



Polar Plunge lives up to its name

Participants in the Polar Plunge at Bass Pro Shops braved frigid temperatures and jumped into Bass Pro Lake to raise funds for the Special Olympics Jan. 30. About 40 participants including public officials, local celebrities, media reps, military personnel, the general public and Special Olympics Louisiana athletes and staff made the jump. Livingston Parish President Mike Grimmer challenged WAFB TV's Matt Williams to make five consecutive jumps with the promise of \$100 a jump - and he did! The event raised over \$6,000. For information on how you can donate to the Special Olympics, visit www.laso.org.

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Great cause to celebrate

On Jan. 30, the Krewe of Denham Springs continued their 30-year tradition with their annual Mardi Gras parade. With a theme of 'Viva Las Vegas,' the parade featured 15 krewe member floats, marching bands, and many other entries. Shown, below top, is the winning float.

The town of Walker started a new tradition with its first annual family-friendly Mardi Gras parade Feb. 6, that was a big hit with residents and the float riders alike such as LeBlanc's local grocery, below center.

Neither parade had good weather but both still enjoyed good turnouts - but nothing like the record 800,000 plus people estimated in attendance at the New Orleans Saints NFL Champions Parade Feb. 9 in celebration of the Saints' historic Super Bowl win Feb. 7 in Miami as seen at the bottom.

