

**SOUTH CAMERON** High School's Class 1A Regional Champion FastPitch team was recognized at the School Board meeting Monday afternoon: (front row, from left) Laura Reeves, Becca Richard, Kelsey Mudd, Jadah Primeaux, BreAnn Debarge, Bailey Richard, Laikin Canik, Kellie McKoin; (back row) Skylar Barnett, Haley McCall, Amanda Wicke, Shelby Willis, Kimily Bourriague, and Devon Richards. (Photo by Cyndi Sellers.)



Shown with the conservation awards received for the Creole Nature Trail - All American Road at a recent meeting in Atlanta were Monte Hurley, chairman of the Creole Nature Trail All-American Road District Board of Commissioners, Shelley Johnson, executive director of the Southwest Louisiana Convention & Visitors Bureau, and Captain Sammie Faulk, vice-chairman of the Creole Nature Trail All-American Road District Board of Commissioners.



Paul Coreil

## Coreil to be graduation speaker

South Cameron High School Principal Carol Wainwright and the Class of 2008 announced that Dr. Paul Coreil, Vice Chancellor and Director of the Louisiana Cooperative Extension Service will give the commencement address at the South Cameron High School graduation on Saturday, May 24, at 10 a.m., in the recently restored South Cameron High School gymnasium.

His address will focus on the importance of education and the tremendous need for all graduates to use their talents, energies and education to improve their community and not rely on others to take the responsibility for building a better Cameron Parish.

A native of Ville Platte, Dr. Coreil served Cameron Parish from 1978 through 1987, as Parish Chairman, Cameron Parish Office from 1987 through 1991; as Associate Area Agent, Fisheries & Wildlife, Cameron and Calcasieu Parishes from 1982 through 1986; Assistant Area Agent, Fisheries & Wildlife, Cameron and Calcasieu Parishes from 1978 through 1982.

Prior to his current appointment as Vice-Chancellor, Dr. Coreil worked professionally in several areas of wetlands conservation and management. During his tenure in Cameron Parish, Dr. Coreil and his family made their home in Grand Chenier where his wife Arlene taught and children Ashley and Adam attended schools in Cameron Parish.

The Coreil family moved to Baton Rouge in 1992 and resides there today, as Dr. Coreil's office is located on the campus of Louisiana State University.

He was among the very first to contact the Cameron Parish School System with offers of whatever assistance was necessary and assisted in locating office space for the Cameron Parish LSU and Southern University Ag Center to operate, in an effort to continue 4-H and other similar adult and youth programs after Hurricane Rita.

Among numerous other awards and honors, some of

Cont. on Page 3.



**LOSTON MCEVERS** is shown with the first place plaque that was recently awarded to him by the Louisiana Press Association for the Best Sports Column in the state. This is the second time he has won this award. McEvers has written an outdoors column for the Cameron Pilot for many years.

## Nature Trail supporters given wildlife award

Three long-time champions of fish and wildlife conservation in Southwest Louisiana were rewarded for their commitment by the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Southeast Region, with the Regional Director's Conservation Award at the annual award ceremony held Monday, May 12, in Atlanta.

Recipients were Shelley Johnson, executive director of the Southwest Louisiana Convention & Visitors Bureau, Monte Hurley, chairman, and Captain Sammie Faulk, vice chairman, both serving on the Creole Nature Trail All-American Road District Board of Commissioners.

The award was presented by the Southeast Region for the group's efforts in developing public enjoyment of National Wildlife Refuges in Southwest Louisiana by securing over one million dollars worth of projects

which promote and enhance public uses of refuges for hundreds of thousands of visitors from across the country and around the world.

"In addition to being a national treasure, the Creole Nature Trail All-American Road is the second largest attraction in Southwest

Cont. on Page 5.

## Area players recognized as All Staters

By CHRIS & LAURIE MUELLER

Several area baseball and softball players were named to the Louisiana High School Athletic Association's Academic All State teams.

The South Cameron Tarpons placed three players on the Composite team which consists of players from all classes 5A-C. First baseman Thomas Troclair and outfielder Daniel Dupre made the team with a 4.0 GPA. Shortstop Jonathan Trahan was also named to the composite team with a 3.89 GPA. Catcher Justin Trahan was named as an honorable mention with his 3.08 GPA.

Grand Lake is represented on the LHSAA Academic All State Class B softball team with pitcher Lakeyn Duhon, who had a 3.39 GPA; third baseman Brittany Hebert, with a 3.89 GPA; and outfielder Sonya Lavergne, with a 3.78 GPA.

All of these students are to be commended for their excellence on the field as well as in the classroom.

## Hurricane meeting set

The Cameron Parish Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness will hold its annual hurricane awareness meeting at 6 p.m. Thursday, May 29, at the Creole Multi Purpose Center.

The Cameron Parish OHSEP Public Alert System will be introduced and demonstrated along with other important information for the upcoming season.

All volunteers are urged to attend. If you are unable to attend please call 775-7048 to update your contact information.



**ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS** grand prize slogan/essay winner Andrew Mudd, left, and grand prize art winner Briley Richard, center, each received a \$500 award check from the Connie Doré Environmental Awareness Project. Additionally, South Cameron High School received a \$3000 check for having both of this year's grand prize winners. Superintendent Stephanie Rodrigue presented the awards on Mrs. Doré's behalf at Monday morning's ceremony at Grand Lake High School. (Photo by Cyndi Sellers.)

## School Board votes to roll back tax millages for 2008

By CYNDI SELLERS

In light of expectations that parishwide property valuation will increase for 2008, the Cameron Parish School Board voted Monday to roll back its tax millages in order to take in no more than it did in 2007.

Increased valuation would have brought in \$88,265 more than last year, but the Board felt it would be able to operate on last year's income of approximately \$8.6 million.

Some help came from FEMA, which returned almost \$700,000 of what were previously flood insurance penalties. The amounts were deducted from project allocations due to under-insuring of buildings. New guidelines provide that only one such deduction will be taken for each damaged campus, not for each building as previously.

Board member Loston McEvers' motion to divide the remaining Special Projects funds equally between all four parish schools was approved. The fund stood at \$460,000 as of November, 2007, and each school was allocated \$50,000 for special projects.

McEvers' motion added \$62,000 to each school's fund. Projects will have to be approved by the Board in order for the money to be spent. Interest earned will be divided equally.

Cont. on Page 5.

The Special Projects Fund was taken from 16th section income before Hurricane Rita, and a list of projects was created. Interest from the 16th section fund is used to pay teachers and staff a "13th" check each year, as revenue allows.

### WAIVER ASKED

The Board voted to authorize Supt. Stephanie Rodrigue to request an elevation waiver for the construction of the South Cameron High School football stadium restroom's and concession stand. Rodrigue said that space constraints caused by the temporary classrooms will not allow the structures to be elevated, since they will have to be placed under the bleachers.

She said the buildings were designed with the understanding that their size would allow them to be placed on the ground, but now that seems not to be the case. If necessary, the small buildings can be made movable, she said.

Details of the land swap between the School Board and the Cameron Parish Police Jury in Grand Lake have been finalized, and documents are ready to be signed. The placement of a right of way easement to remaining Police Jury property behind the school was negotiated by District



James Hoffpaur

## Hoffpaur is named by board

The Cameron Parish School Board recently ended a Request for Qualifications in the pursuit of a Projects Manager. With 128 project worksheets approved to date, several more still in both the original and versioning phases and with \$47,999,365 currently in obligated projects and more funding on the horizon, Cameron Parish School Board is the largest FEMA applicant of the federally declared Rita disaster.

With the funding of project worksheets for the larger construction projects are attached percentages for project management. At the May 12, regularly scheduled board meeting, Cameron Parish School Board ratified Superintendent Stephanie Rodrigue's recommendation of James L. Hoffpaur, AIA, for the position of Projects Manager for the duration of all FEMA construction.

Mr. Hoffpaur's primary immediate focus will be the construction of South Cameron High School which goes to bid at the end of May and with initial site work set to begin on Aug. 2, and the Cameron Parish School Board Central Administration Office in Cameron which is currently in the bid process.

He will also supervise other school district FEMA projects including repairs to the track and field at Johnson Bayou High School, the construction of the South Cameron High School vocational agriculture and horticulture facility, the concession stand and restroom's at Tarpon Stadium, the rodeo arena at Hackberry High School, and the agricultural barn and greenhouse at Grand Lake High School.

Cont. on Page 3.

## Tax holiday on hurricane supplies is this weekend

The Louisiana Legislature is giving residents a break on items purchased in preparation for the 2008 hurricane season.

This weekend, the 4 percent state sales tax will not be collected on those items up to \$1500.

The "tax holiday" applies only to the state sales tax. Local sales taxes will be collected as usual.

The state sales tax holiday begins at 12:01 a.m. Saturday and ending at 11:59 p.m. Sunday.

No state sales tax will be collected on the first \$1500 of the sales price on each of the following:

- Self-powered light sources like flashlights
- Portable self-powered radios, two-way radios and weather-band radios.
- Tarpaulins or other flexible waterproof sheeting.
- Ground anchor systems or tie-down kits.
- Gas or diesel fuel tanks.
- AAA, AA, C, D, 6-volt or 9-volt batteries. Automobile and boat batteries are not eligible.
- Cellular phone batteries and charger's.
- Non-electric food storage coolers.
- Portable generators.
- Storm shutter devices - manufactured, rated and marketed specifically for the purposes of preventing window damage from storms.

The state-sales-tax exemption does not cover preparedness items bought at airports, public lodging establishments or hotels, convenience stores or entertainment complexes. For more information visit [www.revenue.louisiana.gov](http://www.revenue.louisiana.gov).



Bookmobile

## Creole Branch Library is now open

Cameron Parish Library officially opened the Creole Branch Library on Thursday, May 15. Cameron Parish Library is excited to have the opportunity to extend services to the Creole

Community. The bookmobile is parked at the Creole Fire Station and will be open on Mondays and Thursdays from 8 a.m.-6 p.m. The library will provide a range of services including

fax, free Internet, books, DVD's, books on CD, newspapers, databases, ILL.

Contact numbers for the library are as follows: 542-4084 (phone) and 542-4089 (fax).

# Funerals



**GAYLE H. STEWART**

Gayle H. "Gayboy" Stewart, 81, of Grand Chenier died at 1 p.m. Friday, May 9, 2008 in his residence surrounded by his loving family.

Mr. Stewart was born to Ott and Estelle Stewart in Creole. He graduated from Grand Chenier High School. After high school Mr. Stewart joined the United States Army and served during World War II. He was stationed in Europe and received a Victory Medal.

Mr. Stewart worked for many years in the oilfield and after his retirement from Baroid, he worked as a school crossing guard for the Cameron Parish Sheriff's Office. He was a cattleman and also loved hunting, trapping, shrimping, and gardening where his vegetables were enjoyed by many friends and neighbors.

He was a member of the Grand Chenier Methodist Church where he contributed much time and effort to the rebuilding after Hurricane Rita. Mr. Stewart was a Mason and a member of the Cattleman's Association.

He is survived by his loving wife of 50 years, Edith Carr Stewart of Grand Chenier; one son, Edward Stewart and wife Susie of Carlyss; three daughters, Lisa Stewart and LeAnn Stewart, both of Cameron, and Kay Miller and husband Mike of Westlake; four grandchildren, Lyndi Stewart of Grand Chenier, Krissy Peloquin of Lake Charles, Clint Stewart of Carlyss, and Kade Pierson of Cameron.

His funeral was held Monday, May 12, at 11 a.m. from the Grand Chenier Methodist Church. The Rev. James Moore officiated. Burial was in McCall Cemetery in Grand Chenier under the direction of Johnson Funeral Home. Visitation was Sunday, May 11 from 2 p.m. until and Monday, May 12 8 a.m. until time of service at the church.

Words of comfort to the family may be expressed at [www.johnsonfuneralhome.net](http://www.johnsonfuneralhome.net) (Paid Memorial)



**ANNETTE BYLER**

Annette Rita deLaunay Byler, 96, died Tuesday, May 13, 2008, in her residence.

She was born in Lake Arthur and graduated from Lake Arthur High School. She also graduated from Normal Teachers College.

Her first teaching job required her to sail her sailboat across the river and then ride horseback to a one room schoolhouse.

She retired from teaching after 30 plus years of service. After retirement, she and her husband purchased a shrimp boat and began shrimping.

Survivors include one sister, Genevieve Hoese of Lake Arthur; one son, Lloyd Peter Byler and wife Yvonne of Missouri City, Tex.; one daughter, Henrietta Ann Gray and husband Donald "Buck" of Hackberry; six grandchildren, 11 great grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

She was preceded in death by her husband, P.L. "Hottee" Byler; and five siblings.

Her funeral will be at 10 a.m. Friday, May 16, at St. Peter's Catholic Church Hall. Burial will be in New Hackberry Cemetery under the direction of Hixson-Sulphur Memorial Funeral Home.

Visitation will be from 3-9 p.m. Thursday and from 8-10 a.m. Friday. A Rosary will be recited at 7 p.m. on Thursday.

## ADDISON GASPARD

Addison Kathleen Marie Gaspard, infant daughter of James and Brandi Gaspard, Jr., formerly of Creole, died Wednesday, May 7, 2008.

Survivors other than her parents include her brother, Dylan Daigle; sister, Callie Gaspard; grandparents, Albert and Debbie Duhon of Sweetlake, James Gaspard, Sr. and wife Pam of Cameron, and Jean Gaspard of Oakdale; great-grandparents, Leland and Genelle Crochet and Joseph "Sip" and Ina Duhon, all of Sweetlake, and great-great-grandmother, Nita Conner.

Her graveside service was held Thursday, May 8, at Consolata Cemetery in Lake Charles under the direction of Johnson Funeral Home. Father Wayne LeBleu officiated.

## WALTER I. POUSSON

Walter I. Pousson, 79, died May 7, 2008.

A native of Egan, Walter has been a resident of Westlake for the past 60 years. He was a World War II Navy veteran and a life member of the VFW. He was a barber in Westlake since 1948, and in 1954 he and his late brother, Anthony, were co-owners of Pousson's Barber Shop. He was an electrical inspector and code enforcement officer for the Calcasieu Parish Police Jury. He had served as city councilman, mayor pro-tem, and building inspector for the city of Westlake. Walter served on various boards for Louisiana Building Officials Association, Boy Scouts of America, Imperial Calcasieu Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention Program, Civil Defense, and Rotary Club.

As a charter member of St. John Bosco Catholic Church, he has served as eucharistic minister, church trustee, usher, religious education instructor, and RCIA Instructor. He was past president of Westwood Elementary PTA, and also a past member of the school boards for Our Lady's School and St. Louis High School.

He was a Fourth Degree Knight and Charter Grand Knight for the Westlake Knights of Columbus. He was eminent grand commander for the International Order of the Alhambra. He was a recipient of the "Companions of Honor" for devoted service by the Diocese of Lake Charles.



**AN AUTOMATIC EXTERNAL Defibrillator was given to South Cameron High School Monday by the Southwest Contraband Chapter of Kiwanis Club with an additional contribution from Steamatic. It will be available for use whenever anyone has a sudden cardiac arrest, especially important for sports injuries. Pictured are: (front row, from left) Eva Abate, Monica Nicosia, Asst. Principal Sethie Trosclair, Coach Derek Noel, Karen Delpapa, Christus St. Patrick in School Clinic Office manager Joannette Savoie, Theresa Savant, R.N.; (middle row) Nurse Practitioner Troy Fletcher, Coach Parry Lalande, Coach Kerry Morrison, Clinic Office Tech Jill Thibodeaux, Clinic Counselor Tracy McNeely; (back row) Athletic Director Stevie Barnett, Principal Zeke Wainwright, and Jack Delpapa of Steamatic.**

(Photo by Cyndi Sellers.)

## Defibrillator given S. Cameron

By **CYNDI SELLERS**

The Kiwanis Club of Southwest Contraband donated an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) to South Cameron High School on Monday as part of the district governor's service project to place an AED in every school in the Louisiana, Mississippi, and West Tennessee district over

the next several years.

South Cameron High is the first school in the local area to receive an AED. It was chosen because of its remote location from area hospitals. The critical time frame for cardiac arrest is 5-7 minutes, and the nearest hospital is about 10 minutes away.

The small, portable, fully automatic units, when used in a rescue situation, can increase survival rates from 5% to as much as 90%. The unit is easy to operate, giving verbal instructions to the user, advising whether to use the defibrillator and calculating how much voltage to use to shock the heart back into regular rhythm.

The ZOLL Medical Corporation AED was chosen for the program because it is the only one to incorporate CPR monitoring into its operations. It will even tell the user whether their chest compressions are strong enough.

The South Cameron unit was purchased by the club with matching funds from Steamatic. Club President Monica Nicosia said "the Kiwanis AED Project represents a remarkable opportunity to change the world, one child and one AED at a time."

The unit will be placed near the school gym, since it is most likely to be used in sports injury situations. Staff will be trained in its use, including coaches, teachers, and the staff of the Christus St. Patrick on-site clinic. Principal Zeke Wainwright said "many athletes have needed this device, and would have been saved if their school had had the equipment." A student athlete at Westlake High School was recently saved using an AED.

Anyone interested in helping the club place additional AEDs in local schools may call Karen Delpapa, AED Chairman, at 625-4353.

## Jury meeting is cancelled

The Police Jury meeting previously scheduled for Monday, May 19, at 5 p.m. to discuss the new Flood Insurance Rating Maps, has been cancelled due to the need for more information.

## Lunch menus

Cameron Parish School lunches are as follows:

Friday, May 16 - Beef finger steak, mashed potatoes, sweet peas, orange wedges, white sauce, wheat sliced bread, milk.

Monday, May 19 - Chicken alfredo, tossed salad, orange wedges, salad dressing, wheat biscuits, milk.

Tuesday, May 20 - Meatballs, brown gravy, rice, carrots, fruit salad, peanut butter spread, wheat rolls, milk.

Wednesday, May 21 - Chicken fried steak, mashed potatoes, fresh fruit cup, yellow cake chocolate glaze, sliced bread, brown gravy, milk.

Thursday, May 22 - Oven fried chicken, seasoned rice, blackeyed peas, fruit cocktail, wheat biscuits, milk.

Survivors are four daughters, Margareta Thornton and husband Sonny, Cindy Wilks and husband Dwayne of Moss Bluff, Denise Barbre LeBoeuf and husband Eric of Grand Lake, and Monica Walton and husband Steve of Brandon, Miss.; two sons, Walter Pousson, Jr. of Lafayette and John Pousson and wife Melissa of Sulphur; two brothers, August Pousson of Beaumont, Tex., and Lloyd Pousson of Crowley; 15 grandchildren; and 11 great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Helen Thibodeaux Pousson; son, Jeffery Pousson; parents, Maxime and Ella Pousson; one sister and eight brothers.

His funeral was Saturday, May 10, at St. John Bosco Catholic Church. Monsignor Charles Dubois officiated. Burial was in Istre Cemetery in Mermentau, under the direction of Hixson Funeral Home in Westlake.

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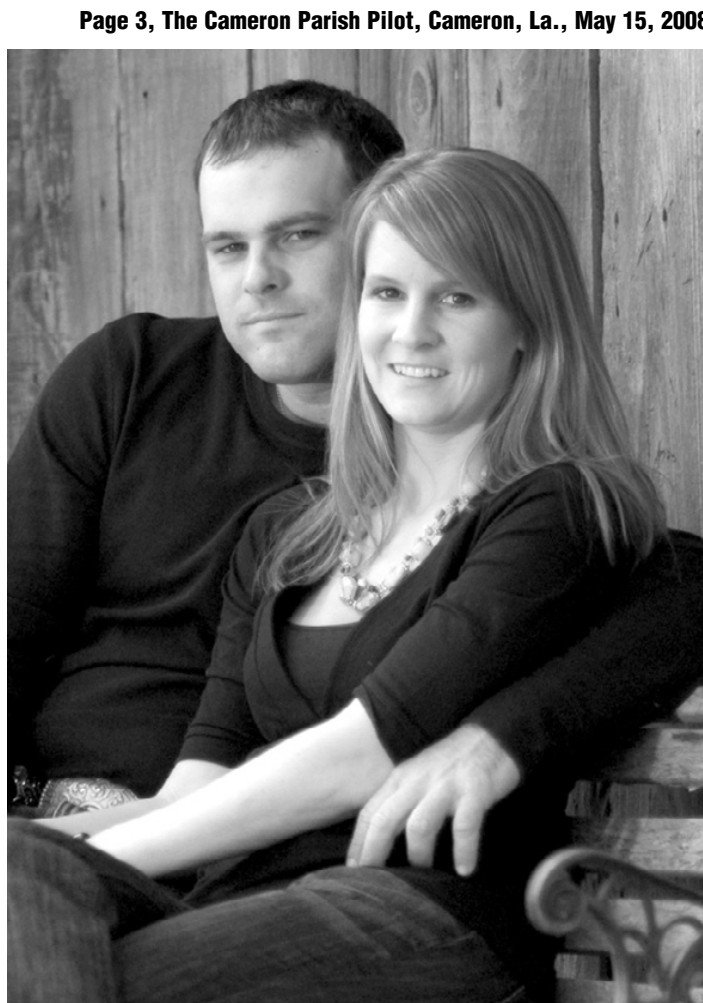




DAVID GRIBBLE, Community Coffee representative, is shown presenting a \$294.22 check to Beth Ferguson and Courtney Verzwylt, representing Grand Lake High School, for participating in the company's Cash for Schools Program.



MR. AND MRS. Chuck Babineaux of Grand Lake announce the engagement and forthcoming marriage of their daughter, Jacqueline Jeannine, to Christopher Shane Hebert, son of Richard Hebert, Jr. of Creole and Vickie Watkins of Moss Bluff. The wedding is set for Friday, May 30 at St. Margaret's Catholic Church in Lake Charles at 7 p.m. A reception will follow at the Multi-Purpose Building in Grand Lake. Through this means, friends and relatives are invited to attend.



TERRY LYNN COX of Sweetlake announces the engagement and forthcoming marriage of her daughter, Sadie Lynne, to Eric Ted Savant, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ted Warren Savant of Kinder. The wedding is set for Friday, May 30 at Our Lady Queen of Heaven Catholic Church in Lake Charles at 6 p.m. A reception will follow at the Brick House.



**AIR FORCE AIRMAN**  
William M. Hickey has graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas. During the six weeks of training, the airman received physical training, rifle marksmanship, field training exercises, and special training in human relations. In addition, airmen who complete basic training earn credits toward an associate degree through the Community College of the Air Force. He is the son of Steve Turrentine and Nannette Hickey of Hackberry and is a 2007 graduate of Hackberry High School.

## Birth is announced

MICHAEL THEODORE GAY

Paul and Amy Gay announce the birth of their third child Michael Theodore, Thursday, May 8. He weighed 7 lbs. and 7 ozs.

Grandparents are Heather and Bobby Reeves, Toby and Dinah Landry, Winnie and John Gay and Carolyn and John Douglas and Boyd and Louetta Nunez.

The couple's other children are Gabrielle Elizabeth and Kathrine Marie.

## Two parish students are NSU grads

Northwestern State University awarded degrees to 763 graduates at its Spring Commencement Exercises held May 9 in Prather Coliseum.

Northwestern conferred an honorary doctorate on Joseph Dow of Pasadena, Texas, founder and owner of Dow Pipe & Fence Supply, and a 1963 graduate of Northwestern.

Commencement speakers were Dr. John Ruffin, director of the National Center on Minority Health and Health Disparities, and State Sen. Gerald Long.

Spring 2008 graduates listed by hometown were:

Creole: Joby Len Richard, Bachelor of Science; Christain Dugas, Bachelor of Science in Nursing.

society from the area was Senior initiate, Raphiel Heard, Grand Chenier.

## Raphiel Heard is initiated

McNeese State University's Chapter of the Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi has recently inducted 108 students and three faculty and staff members into the society.

Faculty and staff members initiated into the honor

## HOFFPAUR

Cont. from Page 1

In addition to projects funded through FEMA, Mr. Hoffpaur will also supervise other capital improvement projects within the school system, some of which will be partly funded by FEMA, and include the renovation of tracks at Hackberry and Grand Lake High School, the construction of a softball field at Johnson Bayou High School, revisions to the current athletic fields at Grand Lake High School, and the completion of the South Cameron baseball field project at the former site of South Cameron Elementary School.

On Monday, the Cameron Parish School Board approved additional allocations

to the Special Projects Fund for a total \$448,303 or \$112,075 per school, some of which will be used for the non-FEMA portions listed above. Mr. Hoffpaur will manage and direct these special projects.

Mr. Hoffpaur is a life-long resident of Lake Charles and has been practicing architecture and project management over the last 30 years. He has worked with FEMA on four recent disasters, including disaster recovery projects in California, and school recovery projects in both New Orleans and Southwest Louisiana.



## Grand Chenier Library news

Grand Chenier Library schedule is as follows:  
"Crossword Daze" 10 a.m. daily

Thursday, May 15, "After School Club", Web Surfing & Research 4 p.m.

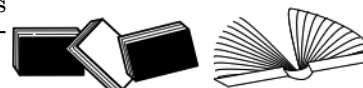
Friday, May 16 "LA Spirit Hurricane Recovery Team", Arts & Crafts 1-3 p.m.; Story Time 3 p.m.

Monday, May 19 - Wednesday, May 21 "Fitness Program" Low impact walking program 2 p.m.

Thursday, May 22, "After School Club" Web Surfing & Research 4 p.m.

Friday, May 23, "The Water Horse Legend of the Deep" Movie Time and Popcorn, Rated PG, Approx. 112 min. 1-3 p.m.; Story Time 3 p.m.

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**CAMERON PARISH** residents and officials turned out Tuesday to view the preliminary Digital Flood Insurance Rating Maps and speak to experts at the Creole Multi-purpose Building. (Photo by Cyndi Sellers.)

# Flood insurance maps are on view in parish

By **CYNDI SELLERS**

Cameron Parish residents got a chance to view detailed digital flood insurance rating maps on Tuesday, as the preliminary DFIRM maps were unveiled by the Louisiana Mapping Project and FEMA. About 175 people registered for the event, less than organizers had hoped for.

Participants were able to use computer screens to locate their address and see the zone and elevation requirements before Hurricane Rita, after the adoption of Advisory Base Flood Elevations, and under

the new maps, which have not gone into effect yet.

Specialists were on hand to answer questions about the mapping study methods used and about individual flood insurance status and options.

Barb Sturner, Public Affairs Officer for FEMA, said that the purpose of the Louisiana Mapping Project (LaMP) is to help residents of flood prone areas know their risks so they can make informed decisions. She said the new maps were created using the latest data gathering and analyzing tools and are much more accurate than in the past. "People

have a right to know their minimum risk," she said.

Creation of the maps is a technical issue, Sturner said. It is the best picture of the minimal flooding risk, based on a 100 year flood plain, or a 1% chance in any given year of water reaching a given level. It is not the highest possible level, but a picture of stronger and weaker storms over a century.

The mapping process took data from storms like Rita and Katrina and projected their effects at various points of landfall across the coast. That is why the new elevations may not match the levels actually seen at a given site - it would have been different if the storm had landed at a different spot.

Stillwater levels allowed wave action to be calculated using programs that take into account terrain elevation, vegetation (rigid or flexible), and openness vs. sturdy buildings that might obstruct the height of waves. Buildings were mapped using aerial photos taken in June and July of 2007. Study contractors said it takes 5-6 feet of stillwater to create a 3 foot wave, needed for a definition of a VE zone: "additional hazards due to storm-induced velocity wave action."

### NOT IN EFFECT NOW

Sturner explained that the new maps are not in effect now. "New construction will not be required to meet the new codes until and unless they are adopted by the local governing authority," she said. "As long as current construction is compliant with current codes, they will not have to change."

Adoption of the new maps will only take place after a period of review, beginning with a 90 day public comment period. During this time, residents or the parish may file appeals based on scientific evidence, data and facts that may refute the findings of the study. Protests may also be filed in case of administrative or clerical type errors, such as wrong addresses or street names on the maps.

After the comment period, all appeals will be considered and data compared, which can take a while, Sturner said. Then a letter of final determination will be sent to the Parish, and it is up to the Police Jury to decide whether to adopt the new maps.

## WOULD LOSE FLOOD INSURANCE

If the Parish chooses not to adopt the new maps, it will be eliminated from the National Flood Insurance Program, with consequences ranging from loss of flood insurance for all buildings to loss of federal funds for many public purposes and loss of rebuilding funds in case of future storms.

Some facts were made clear. Until the new maps are adopted by the parish, residents are under the same rules as before the hurricane, with the addition of the 1 foot extra elevation added in the ABFEs. Flood insurance rates will not change on existing homes if the new maps are adopted. Pre-FIRM structures that have been continuously insured are "grandfathered" at the earlier rate, no matter how much the elevations change.

Mike Hunnicutt, FEMA Hazard Mitigation Compliance Deputy Section Chief, said several people were glad to learn that they could save money on their flood insurance by building above the required elevation. A native of St. Bernard Parish who had six feet of water in his house during Katrina, Hunnicutt said he is very familiar with flood hazards. He was interested in looking into the International Building Code construction requirements for VE zones, as presented two weeks ago by Lonnie Harper and Associates.

Under the new maps, all of lower Cameron Parish and much of the land above the Intracoastal will be in a VE zone, which requires a much higher level of construction than the AE zones currently in effect over most of the area. Some areas of Grand Lake which were previously in an X zone (no elevation required) will actually be in a VE zone under the new maps.

### AVAILABLE ON WEB

For those who could not attend the open house, all

## Coreil

Cont. from Pg. 1

Dr. Coreil's more notables include Honorary State Legislator in 1989; Floyd Edmiston Extension Service Award in 1989; Cameron Parish Citizen of the Year in 1990; Lion of the Year B Cameron Parish in 1991; USDA Team Award in 1993; Extension Program Excellence Award in 1994; EPA Environmental Excellence Award in 1994; Epsilon Sigma Phi Mid-career Award in 1995; National Wetlands Educator Award finalist in 1995 & 96; Coastal Stewardship Award in 1998; and, most recently, the Chancellor's Diversity Leadership Award in 2006.

The information is available on the website [www.lamappingproject.com](http://www.lamappingproject.com), at the Parish Permit office in Cameron, or by calling the Help Desk at 1-866-3989.

Mapping is currently being done for all of the U. S. and Puerto Rico. Seven parishes in Louisiana have had open houses so far: Iberia, Vermilion, Tangipahoa, St. Mary, Lafayette, Livingston, and Cameron. Calcasieu is set to have its open house next month. All of the Louisiana maps are available on the website, for anyone who wants to see what is happening in other parishes.

Other states are in the process, too. Mississippi has been completed, and Texas and Florida are under way.

## Hackberry News

By **GRACE WELCH**

### CONFIRMATION

Congratulations to the St Peter the Apostle Church Confirmation Candidates for confirming Tuesday, April 29.

The class consisted of Lauren Broussard, Keithen Nunez, Sean Hicks, Kaitlyn Hicks, Chandelle Toups, Lori Beth Shove, Shelby Seay, Garrett Guidry, Lisa Maddox, Brandon Pitre, Kelsey Helmer, Clinton Granger, Allyson Sanner, Megan Swire, Justin East and Jacob Poole.

### WELCH BABY

Kasey Welch and Kristin Perriera announce the birth of their son, Kasey Robert Welch, Jr., Thursday, April 10, at Cal-Cam Hospital in Sulphur. He weighed 7 lbs. and 2 ozs.

Grandparents are Anderson Jr. and Connie Welch of Hackberry.

### HONORING COUPLES

Bishop Provost will honor couples celebrating their 25th or 50th anniversaries during the year 2008 at the 9:30 a.m. Mass on Sunday, June 1.

The location will be the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception.

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2004 Volkswagen Jetta <small>auto, a/c, am/fm cd, 4dr, power windows, locks, fully loaded</small>	<b>\$11,997</b>	2008 Pontiac Grand Prix <small>auto, a/c, am/fm cd, clean, fully loaded</small>	<b>\$16,997</b>
2003 Ford Ranger Ex Cab <small>a/c, am/fm cd, tilt, cruise</small>	<b>\$11,997</b>	2005 Nissan Maxima <small>white, auto, a/c, am/fm cd, tilt, cruise, fully loaded</small>	<b>\$18,997</b>
2005 Pontiac Vibe <small>30mpg est. auto, a/c, am/fm cd, tilt, cruise, fully loaded</small>	<b>\$11,997</b>	1992 Chevrolet Silverado Ex Cab <small>very clean, auto, a/c, power windows, locks, all loaded up</small>	<b>\$4,997</b>
2003 Buick Rendezvous <small>only 30,000 miles, auto, a/c, power windows, locks, all loaded up</small>	<b>\$12,997</b>	2003 Pontiac Grand Am <small>teal in color, auto, a/c, am/fm cd, tilt, cruise, power windows, locks</small>	<b>\$5,997</b>
2004 Mitsubishi Montero Sport <small>auto, a/c, am/fm cd, tilt, less than 30,000 miles</small>	<b>\$12,997</b>	2002 Dodge Caravan <small>very clean, auto, a/c, am/fm cd, fully loaded</small>	<b>\$6,997</b>
2005 Nissan Altima <small>auto, a/c, am/fm cd, tilt, cruise, power windows, locks, fully loaded</small>	<b>\$14,997</b>	2000 Chevrolet C2500 Regular Cab <small>long-wheels base, auto, a/c, am/fm cd, clean</small>	<b>\$7,997</b>

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**THE 2008 CONNIE Doré Environmental Awareness Competition culminated on Monday, May 12, at Grand Lake High School. Eighteen students and two schools earned a total of \$8000 in award checks. This year's competition kicked off the 2008-09 academic focus on environmental awareness issues. Shown are the first, second and third place student winners of both the art and slogan/essay contests.**

(Photo by Tracy Lannin.)

## Dore Environmental awards presented students Monday

The 2008 Connie Doré Environmental Awareness Contests included both art and slogan/essay entries this year. Environmental awareness will be an academic focus in Cameron Parish Schools during the 2008-09 school year and this year's competition was a kick-off to that focus.

Awards were presented Monday, May 12, at Grand Lake High School. Cash awards included \$250 for first place, \$150 for second place, \$100 for third place and \$500 to each of the grand prize winners.

Additionally, South Cameron High School received \$3,000 for having the two grand prize winners and Grand Lake High School received \$1,000 for the largest numbers of entries.

The 2008 winners are as follows:

### GRADES K-3 ART COMPETITION

1st place, Briley Richard; Grand Prize Winner, South Cameron High School, Grade 3.

2nd place, Gracie Devall, Hackberry High School, Grade 2.

3rd place, Erin Trahan, South Cameron High School, Grade 2

### GRADES 4-7 ART COMPETITION

1st place, Morgan Primeaux, South Cameron High School, Grade 4.

2nd place, Darian Picou, South Cameron High School, Grade 6.

3rd place, Shelby Primeaux, South Cameron High School, Grade 6.

### GRADES 8-12 ART COMPETITION

1st place, Cami Richard, South Cameron High School, Grade 8.

2nd place, Paige Vedder, Grand Lake High School, Grade 8.

3rd place, Kyle Benoit, South Cameron High School, Grade 11.

### GRADES K-3 SLOGAN & ESSAY COMPETITION

1st place, Chuck Babineaux, Grand Lake High School, Grade 3.

2nd place, Emily Fontenot, Grand Lake High School, Grade 3.

3rd place, Drew Dillon, Grand Lake High School, Grade 1.

### GRADES 4-7 SLOGAN & ESSAY COMPETITION

1st place, LeAnn LaRocca, Grand Lake High School, Grade 7.

2nd place, Kortney Olson, Grand Lake High School, Grade 7

## Resident expresses views on FEMA regulations

Dear Editor:

I agree with much of what Teddy Broussard has to say about Cameron Parish, FEMA and regulations. A person has to have a real good job, be rich to be able to afford it, or young and pay high notes for their entire life to live in our Parish.

The rules and building codes are too strict. For instance, no permit to put a mobile home in a mobile home park, unless it is elevated, if there has been loss of 50% in that park by flood during prior storms. It is good to have a good plan or be advised on the best way to build to sustain damage, but we shouldn't be disallowed to live the way we want or have to, if we can't afford to follow the plan.

I have tried several times and several hours trying to view the new (March 2008) preliminary digital flood maps and proposed new floods maps on the internet without success. It is my understanding that the Parish and all incorporated communities will have approximately 30 days to review the preliminary elevation map information. Has our Police Jury set up dates for each and every community to review?

Insurance cost is outrageous and after months of calling and getting quotes, I have found only two companies that will insure in my area who do not write for the La Fair or Coastal Plan. American Modern is one of those companies, and is not writing any new policies.

The policy, if you presently have it, has many exclusions. For instance, outside or attached structures are only covered for \$1,000 against the peril of wind, and then their is a \$1,000 deductible three times, one for dwelling, one for contents, and one for outside structures. Attached structures for that company is not part of the dwelling.

Oh by the way it states on the declaration page that I am covered for a hurricane, but then the policy has the exclusion against wind for attached structures. Go figure! The other company is out of Florida and wants \$1,000 more than the other quotes I have received. I live in a medium double-wide elevated. If the new maps have a higher elevation requirement, and I don't meet it, will my insurance rate go up?

It is all very confusing, because one company agent tells me one thing, and another one tells me something contradictory to the other. Another company, First Premium, won't insure unless I am 10 miles or more from the Gulf.

That is driving distance, if that makes any sense at all. I could drive the long way to get there and be over 10 miles, but if after a storm the company drives the short way, which is 5.5 miles, they will probably not pay my damages.

The LA plans will not cover living expenses or replacement cost. The Flood Plan will not cover outside structures unless a separate elevation certificate is obtained for each structure. Most residents do not elevate their storage building, carports, or RV covers and barns.

Most outside structures will not meet elevation requirements, so the insurance rate is much higher and probably the premium may be more than it is worth to insure. So if a tidal wave or

## SCHOOL BOARD Cont. from Page 1

Attorney Cecil Sanner, to the satisfaction of both parties. A small parcel of School Board property in Big Lake is being swapped for an equal value of Police Jury property near the Grand Lake School.

It was reported that the Port of Lake Charles is no longer seeking a right of way for a proposed pipeline project, since the project has been postponed.

The Board voted to extend out of district busing through the end of Summer School, June 26, but reaffirmed its previous decision to discontinue such busing for the 2008-2009 school year.

### PERSONNEL MATTERS

In personnel matters, the Board approved the appointment of James L. Hoffpauir, AIA, as Projects Manager. Hoffpauir will work with the FEMA Project Worksheet projects, funded by FEMA, and any non-FEMA responsibilities on a as-needed basis.

The Board accepted the resignations of Hackberry High School Principal Austin LaBove, HHS teacher Barbara LaBove, Johnson Bayou bus driver Judy Harrington, and Grand Lake High School lunchroom manager Sandy Reon, for the purposes of retirement.

Resignations were also accepted from JBHS teachers Alaina Schexneider and Kyla Granger, HHS teachers Dustin Howard and David Trahan, School Nurse Laurie Jones, and SCHS sweeper Peggy Whittington.

The Board approved the appointment of Krista Nunez, HHS sweeper.

## Am. Legion Post to meet

Richard Brothers American Legion Post 176 of Cameron will have its regular monthly meeting at the home of past Commander Roland Primeaux, at 258 East Creole Hwy, Creole, Monday May 19, at 5 p.m.

This meeting will be to nominate officers for the next operating year. All post 176 members are urged to attend. Refreshments will be served.

Contact Commander Vernon Primeaux at 802-6685 for additional information.

3rd place, Rebecca Dupont, Grand Lake High School, Grade 7.

### GRADES 8-12 SLOGAN & ESSAY COMPETITION

1st place, Andrew Mudd; Grand Prize Winner, South Cameron High School, Grade 8

2nd place, Sabrina Peshoff, South Cameron High School, Grade 8.

3rd place, Dina Mendez, South Cameron High School, Grade 8.

## NATURE TRAIL Cont. from Page 1

Louisiana next to casino gaming. We are grateful for the support of the community and the Federal Highway Administration for their part in making the trail as widely recognized and successful as it is today," said Johnson.

The trio has worked for more than a decade to garner national and international recognition for the trail, which winds through Calcasieu and Cameron parishes. With their efforts, the trail has received National Scenic Byway status and the coveted All-American Road status, making it the only All-American Road in the Gulf South.

"This project has been a labor of love for us over the years," said Hurler. "We have taken great joy in showcasing the amazing natural resources that we have in this area. It is a great honor to receive an award of this caliber from the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service."

The trail has also recently obtained other accolades, being named as one of five fantastic family trips to take this summer in the 2008 April edition of Scholastic Parent & Child as well as one of ten great outdoor destinations in Louisiana in the 2008 spring edition of Louisiana Life.

For more information, call the Southwest Louisiana Convention & Visitors Bureau at 436-9588, visit [www.visitlakecharles.org](http://www.visitlakecharles.org) or [www.creolenaturetrail.org](http://www.creolenaturetrail.org).



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## Welcome To Our World!

### Michael Theodore Gay



Michael Theodore Gay, 7 lb., 7 oz., son of Paul and Amy Gay, was born May 8, 2008. He was welcomed home by his parents and two "big" sisters, Gabrielle Elizabeth and Kathrine Marie; his Nana and Nanny and Poppy (Toby and Dinah Landry); his GiGi and PopPop (Winnie and John Gay); his Granny and Grumps (Carolyn and John Douglas); his Granny and PawPaw (Boyd and Louetta Nunez); Uncle Kim, Momo Lena, Aunt Rain and the gang.

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# Cameron Outdoors

By LOSTON MCEVERS



## IT'S SPRING

Our weather pattern doesn't want to separate spring and summer; we're getting strong winds off the gulf, and pacific storms from the west.

Our marshes have low water levels, in some places drying up with cracks in the ground. I do know it's spring when you see all the yellow-belly turtles crossing the highways. One day I counted seven and one black turtle in five miles. Hey, a good pot of smothered turtle and rice is hard to come by, so I try to enjoy it when I'm able.

## AREA REPORTS

Fishing under birds sometimes is a easy way to catch speckle trout in the Calcasieu/Big Lake area. When the shrimp season opens, that cuts out a lot of speck fishing under birds. That's when you turn to the oyster reefs, with soft plastic and lead heads.

Early morning fishing has been good with top water bites of good 3 and 4 pound trout, also on overcast days. Popular top water lures are the sheddogs, topdogs, and zara spooks. Black and chrome has been a fair color on topwater. The plastic lures like northern or sand eels on good sunny days have also paid off, rigging these on 1/4 to 3/16 ounce lead head jigs, working the oyster reefs and cuts. When the shrimp and pogy fish hit the lake, there's plenty feed for both the trout and redfish, so some days its tough fishing.

Jetty fishing along the Cameron and Grand Chenier channels has been good for redfish and blackdrums. A few reds also along Rutherford Beach.

## OFFSHORE

This is the time of the year that offshore anglers head to the blue waters of the gulf for the monster yellowfish tuna. Some of the waters they fish are 1500 feet deep. Going out to these waters, takes a big boat, some other rigs run up to 60 mph, but they usually level off and run around 45

mph. Boats up to 40 footers and 300 or better horsepower, burns up to 300 gallons of fuel per trip, averaging around one mile per gallon. Very expensive trip.

## AREA CONTEST

The afternoon Gibbstown tournament last week, was won by Johnny and Justin LeDoux with 7.52 pounds, second was Darren Richard and Jeb Linscombe 2.63 and third Chance Doxey and Dane Desonier 2.51.

Quenton LeBeouf took the 3 fish Hayes Tournament weighing in at 10.01 pounds, weighing in his first place largest bass, hitting the scales at 7.54 pounds.

## NEWS BRIEF

Is hunting getting more and more expensive? Yes, so it seems. Our hunters are dwindling. For example in 1979 there were 358,000 basic hunting licenses sold in our state, but in 2006 only 172,000 license were sold. Everything from higher price leases, ammo, gasoline plus other factors are to blame. Now the question, is it good for the feds to up the federal duck stamp from \$15 to \$25, which is about 67 percent increase. Think about this!

A house bill for fishing access, would provide for the access of the public, to ordinary high water stage of navigable waterways for the purpose of recreational hook and line fishing only. This is at high tides normally. This does not mean trotlines, nets or even duck hunting. This really is more along river banks or along like the Mississippi and larger rivers, where landowners claims these waters are private.

## FLYFISHING RECORD

As a member of the La. Outdoor Writers Association, I'm pulling that the 6.91 pound speckle trout that John Mayne caught last month while flyfishing at Big Lake, becomes a state record, somewhere in the top ten. Unofficially it could be in seventh place.

# Meeting set here May 20 on fishermen's storm aid

The Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries invites Louisiana resident commercial fishermen, certain commercial fishing vessel license holders and wholesale/retail seafood dealers with trip ticket reported sales or purchases of seafood between Sept. 1, 2004 and Aug. 31, 2005, prior to Hurricane Katrina, to participate in informational public meetings beginning May 20.

To qualify for assistance you must have reported LDWF trip ticket sales or purchases of any type of the following seafood during the qualifying period AND have held one or more LDWF licenses as follows:

1. Sales of shrimp, oyster, crab, or saltwater finfish and held a Resident Commercial Fisherman's License; and/or
2. Sales of shrimp, oyster, saltwater fish or menhaden and held a Resident Commercial Fishing Vessel License; and/or
3. Sales of freshwater finfish or wild caught crawfish and held a Resident Commercial Fisherman's License and resided in any of the 26 LDWF-defined hurricane impacted parishes; and/or
4. Purchases of shrimp, oyster, crab, or saltwater finfish and held a Resident Wholesale/Retail Seafood Dealer License; and/or
5. Purchases of freshwater finfish or wild caught crawfish and held a Resident Wholesale/Retail Seafood Dealer License and resided

in any of the 26 LDWF-defined hurricane impacted parishes

The LDWF uses trip tickets to collect commercial landings and associated harvest information by trip. Trip tickets dated during the eligible period but submitted after Sept. 1, 2007 will not be considered.

Attendance at these meetings is not mandatory. Program staff will be available to provide information about the program and answer questions. One of the meetings will be held at Cameron Tuesday, May 20, 5 p.m. at the Cameron Parish Courthouse in Cameron.

More than 8,000 information packets have been mailed to individuals and entities that LDWF has identified in the commercial fisheries sector from pre-storm trip ticket records, and eligible charter boat operators will receive packets by early June. LDWF urges everyone who receives a packet to open it immediately, follow the enclosed instructions, and return all required forms using the business-reply envelope provided by the Oct. 31, deadline.

The South Central Planning and Development Commission (SCPDC) and affiliated planning districts will receive and process all information about this assistance program. Any questions concerning eligibility, requests for information, etc. should be directed to the SCPDC by calling 1-800-630-3791 (toll-free) or 985 655-1051 (local) or mailing SCPDC at P. O. Box 1240, Gray, LA 70359-9902 or visiting the SCPDC Web site at [www.scpdc.org/fisheries](http://www.scpdc.org/fisheries) assistance.

For more information, contact Jim Hanifen at 225-765-2383 or [jhanifen@wlf.louisiana.gov](mailto:jhanifen@wlf.louisiana.gov)



# Safe boating week set for May 17 - 23

The week of May 17-23, has been proclaimed Safe Boating Week in Louisiana by Gov. Bobby Jindal. The week kicks off the summer boating season and the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (LDWF) reminds all boaters to be safe, responsible and knowledgeable while on the water.

"In 2007, 30 recreational boaters lost their lives in Louisiana," said LDWF Secretary Robert Barham. "National boating data indicates that nearly 80 percent of all boating accident fatalities could have been prevented if the victims had been wearing a life jacket."

Safe Boating Week is a time for all boaters to inspect their vessels to ensure that all required safety equipment is on board and that vessels are in good working condition. Vessel operators are advised to review Louisiana boating laws and anyone born after Jan. 1, 1988, is reminded to complete a Boating Education course before operating a vessel with a 10 horsepower or greater motor.

Additionally, Louisiana law requires anyone operating a personal watercraft (Jetski, Seadoo, etc.) to be at least 16 years of age and to have completed a Boating Education course.

LDWF Enforcement Division agents will be on the water again this summer to verify boater compliance with all boating regulations and to help make recreational boating in Louisiana a safe and enjoyable outdoor activity.

For more information on state boating laws or Boating Education courses, go to LDWF's Web site at [www.wlf.louisiana.gov](http://www.wlf.louisiana.gov).

# Electronic learning is announced

McNeese State University will offer a variety of electronic learning courses for academic credit during the 2008 fall semester that are designed for well-disciplined students who are capable of handling independent study.

All McNeese College by Cassette courses and Web-based courses require some on-campus classroom obligations and assignments as well as additional fees. Information for these programs is listed in the fall class schedule.

Students can register for classes now during fall registration through July 11. Fall classes begin Aug. 18.

# Awards are presented to Hackberry 4-H members

By MARGARET SHOVE

Hackberry Jr. 4-H concluded their school year with an awards ceremony Monday, May 12, in the school auditorium.

The ceremony began with the pledge of allegiance led by Torey Little, and the 4-H pledge let by Kennedy Darbonne. Samantha Little, club president recognized outstanding courtyard workers.

Those recognized were: Hunter Sorrels, Dalton Nunez, Johnathan Landry, Kennedy Darbonne, Sydney Broussard, William Toups, Tristan Berzas, Torey Little, Charli Little, Clint Welch, Jolie Trahan, Lexie Stine, Timothy Fontenot, Bryson Parker, and Briane Beard.

Outstanding Strawberry Sales was recognized by Jolie Trahan. Salespersons recognized were: Kennedy Darbonne, Taylor Johnson, Dalton Nunez, Madison Shove, and John Eric White.

Members who submitted portfolios for judging were: Charli Little, Abbie Delcambre, Clint Welch, Kennedy Darbonne, William Toups, Johnathan Landry, Jolie Trahan, Samantha Little, and Madison Shove.

Outstanding members from each grade were:

Third grade, Charli Little, Bailey Labove, and Gavin Guidry.

Recognized from fourth

grade were: Abbie Delcambre, Briane Beard, and Lexie Stine. Receiving honorable mention were Jaci Granger and Kadie Reon.

Being recognized from the fifth grade were: Cling Welch, Tristan Berzas, Sydney Broussard and Hunter Sorrels received honorable mention.

Being recognized from sixth grade were: Kennedy Darbonne, Torey Little, Jolie Trahan and William Toups. Receiving Honorable Mention from sixth grade were Johnathan Landry, Destiny Simon, Ashlee Little, and Codie Reon.

Seventh grade recognitions were: Madison Shove, Samantha Little, and Kaytlynn Parker.

Eighth grade recognitions were Lesley Sanner, Meagan Johnson and John Eric White.

Outstanding High Point 4-Her was Charli Little.

The club then honored their volunteer adults who were: Stacy White, Katie Toups, Tina Landry, Julie Trahan, Stacy Little, Karen Savant, Anita Jo Trahan, and Mae Doris Little.

Agent, Ruby Miller then presented cash awards to the Portfolio participants.

Gifts were presented to the school secretary for all her help, and to our agents.

The ceremony concluded with the announcement of officers for the coming year.

# College by Cassette told

McNeese will offer three courses through the College by Cassette program during the fall semester. They are: History of Film, ART 365, two sections; Personal and Community Health, H&HP 122; and Introductory Sociology, SOCL 201.

Compressed video courses offer students an opportunity to receive credit from McNeese or other state universities by attending class at one of the on-campus sites or at one of McNeese's off-campus sites in Allen, Jeff Davis or Beauregard parishes. Students should look for course listings marked sec-

tion CV or CZ to register for these courses.

Internet or Web-based courses are being offered in several departments, which allow students to access information and assignments from home or at times that might be more convenient to the student. Students should look for course listings marked section W to register for these courses.

For more information about any of these courses, contact the McNeese Electronic Learning Office at 475-5075 or 1-800-622-3352, ext. 5075.

# Circuit interrupter can prevent electrocutions

Each year, electrical problems cause 68,000 fires, resulting in almost 500 deaths, 2,000 injuries and \$868 million in property damage, according to the Electrical Safety Foundation International (ESFI). May is Electrical Safety Month, and Cleco reminds its customers about safe practices and suggests new ways they can protect their homes and families from electrical fires.

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, half of the houses inhabited today were built before 1973. Since then, homeowners have added computers, cell phones, big-screen televisions, microwave ovens and many more electrical appliances. To ensure electrical safety, new technology may be required to meet all of the extra demands such items put on an older home's electrical system.

"All customers should be aware of electrical hazards within their homes," said Mike Joseph, Cleco's manager of insurance, claims and records. "Over the years, new building codes and improved technology have enhanced a home's electrical safety. We want the homeowners of older homes to have that same security."

According to the ESFI, arc faults are the leading cause of home fires. Most arc faults occur when electricity from damaged or deteriorated wiring or faulty equipment causes high temperatures that ignite surrounding materials,

such as wood, carpet and paper. An arc fault circuit interrupter, a device that can replace a standard circuit breaker, will stop the flow of electricity almost instantaneously when a fault is detected.

Another piece of technology that can make an older home safer is a ground fault circuit interrupter (GFCI). This special outlet is commonly used in bathrooms and kitchens, where electrical appliances might come in contact with water. According to the ESFI, 70 percent of the almost 400 electrocutions that occur each year could be avoided if GFCIs were installed in older homes.

To protect children from electrical shock, owners of older homes can also install tamper-resistant electrical outlets. These outlets have a spring-loaded shutter system that opens only when equal pressure is applied through both outlet slots at the same time, as when a plug is inserted. This device virtually eliminates the possibility of shock to a child who pushes a foreign object into an outlet.

All of these devices can be found at hardware and home improvement stores.

"These are just a few things homeowners can do to be safe around electricity," said Joseph. "We have many other electrical safety tips on our Web site. For more information on how to be safe in your home, outside, and at work, please visit [www.cleco.com](http://www.cleco.com)."

# MAAP told by McNeese

McNeese State University students can register for the Midpoint Assessment of Academic Progress (MAAP) examinations during fall registration currently underway through July 11.

The MAAP exams will be given Sept. 17-19 in the Parra Ballroom of the Student Union Annex. A complete listing of the MAAP examination can be found in the fall schedule of classes.

The Southern Association of Colleges and Schools requires that its member institutions measure knowl-

edge/skills gained by its students to ensure that the university is effectively educating its students. The MAAP examination is one of the measures McNeese uses to test students.

Every student enrolled in a four-year degree program must take the MAAP examination after earning 48 semester hours and before earning 80 semester hours.

For more information, call the McNeese Scholarships and Testing Office at 475-5140 or 1-800-622-3352, ext. 5140.

# EMERGENCY!

## Do We Know Where To Locate You In An EMERGENCY?

Cameron Parish residents are asked to number their residence and business with their address in large lettering either on the home or business or on the mail box post.

Lettering should be visible from the road if it is located on the Residence or Business

### HELP US HELP YOU WHEN YOU NEED US MOST!!

Reflective mail box post signs are available through Cameron Council on Aging. They can be contacted at 337-905-6000 for more information or Cameron Parish Office of Emergency Preparedness at 337-775-7048.

THANK YOU FROM THE . . .

**CAMERON PARISH E911 COMMUNICATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS**



THESE SOUTH Cameron High School students were recognized at the School Board meeting Monday for being state winners in track, shooting sports and other competitions. They were: (front row, from left) Haley McCall, Shelby Willis, Laikin Canik, Devon Richard, Bryce Labove, Marcus Doxey, Scott Nunez; (middle row) Nicky Rodrigue, Janna Baccigalopi, Brett Richard, Mikalee Mooney, Brendan Trahan, Justin Trahan, Dylan Conner, Angelia Conner; (back row) Koby Richard, Gabe Lalonde, Tony Baccigalopi, Stevie Barnett, Jacob Vaughan, Luke Bouillon, Gaylin Richard, and Bobby Jo Doxey. (Photo by Cyndi Sellers.)



GRAND LAKE students were honored by the School Board Monday for achievements at various state level competitions. Pictured above are: School Board member Karen Nunez, Coaches Rachelle Monceaux and Lindsay Smythe, Haley Pesson, Rebecca Monceaux, Kim Montie, Larayne Picou, FFA State Secretary Cory Broussard, Joshua Wicke, School Board member Scott Nunez, and Levi Stephenson. (Photo by Cyndi Sellers.)



JOHNSON BAYOU students were recognized by the School Board on Monday for their accomplishments at the state level. Pictured above are: Coach Darryl Lee, Scotty Stanley, Colton Stanley, Dakota Baccigalopi, and School Board Member Marsha Trahan. (Photo by Cyndi Sellers.)



HACKBERRY HIGH School students were honored for achievements at the state level during the School Board meeting on Monday. Pictured above are: Mason Hicks, Drew East, Hunter Stansel, John Edenfield, Joseph LeJuine, Shannon Landry, FBLA State Vice President Jacob Poole, and Austin Moore. (Photo by Cyndi Sellers.)



BISHOP GLEN John Provost, second from left, is joined by his two newly ordained priests, Rev. Nathan Long, left, and Rev. Ruben Buller, second from right, along with the newly ordained transitional Deacon, Rev. Deacon Scott Conner, right, on the steps of the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception Saturday afternoon. (Photo by Morris LeBleu/Courtesy the Diocese of Lake Charles.)



THE CAMERON Council on Aging Senior Citizens participated in the statewide AARP Day of Service last week. Seniors distributed fliers on senior citizen services through AARP and the Council on Aging. Pictured above were some of the participants. (Photo by Dinah Landry.)

**Church hosting "Girls Night Out"**

Sweetlake United Methodist Church will be hosting a "Girls Night Out" every third Thursday evening from 6-8 p.m. All ladies interested in having a relaxed, informal time are invited to attend.

Anyone 18+ years and older, bring a covered dish to share and expect a little fun. Church located at the corner of Helms and Robinson Rds. in Sweetlake. This is a non-denominational event.

**Food boxes to be given out this week**

Food For Seniors boxes can be picked up Thursday May 15 in Grand Lake from 12 noon-3 p.m. and in Cameron on Friday, May 16 from 8 a.m.-2 p.m. If you have any questions please call Toni at 598-5158 or Julie at 540-5549

**Items sought for fundraiser**

The Cameron Council on Aging is accepting donations of good clean clothing, household items, toys, miscellaneous items and furniture.

They will have a garage sale as a fundraiser on June 6 and 7. If anyone has these items to donate, call 905-6000 or 598-5158.



**SPECIAL!**  
**KOOZIES** Customized with your name or for special events such as...  
 Weddings, Family or School Reunions, Safety Awards, Etc.  
 Low Min. 250 Ct.  
 Choose from 13 Colors  
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 June 21, 2008

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 Call JEFFRA DEVINEY 912-5063  
 Check Us Out At... www.bestwiseideas.com

**Not a Bank Customer? Cameron State Bank Will Cash Your Check**

**Payroll – Government – Tax Refund**

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

**First 3 money orders are FREE every time you use Community Check Cashing**

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