

## 231 potential violations are questioned by FEMA

By CYNDI SELLERS

Police Jurors on Monday received the long awaited letter from FEMA detailing the areas of possible non-compliance with the parish's Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance.

According to a letter from Ross Richardson, Chief of the Floodplain Management and Insurance Branch, a field visit in June of 2007 resulted in questions about 324 sites in the parish. Of this number, 231 remain on the list of potential violations.

Richardson stated that "a main issue is the community's practice of issuing permits with mobile home affidavits that allow mobile homes (Mobile Home Parks) to locate in the high risk areas without elevation requirements."

He also said "another concern is lack of uniformity and documentation for determination of substantial damage (Less than 50% Damaged)."

FEMA is requesting a review of 25 properties that

do not have a permit, 40 properties that have various documentation problems including permit for accessory structure instead of residence, 76 "Mobile Home Park" affidavits, and 90 "less than 50% damaged" documents without supporting documentation.

Parish Administrator Tina Horn said many of these issues can be cleared up with additional work by her staff. For example, the parish wasn't requiring a permit for "less than 50% damaged" buildings to be repaired. Other documentation issues can be cleared up with the assistance of the property owner.

Horn will be checking the regulations to determine if the parish is in fact in violation with the mobile home parks. The parish has 45 days to provide FEMA with a remediation plan outlining how it plans to get all the properties into compliance.

If the parish is determined at any time to be not in full compliance with the

National Flood Insurance Program minimum requirements, it could face probation. This would cause a \$50 increase in the flood insurance premiums to each of the 1,848 policies currently issued to Cameron Parish residents. Probation is also the first step in the process to suspend community eligibility in the NFIP, which would mean the loss of federally backed flood insurance in the parish.

Richardson wrote that he is "confident that Cameron Parish will be able to rectify the identified program deficiencies and correct the violations in a timely manner, and thus remain a participant in the NFIP."

Jurors said that once the mobile home park issues have been cleared up, they will be willing to consider permitting more of them. There are eight such permits awaiting approval, but last week jurors were reluctant to let people go ahead and spend money on a site which may not be in compliance.

## Police Jury East Annex to be under construction soon

By CYNDI SELLERS

The East Annex on Court House Square could be under construction within 60 days, Parish Planner Ernie Broussard reported to the Police Jury during the regular business meeting Monday afternoon. With the Jury's approval of a one year, \$1000 lease on adjacent property, and assurance that the property will be available for purchase at the end of that time, all obstacles to construction have been removed and the project is ready to go to bid.

The advertising period is 30 days, and some additional time will be required to sign a contract. If bids come in as expected, dirt work could begin soon after. Broussard said planning for the West Annex is also close to completion and bids could go out in the near future.

Jurors also approved advertising for bids on the repair of the Cameron multipurpose building, located behind the court house.

### BOAT LAUNCH

The lease on the Davis Road (Jetty Rd.) boat launch was renewed at a rate of \$1000 per year, in five year terms renewable for 30 years. The new lease includes all the west side of the road from the boat launch to the Jetty Pier Park, which will be maintained for parking by the Jury.

Parish Administrator Tina Horn reported that only one signature is lacking for a lease to be completed on the boat launch beside the west

ferry landing on the Calcasieu Ship Channel. That signature is expected soon, and the lease can then be concluded so that the parish can begin to maintain the much needed boat launch. Many commercial fishermen use that launch to access Calcasieu Lake.

Jurors adopted a resolution in support of Southwest Louisiana coastal restoration and wetland protection. David Richard spoke on the need to have an authority behind the parish's project proposals. He said that over the past 5 years SWLA has not received the amount of coastal restoration dollars it should have.

Richard said an alliance between Cameron, Calcasieu and Vermilion Parishes, including all the legislative delegations, could speak with one unified voice, without which "we have not and will not receive the needed money."

He proposed appointing a committee to present the area's needs at the next meeting on Feb. 19. An informal advisory group has been doing so for many years, but Richard said they will have more clout with Jury backing.

The Jury amended the agenda to create the Coastal Wetlands Association to pursue restoration funds.

Jurors also approved advertising for consultants for managing Coastal Impact Assistance Program and Outer Continental Shelf projects when they are funded, and for managing the over 300 FEMA project worksheets (PW's) in process in

the parish.

Juror Kirk Burleigh asked to advertise a proposed ban on dogs at public events. He said incidents at the Fur Festival caused him to consider such a ban, but wants public input first.

At Juror Darryl Farque's request, the Jury agreed to ask for a local amendment to the state statute creating the Mosquito Abatement District, adding two more members to the board. This would bring Cameron Parish's board up to seven, and allow each district to have a representative. The state statute does not require that board members reside in specific districts. The Police Jury has control over the appointment of members, but cannot remove them during their terms, except for "just cause."

The parish's legislative delegation will be asked to propose the change during the regular session this spring.

Jurors also approved a resolution asking the state to rename a portion of Highway 82 between Holly Beach and Johnson Bayou in memory of Rodney Guilbeaux. Sonny McGee heartily agreed with the family's request, saying Guilbeaux was a "tireless voice in coastal erosion."

Jimmy Guilbeaux, who presented the request, said that Rodney visited the coast after Hurricane Rita and was very proud that the sand nourishment and breakwaters, for which he had fought so long and hard, had protected the road during the storm.

Cont. on Page 4.



ALICE AND ANNETTE Duhon pose with their artwork at the dedication of the new bookmobile now located in Johnson Bayou. The theme is "Something for Everyone." at your Library. (Photo by Paul Sellers.)

## Presidential preference vote set here Saturday

While many voters around the nation went to vote in the presidential preference on "Super Tuesday," Louisiana voters will have to wait until this Saturday to vote for either Democratic or Republican candidates.

The Louisiana vote could not be held on Tuesday with the other states as it would conflict with the Mardi Gras holiday.

Louisiana voters may also be confused by the names on the ballot Saturday since many of the candidates have dropped out, but not in time to be removed from the ballot.

Of the candidates on the Democratic ballot, only Hillary Clinton and Barack Obama are still in the race. Others on the ballot - Joe Biden, Chris Dodd, John Edwards, Dennis Kucinich and Bill Richardson - have all dropped out.

On the Republican ballot, the candidates are Jerry

Curry, Daniel Gilbert, Rudolph Giuliani, Mike Huckabee, Duncan Hunter, Alan Keyes, John McCain, Ron Paul, Mitt Romney, Tom Tancredo and Fred Thompson.

Giuliani, Hunter, Tancredo and Thompson have withdrawn from the race.

The polls will be open 6 a.m.-8 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 8.

One of the races on the ballot Saturday is the Democratic Central Committee from the 47th Representative District which includes Cameron and Vermilion Parishes. The candidates are Jeff Sanders of Hackberry and Eugene Sellers of Abbeville.

Sanders is married to Cheryl Schexnider Sanders and they have three daughters, Julia, Lori and Paige, all college graduates. He is a member of St. Peter the Apostle Catholic Church.



STATE LIBRARIAN Rebecca Hamilton spoke at the dedication of Cameron Parish's new bookmobile in Johnson Bayou Jan. 30. (Photo by Paul Sellers.)

## Hearing to be held on program

On Jan. 28, the Cameron Parish Planning & Development Office held its first public hearing to discuss Cameron Parish's participation in a property disposition plan for properties acquired through Options 2 & 3 of the Road Home Program. Additional meetings have been scheduled around the Parish for further discussion and public comment.

Monday, Feb. 18 - Johnson Bayou High School, 6 p.m.

Wednesday, Feb. 20 - Grand Lake Fireman's Center, 6 p.m.

Tuesday, Feb. 26 - Hackberry Community Center, 6 p.m.

Written comments regarding the plan can be emailed to ccppd\_ebroussard@camtel.net or delivered to the Planning & Development office at 122 - E Recreation Center Lane in Cameron. Please call Cameron Parish Planning and Development with any questions at 775-5206.

## Dog ordinance

The Cameron Parish Police Jury is considering amending its animal ordinance to prohibit dogs and exotic animals on public places during a fair, festival or parade.

The prohibition would not apply to guide dogs.

The proposed ordinance can be found elsewhere in this issue of the Pilot. Comments on the ordinance are welcome from the public.

## Hurricane-resistant home improvement seminar set

The LSU AgCenter is continuing its hurricane-resistant home improvement seminars for anyone who wishes to build, rebuild, or restore their houses to make the structures better able to stand up against hurricanes.

A seminar is scheduled from 6-8 p.m., Tuesday, Feb. 19, at the Sweetlake United Methodist Church. The church is located at 5180 Hwy 397 in Sweetlake.

Topics covered at the seminar include information useful for homeowners remodeling or rebuilding after hurricanes Katrina and Rita, as well as homeowners who just want to strengthen their homes. Attendees will learn what to do to keep their roofs intact during high winds and how to suffer less structural damage in future floods, as well as reduce damage from wind-driven rain.

Topics include: Adding strength and rain resistance when you're repairing the roof.

Adding strength and flood and rain resistance when you have walls open after a flood.

Making a home-addition more hurricane resistant.

What you can do when you just want to make your home more resistant to storm damage.

"We have designed a program to help homeowners learn how to incorporate flood-, wind- and rain-resis-

tance features into their homes as they re-roof, restore walls or do other remodeling," said Pat Skinner, head of the LSU AgCenter's Disaster Recovery and Mitigation team. "We encourage homeowners to take advantage of this opportunity and learn how to build safer, stronger and smarter."

Cont. on Page 5.



LEXI-JO DEBARGE was crowned Little Miss C'est La Vie 2008 on January 19, 2008. She is the daughter of Chad and Maranda DeBarge of Cameron and is a second grader at South Cameron Elementary School.



A CHAMELEON peeks out from some flowers in this photo taken by the late Bill Turnbull, Cameron nature photographer, some years ago. This and other of his Cameron photos are included in a new book "A Place Called Home," recently published by his wife, Janie Turnbull. For information on purchasing copies write Turnbull Ink Press, Box 720447, Norman, Okla. 73070.



JOHNSON BAYOU children cut the ribbon dedicating the new 40 foot long bookmobile which will serve as their library until a new branch is built. The children are: Peyton Romero, Brianna Romero, Madison Jinks, Kevin Harrington, Dalton Billiot, Riley Trahan, Rebecca Temple, Kirsten Webb, Alexis Call, and Abigail Tuttle. (Photo by Paul Sellers.)



THIS COLORFUL car was among the many entries in the Louisiana Fur and Wildlife Festival parade held in Cameron Saturday, Jan. 12. (Photo by Cyndi Sellers.)



RICKY CANIK'S unaided snow goose calling was good for a third place finish at the 2008 Louisiana Fur and Wildlife Festival on Saturday, Jan. 12. (Photo by Cyndi Sellers.)



THE 2008 Mardi Gras Royalty of the Cameron Council On Aging are King Roland Primeaux of Creole, and Queen Elma Hebert of Grand Lake.



## Rides to church are offered

The Sweetlake Methodist Church is offering rides to church services for children who do not have transportation. Sunday School is at 8:45 a.m. and morning services are at 9:45 a.m. on Sunday. For rides call 598-4688.

## Hackberry News

By GRACE WELCH

### CHURCH NEWS

The season for Lent began Wednesday, Feb. 6.

In Johnson Bayou, the Stations of the Cross will be on Wednesdays beginning at 5 p.m. A Mass will follow. There will be no Way of the Cross and Mass on Wednesday, Feb. 13.

This year at St. Peter's, the Station of the Cross will be on Thursday at 5 p.m., followed by a Mass, except for Thursday, Feb. 14, where it

will be on Friday, Feb. 15.

### BRADDOCK DEATH

Grace Welch of Hackberry lost her brother, Monroe Braddock who had been residing in a Veteran Nursing Home in Walterboro, S. C. He passed away January 22nd. A sister in law, Bernice (Tude) Braddock who had been residing in a Nursing Home in Florence, S.C. passed away January 29th.



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## South Cameron High School News

### FBLA WINNERS

Congratulations to the following students for placing at the FBLA District Conference and qualifying for state competition:

Superior placing: Tony Baccigalopi - Business Communications and Business Calculations, Anthony Bosco - Business Calculations and Computer Concepts, Sara Dupre - Business Math, Klaire Kingery - FBLA Principles of Procedure, Mikalee Mooney - Introduction to Business, Devon Richard - Introduction to Business Communication, and Chynna Little - Marketing. Excellent placing: Katelyn Horn and Kelsey Mudd - Word Processing and Melanie Hardy - Word Processing II.

High school varsity cheerleading tryouts will be Wednesday, March 19. Sign up has begun and will continue through Feb. 29. Sign up in the high school office.

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

### SCHOOL CALENDAR

Feb. 8 - Basketball - Elton (away).

Feb. 8-9 - State Wrestling Meet - New Orleans.

Feb. 9-10 - Softball Tournament - South Beauregard.

Feb. 11-15 - GEE Testing.

Feb. 12 - Softball - Westlake (away).

Feb. 14 - Progress Reports.

Feb. 14 - Softball - St. Louis (home).

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Mr. and Mrs. Lancey Ryan Silver

## Silver-Boullion vows are said in Vinton on Jan. 25

Lancey Ryan Silver and Alicia Nicole Boullion were married on Friday, Jan. 25, at 7 p.m. at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Vinton. Father Susil Fernando officiated the double-ring ceremony.

Parents of the couple are Robert and Alta Silver of Hackberry and Randy and Connie Boullion of Vinton. The bride's grandmother is Martha Boullion of Vinton.

Lindsey Stanley served as Maid of Honor and bridesmaids were Kristin Fenetz, Jennifer Kesier, Cody LeMaire, Mary Leonards, Daniele Lormand, Trisha Savoie, and Maggie Silver. Flower girl was Kelsey Keiser and ring bearer was Jace Keiser.

Bestman was Cory Welch and groomsmen were Jason Keiser, Jeremy Nolan, Jody Seay, Micah Silver, Randy Silver, Grant "Benji" Stanley, and Travis Vincent. The ushers were Corey Fenetz, Matthew and Charles Lormand.

The bride is a graduate of Vinton High School and Lamar State College Orange. She is currently employed by Global Industries in Carlyss.

The groom is a graduate of Hackberry High School and Sowela Tech and is currently employed by Targa Resources of Sulphur.

After a honeymoon in Maui, Hawaii, the couple will make their home in Hackberry.

## Cameron Parish School Menus

Cameron Parish School lunch menus are as follows:

Monday, Feb. 11 - Hamburger oven fries, lettuce cup, chocolate chip cookies, hamburger bun, catsup, milk

Tuesday, Feb. 12 - Enchilada casserole, tossed salad, baked potato, chilled

peach slices, wheat sliced bread, milk

Wednesday, Feb. 13 - Chili con carne, apple/orange wedges, whole kernal corn, royal brownies, crackers, milk

Thursday, Feb. 14 - Beef nachos, salsa, pinto beans, fresh vegetable.

**Fruity Cubes**  
 assorted pink and red juices      orange juice  
 pink lemonade                          ice cube trays

1. Simply fill the ice cube trays with the juices you have decided to use as cubes.
2. Place trays in freezer and keep in there until you are ready to serve the drinks.



PICTURED AT a ceremony held Jan. 10 at South Cameron High School by the La. Society of Daughters of the American Revolution were, from left: Eva January, elementary school librarian; Bailey Israel, T. S. Cooley Elementary school student; Katie Trahan, South Central School librarian; and Cheryl Gott, LSDAR state literacy promotion chairman.

## Grand Chenier Library tells its upcoming activities

Grand Chenier Library announces their schedule as follows:

"Crossword Daze", 10 a.m. daily

Thursday, Feb 7, "After School Club & Chess Your Luck" Web surfing, research, chess strategies, practice chess matches - 4 p.m.

Friday, Feb 8, "Valentine's Gift Jar Demonstration" presented by Penny Thibodeaux, 4-H Agent, Gift jar with "Rocky Road Crispies Candy Mix" recipe, Gift jar recipe book. Supplies will be provided. 12 - 1 p.m.; "LA Spirit Hurricane Recovery Team", Arts & Crafts. 1 - 3 p.m.; "Storytime" 3 p.m.

Monday Feb 11, "Fitness Program", 2 p.m.; "Adult Movie Time" on the Big Screen, 3 p.m.; "Nutrition Education for Adults", 4 p.m.

Tuesday, Feb. 12, "Fitness Program", 2 p.m.

Wednesday, Feb. 13, "Fitness Program", 2 p.m.; "Adult Movie Time" on the Big Screen, 3 p.m.

Thursday Feb 14, "After School Club & Chess Your Luck" Web surfing, research, chess strategies, practice chess matches, 4 p.m.

Friday Feb 15, "Nutrition Education for Kids", 12:30 p.m.; "LA Spirit Hurricane Recovery Team", Arts & Crafts, 1-3 p.m.; "Storytime", 3 p.m.

Please call 538-2214 for more information and to put your name on the list for these programs.

## Energy aid applications being taken

Cameron Council on Aging and Cameron Community Action will be taking Energy Assistance applications in Lowry, Tuesday, Feb. 19, at the Fire Station from 9 to 11:30 a.m. and will also be in Klondike at the Community Center next to the Police Jury Barn from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m.

Any questions please call Doris Melancon in Klondike at 536-6452 and Carrie Broussard in Lowry at 774-3248 or Lori Broussard or Lana Miller at the Cameron Council on Aging office at 905-6000.



SOLINET REPRESENTATIVES Vince Deely and Mary Ellen Santiago presented Library Director Charlotte Trosclair with a book "P is for Pelican", and a plaque recognizing the dedication of the new bookmobile, purchased with a grant from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. Dedication ceremonies were held Jan. 30 in Johnson Bayou. (Photo by Cyndi Sellers.)

## Free ACT classes offered in Grand Lake by Agency

The Cameron Community Action will be holding free ACT classes for anyone needing help preparing for the ACT Assessment.

Classes are open only to those who have already completed high school. Classes will be held every Friday beginning at 10:30 a.m. starting on March 7.

Classes are taught by a certified teacher. You can register by coming by the CCAA office located between the U. S. Post Office and the ambulance station in Grand Lake on Hwy. 384.

The last day to register for the next session is Friday, Feb. 29. For more information call Lana Miller at 598-5158.

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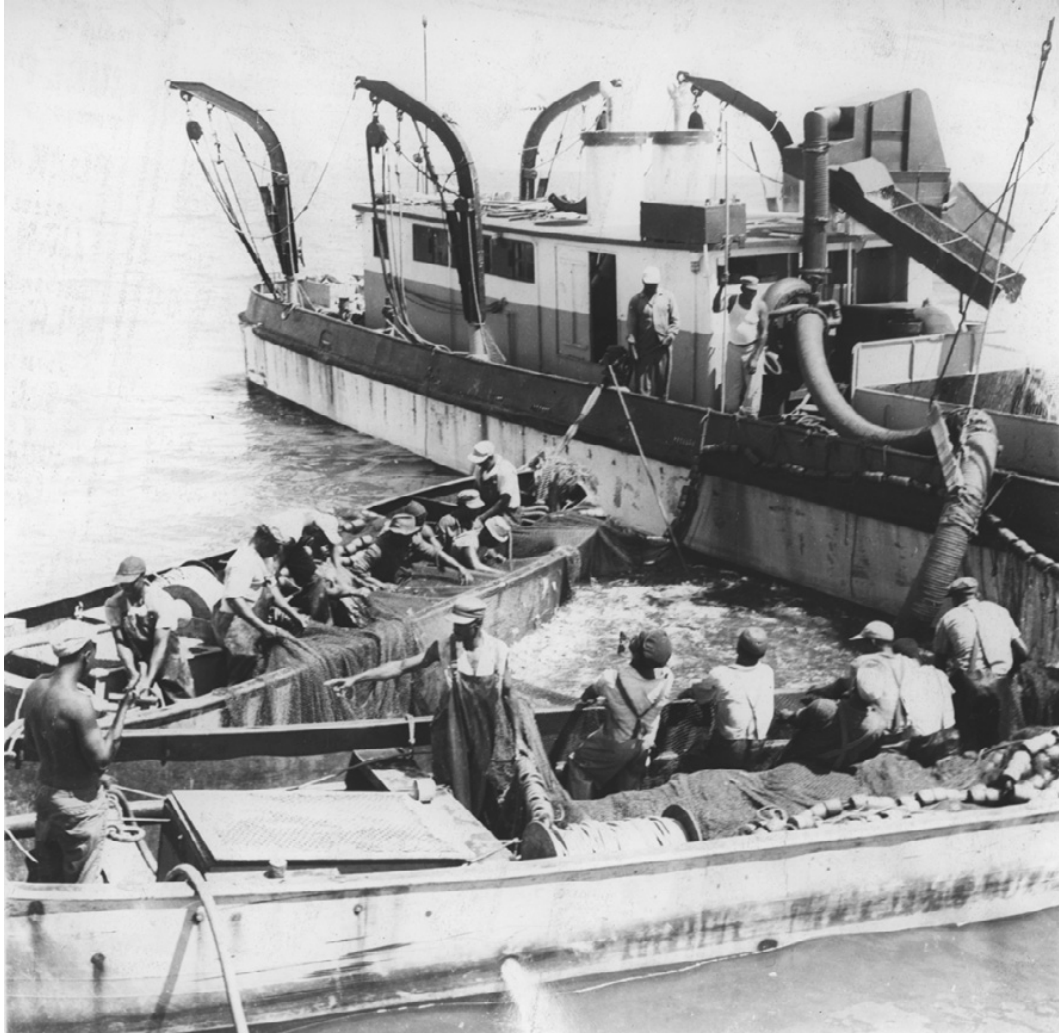
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**DO YOU REMEMBER?** This photo was taken about 50 years ago and showed fishermen out of Cameron hauling nets loaded with menhaden fish. A vacuum hose was used to load the fish on to the bigger boat. Menhaden fishing has helped to make Cameron one of the top fishing ports in the nation.

## Grand Lake permits sought POLICE JURY

Two applications for Coastal Use permits for projects on Lake Breeze Drive in Grand Lake have been filed.

Dr. Mudar Katash and D. C. Flynt are proposing to each construct a pier, wharf and boathouse in the subdivision located just north of

the Calcasieu-Cameron line. The Katash permit seeks to build a 395-foot pier into Calcasieu Lake, along with a gazebo and a boat house.

The Flynt permit seeks to build a 397-foot pier into the lake along with a gazebo and a boat house.

### Cont. from Pg 1

Juror Charles Precht presented a plan to work with other entities on stabilizing the shoreline of the Intracoastal Waterway and restoring a more natural hydrology to the Cameron Creole Watershed. Chad Courville of Miami Corporation explained that his company is looking into a plan to restore freshwater flow and sediment into the marsh while at the same time providing more outlets, open for longer periods, into the Calcasieu Lake. Restoration of the natural lakeshore would also be a part of the plan.

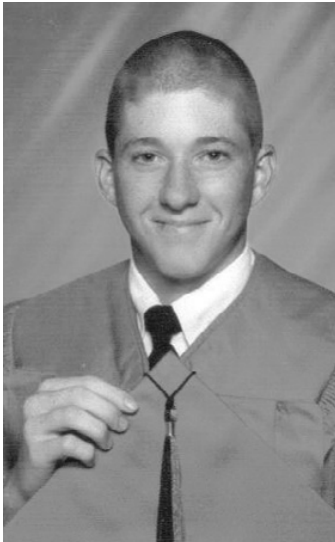
Courville said he has been working with the Cameron Creole Watershed group, with input from the shrimpers and fishermen, to make the plan acceptable to everyone possible.

The following were re-appointed to boards: JoAnn Nunez, Phyllis Pinch - Ambulance Dist. #1; Tony Porche - Water and Wastewater Dist.#1; Jude Primeaux - Fire Dist. #7; Michael Baccigalopi - Fire Dist. #9; Ernest Carol Trahan - Gravity Dist. #7; Ricky Poole, Rev. Andrew Martin, Gary Wicke - Grand Lake Cemetery Board.

New Appointments were: Katie McCoin, Flora Belle Semien, Ruby Miller - Children & Youth Planning Board; Wesley Hardin - Gravity Drainage #9.



**MEN'S OYSTER shucking champion Oren DeBarge was shown competing in the 2008 Louisiana Fur and Wildlife Festival in Cameron Jan. 12.** (Photo by Cyndi Sellers.)



**CADET CHRISTOPHER D. Miller graduated Saturday, Jan. 26 at the National Guard Youth Challenge Program in Minden. Chris is the son of Tammy Welch and step-son of Robert (Bo) Welch of Reeves. His grandparents are Stacy Trahan of Reeves, Janet Spurgeon of Lake Charles, Tamsey Trahan of Reeves, and Grace Welch of Hackberry. Miller and his family lived in Hackberry before Hurricane Rita.**

## Class told for hunter educ. instructions

A Hunter Education Volunteer Instructor Workshop for persons who want to be certified as Hunter Education instructors will be held Friday and Saturday, Feb. 15-16.

The workshop will be held in Rapides Parish at the Wildlife & Fisheries Education Center & Firearms Range on "Robinson Bridge Road" 1-Mile (East) of the only red-light in Woodworth, La.

The workshop begins Friday at 6 p.m. Participants will be there until approximately 4 p.m. on Saturday.

You must pre-register. For more information and to pre-register, call Mike Burns at 318-484-2212 or Mark Roy at 318-487-5889.

Class is limited to the first 25 to pre-register.

# Cameron Outdoors

By LOSTON MCEVERS



I got the January duck count in and I was comparing it to November and December so I figured I'd put a little high lights to you, our readers. (Southwest Louisiana).

November 2007 count: 1,349,000 ducks; 170,000 coots. December 2007 duck count: 983,000, coots 359,000. January 2008 duck count: 1,273,000; coots 620,000. Now you can add on diving ducks, November 2007 - 29,000; December 2007 - 82,000 and January 2008, 35,000.

The January 2008 survey was lower than December, but it was 60% lower than the 4.4 million for January 2007, in fact, it's the lowest estimate since 1987 and 44% below both the most recent 5 years and long term average of 3.2 million.

The duck count had low estimates, but good hunting and large numbers of ducks in some areas persisted.

### FISHING SNAPPERS

Our Red Snapper season for recreational fishing will be a pain in the neck, not to say expensive. Our commercial fishermen and our shrimp fisherman will suffer also. Quotas will be cut in half, starting Feb. 28 when the new regulations come into effect.

The new rules set a quota of 5 million pounds, down from 9.12 million pounds before. A two fish per person, 16 inch minimum length for every trip and a shorter fishing season by more than a month. Anglers will need new gear on boats to keep small snappers alive after release back into the water.

The new rules also effect our shrimpers, as they will face closing in Gulf areas, where the Red Snapper congregate, so as not to catch young and smaller fish.

The rains and cold weather, along with the strong winds sort of slowed fishing,

at least slowed some anglers from going out. However, last Saturday was a beautiful sunshiny day, winds not to bad and yes redfish were biting.

The northern part of Big Lake/Calcasieu Lake and the ship channel were muddy, but the southeast and eastern banks of the lake were the place to fish. Good catches of redfish means you didn't wait long between strikes. I fished along the east bank with a lead head and popping cork even with artificial grub or cockahoos as well as spinner baits. I like the newer beetle spin type bait, strong big hook, 1/4 ounce head, and a Colorado #5 gold blade. It has good action, strong and will hold a good redfish and they come in different colors. I like to use the large beetle for bass fishing in black with yellow strips, and to me they work better than the lighter colors.

A friend of mine and told me that Toledo Bend was deserted for the cold weather that came through last week. He said that both generators were running. The lake's water conditions have been great and holding over 168 feet, but those generators can surely bring the water levels down fast.

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# Hackberry, Grand Lake are FBLA district winners



**RENN SAVOIE, #14, is shown making a jump shot** Although Brett Griffith had another double double, the Grand Lake boys fell short against Midland for the second time this season, with a final score of 63-49 in favor of Midland. Brett scored 22 points and grabbed 15 rebounds. (Photo by Ron Gilbert.)

Thursday, Jan. 31, the 2008 FBLA District IV Leadership Conference was held at McNeese State University.

FBLA members re-elected Jacob Poole of Hackberry High School as their District IV Vice President.

Grand Lake took first in Current Events.

Below is a list of team winners and their categories for Cameron Parish students.

**CURRENT EVENTS**  
Grand Lake High School - Evan Guidry, Megan Poole, and Renn Savoie; Hackberry High School - Kelsey Helmer, Aaron Labove, and Chris Spicer.

**BUSINESS CALCULATIONS**  
South Cameron High School - Toni Baccigalopi, Anthony Basco; Hackberry High School - Lori Shove.

**BUSINESS COMMUNICATIONS**  
Hackberry High School - Lauren Johnson; South Cameron High School - Tony Baccigalopi.

**BUSINESS MATH**  
South Cameron High School - Sara Dupre, Cory Zimmerman; Grand Lake High School - Heather Girlinghouse.

**COMPUTER APPLICATIONS**  
Grand Lake High School - Taylor Beard.

**FBLA PRINCIPLES AND PROCEDURES**  
South Cameron High School - Klaire Kingery.

**IMPROMPTU SPEAKING**  
Grand Lake High School - Corey Broussard.

**INTRODUCTION TO BUSINESS**  
South Cameron High School - Mikalee Mooney.

**INTRODUCTION TO BUSINESS COMMUNICATIONS**  
South Cameron High School - Devon Richard; Hackberry High School - Devon Labove.

**MARKETING**  
Grand Lake High School - John Guidry; South Cameron High School - Chynna Little.

**PERSONAL FINANCE**  
Hackberry High School - Joseph Lejuine; Johnson Bayou High School - Janice Trahan.

**TECHNOLOGY CONCEPTS**  
South Cameron High School - Anthony Basco.

**WORD PROCESSING II**  
Hackberry High School - Kayla Sanner.



**KAT KINGHAM is back!** She had an awesome game with a double double (24 points, 14 rebounds) and a least 6 blocked shots. The Grand Lake girls won against Midland in their second meeting with a score of 42-26. (Photo by Ron Gilbert.)

## Cameron Parish High School Basketball Roundup

By **CHRIS & LAURIE MUELLER**

**BOYS**  
**Basile 53, South Cameron 51** - Lance Braxton was the leading scorer for the Tarpons with 17 points. Garrett Taylor and Kyle Little added 13 points each.

**Grand Lake 78, ESA 71** - Brett Griffith poured in 29 points and had 15 rebounds as the Hornets upset 6th ranked ESA. Jace Hebert chipped in 17 points and Sam Johnston added 14 points in the win.

**Hamilton 70, South Cameron 41** - Kyle Little scored 14 points for the Tarpons and Lance Braxton added 13 points.

**Hackberry 73, Johnson Bayou 65 (OT)** - Judd Addison scored 23 points as the 5th ranked Mustangs improved to 18-8 overall and 3-0 in district. Dillon Thibodeaux added 17 points and Steven Miller chipped in 13 points. Ian Blue scored 12 points. Leading scorer for the Rebels was Dustin Badon with 17 points. Jonathan Trahan scored 16 points and Aaron Jinks added 14.

**GIRLS**  
**Basile 59, South Cameron 49** - Rachel Fountain scored 15 points for the Lady Tarpons. Shelby

Willis added 12 points and Whitney Richard chipped in 11 points as the Lady Tarpons fall to 8-14 overall and 2-5 in district.

**Grand Lake 55, Sacred Heart 28** - Liz Kingham led the 9th ranked Lady Hornets with 24 points. Sonya Lavergne added 11 as the Lady Hornets improve to 29-8 overall and 3-4 in district.

**Hackberry 39, Johnson Bayou 44** - Charmayne Barrentine led all scorers with 21 points as the Lady Rebels improve to 15-13 overall and 2-1 in district. Skylar Jinks added 12 points. Brooke Wing led the Lady Mustangs (11-20, 1-2) with 14 points and Allyson Sanner added 11 points.

**Hamilton 50, South Cameron 41** - Shelby Willis led the Lady Tarpons with 16 points before leaving the game with an injured finger. Whitney Richard added 11 points.

**Grand Lake 42, Midland 26** - After missing six district games due to injury, Kat Kingham returned with a vengeance, scoring 24 points to lead the Lady Hornet scorers.

**Starks 52, Johnson Bayou 44** - Shelby Trahan led the Lady Rebels with 18 points and Tabitha Harrington added 14 points. The Lady Rebels fall to 15-14 overall and 2-2 in district 8C.

## Sheriff Report

The following arrests were made by the Cameron Parish Sheriff Office Jan. 30-Feb. 6:

Jessica Azure West, 31, 5870 Gulf Beach Hwy, Cameron, Probation Violation.

Gilbert A. Chaison, 37, 116 Broussard Beach Rd, Cameron, Unauthorized Use of a Motor Vehicle.

Ricky Charles Hampton, 49, Huntsville, Tex., Careless Operation, D.W.I.

Matthew John LaFleur, 22, 7032 Vermillion Dr.,

Lake Charles, Careless Operation, D.W.I.

John Owen Hester, 25, Tyler, Tex., Careless operation, D.W.I.

Myles P. Regan, 42, 11053 Hwy. 384, Lake Charles, Simple Battery.

Amy Lynn Scalisi, 42, 2417 W. Burton, Sulphur, Simple Battery.

Wendell Joseph Fruge, 23, 3017 Crocket St., Westlake, Bench Warrant.

Richard Lee Longnecker, 50, Forest Lake, Minn., Careless Operation, D.W.I.

## HOUSING SEMINAR

Cont. from Pg. 1

The seminar will be taught by a team of LSU AgCenter Extension educators.

The LSU AgCenter has been holding these seminars all over South Louisiana. Participants, including Denise Horton and Henry Carol, both of Hammond, said they learned valuable information by attending.

Horton, whose house was destroyed after a hot water heater in the attic exploded and released an estimated 200,000 gallons of water into the house, learned about new residential building codes now in effect statewide by attending one of these seminars. Her brick veneer house has been gutted and, now, she wants to rebuild it incorporating techniques to make it more hurricane-resistant and energy efficient.

"I want to rebuild my house so that it is up to code," Horton said. "After having attended the seminar offered by the LSU AgCenter, I realize there is a

lot I don't know. The AgCenter has a wealth of knowledge that can be very beneficial in helping me learn how to make the right choices."

Henry Carol is another who found the seminar so useful, he attended when it was held in Covington and, then, again when it was held in Hammond.

"After I learned about hurricane straps at the (seminar) in Covington, I went home and checked mine," Carol said. "The information I got in the first (seminar) was so helpful, I thought I'd come back."

Pre-registration is requested. To pre-register, or for more information, contact Dusty Zaunbrecher in the LSU AgCenter's Lake Charles office at 475-8812.



## Sausage Casserole

This quintessential meat and potato dish is a great casserole for those cool autumn evenings, just add salad and bread. Makes 4 to 6 servings.

1 pound pork sausage  
1 (15 ounce) can whole kernel corn, undrained  
1 (14.5 ounce) can diced tomatoes  
5 potatoes, peeled and sliced  
1 onion, sliced into thin rings

**Directions**  
Preheat oven to 350 degrees F (175 degrees C). Grease a 2 quart baking dish.

Arrange potatoes in the bottom of the prepared dish, and top with onion rings. Spread corn and then tomatoes over onions. Arrange sausage over top. Cover.

Cook for approximately 1 hour, or until potatoes are tender.

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ATTENDING THE Bookmobile dedication in Johnson Bayou Jan. 30 were (left to right) Library Board member Kenny Trahan, Police Jury President Sonny McGee, Board member Wanita Harrison, Library Director Charlotte Trosclair, and SOLINET representative Mary Ellen Santiago. (Photo by Cyndi Sellers.)

## FEMA will refund purchase price of travel trailers

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) announced that it will offer to refund the purchase price of travel trailers or park models to individuals who wish to return units purchased directly from FEMA or through the General Services Administration (GSA). This initiative is part of an ongoing effort to address concerns about possible adverse health effects of formaldehyde associated with recreational vehicles.

For GSA auction sales, refunds for the purchase price of travel trailers and park models will be offered for units purchased through GSA auctions on or after July 24, 2006, until such sales were suspended in July 2007. Individuals who want to return their travel trailer or park model unit must contact FEMA within a 60-day period beginning Jan. 17.

For units sold by FEMA directly to disaster assistance applicants occupying the unit, FEMA will offer to refund the purchase price of any travel trailer or park model sold on or after July 31, 2006, until such sales

were suspended in July 2007. The refunds option applies to disasters declared on or after Aug. 29, 2005. Occupants will have 60 days from the date of notification to request a refund.

Buyers must have purchased the units directly from FEMA or GSA. The refunds will be provided upon repossession of the units.

Individuals and disaster applicants, who have questions regarding the purchase of their unit, may call FEMA at 1-866-562-2381 or TTY 1-800-462-7585.

**PURCHASES THROUGH GSA**

FEMA will notify via e-mail each individual who purchased a recreational vehicle (travel trailer or park model) sold to the public as excess by FEMA through GSA on-line auction sales. The e-mail will include the refund period and procedures for requesting a refund. Buyers will need to send a written request for a refund to FEMA within 60 calendar days of the initial public notification date, Jan. 17. The written request must

include the GSA Sales Contract Number, the purchaser's name, the purchase price and the purchaser's receipt for payment.

Buyers must submit a Direct Deposit form with an original signature to allow for the electronic deposit of funds and an unsigned, voided check or deposit slip along with a signed and completed Trailer Refund Checklist form. Both forms will be provided via the e-mail notification.

Purchasers must return units to the designated FEMA facility and they will need to turn over the Certificate to Obtain Title, if the purchaser still has the document, and title to the unit itself. FEMA will not reimburse purchasers for upgrades or work done to the unit; individuals are responsible for arranging for transportation or travel and paying for the associated costs.

Refunds will be transmitted to the purchaser's bank account by direct deposit within 30 days of the unit's physical return to the designated FEMA facility.

Refund requests should be sent to FEMA at the following address:

Attn: Logistics Current Operations Branch  
Federal Emergency Management Agency  
500 C Street SW, Room 330  
Washington, D.C. 20472

**PURCHASES DIRECTLY FROM FEMA**

FEMA will mail a letter to each disaster assistance applicant who purchased their recreational vehicle (travel trailer or park model) directly from FEMA between July 31, 2006, and July 31, 2007, for major disasters declared on or after Aug. 29, 2005, notifying them of the option and procedure for seeking a refund. Buyers who wish to seek a refund will need to contact FEMA within 60 calendar days of the date of the notification letter they receive.

Applicants who contact FEMA through the toll free number will be transferred to the appropriate Transitional Recovery Office (TRO) or field office in order to process the refund request. The TRO or field office will obtain the original Certificate to Obtain Title from the applicant, if the purchaser still has the docu-

## It Seems Just Like Yesterday

By KEITH HAMBRICK



### Cameron Pilot Jan. 30, 1975 AWARDS PRESENTED BY KC AND CDA

Mrs. Clifford Myers received the Catholic Daughter of the Year award and Ira "Jim" Theriot and Robert Landry received Knight of the Year awards at the 16th annual Knights and Daughters of the Year awards banquet Saturday night at the KC Hall in Creole.

The event was sponsored by J. P. Boudoin Sr., Council No. 3024 and Catholic Daughters of America Court Mary Olive No. 1463.

Mrs. Myers received the award from last year's winner, Mrs. Sidney Savoie, who cited Mrs. Myers' work as Court Regent and her community, civic and 4-H leadership.

T. P. "Blanc" Bonsall, last year's winner of the Knight of the Year award, made the presentation to Theriot and Landry.

Nominees for the Daughter of the Year award were Mrs. Horace Montie, Mrs. Fredman Theriot, Mrs. Whitney Theriot, Mrs. Mayola Wicke and Mrs. Myers.

Nominees for the Knight of the Year award were Evans LaBove, Alfred Duhon, Alex Beard Jr., Lynex Richard, Landry and Theriot.

Twenty-five year KC pins were presented to Charley Vincent, J. P. Boudin Jr., Clarence Boudreaux, Hubert Boudreaux, Brown LeBoeuf, Gordon Nunez, Joe O'Donnell, Lasin Primeaux, and Dalton Richard.

The Sportsman of the Year award was presented posthumously to the late Rod Landry and was received by his father, Robert Landry.

Coach Baron Thomas, from South Cameron High School, was presented with a Coach of the Year award.

### GRANT GIVEN FOR NATURE TRAIL

Two tourist trail areas will share in a \$5,000 grant from the Louisiana Trails Advisory Council.

The Creole Nature Trail from Calcasieu Parish into the coastal area of Cameron Parish and back, will receive \$4,000 and the West Bay Management Area in Allen Parish, 7,500 acres being geared for horseback riding, bicycle trails and for canoeing trips, was awarded \$1,000.

Bernadette Monlezun, executive director of the Lake Charles-Calcasieu Parish Convention and Tourist Commission, presented the case for the Creole Nature Trail.

Miss Monlezun said money has been raised for the project by both Calcasieu and Cameron parish groups,

and any other titles the applicants obtained for the unit.

FEMA will deactivate and haul away recreational vehicles for occupants who want to return the units to FEMA for a refund. Refunds will be transmitted to the purchaser's bank account by direct deposit within 30 days of the unit's physical return to FEMA.

For occupants still residing in the recreational vehicle and who are in need of, and remain eligible for, housing assistance from FEMA, a caseworker from the respective field or Transitional Recovery Office will work with the applicant to help them move them into other housing.

and the trail maybe opened in time for the National Outdoor Writers of America Association convention to be held here June 15-20.

### CAMERON STATE DEPOSITS UP

Deposits rose by 15% to \$8,708,948 and total assets by 15.6% to \$9,619,220 in 1974 at the Cameron State Bank, according to the annual report made to stockholders by E. J. Dronet, president.

Net earnings after taxes was \$10.05 per share and a cash dividend of \$2.50 per share was approved by the Board of Directors. The dividend represents a 10% return on original investment.

Dronet stated that the new Grand Lake-Sweetlake Branch building was 70% completed and should be open for business in April.

Re-elected to the Board of Directors were: John Paul Crain, E. J. Dronet, Charles F. Hebert, Jerry C. Jones, Robert McHale, Leslie R. Richard, Enos Sturlese, Lionel Theriot, and Sue C. Watson.

### PARISH LAMB 4TH IN NATION

Cindy Morris, South Cameron High School senior, received national honors recently at the International Livestock Exposition in Chicago, Ill.

Cindy exhibited a wether lamb in the Junior Division of the show, competing with high school aged exhibitors from throughout the nation and her fat lamb placed fourth in its weight division.

Cindy's lamb placed first in its weight division at the Louisiana State fair in Shreveport and won for her the trip to Chicago, along with nine others from Louisiana.

Cindy is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William O. "Bill" Morris of Creole and has been a 4-H livestock exhibitor for seven years.

### PROJECT HEARING

A public meeting will be held at 10 a.m. Wednesday, Feb. 19 at the police jury

## Chocolate Eclair Cake

Yields 1 - 9x13 inch pan.  
Prep Time: 15 Minutes  
Cook Time: 1 Minute  
Ready In: 1-2 Hours 20 Minutes

1 (16 ounce) package graham crackers  
2 (3.5 ounce) packages instant vanilla pudding mix  
4 cups milk  
1 (16 ounce) package frozen whipped topping, thawed  
1 (16 ounce) package prepared chocolate frosting (your choice of flavor)

Directions:  
Line the bottom of a 9x13 inch baking pan with graham crackers break them to fit. In a large bowl, combine the milk and vanilla pudding according to directions on box. Fold in the whipped topping. Spread a layer of the pudding mixture over the graham cracker and pudding layers up to the top of the pan ending with graham crackers. Cook the container of prepared frosting, uncovered in the microwave for 1 minute on half power, after 30 seconds, stir. Should not be hot just melted enough to pour over the top of the cake and spread. Refrigerate for at least 1-2 hours before serving.  
Makes 24 servings

meeting room of the Courthouse annex in Cameron to discuss the recommendations developed in a feasibility study on the Mermentau River-Gulf of Mexico Navigation Channel.

The U. S. Corps of Engineers said all interested parties are invited to attend the meeting.

The Mermentau River, Gulf of Mexico Navigation Channel is approximately 4.7 miles in length and begins south of Grand Chenier at the Mermentau River's entrance into lower Mud Lake. The navigation channel continues near the eastern edge of lower Mud Lake in a southerly direction through the lake and into the Gulf of Mexico via an approximately 1 mile landcut between the lake and the coastline.

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**— JOB OPPORTUNITY —**

**Cameron Parish Waterworks District No. 7 is taking applications for the position of Operator. Applications can be picked up at the Waterworks District Office in Creole, between the hours of 8-3. All applications must be turned in before 3:00 p.m. on February 14, 2008 at the Waterworks District Office in Creole.**

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**The Cameron Pilot**

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**THE GRAND LAKE - Sweetlake Volunteer Fire Department Junior Firefighter Division is shown above, from left, Gabby Gay, Tori Thomas, Ashlyn Miller, Karl Miller and Kaleb Miller. Juniors of all ages may join with their parents. Other members not present were Aimie and Michael Clark.**

mud surfaces. When the oil well is completed or abandoned, the oil drilling companies come in and tear up the road and burn all the boards. They are never left on the levees.

**LEO CLUB IS FORMED**

Jerry Hayes, Leo Club Chairman West and Raymond Vincent, deputy district governor, as shown here with the officers of the newly formed Leo Club at Hackberry High School.

Officers elected are president, Kirby Hebert; vice president, Allie Hebert; secretary, Sharon Turner; tail twister, Jesse Gibbs; treasurer, David Hebert; board of directors, Kathy Penny and Joseph LeJeune.

**CUB SCOUT PACK AWARDS**

The Grand Chenier Cub Pack 203, Dens 1 and 2, held the monthly Pack meeting at the Grand Chenier Elementary School.

Cubbers receiving the Bobcat awards were:

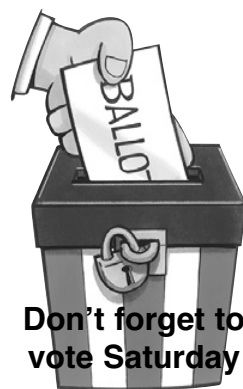
Den 2 - C. A. Dennis, Joe Mhire, Stephen Canik, Keith Swire, David and Ray Vincent.

Den 1 - Pete McCall, Allen Wayne Vincent, Glenn Dupuis, Darren Theriot, Guy Murphy, Scott Trahan, Duncan Crain and Warren Felio.

**MEDALLIONS ON SALE HERE**

Official Bicentennial Medallions commemorating Louisiana's historical contributions to the 200-year history of the United States are now available in Cameron, at the Cameron State Bank.

The medallions, developed by the Louisiana Bicentennial Commission and the Lincoln Mint of Chicago, are part of a statewide program to help get private enterprise and citizens involved and to help finance Bicentennial programs and celebrations throughout the state.



**THE GRAND LAKE - Sweetlake Volunteer Fire Department held its annual meeting last week. Ricky Faulk was recognized as Firefighter of the Year. Henry Oglesby was recognized as Rookie of the Year. Both men were presented with plaques and earned their awards with many hours of training and dedication to the department.**

**It Seems Just Like Yesterday**  
By KEITH HAMBRICK



**Cameron Pilot Feb. 6, 1975 CAMERON GROUP OFF FOR MARYLAND SHOW**  
Cameron Parish and the Louisiana Fur and Wildlife Festival will be well represented this weekend at the National Outdoor Show in Cambridge, Maryland.

Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Miller, winners of the men's and women's muskrat skinning contests at the Festival in Cameron, will compete in the Outdoor Show's fur skinning contests for the world championships.

Miller, having won the contest at the show last year, will be defending his title.

Miss Susan Woodgett, Miss Cameron Parish, will be a special guest of the show and will be accompanied by her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Woodgett of Cameron.

Miss Selika Miller, daughter of the J. A. Miller and Mrs. Richard Dahlen, Creole, who will also be competing in the ladies fur skinning contest, will also be in the group.

The two shows have been exchanging visitors for 18 years.

**MISS JINKS IS AWARD WINNER**  
Juanita L. Jinks has been named Johnson Bayou High School's 1975 Betty Crocker

Family Leader of Tomorrow. She won the honor by scoring high in a written knowledge and attitude examination administered to high school seniors throughout the country Dec. 3.

**CYSTIC FIBROSIS DRIVE**

Mrs. Jerry Jones, chairman of the National Cystic Fibrosis Drive for the town of Cameron, announced that \$909.84 was collected in the campaign.

Workers in the drive were Mmes. Edwin Kelly, Charles Perkins, E. J. Dronet, Larry Taylor, Wendell Murphy, Glenn Duddleston, George Wilkerson, Braxton Blake, John Landry, J. D. LaBove, Gilbert Mudd, Ward Fontenot, Larry Dyson, Bryan Kornegay, Don Criglow, H. L. Dickens, Jr. and Melvin Ohnheiser.

**TRAPPING MEASURE ADOPTED BY JURY**

Three Johnson Bayou 4-H Club members brought to the attention of the Cameron Parish Police Jury national legislation that could kill the trapping industry in the parish, as well as in the rest of the nation.

Leslie Prescott, senior 4-H member, told the jurors that two bills in Congress propose to outlaw most types

of steel traps in use today, which would make future trapping almost impossible.

Prescott said that Louisiana, which leads the nation in fur production, had \$13 million in fur sales last year. Cameron Parish is one of the leading fur parishes of the state.

Prescott, his brother Michael and another 4-H member, Timmy Trahan, asked the jury to adopt a resolution opposing the anti-trapping bills and calling attention to the hardship they would work on the parish if passed.

Juror Charles Precht, a Sweetlake rice farmer, said the parish would be in a sad shape if trapping was outlawed. He said the furbearers would destroy the rice levees if not controlled.

Jerry Jones, jury secretary and a member of the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, praised the youths for their interest in the parish's welfare.

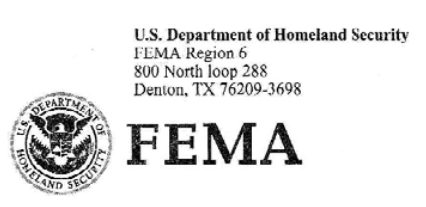
The jury then unanimously adopted the resolution requested by the 4-H youths.

**CAMERON PARISH TEPEES?**

This is not an Indian teppe in Cameron Parish. It is an oilfield board run which has been stacked in cone-shaped bunches to be set afire.

When an oil well is drilled out in the marsh, levees are built to form roads. In order for the roads to be immediately accessible, it is necessary to pave them with boards nailed together to completely cover the soft

**Notice To Cameron Parish Residents**



January 30, 2008

**CERTIFIED MAIL # 70031680 0005 0285 6658 RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED**

The Honorable Darryl Farque  
Cameron Parish President  
P.O. Box 336  
Cameron, LA 70631

Re: National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP)

Dear President Farque:  
Staff members of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Louisiana Transitional Recovery Office (LATRO) conducted a Community Assistance Contact (CAC) with your staff on March 29, 2007 regarding Cameron Parish's participation in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). At the time of the CAC meeting the LATRO staff reviewed issues of substantial damage along with administrative procedures for your Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance (FDPO). As a result of that meeting, it was determined that a more comprehensive assessment would be needed and that request was submitted to the FEMA Region VI Mitigation Division on June 15, 2007.

Members of my staff (FEMA Region VI) then conducted a field visit in Cameron Parish on June 19 & 20, 2007, to compile floodplain development information in preparation to initiate a Community Assistance Visit (CAV). The purpose of the CAV is to determine compliance with our community's FDPO per NFIP participation. They met with Parish officials on June 21, 2007, to discuss the results of their field visit. At that time, my staff discussed your administrative procedures and found that they were adequate except for recommending a follow up procedure on temporary permits.

The NFIP is a quid pro program in which flood insurance is made available in communities that adopt and enforce a FDPO to ensure that new development and substantially improved structures are not at excessive risk for flood damage. Enforcement of the FDPO is a basic requirement for continued participa-

tion in the NFIP. Cameron Parish joined the NFIP Regular Program in September 04, 1970.

In an effort to verify compliance, in my letter dated July 3, 2007, we provided a listing of 324 site addresses and photos that resulted from the field visit, and requested the permit data for those sites. The Cameron Parish Floodplain Administrator submitted documentation for these sites to FEMA Region VI on October 02, 2007.

My staff reviewed the documents and identified a number of potential violations which need either corrective action or further justification.

A main issue is the community's practice of issuing permits with mobile home affidavits that allow mobile homes ("Mobile Home Parks") to locate in the high risk areas without elevation requirements. Another concern is lack of uniformity and documentation for determinations of substantial damage ("Less Than 50 Per Cent Damaged").

The results for the 324 site locations are provided below. The sites have been categorized as compliant, disregarded (due to bad addresses or poor photos), and non-compliant sites:

CAV REVIEW RESULTS	Sub Totals
COMPLIANT	87
DISREGARDED	6
NON-COMPLIANT	231
SITES REVIEWED	324

The non-compliant sites are of four general types:

Type of Violation	Sub Totals
No Permits	25
Various Violations	40
Mobile Home Park Variance	76
Less Than 50 Percent Damaged Assessment	90
Total Non-Compliant	231

Enclosed are four lists that identify the structures that are potential violations along with the reason for the deficiencies and indicating what documentation will be necessary to remedy the potential violations.

Review of 25 residential and non-residential locations that are deemed violations because no permit was secured by the property owner.

Review of 40 residential and non-residential permits with various compliance issues. These permits have inaccurate or missing documentation, i.e. permit but no elevation certificate; elevation certificate information conflicts with permit; expired temporary permits and permits for a different structure (accessory structure instead of residence, etc.).

Review of 76 permits with "Mobile Home Park" affidavits (variances) that indicate the property once had one or more mobile homes located on the property, but

do not qualify as an existing mobile home park per 44 CFR C (12) and are considered violations.

Review of 90 "Less than 50 Per Cent Damaged" documents providing only an address, a photo and a comment indicating the structure sustained less than 50 per cent damages. However, no permit, support documentation or reference to the residential substantial damage estimator (RSDE) list that was completed after Hurricane Rita was noted to support the amount of property damage. Possible substantially-damaged properties require a repair or re-build permit and documentation provided by the property owner to substantiate the cost of repair and pre-disaster market value.

In order for Cameron Parish to be considered compliant with the NFIP, the parish must within forty five (45) days of receipt of this letter, provide a remediation plan on how the parish will address the 231 identified potential violations to the maximum extent possible. If a community is determined at any time to not be in full compliance, the parish could face NFIP probation. Probation serves as a formal notice to your community that implementation of your local floodplain management program is regarded as noncompliant with the minimum criteria of the NFIP. This would require an additional \$50 premium added to each of the 1,848 policies issued to residents of Cameron Parish. Probation is the first step in the process to suspend community eligibility to participate in the NFIP, the result of which is the loss of federally backed flood insurance in the community.

FEMA and the Louisiana NFIP State Coordinator remain committed to assist you to establish an effective floodplain management program to protect your residents. I am confident that Cameron Parish will be able to rectify the identified program deficiencies and correct the violations in a timely manner; and thus remain a participant in the NFIP. If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact Mr. Jaye Hendricks at phone number (940) 898-5561.

Sincerely,  
*[Signature]*

Ross Richardson, Chief  
Floodplain Management  
and Insurance Branch

Enclosures  
cc: Tina Horn, Parish Floodplain Administrator  
Cindy O'Neal, LA State NFIP Coordinator  
David Stearrett, HQ MT-RR-FM  
Rachel Sears, HQ-MT-RR-FM  
Bob Picarazzi, Hazard Mitigation Chief -LATRO  
RUN: Feb. 7 & 14 (F 8)

# Grand Lake High senior players are saluted

By RON GILBERT

These Grand Lake seniors are an exceptional group of people. They will achieve much and be a great asset for our community or whatever community is lucky enough to have them.



**Brett Griffith**

Brett Griffith (Griff) #23, son of Hallie and Lisa Griffith, has been 1st team All-District and Honorable Mention All-State. He plans to play at the college level. Wherever Brett goes, he will be a tremendous asset because of his talents and his character. He thanked his parents and Coach Kiser for all they have done, his teammates for being there for him when he needed them the most. He also thanked the fans. It should be the fans thanking him for giving such exciting games to watch. This game he scored yet another double double with 30 points and 14 rebounds.

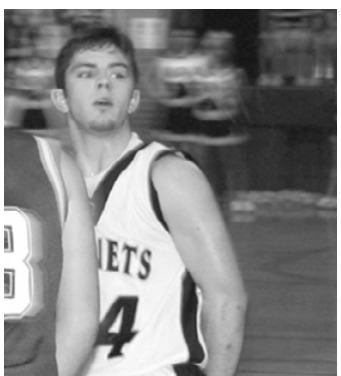
**Sonya Lavergne**

Sonya Lavergne #10, daughter of Mark and Georgette Lavergne, is class vice-president and homecoming queen. She plans to attend McNeese State University and study marine biology. She thanked her friends, Coach Miller, and the community for their support. She gave thanks to her parents for "absolutely everything". She had a very good game with 14 points. Not only a fantastic ball player, but a mentor for those coming up.



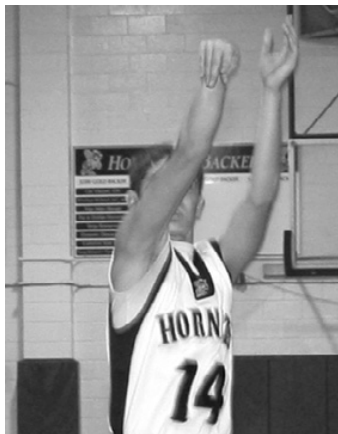
**Nick Nash**

Nick Nash #41, son of Pete and Ginder Nash, is the Louisiana State Vice President for 4-H. He plans to attend the Naval Academy and join the Navy. He thanked his dad for "always being there when I needed you." He added that "life is short. . . so live, and make memories". This is advice we can all use. He is definitely a mentor for all of us.



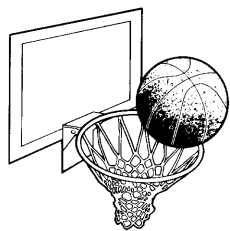
**Garrett Billiot**

Garrett Billiot #24, son of Christy Nunez and Terry Billiot, is a 2-star student and 2nd team All-District. He plans to play college basketball, graduate, and get rich. He thanked the fans and his teammates. He gave a special thanks to his parents who never missed a game this season. He thanked Coaches Robideaux and Kiser for teaching him the game. Pictures can not describe what this guy can do with a basketball. He creates so many chances for points by making awesome passes in the air, down low and everywhere in between. He scored 4 points, 7 rebounds, several assists, and 1 blocked shot. He made the game exciting and put everything had on the floor.



**Renn Savoie**

Renn Savoie # 14, son of Kevin and Kempa Savoie, plans to attend LSU and major in Sports Management. He thanked God for everything that was given to him, and his parents for all their support. Renn showed that he was always in the game to win and do whatever was required of him with grace and integrity.



## Seafood Enchiladas

Prep Time: 15 Minutes  
Cook Time: 40 Minutes  
Ready in: 55 Minutes

Average Rating:\*\*\*\*\*

" These crab and shrimp stuffed enchiladas taste like the ones served at a popular Mexican restaurant in my area. My husband just loves them. After sprinkling the cheese over the enchiladas before baking, you can also garnish with tomatoes, cilantro, olive slices, or whatever other garnish you enjoy. "

**Ingredients**  
1 onion, chopped  
1 tablespoon butter  
1/2 pound fresh crabmeat  
1/4 pound shrimp - peeled, deveined and coarsely chopped  
8 ounces Colby cheese  
1 cup half-and-half cream  
1/2 cup sour cream  
1/4 cup butter, melted  
1 1/2 teaspoons dried parsley  
1/2 teaspoon garlic salt  
6 (10 inch) flour tortillas

**Directions**  
1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees F (175 degrees C).  
2. In a large skillet, saute onions in 1 tablespoon butter until transparent. Remove the skillet from heat, and stir in crabmeat and shrimp. Mix in 1 cup shredded cheese. Place a large spoonful of the mixture into each tortilla. Roll the tortillas up around the mixture, and arrange the rolled tortillas in a 9x13 inch baking dish.  
3. In saucepan, combine half and half, sour cream, 1/4 cup butter, parsley and garlic salt. Stir until the mixture is lukewarm and blended. Pour this sauce over the enchiladas, and sprinkle with remaining cheese.  
4. Bake in preheated oven for 30 minutes.  
Makes 6 servings



# Classifieds

### REAL ESTATE

CENTURY21 BESSETTE Realty, Inc., Office: 337-474-2185, Grace Robideaux, Realtor: 496-1611

HEBERT CAMP Road lots: Tract 3 & 4, corner of Hebert Camp Road Tract 1 West of 115 Hebert Camp Road.

•115 HEBERT Camp Road: Precious 3 yr old 3/2 home in Big Lake about 2 minutes from Hebert's landing. Tastefully decorated with open floor plan and custom wood cabinetry. Vaulted ceiling in living room. Master has Jacuzzi and walk-in closet. Nicely landscaped yard plus outdoor storage room.

•10962 HWY 384: Beautiful 8 yr old modular home with huge 16 x 24 addition and sunporch all situated on 17.5 acres m/l. 24 pecan trees and fruit-bearing trees. Goes to the lake. Owner to provide clear title. Owner says bring an offer. \$275,000.00

•2321 Mallard St., Holly Beach lot fronts Hwy 82 & Mallard, \$68,900. 1/23tfc.

### FOR SALE

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

**ATTRACT ATTENTION:** Need promotional items for tradeshows, festivals, fairs, school events, etc. Call us, we can help! Rely on Wise Ideas Printing & Promotions to help you develop a customized program for your next event. Check out our website: www.bestwiseideas.com. Call Jeffra Wise DeViney for competitive quotes & sales catalogs. Phone: 912-5063.

### DISPLAY ADVERTISING

News articles with photos, engagement and wedding announcements, happy ads, and letters to the editor should be in the news office by 4 p.m. on Tuesdays for that weeks Cameron Pilot. You can mail them to: P.O. Box 995, DeQuincy, La. 70633 For more information call (337)786-8004.

### SEX OFFENDER



**STEFAN FONTENOT**  
SEX OFFENDER

Under Louisiana Law, I am required to advise you that I, Stefan Ronald Fontenot, have been convicted of Molestation of a Juvenile in the 31st Judicial District Court. My address is 114 Roy B. Road, Gueydan, LA 70542.

Race: White  
Sex: Male  
DOB: 06/25/73  
Height: 5' 11"  
Hair Color: Brown  
Eye Color: Brown  
Scars, tattoos, other identifying marks: "IAN" in saw-blade (upper right arm); "BAM" (right and left forearms); Heart with "Laura" (upper left arm)

J-6 runs: 1/30 - 2/7

PHOTOS should be in the news office by 4 p.m. on Tuesday for that weeks Cameron Pilot You can mail them to: P.O. Box 995, DeQuincy, La. 70633 For more information call (337)786-8004.

## — JOB OPENING —

The Cameron Parish Library will accept job applications until 4:00 p.m. Feb. 8, 2008 for a Part-time Clerk's position at the Cameron Library. Salary: \$10.00 an hour. High school diploma or equivalency required. No benefits. Applications may be obtained at any library location. Any questions call Grand Lake Library, Phone: 337-593-5950 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: Jan. 31 & Feb. 7 (J-75)

## — REGISTRATION — DEADLINE FOR MARCH 8, 2008 ELECTION

In order to vote in the March 8, 2008 election you must be registered by February 8, 2008.

You can Register by mail (by requesting a form) or you can come to our office located in Cameron behind the courthouse. 1st trailer to the right. Our phone number is (337) 775-5493.

Thank You,  
Suzanne Sturlese, Registrar

RUN: Jan. 31, & Feb. 7 (J-69)

## CREOLE POLLING PLACE RELOCATED

The Precinct 13, Creole Polling Place, located at the Savoie Lumber Store, 153 East Creole Hwy., Creole, La., is being relocated to the Creole Fire Station, 184B East Creole Highway, Creole, Louisiana.

This move was adopted and approved by Resolution of the Cameron Parish Police Jury on December 3, 2007.

This Polling Location will be used for voting in the upcoming Presidential Preference Primary Election to be held on Saturday, February 9, 2008.

A complete listing of all Cameron Parish Polling Locations for the upcoming Presidential Preference Primary is listed elsewhere in this publication.

RUN: Jan. 24, 31, Feb. 7 (J-51)

## — NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC —

The Cameron Parish Police Jury is considering the following amendment to the Animal and Fowl Ordinance. To submit oral or written comments, please call the Police Jury office at (337) 775-5718 (Operator) or mail to P. O. Box 1280, Cameron, LA 70631.

### PROPOSED ORDINANCE

The Cameron Parish Police Jury recognizes that there are areas in the Parish where the presence of dogs and exotic animals is undesirable, such as areas of high activity and areas where the presence of dogs would threaten the safety, peace or comfort of those present.

\* \* \* \* \*

To enact Sec. 4-29 relative to the regulation of dogs and exotic animals on public grounds and public rights of way during the hours of a permitted parade, fair or festival.

### CHAPTER 4 ANIMALS AND FOWL ARTICLE II. DOGS \* \* \* \* \*

#### Sec. 4-29. PROHIBITED AREAS

Dogs and exotic animals are not allowed on public grounds or public rights of way during the hours of a permitted fair, festival or parade.

The prohibited areas and the applicable hours shall be designated on the Permit issued by the Cameron Parish Police Jury.

Exotic Animals are defined as any species of animal that is not considered to be a common pet (companion animal) or domesticated livestock species.

A fair is defined as an exhibition usually with accompanying entertainment or amusements.

A festival is defined as a celebration for a specific occasion.

A parade is defined as any march or other organized movement of persons from place to place, or about a place.

This section shall not apply to individuals with a disability who are accompanied by a guide dog, signal dog or service dog, specially trained for this purpose.

RUN: Feb. 7, 14, 21, 28 (F 6)

## NOTICE OF POLLING PLACES

According to Carl Broussard, Clerk of Court of Cameron Parish, in accordance with Title 18:535B of the Louisiana Election Code, the following is the official listing of the Polling Places for the upcoming Presidential Preference Primary Election to be held on Saturday, February 9, 2008.

### — POLLING PLACES —

- Precinct 1, location: Johnson Bayou Recreation Center (IN TEMPORARY TRAILER) 135 Berwick Lane, Johnson Bayou, LA
- Precinct 2, location: Cameron Parish Emergency Operations Center 122 Recreation Center Lane, Cameron, LA (BEHIND COURTHOUSE)
- Precinct 3, location: Hackberry Community Center 986 Main Street, Hackberry, LA
- Precinct 4, location: Hackberry Community Center 986 Main Street, Hackberry, LA
- Precinct 5, location: Grand Lake Recreation Center 108 Recreation Lane, Grand Lake, LA
- Precinct 8, location: Lowry Fire Station 460 Lowry Hwy., Lowry, LA
- Precinct 9, location: Klondike Community Center Veterans Memorial Drive, Klondike, LA
- Precinct 12, location: Muria Fire Station 129 Muria Road, Creole, LA
- Precinct 13, location: Creole Fire Station 184B East Creole, Hwy., Creole, LA
- Precinct 14, location: Cameron Parish Emergency Operations Center 122 Recreation Center Lane, Cameron, LA (BEHIND COURTHOUSE)
- Precinct 15, location: Cameron Parish Emergency Operations Center 122 Recreation Center Lane, Cameron, LA (BEHIND COURTHOUSE)
- Precinct 16, location: Grand Lake Recreation Center 108 Recreation Lane, Grand Lake, LA
- Precinct 17, location: Grand Chenier Library 2867 Grand Chenier Hwy., Grand Chenier, LA

RUN: Jan. 24, 31 & Feb. 7 (J-52)









PICTURED ARE Louisiana Daughters of the American Revolution who attended a ceremony at South Cameron High School on Jan. 10. From left are: Cheryl Gott, Myra Whitlow, Sue Simpson, Alice Pippin, Carolyn Brown, State Regent, Patricia Gallagher, Cameo Club, State President, Lea M. Songey, Harriet Lard, Mary Sue Lyon, and Pamela Haynes; center, Bailey Israel, CAR member.

## \$800 in books donated to South Cameron High School

The Cameo Club of the Louisiana Society Daughters of the American Revolution came to South Cameron High School on Thursday, Jan. 10 to present a gift of \$800 in books for the school library as part of a literacy project.

South Cameron High School, South Cameron Elementary School and Cameron Elementary School were also destroyed by Hurricane Rita in 2005. All three schools were consolidated on the South Cameron High campus.

Mrs. Pat Gallagher, Harahan, President of the Cameo Club, presided at the ceremony and introduced Mrs. Carolyn F. Brown, Lake Providence, LSDAR State Regent; Mrs. Sue Simpson, St. Joseph, LSDAR State Treasurer; Mrs. Harriet Lard, Maringouin, Cameo Club Secretary/Treasurer; Mrs. Mary Sue Lyon, Welsh, LSDAR District Director, and Past Regent of Live Oak Chapter; Mrs. Cheryl Gott, LSDAR State Literacy Committee Chairman, Past Regent, La Bayou Chapter, Lake Charles; Mrs. Alice

Pippin, Regent, Calcasieu Chapter, Sulphur; Mrs. Myra Whitlow, Past Regent, Bayou Chapter, Lake Charles, Cameo Club, Chairman of Project; and Miss Bailey Israel, Lake Charles, member of Louisiana Society of the Children of the American Revolution. Mrs. Pamela Haynes, Bayou Chapter, Lake Charles, guest, and Mrs. Lee Martin Songy, Vieux Carre Chapter, Mandeville, were recognized.

The ceremony was attended by many of the school office staff, faculty members and counselors. Mrs. Petty Benoit, on their faculty, is a member of Calcasieu Chapter, and was present.

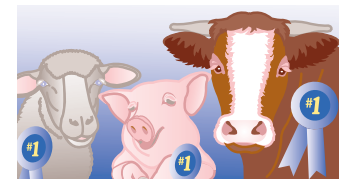
Miss Eva January and Mrs. Katie Trahan, school librarians, prepared a large display of the American History books donated by the Cameo Club.

Miss Israel, a fourth grade student at T. S. Cooley Elementary School, presented a large American Flag to Carroll "Zeke" Wainwright, Principal, and Sgt. Glover, U. S. Marine Recruiter, and handed out souvenir book marks.

The parish received 500 computers donated by Bill Gates. Many books had been received following the hurricane, from schools and libraries in other states. The books presented at the ceremony to the library were all new, hard-back American History books.



THESE WERE some of the Cameron Parish students who won awards at the Southwest District Livestock Show in Lake Charles. (Some of the winners were not present for the photo.) (Photo by Tracy Lannin.)



THESE HACKBERRY 4-H girls all placed first in showmanship with their goats at the District Livestock Show. They are Kelsey Helmer, Mattie Stine, Blair Trahan, and Jolie Trahan. (Reporter Jolie Trahan)



THESE CAMERON Parish youth were winners at the Southwest District Livestock Show in Lake Charles. Richard siblings won Beef Showmanship honors. Brett Richard was Champion Senior Showman; Bailey Richard was Reserve Champion Senior Showman and Becka Richard was Reserve Champion Junior Showman. (Photo by Tracy Lannin.)



JOSHUA WICKE of Grand Lake exhibited this Grand Champion Commercial Heifer at the Southwest District Livestock Show in Lake Charles. (Photo by Tracy Lannin.)

## Cameron youths winners at District Livestock Show

Cameron Parish 4-H and FFA members won many awards at the recent Southwest District Livestock Show in Lake Charles. They were:

**MARKET STEER**  
American Champion: Jolie Trahan, Cameron.  
Reserve Champion: La Bred: Amanda Wicke, Cameron.

**LIMOUSIN HEIFER**  
Grand Champion & Champion La Bred: Cody Jouett, Cameron.

**CHAROLAIS BULL**  
Grand Champion, Grand Champion La Bred: Tyler Lannin, Cameron.

**RED BRANGUS BULL**  
Reserve Champion: Kamie Savoie, Cameron.  
Grand Champion La Bred: Kami Savoie, Cameron.  
Reserve Champion La Bred: Alan Myers, Cameron.

**RED BRANGUS HEIFER**  
Reserve Champion La Bred: Alan Myers, Cameron.

**HEREFORD HEIFER**  
Reserve Champion: Rebecca Dupont, Cameron.  
Reserve Champion La Bred: Matthew Morgan, Cameron FFA.

**COMMERCIAL HEIFER**  
**BRAHMAN INFLUENCE**  
Champion: Joshua Wicke, Cameron.

**BRAFORD HEIFER**  
Grand Champion & Champion La Bred: Johnathan Landry, Cameron.

**BRAFORD BASE BULL**  
Grand Champion & Champion La Bred: Lex Conner, Cameron FFA.  
Reserve Champion & La Bred: Braids LaBove, Cameron.

**BRAFORD BASE HEIFER**  
Grand Champion & Champion La Bred: Ty Little, Cameron.

Cameron.  
Reserve Champion & Conner, Cameron FFA.

**BRAHMAN BULL**  
Reserve Champion & Grand Champion La Bred: Bailey Richard, Cameron.

**BRANGUS BULL**  
Grand Champion & Grand Champion La Bred: Kami Savoie, Cameron.

**MARKET GOAT**  
Division I  
Champion & Champion La Bred: Abbie Delcambre,

Cameron.  
Reserve Champion & Reserve Champion La Bred: Torey Little, Cameron.

**Division II**  
Champion & La Bred: Kory Kyle, Cameron.

**Division III**  
Champion: Abbie Delcambre, Cameron.

**MARKET GOAT**  
**OVERALL CHAMPIONS**  
Grand Champion: Abbie Delcambre, Cameron.  
Grand Champion La Bred: Kory Kyle, Cameron.

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### • WORSHIP SERVICES •

The Grand Lake Community Church will begin worship services on February 17, 2008 at 10 a.m. in the Fireman's Center, Grand Lake, LA.

THESE SERVICES WILL BE HELD ON THE THIRD SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH.

The Bible Study will continue to meet on Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m. at the Center. This is a Southern Baptist Fellowship. Our Worship Leaders will be Mark Dixon and Pastor/Teacher Mike Paris. Please come join us as we begin this new work for the Kingdom in this Community.



**Cameron LNG LLC**  
AN AFFILIATE OF SEMPRA LNG

Cameron LNG, a subsidiary of Sempra Energy, is currently staffing for several Environmental/Training Coordinator. This liquefied natural gas (LNG) receipt terminal is located just north of the community of Hackberry in Cameron Parish. Cameron LNG is under construction and will begin commercial operations in late 2008.

The Environmental/Training Coordinator will be responsible for developing training materials for departmental training programs, as well as maintaining and tracking training records. This position will also be responsible for implementing and managing the compliance guidelines and requirements of all environmental permits.

Ideal candidate should have solid experience developing and delivering training programs and at least 3 to 5 years working knowledge of environmental permits and monitoring requirements.

For consideration, apply online at [www.sempra.com/careers](http://www.sempra.com/careers).

Cameron LNG is committed to recruiting and employing the best and brightest employees from the Cameron and Calcasieu parishes and surrounding areas for years to come. We offer competitive salaries and exceptional benefits.

For more information on Cameron LNG, please visit [www.cameronlng.com](http://www.cameronlng.com).

Sempra Energy, based in San Diego, is a Fortune 500 energy services holding company with 2006 revenues of nearly 12 billion. The Sempra Energy companies' 14,000 employees serve more than 29 million consumers in the United States, Europe, Canada, Mexico, South America and Asia. Sempra Energy is an Equal Opportunity Employer. © 2007 Sempra Energy.

# Catholic Calendar

Vol. 34, No. 4

A PAGE DEVOTED TO LOCAL CATHOLIC INTERESTS † THE DIOCESE OF LAKE CHARLES † LCDIOCESE.ORG

February 7, 2008



## THE DIOCESE OF LAKE CHARLES

### Bishop Provost's Lenten Pastoral

First Sunday of Lent  
February 10, 2008

My dear People of God,

The two most powerful sentences in any language are "I love you" and "I forgive you." They are perhaps so powerful that they intimidate us, and we seldom hear them or speak them. Yet, our Lord Jesus used them frequently and taught us how packed with meaning they are. The two truths they express, love and forgiveness, are the basis for the Sacraments we celebrate as Catholics.

I think of the "New Commandment" our Lord Jesus taught us in the Gospels. At the Last Supper in the Gospel of St. John, Jesus will soon enter His Passion. The Father's will is being carried out. At this critical moment, Jesus says to His disciples, "I give you a new commandment: love one another. As I have loved you, so you also should love one another" (John 12:34). Why is this a new commandment? Jesus had in fact already given a commandment of love. We find it, amongst other places, in the Gospel of St. Matthew, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself" (Matthew 22:39). This commandment of love is universal. Anyone could embrace it as a way of living in harmony within the human family. This "new" commandment of love, to love one another as Jesus has loved us, is specifically Christian. A Christian is called to imitate the love of Jesus, and Jesus loves us to death. As St. Paul will write in Galatians, "I live by faith in the Son of God who has loved me and given himself up for me" (Galatians 2:20). This love of Jesus overflows into the sacramental life of the Church.

The overflowing merits of Jesus Christ are shown particularly in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Throughout his life and ministry, Jesus forgave and commanded us to forgive. Jesus taught it in the Sermon on the Mount. "Be reconciled with your brother, and then come and offer your gift" (Matthew 5:24). Jesus exercised the Father's forgiveness to such an extent that many criticized him. "Who but God alone can forgive sins?" (Mark 2:7). How can a mere human forgive sin? How can anyone exercise the prerogative of God? However, not only does Jesus, as the Son of God, forgive sin, He extends the power of that forgiveness to His followers. It happens in the Gospel of St. John.

As recorded in the Gospel of St. John, Jesus appears the first time to His disciples on the night of the first Easter Sunday. His first words to them are, "Peace be with you" (John 20:19). It is an exceptional moment. Jesus then says, "As the Father has sent me, so I send you" (John 20:21). He breathes on the disciples, an obvious reference to the work of the Spirit, and says, "Receive the holy Spirit. Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them, and whose sins you retain are retained" (John 20:22-23).

The powerful statement, "I forgive you", is intended to be heard. The woman caught in adultery and the paralytic on the mat heard the words of forgiveness. Tax collectors, sinners, and the "good thief" on the cross – all heard the words of forgiveness. The power of forgiveness is not

to remain imagined. If the ears of the disciples are blessed "because they hear", then we as disciples must hear as well (Matthew 13:16). Forgiveness must be expressed. For this reason, St. James exhorts us, "Confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed" (James 5:16). The Church follows that instruction. Not only must the individual Christian forgive those who give offense but also the Church must forgive in Jesus' name. If God forgave in Jesus Christ, then that same forgiveness of Jesus must continue through the work of Christ's Body, the Church. As St. Paul so eloquently writes, "He is the head of the body, the church...For in him all the fullness was pleased to dwell, and through him to reconcile all things for him" (Colossians 1:18-20).

And so we, as Catholics, come to the Sacrament of Reconciliation. With contrition, true sorrow for sin and a purpose of amendment, we come to the Sacrament of our encounter with a forgiving Lord. The priest is that instrument, that minister, set aside by his ordination to speak the words of forgiveness and to represent all those whom we have offended. "I absolve you," he says, and we rejoice in God's grace of reconciliation. We are not alone. We are reconciled within the Body of Christ, the Church. We are the lost sheep who have been found, and "...there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous people who have no need of repentance" (Luke 15:7).

The Sacrament of Reconciliation is a sacrament of comfort and healing. It is an extension of the Lord's mercy to us for the sake of redemption. We should not avoid it. We need to hear those words, "I forgive you." Then, perhaps we can better speak them to one another.

During this Lent, I ask you to renew your appreciation for the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Let us hear "I love you" expressed in the words, "I forgive you." Take advantage of the times offered for this beautiful Sacrament. Never hesitate to request it from your beloved priests. May that grace of forgiveness flow abundantly into you and overflow into your lives as Christians. May we both receive and communicate forgiveness.

With prayers for a blessed Lent, I remain

Devotedly yours in our Lord,

+Glen John Provost  
Bishop of Lake Charles

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The Rev. Henry Mancuso, right, Secretary of Pastoral Services of the Diocese of Lake Charles, stands with Mrs. Carolyn Fernandez, left, Director of Catholic Charities of the Diocese at a recent press conference regarding the link between poverty and racism and to begin working to address those intertwined problems.

## Working poor, homeless are challenging problems

LAKE CHARLES — Providing help to the working poor is one of the most challenging problems facing Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Lake Charles, according to Carolyn Fernandez, Director of the Office. Mrs. Fernandez joined with the Rev. Henry Mancuso, Secretary of the Ministry of Pastoral Services for the Diocese, in announcing a report from Catholic Charities USA regarding poverty in our country and community at a recent press conference.

She shared with the group a "real life crisis from a real life family." The example was a single mother with two children working fulltime above minimum wage. She makes \$9.89 an hour and her employer gives her about 35 hours a week.

Her approximately \$1,600 per month salary, before taxes and normal expenses, does not stretch very far. In fact, it turns into \$549 for child care, groceries, car insurance, gas, and any other incidental expenses that might come up during the month. "It doesn't work, it doesn't work at all," Mrs. Fernandez said. "She came to us for help with her rent, but that is a one time thing. We can't help her every month, but every month though she's facing a cri-

sis, if she is unable to get enough hours at work or something happens to her car. What is she supposed to do for extra money to repair that.

"We have countless examples, but this is the one that really stuck out to me," Mrs. Fernandez continues. "I know she is struggling and trying to get as many hours as her employer will allow her but it's still not solving the problem for her."

Mrs. Fernandez also spoke about the homeless of the area, many of whom are suffering from mental illness, who come to Catholic Charities for help.

"We have several homeless people who come to us for help," Mrs. Fernandez said. "Mental illness affects a number of people who are homeless. We give what assistance we can, but there needs to be greater system support to get them into housing, to help with treatment for mental illness, for medication costs because that is a tremendous part of it."

Mrs. Fernandez pointed out that within the homeless in the area, there is a leadership structure.

"Several months ago, when the weather began getting cooler, I began worrying about the "captain" of the group," she continued. "I began calling

around the area trying to find a bed for him and when I did, I got so excited. But, when I told him about finding him a place to stay, he said, 'he couldn't do it'.

"When I asked him why, he came up with so many different excuses, I realized that his homelessness is by choice, really," she said "But it is also affected by the mental illness. He is not able to make the right choice for himself."

The fact that the man disappeared for a while was a concern, making her fear she might have scared him off by offering him shelter.

"I thought maybe he thought when he turned us down (for the shelter) that we would not help him any more," she said. "After a couple of months, though, he came back very excited because he said he had a "village" of people that he was trying to help. Now he has become a "captain" of this group of homeless people and teaching the ropes for what it means to be on the street and living homeless.

"It's an unfortunate reality but it is what he is doing. We are helping in the way that we can, in the way they will allow us and the way they will accept. It is a harsh reality though."

## Poverty, racism must be addressed jointly

LAKE CHARLES — In a national report recently released locally Wednesday, Jan. 23 through Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Lake Charles it was noted that 37 million people in this country lived below the poverty level in 2006. The report also indicated a definitive link between poverty and racism, according to Rev. Henry Mancuso, Secretary for Pastoral Services of the Diocese. Released by Catholic Charities USA and entitled "Poverty and Racism: Overlapping Threats to the Common Good," it was announced Monday, Jan. 21 in Washington, DC.

"We cannot responsibly address the issue of poverty without addressing the impact of racism on poverty; in reality I will propose, the two — poverty and racism — are intertwined," Father Mancuso said at a press conference held at the Chancery Building of the Diocese. According to the report, the poverty level was calculated as a family of four living on \$20,000 per year. Between 2000 and 2004 the number of people living in such straits increased by 5.3 million, according to Father Mancuso.

He also noted that "racism is a system of racially conferred — and denied — privilege, advantage, benefits, and status. Racism today remains what it has always been: a defense of racial privilege, such as majority or white privilege in the United States."

Nearly two out of three families with incomes below the poverty level include one or more workers. There are more poor white Americans, but the percentage of nonwhites who live in poverty is higher: African American, 24 percent; Latino, 21.8 percent; and Native American, 23.2 percent. White families' net worth is normally 10 times that of people of color.

"Generations of one group of people created wealth for generations of another group of people without much benefit for themselves," Father Mancuso said. When white families were creating a wealth for themselves and their descendants, Black families were being left out. This is no little matter."

The Catholic Church's history is not one of inclusion either, Mancuso pointed out.

But in keeping with the church's "moral theology," Father Mancuso said when "injustice is done, it must be repaired, and social harm calls for social relief."

Father Mancuso called for a radical mental change within the community, which he hopes solves the problem of poverty and racism.

In keeping with the need to work to minimize and work to eliminate both poverty and racism, a course of action was presented.

- A February 16 meeting of Catholic Charities staff with representatives from each of the 38 parishes of the Diocese to begin a process of education, awareness, and collaborative action.

- A Meal Against Poverty program, which will bring together people of goodwill.

- Desire to team with and work with social, government, and religious agencies to address these issues and needs locally.

- Form consciences in faith to assist those in need.

- Recognize that faith-based groups cannot replace governmental responsibilities because they lack resources and personnel. Work to pilot programs that can later be incorporated into public sector programming and to provide analysis of the effectiveness of government programming on the local level.

- Educate young people to the situation that "no diploma" + "teenage pregnancy" = poverty

- Focus on underperforming schools

- Offer fair and clear information on "pay day loans" and "rent to buy" programs, both forms of predatory lending.

- Provide more assistance in affordable housing.

- Ensure that men and women leaving prison are ready to earn a living and create dignity

- Support progressive affirmative action. Act to alleviate the inequities that result from the present structures. For example, providing remedial education, job training, aggressive recruitment and removing racially based disadvantage.

### 40-Hours Devotion sites, times

**Our Lady of LaSalette, Sulphur**

Thursday, Feb. 7 at 6 p.m. to Saturday, Feb. 9 at 12 noon

**Our Lady of LaSalette, DeQuincy**

Saturday, Feb. 9, Sunday, Feb. 10, 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. each day  
Monday, Feb. 11, 1 p.m. to 10 p.m. ;  
Tuesday, Feb. 12 to Thursday, Feb. 14,  
1 p.m. to 6 p.m. each day

**St. Theresa of the Child Jesus, Carlyss**

Wednesday, Feb. 20 at 9 a.m. to Thursday, Feb. 21 at 8 a.m.

**Our Lady of Prompt Succor, Sulphur**

Thursday, Feb. 21 at 9 a.m. to Friday, Feb. 22 at 6:30 a.m.

**Immaculate Conception, Maplewood**

Monday, Feb. 25 to Thursday, Feb. 28, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. each day.

**St. Philip Neri, Kinder**

Monday, March 3 at 6 p.m. to Wednesday, March 5 at 10 a.m.

**St. Joan of Arc, Oberlin**

Thursday, March 13 at 8 p.m. to Saturday, March 15 at 12 noon.

**Our Lady Help of Christians, Jennings**

Tuesday, March, 25, 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

**Immaculate Conception, Jennings**

Wednesday, March 26, 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

**Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Jennings**

Thursday, March 27, 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

(This page paid for by the Diocese of Lake Charles.)

### Did you know . . .

The Rev. Whitney G. Miller was the first priest ordained for the Diocese of Lake Charles. Bishop Jude Speyrer ordained Fr. Miller on June 6, 1980 in Our Lady Queen of Heaven Church. He currently serves as Secretary for the Ministry of Christian Formation of the Diocese and as Director of Diocesan Counseling.

The Very Rev. Daniel Torres, pastor of St. Henry Parish, currently serves as Vicar General while Deacon George Stearns is the Chancellor. Bishop Speyrer appointed two priests to be the first Vicars General and another to be the first Chancellor when the Diocese was established in 1980. Do you know who those priests were?