



Parish of Ascension

OFFICE OF THE PARISH PRESIDENT

TOMMY MARTINEZ
Parish President

July 16 declared Donald Songy Day in Ascension Parish

**Contact: Scott Rabalais (225) 621-5753; E-mail: srabalais@apgov.us
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: July 16, 2010**

GONZALES – Retired Ascension Parish School System Superintendent Donald Songy was honored for his nearly four decades of service during the Parish Council meeting on Thursday, July 15.

Parish President Tommy Martinez issued a proclamation in Songy's honor, declaring Friday, July 16 "Donald Songy Day" in Ascension. He also presented Songy a ceremonial key to the parish.

Songy served as Superintendent of Schools from 2006 until his retirement on July 1. Songy spent all but one year of his career as an educator and administrator with Ascension Parish schools since he began working as a teacher in 1972.

Under Songy's leadership, Ascension Parish schools enjoyed unprecedented growth and success. Five new schools were opened during Songy's tenure as superintendent – with a sixth currently under construction.

With rapid growth came new heights in terms of academic excellence. The Ascension Parish School System was recently rated the fourth-best in the state, its highest ranking ever.

"We've created something here in Ascension Parish that I don't think exists anywhere else in the state with any other school system: a culture of excellence," Songy said.

#

In other news from Thursday's council meeting, the Parish Council approved a request to close the middle entrance to the Lakes at Ascension Crossing subdivision on Slalom Way just off LA 621. A majority of residents in that subdivision supported the request, citing a desire to reduce through traffic and crime in their neighborhood.

The next Parish Council meeting is scheduled for Thursday, Aug. 5 at 6 p.m. in Donaldsonville.

Captions for photos



Council.meeting.071510 013 – Former Ascension Parish Superintendent of Schools Donald Songy (holding presentation) was honored at the July 15 Parish Council meeting. Parish President Tommy Martinez (second from left) presented him with a proclamation declaring July 16 Donald Songy Day in Ascension Parish and a key to the parish. Also pictured are Council Chairman Pat Bell (far left), Mr. Songy's wife Kerry and Parish Councilman Dempsey Lambert (far right).

#



Council.meeting.071510 008 – Parish President Tommy Martinez (right) presents a Certificate of Bravery to 8-year-old Jordyn Melancon (second from right) for saving his 3-year-old brother Jaydyn (front) from drowning in a neighbor's pool on May 9. To their left is their father, Joshua Melancon.

#



Council.meeting.071510 008 – Parish President Tommy Martinez presents a Certificate of Excellence to Olivia Hill at the July 15 Parish Council Meeting. Hill, who graduated this year from St. Amant High School, has been named Junior ROTC Cadet of the Year by the Louisiana American Legion.

#