Welcome to sportsman's paradise

At times, when water is retreating from the woods back into the bayous and canals, fishing in the Basin is unsurpassed. Crawfish add another dimension for the sportsman and his family. The crustaceans are not only delicious but also provide hours of recreation, especially for children. But you don't have to go to the Atchafalaya Basin to find them; they're there for the taking in lots of places — including many roadside ditches.

There's also excellent freshwater fishing and other aquatic recreational opportunities southeast of Baton Rouge in the Amite, Blind and Tickfaw River areas. There are Lakes Maurepas and Pontchartrain in that direction.

And there's a whole world of saltwater fishing to the south and east. Speckled trout and redfish are most popular with casters, but there are more than 30 varieties of game fish in the Gulf of Mexico.

If fishing isn't your bag, this is also a Sportsman's Paradise for hunters. Many of the bottomland hardwoods of the area support wild turkey and white tail deer, the two important "big game" animals. But the most popular of our game animals are rabbits and squirrels.

The state has a generous bow hunting season — from early October through mid-January. Black powder hunters are also recognized with a brief special muzzleloader hunting season on several wildlife management areas.

Louisiana is one of the most important waterfowl wintering states on the continent. It's at the bottom of the funnel, so to speak, and millions of ducks and geese that come down the Mississippi and Central Flyways drop in on our marshes, swamps and rice fields.

There's also a big wintering woodcock population, and dove hunting is also excellent in some areas. Bobwhite quail, though victims of diminishing habitat, are favorites of some wingshooters. And, the numbers of wild turkeys are increasing annually, creating additional hunting opportunities for the spring season in much of the state.

Finding a place to hunt isn't as easy as finding a place to fish, but the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries owns or leases some three dozen wildlife management areas open without charge to the public for hunting at appropriate times each year. Some are better for deer, squirrels and rabbits, others for waterfowl. None are really suited for dove hunting, meaning the dove hunter is on his own to find a place to pursue his sport.

The entire Kisatchie National Forest is open to the public, subject to certain restrictions and there are several National Wildlife Refuges in the state allowing hunting. Many paper companies also permit public hunting on their land.

If you don't hunt or fish, you're still in luck because all of the bountiful beauty of nature which attracts hunters and fishermen are there for bird watchers and nature lovers, too. Welcome, and enjoy.

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Louisiana to host World Exposition

Plan a flying tour of exposition

The 1984 Louisiana World Exposition, to be held along the Mississippi River in downtown New Orleans, May 12 through November 11, 1984, will be the main attraction of the 14th annual Louisiana Air Tour. One of the country's most popular annual flying tours, Louisiana's air tour brings private plane pilots and their families to the state for a week-long adventure of interesting sights, internationally famous cuisine and good times, from the French Quarter of New Orleans to the bayous of Cajun country, as only Louisiana knows how to produce them.

Because of the exposition, a special effort is being made to encourage private plane pilots of flying clubs to tour Louisiana. Fran Salles, an instrument-rated commercial pilot who has coordinated the Louisiana Air Tour throughout its history, is acting as the contact and planning consultant for groups - large or small - who would like to arrange a flying tour of Louisiana.

Individual private planes are urged to join the 14th annual Louisiana Air Tour, which is scheduled May 10 through 18, 1984. Flying clubs can ask for an itinerary designed to suit their own individual needs and interests.

Highlights of a tour might include the Louisiana World Exposition and the French Quarter in New Orleans, the capital city of Baton Rouge, the plantation country of the Felicians and River Road, the bayou country where the Acadian heritage thrives and the unique Cajun culture can be enjoyed, a boat trip through the natural beauties of the Atchafalaya Basin or Honey Island Swamp wilderness area, or the Shreveport-Bossier area, home of the American Rose Center and the thrilling Louisiana Downs race track.

Air tour participants can dine in the elegant surroundings of Nottoway, the South's largest plantation home, or enjoy a tray of steaming-hot boiled crawfish, shrimp or crabs. Louisiana offers everything from international cuisine to a plate of red beans and rice. The sights, sounds, the food and the fun of Louisiana have been hallmarks of the state for years are easily accessible to air tour participants.

Whether your tastes are for a fais-do-do (Cajun street dance) in Houma after a hearty supper of Louisiana seafood or a quiet evening sipping mint juleps on the veranda of one of Louisiana's romantic plantation homes, you don't have to go over the rainbow to experience out-of-this-world good times.

For more information on the 1984 Louisiana Air Tour or how a group can plan a Louisiana flying tour of its own, contact Fran Salles at 383-8224 or 925-9305.

Pelican is exposition's mascot

NEW ORLEANS — The 1984 Louisiana World Exposition is the first such sanctioned event in which an entire state will be the host. Located in downtown New Orleans on the bank of the Mississippi River, the exposition's theme is "The World of Rivers ... Fresh Water as a Source of Life." It is therefore quite natural that when exposition officials went looking for a mascot, they picked a pelican, a familiar inhabitant of the world's waterways and the Louisiana state bird.

Since his hatching, the pelican has made more than 40 appearances including visits to both houses of the Louisiana legislature. Wherever he has appeared, the results have been the same. "He's so likeable that people just flock to him, especially the children," said Ann Watson, entertainment program coordinator for the exposition who is the mascot's manager. "He has an incredible magnetism. Now he's in great demand throughout the country. He'll be a recognizable figure nationally in no time."

Standing six feet tall, the Louisiana Pelican Mascot for the Louisiana World Exposition, as he is presently know, was the creation of exposition director Robert Whitney and Gary Goddard of Gary Goddard Productions whose company has been responsible for designing many of the familiar Walt Disney character costumes.

"He's our official ambassador," Watson says. "He's already a very identifiable figure for us. His charisma has made him immensely popular."

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THINK HYLANDS!
Batou Rouge's sister city is Port Allen

By Calvin Gilbert
Westside Bureau

PORT ALLEN - The city of Port Allen and West Baton Rouge Parish offer the best of both worlds.

Port Allen, with a small-town atmosphere, and West Baton Rouge Parish, with the advantages of rural living, are just minutes from the shopping, entertainment and educational opportunities in the city of Baton Rouge.

In fact, during peak traffic hours, local residents can drive across the I-10 bridge and get to jobs and businesses in downtown Baton Rouge much quicker than their neighbors across the Mississippi River.

In addition to Port Allen, the parish seat, West Baton Rouge Parish has two smaller townships, Brusly and Addis.

Port Allen derived its name 100 years ago from Gen. Henry Watkins Allen, one of Louisiana's Confederate heroes, who resided at Allendale Plantation.

Port Allen was first known as St. Michel when it was first established in 1809 by Michel Mahier, who named the town after his patron saint. The city, as it is known today, was formally laid out in 1854 as the town of Sunnyside near the site of St. Michel.

Mayor William C. LeBlanc heads Port Allen's city government, and a budget of almost $3 million, with the assistance of five aldermen—Rogge Alexander, R.J. Loupe Jr., Oliver Jones, Cline Blanchard and Felix Moore.

The city provides regular garbage pickup to its residents, along with gas and water service.

The city hall telephone number is 387-0441. The gas and water department number is 387-0443.

Port Allen residents are protected by the city police department, headed by Chief Henry "Boo" Gray, and the fire department, under Chief Ray Landry.

Philip Pecquet is city court judge.

The police department telephone number is 343-5525 and the fire department number is 343-6691.

Port Allen and other West Baton Rouge Parish residents receive electrical service from Gulf States Utilities office in Port Allen (383-7011) and telephone service from South Central Bell.

West Baton Rouge Parish Sheriff Belvin Bergeron's department provides law enforcement to the rural areas. The telephone number is 343-9234.

The courthouse in Port Allen is a familiar sight to most residents. It houses the offices for the sheriff, clerk of court, and tax assessor, in addition to the courtroom and judges' office for the 18th Judicial District.

Thomas LeBlanc is clerk of court, N.F. "Nim" Pecquet is tax assessor and Sybil Newsham is registrar of voters for the parish.

Across from the courthouse on Alexander Avenue is a parish office building which houses the police Jury, registrar of voters and driver's license offices.

Ted Denstel is the parish manager and Police Jury secretary-treasurer. The Police Jury number is 383-4755.

Leo Blaise of Port Allen now serves as Police Jury president. Other members are Roy Mouch, Myrtis Alexander, Dantin LeBlanc, J.P. "Dookie" Morales, Clay Bourg, Ted Blanchard and Harold Harleaux.

Rural residents receive natural gas and water service from the parish. The gas and water office telephone number is 344-0156.

The West Baton Rouge Parish School Board office, which may be reached at 343-8309, is located on Rosedale Road.

The School Board is headed by Superintendent L.C. Lutz and President Charles Marroigneau.

Other School Board members are: Haywood Morgan, Roy Hard, Lucius J. Treuil, Steven Guidry, Wilfred Leininger, C.A. Alt zaman and Barbara Bennett.

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Gonzales — rural city on the move

By TIM TALLEY
River Parishes bureau

GONZALES — The country atmosphere which was typical of life in many areas of Baton Rouge only a generation ago is still evident in this Ascension Parish city.

Suburban neighborhoods are developing rapidly in and around the city. The area remains ideal for people who prefer a rural lifestyle over the hustle and bustle of the city.

Gonzales is home to about 7,500 residents and thousands more live in unincorporated communities which surround Gonzales on the east side of the parish, including Loton, Prairieville, Galvez and St. Amant.

The area is conveniently located less than one-half hour south of Baton Rouge via Interstate 10 or U.S. 61 (Airline Highway) near the heart of Louisiana’s “chemical corridor,” the vast string of petrochemical and the numerous petrochemical plants which dot the Mississippi River between Baton Rouge and New Orleans.

With many of the communities of St. Gabriel and Sunshine, once sleepy agricultural areas on the east side of Iberville Parish which are mere miles south of Baton Rouge on La. 30 (Nicholson Drive).

Chemical plants, petroleum refineries and the smaller companies which service the petrochemical industry are the area’s chief employers and are one of the leading attractions for new residents.

State- and federally-supported institutions, including the Hayton Correctional Center, the Louisiana Correctional Institute for Women, the LSU Agricultural Experiment Station and the National Hansen’s Disease Center at Carville — the only remaining U.S. Public Health Service Hospital — are major employers in the St. Gabriel area.

Many national and international petrochemical companies have invested billions of dollars in plants and refineries near Gonzales and St. Gabriel, because of the area’s attractive location along the river.

The vast industrial growth has contributed to the largely rural area south of Baton Rouge into one of the state’s fastest growing residential areas.

Major industrial companies include BASF Wyandotte Corp., Giba-Geigy Corp. and Stauffer Chemical Co.

The nation’s leading chemical and petroleum producers also have facilities along the river in the St. Gabriel, Geismar, Darrow and Buras communities. Some of the companies are Air Products and Chemicals, Allied, Borden, Unisan, Shell, Veloc, Ruben, Monsanto and Dupont.

Dozens of others are located nearby, including Texaco Inc.’s Louisiana refinery which is the centerpiece of its $1 billion expansion project.

The petrochemical plants and their support companies employ thousands of workers in the Baton Rouge area and provide a combined annual payroll in the millions of dollars.

Many of the plans were built on acreage once used to produce sugarcane, formerly the area’s main industry. Sugarcane is still farmed on hundreds of acres surrounding the chemical complexes and in other areas.

Large tracts of land are still available for farming and cattle production. The Gonzales area is home to some of the well-known horse breeding stables.

Good employment opportunities and the chance to live in the country have made Gonzales and St. Gabriel increasingly attractive to residents of Baton Rouge. Residential property is generally less expensive than in larger urban areas, and the cost of living is significantly lower.

Residential growth south of Baton Rouge is expected to continue in the coming years and officials have been forced to expand a variety of public services to keep pace with the number of current and future residents.

Single- and multi-family dwellings are available throughout Gonzales and the east side of Ascension Parish, and new residential neighborhoods are being developed.

A $7 million sewerage project completed in Gonzales last year expanded that service to about 600 homes and businesses west of Gonzales that were not connected to the city in 1977. The sewerage improvements should meet all of the city’s needs for the next 15 years, according to Mayor Nelson Roth.

The project was approved by voters in 1982 provided the project was completed as planned. Additional funds from the bond issue will be used to improve the city’s natural gas system and several streets, Roth said.

City services are supported by an ad valorem tax base of 18.3 mills, Roth said. Gonzales also collects one-cent sales and use tax, he said.

Groundbreaking ceremonies were held in August for a $4 million, 165-room Holiday Inn along La. 38 in Gonzales, and the new facility should be complete in the spring of 1984. Developers are discussing the construction of at least two other motels in the Gonzales area, Roth said.

East Ascension General Hospital, a 56-bed public facility, will complete bond issue approved by voters in Gonzales and the east side of Ascension Parish at the hospital’s board of directors has proposed selling $6 million in bonds to pay for various improvements and to expand the hospital’s facilities.

In addition, a California-based health care services company, American Medical International, has proposed construction of a 150-bed hospital on La. 30 near I-10. The company has applied for state permits to build a 125-bed psychiatric facility adjacent to its hospital.

The entire project is estimated to cost $50 million and construction is expected to begin in January 1984, said Roth.

The parish’s governing body, the Police Jury, will begin implementing a new municipal numbering system in the rapidly growing rural areas of the parish early in 1984 following more than a year of study.

The municipal address system will replace the antiquated rural route system and will affect all unincorporated areas in the parish.

Most of the parish’s governmental services are housed in the modern courthouse annex in Gonzales although principal offices are in the courthouse in the parish seat of Donaldsonville, which is about 20 miles away via the Sunshine Bridge on the west side of the Mississippi.

Sheriff Harold Tridico, Clerk of Court Kermit "Hart" Bourque, Assessor Gerald M. McCrory and Registrar of Voters Robert Poche maintain branch offices in the Gonzales annex. The Police Jury, county agent and public ambulance service also maintain offices in the annex building.

Two high schools and several middle and elementary schools serve the Gonzales area, including East Ascension High School in Gonzales with a student body of about 1,500.

A year-round, city-sponsored recreation program features arts and crafts and dancing classes at the recreation center. The Gonzales Tourist Commission maintains a popular museum in the old train station and several antebellum plantation mansions or cottages, including Housam House, Tezeco and Belle Helene, contribute to the area’s tourist industry.

Electrical power is provided by Gulf States Utilities Co. East Ascension Telephone Co. a private firm, serves the east side of Ascension and surrounding areas.

A staff of 30 police officers under the leadership of Police Chief Charles "Pete" Bourque provides law enforcement in Gonzales. Fire protection is provided by a volunteer fire department staffed by 30 well-trained volunteers.

More than 3,500 people who live on the east side of Iberville Parish receive their electricity from GSU, which operates the massive Willow Glen power generating station in St. Gabriel. Water service is provided by Waterworks District No. 2.

The tax-supported Fire District No. 1, which is staffed by a large team of volunteers, provides fire protection in the St. Gabriel area, and the parish sheriff’s office, which operates a station in St. Gabriel, provides law enforcement and an ambulance service.
Nearest neighbor is Baker

By Karen Didier
Baker-Zachary Bureau

Baker, Baton Rouge's neighbor to the north, was established in 1888, and it has not stopped growing since.

Once only a whistle stop on the Yazoo and Mississippi Valley Railroad line, Baker is today one of the fastest-growing municipalities in the state, with more than 13,000 people calling this community home.

Incorporated in 1944, Baker has seen steady business and residential growth through the years, particularly along Groom Road, La. 19 and Plank Road.

Another shopping center -- the sixth for the city -- is now under construction on La. 19. With its completion, the city's business district along this major artery, which now joins with Interstate 110, will extend almost to the city's north and south boundaries.

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

Baker has had five mayors in its almost 40 years of incorporated government. Probably the most popular man to hold the job is Pete Heine, who is mayor today.

Heine is the only Baker mayor to serve three consecutive terms. He was first elected in 1964, after serving two four-year terms as a councilman. Heine again became the city's chief executive officer in 1981, when he was unopposed in his bid to return to office.

Baker also has its own fire department, organized in 1956, and a city court.

A branch office of the parish Clerk of Court is located in Baker and the city also has its own driver's license bureau and health unit.

Baker officials also took to the air waves this year, beginning a weekly broadcast on the local cable station to discuss issues of local government.

A bureau of the State-Times and Morning Advocate newspapers is located in Baker on Groom Road. The bureau provides coverage of not only the Baker area, but also Zachary and East and West Feliciana parishes.


As decided in a 1960 election, Baker continues to be a "dry" community. Before 1982, merchants in areas annexed into the city could sell liquor and wine, but a change in state law has made the entire city "dry," and that status can only be changed with another wet-dry vote.

Baker's attractions include an active little theater group, Heritage Museum, and free Blue Grass jam sessions at the Baker Civic Center and Greenwood Park. The park includes picnic areas, rodeo arena, golf and tennis.

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

UTILITY CONNECTIONS - Office located at City Hall, 3325 Groom Road, open 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Telephone 778-0300, Ext. 54-58.

Total deposit for water and gas is $100.

Sewer service is $2.25 per month.

Depending upon area of city, call Gulf States Utilities at 654-6861, or Dixie Electric Co. at 654-9355 for electricity hookup.

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

GARBAGE PICK-UP - Service is free. Garbage collected twice a week, trash once a week. Call 778-0300, Ext. 36-37 for assignment of days.

VOTER REGISTRATION - Office at 1320 Alabama St., open 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Telephone 778-0300, Ext. 34-35.

DRIVER'S LICENSE - Office at 1320 Alabama St., open 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Telephone 778-1327.

HEALTH UNIT - Office at 1320 Alabama St., open 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. Thursday and after 1 p.m. Mondays. Telephone 775-2908.

BAKER BRANCH - East Baton Rouge Parish Library, 4761 Groom Road.

HERITAGE MUSEUM - Open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Friday, 1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, and Mondays by appointment. Telephone 774-1776.

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City of Zachary

By Karen Didier
Baker-Zachary Bureau

When the first official census count was made in 1914, Zachary boasted 419 inhabitants. Today, more than 7,500 residents make their home on DeKalb Zachary’s farm.

But farming days are long gone for most of the residents of this community in the northern part of East Baton Rouge Parish.

Today, Zachary is a prospering, growing business community. More than 100 businesses, ranging from “Mom and Pop” grocers to large supermarket chains, are located in or near Zachary. Membership in the local Chamber of Commerce numbers more than 150.

The city has three banks and a weekly newspaper, the Zachary Plainisman-News.

Zachary also is a residential community.

The family names have not changed for decades. Youngsters may stray from their home turf, oldtimers say, but they return to Zachary when it’s time to settle down.

And the welcome mat is always out for the newcomers who wish to make Zachary home. The Chamber of Commerce provides plenty of relocation help, including information on the more than 20 civic clubs organized in Zachary.

Zachary residents elect their mayor, police chief and five council members.

John Womack is mayor. Council members are Cliff Andrews, David Horton, Calvin Boudreaux, Dan Wallis and David Henderson. Police Chief D.M. “Mike” Corbin runs a department which employs 17 full-time officers.

Zachary also has its own city court.

The city-owned utilities system serves a 30-square-mile area with 140 miles of water and gas lines.

Utilities, who furnish first aid and transportation in emergency situations.

More than 23 churches are located in the area, and a branch of the East Baton Rouge Parish Library is located at 5055 E. Mclntyre St.

Utility connections — Office located at City Hall, 4410 Florida St., open 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Telephone 654-6871.

Charges are $115 for water tap fee and $75 for gas fee, plus a $10 deposit for new construction inside the city. Costs for service outside the city are $150 for water and $110 for gas. For existing homes, connection fee is $5, plus a $25 deposit for water and $75 deposit for gas. Both deposits are refundable.

Depending upon area of city, for electric service call Gulf States Utilities at 654-6861 or Dixie Electric Co. at 654-9355.

Sewer service is $5 per month.

Telephone service — Call Zachary office of South Central Bell at 654-5673.

Garbage pickup — Twice a week for garbage and once a week for trash. Days vary; assigned when utilities hookups arranged. Fee $3 per month for garbage pickup.

Voter registration — No Zachary office. However, residents may go to Baker office at 1320 Alabama St. in Baker, or to the East Baton Rouge Parish clerk of court office in Government Building in Baton Rouge.

Driver's license — Can be renewed Wednesdays and Thursdays from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Police Department, 4410 Florida St.

McHugh House — Open every day 1-5 p.m. Telephone 654-3042.

The McHugh House in Zachary

The McHugh House, 1815 Main St., is a historic home that has been restored and is open to the public. It was built in 1845 and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

The house is furnished with period pieces, and there are exhibits on the history of the area.

Visitors can enjoy a tour of the house and learn about the life of a wealthy plantation owner in the 19th century.

The McHugh House is open every day 1-5 p.m. for visitors who want to learn more about the area's history.
Florida Parishes bureau

DENHAM SPRINGS - Suburban commuters and small-town natives make up much of the population of Denham Springs, Baton Rouge's neighbor to the east.

Across the Amite River in Livingston Parish, Denham Springs is reached by way of Florida Boulevard (U.S. 190) or the first Interstate 12 exit east of O'Neal Lane.

The population is approximately 8,600. There are few home sites for sale in the city, but the surrounding area provides subdivisions and semi-rural residences.

More than half the working residents have jobs outside the town, many of them in Baton Rouge.

Private businesses employing the largest numbers of people here are Delta Concrete Co. and Wilson Steel Co.

The commercial area includes an older business district on North Range Avenue, several miles of retail and service establishments along South Range and U.S. 190 and five shopping centers.

Some municipal water, natural gas and fire protection service is available to residents outside the city limits. The telephone number for gas, water, garbage and sewer service is 665-5103. The water comes from five deep wells.

Garbage is collected by the city on the north side of the railroad tracks on Mondays and on the south side on Tuesdays. Trash pickups are every other week. Commercial trash service is also available.

Auto registration can be done in Hammond or Baton Rouge.

Drivers' licenses may be applied for in a new municipal annex across the street from City Hall.

Dixon Memorial Hospital, a 52-bed public facility including an emergency room, is a mile east of town. There are two nursing homes in the city with a total of 250 beds.

Four public elementary schools, a junior high and a high school are within the corporate limits and another junior high that draws students from within the city is a mile south of town.

A library, state health office, Youth Services Bureau and Council on Aging are among other public services.

There are two large public parks with sports and picnic facilities and a private golf club.

The city includes four voting precincts with a total of 4,528 registered voters. Voter registration is done at the courthouse in the Town of Livingston, 14 miles east.

Chief of police is Scott Jones. The telephone number for the police department is 665-5106.

The fire department number is 665-8276. Fire chief is Connie H. Kennedy.

The telephone number for the office of Sheriff Odom Graves is 686-2241.

Telephone service may be obtained by calling 382-9000.

Two electricity companies serve the area. Dixie Electric Membership Corp. is at 665-8932 and Gulf States Utilities Co. is at 665-6141.

Three banks and two savings and loan associations are headquartered here.

There are 28 Protestant churches and one Roman Catholic.

The city is incorporated under the Lawson Act and operates with an elected mayor and a five-member board of aldermen. The mayor is V. Herbert Hoover and the aldermen are Glenn Broussard, B.M. McDonald, Vernon R. Miller III, Arthur Perkins Sr. and Jerry Smith Sr.

Mineral spring area near here owned by William Denham 1829-1855. Hotel near the springs built prior to the Civil War. Hill's Springs post office renamed Denham Springs in 1898. The village was incorporated in 1903.

THE DENHAM SPRINGS MARKER
New Roads has small town atmosphere

By Calvin Gilbert/Westside Bureau

NEW ROADS — Most New Roads residents wouldn’t think of living anywhere else. You find that out when you talk to them.

Even a brief visit to Pointe Coupee Parish shows why. It’s the kind of community where people know their neighbors.

And there’s False River. You’d have a hard time finding a more picturesque sight. Sailboat enthusiasts, water skiers and fishermen share the waterway which meanders through downtown New Roads.

After the Louisiana Territory was acquired from France, Congress in 1804 divided the area into two sections. The lower section, the Orleans Territory, was divided the next year into 12 counties.

Pointe Coupee Parish was one of the original counties.

There is some disagreement among historians as to the naming of the parish. However, it is generally believed to reflect the French words for “cut point.” The words apply to every changing course of the Mississippi River.

The shift left a wave curve cut off from the river’s main flow which left the oxbow near New Roads.

Mayor Trina O. Scott heads the town government with the assistance of a five-member Town Council. Its members are Bourg Langlois, James Laurent, J.J. David, Roland Roberts and Diane Christopher.

The town budget totals about $3 million.

In addition to regular garbage pickup, the town provides gas, water, sewerage and electrical service. Although the town has its own electrical generating plant which operates in emergencies and at times of peak usage, the municipality distributes most of its power from Gulf States Utilities.

The telephone numbers are: city hall, 638-7047; gas system, 638-8982; light and water plant, 638-8047.

The police department number is 638-9000 and the volunteer fire department may be reached at 638-9211.

The Pointe Coupee Parish courthouse, located on Main Street, is the center of parish government, housing offices for the Police Jury, sheriff’s department, clerk of court, registrar of voters and tax assessor.

Preston Cudzitz is the parish sheriff. His department may be reached at 638-3737.

Other parish officials include Clerk of Court I.G. Olinde, Tax Assessor Joseph P. Jewell Jr and Registrar of Voters Quintin Guzman.


The Police Jury’s telephone number is 638-9556.

The Pointe Coupee Parish School Board is headed by Superintendent Dr. James E. kenison. Morris Bergeron is the current School Board president. Other School Board members are Joseph P. Purpura, Clovis J. Le Jean, Thomas Nelson, Charles A. Aguirre, Leo P. Holard, John M. Olinde and J.M. “Buddy” Bergeron.

The telephone number for the School Board is 638-8674.

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Lafayette — fast growing metropolis

Advocate Acadiana Bureau

LAFAYETTE — Lafayette is considered the center of Acadiana, a region of South Louisiana populated by Louisiana natives of French origin known as Cajuns or Acadians. And it also serves as South Louisiana's capital of good times, good food and good people.

Several festivals abound in Lafayette and the surrounding areas, including Festival Acadiens, the Rayne Frog Festival, Breaux Bridge Crawfish Festival, Guydan Duck Festival, New Iberia Sugar Cane Festival, and Marit Gras.

Numerous restaurants serving seafood and Cajun dishes offer a mouth-watering opportunity for bored palates.

The city also offers several recreational facilities, including three municipal swimming pools, a golf course, planetarium, 26 parks, six museums and 43 public tennis courts.

Nearby lakes and the Gulf of Mexico offer unlimited fishing and boating experiences. Many choose to venture into the Atchafalaya Basin - the largest river basin swamp in the nation - to catch their limits.

The University of Southwestern Louisiana, nestled inside the city, offers a wide curriculum for its 16,000 students.

A total of 54 schools, both public and private, are available, along with two business colleges, two beauty schools, two welding schools, a vocational-technical school and two schools for the mentally retarded.

The booming economy from the oil industry has undergone a noticeable decline, but that only makes moving here somewhat easier.

For one thing, available apartments and houses for sale have become much more plentiful since the oil industry fell on hard times. Rent and the cost of buying homes has also remained steady and in some cases, has decreased.

Service with the city utility service requires a $30 deposit for water and $140 for electrical service to rented apartments or houses with air conditioning. For rented houses or apartments without air conditioning, the deposit is $70. Homeowners are required to pay a $95 deposit.

Deposits are refunded every October with 6 percent interest for those residents who have had service for at least 12 months.

Residents not living in the city will probably be provided electricity with either Gulf States Utilities or Southwest Louisiana Electric Cooperative.

GSU's deposit for renters is $100, and homeowners must deposit only $50. The company also refunds deposits after a year's service with a 6 percent interest, provided a customer has paid all bills promptly.

SLEMCORE requires renters to post a $95 deposit, which includes a $5 membership fee to join the electric cooperative. Homeowners are not required to pay deposits, but must pay a $15 service fee and the $5 membership charge.

SLEMCORO deposits are returned after service is disconnected.

Deposits for phone service are not required if an applicant has been a South Central Bell customer for two years and has paid his phone bills on time. If a deposit is required, the minimum is $120.

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

Lafayette Police - 261-8633
Acadian Ambulance - 261-1511
Lafayette Fire Department - 233-2611
Lafayette Parish Sheriff's Office - 232-9211
Lafayette City Hall - 261-8200
South Central Bell - 261-4411
Gulf States Utilities - 234-1415
SLEMCORO - 237-5122