



The Jefferson Parish Yearly Review

1978 Edition

In this issue
"Jefferson, Land of Heritage and Horizons"

An updated history of the Parish by
Betsy Swanson

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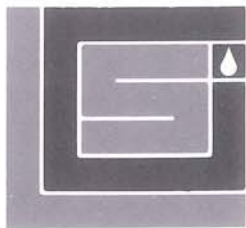


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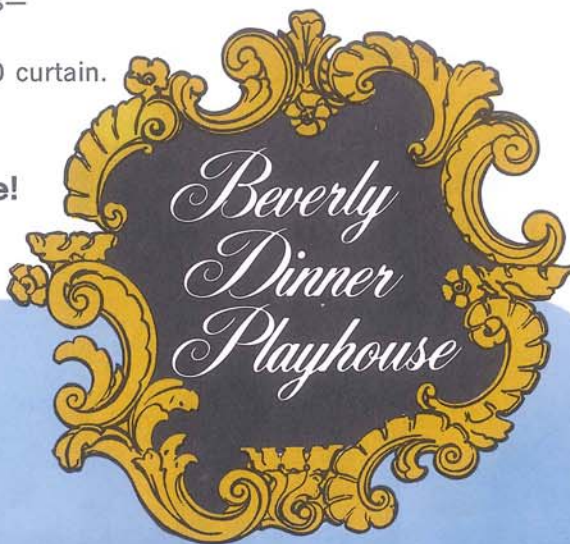
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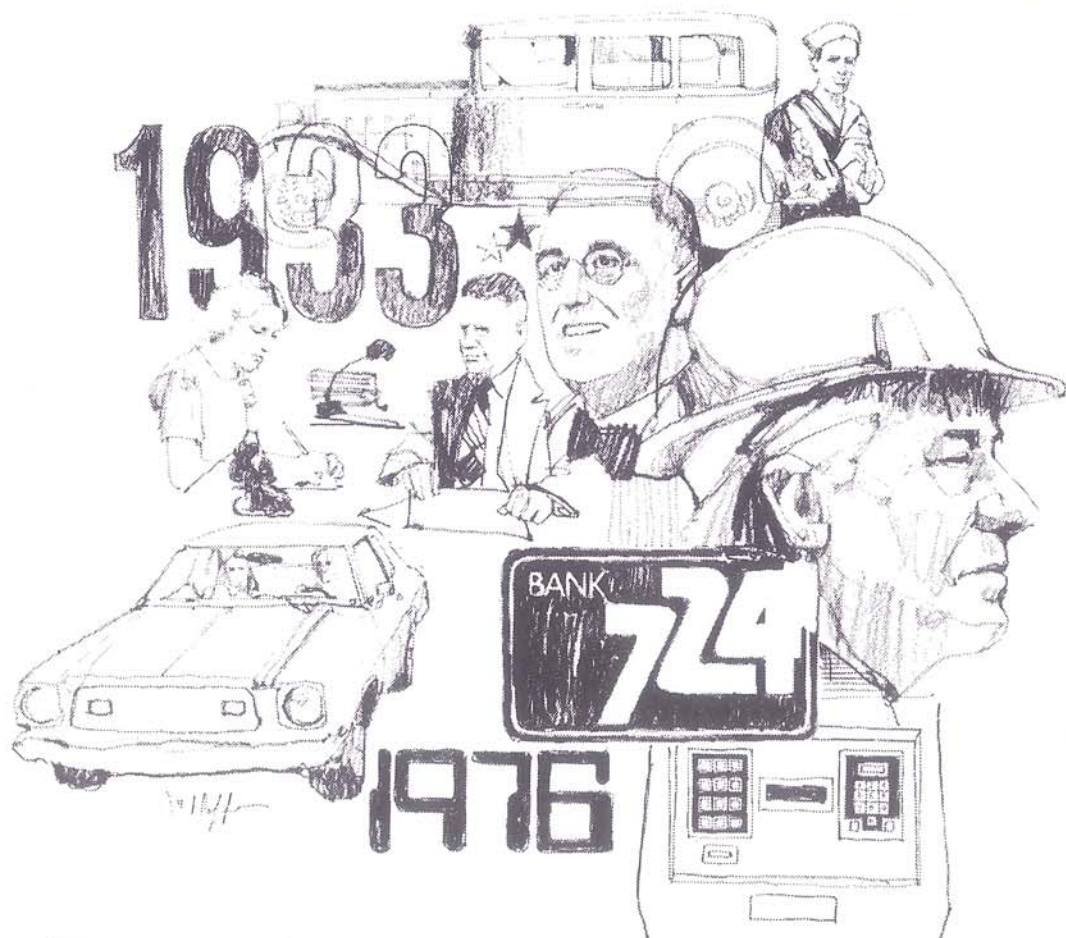
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The Jefferson Parish Yearly Review

An Annual Progress Report
of Jefferson Parish, Louisiana

1978 Edition

Douglas A. Allen, Parish President
Jim Donelon, Council Chairman
Lawrence W. Heaslip, Jr., East Bank Councilman-at-Large
Lloyd F. Giardina, West Bank Councilman-at-Large
Beauregard H. Miller, Jr., First District Councilman
James E. Lawson, Second District Councilman
Aaron Broussard, Third District Councilman
Robert DeViney, Fourth District Councilman

Contents

A Matter of Perspective, 6
Jefferson Parish Today, 11
Chamber of Commerce Report, 19
The City of Gretna, 23
The City of Kenner, 28
Land of Heritage and Horizons, 42
Directory of Officials, 94

Barbara B. Lacour
Contributing Editor

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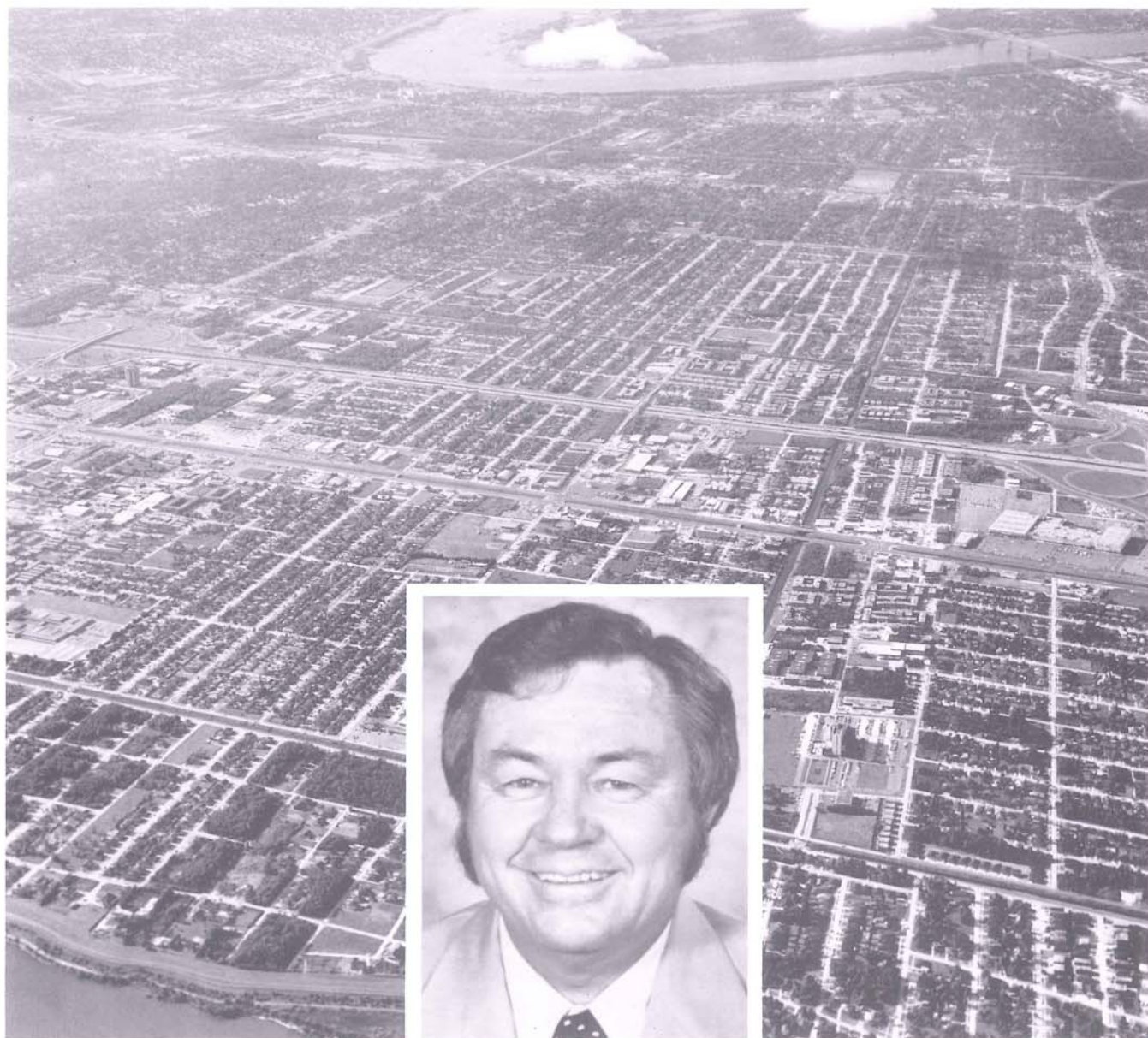
Since the formation of our Company in 1926, our oil and gas exploration program has been compatible with the environment in which it has been operative. More than that, we have assisted nature in stabilizing the marsh waters, which has encouraged the growth of food for its wildlife and migratory birds, such as ducks, blue geese, and snow geese.

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A Matter of Perspective

By Doug Allen
President, Jefferson Parish

It's a matter of perspective. To Jefferson citizens, theirs is the fastest growing Louisiana parish measured in population gains. To its elected officials, Jefferson is Louisiana's fastest growing parish measured by expansion of governmental services.

Both are correct, of course; for as population increases, parish services necessarily are expanded. And by either measure, Jefferson Parish growth is impressive.

First, look at population gains. Each day, on average, Jefferson's popu-

lation increases by 55 people. That's an average of 1,650 per month, some 20,000 per year. And a 20,000 per year population increase has been the average for the past seven years.

By the other measure—expansion of governmental services—the figures are even more impressive (depressive, when available financial resources are evaluated by elected officials). Begin with such essential governmental services as police and fire protection, garbage collection, sewerage disposal, health services, to name a

few; add quality of life services, such as libraries and recreation; and then multiply by the daily, monthly or annual population increases. The result is staggering.

To provide these services to an expanding population, Jefferson's elected officials, particularly the president and council, must establish priorities based on the available financial resources. Our role should not be one of dividing up shortages, but, rather, of increasing financial resources so that services will be provided as needed



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and not compromised in quality.

The foundation for this objective is not necessarily taxes—there is no question, however, that a tax base sufficient to support these services is essential—bit in an increasingly heavy reliance on innovation, imagination, cooperation and an all-out effort to capture our share of federal assistance.

We have established a Federal Liaison Department dedicated to the proposition that those communities which pay the most federal tax should receive a fair share of federal funding assistance in return. At the present time, Jefferson Parish ranks high in payments and relatively low in federal assistance.

There are major efforts underway to alter that circumstance. For example, our political leadership is attempting to establish a viable coastal zone management program and obtain benefits from coastal zoning impact funds.

The coastal zoning program also is a good example of how Jefferson Parish is expanding the nature and scope of its influence which, in turn, is shaping overall state affairs. This is so, because Jefferson Parish has an identity of interest with so many other parishes—for example, an identity with coastal, metropolitan and rural parishes—and because of this, our elected officials are more nearly able to bring into clear focus possible solutions to conflicts among these interests.

A sense of cooperation and leadership where we have an identity of interest with other parishes is not new. For example, Jefferson joined with St. Tammany, a predominantly rural parish to form the Greater New Orleans Expressway Commission for the purpose of constructing and operating the Pontchartrain Causeway. This project has been of immeasurable benefit to both parishes as well as our state.

A determining factor in the decision to construct the Louisiana Superdome, located in downtown New Orleans, was the approval by the Jefferson Parish Council of a hotel-motel tax levy and the dedication of derived revenues for that project.

Our legislative delegation also is in a leadership position for the reason that it may affect efforts to act in a more cohesive way, and in that context we find ourselves trying to realistically deal with regional transit, river crossings and alternative possibilities to the loop of I-410.

When it became apparent that after prodigious efforts to salvage I-410 it could not be built as planned because of opposition by environmentalist groups, Jefferson Parish's elected officials realized that the federal funds allocated to that project in excess of \$450 million would be lost to the state if not reallocated by the governor prior to the inauguration of the new administration. The reallocation was made by the governor, without objection by Jefferson Parish, with the tacit understanding that the governor, with the assistance of an informed and sympathetic legislature, would provide the necessary funds to improve and extend existing roads and support road projects in Jefferson Parish as an alternative solution to the critical requirements for east-west traffic flow improvements which would have been the principal contribution of the I-410 loop.

In addition to this, of course, we have commenced planning of an interstate loop over an alternative route which will minimize environmental impact.

As of now, we are engaged in a major effort to resolve questions of regional transit and how it can relate to the proposed new Mississippi River bridge.

Regional transit directly affects the bridge for the reason that a substantial part of the cost of that project can come from federal funding, provided the bridge is an integral part of a regional transit system. In this, as in every other major undertaking, the bottom line question is, "Where does the money come from?" Or, more directly, who will pay the bill?

There are many difficult and perplexing questions about regional transit that must be answered, and there is considerable disagreement—not whether we have a regional transit system, but how much it will cost and who will pay for it.

In Jefferson Parish, both our local governmental officials and legislative delegation are working to find optimum solutions in a spirit of cooperation with each other and the elected representatives of other government units. We are optimistic that such solutions will be found.

Turning to our future expectations for Jefferson's growth and expansion, we must first realistically consider the ramifications an expanding population will have upon parish services and the orderly implementation of capital projects.

There are several major projects on the horizon that, if carried to completion, will further stimulate the economy of Jefferson and contribute to a further expansion of the population. Principal among the projects is the Louisiana Offshore Oil Port (LOOP), popularly referred to as the Louisiana Superport, which will be located 19 miles south of Grand Isle. A decision of this undertaking is expected by August 1 and, if affirmative, it will begin a new era of petroleum processing in our state with specific favorable ramifications for the Jefferson Parish.

The impact of this project will be parish-wide and will particularly be felt on our West Bank. Land availability in this area of our parish for both industrial and residential use is quite adequate, and we expect accelerated growth on the West Bank.

In another direction, we have established an Energy Study Commission to study the feasibility of capturing locally our royalty share of natural gas and oil produced in Jefferson Parish and delivered intrastate, which is outside of federal control. If this can be done, industrial customers and homeowners alike can be secure in the fact that there are energy fuels available in Jefferson Parish.

If it is feasible to capture our own energy resources in this way, we will then indeed have something to offer the industrialist and in consequence materially improve our industrial tax base without the necessity of buying industrial expansion by industrial property tax exemption.

The East Bank, on the other hand, has been the parish's major growth area for the past two decades, and land availability for major new developments is in increasingly short supply. The last remaining tract of open land is the northwest area of the parish. However, there are small sections in other areas yet to be developed, some of the older developed sections subject to urban renewal, and unlimited opportunity for vertical development and lakefront development.

Finally, I look forward to an expanding role by Jefferson Parish in the political and economic affairs of the entire state resulting not only from our political cohesiveness, but principally because of the identity of interest with practically every other political subdivision of the state. Our efforts will be to identify and deal with problems and work toward their solution. ●



Record Industrial, Commercial and Residential Development in Jefferson Parish Was Sparked by Progressive New Leadership

Jefferson—Louisiana's fastest growing Parish, is a restless giant on the move. From the sandy beaches of Grand Isle to the wave-washed shores of Lake Pontchartrain, Jefferson Parish is a dynamic study in diversity. Rich in natural resources. A year-round paradise for the outdoorsman. Well-planned subdivisions and apartments for gracious living. And a climate attractive to new industry. Following is the continuing story of Jefferson's progress and growth.

Jefferson Parish Today

1977 marked the end of an era and the beginning of a new one for Jefferson. As Parish President Douglas A. Allen began his second year in office, his predecessor in that position—Thomas F. Donelon—passed away after a lengthy illness. George Ackel, Sr., long-time councilman for Jefferson's Third District, relinquished his post to become Public Service Commissioner for the State of Louisiana. That April, Aaron Broussard of Kenner won Ackel's seat on the board, making it the most youthful group of councilmen in the Parish's history.

President Allen and the Council worked to streamline parish government and improve the quality of life in Jefferson. And although these officials stressed the importance of providing for future needs—particularly in the areas of transportation, recreation, energy, pollution and traffic control, sewerage and safety—they did not forget Jefferson's past.

Part of that past was the Parish's Historical Commission, established by ordinance on September 12, 1974 and consisting of a seven-member board appointed by local officials. In 1977, the group was given a mandate by the Council to initiate an historical society, with \$25,000 being allocated for the project. The society—which will be open to the public—will draw people from all walks of life, generating research on the Parish and conducting educational endeavors and other activities. Future plans include placing a model of the Thomas Jefferson statue by Donald DeLue in the East

Bank Office Building, showing the historical film of Jefferson which was produced during the Parish's Sesqui-centennial and which has since been updated, and conducting symposiums on Jefferson's heritage. The group also hopes to publish monographs on the Parish and place markers throughout Jefferson to highlight areas of historical significance.

Looking into the more recent past, Parish departments recounted a very successful year, with numerous accomplishments being made over the last twelve months. . . .

Department of Planning

Without long-range planning, a parish could easily become a hodge-podge of homes and businesses scattered about in no particular order and with no allowances for the population's growth and needs.

Because of the work of Jefferson's Planning Department, the Parish has developed in an orderly fashion, providing a harmonious blending of business, industrial and residential

areas.

As this balanced development continues, more and more people are choosing Jefferson as their home. This movement is reflected in a report prepared by the Planning Department, which shows an increase in building permits in the Parish from 2,766 in 1974 to 4,873 in 1976. This figure includes 3,500 building permits issued for single-family residences, 356 for two-family dwellings, 507 for three and four-family dwellings and 510 permits for multiple-family complexes.

Despite this rapid population growth, the Parish has continued to bring sufficient services to its residents, with important additions being made to accommodate an estimated 482,811 Jeffersonians—over 24,000 more people than in 1975.

The Planning Department also works in cooperation with the Regional Planning Commission, which provides Jefferson, Orleans, St. Bernard and St. Tammany Parishes with general guidelines within which public and

**Residential Units By Classification
As Reflected By Building Permits Issued**

Type of Residence	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976
Single Family	3,713	4,679	3,806	2,596	1,851	2,512	3,500
Two Family	274	512	298	257	108	112	356
Three & Four Family	728	1,426	1,336	304	115	101	507
Multiple Family	1,734	4,480	4,014	3,392	692	316	510

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gram is all about. You're already familiar with some of the ways to conserve, as featured in previous Consumer Energy Team messages. And we'll be expanding on these. Whether you live in an old or relatively new home, or are planning to build a new one, LP&L can give specific recommendations which can help you save money and energy. Just contact your Consumer Energy Team at any LP&L office. We'll do the rest.

private developments should proceed to achieve an orderly pattern of growth and expansion within the four-parish area, without sacrificing basic human needs and recognizing current living patterns.

Jefferson's Planning Department also continued its regular duties through the year, including the administration of subdivision and zoning regulations, and the long-range planning of transportation, land use, capital budget, program and coastal zone management within the Parish.

Department of Safety

The Department of Safety continued to provide for the citizens' welfare by conducting housing inspections, distributing educational materials and permits regarding proper procedures for burning trash, maintaining adequate street lighting and inspecting taxicabs and solid waste trucks to insure their safe operation. The department also maintained specific standards for buildings and other construction in the Parish through regular inspections, issuing 953 family and multi-family building permits through the first four months of 1977, as well as 470 commercial permits. During the past decade, the department has issued 72,634 permits for construction in Jefferson.

Department of Recreation

With the amenities of life being provided by such departments as Roads and Bridges, Water, Sanitation, Sewerage and Drainage and other Parish offices, Jeffersonians were able to enjoy their leisure time at the 25 recreational facilities provided by the Parish, including playgrounds, community centers or gyms, picnic shelters, tennis courts and meeting rooms. A unique and attractive "playland" area was created at the Causeway Underpass, with partial federal funding through an EDA grant. Light systems were upgraded at several playgrounds and four tennis courts were resurfaced. The Delta ceramics studio on the East Bank was renovated, while a gym, tennis court and lighted ballfield are under construction in Harvey. The successful passage of several bond issues should allow improvements to be made in other areas of the Parish, including Avondale, Kennedy Heights, Bridge City, Waggaman and Oakdale Playground.

With increases in the number of

Spanish-speaking families in Jefferson and the influx of Vietnamese to the Parish, Jefferson's library system bought 80 Vietnamese books through a \$3500 grant received from the Louisiana State Library. Eighty-seven "English-as-a-second-language" books also were purchased.

As the library system's list of borrowers passed the 100,000 mark, plans were made for a new branch library to be constructed at the corner of Oaklawn Drive and West Esplanade Avenue. As in past years, "Fines Forgiveness Week" was celebrated during National Library Week, as well as "Operation Homing Pigeon," which allows patrons to return overdue books from any Parish branch library and have them accepted on a "no questions asked" basis. Books are then mailed to the branch which originally issued them.

The library system also continued its story-telling workshops and library tours, as well as its program of films, which attracted an estimated audience of 2,673,902.

Jefferson Parish Mosquito Control

To make recreation time more pleasant, the Jefferson Parish Mosquito Control continued to educate the public to the detrimental affects of mosquitoes and the proper methods of reducing Jefferson's mosquito population. In 1976, over 2,500 positive breeding sites were inspected, with 90.4% found to be man-made. Through 177 speaking engagements and 221 slide or movie shows, the department reached over 10,000 Jefferson residents, explaining the mosquito's life-cycle and how to eliminate breeding sites in various neighborhoods. Lectures were supplemented by nearly 79,000 pieces of literature distributed in 1976. Between January and May of 1977 alone, an additional 6,707 persons were reached.

Over 3,700 man-hours were devoted to the permanent control of mosquitoes during the first five months of 1977, while temporary controls—including inspecting, larviciding, adulticiding and herbiciding—accounted for 5,518 hours. The results of the comprehensive mosquito control and public information program have been dramatic: 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 have decreased as the mosquito population decreases and as dog owners begin administering special preventative medicine to their pets on a daily basis.

Animal Shelter and Control

As more and more people move to the Parish, the animal population grows, too. While most pets are well cared for by their owners, some are not. Some are treated cruelly, and others are allowed to roam free. Meeting the needs of such animals is the Jefferson Animal Shelter and Control, which receives approximately 400 calls a day regarding situations involving animals, including bite cases. Its trucks pick up about 30 animals daily, while warnings are given to at least as many people who allow their animals to run at large.

The department now has a full-time cruelty investigator, who works closely with the Jefferson Parish Sheriff's Office and the Health Unit in regard to all animal control and welfare regulations, particularly in relation to leash and vaccination laws.

One employee also spends approximately half of his time in the schools teaching humane education in cooperation with local 4-H clubs, promoting responsible pet ownership among Jefferson's youth.

New Departments

To meet the needs of our changing society, several new departments were added to the Parish's governmental structure, including an environmental and developmental control department, a federal liaison department, a special department of training and employee development and the Greater Jefferson Parish Port Commission, which has exclusive jurisdiction of waters within Jefferson.

The Future

While answering the present demands of the Parish and reminding residents of their past by recalling Jefferson's heritage, Parish officials and department heads continue to look toward the future, planning now for the necessities of later generations. Together with the people of the Parish, they make "Progressive Jefferson" more than just a convenient epithet, for their actions reflect the words of John Galsworthy, the famous English author who wrote: "If you do not think about the future, you cannot have one." ●

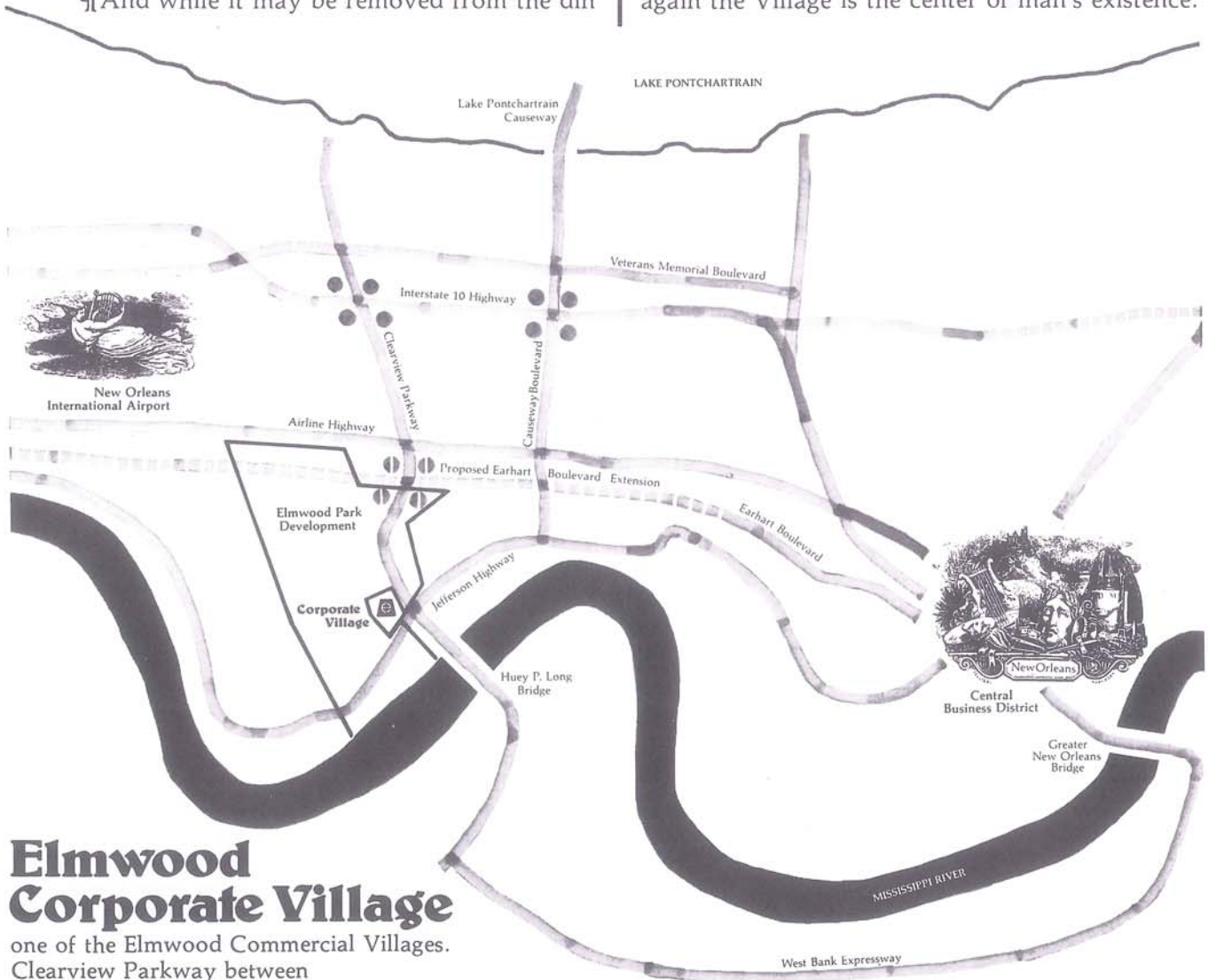
Elmwood Corporate Village

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¶ There was a time, before skyscrapers and super highways, when man lived a simpler, more natural way of life. The village was the center of his existence. With the growth of the city, man's world was forever changed. Now, it is incredibly more complex. But man himself remains a simple creature. Dwarfed by the gigantic proportions of the world he has created. ¶ Elmwood Corporate Village returns man to a more natural state by offering him an alternative to the frantic, jostling metro mania of most urban working environments. A balanced integration of low-rise buildings, green spaces and trees. ¶ To be sure, the 1,100,000 square feet of office space in Corporate Village could be squeezed into one 50-story skyscraper. But it won't be. That's the beauty of Elmwood. ¶ And while it may be removed from the din

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¶ Elmwood Corporate Village is one phase of the overall Elmwood Park Development. A super-regional complex that will include shopping centers, warehouse and distribution facilities, light industry and residential developments. ¶ The designers of Elmwood Corporate Village believe that man can regain the simplicity he once lost, without sacrificing the progress he has struggled to achieve. In Elmwood both of man's worlds coexist in mutually beneficial harmony. Once again the Village is the center of man's existence.



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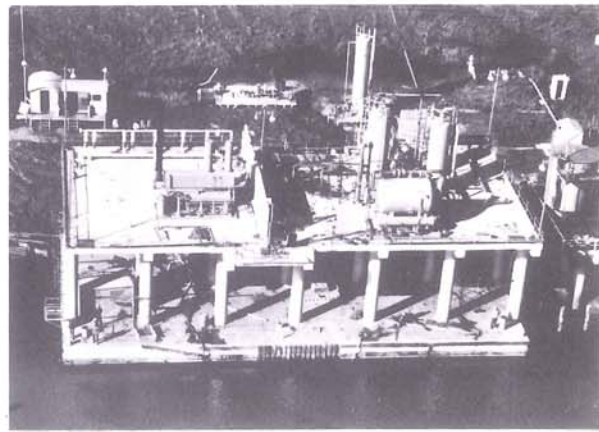
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Chamber of Commerce Report

West Bank Council



Dear Jeffersonian:

Your Chamber of Commerce West Bank Council has been working diligently to improve the business climate and overall quality of life for our community.

Listed below are our major projects and programs I believe

you will find important to the growth and development of the West Bank.

Louis H. Marrero IV
Chairman

Westbank Expressway

Informational seminars were held for the general public for the purpose of answering questions that had arisen as the Westbank Expressway neared construction.

The Council also sponsored a groundbreaking ceremony with the Governor as principal speaker, to commemorate the start of construction on this vital transportation artery.

In conjunction with the Westbank Expressway project, the West Bank Council has initiated discussions with the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation to use the areas under the expressway for recreational purposes.

Legislative Affairs

Meetings were held with parish legislators prior to the opening of the 1977 Legislative Session.

In conjunction with other business organizations, businessmen from the Westbank let their legislators know their feeling on certain key issues important in the Louisiana Legislature.

Other meetings were held with parish councilmen in an effort to coordinate the needs of the parish and with the legislative impact of the business community.

Education

Comprehensive educational programs on the Westbank is the main theme of the Council's Education Committee.

The Council exemplified this by conducting a bus tour of educational institutions on the West Bank.

The day-long tour included visits



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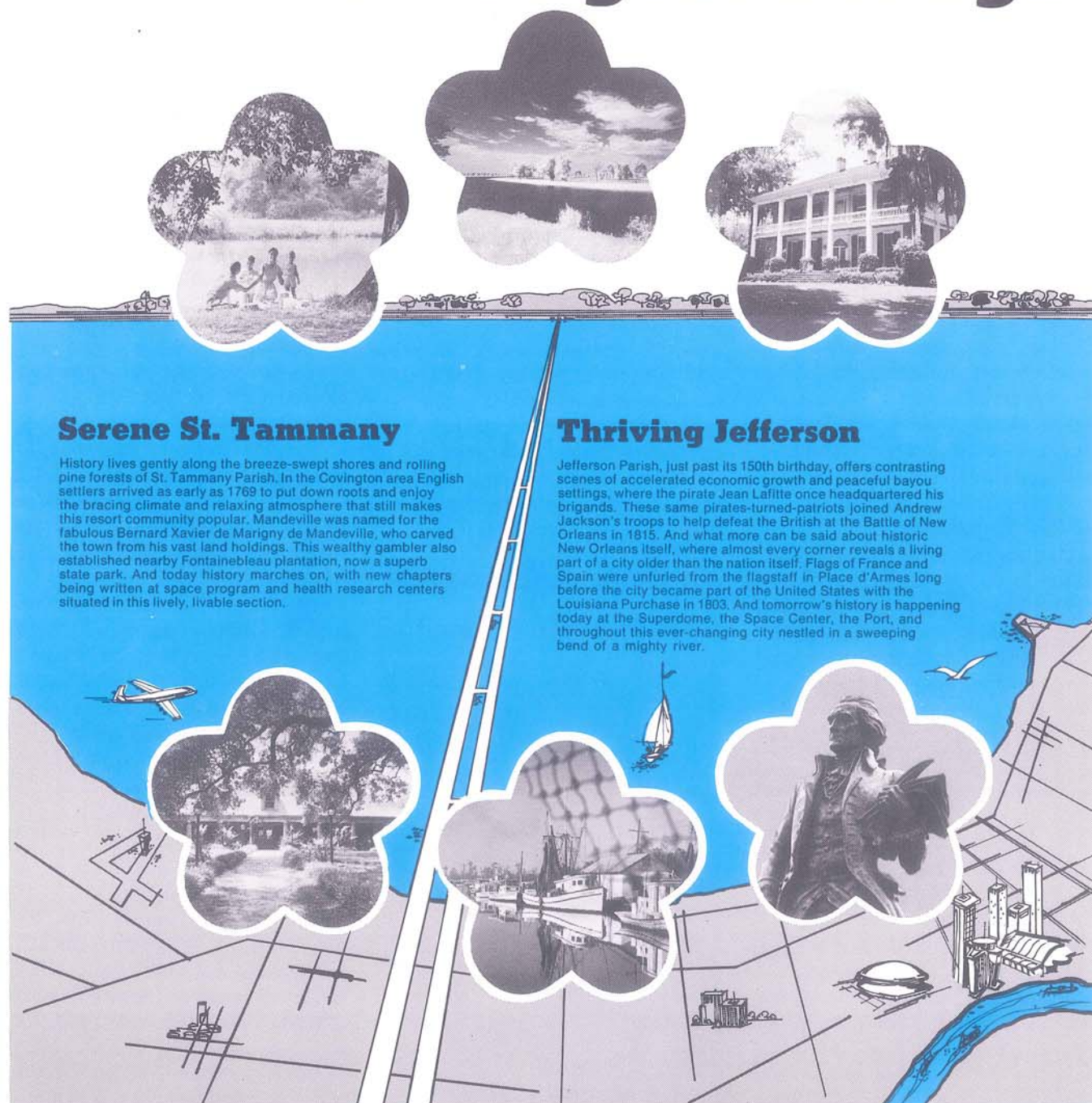
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There's a Lot of History to See at Each End of the World's Longest Bridge



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.

Greater New Orleans Expressway Commission



Fred M. Trupiano
Chairman



Earl D. Broom
Vice Chairman



Merlin G. Hudson
Treasurer



Robert G. Pecoraro
Secretary



Ralph H. Privette
Asst. Sect.-Treas.



Malcolm T. Stein, Sr.
General Manager

to and briefings conducted at Our Lady of Holy Cross College, Delgado Westbank Junior College, and the present and future sites of the vo-tech schools.

Manpower Survey

With the aid of the Jefferson Parish Manpower Program the business and industry survey for the Westbank has been updated and is reaching its final form. The purpose of this survey is to determine the specific skill labor needs of Westbank businesses.

The results of the survey were collated by research analysts on loan from the Jefferson Parish Manpower Office and in cooperation with the Chamber's Economic Development Council Business Research Department. A final brochure was published in the last quarter of 1977.

The survey will be provided to local educators, vo-tech schools, and other interested agencies.

SMSA Expansion

Working with the research staff of the Economic Development Council, an effort to expand the Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area (SMSA) to include the River Area parishes was initiated this year. This expansion would help the New Orleans area to improve its competitive position by adjusting and expanding statistical information.

Business Development

Designing a comprehensive profile of data on the Westbank was the main emphasis of the Business Development Committee. The brochure will provide a description of various facets of the community for prospective businesses planning to locate on the Westbank, as well as existing firms contemplating expansion plans.

The committee also surveyed all Westbank Chamber members to determine major problem areas faced by the local businessman. The results of the survey were used to establish a business seminar series, in cooperation with the University of New Orleans, on the Westbank.

Coastal Zone Management

The West Bank Council was a major creator of the position recommended to the Chamber's Governmental Affairs Committee on coastal zone management.

The House Committee on Natural Resources later adopted a bill which would create a three-mile coastal boundary.

Gretna Revitalization

The West Bank Council spearheaded an effort to improve downtown Gretna. With students from the University of New Orleans Urban Studies Institute the second phase of this program was initiated including a complete analysis of parking and transportation needs for the downtown area.

A slide program was developed, and numerous presentations were made to civic and other governmental groups. Meetings with city officials and parish officials were held in an effort to initiate action toward improving downtown Gretna.

East Jefferson Council



Robert L. Appel
Chairman

To All Jeffersonians:

Whether you live and/or work in East Jefferson, the Chamber of Commerce is working for your benefit. The East Jefferson Council of the Chamber is dedicated to the development of business and the

community as well. This development can take many forms and outlined below are the major thrusts of the Council in the preceding year of 1977.

The East Jefferson Council, through its Tourism Committee, sponsored a "Tourism in Jefferson Parish" seminar in conjunction with the Greater New Orleans Tourist and Convention Commission. This seminar was aimed at finding out the current status of tourism in the East Jefferson area. It brought together state, parish and local officials involved in the tourist industry. Many local hotel and motel people turned out and a number of fine ideas were shared among the participants. All hoped that tourism in East Jefferson, particularly in the Fat City area, could develop not as competition to New Orleans, but as a complement.

The East Jefferson Council, through its Education Committee, has established a speakers' bureau. Through the efforts of the schools, a brochure was published, outlining the areas of talks to be given. These were distributed to all the high school counselors. During the spring semester, the committee aimed the talks for junior and senior high school students. Many schools responded to the availability of speakers. The fall brought out an expanded program and is currently available to teachers and guidance counselors.

Over the past year, the Council, through its Transportation Committee, has been taking inventory of the transportation needs and priorities in East Jefferson. It has held meetings with state and parish officials to determine the major problem areas and what is being done to correct them, both from a state standpoint and a parish standpoint. The committee has also begun to look into the feasibility of a Jefferson-Jefferson bridge, over and above the current debate over the proposed parallel span of the Greater New Orleans bridge. The committee monitored the regional transportation developments as proposed by the Regional Planning Commission through the

year 1995, both from a short-range and long-range standpoint.

For the past year, the Council has sponsored a manpower survey in the East Jefferson area. In January, a full-time research analyst was provided by the Manpower office to conduct the survey. The survey was published in late summer and has been a tremendous asset to employers, trade school directors and employees. The data will be continually updated in order to keep a reading on the pulse of the employment needs in Jefferson Parish.

In the fall, the Business Development Committee sponsored a business and economic forecast for the area. Speakers from various disciplines attuned to the economic climate gave their projections on the 1978 "state of the union."

Continued in 1977 was the cover-the-drainage-canals project. For the past six years the Council has been working diligently to complete this project so that the canals can be used for other purposes; such as rapid transit, playgrounds, etc.

Begun this year is the Veterans Boulevard beautification project. This artery is in desperate need of modifications and improvement. The Council is spearheading the effort to turn Veterans into a pleasant thoroughfare on which to ride, shop or play.

These are some of the principle areas that your Chamber is involved in. We will continue working on these and many others so that Jefferson Parish can be the best place to live and work.

Sincerely yours,
Robert L. Appel
Chairman

The Economic Development Council

The Economic Development Council of the Chamber of Commerce has been very active over the past year in many areas of its four-part program of Image

Development, Direct Sales, Business Research, and Improvement of Area Competitive Position.

Image development has been largely the EDC's campaign to create a local, national and international image which will promote greater awareness of this area and region's potential for new industry and business. Ads and articles in many important trade publications and magazines have generated more than 100 prospective new firms that are interested in establishing some type of commercial or industrial operations in this region. Publications such as *Shopping Center World*, *Chemical Week*, *Sales Management & Marketing* and others have featured articles on the growth trends and business opportunities in this area.

The Direct Sales Program has centered on a number of highly successful prospect-seeking trips to Japan, Europe, Canada and several major American cities—Chicago, New York, Milwaukee, Los Angeles, and San Francisco. Contacts with more than 100 Japanese corporations resulted from the Japan trip, provided many prospective investors in new industrial or office facilities for the region.

Indicative of the growing national and international interest in our area is the rate of increase in prospective new businesses which during the first six months of 1977 already equals the total number for 1976. More importantly, the EDC has been successful in attracting several of these firms to this area in recent months, as well as in assisting their establishment of local facilities. In a number of instances, sites in Jefferson Parish have been selected by these companies for their New Orleans location. These include Subaru of America, Gulf Coast Hydro Blasting Corp., Inc., Southern Hospital Supply, House of Vision, Y Not Better Papers, Inc., and Philippine Trade House. A number of fast-food service chains expanding in Jefferson Parish were also assisted by the EDC in the past year.

Business Research activities resulted in the completion of a study of the ethylene industry and participation in a survey of Jefferson Parish's manpower inventory and needs. This latter, coupled with other research activity, is expected to produce significant information for guiding the development of vocational-technical education programs in the parish over future years. Through this kind of training, guided by continuing research of the labor market and job/skill training requirements, the competitive position of our area can be enhanced markedly to the benefit of both existing companies and those considering a new location in the area.

Other efforts of the Business Research program have been an economic forecast survey of area business managers and owners, and a survey of out-of-area purchases by local companies, which when completed will provide valuable market data for new business development opportunities.

These four principal areas of activity are complemented by the EDC's Local Business Assistance and Development Program which regularly handles requests for information and assistance from local business concerns. Expansion of this vital function is planned by the EDC through the formation of a Business Service Center that will coordinate public and private sector services for area businesses which may be seeking to expand and need information or assistance in the areas of manpower training, sites, financing or special management counseling.

This review has touched only the highlights of a year of progress for the Economic Development Council, vital progress which must be continued for the economic growth of this region. For more information about the EDC and its potential services for your business, call 524-1131, or write to: The Economic Development Council, P.O. Box 30240, New Orleans, La. 70190. ●



Gretna

By William J. White, Mayor

In an era when many governments at all levels are coming under attack (often justified) by citizens and press alike, it was particularly encouraging to read the following (unsolicited) letter in the West Bank Guide on May 5, 1976 which praised Gretna as an "ever-caring Community":

"To The Editor:

"This is a note of praise to the City of Gretna.

"Let us begin by saying that we have happily discovered Gretna, the peaceful existence where the people care for their city and the city cares for its people.

"We became members of this fine community when we recently bought our home on Huey P. Long Avenue.

"We have previously lived in Orleans Parish and in other parts of Jefferson, but Gretna has positively won our overwhelming praise and gratitude.

"We were pleasantly surprised by its many services and its helpful and cooperative city employees.

"We have particularly noticed how efficient the Department of Sanitation and Gretna's City Services are.

"We have enjoyed the beautiful parklike care of Huey P. Long Avenue.

"As the new owners of a long time vacant house, we have much trimming of trees and shrubs of our own. We also have had much debris from remodeling and renovations. "We were certain that if we put this type of trash out it would surely be rejected or neglected for days on end, if it were picked up at all.

"How Wrong We Were!

"Not only was it all picked up the very next day, but there was not even a trace that it was ever there.

"There is much more that we intend to do to our home to beautify it and make it more comfortable.

"It is so nice to have such beautiful surroundings to inspire us and such cooperation and efficiency to encourage us.

"We are proud to be citizens of your ever-caring community. Our only regret is that we didn't discover you sooner.

"Thank you for introducing us to a new kind of living, one which we hope to enjoy for many years to come."

Mr. and Mrs. Ray M. Newton
Gretna"

Evidently a majority of our citizens shared this confidence in

City Government and showed their appreciation in the 1977 city election when the Chief of Police, all five Aldermen and myself were re-elected.

Also elected to office were our incumbent Democratic Committee Chairman and our two new candidates for the Committee.

During the campaign, we pledged to continue providing "maximum services at minimum cost" to the citizens of Gretna.

That pledge is reflected in our 1977 General Fund Budget of \$3,406,979, only \$6,371 more than the 1976 budget.

This was made possible by a slight increase in Sales Tax revenues (\$93,090) and collections of \$50,000 in delinquent paving assessment bills. Ad Valorem taxes, millage tax revenues and federal revenue sharing funds remained virtually unchanged.

Yet, Gretna City Government is now operating more efficiently with this "stand still budget", while still providing the same level of services, while a six percent 1977 inflation rate prevails everywhere else.

The citizens of Gretna, of course, participate in some of our municipal improvement programs on a front foot assessment basis, such as:

Gretna



Seated left to right: Alderman & Mayor Pro Tem Louis A. Le Boeuf, Jr.; Chief of Police Beauregard Miller; Mayor Wm. J. White and Alderman John L. Dulcich, Jr.; Standing left to right, Aldermen James G. "Chick" Bush, Sr.; Hubert F. "Bunny" Uzee and Gerard E. Schexnayder.

Streets: Typical of these is the HUD Community Development "Block Grant" Program which provides asphalt surfacing, subsurface drainage and sidewalk repair in specified areas under a five phase program begun in 1975.

In the first three phases, we have already completed Claire Avenue from Gretna Boulevard to 35th Street; Stafford Street between 25th and 15th Streets with these improvements and have installed or repaved sidewalks on Huey P. Long Avenue from 18th to 16th Street. Also included was black-topping of the entrance road to Mel Ott Park.

The Hero Drive improvement program from 35th Street to Gretna Boulevard is planned under phases IV and V.

Also completed during 1977 was the asphaltic concrete paving and shell base with open ditches and required drainage structures and grading to the following streets:

Fifteenth Street (Huey P. Long Ave. to Lafayette Street); Ninth Street (Evergreen Dr. to Richard Street); Governor Hall Street, East side (Eighth Street to Ninth Street); Twenty-Seventh Street (Lafayette Street to Gehring Dr.); Richard Street (First Street to Second Street).

Sewage: Our 5 million gallons per day wastewater Treatment Plant will be completed late in 1977 at a cost of \$6.1 million with "built-in" planning which anticipates our needs for many years to come. As part of our preparations for connecting the City sewage system to the new plant, we received a \$97,500 EPA grant to smoke-test sewer lines for possible water leaks. In June, work crews began testing for breaks and holes, loose joints and, where necessary, poked a TV camera through pipes to spot flaws. We also sought and received federal funds to hire personnel for the

new plant and for water meter installation and repair.

Cleanest City: The continuing efforts of City officials and many individual citizens to keep Gretna clean were rewarded when we received the 1977 Louisiana Garden Club Federation's Cleanest City of District II Award. Gretna earned a handsome gold and green trophy by placing first among cities in the 25,000 50,000 population category. Our participation was sponsored by the Twilight Gardeners Club.

Garbage Collection: An important factor contributing to our cleanest city award was our modern garbage collection system, now in its sixth year and unrivalled anywhere in Louisiana. The City furnishes heavy water proofed self sealing 33 gallon paper bags for refuse disposal. These are collected twice a week and hauled to a sanitary landfill beyond the city limits.

Water: Our water purification capacity is 10 million gallons a day and storage capacity is three millions a day, with modern chemical storage, feeding system and filter media—a \$3.2 million improvement.

Recreation: Excellent recreational facilities are provided year 'round under the Gretna Recreational and Instructional Department (GRID), which honors its young athletes every year at the GRID Banquet of Champions. You name it, we've got it—playgrounds, picnic areas, swimming pools, lighted tennis courts, football, baseball, basketball, softball, volleyball, bowling, etc. And, we are currently improving our facilities in Phase Three of a three year federally funded \$250,000 expansion program.

Fire Protection: The City's fire insurance rate improved from a class Five to a Four rating last year thanks to an excellent performance rating earned by our two volunteer fire companies, Gould and David Crockett.

Together the companies operate five fire stations with 340 volunteer firefighters, 17 full time firemen and the latest equipment. The Davy Crockett Company organized in 1841 is the oldest continuously operating volunteer fire company in the United States.

There were other significant factors for the new rating which represented a savings estimated between \$195,000 and \$240,000 to homeowners. These included doubling water system capacity; a new fire alarm and radio communications system; advanced fire protection, building and electrical regulations and enforcement plus the administration of a better fire control system for new construction.

Mosquito Control: Everywhere, in Jefferson Parish, people pay \$1.25 a month for mosquito control. Everywhere, that is, but in Gretna. Our citizens get the same modern



Chief of Police Beauregard Miller reviews police officers with two of his shift supervisors. The Gretna Police Department provides more police protection per dollar spent than any police force anywhere and its officers are among the best trained.

mosquito control protection as the rest of the parish without the monthly charge added to their water bill.

Lighting: As the color photo in this article illustrates, our complete mercury vapor lighting system (at least three light standards to every block) exceeds national standards for maximum citizen safety and crime protection.

Business District: We're proud of our downtown business district. The remodeling of the Western Auto store at Huey P. Long and Second Street and converting it to badly needed office space is the most recent example of how we keep this area alive and thriving. Across the street, a vacant lot has been transformed from an eyesore into an extension of the parish courthouse parking lot. On the other corner, three more drive up windows were added by the First

National Bank of Jefferson at a cost of \$100,000.

As part of our downtown improvements, work began in July on additions and improvements to our ferry landing and construction of new parking areas, federally funded through the Mississippi River Bridge Authority.

Police Department: Our Chief of Police, Beauregard H. Miller, Sr., a one man police force in 1925 when he began his lifelong law enforcement career, now supervises a modern, efficient department providing 'round the clock protection for all citizens. In June, he appointed Dominick Mancuso as Assistant Chief.

Fifteen of Gretna's 34 full time officers are graduates of the Jefferson Parish Sheriff's Academy, others were trained at the LSU Law Enforcement Institute (Baton Rouge) and the New Orleans Police Academy. At LSU, certain officers

Gretna

were selected for specialized training in mob and riot control and advanced accident investigation.

At the New Orleans Police Academy, some officers received additional training in police administration, traffic techniques and use of K-9 dogs.

Still more officers traveled as far as Quantico, Virginia to learn FBI police methods. Some were given special instruction in Drug Abuse, Bomb Disposal plus Hostage and Armed Robbery at seminars.

Four officers attended the first Southeast Regional Narcotics Seminar while another spent an entire month training at the U.S. Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs.

Three Gretna policemen have completed two years each of full college credit toward a degree in criminology from Loyola University while a fourth officer has completed three years there.

New men are scheduled for specific training during their first year on the force. Overall, Gretna police officers are probably as well trained as any other police force of the same size anywhere.

The Team: Although my name appears as author of this article, progress in Gretna over the years has always been achieved as a team, a cooperative effort between the people and their elected city officials.

I am proud to serve with Chief of Police Beauregard H. Miller, Sr., Alderman and Mayor Pro Tem Louis A. Le Boeuf, Jr. (16 years), Alderman John L. Dulcich, Jr. (14 years), Alderman Gerard E. Schexnayder (10 years), Alderman Hubert F. "Bunny" Uzee (4 years), Alderman James G. "Chick" Bush (4 years); Democratic Executive Committee Chairman Edward W. Kennedy (40 years) and newly elected to the committee this year —Mrs. Katherine Rotolo Weigel and Luke La Bruzza. ●



New sidewalks were built in several areas of the city, here shown at Huey P. Long Ave., and Gretna Blvd.



Gretna has always provided excellent year 'round recreation facilities for citizens of all ages. Some of the new facilities, shown here, were built at no cost to taxpayers in the first two phases of the current three year, federally funded "open space" program.



This Article Would Not Have Been Possible Without Your Patronage

Reprinted from the Times-Picayune.

By JACK DU ARTE



Gastronomy Classical 'Quarterdeck' Billed Among Top Five

When a restaurant reviewer first sets foot in a particular dining establishment, he does so with a slight feeling of anxiety. Each place is its own little world with its own way of doing things. In other words, each has its own character.

If the restaurant is started from scratch, there are the additional feelings of freshness and viability which must be considered before passing judgment on the place's relative merits.

But there is another overwhelming experience enjoyed by restaurant critics which make the job we do seem so worthwhile—that being the reporting of a grand new restaurant as perceived in its infancy and later the satisfaction of returning to find our initial impression correct.

All of which leads me to the magnificent Quarterdeck Restaurant.

When I first reported the presence of this wonderful addition to the New Orleans restaurant community (May 11, 1975), my column was filled with hopes for a restaurant of a classical nature on the city's West bank which was primed to serve in much the same manner as the legendary Le Ruth's, now an institution in the city. What has happened in the intervening 14 months has been beyond my wildest dream.

The Quarterdeck has now developed into one of the top five restaurants in the city with a unique character and creative approach to local and classical French cuisine.

The place's ascension to lofty heights comes as no real surprise to the city's restaurant community. The Quarterdeck's owners, Rip Shylock and Chef Claude Bernard, have long records of culinary training and expertise behind them from a wealth of restaurant experience.

What has amazed everyone, however, is the relatively short period it took the pair to reach the top in New Orleans' most competitive restaurant environment. Fourteen months in the restaurant busi-

ness is a mere drop in the proverbial bucket. Generally, the rise to the top takes much longer.

Shylock and Bernard (they almost sound vaudevillian) with dedicated tenacity have stuck with a master plan they conceived several years ago. Their plan was simple: great food in a relaxed setting, expertly prepared and most professionally served.

Obviously, from my opening remarks, I feel they have scored quite heavily in every category. The pair has overcome a unique handicap in that they are the only major class restaurant located in a suburban shopping center (the Village Aurora Mall). Some felt this might be a handicap, I say it's the easiest place to park in the entire city.

But the underlying reason for such success must be the food, and it is in this area that the Quarterdeck excels. Several dishes are classics, the best served in the city in a particular class.

The Vichyssoise is exactly what a great soup should be: balanced, well-appointed and inviting. Truite Grillee is an artful filet of speckled trout boiled, simple and elegant with a masterful herb butter sauce. But it is in the meats that the Quarterdeck stands highest.

The filet of Boeuf Wellington (which must be specially ordered in advance) is the best in the city and the Entrecote au Poivre is a pepper steak in the grand manner. Green pepper corns from Madagascar replace the traditional black pepper corns with a marvelous fresh effect.

Finally, Rip's Special Coffee is a flaming after-dinner concoction which, given the proper exposure, could become as popular as Cafe Brulot or any of the other famed New Orleans coffees.

Heretofore, there were only two places I would brave the bridge to the West Bank for, Le Ruth's and the Lido Restaurant in Marrero. Now I must add the Quarterdeck to that list. Both the quality of the food and quality of the operation demand it.





Elected Officials of Kenner: From Left to Right: Tommy Le Blanc, District 3; Raoul Galan, District 5; Huey Fassbender, District 2; Salvador Lentini, Chief of Police; Joseph Yenni, Mayor; Gwen Boynton, Clerk of Council; Richard Stoulig, District 1; Keith Woodward, Councilman at Large; Nicholas Baroni, District 4; Larry Hooper, Councilman at Large and President of the Council.

Kenner

By Joseph S. Yenni-Mayor

As one of Louisiana's fastest growing municipalities, the City of Kenner experienced numerous achievements during 1977. Necessary legislation was enacted by the Kenner Council and new goals established by the Administration to improve and further all services for the people of our City.

Under the direction of Dora Mae Aucoin, the Finance Department expanded the utilization of its computer by adding the entire payroll of the City to the system, programming personnel data and setting up an accounts payable

system to include a vendor's list. This office is presently preparing to program the fixed assets inventory on the computer as well. Despite the increased work load, all of these new operations are being accomplished by our existing finance staff.

In personnel, all employees received raises during the fiscal year. J. Eugene Martin, Jr., chief administrative officer and personnel director for the City, reported that hospitalization benefits also were increased. During the last year's fiscal period,

preparations were made to withdraw from Social Security and enter into a state retirement system for all non-civil service employees. The effective date of the withdrawal was October 1, 1977, with benefits being increased from 2x to 3x per year of service.

The Planning Department continued to develop with the appointment of a full-time planning director—Phil Biondillo—and with increases in the planning staff. In addition to the director and his secretary, we now have two city planners and two draftsmen. A

\$46,000 Federal Manpower Grant also gives the department seven more employees for one year. The Planning Department prepared a first year comprehensive recreational study this year and is working with Barnard and Thomas Engineers in the preparation of a Master Street Plan for the City. This department also established a 1975 census tract by utilizing a computer formula, and presented a new comprehensive zoning plan to the Kenner Planning Commission.

The Public Works Department was instrumental in changing the building requirements for foundations and pilings to better adapt to the City's soil conditions. This department also worked on a Master Sewerage Plan with Burk and Associates, Engineers.

Royce Waters, director of Public Works, supervised the completion of additions to Sewerage Plant #1 for \$1,250,000, and the start of additions to Sewerage Plant #2 at a cost of \$2,298,000. The department is presently preparing to build a third plant at an estimated cost of \$17 million, which will double our sewerage plant treatment capacity and help us maintain proper sewerage service for the City's greatly-expanded population. Louisiana Senator J. Bennett Johnson provided invaluable assistance to us in expediting grant approval for sewerage projects, so construction of such facilities would not be stymied.

Under the direction of Matthew Chiro, the Regulatory Department recorded over 2,162 building permits, comprising 3,419 housing units during the fiscal year, which includes only new construction and totals \$81,733,352. The department revised plumbing codes for the City during the past year, and also experienced growth with four additional field inspectors.

The Kenner Fire Department obtained a permanent fire chief—

D. J. Mumphrey—during this period, and worked toward updating its organization and facilities to obtain a better rating for insurance purposes. They installed a fire alarm call box system at a cost of \$103,000, implemented a recording system which monitors all calls and a fire alarm receiving station with 24-hour dispatching, executed a cross-index system of all City streets with pre-determined engine assignments, and acquired a new 75-foot aerial tele-squirt fire truck costing \$149,000. The entire department experienced a complete internal re-organization and adopted a new fire code and safety standards under the direction of its new fire chief.

Under the guidance of Roy Brondum, Director of Community Service, the Community Service Department has expanded its scope to include the Kenner Council on Aging, Humane Department, and the Kenner Little Theatre, as well as the existing Recreation Department. For the senior citizens, the

City acquired the Buchler home for \$112,000 to serve as the senior citizen center. The Community Service Department also obtained 1 \$400,000 grant to build a gymnasium in Lincoln Manor Subdivision, which is presently under construction. In addition, the City acquired six lots abutting the Wentwood Gymnasium through Community Development funding to build tennis courts. The Kenner Museum, under the curatorship of Chris Lochbaum, continued to serve as an historically educational outlet for the City.

As for City Hall, the structure is in the process of undergoing many physical changes. The City contracted \$230,000 for renovations and additions, and acquired property at the rear of City Hall at a cost of \$105,000 to be used for parking. Also under construction is a police complex costing \$454,000, financed through Revenue Sharing funds. We also negotiated a contract for \$87,000 for the Kenner Plaza next to City Hall, with an



Department Heads: From Left to Right: Phil Biondillo, Planning Director; Hubert A. Vondenstein, City Attorney; Matthew Chiro, Regulatory Director; D. J. Mumphrey, Fire Chief; Dora Mae Aucoin, Finance Director; Roy Brondum, Director of Community Services; J. Eugene Martin, Chief Administrative Officer, Personnel Director, and Purchasing Agent; Royce Waters, Public Works Director; Ed Rodriguez, Consulting Planner. Not Pictured: Frank Mamola, Maintenance Superintendent; Ernie Autin, Sewer Superintendent; Leroy Keating, Finance Controller for the Sewerage Commission.

Kenner

additional \$95,000 to be expended in the current budget.

In the field of Public Transportation, Mr. Martin reported that our bus schedule has been increased, providing service every half hour. We also acquired an additional bus, thus expanding the services in the University City and District One area. We are also participating in the half-fare program for senior citizens and handicapped people.

For the year of 1976 we were granted \$365,000 of Community Development funds, with an additional \$510,000 for 1977. These monies will be used for improvements of streets, sidewalks, individuals homes, beautification and other projects in target areas. The funds are administered through the Jefferson Parish Planning Department.

Kenner Chief of Police Salvador Lentini reported great progress this year in developing a totally modern police department for the City, particularly in the creation of an Investigation Division within the force. During the past year one additional man was added to the Investigation Division, with the cost covered by a Federal LEAA Grant. This grant is for a period of three years on a reducing basis. An undercover Intelligence Agent was added to the Division as well. His identity is known only to the Chief of Police and Detective Nick Congemi, to whom he reports.

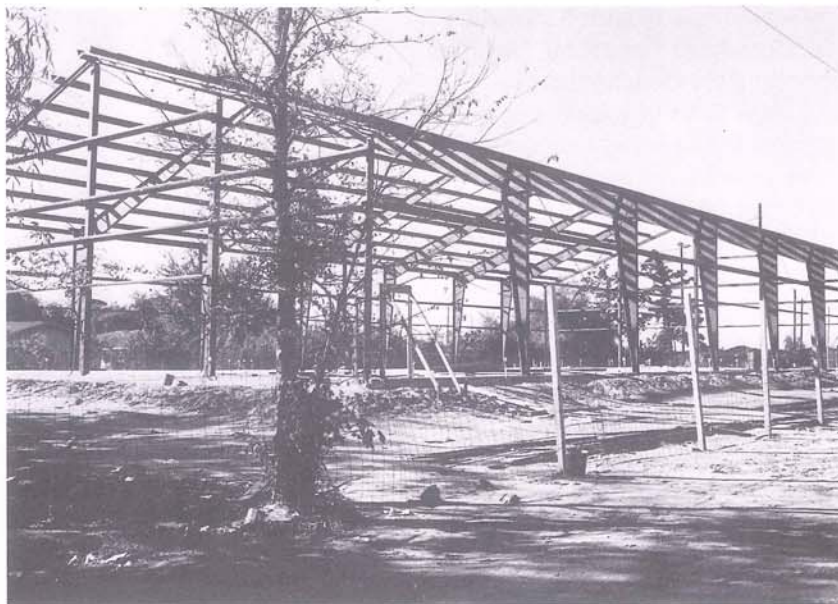
Chief Lentini also instituted a new Tactical Division consisting of plain-clothes officers. The purpose of this Division is to complement the work of regular patrol officers and includes plain-clothes officers operating in jogging suits on bicycles equipped with two-way radios. This new activity has already been successful not only in spotting illegal dumping of trash but in apprehending persons committing other criminal acts. The Division is presently using unclaimed bicycles which have been recovered by the Police Department.



The new Police complex is in the foreground, with construction of the Kenner Plaza Park.



Fire Chief Mumphrey with the computer for the fire alarm call boxes.



Lincoln Manor Gym - Under construction

The Kenner Police Department was very active during 1977, covering 497,894 miles by road personnel, answering 21,782 police calls, processing 3,083 arrests and issuing a total of 11,846 citations.

As of January 10, 1977, the name of the Kenner Auxiliary Police Department was changed to the Kenner Police Reserve. This department was originated by Chief Lentini approximately six years ago, with its members serving entirely without pay and offering invaluable assistance to the force. Under the command of Reserve Captain R. G. Wiggins, the Reserve reported that its 17 members contributed 10,420 man hours of active duty during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1977. We commend Captain Wiggins and all Reserve members for their excellent work and unselfish civic spirit.

GENERAL FUND:

Appropriated for		
1977-78		
budget	\$1,904,819	2,873,257
Unappropriated ..	968,438	

FEDERAL

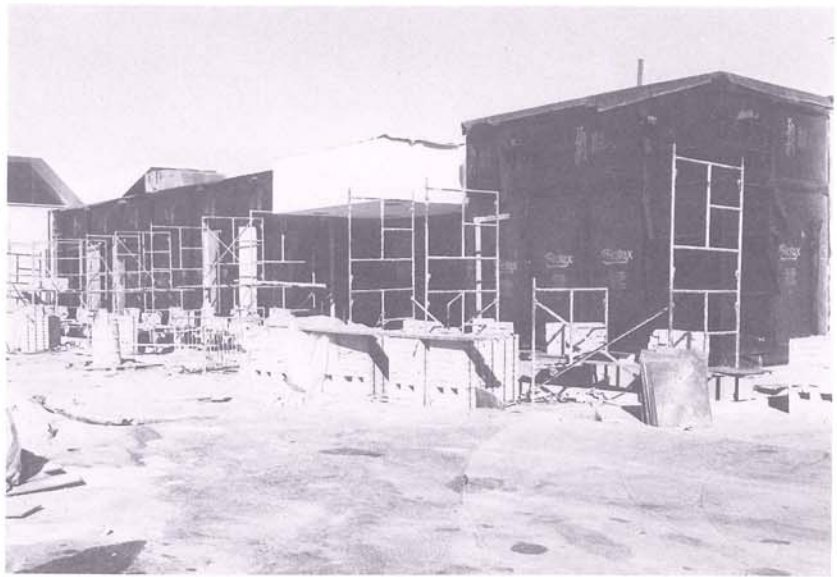
SHARING:

Appropriated for		
1977-78		
budget	200,592	
Unappropriated ..	196,678	397,270

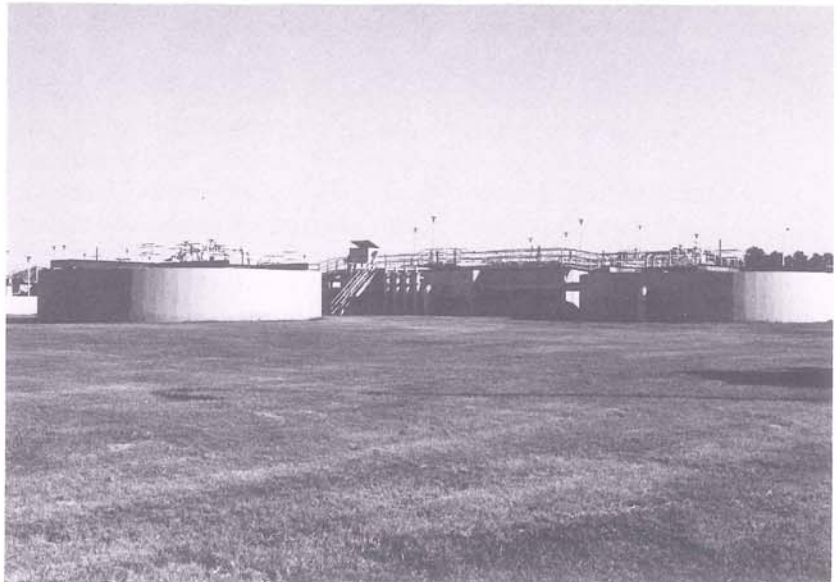
MINERAL LEASE

FUND	80,089	80,089
Total fund		
balances		3,350,616

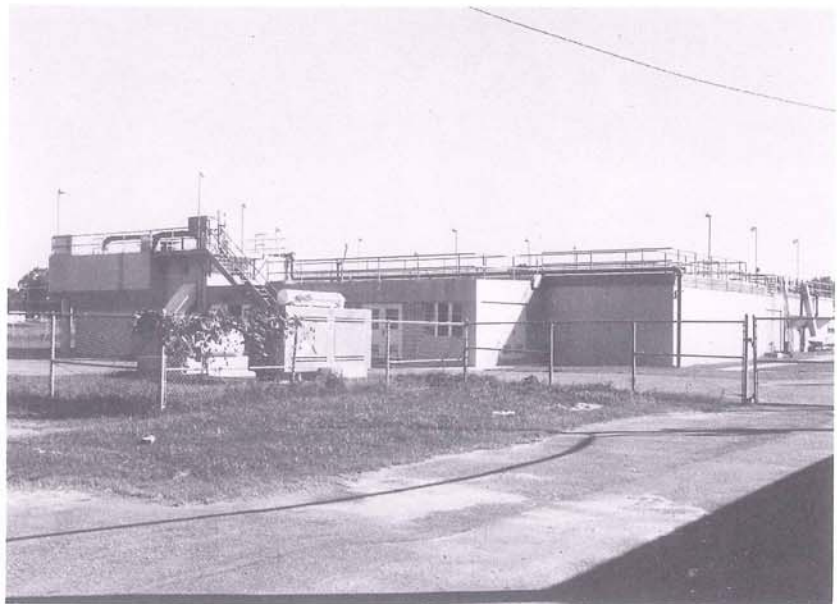
As of June 30, 1977, the City was happy to report fund balances totalling \$3,350,616. But the population growth and increased annual revenues which helped account for this balance and which we have enjoyed up to now cannot be expected to continue indefinitely. Conversely, expenditures will be subject to the effects of continued inflation, and we will no longer be able to rely on prior year surpluses to fund our operations. But Kenner is still financially healthy at this time, and we intend to continue to administer the affairs of the City with the utmost efficiency. ●



City Hall expansion at rear of City Hall.



Expansion of Sewer Plant 2 - completed



Expansion of Sewer Plant 1 - completed

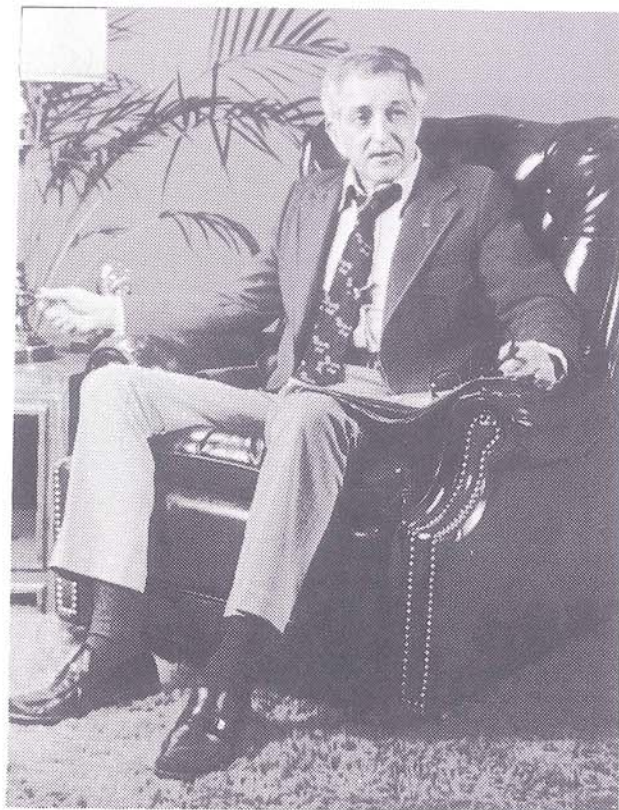


Jefferson Downs, located in Kenner, off Williams Blvd. at Lake Pontchartrain, is one of the most modern racing facilities in the South. The plush lakefront oval offers 3 exactas, daily double and nine exciting races nightly. The 1978 season commences in late March and continues through early September, with a 7:15 p.m. post time. The lakefront Turf Club conducts a thoroughbred meeting at Jefferson Downs starting early September thru mid November with a 7:15 p.m. post time.

Terraced seating and fine dining is a feature of Jefferson Downs sumptuous clubhouse. The entire facility is glass enclosed and air conditioned for your comfort.



**“At Gulf Federal Savings
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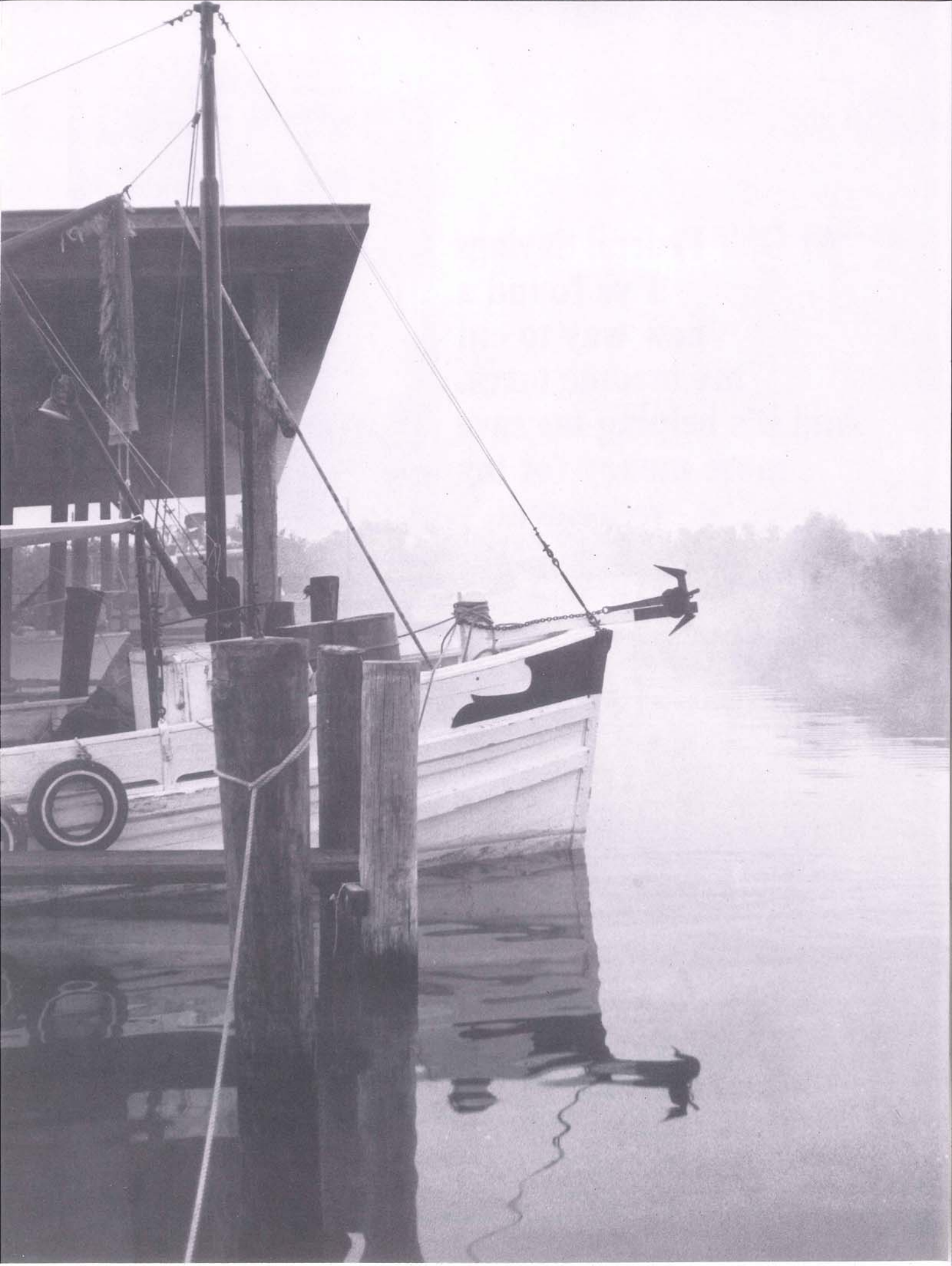
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The Village of Jean Lafitte

Reprinted from "The Changing Middle South"

"A bayou", wrote Southern historian and Louisiana local colorist, Harnett Kane, "is a place that often seems unable to make up its mind whether it will be earth or water, and so it compromises."

The place where the compromise seems most tenuous, and which Kane probably had in mind when he wrote this, is the Barataria region of southern Louisiana—that predominantly liquid land that lies between New Orleans and the Gulf.

Barataria is an endless series of slow-moving bayous, ancient logging canals, primeval cypress swamps, and freshwater marshes, all dubiously separated by natural levees, Indian shell mounds, and dense forests of live oaks and drained, after a fashion, by Bayou Barataria. For a brief ten years at the early part of the last century, it was the legendary haunt of the notorious pirate and slippery smuggler, Jean Lafitte.

No doubt the area was chosen by Lafitte because the twisted maze of watery corridors, lined on both sides with thick, green walls of dense underbrush, formed a hidden highway system that shielded his activities and made him hard to catch. There at Barataria (the name means "treachery" in Provencal) a

settlement of about 2,000 pirates—a tightly knit, highly efficient squadron of cutthroats—organized itself under the leadership of Lafitte and a few selected lieutenants.

Lafitte was already beloved of New Orleanians even before the Battle of New Orleans because of the cheap luxuries he provided to the plantation owners and city merchants. But after he refused his aid to the British and offered his hidden warehouses full of ammunition and his 2,000 highly disciplined sharpshooters to the Americans instead, he became a bonafide hero.

After the battle was won, the pirates were all pardoned by a grateful nation. But Lafitte was unable to give up his adventuresome life of piracy and exiled himself to Galveston, where, with a few faithful followers, he formed another pirate colony and resumed his swashbuckling ways. Some of his former confederates, however, took advantage of the pardon to lead a straight life and returned to the site of their old pirate den to live out their lives as peace-loving trappers and fishermen.

Today, in a tiny fishing village located just six miles from the site of the original pirate community and named appropriately, the Village of Jean Lafitte, the descendants of

those reformed pirates are still making their living on the water just as their forebears did. Lafitte is now home port for a large and varied fleet, not of pirate ships, but of fishing vessels. And the sleepy bayou that once bore pirate boats full of booty is now heavily trafficked by flat-bottomed barges bearing a different kind of riches: black gold drilled from the nearby Lafitte oil field.

There, according to a carefully nourished local legend, Jean Lafitte returned to die, and there he is buried, under the moss-draped oaks of a tiny cemetery nestled on the banks of the bayou, in the second of three identical unmarked graves—between Napoleon and John Paul Jones! As for the whimsical and preposterous story of how the pirate renegade came to be buried alongside an American patriot and a French emperor, perhaps it is best heard from a native.

The village of Jean Lafitte lies in an accessible twenty-five miles south of New Orleans on a smooth, two lane blacktop named, appropriately, Barataria Boulevard. Almost as soon as one turns off busy U. S. Highway 90 and on to Barataria Boulevard, the shopping centers become fewer and farther

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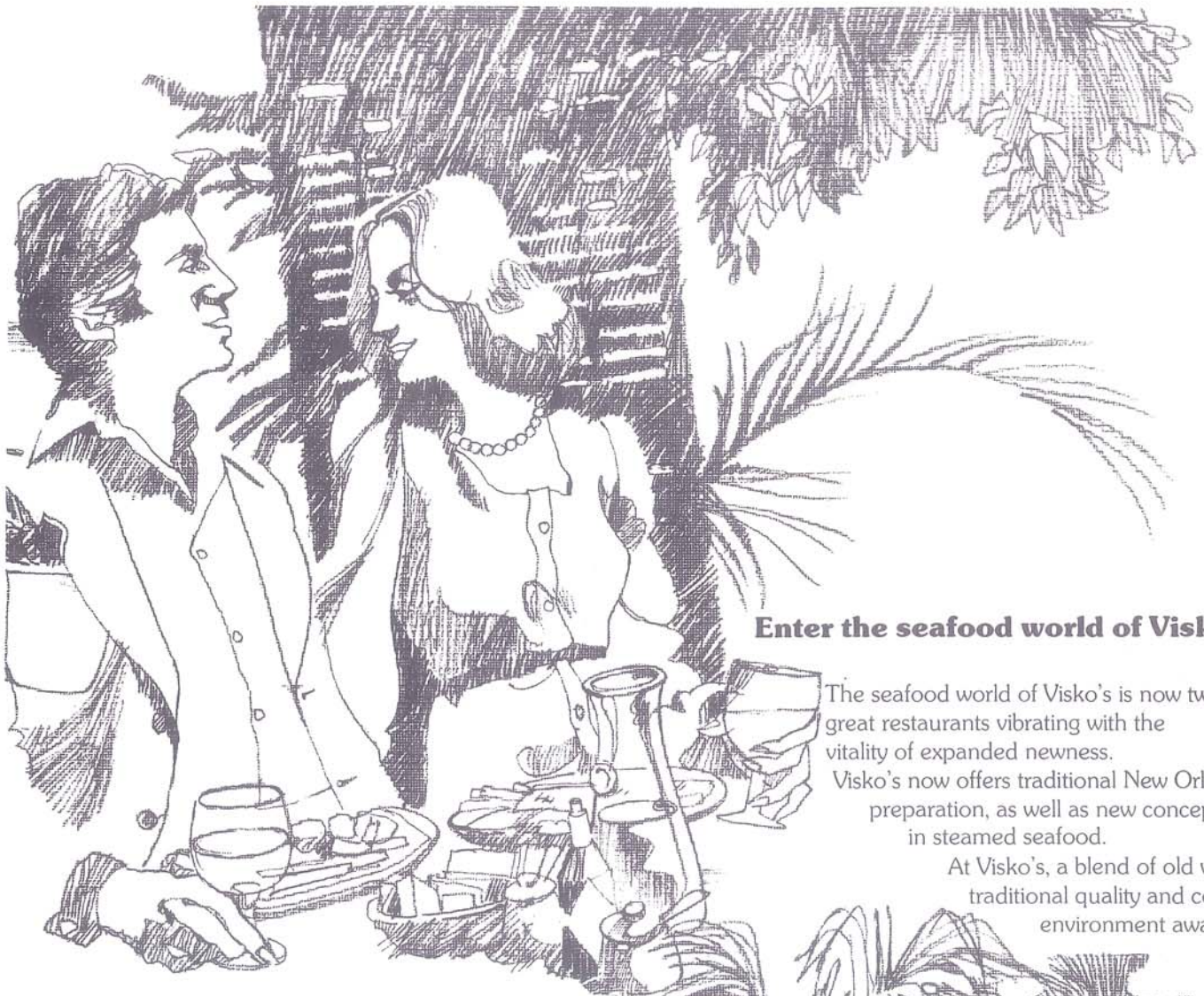
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between, the traffic thins, the road narrows, and the temperature drops five degrees as two-hundred-year-old oaks dripping with Spanish moss canopy the shell-lined road. Fishing poles begin to poke out of the back windows of cars, and rude, home-made signs dot the side of the road: "Fine Skiff for Sale," "Fresh Seafood—Soft-Shell Crabs," and "Free Boat Wash at Joe's Landing." If the fishing nets hung out to dry on tree branches and picket fences don't tell you that this is a fishing village, the pungent aroma of fresh-caught seafood wafting from the boat docks will.

Lafitte doesn't mean to be impolite when it turns its back on the visitor: it's just that the visitor has come in through the back door. The highway is a relatively recent addition to the town. Properly speaking, one should paddle into Lafitte. The bayou is, as it has been for more than a hundred years in more southern Louisiana towns than this one, Main Street for Lafitte. The residents still park their boat at docks that jut out from their front porches, and there is a narrow, shell-paved "sidewalk" that runs along the bank between the houses and the water. Something like the plaza is still *the* place to work, to play, and, at certain times of the year, to worship.

So it is in this completely water-oriented town that one is likely to see more boats and boat docks than station wagons and two-car garages. Generally speaking, Lafitte residents commute to their jobs in two kinds of craft: the world-renowned Lafitte skiff, a hand-crafted and usually homemade vessel of local design with an extremely shallow draft and unique V-bottom design especially developed for trawling and short runs in shallow inland waters, and the huge, steel-bottomed, ocean-going luggers, outfitted with 200-horsepower engines and equipped with such modern conveniences as giant refrigerators for cooling the catch and central air conditioning for cooling the crew during those long, forty-day voyages out in the Gulf.

Once a year, every year, for the last thirty years, sometimes in early May before the shrimping season opens, Lafitte gives its men a carousing Cajun sendoff in the form

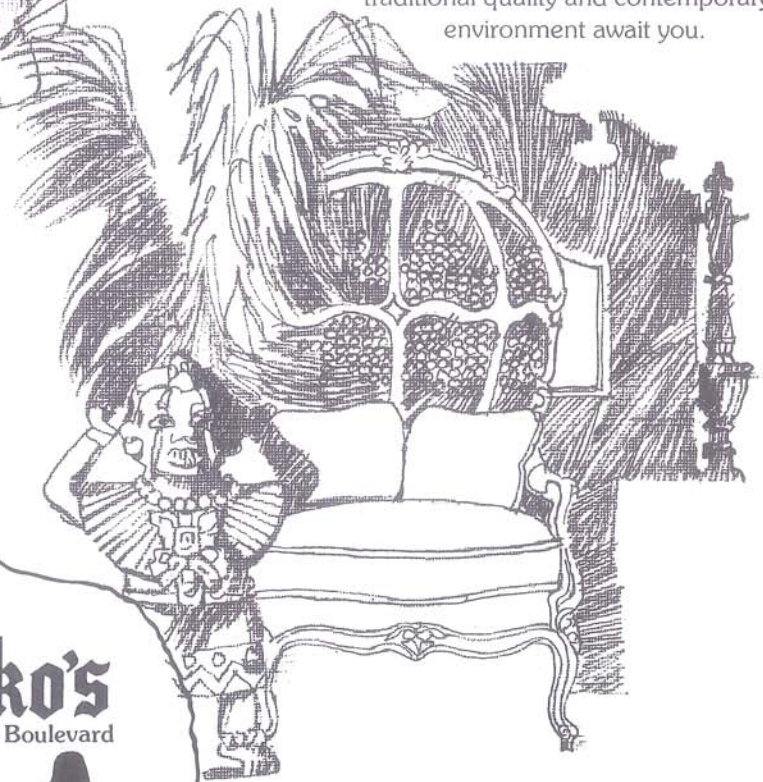


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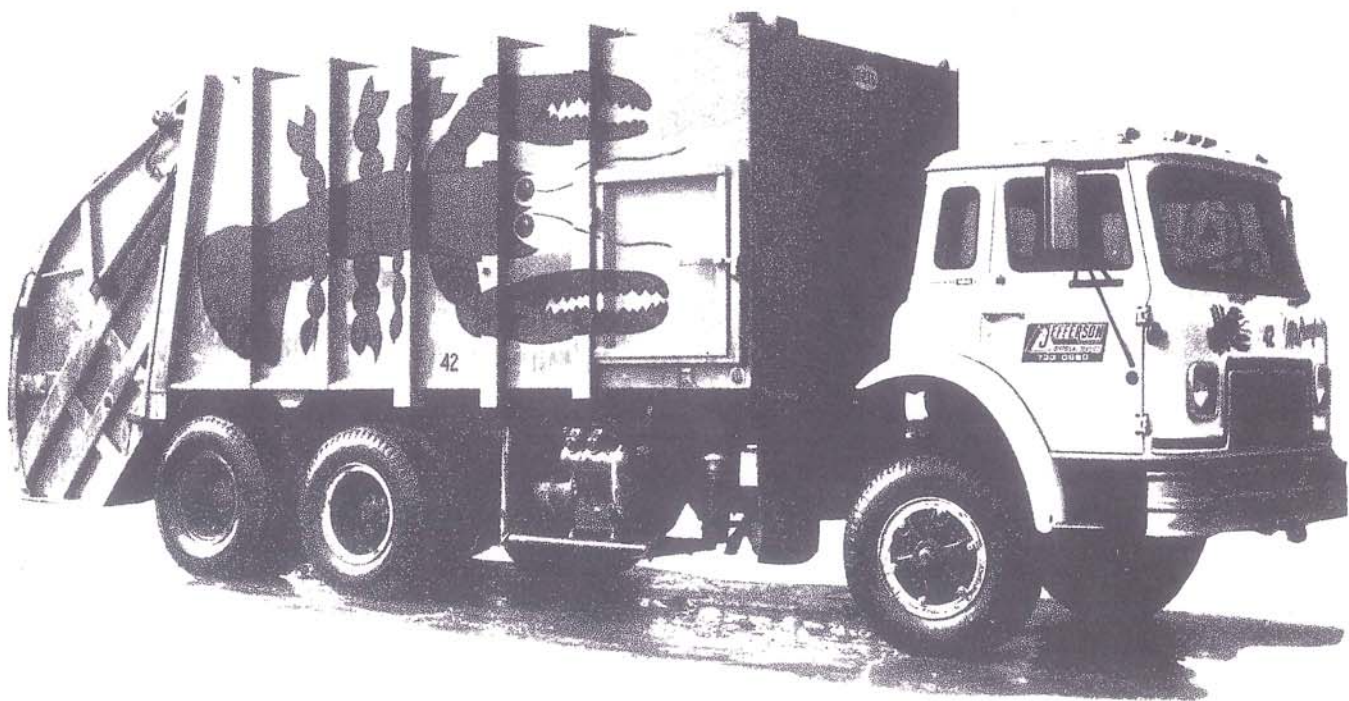
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of its annual Blessing of the Fleet. A kind of throwback to those medieval folk celebrations intended to invoke the Almighty's favor for a good catch and a safe return, one suspects that today Lafitte's reason for holding the event has as much to do with partying as with piety.

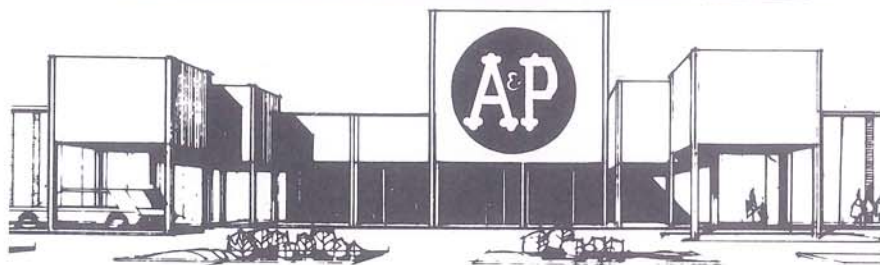
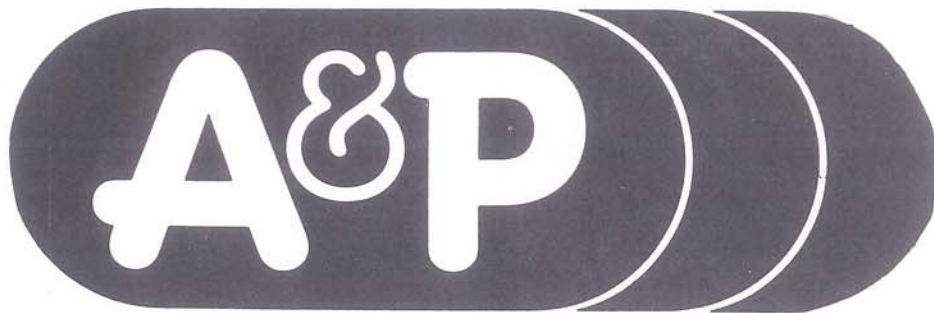
That morning, if you get there early enough, you can see the nets come down and the flags go up as families flock to the docks to decorate the family boats with multi-colored banners, streamers, statues of saints, and handpainted signs.

Then at mid-morning everyone takes to the water. For a nervous hour the bayou is jammed with about two hundred boats of varying kinds, ranging with one-man pirogues to forty-ton luggers, all maneuvering to form a line in a glittering, colorful, noisy procession that stretches for miles.

Everything except the babies is quiet, however, when the smiling priest, the sun glittering on his vestments, takes his place on the flagship for the a brief moment. As the line of boats glides by, the rhythm of the priest's hand moving up and down in blessing, syncopated with the fluid grace of burly fishermen genuflecting and crossing themselves, makes a beautiful and reverent harmony in motion.

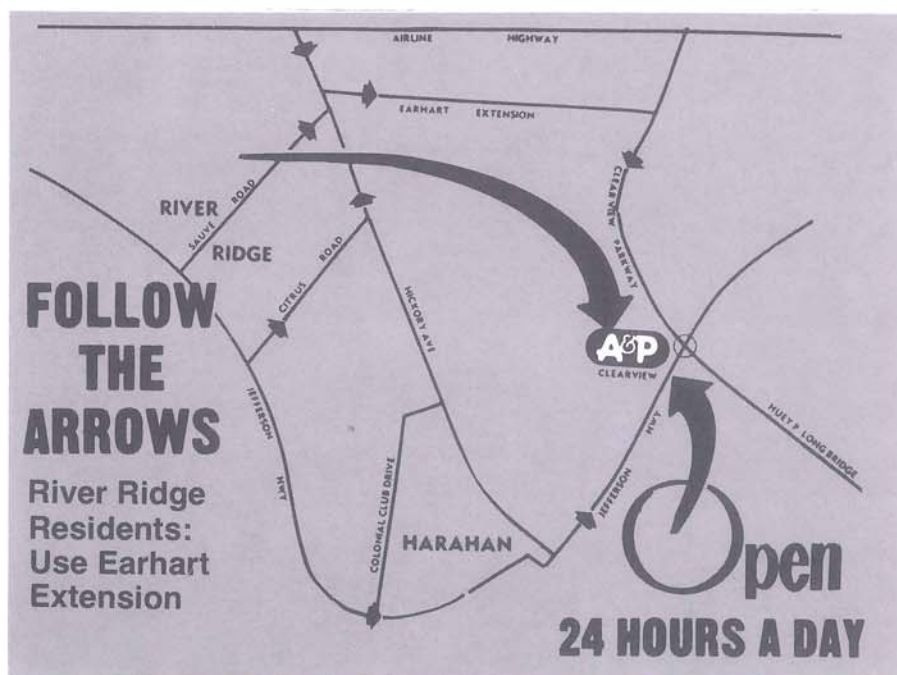
After the brief ceremony is over, the boats turn around and come back for a day of cruising and carousing. Every boat and every backyard is jammed with people working their way down to the bottom of wheelbarrows full of boiled shrimp, the caldrons brim ming with boiled crabs, and the iced-down tubs of a strong, tart, local beer called "Dixie." To the boatless observers on the banks, who enjoy the music the breeze wafts to them from the bands on the boats, the day has the air of a Spanish paseo, where the object is to see and be seen, and those watching the parade are the parade.

At nightfall, the partyers file out of their boats, the picnickers file into their automobiles, and Lafitte settles back to being a sleepy little backwater kind of place—until next year. ●



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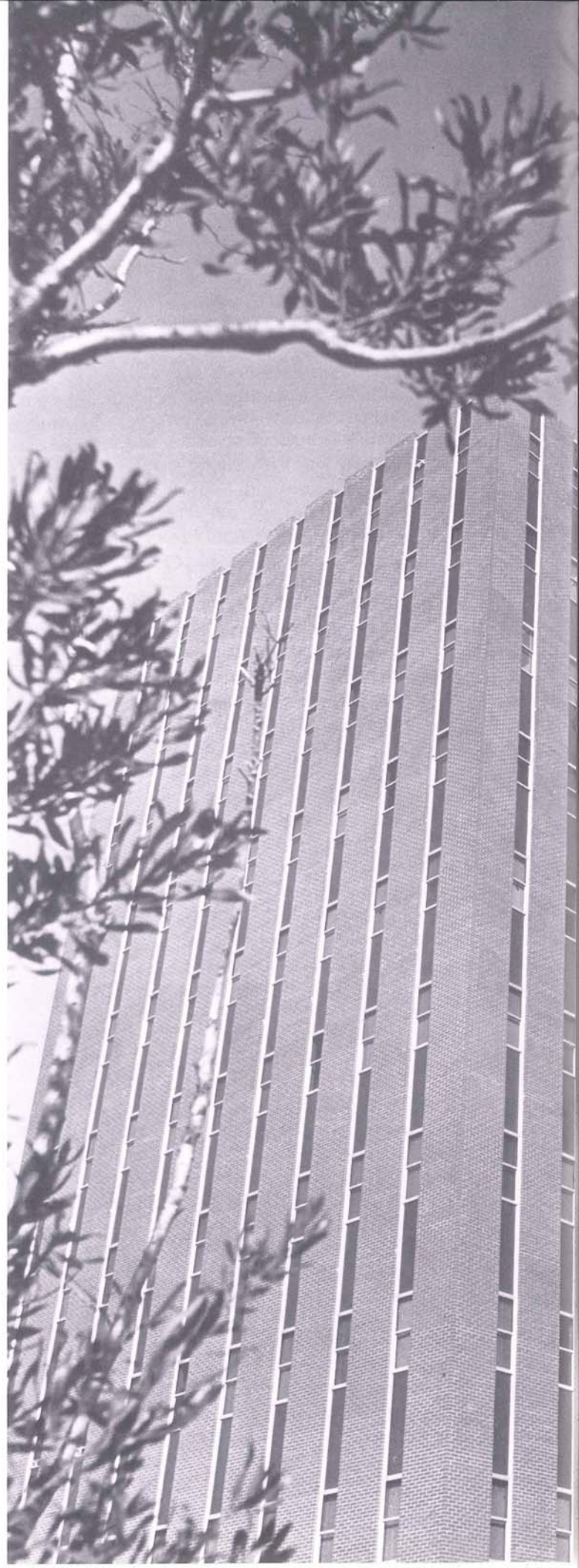


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Jefferson, Land of Heritage and Horizons

by Betsy Swanson

Introduction

Progress always has been a key word in describing Jefferson Parish. This year that description remains an accurate one, as the various facets of Parish life—residential, industrial and commercial—continue to prosper. While much progress was evidenced by obvious physical changes—the addition of roads, overpasses, bridges, recreational areas and other developments—internal changes also were taking place.

An emphasis on improving present conditions and protecting the environment was established, with new departments and commissions being created to insure the proper development of projects related to such goals. The Greater Jefferson Parish Port Commission was established with exclusive jurisdiction over waters in Jefferson, while another department was formed to insure environmental and developmental control of Parish projects. An Energy Study Commission was created to study the feasibility

of capturing the Parish's royalty share of natural gas and oil produced in Jefferson and delivered intrastate, which is outside of federal control. To benefit both the Parish and its staff, a special department for training and employee development was created as well. A federal liaison department, established in late 1976, strived to achieve maximum federal financing for programs developed nationally for local government. Even the conditions of animals in Jefferson were improved through the efforts of the Parish's Animal Shelter, which also helps educate people in the humane treatment of dogs and other pets. In considering its own plans for housing, transportation, recreation, water quality, residential, commercial and industrial growth, Jefferson cooperated with the Regional Planning Commission, taking into account not only its own individual development pattern, but those of the adjoining parishes of Orleans, St. Bernard and St. Tammany. Of particular importance is Jefferson's on-going role

with the Commission to create a metropolitan transportation plan for the entire four-parish region, a plan which would provide economic and efficient transit service, encourage alternatives and minimize gasoline consumption, noise and air pollution.

As these developments take place, it becomes more and more exciting to live in Jefferson 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 Jefferson can achieve its full potential.

We hope that the special article that follows, written by Betsy Swanson, noted Jefferson Parish historian and author, will help you understand part of Jefferson's history, how the Parish is governed and encourage you to become involved in the affairs of the Parish.

The Editors



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JEFFERSON PARISH

by Betsy Swanson

Author of "Jefferson: from Shore to Shore" an authentically documented and beautifully illustrated history of the parish published by Pelican Publishing Company in 1975.

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. The scenic beauty of Bayou Barataria, which runs from Grand Isle to the populated area of Jefferson Parish, with its historic moss-covered oaks is interrupted now and then by the towering oil and oil distillation tanks that dot the horizon.

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 55.1° in January to 82.7° in July. The rainfall averages 63.54" a year, with the monthly average running from 3.66" in October to 7.09" in July.

HISTORY:

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 life-style: 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



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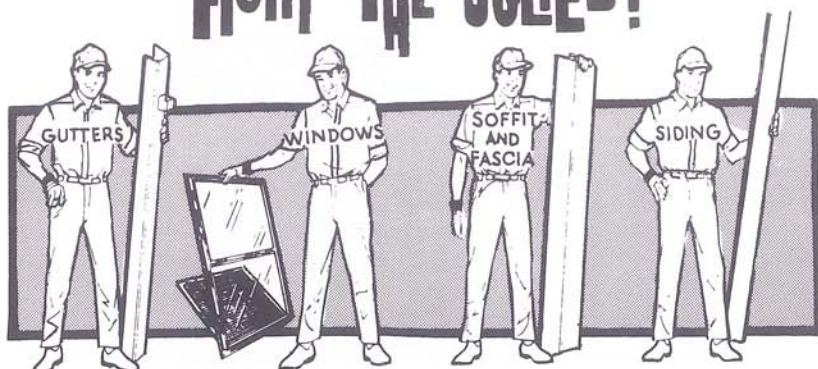
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residents of Barataria who venerated Jean Lafitte—the local privateer whom authorities also labeled as a pirate—perhaps so sympathized with American hero John Paul Jones that they designated a final resting place for him on their bayou. For while Jones 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 Grande Terre Island, fronting Barataria Pass and the Gulf of Mexico. His privateers sailed legally under the flag of Carthage (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 swamp-land 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 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-tried 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 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 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. Cowpastures 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

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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.

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

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

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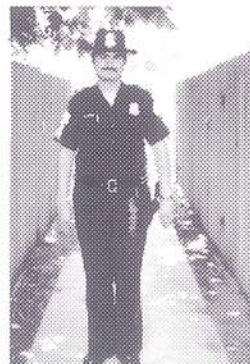
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the Parish provided that a committee composed of prominent planters and citizens including Lucien Labranche, L. Dussuan, Jean Baptiste Lebreton, J. Holliday, F. B. de Labarre, L. Volant Labarre, Francois Dorville, D. Villars, L. Dussuan de Lacroix, 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.

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.

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

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

Strength through Serving People

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 are elected parishwide. The Councilmen are selected on the basis of one for each four districts, plus one at-large for each bank of the River.

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 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.



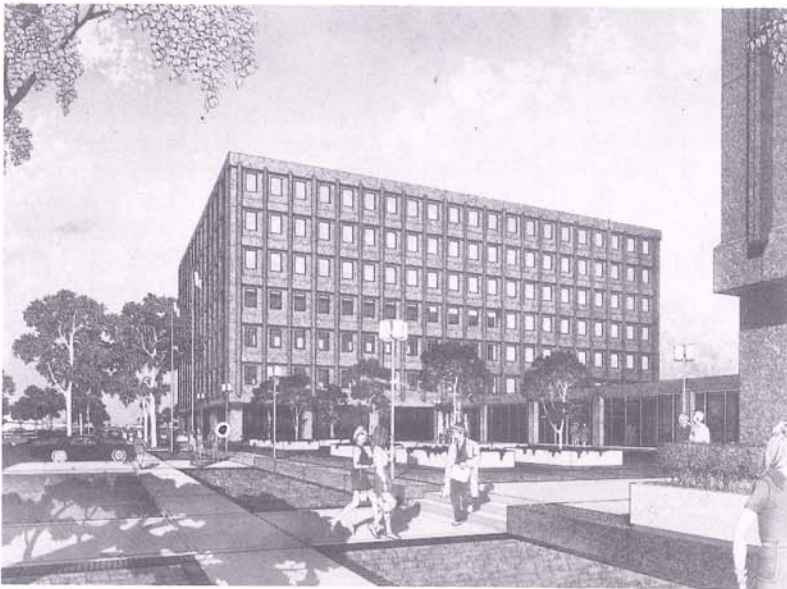
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Make appropriations for all parish purposes.

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., and it may subpoena witnesses, 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.

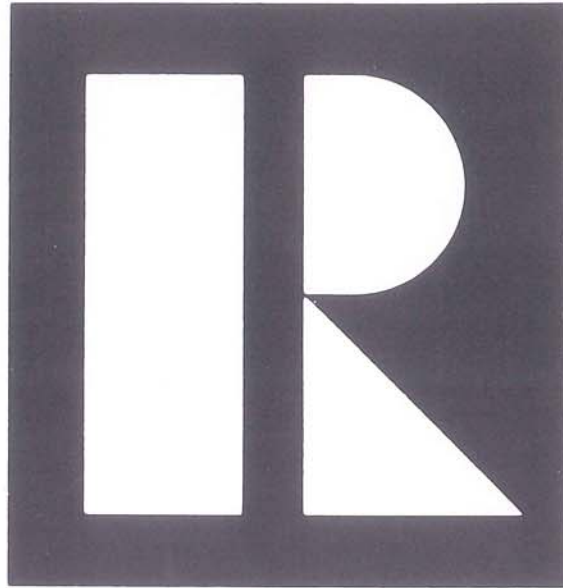
The Council meets regularly at such times as may be prescribed by its rules (by practice, Thursdays at 2 p.m. in the Council Chambers, Gretna Court-house). It may not meet less than once a month. Special meetings may be held on twelve hours' notice by the Clerk to each member upon the call of the Chairman 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 parish-wide. 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

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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.

Budget and Research 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 generally, as the Council may direct.

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 boundary changes.

Departments

The following departments have been created by the Council and the Department Directors (except Civil Defense) are named by the Parish President, with the approval of the Council.

Employees of all departments are under Civil Service (both merit and classified) except Department Directors, the Parish Attorney and his assistants.

Planning

The Charter provides for a Planning Department headed by a qualified planning 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

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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.

Mosquito Control

The Mosquito Control Department administers a year round mosquito control program which attacks the mosquito problem on three fronts. The Larviciding Division sprays surface water, using land and amphibious vehicles and helicopters to kill larvae. The Adulticiding Division uses spraying, fogging and misting techniques to cut down on the adult mosquito population. The Permanent Control Division is responsible for the elimination of breeding sites. This result is lower expenditures for temporary

control measures.

An active public education and information officer rounds out the comprehensive control program, making presentations to numerous schools and other groups on mosquito prevention throughout the year.

Finance

The Finance Department is responsible for the functions of accounting, budgeting, purchasing, pre-auditing, treasury and debt-retirement.

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.

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.

Federal Liaison

The Federal Liaison Department was created by ordinance on September 2, 1976. The department's main thrust is



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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. 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 administrative head of the Federal Liaison Department

is appointed by the Parish President.

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. The Department is headed by the Personnel Director who is appointed

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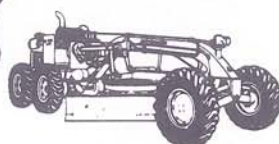
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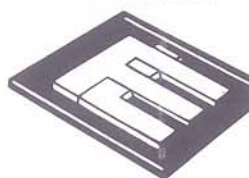
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by and responsible to the Personnel Board. The Department is headquartered in the Parish Office Building in Gretna, with a branch application office in Metairie.

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, 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.

Recreation

The Recreation Department includes a Recreation Division and a Library Division headed by the Library Administrator.

The Recreation Division operates thirteen community centers/gymnasiums scattered throughout the parish, with one additional community center under construction at this time. Each center offers a variety of programs for parish residents. Seventeen additional sites are leased for the operations of partial programs at different seasons of the year. Other facilities include 11 playgrounds, 22 picnic shelters, 19 tennis courts and 25 meeting rooms on the East Bank, with 14 playgrounds, 8 picnic shelters, 10 tennis courts and 4 meeting rooms on the West Bank.

The Library Division operates eleven libraries and two bookmobiles, with a new library presently being planned for the East Bank. In 1976, circulation was 897,814; filmviewing audience 2,673,902; registered borrowers,

100,001; microfilm collection, 5,090 reels; motion picture collection, 2,520 titles and 2,971 prints; and magazine collection, 246 titles.

Safety

The Safety Department is organized into five divisions to deal with the safety needs of the parish.

The Division of Regulatory Inspection issues building permits, inspects new construction and additions to old structures for compliance with zoning regulations, and inspects buildings for compliance with minimum building standards so far as structure, electrical work, plumbing, and mechanical safety are concerned. This division is also charged with the removal of junk cars from the streets and the collection of monies due on property liens.

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 preventive basis, with inspection personnel visiting deteriorating housing to point out the advantages to property owners of taking action to prevent the occurrence of slums.

The Fire Division is charged with controlling fires, issuing permits for burning trash after determining that no hazards exist, and with providing Jefferson Parish citizens with informational and educational materials on fire prevention.

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.

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. The Taxicab Division also is responsible for the inspection of solid waste trucks.

Environmental and Developmental Control

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

One of the purposes of this department is to deal with environmental problems regarding Parish projects. It especially is concerned with the Barataria estuary,

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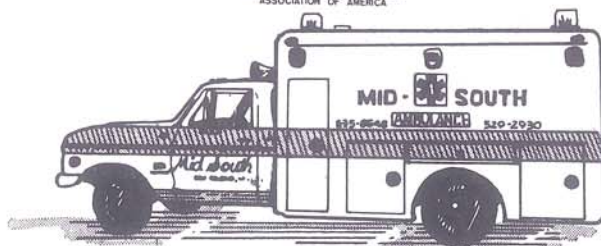
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Jefferson is a large energy producer, both in inland and offshore waters. In recognizing this fact, the Council seeks through this department to successfully manage Jefferson's environment through orderly development.

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

Civil Defense

The Civil Defense Department is responsible for the protection of the lives and property of all citizens residing in the unincorporated areas of Jefferson Parish—including the City of Gretna—in times of disaster, whether natural or man-made. Natural disasters include floods, storms, hurricanes and tornadoes. The Department also participates in fires, explosions and accidents involving hazardous materials. Man-made disasters include nuclear attacks from hostile foreign countries and emergencies involving national security.

The Civil Defense Department is comprised of a small staff of paid personnel and numerous dedicated citizen volunteers. The volunteers are enlisted in one of three categories:

1. **Auxiliary Police:** The personnel of this unit are trained in law enforcement, first aid and radiological monitoring. They assist the State Police and the Parish Sheriff's Office in traffic control, first aid and radiological monitoring during emergencies.
 3. **Rescue:** A highly-skilled group of volunteers trained in radiological monitoring, first aid, extrication of victims from autos, buildings, etc. They man the Department's emergency units and operate a specially-designed rescue truck containing every conceivable kind of tool needed for rescue operations.
 3. **Communications:** Consists of volunteer Citizen Band and Radio Amateur operators. These individuals work with other Parish Departments and civic organizations when needed.
- The Civil Defense Department trains rescue personnel, law enforcement

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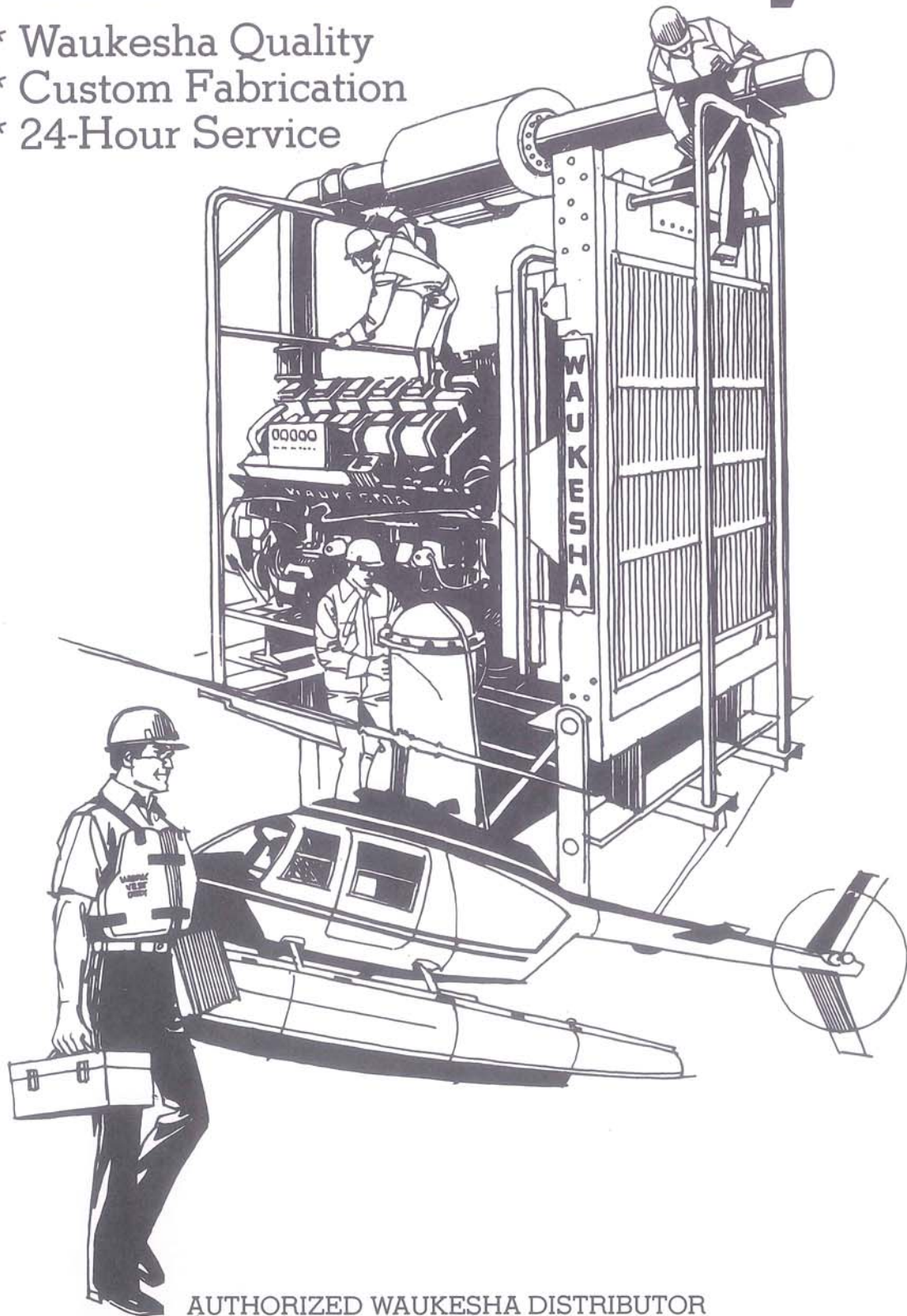


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The Parish's radiological defense system consisting of numerous fixed and mobile monitoring stations is maintained and operated by the Civil Defense Department. Outdoor warning systems (sirens) are installed as required in newly developing areas of the Parish, and those already in operation are inspected and maintained by the Department.

The Department procures surplus property from the Federal government for use in emergencies and when needed by other Parish departments. Under this program, four amphibious vehicles were obtained and are stationed at various locations in the Parish.

The Civil Defense Department operates five ambulances (emergency units), one rescue truck, one communication van, one 2½ ton truck with a mounted 60KW generator, four trailers with mounted generators, three utility trucks with mounted generators for use as light trucks capable of 4,000 watts each, two boats with motors and trailers and numerous portable generators. This equipment is available for emergencies and is basically manned by volunteers.

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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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The Department is always in two-way communications with the Louisiana Civil Defense Agency, the Louisiana State Police, the Jefferson Parish Sheriff's Office (East and West Jefferson), all Fire Departments and all other Parish Departments.



Sanitation

The Sanitation Department is in charge of all drainage and sewerage disposal in 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 are functions of this department. It builds and operates sewerage treatment facilities and installs sewerage lines in developing areas.

Notification of private property owners regarding minimum upkeep standards is under the Sanitation Department. If the property owner does not take proper action, the Department of

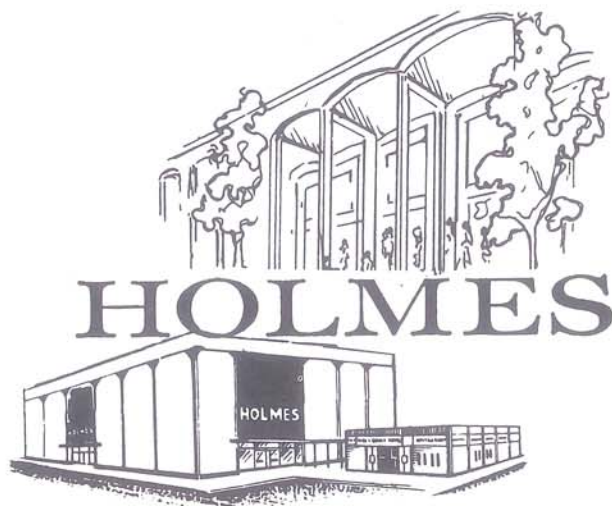


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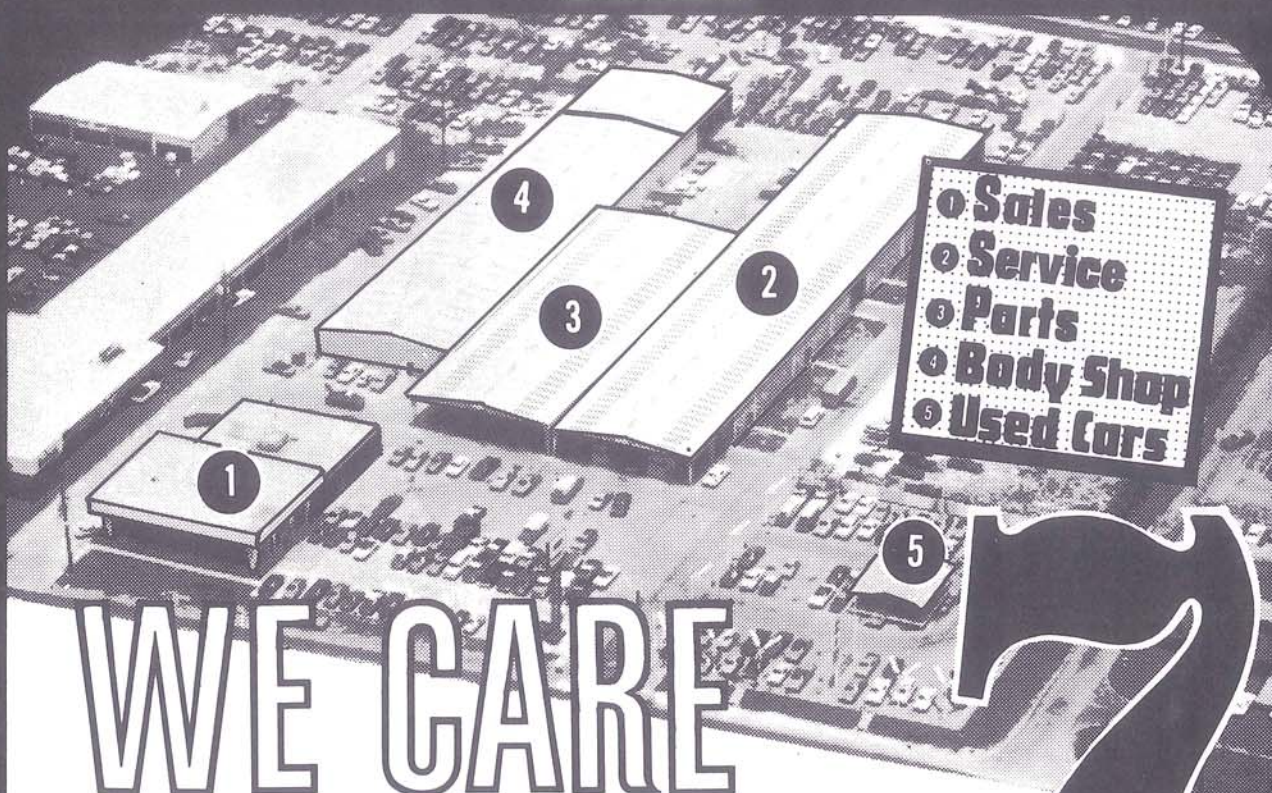
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Sanitation takes care of clearing the property and cutting the grass, billing the property owner for services rendered. Other citizen complaints are also handled through this department, and those which cannot be directly cared for here are referred to the proper department.

The department investigates possible sources of industrial pollution and enforces antipollution regulations.

Water

Water services for all of the East bank and all unincorporated areas on the West bank are under the jurisdiction of the Water Department. The department operates two water purification plants, one on the East and the other on the West bank, installs and maintains water lines as required for industrial, commercial, and residential users; and bills customers for water services. The department also bills residents for garbage charges, mosquito control charges, and sewerage charges.

Roads and Bridges

The primary charge of the Department of Roads and Bridges is the construction and maintenance of the parish roadway system, i.e., all roads in the parish which are not under the jurisdiction of Federal, state or municipal authorities. In addition, the department approves plans for subdivision streets and inspects them to see that they meet minimum standards; carries out a beautification plan for neutral grounds and parkways, including cutting the grass and planting shrubs and trees; and seeks funds for the development of parks and green areas.

Animal Shelter and Control

The Animal Shelter and Control Departments' 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, answers inquiries from the public about animal care, and maintains a humane educa-

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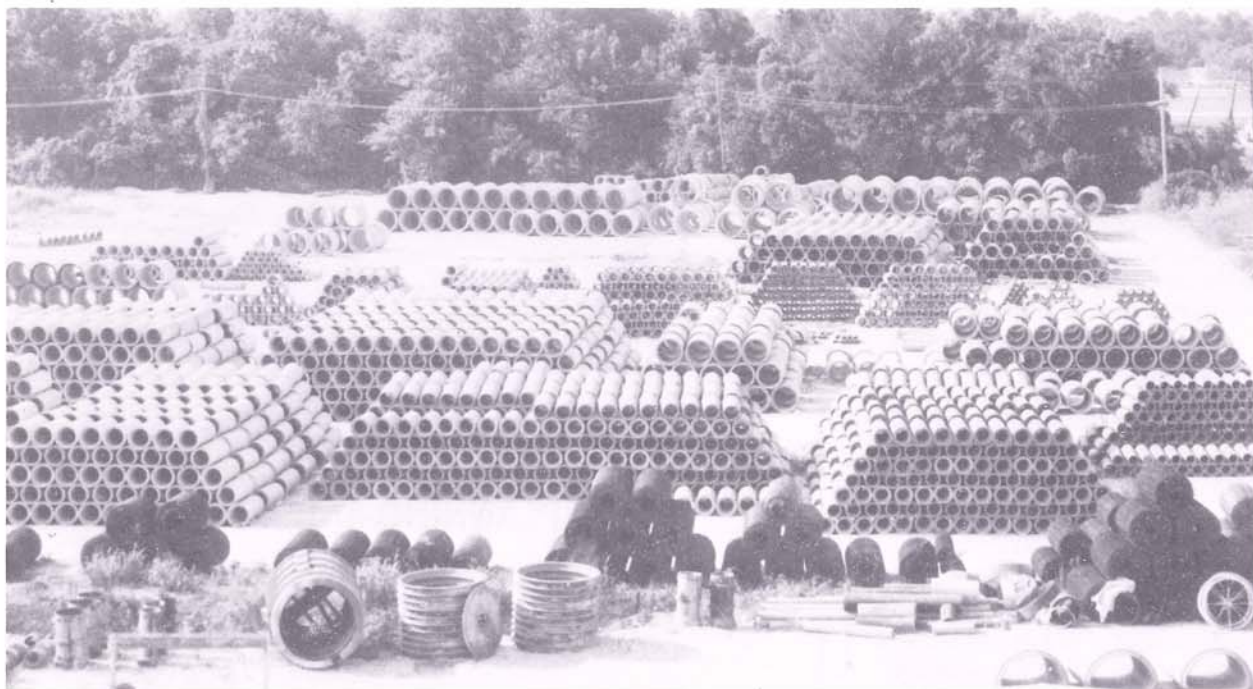
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tion program in the schools in cooperation with local 4H clubs.

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).

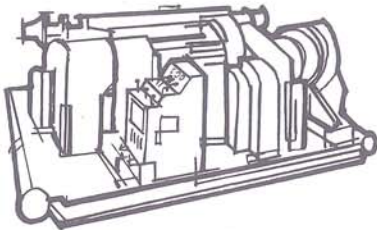
Greater Jefferson Parish Port Commission

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 State 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 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

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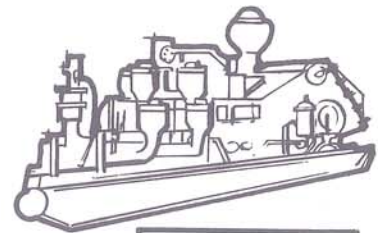


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administered by it and for all services rendered by it, such fees, rates, tariffs or other charges as it may establish; to establish harbor lines within the port area by agreement with the United States Corps of Engineers; and to construct, own, operate 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 commis-

sion. 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.

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

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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.

PARISH FINANCING

The 1977 operating budget shows proposed expenditures of \$55,398,762 to provide government and services to people of the Parish. Where does the money come from?

1977 Proposed Operating Budget

Sources of Revenue

Ad Valorem (Property) Taxes	\$11,812,635
Water Sales	6,615,000
Sales Tax	13,136,640
Service Charges	3,133,950
Gasoline Tax	2,300,000
Licenses	1,706,171
Permits & Inspections	466,575
Severance Taxes	602,020
Sundry	3,610,050
State Revenue Sharing	2,723,404
	<hr/>
Federal Revenue Sharing	\$46,106,445
	<hr/>
TOTAL	7,232,697
	<hr/>
	\$53,339,142

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. Appointment 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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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 will be assessed at 10% of fair market value and all other property will be 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.

Nine 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 Juvenile Court judges hear cases (except capital crimes) dealing with delinquents or neglected children under 17 years of age, traffic offenses by juveniles, non-support of a wife by her husband, and adoption. The Rivarde Home, a juvenile detention facility, is under their jurisdiction. The 24th Judicial District Court is located in Gretna.

Term of Office: Six years.

First and Second Parish Courts

They have jurisdiction concurrent with the District Court on civil matters up to \$1,000. All traffic violations, and

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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 three elected judges—two in the First (Clearview near Veterans Blvd.) and one in the Second (Gretna Courthouse).

Term of Office: Six years.

Justic of the Peace and Constables

Six of each are elected in Jefferson Parish. The Justices of the Peace function as a small claims court with jurisdiction up to \$300. 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

The mayors of four of the six municipalities in the Parish hear and 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 (judge) 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 full-time, as well as students in summer.

The Clerk is an elected court officer, a Jury Commission member, 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 alimony decisions, adoptions and juvenile; drawing of some 3,000 grand and petit jurors annually for criminal and civil cases.

In addition, absentee voting is handled entirely by the Clerk of Court's office. 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 eleven 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 three divisions of the parish courts. Two divisions of the juvenile courts have jurisdiction in family neglect cases as well as juvenile criminal cases.

The 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.

The district attorney serves as representative of the state before the grand jury and is its legal advisor.

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. A millage dedicated to a Parish-wide law enforcement district, commissions on fines, licenses and certain taxes, plus fixed fees in criminal and civil matters provide the financing of the Department. Because of these varying duties, the Sheriff's Office performs the functions of four elected public officials in the City of New Orleans and two appointed officials. The Jefferson Parish Sheriff's Office employs approximately 800

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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, conducts an autopsy in all questionable cases, and examines all rape cases.

He must be a physician. He makes recommendations to a judge in cases of mental commitment brought by family members.

Term of Office: Four years.

SCHOOLS

In 1976-77 approximately 72,000 children were enrolled in Jefferson Parish public schools. As of April, 1976 the system employed a total of 5,800 of which 3,200 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 81 schools in the parish: 7 kindergarten centers, 43 elementary schools, 10 middle schools, 4 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 school year or will open with the beginning of the 1977-78 school year, 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, Orchid Street (Marrero-Westwego) 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 is also planned. Through a yearly capital budget of \$800,000 for air conditioning, all elementary schools in the parish will eventually be air conditioned. Middle and high school air conditioning is being handled through the present capital improvement program as part of the \$37 million bond issue approved by voters in November, 1973.

Transportation in the 1976-77 year was provided for 54,518 children in

public schools and 15,482 attending private and parochial schools in Jefferson Parish. The parish operates 484 buses, 4 cars and vans and 2 station wagons. The total of 490 school vehicles makes the Jefferson Parish School System the second largest transportation system in the State.

School Board

Following 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 their 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 1976-77 was \$69,173,197.13. 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 1977-78 school year include expansion of the number of full-day kindergartens, 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 which will provide



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a number of new schools in the parish and provide an end to platooning within the near future. 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

The Parish Board of Health is appointed by the Council (five members named for four-year terms beginning from the date of appointment or for the term of office of the Council).

The Board appoints the Parish Health Officer with the advice and consent of the Division of Health Maintenance and Ambulatory Patient Service of the Louisiana Health and Social and Rehabilitation Service Administration, and he may or may not be a member of the Parish Board of Health.

The Board has no power which might be inconsistent with the superior power of the State Organization and may only enforce health and sanitary measures incident to purely local matters.

Members of the Parish Board of Health and the Health Officer receive no per diem allowance or salary.

The Health Unit

The Jefferson Parish Health Unit provides many services with the primary focus on prevention and control of disease, and maintenance of good health.

Services include:

Immunization against diphtheria, tetanus, whooping cough, measles, poliomyelitis;
Tuberculosis and Venereal Disease Clinic,
Maternal and Child Health Clinics, Handicapped Children's Services, Health Services for AFDC (aid to families with dependent children), Dental Program,
School Health Services (vision and hearing screening-health problems), WIC Program (Nutritional supplemental feeding for women, infant and children),
Medicare and Medicaid (services for the home bound patient),
Laboratory Testing and Insight Program (Drug Abuse Control),
Environmental Health Services (food and drug surveillance and rodent and rabies control).

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opened in February, 1971. With the completion of its Phase II construction, which is a \$2 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. An educational wing includes meeting rooms, as well as a 400-seat 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 to accommodate 1,000 cars.

West Jefferson General Hospital in Marrero opened in 1960. It is managed by a seven-man board appointed by the Council and has a present bed capacity of 450. This full-service hospital treated over 65,000 people in 1976 and educated many others in early detection and prevention of health threats through a series of free public health forums. The hospital also purchased an Ultra-Sound Scanner—which uses sound waves instead of x-rays—to produce a picture of body organs, and a stratomatic unit for West Jefferson's radiology department which is useful in skull and bone tomography.

Relationships were either established or maintained with five educational institutions during 1976, including Delgado Junior College, Nicholls State University, L. W. Higgins High School, John Ehret High School and Jefferson Parish Vocational Technical School. In 1976, West Jefferson's Junior Volunteers and Women's Auxiliary contributed 24,000 working hours, and the hospital's board of directors is currently working with health care consultants to project future health care needs of the area.

Office of Family Services

The Jefferson Parish Office of Family Services functions as a local unit of the Office of Family Services of the State of

Louisiana Department of Health and Human Resources, with offices in Gretna and in Metairie. It is responsible for the administration of the Food Stamp Program; Title XIX Medicaid; Social Service Programs for families and children both in their own homes and in Foster Care; individual and family grants in disasters; and financial assistance programs. Financial assistance programs include Aid to Dependent Children, General Assistance, Indo-Chinese, Cuban Refugee and American Repatriation. Complaints of child abuse and neglect are also received for further investigation.

Veterans Service Office

This office co-ordinates 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 on each side of the River in the Courthouse 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:



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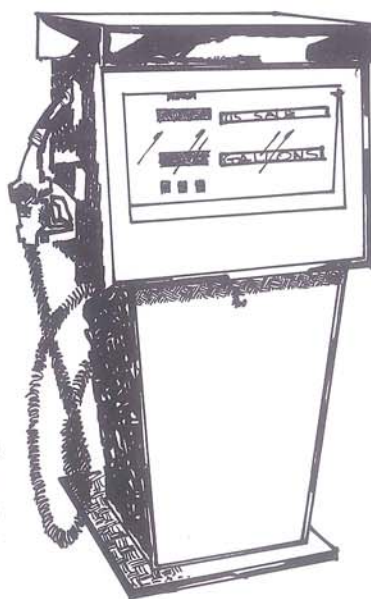
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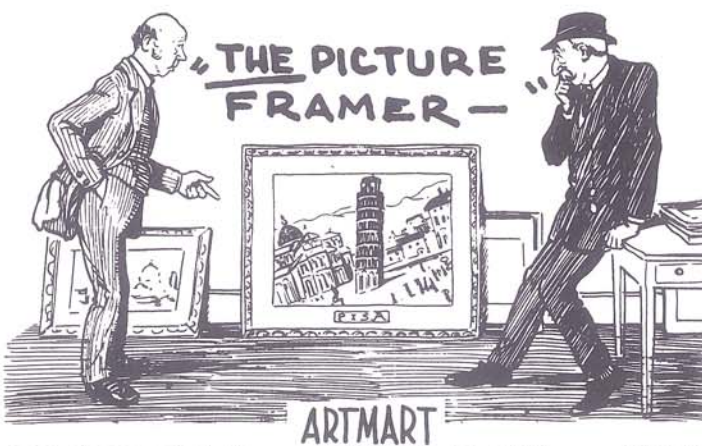
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Bank shares District 88 with Orleans
Parish. West Bank shares District 86
with Orleans Parish, 105 with
Plaquemines and St. Bernard Parishes,
and 54 with LaFourche Parish.
The Legislature meets in 60-day
general sessions each year within an
85-day 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 Amend-
ment 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 neces-
sary 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 unani-
mously approving a House-Senate
concurrent resolution to "ratify" the
19th Amendment. The 19th Amend-
ment, 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 register by applying in person to
the Registrar of Voters with proof of
identification.

Identification must include the appli-
cant's signature, either on one
document or on separate documents.
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, old 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. This 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 2017 Airline Highway (Airline Village Shopping Center) 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., 30 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 Clerk for each precinct, selecting the names submitted by the various political parties participating in the election.

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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.

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 appropriate party committees 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 respective party Parish Executive Committees. The Parish Executive Committee of each party consists of 17 members from the Wards and five from the Parish-at-large. Parish and State Committee members are elected at primary elections for State and Parish offices. They are elected for four year terms.

Independent candidates must have a requisite number of signatures of voters **not** affiliated with a political party. They must file their nominating papers with the Secretary of State on or before the date of the second primary of any political party.

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. The telephone numbers are published in the newspapers a few days before the election.●

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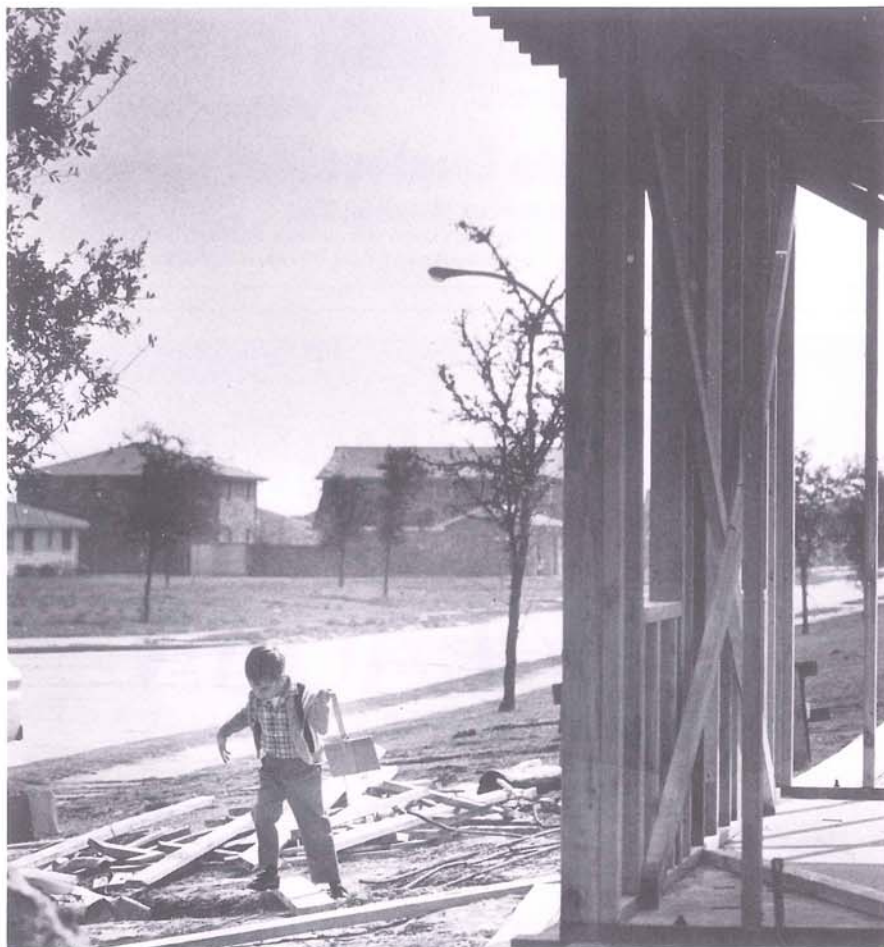
Researched by Betsy Swanson

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



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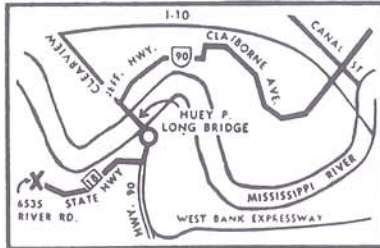
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later joined under the name of Gretna which was perhaps derived from the name of a Scottish border town used as a setting for a popular play of the period. The plot of "Gretna Green," which played in New Orleans theatres, concerned clandestine marriages. An 1845 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 McDonoghville into its city limits.

Kenner:

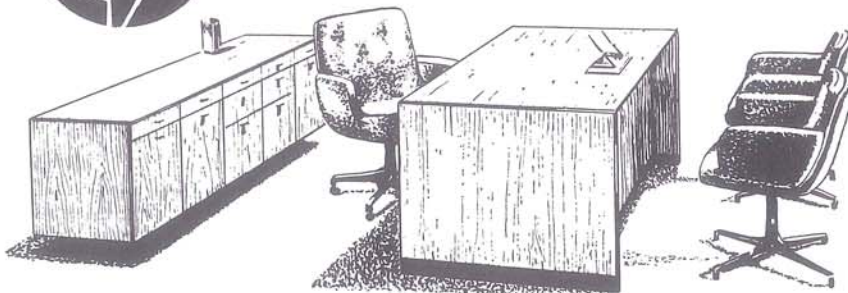
Kenner, officially incorporated in 1873, is located on the East Bank of Jefferson Parish, has a population of nearly 50,000, and is the home of the New Orleans International Airport. The area of present-day Kenner was one of the earliest sites along the lower Mississippi to be identified with a place-name, 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,

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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.

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 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.

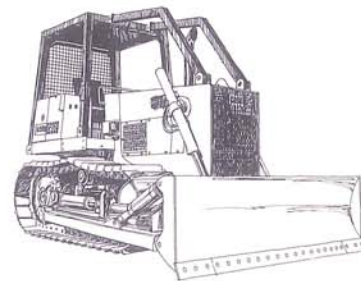
A railroad, a canal with locks, and loading wharfs on the river were responsible for the development of a small community at Westwego in the mid-nineteenth century. The Company Canal, which had been dug in the late eighteenth century on the plantation later to be known as Seven Oaks, was a major route 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 steam ship wharf on the river fronting Seven Oaks Plantation House, which stands in ruin today, 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

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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.

Harahan:

Ten miles above the City of New Orleans, on the East Bank of the Mississippi, Harahan offers its more than 16,000 residents the conveniences and pleasures of both city and country life.

Railroad yards and a roundhouse 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 with 46% of its population under the age of 18 years. There are no industrial areas with 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.

Grand Isle:

Grand Isle, with eight miles of white sand coast line on the Gulf of Mexico and a 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 Grande 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,



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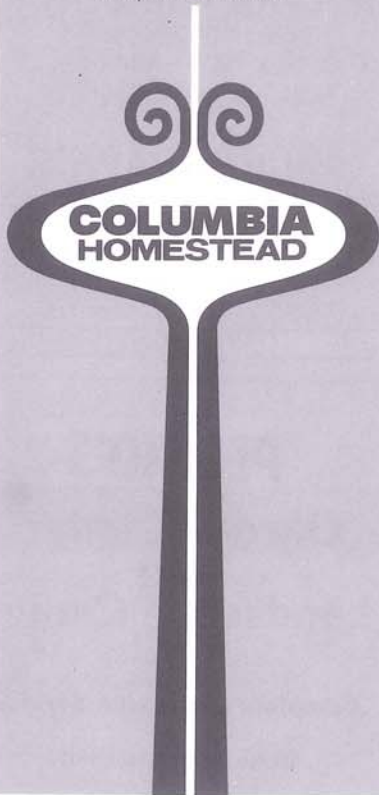
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which had been divided into land grants in the 1780s when Louisiana was under Spanish rule. Tradition suggests that, among the settlers of Grand Isle, Jacques Rigaud was the first to successfully engage in agriculture, ranching, and fishing; and that Valentin Encalada was the first to establish a sugar plantation on the island. A community of fishermen and vegetable farmers formed 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 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.

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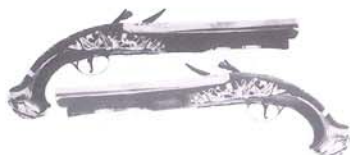


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**UNINCORPORATED
AREAS:**

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 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

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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.

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 "Harvey's Castle" and served as the seat of parish government from 1874 to 1884.

Terrytown:

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the completion 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, makes it an ideal location for the modern family who wishes the comforts of suburban, but the convenience of city dwelling Terrytown is now a thriving community of 4,500 homes with a population of approximately 16,000.

As population increased the 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 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 of 208,769. And there appears no end in sight.

In 1975, total Parish population was estimated at 458,083. Yet only two years later—in 1977—estimates already had reached 482,811.

According to a population survey prepared by the Department of Water in 1977, the Parish will have grown by 145,254 over the 1970 census. The City of Kenner was the fastest-growing area in Jefferson, nearly doubling its population over the past seven years. The East and West Banks grew at nearly identical rates, with a predicted 302,024 persons for East Jefferson and 180,787 projected for West Jefferson by December of 1977.

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. With easy access to downtown New Orleans over the toll-free bridge, this area accounts for a significant portion of the rapid increase in population. With the prospect of a new Mississippi River crossing from New Orleans to the West

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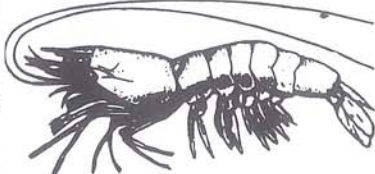
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Bank, it is expected that this rate of growth will increase rapidly, until in time West Bank population will equal or exceed that of the East Bank.

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, ranchers, and extremely modern designs with all the conveniences of built-ins, etc., 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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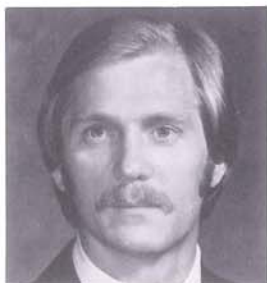
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Dists. #3 & #4, East Bank



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Councilman
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James E. Lawson, Jr.
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Robert DeViney
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Parish President—Douglas A. Allen; **Councilman-at-Large** (and Council Chairman) James J. Donelon; **East Bank Councilman-at-Large**—Lawrence W. Heaslip, Jr. (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**—Beauregard Miller, Jr., (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 (Wards 7, 9); **Fourth District Councilman**—Robert L. DeViney (Wards 8, 10).

Assessor—Lawrence E. Chehardy; **Clerk of Court**—William M. Justice, Jr.; **Coroner**—Dr. Charles B. Odom; **District Attorney**—John Mamoulides; **Sheriff**—Alwynn J. Cronvich; **Registrar of Voters**—Sam J. Altobello.

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Elected Officials of Municipalities

Gretna (1973-1977) Mayor William J.
White; Chief of Police, Beauregard H.
Miller, Sr.; Aldermen, Louis A. LeBoeuf,
Jr., Gerard E. Schexnayder, Hubert Felix
Uzee, James G. "Chick" Bush, Sr. and
John L. Dulcich, Jr. Meetings, 1st & 3rd
Mon., 2:00 p.m.

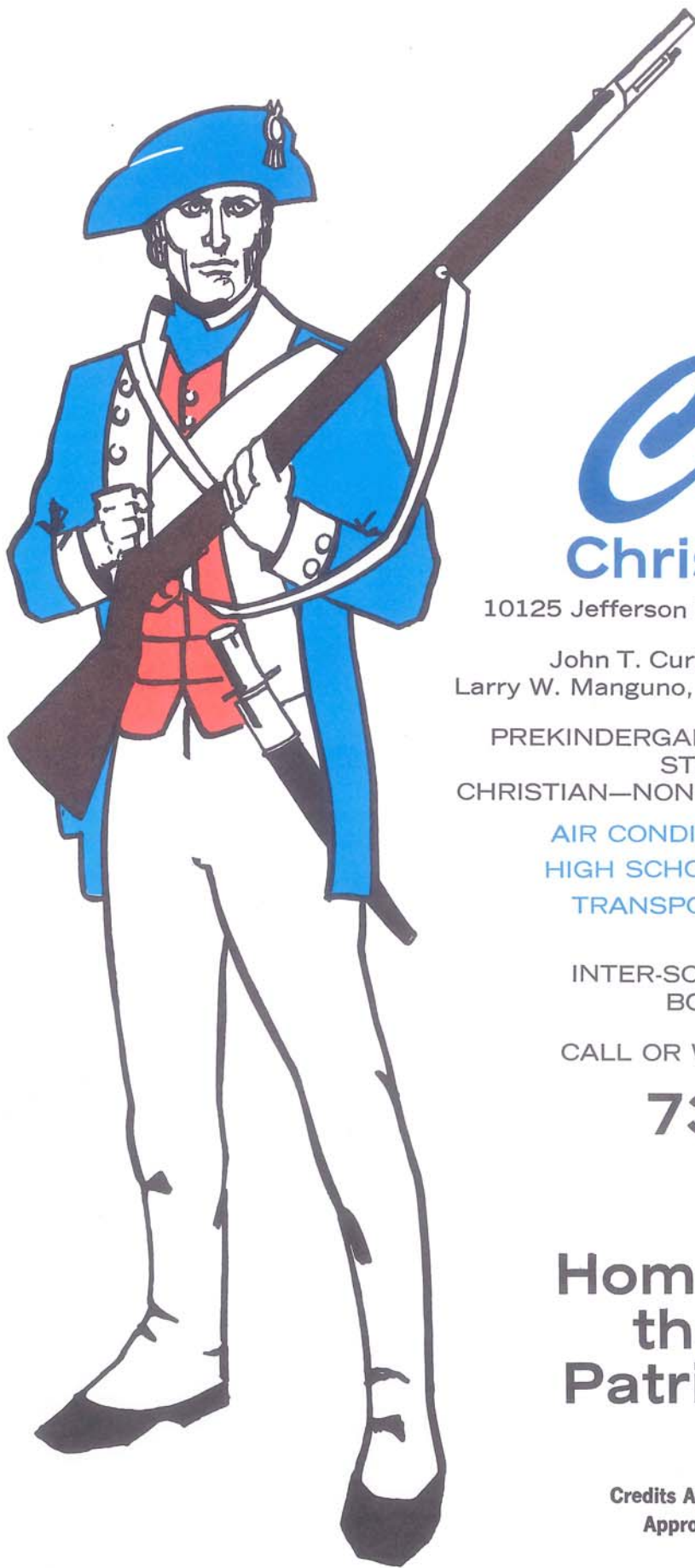
Harahan (1974-78) Mayor, Freddie A.
Wilcox; Chief of Police, Robert R.
Prados; Aldermen, A. J. Montalbano
Hermann Dutreix, Fred J. Barocco, Carlo
Ferrara, Alton L. Bourg, Sr.; Meetings,
1st Thurs., 7:30 p.m.

Kenner (1974-78) Mayor, Joseph S.
Yenni; Chief of Police, Salvador J.
Lentini; Councilmen, Nick Baroni, Raoul
Galan, Larry Hooper, Thomas LeBlanc,
Keith L. Woodward, Huey P. Fass-
bender, Richard F. Stoulig; Meetings, 2nd
Mon.

Westwego (1973-77) 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 (1972-1976) 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" Callons

Lafitte (1975-1979) Mayor Leo E.
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