

# News from Sterlington

## Town Hall

VOLUME I ISSUE IV

JUNE , 2007

### SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Storm Hits Sterlington
- Sterlington Chamber Of Commerce
- Public Works Cleans Up After Storm
- Request for Proposal On Garbage Service
- Message From Chief Bonner

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## Storm Causes Damage In Sterlington

On May 3rd at approximately 4:30 pm, Sterlington was rocked by a violent thunderstorm that packed high wind and torrential down pours of rain. Even though the storm passed quickly several residence received damage. Trees and utility poles were twisted and down. Several of our citizens experienced significant damage to the roofs and other property, and electricity was out in the town for several hours. While our citizens did report several injuries, most of which occur while making storm repairs, we are very happy to report that there were no casualties.



Sterlington Residence after the storm

## Sterlington Chamber Of Commerce To Hold First Meeting *by Alderman Ladd Williams*

We are very excited about the formation of our very own Sterlington Chamber of Commerce. The first meeting will be held June 15, 2007 at noon at Frenchman's Bend Country Club. Invitations have been sent out, and we are working hard to contact all our local business owners. If you are a Sterlington business owner and you do not receive and invitation for some reason, please know that it is simply an oversight, accept our apology and plan to attend the meeting anyway. All our business owners are sincerely encouraged to attend. Lunch will be provided free of charge. For more information, contact Ladd Williams at [llwilliams@townofsterlington.com](mailto:llwilliams@townofsterlington.com) or call Town Hall at 665-2157.

## REUNION PLANNED

### MARK YOUR CALENDAR

SHS Multi-Class 20-Something Year Reunion  
August 11, 2007

Contact Cindy York Loftin @ [figbizart@comcast.net](mailto:figbizart@comcast.net)  
More information next month



## Eric Hill Completes Eagle Scout Project



Eric Hill, son of Dr. Ron & Shelly Hill

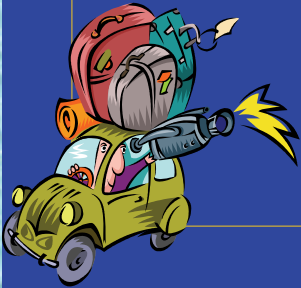
For years the elected officials for the town have wanted to make it easier for the citizens of Sterlington to have access to information from town hall. The simplest and what seemed to be the easiest solution was to become part of the World Wide Web, but as it turned out the

solution was not so simple nor easy. With the hard work, knowledge and leadership provided by Eric Hill the town now has a web site that is second to none and now the town will be able to keep our citizens better informed.

Make sure to visit [www.TownOfSterlington.com](http://www.TownOfSterlington.com) and see this outstanding

web site. You'll find this edition, as well as previous editions of our newsletter on the site, and the next time you see Eric Hill, make sure to thank him for a job very well done!

**Please Consider:  
You Hurt Our  
Town When You  
Litter**



**Town Hall  
Meetings:**

**2nd and 4th  
Tuesday  
each  
month.  
6:30 pm**

## Mayor Breland Thanks Eagle Scouts

The Town of Sterlington and its citizens are very fortunate to have Boy Scout Troop #3 located inside our town. This troop recently had 2 outstanding young men to complete projects to earn their Eagle Scout rank through efforts that were of great benefit to our town. Due to their dedication and hard work, the town now has a new gazebo and its own web site.

Will Long built the gazebo, which is located beside the Police Department and can be used for many different purposes. If you have not seen this beautiful gazebo, I invite you to come by and take a look. Bring a sack lunch and use the gazebo to relax and enjoy a little quiet time.

Eric Hill designed, developed, and built the web site for the Town of Sterlington. We feel that the site will be a great benefit to our citizens by giving access to Town Hall and quick up-to-date information regarding the town. I invite you to visit [www.TownOfSterlington.com](http://www.TownOfSterlington.com) to see for yourself the wonderful job Eric has done with the web site.

I want to publicly recognize and thank these two young men for their hard work and dedication to their community. They have our respect, our gratitude, and our admiration.

Mayor Vern Breland

# Public Works Removes Debris After The Storm

Before the May 3rd storm was gone, your Public Works Department was out cutting and removing downed trees from the streets of Sterlington. Once the trees were removed, the hard work of cleaning up began. Brian, Pat and Les worked a total of 150 hours removing and cut-

ting all of the limbs that were placed beside the roadways. The limbs were fed into a chipper and the mulch was blown into the new dump trailer that was purchased for public works prior to the storm. The mulch has been saved for use by town citizens.



*Pat McDonald, Brian Stires, and Les Auttonberry*

## Chief Bonner & Captain Duncan Teach Bicycle Safety At A.L. Smith



Chief of Police Barry Bonner and Capt. Donald Duncan are pictured here on May 17, 2007, with the smiling faces of Mrs. Perry and her 2nd grade class at A.L. Smith Elementary.

Chief Bonner and Captain Duncan taught several bicycle safety classes that day, and Chief Bonner says that he hopes to keep teaching our children at our elementary school about drug awareness and bicycle safety every year. "Our children are our greatest asset, and it is totally up to us as a community to make certain they get every opportunity to learn and grow so that they have the opportunity to become the future leaders of our country, state, parish, city or town."

Remember summer vacation is here! Let's all be aware of the children playing about our town and make this a very safe summer for all.

## Bible School Set For St. Andrews Methodist Church



St. Andrews United Methodist Church would like to invite all children from pre-k to 6th grade to attend Vacation Bible School, June 27-29, from 9a.m.- 1130. All children in this age range in the community are invited to attend and to bring your friends. **MARK YOUR CALENDAR AND DON'T MISS OUT ON ALL THE FUN!** Please call the church at (318) 665-4479 if you need more information or directions to the church.

*We invite the other churches and civic organizations in town to inform us of your events. We will be happy to include them in our newsletter!*

# What's On The Chief's Mind This Month?



To the Citizens of Sterlington:

Well, summer is finally here. And as we all know, so are the longer and hotter days. Every year the elderly suffer from the effects of the heat. Many are on fixed incomes, and running an air conditioner all the time is simply not an option for them. I would like to begin a program that would allow the Sterlington Police Department to keep a careful eye on the welfare of our elderly. Our Police Department would very much like to call and check on each of our elderly citizens on a regular basis. In order for this to work, I would ask that everyone wishing to be listed or to have a loved one listed on the call sheet, please contact myself or one of our police officers at the Sterlington Police Department. Please provide us with the person's name, age, address and phone number. Also, inform us on any health concerns they have so that when we are making our calls, we can ask specific questions regarding how they are doing.

In addition, let us all be aware and courteous to our neighbors when it comes to the control of our pets. I receive several complaints a week regarding dogs running loose and causing problems in the neighborhood. The Sterlington Police Department takes each complaint serious and will do everything possible to help remedy the problem. Please help us in this matter by making sure your pets are put on a leash or in a controlled space when they are outside. This will not only solve the nuisance problem, but it will also keep our pets and citizens safe by keeping our streets free of animals darting in and out of traffic.

The increase in the number of families moving into our town also increases the need of our local storage building facilities. Unfortunately, this also increases the potential for burglaries of these facilities. Please keep in mind that the most important and helpful thing you can do to insure the safety of your belongings is to use a proper lock on your storage unit. The most effective lock we have found that seems to be a pancake lock. Please also help by reporting any unusual activity or suspicious persons to the Sterlington Police Department at 665-4532.

Finally, please allow me to also briefly take the opportunity to dispel any rumors regarding my running in the upcoming Sheriff's election. I cannot emphasize how much of an honor and privilege it is to serve you as your Chief of Police. My family and I thank you sincerely, and I plan to continue to serve as your Chief of Police as long as you will have me.

Sincerely yours,

**Barry Bonner, Chief of Police**

## ANGUS Wins Lantern Award From State

ANGUS Chemical received tribute in a special ceremony on June 5, 2007 at the Governor's Mansion in Baton Rouge as the 2007 District 7 State Lantern Award Winner. Mayor Breland was honored to represent Sterlington as Mike Albano, Maintenance Manager for ANGUS, came forward to accept the award on behalf of the company.

The Prestigious Lantern Award was presented to ANGUS by Louisiana Economic Development (LED) and the Louisiana Industrial Development Executives Association (LIDEA). The Lantern Award recognizes excellence in manufacturing and community involvement.

Congratulations to ANGUS for an excellent job. We are pleased to have you as part of our community.



*Mike Albano and Mayor Breland proudly display the award*



# TOWN OF STERLINGTON

MAYOR, VERN BRELAND

## PUBLIC NOTICE REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR GARBAGE SERVICE

The Town of Sterlington is soliciting proposals from current garbage service providers currently operating in Northeast Louisiana.

The purpose of this request is to solicit proposals from garbage service providers who are interested in providing the citizens of Sterlington with a quality garbage service.

Request for Proposal (RFP) packages may be obtained by contacting Town Hall, 503 Hwy 2, Sterlington, La. 71280. RFP packages may also be requested by telephone from Marilyn Dilmore at (318) 665-2712. Proposal packages may also be picked up from Town Hall. No RFP packages will be issued by facsimile or e-mail. Proposal materials will be available to interested parties after 8:00 a.m. on Friday, June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2007. No material will be released prior to this date and time. The deadline for submission of proposals is 5:00 p.m., Friday, July 6<sup>th</sup>, 2007. Please note that: 1) Deadlines are firm. 2) Late proposals will not be accepted. 3) Proposal delayed by mail will be considered late and will not be accepted. 4) Applications transmitted via fax or e-mail will not be accepted.

No obligation shall be implied based on the information in this solicitation for proposals. The Town of Sterlington reserves the right to accept any proposal, or reject any and all proposals on such a basis as may be deemed to be in its best interest.

Mayor Vern Breland



# TOWN OF STERLINGTON

MAYOR, VERN BRELAND

Request for Proposal No. 07-01

Released June 1, 2007

The purpose of this request is to solicit proposals from garbage service providers who are interested in providing the citizens of Sterlington with a quality garbage service. The following guidelines are required of the service provider to bid on this service:

## **General Provisions**

### **1.1 Proposer to Make Examination**

Each Proposer shall make its own examination, investigation and research regarding the proper method of doing the work, all conditions affecting the work to be done, the labor, equipment and materials, and the quantity of the work to be performed. The Proposer agrees that it has satisfied itself by Proposer's own investigation and research regarding all of such conditions, and that Proposer's conclusion to enter into the Agreement and execution of the Agreement is based upon such investigation and research, and that Proposer shall make no claim against the Town because of any of the estimates, statements or interpretations made by any officer or agent of the Town which may prove to be in any respect erroneous.

**The Proposer assumes the risk of all conditions foreseen or unforeseen and agrees to continue the work without additional compensation under whatever circumstances may develop other than as herein provided.**

**In developing their responses to the RFP, Proposer should consider that the Town seeks to minimize customer impacts resulting from a change in service**

### **1.2 Agreement Term**

The Town of Sterlington will consider the following contract lengths for garbage service:

- One year
- Three year
- Five year

If a contract is awarded service will begin on October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2007 to give the provider and citizen's time to change to the new service.



# TOWN OF STERLINGTON

MAYOR, VERN BRELAND

## 1.3 MINIMUM LEVEL OF SERVICES

The basic services required to all areas of the Town are:

1. Household garbage ( bagged, in container)
2. garbage pickup twice weekly from 6 a.m. until dark
3. Provide pickup service for the handicapped and elderly to be identified by the Town.
4. Garbage trucks to be 15 yards or less and in excellent mechanical condition
5. Trucks are to have latest safety equipment
6. Trucks to be manned by at least two (2) workers at all times.

**Proposer shall include in his proposal a price for supplying containers and a price without containers, also proposal shall include billing by the Proposer or the Town.**

## 1.4 INSURANCE REQUIRMENTS

The following amounts apply for insurance requirements:

1. General Liability                    1 Million
2. Auto combined limit            1 Million
3. Workers Comp.                    Statutory
4. Name Town as an additional Insured
5. Waiver of Subrogation include all forms
6. Performance Bond 5% of contract value

## REFRENCES

Each Proposer will submit a list of references that the Town can use to make inquires about past job performance.

## Message from the Mayor

Wow, it is hard to believe that it is summer time already! The kids have made it through another year. I know our youngest son, Zak, is glad to be out of school. He is spending the summer in Baton Rouge learning about capitalism. He has a summer job.

I've also been spending my fair share of time in Baton Rouge. With the legislature in session, I have been there trying to make sure that we get the money that we have asked for. While we were not able to get any new money included in the Capital Outlay Bill for the 2008 budget, we were able to get our Priority 5 money moved to Priority 1. This is very exciting news! This money will be available as soon as the Governor signs the Capital Outlay Bill and will be used for completing the sewer system along 165 to the sewer treatment facility.

Your elected officials have also been very busy on the local front. A recent article in *The News Star* concerning the 1 cent sales tax that the Parish gets for maintaining our roads and roadside ditching certainly created a buzz. However, this is not a new development. The Police Jury has been working on this for over 2 years, the initial conversation actually began when Mayor Bullock was in office. I am continuing the fight, trying to get our tax dollars back so that we can put them to work here in Sterlington. Some say, "Let the parish maintain the roads and have them do more work by putting pressure on them." That sounds good but, unfortunately, it will not work. They are responsible for a large parish, and simply do not have enough people to maintain all that is in need of repair. During the recent storm that hit our area, I called the Parish Public Works Department about having the trees removed that had fallen, and I was advised that they would have to get Police Jury approval before they could come to Sterlington and remove the trees. Our Public Works Department worked 150 man hours removing the trees that you, our citizens, cleared off your property and placed beside the road. The 1 cent tax in question brings in over \$205,000 dollars a year to the parish, and that number is certain to increase. It has been said that \$205,000 is not enough money to take care of our roads. I disagree. Please consider this: The last road overlaid with black top inside Sterlington was Bayou Street in either 1999 or 2000. Old Sterlington Road was chip sealed in 2006. You can see that our money is not flowing back into Sterlington as it should be. Our Public Works Department can not do the actual work on the roads nor are we proposing that they attempt to do so. However, if allowed to take our \$205,000 a year in taxes back from the Parish, we absolutely can bid the jobs out. Please further consider this: In 2002, Church Street ranked 226 in priority with the Parish for road work. Now, in 2007, it ranks 210. This means that considering the formula that the Police Jury uses to establish priority in road work, the chances of Church Street ever actually being overlaid are very slim. I understand that this is a hot topic, but ask yourself: *Are we getting our moneys worth from the Police Jury, or can the town do a better job maintaining our roads and ditches than they are currently doing for us?* If you feel that you would like to call our Police Juror, his name is Walt Caldwell, and you can reach him at 340-0500.

Remember I serve you, and while I have my own opinions, please know that I strive to always do what ever the citizens of Sterlington tell me that they would like to see done about this and every other matter. If you have any questions please give me a call at Town Hall 665-2712 or on my cell at 450-2707. I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,  
Mayor Vern A. Breland

## Prayer Breakfast held at First Baptist Church *by Alderman Ladd Williams*

**We were so excited when the number of folks attending the community wide prayer breakfast nearly doubled last month at our second meeting. This is a sure sign that the citizens of our town are actively engaged in prayerful thought as our town moves forward. The decision was made to suspend our meetings during the summer months and then resume again in August. So keep watching the town news letter for information about the next meeting and make time to join your friends and neighbors for good food and fellowship.**

