

The Weekly Press

SERVING BAKER, CENTRAL, AND ZACHARY

THURSDAY, APRIL 29-MAY 5, 2021

A PEOPLE'S PUBLICATION

VOL. 44 • NO.48 • FREE

STATE & LOCAL PG 2

SU INTERESTED IN FORMER NFL STAR MARSHALL FAULK

NATIONAL PG 3

PRESIDENT BIDEN TO UNVEIL AMBITIOUS 'AMERICAN FAMILY PLAN'

STATE & LOCAL PG 2

BOOZE-TO-GO ORDINANCE

Edwards rolls back mask mandate, limits locations

New Orleans will keep mask mandate for now, mayor says

"A full reopening would depend on the city reaching herd immunity through vaccination, laying out a requirement of at least a 75-percent vaccination rate."

NEW ORLEANS, La. — Mayor LaToya Cantrell said New Orleans' mask mandate would remain in effect despite Governor Edwards making changes to statewide restrictions.



Mayor LaToya Cantrell

Cantrell announced during a news conference Wednesday that the mandate would remain, though she said the city might be closer to lifting some COVID-19 restrictions. She said a full reopening would depend on the city reaching herd immunity through vaccination, laying out a requirement of at least a 75-percent vaccination rate.

Her announcement follows

See CANTRELL, on page 3



Louisiana Gov. John Bel Edwards talks about the coronavirus outbreak and state vaccination efforts, Thursday, April 22, 2021, in Baton Rouge, La. (AP Photo/Melinda Deslatte)

BATON ROUGE, La. — Gov. John Bel Edwards on Tuesday partially lifted Louisiana's statewide mask mandate enacted

to combat the coronavirus outbreak, limiting the face covering requirement to schools, hospitals, clinics and other specific

locations.

The Democratic governor's decision to roll back the mask mandate he enacted in July is at

odds with the recommendations of President Joe Biden's administra-

See MASK, on page 2

Statement by Mayor-President Sharon Weston Broome

"As we continue to assess and revise mitigation efforts, I am asking our citizens to follow CDC guidance for wearing masks."

BATON ROUGE, La. — East Baton Rouge Parish has made considerable progress in our fight against the coronavirus pandemic since March of 2020. Now is not the time to let down our guard; we must continue to work together to end of this pandemic.



Mayor Sharon Weston Broome

Governor Edwards announced revisions to the current statewide mask mandate today, allowing local leaders to determine guidelines within their municipalities. To that end, the City-Parish will continue to require masks to be worn inside all City-Parish buildings, including City Hall, for the foreseeable future.

As we continue to assess and revise mitigation efforts, I am asking our citizens to follow CDC

See BROOME, on page 3

'Go get the shot': Biden highlights path back to normal

"We're excited about the progress we've made, and the opportunity ahead of us, and because of the vaccination program we built we're further along than almost anyone predicted," said White House COVID-19 coordinator Jeff Zients in a Monday interview.

WASHINGTON — President Joe Biden spent his first 100 days in office encouraging Americans to mask up and stay home to slow the spread of the coronavirus. His task for the next 100 days will be to lay out the path back to normal.

When he entered office, Biden moved swiftly to overcome problems with vaccine supply and more than tripled the country's ability to administer them. But ending the coronavirus pandemic, the central challenge of his presidency, will

require not only putting shots into arms — a task now growing more difficult as demand sags — but also a robust plan to help the nation emerge from a year of isolation, disruption and confusion.

If Biden launched the na-



President Joe Biden

tion onto a war footing against a virus that infected nearly 200,000 Americans in January and killed about 3,000 of them per day, the next months will be tantamount to winning the peace. Already, deaths are down to fewer than 700 per day, and average daily cases are below 60,000. U.S. officials insist there is a long way to go before the country can be fully at ease, but the progress is marked.

Going forward, success will mean finishing the nation's her-

culean vaccination campaign — to date, 43% of Americans have received at least one shot — overcoming lagging demand and communicating in clear terms what activities can be safely resumed by those who are vaccinated. Key milestones include Biden's July Fourth pledge that Americans can safely gather with friends and family, and the start of the new school year, when the president hopes to have all schools open safely.

The Centers for Disease Con-

trol and Prevention on Tuesday unveiled new guidance lessening requirements for outdoor mask-wearing, especially for vaccinated people.

"We're excited about the progress we've made, and the opportunity ahead of us, and because of the vaccination program we built we're further along than almost anyone predicted," said White House COVID-19 coordinator

See BIDEN, on page 3

WEATHER



MON. 04/26
Mostly Sunny
High 88°.



TUE. 04/27
Partly Cloudy
High 88°.



WED. 04/28
Thunderstorms
High 81°.



THUR. 04/29
Thunderstorms
High 81°.

INDEX

- State & Local 2 & 3
- Religion 4
- Church Directory 4
- Business 5
- Business Directory 5

READ OUR DIGITAL INTERACTIVE EDITION ONLINE @ BRWEEKLYPRESS.COM

Bill would restrict law enforcement officials from using no-knock warrants and chokeholds

BATON ROUGE, La. — A bill that would restrict law enforcement officials from using no-knock warrants and chokeholds advanced Tuesday.

Sen. Cleo Fields, D-Baton Rouge, moved his bill, SB34, through the Senate Judiciary B Committee, and it will next go to the Senate floor. The bill restricts law enforcement officers from conducting no-knock warrants at night and from using chokeholds, and it calls for more cameras to increase accountability.

Sen. Gregory Tarver, D-Shreveport said, however, that he would debate the restriction on no-knock warrant on the Senate floor as "most bad things happen at night."



Sen. Cleo Fields moved a bill Tuesday that would restrict law-enforcement officials from using no-knock warrants and chokeholds.



Sen. Gregory Tarver said, however, that he would debate the restriction on no-knock warrant on the Senate floor as "most bad things happen at night."

"I think we need to have a very serious discussion about this," Talbot said. "When a judge assigns it, they ought to be able to do this thing at night or day. As long as it's legal and they follow the rules and regs."

Rebekah Taylor, program manager at the Louisiana Commission on Law Enforcement and Administration of Criminal Justice, sat with Fields as he introduced his bill and said it gave the courts clarity on how these warrants are being served.

"The officers are not announcing themselves as they entering a residence based on a warrant that's been signed by a judge," said Talbot. "This legislation would prohibit those types of warrants

from being executed, except when probable cause has been shown."

Lt. Robert Burns of the Louisiana State Police said the practice of serving no-knock warrants has "greatly diminished" over the years.

"We do a lot more of what's called a surround-and-call-out where we protect all entrances and exits of a property, and we use as many tactics as we can to try to gain communication with occupants of the property," said Burns.

Ending no-knock warrants has been part of the Black Lives Matter agenda. The organization cites that Breonna Taylor was shot and killed in March 2020 by Louisville police officers while serving a no-knock

See BILL, on page 3



BRWEEKLYPRESS.COM

Celebrating 43 Years Of Service To The Baton Rouge Community

225.775.2002

STATE & LOCAL

Legislation proposed to ban life without parole sentences for children in Louisiana

The bill will abolish extreme sentences handed down to those under the age of 18

BATON ROUGE, La.-- In a critical piece of reform legislation, a bill proposed in the Louisiana Legislature would abolish the extreme punishment of Life Without Parole for persons whose crimes were committed when they were children. House Bill 254 would provide individuals sentenced to life as a child the opportunity to appear before the parole board after serving a minimum of 25 years.

The bill, sponsored by State Representative Richard Nelson (R-Mandeville), would also ensure that no child would face the prospect of dying in prison without an opportunity for release. If passed, Louisiana would join neighbors Texas and Arkansas in banning the practice of sentencing juveniles to life without parole. There are currently 31 states that either prohibit life without parole for children or have no one serving the sentence.

Representative Nelson believes that giving people a second chance is good fiscal and public safety policy. "Every parent knows that children act irresponsibly, and sometimes those actions have terrible consequences," says Nelson. "By their 40th birthday, no one is the same person they were at fifteen. We mature with age. This is not an automatic release for anyone. HB254 simply allows a chance at redemption after 25 years."

HB 254 is supported by a

coalition of former juvenile lifers who want to ensure that all those sentenced to life as children have the same opportunity for a second chance. "I am not that same teenager who went to prison years ago," says Christie Cheramie, who served 25 years of a life sentence given to her at age 16. "Over the decades, I developed a faith life and earned an education, and the parole board recognized my rehabilitation. I have made the most of my second chance."

After her release Christi became a client of Louisiana Parole Project, a Baton Rouge-based nonprofit that provides advocacy, reentry services, and transitional housing to persons who have served long prison sentences. Today, she is a Parole Project employee assisting other juvenile lifers with their transitions.

In support of this legislation, the organization points to the evidence of juvenile lifers who have been released since the U.S. Supreme Court's Miller and Montgomery decisions found juvenile life without parole unconstitutional for most offenders. They have become taxpayers, law-abiding members of their communities. Andrew Hundley, Parole Project Executive Director and a former juvenile lifer, knows this firsthand. "When I left prison, I left behind people who are no less deserving of a second look. Since coming home, I've graduated college, gotten married, and become a homeowner. I'm not the exception to the rule, but rather an example of how people can change and thrive when given the opportunity."

North Baton Rouge Youth Soccer Association Wants You To Try Out!

Come join to be a Cosmos camper and develop your soccer techniques and love for the game while having a fun and entertaining soccer experience. We are offering 3 week long camp sessions this summer. Summer Camp aims to help develop players' skills through learning exercises that utilize functional training games to teach individual techniques, skills, and tactics through creative and motivating sessions. In camp your child will participate in sessions focusing on the skills of passing, dribbling, shooting, heading, attacking, defending, and ball control. All camp sessions, we will build on technique and concentrate on the tactical aspects of soccer. This environment is perfect for the young soccer player to learn from great coaches and enjoy the game by learning through fun technical drills and small sided games.

Sign up Online at
www.NBRYSA.org.

- Co-ed
- Ages 3 to 12
- Registration Check-in: Monday (5:00-5:30 PM)
- Training Sessions: 5:30-



7:00 PM

For more information call:
225-590-0730

Boys and Girls Tryouts for the 2021-2022 soccer year will be on May 10th, 13th, 15th at J.S. Clark BREC Park. Players MUST register to attend Tryouts for FREE.

If you are unable to Attend Tryouts but still want to be considered for selection for a team, you MUST still REGISTER for the tryouts.

Tryout Process:

- Players should arrive at least 20 minutes ahead of their scheduled time.
- Players should check-in to receive tryout numbers.
- Players need to bring their own water, ball, and shin guards (required) and other necessary equipment.

Southern interested in former NFL star Marshall Faulk becoming head football coach; list narrows to 3 finalists



A.W. Mumford Stadium at Southern University in Baton Rouge, La. (Source: wikipedia.org)

BATON ROUGE, La. — Southern athletic director Roman Banks said Wednesday, April 28, that he's narrowed the list of head football coach finalists to three.

Banks wasn't ready to share any names at this time but would like the new coach hired and introduced at a news conference before the weekend.

Ian Rapoport with NFL Network first reported the university and former NFL star running back Marshall Faulk have a "mutual interest" in Faulk becoming the next head coach of the Jaguars.

Rapoport tweeted the report

citing sources Tuesday, April 27. The reporter, known for breaking news about NFL trades and acquisitions, says no moves have officially been made but "there's been conversations."

Faulk is a native of New Orleans.

Former NFL star Deion Sanders became the head coach of Southern's SWAC rival, Jackson State, in 2020.

Multiple sources have confirmed that one of the coaches in this weekend's SWAC Championship game, Alabama A&M's Connell Maynor, has interviewed with

Southern.

Other names circulating include Mickey Joseph and Jabbar Juluke but D1 assistant coaches would command a significant increase in salary from Odums's deal after 10 seasons.

Sources are also saying Louisiana native and Odums's defensive coordinator Lionel Washington plus offensive coordinator Zach Grossi plan to stay at Southern, keeping the current team together after success this spring.

Elevating Odums from Stump Mitchell's staff did work out well.

MASK from page 1

tion, but puts him more in line with other Southern state leaders who have either ended their statewide face covering requirement or never enacted one at all.

The new rules starting Wednesday will require people in Louisiana to wear masks on public transit and in health care facilities, daycare centers, K-12 schools, colleges and universities. A face covering will be required in some state buildings as well, as decided by the leaders in

charge of the building. Edwards said all buildings under his administration's control will require masks, including the three floors that house his offices in the Louisiana Capitol.

Local officials and businesses can enact their own mask mandates, if they choose.

Despite the change to his restrictions, Edwards still argued that mask wearing is one of the most effective ways to lessen the spread of the COVID-19 illness caused by the coronavirus.

"It's not an end to mask wearing. It's not an end to recommendations that people wear masks," the governor said. "But I think it is a reflection of where we are at this stage of the pandemic."

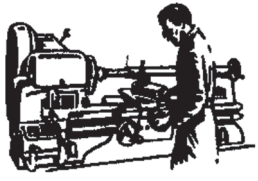
But the Edwards administration has not tightly enforced the face covering requirement when it's been on the books. Many people around the state already have flouted the mask mandate, including Republican and Democratic lawmakers meeting in session at the state Capitol.

Since he expanded access to the coronavirus vaccine to anyone 16 and older in the state, Edwards has loosened his restrictions — even though the state has had trouble persuading people to get immunized. In March, the governor ended many of the statewide coronavirus limits for businesses.

Specific restrictions have remained in place for sporting events, live music venues, event spaces,

See MASK, on page 3

READER INFORMATION



How to Reach Us
General Information 225-775-2002
Email brweeklypress@yahoo.com

The office is open 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday - Friday and located at 4910 Montecello Blvd. Baton Rouge, LA 70814

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

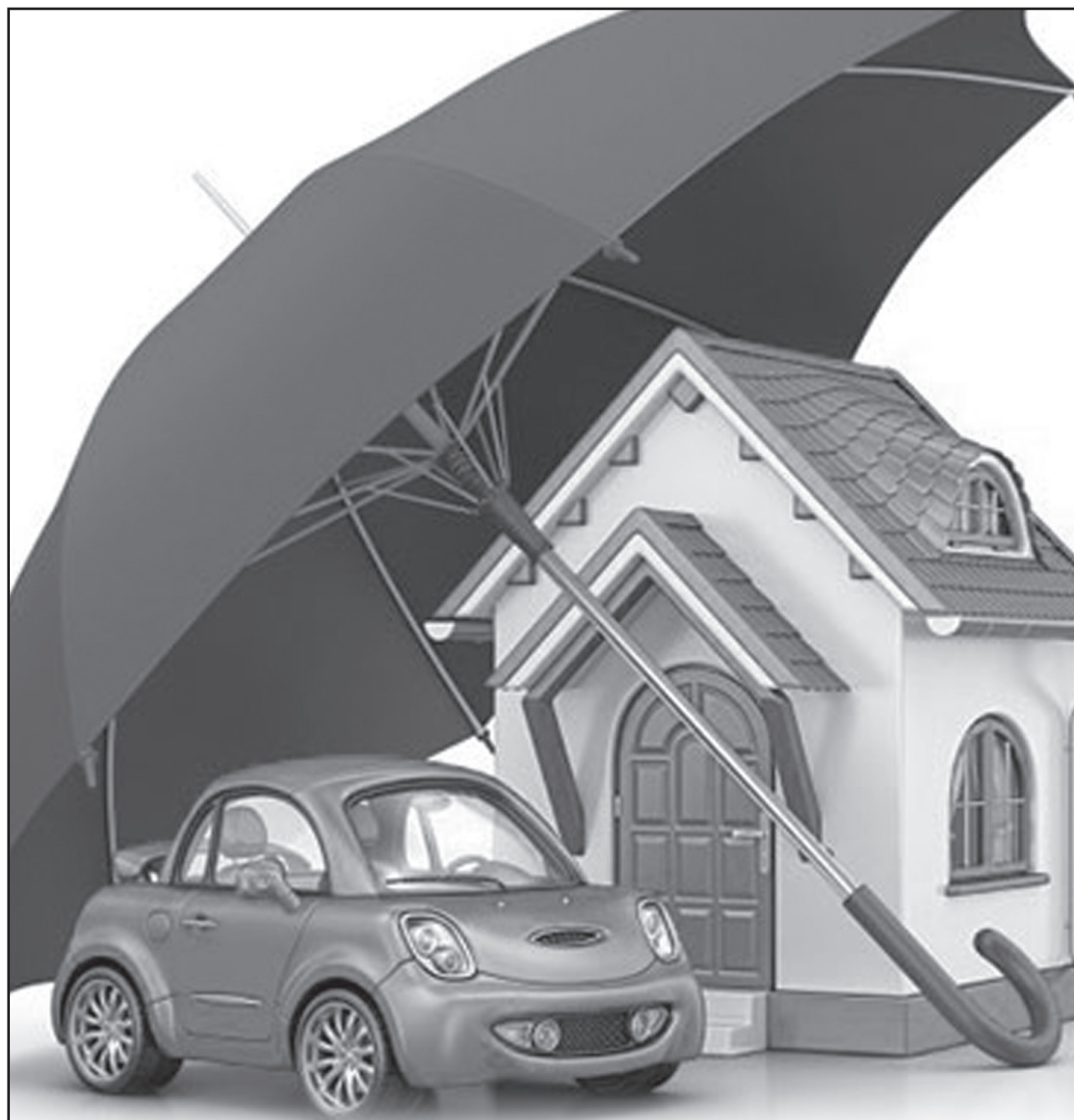
The Weekly Press

Newspaper is published weekly in Baton Rouge and distributed every Thursday with a circulation of 7,500. Subscription rates are \$65.00 per year for Louisiana residents; \$72.00 for one year for out-of-state residents; half price for six months subscription; and \$1.00 per single copy.

All money orders or checks should be made payable to The Baton Rouge Weekly Press 4910 Montecello Blvd. Baton Rouge, La. 70814

Phone: (225) 775-2002
E-Mail brweeklypress@yahoo.com
Office Hours: Monday-Friday 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM
Closed Saturday, Sunday

EMAIL YOUR NEWS ARTICLES TO
brweeklypress@yahoo.com
VISIT US ONLINE @
brweeklypress.com



WE'VE GOT YOU COVERED

I can help you protect more than you'd expect. I also have lots of ways to help you save when you bundle your policies. Get the savings you deserve. Call or stop by my office for a free quote.



AGNES SMITH ANDREWS

Insurance Agent/Owner

214 S. Acadian Thruway
Baton Rouge LA 70806

Phone: 225.383.0877

Fax: 225.383.0877

Claims: 225.383.0877



Email: AgnesAndrews@Allstate.com
www.allstateagencies.com/agnesandrews



Allstate
You're in good hands.

LACY BAAHETH & ASSOCIATES

YOUR BATON ROUGE REAL ESTATE PROS
TRUSTED ★ RESPECTED ★ RECOMMENDED

LACY BAAHETH
11833 MARKET PL AVE,
BATON ROUGE, LA 70816
PH:(225) 906-9350 • FAX (225) 906-9658
LACY@SELLSWITHLACY.COM
WWW.VIEWHOMESWITHLACY.NET

Booze-to-go ordinance approved by Metro Council

BATON ROUGE, La. - The Metro Council voted unanimously to allow curbside pickup and delivery indefinitely, including to-go drinks.



Councilman Cleve Dunn

Those alcohol restrictions were eased last year to help bars and local restaurants make money during the pandemic.



Councilman Aaron Moak

Councilmen Cleve Dunn and Aaron Moak said the new ordinance will help the already-suffering foodservice industry.

The ordinance also lowers fees for some liquor licenses and adds a provision to include nail and hair salons that serve alcohol.

MASK from page 2

reception halls and large indoor gatherings. Edwards tweaked those rules as well Tuesday. Weddings, sporting events and conferences will be limited to 75% of their occupancy capacity, but they can move to 100% if they enforce a mask mandate.

The leader of the Baton Rouge Area Chamber applauded the governor's announcement. Adam Knapp called it an "indication that our efforts around vaccination and lowering the rate of transmission have so far been successful."

"This will be an opportunity for business owners to reassess their protocols and establish safety practices that work for them, their employees and their customers," Knapp said in a statement.

The governor's latest coronavirus executive order expires May 26.

Louisiana has seen significant declines in the number of people hospitalized with COVID-19 since vaccinations began. But public health officials have worried that vaccination rates in Louisiana remain low as a more contagious variant of the virus is spreading in the state.

Meanwhile, Louisiana lags most other states in vaccine distribution.

Nearly 1.5 million people in Louisiana — 32% of the state's total population — have received at least one dose of the vaccine, according to state health department data. More than 1.2 million people have been fully immunized, about 26% of the population.

Still, Louisiana continues to lag behind many other states in vaccine distribution. The state ranked 41st among states Tuesday in the number of vaccine doses administered per capita, according to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

NATIONAL

President Biden to Unveil Ambitious 'American Family Plan'

The American Family Plan will add at least four years of free education for every student and make transformational investments from early childhood to higher education so that all children and young people can learn and grow and gain the skills they need, the senior administration official stated.



Dubbed "The American Family Plan" the proposal invests in children and families, helping families cover the expenses with which many currently struggle. (Photo: iStockphoto / NNPA)

By Stacy M. Brown, NNPA Newswire Senior National Correspondent

President Joe Biden will unveil a massive \$1.8 trillion federal investment plan that directly supports education, childcare, and paid family leave.

The President's first address to Congress on Wednesday, April 28, comes one month after the administration proposed a nearly \$2 trillion infrastructure plan geared toward helping America recover from the pandemic.

To raise the money for his latest proposal, President Biden plans to raise taxes on the wealthy.

"These are generational investments in our future, in the future of our families, and the future of our kids," a senior administration official said during a call on Tuesday.

Dubbed "The American Family Plan" the proposal invests in children and families, helping families cover the expenses with which many currently struggle.

It aims to lower health insurance premiums, cut child poverty, and produce a more significant, more productive, and healthier workforce in the future.

The American Family Plan will add at least four years of free education for every student and make transformational investments from early childhood to

higher education so that all children and young people can learn and grow and gain the skills they need, the senior administration official stated.

Specifically, the plan would provide high-quality universal preschool to all 3- and 4-year-olds, two years of free community college to all Americans, and up to \$1,400 in additional assistance to low-income students by expanding the maximum Pell Grant.

It will invest in making college more affordable for low-income students and students at Historically Black Colleges and Universities, Tribal Colleges and Universities, and other Minority-Serving Institutions.

Under the plan, those institutions would receive grants to create or expand educational programs in high-demand fields.

"The plan will also invest in our teachers, improving teacher training and support so that our schools become engines of growth at every level," the administration said.

"It will address teacher shortages, which have only gotten more critical in the context of the pandemic. It'll improve teacher preparation and strengthen pipelines for teachers of color."

The officials continued: "It will help teachers earn credentials in high-demand areas like special ed, bilingual education, and certifications that improve teacher performance.

And it will support programs that leverage teachers as leaders, such as high-quality mentorship programs for new teachers and teachers of color."

Further, the plan will invest in the childcare workforce, funding childcare providers and their workers, ensuring a \$15 minimum wage are in effect for early childhood staff, along with improved training.

The American Families Plan also tackles the nutritional needs of children by expanding the summer benefits to all eligible children nationwide.

That includes children who have free and reduced school lunches and breakfasts during the school year — and expanding that meal program to the summer on an ongoing basis.

According to the administration, this would reach an estimated 9.3 million children.

The plan would extend key tax cuts in the American Rescue Plan that benefit lower- and middle-income workers and families.

And these include extending the Affordable Care Act tax credits permanently to lower health insurance premiums and extend Child Tax Credit increases in the American Rescue Plan through 2025, making it fully refundable.

La. lawmaker picks fight with big social media companies



BATON ROUGE, La. - Companies like Facebook and Twitter could end up in court for blocking people from their social media accounts.

At least 29 other states have introduced legislation similar to a bill being discussed in Louisiana. It allows users to sue the companies if they are censored for any political or religious speech, which is protected under the First Amendment.

However, it doesn't allow you to sue for being censored if you post any calls for violence, pornographic content, falsely impersonating someone, or things of that nature. Sen. John C. "Jay" Morris (R-West Monroe) says he just wants people to be able to freely express themselves.

"Without having a building full of people in California deciding what the American public, particularly the Louisiana public, can see, hear, or write about," said Morris.

"It's the number one issue at conferences all across America that's both left and right," said Christopher Servier with Special Forces of Liberty.

Social media platforms are pro-

ected under Section 230, a federal law that doesn't recognize them as publishers. That law allows them to deactivate or block whoever and whatever they want. But Morris's bill might be the answer around that.

"Because he has a bill that's narrowly tailored to fall within what's called the 'state law exemption' under Section 230 of the Communications Decency Act. All this bill is doing is catching up existing law with modern-day technology," Servier added.

Part of the proposed bill allows people to sue if they are censored for hate speech, only because there isn't a clear definition of what constitutes hate speech.

"Hate speech is in the eye of the beholder," said Morris.

"To prevent a defendant from using a defense on why they did something is just wrong in my opinion," said Sen. Patrick Connick (R-Marrero), who was one of two to oppose the bill.

With only two objections, the bill passed and now heads to the Senate floor.

CANTRELL from page 1

Gov. John Bel Edwards' Tuesday announcement, where he ended a statewide mask mandate and

allowed local governments to set their own mask requirements.

Cantrell will release more information in her Thursday address to the city with Dr. Jennifer Avegno, the city's health director.

BILL from page 1

warrant at night.

The Baton Rouge Police Department has banned chokeholds since 2017. But a video was posted to social media websites as a BRPD officer used a chokehold while detaining a 13-year-old child in February. Activists have called for the body camera footage to be released, but it has not been made public due to the child's age.

Fields' bill would restrict neck holds statewide, except when

for when an officer reasonably believes that they are in a risk of great bodily harm.

The bill provides funding for more law-enforcement body cameras and for dash cams that start to record when the emergency lights are turned on from a vehicle.

The bill was a collaborative effort, as Fields worked with the Louisiana Sheriffs' Association, the Louisiana State Police, the Chief of Police Association, the Fraternal Order of Police and the Attorney General.

BIDEN from page 1

Jeff Zients in a Monday interview.

"It means we're closer to returning to normal."

Highlighting the new guidelines at the White House on Tuesday, Biden said the vaccines are increasingly helping America "get back to more normal living," and he promised more details next week

on making that possible. It's part of what officials said will be a focus in the coming weeks on easing restrictions for vaccinated people, both in recognition of their lower risk and as an incentive to get shots.

"Getting together with friends, going to the park for a picnic without needing to mask up, we're back to that place now as long as you get vaccinated," Biden said. "So go get the shot."

INJURED IN A CAR WRECK?
INJURED BY AN 18 WHEELER?
INJURED IN A MOTORCYCLE ACCIDENT?



If this happens to you call
**ATTORNEY
McMANUS**

CALL THE MCMANUS LAW OFFICE AND GET ALL YOU DESERVE

Charles C. McManus
ATTORNEY AT LAW

8520 Scotland Ave, Suite C • Baton Rouge, La. 70807
charlesmcmamus@mcmamuslawoffice.brcoxmail.com
www.charlesmcmamus.com • Phone 225-774-5771

Let us Take Care of One of Your Most Important Investments

NOLA Lending Group offers:

- Conventional Loans
- Jumbo Mortgages
- FHA - Federal Housing Administration Loans
- VA - Department of Veterans Affairs Loans
- RD - Rural Development Loans¹
- Mortgage Refinances
- Condominium Financing

SPEAK TO A NOLA LENDING GROUP LOAN OFFICER TODAY!

BATON ROUGE OFFICE: 225.291.2100



A Division of Fidelity Bank

BankWithFidelity.com

1. Available in select markets. The services and products advertised are not approved or endorsed by HUD, USDA, the Department of Veterans Affairs, or any government agency. This does not constitute an offer to lend. All loans are subject to credit approval. Not all applicants will qualify for all products offered. All loan programs, terms and interest rates are subject to change without notice. Co. NMLS# 488639



RELIGION

247 PRAISE RADIO

YOUR GLOBAL INSPIRATION STATION

LISTEN LIVE! www.247praisradio.com

LET US HELP YOU REACH THOUSANDS IN THE 247 PRAISE RADIO COMMUNITY AND BEYOND



These special rates are exclusive to the BR Weekly Press advertising partner. The BR Weekly Press is an official representative and media partner of 247 Parise Radio.com

Stellar Awards
 MILLIONS OF LISTENERS PER HOUR
NOMINATED
 GOSPEL INTERNET RADIO STATION OF THE YEAR

Broadcast Rates

- 15 min \$25.00 4 broadcast per month \$100
- 30 min \$35.00 4 broadcast per month \$140
- 60 min \$43.75 4 broadcast per month \$175

CALL FOR MORE DETAILS **225.775.2002**

Kirk Franklin, Brent Jones, Yolanda Adams inducted into Hall of Fame

Stevie Wonder's powerhouse station KJLH inducts its first gospel stars into the Hall of Fame

Hollywood, CA – Recently awarded Gold & Platinum certification by the Recording Industry Association of America® (RIAA) - to certify over a million albums sold of "Awaken My Love", his critically acclaimed collaboration with superstar Childish Gambino (who made history as the first rapper ever to win Record of the Year & Song of the Year - 62nd Annual Grammy Awards), Brent Jones has now been inducted into the Hall of Fame by Stevie Wonder's powerhouse station KJLH 102.3 FM <https://kjlhradio.com/gallery/spread-the-word-hall-of-fame/>



Kirk Franklin



Brent Jones



Yolanda Adams

"What an honor to be inducted with Kirk Franklin, Yolanda Adams, Marvin Sapp, Mary Mary, Hezekiah Walker, and Donnie McClurkin into the Hall of Fame!" says Brent Jones. Featured in the blockbuster DreamWorks movie "Trolls World

Tour" (starring Justin Timberlake, Anna Kendrick & Mary J. Blige), coveted admission into the Screen Actors Guild, a hit song collaboration "Time" with pop star Ariana Grande, and a recent Billboard #1 plaque for his contributions to the Trolls World Tour movie

soundtrack, 2020 has been quite the year for gospel star Brent Jones!

Singer/songwriter extraordinaire, who's pioneering work with his urban group Brent Jones & T.P. Mobb set the stage for Kirk

See **HALL OF FAME**, on page 5

The Confidence of Faith

The righteous man shall live by faith. – Romans 1:17

By DR. TONY EVANS

Being confident in life is fundamentally an issue of faith. Faith relates to all of life. The definition of faith is "the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen" (Hebrews 11:1).

Faith accepts that what God has said is as good as done. Faith lays claim on and stakes its existence on the person and purposes of God. Faith functions in the present, based on what God has said



Dr. Tony Evans

about the future.

In Matthew 13:58 we read, "He did not do many miracles there because of their unbelief." Without faith, the substance that God has for you in the invisible realm will never be yours in the visible realm. Faith is a way of living. You demonstrate faith not by what you say but by what you do. Faith shows up in your feet, not just in your feelings. That is

why Paul instructed us to "walk by faith," not to "talk by faith." Faith is an action.


Faith is also powerful. Jesus said that whoever has faith the size of a mustard seed can move a mountain into the sea. The power of faith isn't based on who you are, it's based simply on who God is. Your faith is as big as the God you

See **FAITH**, on page 5

CHURCH DIRECTORY

Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching. - Hebrews 10:25

Church directory ads starting at \$10 per week call us for details 225.775.2002




DISCIPLES OUTREACH MINISTRY
 2032 Gore Rd. • Baton Rouge, LA 70807
 Sunday Service 9:00 am
 Sunday School 8:00 am
 Bible Study Mon. 7:00 pm
 Saturday Sabbath Sat. 11:00 am

Bishop Thelma Pearl Senior Pastor
Bishop Michael Pearl, Assistant Pastor

We Don't Count Numbers. We Make Numbers Count

TEAM IMPACT CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY
 EQUIPPING ORDINARY PEOPLE FOR EXTRA-ORDINARY MINISTRY



If you are looking for an accredited Christian University that offers Spirit-anointed courses at all levels then Team Impact Christian University is for you!

Through our campus in Baton Rouge and online programs, you have access to numerous courses - from Certificate in Ministry all the way through to our Doctor of Ministry Degree.

Enrollment Year Round Most credits transferable Accredited


8894 Airline Hwy. Baton Rouge, LA 70815
 562.756.1490 • dorothystewart90@yahoo.com

Good Shepherd Full Gospel B.C.
The People's Church
 2865 Mission Drive • Baton Rouge, 70805 • Telephone (225)356-5873
 Bishop H. Hayes, Pastor

Hour of Power	12 Noon Each Wednesday
Sunday School	8:00am
Church Service	9:00am
Communion Service	2nd Sunday 9:00am
Bible Study Wednesday	7:00pm
Sister/Brotherhood Meeting	6:00pm



OASIS CHRISTIAN CHURCH
 4524 East Brookstone Drive
 Baton Rouge, LA 70805
www.ocbr.org
 See Website for Service and Streaming Live Times



BISHOP CHARLES E. WALLACE, PASTOR



THE BRWEEKLY PRESS CHURCH DIRECTORY ADVERTISE YOUR

- Church Services and programs
- Streaming Live URL
- FREE first priority announcement place

STARTING AT ONLY \$1000 per week

For details call 225.775.2002

CAMPBOR MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
 8742 Scenic Highway – Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70807
 Telephone: (225) 775-4106 - Fax: (225) 615-8359
 Rev. Elenora Mackey Cushenberry, Th.D, Senior Pastor
 Rev. Tiffanie C. Postell, Associate Pastor

Sunday School	9:30 a.m.
Worship Service	10:55 a.m.
Youth Sunday & Contemporary Worship	2nd Sun. 8:00 a.m.
Bible Study	Wed. 12:00 Noon and 5:00 p.m.
Prayer Ministry	Tues 6:00 p.m.

Kingdom Life Family Center

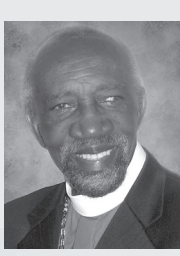
Sundays at 10am
 Wednesday Inspirational Service 7pm



• Youth ministry every Sunday and Wednesday
 • Women's Ministry 2nd Saturday's





BISHOP DESIGNATE DOROTHY DANIEL SENIOR PASTOR

8894 AIRLINE HWY. BATON ROUGE, LA 70815
www.kingdomlifecbr.com




NEW BIRTH FULL GOSPEL MINISTRIES
 1283 Rosenwald Road
 Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70807
 Bishop I. J. Payne, Pastor

'THE NEW LIFE' Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new. — 2 Corinthians 5:17

 SUNDAY WORSHIP Every Sunday at 11:30 A.M.	 SUNDAY SCHOOL Every Sunday at 9:30 A.M.
 HOLY COMMUNION Every 3rd Sunday at 11:30 A.M.	 HOUR OF POWER Every Friday at 12 NOON

Radio Broadcast 1st and 3rd Sunday WXOK at 8:00am

ST. JOHN BAPTIST CHURCH
Dr. Donald R. Ruth, Pastor
 820 New Rafe Mayer Road
 Baton Rouge, LA 70807
 Phone: 225-775-9756
 Web Address: saintjohnbc.org



Dr. Donald Ruth, Pastor

Worship Times:
 CrossWalk Classes: Sundays 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM
 Sunday Worship Experience: 11:00 AM
 Uplift Training: Thursdays 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM



NEW HOPE BAPTIST CHURCH
 5856 Greenwell Springs Road • Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70806
 Telephone: (225) 926-0246 • Facsimile: (225) 925-8022
 Toll Free: 888-700-6174
 Websites: www.newhopebr.com

Rev. Leo Cyrus Sr., Pastor
CHURCH SCHEDULE

Sunday Morning Worship	10:45 AM
Lord's Supper	3rd Sundays
Sunday School	9:30 AM
Prayer Service	Wed. @ 6:00 PM
Bible Study	Wed- @ 7:00 PM

Mission Statement: New Hope Baptist Church is a family of baptized believers who worship the Lord our God in spirit and in truth, teach the saved to reach the lost and minister to the needs of others, while encouraging one another through acts of love and living in obedience to Gods Word

BUSINESS

How convention centers, hotels, tourism will benefit from new COVID guidelines

BATON ROUGE, La. - Gov. John Bel Edwards announced Tuesday, April 27, that people can attend indoor and outdoor gatherings with looser restrictions.

Outdoor events won't have any capacity limitations. Indoor event centers, conferences, and sporting events can go to 75% capacity or 100% if people are masked.

This is huge news for hotels and tourism.

"That would really open up some barriers for us that's been closed for over a year now," said Scott Michelet, general manager of Crowne Plaza.

Michelet said this will help an industry that has struggled tremendously over the past year.

"It just continues to build each day. It's allowing us to bring in more employees. It's allowing us to bring more people back, which to guests, the city, and economic development, it's going to help with the city because we won't be the only ones hosting," Michelet explained.

Officials with Visit Baton Rouge say this will help stimu-

late the economy in more ways than one. President & CEO Paul Arrigo said the state has missed out on millions because of the pandemic.

"The last few months our weekend business has been stronger than our weekday business," said Arrigo. "Most conventions are held during the weekday and leisure travel weekends. So, we really see this helping our weekday business when we need business right now."

Officials expect things will pick up gradually over the next few months.

"I think the fall is going to turn around to as normal as we can expect. I think the remainder of the spring will do well and again, the travel, the pinned-up demand for travel, I think is going to affect us positively, absolutely," Arrigo added.

With this new sense of hope, they believe this will help lead us to a better tomorrow.

"So, it's going to be slow but it's happening. That's what's most important. It's happening," Michelet added.

FAITH from page 4

believe in. Like David facing the giant, sometimes God gives you a bigger-than-life problem so that He can show you His bigger-than-Goliath solution. Keep your eyes on Him, and keep the faith. He is faithful.

Dr. Tony Evans is the founder and senior pastor of Oak Cliff Bible Fellowship in Dallas, founder and president of The Urban Alternative and author of over 100 books, booklets and Bible studies. The first African American to earn a doctorate of theology from Dallas Theological Seminary, he has been named one

HALL OF FAME from page 4

Franklin and urban contemporary gospel, JDI artist Brent Jones' upcoming new CD "Nothing Else Matters" is the highly anticipated follow-up to "Open Your Mouth and Say Something", which topped the Billboard charts for over 54+ weeks, earning widespread critical acclaim and multiple award nominations including the 2019 Dove Award and 2019 Stellar Award.

of the 12 Most Effective Preachers in the English-Speaking World by Baylor University. Dr. Evans holds the honor of writing and publishing the first full-Bible commentary and study Bible by an African American. His radio broadcast, The Alternative with Dr. Tony Evans, can be heard on over 1,400 radio outlets daily and in more than 130 countries. Dr. Evans' sermons are also streamed and downloaded over 20,000,000 times annually.

Wells Fargo Expands Commitment to Black-owned Banks

By STACY M. BROWN,
NNPA Newswire Senior
National Correspondent

Wells Fargo & Company announced equity investments in five African American Minority Depository Institutions, or MDIs, as part of a 2020 pledge to invest up to \$50 million in Black-owned banks.

The banking giant said it is also offering access to a dedicated relationship team that can work with each MDI on financial, technological, and product development strategies to help each institution strengthen and grow.

"Wells Fargo is really committed to helping foster a more inclusive world, quite frankly, and we want to make sure that we are reaching into the economically disadvantaged communities as well as serving all of our customers and constituents across the footprint of the enterprise," Georgette "Gigi" Dixon, head of External Relations for Wells Fargo, told NNPA Newswire.

"This past year has been a terrible year for all of us, and it makes it extra-special that we can provide this investment at this time," Dixon, the 27-year banking veteran, stated.

"I've never seen this type of approach to ensuring the legacy like MDIs and, more specifically, Black-owned banks to be preserved and promoted nationally the way Wells Fargo is taking with this position," she continued.

Dixon added that Wells Fargo began working on the initiative one year before the pandemic and before the police killing of George Floyd in Minneapolis.

"We started meeting with each one of the MDIs, and we partnered with the National Banking Association," Dixon revealed.

"We had these meetings with the banks and said, 'let's walk through your strategic plan and the things you need to stabilize and or grow the institution so that you are better able to serve your



constituents.' When all these banks are thriving and, in a position, to grow, that helps everybody."

With that, Wells Fargo decided to provide what Dixon called an injection of equity that gave the MDIs opportunities to maintain their positions as majority owners.

Wells Fargo then created a relationship management team that focused on understanding what the MDIs needed.

Throughout the process, Wells Fargo remained engaged by providing resources from various factions of the banking organization.

"We reached across all our lines of business and said, 'we have these great MDIs who are sustaining, stabilizing, growing, and expanding, and we want to make ourselves available through subject matter expertise,'" Dixon recalled. "I'm so excited about this."

Wells Fargo's latest announce-

ment includes investments in Carver State Bank in Savannah, Georgia; Citizens Trust Bank in Atlanta; First Independence Bank in Detroit; Liberty Bank in New Orleans; and Unity National Bank in Houston.

The investments follow Wells Fargo's Feb. 8 announcement regarding its investments in six African American MDIs and take its total investment to 11 MDIs overall.

Additionally, Wells Fargo plans to make its nationwide ATM network available for customers of the 11 MDIs to use without incurring fees.

The company announced that its financial commitments are in the form of critical equity capital, which is foundational to the MDIs' ability to expand lending and deposit-taking capacity in their communities.

"The thing that impressed

us the most is that these are solid institutions," Dixon voiced.

"They all unequivocally, across-the-board, have a huge mission to provide financial help to their community and customers. These communities are disproportionately not in the banking system and are not necessarily taking full advantage of the wide range of financial products and services available.

"These MDIs are trusted, and that's important for all to realize that, when you have trust and credibility, you are going to be able to reach communities that others cannot. Their mission is focused, and it's all about the financial health in the community and about expanding access to financial products and services."

 **FRANK O's**
OVER 18 YEARS EXPERIENCE

PEST CONTROL

CONTROLLING PEST OF ALL TYPES: ROACHES • BED BUGS
ANTS • SPIDERS • FLEAS • RODENTS • BEES • TERMITES
OFFICE 225.772.1876
FRANKOPESTCONTROL@COX.NET

Super Cool Fashions Men's Wear

Huge Inventory! Check Out Our Sale!

NEW Location:
6180 Airline Hwy. - B.R., LA
Next to Burger King
225-357-5796

Suits • Hats
Shoes • Shirts

Mon. - Sat. 10-8
Sun. 12:30-6

Keith B. O'Connor
Owner/Operator

Remember the name...
Super Cool Fashions Men's Wear

BRWEEKLYPRESS BUSINESS/SERVICE DIRECTORY

We're
Open!

Bell's Lawn Service

Raymond Bell
Owner / Operator
Phone: 225-588-1427

Mowing
Edging
Blowing
Trimming
Flower Beds
Bush Hedging
Pressure Washing
General Clean-Up

Specializing In Various Lawn Care Service & Pressure Washing

LWS
LOUISIANA WASTE SYSTEM

225-929-9668 Phone
225-929-9669 Fax

2136 Dallas Dr. | Baton Rouge, LA 70806
www.louisianawaste.com

CJW Distributors, LLC
CHURCH FURNITURE • FLOORING

13937 Malbec Ave.
Baton Rouge, LA 70816

Ph: 225-292-0305
Cell: 225-405-3427
Fax: 225-292-0307

Email: cjlw7@att.net
www.cjwdistributors.com

CARL WOODS
President

 **WTAA ENGINEERS**
ENGINEERING CONSULTANTS AND CONSTRUCTION SUPPORT SERVICES

"Team Working For Success Through Quality Performance"

Civil Engineers Needed
W.T. Winfield, Manager
2622 North Street, Baton Rouge, LA
222-383-0822 or 1-866-324-WTAA Toll Free

Tayla Hickman

Tayla Maids
Cleaning Service

Residential & Commercial * General and Full Service
FREE ESTIMATE

225.572.7677 • taylahickman@gmail.com

Young Man's Lawn Service, LLC

A professional job, for a reasonable price
Free estimates. Commercial and Residential

Jeremiah Sadler
Owner
225-400-3862

TO ADVERTISE HERE, CALL THE BATON ROUGE WEEKLY PRESS AT 225.775.2002



Brought to you by the
U.S. Department of Health
and Human Services.



YOU CAN DISTANCE AND STILL BE SOCIAL.

Get vaccinated when it's your turn.

COVID doesn't have to keep us from connecting with the crew. Vaccines are here. But until enough of us are vaccinated, we need to keep playin' it smart. Mask up, socially distance, and avoid indoor gatherings with people you don't live with. We can still stay close - even when we're miles apart.

Learn more at [cdc.gov/coronavirus](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus)

