A supplement of the Ruston Daily Leader | December 2021





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## December "Holiday Bliss" Specials

May purchase Holiday Bliss Specials on the day posted & after the day posted until December 23rd

## **Southern Skin City**

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- 12/13 Take 45% OFF Coolsculpting & receive (6) body tightening treatments FREE OR buy (4) Cycles & receive (4) cycles FREE.
- 12/14 Buy (3) Inmode Diolaze XL laser hair & receive (1) FREE OR buy (6) Diolaze XL laser hair & receive (2) FREE treatments.
- **12/15** Buy (2) Aquagold Botox Facials & receive (1) FREE.
- 12/16 Buy (3) Beaming White Teeth Whitening treatments. \$189.99
- 12/20 Southern Skin City Christmas Hydrafacial Package Hydrafacial, Bio-Light LED Red (anti-wrinkle) OR Blue (anti-acne) light treatment, Light Chemical Peel & Obagi products Christmas Gift Revive & Refine set. \$279.99
- 12/21 Buy (50 units) of Jeuveau, Botox or Xeomin. \$500.00
- 12/22 Buy (10) treatments Lip Cavitation/Radio Frequency & receive (1) area Lip Light FREE with each treatment.

## **GIFT CARDS AVAILABLE NOW-DECEMBER 23RD!**

- Purchase \$125.00 gift card & receive (1) FREE \$25.00 gift card.
- Purchase \$500.00 gift card & receive (1) FREE \$50.00 gift card.
- Purchase \$1,000.00 gift card & receive (1) FREE \$150.00 gift card.
- Purchase \$1,800.00 gift card & receive (1) FREE \$200.00 gift card.

## FLASH DERMAL FILLER SALE

Tuesday, December 14th

## **FLASH FACIAL SALE**

8:30 - 5:30 • Thursday, December 17th

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RUSTON, LA

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Game days and
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hand in hand!

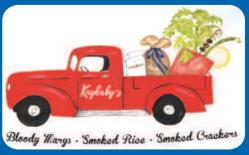
Shop local
for all your
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gear to put
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# THE MOST POPULAR GIFT 25 YEARS AGO

It's easy for adults to experience a little nostalgia when holiday shopping for their children. The holiday season has long been considered a special time of year, and much of that magic can be traced to the joy kids feel when unwrapping gifts from mom, dad and, of course, Santa Claus.

Many parents who now have voungsters at home grew up in the 1990s. When such moms and dads are shopping for holiday gifts this season. they might wonder what was the must-have item for them back when they anxiously awaited the arrival of Christmas morning?

According to Insider.com, which worked in conjunction with the Strong National Museum of Play in Rochester, New York, 1996 was the year of "Tickle Me Elmo." This ticklish toy was the most sought-after

item of the 1996 holiday season, and it was so popular that retailers experienced shortages.

Those shortages led to some surprising sales on the secondary market, with figures that will undoubtedly drop some jaws even now, a quarter century after the Tickle Me Elmo craze

erupted. Though the

Tickle Me Elmo doll
retailed for around
\$30 in 1996, some
parents intent
on getting their
youngsters
the most indemand gift
that year
reportedly
spent more than
\$1,000 on a single
doll.
To put that latter

figure into perspective, data from the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis indicates that the average price of a new car in 1996 was \$18,525. And according to Yahoo! Finance, drivers in the market for a used car in 1996 could have purchased a 1986 fourdoor Oldsmobile for just over \$2,600.





 ${\it Duss\'e}$  so myself! HOURS: Tues - Sat • 11AM - 6PM

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records, sports memorabilia, books, religious items & so much more! Come see our highly desired collectibles.

## **Cotton Port Antique Mall**

HOURS: Tues - Sat • 10AM - 5PM 318-323-0090







## **TIPS: Gifting for your little ones**

Shopping for gifts for kids makes many shoppers nostalgic for their own childhoods. Few adults can forget the joy of finding the perfect gift under the tree on Christmas morning.

Recreating that magic for a youngster can be as joyous for gift givers as it is for kids. That's especially so when shoppers make it a point to give safe, age-appropriate gifts.

Whether shopping for their own children or their grandkids, nieces or nephews, shoppers can keep these tips in mind to ensure they give toys that are as safe as they are fun.

#### • SPEAK TO MOM AND DAD FIRST.

When buying for a grandchild, niece or nephew, shoppers should first ask Mom or Dad for suggestions. Parents will know which types of toys their children like, and they'll also know the child's level of maturity. Some kids may not be mature enough to play with otherwise ageappropriate toys, while others may be mature beyond their years and enjoy more complex toys than their age would suggest. Parents will know what makes a good toy and what doesn't.

#### • LEARN WHAT TO LOOK FOR ON LABELS.

Toy labels are great sources of information, but shoppers must know what to look for. The American Academy of Pediatrics notes that toy labels include information about age-appropriateness (i.e., "Ages 3 & Up") as well as directions regarding how to use the toy. If the instructions seem a bit complex for the child the item will be for, look for something else.

Children's toy labels also include additional information that consumers may not be familiar with. For example, toys labeled "ASTM F963" meet the latest safety standards from the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission. An "ASTM D4236" label indicates the materials associated with the art toy have been reviewed and deemed safe by a toxicologist.

More information about toy label requirements can be found at cpsc.gov. The AAP advises that electric toys should only be given to kids if they include the UL label. That means the toy has been certified by the global safety certification company UL, LLC.

#### • AVOID CERTAIN FEATURES.

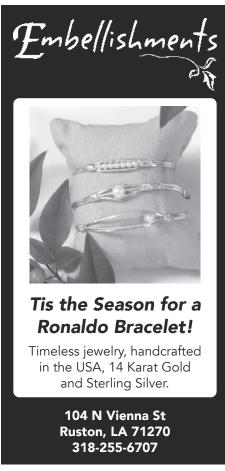
The AAP notes that toys that are loud, shoot objects into the air or contain small pieces pose a threat to children. Especially loud toys can damage children's hearing, while projectiles can increase the risk of eye injuries or choking. Toys with small pieces also pose a choking risk to young children who may try to put the pieces into their mouths.

#### • ERR ON THE SIDE OF CAUTION.

Consumers who are uncertain about the safety of a given toy, even after reading its label, should err on the side of caution and only give toys they're confident won't pose a safety risk. Even toys that may seem safe could be dangerous to kids who might otherwise seem old enough. For example, the AAP advises against giving kids under 12 hobby kits and chemistry sets. That's because such kits may contain dangerous chemicals that even pre-adolescents are not old enough to handle safely.

Shoppers must consider a host of factors when looking for safe toys for kids this holiday season.









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## THESE ARE A FEW OF OUR FAVORITE THINGS



Pick up your game day gear for your favorite Louisiana Tech sports fan as well as smoked treats by Kaybaby's.

\*See ad on page 4



With Southern Skin City, indulge in a complete selection of therapies designed to help you relax and rejuvenate. Gift cards available.

\*See ad on page 3



36' Forno French Door Refrigerator, Forno 36' Dual-Fuel Range, 36' SS Range Hood, Forno 24' SS Built-in Dishwasher.

\*See ad on page 14



To cover all your holiday gift giving, SHOP LOCAL in beautiful downtown Ruston. We can't wait to see you!

\*See ad on page 15



When you stop by Cotton Top for your new Christmas shirt, bring your list! We have "Gifts-to-Go!" ready to put under the tree.

\*See ad on page 6



The Children's Shoppe is your one stop shop for gifts for all ages. We offer free gift wrapping and so much more!

\*See ad on page 6



Keeping you connected to the most important things in life... Call Advanced Audiology today to try out our Widez hearing aids!

\*See ad on page 10



Got a BUCK? Call us at Dowling's Processing where you can pick up Pineapple and Pepper Jack Sausages among other flavors.

\*See ad on page 11



Luxury Bamboo nightwear for the best night sleep. Thermodynamic, moisture wicking and oh so soft! Get yours at Embellishments.

\*See ad on page 6



Cute puppies alert! Call Fluffin' Right, now open 7 days a week, to get your best friend PAW-FECT for this holiday season.

\*See ad on page 14



Call me, Kim Dupree, your State Farm local agent to make sure you're insured this holiday season and beyond!

\*See ad on page 11



Pick up a German Fuentes Purse from Boutique Barr. Made with genuine Italian leather and can be customized with additional straps.

\*See ad on page 13



For TREE-mendous Christmas goodies, visit The Fashion of Ruston and Goldie Boutique for stocking stuffers or gifts for yourself!

\*See ad on page 15



Common Goods' winter drink menu is here! Cozy up with our candy cane mocha, gingerbread hot cocoa, holiday spritzer and more!

\*See ad on page 5



For a wide assortment of gifts for everyone on your list... Shop the Alley in Downtown West Monroe. You're sure to find something unique!

\*See ad on page 15



Let Hart Designs light up your front porch this Christmas season with these beautiful handcrafted lanterns.

\*See ad on page 2



Don't waste time searching the internet. Surprise that special someone with 1620 Essentials unique, handmade gifts.

\*See ad on page 2



PEACE OF MIND: Call Brooks Insurance Brokers, LLC to learn more and have peace of mind this holiday season.

\*See ad on page 12



Looking for that special something to make your home fab for the holidays? Shop at Cotton Port Antique Mall!

\*See ad on page 5



Fall into fashion with these new winter pieces. Let us add the Dusse touch to your existing wardrobe. Chic, class or comfy... we have it all!

\*See ad on page 5



Discover Supermovers and be in your home by the holidays! Call us today for a seamless move for you and your family.

\*See ad on page 7



Custom engravings for that perfect one of a kind gift. Visit K&M Coffee, Corks & Camo to place your order today.

\*See ad on page 2



Trim the tree, deck the halls and set the table for a delightful celebration of the Christmas season! (Photo: Old St. Nick by Vietri)

\*See ad on page 5



We have an extensive line of vintage eyeglass frames, as well as prescription sunglasses and eyewear. Visit Jan's Optical today!

\*See ad on page 11



Something for everyone! Come shop with us on December 10, 11 and 12.

\*See ad on page 14



Tired of slaving away in the hot kitchen? Hot Rod BBQ has you covered with all the trimmings.

\*See ad on page 2

# Don't Miss Life In Full Sound

Advanced Audiology & Hearing Aids offers one-on-one hearing care you can trust, including hearing aids from the industry's top manufacturers and individualized hearing treatment plans.

Dr. Jerrilyn Fraiser is passionate about improving patients' lives by helping them communicate better with loved ones. With **23 years of experience**, she is one of Ruston's most tenured audiologists, and BayouLife Magazine recently named her a **2021 Top Doc**.



**Dr. Jerrilyn Frasier**Doctor of Audiology

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## O CHRISTMAS TREE, O CHRISTMAS TREE

Lights on a Christmas tree may seem like a relatively recent phenomenon, but people who can't wait to deck the halls each December may be surprised to learn that this beloved tradition dates all the way back to the late 19th century.

Edward Johnson, a friend and colleague of Thomas Edison, introduced holiday light bulbs in 1882. Prior to that, candles were lit on trees and families would briefly gaze at this awe-inspiring bit of holiday decor before the candles were quickly extinguished.

Johnson is credited with being the first to suggest light bulbs, which were invented by his friend Edison, be used to light trees in place of candles. While many were impressed by Johnson's eight-bulb holiday display, it remained a novelty until the 1920s, when preassembled lights became more accessible.

Since then, Christmas tree lights have taken hold as a must-have piece of holiday decor in households across the globe.



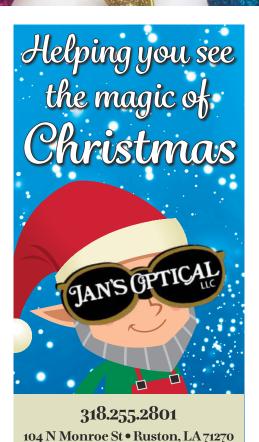
Remember to keep the holiday season safe by watering your live trees!

Merry
Christmas
from our
family
to yours.

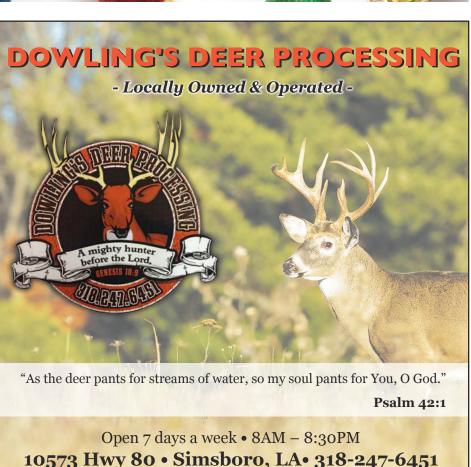




Kim Dupree Insurance Agency, LLC 318-255-6301 1001 N Trenton St I Ruston, LA 71270



@Jan's Optical LLC



## **BROOKS INSURANCE BROKERS, LLC**

Troy and Patricia Brooks believe in connections.

An online connection provided the spark for their marriage. Their connection to community fostered a desire to give back through activism and service. That connection is now front and center as they bring Brooks Insurance Brokers (BIB) to Lincoln Parish.

Through BIB, the Brooks aspire to serve as a community conduit. They see their business as a hub and catalyst for reinvigoration and inspiration so that clients can live the best version of their lives.

An army veteran previously serving as ROTC Instructor/Administrator at Alcorn State University, Troy brought that same commitment to more than 25 years in the banking and insurance business. However, a desire to provide more assistance with long-term financial security burned. He left banking, teamed

up with Patricia and her experience with Fortune 500 companies, and created BIB.

Armed with their Christian faith, the Brooks began e d u c a t i n g people on life insurance and how to invest.

Workingfrom the Biblical perspective that a

man with a lack of knowledge or vision will soon perish, they began helping equip and empower clients to make well-informed decisions within a world of often misleading information. The Brooks believe it is part of their ministry.

with long-term financial security With a heart for seniors, mulburned. He left banking, teamed tiple resources are provided



Patricia Mims Brooks Troy Brooks, Sr. CEO 682.701.8917

to help retirees and older citizens get the most from their golden years. Specializing in Medicare Advantage Plans and Medicare Supplements, offering every type of insurance coverage is well as refer-

ance coverage as well as references to financial planners and tax prepa-

ration, BIB provides a menu of services designed to meet a wide array of needs.

Yet for BIB, insurance is more than just purchasing a policy it's a true investment. Because of this, representatives are on site to help individuals find the best plan for their needs. Certified in more than a dozen products and working with the Affordable Care Act (Obamacare), BIB is not a one-shop insurance carrier. Its goal is to help clients discover what is most effective and costefficient for their specific needs.

Whether through community events or expert-driven webinars from the comfort of home, BIB is ready to meet you wherever you are. The team is committed to customized efforts that make a difference in people's lives.

With its brokered approach, BIB is armed and ready to service Lincoln Parish.

Providing the best products on the market for healthcare and insurance needs, Troy and Patricia Brooks believe "service is the rent we pay for living on this earth." It is the very purpose of life and not something you do in your spare time. Standing on that dedication, they see it as an honor to do what they love—serving others. They invite you to join them in that journey.



Patricia and Troy offer expert driven seminars to their clients which can be taken from the comfort of one's home.



Local: 318.693.2223 | Toll Free: 855.777.3646 brooksinsurancebrokers.com 903 Kendall St | Ruston, LA

(Intersection of MLK and Kendall, formerly Brooks Washer Dryer)



Christmas morning is an exciting and joyous time for families. Children are anxious to rush downstairs and see what Santa has left under the tree, and parents are eager to see the looks on youngsters' happy faces.

Having a fast and easy breakfast at the ready on Christmas morning allows families to jump right into the festivities rather than spending too much time in the kitchen.

This recipe for "Spiced Yogurt Muffins," courtesy of the

## **INGREDIENTS**

Makes 50 muffins

- 6 1/2 cups plain fat free greek yogurt
- 4 cups water, room temp.
- 1 box (5 lbs) Gold Medal® Muffin Mix, Whole Grain Variety
- 3 tbsp pumpkin pie spice
- 2 tbsp chipotle cinnamon

National Dairy Council, Dannon and McCormick, can be made in advance and then enjoyed while peeking into Christmas stockings or watching holiday parades on television. This bigbatch recipe is ideal for feeding a houseful of overnight holiday guests. Or it can be prepared in advance and doled out as needed throughout the week. The muffins also can be made as a treat for holiday office luncheons. Cut the recipe in half for smaller yields.

## **DIRECTIONS**

- **1.** Combine yogurt and water in mixing bowl. Whisk until blended. Set aside.
- **2.** Add spices to dry muffin mix in a large bowl. Add yogurt and water mixture to muffin mixture. Mix until just blended. Don't overmix.
- **3.** Using a scoop, portion into greased or lined muffin pans. Bake at 350 F for 24 minutes, or 17 to 20 minutes in a convection oven, until tops are golden brown.





## **TIPS: Protect your holiday budget**

It may be the season of cheer, but for many, the holidays are rife with anxiety about expenses. A recent survey shows that staying on budget is Americans' top concern this holiday season, followed by incurring long-term debt, shipping costs and being charged late or hidden fees.

However, there are ways to ensure you are able to stick to a reasonable budget. Get with your loved ones to make sure they kow what you are able to spend this holiday season. Here are five tips to protect your budget during a time when every penny counts:

## • SET A SPENDING CAP.

Americans plan to spend \$998 on gifts this holiday season, according to the National Retail Federation. 'Tis the season for giving, but make sure you don't overspend. Know your budget up front and communicate that with loved ones. Another idea to limit spending is to put everyone's name into a hat. Each person draws one name and buys a gift

for just the person they've selected. You can add a bit of intrigue by keeping the identity of your recipient a secret until you open gifts. This is a great way to turn a budget into a game that can become a tradition for years to come. This is especially helpful for very large families.

#### SHOP YOUR LOCAL MERCHANTS.

Business owners in Ruston and around Lincoln Parish appreciate local shoppers keeping their dollars in the market, which helps everyone in the community. You may also find better deals in local shops than you could find in national chains.

#### • TAKE ADVANTAGE OF DEAL DAYS.

Timing is everything for getting the best prices. Do your homework in advance to pay significantly less. You will come across various sales from now until Christmas Eve, including those mentioned in this publication regarding local merchants. Super Saturday is also a great time to catch last-minute sales.

### • PURCHASE GIFT CARDS WITH PEACE OF MIND.

Gift cards are a popular, convenient gift, perfect stocking stuffers. Most children and young adults would prefer a gift card so they are able to pick out exactly what they have their eye on. Some buyers may hesitate to purchase them out of fear that the business may end up closing, especially those still struggling during the ongoing pandemic. Be sure to do some research beforehand and speak with the retailer about your concerns. They might have some insight to offer.

#### • USE CREDIT CARD REWARDS.

You've earned those points throughout the year and now is a great time to cash them in. The simplest way to use points is for gift cards, as it's one of the top requested gifts and there are many categories to choose from, including restaurants, clothing and grocery stores. Another option is to take advantage of the money saved from a statement credit to cover the expense of holiday gifts.







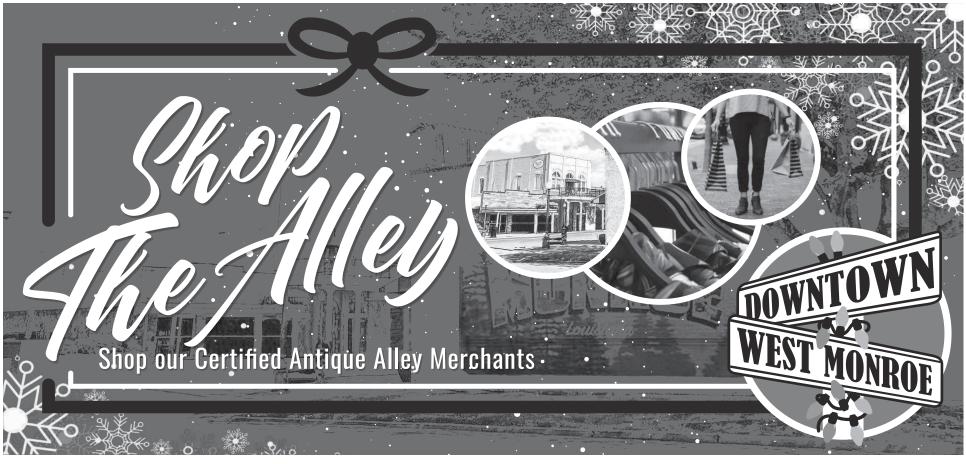
VENDOR SPACE AVAILABLE, CONTACT FOR INFORMATION.

Check out our website for all show dates.

**P G G** 









## - Santa's Nice List

2High Trampoline Park
Acres & Avenues Realty, Inc.
Alpha Gamma Rho Fraternity @ Tech
Angela Mayfield
Annette Straughter
Argent Financial Group

Ascent BancorpSouth

Beta Sigma Phi, Eta Omicron Chapter Blue Bell Creameries Bridge Community Church

Calvary Baptist Church of Vienna Carolyn Cage

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City of Ruston

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Cook Baptist Church

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Delta Broadband, LLC

Douglas Church

Dr. John Ward

**Dubach United Methodist Church** 

Emmanuel Baptist Church

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First Baptist Church - Dubach

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