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AUGUST 2025, VOL. 23 ISSUE 8

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ON THE COVER Cravin Meaux Sings Again



Congratulations Seniors and Good Luck to all the students!

WELCOME FUTURE GRADUATES AND ALL THE FUN SENIOR ACTIVITIES THAT WILL MAKE YOUR SENIOR YEAR THE BEST EVER!!!
To the remaining students, DON'T RUSH IT, you'll get your day. In the meantime you enjoy each day making those memories of a lifetime.



Tags & Titles knows the start of a new school year brings many changes with school enrollment, residency affidavits, TIP cards for the new driver's, transfers of TIP to permits and full driver's license privileges for others.

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come in to be prepared at 225-644-1512.***



Tara

Jamie

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Dancing for a Cause

Viva Las Vegas

Photos by Adrian's Photography



Shaina Burnett and dance partner Van Vo



Oriuana Moses and Donovan Jackson



Emily Wong and Van Vo

The 16th Annual Dancing for a Cause was once again a spectacular show-stopping event, held at the Lamar-Dixon REV Center in Gonzales on

tireless work to bring together a fun, Vegas themed show, and raise monies to support the mission of the ARC. The event included 13 Star Dancers, comedian, and dance team performances, with the theme "Viva Las Vegas." The crowd enjoyed Vegas style performances from "Elvis" and "Tina Turner." Dancers received awards for Best Dance (Judges Award), Top Fundraiser and Fan's Choice. Caprice Cline, 2024 Best-

Dance and Top Fundraiser winner, presented the Top Star Dancer, Nicholas Schexnayder with McKim and Creed, along with his Dr. Aimee Russo-Mounger with his reenactment of a popular scene from Napoleon Dynamite; 2nd Place winner, Hunter Haydel, St. James Hospital, did not stop the beat with his partner, Brandi Malone; and 3rd Place went to Oriuana Moses, Rasta's Red Carpet Salon, with her partner

Donovan Jackson gave us a sneak peek into "Barbie World". We experienced Lady Gaga with Star Dancer Dr. Micha Ballow with St. Theresa School, taken back in time with Darryl Hambrick with Hambrick's Mortuary and his partner, newcomer Professional, Jodi Simmons.

Top Fundraiser was Hunter Haydel with St. James Hospital, 2nd place Shaina Burnett, United Airlines followed by Emily Wong at



Garrett Rachel and Dr. Aimee Russo Mounger

July 12th, 2025. The event had over 1,350 people in attendance to support the ARC of East Ascension.

The ARC of East Ascension is an organization that supports persons with disabilities and their families through services and advocacy.

Community leaders, our Star Dancers, along with professional dancers have



Nicholas Nick Schexnayder and Dr. Aimee (1st place Judges Award for top dance)



Hunter Haydel and Brandi Malone (1st place for fans choice award and 1st place for top fundraiser)



Darryl Hambrick and Jodi Simmons



Elizabeth Bellina (combo dance with Dr. Aimee, Caprice Cline, Lucy Cason, and Brandi Malone)



Dr. Micha Ballow with dancer Avery Tate



Keli Boudreaux with dancer Walker Fleming

3rd place, with REGYMEN Fitness. Platinum Fundraisers included Garrett Rachel with Next Step Construction, Nicholas Schexnayder. Gold Fundraiser are Dr. Micha Ballow, Keli Boudreaux, and Darryl Hambrick. Our Silver

Fundraisers are Chris Dupre with Dupre Pharmacy, Dr. Kristina Sanchez-Bethany College, Elizabeth Bellina with Ascension Parish Schools, Oriana Moses, Rasta's Red-Carpet Salon/Checkers Gonzales. Sydney Goldberg

was our In-Kind Sponsor award winner. Fan's Choice Winner was Hunter Haydel, St. James Hospital followed by Emily Wong, and Kelli Boudreaux with Pelican State Credit Union.

Elizabeth Vowell-Blades and Greg Meriwether of Baton Rouge television station WAFB served as master of ceremonies again this year. WAFB news Meteorologist Sydney Goldberg, with partner, newcomer Professional



Tina Turner Impersonator Connie



Hunter Haydel and Brandi Malone



Dr. Micha Ballow and Keli Boudreaux
(photo from Randy Crawford Photography)



Judges L-R Kamal Zahar, Matt Percy & Selina Loupe



Sydney Goldberg with dancer Avery Tate Donovan



Elvis impersonator

dancer, Avery Tate, brought the heat to a spectacular performance.

The Arc of East Ascension Krewe brought down the house with a freestyle performance and mix to the popular line dance song "Boots on the Ground."

Our professional pulled double duty, with many of them dancing with more than one celebrity dancer for this year. This year our returning professional, Dr. Aimee Russo-Mounger with The



Dr. Kristina Sanchez and Walker fFeming

Jackson. Our group received guidance and technical support from our alum Professional and Coordinator, Leonard Augustus, Jr.

Arc of East Ascension Board of Director's President, Tammy Williams, stated, "Each year this community show up in large support for our organization and we are in gratitude for the outpour of support you provide now and have provided through the years. We cannot do what we do for our participants without this great community."

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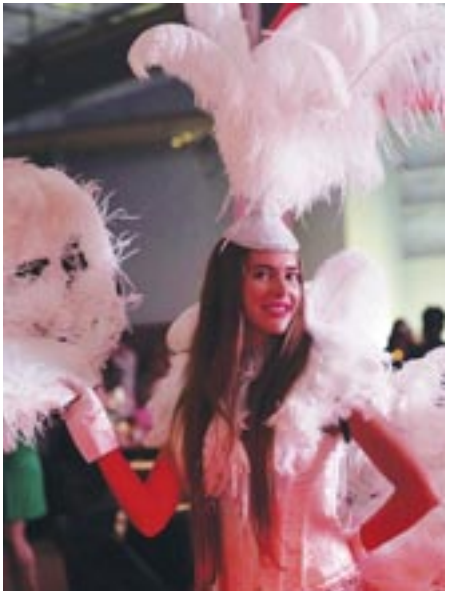


REAL KNOWLEDGE. REAL EXPERIENCE. REAL ESTATE

Smile Spa, danced with Three celebrities this year! And our stage was graced with returning professionals, Brandi Malone, Jerisse Grantham, Van Vo, and Walker Fleming. We welcomed aboard three new professional dancers to our show, Jodi Simmons, Avery Tate and



Chris Dupre and Jerisse Grantham



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Garden Spreads Cheer

Gloria McBride Goudeau, a former president of the Gonzales Garden Club (GGC, 2005-07), received a visit from two other former presidents, Conchita Richey (1983-85, 1997-99) and Jamie Trisler (2017-25). Gloria lives at The Parc Senior Living Community on Burnside Avenue in Gonzales.

Jamie noted that Gloria's enthusiasm for gardening continues into her senior years. Conchita recalled, "As a president, she did a great job. She's a sweetheart. Her intentions at The Parc are to spread cheer among the residents."

The highlight of the visit was seeing Gloria's gardens. When

Gloria moved into the complex, she saw that the windows in her wing looked out onto a small, empty green space bordered by a blank wooden fence. She got busy livening it up by situating plants here and there. Her plantings started attracting birds and butterflies, adding to the residents' enjoyment. Her neighbors encouraged her to continue beautifying the view from their windows so she began to hang metal garden art, piece by piece, along the fence for all to admire. That blank space has been transformed into a cheerful little oasis of backyard wildlife for those seniors.

Gloria has also helped several of her neighbors with their own plants and has shared her



Three past presidents take a selfie.

garden art with them. Conchita explained, "This is Gloria's project, reminiscent of the garden therapy activities she created during her days of garden club membership. Gloria continues to fund art and garden activities for her Parc friends by finding bargains at the Dollar Tree."

For instance, she helped each of her neighbors create their own decorative display

in the recessed niche that each apartment has.

The three gardeners had a wonderful time catching up and look forward to getting together again. Plans were made to have Mrs. Gloria attend this year's GGC Christmas Party.



Gloria stands outside her apartment window at The Parc.



Gloria's garden is a colorful array of container plants, hanging baskets and metal art.



The wooden fence became a happy wall of garden art.

Garden Club Yards of the Month



GGC Yard of the Month Winner for August

The Residential Yard of the Month Award went to Jimmy and Marilyn Ramagost on Glenthorne Dr. Mr. Ramagost has carried a patriotic theme throughout his front beds. They

are full of red and white vinca, blue daze (a Louisiana Super Plant), red and white caladiums and liriopie for a filler. These beds will look good all summer and help celebrate Memorial Day and last way past Labor Day. This gardener made great choices for the summer heat.



August Commercial Landscape of the Month Award

United Community Bank located at 12328 LA-44 has won Commercial Landscape of the month. Its well-kept landscape is anchored by

purple-blooming crepe myrtle trees. The flower beds are home to "Cinnamon Girl" Distylium shrubs, foxtail ferns, drift roses and colorful periwinkles. UCB also has a US flag in its parking lot.

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



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Get Growing, Ascension!

Fall Gardening Series with Ascension Master Gardeners Association

The Ascension Master Gardener Association is pleased to announce the speakers for their upcoming Fall Library Series. All events are free to attend and are open to both seasoned and new gardeners. Reserve your seat for each program online or by calling the corresponding library.



Mariah Simoneaux

Fall Vegetable Gardening with Jenny Bourg - Tuesday, September 9 – 6:30 pm – Gonzales

Even though it is still warm outside, it's time to start thinking and preparing your fall vegetable garden. With the right planning and care, your garden will thrive and yield a bountiful harvest of delicious and nutritious vegetables. On Tuesday, September 9, avid South Louisiana home gardener Jenny Bourg will teach us what vegetables are

great to plant this time of year. She'll also talk about when we should plant and easy ways to prep your garden for cooler-weather crops.

What's the Buzz? Exploring Pollinator Health with Dr. Morgan Christman – Tuesday, September 30 – 6:30 pm – Galvez

The next time you stop to smell the roses, take a closer look. You might spot a bee, butterfly, or even a beetle helping that bloom along. Currently, the populations of bees, butterflies,

Courtright will lead our exploration into the amazing world of trees on Tuesday, October 14, at 6:30 pm at the library in Dutchtown. Scott has a Bachelor of Science in Forest Management from LSU and has been a Louisiana Licensed Consulting Arborist for over twenty years.

Gardening Q & A and Plant Swap – Tuesday, October 28 – 6:00 pm – Gonzales

Got gardening questions? We've got answers! On Tuesday, October 28,



and other pollinators are under threat. By making small changes in our home landscapes and gardens we can make a big difference. On Tuesday, September 30, at 6:30 pm at Ascension Parish Library in Galvez, Dr. Morgan Christman, assistant professor of Pollinator Ecology at LSU, will lead the conversation about pollinators and what we can do to help them thrive.

The Importance of Trees with Scott Courtright – Tuesday, October 14 – 6:30 pm – Dutchtown

Get a deeper appreciation for the role those green giants play in our everyday lives. Trees enhance our lives in many ways, from providing clean air and shade to supporting wildlife and fighting climate change. Scott

tackle your gardening challenges with expert help from members of the Ascension Master Gardeners. Beginning at 6:00 pm at the library in Gonzales, our panel will share tips and tricks to help your garden thrive. Plus, there's our annual plant swap! Bring your labeled plants, cuttings, bulbs, or seeds to exchange with fellow garden lovers. You'll leave with new knowledge and maybe even a few new plants to add to your garden!

Mariah Simoneaux is the Horticulture Extension Agent serving Ascension Parish. For more information visit www.LSUAgCenter.com or contact Mariah at (225) 621-5799 or MJSimoneaux@agcenter.LSU.edu.



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YOUR ESTATE MATTERS



By Linda Melancon

Ethical Wills Leave a Rich Inheritance

On a recent estate plan review call, my client Elaine told me that she had every detail covered: her will was signed, her powers of attorney were in place, and her decisions for the future had all been carefully thought through. A couple years ago, we'd spent months refining her plan, making sure her wishes were crystal clear and her loved ones protected. But just as we were about to wrap up, she stopped mid-sentence. After a thoughtful pause, she said, "I think I've taken care of everything... but it still doesn't feel like enough."

Her worry stuck with me. It was the kind of statement that was about more than her legal documents..

What Elaine was searching for (and what many of us are, deep down) is a way to be remembered for more than just our things. We want our families to understand what mattered most to us, the lessons we learned, the traditions we cherished, and the love we hoped to leave behind. That's where ethical wills come in.

We've discussed ethical wills before, but August is What Will Your Legacy Be Month. It's a fitting time to talk about ethical wills, sometimes called "legacy

letters." These aren't legal documents, and they won't hold up in court. But they're often the most treasured piece of someone's estate. An ethical will is your opportunity to share your values, memories, hopes, and life lessons with the people you love.

Think of it like writing a heartfelt letter to your family, one they'll read long after you're gone. Unlike your "Last Will and Testament," which distributes your belongings, an ethical will passes down what made you you - your voice, your story, your soul.

Ethical wills have been around for thousands of years. The earliest ones were oral traditions passed down through generations. Later, they were written, sometimes as guidance for children, sometimes as blessings, and sometimes just to make sense of a life well-lived.

There's no set format, and that's part of the magic of ethical wills. You can write a long, reflective essay. Or you can keep it simple with bullet points, photos with captions, a recorded video. The point is to speak from the heart.

Here are a few ideas to get you started:

- **Stories that shaped you:**

Maybe it's the summer you hitchhiked across the country, or the moment you first held your grandchild.

- **Your values and beliefs:**

What principles guided you through life? What causes or traditions were most important to you?

- **Life lessons:** What do you wish someone had told you at 25? What mistakes taught you the most?

- **Words of encouragement or apology:** Ethical wills can help mend fences or express love that wasn't always easy to show.

- **Family history:** Recipes, rituals, or photos; anything that helps keep your family legacy alive.

Many of our clients find that writing an ethical will helps them clarify what they truly care about. It becomes a reflective, even healing process. And for their loved ones, it's often the most cherished "inheritance" they receive.

And these days, ethical wills don't have to be written at all. Some people record video messages, build digital scrapbooks, or create online photo albums with voice notes. There are apps that walk you through questions about your values, stories, and dreams. There are also people who will work with you to record your memories, among other end-of-life services, sometimes called end-of-life doulas or death midwives. However you choose to create it, the point is to leave behind more than just

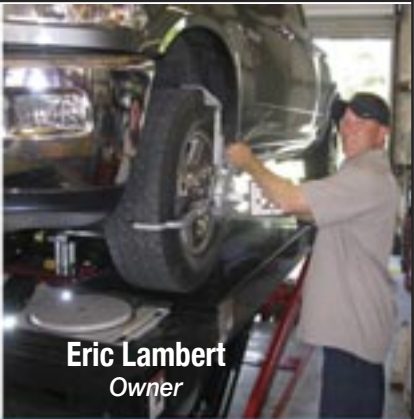
instructions. Leave something that captures your spirit.

You don't have to wait for the "perfect time" to write an ethical will. In fact, the perfect time is now. You can revise it as your life evolves, but getting something down is better than leaving your story untold.

So as we reflect on What Will Your Legacy Be Month, I encourage you to take the time to share more than your possessions. Share your heart. Share your story. Your loved ones will thank you for it.

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

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



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After 14 sweet years of writing Here's Lookin' at You, Sweet Eyes, this Southern gal is signing off.

What a gift it has been to share this space with you—month after month, year after year—writing about the things like: faith, wellness,

beauty (inside and out), resilience, relationships, and the art of becoming the best version of ourselves. I've had so many fond memories being associated with this magazine- golf tournaments, dance events, crawfish boils, barbeques, fundraisers, and of course jambalaya cookoffs!

To my friend and editor Mike Strong – I love you Bully, and I thank you for this opportunity. It has been an honor. To the incredible, resilient, loving people of Ascension Parish: thank you for letting me be part of your community. While I may not be on these pages anymore, I'm cheering you on from the sidelines.



This column has been a labor of love, born from the hope that my words might lift your spirit. During my own difficult and rewarding seasons, it's certainly been therapy for share my thoughts and feelings on these pages.

Here's looking at you Ascension.

With love and gratitude...
XOXO,

Sweet Eyes





New Member of the Z Family

Meet Jennifer Holley FNP-C



With over a decade of nursing experience, Jennifer is a highly skilled and compassionate Nurse Practitioner specializing in aesthetic treatments that enhance natural beauty and boost confidence. Passionate about empowering her patients to look and feel their best, Jennifer is honored to be mentored by Dr. Z and thrives in collaboration with a talented team of colleagues.

Jennifer earned her Master of Science in Nursing from Franciscan Missionaries of Our Lady University and is a board-certified Family Nurse Practitioner. She began her healthcare career with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Southeastern Louisiana University in 2014. Her early years as a Registered Nurse in traumatic brain injury and

neurology ICU settings, paired with her SCRN stroke certification, reflect her dedication to delivering exceptional care. Transitioning into aesthetics, Jennifer discovered her joy in fostering confidence and building meaningful relationships with her patients.



Jennifer is an accomplished artist with a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from Louisiana State University, earned in 2004. She further honed her craft under the guidance of renowned fine arts master Larry Casso at Baton Rouge Fine Arts Academy. With over a decade of professional graphic design experience and a lifelong dedication to the classic fine arts, Jennifer finds her greatest creative expression through watercolor, her preferred medium.

Its vibrant and fluid nature allows her to bring emotion and artistry into every composition, elevating her aesthetic practice with harmony, precision, and an artist's eye for detail.

Outside of the clinic, Jennifer cherishes time with her husband, daughter, and their beloved pet Morkie, Nola. Whether enjoying quiet family moments or exploring new adventures, she finds fulfillment in the joy and balance her family brings to her life. Call today to schedule with Jennifer Holley, NP and enjoy relaxant at \$10 per unit and \$100 off each syringe of filler.
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Jessie Naquin

Jessie started working at Joie De Vie Salon as a receptionist when she was in high school. She then attended Paul Mitchell Hair School. After graduating she started her career as a stylist at Joie De Vie and has been here for 15 years.

Jessie's outgoing personality and kind heart makes each client feel like family. Amongst many skills, she specializes in blonde coloring and extensions.

When she is not behind the chair, Jessie enjoys spending time with her husband and adorable dog, hanging out by the pool and being close to nature at the camp.

"If you are lucky enough to find a way of life you love, you have to find the courage to live it"

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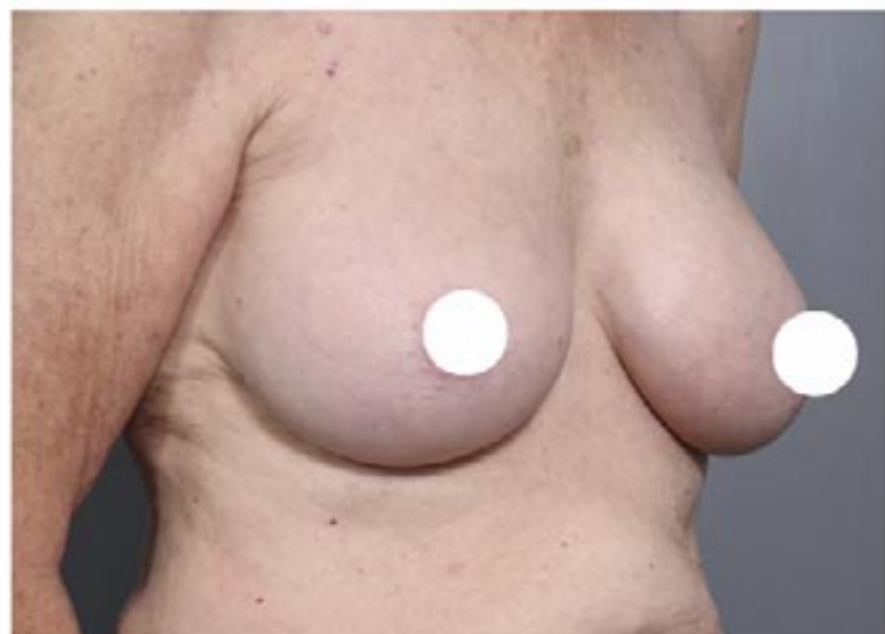
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- 15 - Party at Joes band
- 16 - Peyton Falgoust band
- 17 - Tboy and just us band
- 21 - Blake Dehart
- 22- Drunk uncles band
- 23- True Spin band
- 24 - 3rd street band
- 28 - Garrett Remson & Seth Lesoq
- 29-31 - RIVER JAM

SEPTEMBER

- 1 - Dustin Guedry Band
- 5 - I-10 Bound
- 6 - After 8 Band
- 7 - TBD
- 12 - Run for Cover Band
- 13 - whiskey Bent Band
- 14 - Mojoes band
- 19- Jonathon "Boogie" Long band
- 20 - Chris Leblanc Band
- 21 - RKG party band



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10PM- THE CHEE WEEZ

SATURDAY (COUNTRY)

5PM- BEN RAGSDALE

7:30PM- KENDALL SHAFFER
 (9PM- HALL OF FAME INDUCTION)

10:00PM- CHASE TYLER BAND

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The kids are back in school, ready for a new year of challenges, promises, changes and expectations. At CHC Pantry and Closet we are facing some challenges and making some changes also. As always, we are in need of a few good volunteers who can take direction, work hard and care for the people. If you would like to volunteer please message me on our FB page or call 225/647-8612 and leave a message.

We have a new Facebook page. The old page “CHC Closet & Pantry” has been taken down and replaced with our new page, “CHC Closet and Pantry”. It’s just a small change in the spelling. Please check us out to keep up with what’s going on.

We also now have Venmo and PayPal for anyone who would like to make a cash donation. Because we have NO overhead, no rent, utility, phone bills or salaries, all donations are used to buy food and necessities for our clients.

We also have an Amazon wish list on the FB page for people who would like to send a specific donation.

We have had a couple of successful fundraisers at Raising Canes and Chick Fil A. Thank you to these restaurants and to those who came out to volunteer or just to enjoy some good food and company.

I would like to thank the Gauthier Amadee law firm for their generous and unexpected donation. Checks that arrive in the mail always make us smile.

We have been very blessed by the new Chick-Fil-A on Airline Highway. Every week they give us a donation of chicken, biscuits and all of the foods that they have. This has saved us so much money because we haven’t had to buy much meat. We have also been able to share with other organizations who are feeding the hungry.

We have also received donations of boudin from Mac’s Cajun Company. Our clients are eating well these days.

The food banks at St. Theresa and Holy Rosary have shared food with us. New Song Community Church continues to support us on a regular basis. I love it when the members of our community

are able to help each other.

Thank you to everyone who supports us in any way, by volunteering, donating or praying for us and our mission to help the needy in the community. God bless you all.

Janell Brent

Manager, CHC Closet and Pantry

God bless you.

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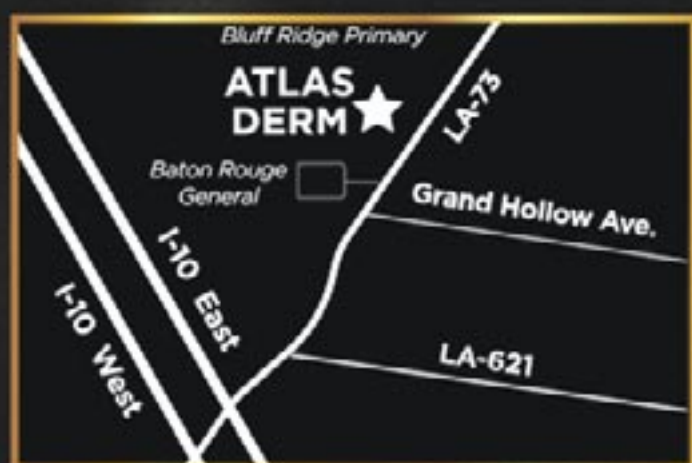


This is Ronald the poodle from Clip-N-Cuddle Salon preparing for Las Vegas Competition



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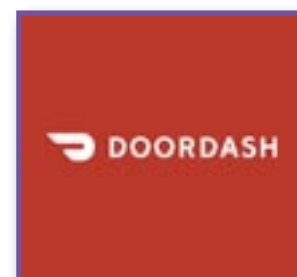
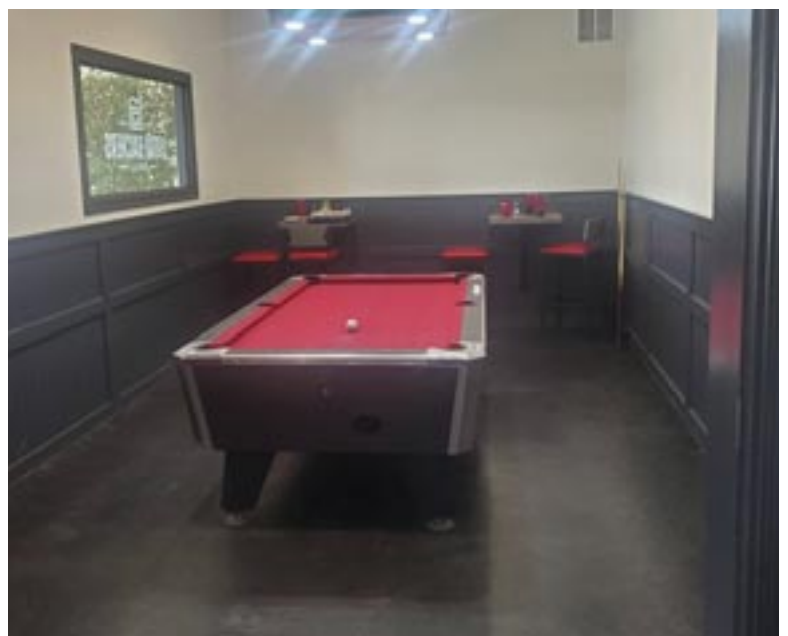
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FINANCIAL FOCUS

A retiree's guide for National Financial Security Month

If you're retired, it's easy to let your finances go on autopilot. Since October is National Retirement Security Month, it's a good time to revisit some areas that can impact your long-term financial security and help your money last a lifetime.

Consider these suggestions:

- **Manage your withdrawal rate.** You'll likely need to tap into your retirement accounts — your IRA and 401(k) or similar employer-sponsored plan.

But think carefully about how much income you withdraw every year. If you take out too much, especially in the early years of your retirement, you risk outliving your resources. You have the option of withdrawing from these accounts at age 59½. Once you turn 72, you'll be required to take out at least a certain amount each year based on your age and account balance.

- **Estimate health care costs.** When you turn 65, you will be eligible for Medicare, but you may still need a Medicare supplement plan, both of which will require premium payments. You'll probably also incur a variety of other unreimbursed expenses for doctor visit copays or deductibles, prescription

drugs and vision, hearing and dental care. Additionally, about 70% of adults ages 65 and older will need some form of long-term support, according to the Department of Health and Human Services. This may include a paid home health aide (average cost of \$77,792 per year), an assisted living residence (average cost of \$70,500 per year) or nursing home care (private room average cost of \$127,750 per year). (Cost estimates are from Genworth 2024 Cost of Care Survey.) Over the course of your retirement, these can add up, so be realistic when budgeting for health care expenses in retirement.

- **Consider when to take Social Security.** You can start receiving monthly Social Security checks at age 62, but your payments will generally be larger if you wait until your "full" retirement age of 66 or 67. (The size of your payments will "max out" at age 70.) If you believe you have longevity working in your favor, and you can afford to wait, you may well be better off by delaying Social Security as long as possible.

- **Avoid investing too conservatively.** Once you're retired, you might think you should take as

few chances with your investments as possible — after all, you have less time for them to bounce back from a downturn than you did during your working years. Nonetheless, it's important to consider keeping a reasonable percentage of growth-oriented investments in your portfolio to help you stay ahead of inflation. Even at a low rate, inflation can erode your purchasing power over time.

- **Keep your generosity in check.** If you have grown children who need financial help, or grandchildren heading to college someday, you'd no doubt like to do what you can to assist them. However, the hard truth is that they have more time than you to find workable financial solutions, whereas if you deplete your funds through your generosity, you could put yourself in a precarious position. So, be as giving as you can afford — but try not to go beyond that. By preserving your financial independence, you'll end up benefiting your family as well.

Retirement is ideally an enjoyable time in your life, especially if you feel financially stable. So, take time to check in periodically to keep that stability on track.

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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Financial Advisor

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A photograph of a young girl with blonde hair, smiling and hugging a black dog. The dog is looking up at her. In the background, there is a stone fireplace and a mounted deer head.

Hey Dr. Rob!
Can Addie love
on me too
much???

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Friends Gather for a Show. The Resurrection of Cravin Meaux!

Photos by Rhett Bourgeois

Ascension Magazine had the opportunity to have a detailed discussion about his concert and his musical life story. He sent us his thoughts and dreams. Here is the life of another Ascension Parish great resident!

1995, 30 years ago, proved to be a pivotal year for Cravin Meaux.

During 1995 Cravin completed his third album and collection of songs written and recorded by the singer/songwriter/musician.

Cravin's song 'FRIENDS' was near the top of the Gavin West Coast Music charts along with Garth Brooks and other top recording artists for six weeks during 1995.

Sony Music and Arista Records offered Cravin a record contract and a world tour to promote the proposed Arista album and Cravin Meaux music.

Bruce Bouton with Arista Records offered to co-write songs with Cravin for Garth Brooks and other recording artists.

Bruce Bouton and Meryle Haggard offered to write music and songs with Cravin.

Bill Wence promoted both Cravin Meaux and Jerry Jeff Walker and tried to hook up the two to write songs together.

Sam Phillips of Sun Records in Memphis offered Cravin the same

recording deal that he had offered Elvis in the late 1950's.

Cravin Meaux considered all of these offers and opportunities as a great honor, but kindly refused.

Cravin put his guitar away, stopped performing, ceased writing songs, and took off his cowboy hat - in turn he changed his name back to Douglas A. Diez and continued his developments in real estate and construction businesses.

Instead of writing songs and performing concerts around the world, Diez began developing the 800 acre golf course community near Gonzales in 1996, Pelican Point.

Since 1995, over the past 30 years Doug has developed industrial parks, business centers, and residential communities throughout Ascension Parish as well the the Barringer Foreman Technology Park on Airline Highway in Baton Rouge.

During the past 30 years the guitar primarily remained hidden in his guitar case until 5 months ago when Cravin began rehearsing a minimum of two hours each day preparing for a concert he wished to offer to many of his friends as well as to privately celebrate his birthday.

In order to keep the music more interesting for his audience, half of the songs he rehearsed were



songs he had written and recorded many years ago, while the other half of the songs were songs by other artists that the audience would be more familiar with.

To further engage the audience Cravin worked with a few very talented neighbors and friends to participate in the concert as back up vocalists, to add bass to several songs, and to add a second guitar to 5 of the songs - Brian Wright, Richard Derf Oubre, Phillip Braud, Lance Gautreau, Laylo Quintanero, and Kim Diez all rehearsed for weeks with Cravin.

Additionally Cravin made the concert more entertaining by telling stories about the background of most of the songs, why some were written, what they were written about, and how the

songs tied to certain people as well as some history.

Doug Diez and Cravin Meaux made a list of 250 friends that was made during his life who he thought would be interested in his music, seeing him in the raw without professional recording session musicians in a concert on the second floor ballroom of the Pelican Point Club House.

There have been rumblings an rumors about Cravin Meaux for the past 30 years and he simply wanted friends to see what he would have been doing if he would have chose to pursue music rather than development, construction, and real estate.

The concert was actually attended by 258 people and their comments humbled him as all enjoyed and many believe it was



one of the best concerts they have attended.

enjoyed and appreciated his music. The return of Cravin Meaux. One last Ride!!

Cravin wants to thank everyone who attended and he was honored that those in attendance





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OFF THE GRID
PHOTOGRAPHY



EASL hosted the 64th Annual Kids Fishing Rodeo



East Ascension Sportsmans League

Letter from president -
Greg Cedotal

EASL hosted the 64th Annual Kids Fishing Rodeo on July 26th. There were 113 registrants on hand to compete for prizes, fun and donuts. After two hours of heated competition, the winners

were announced. The winners were Ages 2 – 4, Biggest Fish Boys and Girls, Joel Centanni; Most Fish Girls, Drew Voiselle; Most Fish Boys, Joshua Centanni. Ages 5 – 7, Biggest Fish Boys and Girls, Caden Chance; Most Fish Girls, Murphi Bordelon; Most Fish Boys, Max Prevost. Ages 8 – 10, Biggest Fish Boys and Girls, Dexton Hayden; Most Fish Girls, Rylee Roberts; Most Fish Boys, Hudson Denham. Ages 11 – 14, Biggest Fish Boys and Girls, Collon Jackson; Most Fish Girls, Abbygail Lambert; Most Fish Boys, Ben Jackson. Overall, Biggest Fish Boys and Girls, Colton Brown; Most Fish Girls, Joey Townsend; Most Fish Boys,





Phoenix Townsend.

EASL would like to congratulate the winners of the bike cycles and gift card. The winners in no particular order were Melody Spell, Matteo Vice, Maelle Vice, Jude Aucoin, Carrie Holden, Townes Gresham, Camille Ingram, and Eric White.

EASL would like to thank the sponsors for helping make this event possible, they were Twin

Lakes Mobile Estates, Fluker Farms, Donut Palace, Ascension Credit Union, Harry Robert's Insurance, Cabela's, Waste Pro, Jeff Bourque and Friends, Parish President for trophies, Dale's Garbage, and Diez Signs.

I would like to thank the members who helped make this event a success. Bettye Lambert for being the chairperson, seems like she worked for twelve months to put all the pieces in place. Mike Lambert, Herb Finnerty, Darlene Bourgeois, Marcia Jimmerson, Charlie Moore, Warren Hebert, Jim Hebert, Goosie Guice, Richard Gautreaux, Susan Lambert.

And last but not least, we want to give a great big thank you to Jeff Bourque, Bruce Bourque, Barrett Jenkins, John Jenkins, Blake Burstall and Kyle Rodrigue for cooking jambalaya and hot dogs. They did a great job.



Thank you to the parents and grandparents who brought these young competitors so they could have a memorable time. Let's do it again next year.



and help move the organization forward, let us know. You do not have to wait until December to get on the board.



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Now for a little bit about EASL events. You must be a member to participate in these events. EASL Bass Club will fish a tournament on August 16th. If you are interested in fishing with the bass club, contact Jim Hebert at 225-717-6037. The June .22 Rifle Silhouette Match will be August 23rd at the Sheriff Shooting Range starting at 8:30 AM. Members, don't forget to weigh your bass for the Monthly Big Bass contest and weigh your specs for the Monthly Big Speckled Trout contest.

If you decide you would like to serve on the board of directors



Time to go outdoors with family and or friends and enjoy nature. Remember to be safe and conserve our resources for future use. Questions or comments you can email me at gdc1@gmail.com.



The winners of the 2025 Annual Kids Fishing Rodeo

2 to 4 years old, Most Fish Girls Drew Voiselle
2 to 4 years old, Most Fish Boys Joel Centanni, and
2 to 4 years old Biggest Fish Joshua Centanni
5 to 7 years old, Most Fish Girls Murphi Bordelon
5 to 7 years old, Most Fish Boys Max Prevost
5 to 7 years old Biggest Fish Caden Chance
8 to 10 years old, Most Fish Girls Rylee Roberts
8 to 10 years old, Biggest Fish Dexton Hayden
11 to 14 years old, Most Fish Girls Abbygail Lambert
11 to 14 years old, Most Fish Boys Ben White
11 to 14 years old, Biggest Fish Collon Jackson
Most Fish Overall Girls Joey Townsend
Most Fish Overall Boys Pheonix Townsend
Biggest Fish Overall Colton Brown



Drew Voiselle



Joel & Joshua Centanni



Murphi Bordelon



Max Prevost



Caden Chance



Rylee Roberts



Dexton Hayden



Abbygail Lambert



Ben White



Collon Jackson



Joey Townsend



Pheonix Townsend



Colton Brown



Bike and Gift Cards Winners



Melody Spell



Matteo Vice



Maele Vice



Jude Aucoin



Carrie Holdan



Townes Gresham



Camille Ingram



Eric White

EASL Bass Club News

The EASL Bass Club fished its July Tournament on the 19th. There were 10 boats signed up to fish this one. They fished out of Doiron's either side with a 2:00 PM weigh in.

The fishing was better than expected after days of big rains in the area in the days preceding the tourney. 7 out of 10 boats limited out on this day.



Tim Braud and Tony Arceneaux won this one with 5 fish weighing in at 12.66 lbs.

Second place was Brent and Gabe Conerly with their limit that weighed 11.98 lbs. Third place went to Jeff Coolman fishing alone with a limit that weighed 9.44 lbs.

Big Bass was won by Brent and Gabe Conerly with a lunker weighing 3.14 lbs. Congratulations to the winners of the July Tournament.

The next tournament will be held on August 16th. The meeting to sign up for this event will be held on August 7th at Dirk Anderson's home on Babin Road.

EASL's next regular meeting is September 15th in the second-floor meeting room at Cabela's, starting at 7:00 PM.



L-R. Jessie Argrave and Dirk Anderson. Tim Guillame and Bubba Rossi. Wilson Mulina and Gary Christian.

LSU Has Great Genes To Fly Like an Eagle in 2025

by Bill Delaune

"American Eagle scores big win with Sydney Sweeney ad backlash..."

Wall Street Journal.

"Brian Kelly scores big win with Sydney Sweeney-Dabo Swinney backlash..." Future story on ESPN.

No pressure, Brian Kelly. None at all. Just because you're in your fourth year as LSU's head football coach and you haven't made the CFB playoffs-even with the expanded 12 team format. There's nothing to worry about.

Oh sure, some of your Tiger coaching cohorts have hoisted National Championship trophies in recent years and football is supposed to be king in South Louisiana but fans are patient-aren't they?

Yeah, gymnastics coach Jay Clark, whose teams fill the P-Mac every Friday of their home schedule, won a Natty in his fourth year.

And Louisiana native Kim Mulkey returned home to claim the Women's Basketball Title in her second season and has teams annually in the Elite 8.

Or that other Jay-Johnson, I think it is-who in four short seasons has won not one, but two College World Series.

So, what about football, Coach Kelly? What have you done for us lately?

Mealy-mouthed Les Miles ("Against the underlying backdrop of the situation...") won a National Championship



in 2007 and played for another in 2011.

Cajun growling Ed Orgeron's 2019 squad demolished all comers-including Clemson in the finals-and is generally recognized as one of the greatest college teams ever.

Nick Saban got the ball rolling in 2003 (his third year) and- if you listen to some Tiger fans-would have won many more had he stayed.

Oh, and did I mention that your former team Notre Dame played for the title last year under one of your former assistants Marcus Freeman.

As classic TV western star Will Sonnett used to say, "No brag-just facts."

So what does LSU have to do to turn it up a notch this year? First of all, BK, you have to borrow some marketing techniques from another BK- Burger King, that is, and other restaurants and serve up a "special" every week to keep things fresh.

Spice it up-so to speak-with some "special orders" that won't let opponents upset us. You might want to take some peppery tips from those fanatic Tiger

tailgaters.

For starters, your openings dishes have been rather bland so don't be afraid to try something a little edgy. Throw in a little more Sydney Sweeney to surprise Dabo Swinney, if you know what I mean. For instance, for appetizers...

1. Clemson-

Forget which stadium deserves that "Death Valley" tag. Go with Hidden Valley Ranch dip but drop the boring veggie tray. Instead start off with some jalapeno poppers from Las Palmas for a blazing

beginning. In other words, come out smoking with an early bomb from Garrett Nussmeier to Chris Hilton and Dabo will turn tail faster than Sydney did in that American Eagle Jeans commercial.

The Bayou Bengals prevail over their Carolina cousins 31-28.

2. La. Tech-

The first “sandwich game”- an underdog between a huge national game and an important SEC contest. Sometimes when you get a sandwich at Nooley’s, you stick with the basic Roast Beef or Shrimp Po-Boy. But other times you decide to try the Nooley’s Special piled high with beef, turkey and ham. LSU starts out basic with running plays to Caden Durham but piles it on in the second half with some “Special Reverses” to Nic Anderson and Ju’Juan Johnson.

3. Florida-

The cooks at Mike Anderson’s tell me the fried alligator tail dish depends on the presentation.”Like Sydney’s jean commercial, she presents her asset in the best light,” they agreed.

My Italian chefs tell me, “Revenge is a dish best served cold.” One year is long enough for LSU to get back at the Gators. Tigers win the conference opener.

4. Southeastern-

Another “sandwich game” so get your Hammond buddies to pick up some barbecue pork sandwiches from Hi-Ho and our front seven will take it easy on the Lions’ seven dwarfs.

5. Ole Miss-

For some unknown reason Rebel fans associate Tiger backers with corn dogs. Well, let’s invade their beloved Grove loaded with those state fair delicacies and demand Grey Poupon mustard from those pompous frats. Save a little for Coach Lane Kiffin-the biggest hot dog in the SEC as LSU comes out a “weiner” to go to 5-0.

6. South Carolina-

No corn dogs here but how about frying some Cornish hens. They have to be more tender than Gamecocks and they don’t wear spurs. The Cocks are hard to penetrate on defense but they can neither achieve nor sustain an offense. The Tigers take advantage of the USC flop and coast to victory.

7. Vanderbilt-

No longer the pushover they once were, Vandy has been hotter than Nashville Wings since upsetting Alabama last year. But alas, most country songs in this town have sad endings and this game is no different. Tiger kicker Damian Ramos breaks more hearts than a Conway Twitty tearjerker and LSU escapes with a narrow win.

8. Texas A&M-

How about a 7-layer Tex-Mex Dip to remind the Tigers of a 7-overtime loss in College Station a few years back when about 7 strange calls cost the Bengals a victory. LSU needs no OT as Nussmeier shows off his new rushing skills for 77 yards and a 7-point victory.

9. Alabama-

Tuscaloosa is known for Dreamland Barbecue but it’s a nightmare for the Tigers as LSU gets smoked like the ribs for their first loss.

10. Arkansas-

A cold day in November with a bunch of fat hogs and an angry Tiger team in need of some home cooking... Sounds like a perfect setting for a couchon de lait to me. LSU rebounds to roast the Razorbacks.

11. Western Kentucky-

The third “Sandwich Game” against the part of the country where John Prine’s family was born deserves a unique treat- something like the Bougie Bologna (Imported from Opelousas) special at the new Dirty South Sandwich Shop in the old Jimmy John’s in the Prairieville CBD. The

Hilltoppers find no “Paradise” on Senior Night in Tiger Stadium as LSU slices through the visitors like a cod cut deli.

12. Oklahoma-

Gone are the days of the Wishbone at OU but the Tigers’ wishes for aN 11-1 season and a berth in the playoffs come true as LSU closes with a road win in Norman.

No one can predict what will happen in the wide-open 12-team tournament but LSU certainly has the genes to contend for a title. And if not, Tiger fans will just have to wait for former greats Paul Skenes and Livvy Dunne to have children.

From an LSU standpoint, those kids would have better genes than Sydney.





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Jammin' with Goosie

Long Wait

As always the wait for the beginning of hunting season to arrive can seem to take forever. The summer's extra high temperatures were beginning to decrease to some degree and the first day of dove season had finally become a reality. Myself and a couple of my hunting buddies had booked a paid dove hunt that would take place in Tangipahoa Parish. As I was

hunt. After a quick call to my buddies the decision was made to carry out our plans for the opening day's hunt.

As we arrived at the hunt site the next day we were greeted by many other hunters who had attended the outing. Some of those acquaintances were friends made from prior hunts at that location but many of the others were personal friends of mine from Ascension and Livingston Parish. The talk of the day by all means was about the prospect of being checked by the wardens later



gathering my gear which had been stored from the last season I received a call from the landowner of which the event would take place. His message was that someone had reported the legality of his fields to a local game and fish agent who had determined that one of the hunting plots was illegally baited. The owner told me that we were welcome to come if we still wanted to, but warned that we would be checked by enforcement agents during the

on that day.

At around one-thirty that evening the owner of the property stated that if you had decided to hunt it was now time to pay up and pick your spot in one of the fields. He then told the remainder of the group that had decided not to take the risk of violations that they were welcome to stay around the cook area and enjoy the day out if they chose to do so. He also suggested that we could hang around until the officers arrived and if



everything was kosher you would then be able to pay up and join the group in the fields. Some hunters paid the fee and soon began their day afield. Some decided to go back home. Our gang decided to hang around and wait for the agents to arrive with high hopes for their approval of the legality of the fields. If deemed ok we would then pay up and join the others that had already done so. From early on the paid up group was enjoying some great shooting action. Although aggravating to watch to some degree it was a pleasure to view the action from a different perspective.

The bull session in the cook area was great. From time to time the conversation led to a discussion of whether what we were witnessing at the moment was really illegal or not. I just could not find in my mind anything that I thought would have been wrong with me shooting a dove from where I was standing. We waited until about four-fifteen that evening before deciding to just go back home and avoid having to go through the misery of watching the good shooting that was beginning to take place that evening. I did not want to go through that pain after waiting for the opening day of the season all summer long. The wardens never showed up that day and the hunters had great success. That was the text message that I received later that evening from one of the hunters that had stuck it out.

At daylight the next morning I finally got to shoot a dove on an invite from a friend of mine from the

Donaldsonville area. That morning's hunt, which involved seven shooters, harvested 68 birds before 9:A.M. On my way home from that morning's hunt I received a call from the prior day's hunt landowner. He confirmed the absence of the warden's arrival the day before and had since contacted a local agent to look at the property. That officer had determined the field to be legal to hunt. I expressed my thoughts on the subject and before we hung up he invited us back for the next weekend's hunt. A friend of mine and myself took him up on the invite and had a pretty successful outing on that day.

To this day I feel that we had made the correct choice of not participating on that opening day hunt with the information we had been given. Violations of hunting migratory birds over bait can have serious consequences. I must admit that it sure was hard to just sit there and watch others enjoy shooting a few opening day birds. But there was no way that I could have been comfortable sitting out there knowing what I know about what can happen if you are found guilty of those types of violations. Yea that was a long day waiting for Mr. Green Jeans to appear that evening but not near as long of a wait as it could be to get your hunting rights, gun, license, etc. back if you are found in the wrong.

Till next time

Waiting once again

James "Goosie" Guice

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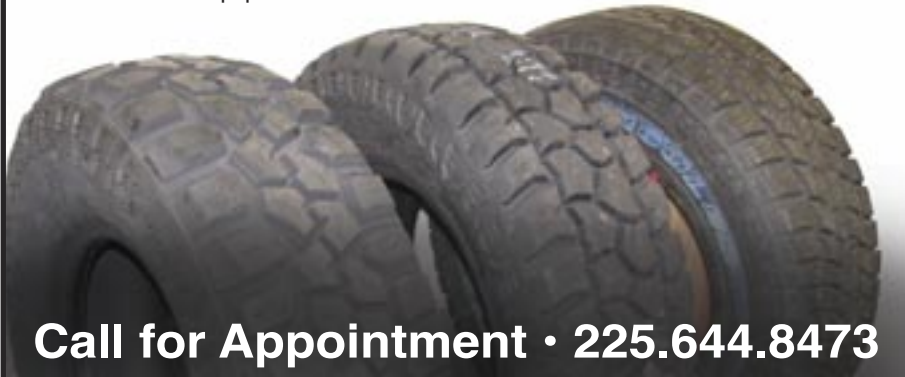


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Useless Random Facts with Kellie

•
If you walk and talk with someone, eventually you will synchronize your steps with each other.

•
Giraffes can't yawn.

•
Snakes can limit their resting energy consumption because they are cold-blooded. This means they avoid digesting their vital stores of protein needed for survival. Some species can decrease their metabolism by up to 72%

•
Queue is the only word in the English language that is still pronounced the same way when the last four letters are removed.

•
The total weight of bacteria living in the human body is two to six pounds (or one to three percent of our total weight).

•
The diameter of Australia is wider than the moon.

•
There's alcohol in space. In 2006, astronomers discovered a cloud of alcohol in part of the Milky Way where stars are forming from gas and dust.

•
Male orb-weaver spiders give back rubs to their mates so they don't get eaten!

•
In 2006, a guy named Chris Putman hacked into Facebook and made thousands of profiles look like Myspace profiles. Facebook hired him.

•
Beer is mostly water, so the type of water used to make it can make a big difference in the taste.

Thoughts from Bully

Hind Sight is 20/20!!

Have you ever done something flat out dumb. You know, an event, that sticks with you for a lifetime. An event that immediately after you said it, did it, or smelt it causes an embarrassment!?

Back in 1965 I learned one of the biggest lessons there is to learn.

At the very impressionable age of 10, I fell in love with my 5th grade school teacher. Her name was Miss Scott. She was young, cute and most of all short. As a growing 10 year old, approximately 4' 11" tall. I was at least 2 inches taller than her and could imagine in my feeble young brain of mush that I had a chance to be her boyfriend. What a dope I was. My crush blinded me to all reason and I just knew she was the woman for me. She wasn't like my former girlfriend Norma Jean Courtney, who I experienced my first kiss from, in the garden, while playing penny-go-walking at my birthday party. Nor was she like Billy Ruth Ashley, who was every second graders dream but had coodies by the third grade. Miss Scott was really different. She had a car.

One day during class, my sweet Miss Scott leaned against the black board. As she walked pass my desk, I noticed she had a white chalk line across her backside and doing what any southern gentleman would do, I brush the chalk dust from her rear. Boy was I in for a life long lesson. She turned around and read me the riot act. "Don't you ever!!!!!!and keep your hands off my!!!!!!or you'll be living in the principal's office.

...And I thought she loved



me. What a dope.

As they say, the apple doesn't fall to far from the tree. Unfortunately, my son, recently asked me a question that made me stop and think. He noticed that his girlfriend's mace was past the expiration date. He was concerned that the mace was faulty, so he came up with the bright idea and asked her to spray him in the eyes to put it to the test. Fortunately, the girlfriend refused. I am now faced with the truth that he must have some of his mother in him and this apple fell under her tree.

I recently went duck hunting with my house dog Chipper. It was recently discovered that he loves to retrieve ducks. We took him in a traditional style duck blind. We were sitting on stools behind some brush. It was foggy, cold and the ducks started pouring in but the big ducks were on the farside of the little lake. This was not only exciting to have Mallards quacking, it was also tedious to hold a 100 pound labrador still and quiet. The time to shoot was getting close and, as the dog handler, I wanted to shoot also. I had the leash around my arm and knew when the shooting began the dog would jump and pull my arm and pull the gun. I then thought I'd wrap the leash around my foot and free up my hands. Well, let me

tell you that was not the thing to do. Immediately as the shooting started the dog bolted while still attached to my leg. This is a strong dog. He proceeded to run toward the lake while dragging my dumb ass behind him in the mud. Fortunately I was able to grab a small tree or I think he would have dragged me into the lake. I can't blame this apple on anyone but me. That was just plain dumb.

I hate to tell this story because it probably confirms that I'm not too bright. I am a happy-go-lucky kind of guy and just about every time I have the opportunity to just be a guy, I generally take it.

A few years back I worked in a renovated beautiful old home in downtown Baton Rouge. One afternoon, I had invited an old friend to visit my new office. I was upstairs taking care of some personal business in the bathroom. I was the only person in the office and heard the door downstairs close and my

buddy called out to me. I was finished with my business and took the opportunity to step out of the bathroom and announce to my friend that I had just taken a huge d__p. He looked at me in amazement from the bottom of the stairs. His lady friend stuck her head out from the hallway and looked up at me. I could have just cut my own throat right then. Santa doesn't dress as red as I was. It was just supposed to be a brief guy thing type joke and ended up as a massive blunder.

Hind sight is 20/20. That is a true statement. I wish that some of these events wouldn't have happened but how boring would that be. Life is a never ending path of all sorts of crazy events. I guess I need to count my blessings that I didn't come out of that bathroom with my pants down.



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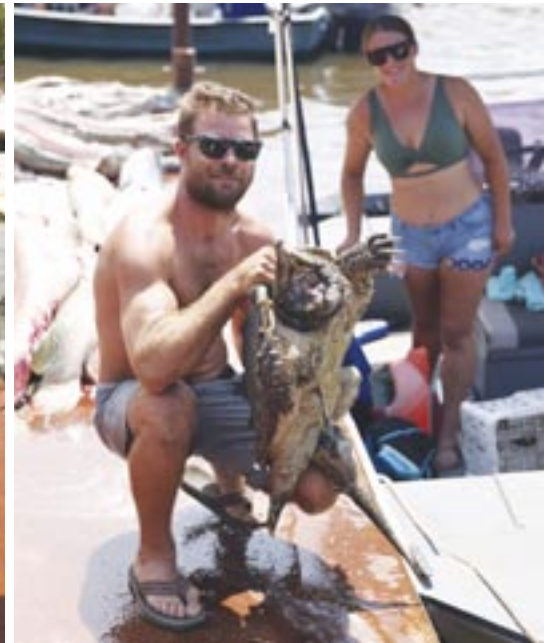
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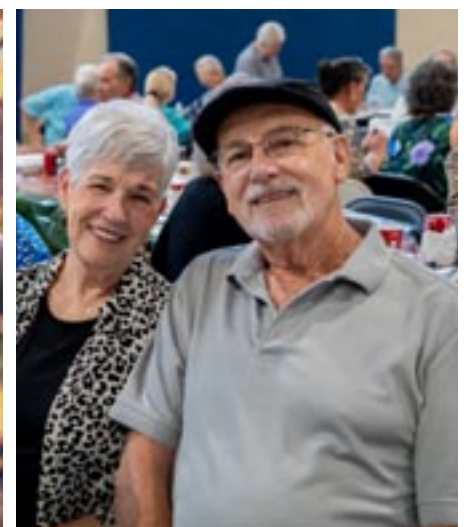
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THE TOWER



Prep: 45 minutes
Servings: 2

Executive Chef, John Donaldson

Ingredients:

Eggplant	1 - cut into six medallions	Butter	1 cup
Heavy cream	4 cups	Basil chopped	2 tbsp.
Small shrimp	1/2 cup	Cornmeal	4 cups
Jumbo lump crabmeat	1 oz	Eggs	6
Whole garlic cloves	10	Salt	1 tbsp.
Parmesan cheese	1 cup	Pepper	1 tbsp.
Flour	1 cup	Creole seasoning	2 tbsp.

Instructions:

Start by making the sauce. In a small heavy bottom saucepot over medium heat start by melting the butter then add the flour and whisk together. While making the sauce roast the garlic in aluminum foil in a preheated 350 degree oven with a small amount of olive oil two tablespoons should be sufficient. Roast the garlic for 15 minutes and remove. Add the heavy cream to the roux mixture and whisk until smooth. Add the roasted garlic and parmesan cheese then puree in a blender. Strain sauce through a fine mesh strainer. Return sauce to the pot and bring to a boil over medium heat and add shrimp cook until shrimp are pink and firm. Add the crabmeat to warm. Now for the eggplant take eggs and whisk in a metal mixing bowl. Take the trimmed eggplant and add to the bowl of whisked eggs. In another mixing bowl combine cornmeal and creole seasoning. Add the egg covered eggplant to the cornmeal batter. Transfer the battered eggplant to a frying pan over medium high heat and cook until golden brown. Strain off grease and plate. Cover with sauce and garnish with basil. Bon Appetit!



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