

HUD Secretary  
Fudge Vows  
to End Appraisal  
Bias in  
Marginalized  
Communities

By MAURICE SAUNDERS  
WP Staff Writer

HOUSTON - At the 75th National Convention of the National Association of Real Estate Brokers (NAREB), U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Secretary Marcia L. Fudge delivered a passionate speech, vowing to combat appraisal bias and discrimination in the housing market. The convention attendees were galvanized by her fiery address, which emphasized the administration's commitment to creating housing opportunities and fairness for marginalized communities.

In her dynamic and inspirational speech, Secretary Fudge recounted her experience of living in a Black neighborhood where her home, despite being larger, had a lower value than nearby White neighborhoods. This personal insight fueled her determination to address the issue of appraisal bias and bring equity to housing valuations.

Secretary Fudge announced a landmark collaboration between HUD and NAREB to tackle appraisal bias in the Black community. NAREB's outgoing president, Lydia Pope, praised the partnership, highlighting its potential to increase Black wealth and homeownership opportunities for Black families.

The agreement with HUD outlines several collaborative actions to be implemented in the fiscal year 2024, commencing on October 1, 2023. These include online training sessions for housing counselors to understand racial appraisal bias, roundtable discussions to address bias in specific geographic areas, and the development of educational materials to combat appraisal bias.

During her speech, Secretary Fudge emphasized the significance of homeownership in building wealth and expressed her dedication to positively impacting the lives of Black and Brown individuals. She also revealed a policy change that allows rental history to be used as credit history for Black borrowers seeking FHA loans, aiming to expand access to credit and homeownership opportunities.

Secretary Fudge's presence at the convention held particular significance as she shares hometown roots with NAREB President Lydia Pope, both from Cleveland, OH. This shared connection exemplifies the strong ties uniting professionals in their pursuit of advancing equity in the real estate industry.

The secretary's address left attendees motivated to embrace the challenges ahead and work together toward creating a more equitable and inclusive housing

See COMMUNITIES, on page 2

Game changer': New law covers  
doula services for private insurance



Gov. John Bel Edwards signs House Bill 272 alongside Rep. Matthew Willard, third from right, Frankie Robertson, right, with her son, Levi II, and birthing advocates. (Credit: Photo courtesy of Matthew Willard)

BY: JOSIE ABUGOV, VERITE

Two years after Frankie Robertson gave birth to her son, an experience she described as fairly uneventful, she got pregnant again. At the time, she was the director for the Louisiana chapter of March of Dimes, a nonprofit that aims to improve maternal and infant health. She had a decade's experience in health policymaking, community education, and national advocacy, but that knowledge and expertise did not prevent the

harrowing nature of her second pregnancy.

When she went in for her first ultrasound, the doctor noticed she had a dangerous condition in which the placenta blocks the birth canal. And on top of the medical concerns, she had screened positive for depression about two months before she learned she was pregnant. She underwent an emergency cesarean section three months early, and her daughter was in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit for 26 days.

Throughout her turbulent pregnancy, Robertson kept thinking about the work she was doing through March of Dimes: studying health equity issues and drawing attention to the Black maternal health crisis.

"Here I am, a Black woman at 41," Robertson said. "And everything I'm teaching about, everything that I'm talking to the media about, everything that I am breathing, living from the inner part of my core, wanting to change things, all of a sudden, this has happened to me, right?"

And I'm like, "This is how this happens."

Her difficult pregnancy inspired her to complete doula training and eventually to lobby for the passage of House Bill 272, which mandates private health insurance reimburse doula services up to \$1,500.

Authored by Representative Matthew Willard and passed with bipartisan support, the bill will become law on Tuesday (Aug. 1), but will not impact insurance

See INSURANCE, on page 2

Mayor Broome  
Announces Storm  
Debris Removal  
to Begin Monday,  
August 7

BATON ROUGE, La. — Mayor-President Sharon Weston Broome announced today the activation of the City-Parish's debris removal program in response to recent severe weather events. The City-Parish's debris removal contractor, DRC Emergency Services, will begin operations Monday, August 7.

"The recent storms that hit our community damaged property, downed trees and power lines, and impacted our residents in many other ways," said Mayor Broome. "By activating our emergency debris program, I am directing our crews to immediately help our residents recover from these storms by collecting their storm debris as quickly as possible. I am encouraging any residents impacted by these storms to use the coming weekend to place their debris curbside so that our crews can efficiently collect it."

Debris must be placed curbside in the public right of way, or the area of property that extends from the street to the sidewalk, ditch, utility pole, or easement. Only loose debris will be collected, which must not be placed within four feet of mailboxes, water meters, fire hydrants, or any other above-ground utility. Debris should be clearly separated from regular garbage and recycling collection piles.

See BROOME, on page 2

'Fueled by lies,' Trump charged with seeking to overturn 2020 election

WASHINGTON — A federal grand jury in Washington, D.C., indicted Donald Trump on Tuesday, alleging that Trump and co-conspirators attempted to subvert the 2020 election to keep the former president in power through a series of illegal actions that culminated in the Jan. 6, 2021, attack on the U.S. Capitol.

The former president faces four charges in the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia stemming from his actions following the November 2020 election, including conspiracy to defraud the United States; conspiracy to obstruct an official proceeding; obstruction of, and attempt to block, an official proceeding; and conspiracy against rights.

"Each of these conspiracies — which built on the widespread mistrust the Defendant was creat-



A federal grand jury indicted former President Donald Trump on Aug. 1, 2023. (Photo by Chet Strange/Getty Images)

ing through pervasive and destabilizing lies about election fraud — targeted a bedrock function of the United States federal government: the nation's process of collecting, counting, and certifying the results of a presidential election," the indictment states.

During a brief statement on Tuesday evening, Special Counsel Jack Smith said that Trump's lies about election fraud caused the "unprecedented assault on the seat of American democracy" on Jan. 6.

"As described in the indictment, it was fueled by lies," Smith said. "Lies by the defendant aimed at obstructing a bedrock function of the U.S. government."

Smith said he would seek a speedy trial, so the evidence prosecutors have gathered can be tested in court. He added that

investigations into other individuals, possibly including six unnamed co-conspirators listed in the indictment, would continue. He did not take questions.

The indictment lists Trump's false statements about election results in Arizona, Georgia, Michigan, Nevada, New Mexico, Pennsylvania, and Wisconsin.

The 45-page indictment says Trump knew that his statements about the election were false. Despite declarations from state leaders and elections officials that no fraud occurred, Trump continued to say vote totals were in his favor and worked with co-conspirators to influence state legislators to decertify results, according to the indictment.

"Despite having lost, the De-

See ELECTION, on page 3

WEATHER

MON. 08/07  
Mostly Cloudy  
High 98°.

WED. 08/09  
Partly Cloudy  
High 95°.

TUE. 08/08  
Mostly Cloudy  
High 90°.

THUR. 08/10  
Mostly Cloudy  
High 89°.

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The Weekly Press

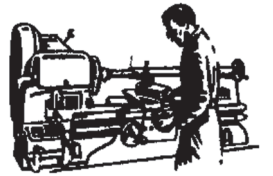
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# LOCAL & STATE

## Louisiana Housing Corporation Expands Roofing Repair Program to Aid Homeowners Amid Hurricane Season



By HENRY FOSTER,

BATON ROUGE, La. — The Louisiana Housing Corporation (LHC) has announced the expansion of the 2023 Blue Tarp Fund Roofing Repair Program, offering a lifeline to homeowners needing roofing assistance during the peak of this year's hurricane season. On Monday, July 24th, 2023, the LHC re-opened the program's waitlist for eligible homeowners who missed the initial application window in February.

Since its launch in February, the 2023 Blue Tarp Fund Roofing Repair Program has successfully

granted new roofs to nearly 150 applicants in the parishes of Ascension, East Baton Rouge, Iberville, Livingston, and West Baton Rouge. With the reopening of applications, eligible homeowners will have the opportunity to receive much-needed roofing repairs.

Senator Regina Barrow championed the initiative, which was included in appropriation bills during the 2021 and 2022 regular legislative sessions. The legislature's additional allocation of \$1 million during the 2023 regular legislative session has paved the way for the program's expansion, allowing the LHC to assist more

homeowners and broaden the program's reach to include additional parishes beyond the capital region.

Joshua Hollins, the Executive Director of LHC, expressed the importance of the re-opening, stating, "By reopening the application process now, this will allow LHC to expedite any future funding announcements by having a list of pre-approved applicants. We anticipate additional funding for the program that will allow us to increase the number of homeowners we can assist, expand the boundaries, and include additional parishes beyond the capital region."

To qualify for the Blue Tarp Fund Roofing Repair Program, homeowners must own and reside in their home as their primary residence for at least one year before seeking assistance. The program targets low-income households, qualifying applicants earning below eighty percent (80%) of the area median income. Applicants must submit income documentation, such as pay stubs, benefits summary sheets, and proof of home ownership.

"The devastating impact of natural disasters on homeowners in Louisiana is well-known," said Executive Director Joshua G. Hollins. "The Blue Tarp Fund Roofing Repair Program is one of the ways we are committed to helping our communities recover and rebuild after a disaster. We encourage eligible homeowners to apply for this program soon."

Homeowners interested in the 2023 Blue Tarp Fund Roofing Repair Program can find more information and submit applications at the official Blue Tarp Fund Roofing Repair Program website or by contacting the LHC Disaster Recovery Department at 1-888-454-2001 or 225-763-8700. Act promptly to secure assistance during this crucial time of hurricane season

## Congressman Carter Convenes Annual HBCU Cares Mental Health Symposium

NEW ORLEANS, L.A. — Congressman Troy A. Carter, Sr. (D-La.) convened the annual "HBCU Cares Mental Health Symposium" to bring together Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) president's and stakeholders for a discussion about Black student's mental health. This dialogue focused on themes including reducing isolation, improving campus safety, and increasing access to health care providers.

"I was honored to host this important discussion about the mental health of our students in HBCUs. This event took a significant step forward in promoting mental well-being in our communities," said Rep. Carter. "HBCUs have long been at the forefront of empowering generations of Black Americans, providing them with the knowledge and tools needed to excel. However, we cannot ignore the fact that the mental health challenges faced by our students and faculty within these institutions demand our immediate attention and collective action. I am confident that the discussions held will result in transformative change, not only within our HBCUs but also within the broader mental health landscape."

In May, Congressman Carter introduced H.R. 3760, the Mental Health Workforce Act, to create more diversity and increase the number of culturally competent mental health care providers in the United States. Numerous barriers

to access mental health care treatment persists in communities of color, including the stigma associated with mental illness, general distrust of healthcare institutions, and lack of health insurance. This bill incentivizes students at HBCUs to pursue careers as mental health care practitioners by offering student loan forgiveness in exchange for a commitment to serving communities of color as mental health practitioners for five years after graduation.

"HBCU CARES' Executive Director Anita Jarman had the privilege of moderating a timely conversation with Congressman Troy Carter that emphasized the vital importance of mental health resources on HBCC and HBCU campuses," said HBCU CARES' Executive Director Anita Jarman. "The discussion also highlighted the significance of the Mental Health Workforce Act H.R. 3760, which aims to encourage HBCU students to pursue careers as mental health practitioners. Our time in Oak Bluffs at The Black Joy House was well served, especially as we approach a new academic year. It is very important to note that this is a united front, with 15 HBCUs at the helm convening toward measurable, sustainable solutions that will positively impact our students' wellbeing."

### INSURANCE from page 1

policies until Jan. 1, 2024. While nine states and Washington D.C. offer doula care under Medicaid, Louisiana will soon become one of two states to cover doula care through private insurance (Rhode Island, which also includes Medicaid coverage, became the first in 2021).

Unlike midwives, who assist pregnant people during childbirth, doulas provide a different kind of service. Victoria Williams, an outreach director for the Birthmark Doula Collective, defines a doula as a "non-medical physical, emotional, mental, and spiritual support person that provides education advocacy to families who are in the preconception, all the way to postpartum."

Medical organizations, including the American College of Obstetricians and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, have documented doula services' benefits: lower cesarean section rates, shorter labor hours, and fewer complications during and after birth. And while advocates and representatives believe this bill will improve the health of pregnant people and infants, they also see it as a baby step in the context of the maternal health crisis.

The bill comes when a maternal health care crisis that disproportionately harms Black women, is likely to worsen due to the overturning of Roe v. Wade. It also comes out of a legislative session that struck down a series of other bills pushed by reproductive justice advocates, including exceptions to the abortion ban for cases of rape and incest, and bills pushed for by doctors, including legal clarifications on miscarriage treatment.

"It is by far one of the best things that came out of the 2023 session," co-author of the bill Rep. Delisha Boyd, said.

"Not a great state if you're a pregnant woman."

The idea for the bill dates to Willard's 2019 campaign for state representative. Knocking on doors and talking to people in his district clarified the importance of prioritizing maternal health. He learned the troubling statistics — that Louisiana has the highest rate of maternal mortality in the country and a third of the state's parishes are maternal health deserts, without an OB-GYN; that Black women are four times more likely to die

pregnancy-related deaths than their white counterparts. "Overall, Louisiana is not a great state if you're a pregnant woman," Willard said.

During his campaign, he spoke with Lori Jupiter, a civil district court judge in New Orleans who also works as a doula, and she suggested that he look into doula and midwifery services as one way to help address the maternal health crisis.

Willard authored a bill in 2021 that guaranteed health insurance coverage for midwifery services and established a "Doula Registry Board," which allowed the birthing community to start working with the insurance industry so as to prepare for the passage of the 2023 measure. Robertson represented birth equity organizations — RH Impact, the Institute of Women and Ethnic Studies, and the March of Dimes — as a strategist and lobbyist.

"One of the reasons that I think we got [the insurance industry] to come to the table is because, you know, access to doula care can improve birthing outcomes and when you have better birthing outcomes, it's actually cheaper on the insurance industry, even even with them paying for a doula and a midwife and a doctor," Willard said. "That will still be cheaper than if you have a preterm delivery who has to stay in the NICU for a week or two."

Public versus private coverage While the new law will guarantee doula coverage for those with private insurance, these services are not guaranteed for publicly insured individuals, concerns advocates. Robertson emphasized that the bill can potentially be "a big game changer" when it comes to doula access.

She noted that Medicaid providers had the option to revise their benefits packages last year, and all but one of the six organizations modified their services to reimburse doulas. But the reimbursement rates for publicly insured individuals are much lower than those on private insurance. For instance, Medicaid provider AmeriHealth Caritas Louisiana typically reimburses doula services up to around \$500, a third of what private insurance companies will pay when the new law kicks in.

"With Medicaid, there's much inequity there," Robertson said. "It's a cause for concern. If you're serving a person, you're serving a person."



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### Broome from page 1

Residents do not need to contact the City-Parish once their debris is placed curbside. City-Parish teams are regularly assessing debris removal needs to direct crews accordingly for collection.

Debris will be collected from all affected residential locations in the City of Baton Rouge and unincorporated areas of East Baton Rouge Parish. Crews cannot collect debris located in the city limits of Baker and Zachary.

### Communities from page 1

landscape. Secretary Fudge's rallying call to action. "Stay Encouraged, Stay Vigilant, WE NEED YOU. Thank You!" resonated with the real estate professionals, inspiring them to drive positive change in the industry.






# THIS MONTH

[ A U G U S T ]


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BREC

## ZOO + ME MORNINGS

BREC's Baton Rouge Zoo  
Aug. 8 | 9:30-11:30 a.m.

## VIBIN' YOGA

City-Brooks Community Park  
Aug. 9 | 5:30-6:30 p.m.  
Perkins Road Community Park  
Aug. 23 | 5:30-6:30 p.m.

## SUMMER SLAM

Extreme Sports Park  
at Perkins Road Community Park  
Aug. 12 | 3-7 p.m.

## SUP DAWG

Greenwood Community Park  
Aug. 12 | 9-10 a.m. + 10-11 a.m.  
+ 11 a.m.-noon

## SATURDAYS IN THE PARK

Lovett Road Park [Sensory Play]  
Webb Park [Adult Leisure]  
Aug. 12 | 10 a.m.-noon

## PERSEID METEOR SHOWER

Highland Road Park Observatory  
Aug. 12 | 10 p.m.-2 a.m.

## CHECK OUT UPCOMING FALL PROGRAMS!

[BREC.ORG/CALENDAR](https://www.brec.org/calendar)

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### SENIOR DAY

Liberty Lagoon  
Aug. 18 | 3-6 p.m.

### SUNSHINE SOCIAL: TEAM SPIRIT TAILGATE

Milton J. Womack Park  
Aug. 18 | 6-9 p.m.

### WONDERS OF WILDLIFE

Bluebonnet Swamp Nature Center  
Aug. 19 | 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

### 10 + UNDER TENNIS TOURNAMENT

Highland Road Community Park Tennis Center  
Aug. 26 | 8:30 a.m.-noon

[BREC.ORG/THISMONTH](https://www.brec.org/thismonth)

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Tickets: \$25.00 • Tables: \$200.00

SUNDAY • AUG 27th • 3:00 PM

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1700 McHugh, Baker, La. • Trinity Event Center

Speaker: Bishop Ivory D. Payne

Musical Guest: Majestic Emsemble

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Bishop Ernest Mills  
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Bishop Ivory D. Payne  
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Mark Your Calendar:  
Bishop Ivory J. Payne's 88th  
Birthday Celebration to be  
Held at Trinity Event Center!

BAKER, La.— Greater New Birth Full Gospel Fellowship is pleased and excited to announce the 88th Birthday Celebration of Bishop Ivory J. Payne, their esteemed Senior Pastor. This momentous occasion will occur on Saturday, August 26th, and Sunday, August 27th, at 3:00 PM each day, at the Trinity Event Center located at 1700 McHugh Road, Baker, La.



Bishop Ivory J. Payne

The celebration will commence with "The Bishop's Banquet" on Saturday, August 26th, at 3:00 PM. This elegant affair will feature Bishop Ernest Mills, Senior Pastor of New Rising Star Baptist Church of Baton Rouge, Louisiana as the keynote speaker. The special musical guest will be Gerald Washington & Fully Restored. Tickets for "The Bishop's Banquet" are priced at \$25.00 per person, and tables are available for \$200.00.

On Sunday, August 27th, at 3:00 PM, "The Bishop's Sunday Celebration" will take place, bringing together friends, family, and well-wishers to honor Bishop Ivory J. Payne. The keynote speaker for the evening will be Bishop Ivory D. Payne, Assistant Pastor of Greater New Birth Full Gospel Fellowship and the son of the celebrated Bishop. The Special musical guest will include the Majestic Ensemble of Baton Rouge.

This milestone event is a testament to Bishop Ivory J. Payne's unwavering commitment and dedication to his congregation and his invaluable contributions to the community. Throughout his years of service, Bishop Payne has touched the lives of countless individuals, offering guidance, support, and hope.

For more information and to secure your tickets or tables, don't hesitate to contact the BR Weekly Press at 225.775.2002 or Martha Jarrell-Payne at 225.284.0376.


Don't miss this opportunity to celebrate the 88th Birthday of Bishop Ivory J. Payne at the Trinity Event Center. Join us for an unforgettable weekend of praise, worship, and gratitude as we honor a remarkable man of faith and community leader.

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Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching. - Hebrews 10:25



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Disciple Bible Study.....Wednesday .....5:30 p.m.

Prayer Ministry.....Tuesday .....6:00 p.m.

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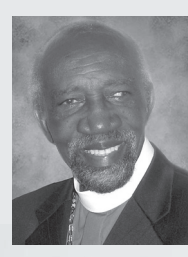


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# BUSINESS

## BRCC and Our Lady of the Lake Health Break Ground on Cutting-Edge Nursing Building



**Shoveling the Future of Healthcare Education: Groundbreaking Ceremony for BRCC's State-of-the-Art Nursing and Allied Health Building**

BATON ROUGE, LA – In a significant development for healthcare education, Baton Rouge Community College (BRCC) and Our Lady of the Lake Health have jointly initiated the construction of a cutting-edge Nursing and Allied Health Building. The groundbreaking ceremony took place at BRCC's Mid City Campus, located at 201 Community College Dr. This state-of-the-art facility will bring together BRCC's School of Nursing and Division of Allied Health under one roof, accommodating existing programs in Nursing, Sonography, Surgical Technician, Phlebotomy, Medical Laboratory Technician, and Medical Assistant. Moreover, it will enable the addition of high-demand programs in Respiratory Care, Physical and Occupational Therapy, and Athletic Training.

The collaboration between BRCC and Our Lady of the Lake Health resulted from a partnership forged last year. The Lake Health invested \$12 million towards the \$25 million project to support its construction and development. The 92,800-square-foot, four-

story building will be a beacon of modern healthcare education, offering ample space for 1,200 students, including close to 500 nursing students. It will feature state-of-the-art classrooms, cutting-edge laboratories, a simulated hospital, experiential learning spaces, study zones, and even a large open gym to nurture a conducive learning environment.

The new Nursing and Allied Health Building marks a significant milestone in BRCC's legacy and commitment to elevating nursing education and patient care standards. It has been designed to cater to the evolving needs of nursing and allied health professionals, aiming to empower students with essential skills through hands-on learning experiences.

Louisiana Governor John Bel Edwards lauds this partnership for addressing two crucial areas in the state: community and technical colleges and healthcare. By collaborating, BRCC and Our Lady of the Lake are taking strides to address the shortage of healthcare workers, a pressing priority for Louisiana. This endeavor will create

a pipeline for quality training of new nurses, fostering a healthier Louisiana and stronger communities, especially among disadvantaged groups seeking increased economic prospects.

The Nursing and Allied Health Building is remarkable for housing cutting-edge simulation equipment, enabling students to engage in lifelike medical scenarios that enhance critical thinking, decision-making abilities, and patient care techniques. This emphasis on experiential learning will equip aspiring nurses and allied health professionals with practical skills essential for their future careers.

Designed by Chasm Architecture and Mackey Mitchell, the Nursing and Allied Health Building is a milestone for BRCC's Mid City Campus, as it is the first new classroom on the campus since 2009. Ratcliff Construction Company will serve as the building's general contractor.

For those interested in BRCC's Nursing and Allied Health division, further information can be found at [mybrcc.edu](http://mybrcc.edu).

### ELECTION from page 3

Georgia, Michigan, Nevada, New Mexico, Pennsylvania, and Wisconsin met on the same days as legitimate electors, casting fake votes for Trump and then signing certificates where they falsely claimed they were the actual electors.

"Some fraudulent electors were tricked into participating based on the understanding that their votes would be used only if the Defendant succeeded in outcome-determinative lawsuits within their state, which the Defendant never did," reads the indictment.

Those false election certificates were then sent to the vice president and other government officials in an attempt for them to be counted instead of the legitimate electors when Congress convened on Jan. 6, 2021, to certify the vote.

That morning an associate of Trump's, who isn't named in the indictment, worked to get false election certificates from Michigan and Wisconsin to an unnamed U.S. senator, who was supposed to deliver those to Pence, according to the indictment.

According to the indictment, a staffer for Pence later rejected efforts to put those false electors into the vice president's hands.

### Trump's pressure on Pence

The indictment details Trump's efforts to "enlist" Pence to alter the election results, using Trump and his co-conspirators' fraudulent slate of electors.

The vice president has a ceremonial role in certifying presidential election results.

When Pence remained unconvinced by the scheme, Trump began rallying supporters to amass in Washington, D.C., on the day Pence would preside over the certification, the indictment states.

The indictment recounts Trump's Dec. 19, 2020, post on Twitter, in which he wrote, "Big protest in D.C. on January 6th. Be there; it will be wild!"

Days later, on Dec. 23, Trump re-posted a memo titled "Operation 'PENCE' CARD," falsely stating Pence could disqualify electors from the states where Trump falsely claimed voter fraud. That same day, a person identified in the indictment as "co-conspirator 2," identified as John Eastman by his attorney, circulated a memo detailing plans for Pence to declare Trump the winner unlawfully.

The indictment details multiple phone calls and conversations in which Trump pressures the vice president, including a call from Pence to wish the president "Merry Christmas" that quickly turned into Trump asking Pence to reject electoral votes on Jan. 6.

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NEWS

# AC Units Donated to Seniors in Baton Rouge



Air conditioning units for seniors in EBR(City of Baton Rouge Mayor-President)

BATON ROUGE, La – Mayor-President Sharon Weston Broome, in collaboration with the East Baton Rouge Council on Aging and Capital Area United Way, announced the donation of 50 air conditioning units to help seniors in the area cope with the prolonged high temperatures. The initiative was made possible by a generous donation from Nucor Steel Louisiana, with additional units being provided to Council on Aging agencies in neighboring communities, including St. James Parish.

South Louisiana has experienced a series of scorching weeks, with the heat index frequently surpassing 100 degrees, posing health risks to the elderly population. The 50 air conditioning units will be distributed through the EBR Council on Aging to support seniors during this challenging period.

Mayor Broome emphasized her commitment to the well-being of the community, especially during adversity, and expressed her gratitude to the non-profit organizations and Capital Area United Way for their unwavering support

in making this initiative a reality. Calvin Hart, Vice President and General Manager of Nucor Steel Louisiana, praised the partnership and the positive impact it will have on addressing the urgent issue affecting the elderly population. He emphasized the business community's responsibility to contribute positively to the well-being of the community.

Tasha Clark Amar, Executive Director of East Baton Rouge Council on Aging, highlighted the power of partnerships during challenging times and the significance of working together for the community's well-being.

George Bell, Executive Director of Capital Area United Way, expressed his appreciation for the collective effort in making this project come to fruition and ensuring that seniors have access to essential cooling resources during this challenging time.

Seniors in East Baton Rouge Parish seeking assistance for hot weather or hurricane preparedness can contact social workers or case managers with East Baton Rouge Council on Aging at 225-923-8000 on a case-by-case basis.

# SPORTS

## Southern Jaguars Announces 2023 Football Schedule

BATON ROUGE, LA – The Southern University football team, under the direction of 2nd year Head Coach Eric Dooley, announced their 2023 football schedule Wednesday during National Signing Day. The 11-game schedule includes six home games in A.W. Mumford Stadium, beginning with the Pete Richardson Classic on September 9th against Jackson State, and four road games.

SU will open up the season as they travel to Alabama State (Sept. 2) for a non-conference game before returning to the friendly confines of A.W. Mumford Stadium for another non-conference home game with Jackson State (Sept. 9). The Jaguars will open up Southwestern Athletic Conference (SWAC) play versus Alabama A&M (Sept. 16). After an early bye week, they will travel to Arkansas Pine-Bluff (Sept. 30).

The Jaguars will then host Florida A&M (Oct. 7) before welcoming Lincoln University (CA) (Oct. 14) for the annual homecoming celebration.

Southern will head to Daytona Beach, FL, against Bethune-Cookman (Oct. 21) and then return home to face Texas Southern on (Oct. 28).

The Jaguars will then head to face Alcorn State (Nov. 4) before returning home for the senior day in Mumford Stadium as they host Prairie View A&M on (Nov. 11).

The 50th Annual Bayou Classic is scheduled for November 25th as the Jaguars face off against Grambling State in the Caesars Superdome in New Orleans, LA.

Football season tickets can be reserved by contacting the SU Ticket office at 225-771-3171. To fill out the 2023 SU Football Season Ticket Application please visit [https://gojagsports.com/sb\\_output.aspx?form=4](https://gojagsports.com/sb_output.aspx?form=4)

Continue to follow our social media accounts along with GoJagSports.com for updated information.

Away game times will be released at a later date.

Continue to follow our social media accounts along with GoJagSports.com for updated information. Away game times will be released at a later date.



■ September 2 – @ Alabama State	■ October 21 – @ Bethune-Cookman
■ September 9 – JACKSON STATE (Pete Richardson Classic) 6:00 PM	■ October 28 – TEXAS SOUTHERN 4:00 PM
■ September 16 – ALABAMA A&M 6:00 PM	■ November 4 – @ Alcorn State
■ September 23 – Bye	■ November 11 – PRAIRIE VIEW A&M (Senior Day / Military Appreciation Game) 2:00 PM
■ September 30 – @ University of Arkansas Pine-Bluff	■ November 18 – Bye
■ October 7 – FLORIDA A&M 6:00 PM	■ November 25 – Grambling State (50th Annual Bayou Classic) 1:00 PM
■ October 14 – LINCOLN UNIVERSITY (CA) (Homecoming) 4:00 PM	



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