

# PONTCHARTRAIN PARTNERS, LLC. *Lakeside*

February Issue

*a monthly insight into PPLLC*



## Project 1093

**Kennedy Space Center**

**NASA**

**SABER**

*("Simplified Acquisition  
Base Engineering Requirements")*

**Program Manager**

*Robert Miller*



The goal for Project 1093 is to provide simplified and quick construction support in order to achieve the goals of NASA – “to pioneer the future in Space Exploration, Scientific Discovery and Aeronautics Research”.

The Pontchartrain Partners’ crew assists in this mission by providing a wide range of expertise in the multiple Task Orders they have been awarded.

**Todd Grantier**, Superintendent, handles multiple Task Orders including HVAC units and CIAO (Central Industry Assistance Office) Facility Renovations.

**Julius Blanks** is the Superintendent for the exterior repainting for the annex building of the SSPF ("Space Station Processing Facility") and the relighting project for the RRMF (Reutilization, Recycling, Marketing Facility).

**Aaron Smith** is the Superintendent for 11 roof replacement projects across the Kennedy Space Center.



**Craig Kempshall** is the Project Manager for all SABER projects— currently totaling \$2,482,892,93.

**Debbie Hebert**, Office Manager, controls and takes care of all administrative and badging needs, as well as all financial paperwork for each project. She ensures that all aspects of the

Project are properly completed prior to submittal. She is an expert in the multiple awarded Task Orders.

## PROJECT CHALLENGES

One of the greatest hardships of this specific job is that it was Pontchartrain Partners' first SABER contract AND the first SABER contract for Kennedy Space Center/NASA. Forging new beginnings on both parts has caused slight delays while all parties have attempted to design the best and simplest avenues to approach, propose, package, award and execute Task Orders. However, this hardship proved to be a building block which allowed the team to establish great working relationships with NASA and other partnering agencies. When working on a Project like this, it is key to establish good working relations, not only with the Customer and NASA but with the individual subcontractors. Developing this relationship with the subcontractors will give the Project Manager and Superintendents a better understanding of the subcontractor's abilities. Also, this allows all parties involved to explore avenues to simplify the process and make adjustments to best suit the needs of both the Customer and NASA.

The process also encourages small business involvement, which ultimately enhances and encourages a stronger workforce and presence in Florida.

- Robert Miller





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## Happy Birthday February

**Eddie Jay Wilson 2/1**

**Matthew Picard 2/2**

**Todd Grantier 2/3**

**Danielle Alexander 2/5**

**Bart Cook 2/6**

**Shantell Harris 2/6**

**Kim Qui Vo 2/6**

**Raven Melrose 2/7**

**Raymond C Brown 2/7**

**Warren R Turner 2/15**

**Ryan D Buck 2/26**

**Wilson W Buttram 2/28**

*Ms. Mary Leblanc, Human Resource /  
Executive Assistant celebrated her  
birthday in January.*



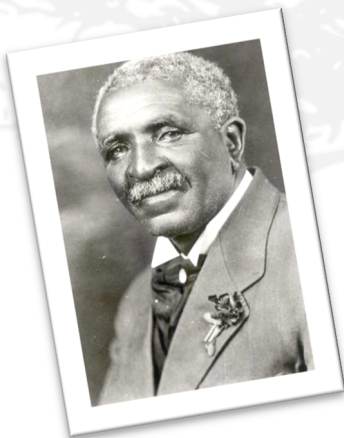
# BLACK HISTORY MONTH

## Little Known Black History Facts:

Black History Month is celebrated from February 1-28th. Black History Month began as "Negro History Week," which was created in 1926 by Carter G. Woodson, a noted African American historian, scholar, educator, and publisher. It became a month-long celebration in 1976. The month of February was chosen to coincide with the birthdays of Frederick Douglass and Abraham Lincoln.



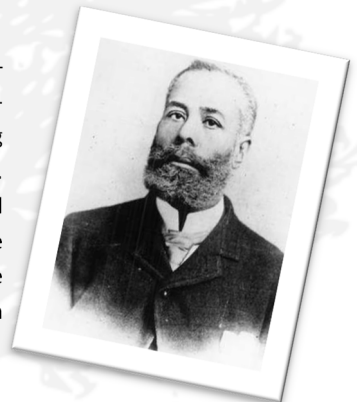
The next time you're waiting at a red light, understand it was invented by Garrett Morgan (1877-1963). Morgan's other invention, the gas mask, also saves lives. Many soldiers survived the First World War thanks to the gas mask, which prevented deadly mustard gas from entering their lungs.



George Washington Carver developed 300 derivative products from peanuts among them cheese, milk, coffee, flour, ink, dyes, plastics, wood stains, soap, linoleum, medicinal oils and cosmetics.



In 1992, Dr. Mae Jemison became the first African American woman to go into space aboard the space shuttle Endeavor. During her 8-day mission she worked with U.S. and Japanese researchers, and was a co-investigator on a bone cell experiment.



Elijah McCoy (1843-1929) invented an automatic lubricator for oiling steam engines in 1872. The term "the real McCoy" is believed to be a reference about the reliability of Elijah McCoy's invention.



A woman called Moses? You bet. Harriet Tubman (1820-1913) was born a slave but later escaped to Philadelphia, only to return to Maryland to rescue her family. But she didn't stop there. She earned the name Moses because she risked her life traveling at night helping hundreds of Southern slaves escape to the north and Canada through a network of safe people and safe houses called the Underground Railroad.







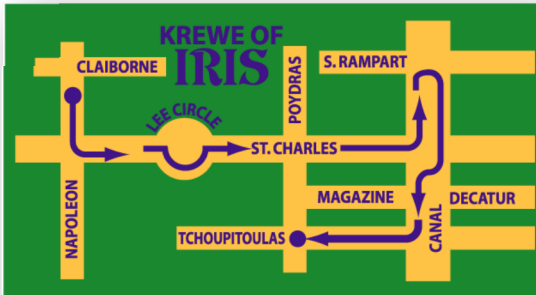
*Mardi Gras: February 28, 2017*

*The Corporate Office will be closed on Fat Tuesday, February 28, 2016.*

*If you are working in the field, please adhere to the holiday schedule that is in effect for your specific jobsite. If you are unsure of your project holiday schedule, contact your Project Manager.*



**LOOK WHO'S RIDING...**  
***IT'S BROOKE WOODS***



Float 25, Part B, bottom, position  
4, neutral ground side

**THROW ME SOMETHING, MISTER!!!**

MA'AM

# HAPPY MARDI GRAS



2017

# MARDI GRAS SAFETY MATTERS

1. Teach your child how to identify a police officer if lost.
2. Use the restroom before you leave for the parade.
3. **DO NOT BLOCK A RESIDENT'S DRIVEWAY!!!**
4. Do not park on the neutral ground.
5. Stand a distance from the floats.
6. Do not run along side floats.
7. Ladders should be as far back from the curb as they are tall. Secure the ladder to the ground. Do not place ladders in the intersection.

**ALWAYS HAVE A DESIGNATED DRIVER  
IF YOU PLAN TO CONSUME ALCOHOL.**

**PLEASE DO NOT DRINK AND DRIVE!!!!**

***BE SAFE AND ALWAYS BE AWARE OF  
YOUR SURROUNDINGS***

## The NOLA Jerk Chicken Festival

February 11th, 2017

*presented by VaKu*, is a funky fusion of Jamaican musical and culinary traditions with the rich culture of New Orleans Carnival!

New Orleans and Jamaican culture are so intertwined that it's only fitting that Bob Marley's birthday falls smack dab in the middle of Mardi Gras season. The NOLA Jerk Chicken Festival celebrates Bob's legacy in a way only New Orleans can, blending the best of both cultures with a fantastic staple of national Reggae bands and DJs as well as New Orleans' own top brass bands performing Bob Marley hits brass style!

In addition to great music, the festival will have a slew of top restaurants and food trucks serving up delicious creative renditions of Jerk chicken and other Caribbean style dishes, New Orleans' classics, Caribbean drinks, and numerous arts and crafts vendors.

More importantly, the festival is sponsored by VaKu, a brand owned by PPLLC's Mr. Ron DaValos.

For more information, click [here](#).



Looking for some fun in the sun? Here are two festivals taking place in the month of February, suggested by our staff members Ron Davolos and Thu Vo.

- See the enclosed fliers for more details.

## VIETNAMESE NEW YEAR FESTIVAL



### WHEN?

February 10—12, 2017

### WHERE?

Mary Queen of Vietnam Church  
14001 Dwyer Blvd., New Orleans, LA

### WHAT?

**Vietnamese New Year Festival** is a unique celebration of Vietnamese New Year traditions and the hearty Vietnamese community of New Orleans, Louisiana. Held at the principal parish for the community, Mary Queen of Vietnam Church, thousands attend to ring in the New Year with firecrackers, fireworks, services and dragon dances. There's folk music, dancers and traditional games as traditional Vietnamese delicacies including banh mi, grilled meats and exotic fruit drinks are served alongside inspired classics.

For more information, click here to visit their [Facebook Page](#).







## Handling Violence in the Workplace

Is your workplace at risk of experiencing a violent incident? Probably not, you may believe. But consider the statistics: In 2013, 404 homicides occurred on the job, according to the 2016 edition of the National Safety Council chartbook “Injury Facts.” And, according to OSHA, roughly 2 million workers report having been victims of workplace violence each year. The agency notes that many additional cases likely go unreported. How can your workplace prepare?

### What constitutes workplace violence?

Workplace violence isn’t physical assault alone, notes the Canadian Center for Occupational Safety and Health. The agency states that violence can include “rumors, swearing, verbal abuse, pranks, arguments, property damage, vandalism, sabotage, pushing, theft ... psychological trauma, anger-related incidents, rape, arson and murder.” Although it can be difficult to know if a worker is going to become violent, warning signs exist.

### Signs

Not every violent person will display the following behaviors, yet it’s important not to overlook them. Also, be sure to take these behaviors in context, CCOHS states. Behaviors to watch out for, according to the agency, include:

- Crying or having temper tantrums
- Being late or absent excessively
- Showing disrespect for authority figures
- Refusing to acknowledge job performance problems
- Swearing at work or using emotionally charged language
- Being socially isolated
- Handling criticism poorly, blaming others for mistakes, and insisting he or she is correct all the time
- Holding grudges – especially against a supervisor



Sometimes when we get a little overwhelmed that we just need a moment to regroup. Lunch time is always a great time to get your emotions together and comeback greater than ever.

