

IN THE NEWS

Sales and Use Tax Commission meeting scheduled

The Union Parish Sales and Use Tax Commission will hold its regular meeting Thursday at 10 a.m. Due to construction, the meeting will be held in the Jury room of the UP Police Jury Complex.

Lake drawdown scheduled

The 4-year drawdown for Lake D'Arbonne is scheduled to begin September 8 and end November 15. Plan your dock/pier/seawall work accordingly. Reach out to the LDWF for vegetation issues.

Union Parish Crimestoppers

Crime Stoppers of Union Parish will pay up to a \$1000.00 for any information that leads to a felony arrest and/or indictment. You do not have to give your name or appear in court. Call (318) 368-9679.

How to reach the UP Sheriff's Office

To reach the Sheriffs Office: Dial 368-3124 Fax: 318-608-3000 Civil Office: 318-368-2510 Civil Office Fax: 318-368-7691

Community Calendar

- Aug 21, 5 pm – Union Parish Outreach Meeting
- Aug 24, 1:00 pm – US Senator Bill Cassidy Participates in Chamber Zoom Meeting
- Aug 24, 6:00 pm – Union Parish Humane Society at 401 W. Franklin St.
- Aug 26, Noon - Tourism Commission Meeting at State Park
- Aug 28, 6:00 pm – “Jaws” Movie on the Water at Rhett's
- Sep 3-5 – Mayhaw Festival, Beauty Pageant & Parade, Marion (CANCELLED)

Parish, Town pass millage assessments

By Byron Avery
news@fgazette.com

At regular meetings over the last 2 weeks, both the Union Parish Police Jury and the Town of Farmerville approved resolutions to levy their annual millages on property owners.

The town council approved 8.8 mills for the general fund and 7.9 mills for fire protection facilities.

On the Police Jury side, millages were approved as follows: general fund, 2.79 mills; road construction (construction and improvements of

roads and bridges), 5.13 mills; road maintenance (roads and bridges), 6.15 mills; Council on Aging (maintenance), 1.63 mills; Union Parish Library (operation and maintenance), 2.4 mills; UP Library (support), 1.0 mills.

According to Union Parish Tax Assessor Lance Futch, one mill is currently valued at 1/1000 of market value of property owned.

So, for example, the 8.8 mills for the Town would be .0088x1000 for every \$10,000 in property value owned inside the city limits, or \$8.80 for every \$10,000. “This is a reassess-

ment year,” said Futch. “Real estate is assessed every four years and personal property is assessed every year. Even if the millages stay the same, the taxes could change because of reassessment.”

For the entire parish including all municipalities:

Total assessed value \$190,587,448

Less homestead \$35,623,448

Total taxable value \$154,964,105

For Inside the city limits of Farmerville: Total assessed value \$28,417,632

Homestead does not effect the city taxes.

All land is assessed at 10 percent of market value. Residential structures are assessed at 10 percent of market value. Commercial structures are assessed at 15 percent of market value. All figures are based on the certified 2019 Grand Recap.

Businesses inside Farmerville are assessed millages for both entities, since Farmerville is inside the parish. The road millages for the parish, for construction, improvement and maintenance, total 11.28 mills. That's \$11.28 per \$10,000 in market value. Union Parish has roughly 1,000 miles of road.

WELCOME NEW BUSINESSES



Gazette photos by Charlotte Madden

Members of the Union Parish Chamber of Commerce, along with employees, family and friends, celebrate the official opening of two new Union Parish businesses. Union Diner (top photo) is open seven days a week. Ro Ro's Snack Shack has a varied menu with lunches and snacks.



Submitted photo

Wind blown big rig

This 18-wheeler blocks the bridge at Ruston Ramp Rd. The rig was stopped for traffic and the wind from Thursday's storm caused it to overturn.

Union Parish, other state schools plan to use hybrid learning models

Staff Report

About 86 percent of public schools in Louisiana are either operating or intend to operate a hybrid learning model, combining in-person and online learning, state Superintendent of Education Cade Brumley said.

Union Parish Schools are among those adopting a hybrid learning model. With almost all students accounted for at the time of the monthly school board meeting 58 percent chose all virtual learning while 42 percent chose the hybrid model.

See **SCHOOLS**, page 5



TAYLOR

Taylor steps down after 11 terms

By Charlotte Madden
news@fgazette.com

What is a legend? Merriam Webster defines a legend as a person or thing that inspires. Many know the legends of Paul Bunyan and Davy Crockett and their legendary adventures. There are also sports legends like Babe Ruth, Jackie Robinson, Terry Bradshaw and Karl Malone. Some even consider celebrities and entertainment artists to be legends. However, sometimes, if a town or community is incredibly lucky and the stars align exactly right, they might just be blessed enough to have a legend living among them. Farmerville has just such a blessing in Jerry Taylor.

Taylor was born on August 11, 1941, the youngest of eight children born to Firmy Taylor and Mattie Lee Canterbury Taylor. Taylor grew up in Truxno, and while he remembers humble beginnings, they are fond memories. “We were raised very poor but we never went hungry,” Taylor said.

Truxno had two stores and on Sundays, Taylor reminisces about playing baseball with friends, sitting on the bench at one of the stores visiting and perhaps sneaking a watermelon or two. Taylor graduated from Farmerville High School in 1959 and his first desire was to serve his country. However, due to his extremely small size at the time, the army turned him down.

Now he was faced with mapping out a plan for his future. What does a young man in 1959 do when he is pondering the path his life will take and figuring out how to find a job? Well, he goes to the local barbershop of course. Taylor walked into the barbershop to get a haircut and visit. While in there, Henry Albritton asked him what he was going to do. Taylor relayed that he first needed to find employment. As he exited the barbershop, Albritton was standing there waiting for him and offered him a job at Claiborne Electric. Taylor accepted that job and little did he know it, but his future was set at that moment.

See **TAYLOR**, page 5

The Gazette

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CHURCH NEWS

A Deliverance Ministries

Regular services are prayer on Mondays at 6 p.m., Bible study on Wednesdays at 6 p.m., and morning worship is every Sunday at 10:30 a.m. 318-368-2634.

Antioch Baptist

Weekly servicetimes are: Sunday – Sunday school, 10 a.m. and worship service at 11 a.m. and 6 p.m. and Wednesday – 6:30 p.m. The church is located at 3501 Louisiana 828 in Farmerville. 368-3591.

Bethel Temple Pentecostal Church

2144 Hwy 33 North, Marion, Sunday school 11:00 A.M Worship Service 12:00 P.M Phone 318-608-6766

Blooming Grove Baptist Blooming Grove Baptist Church, where the Rev. Lester C. Sims is pastor, is located at 702 Martin Luther King Jr. Dr. in Farmerville.

Dean Baptist

Dean Baptist Church is having one service on Sunday mornings, 9am. Speakers are set-up outside if you prefer to stay in your vehicle, can tune into the radio from your vehicle. Prayer and Bible study Wednesday night, 6:30 pm

Please be in prayer for: Summer Lum, Chris Finklea, Rowenna Patterson, Renita Thomas, Janie Scarborough, Judy Smith, Kaitlyn Rhodes, Bessie Mae Ray, Brent Franklin, Jerry Brantley, Annie Brantley, Connie Cole, Leroy Cole, Juanita Rhodes, Dewey Rhodes, Buster Wisecarver, Joe Brantley, and Bonnie Brantley.

Special prayers for our country and President. The devil is hard at work..

Evergreen Baptist Church

For more information call (318) 285-9484.

Farmerville United Methodist Church

Rev. Hank Hamilton INVITATION: Sunday mornings at 11am on Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/hank.hamilton.12 - or - come to either of our services: 9:30 or 11am. CALL TO RESERVE your Sunday Service seat.

(318) 368-3840 301 Anthony Street Social Distancing observed – Masks required–Hand Sanitizer provided

GRATEFUL or THANKFUL? Dictionaries tell us that thankful is an awareness of kindnesses to be received and the benefits of them. And that when we are deeply appreciative of that kindness, we feel grateful.

How many times is gratitude mentioned in the Bible? Thankfulness comes up 71 times in the New

Testament. The definition: “To show oneself grateful, to be thankful, to give thanks.”

We’re grateful to friends and family for favors done for us. We express that gratitude with thankfulness. We are often thankful that sad/bad things in our lives weren’t more tragic. Grateful to those who helped us through our life struggles... family, friends, doctors, nurses and teachers, etc. We are thankful to God for putting such people in our paths.

We are grateful for the largest and the smallest of blessings that come our way in many forms. We raise up our voices in praise and thanksgiving to God for His grace and His mercies.

The good things you have in life are thanks to God. Psalm 95:2-3 “Let us come before him with thanksgiving and extol him with music and song. For the Lord is the great God, the great King above all gods.”

But... when we refuse to be thankful or to express gratitude, we grow hard-hearted and proud. Romans 1:2 “For people will be lovers of self, lovers of money, proud, arrogant, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy...” 2 Timothy 3:2

Don’t let this become you... “Continue steadfastly in prayer, being watchful in it with thanksgiving.” Colossians 4:2 Don’t rush through your prayers; have true conversations with God through them.

“Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.” Thesalonians 5:16-18

First Baptist Farmerville

Bro. Kurt’s message, “Focused on Prayer,” is based on Philippians 4:4-7. “4 Rejoice in the Lord always: and again I say, Rejoice. 5 Let your moderation be known unto all men. The Lord is at hand. 6 Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication let your requests be made known unto God. 7 And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.” (King James Version)

The Apostle Paul is closing out his letter to the Church. Both are going through persecution and struggles. Throughout his letter, he has emphasized, over and over, living with joy. He tells them to rejoice! Be gentle and controlled. Trust the Lord. And pray – giving thanks and making your requests. Then God’s Word tells us if we do this, peace will be in our life.

Prayer is something so simple - yet SO powerful. In fact, it may seem too easy, and we sometimes don’t take it seriously. Maybe we’re looking for something dramatic to take place, for someone to do or say something to restore peace in our lives. Maybe we are looking to the wrong things or the wrong people.

Church, look to God. With faith and trust in Him, joining ourselves in the work of God through prayer, we realize we don’t have to “fix it”, God can! We are to go before the Lord in prayer for healing, for peace, for making decisions, concerning an enemy, for opportunity, for salvation, for strength, for patience. Go before the Lord in prayer with requests for yourself and others.

Even when life is hard, and everything around us seems to be falling apart, we have a God of all power and control watching over our lives! In a time when it is very hard to trust anything today, we can be thankful that we can trust God!

Focus on God through prayer and be persistent. “And the peace of God, which passes all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.” There is peace in Jesus, even in the storm.

During the transition to normalcy, we will continue to offer multiple opportunities to worship together. For more information, visit our website, www.fbcfarmerville.com or our Facebook page. Our address is 400 North Main, Farmerville; phone 318.368-3848.

First Baptist Church — Marion

In the 60’s a magazine cover said “God Is Dead.” As the world

spins in chaos some may wonder if that is true. At FBC Marion there is manifold evidence that God is alive,

Jesus lives and the Holy Spirit continues to work. Ask Michael Thomas, Dustin Andrews, Shep Towns or Sawyer Towns if Jesus still saves. Three great weeks of baptizing and watching God work in the midst of all Satan is trying to do shouts “God Is Not Dead.” Bro. Bubba preached today from II Samuel 10. David and his people were vastly outnumbered for battle. Surely they must have felt as Christians today do looking at what seemed to be a hopeless situation. They didn’t know whether they would be temporarily defeated or whether God would amazingly deliver them. Listen to what they said in II Samuel 10:12, “Be of good courage, and let us play the men for our people, and for the cities of our God; and the Lord do that which seemeth Him good.” Our purpose as Christians is to be courageous and live like warriors in the Army of God and leave the results to Him. Take heart fellow Christians, “He’s got the whole world in His hands.”

Catch FBC Marion on our Facebook page, you tube or Bayou Cable.

PRAY FOR EACH OTHER, OUR CHURCH, OUR NATION, AND OUR LEADERS.

Haile Church of Christ

Webster defines “legalism” as a strict, literal or excessive conforming to the law or to a religious or moral code. The definitions of “liberalism” include the freedom of restraint and licentiousness. Legalist may charge those with views of the Scripture less rigid than their own as liberalists. On the other hand, those with a more lenient view of Scripture may accuse those with stricter views as being legalists. Is there a “weigh station” or “happy medium” between legalism and liberalism? There is, and it is grace! Grace instructs through the written word (Titus 2:11-12), and a theme throughout the New Testament is to abide within the doctrine of Christ, pay close attention to doctrine and

expose strange or false doctrines (2 John 9-11; 1 Timothy 4:16; Hebrews 13:9, etc.). Grace is not licentiousness (Jude 4), and prohibits taking liberty with God’s word. A precise pattern for obeying the gospel, worship and every aspect of Christ’s teaching is revealed (Romans 6:17-18; John 4:24; Philippians 3:17). Striving to follow Christ’s teachings as closely as possible isn’t legalism, unless one depends on their own ability to life perfectly. Since all sin and fall short (Romans 3:23), earning one’s salvation through merit is impossible. If one obeys all of Christ’s commands, they remain “an unworthy servant” (Luke 17:10). Why? Because of sin!! Grace provides a remedy; but only for those who “walk in the light” and do not practice sin (1 John 1:5-9; 3:9). “Walking in the light” doesn’t allow legalism or liberalism. Grace teaches that faith that comes from God’s word is essential (Hebrews 11:6) and an acceptable faith is an obedient faith (James 2:14-26) with total reliance on Christ’s blood for pardon.

Bible study: Sundays 9:30 a.m.; 6 p.m.; Wednesdays 7 p.m.

Lakeview Missionary Baptist Church

10078 Hwy 15, Farmerville Bro. Dan Hall, Pastor Bro. Paul Paschal, Associate Pastor News by: Donna Holman Schedule of Services

Sunday School 10:00am Worship Service 11:00am Sunday Evening 6:00pm Wed. Bible Study 6:00pm A Welcoming Home To All!

Tuesday, Aug. 11th, What a great night of fellowship the ladies had! Our guest speaker, Linda Darden, did an amazing job and we would like to thank Sis. Candi for asking her to come. If you are missing Ladies Night, you are sure missing a blessing. (Do to circumstances I was unable to attend and copied this comment from our church bulletin written by Sis. Kerri.) The next Ladies Night is scheduled for September 8th. Details to come.

Wed. Bible Study, Aug. 12th, Bro. Dan’s message was from James Chapter 5. (8) Be ye also patient; stablish your hearts: for the coming of the Lord draweth nigh.

Sunday School, August. 16th, Bro. Paul taught from John Chapter 1: 34-51 and Chapter 2: 1-11. Jesus turned water into wine. (11) This beginning of miracles did Jesus in Cana of

See **CHURCH**, page 3



SHRIMP BUTTER BEANS

1 lb. frozen Butter Beans
2 Tbsp. garlic butter
½ tsp. salt 1 cup Seasoning Blend
2 Tbsp. chopped garlic
Cajun Blackened Seasoning
28 oz. of water
1 lbs. of deheaded, peeled raw shrimp (35-45 count size)

In skillet sauté well seasoned shrimp, Seasoning Blend and 1 Tbsp. chopped garlic in butter, and cook until pink, turn off and set aside, stir in one oz. water to make a gravy.

In 5 quart thick sided pot, add beans, 28 ozs. water, 1 Tbsp. chopped garlic, ½ tsp. Salt, cover and bring to boil, stir often to ensure beans do not stick to bottom of pot. Once it begins to boil turn to medium heat and cover. Cook beans until beans are soft and begin to burst to make a gravy. Once beans are tender you can help the process by mashing some beans to help thicken your gravy. Turn heat to simmer. Add cooked shrimp, stir well and simmer for 15 minutes, or until beans are soft and gravy thick. Salt to taste, serve over rice.

Bon Appetite'

Joe Cusimano is a private attorney in Farmerville who serves as town attorney for Bernice and Farmerville. The New Orleans area native also likes to cook.



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WEATHER REPORT

IN HONOR OF RONNIE DEAN

Thursday, August 20	HIGH 87°	LOW 65°	PREC. 10%
Friday, August 21	HIGH 88°	LOW 67°	PREC. 10%
Saturday, August 22	HIGH 90°	LOW 69°	PREC. 10%
Sunday, August 23	HIGH 91°	LOW 70°	PREC. 20%
Monday, August 24	HIGH 92°	LOW 70°	PREC. 10%
Tuesday, August 25	HIGH 87°	LOW 71°	PREC. 20%
Wednesday, August 26	HIGH 90°	LOW 72°	PREC. 10%
Thursday, August 27	HIGH 88°	LOW 69°	PREC. 50%



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Louisiana begins borrowing process to replenish unemployment fund; higher business taxes on deck

Gazette News Services

The Louisiana Workforce Commission has begun the process of borrowing money from the federal government to replenish the state's unemployment trust fund, LWC Secretary Ava Dejoie said Friday. The fund currently stands at about \$245 million, compared to more than \$1 billion before the COVID-19 pandemic began. The unemployment fund is on pace to be insolvent in about four weeks, and federal law requires the states to continue paying benefits. To pay back the loan,

the state will have to impose a "solvency tax" on businesses of up to 30 percent of their quarterly unemployment tax rate. Companies also face higher taxes when the fund balance is low because more of their wage base becomes taxable. Dejoie is "still holding out hope" Congress will approve more aid that states can use to replenish their funds to avoid raising taxes on businesses. New unemployment claims for last week dropped to 11,131 from the previous week's total of 13,402. For a pre-pandemic compar-

ison, during the week ending August 10, 2019, 2,081 initial claims were filed. The four-week moving average of initial claims decreased to 18,781 from the previous week's average of 22,586. Continued claims for unemployment benefits fell to 299,974, compared to the prior week's total of 327,467. The continued claims were above the comparable figure of 17,513 for the week ending August 10, 2019. However, those numbers do not include about 150,000 self-employed and gig workers who are not eligible for state unemployment

benefits (because they don't have employers paying into the system) but are receiving federal pandemic unemployment assistance, economist Stephen Barnes said. So Louisiana still has about 450,000 people getting unemployment benefits, he said. The leisure and hospitality sector has been hit hardest, economist Loren Scott said. That sector has faced closures and restrictions meant to control the spread of COVID-19 along with a general reluctance to travel amid the pandemic. Scott said construction in Louisiana has

experienced the second-most losses. Plants and refineries have laid off contractors, and planned investments in the petrochemical sector have been delayed, he said. New Orleans has seen the greatest number of job losses relative to its overall workforce and in absolute terms, he said, which is not surprising since tourism and hospitality are so important to the city. Scott said the Lake Charles area has had the second-most job losses by percentage. That's partly because of the heavy petrochemical presence, he said, but

also because it is the state's largest gaming market. Louisiana's casinos were shut down during the early stages of the pandemic and now are operating at half capacity. Scott is predicting a recovery during the second half of this year and estimates job losses for the year will be about 105,000, or about 5.3 percent of the workforce. That would represent the state's worst recession since the 1980s, he said. During the 1980s, the losses happened over six years, Scott said. This time, it only took two quarters.

CHURCH NEWS *(Continued from page 2)*

Galilee, and manifested forth his glory; and his disciples believed on him. Sis. Liz opened Worship Service with a beautiful song which was sung from the heart and enjoyed by all. Worship Service, Aug. 16th, Bro. Dan's message was from Isaiah Chapter 50: 10-11. God doesn't want any to be in darkness; He wants all to be in the Light. Without God where would we be? God is always in control. Without your commitment to God, you are doomed to despair. Let God have his way. Always keep faith. It's time for Christians everywhere to stand up and rally around our church and in our belief in Jesus Christ.

Sunday Evening, Aug. 16th, Bro. Dan's message was from 1 Chronicles Chapter 29: 1, 6-13, 20. (9) Then the people rejoiced, for that they offered willingly, because with perfect heart they offered willingly to the Lord: and David the king also rejoiced with great joy.

Giving is the beginning of growth. Giving and giving of ourselves satisfies us; want takes us away from God. Giving brings us to God. Giving overcomes wanting/anger and brings us joy. When joy comes into your heart, your no longer angry; makes us feel blessed, lifted up and special. Prayer takes doubt away and gives us confidence. Worship overcomes selfishness.

Bro. Robert opened evening service with song of praise to our Lord, Jesus Christ. We always enjoy hearing Robert sing.

September 12th, LMBC will be having a Church Yard Sale. There will be lots of items from several families. LMBC will also have hamburger plate lunches for \$8 each. All proceeds are to go to our

building fund. LMBC still has cookbooks for sale. The cost is \$15 each with 300 recipes. To order one call Donna at (318) 548-2699. Proceeds from the sales go to LMBC's building fund. We welcome everyone at LMBC. If you are in need of a Church Home, join us and become part of our wonderful Church Family!

Liberty Missionary Baptist Church – Spearsville

We are still studying the book of Amos, where he tells of God's judgment and compassion. We need to follow Amos in intercessory prayer for others and in obeying the Lord's commands rather than persons – even those in leadership roles. We need to remain faithful to God as we face opposition in our time.

Bro. Brandon brought the message Sunday night and challenged us to be the witnesses God expects us to be. We had our monthly fellowship afterwards.

We have had several out sick and want them to know they are in our prayers and that we miss them.

We have Sunday School at 10; worship service at 11; evening service at 5:30; and Wednesday night Bible Study at 6. We invite you to come study God's Word and fellowship with us as we keep pressing on for Jesus.

We invite others to come worship with us.

Mt. Tabor Baptist

Hwy. 2
Farmerville, LA
318-368-9039

Sunday School is at 9:45 a.m.; Sunday Morning Service is at 10:45 a.m.; Sunday Evening Bible Study is at 6 p.m.; and Wednesday Night Bible Study is at

6:30 p.m. Please feel free to call us if you have any questions regarding Mt. Tabor or would just like additional information.

My Father's House

My Father's House Teach one to be one. Jesus was with the disciples for three years. He was with them 40 days before going to heaven. If you have read Acts 1 and 2 you would know this. The promise of God was given to Jesus and the promise was fulfilled. The Holy Spirit came upon the disciples and the preaching began. Jesus had made it clear that there would be false teachers. Jesus said also, the way is narrow that leads to life and few find it. T12B1 will make disciples of Jesus, disciples of Jesus get to know God. In Matthew 5 Jesus opened his mouth telling them about the kingdom of heaven. The faithful disciples will inherit the earth. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness. In Matthew 6, Jesus gave instructions on how to get something from God our father.

The disciples learned from the teacher for God to forgive, one must forgive according to Jesus. Jesus taught the disciples about the eye. He told them about log and specks. He mentioned hypocrites. In verses 6 and 7 Jesus explains the law and the prophets. Jesus told them about trees and how to recognize them. Have you read his words beware of false prophets, they will come to you in sheep clothing. Don't forget this. Join Joseph at My Father's House at 4774 Highway 151 Downsville, La 71234.

For more information call or text 318-620-9293.

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic

Give thanks to the Lord for He is good, for His kindness endures forever. 1 Chronicles 16:34

Regular Mass times are 7 p.m. on Saturdays (Spanish dominant) and 9 a.m. Sundays (English dominant.) First Wednesday each month Mass – 6 p.m.

The church is located at 600 E. Water St. in Farmerville. For more information, please call 368-9239.

Pleasant Grove Baptist - Downsville

Pleasant Grove, where the Rev. Lethon Hay is pastor, is located at 365 Pleasant Grove Rd. in Downsville.

Rocky Branch Baptist Church

Pastor: Terry Mims
News: Brenda Pace
2 Samuel 6, King David is desiring to return the ark of God back to Jerusalem. Sometimes we so desire to do some-

thing that is right, we do it the wrong way. David failed to require of the Levites and priests as to the proper way to proceed according to the laws God had given Moses. By placing on a new cart (the way the Philistines had done) holy reverence was not expressed. Uzziah touched it, contrary to the law which stated not to touch it, which led to his death. This created discouragement in David, causing a feeling of defeat. We must express reverence for holy things of God. This comes about by being prayed up, confessed up, and ready to worship, with a spirit which is willing to be blessed.

Doing things God's way, leads to a happy recovery. David, following the laws of Moses, with a sacrificial spirit – 2 Samuel 6:12, was able to bring back the ark. We too need to open our heart to GOD and follow in simple obedience. This will lead to a sweet joy, allowing us to enjoy spiritual worship. However there may be resistance. When our

spirit is not right with God, He cannot move. Sadly when Christians are happy in the LORD, some people are so miserable, they will try and bring them down. If God is blessing you and living through you, enjoy all He has to offer. 2 Corinthians 3:17 – where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty. "This ol' world's a battlefield where we must fight each day. I may lose a battle now and then, but I've already won the war." Amen.

Church Services: Worship 10:00 a.m.; Wednesday service – 6:30 p.m.

Zion Community Outreach Ministries

Zion Community Outreach Ministries is located at 606 Bernice St. in Farmerville.

Every Friday night there is a Fifth Quarter for all area youth.

And every Thursday at 10 a.m., we have fun for seniors.

Come and join us for activities and fellowship.

ALLEN continued from page 1

Allen is a lifelong resident of Farmerville and his service record should speak for itself. He became a volunteer firefighter at the age of 17 and 50 years later he is still serving. He joined the U. S. Army and served for two years. Allen began a career

with the postal service in 1972 and faithfully fulfilled his duties until his retirement in 2013.

"As you can see my life has been dedicated to the service of others, and there is no better place to serve than my hometown," said Allen. Allen asks for the

vote of his constituents so that he can continue his service. "I will, to the best of my ability, continue to figure out and implement solutions to all problems and situations brought before me," Allen said. "Please vote to re-elect #80 Robert Allen."

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FEATURING: BOGUE CHITTO AND CHEMIN-A-HAUT STATE PARKS

FROM A MOMMA'S HEART

New beginnings

Don't you just love new beginnings? They always bring such a fresh perspective and a renewed sense of purpose to everyday life. With new beginnings the world is suddenly full of new opportunities, adventures and excitement. But perhaps the most wonderful part of new beginnings is the chance it affords to meet new people and make new friends.

When we are young, we get new beginnings at every turn. New schools, new school years, new extracurricular activities, new friends and new relationships are just a few of the new beginnings that children, teens and young adults experience with great frequency. As we get older, however, those new beginnings began to be few and far between. We finish our schooling, find a mate and get married, start a career, have children and settle into life. We do find some new beginnings as our children venture into new activities and interests and we can live out some of those new feelings through them. Sometimes, unfortunately, our relationships do not work out and divorce can bring about new beginnings as can unforeseen tragedies and situations.

But as we age, those new beginnings happen less and less often. So it is no wonder that in most cases when those new beginnings are waved in front of us, we run towards them with open arms and hearts.

I have been blessed enough to get the chance for a new beginning. I have been writing feature articles for The Gazette since January. I guess they liked my writing enough that a few months ago they decided to offer me a column that runs twice a month. Writing has always been an emotional outlet for me. I fell in love with the written word at a young age and from that point on, reading and writing became a passion for me. It was no wonder that I received a degree in English from Louisiana Tech. When all of the puzzle pieces fell into place and a full-time position became available at The Gazette, I not only ran toward the opportunity, but sprinted.

As a momma, I have always told my boys when they are faced with a new beginning or new situation, the best thing they could do was reach out to people and make new friends. You have gotten to know me a little bit over the past few months through my writing, but now that I am going to be a permanent fixture in Farmerville and Union Parish, I would love the opportunity to get to know all of you better and make some wonderful new friends.

With new beginnings comes lots of exciting changes and in the excitement, you can often convince others (ahem... read Byron) to make some changes as well. It is our intention to make The Gazette the voice of Farmerville and Union Parish. If it concerns you, it concerns us. If it means a great deal to you, it means a great deal to us. If it upsets you, it upsets us.

We want The Gazette to be your go-to place for news in the area. News of Lake D'Arbonne, advertisements, obituaries, announcements, school happenings, the place to find a yard guy, a plumber, or firewood for the winter and a hundred other wonderful finds in the local newspaper. We will diligently seek to meet the needs of Farmerville and all of Union Parish. We want The Gazette to be the friend you turn to when you need information and not only the newspaper but Byron and I as well. Starting Thursday there will be coffee and a nice place to sit and chat if you would like to come by and visit. We look forward to getting to know you better and becoming the true voice for our little piece of Heaven right here in Union Parish.

Charlette Madden is a Mother of 2, a Louisiana Tech graduate and serves as Editor and Advertising Director for The Gazette. Contact her via email at news@fgazette.com



By
Charlette Madden

GUEST COLUMN

Wearing a mask is not a political statement..., it saves lives

Wear a Mask. Wash your hands. Keep your distance.

These three simple actions are known to stop the spread of COVID-19. The American Hospital Association, American Medical Association and the American Nurses Association this week shared those messages in an open letter to the American Public. As the CEO of Union General Hospital, I would like to share this with the people of Union Parish.

These groups have been working together since the outset of the pandemic to raise awareness of essential public health and safety measures to reduce the spread of the virus, emphasized that we can defeat this crisis the same way we defeated previous threats to public health..., by allowing science and evidence to shape their decisions and inform their actions.

What should not happen is to make the adherence to masks a political issue. And NO, the COVID-19 will not go away on Nov. 3, when the presidential election is over!

I see this playing throughout our country and I find it very troubling. Study after study has shown

that wearing a mask can greatly reduce the chances of spreading the virus. I do not think asking people to wear a mask when you are around people is denying anyone their liberty and their right to choose.

Education from our public health officials is one of the strongest defenses against COVID-19. Their advice and insights are SCIENCE-BASED and they have been working around the clock to help us slow the spread of the virus and to open our communities safely. As a citizen of this great country, please do not compromise the role of public health and our public health officers during a time we need them the most.

As a nation, we have more than 3 million documented cases of COVID-19 and over 130,000 deaths. We are seeing increased cases and hospitalizations in many states

and it's clear that we have not put COVID-19 behind us.

I am very proud of the brave front-line caregivers and essential workers that have put it all on the line for everyone. They give their best efforts each and every day to treat patients, comfort families, use every PPE available all to contain the spread of the pandemic. These brave souls will continue those efforts for as long as it takes. I have seen this played out each day for months from the employees and physicians at Union General Hospital and Clinic. I am a very proud Hospital CEO and don't mind telling them, thank you and keep up the fabulous job you are doing.

Don't you think in return, the least we can do is wear a mask, wash our hands and keep our distance?

Evalyn Ormond is the CEO of Union General Hospital. UGH is committed to providing quality healthcare in a safe environment to the residents of our community and surrounding areas, and to be recognized as the hospital of choice for Union Parish.



By
Evalyn Ormond

TUFF TALK

We have a chance at Mid-East peace

Last week we witnessed an agreement between two Mid-East countries. This agreement is of Biblical proportions. I say Biblical not from a religious context but from a magnitude that eclipses our everyday existence.

Israel signed an agreement with the United Arab Emirates to normalize relations. Just to say these few words brings joy and hope to millions around the world. The simplicity of these words speaks volumes.

Normalization between Israel and a Mid-East, predominately Islamic country, has only taken place twice before. Egypt and Jordan previously normalized relations; however, this was many years ago. Ever since I was a young man, attempts were made to bring peace to the Mid-East but there were always final hurdles that just couldn't be overcome. The main obstacle was the Palestinian issue. The Palestinians are angry because their land was taken by the United Nations and given to Israel as a homeland after World War II. This is a simplistic explanation to a very complex issue. Following the holocaust that saw six million Jews exterminated plus over a thousand years of persecution, the world wanted the Jews to have a homeland so Israel was formed. This led to wars, blacklisting of American countries that performed work in Israel and failure after failure of attempting peace in the Middle East.

I was a junior in high school when the seven-day war took place. Israel had to fight the armies of Egypt, Syria, Iraq, Jordan and Iran. Amazingly Israel was victorious after just seven days. Nothing

improved between Israel and the Arab countries. Ten years later I moved to Arabia to live and work. The rhetoric was there that showed a deep-seated hatred for Israel. The

word Israel was never said on television or on the news programming. Instead the term "occupied Palestine" was used. I talked to different Saudis that I worked with and some even admitted that the Jews were really cousins; however, the Palestinian issue was the number one problem. Numerous attempts were made by America to broker peace but they failed. It appeared that the only way to obtain Mid-East peace was to cure the Palestinian problem. Unfortunately, many Arab countries wanted nothing less than the eradication of Israel and the return of all land to the Palestinians.

During the Gulf War an amazing act took place. CNN was allowed to broadcast live into Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, the UAE and other Arab countries. This was a bold move as nothing live was ever televised in the kingdom other than Saudi government news programs. I was mesmerized as I actually viewed live television. Three days into the Gulf War and Iraq launched missiles into Israel in an attempt to draw Israel into the war and splinter the American coalition. Live television was beamed from Israel as the SCUD missiles landed. Then suddenly the program went off the air. Saudi Arabia would not allow Israel to be shown on its networks yet the other Arab nations allowed it.

It appeared that there would never be peace in the Mid-East between Israel and the Arab countries. After all these years

the Palestinian issue was the only issue for peace. Then last week, like a lightning bolt from the heavens, it was announced that Israel and the UAE would resume diplomatic relations. My shock was only overshadowed by my elation as I asked myself if Saudi Arabia would follow. The Kingdom has made numerous fundamental changes under a relatively strong ruler. If the UAE could establish diplomatic relations with Israel, Saudi Arabia could likewise do so. It appears that the next countries to recognize Israel may be Bahrain and Oman. Bahrain is progressive, an American ally and is the homeport of the American Navy 5th fleet. It is very close to Saudi Arabia and is actually connected by a causeway.

If the world is lucky enough to witness Bahrain establish relationships with Israel, the second domino will fall and it will not be long before the other moderate friends of America will follow. Oman, Saudi Arabia and even Lebanon could soon have agreements with Israel and true peace will ensue.

There will be losers to these agreements. Iran is livid and every time another country establishes relationships with Israel there is one less cause for Iran to hold on to. As Iran's influence diminishes, so does Russia's impact on the region.

Every time another country establishes diplomatic relationships with Israel, the United States is in a win/win situation. It becomes a gut punch to Iran and Russia while at the same time peace expands in a volatile part of our world.

Tuffy Fields may be reached by emailing thelouisianaexplorer@yahoo.com.



By
Tuffy Fields

Emails to the Editor

The Farmerville Gazette welcomes Emails to the Editor about issues or concerns of interest to our community. Emails should be timely and addressed as an Email to the Editor. No two-party letters, copies of email to other publications, political endorsements, creative prose or poetry will be accepted.

All letters submitted for consideration must have the writer's name, mailing address, phone number and email address. Only the writer's name and city of residence will be published.

The Farmerville Gazette reserves the right to edit or refuse publication of any email, however, all viewpoints on a topic will be considered.

The Farmerville Gazette generally does not publish more than one email from the same person within a 30-day period. Content should be clear, concise and no longer than 300 words.

Letters may be emailed to news@fgazette.com.

Views expressed in letters to the editor and personal columns do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the newspaper.

OBITUARY (Paid Announcement)



Doyle Scarborough
Funeral services for Doyle Scarborough, 73, of Marion, La., were

held at 2:00 p.m., Thursday, August 13, 2020 at Farrar Funeral Home Chapel with Bro. Paul Stephens officiating. Interment followed in Liberty Cemetery, in Linville, La., under the direction of Farrar Funeral Home in Farmerville.
Mr. Scarborough passed away on Monday, August 10, 2020 in Monroe, La. He was an avid hunter and loved anything outdoors. Mr. Scarborough loved traveling the backroads of Haile, La. and visiting with friends.

Mr. Scarborough was preceded in death by his wife, Pat Scarborough; parents, Clint & Myrt Scarborough; brother, Larry Scarborough; and son-in-law, Eddie Summerhill.
Left to cherish his memory are one daughter, Denise Summerhill; one sister, Betty Baker (George); two grandsons, Matthew Summerhill (Jenna) and Stephen Summerhill (Kirsty); three great-grandchildren, Kannon, Kase and Avery Summerhill; numerous nieces and

nephews; and a host of other family and friends.
Pallbearers were David Nowlin, Gary Harrell, William Spillers, Heath Snell, Dale Lusby and Mel Fuglaar.
Honorary pallbearers were George Herring, Royce Dement and Ken Ebarb.
Visitation was on Thursday, August 13, 2020 from 12:00 p.m. ~ 2:00 p.m. at Farrar Funeral Home Chapel.
Online memorials may be left at www.farrarfuneralhomeonline.com



Bobby “Buck” Jones
Thank you to the friends and family of the late Bobby “Buck” Jones. Although he

grew up in Spearsville, Bobby was a Farmerville native. Bobby was raised and loved by his three lovely aunts. Two of those aunts preceded him in death, Mrs. Arrina Charles and Mrs. Edith Hill. His aunt Flossie Hill is still living. I want to thank the Hill family for their kind acts and I also want to thank the Sisterhood of Louisiana for their kind acts through my time of bereavement. My sincerest thanks, Joan Jones

Farrar Funeral Home

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UNION PARISH ARRESTS

August 12 Yussy T Brown, 42, 410 Eastside Drive, Farmerville, La, Fugitive from Justice, Fugitive from Justice Jeremy C Winter, 43, , 518 Jack Bearid Rd, Spearsville, La, Distribution of Sch II, Distribution of Sch II, Illegal Poss. Of Stolen Things Broderick E Nute, 36, 412 Lockley St., Farmerville, La, FTA Poss. of Marijuana, Poss. Of Firearm, Poss. Of Legend Drug, Fail to Dim Lights Demarco M Banks, 33, 160 6th St, Bernice, La, FTA Poss. Of Drug Paraphernalia, FTA Poss. Of Sch II, Ronald Lamond Wyatt, 37, 707 Rodeo Circle Farmerville, La, Contraband in Penal Institution Prohibited Kyle Chase Rabalais, 25, 707 Rodeo Circle, Farmerville, La, Contraband in Penal Institution Prohibited	August 13 Mark Bearden, 55, 1471 Stansberry Rd, Farmerville, La, Illegal Carry of Weapon Adron Slade Dyess, 25, 202 W Boundary St, Farmerville, La, FTA Driving Under Suspension John Lanigan, 33, 499 Rock Rd, Dubach, La, FTA for Driving under Suspension, Improper Lamps, Improper child Restraint Ben D Handcock, 33, 540 Bobbie Cox, Downsville, La, Poss. of Sch I Poss. of Sch II, Poss. of Drug Paraphernalia	August 14 Bryan Scott Abercrombie, 36, 2140 Stubbs Vinson, Monroe, La, FTA for DUI and Probation Review Johnny Ray Sikes, 50 211 Horne ST, West Monroe, La, Poss. of Sch II, Proper equipment required on vehicle	212 Elliott Rd, West Monroe, La, Domestic Abuse Battery Strangulation, Domestic Abuse Battery w/child endangerment, Simple criminal damage to property, Fugitive from Justice outside agency Anthony Dewayne Cooper, 42, 10908 Hwy 15 Lot 3, Downsville, La, Fugitive from Justice Farmerville, traffic, Fugitive from Justice Farmerville, traffic
	August 15 Aubrey L Shipley, 34,		

Union BAIL BONDS

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TAYLOR continued from page 1

“I started out as a grunt, worked my way up to lineman and retired in 2001 as a service director,” said Taylor.

Having secured employment and beginning to settle into his new life, something else captured Taylor’s attention. Not so much a something as a someone, a pretty Miss Shirley Cates. Taylor remembers seeing Cates at the local Dairyetta. “For me it was love at first sight,” said Taylor, “and while it took me three years to get her, I finally won her over.” The pair married in 1963 and enjoyed 56 years together before her passing January 25 of this year. They have one son, Kelly, who is a wonderful and constant companion to his father.

Having dedicated 43 ½ years to Claiborne Electric, Taylor decided it was time to retire. He retired on a Friday and on the following Monday went to then-sheriff Bob Buckley and was hired to work at TRIAD where he served for over eight years. Being a faithful employee to one company for over 43 years and then going right back out and finding another way to serve the community is legendary in its own right. However, the most amazing part of Taylor’s story played out in a completely different arena.

While working for Claiborne Electric, Taylor decided he needed to do more to help serve his community. In 1976 he decided to run for alderman. His opponent in that race was Tiny Talley. “I came out the winner in that race, but I did hire Tiny so we both won,” Taylor said.

That one Alderman’s race led to a lifelong commitment from Taylor to be a voice for the people of Farmerville. “Farmerville means everything to me. There are very good people here in Farmerville and the people of Farmerville and Union Parish are the loves of my life,” Taylor said. He proudly recalls being instrumental along with former mayors Carlton White and Jerry Williams in getting Con Agra to locate here in Union Parish.

“It was a tough road for a while but we got it. (former state legislator) Mike Walsworth helped and we also had (former governor) Bobby Jindal’s help to keep it,” Taylor said.

Throughout his 44 years serving his community as alderman, Taylor has seen the best of Farmerville and Union Parish and he has also seen the not-so-good times. “Farmerville should be a thriving place but we have failed to promote Lake D’Arbonne like we should,” said Taylor. Overall, Taylor has nothing but praise and fondness for his time on the City Council. “I have loved every minute of it. It has been quite an experience for an old boy from Truxno,” Taylor said. He credits his success to how he was brought up.

“I’m just like my daddy. I never meet a stranger and I may not be very smart but I have a lot of common sense,” said Taylor. He has served the people of Farmerville and Union Parish faithfully for over 44 years and feels that now is the time to allow new blood and fresh ideas into the council. Jerry Taylor is a fixture of the Farmerville government and will be sorely missed. “It is time for me to let somebody else have a go,” said Taylor; “I want to go out a winner.”

If you see Taylor around town, make sure to let him know how very much he is loved and appreciated. After all, it is not often that you get to shake hands with and express appreciation to a real living legend.

SCHOOLS continued from page 1

Conversely, about 69 percent of private schools are planning fully face-to-face learning. D’Arbonne Woods Charter School is planning to do five days a week face-to-face learning with 78 percent planning to attend in person and 22 percent choosing the virtual option.

The Department of Education distributed \$316 million in CARES Act funding to schools, which could be used for devices and internet connectivity. The department estimates 77 percent of students have one-to-one access to a mobile device for schoolwork such as a laptop, while 75 percent have home internet access, Brumley said, meaning about a quarter of students don’t have internet access. Students in Union Parish will receive a chrome book and every effort has been made to ensure internet access for all students.

As of late last week, 27 of 69 public school districts were holding classes, he said. The education department has laid out guidelines for protecting public health while holding classes amid the COVID-19 pandemic. Union Parish Schools will strictly adhere to all guidelines set forth by the education department.

“It’s easy to point fingers and blame people, but everyone has a heightened sense of anxiety right now,” Brumley said. “We just have to give each other grace and patience as we work through this together.” Union Parish Schools and D’Arbonne Woods will both begin on September 8.

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The Gazette

OUTDOORS WITH GLYNN HARRIS

Crappie bite is on in hot weather

Even fishermen who don't crappie fish know that one of the best times of the year to catch big old slabs is during the spring spawn when the urge to merge captivates the attention of these tasty fish and they move to the shallows to spawn.

Most also know that crappie tend to bunch up in deep water in winter and lots are caught by anglers willing to brave the elements. However, what about the blistering days of July and August? Do anglers seriously fish for them while risking heat stroke? You bet your best Bobby Garland Baby Shad Blue Thunder jig they do.

I had the privilege of fishing with a crappie expert, Bill Pettit, several years ago and came away with a tackle box full of valuable information about summertime crappie fishing from this dyed-in-the-wool perch jerker.

I met Pettit on Ross Barnett Reservoir just out of Jackson, Miss., where I was fishing as a guest of the B&M Pole Company. Pettit, a retired postal employee in Jackson, was a veritable walking encyclopedia of crappie knowledge and while we caught fish, he shared tidbits of lore that has helped me over the years to know a bit more about these popular and sought-after fish. One thing that stood out in my mind was Pettit's comments about fishing for and catching crappie in the heat of summer.

"In spring, you can find crappie on most any lake in shallow



Glynn Harris

Summertime crappie fishing can sometimes mean "spider rigging," the use of several poles to find where the fish are staging.

water where spawning takes place. However," Pettit noted, "once hot weather gets here, you can forget about fishing for them in skinny water. They're going to be suspended in deep water and it takes some searching to locate them. Once you do, you can catch one big old slab after another, provided you can stand the heat."

"Lots of times, I'll get so hot sitting out there under the broiling sun that I'll quit fishing for awhile, crank my big motor and tear out

across the lake at full speed with one purpose in mind, and that is to cool off. After I cool down a bit, I'll go back and start catching crappie again."

As Bill Pettit and others attest, crappie fishing can be downright super in summer, provided you know where to locate the fish. In general, once the spawn is over and the weather begins heating up, crappie head for cooler water, which is usually deep water. Being school fish, once you catch a crappie this

time of year, chances are excellent that plenty more are where that one came from.

In big open water bodies, such as rivers and reservoirs like Toledo Bend and Ross Barnett, crappie congregate in or near channels. The moving water will attract pods of shad that the crappie will follow for easy feeding opportunities.

In most deeper lakes in Louisiana, crappie will gather around structure that is located next to deep water. Drop-offs that lead to

deep water that has structure near its edge are prime target areas.

In the heat of summer, one of the most productive areas to find the crappie stacked up is around the deeper piers and bridge pilings that may dot the lake you're fishing.

When fishing bridge pilings, it helps to know where the bridge crosses the channel or the bayou or river. The pilings nearest the deep channels are where you're more likely to find the fish bunched up because likely as

not, schools of shad will have taken a liking to the cooler depths as well. When you find shad, no matter the time of year, you're likely to find crappie as well.

Summer is here and the heat is on. However, if you follow this expert's advice and if you can handle the hot sun beating down on your head, you stand a good chance of bringing in a box of slabs.

Glynn Harris can be reached online via email at hominny@suddenlink.net.

C-USA board announces plans for return to play

Gazette News Services

DALLAS – The Conference USA Board of Directors has approved the league's timeline and scheduling format for football competition for the 2020 season, as well as operational protocols for return to play. The 2020 C-USA football schedule continues to call for each of

the league's teams to play eight conference games on their originally scheduled dates. The first conference game is scheduled for September 12. Non-conference games may be played at the discretion of the individual schools, with the ability to play up to four non-league contests. The C-USA Championship remains scheduled



for Dec. 5, with the flexibility of possibly moving later, depending on the need to potentially reschedule regular season games. The Board approved return to play safety measures for fall sports and adopted

the NCAA Resocialization of Collegiate Sport: Developing Standards for Practice and Competition with required testing standards for Conference USA schools and the requirement that opponents operate

by the same standards. The Board also committed to ensuring the accountability of all athletic programs and affirmed their commitment to follow and actively monitor testing and safety protocols and accurately report testing results. "I am pleased with the careful consideration of our Board regarding the health

and safety of our student athletes as well as their commitment to accountability," said Board Chair Dr. Les Guice, President, Louisiana Tech University. Additional game operations adjustments were also approved, including strategically limiting access to the playing field in the interest of heightened safety measures.

Sun Belt Conference football season update

Gazette News Services

NEW ORLEANS – After extensive discussions and careful deliberation among the Sun Belt Conference Presidents and Chancellors, Athletics Directors, SBC COVID-19 Advisory Panel, medical advisors and other governance groups, the Sun Belt Conference announced that its football season will begin over Labor Day weekend.

"Sun Belt member institutions have focused since June on a safe return to athletic activities. We believe this timetable will allow for the healthy integration of the entire campus community for each Sun Belt member," said a league spokesperson. The 2020 Sun Belt Conference football season will be comprised of an 8-conference game schedule with an option for each member

to add as many as four non-conference opponents, beginning with Week Zero. The Sun Belt will host a football championship game on December 5 between the East Division and West Division champions. If necessary, the date of the championship game may be adjusted. "The Sun Belt Conference will continue to monitor health trends across our communities. Sun Belt Presi-

dents and Chancellors, Athletics Directors, the COVID-19 Advisory Panel, and medical advisors will continue to review data to ensure a safe return to activities and competition. Our data review will cross seven states and 12 counties and include, among other things, infection rates, hospitalization rates, local health directives, advancements in COVID-19 testing and campus, department

and team health trends. We will continue to provide updates on the

league's activities as the impact of the pandemic continues to evolve."



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Jean Baptist “Don Juan” Filhiol, soldier-adventurer

Jon McKinnie

Jean Baptist “Don Juan” Filhiol is considered the Founder of Fort Miro, which became Monroe Louisiana. Filhiol was the typical soldier-adventurer of his time. The figure of the commandant under the Spanish and French regimes looms large in the settlement of the entire Ouachita Valley, and his good name, instinctive courtesy and unbounded hospitality have been preserved to the present day.

The original form of Filhiol’s given name was “Jean Baptist Filhiol.” The Spanish title “Don Juan” was acquired when he accepted the post of military commandant of the Ouachita country assigned by Don Estevan Miro, Governor General of Louisiana under Hispanic rule.

Filhiol was born at Eymont, in Perigold, department of Dardongue, France, September 21, 1740. At the age of 23, he left his native France to seek fame and fortune in the New World beyond the seas. Santo Domingo, scene of the exploits of so many bold adventurers, was his first objective. Apparently this expedition was not successful, so far as the acquirement of wealth was concerned, for after seven years he left Santo Domingo and went to Philadelphia with the intention of joining the squadron of Count d’Estaing on its way back to France after serving in the American War of Independence.

He arrived too late to join the command, and this circumstance altered the whole future course of his life. Instead of returning to France he decided to take a ship for New Orleans with a group of high-spirited youths who were lured by the prospects of adventure in Louisiana. He reached New Orleans in May, 1779, and in August of that year on the declaration of war between England and Spain, Filhiol took service under Galvez in the campaign against West Florida.

It was this service which earned him the favor of King Charles X, and in the year 1783 he was appointed a captain in the army and commandant of the militia, and assigned to duty at the Poste d’Ouachita under instruction from Governor Don Estevan Miro. He was given grants of land in the new territory and a commission to take a company of soldiers and settlers to northern Louisiana. His lieutenant in the new enterprise was Joseph de la Baume, who was likewise given grants of land in the virgin wilderness.

Filhiol was now 43 years old. Romance of a more tender quality touched him while living among the people of south Louisiana, as we



Filhiol

find him taking a bride just before beginning the long journey into the far-flung forests of the north.

His wife was a beautiful young woman, Francoise Poirer, a member of a prominent and wealthy family of Opelousas. Filhiol had met her at a country ball following his return from the Florida campaign. Enamored by her loveliness, Filhiol openly courted the Opelousas beauty, who was thrilled with the attentions of the French officer. Even though a newly-wed, she was willing to share with her soldier-husband the rigors of an adventurous journey into an unknown land.

They were married at Opelousas March 12, 1782.

A year was spent in the southern part of Louisiana, preparing for the journey north and recruiting the force that would accompany them. Accompanied by his bride and his lieutenant, de la Baume, Filhiol began the long arduous journey early in 1783 into the wilderness to the new outpost of Spanish conquest. The route was entirely by water, a flotilla of bateaux affording the means of transportation.

It was a toilsome difficult journey, beset by unknown hazards and infinite possibilities of danger from treacherous waters and possibly hostile Indians. The Company of experienced soldiers, hardy pioneers and courageous women, led by an intrepid commander, was subject to tests of endurance before finally reaching their objective. Food was plentiful, fresh supplies being constantly available from the wild game and fowl with which the country abounded. The chief hardship was the difficult task of propelling the heavy boats against the current of the Ouachita River.

Commandant Filhiol first established his post at Ecore-a-Fabry, now Camden, Ark. In 1785 he left that place, turning downstream and relocated in Port d’Canoes (an Indian trading post on the Ouachita River). Favorite crossing spots for Indian trade with the settlers at the Ouachita Post are three areas called the “Prairies Des Canots.” One spot is located where the City of Monroe now stands, another above on the river at Park and Riverfront (the spot called Forsythe Point today) extending to the foot of today’s Pine Street.

The third trading place is below the city to the foot of Layton Street.

There Filhiol established Post d’Ouachita and by February 15, 1791, had built Fort Miro, named in honor of the governor of the territory, where Monroe now stands. The Spanish government granted him the land on both sides of the river upon which downtown Monroe is now situated.

Etienne Repon, my 4th great grandfather, born in Marseille, France, traveled up the Ouachita River with Filhiol or arrived very soon after. Repon helped Filhiol establish the Post d’Ouachita and build Fort Miro. Filhiol and Repon were close friends and Repon’s step-daughter, Lucilla “Lucy” LeBlanc Repon, married Filhiol’s son, Jean Joseph Filhiol on Oct 21, 1822. Lucy and her husband, Jean Joseph, lived on the Filhiol Plantation.

While acting as commandant of the then important Post d’Ouachita, Filhiol received many grants of land as a reward for his civil and military services from the Governor Miro, who was, by Spanish colonial laws, vested with full power to make grants of land, and convey by such grants the absolute, fee simple to the lands thus granted. Filhiol was, however, a most modest and unselfish man, and it is said refused the entire territory between Monroe and Columbia.

Commandant Filhiol retained the office of commandant until 1800, when he resigned it into the hands of Don Guillaume de la Baume, captain of the dragoons in the militia, who was in his turn succeeded by Don Vincente Fernandez Texeiro.

Filhiol’s descendants, as well as the many worthy citizens, point with pride to him who founded their lovely town, and watched over the destinies of the then infant settlement, delight to dwell upon his virtues, and perpetuate, in unbounded praise, his sacred memory.

Filhiol died on his plantation, across Ouachita River from Ft Miro in Ouachita Parish on September 28, 1821, at the age of 81. Over the years, the cemetery fell into disuse. Surrounding homes used some of the stones as paving. When Filhiol Street (West Monroe) was widened, the remaining graves (including Jean’s) were dug into by the family to move the bodies to St. Matthew Catholic Cemetery. All that was found of Filhiol were the coffin nails. All that remains of Filhiol are believed to be on Filhiol Street, under the I-20 Overpass in West Monroe. A memorial has been placed at West Monroe City Hall by the Daughters of American Revolution.



Submitted photo
“Equine Elegance,” a painting by Ruston artist Hooshang Khorasani, has been added to the permanent collection of the Union Museum of History and Art.

Hooshang’s ‘Equine Elegance’ added to museum collection

Submitted Article

Union Museum of History of Art in Farmerville is pleased to announce that a painting by Hooshang Khorasani of Ruston is the first artwork to be placed in its permanent collection. The 36-by-48-inch acrylic on canvas work, “Equine Elegance,” was part of the museum’s recent “For the Love of Horses” exhibit that kicked off the museum’s new, larger location at 211 N. Main Street.

Jean Jones, vice chair of the board of directors, said, “We are truly honored to receive this magnificent painting from an artist of Hooshang’s caliber. It will hang with honor in Union Museum of History and Art not only as a display of enormous talent but

also as an inspiration to budding artists.” Historical items as well as paintings are being added to the museum’s permanent collection.

In an effort to help the museum in its fundraising efforts to purchase the building it has moved into, Hooshang is offering to continue donating to the museum 30 percent of any sales of his equine paintings through the end of the year. To review available work, businesses and individuals can contact him at hooshangstudio@suddenlink.net or www.hooshangstudio.com.

Hooshang’s paintings are also included in the permanent collections of the American Saddlebred Museum in Lexington, Kentucky, and Lake County Museum of Art in Tavares, Florida.

65+ years young?

You’re at higher risk.

If you’re 65 or older, you are at higher risk of getting very sick from the coronavirus. You must take extra care of yourself.

- Stay home** if you can.
- Wash hands** frequently with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- Avoid touching** your face.
- Disinfect** frequently touched objects.
- Wash up** after being in public spaces.
- Stay about six feet away** from others.
- If you’re sick**, stay home and away from others.
- If you have symptoms** of fever, dry cough and shortness of breath, call your health care provider before going to their office.

We are all at risk, and some more than others. In challenging times, the choices you make are critical. And their impact is significant. Help slow the spread of coronavirus.

Visit [Coronavirus.gov](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus) for the latest tips and information from the CDC.

TOGETHER, WE CAN HELP SLOW THE SPREAD.  



COVID-19 RESPONDERS THANK YOU





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NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC AS REQUIRED BY LAW, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT I HAVE CERTIFIED MY 2020 ASSESSMENT LIST TO THE UNION PARISH POLICE JURY AS THE BOARD OF REVIEW FOR A PERIOD OF 15 DAYS BEGINNING SEPTEMBER 2, 2020, AND ENDING SEPTEMBER 17, 2020. THE BOARD OF REVIEW SHALL RECEIVE ANY WRITTEN OR ORAL COMPLAINTS FROM TAXPAYERS WHO WISH TO PROTEST THEIR ASSESSMENT AS DETERMINED BY THE ASSESSOR. THE APPEAL DEADLINE FOR THE TAXPAYER TO FILE A WRITTEN APPEAL TO THE BOARD OF REVIEW BY CERTIFIED MAIL OR HAND DELIVERY WILL BE SEPTEMBER 1, 2020, AT THE END OF THAT BUSINESS DAY. COMPLAINT OF TAXPAYERS MUST COMPLY WITH ACT 1976 IN ORDER FOR THE BOARD TO CONSIDER ANY PROTEST.

DURING THIS PERIOD THE POLICE JURY WILL CONVENE FROM TIME TO TIME IN THE POLICE JURY MEETING ROOM, TO HEAR APPEALS IF THERE BE ANY AND WILL CONCLUDE ITS FINAL HEARING AT 6:00 P.M., SEPTEMBER 8, 2020. LANCE FUTCH, CLAU UNION PARISH ASSESSOR

West Sterling Water System, Inc.

P.O. Box 692
Sterlington, La. 71280
Date: 8/25/2020
To: West Sterling Water System Customer

Dear Member, The West Sterling Water System is currently in violation of the maximum containment level (MCL) for total trihalomethanes as set for the by the State (Part XII of the Louisiana State Sanitary Code (LAC 51:111)) and the Federal Primary Drinking Water Regulations (40 CFR Part 141). The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Louisiana Department of Health (LDH) set drinking water standards and requires the disinfection of drinking water. Where disinfection is used in the treatment of drinking water, disinfectants combine with naturally occurring organic and inorganic matter present in water to form chemicals called disinfection byproducts (DBPs). EPA and LDH set standards for controlling the levels of disinfectants and DBPs in drinking water, including trihalomethanes (THMs) and haloacetic acid (HAAs). Some people who drink water containing THMs in excess of the MCL over many years may experience problems with their liver, kidneys, or central nervous system, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer. In December 1998, EPA set enforceable drinking water standards for THMs at 80 parts per billion (ppb) and for

HAA5 at 60 parts per billion (ppb) to reduce the risk of cancer or other adverse health effects. Compliance with the TTHMs and HAA5 standard for public water systems serving less than 10,000 individuals initially became effective and enforceable on January 1, 2004. Compliance with the TTHMs standard is determined by calculating a location running annual average (LRAA) of quarterly TTHMs sample results. Compliance calculations performed for the third quarter of 2019 show that the system's current TTHMs LRAA are 192 ppb at DBP01-112 Hill Road and 183 ppb at DBP02-Wallace Rd and Ouachita City Rd.; Thus, the system is currently in violation of the TTHMs standard. Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail. This is not an emergency. If it has been, you would have been notified immediately. EPA and the LDH do not consider this violation to have any serious adverse health effects on human health as a result of short-term exposure; however, continued long-term exposure to TTHMs and HAA5 levels above the standard (e.g., 20

years of exposure) has the potential to have serious adverse effects on human health.

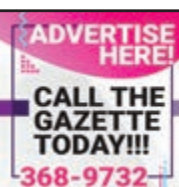
If you need further clarification or have questions concerning this letter, please contact President Tommy Ormond at (318) 726-6040 or Operators Dave or Linda Garris at (318) 726-4188.

Notice of Public Hearing Farmerville Zoning Commission

A public hearing will be held on Tuesday, September 8, 2020 at 5:00 p.m., at Farmerville Town Hall located at 407 South Main Street, Farmerville, Louisiana, to hear the views and opinions of citizens concerning the zoning change of 403 Downsville St. property belonging to Nicole Griffin to R3. Legal description as follows: ***old asmt no 11054350*** BEGIN AT SE/C NW SE SEC. 31 T21N R1E, RUN N. 727 FT., W. 92 FT. FOR P.O.B., RUN N. 95 FT., W. 60 FT., S. 95 FT., E. 60 FT. TO P.O.B. 262 101 432-46 479-182 590-173 618-196 662-202, 204 804-107, 88 869-298 1428-073 (ORDINANCE)



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