



St. Bernard Parish Government

8201 West Judge Perez Drive Chalmette, Louisiana, 70043
(504) 278-4227 Fax (504) 278-4330
www.sbp.gov

Guy McInnis
Parish President

President's Report Council Meeting of Tuesday, October 4, 2016

Good Evening Councilmembers, Ladies and Gentlemen:

On September 28th I attended a meeting of the Coastal Louisiana Levee Consortium and presented the board with information on the struggles of the Lake Borgne Basin Levee District's efforts to maintain the Hurricane and Storm Damage Risk Reduction System (HSDRRS). My purpose was to ask for their support to have the funding requirements spread out equally among Jefferson, Orleans and St. Bernard Parishes. Currently, the HSDRRS System protects all three parishes but only St. Bernard Parish has the burden to maintain it. The matter will further be addressed with the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority, (CPRA).

Mosquito Control – The recent positive test result on Riverbend Drive in Violet is the second batch in 2016 found to be positive. I'd like to assure the public that there have been *no* known human cases of the mosquito-borne disease. The Mosquito Control Department has adjusted their spray schedule based on these test results and will continue to monitor mosquito traps daily, increase spraying via aerial and ground and Larviciding all accessible drains and ditches. Residents are reminded to protect themselves and their family members by using an effective mosquito repellent, wearing long sleeves and pants at dawn and dusk when mosquitos tend to be most active and remove standing water from around their homes so that mosquitos do not have a place to breed.

Recreation Department – Beginning October 17th, the Recreation Department is adjusting the department hours of the administrative staff in order to better accommodate the needs of those participating in recreation and those parents working late then 4:30 pm. The goal is to always have management on-site between the hours of 8:30 am until 9:30 pm.

Department of Tourism – St. Bernard Parish Government employees recently attended a seminar for the Louisiana Main Street Program hosted by the St. Bernard Parish Office of Tourism, Studio Inferno and the Meraux Foundation. Ray Scriber with the Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism, Office of Cultural Development toured Historic Arabi, and presented the application process for the St. Claude/St. Bernard Highway Corridor Main Street Program. The Main Street Program recognizes and revitalizes historic business corridors and creates economic stability for the community.

The St. Bernard Seafood & Farmers Market along with the Sugar Festival will take place this Saturday, October 8th at the Aycock Barn/St. Bernard Welcome Center. The Farmer's Market will be held 10:00 am - 2:00 pm, with the Sugar Festival beginning at 2:00 pm ending at 9:00 pm. On a sweet note, the Sugar Museum/Old Jail will be open for complimentary tours on Saturday 2:00 pm - 5:00 pm. Parish Historian William Hyland will be doing complimentary shuttle tours of Historic Arabi on Saturday 2:00 pm until sunset. Come out for a sweet time!

The fourth Annual Blues, Brews and BBQ in da Parish was held this past Saturday at Docville Farm in Violet. It was a beautiful, sunny day and those attending enjoyed seven continuous hours of Louisiana's best blues musicians, lots of great food and plenty craft beers. The event benefited the Community Center of St. Bernard which sold signature glasses and t-shirts. A number of residents and elected officials volunteered for the event which was hosted by the Meraux Foundation.

The Emerging Professional Council (EPC) of the St. Bernard Chamber of Commerce is hosting a day of service in St. Bernard Parish. The event entitled "St. Bernard Gives Back" will be held on Saturday, October 22nd and individual and/or organizations are asked to sign up to volunteer by contacting the St. Bernard Chamber at 504-277-4001.

Public Works - A public auction is being held on Thursday, October 20, 2016 at 10:00 am at the Road Department Main Yard, 120 West Agriculture Street. The auction will include vehicles, damaged vehicles, utility trailers, equipment trailers, lawn mowers and lawn equipment and buses, etc. Auction items may be viewed online at www.cuevasauction.com or at the Road Department on Tuesday, October 18, 2016 and Wednesday, October 19, 2016 between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m.

Library - St. Bernard Parish Library will host a free legal advice event as part of the Louisiana State Bar Association's annual "Ask A Lawyer" Day on Thursday, October 27, 2016 from 10:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. at the Chalmette Branch located at 2600 Palmisano Boulevard. Attorneys will be available for one-on-one consultations. Participants can have questions answered on subjects such as: Bankruptcy, Civil Lawsuits, Collection Matters, Custody, Divorce, Evictions, FEMA/Disaster Benefits, Food Stamps, Foreclosures, Housing, Medicaid, Social Security, SSI/SSDI, Successions, Taxes and Wills. Half-hour appointments can be scheduled by calling 504-279-0448. Appointments are encouraged but 'walk-ins' are also welcome.

The 2017 budget is being present to you through the hard work of our Administration and dedicated Parish employees. I invite the public to be a part of the budget process as the Administration and Council work together to finalize and adopt the 2017 operating budget.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Guy McInnis". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a prominent initial "G" and a long, sweeping tail.

Guy McInnis
Parish President