Perseverance, precision — profits

By Pamela Grisham

Donald Begnaud drops out of his first metal punch machine. It "sounded like a friend." The machine broke down, and its die crashed through metal and his fingers. He spent months building a new one, learning the trade, and then just as he was ready to open his business, the machine caught fire and burned his workshop. But he persevered, and today, Begnaud Manufacturing in Lafayette displays his latest equipment, a Trumpac 13560 LaserCat. The machine, with a 4 x 8 foot table capacity, is used to make parts for Ford's Delco Remy trailer.