



## INSERT

### The Lincoln Leaders School News

The Lincoln Leaders School News provides parents and the community monthly insight into the classroom.

**EXTRA!**

## YOUR FORECAST

### Rain showers with a warm front looming



High this afternoon in the upper 50s.

Low overnight in the low to mid 50s.

Chance of storms Thursday 98%

Storms on Thursday with a high of 73.

Sunshine on Friday with a high of 67.



See Kid's Drawing Page 12

# Ruston Daily Leader

Wednesday, January 29, 2025

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75¢

## When on the moon, waste nothing

Louisiana Tech research finds crucial uses for astronaut urine in space

By Caleb Daniel  
[caleb@rustonleader.com](mailto:caleb@rustonleader.com)

Humanity is seeking to reestablish a presence on the moon for the first time since the '70s, this time in a more sustained way.

Among many other things, astronauts will need water, food and structures to make an extended stay on the moon. And they can't rely solely on expensive supply deliveries from Earth.

A research team at Louisiana Tech University recently showed astronauts would already have a key

resource on hand to help alleviate each of those needs: their own urine.

Led by chemical engineering program chair and associate professor Joan Lynam, the Biomass Lab in Tech's College of Engineering and Science devised a method to separate the water and waste byproducts in urine, recycle the water, and use the concentrated byproducts—specifically a compound called urea

both to fertilize soilless plants and as a plasticizer in moon-friendly cement. In other words, us-

ing artificial urine, Lynam and her lab showed through experiments that the urea in astronauts' urine could be used to grow crops on the moon and make more pliable concrete for constructing buildings on the moon.

"It was very exciting," Lynam said. "It was like, 'Wow, this can actually work!' You don't ever know if it'll actually work when you start out. And I was excited because my students did such good work."

See WASTE NOTHING, page 5



Leader photo by Caleb Daniel  
Tech chemical engineering program chair and associate professor Joan Lynam shows equipment used for direct contact membrane distillation, a process she and her Biomass Lab recently used to separate water from waste byproducts in artificial urine, with potential application on the moon.

## Traffic stop leads to attempted murder charge

Leader Staff Report

A man wanted on an attempted second-degree murder charge stemming from an incident in which he allegedly hit the victim then shot at him, is now in jail.

Donnell Williams, Jr., 34, was stopped early Monday morning by Ruston city police on three traffic violations unrelated to the attempted murder charge.

During the arrest, they discovered Williams was wanted by the Lincoln Parish Sheriff's Office for trying to kill another man.

LPSO spokesman Lt. Matt Henderson said Williams was involved in an altercation that happened on Hickory Street on Dec. 18, 2024.

Williams and the victim were reportedly arguing when the exchange turned physical. Henderson said the victim walked away but

Williams got in a car and proceeded to hit the other man with the vehicle.

Then Williams got out of the car and shot at the victim, missing him.

The victim was treated and released from a local medical facility.

Williams was arrested shortly after 1 a.m. Monday when a Ruston police officer saw him cause a near collision at the intersection of North Vienna Street near Alabama Avenue.

Williams gave a false name to the officer. Police dispatchers were able to determine Williams' identity, his arrest report said.

In addition to the attempted murder charge, Williams faces unrelated city charges for careless operation, having no driver's license, expired license plate, and resisting an officer by providing false identification.



Courtesy photos

## Gibbs bids farewell to Russ-Town Band

"Thanks for the Melodies" was a recurring theme during the final concert for Lawrence Gibbs, longtime conductor and member of the Russ-Town Jazz Band. One of the founding members of the Russ-Town Band, Gibbs officially retired following a performance over the weekend at the Dixie Center for the Arts. Gibbs and his 30-year commitment to the Russ-Town community band were celebrated during the unforgettable concert that served as a fundraiser for the Dixie.



## KidWind integrates clean energy into classrooms

By Cathi Cox-Boniol  
[community@rustonleader.com](mailto:community@rustonleader.com)

For 20 years, the KidWind Project has been working with educators to integrate clean energy into their classrooms.

For the second year, the SCILS Region 8 LASTEM Center at Louisiana Tech University teamed up with the University of Louisiana at Monroe to host the only KidWind Challenge throughout the state of Louisiana.

"We are incredibly proud to be leading the charge with this exciting initiative," said Missy Wooley,

Assistant Director for the SCILS Center. "Not only is it connecting our students with an essential understanding of clean energy, it is exposing them to exciting careers that will be available to them in our area of the state."

Sponsored by Pattern Energy, the hands-on design competition allowed student teams to showcase small-scale wind turbines they built and tested in their classrooms before bringing them to the challenge. 21 teams from across the Louisiana Delta advanced from preliminary competitions at their schools to compete for one

of three invitations to the World Challenge scheduled for Phoenix, Arizona, in May.

"It was a fierce competition this year," Wooley added. "This year we had veterans in the room and that made a huge difference. Plus, we hosted a teacher training last fall that really helped the teachers and coaches become better equipped for working with the students. We couldn't have been more thrilled with the results. It really was a showdown to the finish."

See KIDWIND, page 3

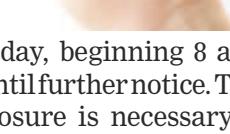


Courtesy photo  
Cedar Creek students Taylor Basham and Mason Wooden team up on a design for the KidWind Sail Car Challenge.

## FOR YOUR INFORMATION

### South Bonner Street closed to traffic

The City of Ruston will close S. Bonner Street between Mills Street and E. Line Avenue to through traffic



today, beginning 8 a.m. until further notice. This closure is necessary to allow for utility repairs.

Motorists and pedes-

trians should exercise

caution in this neighbor-

hood. Any questions can

be received by the Public

Works Department at

(318) 242-7703.

## Teen arrested after running from officer

Leader Staff Report

A Ruston teenager who ran from police now faces a list of charges including possession of a stolen firearm.

Zyhiem McCallister, 17, was arrested by city police shortly after 10 p.m. Monday in the 1300 block of Oriole Avenue. The arrest followed officers' response to an address on nearby Cardinal Street where two men, one armed with a gun, were reportedly beating on the door of a residence.

A man, later determined to be McCallister, was sitting on the porch when the responding officer arrived, police said. When the officer asked McCallister to show his hands, McCallister began walking down the steps, reportedly making no effort to walk toward the office as he'd been asked to do, McCallister's arrest affidavit said.

Though McCallister was told multiple times not to run, he ran behind the house toward Oriole Avenue where he

was later taken into custody.

Officers found a Smith and Wesson 9mm handgun, seven grams of marijuana, a red vape pen, some cash, and a camo face mask under a shed behind a house on Oriole in the area where McCallister had been walking.

According to the affidavit, McCallister admitted to dropping the items where the gun was located. Police said a serial number check of the gun

See TEEN ARRESTED, page 5



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## ASK THE DOCTORS

Elizabeth Ko  
MD  
&  
Eve Glazier  
MD, MBA

## Lifestyle changes helpful for gut microbiome

**Dear Doctors:** I just moved to a new city for a job. It has been overwhelming, and my diet and workouts went off the rails. Then I got sick and had to take antibiotics. I can tell that my gut microbiome is messed up. What's the best way to heal it? I'd rather not take probiotics.

**Dear Reader:** Moving and changing jobs have the dubious distinction of being among the most stressful life events. This grim category also includes major illness, the loss of a loved one and the end of a serious relationship. It's not surprising that in the course of dealing with two of these stressors at the same time, your diet and exercise routines got thrown off course.

You are correct in assuming that these, along with stress itself, can adversely affect the health of the gut microbiome. So can antibiotics. As they kill bacteria that cause infection, antibiotics also eliminate beneficial bacteria. Even narrow-spectrum antibiotics, which are targeted to specific pathogens, can adversely affect the health and diversity of the gut microbiome.

The encouraging news is that our guts are resilient. Research shows that most people see a recovery of their intestinal microflora within a few weeks after antibiotic treatment ends. And with healthful lifestyle choices, you can reverse the damage to the gut that stress in your life may have caused.

We tend to think of stress in terms of the emotions that come along with it, such as anxiety, depression, anger, hopelessness and fear. But stress has a physiological component as well. In order to prepare for the perceived battle to come, the body releases hormones such as cortisol and adrenaline. In the short term, these are harmless, but when they persist over time due to chronic stress, they become a risk to general health, and to the health of the gut microbiome.

First, don't worry about your wish to avoid probiotic supplements. Although they are widely available and the subject of numerous health claims, it remains unclear whether they are helpful. Instead, focus on diet, regular exercise, spending time outdoors, getting enough sleep, getting good-quality sleep and finding a way to relax.

With diet, limit ultra-processed foods and added sugars, which add to low-grade inflammation. Instead, choose fiber-rich foods like vegetables, leafy greens, fruit, beans, nuts, seeds, grains and legumes. The indigestible components, known as prebiotics, reach the colon intact and feed your tiny microbe companions. Fermented foods, such as yogurt, kefir, pickles, kimchi and tempeh—all natural sources of probiotics—help bolster gut populations. And remember to drink plenty of water.

Take time out for exercises that help manage stress, such as yoga, tai chi, deep breathing, meditation and stretching. Aerobic and weight-bearing exercises are not only good for the muscles, skeleton, heart and lungs, but they also benefit mental and gut health.

Spending regular time outdoors in nature and with other people are beneficial for mental health, and also for adding to the diversity of gut microbiome populations. What's good for gut health is good for general health.

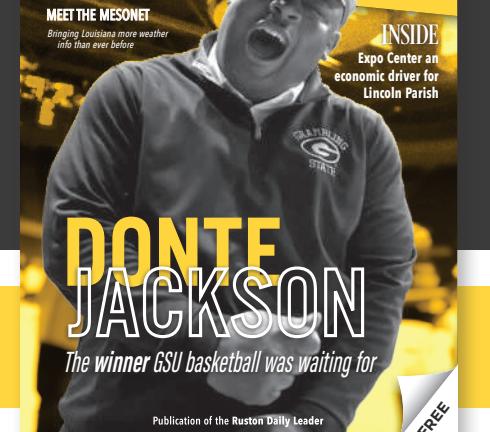
*Elizabeth Ko, M.D., is an internist and assistant professor of medicine at UCLA Health. Eve Glazier, M.D., MBA, is an internist and associate professor of medicine at UCLA Health. Send your questions to askthedoc@mednet.ucla.edu.*

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RUSTON DAILY LEADER



212 W Park Ave | Ruston

## NAMI NOTES

# Mental illnesses can turn your life upside down



Can my preschooler have a mental illness? Yes. Can my teenage son or daughter have a mental illness? Yes. Can my middle-aged parent have a mental illness? Yes. Can my 100-year-old great-grandparent have a mental illness? Yes. Can my husband have a mental illness? Yes. Can I have a mental illness? Yes.

### What are mental illnesses?

Mental illnesses are medical conditions that can disrupt a person's thinking, feeling, mood, ability to relate to others, and daily functioning.

Just as diabetes is a disorder of the pancreas, mental illness are brain-based conditions that often result in a variety of symptoms that can affect daily life.

Despite the challenges these conditions present, there are many reasons to have hope for a better future. Recovery is possible. People with a mental illness can and do live full and meaningful lives.

### What are types of mental illnesses?

Mental illnesses include depression, schizophrenia, bipolar disorder, obsessive-compulsive disorder (OCD), post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), anxiety, borderline personality disorder, attention-deficit disorder (ADD) and attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD), schizoaffective disorder, eating disorders, dissociative identity disorder (DID), and others.

### Who is at risk?

Approximately 60 million Americans experience a mental illness in a given year. One in five adults and one in six youth aged 6-17 that are Americans are affected by mental illnesses.

Regardless of your age, gender, race or ethnicity, nationality, socio-economic status, family history, religious or political affiliation, mental illnesses can strike you, me, or anyone.

Mental illnesses are NOT demonic possession. They are NOT the result of bad parenting. They are no one's fault, NOT yours, mine, or anyone else's.

### What are symptoms?

Mental illnesses can turn your life upside down.

Each mental illness has its own set of symptoms; however, when left untreated or misdiagnosed, some common warning signs of a mental illness are:

- Feeling very sad or withdrawn for more than two weeks.

- Trying to harm or end one's life or making plans to do so.

- Severe, out-of-control, risk-taking behavior that causes harm to self or others.

- Sudden overwhelming fear for no reason, sometimes with a racing heart, physical discomfort or difficulty breathing.

- Throwing up, using laxatives or not eating to lose weight, significant weight loss.

- Seeing, hearing or believing things that aren't real.

- Excessive use of alcohol or drugs.

- Drastic changes in mood, behavior, personality or sleeping habits.

- Extreme difficulty concentrating or staying still, leading to physical danger or failing at school.

- Intense worries or fears that get in the way of daily activities.

### How are mental illnesses diagnosed?

As with all types of illness, a physician must be seen to provide a proper diagnosis. The physician may perform a physical examination, an interview, and lab tests. Unfortunately, an accurate mental health

### What are treatments?

Every person with a mental illness requires his/her own treatment plan tailored to the specific situation. Unfortunately, no single, coordinated system of services for mental illness exists across the United States.

When people are di-

agnosed with a mental illness, finding effective medical and psychiatric care is the first priority. But once such treatment begins, individuals living with mental illness and their families soon discover that the illnesses affect many aspects of their lives—and that they need more than medical help.

Because mental illnesses are typically persistent illnesses, continuous maintenance to help prevent the reemergence of symptoms is recommended.

Effective treatment plans usually include medications (to reduce symptom intensity), psychotherapy, education, self-management strategies and external supports such as family, friends, work and school support, and formal support groups.

Combining these elements and revising the treatment plan based on assessment of a person's response are the best means of preventing relapse and reducing the severity of symptoms.

Hope that you, your loved one or friend receives the treatment that you or he/she needs.

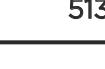
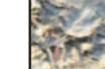
### What are resources?

You may contact NAMI Ruston. You may also visit [www.nami.org](http://www.nami.org), [www.webmd.com](http://www.webmd.com), [www.apa.org](http://www.apa.org), [www.healthline.com](http://www.healthline.com), and [www.everyday-health.com](http://www.everyday-health.com).

*Jerrilene Washington, Ed.D., is the executive director of NAMI Ruston. Contact her at [washington.jerrilene1922@gmail.com](mailto:washington.jerrilene1922@gmail.com) or (318) 247-3982.*

## PET OF THE WEEK

4PAWS RESCUE



**OBITUARIES** (Paid Announcements)**Margaret Schweinsberg Ostermann**

Memorial services for Margaret (Margie) Schweinsberg Ostermann, 89, will be held at 2 p.m. on Saturday February 1, 2025 at The Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses in Ruston.

She was born December 10, 1935 in Bay City, Michigan.

She passed away peacefully on January 20, 2025. She was the mother of 4 daughters, 12 grandchildren, and



14 great grandchildren. She is survived by husband, Don Ostermann.

**Jane Fuller Ball**

A Celebration of Life Service for Jane Fuller Ball, 86, will be 2 p.m. Sunday, February 2, 2025, in the Burkhalter Chapel at Trinity Methodist Church in Ruston.

Reverend Doug de Graffenreid will officiate the service under the direction of Kilpatrick Funeral Homes in Ruston. A Visitation for family and friends will be 1 p.m. prior to the service.

Jane passed away peacefully Wednesday, January 1, 2025, with her loving husband, James Ball, by her side. She was born September 26, 1938, in Ruston, to Robert and Margaret Fuller. Jane enjoyed Ruston life of music, family, clubs and many friends. Jane, a Ruston High Graduate, met her husband James "Jimmy" Ball who was attending Louisiana Tech University.

Jim and Jane married at Trinity United Methodist Church August 29, 1957. They were blessed with two wonderful children Margaret "Meg" Bullock and Robert Ball. She was a caring wife, mother, and grandmother. Jane is preceded in death by her parents, Robert and Margaret Fuller.

She is survived by her husband of 67 years, James (Jimmy) Ball; children, Robert (Alicia) Ball of Ruston, Meg (Doug) Bullock of Owensboro, Kentucky; and her grandchildren, Brandon Ball, Molly Thornton (fiancé Aaron Leach), Chris (Katie) Bullock and Dylan Bullock. She was also blessed with great-grandchildren, Ellison Rae Bullock and Benjamin James Bullock.

Family was important to Jane her entire life. Although an only child, she had beloved cousins



who filled family gathering with joy.

Jane was appointed to the Louisiana State Music Commission and Jim and Jane were inducted into the Louisiana State Music Hall of Fame. She accompanied Jimmy for many years performing throughout Louisiana including the World's Fair of 1984, Louisiana Hayride and many other historic functions.

Jane enjoyed her time as a member of many Ruston Clubs including Junior Guild, Garden Club, PTO and Louisiana Tech Alumni Association. During her time at Tech she pledged to Kappa Delta Sorority, in her later years Jane remained faithful to the sorority with donations, attendance to events and well wishes.

Jane was known for her beautiful smile, love of people and most of all her love for animals. Over the years Jane has rescued many animals, including the time she stopped a school bus on Highway 167 North to rescue a kitten to the cheers of many school children.

In lieu of flowers the family asks for donations to the Methodist Children's Home or a Cancer foundation of your choosing.

Online condolences may be sent to the family at [www.kilpatrickfuneralhomes.com](http://www.kilpatrickfuneralhomes.com).

**Six active duty service members file suit challenging Trump's transgender ban**

**WASHINGTON (AP)**—Six transgender active duty service members and two former service members who seek re-enlistment on Tuesday filed the first lawsuit challenging President Donald Trump's executive order that calls for revising policy on transgender troops and probably sets the stage for banning them in the armed forces.

Trump's order, signed Monday, claims the sexual identity of transgender service members "conflicts with a soldier's commitment to an honorable, truthful, and disciplined lifestyle" and is harmful to military readiness. It requires Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth to issue a revised policy.

Army Capt. Gordon Herrero, one of the six active duty plaintiffs, said in a statement accompanying the lawsuit: "There's nothing about being transgender that makes me better or worse than any other soldier I serve alongside. We are all here because we are committed to our country, and we are passionate, willing, and able to serve effectively."



Courtesy photo

**Russ-Town Jazz Band performs for last time with Gibbs**

Lawrence Gibbs, longtime conductor and member of the Russ-Town Jazz Band, conducts the group for the last time at the Dixie Center for the Arts over the weekend. One of the founding members of the Russ-Town Band, Gibbs officially retired following a performance over the weekend at the Dixie Center for the Arts. Although retiring, Gibbs may still sit in with the band every now and then while still remaining engaged in the local arts scene.



Courtesy photo

Cedar Creek's Luke Waldron works to position his wind turbine for a test run as teammate Mallory Smith looks on during the recent KidWind Challenge held at the University of Louisiana at Monroe.

**KIDWIND** continued from page 1

Wooley is referring to the final run of official tests where the leading team was edged into a tie for second, forcing a "sudden death" test to see who would advance to the Worlds.

"It was as exciting as anything I've ever seen," Wooley continued. "Everyone in the room was completely captivated by what was going on and gathered up around the test pit. But those students handled it like champs and really demonstrated what can happen when young people are engaged and empowered to do the work. We couldn't have been more proud."

Both A.E. Phillips Laboratory School and Cedar Creek School brought multiple teams for the event.

Though it was the first year for AEP, Cedar Creek was part of the inaugural challenge in 2024.

However, this year instead of middle grades teams the Creek entered the event's first high school teams and earned an invitation to Worlds. Cedar Creek teacher Carrifrances Alexander said the experience pairs seam-

lessly into her AP Environmental Science curriculum.

"KidWind is one of the most authentic experiences my students have the opportunity to participate in," said Alexander. "It gives my students hands-on experience in the area of renewable energy. My students are more engaged with each other and the content of our course, thanks in large part to KidWind. They become immersed in the research, design, and development of wind turbines. I cannot think of a better way to allow my students to explore and discover the science and importance of renewable energy."

While KidWind focuses on fostering opportunities for students to build, test, explore and understand clean energy technology at a manageable scale, another goal is to get all students excited about careers in fields related to clean energy. SCILS recognizes that as the world becomes increasingly powered by clean energy, it is critical that we develop a workforce and public who understand the

complexities of this new power generation.

With that in mind, its team will continue working to offer opportunities for teachers, students and families to gain awareness through initiatives like the KidWind Challenge.

"Watching future engineers, teachers, architects and scientists learn to design, problem solve, and persevere real-time gives me hope for our future as a community and country," said Lindsey Keith-Vincent, Associate Dean for Research, Outreach, and Innovation in the College of Education and Human Sciences. "Knowing that the solutions these engaged and excited young people will be able to develop and implement over their lifetimes will make this world a better place. The fact that Pattern Energy is also motivated by impact and committed in investing in people that will create it is why events like this are possible for our students."

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# BREAST CANCER SCREENING

February 6, 2025

# OPINIONS

Ruston Daily Leader

Wednesday, January 29, 2025 • Page 4



## DOJ report: No shock value but will history repeat itself?



**ADD ONE**

by Nancy Bergeron

Anybody expecting shock value from the recently released U.S. Justice Department investigation of the Louisiana State Police was sorely disappointed.

Nothing in the 32-page "pattern-or-practice" inquiry report that came out two days after federal authorities said they wouldn't prosecute the Ronald Greene in-custody death case, and one day after the 3rd Judicial District criminal case breathed its last, was a surprise.

Instead, the conclusion was stinging and straightforward: LSP engages in a statewide pattern of use of excessive force that deprives people of their Constitutional rights and puts the public at risk of harm. Period, end of paragraph.

The report revealed what the DOJ believes — well, the old DOJ believed — is a pattern of unlawful conduct statewide and offers, but doesn't require, 17 "remedial measures" to theoretically improve things.

The DOJ investigation began in 2022, prompted by Greene's death three years earlier alongside a rural Union Parish road. Nobody tripped over their halo in the incident.

In fact, Greene might be alive if he hadn't run a traffic stop in Ouachita Parish and led troopers on a high-speed chase to near Farmerville in Union Parish.

But there's plenty of fault to go around.

Body camera video shows the shackled and handcuffed 49-year-old Black man pleading with troopers who appear to proceed to punch, drag, tase and assault him after he was dragged face down on the asphalt.

An LSP sergeant who was a use-of-force expert rightfully called the Greene incident "a catastrophic failure in a million different directions."

Nevertheless, the DOJ brought no charges against

any of the officers involved saying it couldn't prove beyond a reasonable doubt that they willfully violated Greene's rights.

The upshot? Use of force may violate the Constitution even when it can't be criminally prosecuted. That's a bit disconcerting.

Nobody deserves to die the way Ronald Greene did, even though he bears some liability in his own death, and regardless of whether the troopers' action was technically criminal or not.

The Greene case was a mess from the start.

Fact is, the DOJ initially asked District Attorney John Belton to hold off on his investigation while they looked into the incident. In April 2022, now-former U.S. Attorney Brandon Brown gave Belton the go-ahead to proceed with state prosecution even though the federal probe was still ongoing.

Four months later, the DOJ gave Belton most of its case files.

And even though a Union Parish grand jury indicted the five living officers involved — the trooper believed most culpable died from injuries sustained when he crashed his car on I-20 after learning he was going to be fired — the charges were eventually dropped against three of the officers and the other two plead guilty to reduced-charge misdemeanors.

But however you size up who should have prosecuted what, or whether anybody should have been prosecuted

at all, the Ronald Greene case didn't happen in isolation. That's the scary part.

The DOJ report cites five additional cases of excessive force, along with pages of other questionable behavior.

Clearly the report is critical. Equally clearly, it rightfully acknowledges LSP began making "much-needed reforms" after Greene's death.

Chances are, it wouldn't have mattered if the report had called for disciplinary action against troopers involved in any of the incidents. That ship has sailed, and it sank on all voyages.

It's also unlikely any of the 17 recommendations will matter, never mind most of them make sense and could strengthen police-public relationships if Louisiana's leaders would consider the recommendations rather than railing against them.

Not surprisingly, Gov. Jeff Landry and Attorney General Liz Murrill, both Republicans, lambasted the report, saying it was a political hit job to use the DOJ for political advantage. The underlying implication is Democrat former Gov. John Bel Edwards and Democrat former President Joe Biden are to blame.

For better or worse, the ideologies in both the statehouse and White House have changed.

What hasn't changed is the incidents uncovered by the DOJ report. There's validity to the argument that you can't judge an entire operation, in this case the Louisiana State Police, by the real or perceived actions of a few of its members.

But there's also validity to the argument that history repeats itself if we don't pay attention the first time. Which feels very much like where we are.

*Nancy Bergeron is a reporter for the Ruston Daily Leader. Contact her at nancy@rustonleader.com.*

### TODAY AT A GLANCE

Today is the 29th day of 2025 and the 40th day of winter.

**TODAY'S HISTORY:** In 1861, Kansas was admitted as the 34th U.S. state.

In 1891, Queen Liliuokalani inherited the throne from her brother, Kalakaua, becoming the last monarch of the Hawaiian Islands.

In 2002, President George W. Bush described Iran, Iraq and North Korea as part of an "axis of evil" in his State of the Union address.

In 2009, then-Illinois Gov. Rod Blagojevich was convicted on charges of corruption and removed from office in an impeachment trial before the Illinois Senate.

**TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS:** Thomas

Paine (1737-1809), patriot/philosopher; William McKinley (1843-1901), 25th U.S. president; Anton Chekhov (1860-1904), author; W.C. Fields (1880-1946), actor/comedian; Edward Abbey (1927-1989), environmentalist/author; Tom Selleck (1945- ), actor; Charlie Wilson (1953- ), singer-songwriter; Oprah Winfrey (1954- ), TV personality/media mogul; Edward Burns (1968- ), actor/director; Heather Graham (1970- ), actress; Sara Gilbert (1975- ), actress; Adam Lambert (1982- ), singer.

**TODAY'S FACT:** Edgar Allan Poe's famous poem "The Raven" was first published in the New York Evening Mirror on this day in 1845.

**TODAY'S SPORTS:** In 1995, the San Francisco 49ers defeated the San Diego Chargers 49-26 in Super Bowl XXIX, becoming the first NFL team to win five Super Bowls.

**TODAY'S QUOTE:** "Everyone wants to ride with you in the limo, but what you want is someone who will take the bus with you when the limo breaks down." — Oprah Winfrey

**TODAY'S NUMBER:** 6 — record number of Super Bowl wins for a franchise, held by the Pittsburgh Steelers and New England Patriots.

**TODAY'S MOON:** New moon (Jan. 29).

## Earning big bucks in state government

How do you put a dollar value on the worth of a public official? Attorneys working full time for the state are often paid more than \$400,000 a year. So how do you justify such large increases? The governor has a whole slew of people making \$200,000 or more. How about this idea? Shouldn't receiving such large salaries be based on results?

LSU football coach Brian Kelly will pocket some \$10 million this year, making him one of the highest-paid football coaches in the nation. But his enormous salary package is not based on results. It's the old adage that you should get what you pay for, and with Kelly, the results so far have been underwhelming.

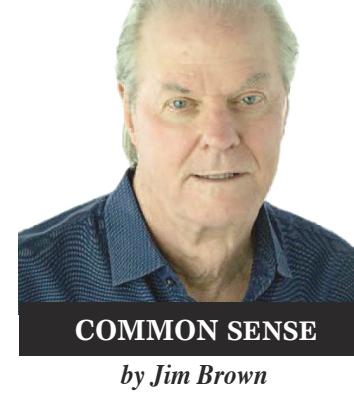
Some state officials say they have to work seven days a week. But a lot of people work that hard. Should time and work be the only criteria in paying public employees? Why not pay the governor and other public officials based on a scale of how well they perform and what results they achieve?

It seems like someone is always giving the re-assurance that comes from the bogus public versus private sector comparisons. Fortune 500 CEOs make on average \$10 million. Some would argue that paying the governor of Louisiana \$130,000 a year to oversee a \$30 billion enterprise is a real bargain. But what about results?

I would surmise that most voters in Louisiana would think it's a good idea to pay elected officials based on performance. But how do you do it? When you talk about results, it is certainly easier to define it in the private sector. Results are measured in the stock price of a publicly traded company or by profit in any other company. The more its company makes, the more its managers can earn.

But can you create an accountability and production index in government? I think you can. This would be a challenge for key economists at Louisiana universities. Develop a formula that would give a "performance index." Sounds difficult, but why not give it a try?

I suggest starting with the "misery index" we've heard so much about. This so-called misery index, you may recall, is the sum of the Louisiana unemployment rate added to the state's inflation rate. Go ahead and pay Gov. Jeff Landry and his brain trust the big bucks. The governor should make \$1 million a year. But this amount would be adjusted by the misery index. Right now, the index is a relatively low 8%, so Landry's



**COMMON SENSE**

by Jim Brown

salary would be close to what he now makes: \$130,000. Remember you divide the whole number, not the percentage.

We should build into the formula increases in high school math performance, elementary student test results, reduction in the state's troubling pollution levels, and maybe the number of new movies that are shot in Louisiana each year. Leave out the LSU national football ratings, but include the student athlete graduation rates.

Finally, I would factor in consumer confidence. Are the voters getting tangible results? Are they happy with the performance of their top public officials? If you own shares of stock, and have little confidence in your company investment, you simply sell the stock. The average Joe ought to be able to put in his two cents worth as to the value he's getting out of Louisiana government. Get his opinion through a statewide poll, and factor the results in to the performance Index.

So to public officials working in Louisiana, I say make your case and ask for the salary level you think you are worth. But just like in the private sector, be prepared to defend the bottom line. The proof of course is in the pudding. Be accountable for the results that take place. And if you succeed, reap the benefits.

In ancient Rome, there was a tradition when major projects were built. Whenever a Roman engineer constructed an arch, as the capstone was hoisted into place, the engineer assumed accountability for his work in the most profound way possible. He stood under the arch.

Pay these pied pipers of change and economic growth the big bucks they say they are worth. But keep them directly under the arch of performance. And let voters know there will be a day of reckoning if this promise of change and results plummet to the ground.

*Jim Brown is a former Secretary of State and Commissioner of Insurance and writes a weekly syndicated column.*

## Ruston Daily Leader

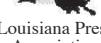
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## Wall Street Report



### Market steadies itself a day after sell-off for Nvidia, tech stocks

NEW YORK (AP) — Nvidia and other U.S. tech stocks are holding steadier Tuesday, a day after tumbling on doubts about whether the artificial intelligence frenzy really needs all the dollars being poured into it.

The S&P 500 was 0.8% higher in afternoon trading. The Dow Jones Industrial Average was up 167 points, or 0.4%, as of 1:08 p.m. Eastern time, and the Nasdaq composite was 1.8% higher after sliding 3.1% the day before.

The spotlight remains on Nvidia, whose chips are powering much of the move into AI and whose stock has become a symbol of the surrounding frenzy. It rose 6.8% Tuesday after bouncing between gains and losses at the start of trading. The moves were much milder than its plunge of nearly

17% from the day before, its worst drop since the 2020 COVID crash.

Other AI-related companies also flipped between initial gains and losses, including chip company Broadcom, which rose 1%. Constellation Energy lost an early gain to fall 1.1%, giving back more of its recent rally built on expectations it will help supply the electricity that vast AI data centers would gobble up.

They are under threat after DeepSeek, a Chinese company, said it was able to develop a large language model that can perform as well as big U.S. rivals but at fraction of the cost. That raises questions about whether all the spending expected for AI chips and electricity will need to happen.

AI-related stocks have been Wall

Street's biggest stars in recent years, soaring on expectations for big continued spending. The gains, though, also created criticism that the stock prices had simply gone too high, too fast.

It's still uncertain how much DeepSeek's development will upset the AI industry. While it could mean less growth in spending for data centers, electricity and chips, it could also boost other areas.

"If AI becomes less expensive to use, we think businesses will adopt it more quickly, making a greater investment in AI software," according to James Egelhof, chief U.S. economist at BNP Paribas. "We think this acceleration in adoption could mean a rise in software investment that offsets – or even dwarfs – any deceleration in

spending on data center structures, hardware and related investment."

Outside of AI-related industries, stocks held up fairly well on Monday, and they were mixed Tuesday following a set of mixed profit reports.

Royal Caribbean steamed 12.3% higher after the cruise operator topped analysts' profit expectations for the end of 2024. It benefited from stronger-than-expected demand from customers booking trips closer to the time of departure. The company also gave a profit forecast for the first three months of 2025 that topped analysts' expectations.

JetBlue Airways, meanwhile, dropped 28.2% despite reporting a milder loss for the latest quarter than analysts expected.



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### WASTE NOTHING

continued from page 1

The project was funded by NASA through NASA LaSPACE, the Louisiana branch of the agency housed at Louisiana State University.

Lynam, Fulbright postdoctoral fellow Muhammad Aamir Iqbal and PhD student Mohammad Tarikuzzaman are credited in the plant fertilization study, which was published in an international, peer-reviewed journal. So too was the cement plasticizer study, in which Lynam, Tarikuzzaman, civil engineering associate professor Shaurav Alam and PhD student Stephen Gordon are credited.

Tech President Jim Henderson said this project is a good example of research going on at Tech that is both inherently exciting and could have a real, practical impact.

"I don't know if there could be a much cooler research interest than Dr. Lynam's," Henderson said. "Space exploration in the '60s, simply going to the moon was the north star. Now we're talking about everything ranging from tourism to colonizing Mars."

"Growing crops in space, without the things we have here on earth? That's a new moonshot for us."

NASA is in the early phases of the Artemis program, a series of missions that seeks to establish a long-term, sustainable foothold on the moon, eventually hoping to extract its resources and stage further explorations to Mars and beyond.

Part of that plan includes creating a lunar base on the moon's south pole. That's where things like being able to grow crops without soil and building structures with materials available on the moon becomes important.

"It's extremely expensive to ship things from Earth," Lynam said. "Astronauts usually have better mental health if they can have some fresh produce as opposed to just packaged food."

Lynam's team used a process called direct contact membrane distillation to separate the water and urea in the artificial urine. The benefit of this method is it doesn't require super-hot temperatures, working with heat as low as 50 degrees Celsius – halfway to boiling.

"The water comes out pure enough that it could be used for many purposes in space," Lynam said.

Meanwhile, the now-concentrated urea was used to replace 10% of a traditional fertilizer and tested on sugar beets.

Come harvest time, the urine-fertilized sugar beets showed superiority to the regular ones in some areas while still being comparable in other areas.

When LaSPACE put out the call for proposals for funding, they weren't looking for one project or idea in particular. These applications of astronaut urine were Lynam's idea.

"It just sort of came into my head as I recall," she said. "Apparently (NASA) thought

this project was worth-while."

She turned much of the credit to her students in the Biomass Lab, however.

Both inside and apart from these projects, Lynam's Biomass Lab is all about sustainability and reusing waste products rather than seeing them go to, well, waste. The lab includes a hearty mix of undergraduate and grad student researchers.

"(Taking part in research) educates students," she said. "It inspires them. It's exciting to do something that nobody's ever done before, especially if you're working on a team."

Tarikuzzaman said more often than not, it was Lynam who became a source of inspiration for her students.

"When we do experiments and it works, it is good – that inspires us," he said. "But sometimes it is not working, and we get de-motivated, we get

frustrated. But when we go to Dr. Lynam, she is an inspiring lady. She's never frustrated with us. She motivates us."

Tech officials say in-

novative and impactful research like this takes place every day all over campus. In the near future, the Ruston Daily Leader will take a closer

look at the role research plays at the university, research centers that where its leaders believe aim to drive that role that is headed, and forward.

**TEEN ARRESTED** continued from 1

found it to have been stolen out of Ruston.

McCallister is charged with resisting an officer,

illegal possession of a handgun by a juvenile, il-

legal possession of stolen firearms, and possession

of Schedule I drugs.

**Joan Lynam is pictured with members of the Biomass Lab at Louisiana Tech University, which studies effective uses of waste byproducts across a number of industries.**

Leader photo by Caleb Daniel

## Tech football announces addition of Buckels, Creech to coaching staff

Louisiana Tech Sports

Louisiana Tech head football coach Sonny Cumbie announced two new additions to the team's coaching staff, as Carlton Buckels and Josh Creech will join the staff for the upcoming 2025 season.

Buckles will serve as the cornerbacks coach/defensive pass game coordinator, while Creech will coach the linebackers. Buckels, who brings over 20 years of collegiate coaching experience to Ruston, arrives after a two-year stint as the cornerbacks coach at TCU. The Louisiana native coached NFL Draft picks in each of his first two seasons with the Horned Frogs.

"Coach Buckels brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to our staff,"

said Cumbie. "He's coached NFL draft picks, a Jim Thorpe Award winner, won Big 12 championships, coached in the National Championship, all the while helping develop young men on and off the field. Carlton has ties to this state and will help elevate our football program this fall."

In 2022, Buckels mentored Tre'Vius Hodges-Tomlinson into becoming the Paycom Jim Thorpe Award winner as the nation's top defensive back and a sixth-round selection by the Los Angeles Rams. The 2023 campaign saw Josh Newton earn All-Big 12 honors for the second straight year on his way to being a fifth-round pick of the Cincinnati Bengals.

Buckles arrived in Fort Worth after spending four years at Tulsa (2018-21). He served as the safeties coach during

his first three years with the Golden Hurricane, before being promoted to the defensive passing game coordinator and moving to cornerbacks for the 2021 season. He came to Tulsa following one season as the defensive coordinator and secondary coach at Belhaven University in Jackson, Miss.

Buckles' collegiate coaching stops have included Delta State (2001-02), Southeastern Louisiana (2003-04), New Mexico State (2005-07), North Texas (2009-10) and Baylor (2011-16). In the summer of 2010, Buckels worked with the NFL's Oakland Raiders coaching staff as part of the Bill Walsh Minority Coaching Fellowship Program.

Buckles received his start in collegiate coaching at his alma mater,

See COACHING STAFF, page 7



Photo by Bret McCormick

**Ruston, LSU and Buffalo Bills legend Kyle Williams (right) is leaving the RHS program after serving as defensive coordinator for a number of years.**

## Williams leaving Ruston High after successful stint as DC

By Matt Belinson  
sports@rustonleader.com

Ruston High head football coach Jerrod Baugh confirmed that Ruston High School defensive coordinator Kyle Williams informed the Bearcat football program Tuesday he'll be stepping down from his role and will not return for the 2025 season.

Williams, a RHS graduate and former standout at defensive tackle for the Bearcats, LSU and Buffalo Bills, had worked as defensive coordinator since 2020 for Ruston High, turning the Bearcats into one of the best units in the state.

"I think as far as football is concerned, it's quite obvious the impact he had on our team defensively," Baugh said. "The thing that I'll always say with guys that leave here is whatever they decide to do is up to them and we support them. But the relationships they have with me, our kids, the coaches, that doesn't move on. That doesn't change with him."

"He and I had discussed this for a couple weeks, but he wanted to take some time to make sure this was the right thing for him and his family, so I gave him space to do that," Baugh added.

Williams' impact helped Ruston develop multiple Division I athletes, including Ahmad Breaux (LSU), Geordan Guidry

See WILLIAMS, page 7



Ruston High quarterback Josh Brantley (3) was named Hoss Garrett Offensive MVP at the Bearcats' 2024 football banquet on Monday.

back/kick returner who signed with LSU, was named Special Teams MVP for returning two punts for touchdowns and a kickoff for a touchdown during the 2024 season.

Hill was also named Permanent Defensive Captain, while Brantley was named Permanent Offensive

Captain. Place kicker Jack Elliot was named Permanent Special Teams Captain as well.

The Bearcats ended the season with an 11-3 record while the senior class managed to put together a three-year mark of 37-5 as members of the varsity squad.

## COLLEGE BASKETBALL

### Grambling takes down Arkansas-Pine Bluff 81-77 in SWACtion

Grambling State Sports

Junior guard Mikale Stevenson scored a game-high 18 points as Grambling State earned an 81-77 victory over the University of Arkansas-Pine Bluff on Monday night at H.O. Clemons Arena.

Stevenson, who also grabbed six rebounds, dished out six assists with one steal, led five Tigers into double-figures.

Kintavious Dozier (15 points), Chilaydrien Newton (14 points), Ernest Ross (13 points) and Antwan Burnett (12 points) were the other G-Men to score in double-figures.

Grambling State (6-14 overall, 3-4 SWAC) also had one of its best nights shooting the ball, particularly from three-point range. GSU knocked down 11 threes, eight of which came in the first half, going 11-of-23 from behind the arc. The Tigers shot 52.8% from field (28-of-53).

After UAPB (3-17, 0-7) jumped out to a quick 6-0 lead, Ernest Ross answered with back-to-back baskets to give the Tigers its first four

points of the game.

The Golden Lions maintained the lead for much of the opening period, grabbing a 29-24 advantage with 6:06 to remaining until halftime.

Dozier knocked down a 3-pointer to make it a two-point game, sparking a 12-3 run. Burnett followed with a driving lay-up tying the score at 29-29 with 3:56 on the clock. Dozier drained his third triple of the game of the Tigers next possession to give GSU its first lead of the contest, 32-29.

Stevenson capped the run with a layup, extending Grambling State's advantage to 36-32 with 2:04 until halftime.

Burnett closed the period with a buzzer-beating three to give the Tigers a 42-37 cushion at the break.

Grambling State began the second half with an 8-0 run highlighted by a pair of threes by Dozier to nab its largest lead of the contest, 50-37.

With the Tigers lead 63-51 with 12:47 to play, the Golden Lions began to chip away the GSU's lead. UAPB reeled off seven straight points to

make it a 63-58 game with just under 10 minutes remaining.

Grambling State eventually stretched its lead back to double digits with Emarion McDonald draining a trey to give the Tigers a 72-60 lead. Arkansas-Pine Bluff didn't go down easily, however, using an 11-1 run and cut the lead to 73-72 with 2:25 to go.

Newton came up with one of the biggest plays of the night on the following possession, driving to the bucket for a score and drawing a foul. He converted the free throw to make the score 76-72. A jumper by Ross followed by a free throw by Stevenson all but put the game out of reach with the Tigers holding a 79-72 lead with 43 seconds remaining in the contest.

Grambling State returns home on Saturday for a showdown versus Jackson State.

Tipoff is scheduled for 4:30 p.m. or 30 minutes following the conclusion GSU women's basketball game versus JSU at the Fredrick C. Hobdy Assembly Center.



Mikakle Stevenson (2) scored 18 points in Grambling State's win over Arkansas-Pine Bluff on Monday.

Photo by GSU Athletics



# ENTERTAINMENT

Ruston Daily Leader

Wednesday, January 29, 2025 • Page 8

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## Crossword Puzzle

**ACROSS**

- 1 Chapeau
- 4 High school dance
- 8 Damage psychically
- 12 Flightless bird
- 13 Wrinkle
- 14 Isle of exile
- 15 — room
- 16 Diner sign
- 17 Fat
- 18 Made inquiries
- 20 Unvarying
- 22 Work unit
- 23 "So tasty!"
- 24 Get control of
- 28 Passover meal
- 32 Lacto-vegetarian
- 33 Crochet needle
- 35 Unclose
- 36 Old French money
- 37 Join metal parts

**DOWN**

- 1 Greek goddess
- 2 Iowa city
- 3 Exhaust (2 wds.)
- 4 Solemn promise
- 5 Estuary
- 6 Toronto's prov.
- 7 Unkempt
- 8 Edible seed
- 9 Membership organization
- 10 Cain's victim
- 11 Appraise
- 12 Directional suffix
- 13 Walrus feature
- 14 Stockings
- 15 Stratford-upon-—
- 16 That woman
- 17 Lone
- 18 Supremacy
- 19 Bladed weapon
- 20 Tear
- 21 Unmatched Outer garment
- 22 Aristocrats
- 23 Bring over for sale
- 24 Evergreen tree
- 25 Cul-—
- 26 Marathon
- 27 Online auction site
- 28 Bird bill part
- 29 Sport
- 30 Slangy denial
- 31 —ideal
- 32 "My — Sal"
- 33 Before



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We have reformatted our comics page to allow our readers to easily print the crossword puzzle.

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## HOROSCOPES

THURSDAY,  
JANUARY 30, 2025

Consider every angle of the situations you face this year before implementing change. Opportunity is present, but you will fall short if you aren't explicit. Pay attention to detail regarding investments, money exchanges and how you earn your living. Leave nothing to chance and make details your expertise.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) -- Take the high road. Choose honesty, integrity and responsibility; and set standards that win respect, trust and access to a group that want to be a part of.

**PISCES** (Feb. 20-March 20) -- Take your time. Consider costs, how much you need and where you can cut corners to stay within budget. Put a plan in place that puts your mind at ease and gives you room to maneuver.

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19) -- Be receptive to what others offer. Criticism will stand in your way. Greater involvement in an organization will allow you to change your professional goals but may also threaten your emotional well-being.

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20) -- Take a step back and re-evaluate your position, what you do and what options are available. A change may not fix what troubles you, but it will buy you time.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 20) -- Fine-tune and update your skills. Keeping up with trends and marketing yourself for success will help you maintain your status quo. Don't mix business with pleasure.

**CANCER** (June 21-July 22) -- Put everything you've

got into getting ahead. Nurture meaningful connections, protect your reputation and keep your worth, opinion, beliefs and preferences to yourself.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22) -- Speed things up and get on with your day. Stick to your plan and your budget, and fulfill your promises. A partnership will present you with an opportunity that can change how or where you live.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) -- You'll desire change, but at what cost? Think twice before you agree to something that will stretch your budget further than you feel comfortable with.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) -- Engage in something that stimulates your mind and pushes you in a direction that promotes growth. Learning and updating your skills, knowledge and qualifications will set you up for a position you want.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) -- Make plans to do something creative or physical. You are best off distancing yourself from conversations that require choices you aren't ready to make. Getting your business in order will clear your head.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) -- Monitor where your money goes, and don't buy into someone else's scheme. Look for opportunities and partnerships that are beneficial and easy for you to control.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) -- Pay attention, finish what you start and create a to-do list that addresses what's meaningful to you. Change is up to you. Stop putting off your dreams and begin building a life that has a purpose.

## Garfield



## Peanuts



## Alley Oop



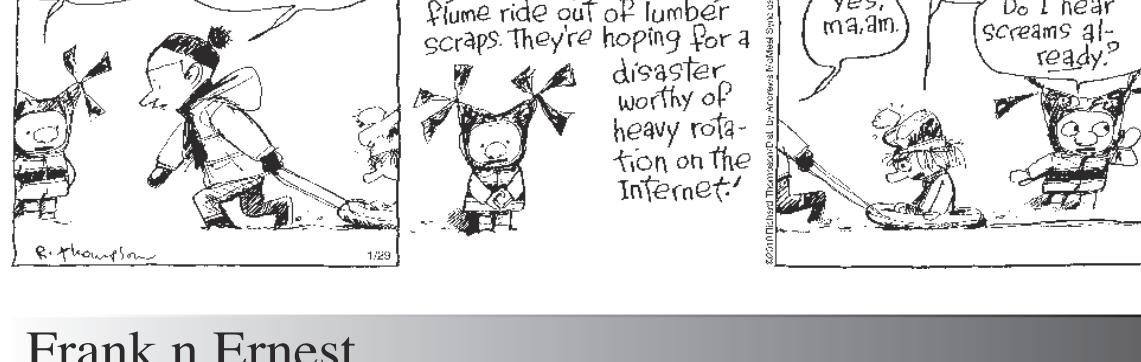
## The Born Loser



## Big Nate



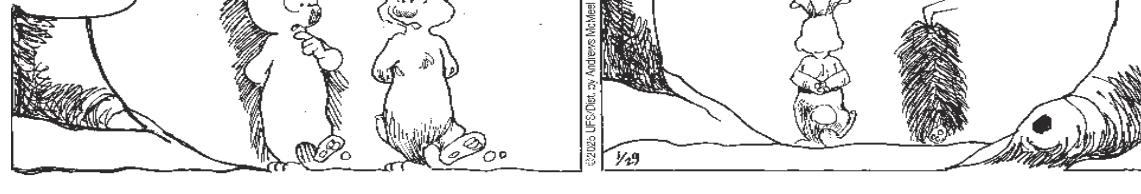
## Cul De Sac



## Frank n Ernest



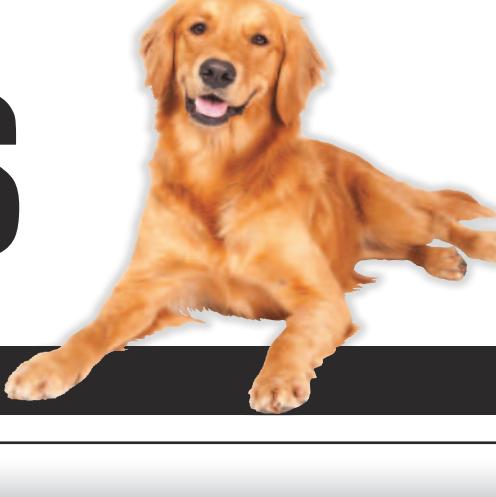
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### LINCOLN PARISH

**NOTICE TO BIDDERS**  
Sealed bids will be received at the Louisiana Tech University Purchasing Office, P.O. Box 3157 T.S., 408 Keeney Hall, Louisiana Tech University, Ruston, Louisiana until 2:00 P.M., February 20, 2025 at which time and place they will be publicly opened for the following:

Bid Number 50012-599-25: Living with the Lab Student Project Parts Specifications and bid documents for the above may be obtained from the Director of Purchasing, Louisiana Tech University, Ruston, Louisiana; phone 318-257-4205 or fax request to 318-257-3772.

Evidence of authority to submit the bid shall be required in accordance with R.S. 38:2212 (B) (5) and/or R.S. 39:1594 (C)(4).

Any person requiring special accommodations shall notify Louisiana Tech University of the type(s) of accommodations required not less than seven (7) days before the bid opening.

Published in the Ruston Daily Leader, Ruston, LA on Jan 29, 2025.

#### ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Ruston high school park-

ing improvements

Lincoln Parish School Board

Project Number: 24016

Sealed bids for the construction of the following project will be received by the Lincoln Parish School Board, in the meeting room of the Lincoln parish school board office, located at 410 South Farmerville Street, Ruston, Louisiana 71270, either by mail or hand delivery, no later than 2:00 PM, local time on Thursday, February 27, 2025, at which time all bids will be publicly opened and read aloud.

Bids received after the 2:00 PM, deadline will be returned to the bidder unopened.

**PROJECT:** Ruston is parking improvements for Lincoln Parish School Board

**PROJECT CLASSIFICATION:** Highway, Streets, and Bridges

**CONTRACT TIME:** 45

Calendar Days

**LIQUIDATED DAMAGES:** \$500.00 per

Calendar Day

**BUDGET:** \$290,000.00

A Pre-Bid Conference

will be held at 10:00 a.m. local time on Wednesday, February 19, 2025, at the Lincoln Parish School Board Office located at 410 South Farmerville Street in Ruston, Louisiana. Owner Telephone (318) 255-1430 and Fax (318) 255-3203. Representatives from the OWNER and ENGINEER will be present to discuss the Project. Bidders are encouraged to attend and participate in the conference.

The contractors have the option of submitting their bid to the location stated above or submitting their bid electronically at www.

CENTRALBIDDING.com. The complete Contract Bid Documents, including drawings and specifications, will be available online at www.

CENTRALBIDDING.com. Hard copy sets of the drawings and specifications are also available upon request with a deposit of \$75.00 for each set of documents, or \$10.00 for a CD containing pdf images of the same bidding documents, from the office of DeForest Engineering Consultants, LLC located at 925 North Trenton, Ruston, Louisiana 71270 (318-548-6711). Deposit is fully refundable to all bona fide prime bidders upon return of the documents, in good condition, not later than ten (10) days after receipt of bids. The deposit of all other hard copy sets of documents will be refunded 50% upon return of documents as stated above. Any Prime Bidder not bidding must return documents seven (7) days prior to bid in order to receive full deposit. A Certified Check or Cashier's Check, payable to the Lincoln Parish School Board or a satisfactory Bid Bond executed by the Bidder and an acceptable surety, in an amount equal to five percent (5%) of the total bid, shall be submitted with each bid. If the Bid Bond option is chosen by the contractor, the Bid Bond shall be on the form that is included as part of the bidding documents. Bidders are advised that both a Performance Bond and a Payment Bond issued by a company licensed to do business in Louisiana,

each in the amount of 100 percent (100%) of the Contract Price, will be required. Bids shall be received only on proposal forms furnished by the Engineer that are included as part of the bidding documents.

The Bidder is advised that the Lincoln Parish School Board is an Equal Opportunity Employer. All Contractors bidding on this work shall comply with all provisions of the State Licensing Law for Contractors, R.S. 37:210-2163, as amended, for all public contracts.

It shall also be the responsibility of the General Contractor to assure that all subcontractors comply with this law. The Contractors must be licensed in the above proper category of work and must show their license number on the face of the sealed bid envelope.

Bid proposals, amend-

ments to bids, or request for withdrawal of bids, received after time specified for bid opening shall not be considered for any cause whatsoever.

The bid proposal is firm for a period of forty-five (45) days from the date of the opening of bids and no bid proposal can be withdrawn for any reason during this period of time. The Lincoln Parish School Board reserves the right to reject any and all bids for just cause and reserves the right to waive any and all informalities.

Other documentation and information required including but not limited to the low bidder's attestation pursuant to R.L.S 38:2212.10 and 2227 shall be furnished by the low bidder within ten (10) days after the bid opening.

Prospective bidders must be in compliance with Executive Order 12549, pertaining to Disbarment and Suspension, and implemented at 34 CFR Part 85, for prospective participants in primary covered transactions, as defined at 34 CFR Part 85, Section 85.105 and 85.110.

Published in the Ruston Daily Leader; \$144.00 on

Jan 29, Feb 5 & 12, 2025.

#### LIC COMMENT: NONE.

#### FIRE COMMISSION REPORT:

Mr. Jim Liner

let it be known that in April of 2025, the older fire trucks will start being refurbished.

WATER AND SEWER REPORT:

A.J.

Swayze and Jerry Davis

were absent, Alderman Doug Durrett stated the treatment plant should be completed and fully operational within a month.

He let it be known he was

really pleased with the

work that Womack and Sons has completed.

He also stated that the

community needed to

be made aware that the

tie ins on the new water

lines would produce

temporary outages and

this is the last phase of

tying in the new lines.

POLICE REPORT:

Chief Gene Butler reported

everything is going well.

ADJOURN MEETING:

Motion was made by

Alderman Jerry White

and seconded by Alder-

woman Hazel Tuminello

to adjourn meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:16 p.m.

Published in the Ruston

Daily Leader; \$30.00 on

Jan 29, 2025.

#### MINUTES OF A REGU-

#### LAR MEETING OF THE

MAYOR AND BOARD

OF ALDERMEN

OF THE CITY OF RUSTON

HELD ON MONDAY,

DECEMBER 9, 2024, AT

5:30 P.M., IN COUNCIL

CHAMBERS/COURT-

ROOM, CITY HALL,

401 NORTH TRENTON,

RUSTON, LOUISIANA

A regular meeting of

the Mayor and Board

of Aldermen of the City

of Ruston was held

Monday, December 9,

2024, at 5:30 P.M., in

the Council Chambers/

Courtroom, City Hall, 401

North Trenton, Ruston,

Louisiana.

Present were Mayor

Ronny Walker, Alderman

John Denny and Bruce

Siegmund, and Alder-

woman Carolyn Cage,

and Melanie Lewis. Alderwoman Angela Mayfield was absent.

The meeting was called

to order by Mayor Walker at 5:30 p.m. Nancy Bergeron gave the invocation. Jim Hays led the Pledge of Allegiance. I.AGENDA AND MIN-UTES:

A.ADOPT AGENDA

Motion was made by

Aldermanwoman Melan-

ie Lewis and seconded

by Alderwoman Carolyn Cage to adopt the Agenda.

There were no comments

from the public and the

motion passed by unani-

mous vote.

B.APPROVE MINUTES

OF THE NOVEMBER 4,

2024, REGULAR MEET-

ING

Motion was made by

Alderman John Denny

and seconded by Alder-

woman Hazel Tuminello

and seconded by Alder-

woman Carolyn Cage and

and Melanie Lewis. Alder-

man Jerry White

and seconded by Alder-

woman Hazel Tuminello

and seconded by Alder-

woman Carolyn Cage and

and Melanie Lewis. Alder-

man Jerry White

and seconded by Alder-

woman Hazel Tuminello

and seconded by Alder-

woman Carolyn Cage and

and Melanie Lewis. Alder-

man Jerry White

and seconded by Alder-

woman Hazel Tuminello

and seconded by Alder-

woman Carolyn Cage and

and Melanie Lewis. Alder-

man Jerry White

and seconded by Alder-

woman Hazel Tuminello

and seconded by Alder-

woman Carolyn Cage and

and Melanie Lewis. Alder-

man Jerry White

and seconded by Alder-

woman Hazel Tuminello

and seconded by Alder-

woman Carolyn Cage and

and Melanie Lewis. Alder-

man Jerry White

and seconded by Alder-

woman Hazel Tuminello

and seconded by Alder-

woman Carolyn Cage and

and Melanie Lewis. Alder-

man Jerry White

and seconded by Alder-

## PUBLIC NOTICES

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execute a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement and District Office Lease with Johnson and to execute any and all other documents necessary pursuant to such terms and conditions as he shall deem advisable in his sole discretion and do any and all things necessary and proper to carry out this Resolution and to fulfill its objects and purposes.

\$3 The City lease the office space to Johnson for an amount that may be less than its lease value and otherwise pursuant to the terms and conditions set forth in the Cooperative Endeavor Agreement, District Office Lease, or other agreement between the City and Johnson.

\$4 The Mayor is authorized and empowered to execute all documents necessary to facilitate said lease, including, without limitation, a District Office Lease, and other related documents, for an amount that may be less than the appraised lease value and pursuant to such terms and conditions set forth in the Cooperative Endeavor Agreement and District Office Lease and as he shall deem advisable in his sole discretion, and to do any and all things necessary and proper to carry out this Resolution and to fulfill its objects and purposes.

§7. This Resolution shall become effective upon final adoption and signature of the Mayor. Said Resolution having been read and considered by a quorum of the Board of Aldermen, on motion to adopt by Alderwoman Carolyn Cage, and seconded by Alderwoman Melanie Lewis, a record vote was taken, and the following result was had:

YEAS:  
ALDERWOMAN CAROLYN CAGE  
ALDERWOMAN MELANIE LEWIS  
ALDERMAN JOHN DENNY  
ALDERMAN BRUCE SIEGMUND  
ALDERWOMAN ANGELA MAYFIELD

NAY:  
NONE

ABSTAINED:  
NONE

ABSENT:  
NONE

WHEREUPON, the presiding officer declared the above Resolution duly adopted in full on this the 13th day of January 2025.

ATTEST:  
JULIE KEEN, CLERK  
RONNY WALKER, MAYOR  
Published in the Ruston Daily Leader; \$42.00 on Jan 29, 2025.

## JACKSON PARISH

SHERIFF'S SALE SERVBANK, SB #37624

PARISH OF JACKSON STATE OF LOUISIANA

RAYMOND WILLIAM ROBERTS AND JENNIFER LANDERS ROBERTS AKA/JENNIFER ANN LANDERS ROBERTS

By virtue of a Writ of Seizure and Sale issued out of the Honorable Second Judicial District Court, Parish of Jackson, State of Louisiana, and to me directed, I have seized and taken into my possession and will offer for sale at cash at the JACKSON PARISH SHERIFF OFFICE, 150 OLD WINNFIELD RD., Jonesboro, Louisiana, on Wednesday, the 5TH day of FEBRUARY, 2025. Between the hours governing judicial sales, the following property to wit:

A TRACT OF LAND LOCATED IN THE SOUTHWEST QUARTER OF THE SOUTHWEST QUARTER (SW/4 OF SW/4) OF SECTION 12, TOWNSHIP 17 NORTH, RANGE 1 WEST, JACKSON PARISH, MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:

COMMENCING AT AN EXISTING ONE INCH IRON PIPE AT THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF SECTION 12, TOWNSHIP 17 NORTH, RANGE 1 WEST, JACKSON PARISH, THENCE RUN EAST ALONG THE SECTION LINE FOR A DISTANCE OF 382.50 FEET TO A 3/4 INCH IRON PIPE PAINTED WHITE FOR THE STARTING POINT, SAID CALL BEING TO SAID 3/4 INCH IRON PIPE NOTWITHSTANDING THE ACTUAL DISTANCE THERETO; FROM SAID STARTING POINT, THENCE LEAVING SAID SECTION LINE, RUN NORTH FOR A DISTANCE OF 280.00 FEET TO A 3/4 INCH IRON PIPE PAINTED BLUE; THENCE RUN EAST FOR A DISTANCE OF 155.57 FEET TO A 3/4 INCH IRON PIPE PAINTED GREEN; THENCE RUN SOUTH FOR A DISTANCE OF 280.00 FEET TO A 3/4 INCH IRON PIPE PAINTED ORANGE ON THE SECTION LINE; THENCE RUN WEST ALONG SAID SECTION LINE FOR A DISTANCE OF 155.57 FEET BACK TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING;

CONTAINING 1.00 ACRE, MORE OR LESS, ALL AS PER MAP OF SURVEY BY WILLIAM T. LOWE, P.L.S., DATED JANUARY 11, 2017, INCLUDING A 2017

ATHENS PARK HOMES, MODEL CC1317, 7'X32', MANUFACTURED HOME BEARING SERIAL NUMBER 110-000-H-A002910/A/B, HUD TAGS NTA 1765473, NTA 1765475 AS IDENTIFIED IN ACT OF IMMOBILIZATION DATED NOVEMBER 6, 2007 AT INSTRUMENT NO. 413308 AND RECORDED ON NOVEMBER 9, 2007, JACKSON PARISH, LOUISIANA.

Seized as the property of the above named defendant and will be sold to satisfy said Writ and all cost, sale to be made for cash WITHOUT the benefit of appraisal.

ANDY BROWN, SHERIFF  
12/24/24  
1/29/25  
EX-OFFICIO, AUCTIONEER  
S/TINA SPILLERS, DEPUTY

Published in the Ruston Daily Leader on Dec 24, 2024 & Jan 29, 2025.

## NOTICE OF SPECIAL ELECTION

Pursuant to the provisions of a resolution adopted on November 12, 2024, by the Hon. Andy Brown, Sheriff of the Parish of Jackson, State of Louisiana (the "Sheriff"), and ex-officio Chief Executive Officer of the Law Enforcement District of the Parish of Jackson, State of Louisiana (the "District"), NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a special election will be held in the Parish of Jackson on SATURDAY, MARCH 29, 2025, and that at the said election there will be submitted to all registered voters in Jackson Parish who are qualified and entitled to vote at the said election under the Constitution and Laws of the State of Louisiana and the Constitution of the United States, the following proposition, to-wit:

**PROPOSITION (TAX CONTINUATION)**

Shall the Law Enforcement District of the Parish of Jackson, State of Louisiana (the "District"), be authorized to continue to levy a 9.23 mills tax on all the property subject to taxation in the District (an estimated \$1,778,000 expected at this time to be collected from the levy of the tax for an entire year), for a period of 10 years, beginning with the year 2026 and ending with the year 2035, for the purpose of providing additional funding for the District, said millage to represent an 80 mills increase (due to reappraisal) over the 8.43 mills tax authorized to be levied through the year 2025 pursuant to an election held on November 4, 2014?

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

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

The estimated cost of this election as determined by the Secretary of State based upon the provisions of Chapter 8-A of Title 18 and actual costs of similar elections is \$37,100.

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

The said special election will be held in accordance with the applicable provisions of Chapter 5 and Chapter 6-A of Title 18 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, as amended, and other constitutional and statutory authority, and the officers appointed to hold the said election, as provided in this Notice of Special Election, or such substitutes therefor as may be selected and designated in accordance with La. R.S. 18:1287, will make due returns thereof to the Sheriff, and NOTICE IS HEREBY FURTHER GIVEN that the Sheriff will conduct a meeting of the District's regular meeting place, the Jackson Parish Sheriff's Office, 150 Old Winnfield Road, Jonesboro, Louisiana, on TUESDAY, January 15, 2025, at 10:00 A.M., and shall then and there in open and public session proceed to examine and canvass the returns of the said special election. All registered voters in Jackson Parish will be entitled to vote at said special election and voting machines will be used.

Published in the Ruston Daily Leader; \$169.00 on Jan 22 & 29, Feb 5 & 12, 2025.

## ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

## SEALED PROPOSALS FOR:

LAKESHORE DRIVE REHABILITATION AND IMPROVEMENTS - PHASE I, will be received by the JACKSON PARISH POLICE JURY, Jonesboro, Louisiana, in the Sunshine Room of the Jackson Parish Police

Jury Administration Building, 160 Industrial Drive, Jonesboro, Louisiana, 71251 until 2:00 P.M., local time, on Thursday, February 27, 2025. No proposals will be received after this hour or date. On this date and specified time, bids will be publicly opened and read aloud.

PROJECT: Lakeshore Drive Rehabilitation and Improvements - Phase I

CLASSIFICATION: Highway, Street,

and Bridge Construction

CONTRACT TIME: 75 Calendar Days

LIQUIDATED DAMAGES: \$600.00 per Calendar Day

Complete sets of drawings, specifications, and forms may be obtained at the office of RILEY COMPANY OF LOUISIANA, INC., 112 East Mississippi Avenue, P.O. Drawer 1303, Ruston, Louisiana 71273-1303, Telephone (318) 251-0238, Fax (318) 251-0239. Cost per contract set is \$90.00. Any unsuccessful bidder, upon returning such set within ten days of bid opening and in good condition, will be refunded the deposit and any non-bidder upon so returning such set within ten days of bid opening will be refunded \$10.00. Each proposal is to be accompanied by a certified check payable to the JACKSON PARISH POLICE JURY or a bid bond, the amount of either of which shall be five percent (5%) of the amount of the bid. Bidders are advised that both a Performance Bond and a Payment Bond, each in the amount of one hundred percent (100%) of the Contract Price, will be required. No Bidder may withdraw his bid within forty-five (45) days after the actual date of the opening thereof.

Types of construction required for this project include asphaltic concrete, patching, aggregate shoulder, milling, and striping.

The JACKSON PARISH POLICE JURY reserves the right to reject any or all proposals per Louisiana Bid Law.

JACKSON PARISH POLICE JURY

Todd Culpepper

President

Published in the Ruston Daily Leader; \$42.00 on Jan 29, 2025.

and 2025 Proposed Budget. Motion carried.

There was no action taken on agenda item #11

Motion- Ms. Rowe, seconded by Mr. Chatham to approve taking final action to clean up property in accordance with the nuisance ordinance. Motion carried.

Motion- Mr. Chatham, seconded by Mr. Burris to adopt and approve the resolution for the Sales Tax renewal (roll call vote)

District 1: Yea District 2: Yea District 3: Yea District 4: Yea District 5: Absent District 6: Yea District 7: Yea

Yea: 6  
Nays: 0  
Absent: 1  
Abstaining: 0  
Motion carried

Motion- Mr. Burris, seconded by Mrs. Magee authorizing the Secretary-Treasurer to advertise for the Solid Waste Operator I vacancy. Motion carried.

Motion- Mrs. Magee, seconded by Mrs. Rowe to approve Brad Roller (Operations Manager) and Robin Sessions (Solid Waste Superintendent) attending the LSWA Conference on March 19-21, 2025. Motion carried.

Motion- Mr. Burris, seconded by Mr. Chatham to approve the Solid Waste 2025 Holiday Work Schedule. Motion carried.

Motion- Mrs. Magee, seconded by Mr. Burris to reappoint Ms. Regina Rowe to the Sparta Commission. Motion carried.

Motion- Mrs. Magee, seconded by Mr. Chatham to reappoint Mrs. Conchita-Malone Doyle (Ambulance Board) Ms. Judy Cooper (Library Board), Mr. Joel Burnum (Quitman Fire District), Mr. Colby Bowman (Quitman Fire District), and Ms. Kim Hutchinson (Hospital Board). Motion carried.

Announcements: Brent Barnes was named the OEP Director for 2025, the President gave out the 2025 committee assignments, and there was a declaration of emergency declared for the purchase of a Solid Waste tractor truck.

All jury members thanked the public for coming and acknowledged/thanked the workers for all of their hard work during the holidays.

Motion- Ms. Rowe, seconded Mrs. Magee to adjourn. Motion carried.

Nia Evans

Nia Evans, Secretary-Treasurer

Todd Culpepper

Todd Culpepper, President

Published in the Ruston Daily Leader; \$42.00 on Jan 29, 2025.

## NOTICE OF SPECIAL ELECTION

Pursuant to the provisions of a resolution adopted on January 15, 2025, at 12:15 PM in the Nathaniel Zeno, Jr. Meeting Room, Jackson Parish Administrative Building, 160 Industrial Drive, Jonesboro, Louisiana. Members Present: Mrs. Amy Magee, Mr. Lewis Chatham Mr. Keith Burris, Ms. Sheketia Combs, Mr. Todd Culpepper and Mrs. Tarnesha Cowans. Absent: Ms. Regina Rowe. Also present: Mr. Brad Roller, Operations Manager.

The President, Mr. Culpepper called the meeting to order. Mrs. Combs gave the invocation and Mr. Burns led the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

The President opened the floor for public comments, there were none.

Motion- Mrs. Magee, seconded by Mr. Chatham to amend the agenda, adding agenda item #1a. Agenda item #1a - to approve purchasing a tractor truck from Empire Truck Sales in the amount of \$154,665.00 using funds from ACT 776 for Solid Waste. Motion carried.

Motion- Mr. Burris, seconded by Mrs. Cowans to approve the jury President signing a letter of support for the Town of Jonesboro. Motion carried.

Motion- Mrs. Magee, seconded by Mr. Burris to amend the agenda adding item #2a. Agenda item #2a- reappoint all remaining Parish Board appointees except for the Jonesboro Fire District. Motion carried.

Motion- Mrs. Magee, seconded by Mr. Burris to reappoint all remaining Parish Board appointees except for the Jonesboro Fire District.

Motion- Mr. Culpepper, seconded by Mrs. Cowans to adjourn. Motion carried.

Nia Evans

Nia Evans, Secretary-Treasurer

Todd Culpepper

Todd Culpepper, President

Published in the Ruston Daily Leader; \$24.00 on Jan 29, 2025.

## MINUTES

## REGULAR SESSION

Hodge Fire Protection District 1

January 20, 2025

The Hodge Fire Protection District 1 board of commissioners met in regular session Monday January 20, 2025, at the fire station in North Hodge.

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm by Chairman, Ralph Laffitte. Chairman Laffitte opened the meeting with prayer.

Present: Commissioner, Thomas Holland Jr.; Commissioner, Robbie Howard; Commissioner, Ralph Laffitte and Commissioner, Hal Mims.

Absent: Commissioner, Wes Harvey

Guests: Fire Chief, Michael Heard

Comments from guests: None

Unless otherwise stated all motions were approved unanimously.

Amendments to agenda: add under New Business Review for approval Billing Schedule for Hazmat and/or Industrial Incidents.

Approval of agenda: The agenda for the regular session meeting of January 20, 2025, was approved as revised on a motion by Mims and second by Howard.

Approval of Minutes: The meeting minutes of the special session meeting held Monday, December 2, 2024, were approved on motion by Holland and second by Mims.

Old Business:

Parcel fee collection progress since November 2024 was reported by Lewter Land Services as follows;

Past due collections \$2240.36

Current year collections. \$1512.00

New Business:

Statements of expenditures and collections for November and December 2024 were reviewed and determined to need additional item clarification from book keeping before approval.

Reimbursement fee schedule to the department, if needed, was reviewed by the board and approved as follows on a motion by Howard and second by Holland.

ATTACK PUMPER WITH CAFS FOAM UNIT (IN USE) \$250/HOUR

ATTACK PUMPER WITH CAFS FOAM UNIT (STAND-BY) \$125/HOUR

WATER SUPPLY TANKER (IN USE) \$250/HOUR

WATER SUPPLY TANKER (STAND BY) \$125/HOUR

SERVICE UNIT (WITH RESCUE TOOLS) \$200/HOUR

SERVICE UNIT (WITHOUT RESCUE TOOLS) \$100/HOUR

BRUSH/RESCUE WITH CAFS FOAM UNIT (IN USE) \$200/HOUR

BRUSH/RESCUE WITH CAFS

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**140 STATEWIDE**  
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**140 STATEWIDE**  
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**JOB ANNOUNCEMENT~**  
Lincoln Total Community Action, Inc. is accepting applications for the position of BUS DRIVER through – January 31, 2025 - 3:00 PM. Interested persons may apply between 8:30 AM – 3:00 PM Monday – Friday at the Lincoln Head Start Center on 421 West Vaughn Ave, Ruston, LA. Applicants must hold a valid CDL license with required endorsements, at least 1 year of bus driving experience, ability to complete required records, patience and love for young children, and pass a criminal background check. For additional information, contact – 318-251-8864 or 318-255-5401. S/ Clotl Smith

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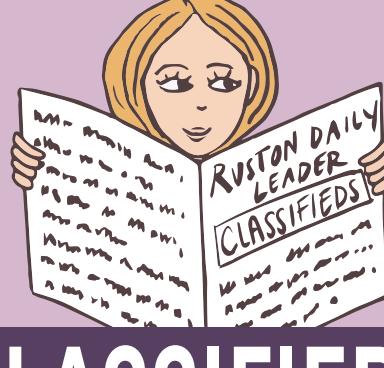
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7			9	3			6
	8		4	1			9
		1		8	5		
		8		5	2		6
4	6			3			5
	9		1	6		8	
		5	4		6		
4				7	6		1
5			9	2			7

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## TODAY'S ANSWERS

5	1	6	9	2	8	3	4	7
8	4	2	3	7	6	9	1	5
3	7	9	5	1	6	4	8	7
2	9	5	1	6	4	8	7	3
4	6	7	8	3	9	2	5	1
1	3	8	7	5	2	4	6	9
9	2	1	6	8	5	7	3	4
6	8	3	4	1	7	5	9	2
7	5	4	2	9	3	1	8	6

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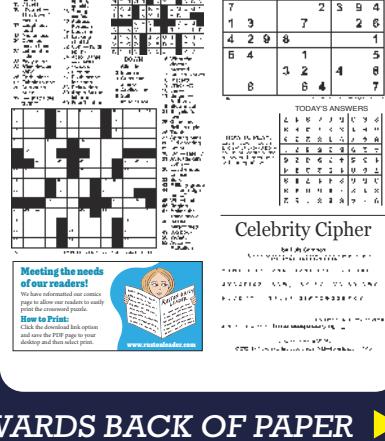
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ENTERTAINMENT Ruston Daily Leader



Celebrity Cipher

## Celebrity Cipher

by Luis Campos

Celebrity Cipher cryptograms are created from quotations by famous people, past and present. Each letter in the cipher stands for another.

"FSBAX CSDRH BJ JWS XZTSYFBYVSJ,  
XI XWIT GRJW ... YSZXBCAS TYIOZES  
CBDX. ... KRHO JWSF BJ SEICBDX.  
EIF." — XBYB DRACSYJ

Having the opportunity to express myself through music has been extremely cathartic for me my entire life." — Sarah McLachlan

TODAY'S CLUE: B SPINS G

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You can download the PDF version of our crossword puzzle, Sudoku & Celebrity Cipher to your desktop & print on letter size paper!

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# Newspapers In Education

Third Grade elementary students from Lincoln Parish schools drew their visions of an ad for Ruston Daily Leader's NIE Sponsors.



Daisy G. • 8 yrs • Dubach School



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Hakeem S. • 9 yrs • Simsboro School



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## a word to the wise

You can learn a lot from the Newspaper!

Encourage your children to make reading the newspaper a part of their everyday routine for lifelong learning. Newspapers are living textbooks, helping students develop reading, math, social studies and language skills while exploring the issues affecting our world today.



Elizabeth S. • 9 yrs  
Simsboro School



January 29, 2025

# The Lincoln Leaders

## School News



A Supplement of the Ruston Daily Leader

## A. E. PHILLIPS LABORATORY SCHOOL

# AEP students enjoy celebrations, field trips

### Sixth Grade Christmas Showcase

Before dismissing for the Christmas holidays our sixth graders put on a spectacular Christmas Showcase! Under the direction of Mrs. Miller and Miss Heiden, the students sang a variety of classic Christmas songs. Students also recited 'Twas the Night Before Christmas by Clement C. Moore and showcased their individual talents by singing solos and by playing the piano, ukulele, and guitar.

We are proud of their hard work!

### Christmas Lunch and Movie

Seventh & eighth grade students had their first annual Christmas Movie and Lunch event the day before dismissing for Christmas break.

These students traveled to Celebrity Theaters to watch The Best Christmas Pageant Ever. They then traveled to Roma Italian Bistro for a delicious lunch of lasagna and fettuccine alfredo. They walked to Railroad Park after lunch for a few group pictures before returning to campus. A great time was had by all!

### Fun Field Trips

Students in Mrs. Wynne's Historical Documents class visited the North Louisiana Military Museum on Jan. 8. Students in this elective class explore and dig deeper into United States documents. While using a variety of sources, students dissect documents and important events.

Their visit to the museum was enlightening

and brought history to life as they toured the facility, viewing fascinating artifacts from each war in history dating as far back as the Civil War.

Students also enjoyed a delightful lunch at local restaurant, Ponchatoulas, where they dined on various Louisiana cuisine.

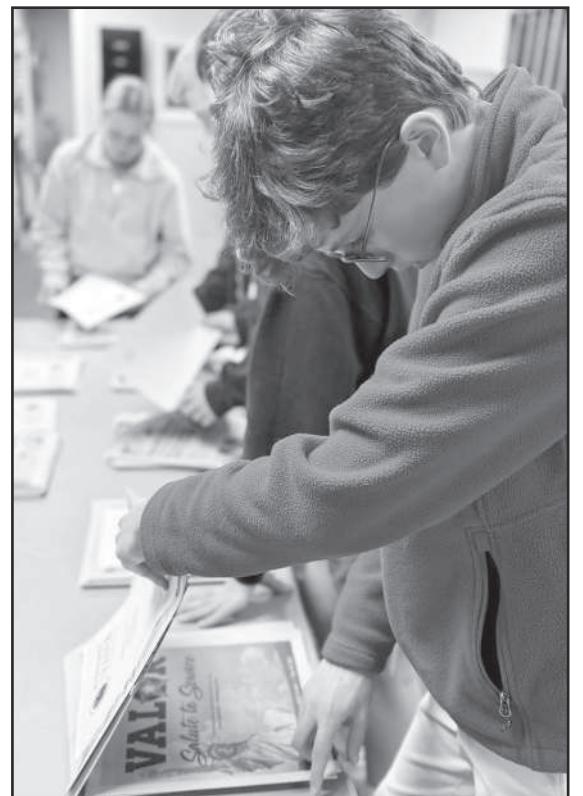
### Visiting the RDL

Mrs. Slocum's journalism elective visited the Ruston Daily Leader on Jan. 9. On this visit the students learned what it takes to be a back-to-back award-winning newspaper. They were able to tour the facility and meet with employees in each department to learn about their jobs and the many publications the Ruston Daily Leader produces.

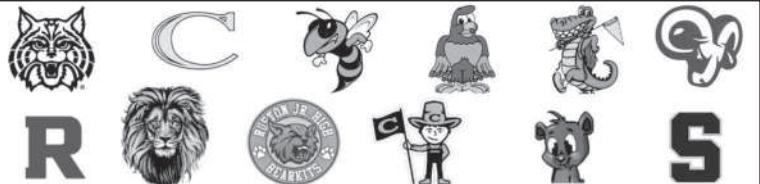


(Left) Pictured at a field trip to the North Louisiana Military Museum are Eli Denton, Joshua Weiss, Paxton Dowdy, Audrey Kate Kelly, AJ Johnson, Aubrey Summersgill, Willie Williams, and William Sanders. (Right) Preston Whitman looks through the stack of Ruston Daily Leader publications given to the students while visiting the RDL office.

Submitted photos



**LINCOLN PARISH SCHOOLS**  
"A QUALITY EDUCATION FOR A QUALITY LIFE"



## A. E. PHILLIPS LABORATORY SCHOOL (*continued*)



Submitted photos

(Top Left) Eighth grade boys enjoy Christmas lunch at Roma with classmates. Left to right are Mason Turner, Preston Whitman, Brady Berg, Reeves Kilpatrick, Cooper Lee, and Jett Jones. (Top Right) AEP's 7th and 8th grades took to Railroad Park for a Christmas lunch and movie.



(Left) Jolee Chery plays the ukulele at AEP's 6th grade Christmas showcase. (Right) Jack Ketchum plays the piano at AEP's 6th grade Christmas showcase.

Submitted photos



## CEDAR CREEK SCHOOL

# ***Cedar Creek announces honor roll***

### **All A's**

**GRADE 4:** Esther Allen, Livi Balcar, Vaida Carroll, Meritt Culver, Rock Doiron, Krystal Jeong, Payton Lancaster, Gracie Martinez, Cate Perry, Arthur Rufleth, Tessa Smith, Brooks Telford, Hudson Walpole, Jack White.

**GRADE 5:** Dayton Green, Atticus Jones, Tanner McCarthy, Andy Slocum.

**GRADE 6:** Beckett Best, Reese Lewis, Patton Prince, Abram Riser, Case Rutledge, Eli Singleton, Hudson Veatch, Blake Waits, Charlie Williams.

**GRADE 7:** Ainsley Bridges, Kingston Culpepper, Emma Doss, Charlotte Dugdale, Davis Durrett, Jamie Lynn Hilburn, Layla Jeanson, John Mark Jeffords, Charlotte Jones, Evan Lancaster, Evelyn Mills, Blair Parham-Carnes, Saanvi Patel, Juliette Sewell, Dallas Stringer, Henry Walpole, Elly Rose Washam.

**GRADE 8:** Finley Best, Anna Grace Bourn, Keatyn Brashear, Liam Durrett, Ava Lantrip, Bailey Martin, Jase Martin, Paisley Mounts, Henry Patton, Preslee Prince, Kendall Ramsey.

**GRADE 9:** Luke Alexander, Luke Easley, Will Myers, Lauren Pearce, Andrew Shirley, Zack Waldron.

**GRADE 10:** Rhett Bridges, Georgia Dugdale, Olivia Green, Cadence

Hockenjos, Marley Jinks, Gracie Jones, Prabhleen Kaur, Camdyn Napper, Gracie Parker, Manav Patel, Aubrey Singleton, Bryleigh Williams.

**GRADE 11:** Britton Bennett, Avery Bourn, Selah Bryan, Catherine Grace Calvert, Gia Fernandez, Anderson Godlewski, Kate Harris, Felicity Hunt, Carter Lewis, Taylor Martinez, Catherine McAdams, Addison Taylor, Rubye Ann Walsworth, Katherine Worthey.

**GRADE 12:** Ella Eagles, Hanna Hiers, Anna Grace Johnson, McKenzie Jones, Madeline Kneeland, Nolan Martin, Rosemary Sewell, Evie Stake, Zoey Venters, Luke Waldron.

### **A-B Honor Roll**

**GRADE 4:** Alex Anderson, Fitz Anderson, Breaux Bryant, Hayden Frost, Bobbi Anne Fuller, Peyton Haddox, Rhodes Jeffords, Oliver Kidd, Ridge McGehee, Sallie McMaster, Ryan Nguyen, Sam Pullin, Jase Ratliff, Emma Grace Shaw, Karigan Smith, Caroline Starks, Tanner Warren, Kinsley White.

**GRADE 5:** Reid Alexander, Amelia Alford, Khloe Allen, Tyler Barron, Madeline Boyd, Nash Branch, Myers Brister, Ava Carter, Savannah Coyle, Sophie Coyle, Cambree DiGiovanni, Grant Garmon, Madeline Gremillion, Holt Haddox, John Mason Hilburn, Lily Cate Landry,

Lola Lantrip, Randeep Singh, Adalyn Smith, Thomas Smith, Barrett Williams.

**GRADE 6:** Liam Black, Pearce Boyet, Brody Bullock, Jennices Chhay, Kallie Ann Delancy, Jackson Ewing, Elliott Frost, Owen Guerrero, Christopher Holladay, Jake Hood, Ruth Hyde, Genesis Jones, Samantha Kidd, Katherine Pardue, Heidi Penuell, Henry Pullin, McKenzie Pyland, Norah Reynolds, Lucas Shaw, Connor Starks, Reagan Sumrall.

**GRADE 7:** Grant Alexander, Bailee Allen, Bristol Bennett, Fletcher Boyet, Hudson Brister, Payton Calhoun, Belle Doiron, Charlie Gremillion, Parker Gulledge, Aiden Haddox, Anders McGehee, Andrew Paul, Frances Sewell, Emma Kate Telford, Sadee Williams.

**GRADE 8:** Camille Albritton, Gray Alford, Sawyer Barham, Molly Boyd, Ava Bramstedt, Mary Kathryn Byrnes, David Craighead, Ella Fisher, Georgia Greene, Chloe Hall, Payton Harris, Jorgia Holladay, Reid Hood, Jaleigh Martin, Cohen Pottharst, Ella Robinson, Asa Singleton, Gabrielle Smith, Noah Smith, Luke Thomas, Lilly Grace Turpin, Ellacate Veatch, Bretton Williams, Kate Wood, Campbell Woodard.

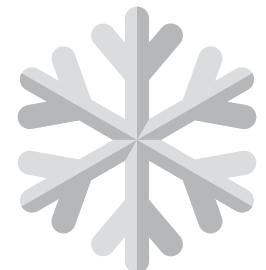
**GRADE 9:** Kendal Basham, Jackson Bullock, Ella Culver, Hadley Gatlin, Jasmine Gill, Brooklynne Hennigan, Eddie Henry, Micah

Kneeland, Ransom Lewis, Gabe Miller, Averie Moon, Bridger Reynolds, Ryder Sellers, Eli Slocum, Mary Claire Temple, Presley Wall, Thomas Waller, Clara Yates.

**GRADE 10:** Carter Allen, Hydi Boyd, Paxton Burney, Hallie Cocketham, Dylan Drake, Hayden Durrett, Anna Fitzgerald, Rachel Green, Wyatt Gremillion, Kennedy Hall, Mary Grace Hawkins, Bailey Hiers, Harshaan Lally, Alivia Lee, Kade Luker, Sophie Mariano, Carter Nichols, Anna Robbins, Alex Roebuck, Caroline Vance, Catherine Williams, Kenna Williams.

**GRADE 11:** Logan Amidon, Ainsley DeMent, Rex Freling, Caroline James, Emma Phillips, Avery Ryan, Cameron Temple, Jake Terry, Clayton Towns, Gilly Grace Washam, Bella Yates, Connor Yates.

**GRADE 12:** Audrey Barron, Taylor Basham, Allie Jones, Savannah Kilbride, Anne Claire Maxwell, John Brody Mayzel, James Myers, Annalise Paul, Amelia Reynolds, Mason Wooden, Aidan Woods



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## CHOUDRANT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

**Choudrant third graders hold several fun events****Third grade news**

We have been working hard this school year and learning a lot of new things. We have read a lot of chapter books, we are learning our multiplication facts, and researching interesting topics in science and social studies. After so much learning takes place, we like to have a little fun too. At the conclusion of our reading unit, we had a Charlotte's Web Day where we ate "Wilber's in a Carriage" (pigs in a blanket), chocolate spiders made from pretzels, and we ate slop (white chocolate Chex mix).

While learning our multiplication facts, we had a Multiplication Snack Cake Walk. Everyone had a great time earning snack cakes while reviewing our multiplication facts.

We made decorated Christmas trees and ate them as a celebration before getting out for Christmas break.



Submitted photos

**(Left and Above) Choudrant Elementary's third grade held a Multiplication Snack Cake Walk to test their math skills and eat snacks. Christmas**



Submitted photos

**(Above and Right) Third graders decorated Christmas trees and ate them before the holiday break.**



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## CYPRESS SPRINGS ELEMENTARY

# *CSE students leaping into learning*

### Third grade

We are learning lots of new things at CSE in 3rd grade! In math, we are finishing up our unit on Multiplication and Division with Units of 0, 1, 6-9, and Multiples of 10.

We are in the middle of our science unit on Survival. By the end of our unit, we will have learned that organisms have characteristics that help them survive over time in changing environments.

Through the study of “trickster” tales from various cultures, including the classic Cajun character “Lapin the Rabbit,” students learn how storytelling can be entertaining as well as educational. Students build an understanding of Louisiana history and culture as well as character and theme development. Students write stories modeled after the anchor and related texts using information gained about Louisiana.

In social studies, students are learning about the Second Industrial Revolution. In the late 1800s and early 1900s, new technology improved manufacturing and transportation in the United States. The country was continuing to change from an economy based on agriculture to one based on manufacturing.

### Fourth grade

Science — Students just completed a module about energy. They investigated energy in several days of STEM labs and performed experiments about energy and speed, collisions, energy indicators, and energy transformations.

Social studies — Students are working hard daily on analyzing sources to respond to prompts in a written response. Recently, students completed a written response where they described one political characteristic and one cultural characteristic of ancient China.

ELA — This month we are reading “The Lightning Thief” novel while working on ELA skills. We are focusing on character motivation, word meaning, and theme. We have enjoyed reading how our main character, Percy Jackson, has grown as a character and is becoming a hero!

Math — We started our unit on fractions. Students are learning how to compare fractions by making common denominators. We also just learned how to add and subtract fractions with the same units as well.

### Fifth grade

Cypress Springs Elementary is letting the good times roll with laughter, learning, and much more. Whether students are giving their

all on the basketball court, cheering on the sideline, or participating in the pep squad, they bring that same energy and dedication to the classroom.

In ELA, students immerse themselves in the magical and wondrous literary world of The Lion, The Witch, and The Wardrobe.

In social studies, scholars are exploring the fascinating civilizations of the ancient Inca and Maya. Math is finishing the year strong as students wrap up Module 4: Multiplying and Dividing Factors.

Lastly, in science, students are studiously working through Module 3: Earth Systems, answering the question: How has Balinese rice farming endured for 1,000 years? Lots of learning and amazing things are happening here at Cypress Springs Elementary—there’s no other way we’d have it!

### Library news

This year, CSE students have been participating in the Accelerated Reading program. The program is designed to reward students for taking quizzes on books that they have read throughout the school year, as well as to foster their love of reading. The CSE library is scheduled to have its second book fair in February.

### The benefits of using the newspaper as a teaching tool:

- Sharpens thinking skills & allows students to become aware of local events.
- Promotes schools involvement in the communities they serve.
- Allows students to self educate & discuss current events with family members.
- Helps prepare students for state and national standardized tests
- Teaches the next generation of the importance of print.

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## LINCOLN PARISH EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER

# Activities galore for students at LPECC

December at LPECC was full of activities for students and families to celebrate together. Some classes participated in Gifts with Grands, an activity in which Grandparents came to school to help students make Christmas gifts for their parents. Some classes had programs and sang Christmas carols for their visitors. Other classes got to invite fam-

ily members to come and eat lunch with them. We even had some very special visitors come to see us. We are looking forward to more family activities in the new year! We are also looking forward to continuing our Dudes at the Door initiative each Friday morning. We appreciate our dads and community partners who help make our Fridays special.



Submitted photos

(Above) Santa was spotted in Ms. Samantha's class. (Right) Normani poses for pictures with her family during lunch.



Submitted photo

**Ms. Cori's class poses in front of LPECC's Christmas tree.**



## RUSTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

# Math, science, ELA (oh my) at Ruston Elementary

### Third grade

In ELA, students are working on the last few assignments of their Cajun Folktale Unit. Students just finished writing an essay to explain their opinion of a rabbit playing the role of trickster. They are about to start working on Unit 3 which is all about the Louisiana Purchase as well as learning about some tall tales.

In science we started Module 3 Traits last week. Our essential question is What makes an individual humpback whale unique? Students will learn how human traits make each of us different and how animal traits make each of them different.

In social studies we are continuing to learn about the history of this great country, the United States of America. We have been learning about about slavery and how it was abolished in the United States.

### Fourth grade

In ELA, students have learned to recognize the elements of mythology as they read multiple Greek and

Roman myths. They have recently jumped into the world of Percy Jackson and the Olympians: The Lightning Thief where they are tracking Percy's quest and determining how he develops into a hero during his adventures.

Our hard-working historians have been exploring China's geographic features and discovering how they influenced the ancient Chinese civilization and created a unique cultural identity. Students are also learning about the significant figures and contributions made by this civilization, and the impact that political, cultural, and technological advancements had on the ancient Chinese and the world.

As they continue exploring ancient China, they will be gathering information to answer the question, "What were the lasting effects of Chinese dynasties?"

Before our winter break, the scientists wrapped up learning about energy and how it works. We talked about fossil fuels as well as alternative energy sources of hydroelectric

power, solar power, and wind power. We discussed the advantages and disadvantages of each. Students also used alternative sources to create a windmill in class. We also had a special treat with some Ruston High School students coming to teach us about magnets and currents.

Also in math, we finished up multi digit multiplication and division. These are huge skills that are difficult to grasp, but the more you practice the better you get! Then we started working on fractions. Fractions are a huge part of the 4th grade Math curriculum. We will be studying fractions for the next few months.

It has been fun to see them learn how to manipulate fractions independently. This unit is fun for all of us because we see fractions everywhere in everyday life. It is a skill that we all use throughout our lifetime.

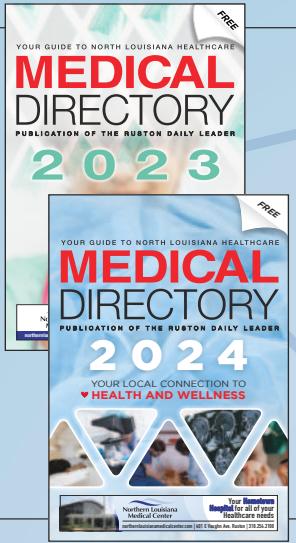
### Fifth grade

Fifth grade ELA students are preparing to finish up their second

unit, "The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe"! They love this text and can't wait to see what happens next. Students are learning to write complex sentences, use subordinating conjunctions, and include transitional words and phrases in their writing. They will wrap up their unit by writing a narrative according to a prompt.

Social studies students are wrapping up their unit on the civilizations of North America. They have learned about the geography, governments, agriculture, clothing, housing, and religious beliefs of the Southeast, the Plains, and the Northeast indigenous peoples. They can tell you all about how these people survived, traded, lived, and died, so be sure to ask them!

This month in math fifth grade students are working with multiplying and dividing fractions. In science students are exploring Earth Systems, developing models and describing ways that Earth Systems interact with each other.



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# ENTERTAINMENT

Ruston Daily Leader

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Wednesday, January 29, 2025

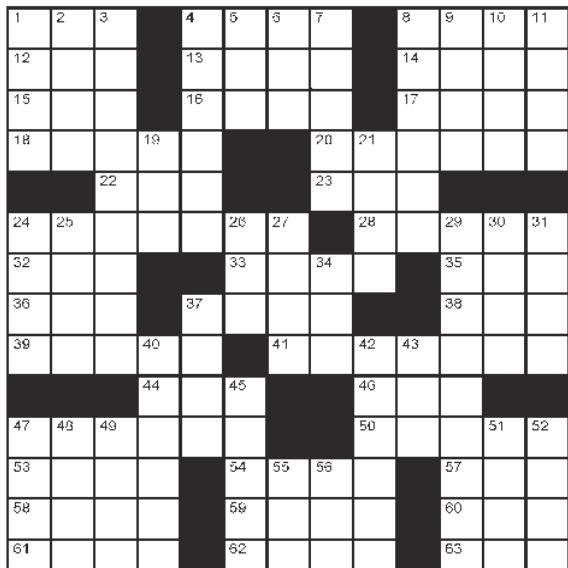
## Crossword Puzzle

**ACROSS**

- 1 Chapeau
- 4 High school dance
- 8 Damage psychically
- 12 Flightless bird
- 13 Wrinkle
- 14 Isle of exile
- 15 — room
- 16 Diner sign
- 17 Fat
- 18 Made inquiries
- 20 Unvarying
- 22 Work unit
- 23 "So tasty!"
- 24 Get control of
- 28 Passover meal
- 32 Lacto—vegetarian
- 33 Crochet needle
- 35 Unclose
- 36 Old French money
- 37 Join metal parts

**DOWN**

- 38 Dads and granddads
- 39 Inscribe
- 41 Enlightened
- 44 Young boy
- 46 Time meas.
- 47 Cookbook entry
- 50 Seafood item
- 53 Aid and —
- 54 — lily
- 57 "The Matrix" hero
- 58 Upkeep
- 59 Jellylike substance
- 60 Beret
- 61 Watches
- 62 Young equine
- 63 Before
- 1 Greek goddess
- 2 Iowa city
- 3 Exhaust (2 wds.)



1-29

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### Meeting the needs of our readers!

We have reformatted our comics page to allow our readers to easily print the crossword puzzle.

#### How to Print:

Click the download link option and save the PDF page to your desktop and then select print.

### TODAY'S ANSWERS

E	Y	E	S	C	O	L	I	E	R	E
C	A	R	E	A	G	A	R	C	A	P
A	B	E	T	S	E	G	O	N	E	O
R	E	C	I	P	P	R	A	W	N	
L	A	D	M	I	N					
E	N	T	E	R	E	D	I	F	I	E
S	O	U	W	E	L	D	M	E	N	
O	V	O	H	O	O	K	Q	P	E	
H	A	R	N	E	S	S	S	E	D	E
E	R	G	Y	U	M					
A	S	K	E	D	S	T	A	B	L	E
R	E	C	E	A	T	S	S	U	E	T
E	M	U	L	I	N	E	E	L	B	A
H	A	T	P	R	O	M	S	C	A	R

- 4 Solemn promise  
5 Estuary  
6 Toronto's prov.  
7 unkempt  
8 Edible seed  
9 Membership organization
- 10 Cain's victim  
11 Appraise  
19 Directional suffix  
21 Walrus feature  
24 Stockings  
25 Stratford-upon—  
26 That woman  
27 Lone  
29 Supremacy  
30 Bladed weapon  
31 Tear  
34 Unmatched  
37 Outer garment  
40 Aristocrats  
42 Bring over for sale  
43 Evergreen tree  
45 Cul—  
47 Marathon  
48 Online auction site  
49 Bird bill part  
51 Sport  
52 Slangy denial  
55 —ideal  
56 "My —Sal"

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## Sudoku

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

7				9	3					6
	8		4	1						9
	1				8	5				
		8				5	2		6	
4	6					3			5	1
	9		1	6		8				
	5	4				6				
4			7	6	1				1	
5		9	2							7

1-29

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### TODAY'S ANSWERS

5	1	6	9	2	8	3	4	7
8	4	2	3	7	6	9	1	5
3	7	9	5	1	6	4	8	7
2	9	5	7	8	3	9	2	5
4	6	7	6	4	8	7	3	1
1	3	8	7	5	2	4	6	9
9	2	1	6	8	5	7	3	4
6	8	3	4	1	7	5	9	2
7	5	4	2	9	3	1	8	6

**HOW TO PLAY:**  
Each row, column and set of 3-by-3 boxes must contain the numbers 1 through 9 without repetition.

## Celebrity Cipher

by Luis Campos

Celebrity Cipher cryptograms are created from quotations by famous people, past and present. Each letter in the cipher stands for another.

"F S B A X C S D R H B J J W S X Z T S Y F B Y V S J,  
X I X W I T G R J W ... Y S Z X B C A S T Y I O Z E S  
C B D X . . . K R H O J W S F B J S E I C B D X .  
E I F . " — X B Y B D R A C S Y J

"Having the opportunity to express myself through music has been extremely cathartic for me my entire life." — Sarah McLachlan

TODAY'S CLUE: *C aquafie B*

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