



**WE SERVE!**

**CALENDAR**

*District Cabinet meeting  
on June 3 at Catfish  
Charlie's in Monroe*

*Installation Banquet  
June 20 at Southern  
Creations*

**SPEAKERS**

TBA

**BIRTHDAYS**

Jeff Bergman	5/7
Hank Smart	5/17
Henry Masson	5/21

**Door Prize**

*Lion Donna Vilar missed  
\$20. And we missed YOU!*

# THE LIONS TALE

**Alexandria Lions Club**

*82 Foxfire Lane*

*Alexandria, Louisiana 71302*

*318.442.8781*

*www.alexions.com*

*May 24., 2017*

Two Card Draw—Lion Bob Hollingsworth and Lion JP couldn't find the jokers. The kitty is growing!

**Guests:** Lion Brent decided it was family day—he had newly graduated Ben Caplan and stepson Connor Debevec as his guests. And Lion David brought Ben's grandmother, the lovely Norrine. Lion Kermit brought one of his Capital One co-workers, Chuck Thomas.

We had a bit of fun and discussion about our Spelling Bee team. But after the meeting, we discovered that the Bee has been **cancelled**. So maybe next year!

**Announcements:**

The Installation Banquet is June 20 (the Ballards' 20<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary!) and sign up sheets are out. There is no charge for the Lion (unless you make a reservation and don't show) and guests are \$25. We'll be at Southern Creations at the foot of the Jackson St. bridge in Pineville. 6 p.m. Be there or be square! (I'm old)

District 8-I has the last District Cabinet meeting of the fiscal year on Saturday, June 3 at Catfish Charlie's in Monroe. Meeting starts at 9:30 and we'll have a Dutch treat lunch following. Everyone is welcome.

Lion Bob, PDG, announced that the Lions Camp has purchased the land to protect from encroachment of development. But Lions are still needed as fundraising partners to help with the purchase price.



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## **2016-17 Lions Board**

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**Pam Wunderlich**

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### **3rd Vice-President**

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**Bob Royer**

**Clint Virden**

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### **Editor**

**Viola Britt**

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### **Speaker:**

Tamara McNulty of the St. Mary's Training School

More than 200 residents live on the sprawling 55 acre campus of St. Mary's. The school was developed under the leadership and vision of Bishop Greco and has grown to include many outdoor programs such as the greenhouse and horseback riding.

One of the newer and most popular programs is the ABA program, or Applied Behavioral Analysis program for autistic children.

Parents report astounding results. One mother heard her 12-year-old child say, "I love you" for the very first time.

Children no longer "age out" from St. Mary's, but now can stay for life. This decision was made 10-15 years ago. There now are some programs geared to adults such as the work readiness program which volunteers at the Food Bank each month. There are also rehabilitation programs such as music and art.

Much of the funding is through Medicaid which pays for food, shelter and medications, but not programming. Donations provide the extras and the programs.

Most residents (116) live in the 3 dorms, but St. Mary's is moving towards a group home model. They plan to break ground on 15 new group homes on campus. There currently are 8 on campus and 2 off campus. Many families prefer campus group homes to community homes so that residents are protected by a fence if they wander. Staff client ratios are usually 3:1, but some clients require 1:1 supervision.

A fundraiser featuring Chef John Folse is set for June 21 at the Hotel Bentley. St. Mary's would love for everyone to attend and support St. Mary's.

