

# KMB gets \$10,000 in grants

**By Suzanne Le Breton**  
*St. Tammany News*

Keep Mandeville Beautiful has been awarded two grants totaling \$10,000 through Keep Louisiana Beautiful's Healthy Community grant program.

One of the grants will be used to implement a curbside recycling education campaign, and the second will be used to create a calendar using local students' artwork.

Mandeville has participated in some type of curbside recycling for nearly 20 years; however, there has never been any sort of educational program to accompany the service.

Susan Russell, director of Keep Mandeville Beautiful, said the organization will use one of the \$5,000 grants

it received to have refrigerator magnets made and disseminated.

The magnets will provide residents with information about what can and cannot be recycled and why it is important to recycle.

They are also designed to serve as a reminder for people to put out their recyclables on recycling day, which is currently Wednesday in the city of Mandeville.

The second \$5,000 grant will produce an annual calendar utilizing the artwork from Keep Mandeville Beautiful's anti-litter art contest.

Russell said the artwork the organization gets from the contests annually "is phenomenal."

Several years ago the city used the artwork to pro-

duce calendars using money from the Department of Environmental Quality.

That money source is no longer available.

"I always wanted to reinstate the calendar," Russell said.

The money will be used to produce a 2012 calendar, with plans that the sale of that calendar will generate enough money to pay for the printing of a 2013 calendar.

Any money in excess of the cost of the next year's calendar will go toward funding other Keep Mandeville Beautiful programs.

Twelve of the best pieces of artwork from the preceding year will be featured in a four-color calendar.

The calendar will be sold

at various retail outlets in Mandeville. It will also be available for companies to purchase in large quantities, co-brand with their logo and use as gifts to their clients.

"We are extremely proud to have received these two grants from Keep Louisiana Beautiful. The grants provide KMB with much needed funds which are so critical to their successful efforts," explains Donald Villere, mayor of Mandeville.

Keep Mandeville Beautiful is an organization focused on changing the attitudes and behaviors of people through educational programs and activities aimed at reducing litter, increasing recycling, beautification, and heightening environmental awareness.