



BLACK WIDOW spiders have invaded lower Cameron Parish in the aftermath of the storm. Residents should be careful when clearing vegetation or picking up debris, since the poisonous spiders hide in cozy, protected areas. They are also to be found in cracks and crevices around buildings, under stairs, under flower pots, etc. The bright red hourglass mark on the underside of the abdomen of the shiny black spider identifies it. (Photo by Cyndi Sellers.)

Nominations sought for Festival king

One good indication that Cameron Parish is on the way to recovery is the fact that the 2007 Louisiana Fur & Wildlife Festival will be held the second weekend in January.

Nominations are now being accepted for the title of Fur Festival King who will be crowned on the first evening of the Festival.

In the past the Festival has chosen a king alternately from the parish's primary industries--shrimping, cattle raising, rice, oil and gas, hunting, trapping, etc.

This year nominations will be accepted from any of the industries honored in the past. Nominations should be sent to: Louisiana Fur &

Wildlife Festival, P. O. Box 19, Cameron, La. 70631.

The Fur Festival was first held in 1956. The 1958 festival was cancelled due to Hurricane Audrey in June 1957, and the 2006 Festival was cancelled due to Rita in September, 2005.

The 2006 Festival would have marked the 50th anniversary of the celebration.

Miss Cameron Parish and the Fur Festival Queen also will be selected during the 2007 festival. The queen is selected from entries from the fur producing parishes of the state.

John LeBlanc is the Festival's president.

Forum to mark first anniversary of Rita

By MANDA WHITE

A forum to mark the first anniversary of Hurricane Rita will be sponsored by the Chamber SWLA of Lake Charles and will feature among other things a cattle drive in Cameron Parish.

The Chamber SWLA is joining with America's Wetland - Campaign to save Coastal Louisiana to coordinate The Gulf Coast Congressional Forum: Recovery and Recon-struction of America's Energy Coast.

This event will bring together the Louisiana Congressional delegation and also hopes to include Governor Kathleen Blanco, Chairman of Gulf Coast Recovery Donald Powell, Commissioner of Agriculture Bob Odom, as well as other invited Congressional members, area mayors, sheriffs, parish and statewide officials.

On the first anniversary of Hurricane Rita, the forum begins on Saturday, Sept. 23, with a cattle drive in Cameron Parish. The event was developed to give the Congressional members and invited guests

the opportunity to experience something they will never forget and a chance to interact with the residents of the area and see the effects of the storm upon the region.

The purpose of the cattle drive is to highlight the effects of Hurricane Rita not just on the homes and businesses of Southwest Louisiana, but also on the agricultural and geological landscape. According to America's Wetland, the Southwest Louisiana coast line lost 118 square miles of vegetated marsh to open water between the Atchafalaya and Pearl Rivers after Hurricane Rita passed through last September.

"Our region is dependent upon our proximity to the Gulf and the natural resources provided by the Gulf of Mexico and our marshlands. We must be sure that the members of Congress on Capital Hill, who are deciding the outcome of the Offshore Oil Revenue Sharing legislation, are aware of the devastating effects of wetland loss and coastal erosion upon our economy, our culture and our people."

Cont. on Pg. 3



THE ROAD HOME housing assistance center opened Aug. 23 in Grand Lake to assist homeowners with applications for federal grant funds to rebuild, repair or relocate. Advisors are available by appointment only; those who have already signed up for the program will be called to set up the appointment. To sign up for the program, call 1-888-762-3252 (ROAD2LA) or log on to www.road2LA.org (Photo by Cyndi Sellers.)

Displaced residents can vote

By CYNDI SELLERS

Registrar of Voters Suzanne Sturlese wants every Cameron Parish voter displaced by Hurricane Rita to know that they can vote in upcoming parish elections, no matter where they are located.

One such voter appeared at the Police Jury's agenda meeting Monday night, saying she had received a letter stating that since she had forwarded her mail, she could not vote.

Sturlese said her office had sent no such letter. In fact she has been trying to get the word out that the Secretary of State has extended until Feb. 23, 2007 the ability of displaced voters to receive absentee ballots.

All they need to do is call the Registrar's office at 905-1167 and ask to file a Displaced Voter Request for Absentee Ballot. Once the form has been received, either by mail or by fax, absentee ballots will automatically be sent to the voter's current address for all elections until Feb. 23, 2007.

The only stipulation is that the voter not have registered to vote in another area.

The mailing address of the Registrar of Voters is 10084 Gulf Hwy., Lake Charles, LA 70607 (not P.O. Box 1, Cameron, as is posted on the state web site).

Knights to make plans

All Cameron Parish Knights of Columbus members are invited to attend a meeting at 6:30 p.m., Wednesday, Sept. 6 at the Grand Lake Fire Station.

According to Jimmy Saltzman, the meeting was called to begin the reorganization of the Cameron, Creole, Grand Chenier and Grand Lake K.C. Councils, all of which were disrupted by Hurricane Rita last September.

Saltzman said there are programs and help available to assist with the rebuilding of the councils.

Anyone interested in joining one of the Councils is also invited to attend.

For more information call Saltzman at 274-6150.

Benefits set by GL girls

The Grand Lake High School girls basketball team has scheduled two events to raise funds to go to the Rumble on the River Basketball tournament in Westwego Dec. 27, 28 & 29.

On Saturday, Sept. 16 they will have a bake sale at Boone's Corner from 6:30 a.m. to 10 a.m.

Also that day they will have a car wash to LeBoeuf's Car Wash from 10 a.m. 2 p.m.

About 120 girls teams are expected to take part in the tournament to be held in Alero Center in the New Orleans suburb.



SEN. MARY LANDRIEU posed with the Lady Tarpon softball team Friday in the South Cameron cafeteria, after presenting certificates to each member and coach. (Photo by Cyndi Sellers.)

Senator Landrieu makes tour of Cameron Parish Friday

By CYNDI SELLERS

U.S. Senator Mary Landrieu, touring the areas affected by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, made a stop in Cameron Parish last Friday, encouraging students and parish officials in the recovery effort.

Landrieu presented certificates of recognition to members and coaches of the South Cameron Lady Tarpon State Champion softball team at a gathering in the school cafeteria. She said she once played second base for a state title contending softball team, so she know how hard the team had worked to gain the title.

Responding to audience questions about insurance companies' responses to the hurricane, Landrieu reported that she and Sen. David Vitter had put a hold on the national flood insurance bill now going through Congress. She wants to see coverage increased, payments expedited, and premiums made affordable.

"The rest of the country

needs to understand that we're not building condos and sunbathing on the beach down here," Landrieu said. "We're a working coast, and insurance needs to be affordable for the working public." She noted that every day of production here results in enough energy to light Florida for two days.

As far as homeowner insurance companies, those are regulated by the state, not the federal government, Landrieu said. She urged residents to call their state legislators and the insurance commissioner about unsatisfactory treatment.

Parish administrator Tina Horn praised Landrieu for her efforts in getting nearly \$13 million dollars in coastal impact assistance grants to help restore and rebuild the Cameron Parish coast. An additional \$2.6 million each year for four years has been added to the program for Cameron Parish.

Landrieu recounted the history of oil exploration in the parish, noting that the

first offshore oil well in the Gulf of Mexico was drilled off the coast of Creole. "This parish invented the technology to develop Gulf oil," she said. "We Louisiana) invented the technology, laid the pipelines, and host the industry."

Landrieu has been pushing in Congress to increase Louisiana's share of Gulf oil revenues. Finally, the Senate has passed a bill giving Louisiana 37.5% of the tax proceeds from offshore production. The bill must go through a conference committee to reconcile differences with a similar House bill before being sent to the President for his signature.

If the 37.5% figure were to stand, Cameron Parish alone would see \$11 million a year in additional funds. The entire parish budget is only around \$6 million now.

Landrieu said "We will negotiate hard. We have a lot of infrastructure to build, and we can't do it on pennies and dimes."

Cont. on Pg. 3

Fishing industry hard hit by hurricanes

The Louisiana fishing industry took a big hit from Hurricanes Katrina and Rita in 2005, according to figures released by the La. Dept. of Wildlife & Fisheries.

According to the report 2005 shrimp landings were down 28 percent from 2004, and value was down 20 percent for that period.

Menhaden fishing landings, one of Cameron's big industries, were down 78 percent from 2004 and the catch was down 81 percent.

Other landings down were blue crabs, 25 percent; oysters, 68 percent; and other saltwater finfish, 64 percent.

The number of fishing vessels in 2005 was 3,321, down from 6,431 in 2004--a drop of 49 percent.

There was also a decrease in the number of commercial fishing trips from 95,855 in 2004 to 38,637 in 2005, a drop of 40 percent.

Prior to the 2005 hurricanes, marine commercial and recreational fishing supported \$2.3 billion in retail sales, 36,700 jobs, \$498 million in salaries and wages, and generated \$146 million in federal income tax revenue.

Parents Night set at HHS

Hackberry High School will host parents night for grades 6-12 Tuesday, Sept. 12, at 6 p.m. Parents will have the opportunity to visit their child's classes. Door prizes will be awarded and refreshments will be served by the 4-H Club.

Woman dies in submerged car Thursday

By CYNDI SELLERS

A one car accident claimed the life of a Texas woman last Thursday night near Cameron. Misty D. Townley, 30, of Orange, was found the next morning in her submerged car in the canal at the curve by AB Dock on Hwy. 27/82.

Cameron Parish Sheriff's Office Investigator Chris Savoie said Townley had been delivering a wallet to her fiancé at a dock in Cameron, and was speaking to him as she approached the curve. Then her phone went dead.

The Sheriff's Office received a call at 5:30 a.m. on Friday about a vehicle in the canal, wheels up. Investigation revealed no skid marks, but signs that the vehicle had hit a telephone box and the embankment, then gone airborne, capsizing when it hit the water. Townley was pronounced dead. There was no evidence of seatbelt use. There were no passengers.

Savoie said the vehicle was probably not visible most of the night, due to rising tide. Townley is survived by three children.

In spite of posted signs, the curve can be hard to see at night, especially if it is raining, and can be deceptive because the lights of Cameron can be seen across the ship channel. It has been the scene of numerous accidents over the years.



A BEAUTIFUL rainbow appeared in the Creole - Cameron area on Friday. At times it was doubled. (Photo by Cyndi Sellers.)

Cameron school system congratulated

(American Press Editorial)

The Cameron Parish school system has done what many people thought it might not be able to do eleven months ago -- open doors to students for the 2006-2007 school year in southern Cameron Parish.

The feat is remarkable for those who have seen firsthand the destruction Hurricane Rita dealt to that area on Sept. 24, 2005.

Last Monday, 1,456 students took their seats in Cameron Parish for the first day of school. That count was 44 short of the system's goal for the year. As the weeks go on, it could still be reached and even surpassed.

Work is not yet completed at South Cameron and Johnson Bayou schools, both of which are comprised of portable, but well-equipped buildings. Parking lots, practice fields and cafeterias are in need of work before they can be fully functional for this school year.

A late rush of construction and preparation was needed to pull off this feat. For those who contributed -- the contractors, school system personnel and volunteers -- Southwest Louisiana owes you thanks.

The decision to rebuild schools in Oak Grove and Johnson Bayou like they were before the storm, despite the system's post-Rita successes, may have to be tempered by

the shift in the parish's population.

Most homeowners in southern Cameron have faced the decision to either rebuild where they were or move inland, with many choosing the latter. The factors of higher costs to insure homes and post-Rita building requirements have come into play in the decisions of many families in deciding whether or not to return to Cameron, Creole, Oak Grove and Johnson Bayou.

Should the school system build just one facility to serve South Cameron High and Cameron and South Cameron elementary schools? Should they rebuild all three?

There is a chicken-and-egg dilemma the Cameron Parish School Board and school officials face: Should all the schools in lower Cameron Parish be rebuilt to their pre-Rita specifications in hopes of luring more people to locate below the Intracoastal Waterway? Or should the facilities throughout the parish be rebuilt and/or upgraded in anticipation of a shifting parish population?

Such questions on the investment in those facilities can only be answered in time.

As in the past, we appreciate and admire the resilience of Cameron Parish. We hope to see it return stronger from the experience of the past year.

If the situation dictates that it be leaner, so be it.

Creole Nature Trail to receive over \$1 million

U.S. Representative Charles W. Boustany, Jr. announced that the U.S. Department of Transportation has awarded federal funding in the amount of \$1,088,000 towards the Creole Nature Trail-National Hurricane Museum & Science Center in Southwest Louisiana.

This federal grant funding follows the introduction of H.Con.Res. 461, which was introduced by Boustany in July. The resolution expresses the support of the Congress for the creation of the National Hurricane Museum and Science Center in Southwest Louisiana.

"As we approach the one-year anniversary of Hurricane Rita, this funding provides significant encouragement towards the construction of a National Hurricane Museum in Southwest Louisiana," said Boustany.

LANDRIEU

Cont. from Pg. 1

Dwight Savoie, of the West Cameron Port Board, asked Landrieu to help get the Cameron loop of the Calcasieu River dredged to restore it to the proper depth for deep water operations. The channel, which had recently been dredged to a depth of 24 feet, was silted in by Hurricane Rita's storm surge, leaving it only 18-20 feet deep, not enough for deeper draft offshore vessels.

Landrieu agreed that the Cameron port, one of only two deep water oil ports in the state, is central to the industry. "These ports are just a vital as the big grain ports," she said, promising to do what she could to get the channel dredged.

Parish Economic Development Director Ernie Broussard pointed out that when all four LNG plants in Southwest Louisiana are producing, along with natural gas processors they will provide 22-25% of the nation's natural gas. He also pointed out that Cameron Parish acts as a barrier island to three major watersheds and protects 300,000 people. He looks forward to having the extra offshore royalty money to help rebuild the parish.

FORUM

Cont. from Pg. 1

said Monique Thierry, Director of Public Policy for the Chamber SWLA.

On Sunday, Sept. 24, the delegation gets down to business following an interfaith service and brief tour of the lingering effects of Hurricane Rita on the corridor between Lake Charles, Beaumont, extending from the coast to Interstate 10.

They will attend forums to hear remarks from Donald Powell, Federal Coordinator for Gulf Coast Rebuilding and R. King Milling, Chairman of America's Wetland Foundation. The members and invited guests will participate in panel discussions regarding the National Interest and Investment in America's Energy Coast and the Congressional Prospectives of Gulf Coast U. S. Senators and Representatives on the state of the Gulf of Mexico coast line and Offshore Oil Revenue Sharing.

Child safety program

Saturday, Sept. 16, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., "The DNA LifePrint Child Safety Program," endorsed by John Walsh, promotes child safety awareness and provides important tools to families which can help protect their children against violence. This community event provides parents with: Free - Child Safety Journal, Digital Photograph, Super Video-CD and a Home DNA Identification Kit

The location will be at Bubba Oustalet Chevrolet-Cadillac, 819 North Main, Jennings.

For more information you can call 217-483-2332. Admission is free of charge

Faith is a verb. "When you pray, move your feet!"

-- Old Quaker Saying

Lake Charles storm recovery station open

(La. UNITED METHODIST MAGAZINE)

When survivors of Hurricane Rita come to the Lake Charles-Southwest Louisiana Storm Recovery Station for help, they are sometimes at the "end of their rope."

"Long gone is their ability for clarity and patience with '800' numbers and forms to fill out. Our staff is able to use our knowledge and resources to lead them through the recovery process," said Brandi Russell, Operations Coordinator.

Diane and Veda are lifetime residents of Creole, just 10 miles east of Cameron.

Both of their homes were totally destroyed by Rita. "They just disappeared. There is nothing left but the dirt," Diane explained.

"They had no insurance and had received no assistance from FEMA. Upon review of these cases, it was discovered the FEMA inspec-

tion had wrongly coded them as 'no' damage instead of 'total' damage.

With a letter of appeal to FEMA, a new inspection was ordered and maximum grants of \$26,000 for each house were awarded," said Tonia Pence, Case Manager. "Now they have hope and resources to secure housing. Before our assistance, they were without any hope of recovery."

This is just one of the many ways the Lake Charles-Southwest Louisiana Storm Recovery Station serves a five-parish area which covers 6,000 square miles in Southwest Louisiana. "We are tremendously backlogged with over 4,000 cases needing our attention," said Russell. "We desperately need volunteer case workers and more work teams."

"We realize the tragedy of Katrina often overshadows the need in this area. But we want folks to remember us. If you can come, we can house your team and put you to work!" said Russell.

Iles to be speaker at dinner

Curt Iles, Dry Creek author, will be the featured speaker at the annual Author's Dinner of Libraries Southwest to be held at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 19 at the Hardwood Mill Restaurant in Oakdale.

Iles has worked for the past 12 years as manager of the Dry Creek Baptist Camp. He has written three books, the latest being "Stories from the Creekbank" in which he tells of his experiences in working with displaced families following Hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

He retired from the camp in May and is now writing and speaking full time. He may be reached by e-mail at curtiles@aol.com.

The cost of the program and dinner is \$22. Persons interested in attending should contact their local library.

Faith for living

By JEWEL DIAMOND TAYLOR

"Sometimes you could find yourself so structured, paralyzed and operating on automatic pilot, that you realize you're not living. Or you can find yourself fantasizing wishing you were somewhere else or dwelling too much about past pain. Been there --- done that --- had to tell myself, "Snap out of it and COME BACK."

The present moment is filled with joy and happiness. Wish for yourself and everyone around you happiness and health. Chose to be alive in this moment. Take a deep breath. Talk to yourself in a confident, reassuring and positive way.

It's necessary to work with all the messy and delightful parts of yourself. It takes courage and faith to not run

Three ice-making machines in place

The installation last week of three ice making machines in Louisiana will aid the resumption of full scale shrimp, crab and finfish operations in the state. Two of the machines were installed in Chalmette in St. Bernard Parish and one was installed in Cameron. All three can produce 20 tons of ice a day.

The Cameron ice machine was installed at Miller & Son Seafood and is being operated by Larry Miller.

The Gulf Coast hurricanes of 2005 caused \$1 billion worth of infrastructure damage to the \$2.3 billion Louisiana fishing industry. The Louisiana coast is home to three of the ten largest U. S. fishing docks, yet no federal funds have made it to the industry for infrastructure.

"The storm-related destruction of ice-making and ice storage capacity has been a significant obstacle to restarting operations," said Ewell Smith, Executive Director of the La. Seafood Promotion and Marketing Board. "This is a major step toward getting the boats back on the water and keeping fishermen in the industry."

Ice is essential for preserving the catch on boats, at shore side facilities and during transport to market. For the last year, ice-making

capacity for 100 miles of shoreline has been virtually non-existent.

Many parties, including Shell, the La. Seafood Promotion & Marketing Board, the LSU Ag Center, and the Louisiana Sea Grant College Program, have collaborated for months to bring the much needed ice to the coast.

"In May, we participated in a forum to address the importance of OCS revenue sharing to the sustainability of Louisiana," said Annell Bay, Vice President - Exploration, Americas Region for Shell Exploration and Production. "It was apparent that the coastal fishing industry was still in dire need of assistance, so we asked how we could help."

Shell donated \$500,000 to the La. Wildlife & Fisheries foundation to enable the purchase, delivery and installation of three industrial ice machines.

"All of us on the Gulf are neighbors. The fishing industry provides food and jobs, oil companies provide energy and jobs," said Frank Glaviano, Vice President - Production, Americas Region for Shell Exploration and Production. "Partnering with neighbors to help them rebuild makes good sense."

away from your self. Place your feet firmly in this present moment and yet still have hope, dreams, goals and a plan for the future you desire.

Whether you are suffering from past choices or circumstances out of your control, know that you can make it through this. Learn to motivate yourself. Have the courage to live, learn, laugh and let go of any thought, habit or person that is harmful to your well being.

The thoughts you think,

the words you speak, the prayers you pray and the actions you take have power to create. They shape your world and create your destiny.

Mind the gap between reality and illusion --- between faith and fear --- between action and procrastination --- between adventure and stagnation --- between hate and love --- between anger and peace --- between forgiveness and bitterness --- and the gap between you and your next opportunity to grow."

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•GRAND LAKE--14 acre tract at end of Micheal Lane off Cal-Cam line for \$210,000.00. South boundary has 640' m/l on Chesson Rd for 2nd access. Lots C, D, E, and F can be sold separately for \$18,000.00 ea. Lot G cannot be landlocked and must go with lots on either Michael or Chesson. Call ERA Moffett Realty, Inc. 337-436-6639 and ask for Grace @ 310-5280 X 261 to get a plat of land.

CALL ERA MOFFETT Realty, Inc. and ask for Grace for more info. 8/31tfc

HOUSE FOR Sale: Approximately 3 miles from downtown Cameron. Over 3000 sq-ft of heated living. 5 Bedrooms, 3 baths. Elevated approximately 15 ft above flood elevation and sits on 1.25 acre lot. House experienced damage from Rita. Asking significantly less than what it would cost to buy lot and build to existing state. Get ahead of the long wait to rebuild by remodeling this existing home. Asking only 47K. Call (843) 402-9695 8/31p

FOR SALE: Two and a half acres for sale with trailer house, little barn and asphalt drive. Hauser Rd. Call 1-337-463-9949. 8/24, 31 & 9/7 & 14p

FOR SALE

METAL OUTLET Metal Roofing ~ Carpents ~ 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.

FOR SALE: 2005 Cadillac CTS V-6. The car is loaded with Sunroof, satellite radio and phone. Gets 28 mpg highway and 24 in town, and has 27,000 miles due to 3 trips to TN. It is Moonstone (Grey) color and in excellent condition. Selling due to husband's death and I do not need this car. Call: (Home) 337-598-4430 or (Cell) 337-912-1506. If no answer, please leave message and I will return your call ASAP. Paid \$37,842. Selling \$25,999. Get it now! At this price it won't last long on market. 8/24 & 8/31c.

U.S. Gov. 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, CO 81009. Or call toll-free 1 (888) 8 PUEBLO, that's 1 (888) 878-3256 and ask for Item 577N. And visit <http://www.pueblo.gsa.gov> to place your order online or to read or print out this and hundreds of other FCIC publications for free.

FOR SALE

FOR SALE: 2006 Travel trailer: 31 ft. Jayco bumper pull with two slideouts, DVD player with surround sound. 8 months old, \$20,000. Call 337-794-2390 or (337) 477-4891. 8/24 9/7p.

FOR SALE: 200 Suzuki Outboard with controls and prop, \$2,500. Call (337) 789-5892. 8/31c.

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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.

LOCAL FUNDS Available: The Imperial Calcasieu Regional Planning and Development Commission (IMCAL), in cooperation with the Acadiana Regional Development District (ARDD), have funds available for loans ranging from \$5,000 up to \$150,000 for start-up and existing small businesses and businesses displaced by Hurricane Katrina and Rita. For additional information and to request a loan application packet, contact either IMCAL (337-433-1771) or ARDD (337-886-7783). Also, a Pre-Application form can be accessed online at www.ardd.org 8/30c.

HELP WANTED

CALL KEN Roberts for reasonable dozer work. No job too small or large. Call: (337) 738-3449 or Cell: (337) 224-4167. 8/9 - 8/30mc

COOKS NEEDED: If interested stop by Harbor Lights 620 A Big Lake Rd, Located at Hebert Landing in Big Lake. 8/24 & 8/31c.

BABYSITTER NEEDED in the Creole/Cameron area for 8 yr. old. 7 & 7 shift; 5 am - 5 pm. Call 802-3811. 8/31.

Off campus program tracks ACT scores

An innovative off-campus program established by McNeese State University for high school students has tracked some remarkable results in English ACT scores over the past two years.

McNeese currently offers an early admissions outreach program on site for some 150 seniors representing 17 high schools in Allen, Beauregard and Jeff Davis parishes, according to Betty Anderson, director of the division of continuing education at McNeese.

She said classes in English 101/102 and American History 201/202 are taught by McNeese professors in person or by compressed video at a designated high school or school board technology site. Students wishing to enroll in these freshmen-level courses must meet early admission requirements, attain the minimum ACT scores, if applicable, and other university criteria.

"This off-campus early admissions program began with the English courses in the fall of 1999 in Beauregard Parish at the request of Dr. Joe Aguilard, then superintendent of schools in Beauregard Parish," said Anderson. "He invited McNeese to come over and make presentations to both the students and their parents about offering college-level classes at DeRidder and South Beauregard High Schools.

"Aguilard had read studies



TROSCLAIR ROAD in lower Cameron Parish is slated to be resurfaced and widened to DOTD standards with the aid of \$2.4 million in CIAP funds.

(Photo by Cyndi Sellers.)

Fishery amendment explained by Savioe

Chenier Ecology
By **KEVIN SAVOIE**

The Southeast Regional Office of the National Marine Fisheries Service is waiting for the approval of Amendment 13 to the fishery management plan for the Gulf of Mexico shrimp fishery.

The amendment deals with a 10-year moratorium on the issuance of new federal permits for vessels operating in the Gulf shrimp fishery. If this proposed plan is implemented, the permits office will be in the business of replacing the current open-access permits with moratorium permits.

One hundred and fifty days would be allotted for the turnover period. Afterwards, moratorium permits will be the only valid permit to operate in the Gulf shrimp fishery. Those not renewing their permits and exchanging them within this time frame will not have a valid permit.

The proposed rule to implement Amendment 13 was published April 5 and was open for public comment

through May 22.

The commercial shrimp permitting program in the Gulf of Mexico exclusive economic zone (EEZ) was implemented Dec. 6, 2002. The Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council established Dec. 6, 2003, as the control date since it is one year after the commercial shrimp permit requirement was implemented.

A control date alerts the public that the council may consider limited entry into a fishery and may use the control date as qualifying criteria for participation in the fishery.

Once Amendment 13 is implemented, owners of vessels who qualify for a moratorium permit will have one year to acquire a permit. However, if a person is shrimping, the permit is needed 150 days after the effective date.

Only vessels active in the fishery prior to Dec. 6, 2003, will be allowed to continue participating in the fishery. However, moratorium permits will be fully transferable. Permit owners who want to sell their moratorium permit may, and fishermen who do not have a moratorium permit can buy one to

who retested showed a 75 percent improvement in English scores.

For 2005-2006, 126 of the 150 students who retested showed a 63 percent improvement in English scores. "Sixteen of these students who had not previously earned the ACT composite score of 20 needed for TOPS did indeed qualify for TOPS when retested," said Anderson. "This was great news for those students and their parents."

Another item of interest in tracking this group of students was that McNeese was the university of choice for more than 43 percent of the students.

"This was terrific news also," said Anderson. "This off-campus early admissions program was established to provide high school students with an opportunity to get a head start in college. And this is just another example of McNeese providing a needed service to its communities."

Anderson said that McNeese is not the only university in the state to offer an early admissions program, but that "we were the only one to offer this early admissions outreach program off-site to its service area."

She pointed out that the college credit earned by these high school students enrolled in the McNeese off-campus early admissions program is transferable to not only

gain access to the fishery.

For years, NOAA's fisheries management agencies have said that the Gulf shrimp fishery is overcapitalized; meaning, fewer vessels could harvest the available shrimp at a more profitable level. Basically, the number of vessels and the fishing power of the vessels have increased, while the level of landings has been stable resulting in each participant "having a smaller piece of the pie."

The moratorium will assist the economic recovery of the fishery by addressing unnecessary effort. Should an unexpected increase in profitability occur in the near future due to decreased fuel costs or a substantial rise in shrimp prices, the moratorium permit will not allow unnecessary effort back into the fishery, allowing those with a moratorium permit to be more profitable.

For more information, you may visit <http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/sf/s/hrimp/shrimp13faqs.htm>.



McNeese but also most universities in Louisiana and even some universities out-of-state."

"We have worked closely with superintendents, principals, curriculum supervisors and counselors to create the courses they need for their students," said Anderson. "This program is an incredible gift to these high school students from local school boards and McNeese to prepare them for their college careers."

"If the wind rocks our house, we plan to roll on out of here."

Zydeco washboard artist Rockin' Dopsis, Jr. with wife Tina and dog Harley at their Kenner home. Their emergency plan for the upcoming hurricane season includes Harley's safety.

For information about how to make an emergency plan for your family and pets, visit www.ready.gov or call 1-800-RE-READY.

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EEO

And now McNeese is seeing the direct results of the academic endeavor.

"Over the years, counselors at our participating high schools began to give us feedback about the English ACT scores being higher when students retested," said Anderson. "Seniors admitted to our early admissions program must have a minimum ACT English score of 18 to enroll in English 101, so they would have taken the ACT prior to enrolling in the class. "So, we tracked the English ACT scores for 2004-2005 and 2005-2006," she added, "and across the board, it did not matter whether a student had an 18 or a 34, our off-campus early admissions ACT retest scores for students showed improvement in significant percentages."

During 2004-2005, 75 of the 116 high school students

Tarpons season begins against DHS at Barbe

By CHRIS & LAURIE MUELLER

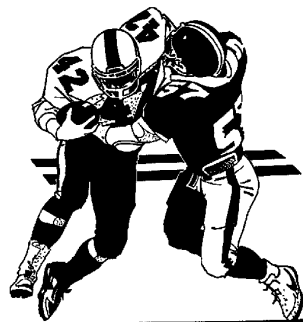
The waiting is over. This time it is for real as football season begins all over Louisiana this Thursday and Friday night.

The Tarpons begin their season on Thursday night with a familiar foe, the DeQuincy Tigers. The game will be played at Barbe Stadium, due to Hurricane Rita's destruction of the Tarpons' school and playing field last September. The Tarpons will play most of their home games at Barbe this year as Tarpon Stadium is not yet ready.

The Tarpons will have 14 seniors and 16 juniors this year, with 7 starters on offense and 4 starters on defense returning. The Tarpons were 1-4 last year in the hurricane shortened season, but were able to finish the season despite the storm.

Among the starters returning on offense are quarterback Justin Picou, both who had a solid season last year. Missing from the Tarpon lineup will be standout running back Dominique LeBlanc, who transferred to Kinder after the storm.

The Tigers beat the Tarpons 50-14 last year. It was the Tigers first victory over South Cameron since 2000. DeQuincy won their jamboree contest over South Beauregard 19-0.



Cameron Outdoors

By LOSTON MCEVERS



DOVE SEASON TO OPEN

As I write this article, it's all eyes on the Gulf of Mexico as we see Hurricane Ernesto coming towards the Gulf waters. We sit in primetime hurricane season and it's scary as almost 12 months ago we saw our Cameron Parish along the coast destroyed. When you read this I hope we're all still at our homes and not on the road trying to get out of harm's way.

Tomorrow we see the month of September arrive. All of our students are back in school at their old locations and preparing for winter sports.

There will be many anglers hitting the water this Labor Day weekend as well as boaters and lovers of the water and outdoors. We should start seeing cold fronts come into our area, maybe getting rid of this hot weather. We've had a good month of August producing lots of rain, which will help get the salt out of our marshes for our wintering ducks.

Alligator season opens this month along with teal season. We do need more rain to keep our ducks coming down and staying in our marsh for the entire coming season, instead of staying just a month and leaving because of the salinity and lack of food. We also depend on arctic fronts to move the migration of ducks and geese to our area. During the teal season (Sept. 15-30) we'll also be able to shoot rails and gallinules.

Dove season opens this Saturday, Sept. 2-10, and deer archery season opens Sept. 16.

In the Creole and Grand Chenier areas where I hunt, there's plenty of teal in our marshes, and if they stay for the opening of the season, we'll have good teal hunts.

There are doves in our area but I think the Sweetlake-Big Lake area will do better, especially in the rice fields where there's food. The first cool front we get

will start the movement of flounder, red fish, sheephead and blackdrum from our marshes to deep water. White shrimp will also start migrating to the Gulf.

Tree ducks like wood ducks, and Mexican squawblers will start their migration to our trees along our marshes and rice fields.

LEMESCHE BASS CLUB

The Lemesche Bass Club held their August tournament fishing the Mermentau River Basin last Saturday. Anglers woke up to heavy rains, thunderstorms and small squalls. They fished, but had a hard day, having to stop because the rain was so hard. Weighing in under the Gibbstown Bridge was a must as it rained at 3 p.m., which was weigh-in time.

Darren Richard and Cory Broussard had 5 bass weighing 7.26 pounds and I had the largest bass weighing 2.48. Richard Duhon and J. M. Boudreaux had 4 bass weighing 4.92 pounds and second place largest bass at 1.70. Johnny LeDoux and Matthew Griffith had 4 bass, 3.32 and third largest bass, 1.26. J. M. and Richard had the largest choupique weighing 4.70 pounds.

There were two more lifetime licenses won with Patrick McNamara and Tyler Vincent getting the third and fourth. There's still 48 tagged redfish out there to be caught.

AREA FISHING

The best spot for saltwater fishing inland has been Big Lake. Still good trout being caught, but don't underestimate both the Grand Chenier and Cameron jetties, as well as the closer offshore rigs. This week's weather has slowed things down, but still live bait has been doing better during the heat of the day on Big Lake.

Tarpons lose to E. Beau in Jamboree

The East Beauregard Trojans won over the South Cameron Tarpons last Thursday in the Jeff Davis Jamboree at Welsh. The class 2A Trojans, led by senior Brady Glaser, beat the Tarpons 27-0 on a wet, sloppy field.

The one sided game featured a Trojan offense that rolled up 235 yards of offense and 3 touchdowns. East Beau also scored on a 40 yard interception return. Glaser rushed for 80 yards on six carries and threw for 99 yards on 4 for 7 passing.

South Cameron struggled to move the ball all night long. The Tarpons didn't pick up a first down until their final drive and were held to 34 total yards on the night.



Miller Livestock Markets, Inc. Market Report

For the Sale of Aug. 26 2006. Trading was active with a turnout of 1106 Head from 168 Sellers with 113 Buyers Present. All Classes of Cattle remained fully steady.

DeQuincy (Saturday) Aug. 26: Livestock Receipts: Cattle 744, Horses 6 Hogs 31, Sheep 139, and Goats 186. **BABY CALVES:** Dairy 50[±]-75[±] per HD, Beef 150[±]-225[±] per HD, Roping Calves (125-200 lbs.) 1.80-2.02 per lb. **STEER & HEIFER CALVES:** 200-300 lb. Steers: 1.65-1.87 per lb., Heifers: 1.35-1.82 per lb.; 300-400 lb. Steers: 1.35-1.87 per lb., Heifers: 1.30-1.77 per lb.; 400-500 lb. Steers: 1.25-1.47 per lb., Heifers: 1.20-1.37 per lb.; 500-600 lb. Steers: 1.05-1.17 per lb., Heifers: .85-1.07 per lb.; 600-700 lb. Steers: .95-1.12 per lb., Heifer: .85-.97 per lb. **CATTLE:** Culler & Utility: .47-.54 per lb.; Canners: .44-.49 per lb.; Fat Cows: 45-49 per lb.; Thin Cows: .32-.38 per lb.; Slaughter Bulls: .55-.65 per lb.; Feeder Bulls: .65-.72 per lb. **COW/CALF PAIRS:** 850[±]-1100[±] per pair. **PREGNANCY TESTED COWS:** 650[±]-900[±] per HD. **HOGS:** Choice Barrows & Gilts: .33-.36; Medium Barrow & Gilts: .29-.32; Butcher Pigs: .35-.40; Feeder Pigs: .50-.60; Sows 300-500 lbs.: .30-.35 per lb.; Boars: .10-.15 per lb. **HORSES:** .28-.37 per lb. **SHEEP & GOATS:** 30[±]-200[±] per HD.

WE WILL BE OPEN FOR BUSINESS ON SATURDAY, SEPT. 2nd
Selling: Hogs, Goats, Sheep -- 10:30 a.m. and Cattle -- 1:00 p.m.

THERE WILL BE NO HORSE SALE: Monday, September 4th
In observance of Labor Day

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Fishermen cited for fish and safety violations

Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Enforcement Division agents cited three men in Cameron Parish on Aug. 20 for alleged boating safety and red drum violations.

As agents were checking fishermen under the Highway 82 bridge, a boat operated by James Voltaire Hamilton, 41, of Lake Charles passed the location slamming several boats into the concrete pilings. Upon stopping the vessel, the agents discovered undersized red drum and too many red drum in excess of 27 inches.

Hamilton was cited for several boating safety violations including careless operation, failure to comply with personal flotation device (PFD) requirements and no fire extinguisher. He was also cited for possession of undersized red drum and possession of too many red drum in excess of 27 inches.

Dwight Fitzgerald Martin, 42, and Brazil Coutee III, 36, both of Baton Rouge, were

also cited for possession of undersized red drum and possession of too many red drum in excess of 27 inches.

Possession of undersized red drum and over the limit of red drum in excess of 27 inches each carry a fine between \$100 and \$350, or imprisonment up to 60 days, or both plus court costs.

The Judicial District Court may also assess restitution for the value of the fish. The penalties for failure to comply with PFD requirements and no fire extinguisher are fines of \$50 for each offense.

The penalty for careless operation of a watercraft is a fine up to \$300, or jail time up to 30 days, or both plus court costs.

Anglers are allowed to possess one fish in excess of 27 inches as part of their daily bag limit on red drum.

Agents participating in the case were Capt. Jubal Marceaux, Lt. Remy Broussard and Agent Beau Robertson.



— JURY CANCELLED —

The Cameron Parish Civil Jury term scheduled for Monday, September 11, 2006 has been CANCELLED. If you received a subpoena for Jury Duty for this date, you have been excused and do not have to appear.

RUN: 8/24, 8/31 & 9/7 (AU-61)

— JOB OPENING —

Cameron Parish Library will accept job applications until 4:00 p.m., September 1, 2006, for part-time clerk's position at Johnson Bayou Library. Salary: \$6.00 an hour. No benefits. Applications may be obtained at Cameron, Hackberry and Grand Lake Libraries. Any questions, call Grand Lake Library phone: 337-598-5950 or Charlotte Trosclair, Director, phone: 337-274-1095. Cameron Parish Library does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, age, sex, handicap, national origin, or political or religious opinions.

RUN: Aug. 24 & 31 (Au-62)

Cameron Interstate Pipeline LLC
A SEMpra ENERGY DEVELOPMENT

Cameron Interstate Pipeline, LLC ("Cameron Interstate"), a subsidiary of Sempra Energy, with its principal office located at 101 Ash Street, San Diego, California 92101, filed an application with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission ("Commission") on August 4, 2006. In its application, Cameron Interstate requests, among other things, authority under section 7 of the Natural Gas Act (NGA) and Parts 157 and 284 of the Rules and Regulations of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Commission) to amend its certificate of public convenience and necessity. The Commission has assigned Docket Nos. CP05-119-002 and CP02-121-002 to this application.

In particular, the application seeks authority to: (i) increase the diameter of the pipeline facilities previously authorized by the Commission from 36 to 42 inches, (ii) construct an additional 1.1 miles of 42 inch pipeline, (iii) construct the necessary facilities to establish three additional pipeline interconnections, and (iv) revise its transportation rates to reflect the costs of the additional 1.1 miles of pipeline and three new interconnections, and to allocate costs to interruptible transportation services. Cameron Interstate has requested the Commission to issue a final order granting the requested authorizations by November 15, 2006.

A map of Cameron Interstate is available at <http://www.semprapipelineandstorage.com/gulfMap.html>. If you are interested in reviewing the Cameron Interstate application, it will be made available at the following locations: Cameron Parish Public Library - Hackberry Branch at 983 Main Street, Hackberry, LA 70645; Calcasieu Parish Public Library - Sulphur Branch at 1160 Cypress Street, Sulphur, LA 70663; and the Beauregard Parish Public Library - South Beauregard Parish Branch at 6713 Hwy 12, Ragley, LA 70657. The application is also on file with the Commission and open to public inspection. It is available for review at the Commission in the Public Reference Room or may be viewed on the Commission's website at <http://www.ferc.gov> using the "eLibrary" link. Enter the docket number excluding the last three digits in the docket number field to access the document. For assistance, please contact FERC Online Support at FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov or toll free at (866) 208-3676, or for TTY, contact (202) 502-8659.

Hard copies of the application may be requested from:

William Rapp
Senior Counsel
Sempra Energy
101 Ash Street, H013
San Diego, CA 92101
(619) 699-5050
wrapp@sempra.com

Any questions about this application should be directed to contact information above or by calling 1-877-SEMPRA9.

The Commission's most recent landowner pamphlet entitled "An Interstate Natural Gas Facility on My Land? What Do I Need to Know?" explains the Commission's certificate process and addresses some of the basic concerns of landowners. A copy of this pamphlet is available on the internet at www.ferc.gov or by contacting the Commission's Office of External Affairs at 1-866-208-3372 (toll-free) or 1-202-208-1088. That office will answer any further questions about the procedures involved. Cameron Interstate is sending copies of the Commission's notice of application that provides the date by which timely motions to intervene are due, together with the Commission's information sheet on how to intervene in Commission proceedings to affected landowners.

Cameron Interstate strives to be a good neighbor and believes that its project will bring many benefits to the local community and region by providing hundreds of construction jobs, full-time positions and tax revenues, to name a few. Additionally, the project will play an integral role in providing competitively-priced supplies of natural gas to the nation, which in turn may help local manufacturers that rely on natural gas to run their operations more efficiently. If you have any questions or comments regarding the Cameron Interstate Pipeline, please feel free to use the contact information above.

• NEW HOURS •

EFFECTIVE: TUESDAY, SEPT. 5, 2006

Cameron Library Locations
Cameron, Grand Lake, Hackberry,
Johnson Bayou & Grand Chenier

— HOURS —

Monday-Thursday -- 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Friday -- 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

After hours open by appointment, please call 337-598-5950 to schedule

RUN: 8/24 & 31 (AU-65)

• NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC •

Due to the Labor Day Holiday, the Cameron Parish Police Jury has rescheduled its September meeting for 6:00 p.m., Tuesday, September 5. The meeting will be held in the Court Room of the Cameron Courthouse.

RUN: Aug. 31 (AU-39)

— NOTICE —

The Cameron Parish School Board will have available for public inspection a proposed budget for the 2006-07 Fiscal Year on August 30 through September 11, 2006 during office hours at its temporary Administrative Office located at 409 East Prien Lake Road, Lake Charles, LA 70601.

A public hearing will be held on the proposed budget of the Cameron Parish School Board on September 11, 2006 at 4:00 p.m. at Johnson Bayou High School, 6304 Gulf Beach Highway, Johnson Bayou, La., 70631.

RUN: Aug. 31 & Sept. 7 (AU-75)

— JOB OPENINGS —

The Cameron Parish School Board is receiving applications for the following listed positions:

School Principal - Johnson Bayou School

Persons interested in working as a school principal in Cameron Parish Schools should apply, and persons interested in transferring should apply. The position of school principal requires a specific certification endorsement issued by the Louisiana State Department of Education.

To apply for the position of school principal, please send cover letter expressing interest in a Principal's position, detailed resumé including copies of a current Louisiana teaching certificate, driver's license, and social security card to the address below:

Certified Guidance Counselor - Johnson Bayou School -- K-12 School Setting

The position of school guidance counselor requires a specific certification endorsement issued by the Louisiana State Department of Education.

To apply for the position of K-12 guidance counselor, please send cover letter expressing interest in the position, detailed resumé, including copies of a current Louisiana teaching certificate, copy of driver's license, and a copy of social security card to the address below:

Dr. Douglas L. Chance, Superintendent, Cameron Parish School Board, P. O. Box 15488, Cameron, LA 70631.

The letter, resumé, and attachments must be received by 2:00 p.m., Thursday, September 7, 2006.

RUN: Aug. 31 & Sept. 7 (AU-73)



WORK ON THE bridge at Oak Grove has begun. (Photo by Cyndi Sellers.)

Bridge repair at a standstill

By CYNDI SELLERS

Work on the nearly complete Oak Grove bridge to Trosclair Road has been at a standstill as the contractor works on another project.

Meanwhile, traffic was held up for two hours on Friday morning when a truck carrying pipe spiled its load at the Creole bridge, leaving no way to get in or out of Cameron from the east.

The bridge was blocked from 7:27 to 9:25 am, according to the the Cameron Sheriff's Office.

The bridge was severely damaged by Hurricane Rita, and is to be repaired as soon as the Oak Grove bridge is opened. Preliminary work has already begun.

monument to families whose deceased love ones were displaced from Cameron parish cemeteries.

The monument, to be donated by Hixson's, Suhor, and Johnson's Funeral Home, will be black granite and include a time capsule, in the form of a vault, to be placed on the grounds of the Court House. The ceremony will be held on Oct. 21, to accommodate guest speakers. Citizens will be invited to place photos and other hurricane memorabilia in the vault.

Suhor Industries is the largest manufacturer of burial vaults in the world, and the third largest monument company.

Darryl Farque asked the Jury to consider a Hurricane Rita Day around the Sept. 24 anniversary of the storm. It will be discussed further at next week's meeting.

Clifton Hebert, OEP Director, reported that FEMA and the Corps of Engineers have asked the parish to sign the release on right of way clean-up and demolitions. He asked jurors to check their areas and make sure everything on their punch lists has been taken care of before the release is given.

\$50 million to be spent over next four years for coastal restoration

By CYNDI SELLERS

The resurfacing and widening of Trosclair Road in lower Cameron Parish to DOTD standards is one of several projects chosen by the Police jury for funding through the Coastal Impact Assistance Program.

A total of \$50 million will be spent over the next four years for coastal restoration and repair of infrastructure damaged by oil and gas production.

The projects chosen are: Trosclair Road - \$2.8 million

Rabbit Island restoration - \$3.5 million (\$3 million to be paid by Calcasieu Parish)

Grand Lake Shoreline Protection (N.E. Cameron Parish) - \$14 million

Little Florida to Martin Beach Coastal Erosion Bank Stabilization (demonstration project) - \$2.6 million

Rockefeller Shoreline Protection (demonstration project) - \$9 million (state funding) Beneficial Use (of dredge spoil in Sabine Refuge) Projects - \$15 million (state funds)

Bank Stabilization (Calcasieu Ship Channel, Dugas Cut to Kelso Bayou) - \$2 million.

Mermentau River Ship Channel Sediment By-pass - \$1.5 million

Oilfield Road (south of Parish Line Road, Grand Lake) - \$250,000.

CIAP funds totaling \$12.8 million designated by Congress for coastal projects will be added to \$35 million in state funding and \$3 million from Calcasieu Parish to pay for these projects.

The Jury learned that they will have to wait until the last minute to find out what the parish's property insurance will cost.

Logan Pruitt, of Louisiana Companies, explained that the only property insurance available is from Louisiana Citizens, and the company will not be able to provide a quote in time for the voting meeting next week.

He promised that a quote would be ready before the current policy expires on Sept. 15, however.

Pruitt said the increased premiums expected would be

somewhat offset by the reduced number of buildings to be covered, due to demolition of hurricane damaged structures.

Liability coverage for the parish will, in fact, be cheaper for the parish this year, he said, since the parish has a good record in that area.

Jurors discussed the terms of the contract with Larry Miller for operation of the ice plant owned by the parish. They agreed to stipulate a price for the ice of no more than 10% over expenses.

Sandra Cox, displaced Holly Beach resident, shared her concerns about the rebuilding of the beach community. She provided photos to support her claim that concrete slabs under buildings near the beach were responsible for damage to the streets and the deep holes left by storm surge.

Cox asked the Jury to deny any building permits for the beachfront which include concrete slabs.

She also said the Tax Assessor's office told her that her addresses in Holly Beach were no longer in the computer, so she could not apply for an SBA loan to rebuild.

In seeking to get permits to replace her destroyed rental camps with portable travel trailers, Cox discovered a conflict between SBA loan guidelines and parish permit guidelines, which are based on federal flood insurance rules.

The SBA requires travel trailers to be tied down in order to qualify for a loan. Parish guidelines require them to be set up for quick disconnect.

Another concern, about voting rights of displaced persons, was referred to the Registrar of Voters (see related article).

RITA MEMORIAL

Jared Daigle, of Hixson's Funeral Home, and Keith Gallagher, of Suhor Industries, updated the Jury on the plans for placing a



COACH BARNET directed an elementary student on the first day of school. (Photo courtesy of Tracy Lanin.)

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

Got questions? Go to FirstGov.gov. It's a monumental source of official information about federal, state, and local government.

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