



### INSIDE

Know the risks that plants present to your cats and dogs

Page 2

### YOUR FORECAST

Cloudy with a chance for thunderstorms

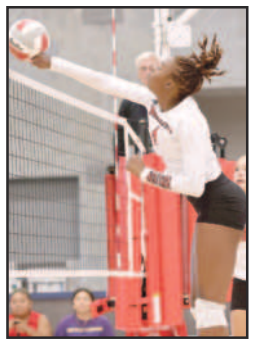


High today in the mid to upper 80s. Low tonight in the mid to upper 60s. Chance of rain this afternoon 40%. Clearing on Thursday with a high of 91. Partly cloudy on Friday with a high of 88.

### SPORTS

Get to know the intimidator in the middle of the RHS net

Page 9



# Ruston Daily Leader

Sunday, October 1, 2023

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\$1.50

## Chase tax incentive package tops aldermen's agenda

By Nancy Bergeron  
nancy@rustonleader.com

Ruston's Board of Aldermen is set to give its support Monday to a resolution empowering the city's Industrial Development Board to waive a portion of sales and property taxes for the new JPMorgan Chase operations center.

In addition, aldermen are also expected to forego some of the permitting fees the city normally requires for construction projects. Monday's meeting convenes at 5:30 p.m. at City Hall and is open to the public.

Chase announced on Thursday it will build a \$30 million operations center

in Ruston that will become a hub for global document custody services and support the expanding operations of Chase's corporate center in Monroe.

The building will be located on an as-of-yet undisclosed site on the north I-20 frontage road. Construction is expected to begin within six months,

according to a press release from the company.

The resolution upon which aldermen will vote is identical to resolutions OK'd Thursday by the Lincoln Parish School Board and Lincoln Parish Police Jury.

The document outlines See INCENTIVE PACKAGE, page 5



## LincAlerts notification system active

By Nancy Bergeron  
nancy@rustonleader.com

Lincoln Parish residents can now sign up online for the LincAlerts public safety notification system.

The free, parishwide system is a one-stop location for weather and other notifications for all parish residents. The new system, which went live last week, will push out mass notifications for all the parish or ones specific to an individual municipality, Lincoln Parish Director of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness Kip Franklin said Friday.

Alerts are received via text, phone, or email.

"We're going to be able to use it for emergency messaging. We're going to be able to use it for internal messaging. It's just going to be a real good system," he said.

LincAlerts replaces Alert FM. Alert FM was being paid for through the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness, but GOHSEP cancelled the contract.

"So, we had to start looking for something else," Franklin said.

LincAlerts is powered by Rave Mobile, the same system Louisiana Tech University uses for its emergency notifications.

Sign-up for LincAlerts is through the Lincoln Parish website, lincolnparrish.org. Under the "Your Government" dropdown, select "LincAlerts" and follow the prompts.

Users may select which

See LINC ALERTS, page 5



Photos by Landon Davis

## Drown the Tiger pep rally held at RHS

Leading up to Friday night's road battle with fierce rival Neville High School, Ruston students gathered Thursday night to "Drown the Tiger." The pep rally featured a fake Tiger dressed in a Neville shirt trapped in a cage. After the cage was lifted in the air, the Ruston Fire Department helped football players turn the hose on the enemy tiger. Ruston and Neville played Friday at Bill Ruple Stadium. See Sports on page 8 for details.



## DART Radiothon set for Oct. 12



Submitted photo

The Domestic Abuse Resistance Team (DART) is gearing up for perhaps its most crucial Radiothon fundraiser yet, as the local nonprofit seeks to make up for a major reduction in federal funding.

The Radiothon will go live at 6 p.m. on Oct. 12 at Super 1 Foods, broadcast live on Q94.1 FM, and will feature interviews with domestic violence survivors, law enforcement and more. Karl Malone Toyota will hold its 4th annual Jambalaya Fundraiser for DART in the Super 1 parking lot from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. the same day. Here, Cary Brown interviews DART board members Deputy Eldred Hardison and Cassandra Smith during last year's Radiothon.

### LOUISIANA NEWS

## Leader to publish names of locals owed money by state

Is your name on the list of those owed money by the State of Louisiana?

In Wednesday's *Ruston Daily Leader*, you'll find a list of Lincoln Parish residents owed money by the state of Louisiana.

The state currently has \$1 billion it wants to return to its rightful owner, but first it has to locate those to whom money is owed, according to State Treasurer John M. Schroder Sr.

The list to be published this week will have names of parish residents who have

unclaimed property of various types on record in the state Treasurer's office.

Businesses from all over the country are required by law to report unclaimed property to the Treasury each year and provide the last known address of the owner.

Sometimes, the address the company has on record is no longer correct.

The funds may be in the form of cash, stocks, bonds, securities, insurance benefits or other. The assets are reported in the name and last

known address of the owner(s).

In June 2018, Schroder reported on a woman who claimed more than \$2 million she didn't know she was owed. "It happens a lot more than you think," Schroder said.

The \$2 million returned was to a young woman whose dad had oil and gas royalties about which she was unaware.



TAKE TWO

## Three great Bulldogs, and three good men

As much as I hate it, I missed the unveiling of Sarah and A.L. Williams Champions Plaza at Louisiana Tech University. But, things happen and you just have to roll with it. And that's okay. I don't need a statue to remind me of connections made with these great people through the years.

Take Terry Bradshaw. Despite the fact our family had close friends playing professional football it was really Bradshaw who lit the fire under me. There was something about watching him play at Tech. Bradshaw was my first exposure to a quarterback with a rocket-launcher for an arm and to this day, I can still see those football-field-length passes that would take your breath away. He made such an impression on me. And when he went on to be the No. 1 draft pick in 1970 and the Pittsburgh Steelers nabbed him, well, I naturally became a hard-core Steelers fan.

I'll say this, though. Some of my fondest memories of Terry have nothing to do with football. I've seen him spontaneously get up from a crowd and take a stage to sing gospel music, bringing the house down. I've sat in his presence and laughed until I couldn't sit up straight as he regaled us with tales from his extraordinary career. Heck, I even watched an episode or two of his reality show. Okay, I just like the guy.

And Fred Dean. Fred was scary until I got to know him. When I watched him play ball, all I could think of was what a complete wrecking machine he was. Then I realized you can be the biggest, most ferocious football player on the planet and deep down inside, be nothing but a big soft teddy bear. That was Fred.

I'll never forget walking the streets of Ruston with him as we volunteered with the fire department to check houses for smoke detectors.

Man, he cared about people. I would sit in meetings with him and just be overwhelmed with his kindness. His gentleness completely overtook any brutality witnessed when he played ball. Gosh, I miss him.

I met Karl Malone when I was still a student at Tech. Although an undergrad when he arrived, I was in graduate school to observe his evolution from high school star to college superstar. Sure, he'd already been tagged "The Mailman" and speculation abounded around his incredibly bright future.

But you want to know what I really remember about Karl?

I had started teaching and half of my days were spent at Choudrant Elementary School where I was in charge of the physical education program. Among my students were four little towheaded boys that wanted to make every step I did. Their parents completely entrusted them to me, so, I would bring them with me to Tech for ballgames and such.

Once while at a Bulldog baseball game, they spotted Karl sitting alone at the top of the stadium. After observing their wide-eyed wonder, I trekked up and asked Karl if they could come meet him. He generously obliged and those four youngsters scrambled with napkins in hand to meet the closest thing to a superhero they'd ever seen and ask for an autograph. Karl signed their paper scraps, gave them a little pep talk about doing their best and following their dreams, and we returned to our seats. For me, it was a classic Karl moment.

Decades later, I ran into one of those boys. Now a full-grown man, he shared that he had been home to see his mom and while going through his room, he found that note from Karl. He told me what that day meant to him and how grateful he was for such memories.

I know how he feels. I drove over to Tech to take a look at the statues and all I could think about was how wonderful it had been intersecting with such magnificent humans and their talent through the years. Such great memories. Now forever enshrined

### CELEBRATIONS

#### BIRTHDAYS

**September 28**

Dr. Ben Haley, 85 yrs.

**September 30**

Kinsley Skye

**October 2**

Bruce Robuck

**October 3**

Linda Emerson

**October 4**

Parker Smith  
Skylar Patterson

**October 5**

DeQuindra Rouzan

**October 7**

Amira Spivey

**October 9**

Rutie Burks

**October 17**

Terrell Sheppard, Jr.  
Rev. Brandon Crew

**October 27**

Shawanda Gant

**October 31**

Carolyn Lewis Tippett  
Tony Tippett

To have a celebration published call 255-4353.

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



## Recreation and Amusement — Part VIII

It was legal to sell alcoholic beverages in Ruston until a few years before the turn of the century (1900). When the parish voted to go dry, numerous "blind tigers" were set up, and old records state that "men who dared to oppose this evil influence put their lives in jeopardy." Police Chief W.S. May and others led in their being

stamped out but not before town marshal John Sizemore had been killed in the fight.

In the roaring twenties, the days of speakeasies and rampant bootlegging, Lincoln Parish and Ruston followed the old status of dry with just a wee bit of bootlegging. When prohibition was repealed, Lincoln Parish chose to go along with

the rest of the country. The bars opened.

Five years later, on Feb. 15, 1938, Lincoln Parish became "bone dry" again. Not only did the new law prohibit the sale or manufacture of alcoholic beverages, but it also outlawed the "use, transportation, storing, handling, or consumption" of such beverages.



Bird's eye view of early Ruston, taken at the depot.



## Learn the risks of plants to cats and dogs

Plants can be beautiful additions to a home and provide a natural way to filter interior air. Many homeowners prefer to enhance their spaces with greenery and various flowers. Though that's a great way to design a home's interior, pet owners must exercise caution with plants to safeguard their furry friends.

Adults understand that they may need to wash their hands after handling certain types of plants, and that it can be unsafe to consume them. Children are instructed by their parents to do the same. Even though many pets can be trained to steer clear of certain dangers, their natural propensity to gnaw on various items out of curiosity or even boredom may entice them to investigate plants.

According to the Farmer's Almanac, more than 700 indoor/outdoor plants contain toxic substances that are not safe for cats and dogs. Learning about common plants and their hazards can help keep pets safe. The following are some plants that are toxic to cats and dogs, courtesy

of the ASPCA.

- **Adam and Eve (Arum, Starch Root):** This plant can cause oral irritation, pain and swelling of the mouth, tongue and lips, excessive drooling, and difficulty swallowing.

- **Aloe vera:** While the gel is considered edible, the rest of the plant may cause lethargy, diarrhea and vomiting.

- **Amaryllis:** There are many different types of amaryllis, and most will cause vomiting, depression, diarrhea, abdominal pain, hypersalivation, and tremors in cats and dogs.

- **Azalea:** These plants of the rhododendron family cause vomiting, diarrhea, weakness, and potential cardiac failure.

- **Begonia:** The most toxic part of this plant is underground. Still, it may cause vomiting and salivation in dogs and cats.

- **California ivy:** The foliage is more toxic than the berries, and could contribute to vomiting, abdominal pain, hypersalivation, and diarrhea.

- **Clematis:** Salivation, vomiting

and diarrhea are common if the plant is ingested.

- **Daisy (and other chrysanthemum species):** Dermatitis, vomiting, diarrhea, hypersalivation, and incoordination may occur.

- **Elephant ears:** This plant may cause oral irritation, pain and swelling of the mouth, tongue and lips, excessive drooling, and difficulty swallowing.

- **Foxglove:** This may cause cardiac arrhythmia, vomiting, diarrhea, weakness, cardiac failure, and death.

- **Geranium:** Ingesting geranium may lead to depression, dermatitis and vomiting.

- **Holly:** Vomiting, diarrhea and depression may occur. However, leaves and berries are low toxicity.

- **Mother of millions:** This succulent could cause vomiting, diarrhea, and, in rare instances, abnormal heart rhythm.

- **Philodendron:** Oral irritation, pain and swelling of the mouth, tongue and lips, excessive drooling, vomiting, and difficulty swallowing could occur.



## A sweet spot for the library

### Board members greet community at Ice Cream Social

Leader photos by Caleb Daniel

**Lincoln Parish Library patrons turned out for cake, ice cream, balloon animals and conversation with library board members as the board hosted its second Ice Cream Social meet-and-greet event Thursday. Above, board member Sandra Dupree chats with families as youngsters dive into some cake and ice cream. Below, Dat Does the Trick crafted creative balloon designs for eager patrons throughout the event.**



## Art is Medicine exhibition planned in downtown Ruston

Ruston Artisans has partnered with Northeast Delta Human Services Authority (NEDHSA) to present its mental health art exhibition, “Art is Medicine.” The exhibition opens on Oct. 11, and runs through Dec. 29. The opening reception will be held on Oct. 19 from 5-7 p.m. This exhibition is part of the agency’s special initiative, an integrated health care, evidence-based prevention, communications, and treatment strategy to help serve persons with mental health, addictive disorders, and developmental disabilities.

about mental, emotional, physical and spiritual healing. To celebrate this theme, we encourage you to participate in our Open Studio to experience the therapeutic power of art. We invite the experienced and inexperienced patron, artist and friend to participate in this unique initiative and exhibition and to find your artistic expression.”

NEDHSA’s Executive Director, Dr. Monteic A. Sizer, said, “the arts can help people come alive in ways traditional treatment options can’t.”

The mental health art collection was created with the guidance and partnership of the NELA Arts Council and the Downtown Arts Alliance. The mental health exhibition displays pieces that introduce, inspire, and raise awareness of the various elements of mental/behavioral health, developmental disabilities, and addictive disorders.

“Through this initiative, we commissioned seven regional creatives to create artwork from their perspective, focusing on mental and behavioral,” Sizer continued. “We intend to help create an environment where dreams are realized, families are strong, bodies are healthy, community institutions are thriving, and spirits are renewed.”

It features: “Joy is Coming” by JaCera Francois, “Verses of Sinners and Saints” by Keagan Vaughan, “Seen” by Rachel Madden, “Lose of Self” by Inique Harris, “Restored” by Shiketra’ Kween’ May White, “Intrusive Doubt” by Inique Harris, “What It Look Like 2.0 (Ease My Mind)” by Drék Davis, “What It Look Like 2.0 (So Many Tears)” by Drék Davis, “What It Look Like 2.0 (Stressed Out)” by Drék Davis, “What It Look Like 2.0 (Get Free)” by Drék Davis, “Growth” by Rachel Madden, “Fix Me” by Rachel Madden, and “Inside” by Rachel Madden.

Sizer sparked this creative expression to help address mental health issues, reduce addiction-related stigma, and work to transform the region’s economy.

“Ruston Artisans is so honored to showcase this very important exhibition. This initiative is a theme we have embraced since we opened our gallery,” said gallery director and owner Judi Null. “We believe in the intrinsic power of art to bring

Ruston Artisans is located at 203 W. Alabama Ave. Hours are Wednesdays and Thursdays, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Fridays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

## Biden backs new offshore drilling in Gulf of Mexico

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Joe Biden’s administration on Friday proposed up to three oil and gas lease sales in the Gulf of Mexico, but none in Alaska, as it tries to navigate between energy companies seeking greater oil and gas production and environmental activists who want Biden to shut down new offshore drilling in the fight against climate change.

at least 60 million acres of offshore oil and gas leases in any one-year period before it can offer offshore wind leases.

The five-year plan includes proposed sales in the Gulf of Mexico — the nation’s primary offshore source of oil and gas — in 2025, 2027 and 2029. The three lease sales are the minimum number the Democratic administration could legally offer if it wants to continue expanding offshore wind development.

The provision tying offshore wind to oil and gas production was added by Democratic Sen. Joe Manchin of West Virginia, a top recipient of oil and gas donations and a key vote in favor of the climate law, which was approved with only Democratic votes in Congress. The landmark law, the Inflation Reduction Act, was signed by Biden as a key step to fight climate change but includes a number of provisions authored by Manchin, a centrist who represents an energy-producing state.

Under the terms of a 2022 climate law, the government must offer

For instance, if the Biden administration wants to expand solar and wind power on public lands, it must offer new oil and gas leases first.

“The Biden-Harris administration is committed to building a clean energy future that ensures America’s energy independence,” Interior Secretary Deb Haaland said in a statement. The proposed offshore leasing program “represents the smallest number of oil and gas lease sales in history” and “sets a course for (the Interior Department) to support the growing offshore wind industry,” she said.

The lease program will guard against environmental damage caused by oil and gas drilling and other adverse impacts to coastal communities, Haaland said. If completed, the sales would increase climate-changing greenhouse gas emissions, according to a 300-page environmental review by the Interior Department’s Bureau of Ocean Energy Management.

## CHURCH NEWS

*Editor’s Note: If you have a submission regarding your church’s worship services, you should email the information by 5 p.m. Wednesday to [newsroom@rustonleader.com](mailto:newsroom@rustonleader.com).*


**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.

**Emmanuel Baptist Church**  
Join us for Bible Study at 9 a.m. and morning worship at 10:15


a.m. Our morning service will be live streamed via our Facebook page. 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.

On Wednesday nights at 6 p.m. we have prayer meeting and Bible study for adults in the FLC; mission organizations for children in the children’s building; and our youth meet for Bible study in the youth room.

College meets at 7 p.m. in the Coffee Table Room at the FLC. Our Fall Festival will be held on Oct. 15, from 4-6 p.m. at the FLC parking lot.




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Source: America’s Newspapers 2023 Local Newspaper Study conducted by Coda Ventures.

## THUMBS UP THUMBS DOWN



### Fridays aren't just for football players

With the high school football season reaching its midpoint, we want to shine the spotlight on a different group of students who dedicate themselves to make sure Friday nights are enjoyable.

They don't normally receive accolades or the adulation from fans, but those student behind the scenes at high schools around north Louisiana deserve a big thumbs up.

Band members, cheerleaders, student trainers, volunteers and dedicated student sections play an important role on Friday nights.

Whether it's Ruston, Cedar Creek, Lincoln Prep or Jonesboro-Hodge, students make the atmosphere at ballgames that much better.

There are five more regular season games before some teams participate in the post-season. To all students, enjoy your Friday nights and well done.



### No Saturday football in October for Tech

College football is special. It's a game built on tradition and pageantry. It's built on tailgating and fandom.

So someone explain to us why our college football team in Ruston will not play a game on Saturday again until the calendar hits November.

With Friday night's game at UTEP, Tech began an odyssey of playing games on weekdays that will last until your entire kitchen is stocked with everything pumpkin spice.

Next week Tech plays on a Thursday against Western Kentucky. Five days later, Tech plays on a Tuesday night at Middle Tennessee. Two weeks after that game, the Bulldogs return home for another Tuesday game against New Mexico State.

Conference USA and its TV deal with CBS Sports did Tech no favors this season. You have a team trying to regain its footing in the conference and try to get back into challenging for bowl games, but you have four consecutive games played on weekdays.

For smaller colleges who depend on getting as many fans in the seats as they can, this is certainly going to be a challenge. We don't like it one bit.



### Great idea by Ruston Fire Department

This coming Saturday (Oct. 7), the Ruston Fire Department will hold its first RFD Day.

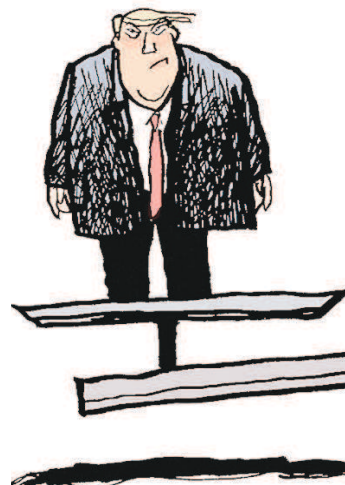
Wanting to build a better rapport with the community it serves, Ruston firemen will be at the Ruston Sports Complex from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. for this free event.

What a great idea. You cannot go wrong with more community events that bring everyone closer together, especially with our emergency responders.

From equipment demonstrations in the morning to a question and answer session, the day will be a chance for the public to know more about their fire department and in turn, a chance for firemen to show their extensive training.

It also gives first responders an opportunity to interact with the community in a lighter setting. It's a win-win.

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## A DIFFERENT BEAT

# Father-son moments transform with age

In 1 Corinthians 13.11, the verse says, "When I was a child, I spoke as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child; but when I became a man, I put away childish things."

That has always been one of my favorite Bible verses. It hits straight to the point.

That verse, though simple in nature, has always meant a lot more to me. It reminds me of the transition we make from childhood to teen years to adulthood and all that encompasses that metamorphosis.

It also reminds me fondly of my father. He believed in that verse and quoted it often. In a way, he had interactions with his three sons that basically followed that advice and of course, came up with his own ways of showing us the transition to manhood.

Along with responsibilities that increased with the number of candles on our birthday cakes, he also rewarded us with subtlety that only a stern father could accomplish.

It may seem strange to any of you reading this, but the first time he allowed me to mow our yard and trim our hedges, it gave me a sense of accomplishment. It was also an honor considering Dad was a stickler for manicuring his yard. Every blade of grass had to be symmetrical. Every shrub, tree and hedge had to be either round as a basketball or square and even like the grounds of the White House or Buckingham Palace.

So for the patriarch of the family to entrust the mower in your hands; to hand over the power trimmer with the perfectly-wound extension chord—it was a watershed moment in the Trahan landscape.

Of course I complained. Yes,

I would have preferred to be at the baseball diamond with my neighborhood buddies, but I not only performed my new duties, but I completed them with professionalism.

So much so that I became the only person my father entrusted with trimming the trees, shrubs and hedges from that point on. Even when I left for college, I received a phone call from time to time to schedule a visit home for a weekend. The ligustrums needed rounding, and the box hedges needed to be flat and square.

Throughout my maturation into manhood, there were other projects as well. Dad was a carpenter by trade, so I became a carpenter's helper on weekends. I held boards while he sawed. I mixed concrete in a wheelbarrow. I took a few turns beating my thumbs into submission while hammering in nails.

As a child, the relationship between father and son was one of teacher and student. He was also the disciplinarian in the house. He talked. I listened.

He pointed his finger with Cajun flare, while slipping up and sliding a few choice Cajun phrases in what I thought was a prepared speech. Whatever the method, it worked on me.

As time progressed, the teacher and student relationship also transformed into one similar to professor and student. Our interactions were conversations. I talked. He listened. And of course, the other way around.

That usually meant coffee on the porch, too. Another sign that I had grown to be a young man in his eyes. In our family, sharing coffee was the ultimate sign of respect

and admiration. Coffee time was akin to small social celebrations in my family.

But between father and son, it took on a whole other significance. It was a Hallmark card of sorts, letting me know as a father, he enjoys his time with his son, one on one.

It was over coffee that I told him I would be going to college. It was over coffee that I told him I would become a journalist. It was over coffee I told him I was planning to ask my girlfriend to marry me. It was also over coffee that I told him he was going to have another grandson, and another.

There was yet another father-son bonding that we discovered later in life, when I was a father to my sons and he was enjoying being a doting grandfather. We shared a passion for movies, both new and classic. We sat and discussed directors, dialogue and our favorite actors of each generation.

The last week he was healthy enough to enjoy father-son time, I took a week off from work and watched movies with him all week. He was dying of cancer then, and neither of us realized two weeks later he would be in hospice care. We laughed, we talked, we shared coffee and, in essence, we said goodbye.

To this day, I remember a great many of those coffee conversations with my Dad. I cherish those times, even the ones when he admonished me for poor decisions I made. Although different in nature, I have those same memories of the talks I had with my own sons.

Enjoy your father-son time, no matter what age you may be.

When it's time to put away childish things, being a man 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  
Brian Trahan

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

# Read this newspaper Wednesday for extra value

Dear Editor:

Readers of your newspaper should find extra value in reading your paper October 4, when the State Treasurer's Office will publish the names of individuals for whom we received new, unclaimed property money in the preceding year.

The State Treasurer's Office is holding more than \$1 billion in unclaimed funds for current and former Louisiana residents. We are responsible for getting this money back into the hands of citizens to whom it belongs.

Whether it was 10 days ago, or 10 years ago, this is their money

and we will hold it for them until they claim it.

Common examples of unclaimed property include unpaid life insurance benefits, forgotten bank accounts, uncashed payroll checks, stock dividends and utility deposit refunds. When checks are not cashed or accounts go dormant, and the company is unable to locate the owner, the funds are sent to the Treasury for safekeeping.

We've been working to enhance technology and cut red tape in our Unclaimed Property program to make it easier than ever to claim your money.

The Treasurer's Office publishes these names in official parish

journals across the state each year. Please take a minute to check the public notices in your newspaper to see if you or someone you know is listed.

Even if you've looked before, we publish a new list every year so check this new list. And even if you don't see your name on the list, visit our website at [www.lacashclaim.org](http://www.lacashclaim.org) and search (it's easy) because we might have money owed to you from a previous year.

You can call us toll-free at 888-925-4127 for more information.

Sincerely,  
**John M. Schroder**  
Louisiana State Treasurer

## Letters to the Editor

The Ruston Daily Leader welcomes Letters to the Editor about issues or concerns of interest to our community. Letters should be timely and should be addressed to the editor. No two-party letters, copies of letters to other publications, political endorsements, creative prose or poetry will be accepted.

All letters submitted for consideration must have the writer's name, mailing address, phone number and email address. Only the writer's name and city of residence of will be published. The Daily Leader reserves the right to edit or refuse publication of any letter, however, all viewpoints on a topic will be considered. The Daily Leader generally does not publish more than one letter from the same person within a 30-day period. Letters should be typed, double-spaced. Content should be clear, concise and no longer than 500 words.

Letters may be sent to: Letter to the Editor, Ruston Daily Leader, 212 West Park Ave., Ruston, LA 71270 or emailed to [editor@rustonleader.com](mailto:editor@rustonleader.com). Views expressed in letters to the editor, editorial cartoons and personal columns do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the newspaper.

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## Stock Market Today



**Edward Jones®**  
Making Sense of Investing

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## Market wraps its miserable September with another weak finish

NEW YORK (AP) — Wall Street closed out its worst month of the year with more losses. The S&P 500 slipped 0.3% Friday after an earlier gain withered, and the majority of stocks within the index sank.

The Dow fell 0.5%, and the Nasdaq composite edged higher by 0.1%. Solid gains for stocks during the morning faded as pressure built from within the bond market.

After initially easing on encouraging signals about inflation, Treasury yields rose as the day progressed to keep the pressure high on the stock market. Shares of energy producers fell sharply with the price of oil.

Treasuries are seen as some of the

safest investments possible, and when they pay higher yields, investors are less likely to pay high prices for stocks and other riskier investments. That's a big reason why the S&P 500 has dropped 4.6% in September to drag what had been a big gain for the year down to 12%

Treasury yields have been climbing sharply as Wall Street comes to grips with a new normal where the Federal Reserve is likely to keep interest rates high for longer. The Fed is trying to push still-high inflation down to its target, and its main tool of high interest rates does that by trying to slow the economy and hurting prices for investments.

The Fed's main interest rate is at its highest level since 2001, and the central bank indicated last week it may cut interest rates next year by less than it earlier expected.

Friday's economic data showed that not only was inflation a touch cooler than expected in August, so was growth in spending by U.S. consumers. That can be a positive for inflation because it means not as many dollars are pouring into purchases. That in turn could give companies less encouragement to try to raise prices further. But it may also dent what's been a big driver keeping the U.S. economy out of a recession.

"It came to a boil during a hot sum-

mer, and the temperature is really starting to come down," said Brian Jacobsen, chief economist at Annex Wealth Management, of spending growth by U.S. consumers. "Higher energy prices, student loan debt repayments and real disposable incomes that have been on a declining trajectory since June doesn't bode well."

Oil prices have jumped to their highest level in more than a year, which is pressuring the economy by raising fuel costs for everyone. A barrel of U.S. crude sank 92 cents Friday to settle at \$90.79, but it's still up sharply from \$70 in June. Brent crude, the international standard, also weakened.



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## Supreme Court will decide if state laws limiting social media platforms violate Constitution

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Supreme Court agreed Friday to decide whether state laws that seek to regulate Facebook, TikTok, X and other social media platforms violate the Constitution.

The justices will review laws enacted by Republican-dominated legislatures and signed by Republican governors in Florida and Texas. While the details vary, both laws aim to prevent the social media companies from censoring users based on their viewpoints.

The court's announcement, three days before the start of its new term, comes as the justices continue to grapple with how laws written at the dawn of the digital age, or earlier, apply to the online world.

The justices had already agreed to decide whether public officials

can block critics from commenting on their social media accounts, an issue that previously came up in a case involving then-President Donald Trump. The court dismissed the Trump case when his presidential term ended in January 2021.

Separately, the high court also could consider a lower-court order limiting executive branch officials' communications with social media companies about controversial online posts.

In all, the justices added 12 cases Friday that will be argued during the winter. They include:

— A dispute over the FBI's no-fly list. The appeal came from the Biden administration in a case involving an Oregon man who once was on the list, but had been removed years ago.

A federal appeals court said he could continue his lawsuit because the FBI never disavowed his initial inclusion.

— A copyright case that involves a hit for the hip-hop artist Flo Rida in which he made use of someone else's song from the 1980s. Music publishing companies that were sued for copyright infringement over the 2008 song "In the Ayer" are challenging a lower court ruling against them.

— A plea by landowners in southeast Texas who want the state to compensate them for effectively taking their property. Their lawsuit claims that a successful project to renovate Interstate 10 and ensure it remains passable in bad weather results in serious flooding on their properties in heavy rainfall.

The new social media

cases follow conflicting rulings by two appeals courts, one of which upheld the Texas law, while the other struck down Florida's statute. By a 5-4 vote, the justices kept the Texas law on hold while litigation over it continues.

But the alignment was unusual. Chief Justice John Roberts and Justices Stephen Breyer, Sonia Sotomayor, Brett Kavanaugh and Amy Coney Barrett voted to grant the emergency request from two technology industry groups that challenged the law in federal court.

Justices Clarence Thomas, Samuel Alito, Elena Kagan and Neil Gorsuch would have allowed the law to remain in effect. In dissent, Alito wrote, "Social media platforms have transformed the way people communicate with each other and obtain news."

## Sen. Dianne Feinstein, advocate for liberal priorities, dies at 90

WASHINGTON (AP) — U.S. Sen. Dianne Feinstein of California, a centrist Democrat and champion of liberal causes who was elected to the Senate in 1992 and broke gender barriers throughout her long career in local and national politics, has died. She was 90.

Feinstein died on Thursday night at her home in Washington, D.C., her office said on Friday. Opening the Senate floor, Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer announced that "earlier this morning, we lost a giant in the Senate."

"Dianne Feinstein was one of the most amazing people who ever graced the Senate, who ever graced the country," Schumer said, his voice cracking. "As the nation mourns this tremendous loss, we know how many lives she impacted and how many glass ceilings she shattered along the way."

President Joe Biden, who served with Feinstein for years in the Senate, called her "a pioneering American," a "true trailblazer" and a "cherished friend."

California Gov. Gavin Newsom will appoint a temporary replacement, and there is sure to be a spirited battle to succeed her.

Feinstein, the oldest sitting U.S. senator, was a passionate advocate for liberal priorities important to her state.

## LINCALERTS continued from page 1

alerts they want to receive.

For now, the only options for topic-specific local notifications are parish alerts and information. Topics specific to Ruston, Simsboro, Grambling, Dubach, and Choudrant will be added later.

The city of Ruston, which now uses the CodeRED system, will switch to LincAlerts in January. But city residents can sign up for and begin receiving messages from LincAlerts now.

"This really offers some great new features CodeRED did not," Dusty Hampton, Ruston's IT/telecom director, said.

For example, more than one address can be entered, allowing users to get alerts for where they leave, and where they work, so long as both addresses are in Lincoln Parish.

Users can sign into their account to update the type of notifications they receive.

Although Grambling has recently bought into the CivicReady alert system, residents can also sign up for LincAlerts.

## INCENTIVE PACKAGE continued from page 1

an incentive package that includes a 15-year sliding property tax abatement based on the number of jobs created and maintained by the project, ranging from 25% for 0-24 jobs up to 75% for 151-200 jobs.

The public bodies will also waive 50% of all sales and use tax on construction material, construction equipment and computer equipment on the project for five years.

The tax breaks are coming through a "payment in lieu of taxes," or PILOT, program that was set up locally to entice Bucee's to build a travel center in Ruston. The Chase abatement will be the second time the city

has used a PILOT.

Passage of the supporting resolutions will trigger a meeting of the IDB, the group that has complete authority over the PILOT program.

As part of the PILOT process, the IDB — the five members of which were appointed by Mayor Ronny Walker — will take title to the Chase site once the facility is open. It's the title transfer that paves the way for the property tax abatement.

Here's how: Public bodies are exempt from property tax on any land they own that's deemed to be used for a public purpose. Economic development is considered

a public purpose.

If the land was not deemed public, it would be subject to full property taxation.

The Chase PILOT expires at the end of 15 years, after which Chase would apparently pay the full amount due.

The Chase deal was brokered by Ruston.

Action on the Chase tax incentives tops an agenda that includes only five items.

Also on the agenda is an unrelated resolution to hire the Riley Company of Louisiana to develop engineering plans, cost estimates and other work linked to the city's 2024 street overlay program.

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## Are You Happy?

Are you happy? Happiness is one thing all sane people seek, but few find.

Harvard Professor Arthur Brooks specializes in happiness studies. The professor says happiness is in trouble in our world today, and in fact has been on the decline since the late 1980's. He then goes on to tell us it really hit the slide down when social media came along.

This does not make sense, since being connected should make us happier, but connected via phones, ipads, etc, seem to have the opposite effect on us. We get lonely and bored and turn to our devices, only to move further from inner satisfaction, not closer to it.

So where do we find happiness? Some experts say it is found in our human relationships. Certainly they are very important to our well-being, but our relationships with others cannot meet the deepest needs of our hearts.

Recently I read a report from a psychologist who said that forgiving others is the key to true happiness. Forgiving or not forgiving definitely has a huge impact on our psychological well-being and health. We must do this to be healthy and happy, but this still falls

short of really satisfying our desire for happiness.

So what is the solution? In Matthew 5 Jesus gives us principles that come from the inside out. They all begin with the word "blessed."

Blessed literally means happy, joyful, full-satisfied. A joy and happiness that is given and sustained to us from God Himself. Our part is to know Him personally and obey Him.

He tells us blessed, happy are those who realize how much they need the Lord. Joyful are those who grieve over their sins and who live humbly and gently. Happy are those who seek Jesus with all of their being and who are merciful. Blessed are those who are pure in heart and who bring peace to their world.

Honestly, these do not make sense, but God is God and His mind is way above ours! So I would encourage you to trust what Jesus says, and follow Him. Following Him certainly will get you to the right place when you leave this earth, but it will also bring you the happiness in this life that we all so desire!

**Chris Craig**  
First Baptist Church, Ruston



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**Cathedral of Praise Worship Center** - 2877 Highway 33, Ruston  
**First Assembly of God** - 1400 Woodward Ave., Ruston

### BAPTIST

**Alabama** - 16061 Hwy. 151, Arcadia  
**Barnett Springs** - 1601 S. Barnett Springs Rd., Ruston  
**Calvary** - 5200 Hwy 167, Vienna  
**China Grove Missionary** - 406 Vernon St., Ruston  
**Christ Temple Baptist Church** - 7349 Hwy 80, Ruston  
**Church of Restoration** - 285 Main St., Grambling  
**Cook Baptist Church** - 2000 Cooktown Rd, Ruston  
**Corinth** - 4327 Hw 545, Dubach  
**Emmanuel** - 1200 Farmerville Hwy, Ruston  
**Fellowship** - 6476 Hwy 151, Dubach  
**Fellowship Missionary Baptist**, 1572 Highway 507 South, Simsboro  
**First** - 117 Oak St., Choudrant - One block south of Hwy. 80 in Choudrant  
**First** - Hico St., Dubach  
**First** - 200 S. Trenton St., Ruston, fbruston.org  
**First** - Simsboro.  
**Friendship Baptist Church** - 143 West Sixth Street, Bernice  
**Grace Baptist Church** - 2808 Trenton Ave., Ruston  
**Grace Bible Baptist Church** - 216 Rough Edge Rd., Ruston  
**Greater Pleasant Grove** - 1270 Golf Course Rd., Unionville  
**Greater St. Luke** - 163 St. Luke Church Rd, Arcadia  
**Gum Spring Missionary Baptist Church** - 3117 Hwy 151, Farmerville  
**Hico** - 653 Hwy. 152, Dubach  
**Hopewell** - 7657 Fellowship Rd., Hwy 151, Dubach  
**Lane Chapel** - 1016 McAllister, Ruston  
**Lanes Chapel Missionary** - Hwy. 151 Downsville  
**Liberty Hill Missionary** - Simsboro  
**Longstraw Baptist** - 1799 Styles, Ranch Rd., Choudrant  
**Love Chapel Baptist Church** - 1525 Sikes St, Ruston  
**Macedonia No.1 Missionary** - Rt. 2, Dubach  
**Macedonia No. 2 Missionary** - 489 E. Sibley Rd., Choudrant  
**Mineral Springs** - 4599 Hwy 822, Dubach  
**Mount Harmony** - 210 Mt. Harmony Church Rd, Ruston  
**Mount Calm Missionary** - 566 Mount Calm Rd., Simsboro  
**Mount Olive** - Grambling  
**Mount Olive Outreach** - 2817 S. Service Road W., Ruston  
**Mount Pisgah** - Hwy. 3061, Ruston

**Mount Sinai** - 2269 Hwy. 145, Choudrant

**Mount Vernon Missionary** - 1356 Hwy. 167 N., Dubach

**Mount Zion** - 2586 Hwy 150., Grambling

**Mount Zion No. 2** - 113 California Plant Road, Dubach

**New Hope** - Choudrant

**New Hope** - 302 W. Vaughn, Ruston

**New Liberty Hill** - Hwy. 544, Simsboro

**New Pilgrim Rest, Inc.** - 2697 Elm St., Arcadia

**New Prospect** - 3438 Hwy. 167 N., Dubach

**New Prosperity Baptist** - 1378 Prosperity Church, Clay

**New Rocky Valley** - 2155 Martin Luther King Ave., Grambling

**Northview Missionary Baptist** - Highway 33, Ruston

**Olive Grove** - 3138 Olive Grove Rd, Choudrant

**Pilgrim Rest** - 622 W. Line Ave., Ruston

**Pine Grove** - 470 Chandler Rd., Ruston

**Pleasant Grove** - 1366 Pleasant Grove Road, Choudrant

**Pleasant Grove** - "The Oasis in the Woods", 446 Bowden Rd., Ruston

**Pleasant Hill Baptist Church** - 1127 Mondy Rd, Simsboro

**Rock Corner & Garden of Prayer** - 824 Rock Corner Rd, Dubach, off Hwy. 33, 14 miles north of Ruston

**Rocky Valley** - Simsboro

**Solid Rock Baptist Church** - 1511 West California Hwy 80, Ruston

**Southside** - 3191 South Vienna St., Ruston

**Springhill** - 727 Dicks Store Rd., Ruston

**St. David Missionary** - Vienna.

**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

**Temple** - 1515 S. Service Rd. W. Ruston

**True Believers Baptist Church** - 184 CCC Road, Ruston

**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

**Vernon Baptist Church** - 190 Vernon-Eros Road, Ruston LA 71270

**Woods Chapel** - 326 Hwy 454, Ruston

**Zion Hill** - 505 Lee St., Ruston

**Zion Traveler** - 1201 Martin Luther King Dr, Ruston

### CATHOLIC CHURCHES

**St. Benedict** - 471 Main St., Grambling

**St. Thomas Aquinas** - 810 Carey Avenue, Ruston

### CHURCH OF CHRIST

**Church of Christ** - 2902 Hwy. 80 West, Ruston

**Grambling** - 146 King St., Grambling

**Northside** - 1804 N. Trenton St., Ruston

**Orleans Cir. Church of Christ** - 2103 Orleans Cir., Ruston

**Ruston** - 2300 W. Woodward Ave., Ruston, www.rustonchurchofchrist.org

### EPISCOPAL CHURCHES

**Church of the Redeemer** - 504 Tech Dr., Ruston

**St. Luke's** - 538 Main St., Grambling

### METHODIST CHURCHES

**Ansley Union Church** - 328 Ansley Rd, Ruston, located 10 miles south of Ruston off of Hwy 167

**Antioch UMC** - Simsboro

**Arcadia First UMC** - Arcadia

**Choudrant UMC** - 125 Pecan St., Choudrant

**Dubach UMC** - Dubach

**First UMC** - Arcadia

**Grace UMC** - 3401 N. Trenton St., Ruston

**Lewis Temple CME** - Main St., Grambling

**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

### PENTECOSTAL CHURCHES

**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, 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

**Voice of Revival Ministry** - 304 W. California St., Ruston

### PRESBYTERIAN CHURCHES

**Alabama (USA)** - 2091 Hwy 145, Choudrant

**John Knox (PCA)** - 2106 Cooktown Rd., Ruston

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

**Ruston (USA)** - 212 N. Bonner St.

### OTHER CHURCHES

**Abundant Grace Tabernacle** - 3092 Hwy 556, Choudrant

**Campus Community Worship Center** - 1000 Saratoga St., Ruston, 318-513-9383

**Christian L.I.F.E. Church** - 107 Love Ave., Ruston

**Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints** - 205 Woodhaven Rd., Ruston

**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)

**Focus Christian Ministries** - Martin Luther King Community Center, 901 Martin Luther King Dr., Ruston

**Fountain of Praise United Worship Center** - 1394 Hazel St., Arcadia

**The Gospel** - 108 Sanctuary Rd, Ruston

**Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church** - 2508 Kavanaugh Road, Ruston

**Impact Worship Center** - Greenwood Recreation Center, 1306 Cornell Ave, Ruston and Ruston Housing Authority Building 901 Martin Luther King Dr. Ruston.

**Lifechurch.LA** - 3000 S. Vienna St., Ruston

**LifePoint Church of Ruston** - 1018 S. Vienna St., Ruston, LA.

**Living Water Full Gospel Church** - 149 Fairgrounds Rd., Ruston

**Miracle Temple COGIC** - 1405 S. Farmerville, Ruston

**New Living Word Ministry** - 1900 Barnett Springs Rd. Ruston

**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

**Triumph The Church and Kingdom of God in Christ** - Hwy. 3061 E. Tenn. Rd., Ruston

**United Faith Tabernacle Ministries & Prayer Center** - 303 Cherry St., Bernice,

**Upon the Rock Outreach Center** - 513 E. Texas Ave., Ruston.

**Victorious Faith Church** - 131 S. Main St, Grambling

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**Word of Faith Ministries** - 611 South Farmerville St., 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

## Thoughts on heat, drought effect on deer

The weather this summer has been a doozy, hasn't it? This is not the first time we've experienced days and weeks without rain with daily temperatures in triple digits adding to the misery. This summer, though, has been right up there with some of the worse ones.

We're sitting here with hunting seasons opening with archery season for deer beginning Oct. 1 and squirrel season starting the following week on Oct. 7. It's hard not to be concerned about the wildlife we'll be hunting, animals that are trying to make it with much of their food sources in peril.

My concern for what effect these hot and dry conditions will have on our hunting success sent me to Johnathan Bordelon, a fellow who keeps up with such and who was willing to share his thoughts based on his years of working with the ins and outs; the ups and downs of what wildlife faces during good times and not-so-good times.

Bordelon is Deer Program Manager for the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (LDWF) with years of study and research under his belt.

"Ninety percent of our state fits the category of being in severe drought which set the stage for tens of thousands of acres of wildfires. Plants deer utilize have been impacted, not only by the fires but also by drought. Nutrients deer need have been diminished by these conditions," said Bordelon.

"Even in normal years, plants begin losing their nutritional value as they start losing their leaves as fall approaches. This situation becomes escalated during long periods of high heat and drought," he added.

What does this all mean for deer hunters this season? Will the body weights and antler development of deer be diminished? Are deer hunters more likely to see skinny deer with skimpy racks? Based on past history and research, Bordelon offered some interesting and encouraging information in this regard.

"Over the past 25 years, Louisiana has seen conditions like what we experienced this year. Summers in 2000-01; 2006 and 2011-12, we experienced drought conditions and we have the advantage of studying what took place during those periods of drought and the effect it had on the condition of our deer.

"Interestingly, our research showed that we didn't see a drop in body weights and buck antler growth and development during those periods of drought; it was almost identical to years when it wasn't so hot and dry. However," he added, "it is a proven fact severe and extended periods of drought leads to reduced recruitment, to reduced body size overall that extends to antler development."

Cutting through all the research data, hunters want to know just what we might expect to see once we're sitting in our deer stands this season.

"I expect it to be about average this year but can't say that with certainty. Based on our samples and studies, we really don't expect to see significant changes from previous years," Bordelon said.

What about supplemental feeding, especially this year since so much natural vegetation has been affected?

"Our suggestion is to reach out to agencies such as the Extension Service, LSU and LDWF if you have a question about the quality of the supplemental feed you want to use.

Let's just hope that our deer survived basically intact during 2023. If 2024 is a repeat, however, all bets are off.



By Glynn Harris

### FISHING REPORT

**BLACK BAYOU** – No report here. The lake is closed as spraying pads is ongoing. Contact Honey Hole Tackle Shop 323-8707 for the latest information.

**BUSSEY BRAKE** – Some anglers are still catching nice bass around brush on spinners and flipping jigs. Crappie are scattered around brush. Bream have slowed recently. For the latest information, contact the Honey Hole at 323-8707.

**OUACHITA RIVER** – The water level is quite low. Bass are fair in cuts on shad imitations, while some crappie are being caught around submerged tops in the river on jigs. For the latest information, contact the Honey Hole Tackle Shop at 323-8707.

**LAKE D'ARBONNE** – With Lake Claiborne being lowered and water running into D'Arbonne, the lake is a pool stage with some running over spillway which has improved fishing for bass and crappie in the bayou below the spillway. Some bass are still being caught early mornings on topwater lures around the grass and crappie are best along the channel drops on shiners and jigs. Bream are slow but 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** – The lake is undergoing a drawdown. There have been reports of some bream being caught on crickets and red wigglers off banks. As the water level drops look for bass to be on the secondary points with crank baits and soft plastics working best. Night fishing around the lights is still producing some action. Some reports of some real nice crappie being caught in 12 feet of water on shiners and jigs. No report on stripers or catfish this week. For the latest information, call Kel's Cove at 927-2264 or Terzia Tackle at 278-4498.



Courtesy photo

Will this year's drought and high temperatures affect deer hunters? Hopefully, hunters like Keith Johnson will be able to once again enjoy success.

**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 schooling and hitting shad imitations. Crappie have been best around the deeper tops on shiners or jigs. Bream 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. Crappie fishing has slightly improved with best catches made on the south end. No report on bass. 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 bass fishing has been fair. Crappie are slow. For information, call Surplus City Landing at 467-2259.



Leader photos by Cathi Cox-Boniol



### Big Event at the Big House held in Ruston

Raymond James & Associates recently hosted its first "Big Event at The Big House" in the T. L. James House on N. Vienna Street in Ruston. The event included a catered reception and music as guests networked throughout the evening and enjoying the newly remodeled historic building. Donna and James White (above, right) enjoy refreshments while members of the Walpole family, (below, left to right) Mike, Pam, J., and Blaire, took advantage of time to catch up.



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## A win is a win ... especially at Neville

### Ruston uses Brantley's legs for 14-10 rally over Tigers

By Matt Belinson  
sports@rustonleader.com

MONROE — Neville never had an answer for Ruston quarterback Josh Brantley's legs, and it proved to hurt in the final moments as the junior punched in two late scores to give Class 5A No. 5 Ruston a 14-10 come-from-behind win over Class 4 No. 2 Neville here Friday night at Bill Ruple Stadium.

Brantley racked up a career high 17 rushes for a career-high 146 yards and two touchdowns on the ground, proving to be the most effective offensive weapon for the Bearcats on a night it struggled to move the football against a rugged Neville defense.

The Bearcats trailed for two hours and 17 minutes of the ballgame until Brantley elected to keep the ball himself on another designed run with 38 seconds left, bouncing off a would-be tackler and sending the packed Ruston faithful into a frenzy after taking the lead over its longtime foe.

"We just trusted each other," Brantley said postgame on what it took to win. "We went into halftime and made the adjustments we needed to and my o-line trusted me and I trusted my o-line and we made things happen."

It's Ruston's first win at Neville since 2017 and the first time since the 2017-18 seasons with two-straight victories

over the Tigers. Ruston beat Neville at home last season 27-21.

The win is also the Bearcats' third top 10 win over Class 4A powers on the year, having already bested No. 6 Warren Easton and No. 3 Lafayette Christian.

Brantley's legs came up big earlier in the fourth on multiple designed runs that kept Neville off balance and forced the shorter-arm tacklers of the Tigers to try, but fail, in bringing down the 6-3, 212-pound quarterback. He'd find the endzone for his first score of the night with 7:06 remaining to get Ruston on the board down 10-7.

After his scamper from three yards out, both offenses punted it away on their ensuing drives. But Neville's control of the game changed on a single play, when the Bearcats punted inside the Neville 30, only for the returner to muffle the catch and fumble it away.

With 2:41 left, Ruston set up shop at the Neville 29 and eventually completed its comeback while also running the clock down.

"I think we knew if we could get something going offensively we would be in good shape," Ruston head coach Jerrod Baugh said. "We waited a little bit long to get that going but we found some things and Josh made some really big runs in there and running tough and getting after



Photo by Landon Davis

The Ruston Bearcats celebrate inside the locker room at Bill Ruple Stadium in Monroe after defeating rival Neville High School Friday night 14-12 in a come-from-behind victory.

it. The more experience he gets, that allows us to do some different things offensively."

Ruston's offense was playing behind the eight ball before the game even started with starting tight end Zhy Scott and wide receiver Logan Malone out for the game, forcing the Bearcats to play the middle of the field for most of the evening on runs up the gut with Jordan Hayes and Dylone Brooks.

Hayes managed 64 yards on 16 carries while Brooks had three

carries for four yards. Neville stopped Hayes' streak of 100-yard games at three.

The struggles seemed too much to overcome at points, with Ruston punting four times while turning it over twice outside the final scoring drives.

Brantley wasn't rattled, saying postgame he trusted his veteran team to rally together and keep chipping away until the final whistle.

Now, with a 5-0 record and three quality wins heading into district play, the Ruston

signal caller made it clear he thinks this is just the beginning for the Bearcats.

"It makes people respect us," Brantley said. "I don't like being disrespected and my team doesn't like being disrespected. And if you disrespect us, we're going to come show you all."

Meanwhile, Ruston's defense does what it does best. It kept the offense in the game by forcing six punts on the night and not letting the prolonged deficit change their aggressiveness. They blanked

Neville in the second half and held the Tigers to a mere 179 total yards of offense on the evening.

Baugh wasn't surprised to see the strength of his team rise up once again, especially on a night where the game felt so one-sided.

Going forward, he expects more and more from the unit.

"Those guys have been steady all year and we just need them to continue to play that way," Baugh said. "I hate to put that pressure on them but those guys, with that experience they have, we need them to play well until, we get some things ironed out on offense and find out exactly what we need to do to be successful."

Jadon Mayfield finished with 7 tackles and a sack while fellow linebacker Zheric Hill had 9 tackles. Geordan Guidry had 5 tackles, including a tackle for loss. Ruston held Neville running back Jaylon Nichols to 21 yards on 18 carries, though he scored the Tigers' only touchdown in the first half.

The victory also extends Ruston's regular season winning streak to 14 games. The Cats haven't lost in the regular season since the opening game of the 2022 season. The Bearcats open district play next Friday at home against Alexandria Sr. High.

## Cougars explode for 60-0 Homecoming shutout

By Jalon Grant  
Special to the Leader

Cedar Creek was dominant at Homecoming on Friday night in front of a packed crowd. For the first time this season, points were easy to come by, as the Cougars defeated the Tensas Panthers 60-0.

And it didn't take long for CCS to flex its muscles and serve notice it was going to win its second straight game.

The Cougars received the opening kickoff, began their first drive of the night at the 40 yard line, and wasted no time scoring. On the first play from scrimmage, quarterback Ladd Thompson tossed the ball to receiver Kade Luker, who then tossed it to James Myers on an end around, with Myers scoring from 60 yards out for his first score of the night. Grey Worthey plowed in for the two-point conversion as the Cougars led 8-0 with 11:40 into the game.

Off to the races they went.

"We put in a little trick play to have a little fun this week, threw it on the first play, and couldn't have drawn it up any better for a 60-yard touchdown," said



Photo by Darrell James

Cedar Creek's Alex Simpson (2) powers past Tensas defenders during Friday night's 60-0 Homecoming victory at Cougar Stadium.

Head Coach William Parkerson.

On the ensuing drive, Tensas started at their own 45, but after a catch on first down, penalties pushed the Panthers to a second down at their 35 yard line. Noah Durrett picked off the Tensas quarterback and returned it for a

touchdown. The lead was pushed to 16-0 with 11:05 left in the first, with the two-point conversion being good once again.

On the next drive, the Cougars' defense forced a three and out, and then a great punt return to the Panthers' 11 yard line set up more

points. Gray Worthey took it from there with a touchdown plunge, with Thompson capping the two-point try with a rush to the right side as the Cougars stretched the lead 24-0, with 8:13 still remaining before the Homecoming halftime.

CCS' defense held

their own again on the ensuing drive with another three and out, helping the offense start at the Panthers' 36 yard line after the punt.

Thompson and company methodically moved the ball down the field in four plays, with a quarterback keeper up the middle by Thompson for 13 yards and a rush by Myers to the five yard line. Playmaker Lawson Lillo scored from five yards, and Thompson scored on a rush for the two-point try, 32-0 will time still left on the clock.

You've probably heard this one before. Cedar Creek's defense forced a three and out, giving the offense the ball back.

After a pass to Luker and a rush by Lillo to set up first and goal, Thompson called his own number, scoring on a six-yard rush on second down, with Myers scoring on the two-point conversion. With a 40-0 lead, the Cougars weren't done getting their scoring frustra-

tions out against the Panthers.

The defense forced one more first half three and out, as sophomore Wyatt Gremillion got in on the action and scored on a 17-yard run for his first career touchdown. The Cougars went into the locker room leading 46-0.

Myers and Luke scored touchdowns in the second half to end the scoring onslaught.

"I was glad to see a lot of focus and maturity from my team; they came out and played focus for 48 minutes," Parkerson said.

And will have a bye next week, and after resting up, will return to action for a trip down south against Lafayette Renaissance Charter Academy.

The Cougars improve to 2-3 on the season with the victory, and will have a bye next week. After resting up, CCS will return to action for a trip down south against Lafayette Renaissance Charter Academy.

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## RUSTON DAILY LEADER

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## 'Go put a hole in the floor'

### Jade Smith's abilities shine for Ruston volleyball

By Matt Belinson  
sports@rustonleader.com

If you make your way to a Ruston High volleyball match, you're bound to see visceral reactions to Jade Smith's play.

Whether it's a teammate or coach yelling, "Get up Jade," for a towering kill or a bellowing celebration after a big-time block, Smith evokes an emotional response with her 5-11 stature and smile that can light up a gym.

As a multi-year starter for one of the top high school programs in north Louisiana and the reigning District 2-1A Offensive Player of the Year, Smith has appeared to have gotten better with time and experience, forming into an all-around weapon for the Bearcats as she enters the second half of her final season.

"I see a lot of natural ability and straight athleticism matched with a commitment to getting better," Ruston volleyball coach Amanda Cauley said of Smith. "And her family has taken on the extra commitment of driving to Texas to be coached by different people and play with different people. She's been dedicated to the process, and I think the sky's the limit for her for what she's capable of doing and I think Jade's in the driver's seat."

But it's not just highlight plays that elicit a response from her coaches and teammates. It's everything in between that has left a mark on the young Bearcats behind her, a reality Smith didn't truly understand until recently.

Now, even with college in the near future and a potential postseason run for her and the Bearcats on the way, Smith would rather take a back seat when it comes to openly complimenting her game. It's not that she denies her raw talent and ability to find a groove hard for most teams to counter, but that's not her style to boast.

Smith would rather help the underclassmen behind her and spend her final season as a Bearcat developing relationships and teaching the skills she's learned to those around her.

That was perhaps one of the biggest lessons for herself to learn and came with a worthwhile reaction of its own.

Smith is a role model for her teammates — a responsibility she didn't expect at first. But she's more than embraced it ever since.

"I didn't realize how much I meant to my teammates until probably entering my junior year," Smith said. "One moment that opened my eyes even more was the other day and one of the freshmen was like, 'Jade, you're my role model.' I never had anyone tell me that before and that definitely opened my eyes more. Girls look up to me, and it means something. And my mentality is to really just be here for our team and to be encouraging and just push everyone including myself in our second half which is probably going to be one of our hardest and most important since we're playing teams from down south in a bunch of tournaments."

Lucie Hunt, who coached Smith from her freshman through junior seasons at RHS, isn't surprised to hear the big Ruston middle stave off praise as a leader.

Hunt said given the position



Photo by Darrell James

**Ruston senior Jade Smith has become a dynamic weapon for the Bearcat volleyball team and continues to get better as she closes out her final season.**

Smith plays as a ranging force in the middle of the net, it's always been as simple as wanting to do her job and put her team in position to win.

"There's a moment for those kind of powerhouse girls on the floor where they play with the mentality of 'I'm just going to go and go do my job' and she might not think about impact on others sometimes because she's thinking of a lot on her plate," Hunt said. "Sometimes for these girls, you really do have to tell them how good they are and who they impact. They want to be like that one day, especially these taller girls that want to be hitters, and I think she's setting the tone for a lot of people."

#### Growing her game

Being gifted is one thing in sports. Combining those talents with a complete understanding of the game? Look out.

And that's exactly what Smith has done over the last year as she's worked to fine tune her game from just see-ball, hit-ball, into a player willing to switch up her attacks and let the defense play into her hands.

Being able to easily touch a 10-foot basketball rim and "jump out of the gym" as Hunt puts it, helps with that that, using her unique hang time to find holes in defenses when a block might take away traditional attacks. It's become the next step in Smith's game to turn from unconscious free swinger to selective attacker.

"I definitely wanted to work on bending the ball and being smart with it and seeing the court," Smith said. "When I first started, I was just hitting. I would see the ball and hit it. Now, if I see a hole, I'll tip it there or swing where the hole is. That's been my big goal this year is to be smart and know where to place the ball."

But don't be fooled. She's still more than willing to deliver a booming kill when it's there, bouncing balls with thunderous load-time on her swing or even occasionally using an opponent's face as the landing zone.

It's never intentional when Smith lands a kill that leaves the opponent shaken and the home

crowd oohing and ahing, but she's more than willing to let her teammates express freely.

"Really seeing everybody's expressions, especially Baylor's because she's not an expressive person, and so when I see Baylor get hyped, I definitely know it was a big block or kill. But I'm never trying to show someone up or anything really," Smith said.

Playing into her strengths has always been Hunt's message to Smith. Early on, even when she didn't start, Smith impressed with natural strength and power. But once the dedication to volleyball reached a new level, combined with extra time in the weight room, the kills became louder.

"She definitely developed her offensive skills, and she's definitely developed a different approach to the way she kills," Hunt said. "She's got what we call those power kills and she can bounce balls off the court. I would always tell her, 'Go put a hole in the floor.' For Jade, I'd always just tell her load up and swing and go put a hole in the floor and she's capable of doing that every night."

Along with her leadership qualities and valuable skill, Cauley appreciates Smith's recognition of the room to improve. Playing as a powerful right-handed hitter might come with a thinking to stay content with her style of play and just hope to overwhelm opponents. Not for Smith. And when your leaders find the extra inch to grow their game, Cauley said that's what separates the good from great.

"You can have all the ability in the world, but you have to fine tune and you have to have skill and she's worked hard over the last year and a half to become skilled and I've even seen an improvement this season on her shot selection and her thought process as a hitter instead of just taking the big swings every time," Cauley said. "You can see the wheels turning and she's getting better at it."

"Jade bounces balls when no one is in front of her for sure. When she's on, it's a lot of fun to watch."

## RHS sweeps Loyola Prep in three sets

By Matt Belinson  
sports@rustonleader.com

The Ruston volleyball team appears to be hitting a groove after another straight-sets victory over Loyola Prep (25-11, 25-17, 25-7) Thursday at the Ruston Sports Complex.

With the win, the Bearcats improved to 16-6 overall on the season with impressive play from the usual suspects leading the way. Junior Harper Cauley finished with eight kills, eight digs, and a team-high seven service aces that confused the Flyers all night.

Hannah Rollins led the team in kills once again with 11 while Jade Smith tallied nine kills and three blocks. Freshman setter Baylor Cauley put up 23 assists, and Allie Richardson added two aces and six digs.

"Our goal going into this match was to maintain the energy and focus," Ruston head coach Amanda Cauley said. "It's just a different tempo (compared to Natchitoches Central) and it's different reason behind what's going into it. This is a non-district match and that was a district match. Our goal was to stay focused and keep doing what we know how to do well. In set one, we made a couple silly errors from communication. I felt like we overcame that and cleaned it up."

Ruston established the kind of night it was going to be from the first serve in set one, already getting Loyola out of rotation and forcing a hitting error from the Flyers for the first point. From there, the Bearcats jumped ahead 8-1 and eventually 16-6 with crisp offense as Baylor made sure to distribute evenly between the heavy hitters of Rollins, Harper, and Smith, who each finished with at least two kills each in the frame.

Ruston would go on to close the set strong and win 25-11. Rollins finished with five kills in the first set alone.

"Our hitters are really connected with Baylor very well," Cauley said. "She's putting the ball in a good spot for both middles, so I'm very pleased overall."

Set two proved to be the most competitive between the teams, despite the Bearcats establishing another big lead early up 7-1. Loyola stuck around with Ruston making unforced errors at the service line and net, and the set got tight as the Flyers cut the deficit to 16-13. Seeing the margin get to be too close for comfort, the Bearcats had enough and closed the second set on a 9-4 run to win 25-17.

Set three finished in short order with Ruston wasting little time with the Flyers, leading 7-0 in a blink with Smith scoring three kills in the team's first five points. Before long, the Bearcats were firing on all cylinders and making quick work of an under-sized Loyola squad to lead 15-3. Ruston closed the third and final set on a 10-4 run to win 25-7.

Ruston (16-6) will have an extended road trip this week with matchups at Haughton (9-10), Pineville (2-11), and Ouachita (6-8).

## Ruston cross country heads to St. Joseph's

By Matt Belinson  
sports@rustonleader.com

Ruston High cross country gets its best test yet at the St. Joseph's Invitational Saturday at St. Joseph's Academy in Baton Rouge.

The Bearcats will take their top 14 boys and top seven girls to the event and try to develop a race plan as the season continues.

"This is usually the most competitive meet in the whole state," Ruston head coach Dustin Cochran said. "Last week, with us not racing for three weeks, we wanted to go out and run really hard and hold once where we were and finish strong in Texas. We accomplished getting a good sense of what we can do and can't do. This week, we want to see how we stack up right now with some other top

teams and how our race plan goes."

Ruston will get its first chance to stack up with the rest of the top of the field in the state, with every top five team competing alongside the Bearcats.

"Basically, the top five teams in the state are going to be there when you're talking on the boy's side with Catholic-Baton Rouge, Jesuit, Brother Martin, Parkway, and us. So we want to see if we can beat those teams and move past some people we're going to need to move in front of at the end of the season."

"With the girls, there's also some teams we really want to beat. And our big goal before the season was to make it to the state meet and keep that streak going but we're going to have to beat some good teams in our regional meet to get there."



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WEEKENDS WITH DART

# October shines a light on domestic violence

October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month. Throughout the nation there will be projects and events, races, vigils, and fundraisers to honor those who have lived with abuse at the hands of a loved one, those whose lives were snatched away by an abuser, and the organizations formed to offer safety and support to families who desperately need it.

The National Network to End Domestic Violence (NNEDV) has an entire list of awareness events which will occur all over the country. One of them is a National Wear Purple Day, on Oct. 19. DART plans to share this information widely, so that on that day, our community will be awash in purple, amethyst, violet, lavender, plum, and aubergine. No matter what shade it is, each will make a statement that we want domestic violence to stop, and we want to support those who have suffered from its trauma.

Here in Ruston, October will be full of other events to promote awareness of domestic violence. Please consider supporting or participating in any or all of them!

- A fun and flavorful Dairy Queen Blizzard Day for DART on Oct. 11 at the Cooktown Road location. All day long, \$1 will be given to DART for every Blizzard sold, no matter what the size. Go by with a carload of friends or kids and have a creamy treat to help DART.

- The 22nd Annual DART Radiothon at Super 1 Foods in Ruston on Thursday, Oct. from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m., broadcast live on Q94.1 FM. Over 30 DART supporters, partners, and survivors will be sharing their own experiences with domestic violence and our program. Drop by and make a donation, call in your pledge to 513-9373, or donate online at [www.dartla.org](http://www.dartla.org). DART's goal is \$80,000, to combat this year's 50% cut of one major grant, and the loss of another grant.

- Hundreds of sorority members, students, friends, family, and sup-

porters, gathering at Argent Pavilion on Oct. 21 for the 10th Annual Walk a Mile. This fundraiser and awareness event is held by Alpha Chi Omega Beta Psi in support of DART. DART will post registration details on our Facebook page, but you can also register that day.

- Industrial-sized pots of jambalaya being prepared by Karl Malone Toyota's Rusty Wilfong and friends on Radiothon Day, Oct. 12, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Plates will be served by members of Alpha Chi Omega sorority and Kappa Sigma fraternity in the parking lot of Super 1. Make Oct. 12 a No Cooking Day. Order jambalaya instead. Call Julie at 255-1387 for tickets or large orders. All of the proceeds of this event go to DART.

- Silent Witnesses, the red life-sized silhouettes which include children, women, and men who have lost their lives to domestic violence. The silhouettes will stand on the Civic Center lawn at the end of October, representing 49 known homicide victims in DART's seven-parish area.

- Candles lit, names called, and prayers offered in remembrance of mothers and fathers, small children and teens who were taken from their families and communities. The 21st Annual Candlelight Vigil will be held at The Bridge Community Church downtown campus on Oct. 26 at 6 p.m. This year GSU Police Chief Rod Demery will share his own story of domestic violence at this brief but meaningful ceremony.

October is a time of golden leaves casting cool air and bright light around us, but in 1989 it became a month dedicated to community awareness of the terror and tragedy of domestic violence.

DART invites you to come alongside us in support of those we serve and those who have not yet called us, but continue to live in fear and trauma at home. For more information, call 513-9373.



By Terrie Queen Autrey



Leader photos by Cathi Cox-Boniol

## Gold Star Mothers recognized

In recognition of Gold Star Mother's Day, VFW Post 3615 and its Auxiliary paused to honor those local mothers who have lost a son or daughter in the service of the U.S. Armed Forces. While the Gold Star is a symbol of a loved one lost in combat, Gold Star Mother's Day is observed on the last Sunday in September which was Sept. 24. On behalf of the veterans, VFW Commander Tom Boniol presented each mother with a patriotic-themed gift bag of goodies along with a bouquet of flowers and a gift certificate to Log Cabin. Boniol presents the gifts to Gail Lindsey (above) and Jill Puckett at each of their homes.



### Lincoln Parish 4-H

Sweet Potato & Pecan Fundraiser 2023

Lincoln Parish 4-H is selling Pecans and Sweet Potatoes for our fundraiser this year. Please complete this order form and bring it, along with your check/money order/cash (exact change only) payment by the office or you can mail in your order - see information at the bottom of the page. We do not accept credit or debit cards. **The deadline to turn in your order is October 27th. Please make checks payable to Lincoln Parish 4-H.** Pecans and/or Sweet Potatoes will arrive on Nov. 16th - in plenty of time for Thanksgiving! You will need to pick up your Pecans and/or Sweet Potatoes on Nov. 17th from the 4-H Office parking lot.

**Pointe Coupee Pecans**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_  
 PHONE NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_

16 oz. bag Sugared Pecans	_____ x \$15.00	Total: \$ _____
16 oz. bag Roasted Pecans	_____ x \$15.00	Total: \$ _____
16 oz. bag Hot/Spicy Roasted Pecans	_____ x \$15.00	Total: \$ _____
16 oz. bag Milk Chocolate Pecans	_____ x \$15.00	Total: \$ _____
16 oz. bag Dark Chocolate Pecans	_____ x \$15.00	Total: \$ _____
16 oz. Milk Chocolate Almonds	_____ x \$15.00	Total: \$ _____
16 oz. Praline Crunch Topping	_____ x \$13.00	Total: \$ _____
16 oz. bag Shelled Pecan HALVES	_____ x \$13.00	Total: \$ _____
16 oz. bag Shelled Pecan PIECES	_____ x \$13.00	Total: \$ _____
Pecan Purchase Total: \$ _____		

40 lb. Box	_____ x \$35.00	Total: \$ _____
20 lb. Box	_____ x \$20.00	Total: \$ _____
Sweet Potato Purchase Total: \$ _____		

**Morehouse Parish Sweet Potatoes**

Total number of all items \_\_\_\_\_ Total cost of all items: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

The Lincoln Parish 4-H Office is located at 307 North Homer Street, Ruston, LA, 3rd Floor  
 To mail your order form along with your check/money order, please send to:  
 Lincoln Parish 4-H  
 307 North Homer St. #101  
 Ruston, La. 71234  
 Please call us at 318-251-5134 if you need more information.

## Parish 4-Hers selling sweet potatoes, pecans

Just in time for the holidays, the Lincoln Parish 4-H Sweet Potato sale is now underway. In addition, this year they have added pecans.

Each 40-pound box of the Morehouse sweet potatoes is \$35 with 20-pound boxes available for \$20. The Pointe Coupee pecans come in a variety of packages that include 16-ounce bags of pecan halves and pieces (\$13 each) as well as similar bags of sugared, roasted, milk and dark chocolate covered pecans (\$15 each).

Specialty items include a 16-ounce pecan praline topping (\$13) and

16-ounce milk chocolate almonds (\$15). Orders will be accepted through Friday, Oct. 27. All orders, both potatoes and nuts, are scheduled to arrive on Thursday, Nov. 16, with pick-up on Nov. 17, in the 4-H office parking lot located at 307 N. Homer Street in Ruston.

Pickup times will be announced closer to the delivery date. To order, please complete the form shown and mail it along with payment to the address noted. All checks should be made payable to Lincoln Parish 4-H and any questions directed to 318-251-5134.

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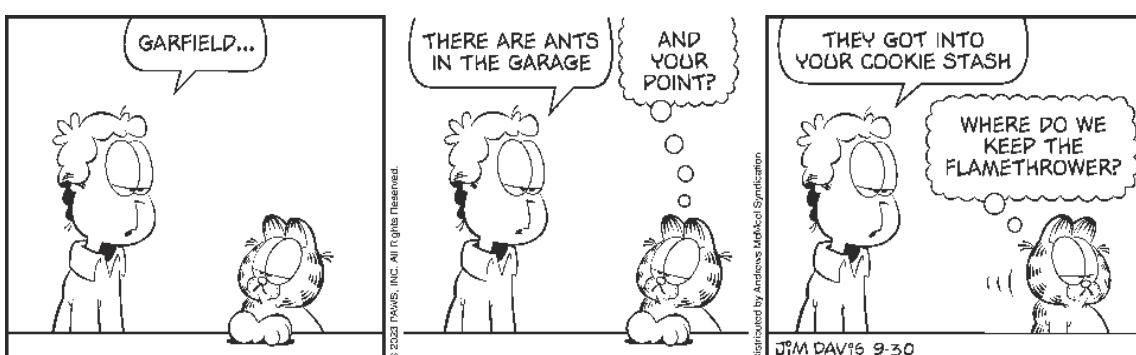
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## Garfield



## Peanuts



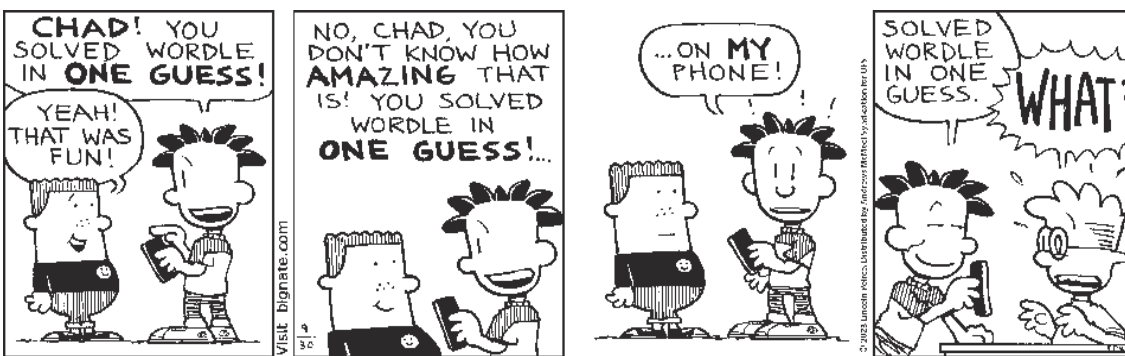
## Alley Oop



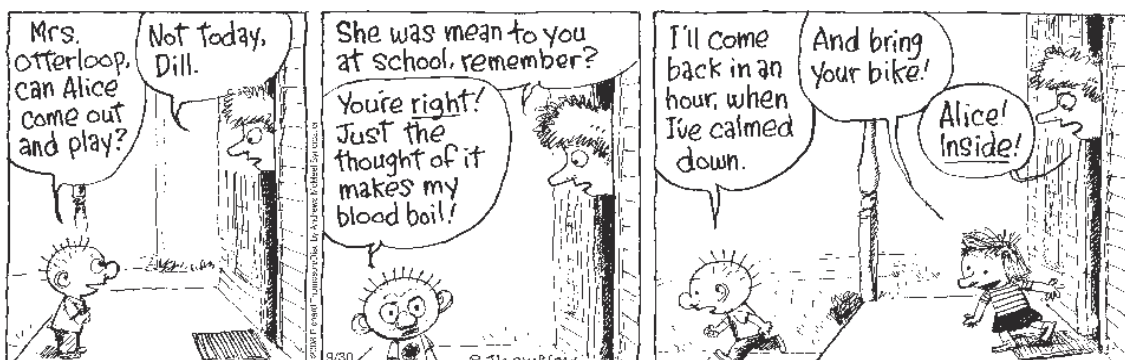
## The Born Loser



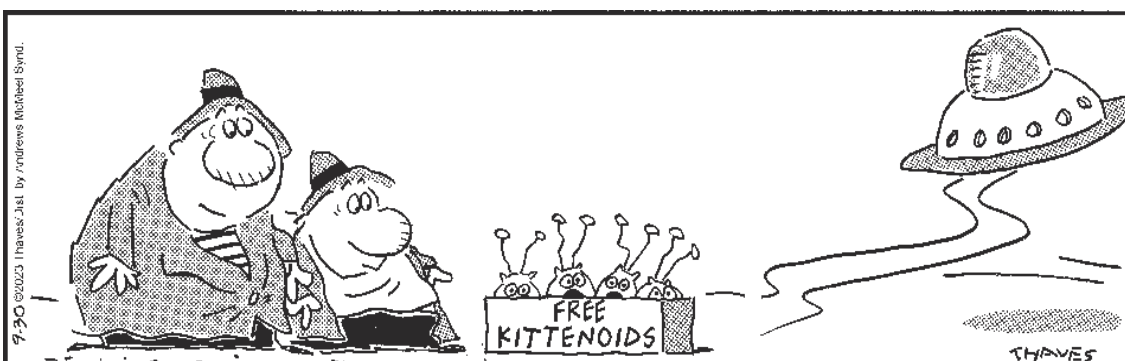
## Big Nate



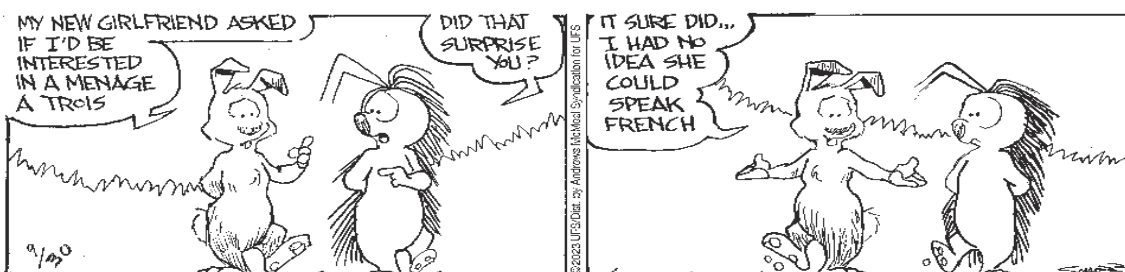
## Cul De Sac



## Frank n Ernest



## Grizzwells



# Crossword Puzzle

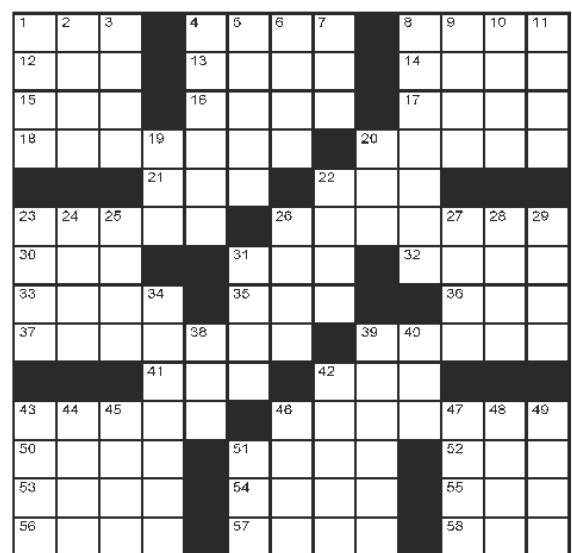
- ACROSS**
- 1 "— cares?"
  - 4 Beans
  - 8 Gadfly
  - 12 That guy
  - 13 Mine entrance
  - 14 Wall pier
  - 15 Actress — Lupino
  - 16 Operates
  - 17 Get nowhere fast
  - 18 Cotton fabric
  - 20 Impatience
  - 21 Frequently
  - 22 Scandal sheet
  - 23 Sun-dried brick
  - 26 Waiting time in a terminal
  - 30 Negligent
  - 31 Give the ax
  - 32 Actress Campbell
  - 33 Particular
  - 35 Pummel
  - 36 Upperclassman (abbr.)
  - 37 Zealot
  - 39 Fashionably old-fashioned

- 41** Legendary bird
- 42** Gear tooth
- 43** Handclasp
- 46** Washington's river
- 50** "Can't Buy Me —"
- 51** Popular expert
- 52** Evergreen plant
- 53** Leave unmentioned
- 54** Yemen neighbor
- 55** "Cry — River"
- 56** Garden plots
- 57** Lacking a tread
- 58** Eagle

### TODAY'S ANSWERS

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

- DOWN**
- 1 Flog
  - 2 Neither — nor hair
  - 3 Poet — Whayyam
  - 4 Wine flask
  - 5 Child no more
  - 6 Yearn
  - 7 Fleet and Wall (abbr.)
  - 8 Model of excellence
  - 9 Book of Mormon prophet
  - 10 At once
  - 11 Easily managed
  - 19 Male swan
  - 20 Animal fodder
  - 22 Unhinged complaint
  - 23 First Arabic letter
  - 24 Numbers for crunching
  - 25 Yoked animals
  - 26 Secular
  - 27 Sleeveless garment
  - 28 At any time
  - 29 Vegas alternative
  - 31 Stylish
  - 34 Sectors of buyers
  - 38 Stuffed item
  - 39 Very plump
  - 40 Swelled head
  - 42 Pinkish color
  - 43 Unkempt one
  - 44 Residence
  - 45 Keen
  - 46 Mountain lion
  - 47 Street performer
  - 48 Affirm
  - 49 Printer's blue
  - 51 Sailor



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## HOROSCOPES

MONDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2023

Keep tabs on deadlines, investments and health conditions. It's up to you to ensure everything is updated and working correctly. If you think outside the box, you'll come up with brilliant ideas that will save you money and time. Don't let others slow you down. Use your time wisely and focus on doing and being your best; you will make a difference.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23)** -- Tidy up loose ends, make your money work for you, consider your options and leave nothing to chance. Don't feel obligated to share your plans with everyone. Outside interference will throw you for a loop.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22)** -- Use your brain, not your brawn, and you'll get good results. Someone you meet or make plans with will offer insight into how best to make a difference. Make stability a priority at home.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21)** -- Listen to others, but don't let anyone fill your head with lies. Get the facts and recognize when someone isn't telling the full truth. Trust your instincts.

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)** -- Downsize, declutter and simplify your life. Consider what's meaningful and project a positive attitude. Refuse to let anger set in or allow profit-driven ventures to consume you. Be resourceful.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19)** -- Stay active, do your part and pay attention to detail. Monitor a joint venture if you want to avoid a loss. Someone will use persuasive

tactics to convince you to do something unnecessary.

**PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20)** -- Your words will influence the people you encounter. Be aware of the impact you have, offer positive reinforcement and make honesty a priority. A relationship will take an emotional turn.

**ARIES (March 21-April 19)** -- Expand your interests to include activities or reunions that can open doors to new adventures. Use your skills to make things happen, and you'll leave a lasting impression.

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20)** -- Put more thought into updating and using your skills uniquely to get ahead. It's time to position yourself for success. Don't let temptation stop you from putting your energy where it counts.

**GEMINI (May 21-June 20)** -- Keep your thoughts to yourself and your eye on what's happening around you. An energetic approach will keep you out of trouble. A change you make at home will add to your peace of mind.

**CANCER (June 21-July 22)** -- If you show everyone how skilled you are, you'll gain support. Stay calm if someone tries to dictate your next move. An investment looks promising. Speak out to gain interest.

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)** -- Be mindful of others, but don't let them dominate you. If you go about your business quietly, you'll avoid bossy people who think they know what's best for you. Speak up.

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)** -- Consider the possibilities and follow your plans. A change will help you reach your goal and provide new and exciting opportunities. Refuse to let anyone interfere with your projects.

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PUBLIC NOTICES

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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:

ORDINANCE NO. 01005023-1 AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF GRAMBLING TO ANNEX PROPERTY INTO THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF GRAMBLING

At. 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 LP 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

LINCOLN PARISH SCHOOL BOARD JOB ADVERTISEMENT

The Lincoln Parish School System is seeking a person to fill the following position: CHILD NUTRITION PROGRAM SUPERVISOR 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 any 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 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. 01, 2023

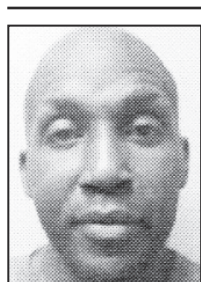
1 -TERRYVILLE AND HICO-KNOWLES FIELD 23-432 and 23-433

LEGAL NOTICE STATE OF LOUISIANA, OFFICE OF CONSERVATION, BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA. In accordance with the laws of the State of Louisiana, and with particular reference to the provisions of Title 30 of Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, a public hearing will be held in the Hearing Room, 1st Floor, LaSalle Building, 617 North 3rd Street, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, at 9:00 a.m. on TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2023, upon the application of TGNNR TVL LLC. At such hearing the Commissioner of Conservation will consider evidence relative to the issuance of Orders pertaining to the following matters relating to the Hosston Formation, Reservoir A, in the Terryville Field and 8020' Hosston Sand, in the Hico-Knowles Field, Lincoln Parish, Louisiana. 1. To dissolve the existing drilling and production unit for the 8020' Hosston Sand, in the Hico-Knowles Field, March 1, 1967, as shown on the plat submitted with the application. 2. To redefine the Hosston Formation, Reservoir A, INSOFAR AND ONLY INSOFAR as to the existing unit designated HOSS RA SUA, said unit being shown on the plat submitted with the application, as being the stratigraphic equivalent of that gas and condensate bearing zone encountered between the depths of 7,012' and 8,193' (electrical log measurements) in the TGNNR TVL LLC-La. United Methodist C&F&S 10 No. 1 Well, located in Section 10, Township 19 North, Range 4 West. 3. To confirm the unit designated HOSS RA SUA as remaining in full force and effect as a drilling and production unit for the exploration and production of gas and condensate from the Hosston Formation, Reservoir A, as redefined in the manner set forth above. 4. To force pool and integrate all separately

owned tracts, mineral leases and other property interests within the proposed unit with each tract sharing in unit production on a surface acreage basis of participation. 5. To permit the applicant to drill, designate and utilize its La. United Methodist C&F&S 10 No. 1 at the location shown on the plat submitted with the application, as the substitute unit well for the HOSS RA SUA. 6. To provide that future wells drilled to the Hosston Zone, Reservoir A, within or outside of the unit proposed herein be located in accordance with the spacing provisions of LAC 43:XIX.1901 et seq. (Statewide Order No. 29-E). 7. To provide that the Commissioner of Conservation may reclassify the Hosston Sand, in the Hico-Knowles Field, March 1, 1967, as shown on the plat submitted with the application. 8. To consider such other matters as may be pertinent. The Hosston Formation, Reservoir A, in the Terryville Field, was defined in Order No. 370-F, effective September 7, 1984. A plat is available for inspection in the Office of Conservation in Baton Rouge and Shreveport, Louisiana. http://dnr.louisiana.gov/conshearings All parties having interest therein shall take notice thereof. BY ORDER OF: MONIQUE M. EDWARDS COMMISSIONER OF CONSERVATION Baton Rouge, LA 9/28/23; 10/3/23 Slick

BOX 94275, BATON ROUGE, LA 70804-9275 IN WRITING WITHIN TEN (10) WORKING DAYS OF THE HEARING DATE.

PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE VILLAGE OF CHOUDRANT TOWN COUNCIL MEETING October 2, 2023 - 7:00 p.m. Choudrant Village Hall AGENDA WELCOME INVOCATION APPROVAL OF AGEN- DA Public Comment APPROVAL OF MINUTES September 11, 2023 Public Comment POLICE REPORT OLD BUSINESS NEW BUSINESS RESOLUTION 2023 Municipal Water Pollution Prevention North Treatment Plant FINANCIAL REPORT ADJOURNMENT Published in the Ruston Daily Leader, Ruston, LA, on Oct. 1, 2023



I, BRANDON MARIO DILLON, have been convicted of 14-80 CAR- NAL KNOWLEDGE OF A JUVENILE on MARCH 22, 2012 and 15-542 FAILURE TO REGISTER/NOTIFY AS A SEX OFFENDER on APRIL 25, 2017. My address is: 629 GARR ROAD, RUS- TON, LA, 71270. Race: BLACK Sex: MALE Date of Birth: 12/15/1980 Height: 5'9 Weight: 195 POUNDS Hair Color: BLACK/BALD Eye Color: BROWN Published in the Ruston Daily Leader, Ruston, LA, on OCT. 1 & 4, 2023

FOR CERTIFICATION OF POLLING PLACES PUBLISHED IN PAPER ATTACH TO POLLING PLACE LISTING: I, Linda Cook, Clerk of Court and Custodian of Voting Machines in and for Lincoln Parish, Louisiana, hereby certifies that the following to be a True and Correct list of Polling Places to be used in Lincoln Parish for the October 14, 2023, Election: INSERT LIST OF POLLING PLACES LISTED BELOW:

Table with 3 columns: WARD, PRECINCT, POLLING PLACE. Lists various polling locations across different wards and precincts.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I sign hereto officially, this the 25TH day of SEP- TEMBER 2023. Linda Cook Lincoln Parish Clerk of Court Lincoln Parish Chief Election Official Lincoln Parish Custodian Voting Machines Published in the Ruston Daily Leader, Ruston, LA, on Oct. 01, 2023

JACKSON PARISH PUBLIC NOTICES

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2nd Judicial District Court, Jackson Parish, Louisiana, Jury Listing of Persons Subject to Service as Petit Jurors for the Session of Court Beginning Monday, October 16, 2023 at 09:30 AM Before Judge Walter E. May, Jr.

ALEXANDER, JAMES DAREN ALLEN, MAY BELL S ANDERS, JULIA MARIE ANDERSON, ALVIS R ANDERSON, GREGORY ALLEN ANDERSON, JACKIE WAYNE ANDERSON, WILLIE JUNIOR ANTEE, MARGARET LINDER ASHCRAFT, EMILY MARIE ASKIN, DUSTIN PAIGE ATKINS, MARIOLYN THOMPSON AUCOIN JR, PHILIP CHARLES BABERS, LINTERRIO DARNELL BAKER, JESSICA LOWRING BAKER, MADELYNN MICHELLE BELTON, ASANTE CUREL BLANKENSHIP, HAROLD G BLOUNT, LINDA WOMACK BOND, LINDA BABERS BORLAND JR, BOBBY DOYLE BORLAND, VICKI CHEATWOOD BRADFORD, AMERE IMAGE BROADWAY, ASHLEY ELIZABETH BROWN, ANDREW JOSEPH BROWN, GARY DAVID BROWN, MARY SAULSBERRY BROWN, RONNIE DALE BRYANT, MARY SMITH BURNS, JEFFERY MORTEZ BURRIS, LISA TREADWAY CALDWELL JR, LARRY W CARDIN, BRENDA COLEMAN CARPENTER, TINSLEY ELIZABETH CARROLL, LOUISE PHILLIPS CHAUVIN, BRITTNEY JAN CHAVERS, NICOLETTE NICOLE CLIFT, RUBY NUGENT COLE, TIMOTHY RICHARD COLEMAN, CAMERON MATTHEW COLLINSWORTH, TAMMY CARPENTER COLVIN, AMBER POWLEDGE COOPER, ALEXA TAYLER COOPER, JOSHUA LANE COTTONHAM III, ERNEST LAVELL COTTONHAM, ZAHAVIEN EMIYAH CRAWFORD, JERRY DEWAYNE CROWELL, WENDY HARGROVE DAIGRE, JUNIOUS WAYNE DAVIS, JOHN ALLAN DAVIS, SARITA VONSHA DEAN, DONNA DESHEA

DOBBINS, EMMA HICKS DOUGLAS, YVONNE S DUOS, ROBERT BOHN EADENHUNTER, DEBRA FAYE FABER, LORRIE ANN FENN JR, JACKY GLEN FIELDS, ALLEN ROY FIELDS, TRENDIA MICHELLE FLORES, PATSY MASTERS FLOWERS, IVAN IANWAYNE FOSTER, SHIRLEY CROW GAINES, LOIS MCCRAVY GARCIE, CAROL M GARRETT, CANDY BAILEY GAUBERT, PAULA ANDREWS GIDDENS, DOUGLAS M GOLDEN, BETSY GARNER GRAY, ITALY GRAY, KIMBERLY DION GREER, JERRI MICHELE GRESHAM, PAUL ERAN GREYDER, HAROLD STANDLEY HALL, CHRISTY WALKER HANES, AMY LOUISE HARLAN, JEFFREY LAMAR HARPER, JESSIE LEE HARRELL, MICHAEL A HARVEY, COOPER LEE HASSEN, BRIAN KEITH HEARD, MICHAEL SCOTT HEARN JR, TROY EDWARD HENDERSON, ANDRE LEVON HENKEL, IAN RICHARD HICKS, DOROTHY MILDRED HICKS, PARRIS ANAIS HINES, SHARON STEVENSON HINTON, CEARA LOGAN HOGAN, LINDA JOHNSON HORN, ANGELA KAY VAIL HOWARD, MICKY DEAN HUCKABY, RICKEY CARL HUDDLESTON, SHAWN HUDSON, DEMARIO LAMELLE HUDSON, KRISTEN ROCHELLE JACKSON, FABRECIA S JAMES, JAYDAN LANE JILES, BRIDGET NICOLE JOHNSON, BRANDON MONTEZ JOHNSON, ELIZABETH ARIEUX JONES, CRYSTAL RENA JONES, FRANK KENNETH

JONES, JOSEPH NEWTON JONES, RONNIE DEVEN KENNEDY, ELIZABETH ANN KNIGHTEN, MARILYN SUE KNOX, BEVERLY WOMACK KOONCE, AMANDA ROGALA KORNEGAY, CHARLES DAVID LAGRANIER, HANNA MARIA LEONARD, ANDRE JEROME LEONARD, ZENOBIA ZENAE LINSOMB, BETTY E LITTON, CHEREE MONAE LOWERY, JAMES EARL LOWERY, MARTHA HALBROOK LUTRICK, BRADLEY TYLER MACE, DEBRA MULLENAX MACK, CHRISTENE H MANGHAM, BEVERLY ANN MANN, VICKIE PEEVY MARTIN, KEITH DEWAYNE MARTIN, SABRINA MICHELLE MARTIN, SANDRA EDMOND MARTIN, SUSIE MAE MASON, DELLA HARRISON MASSEY, JOHN R MASTERS, RYAN LUCAS MAXWELL, MICHAEL DENNIS MAY, SAMANTHA JO MAYO, MACOLOM JEROME MCCARDIE, HOWLANDRE FREDTOINE MCCULLIN, LEVI OTIS MCGREW, BRIAN ERNEST MCGURK, CHELSEA JEANETTE MCKASKLE, MELISSA PORTER MCKINNEY, CANDACE RAE MCMAHON, ROBERT DANIEL MCMILLAN, EMILY ROSE MCMILLAN, JAMES LUTHER MILLER, ROBERT BROCK MILLS, TACHAU OSBORNE MONTGOMERY, CARLEY CARTER MORRIS JR, DAVID WAYNE MORRIS, STEVEN RICHARD NEWMAN, RELLA ROUSH NEWTON, KIMBERLY LANE NORRED, JIMMY TAYLOR OBRYAN, JAMES MICHEAL ODENBAUGH, CAMERON WADE ODOM, BRANDON OSBORNE, JESSIE REAN

OUSLEY, MONTAL W PABAYA, AMJONEL MATA PAGGETT, LARRY LEVELLE PARDUE, BAILEY MASON PATTERSON, MALCOLM STEVENTA' PATTON, DENESIA LASHAWN PEPPER, EDWARD LEE PETRELLA, SOPHIA ELIZABETH PIERCE, CAROLYN LOUISE PONDER, JASON THOMAS POOLE, STEVEN MATTHEW PRATER, ANNA MAE RAMSEY, MARTHA BALCH RAYNER, CYNTHIA ANN REED, MARY ATKINS REED, RAJA EMANUEL RHINE, YVONNE NELSON RHODES, CAROLYN AVERY RICHARD, OLLIE MAE JONES RICHARDSON III, JOHN ANDREW RISER, DORA BELL ROBINSON, HAZEL RENA ROBINSON, SHEILA RENEE ROGERS, DANIEL BRIAN RUSHING, WAYMON EUGENE SANDIFER II, DOYLE ALLEN SAVAGE, KIRSTEN HARVEY SCHUTH, ZACHARY CLAYTON SCOTT, SAMANTHA GENE SELLERS, ASHLEY NICOLE SESSIONS, CHRISTOPHER DALE SESSIONS, JEREMY LEE SHOVAN, STEVEN RAY SHOWS JR, JIMMIE EARL SIADEK, FLOR MCKINNESS SMITH, ANGELA NICOLE SMITH, BRIAN LLOYD SMITH, TONY CLAY SNOW, JACK SPRINGFIELD, BILLIE DAWN STEVENS, ANNE MCCARLEY STROUD, KENNETH JEFFREY SWAFFORD, ALBERT LEE TATUM, DEMARION LATRON TAYLOR, DOROTHY THOMAS TERRAL, YVONNE D THOMAS, ALAYNA PAIGE THOMAS, ALTESHA SHANEE THOMAS, CHARLES BRUCE THOMAS, WILBER TROTTER THOMPSON, CORNELL LORENZO

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I HEREBY CERTIFY THE ABOVE IS A TRUE AND CORRECT LIST OF PETIT JURORS SELECTED BY DRAWING INDISCRIMINATELY BY LOT WITH NO DISTINCTION, NEITHER INCLUSION THEREIN OR EXCLUSION THERE- FROM MADE ON ACCOUNT OF RACE, COLOR OR PREVIOUS SERVITUDE AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH LA. CODE OF CRIMINAL PROCEDURE ARTICLE 416. THE JURY COMMISSION OF JACKSON PARISH DREW THIS LIST FROM THE GENERAL VENIRE OF JACKSON PARISH, LA. ON , AUGUST 28, 2023, TO SERVE AS PETIT JURORS ON THE ABOVE DATE OR FOR AS LONG AS MAY BE NECESSARY IN ACCORDANCE WITH LAW. GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND SEAL OF THE OFFICE OF CLERK OF COURT, SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT, JACKSON PARISH, LOUISIANA, THIS 28TH DAY OF AUGUST, 2023. LAURA H. CULPEPPER, CLERK OF COURT, JACKSON PARISH Published in the Ruston Daily Leader, Ruston, LA, on Oct. 1, 2023

Village of Chatham Special Called Meeting Minutes The Village of Chatham held a special meeting on Tuesday, September 26, 2023, at 6:00 pm. Present were Mayor Gregory Harris, council members Bernadean James, Toni Malone, Sue Proffer and Mike Wilson; council member Laverne Mixon was absent. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Harris. The pledge was led by council member Toni Malone and prayer

was given by Mayor Harris. Mike Wilson motioned, and Toni Malone seconded and was approved by all to adopt Resolution 2023-09 setting the millage rate for the 2023 property taxes at 7.41 mills. Toni Malone motioned, seconded by Mike Wilson, and approved by all to adjourn the meeting. Gregory C. Harris, Mayor Lynette Roberts, Clerk Published in the Ruston Daily Leader, Ruston, LA, on Oct. 1, 2023

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 \*

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**Sudoku**

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

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

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**TODAY'S ANSWERS**

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

**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.

"TA JX ZIW'H XPLIJXD ICDMXYFXM  
JTHO GWIJFXZRX, HOXW JX'DX RIWVK  
VX FXZ ZIJW K RKDZXW LKHO."  
- ADKW ZDXMUOXD

"I've don't empower ourselves with knowledge, then we're gonna be led down a garden path." - Fran Drescher

TODAY'S CLUE: equals to

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# Elli's Pumpkin Patch opens Sunday for perhaps the last time

By Cathi-Cox Boniol  
community@rustonleader.com

You'll have to forgive Renae Dickerson for feeling a bit emotional.

Sunday, her family will open the gate to Elli's Pumpkin Patch for the 13th time. Since 2010, the pumpkin patch has been a mainstay for friends and family to visit throughout October each year for fun photos in a festive, fall setting. However, with its namesake finishing high school this year, this is likely the last year to gather at the patch.

"It's been very emotional looking back at the newspaper pictures and articles from the past 12 years," Renae Dickerson, the proud grandmother, said. "But Elli will be heading to college, and it's time for her to have new adventures."

Elli's Pumpkin Patch originated due to one of Elli's early adventures in life, when 12 years ago she joined her mother and grandmother on a mission trip to Senostee, New Mexico, where they helped with a Bible School for the Navajo children.

After returning home, she felt compelled to continue serving others. She then planned a lemonade stand at her great-grandmother's house and donated the proceeds to Life Choices. It's a project with purpose that has

continued ever since. "Each year Elli decides where the pumpkin dollars will be given," Renae Dickerson shared. "This year she decided on the VFW."

For Elli Dickerson, supporting the Veterans of Foreign War was the perfect choice. "My mom was in the Navy, and my great-grandfather was in the Navy and fought in the Korean War. Then this summer I spent a week at Girls State and learned a lot about government and the American Legion," she said.

Elli Dickerson adds how much she enjoys seeing members of the VFW and other veterans giving so much of their time to take care of the flags around Ruston plus visiting veterans in assisted living. She also loves the Fourth of July patriotic program presented by Temple Baptist Church and seeing the veterans involved there.

"It's such a blessing to see the Veterans marching in, so proud to have served," Elli Dickerson added. "It just seemed like a perfect choice for this year."

As in years past, the Dickersons will add a new prop/photo area within the Pumpkin Patch. While the area enjoys a patriotic theme year-round, flags will be used to decorate with the pumpkins and gourds. Guests will be able to move and



Courtesy photo

**Elli Dickerson, the namesake behind the beloved local pumpkin patch, prepares for this year's patch which will benefit VFW Post 3615.**

use the flags to help customize their photo setting. It is a tradition they have cherished while making incredible memories along the way. "It was really special in 2018 when Mason Andrews flew a solo fight around the world to bring awareness to MedCamps," Elli Dickerson recalled. "We were so proud of him and donated all proceeds to MedCamps that year. Mason even visited the Pumpkin Patch on a Sunday afternoon to sign autographs and talk with visitors. That was really memorable for me."

Renae Dickerson is also doing a lot of reflecting, remembering the origin of the Pumpkin Patch and how her granddaughter has

grown with it through the years. Pictures mirror the changes in both Elli and the patch while documenting the good accomplished through such a simple act. While hard to fathom that it would be an activity that would last several years, she said it has been fun to do while being able to donate money to help a need within the parish. It's something she hopes people will embrace again this year.

"We would love to have people visit, bring their dogs, walk around and have fun," Renae Dickerson said. "Elli's Pumpkin Patch is a quiet, relaxed place to enjoy fall weather, take pictures, and donate to a worthwhile cause. Community Service is

the community working together to serve those in need. We want to encourage kindness

and compassion and have that be a legacy of Elli and her Pumpkin Patch."

## Elli's Pumpkin Patch

3980 Hwy. 822

**Open:** During the month of October

**Donation requested:** \$10

**Proceeds:** All proceeds donated to the local chapter of VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS



**Briggs Clark Branch**  
Son of Randy and Megan



**Bella-Renea Catherine Brasell**  
Daughter of Blake and Chelsea



**Maverick Myles Bonnette**  
Son of John and Tabitha



**Zachary Thomas Bonnette**  
Son of John and Tabitha



**Luke Thomas Heckford**  
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Son of Clint and Amanda



**Everleigh Elizabeth Rodgers**  
Daughter of Bryce and Brittany



**John Mark Underwood**  
Son of Mark and Alexandra



**Sadie Loy Warren**  
Daughter of Bolton and Meredith

## Crossword Puzzle

- ACROSS**
- 1 "— cares?"
  - 4 Beanies
  - 8 Gadfly
  - 12 That guy
  - 13 Mine entrance
  - 14 Wall pier
  - 15 Actress — Lupino
  - 16 Operates
  - 17 Get nowhere fast
  - 18 Cotton fabric
  - 20 Impatience
  - 21 Frequently
  - 22 Scandal sheet
  - 23 Sun-dried brick
  - 26 Waiting time in a terminal
  - 30 Negligent
  - 31 Give the ax
  - 32 Actress Campbell
  - 33 Particular
  - 35 Pummel
  - 36 Upperclassman (abbr.)
  - 37 Zealot
  - 39 Fashionably old-fashioned

- 41 Legendary bird
- 42 Bear tooth
- 43 Handclasp
- 46 Washington's river
- 50 "Can't Buy Me —"
- 51 Popular expert
- 52 Evergreen plant
- 53 Leave unmentioned
- 54 Yemen neighbor
- 55 "Cry — River"
- 56 Garden plots
- 57 Lacking a tread
- 58 Eagle

**DOWN**

- 1 Flog
- 2 Neither — nor hair
- 3 Poet — Khayyam
- 4 Wine flask

### TODAY'S ANSWERS

N	E	R	E	D	L	V	B	A	S	D	E	B
A	M	E	N	A	N	O	M	A	T	I	O	O
L	V	I	R	U	G	U	L	V	E	L	O	
C	M	A	C	O	P	O	T	A	K	E	S	H
			G	O	O	C	O	R	O			
O	R	O		R	E	T		C	I	C	A	N
N	S	E		T	H	I		M	T	E	I	T
E	N	E		V	E		N	A	N		L	A
R	E	R		O	V	E		L	A		B	O
			G	R	A		F	T				
E	S	T		H	A		L	E	C	R	O	P
A	M			R	O		S	N	R	U		I
				N	A		T		A	D		H
S	T			P	S		A	P		S		H

- 5 Child no more
- 6 Yearn
- 7 Fleet and Wall (abbr.)
- 8 Model of excellence
- 9 Book of Mormon prophet
- 10 At once
- 11 Easily managed
- 19 Male swan
- 20 Animal fodder
- 22 Unhinged complaint
- 23 First Arabic letter
- 24 Numbers for crunching
- 25 Yoked animals
- 26 Secular
- 27 Sleeveless garment
- 28 At any time
- 29 Vegas alternative
- 31 Stylish
- 34 Sectors of buyers
- 38 Stubbed item
- 39 Very plump
- 40 Swelled head
- 42 Pinkish color
- 43 Unkempt one
- 44 Residence
- 45 Keen
- 46 Mountain lion
- 47 Street performer
- 48 Affirm
- 49 Printer's blue
- 51 Sailor

1	2	3		4	5	6	7		8	9	10	11
12				13					14			
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		

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## Sudoku

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

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

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### TODAY'S ANSWERS

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

**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.

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— ADKW ZDXMUOXD

"If we don't empower ourselves with knowledge, then we're gonna be led down a garden path." — Fran Drescher

TODAY'S CLUE: U equals I

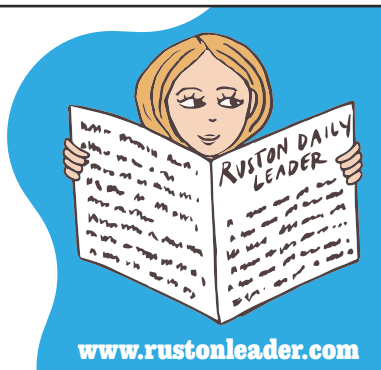
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We have reformatted our comics page to allow our readers to easily print the crossword puzzle.

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