

COMPLIMENTARY

# Ascension

## MAGAZINE

MAY 2026, VOL. 24 ISSUE 5



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**ON THE COVER ... 2025 WORLD JAMBALAYA CHAMPIONS**

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is like a Great Cooking Team!**

Jamie T.B. Tyler Tara

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# Senior Day on the River has Been Celebrated 40 plus years





# Fred's

## On the River

Prairieville, LA

IT'S A PARTY ON THE RIVER



### May

- 21 – Syllas (Teachers Day)
- 22 – Category 6 Glow Party 9-12am
- 23 - Kendall Shaffer (Blind River 300 Poker Run) 9-12am
- 24 – Brad Sapia Band 3-7pm  
- DJ Pookie 8:30 – 1am
- 25 – MEMORIAL DAY BASH 2-7pm  
\*Chase Tyler • \*Zydeco Mike • \*Jason Broussard  
\*Enuf Band • \*Feat. Don Rich
- 28 – Heath Rasonnet 7-10pm
- 29 – Louisiana Landfall 8 -12am
- 30 – Adam Leger Band 9 -12am
- 31 – T-Boy & Just Us 3 -7pm

### June

- 4 – Garrett Remson & Seth Lecoq 7-10pm
- 5 – Drunk Uncles band 9-1am
- 6 – Chris Leblanc Band 9-1am
- 7 – Natalie & southern accents 3-7pm
- 11 – Jared Daws 7-10pm
- 12 – Petty Betty band 9-12am
- 13 – Thomas Cain band 9-12am
- 14 – Down South band 3-7pm
- 19 – After 8 Band 9-12am
- 20 – **FULL THROTTLE FOR DINO BENEFIT 11-6PM**  
Justin Cornett Band 9-1am

## JOIN US IN GOING FULL THROTTLE FOR DINO

**JUNE 20, 2026**  
**11AM - 6PM**

**SILENT AUCTION**  
**LIVE AUCTION**

**JAMBALAYA PLATES \$10**  
**HAMBURGERS & HOT DOGS \$5**  
**CRACKLINGS \$5**  
**DESSERT TABLE**

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ALL PROCEEDS GO TO DINO

DWAYNE "DINO" TOUPS, OWNER OF D&T AUTO CUSTOM EXHAUST SHOP, IS A HARDWORKING AND RESPECTED MEMBER OF HIS COMMUNITY. ON NOVEMBER 18, 2025, HE WAS DIAGNOSED WITH STAGE 3 NON-SMALL CELL PULMONARY ADENOCARCINOMA (LUNG CANCER). WITHIN 12 HOURS OF HIS FIRST CHEMOTHERAPY TREATMENT, DINO ALSO SUFFERED A STROKE, CREATING ADDITIONAL HEALTH CHALLENGES.

AS HE FOCUSES ON TREATMENT AND RECOVERY, DINO AND HIS FAMILY ARE FACING SIGNIFICANT MEDICAL EXPENSES AND LOSS OF INCOME. THIS BENEFIT IS BEING HELD TO HELP EASE THAT BURDEN AND SUPPORT HIM DURING THIS DIFFICULT TIME.

ANY DONATIONS, PRAYERS, OR SHARES ARE GREATLY APPRECIATED. THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT.

Please Help Our Community Friend

## MEMORIAL DAY BASH

MAY 25<sup>TH</sup> 2-7PM

CHASE TYLER  
ZYDECO MIKE  
JASON BROUSSARD  
ENUF BAND FT. DON RICH



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# Breakfast Catering



### Breakfast Buffet...

\$9.95 per person minimum order of 10

- 2 Scrambled Eggs
- 2 Bacon Slices
- 1 Patty Sausage
- Grits - Hashbrowns
- 1 Biscuit
- 1 Orange Juice 8 oz
- Paperware
- Serving Utensils

### Pancake Buffet...

\$9.95 per person minimum order of 10

- 2 Scrambled Eggs
- 2 Bacon Slices
- 1 Patty Sausage
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- Paperware
- Serving Utensils

### Biscuit Buffet...

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# From the Gonzales Garden Club

## Garden Inspiration, GGC's Annual Flower Show

The Gonzales Garden Club presented a program, "Flora and Foliage", at the main library in Gonzales. It included a flower show, horticulture presentations and a book donation. The flower show known as "Garden Inspiration" was an exhibit of traditional floral arrangements, showy container plants, and individual horticulture specimens for public viewing on April 8 and 9. People's Choice Awards were chosen by popular vote in each category. First, second and third place winners respectively were announced for each category: Container plants - Phyllis Charrier, Conchita Richey and Flo Hernandez; Horticulture Specimens - Dale Bowman, Patti Mouton and Janis D'Benedetto; Floral Designs – Dana Teepell, Phyllis Charrier, Paola DiNatale.

Segments of the program were presented to the public by club officers, guest speakers and the library staff that Wednesday morning. The

program began with an informative announcement by the library staff. Assistant Library Director Carrie Goodall explained details of the APL Seed Library as a collection of complimentary seeds. Library card holders may pick up seeds from any library location during warm and cool growing seasons. Card holders may each have 10 packets of seeds with each containing enough seeds to propagate 3 to 5 plants. There is a variety of flower and vegetable packets.

Next, five copies of *Edible Plants of the Gulf South* by Charles Allen were presented to the library staff by Garden Club President Flo Hernandez. These consumer gardening books will be distributed among the five library branches.

The headline session focused on certification of native gardens. Guest speakers Leigh Prather and Elisa Tubbs from West Baton Rouge Parish Garden and Civic Club discussed the Louisiana



GGC President Flo Hernandez (left) presents library books to APL Assistant Library Director Carrie Goodall, Director John Stelly and Adult Services Librarian Aimee Ardonne.

Certified Habitat Program in detail. " 'Geaux native' is our motto," they said. They advocated the Habitat Program to encourage individuals to create habitats of native plants that invite wildlife such as for birds and insects into the garden. Certified gardens can be large, small or a collection of container plants.

The Louisiana Native Plant Society (LNPS) recognizes 284 plants as native to this state and the southeast region. The WBR Garden and Civic Club gifted the GGC a copy of their Louisiana Native Plant Guide which they compiled with photos of each plant.

The LNPS website says that



West Baton Rouge Garden and Civic Club Members Leigh Prather (left) and Elisa Tubbs (right) present Louisiana Native Plant Photo Guide to GGC President Flo Hernandez.



A young river birch tree, which is native to the southeast, was a door prize for lucky attendee Eddie Dalton.



*Dana Teepell won first place for this floral design, which incorporates nature-inspired elements, watercolor butterflies, and homegrown blooms and greenery from her garden.*



*GGC Member Barbara McCormick won a native perennial wildflower "Mexican hat" known for its distinctive sombrero-shaped blooms and drought tolerance.*



*Phyllis Charrier won the container plant division with this thriller/filler/spiller design: thriller – Graceful Grasses Prince Tut; fillers – Playing the Blues salvia, various coleuses, pink and white vincas; spiller - wishbone flowers.*

certification levels are determined by the number of native plant species or percentage of native plant species on a property: bronze level is 25 native species or 25% native plants, silver is 50 native species or 50% native plants, and gold is

75% native species or 75 native plants. Certification achievement includes a 9"x12" metal yard sign citing the habitat level. Usually someone will visit and walk through the property with the applicant, often helping identifying additional natives. Gardeners

can apply to the Native Society for certification for a fee of \$45. Information can be found at [Inps.org](http://Inps.org).

This month's horticulture hint is to plant native species for pollinators. The floral design tip is that commercially grown

flowers are selectively bred for their ability to last well as a cut flower.

*The Gonzales Garden Club is federated by National Garden Clubs, Inc.*

## May Yards of the Month



**RESIDENTIAL**

May's Residential Yard of the Month Award went to Gene and Virginia Guidry on Greens Court in Pelican Point. The landscape was lush with the color and texture of a Vitex Tree, bleeding hearts, vinca, African milk plant, red giant hydrangeas, boxwoods, ferns and many hanging baskets of petunias.



**COMMERCIAL**

The back entrance to Pelican Point was designated as May's Commercial Landscape of the Month for its waves of color with white snapdragons, red Knockout roses, muhly grass, blue and yellow pansies, sunshine ligustrums, dusty miller, Nellie Steven's holly, and yellow daylilies.

# Get Growing, Ascension!

By Schyler Thibodeaux  
LSU AgCenter  
Horticulture Agent,

Scouting the most common vegetable insect pests in May. May is prime time for pest problems in the garden. Here is a short list of the most common vegetable pests in the month of May and how to scout them. Scouting simply means checking your crops frequently to ensure timely management decision-making.



Schyler Thibodeaux

Boring caterpillars, such as the squash vine borer, feed and tunnel inside of stalks and vines. Like other caterpillars, only the larval stage can create this type of damage. Detection of these insects may be difficult but look for a small



Squash vine borer feeds inside vine. Photo courtesy of the LSU AgCenter

Defoliating caterpillars are the larvae of butterflies and moths that feed on foliage and fruit of many beloved vegetables, like tomatoes. There are several common types of defoliating caterpillars, but all share the same lifecycle. Namely, only the larval stage defoliates plant parts. While it is quite easy to detect holes on your plant, I encourage you to scout before the damage becomes too severe. Look for other clues like frass (dust-like excrement), silk tents, and egg clusters.

entrance hole with frass. Plants may also show wilting, broken branches, and discoloration as external

Stink bugs are easy to recognize by their shield-shaped bodies. They have piercing-sucking mouthparts that damage foliage and fruits by consuming extracted saps and injecting digestive enzymes that degrade plant cells. This feeding leaves undesirable spots, malformations, wilting, and sometimes plant disease. Typically, you find nymphs on

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tender new growth of the plant, while adults can be found on fruiting bodies.

Larvae and adult cucumber beetles cause defoliation damage to vegetable plants. The larvae will feed on plant roots, stunting growth and killing young plants. Adults feed on leaves, stems, flowers and fruits, leaving chewed holes, wilting, and scarring. Further cucumber beetles can vector plant viruses during this stage.

Finally, aphids are small, soft-bodied insects with piercing, sucking mouthparts. They feed on phloem, the plant part responsible for transporting sugars, amino acids, and water. This feeding supports a very rapid growth rate, leading to multiple generations per season. Aphids can be found

on any above-ground plant part, especially on tender new growth. Damage can be spotting, disease transmission. Aphids also secrete honeydew, a sticky, sugary substance, that may lead to the development of sooty mold, a pathogen that disrupts photosynthetic activity of plants.

Schyler Thibodeaux is the Horticulture Extension Agent serving Ascension Parish. For more information visit [www.LSUAgCenter.com](http://www.LSUAgCenter.com) or contact Schyler at [SThibodeaux@agcenter.lsu.edu](mailto:SThibodeaux@agcenter.lsu.edu).



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# YOUR ESTATE MATTERS



By Linda Melancon

## What Is a Trust and Do You Actually Need One?

What Is a Trust and Do You Actually Need One? Marie is a mother and a homeowner who lives in Baton Rouge. She already has a will, but she heard from a coworker that a will isn't enough. After some searching online, she is still confused, but decides she is going to speak with a professional. Let's look at Marie's situation a little more closely so we can see if a trust is right for her. To begin, a trust is a legal tool that holds and manages property for someone else. The person who creates it is the "grantor." The person who manages it is the "trustee." The people who benefit from it are the "beneficiaries." It helps to think of a trust as a box with rules. The box holds the assets, and the rules say how those assets are used and when they are given out. There are two main types of trusts: revocable and irrevocable. A revocable trust is one Marie can change. She can add or remove property. She can change the rules. She can even cancel the trust if she wants. This type of trust is also sometimes called a "living trust." If Marie sets one up, she can still stay in control. She can serve as her own trustee and manage everything just like she does now. The big difference comes later. When she passes away, the person she chose as trustee steps in and follows her instructions without going through probate court in many cases. This can save time and keep things private.

A revocable trust can also help if Marie becomes sick or unable to manage her affairs. The trustee she picked can step in and handle things for her. This can avoid the need for a court process to appoint someone.

But revocable trusts do have limits. Because Marie still controls the assets, they are usually still counted as her property for things like creditors and long-term care planning.

That is where irrevocable trusts come in.

An irrevocable trust cannot be changed. Once Marie puts assets into it, she cannot take them back or change the rules. This may sound scary, but it has benefits.

In Louisiana, assets placed in a properly structured irrevocable trust are no longer considered owned by the trust maker. This can help protect those assets from certain risks. For example, some people use irrevocable trusts as part of Medicaid planning. If done early enough, it may help protect assets from being spent down on long-term care.

The trade-off is control. Marie would be giving up direct access to those assets.

So, does Marie actually need a trust? Well, it depends on her goals.

A will may be enough for someone with a simple estate. But Marie has a home, young children, and a desire to make things easier for her family. A revocable trust could help avoid probate and allow her to set clear rules for her children's inheritance.

If she is also thinking about long-term care or asset protection, an irrevocable trust might be part of the plan, but only if it is set up the right way and at the right time.

*The information provided is not intended to be legal or tax advice and does not constitute any attorney/client relationship. You should consult with an attorney for individual advice regarding your own situation.*

*Ms. Melancon is an attorney with Legacy Estate & Elder Law of Louisiana, LLC with offices in Baton Rouge, New Orleans and Lake Charles, LA. The primary focus of her practice is estate planning, probate, special needs planning, and elder law. For more information or to attend an upcoming estate planning seminar, call her office at (225) 744-0027.*

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From estate planning services such as wills and powers of attorney to successions involving probate and transfer of assets, he brings clarity and care to conversations many tend to avoid, but every family eventually needs to have.

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# Age to Start Botox

## When is the Right Time for Baby Botox?

**“What is the right age to start Botox?”** The truth is—there isn’t a magic number. The age to start Botox is less about how old you are and more about what your skin is doing.

### What Is Baby Botox?

“Baby Botox” refers to using smaller, more precise doses of neuromodulators like Botox to gently relax facial muscles while maintaining natural movement.

### The result?

A softer, refreshed appearance—never frozen, never overdone.

### Age to Start Botox: A General Guide

While everyone is different, here’s how the age to start Botox typically breaks down:

#### • Mid-to-late 20s (25–30):

The most common time to begin preventative Botox. Fine lines may start forming with expression, and early treatment helps keep them from becoming permanent.

#### • Early 20s:

Ideal for patients with strong muscle movement that’s already creating visible lines (like deep frown lines or forehead creases).

#### • 30s and beyond:

Botox becomes both preventative and corrective, softening lines that are starting to remain at rest.

### Signs It’s the Right Time to Start Botox

Instead of focusing only on age, look for these indicators:

- Lines that linger after your face is at rest
- Repetitive expressions causing visible creasing
- A desire for subtle, natural-looking prevention

At Z Dermatology, we believe the right age to start Botox is when your skin begins to show these changes—not before.

### When It Might Be Too Early

You may want to hold off if: You have little to no visible lines, even with expression.

You’re considering Botox because it’s trending, not because you need it. A personalized consultation ensures you start at the right time for you.

### The Z Dermatology Approach

At Z Dermatology, Botox is never one-size-fits-all. Under the expert care of Dr. Z, every treatment is:

- Conservative and precise
- Designed to preserve natural expression
- Focused on long-term prevention and skin health

Our philosophy: Start smart, stay subtle, and age beautifully.

### Ready to Find Your Right Time?

If you’ve been wondering about the best age to start Botox, we’re here to help you make a confident, informed decision.

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at Z Dermatology in Baton Rouge or Prairieville today—and let’s create a personalized plan that keeps you looking like you, just more refreshed.

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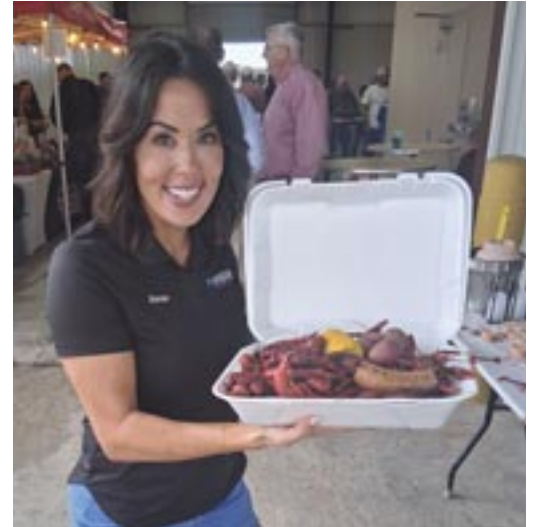
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# Cust O Fab 2026 Open House A Celebration of Community, Craftsmanship, and Louisiana Spirit



The **Cust O Fab 2026 Open House Event** brought together employees, neighbors, industry partners, and local vendors for a day full of connection, learning, and true Louisiana hospitality. With the generous support of our trusted vendor partners, the event delivered an unforgettable experience from start to finish.

Guests were welcomed to tour our **Geismar facility**, meet the skilled craftspeople behind our operations, and gain firsthand insight into the capabilities and teamwork that drive Cust O Fab's success every day.

**Food, Music & Local Flavor**  
One of the standout highlights of the day was the food and entertainment. Guests enjoyed freshly boiled crawfish and award-winning pastalaya served by **Tee Wayne's Restaurant**, bringing authentic local flavor to the celebration.

Live music filled the air throughout the afternoon, creating a festive and welcoming atmosphere:

- **BJ Ramano (DJ)** kept the energy high from the start and throughout the day.
- **Lauren Lee** delivered a fantastic

performance that added a warm, local touch.

- The event closed with a crowd-pleasing performance by **The Kendall Shaffer Band**, bringing everyone together for a lively finish that perfectly capped off the celebration

**Vendor Sponsor Appreciation**  
Cust O Fab extends sincere appreciation to the local vendors and service partners whose support helped make the **2026 Open House** a true success. These organizations play a vital role in our day-to-day operations, and their sponsorship reflects the strong relationships that keep our regional industrial community moving forward.

We proudly recognize and thank the following vendor partners for their contributions, continued commitment, and partnership:

- INTEGRA · Code Red · CHILLCO**  
**· Otay' Tools · Equipment Share · Red Ball Penn Tool · EGI · Southern Pipe & Supply · ACE Enterprises · AER Superior · Buckhorn · The Warehouse**

Their partnership helped create a welcoming and engaging environment for employees, families, and community members—from the food and hospitality to equipment displays and the overall event experience. We are

grateful for their continued support and proud to work alongside such dedicated local partners.

**A Message of Thanks**

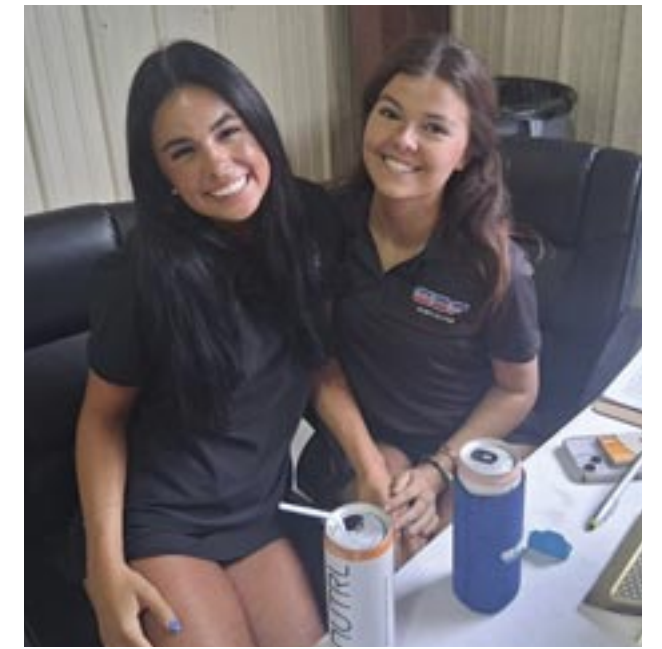
We extend our heartfelt appreciation to everyone who attended, with a special thank you to:

- Local **petrochemical facility managers and representatives**
- Our valued **vendor partners**
- **Tee Wayne's Restaurant**

- Our talented musicians: **BJ Ramano, Lauren Lee, and The Kendall Shaffer Band**

Your involvement and support made this Open House one of our most memorable events yet. We look forward to welcoming you back for future gatherings and continuing to strengthen our connection with the Geismar community.





# Christ Healing Community Closet and Pantry

## Free food & clothing to those in need!

Follow us on FB @ CHC Closet and Pantry. Thank you and God bless.

## Thank You for Seeing and Helping with Our Mission in 2026 at CHC Closet and Pantry.



Things are going on about as usual at CHC Closet and Pantry. We are staying busy serving the members of our community. We had a visit from Anna Claire Pousson who works with Senator Bill Cassidy. She was able to give us some helpful information.

We have received a lot of donations of food and clothing and a few monetary donations for which we are very grateful. As we head into summer, the kids will be out of school. The need for food and especially snack items is greater than ever. The price of groceries is going up every day and many families just can't keep up. For those families especially, snacks for the kids are very hard to purchase.

If you can help in any way, we would very much appreciate it. You can find us on our FB page CHC Closet and Pantry or by calling 225/773-4302. We pray that you have a fun and safe summer.

God Bless  
Janell Brent  
Manager,  
CHC Closet and Pantry

225.647.8612



# FINANCIAL FOCUS

## Ten financial steps to take before and after your wedding day

Getting married is a major decision that comes with a financial to-do list that's arguably more important than choosing a venue or a cake. Talking openly about money can help set you and your partner up for a stronger future.

### *What financial conversations should I have with my fiancé?*

Head into your marriage with honest conversations about money, including these four topics:

1. Discuss how your families handled finances when you were young, whether you're a spender or saver and what debt you're willing to take on.
2. Share how much you each earn, spend and save. Discuss assets and debts, including mortgages, student or auto loans and credit card balances; your partner's debt can become joint debt after marriage.
3. Align on a budget as a couple that reflects the life you want to build – where you'll live; what you'll spend on housing, travel and hobbies; and how often you'll review your finances together.
4. Talk through your goals. Make separate lists of short-, medium- and long-term financial dreams and compare them. You'll likely find some common ground, and where

you don't, look for ways to compromise. A financial advisor can help.

### *Should I ask for a prenup?*

Couples with significantly different assets or debts, those expecting large inheritances or those blending families are more likely to want to consider a prenuptial agreement. A prenup outlines how assets, debts, future income, inheritance and even spousal support will be handled during the marriage and if it ends, but it cannot address child custody.

### *Should my new spouse and I blend our finances?*

Regarding couples blending finances, there's no one right answer. Some couples combine everything, others keep accounts separate and many land somewhere in between. Agree on who pays which bills, how major decisions get made and what spending threshold triggers a check-in.

### *What financial tasks should we complete after getting married?*

Once you're married, these six tasks deserve attention.

1. Take advantage of the special enrollment period, which typically lasts 30 days after getting married, to update employer benefits such as

health insurance. Revisit retirement plan contributions if your combined income has grown.

2. Review insurance coverage. Combining homeowners or renters, auto and umbrella policies can often reduce costs. Make sure you have enough life insurance.

3. Update beneficiaries on insurance policies, retirement plans, investment accounts, bank accounts and real estate.

4. If you change your name, order multiple copies of your marriage certificate. You'll need them to update your Social Security card, financial accounts, and employer and medical records.

5. Update your W-4 withholding to reflect your new marital status and ask a tax professional whether filing jointly or separately makes more sense.

6. Work with an attorney to create or update your will, medical directive, and financial and health care powers of attorney. Your estate plan should reflect your new life together.

### *Marriage is a fresh start.*

With honest conversations, careful planning and the right professional support, you can build a financial foundation as strong as your relationship.

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# GONZALES JAMBALAYA FESTIVAL

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## East Ascension Sportsman's League

Letter from president -  
*Greg Cedotal*

The EASL 2026 Catfish and Bream Rodeo will be held on June 13th, in the parking lot by Fred's Food Mart next to "Da Bait Bus". Sign-in is from 5:30 AM till 7:30 AM. Weigh-in will be from 1:30 PM till 2:30 PM. Entry fee is \$25.00 per person. You do not need to be an EASL member to fish, but you

are welcome to join. Prizes will be \$100.00 for each category: Biggest Catfish, Biggest Three Catfish, Biggest Bream, Biggest Three Bream, Biggest Warmouth (Goggle-eye). Rules are; Individual weigh-in, no sharing fish. All fish must be caught on rod and reel or pole and hook (no trout line, limb line, Yo-Yos, etc.). May use live, cut or artificial bait. Must fish in the Amite River Basin or other tributaries that drain into Lake Maurepas, (no ponds). Tie will go to the first to weigh-in. Come out and have some fun!

Now for a little bit about EASL events. You must be a member to participate in these events. The EASL Bass Club will fish a tournament on May 23rd and one on June 27th. If you are interested in fishing with the bass club in 2026 contact Jim Hebert at 225-717-6037. The 22 Rifle Silhouette Match will be held on the fourth Saturday of the month, May 23rd, at the Sheriff Shooting Range starting at 8:30 AM. Don't forget to weigh your bass for

the Monthly Big Bass contest and weigh your specs for the Monthly Big Speckled Trout contest.

If you decide you would like to serve on the board of directors and help move the organization forward, let us know. You do not have to wait until December to become a board member.

Time to go outdoors with family and or friends and enjoy nature. Remember to be safe and conserve our resources for future use. Questions or comments you can email me at [gdced1@gmail.com](mailto:gdced1@gmail.com).

**East Ascension Sportsman's League**

Presents the  
**2026 Catfish & Panfish Rodeo**

Location of sign-in and weigh-in: Parking lot by Fred's Food Mart next to the Da Bait Bus  
Date: June 13, 2026  
Sign-in from 5:30 AM till 7:30 AM  
Weigh-in from 1:30 PM till 2:30 PM  
Entry fee: \$25.00 per person  
Do not need to be a member of EASL (but you are welcome to join)

Prizes  
Biggest Catfish: \$100.00  
Biggest Three Catfish: \$100.00  
Biggest Bream: \$100.00  
Biggest Three Bream: \$100.00  
Biggest Warmouth (Goggle-eye): \$100.00

Rules  
Individual weigh-in, no sharing fish  
All fish must be caught on rod and reel or pole and hook (no trout line, limb line, Yo-Yos, etc.)  
May use live, cut or artificial bait  
Must fish in the Amite River Basin or other tributaries that drain into Lake Maurepas (no ponds)  
Tie will go to the first to weigh-in  
**Come out and have some fun!**

***EASL's next regular meeting is June 15th at the VFW Hall on Churchpoint Road, starting at 7:00 PM***

# EASL Bass Club News

The East Ascension Sportsman's League Bass Club fished their recent tournament on April 4th. There were 11 boats signed up to fish this event. The Tournament was held out of the Belle River Public Landing in the Atchafalaya Spillway with a 3:00 PM weigh in.

The fishing was pretty good considering the bad reports that everyone spoke about after scouting for the event. There were 8 boats that weighed a limit of fish.

P.J. & George Valentine won the tournament with 5 fish that weighed 12.98 including a 3.04 lb. Big Bass.

Second place was awarded to Julien & Chris Day with a limit weighing 12.18 lbs. They also had a 3.04 lb. Big Bass.

Anthony Bonadona & Jim Hebert took third place with a limit weighing 10.68 lbs. They also won "Big Bass" with a lunker that weighed 3.60 lbs.

Congratulations to the winners of the April Tournament. The next Tournament is scheduled for May 23rd. The meeting to sign up will be on Thursday the 14th at Dirk Anderson's home on Babin Road at 5:30 PM.



*Julien Day*



*Murray Alexander*



*Anthony Bonadona & Jim Hebert*



*L-R Julien & Chris Day, Philip & George Valentine, Anthony Bonadona & Jim Hebert*



*Jim Hebert and 3.6Lb Big Bass*

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# Jared & Brittany White 2025 World Jambalaya Champions

## Here's a little information about the Champs!!

The 2025 Jambalaya Festival Champs Consisted of Jared and Brittany White who were sponsored by LifeIV Louis. We have been cooking together in the festival for 8 years. We have had much success over the years, winning the 2024 Papa George and Boucherie festival. It is a family affair, our son, Jayden, won Junior World

Champion in 2025. We have cooked at many events of the last 8 years, dedicating time and providing help to many organizations.

In 2019 we created a group in honor of Jared's late cousin, Louis White IV, named "LifeIVLouis". Louis battled with invasive squamous cell carcinoma and ultimately lost his battle in April 2019. Jared

and Brittany hosted a benefit in early April just weeks prior to Louis' passing. The event was a huge success and after the dust settled, Jared, Britany, and Louis met regarding the tremendous help the community provided for Louis and his family. It was then that Louis asked Jared and Brittany to keep helping others in his memory. Since 2019, We

have kept our promise to Louis by helping over 20 families in need and raising over 1 million dollars.

We are dedicated to helping our community that we love and who has helped us! We look forward for to this years festival defending our title. We would like to wish all the cooks good luck!!





**2026**  
**GONZALES**  
**JAMBALAYA**  
**FESTIVAL**  
PRESENTS  
**MITCHELL BROTHERS AMUSEMENTS**

**MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND**  
**MAY 21st - 24th**  
THURSDAY 5PM - 10PM  
FRIDAY 5PM - 10PM  
SATURDAY 11AM - 10PM  
SUNDAY 11AM - 8:30PM

The poster features a vibrant night scene of an amusement park with a Ferris wheel, roller coasters, and fireworks exploding in a starry sky. American flags are draped across the top and bottom of the image.

**JAMBALAYA FESTIVAL**  
GONZALES, LOUISIANA

**2026**  
**JAMBALAYA FESTIVAL**  
**CAR SHOW**

**MAY 23RD**  
REGISTRATION 8AM - 10AM • AWARDS AT 1PM  
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CONTACT EDMOND ROUYEA 225-405-0628

The poster features a red hot rod with flame graphics on its side, set against a dark blue background with white stars. The Jambalaya Festival logo, which includes a bowl of jambalaya, is at the top.

# 2025 World Champions Jared & Brittany White



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# GONZALES JAMBALAYA FESTIVAL



## Entertainment:

Thursday, May 21

BINGO 7:00 - 9:00pm

Friday, May 22

2une In Live (WBRZ) 5:00am

Justin Cornett Band 5:30 - 8:00pm

PARISH COUNTY LINE 8:30 - 11:00pm

Saturday, May 23

T-Boy Moore n Just Us 10:00 - 11:30am

Eddie Smith Band 12:00 - 2:00pm

Ryan Foret & Foret Tradition 2:30 - 4:15pm

Mike & Steve Broussard

And Nite Train 4:45 - 6:30pm

Dustin Guedry 8:00 - 9:15pm

LAUREN LEE BAND 9:45 - 11:30pm

Sunday, May 24

Mark Babin Band 10:00 - 11:30am

Na Na Sha 12:30 - 2:30pm

Chris LeBlanc 3:00 - 5:00pm

Party at Joes 5:30 - 7:30pm

World Champion Announced - 7:30pm

### 5k & 1 Mile Run:

Saturday, May 23

Registration 7:00am

1 Mile Fun Run 8:00am

5k Run Start 8:30am

### Car Show:

Saturday, May 23

Registration 7:00am

Car Show 8am-12pm

Awards to follow...

## Cooking Contests:

Friday, May 22

Heats 1-4 8:30am/9:45am/1:15pm/2:30pm

\*\* Mini Pot Champ of Champs: 6:00pm \*\*

Saturday, May 23

Heats 5-7 8:00am/9:15am/12:45pm

\*\* Semi Finals announced: 6:30pm \*\*

Champ of Champs 2:00pm-5:00pm

\*\*Champ of Champs Winner announced: 6:30pm\*\*

Mini Pot Cooking Contest 7:00am-11:00am

Jr. Cooking Contest (12-17yr) 1:00pm-4:00pm

5# rice on propane burner

World Champ Jambalaya Cooking Demo. 9:00am

Sunday, May 24

Semi-Finals Heats 6:00am/7:00am

\*\* Finals announced: 12:00pm \*\*

FINALS 1:30pm-5:00pm

\*\* World Champion announced: 7:30pm\*\*

### Carnival:

Thur., May 21 - Sun., May 24

Thursday 5 - 10pm \$25 POP

Friday 5 - 10pm \$30 POP

Saturday 11am - 10pm \$30 POP

Sunday 11am - 10pm \$30 POP

Weekend Pass \$75

\*\* POP - Pay one Price \*\*

### Pageant:

Sunday, June 14

Miss / Teen Miss 6 pm

Childrens 1 pm

\*\* Gonzales Civic Center \*\*

### Entry Fees:

Thursday, May 21 - FREE

Friday, May 22 - \$5

Saturday, May 23 - \$10

Sunday, May 24 - \$5

Weekend Pass - \$15

Parking - FREE

\*\* Children 12yr & Under - Free \*\*

Weekend Camping Site (Thur. - Mon.) - \$350

Festival Grounds Opens - 7:30am each day

### Vendor Booths:

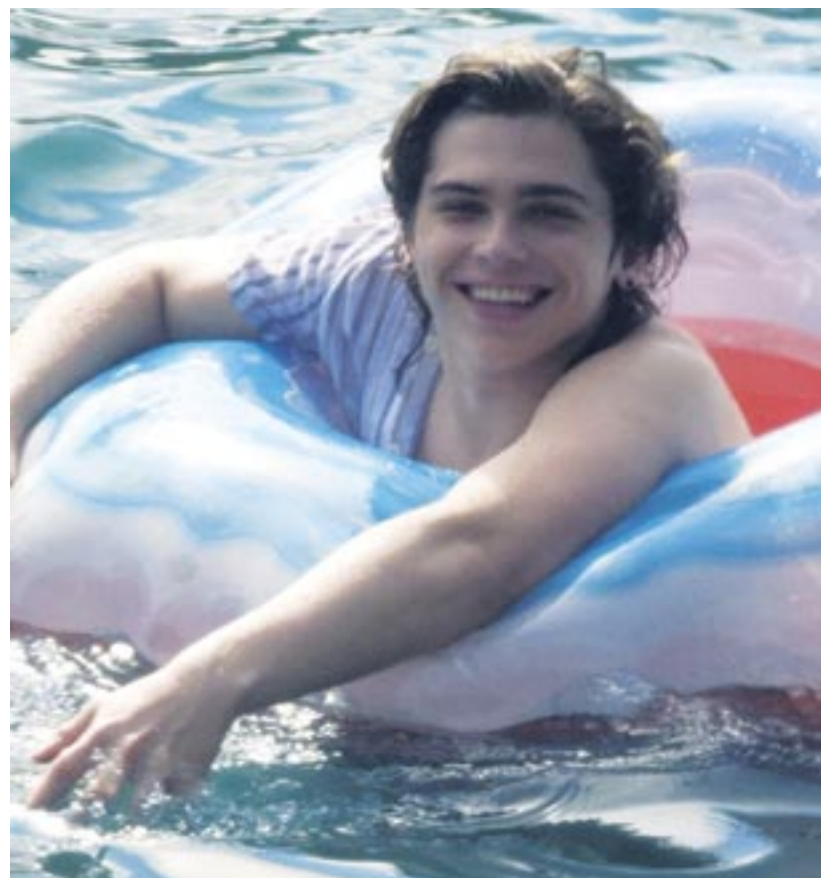
Friday, May 22 - Sunday, May 24

Gates open @ 7:30am each day



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# Changes and Champions and Chances of a Lifetime

by Bill Delaune

Notes on a very soggy scorebook while waiting out a “broken base” delay during Game 1 of the Dutchtown-Zachary semifinal baseball game (More on that later.)...

First, let's wrap up the Kentucky Derby. In last month's magazine we gave you five horses to box in all exotic combinations. One of the horses-The Puma and my favorite to win the race-was scratched the morning of the Derby leaving four-Golden Tempo, Renegade, Danon Bourbon and So Happy. Golden Tempo ran first at 23-1, Renegade was second, Bourbon finished a respectable fifth and So Happy will be happy to get back to shorter races in California.

If you were foolish enough to follow my bets, it cost you \$48 for the exacta box, and \$24 each for the trifecta and superfecta boxes for a total investment of \$96. The exacta hit and paid \$314 for one of the rare profits provided by this column,

Why didn't we hit the trifecta which paid over \$5,600 or the super which paid a whopping \$28,458? Because the third horse Ocelli was a 70-1 longshot who had never won a race and was added to the field late only after a couple of scratches. It was still a thrilling race that hopefully attracted a few more fans to a sport that could use a positive shot in the hoof.

That certainly won't be the case for this month's second jewel of the Triple Crown-the Preakness. The poor “middle child” of racing will not have the Derby winner or even any of the top contenders again this year because of a major change in owners' philosophy.

Once horses were bred to race-now they are raced to breed.

-Former Triple Crown winners like Secretariat were trained to run every two weeks, but today's trainers would prefer giving their million dollars babies 3-4 weeks between races. So what can we do to save the Triple Crown and the top thoroughbreds?

Simple- Step on a few traditions and move the Preakness to Memorial Day Weekend! Team up with the Indy 500 for a race weekend extravaganza- Preakness and horses on Saturday- Indy and horsepower on Sunday.

I'm sure some betting service would offer a Preakness-Indy 500 Daily Double and everybody prospers.

Now move the Belmont back to July 4th weekend and watch the fireworks explode.

Just suppose you had a horse this year going for the Triple Crown on the country's 250th birthday on July 4 in New York. This would be like New Years Eve in Times Square.

These dates would give horses plenty of time between races and no more owner/trainer excuses. Of course, this won't happen, but in the words of former NYC resident John Lennon-just imagine.

-Speaking of change- now that the NCAA has expanded the March Madness Basketball Tournament- can football be far behind. And if they do away with conference championship games- how does the SEC determine its number one team?

Once again there is a simple solution if you studied 5th grade U.S. Geography or

Rudyard Kipling. Kipling once wrote “East is East and West is West...” and SEC officials need to heed those lines while looking at a map of the United States. Using the old divisions before expansion as a starting point, let's create two eight-team leagues based strictly on geography.

Of course, Texas and Oklahoma go to the West and Alabama and Auburn move to the East. Missouri switches to the West to even things up and-Voila! Look what we have done. We have not disrupted the Iron Bowl, the Red River Rivalry, the World's Greatest Outdoor Party or any other of the traditional rivalries. Even the sacred Alabama-Tennessee game can go on the third Saturday of October because civilization as we know it would end if it didn't.

Teams play the seven other teams in their division and two from the other. That leaves room for at least one outside team from a power conference and a couple of state schools or breathers. For instance, LSU could open with La. Tech and ULL before traveling to Wisconsin.

Then your home-and-home conference schedule would include division rivals Ole Miss, Miss State, Arkansas, Missouri, Texas, A&M and Oklahoma. Add Alabama and Florida from the East and you have an imposing slate indeed.

The team that survives that carnage with the best record is a most deserving champion and tiebreakers can be worked out starting with head-to-head competition.

Just call me any time, Commissioner Greg Sankey. And feel free to take the credit for any of my excellent ideas.

-And finally, the Dutchtown Griffins-the little team that thought they could-and did! After an inauspicious 1-4 start and a killer schedule ahead, some Griffin fans were wondering if this team could even get back to .500. But Coach Chris Schexnadre and his staff along with some buzz-cut seniors refused to listen to the nay-sayers and turned the season which you know by now ended up with a shot at a state championship.

My deadline requires this story to be in before the start of the 3-game series with Sam Houston in Sulphur May 14-16-but let me tell you about the journey. The Griffins were sitting pretty with a number 3-seed and the district lead when they unexpectedly dropped the last two games of the regular season to Live Oak. They fell to the 8-seed meaning if they won their first round match-up, they would have to meet numbr-1 and nationally-ranked Barbe in the next. And that, my friends is exactly what happened.

Undaunted by rankings or intimidated by a hostile environment, Dutchtown rode a brilliant pitching performance by Kason Johnson, three hits from Cade Delaune and a game-ending glove gem by left-fielder Dawson Leblanc to a 3-1 victory in the opener.

The Evil Empire struck back to win the second game to set up a winner-take all game on Sunday. Griffin starter Taylor Tunnard held the mighty Barbe bats in check until Brooks Bumstead tied the game at 2-2 with a clutch hit in the 6th inning, Lovable Buc coach Glenn Ceccchini tried to stall the Griffin rally with a historically long pitching

change but Delaune spoiled the strategy with a 3-run homer on the second pitch from the reliever and the Griffins held on for a 6-2 win.

Barbe had not lost a game to an in-state team all year but Dutchtown defeated them twice in two days to advance to the semi-finals against the 4-seed Zachary.

Rains of Biblical proportion forced Game 1 to move to Live Oak and delayed the start 24 hours to a drizzly Saturday night. But that wasn't the only delay in the sloppily-played game. When DHS's outstanding leadoff man Eli Freeman stole second, he somehow uprooted the bag but not enough to dislodge it completely from its stem rusted tightly in the ground. The base would not come up and the game could not go on with the bag the way it was.

After about 20 minutes of umpires standing around waiting for Divine Intervention, Dutchtown dad Jerrad Roden, father of speedy pinch-runner Carson, appeared with hacksaw-looking tool and

quickly repaired the base so the game could continue. I awarded Jerrad MVP of the first game even though Johnson pitched well before reaching his 115 pitch limit because not much else went the Griffins' way in a 4-3 loss. (Also because I live next door to him and need to borrow some of his "toys" from time to time.)

Mothers' day was hot and muggy-but finally sunny-as Dutchtown tried to stave off elimination one more time. Tunnard turned in another stellar performance going eight innings in a tense 2-2 cliffhanger. He was relieved by Chase Adams who escaped a 9th inning jam with help from a 3-2-3 double play executed perfectly by first baseman Bumstead and iron man catcher Cooper Pickett.

The Griffins finally won it in the 10th when Owen Cavalier, who has spent the playoffs hitting the ball when the pitchers don't hit him, reached on an error as the winning run scored.

After a long Saturday night

and a grueling 10-inning marathon in sauna-like conditions, you knew one of these two gallant squads would wilt in Game 3. It appeared Zachary's Thoroughbreds were about to run off and hide against DHS starter Cole Bowling who had won an earlier clincher over Sulphur. Bowling had been solid at 2nd base all season teaming with sophomore sensation Maddox Estilette for a formidable double play combination. The two underclassmen had also added some valuable pop offensively in the bottom of the lineup but today found them on the short end of a 7-3 score after just three innings.

But if Zachary had thoroughbreds, Dutchtown had war horses. The Griffins came right back to tie the game 7-7 on Delaune's 2-RBI double and went ahead for good with another big inning to make it 13-7. While the Broncos' bullpen faltered, DHS's relievers Adams, Braden Hinson and lefty Austin Aker held the rope and Seth Davis's

2-RBI pinch hit closed the scoring at 22-9 and sent the Griffins too the Championship series.

By now, you know how the story ends-but please don't tell me. I want to enjoy this incredible journey a little longer. And like that Greek poet with the baseball name Homer told Odysseus, "Sometimes what's important is the journey on the way to your destination."

And if you think this story is long, try reading "The Iliad" or "The Odyssey". Go Grifs!!!

#### **Editor's Note**

The clock struck midnight for the Cinderella Dutchtown Griffins as the locals dropped a four to nothing decision to Sam Houston's Broncos in the State Championship final. The Griffins had upset two higher ranked teams and had won the first game of the three game series. But the defending champions bounced back to take two in a row and take home the trophy.

***Happy Mothers' Day!! Dutchtown players celebrate their semifinals win over Zachary with their mothers on Mothers' Day in Live Oak.***



**Attention Ball Teams:**

# Hit a Grand Slam After the Game

## The Starting Line-Up!

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*Chicken Wings*



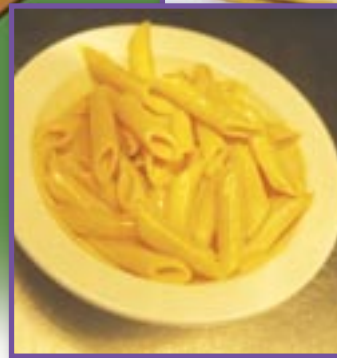
*Chicken Fingers*



*Onion Rings  
Burgers*

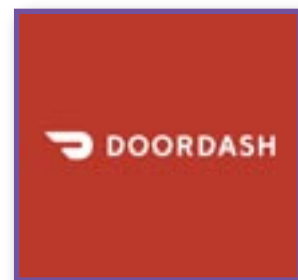


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# Jammin' with Goosie

## Two Bobwhites

The soft ground was littered with turkey tracks. That did not really surprise me very much at the time. I had spied on that location a week or two before and had seen a couple of gobblers strutting in the spot after completing a fishing trip to a nearby pond in that area. The affordable turkey sign that consisted of tracks, droppings, and dusting spots confirmed my beliefs that the birds were using this area often. I then began to construct a small blind in the nearby brush for the opening day of turkey season. After completion of the hideout I decided to check on a nearby deer feeder to make sure that it

a second bird flushed into the air. That event stopped me in my tracks as prior memories of my experiences with these magnificent creatures brought me back in time to which such sightings of those upland game birds were common to see in the region.

On that property some twenty years or so ago I recalled seeing large coveys of those birds which consisted of twenty or more on occasions. Believe it or not, my home area of Prairieville held a very good population of quail back in the day. From my early days afield until about twenty five years ago back in time, the chance of flushing a covey or two on one of our so called "stomp hunts" for rabbits, woodcock, or snipe were a common occurrence. Looking back, it wasn't all that long ago that sightings of the birds as well as hearing their beautiful mating call that actually pronounces the word "bobwhite" could be heard from my yard on Hwy. 42. It is sad to say but the



had been emptied in a proper timely manner. After confirming that the feeder had been taken care of correctly I began walking back to my vehicle so that I could continue scouting other areas of the property for more signs of turkey usage. While walking back to the truck I flushed a bobwhite quail that gently sailed into a newly cutover piece of land. I made a couple more steps and

days of their existence are now gone from that location.

I did harvest two fine gobblers from that area that spring but I did not hear or see the pair of quail again. A month or so after that turkey season came to a close while fishing at Lake Bruin my partner and I were entertained by listening to the beautiful "Bobwhite" call from a mating pair that was taking place



in a nearby meadow. It would be such a great thing to see these birds make a comeback of some sort. Lack of small farm areas of habitat in our parish brought about by too much development will never let that come to be a reality again. Many biologists still say that declines in the quail population are related to the introduction of fire ants eating young hatchlings before they can grow up to be adults. Predators as always share some of the blame especially since at this day and time there is not very much fur trapping being done to remove them. Some predators such as hawks and owls that were once controlled by farmers of the past are now federally protected. They surely consume some of the birds. Most cases of fish and game population ups and downs are due to several factors and not because of one particular reason.

Several years ago a couple of my buddies invited me to participate in a pen-raised release quail hunt. I had turned down the invite to go but later wished that I had attended the outing after hearing their stories of excitement. The next fall I turned down another invite but told the group to put me on the next one for sure. Over several months of waiting my excitement was beginning to build with the expectation of again being afforded the opportunity to shoot at flushing quail. As our group arrived at Thornhill Shooting Preserve in Jayness Mississippi we were greeted by the owner of the preserve Mr. Gary Wayne Thornhill. He briefed us on what and what not to do before we headed out on the trail. His last words of that briefing was a strong prayer to our Lord Jesus Christ and following that amen the action was on.

Our group consisted of seven people. Six would shoot and one would video the outing. The birds were released early on and it wasn't long into the hunt before

the group of pointers were staring motionless at something on the ground. After all guns were in position the flush dog was sent in to do his job. That sure did bring back some old memories. Some good shots were made. Some bad shots were made and a lot of other shots were also made. When it was all said and done the group had enjoyed some great exercise walking a total of six miles during the hunt while harvesting eighty two birds.

That was a first time for me involving that type of shooting event but it hopefully won't be my last. In comparison to outings such as sporting clays or skeet shoots the release bird hunt will also help improve your shooting skills and above all you will return home with some freshly cleaned game birds for the table.

Thornhill offers half day hunts and whole day hunts. The hunt includes dogs, guides, and the opportunity to harvest as many birds as you want. Depending on the availability, pheasants and chuckers may also be offered. Licenses can be attained there for twenty dollars. The season runs from October 1st until April 30th.

The sighting of those two bobwhites took place a couple of years ago and don't you know about a mile and a half or so from that spot, I had the pleasure of seeing another pair of birds while turkey hunting recently. You reckon? No there ain't no way. Had to be different birds. But it makes me wonder.

Till next time

*You sometimes don't know what great things you have until you don't have them anymore*

James "Goosie" Guice

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### ***Useless Random Facts with Kellie***

•  
If it takes less than five minutes to fall asleep, it is likely linked to sleep deprivation. A healthy sleeper takes about fifteen minutes.

•  
Two births occurred at Woodstock.

•  
-The average depth of the ocean floor is 12,000 feet.

•  
For a person with normal hearing, when it comes to pitch, the human hearing range starts low at about 20hz. That's about the same as the lowest pedal on a pipe organ.

•  
The month in which the most murders happen is August.

•  
The tusks of an elephant never stop growing.

•  
The average person flexes the joints on their fingers 24 million times in their lifetime.

•  
The fastest snake in north America is the coachwhip species that can slither at speeds of up to 3.6 miles per hour.

•  
Mr. Potato Head was the first toy advertised on television in 1952.

•  
The first college t-shirt was from the University of Michigan.

•  
The Pokemon Hitmonlee and Hitmonchan are based off of Bruce Lee and Jackie Chan.

# Thoughts from Bully

## I Let Everybody Use My Hoe!

Recently, I have noticed country music creating lots of songs using a play on words and sending mixed messages with the lyrics in their songs.

George Strait sang, "She let herself go" and Tim McGraw sang lyrics, "back when a Hoe was a hoe." I'll tell you a story about my hoe.

Last year I stopped being cheap, for one day, and spent the extra money to get the best hoe in town. I dropped \$30 on this hoe and haven't regretted it one minute, however it has been the subject of some pretty entertaining conversation.

My cell phone rang just after I had purchased the hoe and my buddy on the phone asked, "What are you doing?" Proud of my purchase, I simply told him I had gone to town and picked up a \$30 hoe. He said, "A Ho, Where?" I responded, "At a local western store." I then told him, "They have the best hoes in town and once I had my hands on this hoe I wasn't letting it go so don't try to borrow my hoe and go get your own hoe."

In his confusion his response was, "Hold on Bully. I never, ever, considered sharing a Ho with you, you pervert".

Realizing he was confused I thought I'd play it up a bit. I told him I was bringing my hoe to the hunting camp and passing the hoe around and letting all my buddies use it as much they wanted. Hell, throw my hoe in the back of your truck and carry it in the woods if you want.

"What a friend! Where's your camp?"

I couldn't hold on any longer I had to tell him the truth. It wasn't a Ho, Ho. It was a hoe, hoe. Not to be confused with a Yoo Hoo.

However, I did go to the



camp with my hoe and the play on words continued to flow right off the tongue.

When I arrived at the camp Bubba said, "Damn look at that hoe. I'm takin' that hoe home with me."

Questions and statements were made. "Are you leaving that hoe at the camp?" "We can all use a good hoe like that." "Your hoe is going to help me burn some black iron pots." "I'm taking your hoe to my deer stand." "Somebody get the hoe to do this." "Damn it. I left your hoe in the woods." "OW!! I tripped over your hoe."

I have never been so proud of a hoe and yes, I left it at the camp through the winter.

Well it's spring and I was missing my hoe. So I went to the camp and picked up the hoe. I laid it down and tied it to the flooring of my trailer and gave it a ride.

Once home, I gave my hoe a good cleaning, scrubbed it down, and introduced it to my girl friend. I now have my girl friend using my hoe and she knows how to work a hoe. Her father taught her to use a hoe a long time ago. She said she has used some rickety hoes in her day but this was the best hoe she has had her hands on in a long time.

I was working in my garden the other day and my sweetheart called me on my cell and asked, "What Cha Doing?" I simply replied, "Me and my hoe are hoeing around, How about you?"

A large sign for "HWY. 44 PAINT &amp; BODY 644-7516" is mounted on a post. Below the sign are two flags: the American flag and a checkered racing flag. A circular logo with "PAINT BODY TOWING" around the perimeter and a "HIGHWAY 44" shield in the center is also on the post. A Facebook icon is visible in the bottom right corner of the sign area. At the bottom of the sign, it says "Call 644-7516 for Service".

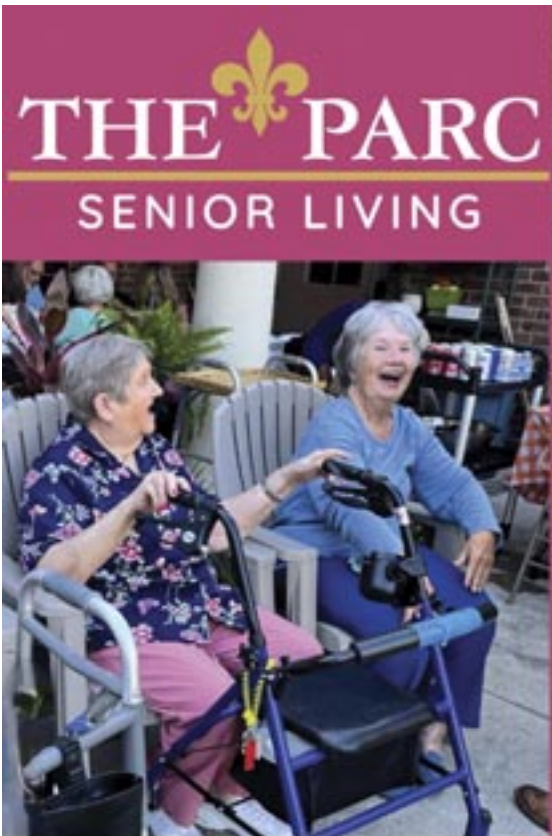
A young girl with blonde hair is smiling and holding a black dog. A speech bubble above her says "Hey Dr. Rob! Can Addie love on me too much???". The background shows a rustic interior with a stone fireplace and a mounted deer head.

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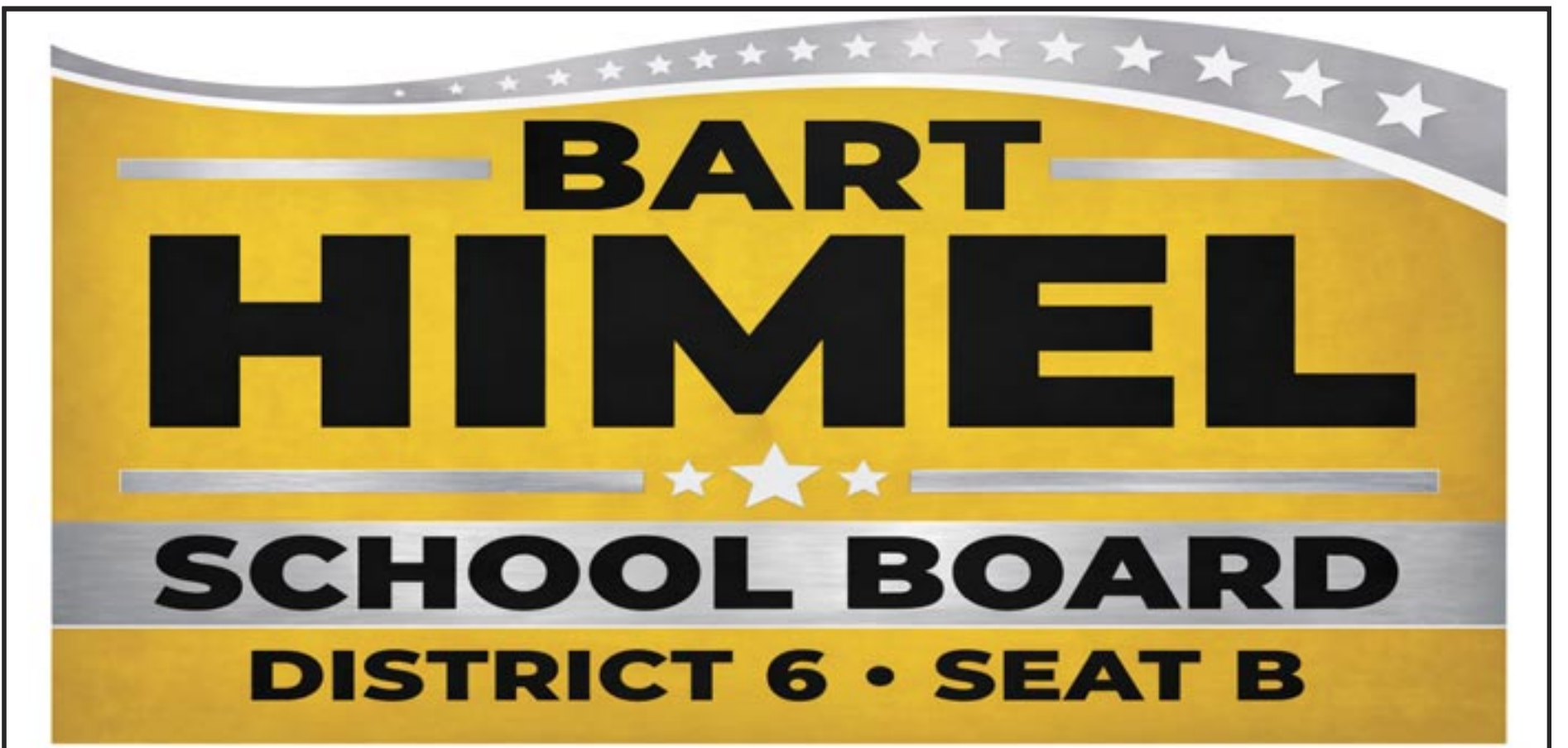
**“ Faith.  
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 **Tuesday  
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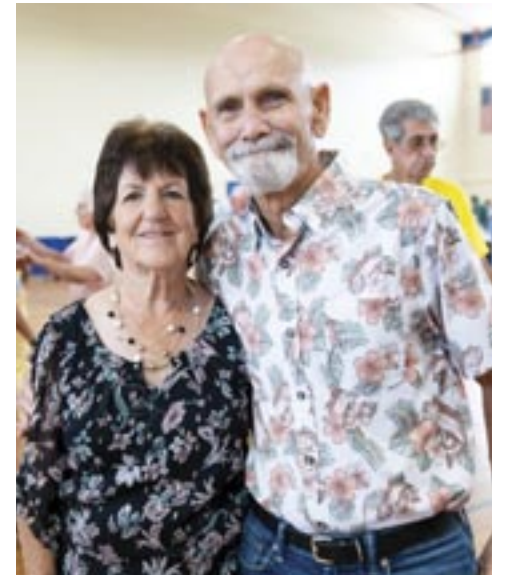
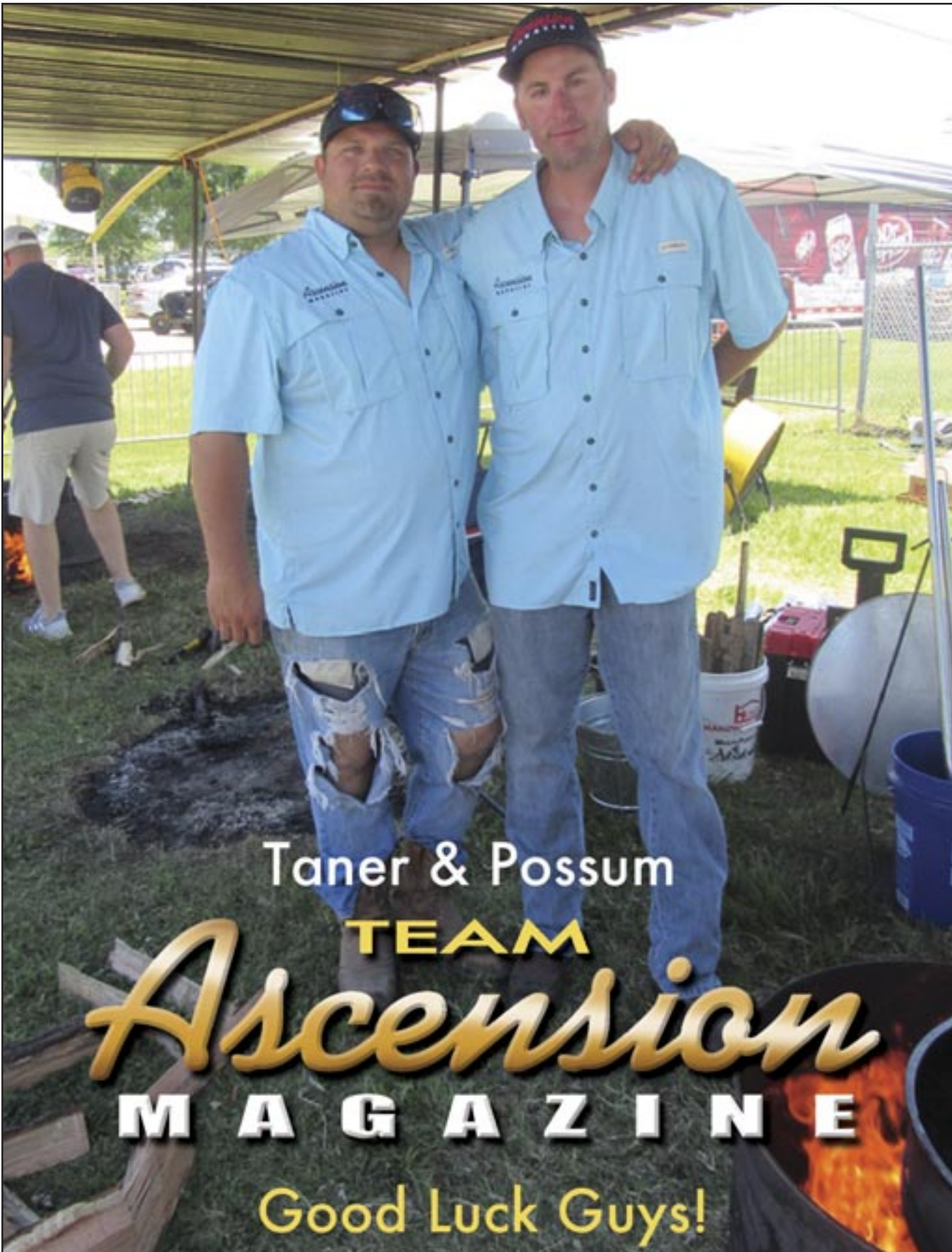
 **James LeBlanc**  
 james.leblanc@eatel.net  
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  - Current President of Louisiana Justice of the Peace & Constables Association for 9 years.
- 2 Emergency Service**
  - 40-Year Fire Chief serving the St. Amant and Darrow communities.
  - Chairman, Ascension Parish Fire District 1 Fire Board for over 25 years.
  - Past President, Louisiana Fire Chiefs Association and youngest Fire Chief ever elected president.
  - Captain, Ascension Parish Sheriff's Office and commander over the Haz Mat Team and Reserve Deputies.
  - Chairman, Ascension Parish Mutual Aid Group,
  - Chairman, Community Awareness & Emergency Response (CAER) for 15 years.
- 3 Community Leadership**
  - President, St. Amant High School Booster Club for 19 years
  - Past President, Volunteer Ascension
  - Past President, St. Amant for St. Jude
  - Ascension Parish "Best of Ascension" Person of the year (2017)
- 4 Faith and Family**
  - Husband to Hope LeBlanc for 39 years
  - Father to Derek, Dane, Dexter, Drake, and Destiny
  - Proud grandfather of 10 grandchildren
  - Member, St. Mark Catholic Church Ushers Society
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## Cooking Gourmet at Home with SNO'S SEAFOOD & STEAKS



### Crab & Apple Bruschetta



Executive Chef, John Donaldson

Yield: 10-15 servings

Prep: 15 minutes

Cook: 10 minutes

Serving: 4

#### Ingredients:

8 ounces fresh Jumbo Lump crabmeat  
1 small loaf French bread  
1 Granny Smith apple  
4 ounces Smoked Gouda (whatever cheese you like)  
8 cherry tomatoes  
1 ounce fresh basil  
2 ounces extra virgin olive oil  
2 lemons  
Kosher salt & fresh ground black pepper to taste

#### Method:

First thing you want to do is get those toast points cooked. Set your oven on 375 and allow it to preheat. Take your French bread and cut it into ½ inch slices then lay them out on a sheet pan/cookie sheet. Drizzle them with olive oil and bake for 5 minutes or until lightly browned. Remove them from the oven and allow them to cool and get nice and crispy.

Next, grab your crabmeat and put it into a small mixing bowl. Drizzle the crabmeat with a little olive oil, the juice of the lemon (no seeds), and salt & pepper to taste.

Now get your cheese. Here we are using Smoked Gouda, but you can use any of your favorite cheeses. Shred the cheese and set aside until it's time to use. Take out your cherry tomatoes and cut them in ½ and add them to the bowl of crabmeat

Thinly slice the basil leaves

The last ingredient to prepare is the apple. Remove the core of the apple either with an apple corer or simply by cutting off each side of the apple. Cut the apple into small cubes and put them into the small mixing bowl with the crabmeat and tomatoes, then drizzle with the juice of the last lemon (no seeds). This will keep the apple from turning brown.

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