



Thursday, March 8, 2012 • Vol. 15, No. 5 • 32 Pages • Circulation 11,000 • www.centralcitynews.us • Phone 225-261-5055

\$46 Million Facility for 2,400 Students Nearly Complete

School Complex Rises



CENTRAL SCHOOL COMPLEX NEARING COMPLETION — The \$46 million, 87.5-acre Central School Complex on Sullivan Road is nearing completion. The facility will include Central Middle School and Central Intermediate School. With a capacity of 2,400 students, the complex will begin with 900 middle schoolers and 1,000 intermediate schoolers.

# **Full-Court Press to Finish Construction by May**



**CONSTRUCTION** coordinator Ross Bogan inspects entrance to Central Middle School.

**CENTRAL** — Here are some facts about the new Central School Complex now under construction: **Central School Complex** 

Where: 12636 Sullivan Road in the City of Central, LA.

When: Completion set for late May or early June. Move-in planned for early June in anticipation of school opening in August.

See **\$46 MILLION** on Page 8

### Craftsmen Flood **Construction Site** To Complete New \$46 Million Facility

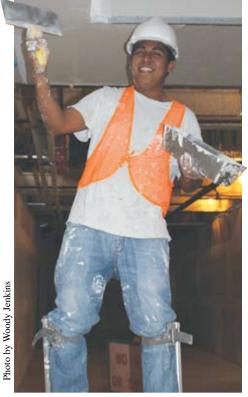
**Woody Jenkins** 

Editor, Central City News

**CENTRAL** — The new Central School Complex, currently under construction on Sullivan Road, is a beehive of activity as the general contractor and its subcontractors fight to finish the project by late May. On any given day, hundreds of workers are at the building site, including masons, plumbers, electricians, and craftsmen installing floors and finishing walls. Outside the buildings, dirt and concrete work is continuing.

School officials hope to start <sup>5</sup> Size: 87.5 acres stretching from moving in by early June and be

See A FIRST on Page 4



**FINISHING TOUCHES** — A craftsman

# Cafeteria Will Seat 1,200 for Community Meetings



**DINING HALL IN CAFETERIA BUILDING** — The new Central School Complex on Sullivan Road will include a 32,316-square-foot Cafeteria Building with a capacity of serving 2,400 meals at lunchtime. The dining hall, shown above, can be divided into three separate sections or can be opened up to seat up to 1,200 people for community events.

and The Leader • Vol. 15, No. 5

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Woody Jenkins Čandi Lee **Terrie Palmer** Shara Pollard, Jolice Provost

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**Central City News Endorsement** 



**LES BUECHE RECEIVES LeSAGE AWARD** — Les Bueche (right), the Voice of the Wildcats, was honored for his dedicated service to Central football with the LeSage Award, presented by Coach David LeSage (left). Coach Sid Edwards praised Bueche for his service.

# Santorum Is Best Choice in March 24 Primary

### ATrue Conservative, Rick Santorum Has Best Chance to Win Over Barack Obama

Hang onto your hat!

In anticipation of Louisiana's March 24 Presidential Primary, you are about to be deluged with \$3 to \$5 million in hateful, negative advertising coming from Gov. Mitt Romney and his SuperPac.

Gov. Romney has in his gunsights on former Sen. Rick Santorum, whom he will label "fiscally irresponsible" and not a "true conservative." Nothing could be further from the truth!

The voting record of Rick Santorum is one of the finest by any member of Congress in the past generation. He has been a stalwart conservative leader on issue after issue. Before you fall for Gov. Romney's attacks, please consider the source.

Gov. Romney has never been known as a conservative.

It was Gov. Romney who pushed through Romneycare, the mandatory health care legislation upon which **Obamacare** was based.

It was Gov. Romney who came out and openly supported the Wall Street Baîlouts.

It was Gov. Romney who ran for Governor on a **pro-abortion** platform, saying, "I support Roe vs. Wade."

It was Gov. Romney who said he believes in man-made global warm-

It was Gov. Romney who said, while running against Sen. Ted Kennedy for the U.S. Senate that "I am more liberal than Kennedy.

In his attack ads against Sen. Santorum, Gov. Romney will cherry pick isolated votes from Santorum's

record over a 16-year period.
Today, Gov. Romney is running as a conservative, and that's a good thing. We hope he has changed his \frac{2}{5} beliefs. But we strongly disagree with his high-handed attacks against a proven conservative with a splendid conservative record. Santorum is an honorable man with high morals and an unblemished character.



Sen. Rick Santorum

Gov. Romney's attacks are unfair and down-right wrong.

The main thing going for Gov. Romney is the mantra - repeated over and over again — that he is the strongest candidate to oppose Obama this November.

Quite frankly, that is ridiculous! In this primary season, Gov. Romney has been able to use his enormous personal wealth and the wealth of his friends who donate to his SuperPac to throw mud at his opponents - millions of dollars in mud in each separate state. As each challenger has arisen, Romney has attacked and destroyed him with vicious, negative campaigns.

But here's the problem: In the fall, Obama will have over \$1 billion to

ASE

spend — probably four times what Romney will have. If Romney is the nominee, Obama will spend most of that \$1 billion attacking Romney.

And Gov. Romney will be destroyed. He won't be a strong nominee but a weak one. Why? First, Romney won't have the best issues a Republican can run on this year.

Gov. Romney won't be able to run against Obamacare, because Romney authored Romneycare, upon which Obamacare was modeled.

Gov. Romney won't be able to run against Wall Street Bailouts, because he supported them.

And he won't be able to run on jobs, because Massachusetts was among the worst states in America in job creation when he was governor.

Obama will take every liberal statement Romney has ever made and run it in 30-second spots.

By the time Obama is through,

conservatives will be so disillusioned with Romney that some will stay home. They will say, "There's not a dime's worth of difference!"

And that's all Obama needs to get reelected. Just a few staying home.

From the standpoint of Central, Rick Santorum is just like us — a blue collar conservative Christian who thinks right on social and economic issues.

He's a warrior, a visionary, a principled conservative, young and attractive, and a great debater. He'll be a great President.

And he **can** win!

He can win for two reasons:

First, he will motivate Republican voters to enthusiastically work for

Second, he will bring blue-collar emocrats into the Republican fold the people Romney can't bring who are essential to victory.

Don't be deceived by Romney's mailouts and 30-second attacks, Satorum is our best candidate to beat Obama this fall.

#### **Central City News' 2012 Publication Schedule**

January 2012 - July 2012 - 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month Deadline: 5 p.m. Thursday seven days before publication

> August 2012 - December 2012 - Every Thursday from August 9, 2012 through December 20, 2012 Deadline: 5 p.m. Friday the week before publication

Thursday, March 8 Hard Hat Edition Thursday, March 22 Cookin' in Central Thursday, April 12 Health and Fitness Guide Thursday April 26 Festival of Two Rivers Thursday, May 10 Graduation Edition

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Thursday, June 28 Thursday, July 12 Thursday, Aug. 9 Thursday, Sept. 6 Thursday, Sept. 20

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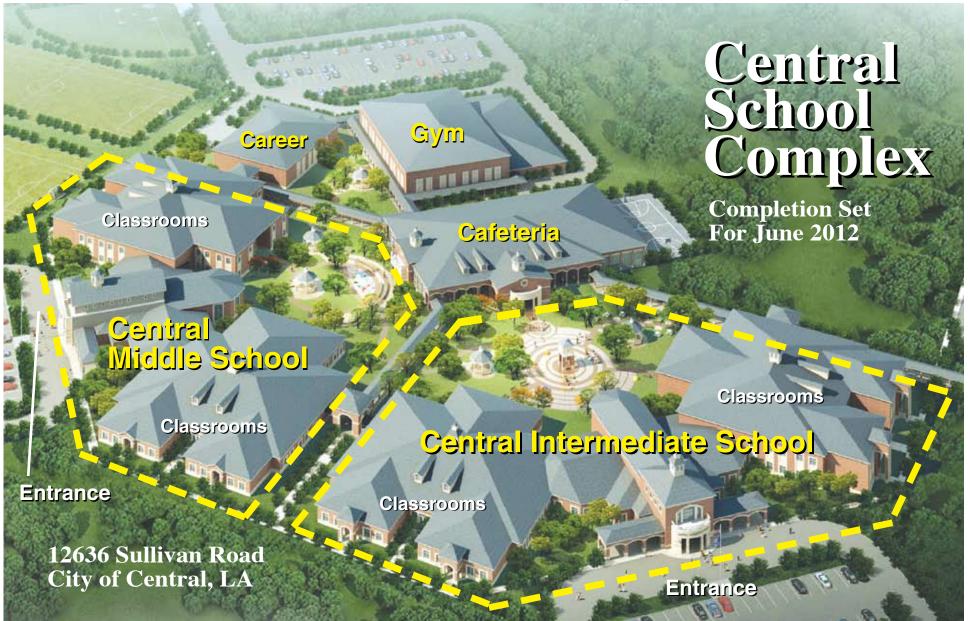




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### Complex Includes 256,431 Square Feet Under Roof

# **School Complex Nearing Completion**



# **Central to Elect Member Of GOP Parish Committee**

CENTRAL — Republican voters in East Baton Rouge Parish will go to the polls on Saturday, March 24 to elect 17 members of the Republican Parish Executive Committee, the official governing body of the GOP in the parish. Five members will be elected at-large parishwide, while 12 will be elected from the 12 Metro Council districts.

In Metro Council District 4, which includes most of Central, voters will

Central, voters will choose between Jr. Shelton and Billy Thompson, who issued the following statements:



Shelton

Jr. Shelton
"It is with great
pride that I announce my candidacy for a seat on

the Republican Parish Executive Committee from District 4. Over the last several years, the Republican Party has strayed from its conservative principles, and the work of this local committee can help assure a return to solid conservate efforts by the Republican Party. At the grassroots level, we can help lay the foundation for conservative change at the state and national levels. This committee endorses candidates who seek election, but I want it to be proactive and help seek candidates who will take the conservative message to the voters and thus help public policy return to the fundemental conservative direction this country so desperately needs. While this is a local committee, your vote is very important to the overall work of the Republican Party."

"I have a strong business background and have been a lifelong Republican. As a local realtor, I fear the effects of nonconservative policies are undermining not only our basic pursuit of the American dream of homeownership, but also a deteriotion of our economy. The members of this committee need to have a background that can direct the efforts of the committee in economic and political decisions. As a graduate of the LSU School of Business and a businessman with 40 years experience, I know what small

business owners go through every-day. As a devout Christian, I want our city, state, and country to stand on the faith our fore-fathers fought for and keep God in our lives. A father of four and grand-father of five, I am concerned about how our country

Thompson how our country will develop over the next decades. Please help me serve you and vote for me for the Republican Parish Executive Committee on March 24. It would be my pleasure to work for you!"

#### **Billy Thompson**

As Central's current representative to the Republican Parish Executive Committee, retired maintenance manager Billy Thompson brought the Republican Roundtable to Central and has kept the community aware of the party's functions. He has attended almost every Republican Party function since becoming the Parish Executive representative and has been involved in the Republican endorsement process. Mr. Thompson also seeks election to the State Central Committee, giving the community consistent representation at the local and state level. Mr. Thompson's goal is to endorse Republican candidates of high character who will stand up for the conservative principles of this community." race for State Central Committee, Mr. Thompson faces Brennan Easley.



# A First Look Inside Classroom Buildings







**HALLWAYS IN CENTRAL INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL** — Hallways in the intermediate school are in various stages of completion. Photos (left to right) show progress.







**CLASSROOMS IN INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL** — Classrooms are also in different stages of completion, ranging from an unfinished shell to nearly complete (left to right).

#### **Continued from Page 1**

ready for the opening of the school year in early August. Barring a long stretch of bad weather or some calamity, they should be able to meet that goal.

The \$46 million project is located on 87.5 acres adjacent to Sullivan Road near Gurney Road. It

is part of a tract formerly owned by the Jackson family, which Jackson Place and Jackson Park were named after.

The new School Complex will include two schools — Central Intermediate School (3rd, 4th, and 5th grades) and Central Middle School (6th, 7th, and 8th grades).

It also includes enough space to build a third school at some time in the future.

The project by the Central Community School System was authorized by Central voters in May 2009. They approved a \$55 million bond issue, funded by three separate taxes — a 1/2-cent sales tax to build the new Central Middle School; a 9.25-mill property tax to meet Life Safety Code requirements at Central High, Tanglewood Elementary, and Bellingrath

Hills Elementary schools, and a 14.4-mill property tax to build a new elementary school, which will be Central Intermediate.

Property and Trees. The property being used for the School Complex was mostly open land but did include a large grove of historic live oak trees. Supt. Mike Faulk, who has led efforts to build the School Complex, made a public commitment to preserve the live oaks. So far, 31 of 32 trees have been carefully preserved throughout the construction. However, one had to be removed because of storm damage. The oak grove will present an attractive setting for the complex along Sullivan Road.

Roads. Anyone traveling to the School Complex will be able to enter on three different roads. The southernmost road will enter the property from a roundabout directly across from Gurney Road. That road will head due east and connect to Devall Road.

The second road will go from Sullivan to the parking lot in front of Central Intermediate School, which faces east toward Sullivan.

The third road will begin on Sullivan and head due east to the See **OTHER** on Page 5

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AN ART CLASSROOM AND LIBRARY — An art classroom (left) has a scenic view. The library (right) for the intermediate school will house 8,000 volumes.







**STAIRWAY AND ELEVATOR** — Most students will use the stairways (left), but each school will also have an elevator (right). Plans (center) will soon be part of history.



**RESTROOMS COULD RAISE PRIVACY ISSUE** — Restrooms in the intermediate school have an open front to the hallway. Boys go to right and girls to left with both sexes using the two wash basins. Privacy issues could be raised by the fact that a glance around the corner would expose a lot. Also, bathroom sounds could be evident in the common area and in hallways.

#### **Continued from Page 4**

front of Central Middle School, and then head south, connecting to the first road and forming a circle around the School Complex. Central Middle faces north.

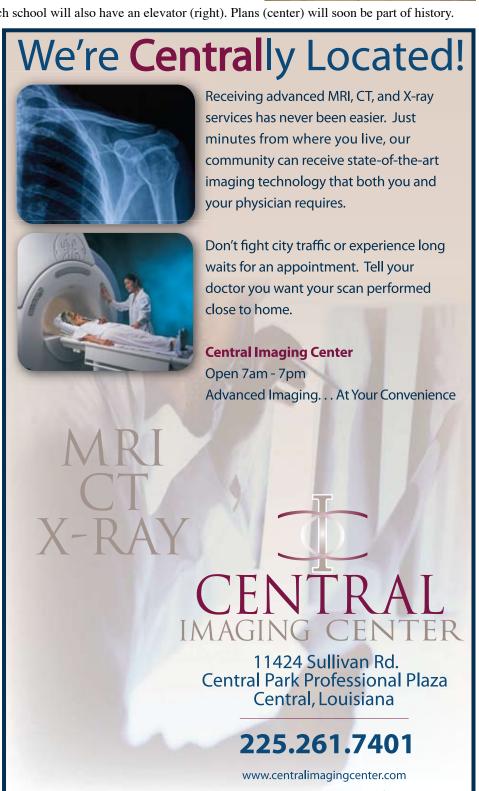
**Two Identical Schools.** Each of the schools is virtually identical to the other and consists of an administrative building, flanked by

a classroom building on each side. So each school consists of three buildings, and the two schools together have six buildings.

Each of the schools has its own library. Each library is located in the administrative building. A visitor will enter through the administrative building and, if he contin-

See CAFETERIA on Page 6





# Cafeteria Will Serve 2,400 in Three Shifts



**CAFETERIA BUILDING** — The cafeteria building at the School Complex will have 32,316 square feet and offer a large dining hall. Outside stages are shown at left and right.

### Cafeteria Will Also Host Assemblies, Banquets, Forums Up to 1,200 People

**Continued from Page 5** 

ues straight ahead, will walk right into the library.

Other Buildings. Besides the two schools, the complex includes three additional buildings — a Career/Technology Center, a Gymnasium Building, and a Cafeteria — for a total of the complex includings.

Eight of the nine buildings are connected by a central hallway that goes from building to building. However, the hallway that connects the intermediate school with the middle school can only be accessed with a security card. The way the school buildings, yards, and cafeteria are arranged, there will be very little or no contact between children in Central Intermediate School and children in Central Middle School.

Career/Technology. The Career/ Technology Center is located just east of Central Middle School. It includes classrooms for band, choir, and home economics. Another large classroom has been set aside for future use as a shop.

ture use as a shop.

Cafeteria. The Cafeteria is a separate building, which will be accessed from Central Middle, Central Intermediate, the Career-Technology Building, and the Gymnasium Building by a series of outdoor covered walkways.

The Cafeteria is a large facility that will serve three shifts of 400 meals per shift for each of the two schools. So, altogether, it will be able to serve 2,400 meals at lunch.

Cafeteria Divisible. The Cafeteria Building has 32,316 square feet. It consists of a kitchen and storage area, two serving areas, and the dining hall. The dining hall can be divided by automated sliding doors, which can separate the space into three distinct areas — the middle school cafeteria, the intermediate school cafeteria, and a multi-pur-



THE DINING HALL will have three parts, including a Multi-Purpose Room (left) and Intermediate School dining hall (right).





**SERVING LINE AND KITCHEN** — The middle school serving line (left) will serve 1,200 in three shifts and part of the kitchen (right).





**DINING HALL STAGE** — The indoor stage (left) is the dividing line between intermediate and middle school sections of the dining hall.

pose room.

Stages. The Cafeteria includes an indoor stage for programs and entertainment. It will be able to seat 1,200 people indoors for assemblies,

banquets, forums, or communitywide meetings. The Cafeteria also has two outdoor stages — one for the middle school and one for the intermediate school.

Photos and Story by Woody Jenkins

Related story on Page 8

## New Band, Choir Rooms at Central Middle School



Facility Offers Competitive, Practice Gyms



**GYMNASIUM BUILDING** — The Gymnasium Building will include a competition gym and a practice gym plus boys and girls locker rooms.



**COMPETITION GYM** — The competition gym will include a basketball court and can be configured for two volleyball courts. A small set of bleachers will be installed.





**PRACTICE GYM** — The practice gym will also include a basketball court, or two volleyball courts. At left, the hallway to the boys' and girls' locker rooms.

# Central City News Cookin in Central Special Edition March 22

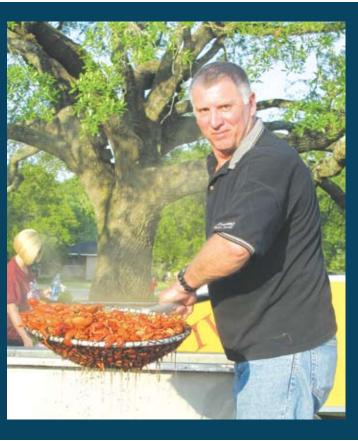
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# \$46 Million Central School Complex Rises o



CENTRAL SCHOOL COMPLEX AS SEEN FROM SULLIVAN ROAD — This view of the School Complex, looking roughly f



CENTRAL SCHOOL COMPLEX AS SEEN FROM THE SOUTH — This view of the School Complex, looking from south to north, shows the front entrance to Central



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#### Continued from Page 1

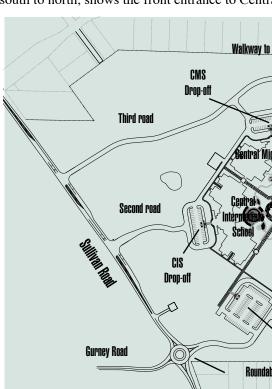
Sullivan Road on the west to Devall Road on the east.

Cost: \$46 million

Schools on site: Central Intermediate School (grades 3rd, 4th, and 5th) and Central Middle School (6th, 7th, and 8th). In addition, space has been left for possible future construction of another elementary school.

**Buildings:** Nine major buildings. Each of the two schools has an administration building and two classroom buildings. In addition, there is a Career/Technology Building, a Gymnasium Building, and a Cafeteria Building.

Size of Buildings: The Middle School will have 103,892 square feet; the intermediate school will have 89,380 square feet; the cafeteria 32,316 square feet, and the gymnasium/technology buildings



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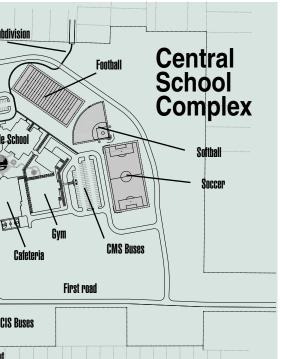
# n 88 Acres on Sullivan Road at Gurney Road



rom west to east, shows the front entrance to Central Intermediate School. Central Middle School is shown in the distance on the left.



Intermediate School at left, the Cafeteria Building in center, and the Gymnasium Building at right. The road goes from Sullivan Road on the left to Devall Road on the right.



will have 30,843 square feet.

Classrooms: Each school will have 48 regular classrooms plus additional classrooms for special

education and speech therapy.

Students: Each of the schools has a capacity of 1,200 students. CIS will begin with 1,000 and Central Middle with 900.

Other amenities: The cafeteria can seat up to 1,200 for public assemblies, banquets, forums, or community meetings. The site includes a football practice field, soccer field, softball field, parking lots, and ponds.

#### **Central School Complex**

Photos and Story by **Woody Jenkins** 





# Baker Municipal Elections Set March 24

**BAKER** — Voters in the City of Baker will go to the polls on Saturday, March 24 to elect a new Mayor, Police Chief, and five members of the Baker City Council. All of the candidates seeking election are Democrats.

The Central City News asked the candidates to provide a photograph and a statement of candidacy. Here are their responses, edited for length:

#### Leroy Davis Candidate for Mayor

Former Baker Mayor Leroy Davis announces his candidacy for Mayor of the City of Baker. The election will be held March 24, 2012. Davis will put Baker first by focusing on Economic

MUNICIPAL ELECTION City of Baker Saturday, March 24, 2012 Mayor, City of Baker

Leroy Davis (D) Donald "Duck" Kyer (D) Harold Rideau (D) Monteic Sizer (D)

#### **Chief of Police**

Frederick Chappell (D) Silas Geralds (D) "Snapper" Knaps (D)

Councilman District 1
Charles Vincent (D)

Unopposed Councilman District 2

Norman "Pete" Heine (D) Yolanda Vessell (D) A. J. Walls (D)

**Councilman District 3** 

Joyce Burges (D) Carlon Simpson (D)

#### **Councilman District 4**

David Georgetown (D) Darnell Waites (D) Robert Young (D)

#### **Councilman District 5**

John Givens (D) Darryl L. Robertson (D) Fred O. Russell (D) Development to bring new businesses and jobs to Baker. He will immediately reduce skyrocketing water and utility bills and he will reinstate Senior Citizen discounts for water and sewer.

Davis has served as Mayor, Interim Mayor, and has served on the Baker City Council. He has 3½ years experience as Mayor and 9 years' experience as a Councilman. He was the first African-American elected both as

d y as i-d dee in. Set in

Mayor and as a City Councilman. Davis is the only candidate with Mayoral and Councilman experience.

As Mayor, Davis was a proven job creator bringing hundreds of new jobs to Baker. He improved public safety by equipping the Police and Fire Departments with the necessary resources; and Davis improved the City's infrastructure by paving and fixing roads and streets. Under his leadership as Mayor, Super Wal-Mart, Exxon On The Run, Murphy's Discount Gas, Subway, and Wendy's came to Baker, along with other new businesses.

Davis considers his experience as Mayor and as a Councilman, his knowledge of Baker City government, its ordinances, rules, and procedures, as well as his accomplishments in community service to be some of his most important qualifications. He knows the importance of this position in Baker City government, and he understands the needs of the community and the need to put the citizens of Baker first when making decisions.

Davis earned his Ph.D. in Agricultural Economics from the University of Illinois. Dr. Davis had a distinguished career as a college professor and administrator; and was a nationally recognized economist. He retired from Southern University with 22 and one-half years of service, where he served as a professor and dean. He is also retired from Alcorn State University after eight years as a professor, dean, research director, and extension administrator. Davis has served as chair-

man and vice chairman of the Baker Alcoholic Beverage Control Board and has been a member of the Executive Council of the Istrouma Area Boy Scouts of America. He is the recipient of the Silver Beaver Award - Boy Scouts of America. He served on the Baker High and Bakerfield Elementary Schools Advisory Committees. He is a member of the Greater Mount Carmel Baptist Church. He is an U.S. Army veteran, a member of American Legion Post 502; and a life member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity. Davis has been an active member of the Baker community for 37 years.

He is married to Elaine Griffin Davis, a retired assistant state director of Special School District in the State Department of Education. They are the parents of twin sons: Griffin Leroy Davis, M.D., M.P.H. and Garvin Henderson Davis, M.D., M.P.H., and have four grandchildren.

#### Donald Ray "Duck" Kyer Candidate for Mayor

"I want to bring Baker into the

21st century while focusing on education, new businesses, infrastructure, employees and economic development.

"Baker is a city that can start to move forward, with the right leadership and involvement of the citizens of Baker."



Kyer

#### Mayor Harold M. Rideau Candidate for Mayor

Mayor Harold M. Rideau is looking forward to a third term in office. Asked why he is running again, Rideau stated, "We're in the middle of many projects that were started during my administration, and I would like to see them through completion. These projects will have a lasting impact on the lives of our residents and our community.

"We have good relationships with several granting authorities and have been able to save hundreds of thousands of dollars on mandatory expenditures. Some of the grants we've been awarded have given us the ability to address projects that have been on hold for over 20 years.

"Until our infrastructure has been

updated, our city is at risk of damage from hurricanes and other natural disasters. Over the last eight years I have been in office, we have weathered four major hurricanes, without lasting damage, flooding, or loss of life."



Rideau

Mayor Rideau is running on his record in office and has been making a difference in the city by promoting progress through honesty, integrity, and service.

Rideau was a communication and engineering officer in the U.S. Army and was commended for his service in the Vietnam conflict. He worked for ExxonMobil Plastics for over 36 years and was an engineering instructor at Southern University. Harold Rideau was a pioneer in the area of preventative machine failure analysis.

Mayor Rideau is currently serving our community through the Baker Rotary Club, Team City, the Immaculate Conception Catholic Church, and as a hunters education instructor.

Harold Rideau, 65, is celebrating 41 years of marriage to Juanita Richard Rideau. They are the proud parents of four successful children — a medical doctor, an Army captain who served two tours in Iraq, an operator at ExxonMobil, and a budding attorney.

#### Monteic Sizer Candidate for Mayor

"I believe in Baker. I believe in the people of Baker. I believe in the potential that Baker has. Unfortunately, for years now, Baker has suffered from administrations that have kept it from reaching its true potential. Now is the time for Baker to become one of the best cities in Louisiana to buy a home, raise a family, get a good education, and start a business.

"The ways of the past haven't

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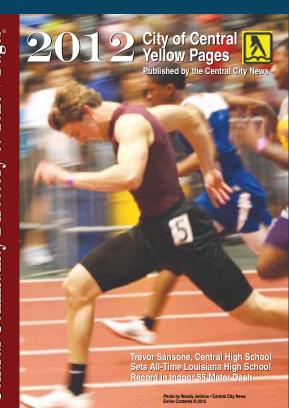
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Central Community Directory & Yellow Pages



Honoring the Central Flash, Trevor Sansone, who set the all-time state 5A high school record in the 55-yard dash.

# for Mayor, Chief of Police, Baker Council

worked. Conflict between the Mayor's Office and Baker City Council, cou"While living in Baker, I have been pled with under performing schools and limited economic development have caused many Baker residents to move to Central, Zachary, or other points North. The average incomes of Baker families lag behind the state average. Nearly 40 percent of Baker residents live on less than \$25,000 per year. Our homes are worth less than our neighbors. The average family is being hurt by Baker's soaring utility costs and lack of governmental trans-

"There was a time, not that long ago, when Baker Pride meant something. The Buffalo that represents us is a symbol of strength and determination. I want to restore that pride to our people and city. I want to take Bak-



er into the 21st century by keeping our best and brightest in our community and help to facilitate Baker's growth and prosperity.

'If I am elected mayor, I will bring transparency and trust back to City Hall. This is your government, and it should work for you and with you. I will bring a real plan to you, one with real goals that can restore the luster lost through the years. I will work with the city council, the school district, and our business leaders. I will reach out to our legislature and congressional leadership to assure that Baker gets its fair share of dollars. I will build relationships, not burn them. I will be our community's greatest ambassador. We are one Baker.

"Being mayor is not a popularity contest. Being mayor is about having vision, professional experience, governance ability, and compassion for people. God has uniquely prepared me to serve in such a capacity, and I look forward to working with you as the next mayor of Baker.

"I am a man who is seeking to live out God's purpose. It is God's gifts and talents that I seek to use to help uplift people, communities, and government. I am doing so for God's glory.

"I believe public service is a calling. And because its a calling, I have served people, communities, and multiple levels of government for years while functioning as either a clinical-community psychologist, CEO, consultant, or volunteer. I have operated with integrity and have helped all who sought it. I seek opportunities for all.

"My wife, attorney Veronica Howard Sizer, and I live in Baker and have four children. We believe in family and the responsibilities that go along with it. We are active members of Star Hill Church and are committed to improving the lives of others through public

active in the community. I served as vice chair of the City of Baker Planning and Zoning Commission, joined the Baker Rotary Club, and have been active with Neighbors United for a Better Baker (NUBB). With members of NUBB, I helped to facilitate conversations around economic development, education, and crime reduction.

"I earned an associate in applied science degree in industrial safety, security, and health management technology from Central Piedmont Community College before receiving a bachelors of science (summa cum laude) in psychology and criminal justice from Pfeiffer College. I earned a Ph.D. in clinicalcommunity psychology from the University of South Carolina at Columbia. I completed my clinical residency at William S. Hall Psychiatric Institute.

It is time for Baker to rise again. Baker will rise, with hard work, your support, and the faith I have in God and our city. Join me in creating a new Baker, one that protects the legacy of our past while building a road map to our future. Together, we can have New Vision, New Leadership, A New Baker."

#### **Charles Vincent** Candidate for Council District 1

Charles Vincent, a Democrat, was unopposed in Council District 1.

#### **Pete Heine Candidate for Council District 2**

'After much prayer, soul-searching, and encouragement from many citizens I have made the decision to seek the office of City Councilman, District 2 for the City of Baker. I am not running against any one particular candidate, but rather am offering my many years of experience to fill this seat. The main thrust of my campaign will be to work with the Mayor, whomever you elect to the City Council, our Police and Fire



Heine

Chief, court officials, school officials, business and community leaders, and all ministers to improve the image of our city. This can be accomplished by working together with one agenda.

"I am a Christian, a member of Baker First Bap-

tist Church, serve as church coordinator for Christ Fellowship Church of Leland, and a Man of Manresa. I am a widower, having been married to the late Georgia Lea Pilcher for 53 years. Together we had five children, nine grandchildren, and four great-grand-

"My opposition has said that I am too old to run for public office, but those who know me best know that this is not true. I learned long ago that wis-

dom comes with age. As a young man I did not think that seniors knew much about life, but as I grew older I came to realize how wise they really were. As you grow older you may lose muscle tone, but you gain knowledge and wisdom. I will be a strong voice for all

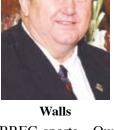
"My experience is unquestionable. I served proudly for 23 years as Mayor of the City of Baker, eight years on the Baker City Council, and nearly eight years as the first parish manager for West Feliciana Parish. I am a military veteran of the United States Air Force, serving as crew chief on a F-86 Saber jet during the Korean War, between 1948 and 1952, and also participated in the Berlin Air Life.

"I am ready, willing, and able to serve this great city, and would appreciate your consideration and vote. If you would like to talk with "Pete", please call 775-3577.

#### A.J. Walls **Candidate for Council District 2**

"Thank you for allowing me to be your District 2 Councilman for the

past 12 years! I consider it a privilege to serve the community where I have lived for 43 years; where Sharon and I have raised three sons who graduated from Baker High, and where I have coached many of your children in Little League and



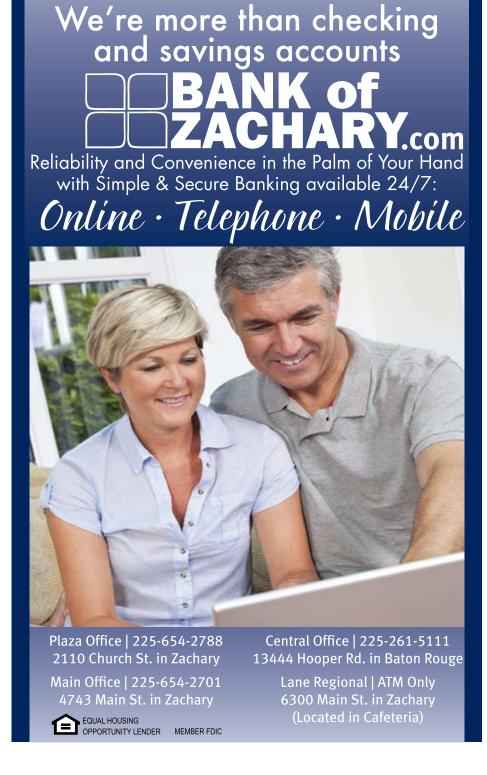
BREC sports. Our sons, Allen, Marcus, and Kelly are grown now with families of their own, and in our retirement, Sharon and I are enjoying our six grandchildren, five boys and one granddaughter!

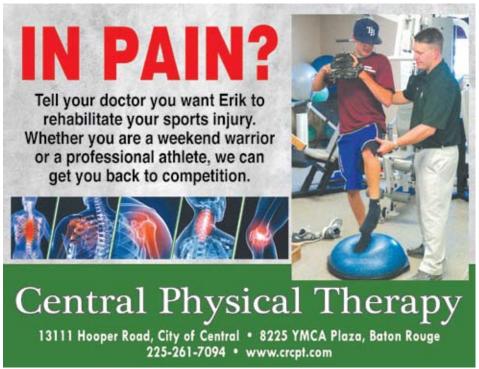
"I hope that you will vote for me again this year on March 24, so that I can continue to work for you and our great American hometown — Baker, Louisiana — a safe, progressive, and friendly town with big city convenience and small town feeling! Baker has been fortunate, not having felt much of the downturn that many small cities in our country have seen. It is my belief that the opportunity exists for continued growth and prosperity in our city, situated as it is near the Capital City, the airport, and interstate highway ac-

"Thank you for your consideration!'

Achievements during time in of-

- Completion of road and sidewalk improvements on Groom Road west of Hwy. 19
- Construction of award-winning Veterans Plaza and Gazebo in City
- Improvements to the Walking
- Construction of award winning Fire Department, Office of Emergency Preparedness, and Homeland Security
- Improvements and upgrades to public infrastructure including street overlays, drainage water towers and lines, and gas lines
- Upgrades to equipment in all departments, including Public Works field equipment and significant upgrades to computer systems for all departments
- City of Baker has received several million dollars in grants for major citywide improvements
- Instrumental in reducing the number of accidents throughout our city because of improved traffic enforcement utilizing photo enforcement equip-
  - Voted for budgeting funds that See **BAKER** on Page 12





# Baker Mayor Harold Rideau Has Three

#### **Continued from Page 11**

allowed our city's fire rating to be upgraded to a Class 2, resulting in decreased insurance costs for homeowners

• Married to Sharon Hammack

- Father of Allen, Marcus, and Kelly Walls
  - Resident of Baker for 43 years
- Councilman of District 2 for 12
- Member of City of Baker Utility Commission
- Member City of Baker Cemetery Commission
- Board Member of East Baton Rouge Parish Council on Aging
- Member of Veterans Plaza Board of Commissioners
  - Little League baseball coach
  - BREC football coach
  - Baker Booster Club President
  - Attends Zoar Baptist Church

Remember your vote is important. Yes, one person's vote can make a difference. Call me at 778-1293 or 317-1042.

#### **Joyce Burges Candidate for Council District 3**

Joyce Burges will work to:



**Burges** 

 Increase integrity and transparency in city leadership for overall city management

- Attract and encourage desirable businesses and improve economic development
- Renew love of learning into the hearts and minds of children,

parents, and teachers

• Create community involvement for constituents and participate in com-

• Overall: To be a servant of the ton Rouge area for over 20 years people

Âbout Joyce Burges:

- Resident of Baker for nearly 25
- · Attended Capitol High and Southern University
  - An educator for 23 years Community activist
  - Active in the local church
- Board member for several local organizations
- Married to Eric Burges for nearly 35 years
- Raised five children living in Baker
- Grandmother of four beautiful granddaughters

#### **David Georgetown Candidate for Council District 4**

"I believe you need strong leadership qualities to help run a city, I am one of those people. I will help bring Baker into the 21st century and be-

"I will create community listening tools every six months. Will work

side by side with the school system to improve our schools.

"I believe that without a strong school system there can be no economic development. I will solicit new businesses to bring to our city.



Georgetown

"I've raised my family in Baker. Let's make Baker a family friendly city again. Join me in building a better Baker.

Majored in business administration at University of Louisiana at Mon-

• Member of civic organization Neighbors United for a Better Baker

Married to Amelia for 25 years

• Three daughters, Miranda, Mariah, and Morgan

#### **John Givens** Candidate for Council District 5

John Givens is a candidate for Baker City Council in

District 5. Givens

Democrat and is a resident of Baker. He is retired from Pitney Bowes, Inc., a Fortune 500 company as a consultant.

His campaign commitment is to support new and



Givens

existing businesses. Support the Baker School System and be available to all residents of District 5. Let the people have input.

Givens said, "Baker needs a change. New leadership to go to another level. United we can improve and grow the City of Baker. People in the City of Baker and District 5 should ask themselves are we better today than we were four years, eight years, or 12 years ago? And their answer is no.

"The people in Baker are experiencing drainage, utilities, and street problems. They are presently going through high water and sewer bills since the installment of new water meters in the amount of \$200, \$300, \$400.

"Only new business we have coming in are small businesses. All Star Chevorlet is planning to move in the near future.

Givens and his wife Katina have five children and two grandchildren. He is a member of King Children Full Gospel where he is Deacon pastor by Robert H. Joseph, Sr.

He is a graduate of Southern University with a bachelor's of science degree in economics. He is a member of the Baker High Booster Club, Who's Who Professional Association, and National Build Trade Associate.

#### Fred O. Russell **Candidate for Council District 5**

"When I ran for office 12 years ago, I won by a majority vote of 60 percent. This large win was attributed to the exemplary services I provided to the citizens while working as the city administrator and emergency



Russell

manager for 10 years for the city of Baker.

"The 12 years I have spent as a Baker City Councilman have been among the most rewarding, challenging, humbling, and fulfilling years of my life. I feel that I am the most experienced, qualified, proven, dedicated candidate running in District 5. From that experience, I chose to run for re-election because serving God and serving the people are a fulfillment of my daily life. My love for people will never change. nor will my efforts to serve my fellow man!

"I have actively served the Baker community by my involvement and

#### **CLASS REUNION**

Glen Oaks Class of 1962 Looking for Classmates Call Bobby Miscar at 225-261-3030 or email bemiscar@cox.net



#### MEDICAID AND LaCHIP RECIPIENTS

don't miss this important meeting.

If you or a family member is enrolled in Medicaid or LaCHIP, please attend "Choose Health," a special meeting about changes being made to Medicaid and LaCHIP and how they affect you.

- Learn what Health Plans are and why you will need to choose one.
- Find out what doctors will be in each Health Plan.
- Be sure to bring a list of your doctors with you.
- Know the recipients' social security number and Medicaid number.
- Register to win in our prize drawing!

You can get help with choosing a Health Plan for each family member in your house, and our staff will be available to answer questions. If you need special assistance, please call 1-888-342-6207.

#### **Next "CHOOSE HEALTH" Meeting:**

Tuesday, March 13 from 4:30-6:30 p.m. DR. LEO BUTLER COMMUNITY CENTER 950 EAST WASHINGTON STREET **BATON ROUGE, LA 70802** 

Wednesday, March 14 from 2:30-4:30 p.m. LSU HEALTH-EARL K. LONG **MEDICAL CENTER** 5825 AIRLINE HWY. **BATON ROUGE, LA 70805** 



bayouhealth.com

1-855-BAYOU-4U (TOLL FREE)

# Opponents, Chief Snapper Knaps Has Two

support of various groups, clubs, and streets, roads, drainage, utilities, railactivities. These include our churches, Baker Independent School, Baker Little League, Baker High Century Club, Baker Band Boosters, Baker Chamber of Commerce, Mayor's Prayer Breakfast, Buffalo Festival, Pilot Club, American Cancer Society Relay for Life, Disabled Veterans, and other fund raisers to benefit our people. I will continue to support our senior citizens and children.

'As councilman, I have played a major part in improvements to city

### Classifieds

\$6 for first 10 words. \$10 for 11 to 20 words, \$15 for 21 to 30 words. \$20 for 31 to 40 words. \$25 for one column inch classified display ad. Call 261-5055. Must be paid in advance. To pay by credit card, go to www.centralcitynews.us and click "Pay Now" on the left. Then email ad copy to centralcitynews@hotmail.com. Or mail or hand deliver check and ad copy to Central City News, 13567 Hooper, Central, LA 70818. There is an after-hours drop box.

**LIGHT HOUSE CLEANING**, sitting with the elderly, and babysitting. Available Monday through Friday. Call 225-456-3727 or 225-261-7339. 03/08/12

MASSIVE INDOOR SALE — 10236 Cloudland Dr., March 9 and 10, 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. Ladies clothes L-XL, shoes 7-8, home decor, etc.

OBEDIENCE CLASSES IN CENTRAL -Class size limited. Group and private. For information, call 939-8964. 03/08/12

OWNER IN MORGAN PLACE ready to OWNER IN MORGAN PLACE ready to downsize, may consider smaller home near Area 2 w/offer. Inside: 3BR/2.5BA Sep DR could be 4th BR, move in ready, lg rooms, and 2,184 LA. Outside: 1.26 ac. dbl. gar+dbl carport, screened patio and courtyard plus bonus rm. 20x30 shop with A/C and wtr. Large RV shed, nice pond plus gazebo. Paint 2010, new roof 11/11, no flood. Over \$300K invested, asking \$278K. 9832 Sagefield Dr. By appointment only. 225-262-1217. 03/08/12 road crossings, recreation, and fire and police services. I have also helped to bring new businesses to Baker and refurbish old shopping centers.

"I personally funded and was responsible for erecting a sign in front of City Hall to honor Baker veterans serving in the armed forces. I served on the Veterans's Plaza Committee and physically assisted in the construction of this memorial honoring all veterans.

"I am retired and a full time councilman to be available and responsive to the citizens needs at all time. We moved to the City of Baker in 1958 after serving in the U.S. Air Force. I am a Korean war veteran.

'My wife Connie, now deceased, and I were married 54 years. We have five children, nine grandchildren, and 12 great-grandchildren. We are members of St. Isidore Catholic Church.

"My home is at 5425 Lavey Lane in Baker. I can be reached at 775-3389.

"With your help and God willing, I am looking forward to serving my district and the citizens of Baker for another four years."

#### Chief Mike "Snapper" Knaps **Candidate for Chief of Police**

"I am humbly honored to be your Chief of Police. For 32 years, I have been a commissioned Baker police officer serving all the citizens of Baker. I have lived in Baker 51 years. I have been involved with the vouth in Baker for over 35 years teaching, umpiring, refereeing, and coaching. I have held every rank and every position in the Baker Police Department. I was recognized as Baker Officer of the Year five times.

"In 2008 Central City News did a state and national crime survey and Baker was listed as the 2nd safest city in extensive knowledge in police service Louisiana and 4th safest in the U.S.A. with a 3.8 rating. The latest Universal Crime Report for Louisiana issued was last year and Baker improved to a 3.2 rating with Baton Rouge at a 12.6 rating (lower scores mean less major crime.) We are still one of the safest cities in the country! As long as you allow me to be your Chief, I will continue to be a firm but fair leader Keeping Baker

"I have equipped all of our patrolmen and their patrol units with the most up-todate state of the technology art and specialized equipment available. No other department in



Knaps

the country has their entire patrol fleet equipped any better than ours! We have support equipment for all phases of enforcement and rescue. This was made possible by securing over \$1 million in state and federal grants at no cost to you.

"The Police Chief of Baker is not a position I take lightly; being a police officer is not just a job. This is a life of dedication, and I have given mine to you, the citizens of Baker. I am asking for your continued prayers and support by voting for me on March 24.

Endorsed by AFL-CIO Central Body and East Baton Rouge Sheriff Sid Gautreaux III

#### Silas Geralds **Candidate for Chief of Police**

Silas Geralds' philosophy is that any crime...is too much crime. He has

and its application to police administration.

Silas believes that crime prevention efforts and citizen participation are essential to any successful crime reduction plan. To prevent crime, the police department has to implement many community police partnerships.

Silas' goals are to educate citizens and in turn the police department,

about how to be on the lookout for criminal activity, to report it before it happens, and to help deter young people from criminal activity by channeling their energy into education, recreation, and positive community activities.



Geralds

Silas will use his 38 years of law enforcement experience to provide all citizens of this great city of Baker equality and protection under the law while encouraging input in making this city a safer place to live and work for all of our families.

Editor's Note: Other candidates did not submit photos or statements. However, their statements will be published in the March 22 edition of the Central City News, if submitted by March 16.

No charge for listing one week. Call 261-5055.

**FOUND** — Diabetic testing kit in the parking lot of Sullivan Hardware on Feb. 22. Please call to identify 225-261-5055.

### **Central Area Business Directory**

**Aerobics** 

# Aerobics by

Since 1983 • Good For Your ♥ 225-281-1623

Appliance Repair



Mark's **Appliance Repair** 225-261-2270

Service to all major brands **Shop Central First!** 

**Auto Glass** 



Wind Shield Repair & Replacement We Come to You • 225-791-7440

**Barber Shop** 

I Fix \$10 Haircuts Larry Watkins, Barber Stylist 225-278-0260

Man's World Barber Shop





#### BayouSteam

Carpet, Upholstery, T<mark>ile & G</mark>rout Cleaning Locally owned and operated

225-955-6955

#### **Dirt Work**

**General Sand & Gravel Co.** Limestone, Gravel, Mason Sand, Clay, Top Soil, Riversilt, **Crushed Concrete, Tractor Work 7/54** 225-261-8953

#### Flooring

#### Allen's Custom Floors, LLC

Installing all wood and laminate floors. Specializing in sanding and refinishing. Central resident. 15 years' experience. Free Estimates.

Ask for Mike • 225-955-2269

#### Flooring

Ceramic • Wood • Laminate • Carpet • Vinyl

All Work Guaranteed Specializing in Job Built Showers Serving Central for over 30 years!

**Craig Guidry 225-235-8102** 

#### Handyman

#### Handyman Father & Sons

Electrical, Plumbing, Appliances, Painting, Fans, Fixtures, Faucets, Fix Most Anything. References. Quality work for God's glory.

Call Tom **225-788-0266** Central area

#### **Home Maintenance**

/d's Home laintenance and Repair No job too smal 225-936-7652

#### **Home Maintenance**

#### Home Improvement & Repairs

Cabinets • Remodels 35+Years' Experience Life Long Central Resident

Loyd Wells • 225-933-2154

#### Lawn Care

#### **Bob-O's Total Lawn Care**

Free Estimates Reasonable Rates

225-281-5792

#### Lawn Care

Residential • Commercial 225-281-9296

Lawn Care

#### Hunt's Lawncare Professional/Reliable Service

225-241-9222

Lawn Care

#### **Watts Lawn Care**

Free Estimates

225-301-4012

\$47.50 monthly January-July \$95 monthly August-December Call 225-261-5055

#### **Painting**

### **Randy Falcor**

20 Years' Experience No Job Too Large or Small 225-454-2961 (cell)



#### **Painting**

#### Central Painting & Drywall Residential & Commercial Popcorn Ceiling Removal

Locally Owned • 35 Years' Experience Dependable Service 225-936-7191

#### **Plumbing**

### LAFLEUR'S Plumbing

**Full Repair Service** 

Monday - Saturday • Same Rates! Appointment Necessary on Saturday (Make Appointment Before Friday) 261-2751

#### **Rental Property**

#### Office Space for Rent

6464 Joor Road Call for More Information

225-328-0397

#### **Tree Service**



### Milestones

Births • Engagements • Weddings • Deaths **Anniversaries • Reunions** 

#### **POCHE, WALDEN**

Amanda Poche and Landon Walden will wed March 24 at Ashley Manor in Baton Rouge.

#### RAYBURN, CRISLER

Megan Rayburn and James Crisler will exchange vows in a May ceremony in Baton Rouge.

Amanda Poche, Landon Walden

Mr. and Mrs. Trenton Simpson

### Lopez, Simpson Exchange Vows

**BATON ROUGE** — Candace Claire Lopez of Central and Trenton Neil Simpson of Port Allen were united in marriage on July 8, 2011, at St. Agnes Catholic Church in Baton Rouge. The Very Rev. Monsignor Robert Berggreen presided at the

7:30 p.m. ceremony.
The bride is the daughter of Mrs. Mary Richard Lopez of Central and the late Pete Joseph Lopez, Jr. She is the granddaughter of Howard and Irene Broussard Richard of Loreauville and Mrs. Rosa Bayard Lopez of New Iberia and the late

Pete J. Lopez, Sr.

She was escorted by her brothers, Craig and Casey Lopez. She was given in marriage by her mother, Mary Lopez. She was attended by matron of honor, Amber Olivier; maid of honor, Megan Mooney, and bridesmaids were Brea Browning Lopez, Lori Hebert, Brett Brown, Jessica Holman, Amanda Mercil, Sarah Simpson, Lacey Franz, and Misty Borne. Miniature bride was Stokely Sparks and flower girls were Addison and Avery Olivier.

The bridegroom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. R. Greg Simpson of Port Allen and Ms. Bobby Doucet Simpson of Baton Rouge. He is the grandson of Mr. and Mrs. Ellis Gosserand of Port Allen and the late Jeff Simpson, Mr. and Mrs. John Doucet of Port Allen, and Mr. and Mrs. Louis Spragio, Jr. of Addis. He is the great-grandson of Mr. and Mrs. Louis Spragio, Sr. of Addis.

He was attended by his best man, James Wesley Major and groomsmen were Cory Coye, Jarrod Seguin, Chad Doucet, Matthew Coye, Nicholas Pommier, Beau Cucullu, Jase Jackson, Johnny Franz, and Nicholas Humble. Miniature groom was Landon Simpson and Chance Simpson was the ring bearer. Ushers were Michel Lastrapes and Johnny Doucet.

Gwen Horton, Jill Spragio, and Gayle Simpson participated in the ceremony as readers.

The reception took place at the Addis Community Center in Ad-

Following a wedding trip to Walt Disney World, the couple resides in Port Allen with their daughter, Adaline Bonnette Simpson.



**Landon Walden and Amanda Poche** 

**BATON ROUGE** — Amanda Poche of Baton Rouge and Landon Walden of Denham Springs will marry in a 7 p.m. ceremony Saturday, March 24, 2012, at Ashley Manor in Baton Rouge.

The bride-elect is the daughter of Valerie Poche and Deda Richardson of Baton Rouge and Cathy Poche of Central. She is the granddaughter of Leonard and Mary Poche of Denham Springs and the late Earl and Anna Verrett of Baton Rouge.

Amanda is a graduate of Central High School and EMS Paramedic Academy. She is employed as a paramedic with East Baton Rouge Emergency Medical Services.

Her fiancé is the son of Shaun and Joyce Wales of Clinton and the late Timothy Walden of St. Francisville. He is a grandson of Dolly Jones of Lottie and the late Jerelene Walden of St. Francisville.

Landon is a graduate of Denham Springs High School and Louisiana State University. He is employed as a physical therapy technician at Kleinpeter Physical Therapy in

#### Kaden Tyler Unbehagen

Garrett and Miranda Unbehagen are proud to announce the birth of their first child, Kaden

Kaden was born Jan. 11, 2012, at 7:18 p.m. in Baton Rouge.

He weighed eight pounds, eight ounces, and was 21 inches long.
Proud grandparents are Dennis and Nealy Morain of Baton Rouge, Mike Unbehagen of Bayou Pigeon, and Debora Unbeha gen of Woodbridge, Va.



#### **Micah Shane Allen**

Jason and Heather Allen of Central are proud to announce the birth of their son Micah Shane. He was welcomed home by his big brother, Caleb and sister, Gabby.
Micah was born Nov. 24, 2011.

He weighed six pounds, nine ounces, and was 22 inches long.

Proud grandparents are Martin and Tammie Woolfork of Central and Ernest and Linda Allen of Zachary.



### Megan Rayburn, James Crisler To Marry in a May Ceremony

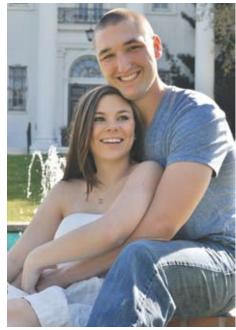
**BATON ROUGE** — Megan M. Rayburn of Central and James M. Crisler of Denham Springs will marry in a May ceremony in Baton

The bride-elect is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Malcolm Rayburn of Baton Rouge and Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Cason of Central. She is the granddaughter of Paul and Dianne Fourroux and Ruby Rayburn of Zachary and the late Burtis Ray-

Megan is a graduate of Central High School and Our Lady of the Lake College. She is a PTA at Moreau Physical Therapy.
Her fiancé is the son of James H.

Crisler and Paula Simon Harper of Denham Springs. He is the grandson of Alice C. Simon and the late Gerard J. Simon and the late Harold E. and Barbara Vay Crisler.

James is a graduate of Denham Springs High School and Baton a police officer.



Megan Rayburn and James Crisler

Rouge Community College. He is

#### **Ella-Kate Delanie Allison**

Brandon Allison and Tori Brown are proud to announe the arrival of their daughter Ella-Kate Delanie.

Ella-Kate was born Dec. 13, 2011. She weighed six pounds, 15 ounces, and was 20-1/4 inch-

Proud grandparents are Faye Silvio and the late John Silvio Jr., Emmit and Helen Robertson, and Billy and Barbara Allison.



Send stories and photos to centralcitynews@hotmail.com or drop them off at 13567 Hooper (next door to Central Drugs)

# Gen. Boykin at Sportsman's Banquet

**CENTRAL** — Events coming up in and around Central:

Saturday, March 10

Sportsman's Banquet • 5:30 p.m. Men, young and old, are invited to the 8th Annual Greenwell Springs Baptist Church Sportsman's Banquet. Dinner will be provided including both wild and domestic dishes. The guest speaker will be retired Lt. Genguest speaker will be retired Lt. General William G. "Jerry" Boykin. He had a distinguished military career that began in 1971. In his 36 years in the Army, he served more than 24 in Joint Special Operations. Gen. Boykin was recently barred from speaking at West Point because of this Christian beliefs this Christian beliefs.

Thursday, March 8 Central/Greenwell Springs Society of History Meeting • 6:30 p.m.

The Central/Greenwell Springs Society of History will meet at the Central Library on Joor Road. The guest speaker will be Melissa Eastin, archivist/librarian for East Baton Ruge Parish Library. For information on this project got to www.ebrpl.com and click on Baton Rouge Digital Archive.

Friday, March 9 Louisiana Hurricane Fundraiser **Dance** • 7 to 11 p.m.

Come join the Louisiana Hurricanes baseball team for good music, food, and dancing! The menu will include crawfish fetticinni, jambalaya, meatballs, desserts, and more. The dance will be held at Kristenwood, 14025 Greenwell Springs Road. Cost is \$20 per person/donation. Non-alcoholic drinks and beer will be sorved. will be served. For information, call Anita at 413-9171.

Saturday, March 10 Men's Prayer Breakfast • 8 a.m.

There will be a Men's Prayer Breakfast at Life Church Central, 10523 Lovett Road.

> Saturday, March 10 Tea with the Darlings

10 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Come have "Tea with the Darlings" and the rest of the cast from Peter Pan! The event will be held at the Central High cafeteria. Cost is \$10 per person and includes iced and hot teams, scones, sugar cookies, and other goodies. Bring your cameras. Cast members will be available for pictures. Children must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. Proceeds to benefit the Central High Musical Theatre.

Tuesday, March 13 Diabetes Support Group Meeting 6 to 7 p.m.

Dr. Jason Allemond of the Williamson Allemond Regional eye Center will speak on "How Diabetes Affects Your Eyes" at the Lane Re-

#### **LENTEN FISH FRY**

**Every Friday During Lent** Now through March 30 4 to 6 p.m. • Drive Thru Only St. Alphonsus Catholic Church 14040 Greenwell Springs



LT. GEN. JERRY BOYKIN AT SPORTSMAN BANQUET — Retired Lt. Gen. Jerry Boykin will be the keynote speaker at this Saturday's 8th Annual Greenwell Springs Baptist Church Sportsman's Banquet. The event will begin at 5:30 p.m.

gional Medical Center Diabetes Support Group meeting. The Diabetes Support Group welcomes all who have Type 1 or Type 2 Diabetes including family, friends, and anyone in a supporting role. For information, contact Sherri Brady at 658-4583.

> Saturday, March 17 Gator Baseball Fundraiser

Gator Baseball will be holding a bass tournament at Doiron's Landing in Morgan City. For informatioin, contact Eric Weaver at 939-6486, weaverslc@cox.net, or www.louisianasportsman.com under forumstournaments.

> Sunday, March 18 Dr. Shelia Isom • 10:30 a.m.

Dr. Shelia Isom from Danville, Va. will be speaking at Life Church Central, 10523 Lovett Road.

Tuesday, March 20 Grief Support Group • 6:30 p.m.

A new grief support group under the guidance of The Grief Recovery Center will be meeting weekly in the Daily Chapel inside St. Alphonsus Church. The meetings are open to everyone in the community who have suffered a loss and their family and friends that provide support for these individuals.

Tuesday, March 20 **Central Community Alliance** 

Meeting • 7 p.m.
This month's public forum of the Central Community Alliance will feature Coach Sid Édwards, athletic director of the CCSS and new head football coach. The meeting will be held at DEMCO on Wax Road.

March 22 and 29 **Scale Down Information Sessions** 11:30 a.m. and 7 p.m.

Get started today with Scale Down, an HMR program for weight management at Lane Regional Medical Center. Want to find out how this life-style and weight loss program can benefit you? Call 658-4463 to schedule your free, no obligation information session. Registration is required and space is limited.

March 22 through 25 Peter Pan

The Central High School Musical Department will present "Peter Pan" in the Central High Theatre. Ticket prices are reserve seating \$12 in advance, general admission \$10 in advance and \$15 at the door. For information, contact 261-3438.

Saturday, March 24 Louisiana Presidential Primary

Louisiana Republicans and Democrats will go to the polls in separate Presidential Primaries to help express Louisiana's preferences in the Presidential nominating process. Voters will also choose members of the Republican and Democratic State Central Committees and members of the

Republican and Democratic Parish Executive Committees.

Sunday, March 25

Easter Egg Hunt • 1 p.m.
The Baker Civic Club is hosting it's 4th Annual Easter Egg Hunt at 2640 N. Magnolia Dr., across the tracks near the ball park. The hunt will be broken up into age groups for all children 12 and under. There will be games, crafts, face painting, and snacks.

Tuesday, March 27 Free Blood Glucose Screening 8 to 10 a.m.

Lane Regional Medical Center will take part in the American Diabetes Association Alert Day by offering a free blood glucose screening at the Lane Medical Plaza located next to the hospital at 6550 Main Street. Fasting is recommended, but not required. Registration is not required. For information, call 658-4583.

Tuesday, March 27 Newborn Care Class • 6:30 p.m.

Lane Regional Medical Center will offer a free newborn care class in the staff development classroom. "Baby Care Basics" covers all you need to know to care for your infant in the first weeks of life. Partners are encouraged to attend. Child care is not provided. Registration is required. For information or to register, call 654-5263.

#### LENTEN FISH DINNERS

**Every Friday During Lent** Now through March 30 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. • \$7 per dinner **Magnolia United Methodist** 16024 Greenwell Springs







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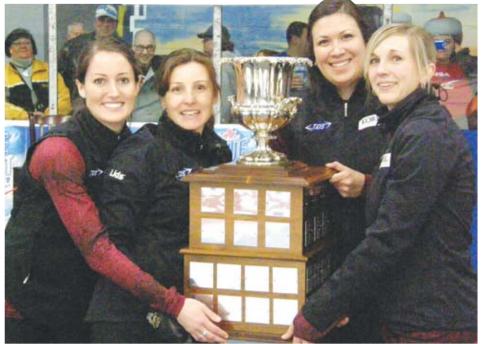
\*See store for details!

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In front of Walmart

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# Nicole Joraanstad Aiming to Return to Olympics



**U.S. WOMEN'S CURLING TEAM** holding the championship trophy at the U.S. Women's Curling Nationals. Shown are (left to right) Tabitha Peterson, Allison Pottinger, Natalie Nicholson, and Nicole Joraanstad. Nicole's parents are from Central.

ASTON, PA. — Nicole Joraanstad, daughter of Central residents Gary and Debra Joraanstad, and her teammates, won the U.S. Women's Curling Nationals held in Aston, PA., Feb. 11 to 18.

Nicole plays third on the team. According to skip Allison Pottinger,



**NICOLE** Joraanstad with her parents, Gary and Debra Joraanstad of Central.

Joraanstad's contributions were critical as she executed a double-takeout in the seventh end that allowed Pottinger to draw for a second point. Joraanstad cleared the house in the 9th end, limiting Potter to two points and preserving the lead. Her wellplaced freeze in the final end provided enough protection to ensure the win.

This is Joraanstad's ninth nationals including two junior nationals Joraanstad also played in the 2010 Winter Olympics and World Championships in 2000-2002, 2004, and 2006-2009.

As U.S. champions, the team will compete in Lethbridge, Alberta for the World Women's Curling Championship March 17 through 25. They have qualified for the 2014 Olympic Trials that will be held in Fargo, ND, November 2013.

#### **Business Awards Nominations Due March 16**

**CENTRAL** — Central City News readers have until next Friday, March 16 to nominate local businesses for the Annual Central Business Awards competition. More than 60 businesses were nominated in nine categories last year. In order to nominate one or more businesses, clip the form below and mail it to 13567 Hooper Road, City of Central, LA 70818 or email your nominations to centralcitynews@hotmail.com. A business owner or employee may nominate their own business, but they should reveal the fact that they are associated with the business. Winners will be honored in the Central City News and at a reception.

#### Must be received by 5 p.m. Friday, March 16, 2012

#### **Business of the Year Nomination Form**

Please accept my nominations for the following awards:

Small Business of the Year \_\_\_\_

Mid-Sized Business of the Year

Large Business of the Year\_\_\_\_\_

Professional Practice of the Year\_\_\_\_\_

New Business of the Year \_\_\_\_\_

Central's Business of the Year \_\_\_\_\_

Servant Leadership Award\_\_\_\_\_

Entrepreneur of the Year \_\_\_\_\_

#### Central's Most Valuable Business

It is not necessary to make a nomination in every category. For full disclosure, please put an asterisk (\*) next to any business you are associated with.

You MAY attach a letter or documentation (such as brochures, clippings, website, or photos) in support of any nomination. However, this is NOT REQUIRED.

YOUR NAME\_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_

CITY, STATE & ZIP\_\_\_\_\_

BEST PHONE NUMBERS

E-MAIL ADDRESS

Return to Central City News, Box 1, Greenwell Springs, LA 70739, deliver to 13567 Hooper Road, or send via email to centralcitynews@hotmail.com.



Where you're not a number, you're a **friend**.

Central Business of the Year two years in a row!

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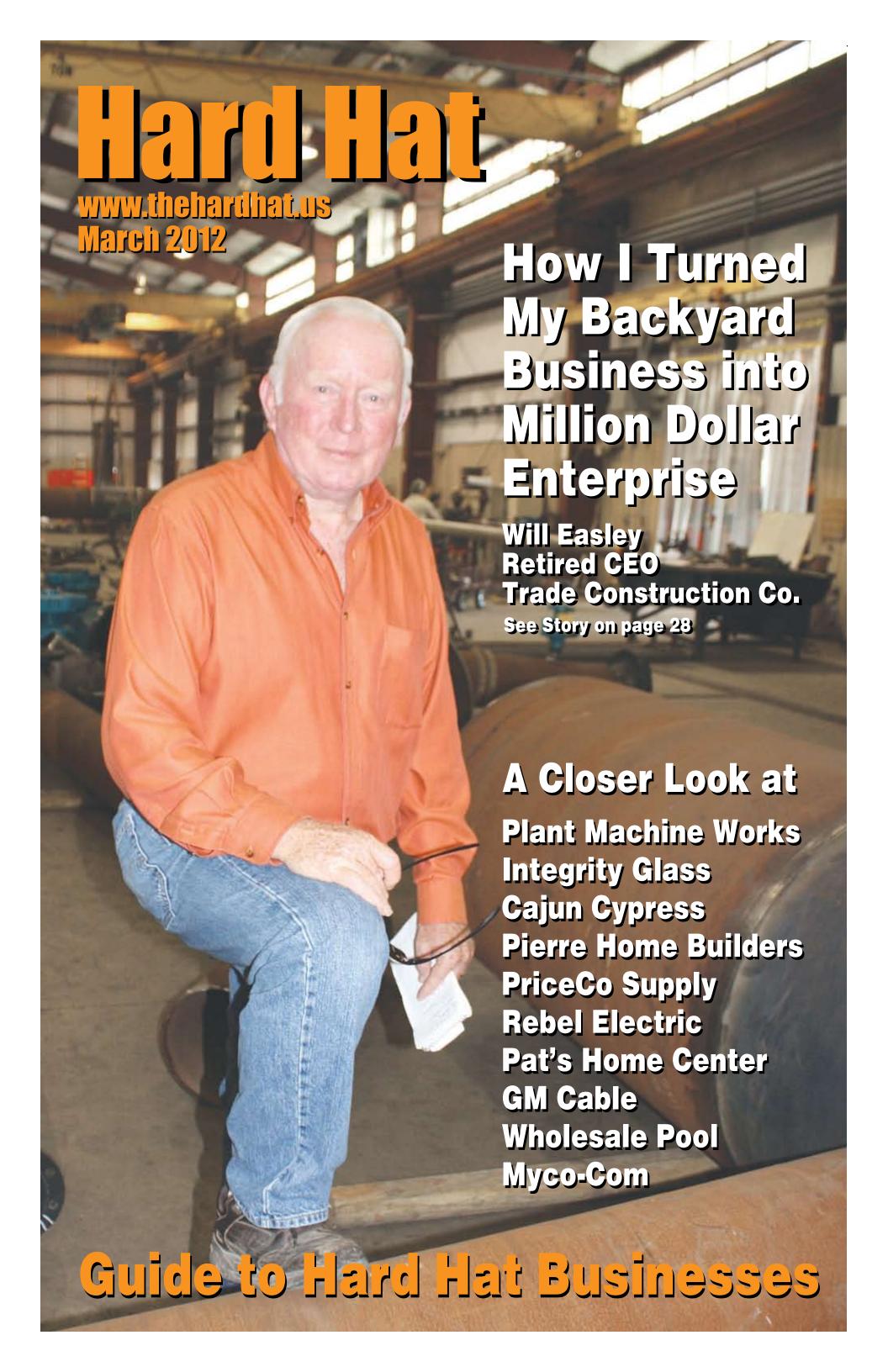
Monday - Friday 9 AM - 5 PM Appointments are not required, but they are preferred

We are unable to bill insurnace at this time but each test is under \$20.

Call for more information.

(225) 262-6200 13565 Hooper Road

www.CentralDrugBR.com/CCN



# Integrity Glass Offers Quality and Price





Brian Poché, Linda Medine, Bruce Medine, Walter Wolf, and Kevin Corkern. Integrity did the glass work on the new CVS in Central.

**BATON ROUGE** — Integrity Glass Works offers a vast range of services from custom heavy shower doors to automobile windshields to all glass needs in the highest quality residential and commercial construction projects. They have many experienced technicians who can bring any dream to reality!

Integrity Glass Works has been serving the great city of Baton Rouge and the surrounding areas since 2001. As a Christian-based workplace, they strive to maintain a reputation with customers of be-

**Integrity Glass Works** 8931 Greenwell Springs Road Baton Rouge, Louisiana 225-261-8800

fair. Their motto is — Custom Quality Service for the Greater Baton Rouge Area!

Owners Bruce and Linda Medine have crafted their family-owned business from humble beginnings.

Bruce began in the glass industry in 1983 where he dedicated 18 years to the iconic Capitol City Glass, including six years as commercial manager. With faith and knowledge on their side, the Medines decided to make a change in 2001 that would be the stepping stones towards their dream. They opened Integrity Glass.

Bruce and Linda give God the credit for growing that company from a garage start-up to a large shop next to their home, and final-

ing kind, considerate, prompt, and ly, three years ago, to their newest location at 8931 Greenwell Springs

> Today, Integrity Glass is a full service glass company catering to the community with a range of services including commercial and residential.

> Over the years, Integrity Glass has experienced tremendous growth and become one of the most highly recommended facilities in the Baton Rouge. This growth has not be founded by luck but by providing high quality products and service.

> At Integrity Glass Works, the staff strives to maintain a "small town" relationship with our customers while providing them fair, competitive prices found in a big



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www.integrityglassworks.com integrityglassworks@att.net



Bruce Medine • Linda Medine **Owners** 8931 Greenwell Springs Road





# Two Companies for All Your Pool Needs

#### Wholesale Pool **Builders**

**Owners Claude and Dustin Cassels** 

Wholesale Pool Builders was established in 1985. For the past 27 years, they have constructed in-ground pools from Louisiana to Mississippi. They strive to provide quality products in pool construction and service to their customers.

All in-ground pools are constructed with top quality polymer walls and concrete base flooring under the vinyl liner.

Customers are amazed at their quick turnaround time and completion of their pool. They start a job on Monday, and you will be enjoying your pool by the weekend!

From your initial meeting to discuss your pool needs to the finished project, honesty and dependability are what their company was founded on.

Referral jobs from previous clients are a true testament to satisfied customers and Wholesale Pool Builders' commitment.

One of their biggest rewards is seeing the smiles of happy customers. They are proud to call Central home. Don't wait, pool season is here, give them a call at 261-2001 to start your summer fun in the sun.



Pools of extraordinary quality are produced by Wholesale Pool Builders



EZ-CLOR



Quality pool supplies are provided by Wholesale Pool Supply (left). A pool in the making (right).

### Wholesale Pool Supplies

**Owners Steven Fiore** and Jared David

Wholesale Pool Supplies is your one-stop shop for all your swimming pool needs. Visit either of their two convenient locations in Central or Zachary.

Wholesale Pool Supplies is a member of The Backyard Place and an authorized dealer of quality equipment and supplies.

Whether you're looking to purchase a new pool or you've owned your pool for years, their courteous and knowledgeable staff members are here to assist you with anything that you may

Providing excellent customer service and quality products has been the driving force behind Wholesale Pool Supplies' operation since 1985.

Steven Fiore said, "As a locally owned and operated business, we truly value our loyal customers in this community, and we look forward to seeing our customers return year after year. You will always find reliable brand name products, supplies, and helpful tips and solutions to care for your pool throughout the year. We are also an authorized dealer of Primo Grills and Smokers. We have everything you need to make your backyard a true paradise; we're more than just a pool store.'





New Pool Installations (225) 261-2001

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CENTRAL 13581 Hooper Rd 225-261-9665

**ZACHARY** 4347 High St., Ste. 107 225-654-0665

# Pierre Home Builders and Properties

**ZACHARY** — Back in 2005, local native Dustin St. Pierre wasn't looking to get into the construction industry. But it just blew in from the south!

Before Hurricane Katrina, St. Pierre was doing a little work in construction and remodeling, but was not interested in that direction in life.

When Katrina came, that all changed. He got a job in sales at Parish Home Center in Zachary. Within six months after the storm, he was one of the top three salesmen in all of Baton Rouge — with sales exceeding \$5 million a year.

During that time, he got his

During that time, he got his builders license and started building homes.

In the past six years, he has built more than 25 homes from Central to Walker, especially in the Northwoods neighborhood.

With the decline in home sales



Christina Richardson, Dustin St. Pierre, and Mackenzie





**NEW OR RENOVATIONS** — Pierre Home Builders builds new homes and renovates existing homes.

over the last few years, his company became active in property development and land sales.

The company has bought land and plans to do commercial projects and rental property on the north side of Central in the future. St. Pierre has also bought an 80-acre tract off of Highway 64. He hopes to have five six-acre tracts for sale that will be restricted.

Dustin just finished a 38-acre tract off of Liberty and Alphonse Forbes roads with eight lots, ranging from 1.25 acres up to 8.37 acres.

He finished a 58-acre tract off Greenwell Springs Road north of Alphonse Forbes Road, where he had four six-acre tracts and one 35acre tract.

Dustin St. Pierre, 30, was born

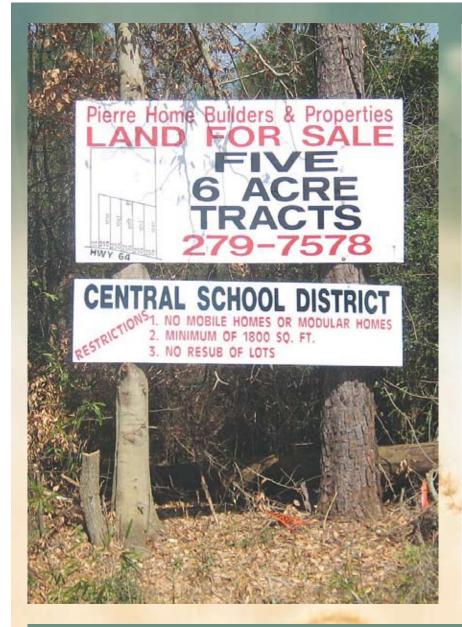


**NEW CONSTRUCTION** — One of the new homes built by Pierre Home Builders.

in Zachary and attended Central Private School. He is getting married this year to Christina Richardson, and they are expecting their first child, a son, on July 24.

#### Pierre Home Builders 21890 Chaney Road

21890 Chaney Road Zachary, Louisiana 225-279-7578



Looking for a beautiful homesite in the country but still in Central School District?

We have exactly what you're looking for.

Five six-acre tracts available now on Highway 64.

Quiet and peaceful, the perfect setting for your dream home!

225.279.7578

# Pierre Home Builders & Properties

# PriceCo Offers Amazing Variety of Products

**CENTRAL** — Matt Price of PriceCo Supply, LLC, said people are often surprised at the amazing variety of products offered at PriceCo.

He said, "We are well known for our tool repair department for pneumatic tools, compressors, generators, and electric hand tools. And of course the many items needed for wood shops, mechanical shops, and associated items. We are also known for state of the art safety equipment gear as well as mounted first aid kits for all working shops, businesses, and industrial plants."

Due to the many people requesting other supplies, PriceCo is adding the following:

Teaching supplies for teachers, including home school teachers, Sunday school teachers, parents, and many items for individual student development enhancement.

Crafting items are being added for many various hobbies such as knitting, crocheting, embroidery, rug hook latch, and various sewing stitching items.

Painting supplies are being added with a full line of artist paints including Winsor & Newton oils, acrylics, and watercolors; artist brushes and various drawing supplies; charcoals; pastels; chalks; and Winsor & Newton canvases, sketch pads, and painting tools.

Price said, "We are redeveloping our supply store to meet the needs of our Central community. As we

### PriceCo Supply, LLC 15151 Greenwell Springs Rd.

Central, Louisiana 225-262-6245



Matt Pryor, tool repair

grow, we will be adding many more items such as party supplies, wood crafting, beading, and other items that people ask for. We are truly excited about our new future here at PriceCo Supply, LLC. This new addition will provide our community with many popular items we all love, thus saving people time and gas money. This will help keep our tax dollars in Central!"

Price said, "Please come to our Open House on March 17 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. We will have free jambalaya and door prizes to introduce our new products."

Editor's Note: Some big changes are coming to the front of the property of PriceCo Supply!



Matt and Kathleen Price, owners





PriceCo has added teaching aides and art and craft supplies



# Rebel Electric, LLC Has New Location





**REBEL ELECTRIC** — Office manager Deanna Vickry and owner Craig Simoneaux will be moving the company soon to their new location at 6464 Joor Road.

**CENTRAL** — Rebel Electric, LLC owner Craig Simoneaux has announced the purchase of a new building at 6464 Joor Road and has said the company will be moving to its new home soon.

Rebel Electric, LLC has been in operation for over 44 years. It was founded in 1968 by Clif Richardson and Ned Martello.

Craig Simoneaux of Central was employed with the company for over 20 years before purchasing it

#### Rebel Electric, LLC

6464 Joor Road Baton Rouge, Louisiana 225-261-6400

in 2009.

Rebel Electric, LLC now has eight employees, including, owner Craig Simoneaux, office manager Deanna Vickry, and six electricians, Davis Gill, Jimmy Lee, Shane Wyche, John Makedon, Everett Whiddon, and Josh Marchand.

Currently located off Sullivan Road in a building it shares with Confederate Heat and Air, Rebel Electrical will be moving soon to a new location at 6464 Joor Road.

Craig Simoneaux said, "This is a new chapter in my vision for Rebel Electric. We will have a large warehouse to house supplies, along with ample office space, and a conference area to meet with new clients and complete bids on new jobs.'

Mission Statement. To establish long-term relationships with each of our valued customers, residential and commercial, by consistently exceeding their expectations, providing them with the best quality of work, and conducting ourselves in the utmost professional manner. Using the highest ethical standards, we guarantee to provide the best electrical solutions for our customers through service, value, and quality.

Simoneaux said, "At Rebel Electric LLC, we approach each and every project from our clients' point of view. Our flexible ap-

proach has resulted in a business built on client referrals and repeat business. We specialize in both residential and commercial electrical contracting. We stress safety, innovation, and convenience to insure employees are in a safe work environment with the resources they need. All employees also attend continuing education classes to stay on top of the latest technol-

ogy."
"We strive to be a socially-responsible company supporting various community events which help our community prosper. If you should have any electrical needs now or in the future, we would appreciate the opportunity to earn your business."



Craig Simoneaux, Owner; Jimmy Lee, Davis Gill, Shane Wyche, John Makedon, Everett Whiddon, and Josh Marchand

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Locally Owned & Operated for Over 44 Years

Serving the Central Community and the Greater Baton Rouge Area



# Rebel Electric

6464 Joor Road, Baton Rouge, Louisiana



# Pat's Home Center: Dedicated to Central





Kevin Dupuy, Michelle Estave, and Jason Drury. Pat's Home Center is located at 13533 Hooper Road.

**CENTRAL** — The history of Pat's Home Center began in 1983 with Pat and Ginger Vince. Together, they saw a need for a hardware store that would serve the town of St. Francisville and the surrounding community.

With the goal of being more than just a hardware store, Pat and Ginger set out to become a custom-er-oriented business. So, in 1984, Pat and Ginger opened Pat's Hardware and Garden Center on Highway 61 in St. Francisville. "Our

#### **Pat's Home Center**

13533 Hooper Road Central, Louisiana 225-262-8685 goal originally," Pat said, "was to make it possible for any of our customers to purchase anything they needed for their home or commercial building projects. We began by comparing the pros and cons of local businesses in the same market. We knew that the success of our business largely depended on our ability to succeed and excel in the same areas as other local businesses, while at the same time, outperforming our competitors where they were failing to meet customer needs."

And succeed they did! By 1989, Pat's Hardware added a lumber yard to their original store to help meet the needs of its growing customer base. In 1993, the business was doing so well that they began the search for a new piece of property in St. Francisville where they could build a bigger store with a larger lumber yard. The search for land led them to begin an entirely new store in a different town.

In 1993, they started Partner's Hardware in Clinton.

Now Pat's Home Center of Clinton, the business currently includes a brand-new, 12,000-square-foot store with an additional 10,000 in warehouse space and a two-acre lumber yard with room to expand.

In 2002, Mr. Vince suffered a terrible tragedy — Ginger Vince passed away, leaving him with a tremendous loss but an incredible personal legacy. "That was the defining moment in my life," Pat said. "In addition to losing

my wife and the love of my life, I lost my business partner. I had a choice to make: Do I continue to run the businesses or not? I chose to continue what my wife and I worked so hard to build and make successful. I decided to dedicate any further success to her life and her involvement in the business."

In 2003, St. Francisville saw the construction of a brand-new, 18,000-square-foot facility with a warehouse and lumber yard totaling an additional three acres. With the construction of a new building came a new name. Pat's Hardware became Pat's Home Center.

"We expanded our inventory to include many new items for our customers including applianc-

See **PAT'S** on Page 27

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**Huge Selection of Building Materials** 



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**Central •** Corner of Hooper & Sullivan 225-262-8685 or 225-261-2755 fax 261-2908

**Clinton •** Partner's Plank Rd. **225-683-8384** fax 683-4384



BATON ROUGE — In 1977, Claude Barber purchased Plant Machine Works Inc. from Central resident Harry Carmena. Claude set a standard for Plant Machine Works Inc. that his son and grandson are now following to guide the business for the future.

Upon Claude's passing in 2006, his son Tommy Barber took over the family business.

Tommy is married to Renee Jeansonne Barber, who is a lifelong resident of Central. Tommy and Renee's children are graduates of Central schools.

Travis is a graduate of Southeastern Louisiana University and is currently the company's vice president of finance. Morgan plans to attend Louisiana State University in the fall and major in business. Travis is married to Lyndsey Browning McGraw, who also graduated from Central Private and Southeastern. Lyndsey is a registered nurse at Lane Memorial Hospital in Zachary.

Tommy has made a concerted effort to hire people from Central in the family business. Plant Machine Works currently employs 63 people, including the following residents of Central: Tommy Carlton, purchasing agent; Matt Wagner, logistics supervisor and data entry; Shane Ash, quotes and IT maintenance; Joe Amorello Sr., salesman; Butch Bateman, shop coordinator; Tyler Jones, draftsman, and Todd Browning, salesman.

Plant Machine Works is proud to have family and friends involved in the business. This combination has helped continue the success established by Claude Barber.

Now Plant Machine Works is celebrating 35 years as a leader in the repair industry. The Plant Machine Works' mission continues to be "Service, Quality, Honesty, and Integrity."

Located near the Baton Rouge Airport, Plant Machine Works' 50,000-square-foot facility has state-of-the-art machinery along with rotating equipment specialists.

Tommy Barber said, "It is my goal to keep the same tradition that made Plant Machine Works a leader in the repair industry." Tommy has put in place an executive man-

### Plant Machine Works, Inc.

4633 Blount Road Baton Rouge, Louisiana 225-775-7163



Plant Machine Works, Inc. located at 4633 Blount Road, Baton Rouge

agement team that consists of several employees who helped Claude shape Plant Machine Works into the industry leader it is today."

"My father put the best people around him and allowed them to work," he said. "As much as my father meant to the company, he would be the first to tell you it is the employees who make Plant Machine Works successful."

**Management Team** 

Bobby Williams, vice president of operations; Kirk Jones, vice president of project bidding; and Eddie Hood, vice president of customer service, have each been with the company for more than 25 years.

Along with Tommy Barber, these employees form the executive management team. With their many years of experience, Tommy turns to them to help make decisions relating to the company. Tommy is thankful for these men staying with Plant Machine Works after the passing of Claude Barber and being a major part of the company's continued success.

**Expertise and Service** 

With a machine shop that covers 50,000 square feet, Plant Machine Works offers a wide array of services, from a full-service machine shop to intricate rotating equipment repairs.

**Expanding** 

To better meet its customers' needs, Plant Machine Works re-

cently purchased and installed three new CNC machines, including TOS Varnsdorf Horizontal Boring Mill, Viper VTL (Vertical Turret Lathe), and a Viper Horizontal Lathe.

The new equipment will allow Plant Machine Works to work on larger parts and increase productivity, which will open new doors of opportunity and take the company to another level in the production and repair world.

The Future of Plant Machine Works

Although Claude Barber led the company for most of its 35 years, his son is now leading the company into a new era. According to Tommy, the future of Plant Machine Works is very bright and full of new challenges with increased capabilities, new machines, and a team of people that includes a mix of experience and youth throughout the company.

"I am proud to be leading Plant Machine Works into the future as a family business. With my son, Travis McGraw, working and learning the family business, our future looks bright," Tommy said.

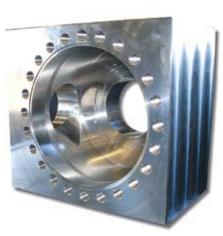
"Now that our company has become a generational one, our future is one of growth and development with traditional values that make Plant Machine Works what it was in the past, what it is now, and what it will be."

The company's business hours

are 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. In addition, a 24/7 answering service with a Plant Machine Works' employee on call is available to handle clients' emergency needs.

Plant Machine Works is a proud supporter of the City of Central and Central City News.









Viper VTL TOS Varnsdorf



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WORKING AS ONE TO SERVE THE CUSTOMER.

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4633 Blount Road Baton Rouge, LA 70807

225.775.7163 ph 225.775.2743 fax



meteorproductions

### **GM Cable: A Leader in Telecommunications**



Noel Rivera displays a company bucket truck. Larry Curtis, Dean Harrington, and Scott Miller.

**CENTRAL** — Last year Gil Matherne of GM Cable was named Central's Entrepeneur of the Year with special recognition to Michelle Matherne of Myco-Com.

Company Profile. "Our company's mission is to continually strive to improve the standards of quality in an ever-changing world of communications and broad-band technology through cabling, outside construction, and network design. We do this by providing consumer-driven services and support that deliver value to our customers.

#### **GM Cable Contractors**

9232 Joor Road Central, Louisiana 225-261-9800

We are dedicated to providing efficient, cost-effective facilities that generate superior performance and reliability, and we have established a reputation for meeting and often exceeding our customers' expectations.'

Company Services. "GM Cable provides our customers with LAN/ WAN design and engineering; CCTV/Video surveillance; voice, data, and video networks; directional boring; outside plant design and construction; fiber optic design and installation; aerial construction, and on-site employees for manpower contracts. Our extensive customer base includes universities, community colleges, public and private schools, state government, municipalities, and plants and hospitals. Our vehicles serve

Louisiana, Texas, Mississippi, Alabama, and Florida, and sometimes states as far as Pennsylvania and Missouri. At times, the company accepts international business.

Company Founder. "Gil Matherne, a Central resident for 35 years, incorporated the business in 1984. Through the years, he guided the business from a one-man shop to a company with over 70 employees. His hard work and determination; as well as the commitment of his wife Michelle, the controller of the company; their son, the outside construction project manager; their daughter, a CPA and assistant controller; their son-in-law, an RCDD and project manager; a very talented, knowledgeable general manager who is also an RCDD; and an es-

See COMPANY on Page 27



**Scott Martel and Brad McFearin** 



GM CABLE CONTRACTORS, INC.

9232 Joor Road CENTRAL, LA 70818



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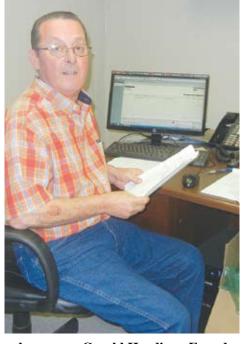
NETWORK DESIGN: LAN/WAN • DESIGN & ENGINEERING CCTV/VIDEO SURVEILLANCE

**261-9800** 



# Company Brings Jobs, Commerce to Central







Gil Matherne and Shawn Piper. Myco-Com general manager Gerald Harding. Founders Michelle and Gil Matherne.

#### **Continued from Page 26**

timator with years of service under his belt have teamed with all the GM Cable family to become one factor in determining the strength

of the largest telecommunications companies in the region. Longevity of employment is usually a key

of a business. It is noteworthy that GM Cable has 10 employees with more than 10 years of service and another 12 employees with more

than five years of service."

Overview. "Not only does GM Cable have an outstanding reputation in the telecommunications industry, but affiliated companies Myco-Com, Inc. and GMAC, LLC can hold their own in their respective fields. The company has more than 50 vehicles on the road, and the majority of the fuel purchased comes from here in Central, helping Central remain strong and prosperous. GM Cable is known around the community for its various charitable contributions. The company has been a supporter of many community-wide events, Central's public and private schools, and area churches. GM Cable has donated equipment and man-power to remove debris from Central homes after hurricanes and storms and donates to many causes on a regular basis.

Over the years, GM Cable Contractors, Inc. has worked hard to establish itself as one of the most trusted contractors in the state of Louisiana. They take pride in the company and the Central commu-

nity."
"GM Cable has an outstanding field of work, in reputation in its field of work, in large part because of its highlytrained employees who stand by the company and its values.'

### Pat's Hardware Has 38,000 sf **Facility to Serve City of Central**





Jeannie Blackmon, Beverly Johnston, and Carl Martin

#### **Continued from Page 23**

new line of contractor grade paint products, and many new hardware items," Mr. Vince said. "At the original store, we were a hardware store. With the building of the new store, we became a home center."

With the growth, success, and development of the St. Francisville location, Pat was able to expand his business into Central seven

Today Pat's Home Center has a 20,000-square-foot showroom and a 18,000-square-foot warehouse in Central. The store has hunting suppits, gift iems, specialty millworks, and so much more.

Throughout the years, Pat Vince has prided himself on being able to meet the needs of an ever-expanding customer base in this area.

"I've always made it a point to

make sure all of our customers, no matter who they are, are always taken care of. We pride ourselves on providing excellent customer service," Mr. Vince said. "Put yourself in the customer's shoes," he says, "and do what you know is right.

Currently, Pat's Home Center employes 50 plus employees in three different locations including outside salesman at each location.

In Central, Kevin Dupuy, store manager; Michelle Estave, assistant manager; Jason Drury, inslde sales, and the helpful and knowledge staff are always willing to plies, household items, barbeque help you with anything you need or looking for.

Whether it's a new construction or remodeling job, or just maintaining a beautiful home, Pat's Home Center has been serving their customers for 28 years, including seven years here in Central!



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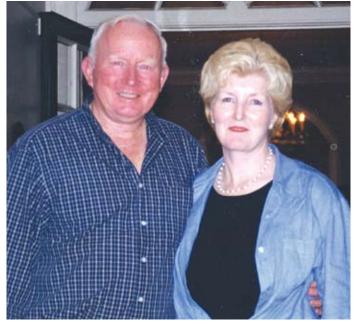
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### In a Down Economy, Opportunities Exist for Hard Hat Businesses In Baton Rouge Area

**CENTRAL** — Today, Trade Construction Company is one of Central's largest and most successful businesses, but it hasn't always been that way. Will and Dot Easley and their partners founded Trade Construction in Will's shop behind his house on Denham Road in 1973.

Today, Will has retired from the business, and it is in the able hands of his son Brennen and daughter Andi. The business itself has sales in the eight figures and counts as its clients some of the world's largest companies, such as ExxonMobil, Williams Pipeline, BASF, Turner Industries, and James Construc-Trade Construction has a 30,000 square foot facility on Joor Road, and the business continues to grow.

It's a far cry from where Will Easley started out — living in a tworoom house in St. Helena Parish with his parents and four siblings and without electricity. When Will was a boy, his dad was near death and spent months in the Charity



Will and Dot Easley started a business in their own backyard in Central 39 years ago. It stayed in their backyard until 2005. Today it is a multimillion dollar enterprise with more than 110 employees.

Hospital in New Orleans clinging

Will was able to leave the farm and studied to be a civil engineer. He was working for a big company but it went bankrupt. So, in 1973, he and some friends decided to go into business for themselves.

Will was able to buy his partners out in 1996. By 1998, his sales reached the \$4 million mark.

Will says that even with a down economy, there are still opportunities to get into business for yourself, especially here in the Baton Rouge area with our industrial base and our connections to the oil and gas business.

And Will says you don't have to have a college degree to succeed.

"I believe in education, but I also know that I've had a whole lot of great people working with me that never went to college. I wouldn't trade them for anyone else," he said.

"My advice is you have to understand that being in business for yourself takes a lot of hard work and commitment. It was nothing for me to work 60 hours a week. You have to put your business first, and that can be very tough on your family. Your family has to totally support you."

'I don't believe in debt. If you can save your money and start in business without going into debt, that will be a tremendous advantage. Small business almost always fails because of debt. It you can possibly avoid it, don't go into debt.

'Start slow and don't expand too fast. Take each step logically without extending yourself financially. Treat your customers right and build trust. After awhile, some of our customers got to where they would pay us for a full year in ad-When you develop that kind of trust from your clients, you have the cash to expand without going into debt."

"Find a niche that no one else is filling and fill it yourself. Do something you enjoy.'

'Find good people to work with you. Get to know your people. Watch them and see who excels. Treat them with respect. They will look out for you. Finding good people will be the key to your success. People are your business.'

### **Brennen Easley Seeks Seat on GOP Body**

Company president/CEO Brennen District 65, Subdistrict B. The dis-Easley is sick and tired of the constant attacks on business coming from Washington, and he's determined to do something about it.

Easley, the son of Will and Dot Easley, is a candidate for the Republican State Central Committee in the election March 24, 2012.

Central will elect a member of the committee, which governs the

**CENTRAL** — Trade Construction state Republican Party, from House trict includes the northern part of

the House District represented by Clif Richardson.

Easley, a conservative, is opposed by Billy Thompson. Absentee voting will begin this Saturday.



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### **Central City News**

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# Cajun Cypress Has Nationwide Business





Cajun Cypress, located at 14251 Brown Road, has built a nationwide reputation for quality and service over the past 30 years.

**BAKER** — For 30 years, the Mc-Adams family has been supplying contractors and individuals with beautiful cypress lumber, beams, heart pine flooring, and more.

They treat everyone as family from the walk-in customer purchasing one board to the contractor building a 24,000-square-foot home in Houston or from the family building a summer home in the Bahamas to the individual building right here in Central.

Their goal with every customer is to help him get the best possible product for the best value.

General manager Wes McAdams said, "I try to give people as many options as possible to help create the best looking living space and to do it the most cost effective way. It's very satisfying when a customer comes in with an idea, and we can show them a way to do it better and less expen-

sive than they ever anticipated."

Cajun Cypress has several products they have innovated to cost less than sheetrock!

They custom cut new cypress beams up to 34' long and even offer to distress them to create the

> Cajun Cypress 14251 Brown Road Baker, Louisiana 225-261-4166



A custom designed home in Carolinas.



A pergola is an Italian arbor.

"old cypress" look. One of the areas they have become experts in is exterior finishes. They have gained this knowledge from years of personally trying products and perfecting the applications.

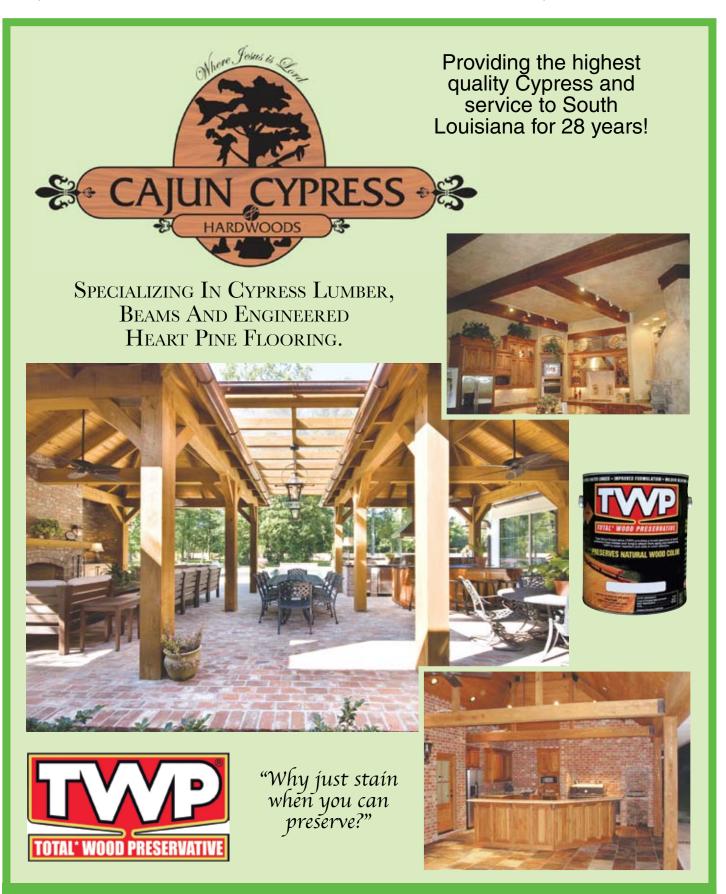
If your doors, fences, or other

outdoor wood projects need some attention, before doing anything check with Cajun Cypress to get it done right the first time.

They also offer all types of lumber for people who enjoy building their own furniture and crafts.

They custom plane and mill lumber to individual specs.

Next time you need lumber or advice for any wood working project, be sure and check with this local family and get the attention you deserve.



14251 Brown Road • Baker, Louisiana 70714 225.261.4166 • www.cajuncypress.com

# The Hard Hat • Central Guide to Trade



A contract crew from CA-PAR Electric, Inc. installing a pole on Wax Road.

#### THE HARD HAT GUIDE

To update information, email centralcitynews@hotmail.com

#### Air Conditioning & Heating

Aabco Heating & Air Conditioning 15123 Hooper, 261-2160 Air Control Heating & Air LLC 14065 Denham Rd, 261-9744 aircontrolheatingair@yahoo.com

#### Alan Watts Service Inc

7360 Tom Dr, 928-2087 awsgeo@bellsouth.net

Greenwell Springs, 261-5843



**DEMCO LINEMEN** (left to right) are Dentory Lee, Beau Caston, crew leader Shane Pendarvis, and Mark Phillips. DEMCO's crew risks their lives to keep Central "powered up" in good times and in bad.

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Cavalier AC & Heating Service 5983 Landmor Dr 262-5584

Central Heating & Air 8565 N Rome Dr, 262-1186 Central City A/C & Electric 13623 Hooper Rd Ste H

261-6912 Confederate Heating & Air 12025 Sullivan Rd, 261-5000 Industrial Cooling Tower Service 15868 Hooper Rd, 261-3180

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Paternostro's Air Conditioning 10349 Mammoth Dr, 261-1000 Ram Heating & Air Conditioning 10145 Mammoth Av

923-2677 Summit Heating & Air Inc. 22822 Greenwell Springs 262-4505

Tempco Air & Heat 10945 Glenn Watts, 261-5054

#### **Appliances**

Stanton's Appliances 2450 N. Sherwood Forest 275-6220 www.stantonsappliance.com

#### Appliance Repair

Mark's Appliance Repair marksappliance@yahoo.com www.marksappliancerepair.com

Louisiana Asphalt Producers 14200 Sparkle, 456-5065

#### **Building Supplies**

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Cajun Cypress & Hardwoods 14251 Brown Rd, 261-4166

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Contemporary Cabinets
12228 Hooper Rd, 262-1184
Cornerstone Commercial Flooring
10125 Mammoth Ave, 270-0749

13533 Hooper Rd, 262-8685 Shutter Shop The 7248 Sullivan Rd, 261-7111

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261-8950 Cajun Cypress & Hardwoods 14251 Brown Rd, 261-4166

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Daigle Cabinets 18082 Planchet Rd, 261-5344 Gary's Woodworks

262-6035

Precision Cabinets Summers Rd, 261-4193 Quality Design Inc.

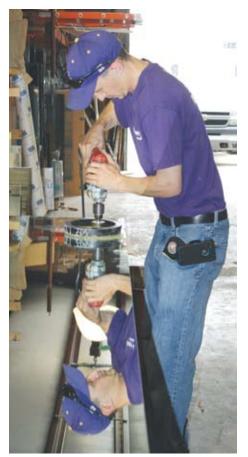
638-9091 or 324-7830 Ron's Custom Cabinets 23838 Greenwell Springs, 261-0116

Signature Custom Cabinets 4123 Evan Brooks, 275-5345 Teed & Son Cabinets

15058 Frenchtown Rd, 261-8258

#### Construction & **Construction Services**

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#### **Kevin Corkern cutting mirror** for Integrity Glass

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Big Jim Construction 262-7949

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261-6105 Central Roofing & Painting 12226 Partridgewood 278-5619

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gaffordbuilders@cox.net **DeFreitas Joey Construction** 278-7746

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261-4174 Jenkins Gene Restoration

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Nunnally Pollard Development LLC 460 Florida Blvd Ste 16

#### **Plant Machine Works Inc.** 4633 Blount Rd

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R Crenshaw Construction Inc 261-2437or 324-3866 crenshawharvey@bellsouth.net

RCS Construction & Remodeling 15111 Hubbs Rd, 772-3835

SouthEast Construction 223-2953 Spicer Construction Inc.

7550 N Eisworth Ave, 647-3636 In The Village at Magnolia Square

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17043 Joor Rd, 654-7741 www.tradeconstruction.com

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**BLD Builders** 6858 Micah's Way, 261-5222 Central Erectors Inc 261-5991 Fetzer Properties 343-3844

www.fetzerproperties.com Gourrier Construction Co 18176 Greenwell Springs

261-1681 Grady Crawford Construction Co 12290 Greenwell Springs 275-7334

These sale prices are good at Pat's Home Center only. Offer expires March 31, 2012.

# & Industry: Your Local Business Source







CUSTOM METAL WORKS — Clifford George (in blue shirt in photo at right) founded Custom Metal Works on Christian principles and has seen his business grow from a backyard business to a thriving enterprise with major clients across the country. Shown working are (left photo) welder Thomas Adams and (right photo) Jonathan Glaviano.

Hartley Construction 13394 Devall Rd,262-6488 Landmark Enterprises 261-6600

**Pierre Home Builders & Properties** 21890 Chaney Rd., Zachary 279-7578

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931-0478 www.rabalaishomes.com

Starkey Builders LLC 9656 Joor Rd, 262-2278 **Ted Hebert LLC** 

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9109 GS-Port Hudson Rd 658-0212 Home Care 261-9335

D & L Electric

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Metro Electric 261-5535 P&M Electric 14623 Greenwell Springs 261-2477 Parish Electric Inc

7314 Conestoga Dr, 261-7852 Rebel Electric 12025 Sullivan, 261-6400

Triple T Electric Inc 27963 Greenwell Springs, 261-6129 Ty Electric

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**Expert Fire Protection** 16538 Teneiya, 261-0229 Paragon Fire 12333 Hampton Village, 261-6035

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See **THE HARD** on Page 32



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Mr. Rooter Plumbing 262-5506 Plumbco Mechanical 261-6025 Sunshine Plumbling & Backflow

262-2322 Tiger Plumbing 11247 Sullivan, 262-2510

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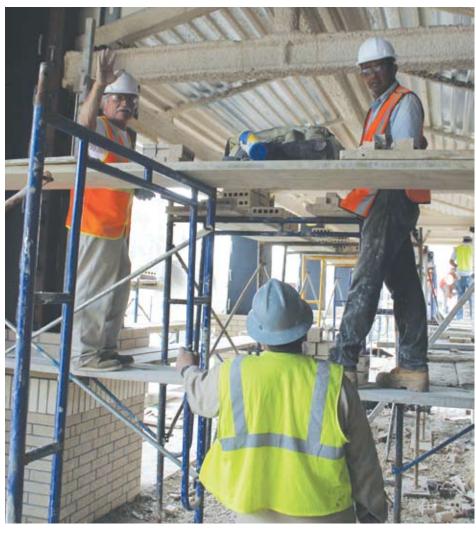
**Integrity Services** 9661 Trails End, 262-5694 Professional Builders & Home Improvements LLC professionalbuilders@cox.net RCS Construction & Remodeling 15111 Hubbs Rd., 772-3835

#### Roofing

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#### Blanco's Roofing & Sheet Metal, LLC

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Men working on the new School Complex

#### Sun Rise Roofing

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#### Safety Equipment

#### PriceCo Supply LLC

15151 Greenwell Springs pricecosupply@bellsouth.net RV Ċams 8889 Sullivan Rd Ste C 261-7815, www.rvcams.com

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Gas District #1 10633 Zachary-Deerford Rd 654-4020 Emergencies, 654-5202

Parish Water Co 8755 Goodwood Blvd, 952-7688 After Hours, 926-3055

#### Welding

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#### Welding Equipment Repair

Torch Repair 261-7715





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