

The Plaquemines GAZETTE

SERVING PLAQUEMINES PARISH SINCE JULY 28, 1928



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Eastbank Family Gras Returns from Brief Hiatus



After the COVID-19 pandemic halted Plaquemines Parish Family Gras for nearly two years, Family Gras 2022 roared back on Sunday, February 27. After dealing with so much from COVID-19, the return of Family Gras was highly anticipated by many throughout the parish, and it showed with the number of citizens who attended this year's event.

Family Gras is an event where families come out to enjoy a beautiful parade, great food and excellent entertainment. This year's entertainment was provided by the "Just Right Band" and DJ TBaby. Despite a delayed start due to the rain, the parade rolled up Highway 15 on the Eastbank to Davant Park with many citizens enjoying the parade. The parade featured Phoenix High School Band, several dance teams, Jeeps, customize floats, a party bus, antique cars, horses and most important, excited parade participants. Mickey Mouse, Minnie Mouse, the Disney Crew and float created a big smile on many kids' faces.

One of the most exciting parts of Family Gras is watching the parade arrive at the park. Many visitors from the metro-



FAMILY GRAS – PAGE 2

PLAQUEMINES PARISH SCHOOL BOARD

PPSB Removes Mask Mandate as COVID-19 Numbers Drop

By Justin Walton
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As the number of new cases of COVID-19 plummets across the United States, Louisiana, and Plaquemines Parish itself—and vaccination rates continue to steadily rise—formerly strict regulations meant to prevent the spread of the virus are, once again, being repealed.

Most recently, a February 25 letter from Plaquemines Parish School Board superintendent Denis Roussele announced that the mask mandate for all PPSB employees and students is being removed, "effective Monday, March 7."

"As Superintendent of Plaquemines Parish School Board (PPSB) schools, I am happy to let you know that

MASKS – PAGE 2

Kennedy Announces \$5.3 Million in Hurricane Relief for Plaquemines

Sen. John Kennedy (R-La.), a member of the Senate Appropriations Committee, announced \$16,157,989 in Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) grants for south Louisiana in disaster relief on March 1.

"Louisianian families have suffered a brutal year-and-a-half of hurricanes. They are strong, but they need help, and this \$16 million will help our state recover," said Kennedy.

The FEMA aid will fund the following:

- \$5,357,821 to Plaquemines Parish for debris removal related to Hurricane Ida.
- \$4,281,255 to the Jefferson Davis Electric Cooperative for state management costs as a result of Hurricane Laura.
- \$3,040,097 to the South Lafourche Levee District for debris removal related to Hurricane Ida.
- \$2,263,025 to the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development for debris removal related to Hurricane Zeta.
- \$1,215,791 to Lake Charles Memorial Hospital for emergency protective measures related to Hurricane Delta.

MAILING INFO HERE

WOODLANDS CONSERVANCY

Chevron Oronite Sponsors Upland Trail Guide and Signage at Woodlands Preserve

Woodlands Conservancy has partnered with Chevron Oronite to develop the Upland Trail Guide for the 1.1-mile loop trail at Woodlands Preserve.

The Upland Trail is an easy hike for folks of all ages. It begins at the trailhead, follows along a ridge next to a drainage canal, then heads northeasterly into the forest before circling back past a cleared "Meadow" and to the trailhead.

The new Upland Trail

Guide features a trail map and 15 native tree species that correspond with new signage found along the trail.

This is a great resource for the whole family to learn about and identify native trees that grow along the trail.

This Live Oak Trail marker is just one of the 15 plant identifiers featured in the Upland Trail Guide. In the guide it states: "New Orleans just wouldn't be New Orleans without the picturesque Live Oaks! Live Oaks got their

name from remaining ever-green throughout the winter, while other oak species are dormant. They have a large taproot which can absorb 50 gallons or more of water each day!"

Pick up the Upland Trail Guide at the entrance kiosk of Woodlands Preserve, which is open seven days a week from dawn until dusk.

For more information about the Woodlands Conservancy, visit www.woodlandsconservancy.org



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