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April 16, 2015 | 50 Cents

**THURSDAY**



**INSIDE**  
today



Tartan Festival is Saturday

**NEWS PG.2**



Pre-K Registration starts Friday

**LIFE PG.5**



Tough decisions await new governor

**OPINION PG.4**

**WEATHER**

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FOLLOW UP

## Benson owner address WPPJ concerns

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

In a special meeting Wednesday, owners of Benson Environmental met with the Webster Parish Police Jury to address several concerns – chief among them the number of tires stockpiled at the company.

Brian Benson, general manager, says they are within the required limits by the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality. Currently in the yard are approximately 312,000 whole waste tires. The DEQ's limit is 450,000. He says they are regulated stringently by the DEQ, based on the number of tires they can process.

According to their figures, they recycle about 99.8 percent of everything they take in.

Benson Environmental is a family owned and operated tire transport and disposal company that caters to three states.

In the last few years, the company has spent more than \$1 million in equipment upgrades to broaden their market base, Benson says, and to produce a more refined product. He explained to jurors that they process what's brought in and stockpiled tires at the same time to reduce the inventory as they can.

"That is not acceptable to us," Benson said of the number of tires stockpiled on site.

Part of the reason for the stockpile is what he called a rebuild cycle. He says while they were upgrading their machinery, they continued to take in waste tires. The good news is inventory has been reduced since December.

Charles Odom, chairman of the police jury's environmental committee, says his biggest concern was getting the stockpile down.

Another concern addressed is what would happen if Benson Environmental were to close its doors. Who would pay for site clean up? Who would be responsible for the clean up?

"One of the things that the department (DEQ) requires us to carry to ensure that a (situation) like Explo does not happen is a Financial Assurance

See **BENSON**, Page 2



## What's in the future?

### More options thrown into hat for Harper school

*Money remains looming issue*

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

More options have been thrown into the ring as to what to do about the issues plaguing J.E. Harper Elementary.

However, it still boils down to two things – what to do with the children during construction and money. If Webster Parish voters passed a new ad valorem tax to build a new school or any of the other options that have been discussed, state money used to pay teacher salaries and benefits would decrease.

Business and Finance Director Crevonne Odom explained during a special meeting at the school Wednesday that roughly 90 percent of the board's total budget goes to salaries and benefits for all school employees.

That includes salaries, health insurance and retirement benefits. The problem is the state keeps burdening school systems with more and more by raising costs each year, she says.

"You kind of get penalized for having the initiative to do a sales tax," she said. "A poorer district that does not have a good sales tax base or property tax base, they don't have that money to add to salaries or to bonds for schools. MFP (Minimum Foundation Program) calculations give them more money than they would give us. It's going to have to be balance. You have to find that balance."

The idea of building a new school was thrown out as an option by Superintendent of

See **HARPER**, Page 14



J.E. Harper School librarian Debbie Baskin speaks during a meeting at the school Wednesday. Many in attendance had questions about funding, options to alleviate the issues at the school and other issues. Bruce Franklin/Press-Herald

FATALITY

## Wednesday morning crash kills one

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

An early morning crash proved fatal for an Arkansas woman Wednesday.

Webster Parish Sheriff's deputies responded to the call on Germantown Road before 8 a.m.

Louisiana State Trooper Matt Harris says Troop G responded to an area about one mile south of Louisiana Highway 534. The initial investigation revealed a 2004 Chevrolet Impala, driven by Laura Woods, 25, of Emerson, Arkansas, was traveling north on Germantown Road when she crashed into a tree, according to a news release.

"Woods was not restrained at the time of the crash and sustained fatal injuries," Harris said. "Woods was pronounced dead at the scene by the Webster Parish coroner."

A toxicology sample was taken from Woods and submitted for analysis,

See **FATALITY**, Page 3

LEGISLATURE

## Students urging La. lawmakers to stop college budget cuts

**MELINDA DESLATTÉ**  
Associated Press

BATON ROUGE — Angry and worried college students rallied on the Louisiana Capitol steps Wednesday and launched a "No Funds No Future" social media campaign, trying to stop deep budget cuts to their schools.

They also packed a House Appropriations Committee hearing to personally ask lawmakers to keep higher education from facing a reduction of up to \$600 million next year that would strip 80 percent of college systems' state financing.

"Higher education has been on the chopping

See **CUTS**, Page 3

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# SECOND FRONT

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WEBSTER PARISH TOURISM

## Tartan Festival is Saturday

**STAFF REPORTS**

The Scottish Tartan Festival is Saturday, April 18 at Scotland Farms, just north of Minden off Highway 79 at Athens Road.

Celebrate Scottish culture and heritage through living history exhibits, Scottish cattle herding, demonstrations of the Highland games, a Gaelic language seminar and bagpipe music. There will

be a dog show competition, children's area with hayride, broadsword demonstrations, clan tents, genealogy and much more.

Partners include traditional Scottish band,

Smithfield Fair, traditional Irish group, Emerald Accent and Scottish-Irish American folksinger Jed Marum, along with numerous local musicians.

There will be performances by the Jackson Irish

Dancers of Jackson, Mississippi and the Port Belly Project of Shreveport.

The festival is being sponsored by the Scottish Society of the Louisiana Highlands and is funded in part by the Webster

Parish Convention and Visitors Bureau. For more information, contact

Sheila Hoh at 318-393-2693 or www.scottishsociety.wix.com/tartan-festival.

**FUNDRAISER**

## Start your engines!

### Burn Run revs up Friday and Saturday

**STAFF REPORTS**

A benefit for a good cause will be taking place Friday and Saturday, April 17 and 18 to raise money for the Ark-La-Tex Children's Burn Camp.

The 13th annual burn run, sponsored by the Brothers Keepers Motorcycle Club, Shreveport Chapter, will be at Lake Bistineau State Park, Area 1, located off Highway 163 in Doyline.

Friday's events will begin at 5 p.m. with crawl-

fish, live music and fun and will go until the fun stops or midnight. The fun starts back up at 9 a.m., April 18. Throughout the day, there will be vendors, barbecue, food, live music and lots of fun. Admission is free.

The Burn Run "Poker Run" will begin with the first bike out at 9 a.m. and the last bike in at 4 p.m. The poker run entry fee is \$20.

For more information, call Kelly Johnson at 318-218-3762 or www.brotherskeepersmc.com

## BENSON

*Continued from page 1*

Trust Fund for site closure," Benson said.

Benson explained the process of site closure if that were to happen – which he assured is not going to happen.

"Right now, we're carrying \$200,000, which what they (DEQ) mandate," he said, "for site closure and remediation. What that means, is if under some scenario we shut down, the first thing that would happen is we would begin to eliminate everything on site."

After that, the land would be returned to its natural state; in other words, it would be returned to its original condition before Benson opened its doors.

"It makes me feel 100 percent better to know there is some plan for disposal if something were to happen," police jury president Jim Bonsall said.

Mosquitoes were another concern, because whole tires hold water, encouraging breeding, during periods of rain. Benson assured jurors that Benson Environmental takes pest control and vermin control measures, and they take it seriously. Pest control is done once per month. This was a concern posed by Juror Steve Lemmons, who represents the district in which Benson Environmental resides.

After some discussion, Benson indicated its willingness to increase pest



Hundreds of old tires sit at the entrance of Benson Environmental. Bruce Franklin/Press-Herald

control measures during the summer months if the police jury feels current measures are inadequate.

Jurors expressed gratitude to Benson for saving the parish money in that the parish can take tires to them without paying a dime.

"They have saved us on our recycling bill over the last five years," Odom said. "To me, when every time me or another juror has had a question, I've called and gotten a

straightforward answer."

Odom says he wanted to see reports for the last two years to see what their fluctuations in tire intake and stockpile looks like to see what can be done to help get the stockpile down.

Odom also addressed media in attendance, saying many times private companies are discussed in meetings, and asked that competition be taken into consideration before printing the article or

story.

"This is a business deal, it's a unique situation," he said. "This came about almost 20 years ago, and it's a public/private enterprise. It's the first time it was ever done where we came in and swapped 20 acres of land in one area and 20 acres in another. This has been a win-win situation for the parish, and they've taken care of what was a thorn in our side."

## No big winners in Wednesday's lottery

BATON ROUGE — The Louisiana Lottery Corporation says nobody won the two major jackpots in the Louisiana Lotto and multi-state Powerball drawings on Wednesday night.

Louisiana Lotto players matching all six numbers drawn would have won or shared a \$425,000 prize, which will rise to an estimated \$450,000 for Saturday.

Players matching all five numbers and the Powerball would have won or shared the \$40 million jackpot. The prize goes to

an estimated \$50 million for Saturday.

The Easy 5 drawing rises to an estimated \$110,000 after none of the tickets matched all five numbers drawn for Wednesday's \$90,000 jackpot.

Winning numbers drawn Wednesday were:

**Powerball:** 01-16-21-29-40, Powerball: 30, Power Play: 3

**Easy 5:** 06-12-19-23-25

**Lotto:** 01-14-18-31-34-39

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## LOUISIANA LEGISLATURE

# Briefs from the Louisiana Legislature's regular session

**BATON ROUGE** — Legislative displeasure over diverted road-work money showed up Wednesday in a transportation department request to spend \$2 million from the highway fund for overtime and supplies responding to icy weather in north Louisiana earlier this year.

The joint House and Senate budget committee agreed to the spending plan, but only after criticism that too much money continues to be siphoned away from road and bridge work in a state with a \$12 billion backlog of needed repairs and upgrades.

Lawmakers have grown concerned about the use of large sums of state gasoline tax money to pay for items other than road work. Since 2011, \$241 million has been steered to state police operations.

Senate Finance Chairman Jack Donahue, R-Mandeville, sought to stop Wednesday's \$2 million diversion, but north Louisiana lawmakers objected, saying the dollars already have been spent and were needed to deal with a weather emergency.

Nita Chambers, undersecretary for the Department of

Transportation and Development, said if lawmakers refused to transfer dollars from the highway fund, the agency would have to scale back spending on maintenance work, like pothole repairs, mowing and litter cleanup.

The committee agreed to the spending shift with a 14-7 vote of House members and 7-3 vote of senators.

State lawmakers Wednesday again delayed approval of a \$3.6 million casino support services contract for New Orleans, while they await estimates on whether

the city's new smoking ban will cause the state to lose money.

The prohibition against smoking in bars and gambling halls takes effect in late April. The Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget said it will consider the contract in May, when they have received more research on the possible state revenue losses.

Louisiana collects fees from the Harrah's casino, a horse racing track and video-poker halls in New Orleans. If revenue at the gambling locations falls, the state also will collect less.

The Louisiana State Police estimated the state could lose \$17.4 million over two years because of the smoking ban. But lawmakers questioned that estimate, saying some gamblers could move to casinos in other neighboring parishes.

The annual contract would authorize the state to pay New Orleans for police, fire and sanitation services at Harrah's casino for the fiscal year that begins July 1. The money also would have to be included in the state budget before the city could collect the payment.

## CUTS

*Continued from page 1*

block for eight years," said Jesse Elliott, a student at LSU-Alexandria. "We cannot be whittled away year after year. Our priorities have to change. We demand nothing less."

To close a \$1.6 billion budget shortfall, Gov. Bobby Jindal's higher education budget proposal for the fiscal year that begins July 1 would cut more than \$220 million from campuses. It also relies on \$372 million from tax break changes that need legislative approval and face resistance from lawmak-

ers.

Any reductions would come on top of \$700 million in state financing cuts to campuses since 2008. Nationally, states on average cut their support for higher education by 6 percent during that time, while Louisiana slashed 34 percent, the largest reduction of any state.

David Teagle, University of New Orleans student body president, described this year's threat to college funding as "the breaking point" for many schools. He told lawmakers on the Appropriations Committee that students "currently exist in an environment of fear and anger."

"When we signed up for

the institutions, we made a promise ... that we would become great Louisiana citizens. And we feel that the state made a promise to us, that you would educate us and give us the tools to become great Louisiana citizens," Teagle said.

He urged committee members: "We're asking you to show us that our faith is not misplaced in this system."

Student after student, dressed in campus colors and college T-shirts, told similar stories at the rally and committee hearing. They described overburdened faculty leaving for other states, larger class sizes and fewer student

services even as tuition and fee costs rise.

Morgan Miller, student government vice president at McNeese State University, worried the worth of her degree from the Lake Charles campus would deteriorate because of repeated cuts.

"We are not receiving the value of an education that we were promised," she said.

College leaders want lawmakers to give them the authority to raise tuition and fees without needing legislative approval and the flexibility to set differing tuition rates by program.

But several students resisted the idea of their

costs going up again — and higher education officials have said even with such increases, that won't be enough to offset the gaps.

Lawmakers are considering proposals to scale back tax-break spending and raise other taxes to help drum up new money for next year's budget. Several students pushed similar ideas, saying the state has spent too much on "corporate welfare" through tax breaks for businesses, at the expense of higher education.

But Jindal opposes anything he considers a net tax increase, limiting available options for lawmakers unlikely to override a gubernatorial veto.

## FATALITY

*Continued from page 1*

although impairment is not suspected at this time, Harris says.

"Louisiana law requires motor vehicle occupants to be properly restrained in every seating position, day and night," Harris said. "Wearing a seatbelt significantly reduces the likelihood of being seriously injured or killed as a result of a crash and is the single most effective thing motorists can do to protect themselves. This crash serves as yet another tragic reminder of how important this decision can be."

## OBITUARIES

### John Claude Lee Jr.

John Claude Lee Jr. "Boot Lee" was born on Dec. 25, 1946 in Minden. He was preceded in death by the Rev. John Claude Lee Sr. and Missionary Ethel Mae Lee (parents); Frances Lee Lane (sister); and Demarcus Freeman (grandson).

On Saturday, April 11, 2015 around 8:30 a.m. in Shreveport, he heard the call of our Lord and Savior and entered peacefully into eternity.

John attended Webster High School in Minden excelling in many sport activities. He played the position of first baseman during that time. His love for baseball led him to be drafted by the Atlanta Braves in the 42nd round of the 1966 MLB June Amateur Drafts.

Upon returning home to Minden, he was employed by several industries. He worked at Fibrebond as a supervisor and forklift driver for 19 years before he retired.

He accepted Christ at an early age and was an active member at Forest Chapel Church of God in Christ under the leadership of Elder Andrew Fizer. Later in life, he united with the Haughton Church of God in Christ under the leadership of the late Superintendent Lytton Cleveland Jr. He served as an usher and was appointed as the Trinity District Usher Board President where he served faithfully until his health failed him.

On April 20, 1985, he married his soul mate "Ruth." To this union one child was born, Brandon. They enjoyed together spending time with family and friends. He had a gift for always knowing exactly what words to say to get a laugh out of people.

John leaves to cherish his memories a loving and devoted wife, Annie Ruth Lee; three sons, Phillip (Stephanie) Freeman, Sydney (LaTasha) Freeman, of Dallas and Brandon Lee of Minden; daughter, Veronica Howell (Macharia) of Monroe; three sisters, Christine Gay of Navarre, Florida, Bobby Simon (Hilton), Terrie (Mitchel) of Houston; brother-in-law, Andrew (Estelle) of Gibsland; five grandchildren; uncle Henry Wilson of Houston; aunt, Beatrice

Watson of Houston; and a host of nieces, nephews, relatives, and friends.

Services entrusted to Benevolent Funeral Home in Minden.

Viewing will be at 10 a.m., Friday. Services will be at noon, Saturday, April 18, at Haughton Church of God in Christ in Haughton.

### Jerry Huddleston

Jerry Huddleston, 72, passed away Tuesday at his residence after a battle with cancer.

He is survived by his wife, Carrie; son, Michael Huddleston of Minden; daughter Sherry Pipkin and husband Ronnie of Willisville, Arkansas; two grandchildren, Ronnie Lynn and Samantha Pipkin of Willisville, Arkansas; sister, Judy Wooten of Minden, two brothers, Ray Huddleston and Robert Huddleston both of Springhill.

He was a U.S. Veteran who served in the U.S. Navy.

He enjoyed fishing, working in his garden, and being around family, especially his grandchildren, and doing home improvements.

Graveside services will be at 2 p.m., Friday at Salem Cemetery in Plain Dealing.

### Jo Anne Musgrove

Funeral services for Mrs. Jo Anne Musgrove, 72, will be at 2 p.m., Thursday, April 16, 2015, at the chapel at Crothers-Glenwood Funeral Home in Tallulah, with Bro. Martin Parker officiating.

Visitation will be from 1 until 2 p.m., Thursday, at the funeral home.

Burial will be at 2 p.m., Friday, April 17, 2015, at Lane Memorial Cemetery in Sibley, under the direction of Crothers-Glenwood Funeral Home.

"Mama Jo" enjoyed spending time with her children and grandchildren and was loved by all who knew her. She attended Willow Bayou Baptist Church. She was a graduate of Northeast Louisiana University and worked and retired from McInnis Brothers Insurance Agency in Minden. After retiring, Jo Anne moved back to her home town of Tallulah.

Mrs. Musgrove is preceded in death by her husband, Clemon Earl Musgrove and her father, Herman Thornton Jr.



LEE

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**BIRTHDAYS FOR THURSDAY, APRIL 16, 2015**

Kassidy Spencer  
Jamall Sumlin  
Martin Lawrence  
Jon Cryer  
Peter Billingsley  
**HAPPY BELATED BIRTHDAY!**  
Anthony "Amp" Pellis

Survivors include daughter Lori Stewart and husband Nathaniel; three sons; Charles Musgrove, Lee Musgrove and wife Shelly and John David Musgrove; eight grandchildren, Ashley, Zachary, Tara, Emma, Connor, Alayna, Carley and Wyatt;

and her mother, Leanedra Holder.

She will be greatly missed by her two special pets, Presley and Roxie.

Memorials may be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

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# Mitchell: We want your ideas to make Webster schools better

## HARPER

Continued from page 1

Schools Dr. Dan Rawls. Before the meeting, he handed out a plat sheet showing the property owned by the school board at the Harper site. On that plat, some 30 acres of land behind the school is unused. If a new school was built, though, the new one would be on the service road next to interstate.

Board member Frankie Mitchell made a plea to the public, asking for their ideas, but she made it clear that she wanted the public

to be a part of the decision. "We're trying," she said. "We've made some mistakes, but if you have any ideas that you want to share with us that we can see that we can make Webster Parish a better system, we want to listen to you too. Maybe we don't know all the answers, and we don't. We're looking at dollar bills and actually being almost broken because of demands placed on (the) Webster Parish School Board in terms of insurance, in terms of everything that's mandated but not funded."

Just about the time the meeting hit a stalemate,

Nelia Ferguson, a teacher at E.S. Richardson Elementary School, threw out the idea of putting the kindergarten and first grade students at J.A. Phillips Middle School and moving sixth graders to either Webster Junior High School or to the Harper site.

"You would have the option to have about 20 classrooms," Ferguson said. "The bathrooms are up to date. It already has a wheelchair lift, because you have to accommodate special needs children. You have a gym for holding little people. Everything is just so smooth. It's a lovely campus."

Ferguson says the site is better idea for little ones and it still meets the regulations for children so young. She explained many of the classrooms have more than one exit and the building is broken into quads with a certain number of classrooms in each quad. With the space the school has, she says more classroom space could be added if needed.

It also puts the kindergarten and first grade students with the pre-K students.

No matter what grade would end up at Harper, the issues remain the same – restroom facilities are

inadequate with too few to handle the number of children at the school each day and other logistics.

Technology needs are another issue. Phillips is equipped with the technology to meet the needs of the sixth grade class, but Harper is not. Richardson's technology needs are also further along than Harper's, Rawls says.

Some of the other ideas discussed have been renovating the old technical school and housing the kindergarten and first grade students there until Harper can be renovated. Another idea was to switch the fourth and fifth grade

students and the Harper students. It would correct issues with the fire marshal, but it would put the Richardson students in the same situation facing the Harper students now, Rawls says.

Another idea was to disburse the students among the other schools until Harper can be renovated.

Mitchell says a decision will not happen overnight. It will take the community and the board working together to find the best possible solution.

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### June 8, 2015 – Deadline to File

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To file your claim go to:  
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# OPINION

www.press-herald.com

PERSPECTIVE

## Fleming: Tax code in need of change

Together, we spend over 6 million hours and more than \$220 billion filing our taxes each year— whether that's paying an accountant or purchasing tax software. Many have asked why the system is so confusing and expensive in the first place. In government's endless quest to manipulate our behavior and redistribute wealth, we've ended up with a tax system that doesn't end up working for anyone.

Our tax code is one of the most complicated in the world. Its 70,000 pages are full of regulations and loopholes that hurt our economy and take money from families and small businesses to give to special interests.

Small business owners are often forced to make decisions based on the tax code — such as the employer mandate under Obamacare — rather the ones that would grow their company and create new jobs. If only they could keep more of their own money, they could buy new equipment, hire more workers, or even give raises.



REP. JOHN FLEMING, M.D.

And while our tax code is greatly in need of change, so is the agency that oversees it. The lack of accountability and transparency at the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) is not only troubling - it is an abuse of power. Last year we found out the IRS targeted conservative-leaning groups. The head of the IRS has also announced that it will do its part in implementing President Obama's lawless amnesty by making thousands of dollars in payments to illegal aliens.

It's time to radically alter the tax code and the IRS. We can do both by making the tax code far simpler and fairer. Chairman Paul Ryan of the House Ways and Means committee will soon be putting forth the House Republican proposal. In addition, I have re-introduced my bi-partisan bill, H.R. 1397, the Seniors' Tax Simplification Act, which would make filing for seniors dramatically simpler and quicker.

Lastly, we must repeal Obamacare. When fully implemented, Obamacare will impose a total of around 20 new taxes on families and small businesses. This March I, along with my colleagues in the House helped pass a budget to repeal the law in its entirety, including all regulations, mandates and taxes.

I will continue working hard to reform our broken tax code and make the process easier, cheaper and less confusing for all. We need a tax code that works for everyone.

*U.S. Representative John Fleming, M.D. represents the 4th District of Louisiana.*

**Share  
your  
thoughts!**

Email Letters  
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# MINDEN PRESS-HERALD

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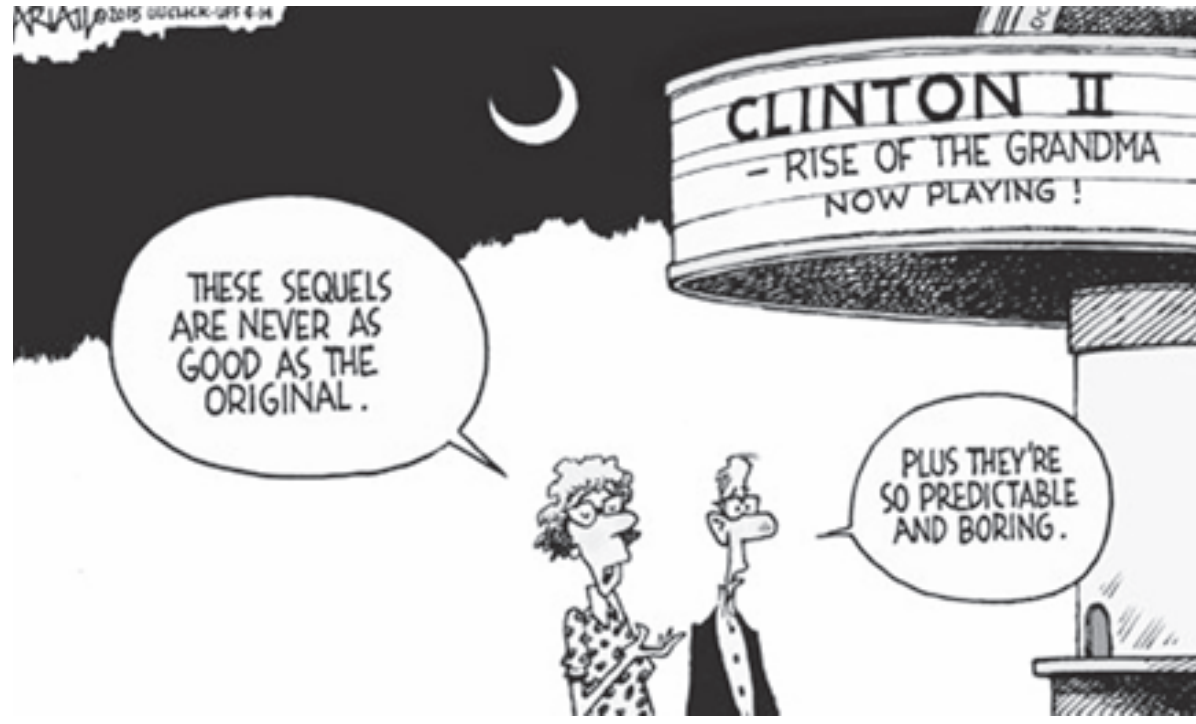
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The Minden Press-Herald is published Monday through Friday afternoon by Specht Newspapers, Inc. at 203 Gleason Street, Minden, Louisiana 71055. Telephone 377-1866. Entered as Periodicals at the Post Office as Minden Press-Herald, P.O. Box 1339, Minden LA 71058-1339. Subscription rate: In-parish home delivery \$11 per month; \$33 per three months; \$66 per six months; \$99 per nine months and \$132 per year. Out-of-parish mail delivery is \$14.50 per month; \$43.50 per three months; \$87 per six months; \$130.50 per nine months and \$174 per year. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Minden Press-Herald, P.O. Box 1339, Minden, LA 71058-1339.



PERSPECTIVE

## 2016 Presidential Candidates Address Inequality (Sort Of)

At last, America's political leaders indicate that they now hear the voices and feel the pain of the poor and of the millions of working families slipping out of the middle class.

Congress had previously paid no attention to the ever-widening chasm between the rich and the rest of us, but that inequality has recently emerged as a top political topic in the race for such Republican presidential contenders as Jeb Bush, Ted Cruz, Rand Paul and Marco Rubio. They are publicly lamenting the wealth gap and — by golly — proposing solutions. Alas, though, the "solution" proposed by each of them is not to provide help for those who've been knocked down, but to offer aid to the same corporate elites who've been enriching themselves by knocking down the middle class and holding down the poor.

Specifically, their solution is to cut taxes on corporations and the rich, do away with environmental and labor protections and cut or privatize government programs — from Head Start to Social Security — that ordinary people count on. For example, Sen. Rubio proposes to kill the food stamp program (even though the need for it is greater than ever) and redirect that money into what he calls a subsidy for low-wage workers. Does he think we have sucker-wrap-pers around our heads? That's not a subsidy for workers, but for low-wage employers. Why should taxpayers subsidize the poverty pay of profitable giants such as McDonald's, rather than

making them pay living wages and cover their own labor costs?

I guess we should count it as progress that Republican candidates are at least having to admit that inequality is a problem, but come on — offering the same old failed, anti-government snake oil is an insult to the American people. Jeb Bush shows how vacuous their flim-flammy is by saying that, to address the ever-widening wealth and income gap, he'll "celebrate success and ...cherish free enterprise." Gosh, what a comfort that'll be to America's hard-hit majority.

It may be futile to hope that the GOP's gaggle of corporate-hugging, right-wing presidential candidates will seriously address the issue of rising inequality in our "Land of Opportunity" — but where are the Democrats?

At present, they're mostly with Hillary Clinton, who has warned that, "extreme inequality has corrupted other societies." Uh ... yes, but what about our society? Clinton says: "We have to have a concerted effort to meet a consensus about how to deal with this."

Huh? That's not an answer, much less a solution — it's a political tap dance around a crucial matter facing America. Why would she dodge a chance

to swing away at a down-the-middle, working-class issue that's right in the wheelhouse of her party's populist strength? After all, recent polls show huge public support for direct government action to reduce the wealth gap, from raising taxes on the superrich to raising the minimum wage above the poverty level.

But there is one tiny constituency whose opinion outweighs all others on this issue: The 1-Percenters. Clinton and other top Democrats are weaker than Canadian hot sauce when it comes to embracing the unequivocating populism that ordinary voters want, because only 13 percent of the superrich think government should take action to redress inequality. These privileged ones tend to blame America's widening inequities on the very people who're losing jobs, income and wealth — claiming that such people should simply improve their work ethic and character.

Why would Democrats care what these few supercilious elites think? Well, because meek Democrats like Clinton have become so dependent on rich people's campaign checks that these Democrats let the 1-percent restrict the party's policies and message, thus alienating the workaday majority.

When both parties kowtow to money, the people's needs are ignored, and politics becomes illegitimate.

*Jim Hightower is a national radio commentator, writer, public speaker and author.*



JIM HIGHTOWER

PERSPECTIVE

## Church house religion

I am not against God or the Bible.

I am opposed to "church house religion."

By that I mean "rote religion."

I define rote religion as going through the form, the ritual, just like we learn our ABC'S.

I believe rote religion turns people away from God.

The Bible teaches "they have a form of Godliness but deny the power thereof."

We can get our religion down to a fine art -- a matter of rituals that we go through over, and over again, while we punch our time cards to assure that we will make it to heaven. We become hardened, not realizing that this is not what it is all about.

Church house religion must make the devil laugh! He must jump for joy because he knows that if he can convince us to believe that they must go to church it will become such a drudgery that it will become a form without the fire that causes Christianity to go forth, to reach the lost and dying, like we actually believe there is a mission behind what we are doing.

We have become deadened without a moral compass.

Nothing is black and white anymore.

Back in the 60's when I was living in the backwoods of Missouri, not far from northern Arkansas, I knew what it meant to go to bed hungry, to not have heat in the house.

But I also knew how it felt to be touched by Christians who really cared, who weren't on a paycheck, who went the distance to check on us two miles out in the woods, to get us to church not expecting anything in return.

Had it not been for this level of Christianity I can only imagine where my sister, Alice, and I would be today.

When I made my decision to step forward as a scared fourteen year old and to be baptized on a cold March night in 1962, it took all of the raw courage that I could muster to take that first step.

Then God stepped in and took over my life.

I knew the Bible was true, that God was real and I do even more strongly today. What I don't believe in is church house religion, the kind that deadens the soul, that hardens the heart from so much meaningless activities of just going to church.

I also know that God doesn't dwell in temples made with hands. I often wonder how many hungry people have to be turned away from the huge churches, that we witness on every hand, because the money has to be spent paying off the building, of maintaining the grounds.

Just maintaining.

I think many people are nauseated by this type of Christianity and that this is why there is a movement towards "house churches" where the members meet in each other's homes on Sunday.

Even the Duggar family, from the television show, Nineteen Kids and Counting, meet in the member's homes around Rogers, Arkansas.

There is a hunger to go back to simpler times. We can do that one person at a time by caring.

Again God does not dwell in temples made with hands but within us, His believers.

(I know that Jesus is still the same yesterday, today and forever and that He gets me to the right place at the right time.)

*Sarah Hudson Pierce is a syndicated columnist in Shreveport, Louisiana.*



SARAH HUDSON PIERCE

## Around Town

### WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

## Boating Education Lagniappe Day

The Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (LDWF) will be hosting the fifth annual "Boating Education Lagniappe Day" on May 2.

During Boating Education Lagniappe Day, LDWF will provide instructors for the National Association of State Boating Law Administrators (NASBLA) boating education course, NASBLA boating education certification, food and drinks, giveaways and door prizes all free of charge to the public.

LDWF urges the public to register quickly as most places have limited spaces available and registration is on a first come first serve basis.

Louisiana law requires anyone born after January 1, 1984 must complete a NASBLA approved boating education course and carry proof of the completion to operate

a motorboat in excess of 10 horsepower.

The course includes information on choosing a boat, classification, hulls, motors, legal requirements and equipment requirements. The course also covers many navigation rules and charts, trailering, sailboats, canoeing, personal watercraft and more. Completion of the course will result in the student being issued a vessel operators certification card.

The class will be held at LDWF Region 1 Office, 9961 Hwy. 80, Minden from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. To register contact 371-3049.

Sponsors include the Louisiana Wildlife Agents Association, Bass Pro Shops, Bayou Outdoors, Time It Lube and Brown Service Center.

### Saturday, April 18

The Evergreen Memorial Cemetery Association will convene for its annual meeting at 11:30 a.m. at Givens Hall at Evergreen Union Church. Bring a covered dish and enjoy a buffet meal at noon. This provides the perfect opportunity to address any concerns about the cemetery and to add any spring flowers to loved ones' graves.

Creighton Hill Community Development Corporation will sponsor classes to inform the community of how to "own a house with no money down" and about "grants available for home owners older than 62 years of age." Topics include budgeting, credit, banking, home ownership, effective ways of saving, breaking free of pay day loans and how a homeowner older than 62 years of age can get grants for home repairs. Facilitators are Tamekia Farley and Willie Roberson. Cost is free. For more information and registration contact Willie Roberson at 318-834-3698, Sandra Scott at 318-949-5768 or email chcdc101@yahoo.com.

### Sunday, April 19

Annual choir anniversary program at 3 p.m. at Union Grove Baptist Church. Special guest is Springfield Baptist Church of Mt. Lebanon. Other guests will be soloists and choirs from the surrounding area.

Lakeview Preschool plate lunch fundraiser from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m. Plates will include Hugh Woods pork chop dinner with pork chops, au gratin potatoes, dirty rice, roll and a dessert. Plates are \$10 each, carry out only. For tickets call 377-1226 or 377-1302 before noon.

St. John Divine Baptist Church will celebrate Minister Herbert L. Rhone and his wife's 10th anniversary at 3 p.m. at 517 Lake Road in Sibley. Come and share this special occasion with guest speaker Minister Rodney Williams, pastor of King Solomon Baptist Church in Sibley. The theme will be "Don't give out, don't give in, don't give up," Galatians 6:9.

Mt. Olive Baptist Church will have an installation service for Rev. Roy Glenn Edwards at 2:30 p.m. Special guest and presiding minister will be Rev. Asby Glosson of New Light Baptist Church.

Bright Star Baptist Church will have its annual Deacon and Deaconess Program at 2:30 p.m. Special guest will be Rev. Dwayne Redman and Egypt Hill Baptist Church of Plain Dealing.

Greater St. Paul Baptist Church will celebrate its fourth Pastor's Appreciation at 3 p.m. Lunch will be served. All are invited.

### EDUCATION

## Pre-K Registration

Webster Parish Schools will begin pre-kindergarten registration (Pre-K roundup) for the 2015-2016 school year on April 17 from 8 a.m. until 2 p.m. Contact the school closest to your residence for more information.

Pre-K locations: Browning Elementary, Central Elementary, Northwest Lower Elementary, Webster Pre-K at Phillips and Doyline High School.

All students who will be four years of age by September 30 are eligible to register.

All parents or guardians wishing to register a student for pre-kindergarten classes must bring the following documentation when completing an application:

- Child's original birth certificate
- Child's social security card
- Child's most up-to-date immunization record,
- Parent's or guardian's proof of income, and proof of residence.
- Copies of the documents will be made at the school.

### UCAP needs:

**Food:** canned beef stew, canned fruit, rice, spam, sugar (1-2 lb. bags or boxes)

**Household Items:** dishes and king and queen sheets  
**Clothing:** boy's shirts - size 2, men's work boots - all sizes, men's shorts - all sizes, men's pants - 32 waist

Donations may be made at 204 Miller Street between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. Monday, Wednesday and Friday or call 377-6804.

**Celebrate your wedding, engagement, or anniversary with Webster Parish!**

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**SPORTS**  
*briefs*

**COLLEGE BB**  
**LSU pummels**  
**Lamar, 11-2**

BATON ROUGE (AP) - Top-ranked LSU scored six runs in the first inning for the second straight game as the Tigers defeated Lamar, 11-2, Wednesday evening at Alex Box Stadium, Skip Bertman Field.

The Tigers improved to 32-6 after a strong start on both offense and defense. Lamar dropped to 17-19 on the year.

LSU senior left-hander Kyle Bouman produced his longest outing of the year at five innings to move to 1-1 on the year. Bouman allowed just one run on five hits and struck out three batters.

Lamar's Billy Love (0-1) was charged with the loss. Love walked two and gave up five runs on three hits.

"Kyle pitched very well tonight, and he's been getting better each time out," said LSU coach Paul Mainieri. "He's been working himself into a rhythm as a midweek starter, and he gave us a very strong outing tonight."

**NHL PLAYOFFS**  
**Blackhawks top**  
**Predators in 2OT**

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) - The Chicago Blackhawks could not have started worse giving up three goals on the first 12 shots, forcing coach Joel Quenneville to yank goalie Corey Crawford.

Scott Darling came off the bench and made his postseason debut a game to remember.

Darling stopped all 42 shots he faced, and Duncan Keith scored at 7:49 of double overtime helping the Chicago Blackhawks rally and beat the Nashville Predators 4-3 Wednesday night.

"It was a great opportunity for him, and he seized the moment ..." Quenneville said of Darling. "That was one of the greatest relief performances you're going to see."

The Blackhawks finished only two points back of Nashville in the Central Division, and they grabbed home-ice advantage back despite benching Crawford after the first period. Darling had played only 14 NHL games, but he stopped every subsequent shot as Nashville took 54 - a franchise record for the playoffs.

Not bad for someone who split this season between Chicago and Rockford in the American Hockey League. But Darling went 9-4-0 during the season, and he posted a 1.95 goals against average.

"You just kind of get thrown into it," Darling said. "It was exciting and nerve-wracking, but once I got going, I felt good."

Keith ended the game with his one-timer from the blue line. Jonathan Toews had a goal and an assist, and Niklas Hjalmarsson, Patrick Sharp and Jonathan Toews each scored for Chicago. Patrick Kane also had two assists in his return after missing 21 games with a broken collarbone.

**HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL**

**TIDE TOP GRIFFINS, 7-5**



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

STONEWALL - The Minden Crimson Tide took their show on the road for a district game with North DeSoto.

The Griffins entered the contest tied for first in district 1-4A, but the Crimson Tide would be the victors on this day, as they road their hot bats and the hot hand of Austin Keough to a 7-5 win.

Crimson Tide head coach Dean Francis said he was pleased with the way his team swung the bats.

"We had some timely hits," Francis said. "The kids did well, they were ready to play and we finally got some breaks."

Minden High totaled eight hits off North DeSoto pitching and also benefited from four errors made by

the Griffins.

On the mound, Austin Keough was sharp in earning the win, turning a solid outing before handing the game over to Trace Francis who earned the save.

"Austin did well," Francis said. "They have about five lefties in their batting order and early in the game he had them off stride and was throwing strikes."

Francis entered the game with the Tide in trouble, as North DeSoto had the bases loaded in the fifth inning.

"Trace came in with the bases loaded and got us out of the inning giving up just one run," Francis said. "Both pitchers did well and threw strikes."

As clutch as he was on the mound, Francis was just as good at the plate, going 2-4 with two singles and a RBI to lead the Tide offense.

Gavin Smith went 2-3 with two singles and a RBI, Austin Keough went 1-3 with a double and a RBI and Peyton Gray, Matt Eskew and Jordan Lyday all added singles to help the cause.



Press-Herald Photo/Blake Branch

The win keeps Minden in good playoff position, but with more road games coming up against Loyola and Northwood, this is no time to get comfortable.

"It's tough anytime you're on the road trying to

win a game," Francis said. "North DeSoto was playing for a chance at a district title tonight, so they were in the same boat as us."

"It's just the way the schedule fell. It was a luxury to be at home earlier, but

now we got to hit the road and wherever we fall in the playoffs we're going to have to be on the road anyway."

The Tide will play at Loyola Thursday, April 16, with first pitch set for 6 p.m.

**HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL**

**Cavaliers complete comeback to defeat Warriors, 7-5**



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

SHREVEPORT - The last time Lakeside and Calvary Baptist got together it was in Sibley about three weeks ago.

In that game the Warriors played some of their best baseball of the year, shutting out the Cavaliers on their way to a convincing 8-0 victory.

This time around, the top two teams in district 1-2A went toe-to-toe, with the Cavaliers scoring four runs in the bottom of the sixth inning to complete a comeback effort that gave them a 7-5 win on their home field.

Lakeside struck first in this battle of contenders, putting up one run in the top of the first, when Logan

Clark came around to score following a base hit by Josh Prince.

Thomas Lambert made it 2-0 in the top of the second when he singled to left field, then advanced to second on a sacrifice bunt, moved to third on a past ball and finally scored on a wild pitch.

After Calvary scored four in the second, both teams were quiet in the third and fourth inning. Then, in the fifth, Lakeside scored two more runs.

Prince then singled in two runs to tie the game at

4-4 in the fifth.

Thomas Lambert would single and come around to score in the sixth to give the Warriors a 5-4 lead.

In the bottom of the sixth, Calvary showed their grit, striking for three runs thanks to a pair of RBI doubles and a fielder's choice.

Lakeside went quietly in the seventh and the game was over.

With the loss, the Warriors' record moves to 13-8 overall and 6-1 in district.

Josh Prince led Lakeside, going 2-4 with

two singles and 2 RBI.

Cameron Gray pitched well but took the loss, giving up nine hits and four earned runs while striking out three.

"We had a little misfortune and made a couple of mistakes," head coach Bob Gray said. "The guys never quit, we kept swinging the bats and doing the things we needed to do to beat Calvary, but Calvary played well. Hopefully this doesn't end out season. I hope we'll rise up from this and be a better baseball team."

**HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL**

**Panthers fall to Bobcats, 4-3**



The Doyline Panthers suffered a 4-3 loss to the visiting Saline Bobcats Tuesday. The Panthers only managed three hits, but starting pitcher Cameron Smith was outstanding, striking out 14 batters on the mound. Doyline will play at home Tuesday, April 21, when they welcome in the Dodson Panthers. Press-Herald Photo/Blake Branch

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**ATHLETE OF THE WEEK**



Congratulations to Glenbrook's Colt Wilson. He is this week's MPH/Holcomb's Athlete of the Week after going 3-4 with two singles, a double and 4 RBI in a win over Claiborne Academy.

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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Minden Pediatrics

A warm and caring community with small town southern hospitality are a couple of reasons why Dr. Michael Ulich and Minden Pediatrics enjoy serving the Minden area.

“We enjoys that everone here knows your name,” Minden Pediatrics spokesperson Cindy McCann said. “When you call a business in town, you get a real person on the other end.”

Minden Pediatrics was established in 2006 and provides the Minden area with mediactal care for the children of teh area.

“We provide great local pedi-atrict care with conveyet office hours for working parents,” McCann said. “We enjoy the

patient/parent interaction we want to increase the availablity of providers and mediactal to the surrounding community.”

Minden Pediatrics has added a new nurse practioner (Lekidna Brown) in the past year, and have a Saturday clinic.

“I want to thank you for all the well wishes during my illness,” Minden Pediatrics’ Dr. Michael Ulich said. “It’s just another example of the small town caring and hospitality that we love.”

Minden Pediatrics is open 8 a.m. until 8 p.m. Monday through Friday.

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THE UPWARD LOOK

# The Shepherd's Crown



**MAX HUTTO**

*"And when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the unfading crown of glory." 1 Peter 5:4 NASB*

Peter describes Jesus as the Chief Shepherd. All of God's flock, including the shepherd leaders, are under His care and leadership. The pastors are

shepherds but also servants under the authority and lordship of Christ, the Chief Shepherd. When Christ returns, He will reward His servants with crowns. The word translated "crown" is not the royal kingly crown but is the laurel leaf crown given to

the victorious athlete. Yet, unlike the leafy crown that withers, fades, and crumbles into dust, this crown will not fade away. The faithful pastor shepherds will receive a reward of glory for their service.

Lord Jesus, I desire to faith-

fully serve You. Guide me this day to live in a way that I will receive the crown of glory.

*Max Hutto is a Baptist Minister and a resident of Minden. More information can be found at [www.upward-look.org](http://www.upward-look.org).*

# Police: Texas woman helped starve boy to rid him of 'demon'

DALLAS — A woman who operated a church at her suburban Dallas home has been arrested for allegedly helping starve a 2-year-old boy to rid him of a "demon," then holding a resurrection ceremony shortly after he died to try to revive him, investigators said Tuesday.

Police believe the boy was dead during the ceremony but that his parents took his body to their native Mexico for burial without reporting the death, said Balch Springs police Lt. Mark Maret. He said an anonymous tip about the ceremony at Araceli Meza's home, where several other church

members also lived, led to the investigation. He noted that more arrests are likely.

Meza was charged Monday with injury to a child causing serious bodily injury by omission. The 49-year-old was being held on \$100,000 bond at the local jail, where records didn't list an attorney. No one answered the door Tuesday at her home in Balch Springs, about 15 miles east of Dallas, and phone calls to the home went unanswered.

Witnesses told police that Meza and the boy's parents believed he had a "demon" inside him, and that fasting was the way to save him.

"They didn't give the child any food for about 25 days," Maret said. "They just gave him some water, which ultimately caused the child to die."

Church member Nazareth Zurita said she saw the child "looking frail and weak" the day before the resurrection ceremony, according to a police affidavit. She said the toddler fell and hit his head several times, but she hesitated to help him "due to his demon possession."

Zurita said the next time she saw the child was the next day being held by church leader Daniel Meza, who was trying to revive the boy through a

miracle during the ritual. Zurita said "it took her a while to figure out" the child was dead, according to the affidavit.

Investigators believe the boy died on March 21 or early the next day, and that the ceremony was held March 22 at Meza's home.

"Apparently... they had a ceremony called 'the rising,' trying to resurrect the child back to life," Maret said.

Police went to the home to check on the boy, whose name was not released, and discovered his parents had returned to Mexico.

Another church member, Delia Guadalupe Oyervides Herrera, told

police she tried several times to feed the child during the 25-day fast, "but was scolded by the pastors of the church," according to the affidavit. She asked the child's mother why she would allow her child to be starved and was "advised that it was God's will."

Meza wasn't affiliated with any traditional religion but held regular services at her home with her husband, Maret said.

Zurita said Meza "was considered a prophet" who "would advise to the other members of the church what God has spoken to her." Zurita identified herself as the secretary and

third-ranking officer of the Iglesia Internacional Jesus es el Rey, and said Meza's husband was the church's leader and Meza was its second-ranking officer.

Julia Contreras lives three doors down from the residential church. She said the street was full of cars every Sunday.

"It would be packed with cars every Wednesday, sometimes Saturday and mainly on Sunday," she said. Cars would be parked in the front yard of the vacant house next to the Mezas' house and on a grassy slope on an adjoining street, she said.

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That's the percentage of Louisiana adults that say their local newspaper provides them *the most information* on events and activities in their community.

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**Luke 18:1**

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# The Excitement of a Challenge

I was recently involved in a situation at work where we were given some potentially bad news: there was serious concern over whether the school where I teach would stay open. While there was initially much expression of concern, the mood soon turned positive, and I detected beneath the surface even a hint of excitement. It reminded me a bit of what happens when there is a snow day and we all get the day off. But, that clearly wasn't it, for almost everybody had some concern over the possibility of losing their job. I think what was getting everyone excited was the prospect of a challenge. While not wanting to minimize the human suffering which is caused by natural or manmade disasters, there is something in us that loves a challenge, and especially one where we are called on to help our fellow man. So, the next time you are faced with a challenge, rise to the occasion and look on the bright side: facing and overcoming this challenge just might make you a better person.



*Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.*

*Psalm 23:4*

- Christopher Simon

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|--|--|---|---|

# Percy Sledge, who sang 'When a Man Loves a Woman,' dies

NEW ORLEANS — Percy Sledge, who soared from part-time singer and hospital orderly to lasting fame with his aching, forlorn performance on the classic "When a Man Loves a Woman," died Tuesday in Louisiana. He was 74.

His family said in a statement released through his manager, Mark Lyman, that he died "peacefully" at his home in Baton Rouge after a yearlong struggle with cancer. The cause of death was liver failure, Lyman said.

A No. 1 hit in 1966, "When a Man Loves a Woman" was Sledge's debut single, an almost unbearably heartfelt ballad with a resonance he never approached again. Few singers could have. Its mood set by a mournful organ and dirge-like tempo, "When a Man Loves a Woman" was for many the definitive soul ballad, a testament of blinding, all-consuming love haunted by fear and graced by overwhelming emotion.

The song was a personal triumph for Sledge, who seemed on the verge of sobbing throughout the production, and a breakthrough for Southern soul. It was the first No. 1 hit from Alabama's burgeoning Muscle Shoals music scene, where Aretha Franklin and the Rolling Stones among others would record, and the first gold record for Atlantic Records.

Atlantic Records executive Jerry Wexler later called the song "a tran-

scendent moment" and "a holy love hymn." Sledge's hit became a standard that sustained his long touring career in the U.S., Europe and South Africa and led to his induction into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 2005. It was a favorite at weddings — Sledge himself did the honors at a ceremony for musician and actor Steve Van Zandt — and often turned up in movies, including "The Big Chill," "The Crying Game" and a 1994 Meg Ryan drama named for the song's title.

"When a Man Loves a Woman" was re-released after being featured in Oliver Stone's Vietnam War film "Platoon" in 1987 and reached No. 2 in Britain. Michael Bolton topped the charts in the 1990s with a cover version and Rolling Stone magazine later ranked it No. 53 on its list of the greatest songs of all time.

Recognizable by his wide, gap-toothed smile, Sledge had a handful of other hits between 1966 and 1968, including "Warm and Tender Love," "It Tears Me Up," "Out of Left Field" and "Take Time to Know Her." He returned to the charts in 1974 with "I'll Be Your Everything."

David Hood, a 71-year-old member of the legendary "Swampers," a studio group from Muscle Shoals, recorded with Sledge on his follow-up song to "When a Man Loves a Woman." Hood said he owed his career to Sledge and described him as the "nicest person you'd ever want to meet."

Before he became

famous, Sledge worked in the cotton fields around his hometown of Leighton in northwest Alabama and took a job in a hospital in nearby Sheffield. He also spent weekends playing with a rhythm-and-blues band called the Esquires. A hospital patient heard him singing while working and recommended him to record producer Quin Ivy.

In the 2013 documentary "Muscle Shoals," Sledge recalled recording the song: "When I came into the studio, I was shaking like a leaf. I was scared." He added that it was the "same melody that I sang when I was out in the fields. I just wailed out in the woods and let the echo come back to me."

Sledge said the song was inspired by a girlfriend who left him for a modeling career after he was laid off from a construction job in 1965. But in a decision that likely cost him a fortune, he gave the songwriting credits to two Esquires bandmates, bassist Calvin Lewis and organist Andrew Wright, who helped him with it.

While identified with Muscle Shoals, Sledge lived for most of his career in Baton Rouge. He was

inducted into the Alabama Music Hall of Fame in 1993 and the Louisiana Music Hall of Fame in 2007.

In April 1994, Sledge pleaded guilty in federal court to tax evasion involving income from concerts in the late 1980s. He was sentenced to six months in a halfway house, given five years of probation, and ordered to pay \$96,000 in back taxes and fines.

Sledge had surgery for liver cancer in

January 2014 but soon resumed touring.

Fellow musicians gathered in Florence, Alabama, later that year for a concert to raise money for Sledge's health care. The performance closed with Sledge joining in on his famous song.

"He didn't get to sing but one line," recalled David

Johnson, a producer on some of Sledge's recordings and an organizer of the benefit. Johnson said another R&B star, Eddie Floyd, sang most of the song but handed the microphone to a frail Sledge.

His family's statement said he would have been 75 in November.

He is survived by his wife and 12 children, Lyman said.



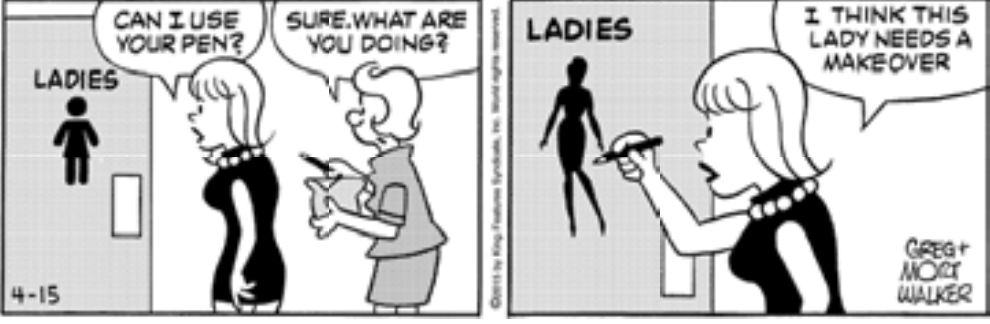
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#### JOB ANNOUNCEMENT Head Start Pre-School Program

Webster Parish Community Services has an immediate opening for a Family Service Specialist in the Head Start Administrative Office. Job applications are available at the Head Start Administrative Office located at 111 Murrell Street in Minden. Qualified applicants should submit a job application along with resume, diplomas or certificates and three letters of referral (must include previous employer). Minimum Qualifications: A. A. in social work or related field. Experience in human services program management. Relevant experience working with disadvantaged children and families. Experience working with information systems, word document and excel. Experience coordinating and hosting workshops and meeting. Pre-employment physical, background check and drug testing mandatory. **EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER/PROGRAM** Apply by: April 17, 2015

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### PUBLIC NOTIFICATION OF NON-COMPLIANCE TIER 3 (MONITORING) BACTERIOLOGICAL VIOLATION FEBRUARY 2015 CENTRAL WATER SYSTEM

We are required to monitor your water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not your drinking water meets health standards.

During the reporting period of February 01, 2015 through February 28, 2015, the Central

### Water System

did not complete all monitoring or testing for coliform bacteria as set forth in the State and Federal Primary Drinking Water Regulations [Part XII of the Louisiana State Sanitary Code (LAC 51:XII)]. Therefore, the Central Water System cannot be sure of the quality of your drinking water during that time.

### This violation occurred because of the failure to collect the required samples for chlorine residual from the water distribution system.

Necessary action has been taken to prevent this violation from recurring.

### What does this mean? This is not an emergency.

There is nothing you need to do at this time. As our customer, you have

### The following actions have been taken to correct this issue:

The water samples were turned in on 28 February and there was a problem with the chlorine content being too high so the lab could not properly evaluate the sample. It was also the end of the testing cycle and time did not permit collection of another sample prior to the end of February. The net result was that water samples could not be evaluated for February 2015.

### Water samples are now required to be collected and turned in by the 20th of each month to preclude further occurrence of such incident.

Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.

### This notice is being sent to you by the Central Water System, LA 1119003. If you have questions about this notice please contact Samuel Mims, Vice President at 318 382 9556.

April 16, 2015  
Minden Press-Herald

### PUBLIC NOTICE

Minden Planning Commission Meeting  
May 7, 2015 - 10:00 a.m.

### Pelican Conference Room - Minden City Hall

On the agenda is a request from Creighton Hill Community Development for a zoning change on property owned by them located at the corner of W. R. Reeder Street & Bayou Avenue. The zoning change being requested is from R-3 (Single Family Residential) to RP (Single Family Residential Patio Homes).

The purpose of this zoning change is for the proposed construction of five (5) new homes as Phase I of a housing development.

Legal Description: LOT #7, WEST SIDE ADDN. (BEING DESC.

### PREV. SOLD & E/2 OF LOT #8, WESTON ADDN. (PARCEL #114514)

All interested parties will be given a chance to be heard.

To be advertised in the legal section of the official journal on April 16, April 23, and April 30, 2015.

\*\*\*NOTE: THIS ITEM WASTABLED AT THE APRIL 9, 2015, MINDEN PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING\*\*\*

April 16 & 23 & 30, 2015  
Minden Press-Herald

### PUBLIC NOTICE

Minden Planning Commission Meeting  
May 7, 2015 - 10:00 a.m.

### Pelican Conference Room - Minden City Hall

On the agenda is a request from Angelina Martin Steward for a zoning variance on property owned by her located at the municipal address of 500 Joel Street. This property is zoned R-3 (Single Family Residential).

The purpose of this zoning variance is to place a 2015 year model mobile home on the property to be used as a residence by a family member. Mobile homes are allowed in an R-3 District but a variance is needed because there is already one residence on the property.

Legal Description: LOT 70 X 372.5 X 370.7 X ? FT. IN NW/4 OF SE/4 SEC. 27-19-9

All interested parties will be given a chance to be heard.

April 16 & 23 & 30, 2015  
Minden Press-Herald

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Minden Planning Commission Meeting  
May 7, 2015 - 10:00 a.m.

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The purpose of this zoning change is for the proposed construction of five (5) new homes as Phase I of a housing development.

Legal Description: LOT #7, LESS 50 X 100 FT.

### AS A LOT FRONTING 100.8 FT. ON MINDEN-SHREVEPORT RD. X 118.3 X 80 X 167 FT. IN SW/4 OF NE/4 SEC. 28-19-9) & 15 FT. STRIP ADJ. IN SW/4 OF NE/4 SEC. 28-19-9 (FORMERLY AN ALLEY)

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S D K D J B H J M J D N T J  
UCDLTOKDUG FGJL S QKRJ QH  
FCDBZ-VKQCNT WDKMH. S VSLZ

SO FKII OCC OGSURJLSLW.  
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: TWO COWS WEARING LOOSE, BRIGHTLY COLORED HAWAIIAN DRESSES COULD BE HEARD CRYING "MUU MUU!"

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: S equals I

### CROSSWORD

- |                                 |                                 |                                 |                             |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| <b>ACROSS</b>                   | <b>35</b> Puzzle                | <b>57</b> See 24-               | <b>19</b> Yours             |
| <b>1</b> Mid-May honorees       | <b>38</b> Formerly, formerly    | <b>58</b> Other-wise            | <b>21</b> Work unit         |
| <b>5</b> Ref                    | <b>39</b> What-ever amount      | <b>DOWN</b>                     | <b>24</b> Sphere            |
| <b>8</b> Unadul-terated         | <b>40</b> Hostel                | <b>1</b> Carte                  | <b>25</b> Compete           |
| <b>12</b> Grand story           | <b>42</b> "Family Feud" prelim  | <b>2</b> October stone          | <b>26</b> In the ascen-dant |
| <b>13</b> D.C. type             | <b>45</b> Torrential rain-storm | <b>3</b> Atomizer output        | <b>28</b> Enzyme suffix     |
| <b>14</b> Mimicked              | <b>49</b> Destroy               | <b>4</b> Division               | <b>29</b> Riot              |
| <b>15</b> Crosby, Stills & —    | <b>50</b> Sapporo sash          | <b>5</b> Posted to YouTube      | <b>30</b> Type squares      |
| <b>16</b> Ferrigno or Costello  | <b>52</b> Suitor                | <b>6</b> Cattle call?           | <b>31</b> Same old same-old |
| <b>17</b> Second-hand           | <b>53</b> Dairy product         | <b>7</b> Advertise              | <b>36</b> Bring about       |
| <b>18</b> Occur-ring last month | <b>54</b> Relatives             | <b>8</b> Potbelly               | <b>37</b> Caustic solution  |
| <b>20</b> With tender-ness      | <b>55</b> Reply to "Shall we?"  | <b>9</b> Buffalo resident, e.g. | <b>38</b> Allow to happen   |
| <b>22</b> Vast expanse          | <b>56</b> Eyelid woe            | <b>10</b> Fishing rod accessory | <b>41</b> 007's doctor foe  |
| <b>23</b> Nipper's co.          |                                 | <b>11</b> Whirlpool             | <b>42</b> Totals            |

Solution time: 24 mins.

C	A	M	P	C	A	P	A	S	A	P	
A	M	I	R	U	G	O	D	I	C	E	
S	J	M	O	L	E	O	N	A	M	M	O
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				I	D	E	A	U	S	E	
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B	A	M	A	N	T	I	G	R	A	Y	
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K	E	Y	S	A	N	T	A	W	R	Y	

Yesterday's answer 4-16

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
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56				57				58			

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# Mitchell: We want your ideas to make Webster schools better

## HARPER

Continued from page 1

Schools Dr. Dan Rawls. Before the meeting, he handed out a plat sheet showing the property owned by the school board at the Harper site. On that plat, some 30 acres of land behind the school is unused. If a new school was built, though, the new one would be on the service road next to interstate.

Board member Frankie Mitchell made a plea to the public, asking for their ideas, but she made it clear that she wanted the public

to be a part of the decision. "We're trying," she said. "We've made some mistakes, but if you have any ideas that you want to share with us that we can see that we can make Webster Parish a better system, we want to listen to you too. Maybe we don't know all the answers, and we don't. We're looking at dollar bills and actually being almost broken because of demands placed on (the) Webster Parish School Board in terms of insurance, in terms of everything that's mandated but not funded."

Just about the time the meeting hit a stalemate,

Nelia Ferguson, a teacher at E.S. Richardson Elementary School, threw out the idea of putting the kindergarten and first grade students at J.A. Phillips Middle School and moving sixth graders to either Webster Junior High School or to the Harper site.

"You would have the option to have about 20 classrooms," Ferguson said. "The bathrooms are up to date. It already has a wheelchair lift, because you have to accommodate special needs children. You have a gym for holding little people. Everything is just so smooth. It's a lovely campus."

Ferguson says the site is better idea for little ones and it still meets the regulations for children so young. She explained many of the classrooms have more than one exit and the building is broken into quads with a certain number of classrooms in each quad. With the space the school has, she says more classroom space could be added if needed.

It also puts the kindergarten and first grade students with the pre-K students.

No matter what grade would end up at Harper, the issues remain the same – restroom facilities are

inadequate with too few to handle the number of children at the school each day and other logistics.

Technology needs are another issue. Phillips is equipped with the technology to meet the needs of the sixth grade class, but Harper is not. Richardson's technology needs are also further along than Harper's, Rawls says.

Some of the other ideas discussed have been renovating the old technical school and housing the kindergarten and first grade students there until Harper can be renovated. Another idea was to switch the fourth and fifth grade

students and the Harper students. It would correct issues with the fire marshal, but it would put the Richardson students in the same situation facing the Harper students now, Rawls says.

Another idea was to disburse the students among the other schools until Harper can be renovated.

Mitchell says a decision will not happen overnight. It will take the community and the board working together to find the best possible solution.

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If you submit a claim form and all required information and meet the formulas as approved by the Courts, you qualify for an award.

Not every claim filed will be eligible, but you have the right to file and find out.

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