



### Upcoming Events

#### Meeting Schedule 2009

May 13th at 7:30 am

McDonald's Headquarters

106 Oak Way

July 15

September 16

November 18

Locations to be announced.

Contact:

jan@upperlafayette.com

#### UPPER LAFAYETTE BOUNDARIES

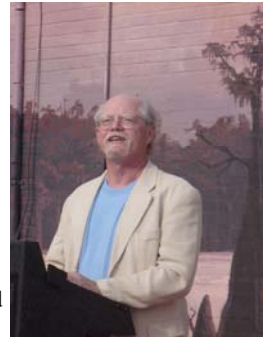


## UPPER LAFAYETTE ON THE MOVE....

### ROBERT DAFFORD TO PAINT MURAL IN UPPER LAFAYETTE

As first reported in our January 2009 newsletter, ULEDF has partnered with UL and Lafayette Consolidated Government to invigorate the I-10/University Avenue exit by cleaning the area, creating a mural depicting a UL logo, coordinating UL red and white landscaping with surrounding landowners, and improving the lighting in the area.

Robert Dafford, the acclaimed mural artist who hales from right here in Lafayette, has graciously stepped in to kick off our efforts! Mr. Dafford has over 35 years experience painting murals and has painted over 300 murals across the United States, Canada, France, Belgium and England; his works have revitalized downtowns in small communities and also exposed many people to art and culture who may otherwise never have had such an experience. We are grateful to have an artist of such talent and generosity of spirit working on our behalf.



Robert Dafford

Thanks again go out to Gerald Breaux and the Lafayette Convention and Visitor's Commission, Representative Joel Robideaux and Senator Mike Michot, who all facilitated the award of \$7,000.00 in grant monies to get us on our way. Additional funding will be needed to complete our vision for transforming of the area. Persons interested in donating to the fund are encouraged to contact Jan Swift at [jan@upperlafayette.com](mailto:jan@upperlafayette.com).

### TIF DISTRICT TO BE DISCUSSED AT MAY 13 MEETING

A TIF District proposed by the Evangeline Thruway Planning Committee will be discussed at our upcoming membership meeting to be held May 13, 7:30 a.m., at McDonald's headquarters, 106 Oak Way, in Lafayette. Our guest speakers include Lafayette City-Parish President Joey Durel, Neil Leboeuf and Mike Hollier of LCG's Planning Department, and our own Richard Leblanc, a member of the Evangeline Thruway team. We are also fortunate to have Ray Cornelius, Adams & Reese law firm, join us. Ray is renown for his in-depth knowledge of tax incremental financing, and is known locally as LEDA's bond attorney and as the author of Louisiana's TIF legislation. He will answer questions relating to how TIF monies are collected, the types of infrastructure development in which TIF dollars may be used and other related topics.



Ray Cornelius

Anyone interested in attending please rsvp to [jan@upperlafayette.com](mailto:jan@upperlafayette.com). Mr. Ed Krampe, McDonald's of Acadiana, is generously underwriting the breakfast. Many thanks to you Ed for your continuing generosity to our foundation!

### LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT... Todd Citron, Hub City Ford

Judging by our last meeting, Upper Lafayette is growing exponentially. I have traveled recently to other parts of the country as well as Puerto Rico and it is safe to say that Lafayette's economic climate is unique. We are growing while others are shrinking. We are enthusiastic while others are depressed. We believe that things will get better and other believe that they will get worse.

I am so proud of the people of Acadiana. Our culture is deeply routed in cautious optimism. It is this very optimism that will likely be the difference in the success or failure of our community. If we only watch national television and begin to buy into all the problems of the world, we will not remember that we are so blessed to be around quality people who work at and run quality businesses. Our business, Hub City Ford, is based on service. If we do not provide good service, we will not survive. The same can be said for the success of Upper Lafayette. If we put our minds, hearts, souls, and sometimes dollars into a common goal, we can accomplish something that our kids and grandkids will enjoy and be proud of for years to come.

Again, I urge you to join the sweeping momentum that this group has started. Our best days are yet to come. God Bless you, your families, and your vocations

# UPPER LAFAYETTE ON THE MOVE....

## CREOLE LUNCH HOUSE'S MERLINE HERBERT

Merline Herbert has touched many lives and has shared her love of cooking and taking care of hungry guests for over twenty-five years. Her charming restaurant, Creole Lunch House, located at 713 Twelfth Street, is a haven for simply delicious food. First time visitors and regulars alike are greeted with a big smile and a comfortable setting in which to savor her home cooking. Merline opened the Creole Lunch House in 1983 and has since expanded her operations to include a processing plant which makes and sells her trademark stuffed breads wholesale. The breads may be purchased at Lafayette General Hospital, Our Lady of Lourdes, Opelousas General, Champagne's deli, and convenience store delis around Acadiana.



Jan Swift & Merline Herbert

Crowds clamor for her three variations of stuffed breads: beef, sausage, cheese and jalapeno; Italian sausage, pepperoni and mozzarella cheese; or crawfish étouffée and rice. The plate lunches will also keep you coming back. Why not splurge and order the special of the day, be it chicken fricassee, red beans and sausage, or pork chops, along with your stuffed bread? Going off your diet never was so much fun!

Before she started cooking for a living, Herbert was an educator for 22 years, teaching at Paul Breaux Elementary and UL Lafayette, and retired as a principal at J. Wallace James Elementary. Her gentle, yet firm manner must have left an indelible mark on many youngsters. I can verify that today Ms. Merline is still an educator, having taught this author a thing or two about kindness, integrity and love. Merline, you are a special part of Upper Lafayette! Thank you for your many contributions to our culture.

*Upper Lafayette Economic Development Foundation is an association of proactive individuals and business leaders, joined together to be a catalyst for change. The Foundation's mission is to enhance and direct the positive, planned growth of Upper Lafayette, focusing on quality of life, while participating in the overall development of the Greater Lafayette Metropolitan Area.*

*Anyone desiring more information about our foundation is encouraged to call Jan Swift at (337)572-9877 Ext. 108 or email [jan@upperlafayette.com](mailto:jan@upperlafayette.com). Also, please visit [www.upperlafayette.com](http://www.upperlafayette.com) for a membership application and brochure.*



## Upper Lafayette Economic Development Foundation Members:

Acadian Ambulance Service, Inc.	IberiaBank	Schilling Distributing Co., Inc.
Acadiana Computer Systems, Inc.	Kidney Consultants of La.	Ken Simeral
Acadiana Rubber & Gasket	Lafayette Convention and Visitors Bureau	SLEMCO
Allstates Building Systems	Michelle Leder	Stevens RV Center
Aries Marine Corporation	LLLand, LLC	Stirling Properties, Inc.
ASH/Badger Oil Company	Lowry's Printing and Copying	Terry J. Rogers, Ltd.
Castille Properties	McDonald's of Acadiana	The Lolley Group, LLC
CENAC, Inc./ Acadian Hills Country Club	Flo Meadows	Sandy Thibodeaux
Joey Durel	Moss Motors	Whitney National Bank
Gulf States Real Estate Services	Michelle Mouton	Ron J. Gaubert Realtors
Home Furniture	Poche Prouet & Associates	John W. Milton
Hub City Ford	Republic Beverage Company	Don and Barbara McConnell
IberiaBank	MidSouth Bank	Acadiana C.A.R.E.S.
Bizzuka	Monty Warren	Stirling Properties, Inc.
Moss Motors	Ken Simeral	Sandy Thibodeaux
Richard Leblanc	Horace Guidry	Hallmark Jewelers