

P.U.R.E. BMX Track to Open

[P.U.R.E. \(Pineville's Ultimate Racing Experience\) BMX](#) will have its **Grand Opening** the weekend of July 4-6. After outgrowing the former Kees Park location the BMX track was relocated next to Red River, just south of the Purple Heart Bridge (the Pineville Expressway bridge.) This site will allow for regional and national BMX races to be hosted in Central Louisiana as well as allow



Cenla riders to ride on one of the premier BMX tracks in the South.

As part of the Grand Opening, the [P.U.R.E. \(Pineville's Ultimate Racing Experience\) BMX](#) track will hold races each day, including a double-point qualifying race for the 2003 Louisiana State Championship Series and an [American Bicycle Association](#) (ABA) [Race for Life](#) event to benefit the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society of America. P.U.R.E. BMX is also hosting a Pro Rider Clinic with nationally ranked BMX Pro **Colin Stiles**. More information is available at the [P.U.R.E. BMX website](#).

City of Pineville's **Fireworks** over **Buhlow**

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Buhlow

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Bring the entire family out **Thursday Evening, July 3rd** for an evening of Music and Fireworks at Buhlow Lake! **Music begins at 6:00 p.m. with The BB Major, Blues Band! At 7:40 p.m. its Avery Michaels & Exit 209.**

The evening will then
9:00 p.m. by fireworks
will make you proud to

ADMISSION IS FREE! Full concessions will be available - no ice chest please. Bring your lawn chairs and blankets and come celebrate our Nation's independence under the stars by beautiful Buhlow Lake.



**The BB Major,
Blues Band**

Sponsored by the City of Pineville

Visit our website for more information:
www.pineville.net

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What a "Catch"

Robert Snyder of Pineville was the only competitor to record a perfect score of 150 at the Bassmaster Casting Kids semifinals in Tuscaloosa, AL on Saturday, May 17. He will now head to the finals in New Orleans this summer. Snyder, 13, has been working on his casting technique since he was 11. He not only practices with

standing targets, he does a lot of fishing the lake behind his house. (Read the full story at the [Bassmaster website.](#))

The Casting Kids competition, similar to the NFL's "Punt, Pass, Kick" program, is a scholarship program that rewards children for pitching, flipping and casting a hookless lure at a target from increasing distances. Snyder and 92 other children were representing their state BASS Federations in two age groups: 7-10 and 11-13. The children were competing for the chance to represent five geographic divisions at the national finals, which will be held in conjunction with the CITGO Bassmaster Classic, Aug. 1-3. Each of the divisions will send two children (one from each age group) to the finals, where the top-scoring child in each age group will walk away with a \$5,000 scholarship.

The City of Pineville salutes Robert Snyder's achievements and looks forward to celebrating his future successes with his family.

Another Day Closer

The center span of the new Kansas City Southern overpass on Main Street has been replaced with the newly constructed bridge built by Hayes Manufacturing Company of Pineville. The 90 foot span weighs approximately 200 tons and required cranes, rollers and several 100-ton jacks to be lifted into place. The \$5.1 million project began about a year ago and the bridge is now essentially complete. Work still remains to be done to Main Street which is being lowered to increase the clearance of the overpass. City officials hope Main Street will be open to through traffic by the end of summer.



Congratulations Seniors 2003!

[Pineville High School](#) held its 2003 graduation on Monday, May 19. A [report on the graduation](#) was submitted to Pineville.net by **Rebekah Gagnard**, a student at Pineville High. Congratulations to the senior class of 2003!

National Champs!

Pineville Mayor **Clarence Fields** declared Thursday, May 1st as "[Louisiana College](#) Lady Wildcat Day", in honor of the [Lady Wildcat Softball](#) team's [NCCAA National Championship](#). The Lady Cats capped an un-defeated run through the National Christian Collegiate Athletic Association's national softball tournament with a pair of 4-1 victories over NAIA power Olivet Nazarene. The Lady Cats finished the season 34-4, and with only two seniors and both star pitchers returning...the future is even brighter for the LC program. It was the first national title of any kind for the Pineville school.



Pineville WINS!!!



The City of Pineville has been awarded the "*2003 State Cleanest City Award*" for their category. Pineville won their district in April, and was competing against the cities of Rayne (defending champ), Bogalusa, and Morgan City. Pineville won category "D", for cities with populations between eight and sixteen thousand. Pineville Mayor **Clarence Fields** called the award a victory for all city employees and our citizens. "For the last couple of years, we have won district and fallen short of the top prize. This year, our employees took it to another level in preparing our city to be judged. Hats off to everyone who made it happen. It was a total team effort!" (Pictured left to right at the presentation of the "District Level" award were the judges visiting for the state competition: **Beth Rush** of New Orleans, **Mary Lou Robertson** of Baton Rouge, State Chairman **Cybil Colicchio** of Shreveport, **Margo Racca**, Mayor of Iowa, **Rosa Fields**, Mayor **Clarence Fields** and Councilwoman **Carrie Broussard**.) There are seven categories around the state, and Pineville's entry was sponsored by the Alexandria Garden Club, which is comprised of members from both Alexandria and Pineville.

RiverFest a Success!



The inaugural RiverFest - Heritage and Arts on the Red River, was an extreme success as far as first year festivals go. The Cities of Pineville and Alexandria joined their levees and downtowns to



provide Central Louisiana with a great weekend of music, food and art. Attendance for the day-and-a-half festival was just over 10,000, which meant a

lot of area residents found out just what Cenla has to offer. On the Pineville levee, Old Glory waved all it's 120-feet, with hot air balloon rides also greeting visitors on both sides. Plus, no one will forget the tremendous fireworks display from the Gillis Long Bridge! Sponsored by the City of Pineville, the fireworks capped off the conclusion to a successful evening. Organizers are already meeting to plan for the RiverFest 2004!



United in Prayer

Since 1952, the United States of America has recognized a National Day of Prayer. Congress amended their law in 1988 to declare the first Thursday in May for that purpose. For the last three years, Pineville Mayor **Clarence Fields**, Alexandria Mayor **Ned Randolph**, and the [Evangelical Pastor's Fellowship](#) have partnered to host a "Minister's and Mayor's Prayer Breakfast". The highlight of each year's event seems to be the very last thing on the program ... a concert of prayer around our elected leaders. Cheneyville Mayor **Carl Johnson** joined Mayors Fields and Randolph, as over 50 ministers and elected officials laid hands on and prayed for our local leadership.



Thanks for the Memories

The City of Pineville recently said goodbye to two dedicated city employees. On April 14th, city employees held a special appreciation lunch for **J.C. Williams** (center in picture at left), who retired after over 49-years of service to the city's wastewater department.

Supervisor **Thurman Kelly** and Mayor **Clarence Fields** showered J.C. with a plaque and proclamation. The Main Street Community Center was full of many well wishers to the city's most tenured hire. The next week Mayor Fields had the honor of proclaiming "Chief **Stanley Rogers** Day" (on left), in honor of the



Pineville Police Chief, who has stepped down after long career in law enforcement, and the last six heading the Pineville force. Good Luck gentlemen...and enjoy the time off you have earned!

Pineville's Newest Restaurant

The **China Queen** is now open! Located next door to K-Mart the China Queen offers an all-you-can-eat buffet with lots and lots of choices. They also have a Mongolian Bar B Q where you select your favorite raw meats and vegetables and they cook them for you right in front of your eyes. It is owned by the same family that has the Great Wall Chinese restaurant in Hwy 28E and the China King in Alexandria. The food is great and the service always is with a smile!



Lofton Drive Opens

Pineville's newest roadway was opened April 2nd, as the ribbon was cut on Lofton Drive, which connects Pinecrest Drive to the Wal-Mart Shopping Center. This was a joint project between the City of Pineville, Wal-Mart and the Spectra Group - owners of the new strip mall, which will be serviced by the new road. The Lofton Drive project provides two benefits to Pineville ... one is the economic benefit of better traffic flow in and out of Wal-Mart and the strip mall ... and secondly, the pressure that will be relieved on Highway 165 by offering another outlet to exit one of the busiest Wal-Marts in the southern region.

