

Fax-Net Update

A Weekly Analysis of Upstate Louisiana News and Issue

Volume 11 Tuesday, December 15, 2009 Issue 27

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR!

By Lou Gehrig Burnett

A really big show

It was a packed house at the third annual Domestic Violence Faith-Based Luncheon last week at the Holiday Inn/Bossier. More than 200 local judges and lawyers, local and state politicians, area law enforcement officials and businessmen attended the event.

The Workshop and Luncheon are held annually by Bossier-Webster District Attorney Schuyler Marvin and other district attorneys in the Western District. Its goal is to link faith-based community and social services agencies to support the needs of victims.

Guest speaker was Louisiana Attorney General James "Buddy" Caldwell. He noted that state law enforcement agencies have come a long way in forming an alliance.

"We are working together for the first time in 40 to 50 years. This is very crucial because there are too many instances where we can work together to combat this crime of domestic violence," Caldwell said.

He added, "For years and years, people said that domestic violence did not exist. But it does, and the people here today are in position where they can reach out and assist the victims. This is a way to educate the people about the resources that are available."

Marvin also presented awards to individuals who played vital roles during the aftermath of last month's storms that crippled parts of Bossier Parish. Among those recognized were:

Reid Brau of the Red Cross, Bossier Fire Chief Sammy Halphen, Bossier Police Chief Mike Halphen, Bossier City Marshal Johnny Wyatt, Bill Altimus of the Bossier Police Jury, Bossier Sheriff Larry Deen, Sandy Davis of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness, Captain Tom Madden Jr of the Louisiana State Police, State Fire Marshal Butch Browning, and Webster Parish Sheriff Gary Sexton.

The Welcome Committee for the event consisted of Bossier City Mayor Lorenz "Lo" Walker, Debbie Martin, Minister Charlie Davis, Beth Chumley, Angelo Roppolo, Simone Hennessee, Rev. Calvin Austin, and Laurie McGehee.

FAX-NET UPDATE is published weekly and delivered to your home or office by fax or e-mail. Subscription rates are: \$50 for 12 months (50 issues) or \$35 for six months. To subscribe, send check or money order to: Fax-Net Update, P.O. Box 44522, Shreveport, LA 71134. If you have questions, tips or want to do a guest column, call 861-0552 or send e-mail to louburnett@comcast.net. Lou Gehrig Burnett, Publisher. Willie Rayburn, Assistant to the Publisher. Virginia Robicheaux, production manager and columnist; Pat Culverhouse, Marty Carlson, Dr. Jeff Sadow, Wray Post, and Chuck Fellers, Columnists and Contributors. In memory of James Q. Wellborn and Charles Nickel.