



THE REAL NEWS

Louisiana

"A Community With a Voice Shall Be Heard" ®

Publisher: Latorria Freeman

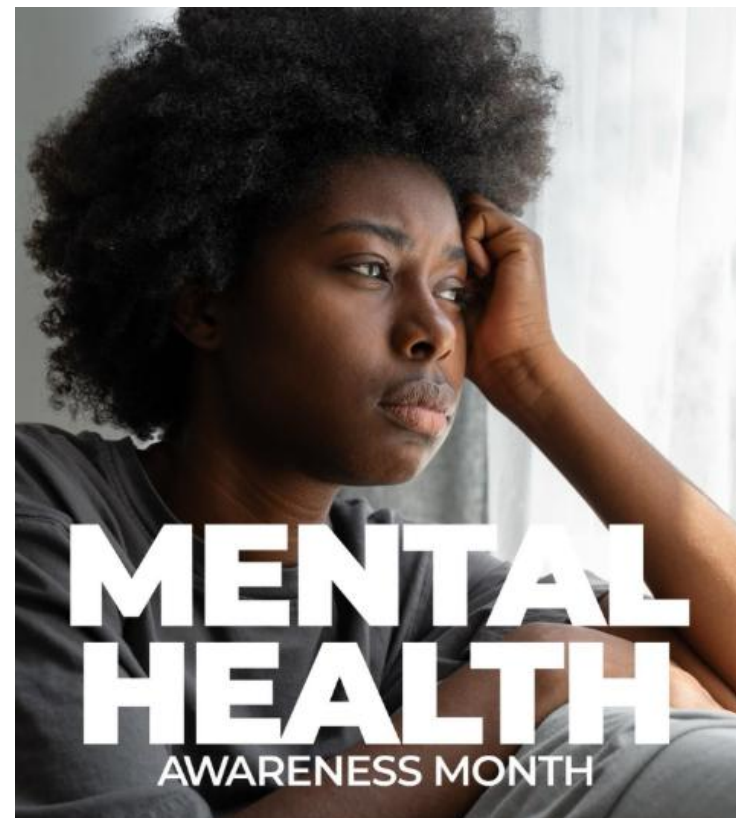
Mental Health Awareness Month: Shining a Light on the Black Community

May is Mental Health Awareness Month, an annual observance first established in 1949 to spark open conversations, reduce stigma, and promote access to care. For the Black community, this month holds particular significance. African Americans face disproportionate mental health challenges rooted in systemic racism, historical trauma, economic pressures, and daily microaggressions, yet they often encounter significant barriers to support.

The Reality of Disparities

Statistics paint a sobering picture. Black adults are approximately 20% more likely than the general population to experience serious mental health conditions such as depression, anxiety, and PTSD. Despite this heightened risk, Black adults were 36% less likely than U.S. adults overall to receive mental health treatment in 2024. Suicide rates among Black youth and young adults have risen sharply—a 58% increase between 2011 and 2021—with suicide ranking as the third leading cause of death for Black individuals aged 15-24.

These numbers stem from layered factors. Chronic stress from racial discrimination, housing insecurity, unemployment, and limited access to culturally competent care compound the burden. Historical mistrust of medical systems, stemming from events like the Tuskegee Syphilis Study, further deepens reluctance to seek help. Cultural stigma plays a powerful role too: many in the community view mental health struggles as a sign of weakness or something to handle privately through faith and family resilience alone. As a result, silence often prevails where healing is needed.



Continued Page 3...

What's Inside...



Pages 1 and 3



Page 4

NATCHITOCHE VOTERS & CIVIC LEAGUE FOUNDATION, INC

Page 6



Page 14



Page 18



Page 12



Page 11



Page 9



Page 7



Page 16



Page 10



Chamber News...
Page 5



Page 19

Upcoming
COMMUNITY EVENTS

Pages 21-22



BOM Gives Back
Page 20

And Much More...

Continued from Page 1...

Mental Health Awareness Month: Shining a Light on the Black Community



Breaking the Silence

Mental Health Awareness Month offers a vital platform to challenge these norms. Initiatives like NAMI's "Sharing Hope" program highlight stories from Black communities, fostering connection over isolation. Organizations such as the Black Emotional and Mental Health Collective (BEAM), Black Mental Health Alliance, Black Men Heal, and Black Mental Wellness provide culturally relevant resources, training, and therapist directories tailored to Black experiences.

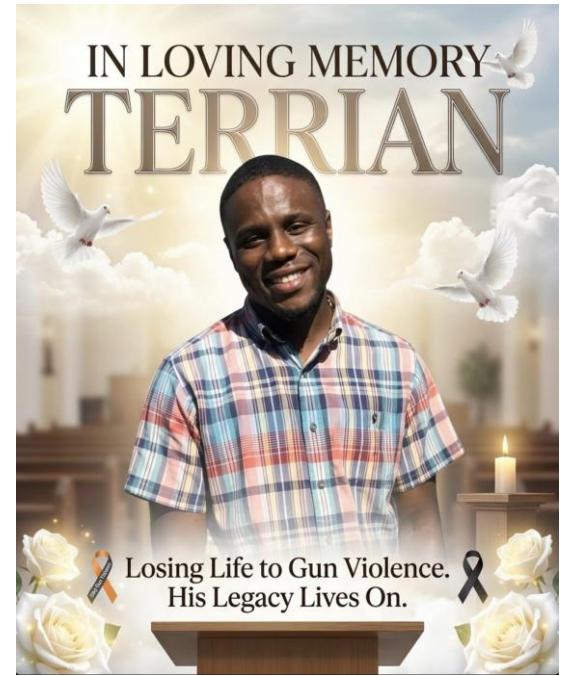
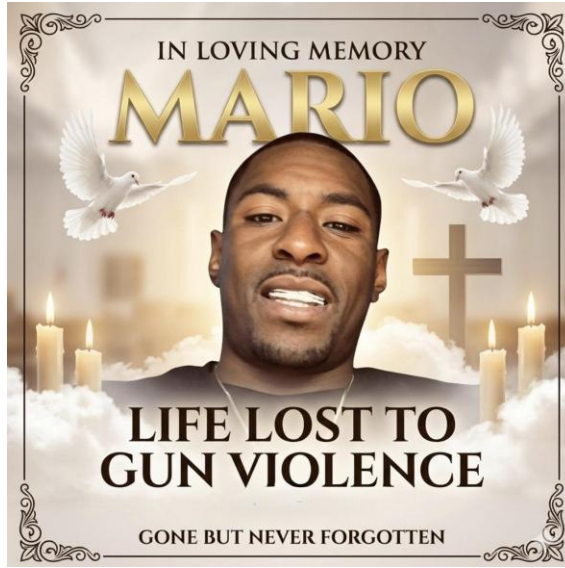
Community-led efforts emphasize strength-based approaches—drawing on cultural pride, spirituality, creative arts, and collective care. Open conversations in churches, barbershops, and social media are helping normalize therapy and self-care. Employers and institutions are increasingly called upon to address workplace racism and provide equitable mental health benefits.

A Call to Action

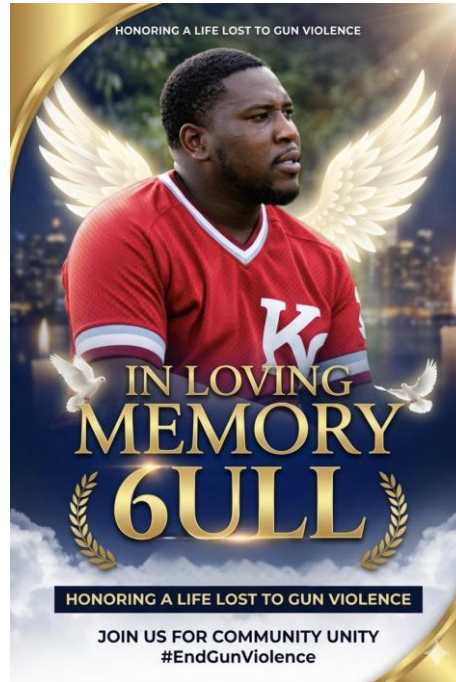
This May, individuals, families, and leaders must prioritize mental wellness as fiercely as physical health. Simple steps matter checking in on loved ones, sharing reliable resources, advocating for policy changes like expanded Medicaid and more Black mental health professionals, and practicing self-compassion without shame. Mental health is not a luxury—it is essential for thriving. By turning awareness into sustained action, the Black community can build stronger, more resilient futures where seeking help is an act of power, not weakness. Healing truly begins in community. No one should struggle alone.

**"So we are convinced that every detail of our lives is continually woven together for good, for we are his lovers who have been called to fulfill his designed purpose."
Romans 8:28**

See Something. Say Something.



Flyer Credits:
Cordero Hendricks



PROTECT OUR COMMUNITY.

SEE SOMETHING. SAY SOMETHING.

318-238-2388



P3TIPS.COM

FOR MORE INFO VISIT NATCHITOCHECRIMESTOPPERS.COM

Mental Health Day in the Park



Mental Health Day in the Park

Bring the kids to play at the park while the adults get to learn about Mental Health Resources!



Friday, May 29th

9am - 1pm
Natchitoches City Park

Event Highlights:

- Music
- Food (while supplies last)
- Portable Park
- Door Prizes!
 - Come visit us to be entered to win gift cards to local restaurants and stores!
 - Must be present at 12pm drawing to win

Want to be a resource vendor?
Email Kayla at kaylac@goodwillnla.org

Job & Resource Fair



SECOND CHANCE

JOB FAIR

RESCHEDULED TO JUNE 2
8AM-10AM

PROBATION & PAROLE OFFICE

400 Rapides Drive, Natchitoches

Employers & Resources
RSVP Here:



Free to the public.

Employers can also email kaylac@goodwillnla.org to register.

NSU Child Development Center | Ribbon Cutting Celebration



NSU CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER
RIBBON CUTTING CELEBRATION

June 2, 2026

12:00 P.M. - 1:00 P.M.

Ribbon Cutting Scheduled for 1:15 P.M.
1 Caldwell Drive, Natchitoches

VISIT THE WEBSITE TO LEARN MORE



PRESENTED BY THE NATCHITOCHEs AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



JOIN TODAY

FOR AS LITTLE AS

\$25

A MONTH

Contact Morgan Green
morgan@gonatchitoches.com



NATCHITOCHESES VOTERS & CIVIC LEAGUE FOUNDATION, INC

Thurs. May 28th 6pm

WINNFIELD FUNERAL HOME 318 NORTH STREET



Mama Shug would always say...

If you not ready for the answer, it's no need of you asking a question. It's no need of getting offended when someone's response is not what you had expected.

Natchitoches Parish Sheriff's Office

INTRODUCING OUR NEW APP

Instant access to essential information at your fingertips.



- NPSO Directory
- Extra Patrol Requests
- Submit A Tip
- School Resource Officers
- Sex Offenders
- Join Our Team
- Inmate Information
- Emergency Prep

● + Much More!

SCAN TO
DOWNLOAD



AVAILABLE FOR DOWNLOAD NOW!



Inaugural Miss Juneteenth Heritage Pageant Ready to Highlight Culture and Confidence in Natchitoches

NATCHITOCHES, LA — Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Incorporated, Mu Omega Zeta Chapter has announced its upcoming inaugural Miss Juneteenth Heritage Pageant, set for Saturday, May 30, 2026. Designed to cultivate confidence, celebrate rich cultural heritage, and foster community pride, the landmark event will begin at 4:00 p.m. at the Martin Luther King, Jr. Recreational Community Center on MLK Drive.

The evening promises an inspiring showcase of local youth, featuring 17 talented contestants competing across three age-specific divisions:

- **Little Miss Juneteenth:** Ages 5–8
- **Junior Miss Juneteenth:** Ages 9–12
- **Miss Juneteenth:** Ages 13–17

The energetic evening kicks off with a special opening act dance performance featuring all 17 contestants. To capture the crown, the participants will hit the stage to model elegant formal wear and vibrant African attire, followed by a dynamic Question and Answer forum designed to highlight their poise and leadership skills.

Guiding the audience through the festivities will be event emcees Lisa and Dr. Aill R. Harris Jr. Attendees will also enjoy special live entertainment by Andrew Cofield and Tanner Holden.

The public is warmly invited to attend and support these remarkable young ladies as they celebrate leadership, grace, and heritage.

Ticket and Event Information:

- **Date & Time:** Saturday, May 30, 2026, at 4:00 p.m.
- **Location:** Martin Luther King, Jr. Recreational Community Center, 660 MLK Drive, Natchitoches, LA
- **Early Bird Tickets:** \$8.00 for adults / \$5.00 for children
- **Day-of Tickets (At the Door):** \$10.00 for adults / \$5.00 for children

Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Incorporated
Mu Omega Zeta Chapter

MISS Juneteenth

HERITAGE PAGEANT

Celebrate heritage, confidence,
and community pride!

- 📅 Date: Saturday, May 30, 2026
- 🕒 Time: 4:00 PM
- 📍 Location: 660 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive, Natchitoches, LA

Tickets : Early bird
\$8.00/ adult \$5.00/ child, ages 6-12
\$10.00/adult at Door/ \$5.00/ child, ages 6-12

Scan for Tix

Or Visit

bit.ly/crown2026
or
www.juneteenthzphib.com

Scenes from Natchitoches Jazz & R&B Festival

Photo Credits: Randy Stelly



NATCHITOCHEES

LOUISIANA

FARMERS

Market

GOOD FOR YOU. GOOD FOR OUR COMMUNITY.



FRESH FINDS
 ♡ Every ♡
 Time!



FRESH PRODUCE
 Picked at the
 Peak of Flavor



BEAUTIFUL PLANTS
 Bring Life & Color
 to Your Home



LOCAL GOODNESS
 From Our Farmers
 & Makers



COMMUNITY & FUN
 Good Food, Good People,
 Good Times!

Shop Local.
Make a Difference! ♡

SUPPORT
LOCAL
 VENDORS



NSU to offer Summer Rock Camp June 22-26

NATCHITOCHEs – A Summer Rock Camp will be held at Northwestern State University on June 22-26 from 1 p.m. until 5 p.m. in the Fine Arts Annex. The fee for the camp is \$180, which is due when camp contracts come out.

Those in the camp can sing, learn to play instruments such as electric guitar, bass guitar, keyboard or drums and play in a rock band. There will be hands-on instruction with a camp performance at the end of the week. Spots in the camp are limited due to the number of instruments provided.

For more information or to register go to <https://forms.gle/vamnS4ev9up9vuj96>

Those with questions can contact Dr. Oliver Molina at molinao@nsula.edu.

NORTHWESTERN STATE UNIVERSITY

ROCK CAMP 2026

COME SING, LEARN TO PLAY GUITAR, KEYBOARD, DRUMS, AND PLAY IN A ROCK BAND

JUNE 22-26 | AGES 12-18

CONTACT:
NSU MUSIC PROFESSOR
DR. OLIVER MOLINA
MOLINAO@NSULA.EDU

SCAN FOR MORE INFO:

YOU ARE NOT ALONE

MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH

MENTAL HEALTH
awareness

Owner
Jason Brock

318-228-8848

Tire Shop

Repair Shop

1908 HWY 6 NATCHITOCHEs, LOUISIANA 71457

FINANCING AVAILABLE

PITSTOP76

Hours Monday- Friday 8 am- 5 pm
Saturday 9 am- 1 pm
Sunday Closed

Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.
Rho Beta Omega Chapter
presents

HEALTH & FINANCIAL LITERACY SEMINAR

"Empowering Wellness and Financial Health"

- ★ FREE SCREENINGS
- ★ GIVE AWAYS (GIFT CARDS, ETC)
- ★ FREE COMMUNITY RESOURCES & SERVICES



Door Prizes ★ Pizza ★ Refreshments

- **Financial Budgeting**
Katrice Below (Senior VP of Bank of Montgomery)
- **Senior Citizens Resources & Services**
Patrice Parker (Natchitoches Parish Council on Aging)
- **Life Insurance**
Ruby Braxton (Kilpatrick Life Insurance Agent)
- **Diabetes/Blood Sugar Management**
Bianca Jones (Department of Veterans Affairs Hospital Registered Dietitian)
- **Health & Fitness**
Nicholas "Nic Flair" Washington (Premier Fitness & Athletics)
- **Children's Storytelling and Arts & Crafts**
Natchitoches Parish Library
- **Mobile Health Screenings via Wellness Bus**
Shauna Morris (AmeriHealth Caritas)

Friday
May 29, 2026
5:30-7:00 pm

MR Weaver Elementary
520 St. Maurice Lane
Text to RSVP by May 22nd at
(318) 518-7042 or (318) 289-9359

Health and Financial Literacy Seminar

Hosted by Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. – Rho Beta Omega Chapter Natchitoches, LA — The Rho Beta Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated will host a Health and Financial Literacy Seminar on Saturday, May 29, 2026.

This free community event will provide practical education on important topics including Financial Literacy: Budgeting, Life Insurance

Health & Wellness: Preventive care, blood pressure screenings, and healthy lifestyle strategies. The seminar will feature expert presentations, interactive sessions, and helpful resources for individuals and families.

Event Details:

- Date: Saturday, May 29, 2026
- Location: MR Weaver Elementary 520 St. Maurice Lane
- Time: 5:30-7:00 pm
- Cost: Free and open to the public

The Rho Beta Omega Chapter continues its mission of service by empowering the community with tools for better health and financial stability. For more information, contact the chapter or follow them on Facebook at facebook.com/rhobetaomega1908. All are welcome!

Exchange Bank
Established 1892

*Oldest Bank in Louisiana
Come See Why!*

318.352.8141 | EXCHANGE-BANK.COM
Serving Natchitoches & Pineville

MEMBER FDIC

NPSB Families: Time to Plan for the 2026-2027 School Year

School's out for summer! As students and staff across the Natchitoches Parish School Board (NPSB) enjoy a well-deserved break, now is the perfect time for families to start preparing for the upcoming 2026-2027 school year. Parents are encouraged to mark their calendars with these key dates:



REGISTRATION NOW OPEN FOR THE 2026-2027 SCHOOL YEAR!



- First Day for Students: Monday, August 10, 2026
- Last Day for Students: Wednesday, May 20, 2027

Additional important dates — including holidays, breaks, and parent/teacher conferences — will be released soon. Planning ahead helps ensure a smooth and successful start to the new school year. Enjoy your summer!

2026-2027 DISTRICT CALENDAR

AUGUST 2026					SEPTEMBER 2026					OCTOBER 2026					NOVEMBER 2026				
M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F
3	4	5	6	7		1	2	3	4				1	2	2	3	4	5	6
10	11	12	13	14	7	8	9	10	11	5	6	7	8	9	9	10	11	12	13
17	18	19	20	21	14	15	16	17	18	12	13	14	15	16	16	17	18	19	20
24	25	26	27	28	21	22	23	24	25	19	20	21	22	23	23	24	25	26	27
31					28	29	30			26	27	28	29	30	30				

DECEMBER 2026					JANUARY 2027					FEBRUARY 2027					MARCH 2027				
M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F
	1	2	3	4					1	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
7	8	9	10	11	4	5	6	7	8	8	9	10	11	12	8	9	10	11	12
14	15	16	17	18	11	12	13	14	15	15	16	17	18	19	15	16	17	18	19
21	22	23	24	25	18	19	20	21	22	22	23	24	25	26	22	23	24	25	26
28	29	30	31		25	26	27	28	29						29	30	31		

APRIL 2027					MAY 2027				
M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
26	27	28	29	30	31				

First Day/Last Day of School ●
 August 10 - First Day for Students
 May 20 - Last Day for Students

Holidays & Breaks ■ (Schools Closed)
 September 7: Labor Day
 October 12-16: Fall Break
 November 3: Election Day
 November 23-27: Thanksgiving Break
 December 4: Christmas Festival Weekend
 December 21-January 1: Christmas Break
 ○ January 4: Students virtually return for the Spring semester. Students return to campuses January 5.
 January 18: MLK Holiday
 February 15-19: Winter Break
 March 26 - April 2: Easter Break

Grade Reporting Periods
 1st Quarter: 8/10/26 - 10/9/26
 2nd Quarter: 10/19/26 - 12/18/26
 3rd Quarter: 1/4/27 - 3/11/27
 4th Quarter: 3/15/27 - 5/20/27

Teacher Work Days ▲
 August 3-7 (No Students)

Parent/Teacher Conferences ★
 October 8: 3:30-6:30PM (after school)
 October 9: 8AM-12PM (students virtual)
 December 17: 3:30-6:30PM (after school)
 December 18: 8AM-12PM (students virtual)
 March 11: 3:30-6:30PM (after school)
 March 12: 8AM-12PM (no students)

Instructional Day = 385 Minutes □ End of Quarter

THINGS TO DO DURING SUMMER

1. TAKE ARTSY PICTURES
2. PLANT FLOWERS
3. MAKE DESSERT
4. PAINT YOUR NAILS
5. MAKE LEMONADE
6. DO AN ADULT COLORING BOOK
7. PAINT ON A CANVAS
8. DRAW
9. TRY A NEW HAIRSTYLE
10. RE-ARRANGE YOUR ROOM

THE HISTORIC CITY OF NATCHITOCHEs Presents...

JAMMING Juneteenth FEST

SATURDAY
JUNE 20TH

DOWNTOWN
NATCHITOCHEs
— Louisiana —

OUR FREEDOM. OUR FUTURE.

LIVE PERFORMANCE BY

J PAUL

& THE ZYDECO NUBREEDZ

6PM-10PM

FIREWORKS, KIDS ZONE, POPUP SHOP,

FOOD VENDORS & MORE

VENDORS CONTACT 318.527.6543



Pain Institute



Pain Care Clinic Team

The specialized team, led by Dr. Julian Naranjo who is board certified in Anesthesia and Interventional Pain Management, is trained to evaluate, diagnose and treat pain whether it is caused by injury, diseases, arthritis, nerve damage, diabetes, or other unknown causes. By using interventional pain relief therapies, medications, and special procedures, our pain management physician can effectively manage a patient's pain and help restore a better quality of life.

Diagnosing and Treating:

- Back Pain
- Neck Pain
- Headaches (Including Migraines)
- Joint Pain
- Muscular Pain
- Acute Herpes Zoster
- Postherpetic Neuralgia
- Phantom Limb and Stump Pain
- Adhesive Arachnoiditis
- Neuropathic Pain

Services Include:

- ✓ Trigger Point Injections
- ✓ Epidural Injections
- ✓ Peripheral Nerve Blocks
- ✓ Facet Joint Nerve Blocks

The Pain Institute accepts most commercial insurance, Medicare. The office will help patients with pre-certification and filing of insurance claims.

For more information on the Pain Institute or to schedule an appointment, please call (318) 214-4153.

Real Pain. Real Patients. Real Relief.

When pain takes over your life, the right care can give it back. At NRMC Pain Institute, we believe the best measure of success is how our patients feel. Every day, people just like you come to us searching for answers, relief, and a path forward. And every day, they leave with renewed hope.



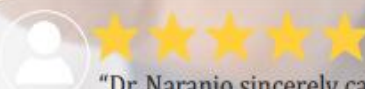
"Dr. Naranjo provides more than pain medicine. He gives good advice on how to help speed up your recovery..."



"I have no words to thank Dr. Naranjo for everything he has done for my wife, for alleviating her pain and improving her quality of life..."



"Dr. Naranjo has been treating me since January. He has been very helpful with treating my pain and also educating me on my injury."



"Dr. Naranjo sincerely cares and genuinely wants to alleviate your pain. As an elderly lady with pain over the years, I highly recommend!!"

These aren't just testimonials – they're real stories from real patients who trusted us with their care. Utilizing advanced, personalized treatment options designed to target the source of your pain – not just mask it, we're here to help you reclaim your quality of life.

Don't let pain define your story.
Call 318.214.4153 today!



501 Keyser Avenue
First Floor of NRMC

NSU seeks nominations for Hall of Distinguished Educators

NATCHITOCHEs – Northwestern State University's Gallaspy College of Education and Human Development is seeking nominations for the 2026 Hall of Distinguished Educators, Outstanding Young Professionals and the Friend to Education Award.



The Hall of Distinguished Educators is the highest honor bestowed by the School of Education. Nominees must have earned an education degree from Northwestern State University, must have a minimum of 30 years of service in the field of education and must have made significant contributions to the field of education and/or the larger community at a local, state, national or international level. Nominees may be living or deceased. More than 100 educators have been honored with the Hall of Distinguished Educators award since 2000.

Outstanding Young Professionals in Education must have earned an education degree from NSU and have a minimum of 10 years of service in the field of education. Nominees must have made significant contributions to the field of education and/or the larger community. Nominees must be 45 years old or younger.

The Friend to Education award recognizes individuals who have made extraordinary contributions to the field of education, the Northwestern State University School of Education, the Gallaspy College of Education and Human Development and/or the university as a whole. Nominees for this award are not eligible for consideration for the Hall of Distinguished Educators. Individuals may be nominated regardless of whether they are living or deceased.

[Applications](#) are due by August 5, 2026, and are available now at [2026 Nominations](#).

For more information, contact Dr. April Jessup Giddens at giddensa@nsula.edu.

Individuals selected will be honored with a reception and induction program during Homecoming festivities Oct. 23-24.

 NORTHWESTERN STATE

100+ AREAS OF STUDY

WWW.NSU.LA/EXPLORE

**SHAPE YOUR TOMORROW
AT NORTHWESTERN**



New Beginning Baptist Church #2 Upcoming Events

- 10-Year Anniversary Celebration
 Sunday, June 14th at Rock Island Baptist Church
 Special Guest: Pastor Clarence Reed

- Community Musical
 Saturday, June 27th
 815 5th Street

Both events are open to the public. Come celebrate ten years of ministry and enjoy a night of gospel music and worship! For details, contact the church directly. All are welcome!



*All Choirs, Groups, Soloists,
 & Praise Teams
 are invited to a
COMMUNITY GOSPEL MUSICAL
 June 27, 2026
 6:00 P.M.
 Celebrating the
 10th Year Choir Anniversary*

Theme: "Faith, Fellowship, and Harmony"
 1 Chronicles 16:9

New Beginning Baptist Church #2
 815 5th Street
 Natchitoches Louisiana 71457
 Elder Alfred J Houston, Sr. Pastor

NEW BEGINNING BAPTIST CHURCH #2
CELEBRATING
"A Western Attire"
10TH YEAR ANNIVERSARY
 OF

ELDER ALFRED J HOUSTON, SR. PASTOR
AND LADY JANICE HOUSTON

THEME: 'A TRAILBLAZER IN THE KINGDOM OF GOD.'
1 PETER 5:2-3

SPECIAL GUEST:
PASTOR CLARENCE REED
EASTERN STAR MISSIONARY BAPTIST
CHURCH FAMILY, CHOIR, AND USHERS
ALEXANDRIA, LOUISIANA

DATE: SUNDAY, JUNE 14, 2026
TIME: 3:00 P.M.
LOCATION: ROCK ISLAND BAPTIST CHURCH
635 DIXIE STREET,
NATCHITOCHEES, LA 71457

NAACP

THE FIGHT FOR FAIR MAPS STARTS HERE

From Texas and Missouri to Ohio, North Carolina and down to Florida, redistricting efforts are being designed to erase the influence and representation of Black communities when developing the policies that impact us daily. This political attack aims to silence our vote and reverse decades of hard-won progress.

The system of checks-and-balances is broken. In 2025, the Trump Administration requested some states secure more Republican congressional seats through off-cycle redistricting.

The Supreme Court has dismantled the Voting Rights Act by eliminating the Federal protection we have relied upon for the past 60 years.

Voters in states like California and Virginia are fighting back and we can all do the same in the 2026 midterm elections in November. Below, explore the population and power shifts underway.

Black Americans fought, through sacrifice, courage, and persistence, for the right to vote. That right was earned, not given.

In 2026, our vote remains one of the most powerful tools we have. It defends our rights, strengthens our communities, and shapes our future.

Honor the fight. Use your voice. Cast your vote.



“ The NAACP will continue to advocate for policies that dismantle systemic injustices and strive to improve the lives of the Black people and all Americans.

- DERRICK JOHNSON, PRESIDENT AND CEO, NAACP

Community Paint Party

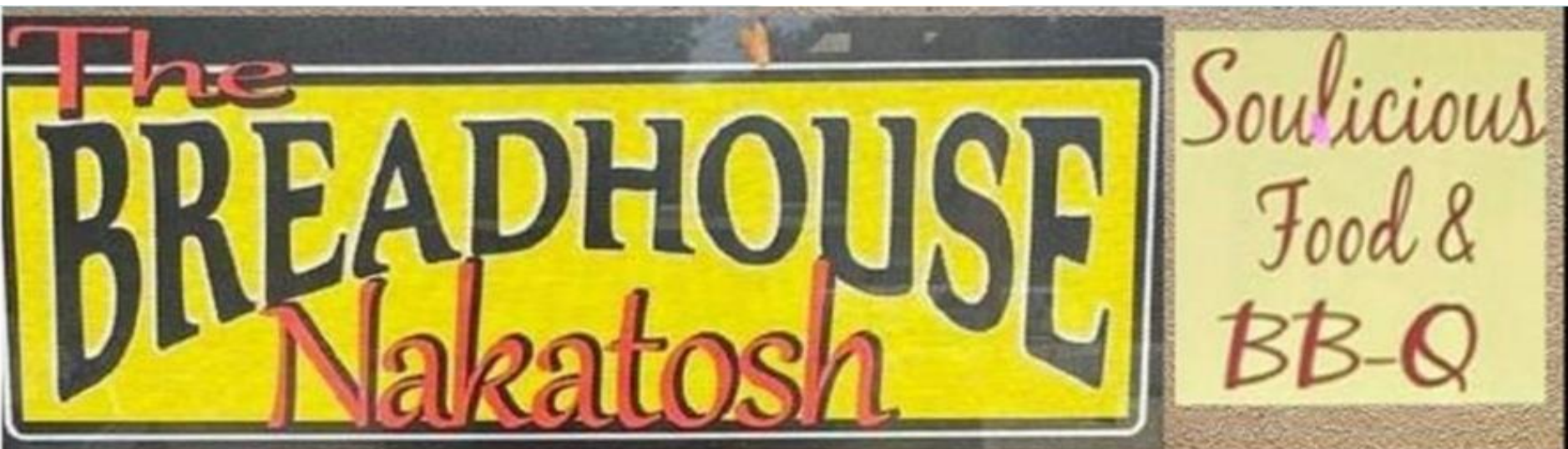
The Natchitoches Community Paint Party is on Thursday June 4th at 6PM! We're inviting aspiring artists, kids, families, neighbors, and anyone who loves this community to come help us complete a mural for the new teen center in West Natchitoches!

This isn't just about painting a wall, it's about giving our youth something inspiring to see, somewhere positive to go, and showing what can happen when a community comes together with purpose and creativity.

Whether you're an experienced artist or you've never picked up a paintbrush before, YOU are welcome. Bring your kids, bring your friends, and come be a part of changing our community one wall at a time.

625 MLK Dr. June 4th 6:00 PM
FOOD AND A DJ PROVIDED TO KEEP THE PARTY GOING!

Let's create something our city can be proud of.



1202 Texas St, Natchitoches, LA 71457

(318) 214-2400

Open 7 Days a Week Hours 11 am to 7 pm



NATCHITOCHES:

Please join us in congratulating Gabe Vargas on his promotion to Credit Analyst at BOM Bank’s Operations location! Gabe previously served as a Credit Analyst Trainee, where he demonstrated strong work ethic, attention to detail, and a commitment to learning. His growth and dedication have made him a valuable part of the team. We’re proud to see Gabe advance into this role and look forward to his continued success and contributions to BOM Bank!



RAPIDES:

Please join us in welcoming Tiffanie Kendrick to BOM Bank’s Wimbledon branch as a Loan Assistant! Tiffanie lives in Alexandria, Louisiana, where she has spent most of her life. She enjoys gardening and working in her yard—she calls it her therapy, with the small exception of occasionally running into a snake! Her favorite way to spend time is with her family, which includes her husband, son, and two senior rescue dogs. We’re thrilled to see Tiffanie’s skills shine in this new position and can’t wait to see the incredible work she will accomplish. Welcome to the BOM Bank family, Tiffanie!



SABINE:

BOM Bank made a donation to the Zwolle Bombers, helping support the Zwolle Dixie Youth program. Through baseball, these young athletes are learning the value of teamwork, dedication, and sportsmanship—lessons that go far beyond the field. Investing in youth sports means investing in our communities, and we’re proud to play a small part in helping these kids grow, compete, and have fun along the way! Pictured left to right: BOM’s Brittany Sepulvado and Tonya Hall, Dewayne Sepulvado, Greyson Sepulvado, and Cassidy Sepulvado..



CADDO/BOSSIER:

Please join us in welcoming Breanca (Bre) Simpson to BOM Bank’s Fern branch as our Head Teller! Bre was born and raised in Shreveport, Louisiana, and is a proud graduate of Green Oaks High School. She enjoys shopping, traveling, journaling, and spending quality time with her family, especially her three beautiful children—Jayden, Ja’Liyah, and Ja’Miyah Broom. A fun fact about Bre: she describes herself as an introvert, though most people who know her would never guess! We’re so excited to have Bre on our team and are confident that she will accomplish amazing things. Welcome, Bre!

COMMUNITY EVENTS

2026 Juneteenth PARADE NATCHITOCHEES

CELEBRATE FREEDOM HONOR LEGACY

GRAND MARSHAL
Shantel Hardison

19th JUNE @ 6pm

LINE UP:
5:00 p.m. at Ben Johnson Park on MLK Drive

PARADE ROUTE:
Exit North onto MLK, East (turning right onto Berry onto Texas street), Right onto Fifth Street, Right onto Trudeau (cross over railroad track) proceed to MLK Drive, ending at Ben Park for entertainment.

FOR REGISTRATION FORM, CONTACT:

- Maria Mangum @ maria_joy247@yahoo.com
- Tan'Keia Palmer @ tankeia@yahoo.com
- Betty Smith Kirkendoll @ bsmith108@hotmail.com or call 318-332-8668
- Ralph Wilson @ 318-332-8254

MUSIC | FOOD | DANCING | COMMUNITY

CELEBRATE HISTORY * CULTURE * UNITY
HONORING OUR PAST * CELEBRATING OUR PRESENT * INSPIRING OUR FUTURE

REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS JUNE 15, 2026.

OCCIE LEE SYKES
BOYS TO MEN BOOTCAMP
BY UNITED MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

JUNE 22-26, 2026

at the United Missionary Baptist Church
8am to 3pm daily

BOYS AGE 8 TO 18 WELCOME TO ATTEND THROUGH REGISTRATION

SAVE THE DATE

St. LUKE BAPTIST CHURCH

1st Pastoral ANNIVERSARY

PASTOR DR. CHRISTOPHER ANDERSON

GUEST PREACHER PASTOR ISAH ANDERSON & ST. JOHN BAPTIST CHURCH

MAY 31ST 2:30PM

193 POSEY ROAD | NATCHITOCHEES, LA 71457

121ST CHURCH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

GREENVILLE BAPTIST CHURCH

Theme:
"A Foundation of Faith, A Future of Glory"

Scripture:
"To God be the glory for the great things He has done."
Psalm 126:3

JUNE 14, 2026 1:30 PM

GUEST SPEAKER
Rev. Ocie Charles & UMBC Family

HOST PASTOR
Rev. Carey Smith

394 CLARK ROAD - P.O. BOX 521, CLARENCE, LA 71414-0521

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Adult Program
Register at Circulation Desk or call (318)238-9224



RICHARD RODGERS YOGA

6PM - 7:15PM
3RD FLOOR MEETING RM

JUNE 4	JULY 2
JUNE 11	JULY 9
JUNE 18	JULY 16
JUNE 25	JULY 23
AUGUST 6	

SIGN UP FOR INDIVIDUAL
CLASSES EVERY WEEK

KHM SUMMER CAMP

**FUN • LEARNING • GROWTH • FAITH
WITH APOSTLE WASHINGTON**

AGES 1-12 YEARS OLD | **JUNE 1 - JULY 24** | **7:30 AM - 5:00 PM**
MONDAY - FRIDAY

500 Royal St.

WHAT WE PROVIDE:

- BREAKFAST, LUNCH & DAILY SNACK
- EDUCATIONAL GAMES
- PHYSICAL PE
- ARTS & CRAFTS
- FIELD

Our goal is to create a safe, loving, and structured environment where every child can learn, grow, and have **FUN** all summer long!

\$125 PER WEEK DUE ON MONDAY

SPOTS ARE LIMITED! Register Today!

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL:
318-228-4112 Apostle Washington
318-703-9414 © Dornin Johnson

1922 1963 1906 1908 1911 1914 1913 1914
KREWE OF THE **9**
FRATERNAL PHILANTHROPIC
EST. 2024 NATCHITOCHES, LA.

SALUTING THE 9 AT MARDI GRAS 2027

SECOND ANNUAL CORONATION
JUNE 13, 2026
7:39PM

**CHATEAU ST. DENIS HOTEL
(CHINQUAPIN BALLROOM)
750 SECOND STREET
NATCHITOCHES, LA.**

\$30 PER PERSON
VIA CASH APP: \$KREWEOFTHE9

FOOD * CASH BAR * BUSINESS CASUAL ATTIRE

NATCHITOCHES, RIO, NEW ORLEANS AND MOBILE...

Advertise Here

Interested in Advertising?

Call us today at
(318) 354-7712 or email us at
support@therealnewslouisiana.com

CONTACT US

Phone: (318) 354-7712

Email:
support@therealnewslouisiana.com
www.therealnewslouisiana.com

P.O. Box 1082 Natchitoches, La 71458