



Medal of Honor Society Gives Highest Award

Company of Heroes



CONGRESSIONAL MEDAL OF HONOR winner Leo Thorsness (center) congratulates Jesse Shaffer IV upon receiving the Citizen Service Above Self Honor Medal from the Congressional Medal of Honor Society. Jesse III (left) holds his award.

Central Grad, Son Cited for Heroism, Saving 120 Lives

Woody Jenkins
Editor, Central City News

WASHINGTON — Jesse Shaffer III, his son Jesse IV, and members of their family are just back from Washington where the two Jesses received one of the nation's highest civilian honors.

On Aug. 29, 2012, with the help of a handful of friends and relatives, they saved 120 of their neighbors in Braithwaite, during Hurricane Isaac.

Jesse Shaffer III, 54, a native of Central and 1976 graduate of Central High, said the trip to Washington was a memorable and inspirational experience.

Congress founded the Congressional Medal of Honor Society to recognize those servicemen who have earned the nation's highest military honor for heroism. The members of the Society, including the 80 living Congressional Medal of Honor winners, created an award for civilians who have performed similar acts of heroism.

See **CENTRAL** on Page 16

Lifetime Concealed Carry Permits

Rep. Barry Ivey Moves Forward On Gun Rights

CENTRAL — True to his commitment to the voters to take the lead in supporting the right to keep and bear arms, newly-elected State Rep. Barry Ivey has introduced major pro-gun legislation.

HB 265 would provide for the issuance of a lifetime concealed carry permit, which would allow the holder to maintain the right to carry a concealed firearm without having to renew that right every five years. The fee for a lifetime permit would be \$500 or \$250 for persons over 65.

Ivey's legislation has already drawn fire from the liberal national media. The Daily Kos published this story: <http://www.dailykos.com/story/2013/04/02/1198614/-This-Diary-Could-Not-Be-Posted-April-1st>



REP. BARRY IVEY, who campaigned on his strong support for the right to keep and bear arms, has lost no time. He has introduced a bill for lifetime concealed carry permits.

Mystery Solved

What Happened To Warning Signs Along GS Road?

CENTRAL — When Central moms Gail Lloyd and Roxanne Atkinson posted signs along Greenwell Springs Road, asking people to slow down because the road is so dangerous, most citizens applauded. But three weeks ago, DOTD removed the signs, even those on private property. Nobody at DOTD claimed credit. Now Greenwell Springs Road resident David Smith has come forward. He witnessed a DOTD supervisor and employees removing the signs. He asked the supervisor to give him the signs to return to Mrs. Lloyd. Mr. Smith got the signs but hadn't seen the newspaper article and couldn't find Mrs. Lloyd. After three weeks, he disposed of them.

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Photo by Woody Jenkins

SENATE CANDIDATE — Congressman Bill Cassidy (R-Baton Rouge) Wednesday announced his candidacy for the U.S. Senate in 2014 against Sen. Mary Landrieu (D). Cassidy is shown above after speaking to the Chamber of Commerce of East Baton Rouge Parish at its monthly membership meeting. Left to right are attorney Catherine Wheeler, Dr. Cassidy, Elizabeth Dent, Stacy Hudson, and Glenda Pollard.

Country Living in the City

Gov. Jindal Should Salvage Income Tax Repeal

Focus Should Be On Phase-Out of Income Tax While Cutting Budget

Woody Jenkins
Editor, Central City News

BATON ROUGE — Things are looking rather bleak for Gov. Jindal's tax plan, at least for his proposed increase in the state sales tax and his new 6.25 percent sales tax on professional, business, and personal services. And rightfully so. A new \$1.5 billion tax on business is the last thing we should do to help our economy.

Nevertheless, the essence of Jin-

dal's plan — the repeal of the state personal income tax and the state corporate income tax remain a powerful tactic for giving our state's economy a giant leap forward.

The governor and his supporters in the legislature — most of whom are conservative — should return to their conservative roots. They should go with a real tax cut — that's what tax "reform" really ought to be about. It should be about reducing the burden of the average tax-paying citizen and the average business owner.

Government is far, far too big, and it ought to be cut.

So let's do what makes sense — let's phase-in the repeal of the personal and corporate income tax, while cutting unnecessary and wasteful government spending.

Less government, less spending, and lower taxes are the true approach to turn around our economy.

Remember this: Yes, we want to bring business to invest here. Absolutely. But we also want to make sure the businesses already here have a good economic climate to operate in. So the last thing we should do is impose a new \$1.5 billion tax on them!

In addition to repealing the state income tax, there is one other change that is vital to making us competitive with Texas and Florida. I'm amazed that no one has proposed this and pushed it through the legislature.

Homestead Exemption. In Louisiana, we are all familiar with the homestead exemption. It exempts the first \$75,000 in value of a person's house from all but municipal property. It was born of the Depression when hundreds of thousands of Louisianians lost their homes when they couldn't pay their property taxes.

But in Florida and Texas, there is a different kind of homestead

exemption, and it is absolutely vital to the fact that those states have become retirement centers.

In Florida and Texas, your home can only be seized for one of two reasons — non-payment of property taxes and non-payment of your mortgage. It cannot be seized because of a frivolous lawsuit against you.

Do you know why billions of dollars are invested in Florida homes? One major reason is to provide the owner a safe haven in an asset that cannot be seized.

Imagine what that kind of homestead exemption could mean to Louisiana — just in the area of home construction. Yes, repeal the state income tax and pass a Florida-style homestead exemption, and you will see real economic growth as Louisiana has never seen it before!



Woody Jenkins



POTENTIALSENATECANDIDATE — Congressman John Fleming (R-Shreveport) was in Baton Rouge Monday, testing the waters for a possible bid for the U. S. Senate. Fleming, a staunch conservative, is a physician and owner of 33 Subway sandwich stores in North Louisiana. Shown (left to right) are Scott McKay of TheHayride.com, Fleming, Cecil Cavanaugh, chairman of Tea Party of Louisiana, and Laura O'Halloran of Louisiana Power Coalition.

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	Health & Fitness Guide	Thursday, May 30	Capital City News
Thursday, May 2	Capital City News		Central City News



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Chamber EBR To Offer Another Gun Safety Class

BATON ROUGE — After a packed-out class in February, the Chamber of Commerce of East Baton Rouge is offering another Gun Training Course, which will be from 8 a.m. to 12 noon on Saturday, May 18 at the Baker Range in Baker.

The course is free and open to all, especially ladies. Participants must pay a \$15 range fee and supply their own ammunition. Instructors include former Sheriff Greg Phares, Gordon Hutchinson, and others. It is not a concealed carry course. Make reservations at ChamberEBR@hotmail.com

Lead Author of Jindal Tax Plan Says, 'It's Changing Daily, Even as I Speak!'

Rep. Robideaux:
No Plan Is DOA
If Governor Puts
Himself Behind It

BATON ROUGE — Rep. Joel Robideaux, chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee, will be the lead author on Gov. Bobby Jindal tax reform package.

On Monday, Robideaux told the Baton Rouge Press Club the package is still a work in progress. "It's changing daily, even as I speak" he said, drawing laughter.

When asked if the portions of the package that would raise sales taxes are "dead on arrival," Robideaux replied that no package a governor proposes is dead on arrival, because of the governor's influence.

Jindal's tax plan includes a \$1.5 billion increase on business in the state through a new 6.25 percent sales tax on professional, business, and personal services. The plan also includes increasing the existing 4 percent state sales tax to 6.25 percent. Consumers in East Baton Rouge Parish would pay 11.25 percent sales tax on most purchases, or 11.75 percent in Central and Baker.

Asked which was the worse tax — the new 6.25 percent business tax or the increase in existing consumer taxes, Robideaux said in the district he represents, the business tax would be worse. Under the plan, a CPA such as Robideaux, would pay 6.25 percent on his total gross receipts. The income tax is levied only on net profit or income.

Robideaux said that despite resistance to some parts of the governor's plan, the legislature may well consider the proposal to repeal the existing personal and corporate tax.

Robideaux said the idea surfaced two years ago with a proposal by Sen. Rob Maringouin and Rep. Hunter Greene to repeal all income taxes. Their bill passed the Senate but not the House. That bill had no tax increases in it.

Robideaux said the governor feels the repeal of the income tax would have positive economic benefits for the state.

As to the likelihood of the legislature passing the tax increases in the governor's plan, Robideaux said it is up to the voters. He said legislators have heard from the opponents. But if a legislator gets 2,000 emails



WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE chairman Rep. Joel Robideaux (R-Lafayette) spoke to the Baton Rouge Press Club Monday.

for the plan, he may well support it. "If the constituency is not there, it will be very difficult," he said.

The chairman said his committee will hear the governor's tax bills whenever they are ready. However, he said the committee will have to analyze the final version of the bills to understand their fiscal impact. For that analysis, he said most members will rely on the conclusions of the Legislative Fiscal Office.

Robideaux said an issue of equal or greater magnitude will be the state budget. When asked if the legislature should use one-time money for operating expenses, which is prohibited by the state constitution, Robideaux said, "It's one thing to budget one-time money. It's another thing to budget one-time money that doesn't exist." It was an apparent reference to relying on non-existent revenues to balance the state budget on paper and then relying on mid-year budget cuts to avoid a deficit.

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NEWSRADIO

1150 WJBO

Capital Radio Wars Part III - Morning Drive

Woody Jenkins
Editor, Central City News

BATON ROUGE — Radio executives agree that Morning Drive is the most important part of the broadcast day.

“Morning Drive is the window to our stations. We have to back it up with great content throughout the day,” Clear Channel market manager Michael Hudson said Wednesday. Clear Channel

owns WJBO, WYNK, The River, WFME, and Downtown Radio.

“There are two peaks in the day — morning and afternoon. The afternoon audience now exceeds the morning, but the morning is more important, because that’s where we attract the listeners and get them locked in,” Gordy Rush, market manager for Guaranty Broadcasting said. Guaranty owns The Eagle 98.1, The Tiger, Country Legends, ESPN radio, and Talk 107.3.

“Morning is where you find the big personalities,” Rush said.

And indeed Morning Drive is the most competitive part of the

TALK 107.3

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day. Personalities become household names.

In the Baton Rouge market, the clear leaders are Walton and Johnson on 98.1. They have a strong hold on listeners in the 18-49 male demographic. But they have plenty of competition. When radio executives talk candidly about their own stations and their competitors, the top names they mention in Morning Drive in the Baton Rouge market are

- Walton and Johnson on 98.1
- Kid Kraddick on WFME
- Big D and Bubba on WYNK
- Chris Powers on The Tiger
- Murphy, Sam and Jodi on The River
- Matt Kennedy and Brian Haldane on Talk 107.3, and
- Karen Henderson and Kevin Meeks on WJBO

Morning Drive is a tough time to program.

Gordy Rush of Guaranty says the average commute in Baton Rouge is only 20 to 25 minutes, and that’s the window Morning Drive has to be able to fill in listeners lives. “There’s a different clock in Morning Drive. It’s like a two-minute drill in football,” he said.

“In the middle of the day, you can have more long-form program-

ming. For us, Clarence Buggs and Bill Profita can go into depth. But in Morning Drive, people are in a hurry,” he said.

That’s where the time, temperature and the latest news or at least the latest news headlines come in.

“We have to be relevant to people’s lives. We always want to remember that we are talking to real people,” Hudson said.

“Our Morning Drive personalities have to be credible and in tune with the listener. People on the way to work don’t want someone yelling at them,” he said.

When is Morning Drive? Hudson points out that there are plant workers going to work at 5 a.m. So the day starts early for radio.

Advertising sales in the radio business are largely a function of ratings. Hudson says, “Ratings are a function of how long we keep people with us. The longer they listen to us, the more we get paid. Another thing is, if they listen a lot, the advertiser doesn’t have to buy as many ads to make an impact. But you can’t carry that concept to the extreme. The person who listens to radio all day is usually not a target for advertisers. They have a lot of time on their hands and are

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Murphy, Sam, and Jodi of 96.1 The River. Kidd Kraddick In The Morning on WFME 102.5. Walton and Johnson on Eagle 98.1



not spending money.”

What kind of person makes a great Morning Drive personality?

Rush says he wants people with “star power” who can connect with people. Does it take a lot of education? Rush said it depends on the format. Ideally, the more the better but realistically, education is

not the key in all situations. Voice is important, he says, and humor.

Rush thinks the personality must be respectful of the listeners. He doesn’t believe listeners want hosts who are yelling at guests and talking over them.

Clear Channel programming director Bruce Collins thinks the

new/talk format requires personalities who are great communicators and great listeners. He cites Kevin Meeks and Karen Henderson as good examples of the qualities needed.

“You want someone who is intelligent and has the gift of gab. Ideally, you want someone with a good education who knows a lot about everything. We target our listeners. We give the national stories and the local stories. Ideally, we also give you the local tie-in to the national story. A few days ago, a young man broke his leg playing in the Louisville vs. Duke basketball game, and everyone was talking about it. We brought in an orthopaedic surgeon who talked about how a break like that could occur and whether he could play again,” he said.

Hudson believes a successful Morning Drive personality should be different, entertaining, relevant, informative, sincere, and believable. When a station takes a chance on a new personality, it takes time for that person to establish himself in the market, Hudson said. It also takes promotion, he added.

Rush says it is important that the station be willing to spend

money to get the word out about a new personality. When Matt Kennedy made the switch from WJBO to Talk 107.3, Guaranty spent \$75,000 on advertising to let the public know Matt Kennedy was joining their team.

Both Rush and Hudson emphasize that people are listening to radio on many platforms today.

Rush said, “People are catching us on their smart devices. They might be reminded to listen to us by something we sent out on Twitter. They might communicate with us through their iPhone or iPad.”

“People want it right now, and we have to find a way to monetize it,” he said. “We use our apps and our social media. There’s increased competition and more platforms.”

Hudson mentions iHeart radio. “We own iHeart Radio, and now you can listen to us anywhere. Even our competition uses our product, iHeart, to reach people. If we can go where you go, we want to. The better we serve you and the more time you spend with us, the more we win!”

NEXT: Part IV of Capital Radio Wars will be on Afternoon Drive.



Brian King of Country Legends 104.9, Chris Powers and Alabama Anna of New Country 100.7, and Big D and Bubba of WYNK 101.5



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Book Review: *What's for Dinner?* Offers

Diane Jenkins
Book Reviews, Community Press

BATON ROUGE — What's for dinner?

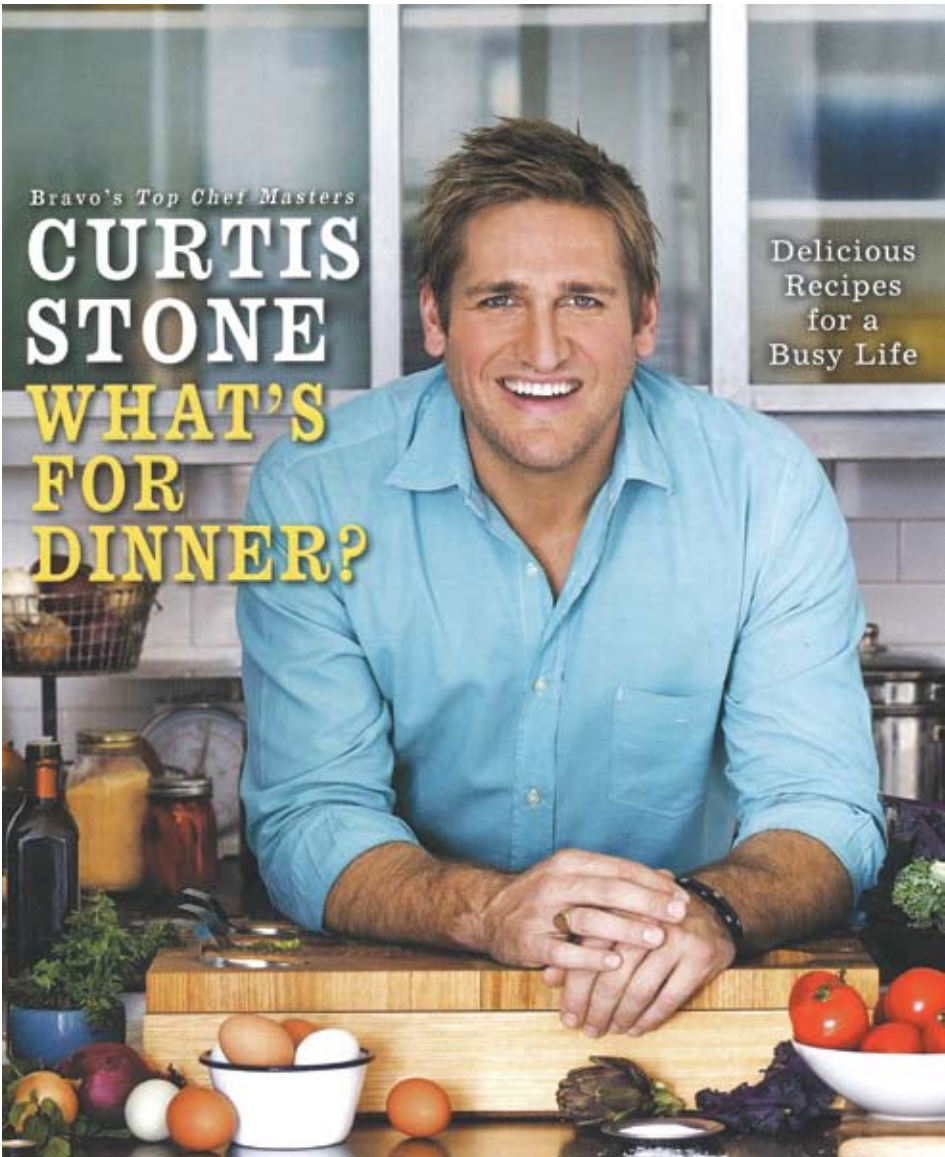
Wow — as a home cook, how often I've heard that question! So when I picked up Curtis Stone's new cookbook, *What's For Dinner?*, I couldn't resist the question.

His opening paragraph pulled me into the book. "What's the best thing you've ever eaten?" This is my favorite question to ask everyone, from friends to fellow chefs to people I've just met. The answer always starts the same way: "My mother used to make ... whether it's chicken pot pie or meat loaf, the dishes we grew up eating, the ones made with love and shared around the dinner table, are the ones we seemed to cherish the most."

Amen! I'm there. I know exactly how he feels, but the problem for me is that my mother never wrote anything down. So today all I have is the longing for her cooking, the smells and tastes and the fleeting glimpses of her stirring the pot that I remember. So when Chef Stone said his great food memories drift back to his childhood, I was curious to read on. It helped that the photography in the cookbook was spectacular. But the "proof is always in the pudding" and it was the wonderful, yet simple recipes that I enjoyed. Just reading the recipes, I could already tell they tasted good! These are some of my favorites.

★★★

Fettuccine with Shrimp and Fresh Tomato Sauce



Curtis Stone's book *What's for Dinner?* will be on sale April 9

- 1 pound dried fettuccine
- 1/4 cup olive oil
- 1 pound large (21 to 30 count) shrimp, peeled, tails left on, and deveined
- Kosher salt and freshly ground black pepper

- 2/3 cup finely chopped shallots
- 5 large garlic cloves, finely chopped
- 2 red chili peppers, such as Fresno or jalapenos, seeded and finely chopped
- 2/3 cup dry white wine
- 5 large ripe tomatoes (about 2-1/2 pounds total), cut into 1/2-inch pieces
- 3 tablespoons coarsely chopped fresh flat leaf parsley
- 2 tablespoons fresh lemon juice
- 3 tablespoons unsalted butter

Bring a large pot of salted water to a boil over high heat. Add the fettuccine and cook, stirring often to keep the strands from sticking together, for about 8 minutes, or until tender but still firm to the bite.

Meanwhile, heat a large heavy skillet over medium-high heat. Add 2 tablespoons of the oil, then add the shrimp and cook, stirring often, for about 2 minutes, or until opaque around the edges. Season with salt and pepper. Add the shallots, garlic, and jalapenos and cook, stirring occasionally, for about 2 minutes, or until reduced slightly.

Drain the pasta well, add it to the shrimp mixture, and toss gently to coat with the sauce. Add the tomatoes, parsley, lemon juice, butter, and the remaining 2 tablespoons olive oil and toss again to melt the butter and coat the pasta. Season to taste with salt and pepper and toss well.

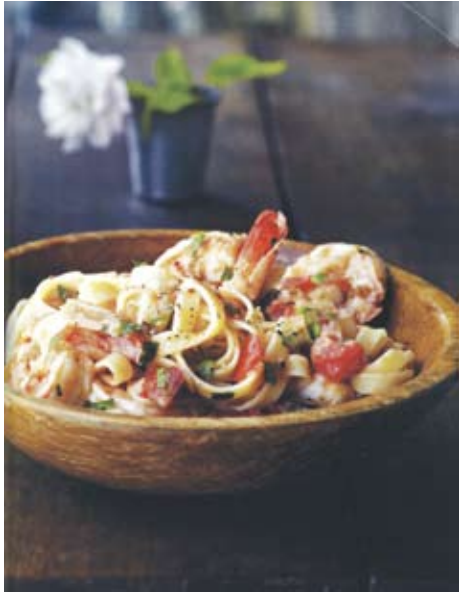
Divide the pasta and shrimp among four pasta bowls and serve.

Asian Beef and Vegetable Lettuce Cups

- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 1 pound lean ground beef
- 1 yellow onion, finely chopped
- 1/4 teaspoon cayenne pepper
- 2 garlic cloves, finely chopped
- 1 celery rib, finely chopped
- 1-1/4 cups finely shredded green cabbage
- 1/3 cup hoisin sauce, plus more for serving
- 1-1/2 cups fresh bean sprouts
- 1 large carrot, coarsely shredded on the large holes of a box grater
- 3 scallions (white and green parts), thinly sliced on the diagonal
- Kosher salt and freshly ground black pepper
- 1-1/2 heads iceberg lettuce (12 to 20 leaves)
- 2 tablespoons coarsely chopped fresh cilantro
- Lime wedges, for service

Heat a large heavy skillet over medium-high heat. Add 2 teaspoons of the olive oil, then add the beef and cook, stirring occasionally and breaking up the meat with a wooden spoon, for about 4 minutes, or until it loses its raw look. Using a slotted spoon, transfer the beef to a bowl.

Return the pan to medium-high heat and add the remaining 1 teaspoon olive oil. Add the onions and cayenne and cook, stirring occasionally, for about 1 minute, or until the onions begin to soften. Stir in the garlic, followed by the celery and cabbage, and cook, stirring often, for about 3 minutes, or until the vegetables are slightly tender.



Fettuccine with Shrimp



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'Best Things You've Ever Eaten!' For Release on April 9



Asian Beef and Vegetable Lettuce Cups

Stir in the hoisin sauce. Return the meat to the pan and cook for about 30 seconds to blend the flavors. Stir in 1 cup of the bean sprouts, the carrots, and one-third of the scallions and season to taste with salt and pepper. Remove the pan from the heat.

Arrange the lettuce leaves on four plates. Spoon some of the beef mixture into each of the leaves and garnish with the cilantro, remaining bean sprouts, and scallions. Serve immediately, with lime wedges and hoisin sauce on the side.

Peppered Rib-Eye Steaks and Creamed Spinach with Blue Cheese

Creamed Spinach

1-1/2 tablespoons olive oil
1 cup finely chopped yellow onions
1 pound fresh baby spinach
3/4 cup heavy cream
3 ounces blue cheese, such as Maytag
Kosher salt and freshly ground black pepper



Peppered Rib-Eye Steaks

Steaks

Four 12-ounce boneless rib-eye steaks (about 1 inch thick)
Kosher salt
2 tablespoons coarsely cracked black pepper (use a mortar and pestle or crush under a heavy skillet)
3/4 cup olive oil

To make the creamed spinach: Heat a large saucepan over medium-high heat. Add the olive oil, then add the onions and cook, stirring often, for about 3 minutes, or until translucent. Add the spinach a handful at a time and saute for 2 to 3 minutes, or just until it wilts. Transfer the spinach to a sieve and press firmly to remove as much liquid as possible.

Add the cream to the saucepan, bring to a simmer over high heat, and simmer for about 2 minutes, or until slightly thickened. Stir in the spinach. Coarsely crumble half of the blue cheese over the spinach and toss to coat. Season lightly to taste with salt and pepper. Keep warm over very low heat.

To cook the steaks: Place a wire rack on a rimmed baking sheet. Sprinkle the steaks with salt and the cracked pepper, pressing the seasonings into the meat. Heat two large heavy skillets over high heat. Add 2 tablespoons of olive oil to each skillet, then add 2 steaks to each skillet and cook for about 4 minutes per side, or until the meat feels only slightly resilient when touched with a fingertip for medium-rare. Transfer to the wire rack and let rest for 3 minutes.

Place the steaks on four dinner plates and spoon the creamed spinach alongside. Sprinkle with the remaining blue cheese and serve.

Olive Oil Cake with Strawberry-Rhubarb Compote

Nonstick olive oil cooking spray
1-1/2 cups all-purpose flour
2 teaspoon baking powder
1/2 teaspoon fine sea salt
1 cup granulated sugar
1-1/2 teaspoons minced fresh rosemary
Finely grated zest of 1 orange
Finely grated zest of 1 lemon
3 large eggs
1/4 whole milk
1/4 cup extra-virgin olive oil
Compote
12 ounces slender rhubarb stalks (about 3), cut into 2- by 1/2-inch-thick sticks
1 pound fresh strawberries, halved
3/4 cup granulated sugar
3 tablespoons fresh lemon juice
Confectioners' sugar, for dusting
Extra-virgin olive oil, for drizzling

To make the cake: Position a rack in the center of the oven and preheat the oven to 350°F. Spray a 9-inch round cake pan with nonstick olive oil cooking spray. Line the bottom of the pan with parch-



Olive Oil Cake

ment paper and spray the paper with nonstick olive oil spray.

In a medium bowl, whisk the flour, baking powder, and salt together. In a large bowl, combine the sugar and rosemary. Add the orange and lemon zest, then rub the mixture between your fingertips until it is moist and fragrant. Add the eggs and, using an electric mixer, bat on medium-high speed for about 5 minutes, or until pale and thick. Beat in the milk. Gradually beat in the olive oil. Using a wooden spoon, stir in the flour mixture just until blended. Spread the batter in the pan.

Bake for about 35 minutes, or until a wooden toothpick inserted into the center of the cake comes out with moist crumbs attached. Let cool in the pan on a wire cake rack for 15 minutes, then invert the cake onto the rack and remove and

discard the paper. Invert the cake, right side up, onto a cake plate.

Meanwhile, make the compote: In a large heavy skillet, bring the rhubarb, strawberries, sugar, and lemon juice to a simmer over medium-high heat, stirring often. Continue to cook, stirring often, for about 5 minutes, or until the juices thicken slightly and the rhubarb is falling apart. Let cool.

Sift confectioners' sugar over the cake. Cut the cake into wedges, place on dessert plates, and spoon the compote on top. Drizzle a little olive oil around the cake and serve.

★★★

Chef Stone's cookbook was so beautifully done that I wanted to "eat the pictures!" which is a real credit to the photographer Quentin Bacon.

As Stone acknowledged, "Quentin Bacon is an amazing photographer and something of a magician who uses only natural lighting to illuminate the food. He's also an incredible foodie, which is another reason his photographs are good enough to eat."

As a reader and home cook, pictures are so, so important. If I can see what the food is supposed to look like, maybe I've got a shot at making it.

Chef Stone's book comes out Tuesday, April 9 and I believe it's worthy of adding to your cookbook collection.

Curtis Stone will be at the Tanger Outlet Mall in Gonzales on Saturday, April 6.

Diane Jenkins reviews books on gardening, cooking, and history. Email: dianejenkins2013@hotmail.com

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Most Voters Unaware of \$44 Million Tax Renewal

Shhh... Tax Election This Saturday

Supporters Feel Being Quiet Best Way to Pass Tax

BATON ROUGE — Voters in most of the parish will go to the polls this Saturday to vote in a \$44 million East Baton Rouge school tax renewal election.

Or, more correctly, this Saturday, a handful of parish voters — perhaps 7 percent of those registered — will vote in an election almost no one has heard about.

On the ballot are two propositions. Proposition No. 1 would renew 6.5 mills in property taxes, which is expected to raise \$21 million for operation of the schools. Proposition No. 1 would renew 7.19 mills in property taxes, which is expected to raise \$23 million for salaries for personnel.

The tax, which will be voted on in every precinct in the parish except Central, Baker, and Zachary, is for a 10-year period.

A source at the school board office said school officials decided to keep the election quiet among the general public and focus on turning out teachers and school employees, who would be likely to vote for the tax renewals.

The polls will be open from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. this Saturday, April 6.



Representing SBR in the House are Reps. Hunter Greene, Franklin Foil, Eric Ponti, and Steve Carter.

Taxes on Minds of SBR House Members

To contact members of the Louisiana House of Representatives during the upcoming legislative session, call 225-342-6945. Senators can be reached at 225-342-2040.

Aliens Arriving in BR — No, Not the Legislature!

BATON ROUGE — Where can you go to shake hands with celebrities, screen some great films and attend a costume ball gala all in the same weekend? That would be the Louisiana Science Fiction Film and Costume Festival, coming to Baton Rouge from April 5 through the 7! Beginning Friday night, the festival will offer a workshop on the costuming and makeup of the

Rocky Horror Picture Show, culminating with a screening of the cult classic in full costume!

Saturday will be action packed with several workshops covering topics from costuming and prop making to FX makeup and filmmaking and much, much more. Then Saturday evening you are invited to the Grand Costume Ball and Gala where professionals and

amateurs alike will present their best “alter egos” to the crowd. Attendees are welcome to participate in costume or just enjoy the view.

Sunday will finish the weekend with even more workshops and film screenings.

Throughout the weekend attendees will have access to celebrity guests including Gil Gerard from

See **ALIENS** on Page 12

City of Baker 125th Anniversary

Special Edition

Thursday, May 2, 2013

Full Color

Full Page	\$1,000
1/2 Page	575
1/4 Page (if purchased separately)	400
1/4 Page (with purchase of Quarter Package)	287
1/8 Page	212

Deadline: 5 p.m. Monday, April 29, 2013

Call Jolice at 225.405.8894 or Candi at 225.261.5055

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Size of Ads: Full page = 4 columns x 15.5"; 1/2 page = 4 columns x 7.6" or 3 columns x 9.75";
1/4 page = 2 columns x 7.75", 3 columns x 5.133" or 4 columns x 3.75";
1/8 page = 2 columns x 3.75"

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Red River Bank Enters BR Market

Community Bank Surges to Top of Rapides Market, Acquires Fidelity

Woody Jenkins
Editor, Capital City News

BATON ROUGE — Red River Bank of Alexandria made its entry into the Baton Rouge market Tuesday with the acquisition of Fidelity Bank of Baton Rouge.

Fidelity Bank has had five branches, including the main office at 9400 Old Hammond Hwy. in Baton Rouge. Branches are at 14545 Wax Road in Central, 5350 Jones Creek and 9655 Perkins Road in Baton Rouge, and 12509 Highway 73 in Dutchtown.

Fidelity Bank president Joanie Netterville will become Baton Rouge market president for Red River Bank and continue to oversee Baton Rouge operations.

She said the move will allow the current Fidelity staff to continue to serve Baton Rouge customers with the personal attention that comes with a community bank.

Red River Bank is a relatively young financial institution, which has been very successful. Red River Bank president/CEO Blake Chatelain said the bank, which was founded in 1999, today has 35 percent of the market in the Alexandria area. It opened in the Shreveport market in 2004. Today it has \$1.3 billion in assets.

Nearly 85 percent of the Baton Rouge market is controlled by major banks. Red River could have the capability of increasing the market



RED RIVER BANK president/CEO Blake Chatelain, Baton Rouge market president Joanie Netterville, and attorney Loren Kleinpeter.

share of community banks here.

Chatelain said the bank will bring new services to Fidelity clients, including Red River Bank University. “It will help clients plan their financial future and engage in borrowing only in a responsible way. For example, you don’t borrow money to go on vacation.”

Chatelain said the bank’s Dream-builder plan will allow clients to save money for targeted purposes. “Setting up a mutual fund is not appropriate for saving for a vacation. The key is what’s your goal? We help you set up an account for that specific purpose and then systematically contribute to that account. You get a competitive interest rate and save instead of borrowing.”

Chatelain, a native of Avoyelles Parish who serves on the LSU Board of Supervisors, said he is happy to be in Baton Rouge and so is his wife Belle, who is from Baton Rouge.



Red River’s Meg Anderson (center) with Monica Zumo and Jeff Latino of Hannis Bourgeois



RED RIVER BANK reception Tuesday. (Left to right) Joanie Netterville, BR market president for Red River, Glenn and Leeann Sheets of Masters Homes, LLC, Meg Anderson of Red River, Billy Francioni of WJF Enterprises, and Blake Chatelain, president.

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Defend Louisiana to Rally at Capitol

Right to Keep And Bear Arms Focus of Rally 4 p.m. Monday

BATON ROUGE — On Monday, April 8, citizens who favor the right to keep and bear arms will join with Defend Louisiana for a rally at 4 p.m. on the steps of the State Capitol as the 2013 legislative session gets underway.

Organizer Ryan Cross said, “The purpose is to show elected officials the widespread support for the Second Amendment and the importance of citizens’ being able to defend rights to protect their families! Over the past few months, we have traveled across the state collecting signatures, talking about proposed gun laws, and empowering you with a voice of elected officials who share your commitment to stand united when it comes to our rights here in the Sportsman’s Paradise to enjoy our heritage of hunting, enjoy the outdoors, and ability to protect our families and homes.”

Ryan said, “We want to send a clear message to the politicians in Louisiana and Washington that we won’t give an inch when it comes to our right to protect our families! We will unveil the signed petitions, let you hear from your legislators and publicly thank those who have supported Defend Louisiana’s efforts.”



Representing Central are Sens. Dale Erdey and Bodi White and Reps. Valarie Hodges and Barry Ivey.

4-Member Central Legislative Delegation

To contact members of the Louisiana House of Representatives during the upcoming legislative session, call 225-342-6945. Senators can be reached at 225-342-2040.

Aliens Invading BR This Weekend

Continued from Page 10

the hit TV series Buck Rogers in the 25th Century, along with Theodorus Crane and Michael Koske from AMC’s The Walking Dead. Plus the festival will offer some of the most incredible fan films for you to preview and enjoy.

Tickets are still available for this exciting event. Festivities begin at 6pm on Friday April 5th at the Embassy Suites on Constitu-

tion Avenue in Baton Rouge. The festival closes at 1 p.m. on Sunday April 7th. This event brings guests to Baton Rouge from around the country and vendors will be on hand offering everything from t-shirts to costume accessories.

For information on the Louisiana Science Fiction Film and Costume Festival visit www.las-cifi.com or call Sydney LeJeune at 225-400-1793.



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Capital Health & Fitness Guide



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Deadline: 5 p.m. Monday, April 15, 2013

Call Jolice at 225.405.8894 or Candi at 225.261.5055

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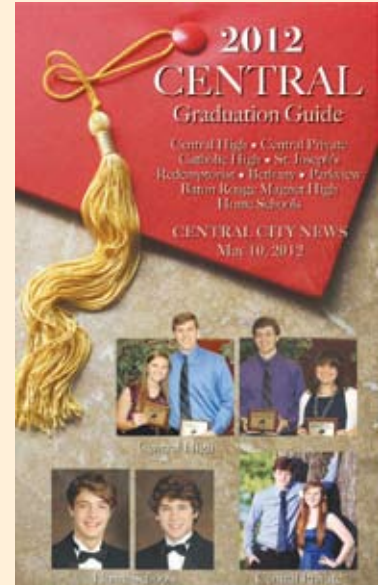
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What’s Happening Around the Capital City

BATON ROUGE — Events coming up in and around the capital city:

**April 5 through 7
Kite Fest Louisiané**
Kites of all sizes and shapes will fill the skies at the West Baton Rouge Soccer Complex in Port Allen, located just off I-10 Exit 151 at Rosedale Rd. Times are Friday 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. This free event is open to the public.

**Friday, April 5
Platinum Sound Orchestra
Concert • 6:30 p.m.**
Comite Baptist Church, 12250 Greenwell Springs, would like to invite everyone to hear the soothing sounds of Platinum Sound Orchestra. Come at 5:30 p.m. and enjoy the free outdoor coffeehouse.

**April 5 through 7
Louisiana Science Fiction Film and Costume Festival**
The Louisiana Science Fiction Film and Costume Festival will hold its annual festival at the Embassy Suites Hotel on Constitution Ave. On Friday night, there will be a costume


Lost & Found

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



LOST — Last seen on Wednesday, March 27 in Sherrington Place off Denham Road in Central. Anna-bella, a black and tan Yorkie, is four years old and approximately four pounds. Call 225-303-3997.

Anthony Dupont: Finalist for Student of Year



ANTHONY DUPONT

CENTRAL — Anthony Dupont is the son of Brandon and Megan Dupont and is the big brother of Rece and Aubrey Dupont. He and his family attend Victory Harvest Church where he has taken on lead roles in the kids’ Christmas play for three years in a row. He attends 5th grade at Central Intermediate School and has been in Central’s gifted and talented program since kindergarten.

He enjoys reading, writing, and illustrating his own books, having game night with his family, and playing with his dog, Pancake. He loves to draw, make new friends, read his Bible, and learn about unusual but true facts. Anthony was a finalist in Central Intermediate’s 2012 Talent Show where he performed his own comedy routine in front of his peers, teachers, and visitors. It was made entirely of unusual but true facts he has learned. Anthony does not have a fa-

vorite subject in school. Since he loves to learn, he considers all of them to be his favorite. Anthony is a straight A student who, on the LEAP test, scored a perfect score of 500 in math and science.

He is on the 12th grade reading level, placing him in the top two percent in the nation. His goal is to make straight A’s every year and become valedictorian of Central High School’s Class of 2020.

He has been named as a Regional Finalist in the Louisiana Student of the Year. There are five other finalists on the 5th grade level state-wide. The finalists and state winners will be honored on Tuesday, April 16 during a ceremony at the Louisiana State Museum in Baton Rouge.

Students are selected based on criteria that measure academic achievement, leadership skills, character, and service to their school and community.

and makeup workshop on The Rocky Horror Picture Show, followed by a showing of the Rocky Horror Picture Show. Saturday will features workshops focusing on costuming, prop making, makeup, hairdressing, and jewelry making. Media guests will include Gil Gerard from Buck Rogers in the 25th Century and Theodore Crane and Michael Koske from AMC’s The Walking Dead. Saturday night is the Costume Ball where people can show off their costumes.

**April 6 and April 7
Zippity Zoo Fest 2013
9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.**
Zippity Zoo Fest will feature keeper chats, face painting, Safari Snapshot photo booth, and animal shows at the Wildlife Safari Amphitheater at 11:30 a.m., 1:30 p.m., and

3:30 p.m. A new addition this year is Expedition BREC, a family-style tour around the Zoo. Zoo admission is adults and teens \$8.25, seniors \$7.25, children 2-12 \$5.25, and one and under is free.

**Saturday, April 6
Prenatal & Newborn Care
Class • 10 a.m.**
Lane Regional Medical Center will offer a free prenatal and infant care class in the Staff Development Classroom. “The Pregnancy Workshop” is an overview of what to expect during pregnancy and delivery for the soon-to-be mom. “Baby Care Basics” covers all you need to know to care for your newborn in the first weeks of life. Partners are encouraged to attend. Child care is not provided. For information or to register,

call 654-5263.

**Sunday, April 7
Dr. James O. Davis
10:30 a.m. and 5 p.m.**
Covenant Church, 22325 Greenwell Springs, invites you spend the day with Dr. James O. Davis. He is the founder of Cutting Edge International and co-founder of Billion Soul Network. He is known for engaging today’s topics with clear, sound Biblical principles.

**Monday, April 8
Blue Star Mothers • 6 p.m.**
Blue Star Mothers has started a new chapter in Central. Meetings will be held the second Monday of each month. The first meeting will be held at Sammy’s, 14800 Wax Road. For See **THINGS** on Page 15

Area Business Directory

Advertising

Central City News
For information on advertising in the newspaper, call Jolice or Candi at 225-261-5055

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Things to Do, Places to Go, People to See

Continued from Page 14

information, call Debbie Dunaway at 235-6424 or email bmomla@hotmail.com.

Tuesday, April 9 Victory Harvest Church MOPS 9:30 to 11:30 a.m.

Victory Harvest Church MOPS will meet at Victory Harvest Church, 3953 N. Flannery Road. Limited childcare is available. Moms should email Barbara Womack at vhc-mops@cox.net or call 275-5255 to check availability. Mothers who are pregnant with their first child or have a preschooler K-5 or younger are invited to join the group.

Thursday, April 11 Movie Review • 10 a.m.

The Ochsner Golden Opportunity Program will see Tyler Perry's "Confessions of a Marriage Counselor" at Grand Cinema Theater, 15365

Class Reunions

Saturday, April 13 Central Class of 2003 Reunion 7 to 11 p.m.

Central High Class of 2003 will hold their reunion at Kristenwood on Greenwell Springs. Cost is \$35 per person. Updates and information can be found at chsclassof2003.wordpress.com, Facebook: CHS Class of 2003, or email CHS-co2003@gmail.com.

Saturday, April 27 Central Class of '83 Reunion 7:30 to 11 p.m.

Central High Class of '83 will have a reunion at De la Ronde Hall, 320 Third Street, Ste. 201, Baton Rouge. Cost is \$75 at the door. Entertainment will be the Chris Leblanc Band. There will be a buffet and a cash bar. For information, contact Tami Helmke Misuraca at 937-4083 or email chs1983@cox.net.

Saturday, June 15 Bellingrath Reunion 4 to 8 p.m.

There will be a Bellingrath Reunion at the new Middle School cafeteria. It will be for faculty, staff, students, parents, and grandparents who were involved with Bellingrath from 1966 to 2000. Only adults are invited. Go to www.Bellingrathreunion.webs.com to register and get more information. If you are interested in helping with the reunion, there will be a meeting at Berean Ministries Sunday, April 7 at 2 p.m.

Saturday, August 17 Istrouma Class of '73 Reunion

Istrouma High Class of '73 will have a reunion at Kristenwood, 14025 Greenwell Springs. Contact Rhona C. Watson, 654-7716 or rcw51055@aol.com or Debbie or Danny Wellman, 261-8358 or dwell96@bellsouth.net.



WORLD WORLD II QUIZ BOWL WINNERS — On Thursday, March 21, the Central Wildcats team went head-to-head with the North Shore Panzers of Slidell. After falling behind in the first two rounds, the F4F Wildcats stormed back to take the title. Central High history teacher and team sponsor Randy Mitchell is proud of how the team performed. Senior Jack McAdams, junior Cameron Robertson, and freshman Brantley Pike, have a love for World War II history and spent countless hours preparing for the event.

George O'Neal Road. Meet at Grand Cinema for a private showing of this latest movie. Admission is \$6.50 per person. Call 755-4984 to RSVP.

Friday, April 12 Grand Opening • 11 a.m.

The Baton Rouge Vet Center has moved to a new location at 7850 Anselmo Lane, Ste. B. All Veterans are welcome to the grand opening. Food and drinks will be provided.

Saturday, April 13 Active for Autism 5k Run/Walk 8 a.m. to 12 noon

The 4th Annual 5k Run/Walk and Fun Fest will be held at the State Police Headquarters on Independence Blvd. Visit fhfgbr.org to register! For information, call 216-7474.

Saturday, April 13 Towne Center Euro Fest 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Automobile and motorcycles will be coming to Towne Center at Cedar Lodge for the 2013 Towne Center Euro Fest. For information, visit www.euro-fest.net.

Saturday, April 13 Spring Gala • 5 to 9:30 p.m.

St. Pius X Catholic Church will host a Spring Gala in the activity center gym, corner of Mickens and Hooper roads. There will be a silent auction and bingo, 5 to 6:30 p.m. as well as \$1,000 and \$10,000 raffle drawings. Ticket prices are \$1 for the \$1,000 drawing and \$100 for the \$10,000 drawing and includes two dinner tickets. Pork loin dinner will be served at 6:30 p.m. followed by dancing with music provided by Clay Boudreaux. Dinner tickets are \$10, a limited number are available. For information or to purchase tickets, call the church at 357-5935.

travaganza Give-Away. For information, call 389-3182 or 347-7725.

Wednesday, April 17 "Ask the Doctor" 12 noon to 1 p.m.

For many, diet and exercise can be difficult because of joint pain, digestive problems, and other chronic medical issues. Dr. Thomas Kang of Lane Surgery Group will discuss "How to Lose Weight: A Surgeon's Perspective," including the benefits and limitations of weight loss surgery, during the "Ask the Doctor" Lunch and Learn in the Staff Development Classroom at Lane Regional Medical Center. The session is free and includes a light lunch. Advance reservations are required by calling 654-5263.

Public Meetings

Metro Council Meeting

Metro Council meets on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of each month at 4 p.m. at the Metro Council Chambers.

Metro Planning Commission

Metro Planning Commission meets on the 4th Monday of each month at 5 p.m.

EBRP School Board

East Baton Rouge Parish School Board meets on the 3rd Thursday of each month at 5 p.m. at the School Board Office.

Central School Board

Central Community School System meets on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of each month at 6 p.m. at the Central Middle School Cafeteria.

Central City Council Meeting

City of Central Council meets on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of each month at 6 p.m. at Kristenwood on Greenwell Springs.

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, 910 N. Foster, Baton Rouge, LA 70806

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GARAGE SALE — Friday and Saturday, April 5 and 6, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., 15812 Chaney Road, Zachary. 04/04/13

HOUSE CLEANING AND/OR SITTING WORK — references on request. 225-335-0073. 04/04/13

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Central High Grad Receives High Honor

One of Nation's Highest Civilian Awards Given to Jesse Shaffer III

Continued from Page 1

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Joined by two or three other friends and family, they went from house to house in a small boat, pulling people off rooftops, breaking through roofs to rescue people in attics, and pulling people out of the water. They made trip after trip, taking people from near death to the safety of the levees. By 7 p.m., they had rescued 120 people — an unprecedented rescue of human life in the face of great danger to themselves.

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Jesse III's wife Suzanne described the events this way:

"We arrived Friday night and had a briefing on what to expect. On Saturday morning, we toured Capitol Hill. At noon, we had lunch with the 26 living Medal of Honor winners who were able to attend. As each one entered the room, he was introduced and we were told a little of their story. On Friday, the Medal of Honor winners had been at the



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"One of the most amazing things was meeting the young man, Marcos Ugarte, who was also honored for saving an autistic child, and Fr. Joe Carroll, who helps rehabilitate the homeless."

"But, most of all, it was meeting the men who earned the Congressional Medal of Honor. They treated us as though they had known us forever. They made us feel so special. Just to be in the same room with them was such an honor. On Monday night at the Library of Congress, each man stood and told his story. They were so humble."

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the room one by one and he saw photos of when each of them was in the service.

"We went there to represent all of those who helped that day in Braithwaite. It wasn't just us!" he said.

Jesse III, who grew up on Greenwell Springs Road near Beaver Bayou, said, "The most remarkable thing was to meet the 26 Medal of Honor winners. I told my wife that these are some of the bravest men ever to live on this earth. They were so humble and down to earth. I especially enjoyed Col. Bruce Crandell who served in Vietnam and Hershel Williams, who served in World War II, Korea, and Vietnam. He's 90 and in very good shape. It was amazing to try to take it all in."

Suzanne said, "During the entire weekend, I just sat back and watched what unfolded with a smile on my face. To have my son and husband honored with this magnitude of men, to have these men honor my son and husband! A simple thank you would have been wonderful, but all of this was truly amazing."

Now Baton Rouge and Central have some new heroes — two men who risked everything to save their friends and neighbors and whose courage should be long remembered.

Suzanne can be reached at suelshaffer@bellsouth.net.

Rep. Ivey Opens Legislative Office, Names Top Aide

CENTRAL — Newly-elected State Rep. Barry Ivey (R-Central) has named Cameron Cooke to serve as his legislative assistant. Cooke is a graduate of Central High and a *summa cum laude* graduate in political science from LSU, where he was a University Medalist.

Cooke said Ivey's legislative office is now open to serve the public from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at 13440 Magnolia Square Drive, Suite E. Phone 225-261-5739. Mail should go to Box 78286, Baton Rouge 70837. To reach Cooke directly on his cell phone, call 985-249-1264.



Cameron Cooke



WILDCAT BASEBALLER SIGNS WITH LSU-A — Travis Stevens will attend Louisiana State University in Alexandria in the fall and be a member of the baseball team. He is a three year letterman and has provided the Wildcats with his strong fielding as an infielder and his consistency on the mound. Travis plans to major in business administration. The signing took place Wednesday, April 3 in the Central High library. Shown are (1st row, left to right) Brandon Bravata, a representative for Louisiana State University of Alexandria and Travis Stevens and (2nd row) Central baseball coach Mike Forbes and Darryl and Amy Stevens.



ST. ALPHONSUS STUDENTS OF THE YEAR — Claire Reagan Tate, 5th grade, and Brent Joseph Helouin, 8th grade, have been selected as St. Alphonsus' Students of the Year. To be eligible for this award, students are required to possess a 3.5 GPA for the past three years, hold an elected or leadership position, and have been involved in service and/or citizenship activities in their school or community. They were required to write an essay on three or more issues or concerns that they have and how they impact their lives. Claire is the daughter of Kevin and Shannon Tate and Brent is the son of Brent and Nickii Helouin.

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Legislature Opens Monday

Taxes, Budget At Forefront of Fiscal Session

BATON ROUGE — The Louisiana Legislature will meet in a 45-day fiscal session beginning Monday at 12 noon. Fiscal sessions almost always revolve around the state budget and the spending priorities of state government.

But this year, Gov. Bobby Jindal's tax plan has pushed tax issues to the forefront as well. Jindal wants to repeal the individual and corporate income taxes, while raising sales taxes and cigarette taxes.

The sales tax increase would include an increase in the general state sales tax from 4.0 percent to 6.25 percent. Combined with local sales taxes, the tax rate on most purchases in East Baton Rouge would be 11.25 percent (11.75 percent in Central and Baker).

Jindal's plan would also introduce a completely new tax on busi-



Gov. Bobby Jindal ness, professional, and personal services. For these services, such as architects, CPA's, veterinarian, graphic artists, consultants, barbers, cosmetologists, yard maintenance, and almost all other services, except attorneys, the sales tax rate would go from zero to 6.25 percent.

The tax on professional, business, and personal services has encountered a lot of opposition. It would amount to a \$1.5 billion tax increase on those businesses affected. Now some legislators are saying the governor's plan is Dead-on-Arrival. For more, see Page 3.

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Louisiana House of Representatives will convene Monday at 12 noon.

See Your Legislators' Bills for Upcoming Session

BATON ROUGE — Under the Louisiana Constitution, the legislature meets for 60 legislative days in even-numbered years and 45 days in odd-numbered years. Sessions in odd-numbered years deal mainly with fiscal matters, but legislators can pre-file up to five bills

on non-fiscal matters. Because they are limited in the number of bills they can introduce, legislators are usually cautious on what bills they prefile. For bills your legislators have introduced, go to <http://www.legis.la.gov/legis/BillSearch.aspx?sid=LAST>

New School District Proposed for Southeast BR

Southeast School Plan Moves Ahead

Southeast Baton Rouge Community Schools



Proponents Say District Would Rival Zachary, Central Schools

BATON ROUGE — Sen. Bodi White (R-Central) has filed legislation (SB 73 and SB 199) to amend the Louisiana Constitution to permit the creation of a new, independent school district in the southeast part of East Baton Rouge Parish.

White, who authored legislation which created the successful Central Community School District

seven years ago, said the new district would have the opportunity to be at least as successful as the Zachary and Central school districts. Zachary is the No. 1 ranked district in the state, while

Central is ranked No. 5. The new school district would be bounded on the north by I-12, on the east by the Amite River, on the south by Bayou Manchac, and on the west by I-10. It includes a population of more than 75,000 people and 10 public schools, which would be transferred from the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board to a new school board created by the bill.



Sen. Bodi White

SEN. BODI WHITE has introduced SB 73 and SB 199, which would create the Southeast Community School District.

Medal of Honor Society Gives Highest Award

Company of Heroes

Central Grad, Son Cited for Heroism, Saving 120 Lives

Woody Jenkins
Editor, Central City News

WASHINGTON — Jesse Shaffer III, his son Jesse IV, and members of their family are just back from Washington where the two Jesses received one of the nation's highest civilian honors.

On Aug. 29, 2012, with the help of a handful of friends and relatives, they saved 120 of their neighbors in Braithwaite, during Hurricane Isaac.

Jesse Shaffer III, 54, a native of Central and 1976 graduate of Central High, said the trip to Washington was a memorable and inspirational experience.

Congress founded the Congressional Medal of Honor Society to recognize those servicemen who have earned the nation's highest military honor for heroism. The members of the Society, including the 80 living Congressional Medal of Honor winners, created an award for civilians who have performed similar acts of heroism.

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CONGRESSIONAL MEDAL OF HONOR winner Leo Thorsness (center) congratulates Jesse Shaffer IV upon receiving the Citizen Service Above Self Honor Medal from the Congressional Medal of Honor Society. Jesse III (left) holds his award.

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