



IMAGINE

Iberville

NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2025

A PUBLICATION FOR IBERVILLE RESIDENTS BY YOUR GOVERNMENT LEADERS

2025 marks year of great progress in Iberville



Parish President
Chris Daigle

Dear Residents of Iberville Parish,

As we close out our second year together, I find myself reflecting on what has truly been another remarkable chapter for our parish — and on the many milestones we achieved together in 2025, outlined below. It remains an honor to serve as your Parish President and to work alongside our residents, community leaders, and partners who share a united commitment to moving Iberville forward.

► Mississippi River Bridge Progress

One of our highest priorities continues to be the new Mississippi River Bridge. This year, the project advanced significantly as we entered the NEPA phase—the National Environmental Policy Act process. This federal process requires a thorough review of potential environmental, community, and economic impacts before a final bridge location can be selected. Our team remains fully committed to advocating for funding and ensuring continued momentum on this transformative project.



► Historic January Snowfall

The year began with a moment none of us will soon forget — a historic snowfall that blanketed our parish and brought our community together. This rare weather event highlighted Iberville's resilience, unity, and our collective ability to support one another through the unexpected. The storm's impact was

significant, causing many state and local offices to close for up to three days as crews worked to restore safe conditions across the region.



► Bayou Pigeon Boat Launch Improvement Project

In January, we broke ground with CPRA on the Bayou Pigeon Boat Launch Improvement Project — an investment that will enhance recreation, expand waterway access, and strengthen tourism throughout our parish. This December, we celebrate its completion with a community ribbon-cutting.



► Expanded Early Voting Access

In April, we expanded early voting access to residents in the East and North Iberville areas, helping ensure government remains accessible and responsive to the people it serves. This effort

marks an important step toward strengthening civic engagement across our communities.



► Iberville Day at the Capitol

On May 6th, we proudly held Iberville Day at the Capitol, highlighting our parish's successes, priorities, and vision for the future while deepening relationships with state leaders.

► One Iberville Master Plan Development

We began developing a new comprehensive Master Plan — the first update in more than 20 years — and gathered valuable input from more than 350 residents and business owners during four Community Open Houses held parish-wide in November. This feedback is now guiding the creation of the draft plan, which will be presented to the public in Spring 2026.



Together, we've accomplished so much, and I couldn't be more proud of the direction we're heading. Thank you for your trust, your input, and your continued support. The best is yet to come for Iberville Parish!

With gratitude,

Chris Daigle
Iberville Parish President

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IBERVILLE PARISH COUNCIL ON AGING

More than 500 Iberville senior citizens enjoy Thanksgiving luncheon

The Iberville Council on Aging hosted its annual Thanksgiving luncheon, sponsored by Westlake Chemical, in November. A packed house of more than 500 seniors joined the fun. From a lively Muppet performance to an insightful presentation by Delores Hunt with the Alzheimer's Association, plus a delicious holiday meal, the day was full of fun and camaraderie for our seniors. Thanks to generous donations from local officials and businesses, many guests even went home with door prizes — just a little extra holiday cheer to top things off. A heartfelt thank you to Westlake Chemical, COA board members, local officials, parish employees, and the dedicated volunteers who made this event a tremendous success. Your contributions made a difference in creating a memorable day for our seniors!



IPRD - IBERVILLE PARKS & RECREATION

Record number of participants enjoy IPRD sports, programs in 2025

A record number of participants were involved in IPRD programs for 2025, reported IPRD Director Erik Willis. "We had a total of 1,719 kids and adults involved in a wide variety of sports and recreation programs - the most we have ever had," he said. "Part of that is because we have increased the number of programs and leagues offered, and part of it is because the number participating in various sports have increased, but it is all good news."

An example of the increase in participation is flag football, which added more than 100 kids this year. A new volleyball instruction program was added this year, and it drew over 50 kids. Willis attributed part of its success to the IPRD partnership with the Iberville Parish School Board, which provided transportation and a coach for the volleyball program.

"We also worked with the school board to bus kids to the Belleview Park for flag football this year. That not only increased the participation, but allowed the kids the opportunity to play on quality facilities at the parish's beautiful new park," Willis noted.

IPRD also partners with the School Board on its summer Camp 360 program, which provides afternoon summer camp activities for kids. IPRD is considering expanding Camp 360 to other areas of the parish in 2026.

LEAGUE PLAY

IPRD just completed its fall soccer league, which included 138 kids participating. The winter basketball leagues are beginning play, with leagues for age 6 and under and 9 and under running through December; and age 13 and under starting up in January. Registration for the 13 and under league is underway now, and play will begin in January.

IPRD is adding an adult flag football league, which will begin play in February. Register on the IPRD website: playiberville.com. Meanwhile, pickleball play is popular at various locations throughout the parish, and a league is being considered for that sport in 2026. Meanwhile, registration for diamond sports begins January 1.



Scenes from IPRD's popular Boo on the Belleview event, which drew 1,700 people in October.



Annual Salute to Veterans draws hundreds



Thanks to everyone who joined us in honoring our heroes. The day began with the passing of the baton from emcee James "Fry" Hymel to Louis Osmer. The parish also honored fallen Deputy and Veteran Charles Riley with a moment of silence, a reserved seat on stage, and bags and pipes performance of "Going Home." Attendees were moved by an inspiring speech from Louis Joseph and treated to wonderful performances by the MSA Orchestra, the Victory Belles, Simms Sons, and the Baton Rouge Caledonian Pipes and Drums. The Wall of Veterans remains is a powerful tribute, now honoring over 2,200 Iberville heroes who have bravely served our country. It was a day of community, pride, and gratitude celebrating our veterans! Thank you to Guzzardo Photography, LLC, for the wonderful photos of our event!

As part of our Salute to Veterans celebration, a permanent U.S. Flag Retirement Box was established at the Iberville Veterans Memorial in Plaquemine. Community members can now drop off worn or tattered U.S. flags anytime to ensure they are retired with proper respect.



Over 350 turn out for community open houses on new parish master plan

Iberville Parish Government hosted four Community Open Houses throughout November for the One Iberville master planning project. Sessions were held in White Castle, St. Gabriel, Rosedale, and Plaquemine. More than 350 residents and business owners attended the series, offering valuable ideas and insights to guide the Parish's long-term vision.

At each Open House, attendees met with the One Iberville project team and Parish staff, including President Chris Daigle, to learn about the plan's purpose, time line, and goals, while sharing their own perspectives on land use, community needs, recreation opportunities, future projects, and what makes life in Iberville unique. This feedback is now being compiled and analyzed as the planning team begins shaping the draft master plan, which will be released for public review in Spring 2026.

President Daigle thanks residents and business owners for their participation and passion. "We can't make the One Iberville master plan without every community in Iberville Parish raising their voice. These meetings and the online survey offered to residents in the fall gave residents the opportunity to tell us what you want the next 20 years to look like in Iberville Parish. It's your master plan — and we are shaping tomorrow together," he said.



Iberville goes pink...

Iberville Parish showed up BIG for Wear Pink Day! The Parish Council, Iberville Parish School District, The Arc Iberville, the Sheriff's Office, Clerk of Court Office, Judge Engolio's Office, St. John School, Iberville Charter Academy, the Iberville Parish Library, Ochsner, and many more across our parish painted Iberville pink in a powerful display of unity, strength, and hope for Breast Cancer Awareness Month in October. Thanks to all who participated!



Iberville hosts regional officials at Police Jury Association dinner

Iberville hosted the Region III meeting of the Police Jury Association of Louisiana at Randolph's Restaurant in White Castle in September. The parish welcomed leaders from Assumption, Iberia, Iberville, Lafayette, Pointe Coupee, St. Landry, St. Martin, St. Mary, and West Baton Rouge Parishes at the event. Guest speaker Glenn Ledet of DOTD, shared exciting updates on the transformation and modernization of the department.



Safety Town is back!

The Iberville Office of Emergency Preparedness and our dedicated firefighters were proud to play an important role in this year's Safety Town - an event organized by the Iberville Chamber of Commerce and sponsored by ICAER.

Over the two-day program, OEP staff and firefighters worked hands-on with Iberville Parish 1st graders, teaching them how to stay safe in emergencies. Students learned when and how to call 911, practiced basic fire safety, and met the everyday heroes who keep our community protected.

A huge thank you to our incredible team for their time, energy, and commitment to teaching Iberville's youngest residents the importance of safety!

CELEBRATING COMMUNITY:

Fall and winter events in St. Gabriel

The City of St. Gabriel closed out 2025 with a season of fellowship, tradition, and joy. From October through December, residents and city staff joined together for a series of memorable events that underscored both the spirit of celebration and the strength of civic bonds.

"These celebrations remind us that St. Gabriel is more than just a city—it's a family. Whether we are honoring our seniors, supporting survivors, or bringing joy to our children, each event strengthens the bonds that make our community so special."

Mayor Lionel Johnson

October was filled with activity. Senior Center members enjoyed a lively day at Margaritaville during the Seniors Gone Fishing outing, while Southern University Nursing School students partnered with Ochsner and the Jag Mobile to provide health awareness and resources. The City also hosted a series of cancer awareness events, honoring those lost, celebrating survivors, and standing with those still fighting.

Youth and family programming took center stage as City Hall and Police Department staff hosted the annual Pre K Trick or Treat, Terror Tuesday, the Ghostly Get Together, and the ever growing Fall Fest. Staff rounded out the month with professional development sessions under the banner of Employee Empowerment.

In November, the newly formed St. Gabriel Parks, Arts, Recreation, and Culture (SPARC) Division launched with a Thanksgiving Camp, Family Movie Night, and the Mayor's Basketball Clinic. The Community Outreach Division capped the month with Friendsgiving, a celebration of local partners that strengthened ties across the city.

Although early December events were impacted by inclement weather, SPARC continued to engage families with another Mini Camp. The City also held its Annual City Council Toy Giveaway on December 22, a tradition that brings joy to children and families throughout St. Gabriel. Shown on this page are scenes from these events.



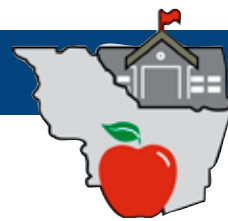
**HAPPY
NEW YEAR**



**Mayor Lionel Johnson,
Police Chief Kevin
Ambeau,
& the City Council:
William Cushenberry,
Melvin Hasten, Randall
Johnson, Jeffrey Hayes
and Hoza Redditt**

**City Offices Closed
Dec. 25 & 26 for Christmas
and Jan. 1 for
the New Year's holiday.**





Iberville students, educators of the year celebrated



Students of the Year (from left): Jaylen Lewis - Math, Science & Arts Academy East - High School Division; Raegan Harris - Math, Science & Arts Academy East - Middle School Division; and Josephine Zeringue - Math, Science & Arts Academy East - Elementary Division.



PRINCIPAL OF THE YEAR: Sharonda Joseph - White Castle High School.

NOT SHOWN - High School Teacher of the Year: Gelisa Thompson Patin, Plaquemine High School; Early Childhood Teacher of Year: Wanda Kelly; and Early Childhood Leader of the Year: Juanita Williams.



NEW TEACHER OF THE YEAR: Amber Boutte - Math, Science & Arts Academy West.



ELEMENTARY TEACHER OF THE YEAR: Ashley Leger - Math, Science & Arts Academy West.



MIDDLE SCHOOL TEACHER OF THE YEAR: Bridget Zeringue - Math, Science & Arts Academy East.



OUTSTANDING MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL SCHOOL SUPPORT EMPLOYEE: Tiffany Charles - Math, Science & Arts Academy West.



OUTSTANDING ELEMENTARY SUPPORT EMPLOYEE: Gerry Banks - Dorseyville Elementary.



SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE PROVIDER OF THE YEAR: Sera Daigle.

VILLAGE OF GROSSE TETE

Christmas on the Bayou a popular holiday tradition



The Village of Grosse Tete welcomed the holiday season with its Christmas on the Bayou Parade and Festival on December 6. The annual event is one of the community's most popular events of the year. Former Chief of Police Tommy Dardenne, shown above at left, was selected as Grand Marshal of the parade. Chosen as queen for this year's event was Emma Herpin, shown below at left. First runner-up was De'Laisha Beckwood (shown with Mayor Mike Chauffe) and Shayna Mireas, princess.



VILLAGE OF ROSEDALE

Ribbon cutting held for new playground surface at Rosedale Park

The Village of Rosedale celebrated the completion of a new padded surface for the playground at the Louvenia "Mom Venia" Philson Memorial Park in November with a ribbon-cutting ceremony. The new turf surfacing provides a soft play area for children with proper drainage. The project, which cost approximately \$80,000, was necessary because of the poor condition of the previous surfacing. Village officials shown in the photo at right are (from left) Police Chief Mike Sparks, Clerk Courtney Bourgoyne, Alderman Carroll Devillier, Mayor Dana Alexander, Fire Chief Danny Gantt, Alderwoman Rita Lynn Major, Alderwoman Catrina Northern, and Maintenance Crewman Cameron Nobles.

In other news, construction of the Rosedale Veterans Memorial Park near the library is underway, and is expected to be completed in the Spring of 2026.



DID YOU KNOW?
You can pay your utility bill online!

Go to rosedalela.com.
At the bottom of home page,
click on pay utility bill.

City sewer, drainage projects mark year-end infrastructure improvements

North Plaquemine sewer plant conversion:

The north Plaquemine sewer plant, which was failing, is being converted into a pumping station with a force main that pumps wastewater to the much larger pumping station on W.W. Harleaux St. It will then be piped through existing pipes to the sewer plant south of Plaquemine.

Phase one of this conversion into a pumping station is complete. Work on Phase two, the force main to pipe the wastewater to the W.W. Harleaux station is only about 30% complete. That includes 2,400 linear feet of 12-inch force main to the W.W. Harleaux plant. That project is expected to be complete by next summer.

Pump station upgrades:

Meanwhile, upgrades to a number of pumping stations throughout the city are almost complete, with only cleanup remaining. They include the Bell St., Plaza Drive, Commodore Street, Senator Gay Drive and Orange Street pumping stations.

Drainage projects:

The city has also completed two drainage projects. A concrete lining was installed to improve drainage in three overgrown ditches east of Nathan Georgetown Street. The other project involved adding riprap and a concrete flume to repair erosion on both sides of Evangeline Avenue ditch which had exposed gas lines.

State mandate forces rate study, water and sewer rate increases

Due to a recent rate study pursuant to the La. Division of Administration's Water Sector Program, it was determined that the City of Plaquemine's current water and sewer rate structure is below a sustainable average. Louisiana Article 7, sec. 14a of the state constitution prohibits the city from operating at a loss.

In addition, to remain eligible to receive funding and grants from the state for future infrastructure improvements, the City of Plaquemine was required to adopt rates that can sustain the operations of the City's water and sewer systems.

As a result, the Board of Selectmen, in coordination with the Mayor, approved an adjustment in water and sewer rates in December. This decision was made to ensure the continued maintenance and improvement of essential city services and infrastructure. The following shows existing rates and rates for 2026:

WATER - 2025 RATES:

Residential inside city \$5.00 base rate + \$2.75 per each 1,000 gal.

Residential outside city \$7.00 base rate + \$3.25 per each 1,000 gal.

WATER - 2026 RATES:

Residential inside city \$10 for 1st 3,000 gal. + \$4.60 per 1,000 gal. after

Residential outside city \$14 for 1st 3,000 gal. + \$5.10 per 1,000 gal. after

Sewer - 2025 RATES:

Residential inside city \$5.00 base rate + \$5.50 per each 1,000 gal

Residential outside city \$7.00 base rate + \$6.00 per each 1,000 gal

Sewer - 2026 Rates:

Residential inside city: \$6.50 base rate + \$8.00 per 1,000 gal

Residential outside city: \$8.50 base rate + \$8.50 per 1,000 gal

Plaquemine marks 250th anniversary

The City of Plaquemine marked its 250th anniversary in 2025. The city was founded in 1775, but the area was first inhabited by Chitimache and Houma Indian tribes because Bayou Plaquemine was an important waterway for trade and travel. It connected inland villages to the Mississippi River.

When the French and Spanish explorers reached the area, they relied on the same bayou routes that the Indigenous nations had established. The settlement grew into a village, and eventually into a city.

Bayou Plaquemine became one of Louisiana's most important early passages. In fact, while the Plaquemine Lock was operational in the early to mid 1900s, thousands of boats went through the Lock annually and supported a bustling downtown economy. Today, the city boasts a more diverse economy and a vibrant community.



All Is Bright event, Christmas decorations bring holiday cheer

Residents love the new holiday lighting that was added to buildings around the city in December. The good news is that the lighting is permanent, with the city having the ability to program the lighting in various colors for various holidays. The buildings include City Hall, the Tony Gulotta Bayou Waterfront Park, Depot Marketplace and old city hall (Iberville Museum). The city added to the Christmas cheer with its annual All Is Bright Hometown Christmas celebration on downtown Railroad Avenue on December 6. The event draws thousands downtown for the free visits with Santa, children's rides and activities, holiday lighting, food and music. This year's edition also included some 70 booth vendors. Shown above are scenes from the event.



75
YEARS
ANNIVERSARY

IN 2026, IBERVILLE PARISH LIBRARY IS

CELEBRATING 75 YEARS

1951-PRESENT A LEGACY OF LEARNING AND A FUTURE OF GROWTH

FOR 75 YEARS, IBERVILLE PARISH LIBRARY HAS INSPIRED READERS, SUPPORTED FAMILIES, AND STRENGTHENED LIFE LONG LEARNING ACROSS EVERY AGE AND EVERY COMMUNITY.



75
YEARS
ANNIVERSARY

Pardon Our Progress in 2026, as We Celebrate 75 Years!

As we celebrate the library's 75th anniversary, we're investing in exciting renovations to build a brighter future for our community. Soon you'll enjoy redesigned community spaces, family-friendly areas, refreshed interiors, updated meeting spaces, and expanded access to emerging technology that inspires learning, creativity, and connection for generations to come.

Listed below are the branches currently under renovation and temporarily closed.

Grand Re-opening dates coming soon. Visit our Facebook and website for more information!

BRANCHES CLOSED DUE TO RENOVATION

Maringouin

Rosedale

Grosse Tete

Bayou Sorrel

Bayou Pigeon

PLEASE SHARE YOUR SUPPORT—
PLACE YOUR YARD SIGN OUT FOR ALL TO SEE!




Grand Re-opening dates coming soon. Visit our Facebook and website for more information!


DISCOVER SOMETHING NEW IN 2026!

Enjoy eBooks, audiobooks, ancestry tools, homework help, resume creation, auto repair guides, and more, all free with your library card!










READY TO LEARN? VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR MORE INFORMATION

 (225) 687-2520
  www.myipl.org
  /IbervilleParishLibrary
  /IbervilleParishLibrary

IBERVILLE PARISH ASSESSOR

First responders can now get additional property tax exemption

Iberville's first responders will have the benefit of an additional property tax exemption starting in 2025, thanks to voters and the Iberville Parish Council, said Deputy Assessor Clint Seneca.

Louisiana voters, in November of 2023, approved an amendment for parish governing bodies to allow another \$2,500 exemption for first responders on top of the \$7,500 homestead exemption that all residential property owners already receive. Both exemptions are on the assessed valuation of property that is owned and occupied by a qualifying first responder. The Iberville Parish Council approved this exemption for Iberville first responders in 2024.

"We fully endorsed this exemption with the Parish Council," said Seneca. "Both Assessor Randy Sexton and I recognize that our first responders often put their lives on the line in helping our residents, and provide life-saving services in their daily work. We owe them our gratitude, and this extra exemption is one way we can thank them for all that they do for our community."

An annual application and documentation is required to claim the exemption. To qualify for the exemption, first responders have to reside in the same parish in which their employer is located. The exemption is open to firefighters (both paid and volunteer), police officers and deputies, peace officers, and emergency medical responders and dispatchers.

First responders must be full-time public employees. Volunteer firefighters must complete more than 24 hours of firefighter continuing education and be a member of the La. State Firemen's Association or on the roster of the Volunteer Firefighter Insurance Program.

For more information on this exemption, call the Iberville Parish Assessor's Office at 225-687-3568.



HAPPY
New Year
2026

**from Assessor Randy Sexton
& the Iberville Parish Assessor's Office**

Hours: 8 am - 4:30 pm Monday-Friday
225.687.3568
www.ibervilleassessor.org



Pre-trial Diversion Program offers option for non-violent offenders

A major priority for District Attorney Tony Clayton is to prevent offenders, especially first time offenders, from becoming violent criminals. One tool used by the District Attorney's Office to deter criminal activity is the Pre-Trial Diversion Program.

The Pre-Trial Diversion Program (PTD) is a voluntary diversion program that is offered to select **non-violent** offenders as an alternative to prosecution. The program is offered to eligible offenders after the case has been reviewed by the District Attorney's office and it is determined that the offender meets the eligibility criteria.

"I think it's important that someone with no prior criminal record be given a second chance if possible," said District Attorney Tony Clayton. "Each case is considered individually, but we use this program to try to address underlying issues that will help them become productive citizens."

The Pre-Trial Diversion Program is designed to deter offenders from future criminal and/or disorderly behavior. It provides the offender an opportunity to gain awareness of the consequences of future criminal behavior, to avoid additional expenses related to criminal prosecution, and should he/she successfully complete the program, to have his/her charges refused or dismissed by the District Attorney's Office.

Additionally, an offender's participation in the program will lessen the load on the Court System, the Clerk of Court, and Law Enforcement Agencies. Pre-Trial Diversion can be highly beneficial for first time offenders and is a useful tool when deciding how to proceed in certain cases.

While not easy, this program has proven to be effective. Depending on the offense charged, the defendant will be on extended probation, will still pay some fees, will be required to complete random drug screenings at the defendant's expense, and will be required to complete a number of on-line courses. Those courses are specified by the DA's Office based on the offense.



FRIENDS OF THE PLAQUEMINE LOCK STATE HISTORIC SITE

Your support needed as restoration continues

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FriendsoftheLock.org



The Friends of the Lock is a 501 C3 federal tax exempt non-profit with annual audits. Your donation is tax deductible.

Join us for our Annual
Membership Meeting
Thursday, Jan. 15, 10 am
Plaq. Lock Site - 57730 Main St.

Contact us:
contact@FriendsoftheLock.org



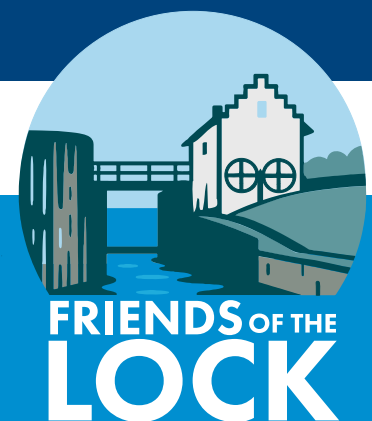
Part of the new exhibit includes hands-on items, including operational railroad bridge, operational boat wheel, scuba suit worn to make repairs at bottom of lock, and hand tools used in operations.



New visitor welcome room



Operational replica of Bayou Plaq. railroad bridge



WHAT WE'VE DONE:

- ▶ \$1.2 million Lockhouse restoration:
- ▶ Repaired leaks and cracks in lockhouse,
- ▶ Waterproofed building,
- ▶ Upgraded electrical & lighting systems,
- ▶ Replaced old A/C units and plumbing,
- ▶ Made lockhouse ADA accessible,
- ▶ Installed new flooring and other upgrades,
- ▶ Developed a new & modern visitor experience with interactive exhibits, and
- ▶ Improved grounds drainage.

WHAT WE'RE WORKING ON:

- ▶ Repairs to the boathouse,
- ▶ Landscaping upgrades,
- ▶ Signage and marketing.

TOWN OF MARINGOUIN

Maringouin Fall Fest draws big crowds and fun

Fall Fest featured numerous kids activities, and a variety of food and vendors on November 8 and 9 at the Community Center. And, the line-up of bands each day kept the music going. The annual event is sponsored by the Town of Maringouin. Shown are scenes from this year's fun.



Bringing holiday cheer to the elderly



Town of Maringouin officials made and delivered fruit baskets to the Council on Aging and to shut-in elderly as a way of saying thanks and happy holidays to these treasured residents. Shown above are COA members with officials, and at left is a photo from one of the home deliveries.

Maringouin Mardi Gras Parade
Saturday, Feb. 14 - 1 pm
Theme: Be my Mardi Gras on Landry Dr.



TOWN OF WHITE CASTLE

Major projects will be underway in 2026

The Town of White Castle will begin work on three major infrastructure projects in 2026. The most exciting project is the new training facility. Ground-breaking for that building will be held in January.

The town was awarded a \$4.136 million grant for the new training and multi-purpose center, which will offer technical and technology training, including HVAC, mechanic, electrical, technical and other training programs. Mayor John Morris thanked State Senator Ed Price, State Rep. Ken Brass and former State Rep. Chad Brown for their work in obtaining the grant funding.

The town will also begin work on a new \$4 million sewer plant and on drainage and road improvements in 2026. Funding for the sewer plant came through the La. Department of Environmental Quality and it will be located at the site of the existing plant. It will bid in late 2026. The \$800,000 road/drainage project will address some drainage issues in town, and include some street patching and overlays. Phase one of that project will begin in January.



MLK Day of Service

Monday, January 19, 2026,
11:30 am - meet at White Castle Community Center
and help clean up our city in honor of Dr. Martin

Mardi Gras Parade

Tuesday, Feb. 17, 2 pm on Bowie Street
Join us for Mardi Gras fun!

Watch for more information on these events:
facebook.com/MayorJohnMorrisIII



Iberville Clerk of Court announces election updates for 2026



**Clerk of Court
Amy Patin**

As Louisiana enters the New Year, significant changes are coming to the state's election process. Beginning in spring 2026, Louisiana will implement Closed Party Primaries. The Closed Party Primary Election is set for May 16, 2026, and the Closed Primary General Election is set for June 27, 2026.

In a Closed Party Primary, Democratic voters may cast ballots only for Democratic candidates, and Republican voters only vote for Republican candidates.

For the first time, No Party voters may participate ONLY by completing a Declaration of Ballot Choice and selecting either a Democratic or Republican ballot, or choosing an unaffiliated ballot. Once a choice is made in the first primary, it cannot be changed for the second. Importantly, selecting a party ballot does not alter official voter registration.

Voters registered with other parties, such as Green or Libertarian, are not eligible to participate in Closed Party Primaries but may vote in other races. Offices included in these closed party primaries are BESE, U.S. Senate, U.S. House of Representatives, Public Service Commissioner, and the Louisiana Supreme Court.

Following the spring primaries, the selected Democratic and Republican candidates will advance to the Open Congressional General Election on November 3, 2026, where all voters, regardless of registration, may vote for any candidate for U.S. Senate and U.S. House of Representatives.

State Rep. Brown resigns to take state post

In addition, Iberville Parish will hold a special election to fill the unexpired term for House District 60, previously held by State Representative Chad Brown. The primary election is scheduled for February 7, 2026, with early voting from January 24 through January 31. The general or runoff election will take place on March 14, 2026. This district includes Iberville and Assumption Parishes, with all Iberville precincts participating except 31 and 32 in Maringouin. Unlike the Closed Party Primaries, this will be an Open Election.



**Former State Rep.
Chad Brown**

On behalf of the Iberville Parish Clerk's

Office, we extend our best wishes to Representative Brown in his new role as Commissioner of the Louisiana Office of Alcohol and Tobacco Control and express our gratitude for his 10 years of dedicated service to our community. Chad was always only a phone call away, for me personally and my fellow clerks, and that is greatly appreciated!

Loaded fall election ballot

The Fall of 2026 will bring our last election cycle of the year. As mentioned, November 3, 2026 is the Open Congressional General Election, with races for U.S. Senator and U.S. Representative, as well as the Open Primary with races for District Judges, District Attorney, School Board Members, Justices of the Peace, Constables and municipal races in Maringouin, Plaquemine and White Castle.

Judge Batiste set to retire from bench

For the first time in over 20 years, one familiar name will be missing from the ballot for District Judge, Division C. The Honorable Alvin Batiste, Jr. recently announced his well-deserved retirement date of January 31, 2026.

An ad-hoc will serve until the fall election cycle provides a new District Judge for Division C. Judge Batiste was sworn into office in January of 2003, and has served our district continuously since. Prior to becoming a Judge, Batiste served as the Chief Administrative Officer for Iberville Parish Government for five years, leading an exemplary life of public service.



**District Judge
Alvin Batiste, Jr.**

"Serving as a juror pales in comparison to the sacrifices made by our young women and men who serve in our US military, whether overseas or here at home." That is a now recognized quote of Judge Batiste's anytime there is a potential jury present. He frequently speaks of "The Golden Rule," treating others as you would have them treat you. Unmatched wisdom derived from a lifetime of public service and his compassion for other human beings are qualities he displayed daily that will be missed.

Batiste remarked, "It has been the greatest honor of my life to be elected by the citizens of Iberville Parish and to serve as Judge of the 18th Judicial District Court!"

We wish you all the best in your well-deserved retirement. You will be missed by your Clerk's Office.

Clerk of Court Amy Patin



**Iberville Clerk of Court
Amy Patin and Staff**

225-687-5160
58050 Meriam St., 1st Floor, Plaquemine
IbervilleClerk.com



Sheriff's Office brings holiday cheer to local students, elderly

The Iberville Sheriff's Office once again brought plenty of holiday excitement and smiles to Iberville's 4th grade students and to the elderly in nursing homes.

Donations to the Sheriff Brett Stassi Charity Fund were used to purchase personalized blankets for all Iberville 4th graders. In addition, local nursing homes came alive with Christmas carols sung by deputies who brought gifts of blankets and other goodies to residents. during their visits. The nursing homes were also gifted with a variety of games for residents.

Special thanks to the following donors for making this possible:
 Mary and Michael Johnson
 Peacock Communications, LLC
 Edward J. Gay Planting & Mfg Co.
 Comeaux Brothers Construction
 St. Louis Planting, Inc
 Grosse Tete-Rosedale Lions Club
 We Are the Difference
 Polly Higdon
 Jerry McKernan
 Judge Elizabeth Engolio



Deputies at Iberville Parish Jail train on the new X-ray scanner.

Xray scanner provides extra security at jail

A new X-ray scanner has been installed at the Iberville Parish Jail which increases jail security and decreases the ability of inmates to bring contraband into the jail. The new technology detects contraband concealed under clothing or in body cavities, including weapons, explosives, drugs, mobile phones and jewelry. It also identifies threats hidden on and inside the body with one scan and without searches or shoe removal. "This technology helps us provide a secure jail for our staff and the inmates," noted Sheriff Brett Stassi.

Remembering our heroes this holiday season

As we go through this holiday season, our thoughts at the Iberville Sheriff's Office are with our fallen Deputy Charles Riley and his family; along with Captain Brett Michael Stassi, Jr., who is still recovering from his injuries.

We are forever changed by their service, honor and dedication to keeping Iberville residents safe. They remain in our thoughts daily, and are an inspiration to us all. We hope you also remember them and their sacrifice during this happy, yet difficult time.

Iberville Sheriff's Office Staff



Deputy Charles Riley



Captain Brett Michael Stassi Jr.

To protect and serve others, so selfless you have been. Your bravery and kindness knew no end.

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