



Police Jury continues recovery from Rita

By **CYNDI SELLERS**

For a welcome change, calm prevailed at the Cameron Parish Police Jury meeting, held in Hackberry on Monday evening.

Jurors pursued a modest agenda including ordinary permits, appointments, bid advertisements, and resolutions, heard an upbeat report from the EOC, and went into executive session.

Jurors agreed to begin replacing parish equipment damaged by Hurricane Rita, much of which was covered by salt water. Parish Administrator Tina Horn said the parish has received \$500,000 in interim emergency funds which can be used to replace equipment, and which should be reimbursed by FEMA at a 90/10% split.

Jurors also agreed to advertise for bids on repairs to Parish Road 217 (Pumpkin Ridge Road), and for a new generator for the Court House. The old generator is no longer reliable to power the entire building during power outages.

A resolution proposed by the Cameron Council on Aging, supporting a request from the agency to receive funds to place elderly and dis-

abled housing on two of the parish's 80 acres in Grand Lake was approved.

King's Bayou Bridge was placed at the top of the priority list for DOTD Off System Bridge Replacement. The fund currently has about \$400,000 in it, and the project should cost about \$900,000, so it will be some time before the bridge can be replaced.

The Oak Grove canal bridge was the last one to be funded by this program, and is set to be replaced this year.

Jurors agreed to pay invoices totalling \$82,000 for Waterworks District #7 (Creole), while the district awaits FEMA reimbursement for the storm related expenses.

EOC REPORT

Clifton Hebert, chief of daily operations for the parish Emergency Operations Center, reported to the Jury that the Corps of Engineers' contractors have "really ramped up" debris removal on private property this week.

He said there have been a few minor complaints about clean-up on property for which a Right of Entry had not been filed. He reminded everyone that the parish

signed a blanket RoE for all property deemed to have a hazardous level of debris.

Hebert once again reminded landowners that a Right of Refusal must be signed to prevent the Corps from entering their property, and that a Right of Entry must be signed for demolition of structures, if desired.

Debris removal is taking place in most areas of the parish, Hebert said, although

Cont. on Page 5.

Changing address -- tell the Pilot!

Cameron Pilot subscribers who change their mailing addresses should contact the Pilot as soon as possible to make sure they do not miss any issues.

The Post Office will forward first class mail to new addresses but will not do so for newspapers. The Post Office will eventually send the paper a change of address but this will not take place for several weeks and in the meantime these issues cannot be delivered.

To change your address call 1-800-256-7323 or 337-786-8004, or write to Cameron Pilot, P. O. Box 995, DeQuincy, La. 70633.

Supplies to be given out here

Relief supplies are to be distributed Friday - Sunday, Feb. 10 - 12 at the Creole Fire Station, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Friday and Sunday. Saturday the times are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The Cameron Emergency Operation Center is conducting the distribution with volunteer help. Supplies to be handed out include cleaning supplies, paper goods and food.

Persons needing to pick up supplies for an elderly or homebound relative should contact the Council on Aging to get an authorization card.

Proof of residency is required.

Toledo Bend park to remain open -- Cain

Senator James David Cain of Dry Creek announced this week that the South Toledo Bend State Park definitely will not be closed.

He said that many of his constituents and others in Southwest Louisiana had expressed concern over reports that the park might be closed due to budget reasons but the park will remain open.



THE TRIBAL CIVILIAN Community Corps, the only all-Native American Americorps team in the country, was helping Stephen Vincent, at right, clean up Hurricane Rita debris in Cameron last Thursday. (Photo by Cyndi Sellers.)

Mediation is option if you disagree on insurance

By **JENNIFER JONES**
ASST. DIST. ATTORNEY

Some of you may have heard that Robert Wooley, Louisiana's Commissioner of Insurance, has resigned. He is being replaced by Jim Donlon, his executive assistant. I attended a seminar last week at which Mr. Donlon gave a presentation on the mediation process.

The program is fully implemented and will proceed as scheduled. I continue to believe that we should all participate in the mediation, but I am convinced more than ever that you should have an

attorney present at the mediation to assist you.

To participate in the mediation, you will need to fill out a form. They are available on line at www.adr.org, or you may come by my temporary office at 1409 Ryan Street in Lake Charles (just north of the intersection of Ryan Street and South Ryan Street) and pick one up. We will help you fill the form out. If you fill out the form yourself, be sure to request "statutory penalties" in addition to the amount of your coverage.

Some people have already received notices scheduling their mediations in New

Orleans. If you receive such a notice, please let me know and we will reschedule it for Lake Charles.

As I have written earlier, there is a very good legal argument that you are entitled to recover the policy limits on both your flood and your homeowner's policies, provided your home was a total loss. This mediation is only for residential claims and does not include flood claims. If you have not been paid on your flood claim yet, please let me know and I will file a complaint with the insurance commissioner.

Just because you have consulted with me or received some forms from my office, you are under no obligation to use me as your attorney. I have a memorandum of legal authorities and weather information which anyone from Cameron Parish is free to use at the mediation. If you want me to go with you to the mediation, let me know when your mediation is scheduled and I will bring this information with me.

I am aware that demolition and clean-up is well underway. You may consent to the demolition and clean up of your property even if you have not been paid by your homeowner's insurer. Just be sure that you take as many photographs as possible. Be sure to get photographs of any debris from your house which came to rest outside the path of the storm surge. That is, if you find any debris to the south or the east of your property, be sure to document this. This will help to establish wind damage.

I will be attending health care meetings regarding the hospital on Thursday and Friday of this week in New Orleans. However, Patrick, Delisa and Paul are available to answer your questions, and they can reach me by phone. My office number is 494-5563.

Two offices now open

Cameron Parish Clerk of Court Carl Broussard reopened his office in the Cameron courthouse Monday and the tax collection office of the Sheriff's Dept. also is back in operation there.

Broussard's office is up and running on the second floor of the courthouse and in a modular trailer on the courthouse grounds.

Tax Assessor Bobby Conner is expected to be back in the courthouse shortly just as soon as his tax rolls are approved by the state.

Judge Ward Fontenot's office is expected to be open by March 1.

Following Hurricane Rita in September, all of the parish offices were evacuated to temporary sites in Grand Lake, Lake Charles and Jennings.

Despite the devastation left by the hurricane, all of the parish's public offices have continued to operate with most of their employees on duty.

Qualifying is set for Ward I J. P.

According to Carl Broussard, Cameron Parish Clerk of Court, the Governor has called a special election to be held Saturday, April 1 for the purpose of electing a person to fill the vacancy in the office of Justice of the Peace, Ward 1, in the Parish of Cameron, due to the resignation of Willie Mae Gary.

Ward 1 encompasses the Lowery and Klondike areas and the eastern portion of Grand Chenier of Cameron Parish.

Qualifying for candidates will be Feb. 8 - 10, at the Cameron Parish Clerk of Courts Office, in Cameron.

The Clerk of Court's Office hours during qualifying will be as follows:

Wednesday and Thursday, Feb. 8 and 9, 8 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. and Friday, Feb. 10, 8 a.m. until 5 p.m.

For a copy of qualifications and qualifying fees, interested persons can call the Cameron Parish Clerk of Court's Office at 775-5316 Monday through Friday, from 8:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m.



Wooley has resigned

Louisiana Insurance Commissioner Robert Wooley had been scheduled to attend a forum on storm insurance in Grand Lake Thursday, Feb. 16, but it's a good bet he won't be there.

Wooley last week announced his intention to retire from his state position and return to the private sector on Feb. 15.

A special election will be held Sept. 30 to name someone to complete his term of office. Senator James David Cain on Dry Creek is one of the persons expected to run for the job.

The meeting was scheduled for 6 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 16 at the Grand Lake Multi Purpose Building, but has since been cancelled

Tax aid told

Free Tax Service sponsored by AARP will be available at the Grand Lake Library from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. each Monday until April 15. Any questions please call Nina at 538-2680 or 598-5950.

School B. bill has been introduced

Elsewhere in this issue of the Pilot is a legal notice on the intention to introduce at the regular session of the La. Legislature a bill creating the Parishwide School District of the Parish of Cameron.

The bill would also give the district the power to levy an ad valorem property tax not to exceed ten mills for the year to give additional support to the maintenance, improvement and operation of public schools in the parish.

Some Pilots delayed in the mail

Because of a mix up at the Lake Charles Post Office last week the Feb. 2 issue of the Cameron Pilot was late in reaching many of our readers and some failed to receive their paper at all.

Although the mix up was not the Pilot's fault, two weeks extensions will be added to the subscriptions of the affected subscribers to make up for the lost issues.

Persons with computer access may read this issue on line (as well as all of the other issues back to Sept. 22) by going to: www.dequincynews.com and clicking on the "here" under "Looking for Cameron Parish Pilot?"

The Pilot has put these issues on line since Hurricane Rita due to so many of our readers being displaced from the parish.

Cameron bill offered

By **JEREMY HARPER**
AMERICAN PRESS

Legislators returned to Baton Rouge on Tuesday to begin considering a handful of hurricane-related proposals for the entire state—from tweaks to insurance laws to delays or changes involving the state's new building code.

One of the few bills to address Rita recovery passed its initial hurdle Tuesday.

Senate Bill 2 sponsored by Senator Jerry Theunissen would delay the 2006 election of school board members in Cameron Parish until the

gubernatorial election in 2007.

The bill would also shorten the four-year term for members elected in 2007 to three years to allow normal terms to begin in 2010 as state law requires.

Cameron School Superintendent Doug Chance in brief testimony before the Senate Education Committee, said the parish won't be ready for elections this year because of hurricane damage.

The committee quickly approved the bill, sending it to the full Senate.



THIS IS a view of TJ's Seafood dock at Cameron following Hurricane Rita. Cameron's docks and marine supply industry were greatly damaged by the storm. (Photo by Capt. Sammie Faulk.)



A SIGN OF the times? This sign in Cameron is an example of the sales of residential property decimated by Hurricane Rita. (Photo by Cyndi Sellers.)

Funerals



WILLIAM P. "BILL" EAKIN

William P. "Bill" Eakin, 85, of Grand Lake died Saturday, Feb. 4, 2006 in a Lake Charles center.

He was born in Longstreet, and had served in the Army Air Corps as a navigator in the Pacific during World War II. After the war, he graduated from the University of Texas with a degree in engineering.

He moved to Cameron in 1950 where he was employed by Pure Oil Company, prior to founding Gulf Crews, Inc., an offshore boat rental company. He retired and moved to Galveston for a number of years before moving to Grand Lake.

He is survived by his sons, Tommy Eakin and wife Lana and David Eakin, Sr. all of Grand Lake; daughter, Phyllis Doxey and husband Bobby of Cameron; one brother, Don Bridges of Richardson, Tex.; nine grandchildren; and nine great grandchildren.

Funeral services were held Tuesday, Feb. 7, in the Johnson Funeral Home Chapel. The Rev. Wayne Taylor officiated. Burial was in Highland Memory Garden Cemetery.



TASSIE EDNA NUNEZ

Tassie Edna Nunez, 93, died Monday, Feb. 2, 2006, in a local care center. She was a lifelong resident of Creole and was a descendant of the first settlers on Chenier Perdue. She was a member of Immaculate Conception Altar Society. She was a retired cook at Crane Bro. Hunting Club in Little Chenier.

Survivors include two nephews, Winston Theriot and Darrell East; three nieces, Virgie Nunez, Ouida Boudreaux and Leola Theriot. She was preceded in death by her husband, Avery Nunez.

Her funeral was held at 11:30 a.m. Sunday, February 5, in St. Eugene Catholic Church. Father Vincent Vadakkedath officiated. Burial was in Chenier Perdue Cemetery under the direction of Hixson Funeral Home of Lake Charles.



SHIRLEY DULANEY SANNER

Funeral services for Shirley Dulaney Sanner, 63, of Hackberry, were held Wednesday, Feb. 8, at St. Peter the Apostle Catholic Church Hall in Hackberry. Father Roland Vaughn and Father Wayne LeBleu officiated. Burial was in St. Peter the Apostle Cemetery.

Mrs. Sanner died Sunday, Feb. 5, 2006 in Eunice. She was a native of Evangeline. A former resident of Creole and a resident of Hackberry. She was a member of St. Peter the Apostle Catholic Church, the Teacher's Association, LEA and CEA. She graduated from McNeese State University with a BA in elementary education and later earned her Mater's Degree in Supervision and Administration. She formerly was a teacher at South Cameron Elementary School and Cameron Elementary School.

Survivors include her husband, Charles H. Sanner, of Hackberry; two sons, Mitchell Boudreaux and wife Pam, of Grand Lake, and Stephen Boudreaux and wife Lisa, of Fenton; two step-daughters, Stephanie Brooks and husband Randy if Dublin, Ga., and Teresa Sanner, of Cadwell, Ga. one sister, Vivian Byler of Hackberry; and seven grandchildren.



"THE DOXEY PLACE" in Grand Chenier, an historic home which had survived Hurricane Audrey, fared better than most after Hurricane Rita.

(Photo by Cyndi Sellers.)

Where are they now?

By NELL COLLIGAN

NEWS OF THE DRURYS

The column is turning out to be an efficient way to locate Cameron Parish Rita evacuees. We have news of the Drurys this week, called in by Barbara Lou LeBlanc's daughter, Kim. I phoned the number Kim gave me and had a nice conversation with Esther Drury.

She and her husband, Jeff, initially evacuated to her daughter's home in Independence. They stayed with Aure Marie for three months, but now have a trailer on family property in Ponchatoula.

Mrs. Drury said they miss Cameron and all their friends there. She would love to have news of everyone, so please write her at: P.O. Box 2076; Ponchatoula, La. 70454. Cell phone: 985-974-7544.

THE FERRY CREWS

You may recall that Kim LeBlanc was the ferry captain for the Monkey Island Ferry. The crew members of that ferry are now working as deck hands on the main Cameron Ferry since the Monkey Island Ferry was destroyed in the storm.

Kim bought a small trailer and is living in Cameron. It seems that she said Jimmy Doxey is living nearby in a trailer also. Thanks to people like Kim and Jimmy and the other folks who work on the ferry, residents and visitors are able to commute between Cameron and points west.

Apparently, if you have a mobile trailer and have access to sewage, water and electricity, you can return to Cameron... There is no question that living in a small trailer in a hurricane torn town represents a hardship, but it enables these courageous, responsible employees to keep their jobs. I so admire them.

ADENISE TROSCLAIR IN HEALTH CARE CENTER

Roni and Joey Trosclair wrote this week with news of Adenise Trosclair. "Mrs. Bolo", as she is known to everyone in Cameron, is in the Oak Park Health Care Center in Lake Charles. She sends word that she would love to have a visit or mail from her friends.

Originally from Terrebonne Parish, Mrs. Bolo and her late husband, Roland Sr., owned Trosclair Canning Company on Davis Road in Cameron for many years.

After Mr. Bolo passed away, Mrs. Bolo maintained the lifelong family friendship of Donald "Tubby" Pelegrin who was also from the Houma area. When the storm hit, she and Tubby evacuated to Oklahoma. They later returned to Lake Charles.

Roni writes, "Uncle Tubby passed away on Dec. 21, 2005 after a short illness."

Roni and Joey Trosclair are at 20321-B Constance Road; Iowa, La. 70647. Mrs. Bolo's address is: Oak Park Health Care Center; 2717 1st Avenue; Lake Charles, La. 70601.

VICKIE LARUE'S NEW E-MAIL ADDRESS

Vickie LaRue of Normangee, Tex. wrote to ask that we change her e-mail address from lovmi6@yahoo.com to lovmisix@yahoo.com. Spam was bombarding her other address.

LORETTA THERIOT'S FAMILY NEWS

Loretta writes that following Hurricane Rita, she and her mother, Alva Jones, relocated to 216 Bertrand in Lafayette. You may have seen a picture of their Chenier Perdue home in The Cameron Pilot. It was almost totally destroyed. She has returned to the house only once since the hurricane.

Loretta has also moved her business, Gulf Ocean Services, Offshore Geophysical Company, to Lafayette. They are presently doing pipeline inspection work in the gulf. She writes that she shares an office with

Salah Dean Eldarragi at 223 Georgette Street.

Luke's children, Megan and Sara live with their mother on Denier Street. He and his wife live on N. Arlington, and his company, CPL Systems, is on Industrial Street.

I was wondering if any of you would like to share some unusual thing that occurred following your evacuation before the storm and soon after. What did you learn, about yourself or about other people that surprised you? What was the one small thing that you lost in the storm, other than your precious photographs, which you can't replace or that you really miss?

Name one good thing that came out of the storm; maybe old grievances were forgotten and families reunited. Have you had a personal experience that the other evacuees might identify with?

I can include your name, or omit it, if you wish your comments to remain private while sharing with others.

That's it for this week. Please send your news to: 302 Trailwood Lane; Lafayette, La. 70508. Phone: 337-988-5395. nnadc67@aol.com



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ESTELLE JOAN WILHITE

Estelle Joan Wilhite, 84, died Sunday, Jan. 22, 2006, at a local care center. She was a member of the Catholic faith.

She is survived by a son, Bill Wilhite and wife, Imelda, of Sulphur; two daughters, Debbie Stutes and husband, Bobby, of Cameron, and Kathy Marti and husband, Charles, of Westlake; eight grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her husband, J.D. Wilhite.

Her funeral was held Tuesday, Jan. 24, from St. John Bosco Catholic Church, with the Rev. Joseph McGrath officiating. Interment was in Mimosa Pines Cemetery in Sulphur.

Party set for Senior Citizens

The Cameron Council on Aging will host a Valentine/Mardi Gras party for senior citizens Friday, Feb. 23 from 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Grand Lake/Sweetlake Fireman's Center.

Music will be provided by the Medicare Playboys. Gumbo will be served for lunch.

A Valentine and Mardi Gras king and queen will be selected. Costumes are welcome.

Transportation will be provided if needed. Please call 598-5158 to reserve your lunch or if you need transportation by Feb. 20.



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RECIPIENTS OF Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (LDWF) 2005 Employee Recognition Awards were honored at the Feb. 2 Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission meeting. Shown above, from left, are Elaine Moore, Debby Gill, Danielle Fontenot and Vida Landry, Grand Chenier Administrative Coordinator. They all received customer service awards.

S. Cameron High News

FBLA

South Cameron FBLA students attended District IV Conference on Saturday, Feb. 4. The following students are eligible to compete at State FBLA in March. Superior Winners are:

Meagan Trahan - Accounting II and Economics, Michael Savoie - Banking, Katelyn Reina - Business Calculations, Shylyn Nunez - Business Communications, Jacob LaBove - Computer Concepts, Tony Baccigalopi - Introduction to Business and Word Processing I, Barret Bercier - Technology Concepts, Kobi Richard - Word Processing I, Deil LaLande, Barret Bercier and Aaron Doxey - Current Events, Aaron Doxey - Talent Show.

The following were Excellent Winners:

Rachel Fountain - Accounting I, Tamara J Nunez - Banking, Bethany Vincent - Business Communications, Baret Hebert - FBLA Principles, Mary J. Portie - International Business, Kyle Little - Introduction to Business, Kami Savoie - Introduction to Business Communications, Kade Conner - JAVA, Cami Vincent - JAVA, Chandler LeBeouef - Job Interview, Dainty Little - Marketing, Shylyn Nunez - Word Processing II, Bethany Vincent - Word Processing II.

SCHOOL CALENDAR

Feb. 10 - Basketball Oberlin (home) Senior Night.
Feb. 11 - ACT Test.
Feb. 11 - 18 State Livestock Show.
Feb. 13 - Baseball - Reeves Scrimmage (3:40) away.
Feb. 14 - Softball - Starks (4PM) away.
Feb. 16 - Softball - Sam Houston (4:30) away.
Feb. 17 - State Wrestling, Basketball - Hamilton Christian (boys only) away.
Feb. 18 - Baseball - Lake Arthur Jamboree.

S. Cameron wrestlers to go to state

South Cameron competed in the Teurlings wrestling tournament held in Lafayette last Saturday. South Cameron wrestled 18 bouts, won 10, scored 50 points and finished eighth out of a field of 13. Comeaux from Lafayette was first with 154 points.

Brett Richard and Bart Vidrine place second in their respective classes.

Eighth graders, Hunter Canik and Dex Murphy both placed fourth in their weight classes.

Next action for the Tarpons will be the State Tournament at the Pontchartrain Center in Kenner on Feb. 17 and 18.

Hulaine East and Patty Jo Miller about health.

Constance Bonsall gave the complete history of the Grand Chenier Club.

Three important awards were made to four members of the club. They were medals awarded to Anabel Fawvor for clothing, Constance Bonsall for gardening, also Ruby Barnett and Jennings Jones for gardening.



AIRMAN CODY M. LeMaire graduated from Air Force Basic Training at Lackland Air Force Base, Tex., Jan. 13. He is the son of Mike and Lea Miller and Michael and Adrianna Dupuis, all of Grand Lake. His grandparents are Thomas "TA" and Barbara LeMaire of Grand Lake, and Walter and Laura Dupuis of Lake Charles. He is now in technical training at Sheppard Air Force Base, Wichita Falls, Tex. LeMaire is a 2005 graduate of Grand Lake High School.



TOREY LITTLE, left, and **Jace Gilbert** are shown with the saddles they won for the 2005 season at the DeRidder Riding Club.

Jace, a third grade student at Maplewood Elementary School, was the All-Around Champion of the PeeWee age group. He is the son of Mike and Kelly Gilbert, the grandson of Garland Linscombe and the late Betty Linscombe of Sulphur and RayLee and Elaine Gilbert of Vinton.

Torey, a fourth grade student at Hackberry High School, was the Reserve All-Around Champion of the PeeWee age group. She is the daughter of Stacy and Thad Little, the granddaughter of Mae Doris and Ernie Little of Hackberry, Debbie and Lucien Cooper of DeQuincy and Cindy and Dirk Desonier of Carlyss. Torey's great-grandmother is Lucille Perry of Fields.

Native Americans help with cleanup in Cameron

A very special group is working in the Cameron area this month, helping homeowners clean their property.

The Tribal Civilian Community Corps is the only all Native American Americorps team in the country. The team consists of Native Americans from tribes all over the country and is based in Hoopa, Calif.

Team leader Viola Long said this is the second TCCP team to serve hurricane victims, the first for Louisiana. The team is working with the Cameron Community Action Agency, directed by Dinah Landry, to clear debris, remove furniture, clear downed trees, and other

heavy recovery jobs needed by homeowners. They have also assisted at the EOC distribution site in Creole, handing out food and supplies.

The group members, who are staying at Camp Cameron until some time in March, are: Bruce Berry, Sophie Blake, Leonard Charles, Hector Gonzales, Stephen Headley, Rich Jones, Joseph Rayfield, Gilbert Romero, Garrett Suppah, Daniel Tortice, Dwight Tortice, Leo Valencia, and Brandon Waetermans. Edward Guyer is the director of the TCCP.

To request help from the Americorps, contact the Council on Aging/Community Action Agency at 598-5158.

Do You Remember?

By KEITH HAMBRICK

Lake Charles American Press, Feb. 10, 1943. PIONEER RESIDENT OF GRAND CHENIER

Services for Mrs. Ida C. Doxey, pioneer citizen of Grand Chenier, were held at her home Monday at 10 a.m. with Rev. Martin Herbert and Rev. B. F. Roberts officiating. She was born in Lauderdale County Miss., in 1862. Her father, the late Colonel E. A. Durr, owned a large amount of land, a large tanning yard, and several hundred slaves. During the Reconstruction Period, he gave the property to the slaves and moved to Indian Bayou and later to Grand

Chenier. With him went the Harper McCall, Roger, Gordon and Doxey families, all of them settled in Grand Chenier.

Mrs. Doxey and her late husband, Andrew Doxey, were the parents of 13 children. The seven survivors are Mrs. E. J. Pleasant, Beaumont; Mrs. Jack Perkins, Lake Charles; Mrs. E. H. Peveto, Orange; J. W. Doxey, R. C. Doxey, R. M. Doxey, and James U. Doxey, all of Cameron Parish. She is also survived by thirty grandchildren and three great-granddaughters.

GRAND CHENIER 4-H CLUB

The Grand Chenier 4-H Club gave a special program Tuesday to increase interest in the club work and also to enlarge the membership.

The program consisted of the national anthem led by the song leader, Elogisia Sturlese.

Later in the program, club members told about their projects. Stephen Carter told about poultry, Belton Bonsall discussed swine, Marilyn Miller, gardening, and

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Card Of Thanks

The family of Clifton "BoBo" Morris would like to thank all the communities of Cameron parish for their support during BoBo's battle with ALS. We have experienced a compassion probably not seen anywhere else.

Hurricane Rita hit all the communities here and we were all affected, but through it all, you were there for us. During this time of the aftermath of the hurricane, we lost BoBo.

With people being misplaced, we may not be able to contact you all personally, but want to make sure that all know how much we appreciate everything you have done for us.

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THE ST. EUGENE Catholic Church rectory shows the effect of the flooding in the area. (Photo by Cyndi Sellers.)

Cameron memories I will never forget...

(EDITOR'S NOTE--The writer, Roberta Blake Pinch, is a native of Cameron Parish and is the daughter of Braxton and Norma Blake and the granddaughter of Buster and Roberta Rogers. She wrote the following thoughts on Hurricane Rita just before Thanksgiving and emailed to friends, who suggested that she submit them to the Pilot.)

By ROBERTA PINCH

The thing that really bothers me are the reports that Hurricane Rita was a category 3 storm. I don't for one minute believe that. Take a ride down the Creole Nature Trail and you will quickly realize Rita carried a much bigger punch than that. A report came out recently where the National Weather Service upgraded a hurricane that happened over two years ago from a Tropical Storm. I believe that the same thing will happen with Rita and the world will realize what those of us in the disaster zone have known all along... that Rita was a 4 and possibly a category 5 when landfall occurred.

The National Weather service equipment went down in Lake Charles early on Friday night. The Cat 3 status was their last recording of winds before midnight. Cameron Parish OEM officials were monitoring equipment (located in Cameron) from their refuge in Calcasieu Parish all through the night and reports are that sustained winds of 165 mph were recorded for nearly six hours.

For some reason, no one considers this vital information "official". It might go a long way in helping to resolve some of the insurance claims for home owner policies if those facts were reported and recognized.

The other thing a lot of people don't realize and that the insurance officials don't want to hear is that the water came long after most of Cameron Parish was already destroyed by those winds. This was witnessed by Sheriff Theos Duhon, OEM officials, and other die-hards who left late on Friday evening.

According to their reports many homes and businesses had already been ripped apart at that time. Obviously there was no water yet or they would not have been able to leave.

Most of you know that I was born and raised in Cameron Parish and lived there all of my life except for a few years in college and the last 11 years here in Welsh. It is, and always will be, my home. So the following are my thoughts and feelings, my anger, my despair on an unbelievable event, Hurricane Rita.

AUDREY REMEMBERED

Never in my wildest dreams did I imagine I would witness the horror and devastation firsthand, that I grew up hearing about when people spoke of the killer storm Audrey in 1957. Both Rita and Audrey devoured Cameron Parish. Audrey claimed nearly 500 lives of my kinspeople and friends of my family. Those who are left to remember Audrey and those of us who grew up on the stories took heed and left our homes and businesses ahead of Rita's vicious tirade. This time precious lives were spared in Cameron Parish.

Unfortunately, nearly everything else is virtually wiped out and beyond recognition. My sister-in-law, Mary Kaye Allemond, put it so succinctly when interviewed on KPLC-TV, as she and my mother-in-law, Dora Pinch, took a television reporter and camera man to view what was left of Mrs. Pinch's home on Grand Chenier.

Mary Kaye said that it was hard to believe and accept that the place you grew up in and the one place you always expected to be able to come back to was gone (I'm paraphrasing).

Despite the anger I feel for the ruthless and heartless way my friends and family are being treated by the insurance companies, and FEMA, I have to say the hardest part for me is the loss of my family history, my past, my sense of self.

SCHOOL GONE

The elementary school I went to is only an empty shell. The beautiful auditorium at Cameron Elementary which held so many Fur Festival programs, my singing and acting debut in the 7th grade musical and countless other events, is an ugly steel skeleton.

The church (Wakefield Memorial Methodist Church) I was christened and baptized in, married in, and that my grandfather was buried from, is a roof with a few of the ornate chandeliers still hanging, some of which appear to be in perfect condition with the glass globes intact.

My grandmother's house, where I spent countless hours as a young child, where I climbed in the china ball tree in the front yard, where we held shrimp boils in the backyard cook house, where I eagerly hunted Easter eggs and spent so many other family holidays---gone. Nothing but a slab and some bricks and unlike many others, a few dishes and a couple of pots and pans are all that remain.

SOUTH CAMERON HIGH SCHOOL GONE

South Cameron High School, where I graduated and where I was a member of the Tarpon Pep Squad, where I went to school dances, where my stepson David played football, where I substituted for several years, is completed gutted with only the Tarpon school mascot still proudly standing in front.

The house I lived in when I was in high school, where my parents cooked steaks for my friends after ball games, and we pushed back the furniture to dance in the den, is now a clean slab that my dad and I didn't recognize until we found a land mark and counted back slabs to figure out which one it was.

The house Billy, Whitney, David and I shared, on the back ridge road to Creole, with the beautiful oak trees and the little bridge, where Whitney had her playhouse and saw her first snowfall, where she dug in the dirt of Theresa and Foo Foo Mudd's garden next door, is nothing but a few cinder blocks.

My mother-in-law's house in Grand Chenier, where we spent so many Sundays, Easters, Thanksgivings, and Christmas' with a house full of children and friends and relatives dropping by to enjoy a bowl of gumbo or a glass of wine in celebration, is a clean slab.

My story is like many others, and those of you from Cameron who have been back to "look and leave" and dig around in the thick, black gumbo mud hoping for some remnant of what once was, will understand what I mean.

For my other friends, I have to say that our story wasn't told very well on national TV. The media has been so caught up with Katrina and New Orleans and her victims, that the small communities devastated in a parish with a population of 10,000 people and three wildlife refuges seem small in comparison. For my family and my hometown it will last more than this lifetime.

DRY CREEK EXPERIENCES

I will never forget laying on the floor on a mattress with my daughter, Whitney, in the narrow hallway to the bathroom in Dry Creek for nearly eight hours praying because we couldn't see anything out of the boarded up windows. We could only hear the horrible, screaming winds of the hurricane as it roared over my parent's home ripping up trees and buildings in all its fury.

I will never forget hauling water (for nearly two weeks) in five gallon buckets from the swimming pool to flush the toilets, or washing our clothes in #3 foot tubs with water from the pool and hanging them out to dry. I will never forget the unbelievable 100 degree weather the first several days after with no air conditioning and not a breath of air anywhere--I don't think I have ever been so hot.

Nor will I forget the ice cold water of the shaded creek we went down to bath in. Or sleeping on the porch in a lawn chair with my cousins, some on blow up mattresses and some on (not in) sleeping bags.

I won't forget the battery operated radio that we listened to hoping for some news about other parts of Louisiana and our home parish of Cameron. I won't forget the images those devastating words from a KPLC-TV broadcaster conjured up when he said "Cameron Parish as we knew it is no more".

I won't forget the frightened and disbelieving looks on the faces of my aunt and her daughter when we heard that part of the mausoleum where my uncle (who had recently passed away) had been buried, was destroyed and bodies were missing. I won't forget the intermittent telephone service we had because the telephone people only filled up the generator with fuel once a day. I won't forget the MREs, or the awesome taste of ice and cold water on my tongue or so many other things.

I won't forget the first trip Daddy and I made to Cameron, one week later and the sinking sick feeling in my stomach when we crossed the Gibbstown Bridge and saw refrigerators, and parts of roofs, and other household debris scattered in once pristine marshes. I won't forget the houses I saw abandoned in the Big Burns. I won't forget the cemeteries I saw with missing graves or the relief I felt when I saw that my grandfather's was fine, just the headstone had been pushed aside. I won't forget my father's litany all the way from Creole to Cameron, "This is worse than Audrey, so much worse than Audrey."

DAVIS HOME

I won't forget the sight of Mr. Austin Davis' old house built (I think, maybe earlier) in 1876 (that survived Audrey and served as a refuge for 150 people during that storm), sitting twisted and broken, like a long forgotten child's toy, in the midst of the once, stately and now battered, old trees that surrounded it.

I won't forget the military trucks and the soldiers I saw all over Cameron with their tents set up in abandoned shells of buildings. I won't forget the men and electrical trucks from all over the United States who came to help bring back some degree of normalcy to our shattered lives.

I won't forget their looks of pity and helplessness as they witnessed the heartbreak of those returning for the first time to look at what was left of their community.

I won't forget the pogy boat that was washed up on the west side of the ferry landing at Cameron. I won't



THE CHURCH hall at St. Eugene Catholic Church in Grand Chenier was gutted by the storm. (Photo by Cyndi Sellers.)

forget the friends I saw that day with their white rubber boots and shovels in their hands digging through the mud and debris.

I won't forget Susan Landry Beard when she grabbed my hand and with a sad look and tears running down her cheeks said "It's all gone, Bertie, there's nothing left."

LIBRARY GONE

I won't forget the pile of rubble that represented the Cameron Parish Library where Whitney and I went once a week when she was little to pick out books for me to read to her at naptime.

I won't forget the broken remains of the Masonic Temple where my grandfather and other Lodge members prepared the best shrimp gumbo, this side of heaven, every year during the Fur Festival.

I won't forget the sight of the majestic old Courthouse that survived the onslaught of Audrey and now the fury of Rita, still standing proud in the courthouse square in quiet defiance of the worst nature had to offer.

I won't forget waiting 20 minutes on the highway on our way back to Dry Creek, while army personnel took great care as they hoisted out of the ditch in front of our old house, several caskets that had been washed away from their burial grounds.

I won't forget the sight of what was left of my grandmother's house. Cream-colored brick wall sections, some still with windows attached laying scattered across her yard. I won't forget walking "through" her slab and recognizing rooms because the linoleum on the kitchen floor, the new carpet in her bedroom and the new wooden floor are all still there. I won't forget rejoicing every time we found a family treasure that was unbroken. I won't forget collecting bricks from my grandmother's house, or my mother-in-law's house or my childhood church. I won't forget the tears I finally shed when I took a picture of the "Welcome to Cameron" sign or what was left of it, painted by Shorty the Painter years ago.

I won't forget the smile on my grandmother's face (who will be 90 in February) when I brought her the mudcaked birdcage musicbox I found buried in debris that she loved so much.

I won't forget the image of the American flag planted in the soil next to the cement foundation of Bobby and Norma Jo's house. I won't forget my mother-in-law telling me that she found her roof across the river from where her house once stood. I won't forget my friend, Cissy Nunez, hoping that the wedding dress found north of her house in someone else's yard was hers.

FRIENDS HELP

I won't forget our friends from Mississippi, Ann and Maurice Ladner, who having survived the onslaught of Hurricane Katrina just a few weeks before, arrived in Dry Creek that Sunday morning with gasoline, a generator, food and water and helping hands to begin the cleanup.

I won't forget those who came before me, some of whom have gone on, my grandpa Buster Rogers, Sheriff O. B. Carter, Austin Davis, Frankie Henry, my dad Braxton Blake, Dr. Cecil Clark, Rep. Alvin Dyson, Conway LeBleu, Sheriff Sono Savoie and so many others who left a legacy and an example for us to follow as they picked up the pieces Audrey left behind so many years ago. They sacrificed and put aside for a time their own lives and livelihood to restore Cameron Parish.

I pray that our parish leaders today are up to the challenge of putting self behind and moving forward in a positive way for the greater good of all.

I won't forget the heartbreak or the steely determination in the eyes of my fami-

Menard makes comparison of Hurricanes Audrey & Rita

(EDITOR'S NOTE--In 1997 author Donald Menard published his book, "The Untold Story of Hurricane Audrey," which was filled with first person accounts and photographs of Hurricane Audrey which devastated Cameron Parish in June, 1957. Two years later he published a revised edition, which can be ordered by writing him at P. O. Box 275, Rayne, LA or by calling 334-9049. The cost is \$17.45 which includes postage.

(Mr. Menard has now sent the Pilot some more observations on Hurricane Audrey and how it compared to Hurricane Rita which hit Cameron Parish last September.)

By DONALD MENARD

After completing my research on Audrey's storm surge and wind velocity as of June 27, 2004 these are the numbers that I have arrived at:

Eye of Hurricane Audrey - 32 miles in diameter, Category 4; Hurricane Rita - 36 miles in diameter, Category 3; Hurricane Katrina - 42 miles in diameter, Category 4.

1. Storm surge (Cameron) 14 ft. at low tide--to have an official count on water levels at low tide, a 2 1/2 ft. mark must be added to the 14 ft.

ly and friends who are determined to go back and build a better Cameron Parish, no matter the cost or hardship involved. I won't ever forget any of those images, or feelings. They are branded on my memory and my heart forever.

And most of all I won't forget that the only thing we here in southwest Louisiana can count on is each other, our inner spirit, our faith in God, and a strong sense of who we are and what we are made of and what we will accomplish in the aftermath of this disaster. You people from the Mississippi and Alabama Gulf Coast areas are made of the same stuff and thank God we are!

Please pray for those who have lost everything; most of you know at least one person who has in our corner of the state. In my immediate family, my grandmother, mother-in-law, two brothers-in-law and their wives, my great aunt, and countless cousins and lifelong friends no longer have homes. It is quite a sobering thought.

Cameron Parish and its people will rise again. After all, this isn't the first time we Cajuns have been displaced. Most of us from Cameron Parish can trace our ancestors back to the Acadians who came from Nova Scotia, to start a new life in a land wild and untamed and uninhabited except for the Attakapas Indians. Our forefathers settled this land, built their homes and raised families.

We are made of much sterner stuff than some and unfortunately hurricanes are a way of life if you live on the gulf coast. We ran the drill at least once a summer for as long as I can remember.

I leave you with a tearful, heartbreaking goodbye for all that was lost. Forty-eight years ago we rose from the mud and debris of Audrey to build a better place. I know this time will be no different.

I can't wait to visit once again, the friendly, unique, and thriving little fishing village I grew up in. I can't wait to attend the first Fur Festival pageant in a new auditorium, or donate a book to the new library, or attend a church service in one of the beautiful new churches that will be built to take the places of those destroyed. I can't wait to welcome all of you home.

surge = 16 1/2 ft.

2. Storm surge (Creole) 16 ft. at low tide - same holds true to the above (16 + 2 1/2) = 18 1/2 ft.

The weather channel did their own survey and they say the storm surge was over 20 ft. in the Creole area.

3. Sustained winds, Creole area, 150 mph at landfall, top wind gusts, Creole area 185 mph at landfall. Even though Cameron got most of the media attention, Creole really took the hit.

4. Forward movement at landfall, 30 mph, a record that has never been broken along the entire Gulf coast.

Dr. Steve Lyons, Hurricane Specialist, is on record at the weather channel in Atlanta stating that Audrey's storm surge was above 20 ft. St. Eugene Church in Grand Chenier was reduced to a cement slab after Audrey.

After Hurricane Rita's passage, the church there is gutted but it is still standing (once again, the angle at which the storm surge makes landfall makes a big difference.) After I am sure that everyone has been treated fairly and have collected their claims (insurance, etc.), I am going to make a complete comparison with interviews from people about which storm, Audrey or Rita, was stronger and had the highest damage potential.

Notice the picture of Holly Beach after Audrey shown on page 84 in the second edition. There is nothing left but tender vegetation. There was 256 buildings, even the highways were torn apart.

Also, notice the two houses on page 85 (second edition). Look to your left and you will see them stranded on the Creole Hwy. (next to four corners in Creole.) The house on the right belonged to a Mr. Stoute. It was jacked up and brought back to its previous location, and still is sitting there today. Gutted, but remains at its same location after Hurricane Rita's passage.

Also, when Lily threatened the Louisiana Gulf coast, Mike Seidel, (he was stationed in Cameron during Lily) of the weather channel did a little research on the Cameron Courthouse, (thickness, height, materials, width, location.)

There is speculation that the 500 plus people that were inside the Cameron Courthouse during Audrey actually kept it from being destroyed and swept away--Why? Because of Audrey's 30 mph forward movement at landfall!

A category 1, 2, or 3 hurricane will produce a lot of tornadoes--especially one moving east to west like Rita. Steve Rinard could not keep track of the tornadoes in Vermilion and especially in Cameron Parish.

My source tells me that there were at least 168 tornadoes that struck in Cameron and Calcasieu Parishes alone. People who I have spoken with that saw the damage in Cameron said that there was a lot of evidence of destruction caused by "cyclonic twist" (tornadoes).

A category 4 and 5 hurricane will not produce many tornadoes because the circulation is already tornado intensity. Remember, Audrey made landfall at low tide--whereas Rita made landfall not only at high tide (2 1/2 ft.) but at an astronomical high tide (full moon add another 4-6 ft.)

In fact, for 3 1/2 days before landfall, the astronomical high tides were present. Just imagine the water it was pumping into the coastal areas of Louisiana--especially at the angle it was moving. (Think of the storm as the face of a clock and the direction it was moving.)

Louisiana was on the worst side for almost four days.



CRAIN BROS. in Grand Chenier is busy repairing its facility. (Photo by Cyndi Sellers.)

Mosquitoes flourishing since Hurricane Rita

By JOSH HIGHTOWER
BIOLOGIST, CAM. PAR.
MOSQUITO CONTROL

Warm humid weather and cool nights combined with rain and non draining standing water since Hurricane Rita are causing mosquito populations to flourish. Every parish in southwest Louisiana is experiencing high numbers of day-time and night-time mosquitoes.

The majority of the mosquitoes are the winter mosquito, *Culiseta inornata*. This mosquito is only present from October through March. It is a large mosquito that lays its eggs on the water surface, therefore, it is continually hatching from standing water.

We realize that the hurricane has dumped large amounts of debris everywhere, but the debris is also holding this standing water and keeping it from draining. We know everyone in the parish is doing their part to clean up and this is going to be a tremendous help in getting this water draining again.

Weather conditions play an important role in our effectiveness to control mosquitoes. Cameron Parish Mosquito Control is regulated by the Department of Agriculture, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Center for Disease Control (CDC).

The weather conditions that prohibit us from spraying are as follows: Winds in excess of 10 miles per hour, rain and fog, temperatures lower than 60 degrees F, and all spraying must be done between dusk and dawn.

When spraying is permissible our window of opportunity is usually short. Since temperatures at night tend to fall quickly we can only spray for several hours. This makes completing an area very difficult as most areas take five to eight hours to complete.

We are trying to complete the entire parish in a very short amount of time. We are getting good kills on the mosquitoes that are present when

we spray, but as mentioned previously, they are continually hatching from standing water.

We will continue to check the parish to keep track of mosquito populations and spray as much as the weather allows until we get control. Presently, every area of the parish is scheduled to be sprayed, but it will take several days to catch up once the weather permits.

To help reduce mosquitoes harboring in barns, garages and other sheltered areas where our spray cannot reach, people can spray with permethrin which is an insecticide and a repellent. It is available at feed and seed stores and will help keep mosquitoes away for up to two weeks. It is very safe and available to the general public and even has label directions for spraying on livestock and pets to keep mosquitoes and flies off of them.

Mosquitoes are attracted to lights. You can reduce mosquitoes in your yard by turning off all outside lights that are not absolutely necessary or switching to motion detector lights.

People should protect themselves when outdoors. People should empty water holding containers in their yard every 2-3 days, wear loose light colored clothing, tuck pants in socks; cover your head, stay inside during dusk and dawn, use repellent containing DEET, and do not wear smelly lotions or perfumes.

Some people are allergic to the highest concentrations of DEET. Lately the name brand CUTTER has come out with a new product, Cutter Advanced Spray. It contains the chemical picaridin and claims to offer a "truly effective alternative to DEET." Indoors, you might also want to use an insect spray containing pyrethrum to kill insects where they tend to congregate.

If you need more information please contact Cameron Parish Mosquito Abatement District No. 1 at 905-5941.

Administrator Miles Hebert have just attended a three day seminar to learn more about the application of the codes, but will still not be qualified to administer them.

Horn also recommended attendance at the Louisiana Recovery Authority meeting Feb. 20 in the Contraband Room of the Lake Charles Civic Center. Cameron Parish will make a presentation at 9 a.m.

There has been no response from the Dept. of Transportation and Development to the parish's request to add more hours to Cameron Ferry operations. Contractors have reportedly asked for more hours to get their work done.

"I feel we're being put on the back burner," said Horn. Jurors voted to send a resolution to the DOTD asking for a return to 24 hour operation.

Recovery Plans
A recovery plan is being put together, according to Jurors responding to a question from Creole resident Jay Rutherford.

Rutherford noted that Calcasieu Parish has already received \$2 million in FEMA Hazard Mitigation funds, and asked what projects the Jury was planning to propose. No definitive answer was available, but the plan should be revealed soon, Jurors said.

An Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness meeting in New Orleans will be attended by Hebert and a grant writer, since Freddie Richard has resigned as OEP director for the parish.

The Jury went into executive session to discuss a personnel matter, on which no action was taken.

District Livestock winners

These are the local winners of the 2006 Southwest District Livestock Show, held Saturday Jan. 28, in the Burton Coliseum.

BEEF SHOWMANSHIP

16 years (A): 1. Shylyn Nunez, Cameron.

16 years (B): 5. Zackary Theriot, Cameron.

15 years (A): 2. Colby Nunez, Cameron. 5. Brett Richard, Cameron.

14 years (B): 2. Bailey Richard, Cameron.

14 years (C): 3. Jimmy Dowd, Cameron.

11 years (B): 3. Becka Richard, Cameron.

10 years (A): 3. Samantha Little, Cameron; 4. Jolie Trahan, Cameron; 5. Jason Theriot, Cameron.

10 years (B): 1. Rebecca Dupont, Cameron.

MARKET GOAT

Reserve Champion Division I: Javen Little, Cameron.

Champion La. - Bred Division I: Javen Little, Cameron.

BEEF BREEDING SIMBRA BULL

Grand Champion and Grand Champion La. - Bred: Barrett Hebert, Cameron.

AOB - BRAHMAN INF BULL

Grand Champion and Grand Champion La. - Bred: Justin Trahan Cameron.

Reserve Grand Champion Reserve Grand Champion La. - Bred: Kaysha Fontenot, Cameron.

RED BRANGUS BULL

Grand Champion and Grand Champion La. - Bred: Dean LaFleur, Cameron.

Reserve Grand Champion: Joel Rogers, Cameron.

RED BRANGUS HEIFER

Reserve Grand Champion: Chad Benoit, Cameron.

Reserve Grand Champion La. - Bred: Alan Myers, Cameron.

BRAFORD HEIFER

Reserve Grand Champion, Reserve Grand Champion La. - Bred: Lancey Richard, Cameron.

JERSEY

Reserve Sr. Champion La. - Bred: Colleen Manuel, Cameron.

APPOINTMENTS

Joe Devall - West Calcasieu-Cameron Hospital Board

Heather Trahan - Johnson Bayou Recreation District

Jerome Richard - Fire Dist. #10

Vicky Trahan - Mosquito Control

Charles Bull - Sewage Dist. #10

REAPPOINTMENTS

JoAnn LaBove - Beachfront Development Dist. #1

Paul Duhon, Tammy Peshoff - Water & Wastewater dist. #1

Carol Baccigalopi, Jude Primeaux - Fire Dist. #7

Michael Baccigalopi, Charles Glenn Theriot - Fire Dist. #9

C.S. Darbonne, Joseph Racca - Fire Dist. #14

Elsworth Broussard - Fire Dist. # 15

Kenneth Trahan - Library Board

Gerard Smith - Recreation Dist. #6

Kris Bonsall - Recreation Dist. #9

Ricky Poole, Rev. Andrew Martin, Gary Wicke - Sweetlake-Grand Lake Cemetery Board

Parish Basketball Roundup

By CHRIS & LAURIE MUELLER

BOYS

Elton 84, South Cameron 31 - James Cormier scored 9 points for the Tarpons. Daniel Kelly added 8 points and Lance Braxton and Kyle Little scored 6 points each.

Johnson Bayou 58, Starks 50 - DJ Conner led all scorers with 17 points. Blaine Trahan added 15 and Dustin Badon and Aaron Jenks chipped in 9 points each. The Rebels improve to 8-18 overall and 2-5 in district play.

Hamilton 88, South Cameron 33 - Lance Braxton led the Tarpons with 19 points. Namon Lute and Jaylon Ball added 5 points each.

Fairview 78, Grand Lake 68 - Deon Bergeron led all scorers with 27 points. Garrett Billiot added 18 and Justin Howerton chipped in 8 points.

Hyatt 40, Hackberry 27 - Jay Sanner was the leading scorer for the Mustangs (15-10, 3-3) with 11 points. Steven Welch added 5 points.

GIRLS

Starks 44, Johnson Bayou 23 - Charmayne Barrentine scored 9 points for the Lady Rebels.

Hamilton 70, South Cameron 53 - Rachael Fountain led the Lady Tarpons with 24 points. D'Nae Desonier chipped in 16 and Whitney Richard scored 10 points.

Fairview 78, Grand Lake 46 - Molly Precht scored 12 points for the Lady Hornets. Marlene Lavergne added 9 points as Grand Lake drops to 20-12 overall and 2-4 in district.

Singer 61, Johnson Bayou 33 - Sabrina Sandifer scored 9 points for the Lady Rebels. Kayla Barrentine added 5 points.

Hackberry 49, Hyatt 14 - Jena Sanner and Mandy Michalko scored 10 points as the Lady Mustangs improve to 16-11 overall and 5-1 in district. Amanda Miller and Kayla Sanner added 8 points each.

Crawfish task force to meet

The Wild-Caught Crawfish Task Force will meet on Thursday, Feb. 9, 2006 at 9 a.m. in the Louisiana Room of the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (LDWF) headquarters building.

This will be the fourth meeting of this task force. The discussions of crawfish bait availability, bait fish regulations and crawfish trap tagging will be continued from the last meeting. Also, the possibility of seasonal fishing for crawfish will be on the agenda.

LDWF headquarters is located at 2000 Quail Drive in Baton Rouge. The meeting is open to the public.

Storm-affected residents may need new tax forms

Some taxpayers affected by Hurricanes Katrina, Rita and Wilma may have difficulty obtaining 2005 Form W-2, Wage and Tax Statement, and other 2005 information documents.

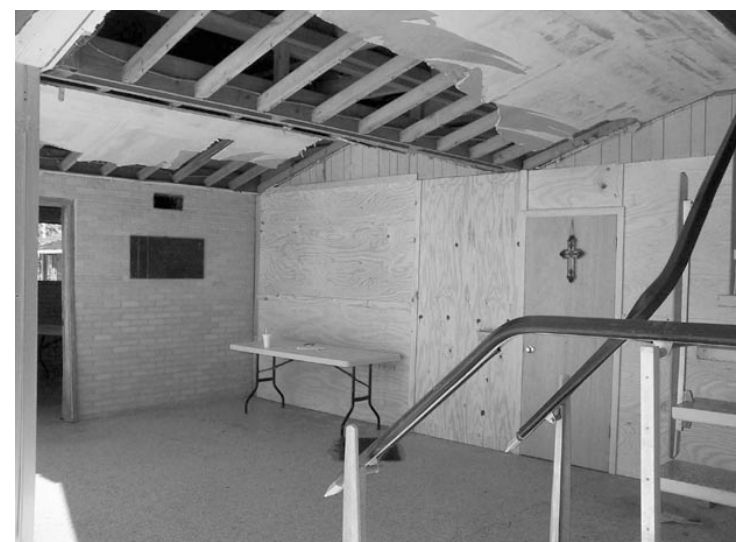
The Internal Revenue Service encourages taxpayers to contact employers or former employers and other payers to secure a W-2 or other documents.

If a taxpayer cannot obtain the documents after attempting to contact the employer, the taxpayer should file Form 4852, which substitutes for Forms W-2 and 1099-R, with his or her federal tax return.

The IRS generally will not accept Form 4852 until after Feb. 15, 2006. However, those affected by Hurricanes Katrina, Rita and Wilma may submit the form prior to Feb. 15.

Taxpayers may need to use pay stubs, bank records, prior year forms or other information to estimate the 2005 Form W-2 data and other information return data.

Taxpayers who have all information required for



THE ENTRANCE to the St. Eugene Catholic Church, which was repaired by volunteers from Grand Lake recently. An average of 100 parishioners attend Mass every Sunday at 10 a.m. in the damaged building. (Photo by Cyndi Sellers.)

Cameron Outdoors

By LOSTON MCEVERS



Feb. 2, last Thursday, all eyes were on the Penn. Groundhog Punxsutawney, yes, he did see his shadow, and that's supposed to be another six weeks of winter, putting spring off until the middle of March. Now our female nutria Rita from Pecan Island surely saw hers, as we had a beautiful spring sunshine day, with temperatures in the upper 70's.

FISH RECORDS

The Louisiana Fish Records Program became larger by two species on Jan. 1. Chosen from freshwater was the yellow bass, while the saltwater selection was the big eye tuna.

Yellow bass are common in almost all of our state's bayous, streams, rivers, swamps and lakes, but do better in lakes with clear waters. They seldom grow over one pound, but two pounders have been caught occasionally. They resemble family members, the striped bass and the white bass, with black bars running on its side, the length of the fish. For more info, go to LouisianaSportsman.com/fish records. The Louisiana Fish Records Program, is maintained by the Louisiana Outdoors Writers Association of which I've been a member for a number of years.

LOCAL ANGLERS

There's still not much fishing going on, as local anglers are still trying to either clean-up or move into lower Cameron Parish. Now on Groundhog's Day, a beautiful sunny day, with little wind blowing, there were quite a few boats on Big Lake. There were a few speckle trouts and reds caught, but not many boats were loaded with either fish.

Crabbing has been pretty good on the Mermentau River north of the bridge and those using rod and reels are catching a few reds and drums.

I understand the Calcasieu River took a good hit from Rita. I still don't know just how bad. I'm supposed to take a Toledo Bend trip this week and I'll find out what's happening in that

neck of the woods. This is the time of the year for good catfishing up the Mermentau River around the Little Pecan Island Bayou area. My old friend J. C. Boudreaux from Cameron and Ricky Canik of Grand Chenier, are "Catfish Kings." I call them "Hell on Wheels," but they use a boat.

HUNTING

If your plans call for hunting rabbits, squirrels and snipes, the season is still open until Feb. 28; after that only goose season remains open. The conservation order for light geese (blues, snows, ross) opened statewide Feb. 4 and will run through Mar. 12. There is no daily nor possession limits. Electronic calls, unplugged shotguns, and hunting until 1/2 hour after sunset is allowed.

March is the month for hunters to turkey hunt. Some hunters do turkey hunt here in Louisiana, but quite a few go to Texas and other states to enjoy an altogether different hunt than we have along the coast.

TROUT LIMIT CUTS

There's lots of talk from sports fishermen on the recent notice of intent from the LDSF, about lowering of creel limits on speckle trout on Sabine and Calcasieu Lake from 25 to 15. There will be biologist studies by May 4 when commissioners vote on the issue.

There's lots of pros and cons, but with all the talk about the great trout fishing on Calcasieu and Sabine Lakes, it may be because of the new equipment used by anglers.

I still think it's wise to do it now, than to find out later it should have been done. Write to the La. Dept. of Wildlife & Fisheries members or Harry Blacnot, Marine Fisheries Division, Dept. of Wildlife & Fisheries, P. O. Box 98000, Baton Rouge, LA 70898-9000 before April 6, 2006, let them know how you feel.

I would also like some hunting, fishing or any other outdoor news from you, including pictures of your catch or hunting trophies, this includes our young outdoorsmen and outdoor women. Please send to : Loston McEvers, P. O. Box 240, Creole, LA 70632. Phone 905-4586.

Random acts of sweetness

Because the sweetest gifts are often the most unexpected, C&H Pure Cane Sugar has launched Random Acts of Sweetness-a new, national effort to inspire people across the country to bake homemade treats and surprise others with the gift of dessert any day of the year. Simply bake a delicious dessert, wrap it in an attractive gift box or bag, personalize your gift with a handwritten note or card, surprise people with an unexpectedly sweet treat and encourage them to do the same. For gift ideas and recipes, visit www.chsugar.com.



BUCKLE UP AMERICA

Legal Notices

SHERIFF SALE

38TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT PARISH OF CAMERON STATE OF LOUISIANA

SAM BREAUX II VS. NO. 10-16612 RANDALL BERTRAND ET AL

By virtue of Commission to Sell issued and to me directed by the honorable court aforesaid, and in order to effect a Partition by Licitation, I will offer for sale at public auction to the last and highest bidder, minimum bid of \$84,000.00 at the court house door of this parish of Cameron, on Wednesday, February 15, 2006 at 11:00 A.M. the following property of Ethelyn Barbier Labove, Billy Roy Bourg, Robert Marsh, Donald R. Criglow, Charles T. Hebert, Kistachie Title Management Inc., Joseph P. Constance, Gene Constance, Walter Lloyd Bonsall* Subject to the usufruct of Annie Lee Bonsall, Thomas Wayne Bonsall* Subject to the Usufruct of Annie Lee Bonsall, Sandra Gail Coody* Subject to Usufruct of Annie Lee Bonsall, John Alan Bonsall* Subject to the Usufruct of Annie Lee Bonsall, Heirs of Diamond Miller: (James & Nina Blankenship), Heirs of Calissa Constance: (Maurice R & Barbara Fay Moreau), Sam Breaux, Gaynell Thompson Jessup, Maude E. Jessup, Shirley Lee Constance, Jimmy Leslie Constance, Harry Craig Constance, Roland Leslie & Leslie & Laura Welsh, Joseph P. Constance, Gene A. Constance, Mae Doris Little, John T. Constance, Rose Ann Burch, Agnes Constance, Oran Trahan, Frederick Joseph Colligan, Lavernia Tinney Russel, Walter A. Tinney, John A. Tinney, Sam Tinney, J.B. Watts, James C. Watts, Donna L. Williams, Theresa A. Williams, Andrew John Lambert Jr., Wise Wyatt Lambert Jr., Arles Lambert, Donna Clair Lambert, Leroy Lambert Jr., Chrystal L. Gibbs, A. J. Nicholas Goodfriend, Joseph Albert Goodfriend, Mary Ariese Cline, Born Goodfriend, Robert Bertrand, Richard E. Bertrand, Janice B. Morales, Charles Lynn Bertrand, Phil Bertrand, Ruby Mae Simon Constance, Billy Harrigan, Ruth Constance, M. O. Labove, Randall Bertrand, Lana Bertrand, Paul Bertrand, Powell Land Holding LLC, Deborah Tinney, Thomas Charles Blankenship, Mildred Barbier Hayes, Fred F. Jessup Jr., Shirley Lee Jessup, Jimmy Lee Lambert, Leroy Lambert III,

Emma Edith Trahan, Robert Welsh, Lorena Welsh, Earnestine Colligan Rostet, Loretta Colligan Henry, Dr. John L. Colligan, Lisa Diana Cline Keating, Catherine Cline Bell, Uretta Colligan Frazier, Joseph Doiron, Nanny Jo Tinney, James and Linda Blankenship, Lela A. Colligan James, Robert Timothy Cline, Yvonne Dennis Cline Ames, Linda Blankenship Mullins, Christa Blankenship Harkness, Kelly Jon Blankenship, Kathryn Blankenship Edwards, Kimberly Blankenship Prestridge, Patrick Blankenship to wit:

THE EAST HALF OF THE EAST HALF OF FRACTIONAL SECTION 44, TOWNSHIP 12 SOUTH, RANGE 10 WEST, CAMERON PARISH, LA.

TERMS: CASH DAY OF SALE SHERIFF THEOS DUHON, CAMERON PARISH, LA.

Sheriff's Office, Cameron, La February 15, 2006 Charles Schrupf Attorney for Plaintiff RUN: Jan. 12, Feb 9 (J 20)

PUBLIC NOTICE (NOTICE OF INTENTION TO INTRODUCE BILL - SLS 06RS-127)

Public notice is hereby given that there may be introduced at the session of the Legislature to be convened on March 27, 2006, a bill relative to ratifying the creation of and granting to the Parishwide School District of the Parish of Cameron, State of Louisiana, the power to levy an ad valorem property tax not to exceed ten mills for the year 2006 for the purpose of giving additional support to the maintenance, improvement, and operations of the public elementary and secondary school system in the parish; and to provide for related matters.

RUNS: Feb. 9, 16 - F 5

NOTICE

The Cameron Community Action Agency is soliciting bids for the performance of their 2005 audit. Persons interested in submitting a bid of the work should contact Cameron Community Action Agency office at 951 Hwy. 384, Lake Charles, LA 70607 or call (337)598-5158 or (337)905-6000 to secure an RFP packet. Explained in the RFP are the details of the program and the deadlines. Work records may be reviewed by potential bidders on February 16th and 17th, by appointment. The audit proposal

is due by March 1, 2006. The final audit is due May 1, 2006. Contact Dinah Landry, Executive Director or Lana Miller, Assistant Director. RUNS: Feb. 9, 16 - F 6

PUBLIC NOTICE

CAMERON PARISH COASTAL USE PERMIT APPLICATION

Interested parties are hereby notified that the Coastal Management Section of the Cameron Parish Police Jury has received the following apparently complete application for a Coastal Use Permit in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Louisiana Coastal Resources Program and La. R.S. 49:214.21, the State and Local Coastal Resources Management Act of 1978, as amended.

C.U.P.# P20060035 L.C.U.P.# 060207

Name of Applicant: Calcasieu Lake Development Company. Attn: Scott Moffett, 210 South Ryan Street, Lake Charles, LA 70605.

Location of permit: Big Lake, Section 25, T12S--R9W, Cameron Parish, Louisiana.

Character of Work: Calcasieu Lake Development Company proposes to excavate approximately 4,700 cubic yards of native material for the development of ten (10) residential lots located off of Highway 1144.

The decision on whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impacts of the proposed activity in accordance with the state policies outlined in La. R.S. 49:214.21. The decision will reflect in the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The decision must be consistent with the state program and approved local programs for affected parishes and must represent an appropriate balancing of social, environmental and economic factors. All factors which may be relevant to the proposal will be considered; among these are flood and storm hazards, water quality, water supply, feasible alternative sites, drainage patterns, historical sites, economics, public and private benefits, coastal water dependency, impacts on natural features, compatibility with the natural and cultural setting and the extent of long term benefits or adverse impacts.

Certification that the proposed activity will not violate applicable water and air quality, laws, standards and regulations will be required before a permit is issued.

Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held to consider this application. Request for public hearings shall state, with par-

ticularity, the reasons for holding a public hearing.

Plans for the proposed work may be inspected at the Cameron Parish Police Jury Annex Building, Coastal Management Division, Courthouse Square, P.O. Box 1280, Cameron, Louisiana, (337)775-5718. Written comments should be mailed within 25 days from the date of this public notice to Cameron Parish Police Jury, Coastal Management Division, Post Office Box 1280, Cameron, Louisiana 70631.

Sincerely, /s/ Myles Hebert, Myles Hebert, Coastal Zone Administrator CAMERON PARISH POLICE JURY

RUN: Feb. 9 - F 8

PROCEEDINGS

Parish of Cameron January 20, 2006

The Cameron Parish School Board met in special called session as a result of the death of Mr. Clifton Morris, with the following members present: Loston McEvers, Dwayne Sanner, Dot Theriot and Mrs. Rachel Abadie. Absent: Clifton Morris, Pat Howerton and Marvin Trahan.

Mr. Loston McEvers, Board President, called the special meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

The agenda made provisions for public comment regarding Election District #1; however, hearing none, Mr. McEvers moved to the next agenda item, comments from board members.

Comments from board members regarding the vacant position in Election District #1 were begun by Mr. McEvers, Board President. He expressed appreciation for the service Mr. Clifton "BoBo" Morris rendered to Election District #1 as well as to all of Cameron Parish. Further, Mr. McEvers acknowledged the contributions Mrs. Patty Morris made to the parish during Mr. Morris's illness by assisting him at board meetings, and he recommended that board members consider appointing Mrs. Patty Morris to complete the unexpired term of her husband. Mrs. Rachel Abadie shared similar sentiments including appreciation for Mr. Morris' parish-wide work. Mrs. Dot Theriot was complimentary and recommended the appointment of Mrs. Patty Morris since she could continue the work Mr. Morris had begun. Mr. Dwayne Sanner expressed agreement with the comments made by other members of the board with confidence in Mrs. Morris' ability to work for the citizens of Johnson Bayou and Holly Beach. On behalf of Mr. Pat Howerton and Mr. Marvin Trahan who were absent due to health reasons, Superintendent Chance shared comments of appreciation for Mr. Morris' service to the students and employees of Cameron Parish as well as Mr. Howerton and Mr. Trahan's support of the board's consideration of Mrs. Morris' appointment.

AYES: Mrs. Theriot, Mr. Sanner, Mr. McEvers and Mrs. Abadie

NAYS: None ABSENT: Mr. Howerton and Mr. Trahan

Mr. Carl Broussard, Cameron Parish Clerk of Court, administered the Oath of Office and completed paperwork to file with the Office of Secretary of State.

On motion of Mr. Sanner, seconded by Mrs. Theriot, the Board voted to adjourn.

APPROVED: /s/ Loston McEvers, LOSTON MCEVERS, PRESIDENT CAMERON PARISH SCHOOL BOARD

ATTEST: /s/ Douglas L. Chance DOUGLAS L. CHANCE, SECRETARY CAMERON PARISH SCHOOL BOARD RUN: Feb. 9 (F 9)

NOTICE According to Carl Broussard, Cameron Parish Clerk of Court, and by proclamation of the Governor of the State of Louisiana, dated August 17, 2005, in accordance with provisions of La. R. S. 18:621(A)(2) and (3) call-



SOUTH CAMERON Lady Tarpons are shown opening packages from the Hanford High School Basketball team and Coach Brett Akers from Richland, Washington.



On motion of Mrs. Theriot, seconded by Mr. Sanner, the Board approved the appointing of Mrs. Patty Morris to complete the unexpired term of Board Member for Election District #1, Cameron Parish School Board.

AYES: Mrs. Theriot, Mr. Sanner, Mr. McEvers and Mrs. Abadie

NAYS: None ABSENT: Mr. Howerton and Mr. Trahan

Mr. Carl Broussard, Cameron Parish Clerk of Court, administered the Oath of Office and completed paperwork to file with the Office of Secretary of State.

On motion of Mr. Sanner, seconded by Mrs. Theriot, the Board voted to adjourn.

APPROVED: /s/ Loston McEvers, LOSTON MCEVERS, PRESIDENT CAMERON PARISH SCHOOL BOARD

ATTEST: /s/ Douglas L. Chance DOUGLAS L. CHANCE, SECRETARY CAMERON PARISH SCHOOL BOARD RUN: Feb. 9 (F 9)

NOTICE According to Carl Broussard, Cameron Parish Clerk of Court, and by proclamation of the Governor of the State of Louisiana, dated August 17, 2005, in accordance with provisions of La. R. S. 18:621(A)(2) and (3) call-

ing for a special Primary Election to be held on Saturday, April 1, 2006, and a General Election is hereby ordered to be held Saturday, April 29, 2006, and for the purpose of electing a person to fill the vacancy in the office of justice of the peace, Justice of the Peace, Ward 1, in the Parish of Cameron State of Louisiana, due to the resignation of the Honorable Willie Mae Gary.

Justice of the Peace, Ward 1 encompasses the Lowery (Precinct 8), Klondike (Precinct 9) and the Eastern Portion of Grand Chenier (Precinct 17) areas of Cameron Parish.

Qualifying for candidates seeking said office shall be from Wednesday, February 8, 2006 through Friday, February 10, 2006, at the Cameron Parish Clerk of Court's Office, in Cameron, Louisiana.

The Clerk of Court's Office hours during qualifying will be as follows:

Wednesday, February 8, 2006 - 8:00 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. Thursday, February 9, 2006 - 8:00 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. Friday, February 10, 2006 - 8:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m.

For a copy of qualifications and qualifying fees for the above named office; interested persons can call the Cameron Parish Clerk of Court's Office at (337)775-5316 Monday through Friday, from 8:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. RUNS: Feb. 9 - F 10

DEBRIS/DEMOLITION IN CAMERON PARISH

Currently private property debris removal is in process in the following areas: Johnson Bayou, Cameron, Creole, Oak Grove, Little Chenier, Chenier Perdue and Grand Chenier.

Soon property debris removal will begin in the following areas: Hackberry, Big Lake, Grand Lake and Sweetlake.

Curbside debris removal in the Klondike/Lowery area is currently being arranged. All residents are encouraged to seek legal opinion on insurance issues to enable clean up of their property in order for the Parish to complete this task prior to FEMA funding deadline of June 30, 2006.

RESIDENTS CONCERNS:

A.) How can the Army Corps of Engineers have crews working on my property WITHOUT my permission?

ANSWER:

Cameron Parish Police Jury signed a BLANKET RIGHT OF ENTRY granting access to all agencies involved in the cleanup/recovery of Cameron Parish. This was done in an October, 2005 Police Jury Meeting.

B.) What can I do to prevent access?

ANSWER:

A RIGHT OF REFUSAL MUST BE SIGNED!

You must go by the Grand Lake Recreation Center (DRC) or the Cameron Multi-purpose Building in Cameron behind courthouse (EOC) to sign this form. NO EXCEPTIONS!

HOURS OF OPERATION: 8 A.M. TO 5 P.M. 7 DAYS A WEEK

C.) Why are crews tearing up my property with equipment?

ANSWER:

Low ground pressure equipment is being utilized. However, due to recent weather conditions and the overall ground condition left behind by Rita the property will be dressed as best possible.

The property will not be landscaped and property will possibly contain some debris.

Therefore, requiring property owner to do landscaping and final dressing of property. Contractors are attempting to remove as much debris/materials as allowed by FEMA guidelines.

DEMOLITION

A) How can I get my structure demolished?

ANSWER:

You must sign a RIGHT OF DEMOLITION FORM NO EXCEPTIONS! This can also be done at Grand Lake and Cameron sites.

Every attempt will be made to contact you prior to demolition. You will be required to sign a consent form and final approval form upon demolition taking place to insure the 19 checkpoints required by FEMA are complete.

B) What if I do not want demolition because my insurance claim is still pending?

ANSWER:

Seek legal council on the procedures you need to follow in dealing with your insurance company.

Take pictures and document every time you speak to your insurance company. You must sign a RIGHT OF REFUSAL FORM! You must also sign a Right of Entry for demolition to take place as the Blanket Right of Entry will NOT apply to the demolition process. However, crews will be allowed to enter the property to remove DEBRIS around structure and property.

Please forward any concerns or comments to:

THE EMERGENCY OPERATION CENTER

337-775-7048 OR 337-775-7770

— NOTICE —

"America has over 220,000 miles of pipelines carrying natural gas and products across the United States. These pipelines have a safety record second to none in the transportation industry... and we want you to help us keep it that way.

If it's underground, you can't see it of course.

But it's there, working quietly to provide energy for you and other consumers throughout this nation. Some of these signs list the commodity transported in the pipeline, the name of the operator, and a telephone number where the operator's representative can be reached at all times. Although pipelines have an exceptionally good safety record, once in a while a leak can occur. Indications of a leak might include:

1. A strange or unusual odor in the vicinity of a pipeline.
2. A hissing or roaring sound (caused by natural gas or product escaping from a pipeline).
3. Flames originating from an opening in the ground.
4. If you become aware of a pipeline leak ... **Leave the Area Immediately.**

Avoid driving near escaping gas.

Avoid direct contact with the escaping gas or liquids.

Avoid creating sparks or sources of heat which could cause the natural gas to ignite and burn, if you find yourself in a suspected gaseous area, do not light a match, start an engine, or even switch on an electric light.

Notify the pipeline operator as soon as you reach a safe area. Call collect. Give your name, a description of the leak and its location, if you do not know who the pipeline operator is, call your local fire, police, or sheriff's department, or the state police. Advise them of the nature and location of the emergency.

If you see someone digging near a pipeline or doing other construction work... or if you plan to do such work near a pipeline yourself... please call the telephone number shown on the sign and let the pipeline company know so damage can be avoided. It's in your interest... and the nation's.

This advertisement provided to you by Stone Energy."

337-237-0410



CLASSIFIEDS

REAL ESTATE

4.429 ACRES in Grand Lake. Was originally set up for mobile home with mechanical system and electricity and water. Motor missing on mechanical. Priced at \$42,000.00. Call Grace for details. Grace Robideaux, Professional Realtor, ERA Moffett Realty, Inc., 210 South Ryan Street, Lake Charles, La. 70601 337-310-5280 Ext 261, Home Phone & fax: 337-598-2573 1/11ffc

HI FRIENDS in Cameron Parish! If you are interested in buying or selling houses/properties, please call me. RE/MAX Realty Pros at 478-2668 or 274-9996. Ask for Analee Guilbeaux Gregory. 2/2 - 2/22p.

GRAND LAKE -- 4 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath home with large barn on 2-1/4 acres. 2600 sq. ft. House did not flood. Go to www.paragonreporting.com for details or call 249-1209. 2/2 - 2/22mc.

GRAND LAKE: 4 bedroom, 3 baths on 1 1/3 acres near Grand Lake school. Damaged by Rita, semi-gutted. Sale as is, \$83,000. Call 598-4087. 2/2 - 2/9p.

MOBILE HOMES

FOR SALE: 2005 Indies Mobile Home 16X80, 3 bedroom, 2 bath. Oakwood cabinets, 9 foot ceilings, dishwasher and other appliances included. 12X12 exterior porch and other extras added to interior of trailer included. Located in Grand Lake on Clyde's Lane to be moved. More information call 337-794-6484

RV SALES

HUNDREDS OF travel trailers arriving for lease to home owners with insurance claims. Minimum lease is 6 months. Kite Bros., LLC, Hwy 171 N, DeRidder, La. 1-800-456-2724. www.kitebros.com 11/3tfc

FOR SALE

FOR SALE: 1995 Ford Aerostar van in good condition. \$1000. Call (337) 764-3352. 2/8nc.

METAL OUTLET Metal Roofing ~ Carports ~ Metal Buildings ~ Patio Cover Kits ~ C's & Z's ~ Custom Trim ~ RV & Equipment Covers ~ Metal Doors ~ Windows. 337-625-2778. 2241 E. Napoleon, Sulphur. Open Mon.-Fri. 7 am-5 pm, Sat. 7 am-12 noon. ttc.



— NOTICE —

The Cameron Parish School Board is accepting applications for a Sweeper (8 hrs/day) at Grand Lake School. High School diploma is preferred.

To make application contact: Mr. David Duhon, Principal, Grand Lake School, Phone: 337-905-2231 or 905-2056, (Wednesday after 12:00 p.m., Thursday and Friday)

The deadline for submitting applications is Friday, February 10, 2006 at 1:00 p.m.

RUN: Feb. 2 & 9 (F-3)

— NOTICE —

According to Carl Broussard, Cameron Parish Clerk of Court, and by proclamation of the Governor of the State of Louisiana, dated August 17, 2005, in accordance with provisions of La. R. S. 18:621(A)(2) and (3) calling for a special Primary Election to be held on Saturday, April 1, 2006, and a General Election is hereby ordered to be held Saturday, April 29, 2006, for the purpose of electing a person to fill the vacancy in the office of justice of the peace, Justice of the Peace, Ward 1, in the Parish of Cameron, State of Louisiana, due to the resignation of the Honorable Willie Mae Gary.

Justice of the Peace, Ward 1 encompasses the Lowery (Precinct 8), Klondike (Precinct 9) and the Eastern Portion of Grand Chenier (Precinct 17) areas of Cameron Parish.

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- Friday, February 10, 2006 - 8:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m.

For a copy of qualifications and qualifying fees for the above named office; interested persons can call the Cameron Parish Clerk of Court's Office at (337) 775-5316 Monday through Friday, from 8:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m.

RUNS: Feb. 9 - F 11

FOR SALE

COMMERCIAL FISHING Jobs: Chief engineers, 2nd Engineers, Wheelhouse, Fishermen and Cooks. Great benefits, pay, bonuses and much more. Trainee positions available for all levels. Our boats fish Monday through Friday, April through October. Sign-on bonus for qualifying. Experienced Menhaden Boat Crew. Call 800-503-3987 anytime, 24/7. Ask for Gulf Recruiting. 2/7c

NOTICE

WHETHER LOOKING to store household possessions, or need boat or RV storage, A+ Mini Storage has the professional local facilities to meet your needs. Located at 4611 Hwy 27 South, Carliss. Call 558-5805 for information. 9/14 - 2/21 eow

TAKING CARE of all your debris and demolition needs, from tree removal to house demos. Locally owned and operated in Cameron. Call: Johnny McDaniel at (337) 912-3018 or (337) 274-0688. 2/8c.

WANTED TO BUY

WANTED TO Buy or lease: river front or river access lot for family fishing camp. Lower Mermentau River. Call: Doug at (318) 715-7448. 2/8p.

IN LOVING MEMORY

In Loving Memory of
Bryant & Lovenia Bartie
01/04/80 - 01/30/95



Mom & Dad,
Many years have gone by since you have joined the Heavenly Host. Thank you for the wisdom, guidance, prayers, and teachings you gave us.

What was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes. What we looked upon and touched with our hands concerns the Word of Life (1 John 1:1)

Also that: The Light of God surrounds us. The Love of God enfolds us, the Power of God protects us; the Presence of God watches over us. Wherever we are, God is. With God, through you spell Survival.

Loving you and missing you
Forever and always,
Wanita, Mary, Lillie, Lorina,
Bryant Jr., and Walter

It Seems Just Like Yesterday



By Keith Hambrick

(Cameron Pilot,
June 8, 1972)
FATHER SONNIER GIVEN
TESTIMONIAL DINNER

By NELL COLLIGAN

A testimonial dinner was given in honor of Rev. Alcide Sonnier, pastor of Our Lady Star of the Sea Catholic Church in Cameron, by Knights of Columbus Council No. 5461 Sunday evening at the Parish Center in Cameron.

Master of ceremonies, Grand Knight Claude Hebert, introduced Ruben Morales who gave the opening address. Hebert then introduced various leaders from Our Lady Star of the Sea Catholic Parish who paid tribute to Father Sonnier for his tireless efforts for the betterment of the parish in the past four years.

Keys to a 1972 Mercury were presented to Father Sonnier by Ray Burleigh and Hilaire Hebert, who solicited contributions for the vehicle from church parishioners last year. Mark Richard gave Father Sonnier a personal check to cover the cost of 150 gallons of gasoline for the new automobile.

Representing the Board of Trustees of the church, Richard remarked that when Father Sonnier was welcomed to Cameron in 1968, all that was expected was a good spiritual leader. To the delight and amazement of the parishioners in the months to follow, Father Sonnier proved to have the added talents of construction engineer, electrician, plumber, carpenter, draftsman and mason.

Father Sonnier expressed his appreciation to the parishioners for their support and cooperation in the past and dedicated himself to continued service in the future. He especially commended Wilton Hebert, "the little jackrabbit" carpenter and Oscar LeBoeuf who gave far beyond their call of duty in building the church, and Hayes Picou and his construction gang who hauled numerous loads of dirt to raise church property.

The group expressed the desire that Father Sonnier would be allowed to remain in the parish many more years. As one parishioner put it, "This man works like a horse, but it's plain to see that the force that moves him is his faith and his love of God."

POLICE JURY DEADLOCKED ON NAMING PRESIDENT

Cameron Parish was without a president or vice-president at its police jury this week after the six jurors split 3-3 on the selection of these two officers Monday.

New officers are elected every four years when the jurors begin new terms. W. F. Henry, Jr., jury president for the past eight years, did not run for re-election as a juror.

When the jury meeting opened Monday morning with

Classes offered on "Road to Recovery"

This spring, McNeese State University Leisure Learning is offering several classes for individuals who are working through the various stages of the recovery process after Hurricane Rita. This series of classes is called "Road to Recovery."

The following classes are being offered:

"Mold Problems? Get the Scoop!" Feb. 6 or March 21, 7-9 p.m., \$25. Discover the problems mold causes and how it is detected and review basic removal techniques. Instructor is David Booth, mold specialist.

"Hurricane Damage? How to Negotiate a Fair Deal with Your Insurance Company," Feb. 13, 6-8 p.m., \$19. Learn the rights of the policyholder and how to deal effectively with an insurance company. Instructor is Jody Lavergne, local attorney.

"Wind Damage? How to Identify Signs of Structural Damage to Your Home," Feb. 20, 6:30-8 p.m., \$19. Instructor is Shannon Spell, structural engineer.

For more information or to register, contact McNeese Leisure Learning at 475-5616 or 1-800-622-3352, ext. 5616, or visit the Web site at www.mcneese.edu/conted.

FEMA extends RPA application until March

State and local public agencies and certain private non-profit organizations (PNPs) that sustained damage from Hurricanes Katrina and Rita (Aug. 29 through Sept. 24) must submit their Request for Public Assistance (RPA) forms to the Louisiana Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (OHSEP) no later than Wednesday, March 1 at 5 p.m.

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) extended the previous RPA submission deadline of February 1 given the extenuating circumstances concerning communications and access within the disaster area.

Application forms may be completed and submitted via the website for Louisiana OHSEP Public Assistance at www.louisianapa.com. For additional information, applicants may contact Louisiana OHSEP at 225-379-4035.

PNPs that provide critical and non-critical services and incurred costs for damages, emergency protective measures, or debris removal are

encouraged to submit an RPA to FEMA (through the State of Louisiana) at the above website by the March 1 filing deadline.

It is important to note that non-critical PNPs deemed eligible by FEMA are required to apply to the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) for a disaster loan by the filing deadline of March 11, 2006.

This requirement applies to permanent restoration work only; all eligible PNPs may make requests for assistance for debris removal and eligible emergency protective measures directly to FEMA through the Louisiana OHSEP.

If the SBA denies the loan, or if the loan an organization receives is not adequate to cover all eligible disaster losses, the applicant may receive a FEMA Public Assistance grant for permanent restoration projects. Applicants may contact the SBA at 1-800-659-2955 or go to its website at www.sba.gov

For more information about the disaster recovery, go to www.fema.gov



FULL TIME HELP WANTED OPERATORS & LABORERS

Grand Lake/Sweetlake Waterworks District #11 is now accepting applications for operators and laborers. Must be at least 18 years of age with a valid drivers license.

Apply in person at: Cameron Parish Waterworks District #11, 111 Dennis Ln, 337-598-3439.

Cameron Parish Police Jury does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, age, sex, handicap, national origin or political or religious opinions.

RUN: Jan. 26, Feb. 2 & 9 (J-40)

— PUBLIC NOTICE —

The Cameron Parish Clerk of Courts' office will re-open with full staff operations and services in Cameron on Monday, February 6.

The temporary office of the Clerk of Court located at the Council on Aging building in Grand Lake will remain open on a limited basis. Beginning on February 7 this temporary office will be open on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. to accept filing and to assist the public with Notary needs.

The temporary office of the Cameron Parish Clerk of Court located at 302 North Cutting Avenue, in Jennings, will officially close for business on Friday, February 3 at 4:30 p.m.

RUN: Feb. 2, 9 & 16 (F-4)

• NOTICE FOR BIDS •

ADDENDUM

The CAMERON PARISH SCHOOL BOARD will receive sealed bids until the hour of 10:00 a.m., Monday, February 27, 2006, adjusted from February 9, 2006, for the lease, with the option to purchase, of 26 portable classroom buildings and 4 portable restroom buildings to be used by the students of Cameron Elementary, South Cameron Elementary and South Cameron High Schools for the 2006 Spring and 2006-2007 school sessions.

A detailed bid list and specification packet shall be obtained from the Cameron Parish School Board Office, 409 East Prien Lake Road, Lake Charles, LA or by calling (337) 475-9167 and asking for the Office of the Superintendent.

Bid lease price on all items should be the delivery and set-up price at the Grand Lake School site, Grand Lake, Louisiana, with a complete dismantle, transportation, delivery and set-up of some or all buildings at the South Cameron High School site, Creole, Louisiana. All bids must be submitted on or before the above date and time.

ALTERNATE #1

Bid lease price on all items should be the delivery and set-up price at the South Cameron High School site, Creole, Louisiana, with future dismantle and removal. All bids must be submitted on or before the above date and time.

Envelopes should be marked "BID ON PORTABLE CLASSROOMS AND RESTROOMS". All complete licensure data and contact information shall appear on the OUTSIDE of the envelope.

The School Board reserves the right to reject any and all bids submitted.

CAMERON PARISH SCHOOL BOARD

Dr. Douglas L. Chance, Superintendent

RUN: Feb. 9, 16, 23 (F-7)

CATHOLIC CALENDAR.

A page devoted to local Catholic interests

February 10, 2006

Vol. 32, No. 5

Lake Charles, La.

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Albert Theriot looks at some of the personal items that were salvaged from the home he and wife Margaret shared east of Creole in lower Cameron Parish. Members of parish and school youth groups along with confirmation candidates visited the Theriot homesite to aid in cleaning up debris from Hurricane Rita.

Frequently Asked Questions!

As Southwest Louisiana begins to rebuild since the Sept. 24 passage of Hurricane Rita, a number of questions regarding topics of general interest to the people of the Diocese of Lake Charles, are being asked. The answers to three questions is found below.

1. Since we do not have a Bishop, will the Sacrament of Confirmation be celebrated this year?

Yes, as Diocesan Administrator, Msgr. Harry D. Greig will be the celebrant of the Sacrament of Confirmation. Your Pastors have requested dates and have been informed as to when the sacrament will be celebrated in your parish. Our tradition in the diocese has been to celebrate the sacrament during the Easter season (this year, between April 17 and Pentecost Sunday, June 4).

2. What is the status for a Bishop to be named to our Diocese?

Msgr. Greig responded by saying that we have received no word as to when a Bishop will be appointed to the Diocese of Lake Charles. We do know that Archbishop Gabriel Montalvo, Apostolic Nuncio to the United States, has recently retired, at the age of 75. Archbishop Pietro Sambi will be the new Papal Nuncio to the United States. While the appointment of a Bishop comes directly from the Holy Father, the selection process is facilitated through the offices of the U.S. Papal Nuncio.

3. Are all the church parishes in the Diocese functioning following the devastation of Hurricane Rita?

According to Msgr. Greig, the majority of our church parishes are fully functioning. The exception would be in the civil parish of Cameron. St. Mary of the Lake (Big Lake) is in the restoration stage following surge floodwater damage. Its mission of St. Patrick's Chapel in Sweetlake is where worship services are held for St. Mary of the

Lake (Big Lake), St. Eugene (Grand Chenier), Sacred Heart of Jesus (Creole) and Our Lady Star of the Sea (Cameron). St. Peter the Apostle (Hackberry) and its mission of Our Lady of the Assumption (Johnson Bayou) are presently being restored after damages were sustained in both locations.

The planning process by the Diocese regarding the most seriously damaged churches in lower Cameron parish, Our Lady Star of the Sea (Cameron), Sacred Heart of Jesus (Creole) and St. Eugene (Grand Chenier), is ongoing.

Insurance claims are in process. We have been working with Cameron Parish officials to determine the extent of the damage in order to plan for repairs or required rebuilding. The Army Corps of Engineers has completed a Damage Structure Analysis of the buildings and determined that the buildings are structurally sound. The Diocese is awaiting a Cameron Parish Police Jury Damaged Structure Analysis to be completed in order to determine if the three church structures can be repaired or will be required to be rebuilt.

The Diocese has hired an independent contractor specializing in damaged structure analysis to provide additional analysis of the extent of damages to determine the remaining value in the structures and the cost of repairs.

Elevation studies are also being undertaken to determine the present elevations of the churches in order to know what the appropriate elevations would be if rebuilding is required. At this point information is being gathered in order to make the best decisions for the return of the churches.



A birds eye view of the newly completed office building for the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in downtown Lake Charles from the top of City Hall shows the architecture of the building emulates the Lombardy-Romanesque style of the Cathedral. Dedication ceremonies are set for Feb. 19, following the 11:15 a.m. Mass. Open houses will be held on the weekend of Feb. 25-26 following each day's masses.

New Parish Center for Cathedral to be dedicated

The new Parish Center of the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception will be dedicated Sunday, February 19, following the 11:15 a.m. Mass. Plans include a formal dedication ceremony, a reception for parishioners and visitors, and a self-tour of the building. An Open House will also be held the following weekend, February 25-26, after the Saturday 4 p.m. Mass and the Sunday, 7:30 a.m. and 9:30 a.m. Masses.

The new center will serve the many administrative, educational, and social needs of the parish. "We are very proud and excited about our new building," Father Aubrey Guilbeau, rector of the Cathedral, said, "We feel it will serve the parish and the Diocese for generations to come. I would like to thank everyone who worked so hard and contributed to this endeavor."

"When the original building was purchased in 1980, the parish had a smaller staff and probably fewer parish activities. Over the years as with most parishes, staff and ministry increased, which required greater func-

tional space.

"The new building affords us ample room for staff to exercise their roles in a more conducive atmosphere," Fr. Guilbeau continued. "The old building had no windows for any of the offices and now each office has a view of the outdoors which makes for a better work environment."

"An important factor in the building is the larger gathering space," Fr. Guilbeau said. "The reception room in the previous building was smaller thus limiting the types of functions as well as the numbers of people who could gather for receptions, presentations, meetings and other parish and Diocesan gatherings."

"This new reception area can accommodate a variety of activities with larger numbers of people," Fr. Guilbeau said.

Ave Maria Hall, the spacious meeting and social hall, provides twice the gathering room of the former building, and the choir now has a large rehearsal room and space for its extensive music library.

The first floor is equipped with a kitchen, library, front office, crafts room, and

workroom, along with ample storage space for the many organizations that will use the building. Upstairs are the administrative offices, including a conference room and five offices for the staff. The building is fully handicap-accessible, with a ramp at ground level and an elevator to the second floor.

Planning for the Center began under the leadership of Msgr. Harry D. Greig, now Diocesan Administrator and pastor of St. Mary of the Lake Church in Big Lake, as Cathedral rector. The demolition of the old office building and construction of the Center began twenty months ago, in June 2004. The architect, H. Curtis Vincent of Vincent and Shows Architects, matched the design of the new building to the Lombardy-Romanesque architecture of the Cathedral, creating a functional structure that combines the convenience of modernity with the beauty of the past. The contractor for the work was Besette Development Corporation.

All are invited to attend the dedication ceremony on Feb. 19 or one of the open houses on the weekend of Feb. 25-26.

Young people of Diocese help their Cameron neighbors

CREOLE - They came from churches stretching across the Diocese of Lake Charles, from St. Joan of Arc in Oberlin, St. Philip Neri in Kinder, Our Lady Queen of Heaven in Lake Charles, Our Lady of Prompt Succor in Sulphur, and Christ the King in Lake Charles and a number from St. Louis Catholic High School. They came together on Sunday, Jan. 29, to provide aid to those in need in Cameron Parish. As a group, the 56 young people, who are members of parish and school youth groups and confirmation candidates, traveled to lower Cameron Parish to help cleanup four home sites.

It was one of those things that, as one student had put it upon being informed of the trek, "We can't not do this!"

One of the places the group went was to the homesite of Albert and Margaret Theriot in Creole. The couple and their children had lived in the home for nine years before the wrath of Rita took the home. Margaret Theriot served for eight years as the youth director of Our Lady Star of the Sea Church in Cameron. Theriot's grandfather, Sopheron Theriot, had originally lived in the house.

"When we left we thought we would be back in a few days and would have to face damage from five feet of water in the house," Theriot said. "But, we experienced a Category 5 storm, although it came ashore as a Category 3." Upon their return, the main house as well as four other buildings, including a structure that had once been his grandfather's grocery store before it was moved to the back of the property and used for storage, were gone as well as nearly everything they contained. Theriot did find an ax that had been stored in the shed. The storm also left a number of homemade concrete blocks

upon which the house had sat.

The destructive force of the storm was also readily evident in the resting-place of a small pickup truck that had been garaged near the house that was found upside down in a drain ditch nearly 80 yards from the house.

For Theriot, who works offshore, it was an emotional return, the fourth he had made since the storm. The event was so emotional that his wife, Margaret, was unable to be present but provided the young people with a written thank you in a letter read to them when they returned to Lake Charles.

The storm surge from Hurricane Rita reached nearly 22 feet, leaving a number of items in the trees that lined the gravel driveway to the site, which sits about six miles north of the Gulf of Mexico but only three miles northwest of the Mermentau River bridge.

Theriot said he believed that when the storm surge hit it flipped the house over, dumping its contents in the water, and then floated the house away. The family did find a number of items upon their return some of which they found amazing.

"From our bedroom we found the ironing board and a digital clock," Theriot said. "We also found some money that we had in the house. It was just amazing that the power that could pick up a house and move it away but leave a piece of paper money or coins on the ground."

The Theriot family is now living in a mobile home on property owned by his family in Grand Lake. "We wanted to get things back to some kind of normal," Theriot said. When asked what his plans might be for moving back and rebuilding, he was uncertain. "Ask me in about five years," Theriot said. "You just never know."

Even with the scope of the

devastation to Theriot's property, some good has come out of the disaster. "I am not angry with God. The storm has brought people from all across the country down here to help us."

He pointed out that when you drive out of Cameron Parish you might find yourself behind cars from Wisconsin, Nebraska, or Colorado. "Lots of people have come down to actually see for themselves what has happened," Theriot said. "They bring their physical presence to do whatever they can do to help and then go back to their homes with message as to what is needed."

The other positive is that Theriot feels his family has become closer together because of the storm and its aftermath.

Two of the students who made the trek to Creole to help with the cleanup were Jana Koch, an exchange student from Germany attending St. Louis Catholic High School and Mary Davidson, also a St. Louis student.

"I was kind of sad and shocked (when I saw the damage)," Jana said. "I don't know what I would think if I had lost my house and everything."

Mary, upon first seeing the destruction, said, "It was shocking and it was difficult to process what I was seeing. I, of course, had seen damage in Lake Charles but it was not nearly as bad as in Cameron Parish."

"If it had been me I think I would stay away," Jana continued. "I would want to keep the memories of what had been."

When asked about the fact that some people might blame God for the disaster, Jana indicated it is a matter of faith and "it is a challenge."

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