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See more, pg. 1B

TODAY'S INSPIRATION

But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you.
—Matthew 5:44



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Critical final votes slated

Heated District 9 runoff on Saturday

By KEVIN CHIRI
Slidell news bureau

SLIDELL – The heated runoff campaign that has been seen in the District 9 Parish Council election will come to a close this Saturday, Nov. 18, when voters go to the polls to decide between incumbent Mike Smith and challenger David Cogle.

The election might be the most memorable ever seen in a Parish Council race after Cogle, an area attorney, decided to run for office



Mike Smith

David Cogle

against Smith when watching for more than a year as the Parish Council has done nothing to resolve the long-standing controversy about sexually explicit books being available for minors in St. Tammany public libraries.

(See Council, Pg. 7A)

Glorioso-DuBuisson for state rep seat

By KEVIN CHIRI
Slidell news bureau

SLIDELL – Voters face runoff decisions for two final spots in the Louisiana House of Representatives when they go to the polls this Saturday, Nov. 18.

The race which has gotten the most attention will be in District 90, covering most of Slidell, where incumbent Mary DuBuisson is seeking her second full term, being challenged by Slidell attorney Brian Glorioso. In the District 74 race covering the Pearl River area and beyond, Buffie Single-



Brian Glorioso

Mary DuBuisson

tary and Peter Egan are in the runoff for the seat.

The DuBuisson-Glorioso race has drawn the most interest after DuBuisson found herself in the midst of controversy on more than one occasion during her past term.

(See Representative, Pg. 7A)

Public health millage critical for parish

By KEVIN CHIRI
Slidell news bureau

SLIDELL – It has always been a tough sell for public officials to ask the voters to approve new taxes or millages.

But public sentiment has gotten so negative for any kind of

taxing mechanism at all that even sales tax or millage renewals, some for very worthy reasons, have consistently been getting voted down in recent years here in St. Tammany Parish.

That has to make public officials nervous when voters go

to the polls on Saturday, Nov. 18 when they will face another millage renewal, this one being a 1.78-mill, 10-year fee on property that is called a "Public Health Millage."

The millage was started in 1984 and was originally put in place for what the ballot lan-

guage calls, "for the purpose of supporting the St. Tammany Parish Health Center and related public health activities, including the construction of new buildings and/or renovation of existing health unit buildings."

(See Millage, Pg. 2A)

Breakdown of city propositions on Saturday ballot:
Page 2A

First responders take on intense special training

By KEVIN CHIRI
Slidell news bureau

SLIDELL – St. Tammany Fire District #1 and the Slidell Police Department both have regional training academies right here in Slidell at Camp Villere, which brings first responders here from regional agencies to train.

Slidell's fire department recently hosted an Advanced Vehicle Extrication training that covered three days and taught how to stabilize a situation before trying to rescue an individual in a vehicle. There were 25 first responders registered to train, coming from agencies in Mississippi and Southeast Louisiana.

Dean Marullo is the local training head who has 13 years with the department and said that in most situations the average person might wonder why trapped individuals aren't quickly pulled from vehicles.

"What people don't realize is that most situations need to be stabilized before you can extricate someone, otherwise you might make matters worse by cutting open a car or truck that might have concrete, or other weight, on it," he said. "The goal is always to get the victims out as quickly as possible, but it usually takes time to figure out the best way to do it without making things worse."

That scenario was demonstrated quite clearly at Camp Villere where an incredible setup for training can be found.

(See Training, Pg. 5A)



Firemen decide how to best use the Jaws of Life for this car dangling off the side of a bridge.



Dean Marullo, 13 years with Fire District #1, is the Advanced Extrication trainer and shows off the "Jaws of Life" tools that cost nearly \$30,000 each, including other extrication tools.

D.A. Montgomery passes away after cancer battle

Brought integrity back to 22nd Judicial Court

By KEVIN CHIRI
Slidell news bureau

SLIDELL – The man credited with bringing integrity and a clean reputation back to the 22nd Judicial District Court passed away on Friday night, Nov. 10, 2023.

District Attorney Warren Montgomery, who was elected the first new D.A. in 30 years for St. Tammany Parish in 2014, died after a courageous battle against cancer that began in 2019.

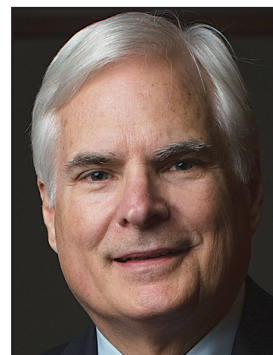
Montgomery, 68, is survived by his wife Val and five children.

A special election will be called to fill the position for the final three years of the six-year term. Collin Sims, first assistant to Montgomery and chief of the criminal division, will head the office until that election is completed.

Montgomery was not a well-known name in the political arena in 2014 when he surprised many by announcing he would run for the soon-to-be vacant position of D.A.

Walter Reed had been the 22nd Judicial Court district attorney for 30 years but ran into problems with a federal investigation that eventually led to a guilty verdict, sending him to jail.

(See Montgomery, Pg. 5A)



Warren Montgomery

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