

# The Livingston Parish News

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## A 'BEAUTIFUL' PARTNERSHIP

**SHERIFF'S OFFICE PARTNERS WITH 'KEEP LIVINGSTON BEAUTIFUL' AND PARISH - PICKS UP RECORD AMOUNT OF TRASH IN JANUARY**

**BY MELANIE DAVID**  
The Livingston Parish News

Parish President Randy Delatte made quite a few promises during his campaign, and targetted many of those obligations when entering office.

One of his first business items last February was appointing Lynda Gardiner as the head of the parish's Litter Abatement Department. Gardiner, a volunteer through the non-profit 'Keep Livingston Beautiful' for almost 20 years, was 'perfect for the job,' Delatte said at the time. Gardiner also served as the non-profit's board chair for almost 7 years.

"I feel like I just got my dream job," Gardiner said in February 2024 as she settled into her new office at

the parish government complex in Livingston. "I'm actually getting paid to do something I've been doing for many years for free."

Gardiner hit the ground running, so-to-speak, and immediately announced a specialty pick-up day for Earth Week in April 2024, which pulled well over 100 residents from different council districts across the parish out on a Saturday for a 'parish-wide cleanup day.' In 2024 Gardiner, through Keep Livingston Beautiful and the Litter Abatement Department, also participated in a cleanup day in Eastover Subdivision, a parishwide waste collection day at the parish's Department of Public Works facility, and a waste tire collection event in October which drew over 60

residents.

There will be another waste tire event on March 29 of 2025. Only car and light truck tires will be accepted, and no rims. Drop-offs will require a valid ID and volunteers will accept no drop-offs from businesses.

But, one of Gardiner's initial promises in an interview with Billy Gibson of the News was to form partnerships with other local agencies. One of those agencies was the Livingston Parish Sheriff's Office, who already had some deputies volunteering twice a week to pick up litter. So, Gardiner approached the sheriff's office about upping their participation level, and the sheriff responded in-kind - by

**LITTER**  
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## ANNUAL STATEWIDE AUDIT REVEALS BILLIONS IN QUESTIONED COSTS AND MISMANAGEMENT

**BY NOLAN MCKENDRY**  
The Center Square

The Louisiana Legislative Auditor's latest annual report details over \$3 billion in missing, misappropriated, overstated or understated funds across 18 state agencies and political subdivisions.

The Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness had one of the most significant financial accountability failures. The agency failed to properly document expenses, exceeded cost estimates, and violated procurement guidelines in reimbursement requests, totaling \$177.8 million in unsupported costs and another \$52.6 million in improper contract spending.

Similarly, the Louisiana Department of Health mis-

reported federal Medicaid expenditures, leading to \$18.3 million in questioned costs. This includes duplicate reporting of a \$16.6 million Medicaid expense. Further, LDH spent \$720.5 million on Medicaid Managed Care Organizations for beneficiaries who did not receive services, raising major accountability questions.

The Louisiana Workforce Commission failed to adequately oversee \$47.1 million in subrecipient funds for job training programs, and its failure to comply with federal reporting rules affected \$38.7 million in workforce program funding.

The Louisiana Department of Education overreported \$2.3 billion in federal child nutrition grants and misclassified the dates of nearly \$1 million

in education stabilization funds. The agency also failed to properly document LaCarte and travel card purchases.

"No funding was impacted by either finding from last year's audit by the LLA. The over-reporting was primarily due to a programming error discovered by the LDOE that had gone unnoticed since 2011," LDOE said in a statement. "The LDOE has fully implemented and followed LaCarte Card requirements and policy. At the time, there was there is no requirement in Louisiana or LDOE policy relevant to the finding regarding the LaCarte card."

At the local level, the Grant Parish School Board may have been overbilled by contractors for mold remediation, resulting in \$4.6 million in potential

improper payments. In the city of Bogalusa, officials improperly used \$468,125 in federal COVID-19 relief funds for employee bonuses, violating federal spending guidelines.

Despite years of audits, some agencies continue to repeat financial missteps. The homeland security office alone has amassed \$2.4 billion in flagged expenditures over the years, with \$256.7 million newly identified in this report. The health department has failed to correct Medicaid eligibility determination errors for four consecutive years, contributing to millions in improper payments.

Many of these issues persist year after year and underscore a need for stronger accountability measures to ensure taxpayer dollars are used appropriately.



Louisiana Tax Institute meeting with Senate Feb. 18, 2025.

LOUISIANA TAX INSTITUTE • LA SENATE

## LOUISIANA TAX INSTITUTE ADDRESSES POSITIVE FEEDBACK TO RECENT TAX CHANGES

**BY EMILEE CALAMETTI**  
The Livingston Parish News

The Louisiana Tax Institute reviewed previous tax reform legislation set in place during a third special session last year in November.

The third extraordinary special session last year approved nearly 15 bills, some effective throughout December

and January. One takes effect in 2026.

Bills approved included House Bill 2 which provided a flat rate for purposes of calculating corporate income tax.

HB 2 also terminated specific corporate tax income exemptions, deductions, and credits.

HB 5 required schools to provide salary increases for teachers and em-

ployees from specific savings.

HB 10, which took effect in December, concerned the state sales and use tax rate, including exemptions, exclusions, and credits claimed against these taxes. HB 10 also modified specific income tax deductions and credits while providing a flat rate of

**TAX**  
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# WHAT IS OLD, IS NEW

## LIVINGSTON PARISH LIBRARY BOARD HOLDS SPECIAL MEETING TO ELECT NEW PRESIDENT, DISCUSS BOOK RELOCATION, AND ESTABLISH 2025 BUDGET

**BY MELANIE DAVID**  
The Livingston Parish News

The Livingston Parish Library Board of Control convened for a special meeting on Tuesday evening, February 18 at the Denham Springs-Walker Branch to address critical matters affecting library operations and policies.

The Board's first major agenda item focused on the election of officers for 2025, with members discussing the position of Board President, after newly elected board president Tori Hymel resigned. Jennifer Dorhauer was elected president in a 5-4 vote.

In the realm of new business, a series of important discussions took place. One of the central topics was the adoption of a Sexually Explicit Material Checklist rubric. The checklist would be used by the Board whenever reviewing and making decisions about material reconsiderations and appeals based on recent changes to state law. This proposal was presented by Board Member Jennifer Dorhauer, aiming to provide a standardized approach to handling such materials. The motion to adopt the rubric was approved unanimously.

The Board also deliberated on several materials that had been challenged by the public. Board Member Trey Cowell presented a resolution to determine whether the book "Traffic" by Ellen Hopkins met the criteria outlined in state law regarding potentially explicit content. Similar discussions followed on the books "People Kill People" by Ellen Hopkins and "Looking for Alaska" by John Green, both of which had been subject to requests for reconsideration. The Board was tasked with deciding whether these materials should remain in the library's collection or be moved to another section. The board unanimously voted to move the books to the adult section.

Additionally, Vice President Becky Morgan provided an update on the temporary relocation of the Young Adult materials to the Adult section of the library. The assessment and progress of this shift were discussed to determine its effectiveness in meeting the needs of the library community. Julia Falcon, assistant director of support services gave an update on the project and reported that the temporary relocation of the YA section was ahead of schedule and the books were beginning to be reviewed and placed in the appropriate section according to the new guidelines. While the process is ahead of schedule, the total number of volumes to be reviewed is roughly 30,000.

The final major item on the agenda was a resolution to amend the library's 2025 budget, returning it to the original figures presented in November 2024. Jennifer Dorhauer presented this motion, addressing necessary adjustments to ensure fiscal alignment for the upcoming year.

Public comment in favor asserted that the majority of the community wanted the original budget adopted as evidenced by the passage of the tax proposal to continue to fund the library and the public outcry when the budget was cut in a charge by former board members who were recently ousted by the parish council.

Public comment opposed to restoring the budget centered around opinions on the scope of services the library should provide.

Board member Trey Cowell tried to push through a last minute amendment to cut the budget again, but the amendment failed.

The original budget proposed on November 19, 2024 by the administrative librarian ultimately passed with a 6-3 vote and the meeting was adjourned.



# LOUISIANA ECONOMIC AUTHORITY DETAILS 'WHOLE OF GOVERNMENT' APPROACH

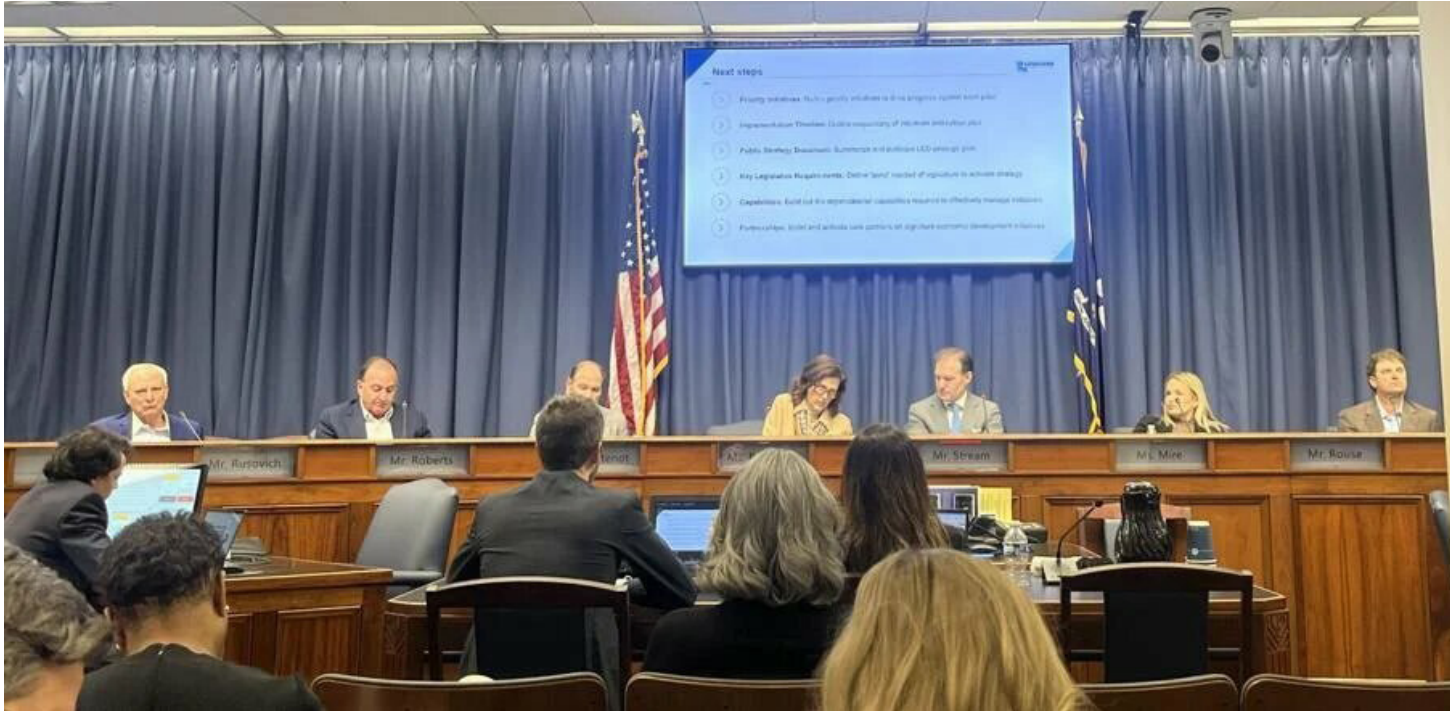
BY NOLAN MCKENDRY  
The Center Square

The Louisiana Economic Development Partnership convened to discuss a strategic roadmap aimed at strengthening the state's economy, with a focus on innovation, site development, and tax structure reform.

Chief Economic Competitiveness Officer Iliana Ledet outlined three key areas for economic incentives reform: Restructuring the tax system, investing in site development, and creating high-quality jobs. Neighboring states have significantly outpaced Louisiana in site investment, with Kentucky and Georgia investing hundreds of millions, Lidet said. Louisiana, however, has not invested in site development for several years.

"You can have a site that still has tons of trees on it, needs wetlands permitting, and natural gas line extensions to be truly development-ready," Ledet said. "We're going to push for legislative action on site development in the upcoming session."

Ben Safran, a consultant from McKinsey & Company, highlighted seven priority sectors in Louisiana's economic strategy: Energy and process industries, logistics, aerospace and defense, agribusiness, professional services, technology, and life sciences.



Louisiana Economic Development Partnership met on Feb. 18, 2025

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Among these, professional, scientific, and technical services have the highest potential for job growth, with projections estimating between 11,000 and 26,000 new positions, according to Safran.

Louisiana's workforce, however, faces challenges.

"We're losing our most educated talent," Safran said, adding that 40% of those with bachelor's degrees leave the state, and only 25% of the population holds a bachelor's degree or higher. "This in-demand talent feels like it can't find or get opportunities in our state, but our businesses are saying, I can't get the talent I need."

The board also discussed the potential for Louisiana to expand its global reach. Japan and Northern Europe are currently the strongest international markets for Louisiana products, and officials are exploring ways to attract foreign businesses to establish a North American presence in the state.

"How do we get it moving both directions?" Safran asked. "How do we go to some of those companies and say, 'Come create a first North America presence in Louisiana because of the relationship, bring more of your supply chain here.'"

The discussion also touched on the need for a coordinated approach in determining which industries should receive state support.

General Dynamics Information Technology's Jay Johnson asked whether Louisiana should prioritize certain industries regionally or take a statewide approach.

"Bringing that state-coordinated strategy will be important," Safran said. "I think there are other areas that might be talked about as target industries today that you have to have a hard look about whether those are prudent places to put the energy, the

resources investment."

The board also discussed the need to strengthen Louisiana's manufacturing workforce.

LED Secretary Susan Bourgeois stressed that innovation should be integrated into all sectors rather than treated as a separate industry. "Innovation has to be the common thread running through all these identified sectors," she said.

According to LED's draft presentation, the agency's mission is to "cultivate jobs and economic opportunity for the people of Louisiana," with a vision to "build the most robust, innovative, and growing

economy in the Southeast that elevates all of Louisiana."

The plan is driven by two statewide priorities: the Governor's Whole-of-Government Economic Strike Force and the Louisiana Opportunity Campaign.

Under these priorities, LED identified five pillars for economic growth: Making Louisiana an easier place to do business, ensuring higher wages, fostering regional development through site investment, supporting small-to-medium businesses and optimizing key industries through research and risk capital.

## GARDINER SAYS SHE IS WORKING WITH SCHOOLS TO TEACH *LITTER* ABATEMENT TO FOURTH GRADERS

FROM 1

moving two deputies to full-time litter abatement.

The deputies will be assigned four inmates who volunteer to work the detail, according to the sheriff's office, and work from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday.

A sheriff's department report from early February shows that the new initiative from their office is paying immediate dividends. According to the report, sheriff's crews covered 122.4 miles of roadway in January and pulled together 4,224 bags of trash. Other miscellaneous items were, according to the report:

- 68 tires
- 18 mattresses
- 6 box springs
- 9 couches
- 1 recliner
- 10 TVs
- 4 car bumpers
- 4 pools

abatement office, the sheriff's efforts in one month almost equalled the entire effort of Keep Livingston Beautiful, the Sheriff's Office, and abatement office in 2024.

When explaining why he targeted litter as a high-level priority for the parish, Delatte said that not only is littering against the law, but it diverts parish resources that could be put to better use and is a deterrent to economic development for those looking to open, relocate, or expand businesses in the parish.

Gardiner said she intends to maintain her involvement in Keep Livingston Beautiful, which is one of 43 local affiliates of Keep Louisiana Beautiful. Local affiliates work in conjunction with related agencies to host special events, launch initiatives, and organize cleanups with local volunteers and community partners.

Gardiner also announced that she has worked with Livingston Parish Public

Schools to start making presentations in fourth-grade classrooms throughout the parish beginning in January. Earlier this year, Gardiner partnered with the parish library system to supply litter collection equipment that can be checked out and returned through the Get Down and Clean Up program.

"I'm excited about going into the schools and teaching our children the things they need to know about how to put trash in its proper place, about having respect for our environment and respect for one another," Gardiner said. "We all deserve to live in a litter-free community and we need to honor our social contract with one another."

She said she has access to 10 lesson plans endorsed by Keep Louisiana Beautiful that include an activity workbook, ideas on how to develop good habits, video presentations, and strategies to keep litter contained and properly disposed.

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# GOV. JEFF LANDRY UNVEILS 2026 BUDGET, CONTINUING PUSH FOR FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY

BY NOLAN MCKENDRY  
The Center Square

Gov. Jeff Landry presented his administration's budget proposal for the 2025-2026 fiscal year, emphasizing fiscal restraint and continued reductions in government spending.

The proposal follows a year of significant tax cuts and economic development initiatives.

The proposed fiscal 2026 budget totals \$44.96 billion, a decrease from the \$45.4 billion in the current fiscal year. State general fund revenue is projected at \$12.15 billion, a slight increase from the current \$12.08 billion, while federal funding is expected to rise from \$22.13 billion to \$22.76 billion.

Landry highlighted his administration's efforts to reduce spending.

"We have begun to rein in runaway government spending — spending \$2 billion less than the previous year," Landry told lawmakers.

His proposed budget aims for flat funding while making targeted investments in infrastructure and potential further tax reductions.

Expenditures at the time of last year's revenue estimating conference summed \$47.6 billion, now \$45.3 billion. Key budget allocations for the fiscal 2025-26 proposal include a slight reduction in education funding from \$5.5 billion to \$5.477 billion, a decrease in public safety funding from \$1.457 billion to \$1.363 billion and a cut in general government funding from \$1.111 billion to \$823 million.

Landry pointed to savings



Legislators convene for the Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget on Feb. 2, 2025.

across several agencies, including \$11 million in savings from the Louisiana Department of Health, over \$1 million saved in the Department of Energy and Natural Resources and \$2.3 million in cuts from the Division of Administration.

The governor also announced the creation of a fiscal responsibility program, led by a newly appointed budget czar, to identify further cost reductions.

"I conducted a similar review as Attorney General and achieved significant savings. I expect we will again achieve great results," Landry said.

If Landry was hoping to

get closer to President Donald Trump by emulating his policies, it appears to have worked.

Landry was announced as part of President Trump's Council of Governors on Wednesday.

A major factor in the state's fiscal future is Amendment 2, set for a statewide vote on March 29. The constitutional amendment would lower the maximum income tax rate, increase deductions for citizens over 65, impose a government growth limit, modify constitutional funds, and provide a permanent teacher salary increase through surplus payments to teacher retirement debt.

"If Amendment 2 passes, the budget picture will change again," said Patrick Goldsmith, the deputy commissioner of the Louisiana Division of Administration, noting that the state could see further adjustments in revenue allocations and expenditures.

Despite efforts to cut spending, unforeseen costs impacted the budget, including emergency spending by the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness following a New Orleans dog attack on January 1st.

Additionally, Louisiana's economy is experiencing slower

growth, with GDP projected to increase by only 2% in 2025 and 1.3% in 2026.

Long-term financial forecasts indicate potential budget shortfalls in fiscal years 2028 and 2029, though these projections do not account for the impact of Amendment 2.

Landry remains optimistic about Louisiana's fiscal direction.

"I continue to be focused on turning our state around — working with my team, the Legislature, and our people to make Louisiana a great state with a growing economy and strong revenue," Landry said.

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## STATE SALES TAX INCREASES FROM 4.45 TO 5%

FROM 1

income tax for individuals, estates, and trusts.

Overall feedback has been positive since the bills have been enacted, according to the Louisiana Tax Institute in Tuesday's meeting. The income tax reduction is very popular, and it recognized something different needed to be done.

While most changes went into effect at the beginning of this year, HB 7 goes to voters on March 29.

HB 7 revises the state constitution to lower the maximum income tax rate and double the standard deduction for citizens over 65.

A teacher salary increase is now mandated in constitutional language by HB

5. HB 5 provided a \$2,000 salary increase to teachers. The increase came from the state's payment of unfunded accrued liabilities of the Teachers' Retirement System of Louisiana. Teachers received \$2,000, and other school employees received \$1,000.

Taxpayers saw the effects of the individual tax income changes from Act 10, HB 10 as of Jan. 1.

HB 10 enacted a flat 3% individual income tax rate. Retirement income exemption doubled from \$6,000 to \$12,000. The Tax Institute noted this makes the state more competitive for retirees.

The individual standard deduction nearly tripled from \$4,500 to \$12,500 for single and married filing

separate filers. Married joint filers, head of household, and surviving spouses' standard deduction increased from \$9,000 to \$25,000.

While taxpayers saw a positive change to their individual tax rate, HB 10, Act 11 did increase the state sales tax from 4.45% to 5%. This increase went into effect on Jan. 1. Beginning in 2030, however, it will reduce to 4.75%.

The state sales tax base rate of 5% combines with the city or parish local sales tax, making total sales tax nearly 10% for most Louisiana residents. According to a tax report, this puts Bossier Parish at 10% combined sales tax, Caddo Parish at 9.6%, East Baton Rouge Parish at 10.5%, and

West Baton Rouge Parish at 10.25%. Some parishes, like Calcasieu Parish, now pay 10.75% in combined sales tax.

With an overall positive change from the enacted bills, the Senate is still looking to have one more meeting before the legislative session to address bill

language and other items.

**Emilee Ruth Calametti serves as staff reporter for The Center Square covering the Northwestern Louisiana region. She holds her M.A. in English from Georgia State University and soon, an additional M.A.**

**in Journalism from New York University. Emilee has bylines in DIG Magazine, Houstonia Magazine, Bookstr, inRegister, The Click News, and the Virginia Woolf Miscellany. She is a Louisiana native with over seven years of journalism experience.**

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The Livingston Parish News



OPINION | 'BOON FOR THE ECONOMY AND HOSPITALITY INDUSTRY

In a world where video calls replaced handshakes, the return to in-person work isn't just a shift in office dynamics – it's a powerful catalyst for economic recovery.

On his first day in office, President Donald Trump signed an executive order directing all executive branch departments and agencies to end remote work arrangements and require employees to return to full-time, in-office work. This shift, mirrored by many private companies, will have far-reaching effects – not just on workplace productivity but also on industries like travel, tourism, and hospitality.

**Business travel's rebound**

Business travel has transformed in the post-pandemic era.

In April 2023, Morning Consult reported that business travel would never fully rebound to pre-pandemic levels, citing an 18% decline in the share of U.S. adults traveling for work. Yet, a new Deloitte study now finds that 75% of corporate travel managers expect their companies to increase business travel spending compared to the prior year.

Companies are prioritizing fewer but longer, more purposeful trips – leading to a growing trend of business travelers extending their stays for leisure.

**Economic impact of business travel**

Business travel has long been instrumental in revitalizing major U.S. cities like New York and Chicago.

In 2024 alone, New York City's business travel sector contributed \$79 billion to the tourism industry, supported over 388,000 leisure and hospitality jobs, and generated more than \$6.8 billion in tax revenue.

This influx of business travel has driven up hotel occupancy rates, increased restaurant patronage, and created jobs, reinforcing economic stability. The hospitality sector, in particular, plays a vital role in broader economic recovery.

**Ripple effect of federal return-to-office mandate**

The mandated federal return to office will create



a positive chain reaction across multiple industries:

- Increased foot traffic around federal buildings will benefit local businesses, from restaurants and coffee shops to dry cleaners and gyms.
- Public transit systems – critical to cities like Washington, D.C., and New York – will see a revenue boost, strengthening municipal budgets.
- Demand for in-person corporate events, trade shows, and client meetings will drive business for hotels, event spaces, and transportation services.
- Hotels, already experiencing an uptick in occupancy, will see sustained demand for accommodations, conference rooms, and hospitality services.
- Small businesses in retail, dining, and entertainment will thrive as business travel and in-office work drive increased spending.

**Personal perspective**

“Having witnessed the hospitality industry’s resilience – from the 1980s hotel bust to the COVID-19 pandemic – I was confident that work and leisure travel would eventually rebound. Now, policies promoting in-person work are proving crucial to revitalizing the industries that serve as the backbone of our economy. With travel costs easing, inflation stabilizing, and a nationwide return-to-office push, companies are increasingly sending employees to meet clients and colleagues face-to-face.”

Now is the time to embrace the opportunities that come with bringing workers back into the office – reinvigorating hotels, restaurants, and local economies in the process.

**Monty Bennett is the chairman and chief executive officer of Ashford Group of Companies (NYSE American: AINC), a leading real estate firm specializing in hospitality. With over 30 years of**

**experience in hotel real estate, finance, and operations, he is a recognized industry expert. Under his leadership, Ashford manages a portfolio of more than 100 hotels and advises two NYSE-listed real estate investment trusts (REITs). Monty frequently shares insights on real estate and hospitality trends, shaping the future of the industry. Follow him on X/Twitter @MontyBennett.**

OPINION | NEXT STEPS FOR EMERGENCY POWERS REFORM

Though time is said to heal all wounds, the scars from the COVID-19 pandemic lockdowns remain fresh as the nation experienced executive overreach at the federal and state levels. It is important going forward for a proper check and balance to exist. The legislative branch must remain firmly in control of policy, even during times of an emergency.

There’s no question that in a real emergency, governors need broad powers to act fast. Legislative bodies take time to assemble, so they can temporarily transfer their powers to the executive in an emergency. But when problems do last for extended periods, it is the responsibility of legislators to debate the risks, benefits, and trade-offs of various long-term approaches.

Lawmakers may end up passing the very policies a governor would prefer, but they do it after deliberation as representatives of the people and do it in a public process. It’s the legislature, not the executive branch, that should make the laws we live under, and the executive – no matter the state or the person – is supposed to implement only laws passed by the legislature.

Gubernatorial emergency powers allow a rapid government response to emergencies, disasters, or threats. In the event of an emergency, there may be a need to enhance coordination, deploy the National Guard, reallocate state and federal funds, and even modify or suspend state statutes, regulations, and legal concerns. When actu-



al disaster and emergency strikes the government’s ability to deploy resources quickly, efficiently, and unhindered is imperative to the successful management of the disaster.

Every state grants the executive branch, in the form of the governor, the authority to declare an emergency, be it a natural disaster or public health emergency. State statutes vary addressing the type of declaration, limits on the order, and legislative involvement. It is in these nuances that states vary significantly in the discretion granted to the governor and in many cases circumnavigate the lawmaking responsibility of the legislature.

There should be an ability for the executive to have a rapid response to actual emergencies. This awesome power, however, should be subject to meaningful legislative oversight. A comparison of our region shows that the states of Washington, Oregon, and Wyoming are very liberal in the use of emergency declarations. Limited use of emergency powers protects the impact of the clause and the ability of governors to make a difference in an emergency, instead of issuing statements that are routine acknowledgments without the meaningful tools and initiative to change the outcome of a disaster.

After multiple years of enduring an executive with little checks on emergency power, Washington state finally seems interested in adopting reforms. Washington is one of only four states that bestows unilateral authority to the governor in the declaration and maintenance of emergencies. Newly elected Gov. Bob Ferguson indicated his interest in some reforms by saying: “Senator Braun – I hope to work with you to adopt reasonable limits on the governor’s emergency powers. We can do that together.”

Some states in our region have put needed restraints on the executive branch to respect the balance of power shared with the legislature and judicial branches. However, for all of the states, there are varying degrees of improvement needed. Here are some of the best practices that should be required for the use of emergency orders:

- Expire in a limited amount of time, unless ratified by the legislature; Be narrowly tailored for compelling health and safety reasons, and be limited in duration, applicability, and scope; Be subject to expedited judicial review, particularly when constitutional rights are at stake; Signed by the governor for statewide orders that infringe constitutional rights; Sunset quickly if the legislature is not in session or called into session, followed by a limited period for the legislature to ratify the order; Cannot be reissued by governors if the orders have expired or the legislature rejected.

Lawmakers across the country should assess their state’s emergency power clauses and adopt the needed changes to maintain the separation of power. An excellent exercise for lawmakers is to consider the future level of comfort

that would be felt if an individual of complete political polarity from them held the executive branch. Would the separation of powers still be respected and maintained?

Executive and legislative officials need to make changes regarding who declares an emergency, the branch responsible for terminating the emergency, how long it can last, and the authority granted to the governor. Future emergencies will happen and it is imperative the ability to respond to disasters can go unhindered by red tape and roll out with expedited cooperation. However, no imagined future emergency should be used as an excuse to allow the continuance of statutes with the potential of long-term damage to the separation of powers.

Policy-making should never be done by one person behind closed doors, even during an emergency. The number of days an emergency declaration remains in effect is less important than the requirement that the policies imposed be subject to legislative review and consent. Lawmakers must ensure that emergency powers statutes have this proper balance of power before the next emergency is declared.

**Madi Clark is a Senior Policy Analyst for the Mountain States Policy Center, an independent research organization based in Idaho, Montana, Eastern Washington and Wyoming. Online at [mountainstatespolicy.org](https://mountainstatespolicy.org).**



# PAIR OF LOCALS WIN STATE TITLES

**By CHRIS KINKAID**  
The Livingston Parish News

**Springfield's** Konner Burch won his second-straight state title and Albany's Savannah Camarata captured her first career state championship that was held Feb. 14-15 at Brookshire Grocery Arena in Bossier City.

Burch won the 175-pound weight class in Division III after going 3-0 with two pins and an 18-1 technical fall 1:50 into the championship match.

Burch, who is a senior, also won his title in the 175s last season.

"I felt like it was more pressure because I was a one seed," Burch said. "You're supposed to win and it just adds pressure. Last year, I a five-seed, so it wasn't expected. After I won, I was just ecstatic. Everybody was screaming. For it being my last match of my career, everybody was excited. It was crazy."

Burch said he knew he was going to win.

"I knew if I trusted my wrestling ability, nobody could touch me. I beat the kid, 18-1 in 1:50 (in the title match)," Burch said.

Burch gave a shoutout to the East Ascension coaches, led by

**Right, pictured is two-time state champion Springfield's Konner Burch.**

head coach Pat Mahoney and assistants Conor Karwath and Alex Turley.

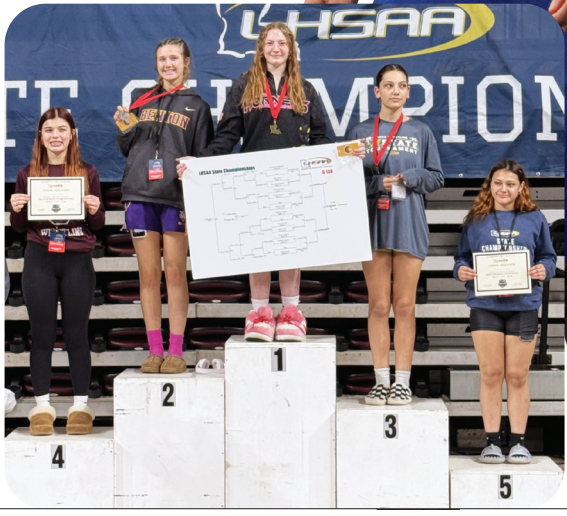
"I wouldn't still be wrestling without them," Burch said. "The room is great and the coaches are great. I couldn't thank them enough for it."

**CHAMPIONS**  
PAGE 7

PHOTO BY PRESTON SHAFFETT

**Right, Albany's Savannah Camarata is pictured on the podium after winning the wrestling state title.**

PHOTO BY KENDALL SHANK



## BASKETBALL | DENHAM SPRINGS STARTS FAST IN PLAYOFF WIN OVER PRAIRIEVILLE

**By CHRIS KINKAID**  
The Livingston Parish News

**DENHAM SPRINGS** scored the first 11 points over 3:20 in a 71-39 victory over Prairieville in their Division I bi-district round game at home on Feb. 20.

The Lady Jackets won the tip and Taylor Smith tallied the game's opening points with a jumper. Zariah Semere tallied the next seven with three field goals, one that was a three-point play to make it 9-0 with 5:39 on the clock. Kennedy Lindsey added two free throws and it was 11-0.

"We wanted to come out and establish the inside game because the last time we played them last week (Feb. 14, which Denham Springs won, 68-52), our first 10 shots were 3-pointers or outside the paint, so we wanted to establish something inside and I thought Zariah, the freshman, really stepped in and gave us a lot of energy down there," Denham Springs coach Rudy Smith said. "She doesn't always make her layups, but she plays with so much energy and the other girls seem to feed off of it."

Semere, who scored 13 points, said estab-

CHRIS KINKAID | THE NEWS

**Denham Springs' Prai Nelson goes for a shot in last Thursday's playoff game.**

lishing the inside game was really important.

"We've been working on it for a couple of days now," Semere said. "Before the game started, coach (Mike) Picou gave me a little talk. He was like, 'this is not junior high ball. This is high school.' I've gotta play to my best abilities and I come out here, I dominated and I helped my team win tonight."

Prairieville trimmed the lead to 11-3, which was the closest they were after the start. Denham Springs answered with a



**DENHAM SPRINGS**  
PAGE 7

## BASKETBALL | ALBANY CAPTURES OPENING ROUND PLAYOFF VICTORY OVER LUTCHER

**By CHRIS KINKAID**  
The Livingston Parish News

**ALBANY** was victorious over Lutchter, 59-25, in the bi-district round of the Division II non-select playoffs on Feb. 20 at home.

"The girls played hard," Albany coach Rebecca Buisson said. "We came out with nerves but that's to be expected because we are young. But, they finally settled in and started playing like we know how."

Kaitlyn Duhe and Morgan Crain both led the Lady Hornets with 10 points.

Rene Harris and Ellie Johnson both recorded eight.

Camryn Nelson tallied six.

Lynden Booth had five that included a 3-pointer.

Julia Fuller and Maggie Richardson both posted four.

Emma Willie and Alexis Snee both added two.

Albany led 9-4 after the first quarter and 27-7 at halftime before going into the fourth quarter up 50-8.

Seventh-seeded Albany hosted No. 10 Lakeshore after press time.

PHOTO BY RENEE GLASCOCK

**An Albany player attempts to get possession in their opening round playoff game.**



## SPRINGFIELD DEFEATS VIDALIA IN PLAYOFF OPENER

**By CHRIS KINKAID**  
The Livingston Parish News

**SPRINGFIELD'S** Cameron Culbertson scored 20 points, helping the Lady Bulldogs defeat Vidalia, 66-48, in the bi-district round of the Division III postseason at home on Feb. 20.

Culbertson made a 3-pointer.

"We played well and jumped on them early 10-0 which you want to do in a playoff game," Springfield coach Billy Dreher said. "We felt like our press would bother them and it did. Proud of this team to move on to second round. We have grown as a team a lot over the past year and come a long way."

Alyssa Grey posted 14 that included two 3-pointers.

Nickaiya Martin tallied 10 that included a three.

Kali O'Rourke put up nine.

Raylan Smith recorded eight.

Kaydence Threeton had four.

Miya Fletcher added two.

Springfield led 21-7, 40-19 and 58-30 through three.

No. 11 Springfield faced sixth-seeded Westlake in the regional round after press time.



CHRIS KINKAID | THE NEWS

**Springfield coach Billy Dreher talks to his team during a timeout at a game this season.**

## ALBANY CAPTURES DISTRICT 8-3A TITLE

**By CHRIS KINKAID**  
The Livingston Parish News

**ALBANY** won the District 8-3A title with a 60-56 overtime victory over Pine at home on Feb. 16.

"I think it's a great accomplishment in back-to-back years to win it and at home against a good team in Pine," Albany coach Chris Beckman said. "It shows how far the program has come and that's a credit to the kids."

The game went to overtime tied at 52, but the Hornets outscored Pine, 8-4, in the extra period for the win.

Tavorian Hart led the Hornets with 18 points.

Waylon Ponder posted 16.

Colton Courtney tallied 11.

Jamarquis Jackson had nine.

Luke Tynes added six.



PHOTO BY RENEE GLASCOCK

**Albany's Jamarquis Jackson attempts a shot earlier this season.**

## ALBANY'S HART SCORES 1,000TH-CAREER POINT

**By CHRIS KINKAID**  
The Livingston Parish News

**ALBANY'S** Tavorian Hart reached a milestone when he scored his 1,000th-career point.

"It's a milestone," Hart said. "I always wanted to do that as a kid. It's always been a dream. I want to thank my coaches and teammates for setting me up for success. I wouldn't have been able to do it without them believing in me."

Hart went into the game just one point shy of 1,000 and said he had no idea.

He said things were normal when he reached the 1,000-point plateau.

"I didn't really know, so I was just playing the game, trying to a dub," Hart said. "It was a surreal feeling when I found out."

Albany coach Chris Beckman spoke about the accomplishment.

"I think it's a great accomplished to get something like that, especially playing with guys he grew up with," Beckman said. "I think it makes it more special to get it in a win."

CHRIS KINKAID | THE NEWS

**Albany's Tavorian Hart takes a free throw this year.**





# BSAEBALL | LIVE OAK GOES 2-1 IN SULPHUR TOURNAMENT HELD FEB. 13-15

**BY CHRIS KINKAID**  
**The Livingston Parish News**

Live Oak won two of their three games in the Sulphur Tournament that was held Feb. 13-14.

The Eagles overpowered Barbe in the opener, 13-1, in the five innings on Feb. 13.

Cooper Smith had a huge day.

He hit three homers, drove in six runs and scored three runs in a 4-for-4 contest.

Dekhota Jones doubled once and singled twice with two RBIs and two runs scored.

Brock Davis hit a solo home run and scored two runs.

Brayden Allen singled with an RBI and a run scored.

Mac Beadle had a hit and two runs scored.

Landry Smart singled and drove in a run.

Jace Griffin singled and scored a run.

Cal Cassard scored a run.

Winning pitcher Sawyer Pruitt went the distance allowing one run on three hits with 10 strikeouts and a walk.

Live Oak led 2-1 after the first inning before adding four in



GLENN EYMARD | | **THE NEWS**  
**Live Oak's Cooper Smith hit three homers and drove in six in a 13-1 win over Barbe.**

the third, six more during the fourth and another in the fifth.

The Eagles played twice on Feb. 14, beginning with a 3-2

win over Monsignor Catholic out of Texas.

Jones and Allen both singled and scored a run.

Cameron Washington singled and had an RBI.

Beadle singled.

Cassard had an RBI.

Lane Billings scored a run.

Griffin was the winning pitcher, going all seven innings and allowing two runs on nine hits with a strikeout and a walk.

Live Oak trailed 2-0 after the first inning. It stayed that way until the fourth when the Eagles tallied three in the 3-2 win.

Their final game was a 2-1 loss to Sulphur.

Smart singled with an RBI.

Smith doubled.

Beadle singled.

Adam Beeson scored a run.

Sulphur scored their two runs in the first inning before Live Oak trimmed the lead to 2-1 in the fourth.

# VOLLEYBALL | LIVINGSTON PARISH HAS 4 ON THE 5-I TOP ALL-DISTRICT TEAM



CHRIS KINKAID | | **THE NEWS**  
**Denham Springs' Halle Harrell attempts a shot in a match this season.**

**BY CHRIS KINKAID**  
**The Livingston Parish News**

Four Livingston Parish volleyball players made are first-team all-district for the 5-I league.

Denham Springs left/middle Halle Harrell, Walker setter Audrey Ferrand, Walker middle Aliyah Garza and Denham Springs right Chelsea Bellony Ho-A-Sim are all on the first team.

The local all-district honorable mention players are Denham Springs' Kinslee Bozeman, Live Oak

teammates Ashlyn Simpson, Emma LaJeune and Da'Miaya Dunn and Walker teammates Lily Vetter, Reese Blue and Jaiden Jordan.

Dutchtown's Cadie Kusy is the Player of the Year and Dutchtown's Patrick Ricks is the league's Coach of the Year.

The non-local first-team players are East Ascension middle Courtney Grayson, Dutchtown's Ania Anderson, St. Amant's Alyssa Evans, East Ascension's Colynn Howard, Dutchtown's Hayden Herring, Dutchtown's Caroline Johnson, St. Amant's Ali

Picou and St. Amant's Khayren Josey.

The all-district honorable-mention players, who aren't at Livingston Parish schools, are East Ascension's Blanch LaBorde, Prairieville teammates Kate Perniciaro and Haley Sears, St. Amant teammates Gabi Saucier and Aubrey Alleman and Dutchtown teammates Kiney Phillips and Olivia Songy.

# BASEBALL | DOYLE WINS 1-OF-3 IN RIVERDALE TOURNAMENT

**BY CHRIS KINKAID**  
**The Livingston Parish News**

Doyle went 1-2 in the Riverdale that was held Feb. 20 and 22.

The first two games were on Feb. 20, which the Tigers split.

They defeated Riverdale, 6-5, after breaking a 5-5 tie with a run in the seventh.

Brennan Guidry went 3-for-4 with two runs batted in and a run scored.

Cooper Yuratich singled and doubled with a run scored.

Brody Keen and Jackson McCaskill both singled twice and scored a run.

Braden Waits singled and scored a run.

Parker Taylor singled and drove in a run

Easton Benesta singled.

Zach Ray and Caden McMorris both had an RBI.

Winning pitcher Judah Morales threw three

scoreless innings of shutout ball with three strikeouts and a walk.

Doyle was topped by South Terrebonne, 5-3.

The Tigers trailed 5-1 through four innings. They scored two runs in the fifth, but were unable to get any closer.

Waits tallied two singles and a run scored.

Benesta and Reese Jones both singled.

Brian Kersey singled.

Guidry scored a run.

Tate Albin recorded a run batted in.

Their final game was a 9-0 loss to Holy Cross on Feb. 22.

Doyle trailed 5-0 through three. Holy Cross added four more in the fifth.

Doyle posted seven hits, one each by Keen, Yuratich, Kersey, Benesta, Taylor Braxton Stewart and Parker.



# BASEBALL | WALKER WINS ALL 3 GAMES IN OUACHITA CHRISTIAN TOURNAMENT

**BY CHRIS KINKAID**  
**The Livingston Parish News**

Walker went 3-0 in the Ouachita Christian Tournament that took place Feb. 20-22.

The game on Feb. 20 was a 6-3 win over West Ouachita.

Braylen Montgomery singled twice with two runs batted in.

Jaden Ard doubled and scored a run.

Jake Rappold singled.

Carson Ray, Jordan Ard and Zachary Mayo all scored a run.

Robert Adair drove in a run.

Winning pitcher Skyler Dwyer threw a complete game, allowing three runs on seven hits with six strikeouts and no walks.

Walker trailed 2-1 after the first inning, but went in front 4-1 with three runs in the fourth and never looked back

in the 6-3 victory.

The next day was a 12-1 win over Captain Shreve in five innings.

The Wildcats scored in every inning and jumped out to a 7-0 lead through three innings.

Kent had a four-hit day with two RBIs and a run scored.

Ray went 2-for-3 with a run batted in and a run scored.

Montgomery doubled with three RBIs and two runs scored.

Karter Hebert singled, drove in a run and scored a run.

Jaden Ard singled with an RBI and a run scored.

Rappold singled.

Jordan Ard scored two runs.

Arian Oliver scored a run.

Owen Jeansonne collected the win, going all five innings and allowing one run on two hits with four strikeouts and

three walks.

Walker's final game was a 7-2 win over Airline in 13 innings.

The game went to extra innings tied at 2-2. It stayed even at 2-2 until the 13th when the Wildcats scored five runs.

Jaden Ard tallied three hits with a run batted in and a run scored.

Ray doubled and drove in three runs.

Hebert doubled and scored two runs.

Kent singled twice with a run driven in and a run scored.

Rappold singled with an RBI and a run scored.

Jeansonne doubled.

Brady Singleton singled.

Kade Thomas was the winning pitcher after throwing two one-hit scoreless innings with two strikeouts and no walks.

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# BASKETBALL | BOYS ROUNDUP LOCALS CAP OFF 2024-25 REGULAR SEASON

<div><b>BY CHRIS KINKAID</b> The Livingston Parish News</div> <div>Games held on Feb. 17</div> <div><b>Lutcher 60 French Settlement 50</b> French Settlement was defeated by Lutcher, 60-50, on the road. Beau Matherne led the Lions with 18 points. Jackson Chewning posted 11. Jaxson Latimer recorded seven. Trevor McMorris tallied six that included a 3-pointer. Wes Starkey, Gabe Ellis, Domonquie Collins and Gavin McMorris all added two. French Settlement trailed 15-12 after the first quarter and 34-19 at halftime before going into the final period with a 49-38 deficit.</div> <div><b>Live Oak 56 Pine 54</b> Live Oak's Tiras Magee scored 24 points, helping the Eagles come from behind to top Pine, 56-54, in a road game. Live Oak trailed by as many as 16 in the third quarter, but trimmed the deficit to seven at 46-39 through three. The Eagles tied the game in the fourth quarter and Magee hit two free throws to put this team in front by two with about 2:30 left. Magee made two 3-pointers. Hayden Ray posted 16. M.J. Washington recorded seven. Cash Davis tallied six. Isaac Ott added three on a three.</div> <div>Games on Feb. 18</div>	<div><b>Albany 57 Pope John Paul II 55</b> Albany's Colton Courtney and Tavorian Hart both hit the 20-point plateau, helping the Hornets defeat Pope John Paul II, 57-55, on the road. Courtney led the way with 22. Hart posted 20. Jamarquis Jackson recorded nine. Luke Tynes and Waylon Ponder both added three. Albany trailed 19-16 after the first quarter and tied the game at 28-28 at halftime. The Hornets were in front 44-40 through three in the win.</div> <div><b>Denham Springs 82 Walker 67</b> Denham Springs' Jermaine O'Conner scored 23 points, helping the Yellow Jackets win their game over Walker, 82-67, on the road in District 5-5A action. Da'Jean Golmond posted 19 and he made five 3-pointers. Trae Dorsey tallied 17 with three threes. Jeremy Williams recorded 13 and was good on a three. Da'Jean Golmond tallied six. Chris Pourciau added four. Carleiyon Joseph led Walker with 25 points. Jordan Scott put up 19 points that included three threes. Charles Tony recorded 13. Caleb Smith-Johnson had four. Jonathan Salvage added three. Derrick Tolbert and Kameron Rheams both contributed two. Walker led 25-16 after the first quarter.</div>	<div>Denham Springs went in front 42-38 at half-time and was up 66-55 through three.</div> <div><b>Covington 71 Springfield 62</b> Springfield was defeated by Covington, 71-62, at home. Dequane Davis led the Bulldogs with 18 points that included two 3-pointers. Chase Burches posted 13. De'Shawn Goss recorded 12. Jordyn Norman tallied six on two threes. Dequincy Davis and Brendan Johnson both had five. Rowen Harris added three. Springfield trailed 20-18 after the first quarter and 35-27 at halftime before going into the fourth quarter trailing 51-42.</div> <div>Games on Feb. 19</div> <div><b>Live Oak 63 East Iberville 49</b> Live Oak's Jordan Magee scored 24 points in a 63-49 win over East Iberville at home. M.J. Washington posted 13. Hayden Ray had 12. Cash Davis and Braylon Horne both tallied six. Taylon Barnes added two. Live Oak led 12-6 and 23-21 at halftime. It was 39-37 through three.</div> <div><b>St. Helena College and Career Academy 49 Walker 48</b> Walker was defeated by St. Helena College and Career Academy, 49-48 on the road. Carleiyon Joseph scored 22 points to lead the Wildcats and he made two 3-pointers.</div>	<div>Jordan Scott posted 11 with a three. Caleb Smith-Johnson had seven with a three. Charles Tony tallied six. Jaheim Anderson added two. Walker trailed 12-10 after the first quarter and was up 17-15 at halftime before taking a 39-29 advantage to the fourth quarter.</div> <div>Game on Feb. 21</div> <div><b>French Settlement 48 Albany 45</b> French Settlement defeated Albany, 48-45, in a home game held Feb. 21 to close out the regular season. Reid Murphy led the Lions with 10 points, French Settlement had balanced scoring. Beau Matherne tallied nine. Jaxson Latimer and Trevor McMorris both had eight. Domonquie Collins put up seven. Jackson Chewning posted six that included a 3-pointer. Jamarquis Jackson was Albany's leading scorer with 18 points. Tavorian Hart recorded eight. Luke Tynes and Waylon Ponder both tallied six. Tynes made two threes, while Ponder posted one. Colton Courtney had five. Scott Meyers added two. Albany led 15-12 after the first quarter and 24-20 at halftime. French Settlement went in front, 38-35, after three.</div>

# BOWLING | FRENCH SETTLEMENT WINS CRUCIAL GAME

French Settlement varsity bowling won a crucial game against St. Michal the Archangel on Feb. 17. The two teams faced off at All-Star lanes in Baton Rouge. Last season, the Lions did not outscore their opponents. This year, however, was a different story. Leading into the first match the starting lineup for the Lions consisted of all returning bowlers: Claire Fennell, Liam Trawick, Chanler Fontenot, Bradley Bergeron, Cain Dempster, and Carson Childers. St. Michael started with Don Nguyen, Caleigh Zuniga, Ben Szwec, Sebastian Vasquez, Adam Rich-	ard, and Parker Blanchard. Both teams started strong. In the first game, French Settlement only gave away two points: one each from Bergeron and Childers to their St. Michael opponents. By the end of the first game, French Settlement held a narrow 86-pin lead. The line up remained the same for the next two games for French Settlement, while St. Michael substituted in Eric Kazmir for Nguyen for the remaining two games. French Settlement's Trawick, Fontenot, Bergeron, and Childers all gave up a point to St. Michael's. The Lions were	still able to hold out with 4 game points and maintain a lead of 154 pins to comfortably lead into game three. In game three only Fontenot and Childers gave up points to their opponent. The Lions were able to maintain their overall lead and stay ahead by 255 pins. The total pinfall for French Settlement was 2,592 vs St. Michael's 2,337. The Lions won the match 19-8.
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# BASEBALL | DENHAM SPRINGS WINS 2 LOPSIDED GAMES IN PATTERSON TOURNEY

<b>BY CHRIS KINKAID</b> The Livingston Parish News	struck out five and walked three. Jaden Kent singled and doubled with three runs batted in and a run scored. Cy Martin went 2-for-2 with an RBI and a run scored. Taylor Cotaya singled, drove in three and scored two runs. Rancher Miller tripled with an RBI and a run scored. Blaise Bergeron doubled and	scored a run. Matthew Lewis singled and scored a run. Jace Landry and Josh Hogan both scored two runs. Gabe White scored a run and drove one home. Kaden Boyer drove in a run. The Yellow Jackets scored all of their runs in the first two innings. The contest against South Beaure-	gard was 10-0. Boyer went 3-for-4 with three RBIs. Martin doubled twice with two runs batted in and a run scored. Slayde Daigle singled twice with an RBI and a run scored. White had a hit with a run driven in and a run scored. Hogan singled and drove in two. Miller and Lewis both doubled	and scored a run. Caleb Klug threw a complete game four hitter with seven strikeouts and three walks. The Yellow Jackets scored five in the first with another during the fourth before adding four more in the fifth.
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# SOFTBALL | DOYLE WINS 2-OF-3 IN PONCHATOULA TOURNAMENT

<b>BY CHRIS KINKAID</b> The Livingston Parish News	singles with three runs batted in and three runs scored. Emily Elder tallied two hits with a run batted in. Kylee Savant doubled and drove in two. Bella Collins singled and drove in a run. Genie Lovett singled with an RBI and two runs scored. Kassidy Rivero scored two runs. Winning pitcher Elder threw 2.2 shutout innings, allowing a hit with six strikeouts and three walks. Doyle led 4-0 after the first inning, but trailed 5-4 through 3.5. Doyle then tied the game after five, took a 7-5 lead through six and then	scored eight runs in the sixth for the mercy rule win. The next two games were on Feb. 22, which Doyle split. They came up short to East Ascension, 8-7, as EA broke a 7-7 tie in the bottom of the seventh to win it. Kylee Savant homered, drove in three and scored a run as part of a 2-for-3 contest. Elder singled twice. Kersey doubled with two RBIs and a run scored. Fletcher singled and scored a run. Anthony singled with a run driven in and a run scored. Allie Savant singled and drove in a run.	Bailey Mclin singled. Rivero scored a run. Doyle defeated Central of Baton Rouge, 10-7. The Lady Tigers scored in every inning except the seventh. Doyle led 8-2 through 4.5 innings, but Central scored five runs in the fifth to trim the lead to 8-7. Rivero hit a home run, doubled twice, drove in three and scored a run in a 3-for-4 game. Anthony tallied three hits with an RBI and two runs scored. Fletcher singled three times and drove in a run. Mclin recorded two singles	with an RBI and a run scored. Kersey singled and doubled with a run batted in and a run scored. Allie Savant singled with an RBI and a run scored. Elder doubled. Kylee Savant had an RBI.
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## DENHAM SPRINGS: SCORED THE GAME'S 1ST 11 POINTS

<b>FROM 5</b> 3-pointer to make it 14-3 with 4:22 to go. Denham Springs led 23-7 after the first quarter. The Lady Jackets extended the lead in the second and were up 38-18 at halftime and took a 50-31 advantage to the fourth	period. Prai Nelson posted 17 that included a three. Smith recorded 12 with two threes. Ke'lijah Henry and Kynlee Journet both had five that included a 3-pointer. Kimber King added one. Caitlyn Sheets led	Prairieville with 18 points with all of her points coming from beyond the arc. Marley Gatlin posted 17. Aljen Jordan added four. Eighth-seeded Denham Springs faced ninth-seeded Slidell at home in the regional round after press time.
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## CHAMPIONS: BURCH, CAMARATA CAPTURE TITLES

<b>FROM 5</b> Camarata (138) posted a 3-0 record for her first career title. All of Camarata's wins were by pin. Last year, she was state runner-up in the 144s. "Winning was really exciting," Camarata said. "I'm never really too excited when I win, but this was a different feeling. I fell short last year, but winning this year made it more exciting." All of Camarata's wins were by pin. "I just jumped up and I was like 'oh my gosh, I can't believe I just did this.' It was a happy feeling," Camarata said. Camarata said she had faith in herself that she was going to win. Of course, I was nervous, but I had faith in myself that T was going to win," Camarata said. The top six make the podium.	Locally, three wrestlers came in second, all from Live Oak, in Billy Edmonston, Laken Griffin and Ava Payne. Live Oak is Division I. Edmonston (190) went 4-1 with two pins, a major fall and a major decision. Griffin (132) posted a 4-1 mark. All of her victories were by fall. Payne (152) was 3-1 with two pins and a technical fall. Walker's Kye Karcher (132) was third in Division I with a 4-1 mark with a technical fall, a major decision and two decisions. Live Oak's Kolton West (157) went 4-2 with a fall, two technical falls and a decision. Walker's Willow Dixon (100) went 3-2. All of her wins were by pins. Albany's Rylee Short (285) was sixth in Division III with a 2-3 record that included two pins.
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## TOWN OF LIVINGSTON PUBLIC AWARENESS NOTICE FOR NATURAL GAS CUSTOMERS

The Town of Livingston owns and operates a natural gas distribution system in the town. The gas system consists of and underground network of pipelines throughout the town and unincorporated areas adjacent to the town limits. The purpose of the gas system is to provide a reliable and safe economical source of energy for heating purposes to the homes and businesses adjacent to the underground gas pipelines. The pipeline system has the capacity to reliably deliver natural gas to the customers.

The hazards of natural gas are it is odorless, colorless, tasteless, lighter than air, and can ignite and/or explode with tremendous force when mixed with the right amount of air.

### Prevention measures taken include:

- Adding odorant to the gas to give it that distinctive smell, similar to rotten eggs, to warn us of its presence
- Testing the odorant level each calendar quarter
- Performing annual gas leakage surveys
- Conducting periodic pipeline patrols

### The following are signs that may indicate a gas leak:

- A hissing or roaring sound (caused by escaping gas)
- A patch of dead or discolored vegetation in an otherwise green setting along a pipeline route
- Blowing dirt, grass, or leaves near a pipeline
- Continuous bubbling in wet, flooded areas
- A gas smell similar to rotten eggs

Anyone who may smell this odor or notice any unusual conditions on or near gas mains, vents, service lines, meter sets, or especially inside of a building should call the Town of Livingston immediately. If you smell a strong gas odor inside a building, notify everyone in the building to leave. Do not operate any switches or use the phone. Go a safe distance away upwind of the gas smell and call the Town of Livingston.

Pipeline markers are maintained to inform the public of the gas line location. State and federal laws require excavators to notify LA One- Call two full working days before digging. If any excavation is planned you must notify LA One- Call which will notify the Town to locate the gas lines. The Town of Livingston maintains memberships on the LA One –Call program.

To obtain additional information or report gas related issues call the Town of Livingston at 225-686-7153 (24 hours). The LA One-Call Center phone number is 811. This information and the pipeline signs are provided ad public awareness and damage prevention awareness notices.



# BASEBALL | LIVE OAK SWEEPS DUNHAM IN 3-GAME SERIES COMPETITION TOOK PLACE FEB. 20-22

BY CHRIS KINKAID  
The Livingston Parish News

Live Oak swept Dunham in games that were held Feb. 20-22. Live Oak's Brock Davis doubled, drove in three and scored a run in an 8-4 victory over Dunham on Feb. 20. Jace Griffin hit a solo homer. Cal Cassard doubled and scored two runs. Cooper Smith singled and drove in a run. Dekhota Jones scored a run. Brayden Allen and Lane Billings drove in two runs. Winning pitcher Sawyer Pruitt allowed two runs on three hits with eight strikeouts and a walk over five innings. Live Oak led 3-0 after first inning. Dunham trimmed it to 3-2 with a run in both the fourth and fifth innings, but Live Oak tallied three runs in the fifth to make it 6-2. Both teams scored two runs in the sixth in the 8-4 contest. The next day, they defeated Dunham, 13-7. Smith went 4-for-4 with a run batted in. Davis tallied two hits with two RBIs and a run scored. Allen had two hits and two runs driven in. Jones singled with an RBI and three runs scored. Cassard singled and scored three runs. Mac Beadle and Cameron Washington both singled and scored a run. Adam Beeson scored two runs. Landry Smart drove in a run. Rezin Linday was the winning pitcher after throwing two shutout innings of two-hit ball with two strikeouts and no walks. Live Oak trailed 4-3 after three innings, but scored 10 runs over the final three frames. The third game was a 4-0 victory behind a complete-game two-hit shutout by Trevor Hodges. Hodges struck out 10 and walked two. Allen singled three times with an RBI. Jones doubled and scored a run. Smith doubled and drove in a run. Billings singled and scored a run. Porter Rutledge scored a run. Jace Griffin recorded a run batted in.

## SHERIFF SALES

### SHERIFF'S SALE

TWENTY-FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT OF LOUISIANA  
IN AND FOR THE PARISH OF LIVINGSTON

VANDERBILT MORTGAGE AND FINANCE, INC.  
VERSUS NO. 185171  
TABITHA BRUMFIELD AND KENAN WAYNE ELLIS

Under and by virtue of a WRIT OF SEIZURE issued out of the above Honorable Court in the above entitled and number cause, bearing date of DECEMBER 02, 2024; and to me directed, commanding me to seize and sell CERTAIN MOVEABLE property belonging to:

TABITHA BRUMFIELD AND KENAN WAYNE ELLIS

Defendants,

I have seized and taken into my official custody the property hereinafter described, and will offer to sell on:

WEDNESDAY, THE 12 DAY OF MARCH, 2025

during legal sale hours of said day beginning at 10:00 o'clock a.m., at the principal front door of the Courthouse, in the Town of Livingston, said Parish and State, the following described property, to-wit:

ONE (1) CERTAIN 2007 CLAYTON MANUFACTURED HOME, MODEL LAK32685B, BEARING SERIAL NUMBER CS2008895TNA AND CS2008895TNB

Terms of Sale for Cash to the last and highest bidder WITHOUT the benefit of appraisalment and according to law.

CASHIERS CHECK AT TIME OF SALE WITH LETTER OF CREDIT

Sheriff's Office, Livingston, Louisiana on this 16 day of December 2024.

Attorney: SHOWS, CALI & WALSH, LLP

Advertise: February 27, 2025

Jason Ard, Sheriff  
Parish of Livingston  
State of Louisiana  
Deputy Sheriff

## PUBLIC NOTICES



### Livingston Parish Public Schools

13909 Florida Boulevard  
P.O. Box 1130  
Livingston, Louisiana 70754-1130  
Phone: (225) 686-7044 Fax: (225) 686-3052 Website: www.lpsb.org

Jody Purvis  
Superintendent

Bruce Chaffin  
Assistant Superintendent

Tracy McRae  
Assistant Superintendent

### INVITATION TO BID

Sealed bids will be received by Livingston Parish Public Schools, Livingston, Louisiana, until 2:00 PM, Monday, March 17, 2025 at which time bids will be opened and publicly read for the following:

**Bid No. 25-10: Equipment for Doyle High School ProStart Kitchen**

Bids must be on the form provided. Forms and other information may be obtained from Livingston Parish Public Schools (LPPS), 13909 Florida Boulevard, Post Office Box 1130, Livingston, Louisiana 70754, (225) 686-4224, and from the LPPS website:

[https://www.lpsb.org/our\\_district/departments/business\\_department/purchasing\\_information/current\\_solicitations](https://www.lpsb.org/our_district/departments/business_department/purchasing_information/current_solicitations)

Furthermore, official bid documents are available at Central Bidding. Electronic bids are accepted at Central Bidding and can be accessed at [www.centralbidding.com](http://www.centralbidding.com). For questions related to the electronic bid process, please call Central Bidding at (225) 810-4814.

Awards will not be made on the date of the bid opening, but will be awarded by the School Board at a later meeting.

Subject to the provision of R.S. 38:2214, Livingston Parish Public Schools reserves the right to reject any and all bids for just cause.

Cost of Notice: \$48

Jody W. Purvis, Superintendent



LIVINGSTON PARISH  
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Jody W. Purvis  
Superintendent  
Bruce Chaffin  
Assistant Superintendent  
Tracy McRae  
Assistant Superintendent

### INVITATION TO BID

Sealed bids will be received by Livingston Parish Public Schools, Livingston, LA until 2:00 pm, Tuesday, March 18, 2025, at which time bids will be opened and publicly read for the following:

**Bid No. 25-05: Gas and Diesel for LPPS Fuel Stations 2025-2026**

Bids must be on the form provided. Forms and other information may be obtained from the Livingston Parish Public Schools (LPPS) Business Department, 13909 Florida Blvd., PO Box 1130, Livingston, LA 70754, (225) 686-4224, and also from the LPPS website:

[https://www.lpsb.org/our\\_district/departments/business\\_department/purchasing\\_information/current\\_solicitations](https://www.lpsb.org/our_district/departments/business_department/purchasing_information/current_solicitations)

Furthermore, official bid documents are available at Central Bidding. Electronic bids are accepted at Central bidding and can be accessed at [www.centralbidding.com](http://www.centralbidding.com). For questions related to the electronic bidding process, please call Central Bidding at (225) 810-4814.

An award will not be made on the date of the bid opening, but will be awarded by the School Board at a later meeting. Subject to the provisions of R.S. 38:2214, Livingston Parish Public Schools reserves the right to reject any and all bids for just cause.

Livingston Parish Public Schools

Jody W. Purvis, Superintendent

Cost of Notice: \$36

### LIVINGSTON PARISH PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING, THURSDAY, March 6, 2025, 6:00 P.M.

#### LIVINGSTON PARISH COUNCIL CHAMBERS

Dee Dee Delatte  
Planning & Development  
Director

Natalie Allen  
Asst. Planning Director

Kim Hymel  
Planning Secretary

#### PLANNING

- Invocation
- Pledge of Allegiance
- Call Meeting to Order
- Roll Call
- Adoption of minutes of the Regular Meeting dated February 6, 2025
- PUBLIC HEARING: McDonalds
  - a) Final Site Plan Crossing Circle Sect 4, T75, R3E Council District #4
- McDonalds
  - a) Final Site Plan Crossing Circle Sect 4, T75, R3E Council District #4
- PUBLIC HEARING: DEMCO Sub-Station
  - a) Final Site Plan 4-H Club Road Sect 42 & 50, T75, R3E Council District #5
- AT&T Tower
  - a) Site Plan with Waiver Arnold Road Sect 10, T65, R3E Council District #1
- Parish Attorney Comments
- Parish Review Engineer Comments
- Planning Department Comments
- Planning Commission Comments
- Adjourn

Livingston Parish Planning

Cost of Notice: \$48

#### PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Hearings will be held at the Livingston Parish Council Chambers, 20355 Government Blvd. Livingston during a regular meeting of the Zoning Commission – Thursday, April 3, 2025 – 6:00 pm for the purpose indicated:

Rezone – Parcel 0188243A – 24640 Heritage Lane - From AG to R-1 – Council District #9  
Rezone – Parcel 0569764A – 15153 Springfield Road - From AG to R-1 – Council District #1

Cost of Notice: \$12

Regular Board Meeting  
02/06/2025 05:00 PM  
School Board Office  
13909 Florida Blvd  
Livingston, LA 70754

#### MEETING MINUTES

The regular meeting of the Livingston Parish School Board will be held at the School Board Office, 13909 Florida Blvd, Livingston, Louisiana, on **THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2025, at FIVE O'CLOCK PM** for the following purposes and to take whatever actions necessary. The meeting may be viewed online at <https://www.youtube.com/@lpsboardmeetings5531/streams>.

#### Attendees

##### Voting Members

Mr. Brad Sharp, District 1  
Mr. Robert Seals Jr., District 2  
Mr. William 'Jeff' Frizell, District 3, Vice-President  
Mr. Bradley Harris, District 4  
Mr. Cecil Harris, District 5  
Mr. Jeffery Cox, District 6  
Ms. Katelyn Cockerham, District 7  
Dr. Ronald McMorris, District 8  
Mr. Stephen Link, District 9, President

##### Absent Members

None

#### 1. Call to Order

The Board Meeting was called to order by President Steve Link.

#### 2. Approval of the minutes of the School Board meeting held on January 23, 2025

Motion was made and duly seconded to approve the minutes of the School Board meeting held on January 23, 2025.

Motion made by: Dr. Ronald McMorris  
Motion seconded by: Mr. Bradley Harris  
Voting:  
Unanimously Approved

The President declared the motion carried.

#### 3. Discussion and action on Naming a "Professional of Record" for the Turn Lane for South Fork Junior High School

Motion was made and duly seconded to approve Ziler Architects, "Professional of Record", for the Turn Lane for South Fork Junior High School.

Motion made by: Ms. Katelyn Cockerham  
Motion seconded by: Mr. Jeffery Cox  
Voting:  
Unanimously Approved

The President declared the motion carried.

#### 4. Authority to advertise for bids for the Turn Lane for South Fork Junior High School

Motion was made and duly seconded to grant the Superintendent authority to advertise for bids for the Turn Lane for South Fork Junior High School.

Motion made by: Dr. Ronald McMorris  
Motion seconded by: Mr. William 'Jeff' Frizell  
Voting:  
Unanimously Approved

The President declared the motion carried.

#### 5. Discussion and action of School Calendar for the 2025-2026 school year

Assistant Superintendent Bruce Chaffin explained that at the last board meeting we introduced the calendar. Now we need an adoption to accept the 2025-2026 calendar.

After discussion, a motion was made and duly seconded to approve the Option C school calendar for the 2025-2026 school year.

Motion made by: Mr. Robert Seals Jr.  
Motion seconded by: Mr. Brad Sharp  
Voting:  
Unanimously Approved

The President declared the motion carried.

#### 6. Discussion and action on the Superintendent's recommendation for the following contracts:

##### A. Assistant Principal contract at North Corbin Junior High School

Upon the recommendation from the Superintendent, a motion was made and duly seconded to approve the performance-based contract for Rebekah O'Neal, Assistant Principal at North Corbin Junior High School, effective 1/15/2025–6/30/2027.

Motion made by: Mr. Jeffery Cox  
Motion seconded by: Ms. Katelyn Cockerham  
Voting:  
Unanimously Approved

The President declared the motion carried.

##### B. Special Needs Population Coordinator contract at Central Office

Upon the recommendation from the Superintendent, a motion was made and duly seconded to approve the performance-based contract for Brandi Desselles, Special Needs Population Coordinator (Career and Technical Education) at the Central Office, effective 2/11/2025–6/30/2027.

Motion made by: Mr. Cecil Harris  
Motion seconded by: Mr. William 'Jeff' Frizell  
Voting:  
Unanimously Approved

The President declared the motion carried.

##### C. Curriculum Coordinator contract at Central Office

Upon the recommendation from the Superintendent, a motion was made and duly seconded to approve the performance-based contract for Staci Clement, Curriculum Coordinator at the Central Office, effective 02/11/2025–6/30/2027.

Motion made by: Mr. Brad Sharp  
Motion seconded by: Mr. Robert Seals Jr.  
Voting:  
Unanimously Approved

The President declared the motion carried.

#### 7. Approval of the monthly financial report, update on audit findings, payment of invoices and district supplements

Motion was made and duly seconded to approve the monthly financial report, update on audit findings, payment of invoices and district supplements.

Motion made by: Mr. Bradley Harris  
Motion seconded by: Mr. Cecil Harris  
Voting:  
Unanimously Approved

The President declared the motion carried.

#### 8. Superintendent's comments

Mr. Link and members of the Board, I have attached the Committee Assignments from Mr. Link for your review.

#### Manual Builders - Building Foundations 2025

Submission timeline - February 10th - March 10th  
The winning staff member, teacher, or administrator will win \$1,000 and their class, team, or group will enjoy a pizza & treat party! Plus, the top 2 runners-up will each receive a \$100 gift card and class treats!

#### SADD - Tall Cop Presentation

Livingston Parish SADD will be hosting National presenter, Jermaine Galloway (Tall Cop) on **February 25<sup>th</sup>** that is open for our employees and board members if you would like to attend. This is a fantastic opportunity for assistant principals, anyone involved in managing discipline related to drug offenses, and those directly focused on maintaining a safe, drug-free school environment.

During the session, Officer Galloway will present key findings from environmental scans conducted at local retailers and gas stations in **Livingston Parish**, offering valuable insights into drug-use trends among youth in our community and across the nation. It will be eye-opening training. Jermaine Galloway is a national speaker with a phenomenal following and incredible expertise.

#### Adjustment to the 2024-2025 Calendar update

#### U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE)

- An information document has been shared with our administrators on how to handle this if it were to occur.

#### The Board scheduled the following:

- Budget/Goals Committee meeting on Tuesday, February 18, 2025, at 4:00 p.m. Chairperson is Jeff Cox.
- Curriculum/Policy Committee meeting to immediately follow the Budget/Goals Committee meeting. Chairperson is Jeff Frizell.

#### 9. Adjourn

Motion was made and duly seconded to adjourn the meeting.

Motion made by: Mr. Bradley Harris  
Motion seconded by: Mr. Cecil Harris

Voting:

Unanimously Approved

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:21 pm.

/s/ Jody Purvis  
Jody Purvis, Superintendent

/s/ Stephen Link  
Stephen Link, President

Cost of Notice: \$192

#### DOCUMENT 00005 - ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Sealed Bids will be received by the **Livingston Parish Airport District**, at 1289 Del Este Avenue, Denham Springs, Louisiana 70726 until **Thursday, March 27th, 2025 at 2:00 pm** for the

Livingston Executive Airport  
Phase 1: Part 1C  
Earthwork Stabilization & Drainage

At which time bids will be opened and publicly read aloud. Electronic bids will also be accepted. Please find bid related materials and place your electronic bids at [www.centralbidding.com](http://www.centralbidding.com). Bids received after the above time will be returned unopened. Complete bidding documents may be obtained from:

ALVIN FAIRBURN & ASSOCIATES, LLC  
1289 Del Este Avenue, Denham Springs, LA 70726  
PHONE (225)665-1515 FAX (225)665-1523

upon payment of **\$75.00** per set. Deposits on the first set of documents furnished to properly licensed, bona fide prime bidders will be fully refunded upon return of the documents in good condition no later than ten days after receipt of bids. On sets of documents issued to sub-contractors and others, one-half (1/2) the deposit will be refunded upon return of the documents in good condition no later than ten (10) days after receipt of bids. Plans may be mailed by regular mail upon receipt of \$75.00 plus an additional non-refundable charge of \$25.00 per set of documents.

A Mandatory Pre-Bid Conference shall be held at: **1289 Del Este Avenue, Denham Springs, LA 70726 on Tuesday, March 18, 2025 @ 10:00 A.M.** All bids must be accompanied by a bid security equal to five percent (5%) of the base bid and any alternatives and subject to the conditions provided in the Instructions to Bidders. The successful contractor will be required to enter into a contract with the **OWNER** and to furnish all the materials, perform all of the work, supervise, coordinate, administrate, and be responsible for the work of the entire project. No bids may be withdrawn after the closing time for receipt of bids for at least forty-five (45) days. The bond of the low bidder will be held for forty-five (45) days, or until the contract is signed, whichever is shorter.

**PERFORMANCE AND PAYMENT BOND:** A performance and payment bond for the work will be required upon execution of the contract, equal to one hundred percent (100%) of said contract written by a company licensed to do business in Louisiana and who is currently on the U.S. Department of the Treasury Financial Management Service List. The bond shall be countersigned by a person who is under contract and who is licensed as an insurance agent in the State of Louisiana, and who is residing in this state.

The **Livingston Parish Airport District** reserves the right to reject any and all bids for just cause. In accordance with La. R.S. 38:2212 (A) (1) (b), the provisions and requirements of this section, those stated in the advertisement for bids, and those required on the bid form shall not be considered as informalities and shall not be waived by any public entity.

Cost of Notice: \$36

#### NOTICE OF SPECIAL ELECTION

Pursuant to the provisions of a resolution adopted by the Parish School Board of the Parish of Livingston, State of Louisiana (the "Governing Authority"), acting as the governing authority of Parish of Livingston, State of Louisiana, for school purposes (the "Parish"), on January 9, 2025, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a special election will be held within the Parish on **SATURDAY, MAY 3, 2025**, and that at the said election there will be submitted to all registered voters in the Parish qualified and entitled to vote at the said election under the Constitution and Laws of the State of Louisiana and the Constitution of the United States, the following proposition, to-wit:

#### SCHOOL SUPPORT TAX RENEWAL PROPOSITION

Shall the Parish School Board of the Parish of Livingston, State of Louisiana, be authorized to continue to levy and collect within the Parish of Livingston, Louisiana, a special tax of 7 mills on the dollar of assessed valuation on all property subject to taxation, annually (an estimated \$4,982,000 reasonably expected at this time to be collected from the levy of the tax for an entire year), for a period of 10 years, beginning with the year 2026, for the purpose of raising funds for the maintenance of public schools, including providing equipment therefor?

Said special election will be held at each and every polling place in the Parish of Livingston, which polls will open at seven o'clock (7:00) a.m. and close at eight o'clock (8:00) p.m., in accordance with the provisions of La. R.S. 18:541.

The polling places set forth above are hereby designated as the polling places at which to hold the said election, and the Commissioners-in-Charge and Commissioners, respectively, shall be those persons designated according to law.

The estimated cost of this election as determined by the Secretary of State based upon the provisions of Chapter 8-A of Title 18 and actual costs of similar elections is \$110,400.

Notice is further given that a portion of the monies collected from the tax described in the Proposition shall be remitted to certain state and statewide retirement systems in the manner required by law.

The said special election will be held in accordance with the applicable provisions of Chapter 5 and Chapter 6-A of Title 18 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, as amended, and other constitutional and statutory authority, and the officers appointed to hold the said election, as provided in this Notice of Special Election, or such substitutes therefor as may be selected and designated in accordance with La. R.S. 18:1287, will make due returns thereof to said Governing Authority, and NOTICE IS HEREBY FURTHER GIVEN that the Governing Authority will meet at its regular meeting place, the School Board Office Conference Room, 13909 Florida Blvd., Livingston, Louisiana, on **THURSDAY, MAY 22, 2025, at 5:00 P.M.**, and shall then and there in open and public session proceed to examine and canvass the returns and declare the result of the said special election. All registered voters of the Parish are entitled to vote at said special election and voting machines will be used.

Cost of Notice: \$48

Livingston Parish Clerk of Court



JASON B. HARRIS  
Clerk of Court

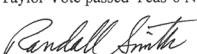
P.O. BOX 1150  
Livingston, Louisiana 70754  
225.686.2216

The following is a list of **254** Jurors drawn to serve and who shall report for duty at the Livingston Parish Courthouse located at 20300 Government Boulevard, Livingston, LA at **8:30 a.m. on TUESDAY, MARCH 11, 2025.**


ABNER, JOHN RICHARD III  
ACKERMAN, ROBERT E  
ADAMS, JOHN BRADLEY  
ADDISON, KENDALL DARRELL  
ADDISON, MEAGAN LAUREN  
AIME, ASHLEY RENE  
AIME, JONATHAN PAUL  
ALFORD, ASHLEY NICOLE  
ALONGI, SHANNON PORCHE  
ANDRIES, STEPHEN DOUGLAS  
ARCENEAUX, KARLA R  
ARD, TOBY KENNETH  
BARDALES, BRANDON MICHAEL JR  
BARKER, DONALD EDGAR  
BARKER, FLO  
BARR, BRAD JOSEPH  
BESSINGER, PATRICIA D  
BILICI, AYCA  
BISHOP, CASSANDRA LENORE  
BOOS, RACHEL  
BRASSEAL, JEAN SHELTON  
BREAUX, ANDREW PAUL  
BREAUX, CHAD  
BREWER, MELVIN III  
BROOKE, LINDA P  
BROOKS, DANIEL ALLEN  
BROWN, DANA HENSON  
BUCHANAN, JAMES SR  
BURNS, DUSTY LEON  
CALDWELL, BRANDON MICHAEL  
CALLENDER, AMANDA NOEL  
CAMBRE, FRANCES ANDREWS  
CANOVA, MONICA HENDERSON  
CARLTON, ARLENE P  
CARPENTER, RITA LYNN  
CARR, KARMIN MARYA  
CARTER, ANGELIQUE CAIN  
CATHEY, MIKELA NICHOLE  
CAUSEY, TRAD PAUL I  
CHARTIER, STACY ROBBINS  
CHRISMAN, SPENCER ELLIS  
CLARK, PAMELA GRAHAM  
CLARKSON, WESLEY WARREN  
CLEMENT, CASSIE H  
COLEMAN, KEITH  
COREY, MCKALIE  
CORREA, JAYRO  
CRAIG, RANDY PHILLIP  
CRANFORD, EVAN T  
CRANK, LEONARD DOYLE II  
CREEL, LANE R  
CURTIS, APRIL DAWN  
DAVIS, CHRISTOPHER JAMES  
DAVIS, HOLLY RIETH  
DAVIS, JIMMY M  
DAVIS, KELLEY BROOKE SESSIONS  
DAVIS, STACEY G  
DAVISON, BOBBY RAY JR  
DAY, JOANNAH ELIZABETH  
DECKER, DONNA LYNN  
DEDON, JESSICA ELIZABETH  
DEFFES, CLARENCE W JR  
DILLARD, AMANDA STEWART  
DOERFLER, ANDREW PAUL  
DONALDSON, JOSHUA ROBERT  
DORAN, TRACY MARIE  
DUGAS, DANA DUNCAN  
DYKES, HEATHER MICHELE  
EDWARDS, BRADLEY L  
EUNICE, WILLIAM C  
EVERETT, ASHLEY NICHOLE  
FARRIS, MELISSA CARR  
FELDER, BRANDON WAYNE  
FERNON, GRACE ELIZABETH  
MENDOZA  
FISHER, JOHN TRAVIS  
FOLSE, JOHNETTE EVELYN  
FONTENOT, EVERETT JAMES  
FRANCIS, MARK A  
FRANKS, SETH THOMAS  
GADDIS, KENNETH A  
GAMBLE, KATHY MARIE  
GARZA-CHAPA, MARIA ESPERANZA  
GAUTHIER, MELINDA F  
GEE, CAELIN ALYSE  
GEORGE, BRITTANY MICHELLE  
GIBBS, MICHAEL R  
GILL, JENIS ELISE



GIROIR, TAYLOR WOOD GLASCOCK, CATE GOURDON, SANDRA RENA GRACE, BONNIE DUXWORTH GRAFFEO, VALLI B GRAVOIS, MELISSAANN GREMILLION, DANAANDERSON GRIFFIN, KATHERINE E GUITRAU, MARY ALICE HARRIS, KAITLYN ELISE HARRIS, KELCIE ELIZABETH HEATH, CALEB JOSEPH HEUER, JOAN EARLENE HICKS, JENNIFER LYNN HOLTEN, ROY HANNING HOOD, AARON D HOOVER, DARRELL T HOSNER, MELISA D HUDSON, JENNY LYNN HUNTER, CHRISTOPHER SHEA JR JEANE, MONIQUE ROGERS JONES, ERISTIE VICTORIA JORDAN, DAVID ERIC JORDAN, SHELBY CLAIRE JUDGE, LEIGH ANN KEISER, ROY W IV KELLER, DARREN PAUL KING, CYNTHIA L KLEINWAKS, THOMAS ROBERT KLUG, RONALD CARY KNAPP, JOHN MICHAEL KNECHT, EUGENE VICTOR JR LANDRY, BRANDYNN S LAPEYROUSE, EARL JOSEPH III LAPORTE, CODIE JOLISSANT LEBLANC, PHOENIX MOREL LECROY, DEIRDRE SMITH LEDUFF, GRESOLYN TYNE BYRD LEGER, BLAINE ANTHONY LEWIS, WILLIAM DOUGLAS LIGNIERES, ERIC CHRISTOPHER LINDSEY, TAMMY GUIDRY LOCKWOOD, VALDEZ LOCKHART LONG, CONNOR DOUGLAS LONG, OLIVIA GRACE LOPEZ, PAUJE KEGLEY LOWE, ANGELA BOZEMAN LOZE, BERNARD M JR LUSKER, LEE LUZIER, KERMA S MAHLER, CANDACE A MARTELLO, CADEN MARTENS, MONICA KAYE MATHERNE, CODY CAMILE MAYFIELD, WILLIAM TODD MCOREARY, LAUREN ELIZABETH MCDUFFIE, WILLIAM C MCKAY, CHRISTINA MILLER MCKENZIE, GARY KEITH MCKINNEY, RICHARD WILLIAM MCMORRIS, PATRICIA MCNEESE, BRENDA MEDLOCK, HEATHER MICHELLE MEEK, MICHAEL JEREMY MERCHANT, BRENDA LYNN MEYERS, DARRELL LYNN MICHELLI, ANTHONY R MILLER, KRISTINA D MONTGOMERY, KAYLEN JANE MOONSHOWER, ABBIGAIL MICHELLE MORRIS, KATHRYN SIBLEY JOHNSTON MURILLO, GUSTAVO A JR NAQUIN, REBECCA ANN NEAL, MELISSA RENE NELSON, LILA TEMPLETON NEMETH, JAMES BRIAN NORMAN, CLARE C ONEAL, TIMOTHY FRED OSBORNE, NICOLE ELISE OSWALD, TAYLOR BERTHELOT OWENS, CARL EDWARD OWENS, GWENDOLYN OWENS, SUMMER FARKAS PACE, MRS JERRY M PELLERIN, BRITTANY N PERKINS, PHILLIP M PERRIN, ANGIE T PERRY, DANA KATRICE PICOU, MAEGAN MARIA POWELL, BRITTANY SHEAR PRATT, ROBERT LYNN PURVIS, JENNIFER MARIE RAETZSCH, ELIZABETH ROE REA, RHONDA M READY, BOBBY LEE REID, VALERIE FOUTS REYNOLDS, IAN BLAKE RIGSBY, TEXAS RILEY, RICKEY RIVERA, BRIGIDA MARIA ROBERT, BLAYNE MICHAEL ROBERTS, DONIS B ROBERTSON, CHRISHONNA JANAE ROSEMANN, LINDA FAYE ROSEVEAR, RUSTIN EARL ROY, MICHELLE NICHOLE RUH, MORGAN JOSEPH RUSHING, AUSTIN SANCE, LINDA SANDERS, JAMES ANTHONY SANDERS, TRINA POPULIS SANDS, CHARLES RONNY JR SAULSBY, LATOYA W SEAL, ASHLEY MARIE SEXTON, KYLIN JAMAR SHEBBICK, DENISE MARIE SHOAFF, SOPHIA ROSE SIBLEY, HANNAH LINDSEY SIBLEY, MALCOLM SMITH, ASHLEY LANAE SMITH, ASHLYNN MONTANNA SMITH, CHESTER ALLEN SMITH, ELIZABETH HALPIN SMITH, THOMAS RYAN SNEE, CATHERINE ELIZABETH SOMMER, DAWN P STAPLES, MITCHELL ELLIS STARKEY, HOPE DEANN HELTON STARKEY, RONALD STEELE, LULA C STEVENSON, BLAKE LYN STRAHAN, KEVIN MERRITT STROHSCHIEIN, CHASITY LYNN SUND, THOMAS ERIC II TALBERT, MICHAEL VERNON TALBOT, MARLENE M THOMASON, DEBORAH GAIL THOMPSON, SHIRLEY JEAN PENN THOMPSON, TAYLOR LAYNE TOUPS, DWAYNE P TRAGESSER, CRYSTAL SUZANNE TREVINO, AUSTIN LEE TUCKER, KAROLINE W VARELA, SAMANTHA-JO CECELIA VILLNEUVE, JODY L WALDROP, JACOB PATRICK WALKER, RYAN DAVID WALLACE, BARBARA ANN WALTON, LINDA C WARREN, WALTER ALLEN III WASHINGTON, ALENA JOYCE WATTS, JAMES WEIR, CHRISTINE BARRIOS WESTMORELAND, SCOTT J WHETSTINE, SHANTELE COVINGTON WHITE, KRISTEN LYNN WHITTINGTON, AMILLIA LEAH WIGGINS, KRISTEN LEAH WILLIAMS, HERMAN DARNELL WILLIAMS, JAMES L WILLIAMS, LINWOOD JOEDALE WOODS, BRANDON KEWOYNE WORLEY, KYLE JORDAN WORTHINGTON, CY M WRIGHT, JOSHUA DANIEL YEAGER, JESSICA MARIA ZIER, AMBER PITTMAN	
Given under my hand and seal of this office this 5 <sup>th</sup> day of February, 2025.	
JASON B. HARRIS Livingston Parish Clerk of Court	Cost of Notice: \$360
The Commissioners of Ward Two Water District of Livingston Parish met in a regular meeting on Tuesday, January 28, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. at their Administration office on Carter Drive in Denham Springs, La.	
*The regular meeting was called to order by Chairman, John Easterly Present – J. Easterly, S. Ball, S. McDaniel, C. Taylor, W. Avara, J.Martone Absent - Melissa Bennett Guests - Barry LeJeune, General Manager Agnes Killcrease, Administrative Director Kate Guevara, of Owen & White Legal Counsel, Blayne Honeycutt Trey Sanders, H.T.Bourgeois CPA’s	
Prayer was offered by Administrative Secretary and a pledge of allegiance was led by S. Ball	

Chairman noted that any public may comment on any agenda item during this meeting. Chairman congratulated staff on the good services performed by employees during the recent winter storm conditions. Manager reported on the staff’s efforts with assisting customers to shut valves off. Jeffrey Martone commented on 2 issues that were lacking in his area which were never addressed by staff. Manager will follow up on the details.	
Motion to accept the minutes from regular meeting held on December 17, 2024, as mailed with no public comment by W. Avara seconded by J. Martone Vote passed Yeas-6 Nays-none Absent-Melissa Bennett	
Trey Sanders of H. T. Bourgeois CPA’s presented the revised 2024 Financial Audit and AUP Audit for board consideration.	
Motion to approve the 2024 Financial Audit and AUP Audit as presented with quoted pricing with no public comment by S.Ball seconded by C.Taylor Vote passed Yeas-6 Nays-none Absent-Melissa Bennett	
Legal Counsel reported on the FMLA provision compliance for the District employees which will involve the holding of job positions during leave periods. He recommended to assign the personnel committee to include into a revised employees manual.	
Kate Guevara of Owen & White gave an update on the AMI project which is 75% complete and recommended that application #13 be approved and paid. She covered an update on the Hwy 1024 relocation project and recommended a change order #1 in the amount \$4867.04 and application #1 in the amount of \$178,836.34.	
Motion to approve application #13 to Baton Rouge Winwater in the amount of \$973,584.52 on contract 23-1475-01 as recommended by engineer with no public comment by W.Avara seconded by S. McDaniel Vote passed Yeas-6 Nays-none Absent-Melissa Bennett	
Motion to approve change order #1 to Grady Crawford in the amount of \$4,867.04 on contract 23-1475-26 as recommended by engineer with no public comment by C. Taylor seconded by S. McDaniel Vote passed Yeas-6 Nays-none Absent-Melissa Bennett	
Motion to approve application #1 to Grady Crawford in the amount of \$178,836.34 on contract 23-1475-26 as recommended by engineer with no public comment by W. Avara seconded by S. McDaniel Vote passed Yeas-6 Nays-none Absent-Melissa Bennett	
Engineer recommended for the General Manager to be authorized to execute the Engineering Contract for the Emerging Contaminate Loan program.	
Motion to authorize General Manager to execute the Engineering Contract regarding the Emerging Contaminate Loan program documentation on behalf of the District with no public comment by S. McDaniel seconded by C. Taylor Vote passed Yeas-6 Nays-none Absent-Melissa Bennett	
Administrative Director reported on staff action regarding handling of the ongoing excessive water bill issues which is using a 12 month average method. Board commented on procedures being followed. Administrative Director gave a positive update on new staff additions in the office. She gave an update on delinquent accounts noting that 42 accounts were cut off since mid-December and that total amount of outstanding accounts not collected on cut off equals \$3,795.20.	
She presented the Re-Budget Request #1 and pay request #14 on the 2023 Water System Expansion DWRL series loan in the amount of \$982,404.42.	
Motion to approve Request #1 to Re-Budget regarding the 2023 DWRL series loan with no public comment by S. Ball seconded by J. Martone Vote passed Yeas-6 Nays-none Absent-Melissa Bennett.	
Motion to approve the submission of application #14 of the 2023 DWRL series loan in the amount of \$982,404.42 with no public comment by J.Martone seconded by S. Ball Vote passed Yeas-6 Nays-none Absent-Melissa Bennett.	
General Manager, Barry LeJeune, reported that 53 customers were added as of December with a year to date gain accumulation of 662 and that 25,337 customers were billed in December.	
A financial report for the December 2024 period of operations was presented by the Administrative Secretary to the Board of Commissioners for their review noting budget line item comparisons to actual spending and revenues.	
Under board comments, Jeffrey Martone of the Personnel Committee proposed that three items to be changed in the personnel guidelines.	
Motion to approve Personnel Committee proposal on three changes to the personnel guidelines as presented with no public comment by J. Marone seconded by S. Ball Vote passed Yeas-6 Nays-none Absent-Melissa Bennett	
Motion to pay the operational bills as presented for January, 2025, period with no public comment by W. Avara seconded by S. McDaniel Vote passed Yeas-6 Nays-none Absent-Melissa Bennett.	
Motion to pay the 2023 Water System Expansion Project bills with no public comment by C. Taylor seconded by S. McDaniel Vote passed Yeas-6 Nays-none Absent-Melissa Bennett.	
Motion to adjourn the meeting with no public comment by S. Ball seconded by C. Taylor Vote passed Yeas-6 Nays-none Absent–Melissa Bennett.	
 Randall Smith Administrative Secretary Next meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 18, 2025 at 7 PM	
	Cost of Notice: \$120
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Vanderbilt Mortgage and Finance, Inc. has taken possession of one (1) certain 2021 Southern Energy Manufactured Home, Model 47TRS16763SH21S, bearing serial number SRB039253ALAC. If you need any information in this matter, you may contact Mary Catherine Cali, 628 St. Louis Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802 at (225) 346-1461.	Cost of Notice: \$12
<div><div>TOWN OF ALBANY PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES FEBRUARY 10, 2025</div><div><div>Time: 5:45 p.m. Location: Albany Town Hall 29816 S. Montpelier Ave, Albany, LA 70711</div><div>Councilman present: Stewart, Glascock, Stilley, Onofry, Thomas</div><div>Also present were: Town Clerk Joey Cooper, Chief Boyd Wild, Lieutenant Vance Gardner</div><div>Mayor Eileen McCarroll opened public hearing at 5:45 p.m. for discussion and inquires for the following:<div><div>a. To discuss adoption of proposed sewer tap-in and impact fees for residential and commercial for inside and outside city limits</div></div></div><div>No comments were made</div><div>Public hearing closed at 6:00 p.m.</div><div><div><div>Joey Cooper</div><div>Bates-McCarroll</div><div>Kimberlee Joey Cooper Clerk</div></div><div><div>Eileen</div><div>Eileen Bates-McCarroll Mayor</div></div></div><div>Cost of Notice: \$24</div></div></div>	
<div><div>TOWN OF ALBANY MINUTES REGULAR MEETING FEBRUARY 10, 2025</div><div><div>Time: 6:00 p.m. Location: Albany Town Hall – 29816 S. Montpelier Ave, Albany, LA 70711</div><div>Meeting called to order by Mayor Eileen Bates-McCarroll at 6:00 p.m.</div><div>Prayer led by Councilman Gerald Stilley; Pledge of Allegiance led by Mayor Eileen Bates-McCarroll</div><div>Council Present: Stewart, Glascock, Stilley, Onofry, Thomas</div><div>Also Present: Town Clerk Joey Cooper, Chief Boyd Wild, Lieutenant Vance Gardner</div><div>Motion to approve minutes from January 2025 meeting by: Councilman Don Onofry; Seconded by: Councilman Jerry Glascock (no discussion) Yeas: K. Stewart, J. Glascock, G. Stilley, D. Onofry, J. Thomas Nays: None</div><div>Motion to approve January 2025 Financials by: Councilwoman Kim Stewart; Seconded by: Councilman Don Onofry – (no discussion) Yeas: K. Stewart, J. Glascock, G. Stilley, D. Onofry, J. Thomas Nays: None</div><div>Police Department – Chief Boyd Wild informed the council of the number of calls for the month of January</div><div>Mayor’s Report – Mayor updated council on the following projects: Hwy 43 Sewer Project, Police Dept building addition, water line project and sidewalks.</div><div>Attorney Sherman Mack updated the council on MPERS settlement.</div><div>Motion to adopt the proposed sewer tap-in and impact fees for residential and commercial for inside and outside city limits by: Councilman Gerald Stilley; Seconded by: Councilman Don Onofry – (no discussion) Yeas: K. Stewart, J. Glascock, G. Stilley, D. Onofry, J. Thomas Nays: None</div><div>Motion to surplus Toshiba Printer – asset #0031 by: Councilman Don Onofry; Seconded by: Councilman Jerry Glascock– (no discussion) Yeas: K. Stewart, J. Glascock, G. Stilley, D. Onofry, J. Thomas Nays: None</div><div>Motion to approve Mayor to sign contract with AMWASTE for new dumpster for \$202.50 a month by: Councilman Gerald Stilley; Seconded by: Councilman Jerry Glascock– (no discussion) Yeas: K. Stewart, J. Glascock, G. Stilley, D. Onofry, J. Thomas Nays: None</div><div>Motion to adjourn by: Councilman Gerald Stilley; Seconded by: Councilman Jerry Glascock Yeas: K. Stewart, J. Glascock, G. Stilley, D. Onofry, J. Thomas Nays: None</div><div>Meeting was adjourned at 6:43 p.m.</div><div><div>Joey Cooper</div><div>Kimberlee “Joey” Cooper Clerk</div></div><div><div>Eileen Bates-McCarroll</div><div>Eileen Bates-McCarroll Mayor</div></div><div>Cost of Notice: \$48</div></div></div>	
Category: Events and Notices – Bids and Proposals	
Invitation to Bid: Storm Restoration - DEMCO is accepting proposals for full-service, turnkey catering, disaster management and storm service companies for the 2025-2028 hurricane/storm season. Storm services include meals, shower units, bunk trailers, cots and linens, tents and generators. Please provide a detailed list of the rates and availability for each service, insurance certificates and W-9. Please also indicate if the services can be retained separately.	
Vendors and Contractors are requested to visit the DEMCO Purchasing Department website URL, <a href="https://demco.org/vendor-contractor-registration">https://demco.org/vendor-contractor-registration</a> then follow the link to the Bonfire vendor registration page to register your company. The bid solicitation can be found using your Bonfire registration sign-on once registered.	
Proposals will be completed in the Bonfire system; however, they can be emailed to <a href="mailto:purchasing@demco.org">purchasing@demco.org</a> on or before 12:00 Noon, March 31, 2025 if needed. Questions will be completed in the Bonfire system but can be sent to <a href="mailto:purchasing@demco.org">purchasing@demco.org</a> if experiencing any difficulties.	
DEMCO is an equal opportunity employer committed to promoting emerging small businesses, minority-owned businesses and women-owned businesses, and to utilizing labor surplus firms.	
DEMCO reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any informalities.	
This Invitation and any subsequent awards are intended to comply with relevant provisions of the federal procurement guidelines located at 2 C.F.R. § 200, et al. The attention of bidders is also called particularly to the requirements for conditions of employment to be observed and minimum wage rates to be paid under the Contract, Section 3 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968 as amended, Non-Segregated Facilities, Section 109 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, Executive Order 11246, Equal Opportunity, and all applicable laws and regulations of the Federal government and State of Louisiana and bonding and insurance requirements.	Cost of Notice: \$48

Category: Events and Notices – Bids and Proposals
Invitation to Bid: Storm Restoration - DEMCO is accepting proposals from overhead utility electrical contractors, underground utility electrical contractors, electrical utility right of way contractors, substation construction contractors, relay wiring and testing contractors, electrical engineering consultants, and communication contractors for emergency storm restoration work for the 2025-2028 hurricane/storm season. Please include: a) labor and equipment hourly rate schedules, b) pay policies regarding overtime and holidays, c) crew and equipment types and availability, d) insurance certificates and c) W-9.
Vendors and Contractors are requested to visit the DEMCO Purchasing Department website URL, <a href="https://demco.org/vendor-contractor-registration">https://demco.org/vendor-contractor-registration</a> then follow the link to the Bonfire vendor registration page to register your company. The bid solicitation can be found using your Bonfire registration sign-on once registered.
Proposals will be completed in the Bonfire system; however, they can be emailed to <a href="mailto:purchasing@demco.org">purchasing@demco.org</a> , on or before 12:00 Noon, March 31, 2025 if needed. Questions will be completed in the Bonfire system but can be sent to <a href="mailto:purchasing@demco.org">purchasing@demco.org</a> if experiencing any difficulties.
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Cost of Notice: \$48
PUBLIC NOTICE
INVITATION FOR REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS FOR ENGINEERING SERVICES
Livingston Parish Government invites qualified engineering firms to submit a Statement of Qualifications for the following project:
Drainage Improvements in Livingston Parish ENGINEERING FEE: TO BE NEGOTIATED
This project and the procedures for the selection of this firm will be in accordance with all requirements of the Housing and Urban Development, Louisiana Office of Community Development, Federal Code of Regulations (2CRF200), the State of Louisiana, and the standard of Livingston Parish. All responses received will be evaluated in accordance with the selection criteria identified in the Request for Qualifications information packet available from the Parish. That information also identifies the scope of services to be performed by the selected firm.
All engineering firms shall also be registered with the Louisiana State Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors, in accordance with LA RS 37:689. A copy of the current Certificate(s) of Registration shall be attached to each Statement of Qualification. Failure to be registered and in good standing with the aforementioned board will lead to the rejection of qualifications statement.
Livingston Parish Government will award the project to the respondent obtaining the highest recommendation and points based upon a section committee review of the submitted Statement of Qualifications and work references.
Interested firms are invited to secure an informational packet from Livingston Parish Government Grants Department, Heather Crain, Grants Manager, or download an electronic copy of the official Request for Qualifications packet from Central Bidding website: <a href="http://www.centralbidding.com">www.centralbidding.com</a> . Only those firms that have responded in accordance with the official RFQ packet for this project obtained from Livingston Parish Government or Central Bidding will be considered by the Livingston Parish Selection Committee. Additionally, the firm selected for this project will be required to include the Parish's standard contract provisions in its contract for Engineering Services as amended for this project. The overall level and scope of services will be determined by Livingston Parish Government. A fixed sum contract will be negotiated with the selected firm. Responding firms must be prepared to provide an audited overhead rate for the purpose of contract negotiation and determination of cost reasonableness. Any questions or problems related to the download of the RFQ packet should be directed by email to Heather Crain at <a href="mailto:hcrain@livingstonparishla.gov">hcrain@livingstonparishla.gov</a> .
The response to this RFQ must be hand delivered to the above-named person at Livingston Parish Government, Grants Department, 20355 Government Blvd., Suite E, Livingston, LA 70754, (DMV Building – Second Floor) or mailed to the above-named person at P.O. Box 427, Livingston, LA 70754, in such a manner that it is received no later than 3:00 p.m., Tuesday, March 18, 2025. Statements of Qualifications that have not been received by the deadline date and time will be rejected.
Livingston Parish Government is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Responding firms are encouraged to utilize minority participation in this contract through the use of disadvantaged and women-owned businesses as suppliers or sub-contractors. Livingston Parish Government encourages submission by DBE, minority, veteran, and/or women owned businesses.

LIVINGSTON PARISH GOVERNMENT RANDY DELATTE PARISH PRESIDENT
HEATHER CRAIN GRANTS MANAGER
Cost of Notice: \$84

PUBLIC NOTICE
At 6:00 p.m., on March 11, 2025 at City Hall, 116 N. Range Ave., Denham Springs, LA, the Denham Springs City Council will hold a public hearing to consider the amendment of an ordinance and further provide with respect thereto described more specifically as follows:
AMENDMENT OF ORDINANCE
AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTION 10-102 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES FOR THE CITY OF DENHAM SPRINGS REGARDING LOCATION RESTRICTIONS FOR THE LICENSING OF PREMISES DESIRING TO SERVE ALCOHOL.
Gerard Landry, Mayor City of Denham Springs
Cost of Notice: \$24
NOTICE
Notice is hereby given that, in accordance with L.R.S. 3:1609 and LAC 7:XV.314 (A), the Louisiana Department of Agriculture & Forestry, Louisiana Boll Weevil Eradication Commission, has established a boll weevil eradication zone, the Louisiana Eradication Zone, consisting of all the territory within the state of Louisiana.
Notice is further given that all producers of commercial cotton in Louisiana are required to participate in the boll weevil eradication program, including cost sharing, in accordance with the Boll Weevil Eradication Law and regulations. This includes, but is not limited to, reporting of cotton acreage and destruction of cotton plants and stalks by December 31 of each crop year. A copy of the law and rules and regulations may be obtained from the Boll Weevil Eradication Commission, 5825 Florida Blvd. Ste. 3002, Baton Rouge, La. 70806, telephone number (225) 922-1338.
Notice is also given that the planting of noncommercial cotton is PROHIBITED in Louisiana unless a written waiver is obtained from the Commissioner of Agriculture & Forestry in accordance with LAC 7:XV.319(C). To request a waiver, submit a written application to the Department of Agriculture and Forestry, at the address provided in this notice, stating the conditions under which such written waiver is requested.
Cost of Notice: \$24

<div>The Livingston Parish News</div> <div>1898</div>	
Nancy E. David   Publisher	
J. McHugh David Jr.   Publisher / Managing Editor	
Melanie David   Lifestyle Editor	
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CHRIS KINKAID | | THE NEWS  
Doyle's Ashlie Byrnes looks on during a match this season. She is the District 7-IV Coach of the Year.



CHRIS KINKAID | | THE NEWS  
Springfield's Mary White attempts a shot in a game this season. She is the District 7-IV Most Valuable Player.



CHRIS KINKAID | | THE NEWS  
Doyle's Faith Bridges attempts to get a shot by a defender. Bridges is the league's top offensive player.

## VOLLEYBALL | SEVERAL LIVINGSTON PARISH PLAYERS WIN MAJOR ALL-DISTRICT AWARDS

**BY CHRIS KINKAID**  
**The Livingston Parish News**

Springfield's Mary White is the District 7-IV Most Valuable Player, Doyle's Faith Bridges is the league's top offensive player and Doyle's Ashlie Byrnes is the Coach of the Year.

White is an outside hitter/middle back.

"It was such an honor to get it by junior year and we'll as my senior year," White said. "I'm just happy my hard work paid off. It was good to know that my teammates, my coach and other coaches in the district have noticed as well."

Wasn't expecting to get it, but said it was a goal to keep get working hard and to give as much effort as she could. She talked about her reaction.

"I did cry a little bit because i was so excited, but relieved because of all of the hard work i put in in the offseason," White said.

Bridges, who is a junior, won her first MVP award.

Bridges is a middle blocker.

"I was really excited when I found out," Bridges said. "We worked really hard this season. Coach Ashlie (Byrnes), during practice, we were always practicing and training and she really helped us to get to where we are at."

Byrnes is the Coach of the Year after the Lady Tigers captured the district title. Doyle went 20-11 overall in the regular season.

"I am honored to be named the 2024 district coach of the year," Byrnes said. "This season was filled with ups-and-downs but my players overcame all odds and became undefeated district champs. It's honor for our program to be recognized by established coaches and teams. Doyle volleyball will continue to stride for greatness."

The local first-team players are Doyle teammates Bonnie Henderson and Chrislyn Smith.

Springfield has one first-team player in Lily Effer.

Six more Livingston Parish players are second teamers that

include Doyle teammates Maddy Cade, Abby Grantham and Allie LeBourgeois and Springfield's Charlee Davis, Kacie Riddle and Emma Thornton.

The local all-district honorable-mention players from Doyle are Rorie Calais, Gracie Chaney and Harley Lovell.

Springfield's all-district honorable-mention players include Kamryn Bowles, Kaliyah Fynaut, Sydney Kinchen, Addison Liuzza, Mia Parks and Shaylia Williams.

The league's top defensive player is St. Thomas Aquinas' Abby Foster.

The rest of the top-team players are St. Thomas Aquinas' Nora Faulk and Aubrey Speights and Amite's Anijah Austin.

Two non-locals are on the second team including, St. Thomas Aquinas teammates Miley Smith and Kayley Thompson.

The rest of the all-district honorable-mention players include, St. Thomas Aquinas teammates Aubrey Alston, Rilee Hall, Payten Silewicz and Chloe Willie and Amite teammates Kennedy Johnson and Layla Landrew.

## SOFTBALL | DOYLE'S FLETCHER SIGNS WITH LSU-EUNICE

**BY CHRIS KINKAID**  
**The Livingston Parish News**

Doyle's Alyson Fletcher has signed a letter of intent to attend LSU-Eunice and play softball.

"I met (head coach) Meghan (Collins) and them at a tournament. They came up to me and I just fell in love with them instantly. Her and (assistant coach) Sierra (Easterwood)," Fletcher said. "They asked me to come on a visit and the school was just the right size for me obviously and honestly everything has



CHRIS KINKAID | | THE NEWS  
Doyle's Alyson Fletcher signed a letter of intent to attend LSU-Eunice.

been perfect."

Fletcher said she is super excited.

Fletcher feels like she is a good addition to the outfield. Fletcher is a centerfielder.

"I'm definitely going to have to work my way up," Fletcher said.

Last season, Fletcher was a first-team all-parish outfielder and top-team all-district player.

In the 2024 season, Fletcher had a .458 batting average with a .500 on base percentage and a .771 slugging. She hit five homers with 39 runs batted in with 39 runs scored. Fletcher tallied nine doubles and three triples.

"Alyson came to us in 2022 and since this time she has been an integral part of our team, demonstrating unmatched determination and skill on the field," Doyle coach Kyle Wieck said. "As a centerfielder, she has consistently been a force to be reckoned with, delivering clutch plays and leading the team with her ability to close on a ball, batting power, fielding precision, and being an all-around imposing force."

In college, Fletcher is planning on going into the medical field.

## BASEBALL | SEVERAL LOCALS COMPETED IN FRENCH SETTLEMENT TOURNAMENT

**BY CHRIS KINKAID**  
**The Livingston Parish News**

Several teams competed in the French Settlement Tournament that was held Feb. 20-22.

French Settlement went 2-1.

The Lions started with a 10-0 loss to East Ascension on Feb. 20.

Noah McNabb went 2-for-3.

Brycen Valle, Jackson Cheuning, Cooper Bullion and Noah Parrish all singled.

East Ascension scored in five of the seven innings with the biggest being a four-run fourth.

The next two games were on Feb. 22.

French Settlement defeated Springfield, 9-2, after scoring five runs in the sixth to break open a 4-1 contest.

Valle posted two singles with a run driven in and two runs scored.

Trevor McMorris singled twice with two RBIs and a run scored.

McNabb singled and drove in a run.

Nate Jackson singled and scored a run.

Parrish doubled.

Colin Hutcherson scored two runs.

Hance Roussel drove in two runs.

Winning pitcher Parrish allowed two runs, one earned on three hits with six strikeouts and seven walks over six innings.

Roussel pitched a scoreless and hitless inning with two strikeouts and a walk.

Springfield's Ethan Lipscomb, Brock Cothorn and Logan Ballard all singled.

Colt Lirette drove in a run and scored a run.

Joe Ray both drove in a run.

French Settlement defeated Albany, 8-4.

Hutcherson went 3-for-3 with two doubles, two runs batted in and three runs scored.

Bullion doubled twice and singled once with two RBIs and two runs scored.

Cheuning singled twice with two runs scored.

McMorris doubled and drove in two.

McNabb singled.

Valle scored a run and drove one home.

Winning pitcher McMorris allowed two earned runs on five hits with six strikeouts and a walk in a complete-game performance.

Albany's Jayden Randazzo singled and doubled with two runs batted in and a run scored.

Ethan Hebert singled with two runs scored.

Caleb Ortiz singled and scored a run.

Dillon Sutton singled.

French Settlement scored a run in each of the first four innings with single runs during the first three and three more in the fourth to take a 6-1 lead.

Albany went 0-2 with losses to Prairieville

and French Settlement.

The loss to Prairieville was 17-6 in five innings on Feb. 20.

Sutton singled with an RBI and a run scored.

Ortiz and Jayden Randazzo both singled and drove in a run.

Layton Ballard singled and scored a run.

Ethan Harrell doubled.

Hebert and Eli Joiner both scored a run.

Albany trailed 9-0 after the first inning and trimmed it to 9-5 after 1.5, but Prairieville countered with six runs in their half of the second to go up 15-5.

Springfield went 1-2.

The Bulldogs played twice on Feb. 21 and split games against East Jefferson and East Ascension.

The game against East Jefferson was a 12-2 victory in six innings.

Springfield scored runs in five of the six innings and they were all frames of two or three runs.

Ray had a huge game, going 2-for-4 with six runs batted in.

Lipscomb recorded three hits in as many at bats with two runs batted in and three runs scored.

Brennan McKinney recorded two singles

with an RBI and a run scored.

Cothorn singled and doubled with a run scored.

Dawson Roussel singled twice with a run scored.

Will Sanders scored two runs.

Ray was the winning pitcher, allowing two runs on four hits with eight strikeouts and two walks.

Springfield was defeated by East Ascension, 9-1.

Lipscomb singled and scored a run.

Ray singled and drove in a run.

Sanders doubled.

Brock Cothorn and Brennen Clement both singled.

Springfield trailed 3-0 after three ad 7-0 after five. The Bulldogs tallied a run in the sixth to make it 7-1, but East Ascension added two more in the bottom of the sixth in the win.

Maurepas lost their only game of the event in a 15-0 five-inning setback to Prairieville on Feb. 21.

The Wolves were limited to three hits on singles by Alex Aime, Noah Dugas and Jonah Miller.

## Classifieds & Marketplace

### Garage Sale

SPRING GARAGE SALE  
Gray's Creek Baptist Church  
21039 LA HWY 16  
Denham Springs, LA.  
March 6th-7th, (7:30am-3:00pm)

### Help Wanted

Livingston Parish Public Schools

is actively seeking applications for certified teachers and educators. Please submit applications at <https://phl.applitrack.com/lpsb/onlineapp/>


### Public Notices

I, Best Stop Quick Mart 100, am applying to the Office of Alcohol and Tobacco Control of the State of Louisiana for a permit to sell


tobacco and beverages of "High and Low" alcoholic content at retail in the Parish of Livingston at the following name and address:

Best Stop Quick Mart 100  
13811 Florida Boulevard  
Livingston, LA 70754


Owner: Navjot Singh



**REFERENCE: ACT 962 NOTIFICATION**  
Under Act 962 of the 1992 legislature, I am required to advise you that my name is **Tiffany Nicole Harrison** and that I have been convicted of Carnal Knowledge of a Juvenile. My address is as follows: **18565 Aydel Lane, French Settlement, LA 70733**



**REFERENCE: ACT 962 NOTIFICATION**  
Under Act 962 of the 1992 legislature, I am required to advise you that my name is **Elias Beraza** and that I have been convicted of Indecent Behavior with Juveniles. My address is as follows: **28264 Hano Ln., Holden, LA 70744.**



**REFERENCE: ACT 962 NOTIFICATION**  
Under Act 962 of the 1992 legislature, I am required to advise you that my name is **Darren Marionneaux** and that I have been convicted of Aggravated Incest. My address is as follows: **35106 Starnes Road, Independence, LA 70443.**

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# THROW ME SOME MISTER

DENHAM SPRINGS **MARDI GRAS PARADE** ROLLS IN 2025



PHOTOS BY JONATHAN MALLIES | THE NEWS



# SAVE THE DATE FOR THE LIVINGSTON PARISH LIBRARY'S COMIC CON!

BY DAVID GRAY  
Livingston Parish Library

Get ready for Livingston Parish's biggest celebration of comic books, movies, television, video games, and all things pop culture!

The Livingston Parish Library (LPL) will host the 9.5th Annual Comic Con on Saturday, March 29, 2025. Comic Con will run from 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. at the Denham Springs-Walker Branch, located at 8101 US Hwy. 190, Denham Springs, LA 70726.

People of all ages are invited to celebrate their favorite fandom at this free event, which is open to the public.

## What is Comic Con

Inspired by the mega-event that takes place annually in San Diego,

LPL's Comic Con invites attendees to participate in games and activities, interact with local authors, illustrators and graphic novelists, and cosplay as their favorite characters.

Held at the system's largest branch, the Library's Comic Con has grown into one of the system's most popular events. Last year's Comic Con drew more than 2,000 visitors, which was a record.

This year's event will feature many entertainers and activities, including The Dinosaur Experience, Glinda and Elphaba (from the Petite Princess Company), vendors, a Minecraft scavenger hunt, crafts, concessions, an escape room, giant games, and tabletop games.

Comic Con will also feature the popular cosplay

contest, which is open to all ages. Applicants aged 17 and under must register with guardian consent.

## Vendor Registration

Registration is open for local vendors and community organizations that would like to participate in Comic Con. All applications must be submitted by 11:59 p.m. on Wednesday, March 19, 2025.

To submit an application, visit [www.mylpl.info/ComicCon](http://www.mylpl.info/ComicCon).

**SUBMITTED • THE NEWS**  
Two visitors dressed as Spider-Man pose for a picture during the Livingston Parish Library's 9th Annual Comic Con on Saturday, February 24, 2024. This year's Comic Con will be held from 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. on Saturday, March 29, 2025, at the Livingston Parish Library's Denham Springs-Walker Branch in Denham Springs, Louisiana.



## GO TELL AMERICA TO HOLD CRUSADE IN DENHAM SPRINGS HIGH SCHOOL'S YELLOW JACKET STADIUM

### STAFF REPORT

The Livingston Parish News

Evangelist Rick Gage and the GO TELL AMERICA team will hold a crusade in Livingston Parish March 16-19 at the Denham Springs High School Yellow Jacket Stadium.

The crusade, which will begin at 7 p.m. each day, is being held in partnership with numerous local churches in the Denham Springs area. Admission for each night is free.

"The last thing Christ directed His friends to do before He left the earth was to share the Gospel with the whole world," Gage said. "Not only does this directive still exist, but we believe it is to be just as much our No. 1 goal in the 21st century as it was in the first."

Similar GO TELL AMERICA Crusades, held across the nation, have routinely drawn more than 10,000 attendees and resulted in thousands of decisions for Christ.

Duck Dynasty's Al Robertson (alandisarobertson.com), Christian music artist Charles Billingsley (charlesbillingsley.com) and other special guests



will be at the crusade for one night.

Billingsley will attend on March 16 and Robertson on March 17. Adrian Despres (forgeforward.org/event-speakers/speaker-directory/adrian-despres), former football chaplain at the University of South Carolina under Lou Holtz and Steve Spurrier, will also speak on Monday night. Christian recording artists, Rush of Fools (rushoffools.com), will lead music every night.

"We're excited to have Rick Gage and his

team hold a crusade in our area," said Rev. Leo Miller, pastor at First Baptist Church of Denham Springs. "Rick has been described as the 'small town Billy Graham,' meaning that he brings Billy Graham-style crusades to small towns across America. Rick has been obedient to God's call on his life to take the Gospel to places that most other evangelists see only from the air on their way to big cities."

Gage said it's crucial that no one is overlooked,

that everyone has the opportunity to hear the Gospel and respond to it.

"The need and urgency to evangelize the unsaved have never been greater," he said. "Life is brief. Life is uncertain. Death is sure. And Christ may appear at any moment."

Chris Palmer, executive director of GO TELL AMERICA in Atlanta, called it fitting that the crusade be held at the Denham Springs stadium because it brings people together in unity for the love of sports.

"It is a neutral site that removes the barriers that keep people away from churches on Sundays," Palmer said. "With all of the sports victories that occur in stadiums, we want to help people find the biggest victory of their lives."

First Baptist Church of Denham Springs has had a longstanding relationship with GO TELL AMERICA, especially with the student summer camps the organization provides each year in various states to churches across the nation. "With this connection,

we asked for Dr. Leo Miller to pray about discussing with his colleagues in ministry the joint effort of reaching the unchurched in Livingston Parish," Palmer said. "We have often heard people ask, 'Does crusade evangelism still work today?' The answer is a resounding 'yes.' God is still in the business of redeeming people, and He still uses His Church to do so. Crusade evangelism still works today because God is still using His people to bring the lost to the cross."

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CLARK ROBERTSON: HEIRLOOM VERSUS HYBRID

BY CLARK ROBERTSON  
Department of  
Agriculture

Interest in food safety and sustainable gardening seems to be growing faster than weeds taking over our flowerbeds. I understand it. Knowing what we eat, how it is grown, and where it comes from are easy steps to insure we select the healthiest and best tasting food available. Growing our own produce is one way we can control what we are consuming.

If you are new to the world of gardening, you may feel overwhelmed when selecting seeds or plants for your vegetables. I hear many comments and questions about heirloom seeds and plants being better or healthier than hybrid vegetables. Others question whether hybrid vegetables are safe, or they may equate hybrid vegetables to genetically modified organisms (GMO) crops. Let's dig into what these labels mean.

Look through a seed catalogue or go to the local garden center and you will notice plants labeled as



either heirloom or hybrid varieties. A variety is a group of plants within a species with a common set of characteristics. These occur through natural mutations, selections, or isolation. When humans intervene in these steps, the plants are called cultivars.

Broadly speaking, heirloom varieties are old. How old? For many horticulturists, heirlooms will refer to any variety grown before 1951 when the first hybrids became available. Heirlooms can date back to the pre-Columbian era or even further. Purple stripe garlic

is the oldest and most genetically like the first cultivated garlic grown around 5000 years ago.

Being old is not the defining characteristic of an heirloom though. Heirlooms refer to plants that are open-pollinated and produce seeds that will be true to type, resembling the plant that produced it. Heirloom vegetables are often prized for exceptional flavor such as 'Brandywine' and 'Cherokee Purple' tomatoes or the 'Rattlesnake Pole' bean and 'Golden Bantam' corn heirloom varieties.

While heirloom varieties are open pollinated, there are occasions where cross-pollination between varieties of a species must be avoided to maintain the heirloom traits. Heirlooms species like cucurbits (squash and pumpkins) and cole crops (broccoli, cabbage, cauliflower, etc.) can cross pollinate with different varieties of their own species resulting in seeds that will not be true to type. Geographic isolation is commonly used to prevent this.

Hybrids are the result of cross-pollination between two different varieties of a plant, producing an offspring (hybrid) with improved characteristics over the parents. This is often the result of plant breeders intentionally cross-pollinating plants to produce a variety with favorable characteristics such as easy care, early maturity, improved yield, improved flavor, specific plant or fruit size, better disease resistance, or seedless fruit. Examples of commonly grown hybrid vegetables include 'Sun Gold' cherry tomatoes,

'Silver Queen' sweet corn, 'Green Magic' broccoli, and 'Dasher II' cucumbers. If it wasn't for hybrids, we wouldn't even have broccoli, cabbage, orange carrots, satsumas, seedless grapes, or our beloved Louisiana strawberries to name a few.

The drawback of hybrid varieties is that you cannot save seeds that will produce plants true to type. Seeds must be sourced from the companies who are making the crosses between the parent plants. Some also feel hybrids can be less flavorful compared to heirlooms.

Hybrids are not GMOs. GMOs are created through the intervention of biotechnology. Genetic manipulation is used to overcome natural reproductive obstacles preventing reproduction between different species. This allows desirable characteristics from one species, such as insect or herbicide resistance, to be inserted into a different species.

There is much debate about whether GMOs are good or bad, but that's another story. Rest assured vegetable seeds or vegetable



plants you purchase in garden centers are not GMO plants. It doesn't matter if it is labeled heirloom or hybrid.

The choice of heirloom or hybrid comes down to what characteristics you are wanting from the vegetable. Do you want to be able to save seeds, then pick heirlooms. Do you want improved yield and disease resistance, then hybrids are probably right for you.

I typically grow a mixture of heirloom and hybrid vegetables for the best of both worlds. Try them out and see which you prefer to grow. Whichever you select, you can't beat homegrown for the best flavor!

Mardi GRAS

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