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18386 Little Prairie Rd.
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On the Cover: The Insurance Lady ... See Page 24

In October We Wear

Pink!



Jamie Frederic-Braud

That means a lot to us and to our friends and family who have battled Breast Cancer. We all know a survivor, or a casualty and we honor both of them this month.

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A BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION FOR JEANETTE

Our spirited guest of honor, Jeanette Mary, was born on Sept 21, 1932, as the only child to Lester Arceneaux and Birdie Ficklin. She was raised on the property homesteaded by her grandfather, William Ficklin, and still resides there today along with all four of her children and their families.

She attended Gonzales High School for 1st through 12th grades, where she met her lifelong best friend, Audrey "Poochie" Bourque in the fifth grade. They remained close as

sisters for over 70 years. Jeanette started dating her future husband, Louis Lambert one week before high school graduation. After graduation, she attended Spencer Business College. Louis worked for a short time on roadway construction (Airline Hwy.) and later also enrolled in business college. They married on Valentine's Day in 1953 and soon welcomed their children Randy (1954), Brian (1956), Darlene (1957), and Brent (1963). They enjoyed 57 years



of marriage until Louis' passing on March 12, 2010. As a young mother, Jeanette was among the group of parents who assisted with the upstart of the St. Theresa Catholic School, which at that time was heavily dependent upon parishioner and parental support, including preparing and serving school lunches. On week-ends, Jeanette and Louis and their young family would gather regularly with friends and cousins for jambalaya cookouts and card games.

Professionally, after completing her business college coursework, Jeanette commuted by bus from Gonzales to Fidelity and Casualty Insurance Co on Florida Street in Baton Rouge. After temporarily leaving the workforce to raise her family, she purchased a school bus

and worked for 24 years as a school bus driver for Ascension Parish Schools. To this day, many of her former student-passengers make an effort to greet her in public and to share memories of "the good ole days on Mrs. Lambert's bus".

In retirement Jeanette and Louis enjoyed many vacations





with their close friends. Having volunteered in the church choir for 50 years, our “soprano songbird” only in recent years resigned from liturgical music ministry. League bowling fun also filled as many years and provided Jeanette with “bragging rights” for a game-high score of 200.

She enjoys regular visits from her 11 grandchildren and 10 great grandchildren



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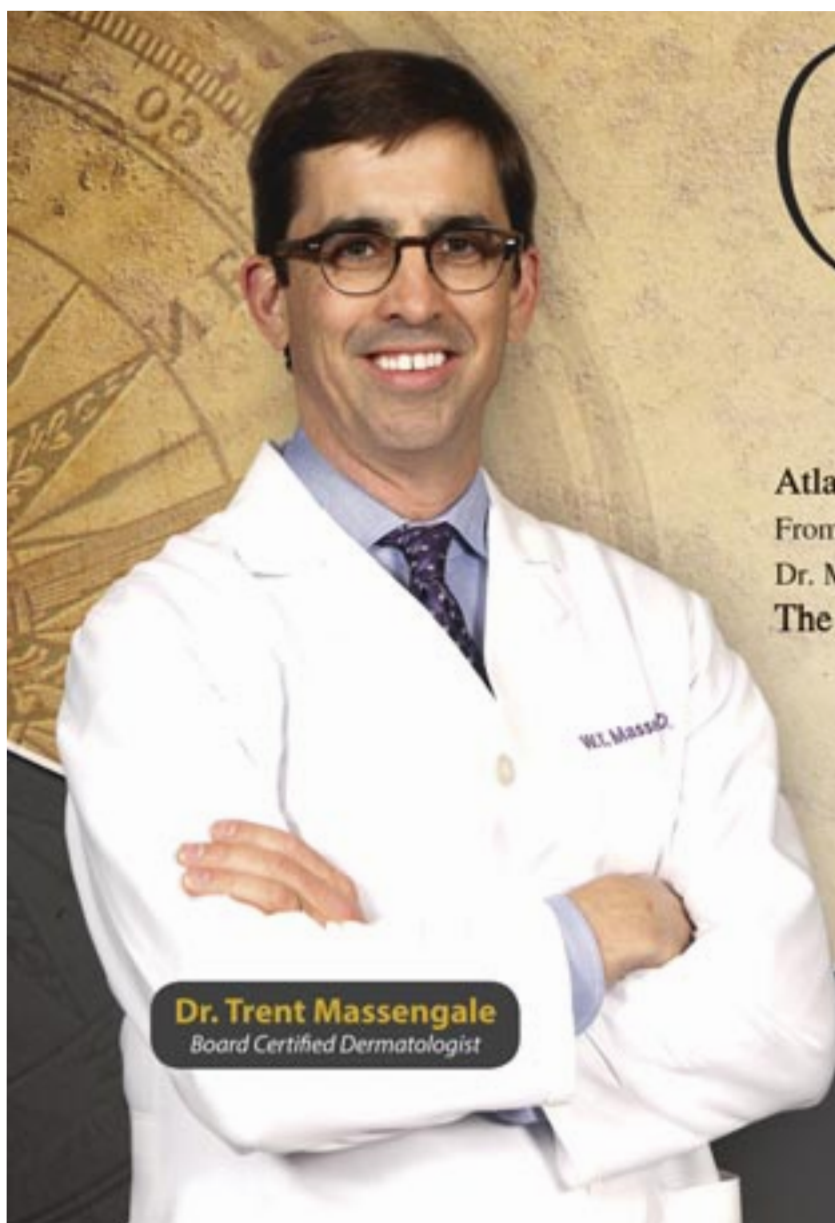
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and weekly card games with friends. She is a voracious reader, reading 2-3 books each week.

Happy Birthday Jeanette from Ascension Magazine







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SAVE THE DATE: 2023 Ascension Banquet is September 21st

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From the Gonzales Garden Club

September and October Club Highlights



Serving as September hostesses, from left, are Patti Mouton, Barbara McCormick, Janis Poche, Rita Bourque and (not pictured) Ellen Posey.

The September Gonzales Garden Club meeting of 21 participants was held in the church hall of the First Baptist Church on Burnside Avenue. Guests in attendance were Jade Thibodeaux, Cynthia Stafford, Katherine Stagg, Kathy Guidry and Dana Teepell who is a past member. As roll call unfolded, members commented on their favorite aspect of belonging to the club. Fellowship was the most endearing quality expressed by the ladies, seconded by horticulture education.

Vice President Mary Jo Pohlig acquainted guests with the club's overall organization with photos of projects and activities. She described Arbor Day Ceremonies, Jambalaya Park Butterfly Garden, Kidz Kove Sensory Garden, Live Oak Conservation, Garden Therapy, Club Publicity, Tours and Field Trips, Yards of the Month, the Flower Show and Garden Inspiration, the Plant/Bake

Sale and National Garden Week Commemoration.

The customary monthly practice of floral design has morphed into a new category called "Garden Inspirations." It encompasses such things as container plants, cuttings, educational articles and newest garden gadgets as well as traditional floral designs. Conchita Richey displayed a mass floral design of cuttings from her garden and Mary Jo Pohlig promoted an African Violet. Various horticulture specimens were brought by members.

President Jamie Trisler presented membership pins to ladies for their years of club service: Mary Jo Pohlig for 10 years; Rita Bourque, Janis Poche and Loretta Ramirez for 15 years; and Marilyn Rice for 25 years. Their efforts signify 80 years of community dedication.



Gwen Heck praised her Super Plant Belinda's Dream rose for its abundant long-stem blooms and disease resistance. It pairs nicely in bouquets with the delicate pink flowers of her volcano plant cuttings.



Barbara McCormick described plant characteristics of her luna hibiscus, cypress vine and coral honeysuckle.

The October meeting was hosted by Marilyn Rice in her beautiful home and gardens in Pelican Point. LSU AgCenter Cooperative Extension Associate Tad Kivett gave a talk about house plants. He touched on the needs of flowering plants, ferns, ivies and palms. After giving helpful tips, he joined in the club luncheon. Marilyn's husband, Curt, had cooked a pot of chicken, sausage, and shrimp gumbo with hostesses supplying the salad, desserts and beverages. A few members

presented flowers as garden inspirations then the club toured Marilyn's courtyards.

Members held a plant exchange of cultivars like fiddle leaf figs, a devil's backbone, begonias, herbs, spider lily bulbs, iris divisions, and a yesterday, today and tomorrow shrub. One September horticultural



Attending the plant talk were, from left, Elizabeth Saffell, Marilyn Rice, Kaye Courvillion, Dana Teepell, Mary Jo Pohlig, Kathy Guidry, Jade Thibodeaux, Rita Bourque, Ellen Posey, Janis D'Benedetto, Katherine Stagg, Speaker Tad Kivett, Dale Bowman, Gwen Heck, Conchita Richey, Patti Mouton and Barbara McCormick.



Hostesses shown in Marilyn Rice's courtyard are, from left, Marilyn, Rita Bourque, Ellen Posey, and Elizabeth Saffell.



Rita Bourque was happy to receive her 15-year membership pin from Membership Chairman Cynthia Capodassi.



Marilyn Rice appreciated her membership pin for 25 years of service to the club.



Mary Jo Pohlig displayed this trailing African violet with multiple crowns, Cherokee Trail. She grew it from single leaf.

hint was to plant seeds for cool season annuals and vegetables. Another was to remain faithful in weeding the gardens. The October horticulture hints are to plant sweet pea and calendula seeds and to consider chrysanthemums for pops of color in the garden.

A tour is planned to St. Joseph's Plantation in Vacherie on the 19th. Members will attend a LGCF District VI meeting at Juban's Restaurant in Baton Rouge on the 27th. In November, the club meets at Mary Jo's with Dr. Allen Owings as the featured guest.



Patti Mouton made an oval, low profile arrangement to be used as an oblong dining table centerpiece. She used white flowers (rose, gerber daisies, alstroemeria, carnations and baby's breath) with camellia foliage in a yellow, horizontal, glazed ceramic boat edged in gold.



Marilyn Rice brought cuttings of red fall colors from her garden: tulip ginger, coleus and a spider lily.



Conchita Richey submitted an arrangement of pollinator flowers and herbs in a crock with signage listing the varieties.

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

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Stop and Taste the Wine!

This past week, my bestie and I decided to travel to Fredericksburg, a former German settlement located in central TX. This small town in the high plains, is known for its wildflowers, peaches, and now more recently, an abundance of grapes. With over 100 local vineyards, Fredericksburg has 10,000 full time residents but welcomes more than 1.2 million visitors per year! After visiting FDX...I can see why!

After driving I10 east bound, my friend and I stayed at the Strawberry Suite, just on the outskirts of the downtown district and close to most of the towns vineyards. This one bedroom accommodates four since it offers a king size hideaway bed. Cooking was easy and the home even had an outdoor cooking space and relaxing fire pit area. Definitely recommend!

Cabernet Grill, a famous restaurant, certainly lived up to all the hype. A little surf and turf and day one was a successful wrap!

Our first day was our free day and the day that we got the lay of the land. In downtown we explored shops, restaurants and bought all our cowgirl gear for the week! If you visit, keep in mind that the downtown area extends far beyond Main Street, so explore all the cross streets as well!

Day two was spent taking a private wine tour to some local vineyards of their choice. The personal driving tour was approximately \$150, and although the driver was as sweet as peach pie, the downside of having a personal driver was that we felt like we

had to entertain HIM.

The following day, we boarded a bus with a ton of ladies and got to stop at three vineyards that were our choice. This was a much better and flexible option, especially at 1/5 the price! The busses and shuttles that offer this option, even have a hop on hop off option on Saturdays for the same price. Next trip to Fredericksburg, this will be the tour option I choose.

Our last day was another free day where we ventured out seven miles off the beaten path to Augusta Vin. This vineyard certainly didn't impress my pallet; however, I highly recommend the trip to this vineyard because the grounds are just so beautiful!

Four whole days without travel certainly wasn't enough time to explore everywhere we wanted to go, but at the end of the day, this trip was about laughter, love, and having a unique adventure with my friend!

Wishing you an October where you stop and taste the wine!

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As Seen On



Get Growing, Ascension!

Ascension Master Gardeners to Host Seminar

Master Gardeners use seminar to swing back into action

By, Johnny Morgan, *LSU AgCenter Communications Specialist*

The Master Gardener Associations in the River Parishes brought out the heavy hitters to swing back into action after being cooped up for two years.

Hosted by the Ascension Master Gardener Association, the seminar, held in Gonzales on Sept. 30, was a way to get more than 100 Master Gardeners together, who are doing the same work, but in different communities so they can share ideas.

LSU AgCenter county agent Mariah Simoneaux said this was a good way to bring Master Gardeners together from different areas so they can reconnect and share ideas.

"We knew that bringing the groups together would be a great opportunity for them to network and hear some great speakers," Simoneaux said.

In Gonzales mayor Barney Arceneaux's welcome to the group, he discussed the importance of getting together to network and to share ideas.

"At one of our National Mayor's Association meetings, I had the opportunity to share with the Mayor of Chicago, and we realized that whether big or small, we all have the same problems," he said. "He gave me some ideas and I gave him some 'little' ideas, but the networking was great!"

The speakers on the program were retired Mississippi State extension horticulturist and gardening expert Felder Rushing, along with Gonzales' own local rose expert Peggy Martin.

Simoneaux said the idea for the seminar came from Master Gardener Richard Babin, who wanted to bring Master Gardeners together from different associations.

"A lot of people were conducting the same programs, but they weren't discussing between associations," she said. "So, we wanted to have



Mariah Simoneaux

an event where Master Gardeners could come together to learn, listen to some great presentations and hear from their neighboring associations."

The Master Gardeners came from throughout the River Parishes, which benefitted each association by



defraying their expenses.

"It's hard for the smaller associations to bring in a big-named speaker," she said. "But by pooling our resources, we were able to bring in two excellent speakers, we were able to have a nice lunch at great facility and we accomplished our mission of bringing a good number of Master Gardeners together and fostering communication between the associations."

The highlight of the meeting were the two speakers on the program. Rushing, who refers to himself as an 11th generation Southern gardener, and Gonzales resident, by way of Plaquemine Parish, Peggy Martin, who is the name behind the Peggy Martin Rose.

Martin, who grows everything organically, said her prior home and property stood under 20 feet of saltwater for two weeks after Hurricane Katrina.



"What we now know, is that the Peggy Martin rose was one of only two plants to survive," she said.

Rushing, started the Master Gardener program in Mississippi and says he worked at garden centers and landscaping when he was young. So, for a career, he decided to teach horticulture instead.

"I help people to interpret horticulture into just plain gardening," he said. "Working with the extension service, I found out that our job is to change behaviors, not just tell people how to have better compost. But how

to have better yards if they have problems."

Rushing continues to his syndicated newspaper column of 43-plus years and for 21 years, he has hosted the Gestalt Gardener, one of National Public Radio's most popular programs.

Marilyn Rice, vice president of the Ascension Parish Master Gardeners said, the seminar was a great outreach opportunity and a great way to share ideas.

"It was just a good idea to bring Master Gardeners together to promote fellowship and just to coordinate," she said. "It also gives us a chance to see what other fellow Master Gardener organizations are doing."

Simoneaux said she and the Master Gardeners love the idea of making the seminar an annual event.

Mariah Simoneaux is the Horticulture Agent serving Ascension and Assumption Parishes. For more information visit www.LSUAgCenter.com or contact Mariah at MJSimoneaux@agcenter.LSU.edu.



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YOUR ESTATE MATTERS



By Linda Melancon

4 Questions About Marriage to Discuss with a Special Needs Planning Attorney

If you are considering saying “I do” and currently receive Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI), Supplemental Security Income (SSI), Medicaid, or any other disability-related benefits, getting married could impact your benefits. Unfortunately, under current Social

Security, Medicaid, and Medicare rules, getting married is not always financially or medically practical for their recipients.

Many programs providing benefits to persons with disabilities were created decades ago under assumptions that are no longer compatible with today’s world. In some situations, the creators of these programs believed a disabled individual would not be able to marry or, if they did, the spouse should become responsible for this person’s needs. As such, many programs have rules that a person receiving disability benefits may no longer qualify for benefits if they marry a person who is not disabled.

Each program is slightly different. However, in general, the concept is that once you are married, your spouse’s income and assets become available to you. Often, once your spouse’s financials are added to the picture, you may exceed resource limits that will disqualify you for benefits. This can have significant impact on your access to health care.

For example, eligibility for SSI in most states qualifies a person for Medicaid. Medicaid often covers health care and services not

covered by other insurances, such as health or personal care aides, transportation to doctor appointments, and much more. A loss of Medicaid can be a significant blow, and you may not be able to cover the costs of services you need, even with a dual income.

When two disabled individuals marry, they will receive one combined benefit from the Social Security Administration (SSA) that is 25 percent less than what they would receive if living together unmarried. This is because of an antiquated belief that a couple can live on less income by sharing a home and other expenses.

So, before you walk down the aisle, here are some questions you should discuss with your special needs attorney.

1. Will my spouse’s income or assets affect my benefits?

Yes, this can affect your benefits. For example, to qualify for SSDI, you must earn less than \$1,350 monthly if you are not blind, and less than \$794 per month to qualify for SSI. You may no longer qualify if you get married and your spouse’s income exceeds these limits. The same is true for any limitations on countable resources for programs such as SSI. A recipient must not have more than \$2,000 in assets as an individual or \$3,000 in assets as a couple.

2. What if I just want to live with my partner, but not get married?

Many people may prefer not to get married and instead live together. Yet for some programs, such as SSI, this can still lead to a reduction or loss of benefits. The SSA specifically states: “The [Social Security Act] ... requires that if a man and a woman are found to be “holding out”—that is, presenting themselves to the community as husband and wife—they should be considered married for purposes of the SSI program.” It is not guaranteed the SSA will enforce this position if you decide to cohabitate with your partner or have an unofficial ceremony to recognize your union. However, if they seek to treat you as a married couple, you may find yourself subject to completing an SSA questionnaire, and producing information about bills, mail, and your housing arrangements in order to keep your benefits.

3. Is it likely these limitations will change anytime soon?

Recent developments indicate such “marriage penalties” imposed on people with disabilities may undergo reform. For example, the newly introduced Marriage Equality for Disabled Adults Act would eliminate any requirements that disabled adult children must remain unmarried to receive lifetime benefits and health care through Social Security.

In addition, in 2021, the Supplemental Security Income Restoration Act was introduced in the U.S. House of Representatives. If passed, this law would eliminate the marriage penalty by increasing the SSI couple benefit rate to twice the individual rate. So, where both parties to a marriage are disabled, they would get no less than what they previously received, among other changes.

Other benefits could also come from this law, such as an increase in the benefit rates to align with the federal poverty calculations, which are updated more frequently and allow people with disabilities to earn up to \$416 per month without losing their SSI benefits.

4. Are there alternatives to marriage or other ways my partner and I can unify our lives?

You can engage in planning measures to help bring cohesiveness to your and your partner’s life. A good start is to prepare a will and advance directives. This will allow you to avoid the state deciding what happens to your estate when you pass and perhaps provide in some way for your significant other upon your death.

If you become hospitalized or incapacitated, you can give your partner the ability to be involved in your health care and other life decisions by executing a health care proxy, power of attorney, or living will.

In addition, in some areas, you may be able to have a unification or other ceremony without it affecting the community services you receive through your state’s Medicaid program. Many states have revised their programs’ rules to allow flexibility regarding these issues.

If you currently receive disability benefits and are considering getting married, it is best to speak with a qualified special needs attorney about how this may impact you.

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Here's Your 'Recession Survival' Checklist

It's unfortunate, but recessions are a fairly normal part of the economic landscape. When a recession occurs, how might you be affected? The answer depends on your individual situation, but regardless of your circumstances, you might want to consider the items in this recession survival checklist:

Assess your income stability. If your employment remains steady, you may not have to do anything different during a recession. But if you think your income could be threatened or disrupted, you might want to consider joining the "gig economy" or looking for freelance or consulting opportunities.

Review your spending. Look for ways to trim your spending, such as canceling subscription services you don't use, eating out less often, and so on.

Pay down your debts. Try to reduce your debts, especially those with high interest rates.

Plan your emergency fund. If you haven't already built one, try to create an emergency fund containing three to six months' worth of living expenses, with the money kept in a liquid account.

Review your protection plan. If your health or life insurance is tied to your work, a change in your employment status could jeopardize this coverage. Review all your options for replacing these types of protection. Also, look for ways to lower premiums on home or auto insurance, without significantly sacrificing coverage, to free up money that could be used for health/life insurance.

Keep your long-term goals in

mind. Even if you adjust your portfolio during times of volatility, don't lose sight of your long-term goals. Trying to "outsmart" the market with short-term strategies can often lead to missteps and missed opportunities.

Don't stop investing. If you can afford it, try to continue investing. Coming out of a recession, stock prices tend to bottom out and then rebound, so if you had headed to the investment "sidelines," you would have missed the opportunity to benefit from a market rally.

Revisit your performance expectations. During a bear market, you will constantly be reminded of the decline of a particular market index, such as the S&P 500 or the Dow Jones Industrial Average. But instead of focusing on these short-term numbers, look instead at the long-term performance of your portfolio to determine if you're still on track toward meeting your goals.

Assess your risk tolerance. If you find yourself worrying excessively about declines in your investment statements, you may want to reevaluate your tolerance for risk. One's risk tolerance can change over time — and it's important you feel comfortable with the amount of risk you take when investing.

Keep diversifying. Diversification is always important for investors — by having a mix of stocks, mutual funds and bonds, you can reduce the impact of market volatility on your portfolio. To cite one example: Higher-quality bonds, such as Treasuries, often move in the opposite direction of stocks, so the presence of these bonds in your portfolio, if appropriate for your goals, can be valuable when market conditions are worsening. (Keep in mind, though, that diversification cannot guarantee profits or protect against all losses in a declining market.)

A recession accompanied by a bear market is not pleasant. But by taking the appropriate steps, you can boost your chances of getting through a difficult period and staying on track toward your important financial goals.

This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor. Edward Jones. Member SIPC.



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PAPA GEORGE COOK-OFF 2022

The 2022 winners of the PaPa George cook off were 1st place Jared White & son Jayden and wife Brittany, 2nd place Daren Braud & Damon Braud, 3rd place Jason White & wife Amy

White. This year Connie & Dave Martin opened up their home and grounds for us at the Chatsworth Plantation. It is a very beautiful place. We appreciate them so very much.

We purchased 3 Bricks this year at St. Jude. Nick Tullier, Devin Blair and Herman & Margie Warthen has a Brick with their names on them placed at St. Jude. We want to Thank the St.





Gabriel KC's for all of your help every year to put this cook off on. Thank you Wayne & Theresa Roy for all of the organizing, running around and everything y'all do. Thanks to all of our cooks for coming out each year, finding sponsors and supporting us and these children. Thank you to our judging staff, Layne Gautreau, Kade Lanoux, Freddie Hurst, Julie Hurst, Marty Haydel, Lyell Turner, Drew Malina. I know





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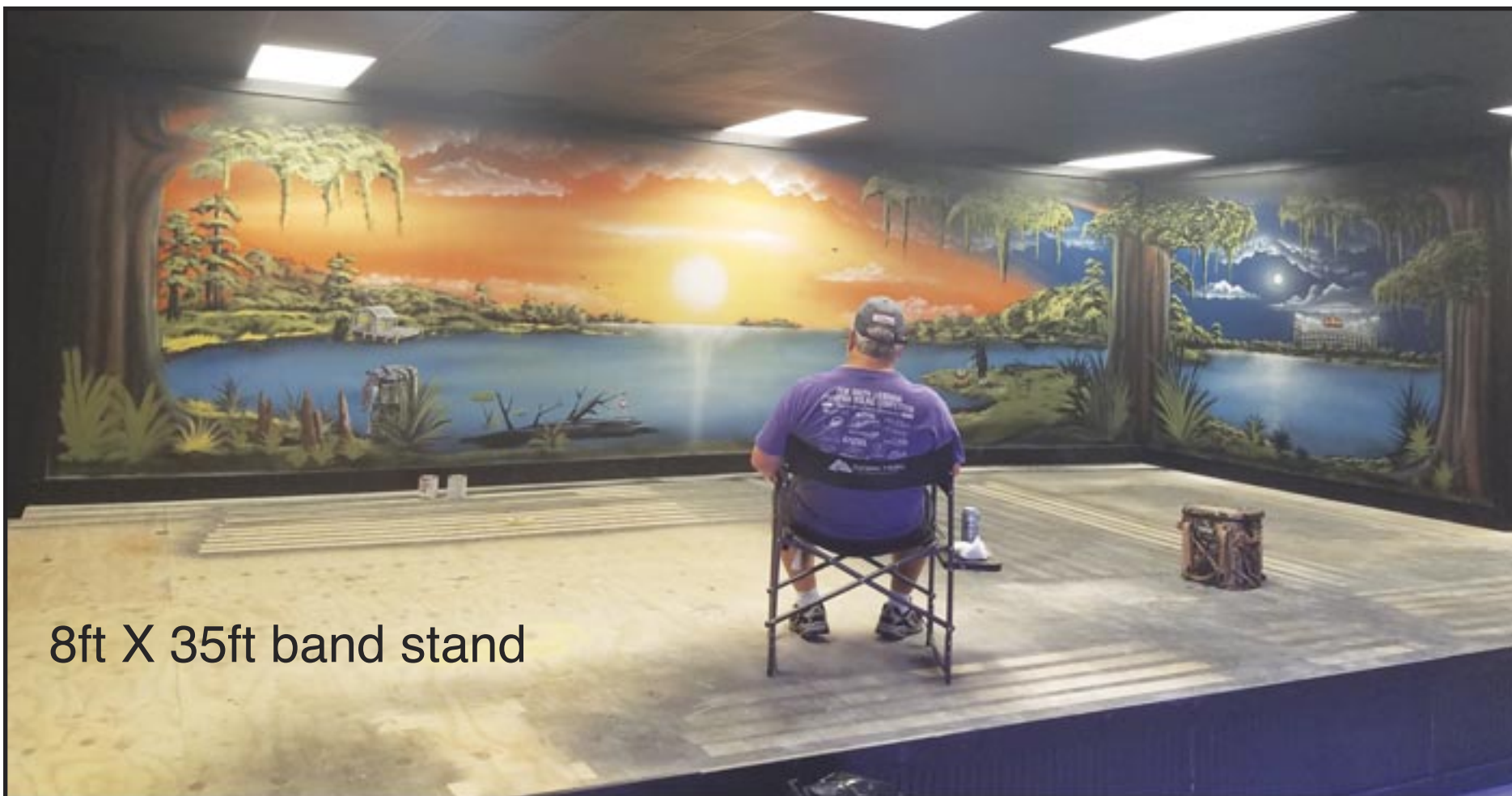
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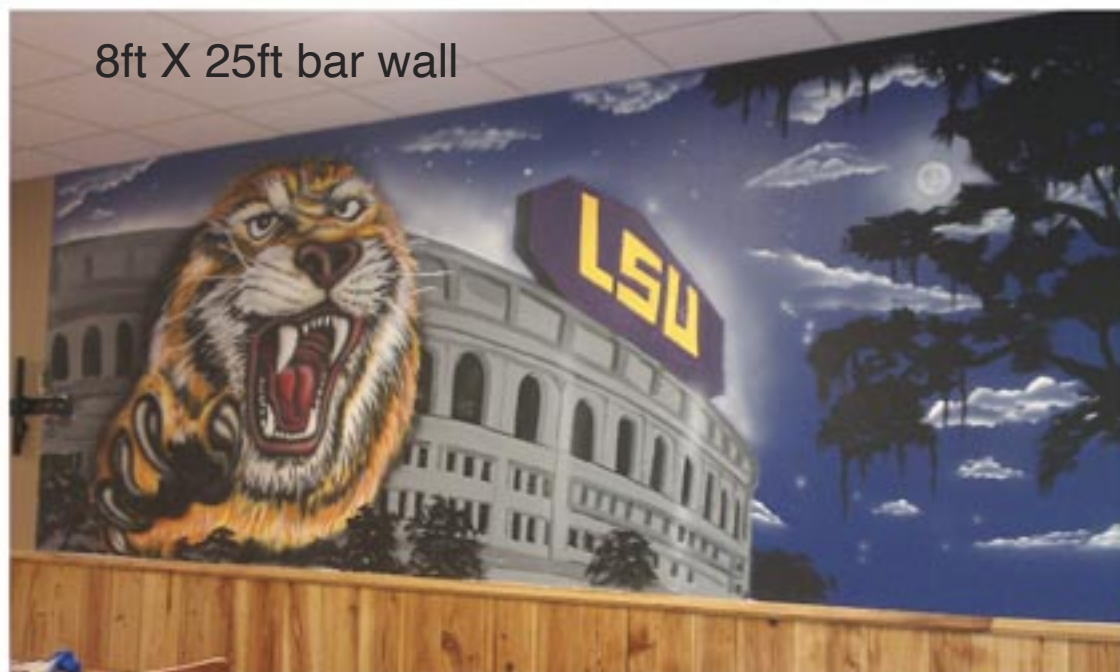


8ft X 35ft band stand

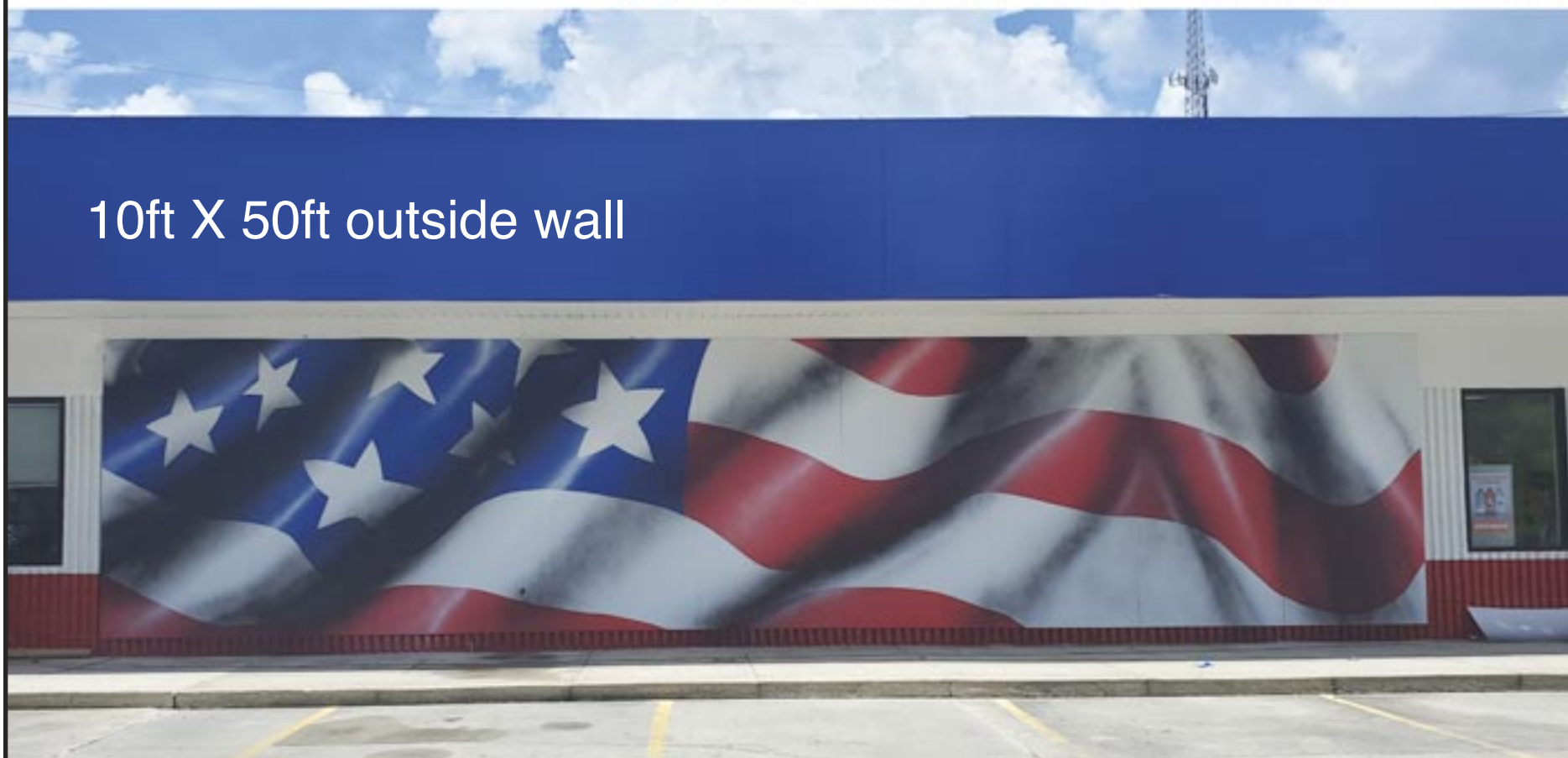
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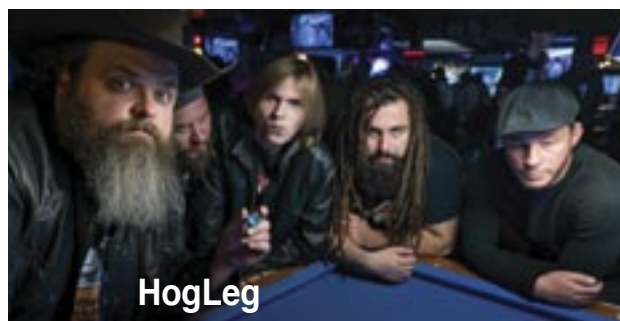
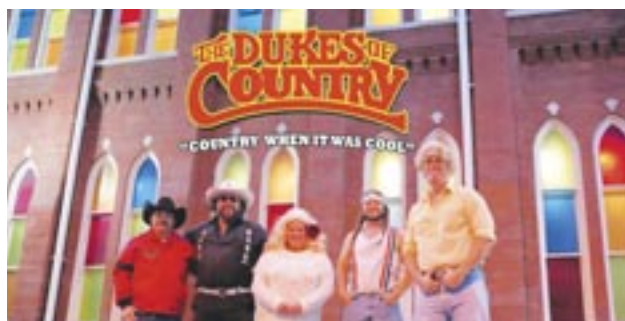
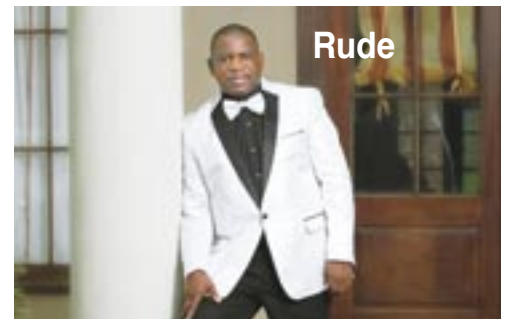
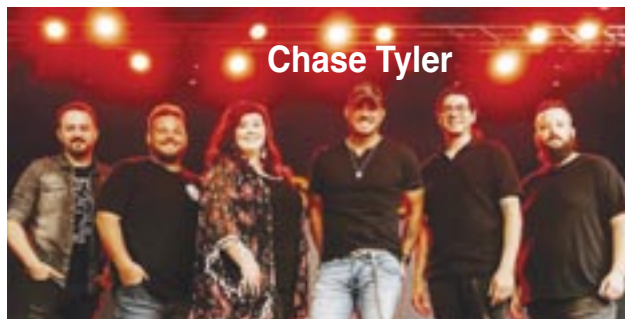
10ft X 50ft outside wall



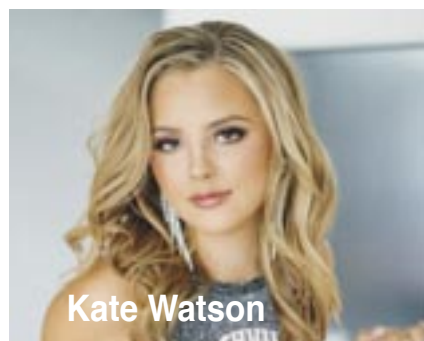
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10/28 8-9:30	Kate Watson
10/29 2-3:30	Rude
10/29 7:30-9:00	Confidential Band
10/30 4:30-6:00	HogLeg
10/30 7-8:30	The Dukes of Country
11/4 8-9:30	Chee-Weez
11/5 2 - 3:30	Julio & Cesar Band
11/5 4:30 - 6:00	Grupo Sensacion
11/6 7:30-9:00	Rock Show



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The Insurance Lady

6 Reasons to use an Independent Agent

1. KNOWLEDGE

When you require legal advice, you contact a lawyer, and when a health issue arises, you visit your doctor, so when you need assistance with your insurance coverage, you need to use an industry expert. In addition to having many years of experience in the industry, independent insurance agents work with many different insurance companies and are knowledgeable about their individual strengths. Although one insurance company may provide unmatched claims service, another may offer more competitive rates. Based on what is most important to you, an independent agent will find the best match for you.

- *We write 1,000's of policies each year and know the quickest way to get in and out of the system.*
- *We know the insurance lingo – we are the experts.*
- *We know which plans are best within each company.*
- *We do the research and leg work for you. We study the plans each year BEFORE talking to you.*
- *We know the Louisiana insurance market. The MarketPlace does not, nor are they licensed insurance agents.*

2. CUSTOMER SERVICE

If you have coverage questions or worse, need help with a claim, would you rather reach an automated recording or an actual person when you call? More and more companies have switched to automated systems, often making it difficult and time consuming to reach the right person. However, at many independent insurance agencies, an actual person will still greet and assist you.

- *We make sure you get the benefits you need.*
- *We want a long-term relationship with you.*
- *We are there to assist you all year long. You have one point of contact and one person to help you solve any issues that may arise.*

3. PERSONAL SHOPPERS

Working with an independent insurance agent can be compared to having a personal shopper. Similar to the way in which a real estate agent sorts through properties to help you find your ideal home, an insurance agent reviews many different insurance companies'

rates and coverage options to help you secure policies that best suit your needs. You may believe that this comes at an additional cost to you, but independent agents do not add extra charges to insurance companies' rates. So, you can choose to work with an independent agent, who will handle your coverage needs, assist you with claims and answer any questions you may have, from billing issues to coverage concerns, always advocating on your behalf, at no additional cost to you.

4. UNDERSTANDING

Independent insurance agents understand that insurance can seem complicated and confusing, especially when you don't deal with it on a daily basis. For this reason, your insurance agent will work to ensure that you fully understand your coverage, from what is and is not included, to the deductibles, coinsurance, and copayments. After you select your plan, an independent agent's work isn't over – instead, we are available year-round to help answer your questions, update your policy, and make coverage recommendations.

5. REPUTATION

Reputation plays a crucial role in finding a company you can trust, and many independent agencies take pride in the years, if not decades, they have spent serving their local communities. Not only can a company's many years of service speak to its well-established reputation in the community, but it can also help you feel confident about its financial stability. Although there are many ways to obtain insurance, would you rather obtain a quote from a startup Internet-based insurance provider that advertised on television, or call a local agent who your friends, co-workers and neighbors could recommend?

6. PROTECTION & PEACE OF MIND

Above all, working with an independent insurance agent will provide you with peace of mind, knowing that when you save money on your insurance, it won't come at the expense of comprehensive coverage. When it comes to protecting your home, family, business and other invaluable assets, relying on an independent agent you can trust is a great place to start.



If your employee only coverage is considered affordable (9.12% in 2023), then minus the EE premiums from the EF premiums. If that dollar amount is higher than 9.12% of your family's household income, you may qualify for the tax credits! Gather those numbers and give us a call or email us. We'd love to help you save money!

THE END OF MEDICAID FOR 200,000 LOUISIANIANS

When the COVID-19 pandemic started in 2020, more Louisiana families than ever before took advantage of Medicaid due to loss of employment, etc. For a few years now, people were locked into Medicaid regardless of their income. All of that is about to start unwinding. While the public health emergency is technically still in effect, the Louisiana Medicaid program will

slowly start to check everyone's income. If you are over the threshold for Medicaid, you will be notified and given a small timeframe to find other coverage. The timeframe is usually 30-60 days so watch your mail closely.

If you are offered affordable insurance through your employer, the loss of Medicaid qualifies as a Special Enrollment Period, and you can jump on their plan. If the insurance is not affordable through your employer, give us a call and let us shop it out for you.

Quick reminder... our services are **FREE** to you! We are always here to help and will guide you in the right direction.

THE LONG-AWAITED RULE CHANGE WILL ELIMINATE THE 'FAMILY GLITCH' IN 2023

WHAT IS THE FAMILY GLITCH?

Under the Affordable Care Act, employers were required to keep the employee's insurance cost under 9.83% of the household income. However, this affordability protection was only for the employee's coverage, not the dependent coverage. Even if the cost for the dependents were \$5,000 per month, the family was disqualified from getting ANY help from the tax credits.

THE PROPOSED FIX

Under the proposed IRS solution, tax credits will now be available to family members whose premiums through an employer are considered unaffordable (expected to be 9.12% of household income). This is a very big deal. Most employers pay little to nothing for dependent coverage here in Louisiana.

WILL THE NEW RULES HELP MY FAMILY?

VERY possibly. The American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 expanded tax credits substantially. If your employer does not contribute towards the premium for your spouse or children, let's do the math! We need to breakdown the costs between the employee and the rest of the family:

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Employee and Children (EC)
Employee and Family (EF)

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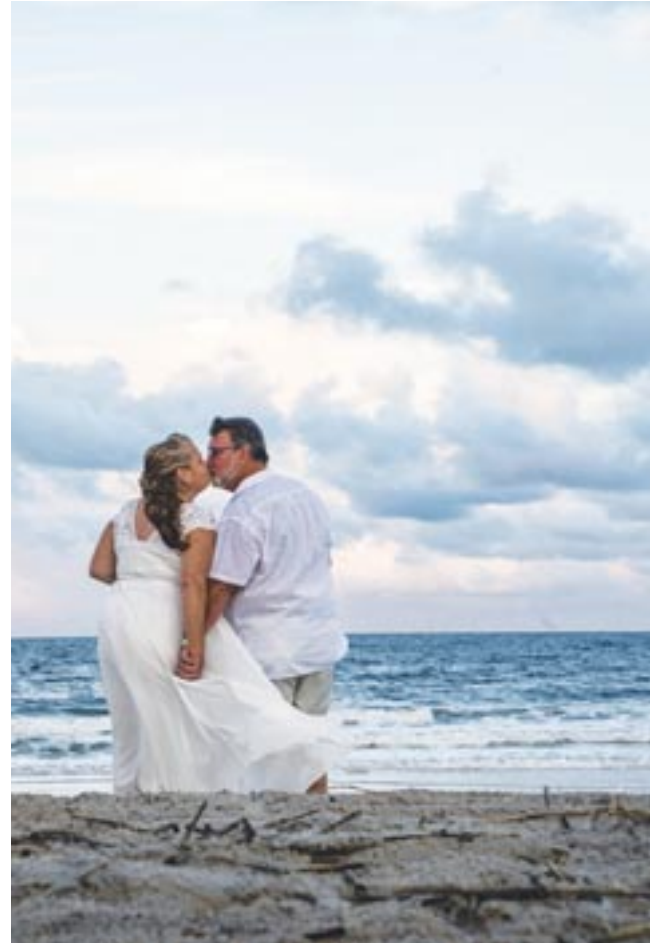
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The advertisement features a baseball field background. In the foreground, a man in a dark suit and yellow tie is in a batting stance, holding a wooden bat. A large baseball is shown in mid-air, with yellow and orange motion lines trailing behind it. In the background, another man in a dark suit and yellow tie is pointing towards the baseball. The text "INJURED? WE'LL GO TO BAT FOR YOU!™" is written in large, bold, yellow and white letters. The website "GoToBat.com" is displayed in white text on a red background. The firm's name "GAUTHIER AMEDEE APC" and "PERSONAL INJURY LAW" are written in large, bold, white letters. At the bottom, the attorneys' names and address are listed.

Blinded by the Light or Light Lane Revisited

by Isau Delite

Editor's Note So you've probably heard this one before but Halloween stories are always worth repeating. I mean, the Simpsons still do "Treehouse of Horrors" every Sunday before Trick-or-Treat. Disney continues to do a version of "The Legend of Sleepy Hollow". And slash murderer Michael Myers of the "Halloween" has come back to haunt us every October since 1978. So back by popular demand, here is Ascension's own Halloween epic about a little gravel road with a mysterious secret...

The badly-shaken couple pulled into the Quick Snack parking lot and stumbled out of the boy's '57 Chevy.

The girl was sobbing uncontrollably into the boy's shoulder, and the boy-whose face was past a whiter shade of pale, clung to her more for his support than hers.

As the weekend crowd gathered around them, the boy began to relate an eerie tale in a stammering voice, while the girl could manage only an occasional two-syllable uttering through hysterical tears-"Hook Man..."

"We were parked on Light Lane," the boy said, "when someone or something came out of the woods. I thought it was an animal at first, but when I turned on the lights, the form was humanly upright. When my

eyes focused, I could make out a large, bearded man with a crazed, demonic look in his eyes. And dangling from his denim work shirt where his left hand should have been was a gigantic hook."

"Hook Man," shrieked the girl.

"He stood in our headlights with his arms upraised-he must have been seven feet tall. But I couldn't take my eyes off that menacing hook. Fortunately, she screamed and snapped me out of my trance, and I threw the car in reverse and did a one-eighty headed back toward Black Bayou Road. I jammed it into first, but the Hook Man jumped on the back of the car. I swerved from left to right trying to throw him off, but I wasn't even sure that had worked until we pulled into here."

"Hook Man," wailed the girl again. But now out of the mesmerized crowd came the boy's sister.

"Oh, Bill. You're always making up stories. Shame on you for trying to scare all the people. And Karen, you were pretty convincing too. Now, take me home before I miss my curfew and get into trouble."

The boy's sister walked around to the back door of the Chevy still shrouded in darkness and started to open the door. But instead of getting in, she whirled around and unleashed a blood-curdling scream that would have run the banshees from Ireland. The crowd rushed

to her, but one by one they backed away in sheer terror at the sight which had prompted her reaction.

For there, stuck in the back door handle, was a monstrous hook with the remains of a huge man's arm dripping blood onto the concrete...

Okay, you say lots of small towns had a Hook Man or a variation thereof. But not everybody had a Light Lane. Gonzales did.

Nothing looks like it did back in the 50's and 60's. But traveling that section of Roddy Road between Black Bayou and Highway 621 these days, it's hard to believe how frightening and imposing that then-gravel stretch was in my teen years.

I wasn't the guy in the first story. I'm not the guy in the next story. But I did see the Light. Twice.

...She stood out in the Jungle House crowd not only because she was a stranger but because of her haunting beauty. It was a Halloween dance, but she needed no costume make-up-her pale visage had already caught the eye of every male in the place.

He finally got up the courage to ask her to dance. She looked so fragile, so lonely, but when "The Blue Notes" struck up a slow song called "Last Date", she accepted his invitation with a Mona Lisa smile.

They were inseparable the rest of the evening. Talk was small-when they talked at all.

Her name was Abby. She lived on Black Bayou near Light Lane. She hadn't been in town long, and because her parents were pretty strict, she didn't get out much. In fact, she had to be home by midnight on this Halloween night.

"Then, let me take you home," he practically blurted. Then, with more composure, "I mean, if that's all right with you."

"Sure," she said.

How lucky could a guy be he thought as he parked his Mustang a little way down Light Lane. A beautiful girl who lived right around the corner giving him some extra time to...

"I'm cold," she shivered interrupting his nighttime daydreams.

"Here," he replied taking off his gold and white Dutchtown letterman's jacket. "Put this on."

Time passed quickly as they huddled together for more than warmth and sooner than he had hoped, she whispered, "I have to go."

He pulled into her driveway and started to get out of the car to walk her to the door, but she touched his arm and breathed, "No."

He was too shocked to protest as he watched her disappear into the foggy evening. He had assumed things were going so well between them.

He started to back out of the drive, considering giving up women forever, when he remembered his jacket. She

still had his letterman's jacket.

He pulled back in, rushed up to the door and knocked. After what seemed an eternity, the door creaked open and an elderly gentleman-bent from the years and the fights with the wine-appeared.

"Ex-excuse me, sir," stuttered the boy. "I'm looking for Abby. She has my jacket."

The old man's eyes turned hostile and they seemed to the boy to burn right into his soul.

"You're much too old for Trick or Treat," he finally muttered. "And if this is a trick-then it's a mighty cruel one. Our daughter Abby was killed in an accident on Light Lane exactly one year ago-on Halloween night."

The boy backed off the porch on unsteady legs and somehow made it into his car. His foot was still shaking on the accelerator as he drove down the Airline in a zombie-like trance.

He turned onto the Church road across from Germany's Grocery and headed home on instincts alone. But as he passed the Prairieville Cemetery, an eerie feeling enveloped his entire being. He stopped the Mustang and entered the graveyard as if drawn by some magnetic force.

Despite his dazed condition, he moved easily through the labyrinth of tombstones until he tripped on a small cross in the darkest corner of the property. He tried to break his fall but his hands landed on a material far different from the cool grass or mud he expected.

It was a jacket. His jacket-draped over a sodden grave next to a large stone. A full moon suddenly moved from behind a cloud to provide enough light for him to read the inscription: Abby Rition 1949-1965 "She Will Rise Again"

He began to scream...

Okay, okay, so I'm no Stephen King. I'm not even a Damian King. And that story has been modified a few times. There was even a crummy song about it called "Strange Things Happen in This World" by Dickie Lee who would gain fame by writing a country classic "She Thinks I Still Care" for George Jones.

But I digress. The first time I went down Light Lane was on a camping trip-one of those glorious camping trips that is required for 12-year olds to graduate into official teenage status.

We were supposed to be in Randall's pasture just off the

Airline, but we talked his older brother Winston into taking us to Light Lane before he went out. We set up our tent, built a fire and waited for dark, pretending not to be concerned with things like mystical lights and magical nights.

We'd been out there for quite some time and had just about convinced ourselves that The Light was just another story concocted by the older guys to keep us from spying on them when they were making out with chicks down the road.

That's when it happened. There was just a flicker at first away down the road, but it was definitely a light of some kind.

"Did you see that?" asked Randall who feared nothing on earth.

"Yeah," was all I could manage.

"It's probably just Winston trying to scare us," he concluded hopefully.

"Yeah," was the sum total of my vocabulary at the time.

Each of us was armed with a flashlight as we stood frozen in the middle of the road. The Light had grown from its original spark to the size of a single headlight.

"It's coming closer," said Randall, his bullet-proof demeanor starting to be betrayed by a shaky voice.

"Yeah." This time I'm not even sure I got that much out.

The Light kept coming-bigger and closer, closer and bigger-until Randall, with one last great act of defiance stepped forward and threw his flashlight at the approaching luminance-much like the bad guy in old movies throwing his gun when he runs out of bullets.

What happened next, I can't honestly say. I was busy breaking Usain Bolt's Olympic records in the opposite direction. I do know that Randall, whose speed would enable him to later become a star running back at Dutchtown and a defensive back at East Ascension, never caught up with me.

Later-much later- when we returned to the campsite and built a fire that would have dwarfed the Towering Inferno, Randall told me that after throwing his light, he turned and ran also. But glancing back over his shoulder, he saw The Light was gone.

"It was like The Light didn't like any other light," he reasoned throwing another log on our already blinding blaze.

"Yeah."

We didn't sleep at all that

night. And when we related our experience to non-believers, the usual reaction was that we had stolen some beer from Fish-N-Pic or somehow gotten hold of that heathen-demon weed. But I know what I saw. I didn't see a flying saucer, and we didn't get abducted by aliens. I saw The Light.

The second time I saw the Light was a few years after my initial encounter. I was no longer a scared little 12-year old. I was among the elite of the worldly set. I was a senior in high school.

We had a basketball game in Romeville that night and were returning home on the bus, seated in our usual Puritan fashion-girls on one side, boys on the other.

Man, there was some hand-holding across that aisle that the Champion Red Rover runner could not have broken through.

Anyway, by the time we got back to Dutchtown, we had assembled a foursome-two from each side-for some post-game activities down Light Lane.

I was busily exploring some match-up zones with a Golden Eagle forward in the front seat while Randall was hand-checking a point guard in the back when the unthinkable happened. The damn Light came back.

It was different this time, starting off in a ditch on the left side of the road and jumping over to the ditch on the right side. It looked almost like-dare I say it-Tinkerbelle.

Even though it looked less ominous than the last time I'd seen it, it was definitely moving closer.

"Uh, Randall..."

"What?" he snapped, coming up for breath after obviously spent more than three seconds in the lane.

"Look."

He put on his glasses and leaned forward to peer through the fogged-up window.

"Aw, no. Not now."

What a quandary! Should we be heroes in front of these Wanton country lasses (who were sitting there speechless in awe of the approaching light). Or should we just get the hell outta there.

Maybe it was a flashback to the camping trip. Maybe it was the fact that we were born three days apart and had been together practically ever since. Whatever the case, as The Light bounced to within a hundred yards of us, my left hand was already carrying out Randall's

orders-"Hit the lights!"

Somehow I turned on the headlights and started the car at the same time-an even more amazing feat when you consider where my hands had been less than a minute before.

We sped off in reverse sending Randall flying back into his point guard (who took a nice charge) and afflicting everyone with a mild case of whiplash.

But when the dust had cleared, The Light was gone.

"Well, that was exciting," I snickered with a bravado that was painfully transparent.

"I want to go home," said my forward in a decision based not only on her own fears but in disgust over the lack of courage shown by her male companion.

"Me too," said the guard in the back seat most pointedly.

"Way to go, Bill," sneered Randall, placing the blame for ruining his night of slap-and-tickle squarely on my sinking shoulders.

That was the last time I went down Light Lane. I mean when it was really Light Lane. Now, Roddy Road is one of the most traveled highways in the parish and there's even a church at one end (to ward off evil spirits, I suppose) which calls its fair "The Light Lane Festival".

That was 1966 and when I tell my stories about The Light, most people just smile sympathetically and whisper to one another, "You know what he was on in the 60's."

But every now and then when the subject comes up, especially among people around my age, one or two of them will nod knowingly at my tales and-just for a moment-get a faraway look in their eyes.

And then I know that they saw it too. I know that yuthey saw The Light.

Thoughts from Bully

Times are a Changin'

To quote Forrest Gump, "I've worn lots of shoes." This thought is common in my life these days. We live in a time where boys can be girls and girls can be boys. A time where when you can speak the truth and be cancelled by internet cowards that don't have the guts to be human and speak in public.

We live in a time where a political party claims they can control the weather and tell Mother Nature what to do. In reality we live in a time with a bunch of dumb asses that don't have the mental ability to realize how dumb they are or should I say stupid.

I'm waiting for the day when the term common sense is removed from our language.

Don't get me started on how in America parents can be investigated for domestic terrorism by the Justice Department for caring about their children's education.

Ok I need to stop. My blood pressure is going up and at my age that is a no no.

Let's talk about the changes in my life and the purpose of the article.

In reality, I've lived an entire life of change.



As a young boy, I grew up in the hills of Mississippi and people called us Rednecks.

When I was 12, we moved to Louisiana and people called us Coon Asses. So from this relocation I experienced the transformation of change from Redneck to CoonAss and now I think I am now a Red Ass. Does that mean I'm trans?

When I was in the 8th grade I experienced the turmoil of segregation and integrations. I lived it, adapted to it, and survived and I am better for it.



I am not afraid of the atmosphere of change. I've been changing my whole life.

To quote the Beatles lyric, "Nothing's going to change my world."

There was a time when being bald had a stigma to it but these days some of the best looking men in the world support a shiny, hairless dome with fine women on their arms.

One day I happen to deliver magazines to a local barber shop and saw a poster on the wall. This poster was a sample

of hair cuts for black men. There were some real cool cuts. There were, weaves, fades and braids and a wall of colored extensions.

I then realized with all the changes in the world these the hair cut styles were not for me.

I want all my readers to take a good look at these styles and I bet you will agree with me.



It is going to be real hard for me to consider these hair styles.

Maybe I could get some leaves carved in my head and eliminate the need of a camo hat. I don't think so.





Useless Random Facts with Kellie

•
Researchers found that the music one listens to can temporarily change a person's visual perception and affect what they think and see.

•
According to the FDA the stickers on fruit are edible.

•
A pet penguin in Japan named La La walks into town by himself with a backpack everyday to collect fish from the local market.

•
To get the most juice from lemons or limes, put them in the microwave for 30 seconds as it will help the citrus juice flow more easily.

•
A flower worn over the left ear in Hawaii signifies that a woman is no longer single.

•
The most common Zodiac Signs of prolific serial killers are Pisces, Virgo, Gemini and Sagittarius.

The common denominator is that they are mutable zodiac signs.

•
According to Spotify, students from New York University listen to the most hip music while Purdue University students listen to the angriest music.

•
After OutKast sang 'Shake it like a Polaroid picture', Polaroid responded by saying 'Shaking or waving can actually damage the image.'

•
Colors fade in the sun because, over time, their molecules are being ripped apart by sunlight's high-energy UV light.

•
According to the USDA, Super Bowl Sunday is the second highest day of food consumption in the United States, after Thanksgiving.

•
You could cover the Great Wall of China 8 times with the number of jars of Nutella sold in a year.

•
Ben & Jerry's get about 13,000 flavor suggestions a year.



Entertainment Schedule

Oct 21

Black Boxx

Oct 28

Drag Show

Oct 29

Jovin Webb Experience

Nov 4

Crescent Kings

Nov 12

Lauren Lee Band

Nov 19

Group Therapy



Jovin Webb Experience

Oct 29

www.parkplaceofgonzales.com

Jammin' with Goosie

A New Dog in Town

Because of the torrential downpour that had taken place earlier that day, it was hard to locate where the young buck was standing at the time the approximately 100 yard shot had been fired. While carefully scanning the area for evidence of an on target hit, I noticed a small piece of lung tissue hanging from a branch of brush in the location of where the deer had entered the thicket next to the shooting lane. Several feet from that location I could see the beginning of a blood trail. With safety concerns in mind, our entire group of parents, grandparents, etc. had been told earlier that day by the organizers of the Tensas Youth Lottery Deer Hunt to not go looking for downed animals. The group of volunteers would use tracking dogs if needed to find any animals that had vanished out of sight after being shot. My problem with that rule was that this was my granddaughter's first deer and it was beginning to rain once again with darkness



setting in. While struggling with my head on the decision of trying to go looking for the deer, I decided to follow the rules that had been set forth by the organizers as I had been asked to do. At dark, the crews of youths, volunteer instructors, and parents were picked up from their assigned locations and returned to the refuge headquarters. Those that had no luck could leave if they wanted. Those that had dropped their animals in view of their blind location were getting their animals examined by the wildlife biologists on site. Several animals that had been shot at by other youths had disappeared from those locations. A party of wildlife officials, volunteers and tracking dogs were then assembled to go and attempt to find those animals that were presumed to have been wounded by the young hunters. After a very nervous hour and a half of standing in the darkness and drizzling rain at the refuge headquarters, the assembled group of trackers returned with, at that time, my ten year old granddaughter's first deer. It was a beautiful five point Tensas buck. The tracking dog had found the deer and what a relief that was. As a matter of fact, the track dogs had found all of the animals that had been hit that evening.

That was my very first experience in using a canine to find a wounded deer. The use of tracking dogs to recover game has become much more popular in the last ten years or so. I now have several friends of mine that have trained dogs for



such needs. It appears to me that several breeds of pups can fulfill the art of track dog if trained properly with no particular breed being better than the other.



Dave Guidroz, of Livingston Parish La., uses a Blackmouth Curr female that is now two years old. Last season the pup was used on ten tracks and all ten deer were found. Three of those deer were still alive when located. One of those whitetails was an old doe that put a pretty good whipping on the dog before being dispatched.

Adam Brown, of Ascension Parish La. uses the Bloodhound breed for his tracking needs. His first track dog, Bonnie, a then two year old female, found nineteen out of twenty-three tracks in her very first year of attempts. At the beginning of the 2021 hunting season Bonnie found nine deer for

nine tracks. Her longest track was for nine- hundred and fifty yards. Sad to say, she was killed by a speeding driver on her home street. My heart goes out to her family. Bonnie was a pet as much as she was a track dog. Brown has now acquired another Bloodhound and at sixteen weeks old, training is in the near future.

Through conversation with some of these dog owners I've learned that these dogs don't only follow blood trails. They tell me that an injured deer, through a scent gland near their foot, emits a smell which is different from an basically non injured specimen. That fact allows a properly trained dog to be easily pulled off of a perfectly well animal when needed. If Brown comes upon an animal that has been shot in the leg and might survive, he'll usually



make the decision to give up the chase in hopes of its survival. There have been several of those types that have healed over and have been harvested at a later date.

Making a non-lethal shot on any animal or bird is a part of hunting that I wish would disappear, but the possibility of doing so will remain forever. Incidents of myself wounding game animals throughout the years have haunted me for days, months, and even years. From my experiences alone it is amazing how many of those lost deer could have been found back in the day with the track dogs of this era.

Some of these track dog owners have formed and joined groups such as United Blood Trackers, Louisiana Blood Trailing Network, or Louisiana Game Recovery And Blood Tracking Dogs. These groups share



experiences and give information on available trackers in your area. Some guys just do it solo and do not belong to any such groups. Some may charge for the service and others will do it for free. It's always good to at least offer gas money, a free guest hunt, dog food or something else in return for their services providing you find the animal or not. Believe me, there's been times that I would have paid

someone's house note for a month to clear my head from the nightmare of wounding an animal that I couldn't find. Most of these so-called tracking men or women will tell you that they would rather find your deer than kill one themselves. If you ever have the need for blood trailing services, there are a few things of importance to consider before you call. Always leave the area undisturbed as possible. Avoid bringing large crowds along for the search. Try not to interfere in any way with the dog's ability to find your quarry. Discuss with the canines owner who will finish the animal if it's still alive and let the dog's owner call for the kill shot. Safety should override everything else.

In my opinion, the art of dog owners acquiring these tracking dogs is one of the best things to come about in the big game hunting industry for some time. Yes

there's a new dog in town but they would not be there without their devoted owners and to both of them I say, welcome and thank you.



Till next time
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James "Goosie" Guice



Eric Lambert
Owner

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Doug & Sally



East Ascension Sportsman's League

Letter from president -
Mike Lambert

Last month I wrote about a trip we all took to an area state park. It was all about getting outdoors with the family. It's fall now and we've got high school football, hunting and fishing. All of these things are great to do with the kids and grandkids.

I want to tell y'all about a trip I took with my grandsons Destin and Grant. They have both been wanting to go offshore fishing for

a while now. So hey, when kids want to do something outside, I'm there. A friend of mine, Chris, set up a trip on his boat and we caught a break in the weather so we went. It was Labor Day weekend, so it was the last chance to catch red snapper and the opening of amber jack season too. They were excited and a little bit unsure of what might happen. Really, I was the same way. You never know what is going to eat the bait and then what might eat that fish. We started out in Venice at Cypress Cove and there were five of us. Chris, Grant, Destin, my son Robbie and me. As we boated down the Mississippi River, the boys were amazed. They have never been in this river. I told them that very few people have been in the river. We made it to the Gulf after about a 30 mile ride and the water was flat. We had a smooth ride out another 50 miles. We dropped our lines in about 150 feet of water over a sunken rig. We had fish stealing the bait and if we did hook one it was big and cut us off on the rig below. They hung in there though and even though the fishing wasn't the



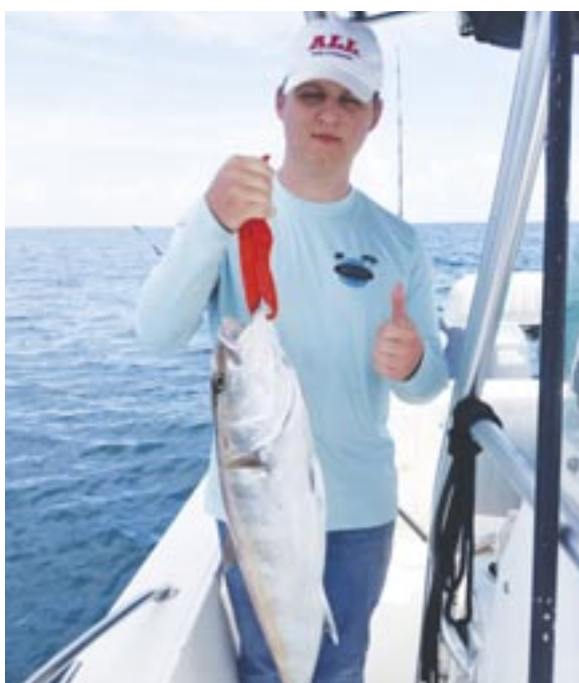
best, they managed to pull in some pretty good fish. I was proud of them both. They struggled with the rods and reels and had some awkward fish fighting techniques, but it was all good. By the time it was time to head back in, they were getting the hang of it all. The boat ride back in was a lot rougher.

Grant and I sat on an ice chest for the ride back into the river. We figured with all the bouncing up and down, it probably made us about an inch shorter. As soon as we got the boat on the trailer and heading home they were both on their phones of course. But hey, that's OK. The point was to get out and have fun with them outside doing stuff we all like. The whole point of the Sportsman's League is to ensure that our kids and grandkids will be able to enjoy the outdoors in every way possible. I was lucky my son Robbie, and my girls for that matter, liked fishing and shrimping and boating together. Some kids don't like that stuff but don't give up on them. Try to find something y'all have in common and do that. It's cooling off now, so the outside ain't too bad.

Thanks for your time!

Till next month,

Mike Lambert



Join Us For Our Next Meeting

The November monthly meeting will be on
Monday Nov 21st at Cabelas 7pm in the upstairs Conference room.



East Ascension Sportsman's League Bass Club News

EASL Bass Club held its' September Tournament

The EASL Bass Club held its' September Tournament on the 10th. The Tournament was held out of the Spillway Public Landing with a 2:00 Pm weigh in. Members could launch from Pigeon to Amelia and anywhere in between.

There were 16 Boats participating in the Tournament.

First Place went to Tony Arceneaux & Jason Beck with 5 fish weighing 12.83 lbs.

Second Place went to Donald Braud & Terry Molea with 5 fish that weighed 10.62 lbs.

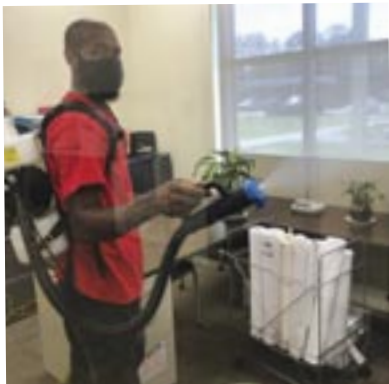
Third Place went to Julian & Chris Day with 5 fish that weighed 9.80 lbs.

Fourth Place went to Anthony Bonadonna & Lester Rome with 5 fish weighing 8.82 lbs.

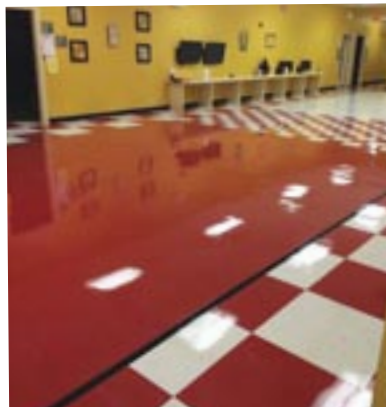
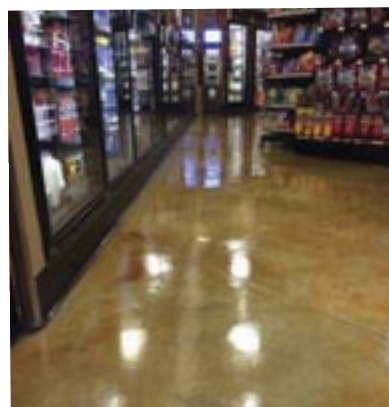
Fifth Place went to Phillip Valentine & Richard Bullion with 5 fish that weighed 7.85 lbs.

Big Bass Winner was Tony Arceneaux with a lunker that weighed in at 3.69 lbs.

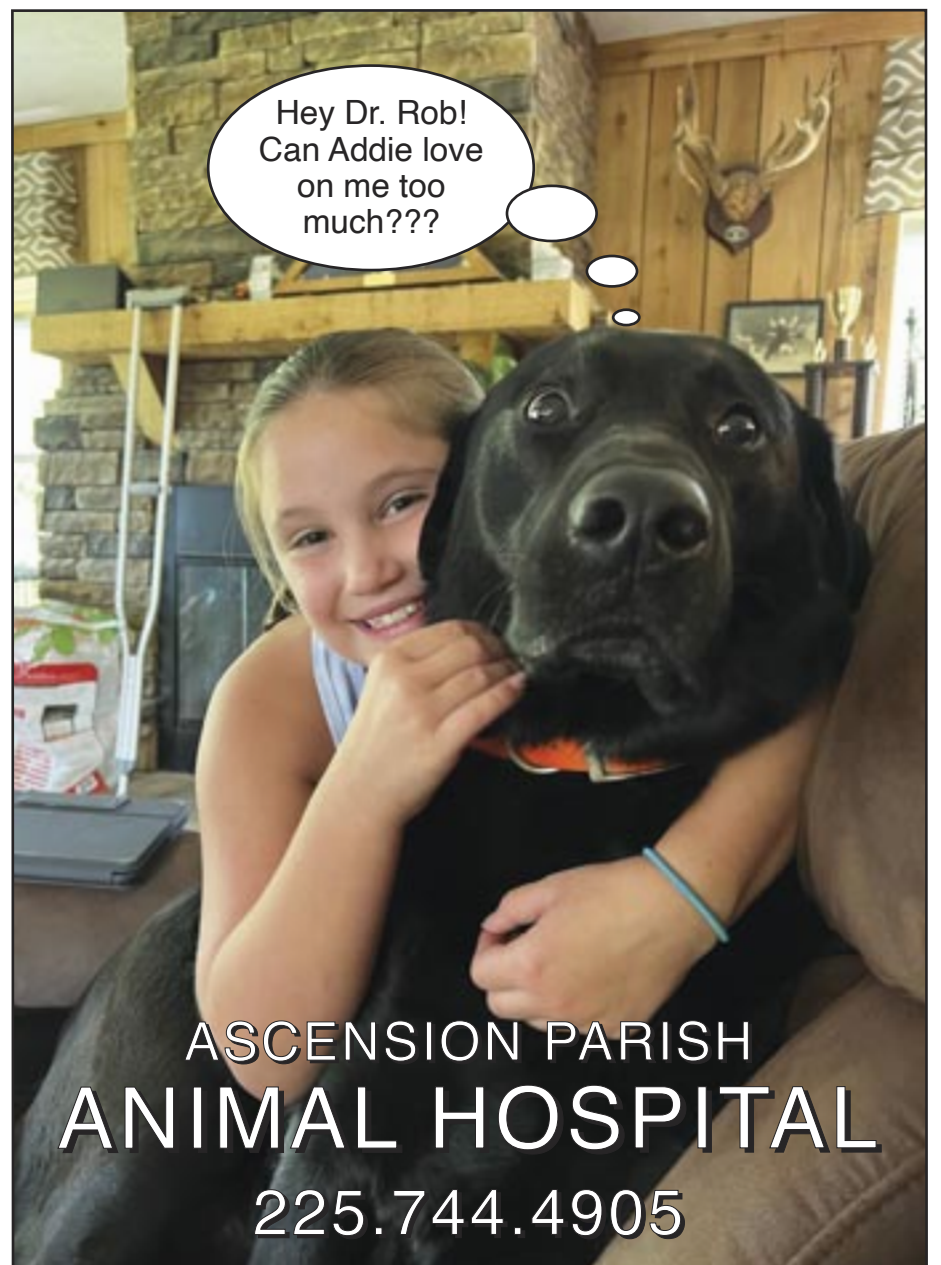
Congratulations to the winners of the September Tournament. Our next event is scheduled for October 15th and will be held on False River. The pre-tournament meeting will be on October 6th at Dirk Anderson's home.



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<p>Bacon Wrapped Stuffed Tenderloins stuffing choices: Brisket & Pepper Jack Cheese Brisket, Jalapeno & Cheese Mac n' Cheese Jalapeno & Cream Cheese Boudin & Pepper Jack Cheese Pulled Pork & Pepper Jack Cheese Glazed w/ Pepper Jelly & Brown Sugar w/ Jalapeno & Cream Cheese</p> <p>Bacon Wrapped Boneless Chicken Thighs stuffing choices: Boudin & Pepper Jack Cheese Boudin & Jalapeno Jalapeno & Cream Cheese</p> <p>Fresh Sausage Pepper Jack Cheese Jalapeno & Cheese Green Onion Cajun Green Onion Regular Italian Alligator Jalapeno & Cane Syrup Green Onion Chicken Crawfish Alligator Green Onion Alligator Jalapeno</p>	<p>Bacon Wrapped Stuffed Duck Breast stuffing choices: Mac n' Cheese Jalapeno & Cream Cheese Brisket & Pepper Jack Cheese Boudin & Pepper Jack Cheese</p> <p>Boneless Pork chops Stuffed with Boudin</p> <p>Partial De-boned Stuffed Chicken stuffing choices: Brisket & Pepper Jack Cheese Rice Dressing Red Beans & Rice Mac n' Cheese Pulled Pork & Pepper Jack Cheese Loaded Mashed Potatoes</p> <p>Smoked Sausage Pepper Jack Cheese Jalapeno & Cheese Green Onion Cajun Green Onion Regular Andouille Pineapple & Brown Sugar Alligator Crawfish Duck</p>	<p>Lagniappe Regular Boudin Pepper Jack Cheese Boudin Hoghead Cheese Smoked Andouille Shrimp Burger Patties Jalapeno Chicken Patties Green Onion Chicken Patties Boneless Chicken Tenders Boneless Skinless Chicken Thighs 80/20 Ground Beef Pre Cut Jambalaya Pork Meatloaf Hamburger Patties Pepper Jack Hamburger Patties Crawfish Cornbread</p> <p>Gumbos & Stews Seafood Gumbo (gallon or quart) Chicken & Sausage Gumbo (gallon or quart) Shrimp Stew (quart) Shrimp Etouffee (quart) Chicken Sauce Picante (quart) Pork Sauce Picante (quart) Crawfish Stew (quart / seasonal)</p>
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Cooking Instructions

Bacon Wrapped Chicken Thighs
Completely thaw and place on a sheet pan. Do not cover. Preheat oven to 350. Cook for approximately 60-90 min or until internal temperature is at 155.

Boneless Stuffed Pork Chops
Completely thaw and place on a sheet pan. Do not cover. Preheat oven to 350. Cook for approximately 45 min or until internal temperature is at 155.

Crawfish Cornbread
Completely thaw and place in oven. Do not cover. Preheat oven to 350. Cook for approximately 30-45 min or until golden brown.

Bacon Wrapped Tenderloins
Bacon Wrapped Duck Breast
Completely thaw and place on a sheet pan. Do not cover. Preheat oven to 350. Cook for approximately 60-90 min or until internal temperature is at 155.

Partial De-boned Stuffed Chicken
Completely thaw and place on a sheet pan. Do not cover. Preheat oven to 350. Cook for approximately 60-90 min or until internal temperature is at 155.

Bacon Wrapped Chicken Thighs
Completely thaw and place on a sheet pan. Do not cover. Preheat oven to 350. Cook for approximately 60-90 min or until internal temperature is at 155.



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Photos by Robin Stevens

JACOB DUGAS MEMORIAL BASS TOURNAMENT

Our Reason

Jacob “Jake” Dugas was diagnosed with Cervical Chordoma Cancer at the age of 18. A tumor in his neck that was wrapped around his spinal cord. Because of the

complexity of the tumor, doctors were unsuccessful in removing it entirely. For the next six years Jacob underwent several risky operations and numerous radiation treatments. Jake’s

struggle ended when the cancer spread to his lungs. Jake passed away on May 21, 2002.

Jake was very courageous. Even though he lived with

severe pain on a daily basis, Jacob continued to do what he loved most in his life...FISH.

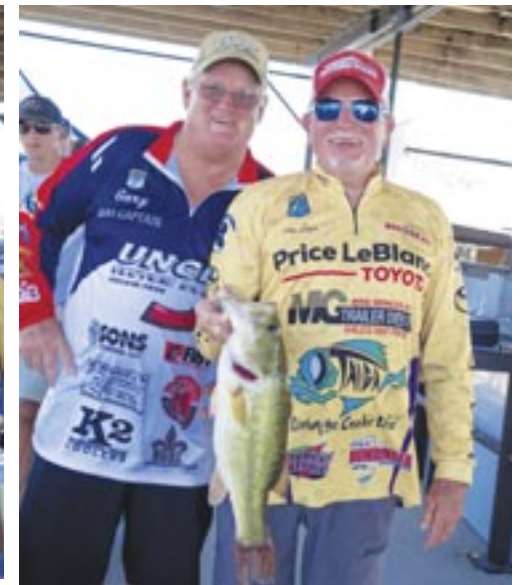
Jake also continued to pursue his educational goals and received his bachelor’s degree





from LSU in wildlife and fisheries. He was an award-winning professional fisherman. Jake's determination, strong will and exceptional performance paid off at the Bass Master Central Open in 2001. He fished the Angler's Choice Circuit and was the 2001 Angler of the Year.

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Jambalaya Festival Association 2022 Christmas Parade Sunday, December 11, 1:00pm

It's that time of year again! The Jambalaya Festival Association is in full swing preparing for our annual Christmas Parade. Join us in starting the Holiday Season off with a bang by showing your best version of "Gingerbread Village"!

Chartered in 1967 the Jambalaya Festival Association began as a way to promote the City of Gonzales, its unique culture and to serve as a fundraiser for numerous community projects throughout the parish. Celebrating its 55th year, the JFA continues to serve the local community and all of Ascension Parish today year-round as both a volunteer organization and through charitable catering.

The Jambalaya Festival Association is a 501C3 Non-Profit Organization, which allows your entry into the 2021 Christmas Parade to be completely tax deductible.

Our annual Christmas Parade is one of the premier events in Gonzales during the Holiday Season, providing a family-fun event to bring our local community together to kick off the Christmas Season.

Visit our Website for Sign up Information Jambalayafestival.net

This year's theme is
"Country Christmas"

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SHRIMP & MIRLITON STUFFING (Chayote)



Executive Chef, John Donaldson

Prep: 40 minutes

Cook Time:
25 minutes

Servings: 8

Ingredients:

6 mirlitons
1 ½ lbs baby shrimp
2 cups finely chopped onion
1 cup finely chopped celery
1 cup finely chopped bell pepper
2 tbs minced garlic
½ cup thinly sliced green onions
¼ cup creole mustard
1 ½ cups bread crumbs
(more or less depending on your preference)
Salt, black pepper and red pepper to taste.
(2 tsp salt, 1 tsp black pepper, ½ tsp red pepper)

Method:

Place the mirlitons in a large pot and cover with water. Bring the water to a boil and cook for about 20 minutes or until tender. Drain in a colander and cool. When cool enough to handle, half the mirlitons, peel, then remove the seeds and cut into cubes.


While the mirlitons are cooking, cook your onions, celery, bell pepper and garlic in a little olive oil until tender. Add the mirlitons and shrimp and cook until shrimp are done (about 15 minutes). Remove from heat, then add the creole mustard, green onions, bread crumbs and seasoning. Mix well.

Preheat oven to 450 degrees. In a greased baking dish, evenly spread your stuffing and bake for 20-25 minutes or until brown. Sprinkle the top with parmesan cheese and serve.

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