

Shorts

News, notes and other mentionables



PHOTO COURTESY OF UNIVERSITY OF LOUISIANA SYSTEM

Ochsner's North Shore facilities go smoke free

Ochsner Health System has made all of its North Shore facilities smoke-free environments.

The initiative, which took effect March 1, means that no tobacco products of any kind can be used or consumed on Ochsner's campuses by employees, patients, visitors or vendors.

Dr. Alton Ochsner, one of the hospital's founders, is credited as being one of the first doctors to link tobacco use and lung cancer. After making the discovery in 1939, he spent the rest of his life working to educate the world on the dangerous effects of smoking.

"Evidence shows us that smoking or breathing secondhand smoke damages nearly every organ in the human body," said Dr. Edward Martin Jr., Ochsner North Shore medical director. "Smoking and secondhand smoke is also linked to at least 10 different cancers and accounts for some 30 percent of all cancer deaths. Because of this we think that not allowing tobacco products at our facilities is the right thing to do."

Southeastern Louisiana University Vice President for Student Affairs Marvin Yates, left, shakes hands with newly appointed university President John Crain.

Crain named Southeastern president

John Crain, formerly interim president of Southeastern Louisiana University, took the helm of the university on a permanent basis.

The University of Louisiana System's board of supervisors named Crain the university's 14th president. He will oversee Louisiana's third-largest public university with more than 15,000 students and an operating budget of \$124 million.

Crain, a 22-year veteran of the Hammond university, is a tenured faculty member and has also served as faculty

senate president, head of accounting department and provost and vice president for academic affairs.

Crain's permanent appointment is the culmination of a six-month search process that attracted 19 applicants from throughout the country. A 10-member search committee formed in August after previous Southeastern President Randy Moffett assumed the top position at the University of Louisiana System, which oversees Southeastern and seven other universities.

Bonefish Grill chooses Covington for first regional location

The Bonefish Grill opened a location in Covington, making it the first New Orleans-area franchise for the upscale national restaurant chain.

The 5,527-square-foot restaurant opened in March at 200 River Highlands Blvd.

"We are thrilled about opening Bonefish Grill here in Covington, a region so well known for its fishing and classic seafood dishes," said Jeff Blomeyer, managing partner of the Covington Bonefish Grill. "The site of our newest location is in an area of exciting development, and we look forward to being a part of that economic growth."

The restaurant specializes in market-fresh fish cooked over a wood-burning grill and offers eight species of fish daily, such as Icelandic Arctic charr, Florida grouper and Wild Alaskan Sockeye salmon, depending on what's in peak season.

The restaurant was founded in St. Petersburg, Fla., in January 2000 by veteran restaurateurs Tim Curci and Chris Parker in an effort to combine casual upscale dining with a big-city bar atmosphere.

Bonefish Grill features a dining room with an open kitchen and a bar with community tables, offering martinis, cocktails and 40 wines by the glass.



PHOTO COURTESY OF BONEFISH GRILL

The Bang Bang Shrimp is one of the signature dishes at Bonefish Grill, which recently opened a location in Covington.

Albertsons to open Mandeville location

Albertsons plans to open a new grocery store location this summer in the Premier Centre in Mandeville, according to **Stirling Properties**, the management and leasing firm for the shopping center.

The Boise, Idaho-based grocer will occupy a 59,000-square-foot space left by Sav-A-Center, which pulled out of the regional market in 2007. The space had been vacant for more than a year and a half, said Donna Taylor, vice president of asset management and new business development for Stirling Properties.

"(Albertsons) will fill a void much needed in this neighborhood center," Taylor said.

Other tenants in the shopping center include Old Navy, Barnes & Noble and Bed, Bath and Beyond.

"We're excited to be opening a new full-service food and drug store in southern Louisiana, and thrilled that, in doing so, we are bringing new jobs to the community," said William Emmons, president of the Dallas-Fort Worth Division of Albertsons.

A specific opening date had not been set as of press time at the beginning of March.

St. Tammany Parish Hospital Foundation reaches \$5M mark

The St. Tammany Hospital Foundation has reached the \$5-million mark for funds raised since its inception in 2003.

The foundation raises money through donations by individuals, patients, planned giving, corporate contributions, grants and event sponsorships.

The foundation also hosts annual fundraising events such as the WE Care employee campaign, Gurney Games, Monsther Mash and Angels of Light.

"Without our supporters' time, talent and treasure, this milestone could not have been reached," said Charley

Strickland, executive director for the foundation.

The foundation has funded programs and projects including the hospital's Healing Arts and Learning Together programs and a cashless system in the hospital cafeteria. Calls for funding have also yielded a Giraffe Omni Bed, which is a specialized incubator for the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit, a golf cart ambulance for transporting patients to and from the helipad, a rehabilitation playground and medical equipment including bedside monitors, microscopes, stand-on scales and Hover Lift systems.