

# COMMUNIQUE

A PUBLICATION OF THE SOUTH  
CENTRAL INDUSTRIAL ASSOCIATION

VOLUME 10, ISSUE 2

## 14 PREPARING FOR CLIMATE CHANGE

HOW LOUISIANA'S PLAYBOOK ON COASTAL RESTORATION  
CAN BE A BLUEPRINT FOR OTHER COMMUNITIES

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# MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



## TO OUR MEMBERS,

As I write this letter it is with a great sense of optimism. I really sense then recovery from COVID and IDA to be gaining steam in our organization and our communities. Our guest speakers have shared the same optimism whether from members of our federal delegation to leaders of industry. Representative Graves and Senators Kennedy and Cassidy understand the issues that affect our business climate and delivered hopeful messages to our membership. Speakers Walter Thomassie and Brad Middleton demonstrated the bright future for our region and our service company driven economy. We are gearing up for some educational webinars on lease sales and a HR seminar. These are extremely helpful to your businesses, and we encourage you all to participate. As always, we take pride in our great events for networking and socializing, and we are excited for upcoming golf tournament at Ellendale Country Club and our holiday social at Danos in December. We look forward to seeing you at these events and SCIA continues to thrive as the Active Voice for our region.

— MITCH MARMANDE

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# MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR



A lot has happened since our last newsletter and we have a lot coming up, so buckle up!

SCIA is celebrating its 25th anniversary this year. Some of you have been here since day 1 and we sincerely thank you for that. Others may have joined as recently as this month, and we of course appreciate you too!

In celebration of our 25 year anniversary, we honored some very special people at our annual awards banquet in June. By the way, last year we had to postpone the banquet until November due to COVID, but we decided to get back on track with our June date this year. Because of that, our current President, Mitch Marmande, was installed in November and rather than shortchange him with only a 7 month reign, he will serve as President until our next banquet in June of 2023.

At our banquet, we honored the charter members who formed the organization as well as the members who joined in 1997 who are still with us today. In doing so, we could not go without honoring the one and only Jane Arnette who served as the Director of SCIA for 20 years! Thank you to everyone who has contributed to the success of SCIA. We would not be here today without you!

Looking forward, we have our annual Golf Tournament coming up in October and we have already exceeded the number of teams from last year. We're looking forward to another great tournament with plenty of food and drink around the course!

In the meantime, we are working on your behalf to follow and advocate for you on the 5-year plan for offshore leasing. API, along with the NOIA, recently conducted a study by Energy and Industry Advisory Partners that found that a delay in Gulf of Mexico leasing could result in reducing U.S. oil and gas production by nearly 500,000 barrels per day between 2022 and 2040 and cost approximately 60,000 U.S. jobs.

In addition to the lost jobs and reduced energy supply, banning leasing in the Gulf could eventually jeopardize significant revenues that flow to the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF), our nation's most important federal program supporting the conservation of our nation's parks, forests, coastal areas, and wildlife refuges. The LWCF provides critical conservation funding in every state totaling more than \$40 billion from oil and gas development.

It is our mission to work for you. And we will do everything we can.

On a lighter note, stay tuned for an exciting event we are planning in December—a holiday social! More information coming soon.

Thanks for all of your support,

— CHRISTY ALLEY-ZERINGUE

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# AWARDS BANQUET

SOUTH CENTRAL INDUSTRIAL ASSOCIATION (SCIA) RECENTLY HELD ITS ANNUAL AWARDS BANQUET TO HONOR AWARD WINNERS AND CELEBRATE **25 YEARS OF SERVICE.**

LA State Representative Jerome “Zee” Zeringue emceed the event and News Reporter and Documentarian John Snell served as the special guest speaker.

SCIA President Mitch Marmande honored founding members and companies who have been members of SCIA for the 25 years it has been in existence.

Marmande also gave two distinguished awards to deserving recipients. The Tillman Esteve Award, named after one of the founding members of SCIA, and honors an outstanding member who projects the values and ideals of the organization, was presented to Ms. Jane Arnette, former Executive Director of SCIA for her 20 years of service to the organization.

Mr. Chip Kline, Chairman of Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority, was the recipient of the esteemed President's Award, given to a recipient for the many contributions made to the people of South Louisiana while serving in a leadership role.

Thank you to all who have contributed to the success of SCIA over the last 25 years. We look forward to serving you for the next 25 years!

— CHRISTY ALLEY-ZERINGUE



# SCIA HONORS AWARD WINNERS AND CELEBRATES 25 YEARS AT THE 2022 ANNUAL AWARDS BANQUET



## DANOS MARKS 75 YEARS IN BUSINESS

From its founding in 1947 in Larose, Louisiana, Danos has continuously evolved and expanded to serve its customers. This year, the family-owned and managed company celebrates 75 years as a leading service provider to the energy industry. With nearly 2,500 employees, Danos services approximately 150 customers across 17 states.

CEO Paul Danos credits the company's longevity to three generations of leadership upholding an unwavering commitment to shared values.

"When I reflect on the key to Danos' sustained success, I think about our values of integrity, safety, service, respect and improvement. These founding principles have guided the company for 75 years. Although we've said them in different ways over the years, they are the core of who our organization is today," says Danos.

Throughout 2022, Danos will be celebrating with a 75th Anniversary Road Show. The company will host a series of events in Louisiana and Texas to honor and thank employees, customers and the many partners who have been integral to the organization's success since 1947. In addition, company employees have pledged to volunteer 1,947 hours to nonprofit organizations in honor of the Danos' founding year.

As for the company's future in the ever-evolving energy industry, Danos says, "While many of our established service offerings remain vital to the transitioning industry, we are also actively expanding our capabilities to ensure we remain in step with our customers."

In recent years, the expansion has included significant advancements in technology-based solutions delivering improved workforce capacity and employee skill development and an automated warehouse management system that improves operational efficiency and increases customers' returns.

Danos adds, "We are excited about the future and the growing number of opportunities to deliver the 'Danos difference' to new and established customers."

SCIA congratulates Danos on 75 years of service to the energy industry!



Featured Left to Right— Hank Danos, Mark Danos, Paul Danos, Eric Danos



# JOE ORGERON NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF RESTORE OR RETREAT

**Restore or Retreat is eager to introduce its next Executive Director, Lafourche native Joseph Orgeron of Golden Meadow.**

Already a passionate advocate for his community and the coast prior to this appointment, Orgeron is looking forward to taking the reins of the regional advocacy organization created by landowners, port commissioners, parish officials, conservationists, levee experts, business owners and bayou residents over 22 years ago. Orgeron previously served on the Restore or Retreat Board of Directors, so he was familiar with the organization's history and long-standing mission of implementing large scale coastal restoration solutions for our irreplaceable region.

"I am grateful for the unique opportunity to serve as Executive Director of this great organization that we all have come to love and support over the years," said Orgeron. "I pledge to work diligently toward the mission of our advocacy organization and those related efforts to improve our beloved coastal environment-- our home-- for generations to come."

"When I think about all of the challenges we face as a coastal community as we recover from devastating hurricanes like Hurricane Ida and look ahead to a constantly changing landscape, we are confident Joe's knowledge, passion and focus as Executive Director of Restore or Retreat will benefit not just Restore or Retreat but our entire Bayou Region," said Chett Chiasson of the ROR Board of Directors.

CPRA Board Chairman, Chip Kline praised the hire, "It's people like Joe Orgeron that keep the state of Louisiana in the fight to restore and protect our coast. His passion for our coast is undeniable, and he fully understands how critical the Bayou Region is to the overall economic health of our state and the Gulf Coast. On behalf of all the men and women of CPRA we are excited to work with Joe Orgeron in this new role."

Orgeron graduated from South Lafourche High School, and earned his bachelor's degree from Nicholls State University. He continued his education with a master's degree and doctorate in physics from the University of Texas at Dallas. Working abroad for a global company and back home with his family-owned business has resulted in a wide range of expertise and experience that Orgeron brings to the organization. Currently, he is a public servant for Louisiana House District 54 serving Lafourche and Grand Isle. He is also as an adjunct professor in maritime management at Nicholls.

"Working in this capacity is my new, clear as well as complimentary vocation to performing my elected civic duty as State Representative, which is a part time job. Needless to say, I am genuinely excited about this opportunity and look forward to meeting with our community and our partners in the upcoming months to talk more about the mission ahead to save our coast, community and culture."



Joe Orgeron

**"IT'S PEOPLE LIKE JOE ORGEON THAT KEEP THE STATE OF LOUISIANA IN THE FIGHT TO RESTORE AND PROTECT OUR COAST. HIS PASSION FOR THE COAST IS UNDENIABLE"**

— CHETT CHAISSON,  
BOARD MEMBER,  
RESTORE OR RETREAT



# SENATOR CASSIDY DISCUSSES MONEY COMING TO LOUISIANA

BY COLIN CAMPO, AS EDITED BY CHRISTY ALLEY-ZERINGUE

**U.S. Sen. Bill Cassidy spoke with Houma-Thibodaux oil-industry officials at an SCIA General Membership luncheon in August about coastal restoration, hurricane recovery and other issues affecting the community and Louisiana.**

Cassidy highlighted money headed to Louisiana from the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, approved by Congress late last year. The \$1.2 trillion package that funds improvements to roads, bridges, water and levee systems, high-speed internet access, airports, ports and more.

Louisiana is guaranteed more than \$7 billion from the bipartisan bill and will be eligible for billions more in allocations.

**Local impact:** Levee system that protects Terrebonne and Lafourche to get \$379 million in federal money

**Louisiana impact:** What's the state's share of the \$1.2 trillion infrastructure bill? Billions.

Cassidy, a lead sponsor of the bill, said he's been criticized for working with Democrats to pass the measure but added that legislation is about compromise.

"Sometimes people get mad at me for working with a Democrat, but guess who has all the power in Washington? It is the Democrats who control the House, Democrats who control the Senate, and last time I looked, Biden is a Democrat," Cassidy said. "So if you want to get something for your community, you've got to work with other people."

## HURRICANE AND FLOOD RECOVERY

Cassidy recalled that President Joe Biden called him to try and work out a disagreement after the infrastructure bill hit a roadblock.

Cassidy said the measure includes \$3.5 billion for coastal resiliency for areas impacted by natural disasters in the past six years.

"That was my provision," Cassidy said. "We couldn't really put earmarks, but when you put 'hit by natural disasters in the last six years,' it may say another state, but it's got Louisiana in capital, bold letters."

Another \$3.5 billion will help areas flooded in the past 10 years. Cassidy said that applies to other states as well, but Louisiana has filed roughly 50% of National Flood Insurance claims over the past 10 years.

## GROWING THE ECONOMY

"This bill is not about catching us up to 2022; this bill is about creating an economy for 2050 so that this region doesn't necessarily go up and down with the oil-and-gas industry," Cassidy said. The goal is to diversify so oil and gas continues to play a part but Terrebonne and Lafourche aren't at the whims of fluctuating global oil prices.

The bill allocates \$8 billion in competitive grants to create a series of "hydrogen hubs" across the U.S. that would produce hydrogen for use as fuel. The process, Cassidy said, takes natural gas already being produced and separates the carbon from the hydrogen so the two can be used separately.

Louisiana, a leading natural gas producer, has applied for a grant to produce a hydrogen hub in the state.



## BRACING FOR STORMS

Cassidy said he and others in Congress are working to add a disaster-aid package to a larger bill to pay for government operations this fall.

As it stands, FEMA trailers are often sent into areas recovering from hurricanes only to be damaged or destroyed when the next storm hits. Cassidy said he and others are considering ways FEMA or HUD could instead help residents strengthen their homes so they can withstand a Category 4 hurricane.

"If it's going to take a year to get somebody into a home don't give them a disposable house," Cassidy said. "Give them something that they can better afford but which anchors them to their community."



## HARNESSING THE WIND

Cassidy is among a bipartisan group of senators who introduced a measure that seeks to ensure states get half the revenue generated by wind farms that produce electricity off their coasts.

The Reinvesting in Shoreline Economies and Ecosystems Act, or RISEE, would also give Louisiana and other states a greater share of oil and gas revenue from drilling in federal waters off their coasts.

Among provisions, the bill, which has won committee approval and now heads to the full Senate, would amend the current Gulf of Mexico Energy Security Act to:

- Eliminate the state revenue-sharing cap, now at \$375 million.
- Increase the amount shared with states from 37.5% to 50%.

"So that no matter where that coastline is, there's additional amount of money for coastal restoration," Cassidy said. "So we win, not just by increasing the cap, but through this additional coastal fund."

**\$1.2 TRILLION**  
IS THE BUDGET IN LOUISIANA'S  
INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT AND JOBS ACT

# GETTING TO KNOW THOMA-SEA MARINE CONSTRUCTORS, LLC

BY CHRISTY ALLEY-ZERINGUE

## Walter Thomassie, Managing Director of Thoma-Sea Marine discussed the past, present and future of the business at the July General Membership Meeting.

Beginning in early 1990 Thoma-Sea Boat Builders, Inc. started with a single shipyard located along the bank of the Intracoastal Waterway in Houma, Louisiana. There the Thomassie family began building projects for brown water towing and vessels for foreign fisheries.

Thoma-Sea continued to expand, building offshore tugs, escort tugs, and small platform supply vessels (PSVs). In January 2003, Thoma-Sea expanded by purchasing the then defunct Halter Shipyard in Lockport, Louisiana. The Lockport facilities allowed Thoma-Sea to build larger, more complex vessels, and Thoma-Sea soon became an industry leader.

Today, Thoma-Sea builds and repairs offshore tugs, articulated tug barges (ATBs), ship escort tugs, platform supply vessels (PSVs), well stimulation vessels, inland two boats, fishing vessels, oceanographic research survey vessels, and barges. They also have five drydocks to service vessels.

They are currently under contract to build the largest robot in the world. The Army Corp of Engineers needs to replace the Matt Laying Barge which armors the bottom of the MS River to keep its course and Thoma-

Sea will be building it. They will also be building a hybrid vessel for NY harbor and have recently bid on two research vessels for the Navy.

Thoma-Sea's goal for company is to provide a stable environment for workforce which includes 400 people employed and they could use another 100 more.

Transitioning from O&G to O&G Plus has worked well for us.

Thoma-Sea can also boast that it is the first to shipyard in America to institute a Variable Speed DC Bus Drives , which is a greener method of managing the power on ships. Variable speed drives sit between the electrical supply and the motor. Power from the electrical supply goes into a drive and the drive then regulates the power that is fed to the motor, so that you burn about 30% less fuel.

"Because of this and more, we can say Louisiana competes well and we compete well down here," said Thomassie.



SCIA President **Mitch Marmande** listens to **Walter Thomassie**, Managing Director, Thoma-Sea Marine Constructors, LLC at a GM Luncheon



# COALITION CELEBRATES GROUNDBREAKING FOR **PHASE II** OF LA 1 IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

The LA 1 Coalition celebrated the start of construction for Phase II of the LA 1 Improvement Project, an 8.3-mile elevated highway from Leeville to Golden Meadow that will connect critical energy infrastructure to the nation.

U.S. Senator Bill Cassidy, Governor John Bel Edwards, LA DOTD Secretary Dr. Shawn Wilson, Coalition leaders, stakeholders, state and local elected officials and contributors to the project participated in a groundbreaking ceremony at the Leeville Public Boat Launch. The ceremony marked the final step in a project over 25 years in the making.

"This project is a piece of a much grander vision for Louisiana, and it prides me to say that we have continued to invest in infrastructure and development," said Governor Edwards. "This corridor will provide relief for regional transportation needs, creating a resilient structure all while stimulating economic growth. This project was a priority of this administration because of the needs to the economy of the state and the nation. I'm proud of Sec. Wilson and all the people who worked to secure the nation's largest federal INFRA grant."

"Who knew that we would need over \$800 million to build this highway? None of us knew! To get creative, I proposed I ask industry to be in a civic-based, multi-million-dollar matching funds commitment," said Henri Boulet, Executive Director of the LA 1 Coalition. "This became the greatest professional challenge of my fundraising career. Twenty companies did something they had never done before – help a community leverage state and federal dollars to build state-owned infrastructure. This tells me that there is still a strong civic consciousness across American board rooms."

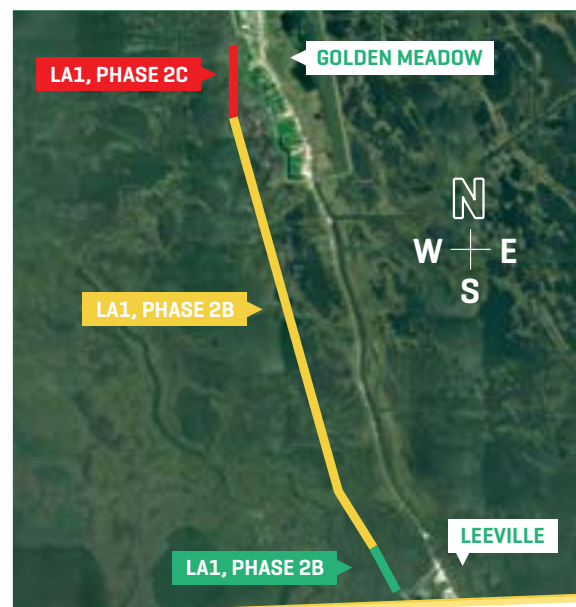
In 2020, LA DOTD was awarded a \$135 million grant to fund the project, which aims to elevate LA 1 Highway in southern Lafourche Parish – the only roadway supporting Port Fourchon, which services over 16 percent of America's domestic crude oil production, 4 percent of natural gas production and supports 20 percent of the nation's seafood production, as well as access to tourism destination Grand Isle. The elevated highway will secure safe, long-term access to our nation's energy supply, ecotourism, abundant seafood production, and vital coastal restoration projects.

This project also has a historical level of community buy-in, including a \$25 million match commitment from Port Fourchon, multi-million dollars pledged collectively from 20 private industry partners, and matching \$1.2 million dollar pledges from both Lafourche Parish Government and the LA 1 Coalition. Landowners also contributed permanent servitudes to help minimize project costs.

According to the LA 1 INFRA Grant Development Team: each day LA 1 is closed, the U.S. loses \$46 million in oil and gas production and \$528 million in total GDP.

"LA 1 is not only a win for Louisiana but for the nation as well," said DOTD Secretary Shawn D. Wilson, Ph.D. "Infrastructure creates jobs and ignites economic development.

The LA 1 Improvement Project is expected to be complete in July of 2027, weather permitting.



# OUT-AND-ABOUT



FRIENDS NEW AND OLD CAME TOGETHER  
DURING OUR **2022 MEMBERSHIP LUNCHEONS**  
AND OUR **ANNUAL CRAWFISH BOIL**.





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# LOUISIANA'S COASTAL PLAN IS A PROVEN PLAYBOOK FOR OTHER STATES

BY SIMONE MALOZ AND MOIRA MCDONALD

**Communities across our country are enduring the impacts of extreme weather, from hurricanes and flooding along our coasts and watersheds to drought and wildfires in the West. These disasters are disrupting lives and livelihoods, and scientists indicate these impacts will only grow more severe without action.**

However, an unprecedented opportunity exists now to invest in a more climate-ready future. Leaders at the state and local levels can leverage funding from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law to look beyond just roads and bridges and strengthen our nation's natural infrastructure. By restoring wetlands and floodplains and strengthening aquifers, we can invest in solutions that protect people, property and natural resources.

If state governments are seeking inspiration about where to begin, they should look to Louisiana's playbook and listen to the people and communities turning conservation plans into action. Having spent decades working to restore the fragile ecosystems of the Gulf Coast region, Louisianians know firsthand how powerful these efforts have been and how other states can learn from the experiences.

Recent research shows that wetlands provide \$450 billion in annual global protection along coastal regions and help save 4,600 lives each year. Projects that utilize these natural solutions are faster to implement than seawalls or levees, improve quality of life for nearby residents, provide jobs, clean water and enhance wildlife habitat. Moreover, they're popular: Restoring wetlands to mitigate climate impacts is backed by 82% of Americans, with support across the political spectrum.

With voters largely aligned around these concepts, the next challenge is creating alignment among communities, experts and policymakers at all levels – which is where Louisiana offers a compelling model. In the aftermath of hurricanes Katrina and Rita, local, state and federal leaders developed Louisiana's Coastal Master Plan, a uniquely comprehensive guide to restoring and safeguarding its coast.

Unprecedented at the time in its scale and detail, the plan allowed state leaders to make the case to federal leaders that they would make the best investments with whatever dollars became available. This created buy-in about the path forward, which is critical for moving projects at this scale.

Crucially, the CMP was designed to be a living plan, consistently updated and improved every six years (the next version is slated for release in 2023) through an iterative process that incorporates the latest scientific research, recent ecological developments and community input.

Following another unprecedented disaster, the Deepwater Horizon oil spill, Louisiana's Coastal Master Plan was critical to securing passage of the RESTORE Act, federal legislation that directed oil spill settlement dollars back to the Gulf States to repair the damage done to ecosystems and communities.

This transformative legislation, passed a decade ago this summer, did more than just help repair the damage; it provided desperately needed funding for long-term initiatives to bolster the coastal resilience of Gulf states against extreme weather, particularly through natural infrastructure. By restoring wetlands and fortifying its natural coastal ecosystems, Louisiana is leveraging the power of nature to solve big problems, and not at a moment too soon.

The latest projections from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration forecast 10-12 inches of sea level rise along the U.S. coastline over the next 30 years, profoundly increasing the impacts of flooding in a region that is routinely battered by storms.

As a result of federal relief funds and Louisiana's thoughtful, science-based planning, many projects to help fortify communities and ecosystems against climate change are already moving forward. The Golden Triangle Marsh Creation project is one such example, using sediment from nearby Lake Borgne to create and restore marshland, which helps protect highly populated areas around New Orleans. The planned River Reintroduction into Maurepas Swamp project aims to reconnect the Mississippi River to the swamp, sustaining it into the future as critical habitat for wildlife and natural protection for people. These measures will pay dividends in the form of biodiversity and flooding protection, and it's vital that similar projects move forward in other states as well.



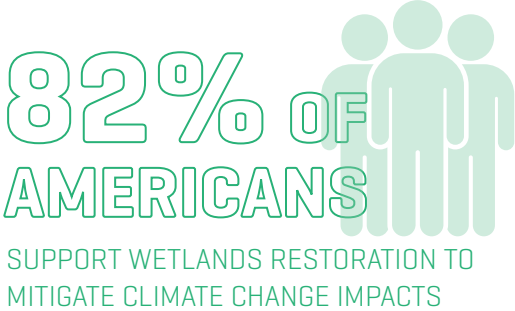


Photo by Roy Luck

Amid the escalating climate crisis, federal funding sources like those made available through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law present unparalleled opportunities to harness the power of nature to better mitigate the impacts of climate change. Investments in natural infrastructure support both people and wildlife to withstand impacts, all while delivering added benefits in the form of jobs, ecological restoration and quality of life improvements.

As Americans reckon with the changes in climate that are already underway, our leaders have an obligation to act immediately. Louisiana's bold vision and detailed planning provide a living model for how other states can take full advantage of this once-in-a-generation funding opportunity and invest in their long-term resilience.

*Simone Maloz is campaign director of Restore the Mississippi River Delta. Moira McDonald is environment program director at the Walton Family Foundation.*



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# CONGRESSMAN GRAVES ADDRESSES SCIA

BY CHRISTY ALLEY-ZERINGUE

**We were so grateful to have been joined by Congressman Garret Graves at our May General Membership meeting. He shared encouraging statistics and insights about our region, and also stressed the importance of our region working together to create real change in our state – to solve the larger issues our area faces such as infrastructure, education, crime, tax laws and more.**

Graves shared 5 best and worst things about Louisiana:

1. Today, Louisiana has 5 of the top 15 ports in America.
2. We are one of the top energy producing states in America
3. Louisiana has the lowest electricity rates in America.
4. 4th best recreational fishing destination in America.
5. Biggest commercial seafood industry in the lower 48.

5 things that we need to work on: what would keep businesses from coming here to invest in a new business?

1. Infrastructure – includes flooding, Restoring the coast, traffic/ transportation, improving the livability of our community. We need to finish Hwy 90, Morganza to the Gulf and I-49.
2. Education ranking – we have one of the worst education systems in the country.
3. Crime – last year alone, 73 police officers were shot killed in the state. That’s a 60% increase over last year. 4 months into this year, we’ve already had 101 officers shot.
4. Tax code – Businesses are going to Texas and Florida because of this. We need to modernize Louisiana’s tax code.
5. Tort Reform/Liability Law – highest auto insurance in America

Graves went on to talk about what he and the delegation have been working on:

1. Infrastructure - On flood control, Coastal Restoration and Protection, and hurricane protection we’ve secured a total of \$6 billion in the last 3.5 years to address some projects that were stuck for years.
2. Transportation – secured billions of dollars – 3rd largest grant in the nation to make improvements on I10, and the largest grant in the nation for LA1 elevated highway. \$111 million coming into the state from offshore energy revenue sharing.
3. Millions into education for improvements and millions into law enforcement agencies. Working with legislators for our antiquated tax code.
4. Filed legislation at the federal level to make it a federal crime if you are staging accidents involving trucks and 18-wheelers on US highways and interstates.

“Under the current administration, we have tripled our dependence on Russian oil! This is the first President to ever deny a lease sale and they raised royalty rates. Under the Trump administration, emissions went down an average of 2.5% per year. Last year, under this new administration, emissions went up 6.3%,” Graves said.

Graves went on to say, “We are doing great things and pulling off wins when it comes to the Morganza project, working on authorization and funding for the Houma Navigation Canal, and securing additional funding for deepening of Port Fourchon. We have secured record infrastructure funds and coastal restoration funds. And we’re working on trying to reverse some of these energy policies that are causing irreputable harm not just to Louisiana, but nationally.”

“We must make sure the administration is working for America, not against it,” Graves said.

Thank you, Congressman Graves for sharing your time and knowledge with our membership and to all those who attended.



**“WE MUST MAKE SURE THE  
ADMINISTRATION IS WORKING  
FOR AMERICA, NOT AGAINST IT.”**

— GARRET GRAVES,  
US CONGRESSMAN

## FLETCHER TECHNICAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE ANNOUNCES DONATION FOR AUTOMOTIVE LAB

Fletcher Technical Community College is pleased to announce a donation to the new Fletcher automotive lab in the amount of \$100,000 from the Richard "Dickie" Barker Family. With this generous donation, we will be able to provide our students with a new automotive training lab with state-of-the-art equipment. The facility will be named the Richard "Dickie" Barker Automotive Training Lab, in honor of the Barker family patriarch.

"We, the Barker Family of dealerships, take great pride in making this donation to Fletcher in the name of our father Richard "Dickie" Barker" quoted Chris Barker. "Fletcher is a TRUE asset to our community, and we are happy to support its goals and mission. We look forward to the continued growth of Fletcher through the outstanding leadership of Chancellor Strickland and her team."

The new 5,700 square foot automotive lab will include a state-of-the-art automotive technology classroom and a state-of-the-art automotive technology training laboratory.

Fletcher's automotive program provides specialized classroom instruction and practical shop experience to prepare students for employment.

Official groundbreaking will be announced at a future date and time.



## DANOS PROMOTES MELANIE HILL TO GENERAL MANAGER OF SHALE

Danos has promoted Melanie Hill to general manager of shale. In her new role, she will be responsible for overseeing Danos' activity in the Permian, Eagle Ford, Marcellus and Rocky Mountain areas. In addition, she will manage Danos' renewables business in Texas, California, New Mexico, Arizona and Nevada.

"Melanie has continuously proven to be an asset to Danos since she started with the company two years ago," said Owner and CEO Paul Danos. "We are grateful for the work that she has done to solidify and strengthen Danos' business, and we are excited to welcome her to this new leadership role."

With over ten years of industry experience, Hill joined Danos in 2020 as a business development representative. She also served as the company's onshore operations manager prior to her recent promotion to general manager of shale.



**Melanie Hill**

## BAYOU LAFOURCHE CLEARING PROJECT

Greater Lafourche Port Commission embarks on Bayou Lafourche clearing project with the help of the Bayou Lafourche Freshwater District. Recently, the GLPC signed an MOU (Memorandum of Understanding) with the BLFWD to extend its contract for the collection and disposal of debris in Bayou Lafourche from the Intracoastal south to Golden Meadow.

The BLFWD had previously cleared all debris up to the Intracoastal as part of its contract with DRC Emergency Services, LLC.

The work, which just began, will seek to remove vegetative materials as well as larger debris type objects from Bayou Lafourche.

The project is expected to last a month or so and will improve the navigation and safety in the bayou, according to Chiasson.

## UNITED COMMUNITY BANK DONATES TO LOCAL ORGANIZATION

Derek Chaisson (Right), Senior Vice-President of United Community Bank, presented Michel Claudet, Executive Director of Terrebonne Council on Aging (TCOA), a donation in the amount of \$5,000.00 towards TCOA's Unmet Needs Program for the needy elderly residents of Terrebonne Parish.



## SEALEVEL CONSTRUCTION COMPLETED THE BAYOU CHENE FLOOD CONTROL STRUCTURE

Sealevel Construction completed the Bayou Chene Flood Control Structure, providing flood protection to six south Louisiana parish communities.

President of Sealevel Construction Richard Roth said, "The Bayou Chene project was the largest job we've completed to date in terms of size and contract value. All I can say is how proud I am of our team for their commitment to safety and construction excellence, and I look forward to taking on our next biggest project."

Engineers and coastal representatives deem this flood control structure to be one of the largest of its kind in the United States, spanning approximately 1,050 linear feet across the channel in its closed position.

Now situated across Bayou Chene, the two-year, \$80 million structure will combat backwater flooding from the Atchafalaya River. It will help preserve the homes and businesses of approximately 30,000 residents in portions of St. Mary, Lafourche, Terrebonne, Assumption, St. Martin and Iberville Parishes.

Before the permanent structure, government officials would employ local marine businesses to temporarily sink a barge in the canal during seasons of anticipated flooding. Since 2011, they sunk the barge three times, costing millions of dollars each time. The new structure will eliminate the use of the temporary barge and will also shed several days from the project schedule. Government officials noted that while it generally took about 10 days to sink the temporary barge, it will now only take about 10 hours to sink the permanent floodgate.



## BOLLINGER SHIPYARDS DELIVERS 50TH FAST RESPONSE CUTTER TO U.S. COAST GUARD

USCGC William Chadwick is the first of 6 FRCS to be homeported in Boston, MA

Bollinger Shipyards LLC has delivered the USCGC William Chadwick to the U.S. Coast Guard in Key West, Florida. This is the 176th vessel Bollinger has delivered to the U.S. Coast Guard over a 35-year period and the 50th Fast Response Cutter ("FRC") delivered under the current program.

The USCGC Chadwick will be the first of six FRCs to be homeported in Sector Boston, which is known as "The Birthplace of the Coast Guard." The sector is responsible for coastal safety, security, and environmental protection from the New Hampshire-Massachusetts border southward to Plymouth, Massachusetts out to 200nm offshore. Sector Boston directs over 1,500 Active Duty, Reserve, and Auxiliary members whose mission is to protect and secure vital infrastructure, rescue mariners in peril at sea, enforce federal law, maintain navigable waterways, and respond to all hazards impacting the maritime transportation system and coastal region.



USCGC William Chadwick

## TERREBONNE GENERAL FLAG RAISING CEREMONY

Terrebonne General Health System, with the support of the Louisiana Organ Procurement Agency (LOPA) and Southern Eye Bank, hosted a Flag Raising and Butterfly Release Ceremony. This event honored those who have given the gift of life through organ, tissue, and eye donation. At the ceremony, we heard from speakers who were organ donors, organ recipients, and living organ donors. We also had a performance by the talented Vandebelles of Vanderbilt Catholic High School and released butterflies as a sign of new life.

Terrebonne General celebrates National Donate Life Month, and we ask you to be a part of this interconnected life-sustaining community by registering as an organ, eye, and tissue donor. For more information, visit [lopa.org](http://lopa.org).



Mr. and Mrs. Marion Duplantis spoke on behalf of their son, Derel Duplantis, an organ donor.

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## FLETCHER AND LSUA CREATE NEW TRANSFER PARTNERSHIP FOR STUDENTS

Fletcher students who complete the Associate of Applied Science Degree in Business Administration, Accounting Technology, and office System Technology at Fletcher can now transfer credits earned toward completion of Bachelor of Science in Business Administration and Bachelor of Applied Arts and Sciences at LSUA.

In a signing ceremony Fletcher Technical Community College (Fletcher) and Louisiana State University of Alexandria (LSUA) signed an articulation agreement making it easier for students to transfer credits from Fletcher to LSUA. In the agreement signed, Fletcher and LSUA have agreed to allow students to complete the Associate of Applied Science Degree at Fletcher and transfer credit hours earned toward completion of the Bachelor of Science in Business Administration or Bachelor of Applied Arts and Sciences.

The agreement was announced and signed by Fletcher Technical Community College Chancellor Dr. Kristine Strickland and Louisiana State University of Alexandria Chancellor Dr. Paul Coreil.

The new articulation agreement between Fletcher and LSUA marks the beginning of a new and exciting partnership for students to continue to further their education and training after graduating from Fletcher.



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## JASON BERGERON PICKED AS MENTOR FOR AMERICAN ACADEMY OF ENTREPRENEURS

Fletcher students who complete the Associate of Applied Science Degree in Business Administration, Accounting Technology, and office System Technology at Fletcher can now transfer credits earned toward completion of Bachelor of Science in Business Administration and Bachelor of Applied Arts and Sciences at LSUA.

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**Jason Bergeron**

## DANOS TO SUPPORT PROMETHEAN AND PETROFAC WITH DECOMMISSIONING WORK

Danos has been awarded the opportunity to support the Promethean Decommissioning Company (PDC) and Petrofac alliance to decommission multiple facilities in shallow water fields in the Gulf of Mexico. The project, which began at the end of May, includes ten platforms, 196 wells and 32 pipeline segments in the South Pass and East Break fields of the Gulf.

This multi-year program will allow Danos to support the PDC and Petrofac alliance and its decommissioning program with several of its service lines, including production workforce, construction, fabrication, and instrumentation and electrical.



## BOLLINGER DELIVERS FRC TO U.S. COAST GUARD

USCGC Douglas Denman to be homeported in Ketchikan, Alaska

Bollinger Shipyards LLC has delivered the USCGC Douglas Denman to the U.S. Coast Guard in Key West, Florida. This is the 175th vessel Bollinger has delivered to the U.S. Coast Guard over a 35-year period and the 49th Fast Response Cutter ("FRC") delivered under the current program.

The USCGC Denman will travel to Alaska where it will be commissioned on September 28 in its new homeport of Ketchikan, in the 17th District of the Coast Guard. Once there, it will serve and safeguard the public, protect the environment and its resources, and defend the Nation's interests in the Alaskan maritime region. The 17th District encompasses over 3,853,500 sq. miles and over 47,300 miles of shoreline throughout Alaska and the Arctic.



USCGC Douglas Denman

## SYNERGY BANK ANNOUNCES PROMOTIONS

Synergy Bank's board of directors recently named promotions within bank leadership. Michel Hebert, Lauren Ledet, and Sherman Naquin were named Assistant Vice Presidents. The announcement was made by Jerry P. Ledet, Jr., Synergy Bank President.

Michel serves as Loan Operations Director overseeing loan operation and credit departments.

Lauren serves as a Commercial Lender in the Lafourche Parish market.

Sherman Naquin serves as East Houma Office Manager and Lender.



Michel Hebert



Lauren Ledet



Sherman Naquin

## TGHS VANESSA DAVIDSON, BSN, HONORED FOR NURSING LEADERSHIP AWARD

Terrebonne General Health System congratulates Vanessa Davidson BSN for receiving the Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing-Xi Zeta Chapter Excellence Award 2022 for Nursing Leadership Award. The award recognizes nurses who consistently practice excellence in a clinical setting, in nursing education, and/or in nursing leadership.



Vanessa Davidson

## TERREBONNE GENERAL DOCTOR HONORED

Terrebonne General Health System announced Dr. Mary Eschete, Infectious Disease Physician, as the recipient of the Golden Stethoscope Award. The prominent Golden Stethoscope Award publicly recognizes a Terrebonne General physician for their exceptional level of professionalism, integrity, and teamwork in caring for patients and families, as well as interacting with hospital staff members and other physicians. Nominations can be made by physicians, employees, patients, and volunteers. Two physicians a year are recognized with this award.



Dr. Mary Eschete

## DANOS FOUNDATION AWARDS \$140K IN GRANTS

The Danos Foundation announced it has distributed \$140,000 to six nonprofit organizations located in Louisiana and Texas, areas where the company works. Six groups were selected as grant recipients from a total of 70 nonprofits who applied. Grant distributions include: \$50,000 to Family Promise of Odessa (Odessa, Texas); \$50,000 to The Life of a Single Mom (Baton Rouge, LA); \$10,000 to The Dulac Community Center; \$10,000 to The Salvation Army of Houma; \$10,000 to The Salvation Army of Lafayette; and \$10,000 Second Harvest Food Bank of Greater New Orleans.

The Danos Foundation impacts and improves the communities where company employees live and work by mirroring the purpose and values of Danos. The Foundation leverages resources of time, talent and money to support and promote involvement in activities and initiatives to help resolve community challenges. The grants are a part of Danos GIVES, the community grant program of the Foundation. The Foundation also consists of Danos WORKS, an employee volunteer program, and Danos CARES, an employee assistance program.





## SYNERGY BANK ANNOUNCES PROMOTIONS

Synergy Bank's board of directors recently named promotions within bank leadership. Russell LeBoeuf was named Vice President, Candace Chiasson was named Assistant Vice President, Matt Ortego was named Commercial Lender and Banking Officer, and Susan Guidry was named Banking Officer. The announcement was made by Jerry P. Ledet, Jr., Synergy Bank President.



**Russell ReBoeuf**



**Candace Chaisson**



**Matt Ortego**



**Susan Guidry**

## GREEN SELECT PROGRAM OPEN SOON TO ENTERGY LOUISIANA CUSTOMERS

Entergy Louisiana customers will soon be able to take advantage of a program that allows them to align a portion of their monthly electric usage with renewable energy credits.

The Green Select option gives residential and business customers in Louisiana the power to match some or all of their electricity usage with clean, renewable energy generated in state. Participating customers can benefit from resources like the Capital Region Solar site in West Baton Rouge through the use of renewable energy certificates (RECs). RECs represent the environmental attributes of renewable electricity generation such as wind and solar and are integral to renewable electricity products. Offering customers the option to reduce the impact of their electricity usage through RECs is another way Entergy Louisiana is supporting customer interest in renewable options. The company has proposed additional renewable options for customers that are still pending regulatory approval from the Louisiana Public Service Commission.

More information on Entergy Louisiana Green Select can be found by visiting [renew.entergy.com/louisiana/green-select](https://renew.entergy.com/louisiana/green-select).



## BOLLINGER RECOGNIZED FOR SAFETY RECORD

Shipbuilders Council of America honors Bollinger for excellence in safety for 17th consecutive year.

Bollinger Shipyards was presented with the 2021 "Award for Excellence in Safety" by the Shipbuilders Council of America (SA) for its exceptional record of safety in the shipyard industry. Bollinger has been the recipient of the prestigious award for Excellence in Safety for 17 consecutive years – an unprecedented streak in the shipbuilding industry. Bollinger also earned the Shipbuilders Council of America awards for Significant Safety Achievement and Improvement in Safety.

SCA, the national association for the shipyard industry, presented the award to Bollinger's President and CEO Ben Bordelon at its annual meeting in Washington, D.C. in recognition of the company's exceptional record of safety, enhancement of operations and promotion of safety and accident prevention over the past year.



## MORRISON ENERGY PARTNERS FOR WIND ENERGY

Blackstone Infrastructure's Portfolio Company Atlantic Power Transmission LLC Announces Partnership with Offshore Energy Industry Expert Morrison Energy to Invest in New Jersey's Workforce and Bring Jacket Foundation Fabrication to the State

Morrison to establish a base in New Jersey; local fabrication of 5,000-ton substation foundation jackets, a first for the East Coast; train and credential Garden State union workers in new skilled tasks

Atlantic Power Transmission LLC (APT), a Blackstone portfolio company, today announced its partnership with Morrison Energy (Morrison) to position New Jersey as a global leader in rapidly developing offshore wind energy generation and transmission supply chain. The combined collective expertise of APT, Morrison and Blackstone collaborating on this landmark initiative underscores APT's long-standing commitment to investing in New Jersey's workforce and kicks off an exciting chapter in the East Coast's clean energy transition.

As part of the agreement, Morrison will have a dedicated presence in New Jersey, adding leading industry expertise while supporting APT's commitment of \$50 million over 10 years to support workforce

development investment in New Jersey via the fabrication of 5,000-ton substation foundation jackets. Union workers will receive training in a unique skill set, embodying Blackstone's approach to working with local workforces and communities. The fabrication facilities will bring hundreds of jobs to New Jersey and will lay the foundation for future projects in the state.

"Morrison is a leader in the energy sector, with an exceptional management team. I'm thrilled to work alongside Chet Morrison and Kirk Meche, who bring four decades of experience as thought leaders in the energy industry," said Andy Geissbuehler, CEO of APT. "Partnering with Morrison will bring the industry expertise needed for this project and invest in training our local workforce to secure New Jersey's position as a wind leader for decades to come."

Commenting on the partnership, Morrison's Chief Executive Officer Chet Morrison said, "Morrison is committed to the development of offshore wind energy in the United States by supporting APT's partnership in developing New Jersey's union workforce with skilled workers who can propel the New Jersey wind energy sector forward for decades to come."

## TERREBONNE GENERAL APPOINTS NEW BOARD CHAIRMAN AND VICE-CHAIRMAN

Terrebonne General Health System and Southern Regional Medical Corporation (SRMC) Board of Commissioners announce the appointment of Angelique T. Barker, C.P.A., as Chairman and Earl Eues, Jr. as Vice Chairman.

Mrs. Barker joined the Board of Commissioners in 2013. She previously served as Vice Chairman of the Board and as Chairman of the Terrebonne General Finance Committee. Mrs. Barker is employed as an Audit Partner at Stagni & Company, L.L.C. She has over 35 years of public accounting experience with a concentration in audits of governments and non-profit organizations. She also has experience in financial institutions, construction, and small business.

Mr. Eues joined the Board of Commissioners in 2019. Mr. Eues also has 25 years of emergency management experience and currently serves as the Director of the Terrebonne Parish Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness.

We are pleased to have Mrs. Barker and Mr. Eues serve in their new roles as Chairman and Vice-Chairman," said Phyllis Peoples, President and C.E.O. "Their dedication to the community will ensure Terrebonne General provides innovative healthcare solutions to the people of Southeast Louisiana."



Angelique Baker, C.P.A.



Earl Eues, Jr.

## SYNERGY BANK HELPS “PACK THE BUS” FOR LOCAL STUDENTS

Synergy Bank and United Way of South Louisiana coordinated a school supply drive to benefit children in need in Terrebonne and Lafourche parishes. With the help of the community, thousands of school supply items were collected for distribution through the school districts.

Collected supplies includes spiral notebooks, paper, pencils, pens, highlighters, markers, crayons, backpacks, glue sticks, erasers, folders, binders, lunch boxes, and much more. In addition, Synergy Bank donated 20,000 pencils and South Central Louisiana Human Services Authority doated 2,500 marble notebooks.

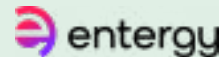
“We are so appreciative of everyone who donated school supplies for Pack the Bus,” United Way Executive Director Alina Merlos said. “The right tools can allow a child to focus on learning, feel prepared, and be confident that they can succeed in school and in life.”



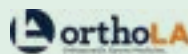
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