

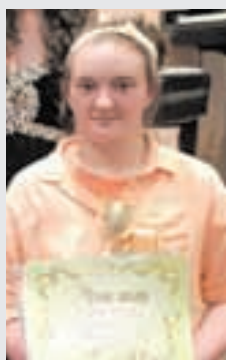
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THURSDAY**INSIDE
today**

Ringgold
Round-Up is
this weekend

NEWS PG.2

Students
participate in
piano recital

LIFE PG.5

Plenty
of time
to makeup

OPINION PG.4**WEATHER**

TOMORROW'S OUTLOOK

**73
HIGH****61
LOW**

Scattered thunderstorms
in the morning, then
cloudy skies late.

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COURT WATCH

Maness' charges amended to racketeering

Suspect accused of stealing more than \$12k from former employer

MICHELLE BATES
michelle@press-herald.com

Charges against Erin Maness, a woman accused of stealing more than \$12,000 from her former employer, have been amended to racketeering.

Maness was in court on May 18 in front of 26th Judicial District Judge Jeff Cox on arraignment on an amended bill of information for charges of theft of \$1,500 or more, racketeering and conspiracy to commit racketeering.

Assistant District Attorney Hugo Holland says Maness pled not guilty to the charge of racketeering and trial has been set for June 15. She has been remanded into custody on the new charge. Her

**MANESS**

bond was set at \$15,000.

"I am going to dismiss the other charges as the racketeering encompasses all of them," Holland said. "Unless she pleads guilty, which is unlikely, she is going to be tried by a jury of her peers."

Maness was originally charged with one count of felony theft of more than \$12,000 and 28 counts of theft of business records,

Webster Parish Sheriff Gary Sexton said at the time of her arrest.

The business records were state certificates, which potentially could be valuable, he says.

"The company performed an internal audit and found the losses," Sexton said during the initial investigation. "They pro-

See **ARREST**, Page 3

Anne and Kerry Easley stand with the gate they purchased during the construction of The Courtyard. Kerry Easley says the gate is roughly 250 years old, and with the fence and staircase, they wanted to give it a French New Orleans feel. Michelle Bates/Press-Herald

Courtyard grand opening, ribbon cutting is Saturday

After eight years of hard work and building a vision, Kerry and Anne Easley are inviting the public to come to The Courtyard for its official grand opening and ribbon cutting.

Set for 5:30 p.m., Saturday, May 23, the Easleys are excited about the public getting to be a part of their investment in the arts and historic downtown Minden. The event, located at 105 Pearl St., will feature the official ribbon cutting, followed by live music, jambalaya and beer, all free of charge.

Kerry Easley, owner of Easley Studios and The Courtyard, says the building and courtyard hold special significance for him and his wife Anne.

"We're now able to invest in ourselves instead of a 401K," he said. "We've taken an eyesore and turned it into a destination. We've been in business for eight years now, and we've moved to this new location, so it's just to



The staircase was purchased with the help of former downtown development director Pattie Odom, who helped the Easleys obtain a Restoration Incentive Grant to make the purchase. The grant was in the amount of \$10,000. Michelle Bates/Press-Herald

See **EASLEY**, Page 2

OUTDOORS

Caney Lakes recreation area opens Friday

Just in time for the Memorial Day weekend, Caney Lakes recreation areas' gates are opening for the season.

Beginning Friday, families can enjoy the swim beach, volleyball court, boat launch and camping areas.

Caney Lakes is located just north of Minden. The campground will fully accommodate motor homes including water and electrical hook-ups.

The day use entrance gate will be open at 6 a.m. until at 8 p.m. To accommodate fishermen and other lake users, the entrance gate from Methodist Camp Road will be open at all times and the recreation permit will be required.

Guests at Caney lakes participating in any day use activities, including fishing, will be charged a fee of \$3. The permit is valid for the purchaser and other passengers, not to exceed six people. Camping fees include \$15 for Beaver Dam Campground and \$10 for Turtle Slide Campground. Seasonal day use permits are available at \$30 or \$15 with the America the Beautiful Senior Pass and are valid for an unlimited number of visits during the current recreational season. Seasonal permits are valid for the purchaser and other passengers, not to exceed six people per vehicle.

Kisatchie officials say 95 percent of these fees are returned to Kisatchie National Forest to maintain and improve recreational facilities.

Only certified aid dogs are allowed in the swimming and ski areas. Only dogs on a leash are permitted in the recreation area.



Day use entrance gates that have been closed to visitors all winter will open to Caney Lakes recreation areas beginning at 6 a.m., Friday. File Photo



SECONDFRONT

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MINDEN CRIME

Green headlights lead to man's arrest

MICHELLE BATES
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A Minden man was stopped in the vicinity of Moore Street for having green headlights.

Tqunoneon D. Mims, 24, of the 300 block of South Abney

Street, was arrested Friday, May 15, and charged with possession of a stolen firearm and headlamps other than white. Bond was set at \$33,000.

Police Chief Steve cropper says while Officer Chris Hammontree was on patrol on East Street, he noted a vehicle with green headlights. Hammon-

tree initiated the traffic stop on that vehicle.

"You can't have green headlights or blue," Cropper said. "There are some headlights that give the appearance of blue, but these were green."

He clarified, saying the only legal headlights are the

clear bulb headlights.

Cropper says the officer "observed" signs of drug use and one of the passengers in the vehicle gave a false name.

Mims was asked permission to search the vehicle, and upon consent, Hammontree found a 9 mm handgun inside, Cropper says.

"They ran the gun and got an NCIC hit for being stolen out of Arkansas, and at that point, Mr. Mims was arrested for possession of a stolen firearm," the chief said.

He was booked at the Minden police station and transported to Bayou Dorcheat Correctional Center.



MIMS

Ringgold Round-Up is this weekend following rodeo

LUKE GREASY
Special to the Press-Herald

A three-time world champion bareback rider will be the featured rider at the Ringgold Round-Up at the Bienville Parish Fair Association fairgrounds.

In Ringgold, just 30 minutes south of Minden, Will Lowe will ride retired former horse of the National Finals Rodeo Wise Guy, solely to raise funds for the Barksdale Wounded Warriors Association Friday, May 22.

As it is Memorial Day Weekend, anyone with a military I.D. of any kind, veterans or active military, will get into the rodeo for free. The rodeo is at 7:30 p.m., Friday May 22, and Saturday, May 23.

"The match-up is on Friday, at the end of the rodeo," stock contractor Dustin Murray, who provides most of the animals for the event, said. "It's the feature event."

Wise Guy, who is owned by Scotty Lovelace, is being brought out of retirement just for this match up.

Wise Guy is 25 and made 17 consecutive trips to the NFR in bareback riding. Cowboys have won nearly a quarter million dollars on him at the NFR and nearly half a million dollars won on him through his career.

"We never bucked him more than 12 times a year and in his last five years bucking we only bucked him about eight times a

year, just enough to qualify for the NFR," Lovelace, who dotes on his champion horse, said. "One year, he blew a tendon in the short round of San Antonio, (in February), and we barely got him away from the house to get him bucked enough for the NFR that year. Every rodeo he was hauled to he was your short round, final four round, top match up kind of horse.

"He has COPD, (Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease), like people get so we hardly ever bucked him after winter rodeos, till it cooled off again in fall because the heat makes it harder to breath," he continued.

So seeing Wise Guy at a rodeo in May is a rarity and seeing him in the state of Louisiana will also be a first. Wise Guy was retired at the 2013 NFR in go round one when Caleb Bennett won the round on him- it was the ninth round won on Wise Guy at the NFR and hasn't been bucked since.

"I'm just glad Scotty is willing to buck him again. That horse loves to buck; I bet he's tired of standing around," Lowe said of the horse he will ride.

This will not be the first time Lowe has climbed aboard Wise Guy: the first time was in Lowe's rookie year, 2002, when the then 19 year old climbed on him for a check in the short round of San Antonio, Texas.

"That ride kicked off my



A three-time world champion bareback rider will be the featured rider at the Ringgold Round-Up at the Bienville Parish Fair Association fairgrounds. Courtesy Photo

career really," Lowe recalls. "I had him a lot since, never the same trip twice but one thing was certain, he was going to turn out of there and get after it. He's one horse I would bet on every time. I'm just happy to nod my head on a horse like that again before he's gone. He's been awesome every time. I've driven across the United States to get on that horse numerous times. Lots of horses you wouldn't walk across the street to get on, but this is one I'd gladly drive across Texas to get on just for fun."

This year is the third Ringgold Round-Up and the first year it's been a pro (PRCA) rodeo. Cody Demoss, 10-time NFR Saddle Bronc Riding qualifier and committee member, is proud of this new rodeo and hopeful for the future of the rodeo and the potential of the fairgrounds as he explains.

"Last year about 1,500 people came out to the rodeo," he said. "We had a crawfish boil one night and a fish fry the next. Every dime we make, (besides the money people donate to the Wounded Warriors),

goes back into the local riding club and fairgrounds. Last year, I got on my bareback horse, second competitor of the first event and the power went out. So this year, we had a lot of work done to make the electricity reliable. We hope to make enough money at the rodeo to get the grounds to the level they need to be to have 4-H shows and exhibits.

"This rodeo is something these people don't get to see," he continued. "Lots of rodeos advertise they'll have top caliber cowboys and the guys real-

ly aren't all that's promised; but in this case, there will be pro cowboys there and there is a guaranteed match-up well worth the price of admission featured at the end of the rodeo Friday night. It isn't a big town, there're no hotels and no McDonald's, but we try to make it worth the trip. It's Memorial Day Weekend so it's all about America and family. We try to make it like rodeo was when rodeo was the number one sport in America."

EASLEY

Continued from page 1

let everyone in town know that we've moved and that we have a new building."

Originally, the Easleys bought the Rogers frame shop. They expanded from just framing into photography for all the schools for Webster Parish as well as some in Bossier Parish.

The Courtyard is an outdoor photo studio and event center. They rents The Courtyard for various events such as weddings,

Mardi Gras parties, and the Minden-South Webster Chamber of Commerce has rented it for special events as well.

"When we bought this building, there was just a vacant lot next door," he said. "Anne and I love New Orleans, and we love that New Orleans courtyard feel and we wanted to take that empty lot and turn it into something nice."

Much of the materials at The Courtyard are salvaged materials, such as the front fence. Easley says the wrought iron picket fence came from New Orleans,

and the gate is roughly 250 years old.

The Easleys say the old Crichton building was constructed in the 1920s by Thomas Crichton Sr. It originally housed four separate businesses – three downstairs and one upstairs – none of them connected, only accessed through the outside.

"Mr. Crichton was known to build stout buildings since he also owned a concrete and gravel company," Anne Easley said. "It was originally and always has been a stand-alone building, unlike all of the

other historic buildings in Minden which share walls."

Kerry Easley says former downtown development director Pattie Odom was instrumental in their quest to revitalize the building and The Courtyard. She helped them apply for and were awarded two state grants for the project. One grant was a Restoration Incentive Grant for \$10,000, which helped pay for the exterior stairs. Kerry Easley says the stairs cost about \$26,000.

"It really helped us finish this thing off the way

we wanted it, which was really nice," Kerry Easley said. "We wanted it to have a French New Orleans historical look. (Odom) was extremely helpful in helping us get the forms we needed, the tax incentives, and if it weren't for her, we wouldn't have known about (these grants)."

The other grant was a Tax Incentive Grant, which allowed the Easleys to get credits against their state taxes for 25 percent of the total cost of the project.

They also shoot product photographs for Amazon.com, which

means they photograph products the online company is selling, Easley says.

The company is also part of the Cultural Arts District, which means any art that is sold, no taxes are charged.

"It means we have been designated from the State of Louisiana as a cultural art (business)," he said. "We were also the first art gallery to open in Minden. Minden has City Art Works too. Now we do art, photography, custom framing and music. Anne and I like it because it's just a cool job to have."

Homer Police Department seeking reserve officers

The Homer Police Department is seeking individuals interested in applying to be a reserve officer. For more information and to obtain an application, contact Homer Police Department Officer Johnnie Hough, Police Chief Russell Mills by phone at 318-927-4001, email at homerpolice9@gmail.com or stop by the Homer Police Department at 400 East Main St. in Homer.

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LOUISIANA LEGISLATURE

Louisiana House to debate next year's budget Thursday

BATON ROUGE — After weeks of wrangling for ways to generate more money, the Louisiana House readied Thursday to debate next year's \$24.4 billion budget proposal.

A package of budget bills to finance state government operations in the 2015-16 fiscal year that begins July 1 was scheduled for votes, with lawmakers feeling a bit more upbeat about the budget situation than when they opened the legislative session in April.

Since then, the House passed a series of tax changes to raise more money for state coffers, an estimated \$615 million. That, combined with money from improved income forecasts and other patchwork financing, would close about \$850 million of the gap originally projected for next year.

House leaders estimate lawmakers need another \$140 million to address the remaining list of budget needs identified by the House and Senate.

Higher education, which started the legislative session facing cuts of up to 80 percent of its state financing, would be spared slashing. But under the budget proposal awaiting debate, cuts still would fall across public health care services, state parks, museums and agricultural services.

Without additional dollars, the LSU privatization deals are short of what the hospital operators say they need to continue providing the current level of services to the poor and uninsured who rely on the facilities.

In addition, LSU's medical schools in New Orleans and Shreveport would be left with millions

of dollars in insurance and retiree costs from the privatization deals that medical school leaders say could leave them struggling to stay afloat.

Whatever passes the House is tied to a tricky balancing act with the Senate.

Many of the tax bills — which would rework tax break programs, scale back state subsidies for businesses and raise the state cigarette tax — face opposition, particularly from businesses that would find themselves paying more in taxes with the changes.

A political action committee for the chemical industry is running radio ads around the state attacking one of the tax measures, and lawmakers say some of their districts have been hit with robo-calls criticizing their tax votes.

The Senate is expected to make changes to the tax bills, and senators are trying to come up with more money to plug into next year's budget. The opposition from the business community is certain to make those financial negotiations harder.

Meanwhile, several of the tax 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 a net tax increase by national anti-tax activist Grover Norquist.

Senators have been trying to find loopholes to Jindal's rules, to cobble together a budget and tax deal that would be considered veto-proof.

STATE UPROAR

Critics bash Jindal on 'religious freedom' executive order

BATON ROUGE — Gov. Bobby Jindal's effort to enact by executive order a proposal shot down by state lawmakers is raising questions about whether the Republican governor is overreaching legally.

Hours after lawmakers shelved a divisive religious objections bill, Jindal issued an order aimed at doing the same thing as the bill.

It prohibits state agencies from denying licenses, benefits, contracts or tax deductions in response to actions taken because of someone's "religious belief that marriage is

or should be recognized as the union of one man and one woman."

Rep. Walt Leger, the second-ranking House member, calls the order "more than likely unenforceable."

Other opponents of the bill have lodged similar claims about Jindal's order, saying it has little real impact. Jindal's office dismisses such criticism, saying the order protects "religious liberty."



JINDAL

MANESS

Continued from page 1

vided us with the information uncovered by the audit and we arrested the suspect Wednesday morning (June 11, 2014)."

WPSO's investigation revealed Maness had been taking checks and cash intended for her employer for more than a year. The thefts were said to have occurred from Jan. 2013 through April 2014. She had been employed at the

business for a little more than one and a half years.

According to her amended bill of information, Maness and her husband, Scott, "each separately and when acting together constituting an enterprise, engaged in a

pattern of racketeering..."

The bill of information lists six different times between April 2013 and September 2013 in which Erin Maness committed theft of about \$400 each time. The second count accuses Erin Maness of

conspiring with her husband to commit theft by fraud.

According to Louisiana Revised Statute 15:1354, the penalty following conviction of racketeering is not more than a \$1 million fine and/or up to 50 years

in prison "when the amount of the violation exceeds ten thousand dollars shall be required to serve at least five years of the sentence without benefit of probation, parole, or suspension of sentence."

OBITUARIES

J. D. Speer

Funeral services for J. D. Speer will be at 2 p.m., Friday, May 22, 2015, at Rose-Neath Funeral Home Chapel in Minden with the Rev. Emile Rousean officiating. Interment will follow at Woodard Cemetery in Taylor. The family will receive friends from 5 until 7 p.m., Thursday, May 21, 2015, at Rose-Neath Funeral Home in Minden.

J. D. was born March 6, 1933, in Taylor and entered into rest May 19, 2015, in Minden.

He is survived by his wife, Betty Speer of Sibley; stepdaughter, Brenda Camp and husband James of Homer; granddaughter, Lacy Camp; grandson, Josh Camp of Homer; great-granddaughter, April Aguilar and husband Mike of Haughton; great-great-grandchildren, Michael and Daniel; and a host of friends and other relatives.

Jerry T. Terral

Jerry T. Terral went home to be with his Lord Jesus Christ on May 19, 2015.

Funeral services will be at 10 a.m., Friday, May 22, 2015 at The City On The Hill Pentecostal Church in Minden with the Rev. Jeff Ramsey and the Rev. Gerald Trammell officiating. Interment will follow at Beulah Cemetery in Farmerville at 2 p.m.

The family will receive friends from 5

until 8 p.m., Thursday, May 21, 2015, at The City On The Hill Pentecostal Church.

Jerry was born August 13, 1933, to Frank and Hazel Terral in Lisbon. He served in the Korean War with a Purple Heart honor. He retired from the oil field after 39 years and he owned his own sand blasting company for 12 years.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Frank Terral and Hazel Sublett; sisters, Betty McCartney, Wylma Brown; brother, Bobby Terral, and son, Jerry Wayne Terral.

He leaves to cherish his memories; wife Betty Terral; step-mother, Lola Terral; son, Kevin Terral; daughters, Patti Thomasen, Cindy Bowles, Susan Donovan, Rose Biles; brothers, Larry Terral, Keith Terral; sisters, Brenda McDaniel, Renee' Brogdon, Katie Block; 12 grandchildren; 22 great-grandchildren; numerous aunts; uncles; nieces; nephews and cousins.

Jerry was a member of The City On The Hill Church. He loved to deer hunt and go camping, but most of all he loved to be with his family. He also had a large extended family and friends who called him "Wine". Jerry was such a hard worker but also loved having fun.

Pallbearers will be Chris Thomasen, Duane Bowles, David Biles, Michael Biles, Tatum Terral and Jimmy Hall.

Honorary pallbearers are BJ McDaniel, Terry Brown, Travis Brown, Jeff Smiley and Jimmy Franks.

In lieu of flowers donations may be made to Beulah Cemetery, 1801 Cherry Ridge Road, Farmerville, La. 71241.



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Thank you for supporting our educators!

Thank you to all of our wonderful parents for all of the goodies!

A special thank you to Morgan Youngblood and Tina Maxwell for all of your help!

Ms. Dusty G. Rowland and the J. L. Jones Faculty

EDITORIAL
ROUND UP

Times-Picayune on marijuana possession

Louisiana's harsh approach to marijuana possession is destructive for families and costly for the state. Under current law, someone caught with a small amount of marijuana for a second time faces up to five years in prison. On third offense, the sentence can be up to 20 years — which is dramatically more than in neighboring states.

This sort of draconian punishment for non-violent and drug offenses has made Louisiana the incarceration capital of the world. That is a title the state should work to shed.

A bill by New Orleans Sen. J.P. Morrell would help move the state in the right direction. Senate Bill 241, which was approved unanimously by the Judiciary C Committee Tuesday, would reduce jail time significantly. The sentence for possession of 14 grams or less for a first offense would be no more than 15 days in jail. For somewhat larger amounts, the sentence for a first or second offense would top out at six months.

The first offense could be erased two years after completion of a sentence, probation or parole if no other offenses were committed within that period. That second chance provision is a key change.

Third and fourth convictions would be felonies, but the maximum sentence would be greatly reduced from the 20 years possible now. A third conviction would carry no more than four years in jail and a fourth or subsequent offense no more than eight years.

Advocates for reduced sentences for nonviolent and drug offenses have pushed to eliminate felony charges for possession of small amounts of marijuana. That would be a good change, but it also seems unlikely to pass the Legislature.

Sen. Morrell managed to get reform advocates and law enforcement officials to agree on the version of SB 241 presented to Judiciary C Tuesday. That is no small feat.

His legislation would be a substantial improvement over current law. Not only does it reduce excessive sentences, it should lower the number of people who end up charged with felonies. That could make a huge difference in people's lives, particularly in being able to get or keep a job and support themselves and their families.

Despite the efforts of a broad-based coalition pushing for sentencing reforms in recent years, the Legislature has made only modest changes. That includes a law to allow prosecutors and some defendants to enter into plea agreements for sentences below mandatory minimums. Another change allowed second-time offenders who are model prisoners to be eligible for parole after serving a third of their sentences instead of 50 percent.

Advocates for reform argue that reducing the prison population would save the state millions of dollars in supervision and incarceration costs. Sen. Morrell said his bill alone is estimated to save the state up to \$6 million over five years. It also would bring relief to thousands of families.

Mainly because of mandatory minimum sentences, the state's prison population doubled over the past 20 years to 40,000, according to Blueprint Louisiana, a statewide citizen group focused on reforms in criminal justice, education, health care and other issues. "Only 37 percent of offenders in Louisiana have been convicted of violent crimes ... and the average sentence for a drug-related crime is almost 10 years," according to the group.

Having that many people in prison consumes state resources that could be used for education or health care or other vital services. And it unnecessarily breaks apart families and makes them vulnerable financially.

Violent offenders ought to be in prison. But some offenders who are serving life sentences in Louisiana have never been convicted of a violent crime. That makes no sense.

One in every 86 adults in our state is serving time, which is more than twice the national average.

Sen. Morrell's legislation would help Louisiana decrease those numbers over time. The Senate and House ought to follow the Judiciary Committee's lead and approve his bill.

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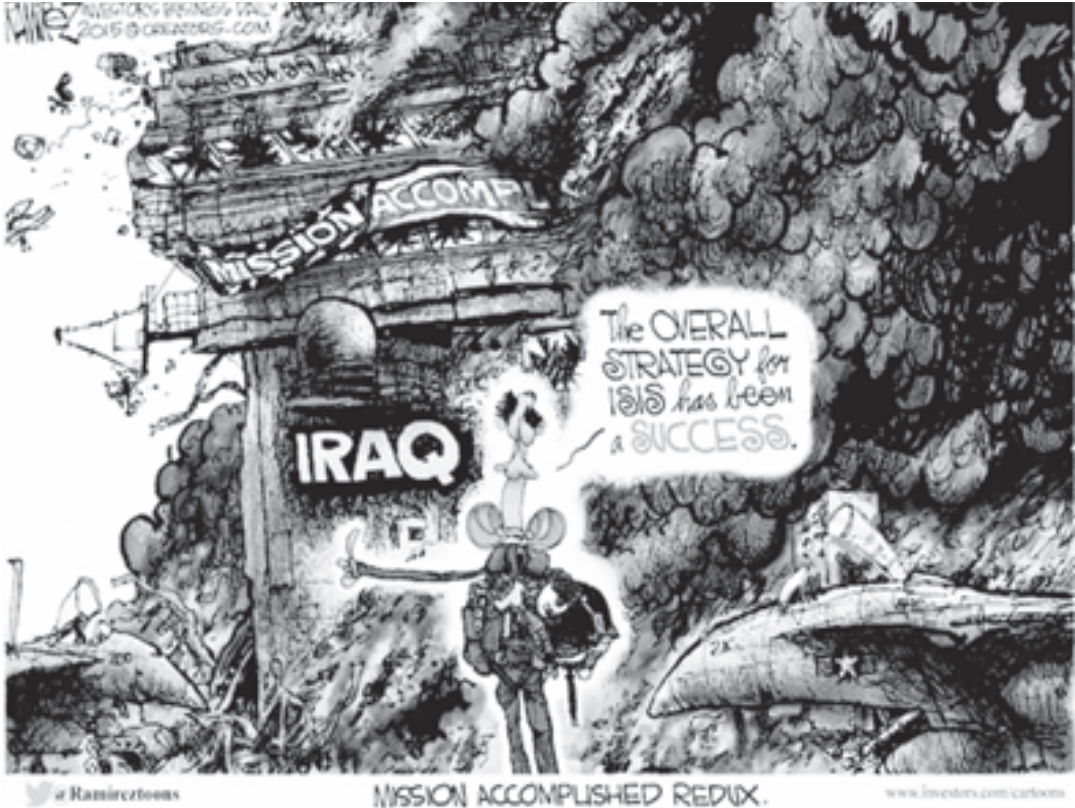
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PERSPECTIVE

Plenty of time to make up

Perhaps the Louisiana Association and Business and Industry doesn't wield the big stick at the Capitol as it did in years past.

And LABI's undoing this year, so to speak, should remind us of that old phrase, "loose lips sink ships."

This isn't the World War II era, though, when the "loose lips" remark was made famous. This is Louisiana. The year is 2015. It's a big election year, meaning every meaningful office from governor to state representative to state senator and so on will appear on the ballot this fall, or after the Legislature either guts the state budget or raises taxes to make ends meet. A \$1.6-billion revenue shortfall is the culprit. The constituents have a lot to lose.

It was just two weeks ago that the House of Representatives tossed caution to the wind, ignoring the state's largest and most powerful business lobby along the way, and approved some \$650 million in new taxes for the Senate to consider forthwith. Forthwith arrived Monday when the Senate Revenue and Fiscal Affairs Committee, chaired by Sen. Neil Riser of Columbia, green-lighted every revenue-raising measure the House approved on

June 7. The full Senate will entertain the bills later this week or next week. Any differences between the legislation that passed the House and the Senate will be hammered out in a conference committee made up of the members of the House and Senate who authored the bills in the first place, or someone else who's towing the company line.

I think you get the picture. LABI should get the picture, too, especially Stephen Waguespack, LABI's president, who may have crossed a line after the House ginned up the hundreds of millions of dollars in new taxes to avoid closing some colleges and universities. Or worse.

More specifically, Waguespack's observation that the House approved the largest tax increase in the history of Louisiana in one day seems to have struck a nerve. Better put, a number of lawmakers didn't cotton to being called out by LABI's main man since the Legislature has given LABI just about everything LABI has asked for since the early 1980s. Do the research if you doubt that observation.

We got a whiff of LABI's rather weakened position in the eyes of lawmakers when the House Judiciary Committee turned a deaf ear last week to three pieces of legislation championed by LABI as must-haves in this year's session. The three bills dealt with "transparency" as it relates to judges and their courts.

Holding judges to the same standards as every

other elected official in Louisiana isn't necessarily a bad idea and had the bills not surfaced after Waguespack lowered the boom on the House, perhaps the legislation would have encountered a more welcoming audience. That's neither here nor there.

What's relevant is LABI's efforts to shed some light on the courts is dead for this session and possibly for years to come. That's just the way it is when lawmakers feel as if they've been disrespected. Or when someone speaks or Tweets without thinking about what they're about to say.

This, too, shall pass and Waguespack and LABI have plenty of time to make things right. After all, there's an election just around the corner, and scores of candidates will be in need of the most important ingredient in any campaign — money. It just so happens LABI has plenty to give.

Hugs and kisses will be exchanged, and all will be forgiven before you know it.

Sam Hanna Jr. is publisher of The Ouachita Citizen, and he serves in an editorial/management capacity with The Concordia Sentinel and The Franklin Sun, three newspapers owned and operated by the Hanna family. He can be reached by call 318-805-8158 or emailing him at samhanna jr@samhannajr.com.

EDITORIAL
ROUND UP

The Advocate on prison reform

A drop of about 3,000 state inmates since 2012 has been one of the few bright spots in budget deliberations at the State Capitol, because feeding and housing prisoners is costly.

The state projects an inmate population of 38,000 in the fiscal year beginning July 1.

Department of Corrections officials ascribed the improvement not to fewer people entering prison but fewer returning after they leave. That is perhaps in part because of a better job market over the past few years, because a steady job is one of the best guarantees against returning to a life of crime. Efforts by the department and some local sheriffs to stress literacy and job training while in jail have been constructive.

Still, Louisiana has a long way to go, as our state continues to be the leader in the percentage of its people behind bars, in state and local prisons.

Other Southern states have seen significant changes to their criminal justice systems, including a new proposal in Alabama to cut the state's prison population by about 4,500 over the next five years. Sentences for some nonviolent crimes would be shortened, and more parole supervisors would be hired to help keep released inmates from returning.

Even conservative states — South Carolina, Georgia and Mississippi included — are seeking a more sensible approach to crime and punishment. The sheer costs of imprisonment are a factor that cannot be overlooked.

This is not a classical liberal versus conservative fight, but rather one that requires reassessment of long-standing legal and financial arrangements by government institutions — courts, sheriffs and police agencies, prison administrators at the state and local level.

That this cause is championed not only by liberal organizations like the American Civil Liberties Union but also the conservatives of the Pelican Institute for Public Policy speaks to the broad coalition pushing reforms in Louisiana.

Released inmates should be working, contributing to society instead of costing taxpayers money. Mayor Mitch Landrieu, of New Orleans, has pushed for reforms, as have business groups such as the Louisiana Association of Business and Industry.

In a short session dominated by fiscal concerns, we may not see this year the kind of changes that have earned praise in other Southern states, but the stage is certainly set for improvements next year. A new governor and Legislature should not miss the opportunity to save money for the taxpayer, even if, as in Alabama, more money must be spent in the short term on probation and parole.

Give us your two cents!

Send your Letter to the Editor to bruce@press-herald.com or mail them to Editor, 203 Gleason St., Minden, La. 71055.



Students participate in piano recital

The Students of Mrs. Carolyn B. Brasell presented their end of the year Recital at First Baptist Church on April 26, 2015. Parents, relatives and friends were all entertained as each student played a representative of the work he/she had accomplished during the year.

Appearing on the program was Falynn Ervin, Rebecca Lorincz, Anna Le, Anna Lorincz, Piper Stephens, Madeline Joyner, Brian Ratcliff, and Sofia Lorincz. Kathryn Murphy presented her Senior Recital.

After the recital was finished, awards and certificates were given to all that had participated in the different festivals held during the school year.

Certificates were presented to the students that played in the Hymn Festival held at FBC on January 31, 2015. They were: Madeline Joyner, Anna Le, Anna Lorincz, Rebecca Lorincz, Sofia Lorincz, Kathryn Murphy, Brian Ratcliff, and Piper Stephens. All students made a Superior Rating. Kathryn Murphy will compete in the State Hymn Festival on May 9th at Louisiana College in Pineville.

February 7 was the date of the Federation Festival in Ruston at La. Tech. The Students had to play two pieces, one that was on the required list and one of their choosing. All of the students who participated made a Superior Rating; Sofia Lorincz, Kathryn Murphy, and Brian Ratcliff.

La. Music Teachers Association Rally Certificates and Trophies were presented to Sofia Lorincz. She has to compete in 4 categories: Performance, Sight Reading, Scales and Musicianship and a written test. She placed 3rd in her Level I group. She received the Outstanding Achievement Trophy in her Level I group. She is eligible to



Back Row, Mrs. Brasell, Brian Ratcliff, Sofia Lorincz, Kathryn Murphy; middle Row, Piper Stephens, Anna Le, Anna Lorincz, Madeline Joyner; front Row: Rebecca Lorincz and Falynn Ervin. Courtesy Photo

go to State. Kathryn Murphy place 5th in her Level IV group.

The Guild Auditions are held each year to grade each student on all the things they are doing correctly and all the things they need to pay attention to that would improve their technique and playing. Guild Audition Report Cards were given to: Anna Le, Anna Lorincz, Rebecca Lorincz, Sofia Lorincz, Brian Ratcliff, Kathryn Murphy, and Piper Stephens.

Six students received trophies for having fulfilled the required practice time for the whole school year. They were: Madeline Joyner, Anna Le, Sofia Lorincz, Kathryn Murphy, Piper Stephens, and one adult, Ronnie Stewart.

Eight Theory trophies were presented to students who completed a level of theory: Madeline Joyner, Anna Le, Anna Lorincz, Rebecca Lorincz, Sofia Lorincz, Brian Ratcliff,

Piper Stephens, and Beverly Cooper (adult). Kat Murphy received a trophy for completing 2 years of "Piano for High School Credit." She receives 2 High School credits for this work.

Madeline Joyner was awarded to most improved elementary student. Sofia Lorincz was awarded the outstanding elementary student. Kathryn Murphy was awarded the outstanding musician.

Around Town

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 Reverend 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.

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COLLEGE BASEBALL

Tigers storm back to win



HOOVER, Ala. — This is a place where LSU opponents and their dreams go to die.

Top-seeded and top-ranked LSU overcame its largest deficit of the season, mounting an improbable, five-run comeback — twice — in a 9-8 win over Auburn on Wednesday night to continue its Southeastern Conference tournament magic.

The Tigers (47-9) won an eighth straight SEC tournament game, an 11th straight game at Hoover Metropolitan Stadium and avoided the loser's bracket of an event they've dominated.

“Our guys don't flinch,” coach Paul Mainieri said. “They know we have a good offensive team.”

Down five runs twice — 5-0 after the first inning and 8-3 entering the fifth — Mainieri's boys rolled up six hits and six runs in a wild fifth inning to roar back from the depths and beat Auburn (35-23), a team on the NCAA regional bubble.

Conner Hale, Kade Scivicque, Chris Chinaea and Chris Sciambra all had run-scoring hits in that explosive fifth inning, and Jared Foster launched his first home run in 17 games



MAINIERI



to help LSU win a 24th game in the last 28.

Hunter Devall, Hunter Newman, Zac Person and Parker Bugg strung together four scoreless innings, and the Tigers continued their pursuit of a third straight SEC tournament title and a sixth in the past eight years at a comfy site for this squad.

Mainieri is 23-4 in the event and 26-4 in this stadium, including a three-game sweep earlier this season against Alabama.

“It just feels like home. We feel like home here,” designated hitter Chris Sciambra said.

Bugg got the save, striking out his final batter with the tying run at second base to incite a massive roar from an estimated 3,000-plus LSU fans that invaded

their home away from home — the Hoover Met.

The Tigers will meet No. 5 seed Arkansas (35-20) in the Thursday's nightcap winner's bracket final. Arkansas beat No. 2 seed Florida in Wednesday's late game, scoring three runs in the ninth inning for a wild comeback. The Hogs are one of the hottest teams in the nation, having won 20 of their last 26 games.

A win Thursday night would give the Tigers a day off Friday and thrust LSU into the semifinals Saturday.

“It's a whole lost easier to get to where we want to be rather than losing this one and having to play four straight days in a row,” Bugg said.

LSU won despite sophomore starter Jared Poché

lasting just one inning — a nightmarish first frame that included five runs, three hits, two walks and an error. The one-inning start was the shortest, by far, of Poché's LSU career and sent LSU into that 5-0 hole.

No problem, right? “We never really lost confidence after we got that five-run deficit in the first,” Bugg said. “We knew that they would come out swinging.”

Mainieri's club began its comeback in the fifth inning, down 8-3. The Tigers left leading 9-8.

“We were going to trust our method. We knew we had great hitters,” Person said. “The only way to allow eight runs and win ... is to have good enough hitters to score nine.”

Foster started the inning

with a double, and Scivicque and Chinaea had doubles, too. Jake Fraley, Hale and Sciambra all had singles. Chinaea doubled on a bizarre play that tied the game at 8.

Auburn right fielder Damon Haecker lost Chinaea's two-out pop-fly in short right field. The ball fell behind him, and Scivicque scored. Sciambra then delivered the go-ahead and eventual game-winning shot on a line drive to right field, scoring Chinaea from second base.

“The ball that we missed in the outfield ... it was just that time of day,” Auburn coach Sunny Golloway said. “It's light sky, just getting ready to turn to dusk.”

The Tigers chased AU starter Rocky McCord during the inning and then

dinged up reliever Trey Wingenter. LSU's rally started in the second. Foster had a two-run homer to make it 5-3 after Sciambra's RBI double both with two outs.

“They can flat hit,” Golloway said. “They're the No. 1 team in the country for a reason.”

Person was on the mound for some tense moments late in the game. He struck out the final batter of the seventh inning with runners at first and second, and he struck two of the final three batters to strand a leadoff single in the eighth.

“We held (the lead) there,” Person said, “until our guys could come through for us.”

Poché tossed the first pitch of the game at 6 p.m. amid cloudy skies. He didn't finish that first half-inning until 20 minutes later. He walked two, allowed three hits — including a two-run double — and five runs.

Just two of the runs were earned. Poché was involved in a one-out error, but it was credited to first baseman Chris Chinaea. Poché couldn't hold on to a flip from Chinaea on a groundball. Poché retired the first batter of the inning before issuing back-to-back walks. Chinaea committed his error and then Blake Logan and Alex Polston blasted run-scoring singles. Ebert Nulph crushed a two-run, two-out double to make it 5-0 before Poché struck out Auburn's ninth batter of the inning.

A five-run hole? LSU hitters didn't mind. Another five-run hole? That's no problem — not here in Hoover.

“Playing here,” Sciambra said, “you get comfortable.”

NBA PLAYOFFS

Smith steps up as unlikely hero



ATLANTA (AP) — J.R. Smith knocked down a tough 3-pointer, then another. Turning toward the fans, their heckling transformed to groans, he blew off his right index finger and motioned toward his side, like he was holstering his pistol.

Yep, Smith was that hot.

While LeBron James led Cleveland with 31 points, it was Smith who ignited the Cavaliers in Game 1 of the Eastern Conference finals. He made eight 3-pointers and scored 28 points in a 97-89 victory over the top-seeded Atlanta Hawks on Wednesday night.

“When he gets hot,” Cleveland coach David Blatt marveled, “he gets smoking hot.”

Intent on bringing Cleveland its first NBA title, James sealed the victory with a soaring dunk in the final minute.

For the Hawks, it was the second straight series in which they've lost the opening game at home. Cleveland will look to

take command of the series in Game 2 Friday night.

Making matters worse for Atlanta, DeMarre Carroll went down with a knee injury driving to the basket with 4:59 remaining. He was helped to the locker room, not putting a nny weight on his left leg, and will undergo an MRI on Thursday to determine the seriousness.

Besides being the main defender on James, Carroll had been the Hawks' leading scorer in the playoffs. He was averaging more than 17 points coming into Atlanta's first conference final.

“DeMarre is a complete player,” Hawks coach Mike Budenholzer said. “He has a big impact at both ends of the court.”

Jeff Teague led Atlanta with 27 points. But Atlanta didn't produce its usual balanced scoring, as two starters — Kyle Korver and Carroll — failed to reach double figures.

With Smith doing most

of the damage, Cleveland outscored the Hawks 22-4 over the final 5 minutes of the third quarter and the first 2 minutes of the fourth. During that span, he made five 3-pointers and another jumper from just inside the arc, as well as throwing up a lob that Tristan Thompson dunked.

Smith has been a huge addition for the Cavaliers since he was acquired in January as part of a three-team trade with New York and Oklahoma City. A player once known for his selfishness, he had learned to work with within the confines of a team led by James.

When the Cavaliers really needed Smith in Game 1, he seemed to make every shot.

“Once I start shooting,” Smith said, “everybody keeps telling me to keep shooting.”

Cleveland scored the first 11 points of the final period — all but two on 3s by Smith — for its biggest lead, 85-67.

Carroll's injury silenced the raucous crowd and would be a tough blow for the Hawks to overcome. While he was being taken off, James came over to say a few words and pat the injured player on the head.

“We're all a brotherhood,” James said. “You don't want anybody to get hurt like that.”

Even without Carroll, Atlanta closed to 91-87 with about a minute remaining. But James got loose from Paul Millsap out near the arc, took off down the lane uncontested and slammed home a dunk that finished off the Hawks.

Having made their deepest run in the playoffs since 1970, the Hawks carried that momentum to a nine-point lead in the opening quarter. Atlanta shot 61 percent and James went to the bench with about 3 minutes remaining in the period after picking up his second foul.

Cleveland's dominance on the boards kept Atlanta from pulling away. Cleveland outrebounded the Hawks 15-6 over the first 12 minutes, actually yanking down more offensive rebounds (seven) than Atlanta's total output.

James returned in the second quarter and began to take control of the Cleveland offense. He scored 14 points in the period on 7-of-9 shooting, taking advantage when the Hawks tried to bait him into a third foul by guarding him with smaller players.

SOFTBALL

St. Jude slow pitch tourney

BLAKE BRANCH
blake@press-herald.com

The second St. Jude slow pitch softball tournament is set for May 30, and this year's tournament is aiming to build on the success of the first.

Tournament organizer Caitlin Slaton has been working hard to ensure that the event is a success not just for the participants, but for the children of St. Jude.

“I've always loved the St. Jude auction,” Slaton said. “We've always donated and tried to be a part of it the best we could. I've played softball my whole life so I figured why not take something that I love and use it to do something for charity and something so close to the Minden community.”

As of now, 10 teams are ready to get out on the diamond, but there is still plenty of time to join in on the festivities and help out the children of St. Jude.

Last year's tournament raised over \$8,000 for St. Jude, and Slaton said more local teams need to sign up if that mark is going to be surpassed.

“We're looking and hoping to have more local teams,” Slaton said. “We only have one local Minden team right now so we're hoping people will get involved.”

The tournament begins on May 30, at the Minden Recreation Center and the cost of registration is \$200, with all proceeds going straight to the children of St. Jude.

Also, there will be \$10 home run bracelets for sale and participants can pay \$15 to have a crack at the home run derby.

There will be prizes for tournament winners and home run derby winners.

The tournament will be played under USSSA rules with the co-ed teams, split either 6/4 or 7/5.

The following run rules will be in effect: 20-run rule after three innings, 15-run rule after four innings and 10-run rule after five innings.

Each tournament game will be played under a one hour time limit.

For more information, contact Caitlin Slaton (318-918-9860) or Jennifer Russell (318-754-6419).

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Women in Jesus' life – Part 2

We find, in Jesus, an urgency to relieve pain and suffering as seen in the interactions with the following two women mentioned in Luke. Keep in mind that He is just as eager to relieve your pain and suffering today.

As Jesus, His disciples, and a crowd of people were headed towards Nain, they met a funeral procession

coming from the town. In Luke 7:12-15 we read “Now when he came



KATHY IRIZARRY

nigh to the gate of the city, behold, there was a dead man carried out, the only son of his mother, and she was a widow: and much people of the city was with her. And when the Lord

saw her, he had compassion on her, and said

unto her, Weep not. And he came and touched the bier: and they that bare him stood still. And he said, Young man, I say unto thee, Arise. And he that was dead sat up, and began to speak. And he delivered him to his mother.”

The death of this only son left this widow lady bereft of support both materially as well as emotionally. Jesus' heart went out to her. He could and would change things. That's the basis for which he

could tell her to “weep not”. He had power to remove the reason for weeping, and He did. How special the words that “he delivered him to his mother.” Talk about a special delivery gift!

The last woman to be mentioned today was the recipient of a Sabbath synagogue miracle. She was “bowed together”. “When Jesus saw her, he called her to him, and said unto her, Woman, thou art loosed from thine infirmity. And he laid his hands

on her: and immediately she was made straight, and glorified God” Luke 13:12, 13. Because this lady had been “bowed together” for 18 years, the synagogue ruler saw no urgency requiring a Sabbath healing. Jesus, on the other hand, responded”Thou hypocrite, doth not each one of you on the Sabbath loose his ox or his ass from the stall, and lead him away to watering? And ought not this woman, being a daughter of Abraham, whom Satan hath

bound, lo, these eighteen years, be loosed from this bond on the Sabbath day?” Luke 13:15, 16. Well, in spite of the fact that she had been in this condition for 18 years, Jesus did not want her to remain thus for even one more day! She experienced His healing touch in His timing. Praise the Lord for His compassion that might even appear impractical to some but is always just right.

ALONG THE WAY

The battle within

Dr. E.V. Hill preached on this passage (Gal 5:17) at a conference several years ago. I remember him talking about the ‘war he fights continually within’... just like Paul describes here. We all have battle scars just like Paul and Dr. Hill. Man is a sinner by nature. None of us can claim ‘perfection.’

Because we are descendants of the ‘first man’ (Adam), we are sinful and cannot save ourselves. Any effort to do so just plunges us deeper into the pit of mire (Psalm 69:14). As we sink deeper into sin, our spiritual armor loses its protective coating, we become weaker and weaker to resist. Help! We may cry. We need the sacrificial blood of the Second Man (Christ) to cover our sins and bring us into the right relationship with God again.

When we surrender to the enemy, he boasts to God about his conquest. “Another one bites the dust!” But we must realize, we may lose round one, but ‘don’t count us out’ yet. Like David (Psalm 51), we must come clean, in total

commitment to the Lord, admitting our sinfulness, our guilt and shame to Him. We must approach Him in total surrender and yield to power of the Holy Spirit to give us strength to fight life's battles. It's then we can rise with Paul and confidently proclaim, “I can do all things through Christ who is my strength.” (Phil 4:19). We can send Satan on his way.

When our Lord was tempted by Satan (Matt 4), He rebuked the tempter each time by quoting Scriptures. He knew the power of the Word at such times and that Satan could not stand up against it. This is a good lesson for us today. Commit those precious promises of the Word to memory so that we can ‘pull forth those shields when enemy darts come our way.’

Conventional war today is quite different than it was 50 years ago. Many aspects of modern warfare are conducted a great distance from where contact is made. Even so, like Job, God is aware of the struggles we have and our limits to resist. He sets the lim-

its to which He will allow Satan to tempt us. If Romans 8 is true (and I believe it certainly is true), we may be pulled on, pushed around, beaten on the head, spit upon and such....but there is nothing that can separate us from the love of God in Jesus Christ. What a promise! Like Paul, we just get back up, tighten our armor and get back in the fight.

Now back to the war inside: Come Monday morning, we all are fighting for the day! But every day is a battle field. We must have our spiritual armor (Eph 6) in place, all shined up, ready for battle at all times. It's when the soldier relaxes, lays down his armor to ‘take a breath’ that the enemy strikes – swiftly!

Dr. Hill concluded his message on this personal note:” Every day this war rages. Sometimes the Lord wins the battle, sometimes Satan does. It all depends on who I really want to win. Like Paul said, ‘those things I ought not do, I find myself doing them; those things I know I should do, I, sometimes, just don’t want to do them.’ And that’s when the battle begins.” So, be ready for war – I hear the approach of the enemy.....NOW!



BILL CRIDER

THE UPWARD LOOK

Humbly trusting God



MAX HUTTO

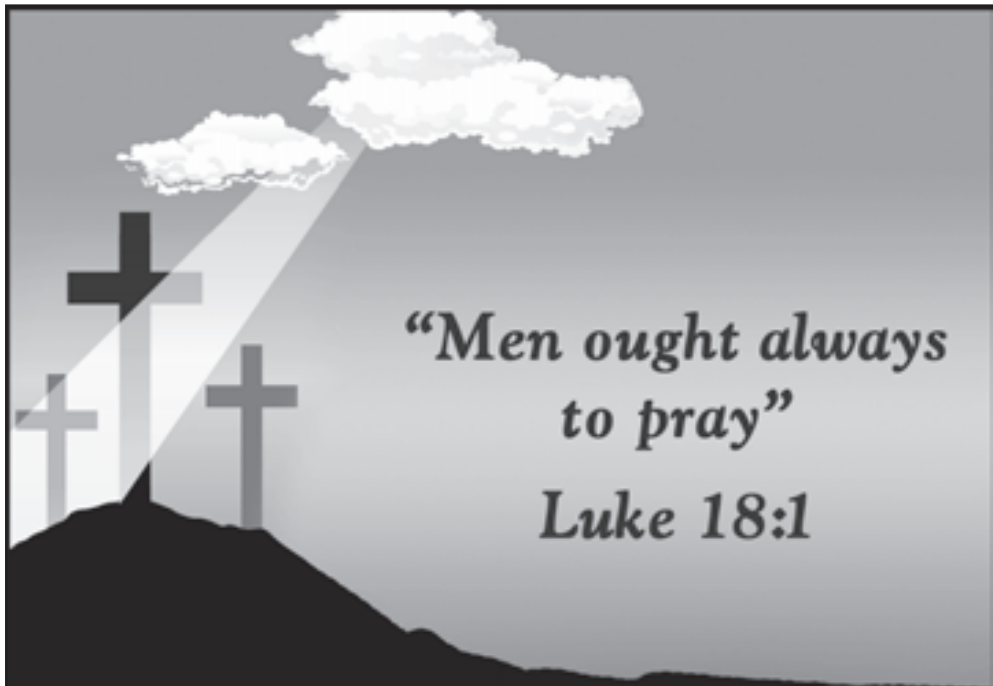
“Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God, so that He may exalt you at the proper time.” 1 Peter 5:6 HCSB

Peter strongly exhorts the believers to humble themselves. Human nature would normally cause one to be proud, full of self worth, and selfish desires. Believers must put aside self and seek God's will above their own. We are to submit to God's power, placing oneself under His control, wishes, care, and protection. Though believers may be facing

troubles and persecution, we must humbly and patiently wait for God's time. God will exalt the humble in His time whether that is in this life or in eternity.

Lord Jesus, help to live this day expressing my faith in You by humbly showing Your love, grace, and mercy to others. Help me to wait patiently submitting to Your will.

Max Hutto is a Baptist Minister and a resident of Minden. More information can be found at www.upwardlook.org.



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Is Everything Permitted?

One clear message from the New Testament is that we are under a new covenant, that Jesus has changed the rules of the game. There is clearly a debate of sorts going on amongst the writers of the New Testament about adherence to the rules and laws of the Old Testament. This debate continues to rage even in our own times. Some churches advise strict adherence to dietary strictures and the rules of morality while some are a lot looser. It may be the case that everything under the sun has its proper use and thus that nothing is inherently "unclean" and yet common sense tells us that not everything is good for us. Many foods and drugs have their appropriate uses but are unhealthy or even deadly if misused. Perhaps everything is permitted in the narrow sense that nothing created by God is inherently bad, but it does not follow that its unrestricted use is advisable. Just because you can do something doesn't mean you should. Bacon may be okay in small amounts, just like morphine, but it will kill you if you consume too much of it. So we should consider carefully how we use nature's bounty.

— Christopher Simon



*I have the right to do anything, you say,
but not everything is beneficial.
1 Corinthians 6:12*

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St. Paul Baptist Church
323 Park Church Rd. • Slidell • 371-1387

Mount Pines Baptist Church
200 Camp St. • Minden

St. Paul Missionary Baptist Church
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New Beth Missionary
205 N. Farness St. • Minden • 371-1486

New Ebenezer Baptist Church
Church Hwy. 103 • Canton • 544-8833

New Friendship Baptist Church
Friendship Rd. • Canton • 544-8833

New Light Baptist Church
413 W. N. Farness • Minden • 371-2545

New Ramoth Baptist Church
Hwy. 103 South • Slidell • 544-8473

New Zion Baptist Church
Chick Road, Evergreen Community
371-4500

New Zion Baptist Church
875 Anna Caffo Rd. • Doyline • 745-2765

North Avenue Baptist Church
1832 Lafayette Rd. • 371-4315

Parkway Baptist Church
1618 Hwy 79 • 371-4327

Plymouth Road Baptist Church
207 Oaklawn St. • Slidell • 371-4828

Plymouth Road Baptist Church
211 Plymouth Road Baptist Rd. • 845-4155

Present Hill Baptist Church
Fryburg • 371-4215

Present Grove Missionary Baptist Church
Hwy. 527 Doyline Rd.

Rocky Mt. Baptist Church
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Salem Baptist Church
481 Homer Rd. • Slidell • 371-4813

Slidell Missionary Baptist Church
483 S. Main St. • Slidell • 371-4632

St. James Baptist Church
108 St. James Church Rd. • 371-2485

St. John Divine Baptist Church
517 Lake Rd. • Haughton • 371-1948

St. Mark Baptist Church
Doyline

St. Paul Baptist Church
811 E. Union St. • 371-5455

Trinity Baptist Church
Doyline

Union Grove Baptist Church
Pearl Farm Rd. • 371-4152

Unity Baptist Church
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Valley Peace Baptist Church
707 Cross • Cotton Valley • 832-4483

Valley Spring Baptist Church
212 Fuller Rd. • 371-5713

West Lake Baptist Church
2587 Hwy. 103 • Doyline • 745-2498

Whispering Pines Missionary Baptist Church
16326 Hwy 371 • 371-5775

Zion Hill Baptist Church
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CHRISTIAN

Holy Faith Christian Church
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Church of Christ
211 N. College • 371-1867

Northern Church of Christ
613 Overlook

CHURCH OF CHRIST IN GOD

Faith Temple Christian Church of Christ in God
414 Midland • 371-3028

CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST

Church of God in Christ
315 Glen • 738 Peach St. • 371-6763

Crestline Hill Church of God in Christ
558 Creighton

Forest Chapel Church of God in Christ
315 Glen St. • 371-6855

Greater Blessing Church of God in Christ
408 Slidell Road • 371-5574

Lantern Church of God in Christ
518 Columbia St. • 371-5587

New Beginnings Church of God in Christ
718 East St. • 371-8180

Slidell Church of God in Christ
218 Washington St. • 371-5013

Trinity Church of God in Christ

EPISCOPAL

St. John's Episcopal Church
1107 Broadway • 371-1258

FULL GOSPEL BAPTIST

Peace Temple of Minden
208 N. Farness • 371-1486

INDEPENDENT CHRISTIAN

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INTERDENOMINATIONAL

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Armah's Witness
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Doyline

Doyline United Methodist Church
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First United Methodist Church
201 Broadway • 371-1485

First United Methodist Church
110 Church St. • Cotton Valley • 832-5527

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Lakeview United Methodist Church
311 Lakeside Drive • 371-1238

St. John CME Church
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New Hope CME
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Weaver Farm Rd. 4258

First Grove United Methodist Church
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Present Valley United Methodist Church
Hwy. 7 North • 371-1134

Slidell United Methodist Church
403 E. Main St. • Slidell • 371-6805

Southern Methodist Church
Corner of Yarb & Farness

Green CME Church
1048 Bellevue Road • Slidell

Wesley Memorial CME Church
403 Water Lyons Rd. • 371-2378

Wesley Grove CME
Horton Ave. • Cotton Valley • 832-5211

NON-DENOMINATIONAL

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First Five Ministries
407 Meadowview Dr. • 425-1637

House of Prayer For All Nations
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House of Prayer • 878M
1222 Bayou Ave • Minden • 371-6375

Living Word Worship Center
402 Hwy. 303 • 371-9462

Wiley Nations Tribal Church
Doyline • 371-6324

Minden Christian Center
318 Oak St. • 345-2688

To God Be The Glory Deliverance Outreach Ministries
6758 Hwy 521 • Haughton • 371-6830

Worship Christian Fellowship
705 Main St. • 371-2478

PENTECOSTAL

Apollonia Lighthouse
1801 Lafayette Rd. • 371-3026 or 413-6258

First Pentecostal Church
512 Hwy 521 • 371-6385

First Pentecostal Church
Oakland • 845-6828 or 371-6892

First United Pentecostal Church
2127 Hwy 371 • Cotton Valley • 832-4470

United in Christ Pentecostal Church
5782 Hwy. 7 • 371-8577

PRESBYTERIAN

Minden Presbyterian Church
1021 Broadway St. • 371-3550

SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST

Minden Seventh-Day Adventist Church
108 Ramsey's Hwy • 371-2875

New Start Seventh-Day Adventist Church
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UNITED PENTECOSTAL

Apollonia Temple of Truth
124 Main Grocery Rd. • 371-0175

First Pentecostal Church
512 Hwy 521 • 371-6385

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‘Tomorrowland’ likeable and fun, but tries too hard

SANDY COHEN
 AP Entertainment Writer

There's a lot to like about Disney's "Tomorrowland." It's got George Clooney and Hugh Laurie, robots and explosions, a positive message, and it puts the fate of the future in the hands of two smart young girls.

Still, it's hard to say exactly who the audience is for this packed-to-the-brim, sci-fi/action-adventure/family romp. The story is nostalgic for a more hopeful time half a century ago, there's some serious robot violence, yet its overly earnest tone seems aimed at little kids.

It starts at the 1964 New York World's Fair, where 11-year-old Frank has come to show off the jet pack he built. He meets Athena (Raffey Cassidy, who steals the movie), an enigmatic young girl who takes him to Tomorrowland — a futuristic place that exists in another dimension, where all the great thinkers have gathered to make the world more harmonious and more fun.

Fast forward to present day and the focus is on Casey (Britt Robertson), an idealistic teenager fascinated with space exploration. One day she receives a mysterious pin that allows her to glimpse Tomorrowland. She, too, meets Athena, who introduces her to Frank (Clooney), now a grumpy recluse who lives in a fortified house far from town.

Grown-up Frank is bitter and disillusioned about

the future. His home is filled with digital toys and space-age gadgets, but also dozens of TV screens flashing constant images of war, starvation, fires and floods. Casey pleads with him to take her to Tomorrowland. He's unmoved, until a team of killer robots on Casey's tail inspire him to change his mind. (Their escape in a rocket-launched bathtub is awesome.)

The 'bots were apparently dispatched by Nix (Laurie), a scientist who lives in Tomorrowland but has lost faith in his fellow human beings' will to change the world. While Frank and Nix butt heads in a disappointment-fueled battle, it's up to Casey and Athena to save Tomorrowland and the future.

Robertson is delicious to watch, and Cassidy is a force. Clooney and Laurie each bring a predictably crowd-pleasing presence. And there are delightful, smaller performances throughout, including Judy Greer as a doomsday-minded schoolteacher and Kathryn Hahn and Keegan-Michael Key as the intense, offbeat owners of a comic-book shop.

There are also some eye-popping action sequences. Franks house goes into safety mode like a modern-day "Get Smart," and the Eiffel Tower splits in two to launch a rocket from its center.

Director Brad Bird and co-writer Damon Lindelof have created an original, aspirational story that pays homage to Walt Disney's



imaginative concepts of the future. The "It's a Small World" ride, which Disney actually created for the 1964 World's Fair, even plays a role. The film's take on Tomorrowland's sloping, floating landscape — complete with airborne monorail — looks like something Disney himself could have dreamt up.

Bird and Lindelof have both said they were inspired by Disney's opti-

mism about the future, particularly contrasted against today's apparent apathy, which Bird characterized as a "giant cosmic shrug."

But they get a little preachy and heavy-handed in the film. Most people understand that war, overpopulation and climate change are human-caused realities that endanger life on this planet, and that it's better to try to improve

things than to give up entirely. Yet, although everyone can use a pep talk, "Tomorrowland" repeats the message again and again, to the point of platitude.

"In every moment, there's a possibility for a better future," Nix says. "But you people won't do it."

Nor will politicians or captains of industry, he says: "All they want is to

keep the wheels greased and the dollars rolling in."

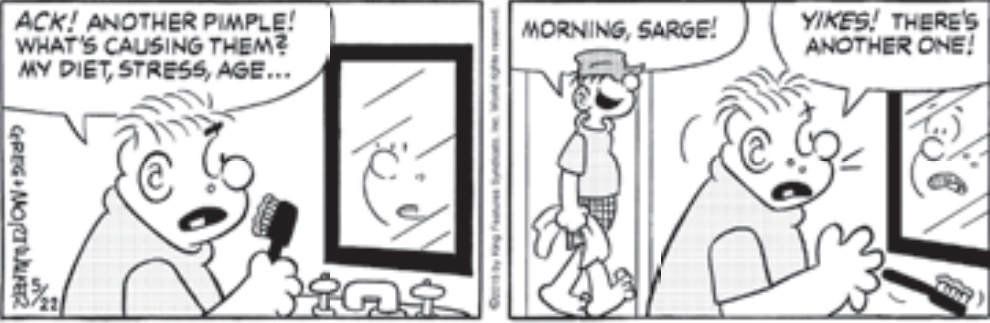
Are you listening, kids?

"Tomorrowland," a Walt Disney Pictures release, is rated PG by the Motion Picture Association of America for "sequences of sci-fi action violence and peril, thematic elements, and language." Running time: 130 minutes. Two and a half stars out four.

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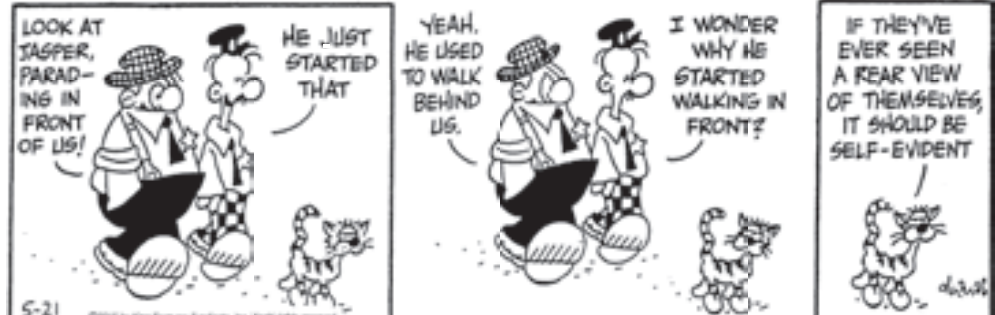
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MISC.

ON MAY 6, 2015 SSR Communications applied to the Federal Communications Commission to assign FM construction permit KIMW in Heflin, Louisiana to Calvary Chapel of Twin Falls. Holders of 10% or more of SSR Communications are Carl Adkins and Matthew Wesolowski. Holder of 10% or more of voting authority of Calvary Chapel of Twin Falls are Michael

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GARAGE SALES

LARGE YARD SALE 453 Hanson Dr. Doyline, Friday 21st & Saturday 22nd. 8am - Until.
YARD SALE to benefit the Northwest LA Pregnancy Care Center on June 5-6, 2015 to be held at 1323 Sibley Rd., Minden, LA. See more details on our facebook page!



PUBLIC NOTICE

Minden Planning Commission Meeting

June 4, 2015 – 10:00 a.m.

P e l i c a n Conference Room - Minden City Hall

On the agenda is a request from James & Kimberly Huffman for a zoning variance on property owned by them located at the municipal address of 1108 Broadway Street. This property is zoned R-2 (Single Family Residential).

The purpose of this zoning variance is to use the property as a bed and breakfast facility. The residence will continue to be owner occupied and there will be no improvements necessary with the exception of minor cosmetic changes.

Legal Description: THE NORTH 225 FT. OF LOT #123, WILLIAMSON JONES MAP OF MINDEN & STRIP 15 X 225 FT. ADJ. IN NE/4 OF SW/4 SEC. 22-19-9 (FORMERLY AN ALLEY) (BEING A LOT FRONTING 95 FT. ON N. B R O A D W A Y X 225 FT.)

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

May 14 & 21 & 28, 2015
Minden Press-Herald

BIDS INVITED OFFICIAL JOURNAL July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2016

Sealed bids for Official Journal will be received by the Webster Parish Police Jury until the hour of 2:00 p.m., Monday, June 1, 2015, in the 3rd floor meeting room of the Webster Parish Courthouse, 410 Main Street, Minden, LA 71055 at which time bids will be opened and read aloud. Bids shall be for the period of July 1, 2015, through June 30, 2016, and shall be submitted in written form and signed by the publisher of the newspaper submitting the bid. Journal must qualify under the law for printing official proceedings of a public body. All Bidders must publish at least 5 days weekly. Bid forms may be obtained at the Office of the Secretary, Webster Parish Police Jury. Ronda C. Carnahan

May 14 & 21 & 28, 2015
Minden Press-Herald

The Water We Drink Dixie Overland Water System Public Water Supply ID: LA1119007

We are pleased to present to you the Annual Water Quality Report for the year 2014. This report is designed to inform you about the quality of your water and services we deliver to you every day. (Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua potable. Traduzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bin). Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water.

Our water sources are listed in Table A on page xx.

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally-occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity. Contaminants that may be present in the water include:

Microbial Contaminants- such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.

Inorganic Contaminants- such as salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial, or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.

Pesticides and Herbicides- which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses.

Organic Chemical Contaminants- including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems.

Radioactive contaminants- which can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

A Source Water

Assessment Plan (SWAP) is now available from our office. This plan is an assessment of a delineated area around our listed sources through which contaminants, if present, could migrate and reach our source water. It also includes an inventory of potential sources of contamination within the delineated area, and a determination of the water supply's susceptibility to contamination by the identified potential sources. According to the Source Water Assessment Plan, our water system had a susceptibility rating of MEDIUM. If you would like to review the Source Water Assessment Plan, please feel free to contact our office.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. If you have any questions about this report, want to attend any scheduled meetings, or simply want to learn more about your drinking water, please contact MIKE JACKSON at 318-377-5171

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. DIXIE OVERLAND WATER SYSTEM is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

The Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals - Office of Public Health routinely monitors for constituents in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. The tables that follow show the results of

our monitoring during the period of January 1st to December 31st, 2014. Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk.

In tables B-F on page(s) xx, you will find many terms and abbreviations you might not be familiar with. To help you better understand these terms, we've provided the following definitions:

Parts per million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (mg/L)- one part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in \$10,000.

Parts per billion (ppb) or Micrograms per liter (ug/L) - one part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000.

Picocuries per liter (pCi/L)- picocuries per liter is a measure of the radioactivity in water.

Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU) - nephelometric turbidity unit is a measure of the clarity of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.

Action level (AL) - the concentration of a contaminant that, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.

Maximum contaminant level (MCL)- the Maximum Allowed MCL is the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

Maximum contaminant level goal (MCLG)- the Goal is the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to human health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

Maximum residual disinfectant level (MRDL)- The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

Maximum residual disinfectant level goal (MRDLG)- The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

During the period covered by this report we had noted violations of drinking water regulations in tables B-F. Our water system tested a minimum of 1 samples per month monthly sample(s) in accordance with the Total Coliform Rule for microbiological contaminants. During the monitoring period covered by this report, we had the following noted (In table B) detections for microbiological contaminants.

In tables D-F we have shown the regulated contaminants that were detected. Chemical Sampling of our drinking water may not be required on an annual basis; therefore, information provided in this table refers back to the latest year of chemical sampling results.

+++Environmental Protection Agency Required Health Effects Language+++ Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

There are no additional required health effects notices.

There are no additional required health effects notices.

Thank you for allowing us to continue providing your family with clean, quality water this year.

In order to maintain a safe and dependable water supply we sometimes need to make improvements that will benefit all of our customers.

We at the DIXIE OVERLAND WATER SYSTEM work around the clock to provide top quality drinking water to every tap. We ask that all our customers help us protect and conserve our water sources, which are the heart of our community, our way of life, and our children's future. Please call our office if you have questions.

May 21, 2015
Minden Press-Herald

Table A

Source Name	Source Water Type
WELL #1, HWY 80 (PLANT)	Ground Water
WELL #3, KATIE LANE	Ground Water
WELL #2, HWY 80 (WEST)	Ground Water

Table B

Type	Category	Analyte	Compliance Period
No Violations Occurred in the Calendar Year of 2014			

Table C

Microbiological	Result	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source
No Detected Results were Found in the Calendar Year of 2014				

Table D

Regulated Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Value	Range	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source
Di(2-ETHYLHEXYL) PHTHALATE	12/12/2011	0.66	0.61 - 0.66	ppb	6	0	Discharge from rubber and chemical factories
FLUORIDE	12/12/2011	0.1	0.1	ppm	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories

Table E

Lead and Copper	Date	90 th Percentile	Range	Unit	AL	Sites Over AL	Typical Source
COPPER, FREE	2010 - 2012	0.3	0.1 - 0.4	ppm	1.3	0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives
LEAD	2010 - 2012	1	1	ppb	15	0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits

Table F

Disinfection Byproducts	Sample Point	Period	Highest (RAA)	Range	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source
TOTAL HALOACETIC ACIDS (HAAs)	COUNTRY PINES @ HWY 80	2014	0	0 - 0	ppb	60	0	By-product of drinking water disinfection
TOTAL HALOACETIC ACIDS (HAAs)	HARVEYS BARBER SHOP ROAD @ STUCKEY ROAD	2014	0	0 - 0	ppb	60	0	By-product of drinking water disinfection
TTHM	COUNTRY PINES @ HWY 80	2014	0	0 - 0	ppb	80	0	By-product of drinking water chlorination
TTHM	HARVEYS BARBER SHOP ROAD @ STUCKEY ROAD	2014	0	0 - 0	ppb	80	0	By-product of drinking water chlorination

THANK YOU FOR READING!



Got your attention?
Good.

The first rule of advertising is catching their eye.
The second is sustained, repeated advertising.

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A man wakes up after sleeping under an **ADVERTISED** blanket on an **ADVERTISED** mattress, shaves with an **ADVERTISED** razor, brushes his teeth with **ADVERTISED** toothpaste, washes with **ADVERTISED** soap, puts on **ADVERTISED** clothes, drinks a cup of **ADVERTISED** coffee, drives to work in an **ADVERTISED** car and then refuses to **ADVERTISE** believing it doesn't **PAY**.

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CRYPTOQUIP

BU'W JUDQPU WQ KQQE YL
D QGGUDLNZK HRJGND
QHNZNQZW LBYL N DQZWNEUT

BNP QRT HQGGWLUT DBNGE.
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: MY PARTITIONED-OFF WORKSPACE WAS SO INCREDIBLY TINY THAT FOLKS MEASURED IT IN CUBICLE INCHES.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: Q equals O

CROSSWORD

ACROSS
1 "Dragnet" star Jack
5 Steffi of tennis fame
9 Society new-comer
12 Car bar
13 "Mona —"
14 Buck-eyes' sch.
15 Focus on
17 Miss at a barn dance
18 Spa
19 Terrible
21 Former partner
22 City of India
24 "Lion King" baddie
27 Geological period
28 Shrek, for one
31 Tin Man's need
32 — de deux
33 Towel designation

DOWN
34 Hairless
36 Lamb's dam
37 Put an end to
38 Insurgent
40 "— Bought a Zoo"
41 Pigs
43 Make fizzy
47 Trail behind
48 "Don't let go!"
51 "That's 19-Across!"
52 Dumb-founded
53 Diva's delivery
54 Encountered
55 Trawler gear

DOWN
1 Cleanse
2 Fair, for short
3 Rorschach figure
4 Improved
5 Smooth-talking
6 Tractor-trailer
7 Blond shade
8 Deadly
9 It may include a pair of aces
10 Isaac's eldest
11 Wall Street optimist

DOWN
16 Illumination measure
20 Terse question
22 Speak slowly?
23 Facility
24 Weep loudly
25 Spy-novel grp.
26 Fine
27 Duel tool
29 Carnival city
30 Kreskin's claim
35 Lair
37 Soap opera, e.g.
39 "Borstal Boy" author
40 Drenched
41 Run-down area of city
42 Carry on
43 Tosses in
44 Taj Mahal city
45 Anything but that
46 Greek vowels
49 Have bills
50 Allow

Solution time: 24 mins.

A	F	R	O		L	A	B		G	E	A	R
R	I	O	T		I	D	O		R	A	C	E
C	A	S	H	F	L	O	W		E	T	N	A
S	T	E	E	L	Y			E	R	A	S	E
				R	A	P		D	I	S	C	
S	I	B		W	A	S		M	E	R	G	E
H	O	O	T		D	O	H		D	O	U	R
E	N	D	O	W		N	O	S		W	Y	E
		Y	U	R	T			Q	U	I	T	
E	M	B	R	Y	O		S	E	E	T	H	E
D	E	L	I		Q	U	I	Z		S	H	O
E	R	O	S		U	S	E		T	O	R	E
N	E	W	T		E	A	R		S	U	N	S

Yesterday's answer 5-21

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		

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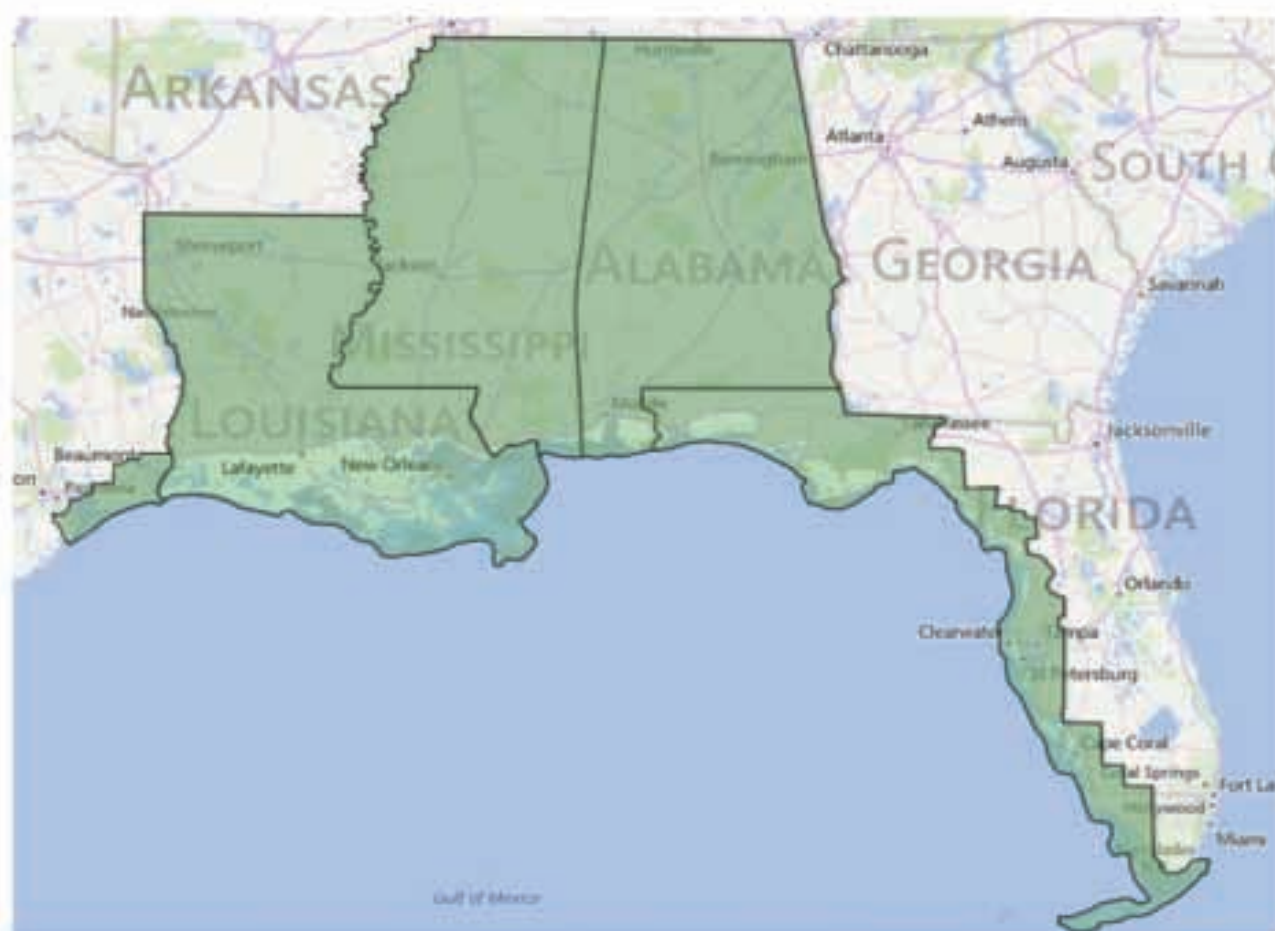
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Court-Approved Supplemental Information About The Deepwater Horizon Economic Settlement Claim Deadline



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
Or Call (866) 992-6174



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