



CELEBRATE EASTER *He Is Risen!*

"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." - John 3:16



The Eunice News

VOL. 117 NO. 27 SUNDAY, APRIL 4, 2021

\$1.00

Acadian Medical Center helping area emerge from pandemic

By Harlan Kirgan
Editor

A drive-through COVID-19 vaccination effort is planned at Acadian Medical Center on April 9 and it's another chapter in the hospital's yearlong response to the pandemic.

Kevin Frank, CEO, spoke Wednesday to the Eunice Rotary Club about the importance of a community hospital, including its response to COVID-19.

Frank said he and other administrators have helped with vaccinations at the hospital.

One day as he was in the lobby offering the last of the day's vaccine to the customers.

A woman raised her hand to obtain the vaccine and then told him of coming the hospital with her husband when he was having chest pains.

The man was experiencing a heart attack and Dr. Kian Ehsan, a cardiologist, performed a stent.

"In small communities we take our community hospitals for granted. There are things that happen where that's a life-saving event," he said of the stent.

Across the nation rural hospitals have been closing, Frank said.

"Louisiana has been very

lucky. We haven't lost any hospitals in Louisiana, but across the nation small rural hospitals are closing all the time. Mississippi has lost many hospitals," Frank said.

Frank said when someone has an accident or health event traveling 25 miles to a hospital could be the difference between life and death.

Frank has been at Acadian Medical Center for three years during which the hospital's ownership changed to Allegiance Health Management, of Shreveport. Next, the hospital was split off from Mercy Regional in Ville Platte. And,

third, the hospital has operated in a pandemic where elective surgeries were suspended, visitors banned or limited and it was tough to keep staffing.

All hospitals have had issues hiring nurses, who can make \$20 to \$40 more per hour by becoming traveling nurses, he said.

At times the hospital didn't have the staffing for all its beds, he said.

Acadian Medical Center adjusted its pay scale and is competitive with other area hospitals, he said.

Acadian Medical Center's
(See Hospital, Page 5)



Kevin Frank, CEO of Acadian Medical Center, speaks at Wednesday's Eunice Rotary Club meeting. (Photo by Myra Miller)

Service project



From left, Bella Manuel, of Eunice, and Juliette Cheramie, of Lafayette, clean a fence at the Academy of the Sacred Heart on Thursday as part of their "Service Day." Students

performed service projects at the school on Thursday. (Submitted photo)



The Rev. Chris Frye



The Rev. Hampton Davis



The Rev. Brent Shoalmire

Easter messages from 3 pastors

A year ago at Easter the pews were empty as congregations coped with a COVID-19 stay-at-home order.

This Easter is being greeted with Gov. John Bel Edwards relaxing the restrictions.

Through it all the message has not changed for Christians.

Three Eunice pastors, Revs. Chris Frye, Hampton Davis and Brent Shoalmire, agreed to share Easter messages via e-mail.

The Rev. Chris Frye, senior pastor at New Hope Fellowship, shared his view of Easter.

"Easter is the evidence of Our Eternal God!" he stated.

Frye added, "The Resurrection of Jesus Christ from the Dead is the Proof that sets Christianity apart from any other religion! How do I know that Jesus is the One I should Follow with so many other ideas out there? Because, No other religion on Earth has a Personal God that was willing to make Himself lower than the angels just to shed His Blood and die on a cross so I could be Redeemed back to Him!"

"Fact, Jesus fulfilled over 360 prophecies in 33 years. Fact, Jesus was tempted in every way that we are, but never sinned. Fact, Jesus walked around telling people He was going to lay down His life and in three days He would Raise it Up again! Fact, He pulled it off! Despite the doubt of His disciples, the pharisees' plot, and the plan of the devil himself. He pulled it off!"

"He did all of that just

so I could have an authentic relationship with Him. Resurrection weekend is an annual reminder that as long as I stay in Relationship with my Jesus, the One and Only Resurrected Savior, I too can live a Resurrected Life!"

The Rev. Hampton Davis at St. Anthony of Padua Catholic Church said that Easter is about hope.

He added, "Perhaps you've heard it said that the secular virtue of optimism is radically different from the Christian virtue of Hope. The secular optimist says, 'Today is a lousy day, but tomorrow is going to be a better day!'"

"Whereas the Hopeful Christian says, 'Today is a lousy day, and tomorrow might be a worse day — but God is in All of it!' And what, some might ask, is the reason for the Christian's Hope? The answer to that important question, in a word, is Easter! The great news of the Gospel is, 'God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.'" (John 3:16)

"The foundational belief of the Hopeful Christian is that through the great gift of the Passion, Death and Resurrection of God's only Son, Jesus, all who believe in Him might not perish because He has won the victory over sin and death."

"So as this Holy Season of Amazing Grace & Divine Mercy continues to unfold, let's all be filled with great gratitude that before anything else, Easter is about Hope!"

(See Easter, Page 5)

Louisiana Survey

Pandemic touched many lives

BATON ROUGE — Researchers in the Public Policy Research Lab, or PPRL, at LSU Manship School of Mass Communication's Reilly Center for Media & Public Affairs have released the second of five reports of the 2021 Louisiana Survey. Findings reflect mixed evaluations of government response to the pandemic and a third of adult residents refuse the vaccine.

The Louisiana Survey polled 781 adult residents from across the state to find out how Louisianans view their government and its policies. The survey was conducted

from Jan. 4 to March 1, and the total sample has a +/- 6.4% margin of error.

Findings from the second of five reports indicate the following opinions on Louisiana government and issues related to the pandemic:

Although only about one in eight Louisiana residents say they tested positive for COVID-19, the pandemic touched many more lives in other ways. Seventy-nine percent of adults in the state say they personally know someone who tested positive for COVID-19. Nearly half (48%) say they personally know

someone who has died from the disease.

Thirty-one percent of Louisiana residents say they lost their job or had a loss of income because of the pandemic. Nearly the same share (27%) live with someone who suffered the loss of a job or income.

By early March, 32% of Louisiana residents said they had not yet received the vaccine and did not intend to do so even when they are eligible. Another 17% said they had already received a vaccination

(See Survey, Page 5)



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Land use guidelines are pivotal to I -49 Midway development

From St. Landry Parish Development

Coordinated development along a central segment of I-49 is important and should move forward, according to a consensus of those most affected by it. The question is how to do it.

The first phase of the I-49 Midway Corridor Strategic Growth Initiative uncovered significant sentiment favoring the attempt to unify development and marketing in a 38-square-mile corridor that stretches a half-mile on each side of I-49, from its intersection with I-10 in Lafayette Parish to Exit 27 just north of Washington in St. Landry Parish.

During that first phase governments involved endorsed a partnership between the St. Landry Parish Economic Development office, the Acadiana Planning Commission, St. Landry Parish government and the municipalities along Interstate 49. The St. Landry Economic Development Board adopted a resolution supporting continuation of the effort at its March meeting.

The first stage was designed to build a consensus among the governments involved and citizens who live or work in the corridor on what should be done, according to Katrena King, the Acadiana Planning Commission specialist coordinating the effort. All of the communities and economic development agencies involved have committed to the concept of unified development within the corridor, but, King says, the devil is in the details.

She told the St. Landry board that the first phase identified proper land use as both the biggest concern and the biggest challenge in the corridor. People want to see proper development but are reluctant to make hard and fast regulations that may inhibit landowners' choices, she said.

The second phase of

the initiative will include an attempt to formulate suggested standards and guidelines for development within the corridor but, King is quick to emphasize, without dictating how land can be used. Planners will use procedures developed by Carencro in its interstate highway district as a first guide, according to King.

Instead of traditional land use regulations, those procedures favor ways to allow different sorts of development to co-exist, Carencro city manager Don Chauvin said in a recent interview.

"It actually looks at particular land use," Chauvin said. "You can have retail office businesses and mechanic shops and still have a residential development. The way we've done that is with green space and buffer zones to keep them from being on top of each other and bothering each other."

Another part of the second phase challenge is in putting together an oversight body to coordinate the plans. The task is to create an entity strong enough to influence decisions, but without code enforcement authority. Existing local government regulations could not be overridden by the regional group, King said, but the purpose of the regional group would be to help provide accountability for the standards and guidelines throughout the corridor.

The third significant challenge is in funding the next phase of the initiative, which will involve the creating performance land use guidelines and the oversight body, as well as a consistent marketing plan for the corridor.

"Getting this right is important," according to Bill Rodier, St. Landry Development Group CEO, "This planning effort will help us to more fully grasp the opportunities available to us and will provide a big benefit to all the communities along this corridor," he said.

Former Eunice resident publishes cookbook as charity fundraiser

By Darrel LeJeune, The Basile Weekly Editor

MILLEDGEVILLE, Georgia — A love for cooking and a philanthropic spirit to assist in the fight against pulmonary fibrosis led Debi Crawford to undertake the publication of her second cookbook which she has appropriately entitled "Cook. Eat. Breathe."

Her first cookbook All you have to do is ... was published in 2010. It was inspired by a blank cookbook that she filled with all her favorite family recipes. In 2020, she decided it was time to use that experience for a second cookbook, driven by the untimely death of her husband, Laddie, who passed away in May of 2015 due to issues connected to pulmonary fibrosis.

Eunice area residents remember Debi as a citizen of the community from 1978 to 2014.

In those years, she made a name for herself locally as the owner of Turning Point, a woman's clothing boutique on East Laurel Avenue.

Her love for theatre, however, was what endeared her to the Eunice people. At the Eunice Players' Theatre, she directed numerous productions, including summer musicals. She also served on the theatre's board of directors and received several awards for her efforts with the theatre.

The 332 pages of "Cook. Eat. Breathe." are divided into seven categories: appetizers, vegetables and side dishes, breads and



Debi Crawford

rolls, desserts, main dishes, cookies and candies, and "this and that." The recipes come primarily from four different parts of the author's life including her Eunice friends, her high school classmates, her new friends in Georgia, and her family along with contributions from a nationwide cooking group called BBQ and Baking with a Twist.

Crawford's friends from her years in Eunice contributed greatly to the recipes that she collected for this new endeavor,

chief among them is a group of women that Laddie named "The Louisiana Hens." The Hens are Oliva Dodd, Joan Aucoin Cotner, Mona Siebert, Linda Fontenot, Beth Dodd, Patty Walther, and of course, Debi.

Born Debi LeRay in Baton Rouge, the cookbook author graduated from Mt. Carmel High School in New Iberia.

Her high school classmates remain important to her, and obviously they feel the same way about her, making various rec-

Salmonella infection causing sporadic bird deaths across state

A statewide Salmonella bacterial infection has caused the sporadic mortality of some wild birds, the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (LDWF) said.

"Many of the deaths have been associated with bird feeders or birdbaths," said LDWF State Veterinarian Dr. Jim LaCour said. "Typically, an infected bird has picked up the infection from either a bird feeder or birdbath. That, in turn, spreads the bacteria among other birds."

LaCour said when dead birds are observed, it is best to remove the feeder

and/or bird bath and clean them with warm, soapy water and a 10% bleach solution and allow them to dry. The bird feeders/baths should be stored, out of use, for two months to allow birds to seek other feeding sources to break the cycle of infection. Any contaminated bird feed should be discarded.

Bird carcasses should be picked up with a sealable plastic bag and disposed of in the trash to help minimize contamination of the landscape and infection of other animal species.

Salmonella bacteria can be contagious to humans.

Free hearing aids, amplified phones

Free amplified telephones and hearing aids are available to Louisiana residents. The program is funded by a state agency, Louisiana Commission for the Deaf.

Call Stacy at Affiliated Blind of Louisiana for more information on how to qualify at 337-234-6492.

Clovis Crawfish books on sale

The City of Eunice is selling Clovis Crawfish books by Mary Alice Fontenot as a fundraiser for the city's 125th anniversary.

Anyone wishing to buy a book is asked to call 337-457-7389, extension 1, or 337-305-3672.

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Hoagie Bun
Pears
Milk

Tuesday, April 6
Red Beans & Sausage
Rice
Apple Juice
Spinach
Combread
Fresh Banana
Milk

Wednesday, April 7
Turkey Salad
Cream of Tomato Soup
Oriental Blend Vegetables
Wheat Bread
Apple Crisp
Milk

Thursday, April 8
Meatloaf
Brown Gravy
Brussels Sprouts
Mashed Potatoes
Wheat Bread/Margarine
Oatmeal Cream Cookie
Milk

Friday, April 9
Shrimp Etouffee
Rice
Carrots
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Wheat Bread/Margarine
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Milk

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Eunice Police radio logs

The following are excerpts from the Eunice Police Department radio dispatch logs.

March 28
00:29 Disturbance reported in the 100 block of Crestview Apartments.
00:43 Suspicious vehicle reported in the 300 block of South 9th Street.
01:23 Caller in the area of Park near the Liberty Center advised of a subject that appears to be intoxicated in her vehicle.
02:20 Suspicious subjects on bikes reported in the 400 block of West Walnut.
03:03 Two juveniles reported in the 900 block of Tate.
10:04 Report of stolen items in the 1200 block of Duck.
10:10 Disturbance reported at Best Western.
11:28 Loose dogs reported in the 1300 block of West Peach.
11:56 Disturbance reported at Eunice Inn.
12:49 Fight reported at Dollar General, West Laurel.
13:16 Caller reported a subject that jumped the fence and took a part off of a vehicle. Call came from the 600 block of East Laurel.
13:32 Report of a vehicle that broke down at the stop sign near Walmart.
13:48 Harassment reported in the 600 block of West Vine.
14:19 Trespassing reported in the 200 block of James.
14:41 Hit and run reported in the parking lot at Walmart.
15:20 911 hang up call came from the 100 block of North 2nd Street.
16:22 Hit and run reported at Walmart.
18:30 Damage to property reported at a vehicle at parking lot at AutoZone.
18:59 Reckless driver reported at U.S. 190 headed almost to Eunice city limits.
22:07 Suspicious person reported in the area of West Vine and North 3rd.
23:20 Disturbance reported in the back of the building at the Sonic.
March 29
06:32 Caller in the 700 block of East Vine requested an officer to check on her home.
07:55 Wreck reported at LSUE Drive and Maple.
09:36 Disturbance reported at Acadian Medical.
13:19 In pursuit with a subject heading toward Basile.
13:25 Hang up 911 call in the 100 block of North 2nd Street.
15:17 Report of a speeding vehicle, going a high rate of speed headed west on U.S. 190.
15:39 Fire reported in the 1300 block of Dudley. Eunice Fire department en route.
15:45 Shoplifting reported at Factory Connection.
16:08 Report of a vehicle

broken down on the roadway.
16:26 Report of a farm vehicle stuck in the median of the roadway near O'Reilly's.
20:03 Caller from Crestview Apartments requested to speak to an officer in reference to a domestic situation that happened yesterday.
20:29 911 call made from the 200 block of West Camellia advised that a subject is nude in his home that appears to be intoxicated.
21:34 Caller advised of a missing juvenile that is possibly there in a vehicle. Call came from the 1300 block of West Magnolia.
21:40 Caller in the 400 block of North East advised of a subject that attacked her vehicle and threw items at her car as she left the area.
22:37 Caller from DC's advised that a subject took a juvenile in the back of the restaurant after she threw a phone onto the highway.
23:12 Caller advised that someone is trying to open the door at St. Anthony Chapel.
23:44 Loud music complaint in the 1500 block of Williams.
March 30
01:00 Suspicious vehicle reported at New Hope Fellowship.
01:32 Caller in the 600 block of West Vine advised that is neighbor is stealing from him.
09:28 Lobby complaint in reference to an insufficient check.
10:08 Disturbance reported in the 100 block of Mamie.
12:29 Lobby complaint in reference to hit and run.
13:13 Lobby complaint in regards to a subject taking someone's keys.
13:17 Lobby complaint in reference to an animal bite.
16:37 Report of threats made to a juvenile in the 800 block of South Beulah.
17:05 Caller in the 100 block of Mamie advised of a subject that puched him in his eye.
17:18 Caller in the 100 block of Mill advised that a subject is threatening her.
18:09 Caller in the 800 block of South Beulah advised that a vehicle keeps passing by and pointing a firearm at the apartment.
18:54 Caller in the 1300 block of West Peach advised of a reported missing juvenile, however, she is there right now next door.
19:08 Acadian Medical ER worker advised of a subject that was hit by a vehicle but he appears to be okay, however, wishes to speak to an officer.
19:11 Caller in the 200 block of North St. Joseph advised of a subject that took his keys from his vehicle and left.

19:32 Report of an 18-wheeler blocking traffic on a roadway in the area of Riceland.
21:32 Report of shots fired in the area of East Maple and Gaspard.
March 31
04:44 Caller from Best Western advised that a customer went up to her room and then came back to the desk and advised that there was a death letter in her room.
06:52 Caller in the 800 block of South Beulah that a dog almost bit her.
07:24 Caller in the area of West Vine and 12th advised of a juvenile playing with dirt and going into the roadway, no parent was seen.
07:25 Caller in the 1700 block of West Vine advised that the trash truck ripped off the cords from her Wifi box and then left.
08:56 Caller from O'Reilly's advised of a vehicle from Fontenot's Diesel that ran into their building.
09:14 Disturbance reported in the 200 block of Eula.
09:35 Lobby complaint in reference to a missing juvenile.
09:39 Caller from Best Western advised of stolen property.
09:49 Caller in the 500 block of West Park advised of an infant that is in the middle of the roadway.
09:54 Infant's parents are located.
11:09 Report of a hit and run in front of Heinen Medical.
11:28 Report of a vehicle in the roadway in the 1300 block of West Peach.
11:50 Caller from Crestview Apartments advised of a child stuck in a vehicle in front of an apartment.
14:09 Report of vehicles in the roadway in the area of Boudreaux.
15:43 Shoplifting reported at Family Dollar, East Laurel.
16:08 Wreck reported in the area of Corn and Aymond.
16:15 Fight reported in the 800 block of South Beulah.
17:09 Threatening subject reported in the 700 block of South CC Duson.
17:18 Lobby complaint in reference to a stolen vehicle.
17:30 Lobby complaint in regards to theft.
19:01 Report of a pig running around at City Lake.
20:57 Caller in the 100 block of Mill advised of a subject harming himself.
21:54 Caller in the 400 block of West Bacciochi advised of a subject that showed up at her home and busted her ribs.
21:58 Loud music complaint reported in the area of 9th and Maple.
22:15 Report of disturbance in the jail.
April 1
04:15 Report of a loose dog running around on the property of Holiday Inn.

Eunice Police arrests

The following are arrests by Eunice Police.
March 27
Jennifer Cormier, 36, 7400 block of Eunice Iota Highway, Eunice. Probation warrant.
March 28
John Ortego, 38, 200 block of Wayne Road, Eunice. Probation violation, hold.
March 30
Joseph Lemelle, 55, 500 block of East Oak, Eunice. Stop light and turn signals, two required except on motorcycles, proper equipment required,

switched license plate, no insurance, driver's license suspension revocation.
William Fontenot, 49, 400 block of Liberty, Eunice. Probation violation, hold.
Kelly Renee LeJeune, 45, 100 block of Mamie, Eunice. Domestic abuse battery, resisting an officer.
Oscar Peter LeBlanc III, 27, 200 block of Fuse-lier, Eunice. Probation warrant.
Shanice M. Simms, 28, 800 block of South Beulah, Eunice. Switched license

plate, driver's license, revocation of license.
Kari Shanne Fields, 35, 300 block of South 9th Street, Eunice. Criminal trespass, and criminal mischief, false report.
March 31
Jody Tovarras Thomas, 42, 100 block of DeVillier Road, Eunice. Disturbing the peace.
Jimmy R. Crabtree, 59, 2300 block of Perchville Road, Eunice. Hit and run, warrants from 2018, simple criminal damage to property.

St. Landry Parish Sheriff's arrests

The following are arrests reported by the St. Landry Parish Sheriff's Office.
March 27-29
Samantha Lewis-Malveaux, 31, 900 block of Pamella Street, Opelousas. Hold for Opelousas City Court. Arrested by Opelousas City Marshals.
March 30
Bryland Lemar Babineaux, 24, 300 block of Park Avenue, Opelousas. Bench warrant, 2 counts, illegal carrying of weapon, possession of Schedule I CDS. Arrested by Opelousas Police.
Christina Comeaux, 41, 1000 block of Gleaux Drive, Breaux Bridge. Possession with intent to distribute Schedule I CDS, possession of Schedule IV CDS. Arrested by Opelousas Police.
Jake Louis Fruge, 49, 800 block of Bosco Highway, Church Point. Possession with intent to distribute Schedule I CDS, introduction of contraband into a penal institution. Arrested by Opelousas Police.
Truvette Vonkeith Meche, 25, 10000 block of Lawler Highway, Lawtell. Simple assault, domestic abuse battery-child endangerment law. Arrested by St. Landry Parish Sheriff's Office.
Nicole Renee Stroud,

40, 100 block of Hillside Circle, West Monroe. Bench warrant. Arrested by St. Landry Parish Sheriff's Office.
Ronnie Alexander, 43, 700 block of Grant Road, Opelousas. Flight from an officer, careless operation. Arrested by Grand Coteau Police.
Jennifer Wallace McMorris, 47, 41000 block of North Thibodeaux Road, Ponchatoula. Bench warrant. Arrested by St. Landry Parish Sheriff's Office.
March 31
Gregory Lewis Maynard, II, 33, 1200 block of Cherokee Drive, Opelousas. Bench warrant. Arrested by St. Landry Parish Sheriff's Office.
Kathy Lynn Verrett, 38, 100 block of Veterans Drive, Carencro. Possession with intent to distribute Schedule II CDS, possession of drug paraphernalia, possession of Schedule IVCDS, possession of Schedule III CDS. Arrested by St. Landry Parish Sheriff's Office.
Jonathan Jude Savant, 34, 2900 block of Highway 182, Sunset. Aggravated assault, bench warrant (3 counts). Arrested by St. Landry Parish Sheriff's Office.
Milton Beline Vigers, Jr., 49, 300 block of Chenault Road, Eunice. Probation/parole violation. Arrested by

Louisiana Probation and Parole.
Rogers J. Taylor, 43, 2300 Noel Road, Church Point, LA., 70525, Bench warrant. Arrested by St. Landry Parish Sheriff's Office.
Ashley Fontenot, 33, 800 Railroad Street, Ville Platte. Hold for Beaver County, Pennsylvania. Arrested by St. Landry Parish Sheriff's Office.
John Derek Brown, 28, 100 block of Floyd Lane, Opelousas. Aggravated battery, Principal to distribution of Schedule I CDS, domestic abuse battery, bench warrant (4 counts). Arrested by St. Landry Parish Sheriff's Office.
Joshua J. Bergeron, 31, 700 block of JL Drive, Scott. Bench warrant. Arrested by St. Landry Parish Sheriff's Office.
Shameul Smith, 40, 500 block of E. Beauregard, Ville Platte. Possession of Schedule II CDS (2 counts). Arrested by Opelousas Police.
Gabryell Hardy, 26, 1200 block of Clifford Avenue, Eunice. Bench warrant (2 counts). Arrested by St. Landry Parish Sheriff's Office.
Hailey Elizabeth Jack, 22, 1400 block of Lance de Cavalier Road, Ville Platte. Hold for Evangeline Parish. Arrested by Evangeline Parish Sheriff's Office.

Counterfeit \$100 bills are circulating

The Eunice City Marshal's Office is warning area businesses to be award of counterfeit currency.
During a traffic stop this week, deputies with the Eunice City Marshal's Office confiscated seven counterfeit \$100 bills.
After investigation it was determined that the fake currency had been used in the Acadiana area to purchase goods.

The Marshal's office is advising that all area merchants to be vigilant with regard to the currency they are accepting and, if they are unsure about it, to contact their bank.
Anyone with information regarding the counterfeit money is requested to call the Eunice City Marshal office at 337-457-6580.

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Cajun anthem? Oh meo myo!

After the epic poem “Evangeline,” the best-known rhyme about the Cajun country might be Hank Williams’s “Jambalaya,” even if nobody who’s ever lived on any Louisiana bayou ever called anyone else “ma cher amio.”

Some people claim “Jambalaya” may be even better-known than “Evangeline,” and attribute that to the fact that Longfellow never thought about rhyming “good-bye Joe” with “me gotta go,” and that he just never could find a really good rhythm guitar player.

Since Williams released his famous version in 1952, a long list of performers from the Grand Ole Opry to the Liberty Theater have tried their hands at it, making “Jambalaya” one of the best recognized, if least authentic, songs about the Cajun country. The list of copycat artists runs from A to Z (Paul Anka to the Zydeco Flames), and includes such likely and unlikely names as Rex Allen, Brenda Lee, Little Jimmy Dickens, Jerry Lee Lewis, Jimmy Newman, George Jones, Kitty Wells, Fats Domino, Connie Stevens, Conway Twitty, Roy Orbison, Waylon Jennings, Pat Boone and Gerry and the Pacemakers.

Hank’s version topped the country music charts for 14 weeks, and Louisiana music historian John Broven claims that the Williams recording made “Jambalaya” “the best known Cajun-based country song ever.”

I don’t think any of the other versions



Jim Bradshaw

reached the top of the pile. Probably the next most noteworthy version was by fellow Grand Ole Opry performer Moon Mullican, who many people believe wrote or, at least, co-wrote the song.

Moon, who was baptized Aubrey Wilson Mullican, in Polk County, Texas, had about as much Cajun blood as the Alabama-born Williams, but that apparently has nothing to do with anything. (Remember that the Louisiana legislature once tried to make a poem about Mississippi our “official” state verse.)

Whatever its authorship, somewhere along the line “Jambalaya” acquired a reputation as a genuine Cajun folk song, which it isn’t. But it does have a tiny bit of authenticity in its Cajun pedigree. The melody is based on “Grand Texas,” made popular by The Hackberry Ramblers, Papa Cairo and Aldus Roger, among others, although the lyrics to the two songs have little in common.

“Grand Texas” is a song about a wom-

an who left the singer to run off with another man to Texas, while in “Jambalaya” the singer and his girl Yvonne plan to stay at home and “have big fun on the bayou.” (Have you ever noticed how many Cajun songs talk about running off to Texas? Why would a good Cajun want to do that?)

Lots of folks assumed that Williams came to write the song because of his association with the “Louisiana Hayride” radio show that began beaming music across the South via the 50,000-watt radio station KWKH in the spring of 1948. But the “Hayride” was produced in Shreveport and was much more oriented to country music than to Cajun.

A member of Moon Mullican’s family thinks the song’s origins come from a small south Louisiana bar owned by a woman named Yvonne on a bayou where Hank, as was his wont, had more than one wonderful time, some of which he could actually remember the next day.

That story has a ring of truth to it, particularly since Moon Mullican’s nickname supposedly was given to him for his predilection for whiskey of all flavors, but especially for moonshine.

A collection of Jim Bradshaw’s columns, Cajuns and Other Characters, is now available from Pelican Publishing. You can contact him at jimbradshaw4321@gmail.com or P.O. Box 1121, Washington LA 70589.



Danny Tyree

May I sing the housing subdivision blues?

My wife and I would never have met, except that her family fled a densely populated state when she was 11.

Given her satisfaction with the simple life (deer in the yard, the neighbors’ ponds and livestock across the road), I dreaded sharing game-changing news with her the other evening.

“One of the neighbors said a 100-house subdivision is planned for one mile away on our country road.”

(Technically, I think the revelation was “One of the neighbors said a 100-house subdivision is planned for one mile away on our country road; now, where’s my supper, woman?” I’ll probably be able to remember more precisely when the swelling goes down.)

Don’t get me wrong. I’m not holier-than-thou when it comes to turning forests and pastureland into domiciles. For much of my childhood, my father helped keep a roof over our heads by working as an agent for my mother’s cousin, a real estate developer.

(Dad also kept a FLOOR under our feet, but I’ve noticed parents never get much credit for any non-roof amenities. Maybe parents should diversify their speeches. “Well, young lady, as long as you’re benefitting from my threshold and my wainscoting, you’re living by MY rules!”)

My wife and I became homeowners nearly 28 years ago, so I balk at begrudging anyone else their own shot at affordable housing and the American Dream. Granted, the American Dream ain’t what it used to be, if townsfolks’ new aspiration is to be wedged between Casa de Tyree and the industrial park! I’m just saying.

Yes, everyone is entitled to their own little piece of Paradise — which brings an interesting twist to a classic philosophical conundrum: “How many angels can dance on the head of a pin?” (“I don’t know — but way more than can fit on Mike’s subdivision deck, dude.”)

I refuse to be one of those petition-waving NIMBY (“Not in My Back Yard”) soreheads. Because, frankly, most of the theoretical future neighbors would stare and ask, “What’s a back yard?”

I’m not even going to lose any sleep over the eventual cute, ironic name of the subdivision. You know, the developments are usually celebrating something that is no longer around BECAUSE of the development. Maybe it will be Turkey Cove or Groundhog Meadows — or The Ability to Turn Your Cat Outdoors Without It Getting Splattered by Ump-teen Garbage Trucks, Ambulances and Police Cars Acres!!!

Ours is not the only part of the county experiencing a flood of home construction. People from every corner are gobsmailed by the situation and ask some variation of “If we suddenly need all these houses, where the (bleep) are the people living NOW?”

Good question. Maybe there are citizens far to the north hearing the Siren call and rationalizing, “Yes, they’ll be cookie-cutter homes, but they’ll be cookie-cutter homes that will provide AIR CONDITIONING BILLS out the wazoo.”

Or, most likely, we will see pasty-skinned adult children emerging from their parents’ basements in search of a home of their own. (“The man at the hardware store called this a ‘leaf blower’ — but it would be so cool to use against Orcs and trolls!”)

I’ll not stand in the way of Progress. Even if rising home values supersize my tax bill.

“Well, old man, as long as you’re living in MY COUNTY, you’re not going out with money left in your pockets!”

Sigh

Danny Tyree welcomes email responses at tyreetyrades@aol.com. Danny’s weekly column is distributed exclusively by Cagle Cartoons Inc. newspaper syndicate.

Letters to the Editor

Letters to the Editor are always welcome at the News, but it’s necessary for confirmation/identification purposes to include author’s printed name, signature and work/home telephone number.

While the News does print the author’s name it doesn’t print telephone numbers or residence/business addresses unless such a request is made in writing on the letter. However, without a phone number to verify the letter, we can not print it.

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Brevity is encouraged.

We no longer accept hand-written letters. Letters we deem as political copy may be placed as advertising.

All letters are subject to editing. Keep those letters coming. Thank you.



Hail to the punter in chief

He may not be the fastest president on his feet we’ve ever had.

He may bore you to death compared to the last president.

But I will tell you, if anyone in the NFL is looking for a punter, Joe Biden is your man.

The president didn’t blow up or melt down at his first, much-anticipated and ultimately embarrassing formal presidential press conference.

But on Thursday he proved one thing



Michael Reagan

with a doubt — he’s not America’s quarterback in chief.

He’s our punter in chief.

For a little over an hour President Biden ducked the mostly friendly questions of ten cherry-picked journalists and read large chunks of his answers on foreign policy from a briefing book.

He gave vague, garbled or outrageous answers about immigration, Afghanistan, China, voting rights and the filibuster that generated zero tough follow-ups from the liberal White House press corps.

He punted on how he was going to fix the immigration crisis he’s caused at the border.

He punted on what the United States should do about the economic and military threat of China and when he was going to get America out of Afghanistan.

He punted on when his administration will allow the media and their cameras to get access to the overcrowded border facilities in Texas where thousands of illegal immigrants and unaccompanied migrant children await processing.

The only thing President Biden didn’t really punt on was killing the filibuster.

The “relic of the Jim Crow era” as he and its new enemies now call it, is the same parliamentary tool he supported for 40 years when he was a Senator.

It’s the same weapon his party used aggressively and often in the Senate during the Trump years when it was in the minority.

Chuck Schumer used it to — among many other things — block construction of the Wall, change the Cares Act and halt Sen. Tim Scott’s police reform bill.

But now “Wide-awake” Joe and Schumer want to get rid of the filibuster so their party can ram “progressive” legislation through Congress that will change the United States forever.

No member of the White House press cheerleading squad had the courage to

remind Biden about that eulogy he gave for his beloved colleague, Sen. Robert Byrd, the former KKK member who was a star on the Democrat Party’s team of racist Southern senators who filibustered the 1964 Civil Rights bill.

Meanwhile, talk about softballs tossed underhand by little league journalists.

PBS White House reporter Yamiche Alcindor prefaced her blatant pitch for ending the filibuster by referring to Biden as “a moral and decent” man.

There were no questions at all about the COVID-19 pandemic or vaccines or gun control.

And though Biden left many openings for follow-up questions by saying looney-tune things like President Trump sent migrant families back to Mexico to starve and a majority of Republicans support him, they were not asked.

Say whatever bad you want about Trump, he always called on his nemesis Jim Acosta of CNN and he wasn’t afraid to take questions from anyone.

And where Biden seemed to need a briefing book to answer many of the questions, none of his predecessors — Trump, Reagan, Bush 41, Clinton, Bush 43 and Obama — never did.

Besides punting whenever he was in doubt, Biden took half a dozen cheap shots at President Trump (he was among friends, so he knew he was safe).

Based on their friendly questions, the White House press corps showed that they haven’t exactly been working on their fastballs while President Biden was hiding from them for two months.

For instance, it should have made big headlines and sparked lots of follow-up questions when Biden went back on his campaign promise and said he expects to run again in 2024, but it didn’t.

The bottom line is, with those briefing books and basic punting skills, everyone who watched Biden’s press conference could have done the press conference too.

Michael Reagan is the son of President Ronald Reagan, a political consultant, and the author of “Lessons My Father Taught Me: The Strength, Integrity, and Faith of Ronald Reagan.” He is the founder of the email service reagan.com and president of The Reagan Legacy Foundation. Visit his websites at www.reagan.com and www.michaelereagan.com. Send comments to Reagan@caglecartoons.com. Follow @reaganworld on Twitter.

THE EUNICE NEWS

Published Thursday and Sunday
“Serving the information and communication needs of our community by providing quality products at superior value while fulfilling our civic responsibility.”

LSSN 0885-8233 USPS 569-560
Published Thursday and Sunday by The Eunice News Inc. at 465 Aymond, St., Eunice, La. 70535.

Darrell Guillory
Chief Operating Officer/Publisher
Louisiana State Newspapers

Harlan Kirgan Editor
Misty Gilley Advertising

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LSUE
downs
MGCCC

**By Tom Dodge
Sports Editor**
The No. 5 Lady Bengals opened the NJCAA Region 23 tournament with a 58-46 victory over No. 12 Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College.

No. 5 LSUE will host No. 13 East Central at 6 p.m. Monday as the Lady Warriors upset No. 4 Meridan, 54-43.

The Lady Bengals forced eight turnovers in the first quarter and jumped out to a 14-5 lead.

LSUE would score 24 points off turnovers in the contest.

MGCCC outscored the Lady Bengals 15-9 in the second quarter but LSUE held on to a 23-20 lead at intermission.

The Lady Bengals responded with a 17-11 third quarter run to push ahead, 40-31 as the game moved into the final quarter.

LSUE sealed the win with a 18-15 fourth quarter.

See LSUE on Page 7

Margaret
leads ELTL

**By Tom Dodge
Sports Editor**

Team Margaret grabbed a 14-8 win over Team Phyllis to keep control of Eunice Ladies Tennis League spring action.

After eight weeks, Team Margaret increased its lead to 102-86 over Team Phyllis.

On Court One, Team Margaret's Michelle Lafleur and Debbie Miller earned a 6-2, 6-2 win over Janet Prudhomme and Jeanine Kibodeaux of Team Phyllis.

On Court Two, Team Margaret's Sylvia Fontenot and Allie Ogea grabbed a 6-1, 6-1 win over Team Phyllis' Kelly Sonnier and Myra Miller.

On Court Three, Ellen Myers and Cynthia Tanner led Team Phyllis to a 7-5, 6-7, 6-2 split set win over team captain Margaret Young and Daphne Simoneaux.

See ELTL on Page 7

Six Lady Jays land on 5-1A team

**By Tom Dodge
Sports Editor**

Five of the six District 5-1A teams earned LH-SAA playoff spots this season.

No. 8 St. Edmund opened the Div. IV playoffs with a 46-40 win over Hanson Memorial.

The Lady Jays finished the season with a 15-8 overall record as St. Ed's fell 58-27 to top-seed Ouachita Christian in the quarterfinal round.

No. 7 Opelousas Catholic went undefeated in District 5-1A play to claim title.

OC opened the playoffs with a 47-42 win over No. 10 St. Mary's and then lost 51-27 to No. 2 Highland Baptist to finish the season with a 16-6 overall record.

No. 11 Catholic High of Pointe Coupee (17-11) fell in the first round to No. 6 St. John, 58-22.

No. 16 Sacred Heart of Ville Platte (3-16) was pushed out in the first round by top-seed Ouachita Christian (70-21).

No. 4 North Central earned a first-round bye in the Class 1-A playoffs and then grabbed wins over No. 13 Plain Dealing (51-34) and No. 12 Lincoln Prep (51-47).

The Lady Hurricanes finished the season with a 15-9 overall record as North Central fell in the state semifinals to No. 1 East Iberville (54-40).

Westminster Christian Academy did not receive a playoff berth as the Lady Crusaders finished the season at 4-9 overall.

Opelousas Catholic's Connie Thierry was named the District 5-1A Coach of the Year.

North Central's Ya'Jaia Goudeau earned MVP honors.

Lady Jay senior Rebecca Benoit was named to the All-District first team along with OC's Brailey Major and Rylee Labrayuere.

Katelyn Harrison from North Central was also named to the first team.

St. Ed's senior Savannah DeVillier earned second team honors along with Sacred Heart's Kali Shiver.

Opelousas Catholic's McKenna Denafrio and Layn Carter also earned

See 5-1A on Page 7



Rebecca Benoit: First Team All – District



Savannah DeVillier: Second Team All – District



Tanzy Miller: All – Defensive Team



Mary Beth Lafleur: All – District Honorable Mention

Raiders, WCA win parish titles

**By Tom Dodge
Sports Editor**

The Northwest Raiders and the Westminster Christian Academy Lady Crusaders both scored 300 points to capture the 2021 St. Landry Parish track titles.

WCA won the girls parish championship with 354 points, followed by Northwest (254), Opelousas (160), J.S. Clark Leadership Academy (158), Eunice (118), Port Barre (92), Beau Chene (70), North Central (60), St. Edmund (48) and Opelousas Catholic (12).

The Eunice Lady Bobcats had won seven consecutive parish titles before last year's meet was cancelled due to the COVID 19 pandemic.

St. Edmund's Ellie Manuel won the high jump with a leap of 4-6.

Manuel finished second in the javelin with a throw of 93-0.

Lady Cats Madison Freeman, Allison Freeman, Saige Freeman and Amaya Hudson finished clinched second in the 4x200 meter relay with a time of 4:48.49.

Lady Bobcat Madison Freeman finished third in the 300-meter hurdles with a time of 55.78.

Madison Freeman, Andajih Savoy, Allison Freeman and Saige Freeman finished third in the 4x200 meter relay with a time of 2:00.38.

Madison Freeman finished second in the discus with a throw of 86-3 ahead of her twin sister Allison Freeman's 79-9.

Allison Freeman finished third in the javelin with a throw of 92-8.

Northwest won the boys title with 304 points, fol-



St. Edmund's Ellie Manuel won the girls high jump at the St. Landry Parish meet with a leap of 4-6. (Photo by Tom Dodge)

lowed by Westminster Christian Academy (210), J.S. Clark (194), Opelousas (168), St. Edmund (158), Opelousas Catholic (145), Beau Chene (130), Eunice (108), North Central (36) and Port Barre (2).

Eunice High's Joseph Clement finished second in the 400 meters with a time of 53.62.

Jondarius Mayo, Gabriel Mayo, Dakota Garza and Michael Gaspard led EHS to a second place finish in the 4x800 meter re-

lay with a time of 9:46.75.

Eunice's Clarence Arceneaux, Jesten Calloway, Terrance Shilow and Clement Joseph finished third in the 4x200 meter relay with a time of 1:38.44.

Garza finished third in

the 3,200 meters with a time of 11:26.62.

St. Edmund's Clay Miller won the boys javelin with a throw of 132-2.

Blue Jay Gus Brown won the pole vault competition at 9-0.

Blue Jays Alex Fon-

tenot, Nic Fontenot, Easten Coleman and Luke Trahan finished second in the 4x200 meter relay with a time of 1:36.52.

Alex Fontenot, Nic Fontenot, Coleman and Tra-

han

See Parish on Page 7

Bengals split with Galveston

GALVESTON, Texas – It was a tale of two games for LSU Eunice softball as its offense came to life in the second game against Galveston College to split its Wednesday doubleheader.

It is the seventh doubleheader split of the season for the Bengals (23-11).

LSU Eunice fell 10-2 in the opener before taking an offensive shootout, 12-10.

Rylie Candella led the way in the victory with a six RBI performance.

Galveston 10, LSUE 2
Haley Henderson blasted a pair of home runs as Galveston College used an early surge to push past LSU Eunice, 10-2. The Bengals managed just two hits in the five inning game.

Jessi Cary provided the big blast for the Bengals, belting a two-run home run in the second inning to tie the game, 2-2. It was Cary's first long ball of the season.

The Whitecaps would answer with eight unanswered runs with seven of those eight coming with two outs.

LSUE 12, GC 10
The LSU Eunice offense responded with a 14-hit, 12-run and survived another offensive surge from Galveston College in a 12-10 victory.

The Bengals used a six-run second inning to hold on to the lead for

good.

Both teams came out hot as Candella and Cary helped put the Bengals on the board with a three-run first.

The Whitecaps answered right away with five of their own, four coming with two outs.

The Bengals would respond with authority, scratching six runs off four hits, two walks and a hit by pitch. Candella provided the big boost with a grand slam.

The sophomore produced her second six RBI game of the season. After two more runs in the third inning, both produced by Olivia Hennen, LSUE held an 11-5 edge.

Galveston would claw back to within a run with another five-run inning. Sydnei Simon would shutout the Whitecaps the final four innings, with just one batter reaching scoring position.

Simon improved to 5-2 after tossing 4.2 innings, giving up three runs off two hits and four walks while striking out five batters.

Candella was joined by Cary, Simon, Maddie Leal and Hennen with multi-hit games. Hennen led a base running frenzy, collecting three of the team's ten stolen bases.

LSUE will take on Alvin Community College for a 2 p.m. Tuesday doubleheader before Wednesday's rematch with Galveston College.



Anna Belle Fontenot: All – District Honorable Mention



Greta Miller: All – District Honorable Mention

5-1A

From Page 6

second team honors along with Isabella Guerlin from Catholic High of Pointe Coupee.

Lady Jay senior Tanzy Miller was placed on the All-Defensive team.

Joining Miller are North Central's Jashaybra Young, Alexis Lafleur from Opelousas Catholic, CHPC's Troyana Pichon,

Sacred Heart's Ava Johnson and Aalyiah Arvie from WCA.

St. Edmund seniors Mary Beth Lafleur and Anna Belle Fontenot along with junior Greta Miller were named to

Honorable Mention list.

North Central's Taylor Tanner, Carly Cloud from Sacred Heart were also named honorable mention selections along with Claire Rivet and Ashlyn Landry from CHPC.

Parish

From Page 6

han led the Jays to a third place finish in the 4x100 meter relay.

St. Edmund's Kieran Davis finished third in the 110-meter hurdles with a time of 18.25.

Davis also finished third in the shot put with a throw of 38-2.

Alex Fontenot finished third in the long jump with a leap of 19-7 1/2.

St. Edmund will compete in the District 5-1A meet on April 21 at Port Allen.

Eunice High will battle in the District 4-4A meet tentatively set for April 22 at LaGrange.

St. Ed's downs Iota

By Tom Dodge
Sports Editor

A girls doubles sweep helped St. Edmund earn a 5-3 tennis win over Iota.

Savannah DeVillier and Greta Miller cruised to a 6-0 win over Iota's Vanessa Doroteo and Kadence Faulk.

Tanzy Miller and Ali Lantz earned a 6-1 victory over Lady Bulldogs Kiara Guidry and Tori Guidry.

Anna Fruge and Julia Zaunbrecher rolled to a 6-0 win over Iota's Madison Guidry and Tori Guidry.

In girls singles, Susannah Summerlin battled to an 8-6 win over Vanessa Doroteo.

Faulk earned an 8-3 victory over St. Ed's Helen Brown.

In boys singles, Iota's Luis Doroteo earned an 8-2 win over Pierson Brown.

In boys doubles, Ross Fontenot and Blake Summerlin combined for a 6-2 win over Iota's Duston Boulet and Liam Carswell.

The Bulldog duo of Jared Quibodeaux and Ethan Cormier rallied for a 6-4 win over Fontenot and Summerlin.



Susannah Summerlin serves the ball. (Photo by Tom Dodge)

ELTL

From Page 6

On Court Four, Team Margaret's Heidi Dischler and Rachel Andrus earned a 7-5, 7-5 win over

Team Phyllis' Maureen Fontenot and Caroline Andrus.

On Court Five, the Team Phyllis duo of Cheryl Manuel and Connie Tupper cruised to a 6-1, 6-1 win over Team Margaret's Angie Thibodeaux and Kelly Tupper.



LSUE's Alona Washington looks to pass the ball as MGCCC's Aniya Saddler defends on the play. Washington led the Lady Bengals with 14 points. (Photo by Tom Dodge)

LSUE

From Page 6

Alona Washington led LSUE with 14 points, Trinity Harold added 13 points and Tahjea Smith chipped in 12 points.

Washington also led the team with 14 rebounds and had nine assists to along with a team's best five steals.

The Lady Bengals entered the tournament as the No. 5 seed after capturing their fourth straight Louisiana Community Colleges Athletic

Conference regular season title.

It was the first postseason game hosted at LSUE since hosting the District B tournament during the 2006-07 season.

That year, the Bengals qualified for the NJCAA Division II National Tournament, placing fourth.

The semifinals and finals will still take place on the campus of Mississippi College in Clinton, Mississippi.

Last year, LSUE won its first postseason game in more than a decade when it defeated Southwest Mississippi, 71-66,

in the opening round.

The Bengals would fall to four-time Region 23 champion Jones College in the semifinal round.

LSU Eunice men's basketball game with Itawamba Community College has been declared a no contest after Itawamba was forced to withdraw from the Region 23 Tournament due to COVID-19 contact tracing protocols.

No. 4 LSUE automatically advances to Tuesday's quarterfinals where it will host the winner between Holmes and Mississippi Gulf Coast.

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2018 CLAYTON MOBILE HOME 52 X 28 BEARING SERIAL NUMBERS CAP032272TNA AND CAP032272TNB

A CERTAIN LOT OR PARCEL OF LAND TOGETHER WITH ALL BUILDINGS AND IMPROVEMENTS THEREON AND AN THE RIGHTS, WAYS, PRIVILEGES AND SERVITUDES THERETO PERTAINING, CONTAINING 5.17 ACRES, MORE OR LESS AND LOCATED IN SECTION 45, T-5-8, R-3-E, ST. LANDRY PARISH, LOUISIANA; SAID LOT BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS "TRACT 4" ON A PLAT OF SURVEY IN THE ESTATE OF ABLE THOMAS, SR., PREPARED BY PAUL FONTENOT, C.E., DATED NOVEMBER 9, 1976, UNDER ACT NO. 606362, RECORDS OF ST. LANDRY PARISH, LOUISIANA AND HAVING SUCH DIMENSIONS, MEASUREMENTS AND BOUNDARIES AS ARE MORE FULLY SHOWN ON SAID PLAT OF SURVEY.

BEING THE SAME PROPERTY ACQUIRED BY TABATHA THOMAS BABINEAUX & JOSHUA JAMES BABINEAUX FROM JEROME C. THOMAS SR., BY DONATION INTER VIVOS, DATED MAY 11, 2018, RECORDED UNDER FILE NO. 1173580, OF THE CONVEYANCE RECORDS OF ST. LANDRY PARISH, LOUISIANA. FURTHER BEING THE SAME PROPERTY ACQUIRED BY JEROME C. THOMAS SR. FROM DAVID JAMES THOMAS BY EXCHANGE OF REAL ESTATE, RECORDED MAY 13, 1987, RECORDED UNDER FILE NO. 715867 OF THE CONVEYANCE RECORDS OF ST. LANDRY PARISH, LOUISIANA.

PROPERTY ADDRESS IS BELIEVED TO BE: 324 THOMAS AVE, OPELOUSAS, LA

(TO BE SOLD IN GLOBO)

TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF SALE:

CASH WITH BENEFIT OF APPRAISEMENT TO PAY AND SATISFY THE SUM OF NINETY-THREE THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED THIRTY-FOUR AND 39/100 DOLLARS (\$93,934.39), TOGETHER WITH INTEREST AT THE RATE OF TEN AND THIRTY-FOUR HUNDREDTHS (10.34%) PER ANNUM THEREON FROM AUGUST 1, 2019, AND ATTORNEY FEES OF .25% . PER CENT OF THE PRINCIPAL AND INTEREST, AS WELL AS ALL OTHER COSTS OF THIS SUIT.

ANYONE PURCHASING PROPERTY AT SHERIFF'S SALE IS GIVEN UNTIL 2:00 P.M. ON SALE DAY TO PAY THE FULL PURCHASE AMOUNT.

BOBBY J. GUIDROZ, SHERIFF ST. LANDRY PARISH, LOUISIANA

(PUBLISH: MARCH 4 & APRIL 4, 2021) 2T

PUBLIC NOTICE

SHERIFF'S SALE

VANDERBILT MORTGAGE AND FINANCE INC. VS

JAMES EARL MANLEY & FAITH LIN HOPKINS MANLEY BOTH THRU ATTY GEORGE SEVERSON

NO. 21-C-0529-A, CIVIL DOCKET, 27TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT ST. LANDRY PARISH, LOUISIANA

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT BY VIRTUE OF A WRIT OF SEIZURE AND SALE ISSUED OUT OF THE HONORABLE, THE 27TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT OF LOUISIANA, IN THE ABOVE ENTITLED AND NUMBERED CAUSE AND TO ME DIRECTED, I HAVE SEIZED AND TAKEN INTO MY POSSESSION AND WILL OFFER FOR SALE TO THE LAST AND HIGHEST BIDDER, ACCORDING TO LAW, COMMENCING AT THE LEGAL HOUR OF 10:00 A.M. AT THE PRINCIPAL FRONT DOOR OF THE COURT HOUSE AT OPELOUSAS, LOUISIANA ON WEDNESDAY, THE 7TH DAY OF APRIL, 2021. THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED PROPERTY, TO WIT:

2006 SOUTHERN ENERGY SOUTHERN E MOBILE HOME BEARING SERIAL NUMBER DSEAL17588ABC IMMOBILIZED ONTO AND INCLUDING THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED IMMOVABLE PROPERTY:

A CERTAIN LOT OR PARCEL OF GROUND, SITUATED IN SECTION 33, TOWNSHIP 3 SOUTH, RANGE 6 EAST, ST. LANDRY PARISH, LOUISIANA, BEING IDENTIFIED AS LOT THREE (3) OF THE VILLA ROUGE SUBDIVISION, AS SHOWN ON THAT CERTAIN PLAT OF SURVEY OF SAID SUBDIVISION DATED JUNE 2, 2002, PREPARED BY MORGAN GOUDEAU & ASSOCIATES ATTACHED TO THAT ACT RECORDED UNDER ENTRY NO. 901014, IN CONVEYANCE BOOK N-39, PAGE 613, OF THE RECORDS OF ST. LANDRY PARISH CLERK OF COURT.

BEING THE SAME PROPERTY ACQUIRED BY JAMES E. MANLEY AND FAITH HOPKINS MANLEY FROM DOUGLAS P. GERACE AND CANDY BLANCHARD GERACE BY THAT ACT OF CASH SALE DATED MAY 8, 2004 AND RECORDED JUNE 11, 2004 UNDER ENTRY NO. 926352 OF THE RECORDS OF ST. LANDRY PARISH, LOUISIANA.

AND

A CERTAIN LOT OR PARCEL OF GROUND, SITUATED IN SECTION 33, TOWNSHIP 3 SOUTH, RANGE 6 EAST, ST. LANDRY PARISH, LOUISIANA, BEING IDENTIFIED AS LOT FOUR (4) OF THE VILLA ROUGE SUBDIVISION, CONTAINING 0.430 ACRES, MORE OR LESS, AS SHOWN ON THAT CERTAIN PLAT OF SURVEY OF SAID SUBDIVISION DATED JUNE 2, 2002, PREPARED BY MORGAN GOUDEAU & ASSOCIATES ATTACHED TO THAT AD RECORDED UNDER ENTRY NO. 901014, IN CONVEYANCE BOOK N-39, PAGE 613, OF THE RECORDS OF ST. LANDRY PARISH CLERK OF COURT.

BEING THE SAME PROPERTY ACQUIRED BY JAMES E. MANLEY AND FAITH HOPKINS MANLEY FROM DOUGLAS P. GERACE AND CANDY BLANCHARD

GERACE BY THAT ACT OF CASH SALE DATED JUNE 14, 2006 AND RECORDED JUNE 14, 2006 UNDER ENTRY NO. 964271 OF THE RECORDS OF ST. LANDRY PARISH, LOUISIANA.

PROPERTY ADDRESS IS BELIEVED TO BE: 135 VILLA ROUGE LANE, PALMETTO, LA

TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF SALE:

CASH WITH BENEFIT OF APPRAISEMENT TO PAY AND SATISFY THE SUM OF EIGHTY-SIX THOUSAND SIX HUNDRED TWELVE AND 76/100 DOLLARS (\$86,612.76), TOGETHER WITH INTEREST AT THE RATE OF TEN AND ONE TENTH (10.1%) PER ANNUM THEREON FROM AUGUST 1, 2020, AND ATTORNEY FEES OF .15% . PER CENT OF THE PRINCIPAL AND INTEREST, AS WELL AS ALL OTHER COSTS OF THIS SUIT.

ANYONE PURCHASING PROPERTY AT SHERIFF'S SALE IS GIVEN UNTIL 2:00 P.M. ON SALE DAY TO PAY THE FULL PURCHASE AMOUNT.

BOBBY J. GUIDROZ, SHERIFF ST. LANDRY PARISH, LOUISIANA

(PUBLISH: MARCH 4 & APRIL 4, 2021) 2T

PUBLIC NOTICE

SHERIFF'S SALE

LAKEVIEW LOAN SERVICING LLC VS

CHARLOTTE MARIE ANDRUS GILBERT

NO. 20-C-2783-C, CIVIL DOCKET, 27TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT ST. LANDRY PARISH, LOUISIANA

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT BY VIRTUE OF A WRIT OF SEIZURE AND SALE ISSUED OUT OF THE HONORABLE, THE 27TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT OF LOUISIANA, IN THE ABOVE ENTITLED AND NUMBERED CAUSE AND TO ME DIRECTED, I HAVE SEIZED AND TAKEN INTO MY POSSESSION AND WILL OFFER FOR SALE TO THE LAST AND HIGHEST BIDDER, ACCORDING TO LAW, COMMENCING AT THE LEGAL HOUR OF 10:00 A.M. AT THE PRINCIPAL FRONT DOOR OF THE COURT HOUSE AT OPELOUSAS, LOUISIANA ON WEDNESDAY, THE 7TH DAY OF APRIL, 2021. THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED PROPERTY, TO WIT:

THE PROPERTY DESCRIBED IN THE ACT OF MORTGAGE IS DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:

THAT CERTAIN LOT OR PARCEL OF GROUND, TOGETHER WITH ALL IMPROVEMENTS THEREON AND THEREUNTO BELONGING, SITUATED IN SECTION 94, TOWNSHIP 6 SOUTH, RANGE 4 EAST, ST. LANDRY PARISH, LOUISIANA, BEING KNOWN AND DESIGNATED LOT THREE (3) OF PLAT OF SURVEY DATED MAY 20, 1969, PREPARED BY MORGAN GOUDEAU & ASSOCIATES, RECORDED UNDER ENTRY NO. 550251 OF THE RECORDS OF ST. LANDRY PARISH CLERK OF COURT.

PROPERTY ADDRESS IS BELIEVED TO BE: 2123 VIGE STREET, OPELOUSAS, LA

TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF SALE:

CASH WITH BENEFIT OF APPRAISEMENT TO PAY AND SATISFY THE SUM OF THIRTY-SIX THOUSAND SEVEN HUNDRED FOUR AND 34/100 DOLLARS (\$36,704.34), TOGETHER WITH INTEREST AT THE RATE OF FIVE AND SEVENTY-FIVE HUNDREDTHS (5.75%) PER ANNUM THEREON FROM JUNE 1, 2019, AND ATTORNEY FEES OF .25% . PER CENT OF THE PRINCIPAL AND INTEREST, AS WELL AS ALL OTHER COSTS OF THIS SUIT.

ANYONE PURCHASING PROPERTY AT SHERIFF'S SALE IS GIVEN UNTIL 2:00 P.M. ON SALE DAY TO PAY THE FULL PURCHASE AMOUNT.

BOBBY J. GUIDROZ, SHERIFF ST. LANDRY PARISH, LOUISIANA

(PUBLISH: MARCH 4 & APRIL 4, 2021) 2T

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE TO BIDDERS DATE: 03/22/2021

Sealed bids will be received at the St. Landry Parish Yambilee Building located at 1939 West Landry Street, in Opelousas, Louisiana, up to the hour of 2:00 P.M. on

Thursday, April 8, 2021

And then publicly opened and read aloud on Thursday, April 9, 2021 at 2:30 P.M. at the St. Landry Parish Yambilee for the following:

1. Furnishing Gravel for a period of 1 (one) year starting 04/13/2021.
2. Furnishing Limestone for a period of 1 (one) year starting 04/13/2021.
3. Furnishing Diesel for a period of 6 (six) months starting 04/13/2021.
4. Furnishing Hot Mix for a period of 1 (one) year starting 04/13/2021.
5. Furnishing Cold Mix for a period of 1 (one) year starting 04/13/2021.
6. Furnishing Culverts for a period of 1 (one) year starting 04/13/2021.

Specifications are available and may be picked up in the Office of the Purchasing Agent at the St. Landry Parish Yambilee Building at 1939 West Landry Opelousas, Louisiana. The specifications may be picked up between the hours of 8:00A.M. and 4:30P.M. Monday through Thursday.

Please find Bid related materials and place electronic bids at www.centralbidding.com

Bids shall be enclosed in SEALED ENVELOPES, and addressed to the Purchasing Agent and PLAINLY MARKED AS TO TYPE OF BID ENCLOSED.

The St. Landry Parish Government reserves the right to reject any and all bids to waive any irregularities in bids received.

ATTEST: President /S/ Jessie Bellard

(PUBLISH: April 1, 4 & 8, 2021) 3T

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice to Proposers

Notice is hereby given that sealed proposals will be received by St. Landry Parish Government until May 4, 2021 at 4:00 P.M. local time in Suite 133 of the St. Landry Parish Courthouse, 118 S Court Street, Opelousas, Louisiana, 70570 for:

2021-02 Enterprise Resource Planning Software and Services

Proposals received after the above specified time will not be considered. Proposals will be opened immediately after proposal opening time in Suite 133 of the St. Landry Parish Courthouse.

Copies of the Request for Proposal may be obtained from standrpyg.org or in person at 118 S Court Street, Suite 133, Opelousas, Louisiana.

The right to reject any and all proposals and to waive irregularities and informalities is reserved.

St. Landry Parish Government is an equal opportunity employer.

(PUBLISH: APRIL 4 & 8, 2021) 2T

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Lagniappe-----Tuesday
Kinder-----Thursday
Allen Advantage-----Tuesday
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Over 82,700 Readers Per Week

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Ville Platte-----Sun. & Thurs.
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DEADLINES: Tuesday Noon for Thursday's Edition • Thursday Noon for Sunday's Edition

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2 FEMALE, 1 male, Husky/American Bulldog Mix. First shots and dewormed. To be given to good homes. Call 337-580-0519.

PUREBRED GERMAN SHEPHERD puppies. \$400.00
Contact 337-432-5507 or 337-580-4627

FOR RENT

EUNICE: 1 & 2 bedroom apartments and houses. Call 337-457-4229, 8am-5pm.

Apartments & Houses for Rent

Call Frey Development
161 W. Maple St
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HOUSES AND APARTMENTS
Furnished apartments, including utilities, Eunice. Call 337-305-3350.

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CHATEAU DES AMIS
955 W Dardeau St. Ville Platte, La. 70586
Apartments available for seniors 62 of age and older. One bedroom with kitchen appliances. Laundry room with free use of washer/dryer service. HUD subsidized. Rent based on income. Call 337-363-4301 or TTY:1-800-545-1853 Ext. 248



FOR SALE

GENERAC GENERATOR PURCHASED 1.5 years ago.

Model: Generac Run Watts: 8000 Bluetooth: No
Product Type: Electric Start Portable Generator
Width: 27in
Engine Manufacturer: Generac
Low Oil Shutdown: Yes
Depth: 27.2in
Number outlets: 3
Volts: 120v
Continuous Run Time: 11hrs
Starting Watts: 10,000
Height: 26.5in
Fuel Gauge: Yes
Fuel Tank: 7.9 gal
Power Type: Gas
Engine Displacement: 420 cc
Engine: OHV
Wheel Kit Included: Yes
Carb Compliant: No

Please Contact: 337-831-1445

HELP WANTED

VILLE PLATTE CLINIC Pharmacy has an opening for a part time delivery driver. The position is 3 days a week. Please apply in person.

CAREER MINDED INDIVIDUAL needed at local insurance company with good pay and benefits, call Ronnie at 337-302-4914.

DSW NEEDED TO care for disabled adult in the surrounding area. Apply at True Home Care, 241 E Main St, Ville Platte. 337-363-7879

EVERYTHING RENTAL CENTER is hiring full time and part time service technicians. Applicants must be hardworking, organized, reliable, willing to learn, and able to work well with others. The responsibilities of this position include maintaining a clean work area, servicing rental equipment, and providing customer service. Computer and phone skills are a plus. A driver's license is a requirement. Locations are in Eunice and Opelousas. Apply in person or send resume' to info@everythingrentalcenter.com



HELP WANTED

MECHANIC/MECHANIC HELPER needed. Individual must have some type of light mechanic experience. Job task consists of changing oil, adjusting and changing brakes, daily vehicle maintenance and troubleshooting. Applicant can apply at Babineaux's concrete Service at 550 S. 12th Street, Eunice or call 337-457-4959.

PORTABLE TOILET
AND dumpster company needs driver. Must have at least a chauffeur's license, pass a drug screen, have a clean driving record/work history, and must have a TWIC card or quality to get one. Apply in person at 578 Highway 13 North, Eunice.

SMITH'S TRUE Value Hardware has open positions for a full time sales person and a part time cashier. Prior experience preferred, but not necessary. Sales position should have plumbing and electrical department knowledge. Cashier position is flexible and perfect for college students. Applicants should be friendly, have a positive attitude, and be self motivated. Apply in person or send resume' to info@everythingrentalcenter.com

HELP WANTED

TOWN OF MAMOU is seeking applications for the position of Animal Control Officer. Applicants must possess a valid and current driver license with a clean driving record; and complete a pre-employment drug screen. Applications may be obtained at the City Hall office at 625 Sixth Street between the hours of 8 a.m and 4 p.m.

WE ARE LOOKING to hire a Full-Time Linen Processor

Duties Include:

- *Folding various types of linen
- *Packing linen carts for delivery
- *Pressing table linens.

Must be able to work as part of a team in a fast-paced environment.

Must be able to take directions from lead process managers and maintain a positive work ethic and attitude.

Please apply in person at 601 W Maple Ave Eunice, LA 70535.



LOOK

Ameriglobe is now accepting applications for all full time positions. No experience necessary. Starting pay is \$8.25/hr plus bonuses. Benefits include paid vacation, holidays, sick days, insurances, 401k and credit union. Must call 337-457-8800 for details before applying



Savoy Care Center

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7 am - 3 pm (PRN)
Duties and responsibilities include but not limited to doing resident treatments and supervising staff

PRN LPN's

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6 pm - 6 am shifts apply in person

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PUBLIC NOTICE

DECLARATION OF ELECTION RESULTS

Be it known and declared that the governing authority of the Parish of St. Landry, State of Louisiana (the "Parish"), did meet in open and public session to examine the official certified tabulations of votes cast at the special election held in the Parish on Saturday, December 5, 2020, and did examine and canvass the returns of the said election, there having been submitted at said election the following proposition, to wit:

PROPOSITION (MILLAGE RENEWAL)

Shall the Parish of St. Landry, State of Louisiana (the "Parish"), be authorized to continue to levy a special tax of one (1) mill on all property subject to taxation in the Parish (an estimated \$671,400 reasonably expected at this time to be collected from the levy of the tax for an entire year), for a period of ten (10) years, beginning with the year 2021 and ending with the year 2030, for the purpose of operating and maintaining a jail facility in the Parish?

There was found by said count and canvass that there was a total of **2,933** votes cast **IN FAVOR OF** the Proposition and a total of **2,450** votes cast **AGAINST** the Proposition, as hereinabove set forth, and that there was a majority of **483** votes cast **IN FAVOR OF** the Proposition as hereinabove set forth. Therefore, it has been declared by the governing authority of the Parish that the proposition as hereinabove set forth was duly **CARRIED** by a majority of the votes cast by the qualified electors voting at the said special election held in the Parish on Saturday, December 5, 2020. Results by precinct are available from the Clerk of the Parish during regular business hours or via the Louisiana Secretary of State's website (voterportal.sos.la.gov). The actual cost of the election as determined by the Louisiana Secretary of State in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 8-A of Title 16 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, as amended, is \$30,787.89.

Parish of St. Landry, State of Louisiana

(PUBLISH: APRIL 4, 2021) 1T

PUBLIC NOTICE

ADMINISTRATIVE/FINANCE COMMITTEE
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 7, 2021
6 O'CLOCK PM
OLD CITY MARKET, 131 W. BELLEVUE ST.
OPELOUSAS, LOUISIANA

AGENDA

MEMBERS: Jerry Red Jr., Easton Shelvin, Harold Taylor, Vivian Olivier, Wayne Ardoin, and Timmy Lejeune. Ex-Officio Dexter Brown.

1. Call To Order.
2. Roll Call.
3. Persons to Address the Committee
4. Parish President & Finance Reports:
 - a. February Budget to Actual Report.
 - b. Broadband Discussion
 - c. Land Lease with Ryan Lagrange.
 - d. Land Lease with Michael Brent Cross.

- a. Intergovernmental Agreement with Consolidated Gravity Drainage District 1 of Ward 3.
- f. Civic Source Professional Agreement updating new Parish President Jessie Bellard name.
- g. Updated Animal Control Ordinances.
- h. QTPOD Subscription Service Agreement
- i. US Bank Gateway Agreement for Government Entities
5. Did we violate public bidding laws by entering into a contractual agreement with (Mike Heifer) Geographic Planning and Demographic Services regarding reapportionment services. (Chairman Dexter Brown).
6. Authorize Adjudicated Property Sale with Jessica Henry-Parcel Number 8400169505.
7. Authorize Adjudicated Property Sale with Jessica Henry-Parcel Number 8400169000.
8. Discuss Phase 5 of Smooth Ride Home. (Councilman Wayne Ardoin).
9. Authorize Parish President Jessie Bellard to sign a non-warranty cash sale of adjudicated property to David Buller in the amount of \$1,000.00.
10. Discuss and approve dates of work for our Assistant Council Clerk. (Chairman Dexter Brown).
11. Discuss approval of a credit card for the St. Landry Parish Council, under St. Landry Parish Government, regarding booking reservations, conference registration fees, and hotel booking reservations. (Chairman Dexter Brown).
12. Discuss assistance for St. Landry Parish School Tutoring Program. (Councilwoman Mildred Thierry).
13. Authorize Council Clerk to purchase minute books to store Council minutes. Corrected pricing is \$783.50 provided by Spectra Associates for the next 4 years of minute books.
14. Discuss any other business properly brought before this committee.
15. Adjourn.

(PUBLISH: APRIL 4, 2021) 1T

PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 7, 2021
6 O'CLOCK PM
OLD CITY MARKET, 131 W. BELLEVUE ST.
OPELOUSAS, LOUISIANA

AGENDA

MEMBERS: Nancy Carriere, Mildred Thierry, Gil Savoy, Alvin Stelly, Jimmie Edwards, and Coby Clavier. Ex-Officio Dexter Brown.

1. Call to Order.
2. Pledge of Allegiance & Invocation.
3. Roll Call
4. Persons To Address Committee
5. Public Works Report:
 - a. Update on Adjudicated Property in the Parish.

- b. Update on Road Work throughout the Parish.
- c. Discuss final approval of Country Ridge Estates.

6. Forward all applications received for two appointments to Ward Two Gravity Drainage District No. 1 for a four year term. (04-19-2021- 04-19-2025).
7. Authorize Council Clerk to advertise three appointments to Bellevue & Coulee Crouche Gravity Drainage District No. 20 for a four year term. (05-02-2021 – 05-02-2025)
8. Authorize Council Clerk to advertise two appointments to Fire District No.2 for a two year term. (05-15-2021 – 05-15-2023).
9. Authorize Council Clerk to advertise one appointment to Public Works Commission District Six for a four year term. (05-17-2021 – 05-17-2025).
10. Discuss Storm Drains in Royal Garden Subdivision. (Councilman Wayne Ardoin).
11. Discuss the Speed Limit on Country Ridge Road. (Councilman Wayne Ardoin).
12. Discuss Missing Road and Street Signs. (Councilwoman Mildred Thierry).
13. Discuss adding the Louisiana Department of Transportation & Development

TAKE 10 LITTER PICKUP PLEDGE

"I pledge that I will take 10 minutes out of my daily activities to pick up any litter nearby in order to help keep Louisiana beautiful, and that I will encourage others to do the same."

14. Discuss any other business properly brought before this committee.
15. Adjourn.

(PUBLISH: APRIL 4, 2021) 1T

PUBLIC NOTICE

ST. LANDRY PARISH COUNCIL "COMMITTEE MEETINGS"

THE ST. LANDRY PARISH COUNCIL HEREBY GIVES NOTICE THAT IT WILL HOLD THE FOLLOWING COMMITTEE MEETINGS LISTED BELOW ON **WEDNESDAY, APRIL 7, 2021, STARTING AT 6PM** LOCATED AT THE OLD CITY MARKET LOCATED AT 131 W. BELLEVUE STREET, OPELOUSAS, LOUISIANA.

TIME	MEETING
6:00 P.M.	Public Works Committee
Immediately following Public Works	Administrative Finance Committee

These are important meetings and you are urged to attend.

BY ORDER OF THE ST. LANDRY PARISH COUNCIL
/s/ Dexter Brown, Chairman

(PUBLISH: APRIL 4, 2021) 1T

Get it growing



A butterfly visits a mint plant. (Photo by Heather Kirk-Ballard/LSU AgCenter)

Help beneficial insects feel at home in your landscape

By Heather Kirk-Ballard
LSU AgCenter Horticulturist

When I was growing up, the word alternative described the pop trends of the day. It has another meaning to me now. Organic, natural pesticides and fertilizers and native plants are an increasingly popular alternative to synthetic chemicals and fertilizers as well as the heavy use of non-native plants and practices.

How did traditional organic methods become the alternative? Isn't that the definition of an oxymoron? With the invention and use of chemical fertilizers and pesticides, farmers were able to increase food and crop production to support the world's increasing population. That's a good thing, right? Yes. However, the overuse of chemicals has had a negative effect on our pollinators and ecosystems.

Pollinators are responsible for one in every three bites of food we take. They increase our crop quality and values each year by more than \$15 billion, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Pollinators, specifically honeybees, have been in serious decline for more than three decades in the United States.

A large variety of pollinating insects make their homes in urban and suburban landscapes. Gardens and landscapes can be designed and managed in an alternative way so that they can support ecosystems rather than harming them.

Landscapes that support a wide array of pollinators help contribute to biodiversity and enhance local ecosystems in so many ways. As you go about your spring gardening this year, please consider using plants that support beneficial insects and pollinators.

There are a couple of strategies to protect pollinators, beneficial insects, local wildlife and their habitats. First, create habitats that include a diversity of plants. Second, keep your plants healthy without exposing the pollinating insects to toxic pesticides. Easy peasy!

There is a huge variety of plants that contribute to biodiversity and support a wide variety of pollinators. However, some of the most commonly used plants in our landscapes are not native to the United States. In fact, in many lawns and gardens, more than 75% of the most commonly used landscape plants are not native plants.

If you pay attention to both common and scientific names, you will notice just how many are not native to North America — Japanese magnolia, Chinese mahonia, Japanese yew, Indian hawthorn, Juniperus chinensis, Camellia japonica, Rosa chinensis (roses), etc. In

contrast, native plants have names such as *Itea virginica*, *Callicarpa americana*, *Clematis texensis*, *Anise floridanum*, *Quercus virginicus*, *Ruellia carolinensis*, *Rudbeckia texana* and so on. I think you can see the reference.

Non-native plants work fine in our landscapes because we fall on the same latitude as the countries they originate from. However, the pests that come along with those plants can do a real number on our native plants. Our native plants have built-in chemical defenses to ward off native insects because they have evolved together. When non-native plants and their insects make their way here, they upset the local ecosystems.

To help improve the biodiversity of your lawns and gardens, use a mixture of plants. Natives, in addition to those that are not native, are a good idea. Incorporating natives into even the smallest fraction of the smallest gardens can make a huge impact. Natives offer the biodiversity needed to support large ecosystems and all parts of the natural food web. The insects depend on native plants as food sources, and in turn, wildlife, birds and many mammals depend on them. These plants can also stabilize our soils and help conserve water.

As you choose, remember that natives have the benefit of being hardier plants because they are so well adapted to our soils and climates. They have less disease and insect pressures than non-natives. That means we will use less chemicals, insecticides, fungicides and herbicides because natives can stand up to disease and insect pressures naturally.

Here is a quick list of tips for how you can help support pollinators, beneficial insects and wildlife in your landscapes:

- Use a diverse selection of flowers, shapes and plant families.
- Include flowering shrubs, bulbs and trees.
- Use native plant species.
- Plant single-flowered varieties that allow easier access to pollen and nectar.
- Ensure continuous flower bloom and extend the bloom season.
- Plant fewer, larger blocks of flowers.
- Provide nesting places.
- Reduce or eliminate insecticide use.

Many local nurseries and garden centers carry native selections. As consumers begin to demand more natives, the growers and garden centers will strive to carry more.

If you are looking for a good read this summer, let me recommend "Nature's Best Hope: A New Approach to Conservation that Starts in Your Yard" by Doug Tallamy. Every yard counts!

Jennifer Weishaupt

Ruby Slipper CEO

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