

## MPD unveils 10 squad cars

The Monroe Police Department unveiled 10 new squad cars last week at the U.S. Army National Guard Armory before a public roll out of the LED-lit vehicles across town.

The blue 2013 Dodge Chargers will hit the streets around May 1 thanks to an expenditure of some \$470,000 in city funds.

See Page 2A

## Mayo vetoes Council's budget

Monroe Mayor Jamie Mayo vetoed a \$57.4 million budget the City Council approved earlier this month.

Mayo said he vetoed the budget because it was not balanced, which would be a violation of state law. He said the budget the City Council approved at its April 9 meeting produced a \$520,866 deficit.

See Page 7A

## Rebels loss Miss. showdown

The West Monroe Rebels lost 3-4 to defending Mississippi 6A state champion Oak Grove on Monday.

The loss came after a 9-1 victory over the West Ouachita Chiefs last week.

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# Former councilmen face Feds again

By Johnny Gunter  
The Citizen

Former Monroe city councilmen Arthur Gilmore and Robert "Red" Stevens will stand trial beginning Monday on extortion and racketeering charges stemming from their involvement with a prominent Monroe businessman.

Gilmore and Stevens will be tried in U.S. District Court in Shreveport. Judge Donald E. Walter will preside.

Gilmore and Stevens were indicted in June 2010 for extracting bribes from Monroe businessman Eddie Hakim. They were convicted in May 2011, and suspended from the City Council.

Utilizing audio and video recording equipment, the Federal Bureau of Investigation captured Gilmore and Stevens taking bribes from Hakim, who cooperated with the government and later served as the government's star witness at trial. Hakim, a multi-millionaire, often had business before the Monroe City Council when

Gilmore and Stevens served on it.

In April 2012, U.S. District Court Judge Robert G. James, who presided at trial, sentenced Stevens to serve 51 months in federal prison. Gilmore, an attorney, got 41 months.

Please see  
FEDS / 15A



RISER MIDDLE School students prepare meals for the school's fine dining restaurant. The program is raising money to help replace and upgrade equipment in the school's family and consumer sciences department. (Citizen photos by Zach Parker)

## Riser students present fine dining

Riser Middle School students opened their fine dining restaurant to the West Monroe public this week.

Riser's students will continue to host guests, cook all the meals and wait on the restaurant's patrons for two more weeks to raise money for Riser Middle School's family and consumer sciences program.

The fine dining restaurant is completely student-operated with student hosts greeting guests and directing them to one of eight tables inside the dining room. Even though the menu is set for the next two weeks, students wait on each table, serving food and drinks to its patrons while a student crew cooks all the food from scratch and cleans the kitchen.

Trisha Thompson, Riser's F.A.C.S. and fine dining instructor, said all the money raised

Please see  
RISER / 15A



## Legislation 'strong arms' Police Jury

By Zach Parker  
The Citizen

The Ouachita Parish Police Jury opposes a bill offered by two Ouachita Parish legislators that would require the Police Jury to cease levying a 1-cent sales tax in the town of Sterlington if the town began levying an equivalent tax.

The Police Jury unanimously approved a proclamation Monday night opposing a House bill by Reps. Jay Morris and Katrina Jackson. Morris and Jackson offered House Bill 555 for the Legislature to consider during the regular session.

Besides prohibiting the Police Jury from levying the 1-cent sales tax in Sterlington, the bill also would allow Sterlington and town of Richwood to begin levying their own 1-cent sales tax if approved by each town's voters. The bill would require each town to dedicate the revenues from their 1-cent sales tax for maintenance of roads and ditches.

Since Ouachita Parish voters first approved the 1-cent sales tax in 1977, the Police Jury has levied it across the parish, except within the corporate limits of Monroe and West Monroe. Proceeds from the tax are dedicated road maintenance and drainage.

Morris said his and Jackson's bill would give Sterlington the same opportunity as Monroe and West Monroe.

"The bill would allow Sterlington to exclude itself from the parish road sales tax just like Monroe and West Monroe," said Morris, R-Monroe. "It would let the town receive all the proceeds from the 1-cent sales tax that is collected in the corporate limits of their town, similar to what is done in Monroe and West Monroe."

Police Jury President Shane Smiley said the towns of Sterlington and Richwood should

Please see  
POLICE JURY / 15A



# Fishing for catfish in Ouachita Parish

Catfish is the best result to a great day on the lake. You take the kids and let them go jug fishing and you can set trotlines to

run at night. We have a family camp of the Ouachita River, on the Bosco side that has given us many memories and stories of the great catfish that got away.

The great thing about catfishing is the meal afterwards, with home cut fries, coleslaw, deviled eggs and hushpuppies. The state of Louisiana has several species that are delicious. Now this is a basic guide or information piece for the person who doesn't fish a lot and not for the savvy cat fishermen, who will undoubtedly read this and roll their eyes.

However, there may be some things even the avid

fisherman didn't know like limits and size requirements. The possession limit per person is 100 and there are minimum size limits on each species. No more than 25 under size limit may be in possession.

CHANNEL CATFISH (minimum size 11 inches) Common Names - spotted cat, blue channel cat, river catfish. Channel catfish closely resemble blue catfish. Both have deeply forked tails. However, channels have a rounded anal fin with 24-29 rays and scattered black spots along their back and sides. They have a small, narrow head. The back is blue-gray with light blue to silvery-gray sides and a white belly. Larger channels lose the



**RENE HATTEN**  
STORIES FROM  
THE OUTDOORS



Citizen Photo by Rene Hatten

**RENE HATTEN**, outdoors columnist for *The Ouachita Citizen*, shows off her catfish catch from the lake.

black spots and also take on a blue-black coloration on the back which shades to white on the belly. Males also become very dark during spawning season and develop a thickened pad on their head.

**BLUE CATFISH** (minimum size 12 inches) Common Names - channel cat, hump-back blue, fork-tail cat, great blue cat, silver cat, chucklehead cat, blue fulton. Adult fish have stout bodies with prominently humped backs in front of the dorsal fin. They resemble channel catfish by having

deeply forked tails, but are dissimilar because they are unspotted and have a long, straight-edged anal fin with 30 to 35 rays. The back and upper sides are blue to slate gray, and the lower sides and belly are white. The internal air bladder has a constriction in the middle, giving it a two-chambered appearance.

**FLATHEAD CATFISH** (minimum size 14 inches) Common Names - yellow cat, mud cat, shovelhead cat, johnnie cat, goujon, appaluchion, Opelousas. A flattened head, tiny eyes, squarish tail and protruding lower jaw distinguish the flathead from other catfish and contribute to it being placed in a genus of its own. They are yellow-brown and usually mottled above, with a creamy-white or yellow belly. Small flatheads may be confused with yellow or brown bullheads.

Spoonbill Catfish (prohibited) Common Name - paddle fish, is one of most ancient fish around. They are also one of the oddest looking fish species. Spoonbill catfish are not actually catfish at all as the name implies. Spoonbill Catfish were once endangered but are making a comeback. Spoonbill catfish or paddlefish may have been around for at least 300

million years. Adult spoonbill catfish grow to seven feet long and can weigh as 200 pounds. Spoonbill catfish are plankton eaters, they filter zooplankton (microscopic animal life) from fresh waters. To do this Spoonbill catfish swim with their mouths open. Some states allow the harvest of Spoonbill catfish and others do not! The Louisiana regulations are found online at <http://www.wlf.louisiana.gov/>

In most all catfish, spawning occurs mostly in rivers and streams in the spring and early summer when waters warm to 70 to 85 degrees. They also will spawn in larger lakes where suitable habitat is available.

Eggs are deposited in nests secluded under banks or logs or over open bottom. The male selects the site, often a natural cavern or hole, clears the nest and guards the eggs and young. A female may lay 2,000 to 21,000 eggs that hatch in six to 10 days depending on water temperature. Males protect the fry until they leave the nest in about a week.

Now there are no forbidden baits when catfishing. There are commercial stink baits to home made concoctions that all claim to be the one to catch the big one; blood bait, livers, gizzards, cheese, dough, bread, wieners, a variety of dog foods, shiners, worms, crawfish, insects,

cut up Ivory soap, cut up fish, skip jacks and other fish.

The most popular way to catfish is by rod and reel. Most choose to tight line which is the casting of the weighted line baited and the rod then rested in a holder or vice with a wait and seen catch in mind. Small fish are best bait with the others falling in line afterward.

The next popular is a trotline which is the setting out of hooks on a continued line stretched between two points. Some lakes require you to tag and date each line with your name, address and phone number. Check your regulation book.

You should only have lines out if you can run them at least every 12 hours. That is why some lakes are going to the restriction of having cotton leaders to tie. Because, then trot lines will rot and the line sink when abandoned.

The best bait for trotlines are blood, wieners, skip jack or cut fish, dog food, ivory soap and a variety of dough mixtures.

When running a trotline the small boat is the best to maneuver the line over the bow when checking.

Too big of a boat and the lines are checked on the sides allowing for tipping over or falling. Remember to have ice for your catch and respect the outdoors, leaving nothing but your footprints.

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**THEME: History 101**

**ACROSS**

- Debra Messing's NBC show
- Distress call
- Pack down
- \*Coat used by army starting in Korean War
- It can be electric
- Of the kidneys
- E.T., e.g.
- \*Progressive or Victorian one
- O. Henry's specialty
- \*a.k.a. "Father of U.S. Constitution"
- \*Underground Railroad conductor
- Presidential election mo.
- Arizona city
- Auction call
- Poet \_\_\_\_\_ Angelou
- \*George W. Bush is the \_\_\_\_\_ son of George H.W. Bush
- Keats' works, e.g.
- Magnifying glass
- Eastwood's \_\_\_\_\_ Harry
- Hippocrates' promise
- Monument to Buddha
- Steam engine fuel
- Of them
- Prayer leader in mosque
- Upper hand
- "The Green \_\_\_\_\_"
- Any thing
- Ever, to a poet
- Chapter 11 issue
- Cranberry habitat
- \*Site of first shot of Civil War
- New Hebrides
- Something unusual, perhaps worthy of collecting
- Exclamation of surprise
- Back of mandible
- Comprehend
- Waste of time, in text lingo
- Sheep-like
- Not working
- Clinton \_\_\_\_\_ Rodham
- Dog-\_\_\_\_\_ book

**DOWN**

- Unsubscriber's focus
- \_\_\_\_\_ fide, in bad faith
- Desert-like
- Coil of yarn
- Type of horse-drawn carriage
- Espied
- "\_\_\_\_\_ the fields we go"
- List of candidates
- \*FDR was only president elected to more than two
- Dwarf buffalo
- \*Father of American Education, Horace \_\_\_\_\_
- Layer
- Like risqué entertainment
- Stretched circles
- "It's no \_\_\_\_\_!"
- Free from slavery
- \*Lincoln's assassin
- \*Known for potatoes, it achieved statehood in 1890
- Block
- Supposed giant Himalayan
- Vegas cube
- Wear away
- "All the world's a \_\_\_\_\_"
- \*Tippecanoe's running mate
- Leg bone
- Quarrel or argument
- Single-cell protozoan
- Grass valued for hay for cattle
- Driver's aid
- \*Non-interference doctrine creator, 1823
- \*1954 Board of Education opponent
- Tropical fruit
- Voiceless consonant
- Europe/Asia mountain divide
- \_\_\_\_\_ en scene
- \*15th Amendment subject
- Gulf V.I.P.
- Ditty
- CPO in auto industry
- Computer-generated imagery, acr.
- Garden cultivator

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