



# Seasons of Louisiana with Dianne Cage

The invitation was ivory with crisp white magnolias and the setting was on the Ouachita River. We felt like we were walking onto an old river boat that was decorated with thousands of creamy white magnolias with their lovely dark green leaves. Happy Birthday to You, Happy Birthday to you... "A Centennial Celebration honoring **JUNE GOLSON EBY**." Lots of family and hundreds of friends gathered, several Sundays ago, June 30th to be exact, at everyone's favorite, **WAREHOUSE NO. 1** to wish this Grande Dame good cheer and lots of best wishes. Surrounded with good music, beautiful flowers, special drinks and hors d'oeuvres, a good time was had by all. It was so much fun visiting with friends from all walks of this life in the deep South. June's children, **LYNDA, CHRIS & LEAH** along with **CLAIBORNE SMELSER**, one of June's favorites, did an outstanding job of turning Warehouse No. 1 into the perfect setting to honor our own Steel Magnolia.

A wedding and celebration for **KAREN (KP) ENDSLEY & JASON BREWTON**, this early July was held late afternoon at the fabulous home of **SUE & DR. WALTER SARTOR** on Island Drive. The attire was casual and guests were dressed in white or cream linen and cool cottons. The setting was amazing in this beautiful old home and the gardens. This gathering of just family and friends had a surreal/dream like feeling. Many of you remember **KAYDELL & DR. JACK TOM JACKSON** and their children **TOMMY & JULIE**. After graduating from **ULM** with a very successful football career, national championship team of 1986, Tommy moved to Cody, Wyoming where he settled down and married hometown girl **KELLY MANNING**. They had two children **ELLIE & JT**. Fast forward maybe 15 years, they all came to Monroe for a Dr. Jack Tom's funeral. Something happened to all of them .... Good bye wild wild west and hello Monroe. The whole family came including grandmother **KAREN** and sister **KP**. The family settled into their new surroundings, new home and never missed a beat. **JT** and **Ellie** entered Neville High and were stars. **JT** was the good looking star quarterback, and **Ellie** is the stunning model that has graced the cover of *Bayou Life* over 18 times... Tommy walked **KP** down the aisle, **JT** went online and got an ordained minister certificate and married them and **Ellie** was her maid of honor... a true family affair! The Brewton family is from Winnfield, where the Jackson clan is from and are all good friends... A small world!

Going back to say 1966, I was so excited, I was going to have a baby. I had been married for about two years and thought I would never be able to have children... I was so tickled with myself! I gained 60 pounds and loved everyone of them ... about eight months into my pregnancy, I was at Guy Stacie's Beauty Shop on Roselawn Avenue. Under the hair dryer was a pretty lady who was pregnant, too. I walked over, introduced myself, it was **Kaydell Jackson**... I said, would it not be fun if we both had little boys! **George** and **Tommy** were born, one month apart. Two years later we both had little girls, **JULIE & SATCHIE**. **Tommy & Julie** are my God Children, I "bees" the God Mother! Happy memories last forever.

**MICHAEL ECHOLS** ... State Representative... District 16.. what a fun, patriotic evening on top of the Old Virginia Hotel, now Vantage State Building, on St. John. Greeting and making you feel welcomed was beautiful **CHRISTIE ECHOLS**. What is the old saying, "Behind every great man there is a great woman." Fireworks, music, food and lots of old friends. The fireworks were spectacular and what a first seat view! How blessed we are to have good men and women to run for office to serve our state and needs... Thank you! **MICHAEL ECHOLS, FOY GADBERRY, JAY MORRIS, PAT MOORE, RALPH ABRAHAM** .... A Michael Echols story for another time... years ago I barely knew Michael, I called and asked if he would mind picking me up at the Pensacola Airport.

God Bless America! It is sad to think what is happening to America, most TV stations did not air President Trump's Patriotic Military Salute to America, our country, the Celebration of Independence, from the most powerful country on earth, England! The Fourth of July we celebrate every year. We think of July 4, 1776, as a day that represents the Declaration of Independence and the birth of the United States as an independent nation. The democrats/liberals are celebrating Kaepernick halting Nike's Betsy Ross Shoes... shame on Nike! Schools are struggling on how to teach black students about slavery. Is the headline in the Monroe paper ... Why not focus on teaching our children all about the great country they are blessed to live in? What about coming together as a great nation, loving your God and bring our country together?

Through loving, learning and living together there is peace.... St. Paul's Sunday celebration of the most significant holiday in our nation's history, besides Christmas and Easter, July 4 ... It takes a lot to make me cry, I just do not cry. I teared up several times this Sunday, July 7 ... "God Bless the USA" sung by John Petzet, so beautiful, I cried. "America the Beautiful, I cried, "Here I am Lord", I cried, "God Bless America", I cried. Communion, our minister **RB Moore**, gave me a piece of bread, the body of Christ, as big as a Marshall Biscuit to dip in the grape juice, the blood of Christ. I felt like author **Pat Conroy**, in "The Great Santini," with Jesus, soaked in his blood in the roof of my mouth, was worried that if I had choked to death, how bad I would look with all that black mascara running down my rosy cheeks...I really have lots to worry about!

God Bless America!

*Dianne*

## Monroe firms to partner with Natchez CPAs

The two CPA firms of Gardner, Langston & Bryan and Donald, Tucker, Betts & Fuller APAC recently announced their association with the Natchez, Miss., CPA firm of Silas Simmons, LLP.

Gardner, Langston & Bryan has served the ArkLaTex region since 1920. Donald, Tucker, Betts & Fuller APAC has served the Monroe area for over 42 years. Silas Simmons, LLP is a Natchez, Mississippi CPA firm that has served clients in the

Miss Lou region for over 90 years.

The firms provide accounting, audit, tax compliance and planning, and consulting services to clients across a broad spectrum of industries.

Clients served include those in agriculture, banking, credit unions, auto dealerships, hotels, franchise enterprises, attorneys, physicians, oil and gas, hospitality, not for profit, manufacturing, professional firms, and others.

Effective August 1, Gardner, Langston & Bryan, and Donald, Tucker, Betts & Fuller APAC will be combined to form the Monroe office of Silas Simmons, LLP, located at 2120 Forsythe Ave.

The combined team of 52 members, including 21 CPAs, will make Silas Simmons, LLP one of the largest CPA firms in the region providing individual and business clients with an array of audit, accounting, tax, and advisory services.



ABOVE: June Golson Eby with her wonderful children at her centennial celebration.



ABOVE: JT Jackson, Jason Brenton and Karen, mother of the bride.



ABOVE: The Foy Gadberrys.

LEFT: Thomas Edelman, Henry Primos and Quinn Snellings.



ABOVE: Kelly Jackson and Dr. Mike Cage.



ABOVE: Mr. and Mrs. Jason Brenton.



LEFT: Sue Sartor and the aunt of the bride.



RIGHT: Walt Sartor with gran, Olive Sartor.



ABOVE: Katherine Godfrey and Georgia Snellings.

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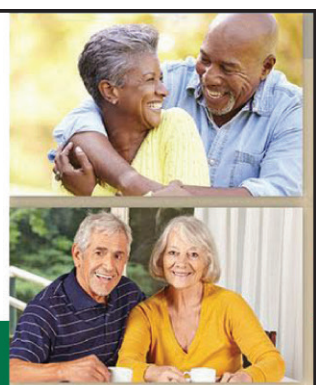
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