

"HUMAN RELATIONS MONTH"

health

Published as an "in-house" employee newsletter, by Division of Health, John M. Bruce, M.D., M.P.H., Director, Louisiana Health & Human Resources Administration.

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER
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End Measles in 1975—Dr. Bruce

Measles may be eradicated in Louisiana this year, according to Dr. John M. Bruce, director of the Division of Health, Louisiana Health and Human Resources Administration.

Only 13 cases of measles (rubeola) were reported in 1974.

"These cases were widely scattered throughout the state, and only two could be tied together, indicating that we are on the verge of eradicating the disease," Dr. Bruce said.

Public health efforts to make 1975 a "zero year" for measles—as were 1973 and 1974 for diphtheria—include encouraging physicians to report every suspected case to their local health units; urging school officials to report promptly illnesses suspected of being measles; thorough investigation of all reported cases to determine the source of infection, and immunization of susceptible persons among school and community contacts.



St. Helena Parish Health Unit's "Tree of Health" won the award for Best All Around float in the parish Forest Festival.

Governor Edwards has proclaimed February as Human Relations Month in Louisiana.

"Sharing, Caring, Working Together" is the theme of the third annual observance, sponsored by the Louisiana Health and Human Resources Administration, through its Human Services Division.

The Proclamation urges "Mayors of Municipalities, other public officials, state employees, leaders in the various fields—business, industry, labor—civic leaders, professionals, students, and others to take an active part in this observance" and urges "all citizens of this great State to remember the rights and responsibilities of all people of this state, and to insure that all rights are safeguarded and all responsibilities are met."

America observes National Brotherhood Week during February, but only in Louisiana is the entire month devoted to promoting brotherhood among all citizens.



Human Relations Month - Louisiana Health & Human Resources Admin

CU HOLDS ANNUAL MEETING;

The Louisiana Public Health Workers Federal Credit Union held its 24th annual meeting in New Orleans, January 23, and declared a 6½% dividend on shares.

Dr. Eugene Stassi, president of the Board of Directors, said that figure represented a 5% dividend plus a 1½% bonus. Beginning this year, quarterly dividends will be paid on all savings.

The Credit Union added 167 new members in 1974. The year's assets totalled \$1,085,178.03.

Elected by acclamation to fill four vacancies on the Board of Directors were Dr. George Hauser, Mrs. Shirley Hennessy, Dr. John Norton, and Dr. Stassi. All were elected for two-year terms.

Miss Mary Tragelis and Mrs. Theresa Stieber were elected to the Credit Committee.

All officers of the Board were re-elected for another year at a January 24th meeting.



Top row, left to right: Crowned "Queen for the Night" at a Christmas party in Evangeline Parish was school nurse Flo Andrus, seen here with Barbara Guillory, typist-clerk II (L), and Anita Manuel, PHN I; center: Donald McDaniel (seated), who resigned January 10 as Evangeline PHU sanitarian to go into farming, is shown at his farewell party with Kitty Reed, PHN (L), Darlus Fontenot, chief sanitarian, and Glorious Charlie, home health aide. Steve Tate transferred from St. Mary Parish to replace McDaniel. At right: children in the HCS regional clinic, Ouachita PHU, play with toys donated by members of the Junior Charity League of Monroe who help to keep the clinics running smoothly. Middle row: at left, employees of Lafourche, Terrebonne, and Assumption parish health units, and other guests, were hosted by Dr. Sarah M. Braud at a Christmas brunch in her home. At right, public health officials giving a food handlers school for employees of the Holiday Inn in Thibodaux were given a large welcome. Center, Central Office laboratory workers, led by Dr. George Hauser, gave a cake and eggnog party for Mary W. Fallin, steno-clerk II, retiring in December after 23 years of service. Bottom row: left, Mrs. Eleanor Webb, MCH-Family Planning Program nurse, Ouachita PHU, is shown with some of 16 teenage maternity patients entertained at a Christmas party. Others, not shown, who work in the special program and assisted with the party were Mrs. Joyce Lovett, regional nutritionist, and Mrs. Joy Camp, regional social worker. Center: Cliff Murphy, sanitarian II, presents a certificate to Geraldine Powell at the conclusion of a food handlers school presented at the Doctors Hospital in Baton Rouge. Total attendance at the first session was 166. Ann Macomber (left), LSU Medical Center Library, and Judy Guillory, library administrator, Division of Health, at work sorting and packing the 17,000 accessioned books and uncounted other publications being transferred to the LSU Medical Library in January.

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Elvera T. Beyer, personnel technician, Central Office, and J. Thomas Zeoli, docket clerk, New Orleans Civil District Court, married November 16.

JAMBALAYA

CONGRATULATIONS to **Don F. Goodman**, radio, tec. II, TB Control Unit, elected Worshipful Master of the Galileo-Mazzini Lodge, No. 368, F. and A.M. . . . **Joey Torres**, 17, featured as a "Top Teen" by the Lake Charles American Press, makes a habit of helping others. He is president of the LaGrange High School's Interact Club, (his favorite), chairman of the Calcasieu Youth Action Program for the March of Dimes, president of the senior class, member of Fellowship of Christian Athletes, International Club, and National Honor Society. He also attended Boys' State and was a Student Council representative in his junior year. Joey enjoys sports and is on the school baseball team. Proud papa is our own **Amilcar Torres**, San. II, Calcasieu. . . . **Union Parish** voters, by a vote of 769 to 168, approved renewal of a 1½ mill tax for the operation of the parish health unit . . . It's a fascinating fact: five **Lafourchè Parish Health Unit** employees - - two clerks, one sanitarian, one nurse, and one aide - - have worked a total of 137 years with the health unit. No wonder that when a new clerk was hired last year someone asked, "Who died?" . . . **Fred W. Hering**, executive secretary of Southern Branch, APHA, moved to the APHA Washington Office Jan. 1. . . . Look for a good attendance from the New Orleans area at the **LPHA Annual Meeting** in Shreveport next April; members are signing up for a round-trip chartered bus ride. . . . She didn't visit the Queen, but **Juana B. Stanford**, typ.-clerk II, Pierre the Pelican Program, did go to London - - to spend Christmas with her son, **Lt. Col. Nolen B. Stanford**, Deputy Commander, U.S. Air Force unit at Alconbury, England. From there she flew to Paris for a five-day visit with a cousin with whom she'd corresponded but never seen. **Debra Gostl** joined the Health Education staff as typ.-clerk II, Jan. 27. . . . Health Educators **John S. Guillory**, **Don Mullins** and **Arthur Sneed**; Food and Drug Control Unit sanitarians **Frank Deffes, Jr.**, and **Mike Mitternight**; and East Feliciana Parish Health Unit sanitarian **Fred Alsup** held a two-day workshop on applied sanitation procedures at East La. State Hospital in January. Another is scheduled for February. . . . Giving their out-of-city faculty an unusual treat, nutritionists obtained invitations for them to the **Pegasus Ball**, and adopted the **Mardi Gras** colors for program and registration desk decorations during a two-day conference on adolescent nutrition. **King cake** was served at breakfast each morning. . . . **Ellyce Dupree Goins**, lab. tec. II, was reassigned to the Jefferson Parish Health Unit as health educator II, effective Jan. 27. . . . **John S. Guillory, Jr.**, was employed as a bedding control officer in the Thibodaux area, Dec. 15. . . .

HAPPY MARDI GRAS!

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Born to Mr. and Mrs. Leo Pitre of Cut Off (she's the daughter of Jennie Martin, PHN II, Lafourche PHU), twin sons, Friday, December 13, Mrs. Martin's grandsons weighed 5 lb. 8 oz. and 5 lb. 13 oz. The later baby was the 13th admitted to the hospital nursery that day.

Born to Sharon (PHN, Ouachita PHU) and Stanley Liner, their third child, Clifton Hughes Liner, 8 lb., December 30.

"Thanks to You, It Worked"



Acting Governor James E. Fitzmorris, Jr., congratulates John Shirley Guillory, Public Health Education Officer, for "a job well done" in the 1975 United Way Campaign. State employees raised \$90,550, or 106.5 percent of their set goal--an increase of 10.8 percent over last year's contributions.



Vera W. Thomason, R.N., Health Center Head Nurse, Southeastern Louisiana College, shown giving a program evaluation form to student Sandra Embry, and Mary E. Causey, R.N., SE regional health educator (center), presented programs on breast cancer and VD to inform students of the importance of early detection of diseases prevalent in young adults. Student comment was favorable, suggesting that the special programs be repeated next semester.

SYMPATHY

To Margaret (Mrs. Frank) Snodgrass, typist-clerk III, Office of Public Health Education, death of mother, December 21.

To Arthur O. Sneed, S. W. regional public health educator, death of father, January 8.

To Edward E. Bahm, Amite Milk Laboratory administrator, and Robert Daryl Cambre, sanitarian, Winn Parish Health Unit, death of father-in-law and grandfather, E. J. Robertson, December 12.

"No Ham" Ham No Humbug

Nutritionists and other health professionals attending a two-day multidisciplinary conference on adolescent nutrition ate "no ham" ham and "no chicken" chicken sandwiches, and focused their attention on the normal and special needs of adolescents, under the guidance of a distinguished faculty of experts.

One panelist, Margaret Phillips, Ed.D., nutritional consultant with the Bureau of Community Health Services, Department of Health, Education and Welfare (HEW), said that adolescents are one of the "most neglected groups," insofar as "preventive nutrition programs and nutrition education programs" are concerned.

She said that one of the most significant contributions nutritionists could make would be "to improve the diet of the teenage pregnant girls". In 1971, about 210,000 girls under age 18 became pregnant and gave birth, some for the second time, Dr. Phillips said. Infant mortality rates were much higher for infants born to those very young mothers than for older girls.

Dr. Howard Jacobson, Professor of Community Medicine, Rutgers University, School of Medicine, N.J., said that if the pregnant adolescent is furnished with proper food and encouraged to eat it, she has a good chance of giving birth to a larger, healthier baby.

Other experts spoke and conducted workshops on prevention and control measures for hyperlipidemia and hypertension; counseling of adolescents with cystic fibrosis and malabsorptive problems, obesity; and audio-visual aids.

The conference was co-sponsored by the Tulane and Louisiana State University medical schools and the Division of Health. It was funded by a grant from the Maternal and Child Service, Public Health Service, HEW.

The American Cancer Society estimates that about one-half of the deaths from cancer are due to the lack of early diagnosis and prompt treatment.

N.O. Carpooling by Computer

The Office of Public Health Education is participating in a Carpooling Demonstration Project being conducted by the Regional Planning Commission for the Metropolitan New Orleans Area with assistance from the Louisiana Department of Highways and the Federal Highway Commission.

The Project matches, through a computer, persons leaving an area at a certain time and working in the same general area.

Begun before the transit strike in New Orleans, the object of the Project was to make advance preparations should another gasoline crisis occur. The transit strike increased the number of application requests for the carpooling program.

The Office of Public Health Education distributed data forms and maps of the Metropolitan New Orleans Area to all Central Office employees. By January 8, about 70 forms had been returned, according to John Shirley Guillory, Public Health Education Officer.

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Betty Nunnery, clerk-typist II, EPSDT, became engaged at Christmas to Ronald Taylor of New Orleans.

conference

Conferring at the Adolescent Nutrition Conference are (l-r) Dr. Bettina C. Hilman, chief, Allergy-Pulmonary Section, LSU School of Medicine, Shreveport, and Judith Sylvester, PH Nutritionist, and training coordinator for the conference.



Conducting a workshop in Nutrition in Pregnant Adolescents are (left-right) Barbara Judlin, R.S., La. regional nutritionist; Felix Heald, M.D., director, Division of Adolescent Medicine, University of Maryland; Margaret Phillips, Ed. D., nutritional consultant, HEW; Howard Jacobson, M.D., professor of community medicine, Rutgers University School of Medicine; and Louise Lutz, M.D., obstetrical consultant, Family Planning Program. Standing, Sheridan Kudela, La. regional nutritionist.



Preparing a nutrition break at the Adolescent Nutrition Conference are (left-right) Irene Findorff, PH nutritionist; Lydia Feigler, dietetic intern, N.O. Charity Hospital; Deborah Valenti, regional nutritionist; and Susan Marcuso, dietetic intern, Charity.

Vanderwall Transfers to B.R.

William Vanderwall, clinical social worker, has been appointed as director of the Office of Medical Assistance Policy. His transfer from the Division of Health was effective December 2.

Miss Annie L. Thorpe, clinical social worker, was assigned to provide technical direction, consultation, and coordination of social worker activities and social services of the Division of Health.