

Holiday safety tips from Sheriff Edwards

With Thanksgiving and Christmas time approaching quickly, Catahoula Parish Sheriff Toney Edwards would like to take a moment and remind everyone to pay attention to their surroundings as you are out and about, and also traveling. During the giving season, is one of the main times that people are taken advantage of each year. "Make sure your vehicle is locked and also keep personal belongings in a safe place if you

must leave something in the vehicle," said Sheriff Edwards. Also, while walking to and from your vehicle, make sure you pay attention to the surroundings around your vehicle. If you notice something suspicious do not get out of your vehicle, and call 911 to report it. Also, pay extra close attention to small children while shopping and attending public events. It's better to have more than one adult in this instance. Children are

excited and can get away from you in a split second. The more eyes on your children the better. "I pray everyone to have a

joyous holiday season and we are here to assist with any safety issue or concern our citizens may have," said Sheriff Edwards.

GATE

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A public hearing was held to discuss the adoption of an ordinance to accept the malapportionment report based on the 2020 census. Bill Blair, demographer for the parish, explained that after each census, governing bodies must look at their districts and comply with the voting rights act which requires districts to have equal population and protection of minority districts. Louisiana law requires a mandatory timeframe after the official census for governing bodies to determine if there are discrepancies in election districts and if necessary, provide a new apportionment plan.

According to the 2020 census, after the prison population is deducted, Catahoula Parish has 8433 residents. Blair stated that seven of the nine districts are either under or over the ideal number of people in their district and boundaries need to be redrawn, District Six, Jeffery Estes and District Nine,

Johnnie Adams, are currently okay with their population.

The school board and police jury have matching district boundaries and Mr. Blair will meet with both and help produce a plan for district lines. Blair stated, "We will make smart boundaries together for population equality and to protect minority districts."

When asked if the number of police jurors would be reduced, Blair explained the police jury itself must make that decision. The jury voted to acknowledge malapportionment and that districts need adjusting.

An expense to set up garbage fee billing through the police jury office was approved. This should cost less than \$3000.00 and will also save the jury from paying JCP Management a fee of \$1.75 for every bill sent out.

A public meeting will be held on December 21, 2021, at 10:00 a.m. to amend the 2021 budget and adopt a budget for 2022.

School Tax

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the bonded debt is paid. This tax would not impact homestead exemption.

Superintendent Lofton stated, "Our district taxes help support our schools and we appreciate the voters who have always supported these taxes. We haven't had a bond issue in the Harrisonburg area in several years and wanted to give the voters the opportunity to decide if they would like to make some major upgrades to the school since everyone is now in that one location."

Mr. Lofton encourages anyone with questions regarding either of these tax propositions to email him at ronaldlofton@catahoulaschools.com.

McCORMACK

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(my husband) numerous times and took notes for him about the conditions of the roads of Ward 3. I have continued to ride the roads of my ward so I can report pot holes, drainage problems, and other issues to the road crew so they can be fixed quickly.

At the beginning of the year, I along with the Enterprise Fire Department used my connections with T C Entergy to obtain a Grant to purchase new radios and a computer for the fire station. I also helped the fire department's board begin to hold monthly sessions on training volunteer firefighters. This will help improve the stations ratings. During storms and other natural disasters, the police jury members work closely with the Homeland Security to get drinking water and MRE's to the residents of their Ward. I, along with volunteers, deliver these items to a central location in order to be handed out to each household.

Presently, I'm working with Brenda Higdon, the principal of Harrisonburg High School, and T C Entergy to provide scholarships that will be awarded to

graduating seniors in Ward 3.

The garbage pickup is a very important subject on my agenda for things to be done to improve our Ward and Parish. I would like to see the police jury board purchase specific garbage cans for each household that pays the garbage fee. If done, then the garbage company will know which homes to stop at and collect trash and which homes to pass by. This will in turn decrease the monthly garbage fee due to saving time and man power of picking up for those that don't pay for the service. I am proud to say that I have always had the best interest of Ward 3 at heart and that I care about this ward and parish. I have never missed a meeting or a class that was offered to the police jury members.

If you have any questions or concerns or would like to meet with me personally, please contact me on my cell number 318-366-6931. I would like to ask each of you to please consider voting for me, Deborah McCormack #3, in the December 11th election to continue serving as your Ward 3 police jury member.

TISER

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restructure my career. I am currently engaged in building a trucking company, ranging from a hot shot service to 18-wheeler transports.

As president of Enterprise Water System and through working with other board members, we took a dire situation and proactively sought solutions to achieve, what the majority of the system's customers consider to be, the only viable solution available to the Enterprise residents.

My uncle, Bo Aarons who was initially elected for this position in 2019 but never took office because of his untimely death, was a great influencer of my interest in politics. Through talks with Bo before, during, and after the election, I learned that I fully endorse his platform and have adopted it for myself. The following is a brief list of a few points:

1. Return the juror position to its

original status - that of a public servant.

2. Promote economic development by working with other taxing agencies to provide incentives to attract new businesses.

3. Establish term limits for jury seats.

4. Reduce the jurors' salaries, at least until such time as the budget is made more controllable.

In January 2020, I appealed to the jury to honor Bo's request to appoint me to be his successor. That request fell on deaf ears. I now am asking you, the voters, the heart of Ward 3, to allow me the opportunity to pursue Bo's intentions and visions for the parish. I promise you that I would consider it an honor to serve you and a privilege to work for the good of Ward 3. There can be a better Catahoula!

Please help me to be the change you want to see.

John Tiser

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The Bond Tax Election for District #10 is for taxpayers who live in the Harrisonburg High School attendance zone. This includes Harrisonburg, Manifest, & Enterprise.

This tax will provide for the demolition of the old gymnasium/cafeteria building at the current HHS location and replace it with a new regulation size gymnasium, a new cafeteria, and updated bathrooms.

Deborah McCormack for Police Jury of Ward 3

We would like to take this opportunity to ask the citizens of Ward 3 to vote for Deborah McCormack.

For those of you who do not know her personally, Deborah has been a friend of ours since early childhood. To say that we know her very well is an understatement.

She has been loyal and trustworthy throughout all these years. She has the well-being of the residents of this ward up-most in her mind.

Deborah is a woman of her word. When she tells you what her plans are for this ward or that she will work to resolve an issue, she will do everything within her power to see that it is done.

She is also a team player and that is needed for the betterment of our parish and ward. We need jurors that can and will work with one another to find solutions for the problems our parish faces. Deborah will speak up for Ward 3. She is a good listener and she makes you feel at ease talking to her about your concerns.

The most important thing that we want our fellow Ward 3 residents to know about Deborah is that she is a woman of faith. She, as all of us have, has had to endure personal tragedy. She knows that her strength comes from an Almighty God. She is a lady that prays and realizes that our prayers are answered in God's time and in His way. Deborah will pray about what is the best decision for the residents of Ward 3 and she knows that whether those prayers are answered this year or years from now, it will be in God's hands and His decision!

Again, we ask you to earnestly consider what is best for Ward 3 and vote for Deborah McCormack #3 as your police juror.

Sincerely,
Curtis & Deniece

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