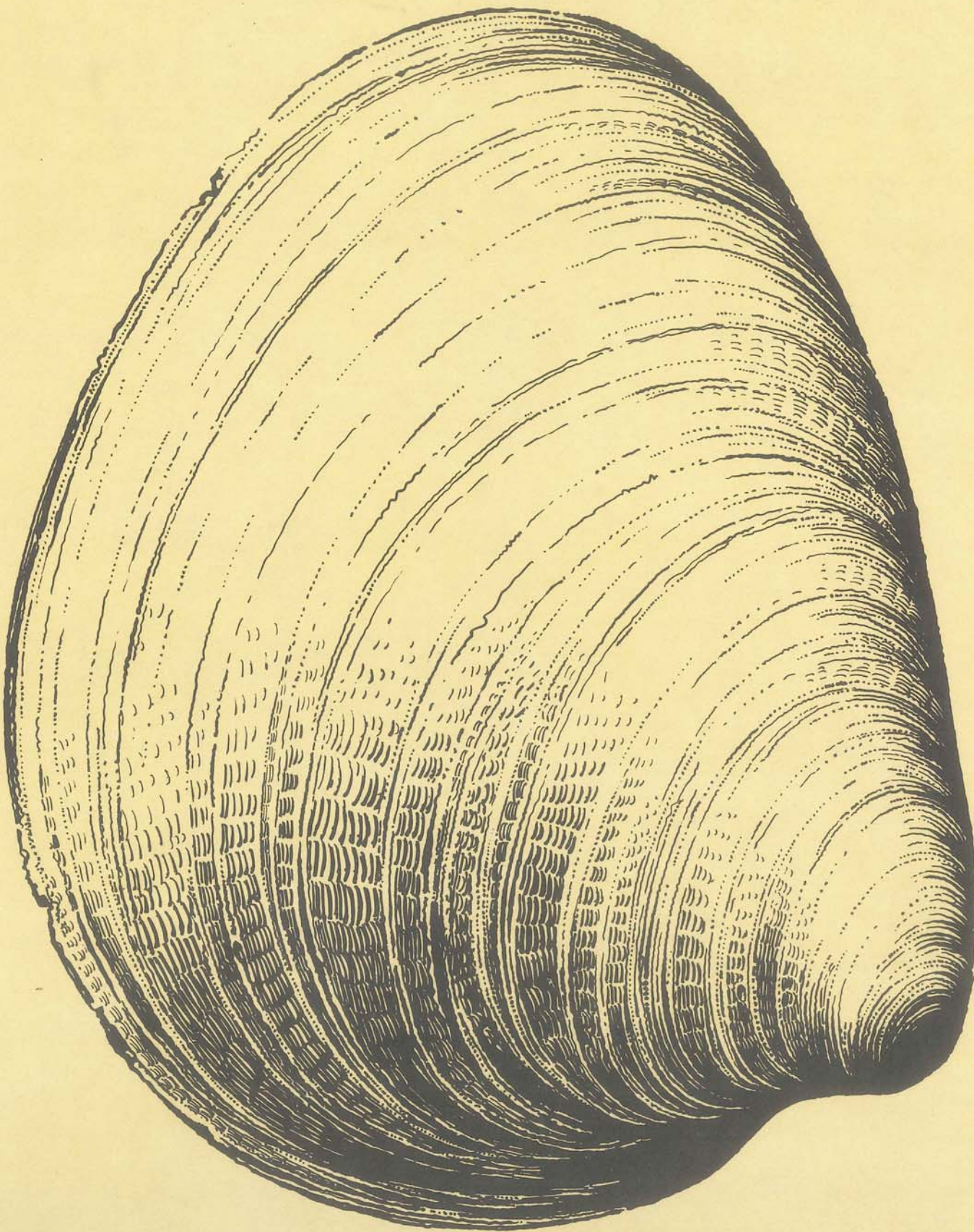




The Jefferson Parish Yearly **Review**

1979 Edition

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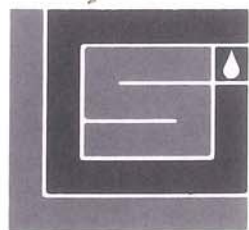
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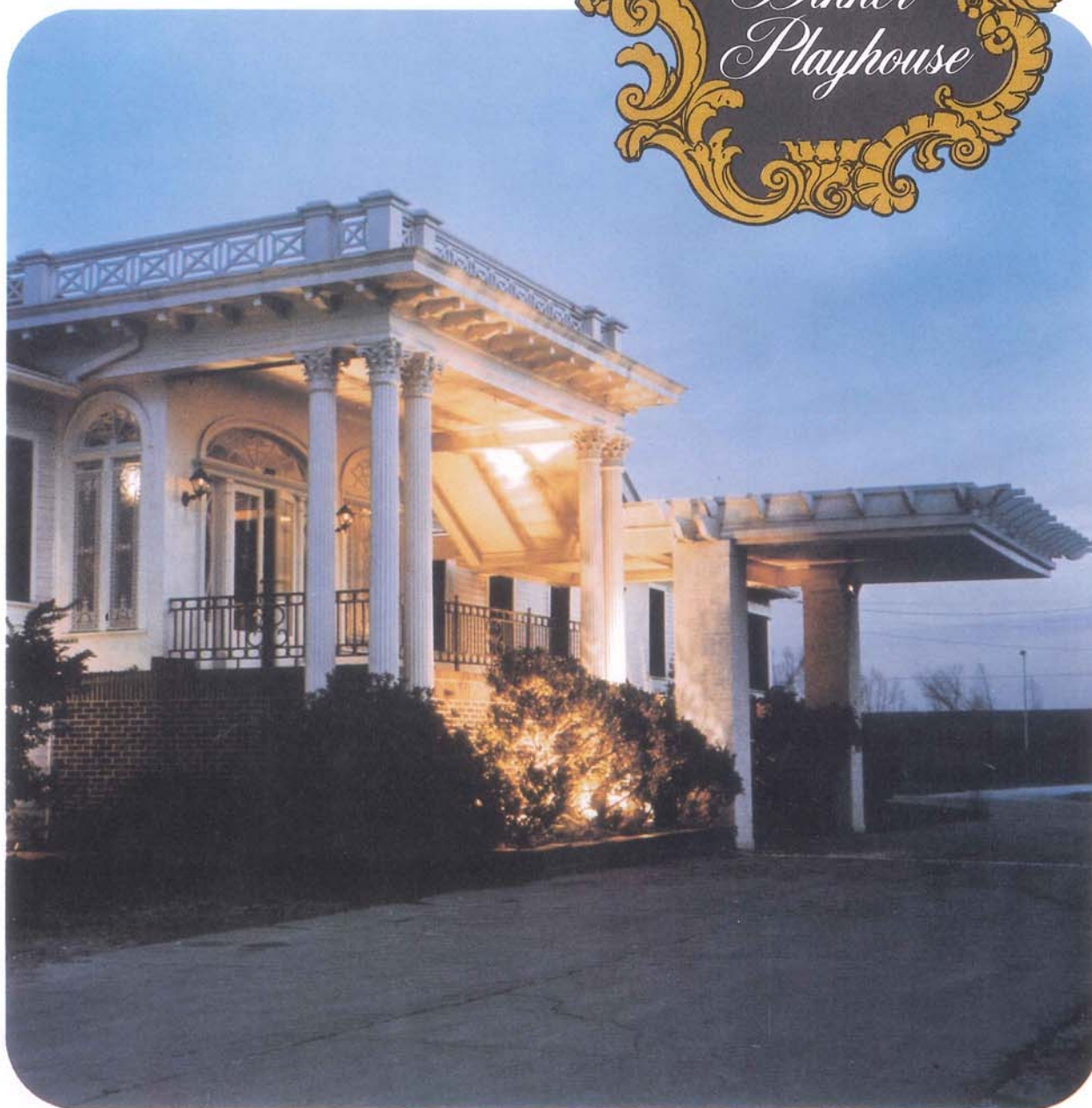
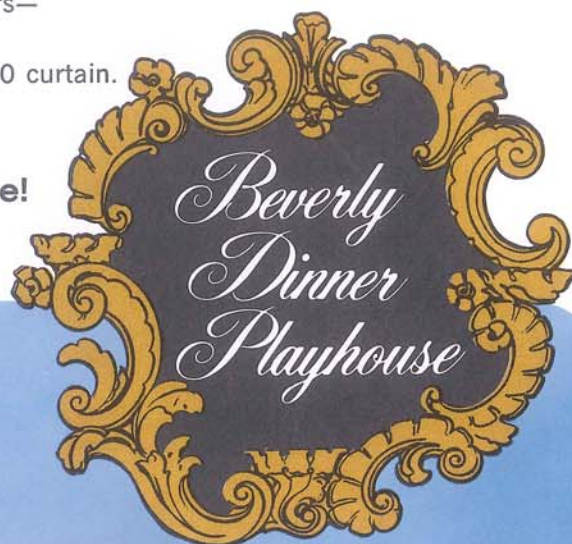
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The Jefferson Parish Yearly Review

An Annual Progress Report
of Jefferson Parish, Louisiana

1979 Edition

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Beauregard H. Miller, Jr., First District Councilman
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Aaron Broussard, Third District Councilman
Robert DeViney, Fourth District Councilman

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Barbara B. Lacour
Contributing Editor

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Cover: Elmwood Office Park by Frank Methe

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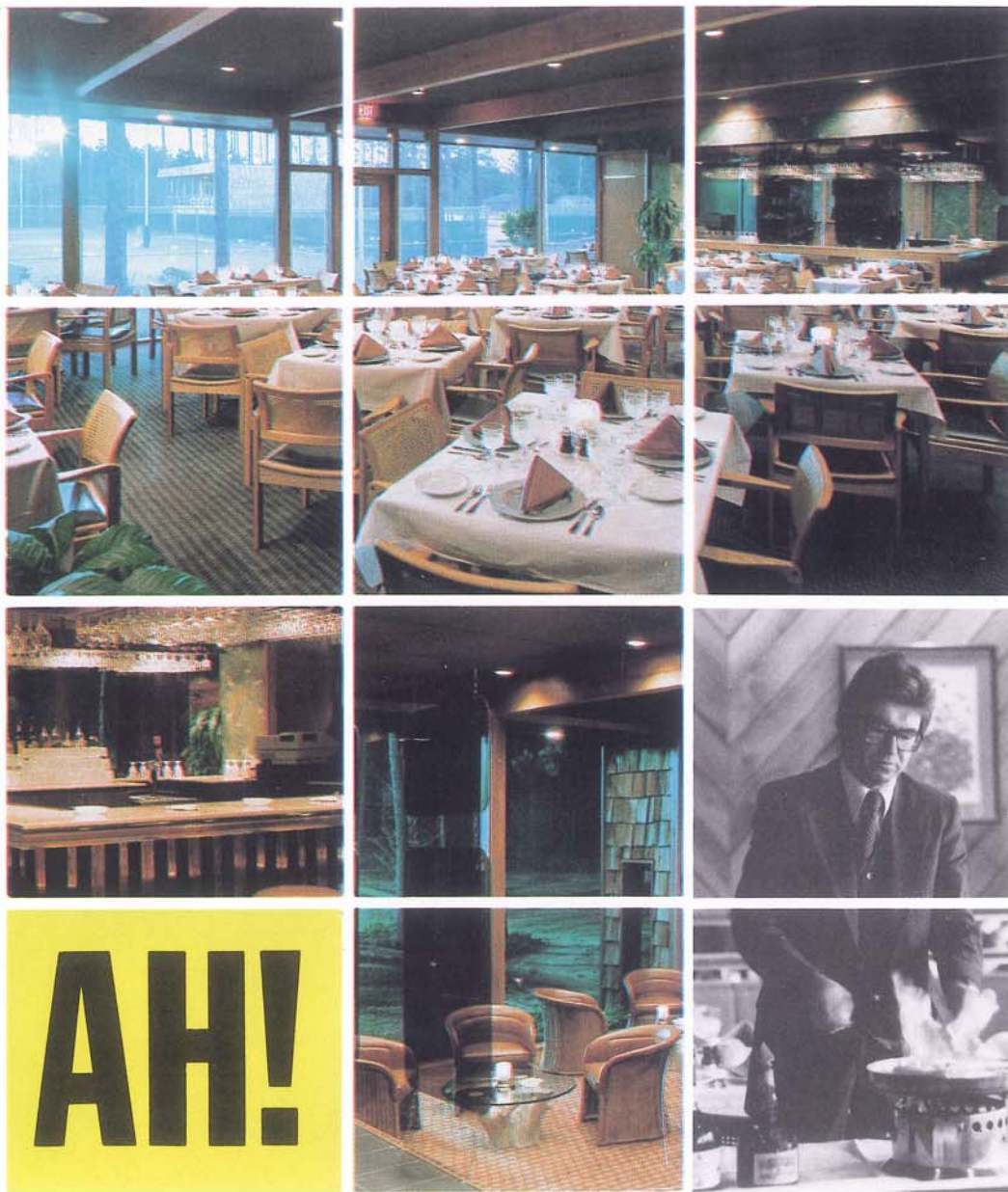
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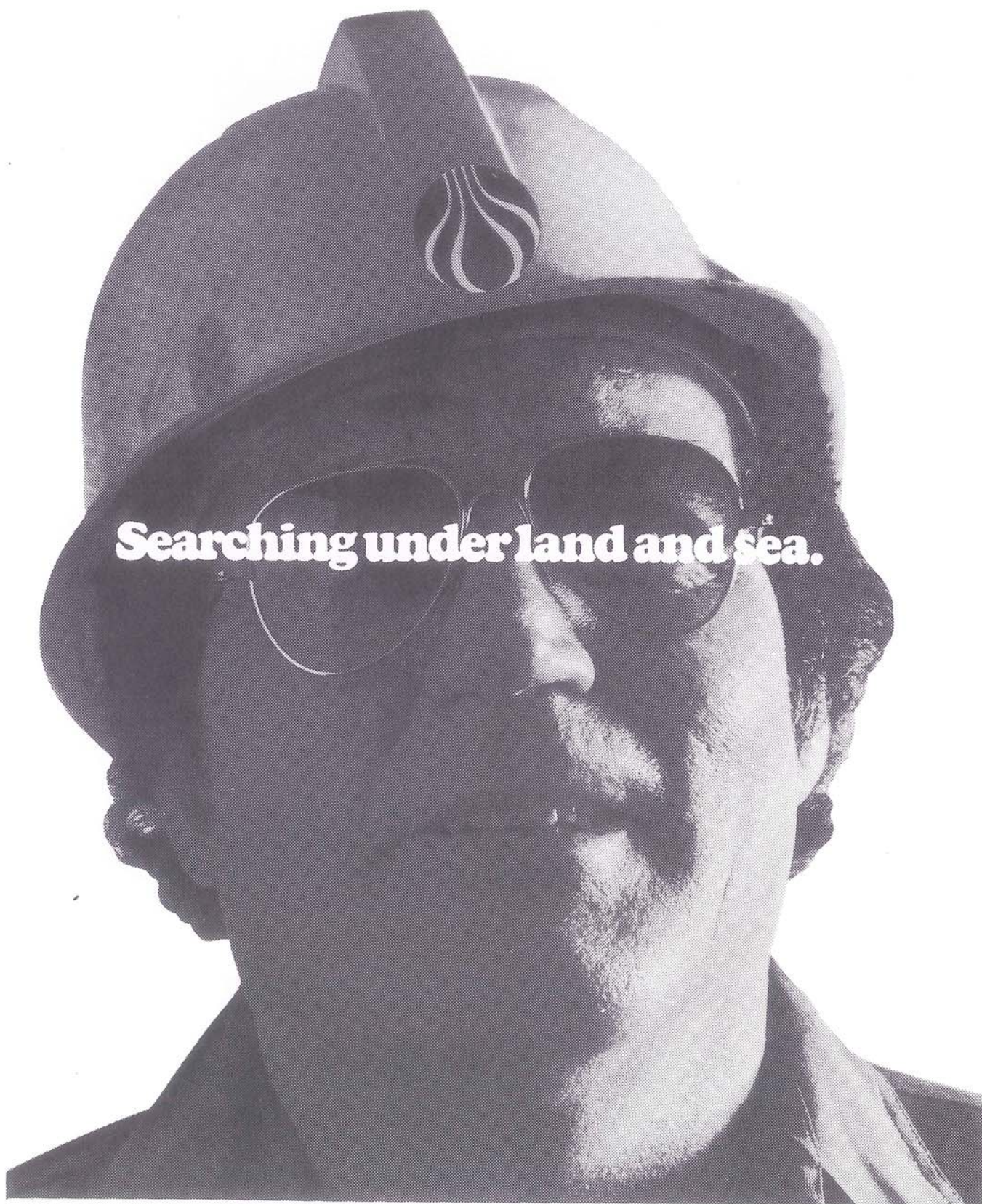
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TAKING STOCK OF JEFFERSON

By Doug Allen

President, Jefferson Parish

The growth and development of Jefferson Parish's administrative organization has been unique in many ways; however, it generally has followed the pattern of other major units of government, namely to create a new department or division for each new governmental function. Several years ago, the State of Louisiana found that its administrative structure had followed such a pattern and had subsequently become unwieldy, thus requiring a major reorganization.

Realizing that a similar situation was developing within Jefferson, the Parish began to take stock of its own condition. Of its 18 departments, four had

been mandated by the Parish Charter adopted in 1957, while others were created under provisions of that charter to provide public services to Jefferson's population. And that population was booming every year, with 209,000 residents in 1960, over 337,000 in 1970 and continuing even now, with population estimates of 500,000 at the present time.

It soon became apparent that a certain amount of reorganization was essential to meet the changing needs of the ever-growing Parish. The professional management firm of Booz, Allen and Hamilton, with impeccable national credentials, was retained in September of 1977 to conduct an in-depth study of both the executive and legisla-

tive branches, to analyze current operations and practices and to make recommendations that would have the potential of improving the quality of delivered public services.

At the May 31, 1978 regular meeting of the Jefferson Council, those recommendations—including the functional consolidation of departments, the realignment of some departmental responsibilities and other internal changes—were submitted. Since that time, several phases of the study have been implemented, and it is hoped that such reorganization will result in a more efficient, effective and responsive government for Jefferson Parish, an objective that all responsible citizens should support.



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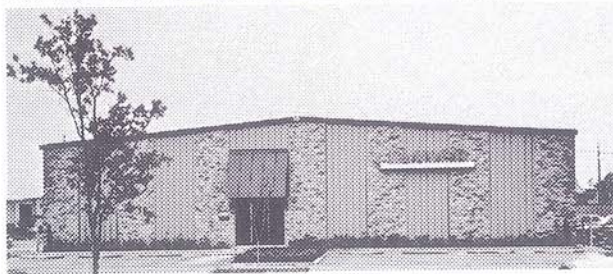
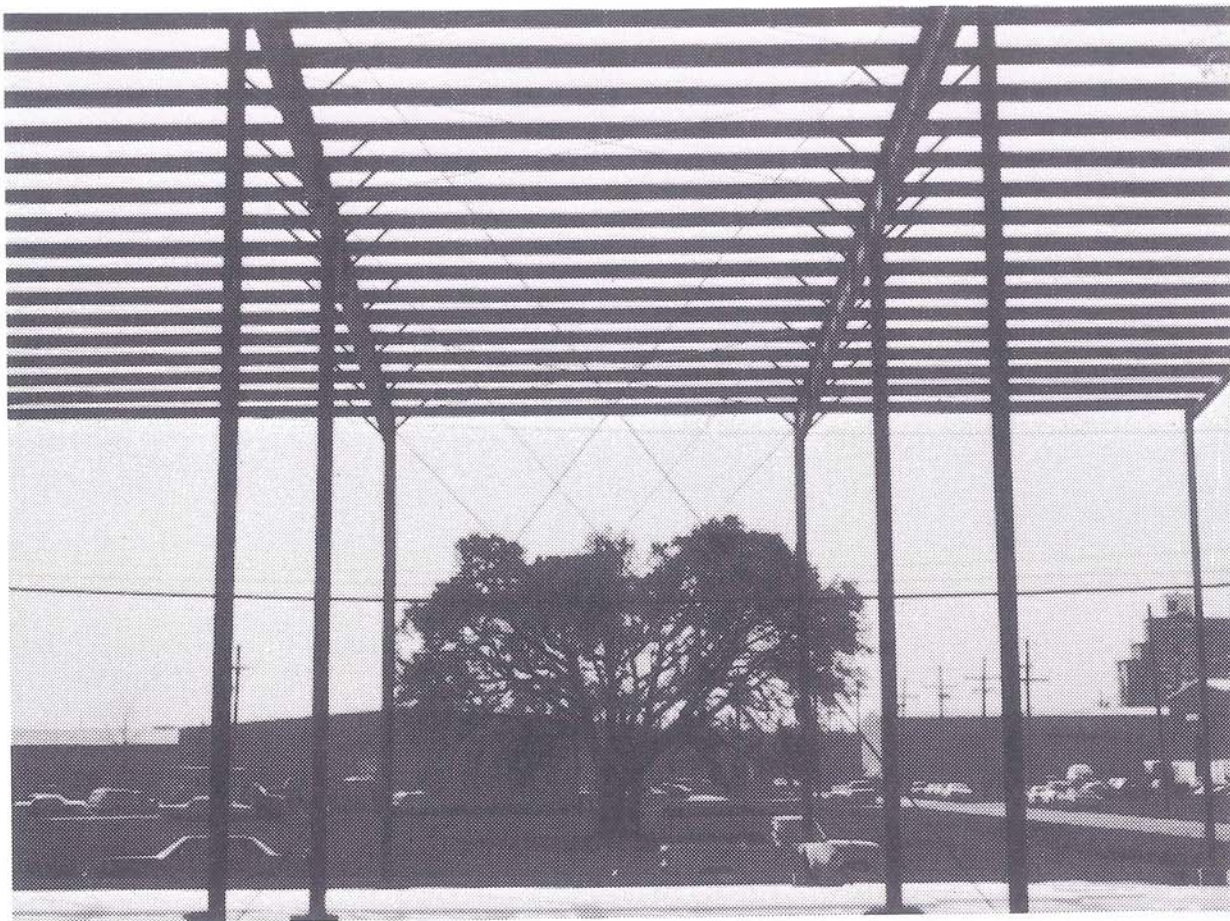
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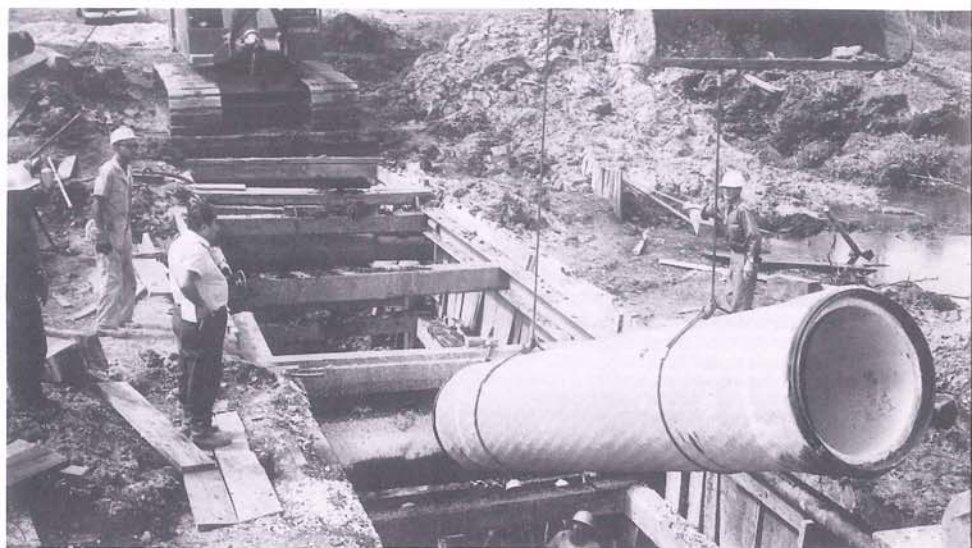
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Parish Progresses With Federal, Local Funding

Love may make the world go 'round, but parishes and counties in the United States still depend on sufficient funding to function properly. And that funding—whether it be from local government or Washington, D.C.—ultimately is supplied by the taxpayers, including the thousands who live and work in Jefferson Parish.

Being taxed at all levels, these taxpayers often wonder where their money is going, and if they really are reaping any benefit from their tax dollars. In Jefferson, accounting for those dollars has become a prime concern.

According to the Parish's Federal Liaison Department, federal funding far surpasses property taxes, sales tax and state revenue sharing as a source of parish income. The director of the department noted that Jefferson received in excess of \$26 million for the 1978 fiscal year, including monies from General Revenue Sharing, Community Development and Manpower, the three major federal sources.

In addition, Jefferson's Environmental and Developmental Control Department gained the first Coastal Energy Impact Grant of \$798,618 for a Grand Isle water storage tank to relieve the town's severely strained water system.

In 1977, over one million dollars in grants were awarded to Jefferson to help the poor of the Parish. Funds from the Community Services Administration and the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare were directed to Project Head Start (Pre-School Program), Handicapped Services Transportation, Recreation, Weatherization Assistance, Summer Feeding Program, Emergency Energy Assistance and the Home Security Program.

Jefferson's two major recreational projects—Lafreniere Park and the Linear Park—continued to receive assistance, with \$6,814,672 already

The months and weeks of 1978 were a time of self-examination for Jefferson Parish. Officials and citizens took a serious look at their local government, analyzing its finances, its ethics and the efficiency of its structure. While many facets of Jefferson's government were sound, others had become difficult to manage because of the Parish's rapid growth, making reorganization a top priority.

The Editors

awarded and approximately one million dollars pending federal approval. In a related area, the Federal Highway Administration awarded \$251,120 toward a Bikeway Demonstration project along the 17th Street Canal, providing additional recreational facilities for residents of the Parish.

Demonstrating its concern for public works projects, the federal government also awarded \$1,129,960 to the Parish to construct playground facilities in Bridge City and to renovate the West Jefferson Incinerator to serve as an Emergency Operation Center.

Other grants included the initial funding of \$45,000 for the employment of young men and women to work on conservation projects as part of the Youth Conservation Corps, and \$1,463,431 from the Environmental Protection Agency for a Granular Activated Carbon Study, the Lafitte Sewer Project and a Treatment Plant Training Operation.

In addition to grants awarded solely to the Parish, a transportation subsidy of \$567,832 from the Urban Mass Transportation Administration was Jef-

erson's share of a regional grant awarded to the Greater Mississippi River Bridge Authority for the metropolitan area.

By mid-1978, the Parish had over \$39 million in applications pending federal review and action. Besides these applications seeking federal grants, the Federal Liaison Department also was pursuing over \$73 million in federal loans to assist the Parish's drainage, sewerage and recreational priorities.

But receiving these funds and other income was just part of the process involved in providing the most modern and efficient services for Jefferson citizens. Extensive planning and research had to be accomplished before a project could even begin. Some projects could be accomplished within a few weeks, while others might take months or even years to be realized. Over the past twelve months, many achievements have been made in Parish departments, such as the completion of the Bayou Segnette Bridge on Lapalco Boulevard, the U-turns on West Esplanade in Metairie, and the addition of approximately 10 miles of new subdivision streets by the Division's Roads and Bridges Department.

Major achievements in the Department of Drainage and Sewerage included the addition of four graduate engineers and one accountant to the office's professional staff, the procurement of new equipment and the implementation of more effective operating procedures, including an internal purchasing system. Other changes resulted in improved response to complaints, more efficient operation of all departmental functions and an impressive record of accomplishments for the year.

The Environmental and Developmental Control Department remained busy, with projects to improve Grand Isle's water supply and studies to determine the effects of diverting fresh



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water from the Mississippi River into the wetlands of Jefferson's West Bank. The department also received funding to plan for coastal zone management in Jefferson Parish and for scientific personnel and programs for an environmental compliance section.

Also concerned with Grand Isle was the Greater Jefferson Parish Port Commission, which hired a consulting firm to conduct a preliminary study of port facility needs in the Grand Isle area. The commission, one of Jefferson's youngest organizations, also added two new members to its staff to meet its rapidly growing needs.

The Parish's Planning Department reflected continued growth and construction within Jefferson, processing 310 subdivisions which created 4,226 new lots and 117 new streets in the Parish. Building permits in April, 1978 totaled 687 for an estimated value of more than \$19 million, as compared with the previous April's total of only \$13 million. In planning for the Parish's future, the department was involved in numerous other projects, including the Westwego and Moisant Airport Expansion studies, the 1980 Census Preparation study, the Railroad Demonstration study, the Sign Regulations study, the Transit Improvement Program, the Car Pool Survey and Computer Match study and the Drainage Canal Closing study.



While most departments were working with the public, Jefferson's Personnel Department moved to improve personnel management with the initiation of a new division specializing in the analysis of jobs and classification of position. Objectives of the new division include improving pay equity and recruitment and examination validity,

and increasing accountability for the filling of jobs with qualified personnel based on assigned duties and responsibilities.

The Civil Defense Department obtained funds from the Economic Development Administration to convert the old incinerator located at Ames Boulevard and Belle Terre Road into an Emergency Operation Center, while monies derived from the Parish were used for the construction of a Mobile Command Post. The latter project was accomplished when the department obtained an old book mobile from the Jefferson Parish School Board, subsequently converting it into a communications van. In addition to these special projects, Civil Defense employees and volunteers put in 2,976 manhours in addition to regular working hours, coordinating services at 13 Mardi Gras parades and local disasters, including seven train derailments, six major fires, two tornadoes, one natural gas leak, one gasoline spill, the tragic Continental Grain Elevator explosion, Hurricane Babe and the May 3, 1978 flood.

Area hospitals treated victims of these disasters as well as their regular patients, and several institutions added equipment and wings to their medical complexes during the year. East Jefferson General Hospital concluded its expansion program, which included a unique immunology laboratory capable of pinpointing diseases that would otherwise remain undetected. The expansion increased the Metairie facility to 425 beds. East Jefferson's intensive and coronary care units moved into new quarters situated in a semi-circular configuration, thus allowing for visual as well as electronic monitoring by the nursing staff. Officials of West Jefferson General Hospital on the Parish's apidly growing West Bank prepared for a \$35.5 million expansion program which will include services and facilities for radiation therapy and burn care and provide for the growth of laboratory, radiology, cardiology and other hospital departments.

While human comforts and needs were provided by a variety of Parish departments, institutions and organizations, the problems of animals in the area were met by Jefferson's Animal Shelter. Besides performing its regular duties, the department inspects all pet shops, grooming shops and stables in Jefferson, issuing permits to those places meeting the appropriate standards. This year a mobile home was acquired in which to neuter all animals

adopted from the department, and \$30,000 in federal funds were allotted for a mobile rabies control unit. The latter unit will cover mainly low-income areas where the greatest number of bite cases exist; for a minimal fee, the shelter veterinarian will give rabies shots, issue licenses and distribute general information about animals.

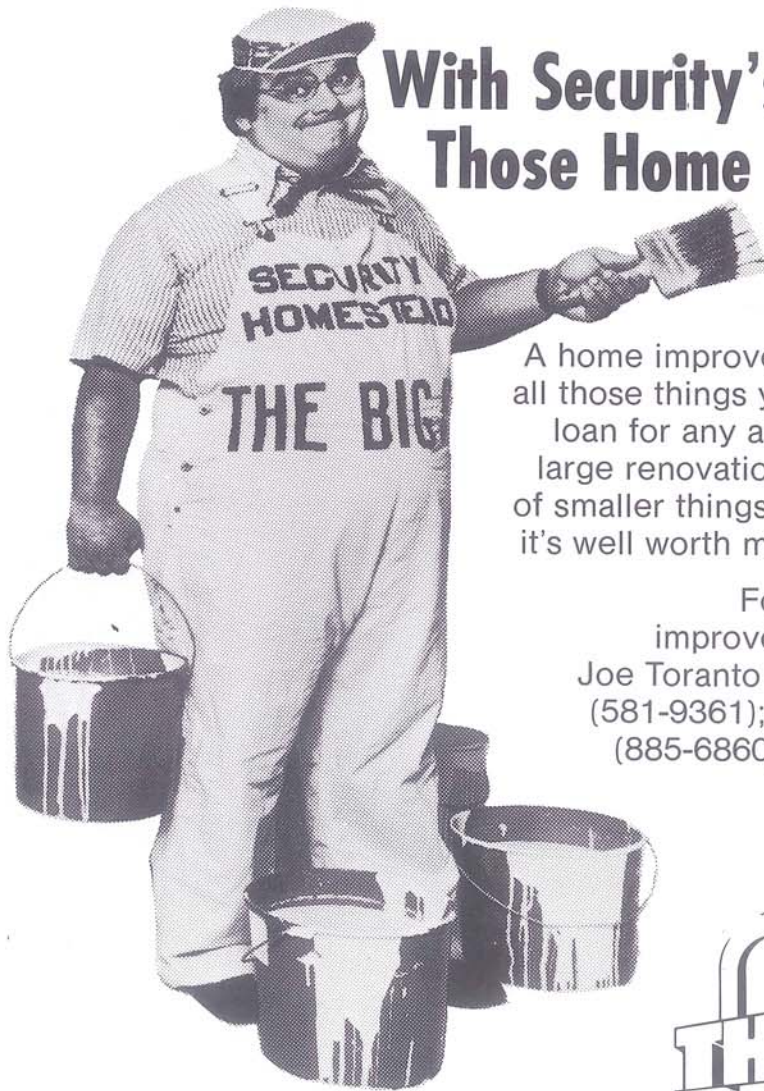
Protecting all of the people and the property of Jefferson Parish is the responsibility of the Sheriff's Office, headed by Alwynn J. Cronvich. The year 1978 was an important one for this department, with a new Parish prison being dedicated on March 10 on the West Bank. Prisoners were moved into the facility—which is considered to be one of the most modern correctional centers in the country—in May, 1978. Construction for the Jefferson Com-



munity Correctional Center was financed primarily by funds received through a bond issue and with some federal funds received from the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration. The former Parish East Bank Office Building was renovated by the Sheriff's Office and now houses the Office of the Registrar of Voters and an office of the Clerk of Court, as well as some of the Sheriff's Department offices. A 4,000 square foot building also was constructed on the West Bank to house emergency vehicles and the Third District was expanded to meet the growing needs of the Bridge City, Avondale, and Waggaman areas. Future plans include a lockup on the East Bank and an administration building on the West Bank.

While the physical complex of the Sheriff's Office grew, so did the training and education of Jefferson's police

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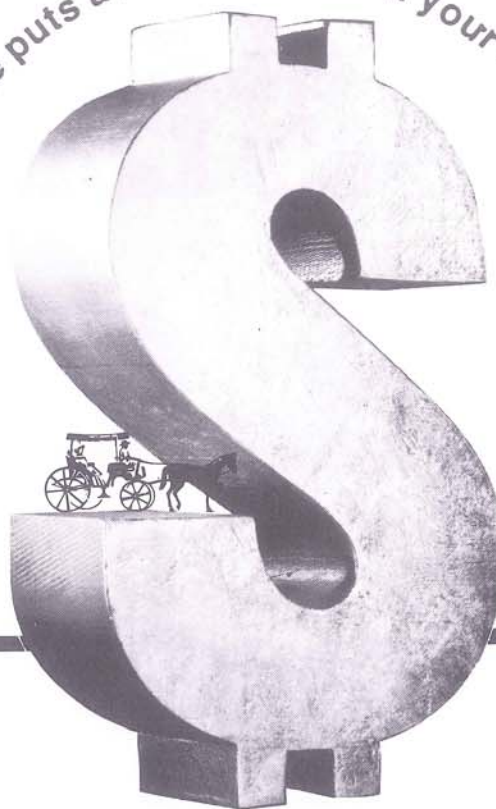
force. The intensive recruit training program provided training for approximately 100 new officers serving Jefferson Parish, its municipalities, and adjoining parishes. Several experienced officers attended extended National and State training programs, including the Drug Enforcement Administration program in Washington, the FBI National Training Academy in Quantico, Virginia, and the Louisiana State University Law Enforcement Institute. Agent William Renton, a product of the Jefferson Parish Sheriff's Office Cadet Program, was the outstanding graduate of the Drug Enforcement Administration program, receiving the Distinguished Performance Award. Sergeant Thomas Goscienski received the Louisiana Association of Chiefs of Police award for achieving the highest scholastic average at the 30th session of the Law Enforcement Institute in Baton Rouge. Awards for outstanding service were received by many officers from numerous civic and community groups.

On May 15, 1978, 18 deputies were promoted to the rank of sergeant. These were the highest-ranking of the more than 110 officers who competed in intensive written tests and oral interviews prepared by a professional consulting firm. The new sergeants were then enrolled in a week-long Supervisor's Training Program conducted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

The Jefferson Parish Sheriff's Office also expanded its juvenile services by initiating a Juvenile Diversion Program, the objective of which is to counsel and work with youthful offenders before they become involved in the criminal justice system. In addition, the Metropolitan Narcotics Intelligence Center continued operating from the Sheriff's Office, combining Jefferson's efforts with those of the New Orleans Police Department, the State Police and the Drug Enforcement Administration. This cooperative effort has been a major factor in the war against drug traffic in the metropolitan area.

In only a few short years, Jefferson has evolved from a suburb of New Orleans to a strong urban parish—the second most populous parish in Louisiana. With the continued support of its taxpayers, Jefferson Parish can and will remain a successful, self-contained community, providing not only the basic services to its residents, but affording them the opportunity to achieve the dreams and aspirations which make each man and woman fully alive. ●

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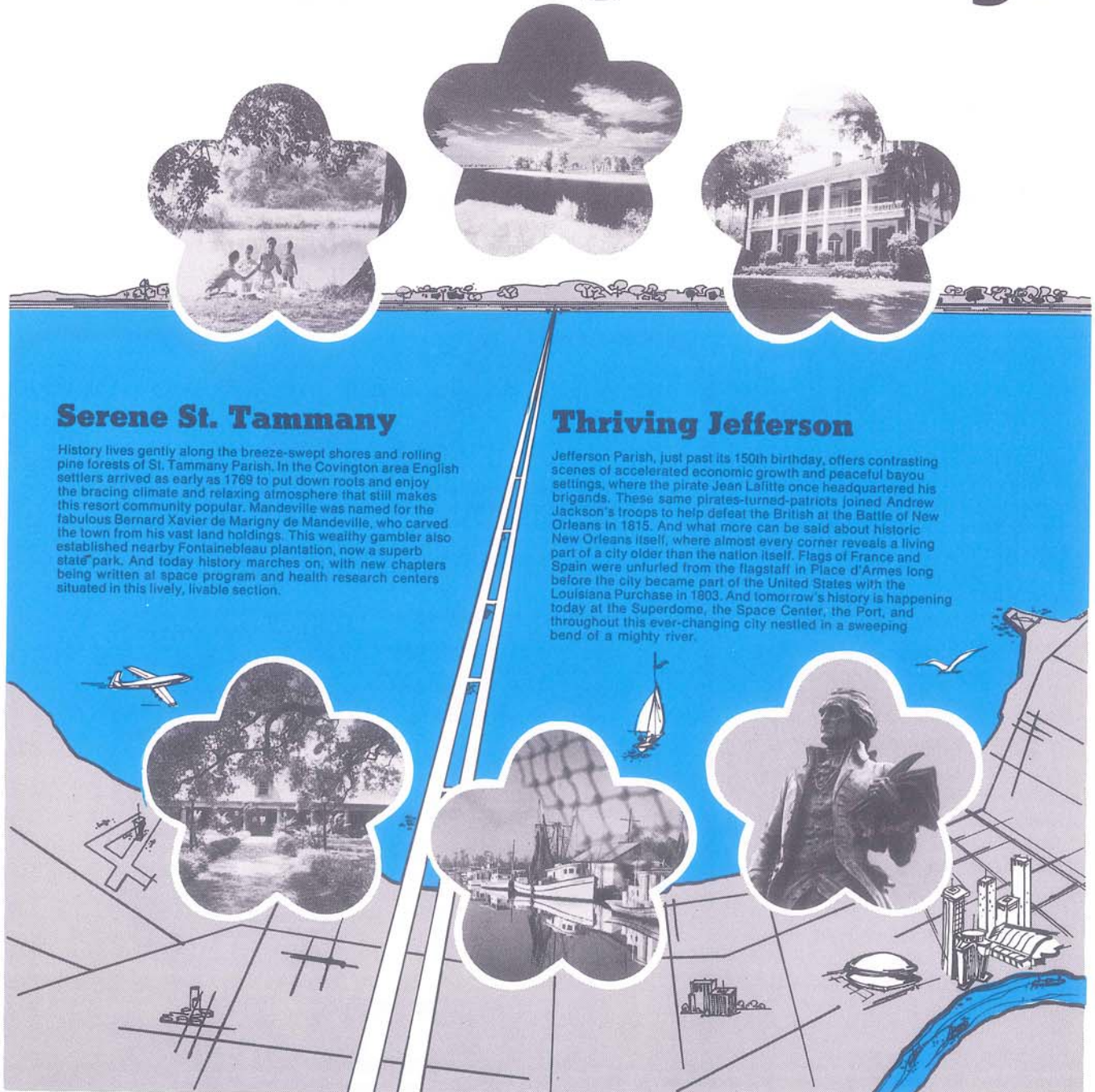
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Thriving Jefferson

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

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THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE REPORT

East Bank Council

Mick McIlwain, Chairman

In 1978, the East Jefferson Council concentrated on Membership with an emphasis on participation in the activities aimed at improving economic development, education, governmental affairs and transportation.

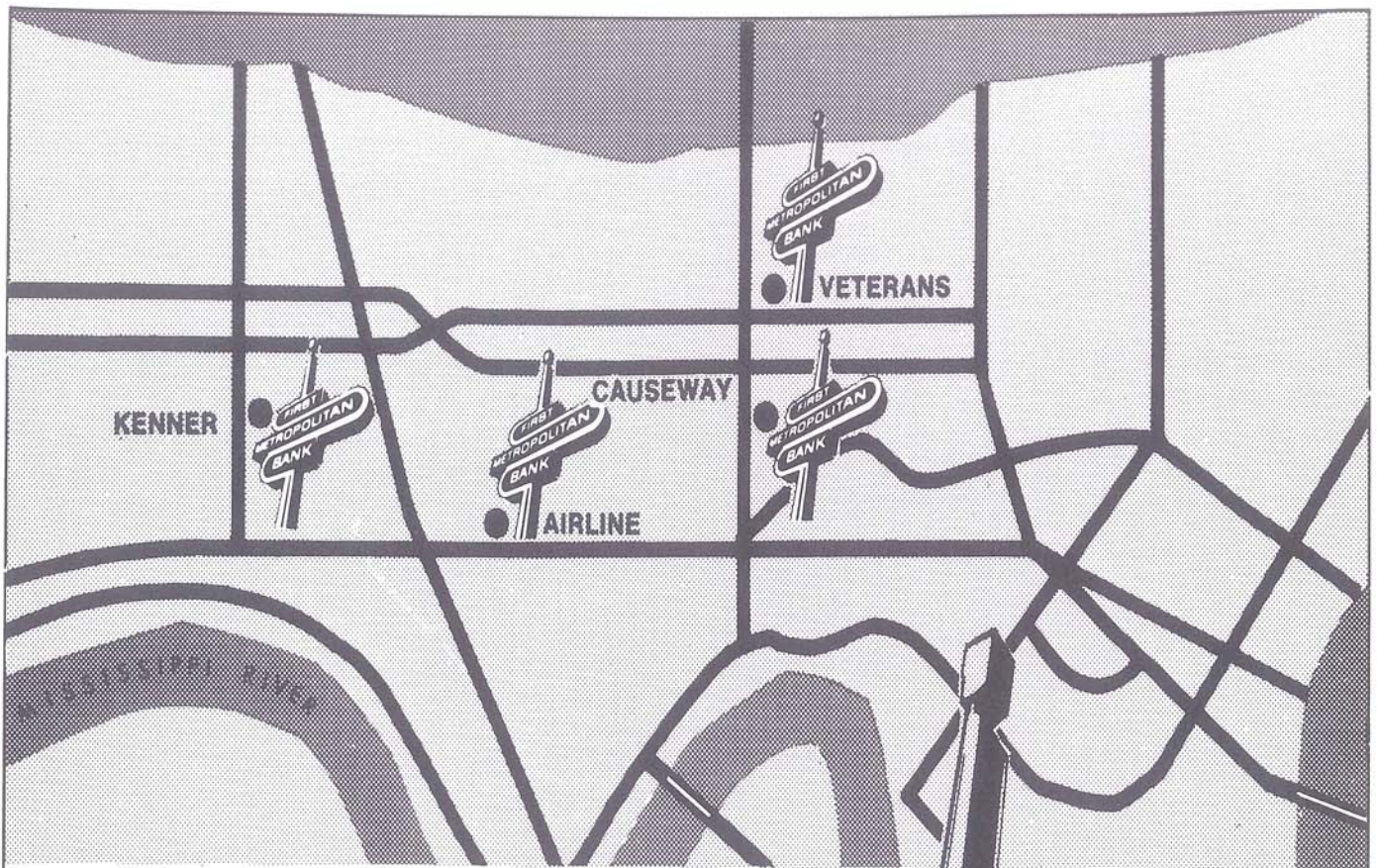
Perhaps the most important achievement attained by the Council in economic development was the creation of the Jefferson Parish Industrial Liaison Committee. This committee was a direct response of the Council's efforts in investigating the parish's ordinance on pretreatment of sewerage. Through its membership, the Council became aware of the adverse impact of this ordinance on

industry and decided to meet with parish officials to determine the total impact and inequities of the ordinance. As a result, the Industrial Liaison Committee was established by the Parish Council to advise parish officials of the impacts of proposed legislation. The Chamber has two representatives (out of seven) on this committee and considers it an excellent line of communication for business and local government. Also in the area of economic development, the Council opposed legislation which would have severely hampered industrial operations and commerce on the river in the parish. Ultimately, this legislation was defeated by the Parish Council.

In another economic development matter, the Council was instrumental

in obtaining governmental approval for Jefferson, St. Bernard and Plaquemines Parishes to be included in the high rate geographical area for the government's per diem travel rate for the metropolitan New Orleans area. As a result, the New Orleans area is more attractive to a wider audience of convention groups.

A long-term project of the Council is the development of the lakefront for recreational purposes. In February the Council scored a minor victory when it testified before the Joint National Resources Committee in Baton Rouge in support of the state leasing 55 acres of water bottoms in Lake Pontchartrain to Jefferson Parish to construct the Bucktown Marina project. The lease, a necessary step

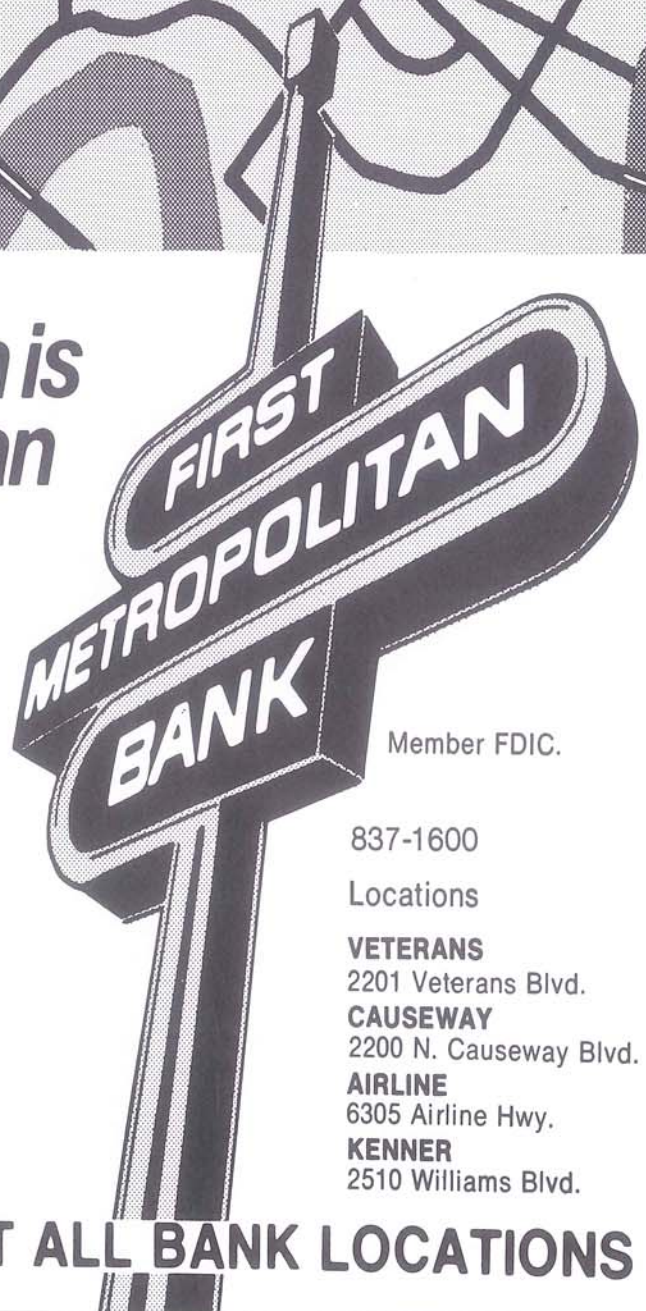


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2510 Williams Blvd.

in the project, was unanimously approved by the committee. Additionally, the Council has contacted Chambers of Commerce on the north shore of Lake Pontchartrain, urging them to develop their parish's lakefronts.

In the area of governmental affairs, the Council concentrated on being effective in the political process. The Council campaigned for the Parish Council to hold at least one monthly meeting on the East Bank so parish residents would have more direct access to their councilmen and council meetings. This came to pass on September 6, when the Parish Council began to alternate meetings on the East Bank and West Bank — twice the requests by The Chamber.

In other areas, the Council is being consulted on various issues and its members are being seated on many parish committees. We have members on the Community Appearance Board, the Civic Center Site Selection Committee and the Ethics Code Review Committee. Gradually, the Chamber is being tapped by a greater number of decision-making bodies in community issues.

On the state level, a very successful legislative issues forum was held prior to a session with a majority of the East Jefferson delegation. The members were able to hear the legislators' concerns and then related their concerns to the legislators.

In Education, the Speakers Bureau enjoyed immense success, particularly during the spring semester. By the end of the school year, every senior on the East Bank heard at least one chamber speaker on a topic directly related to the free enterprise system. The message of business is being heard in the classrooms.

In order to update the membership on education, a meeting was held with the run-off candidates for the School Board in District 4. Here again was cooperation between education and business.

Vocational-technical education remains a concern of the Council. The Chamber is represented on the Jefferson Parish Vocational Advisory Committee, and the Council is continually conducting, in conjunction with the Manpower Office, a survey of industry needs in Jefferson Parish. This study, first edition published in October 1977, provides data on a continuous basis of the employment needs in the parish.

The subject of transportation saw Council activities in three different

areas — two on water and one on land. On water the Council is monitoring closely the progress of the Mississippi River Bridge in Jefferson Parish. The Council is supporting this concept and is working to insure that the necessary steps are taken to proceed as quickly as possible. Secondly, the Council is investigating the re-institution of the ferry service in Kenner. On land, the Council is seeing the results of a project begun a few years ago to get the State Department of Transportation to erect signs on I-10 designating four of the exits as being in Metairie. The Council approached the Transportation Department in 1976 and, after studies were conducted, these signs have been deemed feasible and beneficial.

West Bank Council

E. C. Gensheimer, Chairman

The West Bank Council of The Chamber had a productive year, working to promote economic and community development on the Westbank.

After providing input for the design plans of the General DeGaulle Dr. interchange as it connects to the new elevated expressway and Mississippi River Bridge 1 & 2, the Council initiated discussions at the state and local levels to secure funding to finance a corridor study that would provide needed traffic flow data in the area bounded by the Belle Chasse Highway and General DeGaulle Drive.

The Transportation Committee conducted a survey to determine the feasibility of a new bus service in the Engineers Road, Peters Road area. The Jefferson Parish Council approved our recommendation and called for plans to begin trial bus service on January 1, 1979.

Future projects include involvement in the possible reinstatement of Kenner ferry services, continuing to provide input to the Jefferson Parish Department of Roads and Bridges on project proposals; and finally, monitoring construction progress of the new Westbank Expressway.

During the past year, the Council has strengthened its relationship with the Parish government. In a cooperative effort, the Parish Council and The Chamber have worked together on a number of issues, reaffirming the need for a working relationship between business and government. In the future, continuing efforts will enable the West Bank Council to increase our involvement in total parish development.

The Council opposed HCR 183 which sought to prevent the reconstruction of the Continental Grain elevator. The bill died in committee.

As a result of our involvement, the Jefferson Parish Council passed ordinance #13127, creating the Industrial Liaison Committee. This committee will meet on a regular basis with parish officials to discuss problems that affect the economic well-being of the parish.

Through Jefferson Parish Manpower Program, the Manpower survey for Westbank business and industry has been continually updated. The purpose of the survey is to determine the specific skill labor needs of West bank businesses. A new results report will be compiled in 1979, and will be provided to local educators, vo-tech schools, and other interested agencies.

During this past year, several projects have brought the East Jefferson and West Bank Council together for joint efforts and positions. One involved Environmental Protection Agency guidelines for wastewater pretreatment, while the other dealt with the Jefferson to Jefferson Bridge proposal. Hopefully, in the future, this spirit of cooperation will continue to produce even more meaningful programs and a stronger position in community affairs.

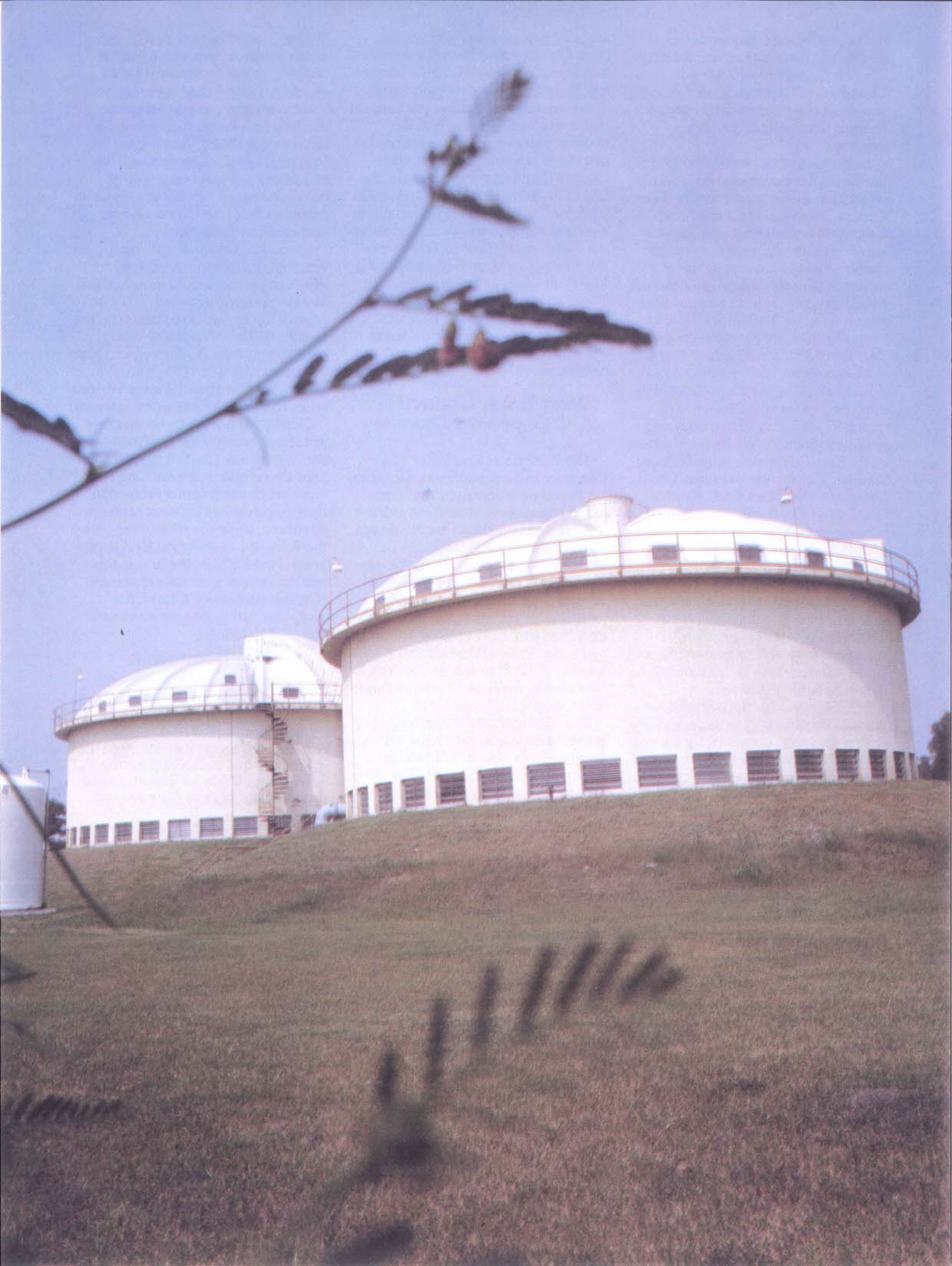
The Economic Development Council

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.

New Orleans, Jefferson Parish and the rest of the River Region is taking on a new international look. Businessmen and development officials believe the region is now beginning to catch up to the strides made earlier in the decade by other major cities in the South.

You are the vital force behind the success of economic development in the area. **Your support** in the past, and in the future, provides the key to the continuing momentum of the Economic Development Council at the Chamber.

Contact the EDC for information so **you** will be certain of playing a major role in future economic development. 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

You probably wouldn't describe Gretna's new Sewage Treatment Plant (*pictured at the left*) as "beautiful", but that's what it is to us.

The new waste water treatment facility is attractive, odor-free and capable of treating 5.5 million gallons of sewage a day, sufficient capacity for 1990 when Gretna's population should reach 40,000. The \$6.5 million plant (built with 75% federal funds) will provide secondary treatment, as recommended by the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency, by using a "synthetic media filter" process to clean up the sewage.

Because most of Gretna is developed, the City was forced to locate the plant (on Burmaster Street) near a residential area. The designers had to take this into consideration.

As a result, the City may have the first closed-cycle sewage treatment plant in the South designed to eliminate odors and nuisances, such as flies and insects. Air leaves the towers through giant vents past oxygen scrubbers which chemically change undesirable odors.

The entire plant, from the entrance to the sludge room, can be sealed from the outside.

The sewage is solidified in the sludge room. Methane gas produced by the sludge is used

to heat incoming sludge so that it is reduced to 5 to 10 percent of its original volume.

As a result, about 10 cubic yards of solid material, which looks like dirt, is produced daily and delivered to the City's landfill.

Playground for Special Kids

We are grateful to the West Bank Lions Club for their donation of playground equipment for handicapped children in a 40,000 square foot area of Mel Ott Park set aside by the city for this purpose.

The Lions heard about a similar playground in New Jersey and purchased the equipment from their supplier.

Lions Club donations include swings with seat belts, one which can be swung by a child with only his hands or just with one hand, tunnel slides — one 15 feet long, the other smaller, part of a "Mini Dale," a pull tunnel for those who can't walk; a balance beam (seesaw) with handrails; an elevated sandbox and picnic table to accommodate those in wheel chairs, and an "Eaglet Whirl," a saucer-like toy that a child can lie in and whirl just by shifting his body weight. The City fenced the Special Playground area, cemented over an unused wading pool, added a paved walkway and built a picnic shelter.

The West Bank Lions Club believes that this is the first public

playground for special children in the South. Most special schools have no place to bring their kids for picnics, and families have no place to go now where their special children can find such equipment except at the special schools.

The reaction of therapists from the Belle Chasse State School was "Great!" They said "So many things we take for granted, are important to these children. Physical activity of any kind is good for them. It helps to make them physically independent, but it has to be fun for them to do it. And, it's fun for their parents, too, who now have a place to take their children on weekends."

Recreation

The Gretna Recreational & Instructional Department (G R I D) offers complete recreational programs all year long for kids 8 to 18. The program includes baseball, softball, football, bowling and volleyball.

On May 27, 1978, the City and Leson Chevrolet co-sponsored an "Awards Day" Program in Mel Ott Park in lieu of the usual formal G R I D banquet. This was a casual, informal & entertaining get together for G R I D players, coaches, parents and City Officials.

We maintain two large and two small parks; four playgrounds and



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.

two swimming pools. Also available to Gretna residents are six lighted tennis courts.

The City is now planning and developing improvements to make the Fried Street Park a major softball park for youngsters and adults. A "backstop" has already been placed in the park, which will be lighted in the future.

Police Department Reorganized

Chief of Police Beauregard H. Miller, Sr., after naming Dominick Mancuso Assistant Chief in 1977, followed up in 1978 with a complete reorganization of the Gretna Police Department.

Operating out of new quarters at 200 Fifth Street, the department now has 46 full time police officers, including detectives. Among them are five lieutenants, the chief of detectives, and three shift commanders, each with a sergeant. Also named a lieutenant was the planning and training officer. A desk sergeant was assigned to the Chief's office at City Hall and serves as Clerk of the Mayor's Court. Purpose of the

reorganization is closer supervision over patrolmen, faster response time and a more professional approach to law enforcement.

At the same time, the department divided the City into two zones, separated by the Westbank Expressway, with officers increasing their patrolling area in each and being available more quickly when needed.

The increased patrolling should reduce business and residential burglaries. Radar will also be used to spot speeders, and persons using motorbikes in the City's parks will receive citations of warnings.

Gretna has a normal number of burglaries for a city its size, but its armed robbery and homicide rates are low and traffic fatalities very low, due to good patrolling and enforcement of the traffic laws.

The first formal school conducted by the department's planning and training officer was held from May till October, 1978 for about one third of the police force

plus officers from Harahan, Lafitte and the Parish Civil Defense Auxiliary. The 315 hour course covered 24 weeks and featured speakers from the Jefferson Parish Sheriff's Office's Training Academy, FBI, State Police, District Attorney's Office and Judges from the 24th Judicial District and Second Parish Courts.

The course included firearms training, defensive driving, report writing, traffic investigation, the Louisiana Code of Criminal Procedure, burglary investigation, shoplifting investigation, drug investigation and courtroom testimony and demeanor. A major topic was crisis intervention or how to handle family disturbances.

In the area of community relations, the officers were briefed on the handling of domestic and civil problems and how to gain the confidence of the public.

After 54 consecutive years as Gretna's chief law enforcement officer, Chief Miller continues to innovate and improve his department — the finest in the United States for a city its size.

Progress Continues

Meanwhile, we continue to progress in all areas of City Government.

Under a U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Block Grant, Gretna will receive over \$500,000 during the fiscal years ending in 1979 and 1980. These include rehabilitation of the City sewer system, subsurface drainage and street improvements on Huey P. Long Avenue from the Westbank Expressway to Gretna Boulevard, code enforcement for housing areas in the Jonesville and McDonoghville areas and updating our comprehensive major street plan.

Late in 1978, relocation of water lines and sewage force mains was completed from Peters Road to Lafayette Street in Phase I, and Lafayette Street to the Orleans Parish line in the second phase. The \$1 million project was funded entirely by the State Department of Transportation and Development in connection with the elevated Westbank Expressway.

The first three phases of a five phase program of blacktopping, subsurface drainage and sidewalk repair along portions of Claire Ave., Stafford Street and Huey P. Long Ave. were completed in 1978. Under phase IV in 1978, asphalt surfacing, subsurface drainage and sidewalk repairs will be provided from the end of Hero Drive south of 35th Street, to approximately 32nd Street.

For the second year, the people of Gretna are enjoying a class four fire insurance rate (improved from a class five) earned in 1977 thanks to an excellent performance rating by our two volunteer fire companies, Gould and David Crockett, which operate five fire stations with 340 volunteer firefighters, 17 full time firemen and the latest equipment.

For the second straight year, the City of Gretna was first place winner in the Louisiana Garden Club Federation's Cleanest City Award for District II (cities with 25,000 to 50,000 population). Our unique garbage collection system, now in its seventh year, was a contributing factor. We provide heavy, water proofed, 33 gallon paper bags for refuse disposal. Bags are collected twice a week

and taken to a sanitary landfill.

Gretna's historic City Hall, formerly the Parish Courthouse was completely repainted inside.

The outside painting is still underway. Plans are being formulated to renovate the square separating it from the ferry landing. The first



A playground for handicapped children was made possible by donation of special equipment by the West Bank Lions Club installed in a 40,000 square foot area of Mel Ott Park set aside by the city. It's the first public playground in the South for special children.



Everything's new in this picture—uniforms, squad car and address (200 Fifth Street). Completely reorganized in 1978, the Gretna Police Department has 46 full time police officers, one of whom is assigned to City Hall.



The annual "Awards Day" was held in Mel Ott Park instead of indoors at a formal GRID banquet. Entire families attended the casual, informal event in a picnic atmosphere.



Newest Catholic school on the West Bank is St. Cletus Elementary (K thru 4th) at 3600 Claire Avenue, built at a cost of \$212,000. It opened in August, 1978.

steps will be the transfer of the World War II fighter plane to Mel Ott Park and refurbishing of the Memorial Arch.

Meanwhile, the Mississippi River Bridge Authority's plans to build a new Gretna Ferry Terminal were delayed six months when foundation work could not begin on schedule due to the river level. However, a new 1000 passenger ferry, the "Captain Neville Levy" was put into service June 26, 1978. It will accommodate 40 cars when the terminal is completed.

Another improvement underway at City Hall is installation of a new "central" telephone system to replace a 14 year old antiquated switchboard. We also installed a computer system for payroll accounts receivable, general ledger, water billing, accounts receivable plus cash receipts and disbursements.

In February, the City increased employee take home pay by voting to pay the full cost of hospitalization and insurance protection for full time employees, despite a raise in premiums by the carrier. Then in mid-summer, employees got both a seven per cent cost of living and a longevity raise.

Adoption of a \$4,415,501 total budget for the City was facilitated by the renewal (for 10 years) of 14 mills in a December 3, 1977 election. The approval of four propositions, by an 85% margin, renewed two mills for sewer maintenance, five for fire protection, four for street lighting and three mills for operation and maintenance of swimming pools.

I know of no better way to close this annual progress report by expressing my thanks to the other elected officials who work with me to keep Gretna great and growing.

They are Chief of Police Beauregard H. Miller, Sr. Alderman and Mayor Pro Tem Louis A. LeBoeuf, Jr.; Alderman John L. Dulcich, Jr.; Alderman Gerard E. Schexnayder; Alderman Hubert F. "Bunny" Uzee; Alderman James G. "Chick" Bush; Democratic Executive Committee Chairman Edward W. Kennedy; Committeeman Luke La Bruzza and Committeewoman Mrs. Katherine Rotolo Weigel.

And, of course, a final word of appreciation to our dedicated and loyal employees for their continued cooperation in all phases of City Government. ●

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Left to right: John T. Lavarine, Jr., Councilman District 2 • Salvador J. Lentini, Chief of Police • Nicholas J. Baroni, Councilman District 4 • Larry J. Hooper, Councilman at Large • Joseph S. Yenni, Mayor • Thomas LeBlanc, Councilman District 3 • Raoul A. Galan, Jr., Councilman at Large • Richard F. Stoulig, Councilman District 1 • Kenneth W. Hipp, Councilman District 5.

KENNER

By Joseph S. Yenni, Mayor

The City of Kenner continues to grow and prosper through efficient management. During the past year, improved and increased services were offered to Kenner residents at no increase in taxes. Over 1,772 building permits were issued during the twelve months ending June 30, 1978, for new construction totalling \$77 million. Kenner's population is approximately 62,000 and we are still growing.

On January 11, 1978, the City of Kenner's fire rating was officially changed from a Class 5 to a Class 3. The reduction in the rating brought a substantial savings in fire insurance premiums to both commercial and residential owners. This reclassification was the direct results of the City improving its fire protection by installing fire alarm boxes in commercial areas at a cost of

\$103,000, by establishing a twenty-four hour dispatching service, by improving the record keeping, by acquiring a new 75 foot aerial tele-squirt fire truck costing \$149,000, and by increasing the personnel in the Fire Department. D. J. Mumphy, Fire Chief, stated that with the continued growth of Kenner, the Fire Department must also continue to grow.

Chief Salvador J. Lentini consolidated all police offices in the newly-completed police complex. The complex was built with Federal Revenue Sharing Funds at a cost of \$454,000. The Kenner Police Department established a SWAT team comprised of five policemen who received training at the F.B.I. Academy in Virginia. Also established this year was a Community Relation/Public Information Office under a Federal Grant. With Kenner growing so rapidly, this department will be of great service to all residents. Chief Lentini boasts that the Kenner Police Reserve contributed 8,833 man hours of active duty, which resulted in a substantial savings for Kenner. A computerized traffic citation and City summons reporting system was also

implemented by the Chief of Police.

J. Eugene Martin, Jr., Chief Administrative Officer, reports that a personnel study, conducted by Alexander Grant and Co., led to a three-part raise for Kenner employees in July. All non-civil service employees withdrew from Social Security on October 1, 1977, and entered a full state retirement system. Martin also reports the completion of the City Hall Expansion in January of 1978 at a cost of \$230,000, completion of the Kenner Plaza Mall and Parking for \$182,000, the acquisition of half a square behind City Hall for \$105,000, and the acquisition of five acres of land abutting the Plaza and parking area for future growth of the City Hall Complex. In addition to the accomplishments listed above, Kenner

has budgeted \$600,000 in the current budget for addition of second and third floors to our Annex Building.

Dora Mae Aucoin, Finance Director, announced the purchase of a computer which will result in substantial savings over the previous lease arrangement. With utilization of the computer, we have been able to operate this department with the same number of employees as was employed eight years ago, even though the City has doubled its population.

Director of Community Services, Roy Brondum, has witnessed the completion of a Gymnasium in Lincoln Manor Subdivision for \$400,000 with a 100% Federal Grant, the occupation of the new Senior Citizen Center which cost \$112,000, the development of tennis courts in University City and



Left to right: Royce K. Waters, Director of Public Works • Gwen Boynton, Clerk of the Council • J. Eugene Martin, Jr., Chief Administrative Officer • Hubert A. Vondenstein, City Attorney • Roy Brondum, Director of Community Services • Dora Mae Aucoin, Director of Finance • Philip Biondillo, Director of Planning • Matthew Chiro, Director of Regulatory Inspections • D. J. Mumphy, Fire Chief
Not Pictured: Frank Mamola, Maintenance Superintendent • LeRoy Keating, Finance Controller for Sewerage Commission • Jake Scardino, Sewerage Superintendent



Senior Citizens Center, 641 Compromise Street



Kenner Plaza Mall, adjacent to Kenner City Hall

Beachview Heights Subdivisions, and the construction of a multi-purpose center on Twentieth Street and Roosevelt Boulevard. Work has started on the development of three additional playgrounds — Roosevelt Middle School, Wentwood South, and the 13.5 acre site which will have track facilities.

The Sewerage Department's expansion of Plant No. 2 was completed for \$2.2 million. The City is purchasing land for a third treatment

plant, which will cost \$1.5 million. Presently underway is a \$2.0 million rehabilitation program for lines and lift stations, with 75% of the cost to be funded by the Federal Government.

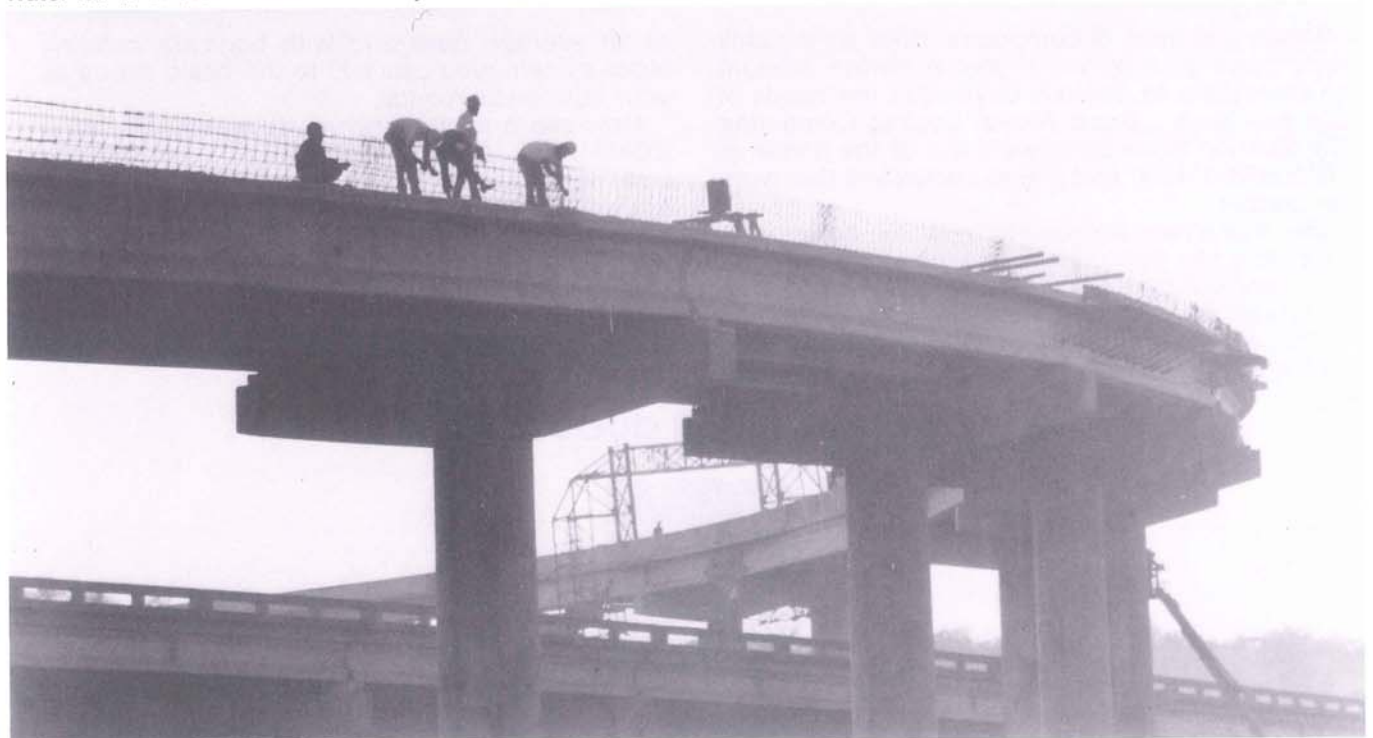
The Planning Department and the Department of Public Works are continuing to work on the implementation of the Master Street Plan, the Master Sewer Plan, the Soil Subsidence Study, and the Transportation Study, Phil Biondillo Planning Director, reports his

department has completed work on an existing Land Use Map through a Federal Manpower Grant.

Royce Waters, Director of Public Works, has a full job before him to keep the City utility services at the same rate or ahead of Kenner's growth. Kenner is to receive approximately \$510,000 through the Community Development Program to be used for home rehabilitation, sidewalks, street and drainage improvements and recreational improvements.



Water fall in Chateau Estates Country Club Golf Course



Workmen completing the I-10 access ramp to the New Orleans International Airport

The Kenner Council has hired two additional employees giving them a staff of three for research, etc. The Mayor, Chief of Police and the Council are working together with definite goals for Kenner. The Council has also established several sub-committees to work with the Administration in solving the City's problems.

New businesses were welcomed to the City of Kenner. Construction will begin within the next few months on a new 775,000 sq. ft. Regional

Shopping Center, the Dupepe family recently announced. Others include the Norton Ford Dealership, the Chateau Village Shopping Center, a new Canal Villere Supermarket, and the Sugar Mill Apartments and several banks and savings and loans.

Kenner is the first city in this area to have Cable Television, furnished through the East Bank Cable Television enterprise. Presently 5,500 homes in Kenner have Cable TV, which provides twelve stations for

viewing. In addition to the standard cable, approximately 60% of those subscribers have H.B.O. (Home Box Office), which is first-run movies uncut and uninterrupted. Cable TV has become so popular in Kenner that adjoining areas are requesting the service.

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ALSO GROW IN QUALITY. ●**

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THE JEFFERSON PARISH HISTORICAL COMMISSION

By Msgr. Henry C. Bezou

*Strength
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The preliminaries leading to the Sesquicentennial Year of Jefferson Parish, which climaxed on Mardi Gras Day, February 11, 1975, stimulated considerable interest in the origins and development of the area.

There were at least two basic reasons why Jeffersonians, up to four or five years ago, were not as conscious of their local heritage as one might expect.

The first was that the mass of historical literature on the region, both at home and abroad, concentrated on the City of New Orleans and, generally, overlooked its suburbs and environs. With the exception of articles in the *Jefferson Parish Review* and occasional features or supplements in the weekly press, such as the *Jefferson Parish Times* and *Times Advertiser*, there was relatively little published about the past of the parish.

A second reason for neglect of parish history was that a high proportion of residents do not have very deep roots in Jefferson soil. The East Bank is still considered a bedroom suburb for transplanted Orleanians. The West Bank inhabitants, who could boast of ancestors that had helped build nineteenth century communities like McDonoghville, Gretna and Harvey, as well as other settlements in the

Barataria region all the way to Grand Isle, had a lifestyle which seemed to provide more material for folklore than for solid history. Indeed, too often, articles on Jefferson Parish left an impression that its history began with Jean Lafitte and his Baratarians buccaneers.

Actually, what is now Jefferson, on both sides of the Mississippi River, was conceded, settled and exploited contemporaneously with the founding of New Orleans, nearly a full century before Lafitte.

Members of the Jefferson Parish Sesquicentennial Commission, once their work was completed in 1975, felt that some of its endeavors helped the population to become more conscious of the historicity of their habitats. One commission project was a documentary film titled "Jefferson: Parish of Heritage and Horizons." The film in large measure was the result of diligent research by Miss Betsy Swanson whose spectacularly illustrated and brilliantly written *Historic Jefferson Parish From Shore to Shore* appeared in February, 1975.

Miss Swanson, despite her monumental work, would be the first to admit that much remains to be done. In her preface, she notes: "Because little has been published on the history of Jeffer-

son Parish, the compilation of primary research material for a volume of this nature was a difficult task."

It was the Council-appointed Environmental Development Advisory Board which was the prime initiator of Miss Swanson's volume. The Sesquicentennial Commission was also council-appointed. The Historical Commission was in the main a brainchild of Councilman Larry Heaslip. The parish governing body adopted Ordinance # 11785 on September 12, 1974. It stated in part:

WHEREAS, the Parish of Jefferson has numerous historical and architectural sites which should be preserved; and . . . these needs have become evident and it is important that Jefferson Parish, acting through the . . . Parish Council, appoint a Historical Commission to work in the area . . . and have the authority to allow membership . . . other than those appointed by the Jefferson Parish Council in order to allow all interested persons to become involved in this important work . . .

The seven charter members of the Historical Commission were Miss Gertrude M. Beauford, Msgr. Henry C.



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Bezou, Mrs. Loretta P. Brehm, Mrs. Esther L. Eble, Mrs. Hilda Knoff, Chris Lochbaum and Joseph M. Miller. They considered the establishment of a Historical Society as their prime target.

Articles of Incorporation for the Jefferson Historical Society of Louisiana were signed at Derbigny Plantation on August 15, 1977. In addition to the Commission members, signatories included: Robert DeViney, Jr., Paul D. Connick, Sr., Miss Susan M. Chehardy, Mrs. Jeanette Lynch, Malcolm P. Ehrhardt III, and Stewart Collenberg, owner of Derbigny Plantation. Everette F. Gauthreaux, a Gretna attorney, was notary for the occasion, having served as legal counsel for the Commission from its outset.

On October 6, 1977, Paul Hardy, Secretary of State of Louisiana, recorded the Jefferson Historical Society of Louisiana, domiciled at Metairie, as beginning its corporate existence on that date.

During the remainder of the year, an intensive mailing campaign for membership in the society was launched.

Apparently, the purposes of the Society appealed to Jeffersonians and others outside the civil parish; within weeks, some 900 persons joined. Preliminary meetings, held on January 9 and February 11, 1978, attracted overflow crowds in the meeting rooms of the East Bank Office Building, 3330 N. Causeway Boulevard, Metairie.

By Spring, 1978, the first president of the Society, Dr. Charles Nolan, had been elected. Along with the Historical Commission members.

With the leadership provided by Commission members and Society officials, Jefferson Parish should be enriched with well-laid plans, projects and programs. After all, it was Thomas Jefferson himself who once noted: "history by apprising (the people) of the past will enable them to judge the future; it will avail them of the experience of other times; it will qualify them as judges of the actions and designs of men."

Editor's Note: A native of New Orleans, Msgr. Bezou was ordained to the priesthood in 1938. He has served in various ministries, including archdiocesan superintendent of schools and pastor of St. Francis Xavier Church. He is the author of Metairie: a Tongue of Land to Pasture, St. Patrick's of New Orleans, 1833-1958 and numerous articles relating to religion and history. ●



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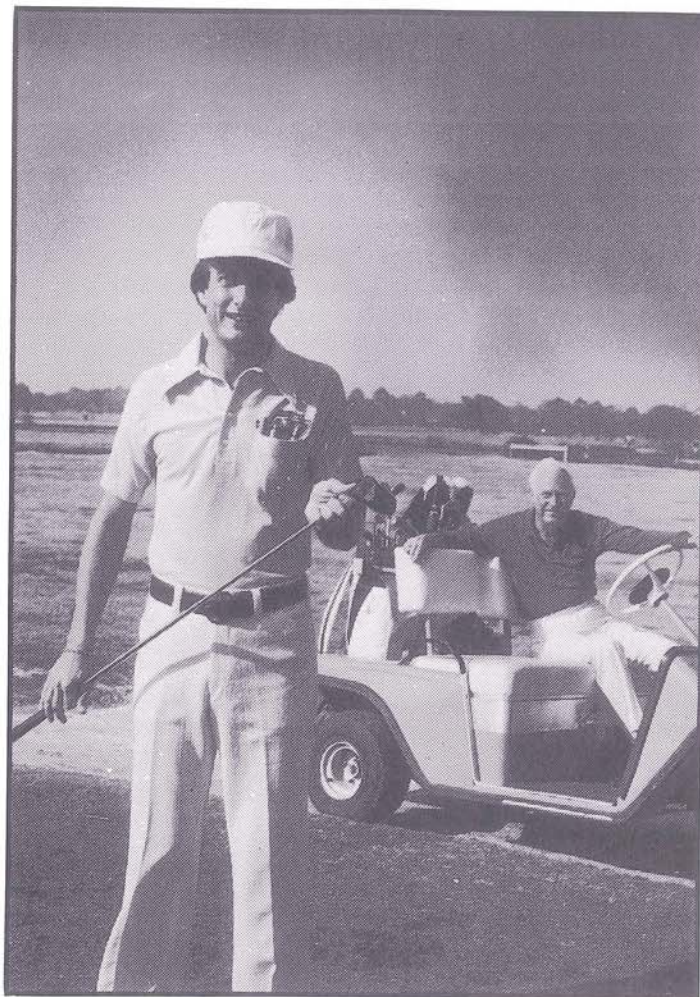
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Anti-Litter Campaign Brings Honors to Jefferson

Jefferson Parish was honored by the National Association of Counties (NACo) for its East Bank Anti-Litter Campaign and for the creation of the Jefferson Parish Historical Commission and Society.

The Parish was named a 1978 achievement award winner by NACo President William O. Beach. The award was made at the national NACo convention in Atlanta, Georgia, on July 10.



The East Bank Anti-Litter Campaign was accomplished through the cooperation of parish agencies, private business and industry and citizen groups.

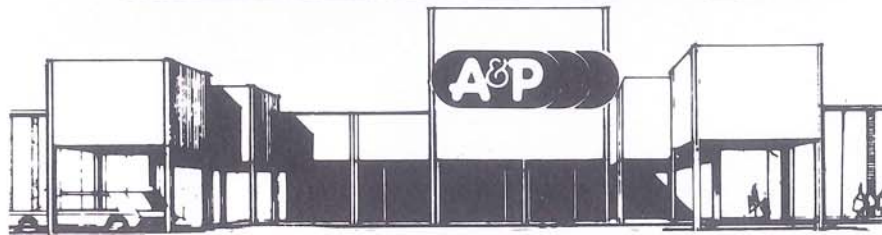
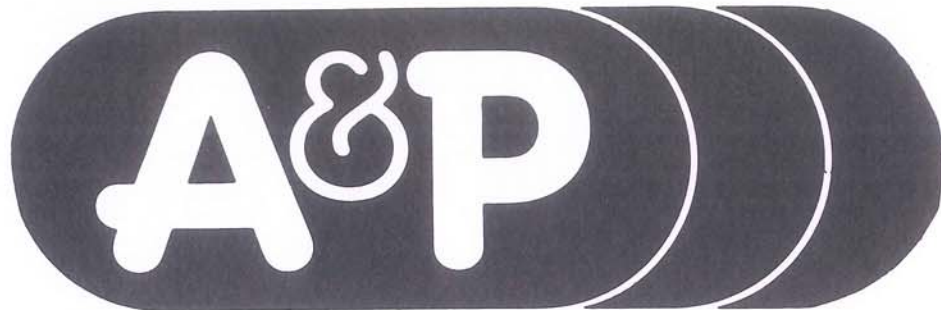
The approach was that education would serve better than another anti-litter law, and it was felt that if the dollar value of recycleable trash was suitably demonstrated, the effect would be great.

Jefferson Youth Cleanup Week was declared for Nov. 5-12 with the theme being "Grow Up-Clean Up."

On Nov. 5, Boy Scouts picked up litter along Veterans Boulevard from the 17th Street Canal at the Jefferson Orleans line to Williams Boulevard in Kenner, a distance of seven miles. The trash was put on public display at the intersection of Veterans and Causeway Boulevards.

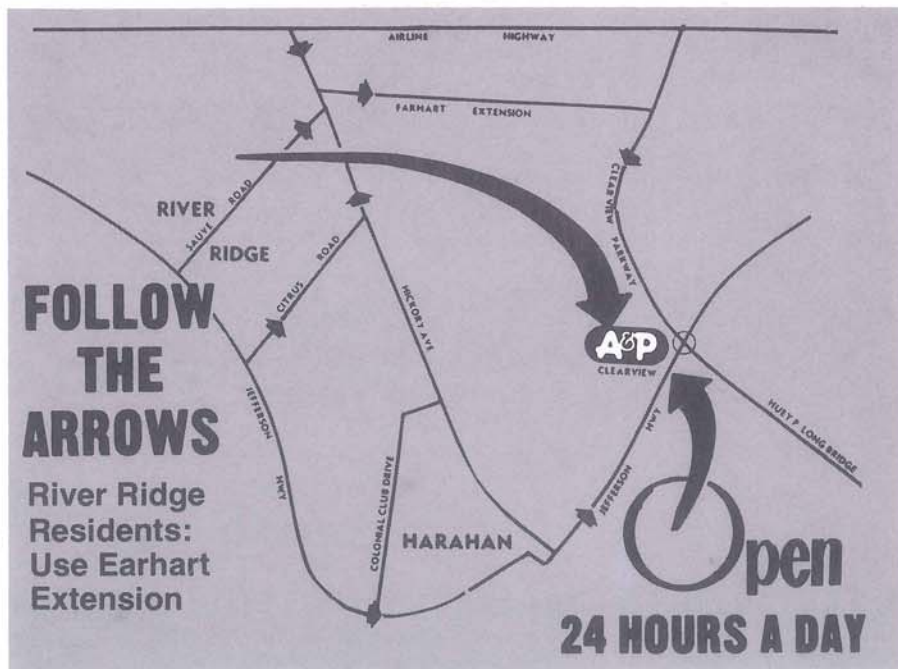
On Nov. 12, named Recycleable Trash Day, the youth of the parish brought recycleable trash to the Jefferson Parish East Bank Office Building parking lot where Scouts assisted in collection and sorting into trucks.

During the week-long campaign, 9,900 pounds of paper, 2,180 pounds of glass, and 200 pounds of aluminum cans were collected and turned over to the proper companies for recycling.●



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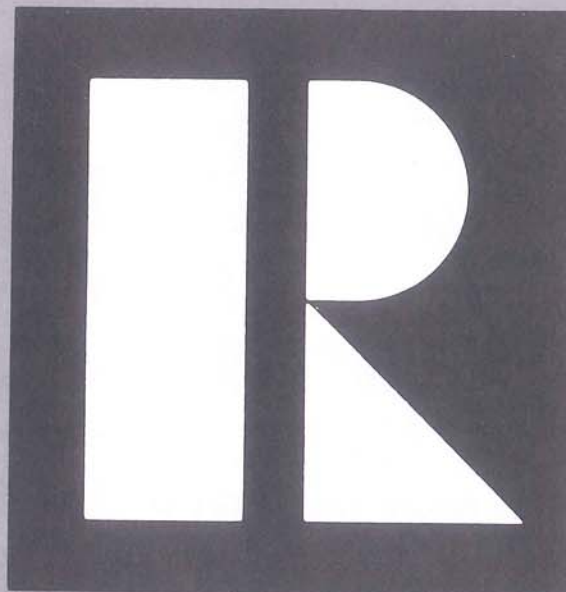
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THIS IS JEFFERSON PARISH

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.

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 such—internal changes also were being made.

As these developments continue, it becomes more and more exciting to live in Jefferson, with its attractive suburbs, lively entertainment centers, fine restaurants and successful busines-

ses and industries. We ask that you contribute your opinions and support local government, becoming an active part of this dynamic community. It is only through your cooperation that the Parish can achieve its full potential.

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

The Editors

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.

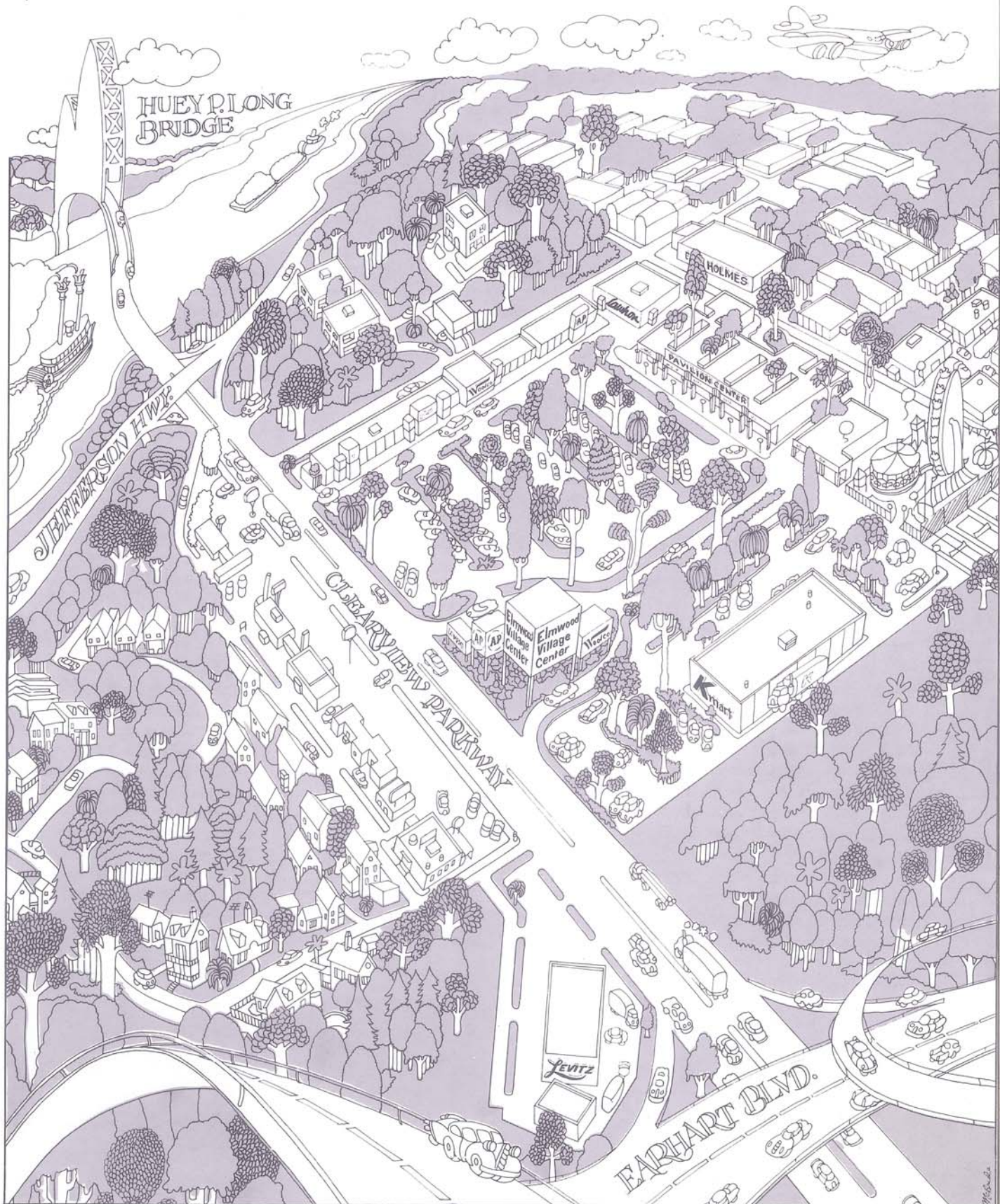
In Jefferson Parish, the climate generally is mild and semi-tropical with the surrounding bodies of water usually preventing extremes of temperature. The sun shines most of the time and the average monthly temperature goes from 55.1° in

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.

At Elmwood, shopping are what they ought



and working to be. A pleasure.

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



Elmwood Commercial Villages

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

The Pavilion Center

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

Elmwood Corporate Village

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

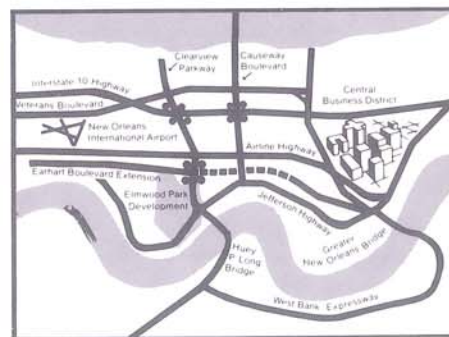
The office park, with three buildings containing 220,000 square feet, has been in existence for two years. Five new buildings, (three five-story structures and two three-story buildings) are being added to the "village." The new structures will be completed in a year and will increase the office space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



working in or are committed to Elmwood Corporate Village.

Elmwood. Population 20,000.

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



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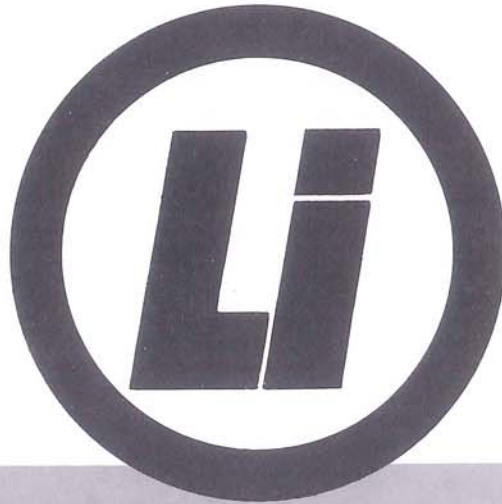
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These ancient people, who were largely decimated or annihilated in this area soon after the arrival of European settlers, were hunters, fishermen, and farmers. They lived in thatched conical huts on the natural levees of the river and bayous, and erected 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”





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in the middle, as if for the bayou folk he served as a link between the other two heros 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



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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 descendents of the French and Spanish colonials also enthusiastically embraced the new democracy, which soon tested their patriotism on the field of battle at Chalmette.

There is no historic evidence to connect John Paul Jones, an American naval officer and Revolutionary hero, with Louisiana. However, his exploits against British men-of-war on the high seas on behalf of American independence won admiration in France and he died in that country. Charges by the English that Jones was a pirate

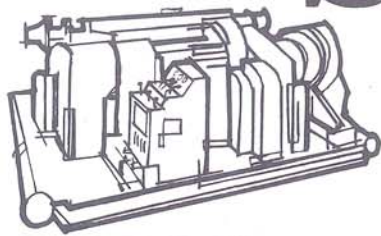
were galling to him, and the bayou residents of Barataria who venerated Jean Lafitte—the local privateer whom authorities also labeled as a pirate—perhaps so sympathized with American hero John Paul Jones that they designated a final resting place for him on their bayou. For while Jones played an important role in the War of Independence, Lafitte served his adopted land with equal patriotism in America's second war with Great Britain, and the Baratarians followed him into battle.

In 1805, Jean Lafitte came to Louisiana from Haiti and organized the privateers of Barataria, making his headquarters on the western tip of 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.

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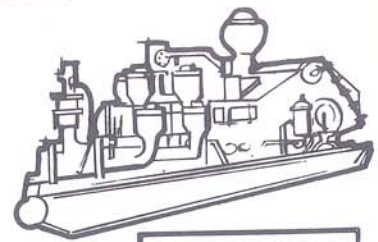
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Lafitte, who had been offered 30,000 British pounds sterling and a commission in the British navy to collaborate with the invaders, but who had been doing battle with them off the Louisiana coast and meanwhile sending messages to Governor Claiborne 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."

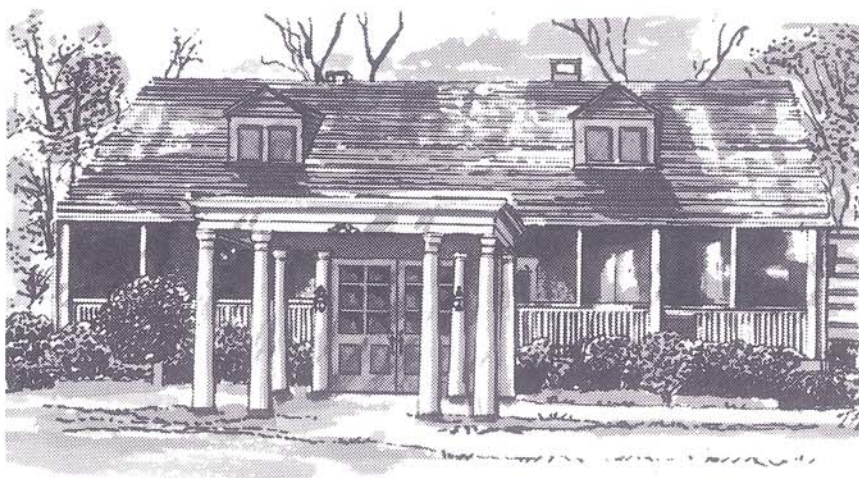
It can be speculated that without the significant aid lent by Lafitte to the American forces at Chalmette, the battle would have been won by the British and the United States would have lost the entire Louisiana Territory. Although a peace treaty had been signed at Ghent in Belgium on the

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.

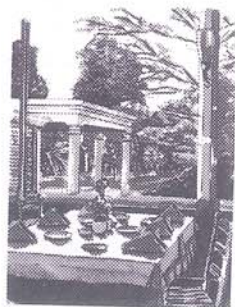
Several years after the Battle of New Orleans, Jean Lafitte sailed out of the Gulf of Mexico and into legend, an appropriate element of which, perhaps, is his "grave" on Bayou Barataria between his two "compatriots."

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

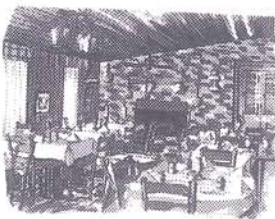
Welcome to The Tchoupitoulas Plantation!



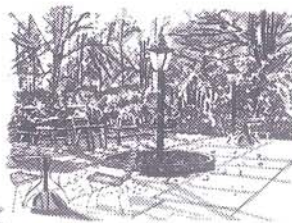
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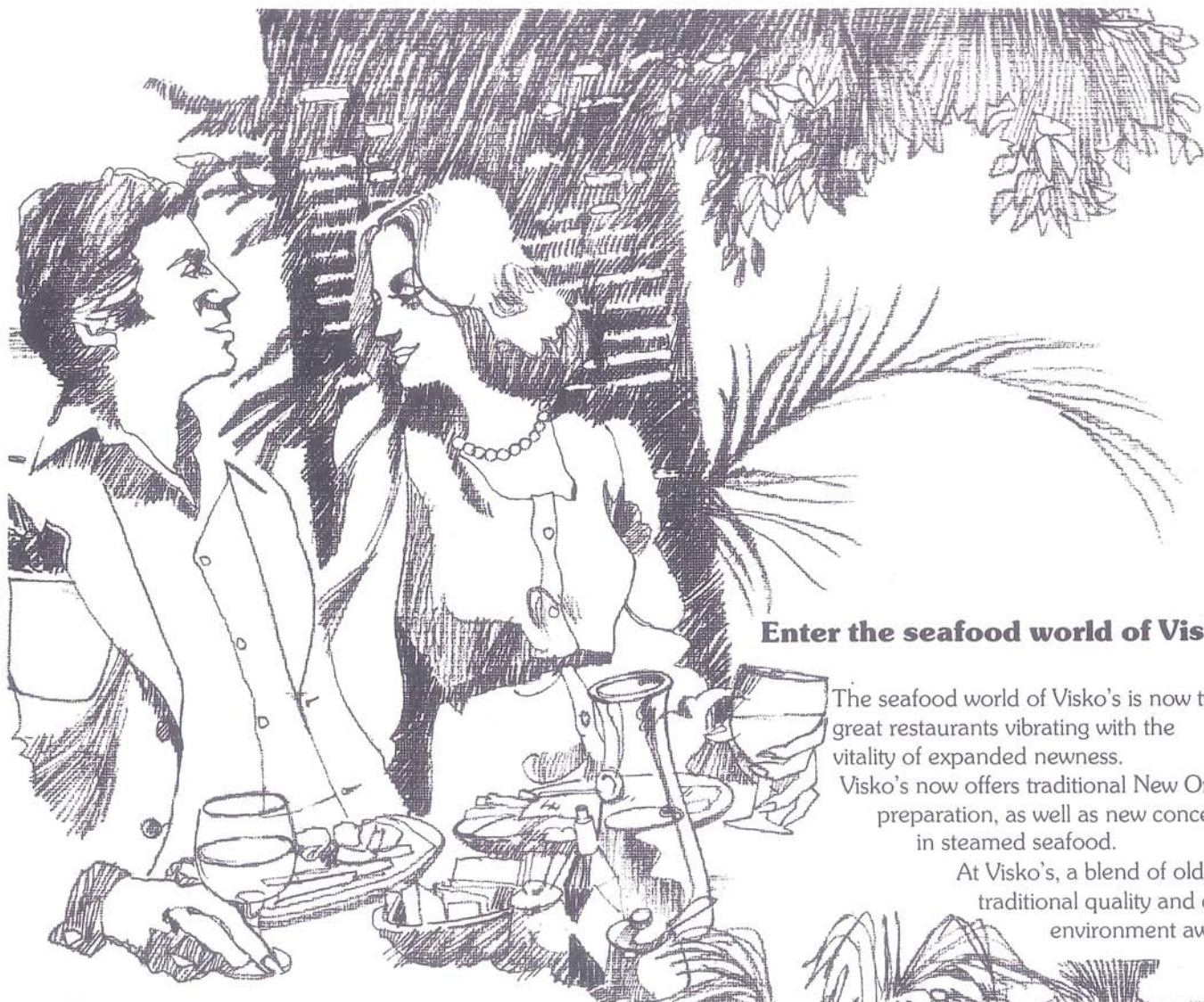


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concessions, or land grants, were designated a hundred years earlier and the land first cleared for the cultivation of indigo, rice, corn, tobacco, and beans. By the time the parish was established, sugar cane had replaced indigo as the primary crop, 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 Felicite 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

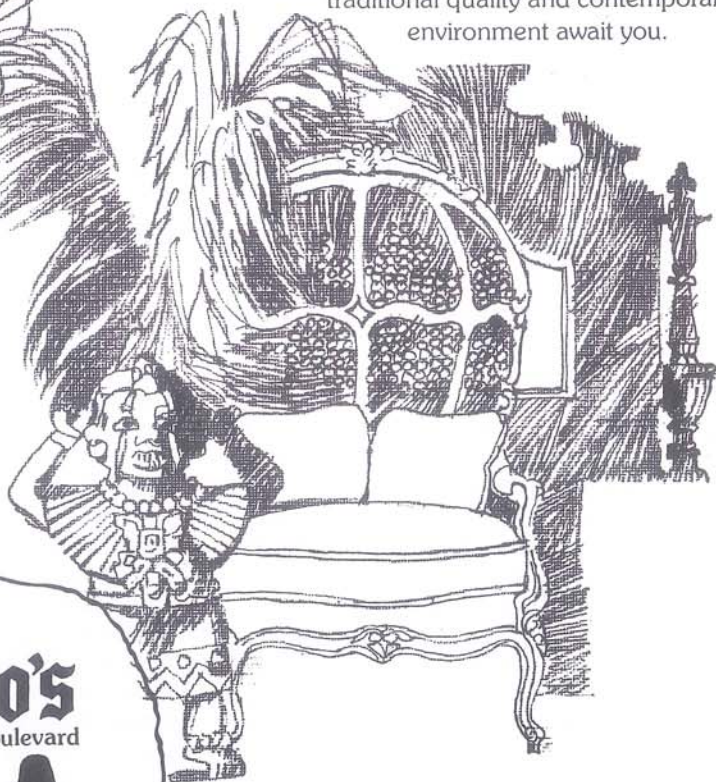


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absorbed by New Orleans four years later when the boundary line between the parishes was placed at its present location, at Monticello Street and the Seventeenth Street Canal.

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 many years one of the finest residential sections in the Greater New Orleans area. Its homes, businesses, subdivisions, shopping centers and highways make an uninterrupted transition from one to the other. It is a community for the young (Public Affairs Research Council of Louisiana, Inc., gives the median age as 26.5 years) and for the young in heart. It is a friendly place in which to live, for there is blended the gracious hospitality of the South with the warm friendliness of the West.

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

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

At the time the parish was created meetings of the police jury were required to be held semi-annually in accordance with existing laws.

Unfortunately, there are no records of actual elections and meetings of police jury members between 1825 and 1834. If records were kept they may have been destroyed, since it was not until 1834 that the jury was required by law to keep records. It appears that Jean Murville Harang was the first Judge-President of the police jury and meetings were probably held in his home in Faubourg Livaudais (later part of the City of Lafayette). However, the minutes of the police jury, June 11, 1860, state that the Jefferson Parish police jury was organized by an act of the state legislature on January 30, 1834 (pp. 15-20), which provided

that the jury should be composed of "not less than eight nor more than 12 members", and that the parish should be re-districted with the number decided upon.

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

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

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

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

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

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

EARLY GOVERNMENT

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

At the second session of the Territorial Legislature this system was abandoned,

and 19 civil parishes were formed in 1807. The eastern part of the County of Orleans was set aside as the parishes of Plaquemines and St. Bernard.

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

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

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

Present Government

By Barbara B. Lacour

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

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

In September, 1977 a consulting firm was retained by Jefferson to con-

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

As of this writing steps were being taken to implement these changes; however, all office descriptions which follow refer only to departmental functions and responsibilities as they existed through June 20, 1978. Organizational changes made subsequent to that date will be covered in the 1980 edition of the *Jefferson Parish Review*.

Governing Authority

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

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

Parish President

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

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

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

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

He may designate a qualified administrative employee of the Parish to assume his duties and authority

during periods of his temporary absence or disability.

Term of Office: Four years.

The Parish Council

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

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

The Council may:

Levy and collect taxes, special assessments, service charges, license charges, fees and other revenues, and borrow money in such manner and subject to such limitations as provided by law.

Make appropriations for all parish purposes.

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

Make investigations of Parish affairs by inquiring into the conduct of any department, office, etc., including the investigation of accounts, records, etc., 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, Wednesdays at 10 a.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 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.

Research and Budget Analysis

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

This office examines the budget submitted to the Council, investigating items contained therein, and making recommendations. It is empowered to conduct research and investigations into administrative or executive departments or Parish affairs 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 office descriptions refer to specific departmental functions and responsibilities as they existed through June 20, 1978. Any changes in the duties and/or structure of departments made after that date will be covered in the next issue of the *Review*.

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 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, resulting in lower expenditures for temporary control measures.

In 1977, 2,067 positive breeding sites were inspected, with 85% being confirmed as man-made. Over 3,486 man hours were devoted to permanent control between January and May, 1978, while temporary controls inspections, larviciding, adulticiding and herbiciding) accounted for 7,502 hours during the same period. 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.

An active public education and information officer rounds out the comprehensive control program, making presentations to numerous schools and other groups on mosquito prevention. In the past year, the department conducted 217 speaking engagements, as well as 312 slide or movie presentations, reaching 10,900 Jefferson residents. Over 80,000 pieces of literature supplemented the Mosquito Control education program.

In addition to its regular duties, Mosquito Control helped to establish a new surplus property facility which was erected in Metairie to handle and store such property until public auction.

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 to acquire maximum federal financial participation in programs developed nationally for local governments. It works through federal administrative agencies in Dallas and Washington along with congressional offices in varied areas of federal funding coordination and planning activities. This department also maintains the "Man-in-Washington" service which represents the parish's interest in the nation's capital. The department's operation provides extensive sources of federal program information

and services including the development of grant and aid programs and writing of grant proposals (most proposals are developed in conjunction with other parish agencies such as the Water Department, Drainage, etc.) and the following of all federal legislation and federal administrative changes which may affect the parish. The director of the Federal Liaison Department is appointed by the Parish President.

Personnel

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

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

The principal functions of the Personnel Department are recruitment, examination, and certification of employment eligibles; classification of positions; pay planning and administration and recommendation and administration of personnel rules. A special division dealing with the analysis of jobs and the classification of positions was initiated within the department to review and update the classification of existing jobs and to improve pay equity, recruitment and examination validity. The division's long-range objectives are to maintain current classifications and pay plans, to increase public accountability for employee quality and job-related pay, and to assist management in the improvement of personnel management. The Department is headed by the Personnel Director who is appointed by and responsible to the Personnel Board. The Department is

headquartered in the Parish Office Building in Gretna, with a branch application office in Metairie.

Training and Employee Development

The Department of Training and Employee Development was established in the Fall of 1976 and is responsible for the growth of the most valuable resource of Jefferson Parish government, its employees. Its principal functions include conducting in-house training courses, workshops, conferences and seminars, as well as providing new employees orientation programs and pre-retirement seminars.

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

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

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

Recreation

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

The Recreation Division operates community centers scattered throughout the parish, each offering a variety of programs for Jefferson residents. Other facilities include playgrounds, picnic shelters, tennis courts, running tracks, and meeting rooms on both the East and West Banks.

A construction program on the West Bank will include new community centers for Kennedy Glendella, Avondale, Harvey, Nicholson and Belle Terre, as well as major improvements at Oakdale and Live Oak playgrounds. Plans also have been developed for various facilities at Kennedy Glendella, PARD, Marrero Action and Bridge City playgrounds, and numerous improvements and renovations have been initiated for East and West Jefferson recreational areas.

The Library Division operates eleven libraries and two bookmobiles, with a new library presently being planned for the Parish. In 1977, circulation was 831,476; filmviewing audience 2,805,450; registered borrowers, 106,328; microfilm collection, 5,225 reels; motion picture collection, 2,945 titles and 3,509 prints; and magazine collection, 257 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. A Fire Prevention and Arson section was established to investigate questionable fires, and three pumpers and a ladder tower were added to the division's facilities. An overall training program was continued for personnel, and the Parish's fire rating was changed from 5 to 3, resulting in a savings of approximately 25% on fire insurance rates and almost 11% on the average overall homeowner's policy.

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

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— **Education/Vo-Tech**

Education . . . is often overlooked as being an important variable in attracting new business. No more. Not only important for the welfare of our

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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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, which is the most productive in the world, providing Louisiana and the entire United States with the finest quality of seafood.

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

The Parish also enjoys and benefits from industrial, commercial and residential interests. Through the efforts of the Environmental and 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.

2. **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 personnel, fire-fighters and citizen volunteers in first aid, radiological monitoring and the handling of explosive materials.

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.

The Civil Defense Department operates five light-duty 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.

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.

Drainage and Sewerage

The Drainage and Sewerage 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 help 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 also builds and operates sewerage treatment facilities and maintains sewerage lines in both new and existing subdivisions.

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

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 water purification plants on both the East and West banks, 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

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

for care, and investigates complaints regarding cruelty to animals.

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

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

The Shelter is open from 7 a.m. to 11 p.m. seven days a week (including holidays) to accept any unwanted animal. It maintains the same hours for pickup service, although nights and weekends are reserved for emergencies. The hours for adoptions and redemptions are from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Mondays through Saturdays (excluding holidays).

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 provide light, water, police protection and other services for its facilities as it may deem advisable; to construct or acquire, maintain and operate basins, locks, canals, warehouses and elevators; to charge for the use of all facilities administered by it and for all services

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

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

TOURISM

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

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

Boards

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

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

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

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

PARISH FINANCING

The 1978 operating budget shows proposed expenditures of \$62,974,227 to provide governmental services to the people of the Parish. Where does the money come from?

1978 Proposed Operating Budget

Sources of Revenue

Ad Valorem (Property) Taxes	\$12,380,654
Water Sales	6,853,000
Sales Tax	16,448,409
Service Charges	4,440,242
Gasoline Tax	2,012,000
Licenses	2,118,210
Permits & Inspections	1,032,750
Severance Taxes	602,020
Sundry	4,152,981
State Revenue Sharing	2,908,901
	<hr/>
	\$52,931,167
Federal Revenue Sharing	7,523,024
TOTAL	<hr/>
	\$60,454,191

Assessor

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

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

Collector of Taxes

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

Louisiana Tax Commission

Three members, appointed by the Governor, with the approval of the

Senate; 6-year terms. Function as prescribed by Louisiana State Constitution.

To appraise property for state purposes.

To act as a Board of Appeal from local assessment.

To supervise local assessors.

Board of Review

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

The New Constitution

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

Millage

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

Homestead Exemption

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

JUDICIAL SYSTEM

24th Judicial District Court of Louisiana

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

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

The 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 adoptions. The Rivarde Home, a juvenile detention facility, is under their jurisdiction.

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- POULAN
- HOMELITE
- MILWAUKEE
- BOSCH

- BRIGGS-STRATTON

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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 \$2,000. All traffic violations and misdemeanors in which the penalty is less than six months in jail and the fine is not in excess of \$500 are heard in these courts. They also hear suits for leased premises.

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

Term of Office: Six years.

**Justices of the Peace
and Constables**

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

The Justices of the Peace function as a small claims court with jurisdiction up to \$500. They hear civil matters, including suits for leased premises. In criminal cases they serve only as committing magistrates; they may bail or discharge in non-capital offenses and may require a bond to keep the peace. They perform marriages upon presentation of proper documents.

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

Term of Office: Four years.

Mayor's Courts

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

District Attorney

He is an elected official who is responsible for criminal prosecution

whenever a state offense is charged within Jefferson

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

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

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

The Consumer Protection and Clerk of Court

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

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

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

The Clerk of Court's office also furnishes minute clerks to the 19 judges serving the 24th Judicial District Court and the First and Second Parish Courts. In addition, absentee voting is handled entirely by the Clerk of Court's office.

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

Term of Office: Four years.

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

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

A Pre-Trial Diversion program offers rehabilitative counseling for non-violent first offenders between the ages of 17 and 25. Other services include a counselor for victims of rape, sex crimes and child abuse as well as a Victim/Witness Bureau which keeps those individuals advised of the status of the particular case with which they are involved.

Term of Office: Six years

Sheriff

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

With the help of various grants, the Sheriff's Office provides extensive training programs for its officers, as well as a Juvenile Diversion Program, through which youthful offenders are counseled before they become involved in the criminal justice system. The Metropolitan Narcotics Intelligence Center also operates from the Jefferson Parish Sheriff's Office, combining Jefferson's efforts with those of the New Orleans Police Department, the Louisiana State Police and the Drug Enforcement Administration.

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

A millage dedicated to a 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.

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



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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 1977-78 approximately 72,000 children were enrolled in Jefferson Parish public schools. As of April, 1977 the system employed a total of 6,000 of which 3,400 were professional personnel including principals and teachers, 100 administrative and supervisory and 2,500 non-professional (secretarial, clerical, plant operation, school lunch, bus drivers, etc.)

There are 82 schools in the parish: 7 kindergarten centers, 44 elementary schools, 7 middle schools, 7 junior high schools, 10 high schools (including John Martyn Vocational School), and 7 schools for exceptional children. A number of new schools opened during the 1976-77 and 1977-78 school years, including additions to the Bonabel and Ehret high schools, J. D. Meisler Junior High, additions to the Ellender School on the West Bank which has been converted to a middle school, and 3 elementary schools—Schneckenberger, Ella Pittman and Woodland West. A number of other schools have been changed to a different grade organization due to the gradual return to the 7-3-3 system of grade organization in Jefferson Parish. Conversion of two existing schools to Career Centers also is planned. Through a yearly capital budget of \$800,000 for air conditioning, all schools in the parish will be air conditioned. Middle and high school air conditioning has been handled through the present capital improvement program as part of the \$37 million bond issue approved by voters in November, 1973.

Transportation in the 1977-78 year was provided for approximately 55,000 children in public schools and 16,000 attending private and parochial schools in Jefferson Parish. The parish operates approximately 500 buses, cars, vans and station wagons, making the Jefferson Parish School System the second largest transportation system in the State.

School Board

Following re-districting in 1974 the Jefferson Parish School Board is now an eight member governing body

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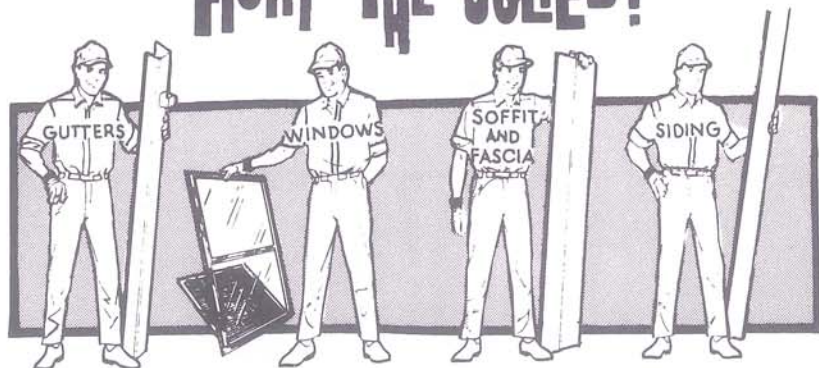
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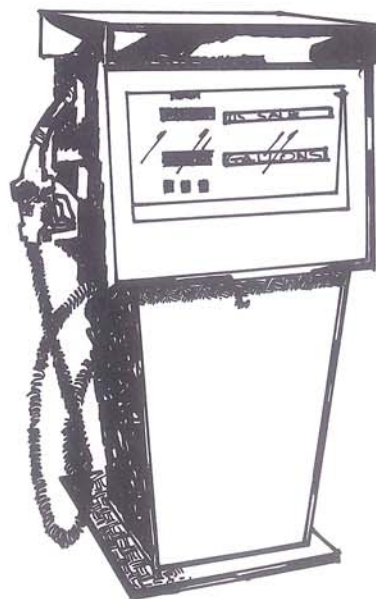
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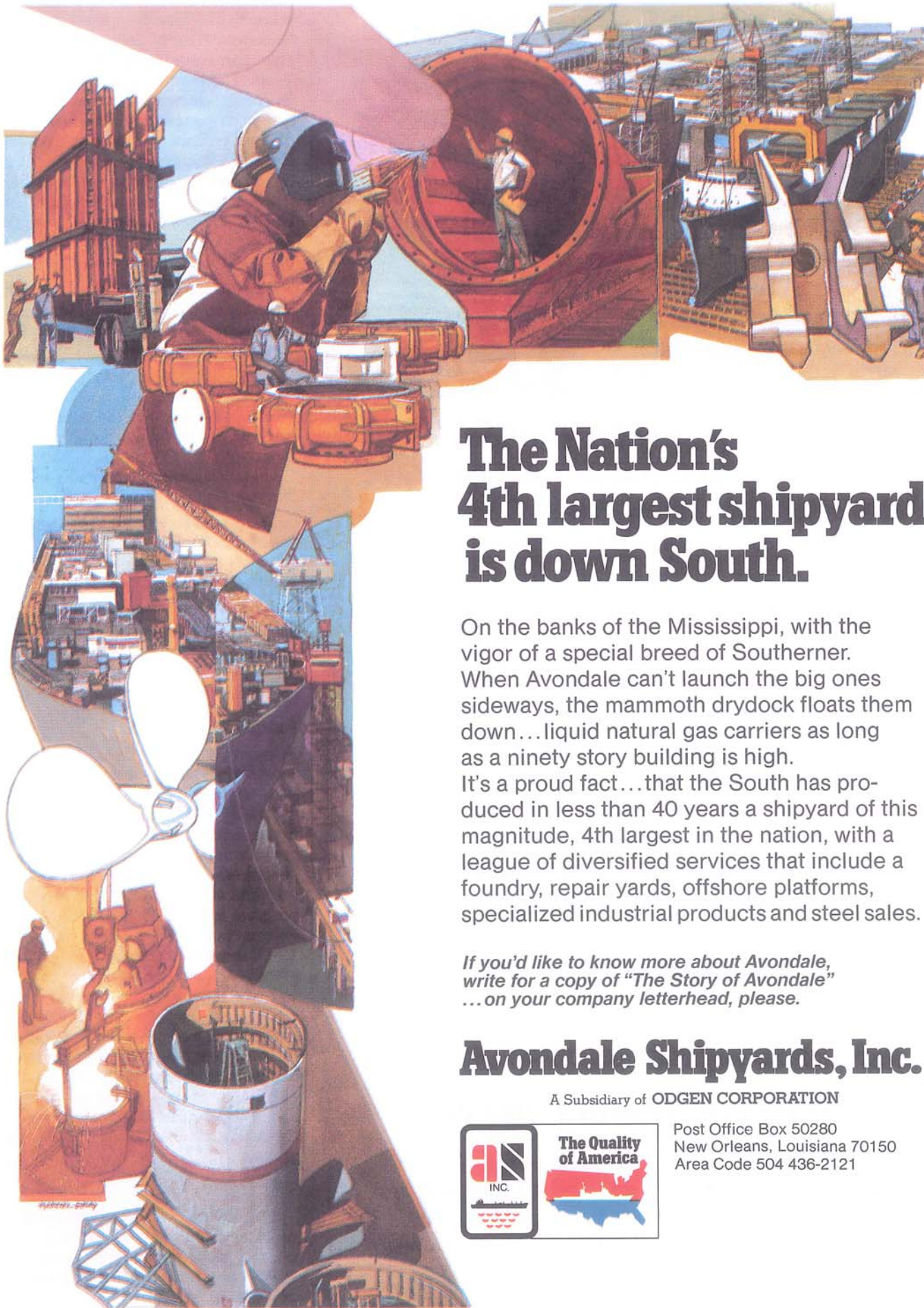
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which oversees the operation, maintenance and construction of public schools. The Board appoints the Superintendent of Schools as their chief administrator for a term of four years. The members of the School Board are elected in general elections, 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 1977-78 was \$81,028,549.96. 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 1978-79 school year include continuation of the kindergarten program, continued expansion of the special education program as necessary and continuation of the new program for gifted and talented children in the parish. Within the next 12-18 months virtually all construction projects undertaken as part of the \$37 million bond issue of November, 1973 will be completed, providing a number of new schools for the parish and an end to platooning. 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.

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, Family Planning Medical and Nursing 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).

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

East Jefferson maintains a heliport to transport injured persons from outlying areas, and is the only hospital in the area with a post-coronary and post-intensive care unit. The coronary care and intensive care units are equipped with the latest monitoring equipment. The hospital's comprehensive monitoring system is unique in the Southern region. An educational wing includes meeting rooms, as well as a multi-purpose auditorium for classes and other educational purposes.

Much of East Jefferson's expansion program was devoted to out-patient treatment units, including a gymnasium for physical therapy. The hospital also maintains a special four-bed burn care area, and has expanded its parking capacity.

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

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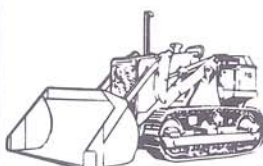
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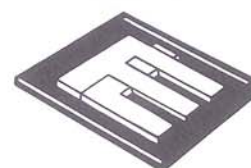
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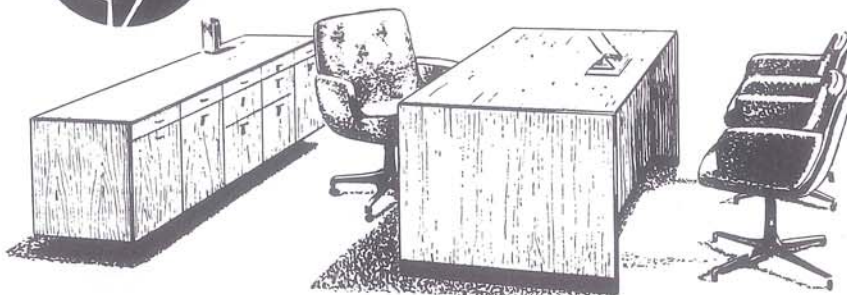
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West Jefferson General Hospital in Marrero opened in 1960. It is managed by a nine-man board appointed by the Council and has a present bed capacity of 450. This full-service hospital treated over 70,000 people in 1977 and educated many others in early detection and prevention of health threats through a series of free public health forums. The hospital purchased a Computerized Axial Tomographic Head Scanner (CAT Scan) and implemented a new data management system in the laboratory. In 1977, West Jefferson's Junior Volunteers and Women's Auxiliary contributed over 25,000 working hours.

Officials at West Jefferson are preparing for a \$35.5 million expansion program which will provide for radiation therapy and burn care. The bulk of the expansion funds will be devoted to enlarging existing hospital services available in the laboratory, radiology, cardiology and other hospital services available in the laboratory, radiology, cardiology and other hospital departments.

West Jefferson General Hospital is located at 4500 Eleventh Street in Marrero. The hospital phone number is 347-5511.

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, which includes the Medically Needy Program; Social Service Programs for families and children both in their own homes and in Foster Care; individual and family grants in the Disaster Relief Program; and financial assistance. Financial Assistance programs include Aid to Dependent Children, General Assistance, Indochinese, Cuban Refugee and American Repatriation. Complaints of child abuse and neglect are also received for further investigation. Staff are on 24-hour call, including weekends and holidays to handle complaints of child abuse and neglect.

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 in the Courthouse in Gretna and one at 536 Deckbar Avenue in East Jefferson.

STATE LEGISLATIVE REPRESENTATION

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

Senate

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

House of Representatives

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

REGISTRATION AND ELECTIONS

In its fiscal session of May, 1971 the Louisiana Legislature became the 29th State to ratify the 26th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution. The amendment gave the right to vote in all elections to persons 18 years and

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older. The 38th and last State necessary for ratification was obtained from the Ohio Legislature in a night session in July, 1971 and the amendment was put into effect.

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

Voter Qualifications and Registration

You can register and vote in Louisiana if you are a U. S. citizen 18 years old or older and state you are a resident of this State and Parish. Eligible voters can register by applying in person to the Registrar of Voters with proof of identification.

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

At the time of registration political party affiliation can be declared. 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 3300 Metairie Road (second floor) or on the West Bank at the New Gretna Courthouse, Derbigny Street and the River, Gretna.

Persons registering less than 30 days before a scheduled election will not be allowed to vote in that election. Registration closes 30 days before an election. Hours for registration are 8:30 a.m. to 8 p.m., 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 Commissioner-in-charge for each precinct, selecting the names submitted by the various political parties participating in the election.

Elections

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

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

Special Elections—Called to fill vacancies or to impose property millage or bonds in a given political

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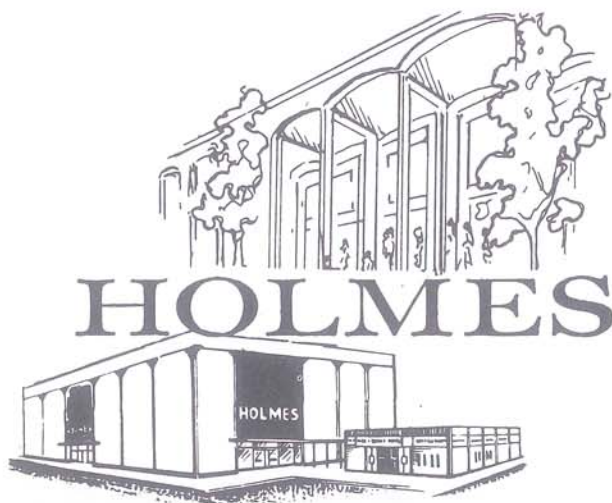
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district. If a non-partisan election, i.e., school bonds, the government agency calling the election, i.e., School Board, conducts the election. Any registered voter may vote in millage or bond elections.

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

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

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

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THE MUNICIPALITIES OF JEFFERSON PARISH:

Researched by Betsy Swanson

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

Gretna:

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

The old neighborhoods of Gretna retain historic charm; the streets nearest the river are lined with local house types of another era: Creole cottages and shotgun cottages with

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

vated the brothers to divide their land into streets and lots.

William Butler Kenner died of yellow fever in 1853. The following year his brother, Minor, hired a surveyor to prepare the subdivision and the plan was completed in 1855. Kennerville remained a small, agricultural village until well into the twentieth century. Because of the convenient railroad sidings, Kenner was prominent in the cultivation, processing, packing, and shipping of vegetables. European immigrants settled in Kenner after the Civil War. Since many of Kenner's older residents are of Italian descent, the Italian feast of St. Rosalie, usually celebrated on the first Sunday in September, is still a traditional event. On that day hundreds of members of St. Rosalie's Society may be seen marching through the streets carrying banners and statues of their patron saint.

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

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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 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 within the city limits, and only a limited number of commercial sites; but just East of the city, on a former WWII Army Camp is located one of the largest industrial centers in the Parish.

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

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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, 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:

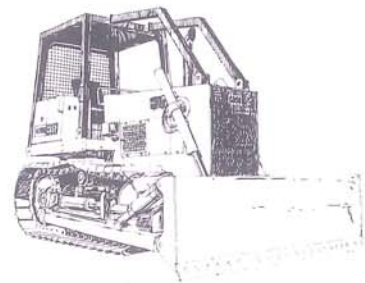
Named in honor of Jean Lafitte, the privateer, smuggler and hero of the Battle of New Orleans who haunted the surrounding bayous, the community of Lafitte is the scene of annual pirogue races and serves as home port for a thriving fleet of fishing vessels. The blessing of the shrimp fleet is an annual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

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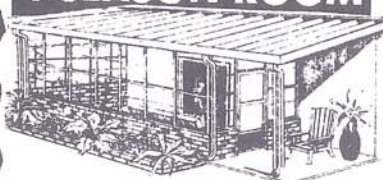
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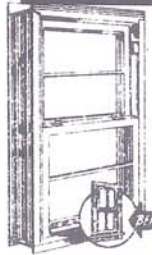
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bayou communities contact with civilization, and brought the news, mail and supplies for the small general stores on the bayou. Stores such as Fisher's served many purposes. They were trading posts where hunters, fishermen, trappers and moss gatherers could sell their produce while obtaining canned foods, clothing and manufactured articles and goods. They also served as community centers where men could gather for conversation, and where social events could be held. Many aspects of the pleasant patterns of life that formerly centered around Fisher's store are retained today in the town of Lafitte.

UNINCORPORATED AREAS:

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

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

Metairie:

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

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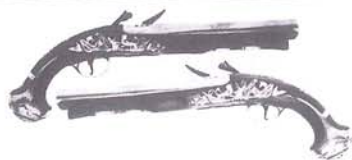


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portions of their property on the ridge to small farmers who were, in a sense, similar to modern sharecroppers. These farms gave birth to the name Metairie. *Metairie* in french designates a farm leased by the owner on a share-and-share alike basis.) The farmers grew vegetables and fruits and produced dairy products which they transported via Metairie Road to the New Orleans market.

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

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.

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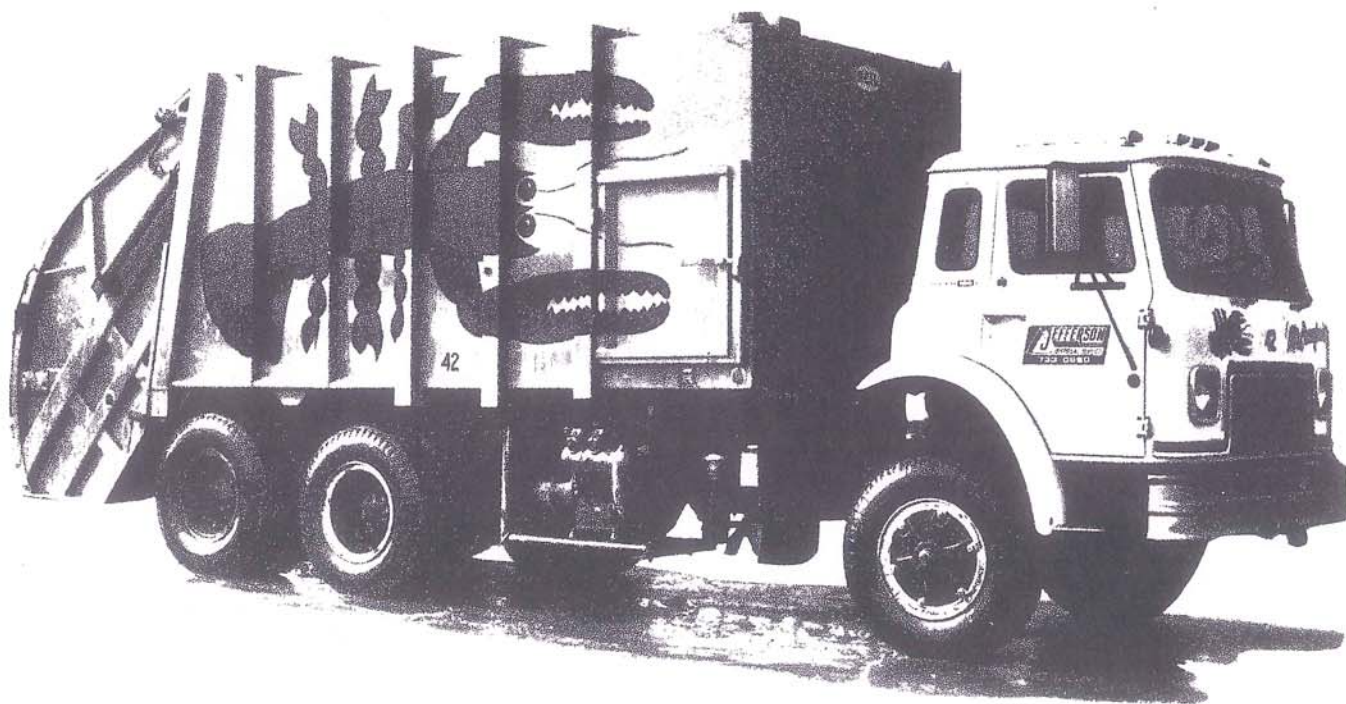
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Harvey:

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

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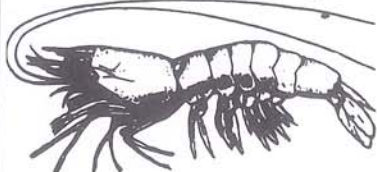
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develop, however, since no lots had been sold by 1848 when Destrehan died, and the property was transmitted to his heirs. Joseph Hale Harvey, a former sea captain, with his wife, Louisa Destrehan, developed the canal into a lucrative enterprise and 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:

A quick look at a map of the Metropolitan Area reveals why soon after 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.

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

POPULATION:

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

The most recent official population count—the 1970 census, showed that Jefferson's population continued to grow at a fantastic rate. Total population increased to 337,568 or 61.7% above the 1960 population. And there appears no end in sight.

Based on unofficial census figures, total Parish Population for July 1976 was set at 407,106. Yet only a year later, the area housed 424,000 persons. Projected figures show that by 1980 there will be a population of 500,000 in the Parish with 200,000 residents on the West Bank and 300,000 on the East Bank.

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East Bank was the fastest-growing area in the Parish, nearly doubling its population over the past decade.

The West Bank, with twice the land area of the East Bank and with portions still remaining to be developed, has attracted many homeowners and apartment dwellers as well. With easy access to downtown New Orleans over the toll-free bridge, this area accounts for a significant portion of the rapid increase in population. With the prospect of a new Mississippi River Bridge crossing from New Orleans to the West Bank, it is expected that this rate of growth will increase rapidly, until in time West Bank population will equal or exceed that of the East Bank.

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

RESIDENTIAL GROWTH

Types of residential architecture range from handsome brick colonials, cape cods, ranches, and extremely modern designs with all the 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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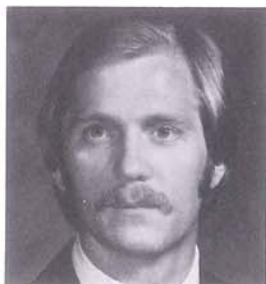
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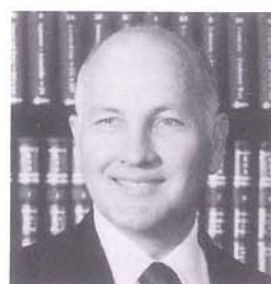
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John M. Mamoulides
District Attorney



Lawrence E. Chehardy
Assessor



William Justice, Jr.
Clerk of Court



Charles B. Odom, M.D.
Coroner

Louisiana Officials

Governor Edwin W. Edwards • Lieutenant Governor: James E. Fitzmorris, Jr. • Secretary of State: Paul J. Hardy • Attorney General: Wm. J. Guste, Jr. • Treasurer: Mary Evelyn Parker • Superintendent of Education: Kelly Nix • Commissioner of Agriculture: Gilbert Dozier • Register of State Land: Ellen Bryan Moore • Commissioner of Insurance: Sherman Bernard • Custodian of Voting Machines: Douglas Fowler

Supreme Court

Chief Justice: Joe W. Sanders • Associate Justices: Walter F. Marcus, Jr. • Pascal F. Calogero, Jr. • John A. Dixon, Jr. • Albert Tate, Jr. • James L. Dennis • Frank W. Summers

Louisiana Senators

J. Bennett Johnston • Russell B. Long

Louisiana Representatives

Bob Livingston (Dist. 1) • Corinne Claiborne Boggs (Dist. 2) • David C. Treen (Dist. 3) • Joe D. Waggoner (Dist. 4) • Jerry Huckaby (Dist. 5) • W. Henson Moore (Dist. 6) • John B. Breaux (Dist. 7) • Gillis Long (Dist. 8)

Jefferson Parish Officials

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 (Ward 9 and part of 10); **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.

State Senators: First Senatorial District (shared with Plaquemines and St. Bernard Parish) Samuel B. Nunez, Jr.; Eighth Senatorial District (shared with Westbank Orleans Parish) Fritz Windhorst; Ninth Senatorial District, Elwyn J. Nicholson; Tenth Senatorial District, M. Joseph Tiemann; Eleventh Senatorial District, Francis E. "Hank" Lauricella.

State Representatives: 54th Representative District, L. G. LaPlante, Jr. (Shared with La Fourche Parish); 77th Representative District, Edward "Eddie" J. D'Gerolamo; 78th Representative District, Eddie A. Doucet; 79th Representative District, Charles Grisbaum, Jr.; 80th Representative District, A. J. McNamara; 81st Representative District, Thomas J. Rice, Sr.; 82nd Representative District, Harold J. Toca; 83rd Representative District, John J. Alario, Jr.; 84th Representative District, J. Chris Ullo; 85th Representative District, J. Kenneth Leithman; 86th Representative District (shared with Orleans Parish), Sam A. LeBlanc, III; 88th Representative District (shared with Orleans Parish), De Lesseps Morrison, Jr.; 105th Representative District (shared with Plaquemines & St. Bernard), Frank J. Patti.

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



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School Board Superintendent—
Lawrence J. Sisung, Jr.

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

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

Elected Officials of Municipalities
Gretna (1977-1981) Mayor, William J. White; Chief of Police, Beauregard H. Miller, 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 (1978-82) Mayor, Freddie A. Wilcox; Chief of Police, Michael Ranatza; Aldermen, Fred J. Barocco, Carlo Ferrara, Cesar O. Fonseca, Don C. Gardner, Larry Lynch, Jr.; Meetings, 1st Thurs., 7:30 p.m.

Kenner (1978-82) Mayor, Joseph S. Yenni; Chief of Police, Salvador J. Lentini; Councilmen at-large, Raoul "Skip" Galan, and Larry Hooper; Councilmen, Thomas LeBlanc, Richard F. Stoulig, John T. Lavarine, Nick Baroni, Kenneth W. Hipp; Meetings, 2nd Mon.

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

Grand Isle (1976-1980) 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. Kerner, Jr.; Chief of Police, Quentin S. Couevas; Aldermen, Alvro G. Despaux, Frederick Gros, Chris A. Dufrene.



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