

Five-Year Contract Begins on July 1, 2011

New Office for City

Endangered History: Old Central Gym

Woody Jenkins
 Editor, Central City News

The Old Central Girls' Gym at the corner of Sullivan and Hooper roads is about girls' basketball and a lot more.

Built around 1927, the gym was used as a community meeting place for everything from high school graduations to proms to a special celebration for Central's



Camille Kennard played basketball in gym in 1930's

See **OLD** on Page 4

only Medal of Honor winner, Homer Wise.

Today, it is used as a storage room and is filled with excess equipment and supplies.

Day by day, the building is deteriorating.

It is a good example of endangered history here in Central. Now



Photo by Woody Jenkins

NFL STAR TODD McCLURE helped coach aspiring Central football players during the summer football camp of coach Doug Dotson (right). David Simoneaux (left) coached quarterbacks and receivers during the three-day camp, which drew more than 225 participants.

Central's Annual Budget Tops \$6.3 Million for 2012

CENTRAL — The Central City Council last Tuesday night unanimously approved a \$6.3 million city budget for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2011.

In an address to the Council, Mayor Mac Watts said sales tax revenues have gone down because of the economic slowdown, but that the city would still be running a surplus of \$1.2 million.

The mayor said the new City Services contractor, IBTS, will be paid a little over \$3 million in the coming year. That should result in savings of over \$500,000.

Watts said he intends to retain Steve Vassallo for economic development and the Moore Planning Group for planning. The budget includes an 11 percent increase for

See **CENTRAL** on Page 15

IBTS Replaces CH2MHILL as City Contractor

Woody Jenkins
 Editor, Central City News

CENTRAL — On Wednesday, Central's new City Services contractor, IBTS, was well on its way to having everything in place for its first full day of operation, which will come on Friday, July 1, 2011.

That's when IBTS officially takes over from CH2MHILL, which has provided City Services in Central for the past three years.

The address and phone will be:

**City of Central
 Municipal Services Center**
 6703 Sullivan Road
 City of Central, LA 70739
 Phone 225-262-5000 (o)
 M-F 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

The company has announced three important dates:

- **Grand Opening** — 12 noon, Thursday, June 30. Public invited.
- **First-Day of Operations** — 8 a.m., Friday, July 1
- **Open House** — 9 a.m. to 12 noon, Monday, July 11 — Public invited.

See **CITY** on Page 15

Market Analysis by Realtor Jr. Shelton

Central Homes: Market Looks Bright

Good Schools, Low Crime Rate Key to Success

Jr. Shelton
 C. J. Brown Realtors

CENTRAL — As a Realtor, the most common question asked of me is, "How's the market?"

And the answer is simple: It is really pretty good!

For Central, the real estate market is good and only going to get better over the next few years.

Nationally, there are some markets that have taken a hard hit, but local markets vary greatly.

Here in Central we have plenty



Photo by Woody Jenkins

COACH DOUG DOTSON with some of the 225 students who registered for the coach's 1st annual football camp, which was held at the Central High practice field last week.

of room for growth and lots of large land masses that can contribute to lower overall lot costs.

We have our own school system that makes us attractive to young families, and we are a newly-incorporated city, which allows us to strategically plan for good growth.

Interest rates are at record lows. While mortgages may be harder to come by because of stringent underwriting rules, those who qualify for new mortgages are better risks. In the long run, this will make for a stronger economy and more sus-

See **CENTRAL** on Page 7

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CENTRAL CITY NEWS

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Photo by Woody Jenkins

THE BOYS OF SUMMER took part in Coach Doug Dotson's football camp last week at Central High School. They will soon become the Men of Fall.

Country Living in the City

The Boys of Summer Become the Men of Fall

Upon the Fields of Friendly Strife Are Sown the Seeds That on Other Days Will Bear the Fruits Of Victory

Gen. Douglas McArthur

Woody Jenkins
Editor, Central City News

CENTRAL — It's best not to make a big deal about football. It is, after all, just a game. A mere boyhood sport. That's all it is. Really.

★★★



Photo by Connor Lloyd



Blocking drills at Coach Doug Dotson's football camp.

Well, perhaps it is one thing more. A metaphor, perhaps. Yes, it is a metaphor. General Douglas McArthur said it — a metaphor for life. Above the entrance to the field-house at West Point are engraved these words of Gen. McArthur: "On the fields of friendly strife are sown the seeds that on other days and on other fields will bear the fruits of victory."

★★★

On the website of the United States Military Academy, it says: "An underlying principle at West Point is 'Every cadet an athlete, every athlete challenged.' Therefore, every cadet is required to participate in the competitive sports program during the fall, winter, and spring seasons and at a level of competition consistent with a cadet's ability."

★★★

Why would our military insist — in this high-tech world — that our future military officers devote such an enormous amount of time and energy to sports throughout the entire year?

★★★

Is there perhaps more to it than meets the eye?

Right now, at Central High School, young men are devoting much of their summer to a vigorous program of weight-lifting in preparation for the football season.

What is all this about?

★★★

Is football really about long, boring hours in the gym, mindlessly lifting weights?

Is it about denying yourself all the delicious foods and tempting drinks that everyone else is enjoying?

Is it about sweating for hours in 100-degree heat when friends are in the pool or with the girls?

Is it about beating your brains against a 250-pound bully who gets his pleasure from making you suffer?



Woody Jenkins

Is it about mindless adherence to arbitrary rules and regulations and the whims of a coach who can humiliate you in front of your friends or make you

See **IS THERE** on Page 16

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225 Students Learned Fundamentals at Camp Coach Doug Dotson's Football Camp



NFL STAR TODD McClure (center) of the Atlanta Falcons and Central High School helped coach youngsters at Coach Doug Dotson's three-day football camp last week.



A PERSONAL TOUCH — Mikie Mahtook signed scores of autographs for the kids.



MIKIE MAHTOOK, LSU All-American baseball player, helped out with coaching duties at Coach Doug Dotson's football camp last week. Mahtook is now with the Tampa Bay Rays.



WILLAND WES BRISCO with Coach Doug Dotson. The Brisco boys play for McNeese.

**Coach Doug Dotson's
Football Camp**
Photos by Woody Jenkins
More Photos on Page 16

CENTRAL — Central football Coach Doug Dotson's 1st Football Camp drew 225 athletes to the Central High practice field last week.

For three nights, Central High varsity coaches and a host of college and professional athletes instructed the students, age six through the 9th grade.

At a cost of only \$20, the camp was one of the best deals of the summer for Central parents.

This week Coach Dotson praised NFL star Todd McClure of the Atlanta Falcons, a Central High graduate, Mikie Mahtook of LSU baseball, and the other coaches for their services.

Coach Dotson said he was also pleased at the participation of youth league coaches. "Our students will get the same coaching from an early age, right through high school."

The participation of a dozen present or former college players, all from Central, demonstrated that a young man's dream of playing college football can definitely become a reality in Central. "This community supports Wildcat football. Friday nights at the Cathouse are the best time of the year. And it's only going to get better," Dotson said.

LEARN TO PLAY THE PIANO THIS SUMMER!

- Where:** BREC's Lovett Road Park
13443 Lovett Road
- When:** 3 - 7 p.m
- Ages:** 6 and older
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For more information, call Ebony at 225-261-0126 or visit brec.org.



Old Girls' Gym — Central's Oldest

Photo by Michael Spangler



CENTRAL OLD GIRLS GYM — This photo, taken by Michael Spangler in August 2007, shows the interior of the gym still in relatively good shape. It has been closed as a safety hazard.

Continued from Page 1

a number of Central residents want to find out if the Old Girls Gym can be saved before it is too late.

The structural soundness of the building is highly questionable.

Connor Lloyd to Join CCN as Summer Intern



CENTRAL — Connor Lloyd has joined the staff of the *Central City News* as a summer intern. He is a high school senior.

Metal rods are helping support the wide ceiling and preventing the building from collapsing.

When the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board relinquished control of its property on July 1, 2007, to the Central Community School Board, the interior of the gym was still well-maintained.

At that time, the new Central school board hired a firm to evaluate every building it inherited.

The Old Girls Gym was evaluated as hazardous and unsound. Supt. Mike Faulk immediately forbade use of the building for safety reasons. Today it is only used to store equipment and old textbooks and paperwork.



of state grants to rehabilitate or at least properly evaluate the facility.

School board member Jim Lloyd, who serves as chairman of the board's Facilities and Building Committee, has personally toured the building. As a contractor, he understands what would be involved in trying to save, rehabilitate, and use such a structure.

On Wednesday, Lloyd said it is important to understand that the old gym was constructed of inferior materials and that it is structurally unsound.

Lloyd said any plan for preserving the building needs to provide

Vickie Carney, president of the Central and Greenwell Springs Historical Society, is promoting public awareness of the historic building.

Steve Vassallo, the City of Central's economic development specialist, is researching the possibility



Photo by Theresa Thornhill Thibodeaux

SENIOR CRUISE — Members of the Central High Class of 2011 on a graduation cruise to the Caribbean last week. Shown are Addie Dean, Matthew Thibodeaux, Alex Burns, Grant Clinkingbeard, Keller Quin, and Garrett Miles. For more photos, go to www.centralcitynews.us. Thanks to Theresa Thornhill Thibodeaux for many great photos.

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School Building — Is Endangered



Photo by Woody Jenkins



ENDANGERED HISTORY — These photos, taken Tuesday, show the deterioration of the exterior. The original materials were not high quality, and the building has structural problems.

funding for not only rehabilitation but also maintaining the building on an on-going basis. Such a plan would also need to take into account how the building would be put to use and whether it would stay in the same location or be moved, depending on the fate of Central Middle School, he said.

When asked if he thought the building could be saved for a few hundred thousand dollars, Lloyd said probably not. It would be very expensive, he said.

Another option would be preserving parts of the old gym, such as the gym floor, and integrating it into the next new school Central builds.

When the new Central School

Complex is complete next year, the student body will vacate Central Middle School and move to the new School Complex.

The school board has not yet decided how to use the site at the corner of Hooper and Sullivan roads. Parts of Central Middle School have been condemned, and many people have called for its demotion.

Some people advocate tearing down the old school and selling the property. Others suggest rehabilitating the buildings and using them for a City Hall and a School Board office. Others say it would be less expensive to tear the existing buildings down and build new facilities.

The Central City News has pro-

posed leasing out the property to a developer who would build a Town Center with a City Hall, Post Office, School Board office, retail center, and some residential. The developer would pay the school board for the development rights and an on-going annual use fee.

No matter what is done, the school board will have to decide whether to keep or move Wildcat Stadium to another location.

And it will have to decide what to do about the Old Girls Gym before nature decides for them.



FALLING APART — The Old Girls Gym is literally decaying before our eyes.



Photo by Woody Jenkins

CHARLIE CARMENA graduated in the Old Girls Gym in the early 1940's



David P. Fargason, M.D.
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GOP Ladies of Central Hear Prof. Kevin Unter Republican Women Talk about Constitution

Photos by Woody Jenkins



REPUBLICAN WOMEN OF CENTRAL entertained dignitaries Metro Council Mayor Pro-Tem Mike Walker (center photo, flag shirt) and Prof. Kevin Unter of Northeast (right)



The Dr. Tony LoBue family



Peyton, Caleb, Brockwell, Ryan, and Chris Bone at Republican Women's Club.

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MAJOR DEVELOPMENTS — Three of the major developments in Central today are The Gates at Burlington, Village at Magnolia Square, and Wisteria Lakes.

Photos by Shara Pollard

Central Has Avoided National Downturn

Continued from Page 1

tainable values of homes with fewer foreclosures.

Let's look at Central specifically. We have six subdivisions actively being built in at the present time — **Village Lakes, Magnolia Square, Wisteria Lakes, Morgan Springs, Burlington Lakes, and The Gates at Burlington.** These developments vary in price and styles, but all have lots of building activity going on in them.

The different price points available help attract new home sales to Central.

The Gates at Burlington is an age-restricted development for those 55 and over. This is a unique subdivision that attracts buyers who may otherwise never consider Central. The tranquil lifestyle has



Jr. Shelton

always made Central a place buyers wanted to locate in.

When the Central Thruway is completed, Central will perhaps see a boom in building that this area hasn't seen since the late '70's. With Central connected to South Baton Rouge and I-12, many buyers will realize the benefits of living in Central.

New developments are on the drawing board for Central with **Twin Lakes Estates** on Denham Road being the latest approved.

The continuing development of new subdivisions is proof that many see Central real estate as a good value.

All of these developments are detached, single-family projects. Other developments coming to Central will be town homes.

The largest of these so far is **Vieux Carre at Central Square**, and a smaller development is located at the corner of Core Road

and Joor Road.

These town homes fill a niche for home buyers who can't afford a larger home or don't want the responsibility of a yard to maintain.

Having a variety of home styles for buyers helps Central stay in the forefront of the real estate market.

With new homes starting in the \$156,000 to \$220,000 price range for starter homes, and town homes from \$165,000, Central can attract that first-time home buyer that we were missing just a few years ago.

All price ranges of homes are available in Central, from single

lot home sites to acreage sites.

Of course, the biggest attraction to Central real estate is our school system. The State Department of Education recently named Central as tied for No. 3 among the 70 public school systems in Louisiana. And it is not just our public system that is good — we also have excellent private and parochial schools and day care centers that give parents choices for their families.

Central's small town atmosphere cannot be overestimated when buyers are looking for that ideal

See **GREAT** on Page 9

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Photos by Shara Pollard

THREE TYPICAL HOMES — Rabalais Builders' home in Magnolia Square (left), KM-Ron Builders in Village Lake (center), and Dunbar Construction in Burlington Lakes (right)

Central Homes Guide

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See **IMPROVEMENTS** on Page 9



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Improvements & Repairs in Central

Photos by Shara Pollard



HOT PROPERTIES — At left, a home at The Gates at Burlington. At center, the lake and fountain in front of the development. At right, a Rabalais home in Village Lakes on Wax Road.

Continued from Page 8

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Classic Antique Pine Products
14461 Frenchtown Rd., 261-8255
Coco's Flooring
10313 Greenwell Springs, 273-3860
Dearman's Carpets Plus Colortile
7755 Magnolia Beach Rd, 667-8774
Fresina's Custom Flooring
10603 Ribbonwood Ave, 771-8327
Jack's Custom Flooring 261-4565
Mid-South Floor Coverings
17123 Hooper Rd, 261-5622

Ted Thibodeaux Flooring
12125 Morganfield Ave, 975-0234
The Flooring Perfectionist 698-2227

Home Improvements
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Lloyd's Home Maintenance
17158 Pincherry, 936-7652
Professional Builders & Home Improvements
262-2327, professionalbuilders@cox.net

Insurance
Allstate Insurance Company
James Ray Peterson, Agent
18522 Magnolia Bridge, 262-7111
Gray Warren, Agent
6651 Sullivan Rd, 261-7997
Chapman Group The
2924 Brakely Ste B-6, 295-8206
Go Auto Low Cost Car Insurance
14415 Greenwell Springs, 926-7000
Kiffe Agency LLC
15031 Roanoke Ave, 262-1430
Lockhart Insurance Agency
18571 Greenwell Springs, 261-8114

See **GUIDE** on Page 10

Great Schools, Low Crime Make Central Attractive

Continued from Page 7

home. Equally important is Central's low crime rate. While there is a small amount of crime in Central, it is insignificant in comparison with many areas in our state.

Another plus for our real estate market is that we can be "one stop shopping" for real estate. Central has many Realtors living here who know this market well. We have enormous support from real estate businesses, banks, mortgage brokers, closing attorneys, and appraisers. Doing real estate business here is easy when you realize the businesses located here work together to boost our economy.

Of course, there are things that need to be improved to maintain our good real estate market:

- We need good infrastructure of roads and sewers. The connectivity value cannot be ignored as to its added value in land values.
- We need businesses that will

add to our quality of life. Retail shops, restaurants, and service businesses are needed here, in order to give homeowners the conveniences of life.

With more residential development, businesses will see the opportunities in Central, and I believe they will come quickly.

The one area that we lack in the real estate market in Central is a good inventory of previously owned homes. The reason for this is, I believe, that when people move to Central, they don't leave. They don't move around as they do in most communities.

There are no specific statistics for Central, but I am sure our homeowners stay in their homes far longer than the five to seven year national average.

So, Central is benefiting from all-time low interest rates (under five percent), our school system, low crime, our land available for development, and our country at-

mosphere. With these many pluses, Central should enjoy strong real estate sales and increasing values

for years to come. So, How's the Real Estate Market in Central? I'd say it's Great!

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Guide to Homes and Improvements

Continued from Page 9

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Debbie Drury, Agent

18513 Magnolia Bridge, 261-3456
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J P Rice, Agent
14127 Greenwell Springs, 261-1200
Morris Anderson, Agent
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Metal Buildings

Patten's Metal Express
11000 Burgess Ave, 791-7791

Painters

Falcon Randy 454-2961
Handyman Father & Sons 788-0266
Keith Reynerson, LLC
11670 Blackwater Rd, 261-8887

Patios

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14354 Devall Rd, 261-6105
Creative Patio, LLC 975-0707
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Plumbing Contractors/Services

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Baton Rouge Plumbing 262-0406
Bennett Plumbing LLC
10247 Mammoth Ave, 935-2288
Boitnott Plumbing Co, LLC.
22517 Greenwell Springs Rd, 261-9752
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Central Sewer Service 261-5970
Dave-Co Plumbing
13366 Hooper Rd, 262-1234
Lefleur's Plumbing
25351 Greenwell Springs, 261-2751
Leblanc Plumbing Service 261-8916
Louis Mechanical
9634 Mammoth Dr, 927-6520

Maggio's Plumbing Co
5912 Elm Grove Rd, 261-4326
Mayeaux Plumbing Co Inc
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Mr. Rooter Plumbing 262-5506
Plumbco Mechanical 261-6025
Sunshine Plumbing & Backflow 262-2322
Tiger Plumbing 11247 Sullivan, 262-2510

Remodeling

Integrity Services 9661 Trails End, 262-5694
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RCS Construction & Remodeling
15111 Hubbs Rd, 772-3835

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Reda Cockerham
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Brenda Gerald-Zeringue
7414 Perkins Rd Ste 200, 939-9311
Jr. Shelton
7414 Perkins Rd Ste 200, 936-9687
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Frige Realty 12249 Hooper Rd, 612-8880
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Remax First, Blaise Roy, Realtor
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571-6769, 291-1234
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Rogillio Real Estate, Brandon Rogillio Agt
444 Wooddale Blvd, 927-3960
Snappy Jacobs Real Estate Mgt LLC
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Spell Jeannie
445-2203, www.jeanniespell.com
Stewart-Jones Treshur Coldwell Banker
5025 Bluebonnet, 954-2460

Roofing

Alvin Ballard Roofing 921-8102
Blanco's Roofing & Sheet Metal LLC
13653 Devall Rd, 262-1980
Central Roofing 262-0164 or 964-0394
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Sun Rise Roofing
11353 Greenwell Springs 272-2181

Sand & Gravel

Buddy's Trucking 335-3138
Cowan J K Sr Contractor
20654 Greenwell Springs, 261-4222
Dennis Stewart Equipment Rental
6810 Joor Rd, 928-7263
Double S Trucking
15895 Frenchtown Rd, 937-0053
General Sand & Gravel Co Inc
19280 Greenwell Springs, 261-3953
Jeff Martin Trucking
13599 Blackwater Rd, 921-1010
McBride Trucking 261-1323

Security Systems

ACT Security 261-8284

Septic Services

AAA Septic Tank Service
12275 Core Ln, 261-2135
Central Sewer Service 261-5970
High Ten Services 15123 Hooper 261-2160
Sunshine Plumbing & Backflow 262-2322
Ted Hebert LLC 14430 Brown Rd, 262-7594

Swimming Pools

Central Pools Inc.
12522 Greenwell Springs, 272-1800
Wholesale Pools
17037 Magnolia Bridge Rd, 261-2001
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13581 Hooper Rd, 261-9665

Topsoil

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See LANDSCAPE on Page 11



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The Landscape Is Changing on Sullivan

Photos by Shara Pollard



GOING UPON SULLIVAN ROAD — Two new facilities now under construction are Neighbors Federal Credit Union and CVS Pharmacy, both at the intersection of Wax and Sullivan



JUST TO THE NORTH of CVS is Dow Federal Credit Union (right) and farther north at 11424 Sullivan Rd. (left) is the new Ochsner Health Center-Central.



CENTRAL SCHOOL COMPLEX — On Sullivan Road just north of Gurney Road, the new \$44 million Central School Complex will include middle and intermediate schools

Continued from Page 10

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Utilities
DEMCO www.demco.org
 16262 Wax Rd, 261-1177
 Central District, 261-1596
 Credit Dept, 261-1177
 After Hours Outages 261-1160
 Headquarters, 261-1221
 Entergy www.entergy.com

Customer Service, 800-368-3749
 Electric Outages, 800-968-8243
 Call Before You Dig 800-272-3020
 Gas District #1
 10633 Zachary-Deerford Rd, 654-4020
 Emergencies, 654-5202
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 8755 Goodwood Blvd, 952-7688
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Milestones

Births • Engagements • Weddings • Deaths
Anniversaries • Reunions

HOLAWAY, WALKER

Jessica Holaway and Matthew Walker will exchange vows Aug. 13 at White Oak Plantation in Baton Rouge.

MORAIN, UNBEHAGEN

Miranda Morain and Garrett Unbehagen were married May 7 at St. Alphonsus Catholic Church.

Jessica Holaway, Matthew Walker To Marry at White Oak Plantation



Matthew Walker and Jessica Holaway

BATON ROUGE — Jessica Marie Holaway and Matthew Gregory Walker, both of Central, will marry in a 7:30 p.m. ceremony on Aug. 13, 2011, at White Oak Plantation in Baton Rouge.

The bride-elect is the daughter of Mike and Joni Holaway of Baker. She is the granddaughter of George and Marie Holaway of Baker, Lena Mae Aime and the late John G. Aime of Sorrento, and the late Bettye Lou Thomas of Vidor, Texas.

Jessica is a graduate of St. Amant High School and the University of Southern Mississippi with a degree in sports administration. She is enrolled at Southeastern Louisiana University working on a second degree in nursing and is employed at Campus Federal Credit Union.

Her fiancé is the son of Jodi Rodriguez Beauchamp of Central and Mark Beauchamp of Hammond and Gregory and Mandy Walker of Central. He is the grandson of Mr. and Mrs. AJ Rodriguez and Mrs. Mable Walker and the Mac Walker.

Matthew is a graduate of Central High School and played major league baseball with the Tampa Bay Rays for four years. He is working in real estate.



Mr. and Mrs. Garrett Unbehagen

The Unbehagens Were Wed May 7 At St. Alphonsus

GREENWELL SPRINGS — Miranda Morain and Garrett Unbehagen, both of Baton Rouge, were married in an 1 p.m. ceremony on May 7, 2011, at St. Alphonsus Catholic Church. Rev. Charles Landry officiated.

The bride is the daughter of

Dennis and Nealy Morain of Baton Rouge. She is the granddaughter of Pearl M. Ross of Denham Springs, Jane and Huey Kinchen of Baton Rouge, the late Alvin Emmett Ross, and the late Jesse Morain.

The groom is the son of Michael Unbehagen of Bayou Pigeon and Debora Unbehagen of Woodbridge, Va. He is the grandson of Joe and Norma Garrett of Denham Springs and Myra Unbehagen of Baton Rouge and the late Martin "Buddy" Unbehagen.

The bride was attended by her maid of honor, Taren Sturgeon and her matron of honor, Heather Morain. Bridesmaids were Kayla Unbehagen, Stephanie Gautreaux, Maggie Ficklin, Hope Landry, Erica Allen, and Sarah Morain. Flower girls were Lauren Copeland and Brittanti Soileau.

The groom was attended by his best man, Shain Stogner. Groomsmen were Kaleb Morain, Damon Carroll, Ben Gautreaux, Ashton Guidry, Bobby Stewart, Trey Laborde, Mike Sibley, and Mark Hilton. Ushers were Julian Blanchard and J.C. Garrett. Readers were Michelle Richard and Christy Moore.

A reception was held at Forrest Grove Plantation. Following a Caribbean cruise, the couple resides in Baton Rouge.

Local Couple Celebrate 60th Anniversary

CENTRAL — Kellon and Vivian Cothorn of Central celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on May 12, 2011.

They are former owners of Cothorn AG Store on Blackwater and Core.

The couple have three sons, Ronnie and wife Kelly, Kerry and wife Shea, and Keith and wife Brenda, and eight grandchildren.



Mr. and Mrs. Kellon Cothorn

Elijah James Bergeron

Derick and Tiffany Bergeron are proud to announce the birth of their son, Elijah James. He was welcomed home by big sister, Naomi Nicole.

Elijah was born March 5, 2011, at Woman's Hospital. He weighed five pounds, 15 ounces, and was 21 inches long.

Proud grandparents are Ray and Linda Bergeron of Central and Randy and Cheryl Roach of Denham Springs. Great-grandparents are Allen and Elizabeth Roach, Louise Krumholt, and Sadie Bergeron.



High School Reunions

CENTRAL — Local high school reunions coming up include:

Saturday, July 9
Istrouma High Class of 1961
6:45 p.m.

The Istrouma High School Class of 1961 will hold their 50th reunion at Forrest Grove Plantation, 8743 Stephenson Dr. south of I-12 off Pete's Highway in Denham Springs. For information, call Marilyn at 751-7222 or marilyntillery@cox.net.

Saturday, Sept. 17
Pride High Class Reunion
7 to 10:30 p.m.

The Pride High School Reunion Committee is looking for school faculty, graduates, and attendees for this year's reunion. The reunion will be at Forest Grove Reception Center, 8743 Stephenson Dr. in Denham Springs. Absolutely no reservations accepted after July 1. Make payment to Veronica Gregory, memo/note PHS Reunion, and send to P.O. Box 25, Pride, LA 70770.

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Obituaries

Donnie Pollard

Beloved husband, father, and grandfather, he died Wednesday, May 25, 2011, at The Carpenter House of St. Joseph Hospice after a long battle with cancer.



Pollard

He was a resident of Central for 32 years. He was employed by ExxonMobil USA for 27 years, retiring as a senior section supervisor. Donnie enjoyed hunting, fishing, and watching his grandchildren grow. He was an avid LSU and Saints fan.

He is survived by his wife, Gail Baxter Pollard; mother, Bettie Pollard Franklin and her husband, Don; son and daughter-in-law, Michael and Shara Pollard; daughter and son-in-law, Laura and Eddie Bryant; and sister, Annette Glass. He adored his four grandchildren, Zachary and Mary Beth Pollard, and Katie and "Little Donnie" Max Bryant, all of whom affectionately knew him as "Grandfather."

He will be dearly missed. Memorial donations may be made to the Zoar Baptist Church Mission and Ministries Building Fund.

Deborah "Debbie" Bates Pierce

Family and friends of Deborah "Debbie" Bates Pierce are invited to attend a memorial service at 2 p.m. Sunday, June 26, 2011, at Blackwater United Methodist Church.



Pierce

Debbie passed away Monday, June 6, after a courageous battle with pancreatic cancer. She was born Feb. 20, 1953, in Bogalusa. After graduating from Bogalusa High School, she attended Louisiana State University and graduated with a bachelor's degree in business education and a minor in English in 1976. She continued her education while teaching full time, earning her master's degree in education from LSU in 1987. She taught high school English for 20 years before retiring from the public school system.

After retiring, Debbie returned to school herself, earning her nursing degree from Our Lady of the Lake College in 1999. She briefly worked as a registered nurse in the telemetry unit at Our Lady of the Lake Hospital before returning to work in the schools. She taught English at Starkey Academy in Central before moving on to become the school's guidance counselor. After Starkey closed in 2007, Debbie again tried to enjoy retirement but was drawn to the schools once more. She became guidance counselor at Central Private School in 2009, and earned her counseling certification while working.

Debbie was an extremely kind and generous lady who loved teaching, learning, traveling, friends, and her family. She is survived by her husband, Gary Pierce of Central; her two daughters, their spouses, and children, Candi and Matt McCord of Central and their sons, Grant and Mason; Jennifer and Jason Carl of Central and their daughters, Madison and Miley; her brother and his wife, Tommy and Karen Bates of New Hampshire, their two sons, wives, and two grandchildren. Her mother, Frances Yvonne Thomas Bates and her father, Fielding "Jack" Adams Bates, both of Bogalusa, preceded her in death.

A gift of anatomical donation was made to LSU Medical School in New Orleans. The family would like to thank Dr. Raven, and nurse Jessica Bruce of Our Lady of the Lake Hospital, Tracy Reilly and Dr. Kyle Dean of North Point Medical Center, Dr. Berggreen and Dr. Lobrano of Digestive Health Center, and Dr. Castine of Baton Rouge Hematology and Oncology.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that memorial donations be made to Cancer Services of Baton Rouge or Blackwater United Methodist Church.

MILESTONES

Send births, engagements, weddings, anniversaries, reunions, and deaths to centralcitynews@hotmail.com, or Box 1, Central, LA 70739, or deliver to 13567 Hooper Rd. next door to Central Drug.

Mikki Smith, Rhett Bouquet to Wed On July 15 at St. Joseph's Cathedral



Rhett Bouquet and Mikki Smith

BATON ROUGE — Mikki Renee Smith of Central and Rhett Mi-

chael Bouquet of Baton Rouge will marry in a 5 p.m. ceremony on July 15, 2011, at St. Joseph's Cathedral in Baton Rouge.

The bride-elect is the daughter of Phillip and Cindy Smith of Central.

Mikki is a 2005 graduate of Central High School and a 2011 graduate of Louisiana State University with a master of science degree in kinesiology. She will be attending Shreveport LSU Medical School in August.

Her fiancé is the son of Sara and Bobby Bouquet of Central.

Rhett is a 2005 graduate of Central High School and a 2009 graduate of Louisiana State University with a bachelor's degree in civil engineering. He is employed at GEC Inc.

Cayleb Zane Runnels

Amanda Bourland and Cody Runnels are proud to announce the birth of their precious baby boy, Cayleb Zane.

Cayleb was born at Lane Regional Medical Center on Feb. 6, 2011, at 8:25 p.m. He weighed six pounds, 2.4 ounces, and was 18-1/4 inches long.

Proud grandparents are Bobby and Sherron Dupre of Clinton, Ronnie Bourland of Dawson Springs, Ky. and Rick and Lori Runnels of Baker.



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Liam Andrew Rispono

Drew and Yvette (Chauvin) Rispono of Zachary proudly announce the birth of their baby boy, Liam Andrew. He was welcomed home by big sister, Katie and big brothers, Preston, Robert Luke, and Nicholas.

He was born March 27, 2011, at 5:49 a.m. He weighed eight pounds, 5.3 ounces, and was 20.75 inches long.

Proud grandparents are Wallace and Jean Beauchamp of Central, Andy and Lynn Rispono of Baton Rouge, and Junius and Maria Chauvin of Chauvin.

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CENTRAL — Events coming up in and around Central:

Saturday, June 25
Library Book Sale • 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.
 The East Baton Rouge Parish Library will hold a Library Book Sale at Recycled Reads, 13505 Hooper.

Saturday, June 25
Community Health Fair
9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

St. Luke and Magnolia United Methodist Churches are hosting a Community Health Fair at Magnolia United Methodist Church, 16024 Greenwell Springs. On hand will be the Blood Mobile, Alzheimer's Association, Heart Association cardiologist Dr. Steven Kelly, People's Health with a seminar on diabetes, Central Fire Department, Woman's Hospital Breast Center, EBRP Sheriff's Department, Mary Bird Perkins Cancer Center, and information on HIV/AIDS, dental health, and mental health. Door prizes will be given and chicken dinners will be for sale. For information, call Rose Larrieu at 439-9931, Linda Haney at 337-8084, or Brenda McKenzie at 261-0124.

Saturday, June 25
Central Area Horse Show • 4 p.m.

The Central Area Horse Show, sponsored by the Deep South Stock Horse Show Association, will be held at the Shady Park Arena on Greenwell Springs Road. Judged and timed events in four age groups. Beginners welcome. For info, www.dsshsa.org.

Sunday, June 26
CPR Training • 2 p.m.

The Central Fire Department will hold community CPR training at the fire station. Class size is limited. Call 261-2000 to sign up. The cost of the class is \$18 for student workbook and American Heart Association CPR card that is good for two years.

Monday, June 27
Central Chamber Golf Scramble



CENTRAL TIGERS TAKE 1ST PLACE — The Central Tigers 7U team took 1st place in the Governor's Games tournament in Sulphur. They ranked No. 1 in CAYL regular season play, ranked No. 1 in the state, and ranked No. 16 in the country. Pictured are (1st row, left to right) Jimmie Johnson, Taylor Walters, Ethan LeSage, Jeffrey Swearingen, and Tate Eisworth, (2nd row) Tanner Roberts, Luke Cowart, Easton Lonibos, Luke Ydarraga, Rylen Walker, and Dalton Wilson, and (3rd row) coaches Mark Roberts, Earl LeSage, Dwayne Wilson, and Ronnie Walters.

The Central Chamber of Commerce's Golf Scramble will be held at The Oaks at Sherwood. For information, call 261-5818.

Monday, June 27
Football Officials Meeting • 7 p.m.

The Baton Rouge Area Football Officials Association will hold its first meeting in Room 103, Williams Hall on the LSU campus for persons interested in officiating high school football. This meeting is designed to discuss time requirements including testing, field training, and provide a schedule for in class training. For in-

formation, contact Marlon Harrison at harrisonmarlon@bellsouth.net or BJ Andrews at football6909@cox.net

June 27 through 29
Vacation Bible School
9 a.m. to 12 noon

Magnolia United Methodist Church, 16024 Greenwell Springs Road, invites all children to "Hometown Nazareth: Where Jesus Was a Kid." Pre-registration can be done by calling the church office weekdays from 9 a.m. to 12 noon at 261-2789.

June 27 through June 30
Vacation Bible School
6:45 to 8:30 p.m.

Christ Central Church, 10523 Lovett Road, invites all children to SonRock Kids Camp. For ages 3 to 11. Registration forms are available at www.christcentralbr.com. For information, call 261-5309.

June 27 through July 1
ZASA Summer Soccer Camp
8:30 a.m. to 12 noon

Zachary Area Soccer Association will hold a Soccer Camp at Flanacher Road Soccer Complex. The camp is designed for the child who wants to improve as a player and develop a greater appreciation for the game in a fun, safe, and friendly environment. Campers will receive instruction on the proper technique for dribbling, passing, trapping, heading, and shooting. Cost is \$50 (\$25 non-refundable deposit). Registration forms can be found on line at www.zasa.org.

June 27 through July 1
Vacation Bible School
8:30 p.m.

Galilee Baptist Church, 11050 Greenwell Springs-Port Hudson Road, invites all children to Vaca-

tion Bible School as we take a trip to the Big Apple—Where Faith and Life Connect! For ages 4 through 6th grade. For information or to register call, 654-5633 ext. 2 or Kim Shanley at 654-7506.

Thursday, June 30
Playmakers' Tour • 10 a.m.

The Playmakers will take audiences on an international tour with Penny & Paul and the Dreadful D-Minus at the Central Branch. The show features short stories and legends from across the four corners of the globe with plenty of exciting surprises and smiles for all ages. For information or to register call, 262-2640.

July 8 and 9
Youth Group Garage Sale
7 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The St. Alphonsus Youth Group will hold a garage sale in the Family Center, 14040 Greenwell Springs. Donations are being accepted. Items can be dropped off at the youth office during office hours or at the Family Center until 7 p.m. Thursday, July 7. No clothing please. For information, call Lynette Shaffett at 261-4644.

Monday, July 11
Music with Eric Herman
10 a.m.

The hilarious award-winning performer, Eric Herman, will be performing for children ages 2-11 at the Central Branch Library, 11260 Joor Road. His creative music show and program involves the audience and makes education entertaining! Registration is required. For information or to register, call 262-2660.

Thursday, July 14
Tri-Parish Ballet Presents
"Cinderella" • 2:30 p.m.

The young dancers from the Tri-Parish Ballet will enchant children ages 5 and up as they dance to the classic fairytale, "Cinderella" at the Central Library, 11260 Joor. Registration is required. Call 262-2660.

July 18 through 22
Vacation Bible School
6 to 9 p.m.

Grace United Pentecostal Church, 13845 Hooper Rd., invites all children to Vacation Bible School — Shake It Up Café. Shake It Up! is for kids 4 to 12. For information, visit www.graceupc.com or call 615-8000.



BLUE ANGELS CAYL CHAMPS — The Blue Angels girls' 10 under softball team celebrated being the CAYL league champs with a winning record of 13-3. Pictured are (1st row, left to right) Natalie Lazaroe, Maddie Toler, Elizabeth Pennington, Ryann Ledoux, Avery Flotte, Olivia Will, Karlie Pinion, Aly Pouricau, and Trystan Tate, (2nd row) Julia Charleville, Baylee Vaughn, Alayna Tate, Grace Knapps, Julia Gullett, and Brenna Olinde, and (3rd row) coaches Steve Charleville, Mike Pouricau, and Michael Toler. Not shown head coach Gary Pennington.



PVT. ERIC MICHAEL GULLETT, a 2009 graduate of Redemptorist High School, graduated June 3 from Marine Corps Recruiting Depot in Parris Island, S.C. Eric will report to Camp Pendleton near San Diego, Calif. for nine weeks of school and additional training. He is the son of Michael and Darla Gullett of Baton Rouge and Central and the grandson of Marvin and Cheryl Gullett of Zachary and John and Elsie Cooper of Baton Rouge.

Lost & Found

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

FOUND — Wallet on Saturday, June 11 on Sullivan Road near Jackson Place. Call 225-261-5055 to identify.

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City Services Transition on July 1

Continued from Page 1

The phone number will be used by CH2MHILL until July 1 and by IBTS thereafter.

David Ratcliff will be the Program Director of IBTS and head of day-to-day operations at the City of Central Municipal Services Center. Ratcliff has 40 years' experience with the City-

Parish, the City of Baker, and private industry. Ratcliff's cell number is 225-773-2173. His email address is dratcliff@ibts.org. IBTS will be the primary point of contact for Central citizens for virtually all City Services, except trash, garbage, sewer, and animal control, which are provided by the City-Parish.

Central to Enjoy Surplus Of \$1.2 Million for 2012

Continued from Page 1

the small Central Police Department and \$100,000 to be paid to the Sheriff's Office for patrols by off-duty deputies, he said.

The mayor reported that the 1/2-cent pothole tax is producing about \$900,000 a year and more than that is being put back into road repairs.

Watts said Central is benefiting from franchise fees paid by DEMCO, Entergy, Cox Cable, and AT&T.

Mayor Pro-Tem Ralph Washington asked for an explanation of funds which CH2MHILL said they were setting aside for the city.

"They said they were putting aside five percent of all permit fees to be paid to the city," he said. The corporation promised to pay the funds to the city after it took over the issuance of permits from its subcontractor, Safebuilt.

After a discussion, the Council decided to pursue the five percent. This could amount to \$10,000 or more.

The budget was approved 5-0.

In other action, the Council voted to approve the *Advocate* as the official journal of the city. The only other applicant was the *Zachary Plainsman*.

The Council also discussed a resolution by Washington, which would have established a procedure for dealing with certain public records requests. However, the measure was deferred.



Central Mayor Mac Watts delivering budget address to City Council

The Council approved a Planned Unit Development (PUD) called Twin Lakes Estates just north of Denham Road. Jim Clark is the developer.

On the issue of economic development, Mayor Watts said the city is pursuing a number of possible businesses to locate in Central, including a college, a department store, a seafood company, and several restaurants.

Classifieds

\$10 for first 20 words, 50 cents a word after that. Minimum charge \$10. Call 261-5055. Must be paid in advance. No credit cards accepted. Mail or deliver check to Central City News, 13567 Hooper, Central 70818.

CLASSIFIED ADS — Call 261-5055 or email to centralcitynews@hotmail.com. Raise produce or poultry? First ad free. Up to 15 words.

DRIVERS — 10 needed NOW! Great pay, benefits and bonuses! CDL-A w/X End, one year T/T experienced required. Owner operators welcome. Martin Transport 1-888-567-4973. 07/28/11

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DONATIONS NEEDED — The Church New Life, 9526 Choctaw Dr., needs donations, like computers or furniture, for a garage sale. 06/23/11

FOR SALE — Jogging stroller good condition, \$45. Mahogany colored toddler bed, \$20. Some good infant clothes, \$1 each. 225-261-6928. 06/23/11

FOR SALE — Hunting camp in Bude, Miss., seven miles from Lake Okissa. 20 acres; eight bedrooms (six with AC and ceiling fans), two baths, all furnishings remain, new life time roof, and outside cooking shed with firebox, bbq, and sink. Deer, turkey, and squirrel. Asking \$185,000. TW Gerald (c) 225-603-8351 or (h) 225-261-0227. Mike Law (c) 225-892-0859 or (h) 225-261-8927. 07/14/11

FOR SALE: 2 HOMES & 1 OFFICE — 6519 Teah Drive, Bellingrath Estates in Central, 3

BR/2 BA/1,710 living area, RV port, A/C shop. Reduced to \$187,900. 17248 Old Hammond Hwy., 3 BR/2 BA/1,825 living area, 2.2 acres. Reduced to \$135,000. Office Building in Central, nine years old, 2,500 sq.ft., two offices, reception, conference, meeting rooms, work room, file room, and kitchen. Owner/Agent. Call Herman 225-335-3100. Magnolia Realty 225-261-0069. 06/23/11

FRESH BUTTERBEANS — Shelled green lima or speckled, five pound bags, \$16 per bag. Call Derek 225-328-0680. Pick up or delivery. 06/23/11

GARAGE SALE — Saturday only 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. 11904 Dame Dr., Central. 06/23/11

HELLO — I am a young Christian evangelical and need a job. I have experience in gardening, painting, and ceramics. Call or send text message. Sammy 225-288-2147. 06/23/11

HOME FOR SALE IN CENTRAL — Four bedroom/2.5 bath, 11711 N. Milstead Place. Call 225-938-5670 or FSBOBR.com 06/23/11

HOMES FOR SALE — 12500 Core Lane, 3BR/3BA, 1.3 acre, 2,232 living area, bank owned, sold "as is." 10937 Carmel Dr., Carmel Acres, 3BR/2BA, 1,448 living area, \$129,500. Acadian Realty 225-261-4670. Call Harry 225-937-7654. 06/23/11

JOB OPENING — Manager for a Subway Sandwiches Restaurant, 13511 Hooper Road, Baton Rouge, La. 70818. (Central). Previous experience preferred, but not required. Please provide previous work history along with references on application. Apply online at Subway.com or in person at restaurant. For additional information, call 225-261-0162. 06/23/11

NOW OFFERING — Organizing, move in/out, general, and Spring cleaning. Three hours \$60. Weekends available. \$5 off first cleaning. 225-444-9873. 06/23/11

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Is There More to Football Than Meets the Eye?

Continued from Page 2

do 100 pushups or send you running up and down the field a 100 times?

Or is there something more going on?

Where does a young man today go to find a role model he can look up to?

Who has the persuasive power to tell him his parents are right and that he should listen to them?

Who has the power to look inside of him and see his weaknesses and his fears, and yet also see his potential for greatness?

Who can mold the boy into a member of a team? Who can teach him to work with others to achieve a high goal? Who can show him the sacrifice it takes to be a champion? Who can be completely unforgiving and yet know when to forgive?

Who can open the door for a boy to become the man he was meant to be?

A great coach, that's who! Which is why coaching is one of the most important professions ever created.

On the field, on the team, in the unit, a boy can build his confidence.

He can learn to rely on himself, and he can take responsibility for his actions.

But, even more important, he can learn to accept the responsibility for others who are relying on him.

A single missed assignment, and a game is lost, a season is loss.

In life, we must learn to rely on ourselves. That is step one.



OFFENSIVE LINEMEN at Coach Doug Dotson's Football Camp. Shown with Coach Justin Hutchinson and NFL star Todd McClure.



DR. JIM GARDNER (right), president of the Central Community School Board, learned many lessons on the Central High football practice field. He was the first Central High graduate to play for LSU on scholarship. Shown with Coach Doug Dotson.

But life is about much more than that. To a great extent, life is about learning to come through for the people who are counting on us.

For many, it all begins with these words: "Son, the team is counting on you. Are you the man for the job?"

"Yes, sir, coach! I'm the man for the job! You can count on me!"

The boys of summer become the men of fall.

Watch these young men, and you will see.

★★★

Maybe football really is some-

thing more than just a game.

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