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To whom it may concern:

As a native son of Caddo Parish, I've noted throughout my life too many of our citizens have no idea of their place in history, nor of this area's significance in both American and international world events.

Our public schools teach Louisiana history in third grade, however little if any discussion is had regarding the story of our communities' history and that of this region of northwest Louisiana. These stories tell us all about those that once lived here. What motivated them to come to this area and why did they wish to reside here? The stories convey information about who born here and about those who chose to move here to live. This country's western expansion, provided opportunity for many. With commerce along the Texas Trail, as well as having an established trading route along Red River, this area was one in which many interesting people lived, worked, loved and died.

But who knows much of the history of this part of America? Some know the Caddo Indians occupied these lands long before settlers arrived. The people that followed the Caddo's exodus, had traveled many a diverse route to find themselves here. Some immigrated to the area, while other were brought here against their will. This community was a hub of much activity when our country fought a terrible war from 1861 to 1865 to decide the issue that each man is indeed free.

From those early times to present day, our citizens suffered outbreaks of epidemics like Yellow Fever. They watched as King Cotton was slowly dethroned. They saw the birth of oil and gas production which created tremendous local wealth. The area was subsequently transformed by these events, and these created the large cities and neighborhoods we should all know more about today.

The American Millennium Project is dedicated to the teaching of the region's history to all people, both young students as well as adults. This organization has created interesting lessons which provide an adventurous telling of the stories of the significant events which took place here in Northwest Louisiana. By making learning fun for all, AMP also places into content how the place we live our lives did, and still does today continue to shape all of us.

We at LSEM are looking forward to continue to collaborate with AMP to assist in the mission of educating our citizens on our history as well as it culture.

Regards,

Thomas Carmody, Jr.
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