



# Seasons of Louisiana with Dianne Cage

Team Heroes... “With my hands, I hold opportunity to make the world a better place. With my eyes, I see good even where it may not always be clear. With my heart, I practice compassion. With humility, I put others before myself. With my feet, I walk my journey with purpose. With my work I make a difference. Encouragement overcomes challenge. Preparation provides service, Mission is my call. Hero is my name. We can all be a hero!”

What a year so far, things are being reinvented and it is not all bad. My Mama told me to always look for the good in every situation that was not pleasant. There is always something positive, even if we do not see it at the time! The first 25 years of my first marriage, that was hard to believe. Looking back there were more good times and more blessings than the bad happenings. Someone said, “The past always looks better than it was; It’s only pleasant because it isn’t here....” Maybe so!

Neville graduation, it was on, it was off ... no one knew what to do! Love all the beautiful pictures of the 2020 graduating class of Neville High School posted on the fence on Forsythe Avenue. What a great idea. After much ado, each graduate got two tickets for the ceremony held on May 21 at the Neville football field. It was a beautiful evening and word is that it was one of the best ever! All the best to all our twin cities’ high school graduates.

Several semesters ago MARY SNELLINGS INABNETT graduated from Neville. This May 2020 she graduated from Tulane University, streaming on Television, Summa Cum Laude, Phi Beta Kappa and Psi Chi. She received the Newcomb College Oak Wreath Award for leadership and service. Interesting that she is a fifth generation Tulane Graduate and a fourth generation Phi Beta Kappa, You go Girl!

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Several months ago a church friend called and inquired about my apartments, as she had sold her home and was building a new home in the country. She needed a place to live for maybe three, four, six or eight months, until her home was completed. I said sure, come on: no deposit, no lease, stay one month or for as long as you need. I will not name names, but she has been one of my most favorite tenants ever. She is a true delight, a retired school teacher and just as pretty on the outside as she is on the inside! She stopped by to tell me she would be moving soon and would leave me a list of several things that need to be repaired and that she had enjoyed living there. She was telling me that right when the pandemic started, her back went out, and she could not get in to see a doctor and had really suffered with severe pain. She sort of hesitated and said, “maybe I should not tell you this but your tenants upstairs smoke pot on a regular basis and the only thing that saved her or gave her relief from the terrible back pain was the smell of the marijuana that drifted downstairs.”

Now folks, these old apartments were built in 1948. They are old and we keep them in good repair but some things you can just not fix. See you just never know! The way we feel is, what goes on behind closed doors and it does not disturb things, that is their business! Years ago, Mike was at M.D. Anderson with someone very, very close to him that had very bad breast cancer. She was so sick, pain and, nausea — it was heart breaking and nothing seemed to help. One of the main doctors there told Mike that one thing that would help with all the symptoms was Marijuana. It was of course illegal, but the doctor said they sell it everywhere on the street. Mike thought about it and said with his luck, at the time, he would be buying from an undercover narcotic agent and get thrown in jail. With four little children at home, better not! I guess it is a good thing that it is legal now for some medical purposes.

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Time to say goodbye to an old friend and family member, BOBBY L. GREEN. Lots of friends and family gathered while social distancing, at Antioch Baptist Cemetery, one of the prettiest I have seen. The grounds were perfectly manicured with a feeling of love and respect. The little cemetery is dedicated to JAMES PEYTON SMITH, JAYNE SMITH GREEN’S father and JANELLE SNELLINGS’ grandfather. Birds were singing and there was a gentle breeze. All was right with the world as BROTHER BUBBA HOGGATT delivered the perfect graveside short service. Visiting with Brother Bubba and wife Linda, we started talking about Mayhaws as they have a really big orchard over the hill by the church... Linda said they did not get many berries this year; for some reason, the trees just did not produce as they usually do. Thanks to good friends MARGUARETTE & JAMES McLEMORE & JEAN & SHERMAN SHAW, I have four gallons of the most beautiful berries of all and I told them I would love to give you a gallon. She said so sweet but we usually harvest around 600 gallons a year. I could hardly believe and she showed me a picture of last harvest. It looked like the cranberry commercial that was on television several years ago. I did tell Brother Hoggatt, if I die first, I want him to help with my graveside service!

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Happy Birthday to you SALLIE JAYNE SNELLINGS, sweet 17. The most beautiful group of young ladies met at the Bayou DeSiard Country Club for an outdoor, socially distanced lunch on the sloping banks of the bayou. It was so much fun all being together and catching up on plans for the class of 2021.

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LOVE LOVE LOVE my Daylilies! Jump in your car and head to The LILY FARM in Center, Texas. It opened on Mother’s Day and will close on Father’s Day. You are in for a real treat!

Thank you JACKIE GUILLOT & VANGUARD REALTY! Eight Thousand, yes 8,000, American Flags were placed all around town marking Memorial Day! What a treat!

Be Safe and I look forward to the next time!

Dianne



ABOVE: Birthday girls: Payton McMullen, Emma Street, Sara Beth Shipp and Anna Grace Hansen.



ABOVE: Natalie Leija, Grace Emery and Sallie Snellings.



LEFT: Audrey Livigni, Pippa Morstead and Caroline Clary.  
ABOVE: Maya O’Neill and Camille Burkett.



RIGHT: 2020 Neville graduate Virginia Deshotel.



LEFT: Katherine Cascio and Lilly Newton.



RIGHT: Linda and Brother Bubba Hoggatt.



ABOVE: Mary Snellings Inabnett, beautiful and smart graduate of Tulane University.

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