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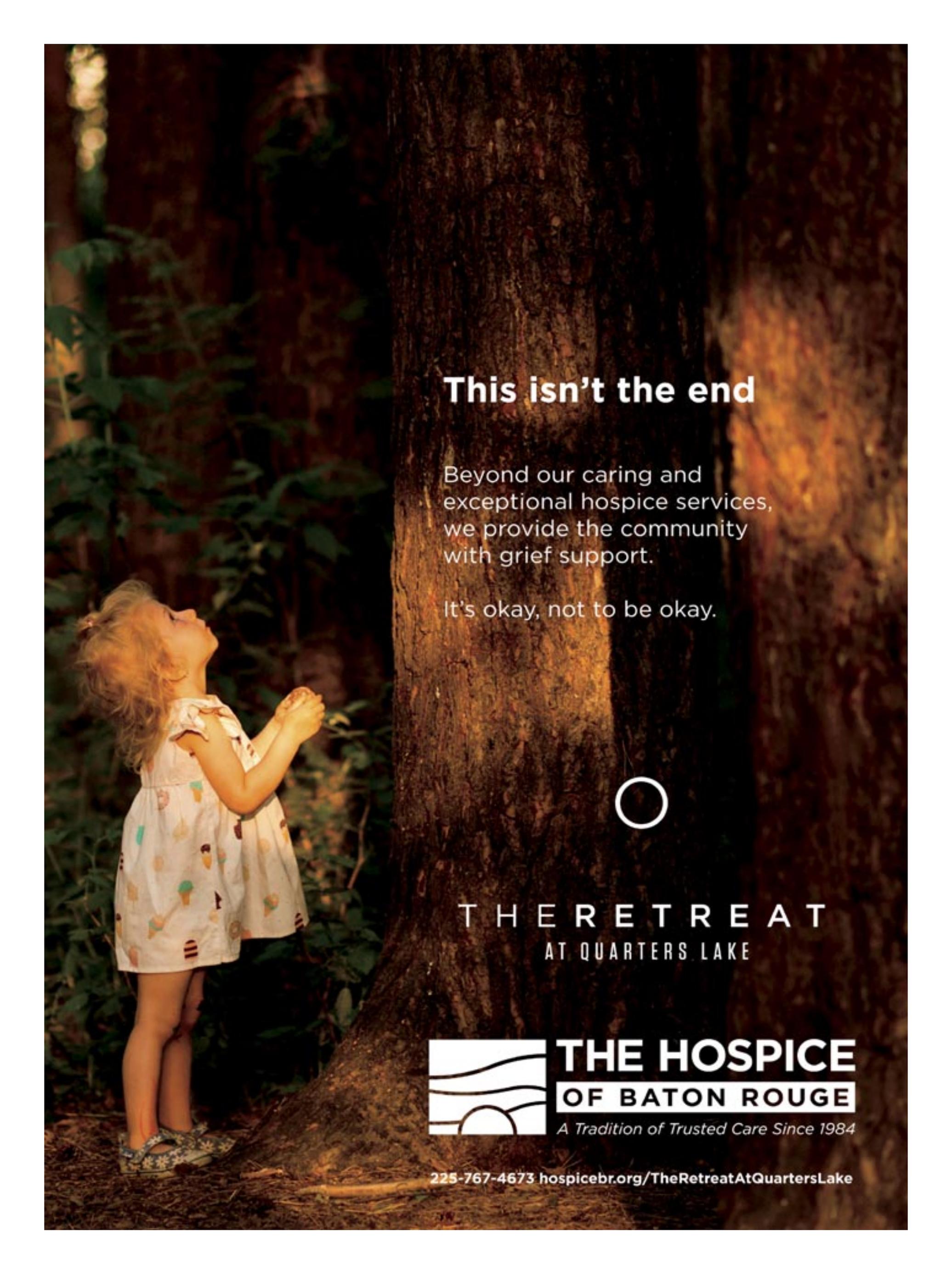
OCTOBER 2023, VOL. 21 ISSUE 10

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In October We Wear

Pink!



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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From the Gonzales Garden Club

Dish Garden Designs

Time spent at the October 4 garden club meeting was divided among a dish garden workshop, a lunch break and club business. Each member came with her own low-profile container and explained reasons for her choice. Most containers were wide, shallow ceramic dishes. Most had drain holes, but some did not. Some were sentimental heirlooms, some received as gifts and some reused from bygone days. One person used



(L to R) Paola DiNatale, Gwen Heck, Kathy Guidry, Mary Jo Pohlig, Barbara McCormick and Ellen Posey (not pictured) hosted the lunch.



Janis Poche created this well proportioned floral design of yellow and green hues from her home garden.

an African violet pot for the succulent project; another used a new pie plate.

Member Katherine Stagg was the workshop leader this day. She was raised in the plant nursery business, graduated from USL in horticulture and has 21 years of experience in operating her own nursery business. Katherine conducted the dish garden work-

shop for 20 members and guests. She demonstrated how to construct individual dish gardens and supplied everyone with growing medium, miniature plants and top dressing embellishments to fill their containers.

Assembling a dish garden began with lining the container bottom with a custom-cut paper/cloth filter to cover the drainage holes in



Member and plant nursery owner Katherine Stagg began her presentation with an overview of dish garden components at her table of decorative embellishments.



Each completed dish gardens had its own style.

order to prevent loss of soil. A half-inch layer of pea gravel was added before a handful of sand and two inches of light moist soil amended with perlite, sand and peatmoss. The soil medium was smoothed out such that it was lower around the edges of the container and higher in the center. After situating chosen plants in place, members placed decorative shells, rocks or beads into the empty spaces.

Members surveyed their finished products for new ideas to expand their horticulture hobby. Each dish garden was unique. The



Janis D'Benedetto plans to use a few terracotta beads to add interest as well as moisture control to her dish garden.

collection of beautiful textures and colors of the various succulents created a tranquil display. The project was a success thanks to Katherine's model of the process and her supply of components.

Garden inspiration items were presented by three members. Patti Mouton showed a strawberry planter tower and tree watering ring in anticipation of fall planting. Dana Teepell presented a prolific salvia variety and a fragrant basil specimen that grows in a round mounded shape. Janis Poche brought a striking autumn floral design of croton leaves, yellow spider lilies, lemon lantana, sunshine privet and firework solidago in a neutral



There were many choices of different succulent plants for the project.

square basket container.

The meeting was hosted by Gwen Heck, Kathy Guidry, Barbara McCormick, Mary Jo Pohlig and Ellen Posey. Their lunch menu was comprised of pulled pork on buns with cole slaw and potato chips. Decorated almond cookies, chocolate cupcakes and pumpkin crumble pie were sweet desserts.

The Horticulture Hint for October is to harvest satsumas if you have them, or consider adding them to your garden if you don't. During the workshop, Katherine Stagg mentioned that instead of throwing used dryer sheets and handwipes away, save them to cover drainage holes in plant containers.

Two special club events are planned for later this month. The club will tour the Governor's Mansion and Gardens in Baton Rouge on October 19, and club officers will accompany President



Plants for the dish garden project ranged from one to three inches in width.

Jamie Trisler on a day trip to Hammond to attend Louisiana Garden Club Federation District VI meeting on October 25.

Carlstedt's followed by lunch reservations at the new Mike Anderson's.

The club's November meeting will start with an encore demonstration of floral design by the talented Susie Summer at

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

Yards of the Month



The winner of the Residential Yard of the Month Award was Donald Henry on East Tiffani St. This landscape stood out among all others. Stunning color and texture burst from his shrubs, perennials and annuals. The crape myrtle, sculptured boxwoods, and Indian hawthorn provide structure to the wraparound garden. Plantings of bright coleus, copper plants, yellow and red chrysanthemums, caladiums, pansies, zinnias, purple heart and wandering tradescantia paint the home's bordering beds with pops of autumn colors against fresh red mulch. Low iron fencing divides the flower bed from the side patio of furnishings accented with urns and autumn door décor. The lawn is lush and perfectly manicured. Mr. Henry has even cultivated the entire drainage ditch of his corner lot with weed-free St. Augustine. His attention to detail is first rate.



Members brought warm season annual and perennial flowers for consideration. Native versus invasive iris samples and an autumn floral design were featured as well.



The Commercial Landscape of the Month went to Adam McCarty's State Farm State Agency at 12550 Airline Hwy, just north of Lowe's. The landscape includes agapanthus, crepe myrtle, bottle brush, and red and white Encore roses. This inviting landscape is neat and well maintained.



a plate and invite you to have a cold tea or beer with them. I can't think of anything more hospitable than that!

From Cornhole to Dancing

Every tailgate has its own set of cherished traditions. Whether it's a friendly game of cornhole, doing the Cupid Shuffle, screaming at the other team at the annual EA STA Shout Out, or watching the Golden Band from Tigerland come down Victory Hill, these traditions bond us together and create a sense of belonging. Even long-time rivalry between EA and St. Amant, has been going on for 44 years this year, but this rivalry only brings the students and the community closer together.

So, next time you find yourself prepping for gameday, enjoy the food, soak in the camaraderie, and raise a glass to the traditions that make tailgating in Louisiana a truly unique and unforgettable experience; here it's not just a tradition, it's a way of life.

Wishing you all the best this fall y'all.

XOXO,
Sweet Eyes

Our Timeless Tailgating

Y'all, it's that time of year again when we gather for a "Who Dat" or a "Geaux Tigers"! Ahhh...the aroma of boudin wafting through the air, and the unmistakable feeling of excitement in the atmosphere. That means one thing ...tailgating!

Tailgating in Louisiana is more than just a pre-game party; it's a tradition that brings communities together in a celebration of sports, food, and camaraderie. So, whether you bleed purple and gold, blue and gold, green and gold or

black and gold, what's important is the relationships you build during these celebratory weekends.

From Jersey to Sequins

In my humble opinion, one of the highlights about tailgating is deciding what outfit to wear. In the south, we like to DRESS. That could mean anything from cutoffs and cowboy boots to sequin tops and miniskirts. Half the fun of going to the game is seeing what everyone else is wearing! Shoot, even the guys have their own flair; some wear polos and khaki shorts and on the extreme other end, you may see a guy with full body paint on! Either way, wearing

your teams colors is one way show your team pride and have fun!

From Boudin to Barbeque

Y'all, one thing we know how to do is food, and tailgating grub is no exception. Everyone pulls out all the stops when it comes to gameday, and sharing is no exception. In the south some of our tailgate food favorites are fried catfish, boudin balls, cracklins, jambalaya, meat pies, fried chicken wings, and a menagerie of chips and dips.

The great thing about tailgating in south Louisiana is that everyone shares food. Random people will make you





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“Learn By Doing” with 4-H



4-H is America’s largest youth development organization-empowering nearly six million young people with the skills to lead for a lifetime. The 4-H Youth Development Organization teaches independence, mastery, generosity, and belonging rooted in researched-based educational opportunities in the fields of Science, Engineering and Technology (S.E.T.), Citizenship, and Healthy Living.

“Learn By Doing” is the 4-H club slogan. 4-H members don’t just read or study things, but they actually “DO” them! 4-H members take part in club meetings, learn to follow, learn to lead, and help their neighbors. In

4-H, youth are connected with caring adults leading to positive outcomes.

The Ascension 4-H program averages around 1,500 4-H members and 200+ volunteers annually. It is organized through school clubs, community clubs, and more focused project clubs. Nearly every school in Ascension parish has an in-school 4-H club. There is also a community club, Ascension Homegrown, for homeschooled, virtual, or students looking to belong. Project clubs are more specialized clubs that 4-H members can join to gain more in-depth training about a specific topic. Currently, Ascension 4-H has project clubs

in the areas of canines, shooting sports, cooking & sewing, livestock, and Jr. Leadership (7th-12th Grades).

Outside of the club setting, 4-H has many different opportunities for members to become even more involved on the parish, regional, state, and/or national levels! A few examples of opportunities for “doing” are:

- Service- 4-H is rooted in citizenship and community service! Ascension 4-H members participate in a service-learning project that is selected by the Jr. Leader members and changes annually.
- Camps- 4-H Summer Camp (4th-6th Grades), Challenge Camp (7th-8th), Louisiana’s Outdoor Science and Technology “LOST” Camp (7th-8th grades), 4-H University (8th-12th grades), Marsh Maneuvers (9th-12th) & more!
- Camp Counselor (14 years old and up)
- Regional and State Leadership Boards (9th-12th Grades)
- Workshops on various topics for different ages- ATV Safety, fishing, cooking, etc.
- Contests & Competitions- Culinary, Decorated Pumpkins, Shirt designs, Demonstrations, Speeches, Photography, Sea Perch (Robotics), Arts & Crafts, Sewing, livestock, and much more!
- Events- Demonstration Day, Fashion Show, Family Fun Days, 4-H Night with the Tigers, 4-H Night with the Pelicans, etc.
- Trips & Traveling- Members can win free educational trips in and outside of Louisiana by participating in various events and competitions. (Some of the states Ascension 4-H members have traveled to through 4-H are Washington D.C., Arkansas, Tennessee, Texas, & Nebraska)
- Scholarships- Locally, Ascension 4-H awards over \$5,000.00 to parish members annually in scholarship. Members also can apply for regional and state scholarships as well!
- Networking, Communication, and Leadership- 4-H members learn and grow as they develop

these skills interpersonally by participating in the various events offered!
• And Much More!! The opportunities are truly endless!



So, how do YOU get involved?

Any Ascension parish youth from the age of 9 to 12th grade can join! Contact the LSU AgCenter Ascension Parish Extension Office to learn more about your school’s 4-H club or to inquire about being a member through the parish office.

If you are an adult looking to be more involved in the community, volunteers are needed in many aspects of the program. To learn about these opportunities and how you can become a trained 4-H volunteer, contact the LSU AgCenter Ascension Parish Extension Office at 225-621-5799 or ascension@agcenter.lsu.edu!



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YOUR ESTATE MATTERS



By Linda Melancon

Save the Drama for your Mama: How to Minimize the Risk of Probate Litigation

In my line of work, I see lots of fighting. No, I don't have an office ringside at a boxing match, but I often see folks with a family member that has passed away who either didn't make their wishes known or didn't put them in writing. Sometimes, the surviving spouses or children of this person will have different ideas about what their loved one would have wanted.

Sometimes, they have strong opinions about what they believe they deserve from that person's estate. Either way, by the time they reach my office, emotions are running high and the gloves have come off.

If I've learned one thing, it's that no family is immune to fighting.

High-risk factors that often bring about probate (called succession in Louisiana) litigation can include sibling rivalry, second marriages without a prenuptial agreement, and dysfunctional family dynamics. Also, a non-standard estate plan that treats children differently, omits a child, maintains an overly detailed trust, or appoints a substandard fiduciary may cause litigation.

If you have a plan in place, assess yours. Take common risks

into account and have an open dialogue with your family about your estate plan and intentions should you become incapacitated or pass away. This estate plan should include:

- *Comprehensive protective measures if you become unable to handle your own affairs*
- *A will or a trust to pass property at death*
- *Documented evidence of gifts given to family members during your lifetime*

Early document drafting with your estate planning attorney and an honest evaluation of the likelihood of interpersonal family issues will mitigate the risk of costly litigation that can damage relationships.

Something else I commonly see is litigation over self-prepared estate documents. Handwritten forms and documents from online resources lead to many mistakes you may not foresee and litigating over legally defective documents often far exceeds the cost of hiring an estate planning attorney to prepare them correctly to begin with. Ensure you hire a highly skilled attorney.

Also, be hyper-realistic about your family dynamics. This can often prove difficult for a parent since it means owning up to sibling rivalry and identifying hostilities in blended family situations. Selecting one adult child over another to act as a financial or medical power of attorney can cause conflict and mistrust among siblings. You may consider selecting a trusted but neutral third party or professional fiduciary to administer your estate.

Fiduciaries must make important legal, medical, or financial decisions for the benefit of others. Family members making these deci-

sions may unintentionally violate their fiduciary duties, leading to litigation. It is best to consult an estate planning attorney when appointing your fiduciaries to understand the rules and roles they will fulfill.

When you begin your estate planning process, you may not want to include your beneficiaries. If family members sense someone is attempting to influence the decision-making process, they may claim you were unduly influenced. Questions about whether the plan truly reflects your wishes and who authored the estate plan can also lead to probate litigation.

Another fight-starter is verbal planning. Don't make verbal promises about inheritances. They are legally unenforceable and can contribute to someone challenging your estate plan. The best strategy is to manage the expectations of your heirs honestly and directly by only making promises you are willing to document legally.

And finally, an incredibly common reason disputes arise: estate planning documents reflect outdated or inaccurate information. Life changes that include births, marriages, divorces, deaths, and changes in your intentions may all affect your estate plan wishes. Keeping your relevant legal documents safely stored and knowing they are accurate and routinely undergoing review will reduce the likelihood of probate litigation.

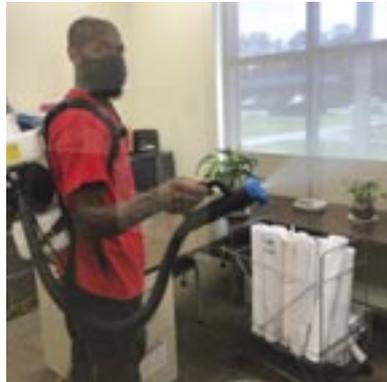
A solution to all this fighting? Working with a qualified estate planning attorney so that you may mitigate the risks of probate litigation within your family with well-crafted legal documents reflecting your wishes.

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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FINANCIAL FOCUS

Do your investments match your goals?

As you go through life, you'll have various financial goals — and to achieve them, you'll need to invest. But just recognizing the need to invest is not as useful as matching specific types of accounts or investments with specific goals. How can you make these connections?

Let's look at some common goals and how they could possibly be met with appropriate accounts and investments:

• **Saving for a down payment on a house** — When you're saving for a down payment, you want a certain amount of money available at a certain time — so, for this goal, you won't want to take too much risk. Consequently, you might consider investing in certificates of deposit (CDs), which will pay you regular interest payments and return your principal when the CDs mature. CDs are issued in a range of maturities, from one month to 10 years. Other vehicles you might consider are money market accounts or other cash equivalents.

• **Saving for a child's education** — If you have children, and you'd like to help them pay for some form of higher education, you may want to consider a 529 education savings plan. Any earnings growth in a 529 plan is federally tax free, provided the withdrawals are used for qualified education expenses,

and you may also receive state tax benefits. A 529 plan can be used for college, approved trade school programs, student loan repayments and some K-12 costs. And if the child you've named as a beneficiary chooses not to continue their education, and doesn't need the money in a 529 plan, you can generally switch beneficiaries to another immediate family member.

• **Saving for retirement** — This is the one goal that will remain consistent throughout your working years — after all, you could spend two or even three decades in retirement, so you'll need to accumulate as many financial resources as you can to pay for those years. Fortunately, you likely have access to several good retirement-savings vehicles. If you work for a business, you might have a 401(k) plan, which offers you the chance to put away money on a tax-deferred basis. (If you have a Roth option in your 401(k), your withdrawals can be tax free, although, unlike a traditional 401(k), your contributions won't lower your taxable income.) If you work for a public school or a nonprofit organization, you may be able to participate in a 403(b) plan, which is quite similar to a 401(k), and the same is true if you work for a state or local government, where you might have a 457(b) plan. And even if you invest in any of these plans, you can probably also contribute to an IRA, which gives you another chance to invest on a tax-deferred basis (or tax-free basis, if you're eligible for a Roth IRA). Try to take full advantage of whatever retirement plans are available to you.

Here's one final point to keep in mind: While some investments and accounts are appropriate for certain goals, they may not necessarily be suitable for your individual situation — so keep all your options in mind and take the steps that are right for you.

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

Edward Jones
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

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Around this time every year children become excited about what costume they plan to wear or how much candy they hope to collect on Halloween night. But, what about the children who have communication challenges? What about the children who are non-verbal, have an Apraxia of Speech diagnosis, or those that cannot say the words correctly and have a phonological speech impairment?



*Lauren Henry,
 Lead Speech Language Pathologist*

“Trick or Treat!” This is a little phrase that most children have no problem communicating, yet for those who are still learning to communicate, this phrase can be challenging. For children who have developmental delays or disabilities, this simple verbal phrase can be difficult to communicate with strangers. It is important to remember that communication comes in many different forms other than just verbal communication. For example, a child whose main form of communication is gesturing may reach for the bowl of treats



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or simply extend their bag forward to request. A child may be using sign language and could use the functional sign “please” by doing a circular motion at their chest.

Another means of communication is using a picture exchange system where a child may show a picture or written print to communicate “Trick-or-treat” and “Thank you.” Some children who have difficulty with verbal communication may use an AAC (Augmentative and Alternative Communication) device, which is a device that generates the communication message verbally for the child. A couple of strategies that adults can use when they notice a child with communication challenges are to increase the wait time for a response and to provide a choice of items for the child to request

the desired one. The best strategy we can provide is being accepting of the child and all forms of communication.

As a Speech-Language Pathologist, I strive to advocate for these children with communication challenges as well as bring awareness to and education about augmentative and alternative communication options. It just so happens that Halloween isn't the only thing we



This child is using an AAC device to communicate.

can celebrate in the month of October, as it's also AAC Awareness Month. This month we can all work together to become more mindful of the various forms of communication, as well as the developmental differences of every child. Every child has a voice, some may just be communicated a little differently.



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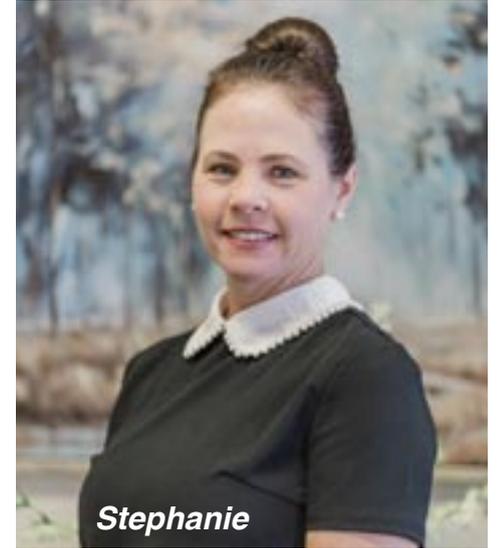
Shana



Jordyn



Kristen



Stephanie

Preferred Loans is a financial institution that provides consumer loans to individuals in the Ascension Parish and surrounding areas. These loans can be used for various purposes such as personal loans, auto loans, debt consolidation loans or real estate loans. Finance companies typically charge interest on the amount borrowed and require borrowers to repay the loan over a set period of time. It's

important to carefully consider the terms and conditions of a loan before accepting it to ensure that it fits your financial situation. Being a local finance company, we try to have a more personalized approach than larger institutions and may have a better understanding of the local economy and community.

Preferred Loans was opened in Gonzales in 2005 by owner and manager, Shana Babin.

Shana has over 20 years in the

finance company industry and has built many professional relationships with dealerships around the area. Shana and her team are dedicated and passionate financial professionals with the skills to make your loan approval fast and easy. We have been helping customers achieve their credit goals for years and have been accredited by the Better Business Bureau since 2009.

When you need a sum of

money for an unforeseen expense, medical bill, or just need a little extra cash until payday, Preferred Loans LLC is here to help. We will disclose what our company is all about, the application process, and go over frequently asked questions before you commit to a loan, so you feel comfortable and secure in your decision.

Let us get you approved today!



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225-644-0304 Office • 12241 Roddy Road, Gonzales, LA 70737



This is our 18th year. Thanks to our many loyal sponsors and donors, we have been able to help local food banks, many needy families and children to have a Christmas.

Thomas "BAMA" Aldridge



Bama's **Feed the Needy** *of Ascension*

During the Holidays

Help Us Feed the Needy

- Proceeds go to area food banks and needy families.
- Help us buy a christmas gift for a needy child that other wise wouldn't have one.
- Write a check to a family or charity of your choice and we will deliver the donation on your behalf.

December 2nd, 2023

**Jambalaya and White Beans
will be served for
\$10 a plate from 11am till 1:30pm.**

Location - KC HALL

Address - 230 S IRMA BLVD. • Gonzales, LA 70737

Take Advantage of our Drive Thru

TO HELP NEEDY FAMILIES CONTACT: BAMA 241-0804 • RANDALL 270-4443

CHC Closet and Pantry

“Seeking to Glorify God by Helping People”

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

It's been another great month at CHC Closet and Pantry. We are being blessed and serving more people every day.

We recently had a fundraiser at Off the Hook which was a great success. The food was great and we will receive a percentage of sales for that night. We would like to thank the owners, managers and workers for a successful event. I would like to thank the volunteers who came out to help with the fundraiser.

I also want to thank those who provide the building we are in, pay our utilities, the people and even other churches who donate to us but most of all our great group of volunteers who make it all happen. Without them there would be no closet and pantry. We welcome volunteers so if you would like to help we would like to welcome you into the group. You can contact us by FB message or at 225/348-2215. Please leave a



as canned meat and tuna, milk that doesn't need refrigeration and hygiene items, especially deodorant and toothpaste.

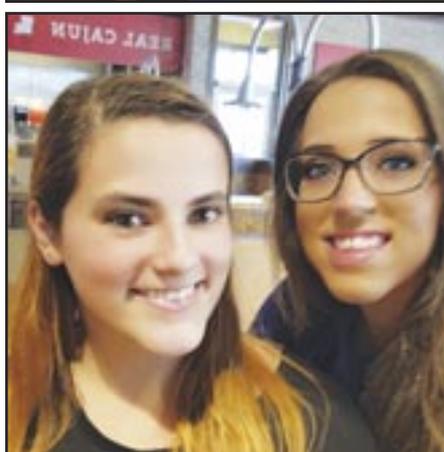
Clean blankets, towels and sheets are always needed. Cash donations are welcome at any time.

We will be helping at a garage giveaway at CHC Church 404 W. Pine St. in Gonzales on November 4th



from 9-12. Everything is free so come out and get some great stuff.

God bless all of you.



voicemail and we will get back to you as soon as possible.

As we go into winter and Christmas we have need for more food items. If you wish to donate, some things we need are: frozen meats, canned vegetables, protein items such

EVERYTHING IS FREE!
CHC'S Annual **GARAGE GIVEAWAY**

Everything you'll find at a Garage Sale, but its **FREE!**

If you would like to donate items for the Giveaway, please text Yvette at [225-348-4894](tel:225-348-4894)
Or call [225-773-4302](tel:225-773-4302)

SAT NOVEMBER 4TH
BEGINNING AT 8AM
Christ Healing Community

404 W Pine St In Gonzales (Behind the Domino's Pizza)

Then join us for 10am Sunday Service
"God's Giveaway" followed by a meal!



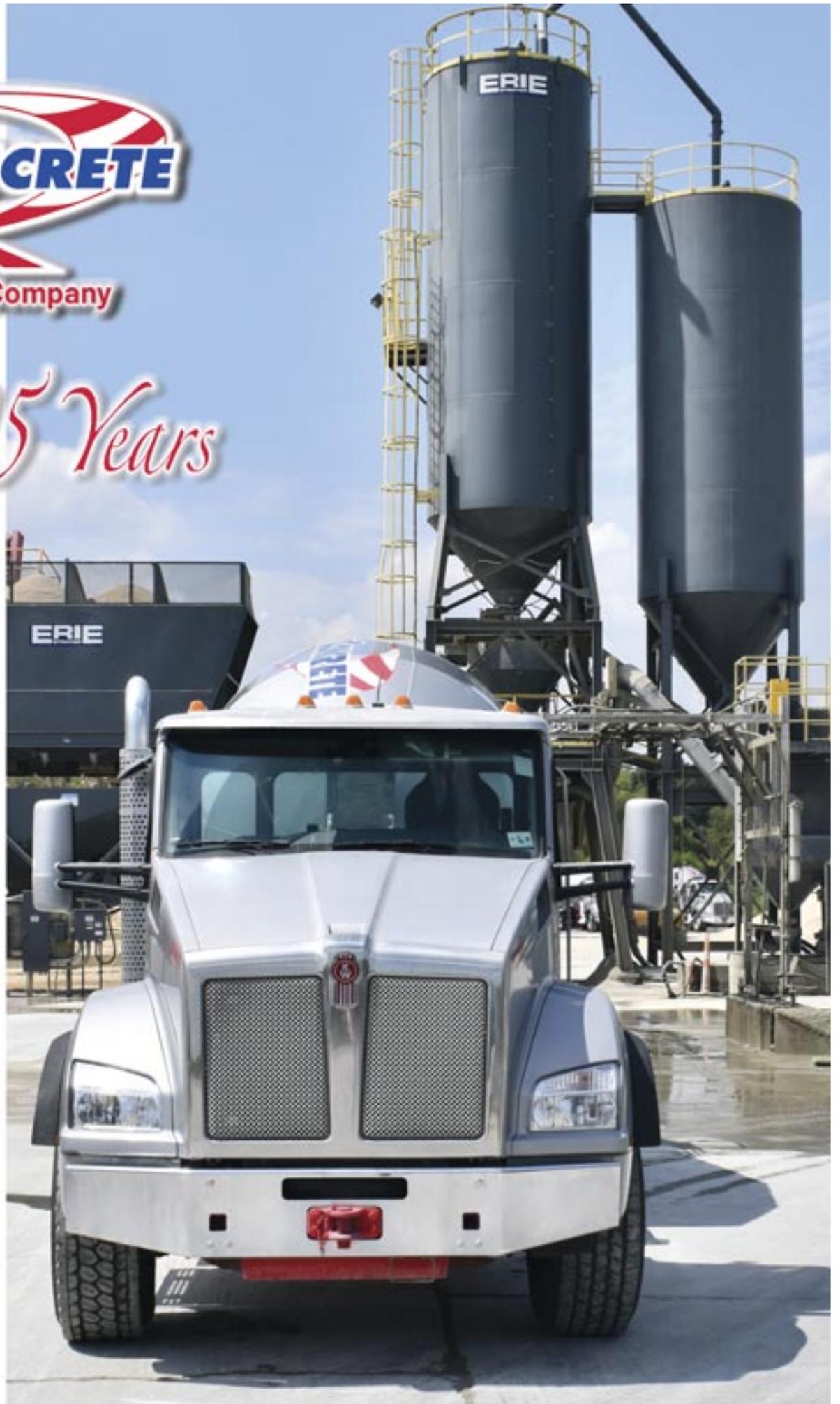
Celebrating 25 Years

THE FOUNDATION OF ASCENSION PARISH

Quality concrete, an Ascension Ready Mix Company, is a ready mix supplier serving South Louisiana clients for 25 years. The family-owned and operated business strives to serve industrial, commercial, residential, and municipal clients.

Gary Dowdy Sr. & Lenny Johnson founded Ascension Ready Mix, Inc. in 1999. Their main focus was to put the quality of concrete ahead of profits.

Gary unexpectedly passed away in 2013. His legacy and dedication to the company lives on through his son, Gary Dowdy, Jr. After Gary's passing, Ascension Ready Mix, Inc. merged with Quality Concrete Group, LLC, creating Quality Concrete, An Ascension Ready Mix Company. The merge resulted in Joseph Pizzuto, Lenny's stepson, becoming an owner in 2020. As the business has grown, Lenny and Joseph proudly focus on family values and making customer satisfaction a priority.



Since 1999, the company has grown from only four mixer trucks to now over 70 high tech & well-equipped trucks.

Quality Concrete continues to service Ascension Parish along with all of Baton Rouge and surrounding parishes.

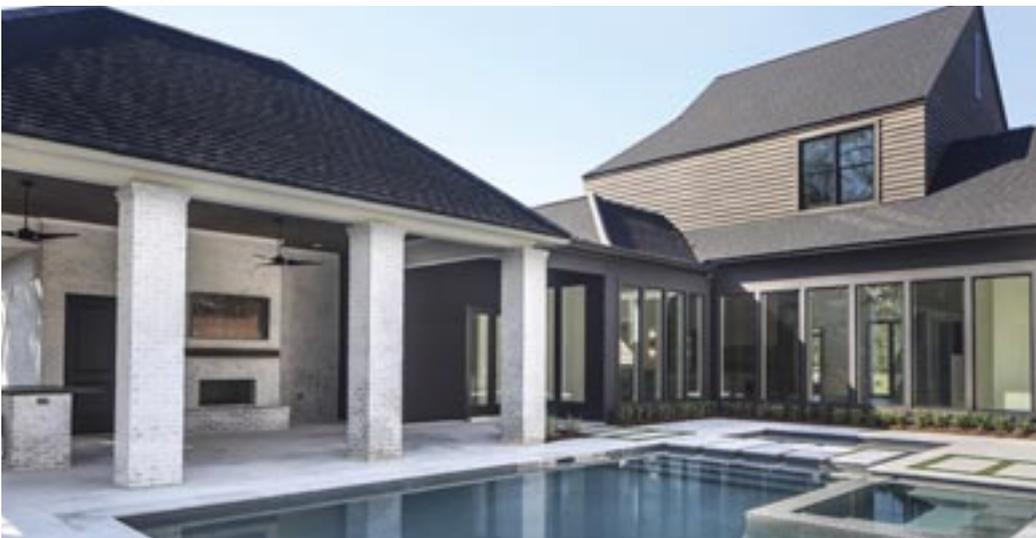
With a workforce of nearly 100 professional employees and high-functioning equipment. Quality Concrete is dedicated to meeting the needs of anyone who desires their product.



Remember Gary:

As a resident of Gonzales, Gary was familiar with local residents and businesses.

Gary and Lenny built Ascension Ready Mix after years of experience in the industry. The two helped form what would become the number one concrete company in Ascension Parish. It has been 10 years since Gary's passing and Quality Concrete, An Ascension Ready Mix Company, will always honor his memory and his commitment to put customer satisfaction above all else. We take great pride in continuing the wonderful rapport that Gary and Lenny built together within the Ascension Parish community.





East Ascension Sportsmans League
Letter from president -
Mike Lambert

All right! It finally cooled off a little. It took all the way to October but fall is here. It's time to hunt, but that can wait for right now. First I want to talk about fishing. The St. Amant High School Bass Team to be exact. We finally got a team in an Ascension Parish School. It is pretty popular too.

I think there are fourteen kids signed up, making two man teams. This is something that EASL is glad to see. We were so glad in fact, that we donated \$850.00 to help pay for the jerseys they will wear. We presented the check to the team at our September meeting along with their teacher/club leader Mr. Chris Baker. It is great to see this type of activity finally get off the ground. It has been a long time coming. We wish them all

the best in their competition this year.

Now to hunting. We also presented Mr. James "Goosie" Guice with a tail mount of the winning big turkey from last season. The mount was done by Mr. Thad Bellow, owner of Fins to Feather Taxidermy. Remember, first place winner gets a free mount but you must be a member of EASL before you hunt. So get those dues paid up to participate in this



season's big turkey and big buck contests, and you can only hunt in the state of Louisiana to be eligible for the mounts.

That's all I've got for now. Check out next months' article on the annual squirrel rodeo. Thank you for your time.

Mike Lambert



left to right Brayson Babin, Jerry Rouyea, Graham LeBlanc, Cade Fontenot

EASL Bass Club News

The EASL Bass Club fished their September Tournament on the 9th. It was held out of the Public Landing in the Atchafalaya Basin with a 2:00 PM weigh in. There were 14 Teams participating.

The fishing was on the tough side for many of the Teams entered but as usual there are fish being caught by others.

First place winners were Tim Braud and Steven Babin with 5 fish weighing in at 10.26 lbs.

Second place was won by Dirk Anderson & Corey Gautreau with 5 fish weighing 10.02 lbs.

Third place went to Donald Braud and Terry Molea with 5 fish weighing 9.26 lbs.

Fourth place was won by Tony Arceneaux & Jason Beck with 5 fish weighing 9.26 lbs.

When 2 teams are tied, the tie breaker is "Biggest Fish".

Donald Braud won "Big Bass"

with his lunker that weighed 2.82 lbs.

Congratulations to the winners of the September Tournament. Our next Tournament will be a

one day event at an away location. The members voted to go to Venice for the away tournament scheduled on 21st. The meeting will be held on

October 12th at Dirk Anderson's home. The members will also vote on the location for the Annual Classic Tournament at this meeting.





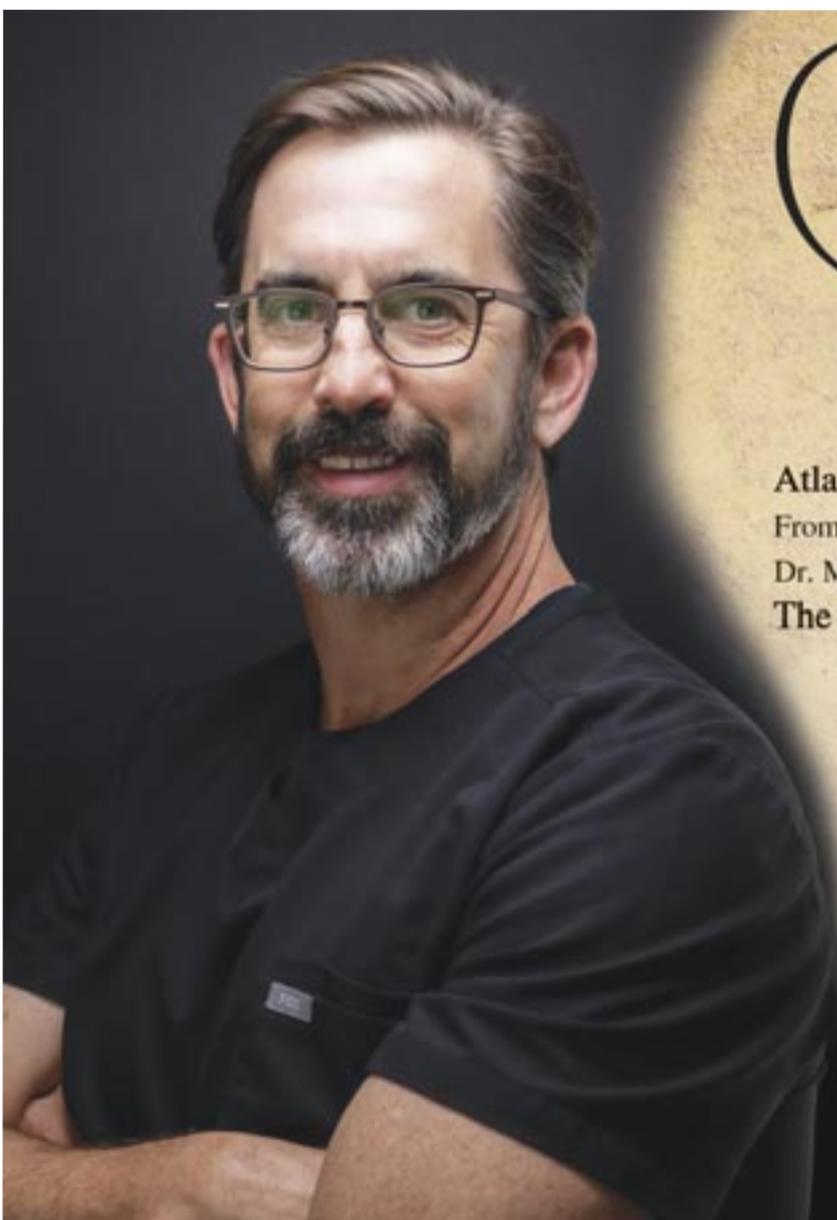
PHOTOS BY ROBIN STEVENS, OFF THE GRID PHOTOGRAPHY & Ascension Magazine

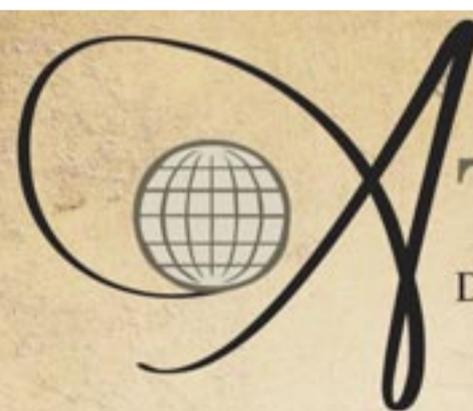
East Ascension vs St. Amant

Too Much Blue!!!!







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Atlas Dermatology provides general and surgical dermatology services. From diagnosing and treating skin rashes to the surgical removal of skin lesions, Dr. Massengale and his staff strive to exceed your expectations with every visit. **The care of your skin is on our shoulders.**

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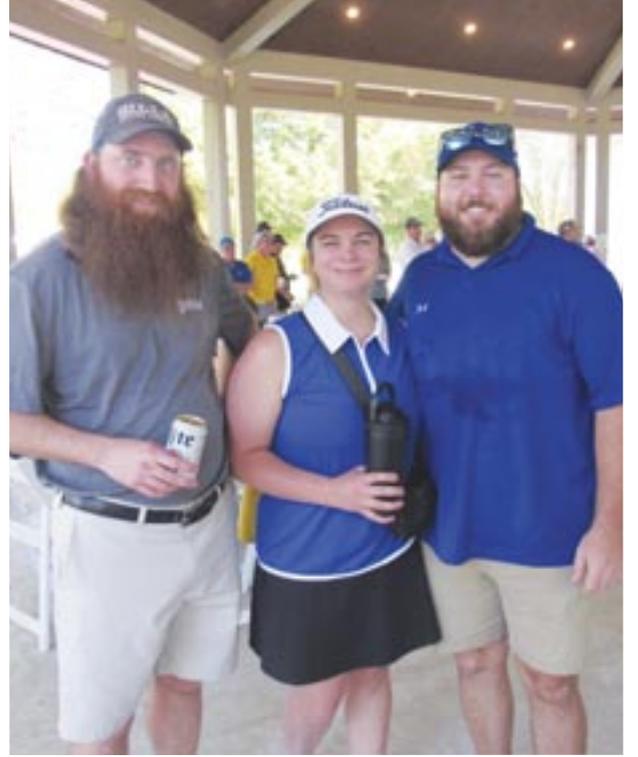
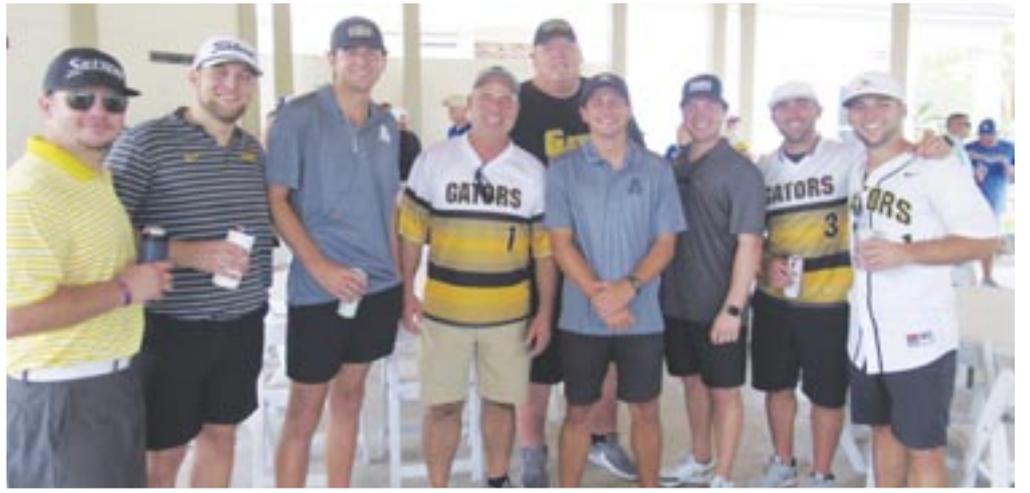




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Field of Dreams or Ghost Writers in the Sky

by Bill Delaune

“It was Halloween night 1959-but it wasn’t the ghosts and goblins that were haunting LSU. Mostly it was a tough Ole Miss defense that had the number one Tigers on the short end of a 3-0 score. Then with 10 minutes to go in the game, Ole Miss was forced to punt...”

Maybe Billy Cannon’s Halloween run-an 89-yard punt return for a 7-3 Tiger victory stirred some memories of the LSU team championship teams and the Chinese Bandits when there was some semblance of defense.

Maybe it was the fact that I heard Tex Ritter’s old country classic about dreaming of “Hillbilly Heaven” on my satellite radio last week.

Or maybe it was because one of my favorite newspaper features “Today in History” reminded me that this was the month that Tom Petty had gone to rock-and-roll heaven on October 2 and that Janis Joplin had gone before him on October 4, 1970.

Or maybe the spirits of Halloween are out spooking around early for 2023.

And possibly, I should quit taking Mike Strong’s home brew-a grain-alcohol laced limoncello-for medicinal purposes only- before I go to bed.

At any rate, I dreamed the other night I was at a Halloween party with the ghosts of a plethora of deceased celebrities-including musicians-country and rockers-former professional football players, politicians and others. Now I’m not sure if it was heaven, hell or somewhere in between, but there were certainly some



interesting conversations going on.

For instance, in one corner of the room sat Nashville legends Johnny Cash, George Jones, Merle Haggard and Hank Williams Sr. discussing the current state of what passes for country music these days with Texas songwriters Guy Clark and Townes Van Zandt.

“I understand that everything has to change,” said the Man in Black, “but it seems these days, Nashville country executives just take some pretty boy and put him in a backwards baseball cap and send him out on tour in tight jeans to sing about his truck.”

“I agree,” said Hank after a shot of Jim Beam. “The old country songs were about drinking, honky-tonking, prison or heart-breaking love affairs. Unless you had a dog that died. Anyway, they were songs with feeling.”

“Don’t forget about Mama and trains,” added Merle. “And we had to tell a whole story in two minutes and some change or they wouldn’t play it on the

radio. Why I told an entire story about a young man who disregarded his mother’s advice and ‘turned 21 in prison doing life without parole...’ in ‘Mama Tried’ in 2:12.”

“Now I do like that young man Chris Stapleton,” slurred Jones after stealing a shot from Williams’s bottle. “His version of ‘Tennessee Whiskey’ was a really nice rendition.”

He took another long sip. “But not one disc jockey or CMA host ever mentioned that I recorded that song in 1983.”

This time the Ole Possum finished the whole bottle. “And David Allan Coe did it two years before I did. These youngsters have no concept of music history or what we went through to pave the way for their success.”

“The only one I ever heard mention us was Garth Brooks who thanked his ‘two Georges’-me and George Strait-when he won his first Entertainer of the Year award.”

Hank popped another painkiller and pointed to Clark and Van Zandt scribbling away

on some bar napkins. “Why don’t we see what those two Texas poets-or should I say, wordsmiths-have to say. If they can stop working for a second, that is.”

Townes looked up and Williams and nodded. “When you break it all down, there ain’t but two kinds of music-blues and bubble gum. What mainstream country stations play now is bubble gum music. What Hank and I and the rest of these guys played was the blues.”

He walked over to the table, stole one of Hank’s pills, chased it with a Lone Star beer and continued. “I lost everything I had in a crap game in 1983 in Colorado except my horse-which is not necessarily a bad thing.”

“I sat down on the side of a mountain and wrote ‘Buckskin Stallion Blues’ and sang it to him. Thirty-five years later, I heard that song being played during an award-winning movie ‘Three Billboards Outside of Ebbing Missouri’.

That’s the only time I ever got a notice from Billboard. I hope they have my address for the royalties.”

Clark waited patiently for his former protégé to finish. “Funny you mention the blues, Townes. My most requested song during my last concerts was ‘Dublin Blues’ which started, ‘I wish I was in Austin in a chilly parlor bar, Drinking Mad Dog Margaritas and not caring where you are. But here I sit in Dublin just rolling cigarettes, Holding back and choking back the shakes with every breath...’”

“Whoa, baby!” Merle could not contain himself. “Now that’s the way you open a

great country song!”

“Here! Here! On that lack of soul in modern music,” the approval came from two feminine voices at another table across the room.

Both Aretha Franklin and Janis Joplin raised their glassed in support of their country counterparts.

“I grew up singing gospel music in church,” said Aretha, “and if you didn’t pour your heart and soul into ‘Take My Hand, Precious Lord’-well, someone else was singing in your place the next Sunday. I think that passion is missing in many young artists today.”

Janis took a hit off a crooked cigarette and concurred. “I had to give every ‘little piece of my heart’ to that audience at Fillmore in San Francisco or I would have lost them after one song. One of the biggest complements I ever got came from one of those country boys’ buddies Kris Kristofferson after he heard my spin on his classic ‘Me and Bobby McGee’.”

“When asked about my version, Kris told the press, ‘Janis sounded like she really lost someone she loved’.”

She snapped back out of an old memory and asked, “Hey, where’s Tom Petty? Wasn’t he invited?”

“He’s either at the gates of hell or in Gainesville-they’re both about the same to me.” A large man at the bar with a number 20 LSU jersey was sitting next to an even larger man in a number 81 Saints jersey, a crew cut hulk in a number 51 Bears jersey and a soldier in full Army Ranger gear.

“Either way, he’s like the rest of us-he won’t back down.”

I recognized Tiger great Billy Cannon and even early New Orleans defensive end Doug Atkins and the latest arrival Chicago linebacker Dick Butkus. But it wasn’t until I saw the Silver Star and Purple

Heart that I recognized former Arizona Cardinal and war hero Pat Tillman.

Also, I was distracted by another huge human dancing on the bar to an old Grateful Dead song in an Oakland jersey and a pair of briefs.

“That’s just ‘Tooz’-John Matuszak,” said Cannon. “Don’t mind him. We were just discussing pro football the way it used to be.”

“I wouldn’t even have a salary after fines with the tackling rules the way they are today,” said Tillman. “I led the league in money lost in 2002-what would they do to me now? Send me off to war? I mean-what was a 5-11, 200 pound safety supposed to do to survive in the NFL.”

“And these ridiculous regulations protecting the quarterback,” added Atkins. “I played with the Bears before joining the expansion Saints in 1967 and we were known as the ‘Monsters of the Midway’. Me and (Dick) Butkus here put three quarterbacks out in one game against the Colts and George Halas gave us a rare bonus. Do that now and they throw you out of the game.”

Butkus flashed a toothless grin. “My game plan was simple. Find the guy with the ball and try and knock his head of his shoulders. Hey-it is Halloween, isn’t it?”

Matuszak stopped his gyrations for moment to chime in. “And what about this injury and concussion protocol. See those pain pills those cowboys are taking-I swallowed them by the handful just so I could stay on the field and keep my job. I couldn’t pass the pee box now. I played on two Super Bowl champs with the Raiders and what am I remembered for-playing the deformed captive Sloth in the ‘Goonies’ movie.”

“That’s not quite true, Tooz,” a long-haired hustler had left his fallen angels in the

shadows and slithered over to join the conversation.

“I remember when you were arrested in New Orleans three days before the Super Bowl,” laughed Ken “Snake” Stabler. “And just for dancing on a table nearly naked and brandishing a pistol. When the press asked me if you were a distraction for our team, I just shrugged and said, ‘Tooz always goes out after practice on Thursday nights’.”

“I’ll bet you boys didn’t know I played for the Raiders,” Cannon interjected. “They moved me to tight end after years of playing running back for Houston. Man, I learned some tricks down in those trenches that might get you suspended nowadays. But I did make All-Pro at a second position-not many can say that.”

Tillman looked admiringly at the former Heisman winner. “Not to mention winning the 100-yard dash and the shot put at a college track meet. “Let’s see one of today’s superstars do that today. But I think it all goes back to what those musicians and we were all talking about. We’re losing our fight-our fire-our passion in music, sports and other aspects of life. You were strong enough-physically and mentally, Billy-to make that adjustment. I turned down millions from the NFL to join the army because I thought it was my duty as an American. You don’t see that commitment these days.”

“Hey, Ranger!” yelled Matuszak at Tillman, “Did Nike call you about a hero commercial yet? Or are they still honoring those cupcakes.” Then he broke into some kind of grunting laughter that sounded not unlike Sloth.

I could have stayed with either group all night but there was a trio arguing in the far corner that I could not ignore. As I strolled closer, I

recognized former Presidential candidate John McCain officiating a spirited debate between the Liberal Lion Ted Kennedy and the ultra-conservative Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia. McCain was trying any tactful method he had to find some common ground between the political polar opposites-even resorting to, “But you’re both Catholic.”

Finally, in desperation, the Arizona senator screamed, “Compromise, gentlemen, compromise! This country was saved a thousand times by compromise!”

And that’s when I awoke. As I pondered the characters and comments in my dream I couldn’t help but think. What if-musicians did go back to their roots and produce something to honor the pioneers of country and rock-and-roll? What if-the NFL did come to its senses and let the players play-even if it is risk and reward-and make the officials invisible again? And what if-this great country’s leaders could reach compromises to bring the masses closer instead of more divisions?

What do you think, Casper?

I know-not a ghost of a chance.

Happy Halloween.



Entertainment Schedule

10/28
Party at Joes
11/3
Group Therapy
11/10
Foret Tradition
11/17
Todd ONeal

Monday special
-\$4 bomb shots
\$2.50 Blue Moon Draft
Tuesday special -
2 for 1 Bomb Shots
Wednesday special -
\$5 PBR and
bomb shot combo
Thursday special -
\$5 double well

Our happy hour specials
are \$2.50 domestic beer
\$3 Mexican beer
\$4 single well
\$5 double well
\$4 and \$5 bomb shots.
Sunday night is
2 for 1 drinks for all
service industry



Foret Tradition 11/17

www.parkplaceofgonzales.com



Useless Random Facts with Kellie

The human brain uses approximately as much energy as a 10 watt light bulb

The Giant South African Earthworm (*Microhaetus rappi*) can grow up to 7 meters (22 feet) long and 2.5 cm (1 inch) in diameter.

The combined internal surface area of a pair of human lungs is equal to about the area of a tennis court.

Americans consume approximately 6 gallons (23 liters) of ice cream per person per year.

The world's largest fruit are giant pumpkins.
The world record is 1061lbs (481.3 kg)

Non-dairy creamer is flammable.
-An oyster takes ten years to produce a pearl that is about the size of a pea

clans of long ago that wanted to get rid of their unwanted people without killing them used to burn their houses down - hence the expression "to get fired"

Experts have come to the conclusion that additional U.S. freeways does not automatically ease vehicle congestion. An example was shown in Springfield, Virginia, outside of Washington, D.C. The 8-year, \$434 million freeway construction project resulted in commuters shaving only 30 seconds off of their drive time. The conclusion was that motorists lost more time in delays during construction than they could make up once the construction was complete.

More American Presidents were born in the month of October than any other month. They were John Adams, Rutherford B. Hayes, Chester Arthur, Theodore Roosevelt, Dwight Eisenhower and Jimmy Carter.

- In the USA October is the month for National Filipino American History, Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender History, National Breast Cancer Awareness and National Arts & Humanities.

Sylvan N. Goldman of Humpty Dumpty Stores and Standard Food Markets developed the shopping cart so that people could buy more in a single visit to the grocery store. He unveiled his creation in Oklahoma City on June 4, 1937.

Miami Beach, Long Beach, Huntington Beach, Palm Beach, Pacific Beach, Hermosa Beach, Redondo Beach — there are scores of U.S. coastal cities and towns with "beach" in their names. Surprisingly, there's only one city in the United States named merely "Beach." It is found in North Dakota, which is a land-locked state

Thoughts from Bully

Get Your Damn 'AAAAAA' Right!!

I've written about this before but I want to make sure we get this right. So here's what happen.

I was sitting at the bar at Frank's Restaurant enjoying some wonderful pancakes with cane syrup. Three nice ladies sat next to me in their purple and gold for game day. One spoke up and said, "Do we want sit next to a Alabama fan?" She had seen my hat and was just being snooty.

I've had this happen a number of times before and I need to get this straight. I am Atlanta Braves baseball through and through. Some people see a red 'A' and you'd think it was a scarlet letter.

I don't dislike Alabama but I guess I prefer not to, dare I say, be miss sport gendered. Do you realize in Oregon there are proposals to have some one arrested if they miss gender someone or get their pronoun wrong. This is a lot simpler than that. That's just plain stupid.

Here you go for an 'A' education. You don't want to hurt anyones feelings do you? Especially a big burly redneck in camo.

Here is the Alabama logo.



Here's how you distinguish the Alabama logo. Notice the top. The swoosh turning up. I used to call it the gay 'A' but my son told me I can't call it that anymore especially in Oregon. So I call it the 'fingers out tea cup swoosh' which represents the eliteness of their program. At least to them.



Here is the Arkansas logo.



Now this is a confusing image. If I were a therapist I'd think the way their swooshes turn down represents their hopes each year being high and turn for the worse. Who knows, their razorback image is pretty cool. I love pig hunting at the camp.

This may be trivial to most



but I didn't call them Minnesota Vikings fans with their purple and gold. I assume they should be Saints fans.

Here is the Atlanta logo.



Take a good look. No attached swooshes. Just a straight forward 'A'. Simple and powerful.

So now you know you can avoid being a rude 'A' hole

while someone is eating their pancakes. What if I contacted my attorney for a pain and suffering lawsuit. Hell I almost couldn't finish my pancakes, almost. Never leave a pancake behind.

Public acknowledgment. I have family connections to Mississippi State and Ole Miss. I can easily cheer Hotty Totty or Hail State. Hell, my sister has her cow bell at the ready anytime time the dogs hit the field. I am even connected to USC. The University of Southern California. My niece is sweet as she can be but that one is hard to swallow. "Fight On"! Yuck!! Sorry Sally. LU



I promised this Galvez Middle School Cheer group I'd put them in the magazine. Promise kept. Please donate to the GMS Pirates Cheer Squad

As Hunting Season Approaches Tee Wayne's Restaurant is Gearing Up to Turn Your Game Harvest into a Specialty Meat

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- Green Onion Sausage
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- Cajun Sausage
- Breakfast Sausage
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Specialty Meats & More



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

Bacon Wrapped Boneless Chicken Thighs
stuffing choices:
Boudin & Pepper Jack Cheese
Boudin & Jalapeno
Jalapeno & Cream Cheese

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

Bacon Wrapped Stuffed Duck Breast
stuffing choices:
Mac n' Cheese
Jalapeno & Cream Cheese
Brisket & Pepper Jack Cheese
Boudin & Pepper Jack Cheese

Boneless Pork chops
Stuffed with Boudin

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

Smoked Sausage
Pepper Jack Cheese
Jalapeno & Cheese
Green Onion
Cajun Green Onion
Regular
Andouille
Pineapple & Brown Sugar
Alligator
Crawfish
Duck

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

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)

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.



**Wild Game
Processing**

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Jammin' with Goosie

Resident Canada Geese

I was only seventeen years of age when I first saw a Canada Goose. My hunting buddy at the time, Paul Guitreau (I sure miss you dude) and myself were going to make an evening September teal hunt on our lease in Pecan Island La. The leased property bordered White Lake on its south side. As we motored down the waterway that led to our section of land a flock of sixteen Canadas passed not more than fifty yards off the bow of my

Louisiana Traveler bateau. I remember that scene as if it happened yesterday. That flock was no doubt one of the first gaggles that had been introduced to the Rockefeller Refuge which was only a few miles from our location.

Traditional Canada's that had once migrated to Louisiana were beginning to get "short stopped" in some states north of our border during the fifties and sixties. The resident geese were reintroduced by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries in Louisiana for hunting and conservation purposes on the Rockefeller probably in the 1960's era. It would take many years for this stocking program to take



hold but when it was completed the effort had become a huge success. The goose population has now exploded and in many cases they have become a problem to many people. It's not a good thing when huntable species such as waterfowl, squirrels, deer, turkeys, bears, etc. become a problem within residential areas. The purpose of the stocking program was to create a resident huntable population of these birds and by no means was it ever intended for them to become a subdivision or golf course nuisance.

Goose hunting in certain areas of our state is a large part of the local economy and an adventure that should be put on the bucket list for any hunter. The problem that lies within controlling the Canada goose population in many areas of our state such as in my locality is the fact that they mainly stay around residential areas most of the time. That issue prevents hunters from taking their share of the birds. Back in the day before our parish was so heavily developed, neighbors allowed us to hunt and fish their fields, woods, ponds, and farms. During those days what a blessing it would have been to have had the Canada goose population that we are now experiencing in our area. The foresite to reintroduce the beautiful birds was a great idea but now those once rural

landscapes have mostly been developed and there's not only too many geese it seems to be that there's too many people also.

Every now and then I venture out to west Louisiana to make a goose hunting trip. Most of the birds taken on those hunts are specklebellies, blue's and snow's, with a Canada mixed in here and there. I do waterfowl hunt locally to some extent but have not had a flock of Canada's fly over me while doing so. I have had several flocks pass over while sitting in my deer stand with my rifle in hand. But. If they ever so happen to make the mistake of coming past me during one of my local duck hunts I will try my best to eliminate one of them from the local subdivision-golf course flock. I personally enjoy having them around. They are beautiful birds and appear to be here to stay and believe it or not at this particular moment I can hear out my back window the true call of the wild. It's the honking of a distant Canada goose. Wow. That's weird.

Till next time

"Enjoy the honkers"

James "Goosie" Guice

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13th- Route 61
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October
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22nd- The Mojos
29th- Eddie Smith Band

September
10th- Floyd Brown
24th- The Mojos

November
12th- Backstreet
19th- The Mojos

December
3rd- Floyd Brown
17th- The Mojos

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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.

** Great stuffing for chicken, turkey, or pork**

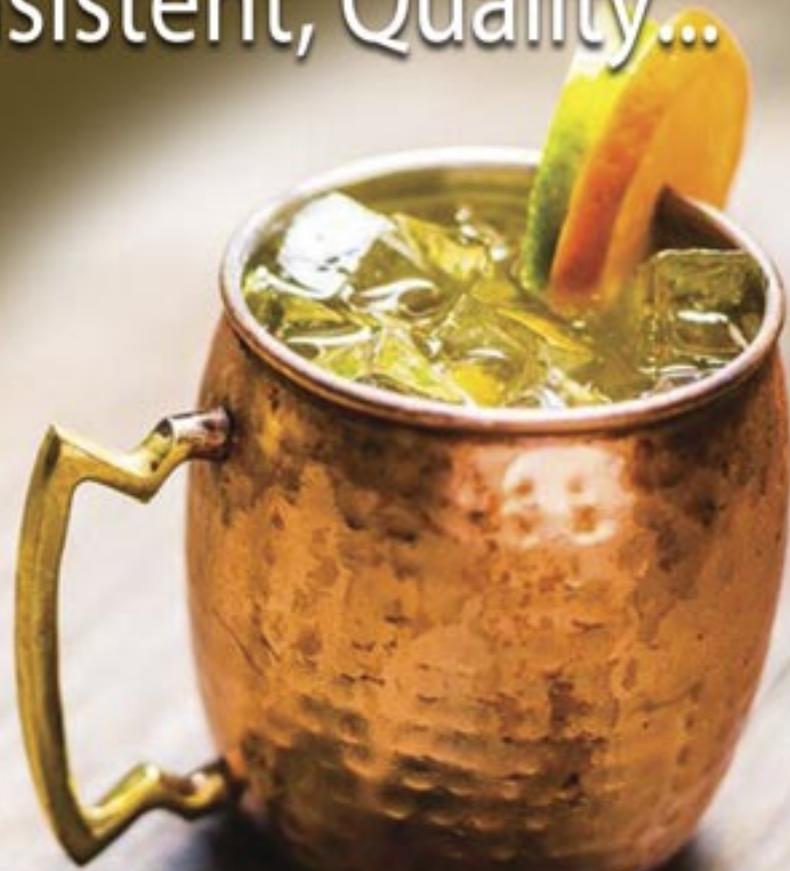
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