

In observance of the upcoming holidays,  
all offices will be closed on:

**Labor Day**  
Monday, September 4<sup>th</sup>

**Columbus Day**  
Monday, October 9<sup>th</sup>

**Thanksgiving Day**  
Thursday, November 23<sup>rd</sup>  
All offices will close at noon on Friday, November 24<sup>th</sup>

## Congratulations to the winners of the Quarterly Stars & Stripes Drawing!

**Suzanne Bryant** of Metairie

**Pearl Alleman** of Pierre Part

**Michael Waguespack, Jr.** of Thibodaux

### Thank you for reading this publication of Stars & Stripes!

To register for a Visa Gift Card from First American Bank, please complete the information below and return to any First American Bank office or mail to:

First American Bank  
Attn: Stars and Stripes  
P.O. Box 550  
Vacherie, LA 70090



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Please return by October 31, 2017 to be eligible for this drawing.  
Winners will be announced in the next quarterly publication of Stars and Stripes.



September 2017

## On Deck *with Jim Henderson*

The following is Jim's acceptance speech from his recent induction into the Louisiana Sports Writers Hall of Fame.

Let me begin by thanking the Louisiana Sports Writers and its 35 member Hall of Fame Selection Committee for this wonderful and unexpected honor.

As I look back on my career, whatever success I've attained has been the result of good timing, good fortune, and good people.

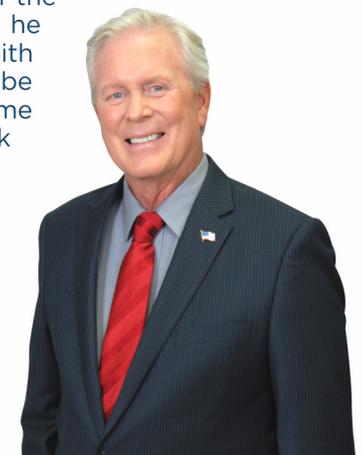
It started in 1973 at a new NBC affiliate in Panama City, Florida, WDTB Channel 13. It quickly became known around town as WIOU. It ranks up there with the worst stations in broadcast history. I truly did not know as I arrived at the station on a daily basis whether it would still be in business. As we headed to our second Christmas there, the word was we were in line for Christmas bonuses. By the time I arrived, everyone in the newsroom had been fired, quit or laid off - except me and one other reporter.

On Christmas Eve the approximately 30 remaining employees at the station found on their desks our Christmas bonus - 30 fruitcakes. There was a suggestion box on the wall at the entrance of the station. Christmas morning it contained 30 fruitcakes. Not all of them fit. The rest became wall art.

We began as Newscope 13. When one of the original investors bought out his partners, he addressed his long standing displeasure with the name. No longer would our newscast be Newscope 13. Instead being in the central time zone, we would be the 5 and 10 o'clock Report. But our signal extended to the East to Tallahassee and the Eastern Time zone. Coveting that market, management quickly placed an ad in the Tallahassee TV Guide that read "Watch the 5 and 10 o'clock Report at 6 and 11".

Why that station struggled I have no idea.

continued on page 2



One more anecdote about my time at WIOU. To save money we would bring in distributive education students just before the newscasts to run our studio cameras. We had one named Gary. There was a pool hall directly across the street from the studio. Gary liked to hang out there between newscasts. Gary liked to shoot pool. Gary liked to bet. But Gary didn't like to pay up when he lost...as he usually did.

One night it was close to 10 o'clock and no sign of Gary. Suddenly we hear this ruckus at the front door. As we opened it, Gary sprawls into the foyer having lost at pool and the ensuing fight when he refused to honor his bet and fled for refuge at the station.

We quickly dragged Gary into the studio and propped him up behind the camera seconds before the newscast began. In the commercial break before my sportscast, Gary advised us to keep our camera rolling when the newscast was over, because he was going to go back to the pool hall and kill the guy who'd roughed him up. With that he produced a loaded revolver from the back of his pants and placed it on top of the studio camera. I proceeded to read my sportscast to a camera with a loaded gun atop it and a camera man who was crying and bleeding, his clothes tattered.

That almost never happened to me again in subsequent stops at WSB in Atlanta and later WWL and WVUE in New Orleans.

After 2 years I got a huge break when I went from market 186 in Panama City to market 16 in Atlanta. I had been recommended unbeknownst to me to Atlanta's number one station by Atlanta Braves announcer Milo Hamilton whom I'd interviewed during a recent trip there.

Good timing, good fortune, good people.

Two and half years later the same combination took me to WWL in New Orleans. My intention was to come for a short time and return to WSB when the number one job opened up. Now nearly 40 years later I'm still here, never to leave New Orleans.

Along the way I became the play-by-play voice of the Saints in 1986, interrupted by a season with Hank Stram on CBS and another with my boyhood idol, Paul Hornung, on Notre Dame Football.

I was recommended to CBS by John Madden whose agent had requested the tapes of the Saints 1989 pre-season game for Madden and Pat Summerall to prepare for their broadcast of the Saints - Cowboys season opener.

Knowing that Madden would probably be watching them in the comfort of his bus, I put some of my best work at the head of the first quarter which he would have to watch before getting to what he truly wished to see.

Good fortune, good timing, good people.

So many good people I could have used all of this time and more to thank just a few of them who've brought me to his moment. Milo Hamilton and John Madden are in the baseball and the football Halls of Fame. But they could have been no less proud of their inductions into theirs as I am into this one of mine.

Thank you so very much.



**Paul and Laura Mayho | Customers Since: 1989**  
**Lender: Keith Falgoust**

We have been customers of First American Bank since 1989. It's a great feeling to walk into the Bank and deal with local people from the community where we live.

The service First American Bank provides is excellent. Keith, our lending officer, is committed to helping our businesses grow. He goes above and beyond the call of duty. Communication is kept open, and he understands our loan needs - no matter how big or how small.

We have confidence and trust in First American. First American is local and "that's right at it."

*Paul and Laura Mayho*

**NO PURCHASE, CREDIT CARD, OR OBLIGATION NECESSARY TO ENTER OR WIN THE VISA 2017 ICBA BANCARD PIECE OF CAKE SWEEPSTAKES.** Open to legal US & DC residents 18 or older as of 8/1/17. Void in Puerto Rico and where prohibited. Begins 12:00AM PT on 8/1/17 and ends 11:59PM PT on 9/30/17 ("Promotion Period"). For complete details including non-purchase entries, see Official Rules at [www.visapiecesofcake.com](http://www.visapiecesofcake.com). For a list of participating ICBA Bancard member financial institutions, contact ICBA Bancard at [Bancard@icba.org](mailto:Bancard@icba.org). Sponsored by Visa U.S.A. Inc., P.O. Box 8999, San Francisco, CA 94128-8999.

**VISA**  
GET A TASTE