Volume 1, Issue 4

OCTOBER 2019



The Basin Gazette®

WHITE HAT PUBLISHING®
P.O. BOX 445, HENDERSON, LA. 70517
Ph. (337) 228-2400
EDITOR– PERRY SERRETTE

FREE

We are now on Facebook under Perry Serrette! (check it out)

You can also find us on the web @ www.TheBasinGazette.com

ALBERT Buz LeBlanc
ST. MARTIN PARISH SHERIFF
Restoring Our Trust in Law Enforcement
Paid for by Albert Buz LeBlanc

Chevron
Myer's Quickstop/ Chevron
Black Rifle Coffee, Co
Family/Veteran Owned & Operated
FISHING GEAR
COLD DAQUIRIS
PROPANE EXCHANGE
HOT BOUDIN
Eric Myers 337-305-3004
3002 Grand Point Hwy, Henderson, LA 70517 337-332-0302

BAYOU BELLE TRUCK STOP

Under New Ownership
New Casino Games
Pizza-Burgers-Breakfast

f'real

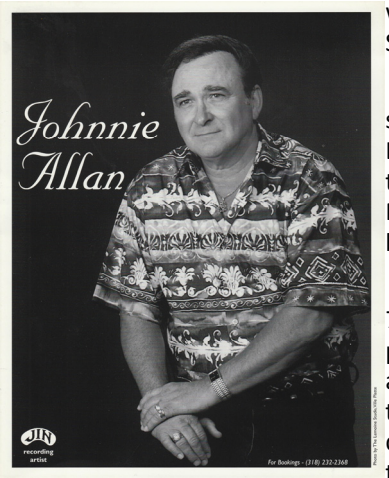
Oct., 31st Activities-Kids Trick or Treat
6:PM-7PM.
Adult Costume Contest 7:PM-9:PM

CASINO

C-STORE

Car Show–2nd Sat. of every Month. Next One-Oct. 12th
2924 Grand Point Highway
337-667-6579

MUSICIANS



Having learned the basics on the rhythm guitar at age 13 in 1951, he joined Walter Mouton, Rodney Miller and Leeman Prejean to form the Scott Playboys playing traditional Cajun music.

By 1954 he had become proficient enough on his new instrument, the steel guitar, to accept a job with Lawrence Walker and the Wandering Aces. But the winds of musical change were flowing down the Cajun bayous in the mid to late 50's. Rock n Roll enticed the Wandering Aces to quit Walker and form the Krazy Kats band playing this new genre of music which later became known as Swamp Pop.

Their first recording of Allan's self-penned song "Lonely Days, Lonely Nights" was leased from the local JIN label to national MGM Records for better distribution.

Through the late 50s, 60s and 70s he continued recording and playing numerous south Louisiana and east Texas venues, all the while earning two graduate degrees and holding down teaching and administrative positions in the Lafayette parish public schools.

In 1978, after being pipped at the post by Elvis Presley's recording of "Promised Land" in England in the early 70s, Johnnie's Cajun flavored version of the song resurfaced in Europe gaining chart status which enabled him to perform numerous European tours over the next fifteen years.

In 1993 Floyd Soileau of JIN Records presented him with a gold record for selling one million copies of "Promised Land".

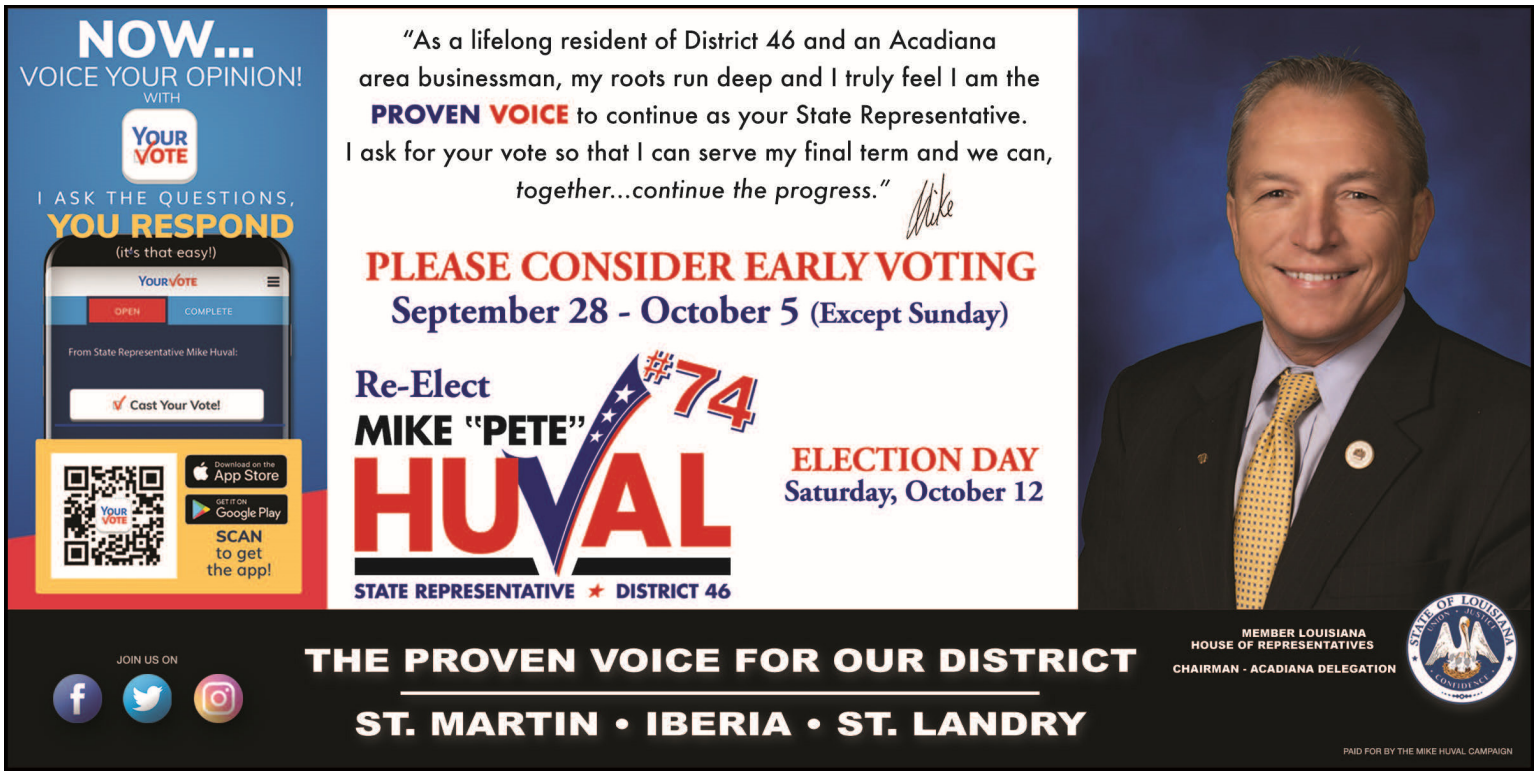
To date he has recorded around 300 songs, many of which were self-penned. Several of his Cajun and Swamp Pop compositions have been recorded by over forty local, national and international artists. He has also written and published four books on music related issues.

In 2005 he fulfilled one of his numerous bucket list dreams of visiting and walking on all seven continents.

Now, at age 81, he has slowed down his local and international performances and prefers to relax with friends at home or his camp at Miller's Lake in Evangeline parish, experimenting with Cajun cooking and assisting his eldest daughter, Donna, in compiling his up and coming life story.



Paid For By Brian Douglas Theriot



The following is the continuation of a book named (Lords of the Basin) written by Kenneth Delcambre, from the Sep. issue.

Today, the Atchafalaya Basin is a paradise for fishermen, hunters and trappers. Currently, at the time of this writing, tours of the basin are in operation. Before the levees were constructed, the Atchafalaya River stages controlled the water table in the basin, hence, allowing water traffic very capably, but only in a north-south direction. To cross the swamp from east to west, could only be accomplished by mankind.

The Southern Pacific Railroad Company acquired all the necessary right-of-ways west of the Atchafalaya River. The Morgan's Louisiana & Texas Railroad and Steamship Company had acquired all the right-of-ways from the Atchafalaya River east to Baton Rouge, however, it was the Southern Pacific Railroad Co., that had full control of the project, being that they leased all rights and titles, therein, from the M L & T R R & S co.

The surveying and construction of the swamp railroad was initiated by the Southern Pacific Line in the year 1900, from the Lafayette end of the right-of-way. As soon as the tracks were laid, operation of the line went into effect.

Today, this halting and continuing of the line is verified by the numerous train stops in the area. Gecko (Jaco), Nina, Cleon (0ld- Henderson), Pelba and Atchafalaya were all stops ln St. Martin Parish.

All of these stops gave the possibility for townships, townships that would be centered, around the depot or freight loading docks. We will learn later that Atchafalaya, Louisiana had one of the highest potentials.

The line began simultaneously in Lafayette and Baton Rouge, planning to meet at the Atchafalaya River with its "Golden Spike" the steel girder bridge " The swivel-section of this bridge spanned some 232 feet at a point of the river with a depth of 100 feet.

After the completion of the line between Anchorage, the eastern terminus above Port Allen, and the main line situated west of Baton Rouge in 1906, freight cars and passenger trains were ferried across the Mississippi River and arrived in downtown Baton Rouge at the Yazoo and Mississippi Valley depot.

Old Ironsides– Fact or Fiction



The U.S.S. Constitution (Old Ironsides), as a combat vessel, carried 48,600 gallons of fresh water for her crew of 475 officers and men. This was sufficient to last six months of sustained operations at sea. She carried no evaporators (i.e. fresh water distillers).

However, let it be noted that according to her ships log, "On July 27, 1798, the U.S.S. Constitution sailed from Boston with a full complement of 475 officers and men, 48,600 gallons of fresh water, 7,400 cannon shot, 11,600 pounds of black power and 79,400 gallons of rum."

Her mission: "To destroy and harass English shipping."

Making Jamaica on 6 October, she took on 826 pounds of flower and 68,300 gallons of rum.

Then she headed for the Azores, arriving there 12 November. She provisioned with 550 pounds of beef and 64,300 gallons of Portuguese wine.

On 18 November, She set sail for England. In the ensuing days she defeated five British men-of-war and captured and scuttled 12 English merchant ships, salvaging only the rum aboard each.

By 26 January, her powder and shot were exhausted. Nevertheless, although unarmed she made a night raid up the Firth of Clyde in Scotland. Her landing party captured a whisky distillery and transferred 40,000 gallons of single malt Scotch aboard by dawn. Then she headed home.

The U.S.S. Constitution arrived in Boston on 20 February 1799, with no cannon shot, no food, no powder, no rum, no wine, no whiskey, and 38,600 gallons of water.

GO NAVY

I would like to challenge all local businesses to help pay one senior citizen's water bill each month. If you are interested, please call (337)228-2400 and tell us what town you're in and we can have it done. We will post you in this paper unless you prefer to remain anonymous.

PLACES TO GET THE BASIN GAZETTE

Bayou Bell Casino, Hend.
Diesi's $Lucky$ Capital, Hend.
Pat's Restaurant, Hend.
Turtles Bar, on the levee
Miss Mamie's, Hend.
Atchafalaya Gold, Hend.
Quins in Grand Anse
Hebert's in Henderson
Boyer's in Henderson
Red's in Catahoula
Hopper's Ice House, BB
Chamber of Commerce, BB
Myers Quick Stop, Henderson
Grand Point Tavern, B.B.
Bayou Cabins, B.B.
Beaucoup Cajun Superette (Butte La Rose)
The Bar, Arnaudville
Crawdad's, Arnaudville
City Hall, Henderson
Doucet's Grocery, BLR

The Breaux Bridge Chamber of Commerce

Wants you to remember the Citywide garage sale in Breaux Bridge. One at Farmers/Merchants Bank and one at Parc Hardy. Sat., Oct. 5th,8am-4pm

BREAUX BRIDGE LOUISIANA
CRAWFISH CAPITAL OF THE WORLD

Hebert's
Mark Hebert
Office (337) 228-7828
Cell (337) 247-6506
mhebert1234@yahoo.com
Hebert's Supermarket, Inc.
218 S. Main
Breaux Bridge, LA 70517
(337) 332-1434
Hebert's of Henderson
1046 C Henderson Hwy.
Breaux Bridge, LA 70517
(337) 228-7828
Hebert's Superette, Inc.
1101 Grandpoint
Breaux Bridge, LA 70517
(337) 332-2148



Taken in August, 2019



Taken in Sept. 2019



The Potato Shed Road bridge. It's still coming along nicely.

We would all like to see it finished. Y'all hang in there we'll be driving on it soon.



Rhyan Butts– 5 years old

Sept. is Alligator season. Yes, that's a real alligator and yes that's a real gun and yes she shot it!



That's Aubrey Prioux with Rhyan. They shot all those gators. Eat your heart out hunters.

I want to be able to do that when I grow up.

Ask Boudreaux

Dear Mr. Boudreaux, I have a problem with the little hair on my okra. Can I grow a variety that doesn't have hair?

Boudreaux-

I don't know of any.

But I have a suggestion. Put your okra in the washing machine on the gentle cycle. It works for me!

Don't forget to take them out, you can't cook them in there.





