

# MINDEN PRESS-HERALD

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February 5, 2015 | 50 Cents

**THURSDAY**



ECONOMY

## THE DOWNSIDE TO CHEAP GAS PRICES

Oil and gas industry hurt by pump prices, but  
Haynesville Shale could see increase in activity

**SEAN GREEN**  
sean@bossierpress.com

Area drivers have been rejoicing for several months now as gas prices have dipped well below \$2 per gallon for the first time in a decade, but there's a downside to that drop.

Price at the pumps started falling around mid-December and have averaged out around

\$1.85 locally.

The good news is that consumers will end up saving quite a bit with this dip. In fact, the Louisiana Oil and Gas Association (LOGA) estimates that consumers are slated to save \$500 this year, per household, due to these mythological prices.

The bad news? Well, it means a lot of pain for the oil and gas industry, which deter-

mines much of the revenue for the state of Louisiana.

"The ripple effect is what we're concerned about," Ragan Dickens, director of communications and North Louisiana Shale Director for LOGA said. "Companies from Lake Charles and Baton Rouge are laying off employees and reducing drilling

See **SHALE**, Page 3

## Fuller Center to start build Friday

### STAFF REPORTS

The memory of Marty Cloud lives on, helping 2014 close with a celebration for the Fuller Center for Housing of Webster Parish.

On Dec. 31, Executive Director Derek Melancon was notified that Cloud's friends and family wished to build a house in her honor.

A long-time Minden resident and supporter of Fuller Center of Webster, Cloud passed away in May 2012.

"Marty and her husband, Duane were among the first Minden residents who committed themselves to the housing ministry when activity began in Minden almost 15 years ago when the organization was called Webster Habitat for Humanity," Melancon said. "The Clouds were strong advocates of following the founder of Habitat, Millard Fuller, when he left that organization and founded The Fuller Center for Housing."

The Clouds have been dedicated to giving back to their community and their church, St John's Episcopal.

"Since Marty's passing, Fuller Center of Webster has continued to



**CLOUD**

See **FULLER**, Page 2

### QUEST FOR THE CROWN

## Phillips, Lemoine competing to be Miss Minden



**PHILLIPS**

**Morgan Phillips** is the daughter of Larry and Kelli Phillips and a proud senior at Lakeside High School.

At Lakeside, she is a member of Future Business Leaders of America, prom committee, and very active in promoting her school's spirit.

Every year, Morgan volunteers at the annual St. Jude Auction. Morgan has begun fundraising at her school for donations to Lymphoma Research Foundation in hopes of eradicating this cancer in honor of her grandmother and

uncle.

She is an employee at Community Angels of Hope as a receptionist.

Her plans for the future are to attend the University of Louisiana in Monroe and pursue a degree in dental hygiene.

**Madison Lemoine** is the daughter Brian and Lela Lemoine and is a 17-year-old senior at Glenbrook High School.

She is captain of the Glenbrook Varsity Cheerleaders, an All-District member of the Glenbrook tennis team, and the 2014

Apache Princess.

Leadership activities in which she is involved include being a member of National Honor Society, serving as a Hugh O'Brien Youth Leadership delegate and junior counselor, and participating as a delegate in Louisiana Girls State this past summer.

Madison enjoys attending cheer tumbling and co-ed stunt clinics, and plans to try out for the LSU Cheer Squad where she will be attending college as an accounting major in the fall.



**LEMOINE**

See **CROWN**, Page 3

Vol. 46 No. 156



### WEATHER TOMORROW'S OUTLOOK



**60**  
HIGH

**41**  
LOW

Mainly sunny. Winds light and variable.

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**>>INSIDE:**  
Six area athletes sign college football scholarships **PAGE 6**



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WEBSTER PARISH POLICE JURY

# Tax Assessor presents tax guides to officials

**PAT CULVERHOUSE**  
pat@press-herald.com

Webster Parish fire protection districts now have a step-by-step guide, which hopefully will help officials understand and comply with complex property tax laws and regulations, thanks to the efforts of Webster Parish Tax Assessor Morris Guin.

During Tuesday's monthly Webster Parish Police Jury meeting, Guin presented "Louisiana Ad Valorem Property Tax Laws and Regulations Compliance Guide for Fire Protection District, Webster Parish," a bound booklet designed to provide assistance and answer questions.

"In 2014, one of my goals was to meet with the board of directors or commissioners of all 12 Webster Parish fire protection districts for the purpose of providing information, answering questions, assisting with assessment issues and providing support," Guin said in a news release.

Noting the districts usually operated with limited resources and mostly

unpaid, volunteer personnel who found themselves facing highly technical tasks of ensuring the district's compliance with laws and regulations, which change often, Guin, saw the need to simplify the job.

"We are giving these booklets free of charge to every fire protection district," Guin said. "In addition to the tax guide, we're offering ready-to-sign forms, news media advertisements which are required and personal consultation to assist every fire protection district."

Guin said the assessor's office would help the districts meet all their property tax compliance requirements.

In other business at Tuesday's meeting, jury members:

■ Approved the reappointment of Mack Garrett and Sam Sandlin to the Sarepta Fire District #5 to two year terms, ending Dec. 31, 2016.

■ Approved reappointing Kenneth Chandler and Mark Clements to two years terms ending Feb. 17, 2017 to the Sibley Fire District #2.



**Webster Parish Tax Assessor Morris Guin and the board of directors or commissioners of all 12 Webster Parish fire protection districts attended Tuesday's Webster Parish Police Jury meeting where Guin provided each with a guide for understanding property tax laws and regulations.** Pat Culverhouse/Press-Herald

■ OK'd the Webster Parish Convention and Visitor's Bureau reappointment of Jerry Madden to a three-year term, ending Dec. 31, 2017, on that group's board of directors.

■ Approved \$570 to the

Webster Parish Head Start program to purchase tablets for the center.

■ Approved expenses for the police jury convention in New Orleans, an event held Jan. 29 through Feb. 1.

■ Voted to approve \$2,500 toward the purchase of warning sirens for the Town of Sarepta.

■ Heard reports from department heads at the jury's offices of Community Services, its Head Start

program, from the Webster Parish LSU Ag Center, from assistant assessor Col. (Ret.) Carl Thompson and John Stanley with the Office of Emergency Preparedness and Homeland Security.

## OBITUARIES

### David Holliday Sr.

Funeral services for David Holliday Sr. will be at 11 a.m. Friday, Feb. 6, 2015, at St. Rest Baptist Church located at 611 East Union, with Bro. B.J. Martin delivering a eulogy.

Family hour will be from 6 until 7 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 5, 2015, at Miller-Pioneer Funeral Home located at 400 East Union St.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to B.F. Martin Community Life Cen-



**HOLLIDAY**

ter, St. Rest Baptist Church or to the charity of the donor's choice in the memory of David Holliday Sr.

### Malcom Self

Funeral services for Bro. Malcom Self will be at 10 a.m., Friday, Feb. 6, 2015, at First Baptist Church in Jonesboro, with Dr. Charles Wesley and Bro. Mike Naron officiating. Interment will follow in the Siloam Springs Cemetery. Visitation will be from 5



**SELF**

until 8 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 5, 2015, at Edmonds Funeral Home.

Bro. Malcom was born Jan. 15, 1937, and passed away Feb. 3, 2015. He was 78.

Survivors include his wife, Janelle Wyatt Self of Jonesboro; daughter, Melissa Carter of Minden; son, Brad Self and wife, Angela of Jonesboro; three grandchildren, Whitney Turner and husband, Skyler of Jonesboro and Colton and Ryleigh Carter of Minden; one great-granddaughter, Braelynn Turner of Jonesboro; two brothers, Ronny Self and wife, Virginia of Crossett, Arkansas and John Dell Self and wife, Dianne of Jonesboro; two sisters, Glenda Beebe of Leesville and Ramona Herrera

and husband, Clyde of Plain Dealing.

He is also survived by a host of nieces, nephews and other family.

Bro. Self was preceded in death by his parents, Mae and "Buster" Wilmer Self and one son, Mark Self.

Pallbearers will be Seth Smith, Jonathan Self, Keith Wyatt, Brian Wyatt, Kyle Wyatt and Scott Canady. Honorary pallbearers will be Billy Ray Moore, Lyman Hall, Skeeter McBride, Mike Garrett, Ricky McBride, John Savage and Scott Savage.

Send online condolences and view the website at [www.edmondsfuneralhome.com](http://www.edmondsfuneralhome.com).

## FULLER

*Continued from page 1*

receive donations in her honor," Melancon said. "Sufficient funds have now been received to construct The Marty Cloud House in honor of Marty's lifelong dedication to helping others."

The Marty Cloud House is to be built in Legacy Acres, the subdivision that was created in 2011 to be the site of the 3rd Annual Millard Fuller Legacy Build. A ceremonial "wall raising" will be held at the house site at 1 p.m., Friday, Feb. 6. Legacy Acres is located on Pine Street. The event is open to the public.

"Construction on the home began early last

week under the direction of A.J. Rayner, board member for the Fuller Center," Melancon said.

It is slated for completion by the end of March, at which time the Fuller Center will hold a blessing and dedication of the new home. The house will be a three-bedroom, two-bath, energy efficient frame home designed at no charge to the Fuller Center by Contract Drafting Services of Bossier City.

"The recipient of the home is a deserving young lady with two children," Melancon said.

To build a typical Fuller Center house, such as this one, takes approximately \$50,000 to \$55,000. Friends and family have now provided sufficient funds for the Fuller Center

of Webster to rapidly move forward on The Marty Cloud House.

"Volunteers are a major part of the ministry of Fuller Center of Webster," Melancon said. "Both Marty and Duane Cloud have been seen on the work site with hammer in hand and a smile on their face. The Clouds have helped in the building of several houses including ones in Minden, Sibley, Doyline and Springhill."

Volunteering also includes feeding those workers who are constructing the homes.

"Marty was the 'point person' many times in helping to coordinate meals for local and visiting volunteers," Melancon said. "Returning college volunteers from all over

the country were always anxious to go to St. John's Episcopal for Marty's famous ice cream sandwich dessert.

"God has truly blessed the Fuller Center of Webster over the years," he continued. "This continues each and every day through the generosity of others."

Melancon went on to say that this house will be the 53rd new home that the Fuller Center of Webster has constructed over the past 24 years and the ninth in Legacy Acres.

"Marty and Duane Cloud have been great friends to our ministry and to me personally and it humbles me to see the donation of sufficient funds to build this house in honor of Marty," Charlie

Park, former executive director, said.

During his time as executive director, Park led the ministry in building 45 new houses and rehabilitating another 15. Park retired two years ago after almost 14 years of service.

Melancon and Park agreed that in addition to the home being constructed in honor of Marty Cloud, the Fuller Center would like to construct one next door in honor of Duane Cloud.

"This would be a unique opportunity for all friends, business associates, and the entire Minden community to honor Duane Cloud," Park said.

"Fuller Center of Webster has already set up a special account to accept donations in honor of Mr.

Cloud," Melancon added.

"Those wishing to be a part of this special project honoring two wonderful people may participate by sending donations to the Fuller Center of Webster, P.O. Box 155, Springhill, LA 71075. Please make a note that this donation is in honor of Duane Cloud."

Led by Dr. Charles Payne, Fuller Center of Webster was founded in 1991 to help families in need of simple decent housing. The Fuller Center of Webster is a 501(c) 3 not-for-profit and all donations are tax deductible. You may also donate securely online at [www.fullercenterwebster.org](http://www.fullercenterwebster.org).



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THE HELPING HAND

# United Way giving nonprofits place to offer services

**MICHELLE BATES**  
michelle@press-herald.com

United Way's The Rising Tide Center is giving local nonprofits and organizations a place to offer various services and network with other agencies.

Located at 202 Miller St. (the old Minden Medical Center Business Office), The Rising Tide Center is a building where nonprofits and other agencies can offer their services to the public. Dr. Bruce Willson Jr., president and CEO, says the idea is to meet the needs of Webster, Bienville and Claiborne parishes.

"We've been looking for a place in Minden to base our operations out of," Willson said. "The idea was that when we would raise money, we want the money raised in any given geographic area to be of great help to that geographic area."

He says United Way covers a 10-parish area, with 90 percent of the funds raised in Caddo Parish. Branching out allows them to raise money and keep it in the parish in which it was raised.

United Way covers four areas – health, income, education and basic needs. So far, since United Way opened its doors in Minden, The Rising Tide Center has offered its building to the MLK Health Center, which has been helping residents sign up for the Healthcare Exchange under the Affordable Care Act and Goodwill, which has been offering job placement and unemployment services to those in need.

On Fridays, the Northwest Louisiana Food Bank has been signing up people for SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) benefits. The NWLA Food Bank also partners with St. Rest, Joe LeBlanc Food Pantry and Feed My Sheep of Emmanuel Baptist Church, pantries to help feed the hungry.

"When we raise money, we might invest it in (education), but it also goes to (health, income and basic needs), and that makes us different from other nonprofits," Willson said. "Just hunger is not the only issues they face. What United Way does is we go

in and work with people in the area and try to create a cohesive strategy."

The nonprofits and organizations the United Way gives to are scrutinized closely to make sure their money is going where it is designated.

Jeri Bloxom, director of operations for Webster, Bienville and Claiborne parishes, says they are encouraging local agencies to work together.

For example, the three food pantries in Minden all receive food from the Food Bank at a steeply reduced cost to help feed roughly 500 families per month in this area.

They also just signed on with Veterans Rural Outreach Health Services, which offers vets and families of veterans' assistance whether it is mental health, physical health or employment assistance.

Several other organizations have also signed up to offer its services from The Rising Tide Center as well, and Bloxom said it is important for organizations to know the center is there if they need it.

"We've got room for more," she said. "These



**United Way's The Rising Tide Center is giving local nonprofits and organizations a place to offer various services and network with other agencies.** Bruce Franklin/Press-Herald

are some of the services we were able to help locally who might not have an office in this area."

The Webster Bienville Claiborne Advisory Council includes: Ty Pendergrass, Kelly Paul, Tammy Jump, Greg Lee, the Whitakers of Victory Praise and Worship Center and Mahayla Hutto. The council guides the three-parish

area.

Some of the agencies in Webster Parish United Way helped last year include: Center for Families, the Food Bank, Gingerbread House, Girl Scouts – Pines to the Gulf, Goodwill, Junior Achievement, the MLK Health Center, Minority Supplier Institute, Northwest Louisiana Interfaith Pharmacy, Norwela Coun-

cil – Boy Scouts, St. Luke's Mobile Medical Ministry, Inc., Volunteer Center of Northwest Louisiana and Volunteers of America.

For more information on how to get involved or to find out about the services United Way offers in the three-parish area, call Bloxom at 677-2504, ext. 140, or email her at jeri@unitedwaynwla.org.

## SHALE

*Continued from page 1*

budgets. We've got companies in east Texas and south Arkansas who come back to the area and spend money and now they're not going to have a check to spend here. So it's going to affect the local economy.

"The oil service compa-

nies are scrambling, too, because when an operator is not drilling, it's a downhill effect on everyone," he added.

There are no statistics on unemployment or layoffs caused by the drop in prices. Dickens said any official numbers won't be available until the end of the year. Which, by the fourth quarter of 2015, analysts are saying oil

prices will begin to rise again.

The silver lining is that the Haynesville Shale could see an increase in activity due to drop in oil prices, which would mean an increase in jobs.

What was once believed to be the biggest shale play in the continental United States led to an influx of exploration and production companies in 2008 but

went quiet after only a couple of years. This play coming back would be a welcome sight for all of NWLA.

"One rig is 180-300 jobs and we currently have around 20 rigs in operation right now, so if we got rig count up to 30 or 40 then we're talking about something," Dickens said. "Operators are looking at the Haynesville Shale because of infrastructure

and production costs — you can drill a well and get your gas and take it to market. If you're drilling in rural Texas or North Dakota, those costs rise because there's no infrastructure in place there."

He explained that the Liquid Natural Gas production facilities along Louisiana's coast would be a catalyst for action in the shale.

"It's not the answer (to making up the difference in the industry), but the next six months will be telling," Dickens said. "(The shale) could offset (the loss in oil jobs), but I doubt it."

*This story was first published in the February edition of BIZ. Magazine. For more in BIZ. Magazine, visit [www.bizmagsb.com](http://www.bizmagsb.com).*

# Candidate sign-up begins for March elections

BATON ROUGE — Candidates who plan to run for March municipal elections that will be held across 17 parishes can start signing up for their races.

The qualifying period for the March 28 elections begins Wednesday and continues through Friday at 4:30 p.m. Candidates

register at their local clerk of court's office.

Secretary of State Tom Schedler's office says the municipal elections will be held in: Ascension, Avoyelles, Beauregard, Caddo, Claiborne, Concordia, Grant, Iberia, Iberville, Jackson, Jefferson, Madison, Natchitoches, Plaque-

mines, St. Tammany, Union and Webster parishes.

The races include elections for police chiefs, mayors, justices of the peace and town council positions, among others. Runoff elections will be held, as needed, on May 2.

## CROWN

*Continued from page 1*

She also enjoys singing, and has studied voice for four years under the direc-

tion of Alicia Dubois. Madison will perform for her talent a vocal selection.

Madison's platform, Supporting Special Olympics through Volunteerism, allows her to assist kids with special

needs through the joy of playing sports.

The Miss Minden Pageant will be at 7 p.m., Saturday at the Minden Civic Center.

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# OPINION

*First Place: 2012 Best Editorial Page, Louisiana Press Association*



PERSPECTIVE

## Not a baaaaad solution

**WHILE WE’RE STRUGGLING** to find an acceptable solution to getting rid of 15 million pounds of M6 propellant at Camp Minden, folks in other parts of the country find themselves trying to find remedies to potential environmental problems of their own.

At Monday’s meeting of Minden’s city council, a local resident mentioned to council members a situation in Boulder, Colorado where federal wildlife officials are running afoul of environmentalists, led by the Rocky Mountain Peace and Justice Center, over a proposed controlled 700-acre burn. Feds want to burn weeds (not weed, which many Coloradans burn daily) at the Rocky Flats National Wildlife Refuge.

The problem: Rocky Flats was created in 2006 after a nuclear weapons site closed. Despite a \$7 billion cleanup, completed in 2005, folks are concerned that burning could send plumes of plutonium smoke-riding into the atmosphere.

The suggested solution: A goatherd with a degree in weed sciences says it isn’t wise to burn land that’s been exposed to the toxic metal, and has offered her herd’s expertise in eating anything that can’t run away as an alternative method of cleaning the land.

An Associated Press article says Lani Malmberg has told the feds her goats can eat the foliage which needs removal without suffering ill consequences. As proof, she allegedly points to the Mayberry goat that ate several sticks of dynamite without

suffering so much as a burp. Malmberg’s offer apparently makes sense because, like federal officials are wont to do, the excuses for not considering the option are weak.

A spokesperson for the Mountain-Prairie regional office of the Fish and Wildlife Service said grazing isn’t an option because of a lack of fencing and staff at the former weapons plant site. Some officials reportedly are concerned that the animals would have to be euthanized once they had consumed the plutonium-laced scrub shrub, thus unleashing the vitriol of animal rights activists. Others fear that, after consuming plutonium, the goats could have Godzilla-like offspring, glow in the dark or have explosive bodily emissions.

Malmberg reportedly has researched each negative and found logical answers. The fence thing is not a problem. Goats never wander more than a few yards from their food source. Besides, there’s not a fence built that can keep a goat in if it wants out. Staff would only confuse a goat, especially if they’re government employees and civilian goats.

There’s nothing more interesting than a conspiracy theory, but no scientist believes consuming a little plutonium would create horror movie-



**PAT CULVERHOUSE**

type birth defects in goats. And despite the fears of Andy, Barney, Mayor Stoner and Cy (Jimmy’s owner), the original loaded goat did not go boom. Malmberg said she believes her goats, like Mayberry’s animal, would only be better for the experience.

While there may be little parallel to a 700 acre burn at a former nuclear weapons plant and a15-million pound burn of munitions propellant at a former ammunition plant, the mention of alternative solutions is similar. There’s one more part of the goat story that’s a lot like ours.

“Fish and Wildlife regional spokesman John Bryan said other options were being considered, and no final decision had been made,” the Boulder Daily Camera reported.

Likewise, other options are being considered for disposal of our M6. Likewise, no decision has been made and it seems none will be in the near future. Now, we have a “dialogue committee” which means many voices will be talking about what we’ve already been talking about...a lot.

The question: While the many voices talk, how many ears are listening? And, who will be willing to make a decision?

The clock is ticking.

*Pat Culverhouse is a journalist, political columnist and editorial page editor for the Minden Press-Herald. You may contact him at pat@press-herald.com.*

### EDITORIAL ROUNDUP

### The News-Star, Monroe, on cleaning up the community:

Pride of place can be measured in appearances.

Visitors and those contemplating moving to Ouachita Parish often judge the community by first impressions. And that impression, even before they get to know our people and what we have to offer, can be formed by how we look.

And, frankly, we’re messy. Litter can be found in almost any ditch in Ouachita Parish, something Ouachita Parish Police Juror Pat Moore, for instance, has been trying to address for several years now.

For Tommy Smith, who has visited several communities throughout North America, the cleaner the community, the better the impression it left behind. And after returning home to Ouachita Parish, he formed Extraordinary Ouachita.

The organization’s goal: to clean up

our home, reduce litter and making the parish more visually appealing.

The grassroots effort holds tremendous hope at making a difference. Since Smith started Extraordinary Ouachita around eight months ago, its steering committee has grown to 69 members. Members include local and state government officials, community leaders and business leaders.

Monroe-West Monroe Convention and Visitors Bureau President and CEO Alana Cooper said she was proud to join the group. Monroe Chamber of Commerce President Sue Nicholson joined the organization to help coordinate the chamber’s efforts with that of the group.

“Every year we do a strategic plan for the chamber,” she said. “It (lists) our focus priorities for the year. For the last several years, the group has identified the litter and cleanliness as an issue for our community. The one effort that seems to have gotten some really significant traction is Extraordinary Ouachita.”

Smith said combining efforts is key

to the organization. He has incorporated several existing efforts into a collaborative approach. He envisions a day when street coordinators on every street in the parish would monitor litter and identify citizens who might need a hand in maintaining their property. Such organizational structure seems key to long-term success.

Extraordinary Ouachita would unite ordinary citizens in making the parish a much more welcoming and beautiful place. Efforts include picking up trash and mowing along Interstate 20 and U.S. 165.

And the effort already is spilling beyond Ouachita Parish. Smith has started a similar organization in Lincoln Parish with more than 40 members.

Certainly Ouachita Parish could use sprucing up, and many events target a particular area on a particular day, with temporary results. Smith’s organization combines existing efforts and provides an overarching strategy, and based on participation has energized the community.



### SHARE YOUR VIEW

Have a question about this page or want to submit an opinion? Send a message to Pat Culverhouse.  
**Phone: 377-1866 Ext:107**  
**E-mail: pat@press-herald.com**

PERSPECTIVE

## Tragic school stories

**NEW YORK’S SCHOOLS** are the most segregated in the nation, and the state needs remedies right away. That was Chancellor Merryl H. Tisch’s message to New York’s governor and Legislature. She said that minority children are disproportionately trapped in schools that lack teaching talent, course offerings and resources needed to prepare them for college and success.

Simply calling for more school resources will produce disappointing results. There are several minimum requirements that must be met for any child to do well in school. Someone must make the youngster do his homework, ensure that he gets eight to nine hours of sleep, feed him breakfast and make sure that he behaves in school and respects the teachers. None of these requirements can be satisfied by larger education budgets. They must be accomplished by families, or all else is for naught.

Linda Ball, a public high-school history and government teacher in Cincinnati, has written an engaging book about her experiences, titled “185 Days: School Stories.” Let’s look at a few of her days.



**WALTER WILLIAMS**

On Day 167, Mrs. Ball ordered a student to the in-school discipline room for disruption and being in her class without permission. When the student finally decided to leave the room, he told her, “F—— you,” and then he swatted her on the head with some papers. In her Day 10 section, there’s a brief story about how respect is earned. Wesley, a student with an IQ of 140, did an outstanding job on a paper about the Enlightenment but completed only half his assignment and earned an F Jake, a student repeating her class, told Wesley, “I have newfound respect for you today.” Failure earns respect.

Here’s one result of Mrs. Ball’s assignment to propose a 28th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, written by a high-school senior: “I think the 28th Amendment should be about a choice weather (sic) to join school or not. I think it should be a choice not something you have to do. Because school just ain’t for someone like me.

For example school just ain’t for me.”

Then there’s “Day 44: The Graduate.” David, a senior, hasn’t learned much since the third grade, but he has been passed along and is about to graduate. Mrs. Ball says that not everyone needs to be able to analyze a literary character’s motives or whether the U.S. motives in the Spanish-American War were justified. David should have been spared the torture and given suitable activities. He could surely wash cafeteria tables, run errands and change oil and tires. She asks why educators try to force square pegs into round holes year after year, kid after kid.

The grossly poor education that so many blacks receive exacerbates racial problems. During last year’s disturbances in Ferguson, Missouri, some people complained that of the city’s 53 police officers, only four were black. Such an observation typically leads to suggestions of racial discrimination but never leads to a question about the ability of black high-school graduates to pass a civil service exam.

It’s natural for a black man with a high-school diploma to see himself as equal to a white man with a high-school diploma. In his eyes, differences in employer treatment are ascribed to racial discrimination.

It dawns on few that the average black high-school graduate has the level of academic achievement of a white seventh- or eighth-grader or lower. The black high-school graduates who have unearned diplomas have no knowledge of their being fraudulent. If black politicians and civil rights leaders know it, they refuse to publicly acknowledge it.

The bottom line is that if nothing is done to affect the home life and cultural values that produce the non-learning attitudes and climate that are the subject of Linda Ball’s “185 Days: School Stories,” there’s little that can be done to improve black education. The best that politicians can do is to give parents and children who are serious about education a mechanism to opt out of rotten schools. That option is something the education establishment fights tooth and nail against.

*Walter E. Williams is a professor of economics at George Mason University.*



## SHARE YOUR HAPPY NEWS

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**Phone: 377-1866**  
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# COMMUNITY

## FASCHING/MARDI GRAS PARADE WINNERS

Members of the Downtown Development Commission made an awards presentation to this year's winners of the Fasching/Mardi Gras parade at Monday's meeting of the Minden City Council.

Clockwise from right, Catherine Hunt, far right, awards members of the Krewe of Artemis with Most Spirited Group.

Vintage Car Club members took home Most Original (Creative) trophy for their riverboat float.

Hunt and commission member Elaine Eaton, far right, honor representatives with Krewe des Ambassadeurs with the Sweepstakes award.

North Webster High School took home Best Marching Group honors.

Not pictured is First United Methodist Church, which won in the Best Small Float category.

Bonnie Culverhouse/Press-Herald



## Around Town

### Friday, Feb. 6

Enrollment specialists from Martin Luther King Health Center of Shreveport will be at the United Way office in Minden on select Fridays to assist persons in signing up for a health insurance plan on [healthcare.gov](http://healthcare.gov) at 202 Miller Street, Minden. Call Christina Copeland at 318-470-2111.

Shreveport District will be hosting a Women's Revival at 7 p.m. nightly at the Holmes Memorial Temple COGIC.

### Saturday, Feb. 7

Webster High School Alumni meeting will be held at 3 p.m. in the Alumni Center at 601 Talton Street. Officers, class representatives and former students are invited to attend.

### Sunday, Feb. 8

Annual Deacon and Deaconess program at 3 p.m. at Union Grove Baptist Church. Guest Speaker and church will be Pastor David Heard and First Ebenezer Baptist Church of Homer. Everyone is invited.

### Monday, Feb. 9

Night for the Museum with the Jamieson and Life families will be held at the Dorcheat Historical Association Museum, 116 Pearl Street. Ann Mays Harlan will present a history of the Jamieson family in Minden, while Bonnie Jamieson Culverhouse will present a history of the Life family. Museum doors open at 5:30 p.m.; program starts at 6 p.m. Admission is free; potluck desserts are welcome.

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# SPORTS

## SPORTS briefs

### NCAA

#### Snoop's son picks UCLA over USC

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Cordell Broadus has pulled a double move on his famous rapper father Snoop Dogg.

Broadus, a wide receiver from Bishop Gorman High School in Las Vegas, signed with UCLA instead of his father's favorite team. Snoop Dogg had hoped his son would play for Southern California, but was still thrilled for him.

"Channel 21 comin to @UCLAFootball !! Proud of u @C\_Broadus21 ! LA's team!!" Snoop tweeted. Twenty-one is a reference to the number his son will wear for the team.

UCLA coach Jim Mora says he had offered a scholarship to Broadus when he was just 15 years old.

The 6-foot-3, 190-pound Broadus was ranked the 27th best receiver in the nation by Rivals.com, a leading recruiting news site.

### NFL

#### Chancellor played with torn MCL

RENTON, Wash. (AP) — Seattle Seahawks strong safety Kam Chancellor played in the Super Bowl with a torn medial collateral ligament in his left knee, according to the team's website.

In a story on Seahawks.com posted Wednesday, Chancellor said two days before the loss to New England he was told he wasn't going to play. Chancellor collided knees with a teammate in practice the Friday before the game and suffered a deep bone bruise. During the examination, the torn MCL was revealed, Chancellor said in the story.

"There are some people that get injured and can't even play this game, can't even play a game. So you've got to be grateful for how you're feeling at the moment," Chancellor said. "Shoot, my injury happened two days before the game and they told me I wasn't going to be able to play. They told me, torn MCL and bone bruise.' I was mad. I was frustrated. But at the end of the day, I was able to play."

### NCAA

#### Syracuse self-imposes sanctions

Syracuse University announced Wednesday that it has instituted a self-imposed postseason ban for the current men's basketball season as part of its case pending before the NCAA Committee on Infractions.

The school initiated the case, which includes academics, when it self-reported potential athletic department violations to the NCAA in 2007. School officials said Wednesday none of the conduct occurred after 2012 and no current student-athlete is involved.

The ban also includes the ACC tournament.

Coach Jim Boheim says he's disappointed, especially for senior Rakeem Christmas, but supports the decision.

## HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL

# NATIONAL SIGNING DAY



**BLAKE BRANCH**  
blake@press-herald.com

Wednesday marked National Signing Day for high school athletes signing Letters of Intent to play college football.

Six area athletes were lucky enough to put pen to paper Wednesday, officially agreeing to continue their playing days at the schools of their choice.

There were five athletes from North Webster High School who signed and one from Glenbrook School.

Signing to play with Chadron State in Chadron, Nebraska, was Glenbrook senior center Austin Harris.

Harris came to Glenbrook as a junior last year, making an instant impact on the offensive and defensive line.

Chadron State took notice, and now Harris couldn't be happier to be an Eagle.

"I talked about it with my family and coaches and decided it was a good fit," Harris said. "It's a full tuition paid scholarship, and I'll be majoring in Kinesiology."

Harris's mom, Crystal Walden, was also especially happy.

"I'm very proud and excited for him," Walden said. "I'm looking forward to what the future holds for him and I know he's going to do great."

Glenbrook head football coach Chris Norton said Harris has a chance to shine at Chadron State.

"He has a chance to be a good player in a great program," Norton said. "He has everything you need to be a great player. Austin is somebody everyone has rallied

around and leaned on. His work ethic is very strong in his two years here and he's been a great player for Glenbrook."

Chadron State of Division II is where current NFL player Danny Woodhead of the San Diego Chargers went to school.

#### North Webster

North Webster High School held a school-wide assembly to honor their five signees, an impressive number for any Webster Parish school.

Trey Thomas, Lytravious Gipson and Ryan Washington all signed on the dotted line for Southern Arkansas University.

Thomas - as his head coach John Ware described him - was a late bloomer. He will play center for the Muleriders.

Gipson, an athlete, was one of the areas premier play-makers this season.

Washington will sign with the Muleriders as a linebacker.

Defensive back Darius Gilbert picked the University of Houston. Gilbert will get to play in the Cougars brand new and improved stadium for the next four years.

JeKyren Miles was a ballhawk all year for the Knights. He will take his talents to Arizona Western, one of the top junior colleges in the country.

"To have five young men sign was a very special moment," Ware said. "Not just for me as their football coach but for this school. People want kids from winning programs and these guys have worked extremely hard to get to these spots. It's just an exciting day."



Press-Herald Photo/Blake Branch



Top: From left, Trey Thomas, Lytravious Gipson, Ryan Washington, Darius Gilbert and Jekyren Miles, surrounded by family and the entire student body, sign their scholarships to play college football. Bottom: Glenbrook senior Austin Harris signs his scholarship to play center at Chadron State in Chadron, Nebraska, with his mother, Crystal Walden, grandparents, Rebecca Shelley-Sherrard and Gary Sherrard, and coaches Chris Norton and James Thurman looking on. Press-Herald Photo/Michelle Bates

## MINDEN BASEBALL

# Tide baseball close to start



The Minden High School baseball team goes over situational drills during practice Wednesday. The Crimson Tide is hard at work preparing for another season in the always competitive district 1-4A. The Tide will get their first taste of live action Saturday in Natchitoches when they scrimmage with Natchitoches Central. Press-Herald Photo/Blake Branch

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## ATHLETE OF THE WEEK



Congratulations to Lakeside High School's Frankie Miles. Miles is this week's MPH/Holcomb's Athlete of the Week after scoring 29 points in a win over Red River Tuesday night.

The Press-Herald's Athlete of the Week feature is brought to you every other Thursday by Holcomb's Body Shop

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THE BIBLE SPEAKS

## Enthusiasm Lacking Carefulness



**KATHY IRIZARRY**

The Ark of the Covenant was the most holy piece of furniture in the earthly tabernacle. Within it was the 10 Commandment law written by the finger of God, and over it the presence of God resided. Detailed instructions were given to Moses in how all the tabernacle fixings should be transported. Staves (poles) through rings in the side of the Ark allowed it to be carried on the shoulders of the designated priests. Clear was the instruction “they shall not touch any holy thing, lest they die” Numbers 4:15.

Fast forward to the time of King David. His kingdom being established, he was eager to bring the Ark to Jerusalem and made plans to do so. It was placed in a new cart. “And David and all Israel played before God with all their might. . . And when they came unto the threshingfloor of Chidon, Uzza put forth his hand to hold the ark; for the oxen stumbled. And the anger of the LORD was kindled against Uzza, and he smote him, because he put his hand to the ark: and there he died before God. And David was

displeased” 1 Chronicles 13:8-11. The whole procession stopped. The Ark was placed with the family of Obed-edom. “And the LORD blessed the house of Obed-edom, and all that he had” verse 14.

Three months later, after some prayerful study into God’s instructions, “David gathered all Israel together to Jerusalem, to bring up the ark of the LORD unto his place, which he had prepared for it”

1 Chronicles 15:3. He instructed the correct priests to make the necessary preparations saying to them

“because ye did it not at the first, the LORD our God made a breach upon us, for that we sought him not after the due order. . . And the children of the Levites bare the ark of God upon their shoulders with the staves thereon, as Moses commanded according to the word of the LORD” verses 13, 15.

It is of great importance that we realize the holiness of God and His instructions regarding the handling of what is holy. No amount of enthusiasm can substitute for obedience and reverence.

David realized and acknowl-

edged his error. Are we ready to do the same? It was a very painful, costly lesson to learn, but David was a humble learner and was able, once again, to enthusiastically enjoy the moment. “Thus all Israel brought up the ark of the covenant of the LORD with shouting, and with sound of the cornet, and with trumpets, and with cymbals, making a noise with psalteries and harps”

1 Chronicles 15:28.

ALONG THE WAY

## Sharing the love of God wherever we go

Remember the chorus: “Loving God, loving each other and the story goes on and on” (Gaither). Isn’t that what we have been taught through the years? God first loved us; He sent Jesus, to die for our sins; through His death, He reconciled us to God that we may have a close, personal relationship with our Heavenly Father; because of this vertical relationship, we are commanded to ‘go, teach all nations about the love of God’, creating a hori-

zontal relationship with our fellowman. And the story goes on and on through generations of believers sharing the love of God to those around them.



**BILL CRIDER**

We know what the ‘domino effect’ is and how it works. But the ‘love effect’ God put into motion is much more dramatic: “One reaches one, who reaches one, and that one reaches another, etc.” Now cover that effect with a spiritual blanket

for each day we share our faith. One can see how this

becomes an ‘evangelistic explosion’, in an exponential manner. We see this in action in the Book of Acts as early believers witnessed in the ‘world around them’-being sent forth by the dynamic love of God, in the person of His Holy Spirit.

This overpowering love of God, manifested through Jesus, finds a dwelling place in all open hearts. (John 3:16; etc). Paul is a good example of God’s love engulfing a committed disciple and rerouting his life’s focus. (Acts 8). That same powerful love is still changing hearts and lives, sending them all over the world to share God’s love..

So how does this happen?

How does God’s love take control, changing our attitudes, actions, habits and willpower? It has to be a God-thing; we can’t do it on our own! It can not be explained except to “believe with all our heart that God is who the Bible teaches He is (The Great I AM). We must believe that Jesus is the only begotten Son of God, and that He came to “seek and save the lost” from eternal damnation. We must believe also that Jesus died on the cross for our sins and when He rose from the grave (tomb), He was showing His power over death – conquering our last enemy. Death (Satan) no longer has control over us. We, like Christ, have

victory over death. And it is all because of God’s miraculous love and His amazing grace.

This gives us the power and desire to love God “with all our heart and soul, and to love each other as we do ourselves.” (Matt. 5:43; 19:19); (Mark 12:31-33); (Luke 6:35); (John 15:12); (1 John 3:23). Wow! What an assignment we have! What a commandment He gave us! Do you get the idea that ‘we do not really have an option here?’ Only through the power of God, in the presence of the Holy Spirit, can ‘old sinful lives be washed by the blood of Christ to look like new snow.’ When this happens, we want to go, to tell and shout the Good News.

And in the process of it all, that Godly love saturates our lives and changes our ‘want-to’ about loving others. When that happens, we want to share His love; we want others to experience it; we will wear it on our sleeves wherever we go! The songwriter (W.J. Reynolds) has written: “Share His love, by telling what the Lord has done for you; Share His love by sharing of your faith; And show the world that Jesus Christ is real to you every moment, every day.” What sets all of this in motion? THE MATCHLESS LOVE OF GOD!

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**Luke 18:1**

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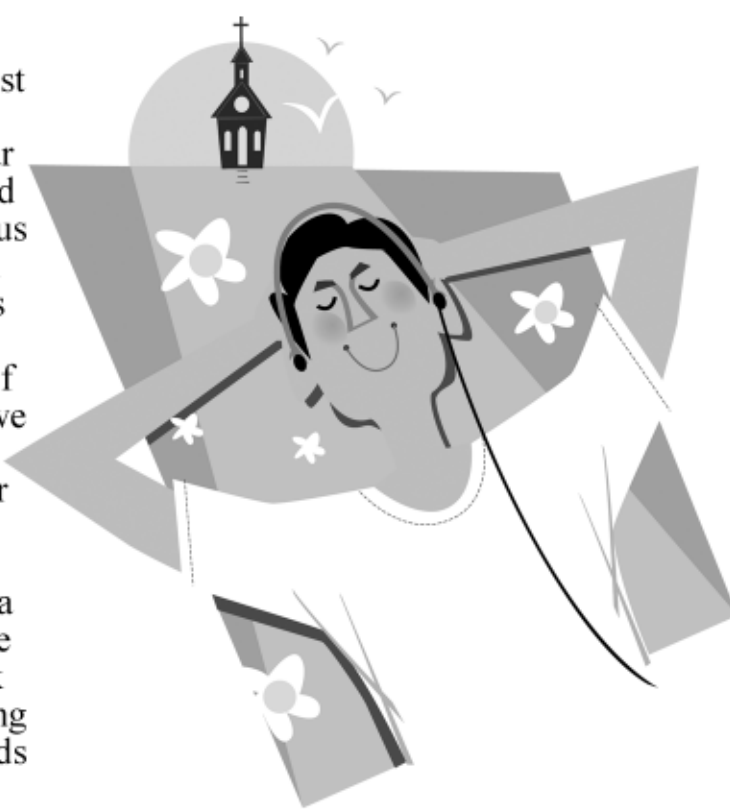
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# Cultivate a sense of leisure

Work and Productivity may be important, but they aren't the only important things in life, or even the most important things in life. Most of us would probably agree that God and our family should come before our job, and that the whole point of work is to help us support ourselves and our families. A much neglected area of many people's lives today is leisure. We are so busy with work and the workaday aspects of life (e.g., cooking, cleaning, etc.) that we don't find time for play. Play can be anything from playing catch with your children to enjoying music to playing games. The arts are also an important aspect of leisure, and simply going to a museum or to the movies can be a nice break from the monotony of our work lives. Children are often better at playing than adults, so you might just let the kids decide on the playtime activity. Try something you haven't tried before. Throw a Frisbee or make up a new game. Put on a play with your family or friends, or play a guessing game. There is no end to the ways in which we might enjoy our leisure time.

— Christopher Simon



*I know that there is nothing better for people than to be happy and to do good while they live. That each of them may eat and drink, and find satisfaction in all their toil—this is the gift of God.*

**Ecclesiastes 3:12-13**

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Foster Arbor Rd. • Castor • 544-2423

Pease Chapel Assembly of God  
3384 Bellview Rd. • Haughton • 949-4794

Point Chapel Assembly of God  
State Park Hwy. 163 • Doyline • 745-3530

Sheppard Heights Assembly of God  
1599 Sheppard St. • 371-0644

### BAPTIST

Antioch Baptist Church  
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Ashland Baptist Church  
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Baptist Tabernacle  
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Beech Springs Baptist Church  
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Bistineau Baptist Church  
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Blue Run Baptist Church  
1228 Blue Run Rd. • 377-2374

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Calvary Baptist Church ABA  
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Cotton Valley • 832-4707

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Emmanuel Missionary Baptist Church  
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House of Prayer RTBM  
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Many Nations Tribal Church  
Dubberly • 377-6324

Minden Christian Center  
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To God Be The Glory Deliverance  
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First Pentecostal Church  
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First Pentecostal Church  
Gibbsland • 843-6928 or 371-6982

First United Pentecostal Church  
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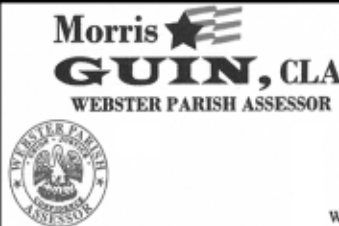
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# NBC’S BRIAN WILLIAMS APOLOGIZES FOR FALSE STORY

NEW YORK — NBC “Nightly News” anchor Brian Williams apologized Wednesday for incorrectly claiming as recently as last week that he rode on a helicopter that came under enemy fire when he was reporting in Iraq in 2003.

Instead, Williams said, he was in another helicopter trailing a Chinook that actually was hit. He apologized on “Nightly News” for getting it wrong.

The embarrassing admission came after a story in the Stars & Stripes newspaper pointing out the discrepancy. Williams had made the claim on the air last Friday during a story about Tim Terpak, an Army officer who he had befriended when Terpak was assigned to protect the NBC crew.

Williams reported on “Nightly News” that he had gone with Terpak to a New York Rangers hockey game. They were introduced to the audience by the public

address announcer, who also repeated the claim that Williams’ helicopter had been hit.

“This was a bungled attempt by me to thank one special veteran and by extension our brave military men and women, veterans everywhere, those who have served while I did not,” Williams said on the air Wednesday. “I hope they know they have my greatest respect and also now my apology.”

Stars & Stripes quoted Lance Reynolds, the flight engineer on the crew that rode with Williams, as saying that “it felt like a personal experience that someone else wanted to participate in and didn’t deserve to participate in.”

The newspaper said Williams’ helicopter traveled about an hour behind the aircraft that actually took fire.

In a Facebook response to service members who had pointed out the mis-



take, Williams said that “I spent much of the weekend thinking I’d gone crazy.”

NBC noted that a “Dateline NBC” story in 2003 correctly reported that Williams learned after his helicopter had landed that “the Chinook ahead of us was almost blown out of

the sky.” Williams said he also wrote about the incident correctly in 2008.

“Because I have no desire to fictionalize my experience ... and no need to dramatize events as they actually happened, I think the constant viewing of the video showing us inspecting the impact area — and

the fog of memory over the years — made me conflate the two,” Williams wrote.

“Nobody’s trying to steal anyone’s valor,” he wrote.

Williams’ helicopter and others, including the one that was hit, were grounded for three days as they waited for a sandstorm to subside.

Williams has anchored NBC’s “Nightly News” since 2004, and his program consistently draws a bigger audience than his competitors, David Muir on ABC’s “World News Tonight” and Scott Pelley on the “CBS Evening News.”

## Attorney: Friend found Bobbi Kristina Brown face-down in tub

ATLANTA — An attorney said Wednesday that it was his client who found Bobbi Kristina Brown face-down in a bathtub last week and called 911, not Brown’s partner.

Maxwell Lomas, 24, of Duluth, Georgia — not Nick Gordon — found Brown on Jan. 31 at a townhome in suburban Atlanta, said attorney Philip Holloway. Lomas and the 25-year-old Gordon were both listed in the police report as being at the home when investigators arrived.

“He immediately pulled her from the water and called 911 as well as alerting other people in the house,” Holloway said of

Lomas. “He did whatever he could do to assist in resuscitative measures until first responders arrived.”

Previously, police in Roswell, Georgia, where the townhome is located, had said that Gordon and Lomas found the woman in the bathtub and that Lomas called 911 while Gordon performed CPR. Gordon has not spoken publicly since then.

Brown is the only daughter of singers Bobby Brown and Whitney Houston, who was also found unresponsive in a bathtub on Feb. 11, 2012 and later died. Authorities found a dozen prescription drug bottles in her

Beverly Hills Hotel suite and listed heart disease and cocaine use as contributors, but concluded that she accidentally drowned.

On Jan. 15, 2015, Lomas was arrested and charged with weapons offenses, possession of marijuana with intent to distribute, and possession of a prescription anxiety medication. Lomas pleaded not guilty to the charges, according to Holloway, who said the arrest is unrelated to Brown being found in the bathtub.

“He remains in the Metropolitan Atlanta area and has been questioned by police as have many other people,” Holloway

said. The attorney described Lomas as a close friend and frequent house guest of Brown’s.

Bobbi Kristina Brown has commented often about her marriage to Gordon, the orphaned young man she grew up with after Houston brought him into the family. But her father’s lawyer says they never wed.

“To correct earlier reports, Bobbi Kristina is not and has never been married to Nick Gordon,” reads a statement released Tuesday by R&B singer Bobby Brown’s attorney, Christopher Brown.

Legal authority over Bobbi Kristina’s health care and money could

become a critical issue for the fractious Houston-Brown family, which has said that Bobbi Kristina “is fighting for her life” in a hospital.

Whitney Houston never formally adopted Gordon, but raised the two teenagers together after divorcing Brown.

Bobbi Kristina became the sole inheritor of her mother’s estate when she died in 2012, and shortly thereafter, she and Gordon went public with their romantic relationship.

Then, on Jan. 9, 2014, Bobbi Kristina posted a photo on Twitter of the couple’s hands wearing wedding rings, with the caption “#HappilyMarried.

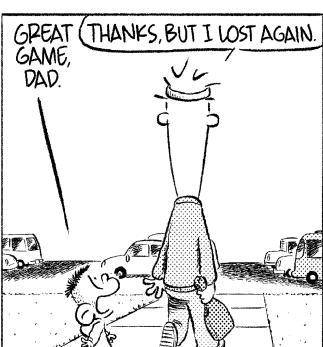
So #InLove. If you didn't get it the first time that is.”

And as recently as Dec. 25, she was still telling the world that Gordon is her husband:

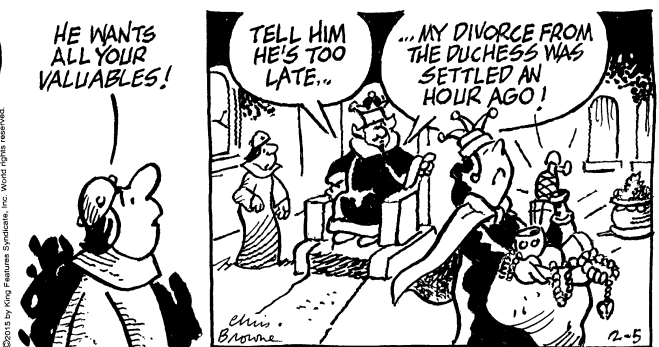
“MerryChristmas!! :)(:Snuggling in a beautiful hotelroom with MYbeautiful husband @nickdgordon :)(:Life couldn't be sweeter at the moment!”

Relations between Gordon and some other family members soured last year: He remains subject to a protective order barring him from being within 200 feet of Bobbi Kristina’s aunt, Patricia Houston.

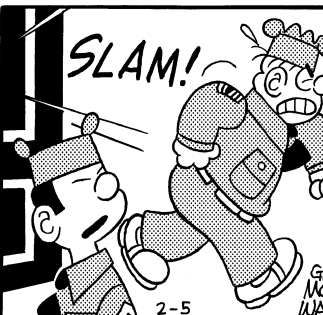
### BABY BLUES | RICK KIRKMAN AND JERRY SCOTT



### HAGAR THE HORRIBLE | CHRIS BROWNE



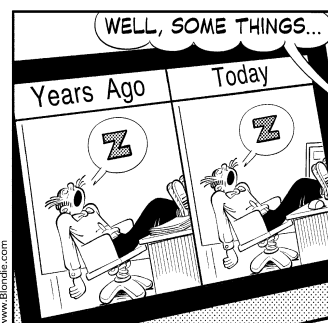
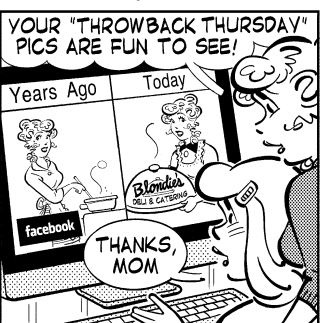
### BEETLE BAILEY | MORT & GREG WALKER



### HI AND LOIS | BRIAN WALKER, GREG WALKER AND CHANCE BROWNE



### BLONDIE | DEAN YOUNG AND JOHN MARSHALL



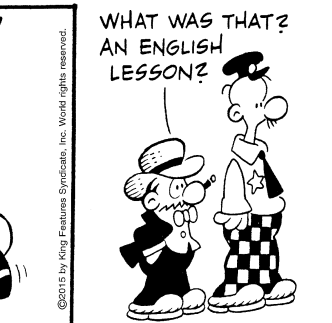
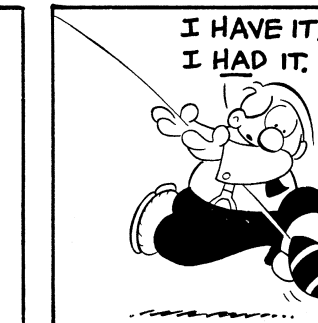
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**2BR 1BA HOUSE** 631 Lewisville Rd. Kitchen appliances furnished. \$600/dep \$600/mo. 377-5874. If no answer, leave message.

**2BR MH FOR RENT** \$450/mo \$400/dep. No pets. 639-1178  
**2BR MOBILE HOME** Paid water. \$550/mo \$550/dep. No pets. Call between 3pm & 5pm 707-3456

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**FOR SALE 2008 Nitro Z-6 115 HP Merc.** \$12,500 Firm. 318-265-0266

## LAND FOR SALE

**FOR SALE** 10 acres suitable for home site \$80,000; 4800 sqft home with 5 acres \$550,000. 318-510-5456 or 318-245-8555

## AUC- TIONS

**SPECIAL ESTATE AUCTION** on Saturday, February 7, 2015 at 10:00 A.M. ñ Nixon's Main Street Auctions, 208 North Main, Springhill, LA. Living room furniture, dinette set, bedroom sets, dressers, and miscellaneous furniture. Lots of modern furniture and antiques, outdoor furniture, glassware, collectables, and miscellaneous items. For photos go to auctionzip.com, Main Street Auctions, Kevin Nixon, LALB #1782 318-578-0795

## SERVIC- ES

**ELVIS VALENTINE** Imagine Elvis showing up to serenade your sweetheart, gift her with a scarf & teddy bear. That makes you the Valentine Hero! For times & pricing, call Mike at 453-4832. Valentines will be delivered Friday & Saturday.

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## GARAGE SALES

**570 N MAIN ST., SIB-LEY.** Fri & Sat February 6th & 7th.

**MOVING** & having to down size by almost 1000sqft. Almost everything needs to go! We will start the sale on Fri Feb 6 from Noon-4:30pm & Sat Feb 7 from 6am-til nothing is left. End tables, desk chair, night stands, lamps, fireplace accessories, books, purses, rooster stuff for kitchen, crosses, golf pictures, Christmas lights & ornaments, dvds, Wii games, clothes, white shelf (5 shelves), cherry wood shelves, curtains, toys, games, comforters, sport pictures, tools, gas grill, new 2 seat deer stand & much more. 4553 Dorcheat Rd., Minden. Right before Benson Rd. that leads to Grove Golf Course. 8 miles from the old MB&L on Main St. & Pine St. downtown.

**MULTI FAMILY GARAGE SALE** A lot of good stuff. Thursday Feb. 5th Noon to Saturday Feb. 7th Noon. 1190 Hwy 159, Minden. Tanglewood Subdivision.

**MULTI FAMILY RUM-AGE SALE** Eastside Missionary Church, 1201 Park Hwy., Minden. Fri Feb 6th 7am-5pm & Sat Feb 7th 7am-Noon.



**PUBLIC NOTICE (NOTICE OF INTENTION TO INTRODUCE LOCAL BILL - HLS 15RS-222)** Public notice is hereby given, as provided by Section 13, Article III of the Constitution of Louisiana, that there will be introduced at the forthcoming session of the Legislature of Louisiana, to be convened on April 13, 2015, a bill relative to the creation of a taxing district in Webster Parish for purposes of funding the Webster Parish Coroner's office; to provide relative to the taxing district's boundaries, purpose, governance, and funding; and to provide for related matters.

February 4 & 5, 2015  
Minden Press-Herald

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY OF MINDEN, STATE OF LOUISIANA, TAKEN IN REGULAR SESSION HELD ON JANUARY 5, 2015.**

The Minden City Council met at City Hall, Minden, Louisiana, beginning at 7:00 p.m. with the following members present: Mayor Tommy Davis, Wayne Edwards, Fayrine A. Kennon-Gilbert, Vincen Bradford, Mike Toland and Benny Gray. Absent: None.

The meeting was opened with prayer offered by Fayrine A. Kennon-Gilbert and Vincen Bradford led the Pledge of Allegiance. Mayor Tommy Davis welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Upon motion by Wayne Edwards and duly seconded by Fayrine A. Kennon-Gilbert, the council unanimously adopted the minutes of Council Regular Session held on December 1, 2014.

Councilman Mike Toland was unanimously elected as Mayor Pro Tempore for the City of Minden for the year 2015 by motion of Benny Gray and duly seconded by Fayrine A. Kennon-Gilbert. Upon motion by Wayne Edwards and duly seconded by Mike Toland, the council unanimously approved the appointment of Michael Fluhr as City Clerk for the City of Minden for the term of January 1, 2015, through December 31, 2018.

Upon motion by Fayrine A. Kennon-Gilbert and duly seconded by Vincen Bradford, the council unanimously approved the appointment of L. Charles Minifield as City Attorney for the City of Minden for the term of January 1, 2015, through December 31, 2018. Upon the recommendation of Fire Chief Kip Mourad, Fayrine A. Kennon-Gilbert moved to approve the promotion of Fire Operator (Driver) Tony Hall to the rank of probationary Fire Captain. The motion was duly seconded by Mike Toland and carried unanimously.

Upon the recommendation of Mayor Tommy Davis and upon motion by Mike Toland and duly seconded by Benny Gray, the council unanimously approved the appointment of Colonel Carl Thompson to the Minden Fire and Police Civil Service Board as the governing authority whose term will begin on January 1, 2015 and will expire on July 29, 2015, to fill the unexpired term of Mrs. Jan Chanler whose resignation was effective on December 31, 2014.

Upon the recommendation of Mayor Tommy Davis, Fayrine A. Kennon-Gilbert moved to approve the appointments of Deborah Cooksey and Tammy Eaton, who will replace Norman Cone and Anne Easley, to the Main Street Program/Development Commission, whose terms will expire September 30, 2016. The motion was duly seconded by Vincen Bradford and carried unanimously.

The following action was taken regarding condemned properties: Charlesetta Boatwright 220 Chrysler Street c/o Willie A. Grigsby Lot #9, Blk. "E", Washington Hts., P. O. Box 8141 Less part prev. sold Bossier City, LA 71113-8141

With no one present representing the property owner and upon the recommendation of the city inspector, Fayrine A. Kennon-Gilbert moved to authorize the Mayor to issue an order declaring the property condemned and further order the demolition of any structures located thereon and the cleaning of the lot within 45 days of this date. The motion was duly seconded by Wayne Edwards and carried unanimously.

recommenda-  
tion of Mayor Tommy Davis, Fayrine A. Kennon-Gilbert moved to approve the appointments of Deborah Cooksey and Tammy Eaton, who will replace Norman Cone and Anne Easley, to the Main Street Program/Development Commission, whose terms will expire September 30, 2016. The motion was duly seconded by Vincen Bradford and carried unanimously. The following action was taken regarding condemned properties: Charlesetta Boatwright 220 Chrysler Street c/o Willie A. Grigsby Lot #9, Blk. "E", Washington Hts., P. O. Box 8141 Less part prev. sold Bossier City, LA 71113-8141

With no one present representing the property owner and upon the recommendation of the city inspector, Fayrine A. Kennon-Gilbert moved to authorize the Mayor to issue an order declaring the property condemned and further order the demolition of any structures located thereon and the cleaning of the lot within 45 days of this date. The motion was duly seconded by Wayne Edwards and carried unanimously.

Linda Sparks Hudson etal 201 Chrysler Street P. O. Box 412  
Lot #10, Blk. "F", Washington Hts. Minden, LA 71058

February 5, 2015  
Minden Press-Herald

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY OF MINDEN, STATE OF LOUISIANA, TAKEN IN SPECIAL SESSION HELD ON JANUARY 8, 2015.**

The Minden City Council met at City Hall, Minden, Louisiana on January 8, 2015, beginning at 7:00 p.m. with the following members present: Mayor Tommy Davis, Wayne Edwards, Fayrine A. Kennon-Gilbert, Vincen Bradford, Mike Toland and Benny Gray. Absent: None.

The meeting was opened with prayer offered by Benny Gray and Fayrine A. Kennon-Gilbert led the Pledge of Allegiance. Mayor Tommy Davis welcomed everyone to the meeting. Upon motion by Wayne Edwards and duly seconded by Mike Toland, the council unanimously adopted a

Vernell Thomas 210 Chrysler Street 210 Chrysler Street  
Lot #5, Blk. "E", Washington Hts. Minden, LA 71055

Upon the

Upon motion by Fayrine A. Kennon-Gilbert and duly seconded by Wayne Edwards, the council voted unanimously to table this matter until the February 2015 council session.

Upon motion by Benny Gray and duly seconded by Mike Toland, the council unanimously authorized the Mayor to negotiate and enter into a lease purchase agreement for the purchase of an aerial fire truck and sign all documents pertaining thereto. The Police Report for December of 2014 was unanimously approved, as presented, by motion of Benny Gray and duly seconded by Mike Toland. Council comments were heard, public comments were heard, and the meeting was adjourned.

s/ Tommy Davis, Mayor

ATTEST:

s/ Michael Fluhr, City Clerk

February 5, 2015  
Minden Press-Herald

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY OF MINDEN, STATE OF LOUISIANA, TAKEN IN SPECIAL SESSION HELD ON JANUARY 8, 2015.**

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The meeting was opened with prayer offered by Benny Gray and Fayrine A. Kennon-Gilbert led the Pledge of Allegiance. Mayor Tommy Davis welcomed everyone to the meeting. Upon motion by Wayne Edwards and duly seconded by Mike Toland, the council unanimously adopted a

Upon the

**Fill the empty chair.**



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PUBLIC NOTICES

Resolution Regarding a Lease Purchase Agreement for the Purpose of Procuring a Fire Apparatus and Equipment, as presented. Mayor Davis asked for a motion in order for the council to retire to Executive Session to discuss the termination of employment appeal of Mrs. Pattie Odom. Wayne Edwards moved to retire to Executive Session and the motion was duly seconded by Mike Toland. At this time, Mrs. Pattie Odom requested that she be heard in Open Session. The request was granted by Mayor Davis and the motion and second to retire to Executive Session were rescinded by Wayne Edwards and Mike Toland, respectively. Mayor Davis then called for a motion. Mike Toland moved to uphold the termination of Pattie Odom as Economic and Downtown Development Director which was effective December 30, 2014, and the motion was duly seconded by Benny Gray. Mayor Davis called for comments and discussion. Mrs. Odom addressed the council and asked that the council reinstate her employment with the city. At the conclusion of comments, Mayor Davis called for a vote of the council. The council voted unanimously to uphold the termination of Pattie Odom as Economic and Downtown Development Director which was effective December 30, 2014. The meeting was adjourned.

ATTEST: s/\_\_\_\_\_

Tommy Davis, Mayor

ATTEST: s/\_\_\_\_\_

Michael Fluhr, City Clerk

Please note: All attachments to these minutes are on file for public viewing at Minden City Hall, 520 Broadway Street, during regular working hours.

February 5, 2015 Minden Press-Herald

ORDINANCE NO. 1050

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND AND REENACT CHAPTER 90, UTILITIES, ARTICLE IV, RATES AND CHARGES, SECTION 90-138.1, WATER RATES OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES, CITY OF MINDEN, STATE OF LOUISIANA.

BE IT ORDAINED AND ENACTED by the Council of Minden, Louisiana, the governing authority thereof, in its regular session convened on the 2nd day of February, 2015, that Chapter 90, Article IV, Section 90-138.1 (a), (b), (d) and (e) of the Code of Ordinances is hereby amended and supplemented to read as follows: Section 90-138.1. Water rates. All customers (not qualifying for the

industrial water rate) inside the corporate limits of the city shall be charged a minimum base fee of \$9.00. There shall be an additional charge for all water consumed at the rate of \$2.95 (standard water rate) per 1,000 gallons.

Businesses with a minimum water usage of 300,000 gallons per year inside or outside the corporate limits of the city shall be charged a minimum base rate fee of \$25.00. Any water consumption shall be charged with the following industrial water rates: For the first 25,000 gallons.....\$2.95 per 1,000 gallon 25,001 and more gallons...\$2.50 per 1,000 gallon 1,000 gallon gallons.....\$2.50 per 1,000 gallon The 12-month minimum consumption shall be evaluated at the end of each fiscal year and if the minimum water usage of 300,000 gallon is not achieved, the standard water rate shall apply. (d) Domestic users of the city's water service outside the corporate limits shall be charged a minimum base rate fee of \$30.00 per month. There shall be an additional charge for all water consumed at the rate of \$4.00 per 1,000 gallons. (e) All above charges excluding base rate fees, sprinkler and/or standpipe system charges shall be automatically increased on the 1st day of October of each year (starting October 2016) according to the all items Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) for the South from the Bureau of Labor Statistics. The magnitude of the increase is determined by the actual percentage rise of the all items CPI-U, but minimum 3 %, whichever is greater.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED AND ENACTED by the Council of the City of Minden, Louisiana, that the remaining provisions of Chapter 90, Article IV, Section 90-138.1 remain as originally written or amended. This ordinance shall become effective on March 19, 2015, which is more than the required thirty (30) days after publication in the official journal of the City of Minden. Which ordinance was, upon motion by Wayne Edwards, and duly seconded by Vincen Bradford adopted this 2nd day of February 2015, by the following yea and nay vote: YEAS: Five NAYS: None ABSENT: None ABSTAIN: None

s/\_\_\_\_\_

Tommy Davis, Mayor

ATTEST: s/\_\_\_\_\_

Michael Fluhr, City Clerk

February 5, 2015 Minden Press-Herald

ANNEXATION NOTICE CITY OF MINDEN Pursuant to Paragraph B. of Louisiana Revised Statute 33.172, notice is hereby given that the City of Minden, Louisiana, intends to adopt an ordinance no sooner than ten days after the publication of notice, said ordinance to enlarge the boundaries of said municipality to include the following described lands and territory to wit: That certain tract of land located in the vicinity of Homer Road/Southridge Drive to be included in District E of the City of Minden, Louisiana, zoned B-4, Highway Commercial, and more particularly described as: The following plot of land located in Webster Parish, Louisiana, to-wit: Begin at the Southeast corner of SE/4 of NE/4, Section 23, Township 19 North, Range 9 West, Webster Parish, Louisiana; and run West along the quarter Section line, 563 yards more or less to the branch, which is the western boundary of the tract of land purchased by G. A. Hightower from J. M. Raley on May 5, 1924 by deed recorded in Vol. 63 at page 383, Conveyance; Records of Webster Parish, Louisiana; this point being the point of beginning of the lot, herein conveyed; thence in a northerly direction, with the meander of the said branch, approximately 717 feet, to the south line of the Minden-Homer Highway; thence North 82 degrees 05 Minutes East, with the south line of said highway, 151 1/2 feet; thence South 734 feet, to the quarter section line; thence West, along the quarter section line, approximately 174.5 feet, to the point of beginning. Together with all improvements thereon and all rights thereto belonging. The following plot of land in Webster Parish, Louisiana, to-wit: Begin at the southeast corner of SE/4 of NE/4, Section 23, Township 19 North, Range 9 West, Webster Parish, Louisiana; and run west along the quarter section line, 504.84 yards more or less, to the southeast corner of the lot conveyed to Jack Crisler by G.A. Hightower July 19, 1949 recorded in the Conveyance of Webster Parish,

Louisiana, which point is the point of beginning of the lot herein conveyed; thence North, along the east line of the said Jack Crisler lot, 734 feet to the south line of the Minden-Homer Highway; thence North 82 degrees 05 minutes East, with the south line of said highway a distance of 303 feet; thence run South 300 feet, thence run South 82 degrees 05 minutes West 303 feet, more or less, to the branch on the western boundary of the lot herein described; thence run in a northerly direction with the meander of the branch approximately 300 feet to the South line of the Minden-Homer Highway, which is the point of beginning of the lot herein described, together with all improvements thereon and all rights thereto belonging. LESS AND EXCEPT: Begin at the southeast corner of the SE/4 of the NE/4, Section 23, Township 19 North, Range 9 West, Webster Parish, Louisiana; and run West along the quarter section line 563 yards, more or less to the brance, which is the western boundary of the tract of land purchased by G.A. Hightower from J.M. Raley on May 5, 1924, by deed recorded in Vol. 63 at page 383, Conveyance Records of Webster Parish, Louisiana; thence run in a northerly direction, with the meander of the branch, approximately 717 feet to the south line of the Minden-

Homer Highway, which is the point of beginning of the lot herein described, and the northwest corner thereof; thence run North 82 degrees 05 minutes East, with the South line of said highway a distance of 303 feet; thence run South 300 feet, thence run South 82 degrees 05 minutes West 303 feet, more or less, to the branch on the western boundary of the lot herein described; thence run in a northerly direction with the meander of the branch approximately 300 feet to the South line of the Minden-Homer Highway, which is the point of beginning of the lot herein described, together with all improvements thereon and all rights thereto belonging. Anyone desiring to be heard with reference to the proposed ordinance shall notify the Clerk or Secretary of the said municipality in writing, and the governing authorities thereof, before adopting any ordinance, shall grant such hearing.

s/\_\_\_\_\_

Tommy Davis, Mayor

ATTEST: s/\_\_\_\_\_

Michael Fluhr, City Clerk

February 5, 2015 Minden Press-Herald

State of Louisiana Executive Department Proclamation No. 15 BJ 2015

A M E N D PROCLAMATION NO. 3 BJ 2015 SPECIAL ELECTION-BOARD OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION-DISTRICT 4

N O W THEREFORE, I, BOBBY JINDAL, Governor of the State of Louisiana, by virtue of the authority vested by the Constitution and laws of the State of Louisiana, do hereby order and direct as follows: SECTION 1: Section 2 of Proclamation No. 3 BJ 2015, issued on January 5, 2015, is amended as follows: Any qualified person desiring to become a candidate for the office

shall file a notice of candidacy, accompanied either by a qualifying fee or a petition, as required or authorized by law, with the appropriate election official in the manner and form, and under the procedures and conditions, provided by R.S. 18:461, et seq., and all other applicable provision of the Louisiana Election Code, R.S. 18:1, et seq., during the period commencing Tuesday, September 8, 2015, and ending at 4:30 p.m. Thursday, September 10, 2015.

SECTION 2: Section 4 of Proclamation No. 3 BJ 2015, issued on January 5, 2015, is amended as follows: The primary election shall be held Saturday, October 24, 2015, and the general election shall be held Saturday, November 21, 2015, at the times

and places and in the manner, prescribed by law.

SECTION 3: All other sections, subsections, and paragraphs of Proclamation No. 3 BJ 2015, issued on January 5, 2015, shall remain in full force and effect.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand officially and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Louisiana, at the Capitol, in the City of Baton Rouge, on this 2nd day of February, 2015.

ATTEST: s/ Bobby Jindal

G O V E R N O R OF LOUISIANA

February 5, 2015 Minden Press-Herald

CRYPTOQUIP

RAQEQUQO JSQUGB DPQP  
PVXQ SUGLQ JP J XQXVON  
JGS, RVDBS NVD LJBB IAJI J

S Q X V E G L X E Q X V E G L ?  
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: BIG COOKIE COMPANY FAMOUS FOR NEGOTIATING TRUCES IN TIMES OF HOSTILITY: KEEBLER OF THE PEACE.  
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: J equals A

CROSSWORD

ACROSS

1 Monu- mental  
5 Fool  
8 Air pollution  
12 Catherine — -Jones  
13 Punctur- ing tool  
14 Havana's land  
15 Spool  
16 Favorable vote  
17 Sahara- like  
18 Factions in Risk  
20 Fail miserably  
22 Aegis  
26 Greek letter  
29 Consume  
30 Id coun- terpart  
31 New Mexico art colony  
32 Ostrich's cousin  
33 Capri, e.g.  
34 Tin Man's need  
35 Litter member  
36 The Plaza, e.g.

37 Estimate of future possibili- ties  
40 At hand  
41 Con- cealed  
45 "Yeah, right"  
47 Pi fol- lower  
49 Nil  
50 Rounded ottoman  
51 Listener  
52 Satanic  
53 Active  
54 Pigs' digs  
55 Trig term

DOWN

1 Old Testa- ment book  
2 Equal  
3 Thing  
4 Bagh- dad bigwigs  
5 Permis- sion  
6 Over- whelm  
7 Level of achieve- ment  
8 Meager  
9 Most obscured  
10 Japanese sash  
11 Wander  
19 Historical period  
21 Perform- ance  
23 Lure  
24 Look lascivi- ously

Solution time: 25 mins.

		C	H	I			C	A	T		
	F	L	E	D		B	O	N	U	S	
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O	P	S		L	A	I	T	Y		Y	I
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	F	O	R	C	E		B	O	I	S	E
C	L	O	Y			W	A	U	L		
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	A	N	O	I	N	T		A	X	I	O
		G	E	N	U	S		G	A	L	A
			T	E	E			E	M	S	

Yesterday's answer 2-5

IT PAYS

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15					16				17			
18				19			20	21				
			22			23					24	25
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37			38				39					
		40					41			42	43	44
45	46				47	48			49			
50					51				52			
53					54				55			



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