

U. S. SENATOR David Vitter held a Town Hall meeting in Cameron on Feb. 21 to discuss the needs of Cameron Parish with residents and officials. (Photo by Cyndi Sellers.)

Sen. Vitter promises to aid Cameron

By CYNDI SELLERS

US Senator David Vitter promised to help push the dredging of the Calcasieu Loop and to assist with individual FEMA problems during a Town Hall Meeting held Wednesday, Feb. 20, in the Cameron Court House.

Parish officials and local residents presented their concerns, which included coastal protection, inflated construction costs, FEMA trailers, and permit issues.

Of great concern was the issue of formaldehyde-tainted FEMA travel trailers being removed before residents have made arrangements to live elsewhere. Julie Burleigh and Dinah Landry reported hearing from residents that they have been given two weeks to get out of the travel trailers.

Individuals at the Lake Charles FEMA office don't think it will happen that fast, but Landry said, "People are afraid they will be put out on the street. They don't need this fear on top of everything else." Vitter asked for names and said his office will intervene if necessary.

Constance Beach resident Bob Seat asked Vitter to push the Corps of Engineers to complete its planning process and get coastal restoration and protection projects implemented. Police Juror Charles Precht echoed the complaint that the Corps studies things to death, sometimes for so long that the earlier studies no longer apply and have to be done over.

Vitter said language was included in the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) to require the Corps to streamline Louisiana and hurricane projects, but "you need to stand over their shoulder" to make sure it happens.

Juror Kirk Burleigh pointed out that some of the plans for SWLA hurricane protection will actually hurt the recovery, such as a levee through the middle of coastal communities. He said we need a regional plan with input from all local entities. Local input into the new Flood Insurance Rating Maps was also requested.

Vitter was asked to use his influence to see that SWLA gets its fair share of hurricane protection and coastal restoration funds. He said the bulk of the money is going to the southeastern part of the state this year with the reasoning that there is more land loss there. However, he said the case needs to be made that it will cost less to stop the land loss here before it gets that bad.

ROAD HOME COMPLAINTS

Many people complained about the Road Home, which is a state run program. Inconsistency and an apparent preference for non-coastal property owners were the major issues. Vitter said the appointment of Paul Rainwater to head the

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SOUTH CAMERON Memorial Hospital will open its Ambulatory Care facility on Monday, March 3. Doctor's appointments will be by appointment only, and hours are 8-4:30 Mon.-Thurs., and 8 until noon Fridays. (Photo by Cyndi Sellers.)

Ambulatory care returns to lower Cameron Parish

By CYNDI SELLERS

After two and a half years, residents of southeast Cameron Parish will be able to see a doctor locally for non-urgent care. Ambulatory care services will be available at South Cameron Memorial Hospital beginning Monday, March 3, according to hospital administrator Rita Simon. The clinic-like facility within the hospital offers a separate waiting room, nurses station and four exam rooms for doctor's appointments. Lab and x-ray services are available on site.

Dr. Jake Hollen will see patients with non-emergency conditions from 8-4:30 Monday through Thursday

and 8 until noon on Fridays. Appointments may be made by calling 542-7135 or the hospital number 542-4111 and asking for ambulatory services. The center is located at the southeast entrance to the hospital, the former swing bed entrance.

Patients already using the Rural Health Clinic in Grand Lake who choose to transfer their files to South Cameron may do so by filling out a release form. The Grand Lake clinic has been seeing about five patients a day from lower Cameron Parish, according to a hospital spokesman.

The South Cameron facility is not defined as a Rural Health Clinic, however, so certain fee schedules available at the RHC will not apply.

READY FOR THE FLU

South Cameron Hospital has seen some flu cases during the current widespread outbreak, but none were serious enough for hospitalization. However, there are plenty of beds available if the outbreak becomes worse in Cameron Parish.

The flu vaccine prepared ahead of this year's outbreak has not proven completely effective, and all states except Florida are reporting widespread cases.

Each year the Center for Disease Control tries to predict which flu strains will be prevalent, and the vaccines are prepared on that assumption. This year a different strain showed up, and more people are getting sick.

Early voting to end on Saturday

Early voting for the March 8 tax elections in Cameron Parish will continue through this Saturday at the Registrar of Voters office behind the courthouse in Cameron.

Taxes for four special districts in the parish are to be voted on March 8 as follows:

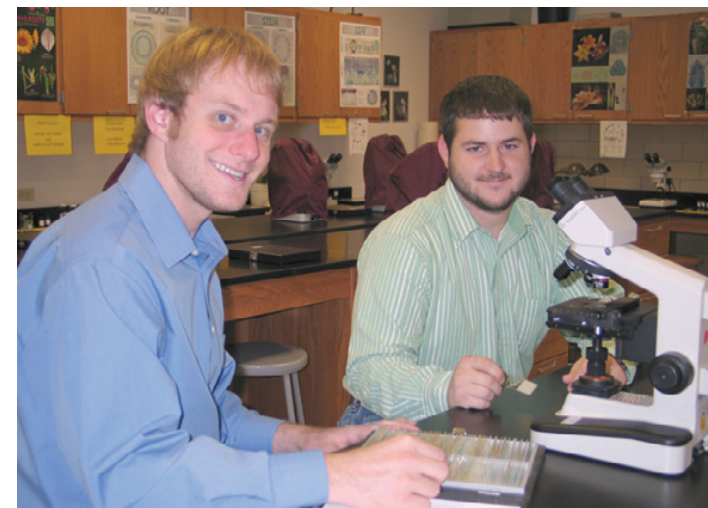
- 1) Hackberry Recreation district proposition.
- 2) Waterworks district #10 proposition (Holly Beach and Johnson Bayou)
- 3) Lower Cameron Ambulance service district proposition (Cameron, Creole, Little Chenier, Chenier Perdue and Grand Chenier)
- 4) Fire Protection district #7 (Creole, portion of East Creole, and Gibbstown residence only)

If you have any questions call 775-5493, according to Suzanne Sturlese, Registrar.

Jury meeting to be early

The March meeting of the Cameron Parish Police Jury will be held at 3 p.m., Monday, March 3 in the courtroom in the Cameron courthouse.

The meeting is usually held at 5:30 p.m. but two of the jurors had conflicts so meeting time was moved up.



MCNEESE STATE University biological science majors Raphiel Heard, left, a Grand Chenier senior, and Kenneth Leger, a Welsh junior, both participated in internships with the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences in Bethesda, Md., last summer that provided them with valuable hands-on experience in the medical field. Both students plan to attend medical school after they graduate from McNeese. (McNeese photo.)

McNeese students take part in medical internship

McNeese State University biological science majors Raphiel Heard, a Grand Chenier senior, and Kenneth Leger, a Welsh junior, are both headed for medical school after they graduate from McNeese and both hope the knowledge they gained while participating in a 10-week medical research internship at the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences in Bethesda, Md., last summer will help

prepare them as future physicians.

The USUHS is the nation's federal school of medicine with graduate programs in biomedical sciences, nursing and public health, according to Dr. William Dees, associate professor of biological science at McNeese who worked there back in the late 1990's.

Dees said the McNeese Foundation has provided the financial support over the past four years for this summer internship program and

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CLERK OF COURT Carl Broussard was interviewed this week for a documentary on Hurricane Rita being produced by Aegon Corp for its employees. Aegon employees have assisted in the re-opening of South Cameron and Johnson Bayou Schools with donations of money and time. (Photo by Cyndi Sellers.)

Cameron Square plans may have to change

By CYNDI SELLERS

Will high land prices cause the Cameron Square plan to change? That was the question debated at the Police Jury's agenda meeting Monday night. At issue is the first appraisal of the property, located on the west side of the court house, needed for the proposed West Annex which will house parish offices. Due to nearby land sales, the property first appraised at approximately \$750,000 an acre.

Juror Charles Precht suggested a plan to move the West Annex behind the Health Unit on the 10 acres owned by the parish. The proposed Law Enforcement Center and jail is also to be placed there.

Precht said that the Cameron Square project was intended to enhance the parish's recovery and encourage economic development. He said it has done so, since "entrepreneurs have purchased property within that area." He also opposed taking the highly valued property off the tax roll.

Other jurors, however, pointed out that federal guidelines require a second and even third appraisal, and other recent purchases in the area could affect the value. Jury President Sonny McGee said, "We've got a chance to make this parish better than it was, now we're talking about putting the building in back, in the sticks." He reminded the panel that "quality land is expensive."

Parish Planner Ernie Broussard, who first presented the Cameron Square plan to the Jury, was surprised to hear discussion about changing the mission. "We're competing for waterfront and museum development based on the appearance of Cameron Square," he said, advising against abandoning the plan.

McGee said recovery is "a daunting task for people of our caliber, but we're up to it. We may bump heads from time to time but we need to know where we all stand."

Jurors declined to place the item on the voting meeting agenda, preferring to wait for the second appraisal.

Debris removal now underway

Removal of Katrina and Rita debris along Louisiana's public waterways is underway. If you see, hit, snag or hear about any debris.

Submerged and other marine debris can harm your boat and your gear, as well as Louisiana's environment and economic recovery.

Report online at www.LouisianaMarineDebris.com or call 1-866-579-4367, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Monday - Friday, voicemail at other times.

OFFER DECLINED

Jurors also declined an offer from the Southwest Louisiana Partnership to rent an office cubicle in Lake Charles to the Parish Planning Office for \$150 a month. Broussard said the space would have access to three meeting rooms and GIS service, and its proximity to the airport would help with meetings with out of town guests. Jurors preferred that guests make the trip to Cameron in person if they want to do business with the parish.

Broussard reported that the marine fisheries grants should be announced next week. The parish has applied for a \$6 million grant for waterfront development in Cameron. He said the parish hopes to move the Holly Beach sewer system project up to Priority 2 from Priority 5 during this legislative session, but it is too early to know what the new governor's budget will look like.

LANDRY REPORTS

Council on Aging Director Dinah Landry knows what part of Governor Jindal's plan looks like. She told the Jury that the state's Councils on Aging, which have always been run by local boards under the Office of Elderly Affairs, have now been moved to the Department of Health and Hospitals.

Landry said this move will devastate the programs offered to Cameron Parish senior citizens. "We are not medical facilities," she said, "so we cannot comply with DHH rules. It would also impose income restrictions which would eliminate most of our seniors. The Older Americans Act was written for all senior citizens age 60 and over."

Under DHH, Landry said, each parish would not have its own office and transportation services. These would be regional. It is even possible that DHH rules would cause federal funding of the Councils on Aging to be lost. She said 100% of state COAs oppose the move, and asked for a resolution from the Jury.

Juror Darryl Farque went further and asked each juror to call Baton Rouge and make their opposition known.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Eva Trahan, Calcasieu Women's Shelter community organizer, asked for the jurors' help in fighting domestic violence in Cameron Parish. She said some have told her there is no more domestic violence in lower Cameron parish since the storm destroyed the bars, but that is not true.

"We do have a problem with domestic violence in Cameron Parish - all over, all ages, all races, all economic groups," Trahan said. She described elderly abuse, teen

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INTERIOR DEMOLITION and site clean-up is under way at the former Cameron Motel #2, in Cameron, which is being remodeled into apartments by new owners Stephen and Margie Vincent. With FEMA about to close its trailer parks, more rental properties will be welcome in Cameron. (Photo by Cyndi Sellers.)



THE NEW and improved Johnson Bayou Community Center is taking shape. (Photo by Paul Sellers)

Funerals



**MRS. SYLVIA
"SALLY" TRAHAN
CONSTANCE**

Funeral services for Mrs. Sylvia "Sally" Trahan Constance, 82, of Sulphur, were held at 2 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 23, 2008 at Sulphur United Pentecostal Church, 2233 Moss Lane, Sulphur. Rev. David Gunter officiated. Burial followed at Hackberry Cemetery under the direction of Robison Funeral Home.

Mrs. Constance died Wednesday, Feb. 20, 2008 in a Sulphur hospital. She was a native of Johnson Bayou and a resident of Sulphur. She was the first Charter Member of Sulphur United Pentecostal Church, where she was a former Sunday school teacher and worked in the nursery until her retirement.

She was preceded in death

by her parents, Alfred and Effie Trahan; husband, Mr. E. J. Constance; one granddaughter, Sarrah Dawn Constance; one sister; and four brothers.

She is survived by one daughter, Donna Constance and companion Rebecca Hooper of Lake Charles; two sons, Ernest J. Constance of Sulphur and Archie Constance and wife Angie of Westlake; two brothers, Utey Trahan of Johnson Bayou and Mr. Allen Trahan of Carlyss; one sister, Mrs. Lorraine Trahan Blanchard of Johnson Bayou; and one granddaughter.

**MARY P.
CROMWELL**

Mary P. Cromwell, 59, died Tuesday, February 19, 2008, in her residence. She was a native of Holly Beach and a member of Faith Church of Carlyss.

Survivors include one daughter, Rebecca Badon and ex-husband Tracy of Sulphur; special daughter, Sataria Sedlock; three sisters, Brenda Holloway, Judy Shader and Martha Tucker; two brothers, Ronnie Kelley and Wendell Kelley; two grandchildren, Fabian Jinks and Gabrielle Jinks all of Tenn.

Graveside services was held Feb. 22 at Consolata Cemetery under the direction of Hixson-Sulphur Memorial Funeral Home. Bro. Bobby Taylor officiated.

BERTHA ERBELDING DROST ELLENDER

The funeral for Mrs. Bertha Erbelding Drost Ellender, 88, of Carlyss, was held Feb. 26, 2008, in Robison Funeral Home of Sulphur. The Rev. Robert Trahan officiated. Burial was in Mimosa Pines Cemetery in Carlyss.

Mrs. Ellender died Sunday, February 24, in a Lake Charles hospital. She was born on July 17, 1919, in Johnson Bayou and was a resident of Carlyss. She graduated from USL with a degree in education, teaching in Johnson Bayou during World War II and then later teaching in Lake Charles. In 1978, she retired from the Calcasieu Parish School Board after 29 years as a teacher. She was a member of Central Baptist Church, the Louisiana Teachers Association, National Teachers Association and AARP.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Louisiana Baptist Children's Home.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Joseph B. Erbelding Jr. and Amy Raggio Erbelding; husband, Otis "Huck" Ellender; and two brothers, Joseph B. Erbelding III and Francis Erbelding.

Survivors include three sons, Charles Richard Drost and wife Dee of Carlyss, James Wendell Drost and wife Sue of West Monroe, and Micheal Paul Ellender and wife Jan of Beaumont, Tex.; daughter, Marcy Ellender Wales and husband K.W. of St. Amant; brother, F.J. "Fritz" Erbelding of Sulphur; 10 grandchildren; 23 great-grandchildren; and three great-great-grandchildren.



JEROME HERNANDEZ JR.

Memorial services for Jerome Hernandez Jr. 78, of Moss Bluff was held Tuesday, Feb. 26, in the Robinson Funeral Home chapel. Deacon Johnny Mounce officiated. Cremation was entrusted to Robinson Funeral Home.

Mr. Hernandez died Saturday, February 23, 2008 in the Sulphur hospital. He was a native of Lafayette and a former resident of Hackberry. He was a Navy veteran and was Catholic. He retired as a race horse trainer.

His survivors include his daughter, Debbie Devall of Sulphur; son, Carl Guidry and wife Barbara of Rayne; brother, Elmo Hernandez of Lafayette; three sisters, Mrs. Pearl Carter of Wichita Falls, Tex. Mrs. Rudell Staggs of Carencro and Mrs. Gwendolyn Sellers of Lafayette; four grandchildren and eight grand great-grandchildren.

**MARGIE
MAZZUCCO**

Margie (Nunez) Mazzucco, 85, of Sante Fe, Tex. died January 7, 2008 in Houston, Tex. She was born in Cameron, the daughter of the late Ofa Nunez and Carrie (Marshall) Erbelding.

She was preceded in death by her parents, her husband, Tony Mazzucco; one brother, Clayton Nunez, Sr.; granddaughter, Debbie Jean Gordon.

She is survived by one daughter, Betty Jean Cichorz of Houston, Tex. one son, Thomas Mazzucco and wife Mildred of Sante Fe, Tex; one brother Burnell J. Nunez Sr. of Longville, numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren.



**CHARLES
DWIGHT PRECHT**

Funeral services for Mr. Charles Dwight Precht, 87, were held at 2 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 23, 2008 in the Jennings United Methodist Church. Revs. Josh Milliron and Wayne Taylor officiated.

Mr. Precht died Wednesday, Feb. 20, 2008 at his residence.

He was a resident of Jennings for nine years after moving here from Sweetlake. He graduated in Jennings High School Class of 1937.

Mr. Precht was a retired rice farmer, cattleman and pipeliner. He was a member of the Jennings United Methodist Church, the Jennings Masonic Lodge #249, Pipeliner's Union Local 798 of Tulsa, Okla. and Plumbers and Steamfitter's Union Local 106 of Lake Charles.

He is survived by three daughters, Carolyn Jo Marks of Jennings, Mary Beth Tilley and husband, James of Many, and Kayla Ruth Fournierat and husband Gerald of Lake Charles; three sons, Charles Dwight Precht, Jr. and wife Charleen of Iota, James Howard Precht and wife, Linda and Thomas Dwain Precht and wife Kim of Jennings; three sisters, Ola Mae Self, Frankie Parker,

School lunches

Cameron Parish Schools lunches are as follows:

Friday, Feb. 29 - Fish portion, cole slaw, oven fries, banana pudding, catsup, hamburger bun, milk.

Monday, Mar. 3 - Braided chicken, mashed potatoes, green beans, fruit cocktail, wheat rolls, white sauce, milk

Tuesday, Mar. 4 - Barbecue burger, oven fries, baked beans, banana bread squares, hamburger bun, catsup, milk

Wednesday, Mar. 5 - Sausage on a bun, tossed salad, carrots, chilled peach slices, hot dog bun, salad dressing, milk

Thursday, Mar. 6 - Baked chicken, rice, blackeyed peas, fresh fruit cup, brown gravy, wheat biscuits, milk.

entrepreneur, running and owning several businesses in both Lake Charles and Oklahoma. Mrs. Silvia was a member of Tom Hebert Road Baptist Church.

Mrs. Silvia is survived by her son, Ronald Gifford and wife Sharon of Lake Charles; daughter, Nona Beth Berkey and husband Paul of Grand Lake; three grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her husband, Melvin "Bud" Silvia; father, Floyd Blakley; mother and stepfather, Nona Blakley Sorrells and Tom Sorrells; and brother, Clifton Blakley.

Her funeral was held Friday, Feb. 22, in Johnson Funeral Home. Rev. Chris Fuselier officiated. Burial was in Ritchie Cemetery in Moss Bluff.

**MRS. JOHN BRYAN
WATTS**

Funeral services for Mrs. John Bryan Watts, Jr., the former Jackie Carole Miller, 65, were held on Thursday, Feb. 14, in David Funeral Home Chapel in New Iberia.

Interment followed in Holy Family Mausoleum.

A native of Cameron and longtime resident of New Iberia, Mrs. Watts died Monday, February 11, 2008 in a New Iberia hospital.

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Precht Joins Cameron LNG as Newest Operator

As a young girl growing up in Sweetlake, Louisiana, Kourtney Precht never dreamed that she would one day be playing a key role in a liquefied natural gas terminal, but that's exactly what she will be doing as an operator for Cameron LNG.



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To learn more about Precht's journey, check out the new Cameron LNG newsletter - recently mailed to all Hackberry residents. If you're interested in a career at Cameron LNG, please visit www.CameronLNG.com.

Get your copy of the Cameron LNG newsletter today to learn more about Precht and other interesting local stories:

- Community Pitches Its Trash to Keep Hackberry Clean
- Cameron LNG Partners with WCCHF...Hundreds Receive Flu Shot Vaccines
- Cameron LNG Terminal Construction on Schedule

The newsletter is also available online at www.CameronLNG.com.



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BEACH SIGNS have been stolen, replaced, and stolen again at Martin Beach in Johnson Bayou. The empty post held a brand new "No ATV on Sand Dunes" sign the day before this photo was taken. Dune riding is a popular but illegal activity in the area. (Photo by Paul Sellers.)

Bench signs being stolen repeatedly

By **CYNDI SELLERS**

"No ATV on Sand Dunes" say the signs that have been stolen repeatedly in Johnson Bayou and Holly Beach. Deputies report that as soon as signs are put up they disappear, once within four hours. Even the big blue beach rules signs have been stolen.

Speculation is that persons wanting to ride ATVs on the dunes are stealing the signs so they can avoid tickets. State law prohibits any vehicles on sand dunes, but many ATV owners seek places to ride fast and jump dunes.

Riding on the dunes wears them down and destroys vegetation needed for coastal flood protection.

At least a dozen small signs have been stolen, at a cost to taxpayers of \$12-\$20 each, and two of the large blue signs, costing \$85 each, have disappeared. Parish Road Foreman Lee Faulk says his crews will be trying new methods of attaching the signs to make them harder to steal.

The bottom line is, it is illegal to ride on the dunes, with or without signs, and ignorance of the law is no excuse.

MCNEESE

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the biological and environmental sciences department is grateful.

Leger, who wants to be a surgeon, is the first McNeese student to work in both the department of surgery and in the SIM Center at USUHS. While at the SIM Center, Leger assisted in running the Advanced Trauma Life Support training program that involved setting up the trauma-man torso for hands-on training in chest tube insertions and tracheotomies.

His work in the surgery department in conjunction with the SIM Center involved assisting with laparoscopic simulation and participating in the training program. "Fundamentals of Laparoscopic Surgery."

Meanwhile, Heard, who is interested in family medicine, worked on infectious disease research in Jerse's lab, where he learned many cutting-edge microbiological techniques and participated in an ongoing research project on a protein that bacteria use to become resistant to antibiotics.

"We used computer programs and a variety of immunological and biochemical techniques to identify the regions of protein that are exposed on the outside of the bacterium," said Heard. "Identifying these regions is the first step towards developing antibodies or vaccines that could be used to make the bacteria more susceptible to antibiotics or prevent infection."

Heard's research will be included in a scientific manuscript that Jerse plans to submit for publication and he also plans to present his research at the Louisiana Academy of Sciences annual meeting in March.

drivers to increase the distance between vehicles at night, during fog, or when poor road or weather conditions exist.

Grand Chenier Library tells many upcoming activities

SEN. VITTER

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Louisiana Recovery Authority is promising. He also said that a federal audit of the program would be sure to dry up all the funds, so it would be better to work on individual cases.

Several people spoke on the urgency of the dredging of the Calcasieu Loop, which silted from a depth of 25 feet to near 12 feet as a result of Hurricane Rita. West Cameron Port Board member Howard Romero said the channel at Port Fourchon gets dredged very time they have a storm, but FEMA has so far refused to accept a project worksheet on the Loop. Police Jury President Sonny McGee and Parish Planner Ernie Broussard also asked for help with the loop and waterfront issues. Vitter promised to get an update from the Corps and push from there.

Broussard also asked for support for funds for transportation and waterfront development. Vitter said the Outer Continental Shelf revenue sharing funds will bring "opportunity for real dollars, finally a fair share to

Grand Chenier Library announces their schedule as follows:

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

Thurs Feb 28, "After School Club & Chess Your Luck", Web Surfing, Research, Chess Strategies, Practice Chess Matches, 4 p.m.

Fri Feb 29, "LA Spirit Hurricane Recovery Team", Arts & Crafts 1-3 p.m., "Story Time" 3 p.m.

TUNE IN

Mar 2-8 Tune In at your library encourages teens to take advantage of the library's DVDs, audio books and Internet access to online media. Teen Tech Week is a national initiative sponsored by the Young Adult Library Services Association and is aimed at teens, their parents, educators and other

use for state hurricane protection, restoration and transportation." The program should ramp up over the next five years, he said.

concerned adults.

The purpose of the initiative is to ensure that teens are competent and ethical users of technologies, especially those that are offered through libraries such as DVDs, databases, audio books, and videogames. Teen Tech Week encourages teens to use libraries' nonprint resources for education and recreation, and to recognize that librarians are qualified, trusted professionals in the field of information technology. We encourage you to visit your local library to experience the media collection available.

Monday, Mar 3 - Wednesday, Mar 5, "Fitness Program", Low impact walking program 2 p.m.

Thursday Mar 6, "After School Club & Chess Your Luck", Web Surfing, Research, Chess Strategies, Practice Chess Matches 4 p.m.

Fri Mar 7, "LA Spirit Hurricane Recovery Team", Arts & Crafts, 1-3 p.m., "Story Time", 3 p.m.

Traffic safety

When a school bus stops to load and unload children, other drivers must stop at least 30 feet from the bus. The law requires this whether a driver is meeting the bus or traveling behind it. However, if the bus is stopped in a loading zone completely off the roadway where pedestrians are not allowed to cross the roadway, drivers do not have to stop.

Tailgating is when a driver follows too close to the vehicle in front of him. Tailgating is a major cause of crashes and results in deaths, injuries and thousands of traffic tickets being issued each year.

The "two-second rule" is generally accepted as a way of maintaining a safe distance between vehicles. You can use the two-second rule by watching the rear bumper of the vehicle in front of you as it passes a landmark such as a sign, pole or tree. Count "one thousand one, one thousand two." If you pass the same landmark before you finish counting "one thousand one, one thousand two," you are following too closely. Slow down and drop back to a safe distance.

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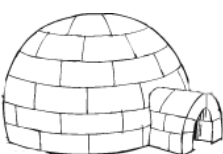
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MR. AND MRS. Jimmy (Iris) Trahan of Grand Lake announce the engagement and forthcoming marriage of their daughter, Tanya Marie Trahan, to Todd Broussard, son of Mr. Carroll Broussard and the late Mrs. Gloria Broussard of Lake Charles. The wedding is set for Saturday, April 5 at Our Lady Queen of Heaven Catholic Church in Lake Charles at 12 noon. A reception will follow at Marilyn's of Lake Charles.

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THE CAMERON Parish NAACP chapter celebrated Black History Month at the Sixth Street Baptist Church in Port Arthur, Tex. Shown above were program participants: the Mime Group, directed by Male L. Streeter; the Little Angels, directed by Akyla Lewis; and Louise Cole, chapter president.

Plan ahead for college funding Recertification meetings set

Representatives with the office of financial aid at McNeese State University urge students to make responsible decisions when borrowing money for school. According to Financial Aid Director Taina Savoit, many students may not realize that choosing the right lender can make an important impact on how they repay their loans. It can also be tempting to borrow more money than needed, she said.

To start on the path to responsible borrowing, students can plan ahead by creating a written budget to determine how much money they need. They can follow-up by learning about all the financial aid options available.

"It's a good idea to first

consider scholarships and grants because they don't have to be repaid. Typically, once a student completes a FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid), they will find out what kind of funding they qualify for," Savoit said. "Many students and parents don't realize how many options are available out there, so even if you don't think you'll qualify for any aid, it's definitely a good idea to complete the application."

If financial assistance is still needed after scholarships and grant options have been considered, there are federal student loan options that offer low-cost, low-interest loans.

"Federal student loans usually cover necessary costs, especially when coupled with other financial aid options," Savoit said. "When it is determined that loan funds are necessary, we encourage students to apply for federal student loans as their first option after scholarships and grants since the federal loans could offer much more repayment options than private loans. If you choose to borrow through a private loan source, please be extremely cautious and do your research to understand the terms of the loans prior to accepting their generous financial aid opportunities."

Students should also carefully consider what lender they will use to borrow money. Incentives can differ from lender to lender, so it's vital to understand what is available, Savoit said.

Savoit's final piece of advice: When in doubt, ask questions. Students should not be afraid to talk to their financial aid representatives at McNeese if they don't understand something about the process.

The McNeese office of financial aid hosted several seminars throughout February as part of Financial Aid Awareness Month. Some seminars are also scheduled for March. Now is the time for students to complete their FAFSA to ensure that their funds are available for the fall semester, Savoit said.

For more information, students and parents can visit: www.mcneese.edu/finaid or call 475-5065.

BY ANGELIA T. CONNER

There will be two Pesticide Recertification Meetings on Tuesday, March 25, at 4 p.m. and 6 p.m. at the Calcasieu Parish LSU AgCenter Office. You only have to attend one of the meetings to be recertified. If you are already certified as a private applicator, check the expiration date on your card. If your certification expires March 2008, you are eligible for re-certification. If your card expired prior to March 2008, you will have to take a closed book examination. The examination can be taken at my office any time during regular business hours.

At the conclusion of the Private Applicator Training, those in attendance will reapply to the Department of Agriculture for a Private Applicator's License. This license is valid for three years, and will permit you to purchase and use restricted pesticides. The cost of the license has increased to \$25. This must be paid the day of the certification. Cash or check will be accepted.

It is the policy of the Louisiana Cooperative Extension Service that no person shall be subjected to discrimination on the grounds of race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age or disability. If you have any questions, please contact Gary Wicke at 905-1318.

CAM. SQUARE

Cont. from Page 1

dating violence, and relationship abuse, offering the confidential services of the Women's Shelter for anyone who needs a safe place or just someone to talk to.

She said her flyers have been stolen in the Cameron area, and she asked jurors to make the parish aware that domestic violence is an issue.

In other issues, Parish Administrator Tina Horn said some fire districts have asked the parish to apply for an extension for fire rating inspections. Cameron Fire Chief Ron Johnson said an extension would help his district because the new fire station has not been built and there is no office. He

IRS offers free tax help

(SPM Wire) Preparing your taxes sometimes can be a confusing and frustrating experience.

That's why the Internal Revenue Service is offering free tax help by computer and telephone, as well as in person, assisting taxpayers in getting forms and publications and answering a wide range of tax questions.

The IRS even can help individuals find free tax preparation services.

For starter, taxpayers can access a wealth of free tax information on IRS.gov. Taxpayers should check out 1040 Central, a special section of the Web site that has all the help, updates and information taxpayers need to prepare and file their returns. Taxpayers can readily access forms, instructions or publications; get answers to frequently asked questions (FAQs); and find out if they qualify for the earned income tax credit.

Taxpayers also may check their refund status using IRS.gov's "Where's My Refund?" tool.

This year, the IRS is cautioning people to make sure to find the authentic IRS Web site by typing www.IRS.gov into their browser. The official IRS Web site does not end in .com, .net, .org or any other designation.

Phone help also is available. Taxpayers may order current and prior year forms, instructions and publications by calling 1-800-TAX-FORM (1-800-829-3676). Taxpayers may ask tax questions by calling the toll-free customer service line at 1-800-829-1040 for individual tax issues or 1-800-829-4933 for business-related tax issues. TTY/TDD users may call 1-800-829-4059 to ask tax questions or to order forms and publications.

A free TeleTax service enables taxpayers to call 1-800-829-4477 to hear pre-recorded messages covering various tax topics or to check on the status of a refund.

In-person assistance preparing your tax return also is available. Free tax preparation is being offered through the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance and Tax Counseling for the Elderly (TCE) sites in many communities. Taxpayers can call 1-800-829-1040 for more information. Taxpayers may also call AARP -- the largest TCE participant -- at 1-888-227-7669 to find the most convenient location.

For their part, IRS Taxpayer Assistance Centers are a source of personal tax help when taxpayers believe their tax issues cannot be handled on-line or by phone, and they want face-to-face assistance. IRS representatives in these offices can help with inquiries, adjustments, letters and notices and pay-

said other districts would also benefit if the new 911 system goes into effect first.

The Cameron Multi-purpose building, along with relevant insurance money, has been transferred from Recreation District #6 to the Police Jury, and renovation plans are under way, according to juror Kirk Burleigh. Road crews are removing rocks from the ball fields now, he said. Road Foreman Lee Faulk said there are several places the rock can be used.

An amendment to the parish animal control ordinance will be proposed at the voting meeting, imposing fees for dog owners picking up their animals from the pound. The fees would compensate the parish for the cost of feeding the animals and hopefully discourage repeat offenders.

How to make cleaning your home easier

(SPM Wire) Sometimes it seems like all you do is clean your home. As soon as you're done it's time to start over again and there's never enough time in the day -- or enough help from your family.

Here are some tips from the experts at The Maids Home Services, a residential

ment plans for those who owe tax and cannot pay the full amount.

Locations are posted on IRS.gov under the "Individuals" tab. Just click the link Contact My Local Office.

Many post offices and libraries offer IRS tax publications, forms and instructions for pick up. Participation of post offices and libraries changes from year to year so taxpayers should check with their local community organization before making the trip. Electronic kiosks containing commonly-used forms and tax information are available in some locations. You can also type "Contact My Local Office" in the search box on IRS.gov to find availability by state.

All local IRS Taxpayer Assistance Centers have tax publications, forms and instructions available to pick up.

cleaning company, to help keep an orderly household with less effort:

* Place a doormat outside of your front door to reduce the amount of dirt tracked into the home.

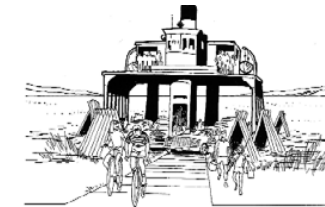
* Leave a squeegee inside the shower and have each family member squeegee the walls after each shower. This reduces hard water buildup and a lot of scrubbing later on. A towel can also be used in place of a squeegee.

* Pour one cup of white vinegar in the toilet bowl and leave overnight. Flush in the morning and that waterline ring should disappear.

* Enlist the family's help by assigning age appropriate chores. Kids ages 10 and under can make beds and pick up rooms, while older children can vacuum, dust and wash floors. Convince your husband to move and clean behind appliances!

* Break up chores by scheduling common tasks for certain days of the week. In the past, people used to do chores by the day of the week. This traditional method breaks down the long list of weekly chores into seven days, making tasks seem more manageable.

For more home cleaning ideas, visit www.maids.com online.



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Saturday, April 5, 2008 -- 2:00 p.m.
DeQuincy High School Auditorium
Deadline to enter: March 28, 2008

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- 0-11 Mos. • 12-23 Mos. — Baby Miss & 2-3 Years — Tiny Miss (Sunday Best)
- 4-5 Years — Petite Miss & 6-8 Years — Little Miss (Pageant Wear)
- 9-11 Years — Deb Miss & 12-14 Years — Teen Miss (Pageant Wear)

Thursday, April 10, 2008 -- 7:30 p.m.
La. Railroad Festival Fair Grounds
Deadline to enter: April 3, 2008

- 15-16 Years -- Jr. Miss • 17-23 Years -- Miss

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Entry forms may be picked up at: Nichols, Rhinestone Runway, Tantrum, Grove's Custom Cuts DeQuincy City Hall & DeQuincy Chamber of Commerce

Please mail applications to: DSFL - Attn: Pageant Director
 P. O. Box 516, DeQuincy, LA 70633

For information contact: Mary Jo Bayles at 337-786-7031;
 Erica Grove at 337-794-4813; Candy Payne Fears at 409-988-8794
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FEMA to extend assistance program

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) announced today an extension of its relocation assistance program to Aug. 31, 2008. To date, 3,541 families have been helped with moving and transportation costs incurred as a result of hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

"With recovery well underway across the Gulf Coast, many of the more than 1.2 million families forced from their homes following hurricanes Katrina and Rita are ready to come home," said Acting Associate Deputy Administrator for FEMA's Gulf Coast Recovery Office Jim Stark.

"We are pleased to provide this extension and urge families who haven't taken advantage of the relocation program to apply."

Applicants displaced from their primary residence in a disaster-declared area as a result of hurricane Katrina or Rita are eligible for reimbursement of up to \$4,000 in relocation expenses incurred between Aug. 29, 2005 and Aug. 31, 2008.

Relocation expenses may not exceed the FEMA Individuals and Households Program (IHP) cap of \$26,200, and the applicant must not have received funds from any other state, federal or voluntary agency subsidized travel home program.

If an applicant is returning to Louisiana, he or she must relocate to housing that is not provided by

FEMA and is not a hotel or motel. For those families that are already living in Louisiana in FEMA travel trailers or mobile homes, FEMA will pay moving expenses to a FEMA-funded rental resource anywhere in the continental United States.

Relocation Assistance will be limited to travel costs including airfare, train, bus and/or a rental vehicle. Furniture transportation expenses also are eligible, including commercially rented equipment for hauling and commercially purchased moving materials or moving services. Evidence of expenses, such as receipts, must be provided for reimbursement. Mileage, gas and other travel-related expenses such as food incurred while using a privately owned vehicle are not eligible costs. Moving costs for recreational or large luxury items such as boats or recreational vehicles are not eligible expenses under this program either.

For more information on FEMA's Relocation Assistance program or to request reimbursement of relocation expenses, call 1-800-621-FEMA (3362) (TTY: 1-800-462-7585). To prevent duplication of benefits, an applicant is only eligible to receive relocation assistance under either Hurricane Katrina (DR-1603-LA) or Hurricane Rita (DR-1607-LA), not both.

FEMA to begin testing for formaldehyde

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) announced today a program to provide testing for formaldehyde in travel trailers and mobile homes at occupants' request in federally declared disasters nationwide with open direct housing operations. This includes not only units in the Gulf Coast, but also New York, Pennsylvania, Florida, New Mexico, Arkansas, Missouri, Oklahoma, Kansas, Minnesota and California.

The contract for conducting the testing was awarded by FEMA to Bureau Veritas. Bureau Veritas is the same company that recently tested 519 units in Louisiana and Mississippi under the direction of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). CDC's preliminary analysis of those tests found a higher than typical indoor exposure levels of formaldehyde and FEMA announced it would expedite ongoing efforts to relocate residents to apartments or other alternative housing and to remove any barriers preventing households from relocation. FEMA will provide results of these tests to the occupants so that they can make informed decisions about relocating. Testing could begin as early as next week.

Occupants of FEMA-provided manufactured housing may contact the agency's Formaldehyde Call Center at 1-866-562-2381 to discuss their testing options or request that their units be tested. Health-related concerns may be addressed to CDC experts at 1-800-CDC-INFO.

Approximately 200 units will be tested per week. Testing will begin in the units of Gulf Coast occupants who already have requested their units be tested. Bureau Veritas will contact each of these occupants to schedule an appointment to conduct a test of formaldehyde levels, as it will with those who request testing in the future.

Since FEMA and CDC announced the preliminary analysis of earlier testing on Feb. 14, 2008, FEMA's formaldehyde hotline has received 1,922 calls from occupants along the Gulf Coast. Of these callers, 334 have requested that their units be tested. All households have been offered an immediate move to a hotel or motel and, to date, 285 have accepted this option; 82 have moved into alternative long-term housing; and 133 have refused all options. The remaining households have been offered a variety of alternatives and are considering their options.

It Seems Just Like Yesterday

By KEITH HAMBRICK



Lake Charles American Press, Feb. 19, 1941

CREOLE HONOR ROLL

First Grade: Donna Rae Savoie.

Second Grade: R. C. Domingue, Robert Vernon Landry, Dorothy Anne Savoy.

Third Grade: Robinetta Bertrand, Wilfred Miller, Margie Lou Nunez, Leola Quinn, Lorraine Stagg.

Fourth Grade: Dorothy Bourriague, Joan Carter, Bennie Garber, Bertie LaBove, Celestee LaBove, Gilbert Landry, Lindy LeBoeuf, H. P. LeBlanc, Jr., Edie Mudd, P. D. Richard.

Fifth Grade: Lurlie Broussard.

Sixth Grade: Dorothy Mae Nunez.

Seventh Grade: Beverly Theriot, Bernice Venable.

Eighth Grade: Earline Eagleson, Violet Lange, Loramie Peshoff.

Ninth Grade: James Savoie.

Tenth Grade: C. G. Jessen, Ned Melancon, Shirley Stine.

Eleventh Grade: Floyd Baccigalopie, Loyd Bourriague, Cecil Clark, Inez LeBoeuf, Rufus Marshall, Edna Richard.

Cameron Pilot, Feb. 20, 1975

POLICE JURY ELECTION

The Cameron Parish Police Jury will have at least two new members -- and possibly more -- as a result of the special election held Saturday under a federal court reapportionment order.

Charles A. Riggs of Hackberry, police juror for ward 6 for the past 15 years, was defeated by 27 votes by John R. (Bud) Rollins, the same candidate Riggs defeated three years ago in the regular jury race. The vote Saturday was 431 for Rollins and 404 for Riggs.

Lyle (Butch) Crain of Grand Chenier, Ward 2 juror for the past seven years, received a majority of the votes in new election District 4 to become the only candidate elected in the first primary.

Crain received 552 votes to 115 for Walter J. Dupuis

and 38 for Joseph E. Richard.

Four other incumbent jurors were forced in runoffs in the March 29 second primary.

Archie Berwick, the dean of the Cameron Parish jurors with 23 years service, received 655 votes and will be in the runoff with Mason Istre, Holly Beach merchant, who got 511 votes. The third candidate in the Ward 5 race was Alton Trahan with 465 votes.

In Ward 3, incumbent Norman McCall with 786 votes, will be in the runoff of the two seats with Willie Ray Conner, Creole businessman, 799 votes; Roland J. Trosclair, Jr., Cameron shrimp canner, 752 votes and Hayes Picou, Cameron businessman, 380 votes.

The other candidates in the Ward 3 race were F. O. Theriot with 301 votes and Gilda M. Bargeman with 248 votes.

Two incumbent jurors were left in the runoff in the District 3 race, which cover Ward 4 and the north part of Ward 1. These two wards were consolidated in the reapportionment. Ward 4 juror Charles Precht received 288 votes to 229 for Ernest Myers, the Ward 1 juror. The other candidate in this race, Joseph A. LeBleu, received 152 votes.

It is not clear exactly when the elected jurors will take their seats since this is a special election, but it is expected that all of those elected will be seated shortly after the March 29 second primary, probably at the April 7 regular meeting.

HEBERT IS KNIGHT OF THE YEAR

Claude Hebert received the Knight of the Year award at the 11th annual award banquet of Our Lady Star of the Sea Knights of Columbia Council 5461 Sunday night in the church youth center.

Father Edward Degeyter, principal speaker, was introduced by Father Alcide Sonnier and explained the purpose of building a new monastery near DeQuincy. He explained that this is one of the Holy Year projects of the Catholic Church.

LNG sponsors flu shots in Hackberry

(CAMERON LNG NEWSLETTER)

According to the Center for Disease Control, each year between 5% and 20% of Americans get the flu, but thanks to Cameron LNG and West Calcasieu Cameron Hospital Foundation, many Cameron Parish residents are starting the year on a healthy note.

Cameron LNG sponsored flu shots at the Hackberry

Clinic over the holidays in partnership with West Calcasieu Cameron Hospital Foundation. A total of 150 Cameron parish residents took advantage of the free flu shot clinic and another 50 Hackberry School students were vaccinated through the Vaccines for Children program.

West Calcasieu Cameron Hospital CEO, Bill Hankins, said, "We appreciate the continued investment that Semptra Energy has made in our Hackberry Rural Health Clinic, from the provision of a trailer immediately after Hurricane Rita to use as a temporary clinic site to quickly re-establish health-care to Cameron Parish residents, to the recent sponsorship of flu shot clinics at the end of 2007. Their partnership in ongoing joint ventures has brought positive results for the health of individuals in that part of our service district and Cameron Parish."

By providing free flu shots through the clinic, the hospital hopes to decrease influenza cases in Hackberry. However, even with the vaccination, individuals must be cautious to prevent the spread of germs that can trigger the illness.

Julie Galley, Advanced Practice Registered Nurse for the WCCB advises individuals who think they might have the flu to have a Rapid Flu test. If the illness is detected early enough - within 2 days of symptoms or exposure - certain medications can be prescribed to aid in a speedy recovery.



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Speaker to be at FBC in H'berry

Come hear an Amazing Story of the Grace of God at First Baptist Church of Hackberry. Speaker will be Jack Daniels on Sunday, March 9 at 10 a.m. and March 9 thru 12 at 7 p.m.

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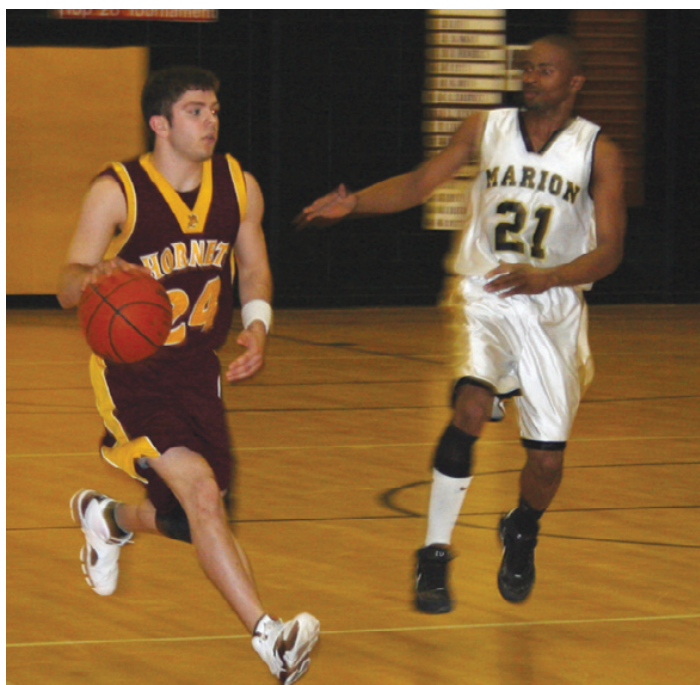
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GRAND LAKE'S Garrett Billiot, #24, was the high scorer in this final game of the season against Marion with 16 points. Brett Griffith, #23, finished with 15 points, 13 rebounds, and three blocks. Renn Savoie, #14, scored four points. Jordan Hebert came off the bench and scored 15 points putting the Hornets back in the game during the second half. Jayce Hebert made 12 points and 10 rebounds while Sam Johnston added 7 points. This was the first round of playoffs for the boys. They lost 72 - 71 in overtime. (Photo by Ron Gilbert.)

Grand Lake High School News

ARCHIVE PROJECT

The Grand Lake Gifted and Talented students need your help! We are creating a video archive on the history of Cameron Parish through interviews with community elders. Thanks to a generous donation from Cheniere Industries, we have purchased all of our equipment and have begun interviewing.

Our goal is 100 interviews. From the videos, we create a movie, an illustrated book that will be available for purchase, and a mural for the foyer of the elementary school. If you are interested for an interview, please contact Susan Arnold or Shelia Ward at Grand Lake School at 905-2231.

STAINED GLASS MURAL

The 10'x11' stained glass mural to be placed at the entrance to Grand Lake High School is well underway. Thanks to generous donations from Mr. and Mrs. Pat Howerton, Cheniere Industries, and the community members who turned out for the art auction, Grand Lake School will have a new piece of art.

The mural is a collage of images from all of the regions

Tarpons beat Reeves in baseball

South Cameron varsity baseball team traveled to Reeves High School on Feb. 19. With Jody Trosclair on the mound the tarpons gained an early lead. Ross Rowland took over in fifth inning for the tarpons and pitched six strikeouts in two innings. Rowland lead the tarpon team with 1 run and 4 RBIs. Thomas Trosclair had 3 runs, 1 home run, and 3 RBIs. Daniel Dupre had 3 runs and 3 RBIs. Dylan Conner had 2 runs and 2 RBIs. Congratulations to the Tarpons on successful victory.

Cameron Parish School Calendar

THURSDAY, FEB. 28

Grand Lake High (JV) at Iowa Softball - 4:30 p.m.

Grand Lake High at Iowa Softball; Grand Lake High vs. TBA - DeQuincy Tournament - Baseball.

South Cameron High (JV) vs. Iowa - Iowa Tournament - Baseball - 4 p.m.

Friday, Feb. 29 - Grand Lake Tourney vs. Grand Lake High (JV) - Grand Lake Tourney - Softball.

South Cameron High JV in Grand Lake Tournament - Softball.

South Cameron High in Grand Lake Tournament - Softball.

Hackberry High vs. TBA in Starks Tournament - Softball.

FEB. 29 & MARCH 1

High School vs. Calcasieu Parish HS Rodeo, Sulphur - Rodeo

SATURDAY, MARCH 1

TBA vs. Grand Lake High - Grand Lake Tourney - Softball - TBA

South Cameron High (JV) vs. Notre Dame - Iowa Tournament - Baseball - 2 p.m.

South Cameron High vs. Westlake - Iowa Tournament - Baseball - 10 a.m.

Cameron Outdoors

By LOSTON MCEVERS



FISHING AREAS TO OPEN

The Lemesche Bass Club will fish eight tournaments and pick the best five tournaments for their yearly points. Club members will choose partners, but can only fish twice with the same club partner during the year.

Three tournaments may be fished with an angler outside the club, but again only twice with same partner. Areas to be fished will be announced at each club meeting, which is now the first Wednesday of each month. March 5 is next.

Club members will leave the launch at sunrise each time and return for the 3 p.m. weigh in.

The club held their first tournament last Sunday in the Mermantau River Basin and will hold another in the IntraCoastal/Grand Lake/Lake Misere area on Sunday, March 9th.

Last year top angler for the year was Darren Richard with a total of 63.40 pounds for the best 5 tournaments.

Second Jim Boudreaux 54.10, then in order, Richard Duhon 53.88, Johnny LeDoux 46.96, Cory Broussard 43.18, Todd Conner 41.74, Matthew 41.14, Brett Baccigalopi 30.50, Ricky Canik 26.98, Loston McEvers 25.54, Carl Broussard 24.60, Tom Hess 8.24 and Todd Morales.

This past Sunday's winners were: Largest Stringers (5 bass) (1) Darren Richard 14.80 (2.) Chance and Brett Baccigalopi, (3) Carl Broussard 12.74, (4) Ricky Canik and Chance Doxey 12.02, (5) Scootie Trosclair and J. M. Boudreaux 11.92, (6) Todd Conner and Bart Yakupzack 10.20, (7) Richard and Jordan Duhon 8.92, (8) Chad Bridges and Carlein Bertrand 8.78, (9) Loston McEvers and Tom Hess 7.80 and Cody Benson and Trey Wilkerson.

Rebels lose bi-district

By CHRIS & LAURIE MUELLER

The Johnson Bayou Rebels saw their season come to an end last Friday with an 82-54 bi-district loss to Family Christian.

The Rebels' leading scorer was Aaron Jinks with 15 points. Michael Trahan added 10 points. The Rebels end the year with a 14-18 record.

Dock Board approves project

The Board of Commissioners of the Lake Charles Harbor and Terminal District has approved the Marcantel Beneficial Use Project funding agreement. This project will create 300 acres of wetlands on the privately owned Marcantel property in Cameron Parish by becoming a dredge disposal site.

For the past several years the Corps of Engineers has been unable to dredge the Calcasieu River from Mile 17 to Mile 29 to full project width because the disposal sites along the channel lacked capacity to accommodate the material dredged from the channel. The Port of Lake Charles, local sponsor of the channel, has sought to expand available disposal capacity to insure the waterway could be dredged to full project dimensions, both width and depth, now and in the future.

To provide a short term solution, the port in a public private partnership with property owner Curt Marcantel, Calcasieu Parish Police Jury, the State and the Corps of Engineers developed the Marcantel Beneficial Use Project. The project will use dredge material to create wetlands in an area in Cameron Parish located south of the Intraoastal Waterway and five miles west of the Calcasieu Waterway. The site will provide enough disposal capacity to dredge Mile 17 to 29 to full project width in 2008. When the funding agreements are in place, dredging will begin, This is expected in the summer of 2008.

Largest Bass: Chance and Brett Baccigalopi 3.90, Darren Richard 3.80, Ricky Canik and Chance Doxey 2.98, Carl Broussard 2.86, Chad Bridges and Carlein Bertrand 2.72, Scottie Trosclair and J.M. Boudreaux 2.48, Bart Yakupzack and Todd Conner 2.30, Loston McEvers and Tom Hess 2.12 and Richard and Jordan Duhon 18.8

Ricky Canik had the largest Bowfin weighing 4.16 pounds.

NEWS BRIEF

All these Federal Refuges, Sabine, Lacassine and Cameron Prairie will open March 15. Remember your fishing licenses and get the new refuge rules. There will be new pamphlets this year, but they're not out yet, check with the refuge next year.

Rockefeller Refuge will open March 1, but remember to get their new rules also, like no going past their signs until sunrise.

The Miami Corporation Permit fishing will open March 15, I'll have the rules and regulations next week.

Something new this year for Miami's permit fishing, is you will get a permit card, plus three large stickers, one for each side of your boat plus one for your trailer tongue, permits this year are \$40.

School lunches announced

Cameron Parish Schools lunches are as follows:

Friday, Feb. 29 - Fish portion, cole slaw, oven fries, banana pudding, catsup, hamburger bun, milk.

Monday, Mar. 3 - Breaded chicken, mashed potatoes, green beans, fruit cocktail, wheat rolls, white sauce, milk

Tuesday, Mar. 4 - Barbecue burger, oven fries, baked beans, banana bread squares, hamburger bun, catsup, milk

Wednesday, Mar. 5 - Sausage on a bun, tossed salad, carrots, chilled peach slices, hot dog bun, salad dressing, milk

Thursday, Mar. 6 - Baked chicken, rice, blackeyed peas, fresh fruit cup, brown gravy, wheat biscuits, milk.

Grand Lake girls lose in q'finals

By CHRIS & LAURIE MUELLER

After knocking off Zwolle in the regionals, the Grand Lake Lady Hornets advanced to the quarterfinals for the first time since 1988, where they faced 3rd ranked Florian. Florian ended the Lady Hornets' hopes of a Top 28 appearance with a 47-23 victory.

Sonya Lavergne and Kat Kingham scored 7 points each for Grand Lake. Liz Kingham added 5 points and Amber Trahan scored 4 points. The Lady Hornets ended the year with a 34-10 record.



GRAND LAKE'S Sonya Lavergne, #10, is pictured in the final game of the season. The Lady Hornets lost to Florian 47 - 23 to end the Lady Hornets' playoff run. Sonya scored seven points in her final high school game. Kat Kingham scored seven points, 11 rebounds and four blocked shots, while Liz Kingham scored five points and seven rebounds. Amber Trahan finished the night with four points and six rebounds.

(Photo by Ron Gilbert.)

Hackberry 4-H Club tells projects and winners

BY JOLIE TRAHAN

The meeting was opened Wednesday, Feb. 20, at the Hackberry High School by the president Sam Little.

The group was led in the 4-H Pledge by Tristan Gallegos and then was led in the Pledge of Allegiance by Kimberly Portie.

Minutes of the previous meeting were read by the secretary Madison Shove. The minutes were approved.

The reporter's report was given by Jolie Trahan. Clint Welch then gave the treasurer's report. The parliamentary report was given by Codie Reon and the CRD Chairman, Jonathon Landry, gave a report. Ashlee Little gave the results of the Candy Cookie Contest.

1st place-Chocolate Fudge - Kennedy Darbonne. 1st place - Any Other Candy - Abby Delcambre and 1st place - Pralines - Clint Welch. New Business - Kennedy Darbonne talked about the Easter Bonnet

Contest which will be held in March. Hunner Sorrells spoke about Trash Bash.

The meeting was then turned over to the leader Mrs. Margaret Shove. She spoke about the upcoming events. The Vice-President, William Toups, then asked for Project Reports to be given.

Sydney Broussard gave a report on the Discovering Workshop. Bailey Labove spoke about record books. Johnathon Landry talked about showing heifer's and Jolie Trahan spoke about showing steers.

A report was also given by Robert Savant about Shooting Sports. The meeting was then turned over to the president who then welcomed Ms. Ruby and Mrs. Penny. They gave their portion of the 4-H meeting.

The meeting was then adjourned with the first motion by Torri Stansel and a second was made by Sydney Broussard.

South Cameron High School News

SCHOOL CALENDAR

Feb. 28 - March 1, Baseball- Iowa Tournament-Away

Feb. 28 South Cameron vs. Iowa JV- 4 p.m.

Mar. 1 South Cameron vs. Westlake - 10 a.m.

Mar. 1 South Cameron vs. Notre Dame JV- 2 p.m.

Feb. 29 - March 1 Softball- Grand Lake Tournament-Away

March 6 - March 8 Baseball- Grand Lake Tournament-Away

Mar. 6. South Cameron vs. Bell City- 2:30 p.m.

Mar. 6 South Cameron vs. Grand Lake- 6 p.m.

Mar. 7 South Cameron vs. Grace Christian - 2:30 p.m.

Mar. 8 South Cameron vs. Northside - 12:30 p.m.

March 7 - March 8 Softball- Sulphur Tournament-Away

SOUTH CAMERON HIGH SCHOOL NEWS

2006 Seniors, the pictures that were submitted to the 2006 yearbook have been mailed back. Please come by and pick up your yearbook and any pictures you submitted.

Any student who as not paid their \$50 driver's education fee should pay as soon as possible, payments can be made in the high school office.

4-H is collecting Box-Tops for Education please turn in any coupons to Mrs. D'Juana Fontenot. All 4-Hers are selling strawberries. Strawberry orders are due in to Mrs. D'Juana Fontenot by March 31.



MRS. CHERIE MYERS' Grand Lake kindergarten class recently visited the Farmer's Rice Mill and saw how rice is processed. Afterward the class went to Jellystone Park for a picnic and posed with Yogi Bear.



HOME AND BUSINESS sites on Monkey Island have been inaccessible since Hurricane Rita destroyed the ferry. This is the ferry landing on the Monkey Island side, showing a stranded boat alongside the road. Before the Calcasieu Ship Channel was built, this road and ferry connected Cameron to Holly Beach. (Photo by Cyndi Sellers.)

Volunteers clean up roads in the Grand Lake area

By VALARIE PRECHT

Sunday, February 24, 2008, was a glorious day that many will not soon forget.

The Grand Lake, Sweetlake, and Big Lake communities joined under the Cameron Communications tent set up at Boone's Corner, for an afternoon of camaraderie that hasn't been felt in quite some time.

Over 140 people, divided into four teams, set forth with one common goal—to work as hard as they could for two hours to rid Grand Lake of as much trash as possible, restoring the community to its naturally beautiful state.

Many people wanted to see something done to clean up the environment, yet until a plan was devised, all that could be done was either call and complain to the local police jurymen, or voice dissatisfaction to fellow citizens.

Tourists from across the nation, and around the world follow Highway 384 through Grand Lake, which is part of the scenic Creole Nature Trail.

A group of students at Grand Lake High School agreed that it was time to "take it to the streets". So, the Grand Lake High F.C.S. (Fellowship of Christian Students) Club started planning the event.

With the help of the Grand Lake/Sweetlake Action Alliance, and some really helpful advice from friends in Hackberry (who have organized successful trash bashes under the direction of Mrs. Margaret Shove), their plan would soon become a reality!

Other community groups got on board and pledged their support for this worthy

cause, and soon it was apparent that the spark would quickly ignite a flame!

Several clubs, businesses, church groups, civic organizations, etc. began making plans to get involved. People began offering their help and, on that bright, clear Sunday afternoon in February, there was a magnificent testament of dedication and hard work that has not been experienced in the community since after Hurricane Rita ripped through the Gulf coast region, two and a half years ago.

What a delight it was to know that 100+ trash bags, and three flat bed trailers full of trash later, the spirit of the citizens could still be felt as they met for a time of refreshment and fellowship. There was such a feeling of civic pride that can only come from knowing that they, indeed, had made a real difference! A heartfelt thanks goes out to all who supported this effort—too many to name individually.

Many people could not attend the event, but fear not! There will be other opportunities to serve the community...look for the many ways there are to pitch in and take an active role. See you next year!

Memorial books given to Library

Dallas and Charlie Mae Brasseaux have donated the following books with honorees and titled listed in that order:

Mildred Mudd, Country Homes; Pat and Margaret Doland, A Place Called Home; Lynn McCall, Gardening In Louisiana; Conway LeBleu, The Concise Nature Encyclopedia.

Other memorial books given the library are listed with the honorees, donors and titles listed in that order:

Sonny McCall, Norman McCall family, Torpedo Junction; Lorene Landry, Isabel Gray family, Crops In Pots; Agnes Bennett, Bill Delcambre family, After The Hunt.

Angela Clifton, J. D. & Mae Simon, Patricia Walther Fly. & Suzanne May Fly., Women's Encyclopedia of Natural Medicine, Vernie Trahan, G. C. and Brenda Quinn, 100 Crochet Projects; Jared Richard, G. C. and Brenda Quinn, Wildlife & Woodlot Management.



CAMERON VOLUNTEER Firemen have been testing all the hydrants in the district this week in preparation for a fire insurance rating inspection. (Photo by Cyndi Sellers.)

Rabbit show winners are announced

Winners in the rabbit division of the recent Cameron Parish Junior Livestock Show were as follows:

RABBIT MEAT PENS
Grand Champion Meat Pen - Brendan Trahan.
Reserve Champion Meat Pen - Lynsey Mhire

PEN OF BROILERS
Grand Champion Broilers - Darbi Montie
Reserve Champion Broilers - Darbi Montie.

BREEDING RABBIT SHOW
Grand Champion Rabbit - Savannah Quinn.
Reserve Champion Rabbit - Rebecca Monceaux.

NEW ZEALAND
BOB - Savannah Quinn - New Zealand Sr Buck
BOS - John Erica White - New Zealand Sr. Doe.

MINI LOP
BOB - William Veronie - Mini Lop Jr. Buck

MINI REX



AMONG THE winners at the recent Cameron Parish Junior Livestock Show, Rabbit division, were, from left: Savannah Quinn, Julianne Lannin and Darien Boudreaux. (Photo by Ruby Miller.)

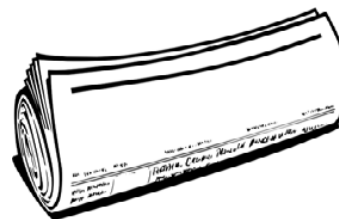
BOB - Laura McFatter - Mini Rex Jr Doe

HAVANA
BOB - Rebecca Monceaux - Havana Sr. Doe

AOB
BOB - Andrew Moss - AOB Sr. Doe

DUTCH
BOB - Dylan Demarets - Dutch Sr. Doe
BOS - Peyton Lannin - Dutch Sr Buck

RABBIT SHOWMANSHIP
Grand Champion Rabbit Showman - Peyton Lannin
13 - 1st. Julianne Lannin
12 - 1st. Savannah Quinn
10 - 1st. Peyton Lannin
9 - 1st Darien Boudreaux.



Sheriff's Report

The following arrests were made by the Cameron Parish Sheriff's dept. Feb. 19-26.

Robert Angelo Ellzey, 29, 100 Gray St., Westlake, Cameron Bench Warrant (2 counts)

Darrin Wade Savoie, 42, Jennings, Simple Battery, Aggravated Criminal Damage.

Simon Murphy Broussard, 23, 4190 Green Tree Lane, Moss Bluff, Cameron Bench Warrant

Brady Hicks, 1481 Mustang Circle, Hackberry, Simply Battery.

Walter L. Duplantis, 42, Houma, Out of Parish Warrant, Poss of CDS II, Poss of CDS III.

Irvin Bang Jr., 28, 1593 Marshall St. Cameron, Fail to Register as Sex Offender.

Lance James Romero, 33, Erath, La., Cameron Bench Warrant (2 counts)

Michael Kevin Robison, 36, 4135 Grand Chenier Hwy. Grand Chenier, Simple Battery.

Robbie P. Broussard, 38, 156 Constance Rd, Lake Charles, Careless Operation, D.W.I.,

Michael P. Nelson, 43, Leesville, Reckless Operation, Cameron Bench Warrant.

Raymond Thibodeaux, Jr., 32, Opelousas, Cameron Bench Warrant.

Barry Keith Papa, 38, Opelousas, Cameron Bench Warrant.

Lonnie Nathan Crum, 19, Carrabelle, Fla., Probation Violation.

Cole Anthony Sandifer, 24, 145 Jinks Lane, Cameron Domestic Abuse Battery.

Ronald Steve Berry, 50, Denham Springs, Domestic Abuse Battery.

Timothy Wayne Russell, 18, 169 Demarest Rd, Lake Charles, Cameron Bench Warrant.

Check Cashing for ALL

Community Check Cashing at Cameron State Bank

No checking account? No problem.

Cameron State Bank's new Community Check Cashing service gives you an easy way to cash your payroll, government or tax refund check, even if you don't use any of our other banking services. Just stop by any of our locations throughout Southwest Louisiana and complete the brief secure enrollment process. In less than two minutes, you'll be registered and able to cash your checks at any of our banking centers. *Community Check Cashing – the quick, convenient way to Check In and Cash Out – only at Cameron State Bank.*

Check this OUT!

FREE Introductory Offer:
Cash your checks with no fee now through April 16th.
Thereafter, check cashing fees will apply.

3 FREE MONEY ORDERS every time you use Community Check Cashing

CAMERON STATE BANK
MEMBER FDIC

Personal Banking At Its Best!

Some restrictions apply. Identification required. See branch for details.