

# JERSEY VILLAGE STAR

MAY 2002

## ON THE HORIZON...

### ■ DON'T FORGET TO VOTE!

**City Council election** to be held **May 4, 2002** for Council members for place 1, 4, and 5. The polls will be open 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. at City Hall, 16501 Jersey Drive. Early voting: weekdays, April 17-30, 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., with special extended hours on Saturday, April 27th, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

■ If you would like to receive The Star by e-mail, please send your request along with your name and e-mail address to:

E-blast@jerseyvillage.info.

And, don't forget, you can read The Star online in color, too!

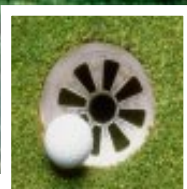
**[www.jerseyvillage.info](http://www.jerseyvillage.info)**

## SPRING IS A GREAT TIME TO BE OUT ON THE LINKS!

Now that the days are longer thanks to Daylight Savings Time, citizens are taking advantage of the extra hours to unwind at the end of the work day. This is reflected in the dramatic increase in golf rounds played during March at Jersey Meadow Golf Course (3,734 compared to 2,969 in February). The aggressive new membership drive is paying off, with revenue from that source almost doubling in the past month alone. Even the sales of merchandise and miscellaneous services almost doubled last month.

According to General Manager, Sam Hewitt, "Jersey Meadow Golf Course has some exciting programs underway, and more and more residents are taking advantage of our great new membership packages. We are pleased that everyone has been so receptive to our expanded services, and will continue to explore ways to keep pace with expectations."

Visit online ([www.jerseymeadow.homestead.com](http://www.jerseymeadow.homestead.com)) to review the timetable for upcoming golf clinics at the Intermediate level in May and a series of Junior Clinics in June. Check into a membership, too...and we'll see you on the links!



# COUNCIL HONORS RETIRING MEMBER

It was an emotion-packed evening for **Joyce Berube**, who was honored at the April Council meeting for her years of dedicated service to the community. She is retiring after four terms as a City Councilwoman. During her tenure, she has been actively involved with the City's Parks and Landscaping, Recreation and Events committees, and with the Cy-Fair Houston Chamber of Commerce. She has served on the boards of Cy-Fair College, the YMCA, The Blood Center, American Heart Association, American Diabetes Foundation, and Caring for Children Foundation.

Joyce's early career of 35 years was in banking, the last 15 of which was spent as Vice President of Sterling Bank. She retired five years ago to "spend some time as my grandchild's nanny" and to go into Real Estate where she has become a "Top Producer" with Keller Williams. This lucky move put Joyce in the envious position of winning a drawing for a trip around the world! She and Dan, her husband of 40 years, have traveled the globe to all of Europe,



*Mayor Heathcott presented Councilwoman Berube with a Plaque of Appreciation at her last official Council meeting.*

Russia, China, Hong Kong, Egypt, the Holy Land, Greece, Ireland and the UK -- to mention just a few of the "glorious places" they have enjoyed. Joyce recounts one memorable surprise when their travel group arranged for them to be "remarried" in Gretna Green in Scotland in a quaint ceremony. She reports that Europe is their summer destination, and the trip after that will be an African Safari.

In honoring her service, Mayor Heathcott issued a proclamation "with appreciation and gratitude worthy of high recognition for the outstanding quality of public service and many accomplishments rendered these past 8 years." In special recognition of her support and involvement with the Parks and Landscaping Committee's tree program, the City will dedicate a tree planted in her honor. ■

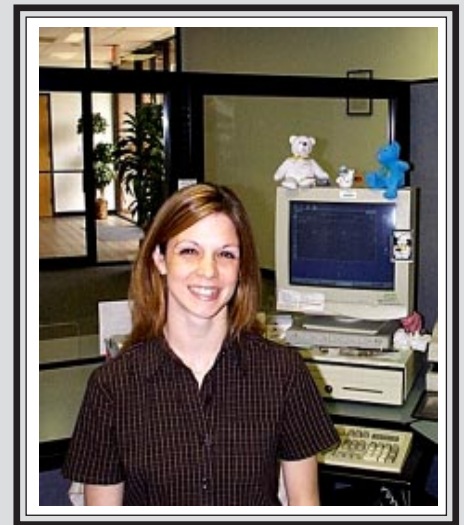


## MEET THE STAFF... Jennifer Bradley

Jennifer Bradley, the City's receptionist/cashier greets all customers professionally, courteously, and always with a smile. In addition to greeting citizens and business professionals at City Hall, she answers in-coming phone calls, takes water, tax, court, and permit fees and miscellaneous payments, and is never too busy to help in other areas when needed. She has a wealth of information at her fingertips and has an almost encyclopedic knowledge of the City's functions and services.

Jennifer, a 15-year City resident, is the proud mother of Braden, who is not quite a year old. She graduated from JVHS and is presently working on her undergraduate degree.

This cheerful young woman has many responsibilities with the City, but you can always be assured that when you consult with Jennifer, you will be given her full attention. If she can't help you with a problem or in getting a question answered, Jennifer will find someone who can. ■



## Behind the Scenes...

# THE JV COURT SYSTEM

In March 2002, there was a flurry of activity for Jersey Village Municipal Court. Two hundred fifty one defendants were arraigned on 398 violations, 63 defendants appeared in court for pre-trials or court trials, 23 juveniles appeared in court on failure to attend school charge, and 903 new cases were filed.

This court activity was processed behind the scenes by the support staff: Court Clerks, Nell Protas, Carmen Knezeak, and Court Administrator, Maria Busch. Maria, with 23 years experience in municipal court operations, has been Court Administrator for the City of Jersey Village for two years. She is continuing her professional development by participating in the Clerk Certification Program sponsored by Texas Court Clerks Association in cooperation with Texas Municipal Courts Association and Texas Municipal Court Education Center having completed Levels I and II and is committed to achieving Level III status, which carries a title of Certified Municipal Court Clerk.

All members of the court staff strive to achieve a high standard of excellence in every aspect of court work, always aiming for the timely disposition of cases. The court's success comes from the strength of its team members who are dedicated to professionalism and to doing the best job possible. They are committed to treating everyone with whom they come in contact with dignity and respect.

When a defendant makes an appearance in JV Municipal Court, he or she is in "good hands" with Nell or Carmen, who are both proficient in court procedures.

They are continuing their legal education by attending training seminars offered by the Texas Municipal Court Education Center.

Nell, an invaluable employee with 14 years experience, can perform any ministerial function of a municipal court. She has the distinction of being the first person with whom most defendants come in contact. In addition to greeting defendants who come into the court building, Nell does all the data entries on case dispositions (a never-ending job!), answers phone calls and countless questions in a professional manner, prepares legal complaints and subpoenas for court trials which are held twice a month, answers written communication, and prepares the docket for arraignment settings. Her dedication to getting the job done and superior knowledge of court operations keep the court running smoothly.

Carmen, an expert in organizational skills, has ten years ex-



perience with municipal court. She is the docket coordinator for jury trials. Carmen verifies all new incoming charges; prepares case folders making certain that legal papers are properly prepared; files state mandated activity reports and conviction reports; prepares probable cause affidavits, warrants, and summons. She is highly skilled in the demanding legal work she does day in and day out, and also adept at filling in for the receptionist/cashier or for Nell when needed.

Carmen lives and works by this motto: "We can make it happen." ■



**The Court Team...**standing, left to right: Nell Protas, Court Clerk, and Maria Busche, Court Administrator. Seated is Court Clerk Carmen Knezeak.

## Sandy's Corner

# Welcome to the Road!

**You don't have a right to drive.** Driving is a privilege granted to you by the state. The state gives you a license and the state can take it away. So always follow the rules of the road.

Don't drive aggressively or take other risks, especially with alcohol and drugs. You should drive as if someone you love is on the same road. Risky driving increases your chances of getting into an accident. Someone you care about could be in that other car. Someone others care about *IS* in that car.



*"C'mon, step on it!" And to show you that I'm in a hurry I will tailgate you so that you can see my face in your mirror. Get outta my way. I'll blow past you, if I can only get a break in this traffic. I hope I'm making you nervous because you are making me mad!*

We have all met an aggressive driver. They are all over our roads making driving more dangerous for everyone. They are the drivers who: cut you off, block the passing lane, refuse to yield even when you have the right of way, and tailgate. We may turn angry -- even aggressive -- ourselves. It's natural to get angry.

Aggressive drivers put you in a situation where you feel unsafe. That can create resentment

and anger. You may feel the urge to respond by honking your horn, glaring, yelling, shaking your fist, and speeding up to pass. Resist the urge to react. If you do react, you could be putting yourself and your passengers, in even more danger.



Don't get drawn into a confrontation. Any reaction from you is going to make things worse. If you have an encounter with an aggressive driver, don't respond, no matter how angry you get. Don't even make eye contact. Take a deep breath and exhale. Ignore the person. Let him or her drive right out of your life.



**Officer S. Joachim**

What causes aggressive driving? Very often the cause is a combination of crowded roads, roadwork, stress from other areas of life, and dangerous driving attitudes. It is easy to slip into aggressive driving without meaning to. Learn to manage stress better, don't drive when you're angry and take on a positive attitude toward driving.



If an aggressive driver is making the road unsafe, stay calm. Stop at a safe place, then call the police or sheriff and report the incident. Never confront an aggressive driver. **IT'S NOT WORTH IT.** When you take risks while driving, you're taking chances with people's lives—including yours.

So, welcome to the road and please drive safely! ■



## MAYOR ISSUES PROCLAMATIONS...

Mayor Heathcott kicked off the April Council meeting by issuing several proclamations: one honoring retiring councilmember **Joyce Berube** (see page two), one proclaiming May 6-10 as **Municipal Clerks Week**, and one designating the week of May 19-25 as **Emergency Medical Services Week**.

### Actions by City Council -- April 15, 2002 Session

1. Awarded the contract for Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation to Garver Construction, Ltd. with a maximum authorized amount of \$172,128.30.
2. Approved an ordinance amending Section 14-355 of the Code of Ordinances to permit post-tension foundations and establishing standards therefore.
3. Approved that a contract be finalized with the Cy-Fair Houston Chamber of Commerce for promoting tourism in the JV area.
4. Set limit of public comment at City Council meetings to 5 minutes.
5. Set a public hearing at the next Council meeting to consider appropriate action for a substandard building at 15801 Tahoe.



The Mayor congratulated City Secretary, **Deborah Loesch**, for her professionalism, her exemplary dedication and her high performance standards, and commented that the City was indeed fortunate to have her serve in such a critical capacity.

## Signs of Improvement...



Contractors are at work on the Elevated Water Storage Tank Rehab as well as on Paving, Storm Sewer and Water Line Improvements.



Senate Avenue street construction has been completed, and there are now three new esplanades that will have ornamental streetlights installed to continue the existing layout. Installation will proceed over the next month and a half. The Parks and Landscaping committee will assist in the landscaping design for the new esplanades.

Mayor Heathcott also designated May 19-25 as Emergency Medical Services Week, in observance of the vital role these dedicated health care providers play in the safety of our community. Nearly two-thirds of all EMS personnel are volunteers and we are grateful to them for "being there" for us 24/7. Thanks to all our extraordinary EMS volunteers! ■



**MONTHLY STATISTICS,  
March 2002**

**JV Police Department:**

|                    |     |
|--------------------|-----|
| Calls for Service  | 591 |
| Vehicle Theft      | 13  |
| Theft              | 7   |
| Burglary, business | 0   |
| Burglary, vehicle  | 6   |
| Narcotics, felony  | 3   |
| Minor accidents    | 63  |
| Major accidents    | 12  |
| Alarms             | 68  |
| Suspicious person  | 39  |
| Traffic control    | 40  |
| Traffic hazard     | 26  |

**JV Emergency Services Dept.:**

|                     |     |
|---------------------|-----|
| Fire/County         | 12  |
| Fire/ETJ            | 0   |
| Fire/JV             | 24  |
| EMS/County          | 16  |
| EMS/ETJ             | 2   |
| EMS/JV              | 46  |
| TOTAL               | 100 |
| Transports          | 35  |
| Mutual aid received | 6   |
| Mutual aid given    | 28  |

**CANDIDATES FOR CITY COUNCIL...MAY 4 ELECTION**

|                                 |                                  |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <b>City Council Place No. 1</b> | Bill Walker<br>Rusty Preece      |
| <b>City Council Place No. 4</b> | Ernie English<br>Russell Hamley  |
| <b>City Council Place No. 5</b> | A. J. Widacki<br>James H. Fields |



**National Police Week is  
May 12 - 18, 2002**

May 15<sup>th</sup> was designated National Peace Officers' Memorial Day in 1962 by President John F. Kennedy. The week containing May 15 was designated National Police Week.

National activities are hosted each year in Washington, D.C. to honor those law enforcement officers who made the ultimate sacrifice the previous calendar year, and to offer support to their survivors and loved ones of those officers.

The Jersey Village Police Department will show support by flying **blue ribbons** from the cruiser antennas and by placing blue ribbons outside the building. We invite you to join us by honoring our fallen officers on National Peace Officers' Memorial Day. ■

**Announcements:**



**NATURAL AND MANMADE DISASTER PREPAREDNESS CLASS...**

a one and a half hour disaster preparedness class will be held at the Jersey Village Civic Center, 16327 Lakeview, 7 to 8:30 p.m. on the following dates: Thursday, May 23, 2002, Monday, June 2, and Thursday, June 6. Topics will include: early warning systems, evacuations, shelter in place, what to do with pets and personal/family disaster kits. This course will be conducted by the Jersey Village Emergency Services Training Officer. For more information, please contact Rob Missall at 713-466-2130.



**JV VEGGIE CO-OP..**

The JV Veggie Co-Op is seeking new members. You receive fruits and vegetables every two weeks. Call Mary Kay at 713-856-9260.



**GIRL SCOUTS  
SAY THANKS...**

Thank you! to the residents of Jersey Village for helping Girl Scout Troop 10476 reach their Super Troop cookie goal. Our first annual cookie booth at the Caol Fox Park was a success. We are looking forward to next year. We still have some boxes of Girl Scout cookies left, so if you have run out, call Jane (713-937-6634) to replenish your supply. Thank you for supporting Girl Scouts!

*Troop 10476*

**Visit the new official Jersey Village website for the latest community information... [www.jerseyvillage.info](http://www.jerseyvillage.info)**