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 Page 12

# Ruston Daily Leader

Wednesday, October 27, 2021

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## Edwards Repeals Mask Mandate

Louisiana overcomes fourth COVID-19 surge



By Nancy Bergeron  
 nancy@rustonleader.com

Facemasks are no longer required indoors in Louisiana, except in K-12 schools. Gov. John Bel Edwards has lifted the state's COVID-19 indoor mask mandate, effective today. "After sustained improvement across the state in new cases, test positiv-

ity and hospitalizations, I will lift Louisiana's statewide mask mandate in all settings except for K-12 schools, which may opt out as long as they continue implementing existing CDC quarantine guidance," Edwards said during a Tuesday afternoon press conference. The new order gives all schools to loosen up

on mask requirements or quarantine rules, but not both. Edwards said local government and private businesses also have the option of continuing to require masks. Louisiana has been under an indoor mask mandate since Aug. 4. Edwards said he will review his new order in 28 days. He said Louisiana's CO-

VID-19 statistics have returned to pre-delta-variant levels. "I stand here today optimistic, relieved that the worst of the fourth surge is clearly behind us," Edwards said. He credited part of that to mask wearing and to an increasing number of

See MASK, page 5

## Jaylin Wayne Trial

Jury selection continues in second-degree murder case involving former GSU student

By Nancy Bergeron  
 nancy@rustonleader.com

Jury selection is expected to enter its third day today in the second-degree murder trial of Jaylin Wayne, the former Grambling State University student charged with killing two people during a disagreement on the school campus in October 2017. Wayne, then 19, allegedly shot and killed Earl Andrews, who was also a GSU student and Andrews' friend, Monquiarious Caldwell, a non-student who was said to be visiting Andrews. Attorneys began questioning the second panel of potential jurors Tuesday morning, while the third panel watched. A fourth panel was called Tuesday afternoon and will be questioned on Wednesday. As of early Tuesday afternoon, only three preliminary

jurors have been selected, and that came at the end of day Monday. Prosecutors were about to enter their third hour questioning a second panel of potential jurors shortly before Tuesday noon when Wayne reportedly fell ill and 3<sup>rd</sup> Judicial District Judge Bruce Hampton called for slightly earlier than usual lunch break. The three preliminary jurors — two women and one man — are White. Wayne is black. However, both the prosecution and the defense have a number of strikes left, meaning it's possible that any, or all, preliminary jurors could be dismissed before the final 12-member, two-alternate panel is seated. Wayne has pleaded not guilty. Defense attorneys Ron Haley and Dedrick Moore, of

See WAYNE TRIAL, page 5

## State mulls new social studies standards

Officials address critical race theory concerns

By Caleb Daniel  
 caleb@rustonleader.com

The state of Louisiana is seeking comments from the public before finalizing the first changes to social studies teaching standards for public schools since 2011. An online portal for public comments and a copy of the new proposed standards can be found at louisianabelieves.com/resources/library/standards-review-committee. The comment period was recently extended through Nov. 30. After going through the comments, the state's top school board will vote on the new standards, likely in January, and they would go into effect in the 2023-24 school year. The process to create and adopt the new standards has been delayed multiple times due to persisting complaints from legislators and the public about how social studies classes across the state might present

racial components of history to students going forward — particularly whether or not critical race theory (CRT) would be present in the classroom. CRT is an academic school of thought that holds that the effects of racism are often caused by systemic social dynamics rather than overt prejudice from individuals. It has become the subject of frequent controversy across national politics in the past year, and some Louisiana lawmakers have sought to keep it from being taught in schools. But content supervisors in the Lincoln Parish School District and those involved in creating the new standards say the upcoming changes are not centered on race relations or any other part of the content itself, but rather the order the content is presented to students throughout their academic careers.

See SOCIAL STUDIES, page 5



Leader photo by CELESTE HOLLEY

### All the city's monsters showed up

The city of Ruston held its Monster Mash Halloween event Monday at the Ruston Sports Complex, with hundreds of children showing up in their best costumes. Here, Houston Pardon shows off his robot costume alongside his mother DeShae Pardon. She said Houston chose the robot idea this year.

### GRAMBLING STATE

## Gallot talks three-tier plan for GSU safety during 'Prez Says'

By Jessieca Carr  
 jessieca@rustonleader.com

Grambling State University President Rick Gallot took to the air waves recently for his monthly radio show, "Prez Says," in the midst of a difficult time in the university's history, with two fatal shootings on campus during homecoming week. Usually, the program leans toward the positive events at Grambling State, but this broadcast focused on the safety issues at the institution in the wake of

several shootings in recent years. Gallot used his platform to explain that the university's plan is to "move forward after the crisis" and how other groups are partnering with the 120-year-old university to ensure student, faculty and staff safety. In his fifth year at the helm of GSU, he used the radio address to respond to an inquiry about parents reaching out to the university in reference to their children's safety. He said he had been talking to concerned parents and re-

iterated the school's three-tiered plan for student body safety. According to Gallot, GSU is 10 months into the campus master plan project, and the university has begun to accelerate the campus safety component of the plan.

See PREZ SAYS, page 3



NAMI NOTES

# Grief

## NAMI suggests tips for coping with grief

Worldwide, we are grieving the losses of loved ones and friends from the coronavirus pandemic. In America, more than 725,000 persons have died from COVID-19 or approximately one in 400 persons.

You probably know someone dear who has died. Recently, Four-Star General Colin Powell died of COVID-19 complications. He was the first African-American Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and the first African-American U.S. Secretary of State.

Grief is a natural, healthy part of the healing process after experiencing a loss, particularly the loss of someone or something that has died, to which a bond or affection was formed.

Although conventionally focused on the emotional response to loss, it also has physical, behavioral, social, cultural, spiritual, philosophical, and cognitive dimensions.

While you may associate grief with the death of a loved one, any loss can cause grief, including the loss of a friendship or marriage or other relationship breakup, your health, your job or retirement, a cherished



dream, loss of financial stability, a miscarriage, death of a pet, loss of safety after a trauma, and selling the family home. Even subtle losses can trigger a sense of grief.

Grief is a highly individual experience; there is no right or wrong way to grieve. Your grief process depends on several factors, like your personality and coping style, your life experience,

your age, your beliefs or faith, your support system, and how significant the loss was to you.

Inevitably, the grief process takes time. Healing happens gradually; it cannot be forced or hurried.

### Suggestions

The National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) and other mental health professionals offer the following suggestions for you; use the tips that may be helpful to you personally:

- Be patient with yourself. Give yourself time to accept what has happened.
- Adjust your expectations. Accept that your emotions are a natural part of the grieving process.
- Accept what you cannot change. One of the most frequent struggles you may face when you lose someone is a sense of being out of control, because you are not able to control when someone leaves you. You must actively, consciously choose to focus on what you can change.
- Find strength in others. Although it may feel like you are all alone in your experience, try talking to someone who has experienced a similar loss or someone whose presence is a source of comfort. Reminisce about your relationship.
- Plan a distraction. Anniversary reactions are normal. Schedule a gathering or a visit with friends or loved ones during times when you are likely to feel alone.
- Start a new tradition. Donate to a charitable organization in your loved

one's name on birthdays or holidays or plant a tree in their honor.

• Create value from this experience. Take the time to ask yourself what you have learned from going through this experience.

• Think about how you will prepare for your own death. It is hard to have a family discussion about death, but it is a necessity.

• Celebrate life. It is a tragic injustice if all you do is focus on the day you lost your loved one, or their illness, accident or death. You can and need to mourn their passing, but do not do that to the exclusion of celebrating their life.

• Find comfort through spirituality and faith, the arts (dance, music, visual arts, etc.), journaling, meditation, gardening, and yoga.

### Be there for someone who is grieving

The most fundamental way to help someone who is grieving is listen. Remain available in the weeks, months, and years to come. Other ways to help are:

- Have compassion. Give them permission to express their feelings without fear of criticism or judgment.
- Share a meal. Make the call. Extend support on birthdays, anniversaries, and holidays.
- Give them a bit of respite. Bring the bereaved a small token of love. Send them photos or items that belonged to their loved one.
- Help them out with household chores.

### Seek help for yourself

If you feel out of control and it is keeping you from coping with the loss, ask for help. Your family doctor or a mental health professional can be a good first step.

University students, contact the GSU Student Counseling and Wellness Center at (318) 274-3277 or the Tech Student Counseling Services Center at (318) 257-2488.

In a crisis, call 911 or go immediately to the Northern Louisiana Medical Center emergency room in Ruston or one in your area.

Visit websites at [www.centerforloss.com](http://www.centerforloss.com), [www.mayoclinic.org](http://www.mayoclinic.org), [www.helpguide.org](http://www.helpguide.org) or [www.nami.org](http://www.nami.org).

Jerrilene Washington, Ed.D., is the executive director of NAMI Ruston. Email her at [washington.jerrilene1922@gmail.com](mailto:washington.jerrilene1922@gmail.com).

## SENSE & SENSITIVITY

### Busy freelancer questions hiring another assistant

**DEAR HARRIETTE:** I work for myself. This past year has been busier than the previous 10. It has been amazing. I'm so accustomed to having to scramble to make enough money that I accept every project that comes my way.

Now that I am super busy, I am exhausted.

I can't really handle all the work. I have an assistant, but I'm wondering if I need two. But then I'm afraid to take on more staff. What if I don't have as much work next year? I would hate to have to let somebody go.

I'm getting so worked up just thinking about all of this. I know I have to do something. Should I hire somebody else, start turning down work or something else?

#### Growing Pains

**DEAR GROWING PAINS:** Sit down, and take a few deep breaths and calm yourself. You need to look at your business objectively and assess your growth over the past year so that you can project what may happen in the next. Evaluate if you charge enough for your services.

Review the projects you have been accepting to see which ones you want to continue and which are short-term. Determine how much money you need to earn to cover your expenses, including current staff.

Determine what you will need to earn if you

add more staff, either part-time, per project or full-time. Talk to a financial planner who can help you look at your business and set a strategy for the future.

It is time for you to work smarter, not harder. With careful analysis, you may discover that you can accept fewer, more lucrative projects and hire additional support.



By Harriette Cole

**DEAR HARRIETTE:** My mother is old and has suffered a lot during quarantine. A friend

of mine has told me a lot about how his mother aged; she was more independent than my mother, but life was still hard for her at the end.

He warned me that my mother will not improve, so I should just get ready for the inevitable. The thing is, my mother is improving. Her body is stronger and her spirits are great. Her physical therapist even said that she is beginning to walk again.

(She has been wheelchair-bound since she got COVID-19 last year.) I want my friend to stop filling my head with negative thoughts. I want to enjoy the positive moments my mom has instead of waiting for her to decline. How can I tell him this without hurting his feelings?

#### Mom Is All Right

**DEAR MOM IS ALL RIGHT:** Your friend is speaking from his experience — not yours. Next time you talk to him, tell him that you have good news. Describe how your mother is improving and how encouraged you are about her progress.

Tell him that you want to enjoy these good times and stop worrying about what might happen to her in the future. If he starts to talk about future decline, stop him.

Tell him you understand what happened to his mother and what may happen to yours down the line. But right now, you are savoring the moment. Ask him to honor your desire to do that.

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## CELEBRATIONS

### BIRTHDAYS

**Today**  
Shawanda Gant

**Thursday**  
Gary Smith, 62

**Friday**  
Mikeshia Wilson

**Sunday**  
Carolyn Lewis  
Pritchett  
Tony Tippett

**November 4**  
Jessie Roy Drayton

**November 8**  
Cameron Mayfield  
D'Zantrik Wilson  
Lexi Wilson

## PET OF THE WEEK

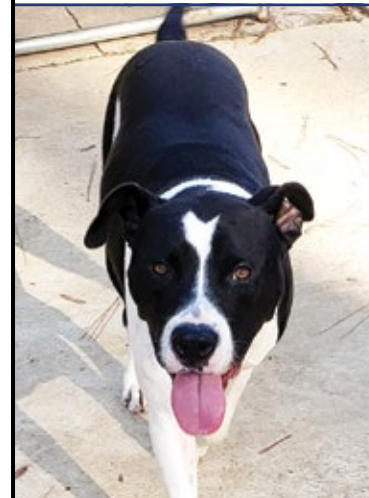
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**PREZ SAYS** continued from page 1

“I’ve spoken to parents and students,” Gallot said. “Obviously, they are all very concerned, which certainly they have every right to be. As we’ve talked through our short-term, mid-term, and long-term planning as far as campus safety, they have expressed a feeling of assurance that we are taking this seriously.”

The short-term perspective was introduced after the shootings, and its features are curfews, checkpoints, and additional patrols through campus by university police, the Lincoln Parish Sheriff’s Office, and the Louisiana State Police.

This part of the plan also nixes all evening and night activities to “curtail the potential for gathering of crowds and outsiders being more easily detectable,” he said.

These changes are being implemented in addition to logistical changes for athletic events. In the mid- and long-term portions of the plan, Grambling intends to add physical barriers as well as more technological campus enhancements to mitigate non-student traffic and enhance safety within the campus community.

During the broadcast, Gallot showed a version of the university’s emergency response plan and touched on updates to be rolled out over time.

He said he wanted the public to see the binder and let them know that the comprehensive plan will take time to implement — there are portions dealing with academics, athletics, housing, and quality of life.

“The last one that was conducted was in 2007,” Gallot said. “Of course, due to turnover in leadership here at the university, many of those plans in this last master plan did not come to fruition. There were some recommendations of other use of some our campus spaces that



Courtesy photo

**Grambling State president Rick Gallot holds up a binder with a three-tier plan to ensure safety for GSU students.**

would have potentially provided an opportunity to restrict more access to the campus.”

Gallot said the GSU football team has also decided to change the start time of their Nov. 13 contest against Bethune-Cookman University from 2 p.m. to 11 a.m. The move was done as a precaution to wrap up the game and its outside activities before sundown to make sure campus is safe.

“We’re going to move it up to 11 a.m. with the plan that we would be able to host the game but have everyone off campus by sundown,” Gallot said.

He also gave more insight about why the Louisiana State Police presence has been so great on campus. He said their presence was to show that Grambling State had the support and resources of LSP to investigate the incidents and handle safety issues.

“It was to show that from the top all the way down that we do have the support and resources of the State Police,” he added. “Not only in the investigation but also as we continue to evaluate our campus safety and as we continue with the development of our plans, both mid-term and long term, in addressing safety on the campus.”



**Ruston Artisans gave area young people the chance to get into a sweet Halloween spirit with a Spooky Sweets Cupcake Workshop. The youngsters decorated cupcakes with all kinds of ghoulish toppings that emphasized the “treat” of the season rather than a “trick.” Facilitated by April McNeil of Be Humble It’s Just Pie, the workshop allowed the children the opportunity to exercise their creative chops while learning how to decorate cupcakes of all types. Caroline McFalls is seen putting the finishing touches on one of her creations while Steele Day strikes a scary pose to mark the occasion. Chloe Ashworth shows off her yummy, spooky treats, some of them shown close up (top).**

**Spooky Sweets Cupcake Workshop**



COURTESY PHOTOS

**OBITUARIES** (Paid Announcements)



**Terry Woodard**

Terry Woodard was born in Shreveport on March 7, 1956, to Doris and E.C. Woodard. He passed away at his home

in Simsboro on Wednesday, October 20, 2021, after a short illness.

Terry loved to work and enjoyed his career in carpentry as well as many other jobs. Terry also enjoyed hunting, fishing, and joy riding.

Terry was preceded in death by his parents. Left to cherish his memory are his wife, Patricia Kaye Woodard; stepsons, Michael Gragg and wife Kimberly of Ruston, and David Gragg and wife Mindy of Jonesboro; step grandchildren, Dakota, Rosalynn,

Landon, Nathan, Katie, Mason, Seth, and Noah Gragg; brothers, Richard Woodard of Ruston, and Charles Woodard of Calhoun; and sisters, Margaret Sutherland, Dot Holway, and Martha Stevens, all of Ruston.

The family would like to give a special thank you to St. Joseph Hospice and especially his nurse, Erica for all the love and understanding extended to them and to all the rest of the family and friends for their support, love, and prayers.



**Mike Gilmore**

Funeral services honoring the life of Mike Gilmore will be held at 2 p.m. Wednesday, October 27, 2021, at the Chapel of Cox Funeral Home of Bastrop with Elder Tyler Thompson officiating.

Interment will follow at Memorial Park Cemetery under the direction of Cox Funeral Homes. In lieu of a visitation, the family will welcome guests before and after

the service.

Mike Gilmore was born May 15, 1952, in Monroe, the only son of Max and Edna Gilmore. Mike passed away peacefully Sunday, October 24, at his home in Bastrop.

Along with his parents, Mike is preceded in death by his daughter, Mandy Roberts and son, Army Specialist Duke Gilmore.

He is survived by his beloved wife of 50 years, Bonnie; son, Michael; and daughter, Stormy Vance. He is also survived by four grandchildren, Lily Dickinson, Wes Dickinson, Park Schweinefus, and Stephen Collins.

Mike built authentic, lasting relationships. The company he founded, Morehouse Management Group, Inc., launched new careers for his clients.

Mike was always there when anyone needed him. He brought out the best in everyone he encountered.

Mike was a larger-than-life figure and was loved by many. Those who knew and loved him are full of stories, from hilarious to heartwarming. He lit up every space he entered. Mike always had time for everyone.

Fearless, he could do anything. He was an artist, drummer, biker, big-rig driver, lumberjack, diesel mechanic, hot air balloon pilot, bank executive and entrepreneur, just to scratch the surface.

Most importantly, Mike was a devoted husband and father. His absence is beyond comprehension, but he has left us all better for having lived a life with him in it.

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### TOM'S HUMOR

## Memories of a non-political Halloween

Halloween was fun while it lasted. For decades it has been the one day of the year we could all forget our worries and live in the moment.

When I was a kid in the 1970s, Halloween was for kids. As the weather became chilly and the leaves turned brilliant colors, we knew our annual candy haul would happen soon. We didn't put much effort into our costumes — any old sheet could be converted into a ghost outfit — but planning our trick-or-treat route took hours.

Since our parents wouldn't let us begin trick or treating until it got dark out — and since we had to be home before 8 p.m. — Tommy Guillen and I refined our routes every year with the intensity of logistics executives.

We'd hit the well-to-do homes on the other side of the railroad tracks first.

Those people gave away full-size delicacies, including Hershey's, Nestle Crunch, Milk Duds, Almond Joy, Snickers, Milky Way, Reese's Peanut Butter Cups and my favorite, the Mallow Cup.



By Tom Purcell

The only downside with well-to-do people was that, because their homes are farther apart, we had to travel a greater distance to earn that name-brand candy.

We'd then return to our own neighborhood of modest homes and then hit the small post-WWII ranch homes a few blocks away.

The wonderful people who lived in those houses had only one minor flaw: they favored the budget-conscious, locally made Clark Bar, which was made of peanut-butter taffy and a chocolate coating.

I'm incredibly nostalgic about my old trick-or-treating days.

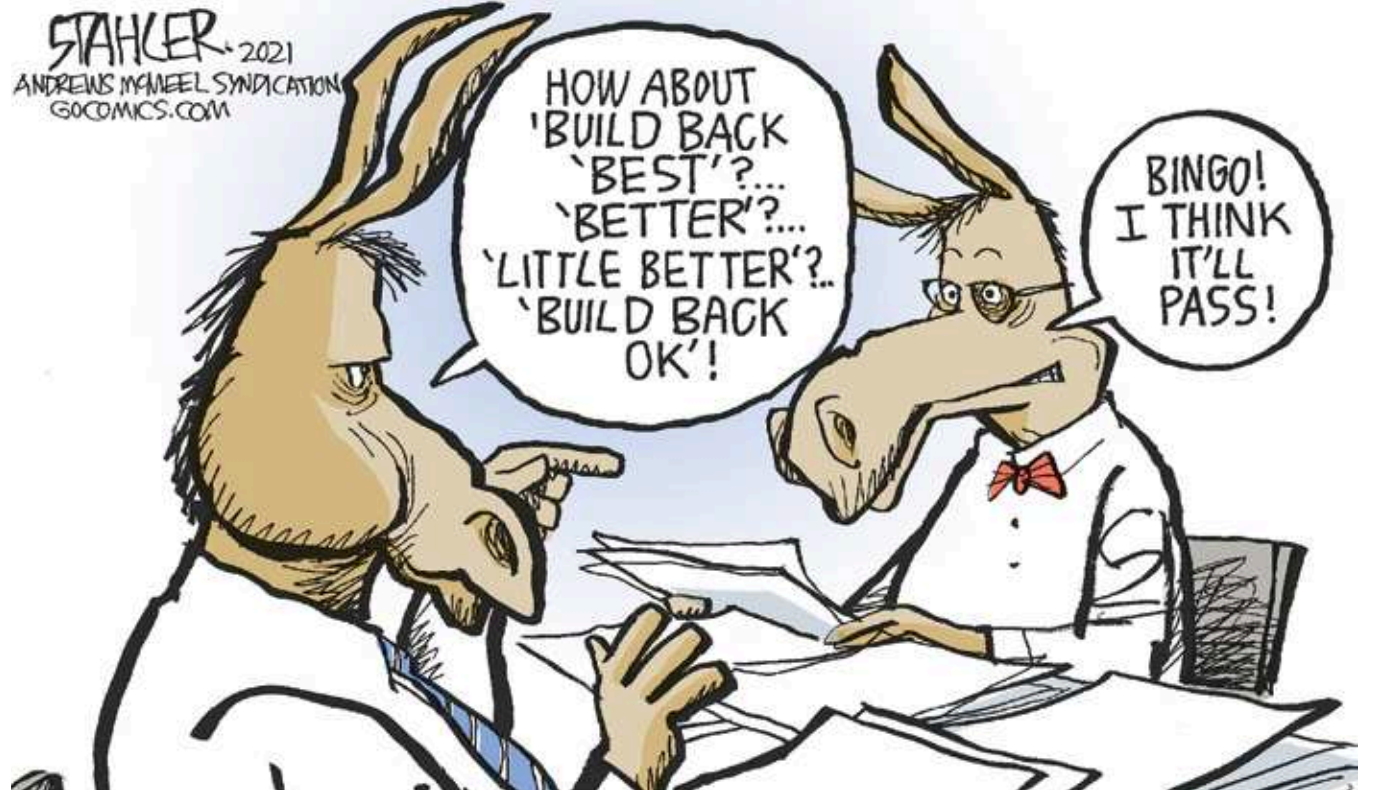
To this day, when I enjoy an occasional candy bar, the taste immediately transports me back to 1972 and the wonderful memory of arriving home with a pillowcase full of sugary loot, my feet raw from the effort.

Here's why I am especially nostalgic about my childhood Halloween memories: it was a time when kids were free to be kids — free to explore, create and blossom — completely unburdened by the worries of the adult world.

Politics has infused itself into every waking moment of our lives, including Halloween. Some schools are canceling Halloween parties and parades. It's become a very bad idea to let yourself have too much fun, or one too many adult beverages, at a Halloween gathering.

As I said, our Halloween fun was good while it lasted.

Tom Purcell is an author and humor columnist. Email him at Tom@TomPurcell.com.



### ADD ONE

## Choice for GSU: Security or statistics

Aside from the loss of life, perhaps the most tragic part about the recent shootings on Grambling State University's campus was that nobody was surprised they happened.

Why should they be? The events of Oct. 13 and Oct. 17 were just the continuation of an awful pattern. Since 2017, four people have been slain on the campus and at least 12 others injured.

Former GSU student Jaylin Wayne, now 23, is on trial this week, accused of second-degree murder in a double homicide that took place four years ago. Two men, one a fellow GSU student, one a campus visitor, were shot dead, their bodies found in a courtyard between two dormitories. Wayne has pleaded not guilty. His attorneys are expected to claim self-defense.



By Nancy Bergeron

In 2018, another student was shot on campus. In March of 2019, a non-student was charged with two firearm infractions after an incident that resulted in one person's being wounded in the leg.

Police said the incident that occurred in the injured student's dorm room appeared to have been an accident.

In October 2019, two people, including a GSU police officer, were shot outside of a school-sanctioned party at the university assembly center.

In 2020, shots fired between two dormitories injured a non-student after a large fight. The school implemented a 10 p.m. curfew, and once again university officials said other measures to control access to the

campus were being implemented.

Then came Oct. 13, just two weeks ago. That's when one man died and three other people were injured when investigators say another non-student opened fire during an unsanctioned homecoming week party. Four days later, as homecoming events were wrapping up, another shooting spree left one more person dead and seven more people injured.

Again, GSU President Rick Gallot blamed outsiders. He isn't entirely wrong. Non-students have been both victims and alleged perpetrators.

But there's another pattern going on here, and it may be part of the reason shootings continue to happen at GSU and across the country.

Every time a catastrophe occurs, the first thing public officials do is take to the media offering thoughts and prayers. They call for a return to their definition of Godliness, point fingers and then play the mental health card: the alleged wrongdoer was a loner, he had anger issues, etc., "this wouldn't have happened if we had more mental health funding."

They thump their chests about all the intervention services available for the people who were victimized and top it off with a woe-is-we comment.

"Why would someone want to come to the campus of our Dear Ole Grambling and shoot innocent people?" Gallot asked during in a press release soon after the Oct. 17 shootings.

Enough already.

It's time for concrete, applied action — the kind of action officialdom promises, but it never gets around to until the next incident occurs and they have to make another public statement.

The fact that GSU continues to be beset by shootings indicates a problem. The national Historically Black Colleges and Universities online digest has gone so far as to suggest perhaps it's time for the GSU community to consider a leadership change.

For now, the campus remains under curfew; there's a larger, multi-agency law enforcement presence and evening activities have been banned. That, the university said, "will curtail the potential for gathering of crowds and outsiders being more easily detectable."

Eventually, the school plans to install "physical barriers as well as additional technological enhancements to restrict access to the campus by unauthorized persons ..."

Clearly that needs to happen sooner rather than later.

No college is immune from gun violence. Even with security cameras on every lamppost, it's impossible for any university to be certain exactly who's on its campus every moment, or where they are.

Even the best efforts at security are imperfect. But you have to try. And the onus is on GSU to try harder now than ever before. Otherwise, nothing will change except the statistics.

Nancy Bergeron is a reporter for the Daily Leader. She covers the city of Ruston. She can be reached by email at nancy@rustonleader.com.

### LOUISIANA SPOTLIGHT

## State budget boom continues for another year

BATON ROUGE (AP) — Rather than crush state finances, the coronavirus pandemic is sending a glut of money to Louisiana's treasury, with Gov. John Bel Edwards and lawmakers facing another year of decisions about how to spend piles of cash available to them.

The state has a \$670 million surplus from the last budget year, is expected to see an improved income forecast in the current financial year and has about \$1.3 billion in unallocated federal pandemic relief aid to spend.

That money will be available for spending in the next regular legislative session that begins in March.

The situation is a far cry from the last term in state government, when Louisiana was struggling with a cash crunch and the Democratic governor and majority-Republican Legislature enacted taxes to avoid deep cuts to health care and higher education programs.

Still, those who remember the post-Hurricane Katrina boost to state coffers — when recovery dollars poured in, construction surged in damaged areas and people replaced their storm-wrecked belongings — are cautioning against getting used to the budget largesse.

They remember the large tax cuts that Republican then-Gov. Bobby Jindal and lawmakers approved

based on a false economic surge, which led to budget problems that plagued Jindal's tenure in office and large financial gaps that Edwards and new lawmakers inherited.

Senate President Page Cortez, a Lafayette Republican in office through the financial highs and lows, told the joint House and Senate budget committee that he didn't want to "repeat the mistakes" of the post-Katrina surge. He said he wants to stay focused on "what not to do after a good boom so that you don't have the bust following it down the road."

Louisiana took in \$1 billion more than expected in the budget year that ended June 30, primarily because of better-than-forecasted personal income, corporate and sales tax collections as recovery from pandemic disruptions continued and people spent temporary federal aid. The state took in enough business taxes to trigger the first deposit into a five-year-old trust fund created to try to lessen the volatility of budgeting cycles.

After sending the \$205 million to the trust fund and slicing off other dedications, the state is projected to have a hefty \$670 million surplus when the accounting work is complete. Under the Louisiana Constitution, nearly \$168 million of that surplus will have to go to the state's "rainy day" fund, while \$67 million

must be used to pay down retirement debt. The remaining \$435 million will be left for lawmakers to spend on one-time items, such as debt payments, coastal protection projects and construction work.

Already in the current budget year, lawmakers had enough cash to pass a \$38 billion state operating budget laden with salary hikes, education spending increases and millions of dollars in legislative pet projects. Pay raises went to college faculty, prison guards, public school teachers and state workers. Spending grew on legislative and judicial operations.

Louisiana received so much federal pandemic aid this year, pushed by President Joe Biden and passed by Democrats in Congress, that lawmakers didn't spend it all. Instead, they allocated about \$1.7 billion of the \$3 billion in direct federal coronavirus aid and reserved the remaining amount to divvy up in the 2022 regular legislative session.

But much of the largesse is short-term. Financial cliffs are on the horizon. In addition to the one-time federal aid, Louisiana's temporary 0.45% state sales tax enacted in 2018 to balance the budget is set to fall off the books in mid-2025, which will siphon away dollars that lawmakers are currently using to pay for ongoing state operations.

Melinda Deslatte has covered Louisiana politics for The Associated Press since 2000.

### Ruston Daily Leader

P.O. Box 520 • Ruston, LA • 71273  
212 W. Park Ave. • Ruston, LA • 71270  
www.rustonleader.com  
(318) 255-4353 (318) 255-4006, Fax



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Publisher.....Jerry Pye  
General Manager.....Cody Richard  
Advertising Director.....Celeste Holley  
Editor.....Brian Trahan  
Managing Editor.....Nancy Bergeron  
News Editor.....Caleb Daniel  
Community Editor.....Cathi Cox-Boniol  
Circulation Manager.....Jason Ferguson  
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## Solid earnings drive US stocks further into record heights

The Associated Press

Stocks held on to modest gains on Wall Street Tuesday, pushing the S&P 500 and the Dow Jones Industrial Average further into record heights. The S&P 500 added 0.2% and the Dow edged up less than 0.1%.

The Nasdaq also rose less than 0.1%. Solid earnings from several companies helped push stock prices higher. UPS jumped 6.9% after the package delivery service reported results that easily beat analysts' forecasts.

Facebook fell 3.9% following a weak sales forecast and increasing scrutiny over its corporate practices. The yield on the 10-year Treasury note

fell to 1.61%.

Technology stocks did much of the heavy lifting for the broader market. Health care stocks and a mix of companies that rely on consumer spending for goods and services also made solid gains.

Communications stocks fell. Facebook shed 4.4% after giving investors a weak sales forecast. The company is also facing scrutiny over its seemingly lax regulation of harmful and misleading information on its platform.

Bond yields were mostly higher, though the yield on the 10-year Treasury slipped to 1.62% from 1.63% from late Monday. Solid earnings reports helped lift several major companies. UPS jumped 7.5% as higher shipping

rates helped the package delivery service easily beat analyst's third-quarter profit forecasts. Hasbro rose 3.7% after the maker of Transformers, My Little Pony and other toys reported solid financial results.

Stocks have been pushing broadly higher as companies turn in much stronger profit reports for the summer than analysts had expected.

"Right now, valuations are high and the market needs some reassurance from corporate earnings," said Ernesto Ramos, chief investment officer in the U.S. for BMO Global Asset Management. "There are still plenty of risks out there, but the market is focusing on the good things right now."

Investors received several encour-

aging economic updates on Tuesday.

U.S. consumer confidence rose in October after three straight declines as the public's anxiety about the delta variant of the coronavirus appear to have abated.

New home sales jumped 14% in September to the fastest pace in six months as strong demand helped offset rising prices.

The broader market is also reacting well to signals that big spending plans in Washington and potential tax increases for companies will likely be diluted, Ramos said.

Wall Street is still concerned about how much of an impact supply chain problems will have on a wide range of industries.

## Louisiana to receive federal disaster aid for hurricanes **WAYNE TRIAL** continued from page 1

BATON ROUGE (AP) — Louisiana will receive \$595 million in federal disaster block grant aid to help with housing restoration and other recovery needs from last year's back-to-back blows of Hurricanes Laura and Delta, the state's two U.S. senators announced Tuesday.

While welcomed by officials as critical to rebuilding efforts in southwest Louisiana, the money

falls far short of the multibillion-dollar estimates of need, offering only about 20% of the \$3 billion in assistance requested by Gov. John

### **MASK** continued from page 1

people who have gotten the COVID-19 vaccine.

"We have overcome this fourth surge, this Delta surge," Edwards said.

But he warned the COVID-19 pandemic isn't over, and no one knows what the future will hold.

Bel Edwards.

It also comes 14 months after Laura wrecked the Lake Charles region, a delay that had locals questioning whether

the nation had forgotten them. GOP U.S. Sen. John Kennedy said the money will provide "a helping hand as we rebuild."

Lincoln Parish now stands at 4,629 confirmed cases of the respiratory virus since the pandemic began in March of 2020, according to the Louisiana Department of Health. COVID-19 has claimed the lives of 100 parish residents thus far, LDH reports.

## **SOCIAL STUDIES** continued from page 1

### **From beginning to end**

Jason Willis is a Ruston High School senior who served on the statewide "steering committee" that oversaw the creation of the new standards.

He said the primary change being proposed is reorganizing which parts of history are taught to which grade level of students to make the presentation more chronological and consistent.

"For me as a student it made absolutely no sense the way it was arranged," Willis said. "... There was a lot of redundancy in some years, and then in years where we'd have a lot of content we weren't allowed to go very deep into it."

"Going chronologically makes more sense for the student... That was the main change."

Since 2011, world history, Louisiana history, and U.S. history have been broken up piecemeal throughout grades 3-12, with some sections reviewed several times and others only once.

In the new standards, grades 3-5 would get world history chronologically up to 1600 AD, then grades 6-12 would get U.S. and Louisiana history concurrently from 1600 to 2010.

"Depending on the grade the teacher's been teaching, he or she may have to learn new content," Lincoln Parish Chief Academic Officer Dana Talley said. "But for the student, it's really just a different order."

### **CRT concerns**

The state's benchmarks that guide how districts choose their curricula in each subject are supposed to be updated every seven years. Social studies is behind schedule, having last been changed in 2011.

Talley said while the major changes in the new standards are focused on the order and methods of teaching, most of the feedback has been centered on the actual content and has largely been about things already present in older standards.

"There's really not a lot that's changing in what we're teaching," she said. "There really isn't. But now because folks have

heard that term (CRT), they're scrutinizing everything that's already been in there."

One steering committee meeting over the summer featured more than two hours of public comments, spurred by a few lawmakers who had unsuccessfully tried in this year's legislative session to pass bills that would have explicitly banned CRT from the school system.

"We need our students to know why our country is a good country... I hope this committee looks at the good things about this country and not the negative," said Rep. Ray Garofalo, R-Chalmette, during that meeting.

Garofalo faced backlash earlier this year after suggesting during a House committee meeting that schools should teach "the good, the bad, and the ugly" of slavery.

Talley said the Lincoln Parish district's goal is to teach "the full truth of history" without shying away from the country's racial history or pretending it's the only facet that exists. She said that's what she tells parents who ask if the district is teaching CRT because no one has a "shared understanding" of what that is.

"If we don't talk about what's happened with people of color in this country, and then we start talking about something that's happened now, and the root cause goes back to that, you're completely disconnected," she said.

"We also don't want to cherry-pick the most horrific acts and make it look like we haven't made progress. We're going to tell it like it is, but then we are going to acknowledge that we are moving forward."

Examples of this were in place in the previous standards. The state Department of Education's companion document for eighth grade social studies asks teachers to "describe actions taken to limit the civil rights of African Americans" during the Reconstruction era and also "advise federal actions taken to advance civil rights" during that same period.

Critics of CRT often voice concerns that students will be taught that white people are inherently

racist, or they'll be made to feel guilty for their race.

Officials say that's not in the current standards or the new ones and isn't being taught.

"We don't have any intention in this district of telling people that because you're born a certain way, then you're this kind of person," she said.

### **What else is changing?**

Lincoln Parish Social Studies Facilitator Shannon Lee said another major change in the new standards is an emphasis on inquiry-based learning in which students examine primary and secondary documents to arrive at answers and help guide the topics of discussion.

"We're trying to help them not just learn history, but to be citizens and be able to take information and process it, to come up with a plan and form their own opinions about it," she said.

This shift moves away from memorizing facts and dates and places more emphasis on making connections between events in history and their effects in the past and the present. New standardized social studies tests, which are still being formulated, will reflect that change.

And on the topic of racial history, Willis said there will be a more global focus on the topic rather than only the U.S.

"Certainly slavery was something we'd already been learning, but we hadn't been discussing other groups as much, like Asian Americans and Latin Americans," he said. "And in the lens of world history, we hadn't been looking at marginalized groups in other societies outside of America."

He said the steering committee heard concerns from the public that students would be taught not to feel positively about the U.S., but that's not the case.

"We talked about the idea of reflective patriotism — love your country and still recognizing where it falls short," Willis said. "That's what it's about... it's just making us more well-rounded people."

Baton Rouge, are expected to argue that Wayne acted in self defense.

If the jury ultimately finds Wayne guilty of second-degree murder, their verdict must be unanimous. Second-degree murder carries an automatic life sentence.

"This is a serious case with serious consequences," Assistant District Attorney Lewis Jones, one of the prosecutors for the state, said.

Family members of both the victims and Wayne have been in the courtroom since the proceedings began.

For the most part, Wayne, dressed in a black suit, white shirt and gray patterned tie with a pocket handkerchief, sat watching the attorneys question the potential jurors, but occasionally, he turned his head to the opposite wall.

Haley reminded the potential jurors that if they made it to the final panel, "it will be up to you to decide the case against Mr. Wayne."

"If there are legitimate doubts in your mind, you must vote to acquit Mr. Wayne," Haley said.

The burden of proof lies with the prosecutors; that is, Jones and co-counsel Assistant District Attorney Tracy Houck must prove Wayne guilty beyond a reasonable doubt, rather than Haley and Moore having to prove their client innocent.

"It is not your job to finish the job for the state," Haley told the first panel. "The stakes are high. It's important also for you to hold to your convictions."

Haley asked potential jurors to measure the testimony they hear by an acronym he called CAT: consistency, accuracy and truth.

Houck reiterated to the second panel that the state's responsibility is to prove Wayne's guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.

"We accept that burden," Houck said. "We brought the charges."

Wayne's trial comes as Louisiana State Police and other agencies continue to investigate two more fatal shootings that occurred on the GSU campus during this year's homecoming week.

On Oct. 13, one man was killed and three wounded when gunfire broke out during an unsanctioned party on the campus. Four days later, another person was killed and seven others injured in another shooting incident. Police have identified the suspect in the Oct. 13 incident as 18-year-old Jatavious Carroll of Delhi. Carroll is still at large. No suspect or suspects have been named in the Oct. 17 incident, nor have state police identified the victim.

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# Monster Mash Halloween

Leader photos by JOSH EVANS



The city of Ruston held its annual Monster Mash Halloween celebration at the Ruston Sports Complex Monday afternoon, with hundreds of local ghouls, goblins and candy seekers enjoying a sunny excursion.



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## Saints capitalize on Seattle miscues for 13-10 road win

SEATTLE (AP) — Alvin Kamara and Jameis Winston were the happy beneficiaries of the Seattle Seahawks' many mistakes.

Then it was rookie Brian Johnson's turn to make sure the New Orleans Saints got the win they needed to keep pace in the NFC South.

"In a game like this where things are close, things get a little ugly towards the end, it builds confidence to be able to come into a game like this and close it out the way we did," Saints defensive end Cameron Jordan said.

Johnson kicked a 33-yard field goal with 1:56 remaining in his NFL debut, and New Orleans outlasted Seattle 13-10 on Monday night.

Kamara carried the load for New Orleans and Winston made a handful of plays when needed, but the Saints (4-2) escaped Seattle thanks largely to a series of blunders by the home team, which is sorely missing injured quarterback Russell Wilson. Two of the Seahawks' biggest mistakes came on New Orleans' deciding drive when Seattle was flagged for roughing the passer and jumping offside on a long field-goal attempt. Both penalties gave New Orleans first downs, and Johnson's field goal coming out of the 2-minute warning put the Saints ahead.

Johnson, a rookie from Virginia Tech, made an extra point and both field-goal tries, connecting from 21 yards in the first half.

"It was tough trying to see what the wind was doing because it was changing constantly throughout pregame and the game itself," Johnson said. "So just stick with my plan that I had coming into it and really focusing on just hitting my ball and hitting good contact that will cut through the wind."

Geno Smith made his second start at QB for Seattle (2-5) since Wilson suffered a serious finger injury in a loss to the Rams. The backup hit DK Metcalf for an 84-yard touchdown in the first quarter but went nowhere when the Seahawks had a final chance to tie or win.

Smith was sacked on consecutive plays by Malcolm Jenkins and Demario Davis. On fourth-and-28, Smith was pressured again and his throw to Metcalf fell incomplete.

# Time for an Upset?

## Hall, Panthers think Haynesville game may be the opportunity for a breakthrough win

By Josh Evans  
josh@rustonleader.com

The Lincoln Prep Panthers (5-3) continue district play against the Haynesville Golden Tornado (5-3) Thursday night in Jonesboro-Hodge Stadium in a matchup with playoff implications.

This battle comes on the heels of a convincing win over Magnolia School of Excellence 45-12 in the Panthers' last game, while the Golden Tornado faced the top team in the district, Calvary Baptist, and suffered a 49-7 defeat.

Sitting toward the middle of the district with identical records, both teams want to build a little momentum before their final regular season game and their respective playoff runs.

The two teams feature completely different styles of offense.

The Panthers make a living in open space, seizing their one-on-one opportunities with the pass and their best athletes, while the Tornado have been historically known



LINCOLN  
PREP (5-3)  
VS  
HAYNESVILLE (5-3)  
THURSDAY at 7 pm  
JONESBORO-HODGE HS



for the Wing-T offense and their ground-and-pound run game dating back to the days of legendary coach Alton "Red" Franklin.

Prep's star quarterback Ty'Rell Simmons has been playing through an apparent knee injury since their loss to Homer, but this week they'll need him at top speed. Even on a gimpy knee, he managed to keep up his efficient play with 190 yards passing and 3 TDs.

On Tuesday head coach Glen Hall said he thought Simmons was around 90% healthy and looking to improve by the Thursday matchup.

"I think he'll be 100% come Thursday, and that'll help us out a lot," Hall said.

Dmitry Payne, another one of the Panthers' athletic starters, continued his consistent play, adding a rushing and receiving touchdown against the

Mariners.

Prep also added a new weapon on offense to the fray last week. Senior Emmanuel Bryant, mostly utilized on the defensive end this season, lined up as a slot receiver, and with a down week to thumb through the fundamentals, a diamond in the rough appeared who ended his night with two rushing touchdowns and a receiving touchdown.

"Maybe that's my secret weapon," Hall added.

Hall thinks his team can put up some points against the Golden Tornado defense, but his biggest concern is stopping the run.

"They have a great running game. We just can't get caught up in the hoopla," Hall said.

With their run game comes a lot of misdirection, traps, and gap running under head coach David Franklin.

Hall said he wants to stop the counter by

preventing the tackles from getting to his linebackers on the second level and slowing down the pulling guard.

"We have to stop that tackle from getting to our linebackers so they can't get those two guards around. Get some guys in the right position to take away some of their basic play," Hall explained.

Stacking the numbers up, both teams allow just under 30 points on average while they score over 30 points per game against opposing defenses.

As Lincoln Prep prepares for Thursday's game, they want to change the narrative of their up-and-down season and beat a team that they aren't supposed to beat.

"Get to the basics — block, tackle and running our offense," Hall said, citing his keys to an upset.

"I think if we block, tackle, and hold our assignments, we'll be in it in the end. All you look for against a team like this to be in there at the end and have a chance to win."



By Brian Trahan  
editor@rustonleader.com

Week 8 was full of surprises and upsets as our local teams maneuver for playoff positioning. Our four teams went 3-1 on the week, with two upsets — one win and one loss.

Cedar Creek beat No. 4 Oak Grove, but Jonesboro-Hodge lost at home to D'Arbonne Woods Charter.

Regardless of a win or loss, we're off to follow the Cat Tracks.

### THE PANTHER STALKS ITS PREY

One of the unsung heroes of Lincoln Prep's turnaround season has been the play of senior Emmanuel Bryant. He has excelled on defense as he did Friday against Magnolia School of Excellence with 10 tackles. Coach Glen Hall played him on offense as well Friday and he scored three TDs, two rushing and one receiving.

### THE KING IS DEAD LONG LIVE THE KING

This king being West Monroe, which had its 100-game district winning streak stopped Friday by Ouachita in double overtime. With the loss, Ruston is now in first place in District 2-5A

all alone. Long live the king ... for now ... until the Rebels visit in week 10. We'll come back to this later.

### A WEE GREAT CATCH LADD

Cedar Creek's Ladd Thompson was the man with the big play Friday night as the Cougars upset Oak Grove on the road. Thompson made a spectacular one-handed catch Friday night for a huge 82-yard gain on third and 17. Later, Thompson hauled in a 51-yard TD pass that was the game winner.

### MAY DAY, MAY DAY MAYFIELD IS MAULING

When the Ruston Bearcats needed defensive stops against high-powered Alexandria Senior High Friday night, that's what they got in holding the Trojans to half of their season average (23 points). The catalyst for the Bearcats' defense was linebacker Jadon Mayfield, who had a team-high 10 tackles, a crucial sack against Joe Bordelon and even forced a fumble that was recovered by the Cats.

### ALTERNATE REALITY PART TROIS

Lincoln Prep's see-saw season continued Friday night, with the Panthers' penchant

for winning one week and losing the next. This week was "W" week. Prep blasted Magnolia School of Excellence 45-12 to up its record to 5-3. Since week one, the Panthers have gone win, loss, win, loss, win, loss and win. On tap this week is Haynesville as they try to break that trend.

### WATCHING FROM THE TIGERS BENCH

D'Arbonne Woods Charter head coach Thomas Tharp had a plan going into Friday's game at Jonesboro-Hodge. Thesis: Run, run, run and keep the Tigers' powerful offense off the field. Synopsis: Couldn't have worked out better. J-Hodge had the ball for only 26 offensive plays all night as D'Arbonne pulled off the 22-20 victory.

### CURB YOUR ENTHUSIASM? NOT HARDLY

Just how good has District 2-5A been on a state level in Class 5A? In the words of Larry David, pretty, pretty, pretty ... pretty good. Take a look at the Class 5A power rankings this week. Ruston (7-1) is No. 3, Ouachita (5-3) is No. 11, Alexandria (6-2) is No. 12 and West Monroe (4-3) is No. 14. If the playoffs started today, all four would host first-round playoff games.

### WHERE WERE YOU IN 1993?

In October of 1993, Howard Stern's radio show made its debut, Ace of Base's hit single "The Sign" was released, the NFL announced an expansion franchise in Carolina, Gary Kasparov was the chess champion and Nelson Mandela was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize. Oh, and Cedar Creek beat Oak Grove. That was the last time the Cougars beat the Tigers in football until Friday night — spanning 28 years.

### KICKING ASH IN OUR HOUSE

Since the Alexandria Senior High Trojans joined Ruston's district prior to the 2013 season, the Bearcats have dominated the series. With Friday's 37-23 win, RHS has gone 7-1 in district meetings. That includes winning all four meetings in Ruston. In those four games in Hoss Garrett Stadium, the Cats have won by an average margin of 27 points.

### ALLOW MYSELF TO INTRODUCE ... MYSELF. ONE MORE TIME. AGAIN.

Most defenses watch film on Ruston High and determine the way to stop the

Bearcats is to corral Dyson Fields. That's worked out great, huh? If he's not hot, defenses have stacked the box to stop Devian Wilson. Strke two. Should they get to their third plan of action, it would be to stop quarterback Jaden Osborne. Ruston hasn't needed him to carry the team much this season but Friday night he reminded ASH about his skills. Osborne rushed 11 times for 114 yards and 2 TDs. He scored from 57 yards out in the first half and ended the scoring with a 10-yard TD in the fourth.

### QUOTE OF THE WEEK I

"Normally, I would tell the players we're going to celebrate for 24 hours and then move on. We're going to take 48 hours for this one," said Cedar Creek head coach Matt Middleton after beating No. 4 Oak Grove on the road Friday.

### QUOTE OF THE WEEK II

"I told him before the game all I wanted him to do was hand off and throw short passes. I told him if he took off running I would fight him," joked Lincoln Prep head coach Glen Hall about his talented quarterback Ty'Rell Simmons, who is nursing a knee injury.

## J-Hodge X-Factor

Tackling machine Xavier Atkins motivated by tragedy

By Josh Evans  
josh@rustonleader.com

He's 6-1 and weighs 193 pounds.

He bench presses 225 pounds, squats over 350 pounds and deadlifts nearly 400 pounds.

At the ripe old age of 16, he's only in the 10th grade.

Oh, and he happens to average 18.5 tackles per game and leads the state of Louisiana in that statistic.

He's Xavier Atkins, Jonesboro-Hodge's X-factor. The Tigers' tackling machine.

Unknown before the 2021 season, No. 13 in red, white and blue tucked away in the piney woods of Jackson Parish has caught the attention of not only high school coaches, but has college recruiters on notice as well.

Just one week ago, Atkins discovered the magic of Death Valley. He made the trip in to LSU's Tiger Stadium for a Saturday upset of the Florida Gators. He heard the famous four notes the band plays to open Saturday's action. He witnessed how raucous 100,000 people can get in a football venue.

"It's all new to me," Atkins said. "It feels like a dream."

If he could choose right now, LSU would be in his top 3 choices to attend college — along with Alabama and Oregon.

Unbeknownst to him, after a car accident this summer that took the lives of teammates LaJavion "Luda" Nichols and Javious "J5" Holden, Atkins would shake up the field and the scene for high school football in Louisiana.

"When they died, something just transferred in me," Atkins explained. "Ever since that happened I've been doing good. I just humbled myself. You know anything can happen, so I just humbled myself, and I take it day by day."

"You never know when it's going to be your last."

He said he was inspired by Javion and dedicates every game to his friend.



Photo by Darrell James

**Jonesboro-Hodge's Xavier Atkins has gone from relative unknown to exploding on the college recruiting scene during a sophomore season in which he leads the state in tackles.**

"I actually looked up to Javion. At first I didn't know how to play linebacker," Atkins, who has registered more than 20 tackles three times this season, admitted. "He taught me how to do everything on the practice field, and I looked up to him. Even to this day I do. He inspired me to do better, he inspired me to come out here."

"I just do it for my teammates that died in a car crash," he continued. "So every time we play I just think of them, and it just gives me the energy and motivates me."

A year prior to this breakout season, Atkins admitted that it was hard at first, but he now knows the defense like the back of his hand.

"If coach tells me a base or a front, I automatically know exactly where I need to be," Atkins said.

Coach Terrance Blankenship has had praise for Atkins all year.

"He's that guy on defense that makes the plays, and he was right there in the right spot on defense to make the play for us," Blankenship said after a potential game-saving pass deflection a week ago against Cedar Creek in Ruston.

Excelling on the football field is something new for Atkins. He didn't play organized football until the eighth grade. Friends and coaches boast that he's already a student of the game.

After school, at practice, and doing his homework Atkins said he's watching film on his next opponent.

"I'm watching film as soon as I get to the crib because every game matters," Atkins said. "I treat this like I'm a senior. I try to do what the other 99 percent won't do, but what the successful 1 percent will do."

There's a lot of hype, and with the hype comes comparisons. One comparison already surfaced this season to a re-

cent LSU All-American who now owns a Super Bowl ring. Atkins has been compared to Tampa Bay Buccaneers linebacker Devin White.

At the same age there's a size difference, but the movements of the two are similar.

Full speed ahead. Sideline to sideline. Tackling anyone and everyone with the football.

"It's inspiring," Atkins said about the comparisons. "You don't really see that type of stuff as a 16-year-old sophomore. It's amazing to me, but at the same time I don't want to be compared to him because I have my own destination. I respect him and I like how he plays, we kind of play similar. We can make a mistake, but we're running full speed to the ball, no matter who's in the way."

The Jonesboro-Hodge team had its six-game winning streak snapped Friday night, and this type of success hasn't occurred for the team in over 16 years. A huge part of the team's success can be attributed to No. 13, but also his brothers in arms on a rocking offense with outstanding athletes.

More recruiters may start programming Jonesboro in their GPS the way J-Hodge's star athletes are displaying their skills. Devontae Mozze has been a solid contributor on both sides of the ball, with 379 yards receiving, 8 receiving touchdowns, 3 pick-6 interceptions, and 1 punt return for a TD. Brantrell Thompson has a kick returned for a TD with 373 yards rushing on 65 attempts and 4 touchdowns. Tydre Malone has been an efficient 76-of-126 for 1,074 yards passing and 13 TDs, with 55 carries for 165 yards, and 5 more TDs prior to this week's game.

One thing is certain. When college coaches turn on the film to watch Jonesboro-Hodge in action, they'll have plenty of chances to watch the X-factor in action.

Just follow the football. That's what Atkins does.

## Clutch plays helped Cougars beat OG for first time since 1993

By Brian Trahan  
editor@rustonleader.com

allowed us to get the win."

With about two minutes left in the fourth quarter Friday night, the Cedar Creek Cougars were holding on to a 13-9 lead with No. 4 Oak Grove driving.

There could have been doubts creeping into the green and gold with flashbacks to holding a 22-21 lead with two minutes left against No. 1 Ouachita Christian four weeks ago. That night the Cougars weren't able to hold on and pull off the upset.

What a difference a month makes.

Friday night the defense stepped up and forced the Tigers to turn the ball over on downs at the Cedar Creek 30 yard line with a minute left to preserve the school's first win over Oak Grove in 28 years.

"It was an exciting night for our team and I just love these kids," head coach Matt Middleton said. "This team has been resilient all year long and something finally went our way."

What went their way was a stifling defense that has been the team's personality all season long. The creek rose again when it needed to stuffed the run and defended the pass in that last series of downs.

Players like Carson Riley, Lawson Lillo and Quincy Lewis give the Cougars anchors on each level of the defense and have stood out this season. Fitting in crunch time that those three registered double-digit tackles Friday.

"We started the season off really slow on offense, which had the defense carrying us," Middleton said. "I have to give our staff credit. They have done a phenomenal job with our defense and that allows the kids to go out and play hard and play fast and really get after it. That was a great defensive performance and that

How good have the Cougars been against opposing offenses?

In five of Cedar Creek's seven games, the defense has held opponents to less than 10 points. In the other two games, Ouachita Christian scored 33 but had an interception returned for a touchdown toward the end of the game, and Jonesboro-Hodge scored 28. Both teams scored well below their season averages.

Going into Oak Grove and coming out with a win by holding their offense under 10 points is an amalgamation of a defense utilizing skill and jelling together with the coaching staff.

Coupled with an offense that is growing stronger and developing the knack for big plays makes Creek more dangerous as the playoffs approach.

Two weeks ago it was quarterback Caden Middleton who made the big plays with 6 touchdown passes against Sicily Island. Jed Worthey has displayed his mettle running bigger than his stature out of the backfield with three 100-yard games this season.

Friday night it was Ladd Thompson who called on his clutch gene. Thompson set up the first Creek score with an 82-yard reception on third and 17 with the Cougars backed up. AJ Thomas scored a play later.

"Ladd gave us a spark when we needed it. He took that pass and went 80 yards and to be honest he ran out of gas. That was big for us," Matt Middleton said.

Thompson wasn't done. With the game tied 7-7 just into the fourth quarter, he decided a shorter distance was better to reach the end zone this time.

He hauled in a pass from Caden Middleton and scored from 51 yards out for what turned out to be the winning points.

## Mike Tomlin: idea he's a candidate for college jobs 'a joke'

PITTSBURGH (AP) — Note to big-time college football programs looking for new coaches: Mike Tomlin isn't interested.

The Pittsburgh Steelers coach said Tuesday he considers it a "joke" that his name has popped up as a potential candidate for places such as Southern California.

"I got one of the best jobs and in all the professional sports, why would I have any interest in coaching college

football?" Tomlin said.

Former Heisman Trophy winner and USC star Carson Palmer told The Dan Patrick radio show that Tomlin was a "wild card" as the Trojans look for someone to replace Clay Helton, who was fired in September.

Former Buffalo Bills general manager Doug Whaley, who worked in the Steelers front office alongside Tomlin for several years before moving on to the Bills, said on

93.7 The Fan in Pittsburgh last week that Steeler fans should be worried about the letters "U-S-C" and "L-S-U."

Tomlin is 148-81-1 in 15 seasons with the Steelers, one shy of the number his predecessor — Hall of Famer Bill Cowher — reached in the same number of seasons with the club. The Steelers signed Tomlin to a three-year contract extension in April that runs through 2024.


The 49-year-old, who

played collegiately at William & Mary before going into coaching, has no connection to USC or LSU. He's spent the overwhelming majority of his coaching career in the NFL. Tomlin last coached at the college level while serving as the defensive backs coach at the University of Cincinnati in 1999 and 2000. He joined the Tampa Bay Buccaneers as a defensive backs coach in 2001 and has been in the NFL

since then.

Tomlin, whose team is 3-3 heading into a visit to AFC North rival Cleveland (4-3) on Sunday, said this would be the last time he addresses his name in connection — however loosely — with college jobs.

"Never say never, but never," he said. "Anybody else got any questions about any college jobs? There is not a booster with a big enough blank check."



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- Regular Breakfast Sausages
- Pepper & Cheese Sausages
- Deer Tamales
- Deer Bacon



# GSU students grasping for normalcy during chaos

By Rachel Mipro  
Louisiana Illuminator

**GRAMBLING** — Days after the Grambling State University shootings, students are trying to resume normal life.

A small group of students from the Gemini Club, a club dedicated to student and community engagement, were picking up trash along one of the main campus streets Thursday, four days after the second shooting.

The first shooting happened around 1 a.m. on Oct. 13, killing one person and injuring three others, including two students. Last Sunday, a second shooting in the quad area of the campus injured seven and killed one person during homecoming celebrations.

Adairre Wilson, club president and a pre-law senior, said the school normally organized trash cleanup after homecoming events, but with everything canceled after the shootings, the club decided to organize its own cleanup event.

“We have to focus on the positive and one of those ways we feel is just giving everyone a clean slate, making it look clean, is definitely a start,” Wilson said.

Senior Chayel Flowers wants more gates

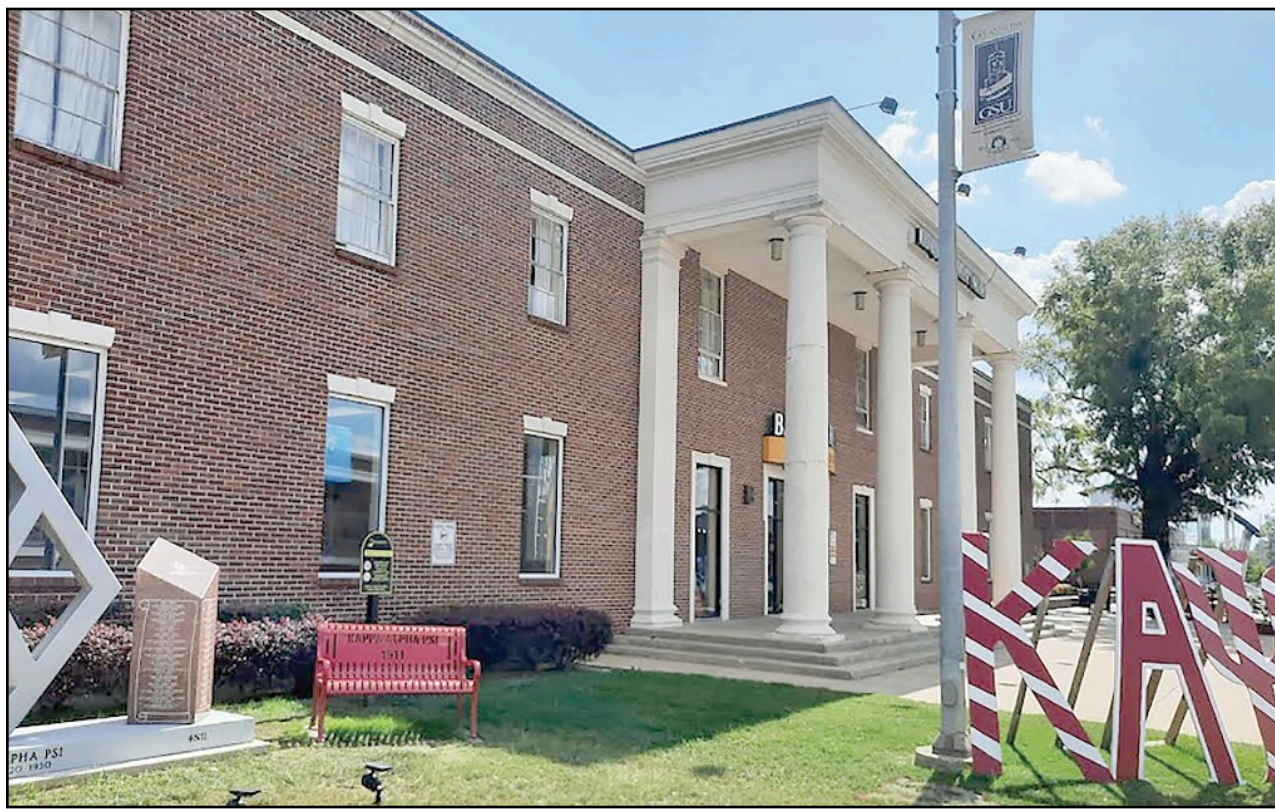


Photo by Rachel Mipro/Louisiana Illuminator

At Grambling State University, students are back to classes after multiple shootings in one week.

put up around campus, though he doesn't think it's feasible to close off the campus entirely. He was in the area for the shooting, but is determined not to let the incident affect his education.

“Going through this isn't really going to hinder my educational goals or pursuits to get where I'm trying to go, but I do feel like it has put me in a position to where I'm kind of stagnant throughout this week,” Flowers said. “Watching a lot of the stuff break out, it was very scary, but it's sad that I'm kind of used to

it, honestly.”

Flowers emphasized that outsiders were the issue — he believes that the university and campus community has done a good job of pulling together in the wake of the shootings.

“These were non-Grambling students that caused everything that's going on,” Flowers said. “So I just want people to understand that we have to do better with our security measures to make sure that doesn't happen, but it's not the Grambling students causing these issues.”

At the school news-

paper, The Gramblinite, Jasmine Franklin, editor-in-chief, said she's had to separate her feelings as a student from her feelings as a reporter.

“I'm feeling as okay as I can feel,” Franklin said. “It's not a good story of course, but it's something that has to be covered and I'm handling it the best way I can.”

She was off campus Oct. 17, as a shooting earlier that day in the vicinity of the campus made her decide not to attend the homecoming events.

“This has become

the norm,” Franklin said. “Especially for our homecomings, because we've had these shootings happen every year on campus, multiple shootings between 2017 until now. So I think the climate is a little tense, and I know some students are still traumatized from the events.”

In 2018, one person was shot on campus, near the basketball courts. In 2019, a Grambling student was injured in an “accidental” shooting in the residential housing area.

Franklin said security needs to be tightened — she, like other students, doesn't want Grambling's reputation to be overshadowed by violence.

“It's not always an outsider, even though

oftentimes it is. We need to look at it from a different perspective versus just using the term outsider as an easy way out to say ‘This is not Grambling,’ which it's not Grambling — but at the same time we still need to make sure that we are protecting our campus and doing what we can internally, so that outside people don't think that's okay to do that on campus.”

Jakayla Riddle, a freshman, said she was very close to the first shooting, about seven feet away. When she heard gunshots, she started running, accidentally getting separated from her friend who went into the cafeteria for shelter. Riddle made her way across campus and spent the night in a friend's residence hall.

“I was scared,” Riddle said. “I didn't feel safe.”

She was in her dorm for the second shooting, and heard that cops were running with the students away from the gunfire.

“The second shooting, the cops were running. Like how are you here to protect us and you're running? People's bodies are laid out and you running to pick up a walkie talkie,” Riddle said. “How does that sound?”

“The killer is still on the loose. They didn't catch any suspects. I kind of feel like I'm in a movie. This is a movie like a Halloween movie.”



Leader photos by CATHI COX-BONIOL

## Green Clinic celebrates United Way

Green Clinic celebrated its 2021 United Way campaign with a jambalaya dinner fundraiser, raffles for \$500 gift card packages, and lots of fun door prizes. Pictured in the top photo from left are Donna Thompson, Lynne Brazzel, Clay Norman, and Helen Cox, who prepare festive decorations for the event while Lisa Doshier (below) stops by to pick up her jambalaya plate. The event netted \$1,000 for the local United Way of Northeast Louisiana.



LINCOLN PARISH LIBRARY

# CALENDAR of Events

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**Children's Department**  
Mondays - Virtual Story Time and New Craft Kits  
Tuesdays - In Person Story Time 10 a.m.

---

**Teen Department** New Craft Kits Monthly

---

**Adult Department**  
Adult Reading Challenge.  
New Monthly Adult Craft Kits

---

**Nov. Art Display by Saul Zalesch:**  
Credit Card Marketing of 2000's

---

**Nov. 2 - Trailblazer Tuesday**  
**Nov. 13 - 4 Paws Adoption Day**

---

**Sponsored by Lincoln Parish Library**  
910 North Trenton Street  
More information on these and other offerings can be found at [www.mylpl.org](http://www.mylpl.org)

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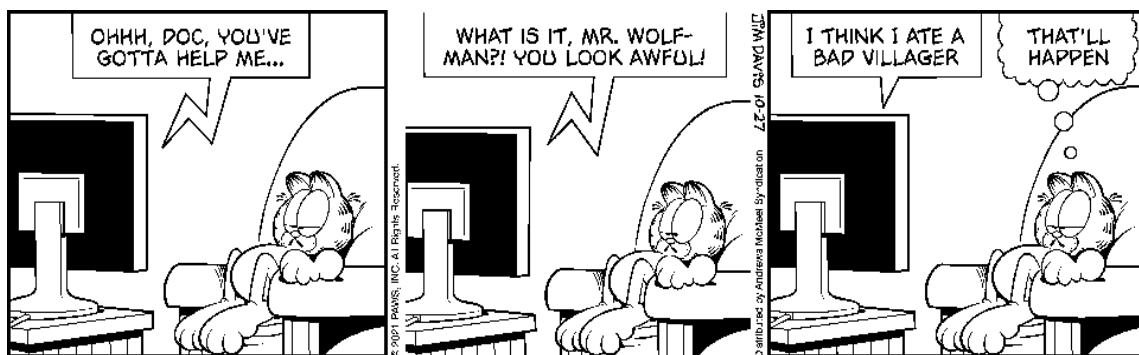
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## Garfield



## Peanuts



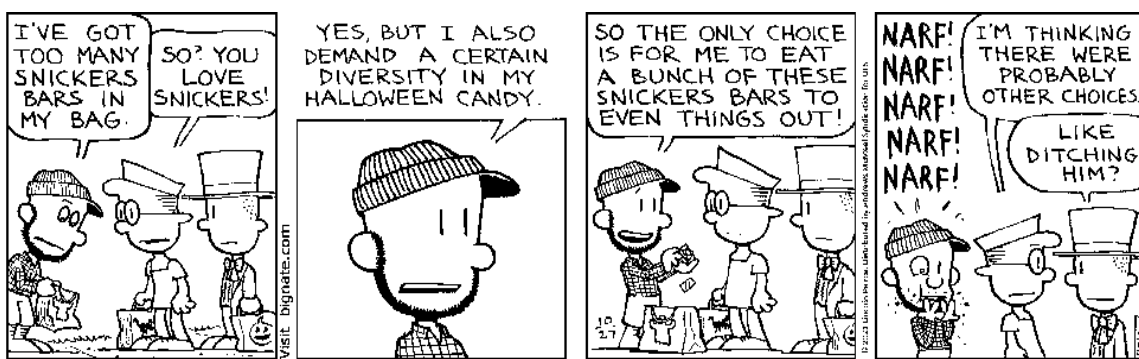
## Alley Oop



## The Born Loser



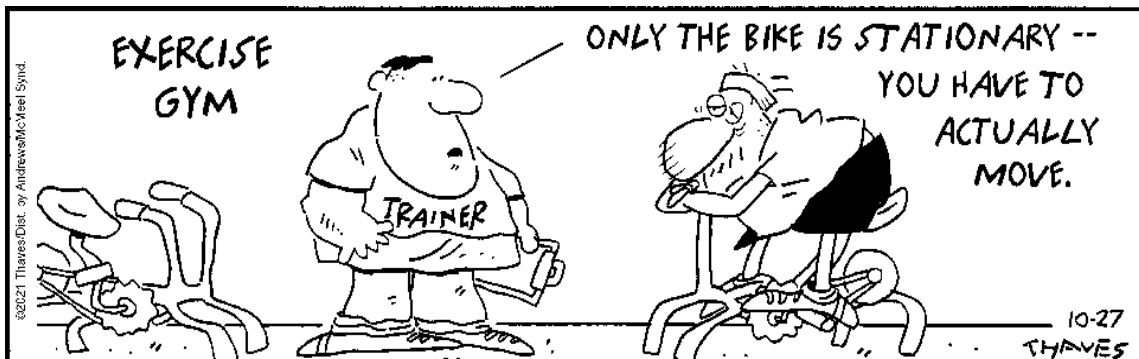
## Big Nate



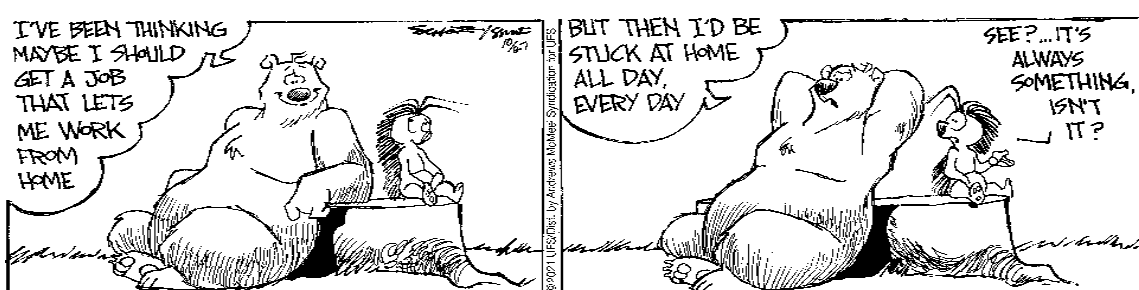
## Cul De Sac



## Frank n Ernest

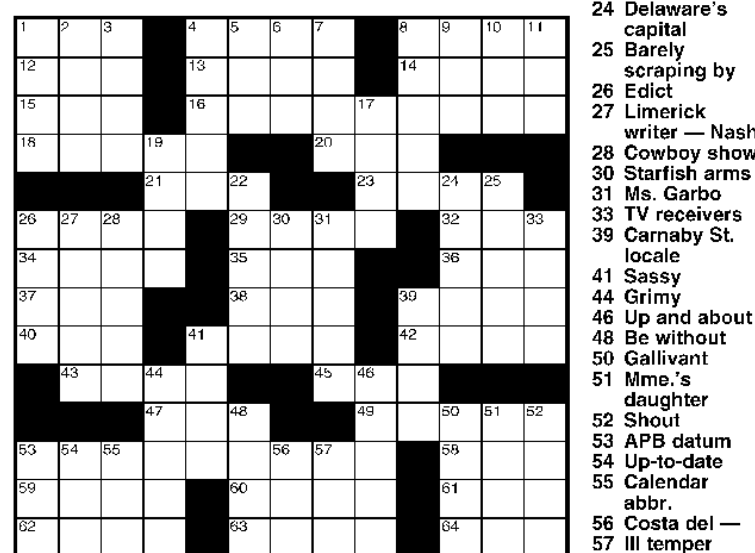


## Grizzwells



## Crossword Puzzle

- ACROSS**
- 1 Beard site
  - 4 Actress
  - 8 Sedgwick
  - 8 Prayer wheel
  - 12 Made in the —
  - 13 Winged god
  - 14 "Excuse me!"
  - 15 Wire measure
  - 16 Moving upward
  - 18 Song of triumph
  - 20 Call in sick
  - 21 Playful activity
  - 23 Grant
  - 26 Public meeting places
  - 29 Press for
  - 32 Gives the go-ahead
  - 34 Stravinsky or Sikorsky
  - 35 Sully
  - 36 Strive to win
  - 37 Attach
- DOWN**
- 1 Flinch
  - 2 Three oceans touch it
  - 3 Corduroy rib
- TODAY'S ANSWERS**
- 4 Reeves of "John Wick" — Soph. and jr.  
5 "Arabian Nights" bird  
7 Between ports  
8 King-size spoon  
9 Triumphant cry  
10 Adult persons  
11 Oz. or lb.  
17 Good-natured  
19 From a distance  
22 Gives Novocain  
24 Delaware's capital  
25 Barely scraping by  
26 Edict  
27 Limerick writer — Nash  
28 Cowboy show  
30 Starfish arms  
31 Ms. Garbo  
33 TV receivers  
39 Carnaby St. locale  
41 Sassy  
44 Grimy  
46 Up and about  
48 Be without  
50 Gallivant  
51 Mme.'s daughter  
52 Shout  
53 APB datum  
54 Up-to-date  
55 Calendar abbr.  
56 Costa del —  
57 Ill temper



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How to print the puzzle:

- Click the download link option
- Save the PDF page to your desktop
- Select print

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## HOROSCOPES

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2021

Organize your thoughts. It's important to understand the ramifications of every move or decision you make. Take a positive approach to life, love and happiness, and it will help you avoid wasting your time and energy. Gaining experience and knowledge will give you hope for a better future. Leave nothing to chance; protect your health and money.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22)** -- A debate will disrupt a friendship or cause a family feud. Think before you share your point of view. Be a good listener, and you'll be able to sidestep an unfavorable situation.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21)** -- Tighten up your finances to save for something unique. Build your future on concrete plans, and you'll make an impression on someone who recognizes your experience and values your input.

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)** -- The request of an associate will not line up with your vision. Take the high road and find a way to incorporate the old with the new. Your insight and adaptability will win favors.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19)** -- Keep your eye on the ball and be willing to accommodate someone you need in your corner. A change may not be welcome, but with a bit of finagling, you'll find a way to get what you want.

**PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20)** -- Emotions will surface over shared expenses and responsibilities. Take care of your fair share, then move on to more enjoyable tasks. Connect with someone who can make a difference in your life.

**ARIES (March 21-April 19)** -- Rest, rejuvenate and start all over again. How you handle physically challenging events and activities will affect your emotional well-being. Do things to put your mind at ease.

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20)** -- Don't throw caution to the wind. Know what you are up against and do whatever it takes to stay on top of your game. Stability, consistency and sensible adjustments will pay off.

**GEMINI (May 21-June 20)** -- Leave nothing to chance or undone. Trust in yourself and the work that you do. Your dedication and loyalty will help you advance. Do your own research and make sure you verify information.

**CANCER (June 21-July 22)** -- It's up to you to get the ball rolling. Don't wait for someone to beat you at your own game. Take a lead position, follow through with your plans and pursue what makes you happy.

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)** -- Keep the peace at home and when dealing with peers. A change someone makes may not align with your plans, but that doesn't mean you shouldn't follow the path that suits you. Do your own thing.

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)** -- Money matters will escalate if someone pressures you to donate to something that makes you feel uncomfortable. Take the initiative and decline. Put your money into something that will benefit you directly.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23)** -- Be tactful when handling situations that deal with colleagues or someone who can put a dent in your reputation, status or position. Offer a positive, upbeat attitude and generosity.

# The Ruston Daily Leader's CLASSIFIEDS

## PUBLIC NOTICES

PublicNoticeAds.com

Summary of Public Notice: Project Owner: Jonesboro Senior Village, L.P. Project Name: Jonesboro Senior Village Project Address: Hwy 167 South and Industrial Drive, Jonesboro Louisiana Total Units: 50 New Construction Duplex Units (Elderly) - 1 & 2 Bedroom Units Jonesboro Senior Village, L.P. is pleased to propose a retirement community development which will be new construction and named Jonesboro Senior Village. The development is classified as elderly housing and will have 50 total units which will be duplexes with six, one-bedroom units, and forty-four, two-bedroom units. The development will consist of a community facility and supportive services which will be available for the tenants. The applicant is applying for a reservation of 9% LIHTC's from the Louisiana Housing Corporation. The total estimated development cost is \$ 10,201,957. The development will be funded with private financing and equity proceeds from the sale of Low-Income Housing Tax Credits and other financing provided as follows (Amounts are estimated): Permanent Financing \$ 1,420,000 LIHTC Equity \$ 8,599,140 Deferred Developer Fee \$ 182,817 Other: -0-

Total sources of funds \$ 10,201,957 3rd: Oct. 27, 29, 31, 2021

Waterworks District will have their next meeting on Monday, November 1, 2021 at the water office on Haddox Road. The meeting will begin at 6:30 p.m. Agenda, Minutes, Collins Well update, Baxter Tank Maintenance, Approve the 2022 Budget and the 2021 Amended Budget and Financial Reports, Value Management Program, Tank Service Agreement, Approve Invoices, Charge-offs and Elect Officers. "This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer" 1st: October 27, 2021

A Public Hearing will be held on November 9, 2021 at 5:45 p.m. at the Charles H Garrett Community Center on 182 Industrial Drive in Jonesboro, Louisiana to discuss the following proposed ordinances: Town of Jonesboro Ordinance Descriptions: Ordinance Number 2021-023 An ordinance amending Ordinance 2021-007 to adjust and provide for a Budget of Revenues and Expenditures for the Town of Jonesboro for the fiscal year 2021-2022. Ordinance Number 2021-024 An ordinance amending Ordinance #2021-008 to provide for a Budget of Water Revenues and Expenditures for the Town of Jonesboro for the fiscal year 2021-2022 Ordinance Number 2021-025 An ordinance amending Ordinance # 2021-009 to provide for a budget of Sewer Revenues and Expenditures for the Town of Jonesboro for the fiscal year 2021-2022. 2nd: October 27, & 29, 2021

PARISH OF LINCOLN PUBLIC NOTICE Parcel#05174FXT02 Notice is hereby given that the Parish of Lincoln has received a request to sell their respective tax interest in the following listed properties. These properties have previously been adjudicated to the Parish of Lincoln for unpaid taxes. A public sale of these properties will begin at 10:00 A.M. on November 3, 2021 at the Lincoln Parish Police Jury, 100 W. Texas Ave, Room 301, Ruston, LA 71270. The minimum bid has been set at \$3,540.84. Anyone intending to bid must hand deliver your intent letter and processing fee to E & P Consulting, LLC, 1300 Hudson Lane, Suite 5, Monroe, Louisiana 71201 by October 29, 2021. No faxed, telephoned, mailed or any kind of electronic submission of intent to bid will be accepted. Any intent to bid letter received by the above deadline will allow 1 party into the bid session. If more than one offer for any particular piece of property is received, all parties who have submitted a written offer will be allowed to bid on the property. For additional information, please contact Parish Adjudicated Property Program at E & P Consulting, LLC: 318-807-0924 or Parish-propertyinfo@escamilaponeck.com. Parcel# 05174FXT02

016 ANNOUNCEMENTS

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Legal Description: COMM. AT A PT. 193.9' S. AND 1342.3' W. OF THE NEC OF NW OF SEC. 5-17-4, TH. RUN N. 89 DEG. 48' W. 80.0', TH. S. 84 DEG. 41' W. 154.5', TH. S. 86 DEG. 46' W. 160.0' TO THE C/L OF HWY 507, TH. S. 02 DEG. 41' W. ALONG SAID C/L 114.3', TH. S. 88 DEG. 14' E. 398.1', TH. N. 00 DEG. 23' E. 149.5' BACK TO POB. CONTG. 1.21 AC. (FROM TILMA PRUITT, ET UX) (411-6) (0300982300) 1st: October 27, 2021

INVITATION FOR BIDS Sealed bids will be received by the Police Jury of Lincoln Parish until Friday, November 12, 2021, 9:00 AM at its office in the Courthouse, Ruston, Louisiana, for furnishing: ITEM1: NEW 2021/2022 HEAVY-DUTY TRACTOR TRUCK Only bids submitted on Bid Forms will be accepted. Bid Forms and Specifications may be obtained from the office of the Lincoln Parish Police Jury, P.O. Box 979, Ruston, Louisiana 71273-0979. Bids can also be submitted electronically at WWW.CENTRALBIDDING.COM. The Police Jury reserves the right to reject any or all bids for just cause. Lincoln Parish Police Jury Jeri Lynn Webb Purchasing Officer 3rd: October 27, 29, & November 3, 2021

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## Sudoku

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★☆☆☆

			8	2	7	6	9	
7			5				8	
2						5	4	3
			5		3			
3	1				8		2	
	2			3				
7	5	8					3	
	3			1			7	
6	1	4	8	3				

10/27

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### TODAY'S ANSWERS

9	2	6	4	8	7	1	9
8	4	9	5	1	7	6	3
4	3	1	9	6	2	8	5
7	6	7	3	9	1	2	8
2	5	8	6	4	4	1	9
9	1	3	8	2	9	4	6
3	4	5	1	4	6	9	2
1	8	2	4	5	9	3	6
6	9	7	2	8	3	5	4

**HOW TO PLAY:**  
Each row, column and set of 3-by-3 boxes must contain the numbers 1 through 9 without repetition.

## Celebrity Cipher

by Luis Campos

Celebrity Cipher cryptograms are created from the initials of famous people, past and present. Each letter in the cipher stands for another.

" D XIYETMBSN RUPYC DKISR RMST  
N DSCURTM PV RUDR PR GSVR  
ETVRMIFV DYF WPYE IB V FVRTA IB  
EPLPEPYC ZTIZNT." — GIUY JNTT VT

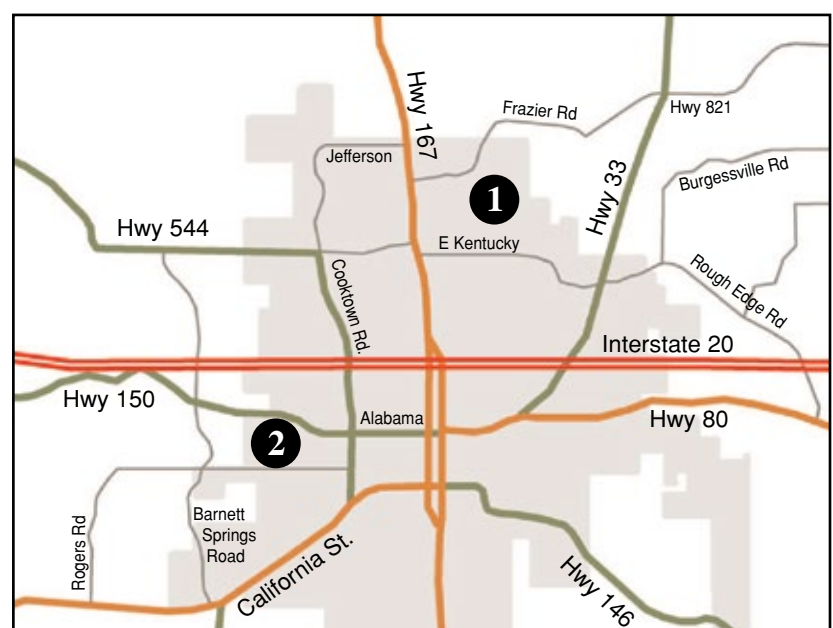
"A wonderful thing about true laughter is that it just destroys any kind of system of dividing people." — John Cleese

TODAY'S CLUE: A scribe

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# GARAGE SALES

- 1 Saturday, Oct. 30. 7a-2p, 711 Hidden Valley.** Clothes(sm), shoes(6), antique trunk, antique round oak table w/ matching 2-drawer chest & 6 chairs, small china cabinet, red glassware, radio/disc & record player(all-in-one), along w/ kitchen & household items
- 2 Saturday, Oct. 30. 8a- until, 517 Heard Road.** Many bedroom suites, dinette sets, tools, etc.



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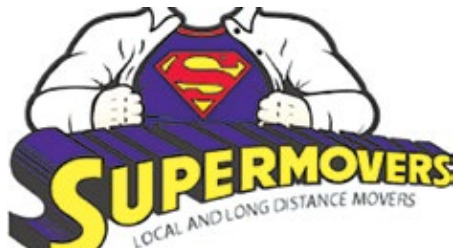
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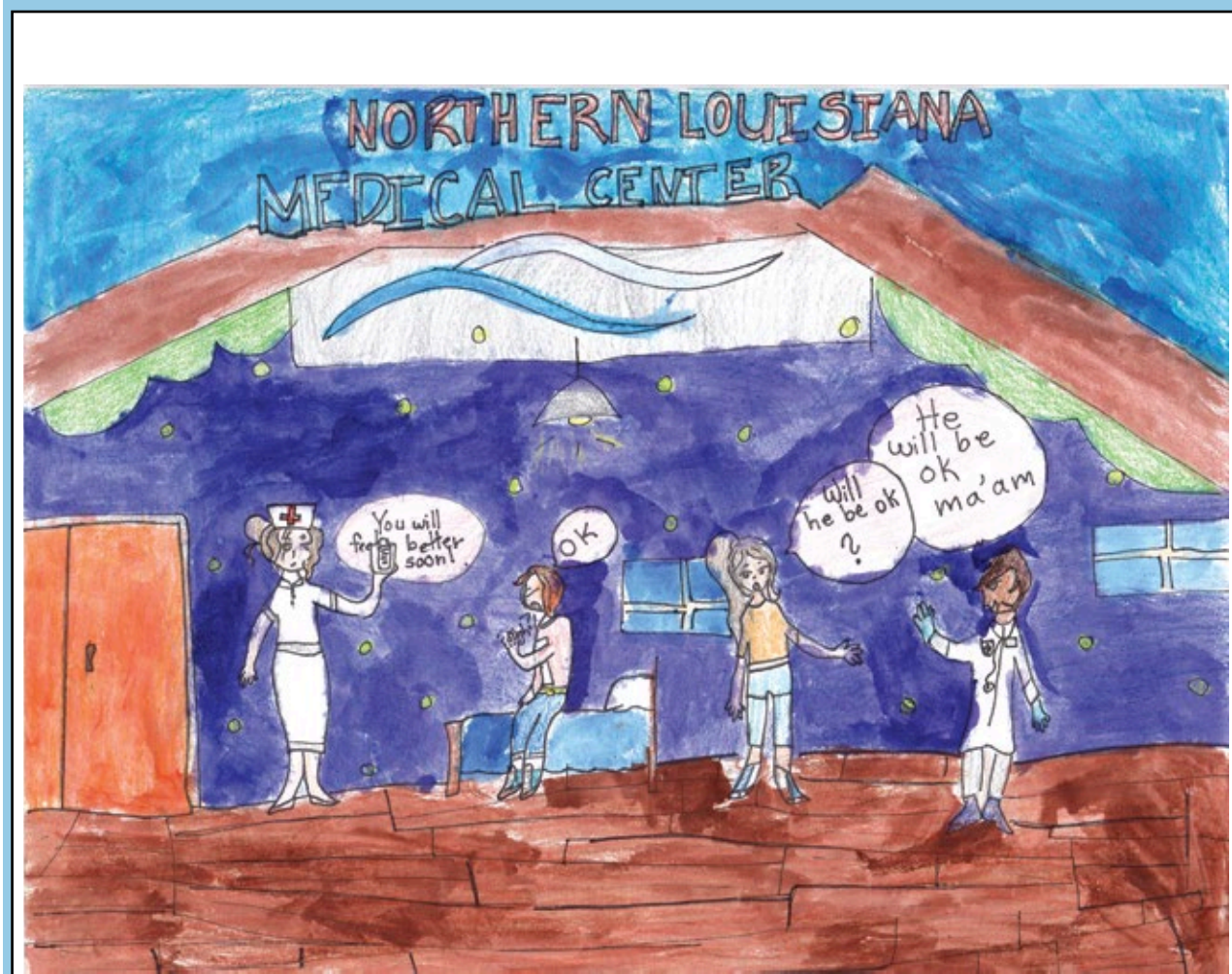
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Mia Le • 3rd Grade  
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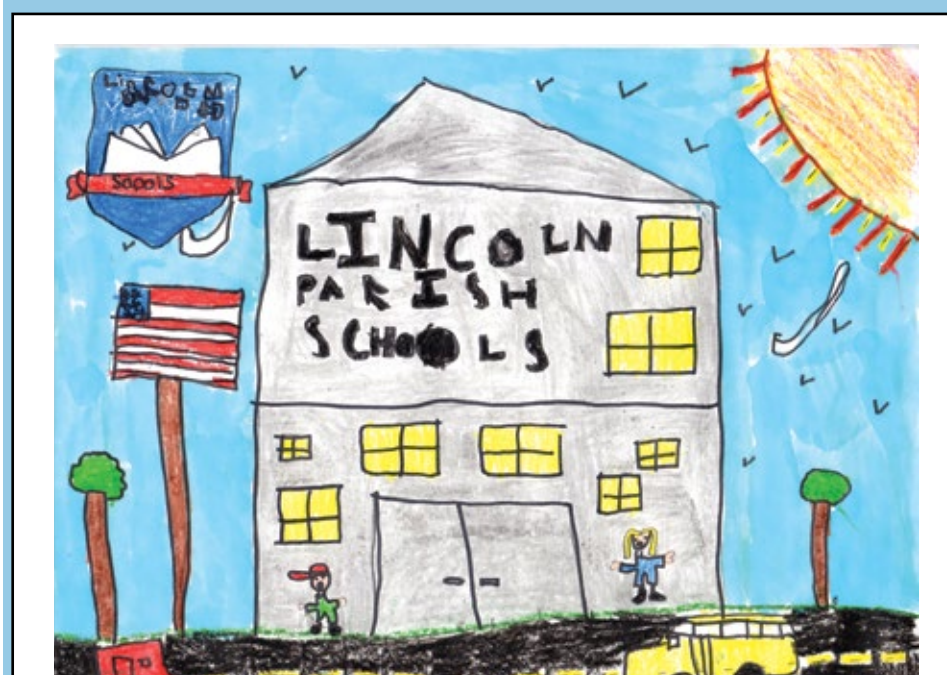
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# Newspapers In Education

- The benefits of using the newspaper as a teaching tool:**
- Sharpens thinking skills & allows students to become aware of local events.
  - Promotes schools involvement in the communities they serve.
  - Allows students to self educate & discuss current events with family members.
  - Helps prepare students for state and national standardized tests.
  - Teaches the next generation of the importance of print.

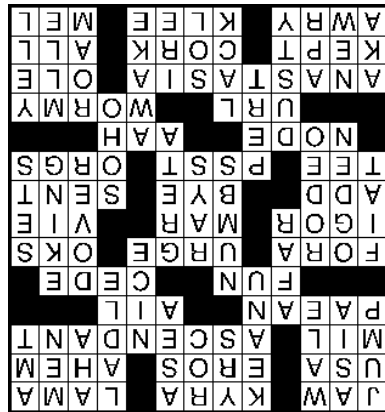
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## Crossword Puzzle

- ACROSS**
- 1 Beard site
  - 4 Actress Sedgwick
  - 8 Prayer wheel turner
  - 12 Made in the —
  - 13 Winged god
  - 14 "Excuse me!"
  - 15 Wire measure
  - 16 Moving upward
  - 18 Song of triumph
  - 20 Call in sick
  - 21 Playful activity
  - 23 Grant
  - 26 Public meeting places
  - 29 Press for
  - 32 Gives the go-ahead
  - 34 Stravinsky or Sikorsky
  - 35 Sully
  - 36 Strive to win
  - 37 Attach
- DOWN**
- 1 Flinch
  - 2 Three oceans touch it
  - 3 Corduroy rib

### TODAY'S ANSWERS



- 4 Reeves of "John Wick"
- 5 Soph. and jr.
- 6 "Arabian Nights" bird
- 7 Between ports
- 8 King-size spoon
- 9 Triumphant cry
- 10 Adult persons
- 11 Oz. or lb.
- 17 Good-natured
- 19 From a distance
- 22 Gives Novocain
- 24 Delaware's capital
- 25 Barely scraping by
- 26 Edict
- 27 Limerick writer — Nash
- 28 Cowboy show
- 30 Starfish arms
- 31 Ms. Garbo
- 33 TV receivers
- 39 Carnaby St. locale
- 41 Sassy
- 44 Grimy
- 46 Up and about
- 48 Be without
- 50 Gallivant
- 51 Mme.'s daughter
- 52 Shout
- 53 APB datum
- 54 Up-to-date
- 55 Calendar abbr.
- 56 Costa del —
- 57 Ill temper

## Sudoku

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★☆☆☆

				8	2	7	6	9
	7			5			8	
	2						5	4
				5			3	
3		1					8	
					3			
7	5	8						3
	3			1				7
6	1	4	8	3				

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### TODAY'S ANSWERS

5	2	6	7	3	8	4	1	9
8	7	9	5	1	4	6	3	2
4	3	1	6	9	2	8	5	7
7	9	4	3	6	1	2	8	5
2	5	8	6	4	7	1	9	3
6	1	3	8	2	5	7	4	9
3	4	5	1	7	9	6	2	8
1	8	2	4	5	6	3	7	9
9	6	7	2	8	3	5	4	1

**HOW TO PLAY:**  
Each row, column and set of 3-by-3 boxes must contain the numbers 1 through 9 without repetition.

## Celebrity Cipher

by Luis Campos

Celebrity Cipher cryptograms are created from quotations by famous people, past and present. Each letter in the cipher stands for another.

" D XIYETMBSN RUPYC DKISR RMST  
 NDSCURTM PV RUDR PR GSVR  
 ETVRMIFV DYF WPYE IB VVVRTA IB  
 EPLPEPYC ZTIZNT." — GIUY JNTT VT

"A wonderful thing about true laughter is that it just destroys any kind of system of dividing people." — John Cleese

TODAY'S CLUE: A stenbo T

**Meeting the needs of our readers!**

We have reformatted our comics page to allow our readers to easily print the crossword puzzle.

How to Print:  
Click the download link option and save the PDF page to your desktop and then select print.

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October 27, 2021

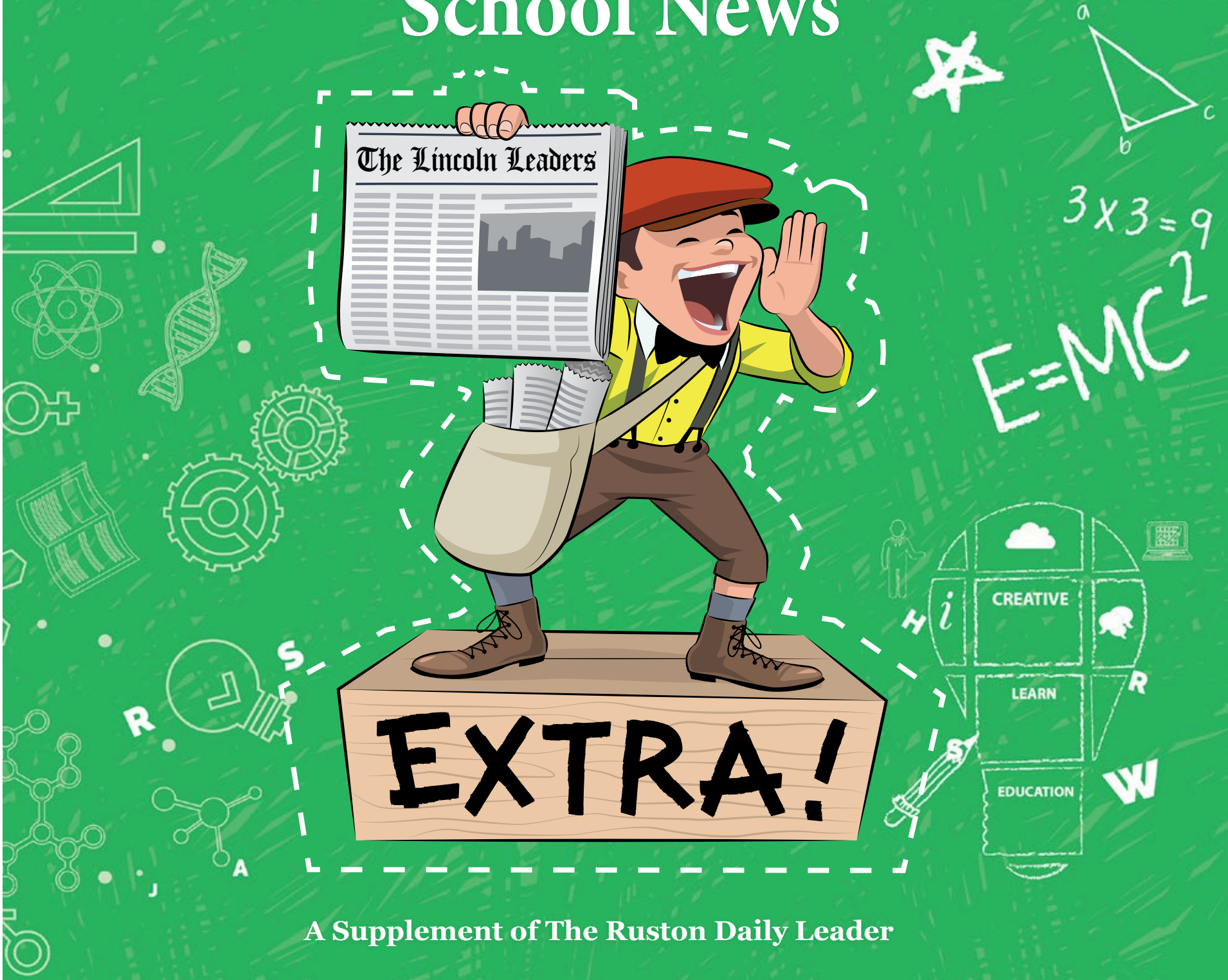
# The Lincoln Leaders

## School News



**EXTRA!**

A Supplement of The Ruston Daily Leader



## CYPRESS SPRINGS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

# Building future leaders one brick at a time

The beginning of the new school year is always an exciting time, and this year at Cypress Springs Elementary is no different. The CSE Wildcats kicked off the 2021-2022 school year by participating in a now five-year-old tradition commemorating the school's highest achieving students.

### Brick by brick

Throughout their time at Cypress Springs, students walk past a colorful wall entitled "Building Future Leaders: One Brick at a Time." Each year, students are given the opportunity to customize a brick on the wall with their own name. To make their place on this wall, students must achieve a score of mastery or advanced in at least one subject on the annual LEAP test.

Despite the challenge of the previous school year, Cypress Springs is thrilled to announce that this year, more students than ever have earned their brick! The resilience and hard work of students and teachers alike is clear as the wall becomes increasingly filled with names.

Recently, Cypress Springs set aside a day for graduated fifth graders to return to the school and decorate their bricks. Some students chose to place their brick next to a sibling's from years past. Every participant was able to celebrate their dedication by leaving a physical mark on the school. The new bricks on the wall serve as an encouragement to current Wildcats that they too can become a permanent part of CSE history.

### Third grade news

In science we are already becoming scientists and engineers by conducting experiments and learning the science and engineering processes. Math is rocking with telling time, rounding, and adding and subtracting.

In social studies we are beginning a new unit on Poverty Point and Native Americans. Reading is rocking with Cajun Folktales. We are reading *The Tale of Peter Rabbit* and learning how to write "how to" essays in writing.

It is hard to believe that we are almost in our second nine weeks and fall is here.

### Fifth grade news

The Cypress Springs fifth graders started this school year off with a bang! The students have been busy taking on their new leadership roles as models for the third and fourth graders.

In ELA, the students have been reading *The Birchbark House* learning how to describe characters and how they grow throughout a text.

We've also been learning about Columbus's impact on the Native Americans and the New World. "What is a civilization?" has become the focus question as our junior historians use primary sources and maps to learn about the characteristics of civilization from indigenous societies, such as the Aztec and Maya. We will be working on the Inca next, then indigenous cultures after that. Our mathematicians are working on fluently multiplying 3-digit by 1-digit whole numbers using the standard algorithm. In science, our scholars have just wrapped up Module 1: What Caused the Statue of Liberty to Change Over Time?



Submitted photo

A group of students work on decorating their bricks.



Submitted photo

Students at Cypress Springs earn their own decorated brick in the hall at school by meeting certain goals on the LEAP test. Mary Braggs proudly shows her hard-earned brick.



Submitted photo

Principal Mary Kilgore presents Addy Lou Gressett with a \$50 gift card for earning a perfect score on the ELA portion of the LEAP test.

255-5050

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## DUBACH SCHOOL

# Chickens, pizza, cross country and more at Dubach

Great things are happening at Dubach School! This school year is off to a great start! Dubach's pre-K and kindergarten students celebrated Grandparents Day with a parade on Sept. 10. The students and grandparents really enjoyed this parade.

On Sept. 14, Dubach held their Johnny's Pizza Pigout night at the Kentucky Street location. The turnout was phenomenal! The lobby and drive-thru stayed busy the entire time. Thank you to all who participated.

The town of Dubach supported opening a Boys & Girls Club that is housed at Dubach School so that parents of students in grades 1-5 would have after-school care. The Boys & Girls Club is open until 5:45 p.m. each day that school is in session. All 30 of the available slots have been filled, and there is currently a waiting list. Volunteers are needed, but you must go through the Boys & Girls Clubs of North Louisiana to get approval to volunteer.

Immediately after school each day the students receive a "super supper snack", and if they stay until at least 5 p.m. they take a second snack home with them. Thank you so much to Mrs. Harryette Tinsley, Lincoln Parish School Food Service Supervisor, for all of your help on making sure our students would receive these snacks on their first day of the program.

Dubach school has received multiple donations thus far, and we are very appreciative for all of them. Thank you Fellowship Baptist Church, United Methodist Church, Dubach Police Department and the Grambling State University Royal Court for your school supply donations. Also, thank you to Mr. & Mrs. Hicks for sending a beautiful bouquet of flowers for the office at the beginning of the school year. Thank you also to Mrs. Watts, who provided the faculty and staff with homemade treats. We appreciate all of our Adopt-a-School sponsors and look forward to

working with each of you this year.

In preparation for the return of the Chicken Festival our students created chickens in a variety of ways in art class with their teacher, Mrs.

Lauren Dixon. The winning chickens from each grade are displayed at First Guaranty Bank in Dubach.

Students in grades K-5 have had the opportunity to participate in cross

country this fall season. They are practicing very hard and getting better and better each race. Thank you to Mrs.

*Continued on page 4*



Submitted photo

**THE Dubach first-grade class recently took a trip to the Lincoln Parish STEM Center in Ruston.**



Submitted photo

**Pictured are the first-grade winners and their artwork chickens for the return of the Louisiana Chicken Festival.**



Submitted photo

**Pictured are the second-grade winners and their artwork chickens for the return of the Louisiana Chicken Festival.**



Submitted photo

**Pictured are the third-grade winners and their artwork chickens for the return of the Louisiana Chicken Festival.**



Submitted photo

**Pictured are the fourth-grade winners and their artwork chickens for the return of the Louisiana Chicken Festival.**



Submitted photo

**Pictured are the fifth-grade winners and their artwork chickens for the return of the Louisiana Chicken Festival.**



## DUBACH SCHOOL *(continued)*

Dixon, Mrs. Joyner, Mrs. Rushing, Mrs. Franks, Mrs. Mitchell and our parent volunteers for all of your help with the cross country. You all are appreciated!

Our students in first, second and third grades have taken a field trip to the STEM Center. All of the students really enjoyed their time there and received a lot of praise from Missy Wooley, the STEM facilitator, on our students' behavior, scientific thinking and how well they worked together. Students, thank you for representing Dubach School well!

Our September students of the month were Sylvie Thompson, Maci Brazzel, Clifton Lewis, Jackson Willis, Logan Mack, Brylee Miller, Dustin Richardson, Savannah Hollis, Markeis Monroe, Blakelynn Primmer-Rinicker, and Noah Jarrell. Keep up the good work students! We are looking forward to continuing to have a great school year.



Submitted photos

**Pictured above are the kindergarten winners and their artwork chickens for the return of the Louisiana Chicken Festival. Pictured at right are the Pre-K winners and their artwork chickens for the return of the Louisiana Chicken Festival.**



## CEDAR CREEK SCHOOL

# Cedar Creek highlights first period honor rolls

### All A's

**GRADE 4:** Ainsley Bridges, Kingston Culpepper, Charlotte Dugdale, Jamie Lynn Hilburn, Layla Jeansonne, Charlotte Jones, Evelyn Mills, Juliette Sewell, Van Stake, Henry Walpole.

**GRADE 5:** Finley Best, Molly Boyd, Emerson Caraway, Liam Durrett, Jase Martin, Henry Patton, Preslee Prince, Gabrielle Smith.

**GRADE 6:** Luke Alexander, Eden Dawsey, Krish Dua, Cason Floyd, Brooklynne Hennigan, Eddie Henry, Ransom Lewis, Vance Mallett, Tyler

Osborne, Lauren Pearce, Billy Ruffleth, Andrew Shirley, Eli Slocum, Roan Sutherland, Presley Wall.

**GRADE 7:** Arlyn Boyet, Rhett Bridges, Georgia Dugdale, Hayden Durrett, Bailey Hiers, Marley Jinks, Prabhleen Kaur, Alivia Lee, Kade Luker, Sophie Mariano, Joshua McCarthy, John Parker Moak, Madison Morris, Camdyn Napper, Drake Purvis, Alex Roebuck, Hannah Satcher, Madison Stringer, Jilly Turpin, Bryleigh Williams, Catherine Williams, Kenna Williams.

**GRADE 8:** Britton Bennett, Avery Bourn, Catherine Grace Calvert, Ain-

sley DeMent, Rex Freling, Caroline James, Katherine Worthey.

**GRADE 9:** Taylor Basham, Hanna Hiers, McKenzie Jones, Savannah Kilbride, Nolan Martin, John Brody Mayzel, Rosemary Sewell, Evie Stake, Waylon Taylor, Zoey Venters.

**GRADE 10:** Bailey Anne Adams, Maria Alvarado Ramos, Kate Barron, Ashlyn Bourn, Hayes Bridges, Lauren Enterkin, Ryleigh Geis, Mia Graham, Hayden Gray, Isaac Gremillion, Ava James, Lawson Lillo, Baylee Mabou, Anderson Maxwell, Jackson Mock, Emma Moore, Harper Nguyen, Lesley Osafo, Lindsey Osafo, Laina

Parkman, Adrianna Robbins, Leah Sutherland.

**GRADE 11:** Eli Black, Chloe Brashear, Madison Bratton, Madelyn Carroll, Devika Dua, Jack Ensminger, Tate Farrar, Allie Furr, Garrett Garlington, Carter Hill, Anna Grace Lee, Quincy Lewis, Abby Martin, Caden Middleton, Reagan Nguyen, Connor Norris, Jordan Vail.

**GRADE 12:** Sky Dycus, Zoë Graham, Will Harris, Colton Kent, Sophia Parkman, Riley Patterson, Cameron Turpin, Millie Venters, W Wells.

*Continued on page 5*

  
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## CEDAR CREEK SCHOOL *(continued)*

### **A-B Honor Roll**

**GRADE 4:** Bailee Allen, Bristol Bennett, Fletcher Boyet, Hudson Brister, Payton Calhoun, Carley Carter, Bess Cotton, Brantlee Doolittle, Emma Doss, Davis Durrett, Yardley Green, Charlie Gremillion, Parker Gulledge, Aiden Haddox, Josie Hopper, John Mark Jeffords, Evan Lancaster, Ally Long, Anders McGehee, Frances Sewell, Levi Shirley, Larkin Woodard.

**GRADE 5:** Gray Alford, Bess Black, Anna Grace Bourn, Mary Kathryn Byrnes, David Craighead, Kate Enterkin, Slade Guillory, Chloe Hall, Anabelle Holloway, Jaleigh Martin, Paisley Mounts, Case Phillips, Ella Brooke Stroud, Luke Thomas, Lilly Grace Turpin, Ella-Cate Veatch, Kate Wood, Anslee Woods.

**GRADE 6:** Ethan Aycock, Kendal Basham, Cayden Branch, Chandler

Bullock, Jackson Bullock, Christian Ellis, Farrah Futch, Hadley Gatlin, Jasmine Gill, Ashleigh Harrison, Micah Kneeland, Madison McCready, Meredyth McFadden, Averie Moon, Will Myers, Maggie Newman, Juliet Pipes, Jillian Ramsey, Bridger Reynolds, Ryder Sellers, Micah Taylor, Mary Claire Temple, Sydney Vance, Thomas Waller, Connor Washam.

**GRADE 7:** Carter Allen, Brett Bell, Hydi Boyd, Addie Belle Brister, Paxton Burney, Hallie Cockerham, Ryan Coleman, Jade Cook, Anna Fitzgerald, Mady Garcia, Wyatt Gremillion, Kamden Hardman, Mary Grace Hawkins, Annabelle Hockenjos, Cadence Hockenjos, Chloe Jones, Gracie Jones, Harshaan Lally, Anna Malsam, Manav Patel, Cadence Spangler, Kaden Williams, Trigger Woodard.

**GRADE 8:** Logan Amidon, Tan-

ner Andrews, Selah Bryan, Anderson Godlewski, Kate Harris, Felicity Hunt, Brooks Jeansonne, Carter Lewis, Paxton Mounts, Maddy Parkman, Carter Perry, Emma Phillips, Reese-Caroline Phillips, Govind Prakash, Charlie Ruffeth, Addison Taylor, Cameron Temple, Carson Trammell, Mallory Waller, Rubye Ann Walsworth, Gilly Grace Washam.

**GRADE 9:** Jack Bell, Julianne Ensminger, Triston Floyd, Gabbie Granger, Landon Hall, Daniel Hanna, Anna Grace Johnson, Allie Jones, Mada Kneeland, Eli May, James Myers, Beau Phillips, Amelia Reynolds, John-Brooks Robinson, Luke Roy, Sara Satcher, Mallory Smith, Aidan Woods.

**GRADE 10:** Landon Amidon, Ella Grace Barham, Max Brister, Morgan Byrnes, Elli Dickerson, Noah Durrett, John Abram Earle,

Drew Gulledge, Ava Hartwell, Brett Johnson, Connor Johnson, Adrian Lamkin, Molli McCready, Emmie Parks, Emma Moore, Taylor Ramsey, Ainsley Riley, Conner Rolan, Olivia Salter, Nick Shelton, Emily Trammell, Olivia Underwood, Blake Wade, Gray Worthey.

**GRADE 11:** Lilli Adcox, Mason Bosch, Kenley Brasher, Emily Chance, Maggie Gilmore, Annie Jones, Peyton Muse, Kate Myers, Grace Perkins, Perry Ricks, Bryce Rushing, Jake Smith, Lillian Soto, Jed Stephens, A.J. Thomas, Lane Thomas, Ella Viator, Brady Wade, Davis Walsworth, Austin Webb.

**GRADE 12:** Sarah Adams, Sarah Beth Bates, Nathan Gremillion, Faith Johnson, Hayden McClusky, Aaron Peel, Carson Riley, Ethan Rugg, Armann Sarai, Isabel Sherrard, Seth Smith, Jed Worthey.

## LINCOLN PREPARATORY SCHOOL

# ***Lincoln Prep holds GEAR UP events***

During the week of Sept. 20-24, Lincoln Preparatory School celebrated National GEAR UP Week. Lincoln Prep is a Louisiana GEAR UP School. GEAR UP stands for Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs. Lincoln Prep kicked off National GEAR UP week by hosting Academic Day. Our students had the opportunity to participate in virtual campus visits to La Delta Community College, Louisiana Tech University, Louisiana State University at Shreveport, Grambling State University, Southern University at Shreveport, and Northwestern State University. The virtual campus visits gave our students the opportunity to explore post-secondary institutions in our area and learn about application processes, entry requirements, costs, programs of study, and more.

At Lincoln Prep we give students unique leadership opportunities. On Tuesday, Lincoln Prep LA GEAR UP students Jayden Gilliam, Jaidyn Page, Jace Morris, Jamiyah Johnson, Edward Ford, and Levi Hick participated in National GEAR UP Week's Advocacy Day by asking elected officials to support the LA GEAR UP Program.

Our students outlined how important the GEAR UP Program is to Lincoln Preparatory School.

Our students, On Site School Coordinator Melanie Colvin, Explorer's Club Sponsor Shannon Aultman, Parent Liaison Stephanie Melton, and LOSFA Regional Coordinator Summer Clark met virtually with the following political figures:

Patrick Jefferson - LA State Representative (District 11); Emma Herrock - District Director; Office of Congress-

woman Julia Letlow (LA-05); Lindsay Linhares - Legislative Director; Office of Congresswoman Julia Letlow (LA-05); Adarian Williams - Senior Manager of Congressional Relations; Congressional Black Caucus Foundation, Inc.

On Wednesday, our students participated in the LOSFA FLY (Financial Literacy for You) Tour!

LOSFA Staff helped students understand the financial aspects of their post-secondary options. Valuable information on Financial Aid, Scholarships, Grants, benefits of Dual Enrollment, ACT Prep and more was presented! It was fun and interactive. Students participated in trivia games focused on our state colleges and universities!

On Thursday, our LA GEAR UP Parent Liaison, Stephanie Franklin-Melton arranged for our 2021 Early

College Graduates to speak to our current seniors about their transition to college/university and how the Early College Program was a huge help!

We would like to thank 2021 Lincoln Prep and SUSLA graduates, Madison Danielle and Jaiden Hunter, for GIVING BACK to your Alma Mater! The Panther Pride is shining bright at LPS!

Our students also used the LOSFA Program Unlock My Future to help them complete a career interest inventory on possible future careers.

During the first 15 minutes of class on Friday, all students learned how their teachers became their TEACHERS. Teachers told the story of their educational path and career paths.

We had a fabulous week. Our students learned valuable information that will help them GEAR UP for future success!

## A. E. PHILLIPS LABORATORY SCHOOL

# AEP celebrates Student Council, projects

A. E. Phillips Laboratory School has gotten off to a GREAT start in the 2021-2022 school year. Our students are so glad to be back to a pretty close to normal schedule and learning is in full swing. As a school, we've been able to participate in cross country, cheer/dance, Pink Out Day, and many other special activities. Fun, innovative, and strategic learning is also happening each day in every classroom.

### AEP TEaM

Being the laboratory school for Louisiana Tech University, AEP has always valued assisting the College of Education in training new teachers. This year we have the largest Clinical Residency TEaM ever with 14 residents and mentors. Having seven clinical residents allows our school to be more innovative and hands-on with our students. We are also the host to 18 reading practicum students in grades K - 5. These students are in the classrooms for a couple of hours 3 days a week and help the teachers by pulling small groups of students to work with.

### Middle school (6-8)

WOW! This has been such an amazing start to school! Our teachers have had some fantastic lessons prepared for our middle school Bullpups.

These Bullpups go home exhausted because they are learning so much EVERYDAY!

### In the area of science

Our AEP Bullpups must dream about science, because the way our science teacher, Michelle Blount, prepares her lessons and labs is outstanding! From weather labs outside of Woodard Hall at Louisiana Tech University to studying the environment and measuring humidity and temperature, these students have been engrossed in our science curriculum.

Her students have already developed an interest in scientific research through her science labs. When they observe various things and carry out different experiments, their reasoning skills are honed and the students have already started thinking deeply on theories and skills developed within the classroom.

### In the area of history

No one can teach a history class like our Adam Thomason. This year his students have already made a leap into history, geography, politics, economics and culture. He has integrated a number of strategies into his lessons and facilitated healthy debates and has created engaging class-



Submitted photo

4-H members learned about different animals in nature.



Submitted photo

These student council members are all smiles after their speeches were made!

*Continued on page 7*

## A. E. PHILLIPS LABORATORY SCHOOL *(continued)*

room discussions.

His first project in sixth grade World History was researching and presenting on “how environmental changes have affected human life and settlements.” They researched climate change, technologies in history, and ancient civilizations. Students did an amazing job presenting their findings and speaking publicly to their peers.

### *In the area of math*

Dr. Grace Joseph and Lauren Pipes could not be a better math team! Between the two of these math teachers we have already covered standards that include exponential notation, transformations, unit rate, proportional relationships and graphing on a coordinate plane.

Middle school serves as the initial introduction to algebra, the foundation for nearly all math courses. Our Bullpups are already on the road to becoming AMAZING mathematicians!

### *In the area of English Language Arts*

Full steam ahead for our dynamic duo of Kellye Ketchum and DeEtte Wick. This genuine collaborative team has worked hard this 1st nine weeks in preparing our students for the arts of reading and English.

Our sixth grade students have been presented with an opportunity to complete the 40 Book Challenge over the course of the school year. These books must come from a variety of genres including poetry, picture books, historical fiction, fantasy, realistic fiction, biography/autobiography, and other non-fiction texts. Those who complete the challenge are recognized and awarded at the end of the year.

Our seventh and eighth graders

have been reading Plato, O. Henry and Edgar Allen Poe. They are also examining truth, perception, and reality. Debates and discussions have been had to see how these are related and how they affect each other. Text has also been examined for bias. This connects to what we see and read in our lives.

### *In the area of student council*

Our newly elected Student Council members are as follows:

Eighth grade: Jordan Hamlin, Melissa Le, Charlie Rodgers

Seventh grade: Harper Anderson, Drew Cramer, Colt Lary, Kensley Sutton, Rowdy Cherry

Sixth grade: George Smith, Mary Hammons, Aubrey Stoehr, Kylin Harris, Eero Slaughter

After a busy week of campaigning with amazing printed and hand drawn signs and carefully prepared speeches in front of their peers, our 2021-2022 Student Council Officers are as follows:

President: Melissa Le

Vice President: Jordan Hamlin and Charlie Rodgers

Secretary: Kensley Sutton

Their first order of business has been to beautify our already amazing campus. Our Parent Faculty Council (PFC) has recently provided our Bullpups with Hipp Shades. These shades have allowed our Bullpups to utilize our outdoor facilities for a more enjoyable learning space and have provided a better shaded outdoor lunch area.

But our Bullpups sometimes need a little extra help cleaning up our outdoor spaces. The Student Council has been taking shifts making sure our campus is clean and pristine for the

next day's lunch shift and outdoor lesson by picking up trash and pinecones. **WAY TO GO BULLPUPS!**



Submitted photo

**Jordan Hamlin and Melissa Le worked very hard on the posters for Student Council elections.**



Submitted photo

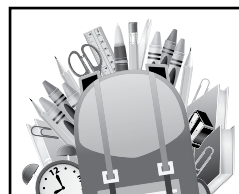
**AEP seventh graders are pictured working on their weather labs outside of Woodard Hall on Louisiana Tech campus.**

## MONTESSORI SCHOOL OF RUSTON

# Color the world

**Virtual student Maddie Marshal proudly displays her map of the continents she recently made.**

Submitted photo



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“The beautiful thing about learning is that no one can take it away from you” - B. B. King

## CHOUDRANT HIGH SCHOOL

# Choudrant High recognizes program members

### Sail Program

CHS Sophomore Naomi Logan, Junior Lachlan Thompson, and Junior Owen Watson have all been accepted to participate in the Ruston Lincoln Chamber of Commerce's SAIL Program.

### Beta Club

National Beta Club is the largest independent, non-profit, educational youth organization in America. For more than 80 years, it has prepared today's students to be tomorrow's leaders. The mission statement is to promote the ideals of academic achievement, character, service and leadership among elementary and secondary school students.

**ACHIEVEMENT** - Recognizing and honoring high academic achievement

**CHARACTER** - Preparing young

people for life and empowering them to be successful

**LEADERSHIP** - Developing the leaders of tomorrow

**SERVICE** - Demonstrating our motto: Let Us Lead by Serving Others

Congratulations to the following CHS students who are members of the CHS Chapter of the National Beta Club for 2021-2022: Payton Antley, Parker Batterton, Zane Bayless, Emma Bell, Reagan Breslin Raiden Caines, Sha'Mya Canada, Tyler Carrico, Jackson Case, Micah Causey, Valerie Chatellier, Hayden Chreene, Bo Collinsworth, Cooper Davis, Elizabeth Davis, Alyssa Dickey, Payton Doss, Garrett Downen, Emma Frechette, Cameron Grice, Elissa Guillotte, Landon Hennen, Mattie Johnson, Abigail Johnston, Michael Jones, Addison Lee, Naomi Logan

Macie May, Bryce McGuire, Alexis McKey, Heather Murphey, Gavin Murphy, Jadon Newton, Kadence Nugent, Zoey Onsurez, Kaitlyn Parnell, DJ Perkins, Savannah Pesnell, Kylee Portilloz

Brelyn Pyle, Trinity Richardson, Destiny Rojas, Alyssa Sanders, Ian Starks, Ana Stevenson, Jordan Tate, Autumn Thomas, Lachlan Thompson, Baylee Tisdale, Trevor Trevillion, Arianna Trevillion, Owen Watson

### FBLA

The Choudrant High School Chapter of the Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) recently appointed new officers for the 2021-2022 school year.

The officers are: SR Savannah Pesnell, President; JR Owen Watson,

Vice-President; SR Elizabeth Davis, Secretary; JR Khylia Melton, Treasurer; JR Destiny Rojas, Reporter; SR Mark Emory, Historian; JR Emma Frechette, Parliamentarian; and JR Kaitlyn Parnell, Committee Chairperson.

Advisers are Mrs. Beth Rinehart and Mrs. Kathy Lowery.

Future Business Leaders of America-Phi Beta Lambda, Inc. (FBLA-PBL) is the largest business Career and Technical Student Organization in the world. Each year, FBLA-PBL helps over 230,000 members prepare for careers in business. The mission of FBLA-PBL is to inspire and prepare students to become community-minded business leaders in a global society through relevant career preparation and leadership experiences.

## HILLCREST ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

# Activities, awards among Hillcrest news

### Hillcrest Open House

In August, Hillcrest Elementary welcomed its families to an outdoor open house event. Teachers were stationed in front of the school to greet parents and students. Auxiliary teachers had games and activities for the students. There were photo opportunities with our school mascot. There was even a delicious snow cone stand available to the families. Thanks to First Baptist Ruston and Louisiana National Bank for putting

up tents to provide shade for our families.

### Hillcrest Elementary Teacher of the Year

We are proud to announce LeJoyce Adams as the Hillcrest Teacher of the Year. Mrs. Adams is the second-grade inclusion teacher. She has been teaching for 16 years with 13 of them being at Hillcrest.

Mrs. Adams has a gift at building relationships and working with chil-

dren. She believes that inside every child is a desire to learn and as teachers, we have the responsibility to uncover and cultivate that desire. Mrs. Adams is also a published children's book author. Her book "Chucky's Unbelievable Discovery" teaches children the value of honesty.

### Hillcrest cross country

We are so excited to have cross country this year at Hillcrest. Our runners have acquired a love for

running and hoping they continue to grow. They have competed in several meets and have done a fantastic job. Hillcrest will host its first cross country meet in October as well.

### Kindergarten news

Kindergarten has been in full swing! We have been diving into learning all about our "big kid" school. We are excited for our up-

*Continued on page 9*



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## HILLCREST ELEMENTARY SCHOOL *(continued)*

coming parental involvement activities on October 21 learning about a special pumpkin and making crafts with our parents.

### **First grade news**

First graders have been working hard on routines and procedures. In math, we are learning addition strategies and building our math fact fluency. In reading, we are actively engaged in read alouds, retelling stories, and thinking about the lessons it teaches. Students are enjoying the new STEM class and visited the STEM Center on our Fall Field Trip. We are looking forward to starting our science lessons and learning about animals that live in a pond.

### **Second grade news:**

The second grade students have been busy reading and writing. They have been learning about poetry elements and writing their own poems. They are now working toward publishing their first personal narrative.

In math, our students have been learning how to make tens and take from tens. They have loved learning about rulers and measurements. And can't wait to start in place value after fall break.

The second grade students have also been studying about the location of the United States, including where Alaska and Hawaii are located. They were able to connect their knowledge of measurements from math lessons to learn more about the distance between cities.

In September the second grade students took a field trip to the STEM center. They worked with partners to design and build a shelter. They also began learning the basics for coding using a program called Scratch.



Submitted photo

**Hillcrest principal Lauren Keen presents Teacher of the Year LeJoyce Adams with flowers.**



Submitted photo

**First Baptist Church Ruston provided a tent for the Hillcrest Open House.**



Submitted photo

**Second graders enjoy a visit to the STEM Center.**



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## RUSTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

# Water bottles and cross country among RES news

### Third grade school news

Third grade mathematicians have been working hard in Module 1 to learn their multiplication facts while also using them for solving division problems. Students are now ready to begin Module 2 where they will be learning about measurement, including time, length, weight, and volume.

Third grade readers and writers have been diving deep into Cajun Folktales. They are focusing on how stories can be both entertaining and educational, and how stories can teach life lessons. The goal they are working towards in this unit is writing an opinion essay on whether or not the rabbits in the Cajun Folktales are good tricksters or not. Cajun Folktales are also developing or deepening their understanding of Louisiana history and culture.

Mrs. Davis would like to remind students that the AR goal is 10 points for this nine weeks. We have some super readers this year, who enjoy reading in class and at home! There is an AR party at the end of each nine weeks. Today third graders are readers, so tomorrow they can be leaders!

Third grade scientists are ending the first Module 'Weather and Climate'. They get to go to the STEM Center Oct. 25!!! The next module is 'Survival.' In social studies they just ended an exciting unit on how unique Louisiana is through her location, natural resources, cultures, festivals, communities and symbols. The next unit is all about Louisiana's first inhabitants.

Mrs. Eaton would like to make a shout out to the 61 third graders who completed Mission 1 in ZEARN. These students were treated to donuts. Way to start the year out with a BLAST!!

### Fourth grade school news

RES fabulous fourth graders are roaring into a new year!

In social studies, students began the year learning how geography plays a role in our lives while studying the five regions of the United States. We are currently studying the impacts of European exploration and colonizations on populations, boundaries, and land. Students are analyzing primary and secondary sources as we continue studying our country's history.

RES sensational scientists have been examining the vast features of the Grand Canyon as they "dig" into the rock layers for evidence of fossils. Students are using their knowledge of weathering, erosion, and patterns of the Earth's features and processes to explain the Essential Question: How did the Grand Canyon's features form?

There were also 21 fourth grade students who started the year off with a blast in ZEARN by completing all of Mission 1. Way to aim for the stars!

The fourth grade ELA RES students have been learning about folktales and the cultures that they are from! The students have seemed to really enjoy reading all of the tales and learning the values of each culture. They have also been able to plan their own folktales which is always something they have fun with! They are almost finished with this unit, so they will soon be starting the new unit!

In addition, the RES fourth grade math students have completed Modules 1 and 2 of Eureka Math. After fall break, they will begin Module 3. Module 3 focuses on multi digit multiplication and long division. Although these are challenging conc

### Fifth grade school news

*Continued on page 11*



Submitted photo

Hunt, Guillot & Associates gave personalized water bottles to RES students. Pictured with Liz Kavanaugh of HGA (left) and Kathryn Causey of RES (right) are third grade students from left to right: Ken'terrious Watson, Brett Brown, Granger Brown, Landin Stringfellow, and Genesis Maldonado.



Submitted photo

RES third and fourth grade students line up to race at the Calhoun Middle School Meet.

## RUSTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL *(continued)*

RES fifth graders are off to a fast start this school year!

In ELA, students are reading the novel “The Birchbark House” and a variety of texts about Christopher Columbus. They are learning about the changes to The Old and New Worlds as a result of European exploration. The changes brought about by the meeting of these two worlds forever changed the history of human civilization.

In social studies, students learn about prehistoric America and the civilizations that grew out from indigenous peoples. They are studying the Aztecs, Maya, Inca, and several of the other major tribes that lived in North America.

In science, students are investigating why the Statue of Liberty turned green over time. They investigate how gas and water particles interact with the copper skin by designing a solution that keeps an iron nail from rusting. Finally, in Math, students are extending their understanding of place values to incorporate decimal fraction units, reading and writing numbers in various forms, placement of decimals within different math operations, and the order of operations. Congratulations to our students for all of their hard work!

There were also 66 fifth grade

students who completed Mission 1 in ZEARN and were treated to a pizza party. Way to start the year off with a blast!!

### **Other school news**

This fall, Hunt, Guillot & Associates gifted RES students with their very own personalized water bottle. With new COVID-19 protocols, students are encouraged to bring their own water bottle to school each day. This generous gift now allows every child to have their own water bottle to use and keep each day.

### **Cross country**

The 2021 Ruston Elementary cross country season has come to an end. The season ended very well, with promising talent remaining at Ruston Elementary school for next year.

Third grader Emmaline Lee placed in the top ten at all three meets she participated in this year; fourth grader Lauren Price placed in two top-ten finishes in the three meets and fifth grader Austin Lee placed in the top ten in the two meets he participated in, in which his season was cut short due to an injury. The team had several students that placed right outside of the top ten this year and all are returning athletes. This is promising for the future of RES cross country.



Submitted photo

**Ruston Elementary students are shown after they received their water bottles from HGA.**



Submitted photo

**Ruston Elementary students are shown after they received their water bottles from HGA.**



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## SIMSBORO SCHOOL

# Building bridges, putting out fires

## Partnerships

Thank you to all of our Adopt-a-School and Community Partners who have shown great support for our students, teachers, and school this year! Thank you to Dr. Gullatt for treating our teachers to goodies at the back-to-school faculty meeting. Thank you to Mrs. Peggy Alford, owner of Kiddie Palace Daycare for always spoiling us with her delicious homemade treats.

Thank you to Weyerhaeuser for the fabulous school supplies. Thank you to Skip Russell's State Farm for the jugs of hand sanitizer. Thank you to Simsboro, First Baptist Church for

the awesome school supplies. Thank you to Picou Tree Service, LLC for the cleaning supplies, school supplies, and goodies for teachers.

Please know how much we appreciate each of you for your time, talents, and gifts. Your support means the world to us.

## Building bridges

Our Simsboro High Engineering Design Classes built truss bridges out of popsicle sticks and tested the weight load they would carry. Kendrick Craig won our weight competition. The bridge Kendrick designed held over 44 pounds!



Submitted photo

Left to right, Nayeli Solorzano, Vanessa Bautista, Kayden Sullivan and Kendrick Craig show off their truss bridges they made out of popsicle sticks in an engineering design class. Craig's bridge won the weight-bearing competition.



Submitted photo

Mrs. Simms' pre-K class poses with District Chief John Prie and driver Koss Sulony.



Submitted photo

Mrs. Tatum's pre-K class poses with District Chief John Prie and driver Koss Sulony.



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