

DEATHS

FUNERALS TOMORROW

BAILEY, MRS. ADA LAPHAM — Greater New Galilee Baptist Church, Wibur St., at 8 p.m.

BANKSTON SR., CLYDE — Seale Funeral Home, Livingston, at 2 p.m.

OWENS, ELDRIDGE ANTHONY — Greater Mt. Carmel Baptist Church, at 8 p.m.

WALKER, TERRIANE DENISE — Greater Mt. Carmel Baptist Church, at 8 p.m.

WASHINGTON, MRS. CORA PEEK — McKowen Baptist Church, at 8 p.m.

FUNERALS TOMORROW

KENNEDY, MICHAEL W. — Rabenhorst Funeral Home East, 11000 Florida Blvd., at 9:30 a.m.

PIMON JR., JOE — St. Joseph Catholic Church, Ponchatoula, at 11 a.m.

REULET, RITA MAE BUCHER — Mass of Christian Burial at Our Lady of Mercy Catholic Church, at 10 a.m.

ROBERTSON, ROSA MOSES — Israelite Baptist Church, at 8 p.m.

WEISGERBER, DOROTHY LAWRENCE — Wilbert Funeral Home, Port Allen, at 10 a.m.

Lewis, Woodville, Miss. Preceded in death by parents, and a sister, Mrs. Francis McConell. He attended LSU, was cadet colonel and a member of Kappa Alpha Order. He was a 1930 graduate of the United States Naval Academy, Annapolis, Md., having graduated number one in his class and was regimental commander.

KENNEDY, MICHAEL W. Died at 5 p.m. Friday, Jan. 13, 1989, at Our Lady of the Lake Regional Medical Center. He was a native of Columbia and resident of Marietta, Ga., visiting at Rabenhorst Funeral Home East, 11000 Florida Blvd., at 8 p.m. Sunday, and 8 a.m. to religious services at 9:30 a.m. Monday. Graveside services at 11 a.m. at Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church Cemetery, Marietta, Ga. Survived by wife, Mary, and great-grandchildren, great-grandnephews, great-grandnieces and nephews. Preceded in death by wife, Icy G. Kennedy. He was a member of Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church, Knights of Columbus Council No. 2807, Carpenters Local No. 1098.

OWENS, ELDRIDGE ANTHONY Died Wednesday, Jan. 11, 1989, at his residence in Atlanta, Ga. He was 31, a native of Baton Rouge. He was a 1975 graduate of Scotlandville High School and a U.S. Navy veteran. Visiting at Greater Mt. Carmel Baptist Church, 5 p.m. to religious services at 8 p.m. Sunday, conducted by Dr. K.E. Poplon. Dismissal at 11 a.m. Monday. Burial in Southern Memorial Gardens. Survived by wife, Raymonna J. Owens; mother, Lucille E. Higgins, Baton Rouge; two daughters, Tiffany Owens, Baton Rouge, and Janice Owens, Atlanta; two granddaughters, Karina Higgins and Kendra Johnson, both of Atlanta; a brother, Eran Andre Owens, Shaw Air Force Base, S.C.; a sister-in-law, Kaikita C. Owens, Shaw Air Force Base; three brothers-in-law, maternal grandfather, Jeff Emery Sr., Baton Rouge; mother-in-law, Georgia E. Smith, New Orleans; grandmother-in-law, Victoria Thomas, New Orleans; three godparents; three aunts; three uncles, other relatives and friends. Preceded in death by maternal grandmother, Lubertha Q. Emery. He was a member of Thankful Baptist Church, Atlanta.

REULET, RITA MAE BUCHER Died 3:30 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 14, 1989, at Our Lady of the Lake Regional Medical Center. She was 65, a native of Poplar Bluff, Mo., and resident of Baton Rouge for 43 years. Visiting at Rabenhorst Funeral Home, 225 Government St., 2 to 9 p.m. Sunday, and 8 a.m. to 9:40 a.m. Monday. Mass of Christian Burial at Our Lady of Mercy Catholic Church, at 10 a.m. Monday. Survived by wife, Marie M. Reulet; two daughters, Susan Reulet, Baton Rouge, and Susan Reulet, Baton Rouge; two sons, Lucille Reulet Orso and Rita Mae Reulet, both of Baton Rouge; three sons, Steven A. Reulet Sr., Baton Rouge, Paul W. Reulet and Daniel A. Reulet, both of Plaquemine; four sisters, Teresa Butzen, Sreator, Ill.; Lena Lott, Chesterfield, Mo.; Norma Aubuchon and Martha Knoppe, both of Poplar Bluff; a brother, Paul Reulet, Baton Rouge; five granddaughters, Julie Carlisle, Dawn Orso, Monique, Charlotte, and Madejra Reulet, ten grandsons, Brian, Allen, and Marc Carlisle, John and Ray Orso, James Orso, Steven Reulet II, Charles, Logan and Justin Reulet. Pallbearers will be nephews and grandsons. Preceded in death by parents, John L. and Bertha W. Bucher, and a brother, Albert Bucher. She was a member of Our Lady of Mercy Catholic Church and Legion of Mary. Family requests memorial donations be made to Our Lady of Mercy Catholic Church, 465 Marquette Ave., 70806-4187, or American Kidney Fund.

WENGEMBER, DOROTHY LAWRENCE Died 3:30 a.m. Friday, Jan. 13, 1989, at Our Lady of the Lake Regional Medical Center. She was a native of Alexandria and resident of Erwinville. Visiting at Wilbert Funeral Home, Port Allen, 4:30 to 8 p.m. Sunday and 8 a.m. Monday. Religious services at 10 a.m. Sunday, conducted by Monsignor Robert Berggren. Burial in Resthaven Gardens of Memory, Baton Rouge. Survived by husband, Conrad Weisgerber, Erwinville; a stepdaughter, Connie Albrado, Baton Rouge; a stepson, Charles Weisgerber, Colver City, Calif.; two sisters, Cora Lee Roy, New Roads, and Ida Marie Levech, Virginia; a granddaughter, Sharon Manning, Baton Rouge; and two grand-grandchildren. Preceded in death by a daughter, Bonnie Whittell.

BANKSTON SR., CLYDE Died 2 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 14, 1989, at Seventh Ward Hospital, Hammond. He was a native and resident of Holden. He was a retired Ideal Cement Co. employee and a U.S. Navy veteran of World War II. Visiting at Seale Funeral Home, Livingston, 6 to 10 p.m. Saturday and 8 a.m. to religious services at 9 p.m. Sunday, conducted by the Rev. Berkly Boyd and the Rev. Carl Rushing. Masonic services at 7 p.m. Saturday. Burial in Lard Cemetery, Holden. Survived by wife, Margie H. Bankston; two daughters, Clara Osborne and Barbara Hodges, both of Holden; two sons, Kenneth W. and Clyde Bankston Jr., both of Holden; four sisters, Nina Mitchell and Ollie Stafford, both of Holden; Clara Breshears and Stella Wascom, both of Hammond; two brothers, Casey and John "Pete" Bankston, both of Holden; nine grandchildren; and a great-grandchild. Preceded in death by parents, John and Lydia Bankston; a son, Lester P. Bankston; five brothers, Marshall, Walter, Watson Kemp, Arthur, and Sam Bankston; three sisters, Edna Hernandez, Lydia Gaidroz, and Ijeil Grantham. He was a member of St. James Baptist Church, Holden, Masonic Lodge No. 418, Albany, and Order of Eastern Star, No. 235, Livingston.

FELTUS, MRS. MARY EDYTH K. (L. BODDES JR.) Died 6 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 14, 1989, at family residence in Baton Rouge after a lengthy illness. She was a native of Plaquemine. Arrangements are incomplete at Welsh Funeral Home, Garden City Chapel.

JACKSON JR., ANDREW McBURNEY Died 4:30 a.m. Wednesday, Jan. 11, 1989, in Annapolis, Md. He was 81, a native of Baton Rouge and resident of Annapolis. He was a retired U.S. Navy vice admiral, having entered the Navy as an ensign, went to the U.S. Naval Air Station in Pensacola, Fla., and became a naval aviator. During World War II he was a naval fighter pilot, commander of a naval fighter squadron, and served on several aircraft carriers in the Pacific Theater. Religious services were held at United States Naval Academy, Annapolis, Md., 11 a.m. Thursday. Burial was in Annapolis, Md., with full military honors. Survived by wife, Bertha Louise Lewis-Jackson, Annapolis; a daughter, Mrs. Beverly Young, Collierville, Tenn.; two granddaughters, Juliet Young and Brian Young, both of Collierville; and a son, Mrs. John Smith (Juliet Jackson).

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Commission working on proposals to untangle state pension systems

By John LaFrambo/
Capital News Bureau

A resurrected Louisiana Pension Commission has begun looking into the state's tangled pension setup with an eye toward proposing improvements during the spring regular legislative session.

Commission members will spend the next three months looking closely at specific problems associated with administration, investment policies and benefit structures of the state's retirement systems.

However, State Treasurer Mary Landry, who chairs the commission, said some of the problems confronting the debt-ridden retirement systems may take years of study.

"We must continue until we can really knock out our \$7.5 billion unfunded liability, and we're not going to do that overnight," Landry said.

"We need people who are going to be vigilant on that subject," she said.

The 12-member panel is composed mostly of administrators of the 13 public retirement systems that provide pension benefits for state employees, school employees, local government workers and elected officials.

A few other government agencies, such as the governor's office, also are represented, and some outside researchers and pension experts from private industry have been appointed.

The commission was created several years ago but remained dormant for lack of interest.

Landry hopes the new body, revived last year after state officials began to take seriously the cost of the retirement debt, will create "an atmosphere of frank debate" about pension problems.

Trawler runs aground



A Royal Air Force helicopter lowers a crewman onto the trawler Big Cat after the ship ran aground in high winds off the southwest coast of Bogenish Island, Ireland, Friday. Eleven crew members were rescued, but the Big Cat's captain, chief gunner and boatswain were swept overboard and presumed drowned after the vessel struck rocks in Valentia harbor.

\$1.7 million penalty proposed for Marine Shale Processors

The state proposed a \$1.7 million penalty against Marine Shale Processors Friday, alleging a number of violations in the way the firm handles hazardous waste.

The company is "discharging hazardous waste leachate" onto neighboring property and into Bayou Boeuf, according to the penalty notice from the Department of Environmental Quality.

The company, located in Amelia, has failed to "minimize the possibility of a fire" or explosion, and reported six fires at the site last year, the document states.

MSP has "failed to properly manage" one tank used to store ignitable hazardous waste, by using the tank "as a helicopter landing pad," the penalty notice says.

The company is storing hazardous waste in a hopper, a trailer, and in the "truck parking/dolly-down area," DEQ says. Some tanks don't have sufficient freepoint "to prevent overflowing by waves or wind action or by precipitation."

Some of the aggregate produced by the firm "fails to meet the treatment standards" in state regulations and MSP is "storing this hazardous waste, without having interim status or a permit, in waste piles."

Elizabeth Meggison of DEQ said the company reported it is not selling that material, but it intends to run it back through its kiln.

An MSP attorney declined to comment on the specifics of the penalty notice, saying the company had not been served with the document as of Friday evening.

The attorney, George Eldredge, did accuse DEQ of "seeking publicity and trying to prove how bad they are when they don't know what they're doing."

From what he has heard, the allegations sound "technical in nature and surely don't warrant a proposed fine," Eldredge said.

DEQ says some of the violations reflect "a high degree of recalcitrance, a pattern of repeated non-compliance, and indifference to regulations, and/or repeated discharges which created a potential risk to human health or the environment, and/or were reflective of a pattern of repeated non-compliance."

In a number of the allegations, DEQ says the problems were noted in previous inspections. The current allegations come from three days of inspections in October.

MSP is currently contesting a proposed \$2.8 million penalty issued by DEQ in October and been involved in a court battle with DEQ over a hearing the agency proposed to hold to address the question of whether MSP is a recycler or a hazardous waste incinerator.

Friday's penalty notice alleges the company shredded "drums previously containing ignitable hazardous waste, which in the event of a spark, fire, or build up of heat could result in an explosion."

Drum shredders did cause several fires in 1987 and 1988, according to the notice, which says the same problem was cited in a 1986 order.

MSP "failed to follow its waste analysis plan by accepting infectious waste..." the notice states.

The company also "failed to make a hazardous waste determination on waste streams being generated on-site," and shipped hazardous waste water it generated "to an inappropriate off-site facility without a manifest."

Eldredge complained Friday that someone in the governor's office had tipped off the press that a proposed penalty was going to be issued to MSP.

Hearing on proposed work ban concludes

By Marsha Shaler/
Capital News Bureau

An administrative hearing in which a Baton Rouge engineering firm is fighting a proposed three-year ban on federal highway work ended here Friday after three days of testimony that included testimony by former Gov. Edwin Edwards.

No ruling is expected for several weeks in the Federal-Highway Administration's debarment proceedings against Dawson Engineers, Inc.

Dawson is fighting the action, which stems from the firm's close ties to Edwards' former aide, Wayne Ray, who is in jail on a federal extortion charge.

Ray pleaded guilty last June to extorting money from Dawson and Roland W. Laurrot & Associates, also of Baton Rouge, in return for helping them obtain state highway contracts.

Washington-based attorneys represented both sides during the hearing, which included witnesses, introduction of grand jury testimony that had not been released previously and evidence submitted in federal court in connection with Ray's guilty plea.

Among the witnesses called by the FHWA were Bill Jack, who chaired the Department of Transportation and Development's engineers selection committee at the time in question, J.L. Wax, DOTD deputy secretary, Robert Groves, U.S. Department of Transportation, Office of Inspector General, and Blaise Carriere with Howard, Needles, Tammen and Bergendoff.

The Washington law firm of Miller, Cassidy, Larroca & Lewin, representing Dawson, called Edwards, Fred Lieux, president/owner of Dawson, Richard Shread, vice president of Dawson, and Greg Falgout, an employee of Laurent & Associates.

Lieux and Shread earlier filed written declarations, with federal officials claiming their firm engaged in no illegal dealings with Ray to get government work. Edwards backed their claims in a two-page statement of support filed with federal officials.

Key to Dawson's defense is that it never made any payments to Ray and that Dawson did not need a go-between to get to the governor. Edwards backs up the latter claim.

According to court records, Dawson did Laurent — between March 1984 and June 1987 — paid Ray approximately \$54,000 in cash, covered more than \$10,000 in charges made on credit cards provided Ray, provided him use of two leased automobiles on which payments exceeded \$19,000, and provided him unsecured loans of approximately \$40,000.

Edwards contends he alone made decisions on which firms would get engineering contracts. But Edwards' declaration is contrary to testimony presented by the prosecution in connection with Ray's guilty plea to the extortion count.

In a letter to Dawson, FHWA debarment official Ronald E. Hertz said the three-year work ban was being sought "because of the serious nature of the conduct and the obligation to safeguard the federal interest in free and open competition and to avoid misuse of funds."

The company had hoped the proceedings would be dropped based on written information and arguments submitted, but the FHWA proceeded to the administrative hearing stage.

During the proceedings, Dawson remains on suspension — meaning it cannot seek any new federally funded highway work.

Dawson's attorneys earlier said the temporary suspension is having a severe economic impact on the firm and that the work ban "would eliminate virtually all of Dawson's business."

"Debarment would cause Dawson Engineers to go out of business," the attorneys said in pleadings filed with federal officials.

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