Baker's attractions include the Heritage Museum and a Fourth of July celebration that draws more than 10,000 visitors each year with its outstanding musical entertainment and fabulous fireworks display. Greenwood Park on La. 18 is nearby and includes picnic areas, a rodeo arena, a golf course and tennis courts.

The Greater Baton Rouge Zoo and Cohn Arboretum are also close by.

POLICE DEPARTMENT
Phone 775-6000. Located at 1320 Alabama St.

FIRE DEPARTMENT - To report a fire call 775-3711. Located at 3190 Washington St.

UTILITY CONNECTIONS - Office located at City Hall, 3325 Groom Rd., open 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Telephone 775-9552. Total deposit for water and gas is $100. Sewer service is $5 per month and residents now also receive an additional sewer bill each month from the city-parish. Depending upon area of city, call Gulf States Utilities at 654-9335 or Dixie Electric Co. at 624-6681 for electric hookup.

TELEPHONE SERVICE - Call main office of South Central Bell in Baton Rouge at 383-9011.

GARBAGE PICKUP - Service is free. Garbage collected twice a week, trash once a week. Call 775-5584 for assignment of days.

VOTER REGISTRATION - Office at 1320 Alabama St. open 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Telephone 389-5206.

DRIVERS LICENSE - Office at 1320 Alabama St., open 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Telephone 775-1327.

HEALTH UNIT - Office at 1320 Alabama St. open 8 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. on Thursday for immunizations only. Telephone 775-2068.

Baker also shows a great interest in helping its elderly. The City Council last year spent about $125,000 to build a new center for the local Council on Aging. That center opened this year.

Baker boasts a number of churches and schools and the business community grows with every passing day.

The active Baker Chamber of Commerce helps new businesses settle in, and with the five city council members and Mayor Pete Heine have done much to create a good business climate.

The council, with help from the chamber, recently appointed an Economic Development Board to help encourage new business and industry to move to Baker.

Although a part of East Baton Rouge Parish, Baker residents elect their own mayor, council members, police chief and city judge.

Heine was first elected as mayor in 1964 and held the job for 13 years. In 1981 he returned to office and was re-elected to another term last year.

Members of the City Council are Greg Allen, Jim Hill, James Pourciau, Marion "Sonny" Verde and J.E. "Duke" Welch.

Sid Gautreau serves as police chief and John Engelmann is city judge.

The city also has its own fire department, which as organized in 1956, and is headed by Chief James E. "Goose" Carroll.

A branch office of the parish Clerk of Court is located here along with a driver's license bureau and a health unit.

A bureau of the State-Times and Morning Advocate newspapers is located in Baker on Groom Road. The bureau provides coverage for the Baker and Zachary areas and East and West

Town of Baker is almost 100 years old

By STEVE CULPEPPER
Baker-Zachary Bureau

Things have changed a great deal between the Baker of 1888 and today but the friendly people who call Baker home are still the same.

Once considered a bedroom community to Baton Rouge, today's Baker is a bustling center of commerce, with a harmonious collection of both local and national stores and mom-and-pop enterprises.

But it's the nearly 15,000 residents who call Baker home that make this community special.

While the face of Baker has changed considerably over the past several decades - shopping centers have sprung up at virtually every major intersection - the city remains a small-town atmosphere and friendliness.

Residents here take pride in their community and strive to give Baker an identity other than "that little city five miles north of Baton Rouge."

To a large extent, the effort has been successful.

The city's theater group - the Baker Little Theater or BLT - is one place where local residents show off their talents. Under the direction of Tom Jones, BLT has become a drawing card for the city, attracting people throughout the area for its excellent performances.

BLT last year moved into new quarters and with volunteer help turned the former furniture store into a modern theater.

The city also is particularly proud of the recreation opportunities offered and the city's Little League Baseball program always brings a crowd to the ballfield.

At the other end of the spectrum, Baker also shows a great interest in helping its elderly. The City Council last year spent about $125,000 to build a new center for the local Council on Aging. That center opened this year.

Baker boasts a number of churches and schools and the business community grows with every passing day.

The active Baker Chamber of Commerce helps new businesses settle in, and with the five city council members and Mayor Pete Heine have done much to create a good business climate.

The council, with help from the chamber, recently appointed an Economic Development Board to help encourage new business and industry to move to Baker.

Although a part of East Baton Rouge Parish, Baker residents elect their own mayor, council members, police chief and city judge.

Heine was first elected as mayor in 1964 and held the job for 13 years. In 1981 he returned to office and was re-elected to another term last year.

Members of the City Council are Greg Allen, Jim Hill, James Pourciau, Marion "Sonny" Verde and J.E. "Duke" Welch.

Sid Gautreau serves as police chief and John Engelmann is city judge.

The city also has its own fire department, which as organized in 1956, and is headed by Chief James E. "Goose" Carroll.

A branch office of the parish Clerk of Court is located here along with a driver's license bureau and a health unit.

A bureau of the State-Times and Morning Advocate newspapers is located in Baker on Groom Road. The bureau provides coverage for the Baker and Zachary areas and East and West

Heritage Museum

Baker's attractions include the Heritage Museum and a Fourth of July celebration that draws more than 10,000 visitors each year with its outstanding musical entertainment and fabulous fireworks display. Greenwood Park on La. 18 is nearby and includes picnic areas, a rodeo arena, a golf course and tennis courts.

The Greater Baton Rouge Zoo and Cohn Arboretum are also close by.

POLICE DEPARTMENT
Phone 775-6000. Located at 1320 Alabama St.

FIRE DEPARTMENT - To report a fire call 775-3711. Located at 3190 Washington St.

UTILITY CONNECTIONS - Office located at City Hall, 3325 Groom Rd., open 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Telephone 775-9552. Total deposit for water and gas is $100. Sewer service is $2.25 per month and residents now also receive an additional sewer bill each month from the city-parish. Depending upon area of city, call Gulf States Utilities at 654-9335 or Dixie Electric Co. at 624-6681 for electric hookup.

TELEPHONE SERVICE - Call main office of South Central Bell in Baton Rouge at 383-9011.

GARBAGE PICKUP - Service is free. Garbage collected twice a week, trash once a week. Call 775-5584 for assignment of days.

VOTER REGISTRATION - Office at 1320 Alabama St. open 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Telephone 389-5206.

DRIVERS LICENSE - Office at 1320 Alabama St., open 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Telephone 775-1327.

HEALTH UNIT - Office at 1320 Alabama St. open 8 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. on Thursday for immunizations only. Telephone 775-2068.

Baker also shows a great interest in helping its elderly. The City Council last year spent about $125,000 to build a new center for the local Council on Aging. That center opened this year.

Baker boasts a number of churches and schools and the business community grows with every passing day.

The active Baker Chamber of Commerce helps new businesses settle in, and with the five city council members and Mayor Pete Heine have done much to create a good business climate.

The council, with help from the chamber, recently appointed an Economic Development Board to help encourage new business and industry to move to Baker.

Although a part of East Baton Rouge Parish, Baker residents elect their own mayor, council members, police chief and city judge.

Heine was first elected as mayor in 1964 and held the job for 13 years. In 1981 he returned to office and was re-elected to another term last year.

Members of the City Council are Greg Allen, Jim Hill, James Pourciau, Marion "Sonny" Verde and J.E. "Duke" Welch.

Sid Gautreau serves as police chief and John Engelmann is city judge.

The city also has its own fire department, which as organized in 1956, and is headed by Chief James E. "Goose" Carroll.

A branch office of the parish Clerk of Court is located here along with a driver's license bureau and a health unit.

A bureau of the State-Times and Morning Advocate newspapers is located in Baker on Groom Road. The bureau provides coverage for the Baker and Zachary areas and East and West

Heritage Museum

Baker's attractions include the Heritage Museum and a Fourth of July celebration that draws more than 10,000 visitors each year with its outstanding musical entertainment and fabulous fireworks display. Greenwood Park on La. 18 is nearby and includes picnic areas, a rodeo arena, a golf course and tennis courts.

The Greater Baton Rouge Zoo and Cohn Arboretum are also close by.

POLICE DEPARTMENT
Phone 775-6000. Located at 1320 Alabama St.

FIRE DEPARTMENT - To report a fire call 775-3711. Located at 3190 Washington St.

UTILITY CONNECTIONS - Office located at City Hall, 3325 Groom Rd., open 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Telephone 775-9552. Total deposit for water and gas is $100. Sewer service is $2.25 per month and residents now also receive an additional sewer bill each month from the city-parish. Depending upon area of city, call Gulf States Utilities at 654-9335 or Dixie Electric Co. at 624-6681 for electric hookup.

TELEPHONE SERVICE - Call main office of South Central Bell in Baton Rouge at 383-9011.

GARBAGE PICKUP - Service is free. Garbage collected twice a week, trash once a week. Call 775-5584 for assignment of days.

VOTER REGISTRATION - Office at 1320 Alabama St. open 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Telephone 389-5206.

DRIVERS LICENSE - Office at 1320 Alabama St., open 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Telephone 775-1327.

HEALTH UNIT - Office at 1320 Alabama St. open 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Mondays for tuberculosis treatment