

Miss-Lou mourns Watson Calhoun’s passing

By Joe Curtis
joecurtis@franklinsun.com

The Miss-Lou area mourns the passing of Watson Calhoun.

Watson, the four-year-old who captured the hearts of people nationwide with his infectious smile, glasses and playful demeanor, passed away early Sunday morning after his battle with cancer.

Visitation will be held Friday, Sept. 15 from 5 p.m. until 8 p.m. at the Vidalia Convention Center on 112 Front St. His funeral will take place the next day at 1 p.m. again at the Vidalia Convention Center. Burial will follow the services

at Natchez City Cemetery.

Watson’s battle with cancer was chronicled on social media and local media outlets and inspired people throughout the United States. On Sunday, Melissa Calhoun, his mother, posted on social media about his passing and asked for prayer.

“Watson passed away this morning around 1:30,” Melissa wrote. “Please pray as we figure out how to handle this. Thank you.”

His father, Casey Calhoun, wrote on social media, thanking everyone for their concern and admonishing parents to spend time with their children and loved ones.

“Let me first start out by saying thanks to each and every one of you for reaching out to check on us,” Casey wrote. “Early this morning (Sunday) Watson left this earth to go be with God in heaven. I don’t have the words to really express how I feel but I can say this.... NEVER take time for granted because you never know when life can be taken from you.”

He added, “As I sit here I think about all the things I’ll never will get to do with Watson. A couple of things really bother me. I’ll never get to take him hunting and that hurts because I was excited to share that memory. I can’t take him

fishing. There will never be a wedding for me to attend for him. So y’all always remember one thing: Don’t ever say, ‘Oh, I’ll just take them next time’ because there might not be a next time. You will regret (it).”

Local businesses also took to social media to offer their condolences and support.

Bryan’s Marine posted, “Please keep this family in your prayers. Life is not fair, so hold your love ones a little tighter. Cancer sucks and childhood cancer really sucks!”

Concordia Parish public schools on Monday scheduled two moments of silence. The first was at 9:11 a.m. to honor

the lives lost and the dedication of those who served as a result of 9/11. The next moment of silence was a 1 p.m. to “honor the life of our local hero, Watson Calhoun,” Concordia Parish Schools posted.

Vidalia, the town in which the Calhouns lived, lowered their flags to half mast in remembrance of Watson.

“Watson began his heavenly journey last night as his tiny body succumbed to a year-long battle with cancer,” Vidalia wrote on social media. “Watson became a local hero and model of determination and inspiration to all that knew him. His family chronicled his journey

and struggles and galvanized the Miss-Lou to help struggling children. We pray for his family and friends and know we will meet again. Until then, Rest In Peace sweet Angel.”

After Watson was diagnosed with medulloblastoma earlier this year, the Miss-Lou and surrounding areas came together for several special events, including a community-wide prayer meeting, Christmas in August and a parade where he was deputized by Concordia Parish Sheriff’s office. With the “Calhoun Christmas” in August, Watson and his family members received Christmas cards from every state.

PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE The Catahoula Parish School Board will receive sealed bids on the hunting property listed below until 12:00 pm, Friday, September 29, 2023. Bids will be opened and read aloud at the regular public meeting at 6:00 pm on Tuesday, October 3, 2023: Section 16, Township 11 North, Range 6 East Bid packets and more information may be obtained at the Catahoula Parish School Board office at 200 Bushley Street, Harrisonburg, Louisiana 71340 or by calling 318-744-5727. 9/6, 9/13	
NOTICE GOVERNMENT JOB: SEASONAL HVI OPERATOR USDA, AMS, COTTON PROGRAM RAYVILLE, LA Requirements: U. S. Citizen. Agri Commod Aids (seasonal HVI operators) will be hired as a GS-1981-03/01 and the salary will be \$16.25 per hour. Hired individuals will be required to work on a High Volume Instrument (HVI) system and operate various equipment components to measure cotton fiber properties. Applications are currently available at USDA, AMS, Cotton Program Classing Office located at 161 Industrial Loop, Rayville, La. 71269. Applications and resumes can be emailed to RayvilleCO@usda.gov. The office # is 318-728-6418. Applications WILL NOT be considered from applicants that do not provide picture ID, social security card and/or birth certificate. If you are a male born after December 31, 1959, and are at least 18 years of age, civil service employment law 5 U.S.C. 3328) requires that you must be registered with the Selective Service System, unless you meet certain exemptions (proof of registration and/or exemption required). Veteran's preference will be applied as appropriate. (DD214 "Member 4 Copy" must be provided to qualify for veteran's preference). Background checks will be conducted on all qualifying applicants. Applications will be accepted from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. beginning September 12th. We will be accepting applications for daytime and evening shifts. USDA IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROVIDER AND EMPLOYER 9/6,9/13	
PUBLIC NOTICE The Franklin Parish Sheriff's Office will accept sealed bids on Wednesday, October 4, 2023, at 9:00 AM at the Franklin Parish Sheriff's Office for the following: Commercial HVAC / Chiller (Appx 260 tons) for Franklin Parish Detention Center Specifications and requirements may be obtained at the Franklin Parish Sheriff's Office during normal business hours. The Franklin Parish Sheriff's Office reserves the right to accept or reject any and/or all bids and waives any information. For information contact David Rigdon, Franklin Parish Sheriff's Office. 9/6, 9/13, 9/20	
TOWN OF WINNSBORO SPECIAL CALLED MEETING MINUTES JACK HAMMONS COMMUNITY CENTER 810 ADAMS STREET WINNSBORO, LA 71295 THURSDAY, AUGUST 31, 2023 6:00 P.M. 6:00 PM - CALL TO ORDER Prayer led by Councilwoman Dorothy Swayzer Pledge led by Mayor Alice Wallace Roll Call Aldermen present: Marteze Singleton, Dorothy Swayzer, Eddie Dunn, and Jerry ohnson Absent: Rex McCarthy The Board of Aldermen of the City of Winnsboro, Louisiana, met in a special called meeting session on Thursday, August 31, 2023 at 6:01 PM at the Jack Hammons Community Center, 810 Adams Street, Winnsboro, Louisiana, with Mayor Alice Wallace presiding. Mayor Wallace opened the meeting by asking the Board of Aldermen to allow her to switch the order of the items on the agenda. The Board of Aldermen were in favor of this action. Resolution No. 23-0808: Lawn Mowers Councilman Singleton explained that this item was correctly appropriated and that there was no need to move it. Item failed due to a lack of a motion. Mayor's recommendation for Interim Fire Chief Mayor Wallace introduced Mikala Weems as her recommendation for the position of Interim Fire Chief. Council Singleton suggested looking at the pay history of the former Fire Chief to determine the payrate for Mikala. Motion by Eddie Dunn, econded by Jerry Johnson and unanimously approved to accepts the mayor's recommendation to appoint Mikala Weems as the first female Interim Fire Chief with the appropriate pay for the remainder of the current fiscal year. Mayor Wallace administered the Firefighter's Pledge to Mikala in honor of this major accomplishment. Adjournment There being no more business to come before the board at this time, a motion was made by Eddie Dunn, seconded by Marteze Singleton and unanimously approved that this meeting be adjourned. Julia Jackson Alice Wallace City Clerk Mayor 9/13	
TOWN OF WINNSBORO REGULAR SESSION COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES JACK HAMMONS COMMUNITY CENTER 810 ADAMS STREET WINNSBORO, LA 71295 MONDAY, AUGUST 28, 2023 5:30 P.M. Public Hearing Aldermen present: Marteze Singleton, Dorothy Swayzer and Jerry Johnson Absent: Rex McCarthy and Eddie Dunn A Public Hearing was held before the adoption of Ordinance No. 1054. The floor was open to the public at approximately 5:36 P.M. to make known their thoughts and concerns. There were no comments made. 6:00 P.M. Regular Session was called to order. Prayer led by Councilwoman Dorothy Swayzer Pledge led by Mayor Alice Wallace Roll Call Aldermen present: Marteze Singleton, Dorothy Swayzer and Jerry Johnson Absent: Rex McCarthy and Eddie Dunn The Board of Aldermen of the Town of Winnsboro, Louisiana, met in a rescheduled regular session on Monday, August 28, 2023, at 6:00 PM at the Jack Hammons Community Center, 810 Adams Street, Winnsboro, Louisiana, with Mayor Alice	

Wallace presiding. Adoption of Ordinance No. 1054: Renewal of Entergy's Franchise Fee Motion by Dorothy Swayzer, seconded by Marteze Singleton and unanimously approved to adopt Ordinance No. 1054. Copies of this Ordinance are available at City Hall or the Town Clerk's Office. Approval of the Minutes for July's Meeting Motion by Jerry Johnson, seconded by Dorothy Swayzer and unanimously approved to accept the minutes for July's monthly meeting. Approval of Alcohol License for Don Nacho Tacos Motion by Marteze Singleton, seconded by Dorothy Swayzer and approved to issue alcohol license to Don Nacho Tacos. The following vote was recorded: YEAS: Marteze Singleton and Dorothy Swayzer NAYS: Jerry Johnson ABSENT: Rex McCarthy and Eddie Dunn Constance Thomas Mrs. Constance Thomas-Foy requested that the thorough way located behind the Police Station and Town Hall be named in honor of her brother, the late Chief of Police Lester Thomas, Jr. Mayor Wallace explained that there would need to be 2 motions. One to first declare the thorough way a street and second to name in honor of the late Chief of Police Lester Thomas, Jr. Motion by Jerry Johnson, seconded by Marteze Singleton and unanimously approved to make the thorough way located behind Town Hall and the Police Department a street. Motion by Jerry Johnson and seconded by Marteze Singleton and unanimously approve to name the street in honor of the late Chief of Police Lester Louis Thomas, Jr. Resolution No. 23-0801: Surplus Property Motion by Marteze Singleton, seconded by Dorothy Swayzer and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution No. 23-0801. Resolution No. 23-0802: Cooperative Endeavor Agreement Between Winnsboro Main Street & Town of Winnsboro Motion by Jerry Johnson, seconded by Marteze Singleton and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution No. 23-0802. Resolution No. 23-0803: Economic Director Pledge Agreement Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Motion by Marteze Singleton, seconded by Dorothy Swayzer and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution No. 23-0803. Resolution No. 23-0804: 2024 Airport CIP – Heath McGuffee Motion by Jerry Johnson, seconded by Marteze Singleton and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution No. 23-0804. Resolution No. 23-0805: Amendment to Conflict-of-Interest Policy Motion by Marteze Singleton, seconded by Jerry Johnson and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution No. 23-0805. Resolution No. 23-0806: Service Agreement by and between the Town of Winnsboro and Meta Traffic, LLC Motion by Marteze Singleton, seconded by Dorothy Swayzer and approved to adopt Resolution No. 23-0806 and the following vote was recorded: YEAS: Marteze Singleton and Dorothy Swayzer NAYS: Jerry Johnson ABSENT: Rex McCarthy and Eddie Dunn Resolution No. 23-0807: Police Expenditure for Silverado Repairs Motion by Marteze Singleton, seconded by Dorothy Swayzer and approved to adopt Resolution No. 23-0807 and the following vote was recorded: YEAS: Marteze Singleton and Dorothy Swayzer NAYS: Jerry Johnson ABSENT: Rex McCarthy and Eddie Dunn Recommendation for New Hire - Chief of Police Tyrone Coleman Motion by Dorothy Swayzer, seconded by Marteze Singleton and unanimously approved to accept the Chief's recommendation to hire Tricoya Montgomery as a new police dispatcher. Police Chief's Monthly Report Captain Jerry Davis gave a monthly activity report for the Town of Winnsboro's Police Department. Motion by Jerry Johnson, seconded by Marteze Singleton and unanimously approved to accept the report. Fire Chief's Monthly Report Motion by Jerry Johnson, seconded by Marteze Singleton and unanimously approved to table this item until next month's meeting. Public Works Monthly Report Jeron Hall gave a monthly activity report for the Town of Winnsboro's Public Works Department. Motion by Dorothy Swayzer, seconded by Marteze Singleton and unanimously approved to accept the monthly report. Motion by Dorothy Swayzer, seconded by Marteze Singleton and unanimously approved to amend the agenda to add an item. A motion was made by Jerry Johnson to table Resolution No. 23-0808, approving the compliance questionnaire for this year's audit, until next month's meeting but was not yet added to the agenda. Mayor Wallace decided to not add the item and just bring it back to the table next month to allow the council more time to read over the information. Monthly Financial Statements Town Clerk Julia Jackson gave a monthly financial report for the month of July and went over the budget versus actual numbers. Councilman Marteze Singleton asked questions about certain line items that appeared to be running high. Motion by Marteze Singleton, seconded by Dorothy Swayzer and unanimously approved to accept the monthly financial report. Adjournment There being no more business to come before the board at this time, a motion was made by Jerry Johnson, seconded by Marteze Singleton and unanimously approved that this meeting be adjourned. Julia Jackson Alice Wallace Town Clerk Mayor 9/13	
NOTICE Full-Time and Part-Time Positions Available at the Winnsboro Fire Department: Position Requirements: > Must be 18 years of age or older. > Must have a valid Driver's License. > Must have a High School or High School Equivalency Diploma. > Must have no felony convictions. > Must be willing to submit to a drug screen and a physical examination. > Must be able to lift over 50 pounds. Hours: Must be able to work weekends. Must be able to work 12+ hour to 24-hour shifts. Must expect 24/7 emergency call out. • Full-time benefits include health, dental, vision, and life insurance, a retirement plan, vacation time, and sick time. • Part-time hours are as needed or on a called-in basis. Apply in person at the Winnsboro Fire Department located at 905 Havard Street, Winnsboro, LA 71295, or apply in person at the Winnsboro City Hall located at 3814 Front Street, Winnsboro, LA 71295. We are an equal opportunity employer.	

9/13, 9/20																													
NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC: The Town of Winnsboro will offer the listed surplus equipment for sale, in "as is" condition with no warranty, by Sealed Bids at the Jack Hammons Community Center, 810 Adams Street, Winnsboro, La 71295 on Wednesday, October 4, 2023 at 10:00 A.M., surplus movable property, to-wit:																													
	<table><tr><th>NO.</th><th>ITEM DESCRIPTION</th><th>MINIMUM BID AMOUNT</th></tr><tr><td>1.</td><td>2008 DODGE RAM</td><td>1500.00</td></tr><tr><td>2.</td><td>2008 FORD F-150</td><td>3500.00</td></tr><tr><td>3.</td><td>2005 GMC PICKUP</td><td>2500.00</td></tr><tr><td>4.</td><td>1999 FREIGHTLINER FL80 FIRE TRUCK</td><td>3500.00</td></tr><tr><td>5.</td><td>1998 FORD F-150</td><td>1350.00</td></tr><tr><td>6.</td><td>1994 CHEVY HD3500 BUCKET TRUCK</td><td>4500.00</td></tr><tr><td>7.</td><td>KURB KUTTER MODEL 700R</td><td>300.00</td></tr><tr><td>8.</td><td>FORD 5030 TRACTOR</td><td>4500.00</td></tr></table>	NO.	ITEM DESCRIPTION	MINIMUM BID AMOUNT	1.	2008 DODGE RAM	1500.00	2.	2008 FORD F-150	3500.00	3.	2005 GMC PICKUP	2500.00	4.	1999 FREIGHTLINER FL80 FIRE TRUCK	3500.00	5.	1998 FORD F-150	1350.00	6.	1994 CHEVY HD3500 BUCKET TRUCK	4500.00	7.	KURB KUTTER MODEL 700R	300.00	8.	FORD 5030 TRACTOR	4500.00	
NO.	ITEM DESCRIPTION	MINIMUM BID AMOUNT																											
1.	2008 DODGE RAM	1500.00																											
2.	2008 FORD F-150	3500.00																											
3.	2005 GMC PICKUP	2500.00																											
4.	1999 FREIGHTLINER FL80 FIRE TRUCK	3500.00																											
5.	1998 FORD F-150	1350.00																											
6.	1994 CHEVY HD3500 BUCKET TRUCK	4500.00																											
7.	KURB KUTTER MODEL 700R	300.00																											
8.	FORD 5030 TRACTOR	4500.00																											
This property is available for public inspection at the Town of Winnsboro's old water plant located at 707 Fair Ave and the Town's Barn, 2404 Loop Road. Please call to schedule a time to inspect all items. Sealed Bids will be accepted at any time prior to the sale date at the Town Hall or Town Clerk's office and will be opened at 10:00 A.M. on October 4, 2023 at the Jack Hammons Community Center.																													
The Town of Winnsboro has the right to refuse any and all bids.																													
Terms of sale: All sales are final and in "as is" condition with no warranty. Successful bidders must pay for equipment with a cashier's check, debit/credit card or money order and remove the equipment within 5 business days after the bid has been awarded. For more information, please contact Town Hall at 318-435-9087 or Town Clerk, Ms. Julia Jackson at 318-439-0264. 9/13, 9/20, 9/27																													
STATE OF LOUISIANA * FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT * FRANKLIN PARISH Franklin State Bank & Trust Company V. DOCKET NO C-48557 Christopher Darrell Bryan SHERIFF'S SALE By virtue of a WRIT OF SEIZURE AND SALE, to me directed by the honorable Fifth District Court of Louisiana, in and for the Parish of Franklin, I will offer for sale at public auction, at the front door of the Courthouse, in the City of Winnsboro, Franklin Parish, Louisiana, on Wednesday the 27th day of September, 2023, at 10:00am, within legal sale hours, the following described property, to-wit: 2010 Ford Pickup, VIN: 1FTFW1EV7AFB83351 2003 CM Trailer, Serial No. 49TCB121111050697 2022 East Texas Welding Trailer, VIN: 58SBU1421NE027801 seized in the above styled suit. Terms of the sale, cash, with the benefit of appraisal. Letter of credit from financial institution stating availability of funds day of sale required for all purchases. Kevin W. Cobb Sheriff and Ex-Officio Tax Collector Franklin Parish, Louisiana Done in my office in the City of Winnsboro, Parish of Franklin, Fifth Judicial District, State of Louisiana on the 8th day of September, 2023. By David Wm. Rigdon Chief Civil Deputy Franklin Parish, Louisiana 9/13																													
NOTICE TO PROPOSERS LEASE PROPOSAL NUMBER RL-978																													
In accordance with La R.S. 39:1644, the State of Louisiana, Division of Administration invites proposals for the lease of usable space consisting of a minimum of 6,600 square feet of office space, PLUS INTERNAL CIRCULATION. In order to satisfy the minimum square footage required, proposals from one or more offerers may be considered. Proposals to house approximately 22 employees for the Department of Children & Family Services within the limits of Franklin Parish, Louisiana, will be received by the State of Louisiana, Division of Administration, Facility Planning and Control, Real Estate Leasing Section, Post Office Box 94095, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804 9095.																													
The successful offerer will be required to arrange, contract for, assume full responsibility of and pay for all moving costs involved to completely relocate the office (state owned property only) to the new location. This will include but not be limited to, supplies normally needed for a move such as boxes, labels, tape, etc., and additionally, payment for third party vendors to dismantle, move and install computers, copiers and other sensitive equipment. This function of the Department of Children & Family Services is currently housed at 2406 West Street, Winnsboro, LA 71295. Please contact Ree Key at (318) 435-2940 to make an appointment if interested in viewing the building.																													
Proposals are due by 1:00 P.M. on Thursday, October 12, 2023 Proposals can be mailed by U.S. Postal Service to Facility Planning and Control, Real Estate Leasing, P.O. Box 94095, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, 70804-9095, hand delivered or sent by courier service to 1201 North Third Street, Claiborne Building, 7th Floor, Suite 7-160, Baton Rouge, LA 70802-5243 or can be emailed to Christy Wallace at Christy.Wallace2@la.gov.																													
The proposal will remain firm for a period of SIXTY (60) days from the date due.																													
Each offerer must control the offered property, including parking areas, at the time of submission by ownership, leasehold or purchase agreement. At the time of submission, the property offered must meet all zoning requirements for the intended use.																													
The Division of Administration reserves the right to reject any and all proposals upon written determination that such action is taken in the best interest of the State.																													
The price for space offered will include all utilities such as electricity, gas, water, sewer, septic tank service, dumpster for trash/garbage, and cost for pickup and disposal of trash/garbage, and complete janitorial services including restroom, kitchen and cleaning supplies.																													
Only proposals submitted on the "Proposal for Negotiations" form shall be considered. Proposals submitted on any other format shall be considered non-responsive. The proposal form may be found at: https://www.doa.la.gov/doa/fpc/real-estate-leasing/																													
Questions about this notice may be addressed to Christy Wallace at Christy.Wallace2@la.gov. DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATION FACILITY PLANNING AND CONTROL REAL ESTATE LEASING SECTION 9/13																													