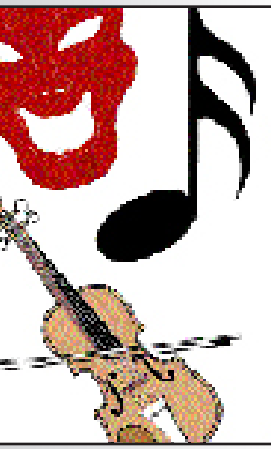


The Livingston Parish News



INSIDE



Arts grants for schools

C1

NOTABLE



Denham Springs resident **Kaye Covington's** appearance on the Price is Right game show was scheduled to air Tuesday morning, Sept. 18, but was bumped off the air by the around-the-clock coverage of the terrorist attacks in New York, Washington, D.C. and Pennsylvania. Her appearance has been rescheduled for this Tuesday. The show can be seen locally on CBS affiliate WAFB.

QUOTABLE

'When the rock is hard, we get harder than the rock. When the job is tough, we get tougher than the job.'

George Cullem, Sr.
U.S. football coach (1908 - 1973)

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Taylor adds hundreds of businesses to tax rolls for first time

Tax notices will go out on time this year and those who should have been paying in the past will have to pay their fair share this year, the new assessor says.

BY MIKE DOWTY
THE NEWS

LIVINGSTON — Just over one year after taking office, Assessor Jeff Taylor says he has added 350 businesses to the tax rolls and predicts efforts to identify property owners will add even more taxpayers in coming years.

Only 66 were actually new businesses that just opened this year, he said. The rest should have been on the rolls all

along.

The net effect should be to reduce the tax burden on people who have been unfairly carrying the load, Taylor said.

"When they give you this song and dance about how our taxes are too high because there's not enough business in Livingston Parish, that's not true," Taylor said. "It's because too many businesses are not on the rolls."

Taylor said he discovered after tak-

ing over the office from former assessor Charles Abels that many businesses were not on the rolls.

"I have a little problem figuring out how that can happen," Taylor said.

As a result of growth in the parish and his office's efforts to ferret out property owners who should be on the rolls, Taylor said Livingston Parish will pick up an additional \$15 million in assessed



Jeff Taylor

See TAYLOR, Page B2



BRIAN GANN/THE NEWS

Mark Lawrence stands with the 40-foot by 15-foot American flag he painted in his yard as a symbol of support for the country in the days following the terrorist attacks on the United States on Sept. 11. With the

tremendous run on American flags and flag-related products in the last few days, Lawrence said he decided he would rather make his own than try to find one.

Resident paints U.S. flag on front lawn

BY BRIAN GANN
THE NEWS

DENHAM SPRINGS — Parish resident Mark Lawrence wanted to make a big statement about his support for the United States in its time of crisis in the wake of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks.

To do so, he decided to make a big flag.

Lawrence painted an approximately 40-foot by 15-foot American flag in his yard in the days immediately following the attacks on New York City, Washington, D.C. and

Pennsylvania.

His reasoning was simple—to show support.

"I wanted to do something special," Lawrence said. "I wanted it to be something different than what anybody else had done. I wanted to show that I supported the country."

With the tremendous run on American flags and flag-related products in the last few days, Lawrence said he decided he would rather make his own than try to find one.

It took him about two days to paint the flag in his yard on

Highway 16 just past Vincent Acres subdivision near Port Vincent.

He has had a few passers-by stop and look or slow on the highway—mostly truckers, he said, who are sitting higher and can see it better.

Lawrence said he did not know anyone involved in the attacks, but he felt connected to the situation after serving in the Army from 1984-86.

"I watched it all unfold on TV live," he said. "It was a horrible thing to see."

Lawrence said the show of

patriotism all over surprised him.

"I was kind of shocked at how people have responded," he said. "I've seen American flags go up in places I've never seen flags before. It's good to see the American spirit coming back."

Lawrence will continue to be affected by the attacks in one of his jobs as well. As a marshal for LSU football games, he will be responsible for helping enforce the heightened security standards that will certainly be a part of large public gatherings for some time to come.

Schools put aside 'little things' during nation's crisis

BY NATALIE TRUAX
THE NEWS

LIVINGSTON — The School Board meeting began with a moment of silence Thursday as board members remembered the victims of last week's terrorist attack on America.

"Let's have a moment of silence for the acts in New York and the upcoming events that our nation will face," Board

President Malcolm Sibley said.

Superintendent Warren Curtis said the school system banded together during the last week to remember the tragic events that occurred Sept. 11.

"I appreciate the effort of the employees of the school system to put aside all the little things and focus on the events of last week," Curtis said.

Curtis said prayers and

memorial services were part of pre-game ceremonies at high school football games throughout the parish last Friday. Teachers have also spent some class time discussing the events with students, Curtis said.

Employees at the Central Office have also remembered the victims, Curtis said. All 150 employees had a memorial service last Friday and Fred Banks

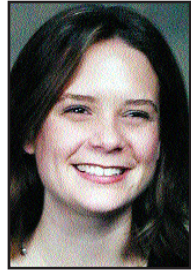
conducted a service before the principal's meeting Wednesday afternoon, Curtis said.

After voting to suspend regular meeting rules as requested by Curtis, board members unanimously approved a resolution asking the Livingston Parish legislative delegation to petition Gov. Mike Foster to consider the restoration of the funds for

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Ground Zero: Denham native describes aftermath

Fayard returns to work, new world



Caroline Fayard

"The most unusual thing was the National Guardsmen standing on every corner and keeping watch at every building."

Fayard, an investment banker at Goldman Sachs in New York, saw the second plane fly over her building at 1 New York Plaza and into the World Trade Center on Sept. 11.

After fleeing down 50 flights of steps that terrible Tuesday, Fayard returned to the top of the building Monday where she sat frozen as tragedy and terror-

'It was so odd to look out and you know those towers are supposed to be there, but they're not.'

Caroline Fayard
New York City survivor

ism hit New York City so strongly just a week before.

She returned to her desk to find everything just as it was—the e-mail she was reading Tuesday still open on her computer, her purse with all her money and identification still tucked away in its place.

"It was like time had stopped," Fayard said. "Stepping back in was surreal, like starting right back at the moment you stopped, but everything in between had changed you forever."

Fayard and her friends now talk of life as before the World Trade Center and after, giving their lives what she described as a "demarcation point."

Returning to that life was not so simple. Fayard had to show an expired driver's license and sign in just to get back to her

office because her work and other identification was still at her desk.

Security is as tight as anyone has ever seen, Fayard said, a situation that seems unlikely to change anytime soon.

"I doubt cars will ever drive down Wall Street again," she said. "I think a lot of people are examining everything, saying 'Is this really all that safe?' But I guess that's natural after what's happened."

Once on the 50th floor and in her office, Fayard could not help but look out the huge windows that make up the wall facing where the World Trade Center towers used to be, where she saw the plane go in.

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