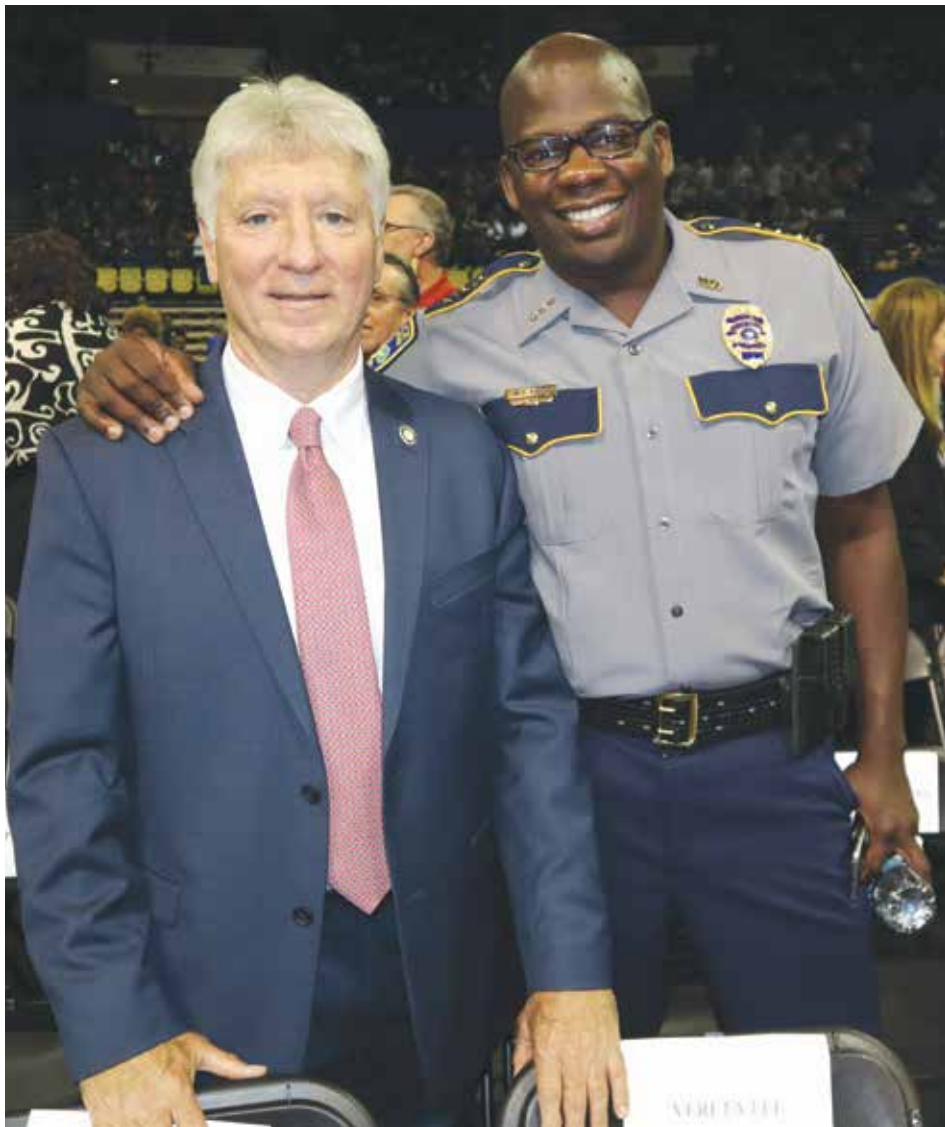


Law Enforcement to Step Up War on Crime

Real Time Crime Center



District Attorney Hillar Moore (left), Baton Rouge Police Chief Murphy Paul, and Sheriff Sid Gautreaux are working to establish a Real Time Crime Center.

Technology to Aid Officers in Route To Crime Scene

BATON ROUGE - By next year, law enforcement officers on their way to a crime scene in East Baton Rouge Parish could be much better prepared for whatever awaits them.

Baton Rouge Police Chief Murphy Paul says an officer typically has only two to three minutes from the time he is dispatched until he reaches the call. Too often, the chief says, the officer arrives with only the most basic information.

However, if Paul, Sheriff Sid Gautreaux, and District Attorney Hillar Moore have their way, that two to three minutes will be used to brief the officers on a great deal of information on what they are about to face.

This will be accomplished by establishment of a Real Time Crime Center, which will bring together all available information, including the location, its history of crime problems, information on individuals at the scene, real time video, license plate reader information, and much more.

Sgt. Neal Noel said the Baton Rouge City Police and Sheriff's office hope to open the facility next year. Other law enforcement agencies will be invited to participate, he said. The result could be officers better prepared to face difficult situations at the crime scene.



Istrouma High Key Club members Precious Jackson, Essence Jarvis, and Jaimya Warner at Amtrak station in Hammond

Istrouma Key Club: Eight Girls, 9 Days, 2,000 Miles on Rail Trip to Chicago, Ill.

CHICAGO - A group of eight students spent more than a week in Chicago this summer as delegates from the Istrouma High Key Club to the Key Club International Convention. It was a once-in-a-lifetime trip for the Key Clubbers, who learned more about their mission to serve the North Baton Rouge community and Istrouma High. Key Club is an international service organization sponsored by Kiwanis.

See **KEY CLUB** on Page 12

Three Incumbents from South Baton Rouge Seek Reelection to EBR School Board Nov. 6

BATON ROUGE - Three incumbent members of the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board representing parts of South Baton Rouge found themselves with opponents when qualifying closed on July 20. Each one faces a lone opponent in the Nov. 6 primary.

Newly-elected school board member Mike Gaudet, a Republican, faces opposition, as does former school board president Evelyn Ware-Jackson, a Democrat, and veteran Republican member Jill Dyasson of Southeast Baton Rouge. Charter school corporations are reportedly opposing some incumbents and plan to spend \$60,000 to \$100,000 each. It marks the first time that charter school forces have entered the political world here.

See **SCHOOL BOARD** on Page 2



Mike Gaudet
EBR School Board District 7



Evelyn Ware-Jackson
EBR School Board District 5

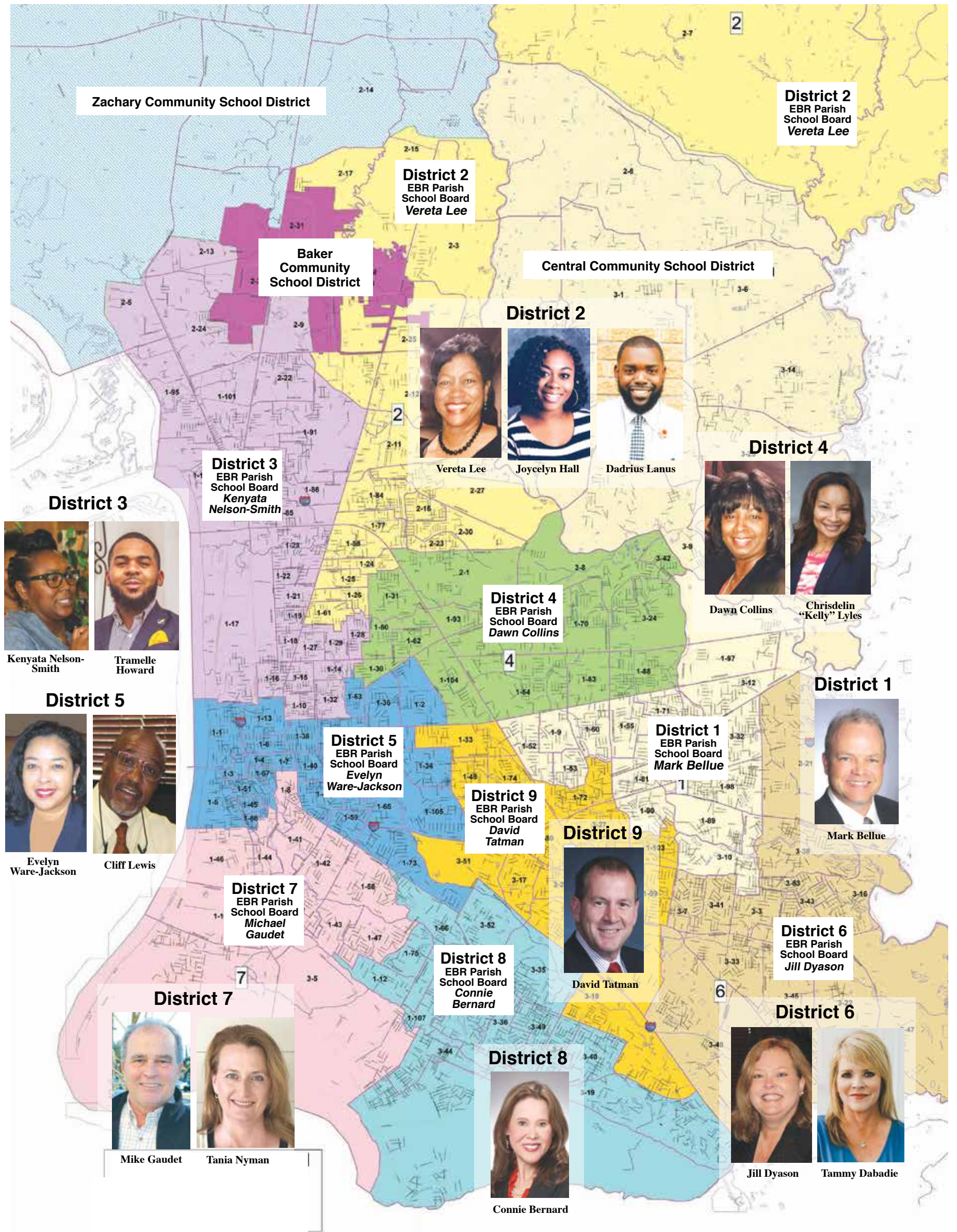


Jill Dyasson
EBR School Board District 6

Real Time Crime Center
 Download QR Code Reader App
 and Click on QR Code



East Baton Rouge Parish School Board Districts for November 6, 2018 Election



On Nov. 6, 2018, East Baton Rouge Parish voters will go to the polls to elect the parish School Board from nine single-member districts. Voters in Baker, Central, and Zachary will elect their own school boards. A runoff if necessary will be held on Dec. 8. Qualifying was held July 18-20, 2018.

Constable Reginald Brown Retiring After 16 Years

Four Vie for Baton Rouge Constable

Photos by Jolice Provost



CANDIDATES FOR BATON ROUGE CITY CONSTABLE spoke at the Chamber of Commerce of East Baton Rouge Parish — Terrica Williams, Trey Bargas, and Leo Lamonte.



SMALL BUSINESS OWNERS and members of the news media had lots of questions for the candidates including what to do with the backlog of unserved warrants.



RILEY HARBOR III (left), who is also running for Constable, was unable to attend the meeting, which was well attended.

Meet New Metro Councilman Denise Amoroso



Denise Amoroso being sworn in by Councilman Trae Welch

Watch Denise Amoroso and Candidates for Constable



DENISE AMOROSO was recently elected by the Metro Council to fill the vacancy on the Council left by the death of her husband, Buddy Amoroso, who was killed in a bike accident.

Congressman Garret Graves Visits Lily Bayou Structure

Diversion Canal Closer to Reality



The Comite River will connect to this canal, which will divert water to the Mississippi.

When the Comite tops this weir at 53 feet ASL, flood waters will flow to the Mississippi.



Congressman Garret Graves

CENTRAL — Congressman Garret Graves, fresh off an historic victory in Washington, where he helped gain funding for the remainder of the work on the Comite Diversion Canal, visited the canal last week.

The project, which has languished for 30 years until Graves' breakthrough, seemed to come alive as the second-term Congressman described the scene at the Lily Bayou Control Structure.

When the Comite River is at flood stage 53 feet above sea level, it will automatically top the weir at the Lily Bayou Control Structure and flow west into the Mississippi.

Graves eyes glowed as he described the water rushing over the weir and diverting millions of gallons away from Central and points-south and east.

It was a celebratory visit — Graves' first since his historic victory. He used the chance to give two Central officials their first look at the Comite Diversion Canal. Central Mayor Pro-Tem Kim Fralick and Kim Powers, candidate for Central Council at-Large, spent an hour at the site, which is somewhat reminiscent of the Panama Canal.

Fralick and Powers both expressed thanks to Graves for the work he has done to finally put the funding in place for project.

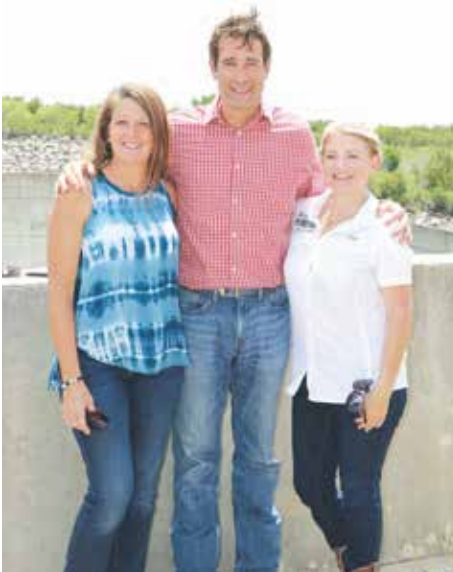
Fralick said, "Getting to visit Lily Bayou with Congressman Graves was a surreal experience. I am truly appreciative for all the work he has put in to make it a reality."

Powers said, "Many people played an important role, but without Garret's single-minded determination, this would not have happened!"

See Graves on Page 7



DIETMAR RIETSCHIER, executive director of Amite River Basin Commission, makes a point to Congressman Garret Graves, Central Mayor Pro-Tem Kim Fralick, commission chairman Col. Ben Babin, and Central Council at-Large candidate Kim Powers.



CONGRESSMAN GRAVES gave Central Mayor Pro-Tem Kim Fralick and Council at-Large candidate Kim Powers a look at the current state of the diversion canal.



BEHIND THESE OFFICIALS, floodwaters from the Comite will flow west into the Mississippi River, hopefully reducing flooding in Central and points to the south and east. Shown are Col. Ben Babin, Congressman Graves, Mayor Pro-Tem Kim Fralick, and Kim Powers.

Photos by Jolice Provost

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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 went on hiatus in 2008 during its 20th year of publication. It resumed publication as the Capital City News on Aug. 16, 2012, with Vol. 21, No. 1. 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.

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Business Manager
Account Executive



Woody Jenkins
Jolice Provost
Kim Powers

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Photo by Jolice Provost

ONE MAN ON A MISSION CAN CHANGE THINGS — Congressman Garret Graves at the Lily Bayou Structure at the Comite Diversion Canal. Graves played a pivotal role in securing federal funds to complete construction of the canal.

Tens of Thousands Will Be Better Off Thanks to His Work

Graves' Determination Pays Off

The Flood, Devastation, The President's Visit, Graves' Chairmanship, And Never Giving Up!

Woody Jenkins
Editor

SOUTH OF ZACHARY — At the Lily Bayou Control Structure Wednesday, Congressman Garret Graves was doing what he does best — speaking passionately about a cause he believes in, in this case the Comite Diversion Canal.

The scene was surreal. The day was blistering hot. The massive Lily Bayou structure, reminiscent of the Panama Canal, sat there as it has for the past 10 years — patiently waiting to be used to relieve flooding in Central and down the Comite and Amite rivers.

Built at a cost of \$32 million, it is the only part of the \$400 million Comite Diversion Canal, which has been built, although the project was authorized by the Louisiana Legislature 30 years ago.

Graves spoke to those in the del-

egation with the same passion he did during lengthy meetings with President Trump in the White House, the Vice President, and six times with OMB director Mick Mulvaney.



Woody Jenkins

Trump was an instant ally, having come to Central immediately after the flood of August 2016. He knew first hand how important this project is. Pence too was onboard. He and Graves had spent six hours together flying back and forth for a visit to Louisiana, which gave the Congressman all the time he needed to make his case.

But Office of Management and Budget director Mulvaney was a tougher nut to crack. The President might be for the project and so might the Vice President, but the reality was that it still had to fit into the budget in competition with the needs and demands of 50 governors, 100 senators, and 435 representatives, all of whom have their own priorities.

It took Graves six meetings

with Mulvaney. It didn't hurt that the two had served together in the House. But it wasn't until Graves was named Chairman of the Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment — which placed him squarely in charge of the Army Corps of Engineers — that things began to change.

Mulvaney asked a friend's advice on a matter involving the Corps of Engineers. The friend said, "You should call Garret Graves! He can help you with the Corps!" Mulvaney said, "I can't! He'll just talk about the Comite project again!"

Not long afterwards, it was over! Mulvaney and the Trump administration were totally on board, and they committed all the money needed to complete the \$400 million project. "They just got tired of hearing from me!" Graves laughed.

Of course, getting approval of such a large sum of money is never

a one-man show. So many played important roles! Senators Bill Cassidy and John Kennedy, both from the Baton Rouge area, kept up the pressure. Local officials like Central Mayor Jr. Shelton went to Washington to testify. Legislators such as Sen. Bodi White and Rep. Valarie Hodges constantly held hearings and raised the attention of the public, the media, and elected officials.

But two of the most pivotal have to be President Trump who had seen the need with his own eyes and Congressman Graves, who burned with passion over the issue.

Being at Lily Bayou was surreal, Central Mayor Pro-Tem Kim Fralick said, because you could feel that one day, the waters of the Comite will be surging through that structure saving homes and businesses in Central. Fralick said, "It will bring peace of mind to the vast majority of our citizens!"

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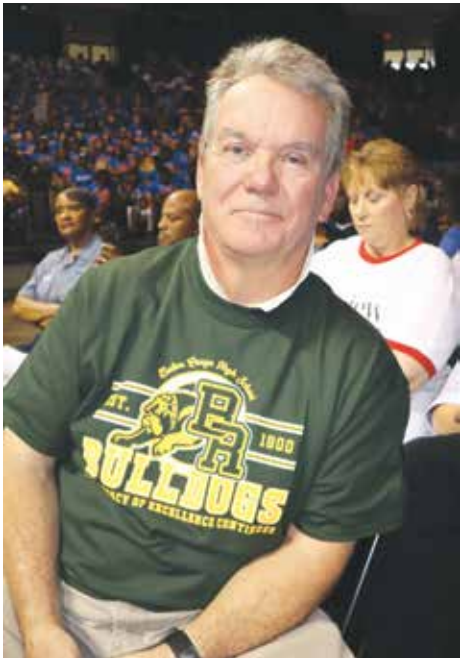
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Legendary Baton Rouge High gymnastics coach Kevin Nee



Supt. Warren Drake presided over the the Annual EBR Schools Convocation.



Woodlawn High principal Scott Stevens, EBR Principal of the Year



Shalonda Simoneaux, director of high schools, and Dr. Jackie Mims, chair of Istrouma Advisory Council



Business supporters of East Baton Rouge Parish School System



Mayor-President Sharon Weston Broome



EBR parish school board president David Tatman



EBR school board vice president Connie Bernard



Lt. Gov. Billy Nungesser



East Baton Rouge Parish School Members pray



Supt. Warren Drake, family, and administrators



Dr. Mims, Assoc. Supt. Adam Smith

Watch Video of Convocation
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Photos & Video by Woody Jenkins



Convocation

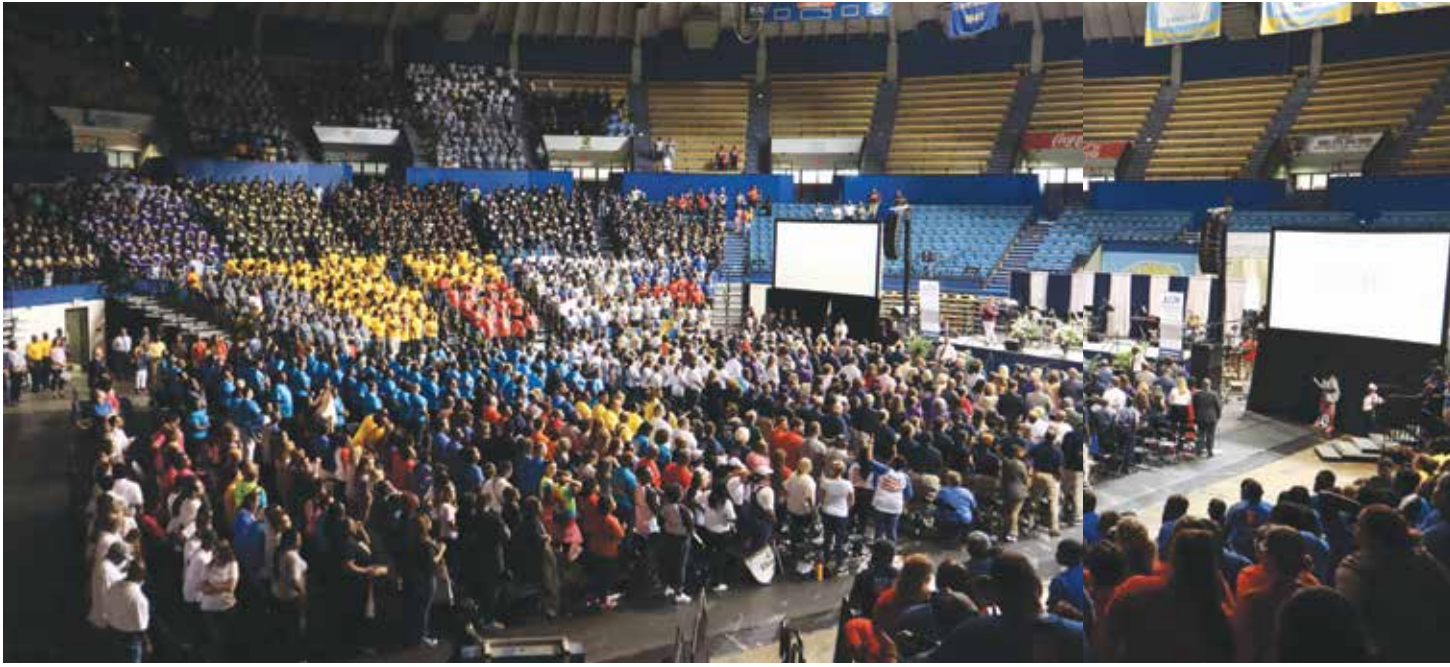


Parade of Schools



Istrouma Faculty

Gather for Back-to-School Convocation



7,000 teachers, administrators, and staff gathered at Southern University for Annual East Baton Rouge Parish Schools Convocation



Shalka Scott, principal, Scotlandville Pre-Engineering Magnet School



A banner for each school in EBR Parish was carried into the area by two teachers.



The outstanding teachers and principals of the year were recognized.



Supt. Warren Drake and school board members Dr. Kenyetta Nelson-Smith and Evelyn Ware-Jackson



District Attorney Hillar Moore and East Baton Rouge Parish school board member Jill Dyason

Annual EBR Schools Convocation Held at Southern University on August 8, 2018 EAST BATON ROUGE PARISH SCHOOL SYSTEM Superintendent Warren Drake



DA Hillar Moore and outstanding Woodlawn Middle janitorial personnel Barbara Collins and Earl Bell



East Baton Rouge Parish school board members Vereta Lee, Dr. Kenyetta Nelson-Smith, Dawn Collins, and Evelyn Ware-Jackson



Istrouma High principal Reginald Douglas with members of the Istrouma faculty and staff

Impressive Parade of Public Schools



Watch Video of Parade of Schools
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Photos & Video by Woody Jenkins

Parade of East Baton Rouge Parish Schools at School Convocation

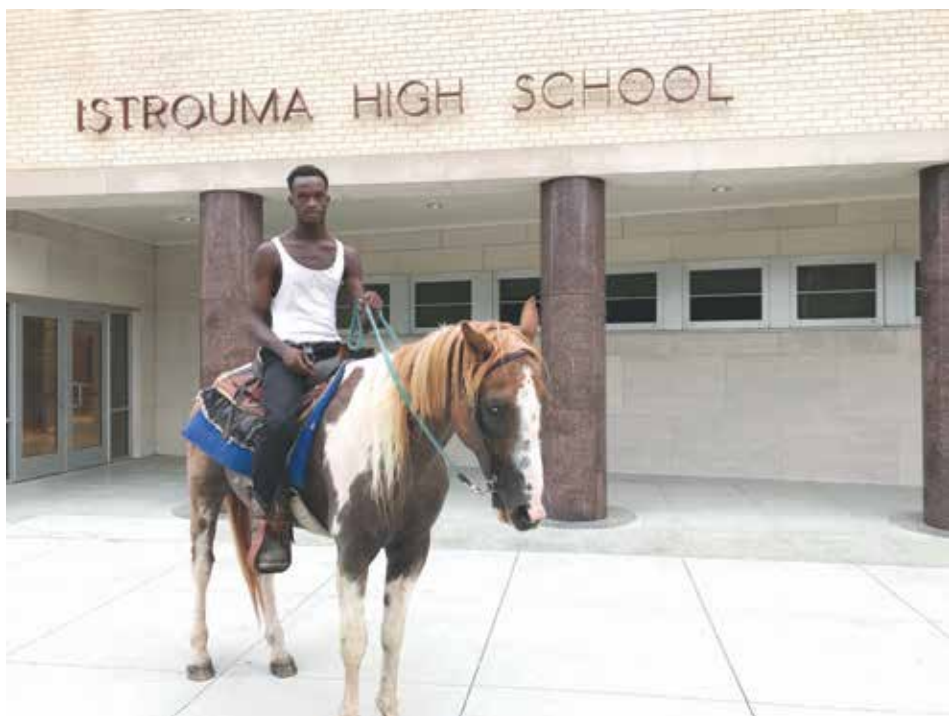
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Opened Massive Teacher Conference



Annual EBR Schools Convocation
Held at Southern University on August 8, 2018
EAST BATON ROUGE PARISH SCHOOL SYSTEM



AN INDIAN ON HORSEBACK — Istrouma High School 9th grader Freddy Hills visited the school on horseback during a meeting of the Istrouma Advisory Council. Believe or not, there are quite a number of horses residing in Zip Code 70805 in North Baton Rouge.

Legal Experts Evaluate Trump's Nominee for U.S. Supreme Court



PANEL ON JUDGE KAVANAUGH — Three experts — Prof. Michelle Ghetti, attorney Catherine Jenkins Newsome, and Sen. Beth Mizell — expressed their views on Supreme Court nominee Brett Kavanaugh at a meeting of the Ronald Reagan Newsmaker Luncheon.

BATON ROUGE - Two legal experts and the leader of the Louisiana Legislative Women Caucus gave their evaluation of Judge Brett Kavanaugh, President's Trump nominee for the U.S. Supreme Court, to the Reagan Newsmaker Luncheon. Speaking were Michelle Ghetti, professor of Constitutional Law at the Southern Law School; Catherine Jenkins Newsome, president of the Federalist Society of Baton Rouge, and Sen. Beth Mizell (R-Franklinton), the chairwoman of the caucus of all women in the Louisiana House and Senate. All three agreed Kavanaugh is well qualified for the job.

Prof. Ghetti who worked for a year as a fellow at the Supreme Court said Kavanaugh would likely be in the mold of the Justice Scalia than the Justice Anthony Kennedy, whom he would replace. Newsome is a leader of the Federalist Society, which proposed Kavanaugh to Trump.

Kavanaugh Luncheon

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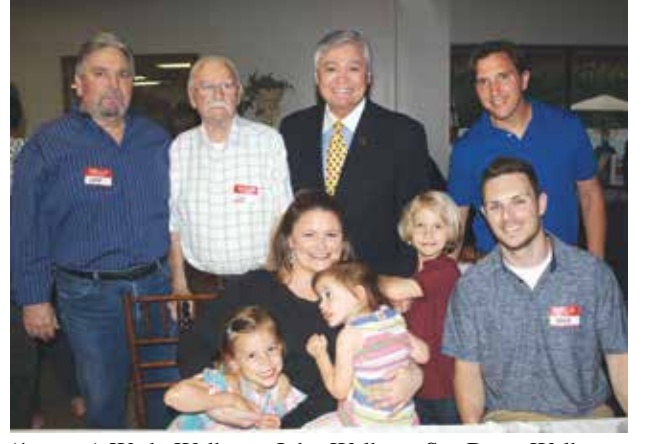
Clerk of Court Doug Welborn Reception



John Sinquefield, Tommy Calandro, and Doug Welborn



Debbie Killingsworth and Clerk of Court Doug Welborn



(1st row) Wade Welborn, John Welborn Sr., Doug Welborn, and Ryan Malone, and (2nd row) grandchildren Dulcie, Juniper, and Gabe Malone, Lindsay Welborn, and Blake Welborn



Louisiana Supreme Court Justice Jeff Hughes, John Welborn, Jr., Doug Welborn, retired Family Court Judge Tony Graphia, and John Welborn, Sr.



Dawn Tricou, Robin White, and Sen. Bodi White



Van Mayhall, Jerry Stovall, Doug Welborn, and Jodi Stovall



Jodi and Jerry Stoval and Court of Appeal Judge Toni Higginbotham



Catherine Jenkins Newsome, Saul Newsome, Diane Jenkins, and former Rep. Woody Jenkins



Judge Tony Graphia, former Secretary of State Jim Brown, and former newsman and author Leo Honeycutt



Former District Judge Leo Higginbotham, Appeal Judge Toni Higginbotham, and District Judge Beau Higginbotham



Former Secretary of State Jim Brown, Tommy Calandro, and Clerk of Court Doug Welborn

CENTRAL - More than 250 supporters and well-wishes of Clerk of Court Doug Welborn gathered at Kristenwood in Central to honor him and raise money for his reelection campaign next fall.

The group included Baton Rouge attorneys and judges and many long-time supporters. Welborn, who has served as clerk since 1994,

previously represented Central on the Metro Council, and many in attendance were long-time supporters going back to his early days in politics in the 1980's.

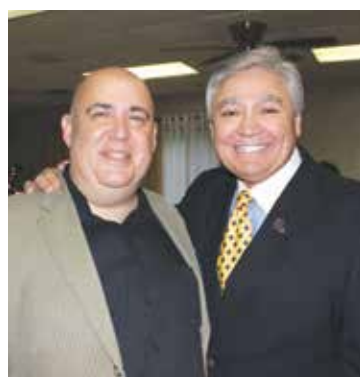
Attendees included former Mayor-President Tom Ed McHugh, Sheriff Sid Gautreaux, Sen. Bodi White, judges such as Associate Supreme Justice Jeff Hughes,

Court of Appeal Judge Toni Higginbotham, Family Court Judge Charlene Day, retired Family Court Judge Tony Graphis, current District Judges Beau Higginbotham and Richard Anderson, retired District Judge Leo Higginbotham, and City Judges Judy Moore Vendetto and Tarvald Smith. Judges are allowed to attend such events but can-

not contribute. A center of attraction was All-American and former LSU football coach Jerry Stovall.

Watch Video

SCAN HERE



CLERK OF COURT DOUG WELBORN FUNDRAISER — Shown (left to right) are Gary Rispono, Assistant Attorney General John Sinquefield, Clerk of Court Doug Welborn, Supreme Court Associate Justice Jeff Hughes, Derrick Beal, Sam Wilson, Fred Sliman, Doug Welborn, and Baton Rouge City Court Judges Judy Moore Vendetto, and Tarvald Smith.

Istrouma Key Club: 2,000 Miles, 9 Days



ISTROUMA KEY CLUB TRIP TO INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION IN CHICAGO — Members of the Istrouma Key Club worked this spring to earn enough money to represent Istrouma at the international convention in Chicago. They traveled by train on the City of New Orleans from Hammond to Chicago. Shown are Ms. Noah, Sen. Dan Richey, Alicia Batiste, Ms. Patricia Cooke, Aimya Johnson, Precious Jackson, Essence Jarvis, Jamiya Warner, Shantaria Ross, and Tatiyana Wells on their way to and at the Amtrak station in Hammond.



FREE DAY IN CHICAGO — After the 16-hour, 1,000-mile trip, the Istrouma delegation had a free day to spend sightseeing in Chicago. They stayed on the Magnificent Mile.



KEY CLUB INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION IN CHICAGO included 1,000 youth from high schools across America and from a dozen foreign nations.



ISTROUMA KEY CLUBBERS learned how Key Clubs in other schools are serving their communities. They exchanged ideas and contact information.



ISTROUMA KEY CLUBBERS were part of the LaMissTenn District delegation, representing schools in Louisiana, Mississippi and West Tennessee. They made lots of new friends.

for International Convention in Chicago



EIGHT KEY CLUBBERS — Eight members of the Istrouma Key Club boarded the train in Hammond, along with four chaperones — Kristi Cooper, Patricia Cooke, Sen. Dan Richey, and Woody Jenkins for the nine-day trip. Most of the Key Clubbers had never been out of Baton Rouge. It was a once-in-a-lifetime trip for everyone who went.



JAMIYA WARNER taking a lunch break. Kristi Cooper and some of the girls exploring Bloomingdale's Department Store. Ms. Patricia Cooke and the girls at Tiffany's.




THE CONVENTION gave students many opportunities, including the chance to learn more about the U. S. Army and meet students from Jamaica and other countries.



WHILE IN CHICAGO, they attended the Museum of Natural History and enjoyed local restaurants. A favorite was Prottilo's at right.



**Watch
Istrouma Key Club
Trip to Chicago**



Woody Jenkins and Dan Richey. Sen. Richey treated the delegation to a day at Wrigley Field to watch the Chicago Cubs.

2018 Istrouma High School Orientation



Istrouma High assistant principal Michael Bester, constable candidate Terrica Williams, Istrouma football coach Jeremy Gradney, Mayor Broome, and assistant principal Pat Hall

Mayor Learns More About Key Club Trip to Chicago



Mayor Broome with Kristi Cooper and Tatiyana Wells



Mayor-President Sharon Weston Broome congratulated the Istrouma High cheerleaders.



Istrouma Key Clubbers with Mayor Sharon Broome



JROTC instructor M/Sgt. Reginald Gosserand, US Army (retired) with Mayor-President Sharon Weston Broome



Principal Douglas asked Key Club about their trip.



Istrouma High School wrestling coaches and some of their equipment



Student watches video on Key Club trip to Chicago.



Mayor-President Sharon Weston Broome greeted everyone in attendance at Istrouma High School's orientation. At right, members of the Istrouma High Band greeted new students and invited them to try out for the band.

Download QR Reader

Istrouma High Orientation
July 26, 2018

SCAN HERE

Aquaponics at Istrouma High School



Istrouma High principal Reginald Douglas explained the school's new aquaponics program to members of the Istrouma Kiwanis Club. At right, Supt. Drake lent a hand.



Ronnie Morris of WeProduceGrads.org explained the aquaponics program. Ken Rust of smallscaleaquaponics.com helped with the project. At right, Mr. Douglas and students.

Inauguration of Istrouma High Aquaponics Program • Aug. 21, 2018 • Photos by Woody Jenkins

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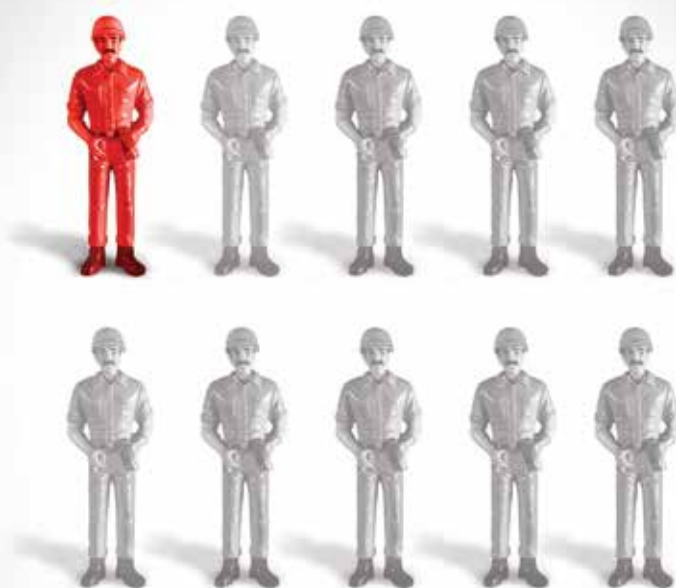
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TOURING NEW ISTROUMA MIDDLE SCHOOL — Members of the Istrouma Advisory Committee got a personal tour of the new Middle School from principal Reginald Douglas.

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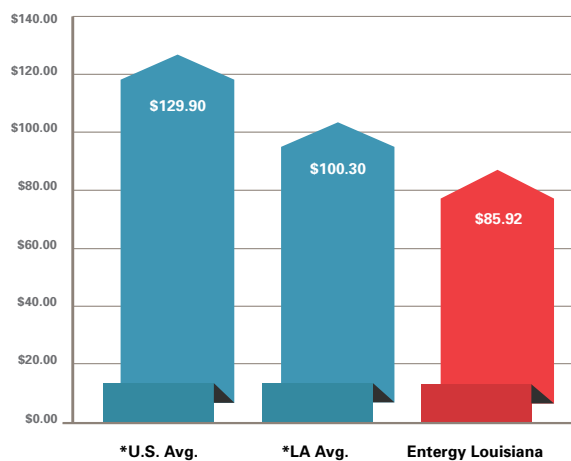
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But our most important investment is in the communities we call home. Last year we donated \$8.6 million to over 1,000 non-profits in Louisiana. From coaching youth sports to cleaning our parks, Entergy Louisiana employees also logged over 25,000 volunteer hours improving the quality of life in our neighborhoods.

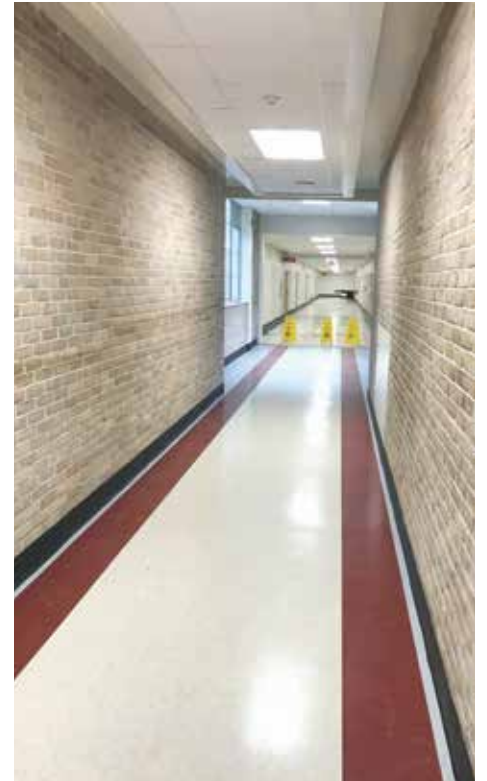
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PASSAGEWAY connecting Istrouma High School to the new Istrouma Middle Magnet School. The new middle school can accommodate more than 400 students. The building was formerly known as the Annex before undergoing a \$5 million renovation.

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End-of-Year Awards Ceremony at Istrouma High School

2018 Istrouma Middle Magnet Awards



Gabriel Roberson • Student of the Year, Brilliant Braves Award, Most Ambitious Boy, Kiwanis Most Courteous Award, Citizenship Award, Most Studious Boy, and Most Likely to be President



Ja'lynn Hardisty • Brilliant Braves Award, Science Award, Social Studies Award, TV & Film Award, English Award, and JCC Ring Recipient



Triniti Smith • Brilliant Braves Award, Best Attitude Award, Youth Legislature, Hall of Fame and Outstanding Character Award, and Kiwanis Courtesy Award



Jacquez Knox • Brilliant Braves Award, Best Personality Boy, Friendliest Boy, Kiwanis Most Courteous Award, Best Attitude Award, and Youth Legislature



Peyton Poole • Brilliant Braves Award, Mathematics Award, Most Likely to be a Teacher and JCC Ring Recipient



Christian Chew • Most Artistic, East Baton Rouge Parish SS Crime Stoppers Poster Winner and JCC Ring Recipient



Zoe Atkins • Brilliant Braves Award, TV & Film Award, Best Leadership Skills, Most Ambitious, and Cheerleader Award



Jaci Sterling • Brilliant Braves Award, Science Award, English Award, Most Studious Girl, and Best Attitude Award



Jordan Roberts • Brilliant Braves Award, Mathematics Award Music Award, Youth Legislature, Hall of Fame



D'anshai Smith • Athlete of the Year, Brilliant Brave Award, Girls Basketball, Track and Volleyball, and JCC Ring Recipient



Jayden Variste • Brilliant Braves Award, and Best Presenter, Music Award



Ja'sha Triplett • Youth Legislature, Hall of Fame, Outstanding Character, and 3rd Year JCC



Jada Mosley • Best Personality Girl, Most Likely to Cheer You Up, and JCC Ring Recipient



Kassidy Parnell
Brilliant Braves Award



Arionna McPipe • Most Helpful, Friendliest Girl, and JCC Ring Recipient



Joseph Kimble, Jr.
Youth Legislature Hall of Fame



Kiah Mitchell
Youth Legislature



Tre'von Jones
Brilliant Braves Award



Keara Knighten • Youth Legislature and Hall of Fame



Lemyria Brady
Brilliant Braves Award



Madison Ross
Star Performing Athlete



Thailan Bell • Career Readiness Award and 3rd Year JCC



Edward Flowers
Most Athletic Award



Jalin Bell • 3rd Year Junior Cadet Corps and Bon Appetit Club



Sheldon Buckley • Junior Cadet Corps and TV & Film Award



Christopher Green
3rd Year Junior Cadet Corps



Kylin Harris
JCC Ring Recipient



Christina Bell
Outstanding Member



Devon Thomas
3rd Year Junior Cadet Corps



Aden Plain
3rd Year Junior Cadet Corps



Dylonn Carr • 3rd Year Junior Cadet Corps and Basketball Award



Omarion Armstrong
Outstanding Basketball Award



Kar'Niko LaBorde
Most Beautiful Girl



Mariquia Grant
JCC Ring Recipient



Emery Jones
Sportsmanship Award



Alexandra
Servant Engineer Award



Peyton Poole

Istrouma Middle School Awards Ceremony • Photos by Woody Jenkins

Ronald Reagan Newsmaker Luncheon

Tuesday, Sept. 11, 2018

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A Message to All Istrouma High Graduates

The Challenge of Istrouma High

Today vs. When We Were There

Woody Jenkins

Editor

Editor's Note: Istrouma High School, once the largest high school in Louisiana and one of the most outstanding, fell on hard times a few years ago. It was declared a failing school and was taken over by the State of Louisiana. Unfortunately, the State too failed and decided to close the school permanently four years ago. It was destined for demolition. However, a band of determined Indian alumni refused to let that decision stand. Three years ago, a new superintendent, Warren Drake, and the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board, succeeded in getting Istrouma High back from the State. They invested near \$30 million and turned it into virtually a new school. They handpicked a new principal, staff, and faculty and planned a new program that was designed to draw students from North Baton Rouge and pull the once tight-knit community back together. The school reopened in August 2017 and had a banner year, ending in May 2018 with 452 students. Now Istrouma is beginning its second year with an amazing 852 students — 89 percent growth in one year! North Baton Rouge is coming home to Istrouma High!

Now that Istrouma High School has reopened and is up and running for its second year, I want to address my fellow Istrouma graduates from the 1950's and 1960's about where we go from here. I love Istrouma High School — our community, our traditions, our history of achievement, our faculty and staff, and my fellow Istrouma graduates. No one loves Istrouma any more than I do! So I hope you will take what I am about to say in the spirit that it is intended.

I arrived at Istrouma High School as a wide-eyed 10th grader in August 1962. My family was poor because my dad was disabled from wounds and injuries he suffered during combat in World War II. Despite his sacrifice, the U.S. government didn't even see fit to give him a pension. He did get to go to the VA hospital but they only made his problems worse. We struggled financially every day because of Dad's disability.

Most of my fellow students also came from humble backgrounds, although the vast majority had a father who was working and had a steady income. In fact, almost all of us had a mama and a daddy with us at home. When I was in the 6th grade at Fairfields Elementary, our 6th grade teacher took a poll of the 30 students in our class. He asked how many of you have a parent who has been divorced? Only one student had a parent who was divorced. The other 29 had a mom and dad at home. Divorce was rare, and we had the advantage of the care and guidance of two loving parents.

Let me stop right there a moment.

Of course, you realize that you and I did not create that situation. We didn't create that home or those parents who cared about us. Our parents created that situation. We were GIVEN a loving home and two loving parents. Our par-



BIG FUZZY BROWN, legendary head football coach at Istrouma High School during a pep rally in the midst of the historic 1955 football season. That season featured Billy Cannon and perhaps the greatest high school team in Louisiana history. It was one of Big Fuzz's eight state championships over an 11-year period. This amazing photo of Big Fuzz was provided by Dana Dawson Capdau, whose mother Elaine Womack was editor of the 1955-1956 Pow Wow.

ents had to work at it, but it was not something you and I earned. We could have been born in China or India in a place ravaged by poverty or war. But God really blessed us by allowing us to be born into a family in North Baton Rouge! That was a great advantage that we enjoyed.

The community of North Baton Rouge — which was amazing — was not something you and I created either. It was GIVEN to us by the people who came before us — people who worked very hard and gave of themselves.

When we arrived at Istrouma High School, we arrived at a school steeped in tradition. It was a tradition of SUCCESS! Yes, there were countless championships, honors, and awards. But we didn't create Istrouma High School. It was there waiting for us. It was EASY to BELIEVE that we too could be successful, because at Istrouma success was right before our eyes! To achieve success, we simply had to do what we were told. We *KNEW* that success was possible! How could we not? The evidence was all around us. We saw other kids just like us who had achieved success in every way.

We were surrounded in our daily lives by countless role models. Our parents, our neighbors, our pastors, our teachers, local business owners, and even political leaders were outstanding. *This was the World War II generation!* They had sacrificed everything so that this nation

could remain free! Who would not be inspired to follow these heroes? Young boys had real MEN to look up to. Young girls had virtuous LADIES to duplicate and follow.

NO ONE — absolutely NO ONE — told us we were losers and couldn't be successful. If they had, we wouldn't have believed it anyway. We knew that if we did the work and paid the price, good things would happen for us.

So, with two loving parents, a wonderful community, a tradition of success all around us, and countless role models, we plowed on too, and most of us did what we were told. Today, the vast majority of us can look back with pride on our lives and with gratitude for the role Istrouma High School played.

We were truly blessed in so many ways!

Now let's look at the incoming students at Istrouma High School this fall...

Most of these children do not have a mama and daddy living at home with them. Quite often, they are raised by an elderly grandmother or aunt. Many of them have never known the love of a father.

Sometimes their homes are disrupted by the presence of drugs or alcohol. One or more parents may be in prison.

There is a shortage of positive role models. Sometimes their role models may be an athlete on TV or a drug dealer on the street.

Our children in North Baton Rouge are overwhelmingly poor

and often lack the necessities of life. They lack transportation to get places. Too often there is no one to take them to school activities and events. They have attended schools that are very different from ours. Some of them have been labeled "failing schools" taught by "failing teachers" — however false that often is!

Many have never been told they are champions or leaders or bound for success. On the contrary, they have often been told they are losers headed to prison or an early death. And the evidence that is correct is all around them. In the past two years, we have had more than 50 murders in 70805 alone.

I say all this not to excuse bad behavior by anyone or to suggest that this country of ours, this state, and this community are not filled with opportunity, because they are! I believe there is more opportunity today than ever!

This article is directed at my fellow Istrouma High graduates.

If I have heard it said once, I have heard it a thousand times, "Well, I hope the school is a success, but it will never be like it was when we were there!"

Yes, indeed that is true. It was — for us — a wonderful moment in time that can never be recreated. But never forget: We were the recipients of a wonderful gift — Istrouma High School — that we *did not create*. We simply walked in the doors, did the work, and reaped the rewards. The opportunity was given to us, and we took advantage of it.

The truth is, Istrouma High School is far, far more important TODAY than it was when we were there. In the 1950's and 1960's, East Baton Rouge Parish was a growing, dynamic place with a bright future. But today, this parish is in deep trouble. We are on the verge of becoming another Detroit or Chicago. And so many of our worst problems are centered in North Baton Rouge, where crime is so great and there is a lot of misery and hopelessness.

Nothing is as important as our faith or our family. However, *beyond faith and family, Istrouma High School is the thing that offers the most hope to turn around the lives of the people living in North Baton Rouge.* There is no "community" in North Baton Rouge today. It is just a random collection of people who live in the area. Until last year, there was no high school between Scotlandville and Baton Rouge High. There was no Istrouma High School to hold North Baton Rouge together. But now the new Istrouma High School is the focal point for once again making North Baton Rouge into a community.

What does Istrouma High School offer today? A plan of action to turn around the lives of its students, and I can tell you that it's working! Because of this school, students will be prepared for college or to get a good job. The school offers strong discipline with zero tolerance. It focuses on character, and that will make all the difference!

See **ISTROUMA** on Page 22

World-Traveling Nurse Keeps Bees in Mid-City



JENNIFER BERNARD is a nurse who's worked for the U.N. in Gaza. She's studying for her Ph.D. and maintaining her love affair with bees and making honey at her Mid-City home.

Istrouma High Has the Potential to Turn Around NBR

Continued from Page 9

Under Supt. Warren Drake and Istrouma principal Reginald Douglas, Istrouma has strong leadership — as strong as when we were there! There are great role models on the Istrouma faculty and coaching staff, including a lot of men

who are great role models for boys to look up to.

Since you and I graduated from Istrouma, nothing remotely like this has happened before.

Istrouma is a beautiful new school, with a great new faculty, strict discipline, a wonderful plan

of action, and a vision for the future.

Istrouma High School is poised to change lives — and to save lives! It is poised to change the direction of an entire community and by doing that to save our parish before it drowns.

Mark my word: You are going to

see enormous changes result from the new Istrouma High School. More than that. Istrouma will once again become one of the great schools in Louisiana! You will be very proud!

Meanwhile, we need your support. Please don't minimize the importance of this effort by dismissing it as "not the same" as it was when we were there. Obviously, 50 or more years have passed, and nothing is the same. Yet, the importance of the work at Istrouma High School simply could not be any greater.

Please visit the school. You are welcome at any time. We are going to have a wonderful Alumni Center in operation soon.

Please support the school by getting involved, whether it is attending sporting events, mentoring students, or advising a club or organization.

Please support the school financially by contributing to the sports and extracurricular activities.

There are more than 25,000 living alumni of Istrouma High School. So we have the power to be a blessing to anything we choose to support.

So please step up and do what you have always done — love Istrouma High School!

If you'd like to help, please send me a note at Woody Jenkins, 910 North Foster Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70806 or email me at wood-yjenkins@hotmail.com.

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Istrouma Journal

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for July 2017-August 2018

Istrouma High School and Community Events

Video by Woody Jenkins

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| <p>Grads Unveiling Nawaganti June 2015</p>  <p>616 Viewers</p> |  | <p>Istrouma High Ribbon Cutting Sept. 12, 2017</p>  <p>1,300 Viewers</p> |  | <p>Crifasi Family Owners of Hi Nabor Oct. 7, 2017</p> <p>Download QR Reader</p>  <p>10,000 Viewers</p> |  |
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| <p>IHS Alumni Band Jam Session Oct. 10, 2017</p>  <p>5,900 Viewers</p> |  | <p>Istrouma High Trophy's Preserved Oct. 11, 2017</p> <p>Download QR Reader</p>  <p>9,700 Viewers</p> |  | <p>IHS Business Breakfast Oct. 17, 2017</p>  <p>120 Viewers</p> |  |
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| <p>IHS Tour of Industrial Bays Oct. 17, 2017</p>  <p>338 Viewers</p> |  | <p>Supt. Drake Address Kiwanis Nov. 27, 2017</p> <p>Download QR Reader</p>  <p>124 Viewers</p> |  | <p>Henry Jackson On Horse 70805 Nov. 27, 2017</p> <p>Download QR Reader</p>  <p>677 Viewers</p> |  |
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| <p>Dr. Rowan on the Middle School Nov. 28, 2017</p>  <p>146 Viewers</p> |  | <p>Fri. Night Lights IHS Stadium Dec. 4, 2017</p>  <p>1,300 Viewers</p> |  | <p>Istrouma Kiwanis Club Breakfast with Santa Dec. 9 2017</p>   <p>297 Viewers</p> |  |
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| <p>Istrouma Kiwanas Charter Night Dec. 11, 2017</p> <p>Download QR Reader</p>  <p>604 Viewers</p> |  | <p>Istrouma High Principals Brunch Feb. 6, 2018</p> <p>Download QR Reader</p>  <p>3,100 Viewers</p> |  | <p>IHS Cheerleaders Open House Mar. 5, 2018</p> <p>Download QR Reader</p>  <p>2,200 Viewers</p> |  |
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**Leaders By Example
White Oak Plantation
February 15, 2018**

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1,873 Total Viewers



**Istrouma Middle
Builders Club
Mar. 5, 2018**

179 Viewers



**Rising Water in NBR
Monte Sano Bayou
Mar. 12, 2018**

1,657 Viewers



**IHS Key Club
Fundraiser
Mar. 24, 2018**

1,500 Viewers



**IHS Coach
Eric Brown
May 11, 2018**

214 Viewers



**Istrouma High School Indians
Centennial Parade, Pow Wow and Gospel Jubilee
Oct. 15, 2017**

8,370 Viewers



**IHS Key Club
Convention
July. 5, 2018**

218 Viewers



Istrouma High Basketball and Baseball

**Istrouma Basketball
IHS vs Southern Lab
Dec. 6, 2017**

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4,800 Viewers



**Istrouma High Basketball
IHS vs Lee High
Jan. 13, 2018**

4,400 Viewers

**Istrouma Baseball
IHS vs Port Allen
Mar. 7, 2018**

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2,100 Viewers



Istrouma High Football

**Istrouma Football
Practice Time
Sept. 12, 2017**

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743 Viewers



**Indians vs Trojans
At Tara High
Sept. 13, 2017**

3,800 Viewers



**Indians vs Bucs
Broadmoor High
Sept. 27, 2017**

6,400 Viewers



**Istrouma vs NE
Homecoming
Oct. 12, 2017**

4,200 Viewers



**IHS vs Capitol
at Capital High
Oct. 17, 2017**

6,400 Viewers



**Istrouma Indian
Coach Gradney
Nov. 27, 2017**

7,400 Viewers



**Istrouma Team
Visits Central High
Oct. 27, 2018**

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3,000 Viewers



**IHS Homecoming Court
Presentation and Coronation
Jan. 13, 2018**

10,688 Viewers



Coach Jeremy Gradney Pleased with Team Progress

Istrouma High School Spring Game



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Istrouma Indians Ready for Fall Action



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Istrouma High vs. Mentorship Spring Game
Photos by Jolice Provost

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| Aug. 24 | E. Ascension Jamboree | Away |
| Aug. 31 | Live Oak High | Away |
| Sept. 7 | Hammond High | Home |
| Sept. 14 | Broadmoor High | Home |
| Sept. 21 | JFK High | Home |
| Sept. 28 | St. Martinville High | Home |
| Oct. 5 | St. Michael High | Away |
| Oct. 11 | Tara High | Home |
| Oct. 19 | Lutcher High (Sr. Night) | Home |
| Oct. 26 | Plaquemine High | Away |
| Nov. 2 | Parkview Baptist High | Away |

Woodlawn Panthers Sideline Football

