



See Page 7

HOME FROM AFGHANISTAN

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St. George Has 1/3rd Necessary Signatures

Petitions Pile High



ST. GEORGE PETITIONS — Kelli Armanini and Mary Beth West help Dr. Joli and Lisa Shephard sign petitions for St. George.

Spring 2014 Vote
On Incorporation
Of St. George City
Appearing Likely

ST. GEORGE — Efforts to gather 18,000 signatures to call a referendum on the incorporation of the proposed City of St. George appear to be well ahead of schedule, according to unofficial reports from organizers of the movement.

Roughly 6,000 signatures have been gathered, or about one-third of the required number, according to one organizer.

This source said the St. George incorporation movement can count on about 100 reliable volunteers to hit the streets. The total focus right now is on getting the required signatures, he said.

There is no time limit on getting the signatures, but at the current rate it seems likely that 18,000 signatures will be gathered in time for the November 2014 election or even the April 5, 2014 election.

The movement gathered about 1,100 signatures last week, slightly better than its target of 1,000 signatures a week. The tempo has picked up since volunteers realized that they get far more signatures by working at busy intersections or at the entrance to popular food stores. See **SUPPORTERS** on Page 10

Tony Perkins Returning from Middle East

BATON ROUGE — Former Rep. Tony Perkins returns from Israel Sunday night after having organizers a Congressional delegation to the country and met with some of the nation's top political and military leaders.

Perkins will address the Ronald Reagan Newsmaker Luncheon Tuesday at 12 noon at Café Américain, 7521 Jefferson Hwy. The reception begins at 11:30 a.m.

The former state legislator is President of Family Research

Council in Washington and is a frequent guest on Fox News and other national news networks. He will speak on the Middle East and on domestic policy issues. Perkins has been mentioned as a possible candidate for Congress.

Istrouma Football Could End Friday

School to Close;
Football Out for
At Least 5 Years

BATON ROUGE — Istrouma High School was founded in 1917, and the football program has been around for almost 80 years, but all that could be coming to an end very soon. Last week, the Louisiana Recovery School District announced plans to close Istrouma High School at the end of the current school year. Under the plan, current students would be transferred to Capital High, and Istrouma would be closed during the 2014-2015 school year but would re-open in the fall of 2015 with a 9th grade class. Then it would add a grade a year.



ISTROUMA'S LAST TOUCHDOWN? — In last Friday night's game between Istrouma and Live Oak, Trie Gibson of Istrouma raced 92 yards for a touchdown in the closing moments. If Istrouma closes permanently in May, this could be the last IHS TD ever.

However, some alumni fear that Istrouma could be closed permanently. Even if it did re-open in 2015, it could lose football for up to five years, because of rules of the Louisiana High School Athletic Association.

More than 1,500 Istrouma alumni have signed petitions, urging the Recovery School District to reverse its plan. Meanwhile, some alumni have proposed reinventing Istrouma High as a magnet program devoted to preparing young people to get high-paying jobs in the petrochemical industry. It would call "Istrouma High School — Petrochemical Magnet Program" — and it would be available parishwide to students interested in a strong academic and vocational program that would result in real career opportunities. For more on the Petrochemical Magnet Program, see Page 20.

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Photo by Woody Jenkins

NEWLYWEDS — Liz Dent and Herb Sumrall recently wed and will continue to reside in Baton Rouge. Both lost their spouses in recent years. Liz Dent Sumrall is a prominent Republican and civic leader. Mr. Sumrall is retired state Civil Service Director.

Country Living in the City

40 Years After CC/73, Louisiana Constitution Still Shines Brightly, Though Delegates Fade

Fundamental Law Here Stands for Individual Rights, Perhaps Uniquely

Woody Jenkins
Editor

A little more than 40 years ago, I had the unique opportunity as a young man of 26 to serve as a delegate to CC/73, a state constitutional convention, called by the legislature to rewrite the Louisiana Constitution of 1921, the longest constitution in the world. The work of the convention lasted for 18 months, beginning in late 1972 and continuing through early 1974.

It was one of the most demanding things I have ever been part of. A total of 132 men and women came from all

parts of Louisiana with one solitary goal — to draft a constitution that could win the support of the voters and then serve our people for generations to come.

The delegates elected officers and divided into committees. Each committee was responsible for doing the research and coming up with a proposed draft of one Article of the constitution. I requested and was assigned to the Committee on Bill of Rights and Elections.

We held months of hearings and took extensive testimony from “experts” and the general public. I read the Bill of Rights of every state and more than 100 foreign countries.

The Bill of Rights Committee had 10 members — five liberals, four conservatives, and me. If I sided with the liberals, the vote was 6-4. If I sided with the conservatives, it was 5-5. Most of the time, I sided with the conservatives, and the committee was hopelessly deadlocked. One side included Kendall Vick, the general counsel of the ACLU in Louisiana, Rep. Alphonse Jackson, a staunch liberal, Tony Guarisco, a trial lawyer and strong lib-

eral who later served in the state senate, and Chris Roy, law partner of Camille Gravel, an outspoken liberal and executive counsel to Gov. Edwards. The other side included Rep. Ford Stinson, the conservative champion in the state house, Dr. Gerald Weiss, and me, a newly-elected representative from the Istrouma area of North Baton Rouge.

The pressure was on us. If we couldn't agree, there would be no Bill of Rights and without a Bill of Rights, no new constitution. The constitutional convention would end in deadlock and failure.

After weeks of committee debate and continued stalemate, one of the liberal members of the committee looked at me and said, “Alright, you know what all of us believe by now. It may be irrec-



Woody Jenkins

onciliable. But why don't you take it and see if you can come up with a draft we can all live with?” The other members agreed and gave me the job. I worked all night for three nights, pounding away on the typewriter my Key Club adviser, Mr. Mike Chambers, had bought for me from State Surplus for \$10.

Things the delegates had said rang in my mind. Each member of the committee had strong beliefs but we each wanted the convention to be a success. The one thing every member of the committee believed in was individual rights. They believed that the state existed to protect the rights of the individual citizen, not the other way around.

As I typed, the words flowed. We would make each right enumerated in our constitution an “individual” right. There would be no “group” rights. We would protect both economic liberty and social liberty. All rights would be enforceable in a court of law. They would not just be meaningless words on a page.

When I returned to the committee, they read it, tore it up, put it back together, and then passed it on to the floor of the full convention. There it was debated for more than a week. The battles on the convention floor were bloody and stressful. Sometimes we had to vote over and over on the same thing for days in a row. But ultimately our new Declaration of Rights was adopted in a form very much like the original draft. It was a breakthrough for the convention and the beginning of many other principled compromises that led to the proposed constitution being approved with only one dissenting vote. The delegates took the proposal to the voters. Our Declaration of Rights was praised as an example of how people of very diverse views could work together and accomplish something truly meaningful. The voters approved the proposed constitution, and it is today the Louisiana Constitution of 1974. Our Declaration of Rights and the convention debates have been cited by the Louisiana Supreme Court hundreds of times. It has stood the test of time. Well, for 40 years at least.

On Nov. 20, the surviving delegates, less than 40 out of 132, will gather to reminisce. It will be at the LSU Journalism Building from 5 to 7 p.m. Gov. Edwards and Roemer, chairman Bubba Henry and I will speak. You are very welcome to join us!

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Low Turnout Expected for Slim Election Ballot

Nov. 16 Election Includes School Bonds In Central, Justice of the Peace in SBR

CENTRAL — The Central Community School Board is asking voters to approve a proposition on Nov. 16 that will allow the school district to borrow up to \$13.1 million for a list of dedicated school improvements and expansions. The budgeted items include:

- Construction of a 9th Grade Academy (\$5.82 million)
- Repair of Central High School's parking lot (\$1.8 million);
- Installation of lighting at Central High School's baseball and softball fields (\$500,000);
- Upgrade of district technology to manage new mandated state assessments (\$2 million); and
- Demolition and asbestos abatement of old buildings, as well as upgrades to the property at the former Central Middle School (\$1.5 million).

The budgeted cost of the projects totals \$11.6 million. Another \$1.39 million (12 percent of the anticipated expenditures) must be budgeted as a contingency fee as required un-



RALLY FOR 'A' SCHOOL SYSTEM — The Andrews family came out Tuesday night to celebrate the Central Community School System again being named an "A" school system. Shown are (left to right) Aleece, mom Nicole, and Bryson.

der the district's risk management policy, bringing the total to \$13.1 million, according to Superintendent Michael Faulk.

"We want our community members to know exactly how we're using their money to further our school system, by creating better and safer learning environments," he said.

Early voting for that election ends Saturday.

Faulk said a 9th Grade Academy, which would be constructed at Central High School, would be the largest cost item earmarked for the new monies — approximately half of the total investment.

He said the new wing would house the school's freshmen class separately from upperclassmen, allowing better monitoring of those students and concentrated training opportunities — efforts that have proved to greatly improve academic scores and decrease dropout rates at other schools across the state and nation. Faulk said the new build-

See **MORE** on Page 12

Arbour, Spencer in Runoff for Justice of the Peace

BATON ROUGE — Voters in Ward 3, District 3 in South Baton Rouge will go to the polls on Saturday, Nov. 16 to choose a new Justice of the Peace for the area.

The Nov. 16 election will be a runoff between Jerry Arbour and Larry Spencer, both Republicans, who are seeking to fill the unexpired term of Ms. Melva Cavanaugh, who passed away in March. Gov. Jindal called the special election.

In the primary election, held on Oct. 19, Spencer and Arbour led the field of candidates.

Spencer had 616 votes, or 33 percent, to Arbour's 614 votes, also 33 percent. Other candidates were Kenesha Antoine, 328 votes, or 18 percent; Steve Myers, 102 votes, or 6 percent; Mark G. Simmons, 93 votes, or 5 percent, and Mariano Hinojosa, 90 votes, or 5 percent.

The turnout for the first primary was very low, and the turnout in the runoff election is expected to be even lower.

Justice of the Peace has special



JUSTICE OF THE PEACE candidates Jerry Arbour (left) and Larry Spencer

significance in this election. The district is located outside the city limits of Baton Rouge in the proposed City of St. George. Civil cases in the area are normally tried in District Court, rather than Baton Rouge City Court. Recent increases in the filing fees for District Court have raised them to over \$500. The justice of the peace court provides a reasonably priced and more expeditious way to deal with money disputes under \$5,000.

Arbour is an attorney and member of the East Baton Rouge School Board. He believes his experience as an attorney prepare for this judicial position. He has been endorsed by the Republican Party of East Baton Rouge.

Spencer said he was grateful to all the friends and family who helped in the primary. He said he believes his work experience will serve him well in this position. Spencer has been endorsed by the *Baton Rouge Business Report*.

Early voting ends Saturday.

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Justice Scalia Kicks Off 1st Meeting

Gov. Jindal Hosts 150 Attorneys at Lawyers Chapter

BATON ROUGE — The Baton Rouge Lawyers Chapter of the Federalist Society for Law and Public Policy got off to a spectacular start last month.

The first-ever meeting of the organization was hosted at the Governor's Mansion by Gov. Bobby Jindal. The main speaker for the sold-out event was United States Supreme Court Associate Justice Antonin Scalia.

More than 150 Baton Rouge attorneys and law students were in attendance. Baton Rouge has had student chapters of the Federalist Society for years at the LSU Law School and the Southern Law School, but this marks the first time that practicing attorneys could be part of a Federalist chapter here.

The Federalist Society describes itself as a group of conservatives and libertarians who believe that the state exists to preserve freedom, that the separation of governmental powers is central to the Constitution, and it is emphatically the duty of the judiciary to say what the



JUSTICE ANTONIN SCALIA — U. S. Supreme Court associate justice Antonin Scalia was the keynote speaker at the first meeting of the Baton Rouge Lawyers Chapter of the Federalist Society for Law and Public Policy Studies at the Governor's Mansion on Friday, Oct. 11 with a reception at the Governor's Mansion. At right, attorney Scott Carmouche and his wife Mary Fischer Carmouche.

law is, not what it should be. The Federalist Society recognizes that the legal profession and the law schools are dominated by orthodox liberal ideology which advocates a centralized and uniform society. The Society believes that the priorities of the legal order should be

changed to put a premium on individual liberty, traditional values,

and the rule of law. Justice Scalia has been involved

1st Meeting of the Federalist Society
 Baton Rouge Lawyers Chapter • Oct. 11, 2013
 Photos by Woody Jenkins



PACKED GOVERNOR'S MANSION — Among those in attendance were members of the LSU Law chapter of the Federalist Society (left) and the Southern Law chapter (right).



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JUSTICE SCALIA with Gov. Bobby Jindal and chapter co-presidents Jason Doré, Beverly Moore, and Catherine Jenkins. At right, attorneys and ex-Marines James Baehr and Saul Newsome.



JUSTICE JEFF HUGHES, Prof. Paul Baier; Lynn and James Moore; Justice Greg Guidry, Gov. Jindal; Leonard Leo of Federalist Society, Beverly Moore, Catherine Jenkins, and Bernie Boudreaux.

Four La. Supreme Court Justices at Federalist Society Dec. 11

with the Federal Society for years and said he was happy to be able to address the members of the bar who were present.

For more on joining the Federalist Society in Baton Rouge, go to www.brfded-soc.org or email brfed-soc@gmail.com

BATON ROUGE — The Baton Rouge Lawyers Chapter of the Federal Society for Law and Public Policy will host its first-ever Louisiana Supreme Court Roundup.

Four members of the state Supreme Court will speak at a lun-

cheon sponsored by the group from 12 noon to 1:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Dec. 11 at Galatoire's Bistro, 17451 Perkins Road. The cost is \$25.

Supreme Court associate justices Marcus Clark, Greg Guidry, Jeff Hughes, and Jeff Victory will

review the work of the court during 2013. The event is open to attorneys. Seating is limited to 50.

One hour of Louisiana CLE credit will be given, pending approval. Register at www.event-bright.com.



Justice Antonin Scalia, a hunter, was presented a Duck Dynasty cap and souvenirs.



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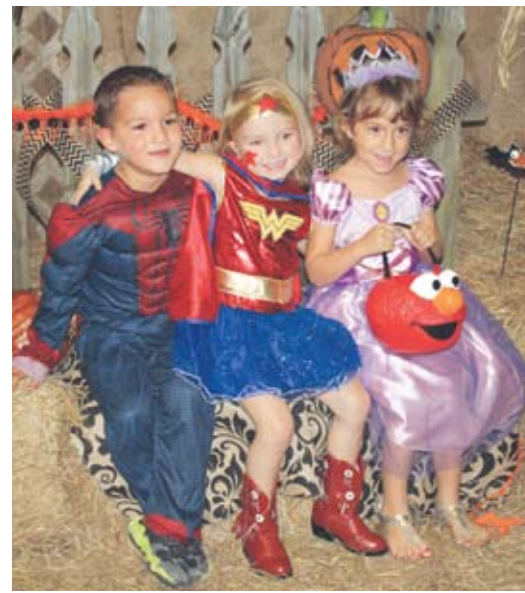
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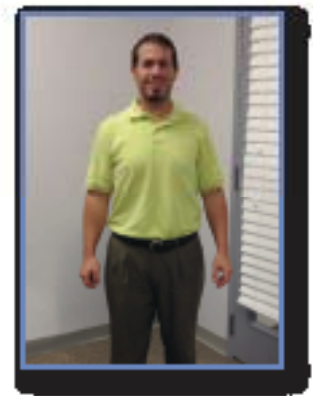
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Spc. Dylan David Back from Afghanistan

Tears and Cheers Greet Returning Soldier When He Surprises Loved Ones at Schools

CENTRAL — Spc. Dylan David, U.S. Army, had been stationed in Afghanistan since January 2013 but arrived home in early October to his bride of two and a half years, Kristin Rogillio David.

The first thing Dylan did was surprise his three brothers-in-law — at their schools.

All three young men have a special place in their heart for Dylan.

Brother-in-law Caden, a kindergarten student at Bellingrath Hills Elementary, had been marking each day off the 2013 calendar, awaiting Dylan's return.

Brother-in-law Kyle, a 7th grade student at Central Middle, started the day off being inducted into the Jr. Beta Club. After lunch, he was happy and very moved to see his brother-in-law. Dylan told Kyle he would be at his game the following week when Central Middle played Zachary. He jokingly told Kyle, "Don't hold it against me because I went to Zachary!"

Also at Central Middle, brother-in-law Cody, a new math teacher at the school and an assistant baseball coach at Central High, was relieved that a call from the principal's office didn't mean trouble but rather the arrival at school of Dylan.

After many months in Afghani-



SURPRISE — Spc. Dylan David surprised his brother-in-law Caden (left) at Bellingrath and brother-in-law Kyle at Central Middle.



Students at Bellingrath (left) saw a happy reunion; (center) Caden, Dylan, and wife Kristin; Kyle, Dylan, and brother-in-law Cody reunite.

stan, Dylan enjoyed the family time and the chance to be renewed.

Nov. 11 is Veterans Day.



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LSU J-School 100th Anniversary



NEW HALL OF FAME MEMBERS INDUCTED ON 100TH ANNIVERSARY — Kevin Reilly, Jr., accepted on behalf of his late father Kevin, Sr. from Kip Holden and Jim Engster; Dan Borné, presented by Mayor-President Kip Holden, a J-School grad and Hall of Fame member; and Prof. Jay Perkins, presented by Hall of Famer Jim Engster.



MEMBERS OF MANSHIP SCHOOL OF MASS COMMUNICATIONS HALL OF FAME — (Left to right) Dean Jerry Ceepos with Hall of Fame members Dan Borné, Jay Perkins, Brett Blackledge, Freda Yarbrough Dunn, Raymond Strother, Linda Lightfoot, Jinx Broussard, Jackie Ducote, Jim Engster, Woody Jenkins, and Kip Holden.



While some things have changed, others never will. DEMCO continues its everyday commitment to ensure the power is in your hands.



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J-SCHOOL HALL OF FAME — Dan Borné, president of the Louisiana Chemical Association and Voice of the LSU Tigers, was inducted into the LSU Manship School of Communications Hall. Shown are daughter Rebecca, Dan, wife Lissette, son Jason with his wife Jennifer Rae and son D.J.

**LSU MANSHIP SCHOOL OF MASS COMMUNICATIONS
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Fall Festival at Zoar Baptist
Photos by Jolice Provost



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More Than 100 Volunteers Carrying Petition



Realtor Jim Talbot gets a voter to sign up for City of St. George



Patty Colona Cook is dedicated volunteer



Jenny and Trey Cook get signa



Cal Road at Landsbury Avenue was a busy petition table.



Bobby and Sheri McKey signed up



Henry Grace (left) compares not



Norman Browning with grandson



Darnell Browning (left) signs up

Supporters of Incorporating St. George Explain Their Reasons

Continued from Page 1

rather than going door to door. Volunteers are able to pick up five or six times more names by working in public places rather than door to door.

Norman Browning, chairman of Local Schools for Local Children, said the organization will be on particular street corners and in front of specific businesses every Saturday from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. until they have sufficient signatures. He said these will be posted at www.StGeorgeLouisiana.com. Some of the standard locations will be:

- Coursey at Jones Creek
- Highland at Jefferson
- Lagniappe at Perkins at Bluebonnet
- Wal-Mart lot on Coursey

Browning said his group is also working to raise money to support its communications efforts. At the right time, organizers hope to have the funds to have a strong media campaign to persuade undecided voters.

Browning said it was been sur-

prising to him how little push-back he has received from opponents of incorporation. He is constantly speaking at homeowners associations and says he is encountering very little negative.

When asked what kind of questions he gets from people who are asked to sign the pro-incorporation petition, he laughed and said, "The main question I get is 'Where do I sign the petition?'"

Browning said the major problem is simply getting people to stop their cars, get out and sign the petition. "When we get to ask someone to sign the petition face to face, we get about 80 percent yes," he said. Those numbers hold up when going door to door, but the problem volunteers run into is that people simply aren't home, Browning said.

The *Capital City News* surveyed a number of individuals as they signed the petition and asked why they decided to do so. Here are some of the responses:

- Mary Carole, a 23-year-old school teacher, said, "If we could

have our own school district, we would definitely have better schools. It would be our decision as a city, and I like that."

• Kelli Armanini has volunteered her time to help with the incorporation. She said she looks at the issue as a mom. "You shouldn't have to travel across town in this traffic to go to a PTA meeting. You shouldn't have to pay private school tuition. The

schools aren't working for us."

• Dr. Joli Shephard, an optometrist, signed the petition with her mother, Lisa Shephard. Lisa said, "We want the schools to be better for our children. If we had our own school system, property values would go up. We should get back to neighborhood schools. This is where we live. We want to be in control of our lives."

- A government employee who



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Mary Carole, 23-year-old school teacher



Kevin Dominick stopped his motorbike to sign petition.



Signatures with Pam and Tommy Doran.



Trey Cook (left) signs up another voter for St. George.



Business consultant Jack Stevens



Brandon and Sharyn Lithgoe



Henry Grace, volunteer for proposed City of St. George

Reasons for Doing So

asked not to be identified said “East Baton Rouge Parish schools have built Livingston and Ascension parishes. The focus should be on safety and security issues and whether students are getting a good education. The bureaucracy has gotten so big, and Supt. [Bernard] Taylor isn’t going to change it.”

- Bobby and Sherri McKey stopped by to sign a petition in the Jefferson Terrace subdivision. Bobby, who works at Exxon, said, “We want to keep our taxes local. We don’t want the legislature or special interests deciding what happens to our community.”

- Local realtor Jim Talbot, who himself served on the East Baton Rouge Parish school board in the 1990’s, said he feels his years in business and politics have taught him to “read” people and their attitudes. “I see in the body language of the people who stop to discuss the incorporation that they are excited and enthusiastic. People stop their car, get out, and sign the petition.

See **WHY** on Page 20

Louisiana Strong Has Capacity Crowd

BATON ROUGE — A capacity crowd packed into Drusilla Seafood last Saturday for the first Louisiana Strong Summit. Key-note speaker Michael Voris explained how collectivism and urban socialism are being promoted through the Industrial Areas Foundation, which was organized by Saul Alinsky.

Voris said many well-meaning churches and church leaders are duped by the tactics of the far left who generally don’t share the spiritual beliefs of those they use.

Louisiana Strong was formed to promote American ideals of God, country, home, fiscal responsibility, and personal initiative. One of its goals is to help strengthen the relationship between conservative organizations and elected officials.

Louisiana Strong was organized as a PAC, which means it can support candidates and causes. Here are comments from some of those who attended:



Michael Voris, STB, told participants to take the initiative

- **Glenda Pollard.** We had several hundred Louisiana Strong members hear Michael Voris. God is good! If you organize, they will come. Let truth and freedom ring!

- **Sharon H. Nason.** I attended the Louisiana Strong Summit last Saturday. It was a real history lesson for us all. We learned that there has been an agenda in the making for the control of our country for centuries.

- **Thomas Boudreau.** I thoroughly enjoyed Saturday’s Summit, and Michael Voris, the excellent guest speaker. His comments on the events leading to the degradation of our society and the actions we must take to redirect it were spot on.

- **Stacy N. Hudson.** We had a great time at the Summit, and we all learned what we need to do in order to turn things around.

For more information, go to LouisianaStrong.com

Central Celebrates 'A' School Rating

Thousands Hail Central Schools' Top Rating from Education Dept.

CENTRAL — Nearly 4,000 Central students, parents, teachers, and administrators gathered at Wildcat Stadium Tuesday night to celebrate the Central Community School System's being rated as an 'A' school system for the second straight year.

The district celebrated accomplishments in Academics, Athletics, Arts and Awareness from the community. They also had a lot of fun doing it! Each of Central's five public schools competed in a spirit contest for prizes and bragging rights.

Each school adopted a theme for the night, and students, parents, and teachers dressed the part. Bell-ingrath Hills Elementary students were farmers, and principal Laurie Gelding arrived driving a tractor. Tanglewood Elementary students were construction workers, and principal Kitty Ainsworth arrived in a hardhat. Central Intermediate School students were cowboys. Principal Rhonda Taylor apparently doesn't like horses, because she ar-



CELEBRATING Tanglewood Elementary Tuesday night were teachers Annette Bourgeois, Pattie Richie, and Michelle Ensminger.

rived on a wooden horse. But assistant principal Jeremy O'Banion arrived riding a real paint horse. Central Middle School students

were race car drivers, and principal Jason Fountain arrived on the football field in a race car. Central High students were... well, we're not sure, but principal David Prescott arrived wearing leather and driving a Harley!

In the end, Central Middle School students, parents, teachers, and administrators were the loudest and won the competition, according to the three judges, all of whom are

real-life judges. Court of Appeal Judge Toni Higginbotham, District Judge Chip Moore, and Family Court Judge Charlene Day made it all official.

Supt Mike Faulk said, "While our teachers, administrators, parents and students are working together to move the bar higher, we could not be as successful as we have been without the tremendous support of all our community members."

More Details on School Bond Vote In Central Next Saturday, Nov. 16

Continued from Page 3

ing's location, which will be away from the main building of the high school, would also help alleviate traffic congestion during the morning drop-off and afternoon pick-up.

He said the funding request also will allow the district to remove old buildings from the district's former middle school site and expand park-

ing near the football stadium. He said the improvements would make the site safer and better prepared for future improvements.

"Right now, we have to insure and maintain these vacant buildings, including running electricity and water to them. We need to get rid of the buildings that are beyond repair, to minimize our costs and liability, and clear the way for whatever this school board and community decide is best for that property in the future," Faulk said.

"At the same time, we need extra parking on site to accommodate the many activities at the stadium. Right now, families are having to park along a very busy road and walk in traffic — most of the time after dark. The new parking space will make coming to our stadium a safer activity, and we will have the parking for future use of the site."

He said the improvements at the high school, including the new parking lot and the installation of lighting at the baseball and softball fields, are "much overdue."

"The crumbling concrete and enlarging potholes in the parking lot have caused some problems in the past with damage to cars. We need to fix that," he said. "Meanwhile, it's time we invested in our athletics program, particularly adding lights to our fields, so our teams can compete on their home field rather than travel, or so games can start in the evening, after work, rather than in the middle of day. We hope to have that fixed by this spring if the prop-

See **APPROVAL** on Page 13

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with 4,000 People at Wildcat Stadium



CENTRAL INTERMEDIATE principal Rhonda Taylor and assistant principal Julie Stevens; Central Middle principal Jason Fountain with teachers, and CIS's Jeremy O'Banion



TANGLEWOOD principal Kitty Ainsworth; Ashley Tingle; Central High principal David Prescott with the Harley, and Bellingrath Hills principal Laurie Gehling with students.



CENTRAL SCHOOL BOARD members and Supt. Mike Faulk; Central High head football coach Sid Edwards, and Judges Toni Higginbotham, Chip Moore, and Charlene Day.

Approval of Bond Issue Would Allow More Construction without a Tax Increase

Continued from Page 1
 position passes.”
 Faulk said the technology component of the new funding is needed to add wireless capacity to the schools for classroom instruction

and assessments. He noted that state testing will be “completely computerized” and the district must install software applications and invest in some of its hardware components to ensure the programs are ready

for teacher and student use. He said school districts across Louisiana are asking for additional funds from the Department of Education to cover these “mandated costs,” but at this point, no funding has been allocat-

ed nor have state officials given any indication that they will be.
 “Our students need to be ready to compete. We can’t just wait and hope someone else will pick up the tab for our students.”

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Vietnam War Hero Honored at Museum



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BATON ROUGE HIGH GRADUATE: ONE OF MOST DECORATED PILOTS of the Vietnam War. Col. Gordon Jenkins, 1960 graduate of Baton Rouge High and 1965 graduate of LSU, flew more than 140 combat missions over North Vietnam and was honored with two Silver Stars, three Distinguished Flying Crosses, and 15 Air Medals. He flew the F-105 supersonic fighter bomber. His heroism has been commemorated with an exhibit at the Naval Museum downtown. Jenkins is close friends with Neal Jones, another BR High grad who was a POW in Hanoi for seven years.

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GREATER BATON ROUGE AMERICAN ITALIAN ASSOCIATION sponsored another successful Festa on Sunday, Oct. 20 at Belle of Baton Rouge Hotel Atrium.

'Lives That Will Never Rust' by BR Author Danny Brown

"LIVES THAT WILL NEVER RUST"
The remarkable love story of Col. James Hamilton Beard and his family — Hero at the Battle of Mansfield — Last major Confederate victory

by Danny Brown

(Softcover: \$12; Oct. 16, 2013)

BIC Media Solutions, a sister company of BIC Alliance,

"LIVES THAT WILL NEVER RUST" is the true story of Col. Beard, who was killed at the Battle of Mansfield, La. "The story of James Beard couldn't be told without fully chron-

cling the lives of his wife Kate and his brother Ned, two people he loved dearly and who returned that love," Brown said. He adds the story is not unlike that of the title characters in Margaret Mitchell's "Gone with the Wind."

"James Beard, like Rhett Butler, was a prosperous self-made Southern gentleman. Patriotic, he organized the Shreveport Grays Militia Unit and served as their first captain. And then there is Kate, his loving wife, who overcame numerous tragedies to leave an enduring legacy. And finally, younger brother Ned, who was at James' side when he was killed and who would go on to leave his own notable legacy. It is an extraordinary story," Brown said.

The book is now available online from Amazon and BIC Alliance (www.bicalliance.com), and will soon be available in bookstores and from other retailers. For information or to schedule interviews with Danny Brown or Earl Heard, contact Earl Heard at (225) 751-9996 or earlheard@bicalliance.com.

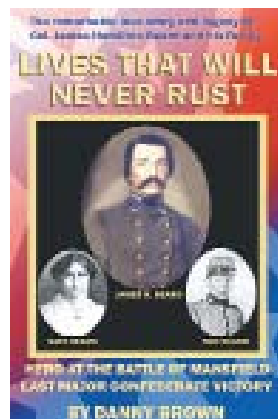
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ABOUT THE AUTHOR

A professional journalist and photographer, Danny Brown twice served as president of the Baton Rouge Civil War Round Table.



Author Danny Brown (left) and BIC Media Solutions publisher Earl Heard



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Central Clinches District 4-5A Title



Zachary head coach Neil Weiner and Central head coach Sid Edwards



CENTRAL WILDCATS' Jake Myer — One of his many gains against Zachary.



Central has its sights on playoffs



CENTRAL HIGH CHEERLEADERS

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35-0 Win over Zachary**
Photos by Woody Jenkins



Dr. David Rabalais and Dr. Michael Romaguera



Central coach Sid Edwards prepares to address his team after Zachary victory.



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Central's Mayor's Race Underway

Shelton Says He Would Focus on Improving City's Infrastructure

CENTRAL — Central's April 5, 2014, municipal elections are already underway. Central voters will elect a mayor, five city council members, and a police chief.

Mayoral candidates Jr. Shelton and Dave Freneau have already put up campaign signs along Central's major thoroughfares, and they are busy campaigning and raising money.

Shelton narrowly lost the race for mayor nearly four years against incumbent Mayor Mac Watts. He surprised many by his strong showing. Shelton subsequently was elected to the Republican Parish Executive Committee from Central and served as Republican chairman for the city until two months ago.

Freneau, the founder of *Central Speaks* newspaper, has been closely aligned with Watts since starting his newspaper.

Shelton and Freneau have been on opposite sides of many issues facing the City Council since 2010. One of the most controversial was the Baton Rouge Loop. The Central City Council debated and ultimately passed a resolution blocking the Baton Rouge Loop from passing through Central. Shelton strongly opposed the Loop and tes-



CAMPAIGN UNDERWAY — Candidates for Central mayor, police chief, and city council have already started putting up signs in preparation for April 5, 2014, election.



JR. SHELTON, candidate for mayor, studying CH2MHill records this week.



DAVE FRENEAUX, speaking for the Baton Rouge Loop in January 2012.

tified for the resolution. Freneau opposed the resolution and said the Loop should be studied more and the door left open for it to come through Central.

Freneau started his newspaper the week after the *Central City News* made public records requests from CH2MHill in March 2010.

In an interview this week, Shelton said his priorities are infrastructure improvements to Sullivan, Wax, Core, Lovett, Gurney, Hooper, and Greenwell Springs roads and extending Hooper across the Amite to Watson. He said Central's economic development has been poor at best and the city needs commercial and retail growth. He plans to develop a drainage plan that would improve drainage and maintain it on an ongoing basis. He said Central must address the sewer system and upgrade it. Shelton said he favors continued privatization but says it must always be transparent for the citizens.

In his announcement, Freneau said he will provide a stronger voice for the people through town hall meetings. He said he has created a website and a Facebook page for greater discussion. He favors single-member districts for the city council.

Freneau kicked off his campaign with a reception at the home of City Councilman Louis DeJohn. Sponsors of the event included Russell Starns, Rodney Bonvillain, Wade Giles, and Mike Breau. He operates a delivery company. In addition to starting *Central Speaks*, Freneau founded the Central Cultural Foundation.

David P. Fargason, M.D.
Robert Galen, O.D.

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What's Happening in Baton Rouge Area

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

Tuesday, November 12
Reagan Newsmaker Luncheon
11:30 a.m. • Lunch 12 noon
 Former Rep. Tony Perkins, now president of the Family Research Foundation in Washington, will be the featured speaker at the Ronald Reagan Newsmaker Luncheon at Café Américain, 7521 Jefferson Hwy. in Baton Rouge. The reception begins at 11:30 a.m. and lunch at 12 noon. Open to registered Republicans, guests, and media. Lunch \$15. RSVP to woodyjenkins@hotmail.com.

November 12 through 15
CHS Book Fair
11 a.m. to 2 p.m.
 Central High School library along with Cavalier House Books will be hosting a fall Book fair for students, faculty, and the community. This will be a great opportunity to get a jump on your holiday shopping. There will be a variety of books available including fiction, nonfiction, and AR, as well as great stocking stuffers. Proceeds will benefit the school library.

Saturday, November 16
Dinner and Show 5:30 p.m.
 The St. Alphonsus PrimeTimers are sponsoring a Dinner and Show featuring Cajun comedian Murry Conque at Kristenwood. Tickets are \$20 per person and can be purchased at St. Alphonsus Catholic Church Office. Must be 21 years of age or older to attend.

Saturday, November 16
Jambalaya Benefit
11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
 There will be a jambalaya benefit dinner for Central residents Rusty and Susan Jacobs. Susan has been diagnosed with ALS and Rusty is a disabled veteran and has been diagnosed with Chronic Debilitating Peripheral Neuropathy. The cost is \$7 per dinner. There will be drive-thru service in front of the old Starkey Academy gym on Joor Rd. Tickets can be purchased in advance at the following locations: GM Cable, FX Salon, Jerry Lee's, Indian Mound Convenient Store, Edward Jones in Magnolia Village, Romero's at Joor and Lovett, Romero's at Joor and Core, Central Tire & Auto and Sullivan's Hardware.



ST. ALPHONSUS — Parishioners of St. Alphonsus Church in Central visiting St. Alphonsus Church in Rome, Italy, during tour.

chased in advance at the following locations: GM Cable, FX Salon, Jerry Lee's, Indian Mound Convenient Store, Edward Jones in Magnolia Village, Romero's at Joor and Lovett, Romero's at Joor and Core, Central Tire & Auto and Sullivan's Hardware.

Saturday, November 16
Wrestling Invitational
10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
 Central High School Wrestling Invitational. Come enjoy the competition and food.

Wednesday, November 20
Constitutional Convention
5 to 7 p.m.
 The 40th Anniversary of the Louisiana Constitutional Convention of 1973. Surviving delegates will discuss the work of the convention and the long-term effects of the Louisiana Constitution of 1974. Former Govs. Edwards and Roemer, convention Chairman Bubba Henry, and former Rep. Woody Jenkins will speak. Holliday Forum, Journalism Building, LSU. Make reservations at www.cc73.event brite.com

Sunday, December 8
Remembering our Children
Candlelight Service 6 p.m.
 The death of a child is devastating. The darkness that sets in when a child has died is all too well known to families who have lost a child. St. Alphonsus Liguori Church will provide the opportunity for grieving families and their friends to come together to celebrate the life, love, and light of those children gone much too soon. A reception will immediately follow the service. Everyone is invited to attend.

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Central

Community School System

Investing in Our Future



On **Nov. 16**, the Central Community School Board is asking voters to approve a request to borrow up to \$13.1 million to pay for needed upgrades to school facilities.

The additional monies can be borrowed through the extension of existing construction bonds approved by voters in 2009, which will NOT increase the millage rate now paid by local property owners.

Dedicated Spending

The \$13.1 million would be dedicated to the following improvements:

- Construct a Ninth Grade Academy (\$5.82 million)
- Repair Central High School's parking lot (\$1.8 million)
- Install lighting at the Central High Baseball and Softball Fields (\$500,000)
- Upgrade district technology capacity to manage mandated state assessments (\$2 million)
- Demolition, asbestos abatement and upgrades to the Old Central Middle School site (\$1.5 million)

Total estimated costs = \$11.62 million
 + 12% contingency fee \$1.39 million
 (required under risk management policy)

= \$13.1 million



Fiscally Conservative

The proposition would enable the school board to extend existing bonds by five years and NOT increase the yearly millage rate.

Central property owners would continue to pay the current 23.65 mills per year to pay down the debt. Improved property values and new growth within the district will decrease the millage rate over time.

In fact, the Central School Board has already lowered the district's general fund revenue millage, enacted at the creation of the new school district, from 43.43 mills in 2007 to 36.75 mills in 2013.

Projected Yearly Millage Rates for Central Community Schools to Pay Off Existing and New Capital Improvements



*Summary of projected millage requirements for possible series 2014 General Obligation School Bonds prepared by Foley & Judell, LLP. Projections assume a conservative 4% annual growth rate, except for a 6% assumed growth rate in scheduled reassessment years of 2016, 2020, 2024, 2028 and 2032.

**Central's actual growth rate in assessed values since 2005 has averaged nearly 8%. At the same time, the growth rate for assessed values in the scheduled reassessment years of 2008 and 2012 were 16% and 8%, respectively.

Proven Stewardship

Central Community Schools has a proven track record of investing in our children to improve their academic performance. The district continues to rank as one of the state's top-performing school systems thanks to taxpayer support.

Together, we have given our children:

- The New Central Middle School
- The New Central Intermediate School
- Significant Life Safety Improvements to District Facilities

Together, our investments have resulted in Better Learning Environments, Better Results, Better Futures for Our Children

Alumni Fear Istrouma High Could Close At End of School Year and Never Reopen



Istrouma Football Team last Friday night at Live Oak game



100 Istrouma alumni attended the Istrouma-Central game to root for Indians.

Editorial: Istrouma High School — Petrochemical Magnet

By the Capital City News

Here's a Revolutionary Idea that Can Make Istrouma High School a Great Success. Don't close Istrouma High School. Rather, re-invent it to take advantage of what is really going on right now in this state.

We are on the verge of the greatest boom in the history of Louisiana! More than \$70 billion in new industrial construction has been announced. This new construction and tens of thousands of new jobs will center around the

availability in Louisiana of low cost natural gas. Refineries will be built to convert natural gas directly to gasoline, which will end our dependence on foreign oil. The economic impact will be beyond anything we have ever seen, and the need will be for trained personnel. Those personnel will either be hired in Louisiana or from out of state.

We propose that Istrouma be reopened in the fall of 2014 with a focus on the petrochemical industry. It would be named "Istrouma High School — Petrochemical Magnet

Program." This program would train young people in the basics of English, math, science, and social studies but would also train them to work specifically in the petrochemical industry.

Upon graduation, students would be able to get good, high-paying jobs in this industry. We would work with the petrochemical industry to design the curriculum and encourage a plan whereby students could begin working in industry right out of high school while also continuing their education in this field at LSU, Southern or BRCC.

It should stress high achievement in all academic subjects but also in athletics and extracurricular activities. Istrouma should be the best in football, basketball, track, baseball, band, Student Council, Key Club, drama, debate, and countless other activities, just as it was in years past. The Recovery School District

would have to find a charter provider that would pick up on this idea and make it a reality. The school could draw students from throughout the Baton Rouge area.

It has the potential to draw students of all races and achievement levels, because almost everyone is interested in having a high-paying job.

The history of North Baton Rouge and Istrouma High is founded on the petrochemical industry. That's our culture and heritage. Today, more than ever in the past, this industry offers opportunity for our young people if they are prepared to take advantage of it. We're betting a Petrochemical Magn

et Program is something Istrouma alumni would eagerly embrace and encourage their own children and grandchildren to attend, regardless of where they reside in the Baton Rouge area.

Why They're Signing Petitions

Continued from Page 11

I've never seen anything quite like this. Schools are the driving force behind this movement, especially for parents with small children."

- Kevin Dominick stopped his motorbike to sign the petition. When asked why, he said, "I'm a tech at a hospital, and I live in this community. This is good for us and our neighborhood. It will help us!"

- A first responder said, "We want to vote on our fate. We want government close to the people. That we have a problem in our public schools is obvious. We have a bureaucracy that is not responsive. We're tired of the cost of private schools and tired of sending our money to Baton Rouge and getting nothing!"

- Brandon Lithgoe, a chemical engineer, and his wife Sharyn said they are very dissatisfied with

the public schools in East Baton Rouge. "We've been talking about the proposed school system at work, and we like the idea. The question is how soon will it happen?"

- Robert James Mills signed the petition in front of Ralph's Market on Jones Creek. Staff Reporter Page 13

tion table was Jenny Cook, a student in the gifted program at Woodlawn Middle. Jenny said she has the option of going to Baton Rouge Magnet High School but she would rather stay in her neighborhood and go to Woodlawn High.

"I want to attend a school here that has football and other traditional activities," she said. "With the new school system, it will be a great school!" she said.

For more information on the incorporation of St. George, www.StGeorgeLouisiana.com or call Norman Browning at 225-268-6930.

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