

ATCHAFALAYA CHATS

City of Patterson, Louisiana

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Water Plant Supervisor Earns Honors



Sharon Gillum Receives Award

Sharon Gillum, an 11-1/2 year employee of the City of Patterson, received high honors as she was named the Water System Operator of the Year (South).

Because of her diligence and devotion to her job in providing safe drinking water for the City of Patterson and her diligence in efforts of maintaining a cleaner environment in the water and/or wastewater industry, she was selected as this year's recipient for the prestigious honor. She was selected from a pool of all water systems personnel across the State of Louisiana. An award was presented to Sharon on July 15, 2015 at the Louisiana Rural Water Association's Annual Awards Banquet that was held in Lake Charles, Louisiana. LRWA is a non-profit organization dedicated to the assistance, training, and instruction of rural communities in understanding the rules and regulations of maintaining safe water and wastewater throughout all 64 parishes within the State of Louisiana.

Sharon started her career with the City of Patterson as an operator, and worked her way up to her current position as Water Plant Supervisor, where she oversees the operation of the water system, and assures compliance with state and federal regulations. She has earned an Associate's of Science Degree in Drafting and Design from Pearl River College in Poplaville, MS and a Bachelor of Science Degree in Industrial Engineering Technology from the University Southwest Louisiana (USL), currently known as ULL.

PEDSCO to Sponsor 5K Color Run



The Patterson Economic Development Sustainability Committee will sponsor a 5K color run on January 9, 2015. A registration fee of \$25 is required for all participants. Tee shirts will be provided and refreshment stations

will be positioned along the route for the convenience and hydration of the participants. The color run will start and finish at Patterson City Hall.

Applications for the event will be available on the City of Patterson website @ www.cityofpattersonla.gov, or

obtained from Ryan Aucoin, at Patterson City Hall.

Funds from the event will support future tourism efforts of PEDSCO in providing recreational, cultural, and/or educational events for the community.

Come and walk or run for fitness and fun!

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Did You Know?

- St. Mary schools progress reports go out on 9/8/15,
- Tutoring will begin at the Community Center on 9/14/15 directly after school
- PEDSCO is accepting new members
- Another boat parade is scheduled in December 2015



DESIGN PLANS FOR MOREY PARK REMAKE



Spotlighting What's Good in Patterson



Instruction Time at the Center

Summer Session a Success

The 2015 summer session at the Patterson Community Center started on Monday, June 8, 2015 and concluded on Monday, July 17, 2015. For a cost of \$50, area youth from the ages of five to sixteen enjoyed six weeks of supervised care, recreation and age-appropriate academic instruction between the hours of 8:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. The 2015 summer session was a success hosting a total of 36 youths, along with eight instructional workers.

The day began at Hattie Watts cafeteria where the youth were served a nutritious breakfast. After breakfast, they were transported by the Patterson Community Center bus from Hattie Watts Elementary School to the Patterson Community Center, where they were sectioned into groups for

scheduled activities such as academic preparation for the next school year, storytelling, and arts and crafts. Recreational activities included field trips to Wedell-Williams Memorial Aviation Museum and Patterson Jr. High School's gym for physical activities such as dodgeball and basketball, which they immensely enjoyed. The children were also privileged to receive motivational sessions and words of inspiration from community leaders who shared their expertise to invest into the lives of the participants. Holden Murray, assistant director of the center, stated that the most meaningful experiences gleaned from the summer sessions are, "the personal connections that the kids have with the workers."