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April 7, 2015 | 50 Cents

TUESDAY**INSIDE
today**Louisiana seeing
more high school
graduates**NEWS PG.2**

WEBSTER CRIME

YCP officer arrested for cruelty

Suspect charged with 3 counts of cruelty, 37 counts of improper supervision of a juvenile

MICHELLE BATES
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An incident involving the alleged physical abuse of a 16-year-old male cadet at the Youth Challenge Program at Camp

Minden led to the arrest of his supervisor.

Charles Henry Denson III, 37, of the 3200 block of Knight St. in Shreveport, was arrested Thursday, April 2, and charged with three counts of cruelty to a juvenile and 37 counts of

improper supervision of a juvenile by a legal custodian.

Officials say he is still incarcerated at Bayou Dorcheat Correctional Center on a bond of \$100,000.

Webster Parish Sheriff

Gary Sexton says the military called their office and asked them to look into the incident. According to reports, Denson was arrested after he admitted to "slapping a cadet in the chest twice."

"He also forced a fellow cadet to participate in the physical abuse of the victim, a cadet under the supervision of Mr. Denson," according to the report.

"My understanding is this guy got out of hand with a cadet," Sexton said. "We were called directly by the military and asked to handle the situation. That's exactly what we did."

**DENSON**See **CRUELTY**, Page 2

MINDEN CRIME

Woman arrested, accused of stealing car

Police say car taken from apartment complex

BONNIE CULVERHOUSE
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A report filed in February by the owner of a missing vehicle prompted a warrant resulting in the arrest of a 27-year-old Minden woman for allegedly stealing a car.

Minden Police Chief Steve Cropper says Ashley Norman was arrested by police for unauthorized use of a motor vehicle.

"A resident at Lamplighter Apartments reported the vehicle missing, after she had last seen it outside her apartment," Cropper said. "She contacted her roommate to see if she knew where it was, and the roommate indicated she thought Ashley Norman had taken her car."

The roommate reportedly knew the location of the vehicle and told the owner.

"The owner went to the trailer park on Timothy Drive to get her vehicle and made contact with Ms. Norman," Cropper said. "They got into a verbal altercation, and the owner called police."

The chief says the owner allowed Norman to retrieve her personal belongings from the vehicle before coming to the police department. At that point, Norman reportedly left the scene, and an arrest warrant was obtained.

She was taken into custody April 2, booked at the Minden Police Department and transported to Bayou Dorcheat Correctional Center.

"We think she left town for a while," Cropper said. "Officers couldn't locate her during that time and only ran across her last week."

**NORMAN**

Terry Stephens stands at Monday's Minden City Council meeting after city council members unanimously voted to add him to the police force.
Bruce Franklin/Press-Herald

Minden police add to the ranks

BONNIE CULVERHOUSE
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Minden's newest police officer, Terry Nolan Stephens, was scheduled to report for duty at 8 a.m. today, Chief Steve Cropper told the Minden City Council during Monday's meeting.

"Terry has a lot of correctional history and background," Cropper said. "He has a lot of street experience and is a POST-certified officer."

Stephens, who was unani-

mously approved by the council, brings the roster to 31 officers with three openings. Cropper says the other 30 members of the force recently POST-recertified.

"Every Minden police officer on the force, with the exception of one that was on vacation, completed their yearly POST-recertification with their firearms at the Bienville Parish firing range last week," the chief added. "Officer Jeremy Sitter completed a 16-hour training session on concealment detection in Baton Rouge, and all of our officers have been

COURT WATCH

Explo execs due in court June 1

William Wright to go before judge in August

MICHELLE BATES
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Due to an "upset" in the dockets, court dates for three Explo Systems Inc., employees have been moved.

Court has been set for June 1 for Explo owners David Fincher, 65, of Burns, Tennessee, and David Smith, 57, of Winchester, Kentucky. Their cases will be heard together by 26th Judicial District Judge Mike Craig.

The case for William Terry Wright, 59, of Bossier City, will be heard August 3. His case is set to be heard by 26th Judicial District Judge Mike Nerren.

District Attorney Schuyler Marvin says three court dates were possible with the judges' schedule, but two of the three attorneys for the above named defendants could not attend Monday, April 6.

The April 6 court date was widely reported by media to be the date the two judges would hear the cases, but Marvin says the dates were moved to later in the year.

"We picked another date," he said. "We're trying to pick

**FINCHER****SMITH****WRIGHT**See **COUNCIL** • Page 2See **EXPLO**, Page 3

Just 4 Girls

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Tuesday, April 28th
Webster Parish Library - Meeting Room
5:30-6:30 - Ages 9-12, 7:00-8:00 - Ages 13-18



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SECOND FRONT

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EDUCATION

Louisiana seeing more high school graduates

CAIN BURDEAU
Associated Press

NEW ORLEANS — The state's education superintendent says the number of high school graduates

increased in 2014, the fourth straight year of improving numbers, and he warned against efforts to overhaul Louisiana's testing and school accountability system. The state released graduation rates on Monday for

2014 and the numbers were positive. In 2014, 74.6 percent of students graduated on time, up 1.1 percent from a year before. Nationally, about 80 percent of students graduated in four years. State schools Superintendent

John White says the continued improvements demonstrate that the state's public education system now in place in Louisiana is working well. In a teleconference with reporters, White urged law-

makers to not overhaul education standards. Lawmakers are considering a plan to scrap the Common Core standards and replace them with a new system.



WHITE



Mayor Tommy Davis, left, District C Councilman Vicen Bradford and District D Councilman Mike Toland listen at Monday's city council meeting. Members of the council voted to hire a police officer, discussed condemned property and agreed to sell a fire engine to the city of Homer. Bruce Franklin/Press-Herald

COUNCIL

Continued from page 1

doing their annual ethics training."

In his monthly court report, Cropper said paid fines totaled \$3,320, a drop from past months that usually average between \$10,000 and \$11,000.

"City court only met once during the month of March," Cropper said. "That's why that number is so low."

Grant funds are on the rise, however. Cropper said he was recently notified by ConocoPhillips that his department will receive a grant totaling between \$5,000 and \$6,000 that will help them purchase additional 700 MHz radios.

"These radios are very

expensive, about \$1,600 each," Cropper said.

The department also applied for and expects to receive grant funds through the Louisiana Highway Safety Commission for overtime pay for officers during the Click It or Ticket safety belt campaign, as well as Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over.

"Those two grants together, which I feel confident we will get because we've gotten them in the past, will total \$10,000," he said. "There is an additional grant that came along with this in reference to pick-up truck drivers and seat belts that's another \$2,500, and we are probably going to get that."

Mayor Tommy Davis says the police department is close to purchasing body cameras for their officers,

thanks to a campaign launched by Minden businessman Jack Byrd.

"Mr. Byrd has assured me that we will be able to get that money and, in fact, a little bit more than we thought we were going to get," Davis said. "We may be able to buy more cameras than we anticipated."

In other business, members of the Minden City Council approved unanimously to demolish any structures located at 110 Camp Street and delayed a decision on property at 201 Cox Lane, both in District C.

They also agreed to sell a 1979 Mack platform aerial fire truck with 65 ft. ladder to the Town of Homer for \$7,000.

Minden Fire Chief Kip Mourad told members of the council that he does

not expect Homer's department to use the truck for the platform.

"They've never had a platform-type aerial truck," Mourad said. "They get (fire rating) points for a service truck."

"They want to fix it up to fight oil well fires," District E councilman Benny Gray, who is also a Minden firefighter, added.

Mourad says \$7,000 is a fair market value.

"We looked at trucks, and they were anywhere from \$3,000 to \$5,000 or \$12,000 to \$15,000," he said. "Most of the higher priced ones had pumps in them, and that truck does not have a pump. It is strictly a platform truck."

CRUELTY

Continued from page 1

Apparently the violation was certainly against their policy and procedure, because they called us. It wasn't a third party deal. When they (YCP) viewed the tapes, they certainly didn't condone his actions, and that's when they called us to come investigate it."

The reporting officer writes in the report that Denson "used a football to hit the victim while making (the) victim stand at attention. [sic] Suspect also made the victim remove his shirt, then wet the victim's chest with water before delivering a roundhouse blow that struck (the) victim in the chest."

"(The) victim was propelled seven or eight feet backwards prior to hitting (the) wall then falling to the floor unable to

breathe," the report continues.

Reports indicate 37 other cadets witnessed the incident, which is why he was charged with 37 counts of improper supervision of a juvenile by a legal custodian.

Sexton says the program at YCP is an exceptional one.

"I tip my hat to them," he said. "They do a lot of good for kids. It's a program everybody supports. This is an isolated incident. We've never had this kind of incident take place before, and it's probably a personality clash between the cadet and the instructor."

The Louisiana National Guard Youth Challenge Program began at Camp Minden in 2001. The program offers cadets a chance to turn their lives around. It is open to teens 16 to 18 years of age and is a voluntary program.

According to the National Guard, YCP is an

8-component program that offers students "a way to succeed outside of a traditional school setting (to) learn self-discipline, leadership and responsibility while working to obtain a high school equivalency diploma."

At this time, it is unknown if Denson is still employed with the Youth Challenge Program. Attempts to reach a public affairs officer with the Louisiana National Guard were unsuccessful as of press time.

Arresting officers included sheriff's deputies John Byrd, Dillard Sikes and Lt. Angela Evans.

Georgia company buys hot sauce brand from Bruce Foods Corp.

NEW IBERIA — The Original Louisiana Brand Hot Sauce has been sold to a Georgia company.

Terms of the sale were not disclosed.

Rome, Georgia-based Southeastern Mills Inc. said Monday that it has acquired The Original Louisiana Brand Hot Sauce and all related assets from New Iberia-based Bruce Foods Corp.

NOLA.com/The Times-Picayune reports Southeastern Mills says the deal includes all brands and intellectual property related to Bruce's hot sauce business, as well as the manufacturing and warehouse facilities in New Iberia. It was unknown if employees would be impacted by the deal.

Other brands sold under the agreement were: Louisiana wing sauce, Red Rooster hot sauce, Louisiana Gold Pepper Sauce, Louisiana brand Tabasco Peppers in Vinegar and Bruce's Tabasco Peppers in Vinegar.



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BIRTHDAYS FOR TUESDAY, APRIL 7, 2015

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Josephine Sears
Christine Harris
Jackie Chan
John Cooper
Russell Crowe
Ben McKee



David F. Dies, MD James C. Hobley, MD L. Webster Johnson, MD
Douglas E. Rimmer, MD JoAnn E. Warrick, MD

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DORCHEAT HISTORICAL MUSEUM

Dietrich Family to speak at museum night

STAFF REPORTS

Susan Dietrich Rolfs and Kristine Dietrich Keating will tell the story of their family's love for Minden and their contribu-

tions to the community at the Night at the Museum on April 13. Sue and Warren Dietrich, known as "Sue Dee" and "Dee," established their residence in Minden in the late 1930s. Sue is

from southern Arkansas and Dee from New Orleans. Although they had no prior connections to Minden, they met here and created a life together rich with lasting friendships and service to the

community. "Don't miss a chance to hear about one of Minden's long time families," museum director Schelley Francis said. Museum events take place in the Media/Learn-

ing room at the Dorcheat Historical Association Museum located at 116 Pearl Street in downtown Minden. Doors will open at 5:30 p.m., with first-come, first-served seating. Program

begins at 6 p.m.; admission is free with potluck desserts and snacks welcome. For more information, contact Francis at 377-3002 or visit www.museummininden.blogspot.com.

OBITUARY

Irene Sipple Frazier

Irene Sipple Frazier passed away gently at 7:42 a.m., Saturday April 4. This beloved woman was surrounded by her five children and five of her 12 grandchildren, over the final days of her life, at her home in Minden. We celebrate her life and her unending love and support ... not only to her direct family but also to her church family, friends and neighbors. Irene spread love and joy to every life she touched.



FRAZIER

Born in 1922 to an Iowa farm family, Irene attended college in Colorado where she received her teaching degree. Irene loved teaching. She began her career teaching in a one room school house in the Midwest and completed her career as a highly prized teacher of first graders at St. Michaels School in Dallas. After Irene retired, she returned to her adopted home town of Minden. She loved the calm and friendly atmosphere after

the rush of living in Dallas. She ministered to people with her gift of compassion and her incredible singing voice and her unfailing hospitality. Sharing her delicious homemade cinnamon rolls, cookies, breads and soups was her joy. Irene loved her Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. She often reminded us that when she left this earth, we were to celebrate her promotion to her eternal home with joy. Irene donated her body to LSU Medical School to be used in teaching future doctors. A memorial service to celebrate her life and promotion will be at 11 a.m., Saturday April 11, at First United Methodist Church of Minden. She is survived by her five children, Joan Marie Frazier of Kilgore and her three children, Dan Jay Frazier and wife, Elizabeth of Minden and their six children, Carol Ann Frazier of Minden, Robert Eugene Frazier of Irving and his three children and Carlton Todd Frazier of Minden. In lieu of flowers, please make donations to First United Methodist Church of Minden.

N La. state hospital operators lost \$700,000 over 1st year

MONROE — Auditors say the nonprofit organization that runs north Louisiana's two state hospitals lost \$700,000 during its first year. The Biomedical Research Foundation of Northwest Louisiana says hospital operations were breaking even when that year ended in September. The News-Star reports that Postlethwaite and Netterville of Baton Rouge checked the 12 months beginning Oct. 1, 2013. That's when the foundation took control of the hospitals in Shreveport and Monroe.



It had never run a hospital before becoming part of Gov. Bobby Jindal's push to privatize most of the university-run public hospital system. Auditors did not find problems with accounting

or financial operations. A statement from the foundation says it was a remarkable achievement to move from a start-up to business in 135 days and to breaking even within a year.

EXPLO

Continued from page 1

special settings, where there's no other cases on the docket. The two owners have had a half a day hearing on a motion to suppress, based on their argument that this material out there is not a quote 'explosive' and therefore not subject to all the (regulations). The third guy has now decided he wants to be tried with the other two. And I said you can't jump in in the middle of a hearing. He has not been present, and by law, you have the right to confront your accusers and be present at every stage of the proceedings. "It's complicated enough trying to get our experts from the Army and the ATF and get them all to agree to be here on a certain date," he continued. "We're doing all that now, and it's a complicated case." All three are charged with unlawful storage of explosives, reckless use of explosives, failure to obtain magazine license(s), failure to properly mark explosive material, failure to keep accurate inventory and conspiracy to commit each of the crimes. All three have pled not

guilty. Motions by the defendants include a request for a bill of particulars, which is a court document that includes more specifics than a bill of information. The bill of information just lists the alleged crimes in which a defendant has been charged. Another motion is to suppress and a request for change of venue because of the extensive media coverage the case has received, Marvin says. In all, six employees were arrested and indicted by a grand jury in June 2013. The other three employees were Lionel Koons, inventory control manager, Todd Dietrich, plant engineer, both of

Haughton and Michael Kile, quality service manager, of Bossier City. Explo Systems Inc., came under intense scrutiny following an explosion in October 2012 that rocked communities all over the area, shattering windows and shaking the very foundations of some businesses and homes. The Louisiana State Police began an investigation into the incident, in the end discovering nearly 16 million pounds of M6 propellant improperly stored at Camp Minden. Since then, the propellant has been properly stored in nearly 100 magazines, or bunkers, but the stability of material remains unknown. Studies

conducted by the U.S. Army and the Environmental Protection Agency report the instability of the M6 becomes more dangerous every day it sits. A committee consisting of experts and military officials is currently perusing 10 bids proposed to safely

destroy the propellant and the other materials at Camp Minden. At first, the contract for disposal listed the open tray burn method as the one of choice, but after an outcry from the community, a dialogue committee was formed to study safer methods of dis-

posal. A method has not yet been determined, although the EPA has consistently reported they will consider the alternatives to open tray burn before making a final decision.

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OPINION

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EDITORIAL ROUNDUP

The Advocate, Baton Rouge, on the Louisiana Purchase:

Although the French emperor Napoleon Bonaparte died nearly two centuries ago, his mark on Louisiana remains clear. His Napoleonic code continues to be the basis of state law. Napoleonville, the parish seat of Assumption Parish, is named in his honor. He is also memorialized by the Napoleon House bar and restaurant in New Orleans.

But Napoleon’s chief legacy to Louisiana is Louisiana itself. In 1803, he sold the territory that includes Louisiana to the United States, advancing what is arguably history’s biggest real estate deal. That grand bargain, which paved the way for a young America to become a world superpower, is getting some fresh attention, thanks to a new biography of Napoleon by Andrew Roberts.

Nothing that Napoleon did was without controversy, and the Louisiana Purchase is a prime example of how he operated. Napoleon had told Spain that he wouldn’t sell Louisiana to a third party, but like many a politician then and now, he wasn’t about to let an inconvenient promise get in the way of doing what he wanted.

“President Thomas Jefferson assigned the Louisiana Purchase, doubling the United States at the stroke of his pen,” Roberts tells readers. “The Americans paid France 80 million francs for 875,000 square miles of territory that today comprises all or some of thirteen states from the Gulf of Mexico across the Midwest right up to the Canadian border, at a cost of less than four cents an acre.”

It was a great deal for the United States, but Napoleon thought it was a good deal for him, too. Defending that much territory from the United States would be an expensive distraction for him, so why not sell it outright to a potential rival and at least get some quick cash? In strengthening the United States, or so Napoleon figured, he could also create a foil for his principal adversary, Great Britain.

After inking the deal with Jefferson, Napoleon predicted, “I have just given to England a maritime rival that sooner or later will humble her pride.” As Roberts points out, Napoleon was right: “Within a decade, the United States was at war with Britain rather than with France, and the War of 1812 was to draw off British forces that were still fighting in February 1815, which might otherwise have been present at Waterloo.”

Even so, Napoleon lost to the

British and their allies at Waterloo, now in present-day Belgium, and his fate was sealed. He lost power in France, never to fully regain his glory.

Meanwhile, the legacy of the Louisiana Purchase is an ongoing story. In 1803, American diplomat Robert Livingston predicted that the deal would allow the United States to “take their place among the powers of first rank.”

He would not be surprised, we think, at just how true his words turned out to be.

Online: <http://theadvocate.com>

The Times-Picayune, New Orleans, on health clinics:

Hot 8 Brass Band trumpeter Raymond Williams says the New Orleans Musicians’ Clinic is vital to his health. “If I’m going to give my all on the stage every night, I’ve got to be healthy,” he says in a video that is part of the city of New Orleans’ pitch to be chosen for a City Accelerator civic engagement initiative.

The City Accelerator project funded by Living Cities and the Citi Foundation would help New Orleans connect residents with services offered by the Musicians’ Clinic and dozens of other primary health clinics in neighborhoods across the city.

New Orleans is a finalist along with Los Angeles, Seattle, Atlanta, Albuquerque, Baltimore and Minneapolis. Several cities could make the cut, and New Orleanians can help the city make its case.

Community feedback on the videos produced by each city will be part of the selection process. Through Friday, April 3, you can watch the city’s video, rate it and leave a comment at <http://www.governing.com/cityaccelerator>.

That’s an easy way to help thousands of our neighbors in New Orleans who need these health services.

With support from City Accelerator, the New Orleans Health Department would develop strategies to let residents know what is available to them and how they can use clinic services. For instance, the clinics serve 56,000 patients, but some of them haven’t been in for a checkup in 18 months.

Health Department director Charlotte Parent, who was a nurse at Touro Infirmary during Hurricane Katrina, said the sort of outreach her department wants to do is an integral part of

public health.

She also emphasized the importance of the network of primary care clinics that blossomed in our region post-Katrina. “New Orleans is a city of neighborhoods,” and residents needed vital services where they live, she said in the city’s video.

Since the disaster, dozens of clinics have opened across the city and in Jefferson, Plaquemines and St. Bernard parishes. Others that existed before Katrina — like the Musicians’ Clinic, which has operated since 1998 — have been able to serve more people.

That has been possible thanks mostly to federal funding and a waiver that allows residents here who are uninsured but don’t qualify for Medicaid to get care at the nonprofit clinics.

Unfortunately, Gov. Bobby Jindal’s administration zeroed out the clinics in the budget presented to the Legislature last month. Legislators must find a way to put the \$7.7 million for the clinics back in. If not, another \$12.6 million in federal matching money would be jeopardized.

The clinics have income from other patients, and the Musicians’ Clinic and some others have ongoing fundraising campaigns. But the budget cut recommended by the Jindal administration would force clinics to cut staff and services, said Susan Todd, executive director of the 504HealthNet coalition.

The federal Medicaid expansion that is part of the federal Affordable Care Act would cover many of these patients and tens of thousands of other low-income Louisiana residents. Gov. Jindal has refused to accept that money, but some lawmakers have introduced bills for the 2015 session in hopes of overruling him.

The Medicaid expansion would provide health coverage for more than 240,000 Louisiana uninsured residents and would provide a stream of revenue to help the primary care clinics in New Orleans thrive.

For his part, Mayor Mitch Landrieu is working hard to find resources to support the clinics’ mission. “As a city, we want to use innovative techniques that help ensure all residents are taking part in our community’s revival,” he said in announcing the City Accelerator proposal. “We can’t do this alone. We need the public’s help. Please show your support and pride for the city of New Orleans.”

It only takes a few minutes to watch the video and rate it. Do that, and then let your state senator and representative know how important it is to keep funding these clinics.

Online: <http://www.nola.com>

PERSPECTIVE

The next bubble

THEY’RE DOING IT AGAIN!

When the last housing bubble burst, politicians blamed “greedy banks.” They said mortgage companies lent money recklessly, making loans to people with dubious credit, for down payments as low as 3 percent.

“It will work out,” said the optimistic bankers. Regulators didn’t disagree. Everyone said, “Home prices will keep going up.” And home prices did — until they didn’t.

The bubble popped in 2007. Lots of people were hurt, and politicians took more of your tax money to bail out Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac along with reckless banks. They also gave the Federal Housing Administration a \$2 billion bailout.

Then the politicians said, “We’ll fix this so it doesn’t happen again.” Congress passed Dodd-Frank and a thousand new regulations. The complex rules slowed lending, all right. It’s one reason this post-recession recovery has been abnormally slow.

But — April Fools’! — the new rules didn’t solve the problem of reckless lending, and it’s happening again.

Because our government subsidizes home purchases, recklessness is invited. Somehow, Americans buy cars, clothing, computers, etc. without government guarantees, but politicians think housing is different.

Both parties support the subsidies.

The left wants government to help struggling families, and the right thinks home ownership sends a wholesome cultural message. Both parties have cozy connections to home-builders and lenders.

At the time of the housing crash, most high-risk loans were guaranteed by the government. Those banks wouldn’t have been as reckless if they had their own money on the line.

But they knew they could grant a mortgage to most anyone and the FHA would back it or government-sponsored companies Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac would buy it. That fueled the frenzy of lending.

After the bubble popped, I assumed the political class would learn a lesson, but they haven’t. Today, even more American mortgages are guaranteed by government. More than 90 percent of new loans are backed by taxpayers. After the crash, Fannie and Freddie did raise their minimum down payment — to a measly 5 percent — but a few months ago, they lowered it again to 3 percent!

Are they crazy? A sensible congressman, Rep. Jeb Hensarling (R-TX), tried to get an answer from the administration’s new mortgage regulator, asking in a hearing, “All things being equal, is a 3 percent down riskier to the taxpayer than a 10 percent down loan?”

A pretty basic question — but one that director Mel Watt still dodged, responding, “Mr. Chairman, that is generally true. But when you pair the down payment with compensating factors ... look at other considerations ... you can ensure that a 3 percent loan is just as safe.”

What? That’s nonsense. This is what happens when pandering politicians get to dispense your money. Watt is among the worst. When he was a congressman, he pushed for mortgage subsidies for welfare recipients who made down payments as low as \$1,000.

Edward Pinto, who studies housing risk for the American Enterprise Institute, says policies like this put us on the way to another bubble: “The government is once again ... saying, let’s loosen credit, give loans to people that potentially can’t afford them, and everything will be fine because house prices will go up.”

On my show, former FHA commissioner David Stevens, who did improve lending standards a bit after the crash (before Watt and his cronies weakened them), responded that this time the government has new regulations that will prevent things falling apart: “I think in the effort, post-recession, to make sure we never go down this path again, we have created more rules than ever existed in the history of this country.”

But more rules aren’t a solution. Government’s regulators didn’t foresee the problems last time. Fannie and Freddie got a clean bill of health right up until the collapse.

The solution is less government involvement. Canada doesn’t have a Fannie, Freddie or FHA. Canada didn’t have the trauma of a housing bubble. In Canada, lenders and homeowners risk their own money.

Does that mean Canadians cannot afford homes? No! Without all that government help, Canada’s homeownership rate is higher than ours.

John Stossel is host of “Stossel” on Fox News and author of “No They Can’t! Why Government Fails, but Individuals Succeed.”



JOHN STOSSEL

Minden Press-Herald Online

Press-Herald.com

WEBSTER PARISH'S NEWS SOURCE

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Around Town

Tuesday, April 7 - Wednesday, April 8

The Bright Star Baptist Church annual spring revival at 7 p.m. each night. Guest speaker will be Pastor Royal Scott, of Greater St. Paul Baptist Church.

Annual youth revival at 7 p.m. each night at Union Grove Baptist Church. God's messenger will be Pastor James Edwards of Mt. Carmel Baptist Church of Homer.

Friday, April 10

Love Night for District Miss'y Minnie Grider will be at 7 p.m. at Holmes Memorial Temple COGIC, located at 900 Constable Street in Minden. Everyone is invited.

Saturday, April 11

A flea market extravaganza will be from 7 a.m. until 2 p.m. at St. Rest Community Life Center. Anyone is invited to reserve a table to sell their items. This is a community event. For more information, call 377-0925 or 371-9028.

Ringgold Slabtown Car-Truck-Motorcycle Show will begin with registration at 10:30 a.m., show from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m. in downtown Ringgold. The annual Health Walk/Fundraiser will take place at 7 p.m. at Bank of Ringgold. Registration is \$10.

Sunday, April 12

Mt. Comfort Baptist Church, located at 247 Mt. Comfort Road, will host its fifth musicians appreciation service at 3 p.m. The guest choir will be St. Rest Baptist Church. The event is sponsored by the Mt. Comfort Baptist Church senior choir.

Pleasant Valley Baptist Church in Athens will host its annual family and friends day at 2:30 p.m. The special guest will be Pastor Cleon Warren and St. John Baptist Church of Homer.

Tillman Church of God in Christ will host its family and friends day at 3 p.m. The guest speaker is Elder McClen-don Winbush Jr., pastor of Stoner Hill Church of God in Christ.

Tuesday, April 14

Town and Country Health and Rehab will host its Souper Supper at 6 p.m. in the dining room to honor its volunteers. Bring at least one can of soup to donate to UCAP.

Tuesday, April 14-Thursday, April 16

New Zion Baptist Church. located at 570 Amos Cutoff Road, will host its annual spring revival at 7 p.m. each night. The guest speaker will be the Rev. Richard Jefferson, pastor of Zion Hill Baptist Church in Doyline. Everyone is invited.

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.

EDUCATION



Doyline High School students rewarded for reading

Junior high students from Doyline High School were rewarded for participation in the Accelerated Reader program. On Thursday, March 26, students traveled to AIR U indoor trampoline park in Shreveport. The school took 73 students who worked to earn a combined total of nearly 1,000 AR points during the month of February. Courtesy photo

Town and Country Garden club meets

The Town and Country Garden Club met March 23 in the lovely home of Betty Fowler. Easter and spring was the theme for the colorful decorations and refreshments.

President Judy Chandler opened the meeting by introducing our speaker Joan Almond, the northwest regional coordinator at the LSU Ag Center, where she is responsible for supervising 14 parishes with their nutritional programs. Almond spoke on modifying favorite recipes to be healthier and just as delicious. The members were given a printed handout entitled "Just for the Health of it...Modify Recipes" and a printed copy of the pancake recipe she would be cooking. Almond demonstrated a pancake recipe her son modified as a healthier version of their family recipe. Almond made a

small pancake for each lady present to sample.

While the pancakes were cooking, president Chandler opened the meeting by asking for prayer from Chaplain Beth Wesson. Secretary Libby Orenbaun read the minutes from the January meeting. The February meeting was canceled due to bad weather. Hannah Simpson gave the treasurer's report. Chandler read a thank you from Kathy Dumas. Susie Lester gave the horticultural hints. Lester stated that it is finally springtime and we are eager to plant but it is too wet.

If you missed planting some shrubs and trees, you can still plant when the ground dries some. Plants that are in containers can be planted and will grow if they are properly watered later when the rains are no longer frequent. Be sure to pick up or rake up the blooms that fall under your camellia bush to prevent petal blight. When narcissus bulbs have finished blooming and still have their green leaves, they can be dug up, divided and moved to another location and planted. They will bloom next year. The yard of

the month sign was placed in the yard of Sybil Ray at 127 Woodard Drive by Jeanette Baker and Yvonne Jackson. Chandler also reminded the group her term of office would be ending in May and the offices of vice president and secretary would need to be filled as well.

Chandler thanked the hostesses Betty Fowler, Margaret Collins and LaVerne Chance. The meeting was adjourned and everyone enjoyed refreshments and a tour of the lovely Fowler home yard.

NANCY'S KITCHEN

This week's Keeper: Turtle Cheesecake Des Amis

There is a series of cookbooks called "Best of the Best." The authors, Gwen McKee and Barbara Mostley have traveled extensively throughout the United States collecting and researching the best cookbooks from each state. Then they take favorite recipes from each book and compile it into one cookbook. I have several of their books in my collection, mostly those from the south.

Recently while grocery shopping in Minden's Super Wal-Mart, I came across their book titled "Best of the Best from Louisiana Cookbook III." Of course, you know me, I had to buy it. In my opinion, there is no kind of cooking as good as Louisiana has.

The recipe I chose for you this week originated from the cookbook titled "The Encyclopedia of Cajun & Creole Cuisine." I picked it because I have three family members that like chocolate and cheesecake so the two combined would be a true KEEPER for them. Although I have not made it, I plan to soon. In the meantime if you should make it let me know how it tasted.

TURTLE CHEESE-

CAKE DES AMIS

15 Oreo cookies
6 Tbsp. butter, melted
1 (14 oz.) bag caramel candy, unwrapped
1 (5 oz.) can evaporated milk
*2 cups chopped pecans, divided
½ cup sour cream
3 (8 oz.) pkg. cream cheese, softened
4 large eggs
½ cup sugar
2 Tbsp. pure vanilla extract
½ cup semisweet chocolate chips

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Spray a 9-inch spring-form pan with cooking spray, and set aside. In a processor, chop cookies to fine crumbs; then toss with melted butter. Press evenly into pan to form a crust; then set aside.

In a microwave-safe bowl, combine caramels and evaporated milk. Microwave on HIGH at 2-minute intervals, stirring until smooth and creamy. Allow caramel topping to cool 10 minutes, or until slightly thickened. Pour half of caramel topping over cookie crust, and top with 1 cup chopped pecans.

In a large mixing bowl, blend sour cream and cream cheese with an electric mixer. Add eggs and sugar, continu-



McWhorter

ing to blend until smooth. Stir in vanilla; then pour batter into pan. Bake 45-60 minutes, or until toothpick inserted into center comes out clean. Remove from oven, and allow cake to cool 30 minutes. Top cake with chocolate chips, remaining caramel topping, and remaining 1-cup pecans. Refrigerate overnight. Serves 6-8.

*A quote from Chef John Folse: "Almonds or walnuts can be substituted, but Louisianans prefer pecans."

NOTE: If interested in acquiring this cookbook and it is no longer available at Wal-Mart, you may order by credit card, toll free at 1-800-343-1583. ISBN#13: 978-1-934193-97-6 Be sure to mention the special Collect the Series discount. Visit

www.quailridge.com for a complete listing of all their cookbooks.

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SPORTS

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SPORTS briefs

MLB

Gray flirts with no-hitter in win

OAKLAND, Calif. (AP) — Bob Melvin did his best to keep Sonny Gray from becoming chat-ty between innings of his no-hit bid. The pitcher kept wanting to discuss his walk-up music and get the manager's approval.

"I'm not very superstitious," Gray said.

The right-hander didn't allow a hit until Ryan Rua singled leading off the eighth inning, and the Oakland Athletics snapped their record 10-game losing streak on opening day by beating the Texas Rangers 8-0 Monday night.

Trying to join Bob Feller (1940) as the only pitchers to throw a no-hitter on opening day, Gray dazzled through seven innings and allowed only two baserunners before Rua's sharp grounder to right field. Fans in the sell-out crowd of 36,067 chanted "Sonny! Sonny!" and offered a roaring ovation.

He loved the energy. "I don't try to block it out at all, I try to use it," he said. "I felt good in the bullpen and I knew during the player entrances and stuff we were all ready for this game."

Ben Zobrist backed Gray's eight-inning gem with a two-run homer in the first and also had a double in his Oakland debut. Stephen Vogt added a three-run shot in the seventh.

New designated hitter Billy Butler hit an RBI double as the A's won their opener for the first time since beating Texas on April 5, 2004.

Oakland's 10-game skid on opening day was the longest in major league history.

MLB

Dodgers defeat Padres, 6-3

LOS ANGELES (AP) — New addition Jimmy Rollins hit a tiebreaking, three-run homer in the eighth inning, rallying the Los Angeles Dodgers to a 6-3 victory over the retooled San Diego Padres in the season opener Monday.

Rollins took a curtain call for his drive off Shawn Kelley (0-1). Rollins and Howie Kendrick joined the team in the offseason to improve the Dodgers' infield defense, but their offensive prowess delivered the victory.

Kendrick's RBI double with two outs in the seventh tied it at 3. Rollins went 2 for 4.

Reigning NL MVP and Cy Young Award winner Clayton Kershaw struck out nine, but the team with baseball's highest payroll of \$270 million trailed twice before Kendrick and Rollins baled them out.

Kershaw gave up three runs and six hits in six innings. Joel Peralta (1-0) got the victory and Chris Hatcher earned his first save.

San Diego's Matt Kemp went 2 for 4 with three RBIs against his former team.

COLLEGE BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

DUKE TAKES TITLE

INDIANAPOLIS -- Over a matter of mere minutes, the youngsters at Duke grew into salty old pros.

Call them freshmen. But please, do not call them kids.

Led by Tyus Jones and Jahliil Okafor, Duke's talented group of potential one-and-doners played like veterans down the stretch, outscoring Wisconsin by 14 points over the final 13 minutes Monday night to grit out a 68-63 victory for the program's fifth national title.

"It shows a lot about their confidence," said Quinn Cook, Duke's only senior starter.

Okafor, the likely first pick in the NBA draft if he decides to leave, got outplayed by Badgers senior center Frank Kaminsky most of the night but came through big when the pressure was highest.

The 6-foot-11 freshman made two straight buckets over Kaminsky, sandwiched between a pair of 3-pointers from Jones, to help the Blue Devils (35-4) turn a one-time nine-point deficit into an eight-point lead with 1:22 left.

A furious Wisconsin rally ensued, but it came up short. Then, it was Okafor on the bottom of a rowdy dog pile, a scene reminiscent of the last time the Final Four was Indianapolis, back in 2010 when Duke edged out Butler in another scintillating final. The Blue Devils also took one here in 1991 -- the Grant Hill, Christian Laettner squad.

"It was heaven," coach Mike Krzyzewski said of the stadium where he's now 4-0 in Final Fours. "It was really divine."

Krzyzewski now has five titles, alone in second place on the all-time list, behind only John Wooden.

Coach K did it with a collection of All-Americans -- many of whom won't be around too long.

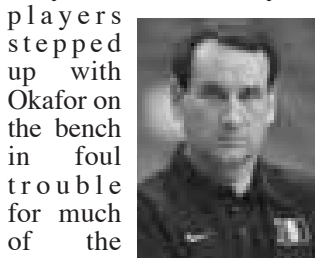
Okafor, his buddy Jones -- who finished with 23 points and was named MOP -- and another freshman, Justise Winslow, might all be playing at an NBA arena



near you next season.

Grayson Allen? He'll be back.

The most overlooked of Krzyzewski's first-year



KRZYZEWSKI

Allen, the slam-dunk champion at the high school McDonald's All-American contest last year, scored 16 points -- 12 more than his average -- including eight straight for Duke after Wisconsin (36-4) had gone up by nine.

"It was fun to watch my teammates do what they do," Okafor said. "They have my back the entire season, and it was no different tonight."

This was a savvy, calm, collected comeback against

the team that wrote the book on that all season. Wisconsin kept its cool two nights earlier in an upset over undefeated Kentucky and looked like it would close the deal when it turned a 31-all halftime tie into a 48-39 lead after Kaminsky made a layup with 13:23 left.

Then, suddenly, Duke looked like veterans and Wisconsin looked like kids.

The Blue Devils took the lead for good with 4:08 left when Jones made a 3, then fell hard to the ground while tangled up with Bronson Koenig.

On Duke's next possession, Kaminsky tried to wrap an arm around Okafor in the paint, but the big fella powered his way through it for the bucket and the foul. He missed the free throw, but a different point was made: Kaminsky had 21 points and 12 rebounds to Okafor's 10 and three, yet down the stretch, "Frank the Tank"

struggled to get a good look and Okafor helped win the game.

"He got in some foul trouble, but because of his positive attitude, he made some big plays down the stretch," Jones said.

In the seconds leading to Okafor's first basket, Winslow appeared to step on the baseline. But the whistle never blew, and he delivered it to Okafor for the score.

That, and the foul count, had the Wisconsin Twitterverse fuming about some calls. The Badgers got whistled for only two fouls in the first half, but the count in the second half was Badgers 13, Blue Devils 6. Duke shot 20 free throws to Wisconsin's 10.

"There was more body contact in this game than any game we played all year, and I just feel sorry for my guys that all of the sudden a game was like that," Badgers coach Bo Ryan said.

Even though Kaminsky schooled Okafor to draw both his third and fourth fouls early in the second half, Wisconsin couldn't pull away from an aggressive Duke defense that allowed only 55 points a game in the five contests leading to the final.

Wisconsin shot 41 percent -- seven percentage points under its season average.

"Shots just weren't falling, and they were getting to the line, and when the tide changes like that, it's kind of hard to get back in the flow," Badgers forward Sam Dekker said.

Nigel Hayes had 13 points, and Dekker, the key guy down the stretch against Kentucky, had a very quiet 12 for the Badgers, who were trying to bring their first title back to Madison since 1941. Dekker used his shirt to dab away tears during postgame interviews -- a much different scene than the loose, fun-loving media sessions the Badgers put on all tournament.

For Duke, it was all smiles. The Blue Devils are taking another trophy home to the Cameron Crazies.

"All these guys have become students of the game, and they share knowledge," Krzyzewski said.

This was not a dominant, wire-to-wire effort the likes of which some of the Duke title teams have enjoyed in seasons past.

Kentucky and its quest for perfection stole the headlines this season. So, playing in relative shadows down on Tobacco Road was this group, which actually might have more one-and-dones than coach John Calipari does at Kentucky. Calipari was in the building, by the way -- honored for his induction into the Naismith Hall of Fame. He got booed heavily.

In the end, it was all confetti and cheers. And it's not Calipari's team, but Krzyzewski's, that will end up in the history books.

LOUISIANA OUTDOORS

Bald Eagles making a comeback

When I was growing up, the only bald eagles I saw were in photos in magazines. It wasn't because I was leading a sheltered life outdoors, the reason was there were no eagles to be seen in my part of the world.

"When we were kids," said Kelby Ouchley, retired biologist with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, "there were no resident eagles in Louisiana except along the coast."

"Today, sightings of bald eagles in northern Louisiana are fairly common. We now have birds migrating from the north for the winter as well as resident birds that are doing quite well now."

I contacted Ouchley to confirm something that has significantly piqued my interest, especially over the past few months. I haven't been out looking for bald eagles but in my normal everyday traveling around

north Louisiana, I've seen several.

Six months or so ago, I was returning home from my daily walk at Lincoln Parish Park and was about to pull into my driveway when I saw three big birds that had



HARRIS

over my house and were winging their way north over the road.

Something about their steady undulating flight pattern let me know I wasn't looking at three buzzards. They were too large to be hawks and I suspected I was looking at bald eagles. Fortunately, I had my camera with me and snapped a couple of shots. When downloaded, the

white heads and tails on two of the birds confirmed my suspicion.

Fast forward to a few weeks ago when I got a call from James Ramsaur, manager of Lincoln Parish Park, suggesting that I hurry out to the park to see a bird. Grabbing my camera, I arrived to see the remains of one of the park's resident ducks on the lake dam and sitting in a tree nearby was a bald eagle.

Then a month ago, I was visiting Vic and Carla Johnston just south of Ruston. Turning down a lane leading to their home, I passed a pond and there sat a bald eagle in a tree over-looking the pond. Carla Johnston is an avid photographer and I suggested she check to see if the eagle was still there. It was and she got several photos.

Last week, Carla texted me to report there were two bald eagles at the pond and

later, one showed up at the pond in front of their house and she has seen the bird several times since.

Wait; there's more. James White, retired LA Tech professor, mentioned to me last week he was driving down Hwy 167 just south of Ruston when he almost collided with a bald eagle that was feeding on a road-killed animal.

Then last week, I was driving by Squire Creek Country Club and watched a bald eagle winging its way over the golf course.

So, what is going on with bald eagles around north Louisiana? Ouchley offered some information that shed light on the return of these strikingly beautiful birds.

"Historically, northern Louisiana with our lakes and streams was eagle habitat and they were common. Then in the 1960s, the introduction of DDT and its derivatives created prob-

lems with predator birds like eagles. These chemicals that washed into lakes and streams became manifested in the fish population and fish are the main diet of eagles.

"The consumption of DDT-laden fish caused the egg shells of the eagles to become thin and brittle and the weight of nesting birds broke the fragile shells," said Ouchley.

"Now that DDT can no longer be used, bald eagles are making a strong comeback. They're nesting and reproducing in our part of the world."

"The return of the bald eagle," Ouchley added, "is one of conservation's most impressive success stories."

Glynn Harris
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Pixar gets emotional with film 5½ years in the making

EMERYVILLE, Calif. — Fear, anger, disgust, sadness and joy have taken over Pixar headquarters, and things are going great.

The Oscar-winning animation studio is celebrating the completion of "Inside Out," a film that features each of those emotions as personified characters controlling operations inside in a little girl's head.

Sculptures, sketches, paintings and other concept art from the film 5½ years in the making fills a gallery at the studio's resort-like headquarters in Northern California. Some 350 artists and technicians collaborated under the direction of Pete Docter ("Up," "Monsters, Inc.") to bring the imaginative adventure to life.

"Inside Out" tells a story of two worlds — the external, human world and the internal landscape of the mind — and how they influence one another. As 11-year-old Riley navigates the human world, including a move from her native Minnesota to San Francisco, her mind's staff of emotions handle her internal goings-on.

Joy (Amy Poehler) was the de facto leader of the emotion team, but when she and Sadness (Phyllis Smith) get lost deep in the recesses of Riley's subconscious, Fear (Bill Hader), Anger (Lewis Black) and Disgust (Mindy Kaling) are left in charge. Joy and Sadness, with the help of a character named Bing Bong, must bridge their differences to ensure Riley's happiness and the ongoing development of her personality — heady territory for an animated,

family film.

With the project recently completed, Docter and producer Jonas Rivera invited reporters to Pixar to explain why "Inside Out" was so time-consuming.

Animated movies typically take longer than live action to produce because everything has to be built — not only the sets and costumes but the characters and cameras.

On this film, though, the artists had to create entire worlds.

"Inside Out" started with an idea from Docter inspired by his daughter, who'd gone from an outgoing, happy kid to a quiet, sullen pre-teen. He imagined a story set inside a little girl's mind that explored what went on in there.

His team met with neuroscientists and psychologists to learn some basics about emotion, memory and mind function.

Then it was up to the story artists to develop characters based on that information, conceptualize how they should look and act and come up with a script. Meanwhile, production designer Ralph Eggleston was dreaming up what the world of mind and personality might look like.

"It was an intellectual idea we had to conceptualize," he said. "The biggest challenge was what is the mind?"

Filming comes next, before animation, inverting the familiar lights-camera-action formula.

"In animation, it's camera, action, lights," said director of photography Patrick Lin.



Animators — a team of 45 in the case of "Inside Out" — give expression and personality to the characters. It takes about a week to produce three sec-

onds of animation, said directing animator Jamie Roe.

Lighting comes last, and it functions like a cinematographer would on a

live-action film, shaping the shot and directing the eye, said lighting artist Angela Reisch. Like animation, lighting each scene is a painstaking process, and

artists can complete only a few shots a week.

The film is set for release June 19.

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Jesse Williamson, operator Heflin Water System

April 7, 2015
Minden Press-Herald

WANTED

Applications for Professional Services for the following project will be accepted until 2:00 p.m., Thursday, April 23, 2015. Responses to the Request for Qualifications must be submitted according to the requirements listed in the RFQ. Interested firms must obtain an official Request for Qualifications (RFQ) package via email from Ms. Jamie Richard, Project Coordinator, CSRS, Inc., Email: JRichard@csrsonline.com. This includes all correspondence regarding this RFQ.

ONLY THOSE FIRMS THAT HAVE OBTAINED THE OFFICIAL RFQ PACKAGE FROM CSRS, INC. WILL BE CONSIDERED BY LCTCS FACILITIES CORPORATION.

LATE OR INCOMPLETE SUBMISSIONS MAY NOT BE ACCEPTED.

Project Description: Professional Design Services for Northwest Louisiana Technical College, New Workforce Development Building, located in Minden, Louisiana. The project includes a new building connecting to the existing Workforce Development facility.

Applications shall be delivered or mailed to: LCTCS Facilities Corporation c/o CSRS, Inc. Attn: Mr. Casey Anderson, Project Manager 6767 Perkins Road, Suite 200 Baton Rouge, LA 70808 Ph: (225) 769-0546 Fx: (225) 767-0060

April 7 & 14 & 21, 2015
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