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2024 IN REVIEW

OUR TOP 10 STORIES 2024

1. Going the Distance: Benton's Sydney Conley Elliott Called to Participate in the Olympics

Dreams do come true. Just ask Benton's Sydney Conley Elliott. Sydney and her horse, Q-C Diamantaire, recently competed in the 2024 Paris Olympics. Initially named alternates on the U.S. team, Elliott and Q-C Diamantaire were officially added to the four-horse team just two hours before the start of the Olympics after an injury sidelined another member.

"The Olympics have been something I have dreamed about since I was a child, and to be a part of the Paris 2024 Olympic Games is such an honor and responsibility to represent the USA," Elliott said. "To all my supporters over the years in the Ark-La-Tex, it has taken a village, and I would never have been able to achieve this childhood dream without every single person who supported me throughout my career."

Elliott is currently in Belgium after completing her Olympic competition on Monday, July 29, 2024.

Sydney's first riding experience as a child was at Holly Hill Farm in Benton, where she trained throughout her entire riding career before moving her operation to her own farm just two miles down the road. Owned and operated by Bobby and Tracy Hewlett, Holly Hill, along with their Gator Bayou Pony Club branch, served as the foundation for Sydney's riding and horsemanship education.

When she was just 10 years old, her mother bought her Fancy—a 14.2-hand pony.

After accomplishing her longtime dream, Elliott and her team have their eyes set on the future: the 2028 Summer Olympics in Los Angeles.

2. Walter O. Bigby Carriageway Officially Opens

Bossier City's newest north-south corridor has reached a significant milestone. On Monday, Sept. 30, 2024, a ribbon-cutting ceremony marked the official opening of the Walter O. Bigby Carriageway. The long-awaited roadway provides a crucial north-south connection for Bossier City residents.

Planning for the project began more than 20 years ago, with construction underway for the past two years.

The event, attended by city officials, business leaders, and community members, celebrated the completion of one of the city's most significant infrastructure projects. Named in honor of the late state legislator and Bossier City native Walter O. Bigby, the carriageway aims to ease traffic congestion and improve connectivity between North and South Bossier.

"In 2001, we committed to completing this mission and addressing long-standing traffic concerns," Bossier City Councilman David Montgomery said. "The vote of the people allowed us to tackle issues that have persisted for more than 20 years. This project has created a vital connection between South and North Bossier. Today, we fulfill that promise. The Walter O. Bigby Carriageway will not only improve traffic flow but also enhance economic development opportunities by providing better access between the northern and southern parts of our city."

Bossier City Councilman Chris Smith added, "We now have a literal bridge connecting all of our communities, and this is something we should be excited about and grateful for. This is more than just a road. It's a connection for our community, and it's something we can all take pride in."

The Walter O. Bigby Carriageway is designed to offer motorists a north-south route with fewer obstacles, such as active railroad crossings and multiple intersections, providing a more efficient and direct travel option. As Bossier City continues to expand, the carriageway is expected to play a key role in shaping the future of transportation and commerce in the region.

3. Local Judge Makes History in Bossier Parish

Surrounded by family, friends, and colleagues, the Honorable Allie Aiello Stahl made history on Thursday, Jan. 18, 2024, as she was formally sworn in as a 26th Judicial District Court judge for Bossier and Webster parishes, becoming the first woman to serve in this role.

"Today my heart is full of joy and gratitude," Judge Aiello Stahl said. "I am proud of the many titles I hold in

my life: Christian, wife, mother, daughter, attorney, and now judge! These titles do not define me, and I do not feel like a trailblazer by any means, but being the first female judge in our parish's history is such a special honor to me. I am humbled by this great responsibility, and I pray that I will always be a good example for the youth of our parish, particularly young women."

She added, "As a mother to two young daughters, being a good role model is very important to me. I feel blessed to have the best and most supportive family and friends. I've never once thought I couldn't do something or achieve a specific goal, and it's because I've been constantly reminded throughout my life that I can do anything I put my mind to."

"As a judge, my goal is to uphold the law to ensure that all parties have a fair and unbiased opportunity to present their case in court. A case will never be decided until all pertinent facts are presented and the laws are applied impartially and equally to all. I firmly believe that a judge's role is to interpret the law fairly as it is written—not necessarily how one thinks it should be. The role of our courts is to be fair, impartial, and absent of any activist leaning or intent," she said.

Judge Aiello Stahl grew up in Benton and now resides in Bossier City. She and her husband, Christopher Stahl, an attorney and small business owner, are parents to two daughters.

4. Barksdale Airmen Become Citizens During Historic Naturalization Ceremony

Seven Airmen assigned to the 2nd Bomb Wing (2nd BW) became U.S. citizens during a naturalization ceremony held at Hoban Hall, Barksdale Air Force Base, on Tuesday, July 2, 2024, at 11 a.m.

"Thanks to the efforts of many, they now celebrate this occasion in a manner befitting its importance. Becoming citizens of a country with a constitution they have already taken an oath to support and defend. They get to do this among their comrades in arms, leaders in the community in which they live, and their family and friends. They take this oath on the base where they work and where they project the might of the United States daily," said Col. Michael Maginness, 2nd BW commander.

Barksdale Air Force Base hosted its first-ever naturalization ceremony in partnership with U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services. U.S. Magistrate Judge Mark Hornsby, of the Western District of Louisiana, administered the oath of allegiance to the Airmen.

Shortly after taking the oath, Airman 1st Class Imuzi Thompson said, "It was possibly the greatest moment in my life. I cannot express how grateful I am to be here. It is the greatest moment of my life to see all of my children at one of the best moments in my life."

"I'm already privileged to be in the military. That's already a dream come true. But this is another chapter for me. I am humbled to be a part of this great nation and to prove that I belong here," he added.

The Airmen who took the oath of allegiance are: Senior Airman Kethelen Da Vitoria dos Santos, Brazil; Senior Airman Ramon Mitra, Philippines; Senior Airman Eli Sebastian, Indonesia; Airman 1st Class Daveika Hall, Jamaica; Airman 1st Class Tiffany Hennings, Jamaica; Airman 1st Class Christian Santos, Philippines; Airman 1st Class Imuzi Thompson, Jamaica.

5. Louisiana Election Results: Rep. Mike Johnson Retains Seat in 4th Congressional District; Key Local Races Decided

Louisiana voters turned out for the 2024 General Election on Tuesday, Nov. 5, casting ballots in a range of national, state, and local races. Among the significant outcomes was the re-election of Rep. Mike Johnson (R) in the 4th Congressional District. Johnson, who rose to Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives last year, will continue representing the district, which spans 20 parishes from the Arkansas border to Calcasieu Parish. First elected in 2016, Johnson retained his seat with strong voter support.

In Bossier Parish, Republicans and Independents claimed key mayoral and aldermanic positions. Voters

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SANTA'S HELPERS OF HAUGHTON



Courtesy Photo

Santa's Helpers of Haughton, a volunteer-driven organization, worked during the holiday season to bring Christmas magic to children and families in need. Pictured above, Haughton Elementary School employees collect food donations for Santa's Helpers of Haughton.

SANTA'S HELPERS OF HAUGHTON: SPREADING CHRISTMAS JOY TO FAMILIES IN NEED

STACEY TINSLEY
Press-Tribune

What began as a heartfelt idea in 2020 by David "Andy" and Shannon Gray has grown into a cherished community tradition that continues to transform lives. Santa's Helpers of Haughton, a volunteer-driven organization, was on a mission during the holiday season to bring Christmas magic to children and families in need.

The Grays were inspired to create Santa's Helpers after deciding to forego exchanging gifts within their own family, choosing instead to help others during the holiday season. Their commitment gained urgency when a neighbor's home was destroyed by fire just weeks before Christmas. Moved to action, David Gray partnered with Stacey Adams and Jessie Ford, two individuals deeply committed to supporting local families in need.

"This whole thing started with a dream to be able to

help those in need," Ford said. "Since this dream has become a reality, we are always brought to tears by the outpouring of love and compassion we see."

In its inaugural year, the organization provided gifts and Christmas dinners to 18 families and 34 children, thanks to support from local businesses like Reynolds Grocery, owned by Deana Reynolds. Since then, Santa's Helpers of Haughton has seen its impact grow exponentially.

"Last year, we were able to help 31 families and 90 children," Adams said. "While it warms our hearts to help these children and ease some of the stress for parents, it also highlights the economic struggles our community faces."

This year, the organization is already assisting 30 families and 66 children, with more requests coming in daily.

The success of Santa's Helpers lies in the generosity of the Haughton com-

See HELPERS, Page 2



Courtesy Photo

Santa's Helpers of Haughton, a volunteer-driven organization, worked during the holiday season to bring Christmas magic to children and families in need. Pictured above, a garage full of donations collected for Santa's Helpers of Haughton.



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TOP TEN

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also approved a significant constitutional amendment regarding federal revenue management.

Local Election Highlights

Mayoral Races

In Bossier Parish, contested mayoral elections included: Town of Benton Mayor: James Friday (R) won with 65% of the vote (534 votes).

Town of Haughton Mayor: Hunter Timms (R) secured 59% of the vote (1,067 votes).

Town of Plain Dealing Mayor: Independent James Cook narrowly claimed the seat with 48% of the vote (164 votes) in a closely contested race.

Chief of Police Races

Republican candidates swept the races for chief of police:

Benton Chief of Police: Steve Collier (R) won decisively with 71% of the vote (608 votes).

Haughton Chief of Police: Todd Gibson (R) achieved a sweeping victory with 89% of the vote (1,611 votes).

6. Chasing Aces Golf Breaks Ground in Bossier City

State and city officials, along with company representatives, chamber of commerce members, and local economic developers, broke ground Friday, Feb. 9, 2024, on the new Chasing Aces Golf entertainment complex near Margartaville Casino and Hotel on Bossier City's riverfront.

The \$25 million development will span 27 acres and feature an interactive, multi-level driving range with 30 bays, similar to the popular Topgolf franchise. Chasing Aces will include additional amenities and dining options.

Plans for the complex also include a nine-hole smart course, an 18-hole putting course, multiple restaurants, a training center, and a pro shop. The project is scheduled to open in 2025, creating 120 full- and part-time jobs upon completion and 200 construction jobs during the 14-month development period.

"This development will provide another attraction for visitors to the Shreveport-Bossier area. With tourism being one of the state's top industries, I commend Northwest Louisiana for its investment in this new attraction, which will bring another family-friendly entertainment facility and help grow the game of golf in Louisiana," said Louisiana Lt. Gov. Billy Nungesser.

"Chasing Aces is a unique blend of sports, entertainment, tourism, and technology," said John Dudley, Chasing Aces CEO and founder. "This will set us apart from other golf entertainment complexes across the country."

7. Senator Cassidy Announces \$22.6 Million for Port of Caddo-Bossier

On Wednesday, Oct. 16, 2024, U.S. Senator Bill Cassidy, M.D. (R-La.), announced that the Caddo-Bossier Port Commission has been awarded \$22.6 million from the U.S. Department of Transportation's INFRA grant program. The funds will support the Port of Caddo-Bossier's I-69 Connector project, which will link I-49 to the future I-69 Corridor by upgrading and extending Stonewall Frererson Road.

"Reliable roads that connect our ports to the rest of the state are essential for economic growth," said Cassidy. "The Caddo-Bossier I-69 Connector will provide another reason for companies to invest in North Louisiana, helping build an economy for the future. This project was made possible, in part, by the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, which increased available funding for the INFRA grant program."

Port of Caddo-Bossier Executive Director Eric England called the award a landmark achievement for the region. "Today is one of the most significant days in the port's history. I-69 will now have a presence in Louisiana, connecting the Port of Caddo-Bossier to I-49," England said.

He added that the project would greatly improve local traffic conditions. "We're going to ease congestion on LA Highway 1, 3132, and the Inner Loop. This will provide a direct route from the port to I-49, allowing 18-wheelers to access the national interstate system efficiently."

England shared updates on the project's timeline. "The project is already in the design phase, with engineers working on the 10-mile stretch from the port to I-49. We expect some components to enter the construction phase as early as late 2025," he said.

England concluded by acknowledging the collaboration required to make the project a reality. "This \$81 million project required funding from the state of Louisiana, as well as support from local partners, including Caddo, DeSoto, and Bossier parishes, Bossier City, the Port Commission, and NLCOG."

In a telephone interview on Thursday, Oct. 17, Bossier Press-Tribune Publisher Randy Brown spoke with Senator Cassidy about the INFRA grant funding. Cassidy emphasized the effort involved in securing infrastructure dollars for the state and region. "When I first went to Washington as a U.S. senator, Louisiana was behind in developing I-69," he said.

Cassidy also highlighted the importance of increased highway, rail, and air systems feeding the Port of Caddo-Bossier for economic development in Northern Louisiana. He said the INFRA grant program exemplified its intended purpose, mentioning his discussions with Port of Caddo-Bossier tenant Benteler Steel, which is making a billion-dollar investment in the region.

8. Economist Shares Positive Outlook for Northwest Louisiana's Economy

Noted economist Dr. Loren Scott, of Loren C. Scott and Associates in Baton Rouge, shared an optimistic economic outlook for Louisiana for 2025-26 during a presentation on Friday, Oct. 4, at the Regional Commerce Center at the Port of Caddo-Bossier. The event, hosted by the Port of Caddo-Bossier and Business First (b1) Bank, highlighted key factors influencing economic growth in the Shreveport-Bossier City region.

Dr. Scott's report focused on job creation, industry growth, and overall economic trends, offering a hopeful forecast for local officials and residents eager to see economic expansion in Northwest Louisiana.

In his presentation, Dr. Scott reviewed the region's major economic contributors, including the Haynesville Shale, the new Amazon facilities in Shreveport, and the forthcoming Heirloom plant at the Port of Caddo-Bossier. "We're seeing a lot of positive movement," he said. "There are no negative numbers in our findings, and the outlook remains strong."

Dr. Scott identified several specific growth drivers, such as Fibrebond in Webster Parish, which is expanding its facilities and workforce, and Troubled Muse in Bossier Parish, which is expected to create 800 new jobs over the next two years.

"Fibrebond is in the middle of a great growth spurt. Located in Webster Parish, Fibrebond builds modular electrical enclosures for data and large industrial buildings on its 254-acre campus. The company now employs 640 full-time employees and 360 contract electricians—about 1,000 workers total. A \$50 million plant expansion and other enhancements started this summer, in addition to \$40 million in facility upgrades already underway. Fibrebond expects to have 1,300 employees by 2026," Scott said.

Scott also expressed optimism for the Haynesville Shale, citing rising global demand for natural gas driven by liquefied natural gas (LNG) facilities. "The Haynesville Shale is poised to take off again," he said.

While gross gaming revenue in Shreveport-Bossier has declined in recent years, Scott believes the opening of the new Live! Casino and Hotel in Bossier City could bring positive changes in 2025. "It will be interesting to see whether the market stabilizes or starts growing again with this new addition. We should have a clearer picture a year from now," he remarked.

"The newly branded Live! Casino and Hotel will have 47,000 square feet of gaming space, a 550-room hotel, and entertainment and event space. Its opening will also bring 750 new jobs to the MSA when it opens in 2025," he added.

9. Faith and Freedom Parade Brings Patriotic Spirit to Louisiana Boardwalk

On Sunday, Nov. 3, 2024, families and community members gathered at the Louisiana Boardwalk Outlets in Bossier City for the Faith and Freedom Parade, a vibrant celebration organized to promote civic engagement and honor American values.

The parade, which began at 2 p.m., was spearheaded by Louisiana District 8 State Rep. Raymond Crews, R-Bossier City, who saw the event as an opportunity to encourage voter turnout for Election Day while celebrating national pride.

"This event was a last-minute attempt to get people engaged and make sure they didn't forget about Election Day," Crews said. "We wanted to remind them of what is great about America and give them a chance to show their patriotism."

The Faith and Freedom Parade marked the first time such an event was held at the Louisiana Boardwalk, drawing enthusiastic participation from local groups, including the Republican Women of Bossier.

The group's president, Jane Smith, expressed her gratitude for the freedoms Americans enjoy and emphasized the importance of voting. "We were excited to participate

in the very first Faith and Freedom Parade. We love America and are so thankful for the men and women who have sacrificed so much over the years for us to have the freedom to vote and select our leaders," Smith said. "Voting should never be taken for granted, and we are thankful to God for our beloved America."

10. Bossier City Employees to Receive Pay Raises

Bossier City Mayor Thomas H. Chandler announced a significant pay increase for all city employees following the Bossier City Council's approval of his proposed budget on Tuesday, Nov. 19, 2024. The move, which fulfills one of Chandler's key campaign promises, will raise salaries by at least \$6,000, with some employees receiving additional increases to meet minimum regional salary benchmarks for their positions.

"It is a great day in Bossier City," Chandler said. "I have worked hard and am very pleased to have my budget approved, which includes pay raises. This is important to me and one of the main promises I campaigned on when I ran for mayor. Our city employees work hard every day for our citizens, and they definitely deserve it."

The pay increase applies to all city employees, including Civil Service workers such as firefighters and police officers. Chandler emphasized the importance of the raise for the city's emergency services, noting that it will enhance the competitiveness of the Bossier City Fire and Police departments, which is critical for attracting and retaining skilled personnel.

"This raise will significantly improve our ability to recruit and retain top-quality personnel in our Fire and Police departments," Chandler said.

HELPERS

Continued from Page 1

community. Small businesses across the town host donation drop-off locations, and individuals step forward to adopt families and fulfill Christmas wishes.

"The saying 'it takes a village' rings true more and more every day," Adams said. "Our amazing small businesses have helped behind the scenes for years, and we're so thankful for their continued support."

Through word of mouth and social media, Santa's Helpers has rallied an ever-growing network of donors, volunteers, and sponsors.

"At the end of the day, our community shows what it takes to be a positive and uplifting place to live," Ford said. "When we come

together, a small plan can make a huge impact."

Santa's Helpers' mission extends beyond material gifts. The organization strives to teach children the true meaning of Christmas—compassion and giving—while offering families hope and belonging during tough times.

Families in need can apply for assistance through a form on the organization's Facebook page. Approved applications are shared with the community, allowing members to adopt families and fulfill their holiday wishes.

As the holiday season comes and goes, Santa's Helpers of Haughton serves as a shining example of how small acts of kindness can grow into a movement of love and generosity, reminding everyone of the power of community during the most wonderful time of the year.



Courtesy Photo

Pictured above, a collection box full of donations collected for Santa's Helpers of Haughton at Station 80 on Highway 80 in Haughton.

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BPT OPINION

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OPINION

THE HOLIDAYS OFFER US A SECOND CHANCE

Most of us have been swept up in the momentum of the holiday season. We have passed Thanksgiving, reached the Christmas milestone and are approaching New Year's Day, the third in the trilogy of holidays. Sure, there is a lot of our attention on holiday shopping, football, and social events. But it is also a time to reflect of what the three holidays can mean to all of us. A second chance, and maybe even a new beginning.

On Thanksgiving Day, we recognized and celebrated the new start of the Pilgrims who made the two-month journey from England to America back in 1620. They too wanted a second chance. They were searching for a better life with the freedom to live and worship in their own way, free from the intolerance they faced under King James I and the Church of England. Their leaders created the Mayflower Compact, which established a new set of laws so that they could be treated equally and fairly as part of their new way of life. A rebirth. A new beginning for all of them.



JIM BROWN

The second link in the trilogy, and to Christians the most important, is the Christmas season. The Bible teaches that Christ died on the cross to give believers a second chance. There is one book that I try to read over the holidays every year, "A Christmas Carol" by Charles Dickens. In the early 1960s, I had a golden opportunity to study English Literature at Cambridge University in England, where the writings of Dickens were my focus

Dickens was a major literary personality in his day, and newspapers serialized many of his stories. He initially published under the pen name of "Boz," and he used this pseudonym for many of his early novels. He entertained his wide London audience with humor in books like, "The Pickwick Papers" and "The Life and Times of Nicholas Nickleby." Dickens pulled at the heartstrings of his readers with the drama of "Oliver Twist" and "A Tale of Two Cities." But as the Christmas season approached in 1843, Dickens began using his own name, and took on the role of a crusader with the publication of "A Christmas Carol."

Most of us have seen this poignant Christmas story filled with an array of colorful characters like Ebenezer Scrooge, Tiny Tim, Bob Cratchit, The Ghost of Christmas Past, The Ghost of Christmas Present, and The Ghost of Christmas yet to Come. But the real lessons of the spirit that emanate from this special time of year come, not from miserly Ebenezer Scrooge, but from his dead partner, Jacob Marley. While alive, Marley failed to help others, and in death he is damned to the agony of recognizing the pain and suffering of others, and being unable to help in anyway, and this is his special hell.

My attorney friend, Eric Duplantis, who practices law and writes in the small town of Franklin, Louisiana, puts it this way: "In life, Marley's worst sin was not his venality, but his indifference. After death he realizes this. But it's too late. Death gave him compassion, but his sentence for a lifetime of indifference is an inability to act on the compassion he feels."

Marley is given a single opportunity to do a good act, after which he must return to his Hell. The ghost gives Scrooge the greatest gift of all. Marley gives Scrooge the chance of redemption. The message here from Dickens is that even someone as lost as Ebenezer Scrooge can be saved if he seizes this one-time gift of a second chance.

Here's hoping that the coming year brings you the opportunity of a second chance if you feel you need one. We all generally do. But whether you do or you don't, may you and your family have a blessed and healthy holiday season and a very happy New Year. As Tiny Tim said in "The Christmas Carol," God bless us every one.

Peace and Justice,

Jim Brown

Jim Brown Jim Brown's syndicated column appears each week in numerous newspapers throughout the nation and on websites worldwide. You can read all his past columns and see continuing updates at <http://www.jimbrowna.com>.

OPINION

Happy New Year!

Well, the New Year is here! Happy New Year! Happy 2025! Is that true? Is it really 2025? Yes, it is! To me, that is an unbelievable reality. Truly, it doesn't seem possible. However, there is the "R" word "Reality." And, the reality of it is that 2025 is here! I hope and pray that you and your families had a very blessed, joyous, wonderful and MERRY CHRISTMAS! Also, I wish you ALL an extremely blessed and most prosperous New Year for 2025!



RANDY BROWN

The coming New Year always brings many opportunities for all of us! I love thinking of opportunities! I am a positive person by nature. So, the "O" word really gets my heart racing! In short, the "O" word gets me going! In the New Year, we will all get a chance for a fresh start, a new beginning. It causes us to focus (at least for a brief time... LoL) toward the things that we most want to accomplish, the things things that we want to turn into our

own reality during the new year. Of course, the reality of life is that we will also face some challenges in the new year. These challenges can affect and influence us personally, but there is also (as always) challenges for: our city, our parish, our state our nation and our world.

I am really looking forward to 2025. We all should be looking forward to the year ahead. And, as most of us tend to do with the start of the new year, I have set lots of personal goals that I am very anxious to get started on right away. I have been asking myself a big question for the last few weeks in terms of the plans that I have (the goals that I have set) for 2025. Do I have 20/20 vision in terms having a clear picture of the goals that I am setting for myself in the year ahead? Essentially, am I seeing clearly in terms my action plan for achieving the goals that I have set for myself in 2025?

We also have some goals that we have set for the Bossier Press-Tribune in 2025. We have some big things planned for your newspaper. Please know that we can never pass

up the opportunity to say "Thank You" to our valued readers and advertisers for your support, friendship and encouragement. Your kind words and expressions of support in a multitude of ways mean more than we can possibly express in words! It is not often that newspaper folks run out of words. So, that says a lot. For sure, we would not be here without you, our highly valued readers and advertisers. We do what we do for you!

As Publisher of your newspaper, I promise you that in 2025, our team will be even more committed to chronicling the history of Bossier Parish as it happens. As such, it is our hopeful and aggressive plan that 2025 will bring many positive changes to your newspaper - as we constantly focus upon improving our publication in order to both change and grow with our ever-changing and growing Bossier Parish community!

As your newspaper for Bossier Parish, we consider it a true honor and privilege to serve you. As we move into 2025, we will most definitely continue to take our commitment to the

Bossier Parish community very seriously. And, we will also remain dedicated to serving you (our readers and advertisers), serving God and serving our community.

Before we totally close the book on 2024, please be sure to read our re-cap of 2024's Top 10 news stories that took place in Bossier Parish in today's edition. Our year-end review represents our picks for the Top 10 news stories that happened both in and around Bossier Parish during 2024. I must admit, this is one of my favorite BPT editions of the entire year, as there are so many positive and exciting things that happened in Bossier Parish during 2024.

In Bossier Parish, we have so many great and extremely talented individuals continually and tirelessly working so hard each and every day to make Bossier Parish the great place that it is to live, work and play. As such, there is no doubt that the table is set for many great things to happen in Bossier Parish in 2025 and in the years beyond.

Randy Brown is Regional Publisher and Executive VP of Specht Newspapers, Inc.

OPINION

Reflections on Three Miracles for the Christmas Season

What Do Patton, The Christmas Eve Truce and Trump Have in Common?

Royal Alexander

I believe these stories capture the importance of prayer at Christendom's Celebration of the Miracle of the first Christmas. The first occurred when General George S. Patton, commander during World War II, was faced with dire circumstances. The coming winter would again be brutal, and Patton's army was literally stuck in the mud. The Wall Street Journal explains "on Dec. 8, an exasperated Patton asked his chief chaplain to compose a prayer for good weather" and halt the overwhelming rain. Patton then "ordered 250,000 copies to be distributed to every man in the Third Army. By Dec. 14 prayer cards were scattered among more than 20 divisions." (WSJ, Alex Kershaw, Dec. 20, 2024).



ROYAL ALEXANDER

Patton was a rough man given to constant profanity. Kershaw quotes Brig. General Harry H. Semmes who deemed Patton "an unusual mixture of a profane and highly religious man." Gen. Omar Bradley is said to have described Patton as "profane, but he was also reverent. He

strutted imperiously as a commander, but he knelt humbly before his God." The thought of Patton ordering his 250,000 men to join him in a prayer is both inspiring and astounding. It worked. "On Dec. 23rd, the skies cleared, allowing a massive Allied air force to wreak havoc on German forces and supply lines." (WSJ).

The second story is "Truce in the Forest" -- The Story of a World War II Christmas Eve Truce Between German & American Soldiers, by Fritz Vincken. "When that first knock came, Mother quickly blew out the candles; then, as I went to answer it, she stepped ahead of me and pushed open the door. Outside ... stood two steel-helmeted men. One of them spoke to Mother in a language we did not understand, pointing to a third man lying injured in the snow. She realized ... that these were American soldiers. Enemies! Mother stood silent ... they were armed and could have forced their entrance, yet they stood there and asked with their eyes. "Kommt rein," Mother said, finally. "Come in." Imagine a scene such as this. Enemy soldiers who couldn't even communicate in the language being shown

love, comfort and life saving aid. It would be enough to stop there but it had only just begun. Vincken continues "I was setting the table when once again there came a knock at the door. Expecting to find more lost Americans, I opened the door without hesitation. There stood four soldiers -- Germans!

I was paralyzed with fear ... I knew the harsh law: sheltering enemy soldiers constituted high treason. We could all be shot! Mother was frightened, too. Her face was white, but she stepped outside. "We have lost our regiment and would like to wait for daylight," explained the corporal. "Can we rest here?"

"Of course," Mother replied, "You can also have a fine, warm meal and eat till the pot is empty. "But," Mother added firmly, "we have three other guests, whom you may not consider friends." Now her voice was suddenly sterner than I'd ever heard it before. "This is Christmas Eve, and there will be no shooting here. Mother looked at each frost-chilled face. "Listen," she said slowly. "You could be my sons, and so could they in there ... lost like you and just as hungry and exhausted as you are. This one

night ... this Christmas night, let us forget about killing."

This remarkable woman then had the soldiers stack their weapons on the woodpile outside and they sat down for dinner. "Mother said grace. I noticed that there were tears in her eyes as she said the old, familiar words, "Komm, Herr Jesus. Be our guest." I saw tears, too, in the eyes of the battle-weary soldiers, boys again, some from America, some from Germany, all far from home." Later, one of the German soldiers who spoke some English and had studied medicine examined the injury to the American soldier's hand with advice to heal it. They all shook hands and parted the next morning.

The third story is a bit more recent: President Trump's survival from two assassination attempts. No one can describe this Christmas Miracle better than Trump himself. In a social media post after he was shot by a bullet in Butler, PA, Trump said "it was God alone" who saved his life.

I hope these reflections help capture the spirit of the Christmas season.

Royal Alexander is an attorney, writer and former politician based in Shreveport, LA.

LIBRARY NEWS

HAVE YOU EVER HEARD OF FIRST-FOOT DAY?

I'm sure my readers are familiar with the New Year's tradition of making resolutions, typically involving curbing some behavior we'd like to stop displaying, encouraging healthier living, or generally trying to improve our quality of life. But have you ever heard of or celebrated First-Foot Day?

This tradition is celebrated on January 1st, usually just after midnight mainly in Scotland and Northern England, though Greek and Georgian traditions have similarities and possibly others that I didn't come across in my research. Now, to actually explain the tradition, it centers on the idea of the first person to step into your home at the start of the new year brings luck with them. This person cannot simply have been inside already when midnight strikes, so often people will step outside just before midnight before then crossing the threshold after midnight to bring in the luck.

The origins of this tradition date back as far as the Viking invasions into England and Scotland, so late 8th century. There is debate about whether the tradition was brought by the Vikings or was created because of their invasion. Apparently during this period, the English and Scottish people were

wary, even frightened, by blond-haired strangers due to their resemblance to the Vikings, so it came to be thought lucky and became a symbol of hope to have a dark-haired individual enter your home.

This "first-footer" would also come bearing gifts, usually in the form of food and drink or coins. The gift of coins would symbolize wealth or prosperity, and the food and drink gift would be exchanged in turn by the residents of the house offering food and drink to the first-footer. Coal also made an appearance as a gift, and not because the residents had made the naughty list, as it represented warmth in the home during the cold months of the year.

Depending on when you read this column, perhaps first-footing can become a part of your new year's celebrations. But, however you celebrate, we wish you a good start to 2025 and luck throughout the year!

Central Complex, new address: 7204 Hutchison Drive, Bossier City 71111 (City Hall Drive renamed in honor of fallen officer, Trey Hutchison)

Questions? Email us at: contactus@bossierlibrary.org

Website: <https://www.bossierlibrary.org/>



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to Shut Up by Sonia Patel (YA Fiction; Book)

• Half Baked Harvest: Quick & Cozy by Tieghan Gerard (Non-Fiction; Book)

• The Hating Game: A Novel by Sally Thorne (Fiction; Book, eBook, eAudiobook)

• The Hungry Ghost Bread Book: An Offbeat Bakery's Guide to Crafting Sourdough Loaves, Flatbreads, Crackers, Scones, and More by Jonathan Stevens; foreword by Richard Miscovich (Non-Fiction; Book)

• Midnights with You by Clare Osongco (YA Fiction; Book)

• Never Met a Duke Like You: A Taming of the Dukes Novel, Book 2 by Amalie Howard (Fiction; Book, eBook)

• The Pasta Queen: The Art of Italian Cooking, 100+ Recipes and Stories by Nadia Caterina Munno; with Anna Francese Gass (Non-Fiction; Book)

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• The Dividing Sky by Jill Tew (YA Fiction; Book)
• Christmas in Spite of You by K.C. Mills (Fiction; Book, eBook, eAudiobook)
• Gita Desai is Not Here

Haughton
Monday – Friday, 9:00am – 6:00pm

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HISTORY

WHAT'S IN A NAME: TYCOONS OR PLAIN DEALERS?

Happy New Year – it's the first day of 2025! Have you come up with your New Year's resolutions? If you're the trendy type, perhaps you've eschewed New Year's resolutions for a business or even personal "rebranding." Let's take a look at a historical rebranding in Bossier, when the community of Guernsheim became known as the town of Plain Dealing in 1890. The names themselves represented two very different images of life in

America in the late twentieth century.

The name Plain Dealing came from the expansive cotton plantation (5000 acres) owned by James Oglethorpe Gilmer, whose land became the subdivided site for the town. The name was meant to represent Gilmer's honesty to potential cotton traders and represented a more agrarian society.

In the 1880s, prior to Plain Dealing's incorporation, but when its train depot for the

Cotton Belt Railroad was already built and busy and the subdivision home lots were being sold, the community was named Guernsheim or Gernsheim. According to local histories, the name was for a prominent railroad investor, sometimes noted as an investor in the Jay Gould railroad syndicate (of which the Cotton Belt eventually became a part).

Ja Gould controlled railroads from coast to coast by sometimes underhanded (to put it mildly) tactics. He

was known as one of the original Robber Barons, or less-scrupulous titans of industry of the Gilded Age. The Gilded Age in U.S. history, from the late 1870s to the early 1900s, was a time of great industrial growth and accumulation of massive and ostentatious new wealth among industrial owners. It was also a time of growing economic inequality and of political corruption. Railroads that Gould owned included the Missouri Pacific railroad, the

St. Louis and Iron Mountain, the International and Great Northern, the Richmond Terminal, the Texas Pacific, the Union Pacific, the Wabash, the St. Louis Southwestern (the official name of the Cotton Belt), and the Manhattan Elevated Railroad. He also owned the Pacific Mail Steamship Company, and the Western Union Telegraph Company.

Gernsheim himself was not identified in Plain Dealing histories beyond his last name and the simple description of "railroad investor", but research into railroad investors of the time points to Michael Gernsheim (spellings varied) of Manhattan, New York City. He was a German immigrant who worked as a banker, stockbroker, and railroad investor. He was an early general partner (from 1875 – 1881) of the most influential investment banking house of the Gilded Age in New York - Kuhn, Loeb and Company. It was a major competitor of the J.P. Morgan Company in financing America's swiftly growing railroad industry. The bank has since merged with Lehman brothers, and later with American Express.

Despite changing its name from Gernsheim, which harkened back to its railroad, and not its agrarian roots, Plain Dealing's history with the railroad was inextricably linked. The young town prospered due to its connection to the Cotton Belt. Ormate Victorian homes



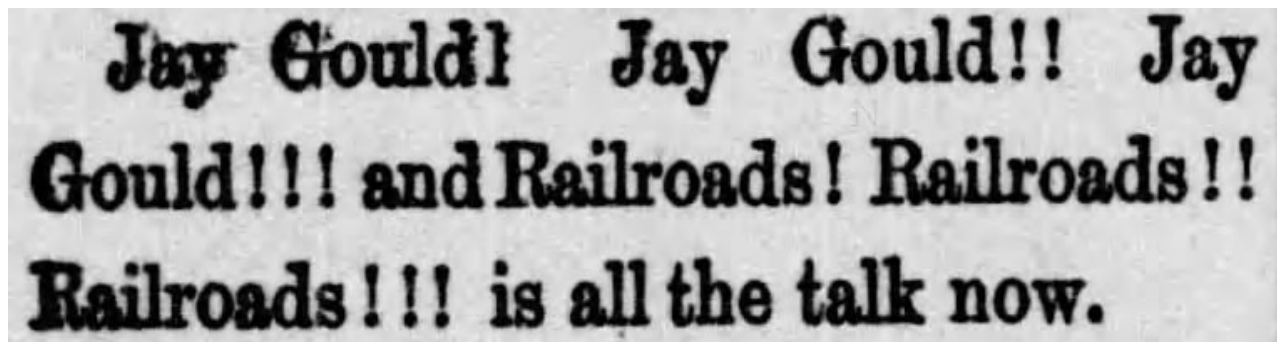
PAM CARLISLE

sprung up in the town in an area previously known for simple, practical dog-trot style log cabins (with two living areas separated by a wide-open hallway) and it became the site of the parish's first brick building, Plain Dealing High School. The first high school building was actually funded by the vice-president of the Cotton Belt, S.J. Zeigler, whose daughter was among its first pupils.

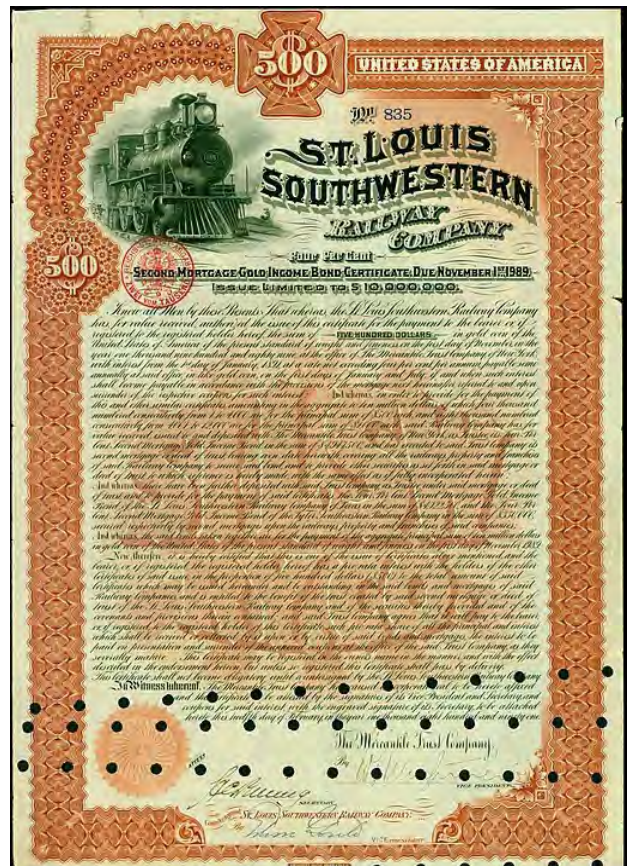
From the staff of the Bossier Parish Libraries History Center, we wish you all a happy New Year. If you have any information, stories, or photos of old Plain Dealing or other communities in Bossier Parish, we would love to add them (or scanned copies) to our History Center's research collection. We are located at 7204 Hutchison Drive (formerly called 850 City Hall Drive) just across Beckett Street from the old Central Library and History Center in Bossier City, LA. All Bossier Parish Libraries locations will be closed Wednesday, 1/1/2025. Normal operating hours for Bossier Central Library and History Center are M-Th 9-8, Fri 9-6, and Sat 9-5. Our phone number is (318) 746-7717 and our email is history-center@bossierlibrary.org

For other local history facts, photos, and videos, be sure to follow us @BPLHistoryCenter on FB, @bplhistorycenter on TikTok, and check out our blog <http://bpl-hc.blogspot.com/>.

PAM CARLISLE IS THE HISTORY CENTER ASSISTANT MANAGER AT THE BOSSIER PARISH LIBRARIES HISTORY CENTER



Jay Gould clipping from Bossier Banner-Progress January 27, 1887



Bond of the St. Louis Southwestern Railway Company 1891 Image By Edhac-Edham - Public Domain, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=53837122>



Map of the St. Louis Southwestern Railway (Cotton Belt) system as of 1918, with trackage rights in purple. modified 2008 from Bureau of Transportation Statistics North American Transportation Atlas Data). Public Domain, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=5283506>



Lyndhurst, Jason (Jay) Gould mansion, Tarrytown, NY, Photo by Elisa Rolle, Shared under the Creative Commons license <https://creativecommons.org/>

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OBITUARY



Marie Eason Rutledge
On November 15, 2024 the life of our dear proud icon in the Shreveport-Bossier City area comes to an end. She was a great lady! Not only was she beautiful and elegant on your first encounter with her, but she was a kind, gracious, and caring individual always willing to lend a helping hand to help guide someone in the right direction for the right reasons and circumstances. She was the example of what a true

“Southern Lady” should be... and she was that!
Marie Eason Rutledge was born in Fisher, La to Eules Eason and Florence Manasco Eason on September 19, 1926. She was an only child and grew up very strong and independent. After a failed marriage and a young son to take care of she ventured out to Shreveport to find a job.
She started working at the Telephone Company and continued to work there until her retirement after 31 years and one month.
In her early 20’s at a Telephone Company beauty pageant she met her future husband William Hugh “Bill” Rutledge, a radio announcer for Shreveport’s KENT. They were married in 1952, started their life together and settled in their new home in Bossier City. Their first and only child, a daughter, was born three years later.
In 1961, Marie and Bill ventured out to start a new restaurant which

they named The Double “R” Barbeque Smokehouse in Bossier. She divided her time between the phone company and being co-owner with her husband “Colonel” Bill as he was called, and she was his “Southern Belle”! The restaurant took off and became a hit
Marie and Bill continued their appreciation of the “Old South” and started traveling across the United States picking up treasures of historical architecture in such places as Savannah, Charleston, Richmond, and many, many, more places. She took on yet another mantle--historical restoration. She acquired several residential homes and began working to transform them into perfect doll houses for rental purposes. And she even changed their own cottage residence into something unbelievable and reminiscent of a southern plantation home. Her ideas were spectacular and she was told by so many people that she should have been a builder, or at the

very least, an interior designer.
After Bill passed away suddenly in 1975 Marie kept going with her three positions, Telephone, BBQ and restorations and added another hat as landlady for her rental properties. What a business woman she had become...in many directions!
Many years later, she became acquainted with fellow restaurateur “Giovanni” John LoBue, whom many will remember as the owner of The Piccadilly Italian Restaurant on Louisiana Avenue in Shreveport.
They became close friends and companions for forty years. They were both very creative who became “partners in projects”! He helped Marie to complete her dreams of having a beautiful, one of a kind residence, and public areas for people to appreciate and enjoy.
Many years ago she was asked to serve on the Bossier City Clean City Committee. Mayor George

Dement praised her and said that Bossier deserved many more like her to take care of our city. In the year 2000, the Master Gardeners of Louisiana asked her to be one of the showcase gardens for her beautiful English Garden across the street from her home filled with flowers and fruit trees surrounding giant columns that appeared to look like the ruins of a plantation in South Louisiana. It was all spectacular!
Then as a follow up in the same year at Christmastime, she was asked to showcase her home filled with all the antiquity and work that she had put into it through the years for the “Christmas Tour of Homes”.
She was a Scarlett O’Hara, a Steel Magnolia and a true Lady of the South all rolled up into one...and we were all better people who knew her and allowed her into our lives in some way!
Marie was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, “William Hugh “Bill” Rutledge and her

close friend and companion through her later years, Giovanni John LoBue. And, of course, many friends, aunts, uncles, nieces and nephews.
May they always cherish her memory and the marks she made on their lives. Her son, Ronnie Clifton Turner (Flora Jane); her grandchildren, Robbin Cristine Turner Brown (David) and Richard Chane Turner and her great grandchildren, Taylor Wade Jones, Emily Chane Turner and Gracie Leeann Turner. And especially her daughter, Marie Antoinette “Annette” Rutledge Littlejohn (Joe).
A private family graveside service was held for Marie on November 22, 2024 and was officiated by Rev. Msgr. Earl V. Provenza at Forest Park Cemetery on St. Vincent Ave.
It was said many times in Marie’s life that she was one of God’s favorites! May she always remain that way in Heaven helping Him keep everything beautiful and in the right order for everyone!

Bossier Parish Teachers and New Teachers of the Year named for 2025-26

BOSSIER SCHOOLS

2025-26 Teachers of the Year



Jennifer Allen
Benton Elementary



Crystal Wood
Haughton Middle



Rachel Bryant
Benton High

BOSSIER SCHOOLS

2025-26 New Teachers of the Year



Kirsten Hackleman
Curtis Elementary



Michael Shelton
Rusheon Middle



Emmitt Antwine
Haughton High

Photos Courtesy of Bossier Parish Schools

Six Bossier Parish educators were recently surprised with the announcement that they will represent Bossier Schools as the district’s 2025-26 Teachers and New Teachers of the Year. The process for selecting a Louisiana Teacher and New Teacher of the Year begins at the school level, progresses to the district level, and ultimately advances to the state level.

STAFF REPORT
Six Bossier Parish educators were surprised recently with the news they will be representing Boss-

BOSSIER PARISH RIDING CLUB



A BIG THANK YOU TO THE BOSSIER PARISH RIDING CLUB!
Once again, the Bossier Parish Riding Club has made a generous donation to the Bossier Parish Sheriff’s Office “Operation Christmas Wish”. We are incredibly grateful for their continued support and partnership. The five hundred dollar donation you made will go a long way to ensure that less fortunate children in Bossier Parish have a Merry Christmas! Pictured from left to right is Sheriff Whittington, Payden Bruce (Cowpoke), Liam DeLoach (Cowboy), Eevee Tipton (Petite Princess), Sally Aycock (Jr. Princess), Ansley Oliver (Sr. Princess), Martha Reyenga (Treasurer).

ier Schools as the District 2025-26 Teachers and New Teachers of the Year.
Teacher of the Year candidates are educators who have been in the classroom for at least two years and New Teachers of the Year are first-year educators who demonstrate excellence in their field as well as leadership and innovation which positively impacts student growth and achievement. The process for selecting a Louisiana Teacher and New Teacher of the Year starts at the school level, then advances to the district level. The next step is the state level.
Bossier Parish Teachers of the Year
Jennifer Allen was chosen as the 2025-26 Bossier Parish Elementary Teacher of the Year. Allen is a 15-year educator who currently teaches music and theater at Benton Elementary. She is a third generation educator whose goal is to use the power of music and theater to enrich the lives of her young learners.
Crystal Wood will represent Bossier Parish as its Middle School Teacher of the Year. Wood is a seventh grade English Language Arts teacher at Haughton Middle School who is passionate about empowering students to express themselves through writing. She is also certified as a Louisiana Mentor Teacher.
Rachel Bryant is the High School Teacher of the Year for Bossier Parish. An 11th grade Advanced Placement English Language and Composition teacher at

Benton High, Bryant also teaches journalism. She started a news class for juniors and seniors that produces a school newspaper along with a weekly broadcast.
Bossier Parish New Teachers of the Year
Kirsten Hackleman is the Bossier Parish Elementary New Teacher of the Year. She is a fifth grade English Language Arts and Social Studies teacher at Curtis Elementary. A native of Bossier, Hackleman returned to her community to start her teaching career.
Michael Shelton will represent Bossier Parish as the Middle School New Teacher of the Year. An eighth grade Science teacher at Rusheon Middle School, Shelton believes in the power of personal connections and is committed to fostering meaningful relationships with his students, believing it is essential to fill multiple roles in their lives.
Emmitt Antwine teaches Pre-Advanced Geometry at Haughton High and is the High School New Teacher of the Year. Recognized for his innovative teaching methods, Antwine is committed to creating a classroom environment where students feel encouraged to take risks, learn from their mistakes and grow both academically and personally.
Statewide winners will be announced in July 2025 by the Louisiana Department of Education. The Teacher and New Teacher of the Year will then serve in that role for the 2025-26 school year.

2024 YEAR IN REVIEW

Parkway girls' repeat among top stories of the year

By Russell Hedges
rhedges@bossierpress.com

As usual, 2024 had its share of big sports achievements and moments in Bossier Parish. Looking back, there was one moment that will likely be remembered forever especially among those that follow high school basketball.

On the night of Feb. 29 at Southeastern Louisiana in Hammond, Parkway's Chloe Larry sank a shot from halfcourt that gave the Lady Panthers a 64-63 overtime victory over No. 1 seed Walker in the non-select Division I girls basketball semifinals.

Walker came into the game with only one loss and that was to an out-of-state team. The Lady Wildcats built a 12-point lead

through three quarters. But Parkway rallied and sent the game into overtime.

The Lady Panthers also fell behind in overtime, setting up Larry's dramatic shot.

The shot was featured that night on ESPN's SportsCenter hosted by Scott Van Pelt.

One day later, on March 2, Parkway defeated Denham Springs 57-29 to win its second straight state championship.

Larry is now a freshman starter at Tennessee Tech.

In May, Larry was one of three parish athletes to win championships in the Class 5A state track and field meet at LSU, taking the javelin. Benton's Miller Malley won the pole vault and Airline's Jeremiah Epps took the 300-meter hurdles.

In February, Airline's Ty

Parker won the 175-pound class in Division I in the state meet at Brookshire Grocery Arena.

In the spring, the Benton Tigers made a run to the non-select Division I baseball state tournament in Sulphur. The No. 13 seed Tigers swept No. 4 Dutchtown in the second round of the playoffs and defeated No. 5 St. Amant two games to one in the quarterfinals. The streak ended with a 4-1 loss to No. 1 seed Barbe in the semifinals.

In May, Benton won its first state championship in girls golf with the duo of Abigail McWilliams and Grace Goodwin.

In the summer the Bossier Phillies, featuring mostly players from parish schools, advanced to the American Legion World Series.

Moving to the fall, Airline quarterback Ben Taylor's rise up the area state's all-time career passing yardage list was a big story. Taylor finished at No. 2 on both lists. For his career, he completed 933 of 1,371 passes for 12,373 yards and 135 touchdowns.

Taylor led the Vikings to their first undefeated regular season since 1998. Airline and Parkway finished 1-2 in District 1-5A.

After the season, Reynolds Moore stepped down as head coach after 12 mostly successful seasons at Benton. Former Huntington head coach Stephen Dennis was named as his replacement.

Another big story involved former Haughton star quarterback Dak Prescott. In September, he signed a four-year, \$160

million contract extension, making him the highest paid player in NFL history.

However, Prescott suffered a season-ending injury (torn hamstring) in a 27-21 loss to Atlanta in Week 9. The Cowboys will not make the playoffs.

The same goes for the New Orleans Saints who started off 2-0 only to be hit by injuries. The Saints fired head coach Dennis Allen on Nov. 4 after a 23-22 loss to the Carolina Panthers.

In the world of college sports, the homecoming game of former Parkway girls basketball star McKaylah Williams was a big story. More than 8,000 fans watched her and her LSU teammates defeat Grambling State 100-54 at Brookshire Grocery Arena on Dec. 8.

Williams had her Park-

way No. 12 jersey retired during a ceremony before the game.

In college football, Louisiana Tech, Grambling State and ULM all showed improvement over 2023 but none of them had a winning season.

Tech, which finished 5-8 in a season with three overtime losses, received an invitation to play in the Radiance Technologies Independence Bowl against Army West Point after Marshall opted out due to a large number of players entering the transfer portal.

A three-game losing streak that started with a 38-23 loss to Texas A&M on Oct. 28 derailed LSU's third season under head coach Brian Kelly.

The Tigers (8-4) were scheduled to play Baylor Dec. 31 in the Texas Bowl.

HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL



ROBERT SUMMERLIN/PRESS-TRIBUNE

Airline's Addison McDowell was named the girls MVP in the 'Doc' Edwards Memorial Invitational hosted by Willis Knighton Health Sys-



ROBERT SUMMERLIN/PRESS-TRIBUNE

Ke'Zyriah Sykes takes a shot during Airline's quarterfinal victory over Jonesboro-Hodge in the 'Doc' Edwards Invitational.

HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL

Airline's Taylor, Darby named first-team Class 5A All-State

By Russell Hedges
rhedges@bossierpress.com

Airline senior quarterback Ben Taylor and junior wide receiver Kenny Darby have been named first team on the Louisiana Sports Writers Association Class 5A All-State team.

Taylor, a Northwestern State signee, completed 325-of-447 passes for 4,356 yards and 47 touchdowns with six interceptions this season.

Darby, an LSU commit, caught 100 passes for 1,764 yards and 24 touchdowns.

They helped Airline finish the regular season 10-0 and win the District 1-5A title.

Taylor finished his career No. 2 on the area and state all-time career passing yardage. A three-year starter, he passed for 12,373 yards and 135 touchdowns. He also saw action as a freshman.

Airline receiver Jarvis Davis Jr., a first-team selection last season and tight end Ayden Baker were named honorable mention.

Other parish players making honorable men-

tion were Benton linebacker Cole Austin, Benton offensive lineman Witt Van Hoy, Parkway running back CJ Dudley, Parkway offensive lineman Jax Gallier and Parkway running back/defensive back/return specialist Carmaro Mayo.

Two Captain Shreve players made the first team — senior offensive lineman Lionel Prudhomme and junior running back Jamarcea Player. Two Evangel Christian players also were selected — sophomore quarterback Peyton Houston at athlete and senior linebacker Damari Drake. Byrd junior placekicker Ashe Murray also made the first team.

Alexandria senior running back JT Lindsey, who rushed for 2,476 yards and 33 touchdowns, was named the Offensive MVP. Senior lineman Corey Adams of select Division I state champion Edna Carr was named Defensive MVP.

David Simoneaux, who guided Central-Baton Rouge to the non-select Division I state title, was named Coach of the Year.

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

Tech falls to Army in I-Bowl

By Russell Hedges
rhedges@bossierpress.com

The Army West Point Black Knights defeated the Louisiana Tech Bulldogs 27-6 in the 48th annual Radiance Technologies Independence Bowl last Saturday night at Independence Stadium.

Saturday's storms gave way to clear skies and temperatures dropped into the mid-50s by the 8:20 kickoff. Army, ranked No. 19 in the final regular season AP Top 25, finished 12-2. It's the first 12-win season in school history.

Louisiana Tech finished 5-8, an improvement of three wins over Head Coach Sonny Cumbie's first two seasons. It was the Bulldogs' first bowl appearance since 2019.

Army scored on its first two drives with both covering 80 yards. Tech's offense struggled as it did much of the season. The Bulldog got on the board on a 27-yard Drew Henderson field goal early in the second quarter.

Quarterback Bryson Daily capped a 78-yard drive with an 8-yard touchdown run, his second of the

first half, to give Army a 21-3 halftime lead.

Henderson kicked a 44-yard field goal in the third quarter to cut Army's lead to 21-6 but the Bulldogs could get no closer. Daily scored his third touchdown on a 3-yard run with 14:56 left in the game.

Army rolled up 26 first downs to Tech's 11. The Black Knights' offense accumulated 321 yards on the ground. Army finished with 386 total.

Daily rushed for 127 yards on 27 carries. Hayden Reed added 114. Daily only completed two passes in nine attempts but one of those covered 52 yards to David Crossan.

The Black Knights converted four fourth-down plays in five attempts. The Bulldogs were 0-for-3. Army kept the ball for 40:08.

Tech had just 218 total yards (169 passing, 49 rushing). Evan Bullock completed 14-of-28 passes with one interception. Tru Edwards, who has entered the transfer portal, caught eight passes for 92 yards. Omiri Wiggins rushed for 40 yards on eight carries.

Airline girls win 'Doc' Edwards championship

By Russell Hedges
rhedges@bossierpress.com

The Airline Lady Vikings withstood a Captain Shreve third-quarter rally then pulled away for a 72-54 victory over the Lady Gators in the girls championship game of the 'Doc' Edwards Memorial Invitational last Saturday before a packed house at Airline.

Ruston defeated defending champion Huntington 75-60 in the boys championship game.

It was a very good night for Airline. The Vikings defeated Bossier 64-51 in the boys third-place game.

Cedar Creek edged Benton 53-51 in the girls third-place game.

Homer won the Navy bracket boys consolation with a 71-60 victory over Mansfield. Minden defeated Haughton 73-41 in the White bracket consolation finals.

Summerfield took the girls consolation title with a 42-31 victory over Homer.

Airline (12-1) jumped out to a quick 15-6 lead over Captain Shreve (15-3). The Lady Gators scored the last five points of the second quarter to cut the lead to 15-11.

The Lady Vikings extended the lead to 31-23 at the half.

Airline scored the first basket of the third quarter to go up 33-23. But Shreve went on a 16-6 run to tie it at 39 with just under three minutes to play in the third.

Airline quickly regained the lead and went up 46-41 on a 3-pointer by Ke'Zyriah Sykes. The Lady Vikings outscored the Lady Gators 12-2 over the final 2:47 of the third quarter and led 51-41.

Airline's domination continued into the fourth. The Lady Vikings' eventually stretched the lead to 68-49 with two minutes left.

Sykes had a big game on both ends of the floor. She scored a game-high 32 points, including 11 in

the decisive third quarter and eight in the fourth. She was 10-of-11 from the free throw line in the game.

Sykes also made a difference with her defensive play and rebounding.

Airline forced several turnovers during the big second-half run. The Lady Vikings also kept the Lady Gators from scoring inside.

Addison McDowell, who was named the tournament MVP, scored 19 points. Karliyah Woodard added eight. Sykes and Woodard were both named to the all-tournament team.

Leah Bryant led Captain Shreve with 18 points. Jaydan Gladney led Airline (6-9) against Bossier (5-8) with 19 points.

The Vikings led 30-23 at the half. The Bearkats rallied in the third quarter, but Airline closed strong and led 45-39.

Gladney hit four of his five 3-pointers in the second half and scored 16 points. Eli Washington scored 11 of his 13 points in

the first half. He sank three from behind the arc.

Power forward Joshua White was a force in the paint and finished with 14 points.

Kerel Dean led Bossier with 14 points. Justin Slaid added 11. Kam Davenport and David Thomas scored nine each.

The Bearkats hit eight 3-pointers but had trouble finding the mark from long range down the stretch.

Gladney and Bossier's Lajerion Benjamin were named to the all-tournament team.

Ahmad Hudson, a 6-foot-7 sophomore, led Ruston (8-4) against Huntington (11-4) with 31 points. KeShun Malcom added 13. It was Ruston's eighth straight victory.

David Howard III poured in 25 points in Homer's win over Mansfield. Demetrius Pitts added 16.

Carmelo Smith and Jaiden Franklin led Minden against Haughton with 17 and 16 points, respectively.

Bossier Invitational to begin Thursday

By Russell Hedges
rhedges@bossierpress.com

For the first time since 2020, a champion will be crowned in the Bossier Invitational boys tournament.

The tournament begins Thursday and runs through Saturday with a full field of 16. It's a bracket tournament for the first time since Bossier won the title five years ago.

The tournament was changed to a series of games in 2021 because of the COVID-19 pandemic. The 2022 tournament was supposed to be an eight-

Thursday's games	
AT BOSSIER HIGH	
Ouachita Parish vs. Loyola, 10 a.m.	
Neville vs. Mansfield, 11:30	
Evangel Christian vs. Northwood, 1 p.m.	
Good Vision vs. Airline, 2:30	
West Monroe vs. Captain Shreve, 4	
Huntington vs. BTW, 5:30	
Benton vs. Bossier, 7	
Parkway vs. Calvary Baptist, 8:30	

team bracket tournament but it was hit hard by COVID-19. Ultimately only three teams competed.

The last two tournaments have been a series of

games.

When District 1-5A expanded in 2011, many 1-5A teams couldn't compete because they were starting district play.

LEGALS

SHERIFF'S SALE SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Suit No. (09) 174332-
Date: Wednesday, December 18, 2024
LAKEVIEW LOAN SERVICING LLC
VS
TAMI METHVIN JOHNSON AK/A TAMI M JOHNSON AK/A TAMI JOHNSON AND JARRED ROY JOHNSON AK/A JARRED R. JOHNSON AK/A JARRED JOHNSON

JULIAN C. WHITTINGTON, SHERIFF
P.O. Box 850
BENTON, LA 71006

Parish of Bossier
26th Judicial District Court
State of Louisiana

By virtue of a Writ of SEIZURE AND SALE issued in the above numbered and entitled cause and to me directed, I have seized and will proceed to sell at public auction, to the last and highest bidder, for cash, WITHOUT the benefit of appraisal, and according to law, at the principal front door of the court house, in the town of Benton, LA, on WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2025, between the hours of 10:00 AM and 4:00 PM the following described property, situated in parish of BOSSIER, Louisiana, to-wit:-
THE PROPERTY DESCRIBED IN THE ACT OF MORTGAGE IS DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:
LOT 216, THE GARDENS OF SOUTHGATE, UNIT NO. 12, A SUBDIVISION OF BOSSIER CITY, BOSSIER PARISH, LOUISIANA, AS PER PLAT THEREOF RECORDED IN CONVEYANCE BOOK 1364, PAGE 889 OF THE OFFICIAL RECORDED OF BOSSIER PARISH, LOUISIANA, TOGETHER WITH ALL BUILDINGS AND IMPROVEMENTS LOCATED THEREON.

And from the proceeds of said sale to pay petitioners claims of TWO HUNDRED FORTY-SEVEN THOUSAND SEVEN HUNDRED NINETY-FOUR AND 62 / 100 (\$247,794.62) DOLLARS, along with interest, attorney's fees and all other costs of suit.

PUBLISH ON: January 01, 2025
February 12, 2025

JULIAN C. WHITTINGTON, SHERIFF & EX-OFFICIO AUCTIONEER
BOSSIER Parish

ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF:
COREY J GIROIR
13541 TIGER BEND ROAD
BATON ROUGE, LA 70817
225-756-0373

January 1st, 2025
February 12th, 2025
Bossier Press Tribune

SHERIFF'S SALE SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Suit No. (08) 174851-
Date: Monday, December 16, 2024
NEWREZ LLC D/B/A SHELLPOINT MORTGAGE SERVICING
VS
NANCY P. ALEXANDER

JULIAN C. WHITTINGTON, SHERIFF
P.O. Box 850
BENTON, LA 71006

Parish of Bossier
26th Judicial District Court
State of Louisiana

By virtue of a Writ of SEIZURE AND SALE issued in the above numbered and entitled cause and to me directed, I have seized and will proceed to sell at public auction, to the last and highest bidder, for cash, WITHOUT the benefit of appraisal, and according to law, at the principal front door of the court house, in the town of Benton, LA, on WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2025, between the hours of 10:00 AM and 4:00 PM the following described property, situated in parish of BOSSIER, Louisiana, to-wit:-
LOT SEVENTY-SEVEN (77), WATERFORD BEND, UNIT NO. TWO (2), A SUBDIVISION OF BOSSIER PARISH, LOUISIANA, AS PER PLAT RECORDED UNDER REGISTRY NO. 1197801 OF THE CONVEYANCE RECORDS OF BOSSIER PARISH, LOUISIANA, TOGETHER WITH ALL THE BUILDINGS AND IMPROVEMENTS THEREON, AND ALL OF THE RIGHTS, WAYS, PRIVILEGES, SERVITUDES, APPURTENANCES AND ADVANTAGES THEREUNTO BELONGING OR IN ANYWISE APPERTAINING.
(THE "PROPERTY")

And from the proceeds of said sale to pay petitioners claims of THREE HUNDRED TWENTY-NINE THOUSAND SEVEN HUNDRED THIRTY-TWO AND 02 / 100 (\$329,732.02) DOLLARS, along with interest, attorney's fees and all other costs of suit.

PUBLISH ON: January 01, 2025
February 12, 2025

JULIAN C. WHITTINGTON, SHERIFF & EX-OFFICIO AUCTIONEER
BOSSIER Parish

ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF:
CRIS JACKSON
835 GRAVIER STREET, SUITE 1400
NEW ORLEANS, LA 70112
504-581-9444

January 1st, 2025
February 12th, 2025
Bossier Press Tribune

SHERIFF'S SALE SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Suit No. (08) 168060-
Date: Thursday, December 19, 2024
CARRINGTON MORTGAGE SERVICES, LLC
VS
PENNY SUE PELT, WIDOW OF MICHAEL RENEE PELT AND AMMBER LUCILLE ADAMS AK/A AMMBER LUCILLE PELT HEIR BY VIRTUE OF A JUDGEMENT OF POSSESSION OF MICHAEL RENEE PELT

JULIAN C. WHITTINGTON, SHERIFF
P.O. Box 850
BENTON, LA 71006

Parish of Bossier
26th Judicial District Court
State of Louisiana

By virtue of a Writ of AMENDED SEIZURE AND SELL issued in the above numbered and entitled cause and to me directed, I have seized and will proceed to sell at public auction, to the last and highest bidder, for cash, WITHOUT the benefit of appraisal, and according to law, at the principal front door of the court house, in the town of Benton, LA, on WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2025, between the hours of 10:00 AM and 4:00 PM the following described property, situated in parish of BOSSIER, Louisiana, to-wit:-
A TRACT OF LAND LOCATED IN SECTION 27, TOWNSHIP 18 NORTH, RANGE 11 WEST, BOSSIER PARISH, LOUISIANA, MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:

BEGIN AT A POINT 2045 FEET SOUTH OF AND 660 FEET EAST OF THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF SAID SECTION 27; RUN THENCE EAST A DISTANCE OF 660 FEET TO THE WEST LINE OF CEDAR STREET; THENCE RUN SOUTH ALONG SAID WEST LINE IN A DISTANCE OF 265 FEET; RUN THENCE WEST 660 FEET; RUN THENCE NORTH A DISTANCE OF 265 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING, CONTAINING 4.035 ACRES, MORE OR LESS.

TOGETHER WITH A USED 2009 SOUTHERN HOMES, MODEL SX516, 30' X 44' MANUFACTURED HOME, SERIAL # DSD04L54892AB 30' X 44'

And from the proceeds of said sale to pay petitioners claims of ONE HUNDRED TWO THOUSAND TWO HUNDRED FIFTY-SIX AND 12 / 100 (\$102,256.12) DOLLARS, along with interest, attorney's fees and all other costs of suit.

PUBLISH ON: January 01, 2025
February 12, 2025

JULIAN C. WHITTINGTON, SHERIFF & EX-OFFICIO AUCTIONEER
BOSSIER Parish

ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF:
L. GRAHAM ARCENEUX
3850 N CAUSEWAY BLVD, SUITE 1695
METAIRIE, LA 70002

January 1st, 2025
February 12th, 2025
Bossier Press Tribune

SHERIFF'S SALE SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Suit No. (08) 173047-
Date: Monday, December 16, 2024
NEWREZ LLC D/B/A SHELLPOINT MORTGAGE SERVICING
VS
DIDN D. WILSON AK/A DIDN WILSON AND AMELIA WILSON

JULIAN C. WHITTINGTON, SHERIFF
P.O. Box 850
BENTON, LA 71006

Parish of Bossier
26th Judicial District Court
State of Louisiana

By virtue of a Writ of SEIZURE AND SALE issued in the above numbered and entitled cause and to me directed, I have seized and will proceed to sell at public auction, to the last and highest bidder, for cash, WITH the benefit of appraisal, and according to law, at the principal front door of the court house, in the town of Benton, LA, on WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2025, between the hours of 10:00 AM and 4:00 PM the following described property, situated in parish of BOSSIER, Louisiana, to-wit:-
THE PROPERTY DESCRIBED IN THE ACT OF MORTGAGE IS DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:
LOT 22, REPLAT OF SOUTHGATE ESTATES SUBDIVISION, UNIT NO. 6, A SUBDIVISION OF BOSSIER CITY, BOSSIER PARISH, LOUISIANA, AS PER PLAT THEREOF RECORDED IN BOOK 1207, AT PAGE 542 OF THE CONVEYANCE RECORDS OF BOSSIER PARISH, LOUISIANA, TOGETHER WITH ALL BUILDINGS AND IMPROVEMENTS LOCATED THEREON.

And from the proceeds of said sale to pay petitioners claims of ONE HUNDRED EIGHTY-THREE THOUSAND SIX HUNDRED EIGHTY-SEVEN AND 82 / 100 (\$183,687.82) DOLLARS, along with interest, attorney's fees and all other costs of suit.

PUBLISH ON: January 01, 2025
February 12, 2025

JULIAN C. WHITTINGTON, SHERIFF & EX-OFFICIO AUCTIONEER
BOSSIER Parish

ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF:
DENNIS F. WIGGINS
13541 TIGER BEND ROAD
BATON ROUGE, LA 70817
225-756-0373

January 1st, 2025
February 12th, 2025
Bossier Press Tribune

SHERIFF'S SALE SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Suit No. (08) 173223-
Date: Monday, December 16, 2024
HUNTINGTON NATIONAL BANK
VS
LINDA ATKINS AND STEVE ATKINS, III (AK/A STEVE ATKINS)

JULIAN C. WHITTINGTON, SHERIFF
P.O. Box 850
BENTON, LA 71006

Parish of Bossier
26th Judicial District Court
State of Louisiana

By virtue of a Writ of SEIZURE AND SALE issued in the above numbered and entitled cause and to me directed, I have seized and will proceed to sell at public auction, to the last and highest bidder, for cash, WITH the benefit of appraisal, and according to law, at the principal front door of the court house, in the town of Benton, LA, on WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 29, 2025, between the hours of 10:00 AM and 4:00 PM the following described property, situated in parish of BOSSIER, Louisiana, to-wit:-
2022 GALLERIA 24FL (VIN NO: W1X8ED3Y2MT060427)

And from the proceeds of said sale to pay petitioners claims of ONE HUNDRED FIFTY-SIX THOUSAND THIRTY-EIGHT AND 31 / 100 (\$156,038.31) DOLLARS, along with interest, attorney's fees and all other costs of suit.

PUBLISH ON: January 01, 2025

JULIAN C. WHITTINGTON, SHERIFF & EX-OFFICIO AUCTIONEER
BOSSIER Parish

ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF:
EMLY E. HOLLEY
3510 N. CAUSEWAY BLVD., SUITE 600
METAIRIE, LA 70002
504-831-7726

January 1st, 2025
Bossier Press Tribune

SHERIFF'S SALE SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Suit No. (06) 173757-
Date: Tuesday, December 10, 2024
PNC BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION
VS
ELIZABETH BAY BRIDEWELL JACKSON AND BRIAN JACKSON

JULIAN C. WHITTINGTON, SHERIFF
P.O. Box 850
BENTON, LA 71006

Parish of Bossier
26th Judicial District Court
State of Louisiana

By virtue of a Writ of SEIZURE AND SALE issued in the above numbered and entitled cause and to me directed, I have seized and will proceed to sell at public auction, to the last and highest bidder, for cash, WITH the benefit of appraisal, and according to law, at the principal front door of the court house, in the town of Benton, LA, on WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2025, between the hours of 10:00 AM and 4:00 PM the following described property, situated in parish of BOSSIER, Louisiana, to-wit:-

PLAINTIFF'S MORTGAGE AND/OR PRIVILEGE AFFECTS THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED PROPERTY, TO-WIT:
A TRACT OF LAND LOCATED IN SECTION 16, TOWNSHIP 18 NORTH, RANGE 12 WEST, BOSSIER PARISH, LOUISIANA, MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:

FROM THE INTERSECTION OF THE NORTH LINE OF RIVERBEND ROAD AND THE WEST LINE OF BODCAU ROAD, RUN NORTH 86 DEG. 01 MIN. WEST ALONG SAID NORTH LINE FOR A DISTANCE OF 502.42 FEET TO A POINT OF CURVATURE; THENCE RUN AROUND A CURVE TO THE LEFT, SAID CURVE HAVING A RADIUS OF 592.04 FEET, FOR A DISANCE OF 335.20 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING, BEING A FOUND 1/2" IRON ROD;

THENCE CONTINUE ALONG SAID CURVE FOR A DISTANCE OF 155.89 FEET TO A SET 1/2" IRON PIPE;

THENCE RUN NORTH 20 DEG. 38 MIN. 00 SEC. WEST FOR A DISTANCE OF 266.20 FEET TO A SET 1/2" IRON PIPE;

THENCE RUN NORTH 61 DEG. 38 MIN. 38 SEC. EAST FOR A DISTANCE OF 198.61 FEET TO A SET 1/2" IRON PIPE;

THENCE RUN SOUTH 10 DEG. 04 MIN. 22 SEC. EAST FOR A DISTANCE OF 256.04 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING;

SAID TRACT CONTAINING 43.560 SQUARE FEET OR 1.00 ACRES, MORE OR LESS; SUBJECT TO RESTRICTIONS, SERVITUDES, RIGHTS-OF-WAY AND OUTSTANDING MINERAL RIGHTS OF RECORD AFFECTING THE PROPERTY.

THAT CERTAIN MANUFACTURED/MOBILE HOME SITUATED ON THE ABOVE DESCRIBED PROPERTY, BEING A 2004 PATRIOT MANUFACTURED HOME, SERIAL NO. 18248AB, 32' X 80' WHICH SAID MANUFACTURED HOME/MOBILE HOME WAS IMMOBILIZED PURSUANT TO AFFIDAVIT TO IMMOBILIZE MOBILE HOME DATED 09/19/2003 AND FILED FOR RECORD AS INSTRUMENT NO. 787166 OF THE RECORDS OF BOSSIER PARISH, LOUISIANA.

And from the proceeds of said sale to pay petitioners claims of FORTY-FIVE THOUSAND FOUR HUNDRED TWENTY-FOUR AND 12 / 100 (\$45,424.12) DOLLARS, along with interest, attorney's fees and all other costs of suit.

PUBLISH ON: January 01, 2025
February 12, 2025

JULIAN C. WHITTINGTON, SHERIFF & EX-OFFICIO AUCTIONEER
BOSSIER Parish

ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF:
ASHLEY E MORRIS
1908 N. 18TH STREET
MONROE, LA 71207
318-388-1440

January 1st, 2025
February 12th, 2025
Bossier Press Tribune

SHERIFF'S SALE SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Suit No. (05) 173827-
Date: Wednesday, October 9, 2024
PLANET HOME LENDING, LLC
VS
MATTHEW GORDON ANGEL

JULIAN C. WHITTINGTON, SHERIFF
P.O. Box 850
BENTON, LA 71006

Parish of Bossier
26th Judicial District Court
State of Louisiana

By virtue of a Writ of SEIZURE AND SALE issued in the above numbered and entitled cause and to me directed, I have seized and will proceed to sell at public auction, to the last and highest bidder, for cash, WITH the benefit of appraisal, and according to law, at the principal front door of the court house, in the town of Benton, LA, on WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 8, 2025, between the hours of 10:00 AM and 4:00 PM the following described property, situated in parish of BOSSIER, Louisiana, to-wit:-
PLAINTIFF'S MORTGAGE AND/OR PRIVILEGE AFFECTS THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED PROPERTY, TO-WIT:
LOT 27, REDWOOD PLACE AT LEGACY, UNIT 1, A SUBDIVISION OF BOSSIER PARISH, LOUISIANA, AS PER PLAT RECORDED IN BOOK 1207, PAGES 854-855 OF THE CONVEYANCE RECORDS OF BOSSIER PARISH, LOUISIANA, TOGETHER WITH ALL BUILDINGS AND IMPROVEMENTS LOCATED THEREON; SUBJECT TO RESTRICTIONS, SERVITUDES, RIGHTS-OF-WAY AND OUTSTANDING MINERAL RIGHTS OF RECORD AFFECTING THE PROPERTY.

And from the proceeds of said sale to pay petitioners claims of ONE HUNDRED SIXTY-NINE THOUSAND TWO HUNDRED NINETY-THREE AND 19 / 100 (\$169,293.19) DOLLARS, along with interest, attorney's fees and all other costs of suit.

PUBLISH ON: November 27, 2024
January 01, 2025

JULIAN C. WHITTINGTON, SHERIFF & EX-OFFICIO AUCTIONEER
BOSSIER Parish

ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF:
Candace A Courteau
1505 North 19th St, P.O. Box 2867
Monroe, LA 71207-2867
(318) 388-1440

November 27th, 2024
January 1st, 2025
Bossier Press Tribune

SHERIFF'S SALE SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Suit No. (08) 173921-
Date: Wednesday October 9, 2024
U.S. BANK TRUST COMPANY, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE, AS SUCCESSOR-IN-INTEREST TO U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE FOR MASTR ASSET BACKED SECURITIES TRUST 2006-HE3, MORTGAGE PASS-THROUGH CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2006-HE3
VS
RONALD B. WATKINS, JR. (A/K/A RONALD WATKINS) AND BRITTANY A. MITCHELL

JULIAN C. WHITTINGTON, SHERIFF
P.O. Box 850
BENTON, LA 71006

Parish of Bossier
26th Judicial District Court
State of Louisiana

By virtue of a Writ of SEIZURE AND SALE issued in the above numbered and entitled cause and to me directed, I have seized and will proceed to sell at public auction, to the last and highest bidder, for cash, WITH the benefit of appraisal, and according to law, at the principal front door of the court house, in the town of Benton, LA, on WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 8, 2025, between the hours of 10:00 AM and 4:00 PM the following described property, situated in parish of BOSSIER, Louisiana, to-wit:-
LOT 49, WILLOW RIDGE SUBDIVISION, UNIT NO. 1, A SUBDIVISION OF BOSSIER PARISH, LOUISIANA, AS PER PLAT THEREOF RECORDED IN BOOK 583, PAGE(S) 265-267 OF THE CONVEYANCE RECORDS OF BOSSIER PARISH LOUISIANA
WHICH HAS THE ADDRESS OF 107 AUGUSTA AVENUE, BENTON, LA 71006

And from the proceeds of said sale to pay petitioners claims of ONE HUNDRED THREE THOUSAND ONE HUNDRED ONE AND 98 / 100 (\$103,101.98) DOLLARS, along with interest, attorney's fees and all other costs of suit.

PUBLISH ON: November 27, 2024
January 01, 2025

JULIAN C. WHITTINGTON, SHERIFF & EX-OFFICIO AUCTIONEER
BOSSIER Parish

ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF:
Amy R Ortle
3510 N. CAUSEWAY BLVD., STE. 600
METAIRIE, LA 70002

November 27th, 2024
January 1st, 2025
Bossier Press Tribune

ADOPT,

DON'T

SHOP

SAID PROPERTY TO BE SOLD IN COMPLIANCE WITH JUDGMENT RENDERED TO EFFECT A PARTITION BY LITIGATION.
Julian C. Whittington,
Sheriff and Ex-Officio Auctioneer
Bossier Parish, Louisiana

Bossier Press Tribune
Publishs on: Jan 01, 2025
Feb 12, 2025

Continued on next page

SHERIFF'S SALE SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Suit No: (08) 174055- Date: Wednesday, October 2, 2024 MORTGAGE ASSETS MANAGEMENT, LLC VS CAMILLE BARR WEBB AK/A CAMILLE B. WEBB AK/A CAMILLE WEBB AND THE UNOPENED SUCCESSION OF AND UNKNOWN HEIRS OF JOHN W. WEBB AK/A JOHN W. WEBB AK/A JOHN WEBB

JULIAN C. WHITTINGTON, SHERIFF P.O. Box 850 BENTON, LA 71006 Parish of Bossier 26th Judicial District Court State of Louisiana

By virtue of a Writ of SEIZURE AND SALE issued in the above numbered and entitled cause and to me directed, I have seized and will proceed to sell at public auction, to the last and highest bidder, for cash, WITHOUT the benefit of appraisalment, and according to law, at the principal front door of the court house, in the town of Benton, LA, on WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 8, 2025, between the hours of 10:00 AM and 4:00 PM the following described property, situated in parish of BOSSIER, Louisiana, to-wit: THE PROPERTY DESCRIBED IN THE ACT OF MORTGAGE IS DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:

LOT 99, STOCKWELL PLACE, UNIT FOUR, A SUBDIVISION OF BOSSIER PARISH, LOUISIANA, AS PER PLAT RECORDED IN BOOK 808, PAGE 665 OF THE CONVEYANCE RECORDS OF BOSSIER PARISH, LOUISIANA, TOGETHER WITH ALL BUILDINGS AND IMPROVEMENTS LOCATED THEREON (THE "PROPERTY") SUBJECT TO ANY RESTRICTIONS, EASEMENTS AND SERVITUDES OF RECORD.

And from the proceeds of said sale to pay petitioners claims of: ONE HUNDRED SEVENTY-NINE THOUSAND THIRTY-SIX AND 98 / 100 (\$179,036.98) DOLLARS, along with interest, attorney's fees and all other costs of suit.

PUBLISH ON: November 27, 2024 January 01, 2025

JULIAN C. WHITTINGTON, SHERIFF & EX-OFFICIO AUCTIONEER BOSSIER Parish

ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF: COREY J GIRDIR 13541 TIGER BEND ROAD BATON ROUGE, LA 70817 225-756-0373

November 27th, 2024 January 1st, 2025 Bossier Press Tribune



TRISTAR Risk Management P. O. Box 2805 Clinton, La 72733-2805

CLAIM NUMBER: 0051030004014

Pursuant to LSA-R.S. 23:1208, any person who willfully makes a false statement or representation "for the purpose of obtaining any benefit or payment" shall "forfeit any right to compensation benefits under this Chapter."

WORKERS' COMPENSATION MILEAGE FORM

Name: Carl Coates Date of Injury: 01-01-2023

Home Address: 253 Cattail Trail, Benton, LA 71006

Employer: Bossier City Fire Dept. SSN: XXX-XX-1003

Table with columns: Date, Last trip taken below, such as: home to (measure) Hospital; Home to Dr. (name) and returned home; Office to Dr. (name) and returned to office or home, etc., Round Trip Daily Mileage. Rows show dates from 1/1/24 to 1/31/24 with mileage entries.

I certify that the above information furnished by me is true and correct. Signature: Carl Coates Date: Dec 5, 2024

Once completed and signed, please return this form to our office:

January 1st, 2025 Bossier Press Tribune

NOTICE

The Bossier Parish Police Jury has scheduled a public hearing to be held at 2:00 p.m., Wednesday, February 5, 2025, in the Police Jury Meeting Room, Bossier Parish Court-house, Benton, Louisiana, to consider approval of the application of Michael Kelsch, Raley and Associates, Inc., to the Benton MPC, for a zoning amendment to change the zoning classification of a certain tract of land being 127.871 acres, more or less, located in Section 16, Township 19 North, Range 13 West of the Louisiana Prime Meridian, Northwestern Land District, Bossier Parish, LA, from R-A, Residential Agriculture District, to R-1, One Family Residence District, for a proposed residential subdivision, Police Jury District 3. (Benton MPC Case No. BP-24-24)

Megan C. Ramos, Interim Parish Secretary Philip Rodgers, President Bossier Parish Police Jury

December 25th, 2024 January 1st, 2025 January 8th, 2025 Bossier Press Tribune

NOTICE

The Bossier Parish Police Jury has scheduled a public hearing to be held at 2:00 p.m., Wednesday, January 15, 2025, in the Police Jury Meeting Room, Bossier Parish Court-house, Benton, Louisiana, to consider approval of the plat of the proposed development of Rainwater Subdivision, located on a certain tract of land being 24.348 acres, more or less, in part of the southeast quarter of the northeast quarter of Section 18, Township 19 North, Range 11 West of the Louisiana Principal Meridian, Northwestern Land District, Bossier Parish, LA, Police Jury District 4.

Megan C. Ramos, Interim Parish Secretary Philip Rodgers, President Bossier Parish Police Jury

December 25th, 2024 January 1st, 2025 January 8th, 2025 Bossier Press Tribune

NOTICE

The Bossier Parish Police Jury has scheduled a public hearing to be held at 2:00 p.m., Wednesday, February 5, 2025, in the Police Jury Meeting Room, Bossier Parish Court-house, Benton, Louisiana, to consider approval of the application of Michael Kelsch, Raley and Associates, Inc., to the Bossier City - Parish MPC, for a zoning amendment to change the zoning classification of a certain tract of land being 116.185 acres, more or less, located in Section 17 and 18, Township 18 North, Range 13 West, and a portion in Section 13, Township 18 North, Range 14 West, immediately south of West Viking Drive and I-220 East Bound, Bossier Parish, LA, from I-2, Heavy Industrial District, to B-3, General Business District, for a proposed shooting range, Red River Range, Police Jury District 7. (Bossier City-Parish MPC Case No. P-ZON-000200-2024 SC)

Megan C. Ramos, Interim Parish Secretary Philip Rodgers, President Bossier Parish Police Jury

December 25th, 2024 January 1st, 2025 January 8th, 2025 Bossier Press Tribune

NOTICE

The Bossier Parish Police Jury has scheduled a public hearing to be held at 2:00 p.m., Wednesday, February 5, 2025, in the Police Jury Meeting Room, Bossier Parish Courthouse, Benton, Louisiana, to consider approval of the application of Ryan Estess, Raley and Associates, Inc., to the Bossier City - Parish MPC, for a zoning amendment to change the zoning classification of a certain tract of land being 10.802 acres, more or less, located south of Wemple Road and west of Old Brownlee Road, Bossier Parish, LA, from R-A, Residential Agriculture District, to R-LD, Residential-Low Density District, for a proposed residential subdivision, Police Jury District 6. (Bossier City-Parish MPC Case No. P-ZON-000183-2024)

Megan C. Ramos, Interim Parish Secretary Philip Rodgers, President Bossier Parish Police Jury

December 25th, 2025 January 1st, 2025 January 8th, 2025 Bossier Press Tribune

NOTICE

The Bossier Parish Police Jury has scheduled a public hearing to be held at 2:00 p.m., Wednesday, January 15, 2025, in the Police Jury Meeting Room, Bossier Parish Court-house, Benton, Louisiana, to consider approval of the plat of the proposed development of East Benton Subdivision Unit No. 1A, located on a certain tract of land being 0.230 acres, more or less, being a re-subdivision of Lots 1 and 2, Block H, East Benton Subdivision, being part of the north 25 acres of the northeast quarter of the northwest quarter, in Section 28, Township 20 North, Range 13 West of the Louisiana Principal Meridian, Northwestern Land District, Bossier Parish, LA, Police Jury District 4. (Benton MPC Case No. BP-28-24)

Megan C. Ramos, Interim Parish Secretary Philip Rodgers, President Bossier Parish Police Jury

December 25th, 2024 January 1st, 2025 January 8th, 2025 Bossier Press Tribune

NOTICE

The Bossier Parish Police Jury has scheduled a public hearing to be held at 2:00 p.m., Wednesday, January 15, 2025, in the Police Jury Meeting Room, Bossier Parish Court-house, Benton, Louisiana, to consider approval of the plat of the proposed development of Bay Hills North Unit No. 1A, located on a certain tract of land being 2.862 acres, more or less, being a re-subdivision of Lots 12 and 13 of Bay Hills North Unit No. 1, in Section 4, Township 19 North, Range 13 West of the Louisiana Principal Meridian, Northwestern Land District, Bossier Parish, LA, Police Jury District 3. (Benton MPC Case No. BP-27-24)

Megan C. Ramos, Interim Parish Secretary Philip Rodgers, President Bossier Parish Police Jury

December 25th, 2024 January 1st, 2025 January 8th, 2025 Bossier Press Tribune

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Sealed BIDS for Snow and Ice Removal will be received by the Receptionist in the BOSSIER PARISH POLICE JURY'S OFFICE at 204 Burt Boulevard, 1ST Floor/P.O. BOX 70, Benton, LA 71006, until 2:00 p.m., (local time), on Friday, January 16th, 2025, and then publicly opened and read aloud in the Bossier Parish Police Jury Meeting Room located on the first floor of the Courthouse. In accordance with Act No. 590 of the 2008 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature, bids may be submitted electronically at https://www.bidexpress.com/. Vendors/Contractors who decide to submit electronic bids will also have to pay an annual fee for digital signatures as required by state law. The Bossier Parish Police Jury reserves the right to reject any and/or all bids for just cause.

BOSSIER PARISH POLICE JURY MEGAN RAMOS, INTERIM PARISH SECRETARY PHILIP RODGERS, PRESIDENT

December 18th, 2024 December 25th, 2024 January 1, 2025 Bossier Press Tribune

NOTICE

The Bossier Parish Police Jury has scheduled a public hearing to be held at 2:00 p.m., Wednesday, February 5, 2025, in the Police Jury Meeting Room, Bossier Parish Court-house, Benton, Louisiana, to consider approval of the application of Michael Kelsch, Raley and Associates, Inc., to the Benton MPC, for a zoning amendment to change the zoning classification of a certain tract of land being 25.509 acres, more or less, located in Section 16, Township 19 North, Range 13 West of the Louisiana Prime Meridian, Northwestern Land District, Bossier Parish, LA, for a proposed commercial development in Police Jury District 3, more specifically as follows: 2.636 acres, more or less, located north of the proposed boulevard, from R-A, Residential Agriculture District, to B-1, Transition Business District; The remaining 22.873 acres, more or less, located south of the proposed boulevard and north of West Linton Road, from R-A, Residential Agriculture District, to B-2, Neighborhood Business District. (Benton MPC Case No. BP-25-24)

Megan C. Ramos, Interim Parish Secretary Philip Rodgers, President Bossier Parish Police Jury

December 25th, 2024 January 1st, 2025 January 8th, 2025 Bossier Press Tribune

Notice to the Public

If anyone knows the whereabouts of the family members of WALLACE HAROLD JONES(deceased) and DOROTHY JO CORBETT JONES(deceased), last known address in the Bossier City, La, area, please contact Attorney Kharmen Davis-Taylor at (318) 621-9400.

December 25th, 2024 January 1st, 2025 Bossier Press Tribune

Notice to the Public

If anyone knows the whereabouts of the family members of PHILLIP GEE(deceased) and FRANCINE LACEY STEWART(deceased), last known address in the Bossier City, La, area, please contact Attorney Kharmen Davis-Taylor at (318) 621-9400.

December 25th, 2024 January 1st, 2025 Bossier Press Tribune

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Sealed BIDS for Storm Debris Removal (North) will be received by the Receptionist in the BOSSIER PARISH POLICE JURY'S OFFICE at 204 Burt Boulevard, 1ST Floor/P.O. BOX 70, Benton, LA 71006, until 2:00 p.m., (local time), on Friday, January 16th, 2025, and then publicly opened and read aloud in the Bossier Parish Police Jury Meeting Room located on the first floor of the Courthouse. In accordance with Act No. 590 of the 2008 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature, bids may be submitted electronically at https://www.bidexpress.com/. Vendors/Contractors who decide to submit electronic bids will also have to pay an annual fee for digital signatures as required by state law. The Bossier Parish Police Jury reserves the right to reject any and/or all bids for just cause.

BOSSIER PARISH POLICE JURY MEGAN RAMOS, INTERIM PARISH SECRETARY PHILIP RODGERS, PRESIDENT

December 18th, 2024 December 25th, 2024 January 1st, 2025 Bossier Press Tribune

LEGAL NOTICE TO BIDDERS BID # P24-10

Notice is hereby given that the Purchasing Department of the City of Bossier City, Municipal Complex, 620 Benton Road, Bossier City, Louisiana, will receive sealed bids until 2:30 p.m., Tuesday, January 14, 2025, for P24-10 2024 Citywide Street Improvements. Bids will then be publicly opened and read aloud in the Council Chambers at 3:00 p.m. In accordance with the Louisiana Revised Statutes 37:2150-2163 and show his license number on the bid and on the envelope in which it is submitted. The City of Bossier City reserves the right to reject any/all bids.

Angela Williamson, Director of Finance City of Bossier City, Louisiana

December 18th, 2024 December 25th, 2024 January 1st, 2025 Bossier Press Tribune

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

NOTICE is hereby given that the Bossier City-Parish Metropolitan Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on Monday, January 13, 2025 at 2:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers of Bossier City Hall, 620 Benton Road, Bossier City, Louisiana, for the purpose of considering the following amendments to Ordinance 133 of 2018 of the City of Bossier City and Ordinance 4705 of 2018 of the Parish Code of Bossier Parish: A Public Hearing for the following: The application of Suqing Zheng for a Conditional Use Approval for the sale of high content alcohol for on premise consumption at a restaurant, Lin's Asian Kitchen, located at 2091 Stockwell Road Suite 14, Bossier City, Louisiana. (City Council District 4) (Police Jury District 8)

The application of Josh Morvant, Red River Billiards, for a Conditional Use Approval for the sale of high and low content alcohol for on premise consumption at a billiards arena, Red River Billiards LLC, located at 2090 Brookshire Arena Drive Suite A, Bossier City, Louisiana. (City Council District 1) (Police Jury District 11)

The application of Josh Morvant, Red River Billiards, for a Conditional Use Approval for the sale of high and low content alcohol for on premise consumption at a restaurant, Loosiana Bistreaux, located at 2090 Brookshire Arena Drive Suite B, Bossier City, Louisiana. (City Council District 1) (Police Jury District 11)

The application of Holly Lim, Lucky Palace II, for a Conditional Use Approval for the sale of high and low content alcohol for on premise consumption at a restaurant, Lucky Palace II, located inside of Louisiana Downs at 8000 East Texas Street Suite 101, Bossier City, Louisiana. (City Council District 4) (Police Jury District 10)

The application of Bader Bader, Ark La Tex Restaurant Equipment, requesting a waiver of a 20' landscaping buffer on Barksdale Blvd and 10' landscaping buffer on Central Park Drive, located at 1030 Central Park Drive for a proposed restaurant, Thiago Seafood. (City Council District 3) (Police Jury District 10)

The application of Susan Yocum, Live Casino and Hotel, for a Conditional Use Approval for an exception to the size restrictions applicable to Incidental Signs found at Section 8.3(E) for a casino and hotel, LIVE! Casino and Hotel Louisiana, located at 711 Live Casino Blvd., Bossier City, Louisiana. (City Council District4) (Police Jury District 10) Adopt a Resolution to enforce and implement participation in open meetings in accordance with Act 393 of 2023 as amended by L.A. R.S. 42:17.2.1.

Michelle Wallace, Chairperson Bossier City-Parish Metropolitan Planning Commission

January 1st, 2025 Bossier Press Tribune

Notice to the Public

Notice is hereby given that the Houghton Metropolitan Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on Monday, January 13, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. in the Town Council Chambers at Houghton Town Hall, 118 W. McKinley Avenue, Houghton, LA for the purpose of considering the following request: A public hearing for the following cause: HP-12-24 - The application of Civil Design Group, LLC requesting a zoning amendment to change the zoning classification from R-A; Residential Agriculture to B-3; General Business for Grand Cypress Development - Phase 1. A 105 acre tract of land located in Sections 3 and 10 of Township 18 North, Range 11 West and generally described as follows: Being a 105 acre tract located East and adjacent to LA Hwy. 157, South and adjacent to LA Hwy. 80 and North and adjacent of Interstate 20 being approximately 1200 feet wide.

January 1st, 2025 Bossier Press Tribune

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