



TWO RUNAWAY teenagers from Michigan were reunited with their parents Tuesday night after Cameron Parish deputies interrupted their flight. Pictured at the Cameron Parish Courthouse were the teenagers and their families. Gage Petherbridge and his parents, Mary and Duane Wisner, and sister Alyssia Petherbridge, are shown on the left, and Hannah McConnell is shown on the right with her parents, John and Julie McConnell. (Photo by Cyndi Sellers.)

Runaway teenagers found in parish; parents pick up

By **CYNDI SELLERS**

Two Michigan teens, missing since Jan. 12, were found safe and sound at Holly Beach on Monday. Gage Michael Petherbridge, 15, and Hannah Elaine McConnell, 13, both of Clio, Michigan, were spotted by Cameron Parish Ambulance District #2 paramedics Brad Lester and Troy Meaux following a tip from the Port Arthur Police Department.

As the pair attempted to return to Texas, they were intercepted by Cameron Parish Deputy Mike Young and transported to the Sheriff's Office in Cameron, where they were placed in custody until their parents arrived Tuesday night.

When the teens decided to run away together, they were well prepared, taking \$680, an X-box video game system, the Petherbridge family cocker spaniel "Mandy," and the Pontiac Montana van belonging to the boy's mother. They were careful to use only cash, no credit cards, but a collect phone call to a friend was traced to southeast Texas, and photographs were shown on local media.

On Monday, a Texas witness reported sighting the teens on Pleasure Island, headed east into Cameron Parish. The Port Arthur Police Department contacted the Sheriff's Office and two road units were dispatched to the Highway 82 area. The Medic 6 ambulance team was in the Holly Beach area and spotted a vehicle matching the description of the missing van. They followed it, spotted the Michigan license plate, and called in the sighting. Chief Deputy Ron Johnson said the patrol units then closed in on the area, and the vehicle was stopped near the Apache camp, headed west. The van was towed by Bayou Wrecker to the Sheriff's Office mechanic shop in Grand Lake.

The teens spent 45 minutes at Holly Beach and the next 28 hours in isolation in the parish jail, a sobering end to their nine day odyssey. Mandy the dog was cared for by Cameron Parish Animal Control.

Parents John and Julie McConnell and Mary and Duane Wisner were notified and flew to Baton Rouge

where they boarded a limousine provided by the Inside Edition television program for the drive to Cameron. The emotional reunion at the court house was filmed by Inside Edition for broadcast on Wednesday. Petherbridge's sister Alyssia also made the trip.

After hugs all around and exclamations over how fat Mandy had gotten eating junk food, release documents were signed and the reunited families prepared to leave. Asked how everyone was feeling, Hannah's mother Julie said the families were just happy to have their children back. Gage's mother said "We really appreciate everyone that has helped out." The Wisners were planning to drive their van back to Michigan.

Chief Deputy Johnson said he was proud of his officers and the ambulance crew

for their prompt and professional handling of the situation, noting that the total time from the Port Arthur Police Dept. call to arrival at the court house was just over two hours. Johnson was kept busy Tuesday answering phone calls from media, since the teens' flight had received national attention.

He told one reporter that it wasn't all that unusual to find runaway minors at Holly Beach, but this was the farthest any had come. Holly Beach, before Hurricane Rita, was known as a place you could blend in and no one would ask about your past. Wanted criminals have been known to spend time there, lying low. Now, however, there is no place to hide.

Cameron construction not affected

By **CYNDI SELLERS**

The article on page 4 of the Jan. 17, 2008, edition of the Cameron Pilot indicates that the environmental and review historical reviews for South Cameron High School and the Cameron Parish Central Office could take up to two years. This long-term projection only applies to the New Orleans Metropolitan Area.

The Cameron Parish School Board has had all documents completed and in place, in accordance with FEMA Policy Digest 321 and Public Assistance Guide 322, for a considerable length of time and are expecting project approval from FEMA within a very short period of time.

Both projects are classified as FEMA Improved Projects because of the differences in location, footprint and size. As soon as the projects are approved, the bid packages for construction contracts will be advertised for a three week period, as mandated by Louisiana Procurement Laws.

The Cameron Parish School Board will then meet to select the construction companies that will actually construct the buildings. The

Gas well fire is quickly extinguished

By **CYNDI SELLERS**

The gas well that has been venting steam and a small amount of natural gas near Oak Grove for the past two weeks ignited on Monday. The fire was extinguished within two hours. As a precaution, school buses were re-routed around the site on Tuesday, but no further fires have occurred.

Clifton Hebert, Cameron Parish OEP Director, has been at the site throughout the incident and reports that the gas vent line has been extended another 40 feet from the well head to reduce the danger of ignition from activity around the well. He says the amount of gas escaping has increased slightly, but still poses no danger to the public, and traffic is back to normal on Highway 82.

This week, crews are trying to remove the tubing they previously inserted into the well, and plan to pour drilling mud into the well in hopes of plugging it. Hebert says this could take another two weeks.



THE NEW Grand Lake Elementary School was opened last year but due to so many other matters dealing with the rebuilding of Cameron Parish schools no formal opening was held.



CALLIE BREVELLE was crowned Deb Miss Mardi Gras of Southwest Louisiana at the 2008 Mardi Gras of SWLA Pageant on Saturday, Jan. 5 at the Lake Charles Civic Center. She also won Most Beautiful, Fashion, and Photogenic. She is a sixth grade banner roll student at Grand Lake and is the 11-year-old daughter of Mark and Laurie Brevelle of Lake Charles.

Menhaden fishing ban considered in Texas

(American Press)

The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department is scheduled this week to consider restricting the commercial fishing of menhaden, a baitfish that sport fishermen want to protect because of its role in the marine ecosystem.

Any change would mostly affect Omega Protein, a Houston-based company that dominates the industry nationwide and uses a fishing practice that vacuums menhaden out of the water. "Not only are they (menhaden) a filter feeder, they feed on harmful algae, they also form the basis of the food chain for everything that swims in the bays and the gulf," said Jim Smarr, chairman of the Texas Recreational Fishing Alliance.

Most of the 1.2 billion pounds of menhaden harvested annually from the Gulf of Mexico comes from Louisiana waters. Texas accounts for about 50 million pounds a year, the department said.

The fish are ground into fishmeal for the livestock and aquaculture industries. They're also used to make omega-3 fish oil dietary supplements. Texas limits com-

mercial menhaden fishing to a season that runs from the third Monday in April to Nov. 1, but there are no other laws restricting their take.

Omega Protein, which only has corporate offices in Texas, operates fishing fleets in Louisiana, Mississippi and Virginia.

Federal legislation introduced by U.S. Rep Wayne T. Gilchrest, R-Md., would ban commercial menhaden fishing in all federal and state waters along the Atlantic seaboard. Florida and Alabama already have laws restricting the industry.

Omega spokesman Toby Gascon said federal regulators have not judged the Atlantic or gulf menhaden to be overfished. The company is victim to political interests that are pandering to recreational fishermen, he said.

The menhaden population in Texas waters is not thought to be in decline, said Larry McKinney, director of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department coastal fisheries division. But the department is concerned that could become a problem if menhaden fishing is banned in other areas and there's a growth in offshore fish farms that rely on the fishmeal, he said.

Housing to be discussed

Cameron Parish Planning & Development, in conjunction with the Cameron Council on Aging/Community Action Agency is hosting a briefing to discuss housing and related initiatives for Cameron Parish.

Housing types, mortgage vehicles, and special purpose housing are being discussed with numerous nationally recognized housing groups to benefit the residents of Cameron Parish, especially in its housing recovery efforts.

Executive Director of Planning & Development, Ernie Broussard, states, "We feel that the timing is right to partner to with Mrs. Dinah Landry and her group to not only assess housing needs parish-wide, but also to discuss future housing types."

January is National Glaucoma Awareness Month

architects of record are Vincent and Shows Architects of Sulphur for South Cameron High School and C. Gayle Zembower for the Cameron Parish School Board Central Office.

Cameron leads in menhaden fishing and processing

For years Cameron was the site of one of the largest menhaden fishing processing industries in the country with three plants operating. There is only one plant now operated by Omega Protein, but it is still a sizable operation, one that is important to the parish's economy.

Omega Protein is North America's leading manufacturer of marine protein and fish oil.

Accounting for over 70% of the menhaden caught in the United States and over 15% of the nation's total seafood landings, Omega Protein is one of the largest fishing companies in the United States in terms of tonnage, and one of the largest fish meal companies in the world.

Omega Protein's 40 fishing vessels and 35 spotter

planes are housed at the company's home ports and processing plants in Abbeville and Cameron, Louisiana; Moss Point, Mississippi, and Reedville, Virginia.

During fishing season, April-December, Omega Protein employs over 1,100 people and during the "off" season, 500 people are permanently employed.

Thanks to its strategic system of warehouses and its ample barge and railcar loading facilities, Omega Protein can efficiently supply fish meal, fish oil and fish solubles to customers through the United States and to foreign locations as well.

January is National Clean Up Your Computer Month



A PICTURE of an alligator was taken in Cameron Parish a few years back by the late Bill Turnbull, a recognized nature photographer. This is one of the photos included in a book of Turnbull's photos recently published by his wife, Janie Turnbull. Copies of the book may be ordered from Mrs. Turnbull by writing P. O. Box 730447, Norman, OK 73070. Her phone number is 405-701-5184.



THE SEVEN MEMBERS of the Cameron Parish School Board were officially sworn in by Cameron Parish Clerk of Court Carl Broussard on Monday, Jan. 14, to serve through Dec. 31, 2010. The Cameron Parish School Board members are, from left, Loston McEvers, District 5 of Creole, Dot Theriot, District 4 of Grand Chenier, R. Scott Nunez, District 3 of Sweetlake, Marsha Trahan, District 1 of Johnson Bayou, Dwayne Sanner, District 2 of Hackberry, Karen Nunez, District 7 of Grand Lake, and Marvin Trahan, District 6 of Cameron.

(Photograph by Tracy Lannin)

Funerals



LAURA LEE CHERAMIE

Laura Lee Cheramie, 82, died on Monday, Jan. 7, 2008, at a local hospital.

A resident of Cameron Parish from 1951 until 1983, she was a resident of Lake Charles for the past 20 years. She was in the banking business having worked for over 25 years for Calcasieu Marine Bank and Cameron State Bank.

In the past, Ms. Cheramie was active in the South Cameron Athletic Department and Woodman of the World. She loved praying her rosary, and before her illness, she attended St. Margaret's Catholic Church. Preceding her in death was her husband, Norman Joseph Cheramie.

Survivors include her three daughters, Sherry Dinger and husband, Jay

and Norma Pinch and husband, Bobby, all of Lake Charles and Susan Johnson and husband, Tony of Creole; two sisters, Belle Mayon of Morgan City and Ouida Guidry of Cut Off.

Her funeral was held Thursday, Jan. 10, at Hixson Funeral Home in Lake Charles. Father Wayne LeBleu officiated. Burial was in Highland Cemetery.



CONELIA MARIE LABOVE TRAHAN

Conelia Marie LaBove Trahan, 64, died Jan. 21, 2008 at her residence in Cameron.

She was born in Creole to Oliver LaBove and Melanie Jenkins LaBove. She was a member of Assumption Catholic Church in Johnson Bayou.

She was preceded in death by her granddaughter; her parents; and two brothers.

She is survived by her

G. L. to host Science Fair

Grand Lake High School will host their local Science Fair on Feb. 8 and the Social Studies Fair on Feb. 15. Mrs. Felisha Nunez and Ms. Susan Arnold will host a workshop to assist students in 6th, 7th, and 8th grades with their science fair and social studies fair projects, and other teachers will be on hand to assist.

The workshop will be held on Thursday, Jan. 17, and Tuesday, Jan. 22, after school from 2:30-4:40 p.m. in the art room. Each student must provide their own display board and should also bring any research collected for their project.

A jump drive is suggested if they would like computer assistance. Any parents that would be willing to assist are welcome to attend. Also, if you've participated in or assisted with fairs in the past, please feel free to drop in and share your expertise with the students.

husband, Armond Trahan; two sons, Marvin Trahan and wife Renetta of Cameron and Lawrence Trahan and wife Felicia of Leesville; three daughters, Tammy Peshoff and husband Kirk of Cameron, Monica Trahan of Baton Rouge, and Tara Miller and husband Troy of Creole; one sister, Valerie Dimas of Lake Charles; and nine grandchildren.

Funeral services were held Wednesday, Jan. 23, at Assumption Catholic Church in Johnson Bayou. Father Roland Vaughn officiated. Burial was in the Head of the Hollow Cemetery. A rosary was held Tuesday, Jan. 22, led by Father Joseph McGrath in Hixson Funeral Home of Lake Charles.

ETHEL BOUDOIN BERRY

Ethel Boudoin Berry, 83, died Sunday, Jan. 20, 2008, in the Sulphur hospital.

Mrs. Berry was a native of Cameron and resided in Sulphur most of her life. She was a nurse for 40 years, taught CCD and was a member of Our Lady of LaSalette Catholic Church and VFW Post 8107.

Survivors include four children, Delores Meadows, Brenda James and husband Jesse, Evelyn Chaisson and husband Joe, and Mary Demeritt, all of Sulphur; 11 grandchildren, 19 great-grandchildren and two great-great grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Dudley Hebert; one son, Kenneth Hebert; and her parents, Drozan and Mary Boudoin.

Her funeral will be at 2 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 24, in Our Lady of LaSalette Catholic Church in Sulphur. Burial will be in Farquhar Cemetery.

Memorial books are announced

The following memorial books have been donated to the Cameron Parish Library with the name of the honorees, donors and titles listed in that order:

Conway LeBleu, Thomas and Sandra McCall, Farmall; Lynn McCall, Thomas and Sandra McCall, Ansel Adams and the Photographers of the West; Conway LeBleu, VFW Post 10019, Atchafalaya; Ed Blatt, Mike and Kay Miller, Angler's Guide to Fishes of the Gulf of Mexico; Lyndya Carole Scarborough, Mary Hotard, I Heard That Song Before; Conway LeBleu, Joe Dupont and family, America's Horses.

Shirley DeLise DeLaune, Tony and Rhonda Duhon and family, 1) 300 Crochet Stitches, 2) 150 Favorite Crochet Designs; Braxton Blake, David and Loreleen Guthrie, A Place Called Home; Ray Kebodeaux, David and Loreleen Guthrie, 1) Soup, 2) Fix It & Forget It Cookbook; Derek Thibodeaux, David and Loreleen Guthrie, Steer Wrestling; Leroy A. Meyers, J. D. and Mae Simon, 1) Archery Fundamentals 2) Space & Astronomy.

Services are offered Cam Par. women

Calcasieu Women's Shelter is a program providing services in Cameron communities and safe shelter for abused women and children.

For assistance, please call the Calcasieu Women's Shelter 24 hours a day 7 days a week at 436-4552 or toll free at 888-411-1333.

Eva Trahan, the Cameron Parish Community organizer can assist Monday-Friday, along with a team of advocates who are available 24 hours a day. Every call or meeting is confidential.

Mardi Gras party planned

The Cameron Council on Aging will hold a Senior Citizens Mardi Gras Party, Friday Feb. 1 from 10 a.m. till 1 p.m. at the Grand Lake Community Center. There will be costume contests, dancing and food.

Music will be provided by the Medicare Playboys. A Mardi Gras Queen and King will be chosen.

Game night set at S. L.

Family Game Night will be held at the Sweetlake Methodist Church in the back gym at 6 p.m. Friday, Feb. 1. Bring your favorite game. For more details call the church office at 598-4688.

Sr. Citizens to be honored by church

The Sweetlake Methodist Church will honor the Senior Citizens of Cameron Parish with a Valentine Party on Feb. 10 from 4-6 p.m. at the Church fellowship hall.

Valentine King and Queen will be chosen. If you need a ride, call 905-5000.

Grocery bingo will be played and a light meal will be served.



THE CAMERON Community Action Agency honored three retiring board members at its last meeting in December. They were, from left: Alice Reeves, Charles Precht III and Carolyn Thibodeaux. They have served for the past five years and must wait another year before they can be reappointed.

(Photo courtesy of Dinah Landry.)

Homeowner warns others about FEMA regulations

By CYNDI SELLERS

Consequences for building structures that do not comply with National Flood Insurance Program requirements can be long-lasting, as Susan Dupont found out recently.

She appeared before the Police Jury last week to share her experience with others who may find themselves in similar trouble.

Susan and Shannon Dupont built a home in 1987 and were told the elevation should be 6 feet, and that no permit was needed. Much later they found out that it should have been 9 feet. In 2001, they received a letter from FEMA saying that the house was not in compliance and was assigned a "1316" code. After assurances that the code was in error because the matter had not been through the parish process to assign that status, the DuPont's ignored it. Their home had no mortgage and no flood insurance, so it didn't seem to matter.

Then came 2005 and Hurricane Rita. The Duponts' home was destroyed and they took out

a mortgage to rebuild. They had to insure the home for the mortgage. Later, the insurance company called and said a "1316" is attached to the property and it can never get flood insurance.

Naturally, with a home loan already spent on construction and the lack of required flood insurance, they were in distress.

Parish Administrator Tina Horn provided some history. She said that in 1990 FEMA made the parish send letters out requiring everyone to get into compliance with elevation requirements. A few did so, but most did not. The orders had no penalty, except that under 1316 no flood insurance could be bought for the property, ever. At the time, the property was identified through rural routes, not 911 addresses, which has caused some confusion.

Dupont frantically sought answers and found a remedy on the FEMA website that allowed the parish to rescind the 1316 order. She wants others who may find themselves in the same situation as they try to rebuild to know there is hope.

**-The CAMERON PILOT-
(USPS 150-200)**

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Mr. and Mrs. Brandon Pitre

Pitre-Welch vows are said in Hackberry on Jan. 19

Kara Lynn Welch and Brandon Joseph Pitre were married Saturday, Jan. 19 at St. Peter the Apostle Catholic Church in Hackberry. Rev. Roland G. Vaughn officiated. Lector was Kathy Norwood and vocalist was Markie Spear.

Parents of the bride are Mr. and Mrs. Michael

(Tammy) Welch. Parents of the groom are Mr. and Mrs. John Pitre. Grandparents of the bride are Mr. and Mrs. Amos (Annie) Welch. Grandparents of the groom are Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Lapoint and Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Horton.

Nicole Sellers served as the matron of honor and Miranda Hicks served as the maid of honor. Bridesmaids were Jillian Alexander and Valerie Heckler.

The flower girl was Addyson Caswell and the ringbearer was Austin Blankenship.

Best man was J. T. Fontenot and the groomsmen were D. J. Leveque, Beau Leveque, and Chase Pitre. The junior groomsmen were Peyton Delome and Tucker Welch. Ushers were Cory Welch, Raymond Hicks, and Tom Lapoint.

The wedding reception was held at the Hackberry Community Center.



Mr. and Mrs. Brent Morales

Mr. and Mrs. Brent Morales are married in Lake Charles

Amanda Faye Duplantis and Brent Charles Morales were married Oct. 6, 2007 at the Immaculate Conception Cathedral in Lake Charles. Father Wayne LeBleu officiated the double ring ceremony. Robert Marcantel provided the music and Pat Cary was vocalist.

Parents of the couple are Allen and Susan Duplantis of Lacassine and George and Janice Morales of Creole.

Given in marriage by her father, the bride wore an all white, Maggie Sottero, one-piece, A-line strapless gown with corset back featuring a lace overlay. Lace appliques adorned the chapel train. Her veil was trimmed with crystals.

She carried a variety of fall flowers mixed with white carnations that were especially arranged by her mother.

April Hebert served as the matron of honor and Alyson Duplantis served as the maid of honor. Bridesmaids included Robin Morales, Theresa Duplantis, C'Rissa Morales and Shonda Dardeau.

The attendants wore floor length wine colored European Satin strapless

gowns and carried a combination of ivory hydrangeas and wine long stemmed dahlias.

The flower girl and ringbearer were Jordyn Bush and Jakin Morales.

Bestman was Corey Doucet and groomsmen included Todd Morales, Dustin Duplantis, Rusty Martin, J. D. Guillory and Dylan Duplantis.

Ushers were Patrick Bertrand, Josh Cooley and Shaun Fawvor.

Readers were Monica Holland and Jessica Rames.

A reception followed in the Iowa KC Hall. Servers included Christian Doucet and Kelly LeJeune.

The bride is a graduate of Lacassine High School and Sowela Technical College. The groom graduated from South Cameron High School and Sowela Technical College.

The bride is employed by Demarie Insurance Agency and the groom is employed by BP of America - Thunderhouse Platform.

After a wedding trip to Riviera Maya, Mexico, the couple is making their home in Creole.

Out of town relatives attending included Nina Morales and Betsy Armario.

Humphrey appointed

Jill Langley Humphrey has been named Advertising Director for the Southwest Daily News in Sulphur.

Humphrey is a long-time Sulphur resident and has been a member of the SWDN staff since February 1995.

Humphrey has had many duties at the newspaper ranging from telemarketing, classified sales, outside account executive to most recently, Advertising Director.

Humphrey is the daughter of Joan Stevens and Gary and Vicky Langley. She is a graduate of Grand Lake High School and attended Louisiana College. Humphrey and her husband, Freddie, are the parents of 10 year old Celeste.

Honor list

The President's Honor List for the fall 2007 semester at McNeese State University has been announced.

Dane Dupont of Grand Lake, Engineering, has been named to the honor list.

Hackberry Homecoming Court told

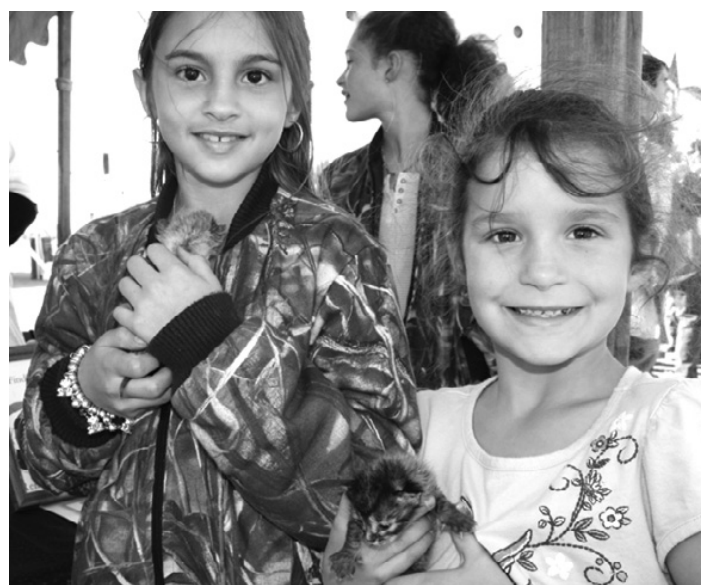
Kayla Sanner was named Homecoming Queen at Hackberry High School. The queen and her court were presented at half-time ceremonies during the game against Bethel Christian High School Friday, Jan. 11.

Members of the court were: Leslie Fincher, senior; Brooke Wing, senior; Lauren Broussard, junior; Megan Swire, junior; Meghan Shipp, sophomore; Erica Duhan, freshman.

Rep. Danahay opens office in Sulphur

Rep. Mike Danahay announced the opening of his Legislative Office for District 33, at 1803 Beglis Parkway, Sulphur, Louisiana. Rep. Danahay said "he is looking forward to serving the citizens of District 33."

He and his legislative assistant Karen Gothreaux, can be reached at 527-5581 or 1-866-925-2806. His fax number is 527-5803 and his e-mail address is danahaym@legis.state.la.us.



ALYSSA WALKER and Whitney Veronie cuddle newborn kittens being cared for by volunteers with Animal Angels, who had a booth at the Fur Festival. Animal Angels have been placing cats in Cameron Parish homes to help control the rodent population.

(Photo by Cyndi Sellers.)

Hackberry Junior 4-H club hears reports on projects

By JOLIE TRAHAN

The Hackberry Junior 4-H meeting was held on Jan. 16. President Sam Little, led the meeting. Pledges were led by Jacie Granger and Mattie Stine. Madison Shove, Jolie Trahan, Clint Welch, Cody Reon and Jonathon Landry gave their reports. Old business was read by Sydney Broussard and new business by Kim Portie.

Kennedy Darbonne gave a report on the horse project. A meal for the elderly was discussed by Meagan Johnson. The meeting was then turned over to the leader Mrs. Margaret Shove.

She spoke about all of the upcoming events.

The Vice-President, William Toups, introduced three students who gave Project Reports. Lexie Stine reported on the rabbit poster contest. Ashley Little reported on the livestock shows. Johnathon Landry reported on shooting sports.



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CREOLE POLLING PLACE RELOCATED

The Precinct 13, Creole Polling Place, located at the Savoie Lumber Store, 153 East Creole Hwy., Creole, La., is being relocated to the Creole Fire Station, 184B East Creole Highway, Creole, Louisiana.

This move was adopted and approved by Resolution of the Cameron Parish Police Jury on December 3, 2007.

This Polling Location will be used for voting in the upcoming Presidential Preference Primary Election to be held on Saturday, February 9, 2008.

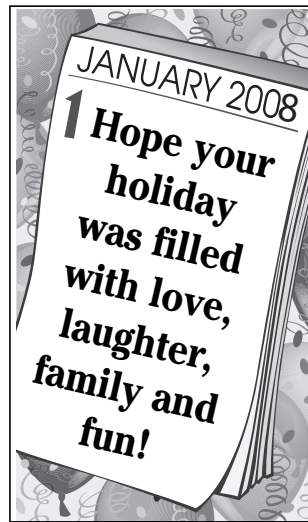
A complete listing of all Cameron Parish Polling Locations for the upcoming Presidential Preference Primary is listed elsewhere in this publication.

RUN: Jan. 24, 31, Feb. 7 (J-51)

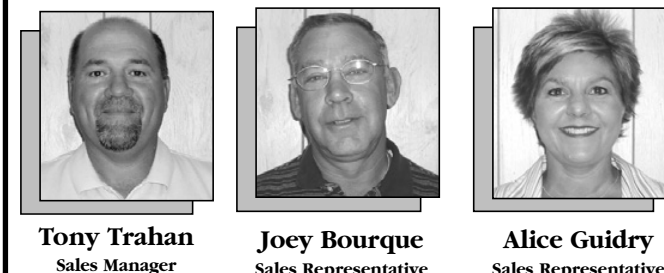
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Polling places announced

A list of Cameron Parish polling places for the Feb. 9 Presidential Preference Primary Election can be found listed in a legal notice elsewhere in this issue of the Pilot.

Clerk of Court Carl Broussard announced that the Precinct 23, Creole Polling Place, formerly located at Savoie Lumber Company, is being relocated to Creole Fire Station in Creole.

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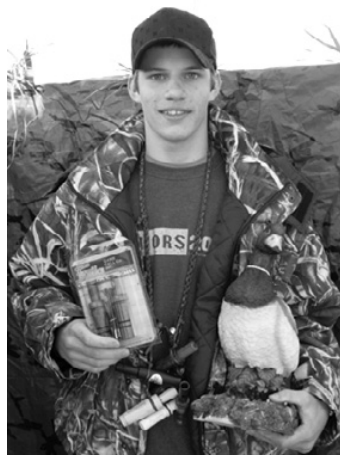
A NUTRIA AND alligator coat was one of the products on display at the Louisiana Fur and Alligator Council's booth at the fairgrounds Saturday. Janet Wiebe, Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, was on hand to show the garments and explain the importance of trapping. (Photo by Cyndi Sellers.)



SUMMER SELLNO of New Orleans touches a baby alligator held by Quentin Morris, educator with the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries and the Louisiana Fur and Alligator Council during the Fur and Wildlife Festival. (Photo by Cyndi Sellers.)



KAITLIN THERIOT was soaking up some rays while waiting for the parade on Saturday, Jan. 12. (Photo by Cyndi Sellers.)



MATT HARRELL was the overall winner in the Duck and Goose Calling competition at the 2008 Fuf Festival. He won a set of presentation Faulk's duck and goose calls and a mallard duck statue. (Photo by Cyndi Sellers.)

Library to host Wii Tournament

Cameron Branch Library will offer Wii Sports "Bowling Tournament" Friday, Jan. 25th at 1 p.m. Participants will compete in/with the bowling game as other participants will be playing "Guitar Hero III" in another part of the library while waiting for their chance to bowl.

Young adults 11 and older are invited to attend at no cost. For more information call the Cameron Branch Library at 775-5421



South Cameron High School News

HONOR ROLL

First grade - Gracie Benoit, Drake Conner, Nathan Constance, Chad DeBarge, Jade Dockins, Hugh Dyson, Carla Feilen, Elena Lopez, Marissa Mallett, Hannah Mhire, Diego Morales, Sydney Pearce, Kristopher Reina, Ty Troclair.

Second grade - Johnathon Brown, Angelica LeJeune, Tori Oglesby, Tylor Skipper, Brant Styron, John Warner, Devin Whittington.

Third grade - Jevan Ball, Allie Bonsall, Braydon Boullion, Kendall Brown, Katia Castillo, Lexi-Jo DeBarge, James Dupont, Madison Feilen, Zachary Godette, Tyler LaBove, Hunter LeBoeuf, Gillian Swire, Hunter Theriot.

Fourth grade - Trevor Bertrand, Baylie Duhon, Searia Duplechian, Brooklyn Frerks, Kayleigh Fuslier, Clarisa Gary, Erin Hill, Brandt James, Alexander LaPoint, Ty Little, Jacee Miltenberger, Alex Morrison, Chauntelle Nunez, Megan Nunez, Alisha Patel, Morgan Primeaux, Garen Romero, Austin Swire, Breydon Trahan, Gabrielle Wood.

Fifth grade - Brianna Fountain, Hannah Guidry, Mary LaBove, Linlee LaLande, Ashlyn Miller, Jarrett Thibodeaux.

Sixth grade - Andrew Bonsall, Alex Jones.

Seventh grade - Savannah Baccigalopi, Kendal Badon, Karlee Primeaux, Becka Richard.

Eighth grade - Breann DeBarge, Myli Hay, Kypp Knippers, Channing LaLande, Dina Mendez, Trey Morrison, Andrew Mudd.

Ninth grade - Ashley Morvant, Jadah Primeaux, Cade Theriot, Brendan Trahan, Shelby Wolfe.

Tenth grade - Jolie Boudreaux, Lakin Canik, Katelyn Horn, Kelsey Mudd, Dex Murphy, Bailey D. Richard, Bailey E. Richard.

Eleventh grade - Collise Dupont, Gabriel LaLande, Haley McCall, Brett Richard, Gerald Vazquez.

Twelfth grade - Amanda Benoit, Kassie Benton, Dustin Boudreaux, Keaton Boudreaux, Ali Conner, James Cormier, Karrie Fontenot, Nicholas Jairam, Daniel Kelley, Trevor LaBove, Mica LeBoeuf, Chynna Little, Bryce Manuel, Colby Nunez, Emily

Primeaux, Blane Savoie, Mathew Theriot, Angela Trahan, Jonathan Trahan, Lyndi Vincent, Bryan Whittington, Victoria Wilkerson.

BANNER ROLL

First grade - Zoey Bailey, Michael Boudreaux, Koby Chaumont, Trenton Comeaux, Victoria Conner, Shyla Duplechian, Timothy Godette, Kannon Gilbeau, Brailee LaBove, Aaron LaSalle, Karlee Nunez, Carissa Primeaux, Marley Thibodeaux, Lucas Troclair.

Second grade - Brilee Baccigalopi, Cassidy Conner, Yahaira Contreras, Rosal Del, Mya Hebert, Caleb Little, Kate McDaniel, Katie Mhire, Merissa Rodriguez, Erin Trahan.

Third grade - Kelsey Bouderau, Taylor Clement, Baleigh Conner, Abby LeBoeuf, Jakin Morales, Madeleine Mudd, Mathew Olivier, Briley Richard.

Fourth grade - Sydnee McCall, Meike Nunez.

Fifth grade - Kaine Badon, Madison Bonsall, Jose Castillo, Sadie DeBarge, Adam Jones, Logan Primeaux.

Seventh grade - Logan Broussard.

Eighth grade - Raj Patel. Tenth grade - Sara Dupre, Klaire Kingrey, Mikalee Mooney, Devon Richard, Ross Rowland, Meagan Wigley, John Zamora.

Eleventh grade - Anthony Baccigalopi, Anthony Basco, Kimily Bourriaque, Kobi Richard, Amanda Wicke.

Twelfth grade - Blair Belanger, Kaley Boudoin, Amy Bourriaque, Jami Bourriaque, Daniel Dupre, Rachael Fountain, Crystal Frerks, Danielle Nunez, Erika Pickett, BJ Primeaux, Daniel Roberson, Jill Rutherford, Kami Savoie, Thomas Troclair.

SCHOOL CALENDAR

Jan. 24-25 - Sr Beta Convention, Baton Rouge.

Jan. 25 - Basketball Merryville (away); Special Friday for Grades and Discipline

Jan. 29 - Basketball Basile (home).

Jan. 29-Feb 2 - District Livestock Show.

Jan. 31 - FBLA District Meeting - Lake Charles

Feb. 1 - Basketball Hamilton Christian (home) Senior Night.



CAMERON PARISH Superintendent of Schools Stephanie Rodrigue, second from right, welcomed the district's three newest staff members, following their appointments by the Cameron Parish School Board on Monday, Jan. 14. From left, appointed to the two positions of Business Managers were Paula Smythe and Tracy Lannin, both of Grand Lake, and appointed to the Clerical position was Anna Laurel-Murphy of Creole. There was a total of 35 applicants interviewed for the three available positions. (Photograph by Pam Mudd)

Cameron Parish School lunch menus told

Cameron Parish School lunch menus are as follows:

Friday, Jan. 25 - Sloppy joe, carrots, oven fries, oatmeal cookies, catsup, hamburger bun, milk

Monday, Jan. 28 - Breaded chicken, mashed potatoes, Green beans, fruit cocktail, wheat rolls, white sauce, milk

Tuesday, Jan. 29 -

Barbecue burger, oven fries, baked beans, banana bread squares, catsup, milk

Wednesday, Jan. 30 - Sausage on a bun tossed salad, carrots, chilled peach slices, hot dog bun, salad dressing, milk

Thursday, Jan. 31 - Baked chicken, rice, blackeyed peas, fresh fruit cup, brown gravy, wheat biscuits, milk



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Cameron Parish Public Library Board of Control
— 2008 MEETING DATES —

- January 20, 2008
- February 18, 2008
- March 17, 2008
- April 21, 2008
- May 19, 2008
- June 16, 2008
- July 16, 2008
- August 20, 2008
- September 17, 2008
- October 15, 2008
- November 19, 2008
- December 17, 2008

Meetings begin at 5:00 p.m. at the Grand Lake Library

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- Bon Voyage
- Good Luck
- Engagement
- Wedding
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Cameron Outdoors



By LOSTON MCEVERS

DUCK SEASON ENDS

Our 2007-08 duck/coot season has ended and quite a weather change the last week. We had spring weather to start, heavy rains that put too much water in our marshes, and then a freeze for our last day.

A "Die Hard" fisherman or hunter goes out, no matter what. Well Sunday, I decided to go out later to hunt, and to get the rest of my decoys and boat. It was up to 35 degrees and not so bad and it seems the ducks were ganged up against the grass away from the cold winds, so I didn't see much flights.

There were lots of coots, so I got to thinking; a good coot and gizzard gumbo wouldn't be bad.

I noticed there were a few ducks along the Gibbstown Road in the Big Burn area, but Hwy. 384 from Hackett's Conner going west towards Sweetlake had a few thousand duck in rice fields, mixed, but plenty of pintails and quite a few speckle bellies along with a few snow geese. I believe these were new birds coming down. I have a friend who hunts in Arkansas and he told me the previous weekend the ducks and geese were there, and with this cold front of ice and snow, I'll say they moved further south.

I went back on my daily hunting book to see how my blind did. The first split we had 153 ducks and hunted 15 days averaging 10 birds

each day, although some days there were 2 or 3 hunters.

The second split I hunted 10 days by myself seven of those days and had 39 ducks, an average of 4 per day.

As you can see, the first split was way better than the second split for my blind. I hunted with friends on other days and we always had plenty for our limits.

I noticed Sunday morning (there are usually 17 individuals that hunt the areas I do) and there were only 5; at the camp only me so the "die hards" didn't show.

DUCK-OFF

The Hackberry Duck-Off will be held at the Hackberry Community Center, beginning at 8 a.m., Saturday, Jan. 26. This is a great event to benefit the youth of this community. There will be a duck cook-off, skeet shooting, a golf tournament, bingo, silent and live auctions and then at 6 p.m. a DJ will have music. For more information call 762-3391.

BRIEFS

If you got a place to goose hunt and if there's geese coming to it, there's plenty of time left for some shooting. This season lasts until Feb. 1 with a 20 daily limit for snow, blues and ross geese, (no possession limit); speckle belly daily limit is 2 per day, possession limit of 4. (West Zone).

The conservation order for light geese is our West Zone is Feb. 2 through March 9. Only snows, blues and ross geese may be taken, but hunters are allowed the use of electronic calls, unplugged shotguns and no daily bang and possession limits. Shooting hours begin one half before sunrise and runs through one-half hour after sunset.

This is also a good time of the year for rabbit hunting. I have seen rabbits on the oil-field locations and roads, both in Creole and Grand Chenier, so a hunter could get a few rabbits to barbecue.

I didn't get too much on fishing this past week but it seems that the water level on Toledo Bend is holding on at 168 plus feet, which should be great for our spring spawn and spring fishing.

I got one report of some large reds at the Grand Chenier Jetties, but rough to get to the east side. Catch ya later!

Demonstration to be held at libraries on gift jars

LSU AgCenter and the Cameron Parish Library will be teaming up to help you with your Valentine's Day gift giving. Penny Thibodeaux, 4-H agent for Cameron Parish, will be showing participants how to put together a sweet Valentine's day holiday gift jar mix to give to special people in your life.

Gift jars contain the dry ingredients for things such as cookies and cakes, beautifully arranged in a decorated jar for gift giving. The library also has books with ideas on other homemade gifts to give for holidays you can check

out. Because of the special school day on Fridays, the library will be having this craft program at a special time.

Grand Chenier Branch Library will host the gift jar program at 12 noon on Friday, Feb. 8. The program will be repeated at the Cameron Branch Library on the same day at 2 p.m. Participants do not need to bring supplies for the program.

For more information or to register for the class, call 775-5421 or 538-2214.

Public hearing set by Jury

A public hearing will be held Monday, Jan. 28, at the Cameron Courthouse, during the Cameron Parish Police Jury Agenda meeting to discuss Cameron Parish's participation in the Louisiana Land Trust Property Disposition Program.

The proposed plan for Cameron Parish can be viewed at the Cameron Parish Police Jury Administration Office, located at 122-A Recreation

Center Lane in Cameron, or Cameron Parish Planning & Development, located at 122-E Recreation Center Lane.

Cameron Parish Police Jury is currently accepting written public comments on its proposed Disposition Plan. Comments can be submitted at the Police Jury Administrative Office or Planning & Development, or they can be emailed to cppoebroussard@camtel.net until Friday, Feb. 1.

Chenier Library schedule

The Grand Chenier Library schedule is as follows:

"Crossword Daze", 10 a.m. daily, "After School

Club", "Chess Your Luck", 4 p.m., Thursdays after school.

"La. Spirit Hurricane Recovery Team", Arts & crafts, 1-3 p.m., Fridays.

can not vote in this election. Also on the ballot is the race for Member of Democratic State Central Committee for the 47th Representative District Office "B". This district is comprised by all of Cameron Parish and a portion of Vermilion Parish, with only Democratic Voters eligible to vote for this seat.

Listed below is a sample ballot for the upcoming Presidential Preference Primary Election.

In the election for member of the Democratic State Central Committee there are two candidates: Jeff Sanders from Hackberry and Eugene Sellers from Abbeville.

Only Democrats Vote	Only Republicans Vote
Presidential Nominee Democratic Party (Vote for ONE) "Joe" Biden Democrat <input type="checkbox"/> Hillary Clinton Democrat <input type="checkbox"/> Christopher J. Dodd Democrat <input type="checkbox"/> John Edwards Democrat <input type="checkbox"/> Dennis J. Kucinich Democrat <input type="checkbox"/> Barack Obama Democrat <input type="checkbox"/> William "Bill" Richardson Democrat <input type="checkbox"/>	Presidential Nominee Republican Party (Vote for ONE) Jerry Curry Republican <input type="checkbox"/> Daniel Gilbert Republican <input type="checkbox"/> Rudolph W. Giuliani Republican <input type="checkbox"/> "Mike" Huckabee Republican <input type="checkbox"/> Duncan Hunter Republican <input type="checkbox"/> Alan Keyes Republican <input type="checkbox"/> John McCain Republican <input type="checkbox"/> Ron Paul Republican <input type="checkbox"/> Mitt Romney Republican <input type="checkbox"/> "Tom" Tancredo Republican <input type="checkbox"/> Fred Thompson Republican <input type="checkbox"/>



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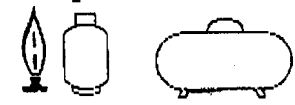
Cameron Parish Head Start is now taking applications for pupils 3-5 years of age for the upcoming school year of 2008-2009. Pupils must be 3 by September 30, 2008.

Applications are available at Grand Lake Head Start Center, 965 Highway 384, 598-4413 or Hackberry Head Start Center, 110 Volunteer Lane, 762-3587.

Cameron Parish Head Start does not discriminate against any race, color, creed, sex, national origin, religious belief, disability, conditions or ancestry.

Thank you for giving us the opportunity, as always it is a privilege to serve you and your family.

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EARLY VOTING SOON TO BEGIN

Early voting for the Feb. 9, 2008 election will be at the Registrar of Voters office at 122-F Recreation Ln. behind the courthouse.

Early voting has added another Saturday to the early voting days for the convenience of our voters.

Early voting will occur from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. starting Saturday, Jan. 26, and the week of Monday, Jan. 28 through Saturday, Feb. 2, 2008. Please remember when you go vote, you must have a picture ID with you.

Finally, any person who feels they need assistance in voting due to a physical disability such as poor eyesight or other **MUST** get a physicians certificate confirming the need for assistance in voting and submit it to the registrar prior to the election or give the certificate to the commissioners at the polls on Election Day.

Thanks,
 Suzanne Sturlese, Registrar

RUN: Jan. 17 & 24 (J-26)

The Cameron Pilot

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Catholic Calendar

Vol. 34, No. 3

A PAGE DEVOTED TO LOCAL CATHOLIC INTERESTS † THE DIOCESE OF LAKE CHARLES † LCDIOCESE.ORG

January 24, 2008



(EDITOR'S NOTE: Catholic Schools Week in the Diocese of Lake Charles as well as across the country is celebrated the week of January 28 to February 1. This year's national theme for Catholic Schools Week is "Catholic Schools Light the Way." There are eight Catholic schools in the Diocese, St. Louis Catholic High School, Immaculate Conception Cathedral School, Our Lady Queen of Heaven School, Sacred Heart of Jesus/St. Katharine Drexel School, St. Margaret of Scotland School, all in Lake Charles; St. Theodore Holy Family School in Moss Bluff; Our Lady Immaculate School in Jennings; and Our Lady's School in Sulphur. The Most Reverend Glen John Provost, Bishop of Lake Charles, will be the celebrant of a special Mass at 9:30 a.m. on Monday, Jan. 28 in the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in honor of Catholic Schools Week)

The Diocese of Lake Charles Catholic Schools strive to educate students, instill spiritual and moral values and guide children toward bright and successful futures. Catholic Schools Week is

held annually to highlight the contributions and gifts of a Catholic Education. This year's theme is "Catholic Schools Light the Way." The theme combines the concepts of God as the light of the world and the light of knowledge that our teachers kindle in students. The Catholic schools in the Diocese of Lake Charles celebrate Catholic Schools Week by participating in a number of activities to showcase the accomplishments of students, teachers and alumni.

As our local schools in The Diocese of Lake Charles celebrate Catholic Schools Week, they also prepare their schools for prospective families. The seven elementary schools will be hosting Open Houses, followed by new family registration. Parents interested in enrolling students are encouraged to visit the schools on these dates. Parents choose a catholic education for

their children for many reasons. From academics and curriculum to school environment and parental involvement, Diocesan schools meet the academic needs of students by integrating faith, life and culture in a disciplined and safe environment. The Diocese of Lake Charles schools provide an education you can have faith in. Celebrate your child's education!

The Diocese of Lake Charles has four elementary schools in the greater Lake Charles area. The Diocese also has an elementary school in Sulphur, Moss Bluff and Jennings. St. Louis Catholic High School provides a quality education for students in the ninth through 12th grades.

Each elementary school will be holding an Open House and preparing for Spring registration beginning on April 1st.

St. Margaret of Scotland Catholic School 2510 Enterprise Boulevard Lake Charles 436-7959 Open House on Tuesday, March 4, 6:00 p.m.	Our Lady Queen of Heaven Catholic School 3908 Creole Street Lake Charles 477-7349 Open House on Monday, January 28, 6:30 p.m.	Our Lady's Catholic School 1111 Cypress Street Sulphur 527-7828 Open House on Thursday, January 31, 6:00 pm	Our Lady Immaculate Catholic School 600 Roberts Avenue Jennings 824-1743 Open House on Thursday, March 13 6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
Immaculate Conception Cathedral School 1536 Ryan Street Lake Charles 433-3497 Open House on Wednesday, March 5, 9:00a.m. - 4:00p.m.	Scared Heart/Saint Katharine Drexel Catholic School 1100 Mill Street Lake Charles 436-3588 Open House on Tuesday, March 18, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.	St. Theodore's Holy Family Catholic School 785 Sam Houston Jones Parkway Moss Bluff 855-9465 Open House on Thursday, March 13, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.	St. Louis Catholic High School 1620 Bank Street Lake Charles 436-7275 Continuing student registration Feb. 11-22

A Statement on Ethics Reform for the Government of Louisiana

(EDITOR'S NOTE: The following is a statement from The Most Reverend Alfred C. Hughes, Archbishop of New Orleans, on behalf of the Bishops of the Dioceses of the State of Louisiana.)

On behalf of the Catholic Bishops of our State of Louisiana, I wish to express our support for Governor Bobby Jindal's plans to improve ethics in the government of Louisiana.

The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* states: "Authority is exercised legitimately only when it seeks the common good of the group concerned and if it employs morally licit means to attain it...as with any ethical obligation, the participation of all in realizing the common good calls for a continually renewed conversion of the social partners. Fraud and other subterfuges, by which some people evade the constraints of the law and the prescriptions of societal obligation, must be firmly condemned because they are incompatible with the requirements of justice...it is incumbent on those who exercised authority to strengthen the values that inspire the confidence of the members of the group and encourage them to put themselves at the service of others."

Currently state law (R.S. 42:1101) sets forth four policy goals in the code of governmental ethics:

1. Ensure public confidence in the integrity of government.
2. Ensure the independence and impartiality of elected officials and public employees.
3. Ensure that governmental decisions and policy are made in the proper channel of the government structure.

4. Ensure that public office and employment are not used for private gain.

Unfortunately, Louisiana has a sad history of corruption at all levels of government. This is harming the common good in various ways. First, it discourages our citizens from participating in the political process itself. Secondly, it convinces out-of-state business interests that it would be a mistake for them to invest in our state. Thus, good paying jobs for our citizens and the attendant taxes they, and the businesses employing them, would pay never come to Louisiana. Thirdly, this in turn negatively impacts our government's ability to meet the legitimate educational, health, and other social needs of our people.

We urge the new state Legislature to work with Governor Jindal to pass legislation that provides improved clarity in the way state government operates. The public needs to see this occur in three areas: (1) personal finance disclosure by public officials, (2) campaign finance disclosure, and (3) spending by lobbyists. All of this needs to be done in order to convince all observers that there is no conflict of interest in the actions of our elected public officials.

There also needs to be a significant increase in the staffing and funding of the Louisiana Board of Ethics. Without these monies, there is no way of providing assurance that ethics reform measures will be monitored for the sake of the common good.

Most Reverend Alfred C. Hughes
 Archbishop of New Orleans
 January 2008



The Most Reverend Glen John Provost stands between the new deacons he had ordained in ceremonies at Our Lady Queen of Heaven Church last year. The pair, Deacon Nathan Long, left, and Deacon Ruben Buller, right, spent the past seven months in internships at two parishes in the Diocese preparing for their ordination to the priesthood in the spring.

Deacons spent last seven months living parish life

LAKE CHARLES — Deacons Ruben Buller and Nathan Long are back at their studies at Notre Dame Seminary in New Orleans now but since June they experienced ordained life in a church parish. The pair completed their seven-month long deacon internships, the former at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception and the latter at Our Lady of Seven Dolours Church in Welsh, at the end of 2007.

They took part in the many aspects of the ordained ministry of deacon at the parish level — weddings, baptisms, funerals, hospital calls, etc. Both felt it gave them a good grounding in what they might expect following their anticipated ordination to the priesthood later in the spring.

"One thing I noticed right away was that there was not a single day that was typical," Deacon Long said. "Every day was something different. With my personality, I prefer to have a schedule and to know what's coming down the pike but I found it to be very hit or miss. Every day was a new ball game and new things would happen."

For Deacon Buller, he felt it was a good time to actually be in a parish and learn about being a part of the parish and to put into practice the theolo-

gy accumulated over the past eight years.

"I think for me the highlight is just to be involved in the life of the community," Deacon Buller said. "To learn about the part of being in a parish with things such as baptisms, wedding, funerals that are unseen in the day to day actions at seminary."

"It was exciting to be involved with families and people who see me from day to day, and week to week, to become part of their life and their family and at the same time for them to become part of my life and my family as well."

For Deacon Long, the internship also gave him a feeling of family with the people of the parish.

"It became really like my family," he said. "That was a surprising happening for me. The longer you are there the more you begin to grow roots into the community you are with, get into their rhythm of life."

"I was surprised how much in my own heart I desired to be present with them, like a Father with his children and to go about life with them," Deacon Long continued. "You walk with newborns and baptisms, school children, and deal with death and dying and marriage and everything about it

becomes one big family for better, for worse. Very surprising but a very beautiful experience for me."

Following a brief break, they will be involved in several academic classes and various practicums this spring at Notre Dame.

Official Appointments



His Excellency, The Most Reverend Glen John Provost, D.D., makes the following appointment: The Rev. Thomas Vellappallil, M.S., is appointed Pastor to St. Theresa of the Child Jesus, Carlslys.

By order of the Most Reverend Ordinary,

Glen John Provost

+Glen John Provost
 Bishop of Lake Charles



Lake Charles Alumni members of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity presented canned goods to the Office of Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Lake Charles recently. The contribution came from fraternity initiates who were required to bring 20 canned goods each as part of their initiation process. The canned goods made up a portion of food baskets for those in need.

40-Hours Devotion sites, times

- Immaculate Heart of Mary, Lake Charles
9 a.m. to 7 p.m. each day - Tues., Jan. 29 and Wed., Jan. 30
- Sacred Heart of Jesus, Lake Charles
9 a.m. to 7 p.m. each day - Thurs., Jan. 31 and Friday, Feb. 1
(Times TBA)
- Our Lady of LaSalette, Sulphur
Thurs-Sat. Feb. 7-9
- Our Lady of LaSalette, DeQuincy
Sun.-Sat. Feb. 10-16
- St. Theresa of the Child Jesus
Sun.-Sat., Feb. 17-23
- Immaculate Conception, Maplewood
Sun.-Fri., Feb. 24-29
- St. Philip Neri, Kinder
Mon.-Wed., March 3-5
- St. Joan of Arc, Oberlin
Thurs.-Sat., March 13-15
- No Exposition During Holy Week
March 16-23
- Our Lady Help of Christians, Jennings
Tues. March, 25
- Immaculate Conception, Jennings
Wed. March 26
- Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Jennings
Thurs. March 27

The offices of the Diocese of Lake Charles will be closed on Monday and Tuesday, Feb. 4 and 5 for the Mardi Gras holidays. The offices will reopen on Wednesday, Feb. 6 at 8:30 a.m.

Did you know...

Bishop Jude Speyrer, the founding Bishop of the Diocese of Lake Charles had been pastor of Our Lady of the Lake Church in Lake Arthur from 1964 to 1969. In 1989, Bishop Sam Jacobs, currently Bishop of Houma-Thibodaux, was named to the Diocese of Alexandria. Bishop Jacobs had been pastor of both Our Lady of Good Counsel in Lake Charles and St. Mary of the Lake in Big Lake.

Two young seminarians studying for the Diocese of Lake Charles scheduled to be ordained to the priesthood this spring. Who was the first priest ordained for the then new Diocese of Lake Charles in June 1980?

(This page paid for by the Diocese of Lake Charles.)