

Tara's Talk

100 Day Message

Dear District 10 Family,

It has been an exciting and fast-paced first 100 days in office. I am excited about the things we have accomplished so far in our district. Together, we have hosted a number of very successful events that have encouraged our community and brought about a renewed sense of hope. We have successfully initiated the District 10 Leadership Council, a group of 30 community and neighborhood leaders that have come together from all over District 10 to organize, plan, and with your help, implement creative ideas to improve our district. We have hosted two successful community wide meetings which allowed residents to gain tools necessary to bring about positive change in their neighborhoods. The "Talk about 10" with Tara Show has been a huge success. I have had so much fun hosting the show and bringing so many important issues right into the living rooms of District 10 citizens. The Nehemiah Project is moving forward and has already begun to encourage residents to make a difference in accepting civic responsibility and caring for our own place and space. We are continuing to move forward, but there is still much to be done. The BOLD Initiative is always a part of our everyday work. We are Building Productive Partnerships, Organizing for Action, Leading by Example, and Developing Plans for Change. I am privileged and honored to be your Councilwoman and I look forward to our continued work together to make District 10 better!!

Love,

Tara

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Eye on 10

Odell S. Williams Now and Then Museum of African American History

Councilwoman Wicker recently had the opportunity to tour the Odell S. Williams Now and Then Museum of African American History located at 538 South Boulevard and had a great time. The museum, which opened March 23, 2001, showcases faces of African American contributors in various fields, minority inventions that impact our day-to-day activities, rural artifacts, African Art, and is the Juneteenth archive site. We encourage you to visit the museum. It is open from 1pm-5pm Monday through Friday. Sadie Roberts-Joseph, the Founder and Curator often says, "Culture is the glue that holds a people together; Take a step back in time and leap into your future."



Contact us

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Office Hours:
Tuesday & Thursday
10am-4pm
Monday, Wednesday, &
Friday
By appointment

**Have a Story Idea
or want your
neighborhood
featured?**

Email us
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Mayor-President announces Healthy City Initiative



The U.S. Conference of Mayors launched The Mayors' Healthy Cities Initiative in response to America's growing obesity problem and its relationship to chronic diseases which may be prevented or lessened through regular exercise and healthy eating. I was eager for Baton Rouge to participate in this effort by promoting both the benefits of a healthy lifestyle and the helpful resources available to you in our community.

I hope you will take a minute to learn more about how you and your family can easily lead a more healthy lifestyle and enjoy good health throughout your lives. Watch for the Healthy BR seal in our community for information, programs and activities aimed at making Baton Rouge a healthy city.

Our Program

The Mayor's Healthy City Initiative along with www.healthybr.com will connect, collaborate, and coordinate the healthy resources available in our Baton Rouge community. The initial committee met simply to discuss Mayor "Kip" Holden's vision for a healthier Baton Rouge. With each meeting, our group continued to grow larger and larger and we soon discovered that there was no need to recreate anything because Baton Rouge has it all! From walking trails and parks to scheduled races and community events to health education and school programs, Baton Rouge has numerous resources related to healthy eating and active living. It was easy to form our mission statement as we simply wanted to provide the community with this already existing and exciting information.

Our Mission

The Mayor's Healthy City Initiative identifies and coordinates efforts aimed at healthy eating and an active lifestyle into a unifying community commitment to better health.

Our Goals

- To raise awareness within the community of the problem and the services available.
- To motivate community members to make healthy choices and to join the movement to make Baton Rouge a healthier community.
- To increase the number of visitors to health-related resources on any city web site.
- To increase media outreach through community events and Healthybr.com
- To increase awareness of HealthyBR.com and the partnering organizations.
- To increase utilization of available resources to promote healthy eating and active living in Baton Rouge.

Most importantly, this Initiative is to better the health of our community. Let's eat right and activate life!

District 10 Youth Summer Employment Day a Success!

District 10 youth and their parents came out in great numbers at the Dr. Leo S. Butler Community Center, the Delmont Service Center, and the Kernan Avenue BREC Park on Saturday, May 16, 2009 as Councilwoman Wicker and Workforce Investment Administration hosted the District 10 Summer Youth Employment Day. Youth came and filled out applications to be placed with some of Baton Rouge's most desirable employers to gain valuable training and employment experience this summer.

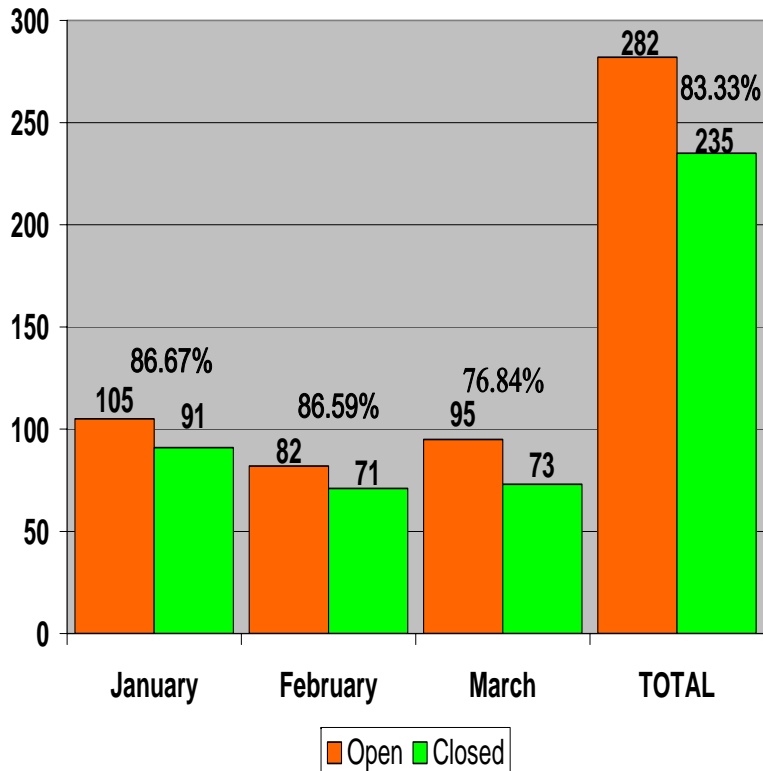




Ralph's Report

District 10 On The Move!

The 1st 100 days has been filled with a whirlwind of activity. District 10 has truly been on the move during the 1st Quarter of 2009. The chart to the right shows what we have been working to accomplish in regards to service requests. We have handled a total of 282 service request cases. We have been able to close most of those cases in the same month they were called in. A resolution percentage of 83.33%, that's great! Of course, we would like a 100%, but it tells you that we are working hard to get the cases resolved as our constituents call them in. We are staying on top of things and are following-up on requests from the district within days of inspection. We need your help to continue to move District 10 forward. We appreciate your continued support and involvement as we work together to make our district better.



City-Parish News

Hazardous Material Collection

East Baton Rouge Parish (EBRP) residents can drop off household hazardous materials for safe disposal at the upcoming EBRP Household Hazardous Materials Collection Day, to be held on Saturday, May 23rd, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at Memorial Stadium in Baton Rouge. This is a non-commercial, residential collection only. Vehicles will be checked to validate acceptable hazardous materials and EBRP residency.

Household hazardous materials that will be accepted include: fertilizers, pool chemicals, insecticides, pesticides, gasoline, cleaning products, latex and oil paint and paint products, automobile tires, auto products including used oil, antifreeze, brake fluid, diesel, oil and fuel filters; cooking oil; fluorescent tubes, ballasts and compact fluorescent bulbs; lead acid, NiCad and alkaline batteries; and all types of electronics including televisions, computers, keyboards, mice, speakers, monitors, telephones and phone systems, cell phones, bag phones, security systems, beepers, networking equipment, fax machines, circuit boards, processors, phone and computer cable, uninterruptible power supply (UPS); and toner and inkjet cartridges. Liquids should be labeled and in closed containers.

Good, usable latex paint will be blended and Habitat for Humanity will distribute it from their outlet ReStore at 4301 Airline Highway for a modest price. No blended paint will be available at Memorial Stadium.

For more information contact the EBRP Recycling Office at 225-389-5194 or consult the EBRP Recycling Office web site at www.brgov.com/recycle.

District 10 Neighborhood Spotlight

GARDEN DISTRICT

The Garden District is comprised of three subdivisions, Roseland Terrace, Drehr Place, and Kleinert Terrace. In 1976 they joined together to form the Garden District Civic Association, one of the most active civic associations in the city. Family activities are planned for each season. The Garden District's boundaries range roughly from Government St. to S. 18th St. to Broussard to Eugene and St. Rose. The neighborhood is characterized by the stately live oaks that line its streets.

Roseland Terrace, the oldest of the three and Baton Rouge's first subdivision, was staked out in 1911 and was placed on the National Register in 1982. It is also significant in the area of architecture as an example of an early twentieth century residential neighborhood. It retains 88% of its pre-1930 housing stock. Moreover, with close to 300 well developed bungalows in a concentrated area, Roseland Terrace is one of the best preserved early-twentieth century neighborhoods in Louisiana.

Drehr Place was put on the National Register in 1997. It dates from 1921. The East Baton Rouge Parish Historic Preservation Commission declared Drehr Place a local historic district in October 2005.

Kleinert Terrace was placed on the National Register in 1998, it dates from 1927.

Upcoming Events

FRIDAY, MAY 22ND
LSU Lab School Graduation
Cox Center @ LSU

FRIDAY, MAY 22ND
Freeman-Matthews & Wonderland Graduation
F.G. Clark Activity Center
@ Southern University 10 a.m.

TUESDAY, JUNE 9TH
Tell Tara Town Meeting
Metro Council Chambers
6:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, JUNE 20TH
Juneteenth Celebration
African-American Museum
538 South Boulevard
All Day

Did you know?

One morning (in the '50s) the neighbors on the part of East Lakeshore that overlooks City Park Golf Course woke up to the tinkling sounds of a Beethoven Sonata. The sound came from the golf course and a close look revealed a grand piano, nestled in the deep hill overlooking the fourth fairway. A beautiful blonde pianist in a flowing Grecian white gown was passionately playing the Moonlight Sonata in the early morning mist. A close by camera rolled and recorded the action. By breakfast time the word had gotten around the neighborhood. One of the neighbors had loaned their grand piano so that a commercial spot could be filmed on the golf course before it opened for the day. A couple of big burly guys had just rolled the piano out the front door and onto the golf course. Voila, City Park, a concert stage.

Special Thanks to Lillie P. Gallagher, our resident historian!

GREAT SOUTH BATON ROUGE CLEAN-UP

The Great South Baton Rouge Clean-up took place on Saturday, April 4th in conjunction with the nationwide Great American Clean-up. The event, sponsored by the Offices of Councilwoman Tara Wicker, State Representative Patricia Haynes Smith, and Keep Baton Rouge Beautiful, brought people together from all over District 10 to clean-up over 20 streets and vacant lots in the Old South Baton Rouge Area. The more than 100 volunteers gathered back at the Leo S. Butler Community Center to win door prizes from a variety of businesses.



Volunteers Bertha Smith (left) and Joan Smith (center) assist with volunteer sign in.

SPRING HAS ARRIVED

Residents of District 10 were invited to an array of events on Saturday, April 11 throughout the district. The events included the Bunny Brunch sponsored by Picadilly Cafeteria, where pictures were taken with the Easter Bunny and attendees enjoyed a great meal.

The children of District 10 then enjoyed an Easter Egg Hunt sponsored by BREC and the Baranco-Clark YMCA.

The day concluded with the March of the Cross Resurrection Celebration in Old South Baton Rouge.



MCKINLEY BRIDGE REHABILITATION UNDER WAY

The people of Old South Baton Rouge will soon have the McKinley Bridge back in operation. Councilwoman Tara Wicker was joined by Mayor-President Kip Holden, DPW Director Pete Newkirk, Contractor Steve Price, and others to break ground on the project that started on April 18, 2009 and is expected to be completed by July 3, 2009. We look forward to celebrating the re-opening with you.

