

ATCHAFALAYA CHATS

City of Patterson

January 2016

Carl's Gifts for Tots & the Elderly

A program in memory of its founder, the late Carl Butler, is alive and thriving. It began by one man's drive to be a servant to his community and to help the needy. Butler, himself infirmed, and director/liaison of the Patterson Community Center, was known as a person who "got things done."

When phone calls of expressed need were received by the community center, Carl quickly sprung into action garnering food items, clothing, and monetary donations to help. That desire to help the needy developed into the formation of various programs sponsored by the community center throughout the year specifically to help the needy and the elderly such as: feeding programs and Christmas gift boxes for seniors, assistance for fire or disaster victims, and assistance for displaced families, to name a few.

The holidays are particularly stressful times for struggling families, so a program to help ease that burden, Carl's Gifts for Tots & the Elderly, was developed. The 2015 program began by assisting 16 families and quickly blossomed into meeting the needs of 28 families. Other individuals with needs and walk-ins were also welcomed to receive the remaining items.

The success of the program is due to Sylvia May-Fields & Carrie Johnson.



Pictured is Carlon Butler, Jr., grandson of the late Carl Butler, proudly distributing gifts



Senior Citizens receive donated Christmas gifts from the Patterson Community Center

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2015 Christmas on the Lower Atchafalaya

Onlookers watched with delight as boats, beautifully decorated with ornaments and lights that glistened in the dark night waters, strolled down the Lower Atchafalaya River as participants in the 2nd annual Christmas boat parade. The event is sponsored by the Patterson Economic Development Sustainability Committee (PEDSCO), which is a committee developed through Mayor Grogan's administration in efforts to bring new businesses to the city, increase tourism, and to instill a sense of unity in the City and communities of Patterson.

To further enhance and diversify the event, students from The Make-A Difference Club of Hattie Watts Elementary decorated the large tree in front of City Hall with specially made ornaments that were their own creations. They also decorated a smaller tree at the front door of City Hall with traditional Christmas ornaments.

Chicken and sausage gumbo prepared and donated by Leroy Gonzales and Susan Mendoza was also sold at the event. Tables and chairs were provided for comfortable dining during the festive event. Christmas music was played during the Christmas tree lighting and for the enjoyment of diners seated in the area of the Christmas tree decorating activities.

To accentuate their efforts of restoring and bringing new life to Main Street, The Main Street Cultural/Historical Committee sponsored a Christmas decorating contest for private, parochial, and business residents of Main Street. Prizes were given to the most beautifully decorated buildings.

5K Color Run Postponed

The 5K color run sponsored by The Patterson Economic Development Sustainability Committee (PEDSCO) which was scheduled for January 9, 2016 was postponed to a future date to be determined. More information is forthcoming.

1st 4-Legged Friends Parade Marched On

Who said parades were only for people and horses? Not anymore; as dogs and dog lovers, young and the young at heart, adorned the streets of Patterson, as its very first Christmas dog parade marched on. The parade featured dogs of all sizes, shapes and breeds dressed up in costumes and proudly "strutting their stuff" down the designated streets of the parade route.

Local businesses provided prizes for the costume contest; and Santa Paws, sponsored by Angel Paws of New Iberia, graced the occasion with his presence and animal advocates posed for photo ops with the canine celebrity. The event was considered a big success!



Members of the Make-a-Difference Club add handmade ornaments to City Hall tree

No Child Goes Without

That was the overall goal for the 2015 Carl's Gifts for Tots and the Elderly campaign sponsored by the Patterson Community Center, Friends of the Community Center, Family Affairs, and the Claims Department of the Bayou Vista Walmart.

The Patterson Community Center became a Christmas distribution center, bringing hope to the otherwise hopeless, as tables and tables of gifts for the young and old lined the rooms of the center. And all you needed to do to receive them was to have a need, and to show up to receive them.

According to Community Center Program Director, Sylvia May-Fields, the gifts were merchandise and toys of the Claims Department of Walmart in Bayou Vista that were not in use nor being sold for various reasons. Some of the clothes had minor defects such as missing buttons or tears. But they were not distributed that way. May-Fields, who loves to sew and work with her hands, washed and repaired the merchandise on her own time before presenting them to the public. With the assistance of Carrie Johnson, program assistant/tutor, Carl Butler's dream continues.



Tables loaded with gifts to be given to the needy lined the Patterson Community Center

Christmas on the Lower Atchafalaya Lighting Winners

The 2nd annual Christmas boat parade sponsored by Patterson Economic Development Sustainability Committee (PEDSCO) announces the winners for the most beautifully decorated boats of the 2015 parade.

1st Place - Mr. Jesse Jones (\$300)

2nd Place - Mr. Dale Provost (\$200)

3rd Place - Mr. Brian Bellard (\$100)

The Main Street Cultural/Historic Committee announces the winners of the 2nd Annual Main Street Christmas Lighting Contest. The winners received \$300, \$200, and \$100 for first, second & third place winners.

Honorary—Mr. & Mrs Brian Ott at 622 Main Street

1st Place - First Baptist Church at 1621 Main Street

2nd Place - Dad & Lad's Clothing Store at 1125 Main Street

3rd Place - Mr. & Mrs. Charles Campbell at 901 Main Street

Local Scouts Earn Highest Rank

Boy Scouts Liam McCloy and Zachary Allemond of Troop 41 of Patterson recently ranked to Eagle Scout. It is the highest ranking achievement attainable in the Scouting program of The Boy Scouts of America. McCloy and Allemond recently passed through a Board of Review, and will attend the official Eagle Court of Honor on February 13, 2016 at the Patterson KC Hall.

Zachary is 14 years old and is the son of Johnny and Sherrel Allemond of Amelia. He attends Morgan City High School. Liam is the 16 year old son of Kerry and Jeanne McCloy of Patterson, and attends Central Catholic High.

Both boys are also members of the Order of the Arrow, which is commonly known as the National Honor Society of the Boy Scouts of America.

According to Wikipedia, The Boy Scouts of America is one of the largest organizations for youth in the United States, with more than 2.4 million youth members and approximately one million adult volunteers.

Contact Us

We are interested in your good news! Contact us at:

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**ALL ISSUES OF THE
ATCHAFALAYA CHATS
ARE POSTED ON THE WEB**

2015 Patterson Garden Club Christmas Lights Winners



Pictured is Liam McCloy (left) and Zachary Allemond (right)

Category: West End (Hurst to Catherine Street—north side)		
Festive		
1 st Place:	616 MLK Ave.	Patrick Brown
2 nd Place:	140 Mill Road Lot# 27	Janice Batchelor
3 rd Place:	103 Ledoux Circle	Lloyd Marshall III
Simplistic		
1 st Place:	113 LeDoux Circle	Charles Jennings
2 nd Place:	204 Catherine St.	NGon Kinh Tran
3 rd Place:	114 Domino	Bryan Goree
Religious		
1 st Place:	155 Shady Grove	Bernie Percle
2 nd Place:	1813 K Street	Mario Verdun Sr.
3 rd Place:	510 Marie Street	Louis/Regina Leonar
Category: East End (Catherine—south side to Cajun Jack's)		
Festive		
1 st Place:	1120 Lee St.	Geralyn Stevens
2 nd Place:	423 Railroad Ave.	Travis Bourdier
3 rd Place:	904 Washington St.	Connie Johnson
Simplistic		
1 st Place:	906 Washington St.	Muriel Johnson
2 nd Place:	425 Railroad Ave.	David Bourdier
3 rd Place:	204 St. Peter St.	Seth LaPointe
Religious		
1 st Place:	503 St. Peter	Melissa /Scott Hutto
2 nd Place:	1004 Michael St.	Mary Lou Brady
3 rd Place:	1000 Michael St.	Regina Wheeler
Category: South of the Railroad Tracks (Enterprise to Jake)		
Festive		
1 st Place:	724 Kelly Dr.	Karyn Blakeman
2 nd Place:	336 Camille Dr.	Shirley Alfred
3 rd Place:	302 Sandi Dr.	Spencer Colbert
Simplistic		
1 st Place:	303 Leo Dr.	Sharon Guidry
2 nd Place:	604 Kelly Dr.	Daniel Chellette
3 rd Place:	306 Sandi Dr.	Jamie Daigle
Religious		
1 st Place:	429 Leo Dr.	Troy Borel
2 nd Place:	614 Kelli Dr.	James Campo
3 rd Place:	308 Charlotte	Russell Bergeron