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CLOSINGS
Find all the closings and cancellations due to Sally inside or online at houmatoday.com

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HIGH SCHOOL CROSS COUNTRY
E.D. White runners dominate at Eddie Cole Classic

THE COURIER

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Still reeling, La. braces for another storm

By Greg Hilburn
USA TODAY NETWORK

Louisiana faces a strike from another violent storm less than three weeks after Hurricane Laura carved a wide path of destruction that left more than a third of the state as a disaster zone.

Even as Tropical Storm Sally churned toward New Orleans and southeastern Louisiana, more than 82,000 people remained without power Sunday in Lake Charles and southwestern Louisiana and more than 210,000 households lacked clean tap water.

The state is already sheltering about 13,000 Hurricane Laura evacuees, most of whom are in hotels in New Orleans in the possible sights of Sally, and tens of thousands more are displaced from their homes.

Tropical Storm Sally is forecast to make landfall in southeastern Louisiana early Tuesday morning as a Category 2 hurricane with winds of 100 mph, bands that could drop "feet" of rain and a potential storm surge of 11 feet.

"We have every reason to believe this storm represents a very significant threat to the people of southeastern Louisiana," Gov. John Bel Edwards said during a Sunday afternoon news conference.

"New Orleans is better prepared for a hurricane than she's ever been before, but if you get 18 inches of water in 10 hours, I think Aspen, Colo., would probably flood. So I'm concerned, but not paralyzed by it."

Benjamin Schott, the meteorologist in charge of the National Weather Service office in New Orleans, said Louisianans in southeastern Louisiana shouldn't compare Sally to previous storms Barry, Cristobal and Marco, which ended up to be duds.

"I do not believe we'll be that lucky this time," Schott said.

Schott forecast 15 inches of rain in New Orleans, 6-12 inches rain as an average in the region and areas under the heaviest bands "that can be measured in feet (24 inches or more)."

Edwards said unlike Laura, Sally will move into the coast slowly, raising the potential for flooding. He said the storm could take 10 hours to move from Kenner to Hammond.

"The slower it moves the longer it generates storm surge and the longer the rain bands have to drop torrential rain," he said.

Edwards said the latest track shifted west, "bringing more of Louisiana into play, particularly the New Orleans metropolitan area," he said.

See REELING, A4

Business owners begin to button up storefronts on Bourbon Street in the French Quarter Sunday as New Orleans prepares for the arrival of what is expected to be Hurricane Sally. [MICHAEL DEMOCKER]

Evacuations issued as Sally shifts west

By Dan Copp
Houma Courier
Thibodaux Daily Comet
USA TODAY NETWORK

Preparations were underway Sunday as Tropical Storm Sally shifted west overnight and gathered strength.

Sally was forecast to make landfall Monday night just east of Grand Isle as a Category 1 hurricane. Hurricane warnings were issued for both Terrebonne and Lafourche as the storm moved west-northwest at 12 mph.

Sandbag locations were opened in both parishes and public and Catholic schools were closed on Monday and Tuesday.

Nicholls State University announced it was moving classes online through Wednesday and directing all employees to leave campus by 1 p.m. Monday.

The storm is predicted to move over the eastern Gulf of Mexico Sunday and will cross the north-central Gulf Sunday night into Monday, according to the National Hurricane Center.

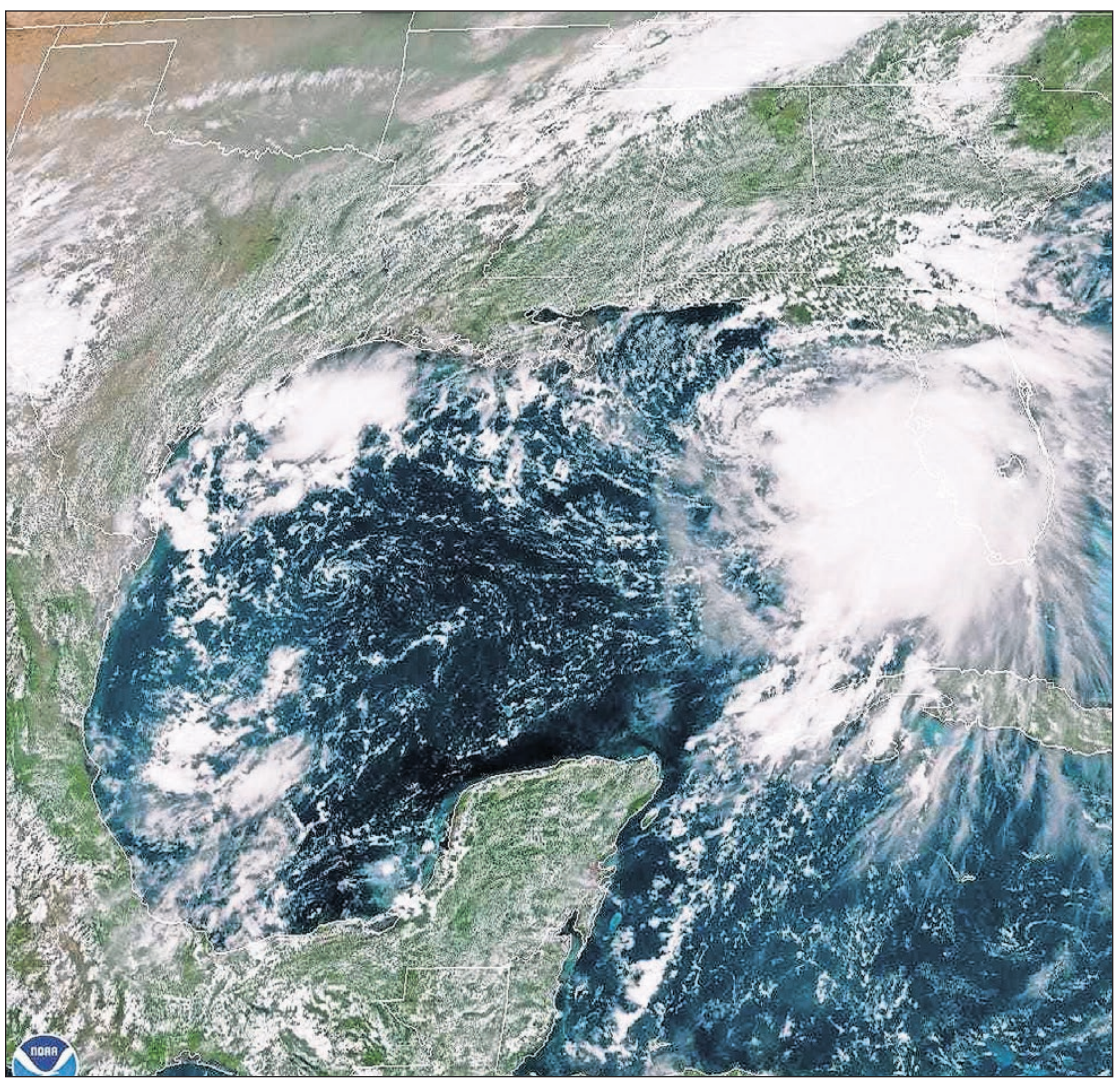
The storm's maximum sustained winds are 60 mph, that could increase to 90 mph when it reaches landfall, forecasters said.

Lafourche Parish President Archie Chaisson declared a state of emergency and issued a mandatory evacuation for areas outside of the Leon Theriot Floodgate in Golden Meadow and other low-lying areas in the parish.

There are about 17 families who live beyond Lafourche's flood-protection system, Chaisson said.

A shelter in Lafourche opened in Raceland at 221 Recreation Drive. All Lafourche government

See SALLY, A4



Tropical Storm Sally [NATIONAL HURRICANE CENTER]

Terrebonne School Board to vote on superintendent's contact Thursday

By Dan Copp
Houma Courier
Thibodaux Daily Comet
USA TODAY NETWORK

The Terrebonne Parish School Board will discuss and possibly renew the superintendent's contract during a special meeting

Martin

See VOTE, A4

A million mail-in ballots could go uncounted this fall

By Evan Halper
Los Angeles Times

WASHINGTON — The controversial new chief of the U.S. Postal Service had not even started his job when a disturbing thing happened to hundreds of thousands of Americans who cast ballots by mail in primary elections this spring.

Their votes were never counted.

The torrent of disenfranchisement provided a worrying prelude to a general election where, for the first time in history, most Americans will probably vote in advance of Election Day. Amid President Donald Trump's efforts to undermine mail voting and the tumultuous tenure of Louis DeJoy, the Trump loyalist now running the mail, many people see the Postal Service as an obvious culprit.

But election experts say recent controversies surrounding the post office and Trump's campaign of disinformation about mail-in voting are mostly sideshows. The bigger dangers for voters predate this administration and involve election officials in the states.

When ballots get tossed, one of the most common reasons is that states mislead voters into thinking they can safely wait until a day or two before Election Day to drop them in the mail. Even when the post office is running on all cylinders, that isn't enough time to guarantee votes will be counted in many states.

Vote-by-mail ballots are shown in sorting trays at the King County Elections headquarters in Renton, Wash., south of Seattle, Aug. 5, 2020. [TED S. WARREN, AP]

'WISHFUL THINKING'

"It is unrealistic and wishful thinking by these states," said Charles Stewart III, a political science professor at

See BALLOTS, A4

NEWS | B5
BACK TO THE FUTURE
Vinyl records outselling CDs for the first time in decades

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR
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Volume 142, Issue 278
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TODAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
Rain and wind	*Rain and wind*	*Wind and rain*
87° / 76°	*83° / 74°*	*87° / 72°*

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