authority during periods of his temporary absence or disability.

**Term of Office:** Four years.

### **The Parish Council**

The Parish Council is the legislative and policy-making body of the Parish and may adopt such ordinances and resolutions as may be proper to this function.

The Council consists of one Councilman-at-Large who is elected parishwide and is designated by law as Council Chairman, an East Bank Councilman-at-Large, a West Bank Councilman-at-Large, and four District Councilmen. The Council elects one of its members to serve as Vice-Chairman.

The Council may:

Levy and collect taxes, special assessments, service charges, license charges, fees and other

revenues, and borrow money in such manner and subject to such limitations as provided by law.

Make appropriations for all Parish purposes.

Require periodic and special reports from all Parish officers concerning their respective departments, offices, etc. These reports shall be submitted by and through the Parish President in the case of those departments, etc. subject to his jurisdiction.

Make investigations of Parish affairs by inquiring into the conduct of any department, office, etc., including the investigation of accounts, records, etc., It may subpoena witnesses and administer oaths.

By ordinance, abolish or consolidate any Parish department, office, or agency, and provide for the transfer of any of the functions of such departments. The Council may create offices or departments only upon recommendation of the Parish President. Perform any other acts, consistent with law, deemed to be for the best interest of the people of the Parish. It has the power of eminent domain, meaning the right to expropriate property for public purposes as provided by law, and to make just compensation for any properties thus acquired.

The Council sits as a Board of Review on property tax assessments.

The Council meets regularly at such times as may be prescribed by its rules (by practice, on alternate Wednesdays at 10 a.m. in the Council Chambers, Gretna Courthouse, or the East Bank Office Building in Metairie). It may not meet less than once a month. Special meetings may be held on twelve hours' notice by the Clerk to each member upon the call of the Chairman or a majority of the members, unless notice is waived in writing.

A majority of the members constitutes a quorum, but a small number may adjourn from time to time to compel the attendance of its members. No action is valid or binding unless adopted by the affirmative vote of a majority of the Council members. Council Chairman is elected parishwide. A Vice-Chairman is elected from among the members of the

Council. The Chairman presides over all meetings of the Council and signs all official documents pertaining to policies established by the Council.

**Term of Office:** Four years.

### **Council Clerk**

Clerk of the Council is an employee of the Council and serves at its pleasure. He must keep a journal of its proceedings which is a public record. This position does not come under classified civil service. Duties include tabulating bids, processing ordinances, acts, resolutions and motions. Election results are promulgated at Council meetings under his supervision.

### **Departments**

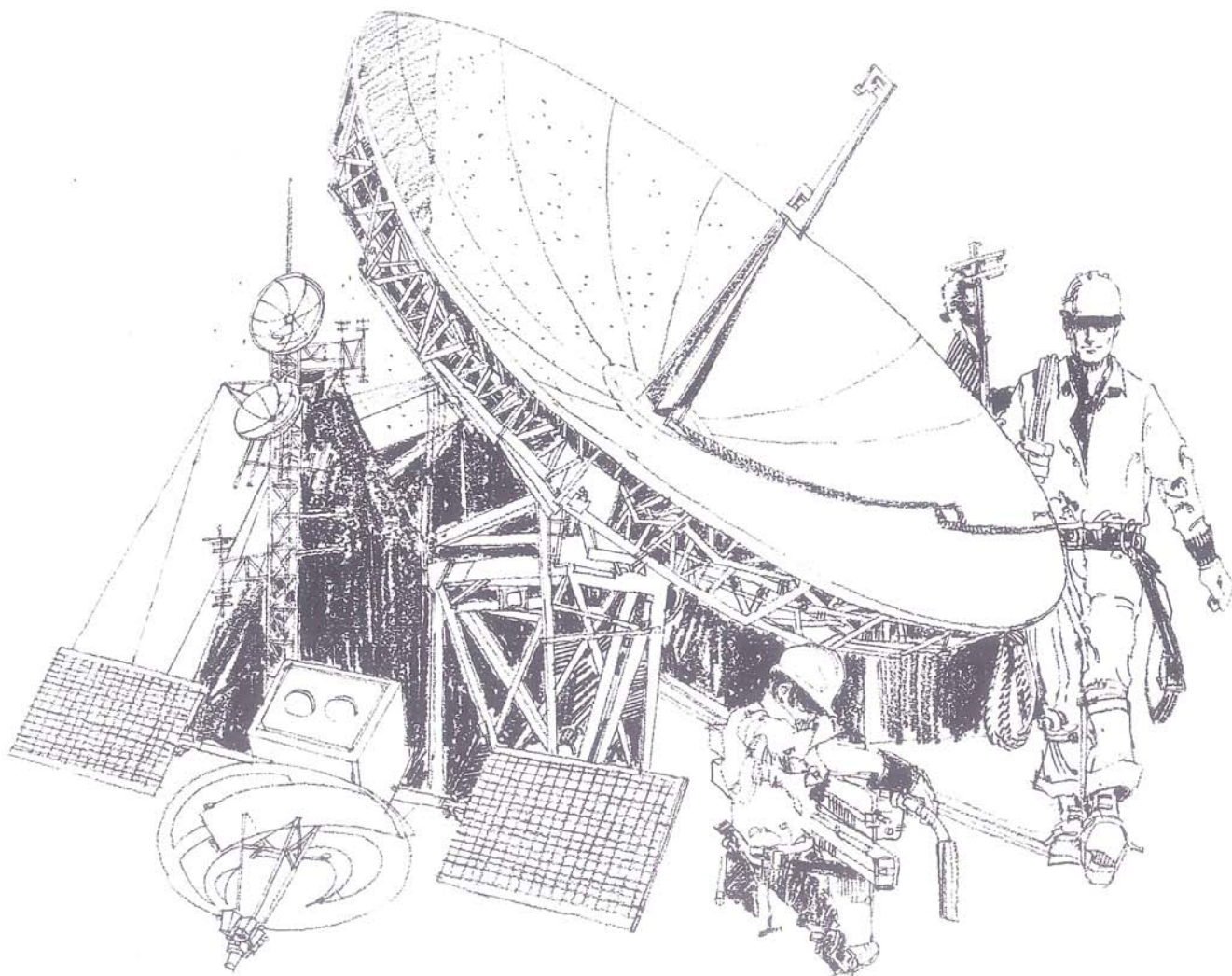
The following office descriptions refer to specific departmental functions and responsibilities as they existed through April, 1979. Any changes in the duties and/or structure of departments made after that date will be covered in the next issue of the *Review*.

### **Research and Budget Analysis**

The Department of Research and Budget Analysis was established by the Jefferson Parish Council in 1960 for the purpose of providing an independent method of obtaining information regarding any matters of interest to the Council.

This office examines the budget submitted to the Council, investigating items contained therein, and making recommendations. It is empowered to conduct research and investigations into administrative or executive departments or Parish affairs in general.

In addition to the many projects and reports prepared at the Council's request, statistical data of a general nature is compiled and updated on a routine basis and is readily available to the members of the Parish Council. Information regarding functional problems of local government can be obtained through the department. Numerous other important functions are routinely handled here, including precinct



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Cox Cable TV operates systems throughout the country, including the nation's largest, in San Diego. Everyone in your local office is from Jefferson Parish—we're your neighbors.

We're on duty 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, making Jefferson Parish an even better, more progressive place to live. We're proud to be residents of Jefferson Parish. And we're proud to be part of the Cox Cable system.



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boundary changes, legislative research and the drafting of Council legislation.

## Personnel

The Personnel Department is one of the four departments of government required by the Parish Charter. Its function and responsibility is to provide staff personnel services for the general Parish government, and to provide a merit system of employment guaranteeing employee selection and retention on the basis of job-related qualifications, and without regard to such factors as race, religion, politics, and national origin.

A three member, quasi-judicial,

autonomous Board is responsible for the merit system of employment and for the appointment of the Personnel Director. The Board Members are appointed by the Parish President; two by the nominations of the presidents of Tulane and Loyola Universities, and one with the approval of the Council. The Board has self-perpetuating continuity in that the members serve overlapping terms of six years each. A principal duty of the Board is to hear and decide appeals from employees who feel that they have been unjustly fired or disciplined.

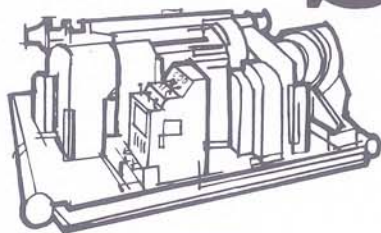
The principal functions of the Personnel Department are recruitment, examination, and

certification of employment eligibles; classification of positions; pay planning and administration, and recommendation and administration of personnel rules.

A new position, Personnel Board Special Assistant, was created to assist the Board and the director in the receipt and processing of appeals, to do legal research for the Board and the department and to assist the Board, director and other Parish officials with the numerous questions arising out of federal laws and regulations related to employment and personnel management.

The department is headed by the Personnel Director who is

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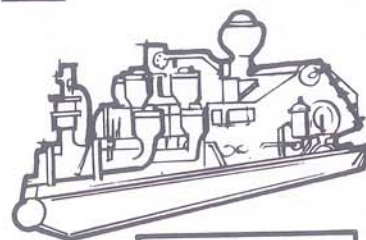
8

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appointed by and responsible to the Personnel Board. The Department is headquartered in the Parish Office Building in Gretna, with a branch application office in Metairie.

### Legal

The Department of Law, established by the Charter, is headed by the Parish Attorney. He is named to the position by the Parish President, with the approval of the Council. He may appoint and remove his assistants. This department handles all Parish legal affairs, representing it in Court, and establishing the legality of all its ordinances and actions. The

Parish Attorney's Office may make property acquisitions for highways, playgrounds, etc.

### Management Services

The Department of Management Services was established to insure that Jefferson Parish derives maximum benefits from its daily operations. It was created by ordinance on August 23, 1978. The department's central role is that of a catalyst for implementation of efficiency and effectiveness improvements.

Responsible directly to the Parish President, this department is comprised of a director, management analysts, and internal auditors. The office of the

Data Processing Coordinator also is closely affiliated with this group.

The Management Services team began its work with special purpose projects within the general areas of fleet management and procurement. Specific activities have included evaluation of purchasing procedures, compilation of a master fleet inventory, investigation of innovative lighting techniques such as high pressure sodium bulbs, and cost analysis of typewriter maintenance methods.

Other studies involve several diversified areas which share a common purpose of parishwide effectiveness. Among these



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studies are standardization of specifications on such items as paper products and office furniture and equipment, storage and warehousing facilities, office space utilization, telephone system cost benefit analysis, and a centralized mailroom concept.

An important part of the department's function is to explore new areas for future analysis. Such projects include contract monitoring and evaluation; inventory controls systems; accounting controls; records storage, retrieval and retention; and work productivity. The Department of Management Services welcomes suggestions for other possible areas of efficiency/effectiveness analysis of benefit to the Parish.

### **Finance**

Traditionally, the Finance Department was responsible for accounting, budgeting, purchasing, pre-auditing, treasury, debt-retirement and any other function as defined by the Parish Charter. Since its restructuring, the department also is responsible for employee training, manpower programs, federal liaison and support services.

In managing the financial and administrative activities of the Parish, the finance director's involvement in policymaking and planning activities have been given new emphasis. Specific experience and qualification requirements are defined by the

new ordinance affecting the position.

The Director is required to submit financial reports as required by the Council or Parish President, and must be qualified by special training and experience in public finance. He is appointed by the Parish President.

### **General Services and Procurement**

The Department of General Services and Procurement is responsible for the development and administration of a system of purchasing all materials, equipment and services for all departments in Jefferson Parish. It also is involved in the

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children, education is important for providing a skilled labor force and advanced education. Remarkable strides were made in this area in 1977.

— **Transportation . . .** is imperative for all business and industry. Increased non-stop flights and transatlantic flights are a direct result of the Chamber's work. Improvements in surface transportation, the Carrollton overpass and the direct link between the Moisant Airport and I-10 are also visible advancements.

— **Legislation . . .** is instrumental in creating an environment conducive to business and industry. Defeat of the Common Situs Bill, strong lobbying against the Outer Continental Shelf

Act, the Administration's proposed energy package, and NLRA are only a few of the issues handled by the Chamber's Governmental Affairs Committee.

— **Area Councils . . .** represent specific needs of each of the seven parishes in the Chamber's area. Marked progress in the CBD, beginning construction on the Westbank Expressway, improved transportation in St. Bernard, emergency medical service in Plaquemines — these are a few examples of the achievements of the area councils.



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development and administration of a system of fixed assets control and accounting for all fixed assets owned by the Parish.

The office is responsible for the administration of the maintenance and operation of public buildings, as well as the centralized administration of other intragovernmental services, including but not limited to messenger service, mail service, telephone and micro-filming.

#### **Training and Employee Development**

The Department of Training and Employee Development was established in the Fall of 1976 and is responsible for the growth of

the most valuable resource of Jefferson Parish government, its employees. Its principal functions include conducting in-house training courses, workshops, conferences and seminars, as well as providing new employees orientation programs and pre-retirement seminars.

In order to improve the productivity and efficiency of the services being rendered to the public, the Department of Training and Employee Development administers an Adult Education Program, whereby employees who have not completed their high school education are afforded the opportunity to work toward a General Equivalency Diploma.

All training programs are

conducted during normal working hours. Employees' participation in any of the variety of programs offered is viewed as a normal work assignment.

Through formalized training programs for employees, Jefferson Parish intends to work toward constant improvements of public services and to offer career opportunities in Parish government.

#### **Federal Liaison**

The Federal Liaison Department was created by ordinance on September 2, 1976. The department's main thrust is to acquire maximum federal financial participation in programs developed nationally

for local governments. It works through federal administrative agencies in Dallas and Washington along with congressional offices in varied areas of federal funding coordination and planning activities. This department also maintains the "Man-in-Washington" service which represents the parish's interest in the nation's capital. The department's operation provides extensive sources of federal program information and services, including the development of grant and aid programs and writing of grant proposals (most proposals are developed in conjunction with other parish agencies such as the Water Department, Drainage, etc.) and the following of all federal legislation and federal administrative changes which may affect the Parish. The director of the Federal Liaison Department is appointed by the Parish President.

### **Planning**

As a result of recommendations from a national management analysis firm, the Planning Department has been reorganized as one of six cabinet-level departments within the administrative arm of Parish government. The revamped Planning Department is responsible for overseeing the functions of the subdepartments of Community Planning, Parks and Recreation (including library services), Community Development Programs, Inspection and Code Enforcement and Community Action Programs. The Department of Community Planning performs the duties of the former Planning Department.

### **Community Planning**

The Community Planning Department is headed by a qualified director, appointed by the Parish President. The department's function is to plan and prepare for the social, economic and physical development of the Parish.

It is responsible for the Master Plan of Jefferson, which includes population reports and land use

surveys.

It inspects all plans for subdivisions of land and any change to the comprehensive zoning ordinance. The department is supported by two boards: the Planning Advisory Board and the Zoning Appeals Board.

### **Parks and Recreation**

The Recreation Department had a change in name in 1979 when operations for Lafreniere Park, now under construction, came under the department's jurisdiction.

Now known as the Jefferson Parish Park and Recreation Department, this office includes parks, playgrounds and libraries in Jefferson. It operates community centers scattered throughout the Parish, each offering a variety of programs for area residents. Facilities include picnic shelters, tennis courts, running tracks and meeting rooms on both the East and West Banks.

West Bank operations have greatly increased, with the near completion of an \$8.5 million capital development program culminating in the creation of ten new community centers and scores of new baseball fields and tennis courts.

On the East Bank, Lafreniere Park—a 125-acre recreational site—continued development, with lagoons, cycling trails, picnic and landscaped areas expected in the future.

The Library Division operates eleven libraries and two bookmobiles, with a new library presently being planned for the Parish. From May, 1978 to April, 1979, circulation was 757,795; filmviewing audience 2,033,242; registered borrowers, 98,034; microfilm collection, 5,327 reels; motion picture collection, 3,177 titles and 3,769 prints; and magazine collection, 277 titles.

### **Community Development Program**

The Community Development Program channels federal funds to be used primarily for physical development activities and helps low and moderate-income

families throughout the Parish and its municipalities.

The Housing Program which operates under Community Development provides assistance to persons wishing to rehabilitate their homes to bring them up to code standards. It was initially created to upgrade targeted neighborhoods in the Parish, but in September, 1978, funding also became available for all low and moderate-income persons meeting specific eligibility requirements.

Since 1975, funding for the program has increased dramatically, from \$1.4 million to \$6.1 million in 1979.

### **Department of Inspection and Code Enforcement**

The Department of Inspection and Code Enforcement is organized into four divisions to deal with the safety needs of the Parish and to issue permits in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Parish Building Code.

The Department of Inspection and Code Enforcement inspects new construction and additions to old structures for compliance with zoning regulations, and inspects buildings for compliance with minimum building standards as far as structure, electrical work, plumbing, and mechanical safety are concerned; it also inspects slab elevations for the flood insurance program.

The Division of Housing Improvements is responsible for inspecting housing to see that it meets minimum standards for health and safety. The division is operated on a preventative basis, with inspection personnel visiting deteriorating housing to point out to property owners the advantages of taking action to prevent the occurrence of slums.

The Street Lighting Division maintains a regular program for providing lighting for new streets and major thoroughfares, as well as handling requests from citizens for additional lighting in residential neighborhoods. It collects for damages to the street lighting systems and makes repairs as needed. The department designs lighting

systems and authorizes payment to sub-contractors.

The Taxicab Division issues permits to operators of taxicabs and makes inspections of vehicles used as taxicabs to insure that they are safe and fully operative. Also, permits are issued for limousines to operate in the Parish of Jefferson.

### **Jefferson Community Action Program**

The Jefferson Community Action Program (JeffCAP) is a federally-funded operation which conducts 13 programs at eight centers located throughout the Parish.

The basic philosophy of this department is to be an advocate for the poor by helping them to help themselves. It develops community programs to meet the various needs of the poor and helps remove obstacles which might keep people in poverty conditions.

Some programs operating under JeffCAP are: Adult and Child Transportation, Emergency Energy Conservation, Energy Research, Operation SAFE (Secure Alternatives for the Elderly), Emergency Energy Assistance, Citizen Participation, Senior Citizen, Comprehensive Housing Counseling, Youth Development and the Summer Feeding/Recreation Programs.

### **Environmental Services**

The Department of Environmental Services, one of six cabinet-level Parish departments, was created by the Jefferson Parish Council on June 21, 1978, as a result of recommendations made by the consultants Booz, Allen and Hamilton.

This Department has administrative supervision over the Departments of Mosquito Control, Animal Shelter, Environmental and Development Control, and Pollution Control.

The Department provides policy development and management guidance in areas of environmental impact and enforcement, garbage and trash collection and pest control.

The department director coordinates budget formulation

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activities of the Environmental Services group, directs the group's operating policies, prepares the group's policy statement, evaluates operations of the group, and counsels with the Parish President and Council on policy decisions affecting the environmental services group.

### Mosquito Control

The Mosquito Control Department administers a year round mosquito control program which attacks the mosquito problem on three fronts. The Permanent Control Division is responsible for the elimination of breeding sites by means of ditching, filling, or water management. The proper use of these source reduction techniques results in lower expenditures for temporary control measures. The Temporary Controls Division uses two control methods, larviciding and adulticiding. Larviciding is the method of spraying surface water, which cannot be drained, using land and amphibious vehicles and helicopters to kill the immature stages of the mosquitoes. Adulticiding is the use of ultra-low volume (ULV) spraying and misting by land or air to kill the adult mosquitoes. Over the past year, new highly sensitive instruments used to measure flow and pressure rates were developed and adapted for use with Jefferson's ULV spraying units.

In 1978, 1,234 positive breeding sites were inspected, with 85% being confirmed as man-made. Over 2,757 man hours were devoted to permanent control between January and May, 1979 while temporary controls—inspections, larviciding, adulticiding and herbiciding—accounted for 5,303 man-hours in 1978.

The composite mosquito population of 1969 based on weekly average collections were 42.13 mosquitoes (per light trap) versus 11.63 in 1979, indicating that mosquito numbers have been reduced by almost 75% in the past decade.

Since 1965, the Parish has had no mosquito-borne epidemics, despite outbreaks in the

surrounding areas of Texas, Alabama, Mississippi and even as close as Covington. Canine deaths caused by heartworm disease also are decreasing as the mosquito population decreases and as dog owners begin administering special preventative medicine to their pets on a daily basis.

An active public education and information officer rounds out the comprehensive control program, making presentations to numerous schools and other groups on mosquito prevention. In the past year, the department conducted 238 speaking engagements, as well as 314 slide or movie presentations, reaching 11,644 Jefferson residents. Over 80,000 pieces of literature on the subject of mosquito control were distributed.

### **Animal Shelter**

The Animal Shelter Department's priority function is the handling of bite cases. The department picks up animals involved and holds them for the prescribed period, or if the animal has been killed, performs the necessary laboratory work to determine if rabies shots are necessary for the victim. It picks up hurt stray animals and brings them to the shelter for care, and investigates complaints regarding cruelty to animals.

Within the limits of time and space available, the department picks up stray animals, maintains an adoption program for those animals which are not claimed by owners within a reasonable period of time, gives rabies shots and issues licenses, supplies veterinarians with rabies tags and licenses, answers inquiries from the public about animal care, and maintains a humane education program in cooperation with elementary schools throughout the Parish.

The department maintains a close liaison with the Health Department, keeping all necessary records in compliance with Health Department requirements.

The Shelter is open from 7 a.m. to 11 p.m. seven days a week (including holidays) to accept any

unwanted animal. It maintains the same hours for pickup service, although nights and weekends are reserved for emergencies. The hours for adoptions and redemptions are from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Mondays through Saturdays (excluding holidays).

### **Environmental and Development Control**

The Department of Environmental and Development Control was created by Council ordinance in 1977.

One of the purposes of this department is to deal with environmental problems regarding Parish projects. Some departmental assignments include participation in the Bucktown Marine Environmental Impact Assessment, the creation and restoration of marshes in the wetlands, and the enforcement of the Comprehensive Sewerage Ordinance regulating the quality of wastewater discharged into Lake Pontchartrain and the Barataria Estuary, which provides Louisiana and the entire United States with the finest quality of seafood.

Jefferson is a large energy producer, both in inland and offshore waters. In recognizing this fact, the Council seeks through this department to successfully manage Jefferson's environment through orderly development.

The Parish also enjoys and benefits from industrial, commercial and residential interests. Through the efforts of the Environmental and Development Control Department, the business and residential communities should continue to enjoy an economically and environmentally healthy climate.

### **Pollution Control**

The Jefferson Parish Advisory Committee on Pollution Control was created on February 18, 1971, consisting of seven members appointed by individual councilmen.

The office was fully implemented in 1974, and in 1975 was allocated special trucks to clean all Parish property. In December, 1978 at the direction of the Parish

President, Pollution Control was designated as a department, operating under the Department of Environmental Services.

Duties of the Pollution Control Department include the control of solid waste through a program of education and enforcement, with inspectors having the authority to issue misdemeanor summons to violators. The department also conducts annual "Keep Jefferson Clean" campaigns, which have been very successful.

Pollution Control consists of a secretarial staff, inspectors on both the East and West Banks, truck drivers, an equipment operator, a superintendent, a foreman, security guards and laborers.

### **Emergency Management**

The Department of Emergency Management was created by ordinance on September 27, 1978, but did not become active until the first director was appointed in late February, 1979. The department has direct administrative supervision over fire protection and civil defense. Also, it monitors all ambulance activities in the Parish. Specifically, the department provides policy development and management guidance in the areas of fire prevention and protection, emergency planning for natural and other catastrophies and the coordination of emergency services throughout the Parish.

One of the primary objectives of the department is to coordinate the efforts of nineteen (19) independent fire departments with a goal of improving the level of fire protection and other related services.

The director of the Department of Emergency Services is appointed by the Parish President with the approval of the Council.

### **Fire**

Fire protection in the unincorporated portions of Jefferson Parish is provided by nineteen fire departments, eighteen of which are mainly volunteer and one fully paid. The paid department provides protection to about one-third of

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the Parish with the remainder being protected by the volunteer departments. The Parish is extremely fortunate to have available the present system of capable and efficient volunteer departments, for without it, fire protection costs to the Parish would almost double.

Each of the fire departments perform a variety of services, from fire suppression to fire prevention. The full paid East Bank Consolidated Fire Department consists of about 200 employees under the direct supervision of a district chief who reports directly to the director of Emergency Management.

Seventeen volunteer fire departments provide fire protection to the entire West Bank (except in the cities of Gretna and Westwego), and one volunteer department operates on the East Bank. All of the volunteer departments provide fire protection under a contract agreement with the Parish, with a total of approximately 1400 volunteer personnel operating out of 25 fire stations.

Department personnel attend numerous courses on fire and emergency-related topics, including pre-fire planning coordination, hazardous materials and cardio-pulmonary resuscitation.

Besides dispatching emergency calls, the Fire Alarm Headquarters also handles calls to the Jefferson Parish Information Line, which assists persons in contacting various agencies and programs in and outside of the Parish. The "Line" also provides information in special emergency situations, such as the evacuation of the Airline Highway—Clearview Parkway area which resulted from an accident involving a train and liquid petroleum gas truck in 1979.

## Civil Defense

The Department of Civil Defense, a part of the Parish's Emergency Management Department, has the responsibility of developing a coordinated and effective response to protect the lives and property of the citizens of



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Jefferson Parish in the event of a disaster.

This is carried out through implementation of an Emergency Operating Plan developed by the department for the Parish. The plan includes various types of disasters, specifying how emergency demands of each are to be met, and recommended manpower and material requirements.

The types of emergency situations the department is prepared to face include fires, explosions and other accidents involving hazardous materials, natural disasters such as floods, storms, hurricanes and tornadoes, and threats and effects of foreign nuclear attack.

The Department of Civil Defense operates with a small staff on 24-hour call. It depends on the expertise and cooperation of other Parish departments and many dedicated citizen volunteers to aid in carrying out its responsibilities during emergency situations.

The volunteers are grouped as follows:

1. *Auxiliary Police.* The personnel are trained in law enforcement, first aid and radiological monitoring. They assist state police and sheriff's deputies in times of emergency.

2. *Rescue.* The personnel are highly skilled in radiological monitoring and first aid, and man a specially-designed rescue truck which has a multitude of apparatus for extricating victims from autos, buildings, etc.

3. *Emergency Medical Rescue.* These volunteers are either registered emergency medical technicians, or advanced first aid personnel. They provide aid to citizens requiring attention from highly skilled personnel.

4. *Communications.* These volunteers are Citizen Band and Amateur Radio operators who provide back-up communications support.

5. *Marine Search and Recovery.* Trained in the use of marine equipment, these individuals also are skilled in rescue and first aid on the water.

6. *Neighborhood Observers.* This is a special group of volunteers spotted throughout the Parish who report periodically

to the Civil Defense office on various weather conditions in their areas.

In addition to providing training in first aid, radiological monitoring and the handling of hazardous materials to citizen volunteers, the Department of Civil Defense also operates and maintains a wide variety of vehicles and emergency-use equipment, including a communications van that is equipped for parishwide, departmental communications.

The communications system also includes two-way transmission with the State Office of Emergency Preparedness, the State Police, the Jefferson Parish Sheriff's Office, Parish and volunteer fire departments and Parish departments.

In the third quarter of 1979, the department was scheduled to move into new quarters at 1887 Ames Boulevard in Marrero. The new building, which will serve as headquarters for the department in its day-to-day operations and serve as a central "Command Post" in times of emergency and disaster operations, was refurbished with funds from a \$700,000-plus Economic Development Agency grant. The new facilities will serve as the Parish's Emergency Operating Center from which the Parish President and other officials and department heads can exercise the necessary direction of emergency operations in times of disaster.

## **Public Utilities**

The Department of Public Utilities was created by ordinance on June 21, 1978. The department has been engaged in a major reorganization effort. The director of the department has direct administrative supervision and control over the major subordinate Departments of Water, Sewerage and Drainage for the Parish. In addition, he has direct administrative supervision and control over the following major divisions—Engineering, Administrative Services, Personnel and Water Quality Lab—which provide direct support and services to the three major subordinate departments.

## **Water**

The Water Department provides for water services for all of the East Bank as well as all unincorporated areas on the West Bank. The department operates water purification plants on both banks, installs and maintains water lines as required for industrial, commercial and residential users, and bills customers for water services. The department also provides for sewerage user charges, and as a service to other departments collects garbage collections and mosquito control charges on one common utility bill.

## **Drainage**

The Drainage Department is in charge of all drainage for the Parish. It builds, upgrades, maintains and operates pumping stations and drainage canals. It maintains storm drain lines and subsurface drainage systems to prevent flooding of streets. The establishment of grades for proper drainage and the building of secondary levees to protect residential areas also are functions of this department.

## **Sewerage**

The Sewerage Department is in charge of all sewerage disposal in the Parish. It builds and operates sewerage treatment facilities and maintains lift stations and sewerage lines in both new and existing subdivisions.

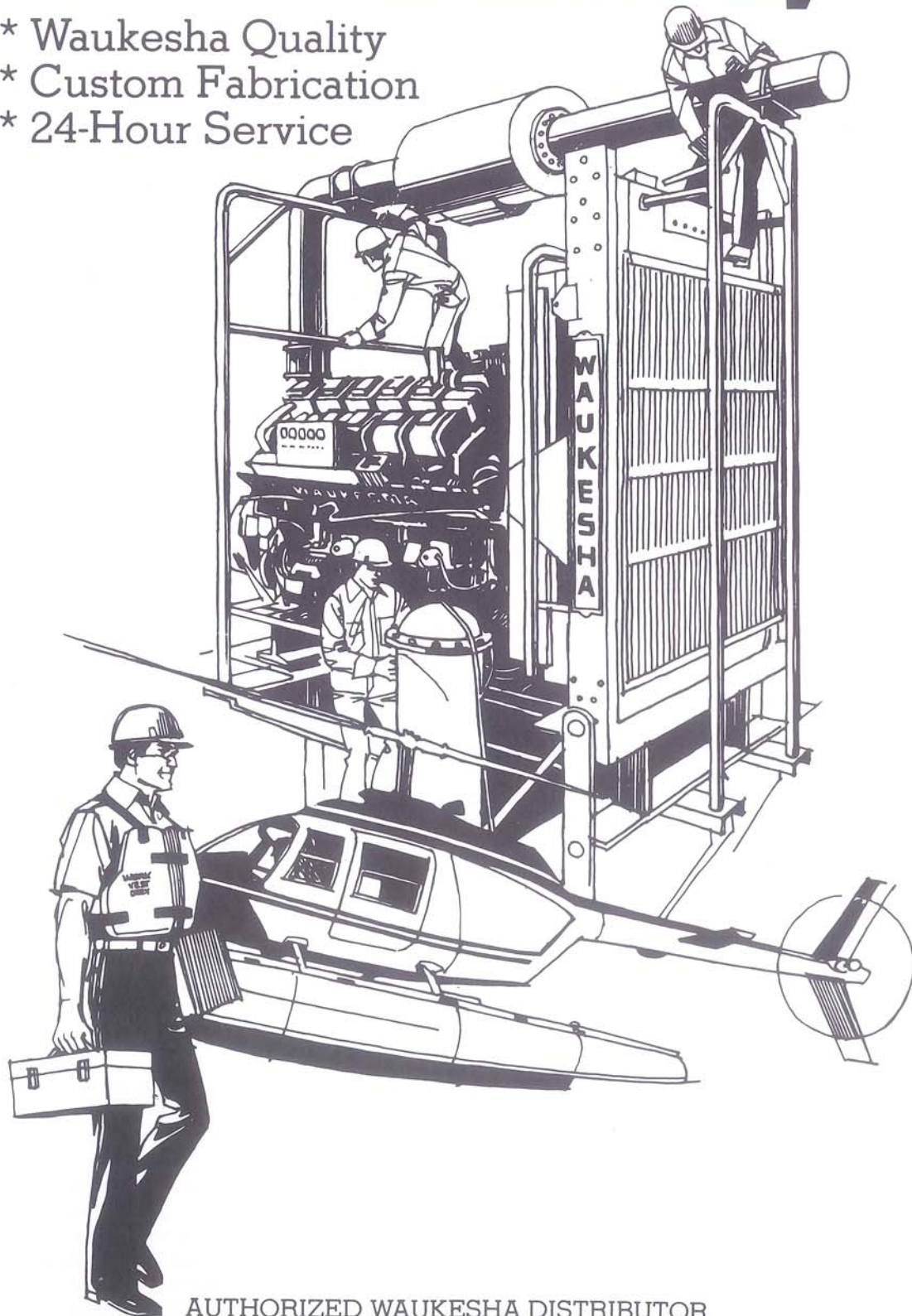
## **Public Works**

The Department of Public Works, formerly the Department of Roads and Bridges, has as its primary function the construction and maintenance of Jefferson Parish's roadway system, including all roads which are not under the jurisdiction of federal, state, or local governments, or those which are privately owned.

The Department of Public Works is supported by three sub-departments: Streets, Fleet Management, and Engineering. There also is a central office staff to assist in matters of personnel, budgeting, scheduling, records and other associated functions.

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## Streets

The Department of Streets, created July 19, 1978, is divided into two divisions, the East Jefferson Maintenance Unit and the West Jefferson Maintenance Unit. These divisions are sub-divided into major work sections composed of Road Maintenance, Parkway, and Weed/Pollution Control. The function of these groups is basically to maintain the Parish asphalt and concrete streets as satisfactorily as possible for the traveling public; to cut grass, trim trees, beautify shrubs and flower beds along roadsides, medians, or other green areas; to cut grass along all Parish canal banks and improve the appearance of all Parish rights-of-way by removing litter and trash. At the present time the following statistics give a representation of the extent of this workload:

	East Bank	West Bank
Roadways	420 miles	330 miles
Pedestrian Bridges	13	10
Vehicular Bridges	40	42

## Public Works Engineering

The Department of Public Works Engineering, created July 19, 1978, supervises all engineering projects related to new construction and reconstruction of roadways and bridges. Plans for these projects are prepared by staff engineers and private consulting engineers. Permits are issued by this department to private and public utility companies for work to be performed on public rights of way. Parish street maps, subdivision plans, and all necessary design-related data is maintained by this department. The Traffic Division of the Engineering Department maintains a total of 48 signalized intersections and 47 school flashing beacons; it installs new traffic control equipment, stripes roadways, and performs all other traffic-related functions.

## Fleet Management

The Department of Fleet Management, created July 31,

1978, is responsible for repairing all vehicles and heavy equipment owned by the Parish. This department also disposes of Parish-owned surplus property at auctions held four times a year and coordinates all purchases for new Parish equipment.

## Boards

The Parish Charter provides for a General Advisory Board, appointed by the Parish President, "which shall include a representative of each ward (10) of the Parish as in existence on January 1, 1957."

The President determines the duties and length of term of Board members, who may be paid a per diem allowance, and reimbursed for official duty expenses as approved by the President.

The Charter also specifies that the Parish Council create, by ordinance, a Planning Advisory Board and a Zoning Appeals Board. Members of these boards may be paid a per diem allowance and reimbursed for necessary expenses in official duties as approved by the Council.

The Council is empowered by the Charter to create, by ordinance, other advisory boards it deems necessary and to determine the manner of appointment, length of term and duties of members of such boards. Members of these boards usually serve without pay.

Some of these boards, commissions and committees serving the area include:

Airport Zoning Board  
Ambulance Service District No. 1  
Animal Shelter Advisory Board  
Batture Study Committee & Batture Expropriation Committee  
Bucktown Fishermen's and Harbor Commission  
Civic Auditorium Committee  
Coastal Zone Management Committee  
Commerce, Industry & Tourism Advisory Committee  
Community Appearance Board  
Community Arts Council  
Cultural Attractions Committee  
Dept. of Regulatory Inspections Air Conditioning and Refrigeration Board  
Dept. of Regulatory Inspections Board of Electrical Examiners  
Dept. of Regulatory Inspections

Board of Standards and Appeals  
Dept. of Regulatory Inspections Gas Board  
Dept. of Regulatory Inspections Plumbing Examining Board  
District #3 Committee Study Gas Explosions  
East Bank Anti-Litter Campaign Committee  
Emergency Medical Services Council (Regional)  
Employees Retirement System Board of Trustees  
Energy Resource Study Commission  
Environmental Development Advisory Board  
Environmental Protection District Committee  
Firearms Advisory Committee  
First Parish Court Relocation Study Committee  
Gas Explosion Committee  
Geotechnical Committee  
Greater Jefferson Port Commission  
Greater New Orleans Expressway Commission (Pontchartrain Causeway)  
Board of Health  
Historical Commission  
Hospital Advisory Board (West Jefferson)  
Hospital Advisory Board (East Jefferson)  
Housing Authority  
Housing Division Advisory Committee  
Incinerator Committee  
Indecent Literature Committee  
Industrial Development Commission  
Insurance Advisory Committee  
Jefferson Home Mortgage Authority  
Jefferson Parish Historical Society  
Jefferson Parish Soil Subsidence Committee  
Lafreniere Park Advisory Board  
Lake Pontchartrain Boundary Line Committee  
Lake Pontchartrain Recreation Facility  
Lake Pontchartrain Sanitary District  
Levee District  
Library Advisory Board  
Louisiana Coastal Commission  
Mississippi River Bridge Authority  
Natural Gas (Distribution and Use) Study Task Force  
New Orleans Area Health Planning Council

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 Committee  
 Personnel Board  
 Planning Advisory Board  
 Public Employees Deferred  
 Compensation Program  
 Committee  
 Railroads Advisory Board  
 Railroad Project Steering  
 Committee  
 Railroads Study  
 Citizens Review Committee  
 Railroad Task Force  
 Real Estate Committee  
 Regional Planning Commission  
 Regional Transit Authority  
 Rodent Control Committee  
 Safety Coordinating Committee  
 Southeastern Health System  
 Agency of Louisiana  
 Taxes Advisory Board  
 Transportation Advisory  
 Committee  
 Welfare Board  
 Zoning Appeals Board

### **Greater Jefferson Parish Port Commission**

The Greater Jefferson Parish Port Commission, established by an Act of the 1976 Legislative Session and consisting of an executive director and five-member board, has exclusive jurisdiction of waters within Jefferson Parish.

The commission regulates commerce and traffic within the territorial limits of Jefferson Parish, limited in the case of navigable waterways solely to those within territorial limits having a depth not exceeding fifteen feet mean low gulf (MLG) as determined by the United States Geodetic Survey. It administers public wharves, docks, sheds and landings and is empowered to construct or acquire and equip wharves and landings and other structures useful for the commerce of the port area, and to provide mechanical facilities; to erect sheds or other structures on such wharves and landings; to maintain proper depths of water at all such wharves and landings; to provide light, water, police protection and other services for its facilities as it may deem advisable; to construct or

acquire, maintain and operate basins, locks, canals, warehouses and elevators; to charge for the use of all facilities administered by it and for all services rendered by it, such fees, rates, tariffs or other charges as it may establish; to establish harbor lines within the port area by agreement with the United States Corps of Engineers; and to construct, own, operate and maintain terminal rail facilities and other common carrier rail facilities for the purpose of rendering rail transportation to and from the facilities to be erected, owned and operated by the commission in both intrastate and interstate commerce.

The commission may charge a reasonable fee to each vessel using the public facilities administered by the commission. It has the authority to make and enter into contracts, leases and other agreements with railroads, trucking companies, barge lines, and with any and all companies interested in the transportation, storage and shipping of goods and other products, whether by rail, truck line, barge line, ocean going vessels or otherwise for the use of facilities administered by the commission for a period of time not exceeding forty years.

### **Tourism**

In recent years, tourism has become one of the top industries in Louisiana. As part of that industry, Jefferson Parish—with its numerous natural and man-made attractions—has had a great influence, being second only to New Orleans in its impact on tourism within the state.

In 1978, upon recommendation of the Jefferson Parish Council, a Representative for the Parish was added to the Greater New Orleans Tourist and Convention Commission to promote Jefferson as a site for state, regional and small national conventions. For information concerning local facilities and services, interested parties should contact the sales manager for Jefferson Parish at the Greater New Orleans Tourist and Convention Commission, 334 Royal Street, New Orleans, or call 522-8772.

### **Parish Financing**

The 1979 operating budget shows proposed expenditures of \$72,037,519 to provide governmental services to the people of the Parish. Where does the money come from?

### **1979 Proposed Operating Budget**

#### **Sources of Revenue**

Ad Valorem	
(Property) Taxes	\$13,106,176
Water Sales	7,138,000
Sales Tax	20,551,679
Service Charges	6,650,980
Gasoline Tax	2,125,000
Licenses	2,255,700
Permits & Inspections	1,075,250
Severance Taxes	602,020
Sundry	4,859,476
State Revenue Sharing	2,895,187
	<hr/>
	\$61,259,468
Federal Revenue	
Sharing	6,609,050
	<hr/>
TOTAL	\$67,868,518

### **Assessor**

The function of the Assessor is to assess several classes of property in the parish—all real estate, personal business property including merchandise, furniture and fixtures and machinery and equipment. Exceptions:

Include personal furniture, automobiles and that property which is assessed by the Louisiana Tax Commission (public utilities, etc.). The ad valorem tax, or property tax, is one of the largest sources of revenue for Jefferson Parish.

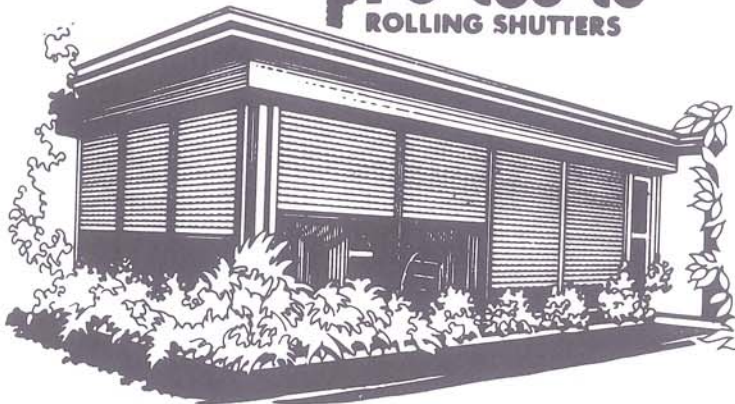
### **Collector of Taxes**

The Sheriff of Jefferson Parish is also the Parish Tax Collector.

### **Louisiana Tax Commission**

Three members, appointed by the Governor, with the approval of the Senate; 6-year terms. Function as prescribed by Louisiana State Constitution.

To appraise property for state purposes.



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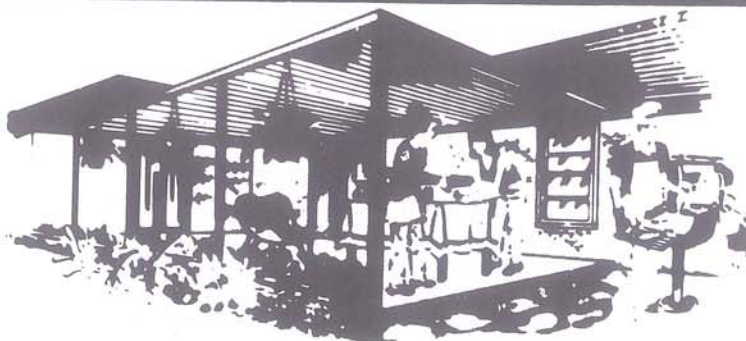
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### **Board of Review**

The Parish Council sits as a Board of Review to hear appeals of any taxpayer who appeals before it to object to the assessment placed on his property.

### **The New Constitution**

Beginning in 1978 all land and residential property was assessed at 10% of fair market value and all other property was assessed at 15% of fair market value.

### **Millage**

Total number of mills levied as tax. For each mill levied, you pay \$1.00 per \$1,000 of assessed value less exemptions.

### **Homestead Exemption**

All bona fide homesteads are entitled to a \$5,000 homestead exemption, thereby making all homes valued at \$50,000 or less exempt from state and parish property taxes (currently the state does not levy a property tax).

### **Judicial System**

#### **24th Judicial District Court of Louisiana**

This is a court of original jurisdiction in both civil and criminal cases. It also handles domestic cases and probates. It serves as a court of appeals for civil cases from Parish Courts, and for criminal cases not appealable to the Louisiana Supreme Court.

Thirteen judges, elected in general elections, hear both civil and criminal cases. The office of Judicial Administrator coordinates activities of the various divisions of the court with the Clerk of Court and the District Attorney. The Indigent Defender Board is handled by the Administrator's office.

The 24th Judicial District Court is located in Gretna.

**Term of Office:** Six years.

## Juvenile Court

The Juvenile Court for the Parish of Jefferson has exclusive original jurisdiction of all cases of delinquency, neglect, abuse, abandoned children, parents in need of supervision, children in need of supervision, all traffic offenses committed by juveniles under 17 years of age, emergency orders or custody hearings, adoptions, criminal neglect of family, Uniform Reciprocal Enforcement of Support cases, and all preliminary hearings related to said areas.

The Juvenile Court also administers many separate agencies and programs including the L. Robert Rivarde Memorial Home, a juvenile detention facility; the Transitional Center, a program located on the Westbank Expressway; a child abuse and neglect advocacy program for representation of all neglected and abused children; and others.

The Court presently has two elected judges, one for Section A and one for Section B.

**Term of Office:** Six years.

## First and Second Parish Courts

They have jurisdiction concurrent with the District Court on civil matters up to \$5,000. All traffic violations and misdemeanors in which the penalty is less than six months in jail and the fine is not in excess of \$500 are heard in these courts. They also hear suits for leased premises.

There are four elected judges—two in the First (Clearview near Veterans Blvd.), and two in the Second (Gretna Courthouse).

**Term of Office:** Six years.

## Justices of the Peace and Constables

Both Justices of the Peace and Constables work closely with their constituency to resolve matters within Jefferson's various neighborhoods. Of all elected officials, these individuals are involved most directly with the everyday problems affecting community life. Six of each are elected in Jefferson Parish.

The Justices of the Peace function as a small claims court



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with jurisdiction up to \$750. They hear civil matters, including suits for leased premises. In criminal cases they serve only as committing magistrates; they may bail or discharge in non-capital offenses and may require a bond to keep the peace. They perform marriages upon presentation of proper documents.

The Constables serve as court officers for Justices of the Peace and as law enforcement officers. Their basic salary and term of office is the same as for Justices of the Peace.

**Term of Office:** Four years.

### Mayor's Courts

Each of the six municipalities in Jefferson holds a mayor's court, which is presided over either by the mayor or a duly-appointed magistrate (judge). Courts of this type decide cases of municipal ordinance violations. In 1972 Kenner became the first city in the state to appoint an attorney to hear cases as a magistrate instead of the mayor.

### Clerk of Court

This is the *only* office that receives no tax revenues to operate, depending entirely on fees received for its services, which are many and diverse. It serves both the District and Parish Courts, and employs over 200 persons fulltime, as well as students in summer.

The Clerk is an elected court officer, a Jury Commission member, a member of the Election Board of Supervisors, notary public, recorder of mortgages and conveyances (sales), adoptions, etc. He is custodian of voting machines, instructs polling place personnel, conducts absentee voting, and supervises election tabulations.

Judicial section duties include receiving and filing of civil and criminal suits and successions; assignment of cases to judges; recording adoptions, juvenile and alimony decisions and drawing some 12,000 grand and petit jurors annually for criminal and civil cases.

The Clerk of Court's office also furnishes minute clerks to the 19

judges serving the 24th Judicial District Court and the First and Second Parish Courts. In addition, absentee voting is handled entirely by the Clerk of Court's office.

Between January and May of 1978, nearly 35,000 cases were filed with the Clerk of Court, averaging approximately 7,000 per month. To handle such a volume of work, the Clerk of Court maintains three offices on the East and West Banks of Jefferson—at the First Parish Courthouse, the office building on Metairie Road and the main office in the Gretna Courthouse.

**Term of Office:** Four years.

### District Attorney

He is an elected official who is responsible for criminal prosecution whenever a state offense is charged within Jefferson.

Matters prosecuted in the thirteen divisions of the 24th Judicial District Court include felonies such as murder, rape, drug distribution and armed robbery and some misdemeanors such as shoplifting, possession of marijuana and obscenity.

Other misdemeanors, traffic violations and violations of parish ordinances are heard in the four divisions of the parish courts. Two divisions of the juvenile courts have jurisdiction in family neglect cases as well as juvenile criminal cases.

A Career Criminal Bureau is staffed with experienced personnel capable of identifying the career criminal and actively pursuing his prosecution.

The Consumer Protection and Commercial Fraud Division investigates and prosecutes deceptive trade practices of businesses and violations of various consumer statutes. The Child Support Enforcement Division investigates and prosecutes cases of parents who are not paying for support of their children.

The Research and Appeals Division provides criminal law research and participates in criminal appeals to state and federal courts.

A Pre-Trial Diversion program offers rehabilitative counseling

for nonviolent first offenders between the ages of 17 and 25. Other services include a counselor for victims of rape, sex crimes and child abuse as well as a Victim/Witness Bureau which keeps those individuals advised of the status of the particular case with which they are involved.

**Term of Office:** Six years.

### Sheriff

Under the Louisiana Constitution, he is the chief law enforcement officer of the Parish, executive officer of all of the courts within the Parish, tax collector, and custodian of the Parish Correctional Institution.

Because of its varying duties, the Sheriff's Office performs the functions of four elected public officials in the City of New Orleans and two appointed officials.

A millage dedicated to a Parishwide law enforcement district, commissions on fines, licenses and certain taxes, plus fixed fees in criminal and civil matters provide the financing of the department.

Besides the basic functions of patrol, traffic and criminal investigation, the Sheriff's Office operates specialized sections including Bureau of Identification, Research and Analysis, Rescue, K-9, Community Relations, Narcotics, Vice and Intelligence, Central Communications and Forensic Laboratory.

**Term of Office:** Four years.

### Coroner

He is an elected official, deriving his authority from the Louisiana Constitution. He investigates any unusual or sudden deaths and signs death certificates in such cases. The coroner conducts autopsies in all cases in which the cause of death is not obvious, and all rape cases are reported to him for investigation.

He must be a licensed practicing physician. He has examinations conducted on all mental cases to determine if they should be committed to a mental institution.

**Term of Office:** Four years.

## Schools

In 1978-79 approximately 68,000 children were enrolled in Jefferson Parish public schools. As of April 1979 the system employed a total of 6,000 of which 3,400 were professional personnel including principals and teachers, 100 administrative and supervisory and 2,500 non-professional (secretarial, clerical, plant operation, school lunch, bus drivers, etc.)

There are 82 schools in the parish: 6 kindergarten centers, 45 elementary schools, 6 middle schools, 8 junior high schools, 10 high schools (including John Martyn Vocational School), and 7 schools for exceptional children. A number of new schools opened during the 1976-77 and 1977-78 school years, including additions to the Bonnabel and Ehret high schools, J.D. Meisler Junior High, additions to the Ellender School on the West Bank which has been converted to a middle school, and 3 elementary schools—

Schneckenberger, Ella Pittman and Woodland West. A number of other schools have been changed to a different grade organization due to the gradual return to the 7-3-3 system of grade organization in Jefferson

Parish. Conversion of two existing schools to Career Centers also is planned. Through a yearly capital budget of \$800,000 for air conditioning, all schools in the Parish will be air-conditioned. Middle and high school air conditioning has been handled through the present capital improvement program as part of the \$37 million bond issue approved by voters in November, 1973.

Transportation in the 1978-79 year was provided for approximately 55,000 children in public schools and 16,000 attending private and parochial schools in Jefferson Parish. The Parish operates approximately 500 buses, cars, vans and station wagons, making the Jefferson Parish School System the second largest transportation system in the State.

## School Board

As a result of re-districting in 1974, the Jefferson Parish School Board is now an eight-member

governing body which oversees the operation, maintenance and construction of public schools. The Board appoints the Superintendent of Schools as its chief administrator for a term of four years. The members of the School Board are elected in general elections, one from each of eight districts, five on the East Bank and three on the West Bank. If a vacancy occurs, the School Board appoints someone as an interim member until a new member can be elected and seated. An election to fill the vacancy must be called within six months of the time the vacancy occurs.

The President of the Board is elected annually by the members. He may not succeed himself and is not eligible again for three years.

The Board is required to hold at least one regular meeting a month. These meetings are open to the public and are held the first Wednesday of the month at the Educational Service Center, 501 Manhattan Boulevard in Harvey.

**Term of Office:** Four years (overlapping).

## Financing the Schools

The revised operating budget for 1978-79 was \$89,057,558.90. Of this total, 64% was contributed by the State, 34% by the Parish and 2% by the federal government.

## Future Plans

The Jefferson Parish School System experienced its first year with a parish-wide kindergarten in 1975-76. Plans for the 1979-80 school year include continuation of the kindergarten program, continued expansion of the special education program as necessary and continuation of the new program for gifted and talented children in the Parish. Within the next 12-18 months virtually all construction projects undertaken as part of the \$37 million bond issue of November 1973 will be completed, providing two new career centers for Jefferson Parish high school students. New courses and work-study programs will be introduced into the curriculum as part of the system's constant

efforts to meet the educational demands of the community.

## Health Unit

Operating under applicable laws and regulations, the Jefferson Parish Health Unit has as its goal the prevention of disease and promotion of good health. Three divisions assume responsibility for the following duties:

1. Environmental Health and Food Control—Inspections of water, milk, food and beverage, manufacture and service. Garbage and trash collections, sewerage, air quality and stream pollution. Housing conditions, stables, rodent and vector control, including murine typhus testing, rabies programs, lectures and food handler classes. Housing conditions and general neighborhood appearances receive special attention in blighted areas. Clean-up campaigns and waste disposal in cooperation with parish agencies also are carried out.

2. Nursing—Immunizations against diphtheria, tetanus, whooping cough, polio, red and German measles, typhoid and influenza. Treatment for infectious syphilis and gonorrhea. Tuberculosis control carried out through skin testing, X-ray and preventative treatment. Dental services for children in low-income families. Well-baby clinics check for normal growth and development with a pediatrician in attendance. Complete physical examinations (include dental and psychological care) are provided under the Welfare's EPSDT Program. Hearing and vision screening for students (also pre-schoolers) held with referrals for treatment or further examination. Handicapped Children's Program includes cerebral palsy, muscular dystrophy, urology, cystic fibrosis, plastic surgery, neurology, cardiology, vision, hearing and orthopedic services. Under the Medicare Program, nurses and nurses' aides provide home-nursing services to the bedridden with chronic and acute illnesses, instructing others in their care, but maintaining supervision as long as is needed.

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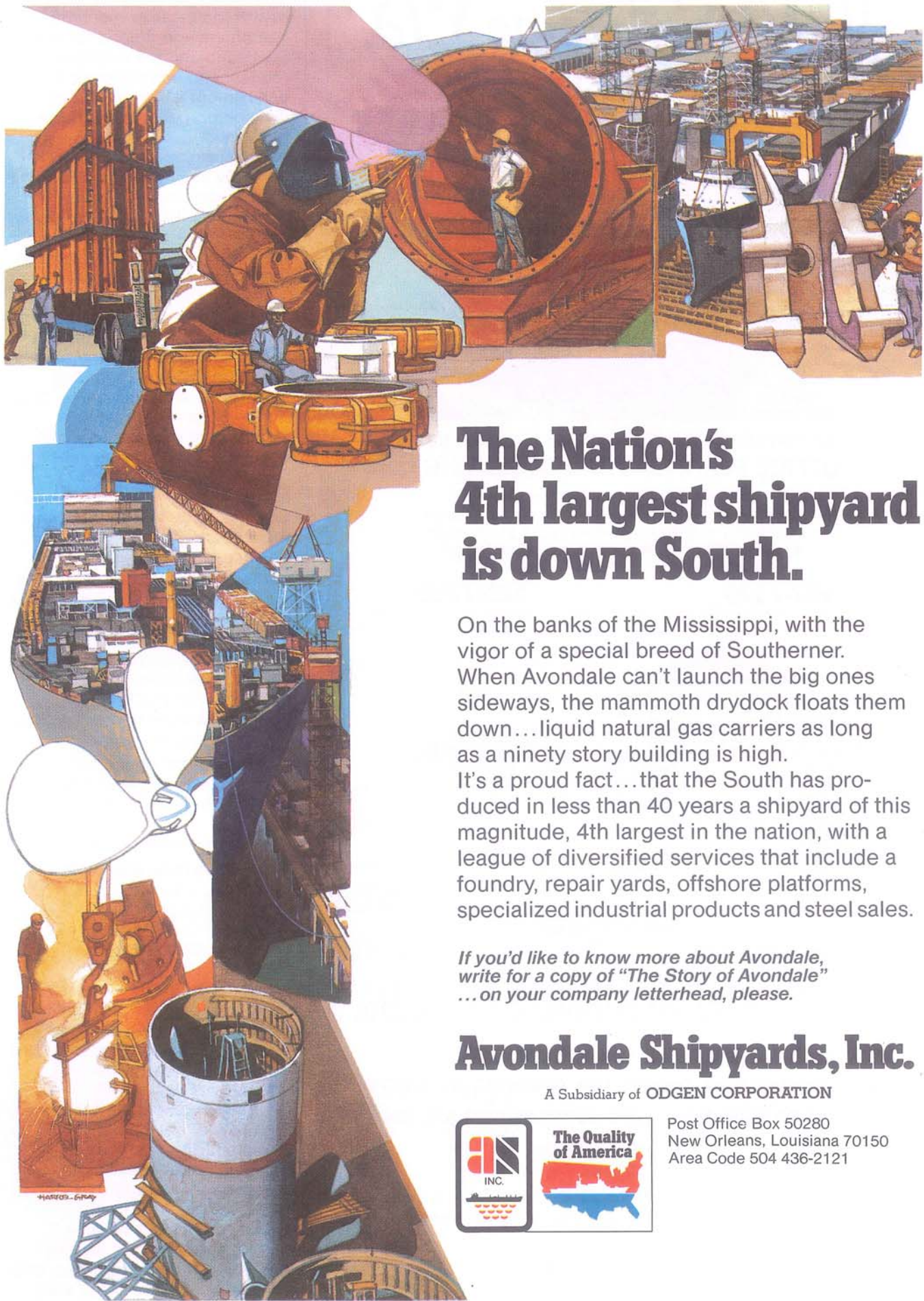
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3. Special Services—Health Education Services involving health topics, lectures, films, pamphlets and guided tours of the health unit are available upon request and appointment. The department's Vital Statistics division prepares for registration, births and deaths and issues burial permits. Social Worker Services through counseling and referral are provided under Crippled Children, Tuberculosis, Mental Health and other chronic disease programs. A nutritionist and public health nurse visit diabetics and other patients on special diets. Instructions are given to persons on nutritional needs, especially to mothers and pre-natal patients regarding infants and family planning. Drug Abuse Control is provided through rehabilitation by the "Insight" Program and Jefferson Council on Drug Abuse with assistance from the New Orleans Committee on Drug Abuse and Alcoholism.

The department also participates in the "first offense" marijuana and DWI (driving while under the influence of alcohol) program as a joint venture with the Jefferson Parish Sheriff's Office. Field training is provided to various local universities for students specializing in nursing and social work.

Special meeting space for health-related organizations is provided by appointment.

### **East Jefferson General Hospital,**

with a 12-member Board of Directors appointed by the Parish Council, opened in February, 1971. With the completion of its Phase II construction, a \$22 million expansion program, the hospital meets the needs of Jefferson's expanding East Bank with a total of 425 beds. Besides adding 165 new beds, it has greatly enhanced its ancillary services, such as lab, x-ray, nuclear medicine, respiratory care, physical therapy, heart lab, operating rooms and other aspects of medical care.

East Jefferson maintains a heliport to transport injured persons from outlying areas, and is the only hospital in the area

with a post-coronary and post-intensive care unit. The coronary care and intensive care units are equipped with the latest monitoring equipment. The hospital's comprehensive monitoring system is unique in the Southern region. An educational wing includes meeting rooms, as well as a multi-purpose auditorium for classes and other educational purposes.

Much of East Jefferson's expansion program was devoted to out-patient treatment units, including a gymnasium for physical therapy. The hospital also maintains a special four-bed burn care area, and has expanded its parking capacity. The hospital strengthened its concept of family-centered maternity care with the opening of the "Birthing Room" in December, 1978. Offering women an alternative to traditional birthing procedures, the "Birthing Room" allows a home-like delivery within the hospital.

In March, 1979, East Jefferson General and Ochsner Foundation Hospitals signed an agreement for cooperation in the provision of intensive care services for newborns. The first such affiliation between hospitals in the New Orleans area, the agreement allows both institutions to make better use of their existing newborn intensive-care facilities.

East Jefferson General Hospital is located at 4200 Houma Boulevard between West Esplanade Avenue and Veterans Highway. Phone number for the hospital is 454-4000.

#### **Office of Family Security**

The Jefferson Parish Office of Family Security (formerly the Office of Family Services) functions as a local unit of the Office of Family Security of the Department of Health and Human Resources, with offices in Gretna at 1111 Newton Street and in Metairie at 3229 Thirty-Sixth Street.

The Office of Family Security administers the Food Stamp Program, Title XIX Medicaid

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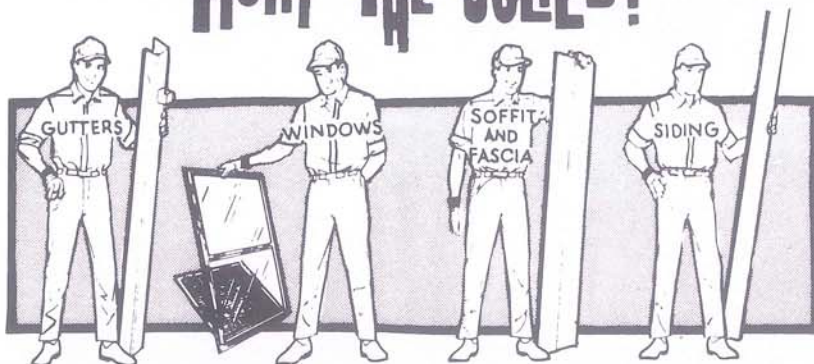
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Applications for the above programs are accepted in both offices.

### Veterans Service Office

This office coordinates all the programs of the Federal Government and the State regarding veterans, and gives advice and information to veterans.

Two offices are maintained by this department for the convenience of veterans—one in the Courthouse in Gretna and one at 536 Deckbar Avenue in East Jefferson.

### State Legislative Representation

The Legislature, the state government's lawmaking branch, is responsible for enacting laws for the government and well-being of the people of the State. It authorizes expenditure of public funds, proposes amendments to the constitution and passes laws on any matter within the limitations imposed by the state and federal constitution. The Legislature can levy taxes without public approval subject to 2/3 passing vote in both houses. The Louisiana constitution provides for a Senate and a House of Representatives. The constitution also provides that the Legislature shall be reapportioned after every U.S. census. The last apportionment was in 1971, with the next to be held by January 1, 1982.

### Senate

There are five senatorial districts in the Parish. East Bank: District 10 and 11. West Bank: District 1, 8 and 9. Shared Districts: West Bank shares

District 1 with St. Bernard and Plaquemines Parishes, District 8 with Orleans Parish.

### House of Representatives

At present, there are 13 representative districts in the Parish. East Bank: Districts 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82 and 88. West Bank: Districts 54, 83, 84, 85, 86, and 105. Shared Districts: East Bank shares District 88 with Orleans Parish. West Bank shares District 86 with Orleans Parish, 105 with Plaquemines and St. Bernard Parishes, and 54 with LaFourche Parish. The Legislature meets in 60-day general sessions each year within an 85-day period. Special sessions may be called by the governor or by petition of 2/3 of each house.

### REGISTRATION AND ELECTIONS

In its fiscal session of May, 1971 the Louisiana Legislature became the 29th State to ratify the 26th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution. The amendment gave the right to vote in all elections to persons 18 years and older. The 38th and last State necessary for ratification was obtained from the Ohio Legislature in a night session in July, 1971 and the amendment was put into effect.

The Louisiana Legislature had honored the League of Women Voters' 50th anniversary in 1970 by unanimously approving a House-Senate concurrent resolution to "ratify" the 19th Amendment. The 19th Amendment, giving women the right to vote, was not ratified prior to 1920 by the Louisiana Legislature, which declared they were "protecting the state's women from the unsavory world of politics."

### Voter Qualifications and Registration

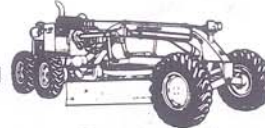
You can register and vote in Louisiana if you are a U.S. citizen 18 years old or older and state you are a resident of this State and Parish. Eligible voters can

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register by applying in person to the Registrar of Voters with proof of identification.

Identification must include the applicant's signature, either on one document or on separate documents; i.e., driver's license, property deed, selective service registration, hunting or fishing license, social security card, etc. Either of the above must bear a signature. Naturalized citizens must bring their citizenship papers. Under the permanent registration a voter needs to register only once, provided he votes at least once in a four year period, or is not disenfranchized for cause; (i.e. convicted of a felony). A registered voter who moves from residence to residence within the Parish can apply in person to the Registrar or can apply by mail, furnishing the following information: name in full, new address, date of moving, full signature of voter and date of birth. A voter changing address can vote 30 days after the change, if an election is being held in the new precinct. A voter may vote in his old precinct in that 30-day period.

At the time of registration political party affiliation can be declared or not declared. A person may choose to be "none," thus having no party affiliation. However, affiliating with a party assures the right to vote for party executive committeemen plus any candidate of any party. Party affiliation may be changed by applying to the Registrar in person or by obtaining a special form and mailing it to the Registrar. Forms can be obtained at political headquarters.

If a woman marries, she need not re-register (provided she is still on the rolls), but may apply in person to the Registrar for a change of name. Citizens may register year round from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday on the East Bank at 3300 Metairie Road (second floor) or on the West Bank at the New Gretna Courthouse, Derbigny Street and the River, Gretna.

Persons registering less than 30 days before a scheduled election will not be allowed to vote in that election. Registration closes 30 days before an election. Hours for registration are 8:30

a.m. to 8 p.m., 15 days prior to close of registration, for major elections, at the discretion of the Registrar.

### Registrar of Voters

He is the custodian of voting records. His duty is to register properly qualified voters. He is appointed by the Parish Council, dependent on approval by the State Board of Supervisors of Elections. The Board is made up of the Secretary of State, the Commissioner of Elections and the Attorney General. Registrars can be removed only for cause.

The present office employs the Registrar, the Chief Deputy, Administrative Assistant and Deputy Registrars. It is classified as a State office.

The Registrar is a member of the five-man Parish Board of Supervisors of Elections. They oversee all elections in the Parish when candidates are involved, appointing four Commissioners and one Commissioner-in-charge for each precinct, selecting the names submitted by the various political parties participating in the election.

### Elections

**Primary Election**—Called by the officially elected committees for each party to select party candidates to run in the election. The selection is conducted by the party and voting is open to all registered voters regardless of party affiliation. (Exception: to vote for Executive Committee, voter must be affiliated with a party.)

**General Elections**—All registered voters may participate to determine who shall fill the particular offices. They may vote for any candidate on the ballot, regardless of party affiliation.

**Special Elections**—Called to fill vacancies or to impose property millage or bonds in a given political district. If a non-partisan election, (i.e., school bonds), the government agency calling the election, (i.e., School Board), conducts the election. Any registered voter may vote in millage or bond elections.

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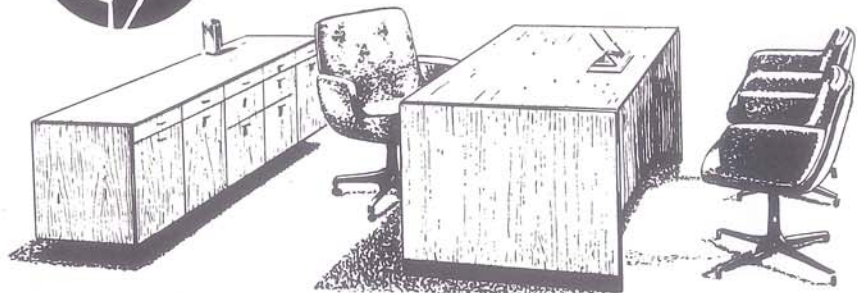
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If no candidate receives a majority in the primary, a general election shall be held to choose between the two candidates receiving the greatest number of votes in the primary. Where there are two or more like offices to be filled, twice as many candidates shall be in the general election primary as there are offices to be filled.

Absentee voting is conducted by the Clerk of Court. Persons who will be out of the Parish or State on an election day should apply by mail or in person to the Clerk of Court office at the New Gretna Courthouse. Absentee voters also may apply in person at 3300 Metairie Road, 3330 North Causeway Boulevard or at the First Parish Courthouse at 3100 Clearview Parkway. In Louisiana persons confined to bed or in hospitals are not allowed to vote absentee. The days for absentee voting are from the 19th to the 6th day prior to an election.

Candidates must qualify with the Board of Election Supervisors in order to be on the ballot. Statewide candidates qualify with the respective party State Central Committees, and candidates for the Parish offices apply to the Board of Election Supervisors. This board consists of the Registrar of Voters, Clerk of Court, Chairman of the Democratic and Republican Parties and one man appointed by the Governor.

Independent candidates also must qualify with the Board of Election Supervisors. Any candidate can qualify with nominating papers with the requisite number of signatures of registered voters of the Parish, if running parish-wide, or the requisite number of signatures of registered voters in the district in which he is a candidate. He must file nominating papers with the Registrar of Voters, who verifies the signatures and sends the papers to the Secretary of State.

The League of Women Voters publishes nonpartisan election fact sheets and candidate questions which are available to the public. It also answers voters' inquiries on election day, giving addresses of precinct polling places and other non-partisan information.

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## The Municipalities of Jefferson Parish:

Researched by Betsy Swanson

There are six incorporated municipalities in Jefferson Parish, each governed by an elected Mayor and a Council or Board of Aldermen. All have their own Police Force and Fire Department, and although each one is an integral part of Jefferson Parish, they have their own governing body.

### Gretna:

The seat of the Jefferson Parish government since 1884, Gretna is located on the West Bank of the Mississippi River. Its population of over 30,000 continues to soar because of its proximity to downtown New Orleans via the toll free Expressway Bridge, and because it is a neat, quiet, yet modernly streamlined community of orderly subdivisions, thriving shopping centers, and the gateway to the oil industry.

The old neighborhoods of Gretna retain historic charm; the streets nearest the river are lined with local house types of another era: Creole cottages and shotgun cottages with gingerbread trim. The original village on the site of Gretna, named Mechanikham, was laid out in 1836 by Nicolas Noel Destrehan and was populated at an early date largely by Germans, some of whom perhaps served as *mechanics* in a foundry there. Plans for the foundry were listed in Destrehan's specifications for the laying out of the village and it was the largest industry, employing about 50 hands by 1845. Destrehan reserved space along the river front for the establishment of a ferry which still operates today. In 1838, Gretna was laid out directly adjacent to and below Mechanikham. The two small villages later joined under the name of Gretna which was perhaps derived from the name of a Scottish border town used as a setting for a popular play of the period. The plot of "Gretna Green," which played in New Orleans theatres, concerned clandestine marriages. An 1845

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New Orleans newspaper suggested that the name of the town across the river may have been taken from the play since a judge resided there who was agreeable to performing quick marriages.

Gretna was for a time the largest community in Jefferson Parish and attracted the earliest industries. In 1913, Gretna was incorporated as a city and annexed adjoining McDonoughville into its city limits.

---

### **Kenner:**

Kenner, officially incorporated in 1873, is located on the East Bank of Jefferson Parish, has a population of over 50,000, and is the home of the New Orleans International Airport. The area of present-day Kenner was one of the earliest sites along the lower Mississippi to be identified with a place-name, that of *Cannes Brulees* (burnt canes). Indians set fire to canebrakes to drive out game, and they may have done so along the river bank in this area when it was first observed by French explorers. Plantations were established at *Cannes Brulees* in 1720 and the land continued under cultivation until the mid-nineteenth century when the acreage of the Kenner brothers was subdivided to found Kennerville. The three plantations that were to become the site of the City of Kenner were Oakland, owned by William Butler Kenner, and Belle Grove and Pasture, both owned by Minor Kenner. The incorporation in 1852 of the New Orleans, Jackson and Great Northern Railroad, scheduled to be routed across the Kenner plantations, motivated the brothers to divide their land into streets and lots.

William Butler Kenner died of yellow fever in 1853. The following year his brother, Minor, hired a surveyor to prepare the subdivision and the plan was completed in 1855. Kennerville remained a small, agricultural village until well into the twentieth century. Because of the convenient railroad sidings, Kenner was prominent in the cultivation, processing, packing, and shipping of vegetables. European immigrants settled in

Kenner after the Civil War. Since many of Kenner's older residents are of Italian descent, the Italian feast of St. Rosalie, usually celebrated on the first Sunday in September, is still a traditional event. On that day, hundreds of members of St. Rosalie's Society may be seen marching through the streets carrying banners and statues of their patron saint.

### Harahan

Ten miles above the City of New Orleans, on the East Bank of the Mississippi, Harahan offers its residents the conveniences and pleasures of both city and country life.

Railroad yards and a round-house were built on the site by the Illinois Central in 1894 and became the nucleus of a settlement of railroad workers. In 1914, a land company comprised of railroad officials purchased adjacent farm land and subdivided the property for residential development. Named for one of the presidents of Illinois Central, Harahan was incorporated in 1920. At that time, the village had a population of about 400, most of whom were railroad people, working in what was considered one of the largest railroad freight yards in the South.

In 1935, when the population had increased to 1,500, it still retained its predominance as a railroad town. Today, the City of Harahan is primarily a residential community. There are no industrial areas within the city limits, and only a limited number of commercial sites; but just east of the city, on a former WWII Army Camp is located one of the largest industrial centers in the Parish.

### Westwego:

The town of Westwego, located on the West Bank of Jefferson Parish, was incorporated in the year 1919. Its population at that time according to the 1918 Census, was 1,583.

From a small village, Westwego has grown to a city of more than 12,000 inhabitants. Today it is a modern city in every respect with practically every street paved, and

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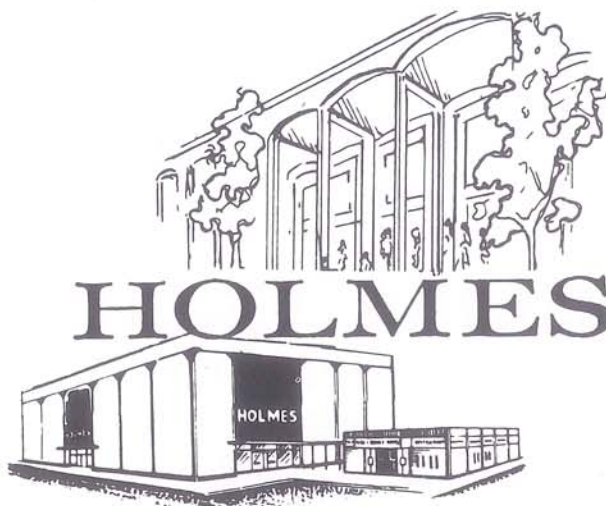
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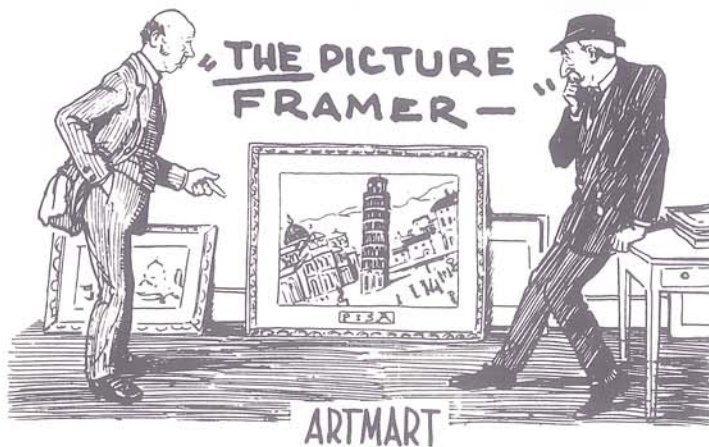
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with subsurface drainage and curbing on all main thoroughfares throughout the town. Because of its modern water plant, it ranks as a first-class city in fire risk, since the basic rate is lower there than in most other places.

The fishing industry is the backbone of Westwego. With seven seafood packing plants now in operation, this charming little city is the seafood center of Jefferson Parish. Ships from all over the world dock here to receive and unload cargo.

A railroad, a canal with locks, and loading wharfs on the river were responsible for the development of a small community at Westwego in the mid-nineteenth century. The Company Canal, which had been dug in the late eighteenth century on the plantation later to be known as Seven Oaks, was a major route of commerce connecting the Gulf of Mexico and the Mississippi River via Barataria. Fishermen settled on the canal, which was largely filled in some years ago. Their numbers were swelled by refugees from Cheniere Caminada following the devastating hurricane of 1893. Spur railroad lines to a steamship wharf on the river fronting Seven Oaks Plantation House, which no longer exists today, which provided Westwego with a large grain elevator in 1892.

Westwego has been called the only town whose name makes a complete sentence. Mention of the community of Westwego first appears in the Jefferson Parish Police Jury minutes of 1875, spelled as one word. Of the many stories that have been told about the origin of the name, the most logical has to do with the railroad that ran westward through Westwego. The Great Western Railroad was begun on the West Bank in 1852 in an effort to connect New Orleans with Texas.

Westwego was incorporated as a village in 1919 and as a city in 1951.

### **Grand Isle:**

Grand Isle, with eight miles of white sand coast line on the Gulf of Mexico and a small population of only 2,000, retains the careless ease that its sleepy fishing

villages and bathing resorts possessed a hundred years ago. The warm surf and untroubled life-style of the island attracts vacationers today as in the last century, during the "Gilded Age" of seaside resorts. Reaching further back in time, the island's shell lanes twisting to hidden nooks beneath patriarchal oaks ever-bent by constant sea wind recall the era when pirates and privateers roamed the Gulf. Jean Lafitte, who made his base on nearby Grand Terre Island, had occasional contact with residents of Grand Isle and some islanders joined his band of corsairs. By the early 1800s when Lafitte established himself in the area, plantations and cattle ranches occupied the whole of Grand Isle, which had been divided into land grants in the 1780s when Louisiana was under Spanish rule. Tradition suggests that, among the settlers of Grand Isle, Jacques Rigaud was the first to successfully engage in agriculture, ranching, and fishing; and that Valentin Encalada was the first to establish a sugar plantation on the island. A community of fishermen and vegetable farmers farmed on Grand Isle during the aftermath of the Civil War, when the island's large sugar plantations were sold at auction and were divided into small plots for farms and resort hotels.

Today Grand Isle shelters the fleet of a prosperous fishing industry and is rated as one of the top ten sport fishing locations in the world. Visitors have a choice of camping out on the broad beach or enjoying the comfort and accommodations of one of several motels open on a year-round basis.

#### Lafitte:

Named in honor of Jean Lafitte, the privateer, smuggler and hero of the Battle of New Orleans who haunted the surrounding bayous, the community of Lafitte is the scene of annual pirogue races and serves as home port for a thriving fleet of fishing vessels. The blessing of the shrimp fleet is an annual observance, marking the departure of the gaily festooned boats for the rich

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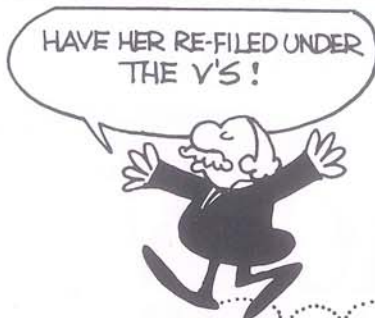
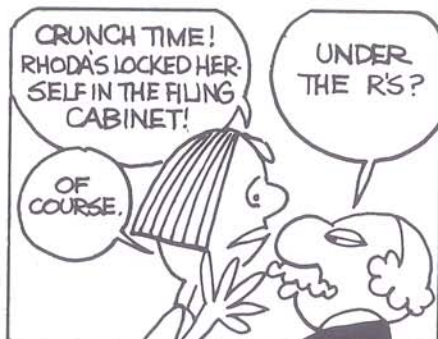
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shrimping grounds. The homes, stores, churches, and taverns of this historic settlement face the boat docks and the fishermen's "main street," Bayou Barataria.

The community of Lafitte grew up around Isidore Fisher's general store, which was established on the bayou in 1892, and the village originally bore Fisher's name. In the nineteenth century the steamboats that plied Bayou Barataria between the Mississippi River and Grand Isle provided bayou communities contact with civilization, and brought the news, mail and supplies for the small general stores on the bayou. Stores such as Fisher's served many purposes. They were trading posts where hunters, fishermen, trappers and moss gatherers could sell their produce while obtaining canned foods, clothing and manufactured articles and goods. They also served as community centers where men could gather for conversation, and where social events could be held. Many aspects of the pleasant patterns of life that formerly centered around Fisher's store are retained today in the town of Lafitte.

## UNINCORPORATED AREAS:

The unincorporated areas of Jefferson Parish comprise all those sections outside the incorporated areas of Gretna, Kenner, Harahan, Westwego, Lafitte and Grand Isle.

Many communities, both large and small, have sprung up within the unincorporated area. Quite a few designate their location within the Parish with names such as River Ridge, Jefferson, Bridge City, and Avondale. Others include the following:

### Metairie:

Metairie is the home of the Parish government's East Bank Office Building and has for years been known as one of the finest residential sections in the Greater New Orleans Area. For this reason it has often been referred to as a suburban "bedroom" community

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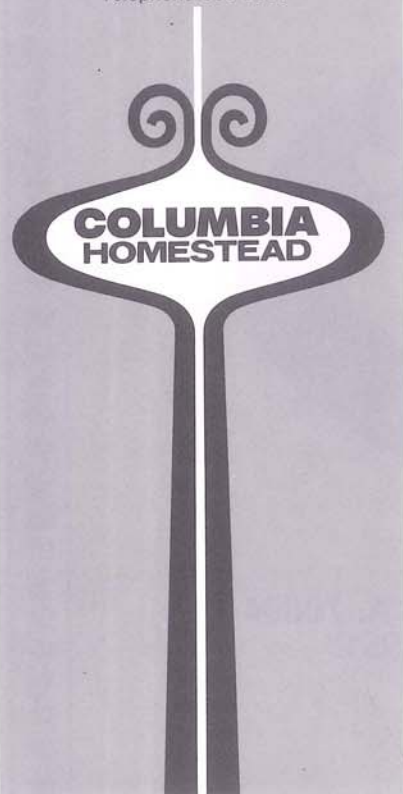
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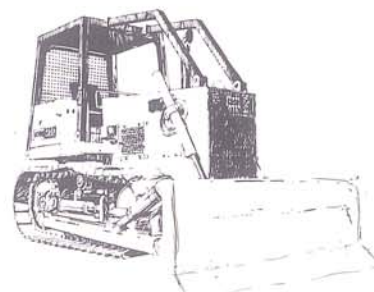
next to a large urban center. It contains the largest concentrated population in Jefferson Parish with more than half of the Parish's total population residing in this community. Located about eight miles West of the heart of the City of New Orleans, it can be entered from New Orleans via the Airline Highway, the I-10 Expressway, Jefferson Highway, Veterans Highway, Metairie Road and River Road.

At the time of French exploration and settlement of Louisiana, a bayou coursed through the lush green wilderness of what is now Metairie. Formerly a tributary of the Mississippi, the bayou connected the river with Bayou St. John. A ridge of dry land, with swamp and marsh on either side, flanked the bayou. At an early date this ridge was used for pasture land by the owners of the riverfront concessions that stretched through the swamp to the lakeshore. Later, they began to rent portions of their property on the ridge to small farmers who were, in a sense, similar to modern sharecroppers. These farms gave birth to the name Metairie. (*Metairie* in french designates a farm leased by the owner on a share-and-share alike basis.) The farmers grew vegetables and fruits and produced dairy products which they transported via Metairie Road to the New Orleans market.

Metairie Road, which is still an important traffic artery, follows the meanders of the former bayou (all that remains of which is a portion of a lagoon in New Orleans' City Park). One of the country's most famous race tracks was once located on Metairie Road. Contests in 1854-55 between two of the most notable steeds in the annals of racing, Lexington and Lecomte, are said to have drawn more than 20,000 enthusiasts to the Metairie Race Course. In 1872, two years before this portion of Jefferson Parish was annexed to New Orleans, the track was converted into a cemetery. Metairie Road is also remembered in history as a favorite place for dueling. In the half-light of dawn, the clash of rapiers was often heard under the moss-draped oaks that lined the road.

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Metairie Ridge continued to support farms and dairies until early in this century when residential development occurred.

### **Marrero:**

The beginnings of the West Bank area known as Marrero date back to the late nineteenth century when a small community called Amesville developed near the old Ames Plantation to service dairymen and truck farmers of the vicinity. At this time, Louis H. Marrero, a powerful political figure who once served concurrently as president of the Jefferson Parish Police Jury, state senator, and sheriff of Jefferson Parish, acquired extensive property in this region of the West Bank. By 1920 the Marrero Land and Improvement Corporation was offering residential town lots and factory sites for sale and the resulting development was named in honor of Louis H. Marrero.

Today, Marrero is the home of such great manufacturing giants as The Celotex Corporation, which turns a by-product of sugar cane into miles of beautiful wall board; the Johns-Manville Roofing and Siding Plant; and many other huge plants and factories. It is one of the most heavily industrialized sections in Jefferson Parish.

### **Harvey:**

Residences and industries in the area known as Harvey first developed around one of three early navigable canals that were dug on the West Bank to link the river with Barataria and the Gulf of Mexico. The earliest canal, which remains today as a drainage ditch, was excavated between 1736 and 1740 by a prominent French entrepreneur, Claude Joseph Villars Dubreuil. The second canal was dug in the late eighteenth century several miles upriver on the plantation later to be known as Seven Oaks, probably by Dubreuil's son. In between these two waterways, a third and ultimately most important canal was dug in the

1840s by Nicolas Noel Destrehan on his plantation. The canal was improved by his son-in-law, Joseph Hale Harvey, and locks were added at its entrance to the river in 1903. In 1924 the Harvey Canal was widened and made part of the Intracoastal Waterway System, encouraging major industrial development along its banks. Modern locks connect the river with the waterway which is Jefferson's prime East-West inland channel for waterborne traffic. More than a million tons of cargo per month is transported over the Harvey Canal, an estimated 75% of which is crude oil, gasoline, and other petroleum products. Among the many industries located on its banks is one of the largest shrimp canning factories in the nation. The development of the oil industry in this area has accentuated the importance of the Harvey Canal, and today Harvey can well be considered the nucleus of Jefferson's oil empire.

Residential and commercial development around the canal occurred slowly during the second half of the nineteenth century. Nicolas Noel Destrehan, who originally excavated the canal and who founded the village of Gretna, attempted to lay out another town on his plantation, adjacent to the canal he dug. In the 1830s he had a survey made and a plan drawn up for Cosmopolite City. It was to have been about eight blocks wide and about seventeen blocks deep. Thematically, Destrehan named the main streets of Cosmopolite City: Persian, Turk, Italian, Spanish, English, German, and Russian, and they were to be divided by Paradise Avenue. The city failed to develop, however, since no lots had been sold by 1848 when Destrehan died, and the property was transmitted to his heirs. Joseph Hale Harvey, a former sea captain, with his wife Louisa Destrehan, developed the canal into a lucrative enterprise and began the system of locks. Following Nicolas Noel Destrehan's death, they acquired his canal and plantation house, which was a landmark along the river. The house, which was demolished in 1924, became known as

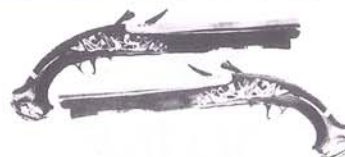
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### **Terrytown:**

A quick look at a map of the Metropolitan Area reveals why soon after the completing of the Greater New Orleans Bridge in 1958, the first plans of Terrytown were laid out. Its close proximity to New Orleans and accessibility to Gretna make it an ideal location for the modern family who wishes the comforts of suburban, but the convenience of city dwelling.

As the population has increased, community spirit has grown and today Terrytown's citizens can boast of having an active participation in civic, social, educational and philanthropic endeavors in Jefferson Parish.

### **Population:**

The earliest census taken in Jefferson Parish was in 1830 and showed a population of 6,846. Today Jefferson Parish ranks among the highest in the nation in terms of rate of increase in population. For almost twenty years these figures have been spiraling upward. The 1950 census showed a total of 103,873. This doubled in the next ten years when the 1960 census totaled 207,891.

The most recent official population count—the 1970 census, showed that Jefferson's population continued to grow at a fantastic rate. Total population increased to 337,568 or 61.7% above the 1960 population. In 1978, approximately 531,000 people made their homes in the Parish, with an estimated 100,000 more expected by 1990.

The City of Kenner on Jefferson's East Bank was the fastest-growing area in the Parish, nearly doubling its population over the past decade.

The West Bank, with twice the land area of the East Bank and with portions still remaining to be developed, has attracted many homeowners and apartment dwellers as well. With easy access to downtown New Orleans over the toll-free bridge, this area

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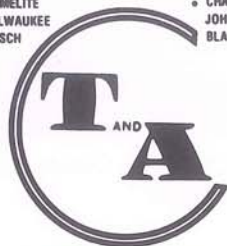
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accounts for a significant portion of the rapid increase in population. With the prospect of a new Mississippi River Bridge crossing from New Orleans to the West Bank, it is expected that this rate of growth will increase rapidly, until in time West Bank population will equal or exceed that of the East Bank.

Jefferson's determination to provide high quality housing for a still greater population is reflected in the growing importance of apartment construction. Apartments, which represented only 1.15% of total residential construction in 1960, accounted for 47.76% of residential construction activity in the seventies.

### Residential Growth

Types of residential architecture range from handsome brick colonials, cape cods, ranches, and extremely modern designs with all the latest conveniences to moderately-priced frame and brick bungalows.

Tree-lined streets with luxurious estates give way to numerous well-placed, skillfully planned subdivisions, many with their own community centers with swimming and tennis clubs. Apartment complexes, both moderate and luxury types, are liberally interspersed throughout the entire Parish, while large, modern, attractively landscaped shopping centers are conveniently placed within easy accessibility of every location in the Parish. Sound master plans for systematic growth have been developed for both East and West Jefferson. Comprehensive planning, anticipating needs for the next 30 years have been completed for water, drainage, sewerage, major streets and bridges, fire protection, recreation and hospital facilities.

Since 1964 Jefferson Parish citizens have approved over \$100 million in capital improvements. These massive public improvement programs are preparing Jefferson not only for continuous residential growth but for commercial and industrial expansion as well. ●

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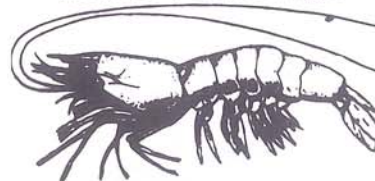
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**Joseph S. Yenni**  
Parish President

# Officials Directory



**Robert Evans**  
Chairman  
Jefferson Parish Council



**Lloyd F. Giardina**  
Councilman-at-Large  
Dists. #1 & #2, West Bank



**Willie Hof**  
Councilman-at-Large  
Dists. #3 & #4, East Bank



**T. V. "Butch" Ward**  
Councilman  
Dist. #1, West Bank



**James E. Lawson, Jr.**  
Councilman  
Dist. #2, West Bank



**Aaron Broussard**  
Councilman  
Dist. #3, East Bank



**Ken Hollis**  
Councilman  
Dist. #4, East Bank



**Harry Lee**  
Sheriff



**John M. Mamoulides**  
District Attorney



**Lawrence E. Chehardy**  
Assessor



**William Justice, Jr.**  
Clerk of Court



**Charles B. Odom, M.D.**  
Coroner

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## Louisiana Officials

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Governor David C. Treen • Lieutenant Governor: Bobby Freeman • Secretary of State: Jim Brown • Attorney General: Wm. J. Guste, Jr. • Treasurer: Mary Evelyn Parker • Superintendent of Education: Kelly Nix • Commissioner of Agriculture: Bob Odom • Register of State Land: Ellen Bryan Moore • Commissioner of Insurance: Sherman Bernard • Commissioner of Elections: Jerry Fowler

### Supreme Court

Chief Justice: Frank W. Summers • Associate Justices: Walter F. Marcus, Jr. • Pascal F. Calogero, Jr. • John A. Dixon, Jr. • Albert Tate, Jr. • James L. Dennis • Fred A. Blanche, Jr. • Clerk of Court: Frans J. LaBranche, Jr.

### Louisiana Senators

J. Bennett Johnston • Russell B. Long

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## Jefferson Parish Officials

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**Parish President**—Joseph S. Yenni; **Councilman-at-Large** (and Council Chairman) Robert Evans; **East Bank Councilman-at-Large**—Willie Hof (Wards 7, 8, 9, 10); **West Bank Councilman-at-Large**—Lloyd F. Giardina (Wards 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 on the West Bank and parts of Wards 7 & 8 on the East Bank). **First District Councilman**—T. J. "Butch" Ward (Wards 1, 2, 3 and part of 4 on the West Bank plus part of Wards 7 & 8 on the East Bank). **Second District Councilman**—James E. Lawson (Wards 4, 5, 6, 11); **Third District Councilman**—Aaron Broussard (Ward 9 and part of 10); **Fourth District Councilman**—Ken Hollis (Wards 8, 10). **Assessor**—Lawrence E. Chehardy; **Clerk of Court**—William M. Justice, Jr.; **Coroner**—Dr. Charles B. Odom; **District Attorney**—John Mamoulides; **Sheriff**—Harry Lee; **Registrar of Voters**—Sam J. Altobello.

**State Senators:** First Senatorial District (shared with Plaquemines and St. Ber-

nard Parish) Samuel B. Nunez, Jr.; Eighth Senatorial District (shared with Westbank Orleans Parish) Fritz Windhorst; Ninth Senatorial District, Elwyn J. Nicholson; Tenth Senatorial District, M. Joseph Tiemann; Eleventh Senatorial District, Francis E. "Hank" Lauricella.

### Louisiana Representatives

Bob Livingston (Dist. 1) • Corinne Claiborne Boggs (Dist. 2) • Jerry Huckaby (Dist. 5) • W. Henson Moore (Dist. 6) • John B. Breaux (Dist. 7) • Gillis Long (Dist. 8)

**State Representatives:** 54th Representative District, Jessie P. Guidry (Shared with La Fourche Parish); 77th Representative District, Edward "Eddie" J. D'Gerolamo; 78th Representative District, Eddie A. Doucet; 79th Representative District, Charles Grisbaum, Jr.; 80th Representative District, Charles Lancaster; 81st Representative District Charles Cusimano; 82nd Representative District, Quentin Dastugue; 83rd Representative District, John J. Alario,

Jr.; 84th Representative District, J. Chris Ullo; 85th Representative District, J. Kenneth Leithman; 86th Representative District (shared with Orleans Parish) Terry Gee; 88th Representative District (shared with Orleans Parish), De Lesseps Morrison, Jr.; 105th Representative District (shared with Plaquemines & St. Bernard), Frank J. Patti.

**Judges 24th District Court:** Louis G. DeSonier, Jr. (Div. A); Frank V. Zaccaria (Div. B); Nestor L. Currault, Jr. (Div. C); Walter E. Kollin (Div. D); Fred S. Bowes (Div. E); Floyd W. Newlin (Div. F); H. Charles Gaudin (Div. G); Tom C. Wicker, Jr. (Div. H); Wallace C. LeBrun (Div. I); Jacob Karno (Div. J); Alvin Rudy Eason (Div. K); Lionel Collins (Div. L); Robert J. Burns (Div. M); **Juvenile Court:** Sol Gothard (Sec. A); Thomas P. McGee (Sec. B); **First Parish Court:** Cyril J. Gracianette; James Lockhart; **Second Parish Court:** Everette F. Gauthreaux; John Molaison.

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**School Board Superintendent—**  
Lawrence J. Sisung, Jr.

**Justices of the Peace:** Leycester L. "Ces" Trauth (Wards 1, 2, 3); Raymond E. "Money" LeBlanc (Wards 4, 5); Charlie R. Kerner (Ward 6); J. A. "Bob" Wilkes (Ward 7, 8, 10); Anthony J. Cristina, Jr. (Ward 9); Bertoul J. Cheramie, Jr. (Ward 11).

**Constables:** 1st Justice Court, Alvin W. "Dick" Huber; 2nd Justice Court, Simon J. Gauthreaux; 3rd Justice Court, Ernest W. Stein; 4th Justice Court, Ignace Santiny, Jr.; 5th Justice Court, H. F. "Buck" Dwyer; 6th Justice Court, Huey P. Schneckenburger.

### Elected Officials of Municipalities

**Gretna (1977-1981)** Mayor, William J. White; Chief of Police, Beauregard H. Miller, Jr.; Aldermen, Louis A. LeBoeuf, Jr., Gerard E. Schexnayder, Hubert Felix Uzee, James G. "Chick" Bush, Sr. and Salvatore Marchese. Meetings, 1st & 3rd Mon., 2:00 p.m.

**Harahan (1978-82)** Mayor, Freddie A. Wilcox; Chief of Police, Michael Ranatza; Aldermen, Fred J. Barocco, Carlo Ferrara, Cesar O. Fonseca, Don C. Gardner, Larry Lynch, Jr.; Meetings, 1st Thurs. 7:30 p.m.

**Kenner (1978-82)** Mayor, Joseph S. Yenni; Chief of Police, Salvador J. Lentini; Councilmen-at-Large, Raoul "Skip" Galan, and Larry Hooper; Councilmen, Shirley Burton, John T. Lavarine, Nick Baroni, Kernan "Skip" Hand, Kenneth W. Hipp; Meetings 2nd Mon.

**Westwego (1977-81)** Mayor, Ernest J. Tassin; Chief of Police, David Munch; Aldermen, Henry Gautreaux, Antoine Alario, Horace J. Boudreaux, Ted Munch, Robert Billiot. Meetings, 2nd Mon., 7:30 p.m.

**Grand Isle (1976-80)** Mayor, Wayne C. Guidry, Chief of Police, Ernest M. LaFont; Alderman at Large, Thomas A. Marullo; Aldermen: Joseph E. LaFont III, Larry J. LaFont, Carl Santiny, Robert "Bobby" Collins

**Lafitte (1979-83)** Mayor Leo E. Kerner, Jr.; Chief of Police, Quentin S. Couevas; Mayor Pro Tem, Alvro G. Despau; Aldermen: Frederick Gros, Chris A. Dufrene, Ray Romagasse, Charlie R. Kerner



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