

In the Levee Loop !



News of the Flood Protection Authority

November 15, 2019



Message From Commissioner Herbert Weysham

I would like to touch on something I talk to my children, spouse, and friends about, perception. One of my favorite sayings that I live by is, "Everyone's perception is their reality".

In today's society, not everyone's perception aligns with others or even seems to be remotely similar. I do believe I had a similar perception as most about government agencies. I had a very poor perception of government agencies and how they operated, to say the least.

After going into my second year being a commissioner with the FPA, it has been a very eye opening experience for me. My perception has drastically changed and it is due to the way the FPA operates, the quality of the individuals involved in the organization, and the way the team members conduct their business. The organization also runs efficiently, has interfaced with other agencies effectively, and has made itself transparent in every aspect. This is in direct contrast to my perception of how a government organization operates.

Going forward, I believe we will change many people's perception of what a well-run government organization can be.

To all involved, well done, and well received.

Herbert T. Weysham III
Proud Commissioner

THE FLOOD PROTECTION AUTHORITY—EAST COMMISSIONERS

Herbert I. Miller, PE, DDE, F. ASCE -
President
Mark L. Morgan, P.E. - Vice President
Clay A. Cosse'- Secretary
Quentin D. Dastugue, CCIM - Treasurer
Andrew J. Englande, Jr., Ph.D., P.E., DEE
Lambert J. Hassinger, Jr.
Jason P. Latiolais
K. Randall Noel
Herbert T. Weysham, III

*"Thanksgiving Day
comes, by statute,
once a year; to the
honest man it comes
as frequently as the
heart of gratitude
will allow."*

*Edward Sandford
Martin*



Veterans Day

On November 11, America celebrates Veterans Day, an observance that began with Armistice Day in 1919 honoring Veterans of World War I and then was expanded by President Eisenhower in 1954 to honor all Veterans. On that day, we honor and remember all those who have ever worn the uniform of our great country – Americans who raised their right hand and swore an oath to support and defend the Constitution against all enemies, foreign and domestic.

It is not just a day off from work, a bank holiday, or a sale at a store. It is an opportunity to reflect upon what words like freedom, sacrifice and patriotism truly mean and the individuals who personify them.

There are more than 18 million veterans in the United States – approximately 7% of the adult population. These Soldiers, Marines, Sailors and Airmen are our coworkers, neighbors, friends, families and loved ones. In this month's newsletter we recognize the FPA employees who have served. We must never forget the service and sacrifice of theirs and countless others.

Derek
US Army 1995-2006

*"People sleep peaceably in their beds at night only because rough men stand
ready to do violence on their behalf."* Attributed to George Orwell

Thank You Veterans!

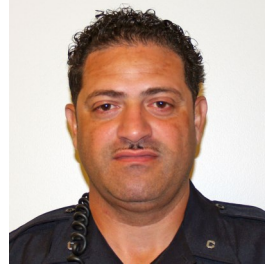
The Flood Protection Authority is extremely honored to have a number of team members who have served in the Armed Forces. In the Levee Loop is pleased to recognize, honor and thank these dedicated men and women who served to protect our country and freedom and have earned our lasting gratitude.



John Mitchell
PCCP Power Generation
Specialist Manager
U.S. Air Force 24 Years



Nick Tusa
PO 2A OLD
U.S. Navy 8 Years
1968-1976



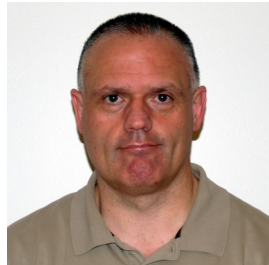
Noel Sanders
Police Sergeant A OLD
U.S. Army



Kenny P. Albarado
Accountant 3 Finance
U.S. Army
1987-1991



Robert Albright
PCCP Controls
Specialist Manager
U.S. Navy



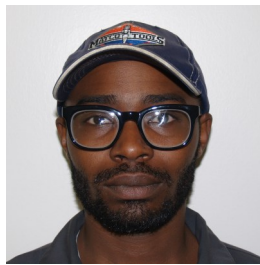
Brad Baradell
PO 3A EJLD
4 Years U.S. Air Force
10 Years LA Air National Guard



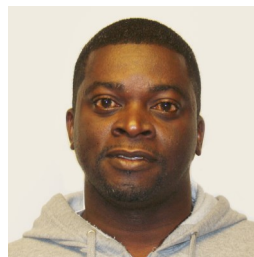
Roger Colwell
IT GPS Project Supervisor
U.S. Army 1988-1991
Terrain Analyst Wuzburg, Germany



Sean Boye
MEO 1
U.S. Air Force
1991 – 1994



Kennny Thompson
Mechanic 3 Dept. 314
U.S. Army Reservist
June, 2007 to present



Brian Lee
Heavy Equip. Operator
Dept. 313
U.S. Army E-3 1979-1982



Roddy Davis
Heavy Equip. Operator
Dept. 313
U.S. Army E-4 2015-2018



Darren Nichols
PCCP Elec. Specialist Mgr.
U.S. Navy 1988-1992
Desert Shield/Desert Storm



Philip Lapara
LB Operating Engineer Master
U.S. Army and Army
National Guard E5 6 Years



Larry Ducote
LB Operating Engineer 2
U.S. Air Force E4
4 Years

Thank You Veterans!



Arthur Brisset
MR 2 Dept. 313
U.S. Marines 1954-1958
National Guard 1953



Lt. Michael Moscona
Lieutenant—EJLD Police Dept.
U.S. Army
1978-1981



Marvin F. Brown
Foreman C
Dept. 313
U.S. Navy E-8 1985-2011



Francine Weaker is a PO 2 with the EJLD PD Reserves who served in the Air Force for approximately 36 years, retiring as a Lt Col. She served nine years on active duty and the remainder of the 36 years in the Air Force Reserves. Francine is pictured with her dog Dempsey, a ten year old bloodhound who was used for tracking and is now retired.

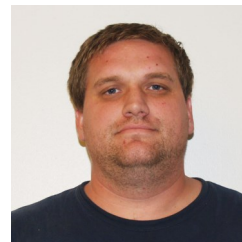


Joe Parsi-Graciani, Mechanic Supervisor B, in Dept. 314 OLD, served in the US Air Force from January, 1975 until his retirement in March, 1998. Joe sent us a picture of his much younger self at Hickam AFB, Hawaii, getting his Boeing KC-135A plane ready, before getting on board and flying to the island of Guam in the Pacific.



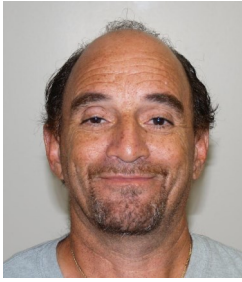
CAO Derek Boese served in the U.S. Army from 1995-2006. Derek is pictured serving in Iraq.

Note: Pictured are submittals received as of time of printing. Any additional submittals will be printed in the December 15th edition of *In The Levee Loop!*



Remington Kreitzer, Mechanic 3, Detailed to Mechanic Supervisor A, in Department 314, EJLD, served 6 years in the USMC and held the rank of Corporal. Remington is pictured in his dress blues and in Afghanistan.

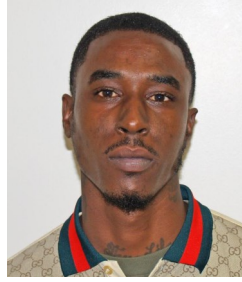
Welcome New FPA Team Members



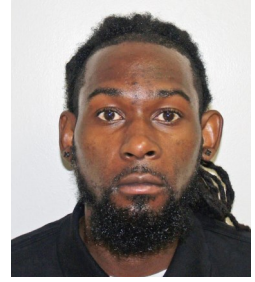
David Mercadel
Laborer
Orleans -10/7/2019



Terrol Joseph
Laborer
Orleans - 10/7/2019



Harrell Washington
Maintenance Repairer 2
Orleans - 10/7/2019



Brandon Goff
Laborer
EJ - 10/7/2019



Joshua Bourgeois
Mobile Equipment Operator-Light
Orleans - 10/7/2019



Bernard Thomas
Mobile Equipment Operator 2
Orleans—10/21/2019



Mykelle Matthews
Mobile Equipment Operator 1
Orleans - 10/21/2019



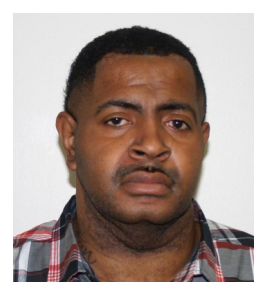
Jamal Breaux
Laborer
Orleans - 10/21/2019



Cody Hill
Laborer
Orleans - 10/21/2019



Travis Horace
Laborer
Orleans - 10/21/2019



Tyronce Davis
Laborer
Orleans - 10/21/2019

Congratulations on Promotion



Alexander Williams
GIS Analyst 1 - 10/21/2019



Madriana Montes
HR Analyst C - 10/9/2019

EJ Police Out Reach to Lion Scout Troop 261

Officers Scott Meunier and Myles Ledet spoke to Lion Scout Troop 261 from St. Ann School. The event was held in the EJLD Police Department's new training room. The Officers covered topics such as how to properly use the 911 system, what it means to be a Police Officer and ways to safeguard their homes. Goodie bags filled with coloring books, candy, and trinkets were given to each child. The event was a great success due to the efforts of both Scott and Myles.



Police Co-Employees of the Month Recognized by Board



The Board recognized Sergeant Noel Sanders and Officer Tammy Canfield as Police Co-Employees of the Month at the October 17th Board meeting.

Noel Sanders is a Police Sergeant-A and Tammy Canfield is a Police Officer 2-A with the Orleans Levee District Police Department.

On September 2, 2019, while on patrol, Sgt. Sanders observed a vehicle driving erratically on Lakeshore Drive. After alerting the vehicle to stop, it was discovered that the driver exhibited signs of severe medical distress.

Sergeant Sanders immediately determined that the elderly woman was suffering from Hypoglycemia (Diabetic Shock). Officer Canfield arrived on the scene and was able to assist by keeping the woman stable and conscious until Emergency Medical Services arrived to perform advanced medical care.

The actions of these officers enabled the victim to receive immediate and potentially lifesaving medical care, preventing serious bodily injury and loss of life.

Officer Canfield is certified through the American Heart Association and holds the certification of a Basic Life Support Instructor. Her certification covers basic life support and first aid. In 2018, Officer Canfield conducted a number of First Aid classes for FPA employees.

Sgt. Sanders and Officer Canfield were commended by the Orleans Levee District Police Leadership for their exemplary performance and dedication to duty in this life saving event.

Sgt. Sanders and Officer Canfield epitomize the core values of the FPA and are a tremendous asset to the FPA, the law enforcement community and the public.

Operations Employee of the Month



Russell Gelvin is currently a Levee Maintenance Foreman B working out of the Lake Borgne Basin Levee District of the region. He is approaching his second anniversary as a Foreman B. Like the other supervisors throughout the region, Russell on any given day has to “wear many different hats”. On any given day, he coordinates the activities of the Levee Maintenance crews, deals with equipment issues and works to repair items or equipment that needs to be repaired in order to keep the equipment in the field.

Where Russell goes above and beyond is two-fold. First, Russell is licensed to apply herbicide and runs the herbicide application process for the Authority in St. Bernard Parish. On any given day, Russell works side by side with crew members to apply the herbicide in the field. Second, Russell has in the past, and even more recently, been called upon to provide historical knowledge of the various aspects and components of the whole flood protection system in this area of the region. This institutional knowledge that he possesses and provides when called upon has and is very valuable when planning activities or working through issues that arise. His contributions to the overall success in this area of the Region is greatly appreciated by his colleagues.

A colleague of Russell’s states, “Russell has the knowledge, wisdom and impeccable memory needed for operating the LBBLD. He knows the system better than anyone, and knows what needs to be done and how to get the job done. His team respects him as a hard working Foreman that will grab a weed eater and pitch in when manpower is short. His herbicide certification and spraying is vital to the maintenance of overgrowth of canal banks in St. Bernard Parish.”

Employee of the Month Recognized by Board



Madriana Montes was recognized by the Board at its October 17th meeting as the FPA's Employee of the Month.

Madriana joined the FPA as an HR Analyst B in October 2018 and was recently promoted to an HR Analyst C.

Madriana is assigned to the Operations Department to provide guidance in the creation of positions and hiring within the department. Madriana has a great attitude when working with the Operations Director and can be counted on to complete all of the

steps required to get through the civil service process of advertising positions, forwarding the list of available candidates, scheduling the interviews, participating in the interviews, preparing the offer letters, processing the paperwork and scheduling the tests required for employment. Madriana is always organized and always offers help to process the candidates in a timely manner.

Madriana has recently been tasked with helping with the possible placement of LBBLD pump operators in other FPA positions. The coordination and planning to make these transitions possible is greatly appreciated by the candidates and the Operations Department leadership.

OLD Police leadership reports that Madriana is approachable, bright, eager to help and leads the organization in a respectful manner. Madriana has applied employee placement strategies to acquire full time officers and reserve officers, and she has done an outstanding job organizing oral review boards, and in employee relations and employee orientations for new hires.

The FPA is fortunate to have Madriana on its team and her contribution in the field of Human Resources is invaluable to the success of the FPA and the accomplishment of its mission.

EJLD Police Officers Commended for Life Saving Effort



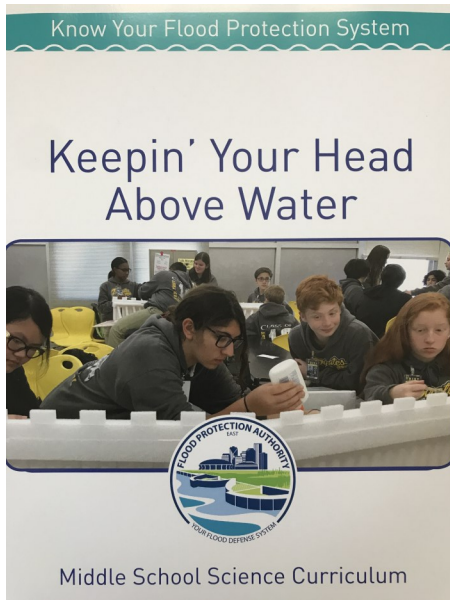
Officers Scott Meunier and Myles Ledet were commended by EJLD Police Leadership for their life saving efforts taken on a call for service. The officers responded to a dispatched call of an unresponsive male in his late 60's. Upon arrival, one minute later, the Officers found the victim lying in a supine position and unconscious on an upstairs bedroom floor and began CPR in an effort to revive him. EMS arrived on the scene and took over life saving efforts about ten minutes later. The patient's pulse returned and he was transported to East Jefferson General Hospital for further treatment.

Officers Meunier's and Ledet's quick response and dedication to duty is a credit to the EJLD Police Department, the FPA, and the community we serve.

Pictured left to right: Officers Scott Meunier and Myles Ledet

"When I was 5 years old, my mother always told me that happiness was the key to life. When I went to school, they asked me what I wanted to be when I grew up. I wrote down 'happy'. They told me I didn't understand the assignment, and I told them they didn't understand life." John Lennon

FPA's K-12 School Program



The Flood Protection Authority's K-12 School Program was developed by Anne Rheams, the FPA'S Education Consultant, and is supported by Antwan Harris, FPA Public Information Director. The major feature of the School Program is the curriculum guide entitled, "*Keepin' Your Head Above Water: Know Your Flood Protection System.*" Anne co-wrote the 1st Edition with Gena Asevado, St. Bernard Parish Public Schools Science Curriculum Director. Anne is currently revising and adding new lessons and activities for the 2nd Edition of the curriculum with Dinah Maygarden, Director of the University of New Orleans' Coastal Education Program.

The curriculum meets the National and State Science Standards and is based on contemporary educational models. Major topics covered in the curriculum include: Geography of Water (where do students live in relation to the surrounding waterbodies); Storm Surge (what is it and what protects them - HSDRRS), Risk associated with tropical cyclone systems (what they can do to protect themselves and their families). The activities of each of these lessons are hands-on and interactive, and fit into the framework of STEM Programs (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math).

The K-12 School Program is part of the Flood Protection Authority's public outreach to enhance understanding of the its mission. The program not only ensures that future generations understand the risks and challenges associated with living with water, but that students will share the information and their learning experiences with families and friends.

Student and Teacher Programs in October 2019

8th Grade Science Classes All-day Workshops

Students learned about the following topics included in the curriculum guide:

- Viewing Flood Protection Authority videos of the Lake Borgne Storm Surge Barrier and the Permanent Canal Closures and Pumps;
- Using interactive mapping activities that orient students with the waterbodies that surround their homes and schools;
- Using a group discussion format about storm surge associated with tropical cyclone systems;
- Using the Flood Authority's website to identify types of flood protection structures that are operated and maintained by the Flood Authority;
- Brainstorming about how students will convey information that they've learned related to hurricane risk and preparedness to their families, friends and neighbors;
- Providing Flood Authority Fact Sheets to help students develop educational materials to share with family, friends and neighbors.



**De La Salle 8th Grade Science Class All-day Workshop
(50 students, 2 teachers)**

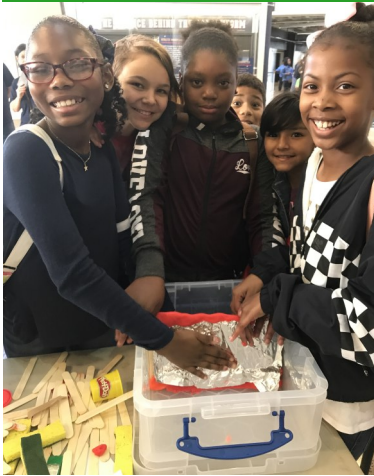
FPA's K-12 School Program

Education Events

STEM Fest at the Super Dome

Nearly 100 students (in groups of 5 to 7) participated in a hands-on activity to build models of a flood wall and/or surge barrier. Their models were tested by simulating storm surge and determining faults in the system and corrections to be made.

It got a bit messy but fun and learning was had by all!



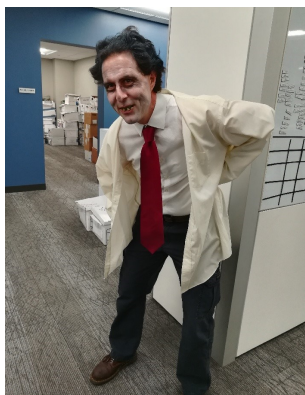
Haunting Memories - Halloween 2019



The Franklin Avenue Complex Gang



Carol Purcello, EJLD PD Administrative Assistant



Pictured left - Ryan Foster straight from his laboratory atop the Old City Icehouse.

The Ryan Family pictured in the collage on the right brings back old memories.



Below - Greetings from the Lakefront Management Authority



EJLD Night Out Against Crime/Open House



Carol Purcello, EJDL Police Admin. Assistant described the night's events, "The music was good, the games were fun, the food was awesome." Thanks to all those whose efforts made the EJLD Police Department's first annual Night Out Against Crime held on October 15th at the new Kenner facility a great success.



Antwan Harris, the event's organizer, set up the music and served as announcer, Capt. Terry Durnin got things together for the event, Sgt. Ken Pinkston supplied the Big Teddy Bears for Door Prizes, Capt. Vincent Yetta set up the little optical course for the kids, Police Officer Francine Weaker provided a show with her K-9 Officers, who were loved by the Children. Kerry Migliore and Remington Kreitzer helped set up everything and Remington stayed to help close down. Special thanks to the cooks, Steve Chase and his friend for the great Jambalaya and Hot Dogs.

Councilman George L. Branigan, District 4 City of Kenner, thanked all those who were involved in the special event:



"Thank you for hosting National Night Out Against Crime at your business. I am sorry I was not able to stop by to celebrate such an important event that promotes safety throughout our community. Bringing our neighborhoods and the men and women who serve to protect us together in such a positive manner is absolutely wonderful. Thank you for participating and I look forward to next year."

Councilman George L. Branigan

Night Out Against Crime Kick Off Gala

The EJLD Police Reserve Division represents the EJLDPD annually at the N.O.A.C. Kick-Off Gala at Lafreniere Park in Jefferson Parish. This year's event held on October 13th informed the public about the different Law Enforcement Agencies in the Southern Region that support local citizens, communities and enforcement districts.



L-R: Lt. Guy Fortunato, Capt. Gerald Hart, Lt. Jack Marcey and Capt. Donald Juneau

Operation Implosion New Orleans



On Friday, October 18, 2019, the City of New Orleans Office of Homeland Security reached out to FPA CEO Derek Boese for assistance in the implosion of the Hard Rock Hotel. This incident rose to a national level and on Saturday, October 19, 2019, Police Officers from the Orleans Levee District and the East Jefferson Levee District responded to assist. The event was postponed, but dedicated and determined officers again responded on Sunday, October, 20, 2019 for the implosion to take place.

Officers performed traffic control and evacuation of motorists and pedestrians in the immediate area of the event. With all the agencies involved, the officers prevented the possibility of serious bodily injury and loss of life from occurring.

The officers were offered a personal thanks by New Orleans Homeland Security Director Collin Arnold, New Orleans Police Superintendent Shaun Ferguson and NOPD Chief of Operations Paul Noel.

Congratulations OLDPD's Two Newest Motorcycle Officers

At the conclusion of the motorcycle training, history was made. Police Officer Terrol-Lynn Gray is the first female to join the Orleans Levee District Police Motorcycle Division in its history of 129 years.



Both officers successfully completed 80 hours of training on a closed course consisting of a stress/obstacle course at high and low speeds and breaking exercises. The last 40 hours consists of off road riding, group rides, formation riding and escort techniques. All is designed to force the officer to perform at a very high level while the training replicates the adverse street conditions that can cause accidents.

The FPA Team congratulates the O.L.D. Police Department's two newest Motorcycle Officers — Police Officer Terrol-Lynn Gray (pictured left) and Investigator Jerald Holmes (pictured right)



Congratulations NAPD Driving Class 006



Congratulations to The National Academy of Professional Driving Tactical Driving Class 006 Graduates, Lt. J. Marcy, Sgt. L. Gerhold, P.O. W. Kenney, P.O. A. Haynes, P.O. J. Johnson, P.O. R. Stevenson, P.O. B. Bono, P.O. S. Chase, P.O. L. Clark and P.O. J. Riggs.

Instructors: Lt. A. Pellitteri
Lt. C. Hill
P.O. C. Badon

Calendar of Events

November

November 21 (Thursday) - Board/Committee meetings

November 28 (Thursday) - Thanksgiving (State holiday)

November 29 (Friday) - Acadian Day - Legal Holiday Proclaimed by Governor John Bel Edwards

December

December 19 (Thursday) - Board/Committee meetings - FPA Safety Luncheon

December 24 (Tuesday) - Christmas Eve - Legal Holiday Proclaimed by Governor John Bel Edwards

December 25 (Wednesday) - Christmas (State holiday)

December 31 (Tuesday) - New Year's Eve - Legal Holiday Proclaimed by Governor John Bel Edwards

January

January 1 (Wednesday) - New Year's Day (State Holiday)

Reminders

Submit your Employee of the Month Nomination Forms by the last day of each month

All employees must complete one hour of Ethics training and one hour of Preventing Sexual Harassment Training for calendar year 2019. Supervisors must complete one additional hour of Preventing Sexual Harassment Training for calendar year 2019.

Congratulations to the Newest FPA Certified Drone Pilots



Congratulations to Alex Williams and Kevin Bates for receiving their Remote Pilot Certificate from the FPA for piloting drones.

Alex is a GIS Analyst 1 and Kevin is an Engineering Technician 3 in Engineering.

FPA now has five employees who are drone certified.

Alexander Williams



Kevin Bates



Charlie Brown Thanksgiving Quotes

"Thanksgiving is a very important holiday. Ours was the first country in the world to make a national holiday to give thanks." - Linus

"What if today we were just grateful for everything!" Charlie Brown



The Flood Protection Authority urges everyone to become informed about their flood defense system and encourages organizations and business and community groups to schedule a tour of the IHNC-Lake Borgne Surge Barrier and Permanent Canal Closure and Pumps (PCCP) Stations.

To schedule a tour of the IHNC Surge Barrier and/or PCCP, visit our website at floodauthority.org and click on "Schedule Facility Tours" at the bottom of our home page. Fill out the Tour Information Sheet and click on "submit" at the bottom of the sheet.

Suggestions, comments, news items (weddings, births, significant anniversaries and other events you wish to share with your coworkers), original articles and other submittals are welcomed.

Editor: Glenda Boudreaux

Associate Editor: Wilma Heaton

Submittals can be emailed to gboudreaux@floodauthority.org

or sent to Glenda Boudreaux, SLFPA-E, Airport Terminal, Suite 225, 6001 Stars and Stripes Blvd., New Orleans, LA 70126.