



### **History of Scottville High School**

By Mrs. Rose Ethel Wilson

High schools in Plaquemine's Parish did not exist before the 1950's and the early Scottville schools began as one-room buildings. Black churches served as schools in various communities. The first school was built in the late 1930's. Grades 1- 8 were taught and this pattern continued into the 1940's. One of the churches was St. Paul Baptist Church in the community of Ironton, Louisiana. At St. Paul Baptist Church School the first teacher was Mrs. Mary Reynolds in the 1940's. Susie A. Miller and a substitute teacher were the first teachers at Ironton. In Scottville a house was the site of the first school.

In 1948 Mrs. Rose Ethel Wilson and seven classmates graduated from 8<sup>th</sup> grade at Pointe a la Hache and received a bus permit to go to Algiers, Louisiana to L. B. Landry High School. In 1950 Scottville High School construction began in Belle Chasse and was completed in 1955. The first graduation occurred in 1957 with seven students, five females and two males.

Scottville students came from Pointe a la Hache, Magnolia, Diamond, City Price and Belle Chasse. The school fielded teams in basketball and track. The Apaches sported green and gold colors.

The first principal was Mr. William C. Jones. He had health problems near the transition period to integration. After his demise, Miss Andre Lawrence became principal.

The first graduation class included Rose Ethel Wilson, Gertrude Morris, Joyce Marie Cornie, Hazel Brooks, Audrey Brooks, Omaly Garrison and Samuel Gabriel. The basketball team won their basketball tournament. The physical school plant was well-maintained over the years. Unfortunately, Scottville High School's fate was similar to contemporary African American high schools in Louisiana..., closure in 1971. The school's name was changed to Belle Chasse Middle School.



## GRADUATING EXERCISES

~ 0

Of The

Ft. St. Leon Elementary School

### FT. ST. LEON LA.

SUNDAY EVENING MAY 28, 1944

3:00 P. M.









# Scottville High School Faculity Spring of 1964

Top Row Left to Right

Clarence Marchand, Charles C. Calvin, Aline LaFrance, Melvin Robinson and Emanuel Prout Shirley Ross Calvin, (Name Unknown), Andre' Lawrence (Principal) Birdell Johnson, and Fred Patterson

Marie T. Melson, Elizabeth Sanders, Laura Busby, Mary Blair and Harriet S. Thomas Shirley Jones, Evelyn Johnson, Beatrice G. Duhe, Anita Randall, and Marie Smith



SCOTTVILLE-GRADE 4 & 5 1955-1956





It Leve Elem one Room before School Queer



77 Leon bar lorn school



It of Lern School Parish





7 Babient Willemann James 7 James 7 Willemann

77 Belle Chasse School

marie TB melson

### Class Roll

Gabriel, Sherman Glenn, Joseph Gabriel, Myrtle Alice Philips, Aline Frances

Class Motto
"To Thine Ownself Be True"

Class Colors
Garnet and Gold

Class Flower Rose and Fern The Faculty and Eighth Grade Class of 1955

of

Belle Chasse Elementary School request the honor of your presence at the

Graduating Exercises on Sunday afternoon, May 29th, 2:00 P. M.

at Israelite Baptist Church Belle Chasse, Louisiana

### BELLE CHASSE, LA.

### Samuel Gabriel, Agent

Graduation exercises were held at Relle Chasse Riementary School on Sunday May 27 at 2 p. m. The invocation was given by Rev. G. Alexander, welcome address by Mr. Walter F. Stevenson; propress of Negroes by Ferrell Williamson; The Key to Success by Irvin P. Williamson; and the graduation address was delivered by Miss. Myrtle Banks, principal of Lawton School. She also awarded the certificates. Presentations were made by Miss Lillie M. Stevenson. Music was furnished by the Echoes and Misa Estelle Byrd, Mrs. Marie T. Nelson is principal. Members of the graduating class were Walter Freddie Stevenson, Irvin Penn-Williamson and Ferrell James Williamson. The class motto was "We Climb As We Learn." The class colors, pea green and pink, and class flowers, carnation and fero. Tuety refreshments were served the graduater at the home of Mrs. Hunnah Williamson and the home of Mrs. Beatrice Stavon-

### GRADUATION EXERCISES

of

### BELLE CHASSE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

--)(--

### SUNDAY, MAY 29, 1955

r rocessionar					
National Anth	em	-	S	tar Span	gled Banner
Invocation			~	Rev. G	. Alexander
Come Thou Almighty King				School	
Oration of We	lcome	48		- Alir	e F. Philips
Psalms of Sch	ool Life	ы		4 1	oseph Glenn
Solo	-			Myrt	le A. Gabriel
To Thine Own	nself Re Tr	ae		She	rman Gabriel
Solo - Selection	in -			Johns	on Davidson
Tomorrow In	America		100	Myrt	le A. Gabriel
Spirital Selec	tion -			-	The Class
Address	-		- M	rs. Chorl	otte Molliere
Negro Nation	nai Anthem				School
Awarding Co	ertificates		Mrs. My	rtle A. V	Veatherstrane
Graduating S	Song -				The Class
To be benefit to the control of				4 5 5	

Marie T. Balley Melson, Principal





at Belle Chasse one Room Sch Belle Chasse, Fa... The Eighth Grader graderates Prinist, Speaker, and Minester Marie J. B. Molson, Jean



### Scottville High School Faculity

1955-1956

(Standing)

(Name Unknown) Andre' Lawrence, Shirley Ross Calvin, Harriet S. Thomas, Mary Blair, Emanuel Prout and William C Jones (Principal)

(Seated)

B.G. Duhe, Anita Randall, Marie T. Melson, Evelyn Sanders, Aline LaFrance, Emanuel Prout, (Name Unknown), Shirley Jones and Marie Smith.

### THE SCOTIVILLE HIGH SCHOOL

Presenta ita

First Spring Festival

Peaturing

The Twelve Queens

and

Miss Scattville and Her Court



SCOTTVILLE HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM

Saturday, May 12, 1956

8:00 P. M.

### Patrans

Rev. G. Alexandri Mrs. Elizabeth Ambruse Mrs. Beatries Anderson Mr. Albert Aghton My. Niek Budalementi Mike Budalementi-Grocery Mr. Jerry Barthimese T. R. Bernel Grocery Mr. H. Bernard Mr. Herbert P. Blair Mye, Irma Black Mr. Isaac Black, Sr. Mr. Isaac Black Mr. Hailer Bradley Mrs. Hailer Bradley Mr. Louis Bradley Mrs. Mamis Brock Espy Brooks Mrs. Esa Brooks Mrs. Mable Brooks Mrs. Sarah Brooks Mrs. Theresa Brooks. Mrs. Lillie Butler Mr. Henry Canbon Mr. Herman Carbon Joe Casserettes' Oakville Priends Mrs. Augusta Davis Mrs. Mary Davis Mr. Whitney Davis Mv. Cal DeClouet Mrs. Mildred DeClouet Mr. Wilken DeClouet Mrs. Genesa Dobard Mrs. Martha Dobard Mrs. Pauline C. Dobard and Sixth Grade Class Mrs. Mable Dyer Mr. T. J. Flanagan, Jr. Mrs. Rone Gabriel Mrs. Mildred Garrison Mr. Jahn Gernhouser Mrs. Julia Gibson Mrs. Ethel Ruby Gilbert Mr. Amos Green Mrs. Rueling Green Mrs. Gloria Green Mr. Rrnest Homer H. W. Illenberger-Rvergreen Nursery Mr. Nicholas Jackson Mrs. Sadie Jarman-Gloria Grocery Rev. Eckard Johnson Rew. Hernoe Johnson Mra. Luella Johnson

### Program

### Miss Scottville of 1956

MISS SCOTTVILLE RENA MAE REDDICKS MAIDS

Hazel Brooks (Ist Maid) Melvina Johnson (2nd Maid) Mary Ann Davis (3rd Maid) ESCORT
ALFRED KING
ESCORTS
Samuel Gabriel
Herman Declouette
Ben Cole

Presentation of Awards by the Principal INTERMISSION

### The Twelve Queens

ALL ACTION TAKES PLACE OUT-OF-DOORS IN A CAVE IN ONE ACT.

### STORY OF THE PLAY

The play, The Twelve Queens, is a true pertrait of the twelve months of the year. Each month comes upon the scene and attempts to convince the school children that it is the best month and should be crowned queen. The performers and dancers do their acting to make Father Time and the children say that that particular month should be crowned as queen.

All perform well their parts and provide entertainment for the children. In the end, Father Time places a crown upon each month's head and the children proclaim as their reigning beauties twelve queens, instead of one.

# Program Cast of Characters

Father Time,
January Antonio Philip
Felinary Louise Miller
MarchBrenda Miller
AprilJesn Johnson
Attendant Lorraine C. Green
MayBeverly Cornin
June
July Aufwiedersehn Brooks
August
September
October
AttendantKatie M. Miller
NovemberJoyce Landry
Attendant
December
AttendantLinda Reddicks,
SCHOOL CHILDREN Louis Cornin,
Carol Cornin, Grace Parker, Joseph Walters, Royal Lee Black, Jack
Black, Arnolie Sanders III, Ferdinand Trufant

#### PERFORMERS AND DANCERS

### Ice Elves and Fairies

Haywood Johnson, Emanuel Summers, Walter Anderson, Wayne Gabriel, James Cole, Wilson Barthelemy, Charles Williamson, Ulysses Higgins. Albert LaFrance, Peliciana LaFrance, Virginia Trufant, Viola Summers, Claudette Smith, Mazel Landry, Celina Dell Brooks, Odessa Davis, Jaquelyn Williams, Estelle Dumones, Anise Parker, Victoria Gabriel, Diana Black, Angelina Sylve

#### February Gray Sky Creatures

Tyrus Barthelemy, Janiec Derousa, Matthew Wallace, Oralec Bullen, James Williams, Kathleen Decloyette, Alice Higgins, Laura Borden, Joseph Brazile, Jacqulyn Gibson, Kenneth Brazile, Elizabeth Gilbert, Alfred Walter, Marva Diggs, Jimmy Parker, Thelma Sanders, Enmest Sylve, Mable Bradley, Richard Sylve, Rose Mary Henry, Afbert Williams, Vera Mae Jason, Larry Smith and Junnita Brooks

### The Storm Children

Cynthia Brooks, Anthony Gibson, Brendu Miller, Joseph Gabriel, Bernsdette Declouette, Shereline Sanders, Elton Salvant, Ray Wallace, Murphy Smith, Douglas Hall, Andrew Jason, Sherman Lawrence, Carol Jones, Betty J. Black and Howard Green

### Program

#### April Twins

Richard Garrison, Joicelyn Trufant, Allen Green, Melvina Bradley, Larry LaFrance, Marva Anderson, Eugene Johnson, Dorisn Ricard, Cecile Boeden, Anthony Davis and Barbara Cole

### May Rhossoms

James Steward, Beverly Hall, Elnine Simmons, Loandry Salvant, Gwendolyn Sandera, Alfred Trufant, Thuis Mayfield, Robert Lee, Alfred Gibson, Louise Parker, Carol Hill, Millie Gabriel, James Anderson, Shirley Ross, James Trufant, Paulette Mayfield, Wilfred Jackson, Glen Miller, Arthurine Trufant and Charleen Black

#### June Roses

Geraldine Lewis, Sharon Ann Muse, Beverly Ann Bradley, Erlin Regina Reddicks, Gail Paulette Smalls, Queen, Frances E. Espadron, Guil Marie Green, Gladys Howard, Ross Rita Ricaud and Diana Ursula Juson

### Sunshine Boys and Girls

McIvina Espadron, Harold Sandera, Virginia Sylve, Willie Brooks, Inrael Bentley, Virgie L. Reddicks, Ranell Gabriel, Florence Green, John La-France, Hughe Sandera, Gail Wallace, Elliot Sylve, Joseph Brooks, Hilton Sylve, Dolores Declouette, Lawrence Seaberry, Catherine Taylor, Joseph Alexia, Geraldine Reddicks, Marguerite Cornin, Vera Smith, Beynard Espadron, Marlene Lendry, Maryodalie Dickerson, Manuel Gabriel, Mary A. LaFrance, Isabelle Sullen and Wilson St. Ann

#### Harvest Dancers

Cl. Ave Thurston
Gladys Parker
Please Brown
Diener Brown
The Califor Value of
AR THE PARTY OF A PROPERTY.
Glenda Smith
Dalla Cakaial
to the transfer of the said and
osephine Sylve
esephine Sylve
Transcreen Property
wonnyol sulfore
weenhot aglere

### Dancing Dolls

Louise Reddicks, Giuria Taylor, Marguerite Stevenson, Julia A. Declouette, Almena Sylve, Penelope Simmons, Gloria Garrison, Carmen Ann Wallace, Margie Molliero, Verna Lee Davis and Inea Parker

#### COMMITTEES

Principal
Charriedy Mrs. Marie P Builter Molson
MusicMrs. Lois Lundy
Costumer Mrs. L. Bushy, Chairlady, Mrs. M. Blair,
Mrs. M. Smith, Mrs. A. Randall, Mrs. B. Duhe, Mrs. H. Thomas, Mrs.
E. Sanders, Mrs. S. Jones, Mrs. P. Dobard
Scenery Mr. C. Calvin, Mr. P. Lewis and Mr. W. C.
Jones
Court
Lawrence, Mrs. S. Jones and Mr. C. Calvin
Publicity Mrs. E. Johnson and Mrs. S. Brazile
Demoss
Refreshments Mrs. Mary Blair, Chuirlady. Mrs.
Beatrice Dube and Miss Andta Ramiall
Ushers Miss A. Lawrence, Chairlady
Miss A. Lawrence, Charriady

#### Student Assistants

Hazel Brooks and Joyce Cornin, Eleventh Grade. Melvina Johnson, Seventh Grade. Gloria Taylor, Sixth Grade. Joyce Johnson, Ninth Grade.

#### Parent Assistants

Mrs. Lucille Borden, Mrs. Hosits Reddicks, Mrs. Lucilla Johnson, Mrs. Mabel Brooks, Mrs. Dora Smith, Mrs. Reddicks, Mrs. Leander Sanders, Mrs. Isabelle Johnson, Mrs. Violet Bradley, Miss Regina Loe, Mrs. E. J. Wilson, Mrs. Lesther Trufant, Mrs. Josephine Stewart, Mrs. Plumey Salvant, Mrs. Horace Johnson and Mrs. E. Johnson

### Acknowledgment

The Principal, Faculty and Students
of
The Scottville High School
are Grateful to the
Parents
and
Many Friends
Who Have Contributed to the
Success of this Program

### Patrons

Mrs. Lois G. Jones Mrs. Matthew Jones Mrs. Octavia Jones Mrs. Ruth Jones Mr. Ernest King Mrs. Agnes LaFrance Mr. Norbert LaFrance Mrs. Sedonia LaFrance Mr. Charlie Maufield Mys. Jeanette Mayfield Mrs. Victoria McGinnis Mrs. Sunie Miller Mrs. Rosia Molier Mrs. A. C. Moore Mrs. Sadie Morris Mr. Robert Powell Mrs. Robert Powell Mrs. Cinderella Reddicks Mrs. Helen Reddicks Mrs. Rosita Reddicks Mr. Lawrence Reddicks Mr. Bennie Ricard Mrs. Rose Ricard Mrs. Mertina St. Ann Mrs. Ethel Salvant Mr. Arnolie Sanders, Jr. Mr. Rugene Sanders Mrs. Gertrude Sanders Mys. Lena Sanders Mrs. Lorraine Sanders Mrs. Shirley M. Sanders Mys. Rita Sanders Mrs. Theresa Ann Sanders Mrs. Mildred Simmons Mrs. Bernice Smith
Mrs. Hernice Smith
Mr. Murphy Smith
Mrs. Lillian Starks
Mrs. Mattie Stevenson
Mrs. Octavia Stiles
Res. D. I. Salles Rev. D. J. Sullen Mrs. Morria Sylve Mrs. Corine Taplet Mr. Melein Taylor Mrs. Florence Thomas Mr. Willie Thomas Mrs. Carmen Wallace Mr. Albert Williams Mr. James Williams Mrs. Aques Wilson Mr. Allen Wilson Mrs. Charles Wilson Mrs. E. J. Wilson Miss Joyce Wilson



#### WE THE MEMBERS OF THE GRADUATING CLASS

SCOTTVILLE HIGH SCHOOL

**CLASS OF 1963** 

WELEONE YOU

EDWARD WASHINGTON

VALEDICTORIAN

GRACE PARKER

SALUTATORIAN

"DUTY DETERMINES DESTINY"

CLASS ROSTER
ABSENT, HERMAN
BROOKS, JOSEPH
GRESN, HENRY
HALL, LOUIS
SYLVE, SHERMAN
JOHNSON, CAROLYN
PARKER, GLADYS
REDDICK, PATRICIA
REDDICK, VIRGIE LEB
SMITH, GLENDA

MRS. M. M. WASHINGTON, SPONSOR

#### PROGRAHME

PROCESSIONAL INVOCATION

"MARCH FROM AIDA"

REV.FATHER EMMERAN FRANK O.F.M

SALUTATORY

GRACE PARKER

CHORAL SECECTION

"THE ROSARY"

VALEDICTORY

EDWARD WASHINGTON

SOLO

"OTHERS" GLENDA SMITH

PRESENTATION OF SPEAKER

MISS A. LAWRENCE, ACTING PRINCIPAL OF

SCOTTVILLE HIGH SCHOOL

COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS

MRS. MARGURRITE NIMTZ, PRIN-ALBERT WICKER SCHOOL

"BATTLE HYAN OF REPUBLIC"

MRS. A. C. LAFRANCE

SUPT. S. A. MONCLA

CHORAL SELECTION

PRESENTATION OF GRADU.TES TO THE

SUPERINTENDENT

AWA: DING OF DIPLOMAS

CLASS SONG

BENEDICTION

STAR SPANGLED BANNER

RECESSIONAL

GRADUATES

REV. ECKARD JOHNSON

AUDIENCE

"GOD OF OUR FATHERS"

### PACULTY OF SCOTTVILLE HIGH SCHOOL

MISS A. M. LAWRENCE, ACTING PRINCIPAL

MR. F. PATTERSON MRS. M. B. SMITH MRS. H. S. THOMAS MISS A. RANDALL MR. E. L. PROUT

MHS. S. R. CALVIN

MR. C. C. CALVIN

MRS. M. G. BLAIR MRS. E. H. JOHNSON MRS. L. G. JONES MRS. L. D. BUSBY MRS. S. R. JONES

HRS. E. G. SAMDERS

MISS B. JOHNSON

MRS. B. G. DUHE NRS. M. T. B. MELSON MRS. M. M. WASHINGTON MRS. A. C. LAFRANCE



Just Kindergerien Heen Breduction 21, 1700 Juso may 21, 1700

Ruley

Librard Parente Persone progenic Steeling Black Toplan much wayne from Traffert Black Toplant progenic from

Kathanil go truly ghan

MT & melin Dearter Miss A Sharewer francis





First Kindergarten Graduation Tuesday, May 21, 1968



Angelina Parker May 21, 1968



Wanda Johnson May 21, 1968

## STATE MINIMUN SALARY SCHEDULE FOR TEACHERS SESSION 1954-1955

Years of Experience	(Selow 1 yr.)	l Year College	2 Years College	3 Years College	Bachelor's Degree	daster's Degree
0	\$1,600	\$1,900	\$2,200	\$2,500	\$2,800	\$2,900
1	3.3		2,300	2,600	2,900	3,000
2			2,400	2,700	3,000	3,100
3			(2,500)	2,800	3,100	3,200
L				2,900	3,200	3,300
5					3,300	3,400
6					3,400	3,500
7	Charles .				3,500	3,600
8					3,600	3,700
9					3,700	3,800
10					3,800	3,900
11					3,900	4,000
12					4,000	4,100
13						4,200
14						4,300
15						4,400
16						4,500
17						4,600
16						4,700
19.						 4,800

#### PLAQUEMINES PARISH SCHOOL CALENDAR SESSION 1968-1969

2/44 August 22, 1968, 9:00 A. M.

Parish Wide Teachers' Meeting Fort Sulphur High School Port Sulphur, Louisiana

August 23, 1968, 8:30 A. M.

Registration

August 26, 1968, 8:30 A. M.

Classes Begin

September 2, 1968

Labor Day

November 1, 1968

All Saints' Day

November 22, 1968, 3:15 P. M. to December 2, 1968, 8:30 A. M.

November 25-26-27--Le. Teachers' Convention--November 28-29 Thanksgiving Holidays

December 20, 1968, 3:15 P. M. to

Christmas Holidays

January 17, 1969

First Semester Ends

January 20, 1969

Second Semester Begins

February 14, 1969, 3:15 P. M. to February 20, 1969, 8:30 A. M.

Mardi Gras Holidays

April 8, 1969, 8:30 A. M.

Easter Holidaya

May 30, 1969

Session Ends

Dates marking end of six-week grading periods and on which attendance reports are due:

March 5, 1969

April 18, 1969

May 30, 1969

High School Commencement Exercises:

Thursday, May 22, 1969- -Buras and Sumrise High Schools Friday, May 23, 1969- - Boothville-Venice High School Tuesday, May 27, 1969 - -Port Sulphur High School Wednesday, May 28, 1969 - Belle Chasse and Scottville High Schools Thursday, May 29, 1969- - Phoenix High School

Adopted by School Board - June 13, 1968

#### PLAQUEMINES PARISH SCHOOL CALENDAR SESSION 1969-1970

August 21, 1969, 9:00 A. M.

Parish Wide Teachers' Meeting Port Sulphur High School Port Sulphur, Louisiana

August 22, 1969, 8:30 A. M.

Registration

August 25, 1969, 8:30 A. M.

Classes Begin

September 1, 1969

Labor Day

November 11, 1969

Veteran's Day

November 21, 1969, 3:15 P. M. to December 1, 1969, 8:30 A. M. November 24-25-26--La. Teachers'
Convention--November 27-28
Thanksgiving Holidays

December 19, 1969, 3:15 P. M. to January 5, 1970, 8:30 A. M. Christmas Holidays

January 16, 1970

First Semester Ends

January 19, 1970

Second Semester Begins

February 6, 1970, 3:15 P.M. to February 12, 1970, 8:30 A.M. Mardi Gras Holidays

March 26, 1970, 3:15 P. M. to March 31, 1970, 3:30 A. M. Easter Holidays

May 29, 1970

Session Ends

Dates marking end of six-week grading periods and on which attendance reports are due:

October 2, 1969 November 14, 1969 January 16, 1970 March 4, 1970 April 17, 1970 May 29, 1970

High School Commencement Excercises:

Thursday, May 21, 1970- -Boothville-Venice High School Friday, May 22, 1970--- -Port Sulphur High School Tuesday, May 26, 1970-- -Belle Chasse and Scottville High Schools Wednesday, May 27, 1970 -Buras High School Thursday, May 28, 1970- -Phoenix High School

All Kindergarten Graduations will be scheduled during the last week of school by each Principal.

Adopted by Plaquemines Parish School Board - May 21, 1969

### PLAQUEMINES PARISH SCHOOL CALENDAR

### SESSION 1958-1959

August 27, 1958, 9:00 A. M.

White Teachers! Institute Port Sulphur High School Port Sulphur, Louisiana

August 27, 1958, 9:00 A. M.

Negro Teachers | Institute Sunrise High School Empire, Louisiana

August 28, 1958, 9:00 A. M.

Registration

August 29, 1958, 9:00 A. N.

Classes Begin

September 1, 1958

Labor Day

November 26, 1958, 3:30 P. M. to December 1, 1958, 8:45 A. M.

Thanksgiving Holidays

December 19, 1958, 3:30 P. M. to January 5, 1959, 8:45 A. M.

Christmas Holidayo

January 16, 1959

First Semester Ends

January 19, 1959

Second Semester Begins

February 6, 1959, 3:30 P. M. to February 12, 1959, 8:45 A. M.

Mardi Gras Holidays

March 26, 1959, 3:30 P. M. to March 31, 1959, 8:45 A. M.

Easter Holidays

May 29, 1959

Seasion Ends

Dates Marking end of six-week grading periods and on which attendance reports are due:

October 8, 1958 November 19, 1958 January 16, 1959 March 4, 1959 April 17, 1959 May 29, 1959

High School Commencement Exercises:

#### PLAQUEMINES PARISH SCHOOL CALENDAR SESSION 1959-1960

August 26, 1959, 9:00 A. MWhite Teachers! Institute Port Sulphur High School Port Sulphur, Louisian
August 27, 1959, 9:00 A. MNegro Teachers' Institut Sunrise High Schoo Empire, Louisian
August 28, 1959, 9:00 A. MRegistratio
August 31, 1959, 9:00 A. MClasses Begi
September 7, 1959Labor Da
November 20, 1959, 3:30 P. M. toNovember 23-24-25La. Teachers November 30, 1959 ConventionNovember 26-27- Thanksgiving Holiday
December 22, 1959, 3:30 P. M. to January 4, 1960, 8:45 A. MChristmas Holiday
January 18, 1960First Semester End
January 19, 1960 Begin
February 26, 1960, 3:30 P. M. to March 3, 1960, 8:45 A. M
April 14, 1960, 3:30 P. M. to April 19, 1960, 8:45 A. MEaster Holiday
May 28, 1960Session End
Dates marking and of six-week grading periods and on which attend
October 7, 1959 November 18, 1959 January 18, 1960 March 3, 1960 April 14, 1960

High School Commencement Exercises:

Monday, May 23, 1960---Belle Chasse & Scottville High Schools
Tuesday, May 24, 1960--Port Sulphur High School
Wednesday, May 25, 1960-Buras & Sunrise High Schools
Thursday, May 26, 1960---Woodlawn High School
Friday, May 27, 1960----Phoenix High School

May 28, 1960

#### PLAQUEMINES PARISH SCHOOL CALENDAR SESSION 1959-1960

August 26, 1959, 9:00 A. MWhite Teachers! Institute Port Sulphur High School Port Sulphur, Louisian
August 27, 1959, 9:00 A. MNegro Teachers' Institut Sunrise High Schoo Empire, Louisian
August 28, 1959, 9:00 A. MRegistratio
August 31, 1959, 9:00 A. MClasses Begi
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High School Commencement Exercises:

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Thursday, May 26, 1960---Woodlawn High School
Friday, May 27, 1960----Phoenix High School

May 28, 1960

## Scottville High School Graduating Class of 1964

Vera Smtih

**Hughes Sanders** 

Myrtle Davis

John LaFrance

Delorita Reddick

Romel Barthelomew

Geraldine Reddick

Clayo Sylve

Delores LaFrance

Norman Phillips

Maxine Carson

Joseph Alexis

Mary Lee Dickerson

Hilton Sylve

Delores Decloutte

Manuel Gabriel, Jr.

Aufwiedersehen C.Brooks

James Lawerence

Annie Bell Gabriel

Gerald Ancar

Gail Wallace

Ronald Ancar

**Eulice Bailey** 

## Scottville High School Graduating Class of 1971

\* Avist, Peggy

Baker, Paulette

Baker, Percy

Cornin, Cheryl

Gabriel, Anthony

Gabriel, Wayne

\* Green, Donald

Higgins, Alice

Jones, Penelope

\* Lafrance, Clement

\* Moliere, Joyce

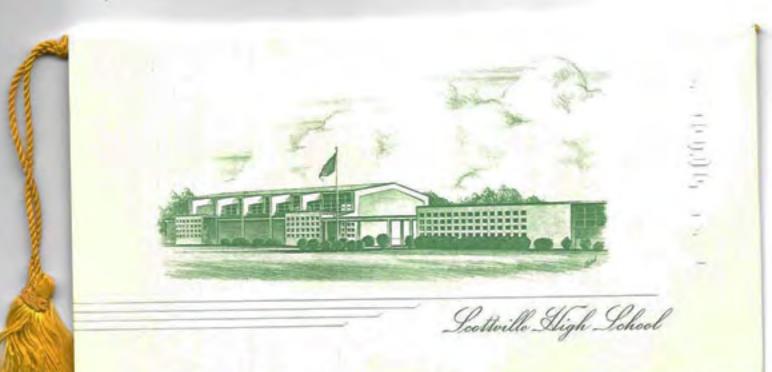
Salvant, Judy

Stevenson, Leory

Williamson, Theodore

# Mrs. Aline C. LaFrance Class Sponsor

\* Decessed



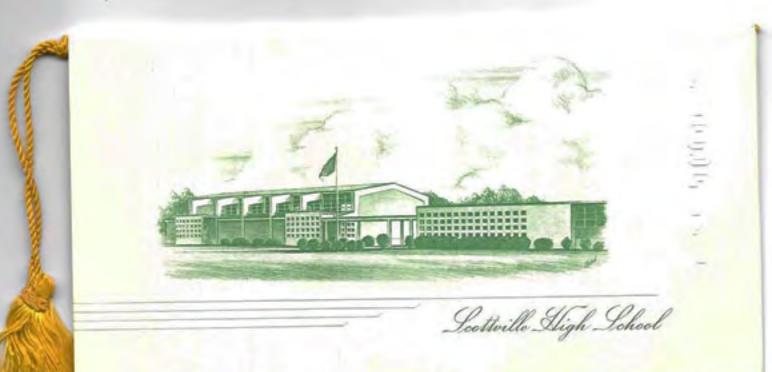
The Senior Class of Scottville High School

announces its Commencement Exercises

Thursday evening, May twentieth, Nineteen hundred seventy-one

seven o'clock, Scottville High School Gymnasium

Scottville, Louisiana



The Senior Class of Scottville High School

announces its Commencement Exercises

Thursday evening, May twentieth, Nineteen hundred seventy-one

seven o'clock, Scottville High School Gymnasium

Scottville, Louisiana

## PROCLAMATION

On motion of Council Member Trufant-Salvant, seconded by All Council Members, and on roll call all members present and voting "Yes", the following Proclamation was unanimously adopted:

A Proclamation proclaiming September 30, 2017 as

> "Scottville High School Day" in the Parish of Plaquemines

WHEREAS, during a bleak era in Plaquemines Parish history three segregated schools (Scottville, Phoenix and Sunrise) were erected to educate African Americans. The system established these schools with an intent to maintain an inferior system which could have institutionalized a mass of people however, these schools have proven to transcend the expectations of a system that aimed to oppress. Many educators, politicians and professionals are products of these three GREAT schools; and

WHEREAS, Scottville High School commenced and welcomed African American students from Happy Jack to Belle Chasse, La. in the year of 1955. Scottville High School was located in Scottville, La., in Plaquemines Parish which is renamed and currently known as Belle Chasse Middle School. To this day the alumni and graduates hold dearly to the motto; "Scottville High School is forever in our hearts" regardless to the renaming of the school; and

WHEREAS, an all African American student body also consisted of an entire African American faculty and staff under the leadership of Principals Mr. Jones and long tenure Ms. Andre' Lawrence. In the midst of racial injustices it was with pride that they held teachers in high esteem and respected them as an extension of their parents. A culture of unity and pride was cultivated in every student as they embraced Educators such as Ms. Gladys Cosse', Mrs. Harriett Thomas, Mrs. Birdell Spears, Mrs. Shirley Calvin, Mr. Michael Ned, Mr. Bernell Spruell, Mr. Johnny Williamson and Mr. Clarence Marchand and they salute all that have contributed to the education of the students of Scottville High School that are no longer with us, may they rest in peace; and

WHEREAS, it was not until a lawsuit filed by the United States Government against the Plaquemines Parish School Board in 1966 that Judge Herbert Christenberry ordered the desegregation of the Plaquemines Parish School Board Public School System in the 1966-67 school year. Judge Christenberry ordered that first, seventh, tenth, twelfth and two other grades chosen by the Board to be desegregated regardless of their race. A subsequent order required all grades from kindergarten

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WHEREAS, subsequent to this judgment the last graduating class of Scottville High School was in 1971 which ended the existence of Scottville High School, home of the Apache Indians, whom proudly wore the colors of green and gold, and were also among an elite group of African American Athletes that have ushered twin brothers into the Hall of Fame at Grambling State University;

#### NOW, THEREFORE:

BE IT PROCLAIMED by the Plaquemines Parish Council represented by its duly authorized Chairman, John L. Barthelemy, and by concurrence of the Parish President, Amos Cormier, representing the Plaquemines Parish Government, that it hereby declares September 30, 2017, as

## "Scottville High School Day" in the Parish of Plaquemines

Given under my hand and the seal of the Parish of Plaquemines on this the 28th day of September, 2017.

AMOS CORMIER PARISH PRESIDENT JOHN L. BARTHELEMY COUNCIL CHAIRMAN

I hereby certify the above and foregoing to be a true and correct copy of a Proclamation adopted by the Plaquemines Parish Council at a meeting held in the Belle Chasse Council Building, Council Chambers, 333 F. Edward Hebert Blvd., Building 203, Belle Chasse, Louisiana on this the 28th day of September, 2017.

Secretary



# Wilbert Lodrig, 78, was teacher, coach

#### From staff reports

Wilbert J. "Twin" Lodrig Sr., a retired teacher and physical education coach with the Orleans Parish public school system, died Sept. 15 of liver cancer at his home. He was 78.

Mr. Lodrig was a lifelong resident of New Orleans. He gradusted from Xavier Preparatory School and Xavier University.

Mr. Lodrig taught at S.J. Peters Middle School; Sherwood Forest Elementary, Francis W. Gregory and Andrew J. Bell Junior high schools; George W. Carver Junior and Senior High School; and Scottville High School in Scottville.

Mr. Lodrig also worked at Treme Community Center and was a volunteer with the New Orleans Mission, Kingsley House Fall Fest, the American Red Cross, Medard Nelson Elementary School adult education classes and the annual Twins Day Festival in Twinsburg, Ohio.

He was a corporal in the Army during World War II.

Mr. Lodrig was a member of St. Gabriel the Archangel Catholic Church, the Xavier Prop Alumni Association, Xavier University Alumni Association, United Teschers of New Orleans and Kappa Alpha Priterrity. He also was a member of the Antocrat Social and Pleasure Club, charter member of the Original Dukes Social and Pleasure Club, secretary of the Lion's Social and Pleasure Club and editor of the Autocrat Voice Newsletten

Mr. Lodrig published numerous poems, including "Twins,"
"Not Charity Lord, Just a Chance," "Milestones" and "Colorblind." He created a pictorial tribute to Louis "Satchmo" Armstrong that was displayed at the Amistad Foundation cur-



Wilbert J. 'Twin' Lodrig Sr.

ing Armstrong's 100th birthday celebration.

Survivors include a son, Wilbert "Bert" J. Lodrig Jr.; a daughter, Wendy J. Lodrig, and a brother, Wilfred J. "Big Twin" Lodrig Sr.

A Mass will be said Monday at 11 a.m. at St Gabriel the Archangel Catholic Church, 4700 Pineda St. Visitation will begin at 9 a.m., and a Kappa memorial will be held at 9:30 a.m. A rosary will be said at 10:15 a.m. Burial will be in St. Louis Cametery No. 3. Charbonnet-Lahat Finneral Home is in charge of arrangements.

# Plaquemines Parish now has a new history because African Americans are included.

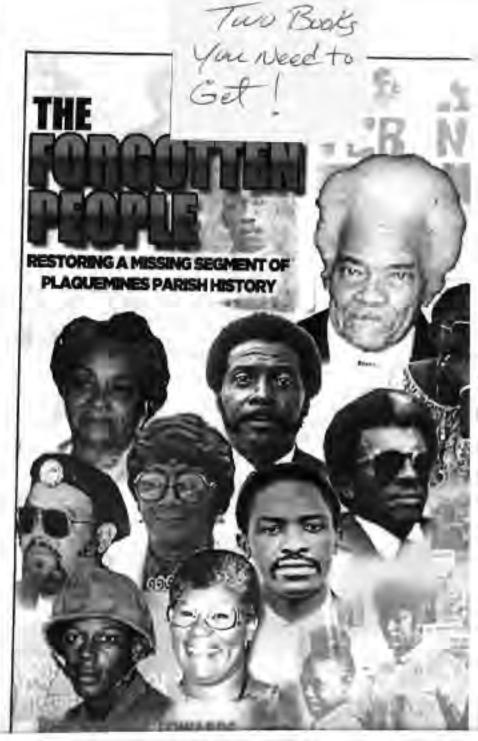


A MISSING SEGMENT OF PLAQUEMINES
PARTSH HISTORY chronicles the little known,
but inspiring achievements of African Americans
to dismantle institutional racism in Plaquemines
Parish, Louisiana, located at the end of the
United States, Rev. Tyronne Edwards, a lifelong

resident of the parish, introduces the reader to people cultivating a spirituality that lifted them from the dehumanization of slavery on more than a dozen plantations. He recounts the state laws enacted by African Americans during the Reconstruction Era that would be considered progressive in this modern day. We meet the community leaders who outwitted and outlasted Judge Leander Perez, a fierce segregationist who reigned over Plaquemines Parish and state politics. We learn the battles waged by African American to knock down the doors of schools, businesses and government that were once closed to them. With photographs, interviews, and a penetrating analysis of racism, Rev. Edwards breathes life into the important historical record of African Americans in Plaquemines Parish who should never be forgotten.

RESTORING A MISSING SEGMENT OF PLAQUEMINES PARISH HISTORY





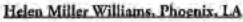
The following are reflections and experiences with the Ministers of Education in Plaquemines Parish.



#### Ruth Hill Simeon - Professor Hill granddaughter

My grandfather Garrison B. Hill made sure that people in St. Sophie (Phoenix) knew how to read and write. He walked door to door throughout St. Sophie teaching people how to read and write. He was always reading and writing. The best carpenters in St. Sophie used Papa GB to lay the foundation for all the houses

they build. Papa GB was a smart man. In fact the Hills men was the smartest men in St. Sophie and the Hills' women were the best cooks.





What was significant about going to the one-room Rosenwald School here in Phoenix, were the teachers—Ms. Olivia Taylor, Eleanor Cornin, Irene Espy Washington, and Pauline Clay Williams. The teachers would walk to school just like the students. The school had one of those pot belly stoves to keep us warm. The teachers spent their own money to purchase

supplies for us. The teachers equipped us to go anywhere in the world. They were more than teachers they were counselors, psychologists, social workers, and mentons. I left Rosenwald after completing 8th grade and then attended the English Turn School. At English Turn, I remember my teachers being Ms. Doyle, Mr. Barry Williams, Ms. Bernice Gardener, Mr. Pernell Long, and Ms. Quezerque. These dedicated teachers were responsible for me going on to Xavier University. It was amazing how they were able to teach four classes at one time. Our community owes these Ministers of Education a great debt of gratitude for their self-sacrifice. They are responsible for our communities being educated.



#### Marion Alveris Reddick, Dalcour, LA

I went to elementary school at the Bethlebern Baptist Church around 1945. We didn't have any hus so everyone had to walk to school. We didn't have to walk that far to school. The people from Scandale had a further distance In walk. The church had a big iron belly stove in the middle to keep church warm. The boys had to get the wood from over the levee to be be the stools. Our teacher was Ms. Irene Espy and she would teach twent w. She would show the older students how to teach the younger ones. I listhlehem Church after elementary school and went to Braithwaite F. School which used to be the school for white children before Woodle whool was open. Between my education at Bethlehem Baptist Chs. School and Braithwaite High School I had some great teachers. They we Ms. Pearl Bailey and her sister Mable Bailey. They used to come across river in a boat and stay with Ms. Francis. There was Ms. Jordan. However, Evelyn Augustine, and Ms. Mildred Doyle who plattle piano, Mrs. Daisy Randall, and Mrs. Bernice Sanders. The Principal the Braithwaite High School was Mr. Barry Williams. The teachers we will nice to us. They took their time with us, to make sure we all learned to the They took their time with us, to make sure we all learned to the state of the stat

#### June Powell, Belle Chasse, LA



I went to school in the one-room school in Fort St. Le We walked from Villere Street to Fort St. Leon along railroad track. The school bus with a few white students it would pass us up every day. Since we had to walk all the railroad track, we would pick up coal to be used our iron stove at our school Ms. Bailey was our teach

No was a great teacher. When the school was moved to the church [Israe. Raptist Church] the Parish Government didn't even supply our church what kerosene.

### Lillie Williams, Belle Chasse, LA



I went to Israelite Baptist Church School from the fi grade to eighth grade. Ms. M.T. Bailey was my teacher. I had a sister named Mable Bailey, who she taught Oakville. Ms. Bailey was very good teacher. She prepar us for life. She had to deal with a lot students. She had a alder and higher grade students to teach the younger a

hower grades. She was a dedicated teacher. We kept warm by the kerase stone. We had old hand-me-down desks and a large blackboard on the no.

We had to take the desks out on Friday for Sunday's worship service. We went to whool from Monday to Friday.



#### Betty Wilson, Ironton, LA

I went to St. Paul Baptist Church School from first to eighth grade. I graduated in 1950. After St. Paul, I went to Braithwaite High School for little while. I had to drop out to take care of my mother. My teachers were Mrs. Randall, Ms. Florence Jordan, and Mrs. Saise Mae. These teachers were dedicated to make sure we learned. We had a wood stove in the church to keep us warm. We

didn't have so cut wood because the neighbor next to the church would give us chopped wood to use during school. We had wood benches and table to do our lessons. We took turns using them.



#### Joycelyn Johnson, Oakville, LA

I attended a one-room school in Oakville up until the eighth grade. Our teachers were Ms. Jordan, Harriel Thomas, and Theresa Nelson. They were dedicated teachers. While we were all in one room, we were all taught our lessons. The older ones would teacher the lower grades. We had to help each other in our class. After graduating from Oakville School, I went to the Scottville

High School. I was a member of the first high school class for African American at Scottville High School in the 1955. I was a member of the first students to graduate from Scottville High School.



#### Espy Encalade, Jr. Pointe à la Hache, LA

I went to the Encalade School in Pointe à la Hache.
Then I transferred to the Domingue School in Davant
Dominque was a two-room school building with living
quarters for the teachers. We had to use an outhouse. We
bad a great teacher, Ms. Aline Lafrance. She was able to
teach four classes of different age groups. The Dominque
School had classes from first grade to eighth grade. When

the chool first opened children had to walk three miles in the morning a evening and bring their mon lunch. Rev. Oswald started having dances mus funds to operate the whool. Fats Domino was one of the entertain. with same down and performed at one of our fundraisets. The Doming hand used some of these funds to provide children with lunch. The school was finally able to buy an old bus that children rode to school. Rev. Oswa tann to our house and told my parents that he needed me to drive the scho has in pack up the children. I was only fifteen and didn't have a drive to some but I was tall and knew how to drive My parents agreed to let n done the school bus. I brought children from Phoenix to school in Pointe he Ularha every day, I even drove the bus to Mississippi. One day M I altumer and Rev. Oswald told the student: that they would petition to which haired to give them a high school because there now between 15-1 student. The students helped with the petition and the Plaquemines Paris In board board opened up the old Woodlawn School in Braithwaite for the black students. This school was once used only for white students and st symbound.



Thi nil I homogue School in Danam. LA. Land donated by Sophic Bonningia.

School built work finish donated by Catherian Drevel.



### Presson C. Parker, III Port Sulphur, LA

I went to Potash School which was in the St. Joseph Church in Port Sulphur. After finishing the eighth grade I went to the Braithwaite High School on the East Bank. It was the first high school for African Americans in Plaquemines Parish, It was a condemned whool building because the white students had left it to ye to the wen all-white Woodlawn High School. We knew the school was condemned, but we finally had an African American high school. The students and teachers - all of us - would clean it up every day. While I was excited about going to Braithwaite High School, it hurt me to have to travel to the East Bank when Port Sulphur High School was within walking distance to my house. But I couldn't go to Part Sulphur High School because of the color of my skin. We used to catch the Old Missouri Pacific Bus to the Pointe à la Hache ferry and get on the school bus to Braithwaite High School. The school bus was provided by Rev. Oswald from Dominguez School in Davant. The school bus driver was Anthony McKinnie. We had some great teachers. One of my favorite teachers was Ms. Aline Celestine Liverance. She was very educated, and kind to all the students. She didn't take any stuff from anyone and she didn't show favoritism. Ms. Liverance made everyone learn who was in her class. She didn't play even if she knew your parents or went to church with you. She made sure we did our best at all times and she didn't settle for anything less. We also had some great cooks at the school. My proudest moment was when I graduated from English Turn/Braithwaite High School. It was great being a part of the first African American High School Graduation Class in Plaguemines Parish. There were sixteen of us: Katrine Isadore, Leona Sylva, Louise Sylva, Neil Sylva, Emily Williamson, Calvin Randall, Washington Thomas, Laura Brown, Earthwise Smith, Durand, Roland Robinson, Benny Mackey, Gloria Brown, Shirley William, and Alberta Picquet.



#### Maxine Encalade, Pointe à la Hache, LA

My father. Harry Joseph Encalade, and my mother Beatrice Soule Encalade, donated land to the school board to build a two-room school for children living in the Pointe à la Hache and Bohemia communities. They named it the Encalade School. They had the school board to sign an agreement that if the whool would no longer

be needed, then the land must be returned back in them. My parents let the teachers, Ms. Doyle and Santeria, live with them. The school went from first to visib grade. The teachers back then didn't have computers, but they were better at teaching than the ones today. They were all dedicated and

taught penmanship and the fundamentals. When the Donthygue Sch. in Davant got bus transportation, the Encalade School was literalisted land was returned to my parents. I went to school in New Objects whe I attended Valene C. Jones School that was run by Principal Viennie Williams. I then graduated from Dillard University. I taught submit for 1948-49 at the church school in a town called City Price in Objects and Parish. It was a three-room school. We had three teachers and we taught at grades 1-8. From 1950-1956, I taught at Domingues School with Al Liverance and Priscilla Randall. In 1956, I left Domingues School a taught at Phoenix High School until I retired in 1987. The abildres mught are working in government and business and have been alkated tate and local offices.

REV. TYRONNE EDWARDS

## Negro Schools in Plaquemines Parish June 30, 1942

Name of School	Registration	Pupils Membership	Teachers Employed
Little Rock (Israelite B.C,)	14	13	1
Ft. St. Leon	21	20	1
Triumph	30	25	1
Oakville	24	24	-1
Bertrandville (St. John B.C.)	24	22	1
Dalcour (Bethlehem B.C.)	28	27	1
Sunrise	32	30	1
Ironton (St. Paul B.C.)	36	35	1
Grand Bayou	36	36	2
St. Jude	42	39	1
Nairn	40	40	1
English Turn	41	40	1
Pointe-ala-hache (Encalade School)	50	45	1
Happy Jack	48	45	1
Lady Bend	54	50	4
Dominique	88	70	2
Potash (St. Joseph)	66	65	2

#### THE FORGOTTEN PROPLE

Monthville	95	85	2
Buras	84	80	2
Phoenix	87	85	2
Rosenwald School			
City Price	103	100	3
Total	1043	976	28

#### Compiled from the LA Secretary of Education Report

His African American communities of Plaquemines Parish ow great debt of gratitude to these Ministers of Education for equipp a generation with an educational foundation that prepared student greatly where in the world. They were more concerned about educat the children than the money.

#### Plaquemines Parish's Ministers of Education



Olicia Taylor



Mable Augustu



Mable Bailey



M. T. Baile



Nathaniel Poindexter



Eleanor Griffin Cornin



Daisy Randall



Barry HElimus



Derothy A. Coleman



Aline Lafrance



Maxine Encalade



Louise Ontolon

#### Ministers of Education in Plaquemines Parish

Ms. Evelyn Harvey Domingue School

Ms. Irene Espy Washington

Ms. Eglontine Ancar Pointe à la Hache School

Ms. Ethel Jones

Ms. Leah Washington

Ms. Eva Lindsey Lady Bend School

Ms. Mildred Doyle Bertranville School in St. John

Baptist Church

Ms. Essic Jones English Turn School

Ms. Marguerite Davis Encalade School

Ms. Marie R. St. Ann Triumph School

M+. Esther Smith Sunrise School

Ms. Rosemary Baker Boothville School

My Letha Hilliard

Famise LaMothe Potash School in St. Joseph

Baptist Church

Bearnee Hansell

Ms. Susie Mae Andry Tronton School in St. Paul

Church

Mr. Morine L. Johnson Mackey Nairn School

Mr. Elaine Romain Happy Jack School

Ms. Bernice Sanders Dalcour School in Berhlehem

Baptist Church

#### 1966 "Freedom's Children": Segregation is not forever! Integration of Plaquemines Parish Public Schools

In 1966 Herbert Christenberry, a federal judge, ordered the Plaquemines Parish School Board to desegregate their public schools beginning with the 1966-67 school years. Judge Christenberry ordered that the first, seventh, tenth, and (welfth grades, plus two other grades chosen by the board be open immediately to students regardless of their tace. A subsequent order required all grades from kindergatten through 12 to be desegregated for the 1967-68 school year.

At the time of the 1966 federal court order, Plaquemines Parish had eight public schools. Five of these schools were closed to African Americans and attended only by white students. The all-white schools were Woodlawn High School on the East Bank, Belle Chasse High School, Port Salphur High School, Buras High School, and Bouthville-Venice High School located on the west bank. There were three all-black schools: Phoenix High School on the East Bank, Scottville High School in Naoms, and Suprise High School in Empire located on the West Bank. These schools were all built from the same blue print,



Courtesy of Plaquemines School
All African-American schools (Phoonas Suncise & Scottville) were built from the same blue print.

Judge Perez declared the court's desegregation of schools in Phagnemines Parish was worse than Hurricane Bersy, which devastuee Phagnemines Parish and the Gulf Region (he year before the court order in 1965-11e railed against the court order as part of a formalist plot.

In August 1966 African American students enrolled for the first tir public schools that were attended only by white students in Plaquett Parish. This was a major achievement for the Human Rights/Civil R Movement and brought national embarrassment to Penz's and the V Citizens' Council's "segregation forever" movement. These students the children and grandchildren of members of the Plaquemines P Civic & Political Organization, a civil rights organization (see chapte The movement to integrate the public schools in Plaquemines Parish continuation of the organizing by the Plaquemines Parish Civic & Pol Organization to dismantle Perez's dictatorship and institutional racis

The first African American students to integrate an all-white prachool in Plaquemines Parish were the brothers Lawrence Ben age 1970 and Ernest Jr. and Michael Ben age 7, and the brothers K Griffin age 12 and Ernest Jr. age 14. The Ben brothers and the Griffin age 12 and Ernest Jr. age 14. The Ben brothers and the Griffin age 18 and Ernest Jr. age 14. The Ben brothers and the Griffiches lived in Bertrandville on the East Bank. They all enrolle Woodlawn High School in Bertrandville, the only all-white practical on the East Bank. All of the white parents organized and their children out of Woodlawn. The white parents' boycott of school was supported by all the teachers, support staff, school drivets, custodian, and cafeteria workers. The African American partial children were confronted by Perez's artgry white protestors hold up manufactured signs with the word "DON"T" stendied in red.



Courtesy of Phagaesticas I-science
When parents baye to hodge Peter picking against schools integration in Plaquemians Pari

Some of the parents and children were shocked to see their white neighbors among the protestors outside of Woodlawn High School. They came to understand that the protestors felt that they had no choice but to come out and march against school integration because of their political enslavement to Judge Perez. They followed Perez's directions because he supported their families. They couldn't bite the hand that fed their families. They showed up every day at every school carrying the manufactured signs.

The other all-white public schools, all located on the West Bank, were also integrated. Unlike the boycott of Woodlawn High School by whites, there were a few white parents who sent their children to the now integrated schools on the West Bank: Belle Chasse High School, Port Sulphur High School, Buras High School, and Boothville-Venice High School. However the black and white students were met by the angry white protestors carrying the manufactured "DON'T" signs. However, the students at all the schools were not intimidated by Perez's white picketers.

Judge Perez led supporters in setting up five private schools in the areas where a public school was integrated in Plaquemines Parish. They were successful in setting up and opening the following private schools: River Oaks Academy in Belle Chasse, Promised Land Academy in Dalcour, McBride Academy in Port Sulphur, Seaway Academy in Venice, and Delta Heritage Academy in Buras. The segregationists established the Plaquemines Parish Independent School System – separate and apart from the Plaquemines Parish School Board – to manage the new private schools. Perez directed the Plaquemines School Board to transfer the control of all funds to the Plaquemines Parish Commission Council. The enrollment of white students at integrated public schools dropped significantly along with a mass exodus of white teachers, custodians, cooks, and bus drivers. They all went to the independent school system established Perez and white segregationists.

Judge Perez believed the opening of the private schools would the closure of all the public schools in Plaquemines Parish. How Woodlawn High School on the East Bank was the only integ school that closed as a result of the private school academies estable by Perez and white segregationists. The five African American sturwho tried to integrate Woodlawn High School returned to Pha High School.



Former Woodlawn School the only white whool on the east bank of Plagueraines Parish

To stop the Plaquemines Parish Commission Council from ta control of the public school funds, Reverend Victor Ragas along the Plaquemines Parish Civic & Political Organization brought a fee lawsuit. Attorney A. P. Tureaud of the NAACP represented Rev. R and the group in the lawsuit, which proved to be a success. The rights advocates won their lawsuit, which forced the Plaquemines P. Commission Council to return the funds to the Plaquemines P. School Board. The return of these funds allowed all the integration between the public schools, with the exception of Woodlawn High School, to read open and in operation.

The federal government was also successful in its legal challenge to Ja Perez's "segregation forever" legislation. The loss of federal revenues too costly for parish governments and school districts in Louisi As a result, many segregationist legislators in other Louisiana pari abandoned their "segregation forever" legal challenges against the Bow Board of Education decision and the desegregation of the possibools in their parishes. Judge Perez found himself alone to legal challenge the federal government orders to desegregate public schools.

## Praise for JUDGE

"I highly recommend James Conaway as a guide for those who seek the habitat of the last of the Deep South's political dinosaurs. But bring your boots. There's all sorts of mud down in Perezland."

> —Robert Sherrill, author of Gothic Politics in the Deep South

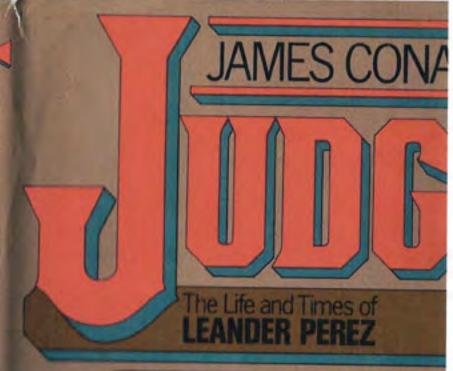
"Judge is a careful, well-documented look at an all too recent cancer on the American South. The antics described here would be humorous in a fictional principality— James Conaway's careful reporting puts the seriousness into a character that nearly defies belief."

-Julian Bond

"A competent, well-reasoned book showing . . . that it can happen here, and has,"

-Larry King









"A feedmating and fast-moving account of a fabulous eburactor in the politics of Louisiana and the South." —T. Harry Williams, author of Huey Long (for other advance praise of Judge, see back of jacket)

His credo: "Always take the offensive. The defensive ain't worth a dance." His ideology: "Democracy? I hate that word." His style: perhaps the most outrageously and alarmingly dichaorial use and abuse of governmental powers that our country has ever seen.

In this first biography of "Judge" Leander Perez-for nearly half a century the absolute monarch of Plaque-mines Parish (county) in southern Louisiana, an immense power in the politics of the state and the entire South-James Conaway gives us a profile as frightening as it is fascinating, detailing as it does how one man can transform the governmental process into his own, private tool.

Officially. Leanther Perez was district attorney of Plaquemines; his brief tenure in the 1920's as district judge was his only other tour in public office. Yet, in the Byzantine world of Louisiana polities, only Huey Long was more powerful—and much of even Long's power was derived from his early alliance with Perez.

Powerful in the state, Perez was, in the smaller world of Plaquentines and the Twenty-lifth Judicial District, power itself. The parish virtually floats on oil, and the oil floated Perez into great wealth in the years that he served the people of the parish at \$5,000 per annum. He run the lever boards that granted oil leases; the bodies that controlled elections, jury selection, the schools; a political machine that somehow, miraculously, would deliver more votes than there were voters in the county—and which hadn't even the subtlety to give Perez's opponents more than a handful. (In the 1930 U.S. senatorial race, St. Bernard Parish, part of the Twenty-lifth District, cast 3,979 votes for Huey Long, and 9 for his opponent. At the time, St. Bernard had 2,454 registered voters.)

As Comway shows us, Percz would stop at nothing to consolidate, and exercise, his power. He once posted deputies at the parish lines to keep out a new sheriff (continued on back fee). (continued from front flap)

appointed by a governor who opposed him, and onlyand just barely-releated when the state National
Guard, in full combat regalia with machine gons
mounted on their vehicles, escorted the new man into
office. He reopened, and threatened to use, a decaying,
malaria-ridden Spanish fortress as a "detention camp"
for civil rights workers who strayed into the parish. He
mobilized and helped to fund the Disiecrate in 1918,
and was instrumental in the formation of the notorious
White Citizens Councils (his anti-integration activities
eventually led to his excommunication from the Catholic
Church). Even in death, his influence prevailed, he had
wisely installed his two sons in Plaquemines' power
positions a few years before he died in 1969.

A readable, authoritative portrait of an alarming, mitrageous man, James Consway's Judge is political history at its best, about politics at its worst.

James Conaway was born in Memphis, Tenurous, in 1941. He was graduated from Southwestern University in Memphis, and was a Wallace Stegner Fellow in Creative Writing at Stanford. From 1965 to 1967, M. Consway was a reporter for the New Orleans Times Picayane, and he has since become a widely published free-lance writer whose work has appeared in The Atlantic, The New York Times Magazine, and other periodicals. He is also the author of a novel, The Rick Easy, published in 1970.

Jacket design by Bob Korn

Photo by Robert W. Kelley, Life Magazine, © 1958-1972 Time Inc.



Alfred A. Knopf, Publisher, New York

the constitutionality of the ordinance, and the Council amended it, requiring employers to keep a file on all outside employees. The Council also offered a reward of five hundred dollars for information leading to the conviction of anyone threatening or "compelling" Negroes to vote; however, apparently cognizant of increasing national attention, they also legislated a thousand dollar reward for information leading to the conviction of anyone burning Negro homes or churches.

The nationwide interest that focused on Plaquemines now brought various visitors to the parish. A group of students from Sarah Lawrence College showed up and asked for a tour of Fort St. Philip. Perez personally escorted them through the prison, explaining that it was to be used to discourage demonstrations "which amount to plain anarchy and are Communistinspired." He added that according to a parish ordinance, demonstrators could be imprisoned for three days while an "investigation" was conducted, and could be held after that until bond was posted; it was all precautionary—in case "a dark cloud [should] drift over Plaquemines."

Firm in their admiration for his leadership in the face of "outside agitation," a local musical group enlogized Perez in sung:

There's a man I know from my home town who's really very great.

I wish he were president of the whole United States.

He stays a step ahead of those who think they're smartest now.

But when they find just where they stand, it's just too wet to plow.

There'd be a White House cleaning, and you'd even dust the shelf.

You'd have the place as spotless as Mister Clean himself. I'd like to hear you tell them off, just what they ought to know.

I've got a hunch you'd tell that bunch just where they could go.

You'd knock 'em down and best 'em up, and hang 'em by their toes.

And when they hollered that's enough, you'd cut'em down and then.

You'd turn around and stomp the ground, and do it once again.

You've got a place for all those who lots of trouble make, A free ride in a cattle boat, and a bed behind the gate, Where the skeeters they are real campires, and the snakes just grow and grow,

On this little isle of paradise, near the Gulf of Mexico.
Judge Perez, Judge Perez, I'm for you,
O'er the Stars and the Stripes and the Blue.
I know this great big nation needs some real intelligence.
I wish you were in Washington, and were our President.

In September of 1965, Hurricane Betsy drove up from the Guif, causing widespread damage along the coast and demolishing many homes and buildings in Plaquemines. Water pushed by the wind up the Mississippi topped the front levees and met even more flood waters moving in across the salt marshes from the Gulf. When the water finally went down, the purish was faced with a cleaning-up and rebuilding task of massive proportions. The frequent intense storms that strike the parish have always acted as major deterrents to unified political opposition: the residents are preoccupied with personal disaster, and can hardly oppose those on whom they must toly in times of crisis. Thus, hurricanes usually provide effective diversion. This time, however, the storm led indirectly to manageravation of Perez's problems.

A low days after the hurricane, the New Orleans office of the F.B.I. received complaints that blacks in Plaquemines were being forced at gunpoint to assist in clean-up operations. The N.A.A.C.P. made specific complaints on behalf of two black transform, Clarence Marchand and Fred Patterson, who worked at the Scottsville school. According to Marchand, "we were walking toward the cafeteria and were accosted by Leander Perez, Sr., and his bodyguard, known to me as 'Dutch.' Perez said, 'Hey, Thomas [referring to the school janitor accompanying them], get me a bus and a driver.' And to Mr. Patterson and myself he said, 'You two damn boys get on the bus, you're going to work.' We tried to explain to him that we were teachers and had special duties to perform. He said, 'Damn what you have to do, get your asses on that bus,' Miss Andree Lawrence, our principal, came out of the academic building and tried to explain to him that we were teachers and that Mr. Moncla, the superintendent, had instructed us to perform other duties. He said, 'The hell with their duties. I'll take care of Moncla."

"At this point his bodyguard said, 'All right, niggers, get the bell on the bus.' I refused, and he said, 'You'll get on, one way or another.' Again I refused. He grabbed my right arm and raised his club (a three-foot stick with an iron tip) to hit me. Mr. Patterson grabbed me and said, 'Let's get on the bus to prevent getting hurt.' When we were on the bus, Perez asked, 'Which one of you niggers started that trouble?' I said that I had started it. He said, 'Nigger, if you had hit Mr. Dutch, they would have had to take you away from here in an ambulance.' We were taken to the Boothville-Venice high school [all white] to clean up."

Patterson's statement was similar. He quoted Perez as saying, when the two men refused to board the bus, "I have two or three hundred of you niggers here in this school [as refugers from the hurricane], eating my food, and you're getting on this bus."

"Ferez's bedyguard, Detch Assavedo, was a special investigator for the distriautomory's office. A short, extraordinarily sturdy Spaniard with a heavy jaw and a light gris, he had a reputation as a man best not aegored. He was devoted to the Judge, stured his belief in the Zionist conspiracy, and in later years accomparted him almost everywhere, carrying a .38 Magnum either on the sour of his car or inside his jacket. Dutch was said to have persuaded some blacks in help clean up the mads by wielding a submachine gan. Asked about this a few years later, he said, "I've had so many different guns in my hands so many times, that I can't remember what gun I was holding at any particular time." The N.A.A.C.P. claimed that many Negroes had be forced to work at gunpoint, and explained that "a request w made for volunteer workers to clean the reads in Plaquemir Parish, with no one responding. Later on in the day, Mr. I ander Perez, Sr., was able to get sixty-five volunteers (voluteer is literal) to work on the roads."

Perez also rejected a plan of the American Red Cross operate three emergency refugee centers in Plaquemines du ing the hurricane season because the plan didn't state wheth

the centers would be segregated.

The F.B.I. turned the N.A.A.C.P.'s complaints over to the Justice Department, and intervention by the federal government in the Twenty-fifth Judicial District seemed inevitable; the next election, federal observers descended upon six possibles in southern Louisiana, including Plaquemines and St. Be nard. Perez blasted the observers as "spies" and "enemies. When he made his traditional round of the polling places accompanied by Mama Perez, who seemed determined to kee Lélé from clashing openly with representatives of the feder government—Perez discovered two observers at the Bel Chasse firehouse, one sitting at a table near the commissione checking voters' names, and the other sitting at the back of il attation. He pointed at the observer seated at the table, and to a Times-Picagune photographer, "Take a picture of that ferral spy."

The observer seated at the back of the station came forway

and said, "I don't believe I know you."

"No, you don't know me," Perez told him, "and you're n

He walked over to the table and instructed the your commissioners, "If these federal observers get in your way, to them to get out of here."

One of the observers said, "If you're telling us to go, we

Mit.

Percy seemed aware of what further trouble that might lesto "I didn't say any such thing," he shouted. "You know the you sount alock."

