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# Year-In-Review

By anyone's account 2020 was the strangest and most disorienting year we've experienced in a long time, maybe ever. Coronavirus required the community to cancel the spring, then the summer and fall. Five hurricanes hit the state, with the category five, Laura, devastating Lake Charles.

Events that are the core of a scientific and educational profession were all canceled and organizers scrambled to make sense of what to do next. The lockdowns caused unquestionable hardship for those in businesses. We reported the estimates that psychologists in private practice were hit at 50% of their practice. Assessment professionals were hit at a 85% reduction.

Still, news did happen and people did go about their lives in 2020, even though most of it was on Zoom or Skype. We had multiple reports about the

immune system, coping, and adjustments including to the job market. The state board still wanted to pass its legislation, even if in the middle of the crisis. But even that was postponed. And, psychological scientists worked to help those who were needing it most. Mental health is estimated to be at a low with anxiety levels four times higher than pre-pandemic rates and drugs, violence, and abuse rising. Experts predict that children are falling behind socially and developmentally even when the family is dealing well with the lockdowns.

2021 is still going to be a year of coping but most of us are glad to see 2020 in the rearview mirror nonetheless. For this article we review the news and activities that the psychology community simply refused to cancel.

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## The Psychology Times 2020 COMMUNITY AWARDS

It was no small feat to have kept the home fires burning through 2020. Our winners this year had unusual creativity and perseverance to keep moving through a society that was stuck in shutdowns, anxiety, change, and confusion. While we had fewer individuals to choose from than in previous years, it is our opinion that this year's winners deserve an extra measure of appreciation— they are real troopers, the unstoppable people that somehow plowed through the miasma and lethargy of Covid 2020. For our awards, The *Times* scanned activities and found shining examples, some new and some regulars, of community service and leadership. We focus on these special contributors, who pushed for excellence, who innovated and persevered, and who made that extra effort to change things for the better. We honor them for their dedication to our community!



# Editorial Page – Opinions

## Psychology’s ethical challenge: censorship versus (unpleasant) facts

by Julie Nelson

Since my editorial last month on censorship in our country, the plot has really thickened.

Data scientists are coming out of the woodwork and exposing some very interesting information about the election. None of this information, that I can tell, is being reported on by the corporate media, except for their kill-the-messenger pieces.

Data scientists—experts in cybersecurity and data integrity—have taken the real-time voting data from swing states and plotted the incremental voting for the two presidential candidates. What they found were points where Trump lost votes. That is, votes disappeared from his totals. This is not supposed to be possible.

These subtracted votes were masked, because the subtracted votes occurred at the county level. The overall state totals did not show the reduction, which would be a statistical event that would pop out as an error, since votes go up in an election—and never down.

The data is public and available to anyone who is willing to go through it carefully enough and check the timestamps and what the votes were doing at the granular levels.

Notwithstanding who is responsible for this or how this happened, there are also data scientists who are showing the highly improbable voting outcomes based solely on what brand machines were being used to collect the votes. (Ben Turner’s research at Fraud Spotters is one of the studies that is compelling. There are others.)

Correcting the vote totals in the swing states are enough to reverse the outcome of the 2020 presidential election, regardless of any other fraud or legal irregularities.

Unless and until someone can refute this data, I have to take the evidence-based position that citizens’ rights have been seriously compromised. And all the other evidence for fraud in the election is also very concerning to me. I’ve been voting for 50 years, and I’ve never seen anything like this, ever.

For this to stand, it takes censorship and intellectual dishonesty.

All of this poses an interesting problem for psychology which is 94% Democrat, and from my observations, anti-Trump and so anti-nationalist-populist. (I’ve noticed that many psychologists seriously, and I mean seriously, dislike Trump, as if he put himself in office.)

So we have a moral challenge. Are we going to help censor data because we don’t like what it tells us? Or, are we a neutral, consulting profession based in facts, scientific inquiry, and debate?

[Julie Nelson is a licensed psychologist, journalist, consultant, and publisher of the Times. She also holds other positions in the community. However, her opinions here are those of her own, and do not represent any group or association. She and the Times receive no compensation other than paid advertising. Email her at [drj@drjulienelson.com](mailto:drj@drjulienelson.com), —she welcomes feedback.]

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## Letter to the Editor

### Editorial on censorship

Howard Blevins  
Retired Medical Psychologist

I agree that the mass and social media censored the pro-Trump, pro-Republican message in this year’s presidential election. Not only that, post-election they have conspired to suppress and censor the evidence supporting widespread voter fraud which was designed to deny President Trump re-election. Analyses point to indications of election fraud: President Trump won or increased his vote in crucial demographic categories (e.g., suburban women, minorities, whereas Vice-President Biden won less of the black vote than either Clinton or Obama), very reliable predictive non-polling indicators (e.g., internet searches) predicted a Trump victory, and abnormally low mail-in ballot rejection rates. Additionally, Republicans won down-ballot elections overwhelmingly. Also, voting machine software such a Dominion Voting Systems and Smartmatic were used in many states although these systems can be easily hacked and the results manipulated. And states such as Pennsylvania, changed their voting procedures without legislative and/or voter approval

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## Corrections & Clarifications

We did not receive any corrections or clarifications for the last issue.

Send your corrections to:  
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State & National News

Letter to the Editor

continued

in contravention of their respective state constitutions as well as Article II of the U.S. Constitution. Not only has there been censorship, but legitimate voter usurpation on a grand scale.

William Shirer in his tome, “The Rise and Fall of the Third Reich” (1960) shared this anecdote about the consequence of a censored and controlled media, when he was a reporter in Berlin, just prior to World War Two. Goebbels was the (dis)information minister.

[From Shirer]

*It was obvious that they were parroting some piece of nonsense they had heard on the radio or read in the newspapers. Sometimes one was tempted to say as much, but on such occasions one was met with such a stare of incredulity, such a shock of silence, as if one had blasphemed the Almighty, that one realized how useless it was even to try to make contact with a mind which had become warped and for whom the facts of life had become what Hitler and Goebbels, with their cynical disregard for truth, said they were.*

*"When an opponent declares, 'I will not come over to your side,'" he [Hilter] said in a speech on November 6, 1933, "I calmly say, 'your child belongs to us already... what are you? you will pass on. Your descendants however, now stand in the new camp. In a short time they will know nothing else but this new community.'" And on May 1, 1937, he declared, "This new Reich will give it's youth to no one, but will itself take youth and give to youth its own education and its own upbringing." It was not an idle boast; that was precisely what was happening.*

Gov. Extends Modified Phase Two Order during Louisiana's Third Surge of Covid-19

On December 22, the Gov. extended his modified Phase Two order, including Louisiana's statewide mask mandate, to January 13, 2021, as hospitalizations have exceeded the level reached during the second surge in July. The Governor also declared an emergency for the elections in February, March and April of next year, per a request from the Secretary of State.

"While we have seen minor improvements, no one should feel good about our current COVID situation in Louisiana. We have too many new cases, too many people in the hospital and, sadly, too many Louisianans continue to die of this illness. Just this week, we reported the highest number of deaths since July," said the Gov.

For complete guidance on the new Phase 2, visit the Open Safely portal at [opensafely.la.gov](https://opensafely.la.gov).

Louisiana Pharmacies Begin Receiving COVID Vaccine for Elderly, Additional Health Care Workers on January 4

On December 31, Gov. Edwards announced that doses of the COVID-19 vaccine will be available to pharmacies statewide in limited supply beginning January 4 to be administered to people 70 and older and additional health care workers.

The initial supply of vaccine will be extremely limited and people must contact a designated pharmacy to make appointments before going in to be vaccinated. At this time, only people in Priority Group 1-B, Tier One, which is people 70 years and older and ambulatory and outpatient health care personnel, will be able to get the COVID vaccine at a designated pharmacy. Appointments are required.

Beginning on the 4th, the Louisiana Department of Health will list pharmacies where the COVID vaccine is available on its website, [covidvaccine.la.gov](https://covidvaccine.la.gov).

"I am relieved to end this year by expanding access to the COVID vaccine to more Louisianans, though I know we have a long road ahead of us before we put this pandemic in our rear view mirrors," Gov. Edwards said.

In the first two weeks of vaccination, 45,289 Louisianans have received the first dose of the COVID-19 vaccine, which is safe and effective against the virus. A second dose must be administered for people to gain fuller protection from COVID.

So far, 210,350 doses have been allocated for Louisiana, of which 56,200 have been designated for the federal Long Term Care Facilities partnership and reside with Walgreens and CVS.

The priority groups for Louisiana are as follows: Priority Group 1-A: Ongoing (around 249,000 eligible people)

Health care workers at Tier 1 and Tier 2 hospitals  
Staff and residents of nursing homes and long-term care facilities  
Emergency Medical Services employees and firefighters

Priority Group 1-B, Tier One: Starts Monday, January 4, 2021 (around 640,000 eligible people)

Schools of allied health students, residents and staff  
End stage renal disease facility personnel and patients  
Home agency patients and personnel  
Ambulatory and outpatient health care personnel  
Persons 70 years old and older

Priority Group 1-B, Tier Two: Starts at a later date (around 318,750 eligible people)

Health-related support personnel (labs, mortuary, pharmacy)  
Essential governmental response personnel  
Judiciary personnel  
Department of Homeland Security personnel, National Guard (non-COVID deployed), federal intelligence and security personnel, military personnel  
First responders not covered in Phase 1A  
Corrections officers and jailers  
Medical transportation services  
Homeless shelter and other congregate group home/center staff  
K-12 school and daycare personnel  
Food processing and agricultural workers  
Postal personnel  
Public transit workers  
Grocery store workers and other deemed frontline essential workers





# Gov. Announces Boards and Commission Appointments in Dec

In December the Gov. appointed Randy L. Lavespere M.D. of Baton Rouge to the Louisiana Commission on HIV, Aids, and Hepatitis C Education, Prevention, and Treatment. Lavespere will serve as the designee of the Secretary for the Louisiana Department of Public Safety and Corrections. The commission researches and reviews all the state regulations, guidelines, policies, and procedures relative to the prevention of Hepatitis C, HIV infection, and AIDS and makes recommendations to the governor, the Louisiana Department of Health and the legislature.

Richard H. Hartley of West Monroe was appointed to the Thrive Academy Board of Directors. Hartley is the education policy advisor with the Office of the Governor. The mission of the Thrive Academy Board of Directors is to provide its students with a world-class education in a holistically nurturing family-like residential environment.

Kristal K. Hebert of Morgan City was appointed to the Louisiana Licensed Professional Counselors Board of Examiners. Hebert is the executive director of the Arc of St. Mary and will serve at-large. Nakeisha L. Pierce of Lafayette was reappointed to the Louisiana Licensed Professional Counselors Board of Examiners. Pierce is the program director for Functional Family Therapy and will serve as a licensed professional counselor.

## Gov. Edwards Highlights Ochsner Super Clinic at Clearview City Center

In a December press release, Gov. Edwards highlighted Ochsner Health's plans to develop a super clinic of comprehensive health care services in the former Sears location at Clearview City Center in Metairie. Ochsner Health President and CEO Warner L. Thomas and Clearview City Center Managing Partner Thomas Richards announced plans to convert the 185,000-square-foot former retail store into a super clinic and micro-hospital at Clearview City Center, which is being redeveloped from a traditional shopping mall to a mixed-use site of more than 1 million square feet of residential, office, retail, grocery, hotel and entertainment space.

Opening in two years, the Ochsner Health facility will serve as an anchor for the \$100 million Clearview City Center redevelopment, said the announcement. The super clinic will create 200 new direct jobs, with an average annual salary of \$70,000, plus benefits, and result in an estimated 209 new indirect jobs, for a total of more than 400 new jobs in Louisiana's Southeast Region. A key element will be patient-safety features built into the design, including socially distanced waiting areas, virtual doctor visits and patient check-in via phone.

The new Ochsner facility will be known as a super clinic due to the breadth of health care services provided. Women's services, men's health and behavioral health will be joined by a sinus center; sports medicine and physical therapy; digestive health and gastroenterology; neurology and brain health; pain management; cardiology; and ophthalmology and vision services. The facility will also feature a 10-bed micro-hospital to accommodate overnight stays.

Michael D. Ausbun of Ruston has been appointed to the Governor's Advisory Council on Disability Affairs. Ausbun is an accessibility specialist at Western Governors University and will serve at-large. The Governor's Advisory Council on Disability Affairs was established by the Governor's Office to adequately educate, address and resolve issues relative to the disabled community. The mission of the office is to promote, encourage and support citizens with disabilities so they may have an equal opportunity to actively participate in all aspects of life.

Gary J. Matherne of Baton Rouge has been reappointed to the Traumatic Head and Spinal Cord Injury Trust Fund Advisory Board. Matherne is the former deputy secretary for the Louisiana Department of Revenue and is a survivor of a traumatic head injury.

The Traumatic Head and Spinal Cord Injury Trust Fund Advisory Board provides services in a flexible, individualized manner to Louisiana citizens with traumatic head or traumatic spinal cord injuries. The board administers a program which enables individuals to return to a reasonable level of functioning and independent living in their communities.

Capt. Jimmie "J.B." Slaton of Baton Rouge has been appointed to the Council on Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST). Slaton is the captain of the State Police Training Academy and will serve as a designee of the superintendent of the Louisiana State Police.

The Council on Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) is responsible for developing and evaluating the curriculum of mandatory basic training courses for municipal officers, deputy sheriffs, state police, wildlife agents and all other persons commissioned as peace officers, defined by state law.

Col. Lamar Anthony Davis of Port Allen has been appointed to the Police Training, Screening, and De-escalation Task Force. Davis is the superintendent of the Louisiana State Police.

The Police Training, Screening, and De-escalation Task Force's mission is to study and make recommendations to the legislature on the topics of training, screening, de-escalation, racial bias recognition, misconduct, use of force, identifying and eliminating bad actors.

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# Drs. Thomandra Sam, Lauren Rasmussen, and Leslie O'Malley Running in LSBEP Election this Month

An election is currently underway to fill the July 2021 vacancy on the Louisiana State Board of Examiners of Psychologists. Offering to serve on the board are Thomandra Shavaun Sam, PhD, Lauren Woodruff Rasmussen, PsyD, and Leslie A. O'Malley, PsyD.

The vacancy will occur in June 2021 when Dr. Amy Henke completes her service. Voting opened in and ends January 15.

Dr. Sam is from Baton Rouge and was licensed in 2015 in the specialty area of counseling according to her candidate statement. She is a Psychologist V/Office of Behavioral Health/Eastern LA Mental Health System and earned her degree from Auburn University.

In her statement, Dr. Sam wrote, "I am psychologist with a background working with diverse clinical presentations, demographics and within various settings from college counseling, community mental health, a pastoral center, domestic violence and homeless shelter, a marriage and family clinic and hospital settings. I am and have been licensed in various states and so I am keenly aware of how a variety of psychologists exist in different spaces both here in Louisiana as well as across our nation. I hope my unique experience adds an additional layer to an already highly qualified Board and staff."

"My desire to assist the Board comes from my graduate program's social-Justice orientation and strong value to serve the profession and the general community. In this vain, one of my goals is to aide in creating spaces for Psychologists to feel more comfortable consulting with the Board to inquire about the best processes, best practice and most informed actions when engaging in all levels of their work; diminishing the fear of asking for guidance and increasing access to consultation, informal support or mentorship should be highly supported to create a more confident and effective psychological community. With this goal, there will also be times when someone's actions or decision-making may need to be reviewed in retrospect; with regard to what would be my role as a regulator in enforcing the Ethics Code, psychological standards and laws would require I act judiciously, timely and fairly accounting for context while balancing the protection of the public and the profession.

"Additionally, I am Interested in ensuring that Louisiana is ahead of the curve with offering diverse platforms to diverse consumers from diverse Psychologists; yes, that is a lot of one word in a sentence but its message is necessary. As our society is changing, it is important Louisiana is able to compete with the rest of the nation and attract bright minds to work and advance our state and practice; in doing so, we ensure we are at the cutting edge of service by creating a healthy Louisiana that recognizes the need for mental healthcare, has access to the care needed and is ultimately positively impacted by our profession toward higher levels of wellness and increased quality of life. Regarded as the father of individual psychology in some circles, Alfred Adler encouraged us to, 'Follow your heart but take your brain with you.' I think being an effective Board member requires a constant balance of both."

Dr. Rasmussen is also from Baton Rouge. She was licensed in 2013 and it is a Partner at Jefferson Neurobehavioral Group, and also a Consulting Neuropsychologist at Sage Rehabilitation and Neuro RehabCare.

She earned her degree from Georgia School of Professional Psychology in Clinical Psychology/Neuropsychology.

Dr. Rasmussen writes, "It is always a daunting task to replace an outgoing board member, who I am sure is

leaving with a breadth of knowledge and experience. What I believe LSBEP is looking for in a candidate for this position is someone who is socially responsible, dedicated, honest, ethical, and hardworking. I promise to bring those qualities to the board.

"As a recent Pro Tem board member, I had a glimpse into the responsibilities of the board members. I understand and appreciate that this position requires upholding ethical and legal standards of psychologists. It is of utmost importance that a board member serve to protect the sanctity of the field of psychology and those who utilize our services from harm. As a board member, I think it is also important to be the voice of your profession, which means integrating feedback and viewpoints from members of the psychological community and working with your professional organizations.

"Over the course of my tenure with the board, I would like to continue modifying our rules and standards to ensure that they are commensurate with national standards. I would also like to help resolve complaints of paraprofessionals working outside of their areas of competence by coordinating with other organizations and oversight committees to establish reasonable boundaries."

Dr. O'Malley is from Lake Charles and was licensed in 2009 with a specialty in Clinical. She is Staff Psychologist at Southeast Louisiana Veterans HealthCare

System (SLVHCS). She earned her degree from Nova Southeastern University in Clinical Psychology.

Dr. O'Malley notes that, "In the current political and pandemic-related climate, I believe an even-handed reliance and appreciation for our ethical and legal standards must be upheld. As someone who has extensive clinical experience with Tele-Health I feel I would add to the board's expertise during this phase of reliance on more virtual therapy and supervision that the pandemic has prompted.

"I personally get great satisfaction in working with early career Psychologists in training. As a preceptor or supervisor, I have spent countless hours preparing trainees for the EPPP and oral portion of the exam for licensure in Louisiana. It would give me great pleasure to be on the other side of the table during this process.

"I believe you will find I have excellent judgment and am adept at not only enforcing the laws and standards of practice in Psychology but also in providing a sensible approach to all situations. My communication and organizational skills will allow a seamless transition in appointment to ensure that board work remains on schedule. I get along well with others and am comfortable leading and being led. I remain keen on continuing my development into a senior Psychologist. I believe this tenure would allow for the personal and professional career growth I seek."



Dr. Shannae Harness of Baton Rouge is the most recent appointee to the LSBEP. Here she meets on Zoom.





UV-LED May Destroy Virus in Less Than One Minute

by Samantha Dooley

Researchers in *The Journal of Photochemistry & Photobiology* suggest they may have found a way to quickly disinfect surfaces contaminated with Covid-19, using UV-LED lights. The researchers said that the UV-LED lights required less than half a minute to destroy more than 99.9% of the coronaviruses.

The study looked at the disinfection efficiency of ultraviolet light-emitting diodes irradiation at different wavelengths on coronavirus. It is said to be the first of its kind in the world, according to [the Jerusalem Post](#).

According to Yoram Gerchman, and colleagues, SARS-Cov-2, the virus most known as Coronavirus, can spread through respiratory droplets, as well as nasal, oral, and eye mucus. Some research is also showing that SARS-Cov-2 is potentially an airborne virus.

These factors bring the need for a cheap, quick way to sterilize surfaces, without damaging the material. It is already common to use UV lights to irradiate some pathogenic microorganisms, including some viruses. As the authors in *The Journal of Photochemistry & Photobiology* article write, “Coronaviruses are 120-160 nm diameter, enveloped viruses with a single-strand, non-segmented RNA genome coated by a protein capsid, and a lipid envelope.” Damaging or destroying any one of the components could inactivate the virus, they explain.

UV lights do just that to the Coronavirus. UV lights can inactivate a virus many different ways, including, but not restricted to, “...damage to the nucleic acids, proteins, or internal production of oxygen radicals.”

*The Journal of Photochemistry & Photobiology* authors also reported that some wavelengths of UV light are possibly more effective at irritating SARS-Cov-2 than others. “The mechanism of UV inactivation depends on the UV wavelength(s) used and, at least for some pathogens, UV sources with multiple emission peaks are (e.g. medium pressure lamps) were found to result in more accurate inactivation, by activating multiple damage mechanisms.”

For more information, go to: “UV-LED Disinfection of Coronavirus, Wavelength effect,” *The Journal of Photochemistry & Photobiology*, [www.elsevier.com/locate/jphotobiol](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/jphotobiol).

Stress Solutions

by Susan Andrews, PhD

2020: A Year of Stress (Solutions) in Review

And, what a year it has been. I will not bore you with a listing of all the “stressful” things that have happened this year. Instead, let’s review the solutions proposed.

In January 2020 the topic was: Train Students in Mindfulness to Reduce Stress and Improve Grades. Training students, even kindergarten age students, in Mindfulness is something that holds great promise of making a difference in our future. Whenever you bring awareness to what you’re directly experiencing via your senses, or to your state of mind via your thoughts and emotions, you’re being mindful. And there’s growing research showing that when you train your brain to be mindful, you’re actually remodeling the physical structure of your brain. As little as 5 or 10 minutes daily attention to breathing and becoming mindful of your surroundings will reduce student’s stress levels, improve their grades and result in fewer absences.

February introduced the concept of Living Long and Stress Free. In an article by healthline on Habits to a long life, stress reduction was only mentioned after much talk about foods you eat and exercise. However, recent research publications speak volumes about the links between stress and dementia and stress and longevity.

March’s topic was The Zen of Balance. It is important to balance your Do List and your Be Time. Do’s always increase Cortisol. Being reduces it. Enough said.

April found us in the throes of the virus and having to shut our office doors and stay at home. I must admit that I found that a wonderful respite but I know many found it stressful. It was the Uncertainty of what was going to happen that builds the fear. A friend sent a copy of a letter from Dr. Jean Houston to me. Her letter beautifully describes one future that possibly is growing out from the Covid-19 chaos. That change could be increased compassion among the peoples in the world. Dr. Houston wrote: “All of my life I have been dedicated to encouraging the potential that every person carries within them. I’ve taught about our innate depths, our possibilities, and our purpose. Now, however, it’s time to live out the promise that we all carry, to become noble, kind and compassionate people. This week on television, I witnessed the best and most fearful sides of our natures. On the one hand, I saw violent videos of shoppers fighting over toilet paper, and also experienced indiscriminate generosity while shopping at my local Costco.”

Several months were then spent on the Tapping Solution. Tapping has research showing it can reduce cortisol by 43%. Tapping was followed by a focus on Exercise as a good solution for some for reducing the day’s excess buildup of cortisol. Finally, breathing – either on your own – or by using a simple machine and program to help you gradually move your breathing into a therapeutic range. The machine is called Resperate and it only takes 20 minutes a day.

Wishing everyone a Happy and less Stressful 2021.



Dr. Susan Andrews is a Clinical Neuropsychologist, an award-winning writer/author (her book Stress Solutions for Pregnant Moms, published in 2013, has been translated into Chinese,) and 2016 Distinguished Psychologist of the Louisiana Psychological Association.

# 2020 Year-in-Review

Continued

## JANUARY

**Governor Appoints Mr. McNeely to LSBEP as Consumer Member** Governor Edwards appointed D. Chance McNeely of Baton Rouge to the Louisiana State Board of Examiners of Psychologists. McNeely is currently the Executive Director of the Louisiana Motor Transport Association, and he will serve as a consumer member on the LSBEP. He has served at Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development, Office of the Secretary, as Assistant to the Secretary for Policy; at the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality, Office of Environmental Compliance, Office of the Governor, State of Louisiana, as Policy Advisor; and in U.S. House of Representatives as a Legislative Assistant.

**Dr. Harness Sole Candidate for LSBEP 2020 Spot** Dr. Shannae Harness of Baton Rouge is the sole candidate for this opening, for serving the five-year term from July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2025. Dr. Harness earned her degree from Jackson State University in 2012, in the major of clinical psychology. She is listed

with the National Registry of Health Service Psychologists and is a member of the American Psychological Association.

**We Remember Dr. Billy Seay** Dr. Billy M. Seay, long-time member of the Louisiana psychology community, passed away December 4, 2019. He served as a faculty member in the Department of Psychology at Louisiana State University for many years, and then went on to become the founding Dean of the LSU Honors College. Dr. Seay was one of the “monkey men,” the affectionate term for those who observed the behavior of primates and then explained the development, adaptation, and social structures of these close great-ape relatives.

**The Bookshelf:** Recommended Reading by Dr. Judith Miranti. *God Isn't Finished with Me*, and *Man's Search for Meaning*

**Stress Solutions** by Dr. Susan Andrews: Train Students in Mindfulness to Reduce Stress and Improve Grades

**Shrink at the Flicks** by Dr. Al Burstein: *The Rise of Skywalker*

## FEBRUARY

**Rebekah Gee and John White Tender Resignations in Jan** Secretary of the Louisiana Department of Health, Dr. Rebekah Gee, and Education Superintendent John White, both gave notice of their resignations in January.

**Dr. Arredondo Notes Highlights of Psychology Law Society Conference** Dr. Beth Arredondo, ABPP-CN, Continuing Education Chair for the American Psychology–Law Society, helped design the upcoming training for the Society's conference, to be held from March 5 to March 7 at the Sheraton in New Orleans. The Society, Division 41 of the American Psychological Association, promotes the contributions of psychology to the understanding of law and legal institutions, the education of psychologists in legal matters and law personnel in psychological matters, and the application of psychology in the legal system.

**SEPA in April, Invited Speakers Include Drs. Figley, Hammer, and Poe** Dr. Charles Figley will present at the Southeastern Psychological Association (SEPA), for the Rosecrans II Invited Address, “What About the Self of the Psychologist? Self Care Sense of Self,” at the annual conference, to be held in New Orleans in April. Also presenting will be Dr. Elliott Hammer, Experimental Social Psychology Professor at Xavier University of Louisiana. He will present, “Reaching Everyone: The Science of Student Identity and Success in a Biased World.” Dr. Hammer holds the John D. LaFarge Endowed Professorship in Social Justice at Xavier University.

Also, Dr. Lindsey Poe, Dr. Megan Brokenbough, & intern Sandy Hyatt from the Louisiana Health Sciences Center will present. Dr. Poe is an Assistant Professor of Clinical Psychiatry at LSUHSC. She serves as Director of Psychology Postdoctoral Fellowship and is the Didactics Coordinator in the Psychology Internship Program. Dr. Brokenbough is an Assistant Professor of Clinical Psychiatry at LSUHSC and a Licensed Clinical Psychologist in Louisiana and Washington state. Their workshop is, “Health Literacy: Making Healthcare Understandable.”

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The Psychology Times  
2020  
COMMUNITY AWARD  
INNOVATION  
Dr. McKay Bonner

“Imagination is more important than intelligence,” said Einstein. This year our Innovation Award recognizes contributions in both basic and applied science, with applications that have far-reaching value in the area of police psychology. Dr. McKay Bonner earned the 2020 Award for *Psychology in the Public Interest* for her decades of work with police in Northeast Louisiana, shared with husband Mark, her role as Public Safety Psychologist, and for teaching in the Criminal Justice & Psychology Departments of ULM. “For over 16 years, Dr. Bonner has been working quietly, working intensely, to provide evidence-based training to prevent police misconduct and to minimize police use of deadly or inappropriate force. This work has occurred at an organizational and at a tactical level,” her colleagues said. Her comprehensive, essential, and innovative work has not gone unnoticed by her community.





# 2020 Year-in-Review

Continued

**Louisiana Chapter of Assn Family & Conciliation Courts to Hold 10th Annual Conference**

Great Need for Psychologists as Mediators –The Association of Family and Conciliation Courts, Louisiana Chapter (AFCC-LA) will celebrate its tenth anniversary with a two-day training on parenting coordination and mediation skills.

**Pres. Trump Issues Ex. Order to Combat Human Trafficking, Child Exploitation** Pres. Trump signed an executive Order on January 31 to establish goals and priorities to end human trafficking in the U.S.

**National Expert on Violence Prevention and Mass Shootings to Speak at LPA** Jillian Peterson, PhD, Professor of Criminology and Criminal Justice at Hamline University and co-founder of The Violence Project, will speak at the 72nd annual conference of the Louisiana Psychological Association, to be held May 8 and 9 at the Sheraton in Metairie, Louisiana. Dr. Peterson will deliver the *Janet and Lee Matthews Invited Address* on the opening day of the conference. Dr. Peterson has served as special investigator in New York City, researching the psychosocial life histories of men facing the death penalty. Her research on mass shootings has been covered internationally by every major news outlet.

**Stress Solutions** by Dr. Susan Andrews: Living Long and Stress Free

**Shrink at the Flicks** by Dr. Al Burstein: *Little Women*

**MARCH**

**Psychology Board Planning Changes in Law** In the last week of February members of the La. Psychological Association reviewed a memo from the Board of Examiners of Psychologists on “Possible Housekeeping Legislation.” The three-page memo, obtained from an undisclosed source, included substantial changes to areas of the psychology law, said the source.

One of the significant areas listed in the memo is the goal to define “Registered Assistant to Psychologist.” The board notes that the psychologist and anyone under the supervision of that psychologist must conduct their activities in ethical and professional ways that meet standards required by the board. The authors of the memo write, "Clear authority to require registration of assistance will allow the board to enforce regulations that it promulgates, ensure the individuals who are being employed or qualified do not have a history of violent behavior, or other impairment that would prohibit them from interacting with vulnerable populations, with whom they are often alone."

**DOJ Asks Judge for More Time to Answer Dr. Hesson's 2255 Petition** On February 12, prosecutors at the Department of Justice asked for a second extension to respond to a 2255 Petition by Dr. Rodney Hesson, who was at the center of the 2015 high profile Medicare fraud case that resulted in convictions of two other well-respected psychologists in the community, Dr. Beverly Stubblefield and Dr. John Teal. Dr. Hesson filed 829-pages of documents and exhibits with the United States District Court, Eastern District of Louisiana on November 1, 2019, alleging violation of his Constitutional rights to a fair trial due to inadequate representation.

The Psychology Times  
2020  
COMMUNITY AWARD  
COMMUNITY  
DEVELOPMENT  
Leaders at  
OCD Louisiana

The psychologists at OCD Louisiana are accomplishing wonderful things, despite the shutdowns. This year they worked around the Covid-19 crisis and organized an OCD/OC Spectrum Disorders Consultation Group for mental health practitioners and trainees to discuss topics and learn about relevant resources to provide evidence-based treatment to individuals with OC spectrum disorders. Last year was their "Walk for Awareness." Dealing with obstacles effectively, these professionals deserve our kudos – Kristin Fitch, PhD, Leslie Higgins, PsyD, Michele Carroll, PsyD, Melissa Dufrene, PsyD., Suzanne Chabaud, PhD and Gail Pesses, MSW.

**Dr. Buckner Named for Research Excellence** Louisiana State University Professor Dr. Julie Buckner has been named the G. Alan Marlatt Mid-Career Research Award winner for 2020, announced at this year’s annual meeting of the Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies (ABCT) Addictive Behaviors & Anxiety Disorders Special Interest Group. Dr. Buckner is a Professor and Director of Clinical Training in the Department of Psychology at Louisiana State University and the Director of LSU's Anxiety and Addictive Behaviors Laboratory & Clinic.

**Psychology Board Requests Attorney General Opinion** On February 13, the Attorney General's office issued an Opinion requested by the Louisiana State Board of Examiners of Psychologists. The board asked the Attorney General (AG) to give an opinion regarding the reporting of information the board members receive when they are reviewing complaints against psychologists and conducting investigations. The AG published Opinion 19-0068: "The obligation of any member of the Louisiana State Board of Examiners of Psychologists as a mandatory reporter of child abuse under the Louisiana Children's Code primes any requirement that the Board's complaints, investigations, and disciplinary proceedings be kept confidential. ..."

**Peter Gollwitzer, Father of "Implementation Intentions" to Speak at La Psychological Association Convention** Dr. Peter Gollwitzer gained notice with his 1999 *American Psychologist* article, "Implementation Intentions: Strong Effects of Simple Plans," and has since led the way in ground-breaking work in goal-achievement, planning, mindset, and self-regulation. He will present "A Goal Perspective on Behavior Change," at the Annual Convention of the Louisiana



# 2020 Year-in-Review

## Continued

Psychological Association to be held May 8 and 9 at the Sheraton Galleria in Metairie Louisiana.

**Dr. Cherry's New Book to Hit Shelves this April** Dr. Katie Cherry, Professor of Psychology at Louisiana State University has a new book coming out in April, published by Oxford University Press. The title is, *The Other Side of Suffering: Finding a Path to Peace after Tragedy*. Dr. Cherry is the Emogene Pliner Distinguished Professor of Aging Studies as well as the Director of Research and Community Outreach, LSU Life Course and Aging Center. "... this is a book about hope and healing after disaster and other negative life events," said Dr. Cherry. "It's based on research I did with south LA coastal families who lost homes in Katrina in 2005."

**Researchers from Across the State to Present at Southeastern Psychological Association, to be Held in New Orleans in April** An array of researchers from across the state will present their posters and research findings at this year's SEPA. Included are: Yong Dai, Louisiana State University Shreveport; Laura Braby & Christoph Leonhard, The Chicago School of Professional Psychology at Xavier University of Louisiana; Rachel Alvarez, Alec Rothman, & Jennifer Hodges-Crowder, Northwestern State University of Louisiana.

From Louisiana State University, presenters include: Niels Dickson, Felicia Chaisson, Laurn Burleigh, Steven Greening, & Heather Lucas, Kendall McGoey & Rachel Williamson Smith (Faculty Sponsor), Juan Guevara Pinto, Abigail Jahnke, & Megan Papesch, Ashlyn Suchand & Christopher Cox (Faculty Sponsor).

Presenters include Kim Ernst, Teddy Herrick, Rabiya Farooqui & Evan Zucker (Faculty Sponsor), are from Loyola University New Orleans. Sara Sohr-Preston will present, and is from Southeastern Louisiana University as are Elizabeth Manuel, & Abigail Haik. Dylan John, Gabriel Hunter, Hung-Chu Lin, Amy Brown, Paula Zeanah, & Manyu Li, and Kelsey Mayes, Samantha Arbella, Cristian Rivera, Megan Fowler, Lauren Neumeyer, arw from University of Louisiana at Lafayette.

Presenters also include Anne Madison Tompkins, Southeast Louisiana Veterans Healthcare System, Amanda Raines, Louisiana State University, Jessica Walton, Stacey Parkin, Michele Carroll, & Laurel Franklin, and Joseph Boffa, Dustin Seidler, from Southeast Louisiana Veterans Health Care System.

**Stress Solutions** by Dr. Susan Andrews: *The Zen of Balance*

**Shrink at the Flicks** by Dr. Al Burstein: *Knives Out*

### APRIL

**Coronavirus: For Now, Behavior is the Key** For now we are depending on behavior. The current crisis brings into sharp focus the limitations our health systems in fighting any new, stealth, and lethal virus. Behavioral intervention is not one of traditional medicine's strengths.

**Sleep's Gift to Immunity – Monocytes, Macrophages, and Natural Killer Cells** "Sleep has been shown to be an important modulator of the immune response," said Dr. Denise Sharon, MD, PhD, and Diplomate in Sleep Medicine, in this report. Dr. Sharon is a psychologist and physician and she now serves as Independent Consultant at Pomona Valley Medical Center's Adult and Children Sleep Disorders Clinic. Dr. Sharon previously served as Associate Professor of Medicine, Sleep Medicine Fellowship Faculty, and Assistant Clinical Professor of Pediatrics at the Tulane University School of Medicine in New Orleans.

**A Map for Dealing with the Uncertainly, Chaos, and Change,** by Susan Andrews, PhD  
Covid-19 requires a new map, one that plumbs the depth of what matters to us. There is danger to our immune system if the stress and anxiety are allowed to blossom and grow unchecked. In a nutshell, stress weakens your immune system, Andrews says in this report.

**Lullaby Blessings: Help for Families Stuck at Home,** by Susie Marie, PhD (Dr. Glanville)  
"Lullabies, which focus on attachment, nurturance, and growth, used together with laments, which emphasize detachment, sorrow, and loss, can help patients cope with uncertainty and fear of death. As our nation contends with the crises and tragedies of the coronavirus pandemic, lullaments can be an important resource to help ease suffering."

**Gov. Edwards Establishes COVID-19 Help Desk for Louisiana Businesses**  
Gov. John Bel Edwards and Secretary Don Pierson of Louisiana Economic Development announced the opening of an LED help desk that provides email and hotline support for Louisiana businesses impacted by COVID-19.

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## The Psychology Times 2020 COMMUNITY AWARD PUBLIC EDUCATION Dr. Katie Cherry



"How are we as psychologists to regard a discipline that succeeds primarily in speaking to itself?" This was a 1995 comment by Gergen, repeated by Sommer in his 2006 APA article about getting the word out. Novelist Doris Lessing said, "It is one of the paradoxes of our time that ideas capable of transforming our societies, full of insights about how the human animal actually behaves and thinks, are often presented in unreadable language." Dr. Katie Cherry, LSU Professor, is doing her best to get the word out in an understandable way with her newest book, *The Other Side of Suffering*. Dr. Cherry crafted the book to be helpful for the general public by sharing her academic and experiential knowledge. We are thankful for her continuing effort to educate the public how about psychology!

# 2020 Year-in-Review

## Continued

**Psych Board's Ambitious SB 458 Filed in March– LPA Objects, Bill is on Hold** A 23–page document, Senate Bill 458, outlining an ambitious set of changes to the psychology practice law was introduced on March 31. The legislative effort was initiated by the Louisiana State Board of Examiners of Psychologists (LSBEP) and is authored by Senator Jay Luneau from Alexandria. If passed SB 458 will make sweeping changes to the psychology law including a new set of regulations for assistants, additions to the charter of the board, changing qualifications for serving, authorizing the board to conduct continuing education, exempting the board from Open Meetings Law for investigatory meetings, and formally establishing the position and duties of the Executive Director.

**LSBEP: A Legislatively Active Agency?** Has the psychology board developed into a legislatively active organization, expanding the mission of “protecting the public” beyond its proper boundaries? In this special report we look at issues involved in separation of power and if the LSBEP has been pushing the envelope, initiating six legislative bills over the last 8 to 9 years.

**Shrink at the Flicks** by Dr. Al Burstein: *Call of the Wild*

### MAY

**"How Have Things Changed?"– Psychologists Share Their Experiences in Dealing with the Coronavirus Pandemic** We asked a group of psychologists, “How have things changed for you in the shut-down and how are you doing at this point?” About half replied back in time for this issue. In this feature we report on how colleagues are managing the changes, mostly verbatim with some edited for length. Dr. Gail Gillespie, Dr. Matthew Holcomb, Dr. Thompson Davis III, Dr. Alan Coulter, Dr. Bill McCown, Dr. Katherine Robison, Dr. Kim VanGeffen, Dr. Charles Burchell, Dr. Traci Olivier, Dr. Jamie Landry, Dr. Randee Booksh, Dr. Melissa Dufrene, and Dr. James (Pat) Thompson.

**Guest Editorial: "Forward into the Past"** by Dr. Lisa Feldman Barrett President, Association for Psychological Science. In an inspiring critique, Dr. Lisa Feldman Barrett argues convincingly for a return to the study of individual differences, pointing out that the statistical mean is an abstraction that cannot capture the reality of an individual, and that research based on simplistic mechanisms ignores individuals as complex, dynamic systems.

**Trump Administration and CMS Expand Telehealth During COVID-19 Pandemic: APA Applauds Move** Trump directs the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) to further expand beneficiaries’ access to telehealth services.

**DOJ Attorneys Deny Flaws in Jury's Understanding of Medicare Rules Regarding Dr. Rodney Hesson's 2255 Petition** On April 3, the Department of Justice filed their Response to Dr. Rodney Hesson's, "Motion to Vacate, Set Aside or Correct Sentence," known as a 2255 Petition. Dr. Hesson had filed 829- pages of documents and exhibits with the United States District Court, Eastern District of Louisiana on November 1, 2019, alleging violation of his Constitutional rights to a fair trial due to inadequate representation. Dr. Hesson was at the center of the 2015 high profile Medicare fraud case that also resulted in convictions of two other well-respected psychologists in the community, Dr. Beverly Stubblefield and Dr. John Teal.

**Malpractice Lawsuit in Terrebonne Parish Goes Against Lafayette Psychologist** In a lawsuit filed in 2017 against psychologist Dr. Eric Cerwonka, a Terrebonne Parish jury awarded \$1,150,000 to a 35-year-old Houma man. The plaintiff said he suffered emotional abuse because of some of the advice

## The Psychology Times 2020 COMMUNITY AWARD

# OUTREACH/ALTRUISM

## Dr. Sonia Blauvelt

Finding ways to reach and help those who are most seriously impacted by the 2020 health and mental health crisis is exactly what Dr. Sonia Blauvelt has done to gain our respect and our attention for the Community Award for 2020. Dr. Blauvelt is leading the suicide prevention program for the COVID-19 Emergency Response for Suicide Prevention Project in southeast Louisiana. She and her colleagues have identified these areas of southeast Louisiana as having high rates of COVID- 19 infection, deaths, intimate partner violence, and poor health outcomes overall. These individuals are the most vulnerable to deterioration in mental health in addition to having limited financial resources. We are grateful to Dr. Blauvelt for her energy, empathy, and commitment to help those struggling most in our community.



he was provided, according to the news article in a March issue of *The Houma Courier*.

**LSU Drs. Harman & Zhang Review Advancements in Police Decision-Making for Special Issue of *Frontiers in Psychology*** Dr. Jason Harman and Dr. Don Zhang, assistant professors at Louisiana State University in industrial organizational psychology, recently co-authored a paper with colleague Steven Greening for a special issue of *Frontiers in Psychology*. The comprehensive issue covered "De-escalating Threat: The Psychophysiology of Police Decision Making." Harman, Zhang and Greening contributed with a review of research in dynamic decision-making and how it could be applied to improve policy & training for police officers, and titled "Basic Processes in Dynamic Decision Making: How Experimental Findings About Risk, Uncertainty, and Emotion Can Contribute to Police Decision Making."

**Stress Solutions** by Dr. Susan Andrews: Tapping Solution to Release Stress and Find Balance

**Shrink at the Flicks** by Dr. Al Burstein: Netflix's *FREUD*

### JUNE

**Legislature Calls Special 30-Day Session for Budget, Virus Fallout** The regular legislative session ended on June 1 at 6 p.m. and the special 30-day session began one minute later at 6:01. The regular session was fragmented say observers, adjourning one week after it began due to the coronavirus and picking up only again on May 4. Some



# 2020 Year-in-Review

## Continued

estimate that up to two-thirds of the bills introduced were dropped.

**Lee Matthews Named 1st Recipient of the Janet R. Matthews Mentor Award** To cheers, applause, and tears, the sentimental favorite, Dr. Lee Matthews, accepted the Janet R. Matthews, Ph.D. Outstanding Psychology Mentor Award for 2020, announced at the annual meeting of the Louisiana Psychological Association, held online, May 29. This is the inaugural year for the honor and Dr. Lee Matthews is the first recipient. Janet passed away in 2019. The award recognizes and honors Dr. Janet Matthews for her lifetime of mentoring work and the impact she had on psychologists in Louisiana, and is given to an individual who has made significant contributions in their mentoring of others in psychology. This is a legacy award developed by Dr. Laurel Franklin, who was mentored by Dr. Janet Matthews, explained Chair, Dr. Michael Chafetz. Janet passed away in 2019.

**Dr. Simoneaux Honored as Distinguished Psychologist** The Louisiana Psychological Association has named Dr. John Simoneaux as it's 2020 Distinguished Psychologist, announced at the 72nd Annual Meeting held May 29th online. The Distinguished Psychologist

Award is given to an individual who has made significant contributions to psychology research, practice, or both during the course of their career. "He is a forensic psychologist who has consulted with lawyers, judges, and mental health professionals," said Dr. Mike Chafetz, Chair of the Awards Committee. "Many of us have relied on his counsel numerous times. He has handled the most intense kinds of forensic cases, such as custody cases, with wisdom, grace, and due diligence for the facts. Many people in the legal profession—lawyers, judges—have a correct view of the power of psychology in the courtroom due to Dr. Simoneaux's work."

**Gov. Opens Phase Two** Gov. Edwards announced on June 1 that following continued improvement in Louisiana's COVID-19 outlook and a significant increase in testing capacity and contact tracing, Louisiana is ready to move to Phase 2.

**Psychology Board's Legislative Initiative SB 438 on Hold for Now** Senate Bill 458, initiated by the Louisiana State Board of Examiners of Psychologists (LSBEP) and authored

by Senator Luneau from Alexandria, was set to making sweeping changes to the psychology law. However, first encountering members from the Louisiana Psychological Association (LPA), and then the coronavirus crisis, the measure is on hold with an uncertain place in the special session. SB 458 proposes numerous changes to the law, including establishing a new system of credentialing for assistants, revising the qualifications for board members, changes to the scope of practice, expanding the charter of the board, and others.

**Gov. Names Co-Chairs, Members of COVID-19 Health Equity Task Force** Gov. John Bel Edwards has named the two co-chairs and appointed members to the Louisiana COVID-19 Health Equity Task Force and several subcommittees.

**Louisiana Launches E-Commerce Initiative for Small Businesses** Gov. Edwards and Secretary Don Pierson of Louisiana Economic Development have announced an ecommerce initiative to empower the online performance of Louisiana's small businesses, during and beyond the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Dr. Raines Named 2020 Early Career Psychologist** Dr. Amanda Raines, Clinical Investigator at Southeast Louisiana Veterans Health Care System and Assistant Professor in the Department of Psychiatry at Louisiana State University, has been named the 2020 Early Career Psychologist by the Louisiana Psychological Association. Highlighting her extensive peer-reviewed publications, development of novel interventions, ability to secure funding for the benefit of veterans in underserved areas, Awards Chair Dr. Mike Chafetz announced Dr. Raines as this year's recipient on May 29. The Early Career Psychologist Award is given to an individual who is within 10 years of completing their doctorate in psychology and who has distinguished themselves by contributing to psychology research, practice, or both during the initial years of their career.

**Is This a Good Time to Help Your Client Change Jobs? Two Experts Talk Shop** We talked with two local career and business experts, Dr. William Costelloe and Mr. Jim Stood, and ask them about adapting to the job market churn going on in the country. Dr. Costelloe is a licensed I-O psychologist and owner of Costelloe & Associates, Inc. For over 40 years, he has consulted with both public

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INVOLVEMENT  
Dr. Amanda Raines

One of the most serious problems in health and mental health is the science–practice gap, the divide between research literature and applied interventions. The gap is everywhere and believed to be responsible for the finding that a large proportion of clinicians do not use evidenced-based treatments. Dr. Amanda Raines, Clinical Investigator at Southeast Louisiana Veterans Health Care System and Assistant Professor at LSU, is reducing that gap with her community connections and involvement efforts. A distinguished scientist herself, she directed and promoted training programs through the Louisiana Psychological Association, connecting practitioners with research scientists from across the state, and obtained rave reviews for her efforts. Well done!



# 2020 Year-in-Review

Continued

corporations and family-owned businesses across the country. Jim Stood, M.S., is owner of JT Stodd & Associates, and has provided consulting services to a diverse mix of clients and has taught leadership at LSU.

**Drs. Keyes, Middleton, Osofsky to Present on Issues of Covid-19 and Matters of Healthcare** Two online training sessions will be hosted by the Louisiana Psychological Association in June to help psychologists deal with issues encountered due to the coronavirus crisis. "Disparities in the Age of COVID-19," will be presented on Thursday, June 11, at 2-3:30pm. Presenters are Angela Keyes, PhD and Melissa Middleton, PhD. Dr. Joy Osofsky will review the impact of changes in our world and personal lives brought about by COVID-19 with attention to infants, toddlers, and preschoolers.

**Stress Solutions** by Dr. Susan Andrews: More on the Tapping Solution: A Basis in Ancient Chinese Medicine

**Shrink at the Flicks** by Dr. Al Burstein: *The Plague*

## JULY

**Judge Rules Ms. Monic Entitled to Immunity in Cerwonka vs LSBEP** The conclusion of a drawn-out legal dispute over a psychologist's due process rights concluded with a US District Court judge confirming that the psychology board, as well as the board's employee, Ms. Jaime Monic, are both entitled to immunity under the 11th Amendment, which bars individuals from suing a state in federal court. The lawsuit was brought by Dr. Eric Cerwonka who alleged violations of his Constitutional rights to due process, when his license was suspended without a hearing and amid other alleged irregularities by the investigations subcommittee of the Louisiana State Board of Examiners of Psychologists.

**Legislature Wraps It Up** The Louisiana Legislature concluded the Extraordinary Session on June 30.

**Gov. Signs Measure Redefining Dyslexia** The Governor signed HB 871 into law as Act 206 to replace the current definition of dyslexia under the State Board of Education. Laura Cassidy, MD, owner of Louisiana Key Academy and wife of U.S. Senator Bill Cassidy. The new law redefines dyslexia as "an unexpected difficulty in reading for an individual who has the intelligence to be a much better reader, most commonly caused by a difficulty in phonological processing, which affects the ability of an individual to speak, read, and spell, ...".

**Could More Police Psychology Help? Special Report** Following George Floyd's death the *Times* asked psychologists about their work aimed at selecting and training police officers. We reviewed the work of those at Morris & McDaniel, with Dr. Lana Whitlow in the New Orleans Regional Office, where she focuses on using multiple procedures to screen candidates. We reported on Dr. Mkey Bonner, Dr. Charles Burchell, Dr. Courtland Chaney, Dr. Penelope (Penny) Dralle and the work of the late Dr. Robert Davis, founder of Matrix, Inc., a Police Psychological Services Corporation.

**Trump Issues Ex Order on Safe Policing with Emphasis on Hiring, Training, and Community** President Trump issued an Executive Order with guidelines for improving safe policing in communities. State and local law enforcement agencies are to constantly assess and improve their practices and policies to ensure transparent, safe, and accountable delivery of law enforcement services to their communities.

## The Psychology Times 2020 COMMUNITY AWARD

# VISION

## Dr. William Costelloe & Mr. Jim Stood

It takes vision and the entrepreneurial spirit to begin to talk about how to adapt to the new social and business environment caused by the virus. That is exactly what the industrial organizational psychology team of Dr. Costello and Mr. Stood did when they focused on how to make changes in occupational choices, for both readers and their clients. Thanks to these visionaries for keeping us at the transformational view of the world—and for supporting the optimism that comes with that perspective!

**Gov. Declares Juneteenth Observance Day** Gov. Edwards declared June 19, 2020, as Juneteenth Observance Day in Louisiana to celebrate the day in 1865 when the last remaining enslaved African Americans were freed.

**Psychological Data to be Made Available for Parole Hearings** Act 103 adds "the physical, mental, or psychiatric condition of the offender when such information is available," to existing language. The updated language is, "Whenever the committee orders a parole hearing to be held, the Department of Public Safety and Corrections shall secure a report with respect to the personality of the offender, his social history, his adjustment to authority, the physical, mental, or psychiatric condition of the offender when such information is available, ...."

**State Supreme Court Says to Release Psychological Eval in Alton Sterling Civil Case** The Louisiana Supreme Court ruled in May that the psychological pre-employment evaluation of Blaine Salamoni must be turned over to attorneys for the family of Alton Sterling.

**Ex. Order Aims to Boost Valid Assessments for Federal Hiring/Selection** On June 26, the President issued an Order to modernize and reform the hiring process for federal work candidates.

**Act 137 Creates Autism Designation for Driver's License, Police Training** HB 317 establishes an autism spectrum disorder designation for a person's driver's license. The applicant is to provide a sworn statement from a qualified medical or mental health professional licensed in Louisiana or any U.S. state or territory verifying his disability and prohibits any additional fee for the designation.

**OCD Louisiana to Hold Consultation Group for Mental Health Professions** The professional and advocacy group, OCD Louisiana, is organizing an OCD/OC Spectrum Disorders Consultation Group for mental health practitioners and trainees to discuss topics and learn about relevant resources to provide evidence based treatment to individuals with OC spectrum



# 2020 Year-in-Review

## Continued

disorders, according to President Dr. Kristen Fitch. Along with President is Kristin Fitch, PhD, OCD Louisiana is led by Vice-President Leslie Higgins, PsyD, Treasurer Michele Carroll, PsyD, and Secretary Melissa Dufrene, PsyD. Suzanne Chabaud, PhD and Gail Pesses, MSW, LCSW, are Board Members.

**Dr. Katie Cherry Speaks on Humor and Coping for Coronavirus Pandemic** Dr. Katie Cherry, Professor of Psychology at Louisiana State University, provided expertise about coping with humor to ShareCare reporter Amanda MacMillan for the article, "Having Trouble Dealing With the Pandemic? It's Okay to Laugh—Humor can relieve stress and help us cope—but when and how you joke about tragedy makes a difference." Dr. Cherry is the Emogene Pliner Distinguished Professor of Aging Studies as well as the Director of Research and Community Outreach, LSU Life Course and Aging Center. Her new book is *The Other Side of Suffering: Finding a Path to Peace after Tragedy*.

**Dr. Buckner Named LSU Distinguished Faculty** Julie Buckner, PhD, Professor of Psychology and Director of Clinical Training, has been awarded the 2020 LSU Distinguished Faculty Award. This award recognizes faculty members with sustained records of excellence in teaching, research, and/or service. Dr. Buckner is a Professor and Director of Clinical Training in the Department of Psychology at Louisiana State University and the Director of LSU's Anxiety and Addictive Behaviors Laboratory & Clinic.

**Dr. Erin Reuther Honored for Service** The Louisiana Psychological Association (LPA) has named Dr. Erin Reuther, PhD, ABPP, recipient of the 2020 Distinguished Service Award, recognized for her dedication and leadership in legislative issues and as special task team leader for Covid-19.

**Dr. Boudreaux Recognized for Lifetime Achievements** LPA President Dr. Alan Coulter named Dr. Ron Boudreaux the recipient of the LPA President's Award. Dr. Coulter pointed to Boudreaux's pioneering career in establishing a comprehension system of public mental health services for children, youth and families in Louisiana, and as the Chief Psychologist for the state Office of Mental Health.

**Stress Solutions** by Dr. Susan Andrews: Sleep – More Important Than Ever

**Shrink at the Flicks** by Dr. Al Burstein: *Beanpole*

### AUGUST

**Cases Rise, Governor Extends Phase Two** Gov. Edwards signed orders and

extending Phase Two as Louisiana surpassed 100,000 known COVID-19 cases.

**Dr. Frick Honored for Scientific Achievements** The La Psych Assn honored Dr. Paul Frick for Contributions in Psychological Science. His research investigates the many interacting factors that can lead children and adolescents to have serious emotional and behavioral problems, such as aggressive and antisocial behavior. Dr. Frick holds the Roy Crumpler Memorial Chair and is professor of psychology at Louisiana State University (LSU). Previously, he was Chair of Psychology at U. of New Orleans.

**Dr. Bonner Recognized for Psychology in Public Interest** Dr. MKay Bonner has been recognized as the 2020 recipient of the Award for *Psychology in the Public Interest* by the La Psych Assn for her work in police psychology. The recognition is given to an individual who has made significant scholarly or practical contributions to the health and well-being of the general public through their work in psychology, said officials.

**Psychology Times Earns 1st in General Excellence at La Press** *The Psychology Times* earned the prestigious First Place in General Excellence in its division from the Louisiana Press Association and its Better Newspaper Competition for 2019-2020. The General Excellence honor is sought after by newspapers as a top award in the divisions.

**Gov. Appoints Dr. Harness to LSBEP** On July 1 Gov. Edwards announced his appointment of Dr. Shannae N. Harness of Kenner to the Louisiana State Board of Examiners of Psychologists. She is a clinical psychologist at Ochsner Medical complex—The Grove and was nominated by the Louisiana Psychological Association.

**Am Psychological Assn Holds First Ever Virtual Annual Convention** For the first time in its history the American Psychological Association is holding its annual conference online.

**Connecting the Dots: Validity Testing and the SSA** Since 2011 the *Times* has been following the news of advancements in psychological science regarding assessments in disability evaluations and the response by government authority in the Social Security Administration to these advancements. In this review we look back at our reporting on these issues.

**Bookshelf: Evaluation and Treatment of Neuropsychologically Compromised Children** A review of the newest work of Dr. Darlyne Nemeth who teamed up with Dr. Janna Glozman to create a volume that outlines the interwoven contributions from two great psychological scientists from two sides of the globe. The volume is a wide ranging view of multiple topics including history, theory, research, assessment methods and practical clinical techniques, case studies, and innovative pilot programs.

**Stress Solutions** by Dr. Susan Andrews: Tapping Reduces Cortisol by 43%

**Shrink at the Flicks** by Dr. Al Burstein: *Parasite*

### SEPTEMBER

**Laura Razes Lake Charles** Six parishes are being declared federal disaster areas after last week's hurricane Laura made

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## The Psychology Times

### 2020 COMMUNITY AWARD

# COURAGE

## Dr. Fred Sautter

It takes no small amount of courage to stand up to the juggernauts. Taking a stand against any government body these days takes the special type of courage but that is exactly what Dr. Frederic Sautter did. Dr. Sautter was at the center of a CBS News investigative report that aired in November, and his complaint was that the New Orleans VA was not diagnosing enough veterans adequately for traumatic brain injury (TBI), the signature wound of the Afghanistan and Iraq wars. Our hats are off to Dr. Sautter for his grit and courage, about which he said, "If important protocols are not enacted it is your duty to report it. Do not expect gratitude from anyone at the institution but it is very satisfying knowing that you stood up for what you believe in." We are grateful for his courage and leadership.

# 2020 Year-in-Review

## Continued

landfall in Cameron Parish with 150 mph winds, leveling the city of Lake Charles. Laura was one of the strongest hurricanes to hit the United States and the worse storm for Louisiana since the 1856 "Last Island Hurricane."

**Dr. Martin Launches Smartphone Diet App** Pennington psychologist, Dr. Corby Martin, has launched his new smartphone app and the device promises to make it easier for users to count calories correctly, by using food photos taken with their smartphones, to get an accurate view of their macro nutrients and better calculate intake. Drs. Martin and John Apolzan are Co-principal Investigators of a four-year, \$1.8 million, National Institutes of Health study.

**Survey Finds Psychologists Down 50% or More in Service Capacity Due to Covid-19** Multi-Health Systems Inc. (MHS) conducted a survey of psychologists during Covid and found that there has been a 58% overall loss in service capacity. The top three provider types that have lost the greatest percentage of their work or practice are neuropsychologists, with a decrease of 72%, school psychologists, with a decrease of 65%, and clinical psychologists with a drop of 50%.

**Dr. Robert Sternberg to Speak at LPA in Nov.** The Louisiana Psychological Association will host Dr. Robert Sternberg, Past President of the American Psychological Association, at their virtual fall/ winter workshop to be held November 6 and 7 online. Sternberg will talk on his theories about intelligence, creativity, and wisdom.

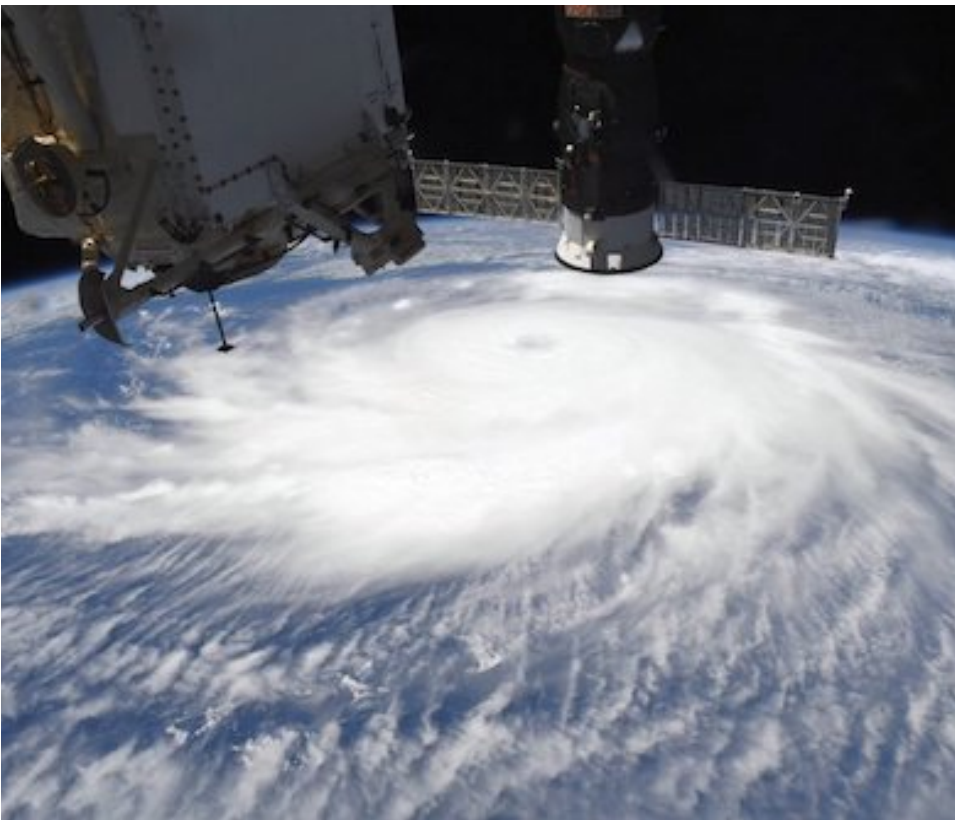
**LSU Social Work Awarded \$2.5 Million to Expand Mental Health Services in Schools** *LSU News* reported in August that the School of Social Work has been awarded a 5-year, \$2.5 million grant from the Louisiana Department of Education aimed to expand and strengthen the state's school-based mental health workforce.

**Dr. Sison to Present on Covid & Managing Change** Dr. Gustave Sison, consulting psychologist and owner of Sisson consulting, will present "Changes during Uncertain Times," at the Annual Fall Social Work Institute to be held virtually September 11. Dr. Sison leads a consulting firm that specializes in communication, change management, interpersonal/ leadership skills development, executive consulting/coaching, conflict management, and outcomes measurement.

**LaTech Psychology Provides Mental Health First Aid Training** Louisiana Tech's Psychology and Behavioral Sciences Department provided Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) training for more than 160 teachers within the University's College of Education and for other educators in the local community, reported *LaTech News*. Dr. Ida Chauvin, Associate Professor for the Department of Psychology and Behavioral Sciences, applied for and received a grant to cover the training materials, manuals, and resources necessary.

**Tulane's Dr. Julie Alvarez Earns Hero Award** Tulane Science and Engineering announced that Senior Professor of Practice Julie Alvarez of the Department of Psychology is the Summer 2020 recipient of the Dean's Hero Award, reported *Tulane News*. Dr. Alvarez is a clinical neuropsychologist with expertise in psychological assessment. She coordinates the Tulane Psychology's 4+1 Accelerated Master's Programs in Behavioral Health and Psychological Science.

**Dr. Sarah Gray to Study Moms and Children** Dr. Sarah Gray, director of the Tulane Child and Family Lab and a clinical assistant professor in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at the Tulane School of Medicine, will



study the effectiveness of an intervention to address trauma in mothers and their children as part of a four-year grant that will bring the family-focused project to New Orleans area Head Start centers.

**Bookshelf: *The Other Side of Suffering: Finding a Path to Peace after Tragedy*** Dr. Katie Cherry, the Emogene Pliner Distinguished Professor of Aging Studies at Louisiana State University, and the Director of Research and Community Outreach, LSU Life Course and Aging Center, has been at the center of research about how people come through disasters. In her newest book, *The Other Side of Suffering: Finding a Path to Peace after Tragedy*, published by Oxford University Press, she builds on and extends her previous work with those who have been caught in natural disasters.

**Stress Solutions** by Dr. Susan Andrews: Exercise Reduces Stress and Lengthens Your Life

**Shrink at the Flicks** by Dr. Al Burstein: *The Black Panther: A Review*

### OCTOBER

**Governor Renews Emergency Status from Hurricane Laura** *21 Parishes in FEMA Disaster Area* – Gov. Edwards renewed his State-of-Emergency proclamation on September 18, authorizing the Governor's office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness to continue to undertake all activities authorized to assist in recovery from Hurricane Laura.

**Legislature Calls Itself into Session** The Louisiana legislature called themselves into a special session to address 70 topics including items for review COVID-19 recovery efforts, and supporting communities impacted by Hurricane Laura.

**Dr. Dean Radin to Speak on Extrasensory Research and Overlap with Quantum Theory** The Louisiana Psychological Association will host Dr. Dean Radin, noted psychological scientist who explores extrasensory phenomena. Dr. Radin will speak virtually on November 7, about "Extrasensory Experiences in a Quantum Reality." He will review the current state of research findings regarding extrasensory phenomena, called psi research, as well as relevant controversies and new areas of investigation related to quantum theory.

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# 2020 Year-in-Review

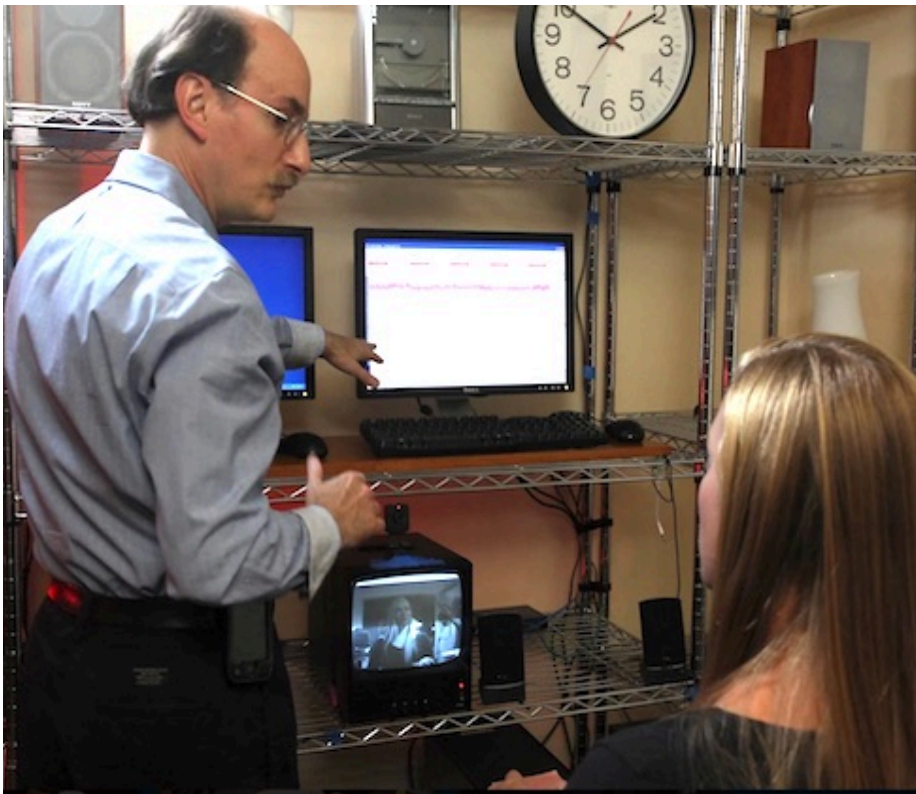
## Continued

**KFF Finds 53% of US Adults Stressed by Coronavirus & Economic Concerns** The COVID-19 pandemic and the resulting economic problems have negatively affected many people's mental health and created new barriers for people already suffering from mental illness and substance use disorders," report authors at the Kaiser family foundation (KFF).

**CMS Seeks Cuts to Fees of Psychologists; Testing by Nurses and PAs** Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) are proposing a new rule impacting the 2021 Medicare physician fee schedule, which will likely result in a 10.6% reduction in payments to psychologists providing services to Medicare beneficiaries. CMS is also proposing that non-physician practitioners (nurse practitioners and physician assistants) be allowed to supervise diagnostic testing including psychological and neuropsychological testing, if the state law and their scope of practice allows.

**Dr. Arnold James Honored as Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Clinical Scholar** New Orleans Mayor Latoya Cantrell has announced that Dr. Arnold James is a member of the distinguished group of New Orleans health care professionals who have been named as Clinical Scholars by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF), the nation's largest philanthropy dedicated solely to health issues. Dr. James has practiced clinical psychology in New Orleans for nearly 30 years. He received his PhD in Clinical Psychology, Master of Public Health and bachelor's in Psychology from the University of South Carolina. He is a fellow with the New Orleans – Birmingham Psychoanalytic Society, and employed with the Southeastern Louisiana Veterans Health Care System, and former assistant professor of psychology at Tulane University Medical Center.

**Tulane's Dr. Michael Hoerger Finds Major Issue with Panic Attacks in Google Internet Data Sources** A study led by Michael Hoerger, an assistant professor of psychology in the Tulane School of Science and Engineering, and published in the journal *Psychological Trauma: Theory, Research, Practice, and Policy*, used Google search data to examine trends in mental health during the COVID-19 pandemic. Based on that search, panic attacks could be affecting millions.



Dr. Robert Sternberg, Past President of the American Psychological Association, and Dr. Dean Radin (above), noted psychological scientist who explores extrasensory phenomena, presented online for LPA.

**Louisiana School Psychological Association Announces Conferences** The Louisiana School Psychological Association is planning a mini-conference on November 6 and a full virtual conference from September 2020 to August 2021, according to the announcement from Brandon Wilks, LSPA President-Elect and Conference Chair.

**Research News and Some Surprising Findings**, by Susan Andrews, PhD and Paul Harch, MD. After completing our 10-year research project on the effectiveness of treating mTBI, Persistent Postconcussional Syndrome (PPCS), and PTSD with Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy (HBOT), we (Susan Andrews, PhD and Paul Harch, MD) published the major findings in *Medical Gas Research*1 in the March 2020 issue.

**Stress Solutions** by Dr. Susan Andrews: One Simple FDA Approved, Non-Drug Therapy That Reduces Stress AND Blood Pressure

**Shrink at the Flicks** by Dr. Al Burstein: *Secret Window*: A Review

### NOVEMBER

**Governor Files Lawsuit to Defend His Covid Measures** On October 26, Gov. Edwards filed a lawsuit in state court defending his COVID-19 public health emergency proclamation, which has been challenged by a group of members of the House of Representatives.

**Legislature Ends Session on Oct 23** The Louisiana Legislature wrapped up its Special Session on October 23, dealing with a number of the emergency issues for Covid-19 and the hurricanes. Conservative legislators put forth numerous bills to curb the governor's emergency power to restrict citizens in their behaviors, but only one measure passed through both houses, HB 4. However, on October 27 Gov. Edwards vetoed HB 4.

**Veterans Honored During November, New Programs: Concerns Remain about Suicide Rates** The country celebrates Veterans Day on November 11 and the President signed a proclamation on October 30 designating November as National Veterans and Military Families Month. While the *Annual Suicide Report*, published in August by the Department of Defense, indicated positive moves in program development, the suicide rate remains high with the concerning trends.

**Graves Announces DOJ Grants** *City of Baton Rouge, State Police, LSU receive grants* –U.S. Congressman Garret Graves announced on October 22 that he obtained grants totaling \$6,251,041 from the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ). Among these were a \$721,293 grant to the city of Baton Rouge for The Justice and Mental Health Collaboration Program.

**Scott Lilienfeld, Advocate for Excellence in Psychological Science and Practice, Succumbs to Pancreatic Cancer** Nationally recognized psychologist and Emory Professor, Scott Lilienfeld, died on Sept. 30 at his home in Atlanta. He was the keynote speaker at the La psychology association in 2018.



# 2020 Year-in-Review

## Continued

**Dr. Hesson Hires Specialist Attorney for Appeal** Dr. Rodney Hesson, along with his mother, Gertrude Parker, have asked Judge Carl Barbier to extend the deadline for their replies in their appeal cases. Dr. Hesson has also changed representation, to Mr. William Kent, Federal Criminal Appeal Lawyer from Florida, who has argued before the US Supreme Court.

**SB 12 Establishes Mental Health Measures for Those in Hospitals and Nursing Homes** SB 12 by Sen. Robert Mills provides access for patients of hospitals and residents of nursing homes, assisted living facilities, and other adult residential care homes to members of the clergy who volunteer to minister and provide religious sacraments and services, counseling, and mental health support during COVID-19 and other public health emergencies.

**Interstate Compact Passed for Medicine: "Interstate Medical Licensure Compact"** A new law establishes the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact Commission and grants each participating state two voting representatives on the commission. It provides for the powers, duties, financial authority, organization, and rulemaking functions of the commission. The new law authorizes the commission to levy and collect an annual assessment from each member state.

**Are Money Problems Behind the Psychology Board's Latest Legislation?** The state psychology board surprised the community when they put forth legislation for the 2020 session. They cast the legislation as "housekeeping," but the sweeping changes they wanted were anything but. In this article, we examine the possible issues behind the odd behaviors of the board.

**Shrink at the Flicks** by Dr. Al Burstein: *Stonehearst Asylum: A Review*

### DECEMBER

**Psychologist Blows Whistle on New Orleans VA Procedures** *Concerns about TBI Diagnosis & Treatment* –A New Orleans psychologist, Dr. Frederic Sautter, was at the center of a CBS News investigative report that aired last month finding that the New Orleans VA may not have been diagnosing enough veterans so that they could be treated adequately for traumatic brain injury (TBI), the signature wound of the Afghanistan and Iraq wars. CBS investigative reporter Jim Axelrod broke the story, "Whistleblower says veteran affairs dramatically under diagnosed traumatic brain injuries." Louisiana psychologist Dr. Sautter was key to the report.

**Return to Phase 2 for December Says Governor After Cases Rise** Gov. Edwards announced that the aggressive third surge of COVID-19 across all regions of Louisiana has made it necessary to impose tighter mitigation measures.

**Dr. Sonia Blauvelt Helps Lead Suicide Prevention Project for Southeast La** Baton Rouge psychologist, Dr. Sonia Blauvelt, is leading the suicide prevention program for the Mental Health Association for Greater Baton Rouge who is implementing a COVID-19 Emergency Response for Suicide Prevention Project in southeast Louisiana to help contain the expected increase in mental health problems for Louisiana citizens. The Association noted that: Socially and financially disadvantaged families are more vulnerable to stresses and traumas, and the risk for mental health problems and domestic violence increases after families face extreme adversity, such as those related to COVID-19 disruptions and trauma.

**Resilient Louisiana Commission Makes Recommendations** Following the COVID-19 outbreak, Gov. Edwards created the Resilient Louisiana Commission to determine ways the state can better protect itself against disruptions, such as public health emergencies and natural disasters. They provide their recommendations.

**Primary Care Assn Objects to Ochsner Expansion Plans** Officials at the Louisiana Primary Care Association asked that citizens take a stand and decline to "reinvent the wheel" and to support Louisiana's federally qualified health centers.

**Could Hydrogen Peroxide Help with the Coronavirus?** According to Dr. Thomas Levy, gradate from Tulane medical school, inhaling a very diluted concentration of hydrogen peroxide through a nebulizer may be an effective way to prevent, or even treat, the Coronavirus.

**TRAPS the DOJ Sets for Healthcare Providers** In 2007 the United States Department of Justice (DOJ) established a "Medicare Fraud Strike Force," describing itself as part of the Health Care Fraud Prevention & Enforcement Action Team, or "HEAT." The DOJ's targeting efforts came home to Louisiana in 2015 with multiple charges levied against psychologists in Louisiana and Mississippi, including Dr. Beverly Stubblefield, a respected member of the Louisiana psychology community. For this report, we looked at how the DOJ employs the same law enforcement weapons against healthcare practitioners that they bring against organized crime, the mafia, and terrorists.

**Christmas Bookshelf** Christmas reading reviewed by Drs. Judith Stewart, Courtland Chaney, John Fanning, Kim VanGeffen, Christoph Leonhard, Lillian Range, ValaRay Irvin, Randee Booksh, and Tiffany Jennings.

**Stress Solutions** by Dr. Susan Andrews: How to Reduce Your Risk of Alzheimer's Dementia

**Shrink at the Flicks** by Dr. Al Burstein: *J.R. 'Bob' Dobbs and the Church of the SubGenius*



The sentimental favorite, Dr. Lee Matthews, accepted the Janet R. Matthews, Ph.D. Outstanding Psychology Mentor Award for 2020, announced at the annual meeting of the Louisiana Psychological Association, held online.



# A Shrink at the Flicks

## *Citizen Kane* A Review

by Alvin G. Burstein, PhD

In a search for an end of the year movie to review, the spate of Christmas releases didn't appeal to me. *Citizen Kane* popped into my mind because of its frequent citation as the all-time greatest movie by both the American Film Institute and its British counterpart. It was seen as a virtuoso effort by the twenty-five year-old boy wonder, Orson Welles. He not only co-authored the screen play with Herman Mankiewicz but also produced, directed and starred in the movie. A virtuoso effort indeed.

A 1941 RKO release, it had impressed me when I'd seen it as a youngster. I was curious about how it would strike me eighty years later. It would be an understatement to say it wore well.

More, it turned out to be almost eerily *a propos* of current events. The emotional charge of the final reveal retains its intensity, the content of which, despite the film's age and its having been remembered by me, would be a spoiler to describe.

The film recounts the life of Charles Foster Kane. It opens by closing in on the elaborately baroque grounds of the Kane estate. The protagonist is on his death bed. As he draws his last breath, he utters a name, "Rose Bud", and a snow globe drops out of his hand to roll across the floor. So the story begins with its ending and continues with a series of flash backs.

Guest Columnist,  
Dr. Alvin Burstein

Burstein, a psychologist and psychoanalyst, is a professor emeritus at the University of Tennessee and a faculty member of the New Orleans-Birmingham Psychoanalytic Center with numerous scholarly works to his credit. He is also a member of Inklings, a Mandeville critique group that meets weekly to review its members' imaginative writings. Burstein has published flash fiction and autobiographical pieces in e-zines;



courtesy photo

*The Owl*, his first novelette, is available at Amazon. He is, in addition to being a movie fan, a committed Francophile, unsurprisingly a lover of fine cheese and wine, and an unrepentant cruciverbalist.



The device is a search for Rose Bud, embodied in an investigative reporter's search for Rose Bud's identity. The grounds for the search is Kane's celebrity as a wealthy newspaper mogul and politician. As the reporter interviews figures from Kane's past and reads their diaries, those varied memories are dramatized, and Kane is explored from multiple points of view: those of his parents, his guardians, his mistress and wives, his servants, his long-time associates and his rivals. These multiple points of view provide a textured account, enriched by its contradictory elements, but with a central element: Kane's insatiable thirst for affirmation.

Kane's thirst cannot be slaked and blinds him to the needs of others. He is the apotheosis of a narcissist for whom others are valued only for their adulation. From the point of view of self psychology Kane's crippling is rooted in very early experiences of parental deprivation, failures to provide the child with adequate gratification of the need to be deeply valued. We watch Kane as a child being sent away by his rustic parents to "enjoy" the benefits of accidental wealth—a benefit that, deep within his defective self, is experienced as an unconscious but overwhelming rejection. Unable genuinely to care about anyone else, Kane ends his life again abandoned, in a castle surrounded by the accouterments of wealth—a deeply tragic figure.

Kane's narcissism provides an obvious parallel to that of our country's current president. Whether Trump's end will resemble Kane's remains to be seen.





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