

Woman charged with child desertion

By Chris Butler

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Ruston police arrested a Ruston woman last weekend and charged her with child desertion.

Police arrested Candra Jenkins, 23, 324 W. Vaughn, after her neighbor called to complain about a group of children that had been outside and unattended for several hours, said Lt. Curtis Hawkins, spokesman for the Ruston Police Department.

The neighbor told police the children were crying and no adult supervision was in sight. The children were a 2-year-old girl and a 1-year-old boy. The neighbor also reported seeing the mother leave the home sev-

eral hours earlier. That same neighbor went to the front door of the residence and knocked on the front door, but no one answered, Hawkins said.

“Police officers responded to the scene, and the mother arrived at the home 30 minutes later. The mother told officers that she had only been gone for a few minutes,” Hawkins said.

“It was obvious to officers that the mother had been gone longer. Those kids were left unattended and had no supervision or hygienic care.”

Officers arrested Jenkins and transferred her to the Lincoln Parish Detention center. The woman’s family members arrived later to pick up the children, Hawkins said.