

'When the bobber jiggles' a good read **PAGE 6**

MINDEN PRESS-HERALD

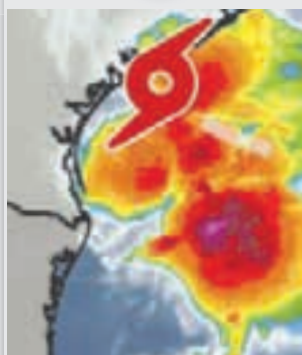
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TUESDAY

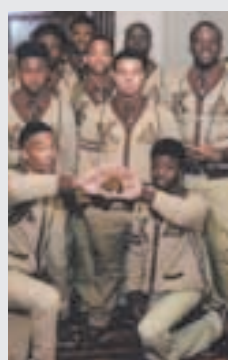


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WEATHER

TOMORROW'S OUTLOOK



86 HIGH 73 LOW

Variable clouds with thunderstorms, especially in the afternoon.

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MINDEN RESIDENT'S BOAT

SINKS IN THE GULF

U.S. COAST GUARD RESCUES BOATERS FROM PLATFORM RIG



The boat capsized approximately one hour after it began taking on water in the Gulf last week. Four Minden men, part of a large group of families, went on vacation last week and took part in some deep-sea fishing. Courtesy Photo

MICHELLE BATES
michelle@press-herald.com

Everyone on board is safe following a harrowing ordeal when their boat sank eight miles off the coast of Alabama.

A group of families from Minden went to Fort Morgan, Alabama, not far from Gulf Shores, for vacation last week, and four men went out to sea to experience some deep-sea fishing.

Hugh Wood, one of the four men aboard, says they'd been fishing for a while when they noticed something wrong.

"This was my first trip deep-sea fishing and (the boat owner) was going to show us the ropes on how to do it," Wood said. "We go about what we thought was about

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This photo shows the boat just after all four men abandoned ship. The boat was tied to an oil rig platform while fishing. The boat was towed back to shore and those aboard were able to save their belongings. Courtesy Photo

2015 FLOOD

Red River to drop below flood stage at Shreveport this week

SHREVEPORT — The Red River continues to recede with an expected drop below flood stage by the end of the week. But forecasters are watching the development of a tropical disturbance in the Gulf which could have an impact on the Red River basin next week.

Meteorologist Mario Valverde in the National Weather Service Office in Shreveport says it's still too early to tell if the five to seven inches of rain predicted over the upper Red River Valley will have a significant effect on the river's level when the rain water makes it down to Louisiana.

Valverde says with the water level continuing to recede over the next two weeks, he sees the Red remaining below flood stage.

Hundreds of home flooded last week in northwest Louisiana from the swollen Red.



Water levels on the Red River has started to fall. The American flag on the side of the substation is now showing. Only a few strips at the top was visible when the river was at its highest. Courtesy Photo/Bossier Parish Sheriff's Office

MINDEN CRIME

Cocaine charge sends 1 to jail

Minden man arrested on fourth felony drug charge

MICHELLE BATES
michelle@press-herald.com

A Minden man was arrested after a search of his home by Probation and Parole agents yielded alleged drugs in his home.

James "Big Burt" Birden III, 29, of the 500 block of South Street, was arrested Thursday, June 11, and charged with possession of Schedule II CDS (cocaine), possession of Schedule I CDS (marijuana) fourth offense, possession of drug paraphernalia and a parole hold was placed on him.



BIRDEN

Minden Police Chief Steve Cropper says Captain Dan Weaver and Captain Marvin Garrett assisted parole agents in the search of Birden's home. The two made contact with Birden at the

See **ARREST**, Page 3

FAN DRIVE

Webster COA seeking fans

MICHELLE BATES
michelle@press-herald.com

With summer temperatures already topping out above 90 degrees, the Webster Council on Aging is seeking fans for the elderly to keep them cooler.

COA executive director Dathene Brown says they've already had several phone calls regarding fans, and while they have a precious few left from last year, they are quickly dwindling.

"We've already had a couple of calls about fans, and we try to take care of those 60 years of age and older," Brown said. "I'd like to have more fans to pass out this summer; we only have a very few left over from last summer."

See **FANS**, Page 2

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SECONDFRONT

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WEATHER

Texas braces for more rain

Tropical Storm Bill makes landfall Tuesday morning

DALLAS — The eastern half of Texas was preparing for renewed flooding as Tropical Storm Bill approached the state's Gulf Coast.

The National Hurricane Center predicted the storm would make landfall Tuesday morning somewhere between Baffin Bay, south of Corpus Christi, and High Island, just up the coast from Galveston.

Galveston County officials already have directed voluntary evacuation of the low-lying Bolivar Peninsula, where Hurricane Ike wiped out most structures in 2008. School districts from Galveston to the Houston suburbs have canceled Tuesday's classes.

According to projections by the National Weather Service, parts of North Texas, Arkansas and Oklahoma could get up to 9 inches of rain over the next five days, and Missouri could get more than 7. After last month's historic rains and floods, the forecast was expected to complicate ongoing flood-containment efforts.

"If we get that much rain in that time, there's probably going to be a resurgence of flooding along these rivers," said Kurt Van Speybroeck, meteorologist for the weather service in Fort Worth.

Memorial Day weekend storms brought widespread flooding to Oklahoma and Texas, killing more

than 30 people. At one point last month, 11 inches of rain fell in some parts of the Houston area, resulting in flooding that damaged thousands of homes and other structures and forced motorists to abandon at least 2,500 vehicles across Houston.

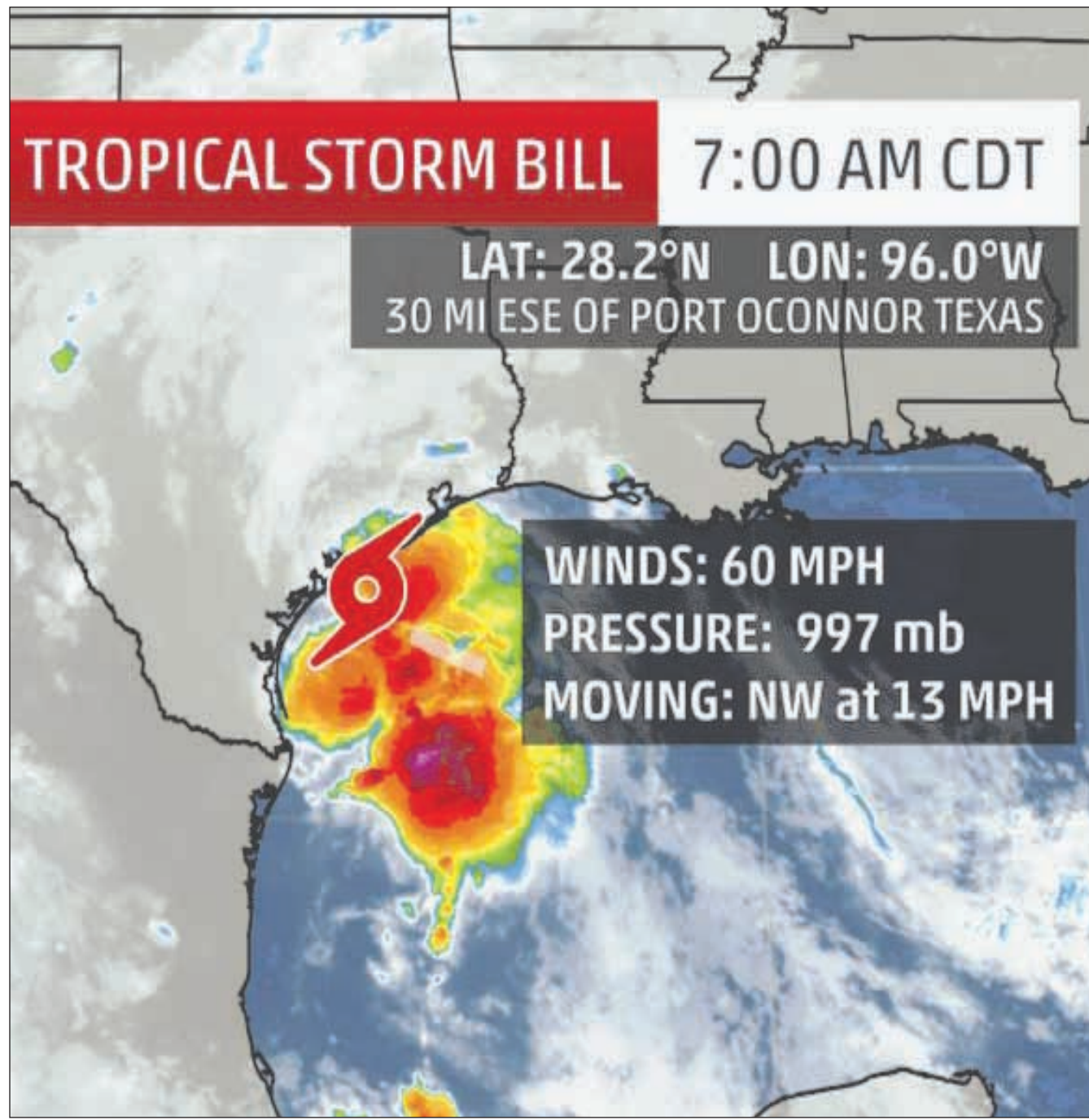
More than 10 inches of rain fell over a 30-day period across nearly the entire central and eastern portions of Texas — from the Panhandle south to the Mexico border. Isolated areas received 15 to more than 20 inches.

Those wet conditions could help strengthen the storm, according to Marshall Shepherd, director of atmospheric sciences at the University of Georgia.

While tropical storms usually gather power from the warm waters of the ocean and then weaken once they move over land, NASA-funded research has shown some storms can actually strengthen over land by drawing from the evaporation of abundant soil moisture, Shepherd said. The phenomenon is known as the "brown ocean" effect.

"All the things a hurricane likes over the ocean is what we have over land right now," said Shepherd, one of the principals who conducted the research.

On Monday, portions of the Red River were near or above flood stage as it runs between Oklahoma and Texas and then extends



into Louisiana. Meanwhile, the Trinity River was above flood stage in many areas of East Texas.

Lake levels across Oklahoma remain high from May rainfall, which has forecasters watching rivers in Arkansas ahead of the tropical system.

"We have had time to recover but not a whole lot," said NWS hydrologist

Tabitha Clarke in North Little Rock, Arkansas. "(The tropical system) is going over areas that are already sensitive. ... It's kind of a perfect storm. There are a lot of things lining up."

Shepherd said it won't be immediately known if the brown ocean effect holds true for this storm but an indicator will be

whether it forms an eye while well inland. He cautioned that often it's not the larger category storms that produce the most rainfall, but instead smaller tropical storms.

On Monday night, the city of Houston activated its Emergency Operation Center, and Dallas was preparing to take similar actions Tuesday evening.

Francisco Sanchez, spokesman for the Harris County homeland security and emergency management office, said crews were continuing to work to remove debris from bayous so that water could flow more freely and not build up when the heavy rains begins.

CRIME

Downsville man sentenced to over 28 years for child porn

MONROE — Federal prosecutors say a man from Downsville in north Louisiana has been sentenced to more than 28 years in prison for producing child pornography.

U.S. Attorney Stephanie A. Finley announced on Monday that Michael S.

Golden, 53, was sentenced to 342 months in prison by U.S. District Judge Robert G. James on one count of production of child pornography.

Prosecutors say agents discovered in April 2014 that Golden took sexually explicit photographs of a

minor in order to create child pornography. He then used an email account to transmit the child pornography.

He also was sentenced to a lifetime of supervised release and ordered to register as a sex offender upon his release from prison.

FANS

Continued from page 1

mer." She says in the past they've received oscillating fans as well as box fans, and while grateful for them, many seniors prefer the box fans.

Another reason seniors need these fans, she says, is because seniors are leaving their windows open at night to cool down their home, and that can be dangerous.

The COA offers an air-conditioned atmosphere

for seniors and offers plenty of fun during the day. Brown says they play games like bingo and others as well as offer a lunch meal.

They also like to provide educational speakers for seniors to help them stay safe and healthy.

On Wednesdays and Thursdays, the COA offers exercise classes at the senior center.

"We try to do as much towards education as we can," she said, "especially in the realm of safety."

Also, Brown says they offer assistance with Medicaid and prescription drug applications.

"Betty Purdy is my senior center director and she's trained in that," she said. "We have an office dedicated for it. She'll try to help them and get them (prescriptions) at no cost to (the senior citizen)."

To donate fans, drop them off at the senior center, located at 1482 Shepard Street, from 8 a.m. until 4 p.m., in Minden, or to the Springhill Senior Center, located at 301 West Church Street, from 8 a.m. until 4 p.m.

For more information, call the Minden center at 371-3056 or the Springhill center at 539-2510.

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ECONOMIC IMPACT

Business impact of Red River flood waits for lower water

SHREVEPORT — The Red River is still falling slowly at Shreveport and wasn't expected to begin falling near Natchitoches until late Sunday, so it will be a while before northwest Louisiana business owners know the full extent of flood damage.

The starting point of a long rebuilding process will be a meeting June 23 in Natchitoches for river officials and business owners, Red River Valley Association director Rich Brontoli told The Times.

More damage shows up daily, so companies need time to get a complete list together, he said.

And the area is likely to get more rain as a large low pressure area that was near the Yucatan Peninsula on Sunday moves north,

whether or not it develops into a tropical system, the National Hurricane Center said.

Some damage already is apparent.

Cindy Wilkins says that with three feet of water in her Cash Point Party Place in north Bossier, the place will need gutting and rebuilding. But she says she cannot afford it.

The event center was fully booked before the Red rose. Now, said Wilkins, she's working nonstop to keep her clients.

She has moved some to Faith Performance Horses in Elm Grove, but some groups don't care for that move.

"I've already had a Parkway High class reunion and wedding set for Octo-

ber cancel their bookings after learning the event would not be at Cash Point," Wilkins said. "I don't hold it against them, but I can't help there was a flood. It was out of my hands."

And some events are likely to be too big for Faith Performance Horses. Wilkins is seeking an alternate venue but is having a hard time because of high rents.

Barge traffic between Shreveport and Alexandria is cut off because Lock and Dam No. 2 was closed Wednesday.

"We're thinking it may be upwards of a month, month and a half before the river is navigable again," said Port of Caddo-Bossier operations director Hugh McConnell.

Several of the port's businesses rely on barge traffic. For instance, McConnell said, Bruce Oakley Incorporated has 22 barges full of fracking sand that cannot be delivered. Land transport would take up 1,300 truckloads, he said.

Red River Terminal's petroleum tank farms are full. Without barges, the plant cannot move its products.

McConnell said he expects damage to railway cars and tracks, portable buildings on the docks, roadways and electrical equipment. Lock and dam systems along the river must also be cleaned and repaired before they're useable, he said.



LOUISIANA LEGISLATURE

Tax committee chairman: Lawmakers handled budget responsibly

BATON ROUGE — The chairman of the Louisiana House's tax committee said Monday that lawmakers shouldn't have trouble defending tax votes they took in the just-ended legislative session, because the decisions helped protect public health care and higher education.

Lawmakers raised taxes and scaled back tax breaks to raise more than \$700 million for the upcoming \$24.5 billion budget that begins July 1. Ways and Means Committee Chairman Joel Robideaux, R-Lafayette, said the votes

were tough for lawmakers to make with elections on the horizon this fall.

But Robideaux, who is term-limited and running for Lafayette city-parish president, defended the votes and the budget tied to them: "I think every legislator can go back to their districts and say we solved the problem."

"I think we were responsible," he told the Press Club of Baton Rouge.

Without additional revenue for the budget, the steepest cuts would have fallen on public colleges and health services. At one

point, higher education faced the threat of losing 80 percent of its state financing.

Business groups have suggested lawsuits may be filed against some of the legislation changing the tax rules, raising questions about whether they were properly passed and whether they improperly change already-granted tax credits.

Robideaux said lawmakers "trimmed" tax breaks that were too generous when struggling with a budget shortfall. He noted many reductions to the tax

credit and subsidy programs were only enacted for three years.

"We gave these incentives to the business community. ... When you give them 10 M&Ms and then you come back and say, 'Look, we're only giving you eight,' and they holler and scream that they're only getting eight M&Ms, it's kind of hard to sympathize with them," he said.

Smokers face a tax hike, the film industry faces a cap on its tax credits, and businesses of all kinds face cuts of 20 percent, 25 percent and 28 percent to a

variety of tax breaks and subsidies they receive.

"I can't wait for the time that we can undo the reduction of these tax exemptions, when the economy's picking back up, because I think they weren't bad ideas," Robideaux said. But he added: "With what we were facing, it was a pretty easy decision to peel them back."

The film industry is urging Gov. Bobby Jindal to veto a bill that would put a three-year, \$180 million annual cap on state spending on tax breaks for movie

and TV productions. The move is estimated to save \$70 million in the upcoming budget year.

Jindal's office said it was considering the industry's concerns. But the Republican governor said last week he didn't expect to veto revenue-generating bills tied to the budget.

Robideaux said killing the film tax credit bill "would blow a hole in the budget."

"I don't anticipate there will be a veto of that bill or any of the revenue measures that were used to balance the budget," he said.

BOAT

Continued from page 1

six miles off the coast, and after about an hour or so of fishing, we figure out the boat is taking on water."

At that time, Wood and the others on the boat began taking measures to get the water out of the boat, turning on the bilge pumps. Wood says they thought the measures were taking hold until about 15 minutes later, the boat owner noticed more water underneath in the cabin.

"That's when we abandoned ship," he said. "Luckily, we were tied to an oil rig that had a platform that we could jump to. It had tow ropes that we could grab and pull ourselves to the rig."

Fortunately, a boater close by radioed the U.S. Coast Guard for help as their radio was under water.

"Within about 15 minutes of us getting on the rig, the boat capsized," Wood said. "We were pretty lucky."

They were able to unload most of their

belongings on the boat before it capsized, and within about 15 minutes, the Coast Guard had come to their rescue.

"They ended up taking us back, and the tow (company) came back and got the boat," Bo Branch, also a passenger, said. "They pumped it up and got the water out and pulled it back in."

From start to finish, Branch says it took about an hour for the boat to sink.

The two praised the Coast Guard for their quick response and professional

manner.

"They were doing a training exercise in the Gulf already, so they were pretty close, so it just worked out to our advantage," Wood said. "They told us we were eight miles out instead of six, and this was the only oil platform around that we were able to get on. All the rest of them were about 20 feet (above sea level) and they have to release a ladder down. So somebody would have to be up there to release the ladder down to you."

Both men say it was a scary moment, but felt fortunate that things happened the way they did.

Wood and Branch both say the boat was towed back to shore and even now, the reason the boat

took on water is unknown. Wood says the boat owner is getting the boat checked out this week.

"We really don't know why it took on water," Branch said. "It all happened so fast. We were able to get off, and we were actually tied to the rig when it was sinking so we knew we could get off. We all just kind of sat on the rig and hung out until (the Coast Guard) got there."

ARREST

Continued from page 1

front door, according to reports.

"After gaining entrance into the residence, agents immediately located (what appeared to be) loose marijuana in the toilet," he

said. "He apparently attempted to flush some of it. Birden was advised of his rights at that point in time."

Parole agents continued their search of the residence, and he says during that search, a set of scales containing suspected cocaine residue was found underneath the refrigerator.

tor. They also located a large sum of cash inside the pocket of a pair of shorts, Cropper says.

Assisting were Officers Brandon Curry and Jamie Franklin.

Birden was transported to Bayou Dorcheat Correctional Center for booking.

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OPINION

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PERSPECTIVE

Berry picking time

It's blueberry time and they're getting ready. We have three mature blueberry bushes and two small younger ones. The three mature ones will be producing lots of berries again this year.

We freeze berries every year as well as share with friends. The first ones were picked Sunday afternoon and we got five quarts off the one bush that is always first to ripen. We will be picking again in a few days.

I have Buddy Thomas to thank for my good berries. Many years ago when I was teaching, he was serving as the 4-H advisor for Shongaloo and I enjoyed chatting with him each time he came to the school.

One year, after deciding I would like to grow berries for my own use, I talked to him about the kind to select for this area. He advised wisely, and not long afterwards, we purchased our first bushes. Two of the original three have been replaced and the last one will probably need to be replaced in a few years.

I first became acquainted with the delicious little berry after I was introduced to Mr. Tompkins in Plain Dealing. I went over to interview him for a story on his blueberry orchard, and soon learned how good they were.

For a few years, we went each summer and picked berries. Later, when my mother came to live with us, we took her and she enjoyed sitting in the shade as we picked.

Not long after that was when we decided to grow our own.

They are among the easiest fruits to grow, as you just put them out, fertilize them occasionally and wait for the results. Also, be sure they get plenty water in dry years.

This simple little berry is recommended as a healthy fruit as it provides antioxidants, which are important for the body. They can be eaten out of hand or tossed on top of your cereal for breakfast.

They make really pretty jelly. Make this and put in jelly jars, tie a pretty ribbon on each one and you have neat little gifts for friends.

Can be a "thank you", "happy birthday", or simply "I was thinking about you." Everyone appreciates a jar of homemade jelly.

One friend of ours, who always cooks pancakes for crowds, uses them to top off his delicious pancakes. Add some butter and syrup and you have a delightful breakfast. I haven't eaten any of his pancakes recently, but I remember how good they were. I'm sure he's still cooking them.

Blueberry bread makes a lovely gift for a sick friend. When the loaf is cool, wrap it in clear paper, tie a bow with colorful ribbon and drop by to visit a friend. He or she will be happy for a visit and especially happy you brought the delicious bread. It's great with a cup of coffee.

There are so many ways to use the berries, but all through the year, Hubby suggests blueberry cobbler. That's probably his favorite way to use them.

Once the berries begin ripening, they need to be picked about two or three times a week. You pick only the ripest as they are the sweetest.

As I enjoy my berries this year, and share them with friends, I'll surely remember Buddy and the chats we had at school as well as Mr. Tompkins's hospitality and berry orchard.

Fannie Moore is a journalist who lives in Shongaloo where she enjoys writing on a variety of subjects.



FANNIE MOORE

MINDEN PRESS-HERALD

203 GLEASON STREET, MINDEN, LOUISIANA 71055
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DAVID A. SPECHT JR., *President*

GREGG PARKS, *Publisher*
gparks@press-herald.com

CAROL ANDREWS, *Chief Financial Officer*
carol@press-herald.com

BRUCE FRANKLIN, *Managing Editor*
bruce@press-herald.com

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

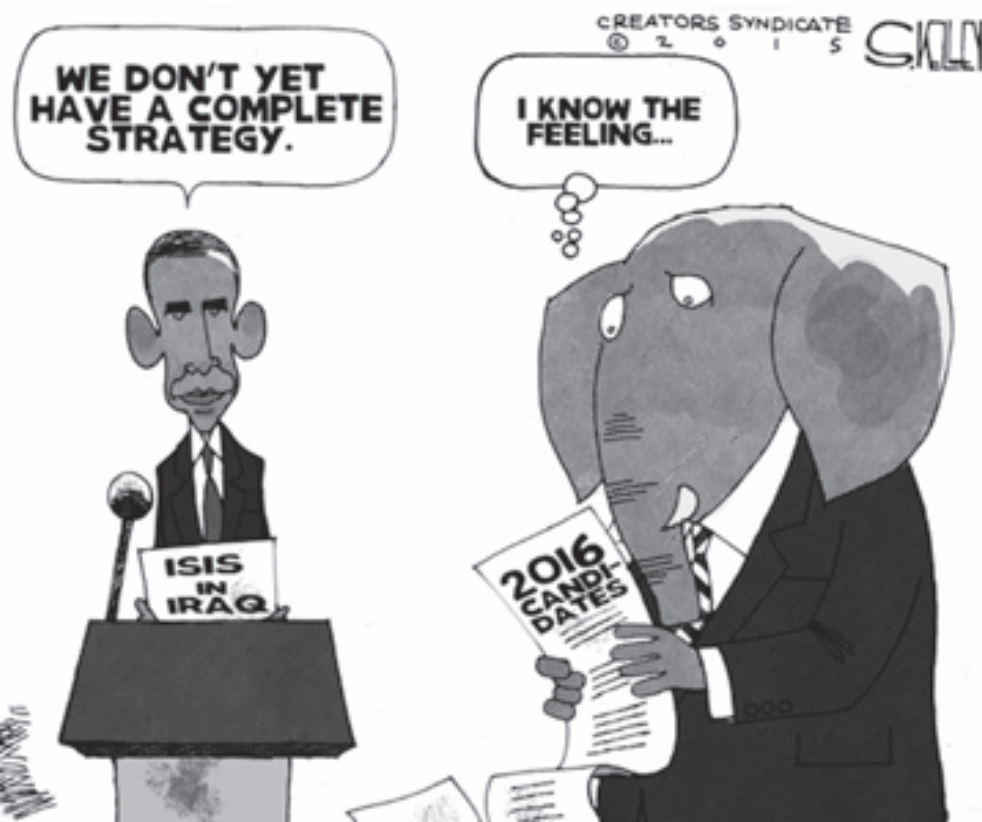
JORDAN WILSON, *Community Editor*
community@press-herald.com

TELINA WORLEY, *Advertising Manager*
advertising@press-herald.com

PETE COVINGTON, *Circulation Manager*
circulation@press-herald.com

DENNIS PHILBAR, *Production Director*
production@press-herald.com

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PERSPECTIVE

Green lies

Millions go to SeaWorld to learn more about sea life and get closer to killer whales. But fewer go now because the documentary "Blackfish" exposed what one reporter called "the darker side" of SeaWorld.

The movie, which CNN bought and ran over and over, tells how greedy businessmen take baby whales from their mothers and imprison them in small aquariums, where the frustrated animals are a threat to each other and their trainers.

"All whales in captivity have a bad life," says a biologist in the film. "They're all psychologically traumatized."

"Blackfish" is persuasive. Watching it made me agree with the protesters who shout, "SeaWorld is synonymous with cruelty!"

SeaWorld wouldn't talk to CNN, but they did talk to me. I will be showing their responses on Fox News this weekend.

I asked SeaWorld why they separate whales from their mothers.

"We haven't done that in 35 years," says Kelly Flaherty Clark, SeaWorld head trainer. "We have no plans to do it again, and the film implies that we're doing it yesterday."

SeaWorld says much of "Blackfish" is deceitful. "The things they describe just didn't happen."

"Eighty percent of the whales that we care for were born right here," says head

veterinarian Chris Dold. "The key difference between what our whales experience and what killer whales in the wild experience is the fact that ... our trainers work with them every day."

I was most disturbed by a "Blackfish" scene that plays the mournful cry of a mother whale whose baby was taken from her. But it turns out the "baby" was an adult with kids of her own. "Blackfish" faked the scene by adding "sound effects that aren't even appropriate to a killer whale."

Blackfish also claims captive whales' droopy dorsal fins indicate that the whales are miserable. But whale expert Ingrid Visser says killer whales in the wild have collapsed dorsal fins, too.

The director of "Blackfish" and others who appear in the film would not talk to me, but biologist Lori Marino, who'd said that "all whales in captivity have a bad life," did.

I pointed out that life in the wild is rough, too — there's competition for food, sex, life itself. She answered, "these animals evolved over millions of years to be adapted to the challenges of the wild, not with living in a concrete tank. ... They need space ... and a social life."

SeaWorld claims its whales are "happy." But as "Blackfish" points out, "we can't ask the whales."

Dold replied, "While I may not know what my dog is thinking, I certainly know that he's happy and that we have a good relationship."

There have been moments when that human-whale relationship wasn't good. One whale drowned a SeaWorld trainer. But Clark says there's no evidence that the whale's behavior meant that

he was frustrated because he lives in a tank.

Finally, "Blackfish" claims that captive whales die young. But Dold points out, "We have a 50-year-old whale living at SeaWorld. ... (O)ur whales' life parameters are the same as whales in the wild." Government research confirms this.

It's romantic to fantasize about freeing whales so that they can frolic in the ocean. That probably wouldn't work out very well. After the movie "Free Willy" ran, the whale depicted in the film was set free. But wild whales wouldn't accept him in their pods. Willy kept returning to shore to be near people. He let children ride on his back. Willy died not long after he was set free.

It's hard to think rationally when animals tug at our heartstrings.

Lori Marino says it's cruel to imprison whales in tanks where they "have to do stupid pet tricks." I see her point, but marine parks and zoos are often the only way people learn about nature, and ticket sales pay for education and conservation efforts. SeaWorld alone has helped rescue 25,000 animals.

I don't presume to know if it's moral to keep animals in captivity. But I do know that the activists distort the truth. I'll give more examples in my "Green Tyranny" TV special Sunday on Fox News at 9 p.m. (EDT).

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



JOHN STOSSEL

EDITORIAL ROUND UP

Sun Herald on hurricane season

Hurricane season began in June and though it won't peak until late August or early September, it's not too early to get ready.

And don't be deceived by forecasts of a milder-than-usual hurricane season. As the old saying goes, it only takes one hurricane.

Should a hurricane threaten the Coast, there will be innumerable decisions and details you'll have to handle. The more of them you handle now, the less likely you'll lose your wits then.

Now is the time to learn if you live in an area that would be wiped out in a storm surge. Water will kill more people than wind in a hurricane, unless everyone in the flood zones gets out. Floodsmart.gov will tell you if you are in danger.

Now is the time to gather the important papers you'll need to have with you if you evacuate. Think of every document you'll need should you return to a home that has been destroyed by the storm.

Ready.gov has a lot of information about preparing for and dealing with disasters.

For instance, you'll need supplies to take care of your family and yourself for several days. The rule of thumb is 72 hours. And remember, you'll likely to be preparing meals without a stove, electricity or running water.

If you have pets, you'll need to know where you can and can't take them if you evacuate.

If you have a yard full of furniture and other stuff that will become airborne in high winds, you'll have to stow it rather quickly. Now is the time to figure where all that stuff will go.

Do you need shutters? Now is the time to decide and have them installed. If you plan to use plywood to cover windows, now is the time to get it and cut it to size. And to learn how to install it. Hundreds of people will wait until a storm is on the horizon, then rush to the DIY center. You don't want to be there when they do.

This is not meant to be an exhaustive list. Such lists already are online at the websites mentioned. This is meant to impress on the uninitiated the importance of planning. And it's a reminder to the veterans to update their plans and start carrying them out.

Finally, take care of one another. There are the elderly and others who could use some help to get ready. Give it freely.

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.



Epsilon Rho Chapter Xinos and Kudos attends conference

Epsilon Rho Chapter Xinos and Kudos brought home several trophies from 2015 Annual Youth Regional Conference

About 600 educators, hub parents, and Xinos/Kudos attended the Southwest Region 42nd annual Xinos and 32nd Annual Kudos Youth Conference recently held at the DFW Airport Marriott South Hotel in Fort Worth, Texas that was hosted by Southwest regional officers. Activities kicked off Friday at 1 p.m. with registration of chapters, winos/kudos regional officers meeting, credentials, activity books, arts, crafts and a general session for all. The evening session included welcome/greetings from Mr. Marcus Knight, Mayor of Lancaster, Texas, the Regional Director Margarette Galloway, and others. Also, there were introductions, presentations, and campaign speeches for incoming officers. Later in the evening, the youth participated in a basketball team competition.

Saturday morning activities consisted of voting for regional officers, breakfast, public speaking competition among the youth and

workshops. The workshops began at 10 a.m. and focused on the theme, "Get Yo Life 101" - Educational Workshops and "What, When and Who? How to use your School's Counselor" for Xinos and Kudos. Workshops were also given for parents (HUB/mothers) and (Anthropos/fathers).

Workshop presenters were: Amanda Sergeant, University of Texas in Austin and Barbara Cabbil.

In the evening, the youth participated in a talent extravaganza and a step show competition.

Afterwards, the youth attended an award dinner, senior ceremony and a social/dance.

Following Sunday morning breakfast, youth attended morning worship service with the Rev. Byron Shaffner, former Kudo as guest speaker. The youth regional choir and installation of 2015 Regional Officers ended the conference.

The youth and sponsors traveled to tour the AT&T Cowboy Stadium as an outing immediately after the conference.

The Xinos and Kudos of Epsilon Rho are proud to bring home several trophies. Xinos - 1st Place in

the step show competition, 1st place in praise dance in the talent show competition, Xino- Sha'morrow Whiting, 1st place - art competition, Kudos - 1st place in step show competition, Jordan Becnel in 1st place - basketball team #2 competition and Kristopher Jones 2nd place in crafts competition. Xino, Krystal Williams, voted as Regional Officer Secretary and Kudo Isaiah Boston was voted as Region Officer Chaplin.

This conference is one of the many youth-related activities of the National Sorority of Phi Delta Kappa, Inc. It promotes professional growth, ethics, attitudes, and cultural standards; it acquaints teachers, parents and the community with the problems of the profession, and trends related to the youth.

Several members of Epsilon Rho Chapter and Hub Parents were in attendance including Amanda Thomas, President, and Gail Coleman, Xinos/Kudos Sponsor.

Guest helper of the sorority included former Xinos Kelli Carter and Breleisha Gilbert.



Top photo, front row from left, Gail Coleman, Xinos Sponsor, Ke'Adria Miller, Krystal Williams, Special Crawford, Alexis Allen, Camryn Bank, La'Sharon Bonner, Mackenzie Palmer, Sha'Morrow Whiting, Kiarah Rhone, Alaysia Wright and I'Janique Williams. Back row, Keyana Stanley, Jasmine Morris, Mi' Liyah Newman, Serenity Lewis, Brianna Giles, Shonesty Kinsey and Ah'Mani Owens. Bottom photo, front row, Ma'cellous Moses and Kertavion Oliver. Second row, Gail Coleman, Kudos Sponsor, Ahmad Bishop, Damien Harris, Kendel Allums, Isaiah Boston, Kristopher Jones and Donte' Lindsey. Back row, Jordan Decnel, Te'Konzae Williams, Ke' Shun Sanders, Aaron Moses, Adrian Flournoy and Brandon Rallins. Courtesy Photo

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SPORTS

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SPORTS briefs

CWS

Tigers ready to face the Titans

OMAHA, Neb. - LSU (53-11) seeks to remain alive in its quest for a seventh national championship at 2 p.m. CT Tuesday when the Tigers face Cal State Fullerton (39-24) in an elimination game at the College World Series at TD Ameritrade Park.

Tuesday's game will be televised by ESPN2, and it may be viewed at WatchESPN.com and the Watch ESPN app.

The game will be carried on affiliates of the LSU Sports Radio Network, including WDGL 98.1 FM in Baton Rouge. Live audio and stats may be accessed at www.LSUsports.net.

LSU dropped a 10-3 decision to TCU on Sunday afternoon in its CWS opener. Cal State Fullerton suffered a 4-3 loss to Vanderbilt in the CWS first round in a game that was completed on Monday after being suspended on Sunday night due to severe weather.

The winner of Tuesday's LSU-Cal State Fullerton game will play either TCU or Vanderbilt at 7 p.m. Thursday.

The Tigers are playing in their 17th College World Series, and all 17 appearances have come since 1986. LSU is tied with Texas for the second-highest number of CWS championships with six. Southern California has the most NCAA baseball titles with 12.

The Tigers practiced for two hours Monday afternoon at Creighton University in preparation for Tuesday's contest.

NBA

Stephenson done in Charlotte

CHARLOTTE, N.C. (AP) - The Lance Stephenson experiment is over in Charlotte.

The Hornets gave up on the struggling guard Monday, trading him to the Los Angeles Clippers in exchange for center Spencer Hawes and forward Matt Barnes.

The Hornets gave Stephenson a three-year, \$27 million contract last summer figuring he would bring some needed playoff experience, but he never produced as the team hoped he would.

"Sometimes when you make a trade or a free agent signing it just doesn't work out for whatever reason," general manager Rich Cho said of Stephenson in a conference call Monday night with reporters. "He never fit in great. He is very capable of playing a lot better than he did last year but for whatever reason it wasn't a good fit. Sometimes you don't know that until a player actually comes to your team. For whatever reason, he didn't gel."

The Hornets felt Stephenson was on his way to becoming a star when he averaged 13.8 points, 7.2 rebounds and 4.6 assists while starting 78 games two years ago for an Indiana Pacers team that won 56 games.

STANLEY CUP PLAYOFFS

'Hawks wins sixth Stanley Cup



CHICAGO (AP) - Corey Crawford threw his gloves off and ditched his helmet as the Chicago Blackhawks poured onto the ice and swarmed the goaltender at one end of the frenzied United Center.

And just like that, the celebration was on. The marquee at Wrigley Field had a congratulatory message for the Stanley Cup champions, and there were fireworks and honking horns all over Chicago.

Call it a Windy City party 77 years in the making.

Duncan Keith scored in the second period and led a dominant defense that shut down Tampa Bay's high-scoring attack, and the Blackhawks beat the Lightning 2-0 in Game 6 on Monday for their third NHL title in the past six seasons.

Patrick Kane had a goal and an assist, helping the Blackhawks clinch the Cup on home ice for the first

time since 1938. Crawford, who was pulled from Chicago's first-round series against Nashville, had 25 saves in his fifth career playoff shutout.

NHL Commissioner Gary Bettman called the Blackhawks a dynasty, and the delirious crowd of 22,424 agreed wholeheartedly.

"We won it for each other, for the city," captain Jonathan Toews said. "In so many ways, winning a championship like this in our home city, I think it really transcends the sport. Everyone wants to be a part of it. It's amazing."

Keith was a unanimous selection for the Conn Smythe Trophy for playoff MVP after he finished with 21 points while playing more than 715 minutes during a grueling postseason. It was the sixth NHL title for the franchise.

"It feels so great. You want to keep being a part of these things," Keith said. "You don't get these awards without being on great teams with great players and like I said, I'm just proud to be a part of this group of guys who cares so much and do whatever it takes."



It was an appropriate conclusion to a series full of near misses and close calls that had fans in Chicago and Tampa Bay on the edge of their seats for almost two weeks. It was only the second final to begin with five one-goal games, and no team enjoyed a two-goal advantage until Kane buried a perfect pass from

Brad Richards at 14:46 of the third.

It was Kane's first goal of the final, and it prompted more chants of "We want the Cup! We want the Cup!" from the red-and-black clad fans.

"Just wanted to play my best game and control the puck as much as possible and try to step up for my

team," Kane said.

Ben Bishop kept the Lightning in the game with 30 saves, fighting through a groin injury that kept him out of Game 4. Led by Bishop and big defenseman Victor Hedman, the Lightning allowed just 13 goals in the series, but it wasn't enough against the unflappable Blackhawks.

COLLEGE WORLD SERIES

Razorbacks first to be eliminated from CWS



OMAHA, Neb. - The first team eliminated from the College World Series was always the most likely. But they provided a heck of a ride.

The team with the fewest MLB draft picks, fewest all-conference selections, lowest preseason expectations of any of the eight teams in Omaha just had too much else to overcome.

Jacob Heyward chief among the other issues.

Miami's left fielder scored a go-ahead run in the seventh, then, after Arkansas tied it in the eighth, knocked

in the winner in the ninth to eliminate the Razorbacks, 4-3, on a walk-off.

It was only the second time in two months the Razorbacks suffered back-to-back losses.

"I just appreciate the effort this team put out this year. We've come a long way. I'm so proud of them," coach Dave Van Horn said. "You kind of saw a little bit of what we've been doing the last 45 days in today's game. Just grinding, trying to stay in games, trying to win a game. We've played a lot of close games. These guys are pretty tough mentally."

Mentally tough. Physically depleted. There were several opportunities to avoid that. None delivered.

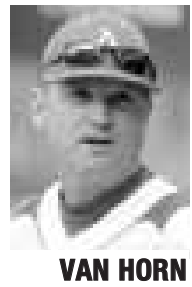
The Razorbacks hit .214 with runners in scoring position in 14 tries. They hit .174 with runners on-base at all on

23 at-bats. They committed four errors. And they couldn't score with the bases loaded in their half of the ninth.

Carson Shaddy singled to start the Arkansas half of the inning and after he was sacrificed to second, Andrew Benintendi walked. Bobby Wernes followed, but with a pop out and Tyler Spoon reached on a booted ground ball to first base.

Rick Nomura fouled off three pitches from Miami closer Bryan Garcia before rolling one over to second base and ending the frame.

Six pitches later Arkansas'



VAN HORN

season had come to an end.

Maybe it was exhaustion. Arkansas trailed 2-0 then tied it at 2. They trailed 3-2 and it at 3. Their typically untouchable bullpen ace, Jackson, was touched for two hits and walk over 1 2/3 innings. He was working his fourth game in the last five after the Razorbacks had lost options Dominic Taccolini (undisclosed illness) and James Teague (elbow). Even the starter, Keaton McKinney - who was sharp for the first time in a month - had to leave early, his fastball dipping into the low 80s in the fifth inning.

Fatigue led to miscues. Miscues led to a loss.

Arkansas committed four errors. The last two gave Miami its 3-2 lead in the seventh. With one out in the inning and a runner on second base in a tie game, Christopher Barr sent stan-

dard grounder to Arkansas shortstop Michael Bernal. The runner, Heyward, took off when the ball came off the bat. Bernal tried to preserve the tie and errantly threw toward third base to try to get him. But the ball went beyond Wernes and bounced off the fencing near the Miami dugout. Heyward arose from his slide and scrambled home to beat the throw from Wernes to Carson Shaddy at the plate. Shaddy had dropped the toss, anyway, allowing Barr to reach third.

It was the only unearned run as Arkansas pitchers limited Miami, which entered top 10 in the country in batting average, to just seven hits. The Razorbacks countered with nine. It was just the second Arkansas lost at all this season when outpitching its opponent (33-2).

LOUISIANA OUTDOORS

"When the bobber jiggles" a good read

A couple of months ago, my friend and fellow outdoor writer, Ed Wall, sent me a copy of his new book for my review. Somehow, Wall's book, "When the Bobber Jiggles" got lost among other books and magazines.

Fortunately for me, I found the book, sat down and began reading and regretted not finding it sooner. It's a great little book, a fun read that puts you smack-dab in the middle of Ed Wall's outdoor world and in so doing, conjures up all sorts of experiences any outdoors-minded person may have had in the woods or on the water.

The majority of Wall's experiences he writes about took place in North Carolina, his home state. Even so, a common thread runs through his spell-binding tales with which we here in the deep south can identify.

The blurb that came with the book reveals right off the bat what the reader is in for.

"Cane poles and coffee cans full of red worms; early morning in a hunting camp with gentle rain drumming on a tin roof; a bird dog, floating ghost-like through a stand of longleaf pines; tall tales and saddle sores; missteps and milestones you love to recall."

Sort of makes you get your hands on a copy of Wall's book, doesn't it? To continue with the blurb, "Reading 'When the Bobber Jiggles' is somewhat like sitting by a campfire with an old friend



HARRIS

recollecting how things used to be and ought to be. Whether you're a hunter, fisherman, boater, camper, or just someone who enjoys messing around in the back forty or on a secluded waterway, these are situations to which you can relate."

Wall lives in New Bern, NC and has a MA degree from East Carolina University with a specialty in Recreational Geography. His master's thesis was a study of licensed, commercial shooting preserves in eastern North Carolina. According to Wall, the topic was selected because it would not only satisfy the university's requirements but would also allow him to spend a lot of time messing around the bird dogs and bird hunters, two groups for which he has great affection.

Wall taught science and coached football, track and

cross-country at the high school level for three decades. He is an award-winning outdoor writer with weekly columns appearing in several North Carolina newspapers as well as credits in several outdoors magazines. He is a three-time winner of Excellence in Craft awards from the Southeastern Outdoor Press Association.

With his credibility firmly established, here is an excerpt from "When the Bobber Jiggles" to whet the appetite of any hunter, angler, camper or lover of all the outdoors experience offers.

In the chapter entitled "Boat Trailers are the Devil's Handiwork", Wall begins the chapter by setting the stage for problems boaters often encounter in dealing with boat trailers.

"I've always wondered why God invented mosquitoes. I've turned it

every way I can and I just don't see that they serve any real purpose. I know that they're prey for certain other species, like purple martins, but it seems that those birds and other critters could easily adapt to eating something else. My theory is that The Almighty put mosquitoes on Earth to keep us humble. I think the boat trailer was invented for much the same reason."

With Father's Day just around the corner, I'm betting any outdoorsy guy would enjoy a copy of Wall's book. To order an inscribed copy of "When the Bobber Jiggles", send a check in the amount of \$12.95 (plus \$3 for shipping and handling) to Ed Wall, 3045 Red Fox Rd., New Bern, NC 28562.

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Taraji P. Henson on 'Empire' and its successful season

Taraji P. Henson is on a mission: To take her brand global following the success of Fox's hit show "Empire" — and her breakout character Cookie Lyon.

"I am tired of Hollywood telling me what black people can't do overseas and what can't sell overseas, and black women can't do this overseas," Henson says. "Well, I am over there and they know who I am; and they knew me before Cookie."

"Empire" debuted in January with 9.9 million viewers and ended its first season run with 17.6 million viewers for the finale, the most watched show that week, according to the Nielsen ratings.

With Emmy nominations set for July 16, the 44-year-old actress, the 2015 ambassador for the American Black Film Festival that just completed its four-day run in New York, says she isn't focused on awards.

"That's not my driving force. I respect the awards and I am always honored when I am recognized, but that's not really why I got into the business," Henson says. "Art is very powerful. It can touch and change lives, and that's what I am about with my talent."

Henson recently talked with The Associated Press about "Empire" and the Texas law enforcement officer who threw an unarmed teenage girl to the ground.

Associated Press: What's the formula for the success of "Empire" and how the show's viewership continued to grow throughout the season?

Henson: Networks started underestimating the audience. They started

believing that appointment television was dead. But we proved that if you give the audience good content they will watch, and I think that is what you are seeing. There's no special formula. There is no magic trick that we did. We just got an incredible cast, incredible writers; we deal with very diverse subject matter, subject matter that makes you think, that makes you ruffle feathers.

AP: How important is it to address delicate subjects, such as homosexuality in the African-American community?

Henson: Well it's very important to talk about any subject matter that deals with people not being afraid of being who they are. When we are born we do not get the luxury of saying, 'God I want white skin,' or 'I want to be straight,' or 'I want to be a woman,' you just get what you get, and your journey in life and how you decide to walk through that journey is what life is about and how you're going to move and affect people through your story.

AP: What can we expect for next season?

Henson: They are going to deal with a lot of the past, and this is something that I requested. What happened with Cookie in the 17 years she was locked away from her family? How did Lucious become — some people want to call him this monster — but people are the way they are because of their circumstances and so we just want to delve a little bit more into how these people became who they are.

AP: How do you feel about the recent situation in McKinney, Texas,



regarding the white police officer who drew his gun on unarmed African-American teens and threw a 15-year-old girl to the ground?

Henson: I think it is time for people to stop being

quiet about what's going on and stop turning a blind eye to it. People of all color, if you see an injustice happening, say something. They always say it is not important until it affects you, but I do not know

what parent in the world watched that video, I do not care what color you are, and did not feel some kind of way. Take race out of it. That's a girl, that's a young woman in a bikini and that man slammed her

down; like she was no threat, what was she doing? It's a big issue; we've got to deal with this. I do not know if we are becoming a police state. It's really scary.

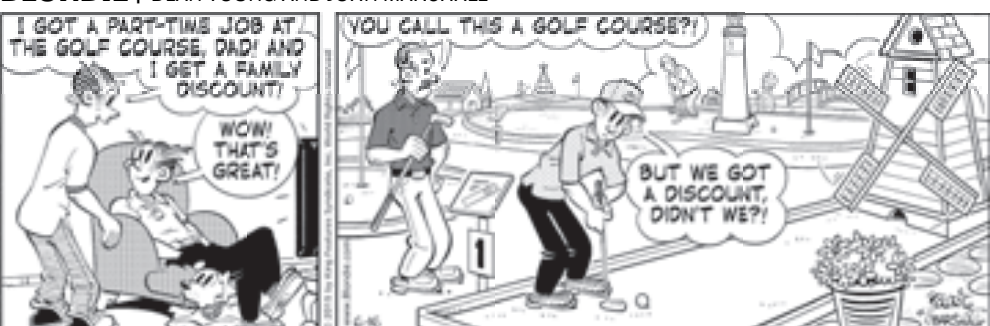
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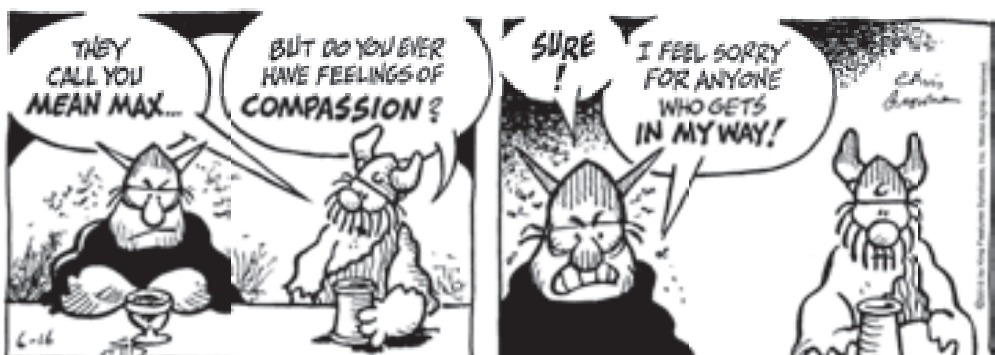
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EASLEY FARMS 3 months experience needed- must be 18 years or older. 45 Temporary worker needed in Calhoun City, MS from approximately May 1, 2015 to Oct. 27, 2015. Workers will perform assigned duties as instructed by their supervisor. Duties may vary from time to time. Clearing ground of rocks, sticks & roots by hand, clear brush and trees with chain saw. General field & fence maintenance. Use wood to build boxes for digger. Preparing the ground for planting. Manually weeding fields by hand or using hand tools. Participate in irrigation activities. Drain water from fields with hand tools and shovels when needed. Move hay. Set up, operate and repair irrigation systems. Incidental feeding and watering of small herd cattle. Load & unload boxes on trucks trailers or sweet potato harvesters. Walk behind potato transplanter and fill in skips by hand. Repair, maintain and clean all hand tools and mechanical equipment prior to and after use. (All tools will be provided at no cost to workers) Work in extreme weather conditions. Must be able to work with minimum supervision. Workers may be asked to operate farm equipment, cotton pickers, combine, drive all tractors (in the field), and implements on farm including: hipper, disk, dual, chisel plow, potato transplanter, bushhug, grain buggy, skid steer, forklift, potato digger, water trailer to water plants, and any other equipment related to the planting, cultivation and harvesting of crops. Sweet Potatoes - Covering potatoes with use of bedding machine & covering with plastic. Cut slips by hand with knife, place in boxes to load & unload onto trucks. Riding mechanical transplanter and loading slips in planting cups. Divining plants by hand. Use of mechanical digging equipment to dig potatoes. May also harvest potatoes by hand with use of buckets. Must be able to sort, grade & pack potatoes by size quality or type. Three months experience needed for hand cutting slips and use of mechanical transplanter & mechanical diggers. May also plant, cultivate & harvest the following: Cotton Wrap ties around cotton bales, banding/ unbanding, moving bales with dolly, loosening bales and loading bales on tractor. Thin out young cotton, keep wet cotton separate from dry cotton. Purple Hull Peas, Watermelons, Beans and Corn. The majority of the workday is spent on one's feet and outdoors. Workers may stand in one place for any period of time. Workers must be able to climb, stand, sit, stoop, squat, kneel, crouch, bend (from the waist), push, pull, reach and lift. Work is performed in outdoor agricultural fields and involves exposure to sun, wind, rain, soil, mud, dust, heat, cold and other natural elements. Worker must be able to withstand working in the direct sunlight and weather conditions ranging from hot and humid weather, moderate rain and cold while performing their required job duties. Workers should expect periods of little/ no work during growing time. Proper work attire is required. Workers must wear long sleeve shirts, long pants, no shorts, hard sole shoes, preferably boots, no tennis shoes. Due to possible Date of Need changes, worker is required to purchase travel insurance if available. We will reimburse the worker for transportation cost (including travel insurance) and subsistence to the employers work site from the place of recruitment upon completion of 50 % of the contract period. Transportation payment will be no less (and is not required to be more) than the most economical and reasonable common carrier transportation charges for the distances involved. A copy of the work contract or a copy of the ETA 790 in lieu of a work contract, and any modifications, will be provided to the worker on the day the work commences. If the employee is unable or unfit to perform the job duties listed after the 14 day pretrial, the employee's contract may be terminated. Workers will be paid the highest of \$10.18 per hr or applicable piece rates depending on crop activity, three quarter guarantee, 35 hrs per week, housing, equipment and transportation provided at no cost to workers who cannot reasonably return to their permanent residence at the end of each work day. We participate in the E-Verify program and workers must have valid identification for I-9 preparation when they report to begin work. Apply for this job at the State Workforce/ Job Center office in your area, please call for the nearest office in your area MS 662-842-2175, AL 256-259-1835, LA 318-676-7705, FL 863-385-3672, using job order MS122505.

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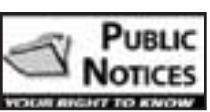
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Notice is hereby given that the Madden Contracting Company, Inc. has applied for a 401 Water Quality Certification/Corps of Engineers 404 permit to clear, grade, excavate and place fill to construct a siding and access facilities needed to provide access to an existing main railroad line for the Sibley Siding Expansion Project one mile south of Minden in Webster Parish. The Madden Contracting Company, Inc. is applying to the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality, Office of Environmental Services for a Water Quality Certification in accordance with statutory authority contained in the LAC 33:IX.1507.A-E and provisions of Section 401 of the Clean Water Act.

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Larry Merritt motioned to adopt the May 12, 2015 Regular Meeting minutes as read. Doyle Chanler seconded. Motion carried.

Richard Davis motioned to add Resolution No. 2015-10 to the agenda under New Business, John Langford seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Richard Davis motioned and Alan Myers seconded to open the Public Hearing for: 1. Proposed Amendment to Ordinance No. 126-K titled AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING THE BUDGET FOR THE TOWN OF SIBLEY, LOUISIANA FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2015, 2. Proposed Ordinance No. 126-L titled AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING THE BUDGET FOR THE TOWN OF SIBLEY, LOUISIANA FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2016 3. Proposed 2015 Amendment to Ordinance No. 114A titled AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS TO MUNICIPAL OFFICIALS AND EMPLOYEES FOR THE TOWN OF SIBLEY, LOUISIANA, AND PROVIDING IN CONNECTION THEREWITH.

After some discussion, Richard Davis motioned to close the public hearing on the proposed ordinances. John Langford seconded. Motion carried.

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at 7.69 mills. Alan Myers seconded. Motion carried.

Larry Merritt motioned to make the Minden Press Herald the Town of Sibley's official journal. Doyle Chanler seconded. Motion carried.

Richard Davis motioned to adopt Resolution No. 2015-10 asking for assistance from the Webster Parish Police Jury with a tree on Natchitoches St. John Langford seconded. Motion carried.

Larry Merritt gave a monthly report for the Sibley Volunteer Fire Department including the PIAL rating would be next month.

Chief Jeremy Robinson gave a monthly report for the Sibley Police Department.

Under Oral Communication, the mayor announced that the town has purchased a mosquito machine and will be spraying inside city limits. He

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Meeting Adjourned.

A t t e s t Jimmy Williams Mayor Sherry McCann Clerk

June 16, 2015 Minden Press-Herald

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CRYPTOQUIP

P O U T O F G S Q Y F T I Y J G S D Y Q S C F S E C Y E G D Y Z S M E A D Q U Y Q Q S A Z G S D Y Z I P J M .

P ' D W S D R U O P J Z - W S D R U P O J Z . Yesterday's Cryptoquip: GAME SHOW WHERE CONTESTANTS PLAY CARDS IN AN ATTEMPT TO WIN HUGE PAYOUTS: "DEAL OF FORTUNE." Today's Cryptoquip Clue: D equals M

CROSSWORD

Crossword puzzle grid with clues and solutions. Clues include: 1 BLT enhancer, 5 Miss. neighbor, 8 "Ali —", 12 Vaccine type, 13 Dog's doc, 14 Some-where out there, 15 Game birds, 17 Ad- vanced math, 18 Scot's refusal, 19 Disen- cumber, 20 Snap- shot, 21 Auction action, 22 Lustrous black, 23 Liechten- stein's capital, 26 Per- suaded, 30 Sallor's greeting, 31 Heathcliff, e.g., 32 "— Only Just Begun" (down), 33 She wrote "Give me your tired, your poor ...", 35 Under a spell, 36 Big shot, 37 Up to, briefly, 38 Ricochet, 41 Peruke, 42 Omega preceder, 45 From the beginning, 46 One who keeps late hours, 48 Protuber- ance, 49 Blond shade, 50 Orsk's river, 51 Carbon com- pound, 52 Wager, 53 Pleads, 16 Looney Tunes animator, 20 Corral, 21 "Wheel of Fortune" option, 22 Write in the margins, 23 Actor Kilmer, 24 "Eureka!", 25 Florist's qty., 26 Existed, 27 Irritate, 28 Previous night, 29 Scarlet, 31 Recipe measure, 34 Edge, 35 Lofty, 37 Snug, 38 Walking stick, 39 In due time, 40 Start over, 41 Saga- cious, 42 Skin opening, 43 Booty, 44 Troubles, 46 Appre- hend, 47 Place for a soak. Solution time: 22 mins.

Crossword puzzle grid with numbers 1-53.

June 16, 2015 Minden Press-Herald

June 9, 2015 The Sibley Town Council met in regular session on Tuesday, June 9, 2015 at 6pm in the Sibley Town Hall Meeting Room. Members present were Mayor Jimmy

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