

St. Tammany Parish

Newsletter August 2006

One Parish. One Goal. Rebuild Together.

One of the things we learned after Katrina was that traditional means of reaching the public aren't always reliable.

While we've taken steps to ensure we remain linked with local and regional media, being able to communicate directly with neighborhood leaders will help us keep abreast of changing needs at a very local level. Having the information requested in this newsletter will also allow us to relay important information to you.



**Kevin Davis,
Parish
President**

Register for The Road Home

The Road Home Program launched a pilot program in Baton Rouge last week and will soon be opening housing assistance centers across the state. Homeowners will schedule appointments with these centers to discuss which option is best for them. To get ready for these meetings, homeowners should collect the following things:

- Photo identification
- Social Security number
- Documents that prove the ownership of your home, such as:
 - Copy of Title Insurance Policy
 - Copy of your ownership or acquisition deed
 - Copy of your mortgage
 - Copy of your real estate property tax bill
 - Copy of your mortgage payment coupon
 - FEMA Claim Number and assistance documentation
- Copies of insurance policies, including proof of claim or payouts made or received for damage incurred during Hurricanes Katrina or Rita
- Information about Small Business Administration loans

For more information about the Road Home, visit www.Road2LA.org. If you are the owner of a home that had major or severe damage in hurricanes Katrina or Rita, you can register your home online or by calling 1-888-ROAD-2-LA.

4th Annual Back-to-School Supply Give Away (for low income families)

The Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc., the Community Uplift Foundation and the St. Tammany Parish Department of Community Action will provide free school supplies for low income families on Saturday, August 12 from 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM in the St. Tammany Jr. High Cafeteria, Slidell and from 9:00 AM to 12 Noon at the Department of Community Action, 1305 N. Florida Ave., Covington. Distribution sites may close earlier than published if all supplies are gone. Supplies are available on a first come, first serve, basis.

Corporate contributors include Wal Mart, Office Depot, Rite Aid, Academy Sports, Office Essentials and Walgreens.

Thank you to everyone who made this event possible.

Mosquito Abatement District News

The St. Tammany Parish Mosquito Abatement District received results from the LSU Veterinary School Diagnostic Laboratory on 46 mosquito pools, with eight returning positive for West Nile virus. These pools were collected on July 25 and 31. The positive pools came from five locations within Covington, Mandeville, and Abita Springs. None of the 18 chicken blood samples returned positive for West Nile virus. These data continue to indicate that virus levels are relatively high in the parish.

We are beginning to see an increase in container breeding mosquitoes, namely the Asian tiger mosquito. This mosquito is capable of transmitting West Nile virus. Inspectors have also been finding the southern house mosquito, the primary carrier for West Nile virus, breeding in containers. It is important that residents check their yards for any open containers that will hold water such as bowls, buckets, cans, wheelbarrows, saucers in potted plants, etc., and empty the water and store the containers in a place where they will not collect water. Finding all stages of mosquito development in these containers is common, which means that each day more adult mosquitoes emerge. The best control for these mosquitoes is to eliminate the breeding, because the spray to kill adult mosquitoes affects only the flying mosquitoes at that time. If breeding is taking place in a yard, then infiltration of more adult mosquitoes will occur in a day or two.

Last week the District treated 90,000 acres by air and another 45,000 acres by truck. In doing so, the entire parish received treatment. This week the District will continue an aggressive spray campaign throughout the parish. Overall, mosquito populations are relatively low; however, the Asian tiger mosquito breeding in containers has been increasing in numbers.

Residents are once again advised to take precautions when going outdoors in mosquito prone areas during periods of peak mosquito activity by wearing long sleeve shirts and long pants and using mosquito repellent with DEET or other proven repellents.

For questions, please contact Chuck Palmisano, Director at 985/643-5050.



Slidell Cultural Center Offering “Art Is Life” Pins

For a \$10 donation (or more) you can have a Support the Arts collectible pin. Proceeds are dedicated to restoring and rebuilding the Slidell Cultural Center and the return of art exhibits and cultural events throughout the year. The pins can be picked up at the Slidell Art League Gallery, on the second floor of the historic Slidell Train Depot, 1827 Front St. Call 985-646-4375 for more information.

Important Recovery Phone Numbers:

FEMA 1-800-621-3362 or 1-800-462-7585 (TTY)

American Red Cross 1-866-438-4636

Salvation Army 1-800-725-2769

To Receive This Newsletter:

To receive future newsletters, go to the parish website, www.stpgov.org, click the link on the home page that says “Subscribe to the Parish President’s Newsletter” and give us your e-mail information.

Please share this information with others in your organization who might wish to receive the newsletter directly.

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St. Tammany Parish

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