



Seasons of Louisiana with Dianne Cage

“School Days, School Days, dear old dear School Days, reading, writing, arithmetic, taught to the tune of a hickory stick.” Big yellow school buses buzzing by. I think it is too darn hot and to darn early for school to be starting! But no one asked me. I know all the little children are excited.... One good thing as hot as it has been, we know fall is on the way.... Whee! It has been reported that this is the hottest the planet earth has ever been this time of the year... I do not know who is keeping up, but I believe them.

End of summer, moseying on into fall, exciting happenings up here in North Louisiana. Several weeks ago, Bill Roark’s column about Ruston: Louisiana’s boom town. It was once a sleepy town on I-20 with little happening, but today it is the destination of choice for a growing number of businesses, home of Louisiana Tech, home base of Origin Bank, beautiful Squire Creek, in 2018 there were 104 new commercial permits, we could go on and on. The town survived that terrible tornado with pride, love and dignity.

The good folks of Ruston did what you are supposed to do, they came together and helped each other. Could it be that they have a very good leader? MAYOR RONNY WALKER! You have heard of a “match made in heaven?” According to my dictionary “A marriage that is likely to be happy and successful because the two people are very compatible with each other. A very successful combination of two people.”

Well it has happened here between people in Monroe/Ruston. The angels in heaven got together and arranged for the paths of beautiful, KAY GODFREY BAGWELL and Mayor Ronny Walker to cross. Let me introduce to you MR. & MRS. RONNY WALKER.

This last Saturday, August 17th, family gathered 11:00 in the morning at Saint Paul’s Methodist Church, in the Godfrey/Guthrie Chapel. She said I do/He said I do! Afterwards, a wonderful reception was held in the lovely old Garden District, the bride’s childhood home. Kay’s mother, PAT GODFREY, orchestrated the perfect reception. Happy memories and family last forever! Ruston, you are in for a treat — Mrs. Ronny Walker is as sweet, fun, smart, a good cook, as she is pretty!

I felt like I was in New York City... “The Levee Gallery” invites you to bring friends and to meet the artist and enjoy new paintings, photographs and drawings by JAY N. DAVIS. This happening last week, late afternoon, was so exciting and packed with who’s who from all across this area. It was so much fun seeing so many old friends and new young faces. The excitement was all around for everyone viewing Jay’s fabulous work.

Mark your calendar! PRESERVING FALLINGWATER: Frank Lloyd wright’s masterpiece of organic Architecture. Lecture @ Biedenbarn Hall — ULM 200 University Avenue. It will be held from 6:30-8 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 5. Reception to follow. “A building should grace its environment rather than disgrace it.” Frank Lloyd Wright, 1952. Join us for the Cooley House Foundation, 2019 Fall Lecture by JUSTIN GUNTHER, director of Fallingwater. He discusses the history, management and preservation of this iconic Wright structure, as well as the architect’s philosophy of organic architecture and his relationship with the designers of the Cooley House. For more information, call 318-267-5220.

How many of you remember Monroe’s own, the late Linda Melton? Years ago Mike and I were in Phoenix, Arizona, for a Pfizer meeting, held at the Boulders. I remembered that Linda had moved to Phoenix. I called her and invited her to join us for dinner. I did not know her that well, but she was a Mohawk friend of my Daddy, Tom King! When Daddy died, Linda appeared at my door with a big beautiful perfectly grilled Beef Tenderloin, with all the trimmings and a case of wonderful wine. So sweet and I was truly touched! Back to Phoenix.... Linda picked us up, took us to an amazing steakhouse, then ordered Cowboy Rib Eyes of each of us and two to go for her Irish Wolff Hound... The waiter said she does that every time! She insisted we go to her home, in the heart of the city and have a night cap... Winding up this mountain, close to the top, was this mega modern mansion, nestled into landscape and seemingly, wrapped in thousands of soft lights. I said, Oh my goodness, who in the world lives there? She said” ME”! This was the last house that Frank Lloyd Wright had built... Linda had purchased this house from the Katz & Besthuff family... remember that chain of drug stores...

P.S. That big dog ate those two monster Rib Eyes in two gulps!!! I have another fun story about Linda for another time.

“Courage is contagious. When a brave person takes a stand, the spine of others are stiffened.” Billy Graham...

Be kind to all and I look forward to the next time....

Dianne



ABOVE: Kay Walker and beautiful mother, Kay Godfrey. LEFT: Dr. Jim Godfrey with Mr. and Mrs. Ronny Walker.



ABOVE: Cousins Lily Hoychick and Katherine Godfrey.



ABOVE: Jennifer Hoychick, Addison Fogle, the bride, and her son, Christopher Bagwell.



LEFT: Curry Bagwell and his mother, Mrs. Ronny Walker.

BRIEFLY

Gold Star families to be honored Sept. 29

Blue Star Mothers of Northeast Louisiana, Chapter 6 plans to honor more than 30 Gold Star families from the area during a luncheon on Sunday, Sept. 29, at 1 p.m. at DeSiard Plaza in Monroe.

More than 15 Gold Star families attended the Blue Star Mothers’ event last year.

The event will be co-hosted by the Business and Professional Women of Monroe/West Monroe.

U.S. Rep. Ralph Abraham is the featured speaker.

Book sale set for end of month
The Friends of Ouachita

Parish Public Library plant to hold a book sale on Friday, Aug. 30 and Saturday, Aug. 31 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the library’s West Ouachita branch.

The West Ouachita branch is at 188 Highway 546 in West Monroe, about half a mile north of the Cheniere-Drew exit on Interstate 20.

The next book sale in 2019 will be held in October. The

October sale will be the last one of the year.

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