

A Business News Review

ENERGY/Etc.



'Best Buddies' work at Amelia Belle Casino

Through Best Buddies Louisiana's Buddies At Work project, three participants worked at the Amelia Belle Casino on July 13.

Those participating in the program at the local casino were Shandrekia Shorty, who shadowed administrative assistant Theodore "TC" Bazile, as the latter worked the casino's switchboard and greeted visitors; and Jonquoin Williams, who helped human resources staff assemble binders of orientation and training materials. All three have a developmental disability.

They participated in the program through Lutchter-based Reaching Seniors Inc.

"Our employees enjoyed working along side Shandrekia, TC and Jonquoin," casino Human Resource Director Michelle Newman said. "All three have a great work ethic and bring a positive energy to the workplace."

The Buddies at Work initiative is designed to raise awareness of abilities disabled people can use in the workplace.

"The goal of Buddies At Work is two-fold: educate employers, entrepreneurs and government leaders on the positive financial benefits of employing people with intellectual or developmental disabilities and demonstrate the abilities of people with disabilities in meaningful work activi-

ties," Buddies At Work volunteer manager Megan Knapp said.

The Louisiana Development Disabilities Council funds Buddies At Work, a nonprofit organization.

"A little more than 50 percent of people with

disabilities who are of working age are employed full-time," Best Buddies Louisiana Program Supervisor Lori Moore said. "People with disabilities should be incorporated into the workplace atmosphere, because they have just as much to provide as anyone else does."

CIS opens Youngsville clinic

To make cardiovascular care more accessible for the Youngsville community, Cardiovascular Institute of the South opened a clinic there.

The new location is at 1516 Chemin Metairie, Suite 100 B.

Dr. Wade May began seeing patients there on Monday.

CIS is a comprehensive cardiovascular medical practice specializing in preventing, detecting and treating heart and vascular disease.

CIS provides a range of medical services, including cardiac and vascular evaluations and treatments, electrocardiography, treadmill stress testing, echocardiography, nuclear medicine studies, computed tomography scanning and cardiac-related patient counseling.

May will continue to see patients in Lafayette, while beginning to see patients in Youngsville.

An Alexandria native, May has served as a CIS staff cardiologist in Lafayette since 2009. He is board certified in internal medicine, cardiovas-

lar care in an area with one of the industrialized world's highest incidences of heart disease.

In addition to the Youngsville practice, CIS has nine other clinics in Houma, Thibodaux, Raceland, Galliano, Morgan City, New Iberia, Lafayette, Opelousas and Zachary.

"CIS has a long history of using state-of-the-art technology, and I am sure that the people of Youngsville will benefit from what CIS has to offer," May said.

CIS is one of the most respected groups of cardiologists, representing nearly every specialty in heart and circulatory medicine.

With a team of nearly 500 members, CIS serves communities throughout Louisiana, and national and international patients, at its 10 clinics.

CIS consistently positions itself at the forefront of technology by providing the most up-to-date technology coupled with compassionate care.



THREE PARTICIPANTS WERE allowed to work at the Amelia Belle Casino on July 13 through Best Buddies Louisiana's Buddies At Work Project. The participants are members of Lutchter-based Reaching Seniors Inc. From left are Best Buddies Louisiana volunteer manager Megan Knapp, Reaching Seniors'

Shirley Green, participant Shandrekia Shorty, Louisiana Developmental Disabilities Council Program Monitor Robbie Gray, participant TC Bazile, Amelia Belle Human Resource Director Michelle Newman, participant Jonquoin Williams and Best Buddies Louisiana Program Supervisor Lori Moore.