

Sempra makes big gifts to Hackberry

Governor Kathleen Blanco was scheduled to take part in the first annual Hackberry Summer Splash Wednesday.

The visit would be the governor's fifth visit to Cameron Parish during the past nine months. She visited Cameron just prior to Hurricane Rita in September and has returned on three occasions since the storm.

The Governor was scheduled to attend a community leaders luncheon Wednesday at the Hackberry Recreation Center followed by a ribbon cutting ceremony for the newly repaired and reopened Hackberry Recreation Center Pool.

At the luncheon, Cameron LNG made presentations of checks to two Hackberry community organizations.

A \$50,000 check was given to the Hackberry Recreation Dept. for repairs and improvements to recreation facilities.

The company had already donated \$30,000 in materials and labor to repair the swimming pool.



Gov. Kathleen Blanco

Also Wednesday a \$60,000 check was presented to Hackberry High School to repair the storm damages to the school's rodeo arena.

The pool repairs were made possible by the Cameron LNG plant which is under construction at Hackberry. Completion is expected in 2008.

Cameron LNG is a subsidiary of Sempra LNG.

Officials at ceremony

Louisiana Governor Kathleen Blanco Wednesday joined Sempra Energy executives Neal Schmale and Darcel Hulse for a tour of the company's Cameron LNG terminal construction site followed by a community celebration and the re-opening of the Hackberry Recreation Center.

About 20 percent completed and on schedule to go into operation in late 2008, the \$750 million Cameron LNG receipt terminal will be capable of accommodating ships carrying natural gas that has been liquefied to minus-260 degrees Fahrenheit. The terminal will re-gasify the super-chilled liquid, producing 1.5 billion cubic feet of natural gas per day.

"Sempra Energy and our employees have been proud to assist our Louisiana neighbors in their time of need by donating funds, labor and construction materials, including \$500,000 in support of the recreation center and other local hurricane restoration efforts," said Schmale, president and chief operating officer of Sempra Energy.

"Despite absorbing the full impact of Hurricane Rita, this community has demonstrated its resiliency," said Hulse, president of Sempra LNG, the Sempra Energy subsidiary developing the Cameron LNG project. "We are pleased to be bringing this critical new energy facility to southwestern Louisiana and to be contributing to the economic vitality of this region."

Sempra LNG oversees LNG project development. Sempra Energy, based in San Diego, is a Fortune 500 energy services holding company with 2005 revenues of \$11.7 billion. The Sempra Energy companies' 14,000 employees serve more than 29 million consumers in the United States, Europe, Canada, Mexico, South America and Asia.



SHRIMP BOATS SIT at dock in Cameron, unable to harvest the abundance of brown shrimp moving to the Gulf due to the oil spill closure of Calcasieu Lake. (Photo by Cyndi Sellers.)

Shrimping affected by Citgo oil spill

By CYNDI SELLERS

A major oil spill originating at the Citgo refinery in Lake Charles last week is now affecting Cameron Parish. According to Clifton Hebert, Director of the Office of Emergency Preparedness, the oil reaching the lower part of the Calcasieu River is mostly sheen, which passes under the containment booms, and a few pockets of heavier material.

Three million gallons of oil were released from the waste oil storage tanks at Citgo. Of that amount, 1 million gallons were on refinery land, 1.25 million gallons were contained in the Indian Marais containment basin owned by Citgo, and 750 thousand gallons made it into the Calcasieu River.

The cause of the accident is still under investigation, but Hebert says the heavy rain last Monday is believed to be partly responsible for the failure of the tanks.

Hebert says "Citgo has been very pro-active" in clean-up efforts. The Cameron EOC became involved on Saturday morning, before the oil reached Cameron. Hebert said he told the Calcasieu office that "we have contractors and manpower, but we need booms." The equipment was immediately dispatched.

In all, 810 contractors involving 90 boats and over 100 people are working day and night to contain and remove the oil. Hebert says they are making "real good headway."

He reports that the product in the water is a mixture of heavy, mid-weight, and light crude which has been through the first processing at the refinery. The resulting product still produces fumes which can cause nausea and discomfort to anyone near them. For this reason, and to reduce disturbance to the water, recreational fishing has been suspended for the

entire Calcasieu estuary.

Large commercial traffic on the ship channel has been at a standstill since the spill occurred, except that on Tuesday an LNG ship was allowed to travel to the Gulf as a test, to see if the ship's wake would overly disturb the oil along the shore. The Intracoastal Waterway had been closed to traffic, but has now been opened intermittently to east-west barge traffic only. That situation is evaluated regularly.

Sunday night the oil sheen and some clumps of heavier oil began to be seen south of marker 56, at the Old River in Cameron. Hebert says this material is probably some that entered the river before the containment started or sheen that leaked under the booms.

As a precaution, 5000 feet of curtain boom and 5000 feet of absorbent booms are being installed along the

Cont. on pg. 5

Grand Lake High gets \$10,000 gift

(American Press)

Lake Charles-Boston and Grand Lake high schools will each receive a \$10,000 grant to replace books and equipment in their libraries.

The schools are among 32 first-round recipients of \$230,000 in grants sponsored by Dollar General Corp. in collaboration with the American Library Association.

The fund, called Beyond Words: the Dollar General School Library Relief Effort, awards grants to public school libraries that have suffered damage or seen their enrollments increase due to natural disasters or terrorism.

Lake Charles-Boston, which lost more than 19,000 books because of Hurricane Rita, will replace its entire library. Grand Lake High will replace most of its library collection, as well as several computers and overhead projectors that were ruined when water from the storm fell through the roof.

The library will buy additional books to accommodate the 607 students from South Cameron High and South Cameron and Cameron Elementary schools who began studying at Grand Lake after their schools were destroyed.

Frith reports on funds available to homeowners

State Rep. Mickey Frith, said this week that the fully funded Road Home Housing Program will provide eligible homeowners with a maximum of \$150,000 to repair, rebuild, take a buyout and relocate, or sell their homes.

Affected homeowners will be eligible for assistance in three tiers: an incentive grant to cover uninsured, uncompensated losses to the home and restore prestorm value; a hazard mitigation grant, whenever the home can be repaired or rebuilt with cost-effective mitigation measures; and, where a homeowner cannot secure conventional financing, an affordable incentive loan, structured within the homeowner's financial means, for any gap between the damaged home's pre-storm value and allowed repair/rebuilding cost.

Already, 90,000 homeowners have registered, but there

are still an estimated 40,000 affected homeowners who have not.

Cont. on pg. 5



Rep. Mickey Frith

The Cameron Pilot will be closed Tuesday, July 4th.

Badon boys qualify for national event

Dustin and Austin Badon of Johnson Bayou both have qualified for the Grand National Championship Motocross to be held in Ponca City, Okla., July 23-29.

Dustin, age 15, and Austin, age 12, have been in motocross competition for 1 1/2 years. Their parents are Rodney and Stacey Badon.

Meeting reset

The July meeting of the Cameron Parish Police Jury has been moved to Monday, July 10 due to the Fourth of July holiday.

Food pkgs. available

Cameron Parish residents have been invited to participate in a program that makes food products available at discounted prices.

The program, Angel Food Ministries, offers food packages worth \$55 to \$80 for \$26.25 and is administered by the Maplewood Church of Christ.

The packages are designed to feed a family of four for a week and includes a variety of meats, rice, beans, corn eggs, peanut butter, dessert, etc.

There are no income restrictions and everyone is welcome to participate.

For more information contact the church at 625-5739.

Assessment available now

The Corps of Engineers has advised that an environmental assessment of a marsh creation disposal area in the Sabine Refuge is now available for review.

The proposed action would remove shoal material from the Calcasieu River and Pass, Mile 5 to Mile 14, with a hydraulic pipeline dredge and place the dredged material in the Refuge in a manner conducive to wetlands development.

About 4 million cubic yards of material is removed every two years during maintenance dredging and is normally placed in upland disposal sites.



WORK HAS BEGUN on cleaning out the Monkey Island ferry landings. Demolition and cleanup of storm debris is set to begin on the island this week. (Photo by Cyndi Sellers.)

Monkey Island cleanup to cost \$1.2 million, jury told

By CYNDI SELLERS

The good news for the Cameron Parish Police Jury is that the hurricane clean-up effort by the Army Corps of Engineers is nearly complete; the bad news is that it won't be finished by the June 30 deadline for 100% reimbursement by FEMA.

The Jury learned Monday night that the clean-up of Holly Beach is over one fourth finished, with efforts this week being concentrated on and near the beach to get it ready for expected July 4 crowds.

The long-delayed clean-up of Monkey Island is set to begin this week. Logistics have been a problem, since the ferry to the island was damaged during the storm and is not slated to be replaced. The COE plans to move equipment to the island by barge and proceed with debris removal and demolition as in all the other areas.

Vegetative and wooden

debris will be burned on the island and the ashes and other debris will be transferred out by barge and taken to the regular dump site.

Corps representatives said the Citgo Oil spill has slowed the project this week, and some ammunition issues had to be resolved, but it is finally ready to begin. Project time is estimated to be 24 days.

The total contract cost of the Monkey Island clean-up is \$1.2 million. Whatever part of that cost is incurred after June 30 will be reimbursed by FEMA at 90%. The Police Jury will be responsible for the remaining 10%, which has jurors worried.

The Holly Beach project is expected to go nearly three weeks over the deadline, and right of way debris removal will extend beyond the deadline as well. Any projects that continue past Aug. 31 become 100% the parish's responsibility.

Jurors hope the Louisiana Recovery Authority will pick

up the extra 10%, but that commitment has not yet been made. Adding to the financial worry is the expected spike in garbage collection costs when the final pass is complete and the cost of removing remaining debris falls on the parish.

Residents in areas where the final pass has not yet occurred, especially the Cameron area which will be last, are urged to move their storm related debris to the road immediately.

Parish dump sites are open for construction debris and other non-storm related trash. Parish residents enjoy free disposal of these materials, but some Calcasieu Parish and Texas contractors are reportedly taking advantage of this, trucking their waste into the parish to avoid paying fees in their areas. Cameron Parish will soon require that a parish ID be shown by anyone utilizing the parish dumps.

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BARBRA AND LORI LeBlanc of Cameron, Adrian Durham of Lake Charles, and Master Gardener Melinda Robinson of Lake Charles discuss the wagon of plants the LeBlancs purchased during the LSU AgCenter's Southwest Louisiana Garden Festival at Burton Coliseum on April 8.

Niblett's Bluff park reopens

Niblett's Bluff Park in Vinton reopened to the public for the first time since Hurricane Rita Thursday, June 15.

Their normal hours of operation will be 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. Camping sites, cabins and tent sites will be available.

For more information, call the park at 589-7117.

LSU Grads Johnson B rec & pool to reopen

Area Louisiana graduates were among the 3,164 students who received degrees during LSU's 259th commencement exercises.

Area students recognized and their colleges: Master's degrees, E.J. Ourso College of Business, Joshua Alden Primeaux of Creole; College of Arts and Sciences, Shannon Leigh Day of Hackberry; College of Basic Sciences, Matthew Jennings Sanders of Creole; E. J. Ourso College of Business, Megan Elizabeth Norman of Grand Lake.

The Johnson Bayou recreation center will reopen Saturday, July 8, with a Splash Day celebration. Barbecue and music will be provided. The center will open from 2 to 8 p.m. The pool will be open from 3 to 7 p.m., with food being served at the pool from 3 to 5 p.m.

The recreation center's tentative hours are as follows: center hours: daily, 2-8 p.m.; pool hours: daily, 3-7 p.m.; concession: daily, 3-7 p.m.

The recreation center will be closed every Wednesday.

Thanks to the donation of a building by Enbridge, the center will be able to provide daily activities for residents in addition to the swimming pool.

The center would like to thank the following sponsors for their donations of time and equipment to help reopen the center.

Cameron Parish Police Jury, Johnson Bayou Parish Workers, Jeff Davis Electric, Water Board Employees, Larry Jinks, Targa, Benton Construction, Bayou Construction, Cheniere Energy, Enviro-Solutions, Americorp Volunteers, Lonny Barnhard, Pesson Plumbing and Heating, Recreation Center employees and the many volunteers from throughout the country.

It Seems Just Like Yesterday

By Keith Hambrick



Cameron Pilot, June 28, 1973

HACKBERRY WATER

The Hackberry water system will go into operation Sunday, July 1, it was announced by Jack Moore, president of Cameron Parish Water Works District No. 2.

All usable water taps will be charged \$3.50 per month.

SCOUTS GO TO CAMP

Seventeen scouts and two scout leaders, O'Neil Roberts and Wayne Kershaw, of Cameron Troop 210, attended Camp Edgewood June 17-23.

The Scouts are James Boudreaux, Donald Theriot, Jerry Jones, Oscar Reyes, Tim Colligan, Tim Alexander, Kevin Boudreaux, Clifton Hebert, Joe Dupont, Dirk Desonmier, Joe Higgins, R. J. Vinson, D. J. Ponville, Purlis Viator, Kent Benoit, Alan McCall, Brandon Hebert.

KNIGHTS ELECT OFFICERS

Lasan Primeaux was named Knight of the Month at the recent meeting of the J. P. Boudoin, Sr. Knights of Columbus Council in Creole.

The K. C. swimming pool was officially opened Saturday, June 16, under the direction of H. Pete Picou, Jr., with Donnie Nunez, Clarendine Vidrine, Mike McCall, and Mitchell Kelley, as guards.

Msgr. Bernard asked for assistance in the preparation of the celebration of Father Bruzas' Golden Anniversary to the priesthood Aug. 4.

Applications were read and accepted for Valmon Crochet, John W. Boudreaux, Kirby J. Gaspard, James Boudreaux, Jeffrey Boudreaux, and Aiken Nunez.

The following new officers were elected: Darrell East, grand knight; Wade Dupont, deputy grand knight; Huey Miller, chancellor; Lasan Primeaux, advocate; Roland Primeaux, warden; Don Broussard, recorder; Dalton Richard, treasurer; Larry Conner, inside guard; Dan Nunez, outside guard; and Robert V. Landry, trustee.

SHORTY THE PAINTER

By GENEVA GRIFFITH

A bower under the Spanish-moss filled centuries old liveoak trees in his yard is his studio and the wildlife that abounds in the marsh in front of his home serves as his subjects for his many paintings.

This is the world of "Shorty the Sign Painter," as everyone calls him.

Hubert McCauley was Shorty's Christian name, but few people know him by anything other than his nickname, which is the non-deplume he uses to sign all his paintings.

Shorty was born and reared in Mamou. He is of Acadian and Irish descent, but he personifies the jolly "Cajun." He loves life and the profession he has engaged in for 51 years, sign painting and the painting of metals and pictures. Shorty started out as an automobile mechanic, but was bored with this work.

He said that the first sign he ever saw was on his grandfather's hotel in Mamou. His grandfather's name was Paul Fuselier and a traveling sign painter painted the sign "hotel" for him. Shorty said he thought that was the most beautiful sight he had ever seen, because in those days there were no signs.

He said that he paints signs for a living and the pictures for his entertainment. He displays his work on easels out in front of his home and sells all

he can paint that travel the front ridge road, destined to the U. S. Highway 1 that "hugs the coast," from Canada to Mexico.

This self-taught sign painter and artist covers all of southwest Louisiana with his signs and paintings.

He has painted two outdoor murals, one on the front wall of Tarter's Grocery Store at the Oak Grove corner and the other on Lahayce's Rice Dryer in Mamou.

He has also painted around 20 baptism pictures for churches.

The next time you see a painting of a marsh scene, a flock of ducks, or a ring-necked goose, look real close in the right hand corner, it is probably signed simply "Shorty."

25TH ANNIVERSARY

Mr. and Mrs. Dalton Richard had a surprise 25th wedding anniversary party at the home of Whitney Baccigalopi in Grand Chenier.

To help celebrate this occasion were Mrs. John Richard, Mrs. T-Boy Boudreaux, Renee, Mary, Jill and David Boudreaux, Mrs. Joyce Sturlese, and John of Creole; Mrs. Dorothy Sturlese, Mr. and Mrs. Willard Tittle, Mr. and Mrs. Earnest Richard of Grand Chenier; Goldie and Melissa Richard of Cameron; Mr. and Mrs. Gooch Baccigalopi of Lafayette; and Mr. and Mrs. Robert Baccigalopi of Sulphur.

ROUNDABOUT THE PARISH

A meeting of the Cameron Parish Bi-Centennial Planning Commission will be held June 28 in the Police Jury

Dog found at Rockefeller

A reader from Abbeville called the Pilot to report that she had found a toy size dog near the Rockefeller Refuge in Grand Chenier and is trying to find its owner.

She said the dog had a collar and appeared to be a good breed.

Call her at 893-4488 if you think this may be your dog.

Annex, according to Mrs. Conway LeBleu, chairman. The Commission is composed of parish citizens selected to make plans for Cameron Parish's part in the National Bi-Centennial Celebration 1976.

Sterling Vaughn was presented the Raleigh Rutherford Memorial Trophy as the all-around high point youth exhibitor at the recent Cameron Parish Junior Horse Show.

Visual proof of what the Cameron Parish Guidance Center has done in 14 months of existence is mirrored in the faces of the patients who come to the center twice a month for therapy and treatment. The local center is an "Outreach Program" provided by the joint efforts of the Calcasieu Area Guidance Center and the Lake Charles Mental Health Center.

Kicking off the annual July 4th Southwest Louisiana fishing rodeo in Cameron will be the blessing of the fleet at 6 p.m. Thurs., June 28. Rev. Alcide Sonnier, pastor of Our Lady Star of the Sea Catholic Church in Cameron, will bless all boats passing in review in the Calcasieu River.



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PLAN NOW TO ATTEND...

3RD ANNUAL CAMERON SALTWATER FISHING FESTIVAL

Friday & Saturday - August 4 & 5, 2006

Due to the heavy damage to the Cameron Jetty Pier Pavilion Facility, this year's rodeo will be held at the . . . GRAND CHENIER PARK

The Fishing Festival will return to Cameron as soon as repairs are complete to the Jetty Pier Facility

Along with the Fishing Rodeo, there will be:

- Pageants • Food & Craft Booths
- Games For The Kids
- Live Bands Friday Night And Throughout The Day on Saturday

Interested Organizations or Groups who would like to set up booths are invited to attend an organizational meeting at the Cameron Courthouse Courtroom on Thursday, July 6th at 12:00 noon.

If you cannot attend this meeting and are interested in reserving a booth, call one of the following numbers for further information:

Carl Broussard at 775-5316
Penelope Richard at 905-8135 or
Yvonne Mhire at 775-7108

Can you or someone you know benefit by obtaining \$55 - \$80 worth of good, nutritious food for only \$26.25?

If so, then "Angel Food Ministries", one of the Outreach Programs of Maplewood Church of Christ is here to serve YOU!

104 Beverly Place - Sulphur, La 70663 Ph: 337-625-5739

This is a SAMPLE of the Angel Food menu selection which changes every month.

| | |
|--|---|
| (1) 3 lb Breaded Chicken Tenders | (1) 7.5 oz Mac & Cheese |
| (1) 1.5 lb Boneless Pork Roast | (1) 20 oz Shoe String Fries |
| (10) 4 oz Beef & Bean Burritos | (1) 1 lb Calif. Blend Frozen Vegetables |
| (1) 2 lb Breaded Chicken Breast Filets | (1) 1 lb Sugar Snap Peas |
| (1) 1 lb Ground Beef | (1) 1 lb Pinto Beans |
| (1) 2 lb I.Q.F. Chicken Breast | (1) 1 lb Carrots |
| (1) 17 oz Pepperoni Pizza | (1) 7.5 oz Biscuit Mix |
| (1) 12 oz Philly Steak Portions | (1) Dozen Eggs |
| | (1) Dessert Item |

For \$26.25 (tax included), you can order a food box designed to feed a family of four for a week. The food is not second-hand or out-of-date. Our ministry's main "mission" is SERVICE & OUTREACH through addressing financial and nutritional needs of the Sulphur and Cameron area communities. We also want you to know that the Church of Christ at Maplewood is a church body that cares; that we are led by Jesus Christ and his example; and that we can, through Christ, be a source of healing lives physically, emotionally, financially and most of all spiritually.

Children's program is offered

Cameron Parish children are invited to attend a children's program being held on Saturdays, July 8 and Aug. 12 at the Henning Cultural Center at 923 S. Ruth St. in Sulphur. The hours are 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The Brimstone Historical Society and Liberty Gas Storage are offering free "explore" arts dedicated to a different art form. For more information, call 527-0357.

In July, the event will focus on music (blues, cajun, gospel, local music, etc.), and in August the focus turns to performing art (improv, children's theatre, costumes, set design, etc.)

These days will be "hands on days" and the children will leave with something such as paintings, clay models, masks, costumes, songs, instruments, and much more. Each day of the program will also include food, beverages, skating pass from Skate City in Lake Charles, swim ticket from Sulphur Parks and Recreation Waterpark, and a t-shirt. These are all FREE to each child who pre-registers.

The program is open to children from the ages of three to fourteen years of age. Parents are welcome to stay, but however are required to stay with any child that is of the age of five or younger.

To register please stop by the Henning Cultural Center and pick up a registration form (one per a child) and either fill it out there or mail it back to the Henning Cultural Center as soon as possible before the event. On the day of the event you will be asked to check in and sign a code of conduct form as well.



Rural Caucus issues are passed by Legislature

By REP. MICKEY FRITH

The Louisiana Legislative Rural Caucus earmarked three issues of the utmost importance to rural communities at the beginning of the recently concluded legislative session - additional funds for state highways, support of rural hospital funding, and the emergency infrastructure fund - and then went to work to ensure their approval.

In addition to working to pass the corresponding legislation, the group met with Governor Kathleen Blanco and members of her staff, including Commissioner of Administration Jerry Luke LeBlanc and Suzie Elkins of the Office of Community Development, to explain the importance of the issues to the rural community and to seek their support.

At the conclusion of the session, it was evident that the Caucus had been successful.

House Bill 728, which establishes a special fund in the state treasury known as the State Highway Improvement Fund, passed both the House and the Senate and now awaits the governor's signature. Money in the fund, which will come from truck and trailer registration license fees and taxes phased in over four years, will be used to improve state highways that are not eligible for federal matching funds. Over a five year period, \$108.3 million will be set aside for state roads.

The second issue of importance, rural hospital funding, was also successful. The legislature approved full funding for rural hospitals and their rural health clinics for uncompensated care cost (UCC).

Also successful, was the request for assistance, including grant money, for economic development in the rural areas. The Office of

Community Development is currently working to develop a Local Government Assistance Program administered by the Division of Administration, Office of Community Development, Disaster Recovery Unit.

This program will assist units of local governments with funding for needed infrastructure and long-term capital improvements in rural areas. Federal funds are available through the USDA and the Community Development Block Grant programs to also assist in these efforts. These funds will help fill the gaps where there are no federal funds available to assist a unit of local government with an identified high priority need. Priority will be given to those projects which identify and resolve basic human health and safety needs.

For additional information, please contact Rep. Frith at 893-5035.

Chenier KCs say thank you

The Evans P. Mhire KC Council of Grand Chenier wishes to thank everyone for their generosity at the KC Fund Raiser Dinner and Activity Day last Sunday, June 18.

Winners for the raffle include: Quilt - Rose Manuel, Air Humidifier - Jenna Duddleston, Buffet Set - Arron Pinch, Crystal Bowl - D. Vincent, Round Grape Vine Box - Clodia Booth, Picture - Elora Montie, Wooden Cross - Dora Pinch, Clock - Michelle Broussard, Basket of Bath Assortments - Red Leonards, Alligator Scraper - Grant Leonards.

Amer. Kids thanked

Dear Editor:

A note of appreciation I want to thank the "Americorp Kids" who worked long, hard hours at mom's place. They are special people from all over the country.

The ones with me were from Maine, New Jersey, Wisconsin, Delaware, the Carolinas, and other places.

I didn't get all of their names, but I remember a few like: Dan, David, Rachel, Ryan, and Katie - one had a migraine headache, but she helped load and unload roofing material, before going back to camp to rest.

I also had great help from a local gal, Betty LaBove.

What a crew of good hearts.

They expressed how they felt about Julie B. "What a great lady."

Merci Beau Coup to all. /s/Betty Walters New Iberia

U.S. Government Auto Auctions

If you're in the market for a car, Uncle Sam's got a deal for you. Summer is a busy season for government car auctions, where you can find high-quality American-made vehicles from the government fleet at reasonable prices.

Buying a car from your Uncle Sam is easy with "U.S. Government Auto Auctions," a free brochure from the U.S. General Services Administration. Find out where auctions are located and the five easy steps to follow to buy the pre-owned vehicle you've always wanted.

For your free copy, send your name and address to the Federal Citizen Information Center, Dept. 577N, Pueblo,

State Fair exhibition information

The Cameron Parish 4-H Club office has announced the possession dates for animals which parish 4-Hers plan to show at the Louisiana State Fair in Shreveport as follows:

*Market steers, market lambs, and market goats -- possession date - July 1, 2006

*Commercial heifers -- possession date - July 1, 2006

*Market hogs -- possession date - Aug. 1, 2006

*Market steers, market lambs, market goats, and market swine are required to be DNA tested along with an ear tag. There is not a limit to the number an exhibitor can validate, however an exhibitor will be permitted to enter and exhibit a maximum of (3) market steer, (5) market lambs, (5) market goats, (3) market swine, and (3) commercial heifers.

*Commercial heifers will not be required to DNA test.

*Market hogs will be validated in August.

*Entry deadline will be Sept. 7, 2006; late entries will be accepted Sept. 8 thru midnight Sept. 21 at double the regular entry fee.

The 2006 validation schedule for market steers, market lambs, market goats, and commercial heifers also was announced with one set at Iowa on July 14 from 1 to 7 p.m. at the Iowa High School Ag Barn.

If you have any questions about the new validation rules call the Cameron 4-H office at 562-8900.

Hackberry News

By GRACE WELCH

CHURCH NEWS

The Diocese of Lake Charles has advised that they have colorful books that are broken down to each parish and the history of the parish.

If you are interested please contact the church office at 762-3365. The price is \$15.

The church office of St. Peters Catholic Church will be closed on Tuesday, July 4 for Independence Day.

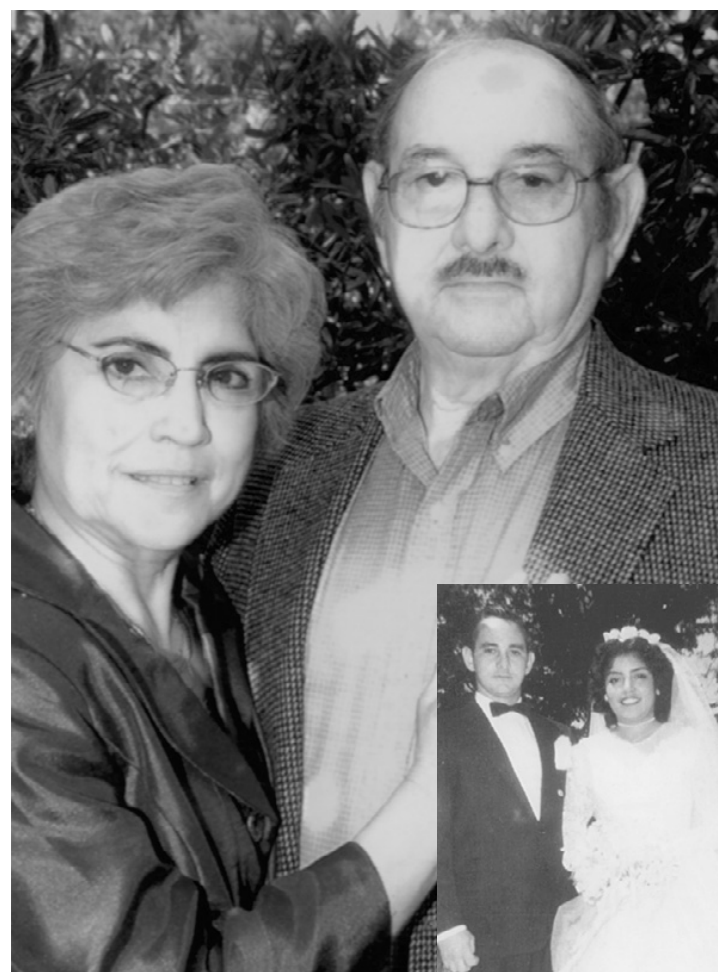
LAKE VERNON

Some of the girls who graduated in 1973 got together in Lake Vernon for the weekend.

They met at the camp of Dianna and Pat Jernigan. Those who met were Dianna Vincent Jernigan, Houston, Tex, Cheryl Domingue Linville, Seabrook, Tex, Sandy Duhon Schexnider, Sulphur, Linda Constance Pickett, Carylss, Mary (Coot) Welch McInnis, Hackberry, Sheilah Labauve Soirez, Moss Bluff and Lynette Barras Soileau of Lake Charles.

To each and all, please have a safe and happy 4th of July.

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MR. AND MRS. Waldon L. Doxey of Lake Charles will celebrate 50 years of marriage with family and friends on Saturday, July 1 at St. Henry's Catholic Church and Fellowship Hall at 2 p.m. Children of the couple are Mr. and Mrs. Lance (Tammy) Doxey, Mr. and Mrs. Rusty (Milissa) Martin, and Jana Culpepper, all of Lake Charles, and Mr. and Mrs. Charles (Tressa) Hebert of Westlake. The couple was married on June 23, 1956 in Our Lady Star of the Sea Catholic Church in Cameron and have six grandchildren.

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CATHOLIC CALENDAR.

A page devoted to local Catholic interests

June 29, 2006

Vol. 32, No. 14

Internet Address: <http://lcdiocese.org>

Journey with Diocese takes many turns for Sandy Gay

LAKE CHARLES - Sandy Gay has worked for the interests of the people of the Diocese of Lake Charles in a variety of roles for longer than there has been a Diocese of Lake Charles. Now she has taken on a challenge not unlike the other ministries she has headed in her more than 26 years of service at the diocesan level.

Gay, who most recently directed the Secretariat for Christian Formation of the Diocese, was appointed to start up the newly created Office of Disaster Relief and Recovery by the Rev. Msgr. Harry D. Greig, Diocesan Administrator. Her office will be in the Catholic Service Center, now housed at 1112 Bilbo Street in downtown Lake Charles.

Following the aftermath of Hurricane Rita, Msgr. Greig asked Gay to spearhead the effort to determine what relief people needed and how the Diocese and other entities were going to be able help those in need.

"When I returned Msgr. Greig asked me to learn as much as I could about what was going on," Gay said. "I began visiting Cameron and Hackberry on a regular basis. What a privilege that was, to be able to see the spirit of the people and to be able to walk with them in what was a devastating experience."

Now more than nine months after Hurricane Rita came ashore, this new office has come out of that learning experience and is taking shape.

"It is certainly in direct response to the devastation after Hurricane Rita, which pointed out to us that we were not prepared or at least organized in a way to respond quickly to a disaster," Gay said. "Certainly Catholics have

been part of everything that's going on but as an organized visible organization we weren't ready for this."

This new office is made possible by a grant from Catholic Charities USA, which also gave the Diocese funds to provide direct assistance to people in need following the devastation.

"We received a three-year grant from Catholic Charities that would finance an office that specifically would get us ready for a disaster. To help us find our place in first response, to help us learn how to work for relief, and to help us learn how to work for recovery."

"Part of my responsibility will be to collaborate with all state and local agencies, whether they are governmental or service oriented, so we have one united approach to all of these issues in the Imperial Calcasieu area. Additionally I will be responsible for networking with and collaborating with the other Dioceses of the State, so we can be ready to assist each other, depending on where a disaster hits."

As everyone found out with Hurricane Rita having a plan that you hopefully will never have to implement is better than not having a plan in an emergency.

"The value of that is not only being prepared for an emergency, it is better handling life as we know it," Gay said. "We didn't realize how many people we were not serving until we had this emergency. Hopefully, we will all do our jobs better because we are more focused on all the people and their needs."

Gay admits that she is on a "tremendous learning curve."

One thing that will help her in this regard is



Sandy Gay working the phones

the hiring of Greg Patin, formerly of the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston, by Louisiana's Bishops to coordinate disaster plans among the seven Dioceses.

"He has a great deal of experience and will be an incredible person for me as I learn," Gay said. A three-year grant from Catholic Charities also made it possible for the Louisiana Catholic Conference to hire Patin, who is based in Baton Rouge.

Even nine months after Rita's landfall, help continues to be needed by some people. Long term assistance is also available, according to Gay.

"We are still giving some direct aid to people and now we have the availability of case management. This is so that when we find a situation where it is really clear that the people are in great need we can refer them to case management, so that someone stays with them for months until they get their lives back."

The same Catholic Charities grant that

funded the startup of the diocesan office is also providing funding for the case management for those who are in need of long term assistance.

One of the things Gay has noted in her work is how difficult it is for some people to admit they need the help.

"We have people right now for whom this is the first time they weren't able to handle their own business," she said. "This isn't generations of people who couldn't handle their business, these are people who were making it. They just don't know where to go. It was a devastation that we really had not anticipated. So, how do we help them to help themselves?"

"We have to talk some people into help, she continued. "Give it to somebody who needs it has become a refrain."

Making the work of the Church known in this situation as well as in any disaster is also a part of her job.

"One of the things is how we become visible," she said. "The Diocese of Houma-Thibodaux has established what they call a Matthew 25 Group. They have green t-shirts with 'Matthew 25' and 'Diocese of Houma-Thibodaux' on them so that any time they are of service they are wearing those shirts."

"We are looking at adopting that statewide, putting our own diocese name but the same shirt and the same logo, like the Red Cross," she continued. "You will be able to recognize that the Catholic presence is here. It is not about patting ourselves on the back, it is about giving visible support, which for me is Evangelization, showing that the Church cares."

Gay sees her new position as a "rare opportunity."

"To be able to do this in the last years of my ministry, to be able to get a new perspective, I don't know very many people that get this chance," she said. "I have a new challenge that was given to me and I am very grateful for it. I think I will be a better person for it."



A dozen couples from across southern Louisiana attended the recent session that trained them to do In-Home Marriage Preparation in their churches. Jan and Lloyd Tate of New Orleans were the presenters.

LCC applauds Gov. Blanco for signing conditional ban on abortion

BATON ROUGE - The Louisiana Catholic Conference applauded Gov. Blanco for signing into law a conditional ban on all abortions in Louisiana except to save the life of the mother. The law, approved overwhelmingly by the Louisiana Legislature in its general session that concluded June 19, would go into effect only if the U.S. Supreme Court overturns its 1973 Roe v. Wade decision that permitted abortion on demand.

Although Gov. Blanco said she wished the bill had included exceptions that would have allowed for abortions in cases of rape or incest - amendments that lawmakers soundly defeated - she signed the bill because of the broad-based support it received in both chambers and because it was consistent with her personal views on abortion.

"There was some concern that she might allow it to become law without her signature, and we know there was some internal debate about that," said Daniel Loar, executive director of the Louisiana Catholic Conference, the public policy arm of the state's seven Catholic bishops. "We're very happy the governor did sign the law."

Loar said some observers had questioned the need to pass the law now. But he explained that if Roe v. Wade should be overturned in the middle of 2008, it would leave Louisiana without an enforceable abortion law.

"The Louisiana law which passed in 1991 has been blocked by the courts, and we would have no law on the books," Loar said. "We would have to pass another law. In the interim, another 11,000 babies would be aborted."

Loar said the "trigger clause" - the law would go into effect only if Roe v. Wade is overturned - has the added benefit of not allowing abor-

tion advocates to challenge the law in court.

"This way we're not putting money into the pockets of abortion lawyers," Loar said. "The law would go into place immediately."

Loar said he believed Louisiana is the first state to pass an abortion law that would be triggered by the overturning of Roe v. Wade. South Dakota has a law banning all abortions except to save the life of the mother, and the constitutionality of that law is expected to wind up being decided by the Supreme Court.

"Hopefully the composition of the court will be changed by then," Loar said.

In other matters, legislators concluded a second year of intense debate without passing any bills to regulate or outlaw cloning. Four study committees have been authorized to hold hearings over the next several months to further discuss the issue.

"After two very hard-fought years, basically the legislators told both sides that they don't want to fight this issue and they wanted to take a truce for the year," Loar said. "That's why you have these study committees."

Loar said the House Health and Welfare Committee would study the issue of the sale of human embryos. A special House committee will investigate regenerative cellular therapy and technologies such as stem cell research and somatic cell nuclear transfer. Loar said the LCC would provide testimony at all hearings.

Another Senate study committee will look into advanced health care directives and "do not resuscitate" bracelets that have been proposed by Senate president Don Hines, D-Bunkie.

"I'll be working with the Catholic Hospital Association making sure the Catholic per-

spective is reinforced," Loar said.

LCC objections helped kill a "sleeper" bill that would have allowed a financial institution to charge up to 300 percent annual interest on loans of up to \$3,000 in which financially strapped persons put up their cars as collateral.

"Poor people would have lost their cars, which is their means of making money, under this predatory loan practice," Loar said. "We and other church groups helped kill the bill."

The LCC supported a \$1 an hour increase in the minimum wage for Louisiana residents, but the bill got only 41 of the 53 votes it needed in the House for passage.

Charitable pharmacies such as those run by the Society of St. Vincent de Paul were spared from a bill that would have given preference to prisons and state mental institutions to receive excess Medicaid prescription drugs for free. The LCC argued that prisons and mental institutions already are mandated to get those drugs through the Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals, "so it would have crimped the supply for the working poor. We got that changed so that the charitable pharmacies get first shot."

Another bill was amended to allow charitable pharmacies to opt out of accepting contraceptives if it conflicts with their religious beliefs.

The next legislative session will be a two-month fiscal session starting April 30, 2007. Also on the horizon are the September 2007 elections. Loar said about half of all state lawmakers will be subject to term limits (a maximum of 12 years of service). He expects some House members to seek Senate seats, "but about half of the House members will be brand new" after the 2007 races.

In Home Marriage Prep training held in Diocese

LAKE CHARLES - Engaged couples have, for many years, received some form of preparation for marriage in the Catholic Church. In years past there were meetings with clergy, with large groups of like minded couples as well as weekend experiences and small groups of couples meeting in the home.

On Saturday, June 17, a dozen couples met to receive training in the "in home" method of marriage preparation at Tabor Retreat Center of Saint Charles Center in Moss Bluff. The all-day training session was sponsored by the Office of Family Life Ministry of the Diocese of Lake Charles, headed by Kathy Owen.

The trainers for the day, Jan and Lloyd Tate of New Orleans, have been working with to-be-married couples for nearly 30 years, according to

Owen. "They said they have done every sort of marriage prep work and that this type was the best they had found," Owen said. "These trained mentors will go back to their parishes and help engaged couples in preparing for the Sacrament of Matrimony."

Besides Owen, the Rev. Rommel Tollentino, associate pastor of Our Lady Queen of Heaven Church, was also present.

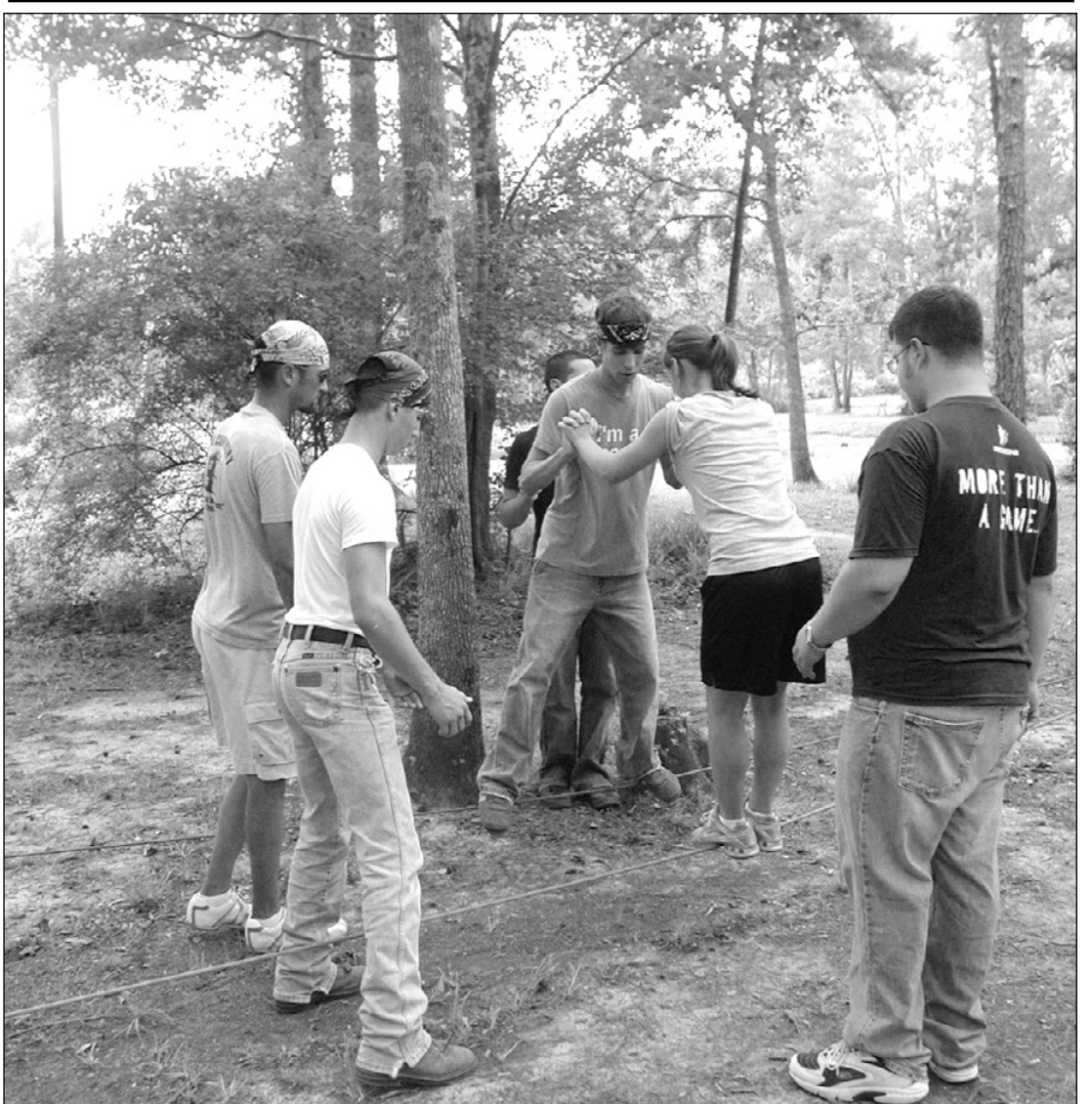
Unlike large group meetings, the In Home Marriage Preparation program is designed to have one mentoring couple work with one engaged couple at a time in the confines of the home. "There are six meetings with the couples," Owen said. "These meetings take place over a 12-week period giving time between the sessions. The engaged couple

are given assignments and homework to do between the sessions."

The two-hour sessions are broken down into the following topics: Family of Origin; Expectation of Marriage; Communication and Conflict Resolution, Sex and Sexuality, Moral Decision-making and Natural Family Planning and The Sacrament of Matrimony, according to Owen.

Many see this format as the best way to encourage a spirit of trust that develops between the two couples. The engaged couple, once they are married, can then come back to their mentors when problems arise.

If any married couple is interested in becoming involved with the In-Home Preparation program as couple-mentors, they should call Kathy Owen at 337-439-7426, Ext.23.



Joshua Thibodeaux of Our Lady Queen of Heaven Church and Haydee Courville of St. Philip Neri Church in Kinder help each other overcome the perils of one section of the "ropes course" during activities of the Advanced Christian Leadership Institute. Standing by to assist the pair should they run into trouble are counselors, from left, Lance Clifton, Zack Hamilton and Russ Crawford. Standing behind Thibodeaux is Chris Ackoury. Fifty-six Catholic youth and 28 adult staff took part in programs of the Christian Leadership Institute and the Advanced Christian Leadership Institute at the Emory Wallace Retreat Center near Bundick Lake recently. The annual summer program, sponsored by the Youth Ministry Office of the Diocese of Lake Charles, has provided summertime leadership training for the Catholic youth of the Diocese since 1986.



DEPUTY ERIC DINGER, of the Cameron Parish Sheriff's Office Marine Division, is one of several officers involved with enforcing the boating ban caused by the Citgo oil spill. (Photo by Cyndi Sellers.)

20 miles of ship channel remains closed by spill

Approximately 20 miles of the Calcasieu Ship Channel remain closed due to the spread of oil from a spill early this week at the CITGO Lake Charles Manufacturing Complex Tuesday. The Coast Guard has established a safety zone in this area and is enforcing it with patrol boats.

The safety zone stretches from light 116, north of the Interstate 210 bridge, to light 56, south of Calcasieu "Big" Lake. Prien Lake and Moss Lake also remain closed. For additional information about waterway safety zones please call the Public Information Desk at 708-8877 or 8876.

An estimated 8,306 barrels of oily water were removed from the river, and another 29,020 barrels were removed from the Indian Marais, as of Wednesday.

More than 1000 response personnel are working around the clock to safely remove the oil.

More than 80,000 feet of boom is deployed.

26 skimmers, 31 vacuum trucks, 17 barges and 26 boats are cleaning the spill.

There are 30 vessels in the safety zone and 11 waiting to enter the port, as of Wednesday.

Any boater who comes across an animal affected by the spill should contact the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service at 1-800-213-5540. Members of the public should not attempt to capture the animal under any circumstances, but try and identify it and report its location.

CITGO has established a toll-free claims number for the incident. Affected individuals may call 1-800-213-5540 for more information. A separate number has been established for claims related to exterior boat cleaning. That number is 708-7177.

The cause of the spill remains under investigation.

OIL SPILL

Cont. from Pg. 1

south and east side of Calcasieu Lake, barricading smaller tributaries in an effort to protect them from contamination. A skimmer barge is working to catch everything north of Hackberry.

The spill came at a really bad time for local shrimpers, crabbers, and recreational fishing guide services. Many were just beginning to catch up after the devastation of Hurricane Rita, and demand for their products and services were on the increase. The spill has closed the entire Calcasieu Lake and most of the ship channel to all boat traffic.

The inland brown shrimp season was nearing its peak, with about two weeks to go. After that season closes, it will be another month before the white shrimp season begins, and shrimpers will make no money during that time to pay their bills.

Crabbers are also shut off from their source of income, and the recreational fishing season is in full force, with a major tournament coming up.

In spite of this hardship, Coast Guard personnel who set up a supply post as ASCO dock in Cameron were amazed at the calm attitude of most area people. They expected major national news media and protestors, and haven't seen them. It seems that after the shock of Hurricane Rita, this is just another in a series of problems to be overcome or lived with.

In an effort to help the local economy, the Coast Guard has moved its supply contracts for the Cameron operation to local suppliers.

REP. FRITH

Cont. from Pg. 1

Rep. Frith said, "If you have already applied, be patient for a little while longer. It is going to take time to review all of the applications and the final installment of federal assistance to Louisiana was just approved by Congress and President Bush."

"You can apply online by going to the Road Home Web site at: <http://www.doa.la.gov/cdbg/droadhome.htm> or speak to a representative by phone at 1-888-ROAD-2-LA. The TTY phone number is 1-800-566-4224," Rep. Frith said.

"Registration with The Road Home is just the first step. This is actually a "pre-registration" rather than an actual application for grants. After applying, registrants will be contacted with information regarding the next step of the process," Rep. Frith said.

"The Road Home website contains all of the details and answers frequently-asked questions about the Road Home plan. Of course, you can call my office and we will assist homeowners with their questions. My office number in Abbeville is (337) 893-5035. On Wednesdays in Kaplan, call (337) 643-2381. On Fridays, till noon, I can be reached in Gueydan at (337) 536-5185."

Rep. Frith added, "I am very concerned that more people whose homes have been damaged by Hurricane Rita have not yet applied for Road Home money. If you haven't applied yet, you need to make the call."

Rep. Frith represents Cameron Parish in the Legislature.



THE BUSY OLD RIVER, north of the Cameron Ferry, was almost closed this week as escaping remnants of the Citgo oil spill reached the area. (Photo by Cyndi Sellers.)

Oil reserve sites to be expanded

Two locations in South Louisiana are being considered by the federal government as possible expansion sites for the strategic petroleum reserve storage sites that hold petroleum for use in case of supply interruptions.

The sites are located near Clovelly in Lafourche Parish and Chacahoula near the Lafourche-Terrebonne line.

If selected, then these sites would join two in Louisiana, West Hackberry and Bayou Choctaw, and the two sites in Texas, Big Hill and Bryan Mound. The Hackberry site has been in use for many years and is expected to be expanded.

Under the 2005 energy law, the Department of Energy has been ordered to increase the amount of oil in the Strategic Petroleum Reserves to 1 billion barrels. That's about 37 percent more than the reserve can currently hold.

Oil is stored underground in salt domes by pumping fresh surface water into the dome to create a cavern. The process converts the fresh water into brine - water with a salt concentration greater than sea water. After the contaminants are removed, the brine either will be discharged in the Gulf of Mexico or injected into deep, non-drinkable aquifers, depending on the site chosen.

In addition to new facilities, federal officials also plan to expand the present sites, including Hackberry.

A decision is expected in late September following public hearings.



God Bless America!

POLICE JURY. . .Cont. from Page 1

Removal of damaged automobiles has been hampering the effort in Holly Beach, according to the COE representatives. The Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality contractor expects to begin removing the first vehicles on June 28.

Only vehicles on the right of way will be removed, and the COE cannot push them. However, if the owners can get the wrecks to the road, they will be collected.

Telephone lines and water lines which are buried from three inches to three feet deep in the sand have further slowed the clean-up at Holly Beach, but so far none have been cut.

HOT ISSUES

Two burning issues for the parish and the public were aired at the meeting: drainage and mosquitos. The parish will advertise for bids for plastic culverts to replace the ones damaged by the storm or by various contractors involved in recovery. Ditch cleaning is about to begin, according to Tina Horn, Parish Administrator.

The poor or non-existent drainage being experienced in many areas is contributing to the spike in the mosquito population in the parish. Salt in the marshes and the large amount of water dumped into previously dry areas by last

week's rain are the major cause.

At issue for many residents is the apparent lack of spraying. Several citizens complained that calls to the Mosquito Control office were not answered. One member of the Mosquito Control Board, Raymond Thibeau, reported that he was not able to get answers to his questions either.

A hearing will be held by the Board on July 27 to consider whether to roll up its tax millage from 9.59 to 10. The Mosquito Abatement District is largely autonomous, controlling its own funds and setting its own millage rate, within the amount voted by the public. Board members are appointed by the Police Jury, but cannot be removed before their terms expire except for just cause, according to District Attorney Cecil Sanner.

DATE CHANGED

Due to the fourth of July holiday, the Police Jury meeting has been scheduled for July 10.



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ATTENTION FLOOD VICTIMS

If your home or business flooded as a result of Hurricane Rita and you did not have flood insurance, you may have a claim for money damages resulting from your flood loss. For more information, contact Cater & Willis for a free evaluation of your property. No fee unless we collect for you.

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Dig safely law amendment

The Louisiana Underground Utilities and Facilities Damage Prevention Law ("dig-safely law") has been amended to extend the notification period to 96 hours in 12 parishes affected by hurricanes Katrina and Rita. The extension gives operators of underground facilities more time to mark cables and pipelines prior to excavation and demolition.

The new 96-hour requirement in House Bill 1265 applies to Cameron and Calcasieu parishes.

Louisiana One Call reminds all excavators and demolishers to work safely. Call 800-272-3020 before you begin work. Wait 96 hours in the 12 parishes named in the amendment (48 hours elsewhere) for the facilities to be marked.

The service is free and state law requires excavators to use it before they dig. More information and safety tips are available at www.laonecall.com/katrina.

Got government-related questions?
FIRSTGOV.gov
1-800-FED-INFO

Shrimpers deadline is July 31

Shrimpers, processors, dock owners and others involved in the shrimping industry have until July 31 to apply for a share of the fines imposed on six foreign countries penalized for dumping shrimp into the U.S. market at excessively low prices.

Last January, federal trade officials ruled that China, Ecuador, India, Thailand, Vietnam, and Brazil had illegally dumped shrimp into the U.S. market.

Payments from the trade action are available only to shrimpers, processors and others who sent public letters of support for the antidumping petition or filled out an International Trade Commission questionnaire and marked "public support."

Those eligible can share in the tariff money under a federal provision known as the Byrd Amendment, but only if they remain in business.

If payments go out this year, they would be the first since the federal government ruled in favor of domestic shrimp producers, said John Williams, executive director of the Southern Shrimp Alliance.



Cameron Outdoors

By LOSTON MCEVERS



SUMMER HAS ARRIVED

The Big Bass Splash was held on Toledo Bend this past weekend. Travis Broussard and I entered, as well as Garner Nunez and Jimmy Roberts. Fishing was tough, but we really enjoyed time spent at Garner's camp.

This type of tournament is sort of a gambling type thing. You pay entry fees, then there's the bonus card, at extra cost, then there's the t-shirt, also at extra cost. However, you do get a free cap, box of hooks, and plenty of small reading material, but it's advertisement to get you to buy something. Anyway, tournament hours are from 5 a.m. to 3 p.m.; headquarters are at Cypress Bend Park Marina. Great packages like a Triton Bass Boat rigged out and a Hummer for the largest overall big bass, then a truck for second largest, a travel trailer, a Bad Boy Buggy, and an ATV.

There are 12 places paid every hour from \$200 to \$1000. We did catch a few bass, but I had a 3 pounder that could win a Triton Bass Boat rig. However, I caught this bass at 6:45 a.m., Sunday, and I decided to wait and weigh it in at the 9 to 10 a.m. weigh-in.

I weighed the bass, and the scales said 3.16, so I didn't have that exact three pound weight, but it did enter in the hourly weight. I was sitting in the number four chair feeling good, however, the last three minutes saw eight anglers move chairs, me ending up 12th, small money but I felt good. I had at least placed. The lady asked me what time I caught my fish and I told still feeling good, until she asked why I waited. If I had come an hour before, then I would have taken first place and \$1000; then I didn't feel so good.

Fishing was tough, weather was hot, and a bad thunderstorm Friday evening brought everyone back to the camp.

I left Sunday at noon, but the leaderboard had a bass over 12 pounds and over eight pounds. There also was an 8.11 pounder that the angler got disqualified because he didn't stay in his chair until the judges were through.

S.T.A.R. LEADERS

The CCA's S.T.A.R. tournament leaders for our western divisions are 6.90 speckle trout and a 3.8 flounder. In the black drum division, Jared Verrett had a 48.60 and local angler Quentin LeBory is in second place with a 44.40, as well as a 39.45 by Quentin.

Chris Vallette of Sulphur is still the only angler to bring in a tagged redfish.

OUTDOOR WRITERS

I had a chance to get on a few talks at the National Outdoor Writer's Association

time spent in Lake Charles. Big topics were all the damages to local marshes and fisheries. Mr. Hall from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife service told the group that they can play a role to help Louisiana's coastal parishes recover from last year's two hurricanes. They need to tell their story. As he said, hunters are responsible for keeping up conservation. They get things done by getting Congress to regulate seasons and other issues.

Then there's the D.U.'s biologist talk on the bird flu. Some of us locally talked about birds flying their migratory routes, but we didn't think of how bad it could be with our waterfowl and other birds. They claim there are close to 200 million infected wild birds. This is a precaution to all hunters that quail, doves, ducks, geese, coots, and snipes, just to name a few that could be infected. Keep your cleaning equipment clean, and don't handle any dead birds that you find. He also stated that the flu virus is harmless to dogs but harmful to pigs and cats.

Mr. Batts stated that if an outbreak of the bird flu should occur, then the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services doesn't have any plans to close hunting areas.

SNAPPER CHANGES

Offshore anglers should be sure to note the changes in snapper regulations. Both state and federal laws now specify that the minimum size for Vermillion snappers (beeliners) for both recreational and commercial harvesters will be increased from 10 to 11 inches. In addition, commercial fishermen will have an annual season from April 22 through May 31 of each year.

The National Marine Fisheries Service has declared Vermillion snapper to be over-fished, and the federal reef management plan includes measures to end the over-fishing of Vermillion snapper and to rebuild the spawning stock in 10 years.

Vermillion snappers are still part of a 20 fish per person aggregate bag limit for vermilion, lane, gray, triggerfish, almaco jack, goldface tilefish, blackline tilefish, anchor tilefish, and blueline tilefish. Note that no more than 10 vermilion snappers per person may be included in that bag limit.

RECORD

Florida angler Martin Arostequi boated a 385 pound lemon shark, flyrod fishing with a tippet that tested out at 13 pounds. According to the International Game Fish Association, it is the largest fish of any type ever to be taken with fly tackle.

Just a reminder. June 30 your fishing licenses expire.

Grand Lake/Cameron swim team wins events

The Grand Lake/Cameron Summer League Swim Team competed Saturday, June 24, 2006 against Country Club Acres and University teams at University Pool in Lake Charles.

Swimmers competed in age divisions in various events separated by boys and girls. The swimmers are awarded 1st through 6th place.

GL/C swimmers earned the following places: 100 yd Individual Medley, (15-19 yrs.) Tyler Pool, 1st, Zachary Theriot, 3rd, Jordan Poole, 4th;

25 yd Freestyle (6 & Under) Matthew Brasseaux, 2nd, Nate Pugh, 3rd, Morghan Dimas, 3rd; (7-8 yrs.) Zachary Brasseaux, 2nd, Tori Smith, 2nd, Hallie Boudreaux, 3rd, Marissa Dupont, 5th, (9-10 yrs.); Jarrett Nunez, 3rd, Jeffrey Racca, 4th;

50 yd Freestyle, (11-12 yrs.) Amaris Brown, 3rd, Emileigh Creel, 5th, Karissa Trahan, 6th; (13-14 yrs.) Tyler Tolbert, 1st, Jared Racca, 2nd, (15-19 yrs.) Tyler Pool, 1st, Zachary Theriot, 2nd, Dylan Jouett, 3rd, Ivan Harmon, 4th, Chance Savoie, 5th;

25 yd Breaststroke, (6 & U) Nate Pugh, 1st, Morghan Dimas, 2nd; (7-8 yrs.) Zachary Brasseaux, 3rd, Tori Smith, 2nd, Hallie Boudreaux, 3rd, Marissa Dupont, 6th; (9-10 yrs.) Jarrett Nunez, 3rd, Jeffrey Racca, 4th, Sheridan Smith, 5th;

50 yd Breaststroke (11-12

yrs.) Amaris Brown, 4th, (13-14 yrs.) Tyler Tolbert, 1st, Jared Racca, 2nd, (15-19 yrs.) Zachary Theriot, 1st, Chance Savoie, 3rd, Ivan Harmon, 4th;

25 yd Backstroke (7-8 yrs.) Zachary Brasseaux, 2nd, Marissa Dupont, 1st, Hallie Boudreaux, 2nd; (9-10 yrs.) Jarrett Nunez, 4th, Jeffrey Racca, 5th, Erica Williams, 4th, Sheridan Smith, 5th;

50 yd Backstroke (11-12 yrs.) Karissa Trahan, 1st, Amaris Brown, 2nd, Emileigh Creel, 4th; (13-14 yrs.) Jared Racca, 1st, Tyler Tolbert, 2nd, (15-19 yrs.) Dylan Jouett, 1st, Jordan Poole, 2nd, Ivan Harmon, 3rd;

50 yd Butterfly (15-19 yrs.) Tyler Pool, 1st, Jordan Poole, 2nd;

100 yd Medley Relay (9-10 yr) Back - Erica Williams, Breast - Jeffrey Racca, Fly - Jarrett Nunez, Free - Sheridan Smith, 3rd;

100 yd Freestyle Relay (7-8 yrs) Tori Smith, Marissa Dupont, Zack Brasseaux, Hallie Boudreaux, 3rd; 200 yd Freestyle Relay (13-14 yr) Karissa Trahan, Jared Racca, Emileigh Creel, Amaris Brown, 1st; (15-19 yr) Zachary Theriot, Jordan Poole, Ivan Harmon, Tyler Pool, 1st.



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No fee needed to file for refunds due to hurricane

Better Business Bureaus around the state are receiving a large number of inquiries concerning a tax relief benefit for Hurricane Rita victims. Callers are stating that they are told they can receive as much as \$9,000 and are required to provide social security numbers and personal financial information, such as routing numbers to their personal bank account. The consumer is then charged a fee of \$40 - \$50 for help in completing the form.

The BBB warns consumers against giving personal or financial information to any unknown company without investigating. Consumers should be aware that by providing financial information or personal information such as their social security numbers they are leaving themselves open to being victimized. When in doubt, consumers should contact the Better Business Bureau at 337-478-6253.

According to the Louisiana Department of Revenue, Louisiana victims of Hurricane Rita living in parishes declared by the President as disaster areas may be eligible for a refund of state sales taxes paid on uninsured personally owned movable property destroyed by the storm. Consumers can get the required form free of charge from the LDR.

In order to qualify for a possible refund, the Louisiana Department of Revenue states that you must meet the following requirements:

- The schedule must detail the items of tangible personal property destroyed during the natural disaster and should include a description of each item, the year of its purchase,

and the original cost item. (Schedules similar to those used by insurance companies are acceptable, but the original cost of the item, not the replacement cost, and the date of purchase must be indicated on the schedule.)

- Persons must file a claim for refund of the state sales taxes paid on the destroyed property on or before Dec. 31, 2008.

- Persons claiming a refund MUST present some evidence to show that they actually suffered the loss with no reimbursement from insurance or otherwise. (A deduction claimed and allowed for federal and Louisiana income tax purposes will be acceptable as proof of loss.)

- If a copy of the federal or state income tax return cannot be attached, Sales Tax Refund Schedule-Disaster Loss of Tangible Personal Property, Form R-13625, must be substituted.

- If the claimant is unable to provide documentation to show the actual amount of tax that was paid, the secretary will estimate the sales tax originally paid on the purchase of the tangible personal property that was destroyed.

Cynthia Bridges, Secretary of the Louisiana Department of Revenue request that consumers report any fraudulent activities they may know or have reason to know that exist. For additional information and/or to get a free copy of the required form, you can visit LDR at www.revenue.louisiana.gov

To report fraud, contact 1-866-FRAUD05 or logon to www.revenue.louisiana.gov/sactions/fraud.

Grants told for libraries affected by hurricanes

Recognizing the critical support public libraries provided communities during and after the devastation of hurricanes Katrina and Rita, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, the Bush-Clinton Katrina Fund, and the Institute for Museum and Library Services last week announced major grants to support the re-establishment of lost public library services and rebuilding of public libraries along the Gulf Coast in Louisiana and Mississippi.

The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation's \$12.2 million grant will help libraries establish up to 22 temporary facilities in Mississippi and Louisiana so community members can access books and computer and Internet services, provide support for the planning of destroyed or damaged libraries, and will eventually pay for new computers in rebuilt public libraries.

The Bush-Clinton Katrina Fund will make \$5 million available to support new reconstruction and recovery of Gulf Coast public libraries. The Institute for Museum and Library Services (IMLS), a federal grant making agency that provides leadership and support to the nation's museums and libraries, will contribute \$500,000 to the foundation's effort to help staff the temporary facilities.

The Bush-Clinton Katrina

Fund's \$5 million grant will focus on the physical repair and reconstruction of up to eight public libraries across the Gulf Coast of Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama affected by the Katrina.

The Southeastern Library Network (SOLINET), a regional library network that serves the southeastern United States and the Caribbean, will administer the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation grant and work in partnership with the state library agencies of Louisiana and Mississippi to assist libraries damaged by the hurricanes.

Libraries face a significant recovery process. In Louisiana, 107 public libraries were initially reported destroyed or damaged with 40 still closed; in Mississippi, 34 public libraries were indefinitely or temporarily closed following the hurricanes with eight remaining closed. SOLINET and state library agencies estimate that approximately 500 public computers were lost in Louisiana and Mississippi.

Staffing of temporary facilities while heavily damaged or destroyed libraries are rebuilt is a significant challenge. The Institute for Museum and Library Services grant will help support initial staffing needs until additional resources are secured.

Classifieds

REAL ESTATE

Grace Robideaux, Professional Realtor, ERA Moffett Realty, Inc., 210 S Ryan Street, Lake Charles, La. 70601 337-310-5280 Ext 261, Home Phone & Fax: 337-598-2573

NEW LISTING: 132 Willow Ridge Lane. Two 2 acre tracts in Grand Lake area all for \$30,000. Doublewide will be demolished and removed. Lots had water during hurricane. Low but can be built up for mobile home. Minimum 1300 sq ft on homes.

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 ERA Moffett Realty, Inc. and ask for Grace for more info. 1/11tfc

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. 6/1 - 7/26p.

ATTENTION HUNTERS: Land for sale in East Creole. 80 x 150 Great place for a camp or to live! New mechanical system on land. Asking \$15,000, but negotiable. Please call (337) 377-6811 or (337) 377-6803 anytime. 6/28p

FOR SALE: 90 acres of land in Welch area. Underground irrigation with surface water. Call (home) 734-4727 or (cell) 475-8333. Ask for Bill. 6/22 & 6/29p.

HOUSE FOR Sale. Elevated home on 1.25 acre lot in Garber Subdivision. Approximately 3 miles from Down Town Cameron. Over 3000 sq-ft of heated living. 5 Bedrooms, 3 Baths. Floor sits 15.6 feet above flood elevation. House experienced damage from Rita and needs repairs. Call (843) 402-9695 6/29

Even if your dogs and cats normally get along, the anxiety of an emergency situation can cause pets to act irrationally. Keep small pets away from cats and dogs

After a Disaster
If after a disaster you have to leave town, take your pets with you. Pets are unlikely to survive on their own.

In the first few days after the disaster, leash your pets when they go outside. Always maintain close contact. Familiar scents and landmarks may be altered and your pet may become confused and lost. Also, snakes and other dangerous animals may be brought into the area with flood areas. Downed power lines are a hazard.

FOR SALE

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. tfc.

LAKEFRONT HOME: 9000 sq lakefront home, currently operating as B&B, on 1.3 acres in Lake Arthur area - 5 bedroom, 6 bath, formal dining, indoor BBQ room, wet bar, office, 2 car carport, furnishings can be sold separately. Call 337-536-9520 for more info. SERIOUS INQUIRIES ONLY! 6/22 - 7/13p.

NOTICE

GIVE YOUR truck a rugged good look with a Reflex spray on truck liner. Call A-1 Coatings for more information. 533 Landry Lane, Sulphur, La. Phone: (337) 533-0043 or 263-2403. 4/26 tfc.

RELOCATED: Chermain "Primeaux" Thibodeaux, hair stylist, is now at Visions Hair Salon, 3311 Ernest St., Lake Charles. Call (337) 479-2060 to schedule an appointment. Walkins welcome! 6/22 - 7/6c.

CHILDCARE: NEED a babysitter in the Grand Lake area. Call Jane Bellat 249-1538 if you are interested. Thank you! 6/29p

CONTRACTORS

VAIL DIRT & Trucking: Clay top soil sand; house pads dozer work. Call: Mark at 304-3620 or Brandon at 304-4705. 6/1 - 6/28p.

MOLD REMEDIATION & Testing, air duct cleaning. Call (337) 781-2534 or log on to www.breatheeasypl.com for more information. 6/15 - 7/6p.

New catheter system is implemented by hospital

A new closed-catheter system has been implemented by West Calcasieu Cameron Hospital to enhance patient safety and further reduce infection risk. WCCH is the first hospital in the area to use the BD Nexiva™ Closed IV Catheter System, and the third hospital in the country.

According to Jeff Clark, RN, BSN, Patient Care Director at WCCH, the system aids in the prevention of blood stream infections and helps reduce the number of potential needle sticks to the

patient. "It's an all-in-one system that is much more patient-friendly and nurse-friendly," said Clark. "Traditional IV lines must be constantly maintained to guard against microorganisms when administering a drug, flushing the system or withdrawing blood. Bloodstream contamination is a particular concern with an open IV system. This closed system reduces the need for handling the IV at the insertion site, reducing the risk of vein irritation. It also offers a higher level of protection for our nurses and clinical staff because of the sharps safety feature."

WCCH conducted a two-month trial of the new catheter system to orient the nursing staff and test the equipment, and began implementing the equipment hospital-wide earlier this month. "It's generated interest among other healthcare providers in the area. Ambulance services and extended-stay hospitals have seen us use the new system, and are interested in implementing it themselves," said Clark. The two other hospitals to convert to the Nexiva™ system are in Chicago and Virginia. Several others are currently evaluating it, including M.D. Anderson Cancer Center in Houston.

BD is a medical technology company servicing health care institutions, clinical laboratories, life science researchers and the general public. The company manufactures and sells a broad range of medical supplies, devices, lab equipment and diagnostic products.

Information for pet owners

Plan for Pet Disaster Needs

If you evacuate your home, DO NOT LEAVE YOUR PETS BEHIND! Pets most likely cannot survive on their own; and if by some remote chance they do, you may not be able to find them when you return.

For additional information, please contact The Humane Society of the United States

Plan for Pet Disaster Needs

Identifying shelter. For public health reasons, many emergency shelters cannot accept pets. Find out which motels and hotels in your area allow pets -- well in advance of needing them. Include your local animal shelter's number in your list of emergency numbers -- they might be able to provide information concerning pets during a disaster.

Take pet food, bottled water, medications, veterinary records, cat litter/pan, can opener, food dishes, first aid kit and other supplies with you in case they're not available later. While the sun is still shining, consider packing a "pet survival" kit which could be easily deployed if disaster hits.

Make sure identification tags are up to date and securely fastened to your pet's collar. If possible, attach the address and/or phone number of your evacuation site. If your pet gets lost, his tag is his ticket home. Make sure you have a current photo of your pet for identification purposes.

Miller Livestock Markets, Inc. Market Report

For the Sale of June 24, 2006. Trading was active with a turnout of 788. Head from 151 Sellers with 66 Buyers Present. All Classes of Cattle remained Fully Steady.

DeQuincy (Saturday) JUNE 24 Livestock Receipts: Cattle 395, Horses 7, Hogs 45, Sheep 49, and Goats 291. **BABY CALVES:** Dairy 75¢-125¢ per HD, Beef 125¢-200¢ per HD, Roping Calves (125-200 lbs.) 1.8¢-2.1¢ per lb. **STEER & HEIFER CALVES:** 200-300 lb. Steers: 1.52-1.97 per lb., Heifers: 1.37-1.87 per lb.; 300-400 lb. Steers: 1.35-1.90 per lb., Heifers: 1.30-1.80 per lb.; 400-500 lb. Steers: 1.23-1.38 per lb., Heifers: 1.15-1.30 per lb.; 500-600 lb. Steers: 1.00-1.23 per lb., Heifers: .95-1.15 per lb.; 600-700 lb. Steers: .88-1.03 per lb., Heifer: .78-.88 per lb. **CATTLE:** Cutter & Utility: .48-.50 per lb.; Canners: .45-.49 per lb.; Fat Cows: .46-.48 per lb.; Thin Cows: .36-.40 per lb.; Slaughter Bulls: .55-.66 per lb.; Feeder Bulls: .65-.70 per lb. **COW/CALF PAIRS:** 850¢-1050¢ per pair. **PREGNANCY TESTED COWS:** 700¢-850¢ per HD. **HOGS:** Choice Barrows & Gilts: .38-.42 per lb.; Medium Barrow & Gilts: .32-.36 per lb.; Butcher Pigs: .40-.50 per lb.; Feeder Pigs: .50-.60 per lb.; Sows 300-500 lbs. NONE per lb.; Boars: .08-.12 per lb. **HORSES:** .28-.37 per lb. **SHEEP & GOATS:** 30¢-225¢ per HD.

FOURTH OF JULY CLOSURE


MILLER LIVESTOCK MARKETS, INC. will be closed the week of July Fourth in DeQuincy.

There will be NO sales: July 1st or 3rd
Next Sales: Saturday, July 8 - Cattle Sale or Monday, July 17 - Horse Sale
We Wish You... And Yours... A Safe & Happy Holiday!

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For a Founding Father, he doesn't know much about helping a kid get a student loan.



Not everyone in the government knows everything about the government. So when you need official info about Social Security, getting a student loan, renewing a driver's license, or if you're just checking your local weather, go to FirstGov.gov. A monumental source of useful information.

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• NOTICE •

Notice is hereby given that a public hearing of the Cameron Parish Police Jury will be held at the Courtroom of the Cameron Courthouse, 119 Smith Circle, Cameron, Louisiana, on Monday, July 31, 2006 at 6:00 p.m. to consider levying additional or increased millage rates without further voter approval or adopting the adjusted millage rate and rolling forward to a millage rate not to exceed the prior year's maximum.

RUN: Jun. 22 & 29 (J 46)

— Cameron Parish School Board —

Regular Meeting Schedule

| DATE | PLACE | TIME |
|--------------------|---|-----------|
| July 10, 2006 | Grand Lake School 1039 Hwy 384, Grand Lake Lake Charles, LA 70607 | 3:00 P.M. |
| August 14, 2006 | Hackberry High School 1390 School Street Hackberry, LA 70643 | 3:00 P.M. |
| September 11, 2006 | Johnson Bayou School 6304 Gulf Beach Hwy Cameron, LA 70631 | 3:00 P.M. |
| October 9, 2006 | South Cameron School Site 753 Oak Grove Hwy Grand Chenier, LA 70643 | 3:00 P.M. |

RUN: Jun. 22, 29, Jul. 6 (J 48)

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