

2021 Graduation Section B Catahoula News Booster

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School System holds Honors Banquet and Forum

On Monday, May 17th, the Catahoula Parish School system held an event to honor graduating seniors on the university pathway who maintained a cumulative 'A' average through mid-term of their senior year. The event was held at Block High School and was hosted by The Rapides Foundation. The Foundation provides grants to the school system for professional development and healthy initiatives. Dr. Tia Neal gave a presentation on the supports provided by the Rapides Foundation at the banquet.

After the presentation, each student was presented an award for their accomplishments through seven semesters of high school. The awards were presented by the principals to their students.

Honor students that were unable to attend are Harlee Lynn Doshier, Raine Leann Wyant, Megan Breanna Nugent, and Macy Brooke Taylor.

The school system would like to thank all of the businesses that supported the scholarship program and The Rapides Foundation for hosting the banquet. Plans are for this to become an annual event with hopes that the scholarship program will continue to grow.

For the first time, the school system was able to provide scholarships to the students in attendance that were provided by local businesses. Sixteen Catahoula Parish businesses donated a total of \$,500 in scholarships for the students. The scholarships were drawn at random and each student in attendance went home with two scholarships. These are the scholarships and winners:

Senator Glen Womack:

\$250 Kaleb Sikes

Womack & Sons Construction Group, LLC:

\$500 Lillian Gemar

Womack & Sons Construction Group, LLC:

\$500 Austin Cader

Womack & Sons Construction Group, LLC:

\$500 Twyla Smith

JCP Management, Inc.:

\$250 Kayleigh Watson

JCP Management, Inc.:

\$250 Nicholas White

Catahoula News Booster:

\$250 Mallory McCarthy

Ford's Food Center:

\$500 Erin Trisler

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\$500 Kaytlen Holoman

Lee's Short Stop:

\$250 Lessie Claire Neal

CLB The Community Bank:

\$500 Kaytlen Holoman

Russ Wood State Farm:

\$250 Nicholas White

Medi-Thrift Drugs, Inc.:

\$200 Kayleigh Watson

Teresa Scott Income Tax & Accounting, Inc.:

\$200 Mallory McCarthy

Hayley Gray Farm Bureau:

\$100 Lillian Gemar

Edwards Motel:

\$100 Austin Cader

Northeast Furniture Mart:

\$100 Twyla Smith

The Hairport:

\$100 Kaleb Sikes

Superintendent & Mrs. Ronald Lofton, Sr.:

\$100 Lessie Claire Neal

H&R Block—Kelly Estis:

\$100 Erin Trisler

2021 American Legion Auxiliary Memorial Day Program

By Ruth King

The Boyd Mann Unit 163 will be having the 2021 Memorial Day Program at First Baptist Church, in Jonesville, La. We are excited and honored to have them partner with us in hosting this event. We invite the community to join us to give honor to those who gave the ultimate sacrifice for America. The program will be in the Sanctuary on Monday, May 31st at 2 PM, 103 Pond St. Pastor of FBC, Todd Whittington, will be the Key Note Speaker. Whittington also served in the US Marine Corps. Following the program there will be a time of fellowship with refreshments of cake, coffee and tea served in the Conn Room by members of the Auxiliary Members.

The American Legion Organization was chartered by Congress in 1919 as a patriotic Veterans organization. Focusing on service to veterans, service members and communities, the Legion evolved from a group of war-weary veterans of World War I into one of the most influential nonprofit groups in the United States. Membership swiftly grew to over 1 million, and local posts sprang up across the country. Today, membership stands at nearly 2 million in more than 13,000 posts worldwide. The posts are organized into 55 departments: one each for the 50 states, along with the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, France, Mexico and the Philippines.

Over the years, the Legion has influenced considerable social change in America, won hundreds of benefits for veterans and produced many important programs for children and youth.

The American Legion Auxiliary, also founded in 1919, has nearly 1 million members from all walks of life. The Auxiliary administers hundreds of volunteer programs, gives tens of thousands of hours to its communities and to veterans, and raises millions of dollars to support its own programs, as well as other worthwhile charities familiar to Americans. It is all accomplished with volunteers.

While originally organized to assist The American Legion, the Auxiliary has achieved its own unique identity while working side-by-side with the veterans who belong to The American

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RAPIDES FOUNDATION members present to present scholarships are pictured above: left to right are Joe Rosier, Catahoula Superintendent Ronnie Lofton, and Tony Authement.

Roadside garbage continues to be a parish wide problem

CPSO continues inmate road crews after COVID regulations lifted

Catahoula Parish has a trash problem. This has been a concern of citizens for a period of time. "My department works countless hours with inmate road crews picking up trash on the side of the road," said Sheriff Edwards.

The COVID-19 pandemic did put a halt on road crews due to the fact that Governor Jon Bel Edwards stopped all DOC work outside of the prisons except declared emergencies. Edwards continued, "Of course, these orders have

been lifted, and we have had inmates on road crews picking up trash, digging graves, working at the bread-crumbs, and assisting with delivering commodities as weather has permitted."

Since the Catahoula Parish Law Enforcement District has completed the purchase of the Catahoula Correctional Center, our parish will have access to more inmates in order to assist with keeping our parish clean. "This is not a job that will happen overnight, and our department

cannot do it alone," said Sheriff Edwards.

Recently, citizens of Harrisonburg, and neighboring towns have been working to clean up their towns and have really made a positive impact. "To those citizens, I personally thank you," said Sheriff Edwards.

"I would like to encourage citizens to pay attention to what is in the back of your vehicle, to avoid items such as ice bags and deer corn bags to blow out into the roadways and ditches. This can and will cause

a drainage problem during heavy rains as cities like Lake Charles are seeing"

Also, Sheriff Edwards advises "DO NOT throw trash out of your vehicle or dump trash in the hills. This is littering, and if caught, you will be ticketed and fined." All trash placed in dumpsters or trash cans should be in tied garbage bags.

"We live in a beautiful parish. Let's all work together to keep Catahoula clean," stated Sheriff Edwards. God Bless America and Catahoula Parish.



"I've bought from Waller-Singer before, and I wouldn't go anywhere else.

Richard Mahoney has always taken good care of me at Waller-Singer."

Rodger Wilson
Jonesville



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