

MINDEN PRESS-HERALD

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Monday, March 2, 2015 | 50 Cents

'He was a good guy'

Remembering the beloved Charles Franklin 'Charlie' Jackson

PAT CULVERHOUSE
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For nearly three decades, students and student athletes knew him as Mr. Jackson or simply, Coach. To many friends, he was "Chollie," and was quick with a smile and a compliment. And, to hundreds of veterans of the military and their dependents, Charles Franklin "Charlie" Jackson was a man who cared and got things done.

Jackson passed away Thursday, Feb. 26 at Northwest Louisiana Veterans' Home in Bossier City just two days short of his 81st birthday. He was laid to rest Sunday, March 1 in Springhill Cemetery with full U.S. Navy and Masonic graveside rites.

Jackson served four years in the Navy, including a tour during the Korean War. Following his honorable discharge, he attended Southern State College in Magnolia, Arkansas before obtaining his bachelor's degree in education from Northeast University, today's University of Louisiana-Monroe.

Jackson received his master's degree from Mississippi College in Clinton, Mississippi and master's plus-30 from Louisiana Tech. He retired following 29 years as a teacher and coach in the Webster Parish school system and began a second career with the Louisiana Office of Veterans' Affairs, serving the men and women who had served their country.

"In his civilian life, he did more to assist our military veterans than anyone I know," retired Lt. Col. Carl Thompson, Louisiana National Guard, said when Jackson retired as Webster's veterans' affairs officer in December 2013 after 26 years.

"He provided assistance to our military veterans here in Webster Parish and also in Bossier and Caddo parishes and other parts of the state and nation. He became known throughout the

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CITY OF MINDEN GOVERNMENT

City council set to vote on police hire, annexation of property

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At their monthly meeting tonight, members of the Minden City Council will have the opportunity to expand the local police

department by one.

If the council agrees with the personnel committee, Mitchell Hackett will be joining the force.

In other business, the council will vote on the following items:

■ Condemned properties at 615 Sibley Road, 210 Chrysler Street and 110 Camp Street

■ An ordinance for annexation of property in the vicinity of Homer Road and Southridge Drive

■ A resolution authorizing the mayor to negotiate and enter into a temporary trial period contract for the concessions services at the Minden Recreation Complex

■ A resolution showing

support of the completion and submission of the State of Louisiana Office of Community Development Water Enrichment fund application and empower the mayor to execute documents to accept and

implement a grant on behalf of the city

■ Hear the monthly police report.

The Minden City Council meets at 7 p.m. in Council Chambers at Minden City Hall.

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WEATHER TOMORROW'S OUTLOOK
71 HIGH **62** LOW
Rain showers early with overcast skies later in the day.
Thunder possible.

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»»INSIDE:

HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL
Doyline falls to Midland **PAGE 6**



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VALERO

MINDEN CRIME

Minden man arrested, accused of drug trafficking

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A 26-year-old Minden man is being held in the parish jail after police officers reportedly found a quantity of illegal narcotics in his clothing following a traffic stop last week. Minden Chief of Police

Steve Cropper says Delandry Winzer, a resident of the 600 block of Stone St., is charged with possession of CDS Sch. I (marijuana) with intent to distribute after officers located 27 grams of the substance in his coat. “During the traffic stop initiated by Officer Chris Ham-

montree, information on the driver of the vehicle indicated she had an outstanding warrant with the sheriff’s office,” Cropper said. “Winzer was a passenger in the vehicle.” Cropper says Winzer was asked to exit the vehicle and was frisked for the safety of the police officers. Several

plastic sandwich baggies, similar to the type used to package illegal drugs, reportedly were found in his coat pocket. “While frisking Winzer, Sgt. Ryan Barnette felt a large bulge in the front of his coat. That’s when the suspect admitted he was carrying

narcotics,” Cropper said. Cropper says the sandwich bag containing marijuana was removed from Winzer’s left, inside coat pocket. Just over \$128 in cash was also found on the suspect. Winzer was later transported to Bayou Dorcheat Correctional Center, Cropper says.



WINZER

LIONS CLUB

Salvatore: M6 propellant reaching critical instability

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Dr. Brian Salvatore spends a lot of time with his chemistry students at LSU-Shreveport where he’s been on the faculty since 2003. Now, he finds himself finding the time to help search for solutions to the problem presented by the massive amount of M6 propellant properly stored at Camp Minden. Speaking to the Minden Lions Club Thursday, Salvatore says the propellant is moving steadily toward the date when it will reach a critical point. “There’s an October 15 timeline when the M6 will be reaching a stage of critical instability,” he said. “Even an open burn will not have taken care of it by then. From a chemical perspective, we’re very concerned about what is out there.” Salvatore showed a video of the October 2012 blast at Camp Minden that, he says, was actually

two explosions. In the first, at around 11:30 p.m. on the night of the 15th, “... an unknown material went off in one of the bunkers, then about 10 seconds later it set off M6 in a trailer beside the bunker,” he said. That explosion took out less than one-half of one percent of the material, Salvatore says. An explosion involving the 15.6 million pounds of M6 currently stored at Camp Minden would be powerful, he says.

“It’s not like we will have a catastrophic chain reaction, but what people have to realize is there is equal in energy, not power, but energy of up to about three-fourths of the Hiroshima atomic bomb,” he predicted.

Salvatore says the M6, which is now obsolete, is a mixture of several substances. One, nitrocellulose, burns too fast by itself. “If nitrocellulose is used by itself, it will damage the gun barrel of the weapon it’s used in,” he said. “Deterrents have to be added, and it’s some of these that are disturbing.” Some of those additives include dinitrotoluene, which Salvatore identified as a serious carcinogen. Dinitrotoluene, he says, makes up about 10 percent of the propellant, which translates to 1.6 million pounds of the substance. “It’s a Class B2 carcinogen. After the explosion that happened back in 2012, they were so concerned they went out and gathered up the material by hand and open burned 16,000 pounds of it and didn’t bother to tell anybody,” Salvatore said. “If we don’t find a safe solution, people are just going to resort to the most expedient method and we’ve got to prevent that.”

Another chemical of concern is dibutylthiourea, an endocrine disruptor that Salvatore says can cause serious birth defects and infertility. About 800,000 pounds of the compound is involved in the propellant stored in bunkers that Salvatore says have been on the grounds since the 1940s. A consideration some find disturbing is the age of the M6 propellant. “The propellant sitting out there in those bunkers is 30 to 35 years old,” Salvatore said, “and the worst part about it is Explo mixed up all the lots. The potential data we could use is lost and scrambled.” When the public first became aware of the potential hazard presented by the M6 and saw the individuals who were expressing concern, the first thought was that environmentalists were descending on Minden, Salvatore says. “When I first became concerned, people were saying, ‘Well, look at these

environmentalists. Let them go knock themselves out.’ I’m a chemist. I favor renewable energy, but I never put myself in that category,” he said. “But really, everybody is an environmentalist if you want healthy kids, if you don’t want your spouse, children or siblings to develop cancer, if you want children to have grandchildren.” State forestry officials announced last month that a controlled burn on roughly 1,500 acres of Camp Minden would be conducted. Salvatore says that burn could be counter-productive to the stability of the propellant stored in the bunkers. “They shouldn’t be doing those brush burns out there and producing ground ozone,” he said. “Like it or not, the fact is there is degradation. We’re shortening the life span of the propellant by doing open burns, even if it is just the brush.” Salvatore is a member of the 30-person dialogue

committee made up of concerned citizens and government officials who are trying to come up with an acceptable method to dispose of the M6. “There’s a privilege and a public service to serving on the dialogue committee,” he said. “This (M6 issue) is a once-in-a-lifetime experience for which there is no dress rehearsal.” Working with the committee and facilitators seems to be helping the process go a little smoother, Salvatore says, but he still has a concern. “It seems like the concerned citizens are doing all the leg work while the government has been doing a lot of showing up and answering some questions, but not all that we want to have answered,” he observed. “We are all going to have to be prepared to be activists. This process has to end responsibly and safely. We don’t have that assurance yet.”

WELCOME TO THE NEIGHBORHOOD



SOUTH BEACH TANNING CUTS RIBBON

South Beach Tanning owner Richard Desadier and manager Donna Brown cut the grand opening ribbon surrounded by family, city and Minden-South Webster Chamber of Commerce officials. The salon, located at 908 Homer Rd., offered free tanning all day for the Feb. 19 ceremony. Telina McVay/Press-Herald



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To learn more visit www.prolifelouisiana.org

OBITUARIES

Maria Antonietta ‘Mary’ Reeve

Maria Antonietta “Mary” Reeve (nee Melgar), 81, died peacefully Feb. 26, 2015, at Minden Medical Center.

Mary is survived by her children, Rosa Monica Harty and her husband, Christopher of Medford Lakes, New Jersey, Max Delano Reeve Jr. and his wife, Joanna of Minden, Debbie Reeve Branch and her husband, Tenney of Minden, John Frank Reeve and his wife, Nancy of Lafayette and Billy Reeve of Minden.

She is also survived by eight grandchildren, Jeanne Branch Turley and her husband, Brian, Bo Branch and his wife, Christy, Aaron Harty and his wife, Tara, Lori Reeve, Casie Reeve, Joey Frost and his wife Caryn, Dylan Reeve and Connor Reeve; 11 great-grandchildren, Max Edwards, Hayes Branch, Caylee, Sara and Hannah Frost, Hunter Reeve, John and Brady Culbertson, Justin, Mia and Maddie Harty; siblings, Lucha Herald of San Antonio, Texas and Carmen Staepel of Cherry Hill, New Jersey; and numerous nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Max Delano Reeve Sr. of Minden, her mother, Yolanda Nieri Melgar and her father, Col. J.D. Melgar of Ica, Peru.

Mary was born March 26, 1933, in Trujillo, Peru. She was educated in Peru with a degree in Business Administration. She married Max Delano Reeve Sr. in 1955. After moving to Minden in 1968, Mary began working for West Enterprises and became a Century 21 real estate agent. Mary and her husband, Max owned and operated several businesses before Max passed away.

She then began a second career as a paralegal and court interpreter. She was a generous and witty individual who never met a stranger and loved a good joke. She



REEVE

was passionate about her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. They remember her as a loving mother and grandmother, “GiGi,” who encouraged them to pursue their goals. She was an active and dedicated member of First Baptist Church of Minden.

A celebration of life service will be at noon Tuesday, March 3, 2015, at First Baptist Church West Chapel in Minden, with burial to follow at Bistineau Cemetery in Heflin. The Rev. Leland Crawford will officiate the ceremony. Visitation will be from 5 until 8 p.m. Monday, March 2 at Rose-Neath Funeral Home. All are welcome to attend and celebrate Mary’s life.

In lieu of flowers, donations in Mary’s memory are welcomed at St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital in Memphis, Tennessee.

The family would like to thank Minden Medical Center staff for their care during her extended hospital stay.

Charles E. ‘Scooter’ Roach

Funeral services for Charles E. “Scooter” Roach will be at 2 p.m., Tuesday, March 3, 2015, at West Lake Baptist Church in Doyline, with the Rev. Gerald Palmer officiating. Interment will follow at West Lake Cemetery in Doyline under the direction of Rose-Neath Funeral Home in Minden. The family will receive friends from 5 until 7 p.m. Monday, March 2, 2015, at Rose-Neath Funeral Home in Minden.

Scooter was born July 23, 1934, in Haughton and entered into rest Feb. 27, 2015, in Minden. He was retired from South Central Bell Telephone Company as a cable repairman.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Joseph Taylor and Annie Mae Roach; brother, David E. Roach; and grandson, Chad Roach.

He is survived by his wife, Nancy M. Roach of Minden; son, Edwin Eugene Roach and fiancée, Mary Thomas of

Doyline; daughters, Hollie Hinkie and husband, Thomas of Bossier City, Julia Ball and husband, Richard of Doyline and Angela Fletcher and husband, Melvin of Doyline; brother, James D. Roach and wife, Pat of Doyline, 10 grandchildren; and 13 great-grandchildren.

Pallbearers will be Ricky Ball, Tom Hinkie, Kyle Jerner, Melvin Fletcher, Nick Schaefer and Frank Sparano.

Honorary pallbearers will be Billy Reeves, Ronnie Watson Sr., Max Hammett, J. T. Rudisill, William Armstrong and Glenn Burgess.

Carmanell ‘Carman’ Thornton

Funeral services for Carman Thornton were at 11 a.m. Monday, March 2, 2015, at Rose-Neath Funeral Home Chapel in Minden. Interment followed at Tulip Cemetery in Athens. The family received friends from 5 until 7 p.m. Sunday, March 1, 2015, at Rose-Neath Funeral Home in Minden.

Carman was born June 9, 1929, in Shreveport and entered into rest Feb. 27, 2015, in Minden.

She was owner/operator of Country Place Bar in Minden.

She was preceded in death by her husbands, Ralph Walters Sr. and David Thornton; parents, George and Clara Dement Sr.; son, John Walters; brothers, George Dement and Allian Dement; sister, Almajeane Hayes; and grandson, Glenn Lee.

She is survived by her sons, Charles Walters of Minden and Ralph W. Walters Jr. of Shreveport; daughters, Martha Walters of Minden, Clara Nell Lowrie of Shreveport and Peggy Lee and husband, Ting of Benton; brother, Mastin Dement of Houston, Texas; special nieces, Veron Jean McDonald and husband, John of Arkansas, Ida Mitchell of Florida and Susan Smith and husband, Thomas of Alabama; stepchildren, Jane, Judy, Karen, Rickey and Jerry; six grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

JACKSON

Continued from page 1

nation as an expert in assisting military veterans,” Thompson said.

Gary Holloway is one veteran who knows first hand how hard Jackson fought the military bureaucracy to get “his vets” the benefits they deserve. Holloway served with the U.S. Army in Vietnam part of 1967, all of 1968 and a portion of 1969. Later, he found himself battling the effects of Agent Orange and receiving no assis-

tance from his government.

“I went a lot of years without receiving any compensation for Agent Orange and Charlie worked on that for me,” Holloway remembered. “He was able to help me. He got me 70 percent disability because of my heart and diabetes. I had open heart surgery and Charlie got hold of all this and sent it to the VA and I get a check every month now to help me with my medicines and all sorts of stuff.”

Holloway says he remembers Jackson as a good man who was always

smiling.

“He just made you feel comfortable about going in there and getting some help. He treated everybody that way...he had a great demeanor about him,” he said.

Holloway, who retired from the Webster Parish school system after 33 years in the classrooms, also remembers the other Charlie Jackson who spent years as a teacher, coach and referee.

“He refereed basketball and football when I was a kid in school,” Holloway said. “He was very level-headed and did an excel-

lent job. He never taught me, but I know he was a good educator. I always admired him and looked up to him.”

Through his efforts in the Veterans’ Affairs office, Jackson helped bring millions of dollars in economic impact to this area, says Dr. Richard Campbell, a Vietnam War veteran.

“The Department of Veterans’ Affairs, that particular entity literally funneled untold millions of dollars into this community,” Campbell said. “There are people on disability plus various veterans’ and dependents’ benefits.

Charlie passionately fought for veterans’ rights and for getting funding for their various disabilities and benefits for the widow.”

Campbell’s closest association with Jackson was through the American Legion.

“Further, and somewhat selfishly, he was the individual who oversaw the American Legion Hall for years and years. He rented it out, received the deposits, looked after various maintenance and certainly, to the Legion, he was an extremely valuable asset,” Campbell said.

“Everyone was special to him, and he was compassionate to everyone who came in,” he added.

Retired educator J.R. Boyett says he knew Jackson since their high school days dating back to 1950 or ’51. The pair umpired “some baseball and called a little basketball” together, and he recalls Jackson as being an easy-going person, on and off baseball fields and basketball courts.

“He got along pretty well with everybody. He was a good guy,” Boyett said.

BEST OF THE

MINDEN PRESS-HERALD

best!

WEBSTER PARISH

★

READERS' CHOICE AWARDS 2015

VOTE FOR YOUR FAVORITES!

Everyone has an opinion and now it's time to give yours. Vote for your favorite business in Webster Parish! The winners will be announced in the Readers' Choice edition on April 17, 2015. You may drop the ballot off at the Minden Press-Herald office at 203 Gleason Street in Minden or mail it to the Minden Press-Herald, P.O. Box 1339, Minden, LA 71058. Only one ballot per person will be permitted. No reproductions or faxes will be accepted.

Name: _____ Telephone number: _____

*Favorite Restaurant _____

Deadline for entries is Friday, March 31, 2015 at 5:00 p.m.

One winner will be drawn from the ballots received and will win DINNER FOR TWO from the restaurant voted most favorite OR \$50

Favorite Auto Body Shop

Favorite Manufactured Home Dealer

Favorite Bakery

Favorite Lawyer

Favorite Buffet Restaurant

Favorite Breakfast Restaurant

Favorite Barber Shop

Favorite Beauty Shop

Favorite Bank

Favorite C.P.A.

Favorite Chicken

Favorite Ambulance Service

Favorite Heating & Air Provider

Favorite Shoe Store

Favorite Casino

Favorite Car Wash/Detail

Favorite Real Estate Office

Favorite Tuxedo Rental

Favorite Tanning Salon

Favorite Pawn Shop

Favorite Funeral Home

Favorite Dentist

Favorite Apartment Complex

Favorite Auto Parts Store

Favorite Drive Thru Restaurant

Favorite Electrician

Favorite Elementary School

Favorite NEW Auto Dealer

Favorite USED Auto Dealer

Favorite Florist

Favorite Evening Meal Restaurant

Favorite Furniture Store

Favorite Gas Station

Favorite Gift Shop (Non-Florist)

Favorite Principal

Favorite Fitness Center

Favorite Seafood Restaurant

Favorite School Teacher

Favorite Salad Bar

Favorite NEW Vehicle Salesperson

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Favorite Health Care Provider

Favorite High School

Favorite Homebuilder/Contractor

Favorite Hotel/Motel

Favorite Insurance Agent

Favorite Lawn Equipment Dealer

Favorite Jeweler

Favorite Landscaping/Lawncare Provider

Favorite Eye Care Provider

Favorite Liquor Store

Favorite Lunch Location

Favorite Middle School

Favorite Appliance Store

Favorite USED Vehicle Salesperson

Favorite Tire Store

Favorite Dance School

Favorite Veterinarian

Favorite Nursing Home

Favorite Mechanic

Favorite Mexican Restaurant

Favorite Men's Apparel Provider

Favorite Daycare Provider

Favorite Glass Shop (not eyewear)

Favorite Oil Change Location

Favorite Pharmacy

Favorite Pet Groomer

Favorite Pest Control Provider

Favorite Photographer

Favorite Pizze Restaurant

Favorite Physician/Surgeon

Favorite Plumber

Favorite Public Official

Favorite Women's Apparel Provider

Favorite Floor Covering Provider

Favorite Tax Preparer

Favorite Customer Service (any business)

OPINION

First Place: 2012 Best Editorial Page, Louisiana Press Association



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OBAMA: LET'S GIVE TERRORISTS JOBS



PERSPECTIVE

Ensuring hardworking Americans retire with dignity

IN AMERICA, we believe that a lifetime of hard work and responsibility should be rewarded with a shot at a secure, dignified retirement. It's one of the critical components of middle-class life – and this week, I took new steps to protect it.

Six years after the crisis that shook a lot of people's faith in a secure retirement, our economy is steadily growing. Last year was the best year for job growth since the 1990s. All told, over the past five years, the private sector has added nearly 12 million new jobs. And since I took office, the stock market has more than doubled, replenishing the 401(k)s of millions of families.

But while we've come a long way, we've got more work to do to make sure that our recovery reaches more Americans, not just those at the top. That's what middle-class economics is all about—the idea that this country does best when everyone gets their fair shot, everybody does their fair share, and everyone plays by the same set of rules.

That last part—making sure everyone plays by the same set of rules—is why we passed historic Wall Street Reform and a Credit Card Bill of Rights. It's why we created a new

consumer watchdog agency. And it's why we're taking new action to protect hardworking families' retirement security. If you're working hard and putting away money, you should have the peace of mind that the financial advice you're getting is sound and that your investments are protected.

But right now, there are no rules of the road. Many financial advisers put their clients' interest first – but some financial advisers get backdoor payments and hidden fees in exchange for steering people into bad investments. All told, bad advice that results from these conflicts of interest costs middle-class and working families about \$17 billion every year.

This week, I called on the Department of Labor to change that – to update the rules and require that retirement advisers put the best interests of their clients above their own financial interests. Middle-class families cannot afford to lose their



BARACK OBAMA

hard earned savings after a lifetime of work. They deserve to be treated with fairness and respect. And that's what this rule would do.

While many financial advisers support these basic safeguards to prevent abuse, I know some special interests will fight this with everything they've got. But while we welcome different perspectives and ideas on how to move forward, what I won't accept is the notion that there's nothing we can do to make sure that hard-working, responsible Americans who scrimp and save can retire with security and dignity.

We're going to keep pushing for this rule, because it's the right thing to do for our workers and for our country. The strength of our economy rests on whether hard-working families can not only share in America's success, but can also contribute to America's success. And that's what I will never stop fighting for – an economy where everyone who works hard has the chance to get ahead.

President Barack Obama's weekly address is published Mondays in the Minden Press-Herald.

PERSPECTIVE

Politicians for local control, except when they're not

THE PEOPLE OF Denton, Texas, recently voted to ban fracking within the city limits. They were tired of the noise, lights and fumes caused by the 277 gas wells, some placed right next to housing developments. A blowout in 2013 covered homes in clouds of benzene. Some had to be evacuated.

One can hardly blame the citizens for trying to regulate industrial activity in a populated area unless one is the governor of Texas. Greg Abbott has denounced the vote and decisions by other local governments to regulate junkyards and ban litter-prone plastic bags as an affront to the “Texan model,” often defined as letting businesses do pretty much as they please.

The party in power at one level of government is understandably tempted to push around a lower level. Liberals do it. Conservatives do it. The difference is that conservatives profess to deplore such interference. Sadly, support for local control often evaporates when such principles run up against the interests of moneyed backers.

Listen to Gov. Abbott talking to the Texas Public Policy Foundation. Local governments risk turning the “Texas miracle” into the “California nightmare,” he said. “Large cities that represent about 75 percent of the population in (Texas) are doing this to us.”

Large cities representing 75 percent of the population sounds like a whole lot of Texans. Makes you wonder who “us” is. Perhaps a state-run program to re-indoctrinate the peasants might be in order.

Similar battles are playing out in other places. Athens, Ohio, voted to ban fracking, but the Ohio Supreme Court just ruled that local governments can't do that. They are clashing with the state's “executive authority” on oil and gas drilling.

Conservatives running the Florida and Louisiana state governments are fighting local plans to raise minimum wages.

The restaurants don't want to.

“The state legislature is the best place to determine wage and hour law,” a spokesman for the National Restaurant Association told The New York Times, “This is not the kind of policy that should be determined jurisdiction by jurisdiction.”

Actually, the local jurisdiction is one of the better places to set a minimum wage. The cost of living in New York City is much higher than it is across the state in Buffalo, and so might the minimum wage be. Seattle might want to try out a \$15-an-hour minimum wage, while less rich parts of Washington stick with the state minimum of \$9.47 an hour, itself well above the national minimum of \$7.25.

A number of cities across the country, as well as three counties in California, have approved fracking bans. Even Fort Collins in energy-rich Colorado has done so. But Texas, as those tourist ads said, is “like a whole other country” when it comes to showing deference to energy producers and purveyors of plastic bags.

At least the governor thinks so. He seems to see the locals' efforts to set rules for their communities as evidence of creeping collectivism.

This prompted the following retort in a Dallas Morning News editorial: “Allowing Austin to make single-size decisions for local governments instead of allowing them to tailor unique solutions sounds an awful lot like central state planning to us.”

Some conservatives are reportedly hopping mad over the state's efforts to curb the right of their local governments to control their own destiny. Tea party folks, in particular, are known for hostility toward crony capitalism — the alliance of big business and government officials.

Abbott's allies in turn accuse them of being closet socialists working in the interests of Russia. How ironic. The way the locals can show that they're not tools of Russia, the fracking forces say, is by acting like serfs.



FROMA HARROP

EDITORIAL ROUND UP

The Advocate, Baton Rouge on governor's race:

Something strange — and welcome — is happening in the early days of Louisiana's gubernatorial race. Although the primary election won't be held until this fall, the four announced candidates are already vigorously debating the issues.

Four rivals for Louisiana's top political job

— Democratic state representative John Bel Edwards and Republican candidates U.S. Sen. David Vitter, Lt. Gov. Jay Dardenne and Public Service Commissioner Scott Angelle — have agreed to discuss small-business issues during a panel discussion in Baton Rouge on March 31.

It's the third forum of its kind in recent weeks. Previous programs featured discussions of education and transportation.

We commend the candidates for showing up and sharing their ideas about leading the state. This kind

of engagement stands out more than it should. In today's campaign climate, which stresses sound bites and cynical TV spots, reasoned debates about the challenges of governance have become, sadly, the exception rather than the rule.

It's good news when four smart, accomplished candidates for governor agree to openly deliberate, rather than dodge, key questions facing the state during the next four years.

That gives us hope that whoever wins will be able to lead Louisiana effectively

during difficult times. This year's campaign is still young, but we like what we've seen so far.

A state plagued by fiscal crisis, failing schools, substandard roads and struggling universities can't afford business as usual in picking its next governor.

The willingness of candidates to participate in debates is a hopeful sign that they'll treat voters as partners, not afterthoughts, in charting Louisiana's future.

Online: <http://theadvocate.com>



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PAT CULVERHOUSE

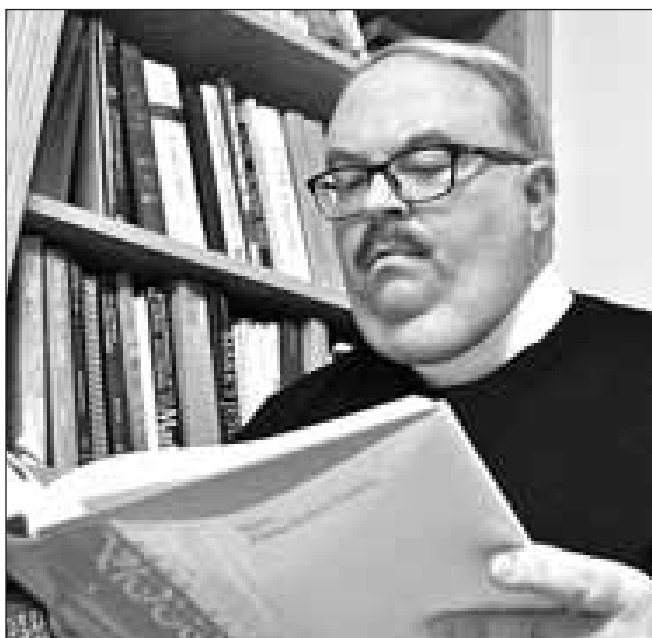
pat@press-herald.com

The Rev. Dr. Frank W. Hughes grew up not all that far from Minden (Texarkana, Ark.) but his trip to St. John's Episcopal Church in Minden took him to several parts of this country and others outside the borders of the United States.

Hughes' educational and faith journey took him from his home state of Arkansas (Hendrix College in Conway) where he graduated after majoring in religion, to seminary at Seabury Western, located on the Evanston, Ill. campus of Northwestern University. There, he studied under Dr. James Upton and Dr. Francis Christy, educators that he said "are beyond compare."

He completed seminary studies in 1979 and attended the University of Chicago, receiving a master's degree in early Christian literature. In 1981, Hughes was ordained as a deacon and served inner-city African-American Episcopal churches on the south side of Chicago and was a priest on the west side.

Hughes completed his PhD in 1984 and taught on the university level at the University of Northern Iowa and at North Carolina, Greensboro. He attend-



The Rev. Dr. Frank W. Hughes prepares for an adult Christian education class he teaches on Thursday nights. Pat Culverhouse/Press-Herald

ed the University of Gottingen, a public comprehensive research university in Gottingen, Germany, which was founded in 1734. There, he made final revisions on his first book.

After returning to the U.S., Hughes served in the largest black parish in Philadelphia, Penn., and served a stint as interim in a Pennsylvania parish where the priest had passed away. That interim term was the first of seven interim positions he has served.

"I believe my reputation as a person who can get

things done and keep churches on track until their positions were filled was the reason I have been selected to serve so many churches in an interim capacity," Hughes said. "I had just served as interim at Grace church in Monroe when the Bishop put my name into the mix for Rector at St. John's."

Hughes taught at a seminary in the West Indies for six and a half years while also serving a church there.

"I had a marvelous time," he said. "I would serve the parish on Sunday and teach college Monday

through Saturday."

Now, he's quite comfortable serving as the Rector at St. John's.

"I like the blend of church. On Saturday and Monday, I am a New Testament scholar. During most of the week I am Rector of St. John's," he said. "It's an excellent parish and has been well-ministered to. I've inherited a church that is in good shape, which is different from others I have served."

Hughes, who is recognized by his peers in the ecumenical community of Minden as an authority on the New Testament, said he believes a challenge of his church "...is to reach out to the community more than we have in the past and to grow."

Part of Hughes' outreach is conducting Bible studies, including a six-part series on the book of Mark which he began Feb. 19. Hughes, a member of the Anglican Association of Biblical Scholars, has published 15 articles and one book, and is completing his portion of an article which is scheduled for publication by the world's oldest publishing house, the Cambridge University Press.

Cambridge University Press, founded in 1534, is also the second-largest university press in the world.

Around Town

Thursday, March 5

Adult Christian Education Class from 6:30 until 8 p.m. at St. John's Episcopal Church, 1107 Broadway. Topic for third week: Jesus Crossing Borders (Mark 4:35-8:21).

Parent PARCC test information night will be held from 6 until 7:30 p.m. at the Doyline High School cafeteria. Parents can learn ways to assist a child with the timed PARCC test, express concerns and ask questions about upcoming Phase I and Phase II, learn strategies to assist their child with PARCC tests and the implications of "opting out." call 318-745-3673 for information.

Saturday, March 7

Plate lunch benefit for cancer victim Jameelah Salim from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. at First Baptist Church of Cullen. Lunches available for \$8 per plate. Free gospel concert at 6 p.m. at the church.

Jonquil Jubilee Garden Tour will be from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. in Gibsland. Tickets for the self-guided tour are \$10 and will be available at the Jubilee booth. Begin the day with a pancake breakfast from 8 until 10 a.m. at a cost of \$5.

Sunday, March 8

Springfield Baptist Church, 2287 Hwy. 517, Mt. Lebanon, will celebrate its 151st Church Anniversary at 3 p.m. The Rev. Calvin Williams is pastor; guest speaker and choir are the Rev. John Cole and Mt. Comfort Baptist Church.

New Light Missionary Baptist Church, 413 W.R. Reeder St., will host Annual Deacon and Deaconess Day Celebration at 3 p.m. Special guest is the Rev. Reggie Lofton, Pastor and Mt. Nebo Baptist Church. The Rev. Asby K. Glosson, New Light pastor, invites the public to attend.

Email your Around Town events to community@press-herald.com.

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SPORTS

SPORTS briefs

COLLEGE BB

LSU hoops beats Ole Miss

BATON ROUGE (AP) — LSU guard Tim Quarterman only hoped his sore left ankle wouldn't render him a defensive liability against Mississippi's leading scorer, Stefan Moody.

Quarterman did more than just hold up against Moody on Saturday. One day after twisting his ankle in practice, he turned in the first triple-double by an LSU player since Shaquille O'Neal in 1992.

Quarterman had 18 points, 10 rebounds and 10 assists, and LSU pulled into a fourth-place tie in the Southeastern Conference with a 73-63 victory over Ole Miss.

"I'm surprised," Quarterman said. "Just to be mentioned with Shaq — he's a legend around here."

"It was just a special moment for me and my teammates. They celebrated more than me," Quarterman added. "Everything happens for a reason. I don't even know."

Moody finished with 15 points, but that was below the 20.1 points he'd averaged in his previous eight games and he hit only three of 16 shots, going 1-of-7 from 3-point range.

"Of course, it's frustrating," Moody said. "At the end of the day it's on all of us. It's a team effort. We all just have to play better."

Quarterman is not the marquee player for LSU that O'Neal was — or that Jordan Mickey is now — but that only made coach Johnny Jones more appreciative of what his hobbled guard's performance meant at a time when the stakes are rising.

"Anytime you've got guys like that, they're winners and they step up," Jones said. "He laid it on the line for his team and that's what you need night in and night out. And if the guys around you know that, some good things can happen to you."

Jarell Martin added 18 points and Keith Hornsby 16 for the Tigers (21-8, 10-6 SEC), who won their third straight overall while sweeping the season series with Ole Miss.

NBA

Rockets defeat Heat, 105-103

HOUSTON (AP) — James Harden has been putting up MVP-caliber numbers all season for the Houston Rockets.

Given the chance to go head to head with one of his biggest competitors for the award, Harden and the Rockets came out on top.

Harden scored 33 points and Cleveland star LeBron James missed a pair of free throws with 4.2 seconds left in overtime, helping the Rockets hold on for a 105-103 win over the Cavaliers on Sunday.

Harden dismissed any talk that the performance was some sort of statement about the league's MVP award.

"Every game is a statement for me," said Harden, who leads the NBA in scoring. "I'm just out here trying to prove myself — trying to win games."

It's worked well so far. Harden has led the Rockets to five straight wins, a 41-18 record and the third seed in the Western Conference with fellow star Dwight Howard out with a knee problem.

HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL

DOYLINE FALLS TO MIDLAND



Press-Herald Photo/Blake Branch



BLAKE BRANCH

blake@press-herald.com

MORSE - The Doyline Panther boys basketball team traveled south to Morse for a playoff showdown with the Class B defending state champions, Midland.

Going into the game, Doyline knew they were up against mighty odds taking on a senior laden team one year removed from cutting down the nets.

The Panthers fought their tails off, trailing by just 1 point after the first quarter

and 10 points at halftime.

But the pressure of Midland wore down Doyline in the second half, as the Rebels went on to defeat the Panthers 74-44.

"When you're playing the defending state champs with four seniors playing significant minutes, the experience really shows," Doyline head coach Michael Normand said.

"We go into halftime down just 9 or 10 points, then in the second half fatigue really set in. We hadn't practiced or played in a while. I think the layoff with the weather kind of hurt us. I won't use that as an excuse though, Midland is a good ball club."

Normand said he believes his team of freshmen and sophomores gave him all they had left in the tank.

"Our guys gave me everything they had," Normand said. "Midland kind of sensed that we were running out of gas and turned their pressure up a little bit to put us away. I hate the fact that we lost and the season's over, but my kids have given me everything they had with a great attitude and work ethic the past few months. I can't complain about the effort."

Now with an eye toward the future, Doyline should be poised for a bigger run next season.

"I appreciate and am proud of how we came out of all the adversity we faced this year," Normand said. "The sky is the limit for them. As long as they keep working hard and avoid distractions they should be hard to handle the next couple of years."

HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL

Area teams in tournaments over the weekend

BLAKE BRANCH

blake@press-herald.com

There was plenty of baseball played over the weekend by Webster Parish schools.

Here's how our area teams fared in tournament play over the weekend.

Minden Crimson Tide

The Minden Crimson Tide traveled to Bossier City to kick off their regular season in the Parkway Tournament. The Crimson Tide played two games, one against Captain Shreve and the other with Haughton.

In game one, Minden fell to the Gators from Captain Shreve 7-1. Ryan Garcia took the loss on the mound for the Crimson Tide as the bats never got going in less than desirable baseball weather.

Then in game two on Saturday, Minden fell to the Haughton Buccaneers 10-3. Gunner Stephens took the loss for the Tide

in that contest.

Lakeside Warriors

The Lakeside Warriors hit the road for a pair of games in the North DeSoto Tournament, going home with a split for the weekend.

In game one, the Warriors started Luke Griffith on the mound. Griffith gave up two earned runs while striking out five Loyola batters in four innings of work.

Jake Gray led Lakeside at the plate with a pair of singles, followed by Cameron Gray and Josh Prince who both added singles.

In the Warriors' second game, they shook off the rust from the recent winter weather, scoring 8 runs on their way to an 8-0 victory over Northwood.

Cameron Gray went all seven innings for Lakeside, striking out 10 batters and scattering four hits in a dominant effort.

Lakeside got four runs in the third and fifth inning to gain a lead that would never be threatened.

Jake Gray finished with 2 RBI on a pair of fielder's choice ground balls, while Frankie Chanler and Josh Prince both went 2 for 4 with an RBI. Luke Griffith added an RBI single and Logan Clark went 1 for 3 with a pair of runs scored. Thomas Lambert added a base hit for Lakeside.

Doyline Panthers

The Doyline Panthers took part in the Bossier Tournament, playing games against Ringgold and host Bossier High School.

In the Panthers' first game they defeated the Ringgold Redskins 18-10 as the bats were hot in the season opener.

In game two Doyline produced 7 runs, but the pitching and defense wasn't up to par as the Panthers fell 18-7.

Glenbrook



Press-Herald Photo/Blake Branch

The Glenbrook Apaches were originally scheduled to play in the Pine Tree Tournament in Pine Tree, Texas but it was canceled due to

weather.

The Apaches will try to get back on the field Monday for a game with the Claiborne Academy Rebels at Claiborne.

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Three straight for Tech



RUSTON — Louisiana Tech made it a three-peat on Saturday night by clinching at least a share of the Conference USA regular season title and winning its 28th consecutive game in the Thomas Assembly Center by outlasting UTSA, 76-66, in front of 5,238 fans.

The victory to seal the third straight title, something that has only ever been done one other time in the program's history, did not come easy as LA Tech's (23-7, 14-3 C-USA) 12-point advantage in the second half was erased by UTSA (13-14, 7-9 C-USA) who took a one-point lead with 8:54 to play.

However that was when a couple of seniors really took charge. Kenneth Smith hit back-to-back three-pointers and Michale Kyser was on the receiving end of back-to-back alley-oop dunks.

Speedy would later hit a running floater in the paint to spark a 10-0 run late to notch the 15th victory in the TAC

this season, a new program record, and give the Bulldogs a chance in the regular season finale to win their first outright title since 1999.

"It was an ugly win for us," head coach Michael White said. "In terms of details, we were not at our best, but I would like to credit UTSA. I thought their changing of zones and their zone effectiveness was really good. I thought they came here and played extremely hard. I thought the turning point was getting some stops late and finding a half court rhythm defensively. Those couple of dunks off of turnovers and Speedy's two three-pointers against the zone really helped us settle in against that zone."

"If you had asked me three years ago if we were going to win a championship in the next three years, I would have told you a lot of things would have to happen for us and we would have to get a lot better. It does not happen very often, especially in college basketball. It speaks to the consistency of the seniors and the tremendous staffs that I have had, as well as how good the players are. I am just blessed to be a part of it."

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REMEBERING AN ICON

Leonard Nimoy leaves legacy beyond science-fiction

LOS ANGELES — Leonard Nimoy didn't just leave a lasting impression on the science-fiction world, he also left his mark on science itself.

Seth Shostak, who researches the possibility of real-world extraterrestrial life as the senior astronomer at SETI Research, recalled that Nimoy was regularly willing to lend the organization a helping hand. When he was asked to narrate a planetarium introduction or appear as a guest at an event, Nimoy did so graciously and never charged.

"That struck me then, and it strikes me now," said Shostak. "If you play a famous alien, you might have little interest in how science is searching for real aliens, but Nimoy was actually interested in the science — and he was always willing to help us out."

Remembrances poured in from beyond the entertainment spectrum after news spread Friday about the death of the 83-year-old actor, who played the half-alien, half-human Spock in "Star Trek" films, TV shows and video games. NASA, Virgin Galactic, Intel and Google all sent messages, as did other groups motivated by Nimoy and his role as the truth-seeking science officer.

"Leonard Nimoy was an inspiration to multiple generations of engineers, scientists, astronauts and other space explorers," said NASA administrator Charles Bolden. "As Mr. Spock, he made science and technology important to the story, while never failing to show, by example, that it is the people around us who matter most."

NASA posted a photo online taken in 1976 of Nimoy and his "Trek" cast mates in front of NASA's real-life space shuttle Enterprise, parked outside the agency's manufacturing facilities in Palmdale, California.

Samantha Cristoforetti, an Italian astronaut aboard the International Space Station, similarly tweeted her condolences from space.

"Live Long and Prosper, Mr. #Spock!"



she wrote.

Don Lincoln, a senior physicist at Fermilab, said he was inspired to go into science not just because Nimoy's portrayal of the logical Mr. Spock but also because of "In Search of...", the curious 1970s TV series hosted by Nimoy that was dedicated to mysterious phenomena.

"Despite the fact he worked in fiction, anyone who can inspire that many people to look into the sky and wonder has done something really important for mankind," he said.

Lincoln noted that "Trek" and the character of Spock, armed with his Vulcan nerve pinch and phase set to stun, provided the world with a dynamic look at someone interested in science.

"The fact is that Spock was a cool geek," said Lincoln. "Scientists are not always portrayed as being very strong. Usually, they're the guy with the tape on their glasses and their pants too high. He was clearly a person who had desirable components beyond just being smart."

Nimoy's commitment to astronomy frequently warped from beyond the Alpha Quadrant and into the real world. He and his wife, Susan, donated \$1 million to the renovation of the iconic Griffith Park observatory complex overlooking Los Angeles. The observatory's theater is named after Nimoy.

"Mr. Nimoy was committed to people, community and the enlarged perspective conferred by science, the arts and the places where they meet," the observatory said in a statement. "The theater honors Nimoy's expansive and inclusive approach to public astronomy and artful inspiration."

The actor, director and photographer narrated several films focusing on astronomy, including a 2012 short film about NASA's Dawn mission and the 1994 IMAX documentary film "Destiny in Space."

"All I can say is if and when we pick up a signal, it'll be wonderful if the real aliens are half as appealing as Mr. Nimoy was as Spock," said Shostak of SETI Research.

Lady Gaga, Vince Vaughn take charity polar plunge in Chicago

CHICAGO — Lady Gaga and Vince Vaughn plunged into the icy waters of Chicago's Lake Michigan at a fundraiser for the Special Olympics.

Chicago President Casey Hogan said Sunday that Lady Gaga made the plunge with more than 4,500 other participants. Hogan says the singer's appearance was "a very

nice surprise."

Lady Gaga recently announced her engagement to "Chicago Fire" actor Taylor Kinney. Photos show her and a bare-chested Kinney going into the

water together.

Vaughn also made the plunge. The native of the Chicago suburb Lake Forest was dressed in a Chicago Blackhawks jersey and jeans. The actor went

in up to his knees, then eased himself down backward in the water.

Last year, comedian Jimmy Fallon jumped in wearing a suit and tie, and helped raise more than \$1

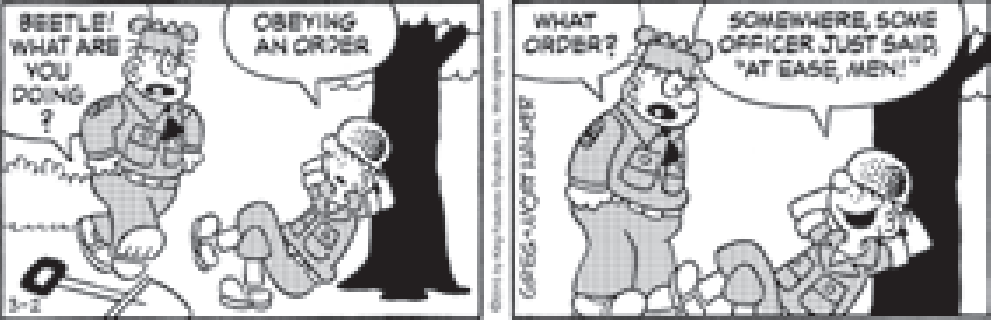
million.

The air temperature was a frigid 20 degrees at the time of the plunge, according to the National Weather Service.

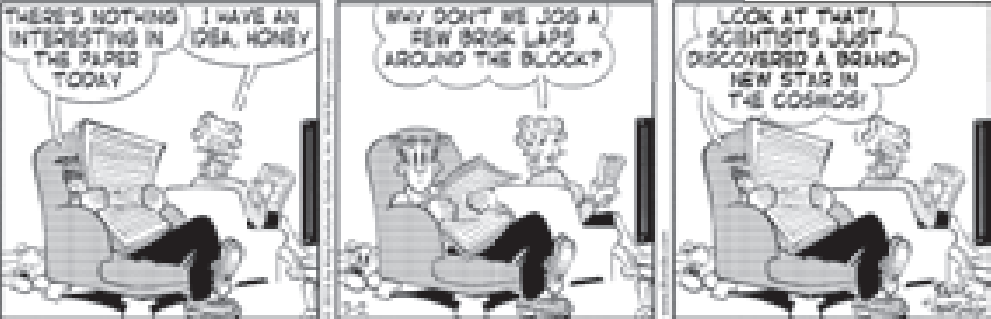
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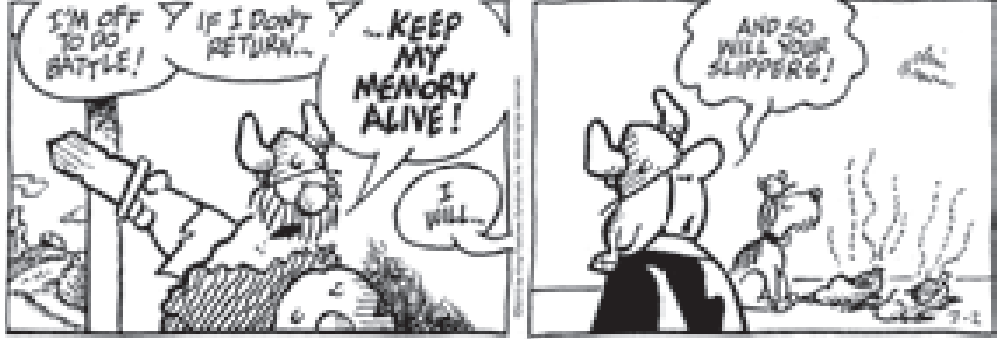
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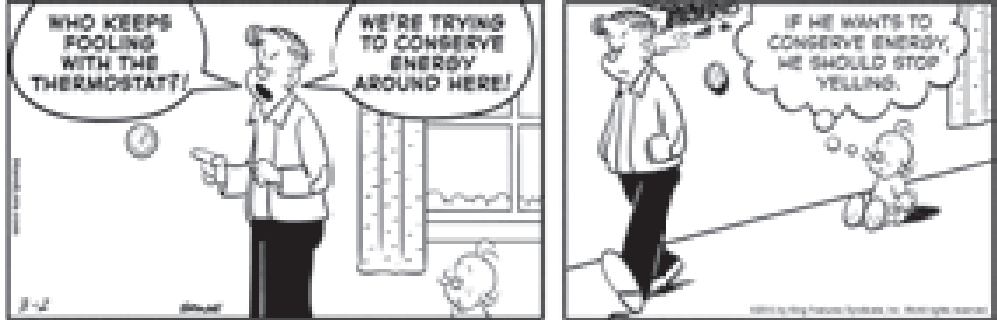
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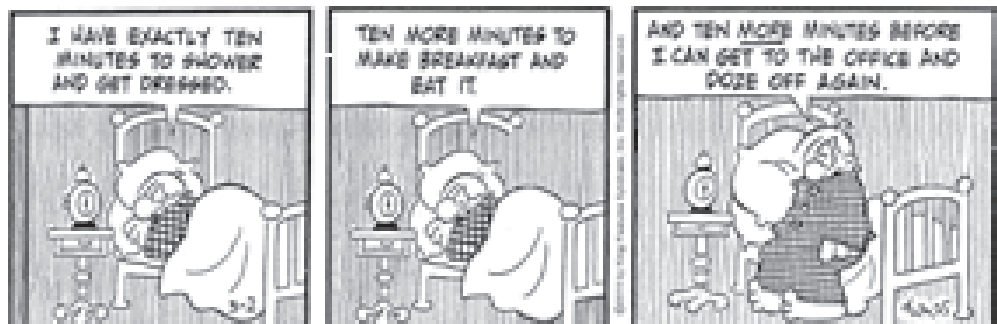
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The Minden Housing Authority will hold a Public Meeting on April 16th DP DP East Street, to receive comments on the 2015 5 Year & Annual Plan Documents outlining Capital Expenditures to be completed. All documents are on display at the office of the Housing Authority, (DW6 WHW Monday through Thursday, between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.

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