

# PORCH & PARISH

A SOUTHERN LIFESTYLE JOURNAL



HIGHLIGHTING  
LOCAL BUSINESSES

CONNECTING WITH  
THE COMMUNITY

UNCOVERING  
SPECIAL PLACES



# welcome

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Happy fall, y'all!

We are so grateful to sort of be back into the swing of things with school and a routine, as best as we can in these crazy times. First and foremost, we want to thank the community for the overwhelmingly positive response to the first edition of *Porch & Parish* magazine. We are so pleased to bring you a 24 page issue, eight pages larger than our inaugural one, and we hope you enjoy even more content in this Harvest Issue. We are all about the upcoming holiday season and hope you find some inspiration for giving back, shopping local, and having fun around the house. We welcome your feedback and hope you will submit any story ideas! Thanks for reading.

*Jen Gennaro*



Our launch celebration was held at The Magnolia Fields in Downtown Zachary.

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As a kid, Benjamin pump in hand, I would lie in my backyard in the Fall, covered with pine needles until the doves came home to roost and—pow! I brought my son, Max, to the Bar D Outdoors evening hunt this year. Seeing doves drop from the sky like giant feathered raindrops made him think of the Prince song, “When Doves Cry.” My mind went to what meal I would prepare after the hunt.



*For story and recipe, turn to page 19*

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# SPOOKCATION

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## Dental Tips & Tricks for your Tricks or Treats

It's that time of year again! Time for ghosts and goblins, pumpkin and spice, and most importantly, trick or treating. As a dentist and orthodontist, we know that this time of year can lead to two things; increased cavities and broken brackets! We, along with the American Dental Association, recommend these tips and tricks to help you during Halloween to help you avoid these mishaps.

**Tip #1** - Choose a certain time of the day to indulge in your stash of candy, preferably after your meal. This way you will not expose your teeth to the sugary candy for long periods of time.

**Tip #2** - Watch out for the sticky and hard candy. These types of candy stay on the teeth for long periods of time and can contribute to cavities. And if you have braces, they can break your brackets and delay orthodontic treatment time.

**Tip #3** - Brush and floss after you eat candy. If you cannot get to your toothbrush, floss or mouthwash, chew sugar free gum for 20 minutes to aid in the removal of candy from your teeth. And if you can't get to any of that, drink water to rinse away the candy from your teeth.

We hope these tips and tricks prove to be helpful for this Halloween and beyond. If you have any questions, feel free to contact us at our office at 225.570.8030, and check our Facebook for information on the Halloween Candy Buyback!



Article By: Dr. David Carter & Dr. Adriane Carter



# SPOOKEVENTS YOU WON'T WANT TO MISS!

## 13th Gate Haunted House

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## Mrs. Heather's Pumpkin Patch

31458 LA Hwy 43, Albany

**Oct. 1<sup>st</sup> - Nov. 8<sup>th</sup>, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.**

Pick a pumpkin from the field, zipline, jumping pillow, tunnel slide, face painting, duck racing, pedal tractors, hay maze, milk a cow, roll down the hill, nature trail. Admission: \$8 per child; Adults Free.

## Barnhill Preserve 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Pumpkin Patch

11342 LA-955, Ethel

**Every Saturday/Sunday from Oct. 2<sup>nd</sup> - Nov. 21<sup>st</sup>, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.**

\$16 admission includes: kangaroo encounters, animal shows, corn pit, wagon rides, archery, pumpkin from the patch, and fall games. For more information or to purchase tickets visit: [barnhillpreserve.com](http://barnhillpreserve.com).

## Pumpkin Patch Extravaganza

St. Patrick's Episcopal Church & Day School, 1322 Church Street, Zachary

**Oct. 17<sup>th</sup> - 31<sup>st</sup>, Open Monday-Saturday, 11 a.m. - 7 p.m.; Sunday: 1-5 p.m.**

Pick a pumpkin!

**Saturday, Oct. 23<sup>rd</sup> & 30<sup>th</sup>**

Fall Fest activities: Arts and Crafts, Story-time, Games, Food and Fun, Bake Sale, Hayrides.

## Haunted Night Flights

Magnolia Ridge Adventure Park

11342 LA-955 East, Ethel

**October 15, 16, 29, 30 at 8 p.m.**

Come zip our High Elements Course at night with a Halloween twist! Be prepared for a fright on our haunted trails. \$75 per person. No refunds. Visit [magnoliaridgeadventurepark.com](http://magnoliaridgeadventurepark.com) to purchase tickets.

## Halloween Hootenanny

Audubon State Historic Site

11788 LA Hwy 965, St. Francisville

**Saturday, Oct. 23<sup>rd</sup>, 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.**

Bring the family and see Halloween nature style at the park. Photo opportunities, crafts, scavenger hunts, early tricks or treats, and more. Admission will be charged. For more information, please contact the park at 225-635-3739.

## BREC's Boo at the Zoo

3601 Thomas Road, Baton Rouge

**Saturday, Oct. 16<sup>th</sup>-Sunday, Oct. 24<sup>th</sup>, 9:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.**

Participants should wear their best costumes and enjoy a fun and festive day at the zoo. There will be traditional photo ops throughout the zoo with Fall and Halloween themed structures. Regular zoo admission applies.

## Night Maze & Bonfire

LSU Ag Center Botanic Gardens

4560 Essen Lane, Baton Rouge

**Saturday, October 30<sup>th</sup>, 6 - 9 p.m.**

2 hour Corn Maze experience. Hayrides, pick satsumas, climb the hay mountain, petting farm, mini hay maze, take a pic' and pick-a-pumpkin in the pumpkin patch, as well as a few new activities! Advanced tickets are required. Available at [Eventbrite.com](http://Eventbrite.com).

*continued on pg. 23*





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# COZY FALL MASTER MAKEOVER

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Decorating your bedroom for fall can be a fun and fast DIY project, and it doesn't mean completely redoing your décor. You can make your room cozy and get into sweater weather spirit by just making a few changes:



**COLOR:** Switch out summer colors to rich fall colors-think rust, gold, dark green, cranberry red, chestnut brown.

**TEXTURE:** Add texture by using different fabrics like velvet, chenille, woven sweater, leather and linen, and swapping art pieces.

**WARMTH:** Candles and twinkle lights, bedside lamps with warm light bulbs to give off a golden glow. (Regardless of the season, we always recommend a nice pair of bedside lamps!)

**LAYERS:** Add layers and warmth, like a fur throw blanket.

**SCENT:** Candles or plug ins with fall scents; living wreaths and greenery.

## PIECES ADDED:

- Faux fur throw blanket (Dirt Cheap find \$15-Threshold brand)
- Greenery (Dirt Cheap find \$5-Hearth & Hand from Target)
- Foot of bed bench (moved from other side of the room)
- Candle (Walmart-Better Homes & Gardens brand \$15)
- Battery operated candles (Walmart or Amazon \$12)
- Basket with blanket (repurposed from living room)
- Wreath (Homegoods \$20)
- 2 lamps (Dirt Cheap find \$40)
- 1 sweater pillow (Big Lots \$14)
- 2 rust colored pillows (Walmart \$17)
- Tray (Dirt Cheap find \$7-Target brand)



Article By: Paradigm Home Staging



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# GIVING BACK

CHARLENE BOLTON, FOUNDER OF CHARLEE'S ANGELS IN ZACHARY, EXPLAINS HER GROUP'S OUTREACH AND HOW TO GET INVOLVED.

What exactly is a Charlee's Angel? It's a small group of classy, yet sassy, kindhearted ladies who volunteer their time to help bring smiles to the senior population. We visit nursing homes, assisted living homes and war veteran homes every Thursday. Our group accepts all ages, and there is no fee to join. What drives us to do what we do? It's so important for residents to receive the gift of touch. The act of simply taking someone's hand and holding it while dancing with them will bring a huge smile to their faces and reminds them of when they were young and carefree. Charlee's Angels plays nostalgic, fun, jitterbug music that they love, and we are known for making it a priority to always dance WITH the seniors, making our actual line dancing performance for them secondary. We are definitely not The LSU Golden Girls when we attempt to line dance at each outreach... it's more like the television show, The Golden Girls! The group goes to lunch before or after every outreach dressed in costume. You do not have to dress up or dance if you do not wish to. Just being able to hug seniors or giving them your time is such a special gift. For our first time outreaches, we bring a beautiful nostalgic custom made shower curtain that is hung onto a display stand where we take individual photos of the residents. We dress the ladies up in faux mink, leopard stoles, vintage hats, and fake pearls, and for the men, we usually dress them in a cowboy hat or a fedora and a snazzy scarf or bow tie around their neck! We have the pictures printed and mail them to the Activities Director. This way, the seniors can receive an individual photo of themselves to see just how beautiful they really are!

For Christmas, we always make sure that eight local nursing homes and two War Veterans Homes are given Christmas gifts. We also created an "Adopt a War Veteran" for their birthday, and wonderful volunteers bring them a special treat or lunch for their birthday.

Our next big project is going to be one that I have dreamed of doing since I started volunteering at the Louisiana War Veteran's Home. We are now going to have nostalgic wall paper murals painted that can also be easily removed. Some of the murals will be of an old dog lying down near a fishing pole waiting for his human, a tent set up in the woods with a canoe nearby with an old coffee pot heating up on the fire, an old five and dime store, a grandson selling farm fresh produce on the side of the road with grandpa, an old time car parked at a drive in movie...the ideas are endless! Veterans will soon be able to take a walk down Memory Lane with one another, talking about the good old days. All nursing homes should have their walls covered in wall murals to help stir up memories of a senior's life that they once loved. After all, it's their home, and it should reflect a piece of themselves.

If you wish to become a member of Charlee's Angels, or perhaps you know of a senior who is retired and wants to get out and help make a difference, simply contact **Charlene Soileau Bolton** at **225.933.7647** or email me at **charliehorse228@hotmail.com**

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Molly Myers Dance Academy offers classes in Hip Hop, Lyrical, Jazz, Tap, Beginner Ballet, and Pointe classes. MMDA also has a competition team that recently brought home 1st in the region for Lyrical Dance at Starpower National Talent Competition and Judge's Choice Award at DanceMakers Convention & Competition. There's still time to register for the 2021-2022 dance year!

phone: 504.715.5205  
email: Molly\_MyersDance@att.net

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(across from Ravenwood Subdivision)

MollyMyersDance.org  
Molly Myers Dance Academy, LLC

# COMMERCIAL CORNER

## Stricklin Family's Migration Gives New Meaning to Family Business

Used commercial building sales are relatively rare occurrences in Zachary. Even rarer is the story of when the Stricklin family of Vidalia, LA came to town, bringing five businesses, employees and all. Bethany and Michael Stricklin, Sr. bought Rip Rittell's building on Hwy. 19. Michael Stricklin Jr. is purchasing others in Zachary. What will the family develop next?

25 year old Michael Stricklin drove into Zachary about an hour after his wife delivered their baby to tour a property. "My wife literally was about to deliver. We moved Thursday, baby was born Friday at Woman's, puts an offer in at Rip's building. Done deal," recounts Stricklin. He was putting the offer in on behalf of his mother, Bethany Stricklin, who stayed behind at the hospital with his wife.

The building will soon house a variation of one or more businesses the family owned in Vidalia. The family plans to put \$150,000 into an eye-catching buildout on the well-travelled Highway 19.

### COMPARABLE:

Rip Rittell's Bldg. | 4824 Hwy. 19 | 3,840 sq. ft. | heated & cooled | \$315,000.00 sold price | \$82.03/sq. ft. | renovations planned \$150,000.00, including commercial kitchen & high end interior upgrades | all-in price per sq. ft. = \$121.09

The corridor hosts some of the largest daily car counts.

Michael Stricklin Jr. is the co-founder of Stricklin and Porter Land, LLC, Stricklin and Porter Construction, LLC, and Global Tree Service. AND he's currently in the permitting process for a residential subdivision consisting of 160 acres with plans to build out 61-65 large lots near Munson Rd. His father, Michael Stricklin, Sr. recently retired from a high paying job of 26 years as an oil field worker and will be the licensed GC at Stricklin & Porter Construction, LLC.

Bethany Stricklin, the family matriarch, ran a market known as Cajun Specialty Meats and Seafood, LLC. The Zachary re-brand is still TBD. "The chuck is locally sourced that we grind in house," says Bethany. The meat market offers fresh/not frozen, specialty meats, stuffed chickens, and in-house smoked sausage. Bethany was more cautious about giving away too many details on the other concept—but it's sure to cause a stir. Hint

In total, the family business migration includes a staggering 10 households to town—34 people, all needing permanent housing.

"It's not about money, it's about family," says Bethany. "We really treat you like family, and when I take you in, I keep you forever." What will the next 10 years look like? I ask. "Busy," answers papa Strickland.

What's going to happen to Rip's Photography business? Rip is going to relocate and continue operating at full capacity.

Article By: Mike Gennaro, CCIM



Jacob Mansell

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Mike Gennaro, CCIM

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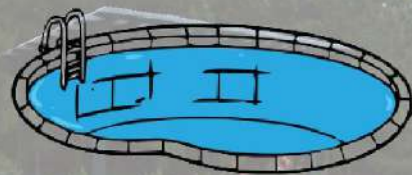
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# WHAT'S IN SEASON

The Zachary Farmer's Market has made an impressive comeback over the past two years, largely thanks to the efforts of Nita Edwards, who began volunteering her time and talents in October 2019 to get the market back up and running.

Edwards met with city officials to discuss revitalizing the market, which had eventually dwindled down to a lone quail egg salesman. "The Mayor's office has been extremely kind" and supportive, she said, and it was their suggestion to barricade off Lee Street for vendors and shoppers. Starting with just 13 committed booths, the market now has 70 at its height, averaging 45 on a weekly basis.

As the temps begin to cool, you can expect to see beautiful fall bounty lining Lee Street every Saturday morning. It's the heyday of beets, broccoli, chard, carrots and collard greens, says Elliott Scroggs of Sunnyside Farms, who was one of the initial 13 farmers who helped restart the market. While many people love to pick up a new vegetable they've never tried and take it home to search for recipes, Scroggs says, to him, the simpler the better. "To me, the easiest and best is a simple roasting of carrots, broccoli and cauliflower. Olive oil, salt and pepper and roast them a little past al dente—it opens up the flavor to it a whole lot," says Scroggs.



Photographer: Elliott Scroggs,  
Sunnyside Farms

While produce is at the heart of every farmer's market, it's not just vegetables for sale. Edwards says as long as it's grown, created, prepared or baked, it's welcome at the market. "We have artisans of every kind," she says, including pottery, jewelry, woodcrafts, health and beauty products, soaps, lotions, candles, wreaths, décor, flowers, plants, baked goods, honey, candies, jams, salsas, meats and prepared foods. There are a couple of food trucks and potentially more coming: she's especially excited at the prospect of a Korean Spring Roll truck that's interested in joining. The Bean Dip Factory is always a hit, selling tacos and the like, and people can be seen eating Mexican food at all hours of the morning while doing their shopping. Porche's Cajun Food truck also joined the market recently, providing another option for a hot meal on site. But there's definitely demand for a coffee truck or booth, she says. Edwards welcomes feedback and asks, "What would Zachary like to see added to the market?"

The market celebrates its "rebirth" on October 9<sup>th</sup>. Check their Facebook page for a list of vendors, guest vendors and other special events to commemorate the occasion, and be sure to hop in your car every Saturday morning and head down to Lee Street to find out what's in season.

Article By: Jen Gennaro



# WHAT'S HAPPENING IN... THE CITY OF ZACHARY



## Every Saturday: Farmers Market

Lee & Main Street | 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Fresh produce, home baked goods, handmade items for sale by over 60 vendors.



## Friday, October 8<sup>th</sup>

Zachary Youth Park, 1650 E. Mt. Pleasant | 6 p.m. - 9 p.m.

### Rockin' Dopsie and the Zydeco Twisters

Presented by Downtown Live at the Gazebo Committee, and generous local sponsors. Free to the public. Please bring chairs and blankets. Leave ice chests at home. Gourmet food trucks will be offering food for sale. No pets please.



## Friday, October 29<sup>th</sup> - 31<sup>st</sup>

Lee and Main Street | 6 p.m.

### Movie/Maze In The Park

Fun filled maze, crafts, food trucks, and children's movie in the park. Movie Feature: *Monsters Inc.* starts at dusk. Thanks to our sponsors Dr. Mandy and Joshua Lea. Please bring chairs or blankets. Leave pets and ice chests at home.

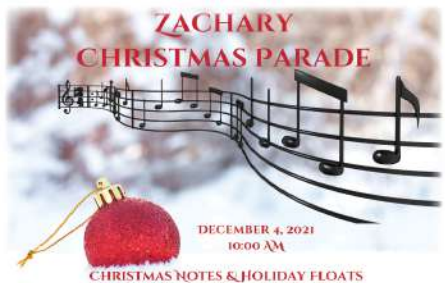


## Saturday, November 13<sup>th</sup>

Parking lot between City Hall and Z Market | 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

### Farmers Market + Cars & Coffee

Over 40 cars, trucks & motorcycles on display to enjoy. This event is held every second Saturday of each month.



## Saturday, December 4<sup>th</sup>

Church to Main Street | 10 a.m.

### Christmas Notes & Holiday Floats Featuring the Songs of Christmas

Annual Christmas Parade hosted by the Zachary Chamber of Commerce. Parade begins at Rouses, continues down Main Street past the City Hall.



Downtown Zachary  
The City Of Zachary

Zachary Farmers Market  
Zachary Chamber of Commerce



# HELPING HANDS

**BAR D OUTDOORS HELPS PHYSICALLY CHALLENGED PEOPLE GET BACK TO THE HUNT!**

**Article and Recipe By: Mike Gennaro, CCIM**

*Porch & Parish* put together a team of hot shots for the Bar D Outdoors 6<sup>th</sup> annual dove hunt, including Ricky McDavid, Jacob Mansell, Todd Watts and myself. Upon arriving at the 600 (+/-) acre hunt club in St. Francisville for the season opener at dawn, hunt masters Mark Daigle and Stan Branton told the story of David Daniel, an avid hunter, who experienced a stroke in 2006 and then in 2014, leaving him paralyzed and with little voice.

When his friends started helping him go hunting, it sparked something. They began to help kids with disabilities do the same. They formed Bar D Outdoors to fund the state-of-the-art equipment and amenities to help kids hunt. "This truly is, 'Where the Wheels Meet the Woods' and just because you're down, doesn't mean you're done," says David Daniel.

As first light crept in, the opening shots fired. Doves covered the sky, catching our group off guard just as Todd Watts was taking his first dip of tobacco. As the day went on, some amazing shots and not so amazing shots were taken over our group's haybale blind.

The group is actively seeking more young hunters that require assistance hunting. "If there's something better than seeing the smiles on these kids faces after a successful hunt, I haven't seen it yet," explains Branton. Contact the organization on their Facebook Page, Bar D Outdoors.

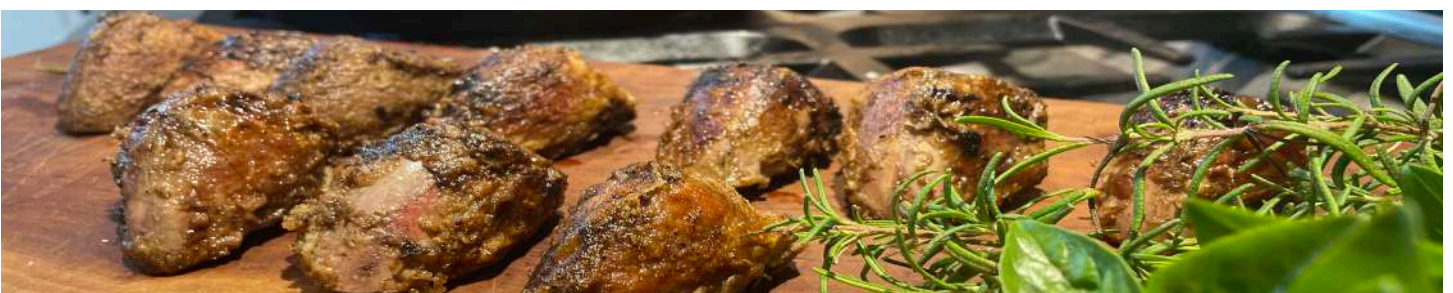
## WHEN DOVES CRY: ROSEMARY BRAISED DOVES OVER RICE

Heat cast iron skillet over medium heat. Dredge 10-15 dove breasts in seasoned flour and brown in butter and peanut oil. At high heat, add more butter to skillet, and pour a splash of sherry or port to flame sear the doves. Set aside. Add trinity and carrots and cook until softened. Add water and bouillon and stir to combine; add doves, cavity side up, cover in broth (adding water and bouillon as needed) and a splash of port or sherry. Simmer 45 minutes. Add rosemary and chopped basil leaves. Plate on white rice with a side of French bread and salted butter.

*3 Doves Per Serving as Available*

### INGREDIENTS

- 1 Cup Trinity
- 3 Carrots
- 10-15 Dove Breasts, skinned, bone in
- 1 Sprig of Rosemary
- 1 Sprig Basil
- 1 Cup of Louisiana Rice
- 2 Drops of Cold Blooded Killer Hot Sauce
- 4 Cups Seasoned Flour
- 1 Tbsp. Better than Bouillon Turkey Base
- 1 Cup Rice
- 3 Tbsp. Peanut Oil
- 1/2-1 Cup of Water
- 1 Stick Salted Butter
- Port or Sherry



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LET US DO THE DIRT WORK

# CHOCOLATE PECAN HAND PIES



Megan Southall with Elated Bakes gives us an adaptation of a hand pie recipe so easy, even the smallest hands can help!



## THE CHOCOLATE PECAN HAND PIES:

Preheat the oven to 350F. Unroll refrigerated pie crusts until flat. Use a seasonal cookie cutter (we opted for pumpkin) to cut out the shapes. Beat one egg and set aside. You will use this to brush your pastry later on. In a small saucepan over low heat, melt the butter, then add the brown sugar, corn syrup and salt. Beat the remaining 2 eggs, then whisk them into the mixture. Whisk until completely combined, then add the pecans. Over low heat, stir the mixture constantly until it thickens. Remove the saucepan from the heat and set aside. On a parchment lined baking sheet or a silicone baking mat, set out half of the shaped cut-outs. Brush the beaten egg over the entire top of each shape. Add a small amount of pecan pie filling to each crust, being sure to leave at least half an inch of space around the outer edges of the shape to seal it closed. Sprinkle chocolate chips til your heart's content. Line up the other half of the shapes on top of the bottom shapes and the pecan mixture. Press the edges closed slightly with your fingers. Using a fork, press around the edges of the shape to seal it completely. Brush the top of the pies with the rest of the beaten egg. Bake at 350F for 20 - 25 minutes until golden brown. Remove from oven and let cool before adding the glaze.

## INGREDIENTS

- 2 Refrigerated Pie Crusts
- 2 Tablespoons Butter
- 1/3 Cup Brown Sugar
- 1/4 Cup Light Corn Syrup
- 3 Eggs
- 1/8 Teaspoon Salt
- A LOT Chocolate chips
- 1/2 Cup Chopped Pecans
- 1/2 Cup Powdered Sugar
- 1 Tablespoon Milk

## THE GLAZE:

Combine the powdered sugar and milk in a small bowl. Add very little milk at a time, stirring as you go until you reach a nice, thick consistency. The icing should be smooth, but thick and slow to pour. If it's too runny, add more powdered sugar. If it's too thick, add more milk. Pour the glaze into a plastic zip bag, seal it closed, then cut off a small corner of the bag. Gently squeeze the glaze over the pumpkins.



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**GARRETT CONDON**  
*President & Founding Member*

Garrett Condon previously served in the military as an active duty JAG for 12 years and remains in the Air Force Reserves, now serving as a Lieutenant Colonel.



**DIANE BURKHART**  
*Founding Member*

Diane Burkhardt retired as the Administrator of Legislative Services after serving the Louisiana State Senate for 28 years.

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## SPOOKEVENTS CONTINUED

### Haints, Haunts and Halloween

LSU Rural Life Museum

4560 Essen Lane, Baton Rouge

**Sunday, Oct. 31<sup>st</sup>, 3 - 6 p.m.**

Enjoy storytelling, cake walks, games, and trick-or-treats. Admission fee: \$5.00 per person. Recommended for children aged 2 to 9 years old. For more information, visit: [lsu.edu/rurallife/events.php](http://lsu.edu/rurallife/events.php).

### Jack-Eaux-Lanterns: BREC Event

Zachary Community Park

20055 Old Scenic Hwy, Zachary

**Monday, Oct. 25<sup>th</sup>, 4:30 - 6:30 p.m.**

Bring the whole family and join us for a special pumpkin carving and painting event. Ages 6+. Cost: \$10 per pumpkin. For more information, contact: [monica.porras@brec.org](mailto:monica.porras@brec.org).

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