

The Livingston Parish News

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EXTENDED INTO NOVEMBER

GOV. EDWARDS SETS NEW DATE FOR NOV. 6, SAYS COMMUNICATION WITH LEGISLATURE WILL NEVER BE SATISFIED

BY DAVID GRAY
The Livingston Parish News

Louisiana will remain in Phase Three of reopening amid the coronavirus pandemic for an additional 28 days, Gov. John Bel Edwards announced Thursday.

The new proclamation, which Edwards said he signed earlier Thursday, will expire on Friday, Nov. 6. "There just isn't a lot further to go in terms of loosening restrictions until we are fully back to normal," Edwards said.

The announcement came one day before the current Phase Three order is set to expire. Louisiana entered Phase Three on Sept. 11 following a three-month stay in Phase Two, triggered by the state's second surge of new cases and hospitalization over the summer.

The decision to extend Phase Three is not a surprise, given that Edwards has stated multiple times it's unlikely the state can advance much further without a vaccine.

Edwards said the new order will look largely the same as the existing one, saying his decision was based on recommendations from the Louisiana Department of Health as well as Dr. Deborah Birx of the White House Coronavirus Task Force, who recently visited the state.

Under Phase Three, most businesses are able to operate at 75-percent capacity while some bars — but not all — are allowed to reopen at a more restrictive capacity if they're in parishes that meet certain criteria.

According to the Phase Three proclamation, bars can have on-site consumption if they are located in a parish with 5-percent positivity rate or lower over the

EXTENDED
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BY THE NUMBERS: 10/13/2020 COVID-19

172,801

Cases in Louisiana

157,873

Presumed recoveries

5,486

Louisiana deaths

573

Hospitalizations

68

On ventilators

2,510,319

Total tests

3,981

Livingston Parish cases

76

Livingston Parish deaths

43,173

Livingston Parish tests



DAVID GRAY • THE NEWS
Fallen trees lay across power lines following the destruction of Hurricane Delta, which struck Louisiana on Friday, Oct. 9, 2020.

'WE WERE VERY FORTUNATE'

LIVINGSTON PARISH FEELS EFFECTS OF HURRICANE DELTA, BUT LARGELY SPARED, OFFICIALS SAY

BY DAVID GRAY
The Livingston Parish News

Around 3:30 a.m., Analisse Dixon heard a loud crash outside her Denham Springs home.

When she stepped outside a few hours later, Dixon was shocked to see what had caused it.

Stretched across her backyard, where small pools of water had formed from the previous night's storm, was a giant oak tree that had been ripped up "by the roots" from strong winds brought on by Hurricane Delta.

Though the storm made landfall in southwest Louisiana — close to where Hurricane Laura struck the state a little more than a month ago — tropical-storm-force winds from Delta reached as far east as Livingston Parish, knocking out power for thousands and downing many trees in the process.

Standing outside as her German shepherd barked in the house, Dixon waved a hand over the fallen tree and pointed to the shed that was crushed underneath. Inside the shed — which her husband was planning to turn into a workshop — was her beloved jetski.

A few feet away was a tire swing her four children loved to play on.

Still tied to the fallen tree, the tire was now lying in the mud.

"Those winds just kept hitting," she said. "I didn't realize it could do that type of damage, maybe knock some limbs off. But it ripped up the entire foundation of the tree, roots and everything."

All in all, though, Dixon considered herself lucky, a sentiment shared by Livingston Parish leaders as they assessed the damage left by Hurricane Delta, which hit Louisiana Friday night as a strong Category 2 storm.

Earlier in the week, Livingston Parish officials were bracing for a storm that looked to be heading straight toward southeast Louisiana. Instead, Delta kept veering to the west and ultimately made landfall close to Lake Charles, still reeling from Hurricane Laura, the most destructive storm to ever hit the state.

Delta rapidly weakened after reaching land, dropping to a Category 1 storm around 10 p.m. Friday and ultimately a tropical depression 12 hours later as it reached western Mississippi. But the damage was done: In its

wake, Delta left more than 600,000 Louisiana homes and businesses without power, and flash flood emergencies were also issued following heavy rain, which reached 17 inches in some parts of the state.

Gov. John Bel Edwards tweeted that, "Delta has left hazards like flooded roads, downed power lines and displaced wildlife in our communities that no one should take lightly," and urged the public "to remain vigilant" and "continue to listen to local officials and be safe."

Though Delta's wrath focused on southwest Louisiana, it was felt — as forecasters predicted — well outside of the storm track, reaching the greater Baton Rouge area some 140 miles away.

Daylight exposed much damage in Livingston Parish — ripped-up trees, damaged roofs, downed power lines, flooding in low-lying areas, powerless homes and businesses. But "thankfully," it wasn't to the extent that local leaders had feared just a few days ago.

"We feel blessed," said Livingston Parish President Ricks. "Tuesday

DELTA
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LIVINGSTON MAYOR ANNOUNCES HE HAS COVID-19

BY DAVID GRAY
The Livingston Parish News

Town of Livingston Mayor David McCreary has tested positive for the novel coronavirus, he has announced via social media.

McCreary made the announcement in a Facebook post Thursday afternoon, saying he is "feeling fine" and receiving treatment but felt "it is necessary" to inform the public of his recent diagnosis.

The town meeting scheduled for Thursday night was cancelled out of "precautionary measures."

"As a precaution I am informing the public that I have tested positive for COVID," the post read. "I want to inform the public, as I have been in contact with many people, as Mayor, over the last several days. I am feeling fine and being treated by the physician, but felt it is necessary for me to inform the public and all those that have been in contact with me."



PARISH COUNCIL PENS LETTER TO GOV. JOHN BEL EDWARDS REQUESTING 'ALL BUSINESSES IN LIVINGSTON PARISH RETURN TO NORMAL BUSINESS HOURS'

BY MCHUGH DAVID
The Livingston Parish News

According to the Livingston Parish Council, their representative area is ready to fully re-open.

And they want Governor John Bel Edwards to know it.

After the council's most recent meeting, the board requested Council Clerk Sandy Teal pen a letter to the governor's office, asking that all barriers be lifted in Livingston Parish with regard to COVID-19 restrictions, and that businesses be allowed to return to normal business hours and face no discriminations in doing so.

Currently, Firehouse BBQ of Watson is embroiled in conflict with the governor's office over

COVID-19 restrictions. The case, which started in Livingston, was recently sent back to the 21st Judicial District after the appellate court ruled that, since the state filed in Livingston first, the case should remain in that specific system.

The parish council also expressed concern over visitation rights at nursing and retirement homes, as well as places of worship.

"Families should not be denied visitation rights in nursing homes and hospitals," the letter reads. "They should be allowed to visit their loved ones in these institutions, while also adhering to mandates and policies put in place by these institutions."

Currently, East Baton Rouge is reopening bars

and restaurants at a certain capacity. According to the governor's mandates, individual parishes can be considered for reopening if they reach a 5% positivity threshold on COVID-19 tests.

According to Councilman Garry 'Frog' Talbert (District 2), it's the council's belief that the parish will struggle to reach that 5% mark because Livingston has no remaining, free COVID-19 testing sites.

"The majority of people getting tested are those who are showing symptoms because they need to know or need care," Talbert said, "they're paying with that out of their pocket - and that reduction in tests leads

COUNCIL
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News

GRAVES, CASSIDY INTRODUCE BILLS TO CREATE DISASTER SAFETY BOARD

BY MCHUGH DAVID
The Livingston Parish News

U.S. Congressman Garret Graves (South Louisiana) introduced bipartisan legislation today that will better protect Louisiana by standardizing research on natural disasters. The Disaster Learning and Life Saving Act, cosponsored with Congresswoman Katie Porter (CA), would establish an independent board to review underlying causes of natural disasters and make recommendations to all levels of government on how to keep Americans safe. Graves has long advocated for the need to be proactive and invest in resiliency projects before storms, rather than after the fact, to prevent the loss of life and property. "The National Transportation Safety Board has saved countless lives by carefully examining the causes of transportation accidents and identifying life-saving safety improvements to airplanes, trains, pipelines, and vessels. There is no question that

we continue to repeat the same two mistakes when it comes to natural disasters — preparation and response. As a result, thousands of American lives and hundreds of billions of dollars have needlessly been lost," Graves said. "The National Disaster Safety Board will examine the causes of disasters and help to build upon some of our recent solutions to improve America's preparedness and resilience. Based upon our recent disasters in Louisiana, I can give you one solution already — export the Cajun Navy to the other 49 states."

"As California experiences yet another devastating wildfire season, it's clear that we must do more to guard against natural disasters," Porter said. "Orange County families have seen an uptick in the number and severity of natural disasters, so we know how important it is to have comprehensive research to make science-based policy. I'm proud to partner with Representative Graves,

Senator Schatz, and Senator Cassidy to simplify the process for how this critical research is conducted and presented."

Companion legislation was introduced in the U.S. Senate by Senators Brian Schatz (HI) and Bill Cassidy (LA).

"With climate change causing more frequent and severe natural disasters, we need more data to make sure our communities are resilient and prepared to respond to the next crisis," Schatz said. "Our bill creates a new independent board to investigate major natural disasters and gives policymakers and the public a full accounting of what happened and what should happen next."

"Americans across the country from the Gulf Coast to California are dealing with the results of natural disasters. Another hurricane is zeroing in on Louisiana right now," Cassidy said. "By establishing a natural disaster safety board, lessons learned from past disasters save lives and

perhaps even prevent future disasters."

More about the legislation:

The legislation would establish a National Disaster Safety Board (NDSB) modeled after the National Transportation Safety Board. The NDSB would be an independent, non-partisan agency, responsible for studying preparedness and emergency response during natural disasters. It would break down the silos between federal, state, and local government, and private industry to develop better and more complete lessons



learned and improve planning for future emergencies. The legislation is endorsed by Insurance Institute for Business and Home Safety, American Society of Civil Engineers, Enterprise Community Partners, the

Natural Resources Defense Council, the Institute for Diversity and Inclusion in Emergency Management, the National Low Income Housing Coalition, and the Association of State Floodplain Managers.

DELTA CAUSES HEAVY DAMAGE TO SOUTHERN LIVINGSTON'S ELECTRIC GRID

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night and Wednesday, we thought it was coming straight at us and we really were getting ready to hunker down.

"So overall, it wasn't nearly as bad for us as what we thought it would be, but your heart goes out to the people west of us. You still feel so bad for those people because you know what they were already going through, and then to have another storm come through, is heartbreaking."

While cleaning up at his own home, Ricks told The News that the majority of the damage came from the strong winds, which howled through the night and tossed debris across streets, throughout yards, and atop homes.

Winds knocked out power for as many as 14,000 Livingston Parish households overnight, though that number was sliced to less than 9,000 as of 3 p.m. Saturday.

The major power lines between Port Vincent and French Settlement were damaged around 9:30 p.m. Friday, with transmission poles hanging over the bridge and high powered lines on the roadway.

The Colyell Bay Bridge will remain closed until Entergy can remove the lines and poles, but an "extended" power outage

is expected in the area, according to the Livingston Parish Sheriff's Office.

Officials from the Livingston Parish Public Schools system were also assessing damage at campuses Saturday morning, with Assistant Superintendent Stephen Parrill saying through a spokesperson there was "no damage of any consequence."

Perhaps the scariest scene of the night occurred on Ben Fugler Road in Watson, where first responders rescued a man after a powerful wind gust tossed a tree on his home, trapping him inside. The man was eventually freed and transported for medical care with non-life-threatening injuries.

But despite the intensity of the winds from the large storm system — some reported gusts exceeded 50 mph in Livingston Parish — they mostly blew from the north instead of the south, which Ricks said helped keep the storm surge "at a minimum."

"The way the winds blew kept some people from flooding, without a doubt," he said.

Livingston Parish Sheriff Jason Ard slept not even two hours during the night as he and around 50 deputies were busy responding to calls. Those calls included chainsawing trees, rescuing people from homes, clearing streets of debris, and

keeping workers safe as they tried to restore power.

Like Ricks, Ard said the parish was "very blessed."

A family of four and a dog were uninjured after a tree toppled on top of their trailer on Henderson Lane in Walker. Further west, a couple and their two dogs were spared from a tree that fell through their bedroom on Marilyn Drive in Denham Springs.

The Livingston Parish Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness reported that 64 trees had fallen down in the parish, with several blocking roadways, shattering windows, and crushing homes.

Ard said most of the damage took place on the western side of the parish, specifically the Watson area, though some eastern towns such as Livingston and Albany lost power for hours.

"All in all, I think we fared pretty well compared to some parishes further west," Ard said. "We were very fortunate here and very blessed compared to some of the stories I've heard across the state."

Dixon, who said she and her family were fortunate the tree didn't fall on their home, felt the same.

"I'm just thankful the wind didn't blow the tree our way," she said. "It could've crushed us."

NOTICE OF EXTENDED EARLY VOTING DATES

The early voting period for the November 3, 2020 election has been extended to ten days. Early voting for the November 3, 2020 election will be held Friday, October 16 - Tuesday, October 27, 2020 (excluding Sundays).

Early voting for the December 5, 2020 election will be held Friday, November 20 - Saturday, November 28, 2020 (excluding Sundays).



Prepared by
Secretary of State R. Kyle Ardoin

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BATTLE OVER COVID-19 RESTRICTIONS CONTINUES

BY DAVID JACOBS
The Center Square

The Louisiana House of Representatives on Monday voted to suspend the State Fire Marshall's ability to enforce restrictions imposed by Gov. John Bel Edwards' administration intended to slow the spread of COVID-19.

House Concurrent Resolution 13 by Rep. Blake Miguez, who chairs this chamber's Republican delegation, is one of several GOP-backed proposals to curb Edwards' power to implement or enforce coronavirus mitigation rules, or to end the restrictions altogether.

Louisiana is currently in Phase 3 of the White

House-approved restrictions meant to slow the spread of the new coronavirus. Under the order, many businesses are limited to 75 percent of their usual capacity, barrooms in many parts of the state are closed to on-premise service, and face coverings are required in public spaces.

The State Fire Marshall's Office is responsible for enforcing those restrictions. HCR 13 would suspend those enforcement powers until the middle of next year, 60 days after the end of the regular session. Concurrent resolutions go into effect with a majority vote of the state House and Senate and do not require the governor's signature.

Miguez said state officials and residents have "flattened the curve" of COVID-19 infections, so the restrictions no longer are necessary. He also said Edwards, a Democrat, has exceeded his proper emergency authority by, for example, instituting a mask mandate when no statute gives him the right to do so.

He said government's proper role is to educate the public on how they can protect public health, not to dictate what people should do.

"Individuals are responsible for their own public health," Miguez said.

Rep. Stephanie Hilferty, a Metairie Republican, said the Fire Marshal has

worked to help businesses comply with the rules and has not shut anyone down. Other lawmakers said the restrictions helped Louisiana get the pandemic under control and worried about what will happen if the rules are lifted or watered down.

Similar measures target the enforcement powers of the state health department and the office of alcohol and tobacco control. The House Judiciary Committee on Monday advanced House Concurrent Resolution 8 that seeks to suspend the ATC office's ability to enforce COVID-19 restrictions.

Matthew Block, Edwards' executive counsel, said that while legislators



have the ability to suspend the statute granting the ATC its enforcement powers, they don't have the ability to amend their powers as it relates to one area.

"A law is either suspended or it's not," Block said. But Rep. Alan Seabough, a Shreveport Republican, says the fact that the constitution does not explicitly say the legislature can't partially suspend a law means they can. The committee advanced the resolution with an 8-4 vote.

The measure now moves to the state Senate.

ORDER **EXTENDED** BECAUSE GOVERNOR BELIEVES STATE 'CANNOT LOSE PROGRESS'

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most recent two-week period and if the governing authority "opts in."

Positivity rate is calculated by the number of positive tests divided by the total number of tests.

As of Thursday morning, around 40 parishes had the necessary positivity rate to qualify to reopen bars, with Edwards adding that 27 parishes had opted in.

When re-opened, bars can operate at an indoor capacity of 25 percent, or up to 50 people, for customers seated for tableside service.

They may have no more than 50 customers outdoors, socially distanced, seated for tableside service.

Under Phase Three, on-site sale and consumption of alcohol will now last until 11 p.m. at restaurants, casinos, and bars in parishes that are eligible to opt in to reopen bars.

All bars must still close by 11 p.m.

Edwards said "the major modification" in the new order will be one he's already announced — the allowing of alcohol sales at sporting events in parishes that meet the gating criteria for on-site consumption.

The governor also said the State Fire Marshal's Office will soon issue guidance that will allow fairs and festivals to submit a plan for approval. However, he added that fairs and festivals will likely be limited to 500 people.

"Otherwise, Phase Three will remain the same through November 6," Edwards said.

The governor also fired back at a group of Republican legislators who are trying to limit his ability to issue emergency orders and lift all coronavirus restrictions.

"Quite frankly they don't want any restrictions or mitigation measures in place, so there's no communication you can have with them

that's gonna be satisfied," he said. "But at the end of the day, we're doing what's right and what's warranted under the circumstances to protect the public health of Louisiana."

Edwards said data regarding positivity rates, new cases, and hospitalizations "continues to be encouraging," though he pointed to a recent uptick in positivity rate and hospitalizations. The state positivity rate has gone up from 4.4 percent to 4.7 percent over the last 7-10 days, and COVID-19 hospital admissions have risen by 46 in the last four days.

But Edwards said the increase is "not.. drastic" and thanked the public for adhering to mitigation measures to slow the spread.

On Monday, health officials confirmed 63 new cases to the ongoing tally to bring the statewide total to 172,119. That's the fewest new cases in the state since March 17 (60), but based on the fewest new tests in a day since May 24 (1,589).

(According to the Department of Health, the new case increase may not match the difference between today's and yesterday's total case count due to the daily removal of newly identified duplicates and out of state cases.)

The Louisiana Department of Health is also reporting 2,528 "probable" cases.

The number of COVID-19 hospitalizations rose on Monday to 577, an increase of 14 overnight. A key factor in the state's reopening plan, hospitalizations have risen by 59 in the last eight days.

Ventilator usage decreased by one on Monday to 70.

The statewide death toll reached 5,476, a jump of 14 from Sunday. The state is also reporting 193 "probable" deaths.

According to officials, Louisiana has conducted approximately 2,489,737 tests

either through the state lab or commercial labs. That's an increase of 3,397 new tests, which puts Monday's positivity rate at 1.8 percent, better than the state's goal of 10 percent.

"The state has improved over what was the case several weeks ago, and I am very mindful and appreciative of the fact that it's because of the work being done by the people of Louisiana," he said.

"The progress that we have made is because of the restrictions," he continued. "It's human nature to think every time we're doing better that we ought to shed the restrictions, but you can't because there's not further to go until a vaccine is widely available and administered. So we need to stay the course."

Edwards released his updated order shortly after his press conference ended, and some of the Phase Three regulations included:

- Businesses and houses of worship can operate at 75 percent capacity, though social distancing is still required
- Outdoor crowd sizes are limited to 50 percent of the outdoor space or up to 250 people if people can't practice social distancing
- Casinos will stay at 50-percent capacity and 75 percent of gaming positions
- Indoor gatherings such as weddings and birthday parties are limited to 50-percent capacity or up to 250 people
- Indoor live music is not allowed
- Alcohol sales for on-premises consumption at venues such as restaurants, bars, event centers, reception halls, sporting events, and casinos will end at 11 p.m.
- Sporting events, such as college and high school football, will operate at 25 percent capacity with social distancing required.
- Statewide mask mandate for people 8 years and older

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-Layton Ricks

Opinion

HEDGING A BET FOR FUTURE DISASTER MITIGATION

In 2020, victories are never taken for granted – no matter how big or small.

During this time, Congressman Garret Graves has fought and continued to move legislation that would help with disaster mitigation, response, and just... building things in general.

Print readers will see a letter to the editor below (online readers can view it Thursday) from Rep. Dan Newhouse, of Washington State. Newhouse praises Graves for his BUILDERS Act, which helps streamline the cumbersome process of compliance with environmental regulations when constructing any type of infrastructure project.

Newhouse more than likely has some projects in his representative area that will benefit from this legislation, hence the kind words.

But, that's a good thing, right? Legislation at the federal level that benefits the country, not just one part of it.

And it's a victory, none-the-less, among the continual pit that is 2020.

Now, on it's heels, Graves

and Senator Bill Cassidy are sponsoring sister legislation in both the house and the senate that would form the National Disaster Safety Board. Much like it's twin, the National Transportation Safety Board, the appointed group's task would be to study and suggest potential improvements to future mitigation efforts and well was response tactics to natural disasters.

The legislation is another piece that would benefit the whole country, so another impressive move by the good congressman, but there's a problem that's been discussed in this very space before which halts efforts to improve both mitigation and response – money.

COVID tipped the federal financial scales in the wrong direction, with the government expected to make difficult budgeting decisions in the 2021 year. It should be noted that President Donald Trump said that he would reduce the deficit and curb borrowing, but he did not. He tweeted about it after being presented with his first omnibus spending bill,

but signed it anyway and continued to sign fully-lev-eraged spending throughout his tenure.

A practice that he was simply continuing, begun under President George Bush as the government borrowed hot and heavy to fund a war against an idea. Meanwhile private entities and other countries have gotten rich on American Treasury bonds – and the U.S. general population owns the majority of the country's debt! – but that's another story for another time.

The financial situation was based on slim margins and heavy growth. Hot economies are great, but what goes up uncontrollably usually has retractions or recessions, for one reason or another. The spread of the novel coronavirus could not have been foreseen, but as southern state dwellers already know – disasters happen all the time, and usually with just a few weeks' warning.

Now, the country will face potentially defaulting on debt and having to find ways to make that up. Whomever is in the White

House, Congress, and Senate will have to make those cuts which, despite specific musing by some sitting at home, isn't an easy task – but equations must be balanced.

So how does fighting for money affect Louisiana? Well, Graves, Cassidy, and Senator John Kennedy have fought to find money to bring to the Bayou State for specific projects. Within mitigation, however, progress remains slow – state-wide, Louisiana braces for the fact that coastal erosion continues with very few reliable plans, and money that just isn't there.

In Livingston Parish, residents look at the long-awaited Comite Diversion Canal, which is still under construction, and thank Graves for his efforts to pull from a variety of sources to get the \$300 million to finish the project.

30 years in the making. Now, eyes look toward other such projects that might help mitigate, or erase, future disasters. The Darlington Reservoir, for instance, has skyrocketed to \$1.2 billion (from \$300 million in 1989), but has

been billed as a something that would have reduced flooding in 2016 by 80% or more.

So why isn't it built? Well, it's still under analysis as part of a wider range of studies and projects all focused on the Amite River Basin – roughly four, total, to be exact. When you receive a bunch of studies, all multi-million dollar affairs, but avoid the big cahuna that means but one thing: broke.

There's no advocacy here for wasted dollars, quite the contrary – building the Darlington Reservoir would be a culmination of years of study, one of which was presented to the Comite River Diversion Task Force as a veritable solution to future flooding.

Sadly, locals look at these projects and think 'maybe some day, but not anytime soon.' Three decades for the Comite is a hard lesson learned.

So Graves is doing what he can to make sure that, at the very least, if the money is acquired the projects can move forward and a respectable and efficient speed – by removing regulatory

barriers and making sure the best projects, through the Disaster Board recommendations – are being implemented.

It's a good move, because it not only benefits projects currently – across the country – but it benefits so many future projects that will be primed and ready to go in a post-COVID world, when the country gets back on track financially and infrastructure projects that mitigate disasters, create jobs, and boost local economies receive quick approval.

Won't that be the day

McHugh David is publisher and editor of the Livingston Parish News



FOLLOW THE MONEY
McHugh David

LETTER: GRAVES' BILL DELIVERS SOLUTIONS TO RURAL COMMUNITIES AND THE ENVIRONMENT

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

President Trump vowed to reduce regulatory burdens, particularly for our nation's rural communities. The recent modernization of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) is proof of this Administration following through on his promise.

NEPA was first signed into law to establish the environmental permitting process for proposed infrastructure projects, but its implementation has become complex and time-consuming, leaving rural communities across the country waiting up to six years for project approval. Working collaboratively with federal agencies across the board, President Trump announced the first update to NEPA in over 40 years, adjusting the important law to facilitate more efficient, effective, and timely environmental reviews of critical infrastructure projects that our rural communities rely upon.

Many countries around the world have modernized their own environmental review processes to reflect the needs of 21st Century development. Germany, Canada, and Australia complete their reviews in two years or less and



still consistently outrank the United States on Yale University's Environmental Performance Index.

Fortunately, Congress has members like Representative Garret Graves (R-LA), who recognize the need to codify this vital modernization and ensure future administrations do not backtrack on this

significant progress. Rep. Graves recently introduced the Building U.S. Infrastructure Through Limited Delays & Efficient Reviews Act, or BUILDER Act, to do just that.

As a Member of both the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure and the Committee on Natural Resources,

Rep. Graves is uniquely positioned to lead the charge for this important legislation. As a fellow Member of the Congressional Western Caucus – an organization focused on providing a voice for local communities in our nation's capital – he has proven himself to be a champion for rural communities in Louisiana

and around the country as he fights for fairer, less burdensome regulations that encourage competition and facilitate environmental stewardship.

The BUILDER Act will ensure that much-needed infrastructure projects can actually move forward with construction, including important coastal restoration projects the people of Louisiana rely on. This legislation streamlines the review process while still requiring efficient and rigorous consideration of potential impacts on our environment, wildlife, and local ecosystems. The BUILDER Act will eliminate complex and outdated requirements that no longer apply to modern project applications, delivering relief to local, state, and tribal governments, businesses, and community groups who are working to improve their local infrastructure.

Whether it is the firefighter responding to an emergency, a mother going to the grocery store with her kids, or a nurse driving to the hospital, all Americans – especially those in rural areas – depend on reliable infrastructure. The BUILDER Act prevents the government from standing in the way of development due to outdated bureau-

cratic regulation and allows projects to move forward when communities need them, not when the government decides it is ready.

Every American – Republican, Democrat, or otherwise – can also agree that protecting our environment should be a priority. Despite what some opponents might argue, this legislation has environmental preservation at its core. We frequently hear arguments in favor of updating our environmental policies to fit the needs of the modern world. There is no reason why the permitting process should be left behind.

We should all be grateful for Rep. Graves' leadership. His dedication to rural communities, environmental protection, and critical infrastructure is going to allow for significant improvements across the nation. With people like him in Congress, I am confident that the needs of small-town America will not be overlooked or ignored. The BUILDER Act is proof.

Dan Newhouse is Vice-Chairman of the Congressional Western Caucus. He and his family operate an 850-acre farm in Central Washington state. He represents Washington's

HEALTH CARE: A PERSONAL OPTION VS. 'THE PUBLIC OPTION'

EDITORIAL REAL CLEAR POLITICS

Americans are being told right now that our country has two options when it comes to delivering justice: A) institute law and order, or B) spend more on social programs. Turns out, voters actually want both.

In doing so, he reminds us of two things: first, that Congress remains deeply divided over how to improve our health care system, and second, that Americans' differences on health care are really about means, not ends.

We all basically want the same thing. We want everyone to have access to the high-quality health care they need, when they need it, at a price they can afford.

Editor's Note
This column initially appeared at real-clearhealth.com. It is reprinted here with permission.

And the truth is, in many ways our health care system already achieves that goal and does it rather well.

Americans report having shorter surgery wait times than are seen in most other advanced countries, and we enjoy some of the best cancer survival rates in the world. We also remain the world's leader in developing cutting-edge technologies and lifesaving therapies. And we have access to more drugs than in many other countries and to many new drugs before they are available abroad.

In other ways, American health care must be greatly improved.

Despite its many strengths, it can be complex, bureaucratic and expensive. Too many families struggle to afford needed care and coverage. Tragically, many Americans go bankrupt from high medical bills – even some seniors on Medicare.

Unfortunately, some politicians want to double down on the same failed "solutions" that have caused these problems and are now pushing for a complete government takeover of health care.

One proposal, "Medicare for All," would abolish all health insurance plans – including the existing Medicare program – and replace them with one-size-fits-all program that would be far more expensive than what we have now while providing less care.

Payments to doctors and hospitals would be slashed. At the same time, government spending would soar. The Congressional Budget Office estimates Medicare for All would cost taxpayers a mind-blowing \$32 trillion over 10 years, which would mean higher taxes on everybody. And it would eliminate private health insurance.

Another proposal, the so-called "public option," would do the same things, only more slowly. Supporters tout it as "moderate," but there's nothing moderate about it.

A government-run "insurance company" would "compete" with private insurers while also taxing and regulating them, until they are all driven out of business except – you guessed it – the government.

Our neighbor to the north, Canada, serves as a cautionary tale.

Private health insurance is effectively outlawed there, and health care is nominally "free." Yet patients end up paying for it in other, devastating ways, including long wait-lists that lead to needless suffering, lost income, and preventable death.

Canadians receive fewer cancer screen-



ings than Americans do and have higher mortality rates for certain cancers. While Americans enjoy access to 89 percent of new drugs, Canadians only have access to about half, because their government deems most new drugs "too expensive." The average wait time in Canada for an MRI scan is more than two months – to be treated by a specialist, more than five months.

There's a better way. Instead of a government takeover, we can fix what's broken in our system while preserving what works. We can expand access to care, reduce costs, and protect the vulnerable – without breaking the bank.

A critical first step: Modernize the tax break for employer-provided health benefits. This subsidy, which dates from World War II, generously rewards people who receive health benefits from an employer, but offers no relief to people who buy portable, personally owned health insurance or who pay for medical care out-of-pocket.

The result is a tilted playing-field that, according to a long-standing consensus among economists, is a major driver of today's rapid health care cost growth and lack of price transparency. We can go far toward ending unfairness and waste with two simple reforms:

One, America should expand access to Health Savings Accounts (HSA). An HSA is a powerful savings tool that enables families to pay for out-of-pocket medical expenses, tax-free. Studies show HSAs help reduce costs. Unfortunately, existing rules prevent 90 percent of Americans from having an HSA.

Two, we should strengthen and expand access to workplace Health Reimbursement Arrangements (HRA). HRAs give people more choice and control by enabling employees to buy portable, personally owned insurance with tax-free money from their employer.

Additionally, we should reduce drug prices by removing needless bureaucratic hurdles. Right now, receiving regulatory approval for a new drug in the U.S. takes an average of 10 years and nearly \$3 billion. We can slash those figures without reducing safety by letting drugs be marketed as soon as they are proven safe, and by automatically approving drugs proven safe in countries we trust like Europe and Japan.

Instead of a "public option," we need a personal option: a set of sensible, principled reforms that make American health care better, more affordable, and more accessible for everyone – without a government takeover.

Dean Clancy is a senior health policy fellow at Americans for Prosperity.

Rose Genusa Jones, age 69, died on the morning of October 7, 2020, after a courageous battle against brain cancer. She was born on March 26, 1951, in Independence, LA, and is survived by her husband, Herman S. Jones III; son, Brad J. Bourgoyne and wife Molly; grandchildren, Joseph, Anna, and David Bourgoyne; sisters, Mary Genusa Guzzardo and Felice McLaughlin; brother,

Frank Genusa and wife Mary; cousin, Antoinette (Toni) Liuzza who was like a sister to her throughout her life. She is preceded in death by her mother, Rosie D. Genusa and father, Joe Genusa; sister, Anna Mae Bourgoyne; and brother, Salvatore Genusa. Rose graduated from Amite High School in 1969 and later received a bachelor's degree in Business Administration from Southeastern Louisiana University. After college, she began working for the IRS, first as an Office Auditor and later as an IRS Revenue Agent. During the latter part of her career she served as an IRS Indian Tribal Government Specialist. Rose retired from the IRS in March of 2013. Family was the center of Rose's life. She and Herman were married for 34 years and her son, Brad, Molly, and their children were the light of her life. She absolutely adored her

grandchildren. Rose loved traveling and camping with Herman and a great circle of friends and family. She loved antiquing and exploring flea markets and garage sales. Rose was so proud of her Italian heritage. One of her most cherished trips was to her ancestral birthplace in Sicily. Rose was always the life of any gathering and was renowned for her quick wit and joke telling, particularly her Boudreaux and Thibodeaux jokes. Rose never met a stranger and took every opportunity to reach out to support others and to help those in need. She had a great passion for animals and truly adored her dogs, Sparky and Peaches. Rest in peace, dear, sweet Rose. Our lives will never be the same without you, but you will live on in our hearts forever. Thanks to the staff of Amadisys Hospice and the caregivers from Griswold Home Care for their kindness and

assistance. A special thanks to Toshika Brown-Patterson for her exceptional compassion and loving care, particularly during Rose's final days. Visitation and funeral services will be held on Tuesday, October 13, 2020. Visitation will be at Brandon Thompson Funeral Home, located at 7738 Florida Blvd., Denham Springs, LA, 70726, from 8:30 a.m. to 10 a.m. Mass, conducted by Father Matthew Graham, will follow at 11 a.m. at Immaculate Conception Catholic Church, located at 865 Hatchell Ln., Denham Springs, LA, 70726. Rose's eulogy will be delivered a few minutes before Mass starts. Rose will be laid to rest in the Colonial Cemetery and Mausoleum located at 13433 Vitrano Lane, Independence, LA, 70443. There will be no formal procession from the church to the cemetery. Graveside services will be conducted by family Deacon, Jeff Eas-

ley. Condolences and other information are available online at thompsoncares.com. Arrangements have been entrusted to Brandon G. Thompson Funeral Home.



Michael Shelton McKenzie, age 68, passed away peacefully with his sister by his side on Wednesday, October 7, 2020, while

under Hospice care. There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens (Ecclesiastes 3:1). God is able to restore even the most worn-out parts of me. Preceded in death by parents, Gordon Shelton McKenzie and Callie Wiley McKenzie. He is survived by his sister Darlene M. Brou, nephew Landon Brou, niece Chloe Spiker, and his beloved furry friends, Pobby and Otis, and multiple cousins and friends.

Our family would like to thank The Hospice of Baton Rouge for their love, care, and support in his final days. (They truly are Angels on earth). In lieu of flowers, donations in his name can be made to, The Hospice of Baton Rouge, 3600 Florida Street, Baton Rouge, La. 70806. Arrangements provided by Church Funeral Services and Crematory. Due to Covid- 19, there are no services planned.

to higher positivity, because we have few going to get tested just because they were around someone who had it."

Livingston has shown improvements in positivity, however. As of Monday, Livingston Parish is reporting a total of 3,855 cases and 76 COVID-19 related deaths, a figure that hasn't changed in the last eight days.

Monday marked the sixth time since Livingston Parish's first reported case

on March 19 that the parish didn't report a single new case. That doesn't include three days in which health officials took away cases from the parish's total case count.

According to officials, Livingston Parish has now conducted a total of 41,400 tests, a jump of 121 tests from Sunday.

Unemployment and business failure is another concern voiced by the council, wherein the letter suggests that as more businesses fail the chance of Livingston Parish recovering from COVID-19, economically.

dwindle.

In the nine-parish area surrounding Baton Rouge, unemployment has dropped to just over 38,000. East Baton Rouge leads with

23,151, but Livingston Parish remains third (despite being second in population) with 4,624. Both numbers are roughly one-fifth of their total at the height of

the coronavirus pandemic.

All nine councilmen signed the letter, which was sent to Gov. Edwards' office last week. The council will meet this Thursday, Oct. 8,

to discuss and response to the letter and the parish's reaction to the most recent stretch of low positivity.

[illegible]

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News

DIMATTIA ANNOUNCES CANDIDACY FOR CONSTABLE, WARD 9

STAFF REPORT
The Livingston Parish News

My name is Nick Dimattia and I am pleased and honored to announce my candidacy for Livingston Parish Constable, Ward 9 on the Republican ticket for the 2020 election on Tuesday, November 3rd.

I have over 21 years in law enforcement experience that will help me better serve the people of Ward 9. I will advocate to improve the overall efficiency of the office and will work for the people.

My experience includes 13 years with the Livingston Parish Sheriff's office, 6 years with the Denham Springs Marshal's office and 2 years with the Tangipahoa

Sheriff's office where I am currently employed. Every year for the state of Louisiana I complete 20 hours of continuing education in law enforcement in addition to the in-office training and criminal justice training I complete each year for the Sheriff's Office.

I'm a graduate of C.A.R.T.A. (Capital Area Regional Training Academy) also known as the Police Academy.

I am Louisiana Post Certified in basic law and also Louisiana Post Certified in corrections.

I received the Sheriff's Commendation for saving a human life in 2004 and in 2013 was awarded Peace Officer of the Year.

I have the experience,



skills and dedication to serve the people of this parish. I will be fair and impartial, devoting my time here and ensuring my duties are met to the highest regard.

I look forward to serving as your next Constable in

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FINANCE | AVOID FINANCIAL MISTAKES DURING RETIREMENT

BY JENNIFER BARRETT

Edward Jones

When you retire, you've learned a lot about all sorts of things, helping you avoid some of the mistakes you made earlier in life. However, you may still be susceptible to financial missteps specifically related to your retirement years. How can you dodge these errors?

Consider these suggestions:

Manage your withdrawal rate carefully.

You will likely need to tap into your retirement accounts – your IRA and 401(k) or similar employer-sponsored plan. But you should establish an annual withdrawal rate that's appropriate for your situation. By withdrawing too much each year, especially in the early years of your retirement, you risk outliving your resources. You may want to consult with a financial professional to determine the withdrawal amount that's right for you. (Keep in mind, though, that once you turn 72, you will be required to take out at least a certain amount



each year – based on your age and account balance – from your traditional IRA and 401(k) or similar plan.)

Don't underestimate health care costs. Once you turn 65, you will be eligible for Medicare, but you may still need a Medicare supplement plan and will probably also incur other expenses. In fact, A healthy 65-year-old couple who retired in 2019 will need nearly \$390,000 over their remaining years just to pay for health care, according to HealthView Services, which produces health-care

cost projection software. Other estimates show different amounts, but they all amount to hundreds of thousands of dollars. So, when calculating your expenses during your retirement years, reserve a big space for health care.

Don't take Social Security too early. You can start receiving monthly Social Security checks when you reach age 62, but your payments will generally be significantly larger if you wait until your "full" retirement age, which will probably be between 66

and 67. (The size of your payments will "max out" at age 70.) Of course, if you need the money at 62, you may have to take it, but if you believe you have longevity working in your favor, and you can afford to wait, you may be better off by delaying Social Security as long as possible.)

Don't invest too conservatively. Once you're retired, you might think that you should take as few chances as possible with your investments – after all, you simply have less time for them to bounce



back from a downturn than you did during your working years. Nonetheless, it's important to own a reasonable percentage of growth-oriented investments to help keep you ahead of inflation. Even at a low rate, which we've experienced recently, inflation can erode your purchasing power over time.

Don't be more generous than you can afford. If you have grown children who need financial help, or grandchildren heading to college someday, you'd no doubt like to do whatever you can to provide assistance. However, the hard truth is they simply have more time than

you do 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 don't go beyond that. By preserving your financial independence, you'll end up benefiting your family, as well.

Retirement can be a wonderful time of your life – and you may enjoy it more by doing what you can to avoid costly financial mistakes.

Jennifer Barrett (AAMS) is a local Edward Jones Financial Advisor.
225-612-0413 | jennifer.barrett@edward-jones.com

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Public Notices

Notice of Self Storage Sale

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household goods and furnishings.

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Star McDonald Units #B36WT & #C38WT
Jeffery Watson Unit #D03
Ashley Kinkead Unit #F11
Kaitlin Dayton Unit #F37
Melissa Braud Unit #D37
Ray Courtney Unit #C30
Sharlene Villar Unit #E28
Janet Williams Unit #B22
Sammi Darby Unit #C34
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All property is being stored at the above self-storage facility. This sale may be withdrawn at any time without notice. Certain terms and conditions apply. See manager for details

Notice of Self Storage Sale

Please take notice Red Dot Storage 165 -Denham Springs located at 30580 Dunn Rd., Denham Springs, LA 70726 intends to hold a public sale to sell the property stored in the following units stored at the facility. The public sale will occur at an online auction via www.storageauctions.com on 10/27/2020 at 9:30 AM. Unless stated otherwise the description of the contents are household goods and furnishings.

London Gill Unit #045
Jason Falcon Unit #029
Timothy Bergeron Unit #101

All property is being stored at the above self-storage facility. This sale may be withdrawn at any time without notice. Certain terms and conditions apply. See manager for details.

I, Sager Food Services L.L.C. DBA SARITA'S GRILL & CANTINA, am applying to the Office of Alcohol and Tobacco Control of the State of Louisiana for a permit to sell beverages of High & Low alcoholic content at retail in the Parish of Livingston at the following address:

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18773 Hwy 22, Suite A
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Owner: Ruderis O. Gomez

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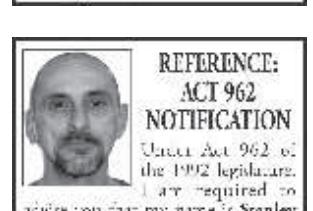


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REFERENCE: ACT 962 NOTIFICATION Under Act 962 of the 1992 legislature, I am required to advise you that my name is Eric Ray Lawson and that I have been convicted of Aggravated Sexual Battery. My address is as follows: 37380 Weiss Road, Denham Springs, LA 70706



REFERENCE: ACT 962 NOTIFICATION Under Act 962 of the 1992 legislature, I am required to advise you that my name is Stanley Wayne Williams Jr. and that I have been convicted of Criminal Knowledge of a Fugitive. My address is as follows: 19203 Perrillous Road, Livingston, LA 70754.

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'THIS AMAZING LITTLE BOY'

SIX-YEAR-OLD BATTLING RARE DISEASE LIVES OUT DREAM OF BEING POLICE OFFICER, NAMED HONORARY CHIEF FOR A DAY



“We got to see him be a boy. That was the biggest part of it. He was just a normal 6-year-old boy,” Kelli Parker said of her son, Jason.

PHOTO SUBMITTED

Jason Amy, a 6-year-old boy from Central who was diagnosed with Auto-Immune Encephalitis when he was 4, was invited to serve as honorary police chief of Denham Springs on Saturday, Oct. 3. Jason wants to be a police officer when he grows up.

BY DAVID GRAY
The Livingston Parish News

FOR A FEW HOURS, Jason Amy got to be a regular kid.

There was no discussion of Auto-Immune Encephalitis, the brain-attacking disease Jason was diagnosed with in March 2018 at 4 years old.

There was no mention of seizures, which until the last 10 weeks were a weekly occurrence for Jason, who sometimes endures as many as 20 in a single day.

There was no talk of the constant trips to the pharmacy for Jason's daily medications; no last-minute hotel bookings for his family while he received treatment in Texas; no sudden outbursts of violence he has no control over.

Instead, Jason got to be a normal kid, not a care in the world.

He smiled, he laughed, he gave out great big hugs, and took plenty of pictures, constantly flashing a wide grin for the camera. He got to live out his dream as a police officer, make some new friends, and open dozens of gifts sent to him from across the country.

After the trying experiences of the last two years, it was a day he and his family will never forget.

“We got to see him be a boy,” his mother, Kelli Parker, said, holding back tears. “That was the biggest part of it. He was just a normal 6-year-old boy. We just got to watch him be this amazing little boy.”

Denham Springs had a new face presiding over the city's safety when Jason Amy was recently invited to serve as the “honorary police chief” for a day.

After being “sworn in” during a “ceremony” on Oct. 3, Jason got a full tour of the Denham Springs Police Department headquarters, a thrilling experience for a boy who dreams of being a cop when he grows up.

Jason visited the command center; he locked his father in one of the jail cells; he assisted in a “traffic stop” and “arrest”; and he opened many gifts sent from police departments across the country. Many of the packages contained actual police badges, stickers, photos of K9s, T-shirts, trading cards, and a police kit.

“He thought he was big stuff when he wore that police hat,” Kelli said with a laugh.

To top things off, Jason got an inside look of Denham Springs Police Chief Shannon Womack's office, where he sat in the chief's chair and even put on his hat.

Normally shy around people he doesn't know, Jason took an instant liking to everyone there, especially Womack's wife Dee, whom he clung to throughout the entire

visit. Accustomed to her son's shyness around strangers, Kelli was pleasantly surprised to see Jason make an instant connection with the people he encountered.

“He just fell in love with everyone,” she said. “These are people who were really doing this because they just love their community and they want to love on my baby. That in itself was such a blessing. It was something I'll never forget.”

For Jason and his family, it was one of the most memorable days of an unforgettable two-year stretch, one that led to a harrowing diagnosis that has since turned everyone's lives upside-down.

‘No one knew what was going on’

It all started on Feb. 28, 2018, when Kelli was putting her son in his carseat to bring him to daycare. At one point, Jason started having a seizure, leading a frantic Kelli to call 9-1-1 and have him rushed to the hospital.

Other than an ear infection and stomach virus, Jason had never had any major health issues from the moment his parents adopted him at 5 months old, Kelli said. Now, doctors were unsure of what had caused the seizure, despite running a litany of tests.

After being put on a waiting list to see a pediatric neurologist — which was three months long at the time — Jason had another seizure the next day. He returned to the hospital where doctors, still uncertain of the cause, decided to try a sleep-deprived EEG, which further assesses changes in brain activity that can indicate various brain disorders.

The plan was to keep Jason awake all night before flashing a series of lights in the morning to induce a seizure, which they hoped would help them determine the cause behind them.

Jason didn't make it to the morning: Around 7 p.m., as nurses were bringing his dinner tray, Jason had one seizure and then another, ending with 10 cluster seizures throughout the night. At one point, he coded and was rushed to the intensive care unit, where he was put on a ventilator.

“No one knew what was going on,” Kelli said. “He was a mess.”

After 10 days at Our Lady of the Lake, Jason's doctor recommended that he be sent to Texas Children's Hospital in Houston. Kelli, who had never flown on a plane before, was now thousands of feet above the ground beside her son, who was still connected to a ventilator to help him breathe.

Jason was on a ventilator for 33 days, and doctors feared that, at best, he'd never walk or talk again, and at worst, he wouldn't sur-

vive. Meanwhile, Jason's seizures continued and at one point he developed pneumonia, Kelli recalled.

Following lumbar punctures, bloodwork, MRIs, and other tests, a doctor diagnosed Jason with Auto-Immune Encephalitis, a rare disease in which the body's own immune system mistakes the brain as a foreign object and relentlessly attacks it.

Doctors treated Jason with several rounds of steroids and plasma and were finally able to deliver some good news: Jason was going to make it. Unfortunately, there was also some bad news: After all the damage his brain suffered, Jason would never be able to walk or talk.

But Jason, as he's done countless times since that seizure on the way to daycare more than two years ago, defied the odds.

Five days after doctors said he'd never be able to move on his own, Jason threw stuffed animals in his crib. A day after they said he'd need to be fed through a jejunostomy tube, he was chowing down on pizza. Though his vocal cords were paralyzed, he looked to Kelli at one point and said “mommy,” his first words in weeks.

“After he said that, I knew we were gonna be okay,” Kelli said. “Since then, everything they said that he wouldn't do, it was like he'd just say, ‘Watch me.’ That's been our motto since, ‘Watch me.’”

‘God is good’

Though Jason has defied the odds, that's not to say he's been unscathed.

He takes six daily seizure medications and two daily doses of chemotherapy, which lower his immune system. To combat that, he takes calcium, Vitamin D, and magnesium, and he also takes pills to help him sleep.

The high-dosage is starting to show effects on his liver and kidneys, Kelli said.

“That's something we knew would eventually happen,” she said. “We're hoping to start weaning down some of these meds and give his body some time to heal, but his brain can't heal if he's having seizures constantly.”

With his particular disease comes several behavioral issues, most notably attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD). Jason, who will soon turn 7, is developmentally-delayed at a 3-and-a-half-year-old level and can get “very aggressive” at times, Kelli said. When he's in one of his fits, Jason will bite and hit anyone in range, and he's already been kicked out of one daycare for being violent with other children.

And because of his disease, Jason has never been able to do the one thing he wants to do above all others: He's never gone to

school.

“That's all he wants to do,” Kelli said. “Everyday he begs me.”

Despite the hardships brought on by the disease, Kelli said her family has received help “anytime there's a need.”

Sometimes, her husband will get a job he wasn't expecting. Other times, someone will call out of the blue saying they raised money “just to help out.” And other times, people will cook meals for the family, bringing dinner over every night for a week and sometimes longer.

For her birthday, Kelli created a fundraiser for the “Jason's Journey” Facebook page, which keeps more than 3,000 followers updated on her son's progress. Her goal was \$2,500. The fundraiser wound up raising more than \$3,600.

“I can't explain to you how it happens,” she said. “It just does. It's been very difficult, but God is good, that's all I can say. We have complete faith that he provides, and he has.”

Whether by fate or chance, Jason and his mother were shopping in Sam's Club in August when they met Joe Babin, a Denham Springs police officer who works with the department's K9 officer, Koi. Seeing the officer, Jason wanted to go say “hey” and wound up getting more than a simple “hello” in return.

After telling Jason to come back before he left the store, Babin gave the aspiring cop a badge and a little doubloon of Koi. Babin's wife later called Kelli and asked if it was okay to post photos of Jason to an Instagram page of K9 units from across the country.

A couple weeks later, she reached out again and asked if Jason would like to ride in a police car.

“I was like, ‘Are you freaking kidding me? Yes!’” Kelli recalled.

What started off a simple conversation in Sam's Club turned into Jason being named honorary chief for a day. The Denham Springs Police Department posted photos of the visit on its Facebook page, with many people congratulating “Chief Jason” on his big day.

Kelli, hoping to spread more awareness regarding her son's disease that still has no definitive cure, said the day was more than she could've ever expected, and she thanked the officers who made her son's dreams come true.

“I will never be able to thank them enough, ever,” she said. “They thanked us so much because it touched their hearts so much, and I was like, ‘You don't have to thank me. Thank you.’”

“We just hope this will bring awareness to this disease and to how amazing police officers are. There are some really good ones out there.”

LIVINGSTON PARISH LIBRARY, WALGREENS OF WALKER TEAMING UP TO OFFER FREE FLU SHOTS

BY DAVID GRAY
The Livingston Parish News

The Livingston Parish Library (LPL) is teaming up with Walgreens of Walker to provide free flu shots to the public in the month of October.

From Oct. 8-29, all five LPL branches will host one day of free flu shots in an attempt to hit all corners of the parish as the calendar goes from summer to fall. Registration is not required

to attend, but attendees must present a copy of their insurance card.

As flu season approaches, health experts are warning that the addition of another respiratory illness on top of the ongoing coronavirus pandemic could overburden the health care system, strain testing capacity, and increase the risk of catching both diseases at once.

To limit the burden on hospitals, Gov. John Bel Edwards and state health leaders have repeatedly urged the public to get flu

shots this year.

Below is the schedule for remaining free flu shots being offered by the Livingston Parish Library and Walgreens of Walker.

Free flu shots (location, time, date)

- Albany-Springfield Branch — 3:30-6 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 15
- Main Branch in Livingston — 4-6 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 22
- Watson Branch — 2-4 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 29

FOOD DISTRIBUTION EVENT PUSHED BACK A WEEK TO OCT. 17 DUE TO HURRICANE DELTA

BY DAVID GRAY
The Livingston Parish News

A food distribution event scheduled for last weekend was pushed back a week due to Hurricane Delta, according to organizers.

Volunteers from the local Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) team will pass out prepackaged food to residents of Livingston Parish at multiple distribution points on Saturday, Oct. 17.

The event was originally scheduled the morning of Saturday, Oct. 10, but Hurricane Delta, which hit Louisiana last

Friday, forced a postponement.

Part of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Farmers to Families Food Box program, the food distribution will start at 10 a.m. at sites in Denham Springs, Independence, and Holden. As many as 1,000 prepackaged food boxes will be given out at each site.

The USDA's food box program is part of the Families First Coronavirus Response Act that helps purchase and distribute agricultural products across the country.

Through this program, the USDA has partnered with national, regional and

local distributors, whose workforces have been significantly impacted by the closure of restaurants, hotels and other food service businesses.

The federal government has purchased up to \$4 billion in fresh produce, dairy and meat products from American producers of all sizes. The food is then put into family-sized food boxes before being transported to those in need.

According to organizers, a refrigerated truck will be brought to each site. Inside the trucks will be prepackaged boxes of fresh fruit, produce, dairy products, and meat products that will be passed out on

a first-come, first-serve basis.

The groceries are free to anyone, and no registration is required.

Listed below are the CERT Team food giveaway points of distribution:

- First Pentecostal Church in Denham Springs, located at 1020 S. Range Avenue (directly across from Walmart)
- Livingston Parish Fire District No. 11, located at 33815 Hwy. 43, Independence
- The Holden School, located at 30120 LA Hwy. 441, Holden

(Note: Distribution at all sites begins at 10 a.m. on Saturday, Oct. 17)

‘A TRUE LOUISIANAN’

FORMER LOUISIANA GOVERNOR MIKE FOSTER, WHO SERVED IN OFFICE AT THE TURN OF THE CENTURY FROM 1996 TO 2004, PASSES AWAY AT 90.

BY DAVID GRAY
The Livingston Parish News

Murphy James “Mike” Foster, Jr., who served as the 53rd governor of the state of Louisiana, passed away of natural causes at his home in Franklin on Sunday, Oct. 4.

He was 90.

A successful businessman in the state’s sugar and construction industries before he decided to enter the world of politics as a democrat at the age of 57, Foster served as governor from 1996 to 2004.

After a successful first term, Foster ran for a second term and won in a landslide in the first primary, marking the first time in many years that anyone won the governorship outright without a runoff election.

Prior to his time as governor, Foster went to high school in his home of St. Mary Parish, graduated from LSU with a degree in chemistry in 1952, enlisted in the U.S. Air Force and fought in the Korean War, and served two terms in the state Senate.

While in the governor’s office, one of Foster’s most lasting achievements was the creation of the Taylor Opportunity Program for Students (TOPS) scholarship, which helps thousands of Louisiana students attend colleges and universities.

Another was the creation of the Louisiana Community and Technical

College System for students who wanted post-secondary education schooling but not at a four-year university.

An avid outdoorsman, Foster also worked to protect and restore Louisiana’s coastline and moved to dedicate federal funding to this purpose.

Gov. John Bel Edwards issued a statement after news of Foster’s passing, calling him “a true Louisianan who served his country, his state and his community with honor throughout his life.” He also ordered that flags in the state be flown at half-staff “in honor of his memory.”

“Donna and I are praying for Gov. Foster’s family, and especially his wife Alice, during this difficult time and hope the people of our state will join their prayers to ours,” Edwards said.

LSU Interim President Thomas Galligan also released a statement addressing the former governor’s death.

“The LSU Community is saddened at the passing of Gov. Mike Foster, whose strong support of our university allowed LSU to make many crucial improvements to our campus, and whose development of the TOPS program has helped millions of Louisiana students get a college education,” Galligan said.

“His legacy will not be forgotten, and our thoughts and prayers go out to his wife, Alice, and the rest of his family.”

Foster was laid to rest following a ceremony in his hometown of Franklin on Wednesday, Oct. 7.



AP PHOTO/BILL HABER FILE
In this March 19, 2000, file photo, Louisiana Gov. Mike Foster addresses a joint session of the Legislature at the State Capitol in Baton Rouge, La. Foster, a folksy millionaire businessman who pushed major changes in education policy and lawsuit rules through an increasingly conservative state Legislature in the 1990s, died Sunday, Oct. 4, 2020. He was 90.



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procedure shall not provide for growth in the expenditure limit of more than five percent in any year. Once established by law, the procedure to determine the expenditure limit shall not be changed except by a law enacted by two-thirds of the elected members of each house of the legislature.

Section 2. Be it further resolved that this proposed amendment shall be submitted to the electors of the state of Louisiana at the statewide election to be held on November 3, 2020.

Section 3. Be it further resolved that the provisions of the amendment contained in this Joint Resolution shall become effective on June 30, 2022.

Section 4. Be it further resolved that on the official ballot to be used at the election, there shall be printed a proposition, upon which the electors of the state shall be permitted to vote YES or NO, to amend the Constitution of

Louisiana, which proposition shall read as follows:

Do you support an amendment to limit the growth of the expenditure limit for the state general fund and dedicated funds and to remove the calculation of its growth factor from the Constitution? (Effective June 30, 2022) (Amends Article VII, Section 10(C)(1))

Proposed Amendment No. 5
Regular Session, 2020

ACT No. 370

SENATE BILL NO. 272
BY SENATOR ABRAHAM AND
REPRESENTATIVES AMEDEE,
FARNUM, HARRIS, MCCORMICK,
MINCEY AND SEABAUGH
A JOINT RESOLUTION

Proposing to add Article VII, Section 21(O) of the Constitution of Louisiana, to provide for ad valorem property tax exemptions; to establish an exemption for certain property subject to a cooperative endeavor agreement requiring payments in lieu of taxes; to provide for requirements and limitations; and to specify an election for submission of the proposition to electors and provide a ballot proposition.

Section 1. Be it resolved by the Legislature of Louisiana, two-thirds of the members elected to each house concurring, that there shall be submitted to the electors of the state, for their approval or rejection in the manner provided by law, a proposal to add Article VII, Section 21(O) of the Constitution of Louisiana, to read as follows:

§21. Other Property Exemptions

Section 21. In addition to the homestead exemption provided for in Section 20 of this Article, the following property and no other shall be exempt from ad valorem taxation:

(O) Property that is subject to a cooperative endeavor agreement, as provided by law and this Constitution, between the owner and one or more taxing authorities which agreement requires the property owner to make payments in lieu of taxes as provided by law. Property eligible for this exemption shall be limited to property of a new manufacturing establishment or an addition to an existing manufacturing establishment.

(1) The exemption authorized under this Paragraph shall be to the extent agreed to and provided for in the cooperative endeavor agreement. All property exempted shall be listed on the assessment rolls and submitted to the Louisiana Tax Commission.

(2) Enactment of any law to implement this Paragraph and any amendment to that law shall require a two-thirds vote of the elected members of each house of the legislature.

Section 2. Be it further resolved that this proposed amendment shall be submitted to the electors of the state of Louisiana at the statewide election to be held on November 3, 2020.

Section 3. Be it further resolved that on the official ballot to be used at said election there shall be printed a proposition, upon which the electors of the state shall be permitted to vote YES or NO, to amend the Constitution of Louisiana, which proposition shall read as follows:

Do you support an amendment to authorize local governments to enter into cooperative endeavor ad valorem tax exemption agreements with new or expanding manufacturing establishments for payments in lieu of taxes? (Adds Article VII, Section 21(O))

Proposed Amendment No. 6
Regular Session, 2020

ACT No. 369

HOUSE BILL NO. 525
BY REPRESENTATIVE HILFERTY
A JOINT RESOLUTION

Proposing to amend Article VII, Section 18(G)(1)(a)(ii) of the Constitution of Louisiana, relative to the requirement that a person's income not exceed a certain amount in order to receive the special assessment level for residential property receiving the homestead exemption; to increase the amount of income allowed in order to qualify for the special assessment level; to provide for submission of the proposed amendment to the electors; and to provide for related matters.

Section 1. Be it resolved by the Legislature of Louisiana, two-thirds of the members elected to each house concurring, that there shall be submitted to the electors of the state of Louisiana, for their approval or rejection in the manner provided by law, a proposal to amend Article VII, Section 18(G)(1)(a)(ii) of the Constitution of Louisiana, to read as follows:

§18. Ad Valorem Taxes
Section 18.

(G) Special Assessment Level.
(1)(a)

(ii) Any person or persons shall be prohibited from receiving the special assessment as provided in this Section if such person's or persons' adjusted gross income, as reported in the federal tax return for the year prior to the application for the special assessment, exceeds ~~forty~~ one hundred thousand dollars. For persons applying for the special assessment whose filing status is married filing separately, the adjusted gross income for purposes of this Section shall be determined by combining the adjusted gross income on both federal tax returns.

Beginning for the tax year ~~2004~~ 2026, and for each tax year thereafter, the ~~forty~~ one hundred thousand dollar limit shall be adjusted annually by the Consumer Price Index as reported by the United States Government.

Section 2. Be it further resolved that this proposed amendment shall be submitted to the electors of the state of Louisiana at the statewide election to be held on November 3, 2020.

Section 3. Be it further resolved that on the official ballot to be used at the election, there shall be printed a proposition, upon which the electors of the state shall be permitted to vote YES or NO, to amend the Constitution of Louisiana, which proposition shall read as follows:

Do you support an amendment to increase the maximum amount of income a person may receive and still qualify for the special assessment level for residential property receiving the homestead exemption? (Amends Article VII, Section 18(G)(1)(a)(ii))

Proposed Amendment No. 7
First Extraordinary Session, 2020

ACT No. 38

SENATE BILL NO. 12
BY SENATOR FESI
A JOINT RESOLUTION

Proposing to add Article VII, Section 10(F)(4)(i) and Part V of Article VII, to be comprised of Section 28, of the Constitution of Louisiana, relative to unclaimed property funds; to provide for the creation of a special trust fund; to provide for the dedication and credit of unclaimed property monies; to provide for the investment, administration, and use of the monies in the special trust fund; to exempt the monies in the fund from

reduction in certain circumstances; to provide for certain reporting requirements; to provide for appropriation of monies in the special fund; to provide for an effective date; and to specify an election for submission of the proposition to electors and provide a ballot proposition.

Section 1. Be it resolved by the Legislature of Louisiana, two-thirds of the members elected to each house concurring, that there shall be submitted to the electors of the state, for their approval or rejection in the manner provided by law, a proposal to add Article VII, Section 10(F)(4)(i) and Part V of Article VII, comprised of Section 28, of the Constitution of Louisiana, to read as follows:

§10. Expenditure of State Funds

(F)

(4) The provisions of Subparagraphs (1) and (2) of this Paragraph shall not be applicable to, nor affect:

(i) The Louisiana Unclaimed Property Permanent Trust Fund, as provided in Article VII, Section 28 of this constitution.

PART V. UNCLAIMED PROPERTY
§28. Louisiana Unclaimed Property Permanent Trust Fund

Section 28.(A) Creation of Fund. (1) Effective July 1, 2021, there shall be established in the state treasury as a special permanent trust fund, the Louisiana Unclaimed Property Permanent

Trust Fund, referred to as the "UCP Permanent Trust Fund". No appropriation shall be made from the UCP Permanent Trust Fund.

(2) The purpose of the UCP Permanent Trust Fund is to ensure a source of payment for claims made by owners of unclaimed property. After allocation of money to the Bond Security and Redemption Fund as provided in Article

VII, Section 9(B) of this constitution, after the payment of all administrative fees, costs, and expenses as provided by law, and after the deposit of monies into the Unclaimed Property Leverage Fund, the treasurer shall annually deposit in and credit to the UCP Permanent Trust Fund the net amount of all monies received as a result of the Uniform Unclaimed Property Act of 1997 or its successor.

(3) Realized capital gains, dividend income, and interest income, earned on the investments in the UCP Permanent Trust Fund, net of trust fund investment and administrative expenses, shall be deposited into the State General Fund.

(4) All monies shall be credited to the fund as provided in Subparagraph (2) of this Paragraph until the balance in the UCP Permanent Trust Fund equals the amount of the state's potential liability to unclaimed property claimants as reported in the previous fiscal year pursuant to Paragraph (C) of this Section. All money received above the state's potential liability to unclaimed property claimants as reported by the state treasurer shall be deposited into the State General Fund.

(B) Investment and Administration. The money credited to the UCP Permanent Trust Fund pursuant to Paragraph (A) of this Section shall be permanently credited to the UCP Permanent Trust Fund and shall be invested by the treasurer. Notwithstanding any provision of this constitution to the contrary, a portion of money in the UCP Permanent Trust Fund, not to exceed fifty percent of the money in the UCP Permanent Trust Fund, may be invested in equities. The legislature shall establish by law procedures for the investment of such monies. The treasurer may contract, subject to the approval of the State Bond Commission, for the management of such investments. Investment earnings shall be

available for appropriation to pay expenses incurred in the investment and management of the UCP Permanent Trust Fund.

(C) Reports; Allocation. (1) Not less than sixty days prior to the beginning of each regular session of the legislature, the state treasurer shall submit to the legislature and the governor a report of the following:

(a) The balance of the UCP Permanent Trust Fund as of the close of the prior fiscal year.

(b) The state's potential liability to unclaimed property claimants as of the close of the prior fiscal year.

(2) Notwithstanding the provisions of Subparagraph (1) of this Paragraph, not less than sixty days prior to the beginning of the 2022 Regular Session of the legislature, the state treasurer shall submit to the legislature and the governor a report of the following:

(a) The balance of the UCP Permanent Trust Fund as of January 1, 2022.

(b) The state's potential liability to unclaimed property claimants as of the close of the prior fiscal year.

(3) If unclaimed property claims exceed receipts, the state treasurer shall certify the amount needed to pay received claims and shall allocate sufficient funds from the UCP Permanent Trust Fund to pay that amount. The state treasurer shall also immediately notify the legislature and governor of the amount transferred from the UCP Permanent Trust Fund and amount remaining in the UCP Permanent Trust Fund.

(D) Private Property. Property received by the state pursuant to the Uniform Unclaimed Property Act of 1997 or its successor and deposited into the UCP Permanent Trust Fund is private property held in trust until a claim is made for it by the owner.

Section 2. Be it further resolved that the provisions of the amendment contained in this Joint Resolution shall become effective on July 1, 2021.

Section 3. Be it further resolved that this proposed amendment shall be submitted to the electors of the state of Louisiana at the statewide election to be held on November 3, 2020.

Section 4. Be it further resolved that on the official ballot to be used at said election there shall be printed a proposition, upon which the electors of the state shall be permitted to vote YES or NO, to amend the Constitution of Louisiana, which proposition shall read as follows:

Do you support an amendment to create the Louisiana Unclaimed Property Permanent Trust Fund to preserve the money that remains unclaimed by its owner or owners? (July 1, 2021) (Adds Article VII, Sections 10(F)(4)(i) and 28)

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STORY SUBMITTED

For more than 112 years, the 4-H Program of Louisiana has been engaging youth in activities that help develop skills for a lifetime.

These skills range from communication to community service and from goal setting to leadership. Regardless of the skill learned, the benefits gathered from a young person participating in the 4-H Program are priceless.

The 4-H Program is a nationwide youth development program that has nearly 6 million youth involved in it annually. Administered in Louisiana by the LSU AgCenter Cooperative Extension Service, 4-H serves youth in all 64 parishes in the state through a network of 64 Parish Extension Offices. 4-H is managed jointly by both a professional and volunteer staff.

Louisiana 4-H has more than 235,000 youth participants and more than 9000 volunteers working together to deliver the projects, opportunities, and events offered annually through the program.

4-H is unique in that it offers experiences to the most urban young person and youth in rural areas by providing the

opportunity to participate in 4-H clubs, school enrichment opportunities, project clubs, day and overnight camps, and other special interest opportunities.

Youth members can participate in a variety of projects in the areas of healthy living, science, engineering, and technology, and citizenship. Beyond the excitement of learning something new through a project, youth have the opportunity to participate in leadership conferences, travel the world, become involved in their community through service, and meet new friends in a safe and comfortable setting.

A young person’s experiences in 4-H make a difference for a lifetime by allowing them to grow and appreciate the importance of being a good citizen, a strong leader, and a person of character.

If you would like to learn more about 4-H, or have a family member wanting to join 4-H, contact your local 4-H Agents: Christy Sorenson at csorenson@agcenter.lsu.edu or Mikaela Davenport at mcarennder@agcenter.lsu.edu. Visit the Livingston Parish 4-H Facebook page for additional information.



FILE PHOTO • THE NEWS

At right, Claire Conly (left) jokes around with her friend, Ruby Allen, as the pair work together to prepare a goat for the Livingston Parish 4-H/FFA Livestock Show on Friday, Jan. 19, 2018.

HUNGARIAN MUSEUM OFFERING DISCOUNT DAYS TO COMMEMORATE 1956 REVOLUTION

BY DAVID GRAY
The Livingston Parish News

The Hungarian Settlement Museum, dedicated to the historical preservation of the Hungarian community in Albany, Louisiana, is offering half-price admission in the second half of October to commemorate the 64th anniversary of the Hungarian Revolution of 1956.

Located at 27455 LA Hwy. 43, the museum will offer half-price admission on Oct. 20, Oct. 23-24, and Oct. 27. Docents will be giving museum tours throughout each day, with hours of operation running from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Half-price admission for the museum is \$4 for adults, \$3 for senior citizens and veterans, \$2 for children 18-8, and free for children younger than 7.

Due to reopening guidelines from the coronavirus pandemic, visitors will be required to wear masks, maintain social distance, and have fever checks before entering.



FILE PHOTO • THE NEWS

The Hungarian Settlement Museum, dedicated to the historical preservation of the Hungarian community in Albany, Louisiana, is offering half-price admission in the second half of October to commemorate the 64th anniversary of the Hungarian Revolution of 1956.

with some 4,000 Hungarians dying in the conflict. Decades later, Hungarian leaders later declared Oct. 23 a national holiday in celebration of those who rose against tyranny.

Along with displays of other aspects of Hungarian culture, the Hungarian Settlement Museum has pieces dedicated to the 1956 revolution for people to view and discuss.

In addition, people can purchase

copies of the “Hungarian Settlement Historical Society Cookbook,” which consists of 283 pages, 675 recipes, and 135 contributors as well as many helpful cooking tips throughout, and other museum merchandise.

The museum, located in the restored Hungarian Settlement school, reopened to the public in August following a five-month closure from the COVID-19 public

health emergency. The museum gives visitors a chance to explore Hungarian culture and history as well as the strawberry and lumber industries that first lured Hungarians to the area.

The local tourist attraction resulted from the creation of Hungarian Settlement Historical Society, which set out to restore the old Hungarian School into a museum.

In 2000, the society and the Livingston Parish School Board agreed to a 50-year lease renewable for successive half-century terms upon mutual consent of both parties. The lease allowed the society to establish a site for preservation of artifacts, documents, photographs, immigration papers, newspapers, and oral histories of Hungarian settlers.

The society utilized a variety of state grants, donations and fundraisers to begin the project, which required a complete renovation of the gutted-out building that was first built in 1906 but left vacant for 23 years before the museum process began.

The 3,000-square-foot museum was unveiled during a ribbon-cutting ceremony in September 2017, marking the museum’s completion and official opening to the public.

It is on the National Register of Historic Places and contains various items, documents, artifacts and other Hungarian treasures donated by more than 100 people from Louisiana and beyond. The museum now provides a site for research, cultural events, Hungarian language classes, exhibit and educational programs for children and adults.

For more information call (225) 294-5732 or (225) 610-7474. Additional information can be found by visiting www.hungarianmuseum.com.

SHERIFF’S OFFICE SEARCHING FOR OWNER OF EXOTIC LIZARD

BY DAVID GRAY
The Livingston Parish News

Another exotic lizard has made local news.

This month, the Livingston Parish Sheriff’s Office shared via social media that it had located a Savannah Monitor lizard near Brown Road and Joe May in Denham Springs.

While the lizard is currently being taken care of, deputies are trying to locate its owner.

Savannah monitors are stoutly built, with relatively short limbs and toes as well as skulls and dentition adapted to feed on hard-shelled prey, according to National Geographic.

They are described as robust creatures, with powerful limbs for digging, powerful jaws and blunt, peg-like

teeth.

Adult Savannah Monitor lizards can grow anywhere from 2.5-4 feet in length.

Anyone with information is encouraged to call the Livingston Parish Sheriff’s Office at (225) 686-2241 x1. Anyone who calls claiming to be the owner will be connected with the office’s animal expert partner to provide a description.

People calling about the lizard are asked to reference report #20-14548.

This marks the second time in the last two months that an exotic lizard was let loose in Livingston Parish.

In August, the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries cited a woman for releasing a Nile Monitor Lizard into the wild. That lizard has never been found.

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ALERT!

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Lifestyle

DENHAM SPRINGS FINE ARTS ASSOCIATION NAMES WINNERS OF 2020 FALL SHOW; EXHIBIT ON DISPLAY AT LIBRARY

STAFF REPORT
The Livingston Parish News

The Denham Springs Fine Arts Association has announced the winners of its 2020 Fall Show.

Taking home first-place honors were Joette LeBlanc, works under glass; Amber Hilbun, works not under glass; Mary Harris, photography; and A. Lynne Jones, miniatures. Liz Harman, president of the Arts Council of Livingston Parish, judged the pieces.

Nine DSFAA members submitted more than 40 pieces to the exhibit, which is on display at the Denham Springs-Walker Library, located at 8101 U.S. 190 (Florida Boulevard), through the month of October. Works were completed through a variety of mediums, including watercolors, acrylics, oils, photography and miniatures.

An 8-minute video of the exhibit can be found on the "Denham Springs Fine Arts Association" Facebook page.

The Denham Springs Fine Arts Association is an independent organization of artists — or anyone who loves art —



PHOTOGRAPHER NAME • THE NEWS
Pictured are the winners of the Denham Springs Fine Arts Association's 2020 Fall Show, which is on display at the Denham Springs-Walker Branch of the Livingston Parish Library system through the month of October. Pictured, from left, are Joette LeBlanc, Charlotte Walker, Melissa Basham, Chris Jones, Amber Hilbun, and A. Lynne Jones.

that gathers to discuss new art forms and techniques from local artists and other guest speakers.

The club welcomes visitors and new members to attend its monthly meet-

ings, typically held at the Denham Springs-Walker Branch of the Livingston Parish Library.

Listed below are the winners of this year's Spring Show:

Works under glass

First place - "Tung Oil #1" by Joette LeBlanc (watercolor)

Second place - "Western Lake" by Chris Jones (watercolor)

Third place - "Just A Stroll" by Melissa Basham (oil)

Honorable mention - "Morning Surf" by Joette LeBlanc (alcohol-ink on yupo)

Works not under glass

First place - "Cowboy Up" by Amber Hilbun (oil)

Second place - "Elm Cottage" by Margaret Shipley (oil)

Third place - "If I Could Go Back" by Sharon Willard (acrylic)

Honorable mention - "Swamp Tour" by Mary Harris (acrylic)

Photography

First place - "Busy Bee" by Mary Harris

Honorable mention - "Walking on Water" by Charlotte Walker

Miniatures

First place - "My Lilypad" by A. Lynne Jones (Vinyl Block Print)

Second place - "Watcha doin'?" by Amber Hilbun (oil)

ARTS COUNCIL OF LIVINGSTON PARISH TO HOLD HALLOWEEN-THEMED PAINT CLASS OCT. 20

STAFF REPORT
The Livingston Parish News

The Arts Council of Livingston Parish is inviting artists to a Halloween-themed paint party, in which they'll create a design of their choice.

Artists will learn under instructor Shelly Frederick,

who has taught several classes at the Arts Council in the past. No previous experience is necessary for the upcoming class, and everything needed will be supplied.

The class will be held at the gallery from 6-8 p.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 20. The deadline to register is Saturday, Oct. 17.

The cost for the class is \$35 per person, and people must reserve a spot as supplies are limited.

For more information or to register, email the Arts Council at info@artslivingston.org, call (225) 664-1168 or visit www.artslivingston.org.

Additional information can also be found on the "Arts Council of Livingston Parish" Facebook page.

MORE THAN 1,300 NAMED TO SLU SUMMER HONORS LISTS, INCLUDING 180 FROM LIVINGSTON PARISH

STAFF REPORT
The Livingston Parish News

Southeastern Louisiana University has named 1,358 students to its honors list for the summer 2020 semester.

Of that total, 180 are from Livingston Parish.

The honors list is divided into three academic levels: President's List students earned a 3.50 or better GPA; Dean's List students earned between a 3.20 - 3.49 GPA; and Honor Roll students earned a 3.00 - 3.19 GPA.

Honors list students must be full-time undergraduates carrying at least 12 credit hours and have no grade below a "C."

Southeastern provides a website to view the names of students receiving academic honors for the current semester and past semesters at the following link: http://www.southeastern.edu/admin/rec_reg/academic_honors/index.php.

Students from Livingston Parish named to the honors list are:

Albany President's List -- Tyler Bates, Kathryn R. Cornett, Bailee K. Gardiner, Dylan L. Glascock, Austin M. Hampton, Vincent L. Hart, Aidan M. Higginbotham, Robert G. O'Neal, Lauren L. Owens, Cody D. Sanders

Dean's List -- Jonathan B. Barksdale, Chancie L. Perry

Honor Roll -- Britt Harris

Denham Springs President's List -- Ashlyn C. Aidt, Trent M. Allen, Ainsley N. Archer, Heath Arnold, Angelica Beard, Camille E. Berthelot, McCoy V. Berthelot, Mason P. Bonura, Hailey Bonvillain, Danielle D. Branum, Gabrielle C. Brown, Haley L. Brown, Victoria S. Burr, Jami L. Bush, Rylie A. Butler, Merrisa Chapman, Amber L. Charbonnet, Anna E. Cobb, Paige N. Coleman, Julia K. Davis, Chance J. Dixon, Alexis R. Duplessis, Brooke D. Dupuy, Clarisa L. Findley, Blair D. Fontenot, Landon P. Fuentes, Jack M. Gauthier,

Lauren E. Ginn, Natalie S. Gunter, Holland Hardison, Brooke D. Harris, Faith Henry, Craig J. Hodges, Fallon M. Hutchinson, Andrea Idong, Francesca Inzina, Robyn R. Kent, Kaitlyn M. Lambert, Jessica A. Latchem, Emma R. Leblanc, Delayne E. Lee, Jordyn A. Louque, Peyton A. Manotas, Alexis J. Martin, Seth P. Martin, Diana L. McMenis, Reina D. McLemore, Brittney Meek, Austin J. Menier, Morgan L. Messina, Melodee Miller, Shelby Myers, Kelcie L. Overheim, Brendan N. Paline, Chloe L. Pepper, Kayla M. Perault, Pierce S. Rainey, Raphineas G. Riley Jr, Sydney A. Roberts, Rhett T. Rosevear, Rebecca Rushing, Rachel M. Scardina, Zoie R. Sedberry, Laura A. Settoon, Robert L. Stanley, Mason E. Swain, Caroline Taylor, LeAnna N. Touns, Karleigh E. Villeneuve, Rori J. Waguespack, Alexander P. Waller, Robin C. White

Dean's List -- Keli L. Berry, Aimee K. Dardeau, Brody J. Falcon, Michael A. Fitzgerald, Baileigh R. Futch, Kaitlyn R. Matrang, Kishan Patel, Jessica Poole

Honor Roll -- Genesis A. Aguilar, Alyssa L. Bolton, Reece W. Coleman, Jessica M. Cowart, Keely D. Davis, Kasia N. Ellis, Madison K. Gros, Hunter Guitreau, Jacob B. Hardison, Patrick A. Holwager, Clarissa D. Howell, Laurel Junda, Payton L. Morehead, Allisha P. Ramirez, Mandy N. Seale, Austin B. Shirley, Maeghan E. Staley

French Settlement President's List -- Jac-ey W. Rawls

Holden President's List -- Evan M. Folks, Dylan M. Grantham, Tyler J. Has-son, Shanna G. Lopushan-sky, Victoria P. Richard-son, Melanie Stevens, Leah N. Warner

Dean's List -- Courtney L. Edwards, Avery N. Rost

Honor Roll -- Damien D. Richardson

Livingston President's List -- Sara J. Cavalier, Cassidy Char-

pentier, Jamie L. Davis, Ashton B. Gill, Kailey N. Hixson, Sydney D. Mc-Creary, Jessica Methvien, Natalie A. Pekins, Savan-nah N. Powell, Kamryn E. Spears, Jerica D. Waller, Trace White, Grace L. Wolfe

Dean's List -- Kelly N. Guitreau

Honor Roll -- Gabrielle A. Belleau, Derek Kimble, Brandon R. Martin

Maurepas

Dean's List -- Christian L. Vicknair

Honor Roll -- Emma L. Austin, Kaylin N. Poirrier, Kayla R. Yarborough

Springfield President's List --

Lanell G. Crowell, Samantha B. Downey, Carley A. Miller, Kaitlyn A. Org-eron, Samantha Sanders

Honor Roll -- Austin D. Harris, Bryce I. Johnson

Walker President's List

-- Abril G. Alello, Jade N. Blackmon, Taylor E. Braun, Hannah L. Bridevaux, Easton P. Cifreo, Madison R. Fournet, Bailey R. Gautreaux, Alexia B. Griffiths, Mckenzi B. Grimes, Shawn N. Guercio, Jody Guidry, Elizabeth Hill, Lydia Hunter, Mason Z. Inman, Geddy A. Langlois, Morgan M. Machen, Christopher D. McKey, Madison L. Rushing, Maegan M.

Singleton, Alyssa M. Travis, Rissa P. Webb-Simmons

Dean's List -- Allyson G. Holder, Abigail S. Kimble, Hilton McGaughey

Honor Roll -- Austin Credeur, Kyle A. Guidry, Charles L. Langlois, Cullen B. Lawton, Kaitlyn Summers, Madeline C. Waddell

Watson President's List -- Jordan M. Tate

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BIG VICTORIES!



STACY SUMMERS | SPECIAL TO THE NEWS
Live Oak's Garrett Davies (17) is pursued by Kentwood defenders during Thursday's game.

LIVE OAK DOMINATES KENTWOOD IN 31-6 WIN

By Rob DeArmond
The Livingston Parish News

WATSON – Six days certainly made a difference for the Live Oak football team. After missing out on a few scoring opportunities in last week's season-opening loss to West Feliciana, the Eagles more than made up for it in a 31-6 romp over Class 2A No. 9 Kentwood last Thursday at Live Oak.

"The game plan was let the offensive line dictate it and move the ball, run the clock and let the backs do what they do, and they did an outstanding job tonight," Live Oak coach Blane Westmoreland said after the Eagles rushed for 330 yards with sustained drives that kept the ball out of Kentwood's hands, limiting the Kangaroos to three first downs and 31 yards of total offense.

After falling behind 6-0 early in the first quarter, the Eagles (1-1) went to a formula that worked the entire night, running the ball nine straight times on a 53-yard drive that was capped by Daylen Lee's 1-yard touchdown run for a 7-6 lead.

The Eagles gained chunks of yardage

on the drive with the big play coming on an 18-yard gain by Cade Getwood to the Kentwood 4.

"It was really amazing," Lee said of the team's effort. "A lot people didn't think we could do it. They thought we were the underdogs, and we just pulled through. Confidence is boosted all the way up. We're ready."

After forcing a Kentwood (1-1) punt, Live Oak went on a 16-play drive that culminated in Landon Ratcliff's 29-yard field goal for a 10-6 lead.

Magee hit Thomas Walker for 13 yards, Chase Jones for 17 and three yards on fourth-and-3 at the Kentwood 31 to keep the drive going. Hunter Hasselbeck had a 16-yard run to the Kentwood 12 to set up the field goal.

After forcing another Kentwood punt, Live Oak went on a 14-play drive covering 67 yards. Lee had runs of 15 and 11 yards and Walker another 11-yard gain. Lane Hilbun's 10-yard run got the Eagles to the Kentwood 5.

On third-and-goal, the Eagles were flagged for a false start, giving them seven seconds to run a play. Magee found Davis on a 10-yard TD for a 17-6 lead at half-time.

"It was great," said Brock Magee, who went 6-for-10 for 43 yards passing. "It was a big momentum change for us. Going into half instead of being up four, you're up 11. It's a big, big jump. It puts you up two scores, and it's a confidence thing for our guys. It takes a lot to get them going. We had kind of a slow start but putting the ball in the end zone before the half really helped us keep the momentum and build into the second half, and you saw what happened. We really took off from there."

With senior tailback Jordan Watson out with an injury, the Eagles turned to an expanded committee to pick up the slack. Ten players carried the ball for Live Oak with freshman Lee leading the way with 23 carries for 116 yards and Hilbun adding 18 carries for 105 yards.

"Our offensive line did a good job of

listening to the game plan and executing the game plan like we wanted them to," Westmoreland said. "Our backfield, it's by committee. It's by design. That's what we want. We've got a number of guys we have confidence in ..."

Live Oak didn't let up in the second half as TJ Magee intercepted Elzy on the second play of the third quarter, setting up another touchdown drive for the Eagles starting at their own 30.

"It all started with the offense," TJ Magee said. "Daylen did a good job running the ball, which kept us off the field. Our d-line did a good job pressuring the quarterback, which caused me to get the interception because he just threw it under pressure."

"All week we worked on finishing," TJ Magee continued. "So the big thing coming out of halftime this week was finishing. We had to make sure we finished the game."

LIVE OAK
PAGE 14

ALBANY OVERCOMES EARLY MISSED OPPORTUNITIES TO OUTLAST DEQUINCY, 38-28

By Rob DeArmond
The Livingston Parish News

ALBANY – After missing out on a few scoring opportunities in the first half of against DeQuincy, Albany made sure it didn't happen in the second.

That was a good thing for the Hornets, who scored on four straight possessions in the second half while the Tigers scored on three of their final four drives as Albany picked up a 38-28 win last Wednesday at Jessie Fletcher Memorial Stadium.

"We've got a talented football team, and that's now two games where we've kind of come out sluggish, and we've got to figure out what's causing that and we've got to get the ball rolling," Albany coach Mike Janis said. "I know what we're capable of, but I told them it doesn't matter if I know it, and it doesn't matter how much I tell them. If they don't believe it, it's just words, and those guys responded to that challenge in the second half. They did a great job."

Albany (2-0) led 12-6 at halftime, forced a DeQuincy punt on the first drive of the second half and had a first-and-goal at the DHS 2 before Albany quarterback J.J. Doherty lost a fumble on fourth down to



Left, Albany quarterback J.J. Doherty (1) carries the ball as DeQuincy defensive back Jacob Pharris closes in during Wednesday's game.

end the drive.

The Hornets forced a punt and took over at the DeQuincy 34, where Doherty hit Reece Wolfe on a 34-yard TD pass on fourth down to start Albany's scoring wave and push the lead to 18-6.

"I think the more we plays we put in, the more that we develop," said Wolfe, who finished with four catches for 112 yards and two TDs. "We're just building a lot of chemistry. On the field, we see things, we tell the coach and he lets us put it in. We've just got to execute it when we put it in."

DeQuincy answered with an 11-play, 73-yard scoring drive capped by a 1-yard touchdown run from Taije Ceasar to cut the lead to 18-13. The big play was a 36-yard pass from Gunnar Gearen to Gabe Johnston to the Albany 3.

A nice return by Wolfe on the ensuing kickoff set Albany up at the DeQuincy 44. Five plays later, Doherty found Wolfe for 26 yards to the DeQuincy 9, setting up Doherty's 8-yard TD pass to Michael McCahill on fourth down, helping push the lead to 25-13.

"We've got a very special player (Doherty) that we feel like on any given down, he can make plays, and when you've got somebody like that, we've got to figure out the best way to use him in those situations," Janis said. "We had a lot of oppor-

ALBANY
PAGE 14

Sports

LSWA PREP FOOTBALL POLLS

CLASS 5A				CLASS 4A				CLASS 3A				CLASS 2A				CLASS 1A			
Rec.	Pts.	Pvs.		Rec.	Pts.	Pvs.		Rec.	Pts.	Pvs.		Rec.	Pts.	Pvs.		Rec.	Pts.	Pvs.	
1. Acadiana (7)	2-0	107	1	1. Karr (6)	2-0	104	T1	1. De La Salle (5)	2-0	101	2	1. Ferriday (4)	2-0	102	1	1. Ouachita Christian (7)	2-0	107	1
2. Rummel (1)	1-0	89	3	2. St. Thomas More (2)	2-0	101	T1	2. St. James (3)	1-1	95	1	2. Lafayette Christian (2)	0-1	90	2	2. Calvary Baptist (1)	1-1	95	2
3. Catholic-BR	1-1	85	2	3. Carencro	3-0	83	4	3. Madison Prep	2-0	87	3	3. Many (2)	2-0	85	3	3. Oak Grove	2-0	92	3
4. Zachary	1-0	76	5	4. Neville	1-1	80	3	4. University High	1-1	77	4	4. Newman	2-0	83	4	4. Haynesville	2-0	76	6
5. John Curtis	1-1	68	4	5. Northwood-Shreve	2-0	59	7	5. Sterlington	1-1	73	5	5. St. Charles	2-0	74	5	5. Riverside	2-0	55	NR
6. Brother Martin	2-0	65	6	6. Warren Easton	1-1	57	5	6. Lake Charles Prep	1-0	64	6	6. Notre Dame	2-0	62	7	6. Catholic-PC	1-1	46	4
7. Ruston	2-0	56	8	7. Assumption	1-1	53	6	7. Union Parish	2-0	54	T7	7. Amite	1-1	46	6	7. Opelousas Catholic	1-1	42	5
8. West Monroe	1-1	47	9	8. Tioga	2-0	46	8	8. Jennings	2-0	40	9	8. Episcopal-BR	2-0	43	8	8. Ascension Catholic	1-0	39	9
9. Scotlandville	2-0	29	10	9. Eunice	2-0	39	9	9. Green Oaks	2-0	38	10	9. Mangham	2-0	36	10	9. Vermilion Catholic	1-0	36	8
10. East Ascension	2-0	21	NR	10. Minden	2-0	26	10	10. St. Louis	2-0	27	NR	10. Kentwood	1-1	22	9	10. East Iberville	2-0	34	T10
Others receiving votes: Haughton 14, Hahnville 11, Byrd 11, Destrehan 9, Holy Cross 4, Alexandria 2, Mandeville 2, Airline 2, St. Paul's 1.				Others receiving votes: Bastrop 17, Westgate 14, Leesville 11, Huntington 5, North DeSoto 3, DeRidder 2.				Others receiving votes: Kaplan 18, McDonogh 35 12, Loyola 12, Marksville 2, E.D. White 2.				Others receiving votes: Catholic-New Iberia 18, Red River 12, Kinder 12, North Caddo 7, Dunham 5, General Trass 4, Menard 1.				Others receiving votes: Southern Lab 31, Logansport 30, Cedar Creek 10, West St. John 4, Country Day 2, Oberlin 2, Montgomery 1.			

ALBANY: MOVES TO 2-0 ON SEASON WITH WIN OVER DeQUINCY

FROM 13

tunities on fourth down tonight to figure out what works and what doesn't work. We'll carry that over into our coming weeks and make sure we're doing the best thing we can do on fourth down. We have the talent to be a four-down team. We've got to make people respect us in that regard."

DeQuincy returned the kickoff to the Albany 49 and scored four plays later on Caesar's 8-yard TD run, making the score 25-20.

"I thought we did a good job on kick return, but we gave up way too many yards on the kickoff a couple of times, and when you're kicking off as much as we did, we've got to be better at that," Janis said. "That unit is on the field a lot through the course of a game now over two games. We've got to make sure that's one of our most productive units, and it wasn't tonight. Same goes with the extra point. We've now had an opportunity to go for one or go for two, and the conversion rate is not looking very good right now, so we've got to make sure that what we're doing in those situations helps us. We left four points on the board tonight, and when you come down to the end of the game, you're looking

ALBANY 38, DeQUINCY 28			
Score By Quarters			
DeQuincy	6	0	7
Albany	6	6	20
Scoring Summary			
AHS – J.J. Doherty 15 run (kick failed)			
DHS – Gabe Johnston 7 pass from Gunnar Gearen (pass failed)			
AHS – Reece Wolfe 38 pass from J.J. Doherty (pass failed)			
AHS – Wolfe 34 pass from Doherty (pass failed)			
DHS – Taije Ceasar 1 run (Hadley Cooley kick)			
AHS – Michael McCahill 8 pass from Doherty (Caleb Barksdale kick)			

at up by 10 instead of up by 14, and when it comes down to the end and the other team's scoring, that's a big deal."

DeQuincy attempted an onside kick, which the Hornets recovered at their own 43 to set up another score.

Tyrese Wilson broke a 19-yard run, Doherty had a 14-yard keeper and found Seth Galyean for 17 yards to set up Doherty's 1-yard TD run for a 31-20 advantage.

"We just kept working and believing," said Doherty, who went 11-for-27 for 226 yards and three touchdowns and rushed for 137 yards and two touchdowns on 18 carries. "We

know what we can do. We were just beating ourselves mentally."

DeQuincy turned the ball over on downs at its own 30, setting up Wilson's 1-yard TD run and a 38-20 lead with 1:46 to play.

The Tigers returned the kickoff to the Albany 29, where Gearen and Johnston hooked up on the final TD of the night on the next play.

Ceasar's run on the two-point conversion capped the scoring with 1:25 to play.

As high-scoring as the second half was, the first was a different story.

Antonio Lopinto sacked Gearen on the first play of the second quarter, forcing a fumble which was recov-

ered by Lane Eyster at the Albany 23.

Three plays later, Doherty connected with Galyean on what appeared to be a 54-yard touchdown pass, but Galyean lost the ball in the end zone, and DeQuincy recovered.

"I was down here," Janis said of the play. "I wasn't there to make the call. The official had a much better view from me, but so did everybody standing on the fence, and they were yelling that he was in, so I started yelling that he was in, but like I said, I didn't have a good view of it. It's just a play where he (Galyean) let his guard down, and he's going to learn a lesson from it. You've got to sprint until



RENEE GLASCOCK • THE NEWS
Reece Wolfe celebrates one of his touchdowns in last Wednesday's game against DeQuincy.

you touch that goal post, and you come back and you hand the ball to the official. He just let off the gas, and the guy caught up with him."

McCahill intercepted Gearen to end DeQuincy's next drive, setting up a 38-yard touchdown pass from Doherty to Reece Wolfe two plays later, giving the Hornets a 12-6 lead.

"It's just communicating on where he wants the deep ball and where he wants any of his (passes)," Doherty said of the chemistry between he and Wolfe. "It was there."

Albany forced a punt on the next DeQuincy

drive and a bad snap on the play resulted in a punt that netted (-6) yards, setting the Hornets up at the DeQuincy 34.

The Hornets came up empty, turning the ball over on downs at the DeQuincy 31 when a throw from Doherty went off Wolfe's hands in the end zone on fourth down.

Albany forced another punt and drove to the DeQuincy 37 before turning the ball over on downs again just before halftime.

The Hornets got rolling on their first drive, going 56 yards in seven plays. Doherty hit Wilson for 18 yards, and Doherty's 18-yard scramble on fourth-and-7 set up his 15-yard TD run on the next play for a 6-0 lead.

DeQuincy answered following a kickoff return to the Albany 37 as Gearen hit Ceasar on a 9-yard pass on fourth-and-5 at the Hornet 32 to keep the drive going.

Three plays later, Gearen and Johnston connected on a 7-yard TD pass to tie the game at 6-6.

"We had some guys there in the first half we just missed on and made some adjustments for the second half, and the kids came out and responded," Mike Janis said. "I think more than anything, they responded mentally and just kind of came together and played as a team."

LIVE OAK: TURNS IN DOMINATING EFFORT AGAINST KENTWOOD

FROM 13

After halftime, we reset the score back to 0-0, and we didn't want to let them score any points."

Live Oak's defense held Kentwood to minus-13 yards rushing as Elzy had one yard on six carries and 44 yards passing.

"We felt like the lines would be the winner of the game – offensive and defensive lines," Westmoreland said. "We really felt like if we could get to the quarterback, he's very mobile, shifty, can make you miss. We just wanted to kind of

LIVE OAK 31, KENTWOOD 6			
Score By Quarters			
Kentwood	6	0	0
Live Oak	7	10	7
Scoring Summary			
KHS – Jyrin Eugene 1 run (kick failed)			
LO – Daylen Lee 1 run (Landon Ratcliff kick)			
LO – Ratcliff FG 29			
LO – CJ Davis 10 pass from Brock Magee (Ratcliff kick)			

contain him, and the defensive line did an outstanding job getting pressure, making him uncomfortable, making

some poor throws. The kid's a heck of an athlete, but our guys did an outstanding job of keeping him contained

and not letting him get outside."

After the interception, Lee carried five straight

plays for 20 yards before Hilbun busted a 21-yard run, setting up his 17-yard TD burst three plays later for a 24-6 lead.

Live Oak forced another punt but lost a fumble on the ensuing drive. Another Kentwood punt set up an 11-play, 77-yard scoring drive for the Eagles. Garrett Davies picked up five yards on fourth-and-3 at the Kentwood 14, setting up Bentz Borne's touchdown run on the next play for the final margin.

Kentwood got an early break when Live Oak punter Landon Ratcliff's knee

hit the turf as he fielded a snap, allowing the Roos to take over at the Eagles' 29.

Elzy hit Jyrin Eugene on a 28-yard pass, setting up Eugene's 1-yard TD run on the next play for a 6-0 lead.

"We went down early, but we've got a lot of fighters out here," Brock Magee said. "They're going to come back and hit you in the mouth. A lot of young guys, but that's no excuse for us. We're not going to say, 'oh, they haven't that experience yet'. It's their time to step up, you get hit in the mouth, you've got to respond."

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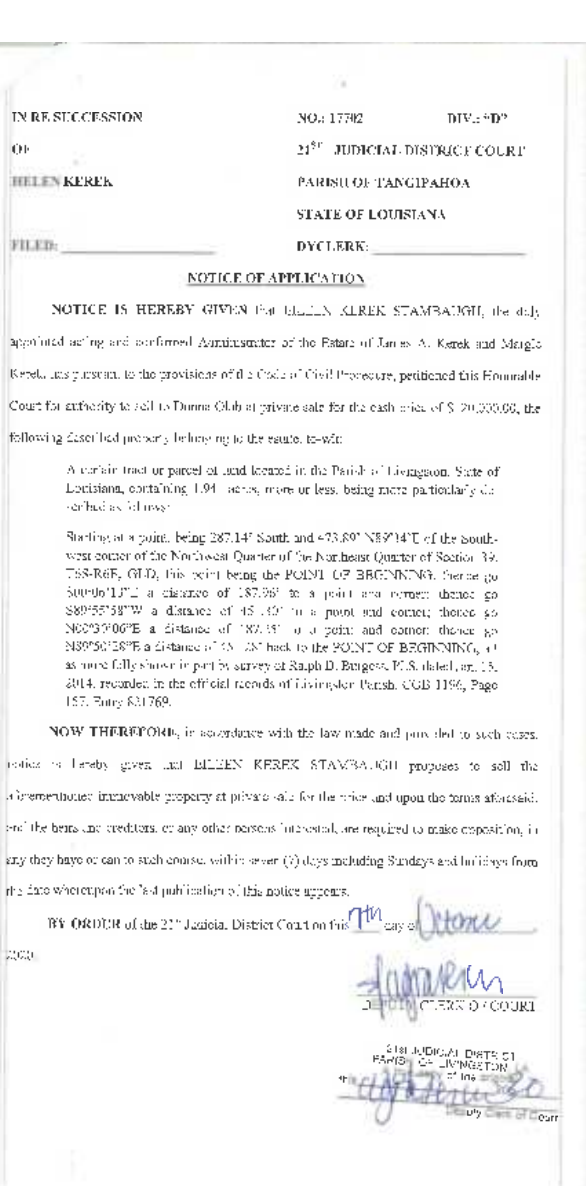
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Minutes of the Livingston Parish Council
Livingston, Louisiana
September 24, 2020

The Livingston Parish Council met in a regular session duly called, advertised, and convened at its regular meeting place, the Parish Council Chambers, Governmental Building, 20355 Government Boulevard, Livingston, Louisiana, on Thursday, September 24, 2020, at the hour of six o'clock (6:00) p.m., with the following Livingston Parish Council members present:

Jeff Ard	R.C. "Bubba" Harris
Garry Talbert	Gerald McMorris
Maurice "Scooter" Keen	Tracy Girlinghouse
John Wascom	Randy Delatte

Also, present: Layton Ricks, Parish President
Mr. Christopher Moody, Parish Legal Counsel
Jennifer Meyers, Finance Director

The chair asked the public to please mute or turn off their cell phones.

The chair announced that Public Input would be accepted from any member of the audience wishing to address an agenda item and explained the procedure to be called upon.

The chair addressed agenda item number 7, "Presentations". Having none at that time, the chair moved to the next agenda item.

The chair addressed agenda item 8a, "Adoption of the Minutes from the September 10, 2020 Board of Review".

LPR NO. 20-298
MOTION was made by Tracy Girlinghouse and duly seconded by Maurice "Scooter" Keen to dispense with the reading of the minutes dated September 10, 2020 for the Board of Review meeting of the Livingston Parish Council and adopt as written.

Upon being submitted to a vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

YEAS:	MR. DELATTE, MR. HARRIS, MR. MCMORRIS, MR. ARD, MR. KEEN, MR. GIRLINGHOUSE, MR. TALBERT, MR. MACK, MR. WASCOM
NAYS:	NONE
ABSENT:	NONE
ABSTAIN:	NONE

Thereupon the chair declared that the Motion had carried and was adopted.

The chair addressed agenda item 8b, "Adoption of the Minutes from the September 10, 2020 regular meeting of the Livingston Parish Council".

LPR NO. 20-299
MOTION was made by Gerald McMorris and duly seconded by John Wascom to dispense with the reading of the minutes dated September 10, 2020 for the regular meeting of the Livingston Parish Council and adopt as written.

Upon being submitted to a vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

YEAS:	MR. DELATTE, MR. HARRIS, MR. MCMORRIS, MR. ARD, MR. KEEN, MR. GIRLINGHOUSE, MR. TALBERT, MR. MACK, MR. WASCOM
NAYS:	NONE
ABSENT:	NONE
ABSTAIN:	NONE

Thereupon the chair declared that the Motion had carried and was adopted.

The chair addressed agenda item 9, "Adoption of the mandated annual resolution for the Council on Aging from the Parish governing authority authorizing the filing of an application with the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development for a grant under 49 CFR 5311, Non-Urbanized Area Formula Program and/or 49 CFR 5309, Discretionary Capital Program – Kay Granger, Director of the Council on Aging".

The chair asked if there was any comment on this agenda item. Councilman Garry Talbert advised that this was an annual application that the Council on Aging needed and he would like to make the motion for this resolution.

PARISH COUNCIL OF THE PARISH OF LIVINGSTON, STATE OF LOUISIANA
LPR NO. 20-300

The following resolution was offered by Garry Talbert and duly seconded by Tracy Girlinghouse:

L.P. Resolution No. 20-300

Resolution authorizing the filing of an application with the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development for a grant under any of the following FTA programs managed through Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development.

- 49 CFR 5311, Formula Grant for Rural Areas
- 49 CFR 5339, Grants for Bus and Bus Facility Program

WHEREAS, the Secretary of Transportation and Development is authorized to make grants for mass transportation projects;

WHEREAS, the contract for financial assistance will impose certain obligations upon the applicant, including the provisions by it of the local share of project costs;

WHEREAS, it is required by the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development in accord with the provisions of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, that in connection with the filing of an application for assistance that it will comply with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the U.S. Department of Transportation requirements thereunder; and

WHEREAS, it is the goal of the Applicant that minority business enterprise be utilized to the fullest extent possible in connection with this project, and that definitive procedures shall be established and administered to ensure that minority businesses shall have the maximum feasible opportunity to compete for contracts when procuring construction contracts, supplies, equipment, or consultant or other services:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Livingston Parish Council:

- That the Livingston Parish President is authorized to execute and file an application on behalf of the Livingston Parish Council with the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development, to aid in the financing of operating and / or capital assistance projects pursuant to FTA transit programs.
- That the Livingston Parish President is authorized to execute and file with such applications – an assurance or any other document required by the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development effectuating the purposes of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended.
- That the Livingston Parish President is authorized to furnish such additional information as the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development may require in connection with the application of the project.
- That the Livingston Parish President is authorized to set and execute affirmative minority business policies in connection with the project's procurement needs.
- That the Livingston Parish President is authorized to execute grant contract agreements on behalf of the Livingston Parish Council with the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development for aid in the financing of the operating or capital assistance projects.
- This resolution is applicable for a period of one year unless revoked by the governing body and copy of such revocation shall be furnished to the DOTD.

Upon being submitted to a vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

YEAS:	MR. DELATTE, MR. HARRIS, MR. MCMORRIS, MR. ARD, MR. KEEN, MR. GIRLINGHOUSE, MR. TALBERT, MR. MACK, MR. WASCOM
NAYS:	NONE
ABSENT:	NONE
ABSTAIN:	NONE

Thereupon the chair declared that the Motion had carried and was adopted.

STATE OF LOUISIANA
PARISH OF LIVINGSTON
A RESOLUTION OF THE LIVINGSTON PARISH COUNCIL.
LPR NO. 20-301

The following resolution was offered by Jeff Ard and duly seconded by Randy Delatte:

WHEREAS, the Livingston Parish Council is the governing authority of the Parish of Livingston and responsible for establishing and designating voting precincts and their locations as provided in Louisiana Revised Statute 18:532; and

WHEREAS, the polling location for Precincts 3 and 3B are currently located at Community Chapel, addressed at 35490 Walker North Road, Walker, LA 70785; and

WHEREAS, the agreement previously arranged in the year 2019 with Community Chapel to be used as a voting precinct has become resolute and it has been determined to be unsuitable; and

WHEREAS, the Livingston Parish Registrar of Voters has obtained an agreement with Faith Crossing UMC, said church being addressed at 34260 Walker North Road, Walker, LA 70785, and

WHEREAS, the relocation of Precincts 3 and 3B will be ordained and mandated as an emergency measure necessitated to accommodate these precincts for the upcoming elections as listed below; and

WHEREAS, determining the time sensitivity of the upcoming elections for the Open Primary/Presidential/Congressional election scheduled on November 3, 2020 and the Open General/Congressional/RSCC election scheduled on December 5, 2020, the facilities at Faith Crossing UMC have been deemed ready and available for use as the polling location for Precincts 3 and 3B, allowing it to be used and facilitated as soon as possible for the registered voters of Livingston Parish assigned to these precincts; and

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED by the Livingston Parish Council under the authority granted by Louisiana R.S. 18:534, and pursuant to the request and recommendation by the Livingston Parish Registrar of Voters office that voting Precincts 3 and 3B are hereby relocated to Faith Crossing UMC, 34260 Walker North Road, Walker, LA 70785, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Livingston Parish Council that the Council Clerk is hereby directed to carry out the mandates of R.S. 18:535 et. seq. by giving such notice and taking such steps as required to adequately notify candidates and voters of said change.

Upon being submitted to a vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

YEAS:	MR. DELATTE, MR. HARRIS, MR. MCMORRIS, MR. ARD, MR. KEEN, MR. GIRLINGHOUSE, MR. TALBERT, MR. MACK, MR. WASCOM
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NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: NONE

ABSTAIN: NONE

Thereupon the Chair declared that the Resolution had carried and was adopted.

The chair addressed agenda item number 11a, "Parish President's Report":

Introduction of Ordinance: Declare the following property as surplus and no longer needed for public purposes and authorize the sale of same to Joshua Irvine for the sum of \$23,000.00 located at 23400 Boss McNabb Road, Livingston, LA 70754, Lot 5, Union Landing Estates Subdivision, Section 27, T8S, R5E and authorize the Parish President to execute any and all documents necessary to convey the property to Joshua Irvine.

The following ordinance was introduced in proper written form and read by title, to wit:

L.P. ORDINANCE 20-27

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE LIVINGSTON PARISH COUNCIL TO DECLARE:

- A CERTAIN LOT OR PARCEL OF LAND TOGETHER WITH ALL IMPROVEMENTS THEREON, LOCATED IN THE PARISH OF LIVINGSTON, STATE OF LOUISIANA, AS SURPLUS PROPERTY NO LONGER NEEDED FOR PUBLIC PURPOSE, AND BEING FURTHER DESIGNATED AS:

ONE (1) CERTAIN LOT OR PARCEL OF GROUND, SITUATED IN SECTION 27, TOWNSHIP 8 SOUTH, RANGE 5 EAST, LOCATED IN LIVINGSTON PARISH, LOUISIANA, AND BEING LOT NUMBER FIVE (5) OF UNION LANDING – ESTATES SUBDIVISION, AND BEING DESIGNATED ON THE OFFICIAL PLAT THEREOF BY ALVIN FAIRBURN AND ASSOCIATES, DATED FEBRUARY 24, 2000, ON FILE AND OF RECORD IN THE OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF COURT AND RECORDED FOR LIVINGSTON PARISH, SAID LOT IS SUBJECT TO SUCH COVENANTS, RESTRICTIONS, SERVITUDES AND BUILDING LINES OF RECORD AND AS SHOWN ON THE OFFICIAL SUBDIVISION PLAT, AND ALSO BEING FURTHER DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS BY A SURVEY PLAT ENTITLED MAP SHOWING BOUNDARY SURVEY OF LOT 5 OF UNION LANDING ESTATES SUBDIVISION, FOR THE PARISH OF LIVINGSTON BY FORTE AND TABLADA, INC., SIGNED BY JAMIE M. BORDELON, PLS AND DATED NOVEMBER 1, 2011. SAID LOT CONTAINS 0.94 ACRES, MORE OR LESS.
- THE PROPERTY ACQUISITION IS RECORDED IN BOOK 1152, PAGE 347, FILE NUMBER: 787541, OF THE OFFICIAL RECORDS OF THE CLERK AND RECORDER OF LIVINGSTON PARISH. THE MUNICIPAL ADDRESS IS 23400 BOSS MCNABB ROAD, LIVINGSTON, LA 70754.
- AND TO AUTHORIZE THE SALE OF SAID PROPERTY TO JOSHUA IRVINE, HIS AGENT OR ASSIGNS, FOR THE SUM OF TWENTY-THREE THOUSAND AND 00/100 (\$23,000.00) DOLLARS CASH.

LPR NO. 20-302
MOTION was offered by Randy Delatte seconded by Maurice "Scooter" Keen to publish the ordinance by title in the Official Journal in accordance with the legal mandates and set a Public Hearing for Thursday, October 8, 2020 at the hour of six o'clock (6:00) p.m. at the Parish Council Chambers in the Governmental Building located at 20355 Government Boulevard, Livingston, Louisiana, at which time comments will be received on the proposed ordinance prior to a Council vote.

Upon being submitted to a vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

YEAS:	MR. DELATTE, MR. HARRIS, MR. MCMORRIS, MR. ARD, MR. KEEN, MR. GIRLINGHOUSE, MR. TALBERT, MR. MACK, MR. WASCOM
NAYS:	NONE
ABSENT:	NONE
ABSTAIN:	NONE

Thereupon the chair declared that the Motion had carried and was adopted.

The chair advised that he would be moving agenda items 21, 22, 23 and 24 up from their placement on the agenda and would be handling each item one (1) at a time. The chair met no opposition to moving these items up on the agenda.

The chair addressed agenda item number 21, "Discussion of the Parish of Livingston's inclusion with ten parishes that have been allocated \$1.2 Billion Dollars in Community Development Block Mitigation Funds:

- Status and Analysis of the Parish of Livingston's projects inquiring what these funds will be used for and their organizational timeline
- Inquiry of \$100 Million Dollars of this funding and its availability on September 18, 2020"

Councilman Randy Delatte advised that he had asked to have this item placed on the agenda and after speaking with the Parish President and his treasurer, he stated that he was a little premature on it. He indicated that there was a meeting for this scheduled on the following Monday and acknowledged that Administration had a presentation that evening that they would like to share.

Ms. Jennifer Meyers, Parish Finance Director, reported that she would like to present a very basic rundown presentation for the funding that she advised that 1.2 billion (\$1,200,000,000) was for the entire state of Louisiana, the period of round one (1) release of funding was 100 hundred million (100,000,000) and fifty percent (50%) of that 100 million (100,000,000) has to be spent in the ten (10) most affected parishes, which Livingston is one (1). So, there is 50 million dollars (\$50,000,000.00) in round one (1) that will get spread out amongst the ten (10) parishes. She was assuming that is why they had to submit pre-apps so they could decide how they could best divvy up that money. She indicated that the Parish has three (3) pre-apps in for this project. The first pre-app is for 5.4 million (\$5,400,000.00) in match money for our NRCS and HMGP projects. She explained that the NRCS is where the Parish was digging out, getting debris out of the waterways we're in agreement for our NRCS program and our match on that is, we're up to 2.26 million, so half of that 5.4 is NRCS and the other half is those HMGP projects. She explained that HMGP is that money that got funneled down after the 2016 Flood where the Parish put in applications and received about 68 million dollars (\$68,000,000.00). For all of those projects that were applied for, there is a twenty-five (25%) percent match, so the other half of that 5.4 million is the twenty-five (25%) percent match on all of those HMGP projects, so that we can get our money back to do additional drainage projects. The second pre-app is four million dollars (\$4,000,000.00) for infrastructure hazard mitigation. She advised what that meant in layman's terms, is that four million dollars (\$4,000,000.00) would be to help serve as the homeowner match on elevations. So, homeowners who have flood property or repetitive flood properties depending on what tier that they are in, would give them that twenty-five percent (25%) match that most homeowners just can't have to elevate their home out of the danger of flood. She stated that they have multiple projects going on doing this same thing and it is very popular, but the majority of homeowners just can't come up with twenty-five percent (25%) of the costs to elevate their home. It could range from \$70,000.00 to \$100,000.00 to elevate their home.

Councilman Delatte stated that he knew of two (2) homes at that present moment that falls into that category that she was speaking about. He questioned if there would be a mechanism put in place, or a contact phone number that they could reach out to?

Ms. Meyers said that where they were in this process was: pre-apps have been submitted, the money has come down, there's a mechanism in place, and they have to finish determining project solutions and put in applications for those projects by January 21, 2021. She indicated that they had a meeting on Monday with the engineer of CRPC to sort of get some more information. She had invited Councilman Garry Talbert to this meeting because of her past experiences with him and at that point, they will reassess what they think that our projects are going to look like. She advised that the Parish does have someone who sits on the Steering committee for the Watershed Initiative, so she is not the one making these decisions, she's just funneling information to the Councilmembers through the budget.

Councilman Delatte questioned if the projects were limited to Livingston Parish or were, there five (5) parishes, ten (10) parishes?

Ms. Meyers stated that she did not think that there were hard and fast rules, but what they were hearing was that it had been divided into watershed regions and it needs to benefit the entirety of the watershed as a whole, or at least some portion of benefit to the region as a whole.

Councilman Delatte stated that Ascension Parish was in a different watershed region than Livingston Parish, and anytime that Ascension receives help to pump their water out, they are pumped into waterways that Livingston uses. Councilman Delatte asked that whoever attended the upcoming meeting, please stress the need to cut a channel through Lake Maurepas. He discussed in detail how the backup of flood water has progressed throughout the Parish over time and felt that it was important to have not only the Parish Council's personal touch in speaking at the meeting, but also involve the community's voice as well.

Ms. Meyers wished to remind the Councilmembers that there were seven (7) eligible categories for funding under this 1.2 billion dollars (1,200,000,000.00). She indicated that this was the current category-not dismissing all drainage issues that they have-was the reason that they have only these specific three, was because that type funding was what was opened up in this first period.

The chair questioned if application can still be made by homeowners to elevate their home?

Ms. Meyers answered, yes and no. She advised that there were multiple project funding sources for these types of projects. Some are run directly through FEMA that are annual as Congress releases those funds. The 2019 projects have been locked down and the applications received, but they haven't released the funding and they haven't started on those projects. The 2020 projects are about to be locked down and they are still taking applications.

Councilman Garry Talbert denied that the grant that they were applying for was for people with the max, so if you were in 2018 or 2019 getting funded, in theory, the 100 million would be to help you make your match for elevation. Ms. Meyer interjected and stated that it was also to get your match returned.

Councilman Delatte inquired if one of the homes was being bought out? Would it be the same or different?

Ms. Meyers stated that it doesn't differentiate between acquisition and elevation here, it simply states those HMGP programs.

Councilman Delatte advised that the two (2) cases that he was speaking of earlier, one was raised and one was bought out, and they were both told that they ran out of money, both being on the 2018 list.

Ms. Meyers concurred and stated that sometimes homeowners only receive seventy-five percent (75%) of the appraised value when they are bought out. It just depends on which program that you get in, sometimes the cost-benefit determines what program that you get in, it's not always apples and apples, the rules have not come down on which will qualify and which will not qualify yet.

Councilman Talbert questioned Ms. Meyers that in theory, if all the money that they have applied for is granted, it's not necessarily spoken for, people who are still applying for a grant in 2020 or in the 2021 program, will possibly have funding available?

Ms. Meyers stated that was correct, and even if they don't, it takes a long time for these programs to come to completion, years even. She reminded them that this is only round one (1) of the funding available, and there may be additional hazard mitigation funds in the future. There could be hazard mitigation funding available in every round, subsequent to round one.

Councilman Delatte acknowledged that Ms. Meyers had addressed agenda item number 21, and stated that he thought it would be best to wait until after the meetings in order to see what you can and cannot do on agenda item number 23, "Discussion of plan of action and solutions to Parish-wide Drainage that includes the Amite River, Tickfaw River, Blind River and the channel through Lake Maurepas to North Pass:

- Request for authorization to direct the Parish engineer or hire an outside engineer to formulate proposals that would ease flooding in the entirety of Livingston Parish as all water channels use these outlets
- Appoint a Citizen and Council Committee to work with engineers for ideas to alleviate flooding in Livingston Parish and make recommendations to Parish Government of necessary funding"

Councilman Delatte further explained that he wished to have a committee comprised of both Councilmembers and outside citizens, but he wasn't sure if the Parish would have money to apply for those things, such as dredging the rivers, building levees, adding pumps....

Ms. Meyers interjected and explained that she had an update on that information as well. She reminded Councilman Delatte of the previously mentioned GOMESA funds and the Parish's two (2) GOMESA projects, being Blind River and Amite River Coastal Restoration. She stated that there was potentially funds available that prompted her to call the Parish's bonding bank representative to make sure of how the GOMESA revenue works. She further explained that when the Parish originally bonded the eight million dollars (\$8,000,000.00) in GOMESA funding to spend, the estimation of yearly revenue from the federal government would be seven hundred thousand a year (700,000). Last year, the Parish's GOMESA royalty was 1.2 million. And because the revenue is so much higher than what they had projected, what will happen is, once that revenue hits the bank account, they pay what they need to pay, for principle and interest payments for that year, or set it aside in reserve, fifty percent (50%) goes in the overage to Turbo Refunding those bonds and the other comes back to the Parish in the form of a check so that they may spend it on those GOMESA restricted projects. The Parish did not receive a check for that year because the federal year starts October through September and they will start cutting checks starting in the next year.

Councilman Delatte stated that he did not want to put words in the Parish President's mouth, but he had stated that those funds could be used for Parishwide drainage, so that's why they needed to wait and see what a committee could and could not do. He suggested that they pass on this agenda item until the meeting had occurred on the following Monday.

Ms. Meyers asked the Councilmembers to review their copy presented of the budget for the 2020 amended and 2021 projected. She explained that COVID had slowed everything down and it may not be as pinpoint accurate as it would be at that time of the year normally. They did not have numbers for property insurance yet, because of a moratorium, and the carriers were not releasing numbers at that time while there was an active threat out there, and they did not have numbers for health insurance for 2021 because Blue Cross likes to get into October prior before they give you an estimate. She stated that she would put those numbers in there as soon as she found out what they will be. She continued and stated that the road fund was a hot topic and wished for the Councilmembers to look at the road fund in detail, but did not want them to question at the bottom why there was an amount of fund balance that they were not spending, because there was a fund balance after the seven million dollars (\$7,000,000.00) that would be put in next year's asphalt overlay program and there were some projects that were about to roll down the hill eventually that they wanted to have match for, and if they do not happen, they will dump that money in the 2021 program.

Councilman Talbert asked Ms. Meyers for clarification of the seven million dollars (\$7,000,000.00). She explained that it would be added to next year's program.

Councilman Delatte wished to address agenda item number 24, "Authorization of Parish Government to establish a Local Coastal Management Program as per Louisiana Administrative Code and Louisiana Revised Statutes to facilitate many benefits of funding local coastal authorization of permitting, maintenance of existing waterways and flood protection levees" and asked if Ms. Meyers was familiar with the Local Coastal Management Program? She asked for more information regarding this. Councilman Delatte gave a detailed synopsis of what he had learned of this program. Ms. Meyers requested for Councilman Delatte to send her that information and she would provide the answers to his questions.

Councilman Talbert wished for clarification if this was the meeting that they were supposed to introduce the budget? Ms. Meyers stated that no, it simply says that our budget will be presented, and that she will give you the budget before September 30th. She clarified that she would present an ordinance on the first meeting in November for the adoption of the finalized budget and that they can vote on at the first meeting in December.

The Parish President wished to address the Councilmembers to verify that Halloween will be as usual on October 31st so that their kids in the parish will have the opportunity to trick-or-treat if they are so inclined. He stated that his office had put out a press release and asked everyone to follow the restrictions (COVID-19) as best that they can and would not be preventing their kids from trick-or-treating.

The chair recognized an audience member who requested to address the Councilmembers.

Public input: Keith "Hawkeye" Landry, resident of Hannah Road in Maurepas, District 8: discussed the growing problem of flooding in his area

Councilman Delatte further discussed the progressed flooding problems in great detail.

The chair addressed agenda item number 12a:

"Planning Commission Recommendations:

a.	A & S Aggregates Preliminary Site Plan LA Highway 1019	Sections 61 & 64, T6S R2E	Montoya Design Council District 3"
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Public input: Bill Russell, resident of Paradise Lakes: wished to make sure that all aspects are adhered to

Councilman Garry Talbert answered questions that were raised at the September 10, 2020 regular meeting of the Livingston Parish Council when this item was first brought up for approval.

LPR NO. 20-303
MOTION was made by Maurice "Scooter" Keen and duly seconded by Randy Delatte to accept the recommendation of the Livingston Parish Planning Commission **to approve the preliminary site plan for A & S Aggregates**, located on Louisiana Highway 1019, Sections 61 and 64, T6S R2E in Council District 3.

Upon being submitted to a vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

YEAS:	MR. DELATTE, MR. HARRIS, MR. MCMORRIS, MR. ARD, MR. KEEN, MR. GIRLINGHOUSE, MR. TALBERT, MR. MACK, MR. WASCOM
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NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: NONE

ABSTAIN: NONE

Thereupon the chair declared that the Motion had carried and was adopted.

The chair addressed agenda item number 13, "Remedy of Blighted Property/Condemnation located at 13168 Fox Street, Maurepas, LA received from Parish Building inspector in Council District 8" and called upon Councilman Randy Delatte.

Councilman Delatte briefly gave explanation and answered questions. Councilman Garry Talbert stated that they have hashed this out many times and requested a legal opinion from the Parish legal advisor, Mr. Christopher Moody. He questioned what should be the Council's first step in this process?

Mr. Moody advised that he could send them a memo from a previous opinion, and he could send them a whole book about how it is done and the process as set out by state law, the Parish's ordinance procedure and how it is to be done.

Councilman Talbert asked if this should be started at the Administrative level? Mr. Moody stated that they were an Administrative arm. Councilman Maurice "Scooter" Keen stated that all they could do is request Administration to do this. Councilman Talbert advised that he wished to be sure that he felt from the beginning of what they had been told that he wanted to reiterate, was that the Council can ask the Administration to do it, but until the Administration makes steps to do it, about all that the Council could do, was ask. Mr. Moody agreed.

LPR NO. 20-304
MOTION was made by Randy Delatte and duly seconded by Maurice "Scooter" Keen to ask Administration to consider starting the condemnation proceeding on 13168 Fox Street, Maurepas, LA in Council District 8.

Upon being submitted to a vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

YEAS:	MR. DELATTE, MR. HARRIS, MR. MCMORRIS, MR. ARD, MR. KEEN, MR. GIRLINGHOUSE, MR. TALBERT, MR. MACK, MR. WASCOM
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NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: NONE

ABSTAIN: NONE

Thereupon the chair declared that the Motion had carried and was adopted.

The chair addressed agenda item 14, "Public Hearing and Adoption of L.P. Ordinance No. 20-23, Amend Chapter 125, "Subdivision Regulations" Section 125-30, "Drainage Districts".

The chair declared that the Public Hearing for L.P. Ordinance No. 20-23 was open and asked if anyone wished to speak and have Public input. Having none, the chair requested for the Council clerk to read the ordinance by title.

Councilman Tracy Girlinghouse, Ordinance committee chairman requested to speak and go over the proposed changes to the ordinance.

He read and advised that the changes were as follows:

Section 125-30 - Drainage districts.

(a) In all areas of development which lie all or in part within a **funded recognized**-drainage district, complete drainage impact studies, when required, shall be submitted to the applicable drainage district in accordance with Section 125-9 of this chapter. Any comments must be directed to the O/D/S's project engineer and the review engineer for consideration-~~however, the review engineer will make the final recommendation to the Planning Director.~~

(b) All costs incurred by the drainage district in the course of their review of any construction/development shall be borne by the ~~drainage district~~ **O/D/S.**

(c) All fees shall be paid prior to release of approved documents and proof of payment shall be received before final approval of the Planning Department.

Having no further input from the Councilmembers the chair closed the public hearing.

LPR NO. 20-305
The following ordinance which was previously introduced in written form required for adoption at a regular meeting of the Livingston Parish Council on August 13, 2020, a summary thereof having been published in the Official Journal together with a notice of public hearing which was held in accordance with said public notice, was brought up for final passage on September 24, 2020 on Motion of Garry Talbert and seconded by Tracy Girlinghouse:

L.P. ORDINANCE 20-23

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 125 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF LIVINGSTON PARISH, "SUBDIVISION REGULATIONS" ARTICLE I, IN GENERAL, SECTION 125-30, "DRAINAGE DISTRICTS," AS FOLLOWS.

YEAS:	MR. DELATTE, MR. HARRIS, MR. MCMORRIS, MR. ARD, MR. KEEN, MR. GIRLINGHOUSE, MR. TALBERT, MR. MACK, MR. WASCOM
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NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: NONE

ABSTAIN: NONE

And the ordinance was declared adopted on the 24th day of September 2020.

(The above and foregoing ordinance, upon final approval by the President, or the Council in case of veto by the President, shall be published in full in the Official Journal by the Clerk of the Council within fifteen (15) days of its adoption and shall be recorded in full in the Livingston Parish Council Ordinance Book No. 4).

The chair addressed agenda item 15, "Public Hearing and Adoption of L.P. Ordinance No. 20-24, Amend Chapter 22, Article I, "Noise", Section 22-22, "Specific Prohibitions".

The chair declared that the Public Hearing for L.P. Ordinance No. 20-24 was open and called upon the Council clerk to read the ordinance by title.

Councilman Garry Talbert explained the reason for the proposed amendment.

The chair asked for public input from the audience. Having none, the chair asked if the Councilmembers had any input.

Councilman Gerald McMorris stated that he wished to make certain that the Livingston Parish Sheriff's office received notice of this change to make sure that their deputies were aware of this amendment to the ordinance.

Having no further input from the Councilmembers the chair closed the public hearing.

LPR NO. 20-306
The following ordinance which was previously introduced in written form required for adoption at a regular meeting of the Livingston Parish Council on August 13, 2020, a summary thereof having been published in the Official Journal together with a notice of public hearing which was held in accordance with said public notice, was brought up for final passage on September 24, 2020 on Motion of Tracy Girlinghouse and seconded by R.C. "Bubba" Harris:

L.P. ORDINANCE 20-24

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 22, "ENVIRONMENT," ARTICLE II, "NOISE," SECTION 22-22, "SPECIFIC PROHIBITIONS," PART (A) AND (B), OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES IN AND FOR THE PARISH OF LIVINGSTON TO AMEND THE SPECIFIC PROHIBITIONS TO EXCLUDE PRIVATE PROPERTY.

YEAS:	MR. DELATTE, MR. HARRIS, MR. MCMORRIS, MR. ARD, MR. KEEN, MR. GIRLINGHOUSE, MR. TALBERT, MR. MACK, MR. WASCOM
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NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: NONE

ABSTAIN: NONE

And the ordinance was declared adopted on the 24th day of September 2020.

(The above and foregoing ordinance, upon final approval by the President, or the Council in case of veto by the President, shall be published in full in the Official Journal by the Clerk of the Council within fifteen (15) days of its adoption and shall be recorded in full in the Livingston Parish Council Ordinance Book No. 4).

The chair addressed agenda item 16, "Public Hearing and Adoption of L.P. Ordinance No. 20-25: Quitclaim/Servitude Revocation for Mildred Richardson located on Richardson Drive in Council District 8".

The chair requested the Council clerk to read the ordinance by title and opened the Public Hearing. The chair questioned if anyone in the audience wished to speak.

Having no Public input from the audience, the chair requested if the Councilmembers had anything that they wished to question or comment upon.

Councilman Garry Talbert questioned if all mandates had been met? The Council clerk advised that Mr. Sam Digiovanna concurred at the previous meeting when the ordinance had been introduced that all requirements of the servitude revocation ordinance had been met.

Having no further comment, the chair closed the Public Hearing.

LPR NO. 20-307
The following ordinance which was previously introduced in written form required for adoption at a regular meeting of the Livingston Parish Council on September 10, 2020, a summary thereof having been published in the Official Journal together with a notice of public hearing which was held in accordance with said public notice, was brought up for final passage on September 24, 2020 on Motion of Randy Delatte and seconded by R.C. "Bubba" Harris:

L.P. ORDINANCE 20-25

AN ORDINANCE AS FOLLOWS, TO-WIT:

REVOKING THE DEDICATION, ABANDONING, AND QUITCLAIMING IN FAVOR OF MILDRED RICHARDSON, A 40' SERVITUDE OF PASSAGE IDENTIFIED BY THE CROSS-HATCHED PORTION AS SHOWN ON THE MAP SHOWING REVOCATION OF A 40' PUBLIC ACCESS SERVITUDE LOCATED IN SECTIONS 15 & 48, T7S-R6E, GREENSBURG LAND DISTRICT, LIVINGSTON PARISH, LOUISIANA, BY LESTER A. MC LIN, JR., PROFESSIONAL LAND SURVEYOR, DATED AUGUST 17, 2020.

NAYS: NONE
 ABSENT: NONE
 ABSTAIN: NONE

Thereupon the chair declared that the Motion had carried and was adopted.

The chair addressed agenda item 19, "Authorization of building setback waiver for the reduction of rear building setback from twenty (20') feet to three (3') and side building setback from seven (7') feet to three (3') feet located on Lot 3, Oakland Drive in Council District 2" and called upon Councilman Garry Talbert who explained the need for the adoption of this resolution and the Planning Department's recommendation to grant the setback waiver.

Councilman Tracy Girlinghouse had many questions before he wished to vote on this item. Councilman Talbert answered these questions to the satisfaction of Councilman Girlinghouse. Councilman John Wascom wished to question the footage requirements of the setback. The chair stated that he felt what was being asked for would be okay as long as you did not elevate the building. Councilman Wascom wished to state that he was going to support this, but wanted everyone to understand that Mr. Talbert was asking for a waiver, and requested that this was made note of and put in the record that Mr. Talbert was in favor of supporting a waiver.

Several Councilmembers made various comments in an open discussion. Councilman Talbert stated that he did not want Mr. Ford, who was requesting the waiver to be penalized for asking for permission instead of forgiveness. The chair advised that sometimes it makes sense to support a waiver request. The discussion ended and the chair called for the vote.

LPR NO. 20-310
 MOTION was made by Garry Talbert and duly seconded by Randy Delatte to authorize a building setback waiver for the reduction of rear building setback from twenty (20') feet to three (3') and side building setback from seven (7') feet to three (3') feet located on Lot 3, Oakland Drive for Mr. Ford in Council District 2.

Upon being submitted to a vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

YEAS: MR. DELATTE, MR. HARRIS, MR. MCMORRIS, MR. ARD, MR. KEEN, MR. GIRLINGHOUSE, MR. TALBERT, MR. MACK, MR. WASCOM

NAYS: NONE
 ABSENT: NONE
 ABSTAIN: NONE

Thereupon the chair declared that the Motion had carried and was adopted.

The chair addressed agenda item number 20, "Rename 1584 feet of Sidney Hutchinson Drive to Springhill Drive located in Council District 5" and called upon the Council clerk who wished to correct the road name in question on the agenda from Sidney Hutchinson to Sidney Montgomery Drive. Councilman R.C. "Bubba" Harris explained the need for this resolution. He advised that by doing this, it will bring the footage of Springhill Drive up to seven thousand two hundred eighteen feet (7218'), which is just an extension of this road as it goes back.

even though he was asking for a waiver, he was consistent in the way that he tried to address these throughout the year.

Councilman Delatte asked for discussion and stated that he was in support of this waiver, but wished to state that he thought that this should be handled administratively. Councilman Wascom and Council Keen requested to clarify why the ordinance needed a waiver from the Council.

Councilman Jeff Ard advised that he had a waiver request that was coming up, that had somewhat spurred the changes of the Department of Public Works doing the work for subsurface drainage first. He indicated that there had been a waiver request in his district on Nancy Drive. Upon looking at the current ditching in the subdivision, there were ditches that had been closed in every third house, every second house on one side, and it was causing major problems on this road. He stated that subsurface drainage must start at the beginning and tie the drainage in all the way down the road to avoid pushing water on to their neighbors. He gave other examples of subdivisions in his district and the problems they were facing because of sporadic placement of subsurface drainage in subdivisions designed for open ditching.

LPR NO. 20-312
 MOTION was made by Garry Talbert and duly seconded by Maurice "Scooter" Keen to authorize and approve the waiver request of Section 125-27, "Driveway culverts and/or Subsurface Drainage", to allow subsurface drainage in a subdivision for Ann F. Robert and Eugene T. Robert, addressed at 8443 Cecil Drive, Denham Springs, LA 70706 located in Jones Estates subdivision, Lot 21 in Council District 2.

Upon being submitted to a vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

YEAS: MR. DELATTE, MR. HARRIS, MR. MCMORRIS, MR. ARD, MR. KEEN, MR. GIRLINGHOUSE, MR. TALBERT, MR. MACK, MR. WASCOM

NAYS: NONE
 ABSENT: NONE
 ABSTAIN: NONE

Thereupon the chair declared that the Motion had carried and was adopted.

LPR NO. 20-313
 MOTION was made by Tracy Girlinghouse and duly seconded by Maurice "Scooter" Keen to authorize and approve the waiver request of Section 125-27, "Driveway culverts and/or Subsurface Drainage", to allow subsurface drainage in a subdivision for Joe B. Mann, IV, addressed at 34830 Clinton Allen Road, Denham Springs, LA 70706 located in The Havens subdivision, Lots 1, 2, and 3 in Council District 2.

Upon being submitted to a vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

YEAS: MR. DELATTE, MR. HARRIS, MR. MCMORRIS, MR. ARD, MR. KEEN, MR. GIRLINGHOUSE, MR. TALBERT, MR. MACK, MR. WASCOM

NAYS: NONE
 ABSENT: NONE
 ABSTAIN: NONE

Thereupon the chair declared that the Motion had carried and was adopted.

The chair addressed agenda item number 26, "Adopt resolution to opt-in to reopen bars immediately once Livingston Parish has fewer than 5% of test come back positive for a two-week period" called upon Councilman Garry Talbert.

Councilman Garry Talbert advised that he had been contacted by a business owner and requested that the Livingston Parish Council be pre-emptive in this manner so if the Parish were to have two (2) weeks of testing results back with less than five percent (5%) results they could immediately open. Councilman Talbert indicated that he had contacted the Parish President to discuss this, and he was more than satisfied to do this. He continued to explain that he did not want the Parish to wind up with two or more weeks of testing results, and then businesses would have to wait for the

even though he was asking for a waiver, he was consistent in the way that he tried to address these throughout the year.

Councilman Delatte asked for discussion and stated that he was in support of this waiver, but wished to state that he thought that this should be handled administratively. Councilman Wascom and Council Keen requested to clarify why the ordinance needed a waiver from the Council.

Councilman Jeff Ard advised that he had a waiver request that was coming up, that had somewhat spurred the changes of the Department of Public Works doing the work for subsurface drainage first. He indicated that there had been a waiver request in his district on Nancy Drive. Upon looking at the current ditching in the subdivision, there were ditches that had been closed in every third house, every second house on one side, and it was causing major problems on this road. He stated that subsurface drainage must start at the beginning and tie the drainage in all the way down the road to avoid pushing water on to their neighbors. He gave other examples of subdivisions in his district and the problems they were facing because of sporadic placement of subsurface drainage in subdivisions designed for open ditching.

LPR NO. 20-312
 MOTION was made by Garry Talbert and duly seconded by Maurice "Scooter" Keen to authorize and approve the waiver request of Section 125-27, "Driveway culverts and/or Subsurface Drainage", to allow subsurface drainage in a subdivision for Ann F. Robert and Eugene T. Robert, addressed at 8443 Cecil Drive, Denham Springs, LA 70706 located in Jones Estates subdivision, Lot 21 in Council District 2.

Upon being submitted to a vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

YEAS: MR. DELATTE, MR. HARRIS, MR. MCMORRIS, MR. ARD, MR. KEEN, MR. GIRLINGHOUSE, MR. TALBERT, MR. MACK, MR. WASCOM

NAYS: NONE
 ABSENT: NONE
 ABSTAIN: NONE

Thereupon the chair declared that the Motion had carried and was adopted.

LPR NO. 20-313
 MOTION was made by Tracy Girlinghouse and duly seconded by Maurice "Scooter" Keen to authorize and approve the waiver request of Section 125-27, "Driveway culverts and/or Subsurface Drainage", to allow subsurface drainage in a subdivision for Joe B. Mann, IV, addressed at 34830 Clinton Allen Road, Denham Springs, LA 70706 located in The Havens subdivision, Lots 1, 2, and 3 in Council District 2.

Upon being submitted to a vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

YEAS: MR. DELATTE, MR. HARRIS, MR. MCMORRIS, MR. ARD, MR. KEEN, MR. GIRLINGHOUSE, MR. TALBERT, MR. MACK, MR. WASCOM

NAYS: NONE
 ABSENT: NONE
 ABSTAIN: NONE

Thereupon the chair declared that the Motion had carried and was adopted.

The chair addressed agenda item number 26, "Adopt resolution to opt-in to reopen bars immediately once Livingston Parish has fewer than 5% of test come back positive for a two-week period" called upon Councilman Garry Talbert.

Councilman Garry Talbert advised that he had been contacted by a business owner and requested that the Livingston Parish Council be pre-emptive in this manner so if the Parish were to have two (2) weeks of testing results back with less than five percent (5%) results they could immediately open. Councilman Talbert indicated that he had contacted the Parish President to discuss this, and he was more than satisfied to do this. He continued to explain that he did not want the Parish to wind up with two or more weeks of testing results, and then businesses would have to wait for the

next Council meeting to vote, thereby delaying their reopening even longer. He was asking for the Council to vote under the current, modified Phase 3 that the Governor has established, which states that if a Parish has under five percent (5%) positive tests for two (2) weeks in a row, that bars could open if that Parish would "opt-in".

LPR NO. 20-314
 MOTION was made by Garry Talbert and duly seconded by Randy Delatte to adopt a resolution in an effort to be pre-emptive to the Governor of Louisiana's current modified Phase Three Order, now hereby declares that the Livingston Parish Council, as the governing authority of the Parish of Livingston, affirms that it wishes to "opt-in" to reopen bars immediately once Livingston Parish has fewer than five (5%) percent positive testing of COVID-19 for a two (2) week period.

Upon being submitted to a vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

YEAS: MR. DELATTE, MR. HARRIS, MR. MCMORRIS, MR. ARD, MR. KEEN, MR. GIRLINGHOUSE, MR. TALBERT, MR. MACK, MR. WASCOM

NAYS: NONE
 ABSENT: NONE
 ABSTAIN: NONE

Thereupon the chair declared that the Motion had carried and was adopted.

The chair addressed agenda item number 27, "Reorganization of Council staff employee chart (Legislative)", and explained that he had been working on this for a while with the office staff.

He continued to explain that currently the organization was such, being comprised of a chief clerk, a deputy clerk, an executive assistant and an office assistant. He felt that the Council needed to do away with that and restructure to have a chief clerk, and two (2) deputy clerks. The deputy clerks should have equal responsibilities and those responsibilities should be delegated by the chief clerk.

The chair asked for the Council clerk to read the proposed ordinance by title. The Council clerk requested an opinion from the Parish legal Counsel as "Introduction of Ordinance" was not worded on the agenda for this item and requested if the agenda should be lifted. Mr. Christopher Moody concurred and advised that it would be best to do so.

LPR NO. 20-315
 MOTION was offered by Garry Talbert and duly seconded by Randy Delatte to lift the agenda of the September 24, 2020 regular meeting of the Livingston Parish Council for the purpose of discussion and introduction of an ordinance to reorganize the Council staff employee chart (Legislative).

Upon being submitted to a vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

YEAS: MR. DELATTE, MR. HARRIS, MR. MCMORRIS, MR. ARD, MR. KEEN, MR. GIRLINGHOUSE, MR. TALBERT, MR. MACK, MR. WASCOM

NAYS: NONE
 ABSENT: NONE
 ABSTAIN: NONE

The chair called upon the Council clerk to read the ordinance by title for introduction.

Councilman Randy Delatte requested discussion on this agenda item. He praised each one of the Council staff employees individually acknowledged his affiliation and rapport with each of them.

Councilman Gerald McMorris questioned if the ordinance was cutting people? The chair advised that they were not cutting people, but cutting positions. Councilman McMorris questioned what happens if two (2) people are out, leaving one (1) person left in the office. The Council clerk requested to speak and advised that everyone on staff was cross trained to do each other's job duties in the event that someone was out, another could perform that task. The chair advised that if they ever did get in a jam, the Council might adopt a temporary ordinance to remedy that situation.

The following ordinance was introduced in proper written form and read by title, to wit:

L.P. ORDINANCE NO. 20-28

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND AND REORGANIZE THE EMPLOYEE TITLES AND POSITIONS OF THE LIVINGSTON PARISH COUNCIL LEGISLATIVE OFFICE BY ELIMINATING THE EMPLOYEE TITLES OF "EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT" AND "OFFICE ASSISTANT 1" AND WHEREBY CREATING TWO (2) DEPUTY CLERK POSITION(S) FOR THE EMPLOYEES OF THE LIVINGSTON PARISH COUNCIL OFFICE.

LPR NO. 20-317
 MOTION was offered by John Wascom seconded by R.C. "Bubba" Harris to publish the ordinance by title in the Official Journal in accordance with the legal mandates and set a Public Hearing for Thursday, October 8, 2020 at the hour of six o'clock (6:00) p.m. at the Parish Council Chambers in the Governmental Building located at 20355 Government Boulevard, Livingston, Louisiana, at which time comments will be received on the proposed ordinance prior to a Council vote.

Upon being submitted to a vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

YEAS: MR. DELATTE, MR. HARRIS, MR. MCMORRIS, MR. ARD, MR. KEEN, MR. GIRLINGHOUSE, MR. TALBERT, MR. MACK, MR. WASCOM

NAYS: NONE
 ABSENT: NONE
 ABSTAIN: NONE

Thereupon the chair declared that the Motion had carried and was adopted.

LPR NO. 20-318
 MOTION was offered by Maurice "Scooter" Keen and duly seconded by Jeff Ard to go back to the regular order of business of the agenda for the September 24, 2020 regular meeting of the Livingston Parish Council.

Upon being submitted to a vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

YEAS: MR. DELATTE, MR. HARRIS, MR. MCMORRIS, MR. ARD, MR. KEEN, MR. GIRLINGHOUSE, MR. TALBERT, MR. MACK, MR. WASCOM

NAYS: NONE
 ABSENT: NONE
 ABSTAIN: NONE

The chair addressed agenda item 28, "Committee Report(s):"

a. Ordinance Committee: Recommendation(s) of ordinance introductions and amendments
 b. Finance Committee
 Councilman Tracy Girlinghouse, Ordinance committee chairman, reported that the committee meeting was held on Tuesday of the previous week. He discussed and answered questions from the Councilmembers regarding the grinder pump ordinance. The chair allowed a very lengthy discussion about the concerns surrounding the Parish's grinder pump ordinance. Councilman Girlinghouse continued and advised that the committee would also be working on the litter ordinance.

Councilman Gerald McMorris brought up the discussion at the committee meeting regarding subdividing property in a subdivision. Councilman Girlinghouse reported in great detail what the committee had addressed concerning the ordinances that prohibited the subdivision of lots into a named subdivision. He acknowledged and thanked Councilman McMorris for bringing that up and for coming to the committee meeting. The chair also commended Councilman McMorris for his attendance and valued input at their committee meeting.

Councilman Jeff Ard stated that the Finance committee met earlier that evening. He reported that the Finance Director had submitted the rough draft of the proposed budget to be entered in on the first meeting of November and then adopted at the first meeting in December. Councilman Delatte asked if they had received the statement of monthly expenses. Councilman Ard confirmed that they had. The chair allowed an open discussion regarding this report.

The chair addressed agenda item number 28c, "Animal Control Committee: Appointment of three (3) Council members".

The chair recapped from the last Council meeting the wishes of the Council to form an Animal Control committee that would be comprised of Councilman Randy Delatte as committee chairman. He also advised that Mr. Charles McDonald and Ms. Desiree Green from Administration had been appointed to be non-voting members. He questioned if anyone on the Council wished to volunteer to serve on the committee? Councilman Garry Talbert volunteered to serve on the committee. The chair also stated his desire to be a member of this committee. He allowed a very lively open discussion. Councilman Gerald McMorris indicated that he wished to also sit on this committee to be counted as representation of the hunting community in the Parish. The chair restated the members of the Animal Control committee as follows:

Councilman Randy Delatte, chairman
 Councilman Gerald McMorris
 Councilman Shane Mack
 Councilman Garry Talbert, co-chair
 Desiree Green, Administrative non-voting member and advisor
 Charles McDonald, Administrative non-voting member and advisor

Councilman Jeff Ard discussed the budgeted money in the draft budget submitted at the Finance committee meeting. The chair allowed a lengthy open discussion.

The chair addressed agenda item 29, "District Attorney's Report" and called upon Mr. Chris Moody. Mr. Moody advised that he had nothing to report at that time.

The chair addressed agenda item number 30, "Councilmen's comments", and called upon Councilman R.C. "Bubba" Harris who wished to read a statement that he had written and addressed to the Councilmembers regarding an agenda item from the previous Council meeting.

Having no further business, a motion to adjourn was requested until the next regular meeting that was scheduled on Thursday, October 8, 2020, at the hour of six o'clock (6:00) p.m. in Livingston, Louisiana.

LPR NO. 20-318
 MOTION was offered by John Wascom and duly seconded by Tracy Girlinghouse to adjourn the September 24, 2020 regular meeting of the Livingston Parish Council.

Upon being submitted to a vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

YEAS: MR. DELATTE, MR. HARRIS, MR. MCMORRIS, MR. ARD, MR. KEEN, MR. GIRLINGHOUSE, MR. TALBERT, MR. MACK, MR. WASCOM

NAYS: NONE
 ABSENT: NONE
 ABSTAIN: NONE

Thereupon the chair declared that the Motion had carried and was adopted and that the meeting was adjourned.

/s/ Sandy C. Teal
 Sandy C. Teal, Council Clerk

/s/ Shane Mack
 Shane Mack, Council Chairman

NOTICE OF INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the following entitled ordinance was introduced in writing in the form required for adoption at a meeting of the Parish Council of the Parish of Livingston, State of Louisiana, on October 8, 2020, and laid over for publication of notice:

L.P. ORDINANCE 20-29

AN ORDINANCE TO CREATE AND ENACT CHAPTER 70 "UTILITIES," ARTICLE VII "SMALL WIRELESS FACILITIES", SECTIONS 70-400 THROUGH SECTIONS 70-409, OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES IN AND FOR THE PARISH OF LIVINGSTON TO ESTABLISH STANDARDS FOR SMALL WIRELESS FACILITIES IN THE RIGHTS-OF-WAY IN THE PARISH OF LIVINGSTON.

NOTICE IS HEREBY FURTHER GIVEN that the Parish Council of said Parish will meet on Thursday, October 22, 2020, at six (6:00) o'clock p.m., at the Governmental Building, in the Livingston Parish Council Chambers, 20355 Government Boulevard, Livingston, Louisiana, 70754 at which time there will be a public hearing on the adoption of the aforesaid ordinance.

/s/ Sandy C. Teal
 Sandy C. Teal, Council Clerk

/s/ Shane Mack
 Shane Mack, Council Chair

(As per rules of the Council, copies of the proposed ordinance shall be made available for public inspection in the Office of the Livingston Parish Council.)

NOTICE

Proposed Constitutional Amendments to be voted on at the Open Primary/Presidential/Congressional Election November 3, 2020

CODING: Words which are ~~struck through~~ are deletions from existing law; words in **boldface type and/or underscored** are additions.

Proposed Amendment No. 1
Regular Session, 2019

ACT No. 447

HOUSE BILL NO. 425
BY REPRESENTATIVES JACKSON, ABRAHAM, ADAMS, AMEDEE, ARMES, BACALA, BAGLEY, BARNER, BARRAS, BERTHELOT, BISHOP, BOURRIQUE, TERRY BROWN, CARMODY, STEVE CARTER, CHANEY, CONNICK, COUSSAN, COX, CREWS, DAVIS, DWIGHT, EDMONDS, EMERSON, FALCONER, GAROFALO, GISCLAIR, LANCE HARRIS, HILFERTY, HILL, HODGES, HOFFMANN, HOLLIS, HORTON, HOWARD, HUVAL, JORDAN, LACOMBE, NANCY LANDRY, LEBAS, MACK, MAGEE, MCFARLAND, MCMAHEN, MIGUEZ, GREGORY MILLER, MOORE, JAY MORRIS, MOSS, PUGH, RICHARD, SCHEXNAYDER, SEABAUGH, STAGNI, STEFANSKI, THOMAS, TURNER, WHITE, WRIGHT, AND ZERINGUE AND SENATOR THOMPSON AND REPRESENTATIVES CHAD BROWN, GUINN, ANDERS, BILLIOT, DUBUISSON, IVEY, MIKE JOHNSON, ROBERT JOHNSON, LARVADAIN, LEOPOLD, PEARSON, POPE, SIMON, STOKES, TALBOT, DEVILLIER, ABRAMSON, AND BOUIE

AND SENATORS ALARIO, ALLAIN, APPEL, BARROW, CHABERT, COLOMB, CORTEZ, ERDEY, FANNIN, GATTI, HENSGENS, HEWITT, JOHNS, LAMBERT, LONG, MARTINY, MILKOVICH, MILLS, MIZELL, PEACOCK, RISER, GARY SMITH, JOHN SMITH, TARVER, WALSWORTH, WARD, AND WHITE
A JOINT RESOLUTION

Proposing to add Article I, Section 20.1 of the Constitution of Louisiana, to provide that nothing in the constitution shall be construed to secure or protect a right to abortion or require the funding of abortion; to provide for submission of the proposed amendment to the electors; and to provide for related matters.

Section 1. Be it resolved by the Legislature of Louisiana, two-thirds of the members elected to each house concurring, that there shall be submitted to the electors of the state of Louisiana, for their approval or rejection in the manner provided by law, a proposal to add Article I, Section 20.1 of the Constitution of Louisiana, to read as follows:

§20.1. Abortion
Section 20.1. To protect human life, nothing in this constitution shall be construed to secure or protect a right to abortion or require the funding of abortion.

Section 2. Be it further resolved that this proposed amendment shall be submitted to the electors of the state of Louisiana at the statewide election to be held on November 3, 2020.

Section 3. Be it further resolved that on the official ballot to be used at the election, there shall be printed a proposition, upon which the electors of the state shall be permitted to vote YES or NO, to amend the Constitution of Louisiana, which proposition shall read as follows:

Do you support an amendment declaring that, to protect human life, a right to abortion and the funding of

abortion shall not be found in the Louisiana Constitution? (Adds Article I, Section 20.1)

Proposed Amendment No. 2
Regular Session, 2020

ACT No. 368

HOUSE BILL NO. 360
BY REPRESENTATIVE HUVAL
A JOINT RESOLUTION

Proposing to amend Article VII, Section 4(B) of the Constitution of Louisiana, relative to the valuation of oil and gas wells; to authorize the inclusion of the presence and production of oil and gas in a well for the purpose of determining fair market value for ad valorem taxes; to provide for submission of the proposed amendment to the electors; and to provide for related

matters.
Section 1. Be it resolved by the Legislature of Louisiana, two-thirds of the members elected to each house concurring, that there shall be submitted to the electors of the state of Louisiana, for their approval or rejection in the manner provided by law, a proposal to amend Article VII, Section 4(B) of the Constitution of Louisiana, to read as follows:
§4. Income Tax; Severance Tax; Political Subdivisions
Section 4.

(B) Severance Tax. (1) Taxes may be levied on natural resources severed from the soil or water, to be paid proportionately by the owners thereof at the time of severance. Natural resources may be classified for the purpose of taxation. Such taxes may be predicated upon either the quantity or value of the products at the time and place of severance. No further or additional tax or license shall be levied or imposed upon oil, gas, or sulphur leases or rights. No additional

value shall be added to the assessment of land by reason of the presence of oil, gas, or sulphur therein or their production therefrom. However, sulphur in place shall be assessed for ad valorem taxation to the person, firm, or corporation having the right to mine or produce the same in the parish where located, at no more than twice the total assessed value of the physical property subject to taxation, excluding the assessed value of sulphur above ground, as is used in sulphur operations in such parish. Likewise, the severance tax shall be the only tax on timber; however, standing timber shall be liable equally with the land on which it stands for ad valorem taxes levied on the land.

(2) Notwithstanding the provisions of Subparagraph (1) of this Paragraph, the presence of oil or gas or the production thereof, may be included in the methodology to determine the fair market value of an oil or gas well for ad valorem taxes.

Section 2. Be it further resolved that this proposed amendment shall be submitted to the electors of the state of Louisiana at the statewide election to be held on November 3, 2020.

Section 3. Be it further resolved that on the official ballot to be used at the election, there shall be printed a proposition, upon which the electors of the state shall be permitted to vote YES or NO, to amend the Constitution of Louisiana, which proposition shall read as follows:

Do you support an amendment to permit the presence or production of oil or gas to be included in the methodology used to determine the fair market value of an oil or gas well for the purpose of property assessment? (Amends Article VII, Section 4(B))

Proposed Amendment No. 3
Regular Session, 2020

ACT No. 367

HOUSE BILL NO. 267
BY REPRESENTATIVE GARY CARTER
A JOINT RESOLUTION

Proposing to amend Article VII, Section 10.3(C)(3) and (4) of the Constitution of Louisiana and to add Article VII, Section 10.3(A)(5) and (C)(5) of the Constitution of Louisiana, to provide for deposits into and the uses of the Budget Stabilization Fund; to authorize the use of the fund for state costs associated with a disaster declared by the federal government; to provide for deposit into the fund of certain money received by the state from the federal government for the reimbursement of costs associated with such a disaster; to provide for certain limitations and requirements; to provide for submission of the proposed amendment to the electors; and to provide for related matters.

Section 1. Be it resolved by the Legislature of Louisiana, two-thirds of the members elected to each house concurring, that there shall be submitted to the electors of the state of Louisiana, for their approval or rejection in the manner provided by law, a proposal to amend Article VII, Section 10.3(C)(3) and (4) of the Constitution of Louisiana and to add Article VII, Section 10.3(A)(5) and (C)(5) of the Constitution of Louisiana, to read as follows:

§10.3. Budget Stabilization Fund

Section 10.3.(A) There is hereby established in the state treasury a Budget Stabilization Fund hereinafter referred to as the fund. Money shall be deposited in the fund as follows:

(5) An amount equivalent to the money received by the state from the federal government for the reimbursement of costs associated with a federally declared disaster, not to exceed the amount of costs

appropriated out of the fund for the same disaster pursuant to Subparagraph (C)(3) of this Section.

(C) The money in the fund shall not be available for appropriation or use except under the following conditions:

(3) If there is a federally declared disaster in the state, up to one-third of the fund, not to exceed the state costs associated with the disaster, may be appropriated after the consent of two-thirds of the elected members of each house of the legislature. Between sessions of the legislature, the appropriation may be made only with written consent of two-thirds of the elected members of each house of the legislature.

(4) In no event shall the amount included in the official forecast for the next fiscal year pursuant to Subparagraph (1) of this Paragraph, plus the amount appropriated in the current fiscal year pursuant to Subparagraph (2) of this Paragraph, plus the amount appropriated pursuant to Subparagraph (3) of this Paragraph exceed one-third of the fund balance at the beginning of the current fiscal year.

~~(4)~~ (5) No appropriation or deposit to the fund shall be made if such appropriation or deposit would cause the balance in the fund to exceed four percent of total state revenue receipts for the previous fiscal year.

Section 2. Be it further resolved that this proposed amendment shall be submitted to the electors of the state of Louisiana at the statewide election to be held on November 3, 2020.

Section 3. Be it further resolved that on the official ballot to be used at the election, there shall be printed a proposition, upon which the electors of the state shall be permitted to vote YES or NO, to amend the Constitution of Louisiana, which proposition shall read as follows:

Do you support an amendment to allow for the use of the Budget Stabilization Fund, also known as the Rainy Day Fund, for state costs associated with a disaster declared by the federal government? (Amends Article VII, Section 10.3(C)(3) and (4); Adds Article VII, Section 10.3(A)(5) and (C)(5))

Proposed Amendment No. 4
Regular Session, 2020

ACT No. 366

HOUSE BILL NO. 464
BY REPRESENTATIVES BEAULLIEU, AMEDEE, BACALA, BRYANT, CARRIER, CORMIER, CREWS, DESHOTEL, DEVILLIER, EDMONDS, EMERSON, FARNUM, FIRMENT, FONTENOT, FRIEMAN, GAROFALO, HARRIS, TRAVIS JOHNSON, MCCORMICK, MCKNIGHT, MIGUEZ, PRESSLY, SCHAMERHORN, SEABAUGH, THOMAS, AND WRIGHT
A JOINT RESOLUTION

Proposing to amend Article VII, Section 10(C)(1) of the Constitution of Louisiana, relative to the expenditure limit; to provide for the method of determining the expenditure limit; to limit the growth of the expenditure limit; to provide for effectiveness; to provide for submission of the proposed amendment to the electors; and to provide for related matters.

Section 1. Be it resolved by the Legislature of Louisiana, two-thirds of the members elected to each house concurring, that there shall be submitted to the electors of the state of Louisiana, for their approval or rejection in the manner provided by law, a proposal to amend Article VII, Section 10(C)(1) of the Constitution of Louisiana, to read as follows:

§10. Expenditure of State Funds
Section 10.

(C) Expenditure Limit. (1) The legislature shall provide for the determination of an expenditure limit for each fiscal year to be established during the first quarter of the calendar year for the next fiscal year. However, the expenditure limit for the 1991-1992 Fiscal Year shall be the actual appropriations from the state general fund and dedicated funds for that year except funds allocated by Article VII, Section 4, Paragraphs (D) and (E). For subsequent fiscal years, the limit shall ~~not exceed the expenditure limit for the current fiscal year plus an amount equal to that limit times a positive growth factor~~ be as provided for by law. ~~The growth factor is the average annual percentage rate of change of personal income for Louisiana as defined and reported by the United States Department of Commerce for the three calendar years prior to the fiscal year for which the limit is calculated~~ legislature shall establish by law a procedure to determine the expenditure limit. ~~The procedure shall not provide for growth in the~~

FOOTBALL | ASSUMPTION 35, DENHAM SPRINGS HIGH 10



Left, Assumption players presented a sign featuring Remy Hidalgo's No. 77 to Hidalgo's family before last Wednesday's game. Right, Denham Springs' Preston Holwager (24) is wrapped up by a pair of Assumption defenders.



BRAD WEIMER • HOUMA COURIER-THIBODAUX DAILY COMET

ASSUMPTION USES SECOND-HALF SURGE TO BEAT DENHAM SPRINGS

CHRIS SINGLETON
Houma Courier-
Thibodaux Daily Comet

NAPOLEONVILLE – Maybe a shortened week was just what the doctor ordered for the Assumption Mustangs.

After being shut out in its season opener against E.D. White Catholic on Oct. 2, the Mustangs only got four days of rest in preparation for a Week 2 matchup against Denham Springs on Wednesday at Mustangs Stadium. The game was moved up to Wednesday due to the threat of inclement weather from Hurricane Delta this weekend.

Despite a short week, Assumption made plays in all three phases of Wednesday's game to run away with a 35-10 win over Denham Springs.

It was the first win for coach Keith Menard with the Mustangs, which led 6-3 at halftime before running away with four touchdowns scored in the second half.

"It was a short week. We had Monday and Tuesday, so maybe that was good," Menard said. "Maybe we didn't have a lot time to think about it (season opening 25-0 loss to E.D. White). We just went back to work. We practiced hard (Tuesday). It could have had reverse affects. We could've came out tired but I thought we came out and played well. It helped us tonight. We got a good day

of work in and I thought it showed (Wednesday)."

Assumption quarterback Sage Rivere was responsible for four touchdowns. He completed 15-of-25 passes for 216 yards and three passing touchdowns. He also had a 51-yard touchdown run in the third quarter.

In the second half, Rivere tossed touchdown passes of 13 and 44 yards, respectively, to senior receiver Jaden Tyler (11 catches, 177 yards, two TDs) and another on a 14-yard scoring pass to Marcus Mollere.

"It felt great. We had to bounce back from last week," Rivere said. "We needed to get stuff going and this week was a big chance to get a win. We weren't expecting to go 0-1, but at the end of the day, you've got to start fresh and take it as 0-0 and just keep moving forward one week at a time."

Defensively, Assumption linebacker Jarius Bridges had an interception but lost the ball while trying to run it back for a touchdown. Denham Springs recovered the loose ball, but Bridges redeemed himself a few plays later with a sack on third down.

Bridges said the Mustangs were focused to keep Denham Springs out of the end zone.

"After last week, we knew we had to come back harder," Bridges said. "We had to come back way stronger, so we only had two days to

practice. We just got to it."

Ja'Keice Gilton led Assumption's rushing attack with 20 carries for 109 yards and a 25-yard touchdown run with 9:55 left in the second quarter. It was the Mustangs' first touchdown of the season, giving them a 6-0 lead.

"We put a focus on being able to run the football tonight," Menard said. "I thought we had a good plan. Our RPO plan was working. Our o-line really did a great job and we got after it. I'm pleased. I think it set up our whole offense on just being able to run the ball."

Denham Springs scored its only points of the first half on a 45-yard field goal by Cameron Beall with 2:52 left in the second quarter to make 6-3. The Yellow Jackets moved the ball at times, but couldn't score touchdowns as they turned the ball over on downs three times in Mustangs' territory.

"We made too many mistakes. Our players have to make plays," Denham Springs coach Brett Beard said. "As coaches, we have to figure out which guys that are going to make plays for us. They (Assumption) wanted it more than us. They did a better job than us. The coaches did a better job than us. These are the things we've got to figure out. It's time to get the job done. We've got to do our jobs."

Assumption outgained Denham Springs in total

yards, 414-233. The Yellow Jackets scored their only touchdown in the final minute of the game on a 45-yard touchdown pass from Reese Mooney to Micah Harrison. Quarterback John McDaniel completed 15-of-27 passes for 137 yards.

"I thought defensively we played hard," Menard said. "We ran the ball well. We covered well, we pressured the quarterback and we

stopped the run for the most part."

Before the game, Assumption honored the memory of Denham Springs football player Remy Hidalgo, who died of a heat stroke in September. The Mustangs presented Hildalgo's parents – Kerry Hidalgo and Ashley Roberson – with a signed football and flag, flowers and a large sign with Hiladgo's No. 77 on it.

"It was just a beautiful thing," Menard said. "It just shows how many people in our community cares about other people."

Beard thanked Assumption for the moment.

"It's beautiful. What an awesome kid," Beard said. "It shows how high class their program is. What a beautiful thing they did in honoring an amazing young man."

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Sports

FOOTBALL |
ST. THOMAS MORE 61, WALKER 7
ST. THOMAS MORE
ROLLS OVER WALKER

BEN HECK
The Livingston Parish News

LAFAYETTE — It can be difficult to prepare for an opponent on a short week.
It's even more difficult when you don't find out who your opponent is until the day before kickoff.

The Walker High football program found that out the hard way last Wednesday night as the Wildcats dropped a 61-7 non-district showdown at St. Thomas More.
"They're a good team, you really can't do things to help them out," Walker coach Chad Mahaffey said. "They're a really good team and we didn't really do anything to help ourselves out -- they just kind of steamrolled on us, but for us hopefully it's a learning experience and something we take with us."

The Wildcats (1-1) were originally slated to face Landry-Walker High on Friday before COVID-19 concerns wiped out the Week 2 showdown, leaving them scrambling for an opponent at the last second.

It wasn't until early afternoon last Tuesday that Mahaffey and his squad found out that they would be traveling to Cougar Stadium in Lafayette. With Hurricane Delta looming, most of the Week 2 matchups across the state were moved up.

The defending Division II champion Cougars (2-0) scored in every way imaginable in front of its home crowd -- through the air, on the ground, on defense and on special teams. The high-powered offense tallied more than 500 total yards as the defense forced three turnovers and six punts.

Seven of the team's nine touchdowns came on offense (four passing, three rushing), with one fumble return touchdown and a punt return touchdown.

"To me, I'm hoping the positive is just our attitude and what we learn from this moving forward," Mahaffey said. "That's what I hope will be the big positive ... maybe not an individual play or something in the game, but just how we progress moving forward."

Walker's Thor Debetaz and Hunter Bethel split reps under



BEN HECK • THE NEWS
Walker receiver Brian Thomas makes a St. Thomas More defender miss on his way to the end zone in the first half last Wednesday night.

center, switching off every other possession.

With neither quarterback playing last season -- Debetaz was ineligible due to transferring and Bethel stuck with baseball, according to Mahaffey -- Walker's coaching staff has been looking to get both as many reps as it can.

The pair combined to throw for 163 yards and a touchdown on 15-of-29 passing.

"Every week is different," Mahaffey said of the QB situation. "Both of those kids basically didn't play football last year, so they're learning kind of trial-by-fire, and we're just trying to get them both reps -- they've done some good things, they've both mistakes, so we're just trying to figure it out."

Senior play making wideout Brian Thomas reeled in nine receptions for 142 yards and a touchdown. His 70-yard TD catch over the middle proved to be the lone score of the night for Walker's offensive attack.

"Brian just kind of did what he always does," Mahaffey said. "He was really the only big play maker we had out there. We have other play makers on our team, we just have to see what they can do ... it takes all 11 of us to execute on a play and we're just not doing that right now."

As a unit, Walker accumulated 55 rushing yards and produced just six first downs.

After forcing a three-and-out on Walker's opening possession, St. Thomas More used just four plays and 37 seconds of game clock to put six points on the board. Senior Tobin Thevenot capped the drive with a 5-yard TD run.

Walker drove the ball down the field, reaching STM's 25-yard line on the ensuing possession before a fumble turned the ball over to the Cougars. Quarterback Walker Howard tossed a 75-yard TD strike to Jaxon Moncla one play later.

Jack Bech scored consecutive touchdowns -- a 57-yard punt return and a 44-yard reception -- for the Cougars to extend the first-half lead to 26-0.

It was Thomas' 70-yard catch from senior Debetaz with 10:12 remaining in the first half that finally broke up the shutout bid.

Three more St. Thomas More touchdowns, one on a fumble return by the defense and two more through the air, made it 47-7 at halftime.

One-yard touchdown runs from Jack Stefanski and Jordan Spurlock in the second half capped the scoring for the night.

FOOTBALL |
PEARL RIVER 34, SPRINGFIELD 7
TURNOVERS COSTLY
IN SPRINGFIELD LOSS
TO PEARL RIVER

ROB DeARMOND
The Livingston Parish News

Springfield coach Ryan Serpas knew this stretch of the Bulldogs' schedule was going to be tough, but the team hasn't helped itself early in the season.

Pearl River capitalized Springfield turnovers, sparking a 34-7 win over the Bulldogs on the road Wednesday.

"Honestly, in my opinion, our turnovers are killing us," Serpas said. "We've turned the ball over now nine, close to 10 times already in two games, and then just coming back quick strike, our kids, you can see their demeanor starts to change when we give up big plays on defense coming right off of turnovers, so that's something we definitely need to address -- be able to protect the football a little bit longer and just being able to start getting some stops."
"We're also giving up some big plays defensively -- people not making tackles or making the wrong reads up front,

slightly out of position, so we've got to do a better job of getting those guys to finish out plays as well," Serpas continued.

The Rebels led 14-0 at the end of the first quarter, getting the game's first points after a swing pass for a long gain set them up at the Bulldog 10, setting the stage for a touchdown three plays later.

Pearl River added to the lead with a long touchdown run following a Springfield interception.

The teams traded turnovers, but the Rebels capitalized on theirs, taking a 34-0 lead at halftime. Serpas said the Bulldogs had four total turnovers -- three interceptions and a lost fumble.

"It's real tough to overcome that type of turnover ratio," Serpas said. "Defensively, we were able to create a couple turnovers. I think we got two or three turnovers ourselves, but we would turn around within a play or so and turn it right back over to them. It was definitely another night of a lot

of turnovers ... and made it not as close as it should have been, in my opinion."

Springfield got its only touchdown of the night on a 15-yard run by Koby Linares in the fourth quarter.

"It's nice to get on the scoreboard, and we had a couple opportunities," Serpas said. "We drove down, had the ball in the red zone two, three times and at times were able to move the ball. (Quarterback Bryan) Babb and Tyler Ratcliff had another good night receiving. Bryce (Vittorio) and Britton (Allen) had a couple catches as well, but we'd get a drive going and then a couple plays later, we'd have a turnover or we would stall out and have to punt it away."

Pearl River's Brian Jenkins had 18 carries for 177 yards and two touchdowns, while Brayden Bond had five carries for 103 yards and a touchdown.

Springfield will begin a three-game homestand Friday hosting North Central.

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ST. THOMAS MORE 61, WALKER 7

Score by quarter		STM — Chaisson 29 fumble return (Briley kick)	
Walker	0	7	0
STM	19	28	7
Scoring summary		STM — Howard 11 pass to Avant (Briley kick)	
STM — Thevenot 5 run (kick failed)		STM — Spurlock 1 run (Briley kick)	
STM — Howard 75 pass to Moncla (two point failed)		STM — Stefanski 1 run (Briley kick)	
STM — Bech 57 punt return (Briley kick)			
STM — Howard 44 pass to Bech (Briley kick)			
WHS — Debetaz 70 pass to Thomas (Foster kick)			
STM — Howard 11 pass to Arcenaux (Briley kick)			
		WHS	STM
		First downs	6 15
		Rushes-yards	22-53 31-194
		Passing yards	163 331
		C-A-I	15-29-0 13-20-0
		Punts-Avg.	6-28.5 1-41
		Fumbles-Lost	4-3 2-1
		Penalties-yards	6-36 4-25

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