



Jury hires director of Emergency Operations to head recovery here

By CYNDI SELLERS

The Cameron Parish Police Jury has hired Kisha Killmer to be the director of the Emergency Operations Center, in charge of overseeing the hurricane recovery effort in the parish.

Killmer is a Coast Guard reservist and a national damage assessment specialist. She attends Rutgers University in New Jersey.

Killmer was given the authority to hire two assistants to replace the volunteer personnel who have been working since before the storm hit.

The EOC is in place in the Cameron Court House, in the third floor court room. Phone lines have been set up for all recovery agencies and are to be manned 24 hours a day, seven days a week. (See phone list elsewhere in this issue)

Killmer told the standing room only crowd at Monday's Police jury meeting, held at the Cameron Prairie Refuge, that any needs of parish residents can be addressed by calling the EOC. She will be meeting with local, state, and national agency representatives constantly to work out the best way to handle situations as they arise.

Priorities have been established for clean up, including



OEP DIRECTOR Freddie Richard, EOC Director Kisha Killmer, and FEMA Regional Deputy Lee Champagne answer questions at Monday's packed Police Jury meeting. (Photo by Cyndi Sellers.)

roads, public property, and waterways and drainage canals. In the marshes, only large debris, like houses, will be removed, as the process of removing small debris would cause more damage than leaving it in place.

Housing needs are being addressed by FEMA. Lee Champagne, Deputy Regional Director of the agency has the first shipment of temporary

housing in place at Chennault, and has estimated the total housing requirement. Placement of the travel trailers and mobile homes will depend on the site being ready with electricity, water, and sewage.

Next Monday's Police Jury meeting will be held at Grand Lake School, to allow space for more people. It will be at 1:30 pm.



FORMER PRESIDENT George H. W. Bush paid a surprise visit by helicopter to Cameron last Sunday to inspect damages here. He is pictured with General Russel Honore, who has played a major role in the emergency efforts after both Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. (AP Photo by Carlos Javier Sanchez.)

After Rita: things are improving

By CYNDI SELLERS

What a difference two weeks can make. Immediately after Hurricane Rita all there was to see for miles was black water, gray mud, dead brown grass and trees, and destruction.

Only two weeks later, debris is being scraped up and hauled away, water is being drained, miles of electric lines have been replaced, and the trees are leafing out.

The flush of green leaves, and even flowers, is like early spring after a hard winter, bringing hope to the people of Cameron Parish.

The hundreds of utility workers, contract workers, and National Guard soldiers who are working in the parish daily from dawn to dusk are effecting an almost miraculous change for such a short period of time.

Parish crews are getting water systems up, flushing lines, and repairing mains.

Roads are mostly clear, and the ferry is running. The buzz of chainsaws and the rumble of dump trucks and backhoes fill the air.

For those who remember Hurricane Audrey, the speed of this recovery effort is amazing. For those who are still waiting for power or blue roofs or housing, remember, it has been less than three weeks since the worst disaster ever to hit Cameron Parish. Have faith, and patience, we'll get there sooner than we expect.

Who you gonna call for info?

Important Phone Numbers for parish information:

Emergency Operations Center (EOC): 775-7770 or 775-5439, 5042, 5444, 9495, 7015

Cameron Court House Parish offices, 302 N. Cutting Ave., Jennings: Police Jury: 616-9666; Assessor: 616-8890; Tax Collection: 661-8808; Clerk of Court: 661-8847, FAX line: 824-4142; Grand Lake office: 598-5158.

District Attorney's Office: Temp. Location: 4830 Lake St., Lake Charles: 478-5208.

School Info: For personnel, instructional projects, technology, e-mail, web page issues: Stephanie Rodrigue: 540-4623; Grand Lake School - David Duhon: 598-4774, Jackie Holmes: 478-2017; Dwayne Sanner, Hackberry: 802-9579.

38th Judicial District, Judge Fontenot: 437-3530. Health Dept: 475-3235.

Jeff Davis Electric Co-op: 1-800-256-5332.

Free Roof Covers: 1-888-ROOFBLU.

Housing Permits: 775-5815.

President Bush, Sr., visited Cameron Sun.

(AMERICAN PRESS)

Former President George H. W. Bush wrapped up a tour of the hurricane-devastated Gulf Coast on Sunday with a helicopter trip over parts of Texas and Louisiana.

Bush's weekend tour of the region concluded with a visit to hard-hit Cameron, where, he said, the path of destruction resembled that left by the tsunami.

"The devastation is similar, but when you know a town, know the area, it's different," he said after riding in the open back of a large military cargo truck. "It's made a profound impact on me."

Bush got a briefing at the courthouse, about the only building still standing in the town, sitting in the jury box in a courtroom that has been converted into a command center. It's the only room in town that has power.

Military forces have had to bulldoze debris to clear roads in Cameron, which wound up in the northeast quadrant of Rita and got the worst of the Category 3 storm. Residents are allowed in only on weekends to salvage what they can.

"The last couple of weeks have been pretty tough," said Freddie Richard, director of the emergency operations center. "His visit really has helped the morale around here. I saw a lot of smiling today, and that's something we haven't seen."

People waited in line to shake Bush's hand. Some wiped away tears.

"That he would actually come and see people," said Wanda Trahan, 56, her voice breaking, "when he's standing next to you shaking your hand, I have hope."

Bush has witnessed the effects of a hurricane in Cameron before. In 1965, Bush's Zapata Corp. lost an oil rig in Hurricane Betsy. He recalled flying in an airplane near Cameron to search for it. Years later, sonar detected some of the wreckage.

He commended the community for its strength.

"The thing that gets me is the spirit of the people here," Bush told a group gathered on the courthouse steps. "It's very emotional for me. They're going to fight back. I wish the critics could see what you all are doing."

Some false rumors are corrected here

By CYNDI SELLERS

Several disturbing rumors have been circulating around the parish, causing much confusion and anxiety. School Board, Police Jury, and Office of Emergency Preparedness officials asked residents to be careful of rumors. The following are NOT true:

1. "The Corps of Engineers will start bulldozing homes on Oct. 17." OEP director Freddie Richard said the Corp will not be bulldozing any private homes. The debris removal will begin with rights of way and public property. The Corp does not have permission to go onto private property at this time. Later they may be able to remove debris from around homes.

2. "Johnson Bayou School will be torn down and/or closed" To the contrary, the School Board's insurance company, M.B. Slocum & Assoc., reports that the school seems to have taken relative-

ly minor damage, and it may be possible to use it even while repairs are being made.

3. "FEMA is condemning houses in Hackberry and Johnson's Bayou for demolition." FEMA's Deputy Regional coordinator Lee Champagne said whoever was making those statements did not represent FEMA, and he'd like to know who it was.

4. "Blue roofs cost money." The police Jury has contracted with FEMA for the free federal ROOFBLU service. On an individual basis, residents with roof damage can call 1-888-ROOFBLU to sign up for the program. Qualifying homes will be covered as soon as possible at no charge to the homeowner.

In order to avoid becoming th victim of rumor, residents are advised to call the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) in Cameron at 775-7770. The number will be manned 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Have you heard this one?

By SHIRLEY JOHNSON

No matter where disaster strikes, there are always stories to be told and retold. Some are true and some are untrue, it's really hard to tell fact from fiction. This particular story is a result of Hurricane Rita, and is supposedly true but I can neither confirm nor deny its authenticity.

A resident of Cameron told her daughter that she wanted to go to her home site and survey the damage first hand. The daughter strongly advised against the idea, fearing the devastation would be too hard on her mother and

pleaded with her not to go.

She was adamant about the trip and had a friend drive her to the site where she found only one bedroom and a small attached wash room. With tears clouding her vision, she walked over and opened the bedroom door to find a huge brahman bull lying in her bed. Later her daughter asked her what she did next and she replied "I told him if he had made it through the storm in my bed, he could keep it, and I shut the door."

Just proves that no matter how bad a situation is, there is usually something to smile about.



HOLLY BEACH, the small resort community on the west side of Cameron Parish, was completely destroyed by Hurricane Rita, as it was 48 years ago during Hurricane Audrey. The community had been rebuilt and is shown at left prior to Rita. The photo on the right shows the total desolation left by Rita.

Disaster Recovery Centers told

Two Disaster Recovery Centers (DRCs) are being set up in Cameron Parish, and should be open within the week. The DRCs will be located at the Grand Lake Recreation Center and at Hackberry.

Important information for citizens

By CYNDI SELLERS

The SPEED LIMIT in Cameron Parish east of the Calcasieu river is 45 mph. West of the Calcasieu it is 35 mph. These limits are needed because of the poor condition of the roads (many with no shoulders and holes on the edges) and the many energy trucks at work restoring power to the parish.

This past week there was a head-on day-time collision in front of the Grand Lake Community Center, and a patrol car was involved in a collision with a cow.

Because of these unsafe conditions, the 6 p.m. to 6 a.m. curfew remains in effect.

The big FERRY at Cameron is in operation during daylight hours only. The ferry to Monkey Island sank in Lake Charles during the storm and is being repaired.

WATER SYSTEMS are being repaired, but there is still not potable (drinkable) water in Cameron Parish. Persons in areas having water should boil it before drinking.

DEAD ANIMALS are being picked up by contractors. Call EOC at 775-7770 to report.

The 911 SYSTEM is up and running in Cameron Parish. Dispatchers are manning the phone and radios at the court House. 911 is for emergencies only. For information, call the EOC.

If you need to get into the lower part of the parish to meet an insurance adjuster, call the EOC and they will

School to open soon at Hackberry, G. Lake

By CYNDI SELLERS

"Cameron Parish schools are days away, not months away, from re-opening," said Supt. Doug Chance at Monday's School Board meeting at Grand Lake School.

Crews from the Belfor company have been busy rehabilitating the Hackberry and Grand Lake schools in preparation for receiving all Cameron Parish students in the near future.

Chance is working on a plan that would let each student population use the school for part of the day, or on alternate days, keeping each school's identity intact.

"Four graduations are being planned," he said, "South Cameron and Johnson Bayou seniors will have diplomas bearing their school's name."

contact the roadblock to let you in. Photo ID recommended.

If you need to leave during the night while under curfew, call the EOC and let them know. They'll clear it with patrols.

The 38th JUDICIAL DISTRICT court will be held at the Calcasieu parish courthouse until further notice. Judge Ward Fontenot can be reached at 437-3530. Grand Jury for Oct. 19 and Petit Juries for Oct. 18 and Nov. 14 have been cancelled.

MAIL PICKUP for Cameron, Creole, and Grand Chenier is from 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. at the Eastside Station, 950 Main St., Lake Charles. Johnson Bayou mail can be picked up at the Hackberry post office at 1 p.m.

1st business open in Cam.

The Houston Exploration Co. reopened its offices in Cameron Wednesday, the first business to do so since the hurricane. Don Whittle is the manager.



Funerals



MARIE D. JOHNSON

Marie D. Johnson, a former DeQuincy Postmaster, died Friday, Oct. 7, 2005 after a lengthy illness. Funeral services were held Wednesday, Oct. 12 at the Vidor Memorial Funeral Home with burial in the Hackberry Cemetery.

Mrs. Johnson was born in Beaumont, Tex., and was reared in Hackberry, where her father operated a grocery store. She met her husband, J. T., while he was stationed in Hackberry as part of the Civilian Conservation Corps. They later married in 1939 and lived in Hackberry.

She was active in the local school system serving as a substitute teacher and in the PTA chapter. She also served as pianist and Sunday School teacher at the First Baptist Church of Hackberry.

Her work history began as a clerk in a local grocery store followed by a position for a grocery distribution chain in Lake Charles. She later joined Sears Roebuck in Lake Charles, serving as store

auditor.

Mrs. Johnson's postal career began with her being selected as Postmaster in the Hackberry office in 1969. Subsequent Postmaster appointments to DeQuincy and Vidor, Tex., Post Offices followed. While at Vidor, she was appointed as Officer-In-Charge at the Muskegon, Mich. office.

She retired in 1990, concluding her career at the Vidor, Tex., office, with 23 years total Postal Service.

She was an active member of the National Association of Postmasters of the United States and was the only woman to serve as a State Chapter President in both Louisiana and Texas.

After retirement, Mrs. Johnson remained engaged with the Postal Service and served as PAC Chairman traveling to Washington on many occasions. During her service as a retired Postmaster, she is the only woman to have received the NAPUS Lifetime Achievement Award.

She was an active member of the Maplecrest Baptist Church in Vidor.

She was preceded in death by J. T., her husband of 49 years; a sister, Lucille Andrews; brother, J. E. Davis; mother, Edna Davis; and father, G. E. Davis.

She is survived by two daughters, Lyndia Portie and husband Leland; Juanita Landry and husband Robert; one son, Thomas; nine grandchildren; and eleven great-grandchildren.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Maplecrest Baptist Church, c/o Building Fund, 1005 North St., Vidor, Tex. 77662 or to the Robert Christ Scholarship Fund, c/o Helen Croft, Box 735, Proctor, Tex., 76468.

EARNEST LA SALLE

Earnest La Salle, 73, died Wednesday, Sept. 21, 2005, in a local hospital.

He was a native of Cameron, and he had lived in Lake Charles for many years. He was a member of Messiah Missionary Baptist Church. He was a deacon, and assisted in the ministry for the sick and shut-in.

Survivors include three sons, Armna (Tris Lynn) La Salle, John (Tammy) La Salle and Jacob La Salle, all of Lake Charles, and adopted son Jerry La Salle; one daughter, Stephanie Henry of Lake Charles; one brother, Gilbert La Salle of Cameron; one stepbrother, the Rev. Roland Mouton Sr. of Houston; two stepsisters, Geneva Laws of Lake Charles and Susie La Salle of Cameron; 11 grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

His funeral was held Wednesday, Oct. 12, in Messiah Missionary Baptist Church. The Rev. Robert Owens officiated. Burial was in Sacred Heart Cemetery.

PLACIDE D. RICHARD

Placide Delma "P.D." Richard, 74, of Creole died Sunday, Oct. 9, 2005, in Youngsville.

He was a lifelong resident of Creole. He was a sponsor of the Louisiana High School and McNeese Rodeo Association, Cameron Parish 4-H and FFA, American Quarter Horse Association, Cutting Horse Association and Louisiana Farm Bureau.

He was a third-degree Knight of Columbus, rancher, cattleman and farmer and was an Army veteran. He was a member of Sacred Heart Catholic Church.

Survivors include one sister, Elma Hebert of Grand Lake; three nieces, Carolyn Daniels of Creole, Clarice LaFosse of Grand Lake and Kala Billedeaux of Sweetlake.

He was preceded in death by one brother, Leslie Richard and a sister Verd LeBouef.

His funeral will be at 2 p.m. Thursday Oct. 13, from St. Patrick Catholic Church. The Rev. Joseph McGrath will officiate. Burial will be in Highland Memory Gardens Cemetery under the direction of Hixson Funeral Home of Lake Charles.

CLAYTON JOSEPH SUIRE

Clayton Joseph Suire, 64, of Iowa, died Friday, Oct. 7, 2005.

He was a native of Grand Chenier and was a member of the Louisiana Cajuns and was in the Cajun Music Hall of Fame. He was associated with the Specialized Foster Home for Adolescent Teenage Girls and was a certified foster parent for 22 years.

Survivors include his wife, Jannette of Iowa; one son,



ONE FAMILIAR landmark in Cameron survived the hurricane. The old Bolo Troclair ice plant built of concrete blocks stood up well, as did the mural on its side which was painted some years ago and welcomed visitors to Cameron.

(Photo by Cyndi Sellers.)

Reunion

A family reunion was held Sept. 10 at the home of Mrs. Evelyn Clark in Monchs Corner, South Carolina.

Among the many relatives attending were a sister, Grace Welch of Hackberry and her daughters Mary McInnis of Hackberry and Patricia Kershaw of Houston.

Norman Suire of Lake Charles; two daughters, Jeanelle Mouton of Lake Charles and Michelle Schaffer of Waco, Tex.; one brother, Allen Roy Suire of Bridge City, Tex.; and one sister, Jeannette Holland of Iowa.

His funeral was held Monday, Oct. 10, in Hixson Funeral Home of Welsh. The Rev. Broxie Hardesty officiated. Burial was in Ardoin Cove Cemetery.

MERILLA THERIOT

Merilla Marie LeBoeuf Theriot, 94, of Creole, died Sunday, Oct. 9, 2005, in Hardner Medical Center in Olla.

She was born in Creole and attended school in Grand Chenier. She attended college in Lake Charles and worked in the business office at the Cameron courthouse for many years.

Before leaving Lake Charles, she had been a member of Christ the King Ladies Altar Society for 45 years. In 1995, she received the distinguished member award plaque.

Survivors include two sons, John E. Theriot Jr. and his wife, Lonora, of Moss Bluff and J. Winston Theriot and his wife, Joyce, of Albany, Ore.; one daughter, Carolyn D. Theriot Richard and her husband, Donald, of Lake Charles; one brother, Dallas J. LeBoeuf of Lake Charles; eight grandsons; nine great-grandsons; one granddaughter; and 13 great-granddaughters.

She was preceded in death by her husband, John E. Theriot Sr.

Her funeral will be at 10 a.m. Thursday, Oct. 13, from Our Lady Queen of Heaven Catholic Church. The Rev. Joe McGrath will officiate. Burial will be in Highland Memory Gardens under the direction of Johnson Funeral Home.

LATISHA TINGLER

The funeral for Latisha Ann Gallegos Tingler, 24, of Hackberry was held Monday, Oct. 10, in Parkview Baptist Church of Sulphur. The Rev. Randall Chesson officiated. Burial was in Mimosa Pines Garden of Memories in Sulphur.

Mrs. Tingler died Thursday, Oct. 6, 2005 in Allen Parish. She was born in Sulphur and was a graduate of Parkview Christian Academy.

Survivors include her mother, Polly Hill of Kingwood, Tex.; father, Gabe Gallegos of Hackberry; one brother, Dustin Paul Gallegos of Hackberry; one sister, Erica Paige Gallegos of Kingwood; sons, Logan Michael Tingler and Alex Wade Tingler, both of Hackberry; husband, Michael Tingler of Hackberry; grandparents, Hazel and Perfecto Gallegos of Hackberry and Martha and Harold Williams of Reeves; and great-grandmother, Anola Simon.

Hackberry clinic open

Hackberry Rural Health Clinic is now seeing patients in the Hackberry Community Center from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays.

Julie Galley, RN, CFNP, is the family nurse practitioner at the clinic which provides immunizations, offers Kidmed services and handles a variety of other medically related services.

Plans are being made to move a portable building to the clinic location, 1020 Main St., Hackberry in the near future to better serve their patients.

For more information or to book appointments call 762-3762.

Dentist seeing patients in LC

The dental office of Dr. R. Thomas Cates, located at the Hackberry Rural Health Clinic sustained damages as a result of Hurricane Rita and has announced that they are temporarily seeing their Hackberry patients at their Lake Charles office, 1400 Oak Park Blvd., beginning Monday, Oct. 17 until repairs are finished.

They ask that their patients please call them as soon as possible for rescheduling appointments, since they have been unable to reach them.

For more information call 439-2111 or 762-4437 (calls are being forwarded.)

-The CAMERON PARISH PILOT- (USPS 086-980)

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It Seems Just Like Yesterday

By Keith Hambrick



Cameron Pilot, April 27, 1972.

4-H LIVESTOCK BANQUET

The annual Cameron Parish 4-H Club livestock recognition banquet honoring Junior livestock show exhibitors, buyers, parents and leaders was held Saturday night at the KC Hall in Creole. Hosting the event were the Cameron Parish Cattlemen Association and the Farm Bureau.

Yolanda Seay, a member of the Hackberry Sr. 4-H Club, served as master of ceremonies.

Whitney Baccigalopi, president of the Cameron Parish Cattlemen Association gave the welcome address.

Cecil Myers, a member of the South Cameron High Sr. 4-H Club, gave the invocation.

Clifford Myers, Cameron County Agent, introduced John Jackson, Calcasieu Parish County Agent, who presented a slide talk on the District Livestock Show Coliseum to be built south of Lake Charles.

Uland Guidry, Jr., Associate County Agent, introduced the 4-H club exhibition and buyers. Each of the over 100 exhibitors presented a picture of himself, the buyer and his animal to the buyer.

Mike McCall, a member of the South Cameron High Sr. 4-H Club, gave the exhibitors' response.

SCHOOL TAXES ARE REDUCED

School tax millages were reduced in all Cameron Parish school construction districts when the Cameron parish School Board set new tax rates on April 10.

Supt. W. R. Smith said that reduction in tax rates were made possible by increase in assessments and decrease in amount due for interest and principal on bond issues.

ALL GIRL RODEO

The first annual All-Girl Rodeo, to be held Friday and Saturday, April 28 and 29 in the Ox-Yoke Arena in Sweetlake, promises to be a great attraction for rodeo fans of Southwest Louisiana. This will be the first all-girl rodeo held in the state in nearly twenty years.

Brenda Jowers, "Miss Rodeo U.S.A.," will be present at both performances and will enter in the competition. Cowgirls from Texas, Oklahoma, Arkansas, Mississippi, and Louisiana will be competing.

The Ox-Yoke Arena, located six miles south of Holmwood, just off of Highway 27, is all steel constructed and is the largest and most modern outdoor rodeo arena in the state.

LOS GROUP TO BE HERE

The Louisiana Ornithological Society (or bird watchers as they are better known) will hold their semi-annual meeting in Cameron Friday and Saturday as they have been doing for many years.

This year the group has invited the people of Cameron area to join them for a social gathering in the civic room of the Calcasieu Marine Bank at 8 p.m., Friday, April 28.

LOS members, who come from all parts of the state, will spend Friday and Saturday on field trips to all parts of Cameron Parish to watch the birds. The parish has probably the largest variety of birdlife in the state.

SIX TEACHERS TO RETIRE

Six Cameron Parish teachers will retire in May, it was announced at the recent Cameron Parish School Board meeting at which a resolution was passed praising the teachers for their many years of service to the schools.

The six are C. W. Krumm, Mrs. Pauline Krumm, Mrs. Virgie LeBleu, Mrs. Eleanor West, Mrs. Estelle Theriot and Miss Manilla Allen.

CRAIN DISTRICT WINNER

Randalin Crain, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Neal Crain of Oak Grove and a member of the Grand Chenier 4-H Jr. Club, participated in the district egg cook-off on the USL campus in Lafayette.

Randalin won the parish contest at the Cameron Parish Food Show in March. She was accompanied to the district contest by her mother and Miss Patsy Ann Granger,

Lagniappe Two Retirement Home Living Notes

By Geneva Griffith



Cameron Parish extension agent.

FUN DAY TO BE HELD HERE

The annual Fun Day to be in Cameron Sunday, April 30, will begin with a ladies softball game at 10 a.m., followed by a men's game at 11 a.m. The Cameron Altar boys versus Creole will begin at 12:30 p.m., according to Berton Boudreaux and Ruben Morales, co-chairmen of the ball games.

Ray Burleigh, chairman of the go-cart, mini bike and bicycle races, states that these races will begin at 10 a.m., also on the church grounds. Trophies will also be awarded.

ROUNDOBT THE PARISH

The Johnson Bayou Athletic Association will sponsor a "play day" Monday, May 1, from 4 to 6:30 p.m., according to Paul Jacobs, association president. The South Cameron Elementary School will sponsor a "May Day Play" Saturday, May 6 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., according to Adam Conner, principal.

The 1972 Heart Fund campaign for Cameron Parish was a "bang up success," according to J. B. Jones, Jr., parish chairman. A total of \$1,073.20 was raised in the drive.

A "Girl and Boy In Action" Recognition Service will be

My son Leslie, has just returned from Cameron with the bad news, we along with most everyone else have lost everything, including four houses and a trailer, but no loss of life, thank goodness for that. I don't even want to see it so I guess I will never go back.

The only thing we all can be thankful for is that there was no loss of life. I remember that my father-in-law drowned in my arms during Hurricane Audrey, but there was no way I could save him. I had waved to my family up in the tree and told them goodbye, because I knew I was going to die also. But I guess God was not ready for me to go, so my husband finally got me up into the tree, also.

D. W. loved it on Oak Grove, where his family had lived over a hundred years. However, even though I had grown to love the people there and had gotten involved in everything, I do not want the bad memories. I am now living in a community with all older people, in fact you have to have at least one person living in each condo who is 50

held Sunday at 4 p.m. at the Grand Chenier Baptist Church. Mrs. David Duncan is the girl and boy service leader and Rev. Clinton Childers is interim pastor.

or older. It is a gated community that has locked gates. You have to be invited or delivering something to get in.

I am really concerned about the loss of my duck decoy collection that I had left for my son, who was living in one of our houses. They floated off with the wreckage of the house, with only the elevator left on the ground. I guess it was too heavy to float off. If anyone finds them in the back marsh I would appreciate it if you can find and save them for me.

Eugene and Marie Miller and Dora Mae Pinch called me this morning and brought back many memories of when we all belonged in the old Pure Oil Group. We are all much older now, and all we have are memories, and I plan to keep it that way. I do not ever plan to go back to see it.

I want to remember Cameron as it was and not now that it has been swept clean. I want to remember all of the good times we had back then.

I have to stop thinking about it, or I will cry. I will cherish all of the good times we had at my camp house on Rutherford Beach which has been swept clean as all my property on Oak Grove has been.

Jerry Wise called me and said he has faith that



A YOUNG SOLDIER is shown using a satellite phone from the second floor of the Cameron Courthouse. Note the wire trailing out the window

(Photo by Cyndi Sellers.)

Blue roof sign up set

A signup location for temporary roof repairs through the Corps of Engineers Blue Roof program has been established at the Grand Lake

Cameron Parish will rise again, and he has plans to only miss one publication. He plans to keep on publishing and I will keep on writing as long as I am able.

We have one thing to be thankful for, no casualties, it was a complete evacuation.

Community Center. Property owners must register in person for the blue tarpaulin.

Operation Blue Roof provides temporary repairs to both residential and public building roofs damaged by Hurricane Rita.

Corps contractors install the temporary roof covering at no cost.

The site is open from 9 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. Monday - Friday. The phone number is 1-800-ROOFBLU.



We want the community to know we're here, we're working and we're ready to serve. Cameron Communications is open for business.

As of 10/11/05, Cameron Communications restored service to the following areas:

- 100% of Grand Lake and Hackberry, including Internet and video service
- 100% voice and data service to Carlyss, as a result of fiber connectivity from Carlyss to Lake Charles, Grand Lake, Creole, Cameron, Johnsons Bayou and Hackberry
- Phone, data, and fax service to the Cameron Parish Courthouse
- Phone service to "Camp Cameron" and the Cameron Recreation Center

Cameron Communications is working around the clock to replace damaged equipment and restore service in all areas. To expedite the restoration process, Cameron Communications has deployed its disaster recovery team to the affected areas. Our goal is to return connectivity to lower Cameron Parish area (Cameron, Creole, Grand Chenier and Johnsons Bayou) within the next two weeks. We appreciate the patience and support from our customers during this difficult time.

In areas where service has been unaffected, restored or temporarily interrupted, we are accepting new work orders. To place orders for new service or to redirect calls from a temporarily out-of-service phone number to a complimentary voicemail box, please call 1 800 737-3900. Our current office hours are from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and we will make every effort to process your requests as quickly as possible.



Get connected.

1 800 737-3900
www.camtel.com

Cameron Communications provides these emergency contact numbers for residents and businesses in need of more information about the Cameron Parish disaster recovery effort:

Hackberry Community Center
337 762-9313

Johnson Bayou Office of Emergency Preparedness
{operating in Hackberry}
337 569-2453 337 569-2288 337 569-2915
337 569-2914 337 569-2119

Hackberry Fire Department
337 762-4777





A LARGE NUMBER of cattle probably drowned in Hurricane Rita. However, some were saved. These cattle were penned at Hackberry High School. (Photo by Cyndi Sellers.)

Cattle being rescued following hurricane

Livestock producers from Cameron and Calcasieu parishes with logistical support from the U. S. Department of Agriculture Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service and the U. S. Army are rescuing and recovering cattle in areas of Louisiana affected by Hurricane Rita. Teams are dispatched daily and the coordinated effort will continue until all identified cattle are fed, provided water, and moved to higher pasture.

The rescue effort began with air and boat surveillance of the area and GPS coordinates of displaced cattle were mapped. Within hours of initial data collection, 38 cattle were penned and moved to a higher pasture where they were provided feed and fresh water. With the use of airboats, barges, and U. S. Army trucks, the teams have recovered over 250 cattle.

Hundreds more cattle have been identified and are being provided feed and water and efforts continue to pen and move them.

All cattle are being held in a single location where they will continue to receive feed and fresh water. A plan for owners to claim their cattle will be made public as soon as details have been finalized. Owners can expect to be ready to start identifying their cattle at the location within the week.



Some deer, rabbit seasons being opened

The Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (LDWF) is reopening portions of the hunting areas and seasons that were previously closed due to the catastrophic impacts of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

Hunters should keep in mind that some U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service refuges continue to remain closed in the impacted areas and hunters should contact the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service for information pertaining to these seasons.

Areas that are being opened are as follows:

* Deer and rabbit hunting is hereby open effective Oct. 12, 2005 in all portions of Calcasieu, Cameron, Jefferson Davis and Vermilion parishes in southwest Louisiana previously closed because of Hurricane Rita.

Note: As conditions improve and more surveys are conducted these areas



UTILITY WORKERS from 17 states are in the Cameron Parish area restoring electrical service. The above photo taken in Cameron shows the difficulties under which they are working. (Photo by Cyndi Sellers.)

Power being restored to homes and businesses

By DORIS MARICLE
American Press

The lights came on at more homes and businesses over the weekend as utility crews continued to make progress in restoring power to areas hit by Hurricane Rita.

Jeff Davis Electric Co-op spokesman Billy Gibson reported a 100 percent restoration of homes and businesses that can receive power.

Those without power are either isolated or are located in areas that were devastated by the storm, including Cameron Parish.

"The best news is we are making progress going down to Cameron," Gibson said.

Crews are working to set about 10 miles of lines and poles each day until power is fully restored in Cameron Parish, he said.

"We hope to have the lights on in Creole by the end of the week," Gibson said.

Power is not expected to be restored to the Cameron Parish Courthouse for two weeks.

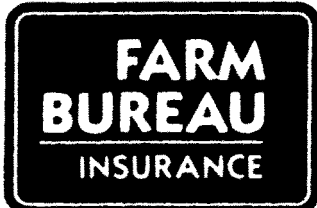
The co-op is receiving help in restoring the power with additional manpower from nearly 5,000 out-of-state crews, including some from the Tennessee Valley Authority, who are staying in tent cities throughout the city.

Jeff Davis Electric Co-op customers without power should report outages to (800)256-5332.

Entergy spokesman Stanley Guillory said about 6,500 customers in Calcasieu and parts of Cameron parishes were still without power Monday. Power has been restored to most other areas, including Jeff Davis Parish.

More than 2,000 crew members are working to restore electricity to Entergy customers in Southwest Louisiana.

Helping You Is What We Do Best!



Louisiana Farm Bureau Casualty Insurance Co.
Louisiana Farm Bureau Mutual Insurance Co.
Southern Farm Bureau Casualty Insurance Co.
Southern Farm Bureau Life Insurance Co.

The Cameron Parish Office Of
Louisiana Farm Bureau Insurance Co.
Has Opened A Temporarily Location At:
Boone's Corner

605 Hwy. 384, Grand Lake

— HOURS OF OPERATION ARE —

Monday through Friday

8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

(Subject To Change)

Anyone Unable to Visit The
Temporary Office May Report
A claim by Calling. . .
1-866-275-7323

For More Information Call Your Local Agents:
Wilson "Boogie" LeJeune, LTCF, Agency Mgr.
Tim Dupont, LTCF, Special Agent
Vickie Theriot, Special Agent

542-4807

Wildlife dept. helping with boat ins. claims

The Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (LDWF) is working with vessel owners and their insurance companies to provide assistance with documentation required to file claims for the loss of boats during Hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

To assist boat owners who suffered losses, the department will provide free certified copies of boat registrations and will cancel registration records for which written documentation is received from the registered owner or the insurance company for lost, stolen or missing boats.

Along with the written request for a certified copy or a cancellation, registered owners should provide a copy of their driver's licenses for identification purposes. This information may be faxed to

225-763-5421.

LDWF is taking a proactive approach to curtail fraud and theft by scrutinizing ownership documentation for new applications submitted to register boats that may have been affected by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

The Department will work with the Office of the Attorney General and make every effort to protect the rights of legitimate boat owners. Registration transactions will not be allowed for salvaged, found or abandoned boats.

Louisiana has several criminal statutes that address theft, fraudulent applications and related matters. LDWF agents will investigate and file charges on anyone attempting an illegal transfer of a motorboat.

All Cameron State Banks branches closed in parish

The Cameron State Bank has announced that its Grand Lake and Hackberry branches are closed until further notice due to damage from Hurricane Rita.

These branches will reopen once damages have been repaired.

The Cameron, Creole and

Grand Chenier branches were destroyed by the storm. Plans for these branches will be announced later.

Branches of the bank in Calcasieu and Allen Parishes are open and bank customers may transact their banking business at these location even if they were customers of Cameron parish branches.

ATM machines are also in operation at many locations in Calcasieu and Allen parishes.

More information on the Cameron State Bank can be found in their ad elsewhere in this issue.

Farm Bureau opens office at Boone's Corner

The Cameron Parish office of Louisiana Farm Bureau Insurance Co. has opened a temporary location at Boone's Corner, Hwy. 384, Grand Lake.

The temporary office will take claims and assist policy-

holders. It is open 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., with these hours subject to change.

If you are unable to visit the temporary office, you may report a claim by calling 1-866-275-7322 or call your local agents at 542-4807.

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786-8004 or 1-800-256-7323.



The Cameron Pilot

203 Harrison St. • P. O. Box 995 • DeQuincy, La. 70633

— DENTAL SERVICES —

To Resume On Monday, October 17th

Dr. R. Thomas Cates
Hackberry Family Dentistry

At Our Lake Charles Office
1400 Oak Park Blvd.

We Care
For
You!!

Phone: 439-2111 or 762-4437 (Forwarded)
Please Call Us To Reschedule Your Appointments!



YANK SAVOIE, Roy Bailey Construction employee, is shown surveying the damage at the Cameron Recreation Center following Hurricane Rita. The Center suffered great damage as it is close to the beach. (Photo by Cyndi Sellers.)



SOMEONE PAINTED a facetious sign "Grand Opening" in front of the Family Dollar Store in Cameron where the Alabama National Guard set up camp after arriving here to assist in keeping order following Hurricane Rita. (Photo by Cyndi Sellers.)

We're Open To Assist You With Your Financial Needs

Our Grand Lake and Hackberry Banking Centers are closed until further notice. We will reopen once damages have been assessed and required repairs have been made. We apologize for the inconvenience.

**The following branches of Cameron State Bank are open with regular banking hours:
DeQuincy • Kinder • Oberlin • Oakdale**

The following branches are open from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

University • Westlake • WalMart Nelson • Moss Bluff
WalMart Hwy 171 • Albertsons on Country Club Road • Oak Park
Main Office • Mid-City • Highway 14 (Drive thru only) • Vinton

The following branches are open from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Ruth Street • Maplewood • Cities Service • Carlyss

All of the above branches will be open regular banking hours beginning Monday, October 17, 2005

The Mallard Investment Department is open and is located on the Second Floor of the Main Office, 4440 Nelson Road (Please use the South Entrance)

The Commercial Lending Department is open and is located on the First Floor of the Main Office, 4440 Nelson Road

ATM Machines are available for use at the following locations:

- WalMart Nelson • University
- Moss Bluff • Westlake
- Cities Service • Ruth Street
- Maplewood • Main Office
- Oakdale • WalMart Hwy 171
- Oberlin • DeQuincy
- Albertsons on Country Club • Mid City



CAMERON STATE BANK
MEMBER FDIC

**For Customer Service Call:
(337) 312-7800**

Personal Banking At Its Best



A DISTRIBUTION center for hurricane victims has been set up at the Grand Lake Community Center. Food, water, ice, clothing and toiletries are distributed daily. (Photo by Cyndi Sellers.)



A MILITARY helicopter takes off from the bridge north of Hackberry soon after the storm passed. (Photo by Deputy French.)

Cameron Parish School Info

Cameron Parish Superintendent Doug Chance has made the following announcements about Cameron Parish schools:

(1) The Cameron Parish School Board met on Monday, Oct. 10, to receive reports from the Office of Emergency Preparedness, Sheriff Theos Duhon, District Attorney Cecil Sanner, members of the police jury, insurance representative M. B. Slocum, architect Gayle Zembower, and the superintendent and staff. Members of the Board are: Clifton Morris, Johnson Bayou; Dwayne Sanner, Hackberry; Pat Howerton, Grand Lake - Sweetlake; Ms. Dot Theriot, Grand Chenier; Loston McEvers, Creole; Marvin Trahan, Cameron; and, Ms. Rachel Abadie, Grand Lake - Big Lake. Dr. Doug Chance serves as Secretary/Treasurer and Superintendent for the Board.

(2) Members of the Cameron Parish School Board and Superintendent Chance acknowledge that the school system is vital to the restoration and re-development of Cameron Parish based upon three factors. The factors are:

(a) The education of students is the Board and Superintendent's first priority and a critical element in the well-being of the parish;

(b) The school district is the largest employer in Cameron Parish; and,

(c) The economic and security issues of the State of Louisiana and the United States are interrelated and dependent upon a viable Cameron Parish as a result of oil, gas, pipelines, and shipping interests within and through our boundaries.

In the post-Hurricane Rita environment, members of the Board and Dr. Chance are committed to restoring the school system in order to benefit students, our parish, Louisiana, and the nation.

(3) Restoration of vital services are progressing at an excellent pace and ahead of schedule in Grand Lake and Hackberry; and, crews are making steady progress in Cameron and other areas of the parish.

(4) A temporary central office for Cameron Parish Schools will open by 10 a.m. on Monday, Oct. 17, at 409 Prien Lake Road in Lake Charles. Phone numbers and a mailing address will be announced and posted as soon as this data are available.

(5) Central office employ-

ees are scheduled to report to work on Monday, Oct. 17, in order to serve the people and employees of Cameron Parish.

(6) All teachers and school-based employees are encouraged to e-mail a note to their principal and cc a copy to their assistant principal in order to share their status — location, phone numbers, and other important information.

(7) All parents and students are encouraged to send an e-mail to a special address in order to share their location, phone numbers, and other important information. The e-mail address is whereareyou@camsch.org. This address is protected; therefore, information you send will be safe and secure.

In the next few days a toll free phone number will be available for parents and students to use to get information about the re-opening of school and to share important information.

It is important for parents and students to share information about their location at this time since revised and new bus routes will be reviewed and developed in the next few days. A "special thank you" is expressed in advance for your assistance.

(8) All employees should be aware that plans are being made to distribute payroll checks and conduct faculty and staff meetings later in the month of October. Please continue to review this website for additional information.

Members of the school board and Dr. Chance share expressions of sincere appreciation for the patience and support from parents, students, and employees during this special time created by Hurricane Rita. Additionally, words of gratitude are expressed to the following for their support during this critical period: OEP; Sheriff Duhon and his staff; FEMA; National Guard; Corp of Engineers; Louisiana State Police; Superintendent Picard, the State Department of Education, and members of BESE; Louisiana Legislature; Governor Blanco; Congressman Boustany and members of the U. S. Congress; Senators Landrieu and Vitter and members of the U. S. Senate; and, President George W. Bush.

SOUTH CAMERON HIGH SCHOOL

All Tarpon football players and their parents are encouraged to attend a meeting on Thursday, Oct. 13, at 3 p.m. to discuss the remainder of the season. The meeting will be conducted at Barbe High School, 2200 West McNeese Street, Lake Charles.

Additionally, all Tarpon cheerleaders, dance line members, and their parents are encouraged to attend meetings at Barbe High School at 3 p.m., Thursday, Oct. 13. Please meet Ms. Sethie Trosclair, Ms. Picou, and Ms. Trahan at Barbe to discuss continued activities.

If events prevent a football player, cheerleader, or dance line member from attending the meetings at Barbe High, then if possible, please contact either Coach LaLande, Ms. Picou, Ms. Trahan, Coach Barnett, Ms. Trosclair, or Mr. Skinner in order to share contact information.

GRAND LAKE HIGH SCHOOL

All Hornet and Lady Hornet basketball players are encouraged to contact either Coach Robideaux, Coach Miller, or Mr. Duhon if they have not done so since Oct. 3. Players who have talked to their coach or Mr. Duhon since Oct. 3 are asked to stay in touch with each other and their coach.

HACKBERRY HIGH SCHOOL

All Mustang and Lady Mustang basketball players are encouraged to contact either Coach Michalko, Coach Murphy, Coach Gibbs, or Mr. Racca in order to provide them with current phone numbers and other information.

JOHNSON BAYOU HIGH SCHOOL

All Rebel and Lady Rebel basketball players are encouraged to contact Mr. Gene Reynolds, Principal and Ms. Brenda Sanders, Assistant Principal to share their telephone numbers and contact information. Mr. Reynolds may be contacted by e-mail at gene_reynolds@camsch.org and brennda_sanders@camsch.org.

WEBSITE

All parents and students are encouraged to visit the Cameron Parish Schools website at www.camsch.org for updates about school news.

Help for caregivers

Caring for a family member with a serious illness can be a physically and emotionally draining experience. According to the 2002 fact sheet "Family Caregiving" from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Administration on Aging, more than 22 million American households are involved in caregiving for someone age 50 or above. The demands of taking care of someone sick, especially when there are other roles to play, such as parent or spouse, can wear on a caregiver. If you are a caregiver, something as simple as talking with someone who knows what you're going through can help. If you need help, call the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Administration on Aging toll free at 1-800-677-1116 or visit them online at www.eldercare.gov.

Fishing industry hard hit

Retail losses to the fishing industry following hurricanes Rita and Katrina are expected to top \$2 billion in the next year, a staggering 73 percent of the industry's total annual value, the state Department of Wildlife and Fisheries said.

The two storms spared no corner of Louisiana's \$2.8 billion recreational and commercial fishing industry, from shrimp fleets shattered and sunk to wild crawfish bayous inundated with saltwater.

Fishing communities that escaped Katrina's pounding of southeast Louisiana were hit hard by Rita, which slammed into the southwest.

"In essence, the impacts Calcasieu and Cameron parishes experienced with Rita were very similar to what Plaquemines and St. Bernard experienced with Katrina," said John Roussel, assistant secretary for fisheries in the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries. "There was total infrastructure

destruction, significant flooding of all those fishing communities in those areas. They're going to have to rebuild everything."

Louisiana accounts for about 75 percent of fish products harvested in the Gulf of Mexico and is the nation's second-largest seafood producer, behind only Alaska.

The storms' heaviest toll is expected to be borne by the shrimp industry, with losses projected at \$920 million for the next year.

In an industry already on the skids due to high fuel prices and competition from cheaper foreign imports, that could push some fishers over the brink, said Kurt Guidry, an economist with the Louisiana State University AgCenter who has been tracking the storms' impacts



To Our Cameron Neighbors...

WE'RE HERE WHEN YOU NEED US!

During this difficult time, we pledge to help you, let us know if we can assist you in any way. If you are in need of a vehicle, there have never been more incentives available. Ford is offering Hurricane Relief and cash back incentives, low APR, as well as many lease specials.

On behalf of everyone of Acadiana Ford we would like to express our sincere appreciation for your business. We offer superior sales and service for our valued customers and are committed to serving our friends and customers in Cameron for many more years to come.

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Sales Representative



HACKBERRY WAS cut off by high water in the aftermath of Hurricane Rita. Photo by Deputy French

Acadiana Ford



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AN ALABAMA National Guard member is shown helping with the cleanup at the Cameron Parish Courthouse. This shows the basement level of the courthouse, which was completely flooded. The building's main and top floors were not flooded. The courthouse was one of the few buildings in Cameron to survive more or less intact. (Photo by Cyndi Sellers.)



THE CAMERON STATE Bank's Cameron office was completely gutted by Hurricane Rita, as were branches in Creole and Grand Chenier. Here bank officials try to access the vault in Cameron. (Photo by Cyndi Sellers.)



T-MAE BOOTH stands in front of the remnants of her convenience store in Grand Chenier. (Photo by Mike McCall.)



ALCIDE MILLER homestead in Grand Chenier. (Photo by Mike McCall.)

Former resident in shock after Grand Chenier visit

By Mike McCall

I guess I am still very much in shock after going into Grand Chenier after Hurricane Rita. The factor that shocks me the most is that I became disoriented several times while driving on the highway. I did not know where in Grand Chenier I was at times.

The lifelong landmarks I grew up with are gone! I now know what my parents and grandparents felt when looking at the area after Hurricane Audrey.

My brother Pete and I decided to visit Grand Chenier to see if we could be of assistance to our family and to make sure our relatives' graves were intact.

We left Covington early Saturday morning and decide to take the "back" route through Kaplan and Pecan Island. I had heard that lower Vermilion Parish was also hit hard, but I am amazed at the visible signs of tidal surge just south of Kaplan. The shoulders of the highway suffered massive erosion with drop offs of several feet.

A national guardsman at a checkpoint in Forked Island informed us that the road is open, but "it ain't pretty!"

Damage becomes severe as we entered Pecan Island. Most homes are off their foundations and are visible far off in the marshes. As we approach the parish line into Cameron Parish, the first thing that strikes us as odd is the numbers of nutria, alligators and marsh birds congregated so close to the road and the trees do not have any leaves on their branches.

There is a unsettling absence of "green" and the whole scene reminds me of an old black and white "B" horror movie.

At the parish line Cameron Parish Deputy Milton Collins, who is also a Grand Chenier native, stops us for identification and warns us of the missing landmarks and multiple repair and emergency vehicles. As we are leaving he shouts, "Mike, it's really bad!" Within a few minutes I see just how correct he was.

Almost immediately we began to see homes washed off of their foundations and

sitting like broken toys all along the ridge. A few homes remain on their foundations, but are so badly gutted of contents and interior walls you know they will have to be demolished.

The first building we see that appears to have not suffered any damage is the American Legion Hall. The McCall family had a reunion there this past April. It amazes me that it is still standing, but it looks unscathed. We stop at Arnold Jones' home. His family is busy cleaning and salvaging and according to Mr. Jones, they will be able to save it.

It is great to see old friends and to hear that they will return. As we continue to our part of Grand Chenier "down the ridge", we pass two women sitting in lawn chairs under an umbrella along the roadside. I do not recognize the debris at first, but then I realize that this is Booth's Grocery and the owner, Miss "T-Mae" is one of the ladies in the chairs. She is taking a break from salvaging what she can from her ruined grocery and home.

We speak for a while and she vows she will rebuild as will her family who also lost their homes. Again I am encouraged by the enthusiasm to rebuild in Grand Chenier.

As we continue traveling west, we are struck with amazement at the sight of three beautiful palm trees which look totally out of place on the left of the highway. I have never noticed them before but they are a welcome change of scenery from the destruction.

I don't recognize many homes that are destroyed, but I am looking for the next major landmark, the St. Eugene Catholic Church and neighboring water tower. I see the water tower is still standing and then I see the church.

For a moment, it looks like the church suffered superficial damage to the front, but when we look at the sides, they are not there. In fact, the entire church is gutted of pews and other furniture, but ironically the lighting fixtures are still in place! The adjacent Parish Hall and Rectory are destroyed. St. Eugene was a

pretty church and a vital part of the Grand Chenier community. I hope it can be rebuilt.

As we leave the site of St. Eugene Church, I become disoriented. I know there were homes here, but all I can see are concrete blocks or foundations. I see some homes so badly damaged that I can not tell which ones they are! I know I'm not lost, how can you get lost in Grand Chenier? But the lack of landmarks is disturbing.

I finally recognize "Jim Bonsall's Pond" and know where I am. As a child, we used to fish at his pond, I don't remember catching anything special, but it was a change from fishing in the Mermentau River. I recognize what is left of the Canik's home and others until we reach what used to be the Grand Chenier Elementary School. It was closed, much to the dismay of Grand Chenier citizens, a couple of years ago. The school is very badly damaged.

Past the school there are houses missing until we reach Sonny McCall's home. It is badly damaged and the McCall cemetery looks to have graves which are damaged. We continued without stopping.

The scene continues to repeat, foundations without homes. We pass the Raphiel Swire home place and see George and Debbie Heard as well as their son and Debbie's sister Melodie. They are also salvaging what they can from the destroyed home. They are not sure if they will return.

For the second time I become disoriented. The old Fawvor home is badly damaged and the old Doland home is missing! The old Doxey home is badly damaged. These are homes that went thought Hurricane Audrey with minimal damage. The Baptist Church is gutted and the convenience store which was where Julian East had his service station is a pile of rubble.

We are getting very close to where we grew up and as we pass the BP Plant where my father worked for many years before owning the Sunrise II charter boat, I am saddened by the missing homes and old business landmarks. There is nothing until

Lionel Theriot's home! The old Dallas Brasseaux service station as well as the Trahan, Vincent and other homes are gone!

We nearly miss Miller Lane, our old street, because of the missing landmarks. As we drive down the lane, we have to stop because half of the road is washed out so we walk to our old home. It is still standing! It is damaged, but I think it might be sal-

vageable. It was operating as a bed and breakfast since our family sold it several years ago.

My father lost our other home in Hurricane Audrey and when he built this one, he made sure it would not float away. The home is secured into the ground with 10 foot steel rods and steel cable all around the foundation. He also further insured it not to float by installing trap doors

in every closet that would release and allow the house to fill with water instead of floating.

Our neighbors across the street are not so lucky. Their home was pushed into the front of another home and it looks like most of the homes on our lane can not be saved.

To be Continued

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