



THE ACADIANA ADVOCATE

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LIVING STATIONS



STAFF PHOTOS BY BRAD BOWIE

ABOVE: Jesus is crucified as The Ragin' Cajun Catholics present their annual Living Stations of the Cross on Good Friday at Girard Park. The Stations are a series of 14 images depicting Jesus Christ on the day of his crucifixion and accompanying prayers. **BOTTOM LEFT:** Spectators watch as the Living Stations of the Cross are performed on Friday. **BOTTOM RIGHT:** The faithful pray during Friday's observance.



Shrimp samples reveal imports

Rapid genetic tests used at random eateries in Acadiana

BY JOSIE ABUGOV
Staff writer

The drive along U.S. 190 in Acadiana is a destination for those in search of authentic Cajun cuisine, but new testing shows some of the seafood may not be locally sourced.

The newest batch of shrimp testing from a company sampling restaurants across the South found that half of the restaurants sampled along a stretch of 190 in Louisiana were serving imported shrimp, and that these establishments were mostly claiming to serve local catch.

"We were pretty surprised, because this area is known for its Cajun culture. When you go there, you expect to eat crawfish and shrimp."

DAVE WILLIAMS,
SeaD Consulting

SeaD Consulting, the company using a rapid genetic test to identify shrimp species, is on a mission to help revitalize the state's ailing coastal industry by shining a light on seafood mislabeling at restaurants.

Louisiana shrimpers have for years struggled to compete against cheap foreign imports. The vast majority of seafood consumed in the U.S. is imported from other countries.

For their latest round of tests, team members at the company tested 24 eateries in March along 190 between St. Landry and Allen parishes, starting in Krotz Springs and ending in Kinder.

"We were pretty surprised, because this area is known for its

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MMR Group expands with modular plant in Lafayette

BY ADAM DAIGLE
Acadiana business editor

Now with 10,000 employees and established as the largest open electrical shop contractor in America, MMR Group could have opened its new modular systems division anywhere.

And, according to founder and CEO Pepper Rutland, MMR looked almost everywhere. But in the end, the company landed in Lafayette and held a grand opening for the site on East Pont Des Mouton Road in the former Southern Glazer's facility on Thursday.

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STAFF PHOTO BY BRAD BOWIE

Groups tour the facility during the grand opening of MMR's Lafayette operations on Thursday.

CONFLICT IN THE MIDDLE EAST

2 U.S. aircraft downed as war in Iran escalates

1 service member rescued, 1 missing

BY SAM MEDNICK, KONSTANTIN TOROPIN and SEUNG MIN KIM
Associated Press

WASHINGTON – Iran shot down two U.S. military planes in separate attacks Friday, with one service member rescued and at least one missing, in a dramatic escalation since the war began nearly five weeks ago.

It was the first time U.S. aircraft

have been downed in the conflict and came just two days after President Donald Trump said in a national address that the U.S. has "beaten and completely decimated Iran" and was "going to finish the job, and we're going to finish it very fast."

One fighter jet was shot down in Iran, officials said. A U.S. crew member from that plane was rescued, but a second was missing, and a U.S. military search-and-rescue operation was underway.

Neither the White House nor

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