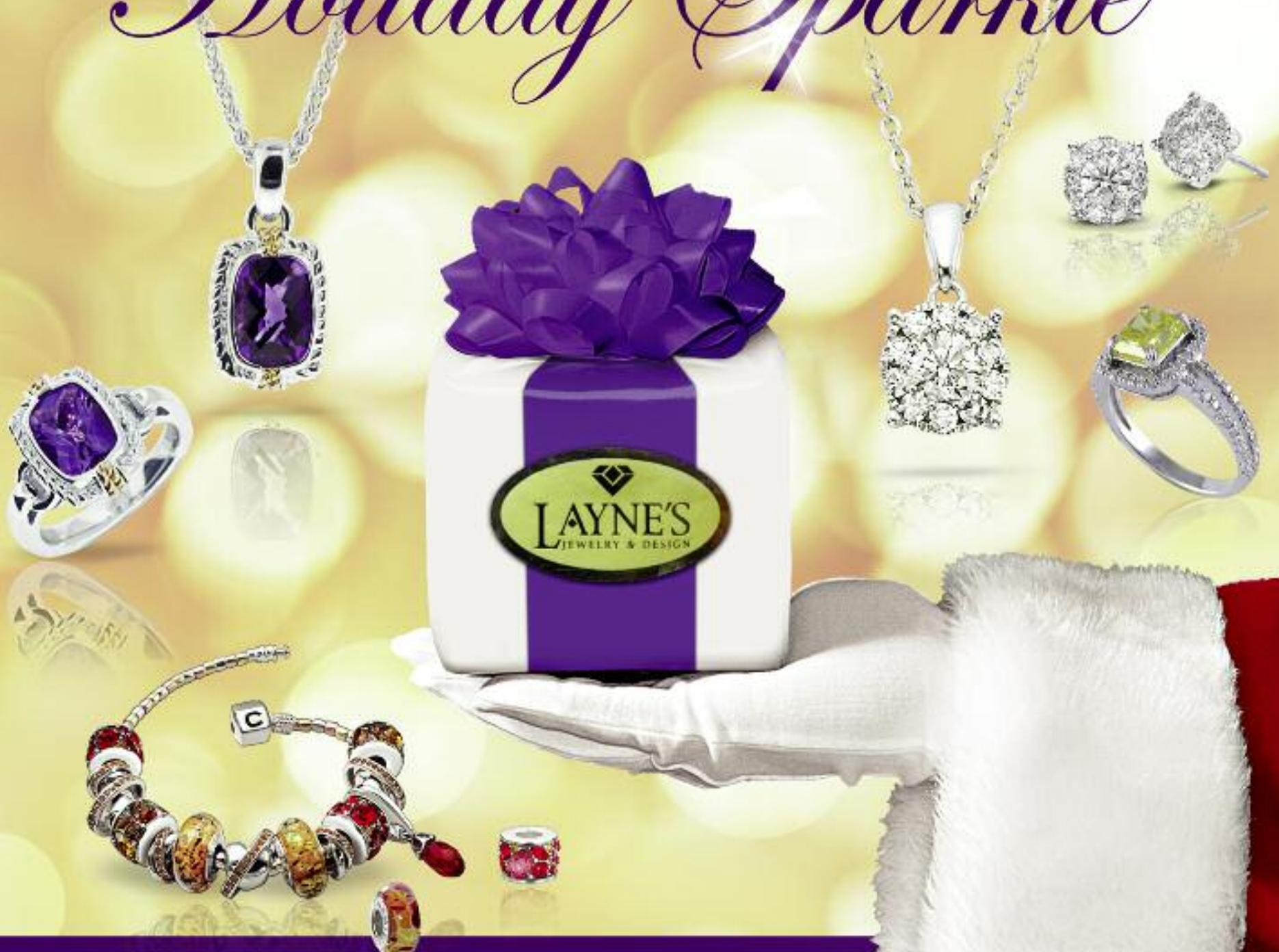


COMPLIMENTARY

# Ascension MAGAZINE

DECEMBER 2013, VOL. 11 ISSUE 10

## Make the Holiday Sparkle



**LAYNE'S**  
JEWELRY & DESIGN



## ATLAS DERMATOLOGY

provides general and surgical dermatology services. From diagnosing and treating skin rashes to the surgical removal of skin lesions, Dr. Massengale and his staff strive to exceed your expectations with every visit. The care of your skin is on our shoulders.



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AFTER

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BEFORE



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## This month with *Meredith Conger*

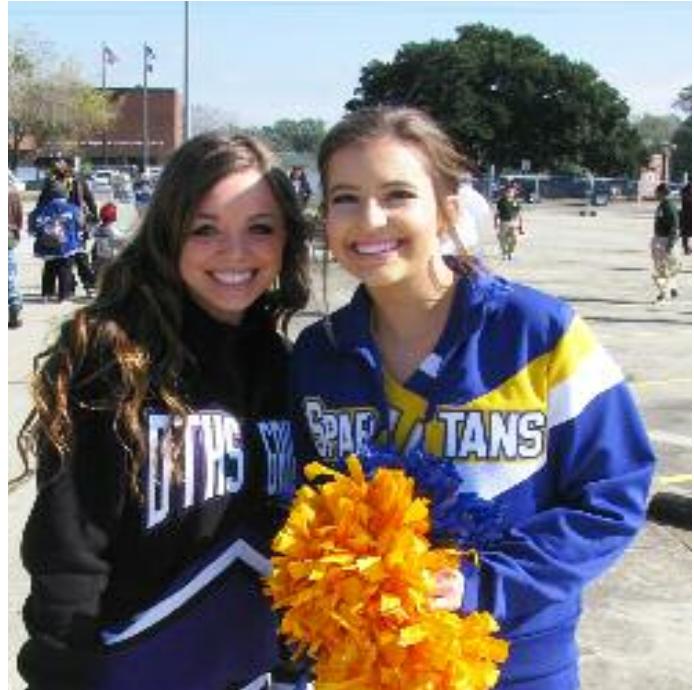
A monthly News Report from the Jambalaya Festival Association



## **The Weather that Almost Stole the 2013 JFA Christmas Parade"**

For the first time in the history of the Jambalaya Festival Christmas Parade was cancelled due to rain and cold. It was a miserable Sunday and end the end it worked. The parade ran on the following Sunday and it was beautiful.

"The Jambalaya Festival Association would like to thank all of Ascension Parish and our Sponsors for celebrating the Holiday Season with us and making our Christmas Parade a great success. A special thank you to our wonderful Grand Marshall, Mr. Kenny Fife, for supporting the JFA throughout the years! The Jambalaya Festival Association and Board would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!"





We have holiday hours.  
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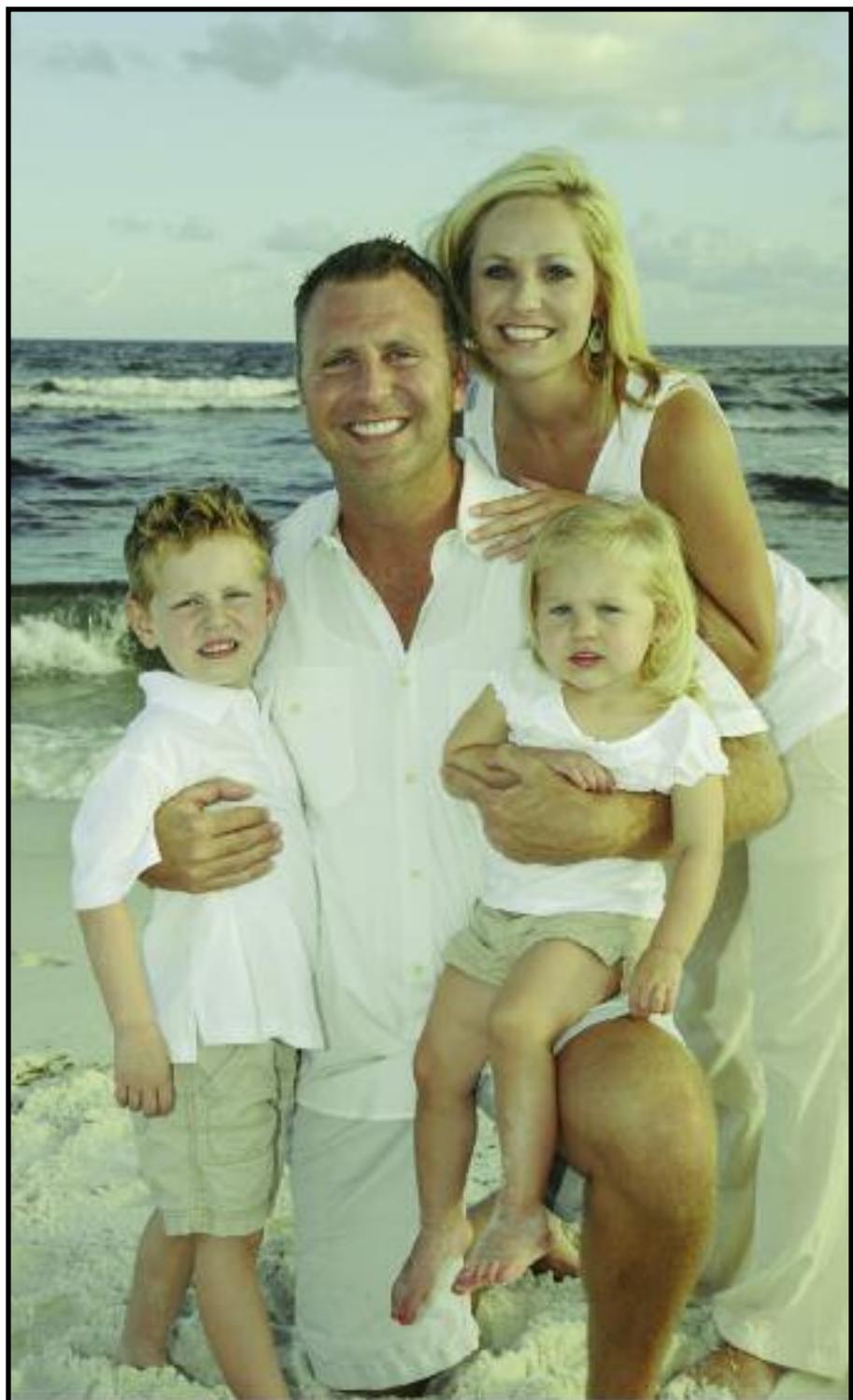


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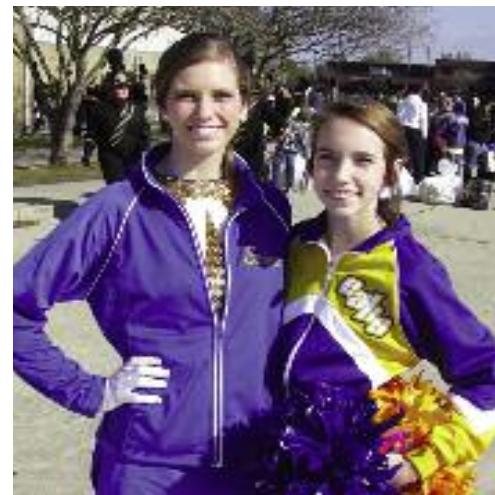
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**Show us your Ascension school spirit! The school with the most attendees at HealthFest receives a donation!**

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**HealthFest is *FREE* and open to the public.**



# AZALEA ESTATES

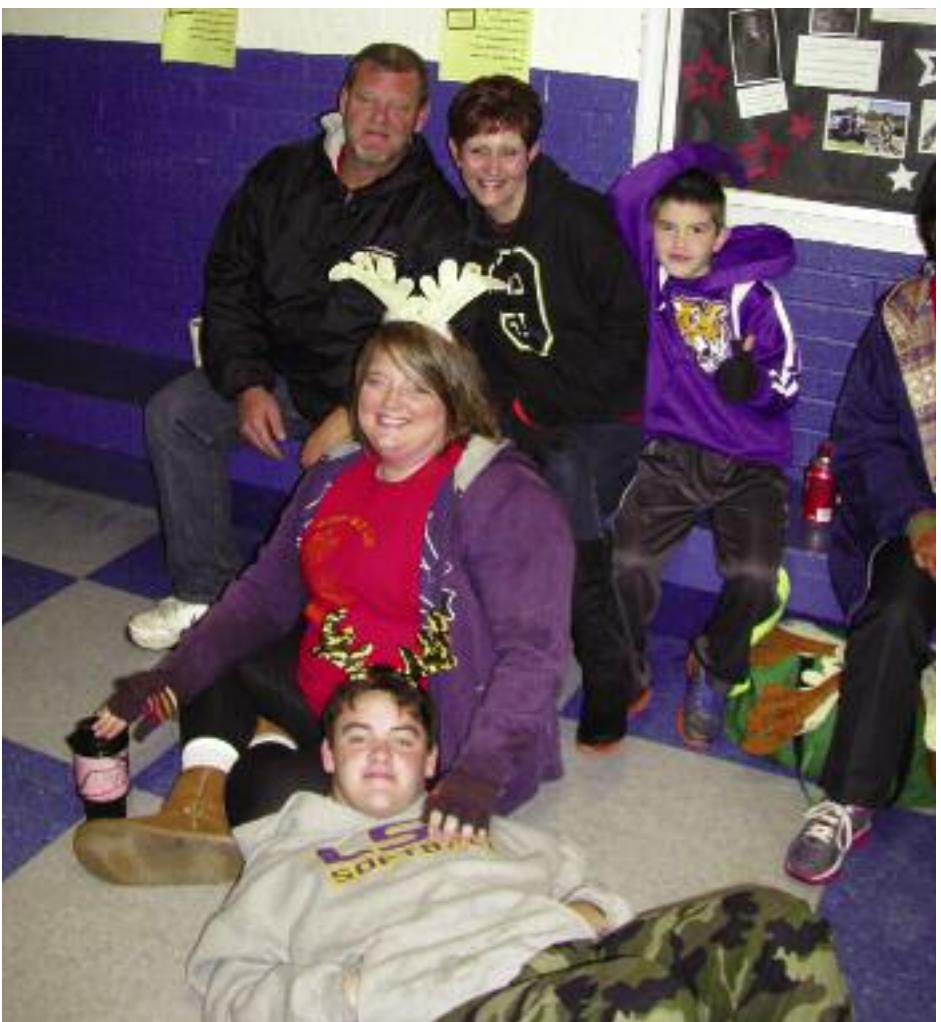
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Twas the night before Christmas & all through the house...  
 Many creatures were stirring, even a mouse!  
 The termites they dine in walls oh so snug...  
 Ants and roaches nestled...even bed bugs!  
 The stockings were hung where the spiders do pass,  
 and fire ants build castles in the tall grass.

The family so frightful and waiting for aid, to stop  
 all the critters and nuisance they made.  
 When what to their wondering eyes should appear,  
 but a J&J's truck approaching so near.

He spoke not a word, but went straight to his work,  
 From the bottom of the porch! to the top of the wall!  
 under the stairs...he covered it all.  
 'Dash away... dash away bugs' he exclaimed and  
 give this family only peace to remain.

His eyes how they twinkled when all bugs were  
 gone and told the new family his work he had done,  
 no need to worry he said with a smile, you'll be in  
 good hands. J&J goes the extra mile.

and I heard him exclaim, as he drove out of sight,  
 "Happy Holidays to all, and to all a bug free night."

Merry Christmas & Happy Holiday  
 from our family to yours!



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# Reflections of the Season

Let us light up your Holiday Nights!

**Open December 5-24**

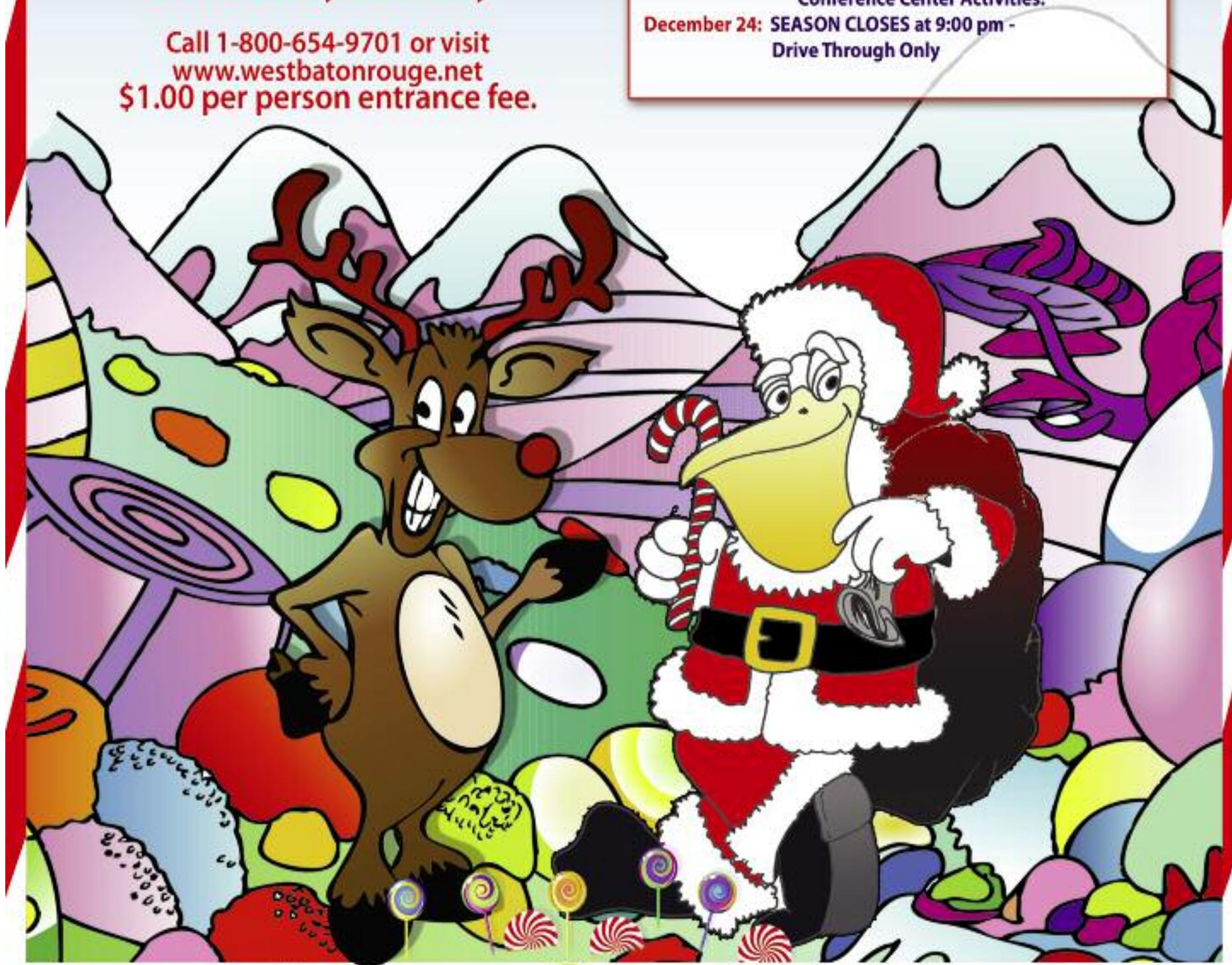
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\$1.00 per person entrance fee.

## REFLECTIONS SPECIAL EVENTS AT A GLANCE:

- December 4: Premier Lighting Christmas Party
- December 5: Reflections of the Season  
Opens to the Public 5:30 - 9:00 pm
- December 6-7: Ice Fishing, Wagon Rides, Santa, Trevor the Reindeer, Conference Center Activities
- December 8: Drive Through Only
- December 9-10: Closed
- December 11-12: Drive Through Only
- December 13: Wagon Rides, Santa, Coke Santa Truck, Conference Center Activities
- December 14: Snow Nights, Wagon Rides, Santa, Trevor the Reindeer, Children's Night - Make a craft, storytelling, Conference Center Activities.
- December 15: Drive Through Only
- December 16-17: Closed
- December 18-19: Drive Through Only
- December 20: Wagon Rides, Santa, Trevor the Reindeer, Conference Center Activities
- December 21: Snow Night, Wagon Rides, Santa, Trevor the Reindeer, Conference Center Activities.
- December 22-23: Wagon Rides, Santa, Trevor the Reindeer, Conference Center Activities.
- December 24: SEASON CLOSES at 9:00 pm - Drive Through Only



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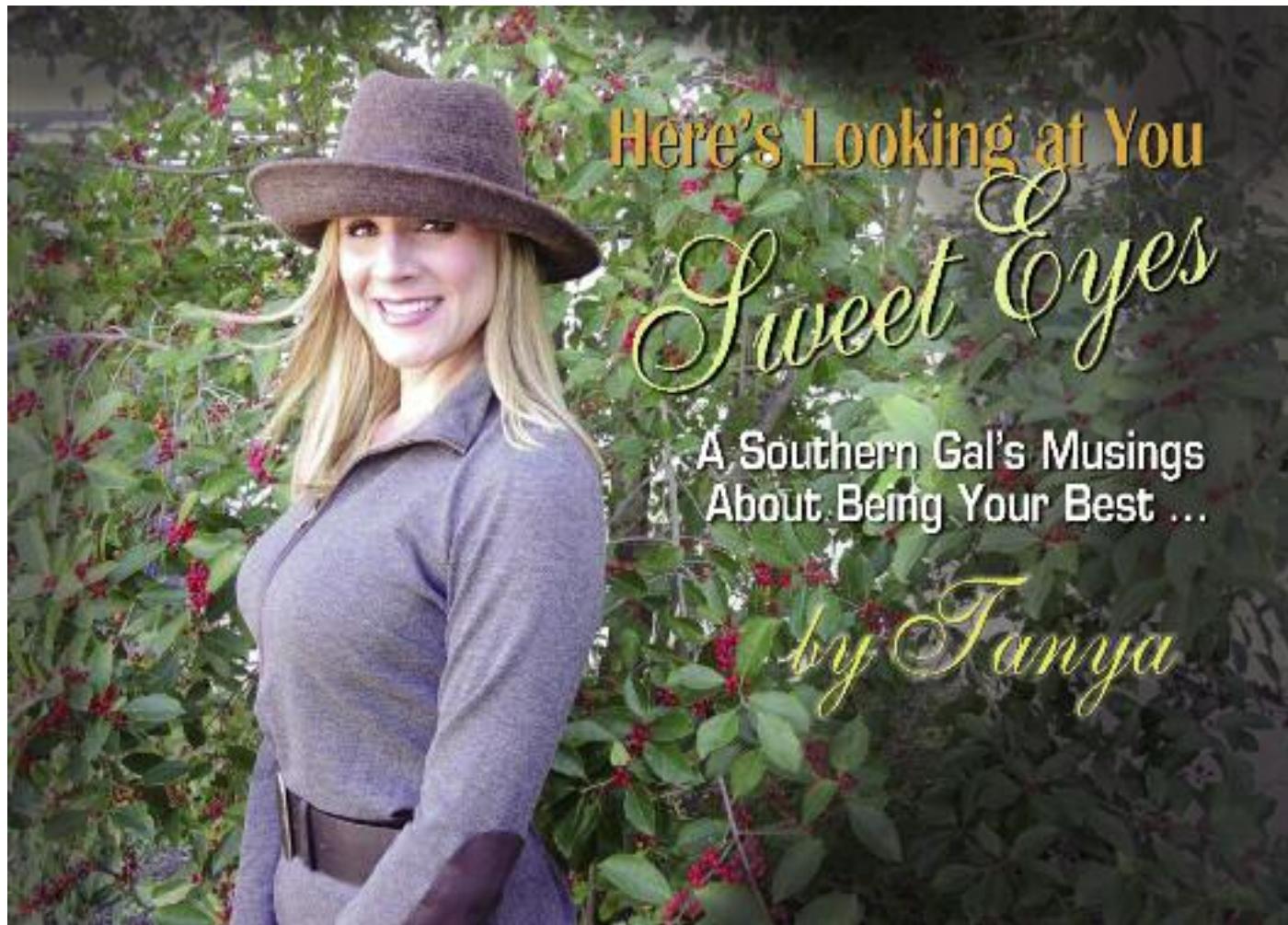
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## *Loss, Giving and the Real Meaning*

During this time of year, it's not all holiday cheer and mistletoe for everyone. A lot of people are going through loss. I read the other day that right before the holidays are when most breakups happen. The holiday season puts a lot of pressure on relationships that aren't that strong. Also, if you have someone, a family member, that has passed, this time of year often brings back memories that can be painful.

Loss is defined as the experience of having something taken from you or destroyed. Loss can be a child, a spouse, any family member, the loss of a dream, finances....the loss of hope.

Now, don't get me wrong, I'm not down on Christmas. As a matter of fact, it's quite the opposite. This is my favorite time of year without a doubt, but we need to be mindful of those around us that could be going through a tough time. If we know someone is going through a difficult time, be supportive.

So, if you or someone you know is going through loss this holiday, here are some things to remember to ease the emotional stress you or they might encounter.

- **PREPARE** – The ambush of emotions can attack at any time; prepare beforehand.
- **ACCEPT** the difficulty of this time of year and your loss. Allow yourself your feelings, knowing it's ok to be sad.
- **SOCIALIZE** – Try not to isolate yourself. Try to get out, even if it's just for a short time.
- **AVOID** the pain with drugs or alcohol – Numbing emotional distress with chemicals creates more depression.
- **STAY ACTIVE** – Take care of your physical body. Exercise often, even if it's just for a short walk. Also, eat healthy foods. Fatty and high sugar foods can actually trigger depression.
- **SHOP online** if going to the mall is too stressful.

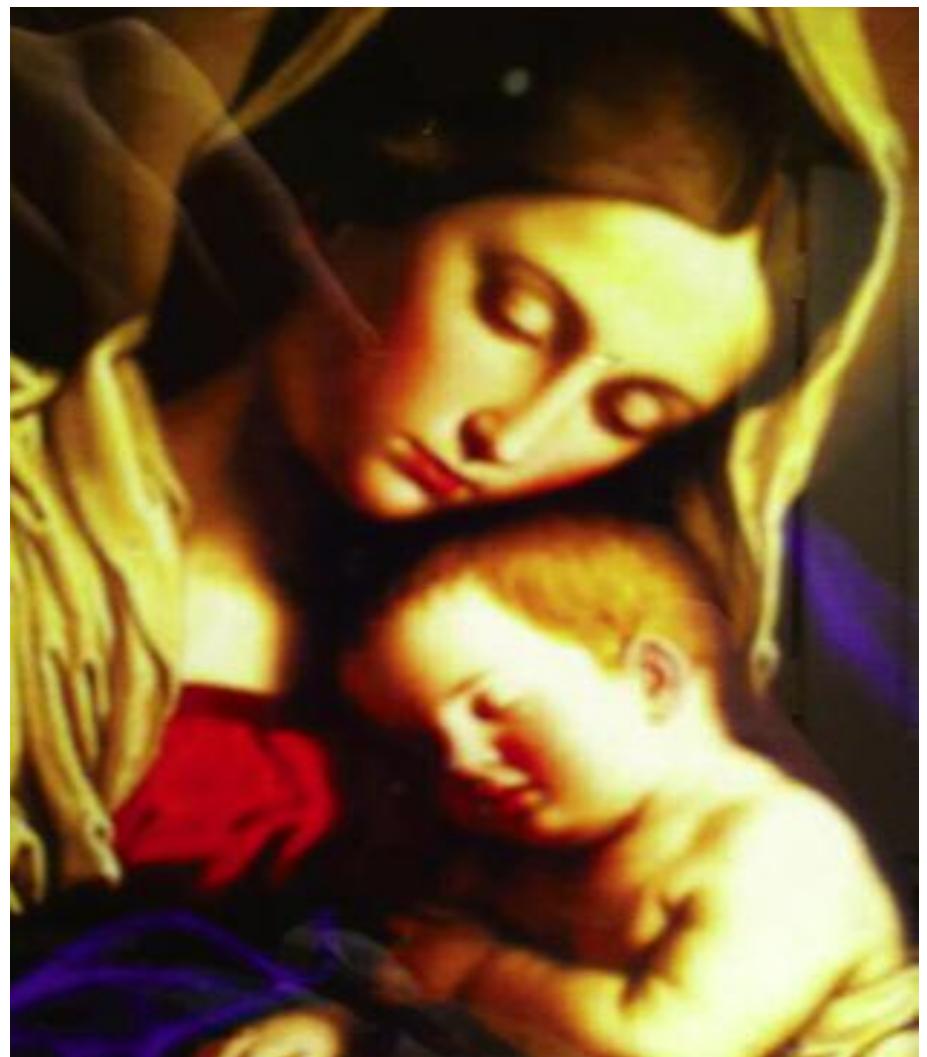
- **SUPPORT SYSTEM** – Have the phone number of you're a wise friend, counselor, pastor, church, or hotline programmed in your phone. Make the commitment to call someone if negative thoughts get to be too much to bear.
- **VISIT** - A new friend who understands what you're going through to see a movie, have dinner or help decorate the

house.

- **SET BOUNDARIES** – Precisely explain to your family and friends what you are capable of doing this year, and what you aren't. Don't let others guilt you into taking on more than you can handle, and don't feel like you have to put on a mask for everyone.
- **REACH OUT TO OTHERS** LESS FORTUNATE – get outside yourself and try to help those in need (IF you have the energy)

## *Giving this Season*

John 3:16 says, "For God GAVE his only begotten Son, that whoever should believe in Him should not perish but have everlasting life". When you're really living, really loving, you're giving. So, reaching out to those who are less fortunate is actually a blessing to you! It is certainly more blessed to give than receive. Make giving to those less fortunate this holiday season a family affair. Choose a charity and give. Give as a family. It's so important for us to teach our children and those around us to acknowledge those less fortunate.



I once had a wise man tell me, "T, your worst day could be someone's best day." And that is so true. I think about that all the time. There's always someone in a worse place with bigger troubles.

Here are some ways you and your family can give this season:

- Give to the local Food bank
- Visit a nursing home
- Donate your time at a soup kitchen
- Contact a (or your) local church and ask how you can help
- Give food or warm clothing to the homeless or family in need

There is nothing like making a real connection with someone in need. Your heart will soar and it will make you want to help out again and again. Give it a shot. I promise you won't be disappointed.

## The Real Meaning of Christmas

What is the real meaning of Christmas? It's not the food, it's not gifts, it's not even about hanging out with family and friends. It's about Jesus coming to Earth, being born of a virgin, living as an example for us and then dying for mankind's sins. The key to Christmas is faith. Do you believe? Without faith it is impossible to please God. Jesus is our Savior and should be the focus of our attention this Christmas. So, next time you get caught up in the hustle and bustle of busy malls and traffic jams, remember that Christ came to save us from our sin, and all we have to do is believe. That alone is reason to celebrate!

Have a very Merry Christmas and a healthy, prosperous New Year Ascension. Thank you for allowing me to have this platform for another year.

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 ST. ELIZABETH PHYSICIANS

## The Ascension Chamber of Commerce Welcomes TNT Gas & Supply with Ribbon Cutting.

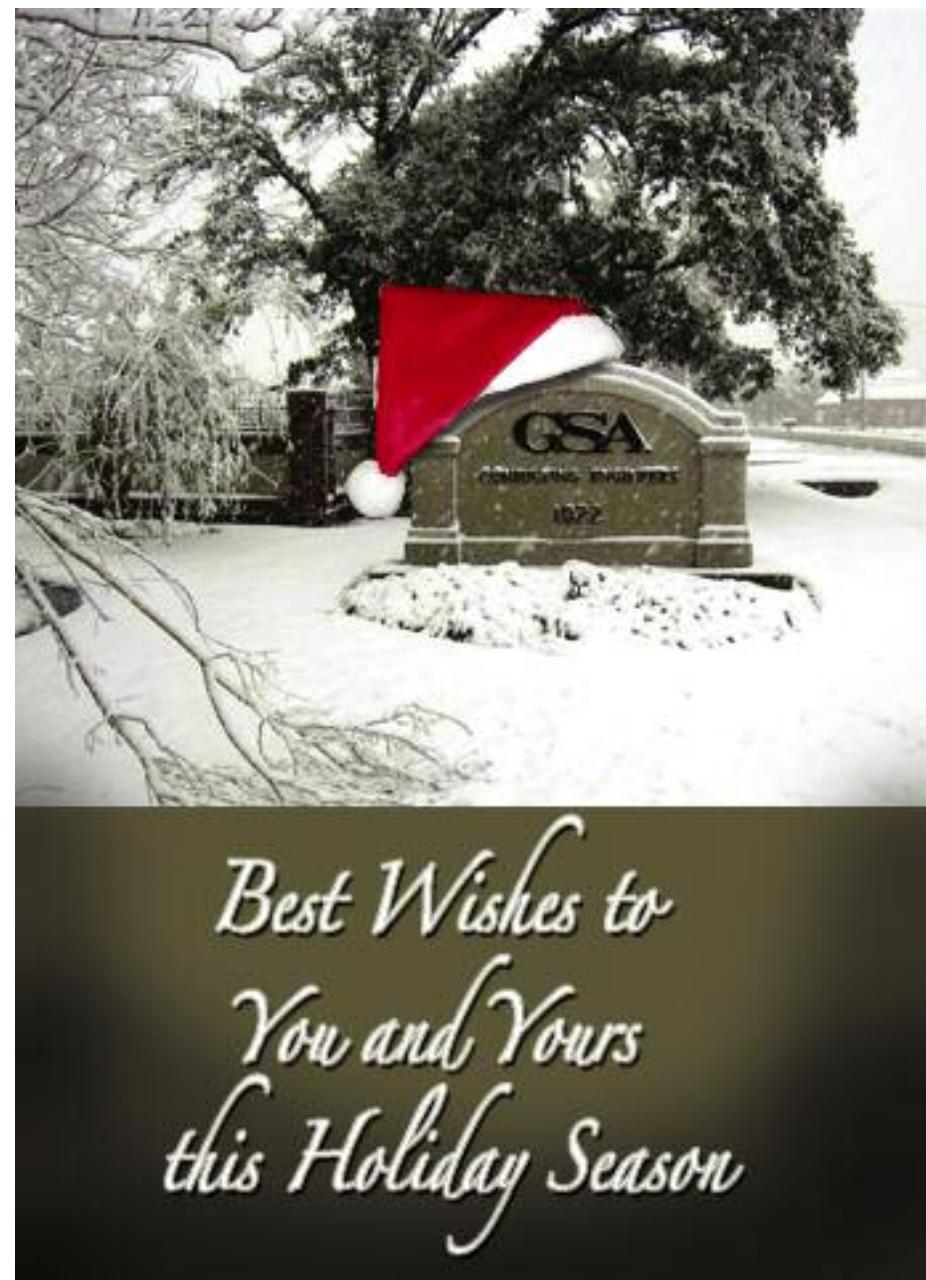
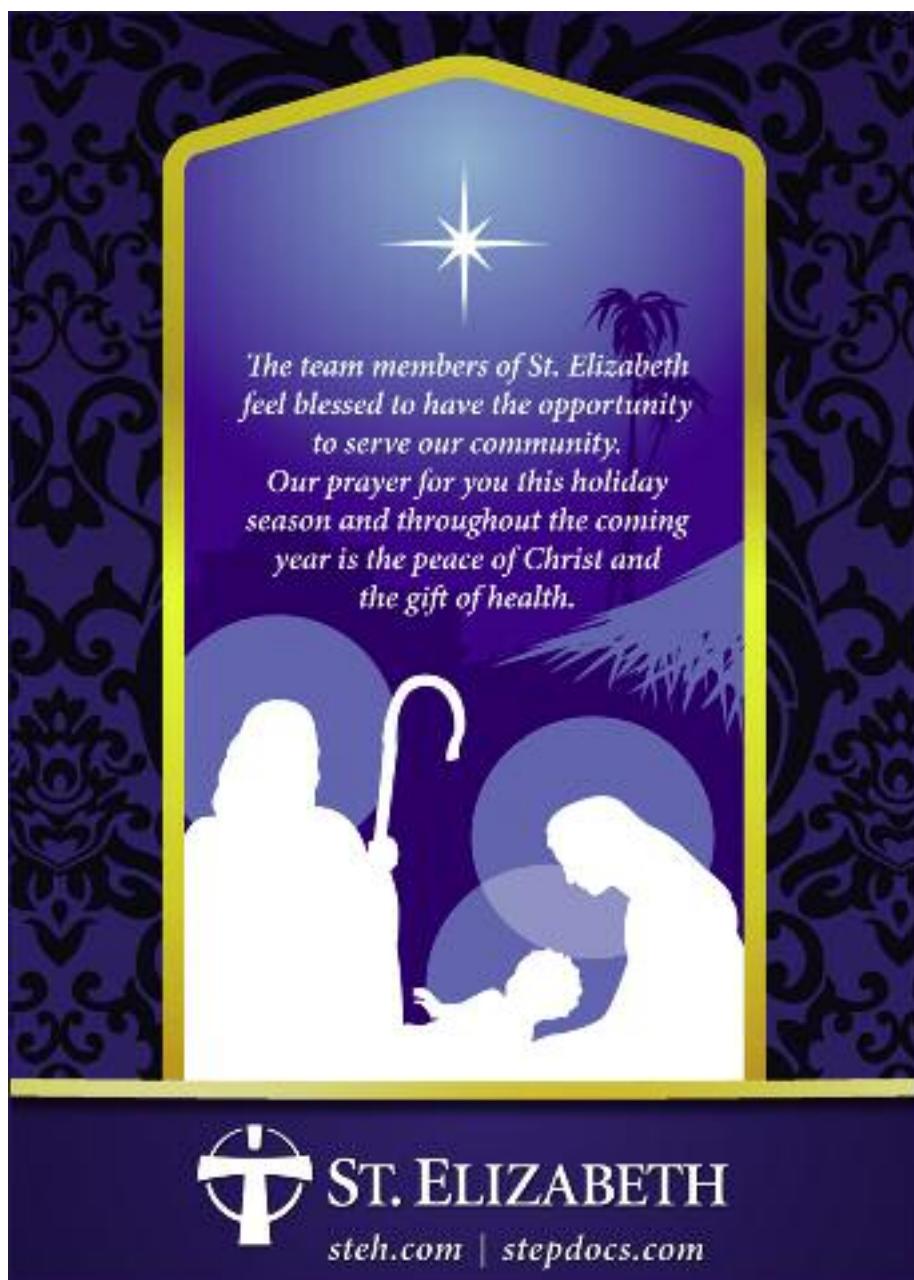
TNT Gas & Supply held a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony on Tuesday, December 3, 2013, announcing the opening of their location at 10102 Industriplex Ave, Gonzales, LA 70737.

TNT Gas & Supply has been providing customer solutions since they were established in 1981. From large industrial corporations to the backyard mechanic, no customer's need is too large or too small. They diligently work to reduce overall purchasing costs and to increase the level of service you should expect from any vendor. TNT Gas & Supply is a one-stop shop for welding supplies, compressed gases, bulk gases, medical gases, safety supplies, and related services in the Deep South and South Central regions. They are open Monday through Friday 7am-5pm.



Attending the ribbon cutting for TNT Gas & Supply were: President Michael Temple; Vice President David Dewey; Branch Manager Steve Weatherford; PR/Sales Deanna Richardson-Miles; Outside Sales Rick Swain; Kearns Enterprises Jeff Kearns; Ascension Parish Executive Assistant Lane McKnight; Ascension Chamber of Commerce President Sherrie Despino; Ascension Chamber Members; Chamber Ambassadors; family and friends.

If you would like more information on TNT Gas & Supply, please call (225) 673-6536 or visit [www.gasandsupply.com](http://www.gasandsupply.com). For more information on the Ascension Chamber of Commerce, please visit [www.ascensionchamber.com](http://www.ascensionchamber.com), e-mail [info@ascensionchamber.com](mailto:info@ascensionchamber.com) or call (225) 647-7487.





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## KIDS ARE PEOPLE TOO DAYCARE ENJOY FIELD TRIP TO LPB.

The children from Kids Are People Too Daycare in Prairieville took a field trip to Louisiana Public Broadcasting Monday. They watched the new Thomas the Tank Engine movie, "King of the Railway," and then got a chance to meet Thomas! Kids Are People Too is owned by Mrs. Jamie Broussard. "King of the Railway" will air on LPB Thanksgiving Day at 11:30 a.m.

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Hey Dr. Rob,  
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ANIMAL HOSPITAL**  
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## **EATEL Presents Annual Adopt-a-School Check to Gonzales Primary**

EATEL has renewed its partnership with Gonzales Primary as part of the Ascension Parish School Board's "Adopt-a-School" program.

"EATEL has a strong history of commitment to education excellence," said Ashley Phillips,

Gonzales Primary Assistant Principal Roddy Melancon by EATEL Community Coordinator Jenny Heroman.

"We are so excited about our partnership with EATEL," said Jaimee Williams, Gonzales Primary School Principal. "This relationship has continued to help us ensure our students achieve success by allowing us to purchase valuable classroom resources for both teachers and students."

Gonzales Primary recently underwent a major renovation,



EATEL's Chief Operating Officer. "We believe in the Ascension Parish School System and we're proud to adopt Gonzales Primary School and give back to the many talented teachers and administrators there who are helping to shape our future leaders."

A check for \$1500 was presented to Gonzales Primary Principal Jaimee Williams and

providing updates to classrooms and other student facilities.

Photo attached. Pictured (left to right): Roddy Melancon, Gonzales Primary School Asst. Principal, Jenny Heroman, EATEL Community Coordinator, and Jaimee Williams, Gonzales Primary School Principal.

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# Choosing and Caring for Your Toothbrush

By Calvin Bessonet, DDS, FAGD

Your toothbrush is the most important item in your oral health toolkit. But with such a wide variety of toothbrushes available, how do you choose the brush that's best for you? And once you've made your selection, how do you care for and clean your toothbrush? Learn how to improve your oral health care habits by properly selecting and caring for your toothbrush.

## What should I look for when choosing a toothbrush?

The best toothbrushes have a long, wide handle that facilitates a firm grip. The toothbrush head should be small enough to reach all areas of the mouth, with soft nylon bristles that won't hurt the gums.

### Should I use an electric toothbrush?

Electric toothbrushes, which use an oscillating or rotary motion to clean the teeth, are beneficial because they can cover a larger area of the mouth faster than a manual toothbrush. They're especially well-suited for those with braces, those who need extra motivation to brush, and those who have difficulty operating a manual toothbrush due to age, disability, or other factors.

If you use an electric toothbrush, avoid pressing down too hard; instead, use light force and slow movements, letting the brush do the work for you. Those using an electric toothbrush for the first time may experience slight bleeding from the gums, which will subside over time. Children age 10 and younger should be supervised while using an electric toothbrush.

### How often should I change my toothbrush?

Old toothbrushes with worn and frayed bristles will not clean your teeth effectively, and they also may harbor harmful bacteria. You should change your toothbrush—or brush head, in the case of an electric toothbrush—every three to four months. However, if you get sick with a cold or the flu, you will need to change your toothbrush as soon as the illness begins and again once the illness has subsided. This will help to get rid of any germs and bacteria on your toothbrush.

### How can I keep my toothbrush clean?

Wash your hands both before and after brushing to avoid transferring bacteria and food particles to your toothbrush. After brushing, rinse your toothbrush thoroughly to remove excess toothpaste and other debris, and soak the brush in antiseptic mouthrinse to eliminate any lingering bacteria. Remember: Never share toothbrushes, as this

habit can lead to the transmission of colds and/or bacteria.

### How should I store my toothbrush?

Store your toothbrush upright and let it air dry before using it again. Microorganisms are more likely to grow in a moist environment, so don't cover your toothbrush or store it in a closed container. Because bacteria can travel easily from brush to brush, don't store your toothbrush in the same container as someone else's. Finally, keep your toothbrush as far away from the toilet as possible to avoid contamination from the airborne bacteria that are released with each flush.

Talk to your dentist if you have questions about choosing or caring for your toothbrush. No matter which kind of toothbrush you have, make sure to brush your teeth for two minutes twice a day and visit the dentist regularly to maintain good oral health.



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This may be a little bit different article than you expected for December but I found it to be an interesting read and wanted to share it with you. We have all heard of "Man Caves" but have you heard of "Man Camps"? Brian Andrews who writes for the Real Estate Weekly shared this concept in one of the recent publications. Mr. Andrews has promised to research the financial implications of man camps on a community and I will share that with you also. For now let's expand a bit on just what these man camps are and why we should care about the risk and opportunities they present.

Mr. Andrews writes the following: " In order to avoid a broad-brush definition of "man camp" as any short-term housing solution for temporary workers—such as those about to flood south Louisiana for the coming industrial boom—I checked with the North Dakota Man Camp Project (yes, there is such a thing) to see how its leaders, a group of professors from the University of North Dakota, classify the camps. According to its website, the project separates man camps into three categories:

- Type I camps, sometimes referred to as "crew camps." These consist of uniform, institutional housing that makes the most efficient use of resources, and has the smallest and least permanent environmental footprint in relation to the number of beds provided. These are the most costly, in order to minimize the long-term negative impact on the community, but they

leave no infrastructure improvements for the community after the workers leave.

- Type II camps, akin to RV parks. These are often individually owned, temporary units that most closely replicate the sense of community found in working-class suburbs. However, they make greater demands on existing infrastructure. And since they're less tightly controlled, they have a greater environmental impact.
- Type III camps, which can be best described as living rough. These have no fixed electrical, water or sewage infrastructure. Type III camps are the hardest to control, from a community perspective, creating the highest potential for health concerns among the three types of camps, and they have the greatest per-capita environmental impact."

*And now, may you and your family enjoy the holidays and family time together. As one of my current client reminds me, "Don't just be good, be good for something". Think that may be a good way to live the Christmas Season of 2013.*

g

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# YOUR ESTATE MATTERS



*By Linda Melancon*

their choosing was able to take care of their children if they couldn't. Next, they wanted to make sure their substantial life insurance and retirement plan assets were available to care for their children while they were in school and college but not be wasted by them before they were mature enough to manage money. Through creating documents to appoint a guardian (called a tutor in Louisiana) for their children if they passed away and creating a trust appointing a trustee to manage their children's assets until they were old enough to have matured, the couple was assured in knowing that if anything happened to them, their children were going to be taken care of by someone they chose and not by who the court might choose. By coordinating the beneficiary designations on their life insurance and retirement plan assets with their trust documents, we will also be able to ensure that those assets are managed by a trustee and don't fall into the hands of their children when they turn 18. The last thing the mom said as she was leaving our office was how much peace of mind she was going to feel when the documents were signed.

Another person I met yesterday described to me how he lost a female relative recently. She was in her early forties and also had small children. She was divorced. She died suddenly with no plan in place. Unfortunately, that meant her ex-husband, who she would not have wanted to manage her

children's money, was now in charge of it. Her parents, who of course were grieving her loss, also had to deal with the reality that their grandchildren's assets had to be turned over to their ex-son-in-law. Rest assured, there was no harmony in the relationship between these people. This experience made the person realize how important it was to have the proper planning in place to take care of things that we all know are going to happen one day. As a result, he brought his retired uncle to see me to talk about who would make financial and health care decisions for him if he couldn't make those decisions for himself. He didn't have any children of his own and was worried about who would be able to make those decisions for him if he couldn't make them for himself. Again, estate planning was able to provide him peace of mind. By drafting a financial and health care power of attorney for him, he can appoint someone to have the proper legal authority to be his surrogate decision maker if that becomes necessary.

Also yesterday, I spoke with another man whose mother had lost capacity to care for herself, and she was not being cared for properly. He had previously visited with another attorney who had told them there was nothing that could be done to protect his mother. Fortunately, the other attorney was wrong. In this situation, he needed to be appointed as his mother's guardian (what we call a curator in Louisiana) so he could properly care for her. Again, the peace of mind he experienced by knowing there was something that could be done to help his mother was enormous. A weight

of stress and anxiety was lifted from him.

My last client of the day was a married couple with a blended family. They each had 3 adult children and they wanted to make sure the surviving spouse did not have to go to war with the other one's children over the property they had accumulated together during their marriage. They had both experienced unrest in their own families at the time of their parent's deaths and they wanted to protect each other from that pain. By structuring their estate planning documents correctly, we will be able to accomplish their goals of protecting each other from the often nasty ways families treat each other when they lose a loved one and there is an inheritance involved.

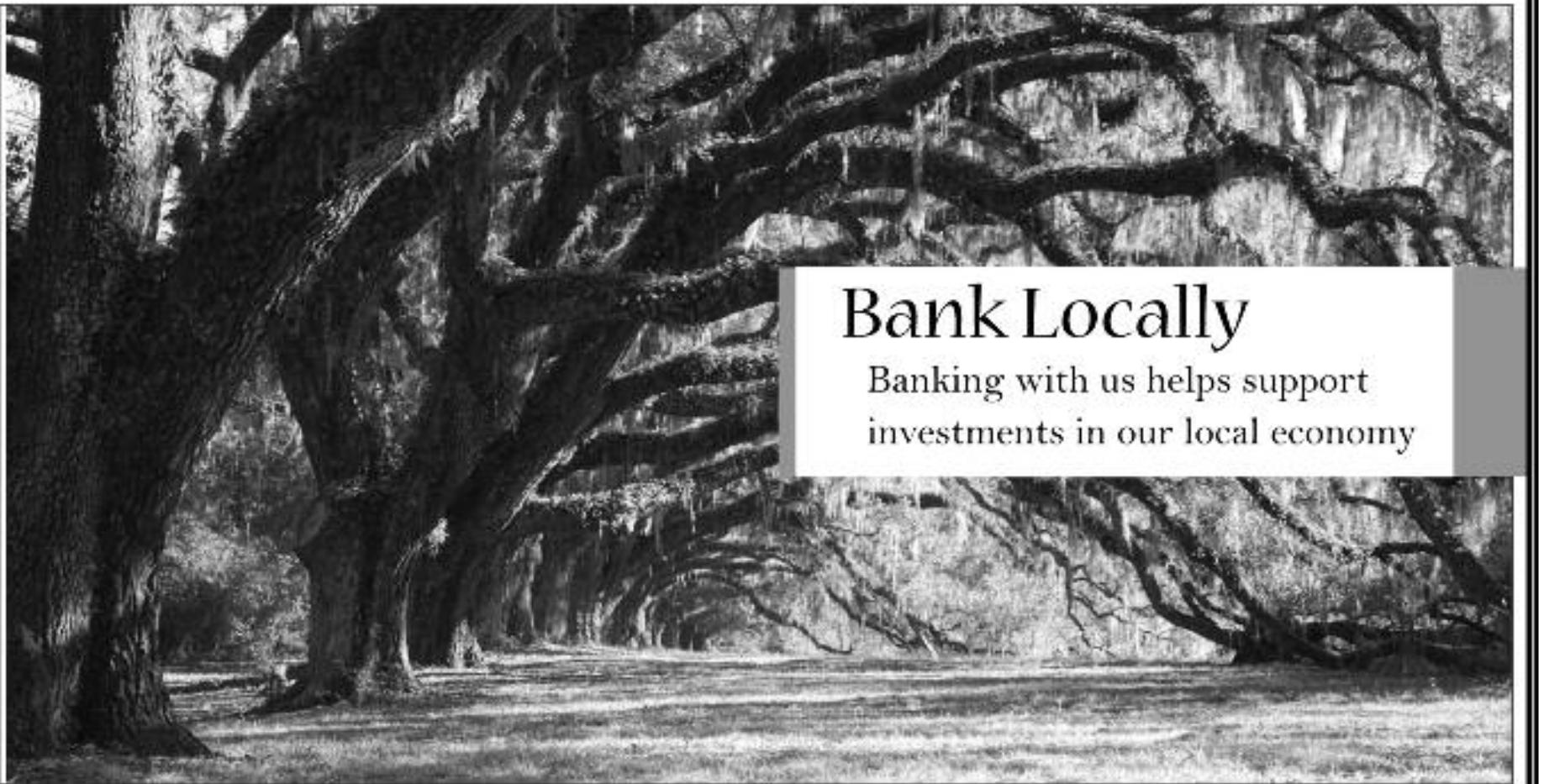
While the Christmas season may not necessarily evoke thoughts of estate planning in you, as you can see proper estate planning can provide you and your family with peace of mind while you're living and protect the peace among your loved ones when you are gone. So, as you enjoy time with your family and friends during this special time of year, think about giving them and yourself the gift of peace by taking care of your planning while you are able to do so. Happy holidays and may peace be with you and yours during the new year.

Ms. Melancon has engaged in the practice of law in Louisiana for the past 16 years. The primary focus of her practice is estate planning, special needs planning, elder law and probate. She is also accredited by the VA to give advice regarding veterans' benefits. For more information, please contact her at 222-744-0027. You may also visit her website at [www.LegacyCenterLa.com](http://www.LegacyCenterLa.com).

## ESTATE PLANNING AND PEACE

During this time of year when we celebrate the birth of the Prince of Peace and sing about peace on earth, it's a good time to reflect upon how we can add peace to our own lives. Peace is defined by dictionary.com as "a state of personal harmony between people or groups, especially in personal relationships." We all associate peace of mind with a lack of worry or anxiety in our life. So how can estate planning bring peace and/or peace of mind?

Just yesterday, I met with a young couple who had small children. They had two main concerns. First, they wanted to make sure that someone of



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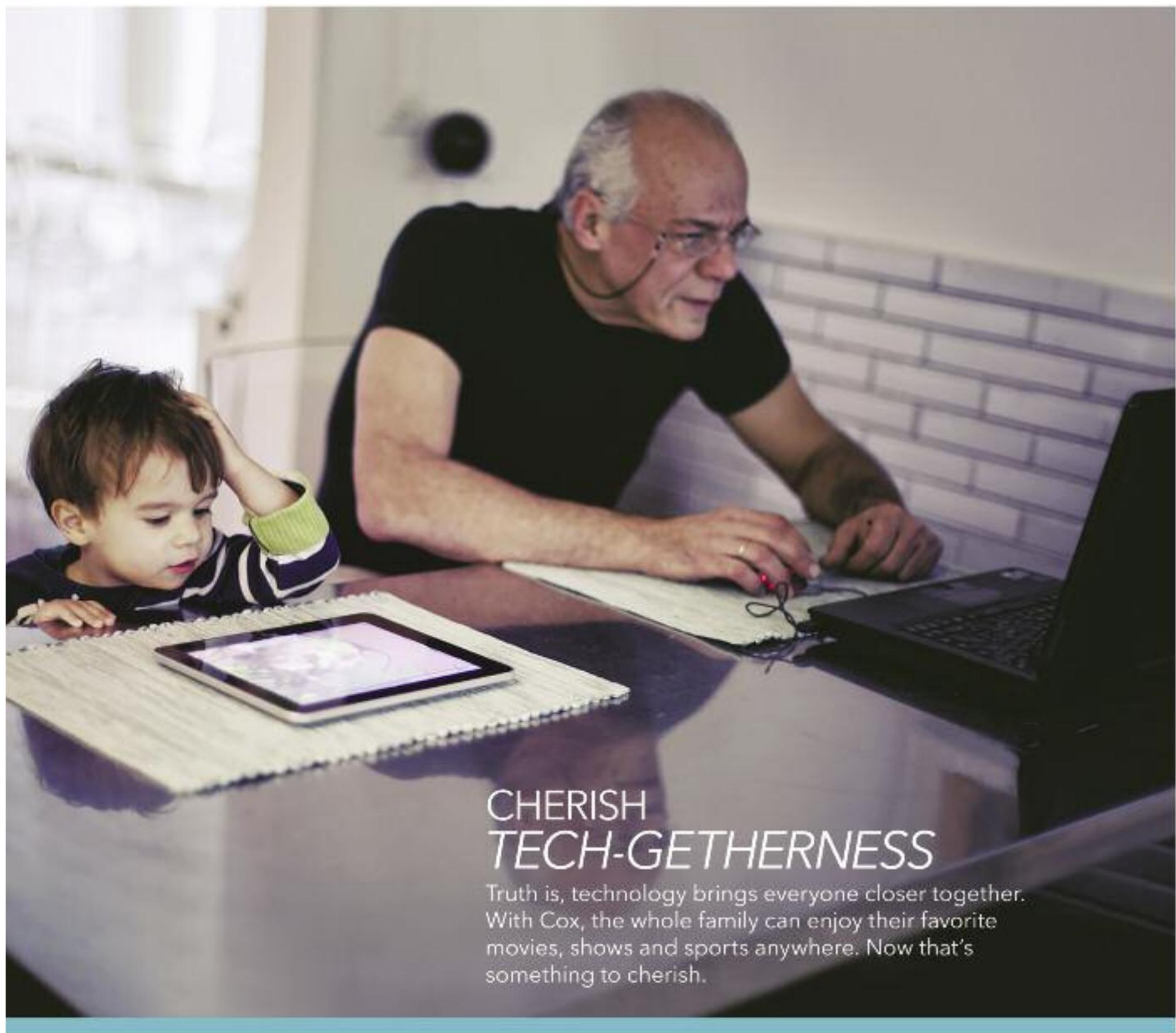


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## Female Hunters

From the time I was a young boy my dad has told me stories of his mother hunting geese on the sandbars of the Mississippi River around Angola, LA. Unfortunately, she was a grandmother that I never had the opportunity to meet. By all accounts from the stories I've heard, there were quite a few females that would hunt in the days of old. It seems that most of the hunting in those days was done within a close proximity of home. In those days there was plenty of open land to hunt and there was not a big need for leased land and hunting clubs. I would have to say that hunting clubs and leases started to become popular in the 60's, 70's and 80's and they still are today. I believe that that single factor removed many females from being hunters in those years. The same people that would allow you to spend needed family money on a hunting club, cook your game for you and clean your dirty clothing when you got home was an unwelcome guest at many clubs. I have been in several clubs myself that did not allow any females at the camp site. The reasons for that were obvious, of course, but things are beginning to change.

Change will occur in just about all facets of life and hunting clubs are no exception. For several decades most hunting clubs consisted of only one club house where everyone stayed together. Nowadays it's very popular to have a camp site where most of the individuals have their own dwellings. In most cases these individual camps were built so a male hunter could bring his wife or daughter to the hunting camp. The number of female hunters are on the rise. It's a great thing that they are being welcomed

back to the sport. Several outdoor hunting shows now feature women hunters and they sure add a touch of flavor to the scenery. I have a daughter that really enjoys deer hunting and my wife now makes several hunts a season. My latest challenge is a nine year old granddaughter that seems really interested in all types of hunting. It's very important that you introduce your spouse, daughter or granddaughter to the sport of hunting. If they decide they like it, that's great, but almost in all cases they'll understand why you love it so much.

Female hunters have made an enormous impact to the hunting industry sales market. They now have female clothing, boats, guns, you name it. That's an entirely different line of goods. Yeah, they're now big players in the sport and deservedly so.

I do not know how many women voters that are presently in the U.S., but I would guess it's just as many as men. There'll come a time when you will need their votes for the right to own a firearm, or even continue to have the privilege to hunt. Don't miss out on the opportunity to take your gals hunting, it just might be a blessing in disguise.

Till next time,  
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James "Goosie" Guice

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# Goodbye, BCS, We Hardly Knew Ye

by Bill Delaune

## Scene-

A South Louisiana living room on Christmas Eve

## Characters-

**The Kids**- ages from 1-92 in all shapes and sizes

**Uncle Bill**- a disillusioned dreamer lost in the 60's whose memory has become so distorted that he thinks we really do all live in the Beatles' "Yellow Submarine".

## Act 1

**Kids** (excitedly)-Uncle Bill's here! Uncle Bill's here! Come tell us one of your famous Christmas stories, Uncle Bill.

**Bill** - Okay, kids. Just let Uncle Bill derive a bit of Southern Comfort from this eggnog and we'll see what we can come up with.

**Kid 1**- Excuse me, Uncle Bill, but you don't look so good. Is everything okay? Do you have any health insurance?

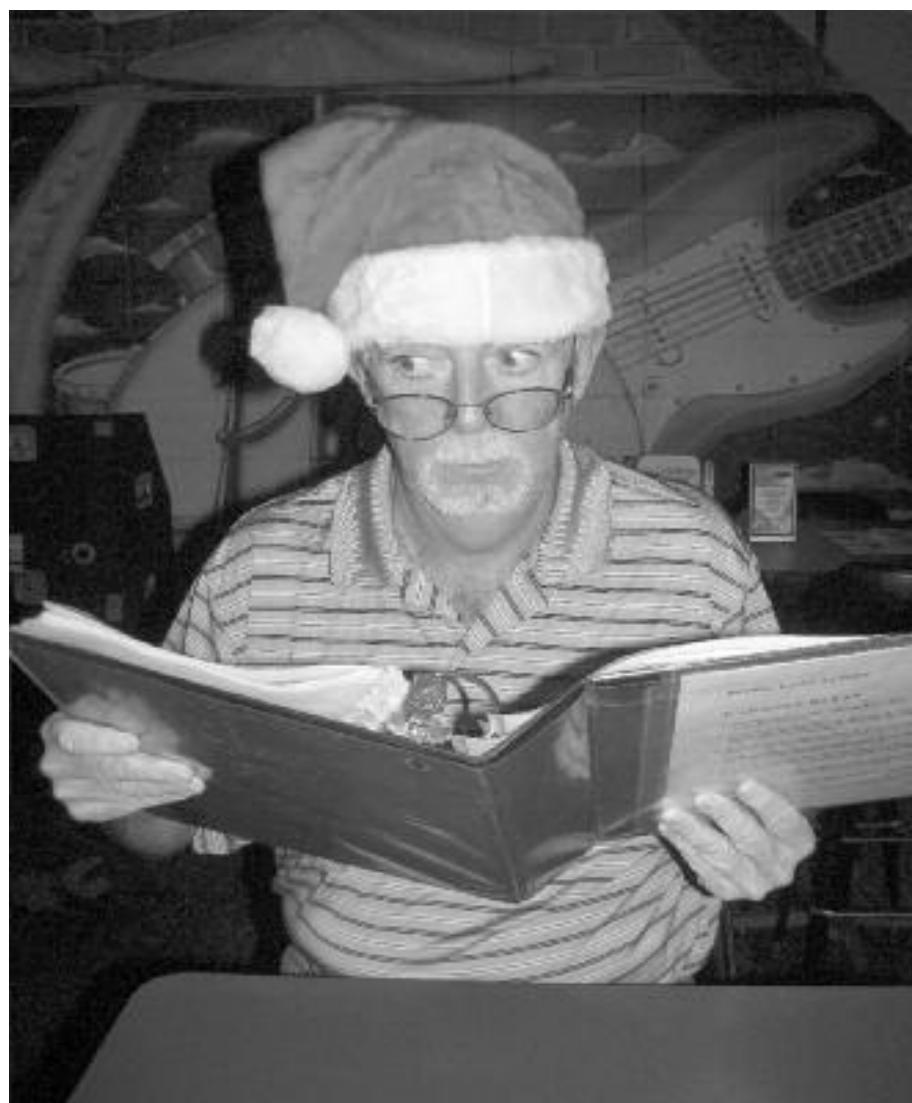
**Bill** - Don't worry, lad. I couldn't get Obamacare due to that computer glitch, but the Feds did send me an alternate called Bamacare. It has a unique Saban's plan and entitles me to one second opinion.

But maybe the wrinkles on my brain are causing the lines on my face from having to say goodbye to an old friend.

**Kid 2** - Gee, Uncle Bill, did your dog up and die?

**Bill 1**- No-nothing like that. It's just that this is the final year of the Bowl Championship Series-affectionately known as the BCS-and despite 14 years of bitching and moaning-I think we might actually miss the old girl.

Even after the South Beach riots when Miami was overlooked in 2000 and the outcries from the Plains when undefeated Auburn didn't make the big game in 2004, even after the shameless, political back-stabbing of Texas in 2008 when the Horns got left out,



the BCS sure did one thing for college football-to paraphrase Bonnie Raitt-they gave people something to talk about.

My biggest complaint about the whole system is that someone-not necessarily the BCS-created a plethora of meaningless bowls with mediocre teams and sponsors that nobody recognizes and that is the topic of this year's story.

**Kid 3** - Uncle Bill, do they still have the Poulan Weedeater Bowl?

**Bill** - No, that bowl is still in Shreveport under an assumed name. But wouldn't it have been a great venue for grass-eating Les Miles to show up and nibble on some weeds. Then, you could have brought the gas/electric weedeater out to challenge the coach to a contest-like John Henry against the steam drill-and the possibilities are endless. But I digress or grass...

Once upon a time, there were four major bowls and they all played on New Year's Day.

There was the Rose Bowl that featured the best in the West against the Big Ten champion (Think the great USC teams against the best Ohio State had to offer.). The Sugar Bowl pitted the SEC champ against an Eastern power (Maybe Alabama versus pre-scandal Penn State.). The Cotton Bowl usually had the Southwest winner against a nationally-known opponent (Texas-Notre Dame) and the Orange Bowl had a Florida favor against a Big-8 champ (Miami-Oklahoma, perhaps).

Then along came ESPN and some other fledgling networks with holiday slots and truckloads of TV money and they courted university presidents in financial need and coaches trying to keep their jobs.

It was a marriage made in heaven. The colleges got the money to finance the women's lacrosse team mandated by Title 9 and the coaches could tell their Booster Clubs, "You can't fire me-we went 6-6 and went to the Toilet Bowl last year."

Thus, you get teams like

ULL-currently on a 2-game losing streak after getting pummeled by ULM and USA-and Tulane-who lost to such National powers as Florida Atlantic and University of Texas at San Antonio-getting invited to the New Orleans Bowl.

**Kid 1** - Hey, Uncle Bill, didn't you go to ULL back in the 60's? That's pretty harsh words for one of your old alma maters.

**Bill** - Yes, I did. But it was USL back then and they had just changed the name from SLI (Southwestern Louisiana Institute). In fact, at the rate I was going, I could have been there for all three name changes-a 3-time, 3-letter man if you will-but fast women and slow horses caused me to pursue my academic studies elsewhere.

**Kid 2** - Did you ever go to Tulane?

**Bill** - No, my family couldn't afford it and my dad couldn't stand the thought of my being called a "Green Weenie".

**Kid 3** - How about Southeastern?

**Bill** - I never actually enrolled at SLU but I rode the bus to Hammond a few times just to participate in Lance Kohan's bouree game. I also dated a girl from one of their branch colleges at Tickfaw. She was a beauty queen and I used to tell people I was dating Miss SLUT.

At any rate, Southeastern's football team this year could beat most of the teams in the early bowls this year and I ain't Lion.

**Kid 1** - Who are some of the other really bad teams in bowl games this year, Uncle Bill?

**Bill** - Well, let's start with some clawless kitties. Rather than watch the 6-6 Washington State Cougars or the 6-6 Pitt Panthers or the 7-5 Ohio Bobcats do battle, I'd rather see a "cat fight" between Paris Hilton and Lindsey Lohan.

And the ridiculous names for some of these bowls. If you're going to have a Fight Hunger Bowl-once again, I'd rather watch Jennifer Lawrence compete in "The Hunger Games"-why not combine it with some of the food-sponsored bowls and get everyone fed in one big "Buffet Bowl". I mean, have one game and line up those starving folks with the Famous Idaho Potatoes, Beef O'Brady's, Little Caesar's, Buffalo Wild Wings, and Chick-fil-A and you eliminate a lot of hunger as well as boring games.

Then, when everyone overeats and becomes overweight, send them to the Advocare V100 Bowl in Shreveport (No more eating grass.) and get enough diet supplements for everyone.

Now when everybody is fed and fit, let's combine some of the clothing-sponsored bowls and get some new clothes for the multitudes. For formal wear we can score some suits from the Pinstripe Bowl and for informal duds we can stop in at the Gilden (T-shirts and sweats) New Mexico Bowl. Need to work off a few pounds after the Buffet Bowl? No problem-we just pick up some workout gear at the Russell Athletic Bowl.

And if you prefer to do more extensive shopping, we can drop you off at the Belk Bowl in Charlotte although my wife and her Pokeno friends frequent the store in Covington.

Now if you really start looking hot in your new outfits, we might be able to get you on the Go Daddy Bowl-but you might have to shed some of your clothes.

**Kid 2-** What is that site all about anyway, Uncle Bill? My mother blocked it on my computer?

**Bill-** I'm not sure, buddy. Best I can figure is that Danica Patrick and some of her scantily-clad friends ride around in fast cars in their underwear. Sort of a Victoria Secret 500 for fast women.

**Kid 3-** Where is LSU going, Uncle Bill?

**Bill-** To the Outback Bowl where it's lost its sizzle and there's not much at steak. But the good news is that even with a freshman quarterback, the Tigers should avenge that last-second loss in Little Nicky's

last game from back in 2003. That is unless Les pisses them off with some I-O-Way pronunciation the way he did AR-Kansas a few years back.

**Kid 1-** Is Little Nicky really going to Texas, Uncle Bill?

**Bill-** Well, the "Help Mac Pack" signs are more prevalent at UT than they were at LSU in the 70's and the Horns are prepared to offer St. Nick \$10 million a year, the governorship of Texas and an appearance with Willie Nelson on "Austin City Limits" if he leaves Alabama. But after this crazy year in college football, nothing would surprise me.

But let's remember the reason for the season, kids. Help me hang some mistletoe over that doorway in case some of those lovely ladies from the Miss Priss Boutique drop in. Come on and call them by name, "On Sherry and Kalyn and all the Gautreaus, On Kiersten, Maranda, Sexy Lexi and Chloe..."

**Kid 2-** I don't know, Uncle Bill. The last Christmas carol you taught us about "Check the balls on that big collie," I got my mouth washed out with soap.

**Kid 3-** Not to mention the trouble we got into when he made us sing, "It's Beginning to Look a Lot Like Syphilis".

**Kid 1-** Or the punishment for "Walkin' Round in Women's Underwear".

**Bill-** Okay, okay, I get the point. Let's just stick to the basics with "We Wish You a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!"



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# Thoughts from Bully

## Welcome to Louisiana

I don't know if you've noticed but the country seems to be going nuts over Louisiana Culture. With success of Swamp People and Duck Dynasty it proves reality television attracts a large audience and I think the country believes we all have gators in our back yards. Oh Yea. We do.

Several weeks back I went to the hunting camp. This year my nephew Steve flew into the Shreveport Airport from Colorado to hunt the week with me. We had a big time all week. I was also lucky enough to bag a nice 9 point buck.

After the week was up I had to return to the Shreveport Airport to drop Steve off at the terminal to return to Colorado. The big difference in this return trip to the airport is I'm pulling my trailer, with my 4 wheeler in it, behind my car with the buck



head mounted to the front rack of the 4 wheeler.

At the time, I didn't really think much about it but when I pulled up the curb. There were visitors walking out of the doors and the first thing they see, in Louisiana, is a dead buck head, with blood on the bike. A family glared in horror with their suitcases. They were wearing UCLA attire. I'm guessing California. Being a southern gentleman I rolled down the window and



a gave them a greeting.  
WELCOME TO LOUISIANA!

Have you ever heard a little part of a conversation and totally got

the wrong idea. I have and it happened when I visited Annie's family in Amite.

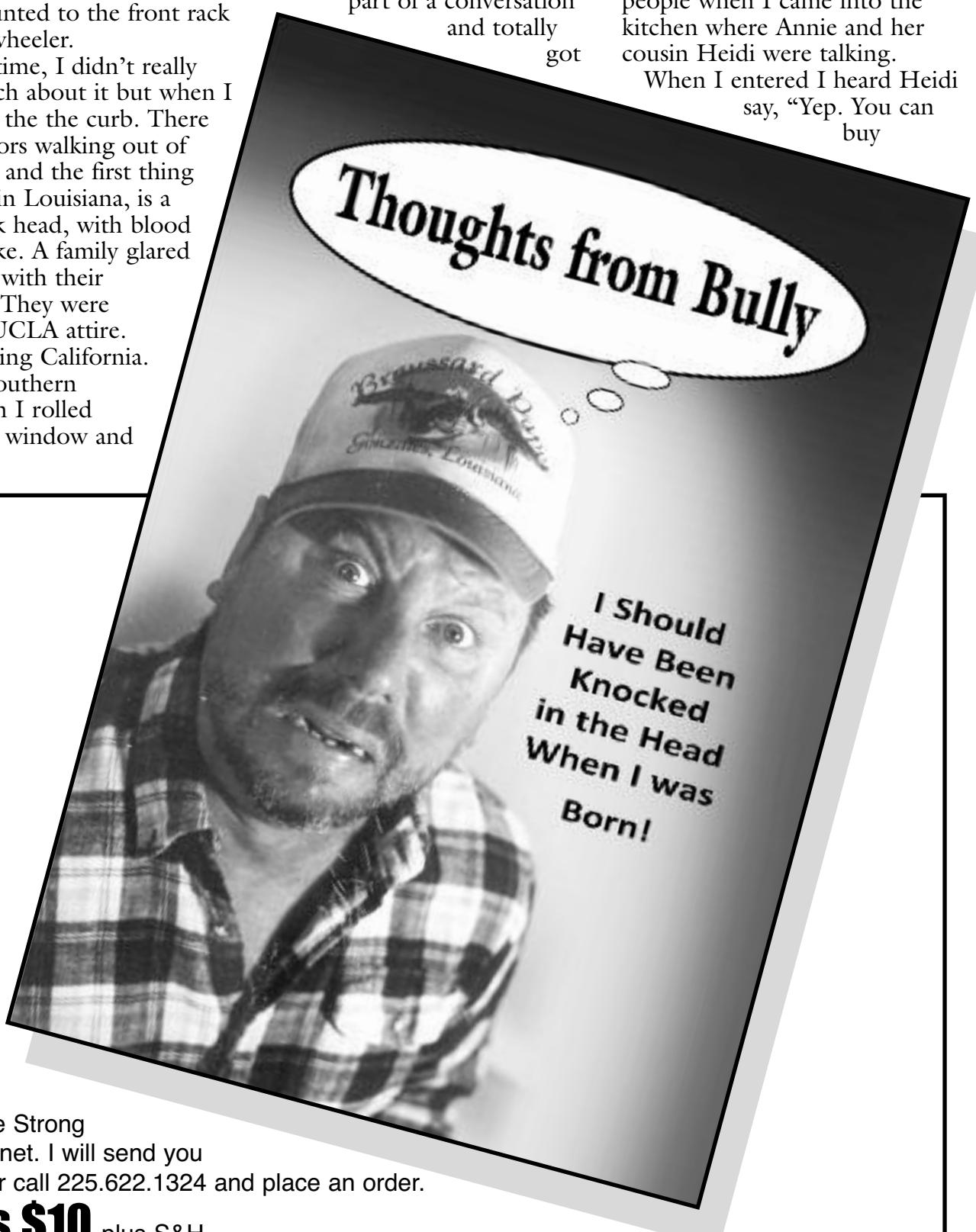
I was mingling and meeting people when I came into the kitchen where Annie and her cousin Heidi were talking.

When I entered I heard Heidi say, "Yep. You can buy

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prosthetic balls and put them in to replace the ones they just removed. You can get them in different sizes too." Oh my! TMI. I just met her husband, Randy, and started to feel sorry from him. They looked at me and the look on my face and said, "When you neuter dogs you buy replacements. It's suppose to help the dogs self esteem" Sheew... Good thing it wasn't Randy.

I heard another story this month. This is more of a case of assuming without evidence. My friend Todd works in the Theatre Department at LSU and is directing a Christmas Play and needed to make, what he called, "The awkward Walgreens Run." The actors in the play all have microphones. These microphones have to be protected from sweat and moisture. So Todd goes to the Walgreens and purchases two 24 pack boxes of non-lubricated condoms. He also needed two large packs of Double AA batteries. He said he looked around and there were blue haired women whispering about what they thought he was going to do with those items or they

may have wanted to get invited to the party.

You can't judge a book by its' cover and I believe the attention the State of Louisiana is getting through the television shows is a good thing. Think about it. How many people want to see and learn about people from Michigan, Vermont or Idaho. Hands down we have the most colorful and culture rich communities of all the states. Of course we have to suffer the insults of being rednecks, simple minded or racist. I believe the rest of the nation should take a closer look at us. I believe they will find caring family minded folks that will give you the shirt off of their back.

We may be animal lovers in the sense that we love to eat deer, duck and squirrel but we also have big hearts for our pets. Evidence shows by the Thanksgiving conversation I walked in on. We even care about our dogs balls and how they feel.

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\$2 Blue Moon Drafts



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## Tuesday & Wednesday

DJ MUSIC / KARAOKE

Tues. \$5 Double Wells! 2 for 1 Bomb Shots  
Weds. Special \$5 Bombs Coors Draft Combos

## NO COVER Thursday \$4 Jager Shots

12/19 PAT-E & RYAN  
w/Karaoke & DJ Musia After  
12/26 PARK PLACE'S  
2nd ANNUAL  
ALL STAR JAM

1/2/14 RHETT GUILLOTT  
w/Karaoke & DJ Musia After  
1/9/14 RYAN JENKINS  
w/Karaoke & DJ Musia After

## Friday

Free Drink w/cover until midnight on Band Nights.

12/20 ... TOP SHELF 1/10... PERKINS ROAD  
12/27 ... STONE ENVIE W/CAM PYLE  
1/3/14 ... FORET 1/17 MOJEAU

## Saturday

Free Drink w/cover until midnight on Band Nights.

12/21 PARTY AT JOE'S 1/4 ..NOT FOR SALE  
12/28 .. LOUISIANA 1/11 .. TOP SHELF

## Every Sunday

PLAY FREE POOL  
3 TILL 9PM  
DJ MUSIC & KARAOKE ... \$2.75 Domestic!!

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"BEST HAPPY HOUR IN THE AREA!  
\$2.75 DOMESTIC LONGNECKS!"



## Useless Random Facts

with Kellie

• The first president to decorate the white house Christmas tree in the United States was Franklin Pierce.

• Germany made the first artificial Christmas trees. They were made of goose feathers and dyed green.

• Norwegian scientists have hypothesized that Rudolph's red nose is probably the result of a parasitic infection of his respiratory system.

• The "true love" mentioned in the song "Twelve Days of Christmas" does not refer to a romantic couple, but the Catholic Church's code for God. The person who receives the gifts represents someone who has accepted that code. For example, the "partridge in a pear tree" represents Christ. The "two turtledoves" represent the Old and New Testaments.

• The traditional three colors of Christmas are green, red, and gold. Green has long been a symbol of life and rebirth; red symbolizes the blood of Christ, and gold represents light as well as wealth and royalty.

• Christmas crackers were invented by Thomas Smith. He had imported some French novelties to sell as Christmas gifts, but these were not popular until he wrapped them up and added a snapper.

• St Francis of Assisi introduced Christmas carols to formal church services.

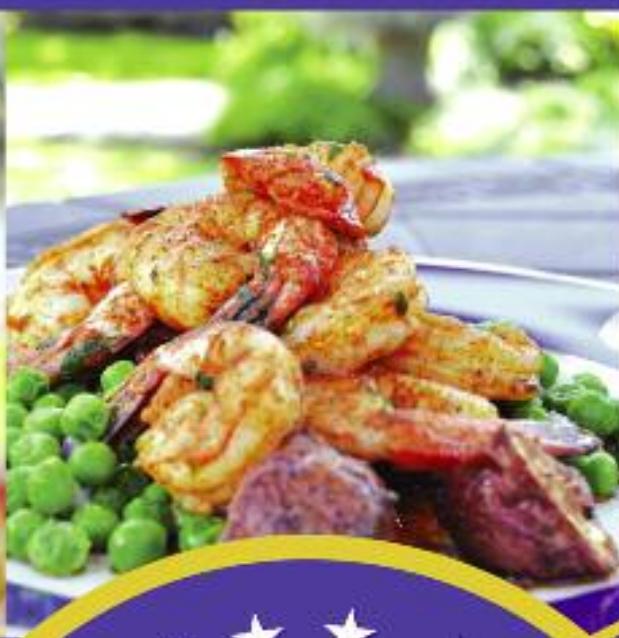
• St. Paul, Minnesota was originally called 'Pigs Eye

• A queen bee uses her stinger only to sting another queen bee.

• All major league baseball umpires must wear black underwear while on the job!

• An elephant trunk has no bone but 40,000 muscles.

**Shop, Dine, and Do Business in Ascension – IT JUST MAKES CENTS!**



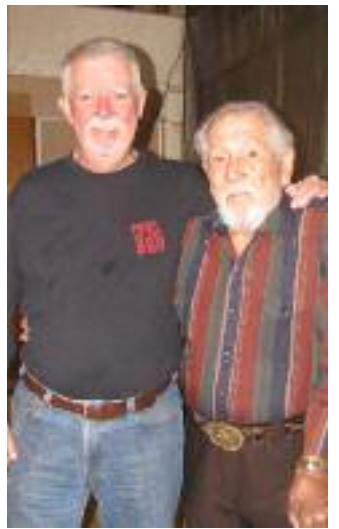
# Shopping Ascension MAKES CENTS

When you shop in Ascension Parish and spend your money here, you're helping to improve a community we're proud to call home! Shopping local guarantees our tax dollars stay here, resulting in top-notch schools and increasing property values. Make the choice to **shop, eat, drink, and do business in Ascension – IT JUST MAKES CENTS!**



ASCENSION CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

225.647.7487 | [ascensionchamber.com](http://ascensionchamber.com)



## Feed the Needy Annual Fundraiser Raises & Donates to Local Families and Charities.

In December 2006, Uncle Perry and Aunt Susan Aldridge casually mentioned to BAMA that there were three needy families in the Gonzales area who were in danger of going without the necessities for Christmas.

That was all it took for the idea of "Feed the Needy" to be born in the big heart of the CEO, Thomas "BAMA" Aldridge.

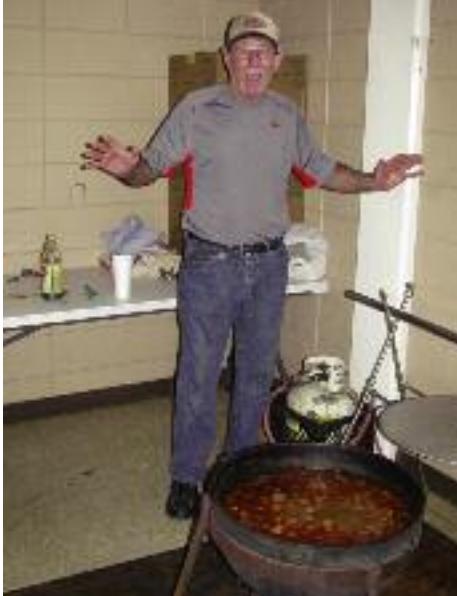
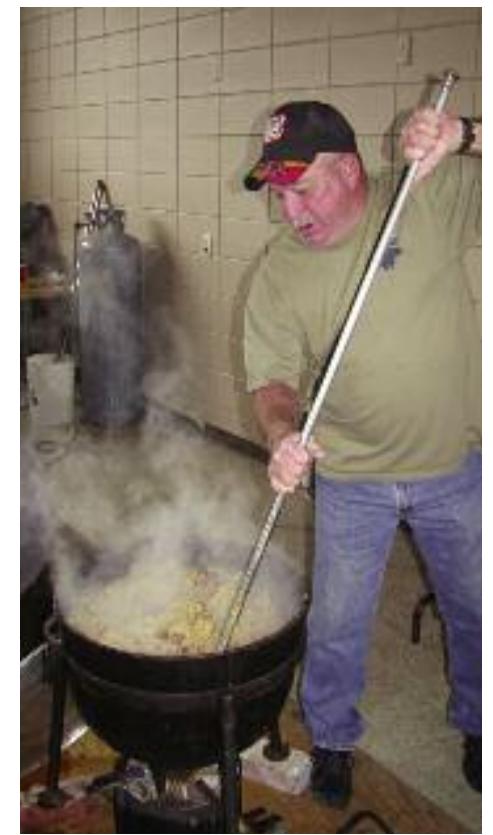
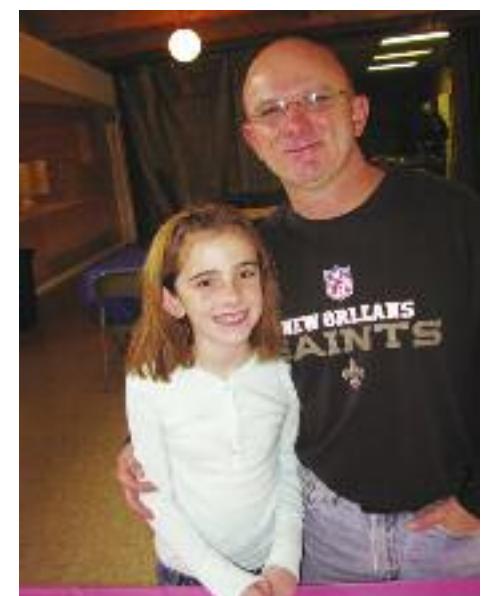
It was a humble beginning that year as BAMA asked Sheriff Wiley if he would sponsor a pot of food to use as a fund raiser in order to try to help these families. The Sheriff obliged and BAMA and his Souse Chef, "Bones" Sheets cooked a hen and andouille sauce piquante which was sold for the regular Saturday lunch at Gonzales Country Club. The process raised \$800.00 and in turn, those three families had an unexpectedly great Christmas.

Since the beginning the event has grown larger with financial support and volunteers. Last year the event raised in excess of \$20,000.

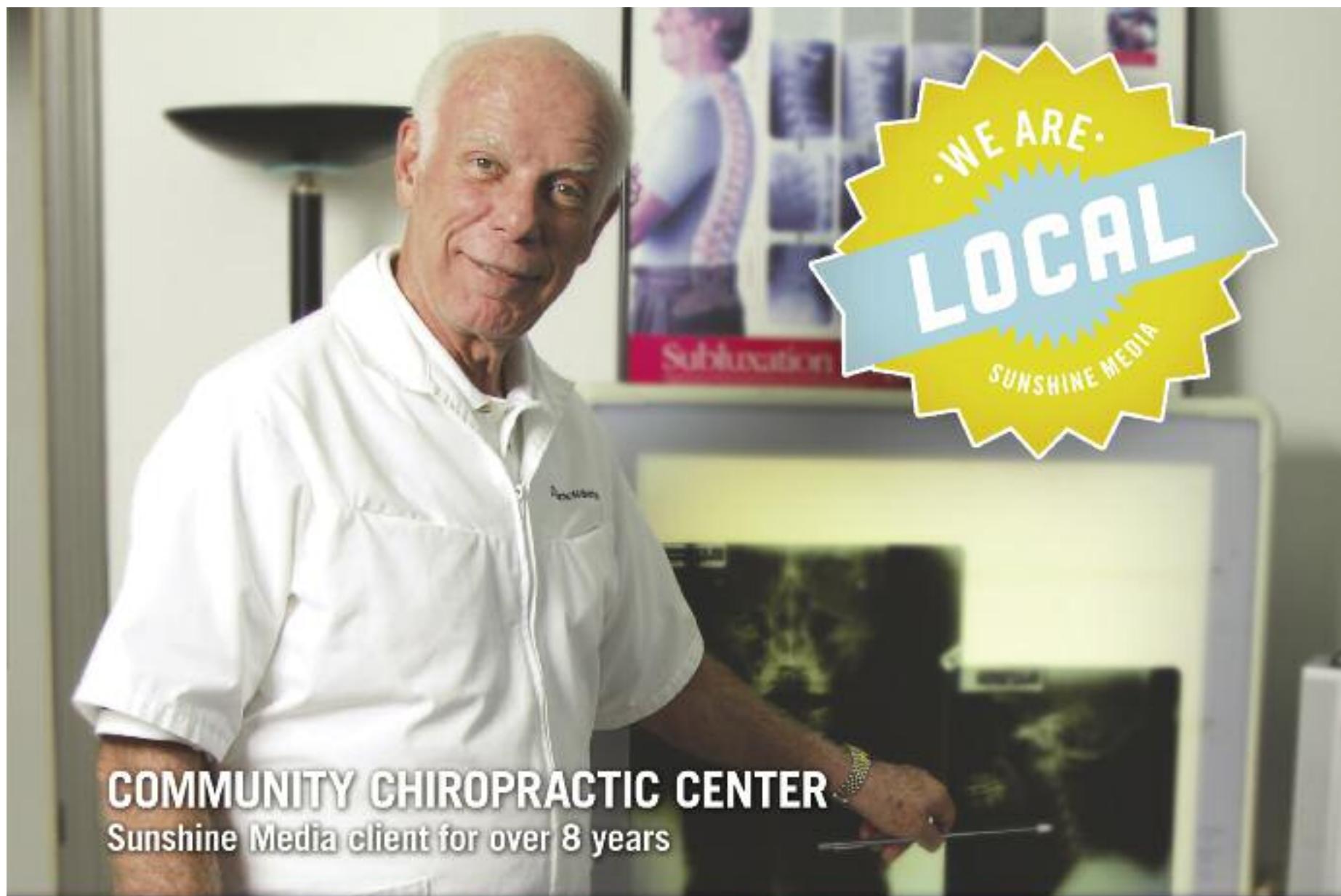
The volunteer crew was the largest, hardest working, and most efficient I have ever seen. The response by the people of Ascension Parish in terms of its donations as well as the jambalaya dinner purchases was incredible. The most heart warming fact in all this process is that there was not one cent of expenses and all of the money raised was dispersed to needy families right here in our communities. There are no administrative cost retained.

Once again, the residents of this area have shown why it is such a blessing to live in Ascension."

Look for the article in our January issue for this years results.







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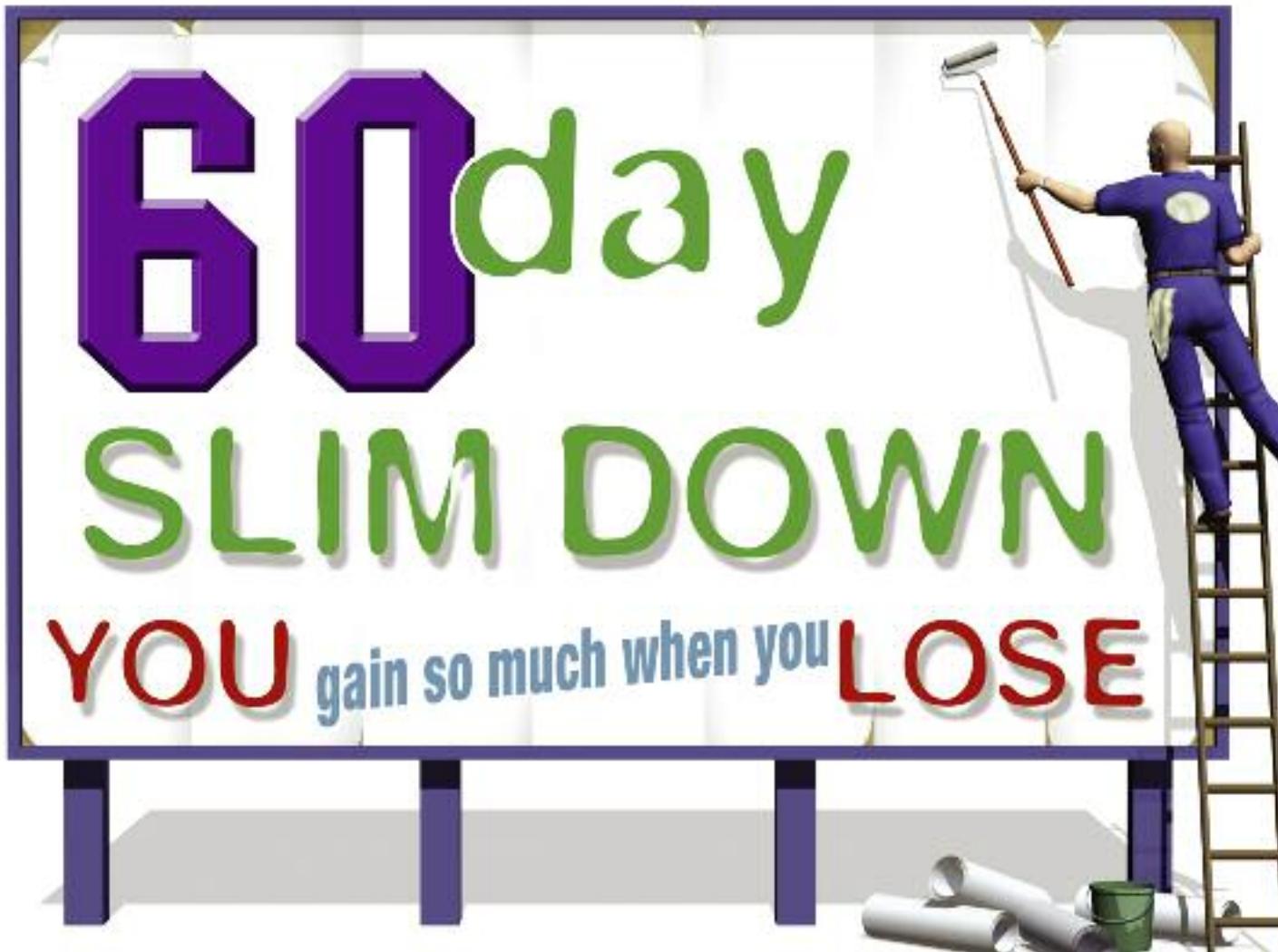
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## Rules of the Challenge:

1. Purchase a 60 Day Plan (\*\*see coupon below)
2. All plans must be purchased between December 16, 2013 and January 3rd, 2014. Challenge will officially begin January, 6 2014. All contestants must be enrolled and weighed in by January 3, 2014.
3. All contestants must be 18 years or older.
4. New starts and restarts are eligible.

5. No split pays, or additional discounts will be applied.
6. Two categories – male and female. Grand prize winner awarded in each category.
7. Grand prizes valued at over \$1,000 each. (For list of prizes, contact Soza Clinic.)
8. Additional prizes will be awarded to runners up.
9. Winners will be chosen based on the percentage of body weight lost by the time of final weigh in on Wednesday, March 5, 2014.

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*Wishing You Have a  
Very Merry Christmas  
& Happy New Year*

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## Cooking Gourmet at Home with SNO'S SEAFOOD & STEAKS

**A great dish for this Holiday Season**



### *Shrimp & Mirliton Stuffing (Chayote)*

**Yield:**

8 servings

**Prep Time:**

40 minutes

**Cook Time:**

25 minutes

**Ingredients:**

6 mirlitons  
1 ½ lbs baby shrimp  
2 cups finely chopped onion  
1 cup finely chopped celery  
1 cup finely chopped bell pepper  
2 tbs minced garlic  
½ cup thinly sliced green onions  
¼ cup creole mustard  
1 ½ cups bread crumbs (more or less depending on your preference)  
Salt, black pepper and red pepper to taste. (2 tsp salt, 1 tsp black pepper, ½ tsp red pepper)



**Executive Chef  
Ben Jarreau**

**Method:**

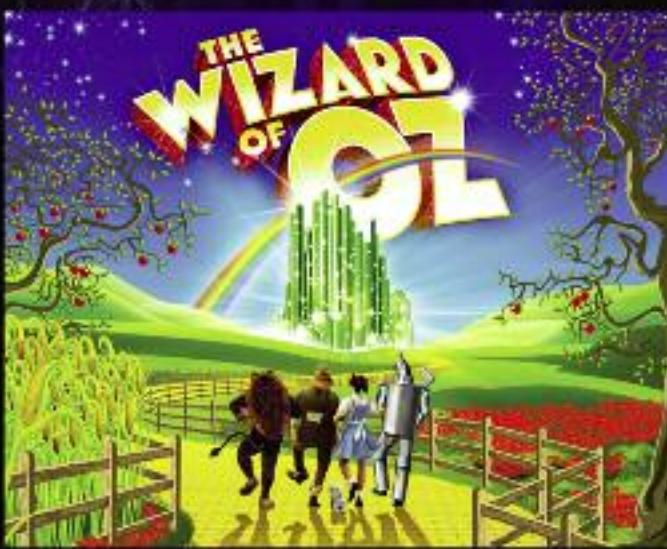
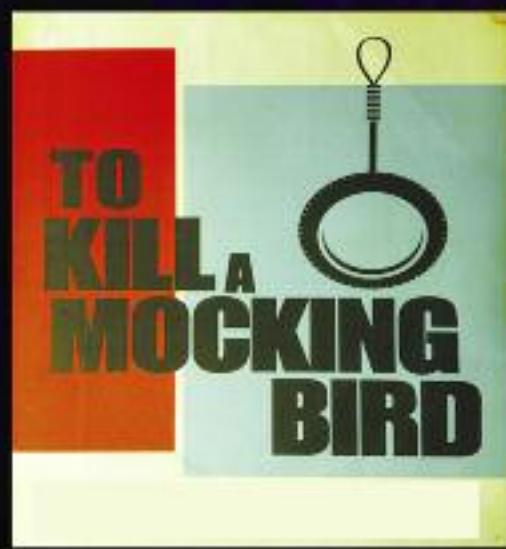
Place the mirlitons in a large pot and cover with water. Bring the water to a boil and cook for about 20 minutes or until tender. Drain in a colander and cool. When cool enough to handle, half the mirlitons, peel, then remove the seeds and cut into cubes.

While the mirlitons are cooking, cook your onions, celery, bell pepper and garlic in a little olive oil until tender. Add the mirlitons and shrimp and cook until shrimp are done (about 15 minutes). Remove from heat, then add the creole mustard, green onions, bread crumbs and seasoning. Mix well.

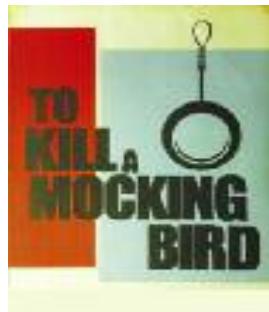
Preheat oven to 450 degrees. In a greased baking dish, evenly spread your stuffing and bake for 20-25 minutes or until brown. Sprinkle the top with parmesan cheese and serve.

\*\* Great stuffing for chicken, turkey, or pork\*\*

# ASCENSION COMMUNITY THEATRE



## ANNOUNCING THE 2014 SEASON of CLASSICS!!



### DRAMA

MARCH 6-9; 13-16

Book by Harper Lee; new dramatization by Christopher Sergel

A beautiful dramatization of Harper Lee's coming-of-age tale, To Kill a Mockingbird, is set in the Deep South, and is a searing portrayal of race and prejudice told through the eyes of a

little girl. We all read it, now let's watch as these timeless characters are brought to life on stage.

### MUSICAL

JULY 10-13; 17-20; 24-27

By L. Frank Baum  
With Music and Lyrics by Harold Arlen and E.Y. Harburg

Background Music by Herbert Stothart  
Dance and Vocal Arrangements by Peter Howard

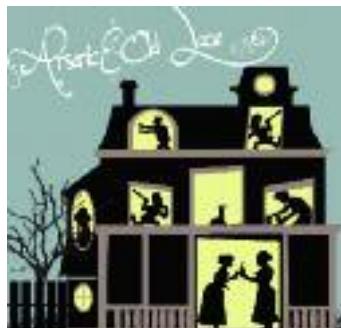
Orchestration by Larry Wilcox

Adapted by John Kane for the Royal Shakespeare Company

Based upon the Classical Motion Picture owned by Turner Entertainment Co. and distributed in all media by Warner Bros.



Relive this classic tale! Accompany Dorothy from Kansas as she, and her dog Toto, meet new friends: the Scarecrow, the Tin Man and the Cowardly Lion along the Yellow Brick Road. They are off to see the Wizard who promises to make their dreams a reality. Watch out for the Wicked Witch and all the other predicaments along the way!



### COMEDY

NOVEMBER 6-9; 13-16  
By Joseph Kesselring

Old ladies known for their charitable works, along with their dim-witted nephew, take that charity to the extreme by poisoning old men that the ladies feel sorry for. A madcap farce written in 1941,

this comedy with a touch of the gruesome, will make you laugh until you cry!

### Season Ticket Request Form

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_

STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE(S): \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

OPENING NIGHT ticket holders (21 & older) are invited to Wine & Cheese with the cast at the T. Joe Gonzales Museum immediately following curtain calls.

Check here if you had season tickets last year & would like the same seats.

or

I WOULD LIKE MY SEAT(S) ON THE FOLLOWING NIGHT:

1st WEEK  Thursday  Saturday  
 Friday  Sunday

2nd WEEK  Thursday  Saturday  
 Friday

Balcony Seats (\$30 (\$25)/show) Total #        \$90 (\$75) =       

1st View Seats (\$25 (\$20)/show) Total #        \$75 (\$60) =       

2nd View Seats (\$20 (\$16)/show) Total #        \$60 (\$48) =       

3rd View Seats (\$15 (\$13)/show) Total #        \$45 (\$39) =       

Discounted Prices in RED apply if ordered before 2/1/2013

Season tickets may be exchanged, subject to availability, if returned to the ACT Box Office prior to performance. **TOTAL: \$**

Credit Card Information

CARD NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_ EXP. DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

CARDHOLDER SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_

Order by **JANUARY 31, 2014** for **DISCOUNTED PRICES**

#### TO ORDER TICKETS:

You may mail this form with your check payable to:  
Ascension Community Theatre • 823 Felicity St. • Gonzales, LA 70737

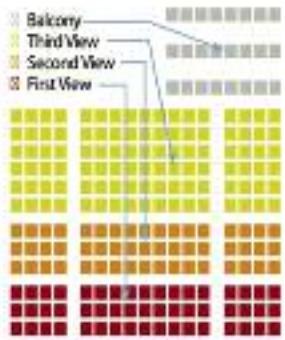
or

Call the Box Office at 225-647-1230

or

Season and Individual tickets may also be purchased on-line.  
Follow the links on our website: [ascensioncommunitytheatre.org](http://ascensioncommunitytheatre.org)  
(\$2 per ticket handling charge will apply.)

### Theater Seating Chart



Stage

### BOX OFFICE HOURS:

Week Before Show:  
M-F 5:30 to 7:30 PM • Sat 10 AM to Noon

Week of Show:  
M-F 5:30 to 7 PM • Sat 10 AM to Noon

### SPECIAL SEASON TICKET BOX OFFICE HOURS:

Dec 1, 2013- Feb 12, 2014  
and then closed from  
Dec 22, 2013-Jan 3, 2014

For More Information about Ascension Community Theatre or its Productions:

**(225) 647-1230**

[ascensioncommunitytheatre.org](http://ascensioncommunitytheatre.org)  
or join us at  
Ascension Community Theatre on Facebook.

All performances and events at  
823 Felicity St., Gonzales, LA 70737

THUR-SAT Performances: 7:00 PM

SUN Matinées: 2:00 PM



This program is  
supported in part by  
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Funding Grant from  
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Division of the Arts, Office of Cultural  
Development, Department of Culture, Recreation  
and Tourism, and Louisiana State Arts Council

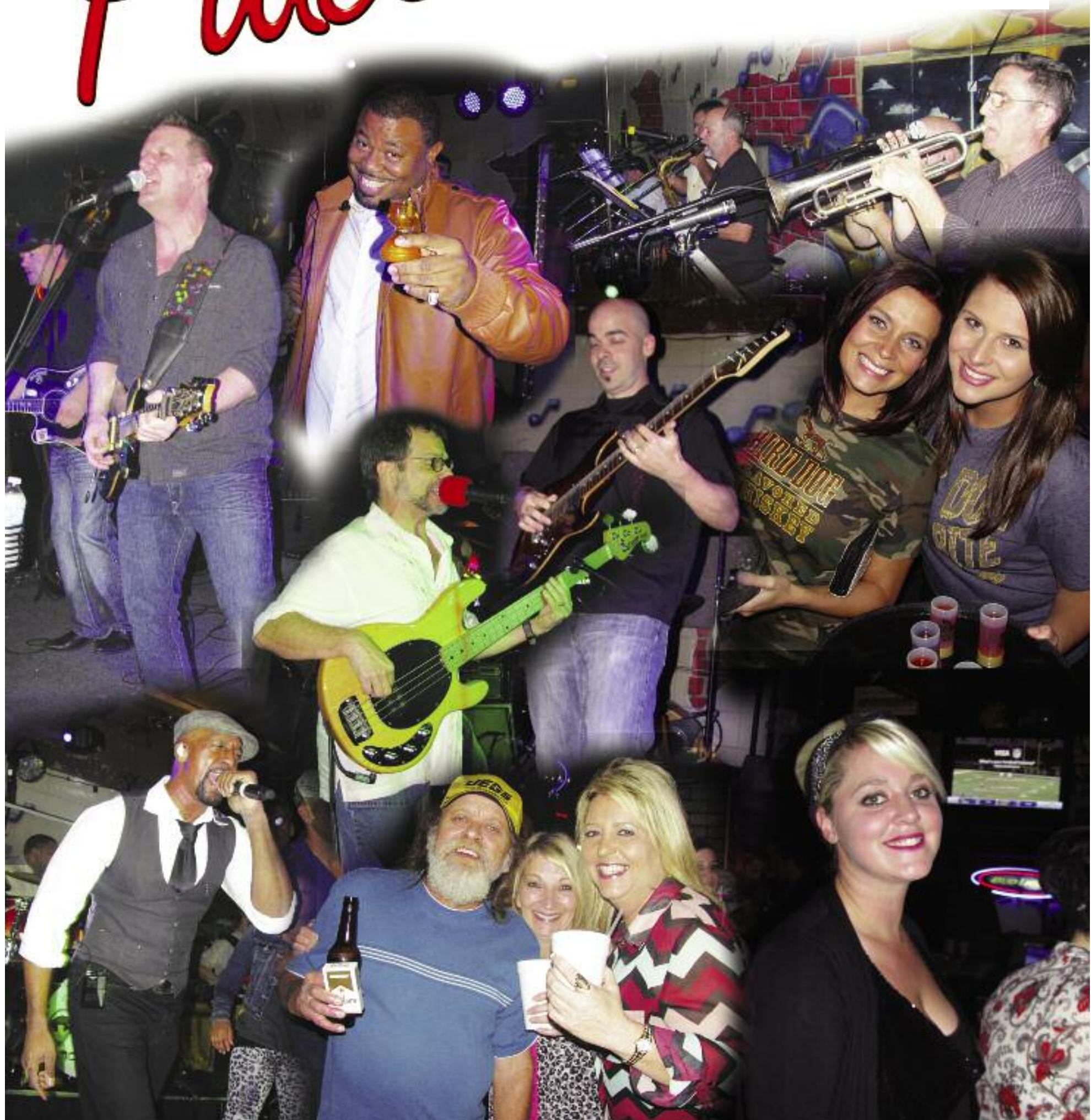


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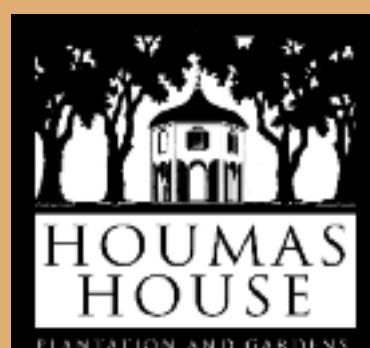
**Cafe' Burnside:**

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**Latil's Landing:**

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Sunday Brunch 11 AM - 3 PM;

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