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Abbeville High School named as recipient of Laura Bush Foundation for America's Libraries Grant

Abbeville High School is one of 300 schools from 36 states across the country to receive a $5,000 grant through the Laura Bush Foundation for America's Libraries. This year, the Laura Bush Foundation for America's Libraries awarded $1.5 million in library grants this year.

Many of the libraries will use the funds to update and diversify their collections.

"Congratulations to the 2023 Laura Bush Foundation Grant Recipients! I am thrilled that school librarians across the country will soon be able to update their library collections," Mrs. Bush said.

"These funds will help AHS update its library collection and encourage reading. I applied for this grant last school year and didn't receive it. It just goes to show that you cannot give up and should always keep trying. I look forward to seeing the Wildcats' faces when we receive all the awesome new books! We are so appreciative of this opportunity," said Katie Cordes, AHS Librarian and 2022-23 Teacher of the Year.

Mrs. Bush revealed her 2023 summer reading list, which includes recommendations for young readers through middle schoolers at the annual Laura Bush Book Club event, as part of the Engage at the Bush Center series presented by NexPoint, with support from H-E-B. Selections feature books on family, adventure, and gratitude. The list contains classics like The Little House as well as new releases like The Loud Librarian, featuring Dallas illustrator, Erika Lynne Jones.

"This year's summer reading list includes an old favorite, Charlotte's Web, which I

(See **GRANT,** Page 3)

Abbeville Fire Dept. conducting hydrant testing this week

The Abbeville Fire Department announced that hydrant flushing is scheduled to take place this week.

Flushing began on Tuesday and is expected to be completed by this Friday, May 19.

Your water may turn yellow if they flush a hydrant in your area. The Fire Department recommends running the water in your bathtub until it turns clear.

Two from Kaplan awarded Zaunbrecher Memorial Scholarship Awards

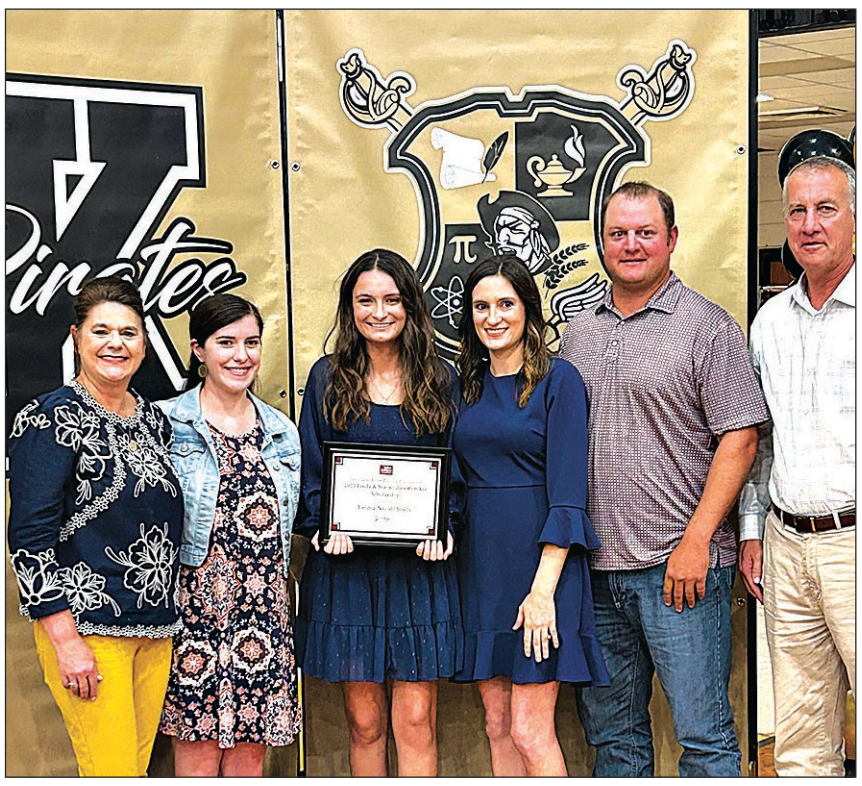
Stelly, Meaux are recipients

The Vermilion Parish Farm Bureau Federation is pleased to announce that two Dwayne A. Zaunbrecher Memorial Scholarship Awards were presented at Kaplan High School.

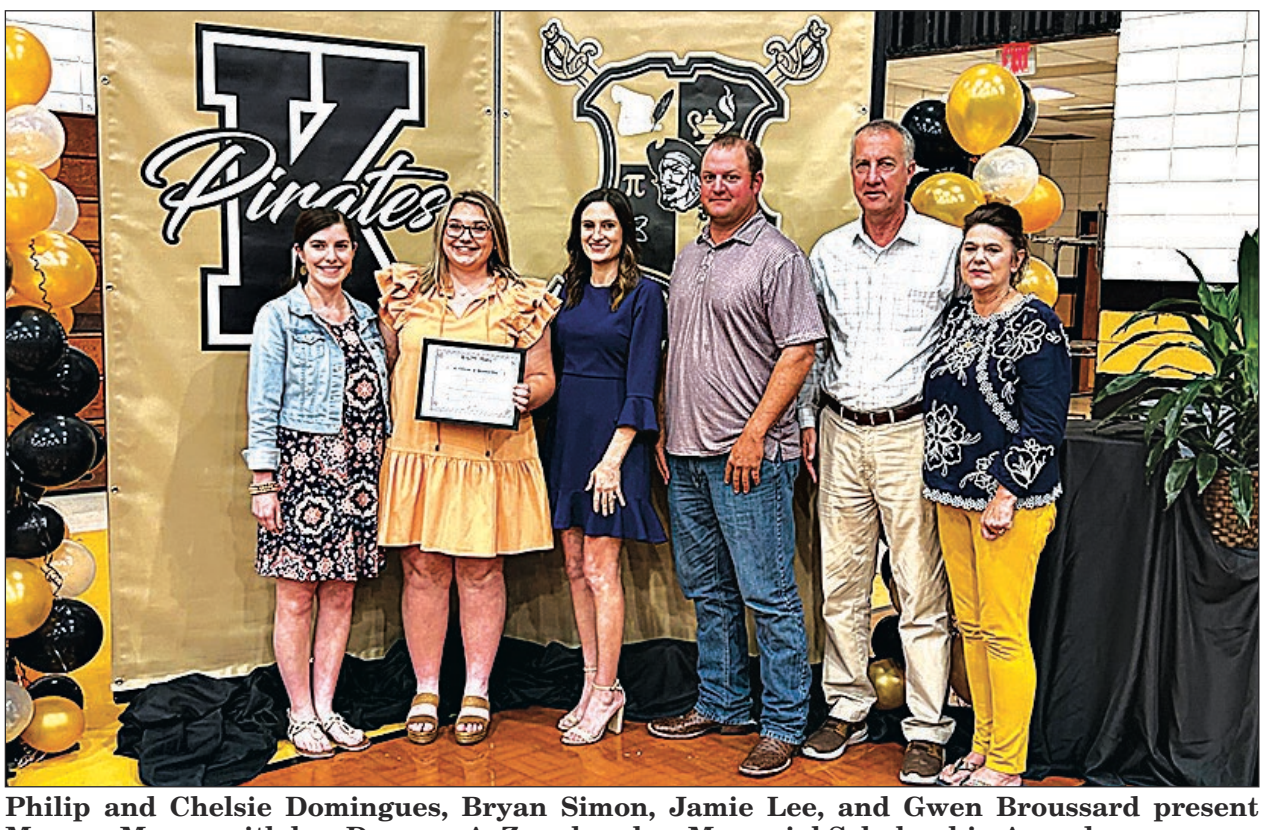
Emma Nicole Stelly and Morgan Meaux were recipients of 4-year scholarships worth $1,000 per year for 4 years.

Emma Nicole Stelly was also the recipient of the Linda and Wayne Zaunbrecher Louisiana Farm Bureau Foundation Scholarship worth $8,000 as a 4-year award.

Philip and Chelsie Domingues, Bryan Simon, Jamie Lee, and Gwen Broussard, representing Farm Bureau, presented the scholarships to Stelly and Meaux.



Philip and Chelsie Domingues, Bryan Simon, Jamie Lee, and Gwen Broussard present Emma Stelly with her Dwayne A. Zaunbrecher Memorial Scholarship Award.



Philip and Chelsie Domingues, Bryan Simon, Jamie Lee, and Gwen Broussard present Morgan Meaux with her Dwayne A. Zaunbrecher Memorial Scholarship Award.

State lawmakers kill pay raise for themselves

By Allison Allsop
LSU Manship School News Service

BATON ROUGE—The House Appropriations Committee voted 16-5 Monday to kill a bill that would have increased the salary for legislators.

House Bill 149 had proposed increasing their pay to $39,000 a year from $16,800. The committee rejected the bill after much discussion about service, privilege and ability.

Many legislators voiced their concern for supporting a raise in their own salaries when many residents of Louisiana deserve

(See **STATE,** Page 3)

Rep. Bourriaque appointed to Executive Committee of Legislative Rural Caucus

BATON ROUGE – State Representative Ryan Bourriaque, R-Abbeville, has been appointed to the Executive Committee of the Louisiana Legislative Rural Caucus for 2023.

With 72 members, it is the largest of the legislative caucuses and includes Senate and House members from across the state.

"Sharing the contributions of rural Louisiana at the Capitol through my participation in the rural caucus means more lawmakers understand our people," Bourriaque said. "It's hard to imagine what our communities face if you've never visited our districts, but together the caucus has a voice that is trusted by our colleagues as priorities are set and decisions made."

Bourriaque, who represents District 47, was first elected to the House of Representatives in 2019.

He serves the House committees of Natural Resources and Environment as Vice Chair; Agriculture, Forestry, Aquaculture, and Rural Development; Ways and Means; Commerce as Interim Member; House Executive Committee; Joint Legislative Committee on Capital Outlay; House Select Committee on Disaster Recovery; and House Select Leadership Committee.



Rural Caucus Chairman Rep. Chris Turner (right) congratulates Rep. Ryan Bourriaque on his appointment to the Rural Caucus Executive Committee.

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Louie Luke LeBlanc

October, 14, 1929 - May 13, 2023

Louie Luke LeBlanc, affectionately known as "Lou" to his family and friends, passed away in the morning hours of Saturday, May 13 just as the sun rose on another of God's glorious days. At his passing he was 93.

Lou was born October 14, 1929 in the rural Vermilion Parish community of Bayou Tigre to the late Delino LeBlanc and the late Jeilles Saunier LeBlanc, the eldest of three children born to that union. He was raised in a family steeped in Cajun heritage and taught the value of honest work and taking advantage of all that nature had to offer.

He proudly served his country as a soldier with the United States Army, and when he was discharged, he began a career in the oil and gas industry. He spent 26 years as an engineer with Odeco working offshore, and after his retirement began working with the Bayou Tigre Drainage District as a Dragline operator.

Of course, being that he was raised in cajun country, he had a love of the outdoors and spent as little time indoors as possible. In his family's eyes, he was a workaholic tending to his garden, maintaining his property and working in his shop fixing things, but in reality, Lou was in his glory. It didn't matter if he was fishing or trimming trees, just as long as he could be outside. He did relax on occasion and those times were spent on his patio overlooking his property. They also shared a laugh about Lou telling them he was "going work on his computer", which really meant he was going take a nap.

Above all, it can easily be said that his greatest love was that of his family. This man, who was a giant to some, was truly a gentle and loving man who dedicated his life to his bride of 63 years and the family they made. Many memories were made sitting on his patio that will remain in the hearts of the family he held so dear to his heart. His legacy will certainly live on and his spirit will remain with us forever. We rejoice in knowing that he is not gone, only gone on before us. Until we meet again. We love you.

Those left to cherish his memory are his wife and best friend of 63 years, Dolores Campbell LeBlanc; his children, Dale LeBlanc (Judy) and Jenny LeBlanc (Brian Rush); his grandchildren, Zachary LeBlanc (Kristen) and Kiley LeBlanc; his great grandchildren, Kinley and Kayden LeBlanc; and his twin siblings, Mona Hanes and Morris "Boy" LeBlanc (Myrtle).

Along with his parents, Lou was preceded in death by his brother in law, Arthur Hanes, Jr.

A Mass of Christian Burial celebrating Lou's life was held at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, May 16, 2023 at Our Lady of the Lake Catholic Church with Fr. Buddy Breaux as celebrant. Following the mass, he was laid to rest in Our Lady of the Lake Mausoleum.

A gathering of family and friends was held at Evangeline Funeral Home of Delcambre on Monday from 4 p.m. until 8 p.m., with the Rosary being prayed at 6 p.m. Visiting hours will resumed on Tuesday from 8 a.m. until 9:30 a.m.

Those honored to serve as pallbearers are Zachary LeBlanc, Brian Rush, Randy Campbell, Albert Wehbe, Kiley LeBlanc and Liz Hanes. Dale LeBlanc will serve as honorary pallbearer.

The family would like to extend the sincerest gratitude to Liz Hanes and Brian Rush, for their undying love and compassion while caring for Lou and our family. You are both loved and greatly appreciated.

Relatives and friends are encouraged to share their condolences and memories with the family by visiting Lou's memorial page at www.evangelinedelcambre.com

Evangeline Funeral Home of Delcambre is in charge of arrangements. Evangeline Funeral Home of Delcambre is in charge of arrangements.



Wilmer James Dugas

October 10, 1937 - May 13, 2023

ERATH – A Mass of Christian Burial for Mr. Wilmer James Dugas, 85, will be held at 1 p.m. on Thursday, May 18, 2023 at Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church with Fr. Matthew Cormier officiating. Interment will follow at Our Lady of Lourdes Mausoleum.

Visitation will be at David Funeral Home of Erath on Wednesday, May 17, 2023 beginning at 4 p.m. until 8 p.m. with a recitation at 7 p.m. Visitation will resume on Thursday, May 18, 2023 beginning at 8 a.m. until the time of the services.

A native of Erath and longtime resident of Sulphur, Mr. Dugas died at 8:30 a.m. on Saturday, May 13, 2023 at The Carpenter House. He served his country in the National Guard and worked for over 42 years for Ford Motor Company having worked for Shetler Ford, Tarver Ford, and then retired from Mike Willis Ford. Mr. Wilmer joined the Knights of Columbus at the age of 19 and after becoming a member of Council 3015 he became a 4th-degree Knight and served as Grand Knight of the council. He then helped found Council 8978 where he also served as Grand Knight and received the State Deputy Award. He was a charter member of the Kiwanis Club, a member of The Order of Fleur de Lis and a member of the Lions Club. Mr. Wilmer also served on the West CAL Port Board; the Southland Airport Board; and in 1986 he was elected to Sulphur City Council District 1 where he served for 20 years.

He is survived by his wife of 61 years, Barbara Brown Dugas; a brother, Marc D. Dugas; a sister, Mona Dugas Nunez; a sister-in-law, Josie Brown Arceneaux; three nephews, Scott Nunez, Bobby Exley, and Troy Arceneaux; four nieces, Lisa Arceneaux Druzbik, Jennifer N. Vegas, Erica Dugas, and Angel Dugas; and numerous great nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Dudley Marc Dugas and Yolande Boudreaux Dugas.

Serving as pallbearers will be Richard Dubois, Jr., Troy Arceneaux, Tyler Druzbik, Fred Dugas, Jr., Scott Nunez, and Bobby Exley.

David Funeral Home of Erath at 209 E. Putnam St. (337)927-0405 will be handling the arrangements.

Round two of Insure Louisiana Incentive Program application period canceled in anticipation of additional funding

The second 30-day application period for insurance companies to apply for Insure Louisiana Incentive Program funding has been canceled. It was originally opened May 1.

The total amount of grant funds available during the second application period was $3.15 million. The LDI anticipates approximately $10 million in additional funding will be appropriated to the program during the legislative session and will restart the second application period once that funding is appropriated.

The Incentive Program offers matching grants to incentivize new and existing insurance companies to write residential and commercial policies in coastal areas, including writing policies out of Citizens.

The participating insurance companies must meet solvency standards that are in line with standards required by the federally backed mortgage companies. The insurers will also be subject to enhanced solvency monitoring including, but not limited to, newly increased capital and surplus requirements, monthly reporting and in-depth reinsurance program reviews.

The original Insure Louisiana Incentive Program was vital to the successful recovery of our property insurance market after hurricanes Katrina and Rita in 2005. The program was recreated during

(See **ROUND,** Page 3)

UL Lafayette scientist's fossil, wood studies stretch from Siberia to second-story porches

Dr. Brian Schubert's internationally recognized research is coming out of the woodwork.

Schubert, an associate professor in the University of Louisiana at Lafayette's School of Geosciences, leads its stable isotope laboratory. Faculty and student scientists analyze the chemical composition of wood by measuring oxygen isotopes in the growth rings of trees.

The process enables researchers to study past climate change; it also has traditionally required time-consuming chemical pretreatment of samples that are widely used to obtain accurate measurements. "Methods for getting good measurements take a lot of time," Schubert explained, "so we've been examining ways to simplify the steps and streamline the chemistry."

That means ascertaining which, if any, wood or fossils from different periods in Earth's history yield valid data without being pretreated. And, while the stable isotope laboratory houses samples ranging from fossils millions of years old excavated from Siberian sediment to wood slivers culled from living trees, "we were missing samples that were hundreds of years old," he said.

Schubert "filled the gap" for his study with field work much closer to home than Siberia – at the J. Arthur Roy House, the oldest building on campus. The Roy House, built in 1901, is the main home of the Center for Louisiana Studies, a hub for scholarly investigation of Louisiana's people and history. It attracts academics and scholars from across the world.

Schubert was drawn to the center by a recently completed renovation that restored the house to its former grandeur. That happened after he tuned in to a segment about the project on KRVS Radio Acadie, the NPR station on campus. One phrase in particular caught his ear – "old growth trees." Schubert reached out to the center, inquiring about the possibility of obtaining a sample for the lab.

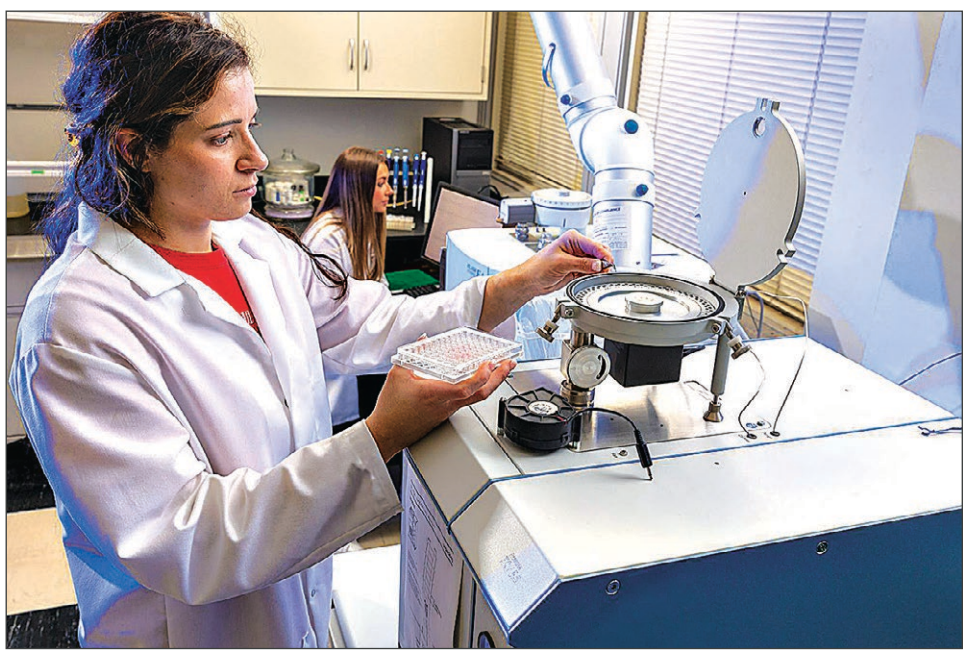


Photo by Doug Dugas / University of Louisiana at Lafayette

UL Lafayette faculty and student scientists analyze the chemical composition of wood by measuring oxygen isotopes in trees' growth rings in the stable isotope laboratory. The work has yielded clues about climate change and, most recently, more efficient, cost-effective research methods.

Request granted, he retrieved a block of longleaf pine hewn from an unsalvageable second-story porch column by a carpenter. The reclaimed wood's freshly sawed sides revealed a beautiful, tight pattern of old growth tree rings ideal for study. "It was the perfect piece of wood and it was just 200 yards away. The timing worked out perfectly," he said.

So did Schubert's study. Findings were recently detailed in "Chemical Geology," an academic journal published by the European Association of Geochemistry. Researchers concluded that chemical pretreatments are unnecessary in living or recently felled trees. "Such applications are required only when studying very old wood, millions of years old," Schubert said.

The determination is significant, he added: "It will allow for higher throughput and higher-resolution sampling of archeological wood. And scientists will be able to test samples at less cost." The discovery also means that the stable isotope laboratory will be able to better examine weather events that impact the region. including hurricanes, floods and droughts.

"Most of our work has involved fossils from China, the

(See **FOSSIL,** Page 3)

RICHARD A. BROUSSARD
Insurance Agency
893-5183



Budget battle in Louisiana Legislature heating up

Fight centers on what to do with $1.9B in non-recurring revenues

By Victor Skinner | The Center Square contributor

(The Center Square) — A coalition of Louisiana organizations calls on lawmakers to "adopt a responsible budget for FY2024" that doesn't increase the state's spending cap.

The Pelican Institute, Louisiana Association of Business and Industry, Americans for Prosperity Louisiana, Louisiana Family Forum and several others released a statement Tuesday outlining key principles for a responsible budget that would set the state up "to make a real difference for the future of Louisiana."

The coalition calls on lawmakers to avoid exceeding the spending limit enshrined in the state constitution and to fully fund the Rainy Day Fund to save toward revenue triggers to lower individual income and corporate franchise taxes.

The groups also suggest legislators pay down long-term debt and ensure surplus and excess funds are spent on "genuinely shovel-ready transportation and infrastructure projects."

"Ensuring the state has ample financial reserves to weather economic downturns and be fiscally responsible in tackling big, fundamental reform of the state's tax code is critical," the coalition argued, noting Louisiana has the 11th lowest Rainy Day Fund balance among states. "A robust Rainy Day Fund gives lawmakers flexibility for reform, is sound fiscal policy, and provides stability and security to the state budget."

Republicans in the Louisiana House and Senate disagree on how the state should use about $1.9 billion in additional revenue, with the lower chamber passing a budget that would pay off retirement debt that's not subject to the spending cap.

House Bill 1, sent to the Senate last week, would pay down about $950 million in pension debt, using money Gov. John Bel Edwards proposed in part to go toward $2,000 per year raises for teachers. The House budget would also eliminate $57 million of $114 million in spending increases Edwards proposed for higher education, as well as $52 million in new spending for early learning programs.

HB1 is aimed at reducing the impact of a temporary 0.45% state sales tax that's set to expire in 2025 while avoiding the two-thirds vote in both chambers necessary to override the spending cap. Paying down pension debt would reportedly result in $200 million in savings to the state.

House Republicans have argued the approach would free money local school systems can use for raises, but Senate leaders and Edwards remain focused on restoring the teacher raises and education funding, and devoting additional revenue to neglected state facilities, and road and bridge projects.

Senate leaders and Edwards are also skeptical local school systems would leverage pension savings to offer raises for educators, which they have argued is important to stem the flow of thousands of Louisiana teachers leaving the profession.

Others have criticized the nearly $45 million in legislator projects in the House spending plan, which could increase following changes in the Senate.

Lawmakers have until June 8 to find a compromise or face the possibility of a special session to finalize a budget.

The Pelican Institute and other coalition members contend lawmakers have the opportunity to "set our state on a path toward a solid fiscal future," and that requires a continued focus on creating tax relief for businesses and residents.

"Ensuring taxpayers in Louisiana get tax relief through the fulfillment of the final condition necessary to meet the tax rate reduction triggers promised to voters in 2021 is also essential," according to the coalition, which also includes NFIB, Associated Builders and Contractors Louisiana, and the Louisiana Committee for a Conservative Majority.

"Hitting these triggers will lower income tax rates for every individual and small business taxpayer in our state. Additionally, doing so will reduce our state's punishing franchise tax," the coalition wrote. "All of this will yield economic growth and create new jobs and opportunities for Louisiana families."

Grant

From Page 1

remember reading to my daughters when they were little," Mrs. Bush said. "As a former teacher and librarian, I know that the most important thing parents and caregivers can do for their children is to read to them. So I hope you bring this list to your local library, and pick out a few books to read with your family this summer. Your kids will love it, and so will you."

Grant applications for the 2023-2024 school year will open in late 2023. Visit laurabushfoundation.org to learn more.

The Laura Bush Foundation for America's Libraries supports school libraries with the greatest needs with the goal of encouraging all students to develop a love of reading and learning. Since its inception in 2002, it has awarded $21 million to more than 3,600 schools across the country.

The George W. Bush Institute's Education and Opportunity work, which houses the Laura Bush Foundation for America's Libraries, is generously supported by The Allstate Foundation. The Laura Bush Foundation is managed as a restricted fund at the George W. Bush Presidential Center in Dallas, Texas. More information can be found at laurabushfoundation.org and www.bushcenter.org.

George W. Bush Institute

The George W. Bush Institute is a solution-oriented nonpartisan policy organization focused on ensuring opportunity for all, strengthening democracy, and advancing free societies. Housed within the George W. Bush Presidential Center, the Bush Institute is rooted in compassionate conservative values and committed to creating positive, meaningful, and lasting change at home and abroad. It utilizes its unique platform and convening power to advance solutions to national and global issues of the day by influencing policy, not politics. Learn more at bushcenter.org.



Photo by Francis Dinh/LSU Manship School News Service

The House Appropriations Committee on Monday rejected a pay raise for legislators.

Fossil

From Page 2

Arctic, Siberia – and that tells us about large scale changes in climate across broad regions of the world. But, if we want to get a record of climate relevant to Louisiana, we can now do that at really high resolution," Schubert said.

"So, our next piece of detective work will be trying to figure out where the tree that produced this block of wood was felled, because it was likely sourced not far from here," he added.

State

From Page 1

pay raises even more. Some members also worried about how it would look to vote to increase lawmaker pay after the same committee removed direct state funding for up to $3,000 in pay raises for K-12 teachers from the governor's proposed budget.

After several members of the committee voiced their disapproval, Marino said that many lawmakers were refusing to pass the bill because they are running for reelection and worry that it will harm them.

Rep. Joseph Marino, a Gretna Independent, is not running for another term, and he contended that increasing the lawmaker pay would enable more people to run for office.

"It is simply a question of assuring that citizens from all walks of life are able to serve, not just rich and retired, but the younger professional or businessman or woman, plant worker, less well-off citizen," Marino said.

Rep. Debbie Villio, R-Kenner, countered that.

"I am neither rich, nor am I retired, nor did I grow up privileged," Villio said. "What I consider this to be is service. I don't consider it a job."

Reps. Daryl Deshotel, R- Marksville; Mary DuBuisson, R- Slidell; Aimee Freeman, D- New Orleans; John Illg Jr., R- River Ridge, and Rodney Lyons, D- Marrero, voted for the pay raise.

The House and Governmental Affairs Committee had voted 8-4 earlier to support Marino's bill.

Also on Monday, the Appropriations Committee also advanced a bill that would enable some teachers to earn hourly wages for extra duties.

HB 205, authored by Rep. Marcus Bryant, D-New Iberia, would allow teachers to be paid for any duties outside of their job descriptions. Additionally, teachers would be paid an hourly rate based on their salary for after-school activities except for coaching positions.

The bill also changes the date, to June 30, when teacher salary schedules would become available for the following school year.

Coaches are not included in this change because they are already paid outside of their normal duties. An amendment also removed teachers at special schools from the supplement pay plan.

Marcus Thomas, the director of government relations for the Louisiana Association of Educators, said that 43 districts already provide supplemental pay for teachers participating in extra duties. He said this bill would provide fairness and consistency.

Round

From Page 2

the 2022 Legislative Session, and the legislature overwhelmingly passed $45 million in funding for the program during a special session earlier this year. Nearly $42 million of the available $45 million was awarded to eight insurers following the first round of applications.

About the Louisiana Department of Insurance: The Louisiana Department of Insurance works to improve competition in the state's insurance market while assisting individuals and businesses with the information and resources they need to be informed consumers of insurance. As a regulator, the LDI enforces the laws that provide a fair and stable marketplace and makes certain that insurers comply with the laws in place to protect policyholders. You can contact the LDI by calling 1-800-259-5300 or visiting www.ldi.la.gov.

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What are all these illegals going to do?

Mark Lewis
townhall.com

So, the gate to illegal entrance into America is now open wider than it was before. Well, since Biden became President, there hasn't been a gate. By the time he leaves office, there will be...how many people illegally in the United States, having crossed our non-existent southern border, by far the greatest breakdown of the federal government whose first job is to protect Americans from invasion by those who are not legally allowed into the land. This will be Biden's most horrendous legacy historically—the worst of all his failures.

What will the total figure end up being? 25 million? 30 million? There is no way we will know, until they are all given amnesty, which will happen eventually. That's what the Democrats want and, well, what else can we do with them? Ship them back across the Mexican border and let them die in the desert? They are here to stay, folks, you know it, I know it, they know it, and Biden knows it. And that's been the plan all along.

But what will they do? Well, a variety of things, none good because they are here illegally—at least for a while. But here are some possibilities to keep them occupied.

1. Pick crops. Many of them are already doing that, and have been for years. They shouldn't be doing it, of course, not just because they shouldn't be here in the first place, but because they are taking work from American citizens. How about starting with the hundreds of thousands of homeless that are on the streets? They need jobs. Round 'em up and send them to the fields. But can't do that because Democrats need them on the streets for—something. Political gain surely. Young people could start their careers by doing farm labor, but they are too lazy to work, period, so it would be hard to coax them to do it. So, bottom line, lots of the newcomers will be in the fields as well. At least they will be working. They will have jobs that Americans don't want to do, and that says something about the country. And also about leadership, in all areas, which is not encouraging especially young people towards the virtues of hard work and diligence. But people on welfare means votes for politicians.

2. Some illegals will sell drugs. That's what many of them came to do—work for the cartels. They can make pretty good money killing Americans. Frankly, I place most of the blame here on the people who take drugs. It is an utterly useless, dangerous, stupid thing to do. Nobody forces anybody to take drugs, although I've heard a few fentanyl deaths were innocent. But I really struggle to feel sorry for people who ruin their lives, or die, by voluntarily putting something into their body that doesn't belong there and can only harm them. The drug problem in America is completely the fault of the fools who take them. I have never smoked one weed in my life or taken a single illegal drug, and that by choice. I'm not very smart, but I'm not THAT stupid. We could stop the drug problem tomorrow if every American would just have the sense to quit using them. But that isn't going to happen, and thus there is a tremendously lucrative market for drugs. So many of the illegals will be in America getting rich off the recklessness of the millions who take drugs.

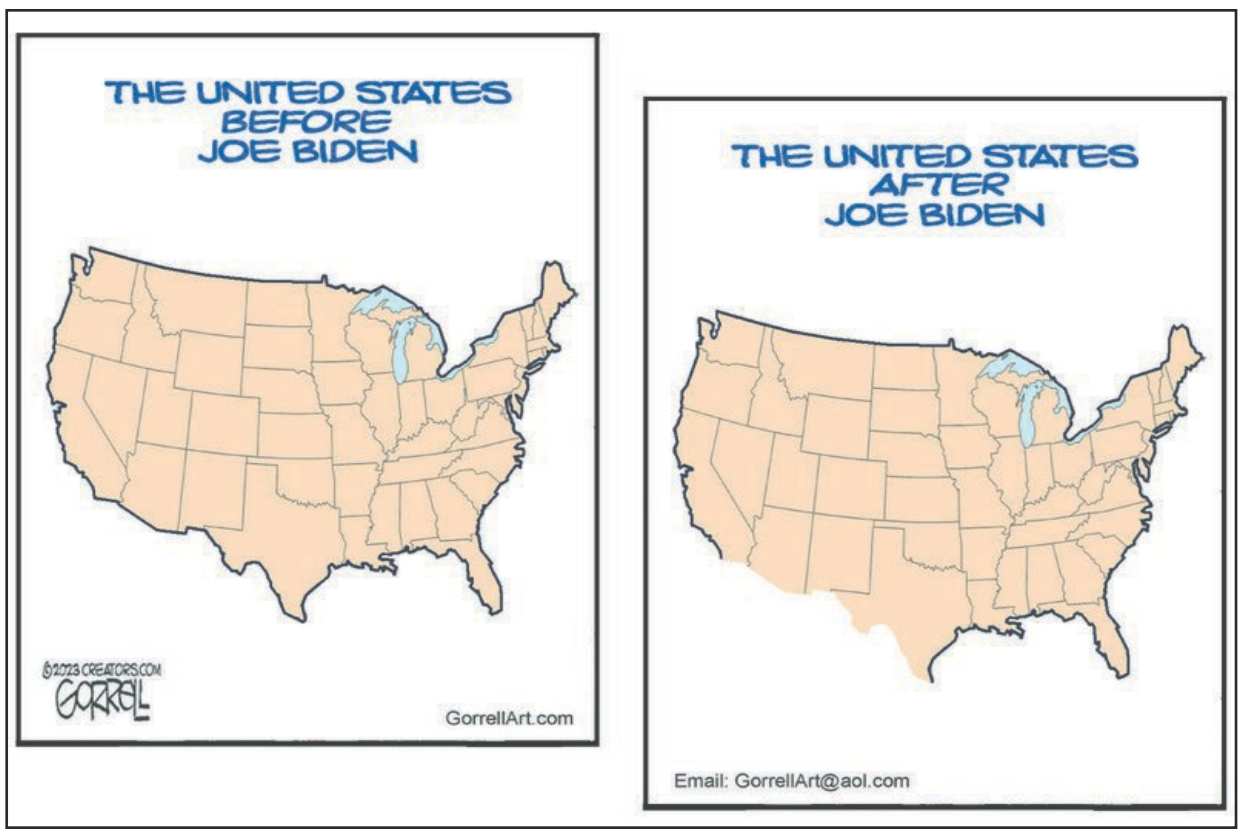
3. Menial jobs, welfare, homelessness, crime. Very few of the illegals are skilled laborers (except for picking Nancy's crops), so they won't be able to get high paying jobs. They will live together in hovels, 8, 10, 12 to a house, or on the streets, and be in poverty. Many will, of course, get on welfare and you and I will take care of them through our tax dollars. There are a lot of other criminals crossing the border as well, and thus the Democrat-caused crime wave will escalate. All this chaos is exactly what the Left wants because...

4. These people are a revolution waiting to happen. The illegals are going to discover that Joe Biden's America is not what it was advertised to be. Most of them will exist in squalor and deep poverty, with no easy avenue of escape. Many children will end up in some kind of child labor or maybe even sex slavery to help their families subsist. It is a horrible situation Biden is creating. Many of these people left their countries to get away from this, but they will find a concomitant situation in the United States.

If we think a revolution cannot happen in America, then we are only deluding ourselves. Adolf Hitler actually came to power legally, but Mao Zedong required a civil war. Lenin took advantage of mass discontent to take over Russia, and that appears to be the most likely scenario in America. The Democrats are creating hatred of America in many groups, especially blacks and millennials. Thus, they will have no qualms about rebelling against a country they despise, which they believe is unfair, unequal, and full of injustice. This is a classic recipe for revolution. And just what the Democrats crave.

And if the situation proves intolerable for the illegals, they, too, will become a discontented mass, angry, and ripe for Leftist propaganda. In history, when this kind of brew is stirred into a national pot, it usually takes a strongman (dictator) to step forth and subdue it, taking away everyone's liberties in order to create stability. Once he gets power, he never gives it up. It happened in many countries in the 20th century, and it can happen in the 21st, too.

Welcome to Joe Biden's America, deliberately manufactured. An increasingly seething, boiling cauldron of discontent. I have no answers to this one. I've seen it too many times in history. Once the avalanche starts, there is no way to stop it.



Broken Arrow



Allen West
townhall.com

Those of us with a military background certainly know what those two words represent. Some of you without a military background may recognize those words from the 2002 film "We Were Soldiers." The movie, starring Mel Gibson and Sam Elliott, is based upon the book titled, "We Were Soldiers, Once and Young" which told the true story of the Air Cavalry Battalion of the 7th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division engagement with a numerically superior North Vietnamese Army Division in the Ia Drang Valley. It was the first battle between regular forces of the two nations. The code word "Broken Arrow" was used when the unit faced being completely overrun and signaled all available air support necessary, even at close range.

Last week, the United States of America officially entered into a state of being overrun. That is especially the case here in my home state of Texas. The videos and true, factual, reports, not those of the partisan, propagandized media, show the mass flood of humanity illegally entering our country. We have reached a point of calling out "Broken Arrow," but the difference is that there is no support forthcoming. As a matter of fact, the purposeful and intentional disregard of our borders by federal and state elected officials is highly disturbing, treasonous, and fully representative of high crimes and misdemeanors. To ignore and abandon legal, law-abiding citizens at a time when their homes, ranches, property, and communities are being overrun by those who do have a right to enter our country is appalling. No good commander or leader would abandon their troops in dire need. Then again, we witnessed Barack Hussein Obama do so in Benghazi and Joe Biden do the same in Afghanistan. I reiterate my assertion, no good commander or leader would do such.

The pertinent question then becomes, at this moment of utter distress, what can the American people do?

As I have watched countless videos from the border since last Thursday and experienced firsthand recently, there is a very disconcerting phenomenon. The amount of single military-age males being allowed illegal entry into America should give us all concern. As well, the same goes for the level of single military-age females. I saw videos of Mexican officials taking illegals to positions and crossing points where there were no individuals to deter their entry. See, you can put up concertina wire, but if no one is there conducting overwatch, it loses its value and capability. Over these past two years We the People have been fed lies, deception, gimmicks, optics, and platitudes when it comes to our southern border security. Now, it has reached its full zenith, and there are still two more years of Biden regime rule...even more years of a feckless Texas governor. Neither of whom are fulfilling their constitutional duties and responsibilities.

Therefore, the responsibility falls upon the people, the true American citizens who understand safety and security. This is not an issue of Black, White, Hispanic, or Asian. This is simply an issue of the rule of law, or its abdication and utter dismissal, which has horrific ramifications for us all. Citizens must begin to organize themselves at the county and city level and reject this clear and present threat, lawlessness. Truly consider the fact that those entering our nation illegally are receiving more free benefits and amenities than our veterans do. When have you heard of homeless veterans being housed in the world's tallest Holiday Inn in New York City? Given free cell phones? Free bus and plane tickets to the destination of their choice?

Yes, Broken Arrow!

It is time we look to our constitutional law enforcement officers, sheriffs, and empower them to reject the overrunning of our communities. It is time that more of us find the time to volunteer and assist our sheriffs in fulfilling their constitutional duties of honoring the rule of law and protecting us. It is apparent that we cannot depend upon politicians, elected officials, whether Democrat or Republican, to fulfill their responsibility, as they are willfully eschewing that duty for ideological gain. There is a reason why the Founding Fathers wrote the Second Amendment as they did, "A well-regulated [trained] militia [the people] being necessary to the security of a free state [nation], the right of the people [who form the trained militia] to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed."

Yes, Broken Arrow!

The support is not coming from anywhere else but from us. We have watched countless hours of video of armed law enforcement agents and national guard troops, armed, but not doing anything to protect us. Sadly, they are following immoral, unlawful, unethical, and unconstitutional orders from those placed in command above them. As a former Army Battalion Commander who served in combat, I cannot fathom abandoning any of my Soldiers who were in a desperate situation of being overrun by the enemy. We have sayings in the military that "Warriors move to the sound of the Guns" and "Leave no Man behind." I once stated, "if it is about the safety and lives of my men, I would go through hell with a gasoline can." Who can the American people, those of us here in Texas, look to who embodies that sentiment, that level of commitment, and conviction?

Yes, Broken Arrow!

We are playing a part in history, and that is watching the demise of the sovereignty of the United States. Anyone enabling this to occur is aiding and abetting drug, human, and sex trafficking, including child sexual exploitation. Back in the Ia Drang Valley, General Von Giap's troops did break through LTC Hal Moore's lines, but they were repulsed by a complete and total response of American military firepower. Our lines, our sovereign border has been violated, we are being overrun, but where is our response? America has no leadership at this critical moment; therefore, the response must come from each of us. Not the summer soldiers and sunshine patriots, but those of us who would willingly rush into hell to protect and preserve our Constitutional Republic. The politicians want to see an American defeat, a fundamental transformation. They do not deserve our respect and regard as long as they allow this to happen. China, Russia, Iran, Islamic jihadists, and the narco-criminal terrorists are laughing at us because of weak men and women who parade about with political titles. But there is still an American fighting spirit that quietly says we will not be subjugated.

Remember, Broken Arrow was a codename that leveraged full and available combat power to be concentrated at a decisive moment. Broken Arrow was not an indicator of surrender, or defeat, it was the means to send a message to the enemy that we ain't giving up! That we will put a boot up yer butt with a smile. Yes, even outnumbered 5:1 those troopers of the 1st Battalion, 7th Cavalry Regiment carried the day in the Ia Drang Valley.

Steadfast and Loyal.

Abbeville Meridional
Kathy Cormier GENERAL MANAGER
Chris Rosa MANAGING EDITOR
Theresa Milliman BUSINESS MANAGER
Cindy Nicholas CIRCULATION MANAGER

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Vermilion Parish Library Poetry Contest Winners

Vermilion Parish Library
Poetry Contest Winner - 2023
Age Group 7-10

MY NEW HOME

By Paisley Caldwell

Moving can be joyful.
Moving can be sad.
Moving can be leaving
Everything you had.

Leaving old friends can be hard,
Yet new ones lay ahead.
Life can feel torn apart,
thread by thread.

But life is short,
So make the most of it.
Whenever you feel down,
Never ever quit.

Louisiana is charming
In spite of its dangers,
Of which there are many,
From snakes to alligators.

Neighbors have been so nice.
The people here are lovely.
I'm a fan of Cajun country.
What an adventurous discovery!

I said goodbye to Indiana.
'Twas so hard to go.
New memories have been made.
Now LA feels like home.



Vermilion Parish Library Poetry Contest Winner - 2023. Age Group 7-10, Paisley Caldwell.

Vermilion Parish Library
Poetry Contest Winner - 2023
Age Group 11-14

IMAGINARY LIFE

By Madison Frazier

At first I am reluctant to sit down and read,
but something compels me to see the hidden
mysteries within these pages.

Maybe to envelop yourself in past histories or romantic toxicities.

You begin to live their life, you feel their sorrow, you sympathize with them and begin to see life through their eyes.

You're no longer on your couch, you blink and you and me are in sync.

You're swinging from vines or traveling through time.

Engaging in sword fights, or helping a pirate with one eye.

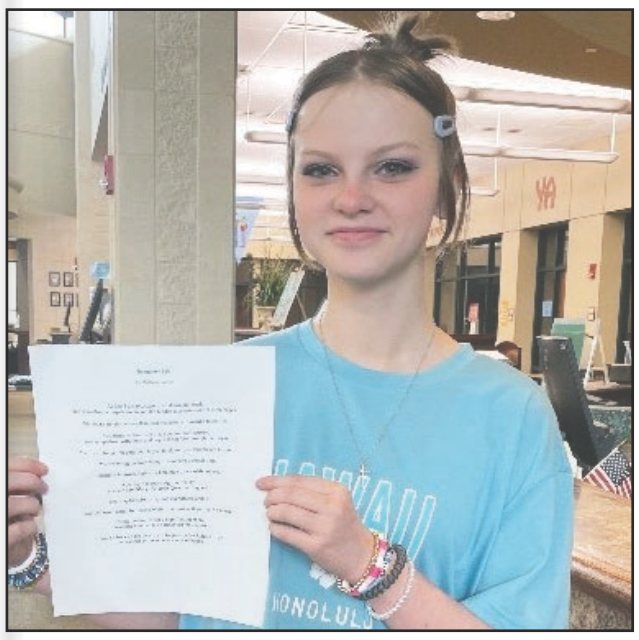
You begin to loose sight of reality,
you are now Mary, the great Queen of England.

You snap back to reality and everything sinks in.

You've been reading for quite a while....almost as if you're in a trance.

Check the time to see a sign flashing 9 pm, realizing you had been enhanced for 7 hours.

You sit back on the couch, just to grab the book again to be entranced by the wonders we call books.



Vermilion Parish Library Poetry Contest Winner - 2023. Age Group 11-14, Madison Frazier.

Vermilion Parish Library
Poetry Contest Winner - 2023
Age Group 19+

ONLY THE HEART KNOWS

By Catherine Schexnyder Brumwell

Do memories reside only in our mind?
Do they take rest or recall in their own time...at their own pace In sync and in rhyme?

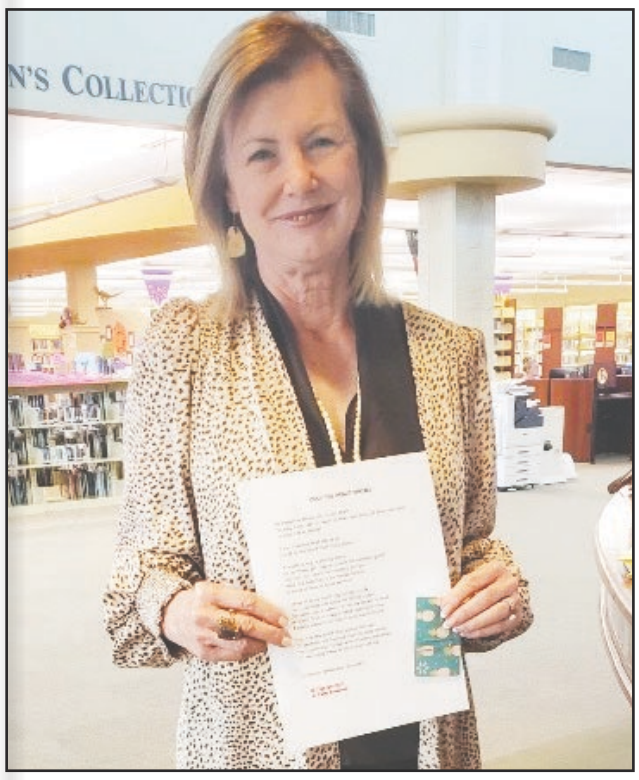
I don't believe that this is so,
For it is the heart that truly knows.

A laugh, a hug, a sharing story,
Do all these get filed in a bank for someday glory?
Or, can that heart-felt memory surface,
Amid the heartbeats our bodies furnish,
A pulse of love to do us service?

Indeed it is my heart, my center of life,
That cherishes and holds my father's light.
For never can a memory of him be drawn to mind,
Without first, my heart, while beating in time;
Release moments of love in sync and in rhyme.

Yes, it is the heart that pumps the sea,
Of emotions and feelings that my body needs; That spark and flutter with recurring memories, Of the loving times of my father and me.

Copyright 2022 by Cathy Brumwell



Vermilion Parish Library Poetry Contest Winner - 2023. Age Group 19+. Catherine Schexnyder Brumwell.

Avery Hebert Initiated into Omicron Delta Kappa



Avery Hebert

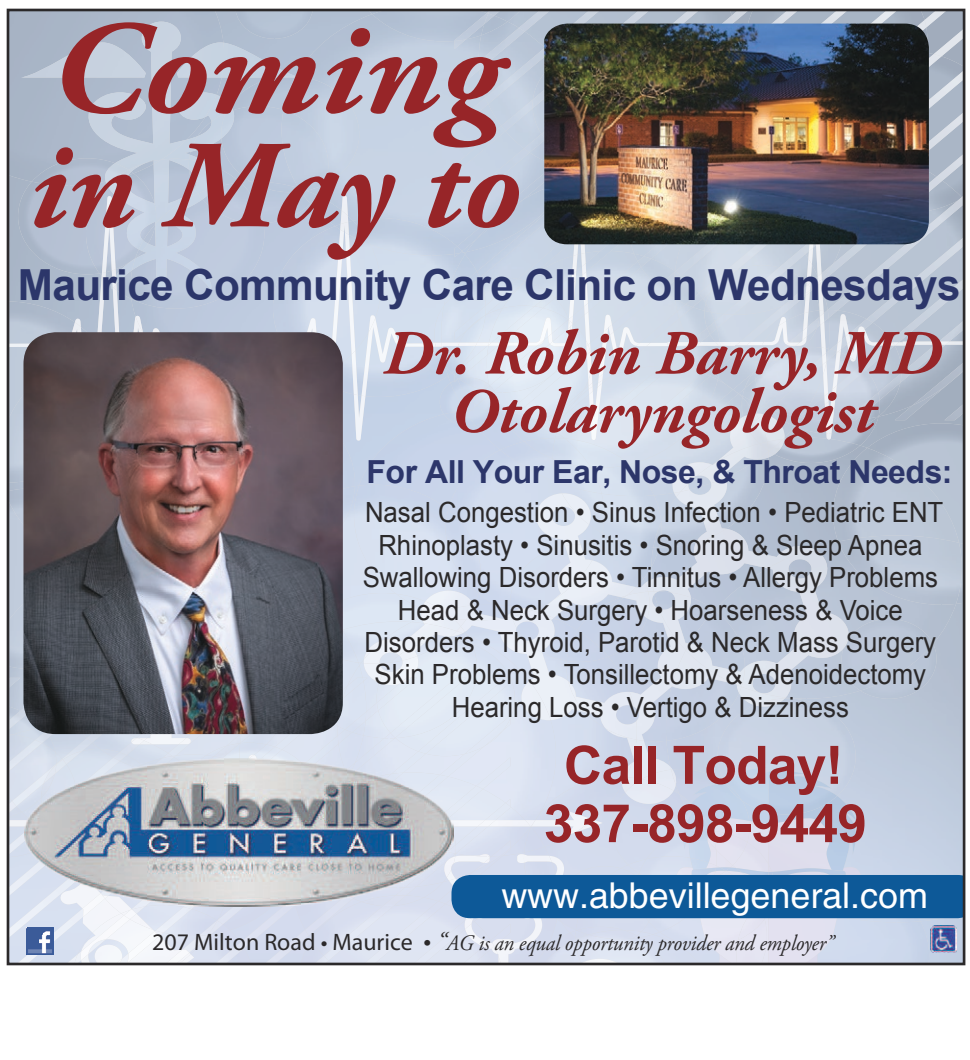
LEXINGTON, VA (05/15/2023)--Avery Hebert, a native of Erath, was recently initiated into the Louisiana State University Circle of Omicron Delta Kappa, the National Leadership Honor Society. The Society welcomed 1,869 new initiates from 78 universities during April 2023.

Students initiated into the Society must be sophomores, juniors, seniors, or graduate/professional students in the top 35% of their class, demonstrate leadership experience in at least one of the five pillars, and embrace the ODK ideals. Fewer than five percent of students on a campus are invited to join each year.

Omicron Delta Kappa Society, the National Leadership Honor Society, was founded in Lexington, Virginia, on December 3, 1914. A group of 15 students and faculty members established the Society to recognize and encourage leadership at the collegiate level. The founders established the ODK Idea- the concept that individuals representing all phases of collegiate life should collaborate with faculty and others to support the campus and community. ODK's mission is to honor and develop leaders; encourage collaboration among students, faculty, staff, and alumni; and promote ODK's leadership values of collaboration, inclusivity, integrity, scholarship, and service on college and university campuses throughout North America. The Society's national headquarters are located in Lexington, Virginia.

Your classroom, school club, club, church or organization is welcome to submit activity news and photos.
Please forward your awards, photos or promotions to:

The Abbeville Meridional
at either the office at 318 N. Main St., Abbeville
or online at:
lifestyles@vermiliontoday.com.



Branch Elementary 4-H Club travels to Vermilion Parish

Branch Elementary 4-H Club traveled to Vermilion Parish for their end of the school year field trip. Vermilion Parish Farm Bureau Federation, YF&R, Women, and AITC Committees provided a farm tour and ag lessons for the 75 members, their advisors and volunteers. The students learned about sugarcane production, rice and crawfish production, beef cattle nutrition, gardening, conservation, and the commodities produced in Vermilion Parish through videos, hand-on lessons, and a tour of a rice and crawfish farm. Each student was able to ride in a crawfish boat and assist with the process of harvesting crawfish. Alissa Chatagnier, the 4-H Leader said, " the student's really enjoyed this field trip and we are looking forward to returning to Vermilion."

Written and submitted by: Gwen Broussard, Vermilion Farm Bureau Federation Assistant



Branch Elementary 4-H Club members on farm tour at Adlar and Natachia Stelly's crawfish pond.

Duhon and Hebert Visit the La. State Capital

Louisiana Farm Bureau Federation YF&R members participated in the Louisiana Capital Day visit on Wednesday, May 10, 2023. They had the chance to meet lawmakers, see the governmental process, and share how legislation impacts their farms and their lives. Laura Hebert and Amanda Duhon representing Vermilion and Lafayette Parish Farm Bureau Federations were on hand to express their opinions on current topics and events.

Written and submitted by: Gwen Broussard, Federation Assistant for Vermilion and Lafayette Farm Bureau Federations



Daily Horoscope

By Mecca Woods

ARIES
(March 21 to April 19)
There may be room to create new alliances for the sake of professional and personal growth. Make sure those you align with are legit.

TAURUS
(April 20 to May 20)
You're charged up and ready to let nothing stand in your way of reaching goals. Go for the gold, but be mindful of stepping on others to get there.

GEMINI
(May 21 to June 20)
Sometimes you have to admit when something's just not meant for you. This will help you invest in things that are better aligned with who you are.

CANCER
(June 21 to July 22)
With your star power on the rise, you're encouraged to overcome any fears that you might have of being in a more visible position, making new friends or putting yourself out there.

LEO
(July 23 to Aug. 22)
Opportunities and public acclaim may be at your doorstep. Think carefully about who you choose to do business with. Look for the win-win.

VIRGO
(Aug. 23 to Sept. 22)
If you want to grow, you must let go of the need to control everything. Embracing the support and encouragement of others will help you loosen up.

LIBRA
(Sept. 23 to Oct. 22)
No playing small, Libra. Having an unshakeable confidence in yourself will get you where you want to go.

SCORPIO
(Oct. 23 to Nov. 21)
Don't allow what went wrong in the past to block your happiness now, especially when it comes to falling in love or building new relationships.

SAGITTARIUS
(Nov. 22 to Dec. 21)
You often like to say "yes" to new projects and opportunities, often having a lot going on at once. However, you'll find that success will come from moderation, patience and planning.

CAPRICORN
(Dec. 22 to Jan. 19)
There's hardly anything that you can't accomplish, thanks to how strong and determined you are. But don't discount the power of a team.

AQUARIUS
(Jan. 20 to Feb. 18)
It's important to have standards. However, take care that you're not being too judgmental of others.

PISCES
(Feb. 19 to March 20)
You might be fired up with ideas. As you work on them, avoid cutting corners. Your integrity and hard work will pay off.

FOR TODAY'S BIRTHDAY
You're a dynamic doer. You set a goal, and you reach for the stars. You're not the type to let a setback discourage you. You don't falter in the face of a difficulty. It's your fearlessness and ingenuity that always sees you through. You're sharp, confident and authentically you. You stand out in the crowd because you never play small. Your approach to life is go hard or go home. With relationships, you're loyal, understanding and deeply caring. People know that they can count on you. This year, success and adventure await you.

Birthdate of: Nikki Reed, actress/entrepreneur; Tony Parker, former pro basketball player; Trent Reznor, musician/singer.

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NEA Crossword Puzzle

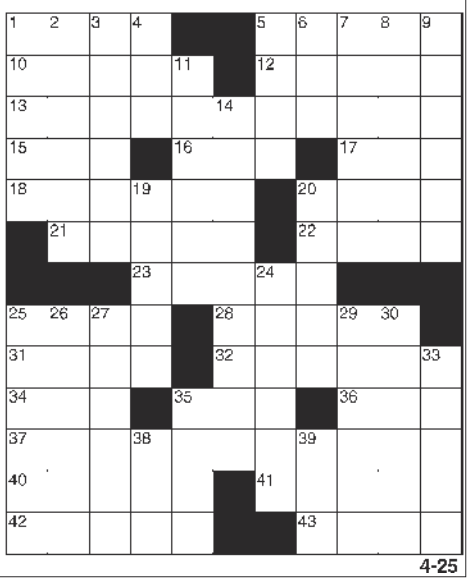
CROSSWORD
By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS
1 One of the Deadly Sins
5 Church fixture
10 Pays to play
12 "Cheers" barmaid
13 South America's north coast
15 Bar bill
16 Quaker's pronoun
17 Not pos.
18 Sand substance
20 Skin woe
21 Home design
22 Reduced amount
23 More than sufficient
25 Pack tight
28 Salon jobs
31 On this spot
32 Hun leader
34 Swearing-in vow
35 That guy's
36 Tote
37 Deluge
40 Miniature map
41 Pound part
42 Calls for
43 Low digits

DOWN
1 Survives
2 Like some debts
3 Horse house
4 Wallet bill
5 Needing aspirin
6 Hurried flight
7 Somnolent state
8 Sci-fi threat
9 Mountain chains
11 Half-hour show, often
14 Twinge
19 Start of a Caesar quote
20 Watchful
24 "Get a move on!"
25 Contribute
26 Made over
27 Incite
29 La Scala city
30 Water channel
33 Dance's de Mille
35 Top Ten songs
38 Cardinal color
39 Tire track

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

Yesterday's answer



4-25

CLASSIFIEDS & LEGALS

For Rent

KAPLAN
409 E. Mill St.
3BD/2BA
mobile home
all kitchen
appliance
including
dishwasher
$625/DP
$625/MO
call
337-652-2404
to apply

For Sale

3-LONG DEEP
Freezers
Call 337-281-8514

Help Wanted

VERMILION JANITORIAL SEEKS
Warehouse/Driver.
Part-Time & No Insurance
Some heavy lifting required.
Monday-Friday
(will work around collage schedules)
Please apply in person after 10:00
Monday-Friday at
1924 Charity St.
Clean Driving Record and Random Drug Testing

Pets

FIXED MALE BLACK & White Cat, super friendly, inside/outside, free to a good home call 337-534-9096

LET US HELP FIND A HOME FOR YOUR LOST OR FOUND ANIMAL!
IT RUNS FREE FOR ONE WEEK
W/ NO REWARD OR COST OFFERED.
893-4223



I, Christopher Troy Gary was convicted of Molestation of Juvenile in the _____ Judicial District Court.

My address is:
204 North St.
Gueydan, LA 70542

Race: White
Sex: Male
Orientation:
DOB: 03/20/1984
Height: 5'10"
Weight: 200
Hair Color: Brown
Eye Color: Brown
Scar: None
Piercing: None
Tattoo: R_arm-4 leaf Clover, Back- In Loving Memory +, R_calf-Man and Women, Chest-Jeff Sr. and Reva, L_calf-Tat00 Gun
Prosthesis: None
Vehicle: 2011 White Nissan Frontier



I, Mode Baker Miller was convicted of Carnal Knowledge of a Juvenile, Indecent Behavior with Juveniles, Simple Rape in the 15th Judicial District Court.

My address is:
604 N. Boudreaux Ave.
Kaplan, LA 70548

Race: White
Sex: Male
Orientation: Female
DOB: 04/07/1933
Height: 5'8"
Weight: 180
Hair Color: Gray
Eye Color: Blue
Scar: abdomen-Colostamy, R_Shoulder-4inch
Tattoos: None
Piercing: None
Mark: None
Prosthesis: None
Vehicle: 2006 Gray BMV 750, 2003 Gold Lincoln Town Car

All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Fair Housing Act which makes illegal to advertise any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin or and intention, to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination. Familial status includes children under the age of 18 living with parents or legal custodians, pregnant women and people securing custody of children under 18. This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on equal opportunity basis. To complain of discrimination call HUD toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. The toll-free telephone number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.

Why take a chance thinking your house is being noticed?
Home for Sale Ad
RUNS 5 WKS
Abbeville/
Kaplan
$80.00
337-893-4223

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO ISSUE
NOT EXCEEDING $3,500,000 OF
SEWER REVENUE BONDS OF THE
TOWN OF DELCAMBRE, STATE OF LOUISIANA

As provided by a resolution adopted by the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the Town of Delcambre, State of Louisiana (the "Governing Authority"), acting as the governing authority of the Town of Delcambre, State of Louisiana (the "Town"), on February 13, 2023, the Town HEREBY DECLARES ITS INTENTION to issue up to Three Million Five Hundred Thousand Dollars ($3,500,000) of Sewer Revenue Bonds (the "Bonds"), for the purpose of constructing, acquiring, extending and/or improving the sewerage system (the "Sewer System") of the Town (the "Project").

The Bonds shall be limited and special revenue bonds of the Town secured by and payable solely from the income and revenues derived or to be derived from the operation of the Town's Sewer System, after provision has been made for payment therefrom of all reasonable and necessary expenses of operating and maintaining the Sewer System. The Bonds will not be a charge on the other income and revenues of the Town, nor shall they constitute an indebtedness or pledge of the general credit of the Town. The Bonds will be issued pursuant to Part II of Chapter 4 of Subtitle II of Title 39 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, as amended, and other constitutional and statutory authority (the "Act").

The Bonds will be issued in one or more series as authorized by ordinance(s) adopted by the Governing Authority, will mature not later than thirty (30) years from their date of issuance, will bear interest at rates not more than six percent (6%) per annum, and will be subject to prepayment anytime without penalty. Interest on the Bonds may be or may not be tax exempt.

As provided by the Act, all of the other details of the Bonds will be set forth in the ordinance(s) authorizing their issuance, including the following: covenants relating to the management and operation of the Sewer System, the imposition and collection of rates and charges from the Sewer System's customers, the expenditure of such rates and charges, the issuance of future bonds and the creation of future liens and encumbrances against the Sewer System and all other pertinent matters as may be necessary to the authorization and issuance of the Bonds.

The Bonds are expected to be sold at either a public or private sale, as provided for in the Act and other constitutional and statutory authority.

THE PUBLIC IS HEREBY NOTIFIED that the Governing Authority will meet in open and public session on MONDAY, June 12, 2023, at SIX O'CLOCK (6:00) P.M., at the Delcambre Town Hall, 107 N. Railroad Street, Delcambre, Louisiana, to hear any objections to the proposed issuance of the Bonds. If at such hearing a petition duly signed by electors of the Town in a number not less than five percent (5%) of the number of such electors voting in the last special or general election object to the issuance of the Bonds, then the Bonds shall not be issued until approved at an election held for that purpose. Any such petition must be accompanied by certificates of the Iberia Parish Registrar of Voters and/or the Vermilion Parish Registrar of Voters certifying that the signers of the petition(s) are registered electors of the Town and the number of signers amounts to not less than five percent (5%) of the registered voters that voted in the last tax election held in the Town, all as provided by the Act.

TOWN OF DELCAMBRE, STATE OF LOUISIANA

(PUBLISHED: APRIL 26, MAY 3, 10 & 17, 2023)

PUBLIC NOTICE

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

ABBEVILLE GENERAL HOSPITAL
KITCHEN HOOD REPLACEMENT

Sealed bids for, **ABBEVILLE GENERAL HOSPITAL KITCHEN HOOD REPLACEMENT, ABBEVILLE, LOUISIANA** will be received until **2:00 PM CST on Tuesday May 30, 2023**, at Abbeville General Hospital Administrative Offices, 118 N. Hospital Drive, Abbeville, Louisiana, 70510, after which the bids will be publicly opened and read aloud. Any bids received after the above-mentioned time will be returned unopened. Electronic bids at www.centralbidding.com as allowed by Act 590 amended Title 38:2212 are acceptable.

Bids shall be accepted only from contractors who are licensed under LA-R.S.37:2150-2163 for the classification of **MECHANICAL**.

Complete Bid Documents for this project are available in electronic form. They may be obtained from www.centralbidding.com. Printed copies are not available from the Designer, but arrangements can be made to obtain them. Electronic copies are available from the designer, send request to adginc@adginc.org. Plan holders are responsible for their own reproduction costs. Questions about this procedure shall be directed to the Designer at: adginc@adginc.org; PHONE (337) 234-5710

Withdrawal of Bids: LA R.S. 38§2215.A Allows "A political subdivision upon receipt of bids for the undertaking of any public works contract shall act within **forty-five** calendar days of such receipt to award said contract to the lowest responsible bidder or rejects all bids."

Each proposal must be accompanied by a bid bond, a certified check, or cashier's check in an amount equal to at least five percent (5%) of the amount bid, made payable without condition to the Owner as a guarantee that the bidder, if awarded the contract, will promptly execute the contract documents. The bid security of all bidders, except the three lowest, will be returned promptly after the canvas of bids.

All contractors and/or subcontractors whose bid exceeds Fifty Thousand Dollars ($50,000.00) shall be licensed under R.S. 37:2151-2163 of Louisiana Law.

Questions relative to acquiring hard copies of the bidding documents shall be addressed to adginc@adginc.org at ADG Engineering, telephone number (337) 234-5710. All questions relative to the contents of the bid documents shall be addressed to Eric Brignac (ebrignac@adginc.org), telephone number (337)-234-5710.

A **Mandatory Pre-Bid Conference** will be held on **May 18, 2023**, at **10:00 AM CST** in the Auditorium.

ABBEVILLE GENERAL HOSPITAL

Michael J. Bertrand, II

Advertise: May 3, 2023
May 10, 2023
May 17, 2023

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Sealed bids will be received by the Vermilion Parish School Board, in the Main Building, 3rd Floor Conference Room, 220 South Jefferson Street, Abbeville, Louisiana until ONE (01:00 P.M.), Thursday, June 1, 2023 at which time the sealed bids will be publicly opened and read for the following:

Bid 2023.743 - MATERIALS FOR SCHOOL BUS TURNAROUNDS/ MAINTENANCE NEEDS
Opening Date: Thursday, June 1, 2023 @ 01:00 P. M.

Bids must be sealed and the envelope marked: **"Bid 2023.743 - MATERIALS FOR SCHOOL BUS TURNAROUNDS/MAINTENANCE NEEDS, Opening Date: Thursday, June 1, 2023 @ 01:00 P. M., and include Bidder's name and address"**

Specifications and bid forms for the above may be obtained by writing, calling, or emailing Lori Domingue, Purchasing Agent, Vermilion Parish School Board, P. O. Drawer 520, Abbeville, Louisiana 70511, Phone - (337) 898-5707, Email - lori.domingue@vpsb.net.

Bids submitted prior to this date and time should be properly marked on the outside of the sealed envelope and should be delivered or mailed to Lori Domingue, Purchasing Agent, Vermilion Parish School Board, 220 South Jefferson Street, Abbeville, LA 70510 or P. O. Drawer 520, Abbeville, Louisiana 70511. Written receipts for bids will be issued according to law.

The Vermilion Parish School Board reserves the right to reject any and/or all bids and to waive any informalities incident thereto.

VERMILION PARISH SCHOOL BOARD

Thomas J. Byler
Superintendent

PUBLICATION DATES:
May 10, 2023 and May 17, 2023

PUBLIC NOTICE

REGULAR MEETING PRIVATE
TOWN OF DELCAMBRE
MAY 8, 2023

Town of Delcambre regular session convened at 6:00 p.m. on May 08, 2023 at the City Hall, with Mayor Pam Blakely, presiding.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Pam Blakely, Alderman Chris "Tipper" Esponge, Alderman Garrett Frederick, Alderman Steve Broussard, Alderman Bryan Glatter, Alderwoman Sarah Trahan

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

ALSO, PRESENT: Patti L Vincent, Attorney Gabe Duhon, Chris Landry, Larry Crammer, Wendell Verret, Trey Marceaux

MOTION: Introduced by Alderman Chris "Tipper" Esponge and seconded by Alderwoman Sarah Trahan "moved to accept and dispense the minutes of the Regular Meeting April 10, 2023." Motion Carried:

MOTION: Introduced by Alderman Steve Broussard and seconded by Alderman Garrett Frederick "moved to accept approval of Invoices." Motion Carried:

MOTION: Introduced by Alderman Brian Glatter and seconded by Alderman Chris "Tipper" Esponge "moved to accept and review April Financial Report." Motion Carried:

MOTION: Introduced by Alderman Chris "Tipper" Esponge and seconded by seconded by Alderman Steve Brousssard "moved to approve letter of engagement from Kolder, Slavin, & Co. for 2021-22 annual audit." Motion Carried:

MOTION: Introduced by Alderman Garrett Frederick and seconded by Alderman Steve Broussard "moved to approve Resolution for Special Election on October 14, 2023 to levy 1% Sales Tax." Motion Carried:

MOTION: Introduced by Alderman Chris "Tipper" Esponge seconded by Alderman Steve Broussard "moved to approve Public Hearing on June 12, 2023 at 5:45pm on a Resolution Granting the Authority to the Mayor to sign and submit all necessary Documents, Appoint and Administrative Consultant and to Commit Costs for the Louisiana Community Development Block Grant FY 2023 Clearance Program." Motion Carried:

MOTION: Introduced by Alderman Chris Tipper" Esponge and second by Alderman Steve Broussard "moved to approve allowing the Mayor to enter into a Cooperative Agreement with Iberia Parish School Board for Park on corner of Pelloat and Main." Motion Carried:

MOTION: Introduced by Alderman Chris "Tipper" Esponge and seconded by Alderman Garrett Frederick moved to adjourn." Motion Carried:

ATTESTED: APPROVED:

PATTI L VINCENT, CLERK PAM BLAKELY, MAYOR

(PUBLISHED: MAY 17, 2023)

PUBLIC NOTICE

Vermilion Parish
Communications District
Regular Meeting
5:30 P.M.
March 1, 2023

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m.

Members Present: Dane Hebert, Jason Picard, Brent Landry, Ronald Darby, Liz Touchet, Mark Poche, Chad Lege, Ronald Menard, Scott Broussard, Dexter Callahan, Sandrus Stelly, Chad Vallo.

Members Absent: Paul Bourgeois, Errol Domingues.

Upon motion of Mr. Chad Vallo, duly seconded by Mr. Sandrus Stelly, and unanimously carried, the Commissioners approved the minutes of the previous meeting.

Mr. Woody Woodruff requested time on the Agenda to Discuss Parish Ambulance Service. Mr. Woodruff brought up an incident involving his wife that occurred in the City of Abbeville, near Titos Restaurant. Mr. Woodruff explained that his wife had a fall that required them to call 911 for an Ambulance and there was a lengthy response time for this incident. Mr. Woodruff wanted to bring this incident to the Jury's attention and see what could be done to remedy the situation. Mr. Marc Creswell with Acadian Ambulance, discussed the reasons for the Ambulance response time for this incident and advised they would correct the issues. Mr. Dane Hebert brought up a call that occurred in Maurice at Wood Briar Assisted living facility. He received a complaint from a constituent about a lengthy Ambulance response to that call. Mr. Creswell advised that call occurred within the parameters of the parish ordinance. Discussion Ensued. Mr. Hebert asked if Maurice could be adjusted to an 8 minute zone, like Kaplan, or Abbeville. Mr. Creswell asked that representatives from his company and the Jury sit down and look at some potential adjustments to the ordinance before adopting any changes to the ordinance. Mr. Hebert also asked if the zone percentage times could be adjusted. Discussion ensued. Mr. Ronald Darby asked about re-activating the Ambulance Advisory Committee. Legal Counsel Paul Moresi, III, advised the Jury could appoint an ad-hoc committee. Mr. Dane Hebert advised he would like to serve on that committee.

Upon motion of Mr. Ronald Darby, duly seconded by Ms. Liz Touchet, and unanimously carried, the Commissioners approved forming an ad-hoc committee to review the Parish Ambulance Ordinance and have that committee make recommendations for adjustments to the Vermilion Parish Police Jury.

Mr. Mathiew asked the Commissioners to Discuss and Consider Adopting the Job Description and Advertising for the 911 Directors Position. Mr. Mark Poche, asked the Commissioners to consider creating a Director of Homeland Security and putting the OEP and 911 Directors under the Director of Homeland Security. Mr. Poche advised he would like to table advertising for the 911 Directors position to further discuss consolidating the office under a Director of Homeland Security and come back with a business model to adopt. Discussion Ensued.

Upon motion of Mr. Mark Poche, duly seconded by Mr. Chad Vallo, and unanimously carried, the Commissioners tabled advertising for the 911 Directors position to consider consolidating the 911 office under a Director of Homeland Security, discuss the issue further, and come back with a business model to consider adopting.

Mr. Mathiew asked the Commissioners to consider designating the 911 Backup Communications Center Van as surplus property for the purpose of selling or donating it.

Upon motion of Mr. Dane Hebert, duly seconded by Mr. Mark Poche, and unanimously carried, the Commissioners designated the 911 Backup Communications Center Van as surplus property for the purpose of selling or donating it.

Mr. Mathiew presented the Acadian Ambulance Response Reports for December 2022/January 2023.

Mr. Mathiew presented the 911 Call Report for January 2023.

Upon motion of Mr. Ronald Darby, duly seconded by Mr. Chad Vallo, and unanimously carried, that there being no further business to attend to, the meeting be adjourned.

Jason Picard
Chairman

Gabriel Mathiew
Executive Director

(PUBLISHED: MAY 17, 2023)

LEGAL ADVERTISEMENT

The City of Abbeville, LA seeks proposals for the manufacture and delivery of one (1) new Bucket Truck with 5500 Series Chassis, Unibody Bed and Aerial Boom/Bucket as specified in the solicitation documents.

Proposers must be able to deliver the completed request within a reasonable delivery timeframe. Proposals are due electronically by 11:00 a.m. on May 29, 2023.

The vendor will provide one (1) newly manufactured Bucket Truck, assembled from a commercially available Chassis, Bed and Aerial Boom/Bucket as specified. Proposals will be submitted electroni-

cally only through https://lamats.eauctionservices.com. The RFP and Bid documents, information and specifications are available by registering at https://lamats.eauctionsevices.com and downloading same.

The RFP Electronic Administrator is Paul Holmes, LACPC, 6767 Perkins Rd., Baton Rouge, LA 70808, (225) 678-6107 (Bus. Cell), lacpc@lamats.net. The City of Abbeville contact for all direct inquiries is the Abbeville Director of Utilities at utilities@cityofabbeville.net.

This RFP is not a "lowest price wins" bid. The Contractor will be a responsible contractor/dealer judged the most capable of manufacturing the desired Bucket Truck in a quality workmanship manner and delivery within a reasonable timeframe as defined in the RFP Documents.

Proposals are to be submitted in the format required, including any pricing and specification forms included, along with any other documentation that must be signed. Proposers must register at https://lamats.eauctionservices.com (LACPC/EASiBUY Bid Platform) to access the full RFP specifications and to submit proposals electronically.

Abbeville Meridional

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PUBLIC NOTICE

MINUTES OF THE MEETING
OF
VERMILION PARISH SCHOOL BOARD REGULAR MEETING

The Vermilion Parish School Board met, April 20, 2023, in regular session at 216 South Jefferson Street,Abbeville, LA, at 6:00 p.m., with the following members present: Mrs. Charlotte Detraz, Dr. David Dupuis, Mr. Gregg Meaux, Mr. Jason Roy, Mr. Dale Stelly, and Mr. Nick Touchet.
Absent: Mr. Chris Hebert, Mr. Kevin Meyers, and Mr. Kibbie Pillette.

On motion of Mr. Meaux, seconded by Mr. Roy and carried unanimously, the Board adopted agenda items as follows:

Adopted the minutes as transcribed for filing purposes as the official minutes of the Vermilion Parish School Board for the regular held on March 16, 2023.

Accepted the Treasurer's Report (period ending January 31, 2023) and placed in appropriate file for reference in preparation of the financial and compliance audit.

Accepted the Treasurer's Report (period ending February 28, 2023) and placed in appropriate file for reference in preparation of the financial and compliance audit.

Approved renewing the annual contract with Veazey and Associates, LLC, oil, gas, and mineral lease consultants.

Approved the permanent repairs due to the 2020 hurricanes at Kaplan High School as Substantially Complete,as submitted by Mr. Eric Johnson.

Approved the permanent repairs due to the 2020 hurricanes at Kaplan Elementary as Substantially Complete,as submitted by Mr. Eric Johnson.

Approved the 2023-2024 school year staffing report from Superintendent Byler.

Approved adjustments to salary schedule, as submitted by Superintendent Byler.

Approved entering into an Intergovernmental Agreement with the City of Abbeville and the Vermilion Parish Police Jury for a project on the road accessing Eaton Park Elementary , as submitted by Superintendent Byler.

Approved advertisement of bids for large equipment for various schools throughout the parish for the Child Nutrition Department, as submitted by Amy Fremin.

The Board recognized the 2022-2023 Vermilion Parish Students of the Year: Sydnee Mouton, Elementary School Student of the Year; Lexi Greene, Middle School Student of the Year; and Braydin Clostio, High School Student of the Year.

The Board recognized the 2022-2023 Vermilion Parish Teachers of the Year: Molly Bourque, Elementary Teacher of the Year; Justin Simon, Middle School Teacher of the Year; and Taylor Lee, High School Teacher of the Year.

On motion of Dr. Dupuis, seconded by Mrs. Detraz and carried unanimously, the Board awarded bids receivedfor permanent repairs due to the 2020 hurricanes at Forked Island/E. Broussard Elementary School to the lowest bidder meeting specifications, as submitted by Mr. Eric Johnson.

The Board received a report on the Board's general liability, fleet, errors & omissions, property and flood insurance from Superintendent Byler.

On motion of Dr. Dupuis, seconded by Mr. Meaux and carried unanimously, the Board approved entering into executive session to discuss student discipline. Roll call vote as follows: YEAS: Mrs. Charlotte Detraz, Dr. David Dupuis, Mr. Gregg Meaux, Mr. Jason Roy, Mr. Nick Touchet, and Mr. Dale Stelly; NAYS: None. Motion passed.

On motion of Mr. Meaux, seconded by Mr. Roy and carried unanimously, the Board approved entering into executive session to discuss litigation of Suzanne D. Breaux vs. Chris Gautreaux, et al, Docket 105827-J, 15th Judicial District Court, Vermilion Parish. Roll call vote as follows: YEAS: Mrs. Charlotte Detraz, Dr. David-Dupuis, Mr. Gregg Meaux, Mr. Jason Roy, Mr. Nick Touchet, and Mr. Dale Stelly; NAYS: None. Motion passed.

On motion of Mr. Meaux, seconded by Mr. Roy and carried unanimously, the Board approved entering into executive session to discuss collective bargaining. Roll call vote as follows: YEAS: Mrs. Charlotte Detraz, Dr. David Dupuis, Mr. Gregg Meaux, Mr. Jason Roy, Mr. Nick Touchet, and Mr. Dale Stelly; NAYS: None. Motion passed.

On motion of Mr. Meaux, seconded by Mr. Roy and carried unanimously, the Board approved entering into executive session to discuss school security. Roll call vote as follows: YEAS: Mrs. Charlotte Detraz, Dr. David Dupuis, Mr. Gregg Meaux, Mr. Jason Roy, Mr. Nick Touchet, and Mr. Dale Stelly; NAYS: None. Motion passed.

On motion of Dr. Dupuis, seconded by Mrs. Detraz and carried unanimously, the Board reconvened into regular session.

On motion of Dr. Dupuis, seconded by Mr. Meaux and carried, the Board approved to accept a settlement in the matter of Suzanne D. Breaux vs. Chris Gautreaux, et al, Docket 105827-J, 15th Judicial District Court,Vermilion Parish. Roll call vote as follows: YEAS: Dr. David Dupuis, Mr. Gregg Meaux, Mr. Jason Roy, Mr. Nick Touchet, and Mr. Dale Stelly; NAYS: None. ABSTAIN: Mrs. Charlotte Detraz. Motion passed.

On motion of Mr. Meaux, seconded by Mr. Roy and carried, the Board approved to uphold the Superintendent's recommendation regarding a grievance. Roll call vote as follows: YEAS: Mrs. Charlotte Detraz, Dr. David Dupuis, Mr. Gregg Meaux, Mr. Jason Roy, and Mr. Nick Touchet; NAYS: Mr. Dale Stelly. Motion passed.

On motion of Dr. Dupuis, seconded by Mr. Meaux and carried, the Board approved releasing "the old post office" property. Roll call vote as follows: YEAS: Dr. David Dupuis, Mr. Gregg Meaux, Mr. Jason Roy, and Mr. Dale Stelly; NAYS: Mrs. Charlotte Detraz and Mr. Nick Touchet. Motion passed.

The Board received Information and Advisory Reports as follows:
• Business Department: Sales Tax Report
• Business Department: Oil & Gas Revenue Report
• Business Department: Insurance Fund Report
• Human Resources Department: Personnel List

APPOINTMENTS
Abshire, Loma - Cecil Picard Elementary - Cafeteria Technician – effective April 17, 2023 – replaces Ann Roberts who transferred

Gaspard, Cartnee - Cecil Picard Elementary – Bookkeeper – effective April 17, 2023 – replaces Kecia Folsomwho transferred

Heintz, Joseph - North Vermilion High - Virtual Teacher/Coach – effective August 3, 2023 – replaces Brett Blakey who resigned

Romero, Felicia - Cecil Picard Elementary - Cafeteria Technician – effective April 6, 2023 – replaces Margaret Perro who retired

Sneed, Jeremy - Herod Elementary – Janitor – effective April 4, 2023 – replaces Willard Cole who retired

Vincent, April - Abbeville High - Cafeteria Technician – effective March 22, 2023 – replaces Alice Stelly who was appointed to another position

Vincent, Joseph - Erath Middle – Sweeper – effective April 17, 2023 – replaces Everett Thibodeaux who was appointed to another position

MATERNITY LEAVES
Chastant, Hannah - FIEB Elementary – Teacher – effective May 19, 2023 through June 30, 2023

Hargrave, Courtney - Kaplan High – Teacher – effective May 30, 2023 through July 11, 2023

Sinegal, Sasha - Herod Elementary – Paraprofessional – effective May 27, 2023 through July 10, 2023

Walters, Carla - Herod Elementary – Teacher – effective May 12, 2023 through June 26, 2023

RESIGNATIONS
Bessard, Michael - Central Office – Roustabout – effective April 18, 2023

Blakey, Brett - North Vermilion High - Teacher/Coach – effective May 27, 2023

Blakey, Sarah - Leblanc Elementary - Kindergarten Teacher – effective May 27, 2023

Boullion, Jeanne-Marie - Kaplan Elementary – Teacher – effective May 27, 2023

Broussard, Katelyn - Dozier Elementary – Teacher – effective May 27, 2023

Broussard, Ryan - Abbeville High - Band Director – effective May 27, 2023

Clement, Breanne - Kaplan Elementary - Elementary Teacher – effective May 27, 2023

Degee, Kristel - Leblanc Elementary - French Immersion Teacher – effective May 27, 2023

Feron, Coralie - Leblanc Elementary - French Immersion Teacher – effective May 27, 2023

Fontenot, Chloe - North Vermilion Middle – Teacher – effective May 27, 2023

Gallet, Emily - Eaton Park Elementary - Kindergarten Teacher – effective May 27, 2023

Gaspard, Jena - Indian Bayou Elementary - Elementary Teacher – effective May 27, 2023

Guidry, Tana - North Vermilion Middle – Teacher – effective April 22, 2023

Guillory, Kyia - Leblanc Elementary - Elementary Teacher – effective May 27, 2023

Herman, Amy - North Vermilion Middle – Teacher – effective March 29, 2023

Johnson, Ashley - Eaton Park Elementary - Elementary Teacher – effective May 27, 2023

Joiner, Christine - Eaton Park Elementary - Special Education Teacher – effective May 27, 2023
Landry, Bailey - Cecil Picard Elementary – Teacher – effective May 27, 2023
Lattier, Frances - JH Williams Middle - Special Education Teacher – effective May 27, 2023
Lejeune, Amy - Herod Elementary – Paraprofessional – effective March 29, 2023
Louviere, Sonya - Rene Rost Middle – Principal – effective June 9, 2023
Schexnayder, Meghan - Leblanc Elementary - Kindergarten Teacher – effective May 27, 2023
Pollitt, Heather - Leblanc Elementary - Elementary Teacher – effective May 27, 2023
Stelly, Wanda - FIEB Elementary - Cafeteria Technician – effective March 18, 2023
Watkins, Benci - JH Williams Middle - PE Teacher – effective March 25, 2023

RETIREMENTS
Gooch, Robert - Central Office - Bus Driver – effective March 25, 2023

Jones, Charlotte - Kaplan Elementary – Paraprofessional – effective May 27, 2023

Lange, Jacqueline - Central Office - Bus Driver – effective August 6, 2023

TRANSFERS (VOLUNTARY)
Folsom, Kecia – North Vermilion Middle from Cecil Picard Elementary – Bookkeeper – effective March 24, 2023– replaces Brittney Bright who resigned

Levine, Tammy - Abbeville High from Eaton Park Elementary - Cafeteria Technician – effective March 29, 2023- Leslie Mouton who resigned

Touchet, Tina - FIEB Elementary from North Vermilion High - Cafeteria Technician – effective April 17, 2023 –replaces Wanda Stelly who resigned

CHANGE IN EFFECTIVE DATES
Chance, Tiffany - Eaton Park Elementary – Teacher – effective April 5, 2023 changed from May 27, 2023

CONTRACTS:
Hebert, Jacqueline - Eaton Park - Speech Therapist – effective April 17, 2023 through May 26, 2023

Morris, Monica - Leblanc Elementary - Cafeteria Technician – effective March 20, 2023 through May 26, 2023

NON TENURE SUPERVISORY APPOINTMENTS
2022-2023
• Brigola, Tiffini - Assistant Principal - Gueydan High - 06/30/2023
• Broussard, Brandy - Supervisor - Central Office - 06/30/2023
• Broussard, Emily - Assistant Principal - James A. Herod Elementary - 06/30/2023
• Broussard, Jessica - Assistant Principal - LeBlanc Elementary - 07/23/2023
• Broussard, Kandice - Assistant Principal - Kaplan Elementary - 07/23/2023
• Davidson, Gina - Principal - North Vermilion Middle - 06/30/2023
• Devenport, Jacqueline - Assistant Principal - North Vermilion High - 07/22/2023
• Etie, Kimberly - Assistant Superintendent - Central Office - 06/30/2023
• Ford, Andrea - Principal - Dozier Elementary - 06/30/2023
• Gaspard, Paulette - Principal - Cecil Picard Elementary - 06/30/2023
• Herpin, Shay - Principal - Kaplan High - 06/30/2023
• Leger, Jessie - Assistant Principal - Dozier Elementary - 06/30/2023
• Lepretre, Nadine - Principal - Gueydan High - 06/30/2023
• Lemaire, Don - Supervisor - Central Office - 07/31/2023
• Lotief, Denise - Principal - North Vermilion High - 06/30/2023
• Meador, Casey - Assistant Principal - North Vermilion High - 06/30/2023
• Primeaux, Marlene - Principal - Seventh Ward Elementary - 06/30/2023
• Richard, Kerry - Supervisor - Central Office - 06/30/2023
• Robertson, Lysonia - Principal - James A. Herod Elementary - 06/30/2023

* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *

On motion of Dr. Dupuis, seconded by Mr. Roy and carried unanimously, the Board adjourned the RegularBoard Meeting at 8:00 p.m.

/s/ Mr. Dale Stelly
Dale Stelly
Board President

/s/ Thomas J. Byler
Thomas J. Byler
Secretary-Treasurer

(PUBLISHED: MAY 17, 2023)

PUBLIC NOTICE

SOUTHEAST WATERWORKS DISTRICT NO. 2
VERMILION PARISH, LOUISIANA
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS, REGULAR MEETING
APRIL 13, 2023

The Southeast Waterworks District No. 2 Board of Commissioners of the Parish of Vermilion, State of Louisiana, met for a regular meeting at its meeting place, the Conference Room of the Southeast Waterworks District No. 2 Building, 417 Trahan Street, Abbeville, Louisiana, Thursday, April 13, 2023, at 4:00 p.m.

Present: Clint Dugas, Chairman; Shelby Bernard, Vice Chairman; Kelly Richard, Secretary; Byron Perry, Commissioner; and Sandy Richard, Commissioner.

Absent: Susan Wilhelm, Commissioner.

Personnel: Susan Lemaire, Office Manager and James Brasseaux, Plant Manager.

Guests: Tony Sonnier, LRWA; Amy Fontenot, LRWA; and Stephanie Briggs, Engineer with Sellers and Associates, Inc.

The meeting was called to order by Clint Dugas, Chairman.

The reading of the Minutes of the Board of Directors on March 15, 2023 was waived. On motion by Kelly Richard, seconded by Shelby Bernard, and carried, the minutes were approved as distributed.

Tony Sonnier and Amy Fontenot with LRWA conducted a rate study for Southeast Waterworks. They presented the findings to the Board. Discussion followed. Tony explained that USDA and LDH have raised the sustainability rate from 10% to 15%.

On motion by Shelby Bernard, seconded by Byron Perry, and carried, the following was approved for the new water rates effective with the bill due July 10, 2023.

• RESIDENTIAL WATER RATES
First 2,000 (0 - 2000) Gallons…… $17.50
After 1st 2,000 Gallons; Per 1,000 Gallons
…….... $ 6.75

• COMMERCIAL WATER RATES
First 5,000 (0 – 5,000) Gallons
…….. $52.50
After 1st 5,000 Gallons; Per 1,000 Gallons
…..... $ 8.75

Stephanie Briggs, engineer with Sellers and Associates, had nothing to report.

Susan Lemaire presented the business reports.
• Presented bills to be paid for March 2023.
• Disconnected meters.
• Meters installed.
• Kolder and Slaven will be here on May 3, 2023 to conduct an exit interview for the 2022 Audit and will present the 2022 Audit to the Board at the May 11, 2023 meeting.
• Presented the actual First Quarter Income and Expenses comparison to the Budget.
• Flood Insurance renewal is due May 26, 2023. Option A is $3,369.00 for building coverage of $405,000 and Option B is $3,405.00 for increased coverage on buildings to $446,000.
• Discussion of customer fees for Service Valve, T-wrench borrowing, tampering with meter.
• Rules and Regulations needs to be updated. Recommend a committee be selected to work on updating. Discussion followed. The committee will consist of Shelby Bernard, Sandy Richard, Susan Lemaire, and James Brasseaux.

On motion by Shelby Bernard, seconded by Sandy Richard, and carried to pay the March 2023 bills as presented and approve the auto drafted bills and online payments.

On motion by Byron Perry, seconded by Shelby Bernard, and carried to approve the adjustments on the Budget for the First Quarter compared to the Actual Income and Expenses.

On motion by Byron Perry, seconded by Sandy Richard, and carried to authorize the Office Manager to pay the annual Flood Insurance Policy online with Option B for $3,405.00.

On motion by Kelly Richard, seconded by Shelby Bernard, and carried to accept the following customer fees:
• Customer Cut-Off Valve:
…….. $ 20.00
• T-wrench FREE if returned within 3 days; if not returned after three days: ……. $100.00
• Tampering with meter:
…….up to $500.00
PLUS, any related repair or replacement expenses.

James Brasseaux presented the Plant Reports:
• Presented the Plant Report and Auto Flushers Report. All normal.
• Failing check valve on high service pump #1. Still waiting for APT to come in to install.
• Would like to change the billing for the Zinc Ortho (Thornton, Musso, and Bellimin) to as delivered. This would help to prevent calculation errors and discrepancies. Will try to order quarterly to keep invoices consistent and reasonable.
• Thanked Board Members who attended the Management Training on 4/11/23 that was put on by LRWA.
• Shane Stelly and Tony Richard attended the 2-day (16 hour) training put on by LRWA required for certification renewal.

There being no further business to come before the Meeting Body, a motion by Shelby Bernard, seconded by Byron Perry, and carried, to adjourn the meeting at 6:05 p.m.

_____ _____
Kelly Richard, Secretary Clint F Dugas, Chairman

(PUBLISHED: MAY 17, 2023)

the Abbeville Meridional

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Following my 43 year law practice retirement in 2017, I have prepared and officiated hundreds of wills and powers of attorney in my "House Call" Services for clients who call on me for this important work to be done.

Unless you have a child under the age of 24 or one any age at your death (who because of mental incapacity or physical infirmity is permanently incapable of taking care of his person or Administering his estate), in most instances you have the legal right to leave all or part of your property and assets to anyone if you execute an enforceable will before dying.

Louisiana Law provides automatic inheritance without a will to classes of survivors such as surviving children, collaterals and parents, but you will need to execute an enforceable will if you desire to leave all or parts of your estate to non-relatives, or if you want to be specific as to who inherits what.

Dying without an enforceable will means that Louisiana Law determines who will inherit from you. Leaving an enforceable will allows the comfort of knowing which specific persons will inherit specific assets from you.

Wills will be prepared after your intentions are expressed to me by telephone conversation, or after I meet with you at your home. My services will be from $200 to $350 - with no additional costs or expenses. Payment is made when the document is executed at your home. A will can easily be changed or revoked.

Powers of attorney are important to allow a person's spouse, relative or trusted friend to conduct his business and take charge of his medical treatment in times of disability. They are cancellable at will. Fee for preparation is $150, with no additional costs or expenses.

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2x Composite Academic All-State

Delcambre's LeBlanc receives baseball, golf honors



Delcambre High senior Parker LeBlanc was named to the 2022-23 LHSAA Composite All-Academic Baseball Team and the honors 2022-23 LHSAA Composite All-Academic Boys' Golf Team after earning a cumulative 4.0 grade point average for his high school career. The composite teams consist of baseball players and golfers who have the highest grade point averages across all divisions.

11 parish athletes named to All-Academic Softball team

Composite team includes players from Abbeville, Gueydan, Kaplan, NV and VC

Eleven Vermilion Parish softball players were named to the LHSAA 2022-23 All-Academic Softball Team, including eight who were named to the composite team comprised of players from all classes with 4.0 grade point averages.

Named to the composite All-Academic Softball Team were Elasha Wallace of Abbeville; Kyndal Hanks of Gueydan; Claire Broussard of Kaplan; Ashton Duhon, Jeanne Hanks and Hannah Scroggins of North Vermilion; and Anna-Kate Hagle and Kinsley Sellers of Vermilion Catholic.

Each also was named to the Academic All-State team for their classes — Class 4A for North Vermilion, Class 3A for Abbeville and Kaplan and Class A for Gueydan and Vermilion Catholic.

North Vermilion's Kennedy Kelly also was named to the Class 4A Academic All-State team with a 3.6956 GPA.

Madison Hyatt of Delcambre was named to the Class 2A Academic All-State team with a 3.6087 GPA

Zoey Melancon of VC was named to the Class A team with a 3.8181 GPA.

In order to be selected to the All-Academic Team, the student-athlete must be a senior, have participated in the sport for at least two years, and achieved a six-semester cumulative grade point average of at least 3.5 or better based on a 4.0 scale.

Four prep golfers from parish receive Academic All-State honors

Four Vermilion Parish high school golfers were named to the LHSAA 2022-23 All-Academic Golf Teams, including two who were named to the composite team comprised of players from all classes with 4.0 grade point averages.

Parker LeBlanc of Delcambre was named to the Composite All-Academic Boys' Golf Team and Emory Quackenbos of Vermilion Catholic was named to the Composite All-Academic Girls' Golf Team with 4.0 GPAs. The boys' team included 10 athletes statewide and the girls' team consisted of eight players from around the state.

Erath's Madison Gaynor (Class 3A/Division I) was named to the girls' Academic All-State team with a 3.9024 GPA.

Britt Bass (Class A/Division IV) was named to the boys' Academic All-State team with a 3.9767 GPA.

In order to be selected to the All-Academic Team, the student-athlete must be a senior, have participated in the sport for at least two years, and achieved a six-semester cumulative grade point average of at least 3.5 or better based on a 4.0 scale.

Erath High athletes must attend 75 percent of summer training days

Erath High athletes are required to attend 75 percent of the summer training days, according to coaches.

Football athletes start on June 5. Training days are Monday through Thursday from 7-10 a.m.

Other male athletes start on June 12. Training days are Monday, Wednesday and Thursday from 7-9 a.m.

All female athletes start on June 12. Training days are Monday, Wednesday and Thursday from 10 a.m.-noon.

LSU's Reese named to Team USA; Morrow invited to training camp

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colorado — LSU's Angel Reese was one of eight players selected late Sunday night to Team USA and will compete in the 2023 FIBA Women's AmeriCup July 1-9 in León, Mexico.

The final roster will consist of 12 players and Aneesah Morrow is among five players who will be invited to training camp to compete for the final roster spots. Training camp will begin on June 22 in Colorado Springs.

The draw to determine two five-team preliminary groups for the 2023 FIBA Women's AmeriCup was held May 10. The United States will face Argentina, Brazil, Cuba and Venezuela as part of Group A.

The U.S. opens pool play against Venezuela on July 1, followed by Argentina on July 2, Brazil on July 4 and Cuba on July 5. Quarterfinals are scheduled for July 7 followed by semifinals on July 8 and the medal games on July 9. Game times and broadcast information will be announced later.

Since the event's inception in 1993, the United States has captured four AmeriCup gold medals, including titles in 2019 and 2021. In addition to the United States, Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Colombia, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Mexico, Puerto Rico and Venezuela will participate in the 2023 FIBA AmeriCup.

Reese had a historic All-America season at LSU, setting the NCAA record with 34 double-doubles in her first year in Baton Rouge and leading the Tigers to their first national championship. She was the fourth player to lead the SEC in both scoring (23.0 ppg) and rebounding (15.4 rpg).

Morrow announced her decision to transfer to LSU from DePaul on May 5. She averaged 25.7 points (No. 4 in NCAA) and 12.2 rebounds (No. 7 in NCAA) per game last season. Through two seasons, Morrow has 53 double-doubles in 66 career games.

Morrow and Reese are two of four total players with 800 points and 400 rebounds in a season over the last 20 D-I seasons.

Parish tennis players receive academic honors

Seven high school tennis players from Vermilion Parish were named to the LHSAA 2022-23 All-Academic Tennis Teams, including two who were named to the composite team comprised of players from all classes with 4.0 grade point averages.

Emory Quackenbos and Kinsley Sellers of Vermilion Catholic were named to the girls' Composite All-Academic Girls' Tennis Team with perfect 4.0 GPAs.

Erath High School's Caroline Desormeaux (3.5833 GPA) and Lilly LeBlanc (3.9200 GPA) were named to the Class 3A/Division III girls' team.

Vermilion Catholic's Brynn Brasseaux (3.9090) and Lauren Doucet (3.9090) joined Quackenbos and Sellers on the Class A/Division IV girls' Academic All-State team.

Vermilion Catholic's Britt Bass (3.9767) was named to the boys' Class A/Division IV tennis team.

In order to be selected to the All-Academic Team, the student-athlete must be a senior, have participated in the sport for at least two years, and achieved a six-semester cumulative grade point average of at least 3.5 or better based on a 4.0 scale.

COVID-19 is STILL here...

...and new data shows that updated COVID vaccines released in the fall protect people against the new variants.

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If you are:

- Over 50 years old
- Have a weakened immune system
- At higher risk due to chronic disease, or other factors

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