

In and about Washington

Here are updated items from the August edition of the *In and about Washington* newsletter

St. Landry Parish School District's Road to 2020-2021 Strong Start

PHASE 1		PHASE 2		PHASE 3
Headstart - 12	Headstart - 4	5 - 8	9 - 12	Headstart - 12
VIRTUAL LEARNING MODEL VIRTUAL LEARNING FOR ALL STUDENTS AT ALL GRADE LEVELS AND ALL SCHOOLS	TRADITIONAL MODEL IN PERSON LEARNING 5 DAYS A WEEK	HYBRID MODEL IN PERSON & VIRTUAL LEARNING TWO DAYS A WEEK IN PERSON THREE DAYS A WEEK VIRTUAL LEARNING	HYBRID MODEL IN PERSON & VIRTUAL LEARNING TWO DAYS A WEEK IN PERSON THREE DAYS A WEEK VIRTUAL LEARNING	A BLENDING APPROACH IN PERSON FOR MOST & VIRTUAL LEARNING FOR SOME BASED ON CAPACITY

Please Note: *If COVID-19 cases begin to increase in our district or specific communities, our schools may revert to phase 1, virtual learning.*

The St. Landry Parish Virtual Learning Academy is an option for families.



At-home schooling likely as school begins September 8

Washington Elementary and other St. Landry Parish Schools will open September 8, but probably with empty classrooms. The board had set opening day for August 20, but at a special meeting moved it until after Labor Day.

The school district has proposed a three-phase plan for opening. Phase 1 is for virtual education only for all students from Head Start through the 12th grade.

Phase 2 calls for classroom instruction five days a week for Head Start through the 4th grade and two days in classrooms and three days of virtual education for all others. Those students will be broken into two groups that will report to campus on different days.

Phase 3 calls for “in person for most and virtual for some.” The decision of which students will attend will depend on school capacity and individual student needs.

School board president Donnie Peron said there will be no classroom instruction until it is safe for students, teachers, and staff.

Landreneau, Wilson on ballot for mayor

Incumbent mayor Dwight Landreneau will be challenged by alderwoman Mona Wilson in the November 3 special election to fill the remaining two years in the term of mayor James Olivier, who resigned last December.

Landreneau was sworn into office January 13 after he was appointed by Gov. John Bel Edwards to fill the seat until the special election. As president pro tempore of the Town Council, Wilson was acting



mayor in the interim between Olivier's resignation and Landreneau's appointment.

In another closely watched race here, Washington native Chad Pitre will square off against Charles Cravins for district attorney. Cravins has held the seat since incumbent Earl Taylor resigned at the beginning of the year. Cravins was Taylor's chief assistant. Pitre has been legal adviser for Sheriff Bobby Guidroz and for the parish council, and is



also Washington's town attorney.

Races for president and congress will lead the ballot.

The deadline to register to vote in person or by mail is October 5. Early voting is October 20 through 27. The deadline to request an absentee mail ballot is 4:30 p.m. on October 30. The deadline for the registrar of voters to receive a voted mail ballot is November 2 by 4:30 p.m.

Town considers sales



The town is considering the sale of a 1950s fire truck and at least the equipment from a skateboard park at the intersection of Gardiner and Hill streets.

The fire truck hasn't moved in 17 years, according to the mayor. At the urging of councilwoman Mona Wilson, the town will delay sale for six months and investigate the feasibility of restoring it

The mayor proposed selling the entire skateboard property but, again at Wilson's urging, will also look at the sale of the equipment only.

Cemetery foundation has full agenda

The Washington Cemetery Foundation has been given 501(c)(3) status as a nonprofit organization, making contributions to it tax deductible.

Current projects include coordinating upkeeping the town's three cemeteries; restoring and improving signage for the cemeteries, including recognition and signage for historical status; indexing and mapping of grave sites; and organizing a public event for October 17, to publicize the cemeteries' improvements and significance and honor their occupants.

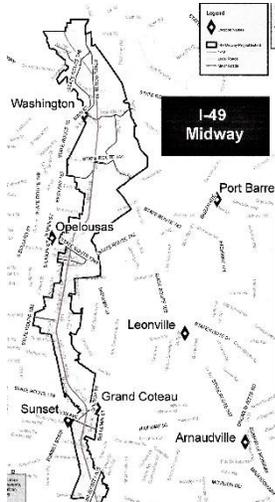
For more information, call town hall or email WashingtonCemeteryFoundation@gmail.com.

Cleco will allow payout on past due bills

CLECO has announced a plan to give customers with past due bills up to 18 months to pay, depending on the amount owed.

The company will notify customers on specifics of their plans, including the amount due and the number of months to pay. The payment will be included on the monthly bill. Disconnects and late fees have been suspended until September 1.

Citizen views sought on I-49 plan



The first phase of a master plan looking at the future of the I-49 corridor between the I-10 and I-49 intersection in Lafayette Parish and Exit 27 just north of Washington should be ready in October.

Planners will take a comprehensive look at the 12 interchanges in the corridor to “evaluate the strengths, weaknesses, and opportunities,” according to St. Landry economic development director Bill Rodier.

The public is invited to offer comments about the “strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats” posed by the project at a “visioning meeting” from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Aug. 5 at the St. Landry Economic Development offices, 5367 I-49 S. Service Road in Opelousas (the old Daily World building). A box meal will be provided.

Because of COVID-19 concerns, in-person attendance requires an RSVP sent to Katrena King at kking@planacadiana.org or 896-9365. The same contact information can be used to inquire about virtual attendance.

Town renegotiates insurance plan

The Town has negotiated a new insurance plan with Dupre Carriere Godchaux at “substantial savings,” according to the mayor. A review by the agency found that “we have been insuring things that we no longer owned,” he said.

Council moves meetings to 6 o’clock

The Town Council has moved its meeting time from 7 p.m. to 6 p.m. It will continue to meet each third Monday at Town Hall

‘Health Buggy’ still parked

No decision has been made on when the “health buggy” will resume visits to area towns. when it does resume it will likely be on the same schedule as before, visiting Washington on the third Friday of each month.

No date for senior food distribution

No date has been set for senior food distribution in Washington in August.

In and About
Washington

is underwritten by



