

Sunny skies and mild temperatures



High Sunday in the low to mid 80s.
 Low Sunday night in the low 60s.
 No rain in the immediate forecast.
 Mostly sunny Monday; high of 87.
 Sunshine Tuesday with a high of 89.

- Take a visit back in time in Ruston, Pg. 2
- Weekends with DART: sextortion case, Pg. 3
- Outdoors: Be careful in deer stands, Pg. 7
- Ruston, Cedar Creek road battles, Pg. 8
- Lincoln Prep's furious rally falls short, Pg. 9
- Ruston's very own 'Chef to Watch,' Pg. 12



Ruston Daily Leader

Sunday, September 17, 2023

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\$1.50



From left to right, Will Edwards, Greg "Big Coach Williams, Theresa Wyatt, Karen Ludley, Tommie Woods, Richard Durrett, Dan Lord, Glenn Scriber and John Cole appeared at Thursday's Lincoln Parish Police Jury candidate forum held by the Ruston Daily Leader.

RDL forum: How to work together

Jury candidates talk ambulance, administrator, divide

Editor's note: This is the first of a series examining candidates' answers to questions posed at Thursday's election forum.

By Caleb Daniel
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As the public asked nine candidates for Lincoln Parish Police Jury about topics

that have divided the current jury, working together was a common refrain among the answers at the Ruston Daily Leader's first election forum Thursday.

Candidates for District 1, 2, 3 and 6 said the phrases "work together," "come together," and "get together" 35 times as they answered constituents' questions throughout the

evening, but specifics on how the jury could do that were, at times, sparse.

Each candidate on the ballot in those districts and roughly 80 residents attended the first of two meet-and-greet, question-and-answer events at the Lincoln Parish Library Events Center. Candidates from Districts 9, 10 and 11 will follow suit on Tuesday, begin-

ning at 5:30 p.m.

Would-be jurors answered questions selected from those written by attendees.

At the close of a four-year jury term marked by a handful of high-profile disagreements that have at times seen jurors pitted against each other, one audience question explicitly asked candidates how they would "span the divide" that

appears to exist within the jury.

But other questions on topics that have split the jury — such as ambulance service and evaluating the parish administrator — also drew an emphasis on working together from the candidate field, even amidst a few disagreements.

See RDL FORUM, page 5

Ruston students earn National Merit honors

Cedar Creek School, RHS seniors named semifinalists

By Caleb Daniel
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This year five students at Ruston schools have achieved the honor of being named semifinalists in the 2024 National Merit scholarship program.

Representing Cedar Creek School in the prestigious scholarship program are Bailey Anne Adams and Hayes Andrew Bridges, while Ruston High School had three semifinalists: Thomas Rogers, Jodi Dunbar and Chaz Backhaus.

Semifinalists represent less than 1% of high school seniors across the country who take the Preliminary SAT test. This year about 16,000 students advanced to this level.

These seniors will compete to be named Finalists and potentially win one of about 7,140 National Merit Scholarships worth nearly \$28 million.

"We are very proud of these two students," Cedar Creek Head of School Cindy Hampton said. "This is not an easy

feat to accomplish. They are wonderful individuals who are involved in school activities as well as community activities, and we look forward to their continued accomplishments in this competition."

Ruston High Principal Dan Gressett said it's been many years since the school had three semifinalists, but he wasn't shocked by the news.

"They're amazing students to begin with, so it's not surprise to me they're National Merit Semifinalists," he said. "Jodi got a 36 on her ACT last year, Thomas is involved in athletics for us as well as his grades, and Chaz does really well academically. We're extremely proud of these three."

Lincoln Parish Superintendent Ricky Durrett said having three National Merit semifinalists in the school system this year reflects well on the education taking place here.

"That's quite an honor for those students

See NATIONAL MERIT, page 7



Representing Ruston High School as National Merit semifinalists are (from left) Thomas Rogers, Jodi Dunbar and Chaz Backhaus.



Bailey Anne Adams represents Cedar Creek as a National Merit semifinalist.



Hayes Andrew Bridges represents Cedar Creek as a National Merit semifinalist.

NLMC to operate TechCare campus clinic

By Nancy Bergeron
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If all goes according to plan, the TechCare walk-in clinic on the Louisiana Tech University campus will reopen in October as a service of Northern Louisiana Medical Center.

"I'm excited about it," NLMC CEO Kathy Hall said. "This is something I'm passionate about. We want to do what's best for this community."

NLMC is taking over the campus facility from Green Clinic. Green Clinic did not renew its contract with the university to operate the urgent-care facility when the agreement expired June 30.

NLMC was notified last month it had won the bid to operate TechCare. The clinic is located at the Lambright Sports and Wellness Center.

"There are a lot of students at Louisiana Tech who may not have transportation to a clinic across town," Hall said. "It's a service for this community."



Northern Louisiana Medical Center plans to reopen the TechCare clinic on the campus of Louisiana Tech University in October.

NLMC is waiting for the required federal approvals to reopen the clinic. In the meantime, TechCare patients can visit the Allegiance Medical Clinic of Ruston, located adjacent to NLMC on East Vaughn Avenue, Hall said.

TechCare opened

about six years ago primarily to serve university students, faculty, and staff. But anyone can receive treatment there.

"I see kids up to adults," Physician's Assistant Samantha Primm, TechCare's primary provider, said.

TechCare is primarily an acute-care clinic, meaning it offers care for maladies such as colds, flu, sore throat, sinus and ear infections, sprains, stomach virus, and similar non-emergency issues.

See TECHCARE, page 7

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Intersection of Maryland Avenue, Farmerville Street traffic closure



The City of Ruston announces, weather permitting, that the intersection of E. Maryland Avenue and N.

Farmerville Street will be closed to through traffic beginning Monday from 7 a.m. through Tuesday at 4 p.m.

The closure is necessary for utility repairs. Any questions can be received by the Public Works Department at (318) 242-7703.



Ruston Daily Leader \$1.50

TAKE TWO

Nothing better than a victory over the Demons

Last weekend's showdown between our Bulldogs and the Northwestern State Demons provided the perfect opportunity to revisit the glory days of State Fair in Shreveport. The largest livestock show and carnival in the state better known as the State Fair of Louisiana.

But it wasn't corndogs, Ferris wheels or even midway prizes that monopolized conversations. It was the full blown revelry of State Fair weekend.

It's hard to adequately explain to those who weren't there exactly what State Fair weekend really entailed. Sure, there was the fair. But it was a distant third or fourth to everything else going on.

First you have to grasp the fact that State Fair weekend was probably the biggest event of the year. In fact, the experience was far bigger than Homecoming would ever be. Its magic elevated it above everything else. And honestly, unless you were there, you can never really grasp the true magnitude of the experience. It was just that much of a phenomenon.

Let's start with the game. Long before I ever arrived as a Tech student in 1977, I had been aware of the fierce rivalry between Tech and Northwestern. In fact, thanks to my folks, I cut my teeth on it. The two schools had been meeting for the State Fair Classic for about fifty years with the traditional prize on the line — a banner, half NSU and the other half Tech, that went home with the victorious school after the matchup.

As a child, I heard about it; as a student, I saw that banner hanging in the Tonk and remember being so proud.

I'd grown up on the story of the tradition and knew it mattered. And I was thrilled to know it was hanging on our campus for the vast majority of time through the years. To say Tech dominated the series is an understatement.

However, before the game was the biggie — Rally in the Alley. I know to the unschooled that sounds like some distant cousin to the George Forman/Mohammed Ali "Rumble in the Jungle" in Zaire. Or in the crazy world we live in today, it could be a meeting of rival gangs ready for violence and destruction. Not our Rally in the Alley. Ours was nothing but one big fabulous party.

Campus organizations gathered beneath the Texas Street Bridge in downtown Shreveport for what could be described as a giant pep rally that ran full steam into celebratory bash among friends and foes alike. For that one moment, it really didn't matter who you were affiliated with; at Rally in the Alley, we were all one.

As a Kappa Delta, I remember the giant bed sheet banners we painted to hang from the windows in buildings lining the amazing space where everything took place. Music pulsating, people chanting and cheering, parades, lots of dancing — just one big "whoop it up" opportunity as we prepared for the impending State Fair Classic. My goodness, how lucky we were. In today's world nobody would feel safe doing something like that. Yet we never had to bat an eye over it.

Of course, both schools elected a "State Fair Court" filled with campus beauties, and they were presented at halftime of the game. I remember this being my first exposure to what we would come to call the "super deluxe" — a gigantic chrysanthemum corsage with enough stuff hanging off the streamers to cause permanent damage to the spine. But they were fabulous, and after the final buzzer when everyone poured into the fairgrounds for all those festivities, you were definitely looking to see who was wearing what. And with us at the height of disco, well, all bets were off. Yet a good time was had by all.

Sadly, the State Fair Classic disbanded a few years after I graduated. In fact, Tech only met Northwestern a handful of times after that. But I'm here to tell you, it felt good to see the Dawgs take on the Demons one more time.

That victory was sweet. And the memories even sweeter. Now if we could just find that winner's banner.

CELEBRATIONS

BIRTHDAYS

- | | |
|---------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| September 17
Damian Cheffin | September 24
Vickie Williams |
| September 18
Za'Niyah Holyfield, 10yrs. | September 26
Jeffery Woods |
| September 20
Natasha Holyfield, 32yrs. | September 27
Rettha Nelson |
| September 22
Stevie Butler | September 28
Sam Mattox |
| September 23
Demondrae Woods | September 28
Dr. Ben Haley, 85 yrs. |
| | September 30
Kinsley Skye |

Send your community events or photos to Cathi Cox-Boniol, community news editor, at: community@rustonleader.com



Recreation and Amusement — Part VI

A famous baseball game in Ruston was the benefit game played by the "Fats" and the "Leans" in celebration of the installation of the fountain at City Park. Players included Rev. R.H. Wynn, W.J. Lewis, Dr. J.F. Johnston, Tom Connell, O.S. Castlin, C.W. Perkins, H.M. Warren, Abe Conn, J.H. Mays, Charles Carter, Rev. S.W. Brown, R.E. Carter, E.S.

Kidd, Tom Boyd, Frank Martin, N.B. Boyd, Newton Jackson, S.L. Barksdale, and Charles Gullatt.

Later, Ruston baseball teams participated in semi-professional ball, being a member of the old Ouachita Valley League and the Big Six and Big Eight Leagues.

Instrumental in promoting baseball here and throughout North Louisiana are Roy Fraser,

for whom Fraser Road is named, and Major L.J. Fox, a past President of the Big Eight League.

At one time, Ruston had two teams in the Big Eight League — the Ruston Volunteers and the Ruston Rebels. The Ruston Ramblers are still Big Eight members (1959), playing a type of ball comparable to professional Class B.

ART TALK



Behind the scenes with the artist: Christiane Drieling on her Earth Exhibit at the Masur Museum of Art

A few years ago, I received a nearly complete but outdated set of the "LIFE World Library" books from a close friend. She, being a teacher, had used them as supplementary material in her cultural lessons, and I know and love many of the students who had previously flipped through the yellowed pages.

The "LIFE World Library" series was published in the 1960s and was composed of about 30 hardcover books, each painting a picture of a specific country or region, focusing on many angles of its economics and culture. All volumes have solid color backs in a variety of jewel tones, especially deep greens and blues, as well as rich red tones. A small simple line graphic of our globe, usually in white but sometimes in black, is printed in the center of the back cover of each book.

Based on these hardcover backs, I have created a series of works focusing on different aspects of how we view our planet, how we feel about it, and how we treat it. The series consists of 24 pieces, one for each hour of the day. The day begins with an end, and ends with a beginning. There really is no particular order to the pieces; each work begins and ends in itself.

To create the images for the "Earth" series, I have worked with collage techniques, mainly using paper elements from various sources. My goal was to keep the majority of the images simple and the original surfaces as visible as possible.

Sometimes I added sewing thread, inherited from my beloved grandmother, who had sewn and mended my dresses when I was a child. I like to incorporate sewing thread in the work for the many beautiful memories I have of her, and also because of its purpose and the theme it conveys: to create and to hold together.

I began working on this series in February 2020, and I finished the last piece in April 2022. The two years in between are marked by a number of devastating hardness tests that our global society has not been able to pass yet.

The 24 images are my response to what has been happening on the world stage and the effects the affairs have had on my emotional state-of-mind. I have responded with outrage and anxiety, with numbness and depression — but also with hope and the strong desire to find the good in each new day.

A public reception for Earth will be held on Thursday from 5:30-7:30 pm. The exhibit will remain on view in the Upper River Gallery of the Masur Museum through Oct. 21.



Courtesy photos

Christiane Drieling poses in front of the sign for her Earth exhibit at the Masur Museum of Art. Above, shown is a portion of the exhibit itself.

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BASIC Wash Rinse Dry \$10		

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JACKSON PARISH

Three candidates for sheriff answer our questions

Throughout the state of Louisiana voters are preparing to either reelect a sheriff or elect a new candidate for the position. This year, Jackson Parish has three candidates vying for the opportunity to serve as its next sheriff.

The three candidates are incumbent Andy Brown, Cody Cheatwood and Philip Lawrence.

In an effort to offer an opportunity for the public to discern the reasons and motivation of each candidate to offer their services to the residents of Jackson Parish as its next sheriff, a request for information was provided in the following format.

Each candidate was provided with a request to respond to the exact same nine questions, and each was provided an equal amount of time to respond, in writing, to the questions. All three candidates responded, and each of their respective responses will run for 3 weeks in the *Ruston Daily Leader*.

The next set of questions are as follows:

4. What are your long-term goals for the parish if you are elected?
5. What are your short-term goals for the parish if you are elected?
6. What applicable skill set will you bring to the office of Sheriff if you are elected?



Philip Lawrence

4. Address and solve the drug and pit bull problem in our parish.
5. Establish a Rapid Response Force (RRF) to respond to emergencies.
6. Physical and moral courage.

on every shift, and a feasibility study to determine what, if anything, needs to be streamlined or eliminated.

6. I will bring 39-plus years of experience to the Sheriff's Office. Having worked in corrections, dispatch, patrol, and investigations gives me knowledge of every aspect of the job. I am a La. P.O.S.T. certified firearms instructor, an F.B.I. certified instructor and was a staff instructor at North Delta Regional Training Academy.



Cody Cheatwood

4. Long term goals include the assignment of a deputy to Caney Creek reservoir on a full time basis. Our lake has grown into a valuable asset to the parish. I will implement full patrol on the lake and properties surrounding it.

I intend to enhance training and education for all deputies. Having an up to date, trained staff is vital to the success of the Jackson Parish Sheriff's Office.

Working with other elements of the criminal justice system as well as the school system to implement mentorship and after school programs for at-risk youth as alternatives to incarceration is another priority as well as the implementation of a narcotics task force.

5. Short term goals are the immediate assignment of deputies to the full time enforcement of narcotics laws, enhancing school safety measures already in place, ensuring that all parts of Jackson Parish receive proactive patrol

4. My long-term goals include, but are not limited to, enhanced training opportunities for all deputies and correctional staff, creating additional jobs through the expansion of Jackson Parish Jail, expanding our School Resource Program, and continue to provide support and no cost training opportunities to all law enforcement agencies within our Parish.

I will continue to complete all goals with no additional tax burden to the public.

5. I don't think short term goals are applicable. I maintain a vision of growth and long-term fiscal sustainability for the Sheriff's Office and our Parish.

6. I have 38 years of experience in law enforcement and 19 years as Sheriff.

During the past nineteen years I have had no audit findings or discrepancies while maintaining a current tax base of 22 million dollars that is dispersed among all governmental agencies within the Parish.



Photo by Wilda Smith

Ribbon Cutting held at Caney Lake Landing

Members of the Jackson Parish Chamber of Commerce celebrated with the new owners of Caney Lake Landing, James and Caroline Bradford. They invite you out for breakfast lunch or dinner at Caney Lake Landing, located at 7777 Hwy. 4 in Jonesboro. For more information, call them at (318) 259-6649 or visit their Facebook page. Don't forget to check out their fishing gear.

WEEKENDS WITH DART

Dealing with the dangers of sextortion

Last week we talked about a young girl who was coerced or tricked into sending nude pictures of herself to her boyfriend who then used the pics to blackmail her. The story, a true one, was presented by David Ferris, at a recent DART event developed to provide training to regional law enforcement and social workers.

The term for sending nude photos to a boyfriend or girlfriend is sexting and can be twisted and turned into an evil thing if a bad actor is involved. If nude photo of a person under the age of 18 is taken and transmitted, it becomes criminal because of laws against child pornography. When a person coerces sexting from an individual and uses it against them it is called sextortion. The Federal Bureau of Investigation considers it a huge problem, especially when it involves a child.

Years ago, agents with the FBI arrested Richard Finkbiner a 40-year-old youth minister from Indiana, who had more than 22,000 videos of webcam feeds, much of it sexually explicit content that he had obtained from young people nationwide. Investigators

identified 20 victims and believe he had dozens more that they could not identify, perhaps hundreds more.

The Finkbiner case is one in a long list of sextortion cases that have been investigated or prosecuted in the last two decades. FBI agents say more and more cases cross their desks each year involving young people who are manipulated, threatened, or coerced into creating explicit or pornographic content by an adult online.

"The second the criminal gets a picture, that child's life is going to be turned upside down," said Special Agent Ryan Barrett, who worked on Finkbiner's case from the FBI's Indianapolis Field Office. "These people are relentless. They don't care.

The FBI says, "Sextortion begins when a predator reaches out to a young person over a game, app, or social media account. Through deception, manipulation, money and gifts, or threats, the predator convinces the young person to produce an explicit video or image. When the young person

starts to resist requests to make more images, the criminal will use threats of harm or exposure of the early images to pressure the child to continue producing content."

Here is what kids need to know about how to stop sextortion, according to the FBI:

1. Be selective about what you share. If your social media accounts are open to everyone, a predator may be able to figure out a lot of information about you.
2. Beware of anyone you encounter for the first time online. Block or ignore messages from strangers.
3. Be aware that people can pretend to be anything or anyone online. Videos and photos are not proof that a person is who they claim to be. Images can be altered or stolen.

4. Be suspicious if you meet someone on one game or app and they ask you to start talking to them on a different platform.

5. Be in the know. Any content you create online- whether it is a text message, photo or video - can be made public. And once you send something, you don't have any control over where it goes next.

6. Be willing to ask for help. If you are getting messages or requests online that don't seem right, block the sender, report the behavior to the site administrator, or go to an adult.

If you or someone you know has been a victim of sextortion, call the FBI at 1-800-CALL-FBI or report the crime online at tips.fbi.gov.

Donna Bernard is the Child Advocate for DART. If you would like more information about how to help a teen in danger, call her at 318.513.9373.



By **Donna Bernard**



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Lincoln Parish
EARLY VOTING

Lincoln Parish
Gubernatorial/Municipal Primary Election

Early Voting is September 30 - October 7
(Excluding Sunday, October 1)
8:30 A.M. - 6:00 P.M.

Lincoln Parish Registrar of Voters Office
100 W Texas Ave, Ruston LA

Please bring a driver's license or photo identification with a signature.

THUMBS UP THUMBS DOWN



Another successful candidate forum

Thursday evening the *Ruston Daily Leader* held another successful candidate forum at the Lincoln Parish Library, this time for those running for police jury.

It's always important for candidates to have the opportunity to express their platform for members of the community. Likewise, it's vital to the electoral process that voters have the opportunity to listen and pose questions.

We give a thumbs up to both the candidates for coming out to participate and to the community for showing up to engage with their candidates.

When you are electing representatives of local government, we cannot stress how important it is to know their thoughts on issues. You may know them personally or come across them in public, but you never know how they will represent your respective district.

We have another forum coming up on Tuesday. We invite you to join us.



Violence in a high school parking lot

This past week one student was killed and two others wounded when they were gunned down sitting in a car in the parking lot of St. Helena College and Career Academy in Greensburg.

It's shocking that three students can be gunned down in a Louisiana high school parking lot. What's even more shocking is that a 14-year-old pulled the trigger.

The motive for the shooting? Apparently it was a case of bullying.

This tragic incident hits close to home for all of us. Each day we send our children to school with the simple thought they are leaving home to get a quality education and enjoy a safe environment as part of growing up. Bullying happens in every school. It happens to an awful lot of children across America. Don't think that it doesn't happen in our community, because it does.

But at what point does it cause violence? We don't have the answer to that. We do hope and pray that nobody has to deal with school violence, but the fact of the matter is, it has been prevalent in America for many years now. Bullying and violence should be discussed ad nauseum among families and educators.



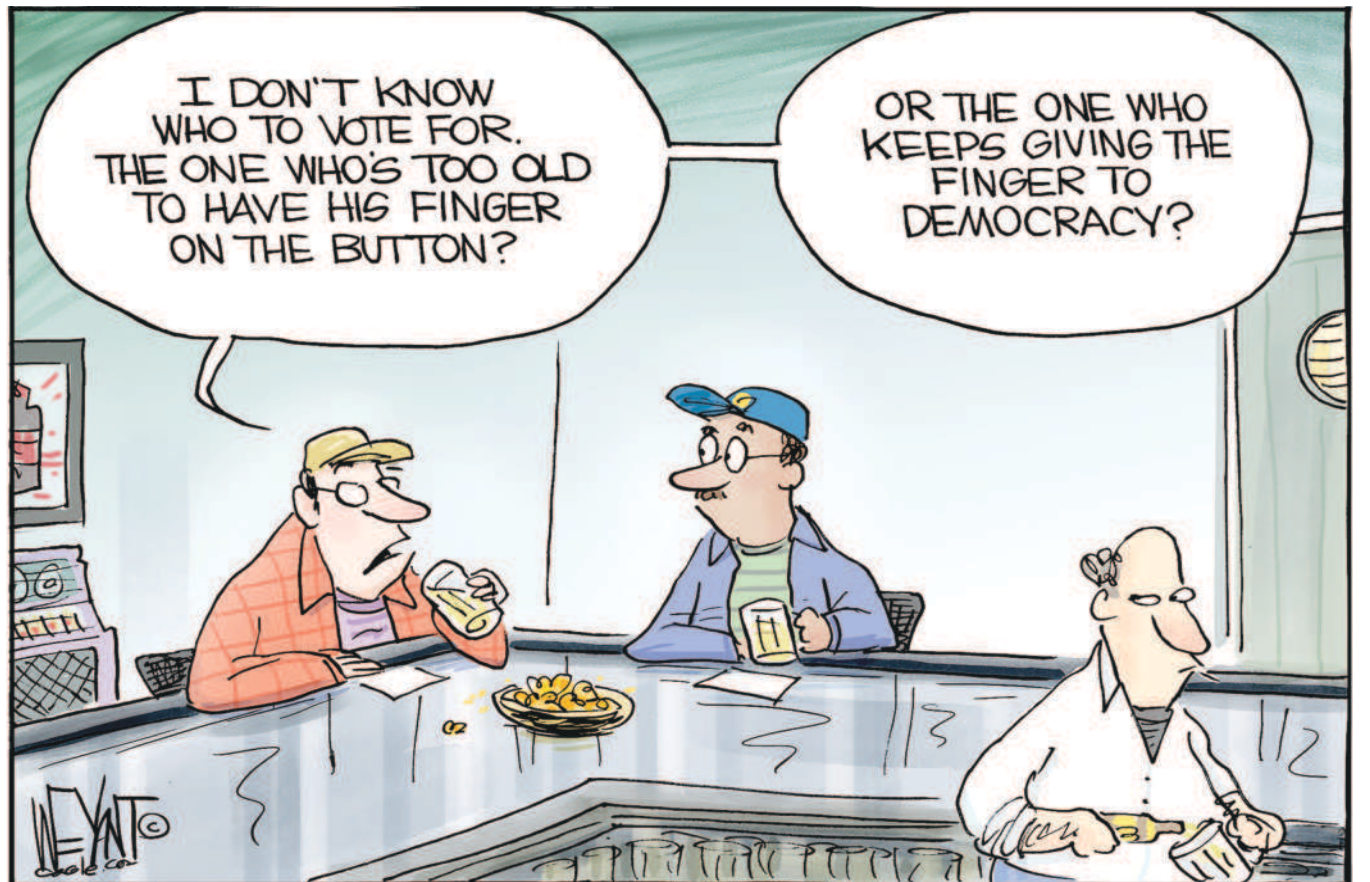
Saturday at the Joe was enjoyable

Last Saturday was one of those days on the campus of Louisiana Tech that turned into a memorable occasion.

Every now and then sports can bring people together for all the right reasons and spread joy to everyone.

The renewal of an old rivalry with Northwestern State did exactly that. Not only did Tech annihilate the Demons 51-21 on the field, but the 1973 Louisiana Tech national championship team returned home to celebrate the 50th anniversary of one of the greatest seasons in Bulldog history.

Men who played for the late, great Maxie Lambright were able to swap stories and enjoy each other as they did that fall in 1973 when they stood tall and brought home the trophy. How 'bout them Dogs!



A DIFFERENT BEAT

Sometimes old fashioned ain't so bad

I don't envy being a kid in today's world. No way. Not even close. Forget about it. I'm good with being a child of the 1970s and 80s.

I won't pretend to know what it's like for this generation growing up in America. I haven't a clue. Just as my parents' generation had no idea what it was like growing up in the era of peace, love and the Brady Bunch.

All I can do is compare the differences.

First things first, you kids today have access to the best technology and serious culture-changing inventions. You walk around with a hand-held smartphone that basically equals a computer that once fit in a 5,000 square foot air conditioned room that was kept at 40 degrees so that dad blasted thing didn't blow up.

But is that better? Sometimes old fashioned is pretty cool.

You guys text your buddy and see if he wants to see a movie this weekend, or ask if he's going to the football game. We either waited until we got to school or waited in line at our house to use the landline to dial a friend to see if the phone would ring or not. You could get a busy signal because his big brother was on the phone with his girlfriend for two hours.

In that case, you jump on your bicycle and ride 8 blocks and knock on his door. Problem solved. We didn't know we missed smartphones.

You also have the luxury of sitting down at your computer at home and googling information you need for a school paper or project. Guess what we had to do? We had to either

ride said bicycle to the local library and research, recording your information using bibliography cards (google that if you don't know) to keep track of your research.

Or, you could sit at the kitchen table and look through the Encyclopedia Britannica that mom and dad bought from the traveling salesman.

Fact of the matter is, my generation got things done. So does yours. You just get it down a lot quicker than we did.

There is another major difference in today's world versus the generation that molded me as a young guy.

Social media can be a productive tool. It can also be a rabbit's hole into which nobody should delve.

Seems these days everyone makes a video of everything and posts it to one of the many social media platforms. Or someone films you and posts it for the world to see.

I can't even fathom having smartphone cameras and social media available when I was growing up. We would have been in so much trouble. All we had to worry about back in the 1970s was nousey neighbor one and two. Once we navigated past them, it was smooth sailing to mischievous behavior that rarely got back to our parents.

I must confess though. Parents always find out. No matter what generation it is. You can try to jump your motorcycle over the swimming pool or drag your brother around on a motorcycle as he's tied to the back springs of the rear tire. You can even accidentally set fire to the tree in the backyard. They will find out.



By Brian Trahan

MAKING SENSE

Saving our kids from wackos, dirty books

Thank God for Sen. John Kennedy of Louisiana.

I wish every major television and radio network in the country had covered what the smart and colorful Republican did in the Senate this week.

As part of a hearing looking into the alleged threat to freedom posed by parents who want to have sexually explicit gay and trans books removed from their school libraries, Kennedy bravely quoted some choice excerpts from two of the books.

While he read out loud from "All Boys Aren't Blue" and "Gender Queer," every adult in the room with a brain and a lick of common sense squirmed uncomfortably in their seats.

Kennedy and other senators of both parties agreed that the sleaze he read was not fit for young children – or any non-adult.

But unless you watch Fox News or other conservative TV or radio places, you did not hear Kennedy's graphic descriptions repeated or even described in detail.

The mainstream electronic news media ignored Kennedy's readings. The partisans running the New York Times didn't even cover the hearing.

That kind of information blackout is nothing new to conservatives.

The left-wing media can always be counted on to not tell their audiences what is actually written in the quasi-pornographic LGBT books that parents around the country are criticizing. Their partisan reporters and pundits don't even bother to read the books or try to defend them.

They just immediately slime the concerned parents and Republicans as dangerous book-burners and political extremists. Or, hypocritically, they'll criticize an angry mother for talking dirty at her local school board meeting.

It's part of the upside-down political insanity of our times that parents are now being told they are not allowed to have sexually graphic books removed from their own public schools.

So how can parents protect their school kids from an indoctrination campaign – short of homeschooling them or moving to Portugal?

Without a national political revolution that sweeps away the leftists and wackos running our governments and ruining our public schools, it looks impossible – especially out here in the crazy,

Not saying I did any of that. I won't incriminate myself, and you will not find video of it on social media.

Being a product of the street lamp generation was enjoyable. I don't regret a moment. You left home in the morning and came home when the street lamp came on. In between, you managed to occupy yourself without a smartphone and without a computer or gaming system.

If there is one gift I would give to today's youth it would be the ability to hold a conversation. I challenge you to put the smartphone down. I implore you to avoid texting one day a week and just talk. Hold a conversation with the person you would normally text. Ride your bicycle over to their house, sit around and talk.

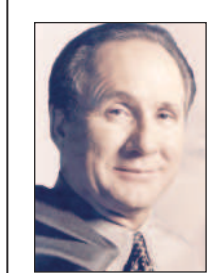
Who knows, you may even enjoy a small glimpse into the past. You still have your smartphone the other days of the week.

My late father did something at family get-togethers that completely befuddled me at the time, but I understand it more now. We set a bucket at the front door and required everyone to drop their cell phones into the bucket, to be retrieved on their way out.

Dad knew what he was doing. He wanted all of us to look at each other and engage in conversation.

As technology further develops into Artificial Intelligence, human interaction is going to be that much more important. Let's not allow technology to remove the human from human beings. Sometimes old fashioned ain't so bad.

Brian Trahan is editor of the Ruston Daily Leader, a graduate of Louisiana Tech and can be reached at editor@rustonleader.



By Michael Reagan

mismanaged and hyper-sexed state of California.

For example, last week a California judge ruled against the school district in Chino that had issued a policy saying parents had to be informed if their kids had changed their gender identities or pronouns in school.

Earlier this week the mayor of Burbank proudly defended himself for raising money at a private party by having himself spanked on camera by a drag queen. The liberal media naturally thought what the mayor did was very cool, of course, and Democrats defended him.

And, of course, they claimed the secret video – seen by more than 8 million people so far – was being used by Republicans as clickbait to "promote an agenda of fear, homophobia, transphobia, and bigotry."

The latest sex-and-gender idiocy dreamed up by the people in charge of the state of California is the declaration that next August will be officially recognized as Transgender History Month.

Isn't that great?

Michael Reagan, the son of President Ronald Reagan, is an author, speaker and president of the Reagan Legacy Foundation. Send comments to reagan@caglecartoons.com.

Ruston Daily Leader

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Wall Street closes lower, giving S&P 500 another losing week

(AP)—Stocks closed lower on Wall Street, giving the S&P 500 its second losing week in a row. The benchmark index lost 1.2% Friday.

The Dow fell 288 points and the Nasdaq composite gave back 1.6%. The market had posted some gains this week following several healthy indicators on the economy ahead of the Federal Reserve's meeting next week, where it's expected to hold interest rates steady.

Tech stocks were the biggest drag on the market. Automaker stocks proved resilient after the United Auto Workers union walked off the job at several plants overnight. Treasury yields mostly rose.

Bond yields gained ground. The yield on the 10-year Treasury, which

influences interest rates on mortgages and other loans, rose to 4.31% from 4.29% late Thursday. The yield on the 2-year Treasury held steady at 5.02%.

Investors spent much of the week reviewing mostly healthy updates on the U.S. economy. The reports came ahead of next week's Federal Reserve meeting, where the central bank is expected to continue holding interest rates steady.

"Things were fairly in line from a data perspective," said Matthew Stucky, senior portfolio manager at Northwestern Mutual Wealth Management. "Really, the market is laser-focused on what's going to impact Federal Reserve activity."

The central bank raised rates aggressively through 2022 and 2023

in an effort to tame inflation, but it maintained interest rate levels at its last meeting. Inflation has generally been easing back to the central bank's target of 2%.

"A lot of the optimism about the Fed pausing is priced into markets," Stucky said.

Consumer sentiment slipped a bit in September, according to a closely-watched survey from the University of Michigan.

The latest reading, though, shows that overall sentiment remains strong. It also said consumers lowered their expectations for inflation in the year ahead to 3.1%, which is the lowest reading since March 2021.

Boosting market sentiment this week was a report Thursday that said

U.S. shoppers spent more at retailers last month than economists expected. A separate report Thursday morning said fewer workers applied for unemployment benefits last week than expected.

A third report on Thursday said prices getting paid at the wholesale level rose more last month than economists expected. That could be a discouraging signal for households if the higher-than-expected inflation gets passed on to shoppers at the consumer level.

Inflation at the consumer level edged higher than expected in August, but high gasoline prices were the biggest driver. Oil prices have been climbing over the summer after Saudi Arabia decided to maintain production cuts.

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RDL FORUM continued from page 1

Ambulance service

After the nearly year-long process the jury underwent in 2022 to research and select a provider for emergency medical and rescue services for parish residents, it was clear several challengers made that issue a cornerstone of their platform.

The *Leader's* extensive coverage of that process can be found at rustonleader.com/tags/ambulance-service, particularly the story titled "Ruston it is."

Jurors ultimately chose Ruston on a split vote, rather than a combination of Pafford EMS for EMS and the Lincoln Parish Fire Protection District No. 1 for rescue.

Thursday, candidates were asked whether that was the right choice.

Four of the six newcomers on stage agreed with the jury's decision: Greg "Big Coach" Williams in District 1, Tommie Woods in District 2, Dan Lord in District 3 and John Cole in District 6.

District 1's Will Edwards, a volunteer firefighter for the parish department, said that department could have handled the task if they had been selected.

Karen Ludley of District 2 declined to answer the question, saying she didn't know enough about it.

All three incumbents on the stage—District 1's Theresa Wyatt, District 3's Richard Durrett and District 6's Glenn Scriber—defended their votes, with Wyatt and Durrett opposing the Ruston contract and Scriber supporting it.

Williams was the only challenger to overtly criticize an opponent Thursday, saying he disagreed with Wyatt's vote against the ambulance contract. At the time she said she was concerned about where the funds would come from.

"If I don't have any money in my house, I'm going to pay the light bill," Williams said. "Some things you've got to have."

Wyatt, as well as Durrett, said they thought the other ambulance option would have been better for their rural districts, and they wanted to

see more investment in the parish fire department.

"I think that the price we were paying, or are paying, could be better served if we would strengthen the rural fire department," Wyatt said. "I'm not sorry I made that decision."

Woods had a 35-year career with the RFD, a fact he repeatedly touted in the forum, saying this topic inspired him to run.

"I'd put Ruston Fire Department up against anybody," he said. "I'm one of the 36 paramedics we had when I was there. Who do you want in your home to see about you, a paramedic, or do you want an (Emergency Medical Responder)? These are things we need for our people in the parish."

Cole said signing with Ruston was "probably the right choice" when considering cost and quality of service.

Lord cited his five years of experience with the RFD and said all jurors should have been included from the beginning of negotiations, rather than a "backdoor policy" that led to a "transparency problem."

The question is still relevant for the upcoming jury because the contract with RFD extends through 2027—the last year of the next jury term.

So the next batch of jurors will likely revisit the ambulance topic ahead of that deadline.

Administrator issues

Another question asked candidates how they believe the jury should handle performance issues with its administrator—the lead staffer that oversees the other 150 parish employees.

The clear context: In January the jury fired then-administrator Doug Postel on a split vote after two and a half years on the job, after at least one juror previously asked him to resign or they would terminate him.

The jurors' issues with Postel haven't come to light. Find more coverage in a free-to-read article titled "Doug

Postel out as parish administrator" at rustonleader.com or in the Jan. 12 edition.

Durrett cited his own experience as administrator for 17 years.

"I know in the 17 years, you know each juror, you work with each juror, you know if they think you're doing a good job or not," he said. "They don't have to come tell you what you're doing wrong."

He pointed to the fact that administrator is an at-will employment position with a one-year contract.

"(The jury) can terminate you for no reason after that year, or the next year or next year," Durrett said.

Scriber disagreed.

"To sit here and say we can terminate someone without just cause—I'm absolutely, positively against that," he said. "I don't think that's fair to anyone involved. If they have failed their duties, what they are hired to do, then I will be the first to step up and address that issue. But we've got to do it in the proper way."

Wyatt said the jury handled the Postel situation well, in a way that "could be used as a model." She also said the jury should offer the employee the choice to discuss his issues in executive session—a private part of an otherwise public meeting.

That was discussed at the meeting in which Postel was dismissed, but the jury hadn't followed the procedures prior to the meeting that make executive session legal.

Most of the newcomers said the administrator should receive regular feedback from jurors.

"Together" was a common sentiment in this question, as challengers said each juror needs to play a part.

Ludley, a former teacher, cited the school model where a principal observes the educators and gives them feedback.

"That's what I feel like we should be doing with the administrator of the police jury," she said. "Whatever job they were doing, it should be evaluated by the 12 (jurors). Let he or she know what is wrong, what is not wrong.

We can't just let people go because they do one little thing wrong. But we have to give them an opportunity to make corrections."

Woods also recommended evaluations, followed by an investigation, if needed, that should rely on hard evidence.

Williams pointed to evaluation policies, saying the jury should make sure they have those updated and abide by them.

Edwards said he wasn't sure, but suggested all jurors should meet to figure it out.

Lord said the jury should have an evaluation committee to give feedback to employees. He also said jurors should be held accountable for how they handle employee issues.

"You're going to evaluate them, and you're going to give them a reason of what their production is and what they're doing or not doing," he said. "I worked at the Ruston Fire Department, and every quarter, we had an evaluation. This is what needs to happen to handle performance issues with the administrator."

Citing his extensive history in banking, Cole said the jury must keep employment laws in mind, and the best way to do that is to have a detailed evaluation policy that keeps the jury from handling issues on a whim.

"If you're working within a predisposed evaluation process and everybody understands what your expectations are, then you have a better opportunity to deal with problems," he said.

The jury divide

The second question of the night asked candidates how the jury can close the divide among them.

Cole said the jury needs better open communication among all members.

"There's separate conversations going on over here, and a decision's being made, and another conversation's being had over here, and there's no communication between the people in the conversations," he said.

"Some people are on a

certain type of agenda to get something done, and there's no communication to say, 'Well, I need help from District 6 so I can get something done in District 12. I don't see a lot of that in what I've seen.'

Lord, Durrett, Woods and Ludley each said one key would be communicating with constituents.

"We want you to see your tax dollars at work," Woods said. "You shouldn't have to pay your tax dollars and not getting anything that you need, not getting your roads fixed, not getting animal control. This is something the jury is going to have to work together to get this solved."

Ludley also said she believes so many candidates are running because "we see the division."

Scriber said the jury needs strong leadership in order to work together.

"You've got to have strong leaders that people believe in, that people have confidence in, that people can put their trust in," he said. "When you have that, it'll spill over into the jury itself. We've got to have people... who are not afraid to make the tough decisions that need to be made. And those decisions can be made, as long as it's done right."

Wyatt said she believes the root of the jury's rift is a "generational divide."

"We're going to have to respect age, and we have to respect youth," she said.

Williams said the parish is "still playing with the race thing." He cited his coaching and education experience in both Grambling and Ruston, saying he's a candidate who can span the cultural divide.

In an overall quiet showing between two forums, Edwards has repeatedly emphasized getting back to basics and being a unified community.

"I do believe in working together, communication, and getting back as one as a community," he said. "All of us can do this. We all can work together, some of us old, some of us younger it don't matter. We can all get back to being one as a community."

Can You Change Your World?

“Better a patient person than a warrior, one with self-control than one who takes a city.”

—Proverbs 16:32 NIV

Many of us long for a better world, one with more kindness and civility, a world where everyone is treated with the dignity and respect befitting persons made in the image of God.

And wouldn't we all like for the earth to be treated better, not treating it as a big garbage dump but rather as our precious, holy and beautiful home? Youthful idealism rushes out into the world intent on changing it for the better, but it is often met with cynicism or even apathy and resignation over the prospects of making the world a better place.

It is indeed hard to change others, and no one can clean up the whole planet. But we can all start with ourselves and our own little corner of the world. Maybe we can't change the world, but we can change ourselves. And in changing ourselves, don't we in effect do our small part for changing the world?



Reflect on what needs changing in your own life before you set out trying to improve others. Ask yourself whether there is some part of you that needs to change but which you stubbornly refuse to give up. Sometimes the greatest victory is the one which we win when we conquer our own vices.

— Christopher Simon

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Church of Restoration - 285 Main St., Grambling
Cook Baptist Church - 2000 Cooktown Rd, Ruston
Corinth - 4327 Hw 545, Dubach
Emmanuel - 1200 Farmerville Hwy, Ruston
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Fellowship Missionary Baptist, 1572 Highway 507 South, Simsboro
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First - 200 S. Trenton St., Ruston. fbruston.org
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Greater Pleasant Grove - 1270 Golf Course Rd., Unionville
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Macedonia No. 2 Missionary - 489 E. Sibley Rd., Choudrant
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Mount Olive Outreach - 2817 S. Service Road W., Ruston
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Pleasant Grove - "The Oasis in the Woods", 446 Bowden Rd., Ruston

Pleasant Hill Baptist Church - 1127 Mondy Rd, Simsboro

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St. John - Old Grambling Rd., Ruston.

St. Mary - 1114 Larson St., Ruston.

St. Peter - 404 Longstraw Rd., Ruston

St. Rest - 209 Walker Rd., Choudrant

St. Rest - Hwy. 146 West, Dubach

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The Springs - (A ministry of Temple Baptist Church) 1601 S. Barnett Springs Ave., Ruston - thesprings.life

The Word - 504 S. Main St., Grambling

University - 2856 W. California, Ruston

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Woods Chapel - 326 Hwy 454, Ruston

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Zion Traveler - 1201 Martin Luther King Dr, Ruston

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Northside - 1804 N. Trenton St., Ruston

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Dubach UMC - Dubach

First UMC - Arcadia

Grace UMC - 3401 N. Trenton St., Ruston

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Mays Chapel CME - 615 W. Line Ave., Ruston

Memorial UMC - 9325 Hwy 80, Simsboro.

Mt. Mariah UMC -

Salem UMC - 11793 Hwy. 151, Dubach

St. Peter AME - 1104 Arlington St., Ruston.

Trinity UMC - 1000 Woodward Ave., Ruston

Wesley Chapel Methodist Church - 4330 Hwy. 818, Ruston

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Anchor Tabernacle - Exit 93 from I-20 then South 1/2 mile, Choudrant

First Pentecostal - Corner of Kentucky and Goodwin, Ruston

King's Court UPC - 2401 S. Service Rd. West, Ruston

LifePoint Church of Ruston - 1018 S. Vienna St., Ruston. lifepoint-truston.com

The Pentecostals of Ruston - 2851 Hwy 33 North, Ruston

Power House Temple of Christ Apostolic - 101 Main St., Grambling

United Pentecostal - Dubach

Zion Temple Apostolic Faith Deliverance - Eastern Hills, off Beacon Light Rd., Ruston

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Greenwood - Lincoln Parish Rd. 181, between Mitcham's & Hwy. 146, Ruston

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Church of the Living God - 1438 Hwy. 167 W., Dubach

Church of the Nazarene - 1101 Center St., Ruston

Douglas Church - 1642 Hwy 821, Ruston

Dubach Church of God in Christ - 256 Voss Street, Dubach

Faith Church - 2909 N. Trenton (1.4 miles north of I-20 on Hwy 167)

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New Testament Church at Grambling Inc. - 508 Main St., Grambling

Praise Temple - Ramada Inn, 107 Love Ave., Ruston

St. Paul Lutheran - 504 Tech Drive, Ruston

The Bridge Community Church - North Campus, 2301 N. Trenton, Ruston

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Commit thy way unto the Lord; trust also in Him; and He shall bring it to pass.

Psalm 37:5

Caution urged for hunters in deer stands

There's something about the deer we hunt. They're sharper than we are and the blink of an eye or a slap at a mosquito may be all it takes to cause a deer to turn tail and run.

As a result, it's more to the hunter's advantage to hunt from elevated positions as deer usually are looking for danger at eye level or lower. Sitting 16 feet up a tree gives the hunter an advantage and when it comes to waylaying a wily buck, we need all the advantages we can get.

When I started deer hunting years ago, there were no tree stands on the market. If you hunted from an elevated position, it meant gathering up a bunch of two-by-fours, hammer, nails and saw to construct something that would keep you above a deer's line of vision.

Some of the first ones I constructed were not only weird looking contraptions, they were also unsafe. Switching your Red Man from one jaw to the other was often all that was needed to flip you out and send you to the ground.

Years later as climbing stands and ladder stands came on the market, these proved safer than the man-made contraptions. Because they were so heavily used, news began filtering in of accidents resulting in falling out of stands.

Dr. Bobby Dale, a life-long hunter, is also an emergency room physician who practices medicine in his hometown of Tupelo, Mississippi. Visiting with Dr. Dale at the annual conference of the Southeastern Outdoor Press Association in Johnson City, Tennessee, several years ago, we had occasion to talk about what is more likely to injure hunters while hunting. Dale noted that contrary to what many believe, it's not the older

and more fragile hunter who is more apt to be injured; it's the strong, virile, younger guy.

"From what I've observed from patients I have seen in the ER where I practice, it's the younger one more prone to suffer serious injuries while hunting. This is particularly true concerning falls from elevated deer stands. In fact," Dale said, "I recently read a report that revealed the majority of bow hunters who fall from tree stands are in their 20s and 30s. Also, about 10% of these injuries are alcohol-related."

"While it is true that guys in their 50s and 60s and older have bones that are more easily broken, I don't see nearly as many injuries from falling from a stand from this older group. It's just a fact that the older guy is more cautious," he added.

Dr. Dale noted that a fall, even one from just a few feet, can result in serious injury. Obviously, the further you fall, the more serious injuries become, he said.

"I've seen victims who fell from stands come to the ER with everything from closed head injuries, bleeding on the brain, spinal fractures with paralysis, broken arms, legs and ribs, collapsed lungs, ruptured spleens in addition to profuse external bleeding," Dale said.

While mishaps using home-made deer stands are more likely to result in serious injuries, manufactured stands can also cause falls if not used properly.

"Manufactured stands have to meet a safety code and the vast majority of these stands are safe when properly used. However, they still

have to be secured to the tree in the proper manner to be completely safe. Climbing stands are quite safe but when care is not taken in using them, they can result in twisting or slipping when not correctly secured to the tree. The result can be disastrous," he added.

With deer season rapidly approaching — archery season begins Oct. 1 — make sure your tree stands are in top notch working order and that you practice all the safety rules having

to do with elevated deer stands. It takes only one moment of lapse in judgement or one misstep to make looking for a big buck the least of your concerns.

FISHING REPORT

BLACKBAYOU — Not many fishermen on the water. Lily pads all over lake makes it hard to fish. Contact Honey Hole Tackle Shop 323-8707 for the latest information.

BUSSEY BRAKE — The lake has "turned over" resulting in a moderate fish kill, mostly of shad. Some are still catching nice bass around brush. Crappie are scattered around the brush. Bream have slowed. For the latest information, contact the Honey Hole at 323-8707.

OUACHITA RIVER — The water level continues to drop. Bass are slow to moderate with some caught in run outs and in river lakes. Crappie are fair to good in river lakes and the bayou on shiners or jigs. For the latest information, contact the Honey Hole Tackle Shop at 323-8707.

LAKE D'ARBONNE — Crappie have been fair

in the deeper flats and in channels on shiners or jigs. Bass are best during early mornings along grass lines with topwater lures and jerk baits. Bream are slow. Catfish continue to be caught fishing cold worms and night crawlers off banks. For the latest information, call Anderson Sport Center at 368-9669 or Honey Hole Tackle Shop at 323-8707.

LAKE CLAIBORNE — Stripers are schooling and fishing has improved using shad imitation lures in coves early mornings or late afternoons. Bream fishing has been slow. Crappie have been best fishing 8-14 feet of water with some good ones reported. Also night fishing under the lights has been successful while bass have been best early mornings on topwater lures and at night on dark plastic worms and spinner baits. For the latest information, call Kel's Cove at 927-2264 or Terzia Tackle at 278-4498.

CANEY LAKE — Bass have been best fishing at night on dark spinners and soft plastics. They are fair to good early mornings on topwater lures with square bill crank baits, spinners and soft plastics working best later. Some bass are starting to school and hitting shad imitations. Crappie have been best around deeper tops on shiners or jigs. Bream



Courtesy photo

Deer stands can range from newly purchased ones to homemade ones like this photo.

are slow. For information contact Caney Lake Landing at 259-6649, Hooks Marina at 249-2347, Terzia Tackle at 278-4498 or the Honey Hole Tackle Shop at 323-8707.

LAKE POVERTY POINT — Fishing for catfish has improved. One bass at 10.36 pounds was reported. Crappie are fair on the south end. For

the latest reports, call Poverty Point Marina at 878-0101. For information, call Surplus City Landing at 467-2259.

LAKE YUCATAN — The water level is falling and quite low. Some catfish have been reported and a few bass have been caught. Crappie are slow. For information, call Surplus City Landing at 467-2259.

TECHCARE continued from page 1

Physicals and immunizations are also available at TechCare, as well as tests for COVID-19, strep, flu, mononucleosis, and sexually transmitted diseases.

During the school year the clinic typically sees up to 20 patients a day, Primm said.

"I enjoy (the college) age group," she said. "Typically, they're away from home for the first time, away from mama and daddy and they need someone to help care for them. It's just kind of like being their mama when they're sick."

The concept for TechCare began in 2007 when the university expanded the Lambright Center to accommodate health services. Tech leases the approximately 18,000-square-foot clinic to the provider on an annual renewable contract basis.

University officials say partnering with a health-care provider like NLMC benefits the university in multiple ways.

"We have the opportunity to leave campus health care to the experts," Stacy Gilbert, Tech's dean of student services and academic support, said. "To have a medical liaison with a breadth of knowledge and access to expanded services is of great benefit to our campus community and also provides the university with consultative services for campus health issues."

And in Tech's case, the arrangement also allows the university to redirect money it would have spent staffing and maintaining the clinic on student mental health services. The lease payments also go toward mental health services.

University Vice President for Student Advancement Dickie Crawford said the plan strengthens both physical and mental healthcare for students.

"With the medical professions, we are able to enhance our services to our students," he said. "It's a win-win."

NATIONAL MERIT continued from page 1

and their families and the education they've gotten throughout the Lincoln Parish School system," Durrett said. "We're real proud of their accomplishments and their family support through all

of that. All the teachers who have taught them should share in some of that success as well."

Semifinalists submit a scholarship application which includes academic re-

cord, participation in school and community service activities, demonstrated leadership abilities, employment and honors and awards received. Finalists are chosen from those criteria.



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For any questions, call Celeste Holley, Publisher, Nancy Bergeron, Managing Editor, or Caleb Daniel, News Editor at 318-255-4353.

If you have a news item or story idea, submit to Brian Trahan at editor@rustonleader.com

Ruston does just enough for 28-17 victory

No. 6 Bearcats put Cabot, Arkansas away with big plays, stingy defense

By Matt Belinson
sports@rustonleader.com

Ruston has proved to be a second half team through its first three games, but the late explosiveness reads all the same on the scoreboard.

Despite missed opportunities in the opening periods, the Bearcats' second half was a welcomed sight in a 28-17 road win over Cabot on Friday, moving No. 6 Ruston to 2-1 on the season.

After Cabot seemed to have grabbed the momentum by taking the opening kickoff of the second half into the redzone, and scoring a touchdown to make it 10-7 two plays later, the Bearcats needed a spark it was looking for if they were to pull off another road win.

They got more than that, and it came from both sides of the ball.

With Will Fendley connecting on a 39-yard field goal to make it 13-7, Ruston's big-play ability was on full display, even in the shadow of its own end zone.

After a first down rush by Jordan Hayes went for two yards, Ruston quarterback Josh Brantley loaded up and



Photo by Josh McDaniel

Dylone Brooks and the Ruston offense did just enough to team up with the defense to beat Cabot, Arkansas 28-17 Friday night on the road. It was Ruston's seventh straight road win dating back to the 2021 playoffs.

took a shot downfield to true freshman Ahmad Hudson in triple coverage.

Not only did Hudson come down with the catch, but he also did his best Odell Beckham Jr. impression in the process, extending out one hand and needing

all of his 6-5 frame to haul in the 38-yard pass for a jaw-dropping first down.

On the next play, tight end Zhy Scott was gone on his own impressive catch on a 60-yard touchdown on a pass from Brantley. Scott also caught a two-

point conversion to put the Bearcats up 21-7 and cruise from there.

"Yeah, that's pretty big out of a 14-year-old freshman to be able to make a play like that," Ruston head coach Jerrod Baugh said post-game. "He needs to be able to make those

plays. I think people see why he's got a couple scholarship offers at his age. He's got some things to work on but just that natural ability I think is good. I think with Zhy, we know he can catch the football too. I thought the coaches did a good job at halftime where they saw some things in their coverage where we would be able to take advantage of and we made the plays."

Hudson finished with one catch for 38 yards while Scott finished with three grabs for 99 yards and a score. Brantley went 10-of-18 passing for a career-high 182 yards and one touchdown.

Ruston faced familiar first half issues, scoring one touchdown on four trips inside the Cabot 28 yard line after increased pressure from the Panthers and negative yardage from Bearcat running backs.

Jordan Hayes got the scoring started with a two-yard score to go with a 35-yard field goal from Fendley in the second quarter as the Bearcats finally cashed in after a deflating opening drive.

The first drive of the night set up the story of the first half, as the Bearcats started strong with a 31-yard toss to Hayes but the drive ended up nowhere as Ruston ended up turning the ball over on downs at the Cabot 25 yard line.

Ruston punted its next two drives and finally got things rolling on the Hayes score.

Whether it was the second of two straight long road trips that affected the Cats, Baugh had a sense of humor about it.

"It's two long trips back-to-back, but I think our kids handled it well," Baugh said, before taking a humorous look at the schedule while on the K104 Scoreboard Show post game.

"I don't know who made this schedule but we need to run him off."

On Cabot's next drive, Ronald Finley came flying in to force a fumble recovered by Nate Johnson with nine seconds left in the first quarter to set Ruston up inside the 21 that set up the Hayes 4th-down touchdown.

Ruston recovered a failed kickoff recovery by Cabot on the ensuing kickoff to set up shop at the Panthers' 15 but had another turnover on downs.

As the offense struggled to find paydirt, Ruston's defense was sharp as ever. In fact, Cabot didn't pick up a first down until 3:55 left in the first half and 62 yards of offense at halftime.

Ruston added to its lead in the second half thanks to Dylone Brooks' hard running from four yards out to make it 28-7.

Cabot tried to make it interesting with a late touchdown with 2:30 left, but Ruston ran out the clock on its following series.

Hayes finished with 25 carries for 177 yards and a touchdown while Brooks ended with eight carries for 27 yards and a score.

Now, the Bearcats return home and shift focus to a star-studded Lafayette Christian (3-0) team.

"Lafayette Christian comes into town next week, but we have that one at home," Baugh said. "They are a really good team and that's why we need to get back to work and clean a lot of things up. That's why we play this schedule, so we can get better and work on the things we need to work on."

Ruston (2-1) hosts Lafayette Christian Friday at Hoss Garrett Stadium with kickoff at 7 p.m. in what should be one of the most highly-anticipated matchups in the state in week four.

Winnfield capitalizes on Cedar Creek mistakes to pull away 20-0

By Brian Trahan
editor@rustonleader.com

Facing the Winnfield Tigers on the road looking for their first win, the Cedar Creek Cougars needed the breaks to go their way.

The first break went against them before the game started.

Senior starting quarterback Ladd Thompson sat out Friday night's 20-0 loss to the Tigers with an injury, forcing freshman Kade Lucker into the lineup to run the offense.

The actual game turned into a sloppy display of football from both teams for one half before the bigger and deeper Tigers pulled away in the second half.

Give the Cougars (0-3) credit, however. They played Winnfield (1-2) to a stalemate for a half thanks to miscues near the end zone and a tenacious defensive effort.

By halftime, Winnfield piled up 150 yards of offense, but couldn't punch the ball into the end zone.

They had two chances to do so, but turned the ball over both times.

On their first possession, the Tigers seemingly had a big play they needed to take the lead when Demascus Lewis hit Joshua Hayes for a 35-yard pass hookup, but the ball was fumbled into the end zone. Cedar Creek recovered for the touchback.

The rest of the half was a back-and-forth struggle for either team to get anything going offensively.



Photo by Darrell James

Cedar Creek freshman Kade Lucker was forced into action at quarterback Friday night in Winnfield with senior Ladd Thompson out with an injury. The Tigers upended Creek 20-0.

Until Lewis hooked up with Craig St. Cyr on a long pass play into the redzone, but Creek stripped St. Cyr on the play and the ball was recovered by the Cougars to end the threat.

Lucker did an admirable job of running the offense, considering the situation and lack of game experience.

Winnfield came out in the second half and seized control.

Creek recovered a fumble on the first play of the third, giving the Cougars life inside Tiger territory.

A three and out gave the ball right back to

Winnfield. This time, the Tigers didn't waste the opportunity.

A 43-yard dart from Lewis to Jaylon Jackson moved the ball into the red zone and three plays later, Malachi Williams took it in from 8 yards out for the first points of the game and a 6-0 lead.

Three plays later, lightning struck when Lucker was picked off by Williams, who returned the interception 49 yards for a touchdown and a 14-0 lead after the two-point conversion.

The Cougars had trouble moving the football all night and had two straight drives

stalled before Winnfield struck once again.

With the ball at the Cedar Creek 31, Jackson did the honors just into the fourth quarter to up the lead to 20-0.

For Creek, getting Thompson healthy again has to be priority No. 1, but if he isn't back in week four, Lucker will at least have a game under his belt in his freshman season at quarterback.

The Cougars will return home this week to host the Delhi Bears with hopes of putting win No. 1 on the board.

Delhi enters the game with a 1-2 record.

Rodgers voes to return from injury

FLORHAM PARK, N.J. (AP) — New York Jets quarterback Aaron Rodgers says he'll use doubters as motivation in his rehabilitation from Achilles tendon surgery and indicates he'll play football again — perhaps even this season.

Rodgers tore his left Achilles tendon on the fourth snap of his debut with his new team on Monday night, a 22-16 overtime victory over Buffalo. The four-time NFL MVP had surgery Wednesday in Los Angeles. "I think what I'd like to say is, give me the doubts," Rodgers said.

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Furious Prep rally falls short

Panthers trade blows with Arcadia in 36-30 thriller

By Jalon Grant
Special to the Leader

GRAMBLING – The Lincoln Prep Panthers fought hard all night but came up short after a late fourth-quarter rally in a 36-30 loss to the Arcadia Hornets Thursday night at Panther Stadium.

Prep's offensive air attack came to life in the fourth quarter, as Jordan Brown connected with playmaker Cenario Wilson from 13 yards out for a score, cutting the deficit to 30-18 with 8:30 remaining in the game.

The Panthers' defense held the Hornets' offense in check, resulting in a turnover on downs, in which the Panthers' offense took possession at the Arcadia 45-yard line.

Brown connected with Trey Spann on a 40-yard pass, which set up the offense inside the five, and then the two connected again as the lead was trimmed to 30-24 with 3:04 left in the game.

The Panthers then attempted an onside kick, which Arcadia recovered, and in just one play, Ian Fitzgerald ran through a massive hole up the middle by his offensive line from 35 yards. The Hornets seemingly had a comfortable margin at 36-24 with 1:51 left.

On the Panthers' final drive, Brown connected with Spann for a 28-yard pass, which moved the ball to Arcadia's five yard line again.

Brown's 55-yard touchdown pass to Spann cut the lead to 36-30, but the Panthers just ran out of time with only two seconds remaining.

The Hornets recovered the Panthers' ensuing onside attempt as time expired, and the Hornets escaped with the win.

The Panthers (1-2) will have to put this game behind them quickly as head coach Glen Hall knows he has to prepare his team for Jonesboro-Hodge next week.

"Jonesboro-Hodge is just like this game tonight, two teams close to each other as far as the



Photo by Josh McDaniel
Lincoln Prep's D'Tavion Wright (right) pulls away from an Arcadia defender for a touchdown run during Thursday night's battle in Grambling. Arcadia outlasted the Panthers 36-30.

coaches, players, and all of these guys know each other," Hall said. "They will want to win in our new field when they play us, and we will try to derail them."

With Arcadia deferring to receive the ball until the second half, Lincoln Prep started the night on offense and wasted no time scoring in just five plays as Brown moved the offense downfield with three passes and then handed the ball off to LaMarion Burton, who ran for 18 yards, and then fullback D'Tavion Wright took it from there, and ran in for a touchdown to cap the 55-yard drive. The two-point try was unsuccessful as the Panthers led 6-0 at 8:47 in the first quarter.

On the ensuing possession, Arcadia fumbled the ball on the second play of the drive, with the Panthers recovering and setting up shop for the Prep offense. The one-two punch of Brown and running back Jaylin Huntley took it from there.

On a run up the middle by Huntley for five yards, things looked promising on second and five, but a false start pushed the Panthers back five yards,

making it second and 10. No worries, though, as Brown threw a screen pass to Huntley on the left side, which resulted in a 25-yard run touchdown with 6:46 remaining in the quarter.

Prep had it rolling with a 12-0 lead after the two-point conversion failed.

Arcadia muffed the ball on the ensuing kickoff, with the Panthers recovering on the Hornets' 32-yard line, but a Huntley fumble on third down at the Arcadia 23-yard line was costly. The Hornets recovered and moved the ball down the field with Fitzgerald scoring on a run for Arcadia's first points of the night, making the score 12-8 with 4:48 remaining in the opening stanza.

More importantly, it turned out to be a momentum-changing turnover.

Hall knew that the fumble was a turning point in the game. The Panthers were driving, looking to go up three scores early.

"That fumble changed the whole momentum of the game," Hall said. "If we go ahead and punched that in, we would be up 20-0, and Arcadia would then have to pass, which is some-

thing that they can't do as well. That knocked the wind out of us for a quarter and a half, but the kids came back and played hard, and we still had our chances to win the game."

Bad luck came again for the Panthers as a fumble recovery on the ensuing possession set up a rushing touchdown for Bratreviauntae Ferrell, along with a successful two-point conversion run by Fitzgerald, with the Hornets gaining a 16-12 lead with 1:54 left in the first.

The Panthers went three and out on the next possession, which led to a punt that Arcadia's Omareion Carr returned from 60 yards out as time expired in the quarter, pushing the lead to 24-12 with a successful two-point try.

In the second quarter, the Panther defense held its own for most of the time, but with 1:31 remaining in the half, Fitzgerald ran in for a touchdown, giving Arcadia a 30-12 lead going into halftime.

Arcadia received the ball to start the second half, and both defenses traded blows at each other, as no offense could score in the third quarter. That set up the thrilling ending.

The Panthers will square off with J-Hodge Thursday, with kickoff at 7 p.m. at Panther Stadium.

COLLEGIATE SOCCER

Penalty kick costs GSU in loss to ULM

Grambling State Sports

The Grambling State University women's soccer team faced off against the University of Louisiana at Monroe on Thursday night at the GSU Soccer Complex, falling 1-0. In a hard-fought matchup between Grambling State (2-4-3) and ULM (5-1-2) Grambling may have fallen short on the scoreboard, but the defense showcased its prowess. The game began with an early penalty kick awarded to ULM, putting Grambling at a disadvantage from the outset. However, Grambling's defensive unit demonstrated remarkable strength and cohesion, allowing no other goals throughout the game.

An early foul inside the 18-yard penalty box awarded ULM a penalty kick within the first minute of the match. The Warhawks got on the board after a successful PK by Inge Konst, giving the Warhawks a 1-0 lead.

Both teams locked down defensively allowing less than 10 shots apiece. GSU had a late offside goal called back and had a set-piece clang off the crossbar on its best two chances to level the match. Grambling State attempted five shots, putting two shots on frame, while ULM took nine shots and placed five on the goal. ULM held a 5-3 advantage on corner kicks. GSU goalkeeper Covey-Taylor played all 90 minutes in goal for the Tigers, making three saves.

Grambling State travels to Houston, Texas, for its conference opener at Texas Southern on Friday. First kick is scheduled for 6:30 p.m.

Bulldogs suffer first home loss to Little Rock

Louisiana Tech Sports

The Louisiana Tech soccer team had a one-goal advantage at halftime, but Little Rock tallied two goals early in the second half to come away with the 2-1 decision on Thursday night in front of 153 fans at Robert Mack Caruthers Field.

Tech (3-5-1) controlled much of the possession in the match while holding also a 15-9 shot advantage and a 7-3 corner kick edge, but Little Rock (3-1-4) was the recipient of an own goal that ended up being the game winner for the Trojans.

The shots were limited on both sides through much of the first half, but the Bulldogs earned their first penalty kick of the season in the 38th minute when Kalli Matlock was taken down in the box.

Josie Studer, making her return to the pitch after missing two matches, had her PK shot saved, but Tomoyo Kuroyanagi took care of the deflection by firing a shot inside the far post.

Little Rock would equalize though in the 53rd minute when a cross into the box was not cleared and Karina De Paoli drove the ball into the back of the net to tie things up. About five minutes later, the Bulldogs tried to clear the ball out of the 6-yard box, but the ball went off a fellow teammate and went backwards to give the Trojans a 2-1 lead.

Tech had four shots on goal for the remainder of fulltime and had two late free kicks in the final minute, but were not able to equalize themselves.

"It is the same story, different day," Tech head coach Steve Voltz said. "We play well, we create chances, but we do not reward ourselves. There is no other way to say it. On top of it, we punish ourselves with an own goal. It was two bad mistakes defensively that led to their goals. Here we are losing a game that we dominated possession and shot total."

Tech opens Conference USA play on Sunday at New Mexico State. Kickoff is set for 2 p.m. and will be streamed live on ESPN+.

Bearcats close strong week with sweep of Loyola

By Matt Belinson
sports@rustonleader.com

Ruston volleyball took care of every opponent on the docket this week in sweeping fashion, capped off with a straight-sets victory (25-8, 25-10, 25-12) over Loyola Prep on Thursday.

The Bearcats began their week with sweeps over West Ouachita and West Monroe before going on the road and knocking off Loyola in quick work.

Ruston is now 11-3 overall and 1-0 in district play entering its next week of competition.

Jade Smith led Ruston with 10 kills and two blocks, while Harper Cauley finished with eight kills, two blocks, five digs, and seven aces. Hannah Rollins put up seven kills and two blocks. Cala Wilson added five kills and three

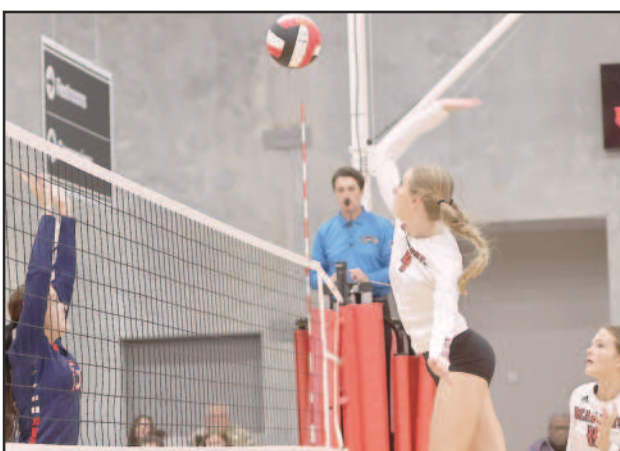


Photo by Darrell James
Ruston volleyball closed its week with three strong wins, including a sweep over Loyola.

aces. To set up the balanced attack for the Bearcats, freshman Baylor Cauley and sophomore Kyndall Fobbs finished with 20 and nine assists respectively.

Ruston head coach Amanda Cauley was pleased with her team's effort and execution in the win over Loyola and the positive week at large.

"We executed every aspect of our game very well," Cauley said. "We had a balanced offense using multiple attackers, and our defense picked up almost everything they sent back across the net. Great effort on the floor with great support from the bench."

Ruston will travel for an out-of-state matchup to El Dorado, Arkansas, on Monday at 6:30 p.m.



WITH MATT BELINSON
RUSTON DAILY LEADER

After every Tech football game, look for instant analysis from the 'Tech in 10' postgame show at rustonleader.com and [@rustondailyleader](https://www.youtube.com/@rustondailyleader) on Youtube.

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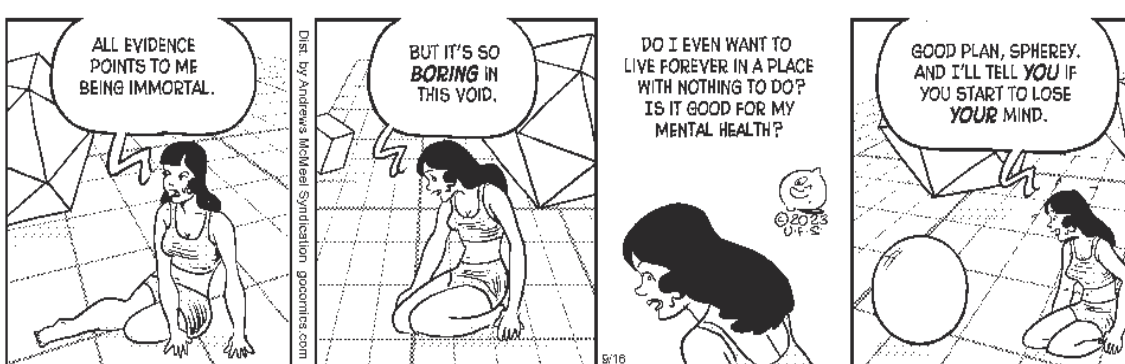

Garfield



Peanuts



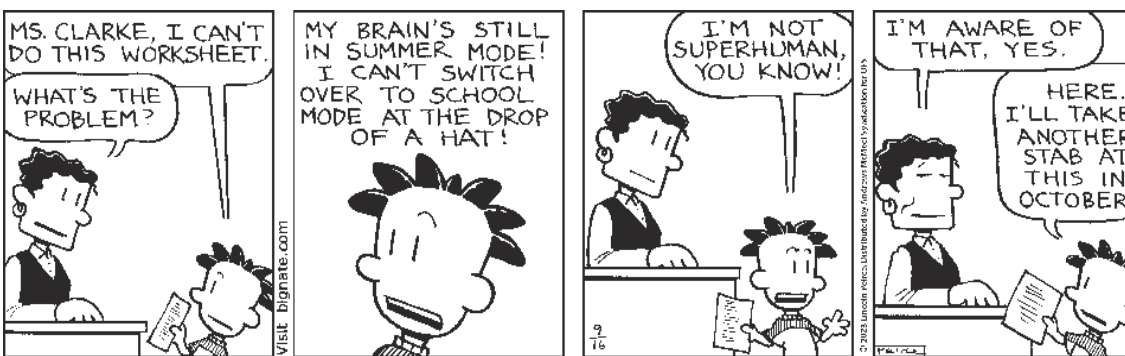
Alley Oop



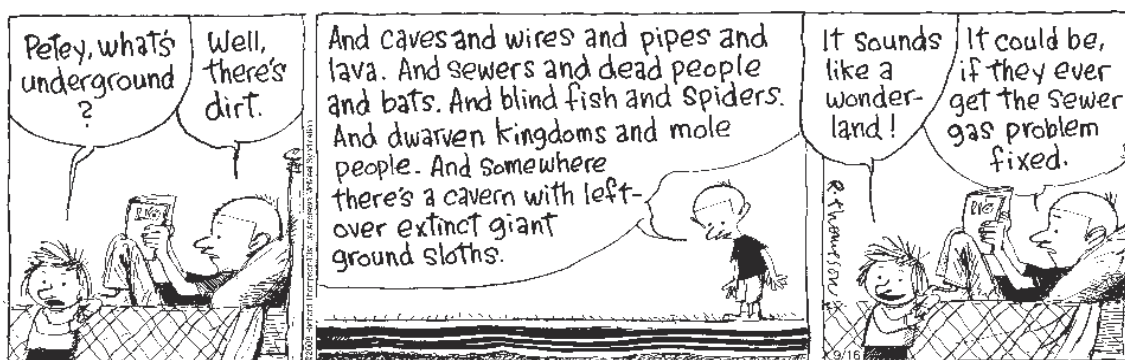
The Born Loser



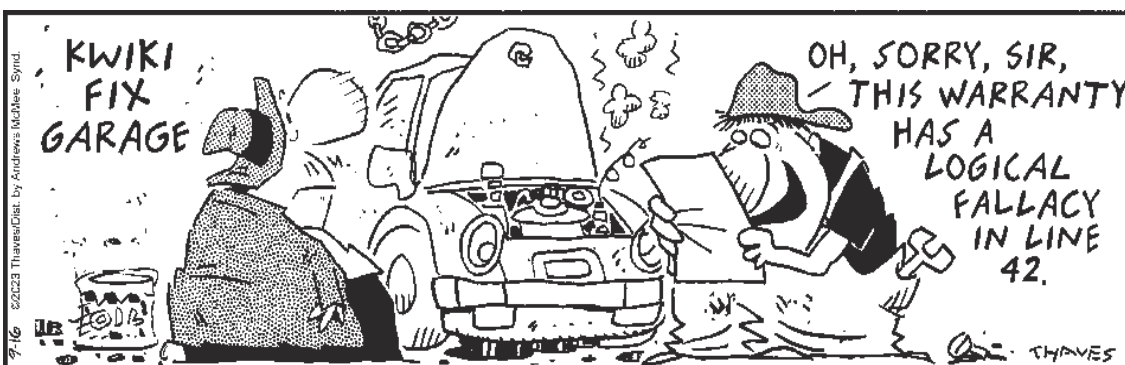
Big Nate



Cul De Sac



Frank n Ernest



Grizzwells



Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

- 1 Tree juice
- 4 Squealer
- 7 Do some laps
- 11 "A Boy Named —"
- 12 Mellow
- 13 Move carefully
- 14 Explosive letters
- 15 Pagan god
- 16 Place for a window box
- 17 Ensnare
- 19 Nullify
- 21 Break the —
- 22 Male animal
- 23 Held out
- 27 Get a move on
- 31 Empty space
- 32 Dumpster
- 34 Fish eggs
- 35 Before
- 36 Spelling contest
- 37 Does a farm job

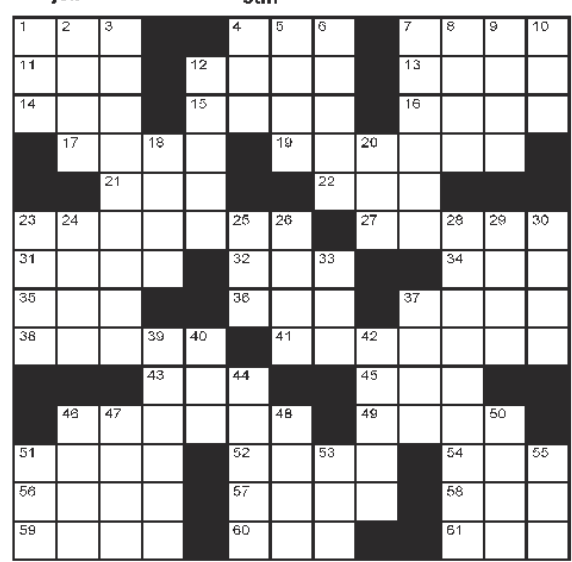
DOWN

- 1 Defunct airliner
- 2 Mom's sis
- 3 Scared stiff
- 38 Doppler device
- 41 Winter garment
- 43 Irk
- 45 Plow into
- 46 — Softee ice cream
- 49 Roughly (2 wds.)
- 51 Hard to find
- 52 Points
- 54 Aid to navigation
- 56 Like blood relatives
- 57 Jockeyed
- 58 "Gotchal"
- 59 Make jokes
- 60 Paved ways (abbr.)
- 61 TV's "Flying —"

TODAY'S ANSWERS



- 4 Clear
- 5 Hear — drop
- 6 Doctrine
- 7 Kind of cooking oil
- 8 "Just a second!"
- 9 Ait
- 10 Baseball's — Ott
- 12 Lasso virtuoso
- 18 Made a hole-in-one
- 20 Seaman
- 23 Finished
- 24 "— Few Dollars More"
- 25 Decline
- 26 Usual fare
- 28 Pal at a wedding
- 29 Hawkeye State
- 30 Cozy habitat
- 33 Keanu Reeves role
- 37 Wound result
- 39 Away
- 40 Routine
- 42 Simple language
- 44 Toothed wheels
- 46 Craft
- 47 Rainbow goddess
- 48 Comical person
- 50 Hawaiian island
- 51 British rule in India
- 53 Sawbones (abbr.)
- 55 Criticize



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HOROSCOPES

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2023

Take your time, plan your actions and get things done. Be true to yourself and make happiness and peace of mind your priorities. You'll set a positive example and feel good about yourself and what you can accomplish if you keep things simple. Perfection may be your aim, but flaws can make a statement. Don't be too hard on yourself, go with the flow.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) -- Set a goal and follow through. Invite change and opportunity, and new beginnings will help you flourish. Follow your dreams and mix and mingle with exuberant, passionate people.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) -- Put your energy where it counts, and refuse to let anyone talk you into excessive spending. Improve what you have to offer. Stay current, and you'll outsmart any competition you encounter.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) -- Your concern and emotional investment will spur you to get things running smoothly. Your effort will change how others think and react, pushing you to continue your mission.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 22) -- Ask reliable people to assist you, and discard anyone who offers false information or uses chaos as a calling card. Aim to stabilize whatever situation you face.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) -- A steady pace is your best option. Don't share personal or financial information. Make a stabilizing domestic change, and you'll feel less agitated by what others do or say.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) -- Get the facts before you react to something. An emotional situation will explode if you are too quick to judge. You will gain insight by being kind and generous, not by being hostile.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) -- Don't limit your impact because you are afraid to say what's on your mind. A direct approach will bring about positive change if you are friendly and offer suggestions.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) -- Gravitate toward someone you feel akin to, and work on your long-term plans. Nurture partnerships, adjust what's necessary to enforce closer ties and focus on unity.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) -- Don't stop when you should keep working. Giving in to temptation will lead to regret. Refuse to let an emotional matter cost you. Stay focused on what matters most to you.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) -- Trust your instincts over what someone tries to lead you to believe. Focus on home, family and what makes you happy and healthy. Keep the peace by doing your fair share and being willing to compromise.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) -- Simplify your life. Refuse to let money, joint ventures and unwise decisions leave you struggling. Embrace positive alternatives and seek out dynamic people. Conversations will prove fruitful.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) -- Set boundaries and a budget before you invest time or money in something or someone. Figure out what you want and expect from others before you agree to anyone's demands. Protect your position.

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LINCOLN PARISH

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Mayor and Council of the City of Grambling, State of Louisiana, plan to consider the adoption of the following ordinances:

The Public Hearing will be held Thursday, October 5, 2023, at 5:45 p.m. at Grambling City Hall & Community Center, 127 King Street, Grambling, Louisiana.

ORDINANCE NO. 01005023-1
AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF GRAMBLING

TO ANNEX PROPERTY INTO THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF GRAMBLING

Atr. of land contg. 1.922 ac. sit. in Sec. 18-18-3, in the Nec of W/2 of SW of NE. (1082-157) Sec. 18-18-3. Comm. at the Nec of W/2 of SW of NE, Sec. 18, and run th. S. 00 deg. 13' 07" E. along said 20 line 490.04' and to a rr spike at the inters. of said 20 line with the c/l of Garr Rd., (formerly L/P Rd. #136), for st. pt. From st. pt. cont. S. 00 deg. 13' 07" E. along the 20 line 400' and to a 1/2 iron rebar, th. leaving said 20 line, run W. 200' and to a 1/2 iron rebar, th. run N. 350.44' and to a 1/2 iron rebar, th. N. 22 deg. 56' 21" E. 109.74' and to a rr spike set in the c/l of said Garr Rd., th. run S. 71 deg. 41' 53" E. along said c/l 164' and back to pob. contg. 1.922 ac. (1082-157) 729 Garr Road

was introduced by Council member Delores W. Smith and seconded by Council member John Brown, Jr. on September 7, 2023. A Public Hearing will be held on the Ordinance and the Ordinance will be considered for adoption at the meeting of the Mayor and the Council held at 6:00 p.m., on October 5, 2023, Council Chambers/ Courtroom, City Hall, 127 King Street, Grambling, Louisiana. Accommodations will be made for the hearing impaired and non-English speaking individuals provided that notice is received by the City no later than noon on Wednesday, October 4, 2023. Requests for accommodations should be made to Mayor Alvin Bradley (318)247-6120, Pamela Stringfellow, LMCC

PUBLISH THREE (3) TIMES
September 13, 2023
September 17, 2023
October 1, 2023

Published in the Ruston Daily Leader, Ruston, LA, on Sept. 13, 17 and Oct. 01, 2023

Curator Legal Notice
The following individuals have been named in a lawsuit in City of Ruston, Louisiana vs Unopened Succession of Unopened Succession of Otis Minniefield and Unopened Succession of Selma Brewster Minniefield.; Suit #63274, to-wit:

Otis Minniefield
Selma Brewster Minniefield;
Anyone having information about the whereabouts of these named parties or potential heirs/relatives please contact Michael Smith, Attorney at Law, via Telephone (318) 775-0577 or email OfficeWide@SmithLaw.net. Published in the Ruston Daily Leader, Ruston, LA, on Sept. 13, 15, 17, 2023

Curator Legal Notice
The following individuals have been named in a lawsuit in Lincoln Parish styled City of Ruston, Louisiana vs Unopened succession of Nora Jenkins; Suit #63278, to-wit:

Nora Jenkins;
Anyone having information about the whereabouts of these named parties or potential heirs/relatives please contact Michael Smith, Attorney at Law, via Telephone (318) 775-0577 or email OfficeWide@SmithLaw.net. Published in the Ruston Daily Leader, Ruston, LA, on Sept. 13, 15, 17, 2023

LEGAL ADVERTISEMENT
Reeves Memorial Medical Center, Replacement Hospital Bernice, LA
Proposals will be received from Trade Contractors and Material Suppliers on all Bid Packages for the Replacement Hospital for Reeves Memorial Medi-

cal Center in Bernice, LA. Proposals will be received until 2:00 p.m. on Thursday, October 5, 2023. All bid proposals must be submitted on the Bid Forms provided in the project manual or addenda. Bid proposals may be e-mailed to Sgirod@idealconst.com or may be submitted online via Procure. Bids will be privately opened. Bids received after the above stated time will not be accepted. Construction Documents will be available Monday, September 11, 2023, and may be obtained in digital format at no charge from Ideal Construction. Bid Packages will be available for the following scopes:

1. Building Demolition
2. Mass Earthwork, Storm Drainage & Erosion Control
3. Site Utilities
4. Asphalt Paving
5. Traffic Markings
6. Fencing
7. Cast-In-Place Concrete
8. Masonry
9. Structural Steel (Supply)
10. Structural Steel Erection & PEMB Erection
11. Architectural Woodwork
12. EIFS
13. Membrane Roofing
14. Waterproofing & Caulking
15. Doors, Frames & Hardware (Furnish Only)
16. Install Doors, Frames & Hardware (Install Only)
17. Overhead Doors, Collied Doors, Security Grilles
18. Aluminum Entrances, Storefronts, Windows, Glass & Glazing, Sunscreens
19. Drywall & Acoustical Systems
20. Floor Coverings
21. Floor Coating (Resinous Flooring)
22. Tape, Float, Prime & Paint
23. Interior & Exterior Signage (Furnish & Install)
24. Wall Protection, Toilet Accessories & Misc Specialties (Furnish Only)
25. Wall Protection, Toilet Accessories & Misc Specialties (Install Only)
26. Lockers (Furnish & Install)
27. Aluminum Walkway Covers (Furnish & Install)
28. Install Owner Furnished Equipment (Install Only)
29. Window Treatments
30. Furnish PEMB System
31. Furnish PEMB Insulation System
32. Fire Sprinkler Systems
33. Mechanical (Plumbing & HVAC)
34. Electrical & Low Voltage Systems
35. General Trade

A 5% Bid Bond or Cashier's Check is required for all bids in excess of \$100,000. All Trade Contractors must submit an Ideal Construction Prequalification Statement at the following link: <https://idealconst.com/trade-contractors/>. All bidders shall conform to the requirements of the Louisiana licensing laws and regulations for contractors and shall be licensed before a bid is submitted. Ideal encourages the participation of small, minority, and women business enterprises. The Owner and Construction Manager both reserve the right to reject any or all bids, and to waive any formalities. To obtain bid documents or submit questions, please contact Severen Girod via email at Sgirod@idealconst.com. Published in the Ruston Daily Leader, Ruston, LA, on Sept. 13, 20 & 27, 2023

NOTICE OF INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the following entitled ordinance was introduced at a regular meeting of the Mayor and Board of Alderman of the City of Ruston, State of Louisiana, acting as the governing authority (the "Governing Authority") of the City of Ruston, State of Louisiana (the "City"), held on Monday, September 11, 2023, and laid over for publication of notice: **ORDINANCE AMENDING VARIOUS SECTIONS OF THE ZONING CODE OF THE CITY OF RUSTON, LOUISIANA (CASE 1579)**

NOTICE IS HEREBY FURTHER GIVEN that the Governing Authority will hold a regular meeting on Monday, October 2, 2023, at five thirty o'clock (5:30 p.m.), at the Council Chambers/ Courtroom, City Hall,

401 North Trenton, Ruston, Louisiana at which time there will be a public hearing prior to consideration of the adoption of the aforesaid ordinance. Accommodations will be made for the hearing impaired and non-English speaking individuals provided that notice is received by the City no later than noon on Wednesday, September 27, 2023. Requests for accommodations should be made to Renee Smith, Ruston, Louisiana (251-8652). s/ Julie Keen
City Clerk
Published in the Ruston Daily Leader, Ruston, LA, on Sept. 17, 20, 24, 2023

JOB OPENING

Lincoln Total Community Action, Inc. will be accepting applications for the position of Food Service Manager until FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2023 - 3:00 PM. This position requires a BS Degree in Dietetics or related field, and must clear a background check. A resume must be submitted with application. Benefits include - Health, Dental, and Life Insurance, 403b Retirement, and holidays are the same as the local school system. For additional information contact - Pamela Harris - 255.2319 or Clotill Smith at - 255.5401. THE AGENCY IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER
Published in the Ruston Daily Leader, Ruston, LA, on Sept. 15, 17, 20 & 22 & 24, 2023



I, SOMMER ANN HATTAWAY, have been convicted of 14.44.2.AG-GRAVATED KIDNAPING OF A CHILD on JULY 12TH, 2016. My address is: 769 CAMPBELL ROAD, CHOU-DRANT LA, 71227. Race: WHITE
Sex: FEMALE
Date of Birth: JAN. 15TH, 1992
Height: 5'10
Weight: 140 LBS
Hair Color: BROWN
Eye Color: BLUE
Published in the Ruston Daily Leader, Ruston, LA, on SEPT. 15TH & 17TH, 2023

PUBLIC NOTICE OF ADVERTISEMENT INVITATION FOR BIDS
Sealed bids for printing and binding of curriculum and resources will be accepted by the Lincoln Parish School Board Office until 10:00 AM CST on Thursday,

October 5, 2023, at its office at 410 South Farmerville Street, Ruston, LA, at which time all bids received will be publicly opened and read aloud.

To obtain specifications and response forms, please contact Dr. Sheila Nugent, Federal Programs Facilitator, via mail to Lincoln Parish School Board, 410 South Farmerville St., Ruston, LA 71270, email to snugent@lincoln-schools.org, or fax to (318) 255-1433. Specifications and forms are also available online at www.centralbidding.com. Fees may be associated with the use of this site. Bids may be submitted electronically at www.centralbidding.com or be hand-delivered or sent by certified mail in a sealed envelope clearly marked "No. ESF24-001 Printing & Binding for Lincoln Parish School Board" to: Lincoln Parish School Board Attn: Dr. Sheila Nugent, Federal Programs Facilitator 410 South Farmerville Street Ruston, LA 71270

The sole responsibility for proper delivery of a bid is that of the proposing Vendor. Bids that are not properly sealed or received after the date and hour specified in this notice will be rejected. Lincoln Parish School Board reserves the right to reject any or all bids or terminate the purchase at any time for cause and convenience if in the best interest of the school board and to waive any informalities in accordance with R.S. 38:2211, et seq. The purchase of printed and bound materials will be made with ESSER federal funds and local funds. All Vendors must comply with the following federal, state, and local laws, requirements, and procedures: Please reference the following website that lists provisions that could apply to this purchase of printed and bound materials: <https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-2/subtitle-A/chapter-11/part-200/appendix-III> s/ Mr. Ricky Durrett, Superintendent LINCOLN PARISH SCHOOL BOARD

The Lincoln Parish School Board is an equal opportunity provider. All qualified applicants will receive consideration without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, or national origin. Small, minority businesses, women's business enterprises, and labor surplus area vendors are encouraged to apply. Published in the Ruston Daily Leader, Ruston, LA, on Sept. 15 & 17, 2023

LINCOLN PARISH SCHOOL BOARD
JOBADVERTISEMENT

The Lincoln Parish School System does not discriminate on the basis of age, race, creed, color, sex, religion, national origin, or disability in employment or the provision of services. Published in the Ruston Daily Leader, Ruston, LA, on Sept 17, 27 & Oct. 1, 2023

Qualifications: Pursuant to BESE Bulletin 746, Chapter 7, Subchapter A, Section 703 for Child Nutrition Program Supervisor certificates issued July 1, 2020 and beyond, minimum eligibility requirements in LEAs with a student enrollment of 2,500 - 9,999:

1. At least 8 hours of food safety training is required either not more than five years prior to the date of employment or completed within 30 calendar days of the date of employment; AND
2. a bachelor's degree, or equivalent educational experience, with an academic major or concentration in food and nutrition, food service management, dietetics, family and consumer sciences, nutrition education, culinary arts, business, or a related field; OR
3. a bachelor's degree, or equivalent educational experience, with an academic major or area of concentration, and a state-recognized certificate for school nutrition directors; OR
4. a bachelor's degree in any academic major and at least two years of relevant school nutrition program experience; OR
5. an associate's degree, or equivalent educational experience, with an academic major or concentration in food and nutrition, food service management, dietetics, family and consumer sciences, nutrition education, culinary arts, business, or a related field, and at least two years of relevant school nutrition program experience.

Compensation Certified 12-Month Salary Schedule (Tables 90-94) Application Period Friday, September 15, 2023 - Thursday, October 5, 2023 at noon Where to Apply Mr. Ricky Durrett, Superintendent Lincoln Parish School Board 410 South Farmerville Street Ruston, LA 71270 (318) 255-1430 Ext. 216

How to Apply An application may be obtained from the Lincoln Parish School Board office, 410 South Farmerville Street, Ruston, LA 71270, or by calling Mary Smith at (318) 255-1430, Ext. 216 Interviews Applicants will be scheduled for interviews after October 13, 2023.

Distribution All Lincoln Parish Schools School District's Website Local News Media: September 17, September 27, October 1

The Lincoln Parish

030 HELP WANTED

SLEEP INN & Suites is now accepting applications for Housekeepers and Front-Desk. Offering TOP PAY. Apply in person. Ask for Michael. 106 S Service Rd. E, Ruston.

038 INSTRUCTION SCHOOLS

SPANISH TUTOR, flexible hrs., \$10 hr. 243-9048

072 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

RUSTON LEADER CLASSIFIED
Immediate Opening Fulltime Assistant Bookkeeper Position 8am-4:30 pm- M-F To apply online go to communitybridges-south.com complete application and email to communitybridges-south@gmail.com Published in the Ruston Daily Leader, Ruston, LA, on Sept. 13, 22 & 27, 2023

090 UNFURNISHED HOUSES

610 N Farmerville St. Duplex K, 2 Bedrooms 1 Bath. Deposit \$550. Monthly rent \$550. Call 318-497-3584.

112 MOBILE HOMES/RENT

MOBILE HOME for Rent 3 bedroom, 2 bath; No Pets; W/D hookups. \$800 deposit/ \$800 month No Pets Shepherd Creek Mobile Home Community 318-254-8470

MOBILE HOME \$700 dep. \$700 monthly; 3bd/2bath, wash/dryer hook up, Hwy 80, near GSU & Tech campus. CALL 318.478.0002

Mobile Home for Rent 3bedroom/2bath \$800 deposit/ \$800 month No Pets

Mobile Home for Rent 3bedroom/2bath \$800 deposit/ \$800 month No Pets Shepherd Creek Mobile Home Community 318-254-8470

116 MOBILE HOMES/SALE

Mobile Home for free. Needs work. Call Skip at 318-548-5050

136 AUTOS FOR SALE

2008 White Ford Expedition; Tan Trim, Tan Leather Interior. New Tires, seats 8 VERY CLEAN; 140,000 miles odo. \$14,500 Call Skip at 318-548-5050

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FUN & GAMES



YOU CAN DOWNLOAD THE PDF VERSION OF OUR CROSSWORD PUZZLE, SUDOKU & CELEBRITY CIPHER TO YOUR DESKTOP & PRINT ON LETTER SIZE PAPER!

ENJOY & GOOD LUCK,
your Ruston Daily Leader family
* SEE PAGE TOWARDS BACK OF PAPER *

Sudoku

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

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

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TODAY'S ANSWERS

1	7	8	9	2	6	3	5	4
2	5	4	7	3	8	1	6	9
3	9	6	5	1	4	7	8	2
4	6	7	4	8	1	5	2	3
5	4	5	2	9	3	8	7	6
6	2	3	6	5	7	4	9	1
7	8	1	3	6	9	2	4	5
8	7	9	1	4	2	6	3	8
9	3	2	8	7	5	9	1	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 quotations by famous people, past and present. Each letter in the code stands for another.

" P E U K X W G A I G J G M M P K D E K B
Y W G R U K X L K R W I D R W I B I G B I D K
V P S P R G R P K D M K D W K Y V K D Z K B
W K Y S X T W U K X T G D G T T K S J V P M W . "

— R K D U N I D D I R R
If you have a passion for what you do then there are no limitations on how long you can accomplish it. — Tony Bennett

TODAY'S CLUE: Q SPANISH
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tendertouchservicesllc.com

LaTonya C. Jackson
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Michelle Hunter
Assistant Manager
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Ruston's very own 'Chef to Watch'

STORY & PHOTOS BY CATHI COX-BONNIOL

You'll have to forgive Desi Bourgeois if he's feeling like a bit of an imposter. The driving force behind Ruston's Heard Freighthouse Food Park currently finds himself in an unexpected situation after being named one of six "Chefs to Watch" by Louisiana Cooking magazine.

"Look, Louisiana is a food place," Bourgeois said. "So the imposter syndrome is real. Do we really belong here yet? There are really mixed feelings about this because I'm not doing what the others in this magazine are doing. But I know we've worked hard and tried harder than most. So maybe it's warranted in how we've changed the way people look at running out to lunch or just thinking about their food."

It all started when Experience Ruston, the local Convention and Visitors Bureau, did a series of promotional articles focused on north Louisiana. As the initial shoot took place at Heard Freighthouse Food Park, the editor and Bourgeois engaged in a conversation about the "big picture" of what they were doing beyond the original three food trucks — Grown & Grazed, Staple Sandwich Co., and Bad Wolf BBQ. A relationship began, and the feature in the magazine followed. It's something he sees as a stepping stone.

"We're still really low-key," Bourgeois continued. "Maybe it's some of that imposter syndrome. But we know what we're capable of doing. Most of our menus are catered events, but day-to-day, we just do what we do at the truck while utilizing local produce. But we know where we're headed, and this just gives us one more way to get the message out, tell people what's to come and market Ruston as a destination food spot."

Then there's a destination related to the Louisiana Cooking feature. As a Chef to Watch, Bourgeois will work together with the other five chefs and create a six-course meal to be served at



Desi Bourgeois of Heard Freighthouse Food Park holds the Sept./Oct 2023 issue of Louisiana Cooking magazine

the Southern Hotel in Covington. There, on Oct. 12 and just across Lake Pontchartrain from New Orleans, Bourgeois will be recognized for his talent and innovation while serving up a dish reflective of both his south and north Louisiana influences.

"We're making a chicken con fit," he explained. "It's related to the traditional 'Sunday roast chicken' dish people are familiar with in the north while utilizing south Louisiana staples like dirty rice. It's a simple dish, but we believe sometimes simple is all you need."

While simple, the dish will certainly follow Bourgeois' commitment to using local ingredients. It features Baker Farms Popcorn Rice out of Gueydan in southwest Louisiana Cajun country, chicken from Mahaffey Farms in Haughton, and finally, he will pull a lot from the Ruston Farmers Market.

Following a classic cooking technique used for duck, chicken quarters will be salted and brined days ahead of being cooked in a combination of their fat and olive oil with whole heads of garlic and onion added. After braising and poaching the chicken until it falls off the bone, in order to have a 100% utilization of the meat, the skin will

be removed and flash fried to make a form of cracklin to sprinkle on top. The delectable dish is certain to grab attention.

"Hey, it's amazing exposure," Bourgeois said. "It puts us on the map, says people are watching us. People that follow the magazine and related social media tend to be food people who are like 'oh, next time we're going that way we're going to stop there.' We will likely get a little bump. We know they will come yet they won't get what they see in the magazine. But what they will get is elevated-level food every time."

Amanda Carrier, President and CEO of Experience Ruston, notes that while Ruston and Lincoln Parish is a small destination, the area is setting a standard for quality and experience within its culinary scene. In her opinion, Bourgeois is really leading the way with his initiatives at Heard Freighthouse Food Park.

"The focus on quality of food, utilizing ingredients grown or produced right here, emphasis on sustainability, and creating a better way to connect the community through food is getting some well-deserved attention," Carrier added. "Food brings people together — that goes for locals and the

visitors we welcome. And what's incredible is its lasting benefits on our community."

Amy Stegall, Main Street Director and Community Coordinator for the City of Ruston, couldn't agree more. In fact, she says while Bourgeois stands as a culinary powerhouse in our region, his impact and

influence go well beyond his culinary talents.

"Desi is the embodiment of community spirit," Stegall said. "Whether it's his dedication to supporting local farmers or his innovative vision behind the beloved food park, he consistently seizes every opportunity to foster a sense of community. The influence of Desi's vision on Downtown is beyond quantification. At the core of Main Street's endeavors lie place-making and pres-



The Louisiana Cooking feature on Desi Bourgeois includes a picture of the dish he will make during the six-course meal in Covington — chicken con fit (center, right).

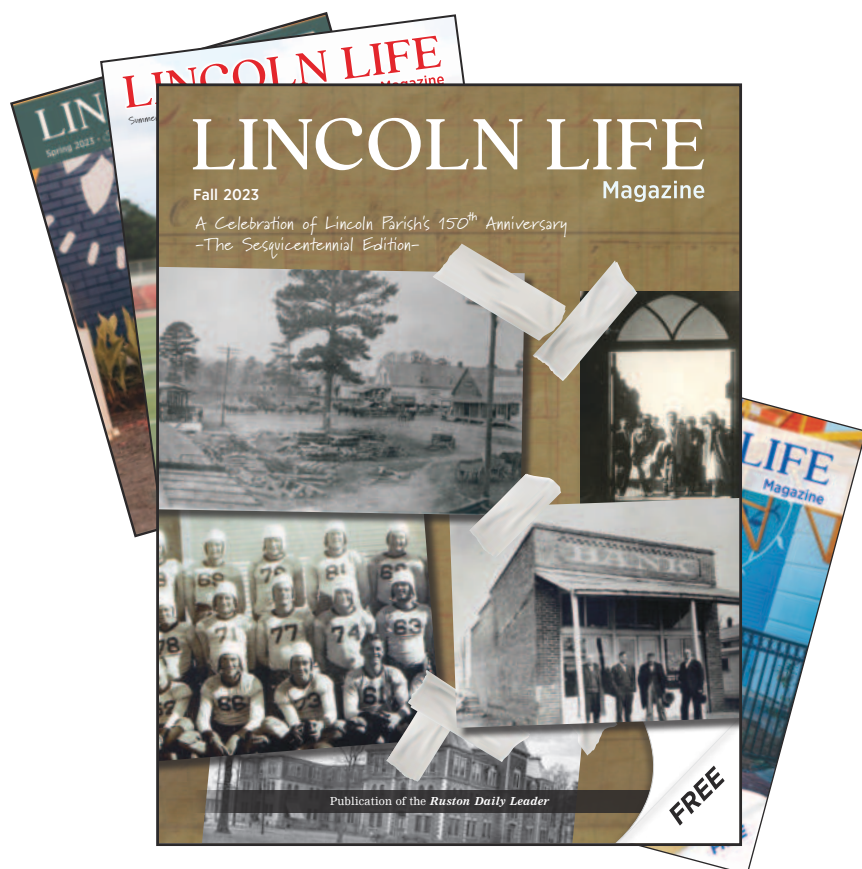
ervation, and Desi has brilliantly transformed a historical landmark into a vibrant hub for communal gatherings and culinary delight."

At the end of the day, magazine articles and imposter syndrome aside, Bourgeois knows who he is and where he's going. Whether making scratch-made biscuits with real buttermilk or sweet potato hash that is outside-the-box different from anything else, his commitment remains with real ingredients, exceptional food and an unwavering sense of community.

"I'm not doing what the others in this magazine are doing," Bourgeois said. "They are going over the top, above and beyond in doing cutting-edge things. Or they are taking classics and putting a real twist on them. We're doing the same thing but are doing it a level or two down from that upper scale dining experience. We're doing it in a food truck. And that's a little bit different. But it's all good. We know where we're headed, and that's what we're focused on."

Celebration of Lincoln Parish's 150th Anniversary

The Sesquicentennial Edition



BE A PART OF HISTORY!!

CALL 318.255.4353 TO ADVERTISE

DEADLINE: SEPTEMBER 27

CHURCH NEWS

Northside Church of Christ

We invite you to attend our special classes every Monday from 6-7 p.m., through Dec. 18. Come now, let us reason together, Isaiah 1:18. We shall explore several key issues in life. We hope to see you at 1804 N. Trenton St., in Ruston.

Alabama Presbyterian

Sunday School begins at 9:45 a.m. Sunday worship led by Dr. Allison F. Moody. There will be a Scripture reading from Exodus 5:1-23. Sermon title is, "Why Have You Done This?" Worship Service will begin at 11 a.m. There will be a Children's moment led by Lee Lowery. Please join us in person or via Alabama Presbyterian Church Live Facebook page.

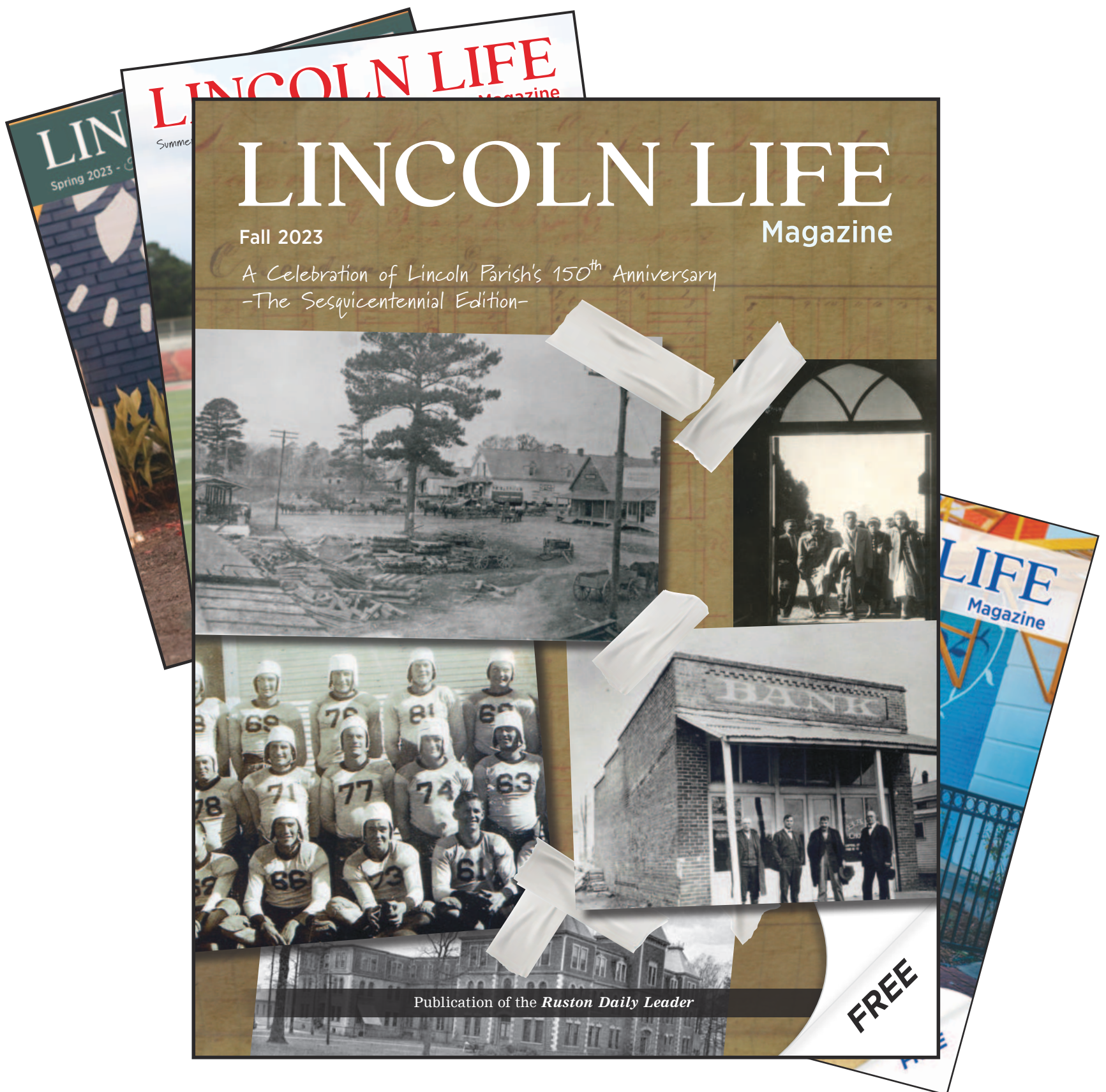
Emmanuel Baptist Church

Join us for Bible Study at 9 a.m. and morning worship at 10:15 a.m. Our evening worship begins at 5 p.m. in the FLC. All services will be held in the Family Life Center while our sanctuary undergoes renovations.

Our Wednesday night schedule for the Fall has begun. At 6 p.m. we have prayer meeting and Bible study for adults in the FLC; our mission organizations for children in the children's building; and our youth meet in the youth room. College meets at 7 p.m. in the Coffee Table Room at the FLC. Our senior adults will hold their monthly potluck luncheon this coming Thursday, Sept. 21, 11 a.m. in the FLC gym. Guest speaker is Natalie Wise.

Celebration of Lincoln Parish's 150th Anniversary

The Sesquicentennial Edition



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HISTORY!!

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TO ADVERTISE**

**DEADLINE:
SEPTEMBER 27**

Crossword Puzzle

- ACROSS**
- 1 Tree juice
 - 4 Squealer
 - 7 Do some laps
 - 11 "A Boy Named ___"
 - 12 Mellow
 - 13 Move carefully
 - 14 Explosive letters
 - 15 Pagan god
 - 16 Place for a window box
 - 17 Ensnare
 - 19 Nullify
 - 21 Break the —
 - 22 Male animal
 - 23 Held out
 - 27 Get a move on
 - 31 Empty space
 - 32 Dumpster
 - 34 Fish eggs
 - 35 Before
 - 36 Spelling contest
 - 37 Does a farm job
- DOWN**
- 1 Defunct airliner
 - 2 Mom's sis
 - 3 Scared stiff

TODAY'S ANSWERS

N	U	N		S	T	S	T	S	E	J
A	H	A		E	R	O	D	E	N	I
P	M	A		S	I	M	A	I	R	E
O	R	S								
A	M	R		A	M	B	U	G		
A	T	O		P	O	T	O	P	A	R
S	W	S		S	O	B	E	B	E	R
R	O	E		R	O	B	I	N	I	D
N				B	E	G	I	N		
				M	T	O	M	I	C	E
E				G	A	T	E	N	A	P
L				S	I	L	L	N	O	D
				E	A	S	E	R	I	P
M				S	W	I	M	R	A	T

- 4 Clear
- 5 Hear — — drop
- 6 Doctrine
- 7 Kind of cooking oil
- 8 "Just a second!"
- 9 Ait
- 10 Baseball's — Ott
- 12 Lasso virtuoso
- 18 Made a hole-in-one
- 20 Seaman
- 23 Finished
- 24 "— Few Dollars More"
- 25 Decline
- 26 Usual fare
- 28 Pal at a wedding
- 29 Hawkeye State
- 30 Cozy habitat
- 33 Keanu Reeves role
- 37 Wound result
- 39 Away
- 40 Routine
- 42 Simple language
- 44 Toothed wheels
- 46 Craft
- 47 Rainbow goddess
- 48 Comical person
- 50 Hawaiian island
- 51 British rule in India
- 53 Sawbones (abbr.)
- 55 Criticize

1	2	3		4	5	6		7	8	9	10
				12					13		
				15					16		
		17		18		19		20			
			21				22				
23	24			25	26		27	28	29	30	
31				32	33			34			
35				36				37			
38			39	40		41		42			
			43		44		45				
	46	47			48		49		50		
51				52	53			54		55	
56				57				58			
59				60				61			

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Sudoku

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

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

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TODAY'S ANSWERS

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

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.

" P E U K X W G A I G J G M M P K D E K B
 Y W G R U K X L K R W I D R W I B I G B I D K
 V P S P R G R P K D M K D W K Y V K D Z K B
 W K Y S X T W U K X T G D G T T K S J V P M W ."
 — R K D U N I D D I R R

"If you have a passion for what you do then there are no limitations on how long or how much you can accomplish!" — Tony Bennett

TODAY'S CLUE: 0 words 7

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