



STAFF FILE PHOTO BY CHRIS GRANGER

Keyanna Johnson, right, watches her son, Kristopher, 16, fill out a job application at a recent job fair held by NORD at the Cut-Off Recreation Center on Feb. 24. The city is increasing funding for youth jobs and also working to make it easier for teens to sign up — all for the purpose of getting the city’s pools and summer camps open and filled at levels comparable to before the pandemic.

N.O. seeks to fill youth positions

Jobs open for teens as camp counselors, lifeguards

BY LEAH CLARK
Staff writer

After struggling to fill many summer jobs in recent years, New Orleans officials are doubling down on efforts to sign up teens for work as camp counselors, lifeguards and other positions.

The plans involve increasing city funding for youth jobs and also working to make it easier for teens to sign up — all for the purpose of getting the city’s pools and summer camps open and filled at levels comparable to before the pandemic.

Last month, the City Council passed an ordinance adding \$1.9 million to the Mayor’s Office of Workforce Development to increase participation in the city’s youth programming. The additional funding will be used to increase the number of summer jobs from 365 to 1,000 via NOLA Youth Works, which is a program that provides summer experiences for local youth ages 13 to 21.

Meanwhile, the New Orleans Recreation Development Commission is holding job fairs and staffing events at local high schools and colleges where people can apply.

According to Larry Barabino, CEO of the city’s recreation department, his goal is for all city-run pools to open this summer. Last year, NORD announced at the start of the season that only 11 of the 17 city-run pools would open due to an inability to hire enough lifeguards.

“Our goal is to really try to identify a lot of our young people that live in the community where we have seasonal pools where they can work in their community,” Barabino said.

Currently, NORD is looking to hire 130 summer lifeguards. Teens older than 15 can get a job if they have a work permit. Those 16 years and older are not required to have a work permit. Lifeguards can earn \$15.91 an hour. 200 junior lifeguard positions are available for youth ages 13 to 15 to assist with pool operations. Junior lifeguards receive a stipend of \$40 per day.

Training is provided to anyone interested in a position as long as they know how to swim.

In past years, the city’s summer youth hiring plan has been a partnership between NORDC, JOB1 and NOLA Youth Works.

The recent increase in funding passed by the City Council impacts NOLA Youth Works, not NORDC, according to Barabino.

NOLA Youth Works and JOB1 Business and Career Solutions could not be reached regarding their plans to use the funding. According to Ashley Morrison, a spokesperson for NORDC, the groups are expected to announce more details in the coming weeks. To prepare for the sum-

mer, NORDC held two career fairs, on Feb. 25 in Algiers and Feb. 26 in Gentilly. In January, a career fair held by the recreation department resulted in three new hires.

Kristopher Johnson, a 16-year-old from Algiers, interviewed for a position at the first career fair. For Johnson, whose dream is to become an architect or interior designer, a summer job could be a “jumpstart for when I get older.”

“I’m looking for a job primarily to prepare for the future and to make money for when I move out,” he said.

Johnson was accompanied to the career fair by his mother, Keyanna Johnson, which can be rare, according to Damon Boyd, a teen program manager with the recreation department. For minors to work, their parents must fill out paperwork and provide documents such as their proof of residence and proof of guardianship.

Boyd said a lack of resources may deter some parents from allowing their kids to apply for a summer job. Career fairs held by NORD attempt to alleviate parents of that stress by providing in-person applications.

However, some parents do not realize they are needed for the application, which slows down the hiring process.

“In terms of the jobs, a lot of parents figure the kid should be independent enough to go on their own,” Boyd said.

Those at the career fair had the opportunity to interview for the recreation department’s summer camp counselor positions as well.

Before the pandemic, NORDC hired most of its camp counselors from teachers from local schools. Barabino said since many schools now remain open during the summer for enrichment programs, it has been a challenge to fill those positions.

His agency is now looking at students who are 18 years or older for the job. Starting pay for counselors is \$15 an hour.

The counselors will be working at eight-week summer camps operated directly by the recreation department at the Cut-Off Recreation Center in Algiers and the Tremere Recreation Community Center. Positions are also available for a third camp for children with special needs at Milne Recreation Center in Gentilly.

Youth and adults interested in a summer position are encouraged to look for more information at <https://nordc.org/home/>.

LOTTERY
FRIDAY, MARCH 10, 2023
PICK 3: 9-4-0
PICK 4: 8-7-6-6
PICK 5: 4-7-1-4-4
MEGA MILLIONS:
 9-20-59-60-63
MEGA BALL: 5
MEGAPLIER: 2
Unofficial notification, keep your tickets.

New Orleans Area Deaths

- Barraco, Ellen
- Bell, Tammye
- Blappert, Alton
- Blood, Debra
- Burrell, Nadine
- Caracci, Mark
- Collett Jr., Sam
- Cowman, Gregory
- DeCay, Kerry
- Esquerré, Barbara
- Fayette, Christopher
- Francioni, Norman
- Gutierrez, Phyllis
- Lambert Jr., Oliver
- Lewis, Melvin
- Moran, Marjorie
- Nelson, Steve
- Peck Jr., Gordon
- Petitfils, Barbara
- Porterfield, Norman
- Randon, Leslie
- Ritchie Jr., Harry
- Seal Sr., Matthew
- Sensebe, Barbara
- Serpas Jr., Ralph
- Suthon, Walter
- Swords, Celia
- Tchiblakian, Gretchen
- Ventura, Don
- Ward III, Luther

E Jefferson

Garden of Memories
Lambert Jr., Oliver

Randon, Leslie
Ritchie Jr., Harry

Leitz-Eagan
Barraco, Ellen
New Orleans

DW Rhodes
Burrell, Nadine

Gertrude Geddes
Lewis, Melvin

Greenwood
Peck Jr., Gordon
Lake Lawn Metairie

Caracci, Mark
Fayette, Christopher

Moran, Marjorie
Sensebe, Barbara

Suthon, Walter
Swords, Celia

Tchiblakian, Gretchen
Murray Henderson

DeCay, Kerry
Nelson, Steve

St Tammany
Audubon

Esquerré, Barbara
EJ Fielding

Collett Jr., Sam
Serpas Jr., Ralph

Ward III, Luther
Honaker

Francioni, Norman
West Bank

Mothe
Bell, Tammye

Gutierrez, Phyllis

Obituaries

Barraco, Ellen Mahoney



Ellen Mahoney Barraco passed away peacefully in her home on Monday, March 6, 2023 at the age of 99. She was born on December 18, 1923 and was a lifelong resident of Metairie. She is preceded in death by her husband, Anthony M. Barraco Sr., their children, Anthony J. Barraco Jr. (survived by Cheryl), Paul H. Barraco, and Judith B. Bauer (survived by Albert), her parents, Ellen D. Mahoney and William J. Mahoney Sr., and her siblings, Hugh Mahoney, Rev. William J. Mahoney Jr., Elizabeth M. Yager, and Henrietta M. Vitter. She is survived by her children, Thomas J. Barraco (Evelyn), Patrick J. Barraco, JoAnn B. Roloff (Stephen), and Mary Lou B. Johnson (Timothy). She is also survived by 14 grandchildren, 24 great-grandchildren, and many other relatives and friends. Ellen graduated from St. Joseph High School and was a parishioner of Our Lady of Divine Providence since its inception. She had a quick wit and was a friendly fixture of her Metairie neighborhood for the last 60 years. She was a beloved mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, sister, and friend who will be missed by all who were blessed to know her during her long life. A funeral service will be held on Monday, March 13, 2023, at Leitz-Eagan Funeral Home, 4747 Veterans Memorial Blvd. Metairie, LA. Visitation will be held from 9AM-11AM with a funeral Mass to begin at 11AM. Interment will follow at Lake Lawn Park.

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Bell, Tammye



Tammye Bell, age 81, passed away peacefully at her residence in Harvey, LA on March 6, 2023. Loving wife of the late Robert E. Bell, Jr. of 41 years. Mother of James Bell (Rene), Crystale Martin (Norman), Mitzi Rea (Danny), Raymond Bell (Heather), Charles Marshall, Michael Bell (Lorrie), Tammy Carriere (Norberty), Robert Bell III (Eva), Esther Ward (Danny), Lynn Davis (Chris), Gwen Bell Niebrugge, and the late William Marshall (Wendy). Grandmother of Bryce and Chance Bell; Morgan and Melia Martin; Jacob and Payton Bell, Gabrielle Green; Alexus Gros and Amber Kessler; Nadine, Christopher, Dakota, Skyler, and Adam Bell; Joshua Carriere and Kaitlyn Richard; Timothy and Ashley Bell; Derrick Bell; Christina and Johnny Morse; Courtney and Jor-

dan Marshall; Kurt and Dale Colbert; Marci Graham; and Nicci Bartley. Great-grandmother of Liam, Lucas, and Lorraine Carriere; Harper and Lilliana Bell; and Timothy and Angela Bell. Born on September 18, 1941, in Chattanooga, TN, Tammye is the daughter of the late Carl V. Bray and the late Billie Bray and sister of the late Carl V. Bray II. She spent most of her life raising her children and grandchildren. Her family is what gave meaning in her life and her strong faith in our Lord is what led her purpose. She will be deeply missed by all. Friends and family are invited to attend a funeral service at Mothe Funeral Home, 2100 Westbank Expressway, in Harvey, LA on Monday, March 13, 2023, at 11 A.M.... Visitation will begin at 9 A.M.... Interment will follow immediately at Restlawn Park in Avondale. Please visit <http://www.mothefunerals.com> to view and sign the online guestbook.

Mothe
Funeral Homes, LLC
www.mothefunerals.com

Blappert, Alton James



Alton James Blappert, known to most as "Unkie Al," "Al" or "AOA" was born December 23, 1949, in New Orleans, LA passed peacefully in his sleep on March 8, 2023. Al was truly one of a kind, and lived an extraordinary life. A man with the "Bad Blappert Blood" had a heart of gold, with a gypsy soul and a love for all animals big and small. Avid hunter, fisherman his entire life he also had a love for growing fruits and vegetables. He was truly happiest down on the bayous in lower Saint Bernard Parish. To say it was in his blood was an understatement! He passed in Carriere, MS living out his dream in the country surrounded by woods, beautiful ponds and family that absolutely adored him. He is the man who never met a stranger and never forgotten by his larger than life personality. A bright light in an incredible human went out the day he died, his story and antics will forever live on in his loved ones. He delivered papers in the lower 9th ward, New Orleans and when he was old enough he applied for a job at the Times Picayune. He started as a journeyman and worked his way up to a pressman, where he stayed for about 10 years. In his later years he served on the Saint Bernard fire department. He was once in the paper for giving a cat CPR and bringing it back to life. Battled many blazes included one at the old drive-in located in Arabi where he was injured. That didn't stop him, he came right back stronger then ever until his back and other injuries caught up with him forcing him to retire. He truly loved serving his parish and being a part of the fire department, we have many cherished memories of his time with the department and quite a few funny ones! Know any one to "misplace" a fire truck? Well know you do!! He is preceded in death by his parents Earl (Pops) and Gloria (Nikki) Blappert and

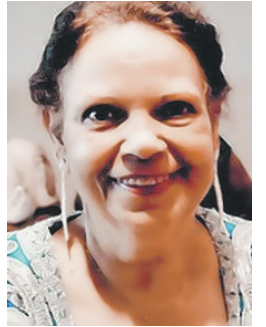
his sisters Susan Ann Blappert Moran, Gwen Marie Blappert Bice and Lee Jeanette Blappert Hahn. Also his many dogs but his favorite Lexie-girl, who I'm sure was the first to greet him. He is survived by 3 children Alicia Perez (Greg), Kristie & Joshua Blappert, 4 beautiful granddaughters, Havana, Curstin, Rosa and Kenzie. Along with his sisters Earlene Marie Blappert Jourdan (Robert) Kim Louise Blappert Sirgo (Jay) and way too many nieces and nephews to count. Family and friends to scatter his ashes at Jahnckes ditch where his father camp once stood at a later date. "Who's ya buddy? Who's ya pal? Unkie Al!" Always and forever <3

Blood, Debra 'Debbie'



Debra "Debbie" Blood at the age of 69, entered into eternal rest on Monday afternoon, March 6, 2023 surrounded by her loving family. She is survived by her beloved husband of 48 years, Taylor Blood and son, Patrick Blood; brother-in-law, David Kopf and, nieces Dawn Kopf Barnett and Kelly Kopf and nephews, Christopher Barnett (Hillary) and Brandon Barnett. Debbie is preceded in death by her mother, Clare LaCroix Gondron and sister, Peggy Kopf. Debbie was born in New Orleans and is a graduate of Sacred Heart Catholic High School and resided in Metairie all her adult life. Debbie retired from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers after 38 years of federal service. Debbie's Relatives and Friends are invited to attend a Memorial Celebration of Debbie's life on Wednesday, March 15, 2023 from 9:00 - 11:00 a.m., at Southport Hall, 200 Monticello Ave., Jefferson, La. 70121. In lieu of flowers a donation to your favorite charity will be appreciated.

Burrell, Nadine Walker



Nadine Walker Burrell was born July 1, 1954 in New Orleans, Louisiana to the late Lucille Harris Walker of Pointe a la Hache, LA and Louis Walker of Natchez, MS. Devoted mother of Roy Louis Burrell (Keidra), Neiman Allen Burrell, Sr. (Michelle), and Ryan Woodrow Burrell, Sr. (Tycha). Loving sister of Dennis Walker, Cheryl Walker Bean (Jerry) and the late Kenneth Jude Walker and Darryl Walker. Devoted grandmother of Tyra A'mirrie Walker, Roy William Burrell, Reade Louis Burrell, Rhodes Katherine Burrell, Neiman Allen Burrell, Jr., Braylen Michael Burrell, Phillip Allen Burrell, Ashleigh Mitchell, Ryan Louis Burrell, Jr., Bryan Burrell, Camerian Strogon, Labreeasha Epperson, Qourtney Carter, and Kimble Carter. Nadine is also survived by a host of special nieces, nephews, other relatives,

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