

NEWSLETTER

What's Inside This Issue

City updates and highlights from July through September 2026.

- New leadership and a new year for the Mayor's Youth Council
- Major projects and infrastructure investments moving forward
- State and national recognition for Abbeville projects
- Community highlights and what's ahead this fall



The First 92 Days – A New Administration

The third quarter of 2026 marked the first 92 days of Abbeville's new administration. Since taking office on July 1, the Mayor and City Council have worked to establish leadership appointments, address City operations, and continue ongoing projects and initiatives.

City Council Representation and Appointments

During the July 14 Council meeting, Billy Noegel was appointed to represent District A until the November election. He was officially sworn into office by City Attorney Bart Broussard, completing representation across all five City Council seats.



The Council also approved several appointments to support City operations, including Bart Broussard as City Attorney, Gale Luquette as City Prosecutor, Sellers & Associates, Inc. and Primeaux, Soirez, Touchet, & Associates as City Engineers, and Darnall, Sikes and Frederick as auditing and accounting consultants. District C Councilman Brady Broussard Jr. was selected to serve as Mayor Pro Tem.

MYC Begins Its Third Year

The Abbeville Mayor's Youth Council welcomed 24 students for the 2026–2027 program year, marking its largest class since the program began in 2024. Of those selected, 13 are returning members, including four founding members who are beginning their third year of service.



Members were officially sworn in during the September 15 City Council meeting, beginning another year of learning about local government, developing leadership skills, and participating in community service.

This year also marks a milestone for the program, with students from Erath High School and Kaplan High School joining the Council for the first time, further expanding its representation across Vermilion Parish.

Member Spotlight: Homecoming Royalty

Congratulations to three of our second-year members: Jah'Zyren Green and Jaylie Williams, who were crowned Abbeville High School's 2026 Homecoming King and Queen, and Aaliyah Pillette, who was selected to represent AHS on the 2026 Homecoming Court.



Infrastructure, Projects, and Investments

The City of Abbeville continues advancing projects and investments that strengthen utilities, enhance safety, and support long-term growth throughout our community.

PROJECT UPDATE RAMSIE BAUMGARDNER STREET LIGHTING UPGRADE

Installation Underway

FUNDED THROUGH:
ENERGY EFFICIENCY & CONSERVATION BLOCK GRANT

Project Update: Street Lighting Upgrade

Installation of new LED streetlights began September 22 along the Highway 14 Bypass. Work will continue throughout Abbeville as approximately 650 existing streetlights are replaced with modern, energy-efficient LED fixtures.

Status: Ongoing

NATIONAL RECOGNITION ABBEVILLE RECEIVES FHWA INNOVATION AWARD



2026 NATIONAL WINNER
LOUISIANA'S FIRST NATIONAL CATEGORY WIN

Downtown Project Earns National Recognition

Abbeville' Project was named the 2026 National Winner in the Putting Families First category of the Federal Highway Administration's Build a Better Mousetrap Innovation Program.

Status: Awarded July

GOVERNOR LANDRY ANNOUNCES SPACEX STARBASE LOUISIANA

\$100 BILLION INVESTMENT
3000+ NEW JOBS

Economic Development: SpaceX Announced

Governor Jeff Landry joined state, federal, and local leaders in Abbeville to announce Starbase, Louisiana, a planned \$100 billion SpaceX development in Vermilion Parish. The project is expected to create 3,000 direct jobs over the next decade, along with more than 8,100 additional jobs across Acadiana.

Status: Announced August 2026

GRACELAND AVENUE PROJECT RECEIVES LMA HONORABLE MENTION

COMMUNITY ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

Graceland Avenue Project Earns State Recognition

The recognition highlights the Graceland Avenue Improvement Project, which included roadway resurfacing and ADA-accessible sidewalk improvements near Parker Hebert Park. The project reflects the City's continued investment in infrastructure, accessibility, and neighborhood improvements.

Status: Awarded August

Abbeville Fire Department

Throughout the third quarter, the Abbeville Fire Department continued responding to emergencies, maintaining operational readiness, and working alongside neighboring departments and community partners. From structure fires to unusual service calls, firefighters remained prepared to respond to a variety of situations.



Beyond the Call & Mutual Aid

AFD assisted LaDOTD when extreme heat caused a movable bridge to expand, preventing it from operating properly. Firefighters helped cool the bridge so it could safely reopen for marine traffic.



During the quarter, AFD responded to several significant incidents, including a two-alarm residential fire on Clover Street during Labor Day and a structure fire at the former Abbeville Skating Rink on John Hardy Drive. Both incidents required assistance from neighboring fire departments, highlighting the importance of mutual-aid partnerships and coordinated emergency response.

Staying Prepared

In August, firefighters began flushing hydrants throughout the city to ensure they were functioning properly and ready for emergencies. Department personnel also participated in quarterly safety training alongside Public Works employees, covering safe digging practices, injury prevention, and workplace safety.

Department Recognition

Congratulations to firefighter Shane Stout on his promotion to Captain!



Abbeville Police Department

The Abbeville Police Department spent the quarter strengthening community relationships while carrying out its daily law enforcement responsibilities. From connecting with students and families at local events to securing new protective equipment for K9 Rico, the department continued its efforts to serve and protect the residents of Abbeville.



K9 Rico Receives Protective Vest

KRico received a new bullet- and stab-resistant vest through a charitable donation from Vested Interest in K9s, Inc. The custom-fitted vest, valued at \$1,800, provides additional protection for Rico while serving alongside his handler. The donation reflects the organization's commitment to protecting law enforcement K9s across the country.



Community Policing & Outreach

Chief Hardy participated in several community events, including the Boys & Girls Club's Family Picnic and Backpack Drive and J.H. Williams Middle School's Attendance Awareness Month activities. He also joined community partners and volunteers for the Vermilion River cleanup. These activities provide opportunities for the department to connect with residents, build relationships, and support local initiatives beyond its daily law enforcement duties.



Third Quarter Activity

July

Calls: **599**

Arrests: **44**

August

Calls: **538**

Arrests: **45**

September

Calls: **520**

Arrests: **33**



Community Highlights

Over the past three months, Abbeville has stayed busy with events that celebrate our culture, creativity, and community spirit. Each event represents just a glimpse of the many ways our community continues to connect and celebrate together.



Sound on the Square Returns

Live music returned to Magdalen Square, bringing an evening of entertainment.



Vermilion River Cleanup

Organizations and volunteers removed litter and debris from the Vermilion River.



4th Annual Uniquely U Event

The largest event yet brought families together for a free day of fun, inclusion, and community.



United Way of Acadiana Ribbon Cutting

Community partners celebrated 15 years of early childhood education and family support at the Abbeville Early Learning Center.



Premier Surgical Ribbon Cutting

Abbeville's healthcare community continues to grow with the opening of Premier Surgical Services, bringing another care option closer to home.



VCOG Celebrates New Van

A new set of wheels will help the Council on Aging provide transportation and greater independence for seniors throughout Vermilion Parish.



First Responders Ice Cream Social

The Vermilion Chamber of Commerce and Acadian Ambulance hosted an appreciation event at Lafitte Drive-In Park to recognize local first responders.



SpaceX Community Town Hall

Residents gathered at Magdalen Place to hear updates directly from SpaceX representatives, ask questions, and share feedback.



Abbeville Homecoming Parade

Downtown welcomed students, families, and supporters for the school's annual homecoming parade.

Dates to Remember: October – December 2026

- October 2 – 76th Louisiana Cattle Festival
- October 3 – 76th Louisiana Cattle Festival
- October 4 – 76th Louisiana Cattle Festival
- October 6 – City Council Meeting
- October 6 – National Night Out
- October 8 – Sounds on the Square
- October 8 – VCOA Pink & Gold Gala
- October 15 – Sounds on the Square
- October 17 – Next Step Project Community Walk
- October 17 – Abbeville Farmer's Market
- October 20 – City Council Meeting
- October 20 – Early Voting Begins
- October 26 – Early Voting Ends
- October 30 – VC Homecoming Parade
- October 31 – Trunk n' Treat (1st Baptist Church)
- October 31 – Jack-o-Lantern Jubilee
- November 3 – City Council Meeting
- November 3 – Election Day
- November 7 – Gaint Omelette Celebration
- November 8 – Gaint Omelette Celebration
- November 11 – Veterans Day
- November 13 – Cemetery Tour
- November 17 – City Council Meeting
- November 21 – Abbeville Farmer's Market
- November 26 – Thanksgiving – City Hall Closure
- November 27 – City Hall Closure
- December 1 – City Council Meeting
- December 3 – Abbeville Christmas Stroll
- December 12 – Abbeville Cajun Christmas
- December 12 – Hazardous Waste Collection Day
- December 15 – City Council Meeting
- December 24 – City Hall Closure
- December 25 – City Hall Closure
- December 31 – City Hall Closure

Never Miss an Event

Scan the QR code to view the City's event calendar, sign up for email updates, and access important City links.



Employee Service Anniversaries



July - September 2026

The City of Abbeville is proud to recognize employees celebrating service anniversaries this quarter. Their dedication and commitment help keep Abbeville running every day.

City Hall

Varchell Cooper - 13 years
August 13

Bryan Fisher - 3 years
August 18

Kathleen Faulk - 25 years
September 10

Lynn LeBlanc - 12 years
September 15

Paul Greene - 2 years
September 15

Lauri Duhon - 1 year
September 22

Denise Mire - 11 years
September 28

Public Works

Archie Harris - 4 years
July 13

Lionel Alpough - 27 years
July 19

Wille Leger - 5 years
July 22

Paul Tomino - 6 years
July 22

Christopher Landry - 1 year
August 3

Timmy Farris - 20 years
August 14

Eldrige Harrison - 7 years
August 22

Patricia Briggs - 9 years
August 24

Steward Head - 20 years
September 20

Phillip Harrison - 1 year
September 25

City Court

Trena Touchet - 46 years
July 1

Reggie Hilts - 14 years
July 1

Jeremiah Bolden - 29 years
September 30

Abbeville Police

Angela Lemoine - 6 years
July 7

Randell Nugier - 7 years
July 24

Chris Hardy - 24 years
August 1

Dominica Meaux - 3 years
August 17

Abbeville Fire

Michael Soirez - 24 years
July 17

Damian Landry - 26 years
July 28

Kobe Moore - 4 years
August 2

Brent Landry - 9 years
August 4

Shane Stout - 10 years
August 23

Brady Barras - 22 years
September 9

David Landry - 22 years
September 10

Timothy Wilson - 11 years
September 12

Tristan Hebert - 20 years
September 20

A Note from the Editor

With another quarter behind us, Abbeville continues to move forward through a season of change, progress, and community.

Over the past three months, a new administration has begun its term, projects have continued to move forward, and our city has received recognition for work happening right here in Abbeville. At the same time, our departments, employees, community partners, and residents continue the everyday work that keeps our city moving.

As we enter the final quarter of 2026, there is still much ahead. Projects will continue, new initiatives will take shape, and our community will come together for some of the traditions and events that make this time of year special.

Thank you for taking the time to read this quarter's newsletter and stay connected with your City. I hope each issue provides a clearer look at the work happening throughout Abbeville and the people behind it.

Here's to finishing 2026 strong.

Cristian LeJeune

Cristian LeJeune
Communications & Media



NEW BUSINESSES

Third Quarter 2026

The Petit Maison of Abbeville - Park Ave

Sam's Wireless - Charity St

Synth Auto LLC - Azalea Dr

Jump N Splash Inflatables - Veterans Memorial

Corner Eat'z - S Gertrude

AK Designs - South Main

Subscribe to Our Newsletter



Scan the QR code to subscribe and receive quarterly updates on City projects, events, and community news.

