

# The Parish of St. Charles

December 16, 2019

## TRIBUTE

*Lawrence Henry Cochran, Jr. (Larry), was born on March 5, 1962, to Lawrence Henry Cochran Sr. and Fay Cochran. He is a faithful friend, avid sportsman, father of three children (Larry, III, Taylor, and Madison), and grandfather of two (Landyn and Layton).*

*Larry is a 1981 graduate of Destrehan High School and has been a resident of St. Charles Parish for over thirty-six years.*

*Larry was employed by the St. Charles Parish School System for twenty-three years as an electrician and a Network Technician.*

*Larry enjoys community service and decided to be a servant in St. Charles Parish. His service included twenty-seven years as a volunteer fireman in the St. Rose Fire Department where he is a lifetime member. Seventeen of his twenty-seven years, he served as Fire Chief. He is former president of the St. Charles Fireman's Association and former Fire Services Coordinator for the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) of St. Charles Parish.*

*Larry served St. Charles Parish as Councilman of District 5 for eight years. He was elected in 2007, took office in 2008, and served until January 11, 2016. During his terms as Councilman, he served two years as Council Chairman and two years as Council Vice-Chairman.*

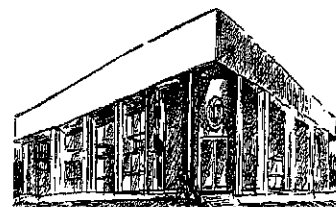
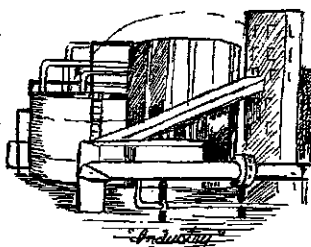
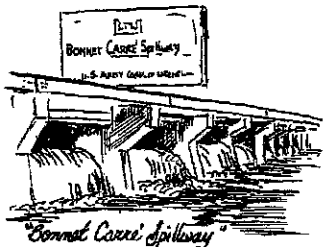
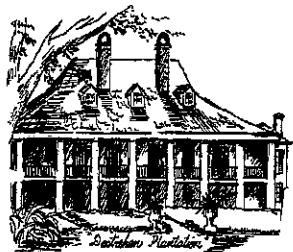
*Larry served four years as Chairman of the Contract/Finance and Administrative Committees, four years on the Planning and Zoning Commission, and over seven years on the River Region Caucus.*

*Larry enjoys sports and coached recreational sports for many years at St. Charles Borromeo School, St. Rose Booster Club, and St. Charles Parish Recreation.*

*Larry was elected Parish President November 11, 2015, and was sworn into office January 11, 2016. His term as Parish President ends on January 13, 2020.*

*During his presidency, Larry's Administration worked persistently to ensure the financial stability of St. Charles Parish.*

*Larry has a desire to always maintain or improve the overall quality of life for all citizens of St. Charles Parish and recreation remained a high priority on his list of projects. Many recreational projects, some complete or in progress, include increased recreational access to our water resources, such as the Bonnet Carre' Spillway, improvements to recreational parks within the parish, additional parking space at parks, the new Ed Reed Park in St. Rose, and improvements at the Killona Park and Community Center. St. Charles Parish remains the host parish of the River Region R.S.V.P. Program which results in 60,992 volunteer hours to numerous organizations and total cost savings of \$1,551,039.00.*



Larry worked to improve employees financial conditions, enhance their work spaces, routinely replace vehicles, provide training, and ensure funding is available to continue supporting the insurance benefits, deferred compensation employer match, and retirement.

As a result of his four years of leading St. Charles Parish Government, Larry built or expanded facilities throughout the Parish. A new District Attorney Building was constructed, and renovations on the second floor of the courthouse has started, which will provide larger court rooms. He worked to improve the facilities and capacity of the Department of Planning and Zoning. A comprehensive building renovation was completed under his tenure and a modern overhaul to the zoning map and permitting process were successfully implemented. The adoption of a Local Coastal Program was completed, granting the Parish more autonomy in assisting residents in the Coastal Permitting process. The Parish's first comprehensive Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan was adopted, setting forth the work and ideas necessary to improve critical transportation infrastructure.

Larry's commitment to make the infrastructure a priority with a focus on drainage has been evident and visible throughout his presidency. Approximately \$55 million has been invested by St Charles Parish in public works infrastructure, Hurricane protection, and Road and Drainage projects. In the past four years, residents have seen the completion of the Willowdale Pump Station upgrades, Willowridge Pump Station, Magnolia Pump Station, and the ground breaking of the new Ellington Pump Station. The completion of approximately 19,000 feet of the Westbank Hurricane Protection levee became a reality with the final Magnolia Levee phase of 14,000 feet under construction. The emergency work completed under Hurricane Barry preparations, was the catalyst that drove a completed levee system by filling in the gaps for the Westbank levee system. In addition, pump station upgrades were completed at Sunset Drainage, Cross Bayou, and New Sarpy pump stations, with projects in design for Ama, Turtle Pond, East Oakland, Fairfield, Destrehan #2, and Schexnayder Pump Stations. Wastewater received a significant focus of approximately \$5,500,000 in projects that were completed with upgrades to many lift stations and two major projects in St Rose and Killona/Hahnville. An investment to upgrade the Luling Oxidation Pond of \$7,000,000 is advertised for bid and scheduled to be awarded in January.

The Department of Finance received the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting as well as the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award from the Government Financial Offices Association of the United States every year during Larry's Administration.

Larry, we take this opportunity to thank you for your service as Parish President. During your many years as a public servant in St. Charles Parish, you have touched the lives of many. You invested your time in our future and for that we are grateful. Thank you for everything, and God Bless You.

"PARISH OF PLENTY"  
 created in 1807 from the county of the  
 "German Coast", a parish of  
 unprecedented economic and social  
 development, known for its  
 hospitality, rural living and sporting  
 opportunities... with the added  
 distinction of being located  
 on both sides of the  
 Mighty Mississippi River.

