

# FREE!



TODAY'S INSPIRATION  
"Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour in which the Son of Man is coming."  
—Matthew 25:13



# The Slidell Independent

2009 ← "Your community, your Slidell newspaper" → 2023

Thursday, November 9, 2023

Vol. 15/No. 45

It is likely that most Slidellians are unaware of the musical success one of their own has had in the past four decades in Nashville. Greg Barnhill grew up here, then headed to Music City where he became one of the most highly respected songwriters and backup singers, having collaborated with dozens of the biggest names in the business.



## MUSIC DREAMS

### Barnhill's incredible success leads to major hopes for the North Shore

By KEVIN CHIRI  
Slidell news bureau

SLIDELL – Is the dream too big to think Slidell, and the North Shore, could become the next Austin, TX, or Nashville, TN?

Greg Barnhill, who grew up in Slidell and headed to Nashville to find his fame for the past 40 years as a singer, songwriter and producer, doesn't think so.

Barnhill already beat the odds after heading to the music capital known as Music City and finding

*"What artist wouldn't want to come here if they discovered we had great recording studios to go with our culture?"*

—Greg Barnhill

personal success in the incredibly competitive music business of Nashville.

(See Barnhill, Pg. 8A)

### Barnhill has worked with dozens of the biggest names in music

By KEVIN CHIRI  
Slidell news bureau

SLIDELL – When the early days of rock and roll started getting a lot of attention in the 60s and 70s there were plenty of young boys and girls who were enamored with the idea of being a star on stage.

Greg Barnhill was not much different.

After moving to Slidell from New

Orleans at a young age, he remembers being taken by music since both of his parents were entertainers.

"My mom and dad were both singers," he said, "so music was always around us. I can remember standing in front of a mirror at the age of six or seven, singing with a hairbrush."

(See Music, Pg. 9A)

## Cougles, Smith race explodes

### Cougles: New flyer insinuates he might be Middle-East terrorist

By KEVIN CHIRI  
Slidell news bureau

SLIDELL – The emergence last summer of a controversy in the St. Tammany public libraries involving sexually explicit books being available to minors of any age began what turned into the most watched elections ever for seats on the Parish Council.

That is because the Parish Council, the appointing authority for the Library Board, has not taken any action to find a way to rectify the problem.

(See Runoff, Pg. 12A)



Mike Smith



David Cougles

*"It's not only an attack on me, but an attack on anyone who ever served in the Middle East."*

—David Cougles

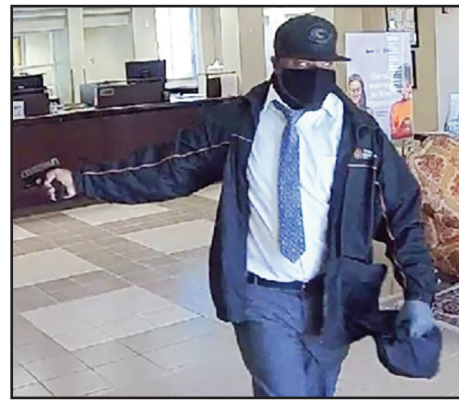
## SPD makes quick arrest in Bank Plus robbery

SLIDELL – Slidell Police took less than 24 hours to make an arrest in a lunchtime bank heist that occurred last Thursday, Nov. 2, on Gause Boulevard.

SPD Spokesman Det. Daniel Seuzeneau reported that around 11:30 a.m., Slidell Police responded to Bank Plus (1936 Gause Boulevard E.) in reference to an armed robbery. The suspect entered the bank, wielded a pistol and demanded money, then after obtaining an undisclosed amount of cash, fled the area in an unknown direction.

By utilizing a wide range of surveillance videos from around the area, as well as other investigative tools, investigators were able to track down the bank robber in less than 24 hours. The suspect was identified as 49-year-old Herbert Earl Davis of Slidell, who resided at an address on Markham Drive in Slidell.

Davis, who is a convicted felon and



This is the video from inside Bank Plus of the robbery last week, which led to the arrest of Slidell's Herbert Earl Davis.

had an extensive violent criminal history, was taken into custody on Friday during a traffic stop. Davis initially tried to elude officers by driving recklessly through a neighborhood but was quickly located and apprehended.

(See Robbery, Pg. 7A)

## Drugs, firearm found in child's backpack, toys

SLIDELL – A Slidell man was arrested after he discharged a firearm at his residence in the Huntwyck area of Slidell, Sheriff's Office Spokesman Sgt. Suzanne Carboni said.

Shortly after noon on Wednesday, Nov. 1, deputies were dispatched to a residence in the 200 block of Queen Ann Drive in reference to gunshots.

Upon arrival, deputies determined that no person was hit, but 23-year-

old Kedric Nelson admitted to firing a rifle three or four times in the backyard of the residence.

A search warrant for the residence and several vehicles outside was obtained.

During the search, a 5.56 rifle-style pistol was located hidden under blankets on the bed in the master bedroom. Four 5.56 spent casings were located in the backyard.

(See Arrest, Pg. 6A)



## Veterans Appreciation Reception

David Hebert, with the Northshore High ROTC, sings the National Anthem for the opening of the Veteran's Appreciation Reception held on Sunday at the Municipal Auditorium. Slidell businessman Chuck Sabadie (center) started the event that offers a free meal and program to all veterans and their families. See more photos inside today on page 9B, and don't miss the special Veteran's Day special section in Section 'B' today. (Staff photo by Kevin Chiri.)

Pelican URGENT CARE  
 SMH Ochsner



**Services**  
Minor and Major Illnesses  
Immunizations  
Vaccines  
X-Rays  
Lab Tests

**NOW TWO SLIDELL LOCATIONS!**

I-10 Ochsner Hosp. East Gause Blvd.	Central Ochsner Clinic Military Road
---	---

2375 E. Gause Blvd.  
Mon-Fri: 8 to 8 Sat-Sun: 9-5  
985-645-9000

Oak Harbor Exit I-10	Behind Gulf Coast Bank
-------------------------	------------------------

New Lakeshore Clinic  
63025 West End Blvd.  
Mon-Fri: 9-7 Sat-Sun: 9-5  
985-607-6400

**NO Appointment Necessary**