ON THE FIELD Minden High baseball camp begins in June **PAGE 6**

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INSIDE today

House tax bills get

easy passage from

Senate committee

NEWS PG.2

COURT WATCH

Veitch to be sentenced August 3

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TUESDAY-

MICHELLE BATES michelle@press-herald.com

Ronald "Ronny" Veitch is set to be sentenced August 3 after pleading guilty to racketeering Friday.

He faces up to 50 years in prison plus a \$1 million fine, Assistant District Attorney Hugo Holland said. He amended Veitch's

bill of information to include a laundry list of charges including fraud, theft and possession of narcotics.

His bill of information includes charges of possession of Schedule II CDS (morphine and

hydrocodone), racketeering and conspiracy to commit insurance fraud. Under the racketeering charge, Veitch is accused

of unlawfully stealing prescription medication

beginning in 2011. In 2014, he reportedly stole prescription medication on at least five differ-VEITCH ent occa-

sions. "RICO - Racketeering Influenced in Corrupt Organization - was designed and enacted in the 1970s to go after the mob," Holland said. "In order to prove a racketeering charge, the prosecutor has to prove two things, it has to prove an enterprise and it has to prove at least two predicate felonies that the enterprise has conducted. "It allows individual

crimes that sporadically occurred around the place to all be wrapped into one bundle if the prosecutor can show an enterprise," he continued. "I charged that Ronny Veitch, along with an unindicted coconspirator, meaning Veitch Pest Control, were an enterprise. All the thefts from the (elderly)

See **VEITCH**, Page 2

Cultural Crossroads receives donation from ConocoPhillips

LIFE PG.5





CRIME Wanted Shreveport juvenile captured in Minden

BRUCE FRANKLIN

bruce@press-herald.com

A Shreveport juvenile wanted in connection to multiple shootings was arrested in Minden Monday afternoon.

Minden police and agents with the U.S. Marshal's Task Force took 16-year-old Toby Jackson into

Disobev

OPINION PG.4

WEATHER

TOMORROW'S OUTLOOK



86 HIGH LOW

Cloudy skies early, then partly cloudy in the afternoon.

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Planning the future

Interstate 69 corridor for Webster chosen after 20 years

date, where we are and what we're

trying to do," he said. "We had a

full house. With Section 14, we're

going to try to get the money to

construct, and get the land we

need. We're trying to get that in the

next highway bill - designated

says now that a route has been

Minden Mayor Tommy Davis

"It brought everybody up to

custody in the 400 block of West Todd Street following a Crime Stoppers tip.

Shreveport police say Jackson is responsible for a shooting that left a Shreveport man injured.



Just after mid-

night Sunday, Shreveport police were called to a home in the 1300 block of Glen Oaks for a report of a shooting. When officers arrived, they found 25-year-old Leonardo Copeland with multiple gunshot wounds to his lower body.

Copeland was transferred to University Health with non-life threatening injuries.

During an investigation, police discovered the shooting was a

See **I-69**, Page 2

chosen, it's going to be a big asset

Minden and to Webster Parish," he

said. "When it's going to happen,

nobody knows, but when it does

happen, it will be a great econom-

ic boom because we'll have I-20

and I-49 and I-69 all coming very

"I think it looks favorable to

to Minden and Webster Parish.

See **CAPTURED**, Page 2

PUBLIC SAFETY

MICHELLE BATES

dles and debates.

very informative.

michelle@press-herald.com

An Interstate 69 corridor has

J.T. Taylor, a long-time advocate

been chosen after 20 years of hur-

of I-69 and Claiborne Parish resi-

dent, says the Homer meeting was

'Click it or Ticket' campaign underway in Minden

STAFF REPORTS

The national "Click it or Ticket" campaign is underway and Minden police have beefed up their patrols looking for those who aren't wearing their seatbelts. Police Chief Steve Cropper says as part of the

national seat belt enforcement campaign, his department is joining

agencies around the country in stepping up enforce-

money.'

ment through May 31, just ahead of one of the busiest travel weekends of the year. "Every

CROPPER day, unbuckled motorists are losing their

lives in motor vehicle crashes," Cropper said. "As we approach Memorial Day weekend and the summer vacation season, we want to make sure people are doing he one thing that can save them in a crash, buckling up."

According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, nearly half of the 21,132 passenger vehicle occupants killed in crashes in 2013 were unrestrained. At night, from 6 p.m. to 5:59 a.m., that number soared to 59 percent of those killed. That's why one focus of the Click it or Ticket campaign is nighttime enforcement. Participating law agencies will be taking a no-excuses approach to seatbelt law enforcement, writing citations day and night.

In Louisiana, the maximum penalty for a seatbelt violation is \$50 for a third offense and each subsequent offense, plus all court costs.

Locally, according to figures from the Louisiana Highway Safety Comission, five people died in fatal crashes in 2014, in which the lack of seatbelt

See **CLICK IT,** Page 2



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I-69 Continued from page 1

close to us."

Bossier City Mayor Lorenz "Lo" Walker says the most important issue that came out of Thursday's meeting in Homer is getting funds designated in the National Highway Transportation bill.

The corridor will go through northwest Louisiana, from Eldorado, Arkansas to Tenaha, Texas. In Louisiana, the route chosen is Alternative 4 with Option 3 for SIU 14 proposed in Bossier, Claiborne and Webster Parishes, according to a status report. The route is expected to run west of Dixie Inn and hit I-20 at Goodwill Road and go south, then east Haughton. Then it will go from Haughton to Stonewall, according to figures presented in that report.

"At some point, around 2002, it was decided not to swallow it all at once,' Walker, president of the I-69 Mid-Continent Coalition, said, "but to separate it into 32 separate independent utility sections running from Indianapolis to below the Rio Grande Valley. Each section of independent utility, if and when built, would have utility in and of itself for that region. There have been several completed already. Texas has really been going gang busters on their side of the river, putting a lot of money into it.

I-69 began in Indianapolis, and Walker says the goal is to complete it from there to central United States to Mexico. It started about 21 years ago in Indianapolis to have a corridor that runs north to south, and vice versa. The United States already has I-20, the corridor that runs east and west, he says. The idea is to have a corridor that runs from Canada to Mexico to increase the efficiency of the trade routes.

"For the past 20 years



funding in the National Transportation bill to build the international corridor," he said. "The cost in today's dollars is about \$29 billion. It has about three major bridges it has to cross and that's part of the cost."

As the 32 independent utilities were divided, the utilities that affect northwest Louisiana are SIU 14 and SIU 15, Walker says.

"It starts up around from the border of Magnolia, Arkansas and Arkansas to the border of

said. "It comes through enough money from the four parishes in the northstate to acquire the rightswest corner, and I can't tell of-way to prevent it from being more costly in the you why this route was specifically chosen, but I future. do know that the route

"Hopefully one day we'll get enough money to construct it," he said. "In today's dollars, SIU 14, in northwest Louisiana, is around \$778 million. From an economic standpoint, when you look at the economic value to the state, if it didn't come through the state, we

LOUISIANA LEGISLATURE

House tax bills get easy passage from Senate committee

BATON ROUGE — A Housepackage of approved tax bills estimated to raise \$615 million for next year's budget sailed through its first stop in the Senate on Monday, as budget negotiations continue.

Without objection, the Senate Revenue and Fiscal Affairs Committee advanced 11 bills to rework tax break programs, scale back state subsidies for businesses and raise the state cigarette tax by 32 cents per pack. Three bills would make an across-theboard cut of 20 percent for most of the state's tax breaks.

The proposals — several of which face opposition from business groups head next to the Senate budget committee for consideration. Lawmakers acknowledged they could face substantial changes as the budget haggling continues among legislative leaders.

Though you see the posture of how the bills are leaving committee today, that does not mean that will be their final disposition," said Sen. J.P. Morrell, D-New Orleans, a member of the Revenue and Fiscal Affairs Committee.

Under the budget to be considered Thursday by the full House, nearly all the money raised by the tax bills would be used to keep higher education from deep cuts in the fiscal year that begins July 1. The rest of the dollars would be plugged into health care programs, which still face sizable reductions next vear.

The bills advanced by Senate committee Monday include the cigarette tax hike, which would raise the tax to the 68-cent rate charged by Mississippi; limits on the state solar

tax credit; temporary suspension of a 1-cent sales tax exemption on business utilities; and a reduction on tax credits businesses can receive for paying local property taxes on inventory.

Other tax proposals that won committee backing aren't expected to raise dollars for next year's budget, but could increase revenue in future years. They include a \$200 million cap on the film tax credits Louisiana certifies each year and changes to a tax break for horizontal oil and gas drilling that would lessen the exemption's value as oil and gas prices increase.

The Louisiana Association of Business and Industry opposes five of the largest revenue-raising bills, calling them tax hikes that would fall on every industry sector across Louisiana. The organization also has questioned whether the proposals received the vote required for House passage.

The film industry is seeking adjustments to the bill that affects its tax credit, saying the cap is too restrictive. The solar industry is asking for tweaks to the measure that impacts its tax break program. And supporters of the cigarette tax proposal want the rate to be pushed higher, to discourage smoking.

Meanwhile, several of the measures don't meet Gov. Bobby Jindal's parameters of what tax changes he's willing to consider. The Republican governor, who is building a likely presidential campaign, won't agree to anything considered net increase by national anti-Grover tax activist Norquist. Lawmakers have been trying to find loopholes to Jindal's rules.

or so, this coalition has tried to get dedicated



were the predicate felonies for the racketeering.'

The possession of Schedule II CDS and the conspiracy to commit insurance fraud charges were dismissed, Holland says. All the theft charges over the last year were rolled into the racketeering charge.

goes through the Shreveport-Bossier area," he

Webster Parish Sheriff

Gary Sexton, at the time

of Veitch's arrest in June

2014, said all the victims

"He would tell them he

was there to do a termite

inspection, then ask them

to step outside the resi-

dence," Sexton said. "He

would have a large spray

can and wear a mask to

performing a service."

make them think he was

reported Veitch would

show up at their resi-

dence without being

called.

Texas, he says. The coalition is now trying to get

> Veitch was first arrested for middle grade theft and possession of Schedule II CDS in 2012, Sexton says, and according to court documents, he pled guilty to the possession charge at the time.

will be where it is and

those two sections of

come through northwest

al construction, Louisiana

will only pour concrete

When it comes to actu-

corner of the state."

utilities

independent

Records show he was sentenced in August 2012 to four years at hard labor with all but six months of that sentence suspended. Veitch avoided imprisonment when he was granted credit for time served at the Odyssey House, a

would not be a part of the whole system.' behavioral healthcare

facility in New Orleans with an emphasis on addiction treatment. He was then placed on three years' active probation with special conditions.

Veitch was taken into custody Friday, and he bonded out on a \$50,000 bond. Holland says had Veitch not pled guilty, he would have gone after the business as well.

CAPTURED Continued from page 1

result of an argument between two males and a female and named Jackson as the shooter.

Police were searching for Jackson after they say

LOVE PURPLE LIVE GOLD

he escaped police custody during transport to the Caddo Juvenile Detention Center on May 8. Jackson is also accused of shooting a Shreveport man in the neck in 2014.

Jackson faces two charges of attempted second degree murder and escape.

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CLICK IT Continued from page 1

use was a factor. Almost twice as many males were killed in crashes as compared to females. with lower belt use rates, too. Of the males killed in crashes in 2013, more than half – 54 percent – were unrestrained. For females killed in crashes 41 percent were not buck-

"If you ask the family members of those unrestrained people who were killed in crashes, they'll tell you – they wished their loved ones had buckled up," added Cropper. "The bottom line is that seat belts save lives. If these enforcement crackdowns get people's attention, and get them to buckle up, then we've done our job.'

BIRTHDAYS FOR TUESDAY, MAY 19, 2015 Gloria Jean Clark Flournoy Charnice Niecee Carter Sam Smith Julian Smith Georges St-Pierre Malcolm X



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LOUISIANA LEGISLATURE

Briefs from the Louisiana Legislature's regular session

BATON ROUGE — State senators have spurned a proposal to lift constitutional protections that keep an array of specially created funds shielded from budget cuts.

State Sen. J.P. Morrell, D-New Orleans, said when the state faces deep financial problems, all options for reworking state spending should be available to lawmakers.

"I think our constituents are tired of hearing our hands are tied," Morrell told the Louisiana Senate Finance Committee.

But lawmakers worried that too much would be open for slashing, particularly the \$3.6 billion public school financing formula. The Finance Committee voted 8-2 against Morrell's bill (Senate Bill 196), a constitutional amendment that would have required support from voters in the fall election if it had won passage from the full Legislature.

LICENSE PLATES

The state Senate on Monday approved a bill that would allow some sheriff's departments to automatically scan the license plates of drivers they pull over.

The proposals (Senate Bill 250), which supporters say will help police crackdown on uninsured motorists and car thieves, was approved on a 33-2 vote and now moves to the House for consideration. As is, law enforcement officers have to manually run a check on a car's license plate number. If the bill is approved, it would create a pilot program allowing a handful of sheriff's departments to install equipment that would automatically scan the plates.

That would allow police to quickly find out if a car

is stolen, said bill sponsor, Sen. Ronnie Johns, R-Lake Charles.

Tickets for failing to have insurance would be issued through the mail, he said. But before those tickets are issued, the local district attorney would first have to review the information and approve the issuance of a ticket, Johns said.

OBITUARIES

Mrs. Cecelia 'Ceal' Wallett Brunson

Funeral services honoring the life of Mrs. Ceal Brunson will be at 11 a.m., Wednesday, May 20, 2015, at Rose-Neath Funeral Home Chapel in Minden. The services will be officiated by the Rev. Leon Boggs with burial to follow at Gar-

dens of Memory in Minden. The family will receive friends from 5 until 8 p.m., Tuesday, May 19, 2015, at Rose-Neath Funeral Home.

Born Cecelia "Ceal" Wallett on Nov. 11, 1921, in Campti, she passed away in the early hours of May 18, 2015, in Minden. She grew up on the Cane River. In June 1944, while working at the Jack and Jill Café outside of the Louisiana Army Ammunition Plant, she met the love of her life, Sidney R. "Buster" Brunson. After he returned from WWII, they married on July 5, 1945. They settled on the family home place off of Goodwill Road outside of Dixie Inn.

Ceal retired from Thikol at LAAP in 1981 to care for Buster as his health began to decline. He preceded her in death in August 1982. She sold the home place and moved to Doyline to be with family. She became active in the Doyline community and became a member at Doyline United Methodist Church. After the death of her only son, Sidney "Sid" Brunson Jr., in March 1986, she chose to raise her grandson, Trey. She then became involved in Union Elementary PTO and Boy Scouts.

Ceal moved to Minden in 1999 with her daughter where she became a member of Lakeview United Methodist Church. She enjoyed caring for her great-grandsons and her sister, Clotile Pittman. She loved visiting shut-ins and different churches. Her favorite past times included cooking for family and friends, dancing, and playing Solitaire. Her health started to decline in 2011 and she became a resident of Town & Country in Minden where she remained active until a fall in August 2013. den Medical Center ER, and third floor nursing staff, Dr. Max Stell, Dr. Michael Chanler, Dr. Dean Griffen, and the late Dr. W.S. Hunt.

Memorials may be made to donor's choice.

Sheila Kay Ely Childress

She was preceded in death by mother Elizabeth (Liz) Ely.

She is survived by her husband Richard Childress of Minden, father Virgil Ely of Minden, brother Dean Ely of Amarillo, sister Brenda Mitchell and husband Keith Mitchell of Minden



CHILDRESS

Rebecca Ann Thomas Cox

Rebecca Ann Thomas Cox was born April 30, 1955, and passed away May 16, 2015 in Homer.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Lena Mae Childs Thomas and G.F. (Pistol) Thomas; sisters, Mary Beth Lumpkin and Partice Lo Bouwart brother

Bonita Jo Bower; brother, Gaylard (Bubba) Thomas; and nephew,

Chris Lumpkin. She is survived by her loving husband of 35 years, Gary Cox; son, Brady Cox, his girlfriend, Lauren Coker; nieces, Faith Lumpkin Thomas, Hope DeSormeaux and husband Mike, Charity Lumpkin Gross, Maggie Bowers Punch and husband Jeremy, Chris' wife, Michelle Lumpkin, and Mandy Bower; nephews, Ben Bower and wife Rebecca, Danny Lumpkin and wife Kelly, and Jamie Lumpkin; brothers-inlaw Buddy Bower, Ronnie Lumpkin; sisters-in-law Debbie Thomas Huckaby and Debbie Cox Gilmore; father-in-law, Jack Cox; and aunts, Louise Thomas Foster and Marjorie Thomas Childs. Also left to cherish her sweet memory are many great nieces and nephews whom she adored and whose lives she loved to follow through pictures, also life long friends and cousins who loved her and will miss her every day. Becky was an unselfish caregiver, a loving wife and mother, and a devoted friend with a beautiful and ever present smile that will always be remembered. She loved her music, talking with friends and family, and all things furry. Her life long unfaltering and abiding faith was never more evident than in these last few months. She never questioned why she was given this journey to travel but accepted it as God's will for her. We were all blessed to have her in our lives, and now heaven is brighter because of her.

Baptist Church, where she was a long time member with pastors Scott Tuetsch and Marty Wright officiating. Visitation was from 5 until 7 p.m., Monday, May 18, 2015. Burial will be in White Hall Cemetery. In lieu of flowers donations may be made to the Northwest Chapter of the American Cancer Society 920 Pierremont Rd. Shreveport, LA, or the charity of the donor's choice.

Deanna Lynn Griffith 'Ladybug'

Deanna Lynn Griffith 'Ladybug' of Minden was born April 26, 1967 in Shreveport and passed away May 12, 2015 in Minden.

A memorial service will be from 4 until 7 p.m., Wednesday, May 20, 2015 at the VFW Building.

She attended Northwood High School in Blanchard. She was an outgoing person who loved life, dancing, singing karaoke and spending time with her family.

She was preceded in death by her brother, James Allen Gilley.

She is survived by her parents, James and Vel Gilley; husband, Robert Earl Griffith; daughter, Amber Nicole Chase; grandchildren, Heather Nicole Chase, Brooklynn Carol Rowe Lawrence, Dalton Cole Lawrence and daughter Alisa Leann Chase and daughter Catilin Michele Lynn



Samuel Lewis 'G'

Mr. Samuel Lewis passed away at 5:20 p.m., Thursday, May 14, 2015, at the Minden Medical Center.

After graduating from school in Crystal Springs, Mississippi, he attended Grambling College and after graduating he worked as supervisor at the Community Center for a number of years. He also worked for the Frazier Ranch.

He attended church at Pilgrim Rest Baptist Church. He was a church school superintendent, church school teacher, a deacon and worked anywhere he could in the church. He was a member of New Zion United Methodist Church before he moved to Minden.

Samuel was preceded in death by his parents Bennie and Allea Lewis, two brothers and two sisters.

He is survived by two brothers, George Lewis (Fort Washington, Maryland), Ernest Lewis (Friars Point, Mississippi); three sisters, Nellie Dudley (Temple Hill, Maryland), Eula Anderson (Chicago, Illinois), Geraldine Benson (Crystal Springs, Mississippi); and a host of nieces and nephews.

Memorial services will be at 2 p.m., Thursday, May 21 at Pilgrim Rest Baptist Church in Sibley.



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Mrs. Brunson is also preceded in death by her sisters, Clotile Pittman and Edris Mitchell; brothers, Morris and Ernest Wallett; grandsons, Brannon Mitchell and Ronnie Bilyeu, and son-in-law John Bilyeu.

She is survived by her daughter, Judy Brunson Bilyeu of Bossier City; granddaughter, Connie Bilyeu Smith and husband Jimmy of Doyline; and grandson Sidney "Trey" Brunson III of Shreveport; her greatest joys, four great-grandsons, Gage and Nathaniel Brunson, Garrett and Cameron Smith; sisters, Mary Jones of Taylor, Arkansas, Marie Elmore and husband, James of Haynesville, and Hazel Blake of Calvin and numerous nieces and nephews.

The family would like to thank the staff at Town & Country Nursing Home, Min-

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idea...

Services for Becky will be at 10 a.m., Tuesday, May 19, 2015 at New Sarepta



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PERSPECTIVE The legacy of Mao Zedong is mass murder

Can you name the greatest mass murderer of the 20th century? No, it wasn't Hitler or Stalin. It was Mao Zedong

According to the authoritative "Black Book of Communism," an estimated 65 million Chinese died as a result of Mao's repeated, merciless attempts to create a new "socialist" China. Anyone who got in his way was done away with -- by execution, imprisonment or forced famine.

For Mao, the No. 1 enemy was the intellectual. The so-called Great Helmsman reveled in his blood-let-ting, boasting, "What's so unusual about Emperor Shih Huang of the China Dynasty? He had buried alive 460 scholars only, but we have buried alive 46,000 scholars." Mao was referring to a major "accomplishment" of the Great Cultural Revolution, which from 1966-1976 transformed China into a great House of Fear.

The most inhumane example of Mao's contempt for human life came when he ordered the collectivization of China's agriculture under the ironic slogan, the "Great Leap Forward." A deadly combination of lies about grain production, disastrous farming methods (profitable tea plantations, for example, were turned into rice

fields), and misdistribution of food produced the worse famine in human history. Deaths from hunger reached more than 50 percent in some Chinese villages. The total number of dead from 1959 to 1961 was between 30 million and 40 million -- the pop-ulation of Califor-

LEE **EDWARDS**

Rounding up enemies Only five years later, when he sensed that revolutionary fervor in China was waning, Mao proclaimed the Cultural Revolution. Gangs of Red Guards -- young men and women between 14 and 21 -- roamed the cities targeting revisionists and other enemies of the state, especially teach-

Professors were dressed in grotesque clothes and dunce caps, their faces smeared with ink. They were then forced to get down on all fours and bark like dogs. Some were aten to death, some ever all for the promulgation of Maoism. A reluctant Mao finally called in the Red Army to put down the marauding Red Guards when they began attacking Communist Party members, but not before 1 million Chinese died. All the while, Mao kept expanding the laogai, a system of 1,000 forced labor camps throughout China. Harry Wu, who spent 19 years in labor camps, has estimated that from the 1950s through the 1980s, 50 million Chinese passed through the Chinese version of the Soviet gulag. Twenty million died as a result of the primitive living conditions and 14-hour work days. Such calculated cruelty exemplified his Al Capone philosophy: "Political power grows out of the barrel of a gun. And yet Mao Zedong remains the most honored figure in the Chinese Communist Party. At one end of historic Tiananmen Square is Mao's mausoleum, visited daily by large, respectful crowds. At the other end of the square is a giant portrait of Mao above the entrance to the Forbidden City, the favorite site of visitors, Chinese and foreign.

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ANALYSIS Huckabee's influence seen in Arkansas' politics

Touting himself as an outsider as he launched his second bid for the Republican presidential nomination, former Arkansas Gov. Mike Huckabee is relying on many of the same themes that helped him first get elected 22 years ago. Back then, he promised to "unplug" a Democratic political machine in a state where Penubli

machine in a state where Republicans were a rare sight in public office. Now that he's again seeking the White House, he's relying on a political machine in his home state that has his fingerprints all over it.

Huckabee announced his bid last week in Hope, the hometown he shares with former President Bill Clinton, and sought to make the kind of populist appeal that helped get him elected lieutenant governor and later governor.

'I'm going to let you in on a little secret. I never have been and won't be the favorite candidate of those in the 'Washington to Wall Street' cor-ridor of power," Huckabee told a crowd of hundreds gathered at a community college auditorium. The message echoed Huckabee's

message in his 1993 race for lieutenant governor, when argued a "political machine" ran the state.

"It caters to its special interest friends," Huckabee said in a television ad for that race. "There is one set of rules for them and another for the rest of us. We can unplug the machine.

During his announcement, Huckabee reached back to that message and called himself someone who governed the "most lop-sided and partisan" state — one that was dominated by Democrats.

'I challenged the deeply entrenched political machine that ran this state," Huckabee said. It's part of an argument Huck-

abee's tried to make that he's the best positioned to take on Hillary Rodham Clinton in a general election, claiming he took on the Clinton machine in Arkansas. It's a claim that political observers have said is overstated. 'It's a useful national narrative, but in the state it seems like a stretch," University of Arkansas political science professor Janine Parry said. Huckabee never ran against either Clinton in Arkansas, but his political rise was closely linked to the former first family. Bill Clinton's White House win in 1992 cleared the way for Huckabee's rise, with Democrat Jim Guy Tucker's ascension into the governorship creating an opening for lieutenant governor. 'Bill Clinton becoming president opened up a lot of doors for Mike Huckabee. How about that?" former state Rep. Jonathan Barnett, a longtime friend of Huckabee's, said. Huckabee's allies argue he was running against a Democratic Party that was heavily influenced by the state's favorite political son. "Just because you're out of state doesn't mean you don't still have a machine still in state," said state GOP Chairman Doyle Webb. A glance around the auditorium Huckabee's presidential announcement showed just how much times have changed in a state where Republicans now control the Legislature as well as its federal and statewide offices. It also showed that if there's a political machine running Arkansas, it's one that is inextricably linked to Huckabee — even though he no longer lives in the state. Introducing Huckabee at the event was Gov. Asa Hutchinson, who chaired the state Republican Party when Huckabee first sought elected office in the early 90s. The audience included Attorney General Leslie Rutledge, a former attorney for Huckabee, and several Republican legislators. The state's lieutenant governor, Tim Griffin, is advising Huckabee's campaign on a volunteer basis. But Webb, who is backing Huckabee's bid, said he wouldn't say Huckabee has a political machine in the state the same way he believes the Clintons did. "I think there are a lot of Huckabee supporters. I'm not sure how deep that machine is," Webb said.

Repression continues

In the spirit of Mao, China's present rulers continue to oppress intellectuals and other dissidents such as human-rights activist Liu Xiaobo. He was sentenced last month to 11 years in prison for "inciting subversion of state power." His offense: signing Charter 08, which calls on the government to respect basic civil and human rights within a democratic framework.

China presents itself as a vast market for U.S. companies and investors. But some U.S. companies are taking a second look at doing business in a country which considers Mao Zedong its patron saint. Google has said it is reconsidering its operations in China after discovering a sophisticated cyber attack on its e-mail which the government must have initiated or approved.

Google has revealed what many in the Internet world have known for some time -- China routinely hacks into U.S. and Western Web sites for national security and other valuable information. Mao would have enthusiastically applauded this intellectual rape

I wonder: would President Obama be so ready to kowtow to China if in the middle of Beijing there was a mausoleum of Hitler and, hanging from the gate to the Forbidden City, a giant swastika?

Lee Edwards is distinguished fellow in conservative thought at The Her-itage Foundation in Washington, D.C.

Charles Murray, already controversial for writing books on how welfare hurts the poor, on ethnic differences in IQ and on (less controversial, but my favorite) happiness and good government, has written a new book that argues that it's time for civil disobedience. Government has become so oppressive, constantly restricting us with new regulations, that our only hope is for some of us to refuse to cooperate.

Murray's suggestion laid out in "By the People: **Rebuilding Liberty Without** Permission," will make some people nervous. He argues that citizens and companies should start

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JOHN **STOSSEL**

"America is no longer the land of the free. We are still free in the sense that Norwegians, Germans

and Italians are free. But that's not what Americans used to mean by freedom."

He quotes Thomas Jefferson's observation that a good government is one "which shall restrain men from injuring one another (and) shall leave them otherwise free to regulate their own pursuits."

But our government today tries to do much more.

While we try to invent new things, government constantly seeks new ways to control us. The number of federal crimes on the books is now 50 percent larger than back

in 1980 — a time when many people mistakenly thought the U.S. would cut the size of government.

Murray says, correctly, that no ordinary human being not even a team of lawyers can ever be sure how to obey the 810 pages of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act, 1,024 pages of the Affordable Care Act or 2,300 pages of Dodd-Frank.

What if we all stopped trying? The government can't put everyone in jail. Maybe by disobeying enough stupid laws, we can persuade judges that only rules that prevent clear, real harm to individuals should be enforced: "no harm, no foul."

Law is not always the best indication of what is good behavior. Riots in places such as Ferguson and Baltimore remind us that even cops sometimes behave badly.

No one wants to see law break down so completely that people get hurt, but historian Thaddeus Russell reminds us that many freedoms we take for granted exist not because the government graciously granted liberties to us but because of lawbreakers.

Bootleggers, "robber barons" who did things like transporting ferry passengers in defiance of state-granted monopolies and tea-dumping American revolutionaries ignored laws they opposed. Sometimes these scofflaws loved liberty more than our revered Founders did. George Washington led troops against whiskey makers to enforce taxes.

More recently, Uber decided it would ignore some cab regulations. It's good that they did because Uber usually offers better and safer service. Today, Uber is probably

too popular for government to stamp out.

Edward Snowden knew the legal consequences he'd face for revealing NSA spying on American citizens but did it anyway. I'm not yet sure if he did the right thing, but conservatives and leftists alike should admit that sometimes laws ought to be bent or broken.

Instead, each political party defends civil disobedience unless the people doing it are people that faction doesn't like. The right loves ranchers who resist federal land managers but doesn't like people who flout immigrations laws. The left likes pot smokers but whines about corporations ignoring ridiculously complicated environmental regulations.

Maybe most of these laws should be ignored by most of us

Politicians themselves don't always play by the rules. My last column was about how the Clintons get away with breaking rules. But I made a mistake that I must correct: I said the Clinton Foundation donated only 9 percent of its money to charity. Sorry, that was wrong. The Clintons and their flunkies were worse than that.

In 2013, the Foundation collected \$144 million but spent only \$8.8 million on charity. That's only 6 percent.

When Bill and Hillary say they want to "help people,' they're talking about themselves. I don't want to be forced to obey such people.

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

Andrew DeMillo has covered Arkansas government and politics for The Associated Press since 2005.



Tuesday, May 19, 2015 – Minden Press-Herald 5 WEBSTERTER



Pictured with the donation are ConocoPhillips employees Tommy Pearson, production supervisor, Brent Kramer, senior advisor, Glenda Allums, SAP associate, Melissa Reeme, production associate, Cathy Durain, production associate, Corrie Thomas, field shear specialist, Jane Sutton, production associate and Dani Deshotel, executive director of The Farm and Cultural Crossroads. Courtesy Photo

Cultural Crossroads receives donation from ConocoPhillips

Cultural Crossroads of Minden recently received a contribution from ConocoPhillips to go towards the arts for children in Minden.

Donated for the annual Spring Arts Festival, the event is in its 21st year and is on a four-acre estate owned and managed by Cultural Crossroads. Called The Farm, the organization provides the only outside source for arts in education in Webster Parish. With no arts curriculum in grades K-8, this four-day festival and all the artsrelated activities included, have provided many children with their first real art experience. Fourth graders from across the parish are bussed in for the "Kids Day at The Farm."

They work side by side with professional artists while creating works of art. The three days set aside for fourth graders and children with special needs is provided free of charge. The festival also includes the largest exhibit of created works by parish children, along with a talent search that offers finalists a chance to showcase their talent.

Local artists and emerging artists are invited to exhibit and demonstrate.

The grounds during festival week serve as a hands-on art experience for both children and adults as festival goers are encouraged to participate in a variety of free, handson art experiences that result in the creation of works of art they can take home and public works of art that are added to the already impressive collection of public art pieces scattered about the landscaped grounds.

Around Town

Share your events with the community. Send in your events to community@pressherald.com, fax them to 377-1866, over the phone by calling 377-1866 or in person at our offices located at 203 Gleason St. in Minden.

Sunday, May 24

Hopewell Baptist Church will celebrate its 128th church anniversary at 2:30 p.m. Guest speaker will be the Rev. Samuel Henderson.

Growing Valley MIssionary Baptist Church will host a Veterans and Memorial Day program at 2:30 p.m. with the Rev. James Bonner. All active duty veterans, law enforcement and fire fighters are invited to attend.

Pine Grove Baptist Church will host an 11th anniversary celebration for the Reverand and Sister Donald Russell at 11 a.m.

Parade of States will be at Union Grove Baptist Church at 3 p.m. Songs of Praise will be rendered by Mary Evergreen Missionary Baptist Church of Shreveport.

Friday, May 29

Y-Line's 3rd Annual Reunion will be at 6 p.m. at Dorcheat Seafood Frill (Bayou Inn) in Dixie Inn. For more information call Fannie Ashley at 318-564-6688 or Bettye Herring at 318-578-4757.

Sunday, May 31

Mt. Zion CME Temple will honor Elder Arnold B. Caesar and first lady Daisey Caesar at 3 p.m.

The Pastor Aide Auxiliary of Union Grove Baptist Church cordially invite you to come worship and get your praise on at the Minister Solo Singing Program (featuring Pastors / Ministers/ Evangelists from the surrounding area) at 6 p.m. Special guest will be Interfaith Voices of Deliverance from Arcadia.

Antioch Baptist Church located on Hwy 79 in Minden will host its Fellowship Program at 2:20 p.m. with guest speaker Pastor Ray D. Jiles of Valley Springs Baptist Church.

Tillman Church of God in Christ located at 972 Tillman Church Road in Heflin will have a free hot dog give away from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m. or until all gone. For information call Roy at 377-3205.

🕈 Residents' Garden 👔







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HONORING OUR VETERANS DEADLINES - THURSDAY, JUNE 25, 2015 PUBLISHES TUESDAY, JUNE 30, 2015

SPORTS www.press-herald.com

SPORTS briefs HIGH SCHOOL TENNIS Netters coach still has it

Johnson nets playoff hat trick NEW YORK (AP) -Tyler Johnson is carrying the Tampa Bay Lightning in the playoffs and making a name for himself.

NHL

The 24-year-old is becoming one of the front-runners to be the postseason MVP.

Johnson scored shorthanded, even strength and on the power play in tallying the first hat trick in Lightning playoff history and Tampa Bay got its high-scoring offense in gear and evened the Eastern Conference finals with a 6-2 victory over the stumbling New York Rangers on Monday night.

"Oh, Tyler Johnson, the bigger the game, the better he plays," Lightning coach Jon Cooper said. "That's Tyler Johnson. It's unreal to watch. He put the team on his back, and we all followed."

Johnson has had four multiple goal-scoring games in the postseason and each has followed a Lightning loss. The previous player with four multiple goal-scoring games in the same postseason was Jamie Langenbrunner with the Devils in 2003, the league said.

"I think every morning I'm just happy to be here and I'm living my dream," the 5-foot-8 undrafted center said. "So that's what's driving me is to try to be the best I can and play for my family. They sacrificed so much for me to be here, and I'm living my dream, so I want to keep living it as long as possible."





Special to the Press-Herald

HOT SPRINGS, AR - The Riser Ford-sponsored Multi-State 70's and 80's Tennis Tournament was recently held in Hot Springs, Arkansas.

Forty teams of men and women with ratings of 3.5 and 4.0 from twelve states competed for championships.

Shreveport Regional, a team comprised of local and area men and captained by Don Rucker, represented northwest Louisiana. Shreveport Regional was one of ten teams of 3.5 men and competed in Group 2 of the divided division.

Shreveport Regional played five matches during the four-day event, marching to the title undefeated. Teams from Mississippi, Arkansas, Tennessee and Oklahoma were in their division. Among the members of

the team was coach of the Glenbrook netters, Wayne Orr. Orr teamed with Richard Johnson of Natchitoches; the duo was undefeated in five matches, playing at various times the No. 1 or No. 2 or the

No. 3 court. "The Coronado Tennis Center inside Hot Springs Village is a beautiful com-plex," Orr said. "The weather was ideal. The skill level is high; the majority of the competitors have years of court experience. The deciding factor is usually one's mobility level.

Richard and I have teamed for several USTA tournaments; our skills compliment our court strategy. This was my second year to compete there; I am definitely looking forward to future years of competition."



Pictured: (L-R) Richard Johnson, Cliff Coffman, Lewis Leonards, Gail Lowry, Nelson Kamansky and Wayne Orr. (Front) Don Rucker, captain. Courtesy Photo/Wayne Orr

St. Jude fishing tournament

The first annual St. Jude fishing tournament was held April 4, raising \$3,320

BASEBALL CAMP Minden High baseball camp

Minden High School baseball camp will begin on June 1, hosted by Crimson Tide head coach Dean Francis, staff and players from Minden High School at the Minden Rec. Center

The first session is a total skills camp for ages 5-

The 5-8 total skills camp will begin at 9 a.m. and last until 11 a.m. from June 1-4. The cost to register is \$70.

The second session, a total skills camp for campers ages 9-14, will also take place from June 1-4 from noon-2 p.m. The cost is also \$70.

Session three will be a hitters camp, beginning June 8-9 from 9 a.m. - 11

for hitters and pitchers, June 10-11 from 9 a.m. - 11 a.m., also for campers ages 9-14 with a \$50 registration fee.

The total skills camp will focus on the skills of defense, hitting, throwing and catching.

The hitters camp will focus on swing mechanics, drills and the mental component of hitting.

The pitchers camp will focus on pitching mechanics, fielding the position and the mental aspects of pitching.

Campers need to bring all of their own equipment to be used during camp and can register on the first day of camp.

Boxing fans suing Pacquiao over fight

LAS VEGAS (AP) Boxing fans across the country and their lawyers are calling the hyped-up fight between Manny Pacquiao and Floyd Mayweather Jr. a fraud and want their money back, and then some.

At least 32 class action lawsuits across the country allege Pacquiao should have disclosed a shoulder injury to boxing fans before the fight, which Mayweather won in a unanimous decision after 12 lackluster rounds that most fans thought didn't live up to the hype.

Fight of the century? More like fraud of the century, the lawsuits contend.

"The fight was not great, not entertaining, not electrifying. It was boring, slow and lackluster," according to a lawsuit filed in Texas alleging racketeering, a claim usually reserved for organized crime.

A lawsuit filed on behalf of Flights Beer Bar near LAX airport in California said Pacquiao and his promoter's actions were, "nothing but a cashgrab." The bar paid \$2,600 to broadcast the fight.

for St. Jude Children's Hospital. Tournament organizer Sarah Carter wanted to express her gratitude to all who sponsored the event or took part for making it such a wonderful success. First place winners in the tournament were Jason and Kaden Williams totaling 16.92 pounds. Courtesy Photo/Sarah Carter

a.m. This camp is for players ages 9-14 and the cost of registration is \$50.

The last session will be

All reigstration forms and checks should be mad out to Dean Francis. For more information call 426-5487 or 371-1365.

LOUISIANA OUTDOORS Delicious discovery in North Arkansas

I love visiting Gaston's White River Resort. Thankfully, I've been on the guest list for an annual Media Weekend for the past half dozen or so years and as much as I enjoy the fantastic trout fishing, I get to sample other stuff we don't have here in north Louisiana.

Did you ever sit down to a meal of freshlycaught rainbow trout? Gaston's famous shore lunch is one thing that makes the trek seven hours north from home worthwhile.

I'm going to admit that trout is not my favorite fish to eat. My taste buds are more in tune with crappie, catfish and bluegills. However, when you catch trout during a morning fishing trip, watch the guides clean them an hour later and see the fish seasoned, rolled in corn meal and

dropped in a gurgling caldron of hot grease and on your plate before the wiggle is barely gone, that's some pretty good chow-down right there.

discovered another culinary delight on my trip a month ago, one I've always heard about but 🐖 never sampled, mushmorel rooms.

When I'm cooking a stew, mulligan or roast, I love the chewy bouncy texture and taste of mushrooms I add to the pot. However, to compare morel mushrooms with the kind I buy at the local grocery store is like comparing a thorough-bred race horse to a bay mule.

While we were fishing on the river one morning, my guide, Paul Jones, waved to a friend on shore. "You pickin' morels?", Jones hollered across to his buddy. He got a thumbsup in response.

For a few minutes, I forgot about catching

trout and wanted to know more these about mushrooms, a species I had never seen much less eaten.

When reading posts on social media from my turkey hunting buddies around

the country, I frequently read about them bagging a gobbler and bringing home a bonus, a bag of morel mushrooms, or as they call them. shrooms'.

HARRIS

So what are morel mushrooms and why are they so popular and why have I never seen any in north Louisiana? One reason I've never seen one here is we apparently don't have them, at

least according to a morel map I discovered on-line. Louisiana is one of only four states without morel mushrooms. The others are Alaska, New Mexico and Florida.

I remarked to Jones, my fishing guide that I'd never seen nor sampled morel mushrooms and after our shore lunch, Jones handed me a bag with half a dozen

or so morels. "I just walked out there and found these,' he said, pointing to a wooded area near where we were having lunch. "Take 'em home and try 'em; you're gonna like 'em.

Following his sug-gestions as to how to prepare the mushrooms, I gave it a try after I got home and found out why morels are so popular. They were delicious. Here's what I did.....I soaked the mushrooms in salted water for 10 minutes to flush out any insects. I patted them dry with paper towels, cut each mushroom in half length-wise, sprinkled them with salt and pepper and rolled them in flour and fried them golden brown in melted butter. They were nothing like eating our grocery store mushrooms. I would compare it to eating little strips of fried steak.

Next year when I head for Gaston's, I may forego fishing for at least one day and spend my time in the woods, looking for morels. To me, a platter of freshly caught rainbow trout can't hold a candle to a pile of crispy fried morel mushrooms.

Glynn Harris Outdoors is proudly sponsored by DSK, Ltd. of Minden.



ENTERTAINMENT

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Nick Jonas on hit singles, JoBros, Timberlake, acting

Nick Jonas may have become a sex symbol to female fans in the last year, but the singer says his new tour won't cater just to the ladies. He's thinking about his male fans, too.

"I don't think I'll cater physically to the women so that it's not polarizing to my male fans," Jonas said.

"And at the core, I'm kind of a dude," he said laughing, "so I like to get out and have a good time.' The Nick Jonas Live in Concert Tour will kick off Sept. 6 in Hershey, Pennsylvania. Tickets go on sale Friday.

The 22-year-old is riding high on the success of his hit singles "Jealous" and "Chains," which have reached platinum status and dominated on radio. They appear on his latest, self-titled album.

He's also busy outside of music: He's filming the movie "Goat," gearing up for the second season of DirecTV's "Kingdom" and will appear in the new Fox series "Scream Queens."

Jonas talked about his busy schedule, being compared to Justin Timberlake and reuniting with the Jonas Brothers in a recent interview with The Associated Press.

AP: You have so many female fans, so will your tour be a ladies' night tour? Jonas: You know I think that the male fan base has actually been the biggest thing to watch grow. It's been pretty special to see that change. I think a big part of that has to do with the music.

AP: Are you surprised

radio?

Jonas: It's a kind of bizarre thing to think that now I've got two songs that people have connected to, and I just want to continue to build on that. I feel like in a lot of ways what I'm doing is just the beginning of what I hope is a really long journey, and it's all about staying hungry and (being) willing to dig in and work hard.

AP: You've drawn some comparisons to Justin Timberlake since he was also in a boy band and meshes R&B with pop sounds. What do you think of that?

Jonas: It's an incredible feeling. Justin has had an amazing career, amazing transition — both as a musical artist but also as an actor. And the acting has been a really big thing for me in the last year and a half with some projects I've become really passionate about. ... So those comparisons are really flattering. Justin has done his thing and has had his own journey, and I'm sure I'll have my own as well. And I'm honored people would make that comparison, but definitely staying in my own lane as well.

AP: Were you nervous when you decided to tackle a more R&B sound?

Jonas: I think anytime you try to push yourself and push your sound and evolve is a little frightening. Just being bold and taking those steps. But I saw really quickly that the fans connected with it.

AP: Did you play your album for your brothers guys would reunite for a

month before it came out, wanted to kind of get their opinions on what they thought should be singles and overall what their vibe was on it. Their opinion meant a lot to me and they both were really supportive ... I think I really needed that support going in to feel comfortable to really take that step forward.

AP: Do you think you

Jonas: I think our time

creatively together is done.

song or album?

Never say never though. I can't predict what's going to happen one day or the next. ... I would say for right now I'm happy to be doing my own thing.

AP: What's it been like working with James Franco in the film "Goat"?

Jonas: He has been an incredible force creatively for this movie. He's one of the producers in the movie and I'm not really allowed to say what his involvement is with it — it's kind of a secret.

AP: You have a song on the upcoming soundtrack for Broadway's "Finding Neverland." What was it like being a part of Broadway again?

Jonas: I'm a big fan on Broadway and I've been really fortunate to get to perform on Broadway a bunch of times, so anything I can do in that sense to support and show love to that community is

Jonas: I think that the next thing I'd be a part of, I'd love for it to be something that I wrote. So hopefully I can write a show at some point and then get to perform it.

AP: How are you balancing music and acting?

Jonas: It's been a little tricky at times to be honest ... the acting projects take up a lot of time and I love



that both "Jealous" and before you released it? "Chains" have been on heavy rotation on the record for them about a

Jonas: I played the

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FUNKY WINKERBEAN | TOM BATIUK





always great for me. AP: Is doing Broadway again one of your goals?

doing them and want to be the kind of performer that can do both.

HAGAR THE HORRIBLE | CHRIS BROWNE



HI AND LOIS | BRIAN WALKER. GREG WALKER AND CHANCE BROWNE





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of program. Larry Merritt seconded. Motion carried.

assessment

the LCDBG for the

stools, ice chest, & and

Merritt Larry motioned to adopt Resolution No. 2015-08 asking assistance from the Webster Parish Police Jury to clean ditches on NE 3rd Ave. Doyle Chanler seconded. Motion carried.

Chief Jeremy Robinson recommended to the Board to accept resignation the of Officer Tommy Boddie. Richard Davis motioned to act on the recommendation and accept the resignation, Doyle Chanler seconded. Motion carried.

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