



Our Pride

POINTE COUPEE

A quarterly publication for
Pointe Coupee Parish residents
by your public agencies

JANUARY, 2020

UPCOMING EVENTS

Jan. 30 – Pointe Coupee Chamber Social

Feb. 8 – Friends of Council on Aging Senior Gala, Circa

Feb. 8, 15 and 22 – Barrel Racing, PC Multi-Use Center

Feb. 9 – Jr. NBA Skills Challenge, STEM Academy gym

Feb. 23 – Livonia Carnival Association Parade, 1 pm

Feb. 24 – Lundi Gras Parade, Batchelor

Feb. 24 – Lundi Gras Garden Toast, New Roads Main St. Information Center

Feb. 25 – Community Center of Pointe Coupee Mardi Gras Parade, New Roads

Feb. 25 – New Roads Lions Club Mardi Gras Parade

Mar. 7 – NBHA Barrel racing, PC Multi-Use Center

Mar. 14 – Ross Newell, Julien Poydras Museum, New Roads

Mar. 14 – La. Stock Horse Show, PC Multi-Use Center

Mar. 14 – New Roads Car, Truck & Motorcycle Show & Spring Street Festival

Mar. 26-28 – Fordoche Fair

After 1 year, new parish government is making huge strides and improvements

Pointe Coupee's new Home Rule Charter form of government marked a new era in January of 2019, with Parish President Major Thibaut and the Parish Council taking office. In the span of one year, significant improvements have been made to operate more efficiently and move Pointe Coupee Parish forward.

"We have been working hard and have real results to show for our efforts," said Parish President Thibaut. "The following progress report is the result of the joint efforts of our administrative team and the Parish Council doing the hard work necessary to turn Pointe Coupee government in the right direction."



Pointe Coupee Parish
President Major Thibaut

GENERAL GOVERNMENT:

#1 - Parish President Thibaut negotiated a new garbage contract that will save the parish well over \$200,000 annually, provide residents with new garbage carts, increased recycling locations and better service.

#2 - Completed a thorough and comprehensive review of the parish's operating budget, and initiated numerous changes to provide cost savings and efficiency.

Among these were signing new contracts for mosquito abatement, garbage collection and bulky waste collection.

#3 - Consolidated the parish's sewer districts into one board, providing better management and the efficiencies of combining operations and costs under one umbrella.

#4 - Initiated a new parish-wide litter abatement program that has collected 800 cubic yards of trash throughout the parish since July 2019.

#5 - Established both rainy day and reserve funds in the 2019 budget, as required by the Home Rule Charter.

#6 - Developed a new parish logo

(see above at left), website and facebook page to make government more efficient and transparent, and to keep pace with modern communication tools. The new website provides detailed information and the ability for residents to submit work requests, pay utility bills, apply for permits and register for recreation programs. The new website is www.pcparrish.org. The facebook page can be found at: facebook.com/PCParishGov.



Crews dug out 16.74 miles of road-side ditches and 15.25 miles of watershed canals in 2019.

INFRASTRUCTURE:

#1 - By restructuring the parish's debt, better leveraging parish assets and securing a bond issue, the parish has funds for critical building repairs. These include repairs to protect the historic Pointe Coupee Parish Courthouse from further deterioration, and repairs to existing infrastructure.

#2 - Applied for grants to upgrade parks, drainage and buildings. So far, the parish received \$500,000 in capital outlay funds for much needed infrastructure improvements.

#3 - Initiated a \$1.1 million road improvement program totaling 2.42 million square yards of roadway. Road improvements will be allocated in the budget every year.

#4 - Developed a 5-year capital outlay plan to provide for major road, bridge and drainage improvements,



Part of the \$1.1 million in road improvements completed in 2019.

Continued on Page 3

PRSR STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
BATON ROUGE, LA
PERMIT NO. 88

Celebrating 50 years of excellent healthcare

Since being founded by the Sisters of St. Joseph in 1969, Pointe Coupee General Hospital has been dedicated to providing excellent healthcare to our community. During the last 50 years, we have expanded to provide the most innovative and comprehensive services, making PCGH one of Louisiana's best rural hospitals.

A proud recipient of the Joint Commission's Gold Seal of Approval for their Critical Access Hospital Accreditation Program, the hospital has over 200 employees and healthcare professionals who utilize modern equipment and state-of-the-art technology.



OUR HISTORY TIMELINE

1965 - The residents of Pointe Coupee Parish pass a 1% sales tax, which will benefit the future of healthcare facilities in the parish.

1968 - Construction of Pointe Coupee General Hospital begins with funds provided by the Hill-Burton Grant of \$764,800 and sales tax totaling \$935,200. Construction cost is \$1,700,000.

1969 - Pointe Coupee General Hospital's 60-bed building is completed and opened on November 1, admitting its first patient on November 4. Ownership is transferred to Pointe Coupee Parish. The Sisters lease the hospital from the parish for an initial three-year period.

1978 - The Sisters decide to not renew their lease and administration is turned over to lay personnel.

1985 - PCGH completes addition that provides for an expanded emergency room, 8-bed monitored unit, and expanded maintenance area. Pointe Coupee Health Service District No 1 is established on October 1.

1987 - The financial condition of PCGH deteriorates and residents of Pointe Coupee Parish pass an additional 10-year ½% sales tax.

1997 - With PCGH now in the black, board members reduce the sales tax from ½% to ¼%, and parish residents again pass the sales tax. The Physical Therapy Outpatient Building and the Home Health and Hospice Building on Hospital Road are completed. Home Health and Hospice, Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy, and Speech Therapy services are moved to their new location on Hospital Road.

2001 - Pointe Coupee Parish Health Services District No 1 is instrumental in the opening of the Innis Community Health Center.

2004 - PCGH is designated a critical access facility by the federal government, with a license for 25 inpatient beds.

2015 - PCGH receives accreditation by the Joint Commission. The hospital completes a 17,000 ft² (1,580 m²) expansion with two new buildings, the Plaza and Hospital Laboratory, and Storage Addition in October.

2017 - The Emergency Department's is expanded and a renovated nursing station, triage room, and waiting area is completed. Additional areas are renovated to create a new outpatient registration department, Radiology office space, and Radiology waiting area.

2019 - A renovated courtyard is finished. Stately brick columns, crepe myrtles, and landscape lighting are added to the hospital's river property. The inpatient areas are renovated to double the size of select patient rooms.

Now offering 3D mammograms - latest technology and upgrades

Pointe Coupee General Hospital is excited to now offer 3D Mammography exams proven to significantly increase the detection of breast cancers and decrease the number of women asked to return for additional testing.

In conventional 2D Mammography, overlapping tissue is a leading reason why small breast cancers may be missed and normal tissue may appear abnormal, leading to unnecessary callbacks. This advanced exam can greatly reduce the tissue overlap effect.

The 3D exam includes both 2D images and tomosynthesis scans. Researchers have found that the 3D Mammography finds 20-65% more invasive breast cancers compared to 2D alone, an average increase of 41%.

In addition to the Genius™ 3D Mammography upgrade, the SmartCurve breast stabilization system has been added to deliver a more comfortable mammogram without compromising image quality.

The Mammography Suite has been upgraded with new furniture, room decor, a high definition flat screen TV, and cold air diffusion technology.

To schedule a Genius 3D Mammography™ exam using the SmartCurve system, or if you have questions about this important breast health procedure, please contact the PCGH Radiology Department at (225) 638-5703.



Pointe Coupee
HOMEBOUND HEALTH & HOSPICE

Ask for Pointe Coupee Homebound Health & Hospice by name

**The only agency located in New Roads!
350 Hospital Road**

225.638.5717



Parish making huge strides

Continued from Page 1

building repairs and equipment replacement.

#5 - Re-focused the parish drainage program to address watershed canals and drainage that affect most parish residents. As a result, parish crews dug out 16.74 miles of road-side ditches and 15.25 miles of watershed canals.

#6 - Made repairs to Lorio Dairy and Woodview Lane bridges a priority, preventing their closure and providing for their original load ratings to be renewed.

#7 - Re-established and promoted the Bounty For Beavers program, in which the parish pays \$40 per beaver tail. Beaver dams impede drainage canals quickly, requiring extensive time and use of heavy equipment to remove. The program collected 162 beaver tails in 2019, as compared to 28 in 2018.

#8 - Parish is migrating from leasing equipment to purchasing it, and initiated strict maintenance schedules to keep equipment operating well for years to come, thus providing additional parish savings. Several pieces of heavy equipment were purchased as part of this plan.

TECHNOLOGY

#1 - Installed GPS on all parish vehicles and owned equipment so that activities can be better monitored.

#2 - Working with the Pointe Coupee Assessor's Office to establish a base watershed canal map in a GIS (geographic information system format). Once the drainage maps are completed, gas and sewer lines will be added to provide accurate, comprehensive mapping of these infrastructure systems.

#3 - Established gas utility maps in computer formats in order to bring them into the GIS as mapping continues.

#4 - Established a modern computer-based work order and permitting system, which replaced the antiquated paper system. In addition, now parish residents can make work order requests on the parish's new website.

MOSQUITO CONTROL

The parish's new mosquito abatement program with Mosquito Control Services provides a \$42,000 savings AND provides science-based testing and analysis to pinpoint aerial and truck spraying and chemicals needed for better mosquito control. During 2019, a total of 248,284.5 acres were sprayed by truck and plane.



Small portion of litter collected under the new Litter Abatement Program. A total of 800 cubic yards of litter and trash were collected in 2019.



Repairs to Lorio Dairy and Woodview Lane Bridges have been completed so that their higher load ratings could be renewed.

POINTE COUPEE PARISH PARKS & RECREATION

#1 - The Parks and Recreation Program is implementing upgrades to parish parks. A \$150,000 improvement plan is currently underway at False River Park, with the parish working in conjunction with the Friends of False River Park. This project includes new fencing, sidewalks and backstops, and work on the concession stand.

#2 - A five-stall livestock wash rack has been added at the Pointe Coupee Multi-Use Center, thanks to a grant obtained from the Pennington Family Foundation.



A soccer game underway during the fall soccer league.

Registration set for leagues

Registration for baseball, softball and tee-ball leagues will begin in February and run through the end of March. Pointe Coupee Parks & Recreation will make the transition to the USSSA rules this year. Registration is \$40 per player for all the leagues. Those interested in coaching or registering should contact Recreation Director Paul Armand at 225.638.3870.

JR. NBA SKILLS CHALLENGE...

Pointe Coupee Parks & Recreation will be partnering with No Days Off to put on a Jr. NBA Basketball Skills Challenge on February 9 at the STEM Academy Gym at 8434 La. Hwy. 420 in New Roads. It is free and is open to boys and girls age 13 and under. For more information go to www.jrnba.com/skillschallenge or call Kevin Simmons at 254.258.0310 or Paul Armand at 225.638.3870.

Pointe Coupee Parish Council contact info



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Dispatchers play critical role in response to emergencies for multiple Pointe Coupee agencies

They spend 12 hours a day cooped up in a room in front of phones and computer monitors, and answer hundreds of calls a month from the public. Most of those calls are stressed or frantic. Their days go from quiet to intense in an instant. They must think and act quickly and always be a calm and pleasant voice for callers. That is the job of the Pointe Coupee Sheriff's Office dispatchers.

The dispatchers are often the first Sheriff's Office representatives that the public interacts with on a call about an accident, a crime, suspicious activity, a fire, medical emergency, or a variety of other problems. Their job is to ascertain the problem quickly, determine what agency (Sheriff's Office, fire department, Acadian Ambulance, electrical supplier, etc..) must be called, and get as much information as possible to help those responding to the scene.

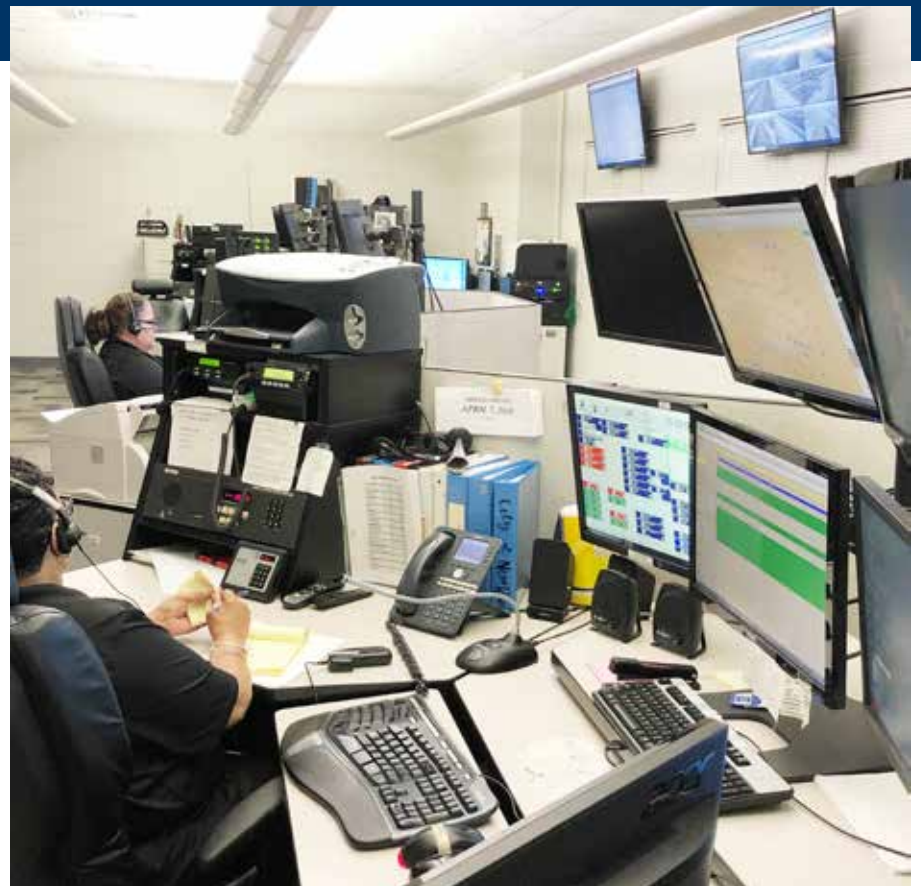
The Pointe Coupee Sheriff's Office has 8 dispatchers who work 12-hour shifts answering calls 24-hours a day, 365 days a year. They receive continuing training monthly. They also maintain a computerized incident log, posting specific information about each call answered.

The dispatch department is located in the Pointe Coupee Parish Communications Center on Mitchell Lane in Morganza, where the parish Emergency Operations Center is located. That facility is equipped with a variety of technology to communicate in emergency situations. It also includes a conference room used for a variety of purposes, including meetings and hunter education courses.

As the emergency call center for all agencies in Pointe Coupee, the Dispatch Department fields a wide variety of calls, even calls on road closures, a resident smelling natural gas, to accidents, disturbances, medical emergencies and many crimes.

The public is asked to be courteous when they call 9-1-1, and answer the questions asked by dispatchers so that responders know the situation they are going in to, and can act quickly and effectively.

Pointe Coupee Parish Sheriff's Office
In an emergency - call 9-1-1
225.638.5400
215 East Main St., New Roads, LA
pcpsso.org



The Pointe Coupee Sheriff's Office dispatch room.



The Pointe Coupee Sheriff's Office dispatch room.

Staying safe on your computer, the internet and your mobile phone

Practicing cyber safety can go a long way toward protecting your identity and sensitive personal information. Here are tips:

Create passwords and make them strong. Lock all of your devices including computer, tablet and smartphone with secure passwords. That will add a line of defense in case your devices are lost or stolen. A strong password is at least 12 characters long. Strong password tips include the use a mix of letters, numbers and symbols, and try not to include personal information.

Secure access to your accounts. Since passwords can be stolen, adding two-step authentication to accounts provides a second layer of protection. Many online services, including apps and websites, offer free options that could help you protect your information and ensure it's actually you trying to access your account – not just someone with your password. Learn to "Lock Down Your Login" at www.lockdownyourlogin.com. And, for more information about two-step authentication, go to www.turnon2fa.com.

Think before you act. Emails and communication that create a sense of urgency such as a problem with your bank account or taxes is likely a scam. Consider reaching out directly to the company by phone to determine if the email is legitimate or not.

When in doubt, throw it out. Clicking on links in emails is often how scammers get access to personal information. If an email looks unusual, even if you know the person who sent it, it's best to delete it. Remember that scammers can commandeer friends' email addresses and send you messages posing as them. Turn on spam filters for your email account to help filter suspicious messages.

Share with care. Be aware of what you share on social media sites like Facebook. Adjust your privacy settings to limit who can see your information. Avoid sharing your location.

Use security software. Install security software on your devices from a reliable source and keep it updated. It is best to run the anti-virus and anti-spyware software regularly. Be wary of security updates from pop-up ads or emails. They may actually be malware that could infect your computer.

Adjust your browser safety settings. You likely search for news, information and products by using an internet browser such as Firefox, Google Chrome, Internet Explorer and Safari. Adjust your settings in each of those browsers to set your options for optimum security. Those menus can often be found in the upper right corner of your browser. Consider clearing your browsing history at the end of your session so you don't leave a trail of sensitive data.

Library partnerships bring great programs to PC Parish

The Main Library in New Roads had a great 2019! The Summer Reading Program was a tremendous success, incorporating puppets, magic, storytellers, interactive drama, musicians and wonder. This year we partnered with numerous agencies. The Greater Baton Rouge Food Bank helped us provide healthy snacks for our summer children. We partnered with the LSU Ag Center and PC General Hospital for "Smart Portions: A Healthy Weight Program," an 8-week program for senior citizens. The Arts Council of Pointe Coupee partnered with us on numerous projects and assisted with the Petite Gallery.

Our busy rural libraries have and continue to host seasonal activities, including a variety of Christmas activities. The library has hosted numerous tutors assisting children from all grades and school systems. Another of our popular collaborative programs is "Lawyers In Libraries" conducted every October. It provides free legal counsel and various legal workshops and is co-sponsored by the Louisiana Bar Association.

Our on-line databases are humming in the educational vibe of a new school year. And the e-book collection is steadily growing in both size and popularity. Our Historic Materials Collection alone has amassed over 42,000 photographs and historic documents of Pointe Coupee and surrounding areas. It's a great time to own a Pointe Coupee Parish Library card. With it, the world is just a click away!



Livonia Branch

It has been an exciting fall season for the Livonia branch. Bids were taken and Wilson Construction of Baton Rouge received the contract for construction of a new Livonia Branch Library!

We conducted our annual Christmas ornament contest in December. In our little 800 sq. ft. building, we are providing study and tutoring space for children after school. Our outreach services are not limited to the youth of the area, but also the elderly, handicapped and shut-ins. Our delivery and pickups service to patrons unable to come to the library is very popular.

This site is known for after school homework projects and job search capabilities. We also offer crochet and knitting classes.



Morganza Branch

The Morganza Library had a very busy fall. We held a pumpkin decorating event and a black cat Halloween crafting event in October. During November, we held a turkey crafting event, and a Grinchmas party, which was a hit! Everyone received an advent calendar allowing them to scratch off each day of the month to reveal a good deed for each day of December. Merry Grinchmas ornaments were made that everyone could hang on their Christmas trees. December activities included

painting wooden Santas and Christmas ornaments for everyone to bring home or give as gifts. The Morganza Branch Library is also actively assisting the Morganza Revitalization group by sharing photographs in the library database of our historic community.

Innis Branch

The Innis Library has 15 computer stations for patron access to the Internet and databases, and 9 children's literacy computers. We provide fax, scan, and copy services, as well as free Wi-Fi, and have a 5,000 sq. ft. meeting room available Monday-Friday for community meetings free of charge.

During June and July, we offered two programs a week, hosting story hours and special performers. In August, we hosted an extremely popular self-defense class for women conducted by the PC Parish Sheriff's Office. Our annual pumpkin decorating contest was held in October, and December brought our annual gingerbread house contest and a holiday art workshop conducted by the PC Arts Council.

In early 2020 we will co-sponsor PC Community Health and the Cooperative Extension Service's 6-week course on healthy food portions for adults.



Julian Poydras Branch

The Julian Poydras Library is a public library located on the campus of Rougon Elementary. We provide information and internet access for the public, as well as the students and teachers at the school.

Our annual Summer Reading Program was a hit, with a wide variety of family style entertainers such as a juggler, theater group, magician, and musicians. This summer we also held weekly young adult crafting programs. The teens and pre-teens participated in paper weaving baskets, duct tape flowers, alien pet rocks, and pipe cleaner aliens. We also offered an informational program on electrical safety after a storm given by Joe Langlois of PC Electric.

Every Monday we have an adult crafting workshop. Attendees knit, crochet, bead, paint, hand quilt, etc They bring their supplies and work on their projects. Anyone is welcome! We also teach knitting or crochet. Recently our group knitted and crocheted 170 chemo hats for adults and children for Mary Bird Perkins Cancer Center, and 72 NICU hats for the TC Thompson Children's Hospital.



Pointe Coupee Parish Library
201 Claiborne Street, New Roads
Phone: 225-638-9847
Open: Monday-Thursday 8:30am-7:30pm
Friday & Saturday 8:30am-5:00pm
Sunday 1:00pm-5:00pm
www.pointe-coupee.lib.la.us

Innis Branch Library
6444 La Hwy 1,
Innis
Phone: 225-492-2632
Open: M-F 10:00am-6:00pm

Morganza Branch Library
221 So. LA Hwy. 1,
Morganza
Phone: 225-694-2428
Open: M-F 1:00pm-6:00pm

Julian Poydras Branch Library
4985 Julian Poydras Lane,
Rougon
Phone: 225-627-5846
Open: M-F 9:30am-2:30pm

Livonia Branch Library
3100 Hwy. 78,
Livonia
Phone: 225-637-2987
Open: M-F 1:00-6:00pm

POINTE COUPEE MUSEUM

Pointe Coupee Museum offers rare architecture, rich local history

The Pointe Coupee Parish Museum, located on the bank of False River near Parlange Plantation, is architecturally significant as a rare example of a log cabin type construction in a Creole type house.

The original portion of the museum dates from the early 19th century. The Creole tradition is the principal non-British colonial architecture tradition in the Eastern half of the United States.

Currently the museum is presenting its most recent exhibit, entitled ***Sugar in Pointe Coupee***. Hosted by the Friends of the Pointe Coupee Museum, the exhibit highlights the role sugarcane has played in Pointe Coupee agriculture, including noting the role of Allan Ramsey Wurtele, who patented a design for a sugarcane harvester, and Alma Plantation's role as a sugar mill.

This year, the museum will play host to the annual Spring Open House, tours, and Fall Exhibit.

Pointe Coupee Parish Museum

8348 False River Road, New Roads

Open 10:00 am to 3:00 pm daily and by appointment

Admission is free, and group tours are available

Call 225-638-7788 for further information



This sugarcane harvester, invented by Allan Wurtele in 1938, could be removed from the tractor. It totally changed sugarcane farming, replacing at least 50 workers who previously harvested the cane by hand. (From the Museum's facebook page: [facebook.com/Pointe Coupee Parish Museum](https://www.facebook.com/PointeCoupeeParishMuseum))

POINTE COUPEE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Port of Pointe Coupee merges with Port of Greater BR

The new year marked a new chapter for the Port of Pointe Coupee. On January 1st, the Port of Greater Baton Rouge expanded its reach, and assumed operations at the Pointe Coupee sites, which includes the Port of Pointe Coupee in Lettsworth, as well as the old ferry landing near the Audubon Bridge outside of New Roads.

The change is the result of a bill that was passed in the 2019 legislative session combining the two operations under the umbrella of the Port of Greater Baton Rouge, which was ranked as the eight-largest port by tonnage in 2016.

The bill, authored by Sen. Rick Ward, R-Port Allen, and shepherded through the House by Rep. Jeremy LaCombe, D-New Roads, conveys the assets of the Pointe Coupee Port Commission to the Port of Greater Baton Rouge in return for representation on the regional Port Commission Board.

Under the new structure, the combined port will have a footprint that extends beyond West Baton Rouge into Pointe Coupee Parish, allowing unprecedented access to – and development opportunities along – the Atchafalaya and Red Rivers, and greater access to lucrative Mississippi River frontage.



The new relationship could spell success for Pointe Coupee, according to Economic Development Director Les Cantrell. "This is really attractive to businesses and industry looking to locate in the area, and with that comes jobs and additional tax revenue," said Cantrell. In addition to the development opportunities within the port properties, the parish has six sites along the rivers, totaling nearly 3,700 acres of property, that have been deemed "shovel-ready" by the Louisiana Department of Economic Development's Certified Sites program.

Pointe Coupee will also gain representation on the governing body of the port through two dedicated appointees to the Board of Commissioners, which also includes members East Baton Rouge, West Baton Rouge, Iberville, and Ascension Parishes, as well as Louisiana Farm Bureau.

Outside of the capitol, the consolidation received significant support from multiple key parish officials, as well as the Chamber's Economic Development Director. "We were able to get everyone to the table and push in the same direction. This will not only benefit Pointe Coupee, but everyone in the Baton Rouge region," said Cantrell.

New Roads adds feed for hospital, adds lines made to reduce outages

Two projects are underway to improve service for customers of the New Roads electrical system. The first project will create a loop between the city's #6 and #7 electrical feeder lines, which provides the city with the ability, in an extreme outage, to backfeed areas from a second location to shorten power outages, said Utilities Director Paul Seawell.

"Hurricane Gustav knocked down lines on Feeder #7, which includes Pointe Coupee General Hospital and the surrounding area. The property we needed to reach to make the repairs was inaccessible to the city," Seawell said. "This forced the hospital to rely on generator power longer than desired. By building this loop system, if Feeder #7 goes down we can switch to Feeder line #6 and power the hospital and about 60 homes in the area. In addition, if we lose power on Feeder #6, we will have the ability to switch to Feeder # 7."

Seawell said the project will cost about \$50,000, but is a win for everyone. "The hospital is a valuable asset to our city and we need to keep it operating in emergencies, and this project also improves the electrical system infrastructure and reliability."

ELECTRICAL LINES IN MAJOR SUBDIVISION:

The city will also be changing the electrical lines in Major Subdivision this summer, which will reduce nuisance outages. "In that subdivision we have a lot of trees and squirrels that cause outages on the open wires. This project will replace those wires with strong, insulated electrical wires that are specifically designed to protect the lines in areas such as Major Subdivision.

Approximately 3,600 feet of wires will be changed. The wiring has been ordered, but takes up to three months to come in. The city is now getting quotes from contractors to do the work, which also includes changing out any bad electrical poles. Seawell expects work to begin on this project in April or May. "Once complete, this project should significantly reduce power outages in the subdivision," he said.



NEW ROADS MARDI GRAS SCHEDULE

LUNDI GRAS

Monday, February 24
LUNDI GRAS GARDEN TOAST
2:00-4:00 PM DORIS PARK

MARDI GRAS DAY

Tuesday, February 25
98TH ANNUAL COMMUNITY CENTER OF POINTE COUPEE MARDI GRAS PARADE
11:00 am Downtown New Roads

77TH ANNUAL LION'S CLUB MARDI GRAS PARADE
2:00 pm Downtown New Roads

CARNIVAL RIDES

FRIDAY-TUESDAY!

Check facebook or website for location and times

For more information call
225.713.8553
www.newroads.net

11TH ANNUAL SPRING STREET CAR SHOW

SATURDAY, MARCH 14TH

VINTAGE CARS, TRUCKS, AND MOTORCYCLES

\$30 REGISTRATION FEE

FREE TO THE PUBLIC!

NEW ROADS, LA

CAR SHOW | FOOD | ENTERTAINMENT | OVER 300 CARS

REGISTER YOUR CAR ONLINE AT BONTEMPSTIX.COM

VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR EVENT DEALS AND REGISTRATION

WWW.NEWROADSCARSHOW.COM

Have you signed up for property tax breaks?

Dear Fellow Citizens of Pointe Coupee Parish,

This year, as required by state law, all property in our parish must be reassessed and brought to fair market value. That means the price a typical buyer would pay a typical seller under normal conditions. This includes residential, commercial and industrial property. The Assessor's Office determines this value in a variety of ways, but every effort is made to ensure that it is applied fairly and equitably.

Some laws help property owners protect themselves from increases in value for tax purposes. One such law is referred to as the "freeze". **If you are 65 years of age or older and have an adjusted gross income of less than \$77,030, you are eligible to "freeze" the value of your homestead property. If you have a military service-related disability rating of 50% or more, you are also eligible for the freeze.** You must own and occupy the property as your primary residence to receive this special assessment. Please note that this does not protect you from millage changes. The millage is the tax rate applied to your property value and these rates are subject to change. To apply for this assessment, you simply need to stop by the Assessor's Office with the appropriate documentation and sign up. The freeze remains in place as long as you own and occupy the residence.

Another available break for property owners involves the homestead exemption. A typical homestead exemption covers the first \$75,000 of value of the property that you own and occupy as your primary residence. If you have a

Pointe Coupee Assessor's Office

211 E. Main St., Suite 4
New Roads, LA 70760
225.638.7077

www.ptcoupeeassessor.com

military service disability rating of 100% or are the spouse of a deceased member of the military or first responders, you get a double homestead exemption that covers the first \$150,000

of value. For more information about these exemptions or your specific assessment, please contact our office at 225-638-7077.

Another resource available to the public is the Assessor's Office website located at www.ptcoupeeassessor.com. You can find property assessment information there such as ownership, valuation, sales data and digital maps to help identify specific parcels. The information on our website is for reference and should always be verified with our office before using that data for official purposes.

Your Pointe Coupee Parish Assessor's Office uses the latest technology to ensure that your property value assessment is fair. We employ state of the art aerial imagery, Geographical Information Systems (GIS), cutting edge database technology and a well trained staff to provide the very best service possible.

Please feel free to contact us to discuss your assessment or review the anticipated changes that reassessment may bring. We are conducting a thorough analysis of all property in the parish until August, at which time we will conduct an "open books" period whereby all property owners can review their 2020 assessments before they become finalized. This office welcomes all property owners to discuss your individual property listings. We can be reached by phone from 8 AM to 4 PM Monday thru Friday at 225-638-7077 or by email at pcassessor@bellsouth.net.

Thank you!

Jimmy Laurent, Jr., Pointe Coupee Parish Assessor
Office: 225-638-7077, Cell: 225-240-9974,
Email: pcassessor@bellsouth.net



Assessor Jimmy Laurent, Jr.

POINTE COUPEE PARISH SCHOOL BOARD

School Board honors teachers, Principal of the Year

Pointe Coupee Parish School Board honored its 2020 Teachers and Principal of the Year in December.

Bridget Berry was selected as the district's Elementary School Teacher of the Year. Ms. Berry teaches reading and English to 5th graders at the STEM Magnet Academy.

Sharon Gaude was chosen as our Middle School Teacher of the Year. Ms. Gaude teaches 8th reading and English at the STEM Magnet Academy.

Jennifer Perkins was selected as Teacher of the Year for the High School

Division. Ms. Perkins teaches 11th and 12th grade American History and World History Dual Enrollment and Honors at Livonia High School.

Cleotha Johnigan was honored as the district's Principal of the Year. Mr. Johnigan is currently principal of Rosenwald Elementary.

"We are extremely proud of these distinguished educators, who will go on to



Kim Canezaro,
Superintendent

compete for Teacher and Principal of the Year at the state level," said Kim Canezaro, Superintendent of Pointe Coupee Parish School Board. "They represent excellence in education.

Pointe Coupee Parish School Board

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