



IMAGINE

Iberville

NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2025

A PUBLICATION FOR IBERVILLE RESIDENTS BY YOUR GOVERNMENT LEADERS

Parish honors leaders at Juneteenth Celebration

Iberville Parish proudly hosted the Second Annual Juneteenth Celebration on June 19 at the Carl F. Grant Civic Center. On this important day of remembrance and reflection, we came together as a community to honor the end of slavery in the United States and to celebrate the enduring legacy of freedom, resilience, and culture. As part of the program, the Parish paid tribute to community members whose service and leadership continue to advance the values of Juneteenth: Veronica B. Hill – Freedom through Community; Pastor Clyde E. McNell Sr. – Freedom through Religion, the Honorable Alvin Batiste, Jr. – Freedom through Justice; and Melvin J. Craige Sr. – Freedom through Education.



Shown from left are Parish President Chris Daigle with honorees Melvin Craige, Sr., Veronica Hill, Pastor Clyde McNell and District Judge Alvin Battiste.

Hwy. 1 entrance to Iberville gets long-needed clearing of brush

The Iberville Parish Public Works crew tackled a major project to improve one of Plaquemine's busiest gateways along La. Hwy. 1 this summer. The overgrown vegetation across from Dow near the railroad tracks had long been an eyesore, and restoring this entrance into Iberville was a top priority. Originally estimated to take 30 days, the parish's hardworking crew completed the project in just 9 days — delivering a cleaner, more welcoming entryway for our parish.



New directors join Iberville Parish team

Iberville Parish Government is proud to announce three new directors have joined its administrative team. They are Benjamin Bello, Director of Planning and Development; Brittany Dupont, Director of Grants; and LaTroya Handy, Director of Community Development. "We are excited about the contributions each of these professionals will bring to our parish and government operations," said Parish President Chris Daigle.



Benjamin Bello



Brittany Dupont



LaTroya Handy

COMING EVENTS

Oct. 3	Boogie on Belleview & Pumpkin Palooza
Oct. 4	St. Gabriel Breast Cancer Color Run
Oct. 21	Wear Pink Day
Oct. 22	Boo on the Belleview
Oct. 24-26	Acadian Festival
Oct. 25	Prescription Take Back Day @ Wal-Mart
Oct. 30	White Castle Boo on Bowie
Nov. 8-9	Maringouin Fall Festival
Nov. 9	Grosse Tete Veterans Day Celebration
Nov. 11	Iberville Salute to Veterans

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IBERVILLE PARISH COUNCIL ON AGING



Senior Superfly draws a crowd

Senior Superfly July was a hit in St. Gabriel! Our seniors enjoyed an afternoon full of live music, delicious food, exciting door prizes, and a beautiful arts & crafts display. The energy was high, the smiles were big, and the sense of community was even bigger. Thank you to everyone who came out and helped make this event so special - we love celebrating our amazing seniors!



STRIKE! COA hits the lanes...

The Iberville Council on Aging had a fun-filled trip to All Star Lanes, enjoying a day of bowling, laughter, and great company. It was a wonderful outing that brought smiles, friendly competition, and plenty of high scores! We love seeing our community staying active and making lasting memories together.

IPRD - IBERVILLE PARKS & RECREATION

IPRD collaborates with School Board to promote after school sports

IPRD and the Iberville Parish School Board have joined forces to help kids from outlying areas of the parish get to sports programs offered in Plaquemine.

"A lot of times there are not enough kids in those areas interested to justify a league or clinic, but offering the kids bus transportation to the volleyball clinics and the flag football league is working," said IPRD Director Eric Willis. "For example, enrollment in the volleyball clinic is up significantly because transportation is being provided from east and north Iberville and White Castle. We are up to 125 kids, who are learning the fundamentals from school coaches." Transportation is also being offered for flag football, baseball and softball.

Meanwhile, IPRD's tackle football league is underway, and flag football begins October 7. Registration for basketball leagues is underway, with play beginning in December. Registration for soccer leagues begins on October 16, with play beginning in January. Both leagues are open to ages 5-12 years old.



Scenes from the volleyball clinic, which has 125 participants.



BOO ON THE BELLEVIEW

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 22ND
5:30 - 7:00 PM

FREE ADMISSION | BELLEVIEW PARK

FOR AGES 12 AND UNDER



IBERVILLE PARISH GOVERNMENT



Interns get on-the-job experience

This summer, Iberville Parish Government welcomed over 30 interns who were placed in departments across the parish. From administrative support to field work, interns jumped in and made the most of their time with the parish. Throughout the program, they learned on the job, gained real-world experience, and saw the daily work that keeps our parish running smoothly. At the closing ceremony, the interns shared what they learned during their time here - and it was clear they took a lot away from the experience. Many spoke about the skills they gained, the people they met, and how the program helped them shape their career goals. Shown in the photo above are some of the interns during the closing ceremony.

SIGN UP FOR EMERGENCY TEXT ALERTS

Register to receive critical messages from Iberville Parish! Scan this code:



Bayou Grosse Tete clean out to begin

Iberville Parish Government secured over \$700,000 in federal funding through the Natural Resource Conservation Service in June to remove 23 miles of storm debris from Bayou Grosse Tete caused by Hurricane Francine and recent tornadoes.

The parish will chip in another \$200,000, with the total cost expected to be roughly \$900,000. The project will cover the stretch from the Intracoastal Waterway to the Pointe Coupee Parish line, clearing 352 fallen trees, large branches and debris. Work is expected to begin in late 2025 once permits and bids are finalized. It will also be timed with low water levels to maximize efficiency.

Bayou Grosse Tete serves as a critical drainage channel for Iberville, West Baton Rouge, and Pointe Coupee Parishes—the heart of the Upper Terrebonne Basin.

OTHER DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS:

The Intracoastal Road drainage project was completed in July. This major infrastructure improvement will help reduce flooding risks and enhance road safety for residents and travelers in the area.

Also, work began in August on a drainage improvement project along Cross Street. This effort reflects a strong partnership between Iberville Parish Government, the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (DOTD), and the City of Plaquemine. Once complete, these improvements will help strengthen our local drainage system and protect surrounding neighborhoods.

Getting CPR, emergency training



Parish Government partnered with Acadian Ambulance and Fire/Emergency Director Shaun Bordelon in providing CPR and emergency response training for more than 60 employees this summer. This empowers our team to respond confidently in emergencies, making our parish better prepared and more resilient.

ADD A PHOTO TO THE IBERVILLE WALL OF VETERANS

SUBMISSION DEADLINE - MONDAY, OCTOBER 6

HOW TO SUBMIT A PHOTO:

Online at ibervilleparish.com
(Link on Home Page)

Bring Photo & Have it Scanned at:

1. Iberville Library in Plaquemine, St. Gabriel, and White Castle
2. Iberville Council on Aging Centers
3. Iberville Visitor's Center in Grosse Tete

★ IBERVILLE SALUTE TO ★
VETERANS

Tuesday, November 11, 2025 | 10:00 AM

★ IBERVILLE SALUTE TO ★
VETERANS



TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2025

VETERANS MEMORIAL - 23640 RAILROAD AVE. PLAQUEMINE, LA
IF INCLEMENT WEATHER, EVENT WILL MOVE TO CARL F. GRANT CIVIC CENTER.

PRE-CEREMONY ENTERTAINMENT AT 9:30 AM
CEREMONY WILL BE 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

- ★ Featuring Guest Speaker Lionel Joseph – a proud son of Sunshine, Louisiana, a U.S. Army and Louisiana Army National Guard veteran, and the current District 3 Councilman for Tangipahoa Parish
- ★ 2,000 + Veterans honored on the Iberville Wall of Veterans
- ★ Performance by Plaquemine High JROTC Team
- ★ Collection of Supplies for Troops
- ★ Military Color Guard Units
- ★ Patriotic Music Entertainment by the Victory Belles, Simms Sons, and MSA Orchestra

LCIW re-opens in St. Gabriel, brings new era

The Louisiana Correctional Institute for Women (LCIW) has officially reopened in St. Gabriel, nearly a decade after the 2016 floods forced the closure of its original campus. The new \$160 million facility replaces what was lost and brings modern infrastructure, expanded services, and renewed purpose to the state's only women's prison.

The flood damage in 2016 left 31 buildings uninhabitable. The new complex includes 15 buildings across 7 acres, featuring a postpartum wing, vocational training centers, and a full-service medical building staffed by 58 healthcare professionals. It will house nearly 950 inmates and employ 261 staff members.

Mayor Lionel Johnson Jr. noted the broader impact of the facility's return: "This facility brings more than just infrastructure—it brings opportunity. With over 260 new employees, some who will join our community, we'll see a boost to our local economy. And with the new residents comes an increase in our census numbers, which helps us secure more resources and the representation St. Gabriel deserves." The City of St. Gabriel proudly welcomes the reopening of LCIW and looks forward to the opportunities it brings for our community.



Above is the new entrance to LCIW.



Shown are senior citizens along with officials and AT&T representatives. The seniors received laptops from AT&T as part of its Fiber Launch event.

AT&T fiber event signals high speed advances

Residents and city officials gathered to celebrate a major leap forward in connectivity as AT&T hosted its Fiber Launch Event in St. Gabriel. The event marked the official rollout of high-speed fiber internet service across some St. Gabriel neighborhoods—bringing faster, more reliable internet to homes, schools, and businesses.



Held at the City Council Chambers and Bayou Paul Park, the event featured AT&T representatives, State Senator Ed Price, local leaders, and community members eager to learn about the benefits of fiber technology. Attendees were treated to demos, Q&A sessions, and sign-up opportunities for new service packages.

Mayor Lionel Johnson Jr. welcomed the development, calling it a "game-changer for education, commerce, and everyday life in St. Gabriel. This kind of infrastructure investment opens doors for our residents," said Mayor Johnson. "From virtual learning and tele-health to small business growth, advanced fiber connectivity puts St. Gabriel on the digital map."

In a special effort to close the digital divide, AT&T partnered with nonprofit Human I-T to donate refurbished laptops to senior residents of the St. Gabriel Senior Center. The giveaway was part of a national initiative to expand access to technology in underserved communities. Long time resident Helen Ambeau expressed her gratitude, saying, "This is going to bring me into the new world that we're in now. Everything is so tech-savvy".

AT&T also announced the expansion of its fiber network to nearly 600 new locations in the city, with plans to extend coverage to commercial corridors and public facilities in the coming months. In addition to the laptop distribution, the company will host technology classes for seniors to ensure residents can make the most of the tools now available to them.

Mayor and Council actively pursuing new retail, economic development

The City of St. Gabriel is laying the groundwork for a more vibrant local economy, with Mayor Lionel Johnson Jr., his administration, and the City Council actively pursuing new retail development and broader economic expansion.

In recent months, city leaders have engaged with developers, regional partners, and planning experts to attract new businesses and enhance commercial offerings. Their focus includes bringing more shopping, dining, and service options directly to residents—while creating jobs and increasing local revenue.

Mayor Johnson emphasized retail development as a key part of the city's long-term vision: "Retail is more than convenience—it's community," said Mayor Johnson. "We want our residents to be able to shop, dine, and support local businesses without leaving St. Gabriel. That means investing in infrastructure, streamlining permitting, and making our city attractive to new and established retailers."

The City Council has also been reviewing zoning updates and exploring incentives to support mixed-use development and small business growth. These efforts align with recent residential expansion across St. Gabriel, and additional housing initiatives are already in discussion to meet growing demand.

To celebrate and support the businesses already serving our community, the city will host its first-ever Local Business Promotion Week this October.

The initiative will spotlight longtime favorites and emerging entrepreneurs.

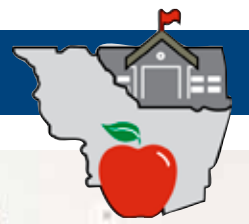
Mayor Johnson also hinted at exciting developments in the pipeline: "There's a lot happening behind the scenes—new partnerships, and community enhancements that haven't been announced yet," he said. "We're building momentum, and residents will hopefully start to see the results in the months ahead."

As new families continue to move into the area, the city's leadership remains committed to building a thriving, well-rounded community—one that reflects the needs and priorities of its residents. The City looks forward to continued progress and the opportunities ahead.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Monday with the Mayor
Monday, Sept. 29, 6:30 pm
Community Center

Breast Cancer Color Run
Saturday, Oct. 4, 8 am
Community Center



Innovative STAR Academy already engaging students

The White Castle and East Iberville school campuses may look the same, but they are also now home to an innovative hands-on STEM school named STAR Academy for 7th and 8th graders.

The school within a school includes five classrooms that were gutted and refurnished with new technology, manipulatives and materials. The goal is to re-engage kids at that difficult age, increase interest, attendance and social skills, and reduce discipline issues.

"Science and math are taught differently within the STAR Academy," said Rebecca Johnson, Executive Director of Academics. "It is all project based, and has different modules in which students work in groups. For example one module may be them figuring out math problems from a crime scene, another might be science and math problems from a natural disaster. It is all project learning from experiences the kids can relate to, along with virtual simulations."

The modules also offer the students exposure to some 50 career paths so they can determine what areas they are interested in. Students will also take field trips to industrial sites this year. And, it all meets state curriculum demands.

Teachers of the Academy were required to attend specialized training last summer. "This is the first year STAR Academy is being implemented at White Castle High and East Iberville Elementary and High schools. Our goal is increased student achievement by getting kids excited about coming to school through meaningful engagement and learning, while also improving attendance and decreasing behavior infractions," Johnson said. "The school year just started and we are already seeing a difference with kids in the program - they are excited to go to class."

"Some of the students that hardly ever speak in class or work with their peers have been excited to see what they will be doing next," noted teacher Cristal Allen-Dumas. "More smiles and conversations are happening that's directly related to the lesson." Teacher Jacqueline Lodge added, "The biggest benefit of STAR is students are super engaged, therefore, they're learning more. I believe that in the end, they will score higher on the LEAP assessment."

Coach Matthew Martin, another STAR Academy teacher, noted, "With the outstanding materials and equipment available, students are experiencing a transformative learning environment. As a math teacher, I often encountered questions such as, 'How will math benefit me in the future or in the real world?' Star Academy has effectively addressed these inquiries, allowing students to clearly see the real-world applications and correlations of mathematics."



Students in the WCHS and East Iberville STAR Academies work through problems in the modules.

Grant provides new STEAM program for Iberville Elem. students

When Iberville Elementary replaced its Montessori program with the STEAM program, the goal was to get young students more engaged with STEM learning. It was given a big boost with a \$39,000 grant for teacher training in robotics and materials, along with a \$2,500 grant from Entergy for supplies.

Dr. Rochelle Darville now works with kindergarten through 6th graders during their elective period, teaching them STEM while having fun with projects such as building robots and basic coding. "I focus on helping students recognize that they already use STEM every day to solve problems. My goal is to build their STEM identity early and lay a foundation that sparks curiosity and confidence in the students."

Darville says the biggest benefits of the STEAM program is that it helps students think across disciplines. "Instead of keeping math, science, reading, art and engineering in separate silos, they learn how to bring those skills together to solve real-world problems.

This approach allows them to be creative, innovative and collaborative, and they gain skills that they will need in the future."

Families are invited to attend a Family STEM Night on December 11, 2025, to see projects the kids work on and celebrate their work. The school is also starting a STEM Club for 4th through 6th grade students.



Students work together on a problem.



Dr. Rochelle Darville with some of her students.

SCHOOL HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

Oct. 6-8	Fall break - no school for students (Oct. 8 is staff professional day)
Nov. 11	Veterans Day holiday
Nov. 24-28	Thanksgiving break
Dec. 22-Jan. 5	Winter break - no school for students (Jan. 5 is staff professional day)
Jan. 19	Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday
Feb. 16-18	Mardi Gras break

VILLAGE OF GROSSE TETE

Water line replacement to bring better pressure, fire protection benefits

Installation of a new 6-inch water line along a portion of La. Hwy. 77 is expected to be completed by the end of September. The new line will extend 4,000 feet from Garner Lane to Oak Street next to Town Hall. The new line will replace an antiquated 4 inch water line that will be abandoned. The new line will provide better water pressure for residents in that area, and also better fire protection. "This project required 25 road bores, so that really added to the cost," noted Mayor Mike Chauffe. "But it is very needed." The \$240,000 cost is being paid by the village. It will also include looping the water lines in areas for fire protection.



Shown are photos of the water line upgrade project underway.

*Please join us in
honoring our
veterans*

Grosse Tete Veterans Day Celebration

**Sunday, Nov. 9
3:30 pm
Grosse Tete
Veterans Park**

VILLAGE OF ROSEDALE

Village taking veterans' names for inclusion on Veterans Memorial

The Village of Rosedale is seeking submissions of the names of local veterans for inclusion on its Veterans Memorial at Veterans Memorial Park. This memorial will serve as a place of honor and remembrance for those who have served our nation with courage and distinction.

To have a name considered for inclusion, the veterans must have:

- Served honorably in any branch of the United States Armed Forces; and
- Been a resident of Rosedale at any time in their lifetime.

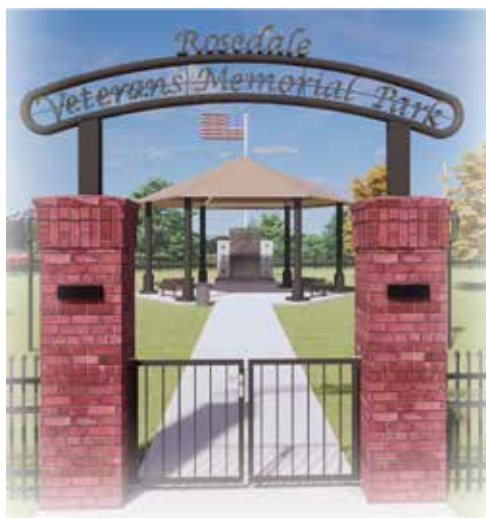
Required Information and Documentation

Those submitting a veteran's name should provide the following information:

- **Veteran's Full Name:** The veteran's full legal name as it should appear on the memorial.
- **Branch of Service:** The branch of the United States Armed Forces in which the veteran served.
- **Proof of Military Service:** A copy of the Veteran's DD214, Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty, is the preferred documentation. Alternatively, other official military service records, such as enlistment contracts or military pay stubs, may be accepted subject to review.
- **Proof of Residency:** Documentation demonstrating the veteran's

residency in Rosedale, Louisiana, at any time in their lifetime. This may include utility bills, tax records, or other official documents.

- **Contact Information:** Name and phone number or email address of the person submitting the veteran's name



Submission Methods

In-Person Submission: The required information and documentation can be submitted in person at the Village of Rosedale Town Hall, 76535 Rosedale Rd.

Mailing: You can mail the required information and documentation to the Village of Rosedale Town Hall at P. O. Box 167, Rosedale, LA 70772.

Email: You can email the required information and documentation to clerk@rosedalela.com.

Deadline: The deadline for submitting names and supporting documentation is September 30. For any questions, please contact Rosedale Town Hall at (225) 648-2333.

The memorial will feature a new pavilion, veterans monument, concrete walkway, site lighting, monumental signage, decorative metal fencing, and approximately 2,900 square feet of parking. It will be located at the corner of La. Hwy. 76 and La. Hwy. 411 in front of the Iberville Library.



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.

Mayor to reinvogorate Main Street program, gets funding for downtown master plan

Plaquemine Mayor JB Barker was notified in September that the city will receive \$50,000 in funding and professional assistance to develop a downtown master plan through the La. Main Street program.

Barker also attended the Main Street Revitalization Conference in September to learn more about how the program's grant opportunities and resources can help both the city and downtown businesses.

"One of my major goals is to reinvigorate the under-used downtown historic district area, including the Plaquemine Lock Historic Site and Tony Gulotta Waterfront Park area," Barker said. "This includes having more events, such as Sundays at the Lock with food trucks and ice cream vendors; along with a bigger music festivals. I also have other economic development ideas to bring both locals and tourists to our beautiful downtown." Barker envisions an arts and entertainment district along Railroad Avenue in which small businesses would cater to both a local and out-of-town clientele.

Barker attended the conference in El Dorado, Arkansas because that town was a Great American Main Street Winner for its revitalization efforts, and has an arts district. The conference included many topics relevant to the city's coming efforts.

City tax renewals on October 11 election ballot

Two property tax **RENEWALS** will be on the Oct. 11 election ballot in Plaquemine. One is a 3.1 mill tax renewal for the operation of the city Police Department. The second tax renewal is a 3.1 mill tax for maintenance of public buildings. Each millage produces about \$130,000 per year.

Early voting for this election is September 27-October 4, except for Sunday, Sept. 28. Early voting is in the Registrar of Voters office in the Iberville Parish Courthouse on Court Street in Plaquemine. Hours for early voting are 8:30 am until 6 pm.

Polls are open on election day, Oct. 11, from 7 am until 8 pm.

"Both of these millages are important to city operations," noted Mayor JB Barker. Many of the city buildings are aging or are very old, and require annual maintenance. In addition, costs for supplies and repairs have all escalated."

Police Chief Stephen Engolio said he uses the funds to purchase new patrol units, so that they rotate the fleet about every 5 years. "These units get a lot of milage and hard use. If we don't purchase three units each year, we end up spending a fortune in maintenance costs, so we have found out that we are better off using the tax for these units. They are critical to our operations."



New holiday lighting being added to buildings around the city in December will be year-round, with the city having the ability to change colors for various holidays. The City was already having buildings lit for the Christmas holidays, but the new lighting will be permanent and can be programmed in a variety of 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 of Plaquemine presents

BOOGIE ON THE Bayou AND **PUMPKIN PALOOZA**

FREE EVENT

FRIDAY OCT. 3

FOOD VENDORS:
Rev's Famous BBQ
Burger Maker
D&L Snowballs
Sweet Abundance

Tony Gulotta Bayou Waterfront Park
57845 Foundry St., Plaquemine, LA. 5:30-8:30 pm

FALL PHOTO BOOTH HAY RIDES! PUMPKIN PATCH
FACE PAINTING
Kids pick their own pumpkin, decorate it and take it home!

Children must be accompanied by an adult at all times!

MUSIC:
Blind Ambition 2.0
5:30 - 6:30 pm
Keith Frank
Zydeco jam - 7:00 - 8:30 pm

Bring lawn chairs! No ice chests or pets allowed

IBERVILLE LIBRARY



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IN NEW ORLEANS.

LIMITED AVAILABILITY EACH MONTH.

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LOUISIANA MUSEUMS

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**BACK TO
SCHOOL**

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Year with **IPL** IBERVILLE
PARISH LIBRARY

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TRUE FLIX

ScienceFlix

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and social studies like
never before—with
exciting videos, fun facts,
and animated
adventures.

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[/IbervilleParishLibrary](https://www.instagram.com/IbervilleParishLibrary)

PARDON OUR PROGRESS

The first phase of the proposed
master building program will begin
this Fall and focus on renovation of
the **Maringouin, Grosse Tete,
Rosedale, Bayou Pigeon, and
Bayou Sorrel** branches. Select
branches will start to close late
September to early October.

ANTICIPATED
BRANCH
RENOVATIONS
COMING SOON

The renovation schedule has been developed to minimize
closure of all five locations simultaneously. For details on
projected closure dates for your preferred branch, please visit
our website or call one of our other locations.

IBERVILLE PARISH ASSESSOR

Property info/aerial views available on Assessor's Office website

The Iberville Parish Assessor's Office website offers valuable information
to you on a 24-hour basis. Assessor Randy Sexton partnered with other
Iberville governing agencies to have detailed aerial photography taken of the
entire parish.

This is a valuable tool in determining a property's assessed value. It has
also been valuable to other agencies in determining bus routes, public works
projects, viewing suspected crime areas, in emergency response and with
other uses.

The Assessor's Office enhanced website also includes:

- A search tool to obtain property information based on name, address or
legal description
- A Frequently Asked Questions section
- Forms and reports that may be downloaded
- Information about the assessment process
- Maps of the parish with properties shown
- Links and contact information for the office

For more information, go to www.ibervilleassessor.org, or call the Assessor's
Office.

Iberville Parish Assessor's Office
Assessor Randy Sexton

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



Iberville Parish Assessor



A view of Iberville from the aerial mapping system on
the Assessor's Office website.

Victim Assistance Coordinators assure DA communication with crime victims

Those arrested for crimes face a hard road, but the crime victims and witnesses often face many hardships too - pain, sadness, anger, financial difficulties, and confusion on how the court system works.

District Attorney Tony Clayton has appointed Victim Assistance Coordinators in each parish of the 18th Judicial District (Iberville, West Baton Rouge and Pointe Coupee) specifically to help crime victims and witnesses through this difficult time. Their job is to explain the court process to victims and witnesses, keep them informed of court hearings and trial dates, and answer their questions about their case.

"We meet some of the best people at the worst time of their lives," said Director and Pointe Coupee Coordinator Lisa Jarreau. "People don't understand the workings of the justice system because they've never had to deal with it. We make a real difference because we provide empathy and understanding, and help them through this process."

In many cases, the coordinators build relationships with the victims and witnesses because it takes some time for major crimes, like murder or rape, to go to trial. Investigation, hearings and case preparation, along with inevitable delays, all take time. "It's a 24-7 job - victims and witnesses call us at night and on weekends, but it's very interesting and fulfilling," she added.

"DA Clayton made it clear to us that our program is a priority in his office - we are the most valuable resource to these victims and witnesses at a time when they are very vulnerable," noted Coordinator Vincel Simpson. "We make sure their voices are heard."

"Sometimes it can be a heavy burden but our job is to listen to them and make sure we are answering their questions and are assisting them in every way we can," Simpson said. "And every victim and witness is different. We have to meet them where they are because so much about the judicial system is unfamiliar to them. We often serve as mentors and teachers, and hopefully, give hope for healing through this process."

Iberville Coordinator Lori White noted, "We serve as liaisons between the victims and the District Attorney's Office, someone they can easily reach out to with their questions and concerns. We schedule meetings with the victims and the Assistant District Attorney handling the case when needed, and attend court hearings and trial to keep them informed."

"Some cases, like murders, child abuse, and domestic violence cases, can be very difficult and emotional, but we walk our victims through the process," White said. "We also try to assist them with victim reparations whenever it applies."

White noted that they also discuss possible pleas with victims. While the District Attorney's Office has the final say in plea offers, DA Clayton wants to make sure the victims have a voice before any plea agreement is made. The coordinators also explain the victim's right to present a victim impact statement during sentencing, giving them an opportunity to tell the court how the offense has impacted their lives.

"It's an honor to help them through this and to be the expression of kindness at such a hard time," added Simpson.



Victim Assistance Coordinators Vincel Simpson, Lisa Jarreau and Lori White.

October 24-26, 2025

FRIDAY, 10/24: 4-11PM
SATURDAY, 10/25: 11AM-11PM
SUNDAY, 10/26: 12-9PM

57TH ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL ACADIAN Festival

JOHN FOSTER'S HOMECOMING CONCERT

Friday, 10/24:
Gates open at 4:00pm
Lauren Lee Band at 7:00pm
John Foster at 9:00pm

*Special ticket required for Friday Night Concert
\$21 pre-purchase online, \$26 at gate
<https://getbooking.us/festival>

BUY NOW

SATURDAY, 10/25:
12:00-2:30PM - LA SOUTHBOUND
3:00-6:00PM - ROCKIN MOZART MUSIC SCHOOL
7-11PM - FAIR PLAY

SUNDAY, 10/26:
2-5:30PM - BLIND AMBITION 2.0
6-9PM - JUSTIN CORNET

PARADE
SUNDAY, 10/26: 10:30AM
See Festival website & Facebook page for route
Contact: Guy Ruggiero (225)268-2533

ALL YOU CAN RIDE BRACELETS: \$25 FOR 4 HOURS
FRIDAY, 10/24: 6-10PM
SATURDAY, 10/25: 11AM-3PM, 3-7PM, 7-11PM
SUNDAY, 10/26: 12-4PM, 4-8PM

BEAUTY PAGEANT
SATURDAY, 10/25: 1PM
Bayou Plaquemine Community Center
Contact: acadianfestivalpageant@hotmail.com

WATER CEREMONY
SATURDAY, 10/25: 6PM
ARRIVAL OF THE 2025 EVANGELINE AND INDIAN PRINCESSES
& INTRODUCTION OF 2025 PARADE MARSHALL

HIGH BALL
OPEN DURING ALL FESTIVAL HOURS

CAJUN GUMBO
SAT, 10/25: 4PM

RED BEANS & RICE
SUN, 10/26: 4PM
PREPARED BY FESTIVAL CHEFS

CORNHOLE TOURNAMENT
SATURDAY, 10/25: 10:30AM (REGISTRATION 9-10AM)
3 Divisions for teams
Singles and Blind Draw
Contact: Westside Cajun Cornhole, Kynan White (225)937-0018

CRAFT & FOOD BOOTHS
Application can be found on Festival website & Facebook page.
Contact: Jimmy Hebert (225)776-2895

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS

Grace Design Studios

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THE MARKET ON THE BELLEVILLE

WWW.ACADIANFESTIVAL.ORG

INTERNATIONAL ACADIAN FESTIVAL

Mark A. "Tony" Gulotta Bayou Plaquemine Waterfront Park • 57845 Foundry Street, Plaquemine

TOWN OF MARINGOUIN



N. Iberville Alumni hold annual Round-Up



The North Iberville Alumni Association held its annual dance and the Alumni Round-Up on Aug. 29 and 30 at the Maringouin Community Center, with hundreds of alumni attending. The association includes graduates of the old T.A. Levy School, Shady Grove High, and North Iberville High School. Shown are scenes from the Round-Up.



102-year-old resident

Congratulations to Mrs. Lillian Perry, a life-long resident of Maringouin who celebrated her 102nd birthday in July. She was honored by town officials at their August meeting.

Maringouin's FALL FEST

NOVEMBER 8th & 9th
Maringouin Community Center

GATES OPEN AT 12:00 PM
Music | Festival Food | Family Fun

Vendors are welcome. Please contact the Town Hall @ (225) 625-2630

TOWN OF WHITE CASTLE

BOO ON BOWIE
Thursday, Oct. 30 - 6:30 pm
White Castle Community Center



Senior Citizen Thanksgiving Luncheon

Tuesday, Nov. 25, 11:30 am, White Castle Community Center
Senior citizens and disabled residents are treated to a great Thanksgiving lunch and door prizes

Christmas with the Kids

Wednesday, Dec. 10, 6:30 pm, White Castle Community Center
Fun Christmas activities for kids and families!

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

COMMUNITY RIDE ALONG
Night Time Bike Ride

Every Tuesday in September and October

SEPTEMBER
2nd 9th 16th 23rd 30th

OCTOBER
7th 14th 21st 28th
7:15^{pm}
Meet-up:
White Community Center
32725 Bowie St. - W.C. Louisiana 70788

Reporting an issue is easy!

Residents can ask questions and report issues to the town via the Town website: WhiteCastle.us.
Click on the Contact Us button on the home page!

From the Clerk's desk: Changes in election laws & what voters need to know



**Clerk of Court
Amy Patin**

Recent changes to Louisiana's election laws will affect how you vote in upcoming elections. One of the first changes is the elimination of the Independent Party. As of August 1, 2025, all voters registered with the Independent Party have been reclassified as No Party. This change was made to better reflect the intent of voters who prefer not to be affiliated with any political party.

Starting with the Spring 2026 elections, Louisiana will use a new system that includes a First Closed Party Primary (CPP) and, if needed, a Second Closed Party Primary. These primaries will apply to certain offices, including U.S. Senator and U.S. Representative. The First CPP for U.S. Senator and Representative will be held on April 18, 2026, and the Second CPP, if necessary, will take place on May 30, 2026.

In a Closed Party Primary, Democratic voters may vote only for Democratic candidates, and Republican voters may vote only for Republican candidates. This is similar to how Presidential Primaries work.

Under the new law, No Party voters may now participate in these primaries by completing a Declaration of Ballot Choice and selecting either a Democratic or Republican ballot. If a No Party voter chooses not to affiliate with either party, they may request an unaffiliated ballot, which allows them to vote in all other races and propositions on the ballot, except for the party-specific contests.

Please note:

- Once a No Party voter selects a party ballot in the First CPP, that choice cannot be changed for the Second CPP.
- A Declaration of Ballot Choice must be completed by a No Party voter each time there is a First CPP.
- Choosing a party ballot does not change your official voter registration.
- Voters registered with other parties, such as Green, Liberian, or Other, are not eligible to vote in Closed Party Primaries but may vote in other races.

• Closed Party Primaries include the offices of BESE (Board of Elementary and Secondary Education), U.S. Senate, U.S. Representative, Public Service Commissioner, and Supreme Court.

After the spring primaries, the selected Democratic and Republican candidates will appear on the ballot for the Open Congressional General Election on November 3, 2026. In this Open Election, all voters—regardless of party registration or spring affiliation—may vote for any candidate running for U.S. Senate and U.S. Representative.

As your Clerk of Court, I encourage you to check your registration before the Spring 2026 Closed Party Primary to ensure your party affiliation is correct. Only voters registered as Democrats, Republicans, or No Party may participate in the Closed Party Primaries. No Party voters must declare a party affiliation at the polls to vote in those contests.

Please review the election deadlines and related materials below to make sure you're prepared.

Thank you for your support,
Amy M. Patin, Iberville Clerk of Court

KNOW BEFORE YOU GEAX!

K

Keep your registration current!

Your official party registration determines which party primary you vote in. You can verify or update your registration at GeauxVote.com, the GeauxVote app, or in person.

N

Not everyone will vote on every contest!

Democrats will vote for Democratic candidates, Republicans for Republican, and "No Party" (unaffiliated) voters may select either primary.

O

Only the following offices are part of the Closed Party Primary system:

The U.S. Senate and U.S. House (Congress), Louisiana Supreme Court, Public Service Commission (PSC), and Board of Elementary & Secondary Education (BESE). Other ballot contests will be open to all voters.

W

Where can you find more information?

Visit us online at GeauxVote.com/CPP, call the Elections Hotline at 800-883-2805, contact your parish Clerk of Court or Registrar of Voters, or download the FREE Geaux Vote Mobile App!

Registration and Affiliation Deadlines

First Party Primary: April 18, 2026

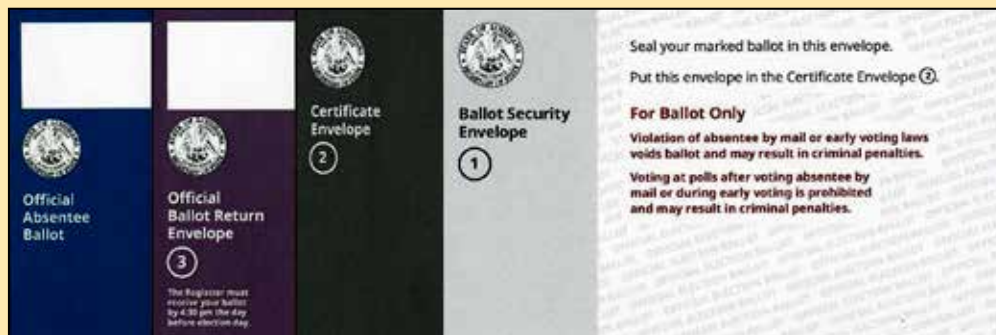


Last day to register or make changes to registration, including party affiliation:
In-person or by mail: **March 18, 2026**
or online at GeauxVote.com through **March 28, 2026**

Party Primary Runoff: May 30, 2026



A runoff will occur if no candidate receives a majority of the votes. Voters stay with the party they voted for in the first party primary.
New voters may register or make affiliation changes:
Deadline to register or make changes:
In-person or by mail by **April 29, 2026**
or online at GeauxVote.com through **May 9, 2026**



Portion of a new absentee mail ballot.

Absentee voting mailers redesigned

Absentee voters will notice a new voting package as future Elections approach. The mailers have been redesigned and color coded for ease of use. Included in the packet are the official ballot, the ballot return envelope, the certificate envelope, the security envelope and instructions.

Absentee voting is available for any registered voter 65 years and older, those who are disabled or home-bound, military personnel, students away at college, etc. For more information about voting by mail please visit GeauxVote.com.

October 11 election ballot

The ballot for the October 11 Election includes two City of Plaquemine property tax renewals - 3.1 mills for operations of the Police Department, and 3.1 mills for public building maintenance. There is also a race for Constable in Ward 4.

The following precincts are affected: All voters in precincts 14, 19, 20, 21 and 22 and some voters in precincts 14A, 15A (currently no voters registered that participate), 16, 17, 18 and 24. Some voters will be qualified to vote in both the propositions and constable race. To determine your eligibility, download the GeauxVote App or visit www.geauxvote.com. You can also view a sample ballot here. If you'd like to call to check your eligibility, you may do so at the Iberville Parish Registrar's office, 225-687-5201.

**Iberville
Clerk
of Court**

PHONE: 225-687-5160
ADDRESS: Iberville Parish Courthouse
58050 Meriam St., 1st Floor, Plaquemine
WEBSITE: IbervilleClerk.com

School Resource Officers ramp up for safe school year

The Iberville Sheriff's Office continues to make school safety a priority, working with the Iberville Parish School Board to provide School Resource Officers at all Iberville public schools. This year, they have added additional coverage at various schools to assure Iberville students and schools are safe.

In addition to having an SRO on duty at every school throughout the day, the following was added:
MSA West - an additional deputy working school hours; and a third deputy on duty during student intake and dismissal.

Plaquemine High School - an additional deputy on campus throughout the school day.

North Iberville - An additional deputy on duty during school hours.

All other campuses - An additional deputy on duty during morning intake.

"Our School Resource Officers are not only well trained law enforcement officers, they also serve as mentors, role models and a trusted presence for our students. Like me, they are invested in our children's well-being and success," said Sheriff Brett Stassi. "This is a major priority for this office and is also part of our effort to help young people understand that we are here to help them."

School Superintendent Louis Voiron noted, "Iberville Parish Schools and the Iberville Parish Sheriff's Office have a strong collaborative relationship. Sheriff Stassi and his staff are committed to programs to ensure school safety both during the school day and at athletic and extracurricular activities."

Beside providing SROs, the Sheriff's Office also provides security for football and basketball games, and special event traffic control and security. In addition, Sheriff Stassi speaks to hundreds of students at local schools throughout the school year, addressing issues such as bullying, drugs, violence and other issues.



Deputies Troy Doiron and Bryce Williams on duty at Iberville Parish public



School Resource Officers participate in an Active Shooter Drill at a local school this summer.



PRESCRIPTION DRUG TAKE BACK

Turn in unneeded or unused medication for safe disposal

Plaquemine Wal Mart
Bellevue Drive
Saturday, October 25, 2025
10am - 2pm

Scam alerts received by Sheriff's Office

The Sheriff's Office received complaints this summer about scams involving impersonation of an Iberville Parish Sheriff's Deputy, and texts from the La. Department of Motor Vehicles personnel. The caller claiming to be a deputy says that a federal arrest warrant has been issued for failure to appear for federal jury duty. This is a scam - do not provide any personal or financial information to these callers.



Scammers have also been posing as the Louisiana Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV), sending fake text messages claiming that you have outstanding citations. These texts often include a suspicious link and threaten legal consequences if you don't respond immediately. **DO NOT CLICK ON THESE LINKS.** The Louisiana DMV does not contact citizens via text regarding unpaid citations or legal threats.

Please keep the following in mind:

- The Iberville Parish Sheriff's Office does not execute federal warrants.
- Do not provide any sensitive information over the phone, by text or in emails. This includes information such as your Social Security number, banking information, credit card or personal information.
- If something sounds suspicious, it probably is.
- Stay vigilant and help spread the word to protect others in our community.