



Speaking of Sunset!



Rubboard Capital of the World

Volume 38

December 2018

Free

Inside this issue:

Four P's for Cold Weather Safety

From the Mayor's Desk	2
St Landry Parish School System December Calendar	2
Smoke Detectors Available	2
Calendar of Events	3
Post Office Deadlines For Holiday Mailings	3
Sunset Zoning and Planning Commission	3
Important Information About Internet Safety For Your Child	4
Extended Holiday Hours Local Shops	4

Cold weather is coming and we need to prepare! It doesn't happen often, but the temperatures will drop below freezing this winter season and we need to prepare for that. There are four items that need to be checked with cold weather, known as the Four P's, people, pets, plants and pipes.

The first thing is to protect the people. Make sure you pay close attention to the elderly and young children. Both these groups are very vulnerable to the cold weather and are less likely to protect themselves. Make sure everyone dresses in layers and wear something on their heads.

Pets also need protection. If it's cold outside, they are cold! Make sure you bring your pets inside. If they can't be brought inside, make sure they have adequate shelter that is enclosed, comfortable and warm. Make sure the entrance is facing away from the wind and add blankets or pine straw to add extra insulation.

Potted plants should be brought inside to avoid any damage from the cold weather. If you are unable to bring the plants inside, make sure you cover them and they are watered. Plants are stronger and are able to survive the cold better is they are

fully watered.

Protect your pipes! Outside exposed pipes and faucets need to be wrapped in foam insulation. If you do not have access to them, leave the faucets at a slow drip overnight or until the temperature returns to above freezing.

Also remember to protect your home against fires. People start using heating equipment when the weather gets cold and you need to take the time to inspect the heating equipment before use. Make sure there are no frayed or exposed wires and that the dust is cleaned off the heating equipment before use. Always follow instructions and recommendations on the equipment to avoid fires. : Lastly, if you are using a space heater with an open flame, never leave it unattended. Have a safe winter!



Cheaper Insurance Rates

Property owners in Sunset are eligible for cheaper insurance rates because fire protection has improved. The town of Sunset has gone from a fire rating of five to a four. The lower the rating, the lower insurance prices, in most instances. Some contributing factors that lead to the rating change were the new water well, training, and upgrades in fire equipment.

The Sunset Volunteer Fire department has been hard at work getting volunteers, improved equipment, and training. All of these things come into factor when Property Insurance Association of Louisiana (PAIL) scores the rating.

Town Hall Meeting Snapshot

- * Public hearing to condemn property at 355 Landry St - no show
- * Mobile home ordinance introduced
- * Approval to install electronic equipment to verify natural gas receipts
- * Start Volunteer Recognition Program 2019
- * Info given on Affordable Housing Veterans Program
- * Proposed Oxford House Rehabilitation Home on Lucille Street
- * Signed paperwork to start application process for water filter project grant
- * Meter project wrapping up, large meters left
- * Town will pick up debris, after bad weather, if placed by the street in piles
- * Fire Department finished hydrant testing
- * Working on gas line replacement project

Next Town Hall meeting December 13, 2018 6:00pm @ the Community Center

If you have information on upcoming events or interesting articles please send them to speakingofsunset@yahoo.com

Thank you
Melissa Primeaux



MAYOR CHARLES JAMES

TOWN HALL

211 Marie Street
Sunset, LA 70584

Phone: 337-662-5296

Fax: 337-662-5763

Email:

tsunset@centurytel.net



From the Mayor's Desk

Greetings to all:

Prayers for a "Joyous Christmas" and a "Happy New Year"

While we turn our attention to the Christmas season let us not forget the reason we celebrate. People all over the world hold sacred the birth of Jesus Christ. It is through the blessing of this birth that God chose to redeem and save the world. In Christ lies the eternal blessing of the Father and the promise of life everlasting. May the God of this promise bring peace and love to your homes now and throughout the coming New Year.

December also brings to a close my first term as Mayor of the Town of Sunset. I cannot begin to express the gratitude and appreciation I feel for the confidence and support that has been given me over the past four years. I came into this job with one purpose and that was to serve the citizens of our wonderful community, and I have worked tirelessly to do just that. I was told by many of you that it is impossible to please everybody, and, sadly to say, you were right. However, please know every earnest effort to do so was made. None the less, my door has been and will remain open to everyone.

In the past four years, we, the community, through the efforts of the council, outstanding volunteers, and dedicated employees, have allowed our actions to shout out our commitment and dedication to define what we want our community to be. There is plenty of room and opportunity for anyone who wishes to join the effort to continue the move forward. I am approached with phrases like, "Why aren't we doing?", or "Why don't we have?" Those questions are the beginning of involvement. Your concerns are appreciated and welcome. Come, partner with me, your Mayor, and the Council and the host of other volunteers who are already leading the effort for positive change and growth. Within this community exists the talent and energy to accomplish anything we set our hearts and minds to do. In this community we have diverse talents and expertise, new and refreshing ideas which are the building blocks for progress that can spread the flames of change and growth.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.



Have a safe and happy holiday!

St. Landry Parish School System - December Calendar

- 17-19 Early Dismissal
- 19 End of 2nd Nine Weeks
End of 1st Semester
- 20 Professional Development
(No students)
- 21-31 Christmas/Winter Break (No School)

DECEMBER 2018						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

Smoke Detectors Available

The Sunset Volunteer Fire department has free smoke detectors available for home owners in Sunset. To get a free smoke detector you must own your home, or as a renter, provide proof that your landlord will not install a smoke detector. Smoke detectors are installed by the Volunteer Fire department at no charge. To get your free smoke detector, call 337-662-5576.

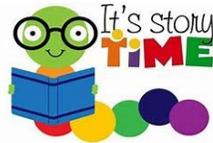


Calendar of Events



235 Marie Street, Sunset, LA-70584
Tues & Thurs 10-8, Wed & Fri 10-6, Sat 10-4
Closed every Sun and Mon 337-662-3442

ARMAND J. BRINKHAUS COMMUNITY LIBRARY



Story Time
December 5, 12, 19
10:15-10:45am
Age: Lap sit-5 years



Publisher
December 7 @ 10am-12pm

Internet Security
December 7 @ 1-3pm



Children's Christmas Party
December 15, 2018 @ 1pm
Come see Mr. & Mrs. Claus, hear a story, and have a treat!
Open to all ages!

Library will be close Saturday Dec. 22, 2018 and will reopen Thursday Dec. 27, 2018



December 7
Pearl Harbor Remembrance

**Town Hall Meeting
City Court**

**December 13
December 10**

**at 6:00 pm at Community Center
at 2:00 pm at Community Center**



December 25
Christmas Day



Artworks by Ted Bertrand
December 7 - 5:30pm-8pm
855 Napoleon Ave, Sunset
For information call 337-351-3043



December 7 & 21 @ 10:30 am
at Community Center
Joann Mayfield @ 337-298-7066 or
Shirley James @ 337-945-5043
for more information



Uncorked Art Walk
December 7th 6-9pm
Napoleon Ave-Downtown Sunset
Enjoy wine & hors d'oeuvres
compliments of Café Josephine



December 31
New Year's Eve



Survivors of Suicide Support Group
(18yrs and older)
No meeting in December
South St. Landry Community Library
Contact Kim Juneau 337-540-8910

832 Napoleon Ave
Call 337-662-3276
for more information



Post Office Deadlines For Holiday Mailings

The United States Postal Service has published recommendations on ship-by dates to make sure your holiday packages arrive by December 25. For USPS Retail Ground®, they recommend that you mail by December 14th to make sure your package arrives before December 25th. If you are mailing First Class Mail® or Priority Mail®, they suggest you mail it no later than December 20th, for arrival before the 25th. The last mailing is Priority Mail Express® and it is recommended you mail those packages no later than December 22nd. The United States Postal Service schedule can be seen on their website at www.usps.com/holiday/.



Upcoming Events

Sunset Mardi Gras Dance
January 12
Open to Public



Sunset Zoning and Planning Commission

The regular meetings of the Sunset Zoning & Planning Commission are held on the fourth Thursday of each month, at 5:30 p.m., except in November & December, at the Community Center, 108 Leo Richard Lane, Sunset, Louisiana. The public is invited to attend!
December 20, 2018 @5:30pm

ATTENTION PARENTS: IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT INTERNET SAFETY FOR YOUR CHILD



As access to technology and the Internet continues to grow, children are increasingly interacting with strangers online, accessing Internet pornography, and experiencing cyberbullying. This is extremely dangerous. Most parents routinely warn their children not to talk to strangers, but did you know that many video games have chat features that allow your child to converse and share images with strangers? Children may think they're playing with other children, but the person on the other computer could be anyone.

Children also have greater access to pornography, particularly on the Internet, than ever before. Research has shown that pornography can harm children for many years through adulthood. The effects of pornography can be addicting, traumatizing, and lead to unhealthy or abusive sexual relationships as children grow up.

Cyberbullying also becomes a real issue as children begin using social media. Louisiana state law defines cyberbullying as "the transmission of any electronic textual, visual, written, or oral communication with the malicious and willful intent to coerce, abuse, torment, or intimidate a person under the age of eighteen", and also includes sexually charged content such as revealing photos and messaging of a sexual nature. Louisiana has enacted strong laws to address bullying and cyberbullying by public school students ([R.S. 17:416.13](#), [Act 369 of the 2018 Regular Session](#), [R.S. 17:100.7](#)).

WHAT CAN PARENTS DO?



KNOW what technology your child uses and how it works. Does the device connect to the Internet? Does game or app allow for online upgrades or purchases, or include a chat feature or multiple players? Is your child required to have an account to play the game or use the app that will include their personal information?



MONITOR how your child uses technology and restrict the time they spend on the Internet by establishing ground rules. If your child interacts with strangers or accesses inappropriate material online, talk to them about the dangers of doing so and take steps to prevent it from happening again.



TALK regularly with your child about how he/she uses technology and how to do so safely. Tell your child what to do if contacted by a stranger, if inappropriate materials are accessed, or if your child feels bullied. Tell your child to never share personal information or photos with stranger, and encourage open communication so that he/she feels comfortable coming to you with questions or concerns.



REPORT any suspicious communications to the police and speak with school administrators about possible cyberbullying so that action can be taken.

WHAT RESOURCES CAN HELP?

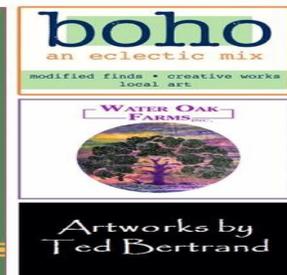
There are many resources to support parents in protecting their child from dangerous online content and communications, including:

- [NetSmartz.org](#) offers information, tips, and advice for parents and educators on safe technology use.
- [Louisianabelieves.com](#), the Louisiana Department of Education's website, contains information and procedures to follow in the event that your child is experiencing bullying. (Type "bullying" in the search box.)
- [Stopbullying.gov](#) offers tips on how to identify and safely stand up to bullying
- [www.fbi.gov/resources/parents](#), FBI resources for parents that address cyberbullying, advice for kids, social networking sites, child sexual exploitation, missing children, and more.
- Free Internet filters you can install at home: [cleanbrowsing.org](#), OpenDNS Family shield (<https://www.opendns.com/home-internet-security/>), K9 Web Protection (<http://www.k9webprotection.com/>), and Windows Live Family Safety (account.microsoft.com/family).



DEPARTMENT of
EDUCATION
Louisiana Believes

EXTENDED HOLIDAY HOURS!



These downtown Sunset shops & galleries will
be open until 8:00PM on SATURDAYS
through Christmas