



30 quarterbacks to watch in '26 season

SPORTS, 1B

The Times

PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

shreveporttimes.com

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 2026

IV bags recalled over possible contamination

Presley Bo Tyler
Shreveport Times
USA TODAY NETWORK

Baxter International Inc., a health-care company, announced a voluntary recall of intravenous (IV) medications potentially contaminated with fiber-glass and stainless steel.

Medication solutions involved in the recall include singular lots of 0.9% Sodium Chloride Injection (saline), Antico-

agulant Sodium Citrate Solution, which is used to slow blood clotting, and 70% Dextrose Injection, which is used to provide nutrition and hydration.

While only singular lots of each medication have been recalled, there are thousands to tens of thousands of IV bags in one manufacturer lot.

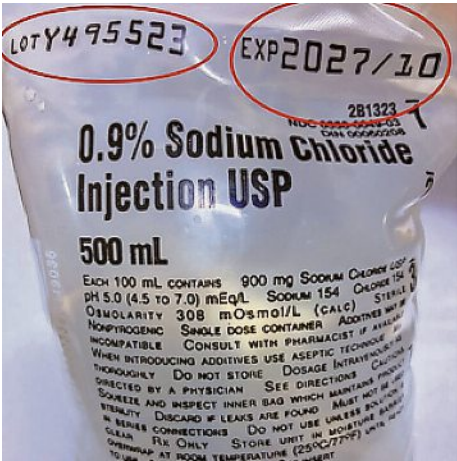
Contaminated saline IV bags were distributed to 14 states, including Florida, Illinois, Indiana, Louisiana, Maryland, Missouri, North Carolina, New

Jersey, Nevada, New York, Ohio, South Carolina, Texas and Virginia, according to the FDA.

The recalled product was distributed from July 31 to Aug. 3 to healthcare providers and distributors in these states.

Louisiana was not listed as one of the states where contaminated 70% Dextrose Injection bags were distributed. The FDA did not list states where

See BAGS, Page 2A



Baxter International Inc. announced a recall of IV medications, including 0.9% Sodium Chloride Injection, due to possible contamination.
PROVIDED BY THE FDA



Stormy Gage Watts announces she is running for mayor of Shreveport on January 13, 2025. HENRIETTA WILDSMITH/THE TIMES

Endorsements from local officials carry influence

Ian Robinson
Shreveport Times
USA TODAY NETWORK

Caddo Parish Sheriff Henry Whitehorn is backing Stormy Gage-Watts for Shreveport mayor, while state Sen. Sam Jenkins has endorsed Tammy Phelps. But how much weight will those endorsements carry with voters?

According to Centenary political science professor T. Adam Golob, endorsements can matter in local elections, but their influence is usually conditional rather than overwhelming. He said political science tends to treat endorsements as a shortcut voters can use when they do not have much information about a candidate.

“That matters particularly in local races, where voters may know very little about the people running for city council, sheriff, school board, judge, or other offices,” Golob said. “In those cases, an endorsement from a trusted newspaper, elected official, union, civic organiza-

tion, or community leader can provide a voter with a simple signal: ‘Someone or something I trust believe this person is qualified.’ Research on judicial elections and congressional primaries, for example, finds that endorsements can push voters toward choices when other cues, especially party labels, are weak or unavailable.”

The majority of voters at every level vote by trial and error. However, an endorsement rarely acts to move a block of voters from one candidate to another. Golob said the effect is generally greatest among voters who are already leaning, or who are undecided, and those who are less informed about the race, or already predisposed to trust the person or organization giving the endorsement.

Credibility is most important factor in a political endorsement

Credibility is the most important factor in determining whether an endorsement influences voters, Golob said. An

endorsement works as a political cue only when voters trust the person making it.

“A teachers’ union endorsement may be meaningful to educators and union households but carry very little weight with someone who distrusts organized labor or public education or such systems,” Golob said. “Likewise, an endorsement from a popular mayor may help in one neighborhood but hurt in another. Political scientists sometimes describe this through cue-taking theory (voters do not simply receive endorsements – they interpret them through their existing identities, partisan preferences, ideological beliefs and relationships with institutions). Saliency matters too.”

If the endorsement receives significant media coverage, appears in campaign literature, gets repeated through social media, or comes from a highly recognizable person, voters are more

See ENDORSEMENTS, Page 4A

More about Louisiana’s ‘stand your ground’ laws

Presley Bo Tyler
Shreveport Times
USA TODAY NETWORK

Home invasions are a fear for many individuals, but what if it actually happens? What can you do to defend yourself?

“Stand your ground” laws have been outlined within many state legislatures, and these laws allow individuals to protect themselves on the grounds of self defense.

Such laws allow a person to “hold their ground” and use force or violence against an intruder without considering the possibility of retreat.

What are ‘stand your ground’ laws? What to know in Louisiana

Louisiana law permits the use of force or violence in defense under certain justifiable circumstances, including:

- For the purpose of preventing a forcible offense or trespass against property, but only if reasonable and apparently necessary to prevent such

See LAWS, Page 2A

The four fastest-growing cities in LA

Presley Bo Tyler
Shreveport Times
USA TODAY NETWORK

Louisiana population often fluctuates, as 84,200 people left the state while 72,000 moved in between 2024 and 2025, according to USAFacts.

While domestic net migration influences Louisiana’s population greatly, birth and death rates also impact the population.

There are also regional population shifts happening in Louisiana, with certain cities seeing exponential growth in population, while others see a decline.

See CITIES, Page 2A

