

# MINDEN PRESS-HERALD

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April 9, 2015 | 50 Cents

**THURSDAY**



**INSIDE**  
*today*



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named BPCC  
Chancellor

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**WEATHER**

TOMORROW'S OUTLOOK



**73** **55**  
**HIGH** **LOW**

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Winds NE at  
5 to 10 mph.

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Vol. 46 No. 200



## MINDEN CRIME

# Minden woman charged with felony theft

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

A Minden woman was arrested without incident on a warrant Wednesday by Minden Police.

Sandy Finley, 35, of Minden, was arrested

on a warrant for felony theft with bond set at \$2,500.

Detective Keith King, arresting officer, says the warrant was issued after she was accused of stealing approximately \$1,100 worth of merchandise from Fan-

nette's while working there.

Some of the items she allegedly took were kitchen and household items, he says.

Whitney Floyd, owner of Fannette's, says some of the items were recovered. She

says some ongoing issues led to the discovery of the missing items.

"I got to looking and she had not paid for any of it," she said.

Floyd says Finley used to work for her but was recently let go

for other reasons.

Finley was transported to Bayou Dorcheat Correctional Center following booking at the Minden Police Department.

Because the charge is a felony, it will go before a district judge.



**FINLEY**



Dr. J. Blair Blackburn of Dallas visits with East Texas Baptist University softball coach Janae Shirley and ETBU Interim Provost Dr. Tommy Sanders after addressing students, faculty, and staff of the university. The ETBU Board of Trustees elected Dr. Blackburn as its next president during a special meeting Tuesday. Courtesy Photo/ETBU/Mike Midkiff

# Minden native elected as ETBU president

## STAFF REPORTS

**MARSHALL**— The East Texas Baptist University Board of Trustees elected Minden native Dr. J. Blair Blackburn to serve as its next president.

The announcement came from ETBU Board of Trustees chair Hal Cornish after a special called trustee meeting Tuesday afternoon.

"Dr. Blackburn is an exceptionally well qualified and highly experienced individual ideally suited to be ETBU's next president," Cornish said. "The Board of Trustees and the entire ETBU community is very excited about the University's bright future under the presidential leadership of Dr. Blackburn."

Dr. Blackburn will succeed Dr. Samuel W. "Dub" Oliver who left to become the president of Union University located in Jackson, Tennessee, on June 1, 2014.

Dr. Blackburn currently serves as the executive vice president at Dallas Baptist University.



**THE BLACKBURN FAMILY:** Michelle Blackburn, Dr. J. Blair Blackburn, Elizabeth "Blair" Blackburn and sitting, Parker Blackburn. Not pictured is Taylor Blackburn. Courtesy Photo

ty. He has been in this position since 2002, reporting directly to the president, and has 20 years

of service with the institution.

In his role as executive vice

See **ETBU**, Page 2

## POLICE JURY

# Organization streamlines behavioral, disability services

*NWLHSD serves a  
nine parish area*

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

Many times families suffer with addictions, mental health issues and developmental disabilities without ever knowing the wide array of services available to them.

Ora Rice, Webster Parish representative for the Northwest Louisiana Human Services District, spoke to the police jury Tuesday about the services they offer.

"It's been a joy to represent the jury," she said. "It's a lot of work, but that's what we're here for, especially those with mental disorders, addictive disorders and developmental disabilities. What we have found is that many community members are not aware of the services."

NWLHSD, a program offered by the Department of Health and Hospitals, provides services for Bienville, Bossier, Caddo, Claiborne, DeSoto, Natchitoches, Red River, Sabine and Webster parishes. The board of directors is comprised of representatives from each parish in the service district and three representatives appointed by the Louisiana governor.

Her job is to work with the communities in the service area and take back to the board any issues they may have.

Juror Jerri Lee commended Rice for her work with the organization, saying she felt Rice is the right person for the job because she is a social worker.

"She will be able to serve as a liaison for us," Lee said.

The Minden Behavioral Clinic is one service location, but NWLHSD is not affiliated with any of the health units in the service area.

Jury President Jim Bonsall says the reason for Rice's presence at the meeting was to seek input from the jurors on how the district could better serve the community.

"She's here to let the people know that these services are avail-

See **NWLHSD**, Page 3





# SECOND FRONT

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HIGHER EDUCATION

## Dr. Rick Bateman named BPCC Chancellor

### STAFF REPORTS

BATON ROUGE – Dr. Douglas “Rick” Bateman was unanimously selected as the chancellor of Bossier Parish Community College Wednesday by the Louisiana Community and Technical College System Board of Supervisors. Dr. Monty Sullivan, LCTCS president, made the recommendation to the board during its monthly meeting. The recommendation was made after an open and compet-

itive national search that included on campus interviews and public forums with students, faculty and staff and community members.

“On behalf of the Board of Supervisors I would like to congratulate Dr. Bateman for his appointment as chancellor of Bossier Parish Community College,” Tim Hardy, LCTCS



BATEMAN

board of supervisors first vice chair and chair of the search committee said. “His continued service to education has provided him with the experience and leadership skills necessary to continue leading our efforts to deliver world class academic and workforce training for Louisiana.”

“Our search for BPCC’s chancellor provided an exceptional pool of finalists,” Dr. Monty Sullivan said. “We are confident that Dr. Bateman embodies the requisite skills and

vision needed to lead BPCC into the next phase of its development and to provide solutions to the workforce needs of Louisiana,” he said.

Prior to his arrival at BPCC, Dr. Bateman was the Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Student Success at SOWELA Technical Community College in Lake Charles. Dr. Bateman earned a Doctor of Philosophy in Educational Administration from the University of Texas at Austin, a Master of Religious Education

from Loyola University New Orleans and a Bachelor of Arts in History from the University of California at Los Angeles.

“It is an honor for me to continue to serve the students and community of Bossier Parish,” Bateman said. “I would like to thank the board, students, faculty and staff for entrusting me to continue to advance education in the state of Louisiana,” he said. “I look forward to serving and providing solutions for the needs of our state.”

Bossier Parish Commu-

nity College is an open-admission, two-year, post-secondary public institution serving the northwest region of Louisiana. The college provides transferable courses and curricula including certificates, associate degrees and comprehensive career and technical education training. Bossier Parish Community College also partners with the surrounding communities by providing programs for personal, professional, and academic growth.

### ETBU

*Continued from page 1*

president, Dr. Blackburn provides visionary servant leadership to three institutional divisions and oversees all aspects of campus operations, administrative affairs, student affairs, athletics, and enrollment, partnering with over 250 divisional employees.

Prior to his two decades of leadership at DBU, he served in three other institutions of higher learning in East Texas, including University of Texas at Tyler, Lon Morris College, and Paris Junior College.

Dr. Blackburn will join ETBU as its 13th president effective June 2015.

“I am excited and humbled that the Lord has called me to serve as president of East Texas Baptist University,” Blackburn said. “Having been raised in northwest Louisiana

and living in east Texas for many years, I have known and respected this institution for its unwavering commitment to stand as a beacon for Christ-centered education.

“It is my desire to partner together with the faithful faculty and staff of ETBU and build upon an incredible foundation as we press forward in the vision of building East Texas Baptist into an institution of greatness for the glory of God, he continued. I believe that as followers of Christ, we are called to live a life of excellence, and as a Christ-centered university, we are likewise called to pursue excellence in all aspects of our mission to train and equip men and women to be contributors for the Kingdom, in whatever and wherever the Lord calls.”

“Michelle and I look forward to the opportunity God has granted us to serve the East Texas Baptist family. We want to reflect a

model of Christ’s servant leadership and to foster an engaging environment where transformational leadership is embraced and encouraged.”

Dr. Blackburn has an associate of arts degree from Tyler Jr. College and graduated from the University of Texas at Tyler with a bachelor of science degree in political science. He holds a master of science degree in higher education administration from Texas A&M-Commerce. He earned his doctor of education in educational administration degree from Baylor University.

Dr. Blackburn went to Dallas Baptist University in 1995 to serve as assistant vice president for development. From 1996-1998, he was the assistant vice president for enrollment and administrative affairs. He served on two occasions as dean of the college of adult education (1997-1998; 1999-2001). The other

positions he has served during his long tenure at DBU are vice president for enrollment and administrative affairs (1998-2001), senior vice president for enrollment and administrative affairs (2001), senior vice president (2001-2002), and acting director of athletics (2003-2004). He was extensively involved with DBU’s reaccreditation process in 1998 and 2008.

The president of DBU, Dr. Gary Cook, says, “I have had the privilege to work side by side with Blair for 20 years. Over the course of that time, he has served in a variety of roles, each time meeting and exceeding expectations. He has worked closely with faculty and staff members in matters of accreditation, enrollment, advancement, student life, spiritual life, athletics, and construction, and he is so highly respected by his peers.”

Dr. Cook added, “I know of few other leaders who are as diligent and driven

as Dr. Blackburn, and while we are sad to see him leave DBU, I know that the Lord has wonderful plans for him and for East Texas Baptist University.”

East Texas Baptist University offers graduate programs in business, counseling, religion and education, as well as 40 undergraduate degree programs.

ETBU provides a Christ-centered education that emphasizes the integration of faith and learning. The ETBU experience is known for “Embracing Faith, Engaging Minds, and Empowering Leaders.” For information, visit [www.etbu.edu](http://www.etbu.edu).

### BIRTHDAYS FOR THURSDAY, APRIL 9, 2015

Tara Shime  
Ahmad Gipson “11”  
Kristen Stewart  
Jesse McCartney  
Dennis Quaid  
Marc Jacobs  
Sunny Anderson



## Court-Approved Supplemental Information About The Deepwater Horizon Economic Settlement Claim Deadline



### June 8, 2015 – Deadline to File

#### Claim(s) with the Deepwater Horizon (BP) Economic Settlement Program

The Class Settlement and its objective, financial data based causation tests have been approved by final judgment.

If you reside or have a business in the map above, you have the right to file a claim.

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.

#### The June 8, 2015 Deadline will NOT be extended

To file your claim go to:  
[www.deepwaterhorizoneconomicsettlement.com](http://www.deepwaterhorizoneconomicsettlement.com)  
Or Call (866) 992-6174



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## OBITUARIES

## Ora Ward-Hicks

Ora Ward-Hicks was born on March 6, 1926 in Doyline to Louis Samuel Ward and Ola Moore-Ward. She was the youngest of fourteen children, all who preceded her in death.

Being brought up and reared in a Christian environment and the church, she confessed Christ as her Lord and Savior at an early age. She was baptized at the New Zion Baptist Church, at the young age of 10 years old. She finished grammar school at Jenkins Elementary in Doyline, and high school at Princeton High. She began working as a nurse's aide at the Old Charity Hospital in Shreveport in 1946. Knowing and believing she wanted more for herself, she received training and became a certified nurse assistant.

She was the mother of one biological son, J. W. Sparks, who preceded her in death, but later adopted and raised Tridian White. She also raised another son, Cedric Jackson, who preceded her in death. She loved, raised and nurtured these two boys as her own children, and guided them from early childhood into adulthood as young men. She later married Deacon James Hicks who was a very good husband and lovingly supported her in every way.

She was a motivator, always full of action and mobile. She participated in many organizations, church auxiliaries, committees and clubs across the State of Louisiana. She was a staunch and faithful member of New Zion Baptist Church, where she served until her death.

She leaves to mourn her passing two stepbrothers, Morris McDaniel and Maceo McDaniel; a host of nieces and nephews, Roy Lee, Herman Lee Jr., Anderson Ward, LaTonya Durham, Thurman L. Kinsey, Henry Kinsey, Rubenstein Jackson, Dorothy Jean Sheppard, Mary Alice



HICKS

Moore, Lugenia Washington, Maple Martin, Anasta L. Ward, Joyce Ward Simpson, Elnora Ward-Jordan, Leasiner Tyler, Mike Glover, Johnny L. Ward, Luther L. Ward, Dr. T. C. L. Ward, Johnny Ward, Luejean Washington, Ethel Lavern, Gertrude Snowden, Jurlean Smith, Charlie Robinson; and a community of friends and loved ones.

Homegoing Celebration for Sister Ora Ward-Hicks will be at 1 p.m., Saturday, April 11 at Zion Hill Baptist Church with Dr. T. L. Ward officiating. Interment will follow at the Jenkins Community Cemetery. Services are entrusted to Kennon's Mortuary.

Visitation will be from 1 until 8 p.m., Friday, April 10 with family hour from 7 until 8 p.m. Email condolences may be sent to kennonsmortuary@suddenlink.net.

## Ricky 'Zack' Lewis

Ricky Lewis, affectionately called Zack, was born on May 11, 1960 to the late Robert and Elena Lewis in Minden.

Ricky was 1978 graduate of Minden High School. He continued his educational studies at Bossier Parish Community College. He was employed by Ruskin Manufacturing.

Ricky "Zack" Lewis departed this earthly life on April 6, 2015. He is preceded in death by his father, Robert W. Lewis Sr.; mother, Elena Hampton Lewis; brothers, Donnie Lewis and Kent Hampton; sisters, Deloice Jean Lewis – Combs and Leisa Lewis Moore; and a niece, Nicolette Lewis.

Ricky leaves to cherish his memories, sons, Kawaski Allen, Rickenski Cosby, and Bristol Dillard; daughter, Diamond Dillard; brothers, Robert W. Lewis Jr. and Grover L. Lewis; sisters, Cynthia L. Combs (Lee Drew Jr.), Shirley D. Lewis and Stephanie M. Hawkins (Randall); and a



LEWIS

host of loving nieces, nephews, aunts, uncles, cousins and friends.

Celebration of Life Services will be at 11 a.m., Saturday, April 11, 2015 at Mt. Zion CME Church with the Rev. Raymond Hampton officiating. Interment will follow at the Sheppard Street Cemetery. Services are entrusted to Kennon's Mortuary.

Visitation will be from 1 until 8 p.m., Friday, April 10 in Kennon's Mortuary Chapel.

Email condolences may be sent to kennonsmortuary@suddenlink.net.

## Ronnie Lee Milner

Ronnie Lee Milner was born on April 30, 1958 to the late Harvey Milner Jr. and Nettie Ellis.

Ronnie, affectionately known as "Ron Dog" was the oldest of eight siblings.

He departed this earthly life on April 3, 2015 at the age of 56 in Arcadia. He is preceded in death by his father, Harvey Milner Jr.; sister, Pamela Tyner; and niece, La'Karia Ashley.

Ronnie leaves to cherish his memories three brothers, Cedric Milner (Toya) of San Diego, California, Kingsley Ellis of San Antonio, Texas, and Tyrone Tyner of Kansas City, Kansas; four sisters, Karen Milner Ashely of Michigan City, Indiana, Nichelle Ellis of San Antonio, Texas; Toya Tyner Hunter of Kansas City, Kansas, and Charrie Ellis of San Antonio, Texas; and a host of aunts, uncles, cousins, and friends.

Celebration of Life Services for Ronnie Milner will be at 11:30 a.m., Friday, April 10, in the Kennon's Mortuary Chapel with Minister Kwesi Williams officiating. Interment will follow at the Pine Grove Cemetery. Services are entrusted to Kennon's Mortuary.

Visitation will be from noon until 8 p.m., Thursday, April 9 in Kennon's Mortuary Chapel.



MILNER

Email condolences may be sent to kennonsmortuary@suddenlink.net.

## Essie Lee Odoms

Essie Lee Odoms was born on Jan. 15, 1945 to the late Bob Booker and the late Alla Alexander Booker in Shreveport. She was the third child of this parentage.

She accepted Christ at an early age and united with the Palestine Missionary Baptist Church. She remained a member until she was called home.

She departed this earthly life on April 5, 2015. She is preceded in death by her parents; sister, Barbara Holiday; brothers, Jessie Hartwell and Dulan Hartwell; a sister-in-law, Margaret Coleman; and special friend, Willie Ivory.

Essie Lee Odoms leaves to cherish her memories: a sister, Blonzell Lewis of Minden; a faithful nephew, Albert Holiday (Jerrilyn); a host of nieces and nephews including Glen Holiday, William Holiday, Menita Holiday, Antonio Holiday, and Tosha Holiday; sisters-in-law, Laura Smith of Houston and Annie Glory Nelson of Minden; brothers-in-law, Charlie Lewis and Albert Holiday Sr.; and a host of great and great-great nieces and nephews, other relatives and friends.

Celebration of Life Services for Essie Lee Odoms will be at 1 p.m., Saturday, April 11, at Palestine Baptist Church with the Rev. Victor Coleman officiating. Interment will follow at the Palestine Cemetery. Services are entrusted to Kennon's Mortuary.

Visitation will be from 1 until 8 p.m., Friday, April 10 in Kennon's Mortuary Chapel.

Email condolences may be sent to kennonsmortuary@suddenlink.net.



ODOMS

## NWLHD

Continued from page 1

able," Bonsall said.

Some of the services offered, according to documents from the Department of Health and Hospitals, include contracted services for transportation, homeless outreach, mobile crisis services, gambling help, medical detox, primary prevention, substance abuse treatment (adult and adolescent) and many others.

The Developmental Disabilities office serves as the single point of entry into the developmental disability services system, according to a brochure, and oversees public and private residential services for people with developmental disabilities.

The program also offers a flexible family fund in which monthly stipends are provided to families with children with severe or profound developmental disabilities up to the age of 18.

It offers individual and family support as well as intermediate care facilities such as protected residential settings according to the participant's needs.

For more information,

call the Minden Behavioral Health Clinic, located at 435 Homer Road, at 371-3001. For developmental disabilities questions, call the Bossier City office at 741-7455.

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# OPINION

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## The Common Core Debate

### Constituent disappointed in Reynolds' view on education

Rep. Reynolds,

I wanted to let you know how incredibly saddened I am that on March 2, 2015, I sat in front of you in your office in Minden and you assured me, another puplc school parent, and a Webster Parish School Board member that you wanted Common Core and PARCC out of our state. You assured us that you understood the concerns of students, parents, and teachers across this state and nation who were outraged by the Federal takeover of our education system. That as a retired teacher and principal, you were totally and completely for local control of education and that you would fight for our children during the legislative session. You told us

that you wanted to be part of a plan to make positive change.

After reviewing all filed bills for the 2015 legislative session, I see that you outright lied to all three of us (See bills below). I am so terribly disappointed that you also are a politician that tells constituents one thing, yet when the politics and money happen behind closed doors you are a completely different person. Rep. Reynolds, these bills are NOT positive change!

Do you really feel that the citizens of this state will not hold you accountable? Do you really feel that the votes of the citizens do not matter any more and that only BIG business have the right to control education? Well, your statement has been made and we, the citizens of this state, will make our

statement come election time. We WILL make the parents, grandparents, teachers, and concerned citizens of this state understand who you feel is most important.

The grassroots movement in Louisiana, to get rid of Common Core for the betterment of our schools, has made a vow not only NOT to vote for any politician that doesn't vote FOR our children, but to fervently campaign AGAINST any politician that doesn't campaign for our children.

<https://legiscan.com/LA/text/HB669/2015>

<https://legiscan.com/LA/text/HB662/2015>

Terribly disappointed,  
Caryn Jenkins

## Reynolds clarifies perceived Common Core misconceptions

To District 10:

As we approach the 2015 legislative session we prepare for a hard session with intense questions and decisions. All bills were prefiled last Friday and as citizens review them, I am being asked about where I stand on Common Core.

I want to be perfectly clear about my thought process and actions regarding these important issues. During the past six months I have talked with faculty, students, parents, and groups that both oppose and support Common Core. Like with anything in life, there are both positives and negatives of Common Core and Partnership for Assessment and Readiness for College and Career (PARCC testing).

First, to clarify a huge misconception among many members of the public, Common Core is a set of learning standards—not text books. The “new math” and “Common Core reading books” that have prompted endless complaints from parents and teachers is NOT Common Core. They are simply brands of text books and reading books that meet the Common Core standards, which are vast. Numerous other brands also meet the standards but, for example, do not address math in the “new way” and have literature that is much more in line with the cultures and standards of our district. Webster Parish, for example, elected to go with the curriculum recommended by the State. It includes a brand of math book called Eureka that provides instruction in a new way of thinking. Eureka is a brand that meets the Common Core standards, which is why they have the CC copyright symbol stamped at the bottom of every page. However, if Webster Parish doesn't like the brand Eureka, they can choose another brand just like Bossier Parish and Glenbrook School has done—both of which still meet the Common Core standards but have more traditional math curriculum. My point is that not all of the problems we see with this are actually the fault of the program itself; but are rather misunderstandings and lack of education about the program and how it was intended to function to allow local control at the district level, which is what we have wanted for years.

Common Core learning standards do, no doubt, have some areas I feel should be tweaked; and the PARCC testing more-so has areas of concern that should be addressed. This brings me to my next point. We need a plan for moving forward. In speaking with those who oppose Common Core, I have told them all we need a plan for

transition—not political rhetoric—in order to make a decision. The most recent group who came in to speak with me about this found some agreement with me. We agreed that testing was a problem. However, their only solution to the laundry list of problems we face is to go back to the GLEs (Grade Level Expectations) which were part of the last federally mandated educational program implemented under the Bush administration, No Child Left Behind. With this program, our state functioned poorly and had the data to prove it. Simply going back to 2010 is not a solution to our current problem.

The Governor recently announced his plan to do away with Common Core and go back to these former operations. Again, this is no plan and was likely something he proposed out of political pressure. Reverting to a program that had us ranked 49th in the nation and would cost school districts millions of dollars to re-implement would be a disaster that I simply cannot support.

Faced with these challenges and unfavorable proposed solutions, I looked at the ideas proposed by BESE and the Department of Education to transition away from PARCC and Common Core with panels of educators to review and change standards and the test questions so that they work better for our state and our local school districts. Hence, you have HB 669 proposed by me and HB662 proposed by Representative Carter. Here's a little synopsis of each one of them:

669 (PARCC testing): Sets up panels of teachers, faculty, and parents for review of the testing procedures; requires BESE to review testing or over-testing; develops a hybrid testing process which includes questions made up by Louisiana educators and measures readiness against the nation; eliminates unnecessary state testing; provides results in the summer, in time for upcoming school years; and clears up the procurement procedures.

662 (Common Core Standards): Addresses the learning standards through review by teachers and parents to make changes away from Common Core, but keeps standards higher than what they were under the last federally mandated program that left us with little control.

It is important to understand that

this is a process—a legislative practice, so to speak that begins with proposed bills. All of these bills are simply starting points; and if they are to pass they will be totally different. Why? Because neither side of this issue has the votes to pass as-is, including HB669 and 662. They will be amended and redrafted following lengthy conversation—but they get the conversation started.

Why did I put my name on these instruments? Because they provide excellent structure for compromise—and when the time comes to start discussions about these critical issues, I will have a seat at the table because my name was on the bills. Don't you want a voice at the table on something as important as your child's future? I will be there and I am prepared to start the conversation for compromise and solution. Level heads will prevail in this situation, I assure you. Humans would love for everything to be clearly black or white, but very few things in life actually are.

In seven short months there will be another governor and most likely new players in the office. Next Spring there will be new Education Committee members in the House and Senate. The smart thing to do is to set in to motion the infrastructure for changes to begin.

This is where I stand based on my experience and knowledge of all the chaotic changes that have been implemented in the past 30 years because of political pressures rather than educational issues. I fully understand that there are people who will not agree or understand, and that is okay. To disagree and start a dialogue is what always brings compromise—it's an American tradition. I will work hard for a solution to this complex matter; but I will not simply vote for a disastrous plan just to get votes for popularity and reelection when I know it is an unhealthy thing to do to our school systems, teachers, and students. So to the people of District 10, please stay calm, be knowledgeable enough about this issue to understand all sides of it, and keep vigilant as this session unfolds. I will continue to keep you informed as always.

Respectfully,  
Gene Reynolds  
HD-10 State Representative

*Editor's note: Rep Reynolds received Caryn Jenkins' letter at the same time it was emailed to the Minden Press-Herald.*

PERSPECTIVE

## The ticket to prosperity

**GAZA IS HOME** to Palestinian people, who have suffered injustices and have a history of legitimate grievances against both Israel and Arab governments. If there's one immutable fact of life, it is that history cannot be changed or controlled. What can be changed and controlled is the future. That points to the most tragic aspect of people in poor territories such as Gaza — focusing attention on the past, which they can do nothing about, and not paying enough attention to the future.

In the case of Palestinians, the first order of business is to recognize that they cannot militarily force Israel to withdraw from the West Bank and East Jerusalem and meet other territorial demands. Therefore, they should cease all military and terrorist actions against Israel.

If there were peaceful coexistence, there would be reciprocity and accommodation on Israel's behalf. The major accession would be for Israel to end its military blockade of Gaza's port and border. The most important first step for Palestinian people is to recognize that they have been betrayed by their leadership and that their destiny truly lies in their hands.

A real-world example that Gaza might follow is that of Hong Kong. At the time of liberation from Japanese control in 1945, Hong Kong was a poor colony of Great Britain. Geographically, Hong Kong is little more than a rock off the coast of China with few natural resources. Hong Kong's wealth was its plentiful supply of cheap labor, which attracted many foreign manufacturing firms.

Hong Kong's experience of going from a Third World colony in 1945 to having a gross domestic product per capita that ranks among the world's 10 highest in 2015 can serve as a useful blueprint for both Gaza and poor countries around the world. The basic ingredients for Hong Kong's progress were not foreign aid and other handouts from Western nations but instead law and order and a free market. A similar story can be told about Singapore. Both rank in the top 10 in wealth and the top two in economic freedom.

Despite decades of economic aid, many recipient nations are worse off now than they were before they first received development assistance.

What foreign aid usually accomplishes is to enable tyrants to retain power, letting them be able to pay off cronies and buy military equipment to suppress their people and engage in military ventures. Foreign aid also enables tyrants to set up multimillion- and even multibillion-dollar personal accounts in foreign banks.

Today's Third World poverty is mostly self-inflicted — indigenously created. The growth-promoting characteristics of the non-poor countries that are all but absent in poor countries are protected private property rights, personal liberty, enforcement of contracts, rule of law and a market-oriented economic system.

A country need not be rich to create these wealth-enhancing institutions. That's much of the story of the U.S. In 1776, we were a poor nation, but we established the institutional structure to become rich. That institutional structure attracted not only foreign investment but talented, hard-working immigrants, as well. Contrast that with today's poor countries, whose policies and institutional structure do just the opposite — repel investment and export their most talented and ambitious people to freer and richer countries.

People with limited understanding make the mistake of making a link between economic freedom and democracy. There is no such necessary link. India, for example, politically is a democracy. Economically, it is mostly unfree and poor, ranking 128th on the 2015 Index of Economic Freedom. There are countries much higher on the economic freedom index that do not have much of a history of democracy, such as Chile, now ranking seventh, and Taiwan, 14th, yet these countries are far wealthier than some of their more democratic counterparts. Why? It's because their economic systems are free or mostly free, something that is not guaranteed by a democratic political system.

The bottom line for why some countries are rich while others are poor is best-explained by the amount of economic freedom.

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



**WALTER WILLIAMS**



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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.

USPS NUMBER 593-340

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# Around Town

**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**

The Creighton Hill Community Development Corporation Inc. will host a groundbreaking celebration for Creighton Hill Estates at 3 p.m. at the corner of W.R. Reeder St. and Bayou Avenue.

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 McClendon 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**

Mt. Olive Christian School will host an “Open School” event. All parents of both attending students and prospective students are invited to come sit in the classroom of their choosing to get an idea of what a day in the life of a Mt. Olive School student is like. The classrooms will remain open for your visit until dismissal at 3:25 p.m.

New Zion Baptist Church, located at 570 Amos Cut-off Rd., 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.

**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.

## EDUCATION



## J.E. Harper Students of the Month

Kindergarten students of the month for March include, from left, Emily Jones, Mychaela Fackson, Nellie Roden, T'Niah Washington, Kenedi Carter, Alanzander Parker, Lucas Langley, Bo Clary and Timothy Smith.



**First Grade students of the month for March include, from left, front row, Evie Carroll, Tatum Oliver and Olivia Vela. Back row, from left, A'Joius Thornton, Eason Hill, Jayden Young, Mariya Austin, Kyler Ray, Connor Bolton, Jade Woods and Chloe Farley.**

# Green Thumb Jamboree April 18

The Piney Hills LA Master Gardeners will host the Green Thumb Jamboree on April 18, at the Webster Parish Extension Office in Minden, from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. There is no cost to attend the festival. A welcome center in the Teaching Garden gazebo will be manned by Master Gardeners to enable folks to sign up to be on a gardening event email list, get festival questions answered, and plant-related questions as well. A variety of vendors, demonstrations, children's activities, and speakers will be available for visitors. The PHLMG annual plant sale will also be held at the Jamboree. The Jamboree will be held in lieu of the annual garden tour, Trails & Trellises for 2015.

A graphic for Facebook. It features the Facebook 'f' logo in a rounded square at the top. Below it, the text 'imindenpressherald' is written in a lowercase, sans-serif font. The main text 'Like Us!' is in a large, bold, white sans-serif font. At the bottom, there is a QR code and a small Facebook logo. To the right of the QR code, the text 'Like Us! Facebook' is written vertically.

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# SPORTS

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## SPORTS briefs

### THE MASTERS A tradition

unlike any other

AUGUSTA, Ga. (AP) — They shared the lead going into the weekend 50 years ago at Augusta National.

Arnold Palmer, Jack Nicklaus and Gary Player were together again Thursday morning in another familiar role. Each hit a drive off the first tee to start the Masters. And then golf's "Big Three" shared memories and jokes about their games and friendship.

They combined to win the Masters 13 times — they were the only winners from 1960 through 1966. It was in 1965 that they were tied at 6-under 138 after two rounds. Nicklaus jokingly said he only remembered the third round. That's when he matched the Masters record with a 64 and wound up winning by nine shots.

Palmer hit the tee shot even on Thursday though he is recovering from a dislocated shoulder.

### THE MASTERS All eyes on star trio at Augusta

AUGUSTA, Ga. (AP) — Three of golf's greatest players began the Masters with ceremonial tee shots.

Then the focus quickly shifted to a pair of players who'll be keeping score, Rory McIlroy and Tiger Woods.

Jack Nicklaus and Gary Player are among five players to complete the career Grand Slam.

McIlroy is in position to join them, having already won, at age 25, the other three majors.

Woods, on the other hand, is looking to play 72 holes in a regular PGA Tour event for only the second time in the past year.

While McIlroy and Woods dominated the headlines coming into the Masters, let's not forget the other potential contenders, a lengthy list led by defending champion Bubba Watson.

"I feel like I have a shot around here," said Watson, who has won two of the past three Masters and can become only the fourth player to win back-to-back titles. "It doesn't mean I'm going to do it. But I'm going to try to compete at a high level, and hopefully on Sunday we have that chance on the back nine."

McIlroy was the clear favorite, having won the last two majors of 2014.

"Golf is a very fickle game," McIlroy said. "You don't take anything for granted."

While the expectations are higher than ever for McIlroy, they've never been lower for Woods.

Woods has shown much improvement in three days of practice, including nine holes he played Wednesday with Ben Crenshaw and Jordan Spieth.

Then again, no one — not even Woods — is sure how he'll play when the shots actually count.

# LITTLE LEAGUE BASEBALL TIME TO PLAY SOME BALL

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

Little league baseball season is right around the corner and kids of all ages are ready to play ball.

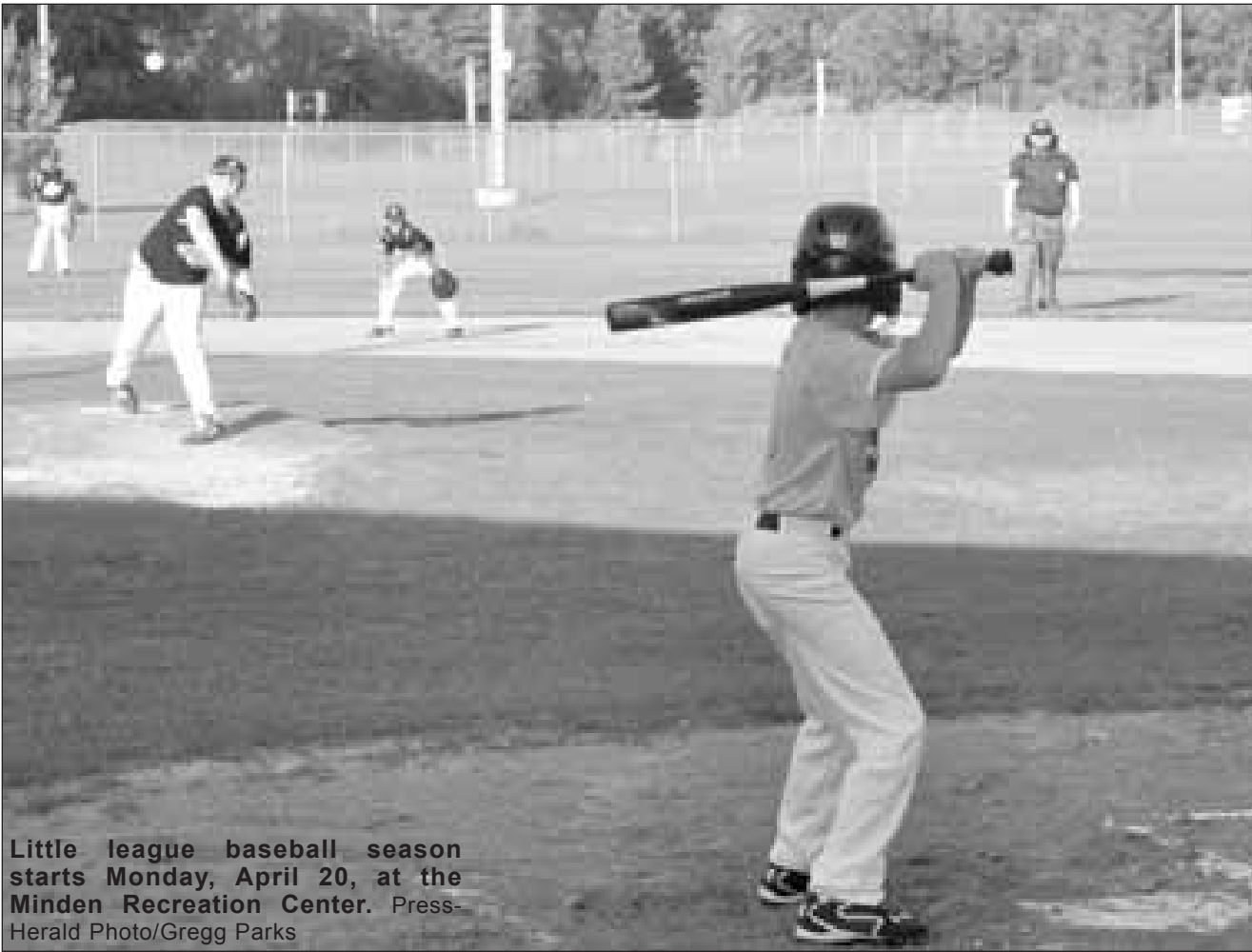
With less than two weeks until the start of the season, the Minden Recreation Center is ready for the games to get underway.

"I'm really looking forward to the season," Director of Recreation Winky Newer said. "I'm not looking forward to what the weather is forecasting for the next week."

With plenty of rain this winter and spring, the fields have required constant monitoring.

"Right now they're in good shape," Newer said. "It took awhile for them to dry out, and we missed several practices, but we've been on them for about two weeks now and we're ready for the season to start."

Opening night is Monday, April 20, for all leagues except Dixie Boys and Dixie Belles, which start Tuesday, April 21.



Little league baseball season starts Monday, April 20, at the Minden Recreation Center. Press-Herald Photo/Gregg Parks

## COLLEGE FOOTBALL Defensive line disruptive in Bulldogs spring practice



RUSTON — Louisiana Tech returned to the football practice fields Wednesday afternoon after an extended Easter holiday break, practicing for two hours in the first session in a week.

"I thought we were a little bit sluggish as far as the excitement and energy as concerned but I thought we came out here and worked hard," said Louisiana Tech head coach Skip Holtz. "We

came out here and had a very physical practice today with a lot of inside teamwork, 3-on-3 and things like that. I thought they came out and worked hard."

As the Bulldogs head into the final third of spring practice leading up to the Spring Game on April 18, the focus on getting quality work in becomes even more important with only five practice sessions left.

"Our last five days are really important with what we are able to get done with this team," Holtz explained. "I thought we've come a long way in 10 days. I think we've made a lot of progress and a

lot of guys have really stepped up and started to make a mark in the two-deep but we still have a ways to go in these final five practices. Today was a step in the right direction."

With returning starters Vernon Butler and Vontarius Dora leading the way, the defensive line is finding leadership in a pair of seniors that are never satisfied. The two quiet athletes are also beginning to step into leadership roles left vacant by Houston Bates from last year and Justin Ellis and IK Enemkpali the year prior.

"I think both those guys are doing a really good job," Holtz said of the two senior

linemen. "The two of them are going to be the two guys that are going to have to lead this thing and they both have to become more vocal, they are both very quiet personalities."

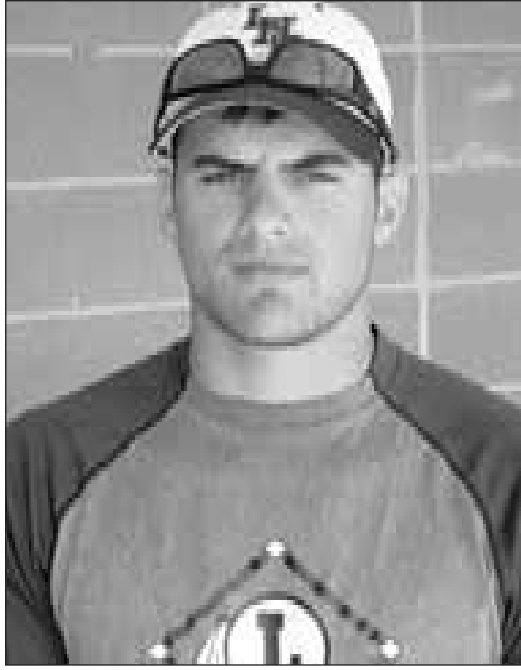
Part of the duo's excellent work has been attributed to veteran defensive line coach Rick Petri joining the staff this year. Petri returned to Louisiana Tech — he coached the Bulldogs in 1992 — after spending the last four years at Duke with stops at Kentucky and South Carolina since he was first in Ruston.

"I think he has done a great job," Holtz said of Petri. "With guys like Vernon Butler and Vontarius Dora,

he has taken both of their games to another level. Those guys are lifting others up, they are not satisfied and they are not sitting at status quo. We finish one of the 3-on-3 drills and they are asking me if they can go again. They are not looking to get out of things. That speaks volumes about their attitudes and Coach Petri has done a great job of building a relationship with those guys. He is very knowledgeable and I think he has done a nice job of reaching to both. They are great young men and they are both very open to being willing to being coached and that helps."



### Minden Press-Herald and Powerade ATHLETE OF THE WEEK



Congratulations to Lakeside's Thomas Lambert. He is this week's MPH/Powerade Athlete of the Week after going 2-4 with a single, double and 5 RBI in a win over North Caddo on Tuesday, April 7.

The Press-Herald's Athlete of the Week feature is brought to you every other Thursday by Powerade.

## FROM THE SPORTS DESK Local golf season has arrived

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

It's finally time to break out the clubs and hit the links, and this avid, terrible golfer couldn't be more excited.

I have spent all of my life in Minden, enjoying plenty of hot summer days on a variety of courses in our area.

However in recent years it appears, to me at least, that the number of golfers on our local courses is dwindling.

To me that is a tragedy. Golf is a beautiful, technical and infuriating game.

But as mad as the links can make someone, it can all disappear with one smooth stroke of a 7-iron and a ball checking up nicely four feet from the pin.

So with golf season in mind, let's take a look at a few great local courses to play this summer.

Here in Minden we have Pine Hills Country Club, a place where I have played plenty of bad golf with some good people.

In my opinion, the course is a wonderful

place to work on your game in its early stages of development. At the same time, it's home to some of the most fun-loving, wise old golf hands in our area. The course has virtually zero water hazards, freeing players up to swing fearlessly on most holes.

This nine-hole mecca of Minden golf deserves some love in the coming months, and serves as the site of numerous tournaments that benefit our area in more ways than one.

The Springhill Country Club offers a challenging nine-hole format in northern Webster Parish.

The course's calling card is narrow fairways and elevated greens, making accuracy key. Hole No. 1 provides an instant challenge with a 157-yard par 3 requiring a shot over the water.

Another fine course option is Trails End in Arcadia.

Just a short drive east on I-20, Trails End provides more obstacles and aesthetic pleasures for a more seasoned golfer.

Playing at nine holes, this course twists and

turns, rises and falls through a hilly landscape isolated in rural Bienville Parish.

Trails End hosts night golf tournaments each summer, providing golfers with a unique tournament environment and an adequate pro shop to browse.

The Homer Golf Course is another viable option to play locally.

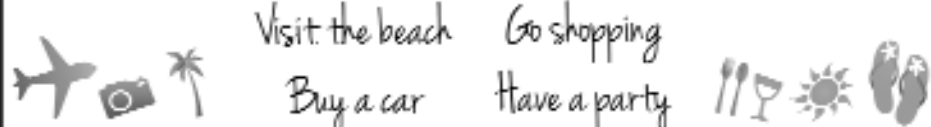
The nine-hole course provides some wonderful scenery off the first tee-box, as you scan the fairway below from atop a 40-foot hill. The course is low on water hazards for players who may not be fully confident in their swing.

No matter what level of golf you play, make this summer your time. Play local courses, improve your game, and maybe even introduce someone new to the game.

One of golf's legends, the great Ben Hogan once said, "The most important shot in golf is the next one."

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ALONG THE WAY

# Twass the week after Easter

Have you wondered what the disciples (and other believers) did the week after they witnessed the Resurrection of our Lord? Were they bold enough to share what they had witnessed, sensed and experienced? Did they go back home and share with their families and friends all of this? Were times when they were ‘just overwhelmed by it all’? Don’t you think they grouped together through the week, reliving the things Jesus had done and taught them? I do! I think the Spirit of God was so strong among them they became bonded like never before. They



**BILL CRIDER**

prayed together, shared together, witnessed to others around them, and drew on the power of the Holy Spirit. The church was being birthed. The disciples had their work cut out for them: to go into “all the world”: now that might pose a problem for some. But remember if God calls, He prepares, and that means opening doors that have been locked tightly until He gets in the picture! No boundaries were placed on this call. “Make disciples”! And just how is that done? We know we cannot do it ourselves. It is not like taking a cookie-cutter and suddenly you have a dozen disciples

around you. No, this takes time, lots of prayer, preaching and teaching the Word, total commitment to go, being faithful to His commands. Often times, those who need the Good News are not willing to receive it. But when the Holy Spirit does His work in the heart and mind of those who hear the Word....the planted seed begins to grow.... A ‘disciple’ is in the making. Baptism is a ‘sealing event’. It is an outward expression of what has already happened in the heart. It is a public testimony to everyone that a person believes “Jesus died for his sin, Jesus was buried like a dead man, but He rose from the grave and sits at the right hand of The Father.” So baptism is a picture of what has already happened: we are

‘buried in the water baptism, and raised to new life in Christ.’ He said, ‘do your homework, and all those things you have heard Me say and do....teach them to obey my commands.’ Jesus concludes his earthly ministry by this everlasting, powerful promise: I will be with you always, to the very end of the age. Amen. (Matt. 28: 16-20). Mark 16:19-20 tells that Jesus was ‘taken up into heaven and sat at the right hand of God’. But the disciples went out and preached everywhere, and the Lord worked with them and confirmed His word by the signs that accompanied it. Luke 24: 50-52 tells that after Christ ascended to the Father, the disciples returned to Jerusalem with great joy and stayed continually at

the temple, praising God. John’s Gospel records many events the Risen Lord shared with His disciples after His Resurrection. John 21 shows Him ministering and teaching among the disciples before His ascension to the Father. As John concludes his Gospel, note what he said about Jesus and His teachings: “If all of the things Jesus did was written down, the world would not have room for the books that would be written.” What an affirmation to the Resurrected Lord. Now what will we do as a result of Sunday’s observance of the Resurrection of Jesus? Will we go or stay put? Will we be a silent witness or bold under the leadership of the Holy Spirit? Will we make witnessing

intentional or leave it to ‘chance’? If you are still unclear how all of this worked out in the lives of the disciples, turn to the Book of Acts and see what happens when the Holy Spirit invaded their lives and took control. In the days between the Resurrection and the Day of Pentecost, the disciples had much to think and pray about, but they had much to do as well. And the Scriptures indicate they did not sit down and wait. They went out immediately and were seeking to fulfill the Great Commission. (This is still His mandate for us today). The Great Commission has not been repealed or overruled...yet! Let’s go, teach, reach, baptize and make disciples..... beginning here in Minden and then to the far corners of the world.

THE BIBLE SPEAKS

## Creator in the womb

We have just experienced Easter, a time for reflection on Christ’s triumph over death making possible our salvation. Do we even begin to understand the significance of Jesus’ life and death? Could it be that we relate to Jesus strictly with regards to His earthly human life and forget who He is? Both Martha and Peter made similar confessions under different circumstances saying “Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God” Matthew 16:16, John 11:27. Let that penetrate your awareness as you consider the One who appeared a common



**KATHY IRIZARRY**

laboring man. In speaking of Jesus Christ, Colossians 1:16, 17 records “For by Him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by Him, and for Him: And He is before all things, and by Him all things consist.” Our Creator God chose to lay aside His divine powers and be born a member of the human race in order to show us how to live in total dependence on the Father. His per-

fectly lived human life and death were our only hope for salvation. I’ve wondered if, before leaving heaven’s splendor, Jesus might have had a conference with the unfallen beings to explain that he would be out of sight for about nine months while developing in the womb of one of His created children and would then be born a helpless human infant -- The Creator in the womb of His creation?!! Philippians 2:5-8 gives us an idea of the extent to which Jesus condescended for our salvation. “Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: but made himself of no reputation,

and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto

death, even the death of the cross.” Jesus, as equally God, chose to become a man ever serving others and willing to die the worst of deaths on our behalf.

Oh, consider the cost of condescension to our Creator/Redeemer. May His sacrifice not have been in vain for you and for me.

THE UPWARD LOOK

## Shepherding by example

“Shepherd God’s flock among you, . . . not lording it over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock.” 1 Peter 5:2-3 HCSB



**MAX HUTTO**

The leaders of the church are to care for their people like a shepherd does his flock. The pastor is not to lord it over the people. He is not to be a domineering authority who is harsh

and brutal. He is not to abuse his power or forcefully manipulate and strong-arm as a dictator flaunting his authority. Instead, the pastor is to be the example as a servant leader. Like the shepherd who walks in front of the sheep leading the way to green pastures and clear still waters, the pastor is to lead the way,

tenderly caring for his flock. He is to be an example of the character of Christ in humility and servanthood. Lord Jesus, help all who shepherd Your flock to lead by Your example as a servant. Help me to follow Your example and character by being filled with Your grace, mercy, and love. Max Hutto is a Baptist Minister and a resident of Minden. More information can be found at www.upwardlook.org.

## Want to share the Good News?

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Luke 18:1

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# Don't Give In to Negativity

There are many ways in which we can fall into negative patterns of thought or behavior. We all make mistakes, but when we do, we should try to look at them as learning opportunities. We all occasionally say or do thoughtless things that hurt our friends or families, but when we do, we should consider it an opportunity to ask for forgiveness, and our relationship might be deepened thereby. We should all pay closer attention to what we say and do throughout the day. How much of it is knee jerk negativity? And, not just what we say to others, but how much of our internal dialogue is filled with negativity? How often do we berate ourselves for minor mistakes or omissions? We should try to be more like the coach who builds up her athletes with a pep talk or the teacher who convinces his students that they can work out a difficult problem. The important question for the track athlete is not whether you won the race but whether you did your best. Studies show that there are very few times when negativity helps us; it is almost always better to be an optimist than a pessimist. So, do what you can to throw the negativity overboard and to have a more positive attitude. Life is good and getting better, and even when it's not so good you can still choose to make the best of it.



*For as he thinketh in his heart, so is he.  
Proverbs 23:7*

- Christopher Simon

## Your Guide To Area CHURCHES

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PRIMETIME TELEVISION

# Billy Crystal, Josh Gad cross swords in FX's "The Comedians"

CULVER CITY, Calif. — A visit to Billy Crystal's offices, in a bungalow on a historic studio lot, could be intimidating. First, there's Crystal himself, star of screen, Broadway and Oscar ceremonies. There's the hit movie posters decorating the walls, including one for the Crystal-Robert De Niro romp, "Analyze This."

Then there are the anecdotes Crystal breezily relates about the likes of — top that! — Marlon Brando.

But Josh Gad, plopped in an armchair next to Crystal and kibitzing with him about the excruciatingly pepper-obsessed restaurant they visited recently, looks very much at ease.

The scene contrasts with "The Comedians," the new FX series (10 p.m. Thursday) in which Crystal, 67, and Gad, 34, play parallel-universe versions of themselves with their names and resumes — the veteran big-name performer, the rising young star — who are thrown together, unhappily, on a TV sketch show.

With taping completed on the 13-episode "Comedians," which is based on a Swedish show, Crystal and Gad ("Book of Mormon," "The Wedding Ringer") reunited to discuss their mutual admiration and the project that brought Crystal back to series TV for the first time since the 1977-81 sitcom "Soap."

Associated Press (to Crystal): Why was "The Comedians" the right show for you after so long?

Crystal: "I really was not looking. Everything was going great. I was going back to Broadway (in "700 Sundays"), we were all sold out. I'd written a book I was excited about. "Monsters University" was about to come out. Then the Swedish company sent me this show. ... And I looked at the first one, and these two guys were so good together. And then five minutes into it they're in sailor outfits, doing this crazy walk, no music. I said, "I could do this."



AP: The characters are introduced as rarely in sync and often difficult. The fictional Billy, for instance, can be prickly toward the at-times clueless fictional Josh.

Gad: We both decided we were going to commit to the essence of playing ourselves and to play-

ing, especially for Billy, playing on audience expectation and projections. He has a legacy that I have literally envied for most of my life. ... In real life, we have a lot more in common than our characters. But playing against what the expectations are for the both of us was ....

Crystal: Risky good fun.

Gad: Both risky and rewarding. We were terrified at first, but we were, "If we're going to do it, we're going to go all the way." There are some episodes that really require us to go down the rabbit hole. ... To have that conversation where we go, "Are you

going to be OK with this? You sure?" Then we hug each other and we go, "Let's do this. Let's take the Thelma and Louise jump, as it were."

Crystal: That's what is so much fun. There's a wonderful awkwardness about the pairing in the show. We're both spraying musk at different times: Who's doing what, who's going to protect his court. And he makes fun of me more than I make fun of him in the show, and I take it. It started right from the beginning: He was very brave with me. ... A lot of people tip-toe around and I want to go, "C'mon, just stop." But he doesn't.

Q: It looks like you're enjoying each other's company here.

Gad: My greatest fear on the show was impressing this living legend. That has truly been the dynamic that has kept us throughout this process, working at such a high level of friendship and camaraderie. If you don't have that, you can't do this other stuff. We'll finish a scene and I'll be in his dressing room watching a Clippers game.

AP: So comedy can be cross-generational?

Gad: I'm fascinated by his career because it's spanned so many facets and covered so many facets, from writing to directing to acting. That's what I ultimately want to form myself to be that multi-hyphenate that can have his hand in all of those. So to just sit back and study this kind of empire that Billy has created, it's a fascinating lesson.

Crystal (looking abashed): Wow, I sound famous.

AP: But it must be flattering.

Crystal: It is. I totally enjoy it and I sweat when he says things, but it means a lot to me. And he knows how I feel about him. You can't work on this level without respecting each other. And that's part of the show, too. They may resent each other but they know they really need each other.

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## PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY OF MINDEN, STATE OF LOUISIANA, TAKEN IN REGULAR SESSION HELD ON MARCH 2, 2015.

The Minden City Council met at City Hall, Minden, Louisiana on March 13, 2015, beginning at 7:00 p.m. with the following members present: Mayor Tommy Davis, Wayne Edwards, Fayrine A. Kennon-Gilbert, Vincen Bradford, Mike Toland and Benny Gray. Absent: None. The meeting was opened with prayer offered by Benny Gray and Wayne Edwards led the Pledge of Allegiance. Mayor Tommy Davis welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Discussion followed regarding proposed amendments to the legislation governing the Downtown Development District Commission. The main focus of the discussion was the qualifications for the commission members. At the end of the discussion period, Mike Toland moved to adopt a Resolution supporting

legislation which would amend R.S. 33:2740.24 with respect to the Downtown Development District Commission and powers and to otherwise provide with respect thereto, as presented with modified changes as discussed today. Said resolution and proposed amendments are attached to these minutes and made a part thereof.

The meeting was adjourned.

s/ \_\_\_\_\_ Tommy Davis, Mayor

ATTEST:

s/ \_\_\_\_\_ Michael Fluhr, City Clerk

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

**April 9, 2015 Minden Press-Herald**

## PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY OF MINDEN, STATE OF LOUISIANA, TAKEN IN REGULAR SESSION HELD ON MARCH 2, 2015.

The Minden City Council met at City Hall, Minden, Louisiana, beginning at 7:00 p.m. with the following members present: Mayor Tommy Davis, Wayne Edwards, Fayrine A. Kennon-Gilbert, Vincen Bradford, Mike Toland and Benny Gray. Absent: None. The meeting was opened with prayer offered by Benny Gray and Wayne Edwards led the Pledge of Allegiance. Mayor Tommy Davis welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Upon motion by Wayne Edwards and duly seconded by Fayrine A. Kennon-Gilbert, the council unanimously adopted the minutes of Council Regular Session held on February 2, 2015, as presented.

Fayrine A. Kennon-Gilbert moved to accept the action of the Personnel Committee and confirm Mitchell Hackett as a Police Officer in the Minden Police Department, subject to passing all applicable tests. The motion was duly seconded by Benny Gray and carried unanimously. The following

action was taken regarding condemned properties: Rodney Palmer 615 Sibley Road P. O. Box 570

House (located on property assessed to Cotton Valley, LA 71018 Gerald R. Ivy etux on Lot #11, Blk. C J. R. Miller Shop Subdiv.

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

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

Ms. Vernell Thomas was present and addressed the council requesting 180 days in which to rehabilitate the structure located on the lot. Fayrine A. Kennon-Gilbert moved to authorize the Mayor to issue an order declaring the property condemned in its present state and further order the demolition or rehabilitation of any structures located thereon and the cleaning of the lot within 180 days of this date. The motion was duly seconded by Wayne Edwards and carried unanimously.

Georgia Gaines 110 Camp Street 110 Camp Street Triangular shaped lot 89.09 x 155 x 159 ft. Minden, LA 71055 in NW/4 of NW/4 Sec. 21-19-9

With no one present representing the property owner, Wayne Edwards moved to authorize the Mayor to appoint a curator to represent the property owner. The motion was duly seconded by Fayrine A. Kennon-Gilbert and carried unanimously.

Benny Gray moved to adopt Ordinance No. 1051, Annexation of Property, annexing that certain property located in the vicinity of the Homer Road and Southridge Drive,

into the corporate limits of the City of Minden. The motion was duly seconded by Vincen Bradford and carried unanimously. (Property located in the vicinity of the Homer Road and Southridge Drive) A Resolution Authorizing the Mayor to Negotiate and Enter into a Temporary Trial Period Contract for the Concessions Services at the Minden Recreation Complex, was unanimously adopted upon motion of Mike Toland and duly seconded by Benny Gray. Said resolution is attached to and made a part of these minutes. Mike Toland moved to adopt a Resolution showing support of the completion and submission of the State of Louisiana Office of Community Development FY 2014-2015 Community Water Enrichment Fund Application, and empower the Mayor to execute any and all documents to accept and implement said grant, if awarded, on behalf of the City of Minden, as presented. The motion was duly seconded by Fayrine A. Kennon-Gilbert and carried unanimously. Said resolution is attached to and made a part of these minutes. The Police Report for February of 2015 was unanimously approved, as presented, by motion of Benny Gray and duly seconded by Wayne Edwards. Council comments were heard, public comments were heard, and the meeting was adjourned.

s/ \_\_\_\_\_ Tommy Davis, Mayor

ATTEST:

s/ \_\_\_\_\_ Michael Fluhr, City Clerk

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

**April 9, 2015 Minden Press-Herald**

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## CRYPTOQUIP

J JXBDJCL RVXL AVMNK RBG

QUBQ QUL AVFNK VE

LNLDBCQ, RQGNJRU EBRUIVC

JR QFMNG B YUIJY-KVX.

**Yesterday's Cryptoquip:** IF A NEW VARIETY SHOW DEALT WITH THE TOPIC OF BRITISH NOBILITY, I WOULD CALL IT A PEER REVUE.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: Q equals T

## CROSSWORD

| ACROSS                         | 39 Joke                   | DOWN                | 22 "—                   |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|
| 1 Auction action               | 41 Oft-tattooed word      | 1 Awful             | Mommy Kissing           |
| 4 Presenta-tion                | 42 Branch                 | 2 "Rocks" as        | Santa Claus"            |
| 8 Top-rated                    | 44 Four-poster feature    | satanic             | 23 Obvious hairpiece    |
| 12 Blackjack compo-nent        | 46 Mont-golfier transport | 4 Holy              | 27 Satchel              |
| 13 Emana-tion                  | 50 Torched                | 5 "Ben- —"          | 29 Reducing in rank     |
| 14 Make a lasting impres-sion? | 51 Marga-rine             | 6 Exam format       | 30 On                   |
| 15 JFK or LBJ, e.g.            | 52 Wreck                  | 7 "Just add —"      | 31 Frost-covered        |
| 17 Waikiki wingding            | 56 "— It Romantic?"       | 8 D.C. social world | 33 Ardent enthusi-asts  |
| 18 Rowing need                 | 57 History chapters       | 9 Needle case       | 35 — -12 Confer-ence    |
| 19 Granting permis-sion        | 58 Not paleo-             | 10 Read briefly     | 38 Street address?      |
| 21 Cold season                 | 59 Oodles                 | 11 Hood-lum         | 40 Over-shoe            |
| 24 Uncooked                    | 60 Lomond is one          | 16 Feedbag bit      | 43 Runway V/P           |
| 25 "— was saying, ..."         | 61 Wander about           | 20 Paving gunk      | 45 Zilch                |
| 26 Fix the sound-track         |                           | 21 Hospital section | 46 Seethe               |
| 28 Doppler device              |                           |                     | 47 As well              |
| 32 Heckle                      |                           |                     | 48 Fast time?           |
| 34 Space                       |                           |                     | 49 Infamous lyre player |
| 36 Bigfoot's cousin            |                           |                     | 53 Apple computer       |
| 37 Nerd one                    |                           |                     | 54 The Red or the Black |
|                                |                           |                     | 55 Coal carrier         |

**Solution time: 24 mins.**

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

**Yesterday's answer 4-9**

|    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 1  | 2  | 3  |    | 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  |    | 8  | 9  | 10 | 11 |
| 12 |    |    |    | 13 |    |    |    |    | 14 |    |    |    |
| 15 |    |    | 16 |    |    |    |    |    | 17 |    |    |    |
|    |    | 18 |    |    |    | 19 |    | 20 |    |    |    |    |
| 21 | 22 |    |    |    | 23 |    | 24 |    |    |    |    |    |
| 25 |    |    |    | 26 |    | 27 |    | 28 |    | 29 | 30 | 31 |
| 32 |    |    | 33 |    | 34 |    | 35 |    | 36 |    |    |    |
| 37 |    |    |    | 38 |    | 39 |    | 40 |    | 41 |    |    |
|    |    |    | 42 |    | 43 |    | 44 |    | 45 |    |    |    |
| 46 | 47 | 48 |    |    |    | 49 |    | 50 |    |    |    |    |
| 51 |    |    |    |    | 52 |    | 53 |    |    |    | 54 | 55 |
| 56 |    |    |    |    | 57 |    |    |    |    | 58 |    |    |
| 59 |    |    |    |    | 60 |    |    |    |    | 61 |    |    |



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