

WHAT'S INSIDE:



Easter Bunny comes hopping to District 7 with special holiday treats. PAGE 2



Councilwoman C. Denise Marcelle and Partners Make Prom Dreams Come True. PAGE 3



Stimulus 101 Forum- Ask About It, and Know About It, Before the Upcoming Legislative Session. PAGE 4



laying the groundwork to better our communities

District 7 COMING TOGETHER

COUNCILWOMAN C DENISE MARCELLE

ISSUE NO. 001
SUMMER
2009



D 7 On The Move :

District 7 is off and moving to a great start!

My regards to each of you; I'm excited about the overwhelming support that was shown by the constituents of District 7 to elect me as your representative to the Metro Council. I do not and will not take this position lightly and will work hard to make each of you proud.

Since being elected, I have hit the ground running. In my newsletter, you will find where I have made an effort to better inform the constituents of this district of issues that are of importance to all of us, celebrate holidays, support school activities, such as prom and support our local churches and community services programs that are making a difference in many of our lives. You will also see new sidewalks and bike paths in our district, a much needed infrastructure. I pledge to continue these and other types of programs that will help to make our community a better place.

My belief is that our district can become a place where we will once again be proud to be residents and business owners, we'll be proud to call it home. It is my desire that we work together to accomplish this vision. I cannot do this without you, nor you without me, but together we can work to see this vision to fruition. Every person plays a significant role in developing our district and having our community become a beacon in the City. Whether it's the picking up of trash in our neighborhoods, keeping up our properties, opening new businesses in our community or simply mentoring to our youth, we all have something that we can do to improve where we live, work and play.

continued on page 2

New Paths to School!
We are excited about the new sidewalks



New sidewalks are springing up all over the district. It is such a pleasant sight to see the sidewalks that run from Gus Young Avenue all the way up Greenwell Springs Road. The children that walk to Capitol Middle School everyday will have a quickened pace this school year. New sidewalks can be seen on 38th Street very close to Dalton Elementary and Istrouma High School, which is a welcomed change for the residents in that area of the district. The district is also experiencing road widening at the corner of Government St. and Foster Drive thanks to the Mayor's Green Light Project.

continued on page 2



The new sidewalks are like a breath of fresh air for our community and District 7. I see progress and forward motion every time I pass the sidewalks

Councilwoman
C. Denise Marcelle

Since I believe that it takes the entire community to make a difference, and that District 7 is our district and not mine alone, I have entered into working relationships with many of our churches, community organizations and volunteers to improve our living conditions. I have opened up my heart, my office and my mind to hear and address the concerns and ideas that you the constituent may have. That is also the reason that I decided to schedule my town hall meetings throughout District 7, as I represent 34,723 people and want to give each of you the opportunity to come to a location near you to voice your concerns.

I thank God for this wonderful opportunity to serve you and look forward to working with many of you to "Making it Better in District 7".

Continued from pg. 1



SHOW ME THE MONEY!

Stimulus 101 Forum

In the wake of current economic crisis that Americans are facing, families from across the Greater Baton Rouge and New Orleans area were invited to take part in a community forum devoted to answering questions and concerns about the Administration's stimulus package.

The forum which was very well attended by members of the community, as well as elected officials, community leaders, and clergy members were poised to give Louisiana residents an in-depth overview of the Presidents Stimulus Package. The forum was sponsored and hosted by Every Child Matters in Louisiana in conjunction with Councilwoman C. Denise Marcelle, The Louisiana Black Assembly, The Children's Defense Fund, and the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Center. The event

presented an opportunity for panelist to dispel myths and present facts on the benefits of the package for the people of LA. The panelist were President Pro Tempore Sen. Sharon Weston-Broome; Rep. Patricia Smith, First Vice-Chair of LA Black Caucus; Charmaine Caccioppi, Pres. LA Assoc. of United Ways; Dr. Pat Cooper, CEO Early Childhood & Learning Foundation; Ashley Herad, Statewide Public Policy Director; Dr. Ernest Johnson, State Pres. NAACP; Carnell Washington, V.P. Of LA Federation of Teachers. The event was (page 4)



Easter Bunny Pays Visit: Drops bikes for District 7 kids

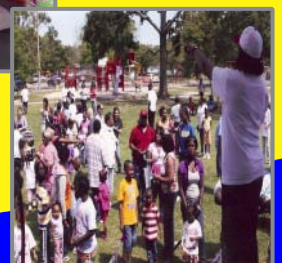
An extraordinary Easter Bunny visited the Annual Easter in the Park and instead of dropping eggs he dropped bikes, who knew! A great time was had by over a hundred children.

On beautiful Saturday, April 11th Peter Cottontail came hopping down the District 7 trail with Councilwoman C. Denise Marcelle and partners along in tow. The event sponsored by Councilwoman Marcelle, Coca Cola, Attorney Gail Horne-Ray, Dr. MLK Community Center, BREC, and others. Children from across the city took part in festivities and activities such

as egg hunts, egg roll contest, spacewalks, free pictures with the Easter bunny, and basket giveaways. Many of the Councilwoman's personal friends and colleagues such as Judge Kelli Terrell-Temple donated bikes to the children of all ages. Nearly 20 bikes were given to some well deserved children.



After a good lunch, plenty candy, and a great time the Easter Bunny bid farewell to all.



beautiful for prom

Girls from all over the city were given an opportunity to be Cinderella this prom season thanks to The New Orleans Hornets, Councilwoman Marcelle, & others.



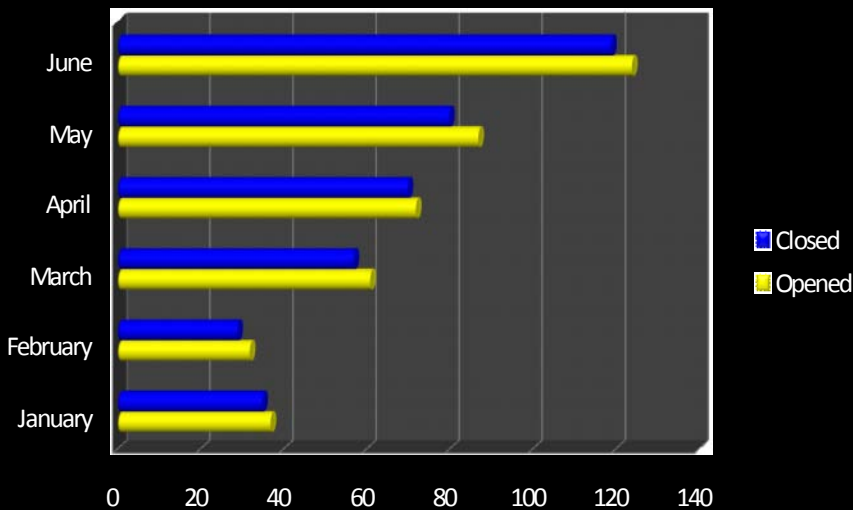
Springtime brought prom season and Councilwoman C. Denise Marcelle, The New Orleans Hornets, Baton Rouge Delta Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta, Dr. Martin Luther King Community Center, Community Health & Rehab Clinic, and Shacara E. Lewis made sure that every girl in need had an opportunity to have a beautiful dress, even if she couldn't afford it. The nearly 200 girls received new gowns of their choice along with free make-up from Mary Kay and the Mall of Louisiana. The girls left with smiling faces and their parents and families received some financial assistance during tough economic times.



RESULTS ARE THE BEST RECOGNITION!

Since taking office in January we have been receiving service request calls daily, and have put forth every effort to assist in resolving them timely. Our office has dealt with at least 413 calls that have been processed with the 311 Service Request Line. We would like to take this opportunity to thank the Department of Public Works for working with us to address the issues for the constituents in District 7. If you should have a Service Request or need some assistance please contact Dawn Goree-Brazier, Legislative Assistant to Councilwoman C. Denise Marcelle at 225.389.3182 or via email at dbrazier@brgov.com.

District 7 – DPW 311 Claims



To submit an article of interest that would enlighten and inform the constituents of District 7 please drop us an email at dbrazier@brgov.com or give us a call at 225.389.3182.



5 ways to improve our community

1 report crime promptly

Neighbors sometimes don't report criminal activity, police cannot act without first hearing about the problem from you. Calling won't guarantee that police can fix the problem, but failing to call can guarantee that they won't.

2 take away the opportunity for crime

Lock your car and never leave valuables, for a few minutes in the car where would-be thieves might see them. Trim bushes or trees on your property that offer too-convenient hiding places. In short, make your front porch visible and make sure your home looks like it has its "eyes" (windows) open

3 pick up litter near your home, even if you didn't put it there

Most people are less likely to litter where they don't see litter already. You can help stop the growth of trash in your neighborhood by taking away the existing litter that attracts it.

4 help your neighborhood association

If you are willing, decide what greater contribution you would like to make - then take the lead and do it. Make sure someone in your household attends local neighborhood association meetings.

5 drive slowly on neighborhood streets

While we often call for stop signs, lights, and speed bumps, we often forget that we can organize a means to slow down neighborhood traffic sooner. Remember that it is legal to drive a few miles per hour below the speed limit in your neighborhood.

moderated by Janice G. Clark, Judge 19th JDC Div. B and Jay Augustine, Vice President of EBR School Board and Attorney at Law. Speaker Pro Tempore of The House Rep, Karen Carter-Peterson of New Orleans also attended the forum. The panelist expressed the importance and urgency of accepting all of the Stimulus dollars as well as the implication of not accepting the funds. Transparency was the catch word of the day and the importance of the need to educate people on where the funds will ultimately end up. People were given the opportunity to ask questions that felt were important to them and their community. Information was shared and a good time was had by all.

inside next issue:

**A Call to Action March
Juneteenth Celebration
Mid City Improvements
Back to School Drive
Meet a Local Writer**

We bid farewell to a District 7 fixture

We want to take this opportunity to bid farewell and to express our many thanks to Ms. Louise Vincent who has worked as a Senior employee for the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Center for 15 years. Ms. Vincent's pleasant voice can be heard every morning as she greets the callers and welcomes the visitors. Her beautiful smile and sweet spirit will be missed by all, but she won't be gone very far she will be joining the Pearl George Senior Program in the building next door.



Community Center Services:

The Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.
Community Center

225.389.7804

Offers the following programs:

Pearl George Senior Center

Food For Families & Seniors

Quarterly Commodity Distribution

Social Service Assistance (LIHEAP)

Metro Health Services

Nurses In Schools Program

Facility Rentals

Computer Lab Classes

Narcotics Anonymous

Community Events: Easter In The
Park, Juneteenth, Back to School, Safe
Halloween, Thanksgiving Feed,
Christmas Parade, etc.



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