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This has been a very difficult month. Apparently it has been this way all over.

Illness and injury just don't go away. Arlene is slowly recovering from major surgery on her left shoulder. Her right shoulder is damaged beyond repair. Thank you God for a granddaughter such as Allie Cearley--better than diamonds! Allie is grandma's main care giver (outside of me).

But our injuries seem dwarfed compared to that of Sage Pattie. Sage is recovering from Ovarian Cancer.


Steve and Sage are well known and loved in this world of folk art. Our prayers are with you Sage and Steve. Folks, this is one special lady! Wherever Sage goes a smile seems to travel with her!

And Dear Juanita Leonard, you have done so much for others. Our prayers are with you in your time of grief! This is so very sad! So very hard to comprehend this tragedy.

This is what I copied from the newspaper in Louisiana: Harold Phillips was Juanita's brother.

Colfax Shooting Victim is Dead

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The victim of an afternoon shooting in Colfax is dead, according to a family member and Louisiana State Police.

Harold Phillips of Natchitoches was shot around 3 p.m. today by a Colfax Police Officer responding to a domestic disturbance call. The officer involved is Stephen Merchant. Phillips is being described as a black man in his late fifties.

The shooting occurred around the intersection of East and Church Streets, off of Main Street in Colfax. Phillips was taken to Rapides Regional Medical Center and declared dead, according to Scott Moreau, public affairs officer with the Louisiana State Police. Kimberline Williams, Phillips' niece, talked to News Channel 5 this evening while she was waiting on a coroner to declare Phillips as dead. According to Williams, Phillips was "play wrestling" in his yard with Williams' aunt. When Merchant drove up, Williams continued, he thought the two were actually fighting and attempted to arrest Phillips. Williams said out of fear, her uncle began to run and was shot multiple times. Following the shooting, Merchant has been placed on administrative leave, according to Numa Metoyer, the Colfax City Attorney.

The shooting is under investigation.

WOW WOW WOW WOW---Powerful!— God please help our country and please be with Juanita!

On we continue. I am going to maintain the section Brimstone From Heaven in the newsletter but I want to be sure that nothing offensive is in it. I will skip it in this update.

We are redoing the side of the building; we have one great sign painter. He is Michael Thomas---the best. That was 15 years ago! His story is truly a success story. Mike was a homeless, street person when I first met him. He still struggles

but has come so far. Mike, I am so darn proud of you! He works at Lodi Grill. He is off the streets!

And helping him with all the free hand writing is the lovely Yanette!

Here are pictures of them working on the wall:



We expect to reopen by September 4th, yes, this year! We are hoping that the wall itself will become a tourist attraction!

If you would like a sign painted, please let me know.

About buying folk/outsider art, I am still doing it and paying well. I believe that the masters such as Jimmie Sudduth, Reverend Finster, Bernice Sims, and Clementine Hunter will always hold their value. The potters such as Michael Bayne will hold. The primitive potter Terry Hosey is one of my favorites. If you

like the best of Early American--BUY Michel Bayne—the best of primitive American Country BUY Terry Hoser. Great potters---Please don't pass on the other potters because they are very good or I wouldn't have them on my website. Michel Bayne is expensive—like a nice Windsor Chair/ Terry Hosey is much less expensive like a good country chair.

I love the Wild Mud potter, Freeman Loughridge. Please watch e-bay for Freeman's work.

One of the potters I have represented for a long time has turned to e-bay. He is A. V. Smith. His work is fantastic! If you check my website and see his work please contact me. I will try to match his e-bay prices. Please remember that I paid shipping. I will try to absorb my shipping cost but I will have to charge you the cost of shipping to you. Please e-mail and ask. There are some beautiful items on the website. A. V. is known for his glazes. Check him out on e-bay.

Watching the children play in the alley by the gallery I noticed that one boy was not there. It was 105 degrees and the pavement was hot. Many of the apartments do not have air conditioning. I went to the apartment of the young boy (name withheld) that I care deeply for. I asked him why I never saw him playing with the others. He replied that he had no shoes. I looked down at his feet and what I saw brought tears to my eyes. His "shoes" were held together by tape. The shoes were then taped to his feet. The shoes covered holey white socks that were equally tattered. I gasped as I had NEVER seen anything like it. After obtaining permission from his mother I drove him to Burton's Shoe Store in Lodi. Burton's is a upper scale shoe store.

The woman sales clerk took the boy under her wings. I saw tears in her eyes as she assisted him. She was great. She showed no hesitation as she removed the tattered shoes from his feet, then the socks. She then went and found different shoes for him to select. It wasn't long until the boy had five new pairs of socks and new shoes from the best of Lodi. Please note this: The shoes removed were size 5 ½-----The new shoes were size 8!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

If you live near Lodi, please shop at Burtons!

We don't know poverty, you and I!

We are going to be a great-grandparents again! Congratulations to Myles and Holly Corbin---a beautiful couple! Myles is being assigned to duty in Afghanistan in September.

Please know that NEXT month will have some nice gifts waiting for you as we celebrate our wall and our reopening. Please note that everyone, except direct family members, is open to receiving the gifts.

Please know this! All of us are entitled to our belief but as far as me, I TRUST IN MY GOD and I am very happy to tell you!

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