BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA

# The Weekly Press

SERVING BAKER, CENTRAL, AND ZACHARY

THURSDAY, JULY 2-8, 2020 | A PEOPLE'S PUBLICATION | VOL. 43 • NO.21 • FREE

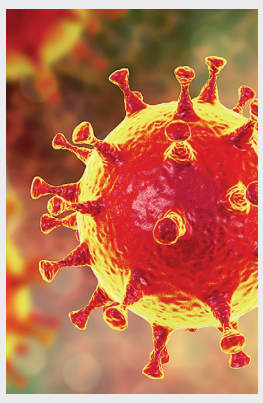
**HAVE A SAFE & HAPPY INDEPENDENCE DAY**

## City-Parish Services for Independence Day Holiday

BATON ROUGE, LA — July 2, 2020 — City-Parish offices will be closed on Friday, July 3rd in observance of the Independence Day holiday. However, government facilities that are polling places, including City Hall, will be open for early voting for the July 11 election on Friday-Saturday, July 3-4.

Residential garbage (both in cart and out of cart woody waste/bulky items) and recycling will be collected as normal on Friday, July 3rd and on Saturday, July 4th. Additionally, the landfill will be open normal business hours on Friday, from 5:30 am – 5:00 pm and on Saturday, from 7:00 am – 3:00 pm.

## Spike in Younger Coronavirus Cases Creates Testing Dilemma



BATON ROUGE, La. - As young Louisianans continue to drive the spike in COVID-19 cases, state health leaders are faced with a dilemma: prioritize testing for apparently-healthy people who might be silent carriers, or for sick people who need to seek treatment.

Roughly 20% of the Louisianans who've tested positive for COVID-19 are between ages 18 and 29. Though health experts are not certain, it appears younger people are more likely to unknowingly spread the virus because they don't demonstrate severe symptoms as often.

"There's still not as much testing as we would like, so you still have to have priorities," Gov. John Bel Edwards said during his Coronavirus briefing Wednesday, July 1. "It's really hard to not prioritize symptomatic individuals who are more likely to have it and need to know if they have it."

Edwards says it is becoming more important to test asymptomatic people, which is why the state is ramping up testing in certain regions. Four new sites in Baton Rouge could open as soon

See **TESTING**, on page 3

### WEATHER

3 day Forecast BR Area

**MON**. 07/06 Thunderstorms High 86°.

**TUE.** 07/07 Thunderstorms High 88°.°

**WED.** 07/08 Thunderstorms High 91°.

### INDEX

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NATIONAL

# Joyful Juneteenth Marchers

## in D.C. Confound Predictions of Violence Black Lives Matter

*Muka Chisaka, 26, raises her fist in front of Trump International Hotel in Washington D.C. during a Juneteenth Black Lives Matter march on June 19, 2020. (Kaitlin Newman/Zenger)*

By Kaitlin Newman, *Zenger News*

Protesters swarmed D.C. streets—not demanding to be heard, but dancing for joy that everyone is listening.

After weeks of media coverage about rioters and looters who hijacked protests following George Floyd's death, Washington D.C. held its breath as Juneteenth marches wound up their springs on Friday. No one needed to worry. It was festive, not angry. People sold T-shirts. One woman led hundreds down Pennsylvania Avenue while belting Beyoncé's "Freedom" anthem at the top of her lungs through a bullhorn.

This was a victory parade.

Black Lives Matter activists have made their point and won

See **JOYFUL**, on page 2

*A black lives matter sign hangs on a statute in Washington D.C. during a Juneteenth Black Lives Matter march on June 19, 2020. (Kaitlin Newman/Zenger)*

## Mayor Broome Signs Executive Order to Establish "No Mask, No Service," Policy

*Mayor-President Sharon Weston Broome*

BATON ROUGE, La. — As of July 1, 2020, East Baton Rouge Parish has experienced 5,350 confirmed cases of COVID-19 and 271 confirmed deaths by the Louisiana Department of Health as a result of the disease.

"This is an effort to protect the health and well-being of residents and visitors -- and to assist in the safe reopening of the parish economy without the need for the stricter economic mitigation efforts put in place earlier this year," said Mayor Broome. "The "No Mask, No Service" policy will help ensure our businesses can remain open and safely serve customers. My message to our community is simple:

See **POLICY**, on page 2

## School Board Favors Hearing Bew Names for Lee High School

BATON ROUGE, La. - The East Baton Rouge Parish School Board on Thursday, June 18 unanimously agreed to hear recommendations for a new name for Lee High School.

The school's name again became the center of controversy as black American residents in the parish, in addition to other communities of color and organizations, questioned the purpose of continuing to "recognize" and "memorialize" the legacy of confederate commander Robert Edward Lee in a way typically associated with being an "honor."

Lee's legacy attracts scrutiny be-

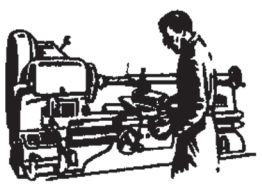
See **SCHOOL**, on page 3

**READ OUR DIGITAL INTERACTIVE EDITION ONLINE @ BRWEEKLYPRESS.COM**

MORE INFO AVAILABLE AT CORONAVIRUS.LA.GOV
CONTINUE TO BE SAFE AND PRACTICE SOCIAL DISTANCING
Get Serious LOUISIANA
USE YOUR HEAD...STOP THE SPREAD!
STOP COVID-19

# STATE & LOCAL


## READER INFORMATION



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**Correction Policy**

The Baton Rouge Weekly Press strives to be fair and accurate. The newspaper corrects any significant errors of fact brought to the attention of the editor. If you think an error has been made, call 225-775-2002

**The Weekly Press**

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Closed Saturday, Sunda


# EBR School Board President Calls for Connie Bernard's Resignation

BATON ROUGE, La. - East Baton Rouge Parish School Board President Michael Gaudet released a statement Thursday calling for the resignation of embattled board member Connie Bernard.

*"On June 22, 2020 I issued a statement that voiced my disapproval of Mrs. Bernard's actions during the recent School Board meeting but stopped short of calling for her to resign. Information has now come to light which shows her public statement on the issue was, in my opinion, misleading. I believe this erodes her ability to retain the confidence of the public that we serve. We work diligently to improve public education in East Baton Rouge and without public confidence, our job is more difficult. Most critically the children, with whose education we are entrusted, will suffer the greatest in the long run. I now respectfully ask Mrs. Bernard to resign her office as a member of the EBR School Board.*

*I do not make this request lightly. I know that Mrs. Bernard takes her responsibilities to represent all children seriously. She is an elected official and her voters need a voice.*

*I will take no position on the current effort to recall Mrs. Bernard. I respect the wisdom and authority of the voters in her district to make that decision. It is their decision to make and theirs alone.*

*As members of the EBR School Board we are called first to remember what we were elected to accomplish. We must focus on educational issues impacting our children now. Reopening schools amid the Covid-19 pandemic, many low performing schools, on-boarding a new Superintendent, unifying our community, budget inequities and funding shortages are just a few of the challenges facing us. These should be our focus, now and in the future. I am hopeful that the EBR School Board, helped by the leadership of our new Superintendent, will put differences aside and work together to improve the opportunities for all our children."*

East Baton Rouge Parish School Board member Connie Bernard

East Baton Rouge Parish School Board President Michael Gaudet

Bernard first came under fire two weeks ago when she was called out for online shopping during a passionate debate to strip confederate general Robert E. Lee's name from the high school.

"And you sit your arrogant self in here and sit on there shopping because you don't give a damn and you should resign," community activist, Gary Chambers, said during the meeting.

When Bernard faced allegations that she was shopping, she denied it, saying the picture that was making the rounds was actually a pop-up ad that she failed to close, but a further and more thorough review of those records by the 9News Investigators turned up even more shopping.

Several of her colleagues and people around the nation have called for Bernard's resignation. A statement released by Bernard on June 22 said she "will continue to serve all students as elected by my district three times."

## JOYFUL from page 1

millions of converts since May25. Fortune 500 companies and major league sports are on board. Celebrities everywhere have become force multipliers. In some cities, police officers knelt in common cause with groups of activists.

And here they were on Juneteenth, blocks from America's epicenter of power. Not demanding to be heard, but dancing for joy that everyone, everywhere, was finally listening and that African Americans were writing a new chapter in a never-ending story.

More than a dozen demonstrations had more than a dozen messages— "Defund the Police" and "Defend Black Women" were two—but the violent subculture seemed to stay home, and seemed to know this wasn't their moment.

No one was looting or setting fires. The only glow came from mostly black faces with ear-to-ear grins that peeked out when COVID-19 masks came off.

Yes, we saw performance art. A Latino portrayed a crucified Jesus, complete with a giant wooden cross, and a cloth across his hips with the letters B-L-M painted in slapdash foam-brush dabs.

And the sounds! Social justice chanting competed for our ears with the occasional drummer and a trombone player, blasting his brass in front of the Trump International Hotel.

"No Justice, no peace, no racist police." Some women held simple signs, each with the name of a black woman or girl killed by law enforcement. Nunruh Laroche. Della McDuffie.

Deeniquia Dodds. 100 in all. The signs were simple, just the names in black letters, floating on a white background.

One little girl tried to whip up her own chanting section. "Black kids, we are so cool!" she shouted. "So get the cops out of our school!"

# LETTER TO THE EDITOR

## Rebuttal to Councilwoman Alexander's Letter of 05.19.20

Kenneth R. Fabre
City Attorney
Baker, La.

As Baker City Attorney and a resident in the Buffwood subdivision my response to Councilwoman Doris Alexander's Letter to the Editor, dated May 19, 2020 printed in the Advocate regarding the tract of land, buildings, improvements and surface rights located in the Buffwood Subdivision. This shall serve to address point by point the politically motivated fallacious statements for the record.

In paragraph one of the letter, she inaccurately claims that the property was donated by the Buffwood Community. In fact, the Landry and Nettles family heirs donated this property to the City of Baker in March 2014; the Buffwood Community was not involved nor was a nonprofit the recipient. This donation to the City of Baker was approved by the City Council of Baker on November 12, 2013

In paragraph two, she inaccurately claims there are plans to turn this property into a "community center". There are no formal plans nor has there been significant discussion thus far as to what ultimately the property will be used for.

In paragraph three, the City of Baker received a Louisiana Local Government Assistances (LGAP) Grant from the State of Louisiana to make necessary renovations so the building maintains its ability to meet code standards. A grant recently applied for and obtained states that its future use would be for "city approved meetings". Grant funds were obtained because this city property ideally could be used for city approved meetings such as Rotary Club, Pilot Club, or other civic organizations with approval from the city. This, however, is only in preliminary discussion stages with no final decisions having been made.

It is important to remember because this building is owned by the City of Baker, the city is responsible, just as any homeowner or business owner is responsible for the maintenance and upkeep of their buildings as required by City of Baker Code Enforcement policies.

In paragraph five of the letter, public comment for routine maintenance of a city owned building is not necessary nor required.

Ultimately, it appeared that this letter served no purpose other than to try to create political controversy where none exists. Ms. Alexander was and is fully aware of the true facts when she authored this letter which I explained and emphasized to her clearly during the City Council meeting on May 12, 2020.

As a City Council Member, she should be aware that the Council and the City of Baker would be remiss in their duty to fail to make the needed repairs to a building which the city owns and which is located in her neighborhood which she professes to love so dearly.

Please note all records are available at Baker City Hall.

Kenneth R. Fabre
City Attorney
Baker

Please Review Councilwoman Alexander's Letter ONLINE @ www.brweeklypress.com
*Please Don't Turn our Community Into a Community Center*

## POLICY from page 1

save a life, save our economy, and wear a face covering."

The executive order requires, at minimum, that all employees and visitors wear face coverings when in an area or while performing an activity which will involve close contact or proximity with the public. The "No Mask - No Service" Policy must be posted near all entrances, and in clear view of any employees or members of the public entering the business.

During his press conference earlier today, Governor John Bel Edwards stated support for Broome's mandate as well as others around the state.

"I want you to know that I appreciate the decision on her part, I also support similar mask mandates that have been put in place in Orleans Parish and in Jefferson Parish by LaToya Cantrell and Parish President Lee Shang," said Governor John Bel Edwards.

The business community reached out to Mayor Broome for extra time to comply with the executive order, and to further support the effort. The executive order will be effective July 3, 2020, at 12pm through August 3, 2020 and will be re-evaluated before August 3, 2020.

The Baton Rouge Fire Department and the Baton Rouge Police Department will be authorized to enforce the order.

# NAACP President of Baton Rouge Announces Intent to Run for Metro Council Seat

*Eugene Collins*

BATON ROUGE, La. - The president of the Baton Rouge branch of the NAACP has announced his intention to run for a seat on the East Baton Rouge Parish Metro Council.

Eugene Collins plans to make the official announcement at 11 a.m. on Friday, July 3 in front of his home on France Street.

He will be running for the District 10 seat on the metro council. The seat is currently held by Tara Wicker, who is running for mayor-president.

# EBR School System Ask Parents to Fill Out Survey to Help Determine Best Reopening Plans

BATON ROUGE, La. — "We are gathering a few final details before releasing our school reopening plans and your input is vital. Your prompt response to this new survey is appreciated," School officials said in a Facebook post.

Parents can fill out the survey by clicking this link https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScUA_pRKdasD8OtXd1gsCFlUQoMkXTU1xgzEc9ZywCe2_FpEw/viewform

**TESTING** from page 1

as Tuesday, including drive-thrus at LSU and Southern University.

"We like to get people across the age spectrum, and those are two pretty big sites to (get young people)," the Louisiana Department of Health's Dr. Joseph Kanter said.

LDH has already identified outbreaks connected to 19 different bars across the state, including at Tigerland, a popular student watering hole near LSU's campus.

"Folks really should be seated at tables, even at bars," Kanter said. "If you've been in a setting where that wasn't happening and people were within 6 feet of each other, I think you should consider yourself exposed and look for testing options in your region."

Louisiana is a global leader in testing per capita, but materials are still limited. Long lines are forming at testing sites and the turnaround time for results from certain vendors is "unacceptable," Kanter said.

The state is relying on the federal government and private testers to provide more kits so the state does not have to choose between healthy or sick people.

# BRCC Announces Plans for Fall 2020

***BRCC to eliminate non-resident fees, suspend online fees this fall, and offer several institutional aid awards***

BATON ROUGE, LA – As the state continues to deal with the growing COVID-19 threat and the uncertainty regarding future timelines, Baton Rouge Community College is introducing special changes that will allow the college to continue offering the same great educational and support opportunities for students during the Fall 2020 semester. BRCC is eliminating non-resident fees and suspending online fees for students this fall. A bevy of institutional aid awards are also available, and there is no application fee for new students to enroll. The elimination of non-resident fees will save full-time students more than $2000 and full-time online non-resident students approximately $2500. This means out-of-state students will be charged approximately half of the cost over last year.

"We are aware that many members of our community will need BRCC more than ever after dealing with the repercussions from COVID-19," said BRCC Chancellor Dr. Willie E. Smith. "We hope that by eliminating some of the financial burden, we can be a key partner in assisting people with getting the necessary training and credentials to begin their careers or continue their studies. As an accredited institution of higher learning, this incredible offer allows students to take courses here at BRCC that are transferrable to their home institution."

BRCC is also introducing special changes that will allow the college to continue offering the same great educational and support opportunities for students. BRCC will offer general education courses through online synchronous (live instruction) and asynchronous (attend on your schedule) classes, while Technical Education and Nursing and Allied Health classes, along with some labs, will be offered through a hybrid design, where students will complete some coursework online and attend some face-to-face classes on campus in a sanitized environment, while practicing social distancing and wearing masks. The college will continue to offer support for students with technology needs, and student services will remain online through the Virtual Student Center.

There will also be changes to placement testing as new students who were previously required to take the Accuplacer exam will now be given a self-directed placement option upon enrolling to Baton Rouge Community College. Details will be shared with these students after they apply for admission.

All registration and enrollment processes for the fall semester will be handled online. Students can visit www.mybrcc.edu or call 1-866-217-9823 for questions and information.

The Fall 2020 semester also offers the following institutional aid initiatives:

Enroll in 15 hours and earn a $600 institutional award

Enroll in 12 hours in a hands-on technical program and earn a $600 institutional award

Enter the Work Ready U Program at BRCC and concurrently enroll in 6 credit hours to earn a $500 institutional award

Complete the HISET with BRCC and earn a $500 institutional award towards enrollment in the next semester

Fall classes start August 17. There are four fall sessions available: The 15-Week Semester (Aug. 17 to Dec. 5), The 1st 7-Week Semester (Aug. 17 to Oct. 7), The 12-Week Semester (Sept. 8 to Dec. 5), and the 2nd 7-Week (Oct. 12 to Dec. 5). Registration is available at MyBRCC.edu.

### *Fall 2020 At a Glance*

Classes will be taught through online instruction both synchronously (live instruction) and asynchronously (attend at your leisure)—these will include general education courses as well as other program courses that do not require hands-on training.

Technical Education and Nursing and Allied Health courses will be taught in a hybrid model of online and in-person courses. Social distancing and mask wearing will be observed.

Technology support will still be offered.

Student Services will remain online and available via the Virtual Student Center.

New students who were previously required to take the Accuplacer exam will now be given a self-directed placement option upon enrolling for placement in Mathematics and English.

Several institutional awards are available for students who enroll for Fall 2020 courses. (More information is available: https://www.mybrcc.edu/news/iai.php)

Non-resident fees will be eliminated.

Online registration fees will be suspended.

**LEE** from page 1

cause he owned slaves and fought on battlefields and in courts to continue the enslavement of black Americans, historical records suggest.

The Southern Poverty Law Center published data suggesting dozens of public schools around the nation bear Lee's name. Statues in several American cities were also erected to memorialize Lee.

Both have come under scrutiny as the country reaches a flashpoint in discussions on race.

The vote Thursday will allow the school board to form a committee which will hold public meetings to develop a list of names.

That committee will recommend the top choices to the board.

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Greater Baton Rouge Jewish Community Open Letter to Our Black Neighbors

Our shared history holds within it, moments of powerful partnership between our communities, and it also holds moments of estrangement and points of pain. In full awareness of that complicated history, and for those members of our community whose overlapping identities – Black and Jewish – connect us to each other, we write this letter to express our solidarity at this difficult time.

We abhor the recent killing of George Floyd by Minneapolis police officers and detest the officers' delayed arrests. We abhor the recent killings of Breonna Taylor, Ahmaud Arbery, and so many others. We have not forgotten the abhorrent killing of Alton Sterling in our beloved city four years ago, and we continue to mourn his loss.

We mourn alongside you the Black and Brown lives lost to racially motivated violence and despise the institutionalized racism that has continually shielded those responsible.

We see you, we hear you, we love you, and we stand with you in the conviction that Black Lives Matter. We will strive to be allies with you as our country faces this moment of reckoning, much too long in coming.

The watchword of our faith is *Shema* or *listen*. In that spirit, we commit to listening with open hearts, in the coming days, months, and years, to the voices, truths, and feelings of our Black neighbors. Furthermore, our Torah teaches that we must not stand idly by while our neighbor bleeds, and so we also commit to acting, intentionally and swiftly, to create real and lasting change in our local community and our nation that will dismantle the systems of white supremacy that surround us all as Americans.

Specifically, we commit to:
--**seek a deeper understanding of our history** and how generations of Black trauma directly relate to the struggles of the present day. We will attempt to fully understand the discrepancy between who we say we are as a nation and who we truly are as regards civil and human rights.
--**be more courageous in our efforts to prevent and respond to future acts of racial and other discrimination** emanating from any source. We will condemn race-based hate and bigotry against Black and Brown members of our society whenever and wherever we see it, even and especially when we find it within our own community.
--**support meaningful public policy** that addresses the myriad of issues that plague minority communities, including the wide healthcare and economic disparities that have become so apparent during the COVID-19 pandemic. We will advocate in particular for much needed policing reform measures and will seek to be strong coalition partners in the public sphere.

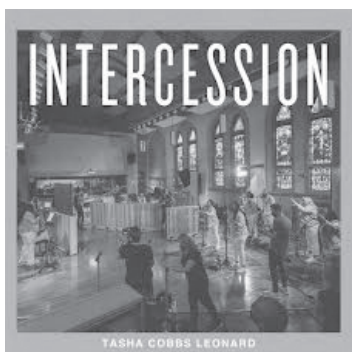
Our shared prophetic tradition instructs us to do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with God and with one another. We will harken to this and other prophetic voices that call us to reject complicity, inaction, and indifference and to put our values into practice with every step and with every breath. We vow to do our best to make eternal the moments of powerful partnership that our communities have formed at critical times throughout the history of our country to fight bigotry, racism, and hate.

With heartfelt empathy for the pain of this moment, with high hopes for the chance to build a better tomorrow, and in solidarity,

- The Jewish Federation of Greater Baton Rouge
- Beth Shalom Synagogue
- Congregation B'nai Israel
- Temple Shalom in Lafayette
- Hillel at LSU
- Hadassah of Baton Rouge

# RELIGION

## Tasha Cobbs Leonard Release Timely INTERCESSION EP




Top-selling artist Tasha Cobbs Leonard, releases a new 4-song EP, Intercession, available today on all platforms. Announced for the first time earlier this week, Intercession is a 20-minute worship set that was captured LIVE at Nashville's historic Ocean Way Nashville. A powerful long-form video, featuring each song from the EP, will premiere during a live chat with Tasha on her YouTube channel today at 12pm ET.

The inspiring lead single "Let It Fall" reminds listeners that the glory of God was never meant to be driven or controlled by us; it was meant to be carried. The EP harmoniously shifts into the passionate, simmering moments of "Move (Out Of The Way)" and "Hallelujah (You Get The Glory)," before closing with the high-spirited refrain "He

See **INTERCESSION**, on page 6

## THE BIG LIE: The Color of A Man's Flesh Matters!

***This evil root must be plucked out***

Good morning Father, it is with great joy I awake because of You! You are the great balancer – Spirit, Soul & Body You & Your word allow each part to work in peaceful harmony, Amen!

Upon waking I saw an article entitled "The Bible Speaks," along with several scriptures including:

• Moto Scripture: I have no greater joy than to know My children walk in TRUTH (3 John 1:4 - KJV)

• All flesh is not the same flesh: but there is one kind of flesh of men, another flesh of beasts, another of fishes, and another of birds.

(1 Cor 15:39 - KJV)

All disciples of God should be exposing THIS LIE, yet I hear no one referencing this TRUTH.

YES, the Bible does speak on the color of a man's skin:

1 Miriam and Aaron began to talk against Moses. They criticized him because he married an Ethiopian woman.

2 They said to themselves, "Moses is not the only one the LORD has used to speak to the people. He has also spoken through us!"

**The LORD heard this.**

3 (Moses was a very humble man. He was more humble than any other man on earth.)

4 So suddenly, the LORD came and spoke to Moses, Aaron, and Miriam. He said, "You three, come to the Meeting Tent, now!"

So, Moses, Aaron, and Miriam went to the Tent.

5 The LORD came down in the tall cloud and stood at the entrance to the Tent. He called out, "Aaron and Miriam!" They went to him.

6 God said, "Listen to me! You will have prophets. I, the LORD, will let them learn about me through visions. I will speak to them in dreams.

7 But Moses is not like that. He is my faithful servant—I trust him with everyone in my house.

8 When I speak to him, I talk face to face with him. I do not use stories with hidden meanings—I show him clearly what I want him to know. And Moses can look at the very image of the LORD. So why were you brave enough to speak against my servant Moses?"

9 The LORD was very angry with them, and he left them.

10 The cloud rose from the Tent. Aaron turned and looked at Miriam. Her skin was white like snow—she had a terrible skin disease!

11 Then Aaron said to Moses, "Please, sir, forgive us for the foolish sin that we did. (Numbers 12 - ERV)

The Bible speaks clearly about the kind of flesh of man; and speaks clearly regarding the color of a man's skin.

Next week we will expound on hidden truths in Numbers 12:1-11v and move into the cup of iniquity.

Submitted By:
From On High Ministry

## Streaming LIVE Churches

LIVE STREAMING

■ **Oasis Christian Church:**
Bishop Charles E. Wallace
Sunday Morning 8:00 A.M.
Wednesday Night Bible Study 7:00 P.M.
*https://livestream.com/accounts/27567249/events/8379840*

■ **Rose Hill Church:**
Pastor Danny Donaldson
See website for times
*https://www.facebook.com/rosehillbatonrouge*

■ **Living Faith Christian Ctr.**
Bishop Raymond Johnson
Sunday at 10:00am
- YouTube: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCiHSeRaHIS8ewCoFhcYHGnQ
- Piksel: https://campus.piksel.com/living-faith-cc
- Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/LivingFaithChristianCenterBR/

■ **Mt. Carmel Baptist Church**
Rev., Dr. Andra Johnson
Sunday at 9:30am
*https://www.mtcarmelbtr.com/?fbclid=IwAR2yeejE375iY6MvJarHBFFsg9uWpJc1ExzVVjZNlhUvs5fC3OAiyTGow2k*

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Bishop & First Lady J. L. DeCuir

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Baton Rouge La.70802
Service times 9:30a.m Every Sunday
Inspirational message:
Daily via Facebook Live:J. L. DeCuir
Look up an live because God is on your side

CHURCH DIRECTORY
Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching. - Hebrews 10:25
Church directory ads starting at $10 per week call us for details 225.775.2002

DISCIPLES OUTREACH MINISTRY
2032 Gore Rd, • Baton Rouge, LA 70807
Sunday Service ..... 9:00 am
Sunday School ..... 8:00 am
Bible Studay ..... Mon.7:00 pm
Saturday Sabbath ..... Sat. 11:00 am
Bishop Thelma Pearl Senior Pastor
Bishop Michael Pearl, Assistant Pastor
We Don't Count Numbers. We Make Numbers Count

Kingdom Life Family Center

Sundays at 10am
Wednesday Inspirational Service 7pm
- Youth ministry every Sunday and Wednesday
- Women's Ministry 2nd Saturday's
BISHOP DESIGNATE DOROTHY DANIEL
SENIOR PASTOR
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Rev. Tiffanie C. Postell, Associate Pastor
Sunday School ..... 9:30 a.m.
Worship Service ..... 10:55 a.m.
Youth Sunday & Contemporary Worship ..... 2nd Sun. 8:00 a.m.
Bible Study ..... Wed. 12:00 Noon and 5:00 p.m.
Prayer Ministry ..... Tues 6:00 p.m.

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Sunday School ..... 8:00am
Church Service ..... 9:00am
Communion Service ..... 2nd Sunday 9:00am
Bible Study Wednesday ..... 7:00pm
Sister/Brotherhood Meeting ..... 6:00pm

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Dr. Donald R. Ruth, Pastor
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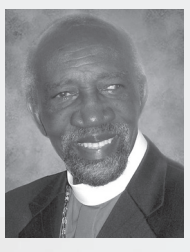
Web Address: saintjohnbc.org

Dr. Donald Ruth, Pastor
Worship Times:
CrossWalk Classes: Sundays 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM
Sunday Worship Experience: 11:00 AM
Uplift Training: Thursdays 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM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SUNDAY SCHOOL Every Sunday at 9:30 A.M.
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Toll Free: 888-700-6174
Websites: www.newhopebr.com
Rev. Leo Cyrus Sr., Pastor
CHURCH SCHEDULE
Sunday Morning Worship ..... 10:45 AM
Lord's Supper ..... 3rd Sundays
Sunday School ..... 9:30 AM
Prayer Service ..... Wed. @ 6:00 PM
Bible Study ..... Wed- @ 7:00 PM
Mission Statement: New Hope Baptist Church is a family of baptized believers who worship the Lord our God in spirit and in truth, teach the saved to reach the lost and minister to the needs of others, while encouraging one another through acts of love and living in obedience to Gods Word

# BUSINESS

## Southern University Becomes First Black University to Launch THC Line of Medical Cannabis Products

BATON ROUGE, La. — The Southern University Agricultural Research and Extension Center, part of the Southern University System, together with Ilera Holistic Healthcare (Ilera Holistic), today became the nation's first historically Black university (HBCU) to launch its own THC medical cannabis products. The university and Ilera share one of two cannabis licenses in the state of Louisiana. The launch of this historic brand, called AYO, comes on the heels of Louisiana's unprecedented extension in June of its own medical marijuana program.

"This is yet another great and historic day for the Southern University Agricultural Research and Extension Center," said Orlando McMeans, chancellor of the Ag Center. "The goal of this program is to provide quality medicine for the citizens of the state of Louisiana through education, research and outreach, all of which are included in the mission of the Ag Center. The release of AYO, along with our CBD products, will enable us to help patients better manage their medical issues and improve their quality of life."

The AYO line joins the ALAFIA product brand, a hemp-derived tincture developed by Southern and Ilera. ALAFIA launched on January 25 in the Louisiana market, making Southern University the first HBCU producer in both cannabis and hemp. ALAFIA will be available online nationwide later this summer.

*Dr. Janana Snowden, Director of Southern Institute for Medicinal Plants (Southern University Ag Center). Photo by D'Andre Lee, SU Ag Center.*

"With the launch of both CBD and THC medical marijuana products, Southern continues to set precedents in innovation," said Ray L. Belton, president of the Southern University System. "In addition to providing healthcare options for Louisiana residents, our valued partner, Ilera, is able to hire local talent. All of this impacts our state's economy directly while expanding the Southern University brand."

Southern's medical marijuana program is part of the Ag Center's Southern Institute for Medicinal Plants, helmed by Janana Snowden, the institute's director and an assistant professor of agriculture at Southern University Baton Rouge. The institute and Ag Center have long researched plants such as hibiscus in addition to cannabis.

"The very important research we conduct on medicinal plants helps us to address health problems that affect communities," Snowden said. "Our products derived from medicinal plants offer patients another way to alleviate symptoms. We are proud that we can be part of many potential solutions."

AYO has been launched at a time that Louisiana has expanded laws to potentially allow more patients to choose medical marijuana for treatment. On June 11, Gov. John Bel Edwards signed into law ACT No 286, allowing any state-licensed physician to recommend medical marijuana to any of their patients to find relief for any condition.

"ACT No 286 makes clear that Louisiana residents want full access to medical cannabis and the right to discuss alternative healthcare options with their doctors," said Chanda Macias, chief executive officer for Ilera Holistic Healthcare. "We are grateful to the entire state legislature in welcoming our input throughout the long history of this bill and listening to the voices of our patients, advocates, doctors and industry colleagues. We had one common goal, which was to bring greater access to medicine for all patients in our great state."

AYO is scientifically formulated, lab tested, pesticide free, and only available in the state of Louisiana. To learn more about AYO and cannabis medicine, please visit www.ileraholistichealthcare.com.

For additional photos and video, visit https://suagcenter-my.sharepoint.com/:f:/p/lakeeshia_giddens/EtmPhsTO57lIgX-B0eUrkhbUBQYniY1FojuHZf8-fORj21Q?e=rsYgy4.

## Walmart Celebrates 250,000 Veterans Hired Through Welcome Home Commitment

NEW ORLEANS – Ken Nettles from Pineville, Louisiana is one of thousands of veterans who has found a home with Walmart since the company introduced the Veterans Welcome Home Commitment (VWHC) in 2013, setting its goal of hiring 250,000 new veteran associates by 2020.

Walmart announced it achieved the hiring goal with more than 265,000 veteran associate hires, including more than 6,000 in Louisiana.

"When I retired after 20 years of military service, I was looking for a place to hang my hat. A career at Walmart felt like the obvious next step given my military background in supply and logistics," said Ken Nettles, fresh coach manager at the Walmart Supercenter in Pineville, LA. "I appreciate how Walmart and the military share similar business philosophies. Both organizations are team oriented, progress driven and strongly believe in continuing education. Most importantly, I love getting to know our customers and enjoy the people I work with every day. That's what really matters."

See **WALMART**, on page 6


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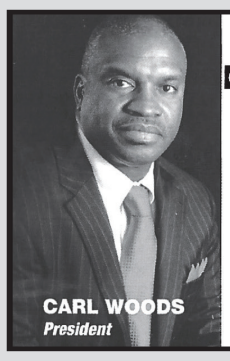
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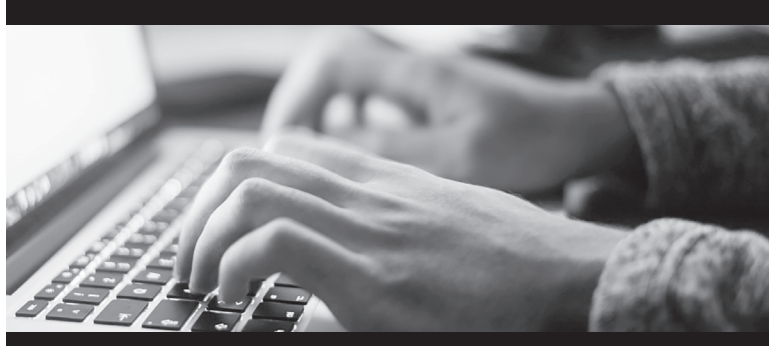

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# SPORTS

## Alcorn State's Cole Selected as FCS Preseason All-American by College Sports Journal

LORMAN, Miss. – College Sports Journal released its FCS Preseason All-America Team, which included senior Qwynnterrio Cole from the Alcorn State University football program.

Cole, a defensive back from Memphis, Tennessee, is a two-time HBCU All-America and two-time SWAC All-Conference First-Team honoree in 2018 and 2019.

Cole led the Braves in interceptions last season with five, which ranked second in the SWAC. He shined in the SWAC Championship game with 10 tackles against Southern. Cole wrapped-up 86 tackles on the season.

In 2018, Cole earned a spot on the HERO Sports Sophomore All-America Team after leading the Braves in tackles with 77. He also recorded three interceptions, 4.5 tackles for a loss, a forced fumble and a fumble recovery that season.

To view the entire College Sports Journal FCS Preseason All-America Team, visit this link: http://www.college-sports-journal.com/2020-college-sports-journal-fcs-preseason-all-america-team-announced/

## New Orleans Might not Host the 2020 Bayou Classic

*The annual Bayou Classic game might be in jeopardy of not being played in New Orleans this year or even next year in 2021. The Bayou Classic consists of Grambling and Southern Universities locking up every year. Other than the game, fans also look forward to the performances from both University bands.*

NEW ORLEANS - The Southwestern Athletics Conference Council of Presidents and Chancellors will have a meeting in late June about 2020 Fall sports.

In the scheduled meeting officials will talk about which will host the 2020 and 2021 Bayou Classics.

Southern University Athletic Director, Roman Banks, gave a conflicting statement Saturday morning saying that the 2020 Bayou Classic will not be played in New Orleans this year, and possibly will not be played in 2021.

Banks did not give specifics as to why the city might not host the annual game but COVID-19 has forced many conventions, events, and sports slated for the fall to be cancelled.

Bayou Classic Committee and Management Company gave a statement via email regarding the statement Banks made:

There has been no decision about the Bayou Classic and any such statements about where the Bayou Classic might be played are premature. The Southwestern Athletics Conference Council of Presidents and Chancellors have a late June meeting where matters related to Fall sports will be discussed.

The Bayou Classic is an annual football game of the Southwest Athletic Conference (SWAC) between Grambling University and the Southern Jaguars. The game as it is known today was first played in Tulane Stadium in New Orleans although the series itself started in 1932.

As of now, no announcement has been made as to where the game will be played but Banks mentioned Tiger Stadium and Independence Stadium as possibilities.

## WALMART from page 5

"We're proud of our ability to present opportunities to the talented service members who've honorably served our country," said Brynt Parmeter, senior director for Walmart Military Programs. "This is such an important time for us. Our company is committed to building relationships across this community to advance and improve both economic opportunity and overall well-being. As we look ahead, we will find new ways to help veterans and military spouses find meaningful futures through employment, entrepreneurship, learning, and health and wellness initiatives."

First announced on Memorial Day 2013, the VWHC's initial goal was hiring 100,000 veterans by the end of 2018. Two years later, the company expanded that goal to 250,000 by the end of 2020.

On Veterans Day 2018, recognizing the need to broaden employment opportunities for military families, Walmart introduced the Military Spouses Career Connection. To date, the company has hired more than 31,000 associates and continues offering any military spouse hiring preference when applying for a job.

Walmart and the Walmart Foundation have a long history of supporting veterans, service members and their families. Since 2011, Walmart and the Walmart Foundation have invested more than $40 million in programs that support job training, education, and innovative public/private community-based initiatives for veterans and military familiesFor more information about Walmart's commitment to veterans, service members and military families, please visit: http://www.walmart-careerswithamission.com/ or http://corporate.walmart.com/global-responsibility/veterans-military-families/ and follow Walmart on Twitter @WalmartToday and @WalmartOrg.

## INTERCESSION from page 4

is Lord."

Still on track to record the highly anticipated LIVE recording, Royalty: Live at the Ryman this August, Tasha Cobbs Leonard continues to be moved by her passion to connect people to God, offering Intercession as a timely antidote for a troubled world.

Currently the top-selling female artist in gospel music, Tasha Cobbs Leonard first entered the global music scene with the 2013 release of her RIAA® Platinum debut single, "Break Every Chain." Since then, Cobbs Leonard has amassed multiple #1 singles, four GRAMMY® nominations, numerous Stellar Awards and Dove Awards, and two RIAA® Gold albums. Tasha Cobbs Leonard has earned the Billboard Music Award for Top Gospel Artist for the past two consecutive years. Royalty: Live at The Ryman will be Tasha Cobbs Leonard's first full album of new material since the 2017 release of Heart. Passion. Pursuit., which remains one of the highest-selling gospel albums of the past five years.

**About Motown Gospel**

Motown Gospel is one of the most prominent gospel music companies in the world, boasting over two decades of chart-topping and award-winning artists, albums and songs. A division of Capitol CMG (Capitol Records/Universal Music Group), the world's leading Christian music company and market leader in recorded music, distribution, and music publishing, Motown Gospel's artist roster has included Tasha Cobbs Leonard, Smokie Norful, Tye Tribbett, Brian Courtney Wilson, Ricky D illard, Kierra Sheard, The Clark Sisters and more.