



Central High Has Largest Graduating Class in History

Central High Class of 2021

Central Residents Earned Diplomas From Six Schools, Home Schooling

Woody Jenkins
 Editor

CENTRAL — The Central High School Class of 2021 walked across the stage at the River Center in downtown Baton Rouge Tuesday night. Altogether 350 Central High seniors earned their diplomas or will have done so by the end of summer school. They join roughly 121 other Central residents who are graduating from Central Private, St. Joseph's, Catholic, Parkview, St. Michael's, Carney Academy, or homeschooling. Central High principal Brandon LaGroue said this was the largest graduating class since creation of the Central school system in 2007.



Photo by Jolice Provost

CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 2021 celebrated their graduation Tuesday at the River Center in Baton Rouge.

Attorney General Backs Rev. Tony Spell

BATON ROUGE — For the past year, Rev. Tony Spell and the congregation at Life Tabernacle have been fought by Gov. John Bel Edwards and Mayor-President Sharon Weston Broome. In fact, the governor had him arrested for holding church in violation of the

governor's decrees. However, the pastor has a new and powerful ally — Louisiana Attorney General Jeff Landry.

The attorney general has weighed in for Rev. Spell in the criminal case against him. Potentially, the Central pastor could face 18 years

in prison for holding church. However, the Attorney General made it clear his office believes the pastor is being prosecuted unjustly and in violation of the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution and the Louisiana Constitution. Landry filed an *amicus* brief

with Louisiana's 1st Circuit Court of Appeal, asking that the court quash the criminal charges against Rev. Spell. Here is the brief filed by the Attorney General:

Friend of the Court Brief of Attorney General Jeff Landry
 See ATTORNEY on Page 4

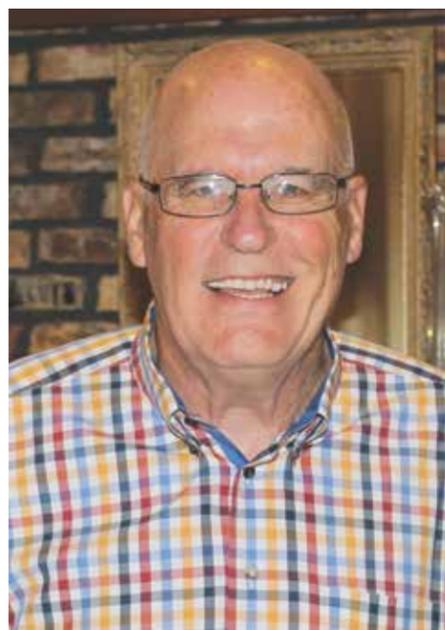
Central's Former Mayor Has Been Busy Saving a Town

Where in the World Is Jr. Shelton?

Administering a Town With \$21 Million in Debt, Junior Worked a Miracle

STERLINGTON — Matt Talbert moved to Sterlington, Louisiana, 15 miles northeast of Monroe, in 2005. He and his wife loved the small town Christian atmosphere where everyone knew each other and where schools were outstanding. It was perfect for their son and daughter. Matt became general manager of a family-owned chain of quick oil change stores and car washes.

In 2018, Matt Talbert became concerned about the government in his town. He knew something wasn't right, and he wanted to fix it. He ran for and was elected to



Former Central Mayor Jr. Shelton has been very busy.

the Sterlington Board of Aldermen. Four of five members of the board were new and had no experience.

Just 41 days after taking office, Matt Talbert and other members of the Board of Alderman received shocking news. Sterlington was nearly bankrupt and was being taken over by the State of Louisiana.

The town, with a population under 2,000, had a debt of \$21 million, thanks to a massive bond issue, and it could not service that debt or even pay day-to-day expenses.

"It was an unbelievable situation," Alderman Talbert said, "We couldn't pay the first bill!"

★★★

In accordance with Louisiana law, Legislative Auditor Daryl See MAYOR on Page 6

Under Louisiana law, when a municipality is unable to pay its bills and is nearing bankruptcy, the Legislative Auditor may appoint a Fiscal Administrator with almost total control over the municipality, superseding the authority of the Mayor and City Council. In effect, his decisions have the effect of law. His responsibility is to put the municipality on a firm financial footing.

In early 2019, the Town of Sterlington (pop. under 2,000) had \$21 million in debt, a crumbling sewer system, and could not pay its employees or its bills.

The Legislative Auditor appointed former Central Mayor Jr. Shelton as Fiscal Administrator of Sterlington. Now his work is nearly done.

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30 minute interview
hosted by Woody Jenkins
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Central's Effort to Have Its Own Parks Is Moving Through Legislative Process

Bill to Withdraw from BREC Passed Senate, Now Before House, Passage Seems Likely

Woody Jenkins
Editor

BATON ROUGE — Sen. Bodi White's legislation to allow the City of Central and the City of Zachary to retain taxes currently paid to BREC and use them for parks in their respective cities is moving steadily through the legislative process.

SB 205 was heard in the Senate Committee on Municipal and Parochial Affairs, which passed it out favorably after some debate. Sen. Franklin Foil, who like Sen. White represents parts of the new City of St. George, amended St. George out of the bill.

The bill was considered in the Senate and passed 29-6. It is now pending in the House Committee on Municipal and Parochial Affairs, which was scheduled to hear the bill on Thursday, May 20.

The legislation would allow the City of Central to keep the \$2.5 million paid by Central residents to BREC every year, and Central would have its own park system.

Those supporting the legislation



BREC PULL OUT — Sen. Bodi White (top right) is shown presenting his bill to take Central and Zachary out of BREC. Sen. Franklin Foil (top left) removed St. George. Sen. Greg Tarver (bottom left) questioned the bill. Zachary Mayor David (bottom right) Amhrein supported it.



WATCH HEARING — The Central City News broadcast the Senate committee hearing on SB 205. To watch, click on the QR code at left. Download a QR code reader app from the App Store.

included Zachary Mayor David Amhrein, who said Zachary has been so dissatisfied with BREC that it has maintained its own system.

BREC opposed the bill, as did Mayor-President Sharon Weston Broome and Central Mayor David Barrow. Barrow said BREC has improved its service to Central.

White said it is too little too late. The senator said Central can do far better with \$2.5 million a year for recreation than BREC does.

BREC is an independent state agency, not under the City-Parish government. It does not answer directly to the governor, the mayor-president, or anyone else other than its Board of Commissioners.

The fact that it is a state agency created under state law is why the matter is before the legislature.

Liberal activist and St. George opponent Richard Lipsey has purchased billboards opposing the legislation.

Under the bill, the recreation and parks commission in Central would consist of one member appointed by the senator from the area, one member by the state representative, two members appointed by the Central City Council, and one member appointed by the Central School Board. The bill would be effective July 1, 2021. After then, BREC could not collect taxes in Central except those pledged for bonded indebtedness.



CENTRAL PHARMACY



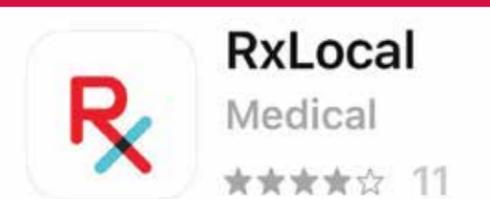
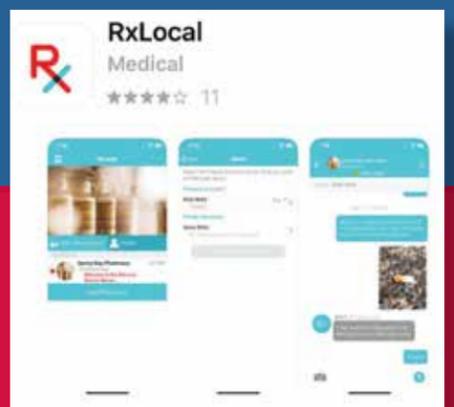
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AG Says Constitution Doesn't Take Holiday in Pandemic

Attorney General Weighs in for Pastor

Continued from Page 1

The Attorney General of Louisiana appears as *amicus curiae* in this case to ensure that the constitutional rights of Louisiana citizens are protected. Governments may legitimately take measures to combat public health threats. See, e.g., *Jacobson v. Massachusetts*, 197 U.S. 11 (1905). But even emergencies do not justify suspension of the Bill of Rights. See *Roman Catholic Diocese of Brooklyn v. Cuomo*, 141 S. Ct. 63, 68 (2020).

The right to the free exercise of religion is a key promise of the First Amendment, and courts must be vigilant to guard this right even—or perhaps especially—in the midst of an emergency.

Appellant, Pastor Mark Anthony Spell, is being prosecuted for allegedly violating two of Governor John Bel Edwards' executive proclamations—30 JBE 2020 (issued March 16, 2020) and 33 JBE 2020 (issued March 22, 2020)—which severely limited the number of people who could gather for religious services. Pastor Spell allegedly held church gatherings with more people than allowed under those proclamations. After being charged with violating the orders, he moved to quash the bills of information against him on First Amendment grounds. The district



PASTOR ARRESTED AND IMPRISONED — Rev. Tony Spell, pastor of Life Tabernacle in Central, was arrested last April for holding in-person worship services. He faces up to 18 years in prison. Attorney General Jeff Landry says that for Rev. Spell to be guilty you have to ignore the First Amendment, the Louisiana Constitution, Louisiana's Religious Liberty Act, and the clear language of the Emergency Powers Act. He said you also have to believe the governor can enact criminal law by decree.

court wrongly denied his motion.

The proclamations violate the First Amendment by restricting religious gatherings more severely than comparable secular gatherings. They disfavor religion and burden people of faith—particularly those whose faith teaches that they should regularly gather together. The Governor's proclamations are unconstitutional as applied to churches and their leaders, such as Pastor Spell. Therefore, this Court should reverse the decision below and quash Spell's bills of information.

ARGUMENT

I. THE GOVERNOR'S PROCLAMATIONS VIOLATE THE FIRST AMENDMENT.

A. Under the First Amendment, laws that treat religious interests less favorably than secular interests are not "neutral" and must survive strict scrutiny, even during an emergency.

The First Amendment guarantees "the free exercise of religion." U.S. Const. amend. I.

State laws that are not "neutral" because they treat religious interests less favorably than secular interests are subject to strict scrutiny. See *Employment Div., Dep't of Human Res. of Oregon v. Smith*,

494 U.S. 872, 879 (1990); *Church of the Lukumi Babalu Aye, Inc. v. City of Hialeah*, 508 U.S. 520, 546 (1993); see also *Holt v. Hobbs*, 574 U.S. 352, 356 (2015) (noting that Congress passed the Religious Freedom Restoration Act in response to *Smith* to ensure "very broad protection for religious liberty"); La. R.S. 13:5232 (Louisiana's Preservation of Religious Freedom Act was adopted in response to *Smith*).

The Supreme Court recently confirmed that pandemics do not decrease the First Amendment's protections of religious liberties in *Roman Catholic Diocese of Brooklyn v. Cuomo*. In that case, the governor of New York issued an executive order stating that "a synagogue or church [could] not admit more than 10 persons, [but] businesses categorized as "essential" [could] admit as many people as they wish[ed]." *Roman Catholic Diocese*, 141 S. Ct. at 66; see also *Agudath Israel v. Cuomo*, No. 20A90, 2020 WL 6954120 (U.S. Nov. 25, 2020).

In other areas of New York, orders limited religious gatherings to 25 people, but "even non-essential businesses [could] decide for themselves how many persons to admit." *Roman Catholic Diocese*, 141 S. Ct. at 66. The Court concluded that the New York restrictions "[could] not be viewed as neutral because they single[d] out houses of worship for especially harsh treatment." *Id.*

The Louisiana Constitution likewise protects the free exercise of religion. La. Const. art. 1, § 8; See PROSECUTION on Page 45



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The Leader was founded April 30, 1998. The Central City News was founded April 21, 2005. They merged May 4, 2006. The South Baton Rouge Journal began publication in 1989. It went on hiatus in 2008 during its 20th year of publication. It resumed publication as the Capital City News on Aug. 16, 2012, with Vol. 21, No. 1. The North Baton Rouge Journal began on August 11, 1966 and went on hiatus in 1976. It resumed publication as the Istrouma Journal on April 6, 2017.

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Photo by Joice Provost

LIZ DENT SUMERALL ANNOUNCEMENT – Long-time Republican activist Liz Dent Sumerall took the mic at the Ronald Reagan Newsmaker Luncheon last week to announce that she was 81 years old, but no one believed her. Woody Jenkins is GOP chairman.

Bill Includes Admission Exam to Get into 1st Grade

Compulsory Kindergarten: Could It Be Worst Bill of 2021 Legislative Session?

While Kindergarten Has No Educational Benefit, It Has Huge Long-Term Negatives

Two weeks ago, the Louisiana Senate Finance Committee considered and ultimately passed SB10 by Sen. Cleo Fields to require every child 4 years 10 months or older to attend school. Former Rep. Woody Jenkins, now editor of Central City News, testified against the bill, which has now passed the Senate and is pending in the House Appropriations and Education committees. This was his testimony in the Senate Finance Committee:

Woody Jenkins
Editor

BATON ROUGE — This bill is really about compulsion — about taking away the right of our parents to decide whether they send their children to kindergarten or not. Right now, the law is that from age 7 to 18 you have to send your children to a “school,” as defined by the state.

There’s a legitimate, compelling state interest in that, because we have an interest in having an educated population. However, there’s not that compelling interest at age five, or in the case of this bill, 4 years and 10 months.

This bill actually compels you to send your babies away to an institution at age 4 years, 10 months, if you read the bill. So it would bring the compulsory attendance age down from 7 years to 4 years and 10 months. At that point, you



BELLINGRATH HILLS FIRST GRADERS IN 2019 — Do parents have the right to decide whether to send their children to kindergarten at age 4 years, 10 months?

Studies Show That by 3rd Grade, Students Who Didn’t Go to Kindergarten Do Better Than Students Who Did Go to Kindergarten

have to turn your child over to an institution.

Forty-one years ago, Dr. Raymond Moore appeared before this committee on my bill to legalize homeschooling in Louisiana. He was the author of two books — *Better Late Than Early* and *School Can Wait*, published by Readers Digest Press. Those two books compiled all the research data at that time, and the research hasn’t really changed.

The research shows this: Early childhood education has no edu-

catinal benefit! In fact, if you take kids who go to kindergarten and kids who do not go to kindergarten, of course, those who go to kindergarten are doing better in the first and second grade. However, by age 8, there is no difference!

There is no difference by age 8 if a child went to kindergarten or not. However, what Dr. Moore found in the research was a significant difference in one thing in particular. And the research is no different today. There is no educational benefit to early schooling, but there are more behavioral problems from those who went to kindergarten, compared to those who did not. Greater behavioral problems!

You know, one of the biggest problems in this legislature is, in my opinion, peer dependency! We’re always so afraid we might offend a member if we try to amend his bill or oppose his bill. Where does all this peer dependency come from?

Kids get in trouble when they are 12, 13, 14 with drugs, sex, crime. We say it comes from peer dependency. But where does that peer dependency come from?

The research shows it comes from early institutionalization of children — at ages 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6.

WATCH Woody Jenkins’ testimony on SB 10 before Senate Finance Committee May 10.



See **EARLY** on Page 42

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Mayor Jr. Shelton Is Fiscal Administrator Of Town of Sterlington in North Louisiana

His Work Will End In June But Goals Already Achieved

Continued from Page 1

Purpera appointed a Fiscal Administrator to take over and operate the town, in lieu of bankruptcy. Purpera appointed former Central Mayor Jr. Shelton for the task.

Alderman Matt Talbert said, "When I told officials from other cities at the Louisiana Municipal Association Convention we were getting a Fiscal Administrator, they gave their condolences and said it would be terrible, like a dictatorship. When Mayor Jr. Shelton arrived in town, none of us knew what to expect!"

Under Louisiana law, the Fiscal Administrator of a municipality is much like a Bankruptcy Trustee. He has almost total authority over the city government. His decisions supercede those of the mayor and city council, or in Sterlington's case, the Board of Alderman.

The \$21 million in bond money had been spent for a baseball and softball facility that was supposed to attract tournament play from throughout the state and nation and for improvements to the sewer system.

Unfortunately, the revenue from the ball fields and a special one-half cent sales tax could only produce about \$200,000 a year — far short of the \$700,000 a year needed to service the bonds.

The problems with bonded indebtedness spilled over into the town's day-to-day operations. Bills were going unpaid, and town employees were being laid off. It would have been an untenable situation for a private business and unthinkable for a municipality.

★★★

The Town of Sterlington had a population of 1,599 in the 2010 census. By 2018, the Census Bureau estimated there were 2,724 people, and Sterlington was heralded as the fastest growing municipality in Northeast Louisiana or perhaps the state. However, today those figures appear inflated and most officials think the 2020 census will show under 2,000 residents.

The business community of Sterlington is small, and there is no downtown area or city center. The Waffle House has hours. There's a Sonic and a hardware store. There was a Fred's, but it has been replaced by Brooksher's, which is similar to a Neighborhood Walmart. City officials thought Covid would hurt the town's sales tax



Sterlington (pop. under 2,000) has many similarities with Central



STERLINGTON, LA, SPORTS COMPLEX — Built at a cost of \$10 million, the Sterlington Sports Complex is a beautiful facility, but it failed to pay the cost of amortization of the debt. As a result, since the project was undertaken by the small town of Sterlington, taxpayers there have had to pick up the tab. People who shop at convenience stores and restaurants pay over 12.9 percent sales tax.

revenues, but local businesses had a record year.

★★★

Before Mayor Shelton was appointed, the Aldermen said they discussed every conceivable solution. But most of the ideas were either unworkable or too unpopular for the public to accept.

Alderman Zach Howse, another first-time member of the council, said things in Sterlington haven't always been so bleak. On the contrary, he said, "Until late 2018, most people in Sterlington felt things were going pretty well. We were the fastest growing city in the state, and we had a beautiful ballpark. The town was seeing the world through rose-colored glasses, because, at the same time, we were racking up a mountain of debt and our sewer system was falling apart."

The bottom fell out when Mayor Vern Breland resigned shortly before the November 2018 election, "Everyone could see that something was terribly wrong," Alderman Howse said.

Since then, former Mayor Breland has been charged with one count of malfeasance in office by District Attorney Steve Tew.

★★★

Howse and the other aldermen took office in January 2019. Shortly thereafter, members of the new Sterlington Board of Alderman were summoned to Baton Rouge for a fiscal review meeting conducted by the Legislative Auditor.

Howse said, "We were asked about our financial status and how we were going to get out of it. The meeting did not go well. We had the right plans for getting the town back on track but did not have the power to enact them. We realized that we needed a fiscal administrator who could make things happen."

"There was another problem. Because we were a new council and inexperienced, many people in Sterlington didn't trust that we knew what we were doing. They wanted to wait for the Fiscal Administrator to arrive and set things straight."

The Board of Alderman had been looking at a plan to raise sewer rates

from \$35 a month to \$68 a month — a very large increase. "People in town thought that was outrageous and that the Fiscal Administrator would reject any such increase. Unfortunately, that was the amount needed to pay for badly needed sewer improvements," he said.

The Economic Development District created to build the baseball parks had taxing authority but it would take another one-cent sales tax to service the debt on the bonds, something the citizens of Sterlington could not accept.

The town was in gridlock. No solution seemed possible. Everything had ground to a halt. Town government was at a standstill. Something had to be done.

★★★

Before he arrived in Sterlington, Jr. Shelton spent a lot of time going over the numbers. "I found the situation in Sterlington to be extremely difficult but not impossible."

"When I arrived, all you could see was debt, and it was hard to tell what was real and what wasn't. We knew the bonded indebtedness was real and could not be cancelled. However, there were some claims against the town that were not legitimate. The town operated a utility company. That was real and provided revenue for the town. But



Matt Talbert, Board of Aldermen Town of Sterlington, Louisiana



the stream of revenue was not sufficient to pay city expenses, much less service the debt from the ball fields and sewer improvements."

Mayor Shelton said, "It soon became clear that sewage fees had to be raised to make improvements. Likewise, it would take an increase in the sales tax in order to service the bonded indebtedness. We would have to be frugal, even to make that work."

"One of the first things I did was get on the phone with creditors and tell them I was onboard and that

See **STERLINGTON** on Page 44



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Grant Dunn, Co-Salutatorian

Central High School
Graduation Ceremony
 Raising Cane's RiverCenter
 May 18, 2021

Photos by Jolice Provost
 Central City News



At left, use QR code to watch graduation ceremony. At right, learn about family of valedictorian Victoria Pursifull.

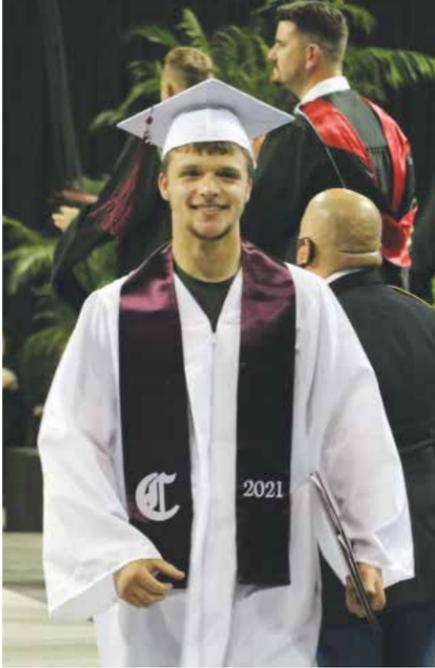




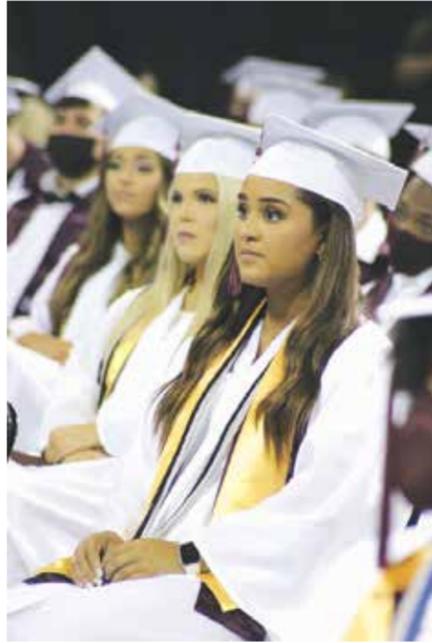
Victoria Pursifull, Valedictorian



Hailee Tran, Co-Salutatorian



A TOTAL OF 328 SENIORS walked across the stage Tuesday night; another 17 did not attend. Others will graduate this summer.



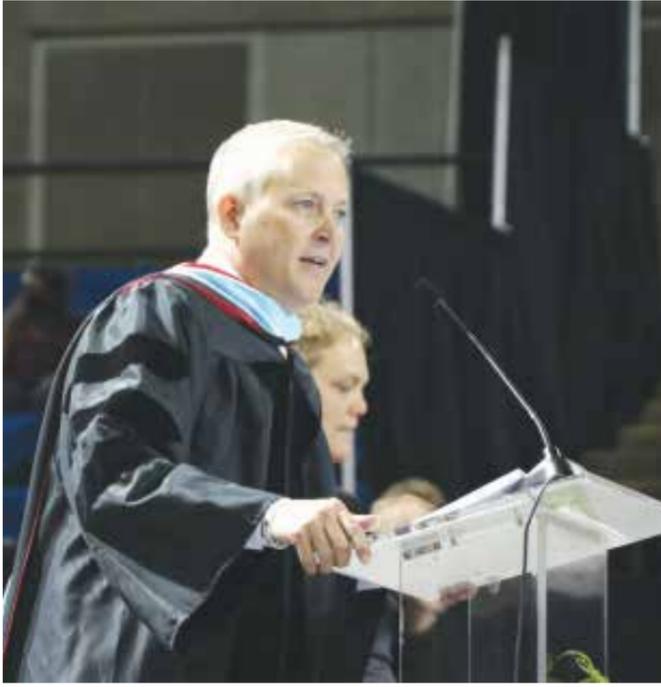
TUESDAY NIGHT was a time of celebration for Central High seniors. The school is one of the top-ranked in the state, and a diploma from Central High is a mark of achievement.



ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT — Beginning with Central High principal J. A. Smith in the 1930's, Central High has stressed academic achievement and excellence.

Central High Graduation Ceremonies

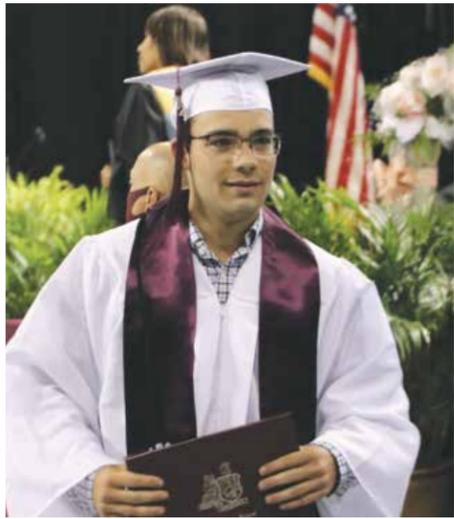
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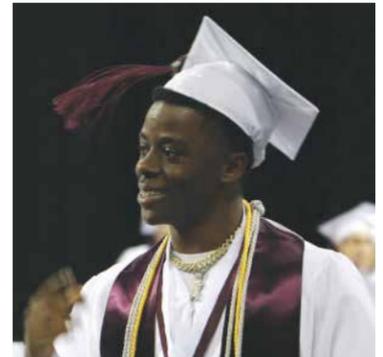
Central schools Supt. Jason Fountain addresses graduates.



Central High School Class of 2021 during graduation ceremonies at



Watch Central City News Video Here



May 18 at River Center in Baton Rouge

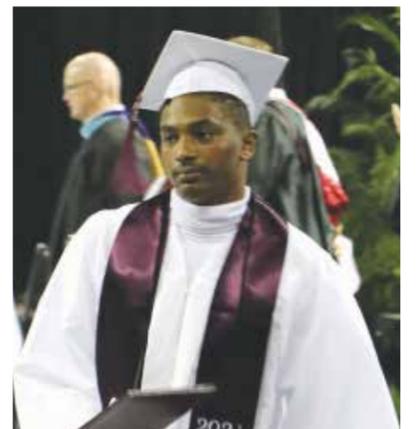
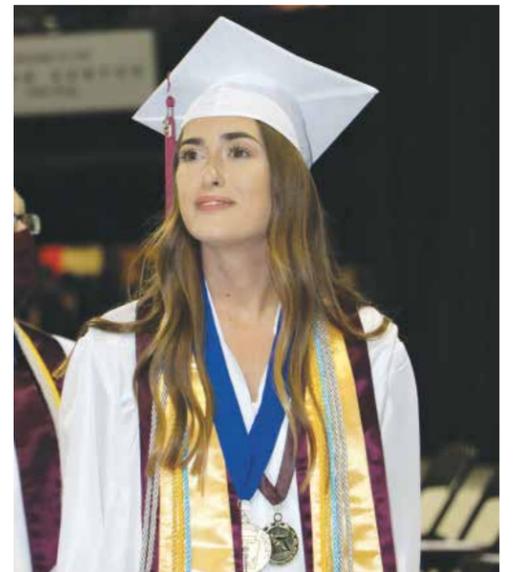
News



at the River Center in Baton Rouge



Central High principal Brandon LaGroue speaks while interpreter keeps up.



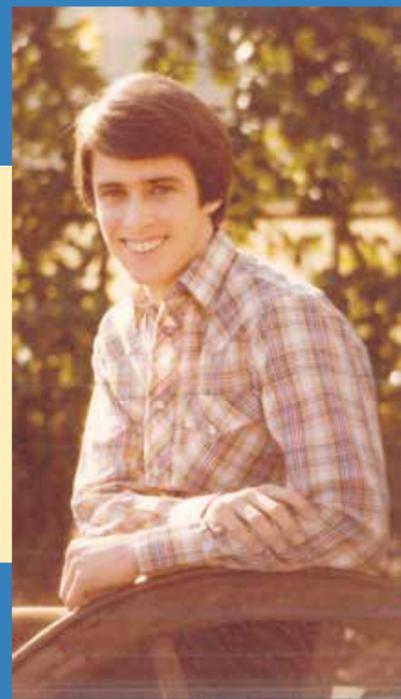
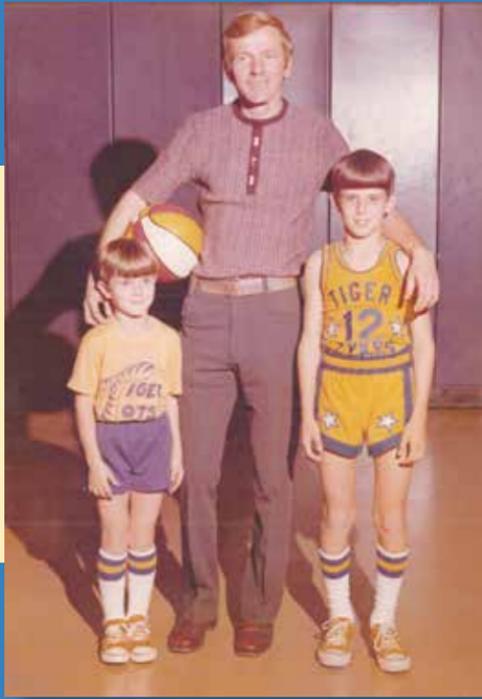
Congratulations to Class of 2021!



Commencement = A Beginning

To the graduates of 2021: As you receive your high school diploma, you will commence a new chapter in your life. Our schools in Central have well prepared you for the next step. Once your formal education is complete, you will get a good job or start a business. Hopefully, you will become a property owner, and that will bring you into contact with the Assessor's office. Our job is to assess property fairly and equitably in accordance with law. We want you to know that when you become a property owner, our door is always open to assist you! Thank you so much for the opportunity to serve you!

— Assessor Brian Wilson



Brian Wilson (left) at Redemptorist High School; Brian and younger brother Scott in elementary school; and at right as a teenager.



Central High • Most Courteous
Cole Austin and Giuliana Bossier



Central Private School Most Unforgettable
Sadie Fontenot and Noah Martin

CHEF Home School Class of 2021

Christian Home Education Fellowship is a cooperative endeavor and one of a number of home school organizations for parents.



Joseph Abreau



Collin Alexander



Chloe Arnold



Gabe Barraco



Olivia Bergeron



Royale Bey



Ethan Bourque



Christopherson Brian



Makayla Bruno



Cophia Byrd



Maya Campbell



Jenna Canova



Grace Carmoche



Reece Carmoche



Savannah Clouse



Spencer Craig



Hope David



Avery Ducote



Jacob Elliot



Garrett Forman



Mallory Forman



Braeden Gaines



Trevor Gaines



Levi Gayle



Thomas Haley



Olivia Hardy



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Charles Langlois



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Haleigh Medlock



Nathan Phillips



Abigail Pearce



Turner Pinsonat



Joshua Pugh



Andrew Robinson



Scott Cryshan



Cyntrell Smith



Kaley Triggs



Blake Volland



Brodie Volland

HOME SCHOOLING

Provides the opportunity for young people to be educated at home, much as our Founding Fathers and many of the great leaders of the world were educated. In 1980, Louisiana became the first state in the nation to legalize home education. The bill was authored by then-Rep. Woody Jenkins of Baton Rouge, who is now editor of the *Central City News*. Today, more than 33,000 students in Louisiana are homeschooled, about 5 percent of the student population.



John Cole West



Michael Winton

LOUISIANA LAW

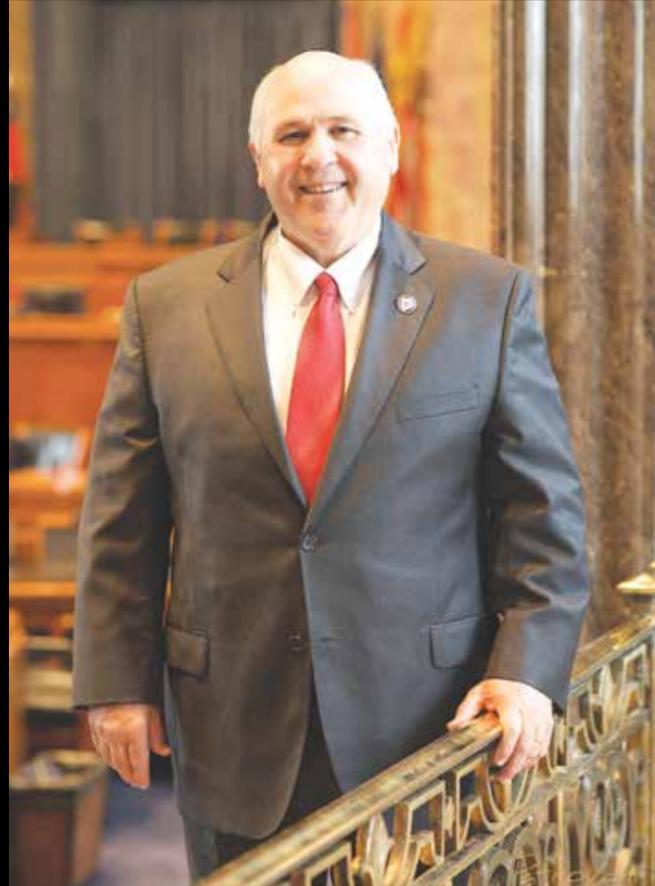
Provides two methods of home education that meet the requirements of Louisiana's compulsory attendance law. A parent may apply to the Louisiana Department of Education for approval of their home school program. Approval is automatic the first year. In the alternative, the parent may register with the department as operating a small private school. The regulations are less for operating a private school. Home schoolers can qualify for TOPS free tuition program.

Congratulations, Graduates!

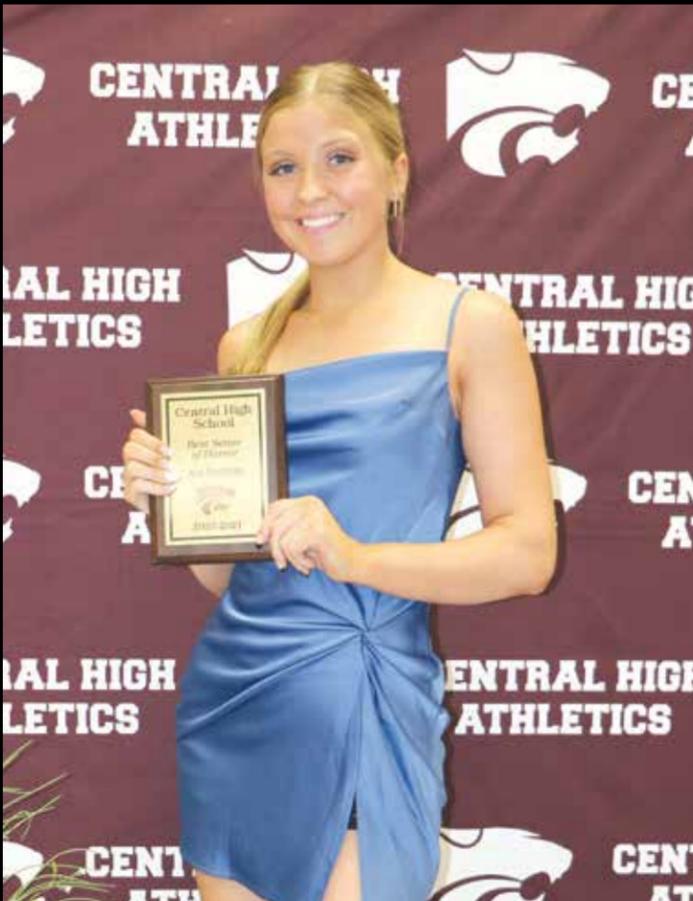
Perseverance is Key!

The Class of 2021 has seen its share of historic changes! Before this group of young people started high school they faced the Flood of 2016 as 75% of the homes in the Central community flooded. Then in 2020, the Covid-19 Pandemic hit and changed our world. I believe this group of young people is strong and know what it takes to make the best of a difficult situation. Perseverance is key to your continued success into adult life. As scripture tells us, "Blessed is the man who perseveres under trial, because when he has stood the test, he will receive the crown of life that God has promised to those who love him." James 1:12

Congratulations, Class of 2021!



Senator Bodi White



Central High School Best Sense of Humor
Ava Denham • Bodi's Great Niece



Central High School 2021 Graduate
Grayson Fryday • Bodi's Great Nephew

Best Wishes for Success in the Future!



2021 Central High School Most School Spirit
Bella Barnes and Jeffery Dunn



2021 Central Private Most Likely to Succeed
Andrew Dean and Lauren Dale

Central Private School Class of 2021



Ace Chaney



Trevion Cooks



Mr. Central Private, Camren Monson, and Miss Central Private, Carleigh Shaffer



Victoria Corsentino



Justin Daigle



Lauren Dale



Andrew Dean



Trip Flotte



Sadie Fontenot



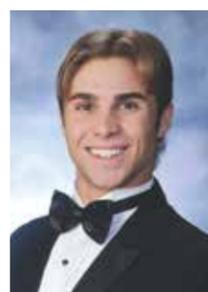
Larkyn Jones



Camden Juneau



Danielle Kennedy



Ben Kolb



Sidney Laney



Noah Martin



Julia Meche



Camren Monson



Alli Nolen



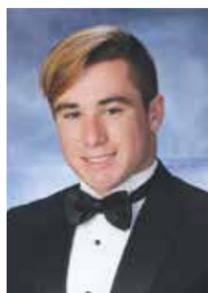
Kyle Pitre



Logan Pitre



Kayla Reid



Rhett Richard



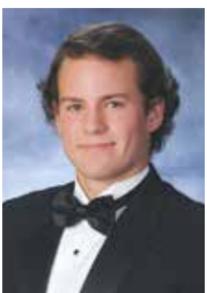
Cole Robertson



Rory Seguin



Carleigh Shaffer



Cody Sharpe



Carlyle Smith



Adam Steudlein



Trip Wilson



Central Private Unforgettable, Sadie Fontenot and Noah Martin



Mary-Hannah Varnado

Central Private Graduates
Photos by Lionel Selser Photography

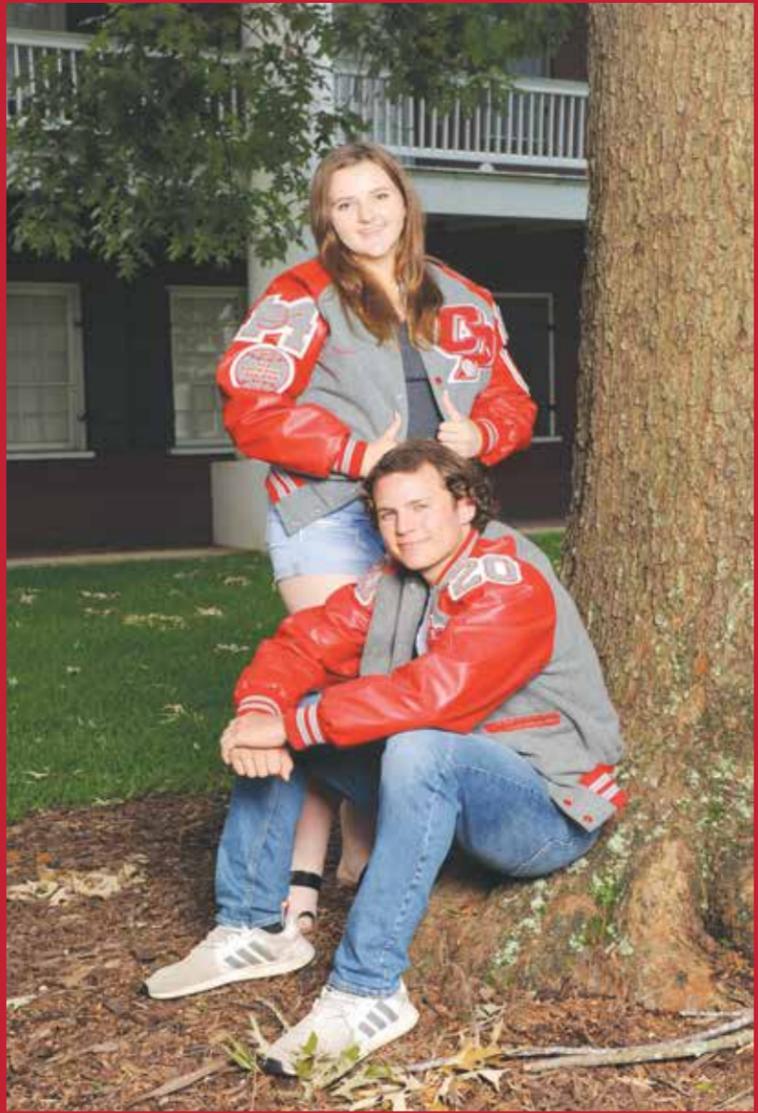


Central Private Most School Spirit, Rhett Richard and Mary-Hannah Varnado

2021 Central Private School Favorites



Central Private 2021 Most Likely to Succeed, Andrew Dean and Lauren Dale



Central Private 2021 Most Athletic, Danielle Kennedy and Cody Sharpe



Central Private 2021 Funniest, Alli Nolen and Trevion Cooks



Central Private Wittiest, Victoria Corsentino and Justin Daigle

Central Private's Who's Who Students



Lauren Dale
2021 CP Who's Who



Ben Kolb
2021 CP Who's Who



Camren Monson
2021 CP Who's Who



Carleigh Shaffer
2021 CP Who's Who



Cody Sharpe
2021 CP Who's Who



Carlyle Smith
2021 CP Who's Who

Carney Christian Academy Seniors



Isabella Arnold



Hollea Brooks



Ashtyn Butler



Elizabeth Cox



Micah Fairchild



Lana Hall



Jackson Howell



Ethan Paxton



Cheyenne Procell



Victoria Tyler

Carney Christian Academy Photos by Eric Frank Photography

Congratulations Class of 2021!



A warm salute to the graduates of 2021! Your hard work has paid off! Central is proud of your diligence and happy for your success! Continue to strive for excellence as your journey continues! We wish you well in your future endeavors and hope you will stay and make Central your home for a lifetime!

BEST WISHES TO YOU ALL!

City of Central Mayor David Barrow

Before you act, listen. Before you react, think. Before you spend, earn. Before you criticize, wait. Before you quit, try.

-William Arthur Ward

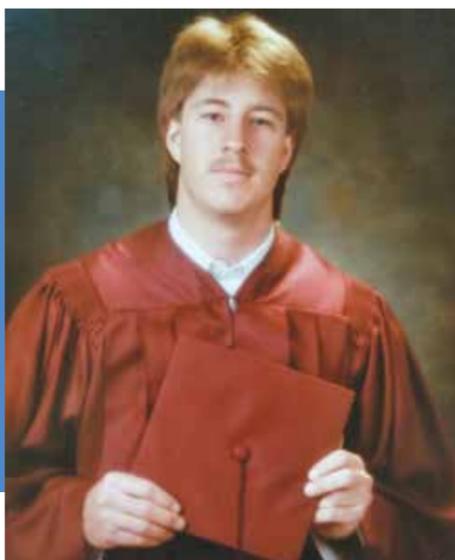


Congratulations Grads: Job Well Done!

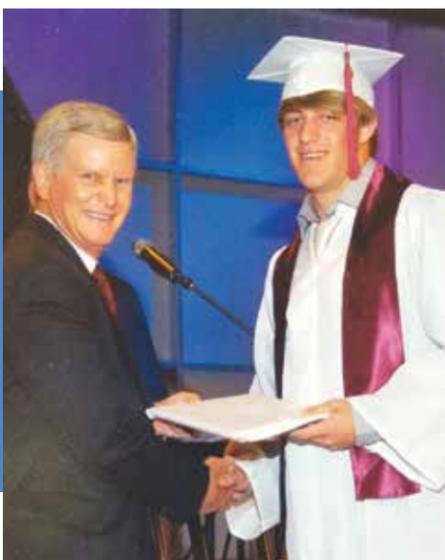
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JAY PAYNE
Central High School
Class of 1985



ZACK PAYNE
Central High
Class of 2008
with Principal
Ronnie Devall



Wittiest
Victoria
Corsentino
and
Justin Daigle
Central Private
Class of 2021



Friendliest
Russell Chinn
and
Aleece Andrews
Central High
Class of 2021

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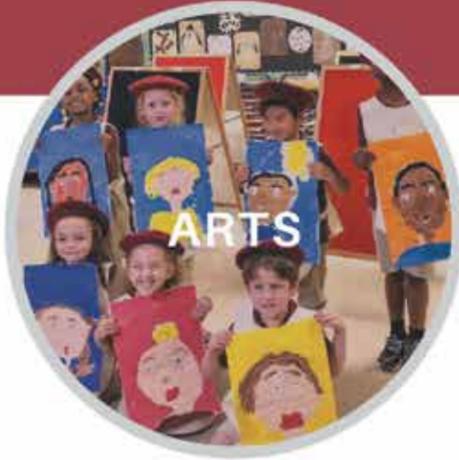
www.centralplumbing.org



CENTRAL *COMMUNITY* SCHOOL SYSTEM



ACADEMICS



ARTS



ATHLETICS

WORLD CLASS IS WHAT WE DO

1:1 Laptop Program

Build your college transcript while in high (DE, AP, and CLEP)

Five Integrated High School Pathways: Hospitality, Culinary, & Business; Health Sciences; Manufacturing, Construction, Crafts, & Logistics; Information Technology; and LSU Pre-Engineering

Award-winning Performing Arts

Championship Athletics

Many opportunities for gifted and talented students

Central High School Renovation begins in Summer 2021



Central High School named Morgan Rabalais and Connor Cassels 'Most Likely to Succeed'

Congratulations!

Central High School seniors Morgan Rabalais and Connor Cassels have been chosen "Most Likely to Succeed" in the Central High Class of 2021. Like so many of our graduates, they are great role models and examples of the outstanding students in the Central Community School System! We look forward to the many accomplishments of our graduates in the future!

Dr. Jason Fountain
Superintendent, Central Schools



Congrats Class of 2021

Central High School's 2021 Valedictorian Victoria Pursifull



Graduates, dream big and challenge yourself daily. Make everyday count by setting goals and exploring new paths. Remember to remain confident. Successful people take chances and are always willing to keep learning. Never give up, but most of all, enjoy life! Congratulations!

Metro Councilman Aaron Moak



Graduation 2021

Congratulations Central Graduates!

And be not conformed to this world; but be transformed in the newness of your mind, that you may prove what is the good and the acceptable and the perfect will of God.
Romans 12:2



Brandon Noel
Metro Council District 1

Congratulations to the Class of 2021 We are so Proud of You!

Your Central Community School System School Board



Dr. Keith Holmes
District 1



Roxanne Atkinson
District 2



Dr. David Walker
District 3



Phillip Graham
District 4



Dr. Jim Gardner
District 5



Ruby Foil
District 6



Sharon Browning
District 6

CHS Class of 2021 Motto

“You can’t go back and change the beginning, but you can start where you are and change the ending.” — C.S. Lewis

109th Graduating Class in School History

Central High School Class of 2021



Corey Accardo



Lainie Albarado



Central High School Most Attractive Landon Husser and Alyssa Guillot



Nathan Altazan



Ethan Amason



Jordan Anderson



Aleece Andrews



Bryson Andrews



Peyton Anthony



Da'Veawn Armstead



Cole Austin



Zoie Bacon



Halli Bailey



Natalie Bailey



Layna Baker



Jadon Barber



Bella Barnes



Daylin Beck



Nathan Bell



Lane Bellue



Ally Benton



Jalynn Bidol



Baylee Blanchard



Hannah Booty



Rayna Booty



Giuliana Bossier



Kristina Bouquet



Madelyn Bozeman



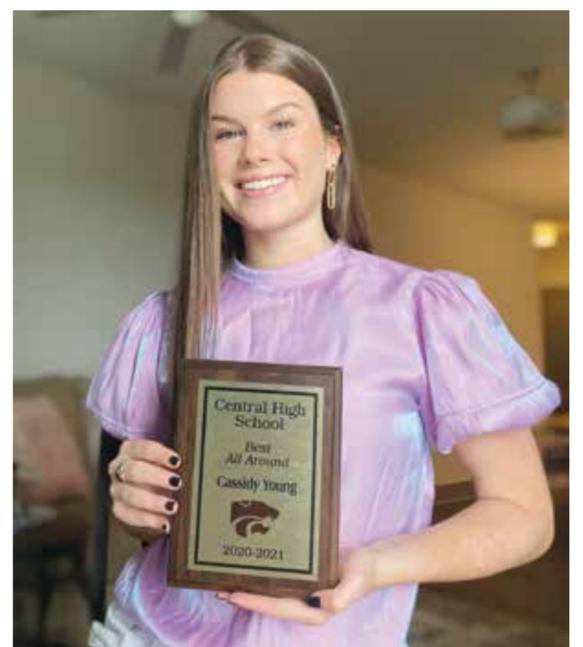
Shaun Breen



Central High School Best All Around
Gabe Patterson



Central High School Friendliest
Russell Chinn and Aleece Andrews



Central High School Best All Around
Cassidy Young

Our Head Football Coach Is "Coach Sid"!

Central High School Class of 2021



Cameron Brown



Garry Burton



Central High Most Dependable Lindsie Jackson and Cade Ross



Tristen Cain



Caleb Callender



Ridge Callender



Dany Benitez-Canales



Thomas Carpenter



Maitland Carrier



Connor Cassels



Seth Cayer



Gracelyn Champagne



Celia Chapman



Dalin Chapman



David Chassaing



Caidyn Chiasson



Russell Chinn



Christian Ciolino



Dallin Clark



Tristen Clark



Steven Colkmire



Camryn Jackson-Collins



Benjamin Compton



Kaitlyn Cooley



Joshua Cooper



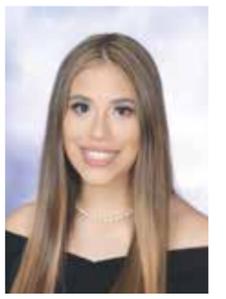
Tyler Cox



Jonah Creel



Colby Curcio



Madelyn Currie



Sydney Dalrymple



Taylor Dabney



Lanie Davis



Shane Davis



Brennan Dawson



Devan Defreitas



Keiry Delcid



Brodie Demoulin



Ava Denham



Megan Ditcharo



Charles Dixon



Jason Dixon



Dominic Dotson



Jillian Dunaway



Grant Dunn



Jeffery Dunn

Our Principal Is Brandon LaGroue



Derek Dupree



Colby Dupuy



Emily Dykes



Logan Edwards



Matthew Elliot



Nathan Ellis



Kyrin Ely



Haley Epps



Tyler Escuriex



Daynia Estave



Gage Evans



Ethan Farris



Alyssa Ferguson



Jamarieon Fisher



Malancy Fitch



Shane Forbes



Sarah Ford



Abigail Fralick



Jayvon Francois



Lailah Franklin



Grayson Fryday



Tyler Furr



Paul Garcia



Fernando Garduno



Destiney Gary



Lanie Gaubert



Jace Glissman



John Glissman



Jakira Goodman



Elise Granier



William Grant



Kyra Greely



Blake Green



Patricia Green



Bailey Guercio



Addison Guidry



Summer Guidry



Alexa Guillot



Alyssa Guillot



Chase Hale



Landon Hall



Mason Hall



Raegan Hancock



Breanna Hardy



Zoe Hardy



Markell Harris



Olivia Harris



Hunter Hawkins



Brennyn Hebert



Jeremiah Henderson



Niya Hensley



Malik Hillard



Brayden Howell



Marcus Hudson



Kain Huey



Alana Huff



Emma Huguet



Kodee Hurston



Landon Husser



Tori Ingrassia



Makayla Isaac



Braeah Jackson



Lindsie Jackson



Samaria Jarvis

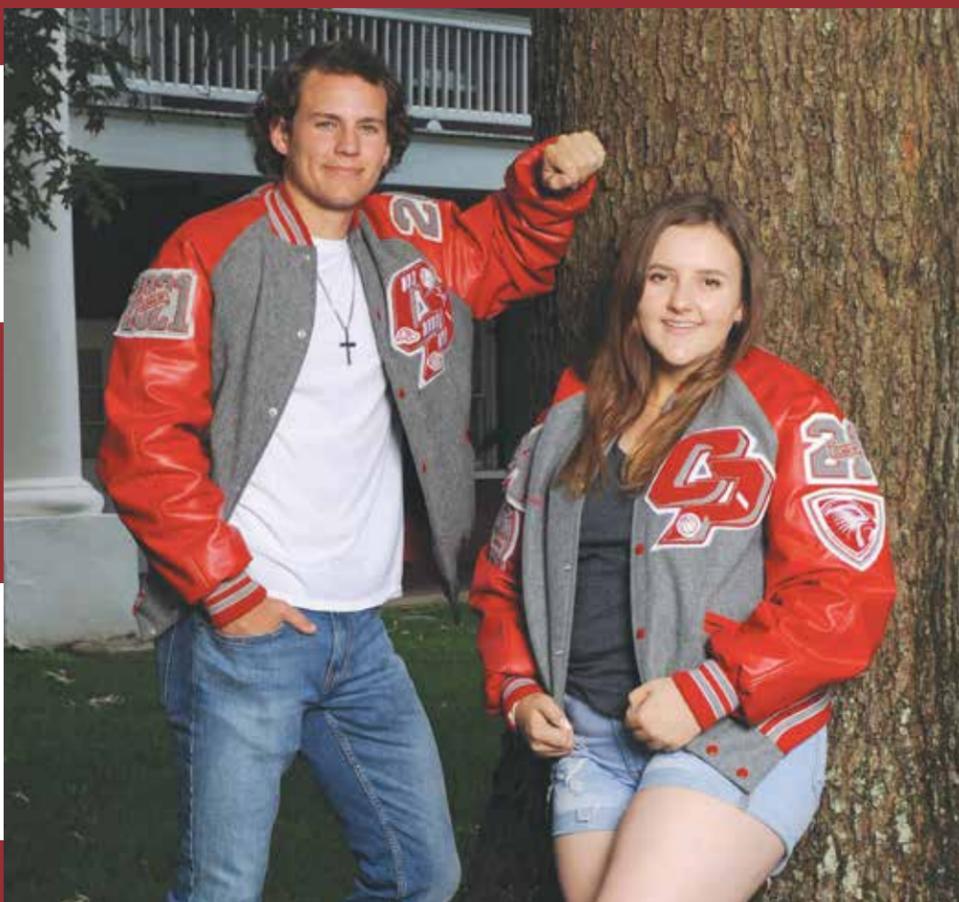
Graduates, Remember to Keep Us Free!
Honor Our Constitution



Rep. Valarie Hodges

As you graduate and move to the next chapter of your life, always remember that we are molded by our values and character, which aid us in the ups and downs of our life. The decisions we make during the triumphs and trials of life shape who we are as unique individuals created in the image of God. You can make the best of a situation with God's unending grace. The graduating class of 2021 has seen its share of trials. Your 8th grade started with the Great Flood of 2016 and now as you complete your senior year the Covid-19 Pandemic has changed everyone's world. There are still so many unknown factors, but we must all persevere! These trials are a great lesson for all of us — but we are strengthened by them, not defeated! By the grace of our good and gracious God, we will be triumphant!

Rep. Valarie Hodges



Most Athletic • Central Private School
Cody Sharpe and Danielle Kennedy



Most Athletic • Central High School
Da'veawn Armstead and Destiney Gary

Class of 2021 Is 350 Seniors Strong



Central High Most School Spirit Bella Barnes and Jeffery Dunn



Central High School Most Courteous Cole Austin and Giulianna Bossier



Emma Jenkins



Jakirah Johnson



Karmen Johnson



Damion Jordan



Emily Jordan



Joshua Jordan



Trevor Kean



Mallory Kendrick



Bryce Kennard



Damian Kenney



Ian Kinchen



Hannah King



Patrick Klug



Brody Knapps



Floyd Knox



Massey Kretser



Logan Landry



Seth Landry



Steven Langlois



Jacob Laurent



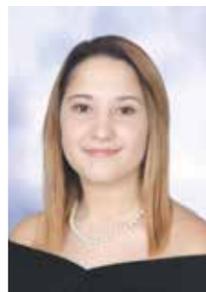
Ruth Lavalley



Madeleine LeBlanc



Joseph LeDuff



Magnolia Lee



Megan Lee



Abigail Lefrange



Kacie Lejeune



Scott Lemmler



Alexa LeSage



Sarah Grace Lieux



Jackson Lord



Abigail Malbrough



Emily Marcotte



Shedrick Marshall



Alyssa Mason



Mark Matassa



Savannah McLin



Carlos Mendez



Joshua Meyer



Kaitlyn Mier



Samuel Miers



Charles Milton



Taylor Montoto



Aolani Moore



Tristan Moreau



Jacob Mougeot



Chandria Muse



Lia Neff

Maroon and White, Our Banner Does



Tykeria Netters



Ethan Newman



Landon Noble



Mccaleb Norwood



Adam O'Banion



Dylan O'Banion



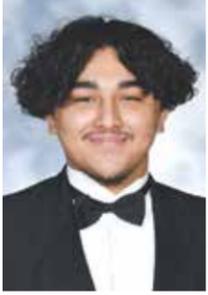
Rece Oubre



Nevaeh Paddie



Carol Padilla



Michael Patel



Luci Patin



Gabriel Patterson



Pierce Patterson



Hannah Paulk



Kennedy Pedeaux



Kinslee Pellerin



Asia Perry



Nathan Petersen



Riley Pierce



Nia Pitts



Morgan Pizzaloto



Lexi Posey



Kailyn Potts



Kelsey Prather



Luc Provost



Angelie Pruitt



Victoria Pursifull



Morgan Rabalais



Josiah Rankins



Austin Reason



Juan Reyes



Ethaniel Rizan



Ethan Robinson



Hugo Rodriguez



Londyn Rogers



Cade Ross



Jamia Rucker



Angel Samuel



Anna Sanches



Chad Sanchez



D'untae Sanders



Tyler Sandoval



Joseph Scarbrough



Brianna Schafer



Joshua Schopp



Dylan Scivicque



Allison Scott



Madilyn Scott



Skylar Scott



Tyler Scott



Avery Shaffer



Madilyn Shaffer



Christopher Shall



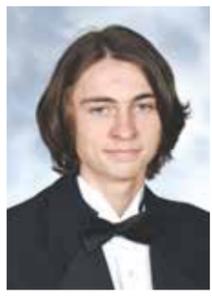
Dylin Skidmore



Rylee Smith



Jamariah Snearl



Kade Snyder



Heath Soniat



Jada Spears



Anthony Stewart



Dakota Stewart



Kyle Stewart



Nah'Landri Stinson



Keely Ana Strickland

Sail to Conquer and Prevail

Central High School
Class of 2021



Mollie Tanner



Rachel Taylor



Riley Taylor



Emma Terry



Baylea Thalleen



Allison Thibodeaux



Gabrielle Thibodeaux



Peyton Thibodeaux



Cassie Throckmorton



Gracie Throckmorton



Cam'ron Tillery



Celine Ton



Warren Townsend



Hailee Tran



Kylie Triggs



Reagan Turner



Elizabeth Valenti



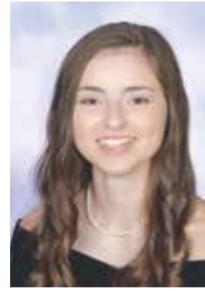
Zane Verbois



Lacy Villarreal



Kelly Vu



Savannah Walls



Phenix Ward



Case Welch



Robert Wells



Baylee Whittington



Aulyssa Wiggins



Jaida Wilkinson



Caroline Williams



Joshua Williams



Destinee Wills



Makayla Willson



Khloe Wilson



Breanna Wintz



Cassidy Young

2021 Graduates not photographed: Jacob Aguiniga, Juan Banks, Richard Bethley, Jesse Boulet, Ally Branton, Marissa Breen, Ayanna Brown, Jael Brown, Tia Bryant, Layla Carnes, Juynia Poveda Castellon, NaKyra Cheney, Keiry Crissel Delcid Coello, Jeremiah Colomb, Kaeden Cook, Peyton Crochet, Jonathan Davis, James Dillion, Charles Dixon, Caleb Drago, Charnaé Dugan, Jack Edwards, Kimble Evans, Charlie Farrar, Lindsey Fry, Bailey Gallant, Jacob Gonzalez, Benjamin Goodman, Kenneth Hale, Skylar Hall, Nathaniel Hames, Ke'Derius Hawkins, Kodee Hurston, Caleb Hutchinson, Mackenzie Juban, Brock Juneau, Jay Kelly, Andrew Kendrick, Joss Kimble, Christopher Lambert, Colin Lanclos, Landon Linton, Demar Loza, Maxim Mancuso, Brantly Martin, Trentin Mathis, Gabriel Mayeux, Julianna McMorris, Evan Miller, Ethan Montgomery, Cam'Bren Moore, Jackson North, Amarion Oliver, Davis Payer, Charles Pederson, Lane Pourciau, Madison Price, Rene Rivera, Austin Robertson, Connor Rome, Britain Scott, Kalira Scott, Joshua Seymour, Drew Smith, Gage Stanley, Landon Street, Alex Teal, Cade Travis, Kylee Vickers, Rylen Walker, Jesse Warrington, Brylie Williams, Daniel Williams, Jeremy Wise, Ariyone Wyre, Cameron Young, Tommy Zheng



Central High School Most Athletic
Da'veaqn Armstead and Destiney Gary

**Congratulations
Central High School
Class of 2021**

Favorites Photos
By Jolice Provost
Central City News



Central High School Most Talkative
Shaun Breen and Lexie Posey

CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL 2021 CLASS MOTTO
"You can't go back and change the beginning, but you can start where you are and change the ending" — C.S. Lewis

2021 Central High Class Favorites



Central High School Best Personality
Richard Bethley and Emma Huguet



Central High School Most Intelligent
Grant Dunn and Victoria Pursifull



The Central Wildcat



Central High School Most Photogenic
Hugo Rodriguez and Layna Baker



Central High School Most Likely to Succeed
Morgan Rabalais and Connor Cassels



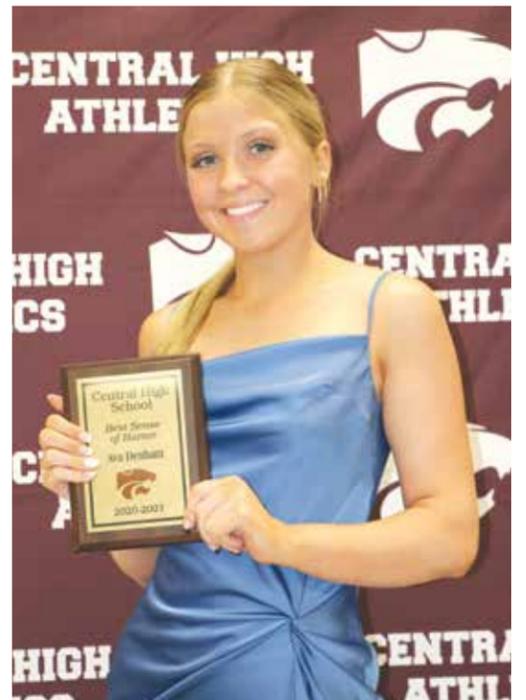
Central High School Most Talented
Maitland Carrier



Central High School Campus Flirts
Tristen Cain and Pierce Patterson



Central High School Class Comedians
Jonah Creel and Sydney Dalrymple



Central High School Best Sense of Humor
Ava Denham

Grant Dunn Named Mr. Central High, Keely Ana Strickland Miss Central High

CENTRAL — Mr. CHS is Grant Dunn, the son of Jay and Ragan Dunn. The Dunn family attends Fellowship Baptist Church. Grant is a four-year member of the Central Wildcat football team where he earned the honor of 2nd Team All-District in his junior year and 1st Team All-District in his senior year. In addition Grant was named a member of LHSAA's All Academic Football Team his senior year. Grant was a member of the Wildcat baseball team for two years.

Last week Grant was awarded the Scholar Athlete Award at Central High School with a GPA of 4.5. In addition, he was named Most Intelligent Boy in the senior class. Dunn is a member of Mu Alpha Theta and attended the BETA Club state and national conventions. He is holds 4th Place in the National High School Math Division II.

Grant is a member of the Student Council and was a 2020-2021 finalist for Student of the Year.

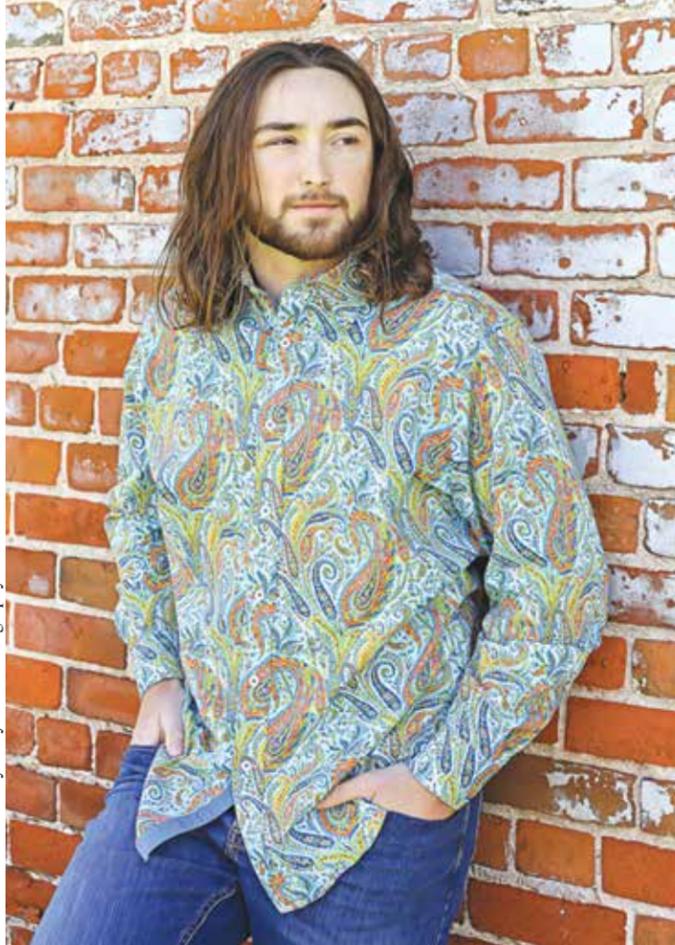
Dunn participates in 4-H Shooting Sports and won the State Championship. He qualified for 4-H Nationals in Grand Island, NE. He has many other shooting honors including the NSCA-National Sporting Clays, 2020 NSCA All-State Team (La C Class), 2020 La State Champion B Class, Super Sport Champion, 5-Stand 2nd Place, 2019 LA State Championship C-Class Main, 5-Stand and



Grant Dunn
State Shooting Champ

Super Sport Champion, 2017 US Open C-Class 4th Main and 5-Stand, 2016 US Open Super Sport Class-D champion, 2019 South Central Regionals 5-Stand B Class Champion and Main Event 4th, 2021 Browning-Briley Championship 1st Place 5-Stand and 3rd Place Super Sport.

This fall Grant will be attending the LSU Ogden Honors College with a full paid scholarship to earn a degree in Industrial Engineering/Construction Management.



Photos by Babycakes Photography

Mr. Central High School Grant Dunn



Photos by Santangelo Photography

Miss Central High School Keely Ana Strickland

CENTRAL — Miss Central High School is Keely Ana Strickland. She is the daughter of Eric and Holly Strickland. The Strickland family attends Sandy Creek Baptist Church where Keely Ana is an active member of the Youth Group and enjoys serving in the children's ministry. This summer she will spend two weeks serving with FUGE Camps in Tennessee.

Keely Ana is the captain of the CHS Tennis Team where she was a 2021 State Qualifier.

She is a proud member of the CHS Fishing Team where she was a state qualifier in 2018 and in 2020 she was a member of the State Championship team. Keely Ana and the 2021 CHS fishing team came in 2nd place this year.

Keely served as Mu Alpha Theta president. She is also a member of the Helping Hands Club.

Strickland is a member of the BETA Club, Fellowship of Christian Athletes, National Honor Society, Talented Music and Theatre.

This year Keely Ana was the re-

ipient of the first annual Lt. Terry Carter Memorial Scholarship and the Jessica C. Aiton Memorial Scholarship.

She was also a 2020 DEMCO Essay Contest Winner for the National Rural Electric Youth Tour. In addition, she was awarded the State Fair Scholarship for her outstanding service efforts and the 2021 East Baton Rouge Sheriff's Office Scholarship Award. Keely Ana was a 2021 Republican Women of Central Scholarship finalist.

In her spare time she coaches competitive gymnastics, and gives private tennis and gymnastics lessons.

Prior to the pandemic, she enjoyed volunteering with the Special Olympics, Geaux Strong swim program and was in the Counselor in Training at the Judson Baptist Retreat Center.

Strickland has received certifications for both CNA and Medical Assisting. She plans to attend FranU where she was awarded the Fran U Dean's Scholarship. Keely

Ana will be pursuing a Bachelor of Science in Nursing and eventually become a Nurse Anesthetist.



Keely Ana Strickland
CHS Tennis Team

Why the Left Loves the Masks: Jeff Crouere

Jeff Crouere
Columnist

NEW ORLEANS — Several months ago, President Joe Biden was vaccinated. In the White House, he is surrounded by people who have also been vaccinated. Nevertheless, he continues to wear a mask, even when outdoors or alone on Zoom calls with world leaders. In a recent online conference call, Biden was the only world leader wearing a mask.

This week, he was asked by a reporter why he continues to wear a mask outdoors, even though the CDC has lifted that requirement for those who have been vaccinated. Biden said, "Because, when we're inside, it's still good policy to wear the mask, that's why. When I am outside, and the problem is: Lots of times, I walk away from

this podium, you notice, I forget to put my mask back on because I'm used to not wearing it outside."

In other words, he wears the mask because he forgets to take it off when going outside. However, he did just the opposite when he recently met with former President Jimmy Carter, 96 years old, and his wife Rosalyn Carter, 93 years old. A photo of the encounter showed that neither Biden, nor his wife, Dr. Jill Biden, wore masks for their meeting with the President and his wife. If Biden claims it is "good policy" to wear a mask indoors, why did he not wear it when meeting with two very elderly individuals who are potentially susceptible to the spread of the virus?

Possibly Biden did not realize that former President Carter would release the photo to the public. When Biden left the meeting with the Carters to go outside, he immediately placed his

mask back on. He attached a mask outdoors, despite the CDC guidelines. All this did was show the media and the public that mask wearing should continue. It was another example of insane virtue signaling.

The left has more than an affinity for masks, they have a true love affair. A mask shows your obedience to the government. It creates faceless Americans, devoid of personality, following orders from all-knowing health officials.

In our country, too many leftists are quite willing to submit to government authorities, while conservatives are more independent minded, enjoy their freedoms and have a tradition of questioning authority.

The entire rationale for mask mandates has always been suspect. While it is the left's favorite symbol of oppression, its effectiveness in stopping the spread of COVID-19 has been uncer-

tain from the very beginning.

Eventually, the mask mantra became part of the continuing messaging Americans heard from local, state, and national government officials. However, the absurdity of wearing a mask has always been apparent to anyone who examines the rules.

All of this posturing is strictly for the cameras, it is not based on definitive scientific or health studies. Fortunately, more Americans are rising up and demanding the nonsense ends.

Wearing a mask inhibits a person's ability to breath. Most people wear masks that are not sanitized and are brimming with germs.

At this point, healthy Americans should not be wearing a mask. It should be worn only by those who are elderly and have serious health conditions. It is time to put the mask away!

Central High School Awards Night



**Emma Dungan and Mr. Wales
The Wildcat Way Award**



**Justin Babin and Mr. Wales
The Wildcat Way Award**



**Allie McCauley and Mr. Wales
The Wildcat Way Award**



**Marcus Shorts and Mr. Wales
The Wildcat Way Award**



**Lexi Montagnino and
Mr. Wales
The Wildcat Way Award**



**Andrew Richard and
Mr. Wales
The Wildcat Way Award**



**Michael Plainsance and
Ms. Cotten
Mr. Bryson's Civics Award**



**Savannah Richard and
Coach Osborne, Algebra II
Growth Mindset Award**



**Kirian Villanueva and
Mr. Weaver Taking Care of
Business Math Award**



**De'Iryah Green and Ms. Smith
Never Settles for Second:
Algebra 1 Honors Award**



**Ava Jones and Ms. Smith
Never Give Up
Algebra I Award**



**Tyler Ward-Roberts and
Ms. Hood's Geometry Award**



**Emily Mier and Ms. Hood
Honors Geometry Award**



**Madison Lumpkin and
Ms. Coston
Best All Around Award**



**Makayla Glascock and
Ms. Coston, Grit Award**



**DJ Roberts and
Madam Greene
Excellence in French Award**



**Brennan Tillery and
Madam Greene
Grit Award**



**Taylor Richard and Ms. Allen
English 3
Student of the Year Award**



**Grant Penton and Ms. Dicap
Excellence in
Physical Science Award**



**Azia Jones and Ms. Winter
Perseverance Award**



**Caleb Whittington and
Ms. Winter
Positivity Award**



**Henry Lagattuta and Ms. Allen
Leading by Example Award**



**Keller Roberson and
Ms. Lemoine
Erudite Comrade Award**



**Brooklyn Mixon and
Ms. Lemoine
Natural Wisdom Award**



**Rachel Huntet and Ms. Allen
English II
Stellar Scholar Award**



**Laurette Jordan and Ms. Allen
Eloquently Excellent English
Honor Student Award**



**Eva Edwards and Ms. Allen
English II Award**



**Austin Elliot and Ms. Wilson
Spanish I
Exceptional Student Award**



**Maycee Folmar and Coach
Rawlins, Table Tennis
Queen Award**



**Joseph Ivey and Ms. LeBoeuf
Guitar Award**

2021 Central High Academic Honors



**Jack Leaphart and Mr. Eisworth
Excellence Award**



Bre'Lyn Calhoun and Mr. O'Brien, Sigmund Freud Was Wrong Award



**Ty King and Ms. Wilbert
Knowledgeable Citizenship Award**



**Alvin Stewart and Ms. Wilkinson
Algebra I Award**



**Rebekah-Ann Slocum and Ms. Eskola
APUSH Award**



**Luke McLin and Mr. Swarner
"Most likely to understand history at Government Taco" Award**



**Marcus Shorts and Ms. Seidel
AP Government Citizenship Award**



**Audrey Usher and Ms. Price
Ultimate Geographer Award**



**Savannah Richard and Mr. Mitchell, The US History
"I have a question." Award**



**Isabella Roberie and Mr. Jones
World Traveler Award**



**Koen Roberson and Mr. Eisworth
Actually Loves History Award**



**Ethan Rispono and Mr. Eisworth
Academic Leadership Award**



**Skyler Hale and Mr. Eisworth
Enthusiastic Researcher Award**



**Henry Lagattuta and Ms. Wilkinson, Algebra I
Honors Award of Excellence**



**Koen Roberson and Mr. Weaver
WooHoo for Calculus Award**



**Janie Rogers and Ms. Gilchrist
Grit and Whit Award**



**Brennan Tillery and Ms. Gilchrist
Growth with a Smile Award**



**Kaiden Lang and Ms. deLeon
Advanced Math Awesomeness Award**



**Lauren Lindsay and Ms. deLeon
Distinguished DE'er Award**



**Jordan Dunbar and Ms. Coston
2020-2021 Math Essentials Student of the Year Award**



**Hayley Wall and Ms. McCauley
Excellence in Chemistry 2 AP/DE Award**



**Rebekah Slocum and Ms. McCauley, Excellence in
Chemistry 2 DE Award**



**Kaiden Lang and Ms. McCauley, Excellence in
Chemistry I**



**Kenleigh Perrin and Ms. Brignac
Top Chemistry Student of the Year Award**



**Amber Gill and Ms. Taylor
Biology II Award**



**Charles Rawls II and Ms. Dicapo
Biology Award**



**Phoebe Quinn and Ms. Dicapo
Biology Honors Award**



**Alexanderia Fertitta and Ms. Acosta
Biology Award**



**Gevon Forest and Ms. Acosta
Biology Honors Award**



**Jae'lyn Lacour and Ms. Taylor
Biology I Award**

Central High School Honors, Awards



Central High School Principal
Brandon LaGroue



Rene Rivera and
Coach Jeannard
Most Creative Award



Joshua Merzbacher and
Ms. David
Most Improved Overall



Gavin Impson and
Mr. Hubbard, Highest of High
Fives Ripple Effect Award



Davey Thornton and
Ms. Edwards
Push Through It Award



Charles Pederson and
Coach Jeannard
Hardest Worker



Noah Pedeaux and
Ms. Guercio
Most Likely to Succeed



Ta'nyjah Worthy and
Ms. Wilson
Academic Excellence Award



Shane Ruegg and Ms. Wilson
Spanish II Award



Amber Bueche and Ms. Wilson
Spanish II Honors Award



Madison Lumpkin and
Ms. Wilson
Spanish I Award



Janece Bueche and
Ms. Pastorick
Award



Lexi Montagnino and
Ms. Soniat
Most Improved Award



Aliyah Linton and Ms. Soniat
Golden Brush Award



Skyler Hale and Ms. Soniat
Golden Brush Award



Carson Truett and
Ms. Russell
Piano 2 and 3 Award



Julia Wolfe and Ms. Russell
Beginning Choir Award



Annabelle Poissot and
Ms. Russell
Show Choir Award



Judy Brass and Ms. Russell
Concert Choir Award



Violette Pursifull and
Ms. Russell Piano I Award



Cassandra Studlein and
Ms. Russell, Most Outstanding
Silk Member Award



Sara Ann Bonano and
Ms. Lavastida Most Reliable
Student in Spanish II Award



Jordan Gallo and Ms. Lavastida
Most Reliable and Respectful
Student in Spanish I Award



Freshman Phoebe Quinn
Multiple Honors



Junior Rebecca-Ann Slocum
Multiple Honors



Students who were honored posed for the cameras with their awards, parents, and friends.



Congratulations, Graduates!



District Judge Tiffany Foxworth

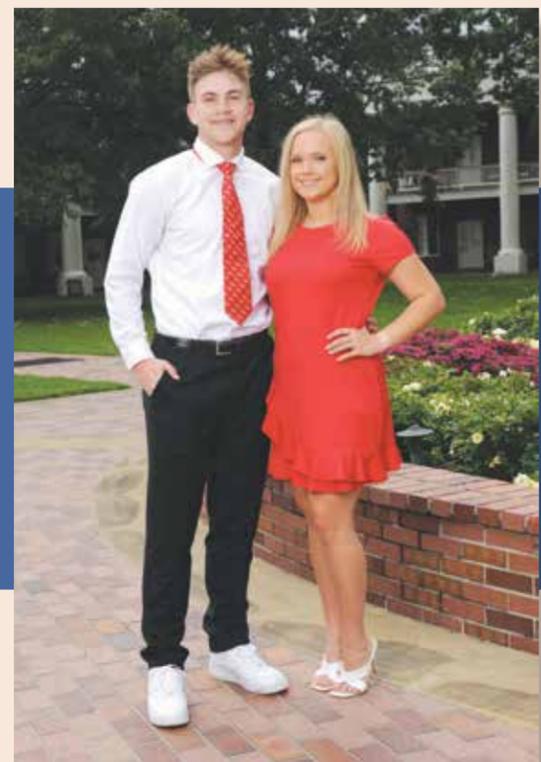
My wish for you is that you move confidently toward your dreams. Move forward and work hard for the life you imagine for yourself. Believe deeply that you can accomplish your goals and know that you are capable of achieving anything you put your mind to!

*“For I know the plans
I have for you,
declares the Lord,
plans to prosper you,
and not to harm you,
plans to give you
hope and a future”*

Jeremiah 29:11



2021 Most Dependable Central High School
Lindsie Jackson and Cade Ross



2021 Mr. and Ms. Central Private
Camren Monson and Carleigh Shaffer

District Judge Tiffany Foxworth

Congrats Grads!

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Best Wishes to All of Central's Graduates of 2021



Clerk of Court Doug Welborn and some members of his staff



Clerk of Court Doug Welborn and family



Central High Class of 1972



Clerk of Court Doug Welborn

Graduation time fills our community with great pride. The family and friends of this year's impressive list of graduates are filled with such joy. Our graduates have worked long and hard toward this goal, and the future holds tremendous promise for all those who have reached this important moment.

I still remember the excitement that I felt upon joining my fellow graduates on the stage that night. After years of study and sports (My track days seem so long ago!), we were a little nervous but very optimistic and excited about what the future held. Even today, I remember the guidance and wisdom of so many who led by example and shaped our lives.

Years later, I was filled with even more pride as I watched my daughters graduate from Central High. In the years since then, they have continued to make me just as proud as I was then. I know I join countless other parents here who realize how important a great school is to our community.

In 1991, I had the privilege of becoming the first parishwide elected official from Central. In 2000, my induction into the Central High Hall of Fame was among the greatest honors of my life. I mention these achievements to illustrate what I want to assure you — that through hard work and determination, you can accomplish anything and assure for yourself a wonderful future!

My congratulations and best wishes are with all members of the Class of 2021 in the Central community and throughout our parish. You have reached an important moment in your life! I hope that you enjoy your summer and the terrific future that lies ahead!



Central's St. Joseph Academy Grads



Sophie André



Kailee Ash



Hayleigh Bercegeay



Alexis Callihan



Kaylan Callihan



Sydney Coxe



Kaira Donaldson



Mary Garnier



Claire Lazaroe



Lexie Lemoine



Gabrielle Morris



Grace Pizzolato



Haley Stevens

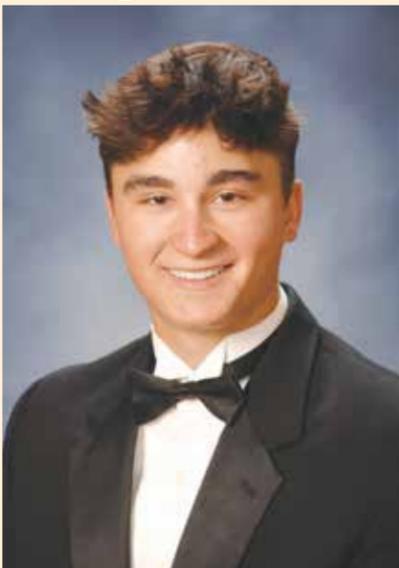
For more than 150 years, St. Joseph's Academy has stood as a pillar of excellence in the Baton Rouge community. Founded in 1868 by the Sisters of St. Joseph, this premier Catholic high school for young women is a place where the bonds of sisterhood run deep, sacred threads that connect our alumnae across generations and around the world. Over 10,000 graduates are leaders in business, industry, academia, government, their churches and communities.

2021 Homeschool Graduate



Trenton Brice
2021 Independant Homeschooler

Parkview Eagles from Central


Bear Hays Logan Holmes Riley Williams

Istrouma High School 2021

Watch Istrouma High Graduation Ceremonies

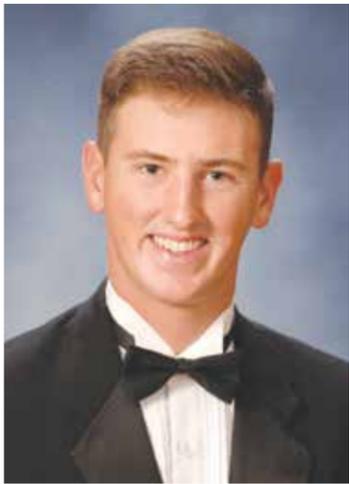


Parkview Baptist School's Christ-centered, pre-K – grade 12, college preparatory education equips students with the intellectual, spiritual, social, physical, and emotional skills necessary for college, for life, and for eternity. We are proud to be the only private school in Louisiana to receive national Blue Ribbon School recognition in 2019.

Central's 2021 St. Michael's Graduates



Logan Allemond



Cole Foret



Leah Gil



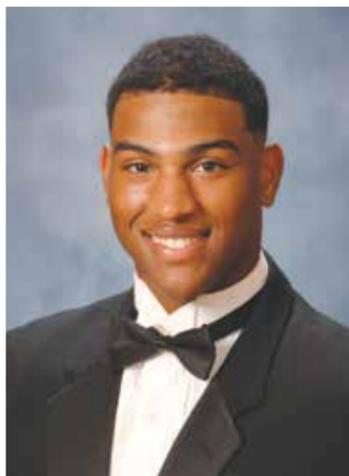
Jalayah Harrell



Tanner Pike



Patrick Tate



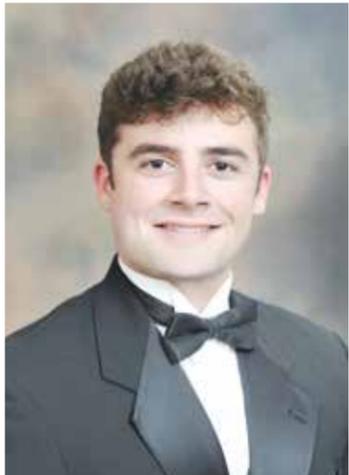
Codi Williams

St. Michael is a co-educational, college preparatory school, grades 9-12, for students who are seeking a modern, comprehensive Catholic education. With a passionate, experienced faculty and a rich and challenging curriculum, St. Michael provides the ideal environment for students to achieve their full potential. Students are encouraged to work hard, to dream big, and to see academic success as an exciting and worthwhile pursuit. St. Michael the Archangel Diocesan Regional Catholic High School was established in 1984 by the Catholic Diocese of Baton Rouge.

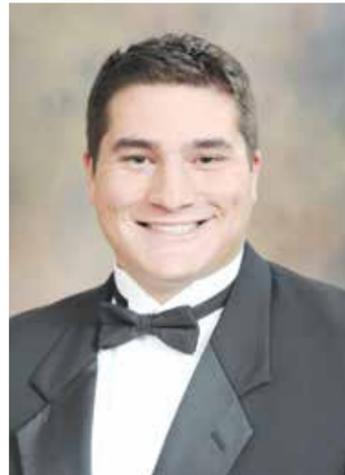
Central's Catholic School High Bears



Brock Boudreaux



Christian Greenblatt



Christian Mannino



Christian Sanford



Grant LeSage



James Doucet



Michael Vallet



Peter Vallet

FOUNDED IN 1894 by the religious order of the Brothers of the Sacred Heart, Catholic High School continues today as an independent, Catholic, all-male college preparatory high school. As indicated in its mission statement, Catholic High School strives to teach gospel values in an environment of academic excellence according to Catholic tradition and the spirit of the Brothers of the Sacred Heart.

WHAT IS THE CENTRAL CITY NEWS? It's a newspaper published for the people of the City of Central, Louisiana. The Louisiana Press Association has named it the outstanding community newspaper in the state six of the past 10 years. But it's more than a newspaper. It's a news gathering and distribution company. It uses print and digital to distribute news and information. It produces more than 300 videos a year, and it has multiple websites and Facebook pages. More than 4 million people a year watch its videos. To keep up with the Central City News, go to Central City News on Facebook, visit our website at centralcitynews.us, and research local topics in our archives at centralcitynews.net.

Charles T. Kinsley Award Recipients



Nah'Landri Stinson
Charles T. Kinsley Recipient



Gabe Patterson with Principal LaGroue
Charles T. Kinsley Recipient



Destiney Gary
Charles T. Kinsley Recipient



Morgan Rabalais with Principal LaGroue
Charles T. Kinsley Recipient

Charles T. Kinsley's Wife Sue Turns 90 Years Old



Mr. and Mrs. Charles T. Kinsley

CENTRAL — Sue Don Peel Kinsley was born in Jonesville, Louisiana, May 12, 1931, the third of five children. She and her family moved to Baton Rouge in the mid-1940's for her father's work. In Baton Rouge, she graduated from Istrouma High School and then went on to Hammond to attend and graduate from Southeastern Louisiana College, where she was a cheerleader. It was there she met her future husband, Charles T. Kinsley, Sr., who was attending Southeastern on a basketball scholarship. Sue says she vividly remembers her first meeting with Charlie Kinsley at the Student Union on the Southeastern Louisiana College campus (now, since 1970, named Southeastern Louisiana University).

There was a card game going on with several students, including hers, at the Student Union and he joined in.

They dated for awhile but, she says, not that seriously. In 1951, Mr. Charlie Kinsley was drafted into the Army for the Korean War, and they lost track of each other. However, when he was discharged from the Army, he returned to Southeastern to complete his college degree.

He wondered if Sue Don was available to date, or had she gotten married while he was in the service. So, he got a friend of his to phone Sue Don's mother and find out if she was still single. By then, Sue Don had graduated from college and had taught P.E. at Hahnville High School. Then, she moved back to Baton Rouge and had started teaching at her old high school alma mater, Istrouma.

Relieved to find out that Sue Don was still single, Charlie asked her out for a date. As they say, the rest is history.

On June 4, 1954 the two were married at Istrouma Baptist Church at the old Tecumseh Street location in Baton Rouge.

Since Mr. Kinsley had been raised Episcopalian and she had been raised Baptist, the couple decided to come to a compromise on their church affiliation and joined the Methodist Church to raise their children.

The couple's attachment to the Central community came in the fall

of 1955 when Mr. Kinsley became part of the Central High School faculty, having been recruited to coach the varsity men's basketball team. He eventually also served the school as a teacher, counselor, and principal.

Sue Don continued her teaching career. After leaving Istrouma High, she taught at Istrouma Junior High, then Park Forest Elementary. She taught Physical Education at each of these schools. In 1973, she came to Central Middle School where she taught Louisiana History and eventually became the Librarian. She stayed there until

apparent heart attack. Mr. Kinsley was only 45 years old. It was a great loss to Central High School and the Central community.

Every November Central High hosts a basketball tournament in Mr. Kinsley's honor. The last tournament, held in November 2020, was the 42nd Annual Charles T. Kinsley Memorial Basketball Tournament.

The Kinsleys moved from their home in Glen Oaks in 1965 to their home in Central, where Mrs. Kinsley still resides today.

Sue Don has three grown children, all of whom have families of their own — daughter Susan Kinsley Kolb, son Charlie Kinsley, Jr., and daughter Kathy Kinsley Edgens. All of her children still reside in Central.

She has seven grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.



SUE PEEL (1st row, left to right), the future Mrs. Charles T. Kinsley, is shown with Peggy Walsh and Rita Scofield, and (2nd row) Herbert Woods, Brewster Planche, and Don Sullivan.

her retirement in the early 1990's. Tragically, in the spring of 1974, Mrs. Kinsley lost her beloved husband very unexpectedly after an

Charles T. Kinsley is remembered every year at the Charles T. Kinsey Basketball Tournament at Central High School. Held in late November or early December, the tourney features some of the best teams in the region.

David P. Fargason, M.D.
Robert Geier, O.D.

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Non-discriminatory admissions policy

Central High 2008 Graduate Dr. Justin Creel Walked Down Memory Lane at Rip's Studio

ZACHARY — Dr. Justin Creel pulled the door open to Rip's Photography Studio in Zachary owned by Rip Rittell and was immediately hit with a wave of nostalgia.

Everything seemed so very familiar. Had it really been 13 years?



Dr. Justin Creel
Central High Graduate

On this day, Creel had an appointment for a promotional photo as part of the beginning of his medical career.

Creel will be joining Dr. Laurie Harrington at Advanced Dermatology/Renaissance Medical Spa in Zachary this summer after completing his dermatology residency at LSU School of Medicine. But he could not help but think about his last visit to the studio.

He surveyed the room as he walked in and saw it — that picture from 13 years ago — displayed prominently on the wall. The young high school senior in the picture, in his Central Wildcat baseball uniform, was swinging a bat, making contact, and through the miracles of technology the ball



Young Dr. Justin Creel found some jewels on the wall of Rip's Photography

was bursting into flames.

For a high school senior, the "cool" factor was off the charts. "I could not believe that picture was still hanging on the wall," Creel said. "My 'baseball flame' masterpiece. Rip and I both got a kick out of the reunion and even took a new picture to commemorate. Although

Rip doesn't seem to have aged a day, it does remind me of just how long I've been away and how great it feels to have made my way back home."

Creel is a Central native, born and raised, and his wife Samantha is from Zachary, a graduate of the rival Zachary High School.

At the time of the original photo, Creel was a decorated infielder on his way to making All-District, All-Metro and All-State in his senior year. Baseball would take him on an extended adventure to Northeast Texas Community College and then to Coastal Carolina University where he was a two-year starter on a team that was laying the foundation for a national championship. Several of his teammates were on the 2016 NCAA National Championship team when Coastal Carolina won it all. By that time Creel was immersed in his studies at LSU Medical School in Shreveport, but he certainly felt a great deal of pride as his former teammates celebrated.

Creel managed to carry a 4.0 through his entire academic career, graduating *summa cum laude* while juggling a Division baseball schedule and a major in biology.

"I think about those days and how fortunate I was to have been able to play college baseball at that level. It was a special time in my life and I played with and against a lot of guys who made it to the majors. But my end goal was always to go to medical school and become a doctor. It really is a dream come true for me to be home and practicing dermatology in the place where my roots run deep," Creel said.

Belinda Blackburn, Robert Carroll III to Wed on June 12



Robert Carroll III and Belinda Blackburn

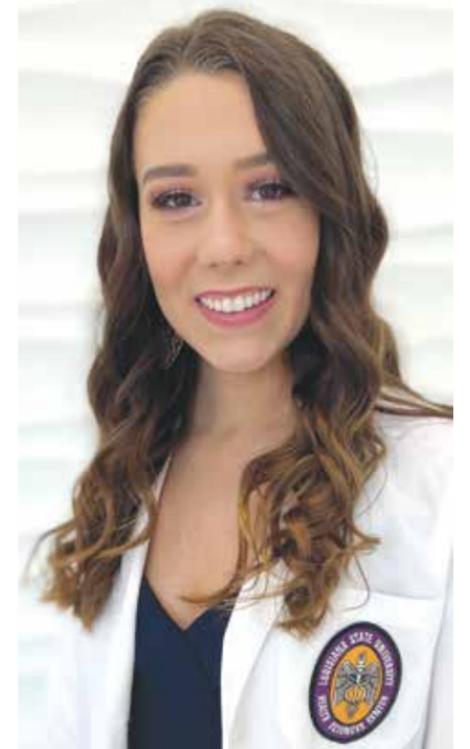
BATON ROUGE — Belinda Blackburn and Robert Carroll III have announced their engagement.

Belinda is the daughter of Robert Blackburn and Kerri Haegwood of Little Rock, AR. Robert is the son of Robert II and Darlynn Carroll of Zachary, LA. Belinda is a 2014 graduate of Little Rock Central High School

and practiced singer-songwriter. Robert is a 2008 graduate of Tioga High School and served 7 years in the 2228th Military Police Company.

The wedding will be June 12 at 2 o'clock in the evening at Memorial Park in Natchez, MS. Reception to follow at Haney's Big House in Ferriday, LA.

Kendal Crawford Earns Degree from LSU's Health Services College



Kendal Crawford

BATON ROUGE — Kendal Crawford is a May 2021 graduate of the LSU School of Dental Hygiene. She is the daughter of Larry and Vickie Crawford and the granddaughter of Jimmie and Jerry Tarver, Jodie Mae Crawford, and the late Bob Crawford, all of Central.

Cajun Chicken & Andouille Pasta

MANDA
"Flavor Says It All."
ANDOUILLE
Sausage for Gumbo

NET WT. 12 OZ. (340g)

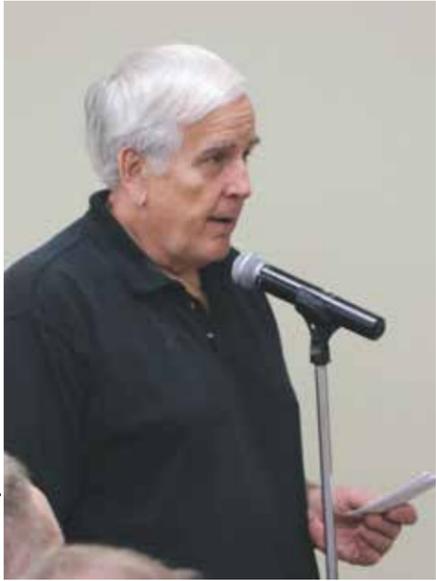
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WATCH
Central High Football
This Fall at
Central City News
on Facebook

Holmes, Graham Led Effort to Bypass Vote of People

Central Community School Board Votes to Raise Taxes by \$750,000

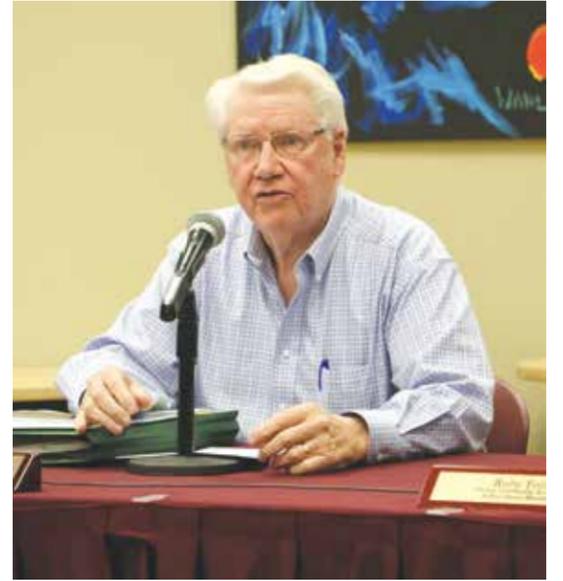
— Proponents of Raising the Property Tax —



City Councilman Dave Freneau



School Board member Dr. Keith Holmes proposed the tax increase.



Board member Phil Graham made case for tax.

— Opponents of Raising the Property Tax —



Wayne Leader said people are hurting.



Wayne Messina said let people vote.



Board members Ruby Foil and Sharon Browning opposed the tax increase.

CENTRAL — The Central Community School Board voted 5-2 to raise property taxes in Central by \$750,000 a year. It was the first time since the Central school system was created that a tax has been imposed or raised without a vote of the people.

Supt. Jason Fountain said he was not asking the board for the increase. However, school board members Dr. Keith Holmes and

Phil Graham, who was recently appointed to the board, said they were afraid of losing some of their taxing authority unless the millage was imposed.

Among the opponents, Wayne Leader who owns storage facilities, said many people in the community are suffering and cannot pay their storage bills. It will be another tax that is passed along to people who cannot afford it.

Board member Sharon Browning said, "I will not vote to roll forward the taxes. Since Central School System began, this board has never voted to roll forward taxes. By not rolling forward the taxes, the school board has gained the trust of the community. Let's put it on the ballot and let the voters give our school people this raise they deserve."

YES - Roxanne Atkinson, Dr. Jim Gardner, Phil Graham, Dr. Keith

Holmes, and Dr. David Walker NO - Sharon Browning and Ruby Foil - Passed 5-2 - It required a 2/3rds vote.

WATCH Central School Board debate on raising property taxes without vote of people



Photo of the first of two School Board meetings on raising the property tax.



Board president Dr. Jim Gardner and Supt. Jason Fountain

Photos by Jolice Provost

Wildcat Baseball Senior Night 2021



#1 Landon Husser and his family.



#9 Gabe Patterson and his family.



#7 Warren Townsend



#13 Colby Curcio and his family.



#21 Dominic Dotson and his family.



#20 Brodie Demoulin and his family.



#5 Connor Cassels and his family.



#10 Jeremy Wise and his family.



#6 Tyler Furr and his family.



2021
Central
High
Baseball
Senior
Night

Photos
by
Mandy
Walters

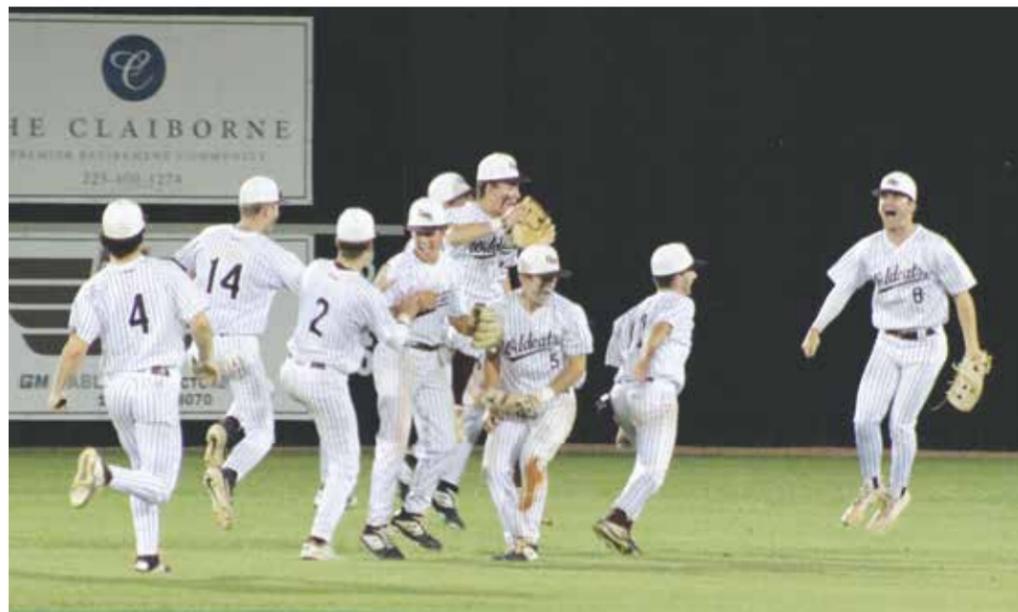
Central High Defeated Hahnville for



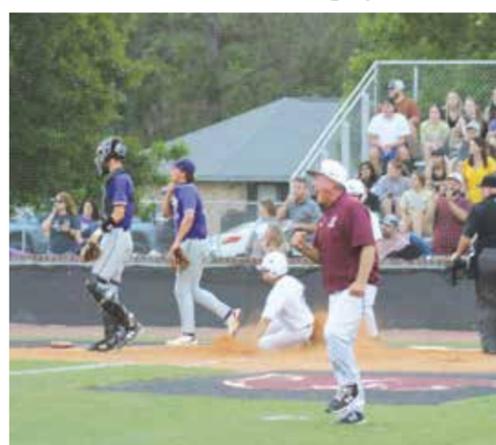
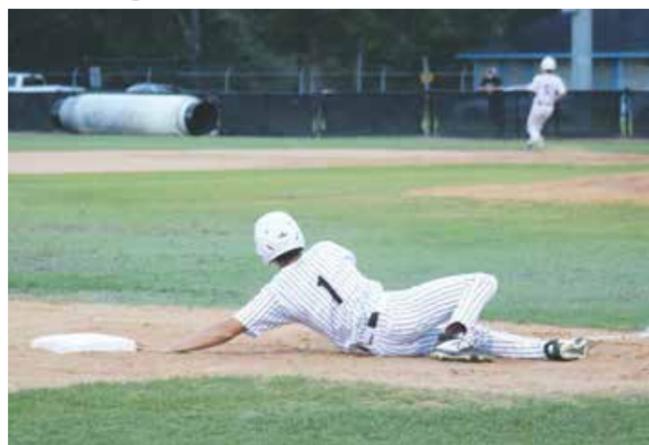
The Wildcats move ahead early against the Hahnville Tigers in the first round of the playoffs (left). Wildcat second baseman Caleb Callen



Gabe Patterson with a stand up double (left). #17 Jimmy Johnson came away with the win for the Wildcats



Excited with the big win over Hahnville the Cenral Wildcats moved on the the second round of the playoffs where

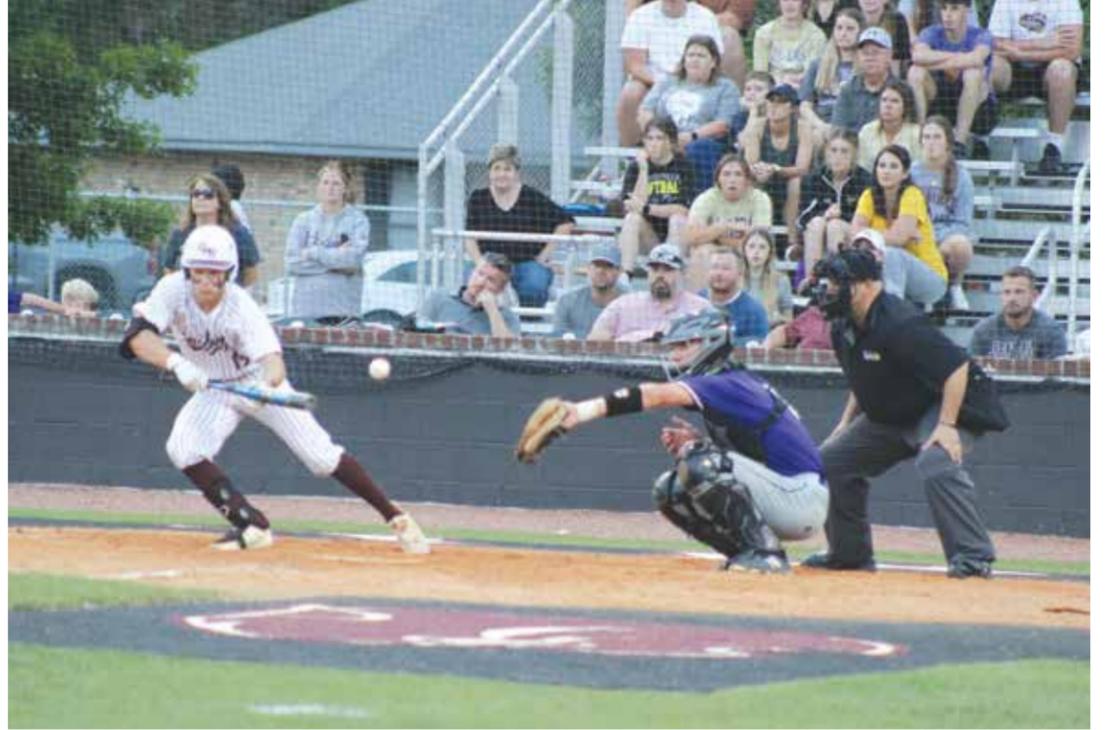
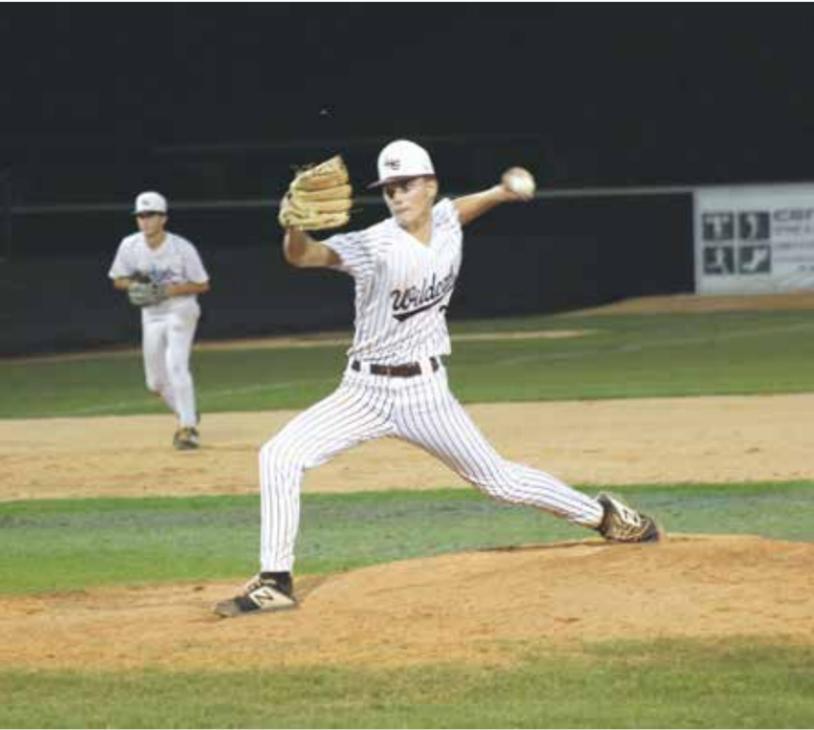


Coach Leo McClure and #32 Grayden Harris (left). Landon Husser safe at third base (left/center). Wildcats bring

5A Bi-District Title, Rose in Playoffs



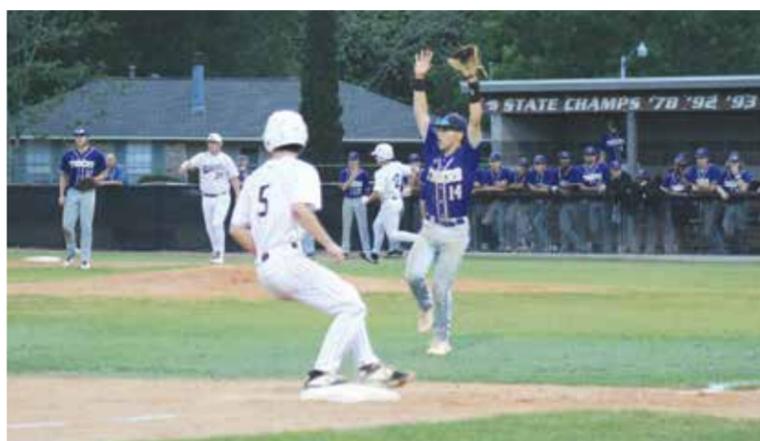
...dar #5 and shortstop Tyler Walters (left/center). At bat #9 Gabe Patterson (right/center). First baseman #10 Jeremy Wise in action (right).



... (left/center). Grayden Harris was the closing pitcher (right/center). Tyler Walters with a solid bunt (right);



...they won the series against the Ruston Bearcats 2-1. In the quarter finals they faced Sam Houston in Lake Charles



...in 3 runs in the third inning (center). #17 Jimmy Johnson at bat (right/center). #5 Connor Cassels at third (right).

Photos by
Jolice Provost for
Central City News

Watch
CHS v.
Hahnville

Central High School Senior Awards



Patricia Green
French IV Award



Morgan Pizzalato
Determination to Succeed



Kyle Stewart
English IV Award



Khloe Wilson
Distinguished DE Award



Joshua Cooper
Cooperative Mathematics



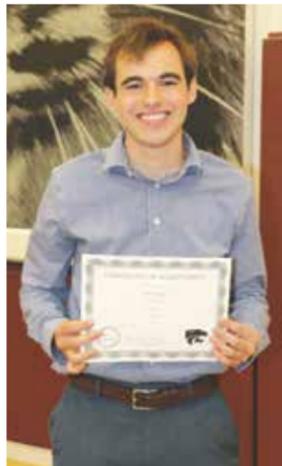
Sydney Dalrymple
Silks Senior Award



Khloe Wilson
English IV Award



Hunter Hawkins
Financial Literacy Award



Josh Schopp
English IV Award



Alana Huff
Algebra II Award



Gabrielle Thibodeaux
Captain's Award

Early Institutionalization of Children a Great Concern

Continued from Page 5

It doesn't matter if it's a day care center or a public or a private facility, a kindergarten or a preschool. It doesn't matter if it's a Christian school or a Catholic school. It doesn't matter what the philosophy of the school is. It doesn't matter how qualified the teachers are or how wonderful the facilities are. It doesn't matter about the great philosophy of the school.

Why? Because the main influence in these early years in these institutional settings is the other children, and what the children learn at ages 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6 is that what matters is what the other children think! What your peers think.

They learn what's important is what your peers think — not what your parents think but what your peers think. By age 12, 13, 14, and 15, that becomes a tremendous problem. Peer dependency is developed in the critical preschool years — 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6.

Now when we saying that all the learning is occurring before age 5 and 6, that's largely true. However, that doesn't mean that a school is the best place to develop education. In fact, the research shows that in any normal household, the home is the richest place for early childhood education.

In my case, none of my children went to kindergarten. I didn't go to kindergarten. And we've done very well. You must realize there are thousands of parents in this state who don't believe they should send their children to kindergarten.

I would say the most irresponsible parents certainly would be getting rid of their kids as soon as they can. Do you really think it is the irresponsible parents who are keeping their children at home until they start school? That doesn't make



FIRST GRADERS waiting to see graduating seniors in May 2019. any sense at all!

I want to say how much respect I have for Sen. Fields. He is always so kind and good to work with, and I mean that very sincerely. But you asked him how many students there

are in Louisiana who would be affected by this legislation and he does not know!

You asked him, "Are they from poor backgrounds?" He does not know! They do not know!

They are making this whole argument that this is going to save these children when they don't know how many there are or who they are or what their circumstances are. And they are coming at this from a flawed presumption that kindergarten is going to help these children educationally. The data shows that by age 8 it does not matter whether you went to kindergarten or not!

But the data also shows that early schooling or institutionalization leads to peer dependency which leads right into 12, 13, and 14 year olds getting into early sex, pornography, sex, drugs, and alcohol.

Keep your babies at home — if you choose!

Right now, we have the right to

keep our babies at home until age 7. This bill would take that right away.

I want to refer you to the Louisiana Children's Code. Look at the Preamble. It sets the policy on the relation between parents and children in our state. Here is a key part of it:

"The people of Louisiana recognize the family as the most fundamental unit of human society and that preserving families is essential to a free society... Parents should make the decisions regarding where and with whom the child should reside, the educational, moral, ethical, and religious training of the child."

That's the responsibility of the parent, and it's recognized under Louisiana law.

I know there's a whole group of people who are vested and have a financial interest in early childhood. I understand that, but you as a legislator are here not to represent them but to represent our ordinary citizens.

This bill would take away the right of parents to make those decisions.

The bill has an exception for homeschooling. I am all for homeschooling. I authored the first bill in the nation that legalized home schooling, and we passed that here in 1980. However, a parent should not have to go through the rigamaro and a ruse of filing with the homeschooling program just to be able to keep their child at home until he starts the first grade.

The bill is unnecessary. Kindergarten is being offered all over the state. This bill is not about offering kindergarten. This bill is about compulsion and taking away parental rights. No bill in the current legislative session makes a greater assault on parent rights than SB 10 by Sen. Cleo Fields. It should be defeated.



CENTRAL HIGH SENIORS OF 2019 walked through Bellingrath Hills Elementary School in May 2019. They were greeted by the first graders.



Photo by Jolice Provost

CONSERVATIVE LEADERS — Rep. Beryl Amedee (R-Houma) and Claston Bernard, two of the brightest young conservative leaders in the state are making their voices heard at the State Capitol. Bernard has just been appointed to the Louisiana Commission on Civic Education by Attorney General Jeff Landry. Both spoke at Reagan Luncheon May 11.

Meet Victory Academy Volleyball, Basketball Teams and Managers



VICTORY ACADEMY VOLLEYBALL TEAM - (1st Row) Abby Cornelius, Paulina Nguyen, Karmen LeSage, and Yara Robillard. (2nd row) Bailee McCoy, Maddie Taylor, Wesleigh Doughty, Kaelyn Vitrano, Madyson Clements, Layla Engels, Gracie Doughty.



VICTORY ACADEMY BASKETBALL TEAM - (1st row) - Paulina Nguyen, Gracie Doughty, and Abby Cornelius. (2nd row) Coach Inga Harrouch, Maddie Taylor, Emma Mancuso, Kiaya Wright, Hannah Dunn, Elisha Hodges, Miriam Reynerson, Madyson Clements, and Team Manager Wesleigh Doughty

Status of Key Legislation of Interest to Families and Small Business

— Still Alive in 2021 Regular Session —

- **HB 599 ELECTION LAW** by Rep. Valarie Hodges — Reform of election laws in Louisiana, providing Republican and Democratic parties to have right to name watchers at each early voting site and at each precinct in state. Provide backup paper ballots to verify voting machine totals, prohibit internet access to voting machines, require all servers in State of Louisiana. Passed out of House and Governmental. Pending on Final Passage on House floor.
- **HR 20 DISCLOSURE THAT VACCINES ARE VOLUNTARY** by Rep. Kathy Edmonston — To direct all schools in state to notify parents that vaccines are voluntary. Passed Committee and House Floor.
- **HB 349 BAN VACCINE PASSPORTS** by Rep. Kathy Edmonston — To prohibit La. drivers licenses from indicating whether a person has been vaccinated, in order to prohibit vaccine passports. Passed House Transportation Committee 10-0 and House floor 71-18. Now pending in Senate. Call Senators.
- **SB 542 LIMIT WOMEN'S SPORTS TO BIOLOGICAL WOMEN** by Sen. Beth Mizell — Enact the Fairness in Women's Sports Act to provide that women will not have to compete against biological men in women's sports at the high school and collegiate levels. The bill cites language from the U.S. Supreme Court which recognizes the inherent differences between men and women. Passed Senate committee, Senate floor, and House committee. Now pending on House floor.
- **HCR 5 PROHIBIT PROSECUTION OF PASTORS FOR HOLDING CHURCH** by Sen. Danny McCormick — Passed House committee, now pending on House floor.

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ITEMS FOR SALE: Kentwood Water Cooler - \$20, old gas dryer - FREE, 5-step above ground pool ladder \$20, men's button up shirts (L/XL/XXXL) - \$1 each, Jeep body parts - make offer. Call Sharon 225-261-6928.

GARAGE SALE: Neighborhood wide Garage Sale in Bridlewood Subdivision off Hooper Rd. Friday, May 21st - Saturday, May 22nd from 7-4 p.m.. RAIN OR SHINE!!! Tons of



VICTORY ACADEMY — Bailee McCoy and Wesleigh Doughty of Victory Academy's volleyball and basketball teams

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Sterlington Town Officials Heap Praise on Jr. Shelton for Saving Town from Collapse

Continued from Page 6

they would be taken care of, but also to give us some time to put everything in place.

“Starting with the good ideas of the Board of Aldermen, we developed a plan,” Shelton said. “The Board had already raised sewer fees. They had a forbearance agreement with the bond holders. We worked on a plan to make sure all sales tax revenues went to pay bonded indebtedness. We developed procedures for paying down operating expenses. Perhaps the most difficult thing was imposing a one-cent sales tax in the Entertainment District. The tax is only paid by people who go to convenience stores and restaurants. However, these are the very people who are drawn to Sterlington by the ball parks.”

“Today, Sterlington is in a very different place from when we began this process. There is a plan in place. There are processes and procedures in place. All of our bond obligations are being met, and we are paying operating expenses as they come due. Furthermore, we have \$500,000 in the bank! That’s not a lot but Sterlington is well on the road to being a municipality that is financially sound.”

★★★

Alderman Matt Talbert said, “Even though Mayor Jr. Shelton had total authority over our town, he didn’t approach it that way. On his first visit, we sat down and he said, ‘Look, I want your input and ideas. When I leave, you’ll have to live here and be part of this town.’”

Alderman Talbert said, “From Day One, he made himself available to us — day and night. He gave us his cell number and his email. We could call him at any time and we did! We spent hundreds of hours on the phone brainstorming about what might work and what might not work.”

“Being an Alderman in Sterlington is hard work, but all of us also have full-time jobs or businesses. When Mayor Shelton came to town, he tried to meet with us at our convenience — before work or at night, whenever we could make ourselves available,” he said.

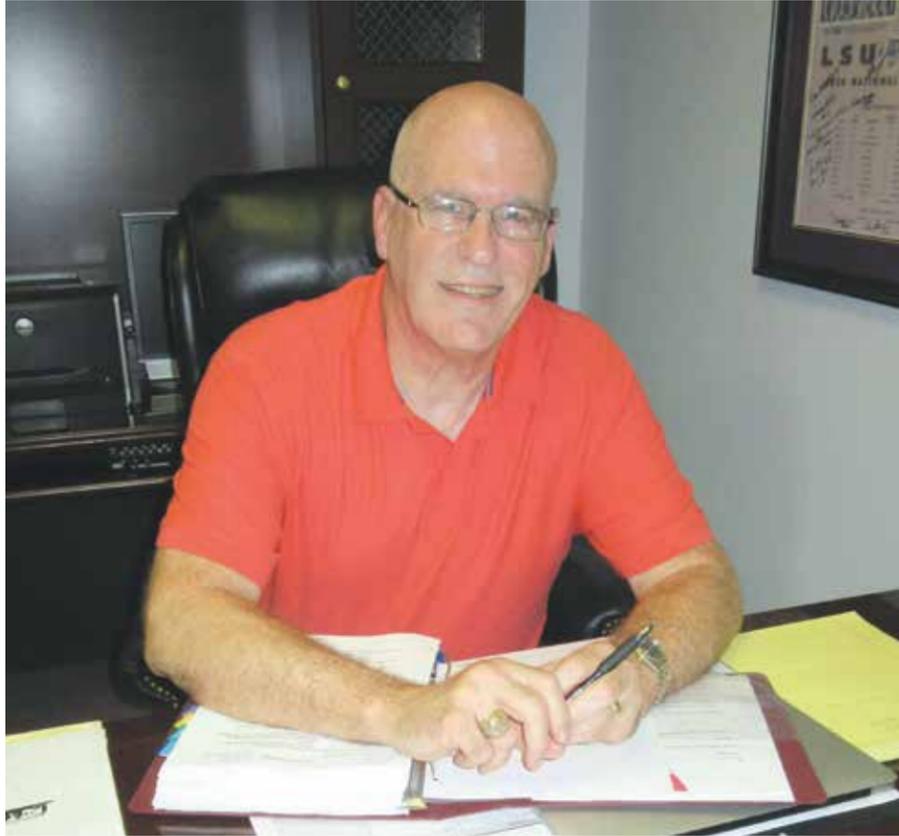
Talbert said, “As a first-time alderman, I learned invaluable lessons from him. He taught us how government works. He is not one to come with his idea and say that’s the way it will be. He listened to our ideas, and if our ideas were better, he went with them.”

★★★

Mayor Shelton said, “The most important thing we had going for us was that we had good people to work with who loved their community and wanted to find realistic solutions.”

Shelton said Sterlington has much in common with Central, although it is much smaller. The town is composed of hard-working conservative, Christian people who greatly value their public schools, which are outstanding. The town is 84 percent white, 12 percent black, and 4 percent Latin.

Sterlington was incorporated in 1961. Shelton said, “One of the smart decisions Sterlington



FISCAL ADMINISTRATOR — Former Central Mayor Jr. Shelton was in effect the Mayor and Town Council in the Town of Sterlington near Monroe for the past two years. His job was to take the town from the edge of bankruptcy with \$21 million in debt to a place where they could function normally. That job was accomplished.

“This is yet another example of how fiscal administration can help in a disastrous situation. Of course, Sterlington should have never been in the situation to begin with. The numbers were wrong from the beginning and presented a false picture of the future, inflated revenues and deflated expenses. I’m very proud of the work Mayor Shelton has accomplished and also very thankful to the town aldermen for their willingness to participate.”

— Legislative Auditor Daryl Purpera

made some years ago was to annex property along Hwy. 165. The community doesn’t have a downtown or a city center, and the businesses along Hwy. 165 are essential to serve the community and to provide sales tax revenues to the town.”

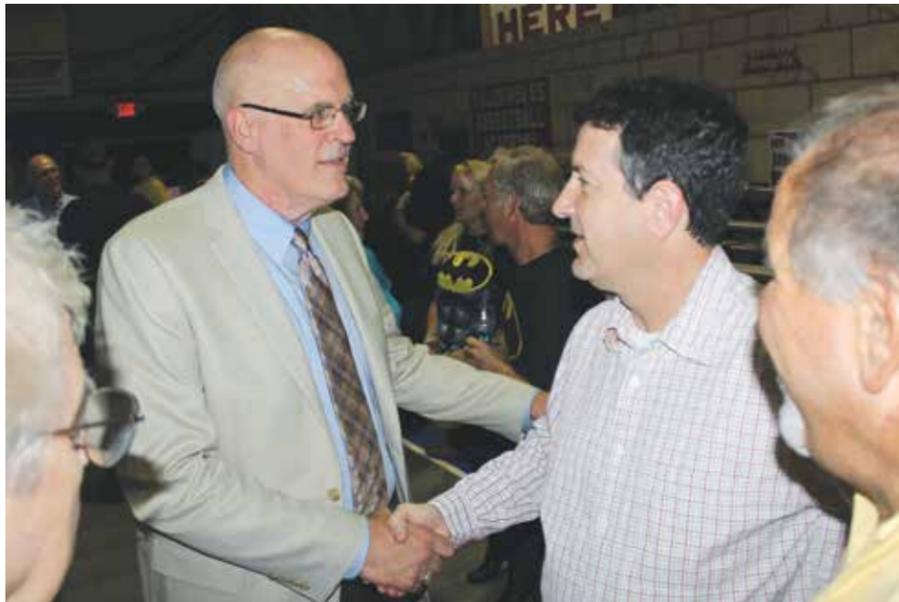
Literally across the street from the Town of Sterlington is the Angus Chemical Plant, owned by Dow Chemical. It’s been there since 1930 and provides 204 full-time and contract jobs. This makes a tremendous impact on the local economy. However, because it is outside the city limits, the plant does not pay taxes to the Town of

Sterlington.

★★★

How did Sterlington get in so much trouble? That is a question that could end up in a court of law, since the former Mayor has a pending charge against him of malfeasance in office.

However, one thing seems certain: The numbers used to justify the issuance of \$21 million in bonds to pay for ballparks and sewer improvements could not reasonably have been expected to generate enough revenue to service the bonds. Add to that the fact that nearly Ruston and Monroe also spent large sums to build



CONGRATULATIONS — On election night 2014, Central Mayor-elect Jr. Shelton was congratulated by David Barrow, who later served as Shelton’s executive assistant. Barrow defeated Shelton in the Mayor’s race in 2018.

massive ballparks in their cities, creating unexpected competition for Sterlington.

Beyond the decisions of the former Mayor and Council, many people involved in town government today point to the Louisiana Bond Commission as a large part of the problem.

The Bond Commission was created to make sure that bonds issued by the State of Louisiana and its political subdivisions make sense and can be serviced.

How the Bond Commission could go so far wrong has not been disclosed. To allow a small town with fewer than 2,000 residents to issue \$21 million in bonds.

The former Mayor of Sterlington, Vern Breland, was well known in the state and politically influential. He had even served as President of the Louisiana Municipal Association.

Many people blame the State Bond Commission for approving bonds that couldn’t be serviced. Others say you can’t blame the bond commission because lending banks apparently thought the projects were good enough to make the loans. Others blamed the banks for not doing their due diligence. Others say look to those who gave the banks bad information.

In any case, the taxpayers of Sterlington are now on the hook for debts that were supposed to be paid from self-generated funds, and neither the state nor the banks have lost a penny.

★★★

In Sterlington, life goes on. The controversy over the ball parks and higher sewer fees and sales taxes has subsided. The current controversy is about low income housing moving into town.

The residents keep working. A few new businesses are springing up. Sterlington Alderman Zach Howze started a new business himself. After 15 years in child care, he decided to become a restaurateur. “Can you image getting into the restaurant business in the midst of a pandemic!” he laughed.

His pizzeria offers pizza, burgers, and wings. His wife, a hair stylist, just quit her job and works with Zach at the pizzeria.

★★★

Alderman Howze said Covid ended up being a blessing for Sterlington — a terrible blessing in disguise. He said, “It showed us what a wonderful town we live in and how much we love each other. We have really rallied together!”

“I believe the future of Sterlington is bright. However, we have to decide whether we will slip back into the good ole boy politics of the past or set new standards for ourselves and our community going forward. This will be decided by the people who get involved and try to make a difference. It will be interesting to see where the people want Sterlington to go in the next election in October 2022.”

★★★

Mayor Shelton said a number of other municipalities across Louisiana are in trouble too. Some have Fiscal Administrators and others are on the verge of it. He said some

See MAYOR on Page 46

Attorney General Says Governor's Orders Unconstitutional

Prosecution of Rev. Spell Is Illegal

Continued from Page 4

see also *Fluker Cmty. Church v. Hitchens*, 419 So. 2d 445, 447 (La. 1982) (applying the federal and state clauses in parallel).

Just last week, the Supreme Court expanded on *Roman Catholic Diocese's* holding by issuing an injunction in favor of a California pastor who desired to hold prayer meetings in his home, which a State emergency order prohibited. *Tandon v. Newsom*, No. 20A151, 2021 WL 1328507, at *1 (U.S. Apr. 9, 2021). Citing *Roman Catholic Diocese*, the majority held that “government regulations are not neutral and generally applicable, and therefore trigger strict scrutiny under the Free Exercise Clause, whenever they treat any comparable secular activity more favorably than religious exercise.” *Id.* at *1 (emphasis added). “It is no answer that a State treats some comparable secular businesses or other activities as poorly as or even less favorably than the religious exercise at issue.” *Id.*; see also *Roberts v. Neace*, 958 F.3d 409, 413 (6th Cir. 2020) (“[T]he more exceptions to a prohibition, the less likely it will count as a generally applicable, non-discriminatory law.”).

To pass strict scrutiny, any non-neutral restriction on religion “must be justified by a compelling governmental interest,” and the law “must be narrowly tailored to advance that interest.” *Lukumi Babalu Aye*, 508 U.S. at 531–32. This is a demanding test by design; laws that are non-neutral with respect to religion “will survive strict scrutiny only in rare cases.” *Id.* at 546 (quoted in *Spell v. Edwards*, 962 F.3d 175, 181 (5th Cir. 2020) (Ho, J., concurring)). In the COVID-19 context, “narrow tailoring requires the government to show that measures less restrictive of the First Amendment activity could not address its interest in reducing the spread of COVID.” *Tandon*, 2021 WL 1328507, at *2. “Where the government permits other activities to proceed with precautions, it must show that the religious exercise at issue is more dangerous than those activities even when the same precautions are applied.” *Id.*

B. The Governor’s orders are not neutral with respect to religion because they treat religious gatherings less favorably than secular businesses.

The Governor has the power under Louisiana law to declare public health emergencies and to issue orders designed to combat those emergencies—but he has no power to ignore the First Amendment. See La. R.S. 29:721 et seq.; *Sterling v. Constantin*, 287 U.S. 378, 397 (1932) (explaining that, if executive proclamations could override the Bill of Rights, even in an emergency, then “the fiat of a state Governor, and not the Constitution of the United States, would be the supreme law of the land”). Indeed, even the emergency powers he invokes acknowledge constitutional limitations, though they would exist regardless. See La. R.S. 29:736(D).

The Governor’s proclamations at issue here are not neutral



Attorney General Jeff Landry says Rev. Spell’s prosecution is unconstitutional.

“To prosecute Pastor Spell, the prosecution must first discard his religious liberties guaranteed by the First Amendment, the Louisiana Constitution, and the Louisiana Preservation of Religious Freedom Act. The prosecution would also have to imbue Governor Edwards with broad executive authority to create criminal penalties—something that state law and the state constitution expressly forbids.”

— Attorney General Jeff Landry

with respect to religion. Although one of the proclamations allowed people to leave their homes for travel “to and from an individual’s place of worship,” 33 JBE 2020 § 3(E), this meant little in light of the proclamation’s ban on religious “gathering[s]” of more than 10 people—regardless of the size of the building in which they gathered, *id.* § 2.

The proclamations contain many of exceptions for hundreds of businesses that were not extended to religious institutions. “Normal operations” at locations including “office buildings, factories or manufacturing facilities, [and] grocery stores” were not disrupted, even though such buildings frequently hold large crowds of people. *Id.*; see also 30 JBE 2020 (exempting “shopping centers or malls, office buildings . . . or grocery and department stores” from capacity limitations). All businesses designated as “essential” remained in full operation, with no capacity limitations. 33 JBE 2020 § 3.2 These included large retail stores such as Walmart and Lowe’s, which occupy buildings that routinely hold hundreds of people at a time. Meanwhile, church buildings—even cathedrals with space to seat hundreds—could not host gatherings larger than 10 people. The proclamation advanced no scientific explanation for why church gatherings are more dangerous than congregating in the check-out line at a Walmart or Home Depot.

Governor Edwards’ proclamations are extremely similar to other States’ orders recently found non-neutral by the Supreme Court. The facts of *Roman Catholic Diocese*, which allowed only 10 people to gather in any house of worship but allowed essential businesses to remain open, are directly on point. See *Roman Catholic Diocese*, 141 S. Ct. at 66.3 By failing to treat religious gatherings on par with business operations, the challenged proclamations reveal themselves as non-neutral toward religion. Accordingly, the proclamations must survive strict scrutiny to pass constitutional muster.

C. The proclamations cannot withstand strict scrutiny because lesser restrictions could have slowed the spread of COVID, as they did in businesses.

The Governor’s proclamations cannot survive strict scrutiny because they are not narrowly tailored to further a compelling government interest. There is no doubt that slowing the spread of COVID is a compelling government interest, but the proclamations were not narrowly tailored to serve that interest: They placed restrictions on religious gatherings that were more burdensome than the restrictions on businesses. Neither the Governor nor the prosecution have even tried to meet their burden to prove that the religious gatherings presented a greater danger than the secular gatherings allowed under the proclamations, but they could not

meet that burden even if they did.

“It is established in our strict scrutiny jurisprudence that ‘a law cannot be regarded as protecting an interest “of the highest order” . . . when it leaves appreciable damage to that supposedly vital interest unprohibited.” *Lukumi Babalu Aye*, 508 U.S. at 547 (quoting *Florida Star v. B.J.F.*, 491 U.S. 524, 541–542 (1989) (Scalia, J., concurring in part and concurring in judgment)); see also *Republican Party of Minnesota v. White*, 536 U.S. 765, 783 (2002) (significantly under inclusive laws fail strict scrutiny, as under inclusiveness proves that any restriction on First Amendment rights is not vital and casts doubt on the purported reasons for enacting such restrictions).

The fact that several businesses continued operating—with few or no capacity restrictions—undercuts the argument that having a large number of people within one building was an unacceptable risk. The Governor did not decide to prohibit all large gatherings of people under one roof as categorically dangerous. Thus, targeting and shutting down religious services cannot have been necessary to contain the spread of COVID-19.

Other federal courts have recently struck down or granted injunctions blocking the enforcement of similar COVID-19 restrictions on narrow tailoring grounds. See *Calvary Chapel Dayton Valley v. Sisolak*, 982 F.3d 1228, 1234 (9th Cir. 2020) (“The Directive—although less restrictive in some respects than the New York regulations reviewed in *Roman Catholic Diocese*—is not narrowly tailored.”); *First Pentecostal Church of Holly Springs v. City of Holly Springs, Miss.*, 959 F.3d 669, 670 (5th Cir. 2020); *Roberts*, 958 F.3d at 413–14; *Tabernacle Baptist Church, Inc. of Nicholasville v. Beshear*, 459 F. Supp. 3d 847, 855 (E.D. Ky. 2020) (“If social distancing is good enough for Home Depot and Kroger, it is good enough for in-person religious services which, unlike the foregoing, benefit from constitutional protection.”). These cases all reach similar conclusions: While slowing the spread of COVID-19 is a legitimate interest, any law that restricts religious gatherings more harshly than necessary is constitutionally doomed.

The Governor has further undermined his emergency proclamations by not only allowing, but commending, large protests during the COVID-19 pandemic. “It is common knowledge, and easily proved, that protestors do not comply with social distancing requirements.” *Spell v. Edwards*, 962 F.3d at 182 (Ho, J., concurring). But when Louisianans publicly protested in the aftermath of George Floyd’s death, the Governor praised citizens for “appropriately expressing their concerns and exercising their First Amendment Rights.” *Id.* (quotation omitted). The Governor correctly stated that those protestors were exercising their constitutional rights. Spell

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Attorney General's Opinion Raises Doubt

Continued from Page 45

- and his congregation - simply wished to do the same. If a large-scale political protest can take place and be justified in the midst of a pandemic, so can a church service. The proclamations were not narrowly tailored to further the government's compelling interest. They effectively picked "winners and losers" based not on objective safety factors, such as the presence or absence of social distancing, but rather on the motivation behind a gathering. They cannot stand under the First Amendment.

D. The prosecution's counter arguments are unavailing in light of recent Supreme Court opinions.

The prosecution is wrong to argue that Pastor Spell's First Amendment challenge has already been settled in other courts. See *Opposition* at 10-11. It cites only one decision from the Middle District of Louisiana—*Spell v. Edwards*, No. CV 20-00282-BAJ-EWD, 2020 WL 6588594, (M.D. La. Nov. 10, 2020). But that case is distinguishable on two grounds. First, the case concerned an attempt by Pastor Spell and others to seek damages and injunctive relief against the Governor—a far cry from the criminal prosecution of a pastor before this court. *Spell*, 2020 WL 6588594, at *4. Second, that case noted explicitly that the two proclamations challenged here, 30 JBE 2020 and 33 JBE 2020, had "expired." *Id.* The federal district court therefore found the plaintiffs' request for injunctive relief "moot."

Also, the court's analysis focused on a much later proclamation that allowed larger religious gatherings. See *id.* at *6 (discussing 117 JBE 2020 (issued on Sept. 11, 2020)). And the court's constitutional analysis did not cite the two proclamations challenged here at all. Therefore, the court did not settle the question of whether 30 JBE 2020 and 33 JBE 2020 are constitutional for the purposes of sustaining a criminal conviction. And the federal court did not address state statutory limits at all.

In any event, even if the federal court had purported to resolve the constitutionality of the Governor's proclamations, the United States Supreme Court's recent opinions—as discussed above—would necessarily overrule the district court's order. *Tandon*, 2021 WL 1328507, at *1; *Roman Catholic Diocese*, 141 S. Ct. at 66. The prosecution's reliance on the district court case is therefore misplaced. The Governor's orders cannot survive strict scrutiny.

II. THE GOVERNOR'S PROCLAMATIONS VIOLATE



ATTORNEY GENERAL JEFF LANDRY has filed an *amicus* brief supporting Rev. Tony Spell who is facing up to 18 years in prison for holding worship services in accordance with the First Amendment but contrary to Gov. John Bel Edwards' order banning churches from meeting. Landry previously came to the aid of Watson restaurant owner Danielle Bunch, who faces charges from the Governor. Shown with Cong. Clay Higgins.

LOUISIANA'S PRESERVATION OF RELIGIOUS FREEDOM ACT.

Louisiana adopted the Preservation of Religious Freedom Act to provide protections to religion "in addition to the protections granted by the state and federal constitutions." La. R.S. 13:5242. This statute reinforces the State and Federal Constitutional protections of religious liberty and provides that "Government shall not substantially burden a person's exercise of religion, even if the burden results from a facially neutral rule or a rule of general applicability" unless two conditions are met: (1) the application of the burden must be "in furtherance of a compelling governmental interest" and (2) it must be "the least restrictive means of furthering that compelling governmental interest." La. R.S. 13:5233 (emphasis added). In short, any state rule or law burdening religious exercise must survive strict scrutiny.⁴

⁴ The emergency powers acts permit certain enumerated actions to have the "force and effect of law" when included in an emergency proclamation, but the proclamation itself is not a law, would require presentment and bicameral approval. This distinction is not central to deciding the issue before this Court because the state PRFA restrictions apply no matter how the restrictions are characterized.

The proclamations burden Pastor Spell's religious exercise and therefore must survive strict scrutiny under Louisiana law.⁵ As described above, the prosecution cannot meet its heavy burden to show that the 10-person limit on religious

services was "the least restrictive means" available to further its interest in containing COVID. The Governor's proclamations themselves contain no justification for such a burden. Thus, if there was any doubt, state law expressly reinforces the limits imposed by the state and federal constitutions. The challenged proclamations violate Pastor Spell's right to free exercise of religion—a "fundamental right of the highest order in this state." La. R.S. 13:5232.

III. STATE STATUTES PROHIBIT THE GOVERNOR FROM ISSUING PROCLAMATIONS THAT DIMINISH CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS OR CREATE CRIMES, EVEN DURING AN EMERGENCY.

Louisiana law expressly states that, even in an emergency, the Governor's powers cannot supersede the Constitution: "Nothing in this Chapter shall be interpreted to diminish the rights guaranteed to all persons under the Declaration of Rights of the Louisiana Constitution or the Bill of Rights of the United States Constitution." La. R.S. 29:736. This exception applies to public health emergencies. La. R.S. 29:772.

Furthermore, under state law, "[n]o executive order, proclamation, or regulation shall create or define a crime or fix penalties." La. R.S. 29:724(E).⁶ Additionally, the constitutional separation of powers doctrine remains in full force during emergencies. La. R.S. 29:736(D). It is thus clear that emergencies do not permit the Governor to usurp legislative power.

This circuit has previously rec-

ognized the limits on the Governor's emergency powers. 676, 687 (emphasis added), writ denied sub nom. *La. Hosp. Ass'n v. State ex rel. Dep't of Ins.*, 2015-0215 (La. 5/1/15), 169 So. 3d 372. Emergencies demand prompt action, but they do not destroy limited, constitutional government.

Therefore, even putting Pastor Spell's right to religious freedom aside, the prosecution lacks the power to prosecute him under these proclamations. Interpreting the challenged proclamations here to restrict Pastor Spell's behavior would be contrary to Louisiana's own statutes limiting the Governor's emergency powers. Pastor Spell cannot have committed any crime. If the Governor claims authority to create laws with criminal penalties, he exceeds the scope of his power.

To prosecute Pastor Spell, the prosecution must first discard his religious liberties guaranteed by the First Amendment, the Louisiana Constitution, and the Louisiana Preservation of Religious Freedom Act. The prosecution would also have to imbue Governor Edwards with broad executive authority to create criminal penalties—something that state law and the state constitution expressly forbids. See *Dr. G. H. Tichenor Antiseptic Co. v. Schwegmann Bros. Giant Super Markets*, 231 La. 51, 64, 90 So. 2d 343, 347 (1956) ("It is fundamental that legislative power, conferred under constitutional provisions, cannot be delegated by the Legislature either to the people or to any other body or authority.").

In the words of Justice Gorsuch, "while the pandemic poses many grave challenges, there is no world in which the Constitution tolerates color-coded executive edicts that reopen liquor stores and bike shops but shutter churches, synagogues, and mosques." *Roman Cath. Diocese*, 141 S. Ct. at 72 (Gorsuch, J., concurring).

² The Governor did not expressly designate businesses as essential nor did he create any procedure to do so, leaving that decision vaguely open to interpretation. Instead he referenced federal guidance issued by the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA). Nothing in Louisiana law or regulations adopts or implements this guidance.

CONCLUSION

This Court should reverse the 21st Judicial District Court and quash the bills of information against Pastor Spell.

Respectfully submitted:
JEFF LANDRY
ATTORNEY GENERAL

Mayor Shelton Feels Future of Sterlington Is Great

Continued from Page 44

of them are dying cities where people have moved away, leaving not enough residents to meet the obligations of the town.

What is future of Sterlington?

Mayor Jr. Shelton said, "Unlike some towns with fiscal problems, Sterlington is not dying. In fact, it is growing. Sterlington is a wonderful community and a great place to raise a family. I believe it has a bright future! In addition, I have a high degree of confidence in the current Board of Aldermen.

They have the best interests of their community at heart. They've learned a lot, and they have put in place safeguards on future officials. I can't say enough about the Aldermen I have been privileged to work with."

"After I wrap up my work in June, the Mayor and the Board of Aldermen must continue to be frugal and conservative with their spending. If they do that, and I believe they will, the Town of Sterlington will be on solid ground for the future!"

★★★

As to Jr. Shelton, Alderman Zach Howze said, "Mayor Shelton has done a fantastic job for us. He is a lifelong friend now. He knew when to step in and when to let us take the lead. He knew when to fight and when not to fight. Our citizens really don't know how instrumental he has been in getting this done. People didn't think we would back the Council, but he knew when to take the heat, and he did. He never sought the limelight but focused on getting things done. He will leave us with policies in place that have never been there

and real hope for the future."

Howze said, "We loved having Jr. with us! We want to thank the people of Central for sending him to us. He is a true friend and mentor, and he has blessed us! He will be missed!"

Alderman Matt Talbert said, "Of course, we are all ready for this to end, but we are not ready for Mayor Shelton to stop coming up here every week. He is an amazing public servant, a mentor, and a true friend. I don't intend to lose that, and I will stay in touch with him for as long as possible."

5,000-Seat Conference Center Nearing Completion at Life Tabernacle Church



Life Tabernacle bought an old airplane hangar.



In March, Pastor Tony Spell began developing it for conferences.



The massive new conference center has been completely rebuilt. It is open air and overlooks the lake.



Life Tabernacle built new floor, walls, ceiling, and a movable stage.



Rev. Spell cleaned the lake, built a bulkhead, and a walkway around the lake.



The Disney World-like setting will feature the transformed lake.



Beyond the lake will be the Garden of Prayer and Chapel in the Woods.



The church's gym faces Revolution Square. A new patio across the back of the gym will be called The Oasis.



REV. TONY SPELL and Sister Shaye have led Life Tabernacle for 12 years, never missing the three-times weekly services. During the pandemic, Life Tabernacle never closed. Rev. Spell now is one of the largest online Christian ministries in the United States. Services are broadcast by Central City News on Facebook.

REVOLUTION SQUARE — Life Tabernacle Church at Hooper and Blackwater roads is developing its 41-acre property to include Revolution Square on five acres in the center of the property. It will include the 5,000-seat Brush Arbor Freedom Center, The Cafe, The Oasis, The Chapel in the Woods, The Garden of Prayer, and a 400x800 foot spring-fed lake. The Square is expected to be ready for Revolution National Youth Conference the church is sponsoring June 30-July 4. For more information, go to ltcbr.com

TODD NETHERLAND THE TREEMAN

Fully Licensed and Insured



“Todd Netherland Treeman” • FREE ESTIMATES

“Chainsaw Tracy” 225-788-1997

“Todd Netherland Treeman” • Established in 1969

Same Guy • New Numbers • **FREE ESTIMATES**

Congratulations 2021 Central Graduates!

Same Guy • New Numbers • FREE ESTIMATES

Owner Todd Netherland • Central Native and Licensed Arborist



**Take Down
That Tree or
Trim That
Tree Before It
Takes Down
That House!**

**Our Trucks
Remove
Debris
Required by
Law! You
Don't Get
Stuck with
Clean Up!**



**WATCH WHAT THE
TREEMAN DID WHEN
THE HURRICANE
WAS APPROACHING
AND THIS TREE WAS
MENACING A HOME
AND A FENCE!**

**DOWNLOAD A QR
CODE READER TO
YOUR PHONE AND
WATCH THIS:**



Don't Trust Your Home and Your Family to an Unlicensed, Uninsured, Out-of-State Operator!

Owner Todd Netherland • Central Native and Licensed Arborist

Todd Netherland 225-505-4341