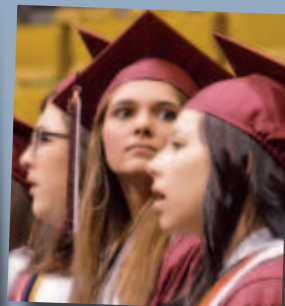


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The Livingston Parish News

VOLUME 118, NUMBER 50

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 31, 2015

75 CENTS

TOP 10 STORIES OF



The legacy of Jeff David in a parish that is changing

Every New Year *The Livingston Parish News* staff selects the Top 10 Stories of the past year for contemplation by our readers. The number one story of 2015 for all of us at *The News* was the loss of our publisher, Jeff M. David, who was the guiding light here for 38 years. We consider this as news that falls in a category all by

itself. For that reason we give it top billing and a special place separate from the others.

By far the longest tenured publisher in this paper's 117-year history, Jeff passed away at his home on Monday, Oct. 26, succumbing to a battle with cancer. He took over the

TOP 10
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TOP 10 NEWS STORIES

- 1 — Wipeout of the Parish Council
 - 2 — Juban Crossing keeps growing
 - 3 — New Parish Courthouse opens
 - 4 — Changing of the guard in Denham Springs
 - 5 — Major industrial plants coming
 - 6 — Tragedies in uniform
 - 7 — Springfield Mayor, Police Chief resign
 - 8 — Livingston Parish Schools thrive
 - 9 — The Battle of Satsuma
 - 10 — Revenge killing
- Honorable mention — Iconic TV stars show up in Livingston Parish



Pictured above: incoming Parish Council members John Wascom, Garry "Frog" Talbert, Maurice "Scooter" Keen, Tracy Girlinghouse, Jeff Ard, Shane Mack, Tab Lobell, Bubba Harris and Jeff Averett. Outgoing members: Ricky Goff, Sonya Collins, Marshall Harris, Ronnie Sharp, Joan Landry, Cindy Franz, Delos Blackwell, Chance Parent and Jim Norred.

Christmas bicycle fatality

Rider struck crossing Springfield highway

By John Dupont

The Livingston Parish News

SPRINGFIELD — A single-vehicle accident that killed a bicyclist Christmas Day remains under investigation by Louisiana State Police Troop A.

Justin Murray, 21, of Hammond died from the injuries he suffered in the collision on La. 42 west of La. 43 in Livingston Parish, according to Trooper 1st Class Bryan Lee, a spokesman for the Louisiana State Police.

Murray was traveling westbound on La. 42 when he veered across the lane, where he was struck by a 2011 Chevrolet Silverado driven by Keith Jones, 63, of Livingston.

Investigators have not yet determined why Murray crossed into the other lane, Lee said.

Murray was not wearing a helmet at the time of the crash.

He was taken by ambulance to a nearby hospital, where he died from his injuries.

Jones was properly restrained in the crash and was not injured.

Investigators do not suspect impairment in the crash.

Jones submitted to a chemical breath test and showed no signs of impairment.

A toxicology sample will be taken from Murray for analysis, Lee said.

PART II OF III

Top headlines of 2015

By Alice Dowty

The Livingston Parish News

The year 2015 leaves behind many news stories and more memories. Today we continue our three-part series reviewing some of the major headlines that appeared on these pages. January through April appeared on Dec. 27.

May 3

Walker Police wear body cams

Police body cameras, like dashboard cams, can resolve conflicting testimony when other evidence is inconclusive. Data is downloaded to a secure server; it cannot be altered or erased by the officer. The Walker Police Department is the first in Livingston Parish to issue cameras.

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Use a QR Code reader app on your smart device to go to www.livingstonparishnews.com.

Sports C1

Top 10
Livingston
Parish sports
stories of 2015



Top 10 stories of 2015: Juban Crossing grows and grows, new Courthouse opens

From A1

paper in 1977 from his father, G. Norman David, who had died suddenly of a heart attack. Over the next 38 years Jeff distinguished himself in his community and in the newspaper industry. He served as president both of the National Newspaper Association and the Louisiana Press Association.

Under his guidance, *The News* won numerous state and national awards, including recognition for his twice weekly opinion column, *Ways & Means*. He was involved in community service as well, as a founder and one of the early presidents of the Livingston Economic Development Council where he played a key role in the creation of the Livingston Parish Industrial Park. He also served as chairman of the Amite River Basin Commission, using that position to promote flood control, particularly the Comite River Diversion Canal now under construction.

These were just some of the many hats he wore. He was an entrepreneur, owning not only the newspaper but two radio stations and other businesses in partnership with his wife, Nancy. He was an Army veteran, LSU and LSU Law School graduate and an attorney at law who remained a licensed member of the bar his entire adult life. He discontinued his legal practice after taking over the newspaper.

Jeff's caring and involvement in the betterment of Livingston Parish took many forms. For years he was a fixture at the state Capitol during legislative sessions where he lobbied on behalf of newspapers and the first amendment, quality public schools, flood control, roads and highways and good government in general.

He was a strong advocate for economic development in the community he called home, devoting his time as one of the founders of the Livingston Economic Development Council to the development of the parish's industrial park. He gave voice to the aspirations of the people of Livingston Parish and the progress his leadership helped bring forth will be a lasting legacy of his life.

Following his vision, *The News* continues to be locally owned and operated by his wife and children, McHugh David and Ashleigh Vasquez.

Today *The News* staff continues the custom he began of voting for the rest of the Top 10 other stories of 2015, as listed below:

No. 1 — WIPEOUT OF THE PARISH COUNCIL. For the first time in history, voters replaced the entire Parish Council with nine newcomers. Frustrated by years of continued

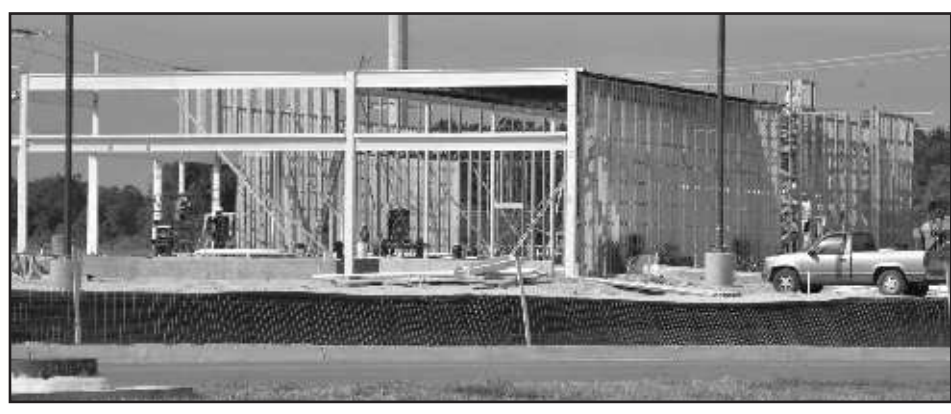


MIKE DOWTY | THE NEWS

Livingston Parish News publisher Jeff David guided the newspaper to multiple national and state press awards during his 38-year tenure.

political squabbling and the mounting legal bills that came with it, the electorate sent home all six incumbents who sought reelection. Three others retired, leaving open seats. Ironically, most of the litigation behind those bills — involving a complex feud with the parish's former engineering firm — got settled early in the year. After that, 2015 became a relatively quiet year that saw a \$7 million road paving initiative and other signs of improved relations. However, many voters had already made up their minds that this Council had to go after the previous three frustrating years when road work languished and squabbles took center stage at its televised meetings. Parish President Layton Ricks was the big political winner at the end of the day, as he returned unopposed to a second term. Joining him in parish government in January will be Council members Jeff Ard in District 1, Garry "Frog" Talbert in District 2, Maurice "Scooter" Keen in District 3, John Wascom in District 4, "Bubba" Harris in District 5, Jeff Averett in District 6, Tracy Girlinghouse in District 7, Tab Lobell in District 8 and Shane Mack in District 9. Yep, Livingston Parish government will have a "Frog," a "Scooter" and a "Bubba" in public office. In addition to the changes in parish government, Sheriff Jason Ard set a reelection record with 92 percent of the vote and Clark of Court Thomas Sullivan also earned another term with a landslide reelection. Assessor Jeff Taylor and Coroner Dr. Ron Coe were unopposed. Also becoming a 21st Judicial District Judge unopposed was long-time prosecutor Charlotte Hughes Foster.

No. 2 — JUBAN CROSSING. Department and apparel stores, an athletic outfitter, a major supermarket, a cookie/ice cream shop and a fast-casual Mexican restaurant all opened doors at Juban Crossing in 2015. Meanwhile construction began on a movie theater and two quality sit-down restaurants as the newest and largest shopping



THE NEWS

Construction and openings galore characterized the year for Juban Crossing as the largest shopping center in Livingston Parish continued to come to life. At the top is a location of Walk-Ons Sports Bar and Grill and, just above, Movie Tavern, both slated to open this year. At right is Kohl's, which opened in September. At right, a crowd gathers outside Moe's on its first day in November.



JOHN DUPONT | THE NEWS

Senior 21st Judicial District Court Judge Bob Morrison cuts the ribbon to formally open the new Livingston Parish Courthouse. To Morrison's left are District Judges Jeff Johnson, Bruce Bennett, Parish President Layton Ricks, District Attorney Scott Perrilloux and Clerk of Court Tommy Sullivan. Standing to the right of Judge Morrison are Livingston Parish Sheriff Jason Ard, Juvenile Court Judge Blair Edwards, Judge Doug Hughes, Judge Beth Wolfe, and Family Court Judge Jeff Oglesbee. Also present and not shown is Denham Springs/Ward 2 Marshal Jerry Denton.

center in Livingston Parish continued to get bigger. The center is anchored by big box retailers Belk, Kohl's and Academy Sports+Outdoors as well as Rouses Supermarket. Among the growing list of boutiques and small restaurants include Bed Bath & Beyond, Dressbarn, GNC, Lane Bryant, Mattress Firm, Michaels, Old Navy, Petsmart, Ross, Shoe Carnival, T.J. Maxx, Ulta, Osh-Kosh B'Gosh, Carter's Babies and Kids, Men's Warehouse, Marble Slab Creamery and Great American Cookies and Moe's Southwest Grill. On the way are Movie Tavern, Stroubes Grille and Walk-Ons. Sales tax collections in Livingston Parish soared, driven largely by the additional retail square footage at Juban Crossing and other rapidly growing areas in Denham Springs, Walker, Watson and even some of the smaller communities like Livingston, Satsuma, Albany,

Springfield and lower Livingston. Look for that trend to continue in 2016 as Livingston Parish becomes more and more a shopper's destination.

No. 3 — PARISH COURTHOUSE OPENS. The \$20 million, 110,000-square-foot courthouse opened in February, ushering in a new era in parish government. The three-story facility houses the Livingston Parish Sheriff's Office, the Clerk of Court's Office, the District Attorney's Office and court chambers. Sometime in the near future the parish's 911 emergency communications center will relocate there as well from its quarters in Satsuma. The project was a long time coming, beginning under Parish President Dewey Ratcliff in 2001 with the purchase of a 40-acre site in Livingston just north of I-12 to be used for governmental complexes. Over the following decade, the parish built new health

unit and Office of Motor Vehicles facilities there, which included headquarters for the Parish President and Permits Department and the Parish Council. Yet the ultimate goal of a new courthouse remained outside of financial possibility until Clark of Court Tom Sullivan, judges and courthouse officials and legislators collaborated on a plan to add a special filing fee to legal documents to fund the building. After enabling legislation, even that new revenue stream was insufficient for the projects needs, but fortunately there remained \$1 million in leftover funds from the settlement of a class action lawsuit from the train derailment in Livingston in 1982. That money had been set aside for monitoring of chemical contamination, which after more than 30 years was complete, so the Intergovernmental Commission — the agency set up to manage that program — shut



MCHUGH DAVID | THE NEWS

As the new mayor, Gerard Landry becomes the face of the city of Denham Springs during another year of prosperity and economic growth.

down and turned over its remaining funds to the parish and the town of Livingston. The result was the modern, highly secure building now operating. The parish continues to move forward on improvements, including new parking about to be added. Eventually, the Parish Council will have to decide what to do with the old courthouse that has been costly to maintain, though it is expected at least the original part of that complex, an historic building from the 1950s, will be retained for use as governmental offices and possibly a museum.

No. 4 — CHANGING OF THE GUARD IN DENHAM SPRINGS. Mayor Gerard Landry and three new City Council members took over the management of the largest city in Livingston Parish and proceeded to embrace what they inherited as a pathway to continued progress. Landry took the seat of Jimmy Durbin, who retired after serving three terms as Mayor. Though the majority of the Council was new, members brought with them a wealth of experience in city government. Two incumbents, Lori Lamm-Williams and Chris Davis, returned to their at-large seats. They were joined by former Police Chief Jeff Wesley and former Council members Rene Delahoussaye and Robert Poole. Landry, a long-time businessman and former grocery chain store executive, immediately embraced the job to guide the city through an ongoing growth spurt and the many challenges that brings, traffic among the biggest. During Landry's first year, the city saw openings of more stores and restaurants, including a Church's chicken, Firehouse Subs, Billy Heroman's florist, Red Wing Shoes and the announcement of Carlton Place, a four-story professional office building to be anchored by a movie production studio. Landry oversaw the installation of GPS tracking devices in city vehicles, organized several civic organizations to put on a downtown Christmas Festival throughout this December and got busy working to bring a

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The Livingston Parish News

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Top 10 stories of 2015: Jindal announces EPIC plant, Springfield mayor retires

From A2

long-dormant riverfront park proposal for 4-H Club Road back to the table. During 2015, the city saved on refinancing its bonds, helped to promote drug-free living by turning over a building on Hummel Street for use by SADD chapters in three area high schools, opened a neighborhood park on Centerville Street and in general continued the city on its progressive course of economic growth and quality of life improvements.

No. 5 — MAJOR INDUSTRIAL PLANTS COMING. Gov. Bobby Jindal himself came to Livingston Parish for an epic announcement. Construction began this summer on a \$45.3 million advanced pipe fabrication facility and its corporate headquarters on La. 63 south of the town of Livingston. Known as EPIC Piping, the project will create 560 new direct jobs with an average annual salary of \$50,000 and \$60,000, plus benefits. It will pump an estimated additional \$45 million in annual payroll to the Livingston Parish economy. But — as they say on late night television ads — wait, there's more.

Next door to Epic will come a 140,000 square foot beverage distribution center expected to add another 140 jobs. Meanwhile, fast food restaurant supplies distributor Martin-Brower broke ground on a 130,000 square foot plant at the expanded Livingston Parish Industrial Park in Walker. The facility moving from Port Allen will bring 160 jobs, 30 of them brand new, with a potential payroll increase of \$1.3 million by 2020 and \$16 million in direct investment to Livingston Parish. The Livingston Economic Development Council, Walker city officials and the state Department of Economic Development all teamed up to attract the expanding company to Walker as an alternative to the possibility it might leave the state. Through all these economic development wins, there was a smooth handoff in leadership at LEDC. As Executive Director Randy Rogers retired, the organization hired state DED veteran Larry Collins to carry on. This past month Collins was confronted with the challenge to help local fire department officials find ways to be ready with adequate resources to protect the new EPIC plant and surrounding growth with a limited tax base. The town of Livingston has been challenged as well as it must provide water and sewer service to the area. For that, the town is building a new water well, aided by the donation of some property in the vicinity for that purpose. And the state Department of Transportation and Development will be getting into the act with turning lanes and possibly signals to handle the increased traffic.

No. 6 — TRAGEDIES IN UNIFORM. Livingston Parish entered the year with a funeral for a Denham Springs police officer killed in the line of duty. It would be the first of several tragedies involving local law enforcement and the military. More than 1,000 people lined the street Jan. 4 for the funeral procession for James Foster, a motorcycle officer killed in a wreck while responding to an accident. He was the first officer in the history of the city's department to lose his life on the job. In February, an off-duty sheriff's deputy was involved in a fatal confrontation with a Walker man attempting



JOHN DUPONT | THE NEWS

Governor Bobby Jindal comes to Livingston to announce plans for the EPIC Piping manufacturing facility, which will locate on La. 63 south of Interstate 12. Also shown in the ceremony at the Livingston Parish Courthouse are Parish President Layton Ricks, Livingston Economic Development Council President Randy Rogers, Denham Springs Mayor Gerard Landry, Livingston Mayor Derral Jones and Walker Mayor Rick Ramsey.



JOHN DUPONT | THE NEWS

Springfield Mayor Charlie Martin reflects on some of his fondest memories of his 28 years in office. Martin resigned for mishandling a 2011 DWI case.



DENHAM SPRINGS POLICE DEPARTMENT

James Foster became the first fallen officer in Denham Springs Police history.



MIKE DOWTY | THE NEWS

Julie Foster, wife of the late Denham Springs Police Officer James Foster Jr., listens to Sheriff Jason Ard give an impassioned testimonial about the sacrifices that law enforcement officers make. Ard's office helped fund a trip to Washington, D.C., by Mrs. Foster and Police Chief Scott Jones (in the background) for ceremonies honoring fallen officers across America at the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial.



LISA DOWTY | THE NEWS

Livingston Parish schools are thriving. Educators provide the enrichment of a learning experience that is reflected in ever improving test scores and high rankings compared to the rest of the state. In just one example here, author Sonja Wiley talks about her book, "Little Stevie Wonder," in Mrs. Elliot Coates' sixth grade classroom at Denham Springs Junior High.

to break into the home of his estranged girlfriend. The deputy was put on administrative leave while State Police investigated, determining that the fatal wound during the standoff was self-inflicted. On Feb. 22, a Denham Springs police officer shot and killed a Texas man brandishing a shotgun at police and bystanders during a standoff on Range 12 Boulevard near Bass Pro Shops Outdoor World. An investigation by the Livingston Parish Sheriff's Office cleared the officer. In March, Marine Corps Sgt. Adam J. Koczowski, a native of Denham Springs and former Fire Protection District 5 firefighter,

died in an accident while stationed in North Carolina. Following a drug bust turned violent in March, a Walker man was booked on 12 counts of attempted first degree murder for allegedly shooting at Livingston Parish sheriff's deputies. One shot struck a deputy, who was wearing a bullet-proof vest and was unharmed. In May, the City of Walker Police Department became the first in the parish to begin using body cameras. Two Livingston Parish young serving their country in the military lost their lives as well. In September, more than 500 residents gathered at the old Live Oak High School football stadium

to honor U.S. Marine Cpl. Bryan Lauw, 21, who died in a rollover accident that involved nine other Marines at Camp Pendleton, near San Diego. The accident occurred during a routine training drill.

No. 7 — SPRINGFIELD MAYOR, CHIEF RESIGN. A 4-year-old prosecution against the mayor and police chief of Springfield came to a head as both resigned in part of a plea arrangement, though both continued to have widespread support within the community. Mayor Charlie Martin, who had been in office since 1986, and Police Chief Jimmy Jones were allowed to

plead to misdemeanor counts of criminal mischief stemming from their 2011 arrests for obstruction of justice. The charges involved an attempt by Martin and Jones to move a DWI case from District Court to municipal court, where the mayor would have the authority to reduce or dismiss charges. The police officer who made the arrest complained to state authorities. District Attorney Scott Perrilloux recused himself from prosecuting the case, leaving that role to the Attorney General's Office. As community service work that came with his plea agreement, Martin did weed trimming and maintenance work at the town cemetery. Mayor Pro Temp Tommy Abels stepped up to take the mayor's post, though Martin continued to be active in helping the town realize long-awaited improvements to the water system that he developed during his tenure. Springfield currently does not have a police chief.

No. 8 — LIVINGSTON PARISH SCHOOLS THRIVE. Livingston Parish Schools continue to be among the state's top performers. In the state Department of Education's latest accountability report, the district earned a District Performance Score of 102.5 to maintain its overall "A" rating, and 38 of the district's 41 schools received an A or B, with no D or F schools. Improvements have been seen in all areas, including End of Course exams, ACT scores and strength of diploma measurements, which include greater participation in dual credit, Advanced Placement and Industry-Based Certification courses. Parish students in grades 3-8 scored a high number of progress points in recognition of success with at-risk or struggling students to meet or exceed the learning goals set for them. Superintendent of Schools John Watson credits the progress to a focus on professional development, leaving teachers better equipped with strategies to offer their students appropriate individualized instruction. Meanwhile, three Livingston Parish High Schools were named among the nation's best public high schools by U.S. News & World Report. Bronze Medal Schools Holden, Maurepas and Springfield high schools were among the 85 schools in Louisiana to be nationally recognized for their academic performances in 2014. The reputation of Livingston Parish public education continues to drive the growth and economic development that has made Livingston Parish one of the fastest growing counties in the United States for a decade.

No. 9 — THE BATTLE OF SATSUMA. Over the Christmas holidays, Gov. Bobby Jindal scheduled a March 28 election to allow voters in Satsuma and rural central Livingston Parish to vote on a proposal to incorporate a new municipality. Long before that date, the town of Livingston beat supporters to the punch by incorporating areas within the proposed Satsuma boundaries and soon after, presiding over a lawsuit challenging the move, Judge Brenda Ricks canceled the election. Livingston took in areas just west of town that included Henderson Auctions and V. Watts Furniture. Ricks ruled that the change invalidated the boundaries on the petition and made the election pointless. The proposal lost steam after that. At the heart of the matter was a conflict

between developer Gary Lewis and Henderson Auctions owner Marvin Henderson and some of the area residents seeking to create a form of self-government that would keep Satsuma rural. The proponents also sought to stop any effort to build an airport in the area, a project now under study without FAA approval or any funding yet and probably years away. Opponents argued that the group was attempting to include miles of unsettled timber land far from Satsuma and that some of its territory encroached on Livingston.

No. 10 — REVENGE KILLING. The community was shocked by the arrest of a former Walker High School student and her boyfriend for the murder of a man who allegedly began raping her since she was 4. Jace Crehan, 21, and Brittany Monk, 18, face prosecution for the July 4 murder of Robert Noce, 47, whose body was found in the kitchen at his Zachary residence. Just before his death, the 19th Judicial District Court sentenced Noce to five years of supervised probation on charges of carnal knowledge of a juvenile. Noce was originally charged with aggravated rape of a child before the court reduced the charge and left him a free man. Court documents stated that Monk, identified then only by her initials BM, told police Noce forced her to engage in various sexual acts and would first make her take sleeping pills. Monk has stated on her public Facebook page that she and Crehan are expecting their first child. She also posted an ultrasound image of the fetus on her page. Monk's friends started an online petition seeking to free her from prosecution.

Honorable mention — ICONIC TV STARS SHOW UP IN LIVINGSTON. People from far and wide gathered in Livingston Parish this year to make contact with beloved celebrities of old. Among the TV icons appearing in Livingston for a Fourth of July event were Barbara Eden, the star of "I Dream of Jeanie," Dawn Wells, who played Mary Ann in "Gilligan's Island" and a number of "Dukes of Hazzard" cast members, including Sonny Shroyer, who played Enos Strate, Byron Cherry, who played Coy Duke, and Don Pedro Colley, who played Sheriff Little. Also prominent was the popular "General Lee," the 1969 Dodge Charger that was making headlines that same week after Warner Bros. decided to remove the prominent Confederate flag always before displayed on top. The big event was promoted by Scott Innes, the followup to two previous successful promotions in Livingston of a "Dukes of Hazzard" reunion. Thos events had long-term consequences for the parish as "Dukes" star John Schneider chose to open an independent film studio in Holden, where he has written, produced and starred in three motion pictures scheduled for release this coming year. Schneider also turned his facility at the site of the old Camp Singing Waters into a bustle of public events, hosting a unique theater-in-the-round version of Shakespeare's "A Midsummer Night's Dream" in his barn in August, followed by a Christmas concert this month with former Duke co-star Tom Wopat and, two weekends ago, an elaborate Christmas festival featuring a radio play production of "It's a Wonderful Life." Having celebrities in our back yard is just ... different.

Juban Crossing story tops 2014 political messes

Jeff David always enjoyed offering his own perspective on the top stories chosen at the beginning of every year by the News staff. Here is the version he wrote last year, as topical today as then.

Every year about this time Editor Mike Dowty prepares and circulates a “ballot” for our staff to vote on the story of the year. My vote for the story of the year in Livingston Parish in 2014 goes to the Juban Crossing development which survived (barely) the 2008 economic crash and burn, ultimately to sprout from the ashes and grow into reality.

In addition to the profound impact on the landscape, much of which is yet to be seen, the additional shopping and dining options offered to local patrons should hold many more shopping dollars in Livingston Parish, feeding both the School Board and the Parish Council with new revenue streams. Livingston Parish’s sales tax revenue per capita has consistently been one of the lowest among Louisiana’s 64 parishes for decades. That should change for the better as local shoppers take advantage of the additional choices they are now offered by the new stores.

Sticking with the “new” theme among my choices for top local news story of 2014, I voted the new courthouse as the second biggest story for Livingston Parish. Much like Juban Crossing, the new courthouse makes a radical change to the parish landscape and is likely to make more changes in the immediate surrounding area as lawyers follow the courthouse to be closer to their work. The Town of Livingston is already growing in the direction of the new construction and toward I-12. That trend should continue.

For the third story, I grouped four ballot choices into one big ball of legal fees by combining my third, fourth, fifth, and sixth biggest stories all into one. The choices included “Parish loses big with debris appeal,” “Home Rule Charter Commission leads to 3 amendments,” “Parish President-Council legal battle,” and “Parish President-Council budget battle.” Notice how all these stories tend to meld into one ongoing event.

That event began long before 2014 when a Hurricane named Gustav swept across our wooded paradise, felling trees left and right as it passed over. Enter the American government whose answer to every problem is to throw money at it. Unfortunately, some of our local residents did not approach the tendered offer of Uncle Sam’s greenbacks with much discretion. A wild melee of bulldozers and bushhogs



WAYS AND MEANS
Jeff M. David

ensued, and tens of millions in claims were filed for payment with FEMA, the agency in charge of hurricane debris removal.

To make a long story short, FEMA

didn’t pay much, asserted a lack of proper documentation on most of the claims, and in the end sent out an open letter the essence of which was that Livingston Parish is governed by a bunch of redneck crooks and they ain’t gettin’ nuthin’ from their dear Ole Uncle. Not on this one. Uncle Sam’s appeal board examined the kind and quality of its own work, and found it to be impeccable. Case closed, right?

I wish. The initial questions raised by FEMA were an outgrowth of a political controversy between the Parish Council and the Parish President, a controversy that survives to this day. The winners of this controversy have been some of my fellow attorneys. Who am I to begrudge them their rightful fees? The losers have been the people of Livingston Parish who have seen their taxpayer dollars go up in smoke. This I do begrudge.

One of the biggest stories in Livingston Parish in 2014 has been the ongoing pettiness inside parish government, and its consequent costs to the people in unprecedented legal fees. The squabbling has also imposed opportunity costs on the people by diverting both the Council and the President from more important business. Rational decision making seems lost in a sea of personality conflicts.

Hopefully, history will not record that when it came time to enjoy its long awaited prosperity, Livingston Parish proved incapable of handling its own affairs.

Farther down the list of top stories in Livingston Parish for 2014, I chose the changing of the guard in Denham Springs as one of the important local events of this year. Although Denham’s population



is only one-tenth of the entire parish’s, it is still the largest city in the parish and its Mayor runs what has grown to a \$25 million a year business.

Jimmy Durbin now takes his place in a long line of past Mayors of Denham Springs, including the founder of this newspaper, George Minton, who was a founding father of the city and served as its very first Mayor. Durbin, an attorney, says he plans a drive up the West Coast Highway as a means of relaxing and clearing the mind from the daily rigors of cutting ribbons and fielding daily citizen complaints.

Durbin’s replacement, businessman Gerard Landry, now assumes the reins of city government after winning a very close election over long-time councilman John Wascom.

This was not, by the way, the closest Mayoral election in city history. That honor should go to the 1970 race between incumbent Mayor J.O. Burnett and challenger local businessman Herbert Hoover. Hoover, who represented Denham on the Police Jury at the time, lost by less than 10 votes. I was off in the army at the time, and got scolded aplenty by my father back home for not taking the trouble to vote through the military.

All ended well for Hoover as he came back in 1974, won, and served four full terms. My father, on the other hand, never let me forget that “one vote can make a difference.”

My vote in 2014 goes to Juban Crossing.

JEFF M. DAVID was the Publisher of The Livingston Parish News from July 1977 until October 2015.

EDITORIAL

Democracy before the votes are cast

As we enter 2016, Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump are statistically tied in several national polls matching up the Democratic and Republican front-runners. It would seem that one of them is likely to be the next President of the United States. According to the gamblers posting odds on the race, Clinton is a heavy favorite with Trump a distant second, followed by Ted Cruz, Marco Rubio, Jeb Bush and Chris Christie.

Before a single vote is cast, giant news organizations in charge of sorting out the field have decided which candidates get to debate. Next come voters in Iowa and New Hampshire — a little over 1 percent of the U.S. population — who will make headlines by choosing their preferences. Those three gatekeepers will winnow down what is now a large field so that by “Super Tuesday” on March 1, when 12 states representing one quarter of the nation’s population will settle the Democratic Party nominee once and for all and likely leave the Republicans in no larger than a two-man race that may or may not be particularly close. When Louisiana voters get a crack at their presidential preference primary the following Saturday, the contest may be over already.

Then it’s on to the conventions and a November vote that will come down to a handful of states in play. In theory, your vote here does count, but in reality the decision will come down to what voters do in a handful of states — Ohio, Florida, Pennsylvania, Iowa, Missouri, Arkansas, Nevada and perhaps a couple more. That means all the candidates will spend their dollars campaigning and organizing in those states while the vast majority of Americans sits back as spectators.

The name we have given to this colorful system of choosing our leaders is “democracy.”

They said it in 2015

The past 12 months in Louisiana politics were notable and quotable. We witnessed a historic election cycle, a governor running for president and an unforgettable regular session that was defined by its phantom tax increases. The year that was 2015 will be remembered for many things, but the words that came out of the mouths of Louisiana’s political players and pundits offer a road map to the most memorable.

Few political events were as remarkable as the matchup between Gov.-elect John Bel Edwards and U.S. Sen. David Vitter. State Treasurer John Kennedy was a lead surrogate for Vitter in the governor’s race, noting, “We need a cross between Socrates and Dirty Harry.” But based on how voters reacted, they clearly preferred a cross between Jimmy Stewart’s Jeff Smith and a Blue Dog Democrat.

Kennedy also made this prediction: “Anyone who really thinks that this race will be decided by 20 points is smoking medicinal marijuana.” The treasurer was sort of right on this one — it was actually Edwards over Vitter by 12 points. Given the monumental budget challenges facing the governor-elect, Kennedy did hit the nail on the head when he said, “If I were the new governor, I’d start stocking up on Scotch.”

Vitter was an almost mythical candidate heading in to this election cycle, which was underscored by an assessment from Bradley Beychok, the president of Media Matters, who suggested to Politico, “This is Godzilla. To slay Godzilla, you got to go directly at him. You can’t slay a dragon by chopping at his feet.”

Once the shine came off of Vitter and the poll numbers turned against him, The Cook Report’s Charlie Cook penned a partial eulogy in National Journal. “A potted plant running as a Republican would probably win a gubernatorial runoff in Louisiana,” Cook wrote, “but Vitter might not.”

Edwards took his shots at Vitter, too: “Sen. Vitter, you’ve been lying sideways in the public trough since 1992.”

And Vitter took shots at Edwards: “You’re not living by the (West Point) honor code. You’re living by the lawyer’s code.”

Not to be left out, the other major candidates for governor got into the game of one-upmanship as well during the October LPB-CABL debate.

Edwards: “I can chew gum and walk at the same time.”

Public Service Commissioner Scott Angelle, who referred to Vitter as “Senator Pinocchio” during the campaign: “I can chew gum and walk a little bit faster than John Bel.”

Lt. Gov. Jay Dardenne: “I can chew gum and run at the same time.”

Dardenne observed during this election cycle that “an honest politician is not a contradiction in terms in Louisiana politics.” He was also appointed as the next commissioner of administration by Edwards. It was in digital news-



POLITICS
Jeremy Alford

print before Edwards could even make the announcement, bringing to mind LSU ManSHIP Journalism Chair Bob Mann’s offering of political reality. “In Baton Rouge, a secret means you only tell five people,” he tweeted after the runoff was decided.

Outgoing Attorney General Buddy Caldwell, who was defeated by former Congressman Jeff Landry, sounded like a hard-boiled politician from

yesteryear on the campaign trail and landed a few wicked attacks. “Jeff Landry hides from the truth like Dracula hides from the sunshine,” Caldwell said, later adding about fellow challenger Ike Jackson, “He’s as dumb as the bottom of my shoe.”

This was also the election cycle that saw the rise of super PACs, which can raise unlimited amounts of money. Louisiana Federation of Teachers President Steve Monaghan said there was a very simple explanation. “If you’re not getting the money, you ain’t getting the honey,” he said with a mustachioed grin.

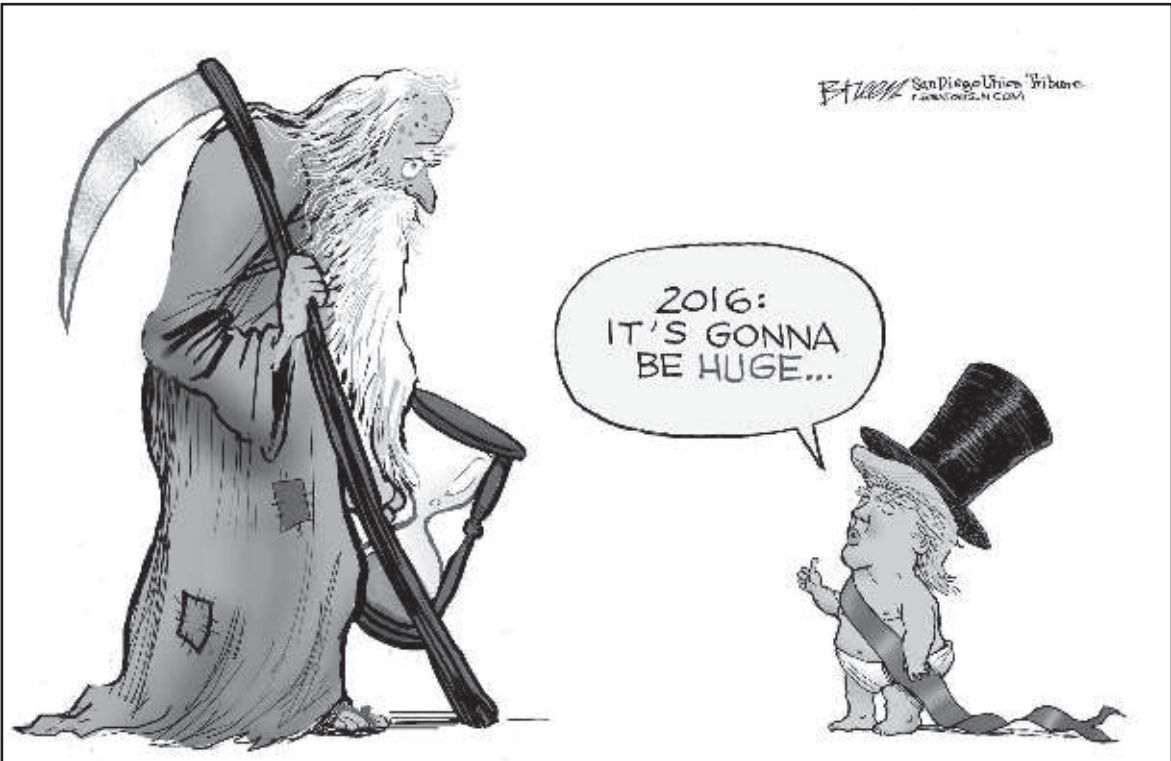
As the year came to a close, December marked moving out time for Gov. Jindal, who spent a good part of the year campaigning for president. On his days outside of Louisiana, Lt. Gov. Dardenne became acting governor while running for governor. “If this keeps up I may be term limited before inauguration day,” Dardenne said with mock worry during a gubernatorial forum.

As we prepare for at least one special session followed by a regular session in early 2016, many of us are still wondering exactly what happened during this year’s regular session, where taxes were raised under a “revenue neutral” scheme so that conservatives could insist no taxes were raised at all. When outgoing Rep. Joel Robideaux, accepted the LegisGator legislator of the year award over the summer, it sounded like he was still putting the pieces together as well. “I wasn’t prepared for this, just like we weren’t prepared for the session,” he said to laughter. “So I’ll wing it, just like we did during the session.”

The one certainty heading into the 2016 term of the new Legislature is that Sen. John Alario is positioned to recapture his title of Senate president. When told he had no serious challengers for the presidency by journalist Greg Hilburn, Alario responded in Vegas terms. “I like that,” Alario said. “Those are good odds.”

You can bet it’ll be another very political year in 2016, with more heated elections, confusing legislative sessions and quotable officials. It may actually be a lot like 2015, meaning the only thing new about the year will be our calendars.

JEREMY ALFORD is the publisher of LaPolitics Weekly and LaPolitics.com. He can be reached at JJA@LaPolitics.com.



CALL & COMMENT

The Jones family of Watson would like to extend their deepest appreciation to Seale Funeral Home in Denham Springs, The Livingston Parish Sheriff's Office and its officers, and Dr. Terry Booth for their participation in the funeral of our brother, Ivy Jones, on Tuesday, December 8, 2015. Thank God that we are blessed with people like these that go to extremes to comfort people who have lost a loved one. I am extremely proud of and comforted by the fact that the Livingston Parish Sheriff's Office is an extraordinary and elite group of people that have for years participated in many funerals for the citizens of Livingston Parish. They haven't received enough praise for it. I am extending our thank you for helping us on our day of sorrow. It is people like these that make you proud to have been born and raised in Livingston Parish. — Albert Jones, Watson.

I lost my debit card on Saturday when I was getting gas. A couple returned it to me after they saw it lying on the ground. How many people out there would do such an act of kindness? Many people would have taken advantage of the situation. I just want to wish them a joyous new year and I thank them very much.

WEB POLL RESULTS*

What's wrong with the New Orleans Saints?

- Weak, weak defense — 40%
- Key players lack talent or experience — 20%
- Never recovered from Bountygate — 13.3%
- Poor draft & personnel decisions — 26.7%
- Don't know— 0%

* Visitors to www.livingstonparishnews.com answered this

poll question posted between Dec. 22 and Dec. 29. Visit our website to participate in the current poll below and watch for results on this page.

What will the average price of gasoline be by election day?

- Still below \$2 a gallon
- Back over \$2 a gallon
- Big recession — prices tumble
- Mideast meltdown — prices soar
- Don't know

Vote at www.livingstonparishnews.com.

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Hillary's Christmas gifts

It must have been tough for Bill Clinton to come up with a good Christmas present for his wife this year. She didn't have to ask for much from him or Santa, because the political gods have already given her just about all she could want.

Hillary Clinton has never been an ideal candidate for president. If she were, she'd be looking forward to her final year in the White House instead of reacquainting herself with the charms of a New Hampshire winter. The flaws that sank her against Barack Obama remain: She's a wooden campaigner. She has a maddening penchant for secrecy and dissembling. She has accumulated a long record of scandals and dubious choices during her decades in public life. She voted for the Iraq War.

Four years as secretary of state yielded more minuses -- the failed Russia "reset," Benghazi, her private email server -- than pluses. Carly Fiorina landed a telling blow when she said, "If you want to stump a Democrat, ask them to name an accomplishment of Mrs. Clinton's." If elected, she'd be the second-oldest person ever inaugurated.

But none of these vulnerabilities has derailed her campaign. On the contrary, they have been turned into irrelevancies or even assets. Almost everything that has happened in the past six months has worked to Clinton's advantage.

First is the weak field of other candidates for the Democratic nomination. Bernie Sanders' grim demeanor, leftist policies and modest debating skills have kept him a distant second in national polls. He's close in Iowa and leading in New Hampshire, but even if he were to win those contests, it's hard to see his route to the nomination against an opponent with a heavy advantage in funding and organization elsewhere.

Martin O'Malley, offering a younger, more liberal alternative to Clinton, has found few takers. Jim Webb and Lincoln Chafee barely registered before leaving the race.

There was one person who posed a real threat: Elizabeth Warren, whose populist message and pugnacious style enthrall Democrats in a way Clinton never has. On top of that, the senator from Massachusetts would have neutralized the historic potential of Clinton as the first female president. When Warren decided against a race, she gave Clinton an open highway.

Second is the weak field of candidates for the Republican nomination. Clinton had to worry that someone with appeal beyond the GOP base would rise to the top -- Jeb Bush, Marco Rubio, Chris Christie or John Kasich.

Bush, a fluent Spanish speaker whose wife was born in Mexico, or Rubio, a Cuban-American, also had the chance to recapture Hispanics who have abandoned the GOP. Clinton faced the difficulty of persuading voters to give the same party three consecutive terms in the White House -- something accomplished only once since 1953.

But the GOP has done its best to come to her aid. The leading candidate, Donald Trump, has the highest unfavorable rating of anyone in either party's race. His campaign is brilliantly engineered to drive Latinos, blacks and Muslims into the Democratic camp -- along with women, 56 percent of whom voted Democratic in the 2012 presidential election. His closest rival, Ted Cruz, has run a cartoonishly ideological campaign that is bound to alienate everyone except tea party stalwarts.

If you assume his Cuban heritage would help him with Hispanics, keep in mind that the other senator from Texas, John Cornyn, got a considerably bigger share of the Latino vote in 2014 than Cruz did in 2012. Note also Cruz's latest attempt at humor: "The new politically correct term is no longer 'illegal aliens'; it's 'undocumented Democrats.'" Hispanics will take the hint that their place is not in the GOP.

Not only do Trump and Cruz have serious liabilities for the general election but their flaws help to hide Clinton's. Next to their incendiary rhetoric, her stolid manner and tedious oratory make her look serious. Juxtaposed with their vast inexperience in foreign affairs, her years of diplomacy convey that she knows her way around a perilous world. On the ultimate presidential question -- "Whom would you trust with the nuclear button?" -- Trump and Cruz represent the ultimate risk. Cruz has even hinted at nuking the Islamic State. Clinton manages to connote sobriety and safety.

There are many good reasons she should not be president. But the way it's shaping up, this campaign could make Americans forget them.

Steve Chapman is a columnist and editorial writer for the Chicago Tribune. His twice-a-week column on national and international affairs appears in some 60 papers across the country.



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Headlines of 2015: Tax renewals, murder for hire, Redneck Regatta

From A1

May 7
Voters pass taxes
Voters renewed four property taxes May 2: 7 mills for school building and maintenance, 11.1 mills for Fire Protection District 10 in Holden, 15 mills for Recreation District 2 in Watson, and 2.5 mills for the Health Unit. Last November, a faulty ballot grossly underestimated the revenue 5 mills would raise for the Health Unit. Amid discussions of the error, voters learned that the Health Unit has a \$6 million surplus and the Parish Council cut the requested millage in half.

May 10
Civic center sites suggested
A Baton Rouge firm hired by the Livingston Convention and Visitors Bureau searches for suitable civic center sites in the parish. The first three are near the I-12 Livingston exit. The parish lacks a facility dedicated for conventions, graduations and large-scale entertainment.

May 14
Park sparks controversy
The Denham Springs Council inadvertently invited complaints about Willow Woods Park while considering a suggestion to allow bicycles in the 11-acre bird sanctuary. The concrete walking trails are accessible only through The Willows subdivision off Cockerham Road. Residents complained that bike riders already use the trail and unwanted visitors engage in illicit activities at night.

May 17
Coroner releases 2014 statistics
Statistics from Coroner Dr. Ron Coe show 28 deaths from drug overdose in 2014, eight deaths classified as homicides, and 27 classified as suicide, as well as 27



JOHN DUPONT | THE NEWS
Bob and Bill McDowell's "Sea Raptor" finished first place during races at the third annual Tickfaw River Redneck Regatta jointly sponsored by the Livingston Parish News and the Convention and Visitors Bureau.

deaths from car wrecks and pedestrian accidents. Other accidents caused 17 deaths. Ten of the 27 suicide cases fell between the ages of 18 and 39.

May 21
Murder for hire arrests made
Three Livingston Parish men are charged with first-degree murder, second-degree kidnapping, and arson linked to an alleged murder for hire scheme. The owner of a Baton Rouge car dealership, also arrested, allegedly paid the men \$10,000 to kill his ex-wife. Suspects led police to the body of the 54-year old victim, who was shot in the head and buried in a heavily wooded area in St. Helena Parish.

May 24
Gravel mining site approved
Parish Councilmen

approve a preliminary site plan for the proposed Southern Aggregates sand and gravel mining

location next to Oak Hills subdivision in Watson. The site plan meets the requirements of a new ordinance for buffer zones, berms and other concessions to adjacent home owners.

Springfield names new Police Chief
The Board of Aldermen appoints Steve Meyers as a part-time, interim police chief to replace Jimmy Jones who resigned as part of a plea bargain for his role in the illegal dismissal of a DWI arrest in 2011.

May 28
Five graduations held in Hammond
Seniors from Doyle, Walker, Albany, Springfield and Live Oak High Schools commute to Hammond for commencement ceremonies. Southeastern's University Center seats 8,000. Denham Springs held its graduation ceremonies outdoors this year, but will move to Hammond next year. French Settlement and Maurepas high schools matriculated in their own gyms and Holden High held its graduation at Abundant Life Church in Denham Springs.

Deputies seize 70 lbs. of pot

The Sheriff's Narcotics Division confiscates more than 70 pounds of marijuana with a street value of about \$84,000. Deputies found the pot at a home on Vincent Road.

June 4
Crowds cheer third Redneck Regatta entries
Spectators gather along the Tickfaw River in Springfield to watch homemade, human-powered, boats try to travel 100 yards. Entries might be made of cardboard and duct tape, occasionally shrink-wrapped, often floating on tires or plastic bottles. Larry Quave Sr., his son Larry Jr. and grandson Larry III built "Night Invader," this year's paddlewheel winner.

June 7
Prisoners sent to Catahoula Parish
The Sheriff's Office transfers 24 prisoners out of parish for lack of space, the fourth such emergency since the Detention Center opened in 2009. Before 2009, the parish was paying more than \$6,000 a day for overflow inmates.

June 11
Lawmakers struggle with state budget
Local legislators grap-

ple with a billion dollar deficit while Gov. Bobby Jindal insists on generating new revenue without tax hikes. Senator Dale Erdey predicted that "it will be on the back of the next governor and Legislature to structurally fix our financial problems."

June 14
Gov. Jindal pushes SAVE
Lawmakers pass a

HEADLINES
PAGE A8

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Martin winds down role with water system

By John Dupont
The Livingston Parish News
SPRINGFIELD – The Board of Aldermen will soon need to find someone to oversee the town's water project.
Former Mayor Charlie Martin made that recommendation to the board at their regular monthly meeting Dec. 16.
"The time is coming where you'll need to find someone else to take over this project," he told the board. "There will be times I won't be available."
Martin volunteered his services as the liaison for the project after he resigned from office in September as part of a plea agreement for the illegal dismissal of a DWI citation from 2011.
He spent nearly 10 years doing the legwork to bring the \$1.2 million project to fruition.
The board last September mulled over the creation of part-time position for Martin to work as a liaison for the project, but a paid position would have violated the stipulations of his resignation.
Martin – who served 28 years as mayor – had planned to retire at the end of the term, which ends in 2016. He said he planned to travel and spend more time with his family once he retired.
He suggested the board appoint Alderman L.D. Barringer to oversee the work on the project, but no decision was made.
The project upon

completion will provide water service throughout the town.
"So far, the project is moving along well," Martin said. "They're finished running the lines and now they're flushing the system out."
Martin is hammering out details on the cooperative endeavor agreement, which the town hopes to sign with French Settlement Water Co.
The agreement would create a backup water source for both the town and French Settlement Water Co., in the event one system goes out of service during a storm or breakdown.
In other business, Team City chairperson Denise Martin told the board she will step down from her post at the end of 2016.
She said she had planned to step down last year, but decided to give it one more year.
Martin has coordinated the Easter egg hunt, as well as the Fourth of July event and Christmas parade.
She also had overseen the Civil War reenactment, but a lack of assistance in the coordination of the event prompted her to discontinue it.
The board also approved liquor licenses for Springfield Quick Stop and Carter's Supermarket, incumbent on those two businesses presenting the town sales tax information required for the approval for the permits.



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December 24th Publication:

- Classifieds – 10am, Monday, Dec. 21st
- Legals – 10am, Monday, Dec. 21st
- Display – 5pm, Friday, Dec. 18th

December 27th Publication:

- Classifieds – 10am, Wednesday, Dec. 23rd
- Legals – 10am, Wednesday, Dec. 23rd
- Display – 5pm, Tuesday, Dec. 22nd

December 31st Publication:

- Classifieds – 10am, Monday, Dec. 28th
- Legals – 10am, Monday, Dec. 28th
- Display – Noon, Wednesday, Dec. 23rd

January 3rd, 2016 Publication:

- Classifieds – 10am, Wednesday, Dec. 30th
- Legals – 10am, Wednesday, Dec. 30th
- Display – 5pm, Tuesday, Dec. 29th



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OBITUARIES

George Abrams
George Fredrick Abrams of Baton Rouge passed Christmas Day, Dec. 25, 2015, at Ochsner Hospital in New Orleans. Born Sept. 9, 1949, "Little George" was a native of Baton Rouge and an Istrouma Senior High alumni. Mr. Abrams was preceded in death by his father, George Edward Abrams of New York; mother, Theresa Migliore Abrams of Baton Rouge; and brother, Edward Joseph Abrams of Baton Rouge. He is survived by five siblings, Theresa Abrams Miley of Denham Springs and Thomas, Carrol, Sadie and William Abrams of Pinellas County, Fla. George Frederick Abrams will be buried near his maternal grandparents and mother and other family members at Roselawn Memorial Park and Mausoleum in Baton Rouge. RIP George; "needless to say"; he will be missed by many loved ones, family and friends.

Elizabeth Anthony
A resident of Walker, Elizabeth May Anthony passed away on Thursday, Dec. 24, 2015, at the age of 59. Visitation was at Seale Funeral Home, Denham Springs, on Wednesday, Dec. 30, until funeral services in the funeral home chapel. Burial followed in Evergreen Memorial Park. She is survived by her husband of 39 years, Norman Anthony; two daughters, Michelle Steer and husband Allan, Christie Ford and husband Kevin; three grandchildren, Kevin Jr., Nicole and Katie Ford; brother, Jene Cockrum; sister, Madeline Schneider and husband Robert; and numerous nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents, James and Janet Cockrum Sr.; and two brothers, Randy and James Cockrum Jr. Sign the online guest book at www.sealefuneral.com.

Jerry Gill Sr.
Jerry Luther Gill Sr., age 78 and a resident of Denham Springs, passed away at his home around 1 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 25, 2015. He was the owner of Terry's Bait Shop in Denham Springs for over 17 years. By trade, he was a plumber for many years. He loved to work in his garden, fish and hunt, and anything to do outside. He was a loving husband to his wife, Sarah, of 58 years, loved and cherished his children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and his only great-great-grandchild, Noah Vallet. An uncle to numerous nieces, nephews, great-nieces, great-nephews and a friend to many. He was also known as the man with the "cane". Visitation was at Hebron Baptist Church, Denham Springs, on Monday, Dec. 28, and Tuesday, Dec. 29, until services, conducted by Pastor Charles Ray Smith. He is survived by his wife of 58 years, Sarah Lou Watts Gill; children, Jerry L. Gill Jr. and wife Dianne A. Gill, Kerry D. Gill and wife Tammy G. Gill, Sherri Gill and husband Ken Oliver, Terry Gill, and special son, Joey Gill; grandchildren, Jason Gill, Chad Gill, Mike Gill, Danielle Gill, Rusti R. Lee and husband Raymond Lee Jr., Daniel Summers and wife Amalea, Lacy Gill, Brittany G. Hough and husband Matthew Hough, Reba Gill, Bailey Gill and Kenneth Oliver Jr.;

siblings, Gloria G. Holden, Louis Gill and wife Pat, and Wesley "Wormie" Gill; Uncle Bobby Gill and wife Oydean; and sister-in-law Bobby Gill. He was preceded in death by: William Lyle Gill, father; Margaret Luetta Crowder Gill, mother; Lindell Gill, brother; Joyce Gill Andrews, sister; Hurcel Andrews, brother-in-law; Justin Summers, grandson; Don Holden, brother-in-law; and good friends Michael Mitchell and Burl Ferguson. Pallbearers were Greg Andrews, George Campfield, Brad Michael Gill, Jerry L. Gill Jr., Joey Gill, Kerry Gill, Tommy Gill, and Otis Needham. Honorary Pallbearers were Jack Bankston, George Cambre, Chuck Vincent and Eddie Wagner.

Johnnie McCain
Johnnie Noble McCain, age 73 and a resident of Pride, died on Wednesday, Dec. 23, 2015 at her home. She was retired, after working for over 20 years as a mail carrier for the US Postal Service. Visitation was at Charlet Funeral Home, Zachary, on Wednesday, Dec. 30, until funeral services. Interment followed in the Hillcrest Mausoleum in Baker. She is survived by two daughters, Jewell Jones and husband Rusty Jones of Denham Springs and Janet McCain of Pride; son, Jerry Michael McCain of Lincoln, Neb.; sister, Mary Heath of Hattiesburg, Miss.; nine grandchildren, Justin McCain, Colt McCain, Jerry McCain, Courtney Legier, Buddy Jones, Nicholas Jones, Ashley McCain, Candice Ellis, and Faith Ellis; and 10 great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her granddaughter, Jessie Lee McCain; husband, Jerry McCain; and parents, Ira and Maggie Noble. She was a loving mother and a member of Christ Fellowship Church. Share sympathies, memories, and condolences at www.CharletFuneralHome.com.

Velma Norris
A native of Columbia, LA and a resident of Livingston, Velma "Bobbie" Wyles Norris passed away early Thursday, Dec. 24, 2015, at The Carpenter House. She was 76. Visitation was at Seale Funeral Home, Denham Springs, on Monday, Dec. 28. The Rev. Bob Buchanan conducted funeral services in the funeral home chapel. Burial followed in Evergreen Memorial Park. She is survived by a son, Michael Norris; daughter, Pamela Wells and husband Terrill; four grandchildren, Clifton Lee Wells, Connor John Wells, Caden Layne Wells, and Hannah Grace Wells; sister, Pauline Harrelson; and sister-in-law, Flo Wyles Powell. She was preceded in death by her parents, Herman Lee Wyles Sr. and Vela Wyles; two brothers, Herman Lee Wyles Jr. and Jerry Dale Wyles; two sisters, Vernell Wyles Deville and Yvonne Wyles West and husband Sylvester; and brothers-in-law, John Whitten and David Harrelson. The family would like to extend a special thank you to Bambi Tanner and the staff of Modern Home Health and Dr. Mark Operario for their care and support. Family members and friends may sign the online guest book at www.sealefuneral.com.

Scotty Picou
A native of St. Amant and a resident of French Settlement, Scotty Blaine Picou passed away due to cancer at 3:30 p.m. at The Carpenter House on Dec. 13, 2015. He was 58 years old. Visitation was at The Church in St. Amant until a memorial service on Wednesday, Dec. 30. He is survived by his wife, Sally Picou; mother, Anna R. Picou; daughters, Heather N. Peno and Laura L. Smith; sisters, Crystal Vavasour, Tammy Pendarvis and Peggy Picou, all of St. Amant; brothers, Kenny Picou of St. Amant, Gavin "Matt" Picou of Gonzales, and Joel "Mike" Picou of Baton Rouge; and four grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his father, Harold E. Picou. Arrangements by Church Funeral Services & Crematory, St. Amant. 225-644-9683. www.churchfuneralservices.com.

Jerry Sibley Sr.
Age 79, Jerry D. Sibley Sr. went to be with his Lord and Savior on Tuesday, Dec. 22, 2015. He was a lifelong resident of Walker. Jerry proudly served in the United States Marines. He was a truck driver and his CB Handle was "Big Cigar." Jerry enjoyed fishing, hunting, rodeos, growing his own vegetables, and traveling with his family. He was an amazing cook and his specialties were fried catfish and turkey. Jerry was a strong, fun, and loving person who will be dearly missed. Jerry is survived by his daughters, Rose Marie Benton and husband Kevin, Susie Watson and husband Brad, Patsy Lea Carroll and husband Mark; son, Joey Sibley and wife Rachel; daughter-in-law, Donna Sibley; sister, Jenny Ard and husband Lynn; and brothers, James Sibley and wife Elsie, Bobby Sibley and wife Grace, Gerald Sibley and wife Jeanie, and Ricky Sibley and wife Bobbie Ann. He is also survived by his grandchildren, Melvin, Jesse, and Bette Jo Sibley, Terry Watson, Brittany and Robert Young, Joshua and Jason Sibley, Shelli and Landry Carroll, Melissa Fairchild, Amanda Lavigne, Ashley Weber; and 13 great-grandchildren with two more on the way. He was preceded in death by his wife, Grace "DeeDee" Sibley; parents, Melvin and Floye Sibley; son, Jerry Sibley Jr.; son-in-law, Robert A. Young Sr.; sisters, Gerline Gilchrist, Rita Loupe; and brother, Melvin "Bo" Sibley. Relatives and friends of the family were invited to attend the visitation at Immaculate Conception Catholic Church on Tuesday, Dec. 29, with visitation until the Mass of Christian Burial. Fr. Frank Uter officiated the service and interment followed in Port Hudson Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital in honor of Jerry. Condolences and other information may be found at www.thompsoncares.com. Arrangements have been entrusted to Brandon G. Thompson Funeral Home.

Emmaleigh Smith
A memorial service for Emmaleigh Jo Smith will be announced for a later date by Church Funeral Services and Crematory of Livingston Parish. Emmaleigh was born on Oct. 6, 2015, in Baton Rouge

and passed from this life on Friday, Dec. 18, 2015, at her home. She is survived by her parents, Kenneth L. Smith and Lacey Jo Johnson; brother, Denver Brian Johnson; grandparents, Paul and Pat Johnson of Watson, Sherry Smith of Central, Barry Smith and Janie Harbain of Greensburg; great-grandmother, Sandra Joyce Reichart; and aunts, uncles and cousins. Sign the online guest book at www.churchfuneralservices.com.

Margarine Smith
A resident of Denham Springs, Margarine Scarborough Crawford Smith passed away at her home on Wednesday, Dec. 23, 2015, at the age of 92. Visitation was at First United Methodist Church of Denham Springs, 316 Centerville NW, on Monday, Dec. 28 and Tuesday, Dec. 29. The Rev. Jacqueline King conducted funeral services. Burial followed in Denham Springs Memorial Park. She is survived by two sons, Nathan L. Crawford Jr. and wife Jane, and Russell T. Crawford; two daughters, Margery Ann Crawford Drake and husband William D. Drake Jr., and Madelyn Crawford Long and husband Dannie W. Long; 13 grandchildren, Randall L. Crawford, Nathan G. Crawford, Kimberly A. Crawford Pagel, R. Gregory Michael, Timothy S. Michael, Ronald C. Michael Jr., John F. Cohran, Trevor M. Crawford, Frederick L. Drake, M. Elizabeth Crawford-Drake, Jeremie L. Long, Nathan E. Long, and Daniel A. Long; and numerous great and great-great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her parents, Lonnie T. and M. Madeline Scarborough; husbands, Nathan L. Crawford Sr. and Fred E. Smith Jr.; grandson, Michael Crawford Lamb; and two sisters, B. Gaye Wainwright and Christine S. Hicks. Pallbearers were Randall L. Crawford, Nathan G. Crawford, Trevor M. Crawford, Frederick L. Drake, Jeremie L. Long, and Daniel A. Long. Nathan E. Long served as honorary pallbearer. She was a member of First United Methodist Church of Denham Springs. Sign the online guest book at www.sealefuneral.com.

Willard Vicknair
Willard Mitchell Vicknair passed away on Wednesday, Dec. 23, 2015, at North Oaks Medical Center in Hammond at the age of 81. He was born Sept. 12, 1934, in Springfield. Willard is the owner and operator of Vicknair Farms for more than 30 years, along with his wife Elaine. He sold his produce at Red Stick Farmers Market in downtown Baton Rouge. He and Elaine were proud to have helped start this Farms to Table program and this is where you found them every Saturday morning for the past 18 years. It's been said that Willard grew the sweetest strawberries around! He was at peace and closest to his God on his tractor. Prior to following his passion for farming full time, Willard traveled the world with his family while working in the oil field, starting out as a Roustabout and working his way up to being "The Tool Pusher" for The Offshore Oil Company and later retiring from Fluor Drilling. Willard drilled for oil

in the Red Sea, North Sea, South China Sea and the Gulf of Mexico. Willard was King of the 2007 Ponchatoula Strawberry Festival. Willard was a quiet, gentle soul who was devoted to his wife, his children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Willard is survived by his beloved wife of 55 years, Elaine Wilson Vicknair; children, Sheila Kay Allen (Brian), Edward Joseph Vicknair (Kelly), and Patrick Mitchell Vicknair; sisters, Gloria Jean "Deanie" Ridgell and Ann Matherne; brother, Woodrow "Woody" Vicknair; five grandchildren, Christine, Heather Jo, Nathan, Sarah, and Daniel; two great-grandchildren, Madelyn and Parker; and many nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents, Lillie Wall Vicknair and Joseph Urban Vicknair; and brothers, Wallace Vicknair, Wesley Vicknair, and Wallie Rae Vicknair. Funeral Services were held in the chapel of Harry McKneely & Son Funeral Home, Ponchatoula, on Saturday, Dec. 26. Interment followed in Rosaryville Cemetery, Ponchatoula. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Red Stick Farmers Market, made payable to BREADA, P.O. Box 3976 Baton Rouge, LA 70821 or online at <http://breada.org/about-us/donate/>. To view and sign the family guest book, visit www.harrymckneely.com.

Lloyd Williams
Lloyd Denver Williams joined his Savior at 11:30 a.m. on Wednesday, Dec. 23, 2015, surrounded by family. Jesus said, "I am the resurrection and the life; he that believes in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live." John 11:25. He was born in Walker on Sept. 15, 1933. He was 82 years old and a resident of Walker. He loved his family locally and abroad. Hunting was his lifetime interest. In his

later years, he devoted to Bible study, lengthy chapter memorization, and church activities including help with groundskeeping. He was a carpenter by trade out of Carpenter's Local 1098 in Baton Rouge and worked locally and out-of-state most of his life. Visitation was held Monday, Dec. 28, at Shady Bower Pentecostal Church, Walker, until service, conducted by Pastor Joey Meyers. McLin & Manley Funeral Home has been entrusted with arrangements. He is survived by his six children, Stacey Williams Boudreaux, Teresa Weyer, Lisa Williams, Tamara Degner, Lloyd D. Williams Jr., Randy Cox, as well as his local dedicated and loving granddaughter, Heather Boudreaux, and other grandchildren out-of-state. He is survived by one sister and two brothers, Roux Silee Edwards, Joe W. Williams and wife Beverly, Richard Williams and wife Judy of Walker; along with numerous nieces, nephews and extended family. He was preceded in death by parents, William and Lettie Sibley Williams; son, David Sean Williams; two sisters and two brothers, Erma Crocker, Patsy Pedigo, Gervis Williams, and Henry Earl Williams. Pallbearers were Damion Williams, Darin Williams, Ricky Williams, Nicholas Williams, Todd Williams, and Noel Williams. Interment was in the Shady Bower Church Cemetery, where he was a member. The family would like to extend a special thanks to the staff of Hospice Compassus, and The Baton Rouge General, as well as the Carpenter House Staff for their loving care. The family would also like to extend heartfelt appreciation for all the prayers and acts of kindness during this time by friends and loved ones. Friends and family may sign the online guest book at www.mclinfuneralhome.com.

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Ask for Leesha
Deadlines are 8am Wednesday or 8am Friday

Headlines of 2015: *Star sightings, road woes, development everywhere*

From A6

last-minute budget with unusual provisions that do little to address the state’s continuing revenue crisis. SAVE (Student Assessment for a Valuable Education) assesses a fee, about \$1,600, on state higher education students in exchange for a tax credit. Rep. John Bel Edwards, now Governor-elect, called SAVE a “preposterous scheme.”

June 18
Springfield mayor resigns
Charles Martin, who served 28 years as Springfield mayor, agrees to resign as part of a plea agreement. Martin faced felony charges in connection with the illegal dismissal of a DWI arrest. Martin will pay a monitoring fee for two years of probation and serve 32 hours of community service, working in the town’s cemetery.

June 21
Budget solutions await next governor
State Senator Dale Erdey and Rep. Rogers Pope discuss the 2015 legislative session at a Chamber of Commerce forum, referencing the need to examine a poorly understood web of tax exemptions and credits. Pope said it was hard to make sense out of the session, and Erdey compared the state’s problems to those faced during the oil crisis in the late 80s.

June 25
Former high school readies for renovation
The School Board announces plans for a \$4.5 million renovation of the former Live Oak High School, allowing it to reopen as a junior high for 7th and 8th graders.

Board members expect to demolish the old cafeteria and wait for a federal grant to renovate the gym.

June 28
Four-story building planned near Bass Pro
Riverside Landing will expand to include Carlisle Place, a 44,000 sq. ft. multi-purpose building in Denham Springs at the corner of Bass Pro Blvd. and South Range Ave., developer Jacob FaKouri said at a press conference. Plans call for retail outlets on the ground floor, offices on the second and third floors, and a film studio for Mahee Productions on the fourth floor.

July 2
Same sex marriage confounds clerks
Employees at the Livingston Parish Clerk of Court’s Office are in a quandary immediately following the U.S. Supreme Court’s decision to approve same-sex marriages nationwide. The decision to comply in Jefferson, East Baton Rouge, and Ascension parishes Monday set precedents that decided the issue locally. The first same sex marriage was performed in Livingston Wednesday.

JP’s, constables, get raises
Livingston Parish Justices of the Peace and Constables, 20 altogether, get long-awaited pay raises. Parish Councilmen added \$200 to the current \$300 a month stipend. JPs and constables also get a monthly \$100 supplement from the state, bringing the new total to \$600 a month.

July 5
Wish comes true
The Make-A-Wish Foundation sends 4-year-old Brady Larson and his family to Florida for a dream vacation at Disney World. Brady has “Duchenne,” a rare form of muscular dystrophy that only affects males.

July 9
\$87 million collected in sales taxes
Sales tax collections during the 2014-15 fiscal year break all records with a total of \$87 million divided unevenly among 11 governmental entities: Denham Springs, Walker, the School Board, the Sheriff’s Office, Parish



LISA DOWTY | THE NEWS

TV stars in Livingston

Girl Scouts Gracie Anderson (left) and Harlee Watts of Troop 30503 of Springfield pose with “I Dream of Jeanie” star Barbara Eden at the Livingston Fairgrounds during the Cajun Country Jam on July 4.



MCHUGH DAVID | THE NEWS

Harvest Manor is moving to a new, 22-acre location at the corner of Rushing Road and Pete’s Highway, next to the soon-to-be Cook Road extension. Pictured at the groundbreaking are (from left) Trey Quirk, son; Todd Quirk, son; Scott Quirk, son; Jay Dardenne, Lt. Governor; Layton Ricks, Livingston Parish President; Gerard Landry, Mayor of Denham Springs; Robert Poole, Denham Springs City Councilman; Dale Erdey, State Senator; Buster Quirk, owner; Marshall Harris, Livingston Parish Councilman; Jeff Wesley, Denham Springs City Councilman; and Robb Ratcliffe, lead contractor.



MCHUGH DAVID | THE NEWS

After completing wetlands mitigation, Walker will be receiving a new, 168-unit apartment complex at the corner of Travis Road and LA 447 north of U.S. 190. Pictured at the groundbreaking are (from left) Dakota Hinton, Hinton Construction; Mark English; Hinton Construction; Gary Hinton Jr., Hinton Construction; Heather Colgin, Humphrey’s & Partners Architects; Wayne Dugas, Chairman, Livingston Parish Chamber of Commerce / Lard Oil Company; Brian McNabb, Senator Bill Cassidy’s office; Jimmy McCoy, Livingston Parish School Board; Deane Bryson, developer; John Buzzell, developer; John Coxe, Sr., Buzzell’s grandfather; Lynn Coxe Graham, listing agent; Stephen Coxe, Buzzell’s cousin; Rick Ramsey, Mayor of Walker; Tracy Girlinghouse, Walker City Councilman; Larry Collins, Director of LEDC; John Blount, Blount Construction Company; Coy Tidwell, Hinton Construction; Brian Andrews, Andrews Commercial Real Estate; Jay Porterfield, Arbor Commercial Mortgage; and Blue Loupe, Taylor, Porter, Brooks, & Phillips.

government, three Gravity Drainage Districts, Springfield, Albany, and Livingston. Motor vehicle tax revenue alone brought in \$13,866,748 parish-wide.

July 12
Public waits for BP settlement amount
The Parish Council accepts a settlement from British Petroleum stemming from the massive 2009 Deepwater Horizon oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico. BP agreed to pay \$18.7 billion to settle lawsuits filed after the disaster. Councilmen were advised that a gag order will delay public disclosure of the amount coming to Livingston Parish.

July 16
Business advocate pitches tax reform
Louisiana Committee of 100 for Economic Development Inc. CEO Michael Olivier speaks to parish business leaders about the need make the current jumble of state tax exemptions, credits and rebates more transparent.

July 19
CECOS requests permit change
Sampling groundwater for certain hazardous chemicals under the 380-acre hazardous waste dump south of the I-12 Livingston exit is no longer necessary, according to a request for permit changes at the closed CECOS site. The groundwater has been monitored for 20 years under the state’s landfill post-closure

requirements.

July 23
Teen arrested for murder
Denham Springs Police charge an 18-year old man with the murder of a 29-year old man who was shot three times at close range. This was the city’s first reported homicide since March 2014. The city went eight and a half years without a homicide prior to the 2014 case.

July 26
Linder Road still closed
Oil cleanup efforts continue at the Arnold Road and Linder Road intersection after an oil tanker truck overturned July 20. Roadside ditches are contaminated by more than 5,000 gallons of crude oil. The Livingston Parish Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness is directing cleanup operations.

July 30
Schools teach practical skills
After school classes in welding and electrical construction at Denham Springs, Live Oak and Walker High schools receive financing through a \$59,630 grant. The classes are part of the Jump Start program, a career education track, and are also open to adults seeking certifications for workplace advancement. Associated Builders and Contractors Pelican Chapter helped win the Louisiana Construction Education Foundation grant that covers materials and instruction costs.

August 2
Deficit dings DA audit
Operating with an-

ticipated deficits puts the District Attorney’s Office in violation of the Local Government Budget Act. DA Scott Perrilloux used \$185,306 from the Asset Forfeiture Fund to cover shortfalls without the required court order, according to his 2014 audit. A \$165,306 deficit remains, which Perrilloux blamed on inadequate funding from parish government.

August 6
Harvest Manor breaks ground
A new 100,000 sq. ft. nursing home is under construction on Pete’s Highway, near Rushing Road and the I-12 overpass. The facility, which sits atop 5 ft. of fill dirt, will have 171 beds and an employment roster of roughly 200.

Aug. 9
State pays for Juban Road sewer line
Big improvements are in sight for the old two-way Juban Road at the entrance of the 400-acre Juban Crossing retail development. Open ditches delayed the roadwork, but now state Senator Dale Erdey says the state has agreed to pick up the entire \$4.8 million tab for a curb and gutter project with an underground sewer line.

Linder Road cleared
The intersection of Linder Road and Arnold Road finally opens, three weeks after a tanker truck overturned, spilling crude

oil into a roadside ditch.

Aug. 13
Schools Open
More than 26,000 students enroll at the 46 public schools in Livingston Parish. The 2015-16 school year started with most new construction completed. The renovated cafeteria at Denham Springs High School is in use, while a courtyard and commons area outside remains under construction. Albany High School students are enjoying a new field house. New classrooms at Southside Elementary in Denham Springs will remain under construction during the school year.

Aug. 16
Broadmoor sign moves to Holden
“Dukes of Hazzard” star John Schneider rescues the iconic Broadmoor Theater sign from the 50-year-old Baton Rouge landmark being demolished for a business park. The sign now sits in front of the barn at Schneider’s Holden studio where he plans to stage Shakespearean performances this month.

Aug. 20
Land use conflict erupts
Lack of zoning regulations in the unincorporated parish leaves the Gray’s Creek Homeowner’s Association without a way to argue against a scrap metal recycling operation moving onto seven acres adjacent to the rear of the subdivision. The owner promised the Parish Council that he would screen the

scrapyard from view by a large warehouse at the rear of the property.

August 23
School Board adopts budget
The School Board approves a \$278 million budget for fiscal year 2015-16 as well as a \$4.2 million bid for renovations and additions at the old Live Oak high school, soon to be Watson’s new junior high.

Aug. 27
Overlay project gets \$1 million boost
Increasing sales tax revenue will allow the Parish Council to add 5 miles to the 30.2 miles now under contract. The additional \$1 million will bring the overlay program up to \$6.45 million. The current program includes 64 roads with 20 roads scheduled for patching and overlays, and 44 due for resurfacing from one end to the other. A 4,500-ft. section of South Point Blvd. is the biggest single project.

Aug. 30
Construction begins on Walker apartments
An upscale, 168-unit apartment complex is going up at the corner of Travis St. and La. 447, north of U.S. 190, with a projected opening date in mid-2016. The apartments will cater to hundreds of employees coming to work at large businesses moving into the area, such as EPIC Piping and Martin Brower.

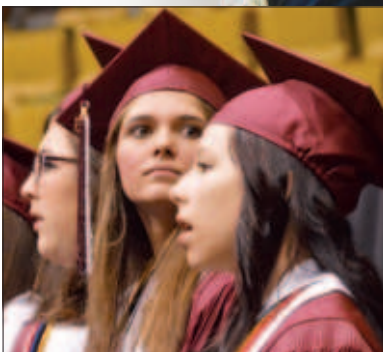
PART III CONCLUDES SUNDAY, JANUARY 3

LOOKING BACK AT 2015 in pictures, special occasions and everyday happenings across Livingston Parish.

THE WAY WE WERE

PART 1: JANUARY TO JUNE

PHOTO BY DEBBIE MEDLOCK PHOTOGRAPHY
Right, King Michael and Queen Lynn Bienvenu reign over the 2015 Krewe of Denham Springs Mardi Gras Ball.



MIKE DOWTY | THE NEWS
Above, Jessica Greer, Haley Banks, and Joanna Foster are on the lookout for friends and family after taking their seats early during the procession of Albany High graduates at Southeastern University Center.



JOHN DUPONT | THE NEWS
Above, Old Glory flies high as Walker residents Branden Ledet and Todd Gagliano make their first appearance in the Redneck Regatta competition, sponsored by the Livingston Parish News, held May 30 on the Tickfaw River near Killian. The two men completed the vessel in roughly three weeks.



LISA DOWTY | THE NEWS

Cajun Arts & Crafts Festival

Above, at the annual Cajun Arts and Crafts Festival on April 24 Kamayia Stewart (left) falls in love with a Spongebob inflatable while Makayla Franklin (right) and Hannah Marie Jenkins play with inflatable hammers.



DAVID NORMAND | THE NEWS

Above, Diane Sibley Milton places an American flag on the grave of her father, Roy Eliga Sibley, at the Memorial Day observance in the Sibley Cemetery on Cane Market Road north of Walker.



Special Olympics in Watson

DAVID NORMAND | THE NEWS

Below, Live Oak High's J.T. Matte (left), Live Oak High's Benjamin Bonura and Westside Jr. High's Zachary Hart dash to the finish line in the 25 meter race. The fifth annual Livingston Parish Special Olympics was held April 24 at Live Oak High School. Approximately 140 athletes participated in this year's Special Olympics.



LISA DOWTY | THE NEWS

2015 Relay for Life

Below, at the 2015 Relay for Life that was themed "Board Games" at Denham High April 17, armed with a special weapon, Arther Graham (left) assists his mom Charlene and his brother Oliver with "Kickin' Cancer in the Butt."



JOHN DUPONT | THE NEWS

Above, at the Springfield Easter event sponsored by the Town of Springfield and Team City, Caley Lucas, 10, of Ponchatoula, pets a baby chick.



LISA DOWTY | THE NEWS

Above, 5-year-old Evelynne Miller of Denham Springs visits with Venessa the Louisiana Mermaid during the 2015 Spring Festival.



SUBMITTED BY EMMA JAMES

"Frozen" at Parish libraries

Above, during the Albany-Springfield Branch of the Livingston Parish Library's "Frozen Family Frolic" on Jan. 13, young library patrons, (from left) Sherrell Jordan, Ty Quamme, Alexis Quamme, Asia Chester, and Ryleigh Lowry gather around to conduct an experiment with ice and salt, discovering that sprinkling salt on ice cubes and a string submerged in water causes the ice cubes to stick to the string due to the salt lowering the melting point of the ice.

Blessing of the Fleet

LEESHA GLEBER | THE NEWS

Below, at the annual Blessing of the Fleet event at Warsaw Marina, evidently, some Tickfaw River boaters don't mind getting a little wet as Father Jason Palermo of St. Joseph & St. Stephen Churches, French Settlement/Maurepas, does the sprinkling.



SATURDAY, JANUARY 2

It's LEGO Time!

Bring the family to a fun-filled time with LEGOs at the Livingston Branch Library (686-2436) on Jan. 2 at 12:30 p.m. and the South Branch Library (698-3015) on Jan. 19 at 5:30 p.m. Libraries will provide the large soft baby LEGOs, as well as LEGO challenges, crafts, and games for everyone. Snacks will be served.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 3

Believe, Become, Belong

Believe, Become, Belong. The Hope Center offers a Bible study and fellowship every Sunday at 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. at Suma Crossing, Suite B, Exit 19 off I-12. Call 225-380-5040.

MONDAY, JANUARY 4

Chess at the library

Are you a chess player looking for new opponents? Or have you never played but want to learn? All skills levels welcome to play chess at the Denham Springs-Walker Library on Jan. 4 from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. Call 665-8118.

Quilting Guild

The Quilting Guild meets at the Livingston Branch Library on the first and third Monday of each month from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Next meeting will be held Jan. 4. Bring all your sewing supplies for the day. Light refreshments provided. Call 686-2436.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 5

Star Wars : A New Program

A Star Wars Movie kickoff party will be at the Denham Springs-Walker Library on Jan. 5 at 1 p.m. For ages 18 and up. Play giant Star Wars Trivial Pursuit, create a Star Wars stencil art and eat Star Wars snacks. Registration required by calling 665-8118 or register at www.mylpl.info.

Adventure in Narnia

Ages 3-11 can travel through the magical wardrobe into Narnia to complete quests for Aslan the lion and reach the final prize. Event offered at following libraries: Albany-Springfield (567-1441) on Jan. 5 at 2 p.m.; Denham Springs-Walker (665-8118) on Jan. 9 at 10 a.m.; and South Branch (698-3015) on Jan. 12 at 5:30 p.m. Registration required by calling your preferred library or register at www.mylpl.info.

Coffee and Coloring

Coloring is a relaxing activity, even for adults. Enjoy free time to color, eat snacks, listen to music, and socialize. Libraries will supply intricate, floral coloring sheets and colored pencils. This event is being offered at the following libraries at 10 a.m.: Watson, Jan. 5; Livingston Branch, Jan. 7; Denham Springs-Walker, Jan. 13; and Albany-Springfield, Jan. 20.

Financial Peace University

Immaculate Conception Church is offering Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace University (FPU) beginning with a preview class on Jan. 5. Classes will be held every Tuesday at 7 p.m. through March 25 in the Faith Formation Center of Immaculate Conception Church on Hatchell Lane. For more information or to register for this class, go to www.iccmsh.org or www.daveramsey.com/fpu/locations/class/1008761. Call the church office at 665-5359.

Teen Anime Clubs

Grades 7 - 12 invited to discuss anime and manga while learning about Japanese culture. The Club at the Livingston Branch Library meets Jan. 5 at 6 p.m. The Club at the South Branch Library meets Jan. 5 at 5:30 p.m.

Teen Advisory Board

Ages 12 - 18 are invited to the Watson Library's Teen Advisory Board on Jan. 5 from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. TAB volunteers suggest programs you would like to see, volunteer at the branch, and help choose books for the young adult sections. Call 664-3963.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 6

Republican Women

The Livingston Parish Republican Women will meet Jan. 6 at 11:30 a.m. at Big Mike's, 123 Aspen Square, Denham Springs, just north of I-12 off of Range Ave. Guest speaker is Parish President Layton Ricks. The public is welcome to attend. There is a charge for lunch; reservations are recommended and may be made by contacting Darla Steagall at 337-0490 or e-mail darlasteagall@gmail.com.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 7

Music Club at the library

The Livingston Branch Library's Music Club meets Jan. 7 from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. Bring your own instruments, or play the library's on-hand, guitar, bass, ukulele, accordion, or drum set. Work together to learn one song a month. Call 686-2436.

Young Writers Club

The Denham Springs-Walker Library's Young Writers Club meets Jan. 7 and Jan. 19 from 5 p.m. to 6 p.m. The Young Writers Club is open to anyone between the ages of 10 and 17. The goal of the club is to write for both publication and performance. For more information, call 665-8118.

Writers Circle

Writers looking for feedback are invited to the Denham Springs-Walker Library's Writers Circle on Jan. 7 from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Published and unpublished adult writers of fiction or nonfiction for adults, young adults, or children are welcome. For more information, call 665-8118.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 8

Paint With Passion

Live Oak United Methodist Church presents Painting With Passion on Jan. 8 at 6:30 p.m. No experience necessary. Ages 12 and under must be accompanied by an adult. Cost is \$25. Registration required by sending an e-mail to Trish@liveoakkids1@gmail.com.

Commodity Pick-up

The next St. Vincent de Paul commodities pick up will be held Jan. 8 from 7:30 a.m. to 9 a.m. at 2151 Tower Dr., Denham Springs. Bring picture ID for pick up. Those who are not currently signed up must bring their picture ID, proof of Livingston Parish residence and proof of income. For more information, call 665-1623.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 9

KC Free Throw Contest

Knights of Columbus Council 6326 of Denham Springs annual Free Throw Championship will be held Jan. 9 at 1 p.m. at Immaculate Conception Church, Denham Springs. This is a basketball foul shot competition for boys and girls ages 9 to 14. Contestants are given 15 shots at a 10 foot high basketball goal. All contestants under 12 years old shoot from a 12 foot foul line using a women's regulation size basketball. Boys 12 and over use a men's regulation size ball and a 15 foot foul line. Girls 12 and over use a women's regulation size ball and a 15 foot foul line. Winners can progress to District then Regional then State level competitions. International winners are selected using State Scores. Prizes include trophies, game balls and participation certificates. Call Daniel Bennett 225-505-6062.

Science Saturday

Ages 5 - 11 are invited to the Watson Library to explore the world of science every first Saturday of the month. Discover the electric potential of everyone's favorite star. Joule Energy will show how the sun can be used to power everything from small devices to an entire home on Jan. 9 from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. Call 664-3963.

Picking and Singing

Plainview Baptist Church will resume their monthly Picking and Singing on Jan. 9 at 2 p.m. in the fellowship hall. The church is located at the corner of Walker South Road and Joe May Road. Everyone is invited to enjoy Southern gospel music and fellowship. For more information, send an e-mail to arsiel26@cox.net or call (225) 243-6683.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 10

Knit and Crochet Club

Ages 18 and up who love to knit or crochet are invited to socialize and share pointers at the Denham Springs-Walker Library on Jan. 10 at 3 p.m. and the Albany-Springfield Library on Jan. 13 at 10 a.m. There will be music and snacks. Call 665-8118 or 567-1441.

MONDAY, JANUARY 11

Hebrew Classes

Pastor Buz Tremé offers Hebrew classes at The King's Harvest Fellowship Church, 9360 Florida Blvd., Walker. Hebrew for Beginners on Monday nights from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. on Jan. 11, 18, 25, Feb. 1, 8, 15 and 22. Secondary Level Hebrew on Tuesday nights from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. on Jan. 12, 19, 26, Feb. 2, 9, 16 and 23. The Plan and Purpose of God for Man and Creation (overview of world and church history) will be held Thursday nights from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. on Jan. 14, 21, 28, Feb. 4, 11, 18 and 25. For prices or for more information, contact Buz Tremé at 225-791-3063 or buztreme@cox.net.

Mardi Gras Bead Art

Ages 18 and up can learn how to make a mosaic with left over Mardi Gras beads at the following libraries: Watson (664-3963) on Jan. 11 at 5:30 p.m.; South Branch (698-3015) on Jan. 16 at 10 a.m.; Livingston Branch (686-2436) on Jan. 19 at 5:30 p.m.; Denham Springs-Walker (665-8118) on Jan. 20 at 10 a.m.; and Albany-Springfield (567-1441) on Jan. 21 at 5:30 p.m. Registration required by calling your preferred library or register at www.mylpl.info.

Discovering Cairo Genizah

In late 1896, Rabbi Solomon Schechter of Cambridge University traveled to Cairo, Egypt, and discovered more than 300,000 ancient and medieval manuscripts. He had discovered "the Cairo Genizah," a huge trove of prayerbooks, lost books of the Bible, poetry, children's schoolbooks, love letters, business records, court documents, and more. Multimedia presentation will feature fascinating Genizah images, Genizah music and video of his climb to the Genizah chamber at the Denham Springs-Walker Library on Jan. 11 from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. For ages 18 and up. Call 665-8118.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 12

Power of the Inbox

A seminar, presented by the Louisiana Small Business Development Center at Southeastern Louisiana University, takes you step-by-step through the keys to effective e-mail marketing at the Livingston Branch Library on Jan. 12 from 9 a.m. to noon. For ages 18 and up. Registration is required by calling 664-6638.

Young Maker's Workshop

Inventors/tech gadget enthusiasts (ages 8 - 18) are invited to free monthly Maker workshops, beginning with Makey Makey and banana pianos, Play-Doh controllers, and game buttons to draw. Libraries will introduce programming with Scratch as the next step. Event at Watson Library (664-3963) on Jan. 12 at 5:30 p.m. and Albany-Springfield Library (567-1441) on Jan. 19 at 5:30 p.m. Registration is required by calling your preferred library or register at www.mylpl.info.

Teen Advisory Board

Livingston Branch Library's Teen Advisory Board meets Jan. 12 at 6 p.m. Suggest programs you would like to see, volunteer at the branch, and help choose books for the Young Adult section. Call 686-2436.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 13

National Prayer Meeting

Billy Graham Evangelistic Association will be in Baton Rouge on Jan. 13. This is one of the 50 state stops on its Decision America tour. The prayer meeting will be at the North Blvd. Town Square with Franklin Graham from noon to 1 p.m.

Small Business Consulting

Those who own a small business or are interested in starting one are invited to free business consulting at the Livingston Branch Library on Jan. 13. Receive private, one-hour consulting sessions in areas including business plans, advertising plans, inventory control, financial projections, cost analysis, and much more. This program is sponsored by the Louisiana Small Business Development Center at Southeastern Louisiana University. Registration is required by calling 664-6638.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 14

Edgar Allen Poe Birthday

Ages 12 -18 are invited to a birthday party for Edgar Allen Poe at the Denham Springs-Walker Library on Jan. 14 from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. with a dramatic reading competition from the works of Edgar Allan Poe, games and birthday cake. Call 665-8118.

Adult Video Gaming

Video games aren't just for kids. Ages 17 and up are invited to the Livingston Branch Library on Jan. 14 from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. for video game night for adults. Bring friends and compete against other library patrons in this open gaming adventure. Refreshments will be provided. Registration is required by calling 686-2436 or register at www.mylpl.info.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 15

Book Babies

Bring all the kids for a play date at the Watson Library on Jan. 15 at 10:30 a.m. There are baby safe areas and big kid activities too. Enjoy stories, music, games and more every third Friday of the month. For more information, call 664-3963.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 16

Healthy Start to New Year

Get a healthy start for the New Year at the Livingston Branch Library (686-2436) on Jan. 16 or the Albany-Springfield Library (567-1441) on Jan. 23, both from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Representatives from Southeast Community Health Systems will be present to discuss healthy eating, dental care and behavioral health as well as to provide blood pressure, glucose, and cholesterol checks. Healthcare Navigators will be on site to help those applying for Affordable Care Act coverage. There will also be a free yoga classes. Walk-ins are welcome for the health screenings, but registration is required for the yoga class by calling your preferred library.

Yoga Classes

Join a yoga instructor for a free yoga class at the following libraries: Livingston Branch (686-2436) on Jan. 16 at noon; Denham Springs-Walker (665-8118) on Jan. 17 at 3 p.m.; and Albany-Springfield (567-1441) on Jan. 23 at noon. Bring a yoga mat and water bottle. If you do not have a yoga mat, one will be provided. Registration is required by calling your preferred library or register at www.mylpl.info.

Teen Anime Club

Ages 12 - 18 are invited to the Denham Springs-Walker Library's Teen Anime Club on Jan. 16 at 3 p.m. Meetings include previews of anime, manga, snacks, crafts, fan art, fan fiction, and more. Call 665-8118.

MONDAY, JANUARY 18

Nashville Unplugged

Tickets are now on sale for Nashville Unplugged. All proceeds will go to the Challengers Special Needs Baseball Park in Walker to provide recreational opportunities for mentally and/or physically challenged children. Live music from Restless Heart's Larry Stewart, Billy Dean, Diamond Rio's Marty Roe, Lonestar Richie McDonald. Special guest host will be Baseball Great Will Clark. Special guests include Clifton Brown, Gillis Silo and more. The event will be held Jan. 18 in the North Park Gym on Eden Church Road in Denham Springs. Purchase a VIP table for 10 guests for \$1000 and receive dinner and beverages for each guest. In addition, the sponsor receives a VIP "Meet and Greet" pass for photos and autographs with the stars. To purchase tickets or for more information, call the City of Walker at 665-4356.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 21

VITA Tax Preparation

The Denham Springs-Walker Library hosts free tax preparation for participants with an income limit of \$60,000 for 2015 on Jan. 21 from 9:15 a.m. to 3:15 p.m. Bring tax documents such as W-2s, 1099s, and information for deductions and credits along with a copy of last year's tax return and a Social Security card for yourself, a spouse and dependents. You may also bring proof of a bank account for direct deposit. Volunteers will prepare most simple returns, but more complicated returns will not be processed. Co-sponsored by Volunteer Income Tax Assistance and the Internal Revenue Service, this program is by appointment only. To make an appointment or for more information, call 665-8118.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Road to Recovery Program

The American Cancer Society Road to Recovery Program needs volunteer drivers in Livingston Parish to drive cancer patients to and from cancer treatments. Drivers must be at least 18 years old, have a valid driver's license, and carry insurance on their vehicle. Drivers must be willing to commit to at least five hours a month and have flexible morning/day schedules. To volunteer or for more information, call the American Cancer Society at 1-800-227-2345 or visit www.cancer.org.

Trip to Holy Land Theme Park

VFW Travelers invite seniors 50 and older to travel to Orlando, Florida. Trip will be April 10 - 16, 2016, and includes lodging, 10 meals, motorcoach transportation, Holy Land Theme Park, Downtown Disney shopping, Comfort Tiffany House, Bok Tower Gardens, Dundee Citrus Candy Factory and Florida Grove House. Cost of trip is \$565, with \$75 deposit due now. Balance \$490 due in February. For more information, call Debbie at 665-2930 or Vi at 665-1201.

Children's Choir Enrollment

The award-winning Livingston Parish Children's Choir is now enrolling singers for the Spring Semester. Registration forms can be downloaded at www.LPCCsing.org and mailed in, or register and pay online. There are two treble choirs: Apprentice (K-3rd grade) and Chorus (3rd through 9th grades). Both choirs meet at New Covenant Church in Denham Springs (Fla. Blvd across from McDonald's). Apprentice meets 4:30 - 5:45 p.m. Chorus meets 6 - 7:15 p.m. Last day to register is Jan. 26 but registering now is encouraged. LPCC choirs begin Jan. 12. No audition needed. \$150 for entire semester. For more information, call/text Barbara Walker at 225-247-8555, or e-mail info@LPCCsing.org.

The Coming Up

The Coming Up column runs regularly as space permits and includes free announcements of special events occurring in Livingston Parish involving non-profit civic and other organizations. Coming Up also includes events from paid advertisements occurring in and outside Livingston Parish. To place an announcement, call Lisa Dowty at 665-5176 or e-mail to family@livingstonparishnews.com.

CLUB NEWS



DAVID NORMAND | THE NEWS

At the Denham Springs Garden Club Christmas party, holding some of the toys they donated to the Sheriff's Christmas Crusade are (from left, front) Susan Guerin, Midge Magee, Susan Harris, Susan Johnson, Margo Campbell, (back) Ellen Garver, Kathy Brumfield, Ellie Royer, Francis Ball, Lynne Jones, Virginia Bruce, guest speaker Sheriff Jason Ard, Pat Borland, Nancey Farr, Betty Amakker and Peter Evans.

CONTACT US

The News publishes submitted stories and photos about meetings and other activities of parish clubs, associations and organizations. To submit a story, call 665-5176 or e-mail lifestyle@livingstonparishnews.com.

Garden Club Christmas

The Denham Springs Garden Club Christmas party was held Dec. 8 at St. Francis Episcopal Church.

Guest speaker Sheriff Jason Ard spoke about the Sheriff's Annual Toy Drive for children in Livingston Parish. Those present learned that between 600 and 800 families are helped by the program each year. Toys are distributed to between 1200 and 1600 children.

It was interesting to hear that most of the families are selected by the deputies themselves who often see children in difficult circumstances in the performance of their duties.

The deputies also volunteer their time collecting toys from shoppers in our parish. The sheriff's wife, Mrs. Erica Ard, spearheads the effort each year following in the footsteps of Mrs. Elaine Graves, who started the program.

The members of the DSGC are happy to join other organizations in supporting our sheriff in this most worthy cause.

— Susan Harris

Beta Lambda of KKI

The Beta Lambda Chapter of Kappa Kappa Iota, a professional teacher's organization, held their November meeting at the Denham Springs High School Library.

Gail Arceneaux showed those in attendance the new buildings that have recently been added to the high school. Everyone enjoyed seeing the new cooking center and science labs.

The members held a short meeting led by president Michelle Mincey. They also collected donations for a needy family.

In December the ladies met at the home of Jeanette Bencaz Dec. 10. They held a gift exchange and enjoyed a selection of Christmas treats prepared by the hostesses: Jennifer Miller, Kitty Wells, Jeanette Bencaz, and Michelle Wheeler.

— Laura Dunlap

Friendship Force

The Friendship Force of Baton Rouge held their annual Christmas Party Dec. 3 at the Village Charmant Clubhouse.

The clubhouse was decorated in a traditional Christmas theme with a beautiful tree gracing the entrance.

As guests were gathering, Brian Babin entertained with musical selections on the



DAVID NORMAND | THE NEWS

Livingston Parish Retired Teachers who attended the annual Christmas luncheon at Forrest Grove Plantation Dec. 14 are (from left, front) Lanell Dugas, Cheryl Lass, Amanda Whalen, Patsy Addison, Janelle K. Carrier, Mary Lynn Womack, Anna Arceneaux, Donna Bencaz, (second row) Melissa Morganti, Gwen Salario, Marlene Lee, Vicky Carpenter, Lanette Ivanisky, Michelle Tilyou, Kitty Wells, (third row) Ladonne Hood, Cindy Creel, Joyce Easley, Ginger Miller, Louise Rawls, Reba Stewart, (fourth row) Jackie Manning, Terri Piper, K.Lyn Easley, Ava Stevens, Cheryl Strickland, Linda Hoover, Pat Pope, Jeanette Bencaz, Rebecca Potter, (fifth row) Liesa Gillis, Leonard Addison, Bert Kelly, Charmaine Vernon, Paula Miley, Julia Carnes and Ronnie Bencaz.



SUBMITTED BY LAURA DUNLAP

Pictured at the November meeting of the Beta Lambda chapter of Kappa Kappa Iota are (from left) Carrine Wilson, Gail Arceneaux and Louise Rawls.



DAVID NORMAND | THE NEWS

Livingston Parish Retired Teacher's 2015-2016 officers are (from left, front) Patsy Addison, hospitality chairman; Amanda Whalen, membership chairman; Donna Bencaz, secretary; Cindy Creel, historian, (back) Ronnie Bencaz, treasurer; Lyn Easley, co-president; Pat Pope, co-president; Paula Miley, publicity chairman.

saxophone.

Committee members planning the event were Mary Tharp, Karen Pharis, Linda Pace and Lin Ashton. Others preparing food were: Bob and Gayle Duncan, Trudy Ivy, Diana Harris, Karen Vingiello, Lynn Robbins, Nina Russell, Linda Knochenmus and Janet Varnado.

Donations were brought for Grandparents Raising Grandchildren, and Kathy Colement was present to receive the gifts.

Friendship Force members enjoyed a Cookie Exchange. They brought cookies for dessert and also for members to take home in special containers.

— Frances Bennet

LP Retired Teachers

On Monday, Dec. 14, the Livingston Parish Retired Teachers met at Forrest Grove Plantation. This was the annual Christmas Luncheon.

Approximately 40 members were in attendance. Members brought items for soldiers who are actively serving in the military. These items were

presented to Denise Singleton, vice-president of the local chapter of Blue Star Moms of Louisiana.

Denise explained that the organization's primary focus is to support active duty military service personnel through collecting and delivery of care

packages. Community members and business partners help in the collection and distribution.

Following the deli-

cious meal, members were entertained by David Easley. The singing of favorite Christmas carols was enjoyed by members. The Jan.

11, 2016, meeting will be held at the school board office. All retired members are invited to attend.

—Lyn Easley



SUBMITTED BY CHARLES BENNETT

Pictured at the Christmas party of the Friendship Force of Baton Rouge are (from left) Nina Russell, Keith Corkern, Janet Varnado, Trudy Ivy, Lin Ashton, Karen Vingiello and Sheila Melancon.

Sweet time to transplant onions

December is one of the slowest times for planting vegetable crops, but onion transplants can be planted anytime from mid-December through January.

It is too late to plant seed as it takes approximately 12 weeks to grow transplants. We usually direct seed onion from mid- September to mid-October. You can however plant transplants now.

If you have already grown your own plants in a seed bed you will want to grade the transplants. Cull the plants with a stem larger than a quarter inch diameter or about the size of a pencil and also the very small plants with less than 3 leaves. Plants need to be large enough to over



SHARPE'S POINT

Kenny Sharpe

of 8-8-8 per 100 foot row prior to planting. Onions are best planted through black plastic. This will greatly reduce weeds and help to warm the soil to accelerate growth and size. Space plants 2 to 4 inches apart within the row. I would plant 2 drills of onions on the same row and leave 10-12 inches between drills for bulb onions.

winter but not so large that they go to seed prematurely. Apply the same criteria to purchased transplants.

Fertilize your rows with 5 to 6 pounds

Side dress onions with 2 pounds of calcium nitrate or the equivalent per 100 feet of row in February when plants start to grow and then repeat twice more at 2-3 week intervals. This will help to increase the size of the bulbs and therefore increase your yield.

Bulb onion will require 120 to 165 days from transplant to harvest depending on the variety. Onions are ready to harvest when 50 to 60 percent of the tops have fallen over which usually occurs in May.

When selecting varieties you should be looking at the “short day” types for Louisiana production. This is important because bulb formation is controlled by day length and temperature. Bulbs will start to swell as the days start getting

longer and temperatures start to rise.

You can choose from red, yellow and white

‘When selecting [onion] varieties you should be looking at the “short day” types for Louisiana production.’

varieties to plant.

Red creole is a recommended red variety with bold flavor that is popu-

lar with Louisiana chefs. It is dark-red, globe-shaped and can grow to 3-4 inches in diameter.

White recommended onion varieties are White Granex, Superstar and Crystal White. White Granex is an early maturing variety, globe in shape that produces a high yield of jumbo and medium sized onions. Superstar is late maturing with similar characters to White Granex. Crystal White is a smaller onion reaching 1-2” diameter.

Yellow onions must be the most popular type since nearly 90 percent of onions grown in the United States are yellow. Recommended yellow onion varieties include Yellow Granex, Texas 1015, Century and Candy. Yellow Granex is one of the most popular variet-

ies with Louisiana growers with high yields and good storage characteristics. Texas 1015 is also a good producer of large sweet onions. Candy is another popular variety with Louisiana growers because of its sweet and mild flavor.

You might know about Vidalia onions which are sweet onions that are grown in Vidalia, Georgia, not Vidalia, Louisiana. Most of the recommended varieties are sweet onion that are not pungent and have lower sulfur content. Red creole while popular is not sweet.

KENNY SHARPE is county agent with the LSU Cooperative Extension Service in Livingston Parish. For more information on these or related topics contact Kenny at 225-686-3020 or visit www.lsuagcenter.com/livingston.

HONOR ROLLS

Honor rolls below are from the first 9-weeks grading period of the 2015-2016 school year:

North Corbin Junior High School All A's 6th Grade

Kierra Taylor Barrera
Bryanna Elise Brown
Maggie Callender
Tyler Cantu
Orrin Lee Cobb
Nathan James Curtis
Alayna Daigrepont
Julia Haynes Durbin
Brady David Forbes
Tristan Jeffrey Freeman
Gyvan Mille Hammons
Haleigh Kogel
Madilene Kreamer
Ethan Landaiche
Garrett L Patrick
Olivia Grace Prescott
Cody Ray Sanchez
Kayla Brianne Scheib
Callie Smith
Baylen Presley Walker
Ilea Robin Watson

7th Grade

Camryn Anne Causin
Brianna Renee' Chaney
Jaxon Carter Corkern
Abby Marie Dibble
Grant Isaac Edwards
Luke Christopher Ferachi
Anna Catherine Ferrand
Paige Alison Forbes
Tyler Foster
Lauren Elizabeth Graham
Maycie Helton
Jessica Marie Horn
Shawn Michael Languirand
Gabrielle Elise McMasters
Kylie Faye Meliet
Sydney Raine Nester
Maddison Kenzie Oakes
Quinlan Patrick Reed
Ryan Reine
Isabella C Robeaux
Skylar Victoria Sanchez
Sydni Payton Seighman
Joey Sims
Kyndall Grace Smith
Lillian Grace

Waguespack
Madeline Elizabeth Watson

8th Grade

Isaac C Atkinson
Gage Belcher
Peyton Elizabeth Berry
Chloe Boortz
Victoria Boyle
Courtney Caruso
Alisa Ann Castille
Sophia Yanuntaniya
Charoenpap
Casey Shaye Gibson
Courtlin Olivia Long
Ethan McMasters
Andrew Neale
Abby Lorraine Selser
Kailey S Stephens
Kennedi Elyse Stroncheck
Gabrielle Woodall

All A's and B's 6th Grade

Joshua Achord
Lauren Nicole Achord
Destiny Cheyanne Allen
Austin Jack Andrews
Ashton Grace Bailey
Molly Elizabeth Baker
Lianna Marie Barber
Tyler Austin Beatty
Paxton Carter Berry
Hunter Dayne Bethel
Emma Hayes Blount
Reid Broussard
Casey James Bryant
Donald Butler III
Jordan Louise Calcote
Hayden Laurent
Clinesmith
Alexander Brody Colwart
Raegan Corley
Haleigh Michelle Courtney
Brady James Covington
Delaney Catherine Day
Shane Bryant Demars
Aiden Ray Duclos
Bevin Trinity Flippen
Bailee Fontenot
Devin Bradley Ford
Aiden Gaspard

Jake Gaubert
Caelin Alyse Gee
Molly Louise Glascock
Caroline Gubancsik
Louis C Heintz
Ashle' Nicole Hudspeth
Mckenzie Mae Hughes
Madelynn Nicole Johnston
Kara Leighann Jones
Ali Noel Kennedy
Katelynn Lytle
Hayden Matherne
Natalee Hope Matherne
Isabella Leigh Mayeux
Meri Ellen McLin
Lanie Anne Miller
Peyton Blaine Nickles
Richard Lee Nixon
Tianna Dawn Ogleshorpe
Chad Parker Jr.
Reese Anne Patten
James Allen Rhynes
Evan Cole Riggins
Kaitlyn LeAyn Savant
Ryann Elizabeth Schexnayder
Jason Derek Schroeder
Eric Graham Selser
Harrah Shiflet
Leah Shiflet
Hunter James Sibley
Emily A Smyth
Brileigh A Stewart
Christopher J Stuart
Samantha Theriot
Garrett Addison Thomas
Jacob Elliott Thomas
Jasmine Thomas
Cameron Nicole Timmons
Serenity Dominique Triguero

Kirsten Lucille Vidrine
Sierra T Vince

7th Grade

Seth Lee Allen
Avery Lane Archer
Christian Chase Ard
Blaze Austin Berthelot
Tye Chambers
Ethan Andrew Clinesmith
Bryce Michael Corley
Matthew Ray Crawford
Gabryel Marie Duncan
Whitney Gail Edler
Mitchell Craig Gallman
Rhiannon Gaudin
James Austin Glass
Seth Bowman Gordon
Jolie Marie Gunter
Paige Elizabeth Harris
Gage Calieb Hebert
Rhett William Hebert
Cadence Faith Holland-Kitchen

Ethan David Johnson
Baylee Kimbel
Miranda Laiche
Savannah Kay Languirand
Peyton James Matherne
Jackson David McCreary
Emily Elizabeth McNemar
Bailey Renee Meaux
Brianna Marie Moore
Madison Marie Morales
Nathan Neale
Erin Mackenzie Norton
Dakota Austin Philpot
Brooklynn Korrin Ray
Victoria Smith
Tayte St. Ann
Adam Stuelein
Jason Eric Thompson
Peyton M Williams

8th Grade

Delaney Anderson
Randall Beau Baker
Zoey Nevaeh Baker
Brooklyn P Booker
Parker James Bruce
Parker Colona
Piper Colona
Jalen E Cook
Callie Courtney-Leleux
Abigail Creel
Tristin Joseph Cummings
Kaleb T Cutno
Brianna Kelley Day
Caitlynn Denea Dupre
Alexandra G Easterly
Lauren Foster
Meghan L Fuchs
Jared A Graphia
Rachel Hagan
Hannah Mackenzie Hawes

Sadie Ryan Henry
Sebastian Hymel
Dakota Leigh Johnson
Kennedy Rae King
Lauren H Landry
Timothy Lawson
Mackenzie Taylor Lemoine
Ryan Joseph Lewis
Mackenzie Brooke Lockwood
Noelle Elizabeth Mansur
David Jude Miller
Kyle Travis Noble
Brianna Renee Reed
Cambre Reinninger
Hannah Elizabeth Robert
Hayden M Ruiz
Carson Sharp
Dylan Dean Sharp
Ashleigh Brooke Smith
Savanah Lyn Stafford
Malachi Stark
Makayla Noell Stewart
Ashley Raine Temple-Harris

Bryce Wadenpfuhl
Olivia Grace Warr

North Live Oak Elementary School All A's 1st Grade

Morgan James Acaldo
Taylor Marie Allen
Braxton Casper Ardoin
Fisher Badeaux
Aven M Bauer
Caleb Baxter
Amelia Blouin
Jacob Braud
Bailey Bryant
Aiden Christopher Caldwell
Kaydence N Deaton
Averi Grace DeLatte
Amelia Dorhauer
Emerson Dorhauer
Nathan Dunaway
Dawson Wyeth Easterly
Laken Kaye Griffin
Abby Nicole Guerin
Christopher Guhn
Skylar Gayle Gurney
Helen Isabella Hawkins
Hudson Hyde
Mikayla Jarreau
Lilli Jeanssonne
Ruby Jennings
Eileen Jiang
Kingston Johnson
Alyssa Jade Jones
Carter Duane Jones
Brittain Addison Knight
Jake Landry
Margan Lee
Aidan Maddox Mauroner
Nathan James McCaa
Claire Elizabeth McClure
Lonna Nuber
Lily Prestridge
Bryleigh Purvis
Isabella Saltaformaggio
Kenleigh Sibley
Kameron Renae Spann
Taylor Ann Thibodeaux
Caden Luke Thibodeaux
Jaxon Gabriel Thibodeaux
Phoebe Renee Walker
Jude Shepherd Wascom
Davin Kendrick Williams
Elizabeth Wilson
Justin J Zito

2nd Grade

Carlei Alexander
Breelyn Avants
Cooper Bass
Matthew J Bassett
Logan Keith Bernard
Sarah Mae Campo
Brayden Kane Chenevert
Mason Cothorn
Dominick Delanoix
Adalyn Farrell
Olivia Rose Fontenot
Hayden Fox
Chloe Gautreau
Alex Goodwin
Jessika Lynne Graham
Mason Daniel Harman
Joshua P Holden
Zachary Hooge
Sarah Hurt
Tyler Patrick Kelly
Ryan Kliebert
Hayden Gabriel Landry
Emma LeJeune

Jake Eldred Loper
Nicholas Robert Henry Matens
Blair Ransome
Bailee Ratcliff
Rylee Richard
Mya Nicole Robertson
Carson Smiley
Savannah P Spillman
Thomas Jay Temple
Logan R Tokohopie
Nathan Paine Tryon
John Austin Wallace
Sophie Claire Wax
Makenzie Wenger
Maddoux D Williams
Macy D York

3rd Grade

Emma Claire Amato
Jonah Browning
Camden James Davis
Wyatt Dorhauer
Jace Andrew Griffin
Kyle Jiang
Nicholas Jordan
Khushveen Kaur
Asley Kloeppfer
Hayden Russell Matherne
Zachary J McMenis
Roman A Murkowski
Kyli Pendarvis
Ayesha Qureshi
Taylor C Smith
Ian Thibodeaux
Emma L Woolie

4th Grade

Kaitlynn Alello
Seth Michael Bordelon
Nathaniel S Buckhalter
Toby P Chassaniol
Raelee Clark
Callie Lysette Cody
Madison L Cradeur
Ashley Curry
Adyson Marie Girlinghouse
Gunner Anthony Guidroz
Hunter Glenn King
Megan E LeJeune
Brayden Martin
Sophia E Miller
Luke Pemberton
Haleigh Elizabeth Reviere
Jackson M Root
Lucas James Shoemaker
Gracie Ann Silas
Brock O Smith
Grant Curtis Smith

5th Grade

Kylie Adams
Jake Tyler Aldy
Chase Barringer
Ruby Matherne
Browning
Lily Kaylani Buchmann
Madison Savannah Cambre
Owen Bryce Cooper
Brooklynn Crehan
Markham Tate Frazier
Madison Harman
Ben Robert LeBoeuf
Lane Steven Lusk
Zachary Morgan
Andrew Prestridge
Jacob Michael Rayburn
Colbie M. Seals
Sumail Singh
Hayleigh G Spindel
Michaela Ann Thornton
Greyson D. Watts
Jewel Lynn Wilcoxson

All A's and B's 1st Grade

Jaxx Almand
Yaslene Almonte
Collin Broussard
Peyton Alyse Burns
Ethan Dale Cannon
Nikolas Christopher
Randin Kieth Craig
Ashton C Davis
Addisyn Deaton
Ashton Joel Devall
Brianna Efferson
Gabrielle Evans
Joseph Isaac Gill
Rylan Gnann
Haylee Gould
Katie Gros
Shaunn Guidroz
Ma'Kaylie Hamby
Annabella Henson
Benjamin Hilbun
Allisa Jarreau
Colin Patrick Kelly

Samantha Rae Kimbrell
Presley King
Jayden C LeBlanc
Malachi Dewayne McGhee
Cooper Mizell
Logan James Nauman
Maxwell Nodurft
Cayden Thomas Owens
Braylon Ricard
Connor Anthony Robison
Madison Rodrigue
Avery Mae Schesser
Angell N Scott
Kynlee Seal
Brayson Seawright
Levi Shoemaker
Ava Rae Smith
Trenton Terranova
Dakota Thompson
Hayes Williams

2nd Grade

Aidan Baxter
Abigail Brewer
Tanner Reed Briggs
Gavin Connolly
Lucas J Cook
Lane Michael Distefano
Ja'Vain Foley
Joseph Caden Gates
Conner Gibson
Summer Lynne Graphia
Annabelle Griffin
Zant Gurney
Payton Halford
Lyla Clair Haynes
Ruston Lain Hirschey
Ryland Hirschey
Anthony J Holden
Gracie Husser
Drew Jackson
Rekiyan D'Arius Jackson
Noah LaBorde
Jack Ryan LeBoeuf
Kate L Leonard
Jordyn Lindsay
Hana Mackey
McKayla Marland
Tayla Marie McCray
Weslynn B McElwee
Austin Matthew Monnier
Baryn David Phenix
Tristyn Piper
Lauren Mackenzie Reviere
Ellie Ridgell
Blaze Rogers
Kylee Rothman
Landon Roule
Ashlynn Sampson
Sage Nicolas Smith
Baylee Spence
Ainsley Claire Spindel
Hollyn Grace Stewart
Leah Thompson
Marissa A Tingle
Elisa Vardaman
Alli Grace Wales
Payton Alex Wallace
Thomas Richard Walton
William E Watson
Caroline Wilkinson
Peyton Alexander Zeringue

3rd Grade

Nevaeh Adams
Austin Allen
Abbigayle Barnard
Kierstyn Bolton
Jessica Danielle Browning
Michael A Cambre
Cole A Carlos
Jacob Cowart
Andrew Davis
Gabrielle Elise Fitzgerald
Addison Rayne Galloway
Noah Irvin Holden
Supanpreet Kaur
Lillian Kimbrell
Landon Michael LeMay
Rian T Maher
Teri Madison Martin
Isabella Louise McKeithen
Brady Howard Melancon
Robert Michael Noland
Christopher Ray Phillips
Claire M Prestridge
McKenzie Ragusa
Kamryn Lanae Rand
Kylee Robison
Lahna Shoemaker
Isabella Rylee Spano
Kade Thornton
Noah M Vallot
Blake C Vellier

Parker Westmoreland
Haley Whetstine
Cameron Miles Yearwood

4th Grade

Cambrie Laine Altazin
Blake Andrew Arceneaux
Karmyn Bailey
Kenneth James Berard
Cameron Blouin
Beau J Bozeman
Grace E Brewer
Londyn J Broderick
Giana I Budde
Jailynn Cormier
Ava R Cosby
Benjamin M Cutbirth
Noah Christian Devall
Marquis Tyrell Dunn
Jada Bradlee Duplessis
Reagan Erwin
Jordyn Gallant
Jacob T Galloway
Emily P Guhn
Karsyn Makenzi Harris
Hope E Heinz
Meghan Y Houpy
Drake Jennings
Avery Claire Jones
Evan Curtis Jones
Adam Karras
Addison Paige Kiger
Aiden Mackey
Chloe Elise Martin
Emmy Kate McAlister
Dylan Michael McCaa
Evan McDowell
Devin J McFarland
Reagan Nicole Pickering
William Prescott
Alexandra E Reeves
Josiah Ricard
Nicholas Rickards Jr.
Caleb Daniel Rioux
John Paul Rioux
Molly E Sellers
Ella G Simmons
Orry S Stafford
Genevieve Elizabeth Tate
Bradley R Tokohopie
Hudson Varnado
Kinleigh A Westbrook

5th Grade

Emely Almonte
Allie Andrews
Zachary Dale Bodden
Braylee Ann Boze
Luke Bozeman
Brianna MLeigh Browning
Brenna Rene Conrad
Ashton Alan Cook
Macy A Daigre
Christopher James Davis
Presley Marie Delanoix
Olivia Suezann Delatte
Chandler Diaz
Anthony Bryce Distefano
Michael Scott Doyle
Alexander J DuBois
Raleigh Aliese Gill
Ross Gillespie
Mallory Ann Ginn
Matthew Shane Gosserand

Haleigh Allison Hart
Ethan Haynes
Kylie R Jarreau
Sarah D. Johnson
Preston Hugh Jumonville
Ty King
Amanda Lassard
Emma Layle Lewis
Angel L Lofton
Julianne Long
Skyler Martin
Gavin R Marvel
Ahnaya Muse
Ashley Norman
Isabella Ory
Skylar A Peckham
Kyleigh Perrill
Brandon Dale Posey
Zain Qureshi
Savannah Reeves
Katelyn E. Richard
Tanner Rizan
Logan Roule
Jacob A Rowe
Kourtney Sanders
Sophia Isabella Sauhing
Jerry Thomas Stewart
Bailey Elizabeth Tremblay
Sydney Wiginton
Jacob Williams
Adrian Zeringue

LIVINGSTON PARISH Classifieds

665-5176

Office Hours:

Monday-Friday
8:00-5:00

Classified Deadline:

Sun. edition Thurs. 11 a.m.

Thurs. edition Tues. 11 a.m.

The Livingston Parish News assumes
no financial responsibility for errors
nor for omission of copy.

RENTAL HOUSES

133 Summer St, Ds, 3br/1ba,
\$800/mo, \$500/dep. Near Schools
& Antique Village. Call (225)
665-8584.

Studio home in quiet neighbor-
hood. D.S./Walker area Very
clean. Walker schools. Lawn
maint. included. No pets. No
smoking. 28581 Winchester Ln.
\$525/mo. \$525/dep. Call 225-802-
3494.

RENTAL/MOBILE HOMES

26384 Wax Rd, DS Beautiful tree
shaded park-Black top streets. 3br/
2ba starting at \$700.
Call 225-665-9290.

3BR/2BA, Air/HeatStove/Frig/
Dishwasher, N. Denham, 1 acre,
No Pets, \$650/mo, \$650/dep.
HABLA ESPANOL. 225-241-
1441.

Clean 3br/2ba \$695/mo. \$600/
dep. 9/10 of a mile from I-12
in Denham Springs, LA. No
Pets. 225-664-8063.

Very nice 3br & 2br mobile homes
for rent in quiet park in Watson.
\$600- \$850 mo. No pets. Call
225-937-5036

RENTAL/COMMERCIAL

1 Office Bldg for Rent @ 2161
Tower Dr, 780 Sq Ft, \$600/mo,
\$200/dep

1 Office Bldg @ 2120 Tower Dr,
960 Sq Ft, \$500/mo, \$200/dep

1 Office Bldg @ 2130 Tower Dr,
896 Sq Ft, \$650/mo, \$200/dep

Call 225-664-3617

ARTICLES FOR SALE

1 Cemetery Plot for Sale at
Seale in Denham Springs.
Going price of \$2,200- Asking
\$1,800
Call 225-324-2008.

AUCTIONS

Community Self Storage of
Denham Springs, located at 8039
Vincent Rd. Denham Springs, LA.
70726
664-1668

Will sell for cash the contents
of the following units at 11:00 am
on 1-19-16, unless the owner pays
all fees by 1-18-16.

We reserve the right to refuse
any bid.

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Destiny Young #40212
Shawn Bourque #40220
Rusty Yates #30167
Tashia Johnson #10063
Aaron Ainsworth #10010

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Will sell for cash the contents of
the following units at 12:00PM on
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We reserve the right to refuse any
bid.

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Theresa Perkins #20004

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NOW HIRING: Full-time
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PUBLIC NOTICES

Anyone knowing the whereabouts
of Robert A. Breland or Debra
Fonner Breland, please contact
Attorney Allen Harvey, 201 NW
Railroad Ave., #303, Hammond,
LA 70401, 985.634.9568.

Differential Response Officer

Civil Service

Examination

The Denham Springs Fire &

Police Municipal Civil Service

Board is now accepting appli-

cations on a competitive basis

for the position of Differential

Response Officer.

Application forms with a listing

of Qualification Requirements

and Study Guides may be

obtained at www.ose.louisiana.gov or from Civil Service

Secretary at Municipal Building,

941 Government Drive **Monday-**

Thursday from 10:00 a.m. until

4:00 p.m.

Completed applications and the

required attachments must be

received by the above mentioned

person by **12:00 noon on Tuesday**

December 29, 2015. Approved

applicants will be notified of the

exact date, time, and place of the

examination date. EOE

The Livingston Parish News

2015

Christmas & New Years Deadlines

Our advertising deadlines are listed below:

December 24th Publication:

Classifieds – 10am, Monday, Dec. 21st

Legals – 10am, Monday, Dec. 21st

Display – 5pm, Friday, Dec. 18th

December 27th Publication:

Classifieds – 10am, Wednesday, Dec. 23rd

Legals – 10am, Wednesday, Dec. 23rd

Display – 5pm, Tuesday, Dec. 22nd

December 31st Publication:

Classifieds – 10am, Monday, Dec. 28th

Legals – 10am, Monday, Dec. 28th

Display – Noon, Wednesday, Dec. 23rd

January 3rd, 2016 Publication:

Classifieds – 10am, Wednesday, Dec. 30th

Legals – 10am, Wednesday, Dec. 30th

Display – 5pm, Tuesday, Dec. 29th



For your advertising needs, please call: **665-5176**
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Arts & Entertainment

THE LIVINGSTON PARISH NEWS

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 31, 2015

B6

STATE OF THE ARTS

2015

LIBRARIES, CHOIRS, ARTISTS, AND DRAMAS have continued to enrich our lives along with a few new events we hope will continue.



JOHN DUPONT | THE NEWS

Trent Barnett, who helped organize the 2015 Live Oak United Methodist Church Valentine's Banquet, performs the Cyndi Lauper classic "Time After Time" as part of the highly acclaimed annual event.



JOHN DUPONT | THE NEWS

Among 200 cheerleaders on teams demonstrating their skills at a Cheerleader Showcase at Westside Junior High prior to UCA Nationals are three-time national champions Live Oak Middle School.



JOHN DUPONT | THE NEWS

At the USO Show at the Old South Jamboree, **Miranda Reynolds** portrays Blondie, **Trent Shepherd** acts as Dagwood and **Michael Verret** performs as announcer/commercial pitchman **Ken Niles** in a takeoff of a 1940s-era radio program.



JOHN DUPONT | THE NEWS

At the annual Hungarian Harvest Dance hosted by the Árpádhon Hungarian Settlement Cultural Association Oct. 3 **Victoria Mocsary** (right) leads and accompanies a series of Hungarian folk songs along with (from left) **Megan Green**, **Suzie Green**, **McMorris** and **Christina Mocsary**.



DAVID NORMAND | THE NEWS

Above, at the open house of DeLou's Gallery at 125 N. Range in Denham Springs, artist **Dot Guell**, who paints on site at DeLou's, shows her art work to **Aimee Rasche** and her son, **Caleb**.



CAROL STUART | THE NEWS

Above, **Luke 10:27 Young Artists Academy** drumming instructor **Robert Reynolds** demonstrates a drum stroke before letting each student try it. They are (from left) **Charles Dalton IV**, **Chandler Coolie**, **Colin Dyson**, **Brody Landry** and **Detroy Posey**.



SUBMITTED BY BARBARA WALKER

Posing for the camera in a lighthearted moment are Livingston Parish Children's Choir Chorale seniors (front) **Mary Grace Eddington**, (back, from left) **Kali Davis**, **Danielle Bella** and **Claire DiMaria**.



SUBMITTED

While rehearsing their lines for the LPCC fundraiser dinner theater "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the '60s!," members of the cast have trouble keeping a straight face. Cracking themselves up are (from left) **Branden Burdette**, **John Hutchinson**, **Arthur Perkins Sr.**, **Ken Nance** and **Durwin Walker**.



LISA DOWTY | THE NEWS

Payton Johnson performs in the Jean Leigh Academy of Dance dinner performance May 9 at North Park.



JOHN DUPONT | THE NEWS

Rosie and the Swingin' Riveters dazzle the audience of the USO show at the Old South with renditions of classic Big Band tunes during "The Hollywood Car-teen." Local area band members include **Pris Ashworth** on the piano, **Jordan DeWitt** on the bass, **Robert Reynolds** on vocals/drums (partially hidden), **Carey Griffin** and **Allen Honeysucker** on trumpets, **Richard Kilpatrick** on trombone, **Brian Feigles** on saxophone, (not shown) **Marcos Coon** on baritone sax and **Jim Wilson** on saxophone, clarinet and flute.

LET’S GO!

FESTIVALS & OUTDOORS

Ice Skating on the River. BR River Center Arena, 275 South River Road. Jan. 1-3. \$12/75 minute session. 389-3030, 800-745-3000. brrivercenter.com.

Red Stick Revelry - drop of LED-lighted Red Stick in Town Square at midnight after Phat Hat and The Crest perform in Galvez Plaza. Dec. 31. redstickrevelry.com.

Baton Rouge Arts Market with over 70 juried artists, demonstrations, children’s activities; and Main Street Market at 5th and Main. Jan. 2, 8 a.m.-noon. 344-8558.

Tickfaw State Park offers a water park, camping, picnicking, canoeing, walking tours, videos, nature talks, demonstrations and activities, including Saturday’s Wildcrafts for Kids at 11 a.m., Nature Naturally at 1:30 p.m. and Wildlife Theatre at 3 p.m. 27225 Patterson Rd, Springfield. Call 294-2218 for scheduled activities. crt.state.la.us/parks/itickfaw.aspx.

CONCERTS

Southern Gospel Fest with Oneway Quartet, Mike Vaughn and Glynn Fendlason, Good News Fellowship Church, 13101 La. 442W, Tickfaw. Jan 1, 6:30 p.m. (doors and concessions 5:30). Love offering taken. 985-974-0507. mvmgoodnews.com.

Old South Jamboree New Year’s Country Show featuring Mark Sanders, Kerwin Leblanc and John Blackwell (recently returned from the USAF) with Carlton Jones & the Red Hot Country Band, Anita Leblanc, Deb Carpenter, Tommy Raborn, Larry and Maxine Whitfield, Robert Reynolds, Eddie Warren and Ed Kinchen. Old South Jamboree, 9554 Florida Blvd. (U.S. 190), Walker. Jan. 2, 7 p.m. \$10 (ages 6-12 \$5, under-6 free). 936-0349.

Gregg Allman. Baton Rouge River Center Theatre, 275 South River Road. Jan. 2, 7 p.m. 389-3030 or 800-745-3000. www.brrivercenter.com.

THEATER & DANCE

Movies at Manship: “Jane Eyre” rebroadcasted from National Theatre London, Jan. 5, 2 p.m., 7 p.m., \$16.50; Dinner and a Movie with **“Fried Green Tomatoes,”** Jan. 7, 8 p.m., \$7.50 (\$31.50 with Capital City Grill featured menu 3-course meal). Manship Theatre, Shaw Center, 100 Lafayette St., BR. 344-0334. www.manshiptheatre.org.

SOCIALS & DANCES

Kickoff 2016 at The Cook Hotel and Conference Center, LSU, 3848 W. Lakeshore Drive - New Year’s Party with music by David St. Romain. Dec. 31, 7:30 p.m. \$399/package for two. 383-2665. thecookhotel.com.

Juban’s New Year’s Eve with Ned Fasullo Band. Juban’s Restaurant, 3739 Perkins Road, BR. 346-8422. jubans.com.

Quilting Guild - meetings of the new Main Branch Library Quilting Guild will be held the first and third Monday of each month. Main Branch Library, 20390 Iowa St., Livingston. Jan. 4, 9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Light refreshments, bring your sewing supplies for the day. 686-2436. www.mylpl.info.

Chess @Your Library - for experienced teen and adult players looking for opponents or new players looking for help. Denham Springs-Walker Library, 8101 U.S. 190, DS. Jan. 4, 6 p.m. Registration required. 665-8118. www.mylpl.info.

Coloring & Coffee - a relaxing

activity for adults with intricate coloring sheets and colored pencils supplied along with music, snacks and socializing. Watson Branch Library, 36581 Outback Road. Jan. 5, 10 a.m., 664-3963; Main Branch Library, 20390 Iowa St., Livingston, Jan. 7, 10 a.m., 686-2436. www.mylpl.info.

CLUBS

Belle of Baton Rouge Casino Atrium, River Road: New Years party with Bobby Rush, Dec. 31; Gospel Concert with Terrell Griffin and Cliff & Company, Jan. 3. 242-2600.

The Blues Room, 244 Lafayette St., BR: Wil Jackson Blues Band, Dec. 31; Blues All-Starz, Jan. 2; The Rock-O-Laz, Jan. 2. 650-3111.

Boopalu’s, 29669 La. Hwy. 22, Springfield: Working Class, Dec. 31; Fifth Wheel Band, Jan. 2; Brett Harrington, Jan. 3.

Canal Bank Club, French Settlement: Kenny Fife & Bac Trac, Dec. 31; Jan. 3. 698-9074.

Crazy Dave’s Daiquiri Bar & Grill, 28293 Frost Road, Livingston: Midnight Special, Dec. 31. 686-2121.

Double D Daiquiris, 32334 Hwy. 16, DS: Imaginary Frenz Duo, Dec. 17; Psycho Jo, Dec. 18; karaoke, Dec. 19, 22, 29, 30; Honky Tonk Heroes, Dec. 23; Silverhook, Dec. 24. 243-5688.

Laguna Beach Daiquiris, 8028 Florida Blvd, DS: Gythe Rigdon, Dec. 31; Freestyle, Jan. 1; Jam Crackers, Jan. 2; Pat-E acoustic, Jan. 3; Rhett Guillot, Jan. 4; Karaoke, Jan. 5, 7; Shawn Allen, Jan. 6. 667-3738.

Moonlight Inn, French Settlement: LA Nite Band w/ Donnie Junot, Dec. 31, Jan. 7. 698-6759.

Park Place, Gonzales: Karaoke, Dec. 31, Jan. 3-7; Titanium Rain, Jan. 2. 644-8901.

The Spanish Moon, 1109 Highland Road, BR: NYE with Bootywerk, Dec. 31. 383-6666.

Sullivan’s Steak House, 5252 Corporate Blvd., BR: The Issue, Dec. 31. 925-1161.

Superior Grill, 5435 Government St., BR: Cam Pyle Band, Jan. 2; The Anteesks, Jan. 7. 927-2022.

Varsity Theatre, Highland Road, BR: Captain Green, Onion Loaf, Dec. 31; Adam Dollar\$, L Franchise & D. Jackson, Jan. 1. 383-7018.

EXHIBITS

Surreal Salon 8: A National Juried Exhibition of Pop-Surrealist/ Lowbrow Art. BR Gallery Center for Contemporary Art, 1442 City Park Lane. Jan. 4-28 with **Surreal Salon Soiree** Jan. 22. 383-1470. www.batonrougegallery.org.

Louisiana Photographic Society. Arts Council of Livingston Parish Gallery, 133 Hummell St., DS. Jan. 4-28 with reception and seminars Jan. 9, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. 664-1168. ArtsLivingston.org.

A Charlie Brown Christmas Turns Fifty, character art by Erik Van Buren, through Jan. 3; **The Portrait, the Artists and the Patron: 19th Century Louisiana Portraiture,** through Jan. 17. West Baton Rouge Museum, 845 N. Jefferson Ave., Port Allen. 336-2422.

Sun Light/Star Light Contemplations on the Solar Orb, through Jan. 3; **Capital City Contemporary 2: Landscapes,** through Jan. 10; **25 Years of the Hubble Space Telescope,** through

Jan. 17. Louisiana Art & Science Museum, 100 S. River Road, BR. 344-5272. www.lasm.org.

Works of Mary Head and Bonnie Smith Williams. Ochsner Health Center, 9001 Summa Ave., BR. Through Jan. 4.

Paintings by Bonnie Smith Williams, through Jan. 5; **Brushy Creek Meteor Crater Paintings by Marsha Allen Needham,** Jan. 6 through February. Main Branch Library, 20390 Iowa St., Livingston. 686-2436. www.mylpl.info.

Finding the Forgotten ... In the Shadows of the Mind. Manship Gallery, 2nd floor, Shaw Center, 100 Lafayette St. Through Jan. 31. 344-0334.

“Heaux, Heaux, Heaux, Indigeaux” book display by Wendy Woods and Sherry Martin; Holiday Book Marks by Lynette Ernest; Porcelain Dalls collection of Jennifer Draper. South Branch Library, 23477 La. 444. Through January. 698-3015. www.mylpl.info.

Snowmen collection of staff members; Holiday quilts by local community residents. Albany-Springfield Branch Library, 26941 La. 43. Through January. 567-1441. www.mylpl.info.

Livingston Parish Library Has Talent! Artwork by library staff members. Denham Springs-Walker Library, 8101 U.S. 190, DS. Through January. 665-8118. www.mylpl.info.

Paintings by Anne Guimond and Annie Faber, photos by Michael Perault. Watson Branch Library, 36581 Outback Road. Through February. 664-3963. www.mylpl.info.

The Carnival, the City and the Sea - Perry Smith’s collection of Haitian art. LSU Museum of Art, Shaw Center, North Blvd. at Lafayette St., BR. Through March 20. 389-7200. www.lsumoa.com.

READINGS, LECTURES CAMPS & CLASSES

Preschool Story Times: Albany-Springfield Library, Thursdays, 10 a.m. 0-4 years, 567-1441; Denham Springs-Walker Library, Mondays, 9:45 2-under, 10:30 3-5 years, and Tuesdays, 10 a.m. 5 years, 665-8118; Watson Library, Tuesdays, 10 a.m., 2-under 1st and 3rd Thursdays 10 a.m., 664-3963; Main Branch, Wednesdays, 10 a.m. (babies too), 686-2436; and South Branch, Wednesdays, 10 a.m. (babies too), 698-3015. www.mylpl.info.

It’s LEGO Time - with large soft baby LEGOs as well as challenges, crafts, games and snacks for everyone. Main Branch Library, 20390 Iowa St., Livingston. Jan. 2, 12:30 p.m. Registration required. 686-2436. www.mylpl.info.

Quilting Guild - meetings of the new Main Branch Library Quilting Guild will be held the first and third Monday of each month. Main Branch Library, 20390 Iowa St., Livingston. Jan. 4, 9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Light refreshments, bring your sewing supplies for the day. 686-2436. www.mylpl.info.

Chess @Your Library - for experienced teen and adult players looking for opponents or new players looking for help. Denham Springs-Walker Library, 8101 U.S. 190, DS. Jan. 4, 6 p.m. Registration required. 665-8118. www.mylpl.info.

Bead-y-ful Designers get together to work on own projects, share ideas; some supplies available. Arts Council of Livingston Parish, 133 Hummell St., DS. Jan. 4, 6:30 p.m.

664-1168. artslivingston.org.

Coloring & Coffee - a relaxing activity for adults with intricate coloring sheets and colored pencils supplied along with music, snacks and socializing. Watson Branch Library, 36581 Outback Road. Jan. 5, 10 a.m., 664-3963; Main Branch Library, 20390 Iowa St., Livingston, Jan. 7, 10 a.m., 686-2436. www.mylpl.info.

Winter Adventure in Narnia - ages 3-11 travel through the magical wardrobe to Narnia to complete quests and reach the final prize. Albany-Springfield Branch Library, 26941 La. 43. Jan. 5, 2 p.m. Registration required. 567-1441. www.mylpl.info.

Star Wars: A New Program - ages 18-up play giant “Star Wars” Trivial Pursuit and eat SW snacks. Denham Springs-Walker Library, 8101 U.S. 190, DS. Jan. 5, 1 p.m. Registration required. 665-8118. www.mylpl.info.

Teen Anime Club - ages 12-18 preview anime and manga, enjoy snacks crafts, fan art, fan fiction and more. South Branch Library, 23477 La. 444, Jan. 5, 5:30 p.m., 698-3015; Main Branch Library, 20390 Iowa St., Livingston, Jan. 5, 6 p.m., 686-2436. www.mylpl.info.

Young Writers Club - ages 10-18 write for both publication and performance, explore interests, develop voice and style through collaborative activities and workshops. Denham Springs-Walker Library, 8101 U.S. 190, DS, Jan. 7, 5 p.m. 665-8118. www.mylpl.info.

Music Club - bring your instrument or try out the library’s guitar, bass, ukulele, accordion or drum set and work on one song a month. Main Branch Library, 20390 Iowa St., Livingston. Jan. 7, 6 p.m. 686-2436. www.mylpl.info.

Writers Circle - for published and unpublished adult writers in all genres to share, gain information about their craft and publishing. Denham Springs-Walker Library, 8101 U.S. 190, DS, Jan. 7, 6:30 p.m. 665-8118. www.mylpl.info.

OTHER

Doctor Spark, The Roving Explainer, Jan. 2, 12 p.m. **Free First Sunday,** Jan. 3, 1 p.m. **Solar System Gallery and Hall of Astronomers;** and Space Theater show shows, **“Solar Superstorms,” “Magic Tree House Space Mission” “Flight of the Butterflies,” “Dark Universe,” “Let It Snow”** through Jan. 3. Louisiana Art & Science Museum and Pennington Planetarium, 100 S. River Road, BR. 344-5272. www.lasm.org.

ADVANCE TICKETS

Barry Manilow, Jan. 29; **Rihanna & Travis Scott,** March 8; **Fall Out Boy,** March 19; **Selena Gomez,** June 14; **Maroon 5, Tove Lo, R. City,** Sept. 5; **5 Seconds of Summer,** Sept. 16. Smoothie King Center, NO. 888-456-8499. Ticketnetwork.com.

Kinky Boots, Feb. 16. Saenger Theater, 143 N. Rampart St., NO. 800-488-5252.

Janet Jackson: Unbreakable World Tour, May 28. Lafayette Cajundome. Ticketmaster.com.

CONTACT US

I To submit events for inclusion in Thursday's "Let's Go," call 665-5176 or e-mail LifestyleLPN@gmail.com by the previous Tuesday.

APPLAUSE! APPLAUSE!

The winter holidays were packed full of activities thanks to schools and churches, civic organizations and businesses providing parades, trees, caroling, breakfasts with Santa and more. We can’t applaud them all, because many work behind the scenes, but we appreciate and applaud their efforts. You know who you are. But we can single out for recognition several individuals who have added sparkle and excitement to the season with spe-

cial shows. Longest running of them all was the 25th anniversary Christmas Concert of the Livingston Parish Children’s Choirs, directed by Barbara Walker, who co-founded the award-winning choral groups with her mother, Regina Walker. A perfect start to the season on Dec. 4. Next up was an Old South Country

Christmas with director Carlton Jones & the Red Hot Country Band backing a stellar cast of regular vocalists singing the traditional and country Christmas songs we love in the oldest concert venue in the parish, the Old South Jamboree, established in the early 1960s and still bringing in steady and appreciative crowds. New-comer to the

parish John Schneider, who has established a movie studio in Holden, also offered a concert there the same night, a “Home for Hazzard Christmas” with his fellow Duke of Hazzard Tom Wopat. The studio was also the site of a second holiday event, a festival showcasing the performance of a 1940’s radio-on-stage production of “It’s a Wonderful Life” Dec. 18 and 19. Visitors to those events found Schneider to be a warm and welcoming “good old boy.”

Fans of ballet and young children could select another treat that night in a mini-performance at the Suma Center of the ubiquitous holiday favorite, “The Nutcracker,” this one starring local ballerinas, most from the Odyssey Academy of Dance in Watson, who study with Wendy Bibby. A canned goods donation was the price of admission Dec. 5. A full scale paid performance took to the Suma stage Dec. 6. The final show of the season was the Dec. 19 Grand Country Junction’s Christmas at the Junction with director Greg Sullivan and the Nashville Edition Band led by Danny Harrell backing a

cast of popular vocalists performing at the Suma Center as they do every third Thursday of month. Every one of these shows in our own backyard was well worth the time and price. The only complaint we have about these offerings are the timing - four of them on the first weekend and two on the third weekend. Perhaps next year, someone could fill the gap and switch to the second weekend in December.

CONTACT US

I To place arts accomplishments and opportunities in this column, call 665-5176 or e-mail lifestyleLPN@gmail.com.



Walker



Jones



Schneider



Bibby



Sullivan



Harrell



LISA DOWTY | THE NEWS

Keep Livingston Beautiful donates to Landers Garden

Keep Livingston Beautiful donated \$1,000 to the Landers Garden at Luke 10:27 Church in Denham Springs. The children are growing cabbage, broccoli, peppers, tomatoes and many other vegetables and herbs. The Landers is an after school program for elementary and junior high “latch key kids.” Students learn about living on the land and other life skills. Pictured with the Landers kids are (from left) Beth Arguello, Frank Akin and Danielle McCants.



SUBMITTED BY JEWELL WHITEHEAD

Farewell to a special friend

At a going away party to mark Roxanne Mulhearn’s move to Ruston with her husband, Fred, are (from left) hostesses, Joyce Hazelton, Jewell Whitehead and Betty Blackmon, and the honoree. The event at Hazelton’s home was decorated with a fall theme and included a brunch prepared by the hostesses, an original poem by Patricia Byrd, who read it to the 15 special friends who attended, and a presentation to Mulhearn of a fall corsage and a parting gift.

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Grain Shurfine Rice \$1.99
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26 oz. Selected Cafe Valley
CREME CAKES

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10 oz. Shurfine Seasoning
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Top 10 Livingston Parish Sports Stories of 2015



MIKE DOWTY | THE NEWS

The Live Oak Eagles storm out of their inflatable tunnel to take the field for the first home playoff game at home ever.

Upstart Eagles football highlights wild year in a variety of local athletics

By Sam Muffoletto
The Livingston Parish News
This year's Top 10 Sports Stories from within the parish include some new faces, new conquests and new challenges, along with a little old in a rebirth mode, but this year's top story comes from the same school as last year's No. 1, though from a different

sport.
1. Eagles Football Soars to New Height
Although Live Oak's football team didn't quite reach the championship game in its sport like the Eagles' baseball team did in 2014 to earn them the parish's top story, the gridiron gladiators went where no Eagles team had gone before.

Under the guidance of first-year head coach Brett Beard, Live Oak pinned numerous football-firsts, but to top it all, the program won its first-ever playoff game ... and a tough one at that. After a third-place finish in District 4-5A and an overall winning record in the regular season, the No. 25 seeded

Eagles drew their first monumental task of taking on No. 8 Ouachita Parish on the road in the first round of the playoffs. In game that saw four lead-changes and two ties through the course of the contest, it was the Eagles' defense, that came through time-and-time again this season, which made a goal-line stand over the final 30 seconds the game to preserve a 33-28 victory.

Live Oak's offense wasn't too shabby as well that night, as the Eagles, behind quarterback Dillion Wang who guided his team to 429 yards of total offense. Returning from an injury earlier in the year, he accounted for 148 yards rushing on 22 keepers, with three touchdowns, including the game-winning score from seven yards out with three minutes to play. Senior tailback Will Higginbotham, who battled ankle injuries on both feet throughout the season, had 55 yards on seven carries, but added 122 yards of receiving on six catches, including a pair of touchdowns. Live Oak then hosted its first-ever playoff game at home the following week, but couldn't muster any offense against a talented John Ehret defense, as



MIKE DOWTY | THE NEWS

Live Oak Coach Brett Beard hugs senior linebacker Kyle Knapps after a 25-2 loss ended the Eagles' playoff run. Beard told his 19 seniors he loves them and will never forget what they did in leading Live Oak to its greatest football season in history.



MIKE DOWTY | THE NEWS

Live Oak quarterback Ryan Morris extends the football to break the plane of the goalline and tie the game with Ouachita, 21-21.

the Eagles' season ended with a 25-2 loss in the regional round. Ehret went on to finish as the state runner-up behind Zachary, one of Live Oak's district foes. The Eagles however, limited the high-powered Broncos' offense to just 29 points earlier in the year. Live Oak, which finished 3-2 in league play, did sweep both of the parish's district rivals, Walker and Denham

Springs. Its victory over the Yellow Jackets was not only a first-ever for the program, but earned it No. 3 status amongst the parish's top stories (details below). Live Oak's squad received many post-season accolades, including eight players being named to the All-Parish first team, including Higginbotham,

TOP 10
PAGE C2

Livingston Parish athletics continue to grow, in many ways

As Livingston Parish grows, so does our sports offering. 2015 showed that much was true, as it was no longer just football, basketball, and baseball/softball. Soccer has begun to grow as a popular sport in our Parish. Volleyball, track, and cross country all continue to improve. 4-H, swimming, karate, and wrestling have found their way into the

pages of this Newspaper. Its a proud moment, to see sports expanding at such a rapid pace locally - from upstart to playoff contender, from contender to champion, Livingston Parish is represented in all sports at the next level. Its difficult to pick just one moment in the previous 365 days to commemorate as the 'Top Story'. Every athlete has put in the work, the effort, the blood, sweat,

and tears to reach the post-season and beyond. However, with the Eagles setting their own history - and looking to build upon it - its hard not to give Live Oak and their new coach credit for taking a program into the next level. Another program that acheived the same feat was Denham soccer, both boys and girls, who entered the playoffs for the first time - and hosted their own playoff

games. The biggest accomplishment, that should be viewed by all athletes as the culmination of a life-time of effort, was Kade Scivicque signing with the Detroit Tigers to play professional baseball. Sure, plenty of athletes will never make it that far, in fact they may never make it into the NCAA, but thats the height of any sport, and its worth noting that Livingston Parish continues

to acheive excellence in all sports, year after year. So keep working, all you athletes who read this. Keep pushing your kids, to those parents who are proud of young athletes. It would be our pleasure to run your name and picture in these pages, alongside your success.



McHugh David is sports editor for the News and a former high school and college football player.

DRUM ROLL, PLEASE
McHugh David



MCHUGH DAVID | THE NEWS

Above, the LadyCats pose with their Class 5A Basketball State Runners-Up trophy. They are (pictured, from left), Ashlyn Donaldson, Katelynn McKenzie, Baylie Stears, Kacie Fountain, Jamie Gibson, Treasure Mansur, Katelyn McQuiston, Raven Barze, Miranda Smith, Krystal Hutchinson, Breanna Zeringue, Keona Brown, and Shemeka Daigre. At right, LadyCat Jamie Gibson tries to cut through defenders Airi Hamilton (5) and Annie Walls to make a shot happen late in the game. Gibson, the main cog of the LadyCat offensive wheel, was smothered all game.

Top 10 features Walker LadyCats trip to State

From C1

offensive lineman Travis Simmons, place-kicker Nathan Holliday, defensive linemen Michael Crowson and Ben Johnson, linebackers Preston Faulkner and Brock Williamson and defensive back Cade Guillory.

Crowson was named the parish's co-Defensive MVP, while Beard was tabbed as Coach of the Year.

2. LadyCat Scratch Fever

After losing a heart-breaker in the quarter-finals the year before, Walker's girls basketball team was on a mission in 2015.

Having won the District 4-5A title, head coach Korey Arnold's squad set its sights on paving the road to the Burton Coliseum in Lake Charles for the Top 28 Tournament.

After a blow-out win over Airline, the LadyCats turned to their experience, winning their next three playoff games by a combined eight points.

First they nipped South Lafourche 55-53 in the confines of the Glenn Ellis Gym. From there, the road to Lake Charles had to go through Natchitoches. Walker prevailed over Natchitoches Central by the score of 50-46.

In the state semifinal game against New Iberia, it was a left-handed hook-shot by senior Jamie Gibson with four seconds left to send the LadyCats into the championship game with a 51-49 win.

Gibson, who later would be named to the Class 5A All-State first team, as well as parish MVP and 'Best Offensive Player, led her team over New Iberia with 19 points.



In the championship game against Ponchatoula the LadyCats couldn't buy a basket and their

horrendous 27 percent field shooting was their demise in a 47-29 loss to the Lady Green Wave.

Walker's squad, which finished the year with a 31-6 overall record, also included the likes of senior Kacie Fountain, who was named the parish top playmaker, along with fellow senior starter Baylie Stears and juniors Keeona Brown and Shemeka Daige.

Other LadyCats players included Ashlyn Donaldson, Katelyn McKenzie, Treasure Mansur, Katelyn McQuisten, Raven Barze, Miranda Smith, Krystal Hutchinson and Breanne Zweringue.

3. Live Oak Finally Does the Stinging

Many years from now, former Live Oak football players will tell their

grandchildren about the night that the Eagles defeated Denham Springs.

It was Oct. 10, 2015, in a District 4-5A opener at Yellow Jackets Stadium. And to boot, it was DSHS' Homecoming.

But it was Live Oak's football program which came of age that night, as the Eagles, which had lost to the Jackets 64-20 the previous year, pulled off a stunning 16-14 win.

A hard-fought battle throughout, Live Oak pulled within a point at 14-13 on a 4-yard touchdown run by Khalil Smith with 2:55 to play in the contest.

Eagles' place-kicker Nathan Holliday, who had connected on his previous extra-point, along with a first-half walk-off 37-yard field goal, pulled this extra-point attempt wide left.

With just a couple of minutes to regain his composure, the sophomore came through with a picture-perfect onside

TOP 10
PAGE C3



DAVID NORMAND | THE NEWS

Live Oak High running back Will Higginbotham is forced out of bounds by Denham Springs High defensive back Jordan Collier after a 3-yard gain. Higginbotham was the work horse allowing Live Oak to hang onto the football for more than 30 minutes and keep it away from the Denham offense.

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OF YOUR
ACCOMPLISHMENT?
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SPORTS@LIVINGSTONPARISHNEWS.COM



2015 Parish Tournament makes Top 10

From C2

kick that teammate Cade Guillory recovered at the DSHS 48.

After a 25-yard pass from quarterback Ryan Morris to running back Will Higginbotham took the Eagles down to the Yellow Jackets' 28, the Live Oak faithful began to sense an upset in the making.

Three plays later from the 19, facing a third-and-1 situation, Morris sneaked it himself for a 3-yard gain and first down at the 16.

LOHS head coach Brett Beard then began setting the plate for Holliday.

Keeping the ball square-center of the goal-post with the Eagles' next two conservative plays, Beard sent in Holliday, who calmly split the uprights on a 30-yard field goal with 1:10 to play to give the Eagles the lead, which the defense preserved for the shocking win.

4. The "Comeback Kids" Back Playing String Music
You can't mention Livingston Parish girls basketball without mentioning Denham Springs and Holden.

The Lady Rockets witnessed nearly a decade of struggles on the court following the departure of head coach Pam Forbes, who after winning three state titles, turned her attention to raising a family.

For the Denham Springs Lady Jackets, it was nowhere that dramatic, although missing the playoffs for the first time in ages last season was a tough pill to swallow for the program.

Pam Forbes, along with her coaching husband Craig, returned three years ago, but the re-coming-out party was definitely during the 2014-15 season. The Lady Rockets not only breezed through their district competition, but posted 24 regular-season wins against tough competition that the Forbes duo knew they would have to compete against if they were to rise again to prominence.

After an easy win over parish and district foe Maurepas in the opening round of the playoffs, it was the second half of last year's regional-round playoff game against Bell City, the Lady Rockets had that look of old. Holden outscored their opponent 37-10, including a 25-2 advantage in the fourth period for a 59-26 win, which earned the girls in purple a home quarterfinal game against No. 3 seed Fairview.

In a packed gym resembling the days of the 1990's and early 2000's, Holden showed shades

of those glory days, but despite being down by only a point heading into the fourth period, the Lady Rockets couldn't quite defeat the team that had taken the top of the pedestal from them in the past decade.

Having lost just one senior (Holi Bankston) off last year's team, the Forbes' headed into the 2015-2016 season with high expectations with the likes of returnee Sydney Hayden, Amanda Fekete, Kaitlyn Kropog, Kaylee Hughes, Montori Weber and Kelsey Overland, along with some even younger players who they were counting on to step up this season.

While the Forbes' bigger goals this season involved the Class B playoffs, they would love nothing more than to win a parish title, something they have done only once, back in 2004.

Holden made big strides toward that feat earlier this month, as they defeated a pair of the parish's 5A programs Live Oak (45-38) and defending parish champion Walker by a runaway score of 64-26.

The Lady Rockets couldn't take home the big prize, but some other comeback kids were ready to prove that they're back as well.

The Lady Jackets of DSHS, which looked more like a junior varsity team last season, matured immensely in the off-season.

Head coach Shelly Laprarie's squad, which had already earned the respect of fellow parish coaches who gave Denham Springs the No. 1 seeding at the parish tournament, breezed through its first two opponents. The Lady Jackets beat Springfield (62-26) and Albany (67-44) on their way to the championship game, which they led from start to finish in its 46-36 triumph over Holden.

The Lady Jackets were led by Tremeeeka Spikes with 15 points, while other standout players on this year's DSHS squad include lone senior Lexi McMorris, along with Payton Chustz, Christina Canale, Kamry King, Maia Robinson and Caroline Taylor.

Another Comeback Kid of sorts was Walker's boys basketball team, which did not make the playoffs last season, but shocked the parish tournament world by not only knocking off the top seed Albany (62-54), but defeating four-time defending champions Denham Springs by the score of 46-45.

Down by one with 15 seconds to go, head coach Anthony Schiro called timeout and drew-up the game-winning play, which his team executed



At top, Taylor Forbes hits the floor to recover the ball for Holden against pressure from Denham Springs defenders Kamryn King and Lexi McMorris. Also ready to get involved is Holden's Kaylee Hughes. Above, Walker's Dalton Moore tries to keep a handle on the ball against Denham Springs defenders Torez Kinchen (right) and Kolby Brooks.

to perfection. The backdoor pass from Jalen Perkins to teammate Darius Hampton was laid it in with 2.3 seconds left, giving the Wildcats their stunning win.

Walker played the title game without starting guard Jacobi Scott, but the team of Le' Davis, Josh Cooks, Garrett Carlisle, Dalton Moore, Perkins and Hampton

came of age that night.

Moore had scored seven of his team-high 13 points in the fourth quarter of its semifinal win the night before against Albany to land the Wildcats in the title game on their home floor as tournament host.

5. Doyle and Maurepas Baseball - Banner Bearers
The Doyle and Maurepas baseball teams carried the parish's banner to the State Tournament

this past spring, but both the Class 2A Tigers and Class B Wolves lost tough games in the semifinals.

Doyle, under head coach Tim Beatty, earned a No. 1 seeding in the state playoffs after sharing the district title with Runnels.

After a 7-0 first-round win over Winnfield on the Tigers' diamond, pitcher Tyler Pigott limited Carholic of New Iberia to just two hits and

no earned runs as Doyle posted a 6-2 road win in the regionals.

Pigott was named the co-MVP on the All-Parish team.

The Tigers returned home to punch their ticket to the state tournament in Sulphur with a 3-1 victory over Sterlington.

Yet Doyle could muster-

TOP 10
PAGE C4



At left, the Zwolle fans looking on in the background are about to swallow a bitter loss as Austin Aime's single over second base will drive home the winning run for Maurepas in the bottom of the 7th inning. The 3-2 escape Saturday punched a ticket for the home team to join the field of four at the Allstate Sugar Bowl/LHSAA State Baseball Tournament in Sulphur. At right, Doyle shortstop Hilton Savoy dives for a line drive and snags a catch, saving a base hit against Sterlington to earn a trip to Sulphur for the State Semi-Finals.



MIKE DOWTY, DAVID NORMAND | THE NEWS

Above left, Lady Jacket Makenzie Maher takes on Hannan defender Katherine Dugas during a 3-0 Denham Springs win last year. Maher had two of the three goals. At left, Denham Springs High's Craig Hodges (15) battles Zachary High's Kyle Durbin trying to save the ball from going out of bounds during action before halftime. Above, Cam Hilliard presses his way down the field on the way to one of his two goals that led the Denham Springs Yellow Jackets into uncharted territory. Denham Springs defeated Bonabel, 2-1, to advance in the playoffs to the quarterfinal round.

Soccer jumps into Top 10

From C3

up just three hits in a 6-1 loss to Kinder in the semifinals.

Doyle's trio of pitchers also included Justin Ridgell and Hilton Savoy, while the Tigers' squad included the likes of Dillon Blount, Blaine Ouber, Ben Bares, Caleb Holland, Trey Fontenot, Jeremy Lott, Clay Kleinpeter, Daniel Palmer and Tyler Dawsey.

Doyle, which won 10 of 11 one-run games last season, finished the year with a 25-6 overall record.

Coach Anthony Gregoire's Maurepas squad, picked up back-to-back close wins to begin the Class B playoffs, as the Wolves defeated Simsboro 5-2 and then needed

a rally in the bottom of the seventh inning to nip Zwolle 3-2.

Maurepas was then held to just four hits by the defending state champions Fairview in a 4-0 loss to end their season.

Along with pitcher/infielder Donavan Thibodaux, a first-team All-Parish selection and first-team All-Parish catcher Chaz Scivicque, other standout for the Wolves included second-team All-Parish honorees Darrian Bouquet and Austin Aime, along with honorable mentions Brody Babin and Peyton Sturges.

Maurepas finished the year 21-9.

6. DSHS Boys & Girls Soccer Make Historic Runs

Denham Springs' other two football teams put together historic runs this past year, as both the boys and girls soccer programs posted first-ever playoff wins.

Coached by Chris Thorne and assisted by Erick England, the DSHS boys posted an unblemished 10-0 district record and swept Zachary en route to the title.

After nipping the Broncos 3-2 at home, the Yellow Jackets' captain, who bared the name of his opponent, Zachary Kimble, kicked the winning goal for a 1-0 district-clinching victory.

The Yellow Jackets avenged an earlier-season 1-0 loss to Hammond with a 2-0 win over the Tors in the first round of the Division I playoffs. That victory was the first-ever playoff win for the boys' program.

Denham followed that up with the program's second-ever playoff win, a 2-1 victory over Bonabel, in which junior Cam Hilliard kicked two of his season-high 39 goals.

In the quarterfinals against defending state champions Acadiana, a team that they had lost two previous matches to earlier in the year by identical 2-1 scores, found themselves up 1-0 with eight minutes remaining.

The Rams however, kicked two goals down the stretch to end Denham's hopes of a state title, once again by a 2-1 decision.

DSHS' boys, which ended the year with a 29-5-1 record, was led by district MVP Zach Booth and Offensive MVP Hilliard, along with the likes of Peyton Humphrey, goalie Tyler Medina, Joao Boraso, Cade Murry, Craig Hodges, Austin Parker, Igman Rodrigue, Dawson Tate, Deion Bates and Kimball.

The Lady Jackets, under the guidance of head coach Nikki Deshotel, turned in a 17-6-3 overall season, which included a first-ever 5-0 playoff win over Sulphur.

Participating in their second straight post-season, DSHS' girls fell to Dominican 5-1 down in New Orleans in the second round.

Starters for the Lady Jackets included district Overall MVP Makenzie Maher, co-Offensive MVP Alexis Larimore, co-Defensive MVP Leigh Ann Judge, goalies Cam Lambert and Haley Davis, Claire Chevalier, Mikah Luce, Anndee Barr, Brooke Oberste, Maci Niccolini, Kacey Chopin and Paryton Trepagner.

7. Softball Heartbreaks for Lady Jackets & Lady Wolves

The state softball tournament is nothing new for the Denham Springs Lady Jackets and the Lady Wolves of Maurepas, but heartbreaks are something neither team can get used to.

DSHS, the No. 8 seed in Class 5A, didn't win the district title, but got on a roll in the playoffs and won a couple of big games against Archbishop Chappelle (6-3) and Pineville (14-13) to punch a ticket to the state tournament in Sulphur.

The Lady Jackets drew top-seed St. Amant, a menace for many years at the state tourney and once again, left with a 3-2 heartbreaker.

Under the guidance of head coach David Bourque, DSHS finished the year with a 23-9 overall record.

Outfielder Brittany Case earned Most Valuable Player honors in the parish, while other All-Parish selections included infielder Macy Monk and pitcher Holley Morrison on the first team, while outfielder Harli Crow and catcher Jaden Accardo were named to the second team.

Amanda Henley's Lady Wolves of Maurepas, used a district championship as a stepping-stone into the post-season, where they defeated Hornbeck 11-1 and then Holden 4-3 en route to its return visit to the Fastpitch 56.

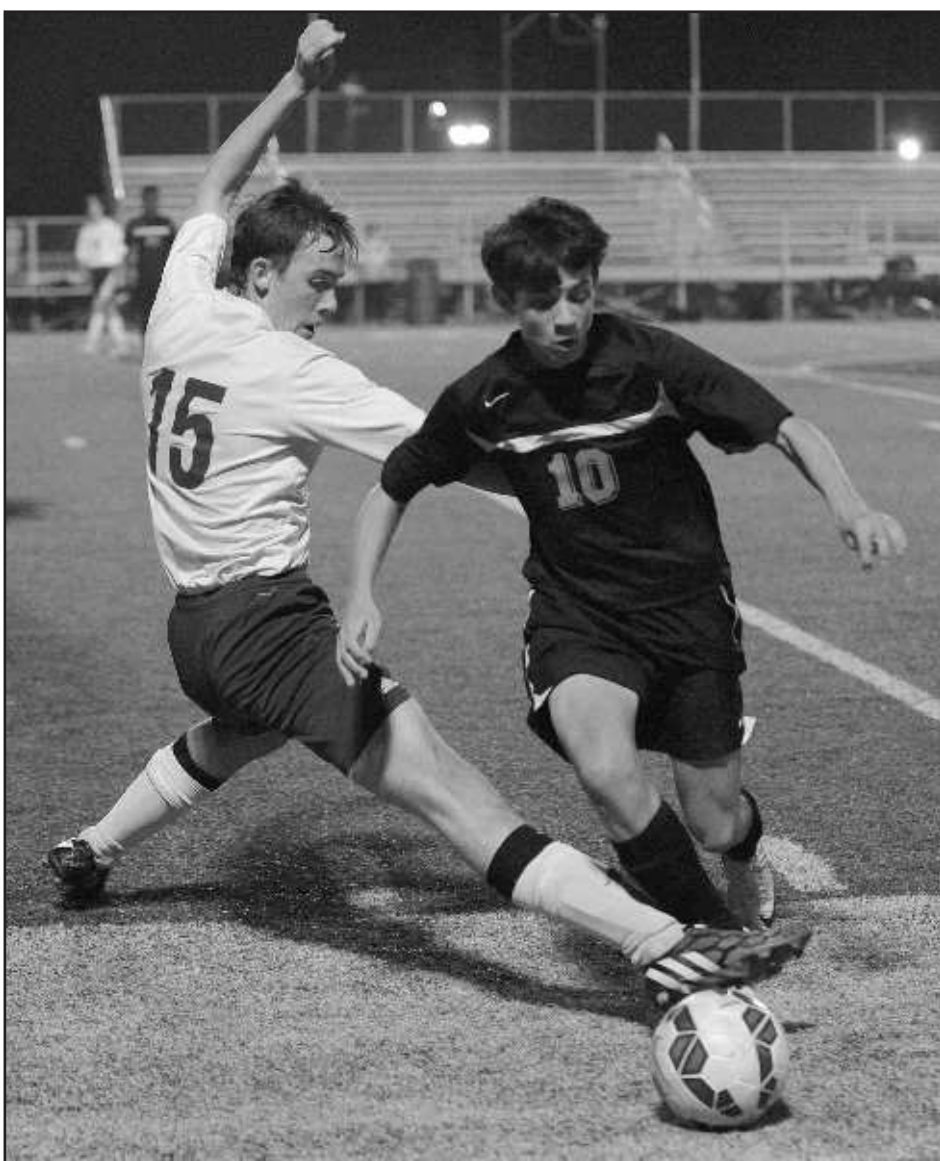
Maurepas fell to Glenmora 3-1 in the quarterfinals.

The Lady Wolves were led by first-team All-Parish player Brailie Gautreau, along with second-team All-Parish standouts Lacy Loupe and eighth-grade pitcher McKenna Lessard.

8. "The Maurepas Masher"

One day, Kade Scivicque may have a road named after him in Maurepas.

Scivicque has already put Maurepas on the map, as the standout LSU baseball player wrapped up his collegiate days with a trip to College World Series and is now a member of the Detroit Tigers Major League





STEVE FRANZ | LSU SPORTS

Kade Scivicque, a Johnny Bench Award finalist, had a lights out College World Series for LSU, batting .500 with 3 RBIs and two runs scored.

Two baseball players vault teams to success, earn **Top 10** spot

From C4

Baseball organization. After his all-state playing days with the Wolves and two years of junior-college ball, Scivicque played his final two seasons in a different Tigertown on the campus of LSU. Last spring, the 5-11,

220-pound senior catcher led the Tigers in batting with a .355 average with a .521 slugging percentage, along with six home runs, 21 doubles and 48 runs batted in. He also scored 33 runs. Defensively behind the plate, Scivicque had a .994 fielding percentage with just three errors and two pass-balls all season. He turned five double-plays

and threw out 21 of 36 base-runners. The Tigers advanced to the College World Series, but were eliminated by a pair of losses to TCU between one win. LSU fell to TCU, 10-3, came back to beat Cal-State Fullerton, 5-3, then lost to again to the Horned Frogs, 8-4. Scivicque however, batted .500 (6-for-12) at the CWS, with a double,

three RBI's and two runs scored. Scivicque was drafted in the fourth round (130th overall pick) in the Major League Baseball Draft by the Detroit Tigers. He spent the summer in the organization's Class A farm system. **9. Yellow Jackets Baseball Wins District Outright** Zachary has always been a pain in the bat

to Denham Springs for past few years in District 4-5A, but this past spring the Yellow Jackets pulled off a rare sweep of the Broncos on their way to the outright league title. They had to share that title with ZHS the previous year. Coach Mark Carroll's squad parlayed that momentum into the Class 5A playoffs, where they

opened the post-season with a 5-3 win over Northshore. Winning pitcher Bailey Holstein, the co-MVP in the parish, used his bat to spark a three-run sixth inning to send the Jackets to the opening-round victory. Denham was able to host the first of two, **TOP 10** PAGE C6



MCHUGH DAVID | THE NEWS

Denham pitcher Bailey Holstein picked up the win in the Jackets 2-1 victory over Zachary during their first tilt at North Park in Denham Springs. Holstein also launched the Jackets to their second win over Zachary, in Zachary, to claim the District 4-5A title outright. Unfortunately, Denham was unable to get past Catholic High in the playoffs.

PUBLIC NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICE

**Livingston Parish Recreation District 2
Concession Service Bids Needed for 2016**

Sealed Bids are being accepted to operate the Livingston Parish Recreation District 2 concession services for the 2016 year. The contract period will run from February 10, 2016, through December 31, 2016. The bidder will operate the stands for the summer league program schedule and other special events held during the year at the District Park-Live Oak Sports Complex (exclusive of High School sports events and non-District scheduled events). The sealed bids are due on or before Wednesday, February 10, 2016, 7 PM at the Watson Activity Center located at 37045 La Old Hwy 16, Watson, La. **Bid Specifications** may be picked up from Director Mike Hansen (225-280-1378) or from the office of Smith Accounting Services located at 277 E. Railroad Avenue, Denham Springs, La.

Louisiana Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority Public Hearings

State Fiscal Year 2017 Draft Annual Plan

The Louisiana Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority (CPRA), will hold the following public hearings to receive comments and recommendations from the public and from elected officials on Louisiana's draft "Fiscal Year 2017 Annual Plan: Integrated Ecosystem Restoration and Hurricane Protection in Coastal Louisiana":

Jan. 12	5:30 PM Open House 6:00 PM Public Meeting	Lake Charles Civic Center Jean Lafitte Room 900 Lakeshore Drive Lake Charles, LA 70601
Jan. 13	5:30 PM Open House 6:00 PM Public Meeting	Port of New Orleans Auditorium 1350 Port of New Orleans Place New Orleans, LA 70130
Jan. 14	5:30 PM Open House 6:00 PM Public Meeting	Warren J. Harang, Jr. Municipal Auditorium Rosella Room 310 North Canal Boulevard Thibodaux, LA 70301

The CPRA will receive written comments and recommendations on the draft annual plan until February 17, 2016. Written comments should be mailed (to arrive no later than February 17, 2016) to the following address:

Coastal Protection & Restoration Authority
c/o Chuck Perrodin
P.O. Box 44027
Baton Rouge, LA 70804-4027

If, because of a disability, you require special assistance to participate, please contact the CPRA Administrative Assistant, at P.O. Box 44027, Baton Rouge, LA 70804-4027 or by telephone at (225) 342-7308, at least five working days prior to the hearing.

Please visit <http://coastal.la.gov/> for more detailed information and copies of the draft Annual Plan which will be posted prior to the public meetings.

For questions regarding the meetings or to record your comments on the draft plan please contact Chuck Perrodin chuck.perrodin@la.gov or 225.342.7615.

(NOTICE OF INTENTION TO INTRODUCE BILL - SLS 16RS-52)

Public notice is hereby given that there may be introduced at the session of the Legislature to be convened on March 14, 2016, a bill relative to the city of Denham Springs; to provide relative to the municipal fire and police civil service; to provide that the positions of chief of police and fire chief for the city of Denham Springs shall be in the unclassified service; to provide that the authority for selection, appointment, supervision, and discharge of such positions shall be vested in the mayor of the city; and to provide for related matters.



RONNIE MOORE | B.A.S.S.

Live Oak High School sophomore Justin Watts (left) and Denham Springs High School junior Alex Heintze lift their championship trophy.

Fishing rounds out Top 10

From C5

Best-of-3 Series, the first against Destrehan, which the Jackets swept by the scores of 10-2 and 6-2. Pitcher Brock Batty picking up the win in Game 1 and Holstein in Game 2.

The Yellow Jackets then advanced to the second Best-of-3 at Cath-

olic High, where the Bears ended the Jackets' season with back-to-back losses (7-1 and 6-1), in which Denham was limited to just two hits in each of the contests.

DSHS' Travis Swagerty was honored with the parish "Golden Glove" award, while other standout players for the Jackets this past season were Jonah Overland, who drove in

five runs in the first win over Destrehan, Reece Pourciau, Matt Erwin, Tanner Magee, Tristan Spedale, Ashton Martin and Batty.

DSHS finished the year with a 23-9 overall record, which included Coach Carroll's 600th all-time win as a high school coach.

10. Parish Duo Reels In National Championship Trophy

A pair of high school anglers reeled in the national championship trophy at the TNT Fireworks-sponsored Costa Bassmaster High School National Championship this past summer in McKenzie, Tennessee.

Denham Springs High School junior Alex Heintze and Live Oak High School sophomore Justin Watts teamed up out-fish 133 rival duos in

a three-day competition on Kentucky Lake.

Representing the Livingston Parish Bassmaster Club, they topped the scales with 66 pounds on their lines, a 14-pound advantage over their nearest competitors.

They also set a tournament record on the 1,000-acre lake with a second-day haul of 23 pounds, 14 ounces from their five-fish

limit. On the final day's weigh-in, they recorded their third consecutive 20-plus-pound day to lock-up the championship.

The duo, which also brought home \$4,000 in scholarship money, was also invited to compete in the Bassmaster High School Classic this coming March, which coincides with the 2016 Bassmaster Classic.

SPORTS SHORTS

Live Oak Wrestling Club registration

Live Oak Wrestling Club is now registering for the 2015-2016 season. Information is available at www.liveoakwrestle.com or on Facebook (Live Oak Wrestling Club). Also, those interested can contact LOWCeagles@yahoo.com or 225-636-1066. Or register at the training facility on Commerce Drive in Watson Monday through Thursday from 6:30 p.m. until 8 p.m.

Next Level Baseball session starting

Louisiana Next Level Baseball Academy under Coaches Will Forbes and Andrew Forbes will begin a 6-week training session the week of Jan 4, 2016. Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays. Hitting 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.. Pitching/Throwing 6:45 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Hitting - twice per week for 6 weeks - \$250. Pitching/Throwing - twice per week for 6 weeks - \$300. Conditioning - twice per week for 6 weeks - \$200 (6:45-7:30) Unlimited attendance: \$450. The facility is located at 37200 Hwy 16 in Watson. For more information: www.lanextlevel.com or email lanextlevel@gmail.com or call 225-603-6937.

DSHS Hall of Fame videos for sale

For a limited time, the Denham Springs Athletic Association can make available to the public copies of the DVD video of the DSHS Athletic Hall of Fame banquet held at Forrest Grove. Included with the video is a 30-minute segment of nostalgic action photographs of numerous Yellow Jacket athletes and coaches covering a variety of sports and many decades of DSHS athletics. Please call Jim Spring at (225) 588-0366 to order. Price is \$10.

DSHS seeks Jacket football history

Denham Springs High School is establishing a complete history of the Yellow Jacket football program, focusing especially on the early years from 1930 to 1975. Local supporter Kirk Smart has designed a new website (www.denham-springsfootball.com) dedicated to DSHS football. He is seeking public support for any newspaper articles, old photographs, team pictures, old programs, season records and scores, and statistics from this era. Scrapbook and year-book documentation welcome. Contact Smart at kirksmart@denhamspringsfootball.com or (225) 236-2335.

Walker seeks football history

The Walker High School football program is looking for old team photos, records or other historic materials about the history of football at the school. Any information or leads are welcome. Contact Coach James Roberts at 225-975-2923 or email james.roberts@lpsb.org.

PARDS T-box available

The PARDS driving range has a grass T-box located behind the main baseball stadium that is open from noon until 8:30 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and 3 p.m. until 8:30 p.m. on weekends. The facility is closed Monday. Bag prices are \$6.50 for large, \$4.50 for small. For more information call 665-5405.

SPORTS SHORTS regularly publishes items of interest to the Livingston Parish sports community concerning programs and events such as registrations, tryouts, benefits and other activities. To submit an item for Sports Shorts, call 665-5176, fax to 667-0167 or e-mail to sports@livingstonparishnews.com.

