

Catahoula News Booster

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Jonesville, LA

1 Section

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PJ approved district line changes

New precincts and districts were adopted by ordinance at Monday night's Catahoula Parish Police Jury (CPPJ) meeting. CPPJ is elected from nine single member districts. The 2020 census determined its districts to be malapportioned and new lines needed to be crafted.

A new districting plan was not able to be created using the whole precincts, so several precincts were divided into two or more precincts. Historically CPPJ and Catahoula Parish

School Board (CPSB) adopt identical plans and there was a consensus to do that again. CPSB will adopt a plan by means of a resolution.

The plan adopted will be implemented at the first election for CPPJ and CPSB in October 2022.

Strategic Demographics was contracted by CPPJ and CPSB to provide demographic services and will send the adopted plans to the State Registrar of Voters Office (ROV) for the new pre-

incts to be put into effect. If a voter's precinct or district changed a notification will be sent by ROV office with the new voting precinct and new juror or school board member identified.

Voting zones have changed for CPSB but school zones remained the same so no student will have to attend a new school.

To view detailed maps with street names visit catahoulanewsbooster.com. See Page 11A for current and proposed plan for CPPJ and CPSB.

Catahoula Dixie Youth Girls Opening Ceremonies



It is official, summer is here! Catahoula Dixie Softball held its opening ceremonies and the season's first games on Saturday with eight teams on the field this year. The Catahoula Dixie Softball board extends its appreciation and thanks to all coaches, parents and families, team sponsors, and everyone who donates their time and money to make sure our kids enjoy a summer of fun.

The eight teams taking the field this year are: The Sweeties (4-6 year olds): Northeast Furniture and CLB Community Bank; The Darlings (7-8 year olds): Russ Wood State Farm Insurance, Brooks Drugs, and Edwards Production; The Angels (9-10 year olds): S Farms, Chuck's Towing, and Woods Tire. Everyone remember to keep it fun and safe for all these kids. PLAY BALL!

See all Teams and Coaches on Page 12A

Domestic violence on the rise in Jonesville

A walk home from the library turned violent when Leonard Washington, Jr physically assaulted a female friend. The victim cried out for help and a family member rushed out of her home and pulled Washington off her. The victim went inside the residence when Washington forced his way inside and began beating her again and drug her onto the porch.

Witnesses were able to separate the two and hold him until Jonesville Police Department (JPD) arrived on the scene. Washington was booked into the Catahoula Parish Jail on charges of home invasion, domestic battery abuse and criminal damage to property.

JPD receives one to two domestic calls a day, making it one of the biggest problems in the town. Domestic violence is the willful intimidation, physical assault, battery, sexual assault, and/or other abusive behavior as part of a systematic pattern of power and control perpetrated by one intimate partner against another. It includes physical violence, sexual violence, threats, and emotional abuse. The frequency and severity of domestic violence can vary dramatically.

According to the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence:

- 35.9% of Louisiana women

and 35.2% of Louisiana men experience intimate partner physical violence, intimate partner sexual violence and/or intimate partner stalking in their lifetimes.

- In 2017, Louisiana had the second highest femicide rate in the United States.

- More than half of 2017 femicide victims were killed by intimate partners, and 70% of intimate partner femicides were committed using firearms.

- There has been at least one domestic homicide in every parish in Louisiana.

- As of December 31, 2019, Louisiana had submitted 34,873 domestic violence misdemeanor and 3,363 active protective order records to the NICS Index

- 1 in 3 women and 1 in 4 men have experienced some form of physical violence by an intimate partner.

- On a typical day, local domestic violence hot lines receive approximately 19,159 calls, approximately thirteen calls every minute.

- Sixty-five percent of all murder-suicides involved an intimate partner; 96% of the victims of these crimes are female.

To get help in Catahoula Parish call Jonesville Police Department at 318-339-9886; Catahoula Parish Sheriff Office at 318-744-5411 or The Well-Spring Alliance for Families at 318-323-1543/318-651-9314. If you are in immediate danger call 911.

School bus students treated for mace Two students waiting court date

Two juveniles got into a physical altercation on a Catahoula Parish school bus which led to one of the students spraying the other one with mace. Allegedly, while they were fighting one girl pulled mace out of the side of her backpack and began to spray it in the other girl's face. Bullying is believed to have played a factor in the fight.

Since the bus was clouded with mace the bus driver was forced to pull over and call Jonesville Police Department (JPD) and an ambulance for help. Every child on the bus and the driver received medical attention and parents were notified by the school to pick up their child. Since they were on their way home from school the weapon is presumed to have been on campus during school hours.

According to JPD mace, a chemical, is considered a weapon, making this an aggravated crime. The two students involved in the incident have not returned to school pending court with Judge Kathy Johnson.

Catahoula Parish School Board Superintendent Ronnie Lofton issued the following statement, "While I cannot comment on the incident due to student privacy laws, I can say that the bus driver acted quickly and both Jonesville principals came to check on their students. Our employees handled the situation to the best of their abilities. I also appreciate the Jonesville Police Department and the ambulance service for their response and for making sure all students on the bus were safe and well."

REMEMBER TO VOTE
Saturday, April 30TH

Parish wide Millage Renewal
Supporting the general fund of the Police Jury

District No. 2
Hospital Service District No. 2
Tax Renewal for the purpose of constructing, maintaining and operating the hospital facilities of the District

District No. 4
Millage Renewal for Fire Protection District No. 4 for the purpose of acquiring, constructing, improving, maintaining and/or operating fire protection facilities and equipment in and for the District and paying the cost of obtaining water for fire protection purposes?

SEE PAGE 10A FOR SAMPLE BALLOT



ATTENTION ALL CATAHOULA PARISH HIGH SCHOOLS

Please send 2022 graduate photos to: catahoulalifestyles@gmail.com

As Soon As Possible But Final Date Is May 3, 2022

For a personal CONGRATULATIONS to Your Senior

call the Catahoula News Booster 318-339-7242