



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

* * * * *

August 11, 2010

ASSESS the NEED Collects Over \$40,000 to Buy School Supplies for Livingston Parish Children *Program Completes 10th Successful Year*

LIVINGSTON, La. – This year’s Assess the Need school supply drive collected more than \$43,000 in donations and supplies to help provide school supplies for about 2,300 needy children in Livingston Parish.

This year’s school supply drive was the 10th consecutive campaign that Livingston Parish Assessor Jeff Taylor has sponsored to help families throughout the parish. Several local businesses and hundreds of volunteers also helped to support the campaign.

“We are excited about being able to help hundreds of needy families in our parish. We know our Assess the Need supply drive positively impacts so many. By giving our children the tools they need to succeed in the classroom, we’re also giving them hope for a better and brighter tomorrow. It’s a gift that keeps on giving,” Taylor said.

Taylor said the program has collected nearly \$420,000 worth of supplies in its 10 years of existence, helping hundreds of children throughout the parish. He also noted that Assess the Need helped collect another \$100,000 worth of school supplies for displaced students following Hurricane Katrina, bringing the campaign’s 10-year total to more than half a million dollars.

Taylor said the funds come from business sponsors and individual donations of supplies and monies. More than 100 volunteers helped to collect donations this year over three weekends at the Wal-Mart Stores in Denham Springs and Walker.

“Our program continues to be supported by so many, making it possible to help so many children,” Taylor said.

Taylor said coordinators worked with school officials to order supplies that were needed. All the supplies were purchased in bulk quantities from Wal-Mart, than sorted and stacked in the automotive area of the Literacy and Technology Center in Walker. Once that process was completed, representatives from each school were asked to drive through the center on August 4 – two days before the start of classes – and pick up the supplies for their respected schools.

The basic supplies distributed included notebooks, paper, scissors, glue, crayons, markers, construction paper, pencils, ink pens, rulers, pocket folders and book bags. Some schools received science and math lab materials, as well.

Taylor said there is no application process for assistance from the Assess the Need campaign. Persons needing help should contact their principals or school counselors.

This year’s ASSESS the NEED business and media sponsors included Wal-Mart stores of Denham Springs, Walker, BR-O’Neal Lane and Central; Livingston Parish News; WAFB-TV; The Advocate; Keller Williams Realty; McDonald’s of Baton Rouge; Gilmore & Son Construction; Ferrara Fire Apparatus; Taylor Media Services; Richard Price Contractors; Weyerhauser; Alvin Fairburn & Associates; Livingston Federation of Teachers; Ryan’s Family Steakhouse; AmVets Auxillary Post 68; EATEL; Pelican State Credit Union; Auto-Chlor Services; Entergy of Louisiana; Plantation Management; Bond-Wroten Eye Clinic; Forrest Grove Plantation; Smith Tank and Steel, Inc.; Pilot Club of Denham Springs; Boyer, Hebert & Abels, Attorneys at Law; Hancock Bank; Redeeming Life; Capital One Bank; Henderson Auctions; Retired Teachers of Livingston Parish; C-Del, Inc.; Lamar Advertising; Team Honda; Team Toyota; Clear Channel Communications; Life Publishing; Dr. Michael Sceroler, DDS; Livingston Kiwanis Club; Unity Prayer Center; Denham Springs Lions Club; M.A. Allen Realty Group; Venessa

Lewis Graphic Design; Livingston Parish Sheriff Willie Graves; Denham Springs Rotary Club; Mary Lee Donuts of Denham Springs; and Volks Constructors.

For More Information, Contact:

www.AssesstheNeed.com

Jeffrey G. Taylor
Livingston Parish Assessor
225-686-7278 or 225-921-1554
lpajgt@aol.com

Delia A. Taylor, APR
Taylor Media Services
225-931-0286
taylormedia@bellsouth.net