

Revolution: 5th Annual National Youth Conference

5,000 Coming Here for 4th

Central Celebrates Its Patriotism with Red, White, Boom On Friday, July 5

CENTRAL - Join the City of Central's Independence celebration Red, White, and Boom! from 6 to 10 p.m. on Friday, July 5. It's family fun, and a great chance to see friends and neighbors. Admission is free! Everything will take place at 14159 Grand Settlement Blvd. in the heart of Central. There will be food trucks, snowballs, face painting, photo booth, kids activities, patch bayou, bounce house, live music from the Chris LeBlanc Band, fireworks, and much more! Mayor Wade Evans invites everyone to attend.

For Details, Go to Page 17



CONGRESSIONAL MEDAL OF HONOR — Central's Homer Wise was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor for acts of heroism June 14, 1944 — 80 years ago — during the invasion of Sicily in World War II. He is the only native of East Baton Rouge Parish ever awarded the Medal of Honor. A statue honors him in Stamford, Connecticut.



July 3-7 Youth from All 50 States, Some Foreign Countries Come for Revolution

Woody Jenkins
Editor

CENTRAL — More than 5,000 young people and adults from all 50 states and several foreign countries will be in Central July 3-7 for the 5th Annual Revolution: America's National Youth Conference. The event will be held at Revolution Square at 9500 Blackwater Road behind Life Tabernacle Church. Everyone is welcome, and admission is free.

Church will be held at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday-Friday and at 11 a.m. Thursday-Friday. Fireworks at midnight Friday. Much more is planned. Here is a full schedule of events:

See 5TH ANNUAL on Page 15

Central Walks the 500-Mile Way of El Camino

60 Days on Historic Pilgrimage through Rural France, Spain To Find St. James

ST. JEAN-PIED-DE-PORT, FRANCE — James, one of Jesus' 12 apostles, was martyred in 44 AD, and his body is believed to be in Galicia, Spain. For more than 1,000 years, pilgrims have made their way to Santiago de Compostela where St. James' remains are kept. There are



PILGRIMS from St. Alphonsus in Central walked historic route through France, Spain.

several routes to get to Santiago. One route begins in France. It is a journey of over 500 miles and can take pilgrims two months.

On April 8, a group from St. Alphonsus Catholic Church in Central began its journey to Santiago de Compostela with a seven-mile walk from St. Jean-Pied-de-Port to La Vierge D'Orisson. The photo at left was taken as they began their pilgrimage. Shown are (front row) Juanita and Charles Beard, Rebecca Casselberry and Mark Legendre. (back row) Daryl Haynes, Shelia

See FRANCE on Page 9

State Treasurers' Fight to Save Exxon

California Pension Fund Attempts to Take Over World's Largest Energy Co.

Woody Jenkins
Editor

BATON ROUGE — In April, Louisiana's new State Treasurer, John Fleming, M.D., was working in his office in the northwest corner of the State Capitol in Baton Rouge. Looking west, he could see the Mighty Mississippi River rolling down to the Gulf of Mexico. Looking north was the massive



Exxon/Mobil oil refinery, one of the most important in the world with a capacity of 540,000 barrels a day.

Without oil refineries like the one in Baton Rouge, the United States would quickly grind to a halt.

On that day in April, a representative of Exxon walked into the Treasurer's office saying, "We need help!" In an instant, Treasurer Fleming was thrown into a titanic struggle between the world's largest energy company and the world's largest private pension fund.

The stakes for Louisiana citizens and especially the employees and

See LEFTIST on Page 2

TREASURER JOHN FLEMING, MD worked the phones to rally State Treasurers and state pension plans in conservative states to vote their shares against the hostile takeover of Exxon.

Leftist-Controlled State Pension Funds United to Try Takeover of Exxon May 29

State Pension Funds Larger Than Exxon Planned to Oust Entire Exxon Board


Continued from Page 1


retirees of Exxon/Mobil could hardly have been greater.

Years of Disrupting Shareholder Meetings. Dr. Fleming learned that for years left-wing organizations had been filing resolutions at the annual Exxon/Mobil shareholder meeting. Rather than being productive suggestions on how Exxon could do its job better or be more profitable for shareholders, the resolutions attacked fossil fuels and the core business of Exxon. The goal seemed to be to put Exxon out of business or make it impossible to earn a profit.


For years, the Securities Exchange Commission had rules allowing a company to ban such resolutions but under Biden, the SEC changed the rules to facilitate the guerrilla tactics of left-wing groups.

After years of trying to placate the left, in January, Exxon decided it had had enough and filed suit against two organizations that were leading the charge — Arjuna Capital and a Dutch group called **Follow This**. Both groups admit their goal is social activism, not return on in-




ExxonMobil vs.  **CalPERS**

Exxon Mobil Corporation



Exxon/Mobil
Assets - \$337 Billion
Darren Woods • CEO



CalPERS
Assets - \$469 Billion
Marci Frost • CEO

vestment.

Exxon's suit was filed to challenge the SEC rules and get the court to decide whether a shareholders meeting has to be a three-ring circus.

Fire Storm on the Left. The filing of suit by Exxon/Mobil triggered a fire storm on the left. The suit got the immediate attention of one of the most powerful forces on the left — the California Public Employees Retirement System, or CalPERS.

What might normally be considered a rather obscure group — a pension fund for state employees — CalPERS is actually a powerful force. It controls \$469 billion in investment dollars. Moreover, it represents one of the most liberal groups (state employees) in one of the most liberal states (California).

Climate Action 100+. CalPERS is a large investor but their influence is even larger. In 2017, they helped found Climate Action 100+, a group of 545 investors controlling more than \$50 trillion in managed assets. This group is a major force that can twist the arms of energy companies and try to force them to follow their left-wing theories on climate change.

In February, Marci Frost, CEO of CalPERS, was saying perhaps her group would vote to unseat Exxon CEO Darren Woods and one other director at the Exxon shareholders' meeting May 29.

However, when Exxon did not withdraw its suit, Ms. Frost carried her threats to an entirely different level. By late April, she was talking about voting to remove all sitting Exxon directors.


Left-Wing Pension Funds Join Together. CalPERS continued to escalate their rhetoric. They told Exxon to drop the suit or face a shareholders revolt. Several giant pension funds joined in, including the New York State Common Retirement Fund and retirement funds from New York City, Maryland, Nevada and many others. Sisters of Mercy of America jumped in, as did a coalition of labor unions in California and Majority Action, Inc., another left-wing group.

Democratic state treasurers joined in. For the first time, virtually all elected Democratic treasurers united behind a common goal — the takeover of Exxon/Mobil, the world's largest energy company.

A major victory for CalPERS was getting the support of Glass-Lewis,


See STATE on Page 4

COME VISIT YOUR NEW PARISH ASSESSOR'S OFFICE IN CENTRAL




**NEW LOCATION
NOW OPEN**

14790 WAX ROAD
SUITE 109
Mon. - Fri.
8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
(225) 389-3922
www.ebrpa.org



BRIAN WILSON
EAST BATON ROUGE
PARISH ASSESSOR



Brian Wilson, EBR Assessor

Far Left Tries, Fails to Take Over Exxon



Photo by Charles Breard for Central City News - ebreard@cox.net

THE LOUISIANA STATE CAPITOL (lower left) looks over the vast Exxon/Mobil refinery (top right) in Baton Rouge. Founded in 1909, the Exxon/Mobil refinery is one of the largest oil refineries in the nation, processing 540,000 barrels of oil a day. Exxon, which is one of the most important economic drivers in Louisiana, has been under attack by gigantic state employee pension funds in California, Illinois, New York, and other states. At the May 29 Exxon shareholders meeting, they tried to oust the entire Board of Directors of Exxon. However, Louisiana Treasurer John Fleming led a successful effort by State Treasurers from 20 "red states" to stop the government-takeover of Exxon.

An advertisement for Central Pharmacy. On the left, the Central Pharmacy logo is displayed, consisting of four interlocking circles in green, blue, purple, and yellow, next to the text "CENTRAL PHARMACY" in a bold, white, sans-serif font. In the center, a white cartoon-style car is shown from a side profile, with the text "We Deliver!" written across its side in a large, pink, cursive font. On the right, there is a photograph of the Central Pharmacy building, a modern, single-story structure with large windows and a sign above the entrance. Below the car, the text "Also Featuring DRIVE THRU Pick-Up!" is written in white and yellow.

Central Pharmacy
 9952 Sullivan Road
 P. 225-262-6200
 F. 225-262-6578
www.centraldrugbr.com

Pharmacy Hours
 Monday - Friday
 8:30am - 6:30pm
 Saturdays
 8:30am - 3:00pm

The logo for the RxLocal Medical app, featuring a stylized "Rx" symbol in red and blue. To the right of the logo, the text "RxLocal Medical" is displayed, followed by a five-star rating and the number "11".

**Quickly and Easily Refill RX Online
 Download Our New Improved
 Phone App iPhone and Android**

Three screenshots of the RxLocal Medical mobile application. The first screenshot shows the app's home screen with a search bar and a list of services. The second screenshot shows a detailed view of a medication or service. The third screenshot shows a confirmation screen or a list of items.

State Treasurers Led by Dr. John Fleming Fought Back against CalPERS and Won!

SFOF Made a Huge Difference as Result Of Challenge Made To Exxon from Left

Continued from Page 2

a proxy service agency that represents many states and private investors. They lined up with those seeking to punish Exxon.

The Left's Goal Was Stunning. The scope of their plan was breathtaking. Long term, destroy America's energy production. Short term, replace the Board of Directors of Exxon with representatives of government employees from the most liberal states in America! Nothing like that had ever been done in American history.

It was at this point that Exxon/Mobil reached out to Louisiana Treasurer John Fleming, M.D.

Why go to a mere state treasurer rather than the governor or other statewide officials?

The Treasurer Is the Key. In Louisiana, the Treasurer is the chairman of LASERS, the largest pension fund for state employees, and he serves on the Board of Directors of other state employee retirement systems.

Just as important, Treasurer Fleming is an active member of the State Financial Officers Foundation (SFOF), which is composed of 20 State Treasurers from conservative states.

SFOF: Strong Track Record. SFOF plays a growing role influencing fiscal policy at the state and national levels. Although their work often goes unnoticed by the media, they have a strong track record of victory.

Louisiana Treasurer John Schroder was president of SFOF until he left office in January. Since then, the new Louisiana Treasurer, Dr. John Fleming, has been a strong leader in the organization.

Exxon asked Treasurer Fleming to try to rally Louisiana's retirement systems in opposition to CalPERS efforts and asked him to encourage SFOF members to join in the effort.

Exxon: Vital to State Economy. Exxon is one of the most important forces in the Louisiana economy and the company naturally has widespread support among the general population and elected officials. Dr. Fleming worked the phone and was successful in mobilizing Louisiana's retirement systems.

Dr. Fleming asked for SFOF's support. They were already aware of what was happening, and they jumped right in! Soon almost every Republican state treasurer in the nation was onboard.

Dr. Fleming became a national spokesman on the issue, giving interviews to Fox News, the Wall Street Journal and a host of others. Other state treasurers also made their voices heard.

Dr. John Fleming Statement. Dr. Fleming said, "Exxon is the largest manufacturing employer in Louisiana, employing over 6,000 employees and contractors statewide. With an annual payroll of \$414 million, Exxon pays state income taxes of \$145 million, not counting an enormous contribution through sales and property taxes."

"Typically, shareholders only



Photo by Woody Jenkins

EXXON MOBIL REFINERY IN BATON ROUGE as seen looking north from the observation deck at the State Capitol.



The Exxon Mobil refinery in Baton Rouge began in 1909 as Standard Oil of Louisiana.

vote against sitting directors when a company is performing poorly and investors are losing money. However, Exxon has provided heavy returns for years and is positioned to do so for years into the future. They are a tremendous asset for Louisiana and help make sure our state retirees are safe for years to come."

"While shareholder activism can be a force for positive change, it must be geared towards maximizing shareholder returns, not destroying the targeted company for political purposes. If CalPERS is successful in disrupting Exxon's shareholder meeting, it will set a dangerous precedent that will threaten financial markets and revenue that fund state government and state retirees."

The **Wall Street Journal** weighed in, saying, "Far from protecting shareholders' rights, these agitators want to punish Exxon and its investors for refusing to surrender."

"The resolution [by Arjuna and others] would force Exxon to change the nature of its ordinary business or go out of business entirely."

"The group called **Follow This** said their goal is to make producers stop exploring for more oil and gas. Unless the courts weigh in, activist investors will continue, with the SEC's approbation, to inundate public corporations with proposals designed to push an ideological agenda divorced from the success

of the corporation."

Alabama Auditor Andrew Sorrell. Dr. Fleming's fellow member of SFOF, Andrew Sorrell, the State Auditor of Alabama, said:

"Capitalism works because companies are primarily driven by maximizing their profits, which they can do when they provide a valuable good or service to society, instead of getting bogged down in political debates. If politically-motivated entities use the process without regard to shareholder returns, all shareholders will suffer as public companies start to act like government, looking to appease various constituencies instead of maintaining a focus on increasing their profits by providing the best good or service they can."

"As California, New York, Illinois and others use Exxon's directors as their political football, it's imperative that all fiduciaries and asset managers stand firm in defense of a company's management who guided shareholders to record returns. We cannot allow political interference to destroy the integrity of shareholder votes. By doing so, we can ensure shareholder interests are protected and our markets remain free, fair and competitive for generations to come."

At one point, CalPERS could see the possibility of as many as 38 percent of shareholders voting to oust the Exxon Board of Directors.

Hanging in the balance were three investment giants that usually swing to the left — Blackrock, State Street, and Vanguard.

Republican Treasurers Wrote Large Investors. The State Financial Officers Foundation, composed of Republican state treasurers wrote to the Big Three and other large investors, saying,

"You and Exxon are in the same boat, besieged by the same serial proponents of the same demands repackaged year after year. Ordinary shareholders do not see proxy statements as a substitute for electoral politics, as places to work out controversies such as climate politics, abortion, racial justice, the 2nd Amendment, animal rights, and the alleged misdeeds of Israel."

In the end, all three — Blackrock, State Street, and Vanguard — swung behind Exxon.

Despite CalPERS lofty goal of taking over the largest energy company in the world, the May 29

Exxon shareholders meeting ended up as a disaster for the left. Their efforts to take over Exxon were a complete failure. In fact, the vote total against the Exxon Board was much smaller than anyone expected.

The Democratic Treasurers also showed their weakness. They united with the hard left and proved impotent.

Exxon CEO Darren Woods Statement. Exxon CEO Darren Woods summarized the results of the May 29 Exxon shareholder meeting as follows:

"Three billion shares were represented at this meeting, which equates to approximately 84 percent of outstanding shares entitled to vote. On average, 95 percent of the votes cast were voted to elect, as Directors, the 12 nominees listed in the proxy statement. Director support ranged from 87 percent to 98 percent. Support last year ranged from 91 percent to 99 percent with an average support of 96 percent."

"Our investors sent a powerful message that rules and value-creation matter. Their vote signals a belief that we are on the right track by overwhelmingly re-electing our directors and soundly defeating all four proposals that would have hampered our ability to create long-term value by providing the world with the energy and products it needs while investing billions to reduce carbon emissions in our own business and others."

"We expect the activist crowd will try and claim victory on today's vote, but common sense should tell you otherwise in light of the large margin of the loss."

"We look forward to continuing our ongoing extensive shareholder engagement as we work to solve the 'and' equation — growing supplies of affordable energy and products and reducing greenhouse gas emissions."

In the end, Exxon worked hard, SFOF worked hard, and our own Dr. John Fleming worked hard. And Exxon remains an independent, privately owned corporate citizen of Louisiana. The future of the Exxon refinery in Baton Rouge is secure, at least for now, and so are the businesses, jobs, families and retirees who depend on it.

COMMUNITY PRESS, LLC
St. George Leader
 Vol. 4 • No. 2
 Post Office Box 2
 City of St. George, LA 70801

CENTRAL CITY NEWS &
 The Leader Vol. 27 • No. 6 • CCN No. 489
 Post Office Box 1
 City of Central, LA 70739

Istrouma Journal 910 North Foster Drive Vol. 4 • No. 3
 Baton Rouge, LA 70806
 Phone (225) 261-5055 • Entire contents © 2024
 Email stories and photos for all papers to centralcitynews@hotmail.com
 Published Monthly

The Leader was founded April 30, 1998. The Central City News was founded April 21, 2005. They merged May 4, 2006. The South Baton Rouge Journal began publication in 1989. It resumed publication as the Capital City News on Aug. 16, 2012, with Vol. 21, No. 1. It has become the St. George Leader. The North Baton Rouge Journal began on August 11, 1966 and went on hiatus in 1976. It resumed publication as the Istrouma Journal on April 6, 2017.

To advertise, contact us at
CentralCityNews@hotmail.com
 call 225-261-5055 or 921-1433.

Member, Louisiana Press Association and Chamber of Commerce of EBR Parish
 Deadline for news and advertising: 5 p.m. last weekday of prior month.
 \$36 a year by subscription in advance • \$48 a year outside East Baton Rouge



NEW CENTRAL PRIVATE BASEBALL COACH — Central Private has announced that Coach Randy Sandifer will be the new head coach of varsity baseball. Coach Sandifer served as assistant coach for the 2023-24 season and has a rich history of coaching successful teams. Congratulations to Coach Sandifer on his new role!

The Plan Was Modeled After Texas and Its 1,200 Districts

EBR's Movement to Create Independent School Districts: 30 Years in the Making

After Baker, Zachary, And Central, Next Up Is No. 4 - St. George

Woody Jenkins
 Editor

BATON ROUGE — By the early 1990's, I had represented Baton Rouge as a member of the Louisiana House of Representatives for 20 years, most of that time as a member of the House Education Committee. My colleague, Sen. Mike Cross, had served as mayor of the City of Baker before being elected to the State Senate. We represented nearby districts.

Both Sen. Cross and I were deeply concerned about the education our students in East Baton Rouge Parish were receiving. We met many times and did a lot of research and brainstorming. At that time, the parish had more than 110 public schools. Many schools were so neglected that no member of the school board had set foot in them. The system wasn't working.

EBR System Was Too Big. As we considered possible solutions to the problem of education in East Baton Rouge Parish, we came to agree on one thing above all others: The East Baton Rouge Parish School System was simply too large to be managed effectively.

We believed that most people want to live in a neighborhood with a great public school their children can safely walk to. Great neighborhood schools were our goal.

Texas Provided the Model. We looked about the nation and soon

found a model — Texas — which has 1,200 local independent school districts. Typically, each district represents a community whether rural, urban, or suburban with one high school, two middle schools, and a handful of elementary schools. Each district also has its own school board, answerable to the people of the community.

Independent School Districts for East Baton Rouge Parish. We envisioned a plan that would create at least seven community school districts in East Baton Rouge Parish. We could see people in Baker, Zachary, Central, Woodlawn, South Baton Rouge, Mid-City, and the Istrouma area wanting their own independent school systems.

We discussed the possibility of directing tax collections from the industrial areas of the parish and the major malls into a parishwide fund to provide a base of revenue for each of the seven districts.

The plan had to start somewhere, and Sen. Cross was especially concerned about the need to save the public schools in his hometown of Baker, LA. We researched how we could create independent school districts like those in Texas.

School Systems Were Locked into State Constitution. At that time, the Louisiana Constitution provided that there would be 64 public school systems in the state — one for each parish — plus city school systems in Monroe and Bogalusa, which were created in the early 1900's. To create a new school system would take a constitutional amendment. No new school system had been created in nearly 90 years.

The situation was complicated by the fact that East Baton Rouge Par-

ish was still under a desegregation order from the federal courts. As a result, district lines and attendance zones could not be changed. Nothing we did legislatively would go into effect until after the desegregation order was lifted at some unknown time in the future.

Creating a new school system was viewed by most at the Capitol as a practical impossibility.

With those hurdles in mind, Sen. Cross and I nevertheless introduced a constitutional amendment to create the Baker Community School System. What was there to lose?

Obstacles Were Enormous! We had to pass a constitutional amendment through the Senate committee, get a two-thirds' vote of the Senate, pass it through the House committee, and get a two-thirds' vote on the House floor.

After all of that, the proposed amendment had to appear on the election ballot statewide. We had to mount a statewide campaign to try to get a majority of voters to vote yes. Even more daunting, we had to convince the voters in East Baton Rouge Parish to approve carving Baker out the EBR school system. Finally, we had to get the voters of the City of Baker to approve a new school system.

The 'Impossible' Happened. To our great surprise and the surprise of many others, we were able to overcome all of these barriers. The legislature and the people approved the new Baker school system!

Then We Began the Wait. We had to wait from passage of the legislation in 1995 until the federal desegregation order was finally dissolved. Then and only then would the Baker School System be al-

lowed to begin operations. In 2001, the desegregation was finally lifted, and the Baker School System began operation shortly thereafter.

Baker Had Become a Different Place. Unfortunately, Baker was no longer the place it was when Sen. Cross and I began our quest. Faced with poor public schools, countless families had left Baker as had much of the business community. The city that Sen. Mike Cross had hoped to preserve was now a different place. The new Baker school system struggled. Yet, Baker was significant because it proved new community school systems could be created.

The fight to create new independent school districts was not put on pause in 1995 while we waited for the desegregation order to be lifted.

Second Independent School District Created in Zachary. By the late 1990's, many of us in the House began a movement to pass a constitutional amendment to create the Zachary Community School System. Rep. John Travis represented Zachary and agreed to author the bill. This proposal faced the same obstacles that Baker had. Nevertheless, we were able to pass it through the legislature and statewide in 1999.

By the time the desegregation order was lifted in 2001, unlike Baker, Zachary was still a healthy, robust community.

Under the leadership of Supt. Warren Drake, the Zachary Community School System officially began July 1, 2003. Progress came quickly. Within months, the new system was getting attention statewide.

Zachary Zoomed to No. 1. In

See THREE on Page 9

Ronald Reagan
Newsmaker Luncheon
 Tuesday, July 9, 2024


Sponsored by Republican Party of EBR

11:45 Reception • 12 Lunch • \$25
 Café Américain • 7521 Jefferson Hwy.
 No Reservation Necessary

"Like" Capital Republican on Facebook or go to CapitalRepublican.com



Chamber of Commerce of East Baton Rouge
A Small Business Chamber
 Tuesday, July 23, 2024
 Lunch 12n \$25 • Café Américain
 7521 Jefferson Highway
 Baton Rouge, LA 70806
www.ChamberEBR.com



Three Ways City of St. George Could Have Its Own Schools – One Involves Central

EBR Currently Has Two of Best Systems In State of Louisiana: Zachary and Central

Continued from Page 5

2004, students in the Zachary school system scored No. 1 in the state on the LEAP test. Some people said it was a fluke. In any case, it didn't count because a school system has to take the LEAP tests at least two years in row in order for its schools to be rated statewide.

But in 2005, Zachary again blew the top off the LEAP tests and claimed its position as the No. 1 school system in the state, a position it held for at least the next 10 years. Zachary still vies for first place almost every year.

Zachary Is Highly Diverse. Zachary's achievement was especially noteworthy because the population of the school system has

been and remains roughly 50-50 black and white. It is for all practical purposes the most "diverse" school system in the state.

In 2004, the movement to incorporate the City of Central got underway. The chief reason given by organizers was so that Central could eventually have its own community school system.

Central was incorporated in 2005, and in 2006 Sen. Bodi White and Rep. Donald Ray Kennard introduced a constitutional amendment to create the Central Community School System.

This proposal too had to overcome all the obstacles that Baker and Zachary had faced with one major exception. Since the desegregation order had been lifted, there was no federal barrier to the creation of a new school system in Central.

Central Went Through Same Process. After approval by the legislature, the constitutional amendment went to the voters in Nov. 2006, and it was overwhelmingly

approved statewide, in East Baton Rouge Parish, and in Central.

On July 1, 2007, the Central Community School System came into existence, and the people of Central took over the schools here.

Three years later, Central was rated the No. 2 school system in Louisiana. Ever since then, Central has been at or near the top of Louisiana's school systems.

EBR Has Two Top-Performing School Systems. It is fair to say that today, East Baton Rouge Parish has two of the top-performing school systems in the state in Zachary and Central. This is especially noteworthy since both are blue collar communities.

In 2012, the St. George movement began with a goal of creating a new school system in the southeast part of East Baton Rouge Parish. Sen. Bodi White was by then representing a Senate district that included both Central and much of current-day St. George. Sen. White introduced legislation to create the South-

east Community School System.

This effort to start a new school system evolved into the St. George movement which has now been successful in creating the new City of St. George.

So today, the system of independent school districts for East Baton Rouge Parish that Sen. Mike Cross and I envisioned nearly 30 years ago has three districts in place — Baker, Zachary, and Central.

Zachary and Central prove St. George could rapidly become one of the best school districts in the state, if not the best.

What would it take to create a community school district for St. George? That is the question that many St. George residents are asking today. Legally speaking, I see at least three different paths to a new school system for the Southeast:

1 - Amending the Louisiana Constitution to create the St. George Community School System. This is the traditional approach. It would require a two-thirds' vote of the House and Senate and approval by the voters of the constitutional amendment statewide, in East Baton Rouge Parish, and in St. George.

2 - Amending the Louisiana Constitution to allow the legislature to create new school districts by statute. Creation of new school districts would still require a vote in East Baton Rouge Parish and in St. George. This was the approach of SB6 by Rep. Emily Chenevert in the recent legislative session.

3 - Expanding the boundaries of the Central Community School System to include the City of St. George. The boundaries of the Central school system are established by law, not by the Louisiana Constitution. Those boundaries can be enlarged by act of the legislature without a constitutional amendment. Central and St. George are contiguous, united by a narrow sliver of the Amite River. Theoretically, the boundaries of the Central School System could be changed to include St. George.

This could be the easiest route to become part of a new school district. The question is, why would Central want to do this? Also, would the new combined system itself be too large and defeat the concept of local community control.

One thing is certain: If the people of St. George truly want their own independent school system, it will take a lot of hard work, wisdom, and determination. Personally, I am eager to see if they can do it!

WE POWER PREPARATION

Getting ready for hurricane season is a way of life in Louisiana. The more we prepare, the better the chance we have to keep our families safe and secure in times of distress. Visit DEMCO.org and download a comprehensive hurricane checklist and safety tips guide. Empower your family to be storm ready and in charge.

HURRICANE PREP QUICK-START

- 3-day supply of water & non-perishable food
- Toiletries, first-aid kit and prescription medicines
- Special items/food for babies and the elderly
- Special items for your pet including vaccination records, toys, food and a cage/crate
- Fuel your vehicles as a loss of power could affect gas stations.
- Have supplies for your propane or charcoal grill; be sure to grill outdoors in well-ventilated areas for safety.
- Flashlights, portable radio and extra batteries
- Extra set of car keys, credit cards and cash
- Important documents kept in a waterproof container or watertight plastic bag
- Emergency contact list
- Emergency tools

Learn more at DEMCO.org/Storm-Center.

DEMCO
A Touchstone Energy Cooperative

/DEMCOLouisiana

Rate Mayor Wade Evans

How is the Mayor doing?

Let your voice be heard! Go to Central City News on Facebook. Under 'Rate the Mayor' write APPROVE or DISAPPROVE plus any comments. You must 'Like' or be a 'Follower' of Central City News and must reside in Central. No hateful or malicious comments. We will report back!

Sheriff Sid Gautreau and D.A. Hillar Moore Take Questions

Sheriff and District Attorney at Republican Women Luncheon



EAST BATON ROUGE PARISH SHERIFF SID GAUTREAU (left) addressed the EBR Republican Women at Drusilla Seafood May 23. Joining the Sheriff was District Attorney Hillar Moore (right). The two updated attendees on crime in the parish. Sheriff Gautreau expressed the need for a new jail and both talked about mentoring youth so gangs don't draw them in. At center, Clerk of Court Doug Welborn, Sheriff Sid Gautreaux, Baton Rouge Police Chief Thomas Morse, and District Attorney Hillar Moore with club officers.



CLERK OF COURT DOUG WELBORN AND STAFF MEMBERS (left) attended the luncheon. Dining with them is Judge Michael McDonald. After the meeting adjourned, new Baton Rouge Police Chief Thomas Morse, Jr. (right) stopped in to visit with Sheriff Gautreaux and District Attorney Hillar Moore.



REPUBLICAN WOMAN LYNN COXE GRAHAM (left) with new recruits to the club including Susan Pellegrin and Kelly Messina. At center, Carol Thomas, Cindy Edmonds, *Central City News* and *St. George Leader* editor Woody Jenkins and his wife Diane Jenkins. Carol and Cindy are holding the popular :) *St. George Leader* newspaper. At right are Jamie Tairou, Gwen Smith, Crystal Smith and Joyce James.



REPUBLICAN WOMAN RECORDING SECRETARY GLORIA WALL (left) asks D.A. Hillar Moore a question. Joyce James (left/center) speaks with Hillar Moore. Sharon Jenkins (center) talking with Police Chief Morse. Clerk of Court Doug Welborn with parliamentarian Dru Brock Lea and Carol Thomas. Sen. Rick Edmonds' wife Cindy Edmonds (right) with Sheriff Gautreaux and Chief Morse.

It Takes 60 Days to Travel 500 Miles 'the French Way'

Pilgrims from Central Started in



LEAVING BATON ROUGE METRO AIRPORT on April 3 (left to right) Charles and Juanita Beard, Fr. Ryan Humphries, Chris and Shelia Casselberry, granddaughter Rebecca Casselberry, Janet and Daryl Haynes, Bob Bailey, Mark Legendre and Mike Dugan. Sunset in Lourdes were the group spent three days to adjust to the climate.

Why Walk the Camino de Santiago?

“ It’s important for the pilgrim and the Christian in general to be able to answer the question, why am I doing this? ”
—Fr. Ryan Humphries



MAY 23 was a nine-mile walk from Melide, Spain, to Arzua, Spain. The group posed with a statue of the Apostle St. James in Melide. To the left of the statue is Daryl Haynes, kneeling his wife Janet Haynes, Shelia Casselberry, behind is Mike Dugan, and next to the statue Mark Legendre. To the right of the statue Charles Beard, his wife Juanita Beard kneeling, Chris Casselberry, his granddaughter Rebecca Casselberry, Antoinette Casselberry, and Fr. Ryan Humphries behind.



APRIL 10 – 14-mile walk from Roncesvalles to Zubiri encountered sheep. Photo by Mark Legendre



APRIL 11 – 13-mile walk from Zubiri to Pamplona, an open pathway over running water.

“ We had to remember we are in their home, not ours and step off their path. ”
— Mark Legendre

We Encountered Animals Along the Way



APRIL 15 – 14-mile walk from Estella to Arcos. Beautiful lilac flowers. Photo by Juanita Beard



APRIL 15 – 14-mile walk from Estella to Los Arcos. Juanita Beard’s treat. Photo by Rebecca Casselberry



APRIL 22 – Rest Day in Santo Domingo Rebecca’s Strawberry Dessert Photo by Shelia Casselberry



APRIL 26 – 12-mile walk from Atapuerca to Burgos. Statue of El Cid who drove the Moors from Valencia. Photo Janet Haynes

<p>April 4 Eucharistic Procession Lourdes</p> 	<p>April 6 Understanding the Menu in France</p> 	<p>April 9 Snow Day Along the Way of St. James</p> 	<p>April 14 Word of the Day Fr. Ryan Humphries</p> 	<p>April 28 Accordion Player from Massachusetts</p> 
------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

To Reach the Remains of St. James in Galicia, Spain

France on Their Way to Santiago



APRIL 18 PANORAMIC VIEW from the top of the co-cathedral Santa Maria de La Redonda Logroño in La Rioja, Spain. The name “redonda” refers to the rounded shape of an earlier church on the site. It had the status of collegiate church from the 15th century when Logroño became a city. Photo by Janet Haynes

The Ascent to Cruz de Ferro Highest Point of the Journey Prayer, Petitions, and Burdens Left Behind

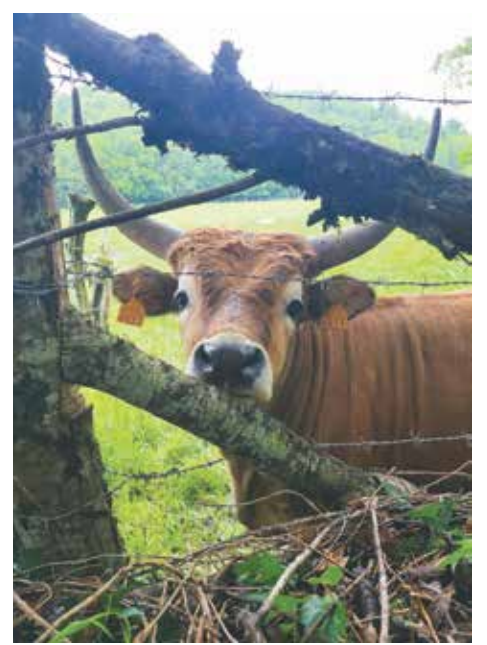
“Octopus is a specialty in Spain.”
— Shelia Casselberry



MAY 11 – An 11-mile walk from Rabanal to Acebo. The highest point on the Camino France journey, Cruz de Ferro (the Iron Cross on the Camino de Santiago) at over 4,900 feet where prayer rocks are placed at the foot of the iron cross.



APRIL 28 – 13-mile walk from Burgos to Hornillos del Camino. Altar inside country chapel. Photo by Janet Haynes



MAY 19 – Nine-mile walk from Samos to Sarria. We had an audience. Photo by Shelia Casselberry



MAY 23 – 14-mile walk from Milide to Arzúa. Octopus is a specialty in Spain. Photo by Shelia Casselberry



MAY 25 – Last day, 14-mile walk from A Rua to Santiago de Compostela. Dinner of champions. Photo by Juanita Beard

Continued from Page 1
Casselberry, Fr. Ryan Humphries, Janet Haynes, Bob Bailey and hidden behind Bob is Chris Casselberry. For all of the pilgrims, the journey was one of the great experiences of their lives.

at 7:30 for a 9-10-mile trail. Eventually, those who walked slower, like myself and Toni were separated from the rest of the group, and Chris stayed back to watch over us. There was no place to stop for a break, so we just kept on tracking. Loved the forest tree coverage and some of the old buildings. We did go near a cow pasture with an unpleasant smell, but that’s part of the adventure.”

Shelia Casselberry wrote, April 19 “The church of Santa Maria de la Asuncion located in Navarrete, Spain. Words cannot explain what you feel and see when you walk up to the altar at this church.” May 19 - “A fun walk today. Started out early

Mark Legendre said, “The Camino was an unbelievable experience. By far the most moving spiritual

experience I have ever had to date. Throughout my journey, I realized profoundly that I know God loves me, that I have led a very blessed life, and God is present and moving in my family.” May 4 - “16-mile trek from Bercianos del Real Camino to Mansilla through mostly flat farmland, with a high chance of rain

and wind all day, God was good to us pilgrims with no rain during the walk but the wind had to be 30-40 knots the whole walk.” May 16 - “Tough 13-mile trek today: rain, mud, wind, uphill and cold! Only 94 miles to go to Santiago de Compostela! I am terribly missing my wife, family and friends!”

A blue banner containing five QR codes and their corresponding event titles: May 2 Flowers Along the Way of St. James, May 8 Trail Riders Singing a Happy Song, May 10 Monks Chanting in Chapel, May 12 Church Bells Ringing as Group Visits, and May 13 Visiting a Winery Along the Way.

St. Alphonus Camino de Santiago ‘Way of St. James’ as Seen by Pilgrims



THE SYMBOL of a scallop shell helps guide the pilgrims along the Camino de Santiago. It is also a reminder of the power of faith. Photo by Michael Dugan








ON MAY 25 THEY MADE IT to the Archcathedral Basilica after a 14-mile walk from A Rua to Santiago de Compostela. The Holy Door (left) is opened only during a Compostela Holy Year, when the Feast of St. James falls on a Sunday. Group photo in front of the Archcathedral Basilica (center) Mark Legendre, Mike Dugan, Janet and Daryl Haynes, Rebecca Casselberry, Shelia and Chris Casselberry, Antoinette Casselberry, Juanita and Charles Beard and Fr. Ryan Humphries. The archcathedral basilica marks the traditional end of the journey.



THE TOMB OF ST. JAMES THE GREAT, the apostle of Jesus Christ, (left) is in a crypt beneath the main altar of Santiago de Compostela Archcathedral Basilica (center). Along side of the urn holding the remains of St. James are his disciples St. Athanasius and St. Theodore. The main altar (right) is ornate with gold and huge angels. Photos by Mark Legendre. The famous Botafumeiro, the giant thurible at Santiago de Compostela, was in repair during their visit. The swing of the Botafumeiro spreading Frankincense is typically a highlight.



ON TO FINISTERRE, from the Latin Finis Terrea, which means ‘the end of the world’. Janet and Daryl Haynes (left) pose by a stone cross at the ‘end of the way’. Mark Legendre (center) at the banks of the Ebro at Caesaraugusta (Zaragoza) where in AD 40 Mary appeared to St. James accompanied by angels to encourage him to finish his mission. The group finished up their trip by visiting Fatima, Portugal where the Virgin Mary is said to have appeared to three children in 1917. Michael Dugan (right) in Fatima.

<p>May 15 From Old Bridge Leaving Villafranca</p> 	<p>May 19 Water Fall Near the Hotel</p> 	<p>May 24 Greeting From Lavacolla</p> 	<p>May 24 Animals Along the Way of St. James</p> 	<p>May 27 End of the Way Banks of Ebro at Caesaraugusta (Zaragoza)</p> 
--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

City of St. George Inauguration Ceremonies

Dustin Yates Is First Mayor of St. George

Photo by Woody Jenkins



NEW ST. GEORGE MAYOR DUSTIN YATES (right) takes oath administered by Court of Appeal Judge Hunter Greene, as wife Allison holds the family Bible and the couple's children Avery and Bennett look on. At right, new St. George Police Chief Todd Morris takes the oath administered by District Attorney Hillar Moore at Woodlawn Baptist Church.

CITY OF ST. GEORGE — After years of suspense, the new City of St. George finally has a new Mayor, Police Chief, and five members of the City Council.

In ceremonies Monday evening, June 10 at Woodlawn Baptist Church, Court of Appeal Judge Hunter Greene swore in new St. George Mayor Dustin Yates, City Councilmen-at-Large Richie Edmonds and Patty Cook, and District Councilmen Steven Monachello, Ryan Heck, and Max Himmel.

New St. George Police Chief Todd Morris was sworn in by District Attorney Hillar Moore.

The new city officials were appointed by Gov. Jeff Landry to

serve until their successors can be chosen in a special election.

Steven Monachello retired in 2018 from a career in criminal justice with over 40 years of service. He began as a full-time deputy with East Baton Rouge Parish Sheriff's

Office.

Ryan Heck served as a member of the Metro Council from 2012 to 2016. He is an entrepreneur and an investor in a number of startups.

Max Himmel started Himmel Architectural Door and Hardware

Company in 1973.

Richie Edmonds is a community leader and owner of Vertical Construction.

Patty Cook is a substitute teacher at the LSU Lab School and past office manager for LA PTA.



Patty Cook



Richie Edmonds



Ryan Heck



Max Himmel



Steve Monachello

Treads & Care

TIRE COMPANY

The Tires You NEED, The Service You WANT

SERVICES:

*Brakes • Oil Changes
Wheel Alignments • A/C Repair
Computer Diagnostics*



(225) 331-8144

11115 PARK PLACE DR. • CENTRAL, LA
(CORNER OF HOOPER ROAD & PARK PLACE)

TODD NETHERLAND THE TREEMAN

Fully Licensed and Insured



"Todd Netherland Treeman" • 30+ Years Experience
BEST PRICES • Spring Trimming • Dead Tree Removal
Prepare for Hurricane Season Now!
FREE ESTIMATES • Mention This Ad for 10% OFF



Take Down That Tree Or Trim That Tree
Before It Takes Down That House!
Our Trucks Remove Debris Required by Law!
You Don't Get Stuck With Clean Up!

Don't Trust Your Home and Your Family to an Unlicensed, Uninsured, Out-of-State Operator!
Owner Todd Netherland • Central Native and Licensed Arborist

Todd Netherland 225-433-2527

If Unavailable or to Schedule Work
Call Todd's Sister Robin 225-953-3786

Juan Diego Procession Route Began in Brownsville, TX

National Eucharistic Pilgrimage Event



Altar servers during the Eucharistic procession with the Blessed Sacrament



SACRED HEART OF JESUS CATHOLIC CHURCH welcomed the National Eucharistic Procession's Juan Diego Route to Baton Rouge for the Solemnity of the Sacred Heart. Thousands of faithful Catholics gathered for the two-mile procession to St. Joseph's Cathedral. In his homily, Fr. Joshua Johnson, (center) pastor of Sacred Heart of Jesus Catholic Church challenged all to go forth and proclaim the Good News to all of our brothers and sisters.



THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS HELPED MAKE THE DAY POSSIBLE (left). 82 year old Tonita Baland Robertson Poche (left/center) happy to make the pilgrimage! Fr. Joseph Bresowar (left/center) of Immaculate Conception in Denham Springs sings during the procession. Bishop Michael Duca (center) and the media team for the National Eucharistic Procession. Parishioners from Most Blessed Sacrament (right/center). Stephen Lumpkin (right) of St. Alphonsus with his Bible and rosary.



Fr. Paul Yi pastor of St. George Church during the procession.



PILGRIMS ARRIVE AT ST. JOSEPH CATHEDRAL (left) where Bishop Duca spoke and participated in Eucharistic Adoration. St. Patrick's Deacon Alec Campbell (center) with his wife Lindsey and children Kolbe, Kolin and Claria. Find out more about the National Eucharistic Revival at eucharisticrevival.org. The fire is spreading, follow the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage at eucharisticpilgrimage.org. Plan for the National Eucharistic Congress at eucharisticcongress.org.

Gub with Garret at MePa's Diner



CONGRESSMAN GARRET GRAVES AND CENTRAL'S MAYOR WADE EVANS (left) at MePa's Diner in Central. Citizens have Congressman Graves' attention (right) for a round table discussion that lasted over an hour and 45 minutes. Topics that were discussed included the recent ruling by the Supreme Court to use a congressional map with two majority-black districts, high cost of insurance, VA benefits, social security, police training, crime, education, Autism, flooding and the Comite Diversion Canal project, as well as bills in the House pertaining to Alzheimer's and its effect on patients and families.



CONGRESSMAN GRAVES (left) stayed a little longer to shake hands and pose for pictures with citizens. Former Baton Rouge Police Officer Mike King and Congressman Graves (center). Christopher de Pierne (right) talks about the rising cost of insurance and the fact that middle class people like him will never retire because of the burdensome price of insurance.

Grub with Congressman Garret Graves MePa's Diner • 6643 Sullivan Road • Photos by Jolice Provost

Bank of Zachary Will Open Branch at ZHS

ZACHARY — The Bank of Zachary announced a partnership with Zachary High School to establish the "Bronco Branch," an in-school bank branch that fosters financial literacy and provides convenient banking services to students, faculty, and staff.

Scheduled to open this fall, the Bronco Branch will be a collaborative effort between the Bank of Zachary and Zachary High. It will be staffed by Bank of Zachary employees as well as trained student tellers from Zachary High

"We are thrilled to partner with Zachary High School to launch the Bronco Branch, an initiative that underscores our commitment to financial literacy and community enrichment," said Bank of Zachary President and CEO Mark Marionneau. "By providing students with hands-on banking experience and valuable financial knowledge, we aim to empower them to make informed decisions and achieve financial success."

"As a community school system, local partnerships are a cornerstone of our success. By collaborating with the Bank of Zachary, we can provide authentic opportunities for students to build their financial literacy skills while also having the ability to engage in job-embedded experiences. We are excited to launch and expand this resource for our students," said Zachary Community School District Supt.



Ben Necaise.

The Bank of Zachary is locally owned and operated. Hometown banking is Bank of Zachary's mission and specialty. Founded in 1904, the Bank of Zachary is the oldest State-chartered bank in the parish. For information, visit www.bankofzachary.com or call (225) 654-2701. The Bank of Zachary is a member of the FDIC.

After 120 years, our roots run deep.

Bank of Zachary is proud to serve our communities and customers, now and for decades to come.

We're celebrating 120 years of service—stop by and see us. Our friendly and professional staff is here to help you thrive and grow, with the right financial solutions for your needs. And we continue our dedication to providing the modern technology and innovative offerings you expect from your bank.

1904 - 2024 BANK of ZACHARY
Celebrating 120 years

Banking the way you want.
BANKOFZACHARY.COM | (225) 261-5111

Member FDIC

Congratulations!

Scholarship Offers:
 Johns Hopkins Dean's Fellowship Award
 Dillard Scholars Award
 UL Magnolia Scholarship
 S.L.U. Merit Scholarship
 S.U. Honors Scholarship
 Xavier Univ. Scholarship
 Tulane Distinguished Scholars Award

Total Award: \$621,884

Class of 2024
MICAH MCKANSTRY
 Valedictorian

TULANE

Congratulations!

Scholarship & Award Offers:
 100 Black Men of Metro Baton Rouge Scholarship
 Institutional Award

Total Award: \$34,330

Class of 2024
TYUS DANIELS
 Salutatorian

SLU

Congratulations!

Scholarship Offers:
 Miles College Bridge Scholarship
 Fisk Univ. Scholarship
 S.C. Univ. Scholarship
 Talladega College Presidential Scholarship Award
 New Mexico State Univ. Academic Scholarship

Total Award: \$147,040

Class of 2024
DASHA TERRANCE
 Magna Cum Laude

ST

Congratulations!

Estimated Scholarship & Award Offers:
 Institutional Award

Total Award: \$30,210

Class of 2024
Cervantes Bell

College Decision:
batonrouge
 COMMUNITY COLLEGE

MCKANSTRY PREPARATORY SCHOOL GRADUATES Valedictorian Micah McKanstry, Salutatorian Tyus Daniels, Magna Cum Laude Dasha Terrance and Cervantes Bell.

Central's McKanstry Preparatory School

CENTRAL — Since 2003, McKanstry Preparatory School has met the need for personalized, small group instruction that caters to the exceptional talents in Baton Rouge area. Founders Ken and Shelia McKanstry's vision was clear: to cultivate not just students, but leaders and lifelong learners. In contrast to the conventional classroom experience, M.P.S. has emerged as a compelling alternative that stood the test of time.

Within the school's walls, a vibrant atmosphere of curiosity and growth prevails. Students are encouraged to explore their passions, fueled by dedicated teachers who prioritize individual attention and

customized learning paths. McKanstry Preparatory School believes in providing students with a world-class education and a nurturing Christian environment. Staff members at M.P.S. are dedicated to helping each student reach his goals through a rigorous curriculum. McKanstry Preparatory School is looking for the best and brightest minds in the Baton Rouge community. The goal is to provide students with an exceptional education that is rooted in STEM learning.

McKanstry Preparatory is located at 14112 Greenwell Springs Rd in Central, phone 225-272-0730. Web-site: mckanstryprep.org.



CENTRAL BLOOMERS had a successful plant sale May 25. The proceeds will benefit school gardens and annual scholarships for two students. Shown are bloomers (1st row, left to right) Pattie Riché, Mary Legendre, Diane Hardin, and Jo Ann Fridge. (2nd row) Karen Graham, Jackie Ladatto, Patricia Tetley, and Jacqueline Bottoms. Missing from the picture is Jean Barnard, Peaches Davis, and Diana Roman.

**Turning 65 or new to Medicare?
It's time to get Medicare-ready**

Get a free benefits review from a professional*
 If you're turning 65 and becoming eligible for Medicare, your local licensed sales agent can explain how it works. Plus, get answers to questions like:

- What are my options where I live?
- Which plan is right for me?
- How do I choose?

A Humana Medicare Advantage plan is designed to bring you more than you might expect from a health plan. We call it human care. Explore the care and benefits you could get soon.

Humana.
 A more human way to healthcare®

*There is no obligation to enroll. Humana is a Medicare Advantage (HMO, PPO and HMO) organization with a Medicare contract. Enrollment in any Medicare plan requires an annual renewal. All Humana Medicare Advantage plans are subject to annual renewal. All Medicare Advantage plans are subject to annual renewal. All Medicare Advantage plans are subject to annual renewal. All Medicare Advantage plans are subject to annual renewal.

Call a licensed Humana sales agent

Chris Glaser

225-453-7357 (TTY: 711)
 Monday - Friday
 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
 cglaser5@humana.com

BR
BLANCO'S
 ROOFING & SHEET METAL

The BEST Price In Roofing & Sheet Metal Services

Our Top Priority Is Your Complete Satisfaction

COMMERCIAL & RESIDENTIAL

(225) 262-1980
 13653 Devall Rd • Central
 www.blancoroofing.com
 Colette@blancosroofing.com

2024 FALL ELECTION
 Qualifying
 July 17-19, 2024

EARLY VOTING
 Oct. 18-29, 2024

ELECTION DAY
 Tuesday, Nov. 5

RUNOFF ELECTION
 EARLY VOTING
 Nov. 22-30, 2024

ELECTION DAY
 Saturday, Dec. 7

OFFICES
 Mayor-President
 Metro Council
 Court of Appeal
 Supreme Court in BR
 City Constable

CENTRAL CITY NEWS 2022 Newspaper of the Year Louisiana Press Association

Watch Your Business Grow!
Advertise in the CENTRAL CITY NEWS!

Email
 centralcitycews@hotmail.com
 Or Call Jolice Provost
 225-261-5055 or
 Woody Jenkins
 225-921-1433

Your Ad Can Be HOT OFF THE PRESS
 In the July Edition of Central City News

Explore Your Advertising Opportunities Today!

Central City News
 910 North Foster Drive • Baton Rouge, LA 70806



5th Annual REVOLUTION 2024 National Youth Conference 9500 Blackwater Road • Central July 3-7, 2024

REVOLUTION SQUARE — Revolution 2024, America's 5th Annual National Youth Conference will be held at 9500 Blackwater Road July 3-7, 2024. Admission is free.

Continued from Page 1

Wednesday, July 3, 2024
7:30 p.m. Church Time
 Sign up for Talent Show in gym
 10 p.m.-1:30 a.m. Gym Sports

Thursday, July 4, 2024
 Callin all Cowboys & Cowgirls
 Wear your Western best
11 a.m. Church Time
 1-5 p.m. Gym - Free time
7:30 p.m. Church Time

10-1:30 a.m. Gym Sports
 11:30 p.m. Talent Show

Friday, July 5, 2024
11 a.m. Church Time
 1-5 p.m. Gym - Free time
7:30 p.m. Church Time
 10-1:30 a.m. Gym Free Play
 10 p.m. Homerun Derby
 12 a.m. Fireworks Show

Saturday, July 6, 2024
 9-11 a.m. Soul-Winning Seminar
 11 a.m. Outreach Departure
 1-3 p.m. Complimentary Lunch
 3-8 p.m. Lake Free Time
 8-10 p.m. Campus Rollback
 Setting things in order for Sunday

Sunday, July 7, 2024
 7-8 a.m. Buses Roll Out

10 a.m. Church Time
 12 noon Lunch on Grounds
 6 p.m. Prayer
6:30 p.m. Church Time
 Gym Free Play - Refreshments

Daily Activities
 Ballfield
 10 p.m.-12 a.m. Petting Zoo
 10 p.m.-12 a.m. Horse Riding
 10 p.m.-1:30 a.m. Bounce House
 Thursday-Friday at Ballfield
 10 p.m.-1 a.m. Mechanical Bull Lake
 5-8 p.m. Wed. & 8-11 p.m. T-F
 Goat Milking & Bottle Feeding
 10 p.m.-12 a.m. Alligator Meet
 1-5 p.m./10 p.m.-1:30 p.m.
 At your own risk, Swim-

ming & Kayaking

Classified Ads

\$6 for first 10 words, \$10 for 11 to 20 words, \$15 for 21 to 30 words, \$20 for 31 to 40 words. 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 70806

**CHRISTIAN LADY HOUSE
CLEANING:**
 Call Norma at 261-3754.

HOUSE CLEANING: Young experienced house cleaner with references wants to start own business. VERY competitive prices 225-328-5929.

CLEANING SERVICE: JulieAnns Cleaning serving the Central area since 2009. Call 225-284-0507.

JOB OPENING/ FINANCIAL COMMERCIAL LENDER BANK OF ZACHARY: EDUCATION: Bachelor's Degree or 7+ year professional equivalent. **EXPERIENCE:** 5+ yrs in banking, financial services and/or business preferred. Sales, business development, underwriting, and/or financial analysis experience preferred. **JOB REQUIREMENTS:** Maintain a high level of confidentiality. Reliable transportation necessary. Current NMLS account. Monday-Friday 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. **KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, AND ABILITIES:** Effectively prioritize, multi-task and work independently. Strong understanding of Microsoft Suite, Outlook, and AdobePro. For a full job description, see out careers page at www.bankofzachary.com. EEO/AA/M/F/VETERAN/DISABLED. Send all resumes to hr@bankofzachary.com.

NEW ARRIVAL OF STREET LEGAL GOLF CARTS & MORE

(225) 774-7475
 GOLF CARTS SALES • SERVICE • REPAIR
 16555 Plank Road • Baker, LA • gaylebattery.com

TURN JUNK BATTERIES INTO \$CASH\$

**Any size storage
to fit any need...**

- 24 Hour Access Gate
- Climate Control & Regular Storage Available
- Manager on site

12526
Hooper Rd.
261-7357

**CENTRAL CITY NEWS
Business Directory**
 3 months @\$50/month
 12 months @\$42/month
centralcitynews@hotmail.com
 Or call 225-261-5055

Automotive

North - Airline & Choctaw
225-927-2311
South - Airline & Cloverland
225-751-3656

Dirt Work

General Sand & Gravel Co.
 Limestone, Gravel, Mason Sand, Clay, Top Soil, Riversilt, Crushed Concrete, Tractor Work, Swimming Pool Demo & Fill-In

225-261-3953

Electrical

Simple Electric
 Installation of All Electrical Work
 Commercial • Residential
 Over 35 Years Experience • Any Size Job
 Parking Lot Lights, Security Lights, and Video
225-921-2633

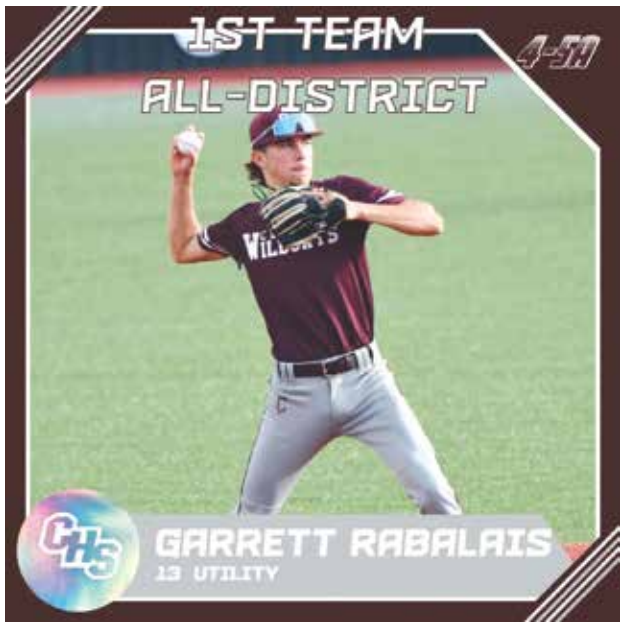
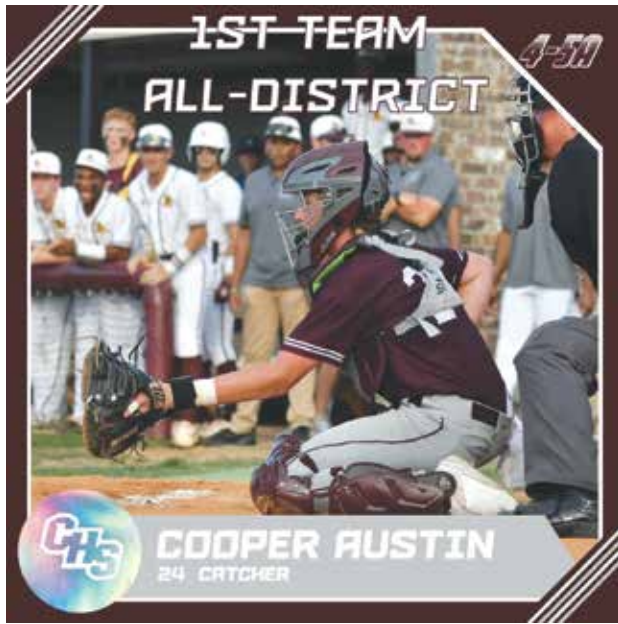
**SUBSCRIBE
Central City News**
 \$24 a Year by Mail
 \$36 a Year • Out of State
centralcitynews.us

Wildcats Baseball Team Advanced to LHSAA Quarterfinals



IN A CLOSE GAME, CENTRAL LOST TO WEST MONROE in the LHSAA Quarter Finals 2-0.

Central High Lands Four on 1st Team All-District



CENTRAL — Coach Leo McClure has retired after another successful season as head baseball coach at Central High School.

Meanwhile, the 2024 Central Wildcat baseball team landed a number of its stars on the All-District 1st or 2nd Team.

Those winning district honors were:

First Team

- Grayden Harris, pitcher
- Cooper Austin, catcher
- Garrett Rabalais, utility
- Jacob LeBlanc, outfielder

Second Team

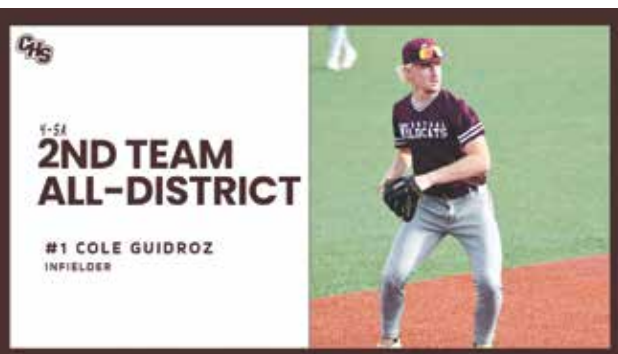
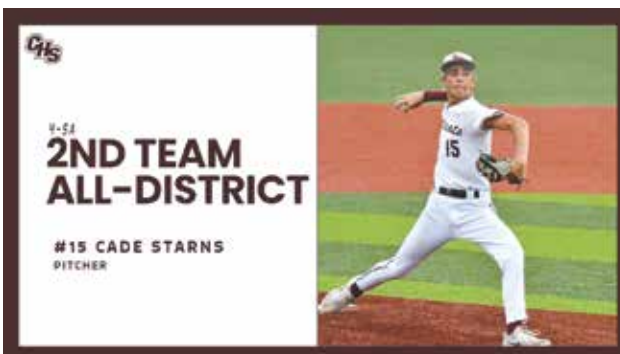
- Cade Starns, pitcher
- Cole Guidroz, infielder
- B. J. Collins, outfielder
- Kade Furr, utility
- Kyle Veal, utility

A Central High graduate of 1973, Leo McClure has spent much of life as a player and coach in Central. He was head basketball coach from 1977 to 1984. After a few years out of coaching to work in private business, Leo McClure returned to Central High as Athletic Director and head football coach in 1991 and 1992. He has been head baseball coach since 2020.

Central High Football 2024

Date	Opponent	Site
9/5	De La Salle	Away
9/13	Denham Springs	Home
9/20	Walker	Home
9/27	Cecilia	Home
10/4	Lafayette Christian	Home
10/11	Woodlawn	Home
10/18	Catholic	Away
11/1	Zachary	Home
11/8	Scotlandville	Away

Central High School 2nd Team All-District



Make Plans For Central's RED, WHITE, AND BOOM! Friday July 5 • 6 to 10 p.m.



FREE EVENT! **Red, WHITE, AND BOOM!**
A CELEBRATION at SHOE CREEK
14150 Grand Settlement Blvd.
FRIDAY, JULY 5, 2024
6:00-10:00 PM

Food Trucks ★ Snowballs ★ Facepainting ★ Photobooth
Kid Activities ★ Live Music ★ Firework Show
Patch Bayou ★ Bounce House ★ and much more!

Music By: THE CHRIS LEBLANC BAND WITH ZYDECO MIKE AND AMANDA LEBLANC

Food Trucks: CAPITOL SEAFOOD - BEAN DIP FACTORY - ARCHIE'S HOTDOG ISLAND & LEMONADE STAND

Beverages: CENTRAL CITY STEAK & SEAFOOD (Regular & Alcoholic)

Sweet Treats: 3M DRIED TREATS, CUPCAKES TO GEAUX, B'S SNEAUX AND GEAUX, HEAVENLY COTTON CANDY

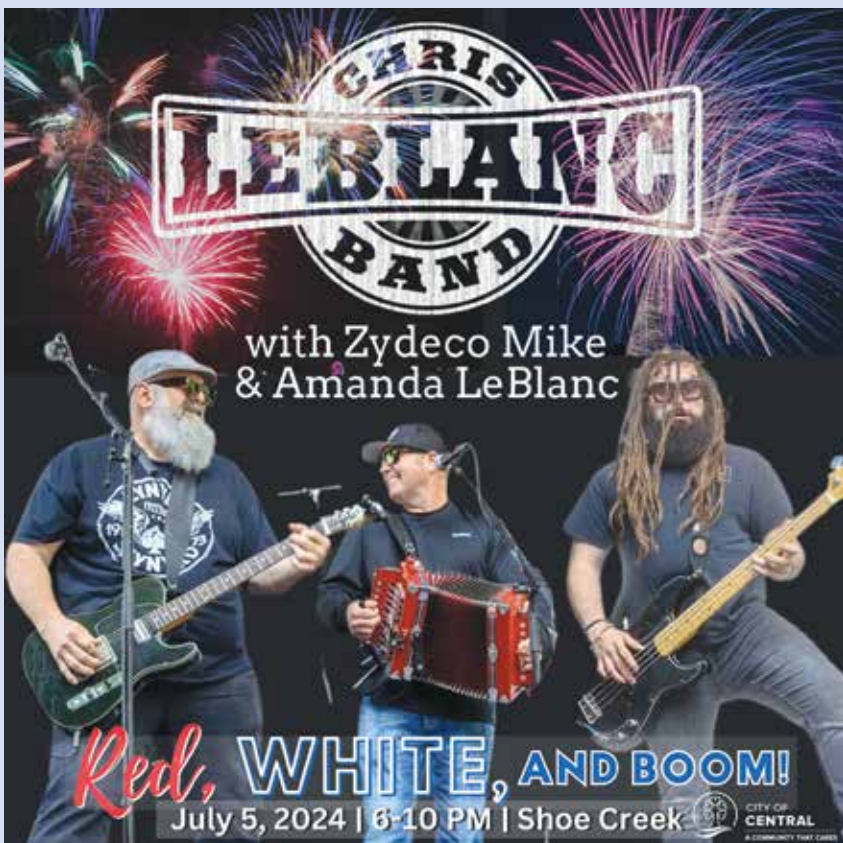


Red, WHITE, AND BOOM!
A CELEBRATION at SHOE CREEK
14150 Grand Settlement Blvd.
FRIDAY, JULY 5, 2024
6:00-10:00 PM

SUPPORT OUR TROOPS

Personal Items Antibiotic & Anti-Itch ointment Baby wipes Deodorant (non-aerosol) Eye drops Female items Hand sanitizer Insect repellent (non-aerosol) Lip balm Medicated foot powder Mouthwash (travel size) Muscle pain ointment Q-tips Razors, disposable Shampoo (travel size) Shaving cream (non-aerosol) Shoe inserts Skin lotions (travel size) Soap/body wash (travel size) Sunscreen lotion (in tube, non-aerosol)	Snacks BEEF jerky/Slim Jims Candy / Chewing Gum Canned fruit (easy open) Coffee/ Tea bags Cracker Jacks Crackers (peanut butter/cheese) Fruit roll-ups Granola bars / Energy bars Hot Sauce / LA Products (small items) Liquid Drink Mix (Mio, hydration types) Microwave food Peanut Butter (individual packs) Popcorn (microwave) Powdered drink mixes (Crystal Light, Gatorade, Propel) Rice Krispy Treats Sunflower seeds Trail Mix Tuna/Chicken pouches 100 Calorie Pack	Miscellaneous Room air fresheners Small American flags Card games Crossword puzzles/word search Small board games
---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

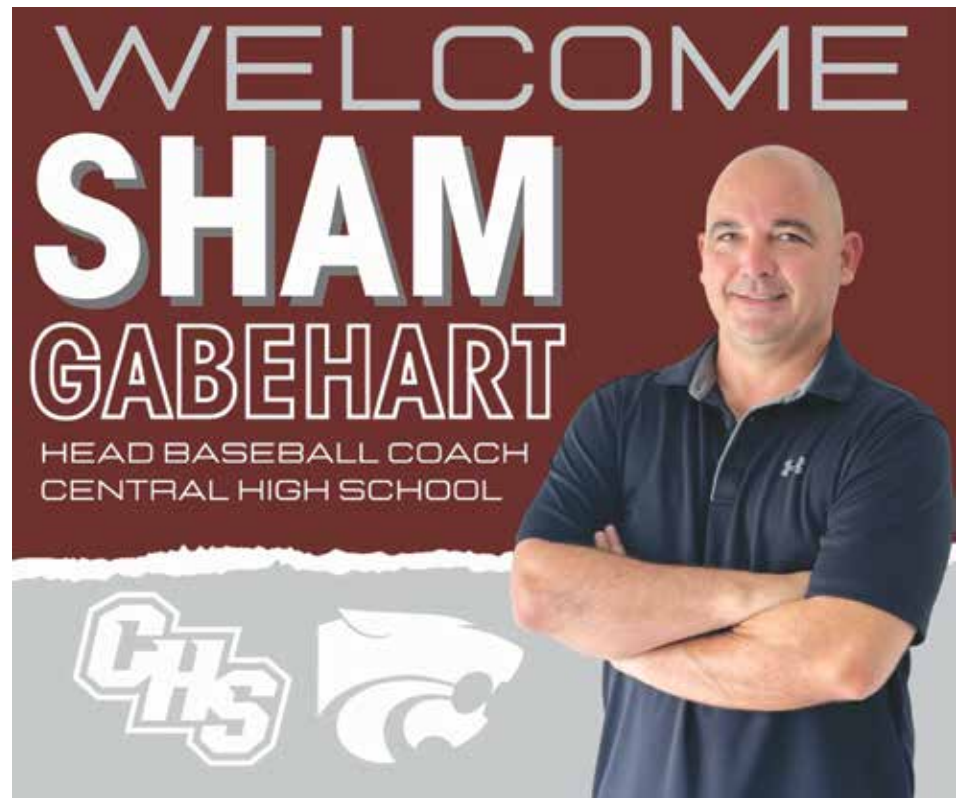
Genoux Seven Chapter Blue Star Mothers of America P. O. Box 78152 Central, LA 70837 www.genouxsevenbsm.com



CHRIS LEBLANC BAND
with Zydeco Mike & Amanda LeBlanc

Red, WHITE, AND BOOM!
July 5, 2024 | 6-10 PM | Shoe Creek

Coach Sham Gabehart Leads Wildcat Baseball



COACH SHAM GABEHART NOW A WILDCAT — Sham was named Central High School's new head baseball coach following the retirement of Leo McClure.

CENTRAL — Central High has announced Sham Gabehart as the school's new head baseball coach. Coach Gabehart has over 18 years of experience in Louisiana high school baseball. He replaces Central legend Leo McClure who announced his retirement last month. Coach Gabehart led Parkway to a district championship in 2022. He was head baseball coach at The Dunham School and South Terrebonne High School. At Dunham, he was twice Coach of the Year.

As an assistant coach, Coach Gabehart worked at Zachary High in 2021 as the pitching coach and was a top assistant at Parkview Baptist under Coach M.L. Woodruff from 2006-2012, where he was a part of two state championships. Most recently, Coach Gabehart served as head baseball coach at Central Private High School where his team had notable victories over higher class teams such as Zachary. Athletic Director David Simoneaux added, "We are fired up to work alongside Coach Gabehart and continue to build upon the rich history and tradition that is Central High School baseball."

Coach Gabehart is married to Alana Addison Gabehart and is a father of two boys: James Gabehart (12), and Grayson Gabehart (10).

Fellowship Baptist Church

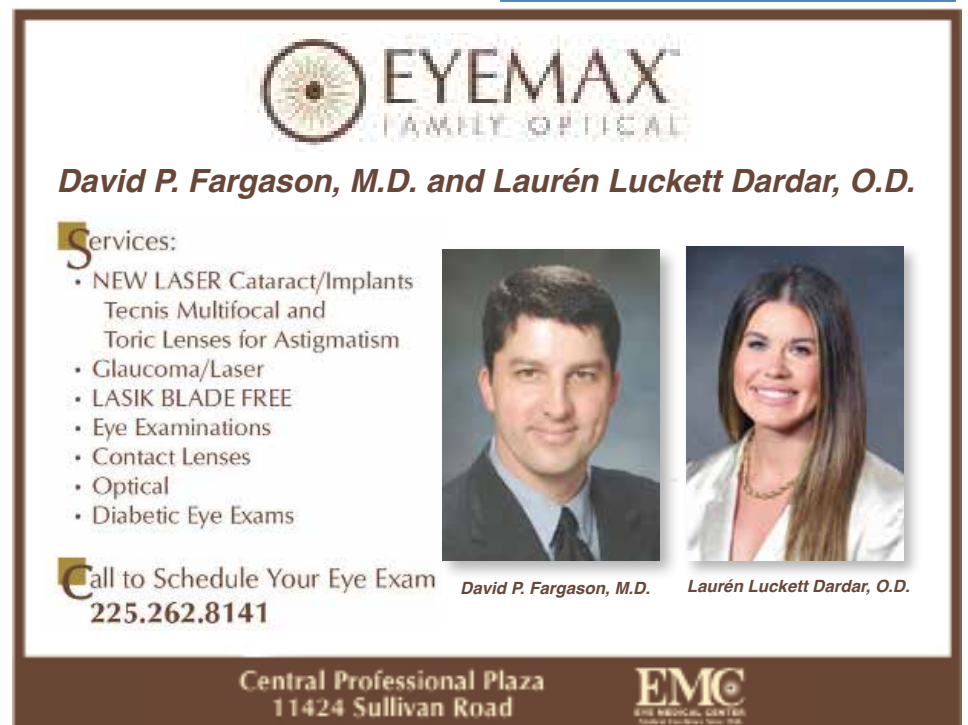
14512 Greenwell Springs Rd
Vacation Bible School



July 22 to July 26
9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Join the action for exciting Bible stories, crafts, games, puppets, skits, snacks, & prizes! For more info visit fbcofcentral.org or call 225-261-8903.

To register scan QR

EYEMAX FAMILY OPTICAL

David P. Fargason, M.D. and Laurén Luckett Dardar, O.D.

Services:

- NEW LASER Cataract/Implants Tecnis Multifocal and Toric Lenses for Astigmatism
- Glaucoma/Laser
- LASIK BLADE FREE
- Eye Examinations
- Contact Lenses
- Optical
- Diabetic Eye Exams

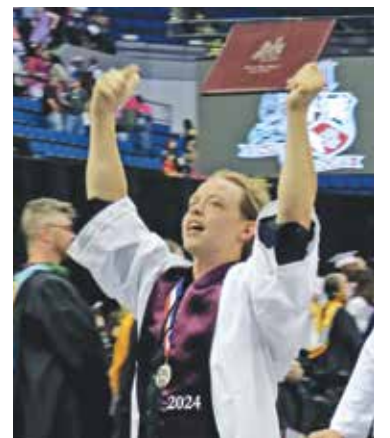
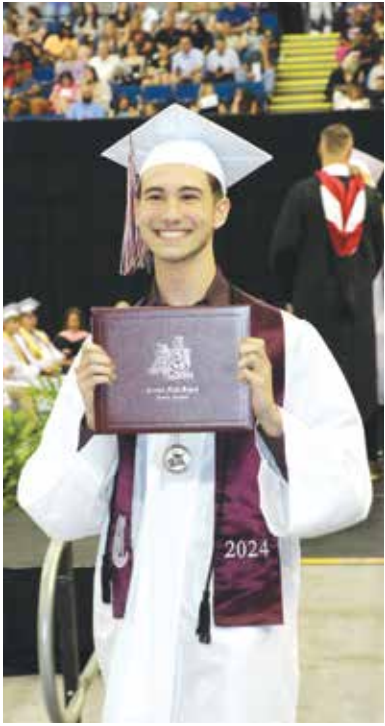
Call to Schedule Your Eye Exam 225.262.8141

David P. Fargason, M.D. Laurén Luckett Dardar, O.D.

Central Professional Plaza
11424 Sullivan Road

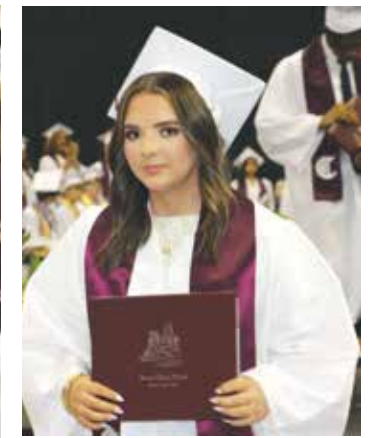
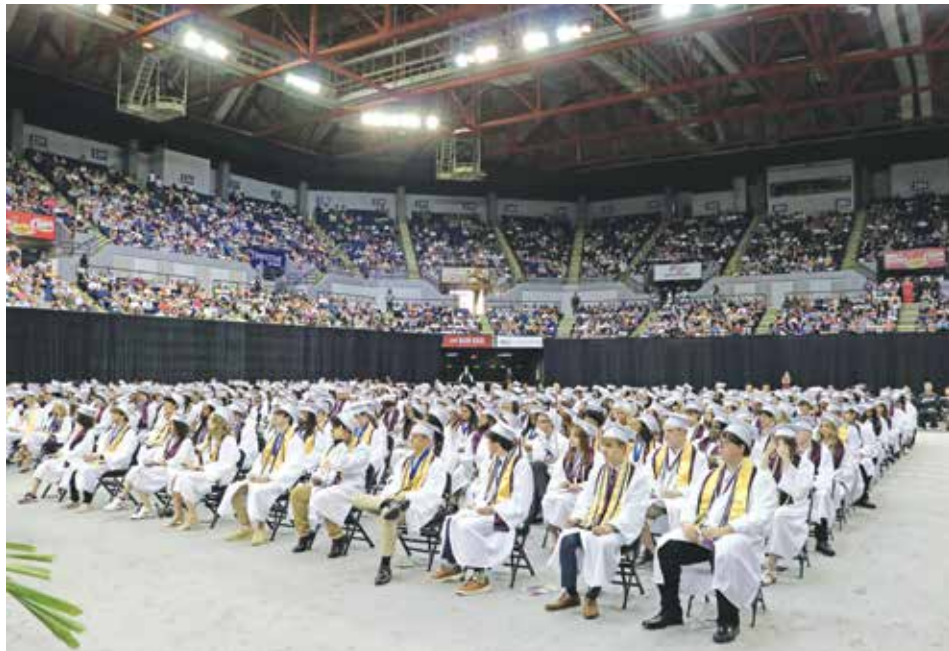
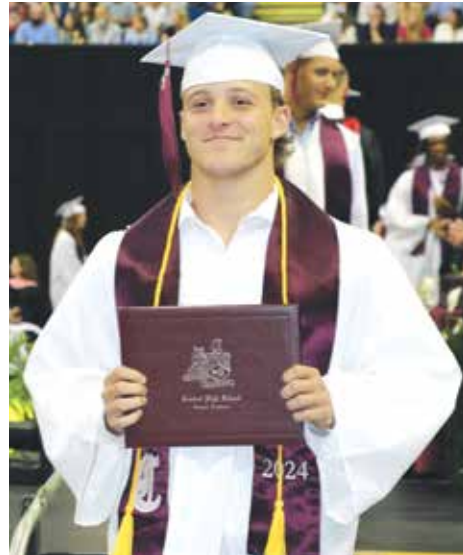
EMC THE MEDICAL CENTER

Central High School Graduation

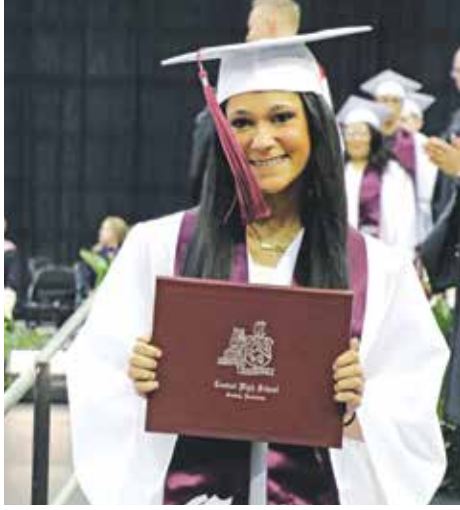
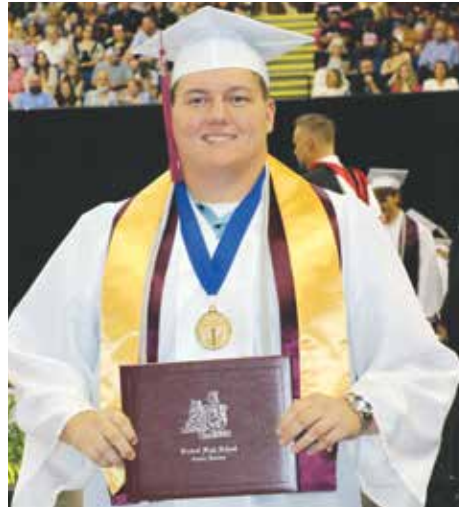


Central High School 2024 Senior Class Photos by Jolice Provost for the Central City News

Was Held May 15 at River Center



Central High School Class of 2024



Central High School Graduation • May 15, 2024 • Raising Cane's River Center
Photos by Jolice Provost for the Central City News