



Big Brown's Big Heart: Cooling Natchez, Strengthening South Louisiana One Family at a Time

Latorria Freeman, Publisher

Natchitoches: The residents of the Village of Natchez were fortunate to receive 19 air conditioning units, which were generously donated and installed by former Harlem Globetrotters player James "Big Brown" Joseph. Residents expressed their gratitude for Big Brown's recent community giveaway. Wynona Pierre, a Natchez resident since 1945, described the experience as a blessing. She noted that Big Brown represents the Globetrotters in Natchez, which is an honor for the community. Another resident, Leon Thompson, thanked Big Brown for his AC unit, and Big Brown shared that he wants to ensure our elderly can rest comfortably. Big Brown's initiative began after he delivered an air conditioning unit to an elderly woman sitting on her porch during an extremely hot day without any cooling in her home. ***Continued next page...***



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He realized the people inside her house were lying on the floor and asked why. They shared with him that it was because that was where it was cooler. After witnessing this, Big Brown installed a window unit in her home, which inspired him to start an organization called "Big Brown Reaching Back Fund." To date, Big Brown's organization, which consists of UPS employees donating from UPS centers across Louisiana, has provided over 24,000 air conditioning units throughout the state. Big Brown is committed to helping those on fixed incomes, and their smiles make this effort truly worthwhile. Natchitoches Mayor Ronnie Williams said, "Big Brown has a big heart! Great guy!" The Village of Natchez Mayor Patsy Hoover thanks her friend, Big Brown, and UPS for blessing the citizens of Natchez.



Big Brown's Big Heart: Cooling Natchez, Strengthening South Louisiana One Family at a Time



1202 Texas St, Natchitoches, LA 71457

(318) 214-2400

Open 7 Days a Week Hours 11 am to 7 pm¹⁴

Congratulations, Sweetie and Letrisha Walker!

Daryl "Sweetie" Walker, a talented pitmaster from Natchitoches, recently showcased his culinary skills by winning 1st place in Alaska's Ribs Championship. This remarkable achievement comes on the heels of his impressive victory at the National BBQ Festival in New York City, where he also claimed 1st place. With a passion for barbecue that is evident in every tender, flavorful bite, Walker continues to raise the bar in the competitive world of BBQ. His dedication and talent not only highlight his culinary excellence but also bring recognition to his hometown.

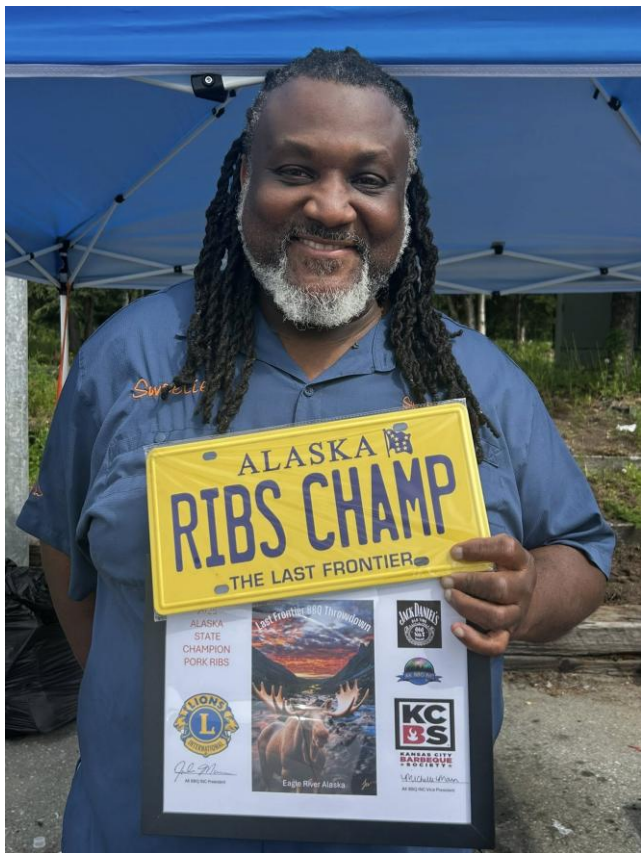


Photo Credits: Daryl Walker



LOUISIANA SPORTS HALL OF FAME Induction Celebration in Natchitoches

PREP BASKETBALL COACH



DANNY BROUSSARD

GYMNASTICS



APRIL BURKHOLDER

BASKETBALL



DANNY GRANGER

BASKETBALL



VICKIE JOHNSON

BOXING



GEORGE "BOBBY" SOILEAU

COLLEGE BASEBALL COACH



JOE SCHEUERMANN

PREP FOOTBALL COACH



DALE WEINER

FOOTBALL



ANDREW WHITWORTH



2025 INDUCTION CLASS

JUNE 26-28

LOUISIANA SPORTS HALL OF FAME Induction Celebration in Natchitoches: Welcome Reception

The 2025 Induction Celebration kicked off Thursday, June 26, with the free Welcome Reception from 5-7 p.m. at the Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame and Northwest Louisiana History Museum at 800 Front Street in downtown Natchitoches.

The fun-filled Friday, June 27, slate begins with the midday Celebrity Bowling Bash at Four Seasons Bowling Center in nearby Alexandria. Friday evening's big party is the Rockin' River Fest free concert on the Cane River Lake downtown stage, accompanied by the VIP Taste of Tailgating party, a ticketed event at the adjacent Mama's Oyster House on Front Street above the concert venue.

Saturday begins with the New Orleans Saints & Pelicans Junior Training Camp, a free event for kids ages 7-17, hosted on the Northwestern State campus from 9-11 a.m. Advance registration is required and available on the 2025 Induction link at LaSportsHall.com.

The popular Round Table Lunch showcases the induction class interviewed by iconic Fox Sports announcer and 2020 LSHOF inductee Tim Brando of Shreveport.

The festivities peak Saturday afternoon and evening with the Taste of Louisiana Reception at the Hall of Fame museum from 5-6:45, followed by the Induction Ceremony tipping off promptly at 7 o'clock at the nearby Natchitoches Events Center.



Photo Credits: Chris Reich

LOUISIANA SPORTS HALL OF FAME Induction Celebration in Natchitoches: Scenes from The Welcome Reception

Photo Credits: Chris Reich





The City of Natchitoches proudly hosted its annual Juneteenth Festival on Saturday, June 21, 2025, a vibrant celebration of community and resilience. The day kicked off with an exciting basketball tournament at the Martin Luther King Jr. Recreation Center, showcasing spirited competition among community leaders, including thrilling matchups between the Natchitoches Parish Sheriff's Office and the Natchitoches Police Department, Kappas versus NSU Football, along with Natchitoches Central High School facing off against Lakeview alums. A celebrity game brought together inspiring figures such as Mayor Ronnie Williams Jr., Cheneyville Mayor Derrick Johnson, NSU Basketball Coach Rick Cabrera, Greg Davis, Councilman Christopher Petite, Attorney Howard Conday, Preston Durr, Denzel McMillan, Christopher Mitchell, Pastor Steven Harris Sr., DJ Chris Lewis and former Harlem Globetrotters James "Big Brown" Joseph and current Harlem Globetrotters player Travion Kirkendoll, alongside Carmella Parker and City Finance Director Clarissa Brown-Smith. As the celebration transitioned to the riverbank in downtown Natchitoches, attendees were entertained with live music performances from On Point Band, GODJ Chris, and the featured zydeco artist Chris Ardoin. The event was free, culminating in a breathtaking fireworks display illuminating the night sky. The atmosphere buzzed with love and joy, reflecting the spirit of unity and celebration. The City of Natchitoches and Mayor Williams express heartfelt gratitude to everyone who contributed to the success of this year's Juneteenth Festival.

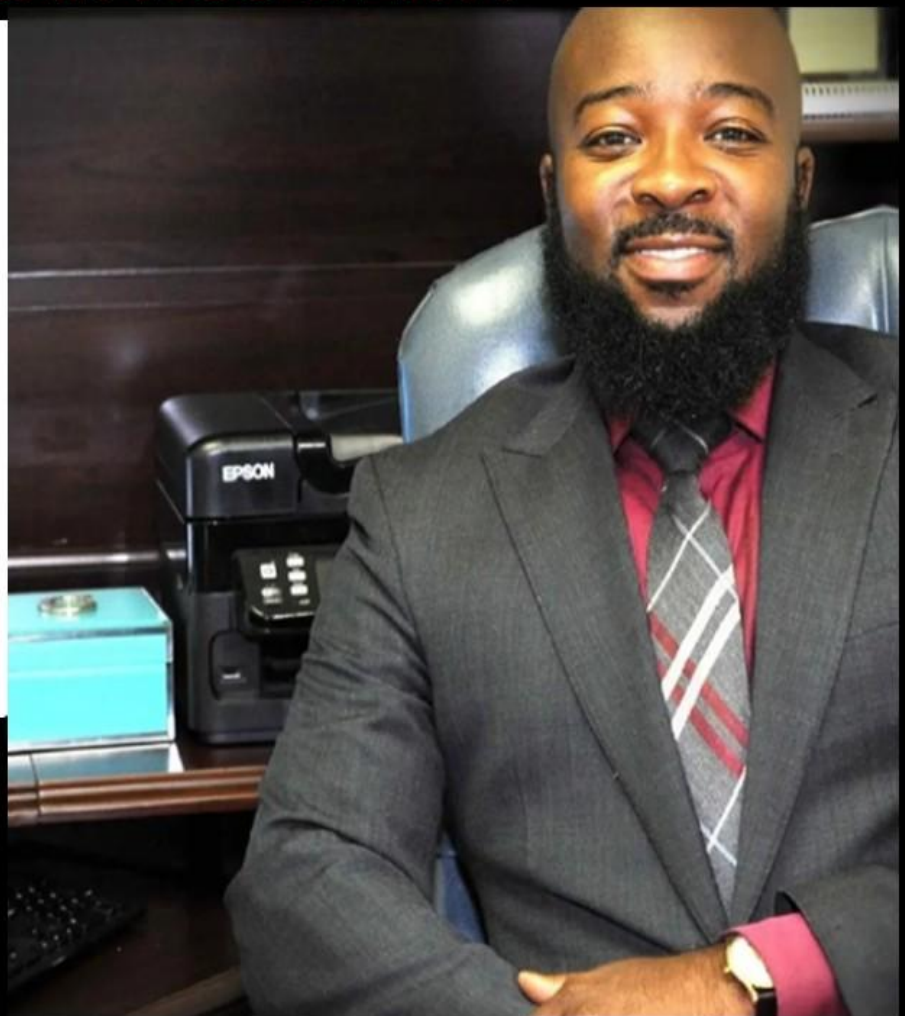


NATCHITOCHES JUNETEENTH FESTIVAL

CITY OF NATCHITOCHES JUNETEENTH BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT



**CHARGED WITH A CRIMINAL OFFENSE?
INVOLVED IN A CAR ACCIDENT?**



Phone: (318) 238-1756
328 St. Denis Street
Natchitoches, La 71457
assistant@howardcondaylaw.com













Photo Credits: Natchitoches Parish Journal



BOM Gives Back

NATCHITOCHES:

BOM donated desk fans and cases of water to Monica Evans in support of her community fan drive. The distribution date was June 21st in the Maurice community. Pictured left to right: BOM's Nicole Williams and Kristen Carpenter, and Monica Evans.



RAPIDES:

BOM Bank Staff celebrated the Annual Chamber Day at the Louisiana State Capitol, hosted by the Louisiana Chamber of Commerce Foundation. Pictured left to right: BOM's David Guillet and Katrice Below, Governor Jeff Landry, BOM's Daniel Lonsberry and Cole Ryder.



SABINE:

BOM Bank is proud to be a sponsor of the Juneteenth Parade and Festival in Many, Louisiana—a powerful celebration of history, freedom, and community. Pictured left to right: Lisa King and BOM's Kim Wilkerson.



CADDO/BOSSIER:



Congratulations! Jonathan Wall

BOM Bank is pleased to congratulate Jonathan Wall on his promotion to Caddo Parish President and Commercial Lender! Jonathan is a proud Shreveport resident. He graduated magna cum laude with a Bachelor of Science degree from Louisiana Tech University, and continued his education by earning an MBA with a concentration in Finance. Jonathan is married to April Wall, and they are the proud parents of their daughter, Ava James Wall. He has been a valued member of the BOM Bank team for six years. Jonathan stated, "I have been fortunate to work at BOM Bank, where I have built invaluable business and personal relationships while positively impacting the Shreveport/Bossier community."

Congratulations, Jonathan!



Krewe of Excellence Celebrating Excellence: Congratulations to Our 2025 Scholarship Recipients

We, the Krewe of Excellence, are inspired every year by the talent and drive of our scholarship applicants. This year's recipients have shown incredible promise, and we're thrilled to help them take the next step in their academic paths. We are proud to announce and celebrate the outstanding individuals who have been selected as recipients of the 2025 Krewe of Excellence Scholarship. These remarkable students have demonstrated academic excellence, leadership, perseverance, and a deep commitment to their communities. This year's selection process was highly competitive, with applications pouring in from across the parish. Our recipients stood out through their exceptional achievements, compelling essays, and inspiring goals for the future. As our scholars head into the next chapter of their lives, we look forward to watching them grow, lead, and make meaningful contributions to the world. We are confident they will continue to embody the values of dedication, service, and excellence.

Raven Valentine, Sydney Durocher, Akeelah Wade, and Ce'Licia Vecher, once again, congratulations to you for your hard work, vision, and resilience are truly commendable.



KREWE OF EXCELLENCE
ROYAL COURT CORONATION

**Coming to America,
Down by the Bayou**

June 28, 2025 6pm-11pm
Doors open @ 5pm
NSU Student Union Ballroom
175 Sam Sibley Drive Room 100
Natchitoches, LA

TICKETS \$75.00
**PAYMENTS CAN BE MADE VIA
VENMO, CASH, OR MONEY ORDER**

@KreweofExcellence-Excellence

venmo

COMING TO AMERICA



Raven Valentine



Akeelah Wade



Sydney Durocher



Ce'Licia Vercher

Juneteenth Flag, Colors, and Meaning

The Juneteenth flag, created in 1997 by activist Ben Haith and refined in 2000 by illustrator Lisa Jeanne Graf, symbolizes African American history and identity. Its red, white, and blue colors reflect the American flag, asserting that enslaved African Americans and their descendants are integral to the nation's history. The red symbolizes the blood shed on the journey to freedom.

Key elements include:

****Star****: The white star represents Texas, where Juneteenth originated, and the freedom of African Americans across all states.

****Burst (Nova)****: The starburst signifies a new beginning and the liberation represented by Juneteenth.

****Arc****: The curved line symbolizes hope and progress for future generations of Black Americans.

****Date (June 19, 1865)****: Added in 2007, this marks the day the Emancipation Proclamation was enforced in Texas. The design mirrors the American flag to highlight that African American history is part of American history, celebrating the end of slavery and the vision of equality. Red also represents the sacrifices made by enslaved ancestors.



Outside of the Official Juneteenth Flag Colors and Meaning

Outside of the official Juneteenth flag, you may see many people with red, black, and green (and sometimes yellow) clothes and flags. These are adapted from the Pan-African flag and are used to symbolize Black freedom and unification, with each color providing unique symbolism.

- **Red:** Blood shed by Africans who died in the fight for liberation and the shared blood of the African people
- **Black:** The Black skin of the African peoples
- **Green:** Growth, prosperity, and the fertility of Africa
- **Yellow:** While not part of the Pan-African flag, many African countries added this color to represent mineral wealth



WHAT IS JUNETEENTH?



In 1863, President Abraham Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation, which stated that all persons held as slaves in rebellious states shall be set free.

Two years later in 1865, the enslaved people of Galveston, Texas finally learned that they had been set free from slavery.

Juneteenth is an important celebration of black liberation.

Celebrating Leadership: Mu Omega Zeta, Xi Epsilon, & Zeta Amicae of Natchitoches Attend Southern Regional Leadership Conference

Members of the Mu Omega Zeta and Xi Epsilon Chapters of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Incorporated, alongside the Zeta Amicae of Natchitoches, LA, proudly attended the 96th Southern Regional Leadership Conference and 57th Southern Regional Zeta Amicae Leadership Workshop held from June 12-15, 2025, in Dallas, Texas. Themed "Two-Stepping Toward Our Southern Regional Centennial: A Celebration of Our Mighty Extraordinary Legacy of Leadership," the conference provided engaging workshops, inspiring presentations, and valuable networking opportunities focused on strengthening bonds and enhancing leadership capabilities within the organization.

The Mu Omega Zeta Chapter was especially honored to celebrate several members for their enduring dedication and significant contributions. Sandra Williams, Josephine Winder, and Yalaunda Toliver-Taylor were recognized for 35 years of service, Locky Reliford for 40 years, and Belinda Turner for an impressive 45 years of distinguished commitment.

Individual excellence was also a highlight. Yalaunda Toliver-Taylor was named Zeta of the Year for 2022-2023, and Cheryl Jackson received the Zeta of the Year award for 2024-2025. Ms. Toliver-Taylor was also re-elected as the Regional Life Member Coordinator and recognized as a graduate of the Southern Regional Leadership Development Academy.

Proudly representing the Mu Omega Zeta Chapter as delegates were Denise Washington-Cornelius, Carletta Jones, Coretta Conant, Yalaunda Toliver-Taylor, Josephine Winder, Kaylee Cotton (Xi Epsilon), and Faith Miller (Xi Epsilon).

The Zeta Amicae of Natchitoches also received well-deserved accolades. Melva Mitchell was honored as Amicae of the Year, Doryce Polk received a Milestone Award for 35 years of service, and Mary Calhoun was recognized as Amicae Advisor of the Year.

Finally, the Xi Epsilon Chapter of Northwestern State University celebrated Faith Miller as their 2024-2025 Zeta of the Year.



Zeta Phi Beta Sorority Inc. (L to R): Mary Calhoun, Josephine Winder, Yalaunda Toliver-Taylor, Cheryl Jackson, Linda Howard, Christa Johnson, Faith Miller, Denise Cornelius, Carletta Jones, Sandra Williams, Candance Grayson, Kaylee Cotton, Tamera Burney, Coretta Conant, Aleysia Trahan, Belinda Turner, Locky Reliford.

Auxiliary Group (Amicae) L to R: Melva Mitchell, Dorcy Polk, Alice Johnson

Xi Epsilon (L to R): Tamera Burney, Faith Miller, Kaylee Cotton, Aleysia Trahan

The Krewe of Excellence Recognizes JAG Students

Natchitoches – The Krewe of Excellence recognized a Natchitoches Junior High-Frankie Ray Jackson School JAG student at their June meeting. These four students, Genesis Conday, TaJarrius Bowers, MyCayah Roberson, and Mariah Holliman (not pictured), won first place during a JAG National Competition in Indiana that was held this past Spring. Their JAG instructor, Jacqueline Rainwater(not pictured), has led this incredible, awesome, and dedicated group of scholars. Krewe of Excellence's President, Erika Ayatey, and members presented each student with a certificate of excellence and a gift card to show how proud of them we are, and we wish them continued success.




Pictured(L-R) Erika Ayatey, Genesis Conday, TaJarrius Bowers and MyCayah Roberson





Two Thumbs Up for Patient Safety

Keeping patients safe is our number one priority. And for the second consecutive period, our outstanding team of Associates have earned the nation's top distinction from the Leapfrog Hospital Safety Grade, recognizing NRMCMC as one of the safest hospitals in America. Trust NRMCMC - we put you and your safety first.




NRMCMC

Inspiring Excellence Everyday

The Leapfrog Hospital Safety Grade is an elite designation from The Leapfrog Group, a national, independent watchdog that sets the highest standards for patient safety in the United States.

Award-Winning Wound Care






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For the 8th consecutive year, NRMCMC Wound Center has been recognized by Healogics, the nation's largest provider of advanced wound care, for providing high quality care and achieving outstanding clinical outcomes. Using the latest technology, we are healing problem and chronic wounds so our patients can get back to living life!

NRMCMC Wound Center

For more information or to see if you can benefit from specialized care, please call 318.214.4822.

RICK CABRERA

BASKETBALL CAMPS

Rick Cabrera's Basketball Day Camp took place from June 23rd to 27th. The week was filled with fun, skill development, and competition. Campers enjoyed their time with players and staff, participating in small-group instruction. They engaged in games, teamwork activities, and numerous exciting competitions. Each day, a "Camper of the Day" was recognized. This award was given to a participant who excelled not only in basketball skills but also in other important qualities. The selected camper demonstrated a strong work ethic, a positive attitude, teamwork, coachability, and enthusiasm throughout the day.

The criteria for selection included:

- Hustle and effort during drills and games
- Encouragement of others and being a supportive teammate
- Willingness to learn and accept feedback
- Maintaining a respectful and positive attitude
- Consistent energy and focus

The Rick Cabrera Basketball Camp shared, "It's not just about who scores the most—it's about who gives their best and lifts those around them. Every day is a new chance to earn it!"



Rick Cabrera
BASKETBALL CAMP



Rick Cabrera BASKETBALL CAMP



RICK CABRERA

BASKETBALL CAMPS

Photo Credits: Rick and Danielle Cabrera



NCAA 5 on 5 Champions



Knockout Champions



Hot Shot Champions



Demon League 5 on 5 Champions



Buzzer Beater Champions



Dribble Knockout Champions



NBA 5 on 5 Champions

Artists Sought for 2025 Christmas Festival Poster

NATCHITOCHES – Artists are being sought to design the 2025 Natchitoches Christmas Festival Poster, commemorating the 99th year of the beloved festival. The theme for the poster is “Christmas in Natchitoches.” Artists who would like to enter the contest should submit a drawing or painting to the Natchitoches Arts Council using the chosen theme. The size of the completed sketch or painting should be 18 inches wide and 24 inches tall. If chosen, the painting will become the exclusive property of the Natchitoches Arts Council. The chosen artist will receive a commission of \$600.

The deadline for entering the competition is Friday, August 1, 2025. All entries should be submitted to The Office of Community Development, 420 Fourth Street, Natchitoches, LA 71457. The Natchitoches Arts Council is not responsible for insuring the safe or timely delivery of the artwork to the appropriate party. We do reserve the right to refuse any submissions and to extend the deadline.

Numbered prints in the form of a poster will be available and on sale to the public in October. All posters are \$35 each. The 1980-2004 collage posters are \$15 each. The small posters (3 ¾” x 5”) are \$3 each or two for \$4. Special prints of the 2008 Fleur de Lis Poster (11” x 17”), the 2016 Christmas in Natchitoches Poster (11” x 14.5”) and the 2019 Sacred Crossroads (11” x 14” reprint of the 1986 poster) are \$20.

The Natchitoches Christmas Festival Poster has been a tradition for 45 years. All of the original artwork can be viewed at the Natchitoches Arts Council office located at the Community Development Office, 420 Fourth Street or City Hall, 806 Second Street, Natchitoches, LA.

For more information about the poster contest, please call Karen Terrell at (318) 792-7234.

ON SITE TAX SERVICE & BOOKKEEPING
(318) 238-6222 (318) 527-6278









1730 Texas St, Natchitoches, LA 71457

NPSB 2025 Back to School Expo

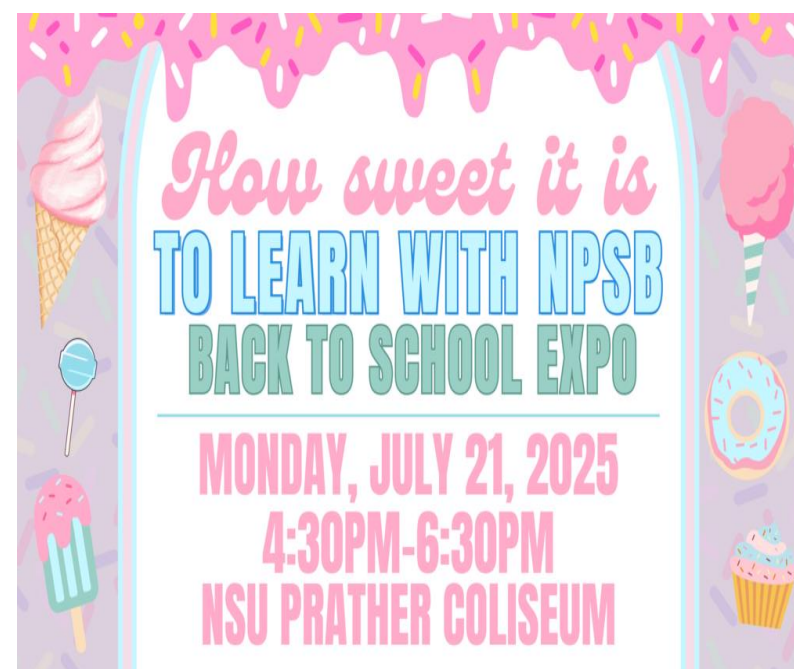
The Natchitoches Parish School Board invites the community to attend the **2025 Back to School Expo** on **Monday, July 21, 2025, from 4:30-6:30 PM** at **NSU's Prather Coliseum**, as we gear up for a new school year filled with sweet opportunities!

With the theme “**How Sweet It Is to Learn with NPSB**,” families can look forward to an exciting, interactive event that celebrates education and helps prepare students for a successful school year. Students will receive and can enjoy the following:

-  **FREE backpacks filled with school supplies** (while supplies last)
-  **Sweet treats**
-  **Haircut vouchers**
-  **Door prizes**
-  **School registration assistance**
-  **Supply lists and info from each NPSB school**

Representatives from all Natchitoches Parish Schools will be on-site to answer questions and help families feel confident and ready for the new year.

This event is **free and open to the public**. Come celebrate the start of the **2025–2026 school year** with us—because “How Sweet It Is to Learn with NPSB!”



45th Annual Natchitoches- NSU Folk Festival

NATCHITOCHES – The 45th Annual Natchitoches-NSU Folk Festival will be held on Saturday July 19, 2025, in air-conditioned Prather Coliseum located at 220 South Jefferson Street at Northwestern State University in Natchitoches. The festival's curated showcase of Louisiana folk musicians, food vendors, and traditional crafts persons will open at 9 am, with live entertainment scheduled for 9:30 AM to 9:30 PM. The family-oriented festival is fully wheelchair accessible. Children 12 and under are admitted free. Tickets are \$10 at the door for all events, or \$6 for an evening pass to all events after 5 PM.

The festival features three stages of music. Music headliners include Cajun band Amis du Teche, zydeco band Chubby Carrier and the Bayou Swamp Band, blues artist D.K. Harrell, western swing artist the Kristyn Harris Band, roots band Smithfield Fair, gospel group the Amazing! Rhythm Disciples, and swamp pop dance band the Has Beans. The festival also includes numerous food vendors offering traditional Louisiana cuisine. Outdoor activities feature demonstrations of traditional blacksmithing, Dutch oven cooking, and a child-friendly hands-on demonstration of a 19th century wash day.

In honor of this year's theme, Crafting Louisiana, more than 80 crafts vendors have been invited to display and discuss their traditional work with festival patrons. Craftspeople are expected to display beadwork, baskets, cowhide chair covers, alligator jewelry, Pysanky eggs, Native American crafts, and pottery. Other expected craftspeople will display needlework, wood carvings, handmade toys and dolls, paintings, sculpture, homemade soap, spinning & weaving, handcrafted knives, handmade brooms, walking sticks, folk art quilts, and more. The Festival will include a Red Beans & Rice Cookoff, in which professionals and hobbyists alike can compete in one of multiple categories and demonstrate their cooking skills. Registration and the Cooks' Meeting will take place at 8:00 AM. Tasting and judging will begin at 12:30 PM, with winners be announced at 3:30 PM. There is no fee to compete in the Cookoff. Red beans & rice must be cooked on-site outside of Prather Coliseum, but beans may be pre-soaked.

The Annual Louisiana State Fiddle Championship will be held at 1 PM in the Magale Recital Hall. There will be a non-championship class and a championship class. A twin fiddle category will also be held. Registration is at noon in the first-floor foyer outside Magale Recital Hall. The Fiddle Championship winner will perform on the main stage in Prather Coliseum at 5:00 PM. The festival includes several opportunities for patrons to engage directly with Louisiana folk culture. Free dance lessons include line dancing taught by the Classy Steppers, Celtic dance taught by the Thistle Dancers and Pipers, and Cajun and zydeco dancing taught by the Cajun French Music Association Dance Troupe. Interactive activities include a yodeling demonstration by Kristyn Harris, dancing with the Louisiana Czech Heritage Dancers, a son jarocho fandango dance by the Armadillos Tejanos, and a musical spoons workshop taught by folk musician Clancey Stewart, with 50 free musical spoons given to workshop attendees.

Continued next page...

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For a full schedule of events, as well as registration forms to participate in the Louisiana State Fiddle Championship and the Red Beans & Rice Cookoff contact the Louisiana Folklife Center at (318) 357-4332 or email folklife@nsula.edu or go to louisianafolklife.nsula.edu.

Support for the festival is provided by grants from the Cane River National Heritage Area, Inc., the City of Natchitoches, the Louisiana Division of the Arts Decentralized Arts Fund Program, the Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities, the Louisiana Office of Tourism, the Natchitoches Area Convention and Visitors Bureau, the Natchitoches Historic District Development Commission, the New Orleans Jazz and Heritage Foundation, the Shreveport Regional Arts Council, and the State of Louisiana. The festival is sponsored by C&H Precision Machining, City Bank, Cleco, Evans Family, LLC, Exchange Bank, the Family Doctors of Natchitoches, the Harrington Law Firm, Natchitoches Wood Preserving Company, and Young Estate, LLC.



Brandon Cagle



Smithfield Fair by T.J. Shufin



Festival T-shirt with "Cookin' in the Yard" Painting by Clementine Hunter



Kristyn Harris
Photo Credit:
Crystal Clear
Photography



Carrie Miller

FREE ENTRY for the Parade and Festival

The parade leaves at 2 pm. The lineup will be at 12:30 pm on the corner of Johnson Loop and Robinson



Line Dancing! Bring your boots! We have fans available!

Grand Marshall
Krewe of Nine

DJ Twilite, Arts & Crafts, Food Vendors, and Domino Tournament

Co-Grand Marshall
Jerry Forest Jr.

Please contact the Town Hall for Parade & Vendor Registration at (318) 352- 1414



The Village of Natchez Juneteenth Committee
Pictured from left to right: Dianne Brown, Emma Byrd, Pamela Harvey, W.L. Howard, Mayor Patsy Ward Hoover, Alderman Sheila Johnson, and Meryland Robinson Jr
Not Pictured: Henderson Howard, Mr. & Mrs. Kris Hall, and Gloria Smith Gandy.



New Birth Missionary Baptist Church Hosted Vacation Bible Study

Pastor Rufus Sowell



WEBSITE
NATCHITOCHES SHOWDOWN
 \$200 REGISTRATION FEE.
 MULTI TEAM DISCOUNT:
 2 TEAMS= \$175
 3+TEAMS= \$150
JULY 12-13
REGISTER NOW!
CHAMPIONSHIP RINGS
 1ST PLACE & 2ND PLACE TROPHIES
 CONTACT:
 RAMON SHOULDS 318-354-5094
 ANGEL JOHNSON 318-471-7088
 GARY ROBERSON 318-354-6112
 RICHARD MOODY 318-581-8098

Happy Juneteenth!

Natchitoches Parish Assessor

Yolanda C. Reed, CLA



Happy JUNETEENTH!
 From: Michael Wilson

EQUITY, DIVERSITY, AND INCLUSION

JUNE 19, 2025

HAPPY JUNETEENTH
celebrating freedom
 From: Preston Durr

Natchitoches-NSU Folk Festival
July 19, 2025

Prather Coliseum- NSU Campus

www.nsula.edu/folklife/folkfest/

blues artist
D.K. Harrell



Jon Naugle Photography



Basic Private Investigator Training Course to be held in July

NATCHITOCHES – Northwestern State University's Office of Electronic Learning and Global Education will offer a 40-Hour Basic Private Investigator Training Course on July 11-13 and 18-20 in the second-floor classroom of South Hall on NSU's Natchitoches campus.

The class will be on Friday from 6 p.m. until 10 p.m. and on Saturday and Sunday from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. The fee is \$375 plus an additional \$100 board fee due on July 20 made payable to the Louisiana State Board of Private Investigator Examiners.

The Louisiana State Board of Private Investigator Examiners (LSBPIE) 40-Hour Basic Private Investigator Training Course is meticulously designed to equip private investigators with a comprehensive understanding of the following areas: Louisiana private investigator law, constitutional principles, gun laws, criminal law and procedure, state and federal legal systems, relevant laws to private investigators, evidence, discovery, domestic investigations, surveillance, reports and other relevant areas to the private investigative industry in Louisiana. This thorough coverage ensures that participants are well-prepared for the challenges of their profession.

Participants will also learn to conduct undercover investigations, employ surveillance techniques, perform interviews, and take statements.

For more information or to register for classes, go to checkout.nsula.edu or call (800) 376-2422 or (318) 357-6355. Stay up to date with course offerings by following NSU Electronic Learning and Global Education on Facebook at facebook.com/NSULA.ece.



**SCHEDULE YOUR FREE
CAMPUS TOUR**

[WWW.NSULA.EDU/TOURS](https://www.nsula.edu/tours)

See residence halls, lab spaces, and classrooms where you'll live and learn as an NSU student. We offer private, personalized campus tours led by our student ambassadors and admissions experts.

COMMUNITY EVENTS



THE COACH DE FOUNDATION AND GORDY CHRIS PRESENTS THE 7TH ANNUAL **COACH DE'S CLOSET: BACK TO SCHOOL BASH**

JULY 27, 2025
3PM-6PM

CITY PARK
401 AMULET STREET
NATCHITOCHES, LA

FREE BACKPACKS, UNIFORMS, CLOTHING, SHOES, HYGIENE PRODUCTS, SCHOOL SUPPLIES AND ENTERTAINMENT.

OPEN SWIM!
SNOWCONES
FOOD CATERED BY BAYOU SOUL!
PERFORMANCES - TBA

SPONSORS:

Weyerhaeuser EDDIE AND EMILY HARRINGTON Walmart



The Gate Outreach Hosts Camp in Partnership with Faith Family Church and The River Community Church

GOD'S KID YOUTH CAMP

Dates: **July 17-19**
Ages **12-18**
Register by July 1

Guest Speaker: **Chris Oswald**

Scan the QR Code for online registration or contact Meghan @ 318-652-1806 or Nicole @ 571-970-7065 for form.



ANTIOCH BAPTIST CHURCH #2

REVIVAL NIGHTS

► PASTOR JOHN WILLIAMS
SENIOR PASTOR

► DR. AIL R. HARRIS JR.
GUEST SPEAKER

JULY 1-3 | 7PM

ANTIOCH BAPTIST CHURCH #2 586 ANTIOCH CHURCH RD. PLEASANT HILL, LA 71065

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Interested in Advertising?

Call us today at
(318) 354-7721 or email us at
support@therealnewslouisiana.com



COMMUNITY EVENTS

Beat the heat FAN DRIVE

help older adults in our community beat the heat this summer!

FRIDAY, JUNE 27
10:00 – 12:00PM

DROP OFF LOCATION:
NATCHITOCHES PARISH COUNCIL ON AGING
1016 KEYSER AVE.
318-357-3250

FANS OR MONETARY DONATIONS ARE GREATLY APPRECIATED

IF YOU ARE IN NEED OF A FAN PLEASE CALL THE NPCOA



FIREWORKS!
HOT AIR BALLOONS!
LIVE MUSIC!

A NEW INDEPENDENCE DAY TRADITION?
ABSOLUTELY!

Natchitoches BALLOON FESTIVAL 2025

- HOT AIR BALLOONS
- LIVE MUSIC
- BALLOON CLOW
- FIREWORKS
- FOOD VENDORS
- MEET THE PILOTS
- BALLOON RIDES AND MORE!
- \$25 PER CARLOAD

JULY 4&5 ★ NATCHITOCHES, LOUISIANA
INDEPENDENCE DAY WEEKEND



WE ARE KING DAVID WEEKEND 2025

BUILDING COMMUNITY, CELEBRATING LEGACY

FRI	SAT	SUN
KICK-OFF MIXER EXPERIENCE	BASKETBALL CAMP	COMMUNITY PROJECT
GAME NIGHT	R&B PARTY	BRUNCH
A NIGHT OF FUN, CONNECTION AND CELEBRATION	SKILLS, GROWTH, AND SOULFUL VIBES	GIVING BACK AND WRAPPING UP IN STYLE
JULY 25TH	JULY 26TH	JULY 27TH



BOOK STORE DEDICATION


In Honor of
Mrs. Petula Holden

SATURDAY JUNE 28, 2025
@ 4 PM

FOREVER IN OUR HEARTS

Gone but definitely not forgotten

3089 Hwy 71 Campti, La 71411



COMMUNITY EVENTS

B.I.O.N.I.C. Presents



BACK To SCHOOL BASH 2025
SAT AUGUST 09

What to expect: **FREE FOOD, GAMES, FREE SCHOOL SUPPLIES**

Admission Per Person: **FREE**

Disclaimer: Come out and enjoy yourself! This is a family friendly safe environment! Security will be enforced!
RESPECT yourself, **RESPECT** each other and **RESPECT** these kids!
K&Z Seafood from Coushatta, La will be selling seafood for the event!
Games Included: Kickball, volleyball, etc. Water slides will be available for kids!
B.I.O.N.I.C is not responsible for any injuries sustained by any child! Parents are responsible for their children!

Location: 1117 Highland Park Dr. Natchitoches, LA 71457 **Time:** 12:00 P.M-6:00 P.M.

AGE 9-14 YEARS

JULY 8-24

TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY, & THURSDAY

STEAM EXPLORERS SUMMER CAMP

8:00AM -1:00PM

REGISTRATION FREE

ACTIVITIES
Explore STEAM Like Never Before! Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math.

WHAT'S IN STORE?

- **DRONE TECHNOLOGY:** LEARN HOW TO FLY AND PROGRAM DRONES!
- **ENGINEERING CHALLENGES:** BUILD BRIDGES WITH SPAGHETTI AND CREATE REAL-WORLD DESIGNS!
- **FINANCIAL LITERACY:** LEARN TO BUDGET, PLAN BUSINESSES, AND UNDERSTAND MONEY!
- **ART & CODING:** CREATE DIGITAL ART AND GAMES USING SCRATCH & TYNKER!
- **ROBOTICS:** DIVE INTO ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AND ROBOTICS.
- **INNOVATION CHALLENGE:** WORK WITH A TEAM TO DEVELOP AN INNOVATIVE PROJECT.

1621 WELCH ST., NATCHITOCHES
RSVP HAROLD BAYONNE AT
+(318) 413-2064

New Date!
JULY 26TH

3RD ANNUAL ZYDECO FOOD TRUCK FESTIVAL

Kids 12 & under FREE!
GATES OPEN 12PM



KEITH FRANK
Performing Live

BOM **CITY BANK** **NATCHITOCHES** **FULLY GIFTED** **WAKD**

454 FAIRGROUNDS RD. NATCHITOCHES, LA 71457
CALL 318-507-9494 OR VISIT KURATORSLA.COM
FOR TICKETS AND MORE INFORMATION

CONTACT US

Phone: (318) 354-7712

Email:
support@therealnewslouisiana.com

www.therealnewslouisiana.com

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