

The Weekly Press

SERVING BAKER, CENTRAL, AND ZACHARY

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 3-9, 2022

A PEOPLE'S PUBLICATION

VOL. 45 • NO.22 • FREE



NEWS PAGE 3
SUITS TARGET NEW ORLEANS VIRUS RULES, SOME AFFECT MARDI GRAS

NEWS PAGE 6
URBAN LEAGUE OF LOUISIANA LAUNCHES THE SCALE UP!

Judge rejects plea deal for man who killed Ahmaud Arbery



Ahmaud Arbery's mother Wanda Cooper-Jones, center, is surrounded by supporters after Superior Court Judge Timothy Walmsley sentenced Greg McMichael, his son, Travis McMichael, and a neighbor, William "Roddie" Bryan to life in prison in the Glynn County Courthouse, on Jan. 7, in Brunswick, Ga. (Stephen B. Morton / Associated Press)

A federal judge has rejected a plea agreement that would have averted a hate crimes trial for the man convicted of murder for shooting Ahmaud Arbery

BY STACY M. BROWN
NNPA Newswire
Senior National Correspondent

US District Judge Lisa G. Wood rejected the plea deal reached by prosecutors and Travis McMichael on federal hate crime charges in the murder of Ahmaud Arbery.

The deal would have allowed



This photo combo shows, from left, Travis McMichael, William "Roddie" Bryan, and Gregory McMichael during their trial at the Glynn County Courthouse in Brunswick, Ga. The men were convicted of murder in November 2021 for chasing Ahmaud Arbery in pickup trucks when he was out for a jog, cutting off the Black man's escape and fatally blasting him with a shotgun.

McMichael to serve his sentence in federal prison

"We respect the court's decision to not accept the sentencing terms of the proposed plea and to continue the hearing until Friday, Assistant

Attorney General Kristen Clarke for the Civil Rights Division said in a statement.

"The Justice Department takes seriously its obligation to confer with the Arbery family and their lawyers

both pursuant to the Crime Victim Rights Act and out of respect for the victim," Clark said.

Before signing the proposed

See **JUDGE**, on page 4

Louisiana governor denies he delayed probe in deadly arrest

"Nothing like that has ever happened because of me," he said. "That is not who I am as a person."



Gov. John Bel Edwards

BATON ROUGE, La. — Louisiana Gov. John Bel Edwards defiantly denied Tuesday that he delayed or interfered with investigations into the deadly 2019 arrest of Ronald Greene — and for the first time he characterized the actions of the troopers seen on video stunning, punching and dragging the Black man as racist.

"I can't imagine if Mr. Greene had been white he would have been treated that way," an emotional Edwards told a news conference. "We have to acknowledge racism when we see it. We have to call it what it is."

The governor rejected the idea that his response to the Greene case was driven by a tight reelection campaign that depended heavily on the Black vote. He said that notion is nonsensical because prosecutors had the Greene case well before his election.

"Nothing like that has ever happened because of me," he said. "That is not who I am as a person."

Edwards' remarks were the first since an Associated Press report last week that showed he had

been notified by state police within hours of Greene's May 2019 death that troopers engaged in a "violent, lengthy struggle," yet he kept quiet for two years as police told a much different story to the victim's family and in official reports; that Greene died from a crash following a high-speed chase.

Edwards stayed mostly silent on the case until last May when the AP obtained and published long-withheld body camera video showing what really happened on a dark roadside near Monroe: white troopers jolting Greene with stun guns, punching him in the face and dragging him by his ankle shackles as he pleaded for mercy and wailed, "I'm your brother! I'm scared! I'm scared!"

The governor's news conference came just minutes after a heated, closed-door meeting with the Legislative Black Caucus

See **ARREST**, on page 4

Councilmember Dr. Charles Vincent on Carter G. Woodson, the Origin of Black History Month

BAKER, La. — The City of Baker Communication Department spoke with 20 year veteran Councilmember Dr. Charles Vincent, Professor of History at Southern University. We are very appreciative that he took time from his busy schedule to discuss with us today the origin of Black History Month and the man who has been called the "father of black history", Carter Godwin Woodson.

Carter Godwin Woodson (December 19, 1875 – April 3, 1950) was an American historian, author, journalist, and the founder of the Association for the Study of African American Life and History. He was one of the first scholars to study the

history of the African diaspora, including African-American history. A founder of The Journal of Negro History in 1916 and in February 1926 he launched the celebration of "Negro History Week", the precursor of Black History Month.

Dr. Vincent directed us to Woodson's statement "If a race has no history, if it has no worthwhile tradition, it becomes a negligible factor in the thought of the world, and it stands in danger of being exterminated." as we discussed current events, the past and future, we must take care to not only acknowledge but to understand how our past shaped our present

See **BLACK HISTORY**, on page 7



WEATHER

MON. 02/07
Mostly Cloudy
High 32°.

TUE. 02/08
Partly Cloudy
High 32°.

WED. 02/09
Sunny
High 36°.

THUR. 02/10
Partly Cloudy
High 37°.

INDEX

- State & Local 2 & 3
- Religion 4
- Church Directory 4
- Business 5
- Business Directory 5
- Classifieds 5
- Other News 6

Public wants fair representation as Louisiana begins redistricting process

BY ALLISON KADLUBAR
LSU Manship School News Service

BATON ROUGE—Black residents and civil rights groups on Wednesday objected strongly to a Republican proposal to redraw the districts for the state Senate, pushing for at least two more districts that would likely elect Black senators.

The concerns arose as Senate President Page Cortez, R-Lafayette, pitched his proposal to the Senate and Governmental Affairs Committee, explaining that it was based on technical strategies to ensure that all districts match representation based on population.

But more than 80 people filled out cards signaling their opposition to Cortez's proposed outline, and 20 of them voiced their concerns to the committee.

Some supported an alternative proposal by Sen. Ed Price, D-Gonzales, who would redraw the maps to include two more districts than



The political distance was evident before a hearing yesterday as Black leaders and Senate President Page Cortez, R-Lafayette, engaged in discussions a few feet apart from each other. / Photo credit: Alex Tirado/LSU Manship School News Service

Cortez's plan—one in Shreveport and one near Baton Rouge—that would include a majority of Black voters.

The 2020 Census showed an increase in minority population in Louisiana and a small decrease in white population.

But Cortez's proposal, called Senate Bill 1, would leave the number of likely minority seats at 11 of the 39 in the Senate. Price's proposal would increase that number to 13 to align it with Census data showing that almost one-third of the state's population is Black.

"Because Senate Bill 1 basically preserves the status quo, we believe that it really doesn't increase the Black representation that we need," said Chris Kaiser, the advocacy director of the American Civil Liberties Union of Louisiana.

Constituents packed not only the hearing room but an additional overflow room.

See **PROCESS**, on page 7



Well Now



Ochsner Community Health Brees Family Center believes that everyone deserves world-class healthcare.

Get the care you need when you need it.

Services Offered:

- Primary Care
- Pediatrics
- Women's Services
- Behavioral Health Services
- Smoking Cessation
- Lab
- X-Ray

For an appointment call **866-977-3523** or go to **ochsner.org/communitybr**

**Committed to your health –
regardless of your ability to pay.**

**Ochsner Community Health
Brees Family Center**
7855 Howell Boulevard
Suite 320
Baton Rouge, LA 70807



BREES FAMILY CENTER

LOCAL & STATE

HUD Releases Federal Register Notice for \$600 Million Disaster Allocation; Restore Louisiana Opens Survey for Homeowners Affected by Hurricanes Laura and Delta

Gov. John Bel Edwards announced that the Louisiana Office of Community Development has opened the Restore Louisiana Homeowner Assistance Program survey for homeowners impacted by Hurricanes Laura and Delta. This comes as the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development just released the long-awaited Federal Register Notice, which establishes rules that govern disaster funding in Louisiana and several other states.

“With the release of the Federal Register Notice yesterday, and as we anticipate additional funds for the many storms that have impacted Louisiana over the past two years, we are taking steps to streamline the process for Louisiana residents—especially those in Southwest Louisiana impacted by Hurricanes Laura and Delta—who have waited so long for much-needed CDBG-DR funding,” Gov. Edwards said. “Launching the initial program survey now, well before the funds are available to us, allows homeowners to take the first step toward registering for program assistance, so we can begin implementing programs immediately upon receiving access to the federal funds for disaster recovery programs. We urge all homeowners impacted by Hurricanes Laura and Delta—and by other 2020 and 2021 disasters—including Hurricane Ida—to complete the program survey today.”

HUD allocated \$600 million in CDBG-DR funds to Louisiana, dedicated to recovery efforts for Hurricanes Laura and Delta. The Federal Register Notice, released Jan. 31, provides rules and regulations around how the state must spend its allocated funding

for disaster programming and in anticipation of this step, the state has developed a draft action plan detailing how it intends to use the allocated funds and will soon publish the plan for public comment and input. Information gathered from the Restore Louisiana survey will further inform program design and serve as the first step in providing assistance to eligible homeowners.

Restore Louisiana Program Survey

Although this funding is not available in Louisiana yet, the program is launching the survey to better understand the unmet needs of impacted homeowners prior to the full program launch. Homeowners who sustained FEMA-determined major/severe damage from Hurricanes Laura and Delta are encouraged to complete a survey.

Louisiana homeowners can complete the survey on any mobile device at restore.la.gov. They also can call 866.735.2001 for assistance.

This is not a first-come, first-served program. Louisiana homeowners have time to complete this survey. The survey should take less than 15 minutes and does not require documentation, although it is helpful for homeowners to have their FEMA registration number when completing the survey.

Qualified homeowners will be invited to submit a full application with further documentation when the official program launches, anticipated for late spring 2022. The state strongly discourages impacted homeowners from letting third

See HUD, on page 7

Suits target New Orleans virus rules, some affect Mardi Gras



Crowds are seen packing Bourbon Street on Mardi Gras day in New Orleans on Feb. 25, 2020. More than 100 people have joined a lawsuit against New Orleans' mayor and health director over COVID-19 restrictions that recently were extended to parade and other participants on Mardi Gras and during the season leading up to it. The 2020 festival was recognized as a super spreader that turned New Orleans into an early pandemic hot spot. Last season, parades were canceled and bars were shuttered in the city.

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — More than 100 people have joined a lawsuit against New Orleans' mayor and health director over COVID-19 restrictions that recently were extended to parade and other participants on Mardi Gras and during the season leading up to it.

The lawsuit against Mayor LaToya Cantrell and health director Jennifer Avegno targets mask and vaccination mandates, news

outlets reported.

It was filed Monday in state court by Alexandria attorney Jimmy Faircloth, who has lost federal court challenges to restrictions aimed at slowing the spread of COVID-19. The Times-Picayune / The New Orleans Advocates noted.

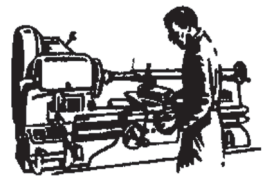
“Traditionally, we do not comment on active or pending litigation,” City Hall spokesman Beau Tidwell said during a news conference Tuesday. “However, in

this case I think it's worth noting that the guidelines that we put in place saved lives, full stop. The vaccine mandate and the mask requirements are going to remain in place throughout Mardi Gras.”

Fat Tuesday will be March 1 this year. The 2020 festival was later recognized as a super spreader that turned New Orleans into an early pandemic hot spot. Last season, parades were canceled and

See SUITS, on page 6

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 225-775-2000

Weekly Press

Newspaper is a 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., Suite C 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



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

2226 WOODDALE BLVD,
BATON ROUGE, LA 70806
PH: (225) 906-9350 • FAX (225) 906-9658
LACY@SELLSWITHLACY.COM
WWW.VIEWHOMESWITHLACY.NET

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

CHARLES C. McMANUS
ATTORNEY AT LAW

CALL ME ATTORNEY MCMANUS AND GET ALL YOU FACTUALLY DESERVE!

8520 Scotland Avenue, Suite C
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70807 **225.774.5771**

charlesmcmamus@mcmamuslawoffice.brcoxmail.com • www.charlesmcmamus.com

MANIFESTING THE DREAM: A Message from Mayor Darnell Waites

Yes, we do still have the dream! I know, I do. I believe you do too! As we move forward into Black History Month for 2022, I believe that it is imperative, now more than ever, for us to come together and continue to manifest the dream!

We are all aware that on August 28, 1963, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. gave, what is unquestionably, one of his most well-known speeches. One that has been quoted countless times, which has been a guide for us in carving the uphill path toward an equitable and equal society, which

gives us hope, fuels our determination, and lifts our spirits.

As I reflect on this speech, Dr. King gave one hundred years after the emancipation proclamation, in August 1963 at the Lincoln Memorial, I am renewed by the call to action in the words he said:



Mayor Darnell Waites

"When the architects of our great republic wrote the magnificent words of the Constitution and the Declaration of Independence, they were signing a promissory note to which every American was to fall heir.

This note was a promise that all men, yes, black men as well as white men, would be guaranteed the inalienable rights of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness."

Together, we face continued inequities in public education, neighborhood valuation, health outcomes,

and many other promises. These are facts we must not ignore. How we respond is how we succeed. This is why I reiterate another message Dr. King advocated In Loving Your Enemies. (Dexter Avenue Baptist Church, Montgomery, Alabama, November 17, 1957) and I quote:

"...Love is the only way. Jesus discovered that... Not only did Jesus discover it, even great military leaders discover that. One day as Napoleon came toward the end of his career and looked back across the years—... [he] stood back and looked across the years, and said: 'Alexander, Caesar, Charlemagne, and I have built great empires. But upon what did they depend? They depended upon force. But long ago Jesus started an empire that depended on love, and even to this

day millions will die for him.'"

As we face the challenges that stir our emotions and reflect on Dr. King's words of wisdom on how to channel these emotions, I urge you to become an active participant in our community.

Community is an enormous source of strength and opportunity to connect, be heard and make the difference you want to make. I am calling to each of you, to recognize the moment we are in both as a city and a nation; to see the issues we face locally and nationally.

To recognize the opportunities, we have to create the world, we wish to live in, and recognize that change starts by creating the city we want to live in. The City of Baker has great opportunities now and more ahead. Every person living here is

integral to our future success. You are important!

We have ongoing, growing interest in the community in being involved in all aspects of bettering the city. We are blessed to have diverse, talented, hard-working people who are dedicated to the vision of building this city into the best possible Baker it can be! We are blessed to be one of the very few cities in the entire United States which has Black leadership for a majority Black community.

And lastly, if we come together and act on one accord, we can move mountains. As we work toward a collective dream for Baker and the national dream of equity and equality, I ask you to join me because I still have the dream!

ARREST from page 1

that at times erupted with members cursing over his muted response to Greene's deadly arrest.

Some caucus members asked why Edwards did not speak out or follow up more forcefully when informed of the circumstances.

"A man died in custody. You don't ask his name? You don't ask what happened? You don't get any facts?" one of the caucus members said, according to audio of the meeting obtained by the AP.

"This matter will not go away until there is an acknowledgement that there was a cover-up," said another.

Edwards at one point said, "I am not going to tell you everything

that has happened with the state police since I've been governor has been perfect."

"They're alleging that I have been personally involved in these things and I have not," Edwards told the caucus.

In his news conference, the governor also denied the state House speaker's contention that he sought to discourage a legislative inquiry into the case last year by blaming Greene's death on a car wreck.

Edwards directly contradicted Rep. Clay Schexnayder's account that Edwards told him just that in June and called his relationship with the powerful Republican House speaker "especially strained."

Schexnayder told AP outside the House chamber Tuesday that

"I stand by my comment." Asked whether his relationship with Edwards is "strained" he said, "I don't have any ill will toward the governor."

Leaders of Louisiana's GOP-led legislature have vowed to take action against Edwards over his handling of the Greene case. The drama is playing out amid a more than two-year-old federal civil rights investigation into the deadly encounter and whether police brass obstructed justice to protect the troopers who arrested Greene.

Edwards expressed private frustration with the amount of time it has taken federal authorities to file charges in Greene's death.

"Are they ever going to come out and have a charge?" the governor asked during his meeting with the lawmakers, adding he believed the troopers' treatment of Greene had been criminal "from the very first time I saw" footage of it in October 2020.

Edwards at times struck a dejected tone during the meeting, telling the lawmakers: "This is the worst. I can't imagine a worse day in my life than today."

"I apologize with the core of my soul that we haven't made the progress over the last year that I hoped to have made and that I thought we were making with state police," he said. "I am more disappointed in me than probably you are."

JUDGE from page 1

agreement reflecting the defendants' confessions to federal hate crimes charges, the Civil Rights Division consulted with the victims' attorneys, Clark continued.

"The Justice Department entered the plea agreement only after the victims' attorneys informed me that the family was not opposed to it," she said.

Earlier, McMichael had agreed to plead guilty to a single hate crime charge in exchange for the prosecution recommending he serve 30 years in federal prison.

Gregory and Travis McMi-

chael, along with William "Roddie" Bryan were convicted in state court of murder in early January.

The McMichaels were sentenced to life in prison without the possibility for parole. Bryan was sentenced to life with the possibility of parole.

Arbery's mother, Wanda Cooper-Jones, expressed anger and publicly lashed out over the proposed plea deal.

"Please listen to me," Cooper-Jones told the judge. "Granting these men their preferred conditions of confinement would defeat me. It gives them one last chance to spit in my face after murdering my son."

Stay Connected with What is Happening in Baker!

*text message rates apply

Text: LABAKER UPDATES To 468311

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

NOLA LENDING GROUP
A Division of Fidelity Bank
NOLALending.com

Fidelity
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

Member **FDIC**

THIS MONTH [FEBRUARY] @ BREC

CAMP-IN: LET'S GET CRAFTY
Lovett Road Park
Feb. 5 | 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

GEAUX RED GALA
Jefferson Highway Park
Feb. 5 | 7 - 10 p.m.

LEARN YOUR TELESCOPE
Highland Road Park Observatory
Feb. 5 | 3:30 - 7:30 p.m.

SCIENCE ACADEMY
Highland Road Park Observatory
Feb. 5 + 12 + 26 | 10 a.m. - noon

FIRST FREE SUNDAYS
Magnolia Mound
Feb. 6 | 1 p.m. + 2 p.m. + 3 p.m.

FAMILY GAME NIGHT
Independence Community Park
Feb. 11 + 25 | 6 - 8 p.m.

COMITE CLASSIC
Comite River Park
Feb. 12 | 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

I HEART MY ZOO DAY
BREC's Baton Rouge Zoo
Feb. 12 | 9:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.

ART UNWIND: CLAY SWEETIES!
Drusilla Lane Park
Feb. 12 | 10:30 a.m. - noon

TEEN POP UP & UNPLUG
Independence Community Park
Feb. 12 | 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.

PLUS NIGHT
Highland Road Park Observatory
Feb. 12 | 7 - 10 p.m.

SUMMER CAMP REGISTRATION BEGINS MARCH 5! brec.org/summercamp

SUNSHINE SOCIAL: PIRATES + PRINCESSES
Jefferson Highway Park
Feb. 18 | 6 - 9 p.m.

SPRING ESPORTS TOURNAMENT SERIES: SUPER SMASH BROS. ULTIMATE
Red Oaks Park
Feb. 19 | 12:30 p.m.

10 + UNDER TENNIS TOURNAMENT
Highland Road Community Park Tennis Center
Feb. 19 | 8:30 a.m. - noon

SATURDAY MORNING STUDIO: HOMETOWN AMERICA
Milton J. Womack Park
Feb. 19 | 10:30 a.m. - noon

STEM EXPANSION
Highland Road Park Observatory
Feb. 19 | 3:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

HOMESCHOOL DAY
North Sherwood Forest Community Park
Feb. 24 | 9 a.m. - noon

SOLAR VIEWING
Highland Road Park Observatory
Feb. 26 | noon - 2 p.m.

SWAMP ART SPECTACULAR: MEET THE ARTIST RECEPTION
Bluebonnet Swamp Nature Center
Feb. 27 | 2:30 - 4:30 p.m.

MARDI GRAS CAMP
Various Locations
Feb. 28 - March 2
7:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

BREC

BREC.ORG/THISMONTH

BREC does not discriminate on the basis of race, creed, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, religion, veteran status or sexual orientation in its programs and activities.

RELIGION

BEING EMBRACED BY GOD

BY TAFFI DOLLAR
World Changers Church

We live in a world that knows nothing about the nature and character of God and the love He has for us. When most people think about God, they conjure up images of a frightening deity who either hates them or is angry with them; this is heartbreaking and just plain wrong. He's not a vengeful God waiting for us to make a mistake so He can have a reason to condemn and punish us. He's the essence of love and wants very much to enfold us in His arms and embrace us.

We all share the same basic needs for love and happiness, but most people don't know where to find them. The world only offers substitutes that leave a person feeling empty and unfulfilled inside. By contrast, God stands ready to offer us what the world can't. He wants only good things for us. "For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the Lord, thoughts of peace and not

of evil, to give you a future and a hope" (Jeremiah 29:11, NKJV).

God's kind of love goes much further, wider, and deeper than human love. Humans love cautiously, conditionally, and with reservations; God's love is unconditional, eternal, and has no boundaries. God loves us so much, He sacrificed His own Son on our behalf so that He could have a relationship with us. "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved" (John 3:16, 17).



Creflo Dollar

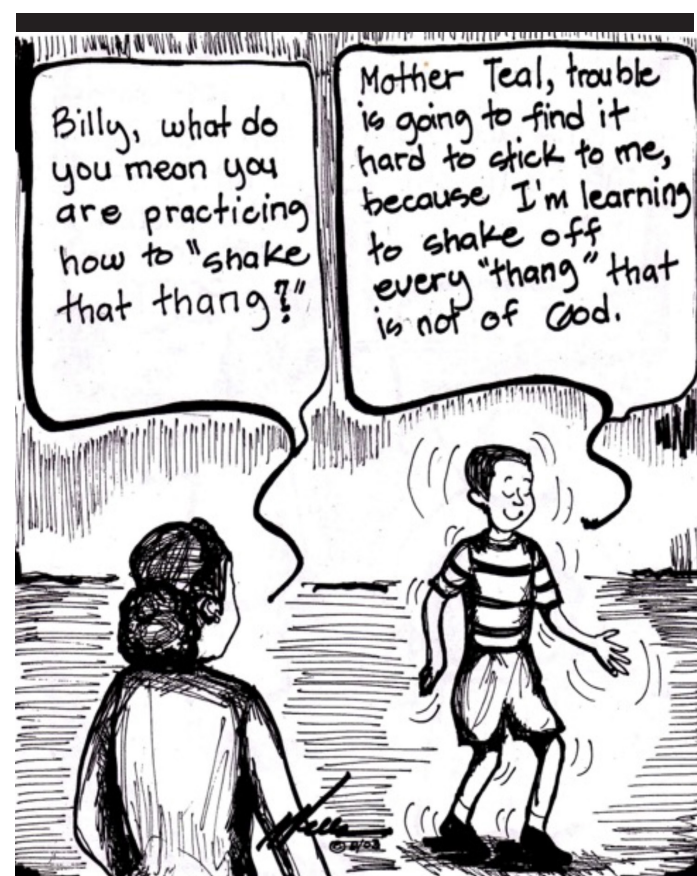
Jesus, who is the perfect image of His Father, died a painful death on a cross for us; He then rose from the dead with the promise that we can have access to the same eternal life in heaven that He has. Out of love for us, He sealed the promises He made with His own blood; we have His Word that He'll be faithful and true, unlike any fair-weather friend. "For though a thousand generations may pass away, he is still true to his word. He has kept every promise he made to Abraham and to Isaac. His promises have become an everlasting covenant to Jacob, as a decree to Jacob" (Psalm 105:8-10, TPT). God is exceedingly, abundantly good. Believers can be confident that they will inherit the same loving promises that Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob received.

God wants to be with us, just like earthly parents enjoy being with their children. Our acceptance by faith of what Jesus did for us on the cross to save us from our sins makes us God's children. "...But

ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father. The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God: And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ..." (Romans 8:15-17). As His sons and daughters, we also receive peace, joy, prosperity, safety, forgiveness, wisdom, and victory in life. These are things the world can't receive because it doesn't know God.

When we accept the love God has for us, He'll fill us with it until it runs over, spills out, and splashes onto others. In this way, we'll experience—perhaps for the first time in our lives—what it's like to receive and give His love. When we're embraced by Him, we'll definitely know it. Our heavenly Father is simply waiting for us to reach out to Him.

THE MOTHER'S BEANCH



Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us. Hebrews 12:1



I Am The Lord Who Heals You

By Gayle Young, HHP, MA, JD

There is a problem, that needs, and solution and I have it. And I want to share it with you.

At 58 years old, I am glad I didn't have a choice about my religion. As I matured, I realized that the decision wasn't to be COGIC or not; it was whether I would choose God or not. And, because I was torn with this very important decision, I floundered for many years. I don't want that to happen to you.

My mother would always say until you choose God, it is going to cost you. She said it like the hex Celie put on Mister. I know y'all remember this.... "Until you do right by me everything you think about is gonna crumble!"



Dr. Gayle Young

Ms. Celie and my Momma were right. My Mom didn't hex me, but she spoke a word and it vexed me all my life.

In the mid-2000s when I was finally getting my mind and soul right, I lay dying. I said this would be the last time, I am never leaving God again. I began to see God as the true healer. I needed a cure for me, my mind, my soul. And it was imperative that I understood what healing really meant.

Folks, God had me at Exodus 15:26. And, said if you will diligently

hearken to the Voice of the LORD your God, and will do that which is right in His Sight, and will give ear to His commandments, and keep all His statutes, I will put none of these diseases upon you, which I have brought upon the Egyptians: for I am the LORD Who heals you."

In this new year, Black History Month, Heart Health month, my call to you is to take God at His Word and let Him be your healer, your deliverer from the worst sicknesses of all - un-

forgiveness and heartache.

We are the problem that needs a solution and God is it.

This month we are going to dive into heart health, the physical healing that needs to take place to heal your cardiomyopathy, high blood pressure, and congestive heart failure. We will talk about what to eat, how to eat it, and when to eat it.

But right now, I want to leave you with this thought - what you don't forgive, the pain that you always nurse is not swaddling your heart, it

is breaking it.

Family let's pray for each other's divine health. Father, right now I thank you that on Calvary Jesus took on all my sicknesses and diseases. We thank you for your son who paid the price for our salvation. We commit to walking in the revelation of what He did so that we will experience divine health.

I negate the ability of the enemy to send negativity to my mind

See UNTIL, on page 7

BRWEEKLYPRESS CHURCH & PLACES TO WORSHIP

DIRECTORY

Reach Thousands Weekly. Call 225-775-2002 to take advantage of our special rates

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



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

CAMPBOR MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
8742 Scenic Highway - Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70807
Telephone: (225) 775-4106 • Fax: (225) 615-8359
Rev. Kermit Curtis "KC" Roberson, M.Div., MPA Senior Pastor

Sunday School	9:30 a.m.
Worship Service	1st, 3rd, & 4th Sundays 10:55 a.m.
Contemporary Worship	2nd & 5th Sunday 8:00 a.m. (And any Sunday that falls on a Holiday)
Bible Study	Wednesday, Men's Mid-Day Study 12:00 p.m.
Disciple Bible Study	Wednesday 5:30 p.m.
Prayer Ministry	Tuesday 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.kingdomlifebr.com

For details call 225.775.2002

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

BRWEEKLYPRESS BUSINESS/SERVICE DIRECTORY



FOR BUSINESS

**PANDEMIC AND HURRICANE RECOVERY
SPECIALS CALL TO RESERVE YOUR SPACE
IN THE BRWEEKLYPRESS
BUSINESS DIRECTORY 225.775.2002 TODAY!**

BRIDGET MONTGOMERY
Certified Tax Accountant

LMGC
Accounting & Finance Group LLC

4910 Monticello Blvd., Ste C
Baton Rouge, LA 70814
Cell PH: 407.630.2947

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

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: cjw7@att.net
www.cjwdistributors.com

CARL WOODS
President

Young Man's Lawn Service, LLC

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

Jeremiah Sadler
Owner
225-400-3862

Tayla Hickman

Tayla Maids
Cleaning Service

Residential & Commercial * General and Full Service
FREE ESTIMATE

225.572.7677 • taylahickman@gmail.com

Lordes Insurance Group

Gloria Brandon
Independent Insurance Agent
Multi-State

Cell: 225.247.6216 | Fax: 985.259.8848
gbrandon@lordesig.com
www.lordesig.com

Life-Health Annuities-Medicare Options

CYNTHIA M. DUNN,
REALTOR

INNERSPACE
Properties, Inc.

STEP BY STEP
IT'S DUNN

2900 Westford Dr, #401
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70827
Cell: 225.302.4598 • Hm: 225.752.5440
Email: cynthiadunn@innerspacebr.com

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

BUSINESS

Urban League of Louisiana Launches the Scale Up! Louisiana Initiative for Businesses in New Orleans' Lower 9th Ward

NEW ORLEANS -- Today, the Urban League of Louisiana, in partnership with the Lower 9th Ward Economic Development District, Wells Fargo, and Louisiana Economic Development, announces its fifth cohort of Scale Up! Louisiana for small businesses in the New Orleans Lower 9th Ward.

Scale Up! Louisiana is a statewide entrepreneurial education intensive hosted by the Urban League of Louisiana's Center for Entrepreneurship & Innovation. The program provides early-stage entrepreneurs with the education and resources that are critical to creating a scalable and profitable business. This is a transition program that guides existing, early-stage small business owners in the L9 towards becoming high-growth, sustainable ventures.

"The Lower Ninth Ward Economic Development District (L9EDD) is thrilled to partner with the Urban League to host the Scale Up! program for entrepreneurs in the Lower Ninth Ward," said Jean Morris, Chairperson of the Lower Ninth Ward Economic Development District. "We are excited to bring business growth opportuni-



ties, employment and economic development to the area. Businesses will receive planning strategies, implementation of processes to be sustainable, and discover innovative solutions to improve the quality of life for all."

In response to COVID-19-related safety measures, this modular program will be delivered completely online via 11, 3-hour web sessions, and 5 pre-recorded videos. Participants will receive technical assistance and other support services throughout the program.

"The Urban League of Louisiana is excited to host Scale Up! Louisiana in the Lower 9th Ward", said Judy Reese Morse, President

and CEO of the Urban League of Louisiana. "The Lower 9th Ward is one of New Orleans' most treasured communities and supporting our small businesses in the area is a strategic imperative to the economic growth of the New Orleans economy. We recognize the need for small businesses in the Lower 9 to focus on scalability, profitability, and resilience. The Urban League of Louisiana is committed to providing the education, support services and resources needed to scale to the next level."

Interested entrepreneurs must apply for the Scale Up! Louisiana program by completing an online application. Eligible entrepreneurs must meet the following criteria:

- Must be located in the Lower 9th Ward
- Have at least \$40,000 in documented revenue from the previous tax year
- Been in business for at least 2 years
- Have at least 2 employees (including the owner)
- Must have a desire to scale or expand their business operations

Up to 30 business owners from the area will be selected for the spring 2022 cohort. Participants will be chosen based on 1.) the applicant's ability to meet the eligibility requirements; 2.) the growth potential of the business; and 3.) the applicant's desire to learn and grow in an interactive, online environment.

Classes begin on Tuesday, March 8, 2022, and will be held online via GoToTraining. The application deadline is Friday, February 18, 2022 at 5:00p.m. CST and must be submitted online at <https://tinyurl.com/yndfsjna>. To learn more about the Urban League of Louisiana's Center for Entrepreneurship & Innovation, please visit www.urbanleaguela.org/cei.

SUITS from page 3

bars were shuttered in the city. This year, masks are required in bars, restaurants and other public spaces. And children as young as 5 must show proof of vaccination or a recent negative test for the virus to get into indoor public areas.

The new lawsuit accuses Cantrell and Avegno, who often have gone beyond state restrictions, of taking "authoritarian actions under the pretext of an emergency without end," the newspaper reported.

The plaintiffs, mostly from New Orleans and neighboring Jefferson Parish, want Judge Robin Giarrusso to halt the requirements while the lawsuit is in court.

They say the mandates have kept them out of sporting events, restaurants, and other activities, and have caused social, economic and cultural harm to the city,



WDSU-TV reported.

Cantrell and Avegno have said the restrictions are needed to slow the spread of the virus. Most of Cantrell's challengers in the November 2021 election argued that she went too far, but she won

easily, the newspaper noted.

The lawsuit claims the mayor's rules violate the state constitutional rights to privacy and equal protection. The vaccine mandate is "denying access to public accommodations and threatening criminal prosecution as a means to coerce consent to medical treatment," it argues.

Faircloth was joined in the lawsuit by local lawyers Blake Arcuri and Laura Cannizzaro Rodrigue

"The people of New Orleans and our children have endured nearly two years of unprecedented control from our so-called city leaders," Rodrigue said in a statement. "What started as a temporary means to protect the community from unknown risks of a virus has turned into a circus of mandates that no longer make sense to any rational person. Enough is enough."

Her father, former Orleans Parish District Attorney Leon Cannizzaro, is now a top aide to

state Attorney General Jeff Landry, who tweeted on Tuesday that he is "closely monitoring" the suit and "exploring legal avenues to support the rule of law and the freedom of citizens."

Faircloth represented bar owners who lost challenges to Gov. John Bel Edwards' restrictions in 2020. In early January, the Louisiana Supreme Court rejected his two challenges to a vaccine mandate imposed by the state's largest health care system.

Faircloth did not immediately respond to The Associated Press' emailed query on Tuesday about whether those losses influenced the venue for his latest lawsuit.

He wasn't involved in the case in which a federal judge ruled Friday that students who won an exemption to their medical school's vaccine mandate still had to comply with its mask, testing and travel policies.

SUITS • HATS • SHOES • SHIRTS • FASHION ACCESSORIES

EVERYDAY SALE

SUPER COOL *fashions*

A BRAND OF STYLE AND SOPHISTICATION

Visit The Syle Master
"Mr. Super Cool
Keith B. O'Connor"

6180 Airline Hwy
Baton Rouge, La. 70805
225.357.5796

Classifieds

PLACE AN AD

Sell your stuff, advertise jobs or a place to rent. **You can do it ALL here!**

For legals, please call the Classified Department at (225) 225.775.2002 or email brweeklypress@yahoo.com

- SELL YOUR CAR - 1 month for \$80
- ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS - 1 month for \$150
- ADVERTISE ON 247praiserradio.com

FIND IT ALL IN THE CLASSIFIEDS • 225.775.2002

CLASSIFIEDS	CLASSIFIEDS	CLASSIFIEDS	CLASSIFIEDS
<p>CHURCH CUSTODIAN</p> <p>Full time church custodian with benefits. Salary depends on experience. Background/drug test will be required. Send resume to Gloryland Baptist Church, 6745 Greenwell Springs Road, Baton Rouge, La. 70805 or email to: jgreen.gbc@gmail.com.</p> <p>NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE.</p>	<p>CALL 225-775-2002 TO RESERVE YOUR AD TODAY!</p>	<p>Social Media</p> <p>The BRWeekly Press looking for hire social media and emarketing team member. Please call The BR Weekly Press at 225.775.2002</p> <p>The Weekly Press</p>	

Suzanne Hamilton named Interim Executive Director of the Capital Area Family Justice Center

The Capital Area Family Justice Center Board of Directors is excited to announce that Suzanne Hamilton will be the Interim Executive Director of CAFJC beginning February 1, 2022.

Suzanne is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker with specialized experience in working with victims of intimate partner violence. She holds a Master of Social Work degree from LSU and has served in many leadership roles during her career. As the Domestic Violence Victim Assistance Coordinator at the East Baton Rouge District Attorney's Office, Suzanne brings her understanding of the importance of supporting and empowering victims of domestic and dating violence throughout their journey to becoming survivors. She recognizes the impact that true partnership and collaboration provides to help victims

of intimate partner violence make the difficult transition from abuse to living a life free from violence. During this time, Suzanne will continue to provide assistance to the victims in her existing cases with the District Attorney's Office.

The Board is excited to welcome Suzanne as our Interim Executive Director and looks forward to working with her to continue to grow the services provided at CAFJC. We are confident that Suzanne's passion and experience will help us continue CAFJC's mission of providing necessary services and resources through coordinated service delivery to victims and families whose lives have been impacted by intimate partner violence. Suzanne will serve as the interim executive director until a permanent director is hired.

HUD from page 3

parties help complete surveys for a fee. There is no charge to complete the survey, and residents should not give personal information to any third parties.

Homeowners who are not sure whether they sustained major/severe damage from Hurricanes Laura or Delta, or those who would like to appeal a previous FEMA determination on their damage level, should contact FEMA at 1.800.621.3362 or visit fema.gov/assistance/individual/after-applying/appeals.

HUD Federal Register Notice and Required Action Plan

In response to HUD's release of the Federal Register Notice, the state must publish an action plan, detailing how it intends to use the allocated funding, for HUD approval before the state can access and distribute the funding. In an

effort to access funds as soon as possible, the state has proactively drafted the action plan, conducted outreach in impacted communities and launched the Restore Louisiana program survey.

OCD is reviewing the rules and requirements established by the Federal Register Notice and will update the action plan to be released for public comment and HUD approval as soon as possible. The action plan will also seek approval for other recovery programs to address the deficit in affordable rental housing, as well as small business recovery programs.

Following HUD's approval of the action plan, they will make the allocated funds available to the state, and OCD can begin providing funds to impacted residents through Restore Louisiana and additional programs.

For more information about Restore Louisiana, visit restore.la.gov.

BLACK HISTORY from page 1

and guides us into the future. As we look to our leaders, past and present, drawing upon their examples for inspiration we see they embody the American ideal of "all men are

created equal". They remind us that we all have the same vision for this nation and ourselves of "life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness" therefore, we, as Americans, have far more in common than that which we think separates us.

Black History Month opens with Howard, Southern University and other HBCUs receiving bomb threats

At least six historically black colleges and universities received bomb threats Monday morning, disrupting campus operations and launching police investigations.

Southern University and A&M, Howard University, Bethune-Cookman University, Albany State University, Bowie State University and Delaware State University all received bomb threats this morning, according to campus spokespeople or social media posts.

CNN has reached out to the FBI for comment.

Five schools continue to investigate the threat and remain either on lockdown or have issued shelter in place orders.

Southern University and A&M College received a bomb threat this morning, according to a statement from Southern in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

Classes were canceled and students are to remain in their dorm rooms until an all-clear is issued.



Southern University

University operations were also suspended until further notice.

A Washington Metropolitan Police Department spokesperson confirmed to CNN that at Howard University the "scene has been cleared with no hazardous materi-

als found."

It's the second time this month that a number of HBCUs received bomb threats that in some cases led schools to relocate students, faculty and staff while searches were performed.

On January 5, at least three HBCUs, including Howard University, received bomb threats. Nothing was found on any of the campuses that received threats, university officials said.

PROCESS from page 1

Committee members and minority advocates said this Cortez's plan reduced the opportunities for Black representation in the senate.

"We, as people of color, are a third of the state, and I think we should be heard," said Shreveport Reverend Aziel McLain. He said that Louisiana is "shaped like a boot proudly, but, statistically, we are at the bottom of the shoe."

Price, who sits on the governmental affairs committee, said that "if the population of the minority is increasing and the population of

the majority is decreasing, then why shouldn't we look at the possibility of adding another minority district?"

Applause erupted after Price's statement. But Cortez said he did not think that this approach was legitimate as data shows a very low voter turnout from minority voters in rural areas.

"The minority is going to have a higher number of voting age population, but they won't vote," Cortez said. "They won't elect the candidate of their choice, and that's a violation of the Voting Rights Act."

Cortez said the Senate would have to gerrymander districts to create more minority-majority ones.

At one point, Cortez also commented that the redistricting process is "the ultimate exercise of the herding of cats, but it's the only time that all the cats care."

Price debated argued that the federal Voting Rights Act specifically addresses giving voters the opportunity to elect their desired senators.

"Opportunity is all we can ask for," Price said. "It is up to the person in that district to get out there and make sure that its constituents come out and vote."

However, Sen. Sharon Hewitt, the chairwoman of the committee, reminded the members and constitu-

ents that opportunity can be defined differently.

The idea of equal opportunity for minority voters continued to arise as frustrated advocates demanded more representation for minorities, warning the senators of lawsuits and the possibility of leaving the state altogether.

"If the state fails to draw maps equitably, I will probably consider leaving the state," said Cody Jones, LSU's Black Student Union President. "My peers and I can't take these unfair practices any longer."

UNTIL from page 5

about my health. As I think... I am! I decree that I am healed, whole, delivered, set free and I am walking in supernatural divine health in the name of Jesus.

I will walk in divine health all the days of my life. No weapon of infirmity, no weapon of submitting to my desires for foods that do not nourish me, will prosper against me. Any attacks on my health will be minor and temporary.

Father help me to understand

the importance of exercise, rest, and organic whole foods as nourishment for my temple, where my purpose is housed. Lord, I bind the spirit of slack, laziness, and procrastination that keep me doing what does not support my health. Obesity is broken off my bloodline, and excessive weight gain is not an option. I speak the life of God to my spirit, soul, and body. I commit to walking in the revelation that my body is the temple of the Holy Ghost.

I will not put anything in it, on it, or around it that would grieve the Holy Spirit of God. I decree that my diet will be an instrument to main-

tain the good health that you have promised me. I surrender my health completely to the Holy Spirit. Father, deliver me from bad habits that compromise my health.

Reveal to me those things about dieting, vitamins, and exercise that will help me stay healthy in the name of Jesus. I renounce negative eating habits that would hinder good health. Bad habits that would cause high blood pressure, strokes, heart attacks, cancer, and any other spirits of early death cannot flow in my life. I take authority over every infirmity of mental and emotional imbalances, unforgiveness, mean-

ness, immaturity.

I declare that I am healthy from the top of my head to the bottom of my feet. I will live a full life according to the Word of God. Father teach me to believe You for my healing. I thank you for your healed relationships and restored faith in you and others. Lord, I believe that You created medicine and You bless the hands of the doctors, but You are the healer, the deliverer, and the keeper of life. Amen. (Prayer adapted from "Prayers that Bring Change", Kimberly Daniels.

FAÇADE & SIGNAGE IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

Let Baton Rouge North Economic Development District

HELP CHANGE THE FACE OF YOUR BUSINESS!

BEFORE

AFTER

Façade & Signage Improvement Program

The Façade & Signage Improvement Program (FSIP) is a matching grant program designed to aid enhancements of building fronts in the Baton Rouge North Economic Development District boundaries. Once approved, BRNEDD will match (that is, pay 50%) up to \$5,000 of the owner's costs for upgrades or improvements to their business facades and signage.

FUNDING WILL BE AWARDED
On a First Come, First Serve Basis

BUSINESSES MUST BE LOCATED
Within the BRNEDD Boundaries

50/50 MATCHING GRANTS
Up to \$5,000

NON-RESIDENTIAL
Property Owners

BRNEDD
P.O. Box 53187
Baton Rouge, LA 70892
225-921-3554
facadegrant@brnedd.com
www.brnedd.com/facadegrant

Office # 225-400-6467
Elite Realty & Investments Group LLC
Licensed in Mississippi and Louisiana

LET US LIST & SELL YOUR HOME

ATTENTION INVESTORS!
LET US PROFESSIONALLY MANAGE YOUR PROPERTIES

Turning Dreams Into Realty

Irish Griffin-Potts
Broker/Owner
Direct: 225-938-1781
igriffin.broker@gmail.com

Carl Newlin,
Professional Realtor
225-485-0860 Direct
cnewlinllc@att.net

WE HAVE THE TOOLS TO FIGHT OMICRON

As the Omicron variant continues to spread, we must remember that we have more tools than ever to slow the spread of COVID-19.

If you are not yet vaccinated, you are unprotected. Vaccines protect you against severe outcomes from COVID-19, like hospitalization and death. According to data from the CDC, unvaccinated people are 10 times more likely to be infected and 20 times more likely to die due to COVID compared to a fully vaccinated person with a booster shot.

- ✓ **Get vaccinated** and, if eligible, get boosted.
- ✓ **Wear a mask** in all public indoor settings, all indoor private spaces with people who are not in your immediate household, and outdoors when not able to social distance.
- ✓ **Limit exposure** to those outside your household.
- ✓ Practice **social distancing**.
- ✓ **Stay home** if you are not feeling well.
- ✓ **Wash your hands** with soap and water.
- ✓ **Get tested** if you're experiencing COVID-19 symptoms or if you have been recently exposed to someone with COVID-19.

**LET'S GIVE
COVID THE
BOOT IN 2022!**



BRING BACK
LOUISIANA

LOUISIANA
DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH