



Which RBs are in line for extensions?

SPORTS, 1B

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‘People loved it’



DFB King and Sire rap at Houma’s third-annual Juicefest on July 14, 2024, in Downtown Houma. The rap group is made up of 10-year-olds Sire, forefront; and King, background, of Baton Rouge.

Centennial Plaza live music times change, parish creates rulebook

Colin Campo
Houma Courier-Thibodaux Daily Comet
USA TODAY NETWORK

A spat over where musicians should play in Downtown Houma has led the Terrebonne Parish Government to create a manual and QR codes to inform the public about park rules, and how to organize festivals.

A common sight in Downtown Houma’s Centennial Plaza is live music every Thursday. This unofficial gathering pays musicians \$300 for their performances and draws crowds. The Plaza’s performances are about to change to twice a month after a disagreement between business owners prompted one to quit an unofficial agreement that paid for the music.

“People loved it,” guitarist Frank Ball said. “You know they had the snow machines going, and I saw families coming out there dressed in the pajamas taking

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Here are some scenes from Houma’s third-annual Juicefest in Downtown Houma. PHOTOS BY COLIN CAMPO HOUMA COURIER/THIBODAUx DAILY COMET

Louisiana’s air quality rates good

Presley Bo Tyler
Shreveport Times
USA TODAY NETWORK

Currently, the Air Quality Index (AQI) of Louisiana is approximately 35, which indicates a good air quality.

The AQI scale ranges from zero to 500, with lower numbers, such as those between zero and 50, signaling good air quality that poses little to no risk to public health.

While this means that air quality of Louisiana is generally considered good, there are certain regions of Louisiana

where the air quality could pose risks to public health.

What is the air quality like in Louisiana?

A region’s air quality is considered good when the air is relatively clean and there are few or no pollutants present that day, and there is little to no health risk, says AirNow.

In Louisiana, the areas of Houma, Thibodaux, Lafayette, Morgan City, Monroe, Ruston, Metairie and Hammond are said to be some of the cleanest

cities for short-term particle pollution, according to the American Lung Association’s “State of the Air” report.

Additionally, according to IQ Air, Louisiana’s cleanest cities include:

1. Metairie: AQI of 17
2. River Ridge: AQI of 20
3. Chalmette: AQI of 23
4. Kenner: AQI of 26
5. New Orleans: AQI of 26
6. New Iberia: AQI of 27
7. Erath: AQI of 29
8. Bell City: AQI of 34

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LA files lawsuit against Roblox

Greg Hilburn
Shreveport Times
USA TODAY NETWORK

Louisiana is suing the popular children’s video gaming site Roblox, alleging the company doesn’t do enough to protect children from predators.

“It created and perpetuated an online environment where child predators thrive,” Republican Louisiana Attorney General Liz Murrill said during a press conference in Livingston Parish.

Roblox is wildly popular, especially among pre-teens, reporting more than 100 million daily users for the first time ever during the second quarter.

It’s stock has more than doubled this year and the company received its first investment-grade rating this week after S&P Global Ratings upgraded the firm.

But Murrill alleged the company, which allows users to interact with one another:

- “Has and continues to facilitate the distribution of child sexual abuse material and the sexual exploitation of Louisiana’s children.
- “Knowingly and intentionally fails to implement basic safety controls to protect child users from predators.
- Knowingly and intentionally fails to provide notice to parents and child users of its dangers.”

“Due to Roblox’s lack of safety protocols, it endangers the safety of the children of Louisiana,” Murrill said in a statement. “Roblox is overrun with harmful content and child predators because it prioritizes user growth, revenue and profits over child safety.

“Every parent should be aware of the clear and present danger poised to their children by Roblox so they can prevent the unthinkable from ever happening in their own home.”

Murrill said the company’s lack of safety measures make for easy access for predators to interact with children on the site.

“Because there is no age minimum and requirement to verify age or parental permission once you sign-up, users can easily say they are younger or older than their actual age - allowing child predators to pose as children and for children to bypass any age requirement,” Murrill said in the press release.

Murrill displayed signs that read: “Roblox prioritizes profits over child safety.”

Murrill said she believes Louisiana is the first state to sue Roblox, but similar lawsuits have been lodged against the company by parents who accuse the company of not doing enough to safeguard children.

Last week a Georgia mother and her 9-year-old son filed a lawsuit in DeKalb County, alleging Roblox is a “hunting ground for child-sex predators.”

In a statement to USA Today Network, a Roblox spokesperson said the company can’t comment on pending legislation, but said, “The safety of our community is a top priority.”

“We can’t comment on pending liti-

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