

# SHARE

The Official Newsletter of the  
Calcasieu Parish School System

Volume 32, Number 1  
December, 2006

## News Flash

**John Duhon Named Regional Principal of the Year**  
Moss Bluff Middle School Principal John Duhon has been named the Regional Principal of the Year and will be in the competition for State Principal of the Year.

**Taylor Wood Wins Louisiana Discovery Channel Young Scientist Challenge Title**

Taylor Wood, Moss Bluff Middle School, won first in Louisiana in the Discovery Channel Young Scientist Challenge in the Zoology Category with a project titled, Natural Mosquito Pesticides: Extracts from Insect Repellent Plants as an Alternative, Year IV, Phase II.

### David Filo

Co-creator of Yahoo!, David Filo, is featured in the Louisiana Department of Education's series of promotional videos to promote the teaching profession. Filo was recommended by the Calcasieu Parish School System as an outstanding graduate of the district. Suanne Jacobs, math teacher at Sam Houston High School, was named by Filo as the teacher that had the most influence on his career and was also featured in the video.



### E.B. Lewis Exhibit and Book Signing



Earl Bradley Lewis, Caldecott Award winner and renowned illustrator of children's books, was in Calcasieu Parish to open an exhibit of his book jackets at Art Associates Gallery. In addition to his exhibit, he presented lecture/workshops to the Calcasieu School System's art teachers and librarians as well as McNeese's Art and Education Departments. His visit was sponsored by the American Press, the City of Lake Charles, Associates of Lake Charles, and coordinated by Dr. Daniel Vidrine, Supervisor of the Calcasieu Parish School Systems' Visual Arts Department.

### Scott Schonefeld in National Magazine

Scott Schonefeld, CPSB Technology Support Coordinator, will have an article, Amazing Animation: 3D Graphics in the Classroom, published in the November issue of Learning and Leading with Technology, which is published by the International Society for Technology in Education. Sophisticated computer animation is now used in many areas such as medicine, law, sales, and most noticeably, film and television. One of the areas where this technology is not utilized as a tool is in the classroom. The objective of the article is to show educators what 3D animations are and then how they can incorporate 3D animation into their curriculum to make the benefits of this technology available to their students.



### Administrators Inservice



Dr. Lee Jenkins, internationally known author of Permission to Forget and Nine Other Root Causes of America's Frustration with Education and Improving Student Learning, was the keynote speaker at the Calcasieu Parish School System's Administrators' Inservice on August 1. Jenkins addressed student motivation, measuring performance and essential knowledge, and strategies for continuous improvement. The inservice was developed through the office of Assistant Superintendent of Administration, Curriculum and Instruction Leo Miller, Jr. and hosted by Sulphur High School.

### Calcasieu Parish Schools Honored As A Trailblazer

Superintendent Wayne Savoy and Administrative Coordinator of Technology, Sheryl Abshire recently accepted the Trailblazer Award at the NSBA Conference in Dallas. The National School Boards Association's Technology Leadership Network (TLN) announced that the Calcasieu Parish School System is the winner of this year's Trailblazer Award. Created by the NSBA and a review panel of educators, the Trailblazer award recognizes extraordinary new accomplishments of those TLN districts previously honored through the association's Salute Recognition Program. The Trailblazer has only been awarded twice in the past. NSBA determined that Calcasieu Parish Public Schools deserved the Trailblazer recognition as a result of the comprehensive technology planning that allowed them to maintain a high level of service in spite of Hurricane Rita. NSBA felt Calcasieu could serve as a worthy model to district leaders around the country who are beginning to think more strategically about how their technology resources can assist in disaster management as they face events from bird flu to terrorist attacks. Find out more at <http://www.nsba.org/site/doc.asp?TRACKID=&CID=1782&DID=39068>.



### Louisiana Elementary and Middle School Counselors of the Year



Pam Spears of DeQuincy Elementary was named Louisiana Elementary Counselor of the Year for 2006. She was first selected as the Elementary Counselor of the Year and then received the highest honor as the overall winner in Calcasieu Parish. She was then nominated for the state award which was given at the annual Louisiana Counseling Association Conference in Alexandria on Oct. 10. Pam Spears began her educational career as a math teacher. She taught for one semester at Sulphur High School. In 1999 she was selected as DeQuincy High School Teacher of the Year where she taught for seven years. She is in her sixth year as Counselor at DeQuincy Elementary. Lee Richard, counselor at W. W. Lewis Middle School, has been named 2006 Louisiana Middle School Counselor of the Year by the Louisiana School Counselor Association.

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Charlene Chiasson, PIO

# Board Spotlight

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**R.L. Webb**  
District 1



**Sheryl A. LaVergne**  
District 2



**Clara F. Duhon**  
District 3



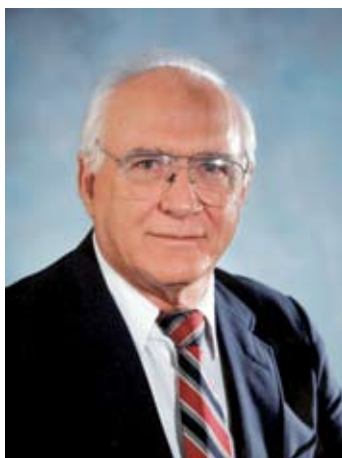
**Gregory P. Robert**  
District 4



**Dale B. Bernard**  
District 5



**Mary Kaye Eason**  
District 6



**John Falgout**  
District 7



**James W. Pitre**  
District 8



**Dr. Edward Stephens, Pres.**  
District 9



**James Karr, Sr.**  
District 10



**Jay L. Duhon, V. Pres.**  
District 11



**Joe A. Andrepont, Past Pres.**  
District 12



**Billy Breaux**  
District 13



**Rev. J.L. Franklin**  
District 14



**Brian LaRocque**  
District 15

## **“The Majestics” Play at Board Meeting**



“The Majestics” played at a school board meeting in August at John F. Kennedy Elementary school.

## **Laptop Training for Board Members**



During the past few months, each CPSB board member has had the opportunity to participate in technology training. The technology session focused on communication. Board members learned tips on using Outlook to access CPSB email. Each participant gained experience using Blackboard as a tool for communication and access to online resources. The board members received a new Dell laptop to assist with accessing CPSB email and Blackboard.



**Seven All-State Choir Students Selected from T. S. Cooley**

T. S. Cooley had 7 students selected to participate in the Louisiana Elementary All-State Choir. Darien Boyd, Bradley Bryant, Tavius Clark, Raleigh Goodwin, Breanna Landry, Emma Meaux, and Brooke Townsley were selected by taped audition to participate in this select choir of 150 of the best 4th, 5th, and 6th grade singers from across the state. They presented a concert in Baton Rouge on October 21st. Annette Larsen, the new music teacher at T. S. Cooley, prepared them for the audition and performance. Annette Larsen has taught previously at Dolby, Kaufman, and Vinton Elementary schools and F. K. White Middle School. She has also taught in the Governor's Program for Gifted Children at McNeese and is a pianist and assistant director of Les Petites Voix community children's choir as well as organist and children's choir director at St. Luke-Simpson United Methodist Church.

Mary Lanier, Cooley Elementary



**Lunch with Grandparents**

Western Heights students celebrated Grandparent's Day by serving lunch to over 100 grandparents. The grandparents enjoyed eating lunch with their grandchildren on September 14, 2006.

Donna Hudson, Western Heights Elementary

**LaGrange High COE**

LaGrange Cooperative Office Education took a field trip to New York City to visit jetBlue Airlines Corporate Headquarters in April 2006 to learn about their six year old company. Students met with CEO and founder David Neeleman and other VIP's at jetBlue. They flew us from New Orleans to New York and back. While in New York City, students ate in Times Square and at Tavern on the Green, attended a Broadway show, walked through Central Park and down Wall Street. The students saw the Empire State Building and the Statue of Liberty.

Tanya Miles, LaGrange High



**Art Students celebrate Picasso's Birthday**

Students in Beverly Koonce's second grade art classes visited the Picasso Exhibit at the Historic City Hall on Picasso's birthday, October 25th. To celebrate students released colorful balloons and enjoyed birthday cake. Students also visited the Fantastic Aquarium in Sulphur to view the beautiful fish.

Beverly Koonce, Vinton Elementary

**A.R. Night**

Pearl Watson hosted an Accelerated Reader Night where parents were invited to come to the school and learn about A.R. The students were allowed to read and show their parents how A.R. works and explain how they use their Quality Binders in the classroom.

JoAnn Mayo, Pearl Watson Elementary

**Success Maker Lab**

Cynthia Victorian in her Success Maker Lab says that her 4th period class has been working with the Movie Maker software program for several weeks. The students really enjoy making their own movies. Editing, picture taking and learning to organize folders has been a new experience for our students. They worked with MS Excel, Word, PowerPoint and digital cameras. Some of the movie titles were: How to Make a Peanut Butter and Jelly Sandwich, How to Multiply Fractions, and The Proper Way to SNEEZE. Cynthia Victorian can't wait to see what they will come up with next!



**Master Teacher, Jill Crain in Oregon**

This past August 2006 Jill Crain, Master Teacher at T. H. Watkins Elementary, was asked by TAP (renamed to the National Institute for Excellence in Teaching) to assist Dr. Gary Stark in presenting the role of the TAP Master Teacher in Eugene, Oregon at the Chalkboard Project (a group of citizens interested in the quality of education in Oregon.)

Irene Fontenette, Watkins Elementary

**CRAFT Program**

CRAFT - Calcasieu Readyng Artisans for Trades program is a pilot program at RMS for 8th graders whose regular education teachers feel would be successful in a vocational and technical class in order to prepare them for work after high school. Currently students participate in learning: Horticulture (production and marketing of fruits and vegetables, landscaping and greenhouse construction from Vernon McCain, Culinary Arts (cooking and baking, nutrition and health skills) from Benita January, Construction and Carpentry (blueprint reading, drafting and design) from James Williams, and Commercial Art (silk screening, airbrush painting) from Lawrence Rybicki. In addition to these classes Reynaud Middle also offers classes in Keyboarding taught by Opal Prejean, Digital Storytelling taught by Cynthia Victorian and Cosmetology taught by Kathy LeBlanc. RMS held its annual Title One PTO Open House. About 85% of parents attended and visited our classrooms and various programs



**Playground Rescue**

Over 30 employees of Westlake Group, Partners in Education with Vincent Settlement Elementary, devoted an entire day to repainting the playground, cutting grass, and other routine outdoor maintenance chores. Although the playground was off-limits to students for a short time, volunteers were rewarded by the cheers of passing children throughout the day!

Lori Young, Vincent Settlement Elementary

**Louisiana at Its Best**

The Special Education Department at RMS culminated six weeks of studying Louisiana's culture: Families, Religion, Music, Food and Festivals. The students worked hard researching information to create brochures that invited people to come to Louisiana and experience the 'Flavor of Louisiana'. Some students created calendars that displayed the date and location of each festival while other students studied our state bird, flower and mammals. Food was prepared

using the recipes and conversions needed to produce the end products. Famous people from Louisiana were researched and students presented their contributions to the class. On the final day Superintendent Wayne Savoy and the class were treated with a sampling of traditional food, music, art, and student-led power point presentations.



**Pinwheels For Peace Art Installation Project**

Gillis Elementary students participated in the September 21 event, Pinwheels for Peace, an installation project which involved kindergarten, first and selected fifth grades. Students created and installed over 350 pinwheels in front of the school to symbolize their support for a peaceful world. Peace, simply defined means a state of calm and serenity with no anxiety, the absence of violence, a state which we believe contributes to a good learning environment. The 2005 event included 50,000 pinwheels in 1,325 locations. We enrolled and sent our pictures to www.pinwheelsforpeace.com, and look forward to seeing ourselves on the website for "whirled" peace 2006. Linda Borel and Merele Trares, art teachers.

Linda Borel/Merele Trares, Gillis Elementary



**Arnett Beta Student Readers**

S.P. Arnett Beta students read books to Western Heights Elementary students on Friday, October 20th. All of the students enjoyed the experience. Western Heights would like to thank Arnett for visiting the school.

Donna Hudson, Western Heights Elementary

**St. Jude's Walk-a-thon**

Angie Holland's elementary 4-H Club sponsored a Walk-a-Thon and earned over \$1,800.00 for St. Jude's Research Hospital. Participants were the 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade students of the following teachers: Doris Breaux, Angie Holland, Gil Leonards, Fanny Odom, Bonita Holland, Hope Brasseaux, and Cathy Trouard.

Margo Hoffpauir, Bell City High

**Fall Fundraiser**

Students at Pearl Watson enjoyed the school's annual fundraiser. October Fest was a fun time for the students to play games and receive a treat bag full of goodies.

JoAnn Mayo, Pearl Watson Elementary



**Jessica Dalrymple and Jackie Tademy**

Jessica Dalrymple, Copy Editor, and Jackie Tademy, Layout Editor, of the 2007 Westlake High School Yearbook Staff attended a four day summer yearbook workshop in Huntsville, Texas July 24-27, 2006 along with advisor Martha Ward. The students polished skills in yearbook design, were introduced to a new computer software program and had the privilege of meeting students and advisors from many large Houston area schools. During the week, the students planned and organized the WHS 2007 yearbook. Dalrymple and Tademy were awarded a certificate that states "Most Work Done with the Least Staff."

Kerry Onxley, Westlake High

**Eagles are Soaring High**

Oak Park Elementary recently held its 1st annual Akelah and the Bee Spelling Bee in grades 4th

and 5th. The students developed strategies in developing a vocabulary of words from the movie. The week-long event culminated in a Spelling Bee with the winners taking home their own personal copy of the movie and the soundtrack. Audrette Metoyer, Oak Park Elementary



### Homeland Security

Prien Lake Elementary 2nd graders were visited by the Calcasieu Parish Homeland Security and Office of Emergency Preparedness, September 9th, 2006. Students learned about devices like hand-cranked weather radios, and kinetic powered flash lights to keep on hand in case of emergencies. Norman Boudreau stressed the importance of having a plan at home in case of emergencies. Students were able to tour the mobile unit. Shirlene Clark, Prien Lake Elementary



### L'Auberge du Lac Book Donation

Wes Milligan, Internal Communications Manager for L'Auberge du Lac Hotel & Casino, led an employee drive in the summer that resulted in approximately 500 books being donated to the Calcasieu Parish School Libraries. Books were cataloged by Library Services and delivered to appropriate schools in time for school opening. Helen Curol, Library/Textbook Services

### GoKnow Inc.

Tevya O'Quain and Sandy Desadier's classes shine! Students were given the opportunity to show their technology skills when Larson, a founder of GoKnow, Inc., paid a visit to St. John Elementary. Larson wanted to see first hand how students were using the handheld software that his company developed. Tevya O'Quain and Sandy Desadier use the handhelds and the software to help students improve their writing skills. Recently, Carolyn Dever and her second grade students were featured in an article in the Lake Charles American Press. The article shared about the success that Carolyn Dever and her students were having with using the handhelds.



### World Language Trip to China

Glenda Cormier Williams, K-12 World Languages Consultant is among 400 U.S. educators who will travel to China for a one-week educational tour to learn about Chinese culture and language in an effort to build and expand Chinese language programs in U.S. schools. The event represents a rare opportunity for school decision-makers to experience China firsthand, learn about the culture, and see the dramatic pace of change under way in the world's most populated nation. The trip was sponsored by Hanban, China's Office

of Chinese Language Council International, in partnership with the College Board, the Chinese Language Association of Secondary-Elementary Schools (CLASS), and the National Council of State Supervisors for Languages (NCSSFL). Glenda Williams, Middle Schools

### Grandparents Day

St. John Elementary honored their grandparents by events during the week of Sept. 11th-Sept.15th. Each grade level coordinated a special event. The PreK & DDP classes (Duplechain, Hammond, Nolan, and Young) along with the Fifth grade classes (Barras, Broussard, Deshotel, Nelson, and Semien) invited grandparents and/or special friends to eat breakfast with their grandchildren. The Kindergarten classes (Albert, Dore, Harrington, Perkins, Pitman, and White), the First grade classes (Carrier, Dressler, Fontenot, Silverman, Sullivan, and Williamson), the Third grade classes (Garner, O'Quain, Owens, and Stevens) invited grandparents and/or special friends to eat lunch with their grandchild. The Second grade classes (Cronan, Dever, Dubard, Guidry, and Thompson) invited grandparents and/or special friends to come read to the classes. The Fourth grade classes (Boudreaux, Broussard, Desadier, and Lemoine) invited grandparents and/or special friends to join them for light refreshments.



### New Teacher/Mentor Conference

Annette Breaux, nationally recognized speaker on new teacher induction, provided a two day seminar for new teachers in their first and second year, mentors assigned to the new teachers, district administrators, McNeese State University students, Cameron Parish teachers, and Central Office staff. The event was coordinated by Johna Rion of the Calcasieu Parish School System's Elementary Department. Dolores Hicks is Administrative Director of the Department. Schel Ruiz, Public Information

### "No Bad Days"

Bruce Hamilton, General Manager of National Networks, a Computer Solutions Company, was the Keynote Speaker for the St. John Elementary Back-to-School In-service which was held on August 9th. "No Bad Days" is the flagship program that has affected so many people throughout the nation in such a positive way. Bruce Hamilton sums up life with a simple message..."If you're allowing yourself to have Bad Days, You Lose." This year's theme at St. John Elementary is "Cookin' up a good year with our recipes for success." Bruce Hamilton was one of the perfect "ingredients" to help the staff achieve this goal.



### Early Childhood Guest Speaker

Calcasieu Parish Early Childhood Department welcomed Scott Riviere, LCSW as guest speaker. Scott Riviere spoke to the teachers of four and five year olds about "Behaviors in Young Children". Scott Riviere is from K.I.D.Z., Incorporated, where he specializes in working with children and adolescents ages 2-18 and their families. He counsels on behavioral problems, attachment disorders, and many other issues dealing with families and children. Patricia Reder, Curriculum and Instruction

### Reynaud Cheerleaders

The Reynaud Middle School Cheerleaders, better known as the "Cheering Tigers" are 20 energetic young ladies with 2 mascots making the whole squad 22 voices strong. This year is a learning one for all of us. Most of the squad is made up of 6th graders, and a new sponsor. Help comes from

the Washington-Marion and Lake Charles-Boston High Schools. We have performed in 2 homecoming parades, and plan to be in the Veterans, Reeves Temple Church and the Christmas parades. Plans and hard work in practices have been a daily task to participate in the SSAP, Inc. Cheerleader Competition on Nov. 4th. Our future goal is to attend summer camp at Southern University and of course to have lots of fun throughout the year. Kayla Jones -7th grade Captain, Consuella Baptist -7th grade Co-Captain, Brenda Orphey -Sponsor, Linda Guillory - Asst. Sponsor



### National Board Certified Teachers

National Board Certified Teachers were recognized by the superintendent and school board at a recent meeting. They include Melanie Bradberry, Brentwood Elementary; Dee Dee Breaux, Moss Bluff Middle; Melissa Bushnell, Dolby Elementary; Arlene Cain, Sam Houston High; Ramona Coco, Oak Park Middle; Rachel Crum, Sam Houston High; Sara Dennison, Pupil Appraisal; Alice Duhon-Ross, Career Center; Lynette Fisher, Pupil Appraisal; Terry Granata, S.P. Arnett Middle; Mary Alice Lauw, Pupil Appraisal; Brenda Moreau, LeBleu Settlement; Darlene Morris, LeBlanc Middle; Annette Norman, Special Education; Julie Parham, Brentwood Elementary; Kathleen Pias, Gillis Elementary; Nelly Sanford, Pupil Appraisal; Cathy Severns, Maplewood Middle; Carol Shelton, DeQuincy Elementary; Lisa Stokes, Molo Middle; Kathy Walsh, W.W. Lewis Middle; Linda Wygoda, Sam Houston High; Bobbi Yancey, College Oaks Elementary; and Marie-Nicole Zahm, Henry Heights Elementary. Schel Ruiz, Public Information

### Read for the Record - Literacy 1st Pre-K Style

J.D. Clifton and Wonderland of Play Head Start participated in "Read for the Record" on August 24, 2006. The featured story was The Little Engine That Could by Watty Piper. Students at both centers had guest readers, they were Sheral Lavergne, Calcasieu Parish School Board member, Annie Mouton, Speech Supervisor, and Cornell Trahan, librarian at Calcasieu Parish Library Epps Branch. Thanks to all of our readers that participated in our special day focusing on Literacy 1st Pre-K Style. Patrica Reder, Clifton Elementary



### A Special Thank You

Vinton Elementary School second graders would like to say a special "Thank You" to Dana and Lonny Johns of the Fantastic Aquarium Shop in Sulphur. They allowed students to visit their shop and hold different types of starfish. They also provided treats for the children. Beverly Koonce, Vinton Elementary

### Incorporating Advanced Technology

The purchasing department has incorporated new software called Laserfiche. This program allows all purchasing files to be viewed via the network for those having it installed on their computers. Access to this system can be made available to all departments upon a request by their supervisor or department head. The main advantage of this system allows a user to see actual Purchase Orders and supporting documentation that accompanies the purchase order. If you are interested in this software, contact one of the following individuals: Jacob Tyree, Charles Burton, or Joe Feucht. Joe Feucht, Purchasing

### Trike-a-Thon

The Pre-K and Kindergarten students of Gillis Elementary School recently participated in a Trike-a-Thon project for St.Jude's Children's Research

Hospital. The children learned bike safety rules for 4 days. On the 5th day, they practiced bike safety rules, as they rode bikes and trikes outdoors. We are grateful to the families and friends of the community for helping us to raise \$4,200 for St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital. It was a great way to learn bike safety and how to care for and help sick children.  
Carolyn Langley, Gillis Elementary



### Surviving Rita Book Donation

Elementary principals are excited to receive copies of the book *Surviving Rita*. The American Press has generously donated a copy of their book to each elementary school library in the parish.  
Shirley McKee, Elementary Schools

### Library Services Promotes Educational Resources

As a result of a successful grant application completed by Library Services, First Book has donated Learning Libraries for each elementary school in the district. Each Learning Library consists of a TV/VCR unit as well as a set of 20 educational videos geared for children ages 1 to 6. Videos include *Baby Einstein* as well as various Disney media suitable for school libraries. C-Gov, the Calcasieu Parish Police Jury Channel is producing a monthly half-hour program promoting school library events throughout the district. "Celebrate Reading" runs four times daily throughout the month, at a time set by the Police Jury. The September show featured Renee Grantham, Westlake HS Media Specialist, discussing Freedom To Read library events. The October Program featured Media Specialists, Melony Lemay (Oak Park Middle) and Vickie Barto (Sam Houston HS), informing the public about Teen Read Week. Helen Curol, Library Consultant, is host of the event.  
Helen Curol, Library Consultant, Library/Textbook Services



### Next Step Academy

The Next Step Academy is a cooperative effort of the Workforce Investment Act, CPSB, CPPJ, Simon Youth Foundation and Educational Treatment Council. It was born out of an idea that Vi Martin of OJJS and Keith LeLeux, Director of CWA had. They then contacted Vicki Carpenter-Rosteet about linking with WIA and included in their grant to develop the program. The program provides an educational opportunity for adjudicated youth which helps reduce the dropout rate for Calcasieu Parish. The WIA provides the funding for the teachers' salary (Sue Lanza). Under the supervision of Kenny Brown, CPPJ refers students from Drug Court. CPSB provides computers for instruction along with PLATO which leads to high school diploma. ETC provides counseling and transportation, Simon Youth Foundation provides the facility at no cost to CPSB. Judge Guy Bradberry plays an active role in supervising the students giving incentives and sanctions in court as needed.  
Sue Lanza, Career Center

### Westlake High Theatre Presents The Emperor's New Clothes

The Westlake High School Theatre Department; Kerry A. Onxley, Director of Theatre, Steve Powers, Principal and Lee Crick, Assistant Principal

presented *The Emperor's New Clothes* on October 19 for elementary school performances and public performances. *The Emperor's New Clothes* is a highly entertaining, clever telling of the popular Hans Christian Anderson fable about the pitfalls of vanity and greed. In this hilarious adaptation of the timeless fable, the Emperor becomes a victim of his own vanity as newcomers pretend to create clothes so fabulous that they can only be seen by those of great intelligence. Finally, one small child is brave enough to question the Emperor's new "garb." The production was enhanced by a brilliant soundtrack with colorful sets and costumes. According to Onxley, "Students were able to be entertained while understanding a lesson in social responsibility."  
Kerry A. Onxley, Westlake High



### Caldecot Award Honor - book Illustrator visits Barbe Elementary

The Caldecott award winning Honor Book illustrator, E.B Lewis visited Barbe Elementary's 4th Grade students Wednesday, September 6, 2006 from 8:30 to 9:30 A.M. E.B. Lewis is the illustrator of numerous books for children including *Talkin' About Bessie* (a 2003 Coretta Scott King Award winner), *The Bat Boy and His Violin* (a Coretta Scott King Honor book), *Down the Road* (a Notable Book for Children by the American Library Association), *The Other Side* (a Notable Book for Language Arts), and *Coming On Home Soon* (the 2005 Caldecott Honor Book). The Coretta Scott King Award is the premier award honoring African-American authors and illustrators of outstanding books for children and young adults.  
Wynetta Proctor, Barbe Elementary



### Cards for the Troops

Mischa Moore, 2005 Barbe graduate, is the reigning Louisiana Queen of Queens of all Louisiana festivals. As Queen of Queens, Mischa has an opportunity to sponsor projects to benefit the community and state. On September 13, Mischa visited Barbe to challenge the students in Monica Kirkendall's American History classes to participate in the project "Messages from Home." Mischa is from a military family, so the Iraq War hits pretty close to home. She has started "Messages from Home" in an effort to support our overseas troops. Anyone of any age can write a card to a soldier, and it will be delivered to our troops all around the world by Thanksgiving. Mischa has also appeared on *Alive at 5* to present her ideas to the community and will return to Barbe for its Veterans Day program. On the same day, other Barbe graduates visited Monica Kirkendall's classes. They included brother and sister Amanda and Stephen Bosley and Lance Corporal Steven Thornhill. Stephen Bosley is in the Marine Reserves and Stephen is in the active Marines. Thornhill was in Iraq from September 8, 2005, to April 5, 2006. He told Monica Kirkendall's class that receiving those letters gives hope to our soldiers.  
Mary Dinger, Barbe High

### River Kats at PWE

Football players on the River Kats team came and spoke to fifth grade students at Pearl Watson. The players encouraged the students to always do their best in school and to respect their teachers.  
JoAnn Mayo, Pearl Watson Elementary

### Circle of Life Celebration

A ceremony called "Circle of Life Celebration" was held on Saturday, September 11th to honor Lake

Charles' Navy Petty Officer Kevin Wayne Yokum, who was killed at the Pentagon bombing on 9-11. RMS students planted flowers at the Shattuck Street overpass named for Yokum. Ellaweena Woods, Reynaud Middle Principal stated that "Kevin was an excellent student at Reynaud. We are honored to honor him. Capt. Joe D. Hill, USN, Retired was the Master of Ceremonies. KPLC News named Ellaweena Woods "Hometown Patriot".



### Kindergarten Room

The Kindergarten students can be found in the Kindergarten Center Room. The "Learning Garden" where young minds grow is shared by three kindergarten classes who rotate daily during the school day. Students can be found actively engaged in center activities that reinforce the classroom instruction. The "Learning Garden" was created to afford all students the opportunity to express their creativity, explore concepts in new ways, interact with fellow students, and help to master required skills that are necessary for academic growth.  
Wynetta Proctor, Barbe Elementary

### "Bryan Trahan Has What It Takes - and He Has the Award to Prove It"

The 2006-07 Barbe Teacher of the Year is Bryan Trahan. Trahan has been teaching for eleven years. His first year of teaching was at Oakdale High School and then he came to Barbe and has been teaching math here for 10 years. He has taught all types of math at Barbe High but is currently teaching Intro to Algebra, Algebra I, and Algebra II. His favorite subject to teach is Algebra II because he enjoys the maturity level of the juniors and seniors. When Trahan first discovered he was selected as Barbe's Teacher of the Year, he was "surprised and honored." These feelings were soon replaced with a feeling of being overwhelmed by the necessary paperwork. (It didn't help that he is also in the process of getting his Master's in Administration from McNeese University.) Being Barbe Teacher of the Year hasn't changed Trahan's teaching methods, but it has made him realize that people are paying attention to the way he teaches. Trahan said that he became a teacher because he wanted to be able to spend time with his family. This has allowed him to spend all holidays and the summer with his wife and two beautiful daughters. His favorite part of teaching is seeing students succeed in math who wouldn't normally do well. The part he likes least is doing all the paperwork. Trahan feels that teaching is a God-given talent. When asked if he does math or Sudoku for fun, Trahan said, "No. I'm too busy with my family." Trahan's favorite quote is, "People don't care how much you know until they know how much you care."  
Mary Dinger, Barbe High



### Third graders take B.C. Home

Students in Evelyn Rhodes third grade class were the top sellers in the QSP fundraiser. They won the penguin named B.C. To make it more meaningful, each student in the class will take B.C. home for a weekend along with a journal. They will write about everything they do with B.C.  
Beverly Koonce, Vinton Elementary

### Oak Trees Donated

At Moss Bluff Middle, three oak trees were donated and planted by J&J Tree Farm in

memory of our former student, Scarlet Ritter, her mother, and her brother. The students would like to give a special thank you to Carol and Kirk Moore, owners. A dedication service is planned. The students are also planning to have some benches installed near the tree.  
Molly Duhon, Moss Bluff Middle



**Dial Homework: Students Helping Students**

A Dial-Homework Program has been implemented in Davis fifth grade class. Students were selected by academic ability, leadership ability, and teamwork ability. This is only one of the strategies we are appropriating in the preparation for the iLEAP test. Students respond very well to their classmates and appreciate their assistance. Kaevin Victorian has been assisting Deontre' Price. "I prefer asking Kaevin for help, instead of my parents because she is in my class and understands the assignment," explained Deondre who utilizes the program frequently. There have been positive responses from the parents. The principal and parents are very receptive to the ideas. The objective of the program is to provide a level of instruction that will enhance the knowledge that students need to master the skills for the end-of-the-year test. Success is evident when utilizing quality.  
Phyllis Arndt, Kennedy Elementary



**Fairview 2nd Grade Community Projects**

Rachel LaFleur, Amanda LeJeune, Debbie Lemonier, and Donna Ortego's second grade is studying all about our community and being drug free. Some of our classes have participated in the Shelter In-Place contest sponsored by KPLC-TV. Our biggest community project was creating Lake Charles landmarks. We created Hibernia Tower, Lake Charles Civic Center, United Artist Theaters, and Prien Lake Mall (just to name a few). Also, while participating in Red Ribbon Week, we have designed bulletin boards and signed posters to stay

drug free.  
Amanda LeJeune, Fairview Elementary

**Shell Ambassador Grant**

Shell Exploration and Production Company of New Orleans awarded Vinton Middle School with the Shell Ambassador Grant for \$2,000. The purpose of the grant is to help the school's library recover loss and damaged books due to Hurricane Rita. Richard Zaunbrecher, a Shell employee and former student of VMS, delivered the check to the school. Vinton Middle is excited and very appreciative to the employees who donate their time and money to this grant.  
Peggy Paige, Vinton Middle



**Reynaud Volleyball**

Coach Clemmie Broussard would like to congratulate the entire RMS Volleyball Team for doing an outstanding job. We are proud of you for such a productive season. Lakeitha Jones, Captain of the team says, "I always believed in my team even if we could or couldn't make it. We proved that we all can make it and we did."

**Scholastic Book Fair**

Reynaud Middle School Library will be hosting a Scholastic Book Fair on November 13th through November 17th. A Family Night is scheduled on November 16th with hot chocolate and cookies being served as students read their original works of poetry, short stories and excerpts from their favorite books. It's a fun time for faculty, students and families.  
Patti Fontenot - RMS Librarian, Reynaud Middle



**Pumpkin Project**

Dwight Primeaux's 5th graders had to design a pumpkin face using pumpkin pattern software. Once their design was complete they wrote a story about their pumpkin. Their stories were made into books which they read to the Kindergarten and Pre-K classes. Their pumpkin designs were carved on

to their pumpkins which were on display while they read their stories.  
Dwight Primeaux, Bell City High

**Reynaud Football**

The RMS Football Program did extremely well 2006-07 season. The Tigers finished the season with a 5-2 record overall accomplishing two goals. Our goals were: 1st, 5-0 in league play competition and 2nd winning the Junior Soul Bowl against Ray D. Molo Middle School. The turnout was great and we were proud to come home with the Spirit trophy. I want to thank the faculty, staff, administration and student body for supporting our program. Thanks again! Coach Nathaniel Perry.



**Fall PAC Training**

The Title I Annual District PAC (Parent Advisory Council) Training was held on October 5 at the St. Charles Retreat Center. Parents and School Representatives were welcomed by Loree L. Smith, Family Involvement Coordinator. Thirty-one (31) of the Thirty-three (33) Title I Schools were represented. The feature speaker was Kenneth P. Boudreaux, Director of Youth Services & Programs in Lafayette Parish. Kenneth Boudreaux spoke about the responsibility of parents for their children. He said that parents need to impress upon their children regarding their education the following: 5 Points - 1 - Get Serious, 2 - Stay Focused, 3 - Pay Attention, 4 - Follow Directions, 5 - Do the Right Thing. Other guest speakers included: Dana Forrest, Director of the Leadership Center for Youth, Sherri Hogg, Prevent Child Abuse in Louisiana, Penny Haxthausen, Safe & Drug Free Schools Coordinator. Title I Family Involvement is committed to helping schools design activities to engage family and community members. The education of children should include in-school participation, extra curricular participation, and home support for learning. SMILES - Schools Making Involvement in Learning Easy & Simple  
Loree L. Smith, Coordinator Family Involvement

# United Way Kickoff Breakfast

The United Way Kickoff was highlighted by a performance of The Blues Brothers. \$285,000+ was donated to the campaign by Calcasieu School System employees.



*The Blues Brothers, CPSS UW Coordinators Ron Hayes and Steve Wieschhaus with backup singers Daphne Oliver, Schel Ruiz, and Naomi McCoy.*



*Dolores Hicks, Gary Anderson, Leo Miller Jr., and Superintendent Wayne Savoy.*

# Noteworthy

## Thinking Maps

All staff at DeQuincy Elementary were trained in Thinking Maps the week of September 11th.  
*Pam Martarona, DeQuincy Elementary*

## ITEC Grant

Amy Nugent, first grade teacher at Moss Bluff Elementary, received the ITEC grant. Amy Nugent's class will receive three computers, a promethean active board with a projector, activotes that will enable the students to reply to any question instantly, a hand held board that will enable the teacher to write anywhere in the room and it will show up on the board, and digital cameras.  
*Sherina Snead, Moss Bluff Elementary*

## Kagan Institute

During the summer, eight faculty members from St. John Elementary attended the Kagan Institute on Cooperative Learning. Nancy Boudreaux, Sandy Desadier, Crystal Deshotel, Cindy Hanks, Toni Henry, Sabrah Kingham, Sandy Mathews, and Tara Owens spent the week learning how to build powerful learning teams in the classroom. These teams have the ability to raise student achievement and increase student engagement. These individuals will be sharing with the rest of the St. John Elementary staff the strategies that they learned.

*St. John Elementary*

## Cooley's TNT Conference Presentation: "Project Disaster"

Kristen Orndoff's fifth graders at T.S. Cooley Elementary Magnet School participated in a cross-curriculum project which included science, math, social studies, reading and technology called "Project Disaster." She presented the information they gathered and projects they created at the TNT Conference. Some of their work included PowerPoint presentations about famous hurricanes, interviews with relatives about hurricanes they had experienced which the students recorded on Palm Pilots, tall tales based on natural disasters the students created using Microsoft Word, and food webs made using Inspiration. The students ended the project with a community service project: Lake Charles Beach Sweep 2006. The students learned how both humans and natural disasters destroy our environment.

*Mary Lanier, Cooley Elementary*

## PalmQuest Training

Jennifer Coleman and Carolyn Clayton, Kaufman Elementary 5th grade teachers, are participating in a PalmQuest Training Grant, and will receive 10 Palms for their students.

*Cathy Berryhill, Kaufman Elementary*

## TNT

Twenty-one teachers from St. John Elementary attended the TNT Conference that was held on Sept. 23 at the Technology Training Center. Teachers had the opportunity to attend five different sessions that allowed them to learn new ways to integrate technology into their classroom.  
*St. John Elementary*

## Patriot's Pen Contest

Fifteen seventh graders entered the Patriot's Pen Contest, a patriotic essay contest sponsored by the VFW. The participants are Shayne Matte, Malcolm Alfred, Carrie Gormanous, Amber Petry, Hope Cresswell, Kayla Stargel, Kylie Bostick, Kaitlyn Miller, Jody Jackson, Wilda Kennerson, Miranda Partin, Sissy Bellard, Brandon Dixon, Zachariah DeFelice, and Austin Spooner.  
*Molly Duhon, Moss Bluff Middle*

## I-TEC Grant

Westlake High School Band Director Jay Ecker was recently awarded an I-TEC grant for technology in the classroom. The grant was awarded on the basis of a narrative description of the use for the grant as well as an interview process with the CPSB Technology Department staff. The grant includes 5 desktop computers, laser printer, projection system and digital camera. The grant materials will be used to implement the WHS Band "Smart Music" program. Smart Music is computer software which can "listen" to student performances and objectively assess the accuracy of pitch and rhythmic information. Smart music also acts

as a virtual accompanist for solo performances. Implementation of this grant will allow students to improve quality of individual practice and to produce MP3's of their performances for assessment by the Band Director. Students will produce a portfolio of their performances which will be used to document their progress as part of the WHS Band's quality management processes.

## Student Council Summer Workshop

Jason Thibodeaux, Glenn Chance, Corey Crosby, Charlie Buller, Ashley Fontenot, Addie Thevenet and Jackie Tademay attended the Student Council Summer Workshop at Northwestern State University in June 2006. Melanie Lanthier is the sponsor.

## Educational Theatre Association Conference

Kerry A. Onxley attended the 2006 Educational Theatre Association Conference for theatre teachers. The annual conference took place on September 21-24 in Denver and was entitled "The Right to Teach: Meeting New Challenges of Theatre Education." The convention focused on the impact of the No Child Left Behind Act on middle and secondary theatre education, as well as, intellectual freedom, censorship and play selection in school theatre programs. Onxley is Director of Theatre for Westlake High Theatre.

## Boys and Girls State

Tabitha Lanthier and Kendal Chevenert attended Boys and Girls State at the Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge. The week long event was held in June 2006.

## Summer Dance Camp

The Westlake High Rambler's Dance line attended the Summer Dance Camp sponsored by the Universal Dance Association. The event was held at McNeese State University in June 2006. The Rambler's won Superior on their home routine. Krista Dixon won the Drill Down Queen Award. Melanie Lanthier and Amy Elliot are the sponsors.  
*Kerry Onxley, Westlake High*

## Grandparents' Day

Grandparents' Day was a huge success. Grandparents came to eat lunch and take pictures with their prize possessions, their grandchildren. There was standing room only.  
*Audrette Metoyer, Oak Park Elementary*

## Nelson Elementary Grant Winners

Dana McGee received the I TECH grant. Nelson also received The Lowe's Toolbox for Education grant and Community Coffee Hurricane Relief grant.

*Sandy Bel, Nelson Elementary*

## Grant

Moss Bluff Elementary received the second funding from the 8-G grant last spring. They received the full \$100,000 for a second year. With the supplement piece, they were able to order sixty additional laptops for the school. The funding allowed the school to add another teacher in grades 2 -5 to our team. Three classrooms on each of these halls have ten laptops, which includes a teacher workstation with a projector and laptop.  
*Sherina Snead, Moss Bluff Elementary*

## Fairview Staff Training

Fairview Elementary was proud to have 95% staff attendance at the TNT8 conference, held on Saturday, September 23, 2006, at the Calcasieu Parish Technology Center and Reynaud Middle School.

*Mary Adams, Fairview Elementary*

## Composer Teaches at Lewis

Tim McMillen, band director at W. W. Lewis, was the featured artist for the free "Fall Evening of Jazz" concert on Friday, Oct. 27th in Ralph Squires Recital Hall at McNeese State University. He is a well recognized trombonist and composer. Tim McMillen spent eight years as staff music arranger for the U.S. Air Force and continues to be an in demand writer for various military and civilian bands. He performed and conducted some of his big band music with the assistance of the McNeese Jazz Ensemble, of which he was a member in the mid-1980s.  
*Kathy Walsh, Lewis Middle*

## Quality

Rose Spell, eighth grader at W. W. Lewis, and Lucie Mesuch, eighth grade math teacher at W. W. Lewis, took part in a panel discussion at the Chamber Southwest and American Society for Quality Day's 9th Annual Quality Awards on Tuesday Oct 17th. Rose discussed how the students on our team selected a team name, set their mission statement and goals. She discussed how she uses standardized test scores to determine strengths and weaknesses in my students in order to help me plan curriculum. We will also participate in a League of Women's Voters meeting concerning quality on Monday Oct 23.

*Lucie Mesuch, Lewis Middle*

## LATM Conference

Michelle Conner, spark math teacher at Lewis Middle, participated in the LATM conference in Shreveport Oct. 19-21. She presented 2 workshops and is the President of Middle schools on the executive board.

*Michelle Conner, Lewis Middle*

## IIM Day

DeQuincy Elementary had their first IIM Day on Tuesday, October 13th. Parents visited the classroom and participated in activities and lessons about that classes IIM topic.

*Pam Martarona, DeQuincy Elementary*

## Baker and Taylor Calendar Contest

Art student's in Melissa Harrell's art class sent in art for consideration in the Baker and Taylor Calendar contest. Baker and Taylor are cats and company mascots for a library catalogue. The children that participated are: 2nd grader-Victoria Bellard, 3rd graders-Kayla Bartlett, Cameron Smith, Casey Smith, Michael Landry, Morgan Green, Kayla Hardey, Tiffany LeJune, Angela Morris, Ryan Duplechain, 4th grader-Kristopher LeBlanc and 5th grader-Jessica Kim

*Western Heights Elementary*

## Veterans' Day

Westwood Elementary will honor local veterans on November 9th, with a reception at the school. Students in grades 1-2 are participating in a "Celebrate Veteran's Day-Liberty for All!" poster contest. Students in grades 4-5 are participating in a "What Veteran's Day Means to Me" essay contest. There will be one winner from each class who will present their poster and/or essay to the veterans at the reception. Photos of veterans who are relatives of the students at Westwood are being displayed in the hall on a "Wall of Honor". Students are also collecting toiletries for the area homeless veterans. The BETA Club will deliver the items to area homeless shelters.

*Karen Ashworth, Westwood Elementary*

## I-TEC

Congratulations to 1st grade teacher Connie Fontenot for winning the I-TEC Model Classroom Grant.

*St. John Elementary*

## Palms in the Classroom

Kim Smith made two presentations at the Region V TNT Conference held on September 23. One presentation was using Palm Handhelds for Literature Circles in the Classroom, and the other was on using Palm Handhelds for LEAP and GEE 21 review.

*Margo Hoffpauir, Bell City High*

## Kagan Conference

Six teachers from Moss Bluff Elementary attended the Kagan Structures for Success conference in San Antonio, Texas. Donna DeBarge, Jason Doyle, Ruth McDaniel, Dawn Berry, Ashleigh Shulz, and Amanda Dillon learned about the structural approach to cooperative learning father by Dr. Kagan.

*Sherina Snead, Moss Bluff Elementary*

## TAP Summer Institute

This past July 2006 Mentor and Master Teachers from T. H. Watkins Elementary, along with Teachers from other states, attended the TAP Institute at McNeese State University.

*Irene Fontenette, Watkins Elementary*

# Noteworthy

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## All-State Chorus

Lacey Levine, Tiffany Lyons, Barrett Tinker, Jennifer Watzlavik, Jessica Wells, and Haleigh Willis of W. W. Lewis Middle School attended the ACDA All State Chorus Convention in Baton Rouge on Thursday and Friday October 19th and 20th.

*Kathy Walsh, Lewis Middle*

## From the President

Evan Fullington, a W. W. Lewis seventh grade student, received a personal note from President George Bush and his wife Laura for earning the Arrow of Light in Scouting. It said, "We join your friends and family in congratulating you on your outstanding achievement. Your accomplishment pays tribute to your hard work and dedication. Best wishes for your future success."

*Kathy Walsh, Lewis Middle*

## Rice Cook-off Winner

Lauren Hansen, a member of the W. W. Lewis 4-H, won the 9th annual Rice Cook-off sponsored by the Cal-Cam Rice Growers Association, the Port of Lake Charles and Farmer's Rice Milling Co. Inc. on Sept. 28th for her Heavenly Coconut Delight.

*Kathy Walsh, Lewis Middle*

## Certifications

The following students have completed Industry Based Certifications: Computer Electronics - Garry Hatter - CompTia A+ and Keith Thibodeaux - Network +, Culinary Arts - Jessica Smith - ServSafe and Falon Orphey - ServSafe

## Technology Award

Michael Richard was named Technology

Education Outstanding Teacher Award winner by the Department of the Air Force from the Air Education and Training Command. This was a student nominated award and a total of 30,000 teachers were submitted, from those 250 were chosen as Outstanding Teachers in the field of technology.

## SKILLSUSA National Competition

Two Computer Electronics students and two Culinary Arts students competed in the SKILLSUSA National Competition in June. Kha Tsang from Barbe High School competed in Internetworking. Keith Thibodeaux from LaGrange High School competed in Computer Maintenance and Hardware. Missy Smith from Barbe High School competed in Commercial Baking. Tiffany Williams from Washington Marion competed in Food and Beverage Service. Each competitor at the national competition earns their spot by winning the gold medal in their state competition.

## Instructor Certification

Instructors in welding and Carpentry received Instructor Certification from the National Center for Construction Education and Research (NCCER). Royce Allen is certified as a craft instructor and authorized to train fellow craft workers in Carpentry. Drew Fontenot is certified as a craft instructor and authorized to train fellow craft workers in Welding. The instructors are an integral component of the nationally standardized

craft program serving the construction and maintenance industries.

## Summer Skills Workshop

Lorna Ellender, Culinary Arts Instructor, attended a Summer Skills Workshop for Foodservice Instructors. The workshop was a hands-on weekend emphasizing specific culinary skills. The class covered advance techniques in cakes, breads, chocolate and pulled sugar. She received continuing education hours from Purdue University. A \$250 grant awarded from the Association for Career and Technical Education assisted her in travel expenses.

## Students Receive CPR Cards

Students in the EMT-Basic class received their CPR Card for Healthcare Providers in September. This certification is required before moving on to take the National Registry Exam for EMT-Basic. The students are Shanelle Woods from Lake Charles-Boston, Krystin Cortez from Westlake High School, Courtney Griffith from Barbe High School, and Vicki Friddle from Iowa High School.

*Lorna Ellender, Career & Technical Education*

## Grant Recipient

Erica Guillory, a fifth grade teacher at Jessie D. Clifton Elementary, is a recipient of the I-TEC Grant.

*Tamara Keys, Clifton Elementary*

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# Partners in Education

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## Dr. & Mrs. A. T. Ordinario, Jr.

Dr. & Mrs. A. T. Ordinario, Jr., distinguished Partners in Education since 1999, have made quality priority number one. They sponsored Celebration Friday on October 20, 2006 for Banner Roll, Honor Roll, Students of the Month and Most Improved students.

## Cox, Cox, Filo, Camel & Wilson

Cox, Cox, Filo, Camel & Wilson, Partners in Education, will celebrate Accelerator Reading Achievement for Boys & girls who reach their AR goal and 85 % Rating in Comprehension with a cold drink and ice-cream party on November 3, 2006.

*John J. Johnson II*

## Georgia Gulf Provides Breakfast

Vinton Elementary School Partner in Education, Georgia Gulf, provided breakfast for students making banner roll and honor roll. Students enjoyed donuts and juice.

*Beverly Koonce, Vinton Elementary*

## Dwight Law Firm

Dwight Law Firm rewarded the students of the six weeks for Moss Bluff Middle School. The students were Rosemary Prejean and Katie Reed (6th), Kaycie Sonnier and Brooklyn Borel (7th), and Allie Meche and Dalton Hubler(8th). On October 10, 2006, Principal John Duhon and Dwight Law Firm took these students to Classic Café in Moss Bluff for lunch. Each received a "goodie bag" containing school supplies, candy, and gift certificates. Thanks to Dwight Law Firm for this incentive program that encourages students to do their best!!

*Molly Duhon, Moss Bluff Middle*

## Firestone

Moss Bluff Middle Partners in Ed. representatives met with Firestone to plan activities for the 2006-07 school year. Some of the topics discussed were teacher grants and a Shadow Day for eighth graders. MBMS will also help Firestone collect pull tabs from soda cans to raise money for the Ronald McDonald House. The homeroom with the most tabs collected during a six-week period will receive a prize.

*Molly Duhon, Moss Bluff Middle*

## Eagles and Partners are Flying High

Oak Park Elementary's new Partners in Education, Lake Charles Nissan provided the school with a new copier machine for the new workroom. Centerpoint Energy held a Red Beans and Rice dinner for the school on October 20 to assist the school with fundraising.

*Audrette Metoyer, Oak Park Elementary*

## MBE Partners

Moss Bluff Elementary is glad to have outstanding support from the community. Wendy's, Service Tire and Auto, A-1 Sewer, Textbook Rentals, Verizon Wireless, Beauregard Electric, Sonic Drive Inn, State Farm-Melanie Perry and Jeff Davis Bank are greatly appreciated for being the schools Partners in Education.

*Sherina Snead, Moss Bluff Elementary*

## Westlake Chemical Brings Treats Not Tricks

Employees of Westlake Chemical visited Maplewood Middle School on Friday the 13th of October. It was a spooktacular day, with volunteers mowing grass, weeding the butterfly garden and generally making a "clean" sweep. The volunteers added some fall touches to the garden and brightened everyone's spirits.

*Terri Simpson, Maplewood Middle*

## Sweetlake Land & Oil Supports Commitment to Reading

In support of reading as a priority at Bell City School, Sweetlake Land and Oil and Buddy Leach, the school's Partner-in-Ed, has made a financial commitment to upgrading the reading resources by purchasing AR books for the school library.

*Margo Hoffpauir, Bell City High*

## Partners In Education Make A Difference

A special thanks to our partners, Bio Lab A Chemtura Co. and Excel Para Lube for their participation and support in the lives of the students and families at Barbe Elementary. Our partners continue to diligently share their time and resources as they participate in various school activities. Barbe's Annual Family Bingo Night was held on October 12th, and with our partner's support the night was a hit. They

provided prizes and snacks to help make the night an enjoyable experience for everyone. Our partners can always be spotted at our annual pumpkin decorating contest and our door decorating contest. We would also like to thank our partners for providing "Back to School" supplies for the student body and the treats for the faculty and staff.

*Wynetta Proctor, Barbe Elementary*

## "Wheel of Bucks for Outstanding Bucs"

On August 24th at class assemblies, the students who achieved academic success in the 2005-06 school year had the chance to win money, thanks to Barbe's school sponsor Grace Davison.

*Mary Dinger, Barbe High*

## W. W. Lewis and Partners in Education

W. W. Lewis would like to recognize our partners for all they do for us and our students. Carl Vincent with State Farm Insurance - Every six weeks Mr. Vincent treats all banner roll students to a pizza party and all honor roll students to an ice cream party. He served the teachers a wonderful breakfast at our back to school inservice and presented each staff member with a school shirt containing the logo "Raising the Bar". Jeff Davis with City Savings Bank - The staff was presented with desk organizers that included a clock, thermometer, calendar, and pencils. They also sponsored a child to attend the Arts Camp and another to attend Tech Camp this summer. Chemical Waste Management - They continue to help fund the agendas for our students and teachers and to fund the Homework Hotline which is a great asset to students, parents, and teachers.

*Connie Duffy, Lewis Middle*

## ConocoPhillips

Westlake High School's Partners In Education, ConocoPhillips, contributed \$800.00 towards computer carts for the Westlake High School Ram Band. The carts will be used for computers purchased through an I-TEC grant for technology in the classroom.

*Kerry Onxley, Westlake High*

# Congratulations

## **I-TEC Grant Recipient**

Christi Miller, technology teacher at Barbe Elementary was rewarded an I-TEC grant. This grant is a project of the Calcasieu Parish School System Technology Department. The purpose of the I-TEC grant is: To recognize exemplary teaching that elevates student learning in K-12 schools. To offer a model environment for pre-service teachers, classroom teachers and administrators to observe technology-infused quality teaching and learning. To collect data via action research by reflecting upon current teaching practices and improvement of student achievement using technology. To support efforts to develop and implement creative ideas that result in high student achievement. Through this grant Christi Miller received 5 multimedia computers, software, one digital projector, one laser printer, and one digital camera.

*Wynetta Proctor, Barbe Elementary*

## **Summer Reading Program**

St. John Elementary Kindergarten student, Madison Garner, won a year's supply of movie tickets from the Calcasieu Parish Library during its summer reading program.

*St. John Elementary*

## **Golden Rule Award**

Congratulations to Elizabeth "Lizzie" Miller, a 3rd grade student at Barbe Elementary. Lizzie received the "Golden Rule" award from the Kiwanis of Southwest Contraband. This award is given to a deserving student who exemplifies caring, giving, and responsibility.

*Wynetta Proctor, Barbe Elementary*

## **United Way Support**

The Vincent Settlement faculty and staff increased their United Way donations to \$7,925.16 which is a 31% increase from last year's contributions.

*Lori Young, Vincent Settlement Elementary*

## **Brentwood Receives Grants**

Brentwood teachers have been successful in securing \$7,200.00 in grants to enhance instruction and support student learning. Rhona Williams, Special Education teacher, has received the following grants for children in her class and first grade students: You Can Count On It! - a \$2,500 Michael Jordan Fundamentals Grant; Butterflies, Beetles & Bugs-a Bell South \$500 grant to provide materials for learning about life cycles and habitats of animals; Changing Faces-a \$1,695 Teaching Tolerance grant focusing on diversity in our community. Julie Parham, Master Teacher, received a \$2,500 Michael Jordan Fundamentals Grant, Building Bridges through Literacy. It will provide literature for about 150 3rd-5th grade and special education children to read and keep in their personal library. The goal is to support student understanding of different literary genres and the cultures they originated from around the world as they learn to appreciate literature and reading.

*Julie Parham, Brentwood Elementary*

## **McNeese Cowboy Art Contest**

McNeese Homecoming drawing contest winners are as follows: Kindergarten Division - 2nd place Olivia Broussard, 3rd place Emily Dunbar and, honorable mention David Spicer. Second Grade Division - honorable mention Brooke Duzan, and a 3rd Grade Division - third place winner Vitalica Perez. This is a definite honor because competition included all Calcasieu parish schools. The students are taught art by Christie Cappel

*Terri Simpson, Maplewood Middle*

## **Band Festival Awards**

The Westlake High School Ram Band scored Superior Ratings in the categories of Drum Major, Auxiliary, Percussion and Band at the DeRidder Marching Festival. The Ram Band also received a Sweepstakes trophy for Superior Ratings in all categories. The band instructor is Jay Ecker.

Westlake High Ram Band students Jacob Ecker and Adam Richard were selected by competitive auditions to the Louisiana All State Bands and Orchestra. Ecker placed on trombone in concert band and Richard placed on double base in the orchestra. In November, Ecker and Richard will perform with the All State Band and Orchestra at the annual Louisiana Music Educator's Association Convention in Baton Rouge.

The following students of the Westlake High Ram Band were chosen by competitive auditions to participate in the 2007 District Five Honor Bands: Jonathan Blake - Trumpet, Jonathan Brankline - Tuba, Kayla Briscoe - Flute, Casey Chiasson

- Tuba, Jacob Ecker - Trombone, Tommy Estling - Percussion, Sammi Herbert - Percussion, Caleb Hyatt - Percussion, Rachel Marshall - Percussion, Colin Patton - Trombone, Adam Richard - Double Bass, Sam Turner - Trombone, Summer Waldrop - Clarinet, James Wix - Trumpet  
*Kerry Onxley, Westlake High*

## **Teen Read Week**

Westlake High Students Mary Hebert and Michael Traweek were honored by the Calcasieu Parish Public Library System during Teen Read Week. Hebert won the essay contest while Traweek was chosen as a Remarkable Reader. Both students were featured in the Lake Charles American Press during Teen Read Week.

*Kerry Onxley, Westlake High*

## **Student Achieves Mathematical Feat**

Patrick Hill a 6th grader at Maplewood Middle School has scored the highest recordable score on high stakes testing 2 years in a row. Patrick recorded the highest score on his 4th grade LEAP and then repeated the effort on his 5th grade I-Leap.

*Terri Simpson, Maplewood Middle*

## **Artwork Award**

Congratulations to Drew LeBlanc for his participation in the Mayor's Choice "Island Art" Exhibit. Drew LeBlanc is a first grader in Rhodes class.

*Sandy Bel, Nelson Elementary*

## **Mayor's Choice Exhibit**

DeQuincy Mayor, Jerry Bell, chose 75 works of art for the Mayor's Choice Exhibit which was on display in the DeQuincy City Hall from June 1st until September 30th. These works of art came from Kindergarten - Fifth grade students at DeQuincy Elementary. Fifth grade: Kaleb Hollie, Cheyenne Parker, Sydney Lamberth, Justin Stains, Megan Pinder, Caleb Mitchell, Yahor Sukharutski, Candace Perkins, Seth Matte, Kelsey O'Bannon, Reagan Dougay, Fourth Grade: Megan Davis, Nika Booty, Amanda Feith, Deanna Frazier, Lauren Spears, Martina Meche, Ryan Wheeler, Tiffany Stanley, Travis Rawson, Shelby Matte, Third grade: Jasmine Bias, Rebeca Hoffman, Brooke Thompson, Grace Pierce, Tabitha Wheeler, Kelsey Chesson, Eric Fontenot, Lauryn Copeland, Haleigh Lorenz, Dillon Jordan, Shelby VanWinkle, Hannah Streams, Moses Dines, Second grade: Jacey Royer, Austin Pickering, Gavin Kennon, Courtney Mitchell, Amanda Pickering, Rebecca Scalisi, Kaitlyn Burgess, Caleb Jacobs, Madison Dykes, Samuel Lueck, First grade: Kasey Frazier, Madison Brown, Caden Bushnell, Austin Pickering, Jaylin Langton, Charles Johnson, Kaytlynn Robinson, Cody Morgan, David Denton, Bailey Duplechian, Alyssa Gastineau, Morgan Bertrand, Roy Champagne, Ashlan Marcantel, Emily Nash, Keely Bertrand, Khalan Adams, Kindergarten: Bethany Marcantel, Tori Scott, Christopher Jordan, Caleb Maddox, Kristin Streams, Cameron Fasske, Lucas Pardue, Natalie Parks, Christian Dougay, Anglea Louviere, Dillon Spencer, Kase Maddox, Caleb Reeves, and Kali Stains.

*Pam Martarona, DeQuincy Elementary*

## **McNeese Alumni Homecoming Art Contest**

Western Heights Elementary third grader Destinee Reado received Honorable Mention in the third grade category of the McNeese Homecoming Art Contest. Hayden Durant won 2nd place in the second grade category and Logan Durant won 3rd place in the fourth grade category. All are art students of Melissa Harrell.

*Donna Hudson, Western Heights Elementary*

## **Drew Grant Recipient**

Goodly received a Drew Grant that included Kagan materials. The students in 2nd grade use the Kagan manipulatives daily. Some of the most used items are spinners cubes, answer boards, and markers. They make our activities fun and interesting.

*Irene Fontenette, Watkins Elementary*

## **4-H Club, Cal-Cam Fair, Dwight Law Firm**

Josh Dubroc created the winning design for the Moss Bluff Middle 4-H Club t-shirt. Josh received a prize package as well as his shirt paid for by the sponsor.

Moss Bluff Middle School's representatives in the Cal-Cam Fair pageant were very successful. Hannah Smith, an eighth grader, placed third

runner-up, and Jessie Miglicco, also an eighth grader, placed in the Top Ten.

Moss Bluff Middle's librarian, Tonya Portinause, was named Swamp Pop Queen, at a festival held in Gonzales, LA.

*Molly Duhon, Moss Bluff Middle*

## **Academic All-Star Production for SPS Growth**

Bell City High School has earned the distinction of A School of Recognized Academic Growth for surpassing their growth target on the 2006 SPS. Because of this growth, the school is eligible for rewards. An Academic All-Star Production on November 14th will celebrate the achievements of the 109 All-Star Testers and their teachers.

*Margo Hoffpauir, Bell City High*

## **Quality Awards**

Maplewood Middle School once again received an award for excellence in Quality at the recent Chamber Southwest Quality forum. Merella Kowarsch and Austin Pottorff were chosen to serve as panelist at the event which had more than 200 attendees.

*Terri Simpson, Maplewood Middle*

## **Mastering Objectives**

Congratulations to Shaquille Jones & Landon Mitchell, two fifth graders in Beverly Lebouef's class, for mastering 96 & 94 objectives out of 182 in the Accelerated Math Library at DeQuincy Elementary.

*Pam Martarona, DeQuincy Elementary*

## **Perfect Scores**

Congratulations to Britt Qualls, the son of Special Services employees, Stephanie and Terry Lane. He scored a perfect 500 on both Math and ELA on the 4th grade LEAP test and advanced on the science and social studies test.

*Anita Murphy, Special Education*

## **Student of the Month**

Congratulations to Ashley Daniel, a fifth grade student in Erica Guillory's class was KHTV's Student of the Month.

*Tamara Keys, Clifton Elementary*

## **Two Calcasieu School Counselors are Recipients of State Award**

Pam Spears, DeQuincy Elementary counselor, was named Louisiana Elementary Counselor of the Year and Lee Richard, W.W. Lewis Middle School counselor, was named Louisiana Middle School Counselor of the Year by the Louisiana School Counselors' Association at their recent state conference held in Alexandria. Pam & Lee were local award winners last spring. They will be recognized at the November School Board meeting.

*James Powers, Career & Technical Education*

## **Paint the Town Blue and Gold**

Congratulations to the following Westwood Elementary students who participated in the annual McNeese Alumni, "Paint the Town Blue and Gold" contest. Second grader, Austin Bertrand was awarded First place for the Second grade division, Mary Katherine McKinney was awarded Second place in the Third grade division and Sydney Bergeron received Honorable Mention for Fifth grade.

*Karen Ashworth, Westwood Elementary*

## **First Six Weeks**

St. John Elementary had 179 students with perfect attendance during the first six weeks of school. Students with perfect attendance received a yellow bracelet. 189 students made the Honor/Banner Roll during the first six weeks. Honor/Banner Roll students were treated to an extra recess where they enjoyed pizza and coke for their hard work and effort

*St. John Elementary*

## **Bell City Athletics**

Girls Cross Country Team earned runner-up honors at McNeese Cross Country Meet & 3rd place at John Miller's Cross Country Meet in Pineville, LA. Girls Basketball placed 3rd at the Hathaway Tournament. JV Quiz Bowl placed 2nd at the October tournament; team members: Corey Trahan, Jacqueline Clark, Derrick Eastwood, Chyenne Bertrand, and Kayla Nugent. Kyla Foster placed 2nd in Goat Tying at the recent Bell City High School Rodeo. Jake Daughenbaugh placed 4th in Bull Riding at the Bell City Rodeo.

*Margo Hoffpauir, Bell City High*

# In the Schools

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## **Fairview Red Ribbon Week**

Fairview Elementary celebrated Red Ribbon Week with these fun activities: Pre - K and Kindergarten: Hugs not drugs- They brought in their stuffed animals and made donations to Animal Angels. First Grade: Crazy Sock Day! Second Grade: Say Boo to Drugs - They will have ghosts up on walls in their hall. They will put little ghosts on the big ghost with a reason written on it as to why drugs are Scary! Third Grade: Hooked on Books Not Drugs - They brought their favorite book to read. Fourth Grade: Get Lei to Lei Off Drugs - They wore Hawaiian Lei's. Fifth Grade: Being Drug Free Comes In Cans, I Can, You Can, We Can. They will collect can goods for the Women's Shelter. Diane Taylor, Jennifer Scallan, and Debbie Hoffpauir's 5th grade classes collected over 300 can goods for the Women's Shelter. All classes participated in a door decorating contest that ended the week. The prize was recess equipment for the winning class. Physical Education teachers, Mary Cole and Sheila Chisholm coordinated the week of Drug Free activities. Being drug free is our responsibility!

*Mary Adams, Fairview Elementary*

## **Family Math Night**

Parental involvement is one of the key ingredients to a child's successful learning environment. Henry Heights Elementary hosted a Family Math Night on November 2nd. Parents and students will play various math games, and activities to enhance math skills and concepts. We are hoping for a fun and exciting evening!

## **Fire Prevention Week**

On Friday, October 20th, the Lake Charles Fire Department visited Henry Heights Elementary as part of fire prevention week. Children enjoyed seeing the clowns and fire truck at school.

## **Professional Development**

Professional development and higher order thinking is an ongoing process at Henry Heights Elementary. Special presentations of Exemplars math problem solving took place at Henry Heights Elementary on Thursday, October 26th. Teachers from within the parish visited Henry Heights to view the model lessons.

*Kim DeVillier, Henry Heights Elementary*

## **PAC Meeting**

On October 5, 2006 Fairview Elementary School PAC (Parent Advisory Council) chairperson - Linda Gaskin, co-chairperson - Debra Simmons, and school representative - Mary Adams attended the Fall PAC meeting and training to help promote parental involvement. The training was held at the St. Charles Retreat Center in Moss Bluff.

*Mary Adams, Fairview Elementary*

## **Grandparent's Day**

Fairview Elementary Pre-K students celebrated Grandparent's Day, September 8, 2006. Karon Roach, Kelley Fontenot, Amy Fafard, and LaDoris Politte's classes invited grandparents to have lunch with their grandchildren to celebrate! Fairview Elementary held Open House on October 2, 2006. Parents were given information about the Title I program. The PTO President, Linda Gaskin, spoke to parents about interest in volunteering. She was followed by Cub Scout representative, Brandon Hart, who spoke to the parents about the Cub Scout program and handed out Student/Parent Interest Surveys. The parents then went to classrooms to pick up report cards and tour the school.

*Mary Adams, Fairview Elementary*

## **Open House**

1st PTO Meeting and Open House was held on Tuesday, September 12, 2006. Officers elected were Serina Doucet, President, Crystal Clark, Vice President, Tiffany Doucet, Secretary, Kimberely Singleton, Asst. Secretary, Beverly Baxter, Chaplain.

## **Title One Pack Representatives**

Title One Pack Representatives, at Johnson Elementary are as follows: School Representative- T. Burks, Parent Representatives- Darol King, Jr. and Annie Moore.

*John J. Johnson II Elementary School*

## **Donuts for Dad Breakfast Meeting**

Dads of Great Students (D.O.G.S.) met on Thursday, October 26, 2006.

## **Outreach Program**

The Outreach Program Sponsored by Christus St. Patrick Hospital held a Health Fair at John J. Johnson II, Thursday, October 26. Students were able to visit with community agencies and gather important information for themselves and their family. Health screening and discussion with health professionals was provided for parents and other adults in the community.

## **Geography Wiz Kids Contest**

Students at John J. Johnson II are participating in the Geography Wiz Kids Contest! Students respond to Geography questions about the USA. Winners are drawn every Friday.

## **Students Visit Pumpkin Patch**

The Pre-K classes of Theresa Hardy and Ethel Thibodeaux visited the Pumpkin Patch in Moss Bluff, October 26th at the United Methodist Church. Each student brought a small pumpkin to take home.

*Ethel Thibodeaux, Johnson Elementary*

## **J.I. Watson Bell Choir**

The J.I. Watson Bell Choir has been in existence for 25 years with over 800 former students. The Choir was awarded an \$800.00 grant by the School Board in 1980 and a Lake Charles Community award of \$600 in 1986. Through the years, the city of Iowa has contributed hundreds of dollars to our organization. We continue to perform at different schools each year and are well received. Personally, I have several compositions published nationally and articles in the American Guild of Handbell Ringers' National Periodical. Many former students, who are now adults, continue to ring bells in their respective churches and communities all around Louisiana. One exceptional alumnus of J.I. Watson is Austin Conner. Austin regularly performs on bass bells with the semi - professional group known as The Bayou Bells.

*Jerry Mouton, Watson Middle*

## **Body Walk**

Recently Bell City K-5 students participated in the Body Walk sponsored by the LSU Extension Service. This educational program included many interactive learning activities for the students who were able to learn about the functions of the body as they walked through a huge model of the body set up on the gym floor.

## **Reading Month**

To celebrate Reading Month during October, PK-12 students at Bell City High School were treated to an exciting program presented by Bart Glatt on the Adventures of Reading. The program focused on the magic of reading and included a comedy magic show where the audience became the performers.

*Margo Hoffpauir, Bell City High*

## **Chess Tournament Congratulations**

Prien Lake Elementary extends congratulations to Mark Losey for placing second at the ICCS Chess Tournament on September 16, 2006.

## **Chess Tournament Winners**

Prien Lake Elementary sends congratulations to Prien Lake students, Ryan Gilchrist, Mark Losey and Evan Gilchrist. Ryan and Mark (3-5 section) placed 1st and both were undefeated. Evan (K-2 section) placed 2nd. The chess tournament was hosted by Lake Area Home School on October 7, 2006.

## **Arts Fest Poster Contest**

The Arts and Humanities Council of Lake Charles sponsored an Arts Fest 2006 Poster Contest. Congratulations to Blane Edwards. She is a fifth grade student at Prien Lake Elementary. Blane won First Place in the poster contest. The awards ceremony was held at the Old Central School on Thursday, October 5th at 6:00 PM.

*Shirlene Clark, Prien Lake Elementary*

## **New Homework Program**

Moss Bluff Middle School is implementing a new homework program called H.I.P. (Homework Improves Performance). The H.I.P. Program rewards students for completing all homework assignments each week in all subjects. The program has been a great success, which is evident by the increased number of students being rewarded each week.

## **Chem Expo**

Moss Bluff Middle School sixth graders attended the Chem Expo on October 26th at McNeese. It was put on by the Lake Area Industry Alliance. The students had a fun and informative experience, and were very well-behaved.

*Molly Duhon, Moss Bluff Middle*

## **Smart Bodies-Body Walk**

DeQuincy Elementary students participated in Body Walk Oct. 12th and 13th. Body Walk is an educational program to help prevent childhood obesity. A joint initiative of the LSU AgCenter and Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Louisiana Foundation, Body Walk integrates classroom activities with hands-on learning to teach children how to build strong bodies and develop active minds.

*Pam Martarona, DeQuincy Elementary*

## **Dole 5-a-Day Program**

McNeese State University Dietetic Interns are presenting Dole 5-a-Day program to Kaufman Elementary 4th & 5th grade students. This is a part of a research project to encourage students to eat 5 fruit and vegetable servings per day.

*Cathy Berryhill, Kaufman Elementary*

## **Book Fair**

Moss Bluff Elementary librarian, Michelle Fontenot, organized the schools Book Fair for the week of October 9th. Fontenot's plans were successful in accomplishing an exciting atmosphere with a child centered environment. The librarian and parent volunteers are to be commended on their hard work that produced profitable sales for the school.

*Sherina Snead, Moss Bluff Elementary*

## **Fund Raiser**

Moss Bluff Elementary had a wonderful response from their annual fund raiser in October. The total sales from the cookie dough fund raiser was \$62,924.00. The school will receive half of the total, which is \$31,462.00.

*Sherina Snead, Moss Bluff Elementary*

## **Fairview Elementary Tutoring Programs**

Fairview Elementary has implemented several tutoring programs this year. The K-3 Initiative after school program. This year the program has a new reading program - Voyager- It very closely aligns with our famous DIBELS. In the past, the K-3 program targeted 3rd graders. This year we are working with our 2nd graders. Principal Louana Brown has opened 2nd and 3rd grade after school reading and math programs to improve our schools reading and math performance. This is to support our "Literacy First" concept. We also have a Leap 21 after school program for 4th graders to help prepare them for the Leap test.

*Charlotte Holland, Fairview Elementary*

## **Fire Safety & Prevention Program**

Fairview Elementary had a Fire Safety and Prevention program for Pre - K through 3rd grade, on October 13, 2006. The program was presented by the Fire Prevention Clowns: Fire Chief Lloyd Miller, Firefighter Brent Sarvaunt, and Firefighter Chris Autin. After the program, each grade was taken out to see the fire truck. The fire truck was from Fire Station #5. Captain Dustin Mier, Driver Kevin Dixson, and Hoseman Brandon Spooner showed the children all of the equipment used by the firemen on the fire truck.

*Mary Adams, Fairview Elementary*

## **Fire Prevention Week**

The students enjoyed a fun filled morning with Hambone, the clown dog, and his friends. They learned very important information and tips on fire prevention and safety. The students especially enjoyed the tour of the fire truck. This

# In the Schools

event was sponsored by the Lake Charles Fire Department.

*Wynetta Proctor, Barbe Elementary*

## **Fairview Gets New Version of "Read 180 Program"**

Charlotte Holland recently attended an in-service on a new "Scholastic Enterprise Edition of READ 180". The Special Education Department has provided the funding for the updated version here at Fairview Elementary. Fairview is one of three elementary schools in the parish to receive the updated version. This edition of READ 180 has an arm load of research behind it. It targets below grade level readers. Both regular and special education students can attend the lab. In a few weeks the presenters are coming back again to Calcasieu Parish to do actual classroom visits to check on the implementation of the program.

*Mary Adams, Fairview Elementary*

## **Grandparents Day**

The grandparents of the first grade students at Barbe Elementary enjoyed a luncheon as they celebrated Grandparent's Day with their grandchild.

*Wynetta Proctor, Barbe Elementary*

## **Technology Showcase at Barbe Elementary**

The faculty and staff of Barbe Elementary in conjunction with CPSB Technology department and McNeese State University presented a Technology showcase to McNeese State University students. The following faculty members had the opportunity to showcase the incorporation of technology within daily instruction: Wanda Duran, Master Teacher, Debbie Buckley, Master Teacher, Shalonda Guillory, Mentor Teacher, Marjorie Cormier, Mentor Teacher, Mark LeBeau, Mentor Teacher, and Christie Miller, Technology Teacher. McNeese students had a first hand look at how to effectively integrate technology into everyday curriculum and instruction.

*Wynetta Proctor, Barbe Elementary*

## **Fairview Pre-K Fire Safety**

Karon Roach and Roxann Clark's Pre-K students at Fairview Elementary became Junior Fire Safety Members before going to the Fire Safety Program, held October 13, 2006. The students had red fire hats to wear that were designed especially for them. All the students pledged to do their best to help prevent fires.

*Mary Adams, Fairview Elementary*

## **Cal Cam Fair Teen Miss Pageant**

Maplewood Middle School had great representation at the recent Cal-Cam Fair Teen Miss Pageant. Our two selected representatives, Kacy Arabie and Natalie Duhon both placed in the top ten. Natalie was named 1st runner-up for the event.

*Terri Simpson, Maplewood Middle*

## **BCHS Library Becomes a Reading Rainforest**

Bell City High School will celebrate Children's Book Week for PK-12 students during the week of November 13-17. The school is kicking off the week with a Community Book Drive by inviting parents, students, staff, alumni, and community members to become a "Friend of BCHS Library" through donations of AR books and/or funds to purchase books. As a special treat during the week, the school library will become a "Reading Rainforest" and host a book fair for students, parents, and community members. An after school Family Event will give parents and community members a chance to visit and purchase books from the fair.

*Margo Hoffpauir, Bell City High*

## **Accelerated Math Breakfast of Champions**

Sheriff Tony Mancuso was the guest speaker at College Oaks' Accelerated Math Breakfast of Champions for students who met their AM goal for the 1st Six Weeks. He shared the importance of learning math skills and how he uses math in his profession.

## **Good Buckaroo Behavior Round-up**

Students that exhibited Outstanding Behavior for the 1st Six Weeks were able to attend the Good

Buckaroo Behavior Round-up Celebration on October 6th for popcorn and a movie.

## **College Oaks' Bank of the Oaks**

College Oaks' Bank of the Oaks Officers for the 2006-07 school year are as follows: President – Tatyana Colston, Vice President – Logan Hambrick, Secretary – Madeline Foreman.

*Pamela Bell, College Oaks Elementary*

## **Cricket comes to Carlyss**

The Vincent Settlement students in 2nd through 5th grades were instructed in the game of cricket by Kelly and Gary Keers, parents of 2nd grader Jarod Keers. Mr. Keers is originally from England and is an avid cricket player. He and Mrs. Keers wanted to share their knowledge and passion for the sport with our southwest Louisiana children. They conducted an exciting hands-on demonstration and worked with the students on basic sports' skills. They have generously donated two Hot Shot Cricket sets to the school. The Vincent Settlement PE Department is eager to incorporate the sport of cricket into their curriculum. Vincent Settlement sincerely appreciates the time, talent and donation of the Keers' family.

*Kathy Trahan, Vincent Settlement Elementary*

## **Veteran's Day Wall of Honor**

Western Heights will be honoring our Veteran's with a Wall of Honor. The wall will be located in the main entrance hallway by the office. Western Heights would like to thank all of the Veteran's for their courage and commitment.

*Donna Hudson, Western Heights Elementary*

## **Ralph Wilson**

The 2006 – 2007 school year has begun and we are off to a great start! We began the year with our PTO/PAC Open House on September 7th. Many parents were present to show support for the new year. At Open House, parish and school goals for the year were read and explained and school rules were highlighted. The faculty and staff were introduced, with a few new additions to our staff, T. Thierry, Master Teacher, T. Smith, Paraprofessional, Carrier, Custodian, and K. Thibodeaux, 3rd Grade Teacher. Pupil Appraisal shared their concerns and services available to the children and parents and our counselor, Barbara Cole, explained important LEAP/iLEAP test information. The Quality and TAP teams welcomed everyone and gave a small synopsis of what's to come this school year such as the use of quality binders to track student data and TAP strategies for students to use to improve their academics. Our PTO/PAC representatives were nominated and voted on. The PTO President is Ms. Donella Taylor and the Secretary/Treasurer is Cheryl Guillory. Our PAC (Parent Advisory Council) Chairperson is Betty Jordan and the Co-Chairperson is Kaneisha Guillory. On September 29th RWE held its Grandparents Day. Grandparents were invited to join their grandchild(ren) for lunch and a picture. We had a huge turnout and we are thankful for all the parents/guardians that joined us. The first week of October was dedicated to our Support Personnel. Our wonderful staff was enlightened with words of thanks and special gifts throughout the week. On October 2nd at 8:30 AM we held our first Parent Power Pledge conducted by our PTO President, Donella Taylor and Broussard, our principal. Taylor lead the parents in a choral reading of the Parent Pledge and committing to at least 2 hours of volunteer time within the school for various activities and events to earn their "power surges". We are proud of the parents who joined us and made a commitment to their child's school and their education. Our Partners-In-Education, Capital One, made a special visit to our school on October 3rd. A team of representatives from the grant department toured our school and shared ideas for further support. On October 20th the Louis Gray, Jr Chapter of the National Junior BETA Society and the Carl M. Ambrose, Sr. Chapter of the Student Council held their induction ceremony for our new BETA and Student Council students. The speaker for the event was Mr. Mark Lewis, Capital One Bank Branch Manager. The new BETA students are Brittany Bailey, Eric Boutte, Destiny Bray, Christian Bushnell, Precious Duhon, Ariel Hubbard, DiAndre Matthews, Shawanna Reynard, Micheal Reynolds, DeAndre Taylor, Alexander

Thomas, Jaylen Thomas, and Taylor Thomas. New Student Council members are DiAnte Matthews, Howard Dejean, Tatyana Guillory, DeNasia Fontenot, Derrick Ceasar, Jr., Myrikka Tutson, Braylan Jackson, Shatonia Jones, Alex Jones, Alexis Jones, Hollis Walker, Robert Green, Meagan Sosa, Dominique Landry, Jaylen Thomas, Chris Comeaux, Nubian Woods, and Destin Bray. Congratulations to all students. The week of October 23 – 27 was designated as Drug Awareness Week. The students "Sock It To Drugs" by wearing crazy socks and many other antics to show their awareness of the dangers of drugs. We are planning our Veterans' Wall of Honor in honor of Veteran's Day on November 11th. RWE is home to a wonderful group of administrators, teachers, staff, and students. We appreciate each and every one of you!

*Tammey Thierry, Wilson Elementary*

## **Playground Equipment**

Thanks to the 2005-2006 St. John Elementary PTO Board for the beautiful new playground equipment. As part of the Open House celebration, a playground ceremony was held. James Pitre, School Board Member District 8, was on hand for the ribbon cutting.

*St. John Elementary*

## **Halloween Readers**

In celebration of October as Reading Month, Felicia Brown's FBLA Club at Bell City High School read Halloween stories to PK-2 students on Friday, Oct. 27. Students participating were Laura Stineff, Laura Corman, Meagan Diamond, Lyndsie Gaspard, Gretchen Sibille, Brittney Boudoin, and Devon Arabie. In November, the FBLA club will kick off their Angel Tree project which is a community and school-wide effort which provides Christmas gifts to deserving students.

*Margo Hoffpauir, Bell City High*

## **PTO Open House**

Oak Park Elementary recently hosted Open House for the entire school. Many eager parents were very excited about PTO election of new officers for the 2006-2007 school years. PTO now has several members at large to work with the new officers. 2006-2007 PTO Officers are: President – Gervain Winfrey, 1st Vice-President – Joseph Robertson, 2nd Vice President – Racheal Gosado, Secretary – Deidre Richmond, Assistant to the Secretary – Sheila Handy, Treasurer – Jacquetta Fontenot, Public Relations – D'Areeda Allen, Greg Lanette, Brandi McZeal, & Gary Trahan, Members at Large: Cetric Allen, Maritha Aaron, Debra Batchan, Tina Carter, Danielle Collins, Erica Dean, Gwen Guillory, Brenda Henderson, and Tabitha Lewis

*Audrette Metoyer, Oak Park Elementary*

## **Mike Griffin visits Third Graders**

To conclude a unit on weather in Science, KPLC Meteorologist Mike Griffin visited the third graders in Amanda Dickerson, Sheila Rushing and Jeanne Whittington's classes. The students were able to ask questions about weather and view a video about Hurricane Rita.

*Donna Hudson, Western Heights Elementary*

## **St. Jude's Trike-a-thon**

Cherie Webb and Tiffanie Reber's Pre-K students participated in a St. Jude's Trike-a-Thon and earned over \$800.00 for St. Jude's Research Hospital. Participating parents helped set up the course, tally the laps of each student, and man the drink station. Students were treated to pizza after the Trike-a-Thon.

*Margo Hoffpauir, Bell City High*

## **Dolby at NSBA**

Apple Computers sponsored Calcasieu Parish gifted students and teachers to make a National Presentation on their project entitled, Untold Stories, Documenting Disaster through the Eyes of Children at the National School Board Association's Teaching, Learning, and Leadership Conference held in Dallas in November. Pictured from left to right are, Leslie McGoey, Apple Distinguished Educator, Kathie Istre, Logan Terrell, Wayne Savoy, Allan Lormand, Lori Bertrand



# Quality Corner

## Summer Training

The Quality in Education initiative in Calcasieu Parish continues to be very successful. 100% of the system's schools have received some level of training. Over 300 teachers took part in the two-day beginning level, Q101

Continuous Improvement of Performance, training at the Lake Charles Civic Center in June. The training was designed to introduce teachers to the Baldrige Criteria and to provide them with Quality tools and processes for improved student and classroom performance through active involvement and video examples. Teachers evaluated their classroom as a learning system using Jim Shipley & Associates Systems Check Level II for the Classroom. The Systems Check provided teachers a basis for further action planning.



At the encouragement of Supt. Wayne Savoy, Quality Leadership Teams (QLT) from all sixty schools participated in the newly developed Deployment Training. Schools developed Action Plans targeting three common goals:

By the 3rd week of school, the school mission will be revisited and all classrooms will have mission statements posted.

By the end of the 3rd week of school, data binders/folders will be implemented with at least one school-wide data tracking process in place. (AR, behavior, grades, attendance, tardies, Grade Level Expectations, etc)

By the 3rd week of school, a plan will be developed for the QLT to train faculty and staff. Schools used the Jim Shipley & Associates Systems Check Level II for the School to develop a fourth goal based on the areas identified as key opportunities for development. The fifth goal was derived from a brainstormed list of school systems

that were targeted as needing improvement by the individual QLT.

## Quality Deployment Planning

Quality Leadership Teams from every school in Calcasieu Parish participated in an intense Quality Deployment Planning Day to develop strategies for infusing the quality processes

into schools. Data analysis, strategic planning, student and stakeholder focus, process management, faculty and staff focus, and performance results were some of the areas included in the planning. Each team left with a specific design for school-wide implementation.

## Deployment Follow-up

A Blackboard Course is currently being conducted as a follow-up to the summer Deployment Training. Participating schools are involved in posting how their Action Plans are being implemented, discussing Drivers and Preventors to their plans, and communicating progress.

## Quality Day



The Chamber/SWLA hosted Quality Day on October 17. The Quality Mentors facilitated a panel discussion to highlight Quality successes around the parish. Area schools shared their

experiences to the conference attendees. A special thank you is extended to the following schools for providing Quality leaders to participate in the panel: Bell City High – Reinette Guillory, Principal and Kyla Foster, student; LeBleu Settlement Elementary – Jill Portie, Principal and John Morgan Portie, student; Maplewood Middle – Merella Kowarsch, 1st grade teacher and Austin Pottorff, student; Molo Middle – Shonna Anderson, Behavior Strategist and Justice Miller, student W. W. Lewis Middle – Lucie Mesuch, Mentor Math Teacher and Rose Spell, student; Westlake High – Jay Ecker, Band Director and Jonathan Blake, student.

## Chamber/SWLA Quality Award

Maplewood Middle School was recognized during the Quality Day luncheon for promoting Quality awareness and best practices. The Chamber/SWLA recognized the school with an award for Significant Progress for signifying progress in building sound and notable processes by demonstrating results attributable to a well-deployed approach and having practices from which other companies can learn.



Quality Award Winners from Maplewood Middle School are Austin Pottorff, 4th grade student; Margaret Goode, Principal; and Merella Kowarsch, Quality Leadership Team Coordinator.

## League of Women Voters Panel Discussion

The Calcasieu Parish School System was featured on the Police Jury's Government Access Channel. The League of Women Voters sponsored a panel discussion of students, teachers, administrators, and system leaders on how Quality has impacted the schools and the school system. Tom Hatfield, PPG Industries, Inc. Quality Coordinator, facilitated the discussion. School participants included teacher and student leaders from Bell City High, Combre Elementary, Dolby Elementary, Iowa High, Kennedy Elementary, LeBleu Settlement Elementary, W. W. Lewis Middle, and Westlake High. Janet Daigle, Tammy Hebert, Tony McCardle, Curriculum and Instruction



Iowa High Librarian Christi Fontenot, Dolby student Gauge Welch, and Dolby 3rd Grade Teacher Lisa Dietz



Bell City High Curriculum Coordinator Margo Hoffpauir and Freshman Kyla Foster



W. W. Lewis Middle 8th Grade Student Rose Spell and 8th Grade Math Mentor Lucie Mesuch



Westlake High Junior Jacob Ecker and Band Director Jay Ecker



Kennedy Elementary DDP Teacher Carla LaMelle and 4th Grade Student Christopher Bellow



LeBleu Settlement Elementary Curriculum Assistant Rosemary Guillory and 5th Grade Student John Morgan Portie