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October 14, 2015 | 50 Cents

WEDNESDAY

INSIDE
today



Leppert leading the way for Weevils

SPORTS PG.6



Browns celebrate 50 years of marriage

LIFE PG.5



Wealth, poverty and politics

OPINION PG.4

WEATHER

TOMORROW'S OUTLOOK



97 **61**
HIGH **LOW**

Mainly sunny. Winds NNW at 5 to 10 mph.

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SOUTH WEBSTER

Firefighters battle wildfire Tuesday

BRUCE FRANKLIN
bruce@press-herald.com

Minden firefighters along with firefighters from across the region battled a raging wildfire near the Webster-Bienville parish line Tuesday. The blaze burnt more than 1,500 acres as of Tuesday night. The cause remains under investigation, but fire officials said lightning from storms Monday night could be to blame.

Bobby Conly, Bienville Parish Ward 4 & 5 Fire Protection District Chief said the

fire started in Bienville Parish and moved southeast, but parts spread into Webster Parish.

The Department of Agriculture and Forestry had bulldozers cutting fire lines to help control the fire Tuesday morning; however, weather was to blame for the rapid spread.

"The forestry was here and built a line around it (fire), but about 11 this morning, the fire jumped it," he said. "It was a wind driven fire."

See **FIRE**, Page 2



Smoke from the wildfire could be seen from miles away. Bruce Franklin/Press-Herald

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT



Residents come out to party for National Night Out

United Way of Northwest Louisiana, above, and Helen Terrell, right, hosted a block party on National Night Out. Minden police were on hand mingling with community members and playing games as children played games and had fun in the bounce houses. Churches, nonprofit organizations and businesses came together in celebration of National Night Out. A total of nine parties took place in Minden Tuesday evening. Bruce Franklin and Michelle Bates/Press-Herald



CRIME

Webster residents arrested for Las Vegas murder

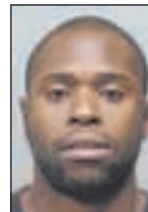
Couple awaits extradition to Las Vegas

MICHELLE BATES
michelle@press-herald.com

CULLEN — A Cullen couple is facing extradition to Las Vegas in connection with the murder of a 71-year-old woman found in a water meter vault.

Jamar Webb, 33, of the 400 block of Lee Street in Cullen, was arrested, Wednesday, Oct. 7 as a fugitive from Las Vegas Metro Police. He is facing charges of burglary, conspiracy to commit burglary, possession of a credit card without the owner's consent and two counts of fraudulent use of a credit card.

Veronica Houck, 23, is charged with murder, robbery, kidnapping, conspiracy to commit murder, conspiracy to commit robbery and conspiracy



WEBB



HOUCK

See **MURDER**, Page 2

EDUCATION

State releases preliminary PARCC results

MICHELLE BATES
michelle@press-herald.com

Statewide scores for the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers, or PARCC, tests are in and student scores will be comparable to other states for the first time, state superintendent John White said.

"Preliminary results

reported yesterday (Monday) do not indicate radically different levels of student proficiency from what NAEP and LEAP have shown in recent years," he wrote in his weekly newsletter Tuesday. "Roughly one third of students perform at the 'mastery' level, indicating they are on track in reading, writing and math for community college and

university success."

During a presentation Monday, White released the cut, or raw, scores which show the percentage of students for grades three through eight:

English Language Arts
Grade 3 — 64 percent met basic and above, 37 percent at mastery and above.
Grade 4 — 73 percent met

basic and above, 39 percent at mastery and above.

Grade 5 — 67 percent met basic and above, 33 percent at mastery and above.

Grade 6 — 74 percent met basic and above, 38 percent at mastery and above.

Grade 7 — 67 percent met basic and above, 35 percent at mastery and above.

Grade 8 — 70 percent met

basic and above, 40 percent at mastery and above.

Mathematics
Grade 3 — 67 percent met basic and above, 37 percent at mastery and above.

Grade 4 — 64 percent met basic and above, 33 percent at mastery and above.

Grade 5 — 59 percent met basic and above, 28 percent

See **SCORES**, Page 2

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SECONDFRONT

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JOE LEBLANC FOOD PANTRY

JLFP begins Feed A Family Sponsorships

MICHELLE BATES
michelle@press-herald.com

For a \$20 sponsorship, donors can feed an entire family a meal for Thanksgiving.

The third annual Joe LeBlanc Food Pantry Feed A Family sponsorship program began this week and donors will be able to sponsor a needy family through Nov. 14. Jessica Lewis, JLFP director, says as of Monday, 30 families have been sponsored.

"That \$20 goes to purchase a turkey with all of the sides, including a dessert," Lewis said. "The donors can choose to remain anonymous, but if they choose not

to, their name is printed on the bag with the family's name. All donations are tax deductible."

Applicants must meet the USDA poverty guidelines, she said. Families can turn in their applications during the week or on distribution days with the next two set for Saturday, Oct. 17, and Saturday, Nov. 14. She says on Nov. 14, families will get their normal food box with an invitation for the next weekend to pick up their Thanksgiving bag.

Anyone is welcome to sponsor a family, including companies, nonprofit organizations and individuals, Lewis said. She says organizations have sponsored multiple families.

Cash and checks will be

accepted, and this year, sponsorships may be paid through PayPal at joeleblancfoodbank@yahoo.com. If writing a check, write Feed a Family in the memo line.

Last year, 600 families were sponsored, and Lewis hopes to exceed that number this year.

Sponsorships can be mailed in to JLFP, 408 Broadway in Minden, or dropped off at the Broadway location. If the office is not open, Lewis says donors may slide their applications or contributions into the mail slot on the front door.

Lewis says they will announce a date for volunteers who wish to help pack the Thanksgiving bags.

MURDER

Continued from page 1

to commit kidnapping.

Las Vegas Metro Police say the two were arrested in connection with the murder of Young Suk Sanchez.

"Houck is believed to have been acquainted with the victim," LVPD officials said.

On Sept. 22, patrol officers responded to a report of a suspicious piece of luggage found in a water meter vault.

The Las Vegas Review-Journal reports the Las Vegas Valley Water District crew was checking water meters in the area when Sanchez's remains were discovered. Police say the body had been there at least a month, the news agency reported.

"Patrol officers and crime scene investigators determined that the duffle bag contained what was believed to be human remains," police said.

Webster Parish Sheriff's chief deputy Bobby Igo Jr. says the sheriff's office

received information regarding the incident and hosted LVPD, allowing them to use the sheriff's office to interview Houck.

"We actually had the female (Houck) in jail on unrelated charges," Igo said. "They (LVPD) contacted us and asked us to keep her in our jail. They wanted to come interview her. They had no warrants for him at that time. After interviewing her, they were able to obtain warrants, and he was arrested on those charges."

Warrants were executed against Houck following the interview on Oct. 6. She had been arrested a week prior on a probation and parole violation for leaving the state without notifying them, Springhill police chief Will Lynd said.

"Veronica's been arrested numerous times for identity theft, monetary instrument abuse and other charges," he said.

Lynd says the two met when Webb got out of prison after serving time on charges related to the November

1996 death of Herman DeLoach during the commission of a robbery at Bee Bop's, a grocery store in Cullen.

He was just 15 at the time, Lynd said.

With active warrants against her, Houck and Webb moved to Las Vegas to a place called The Suites. They came back to Springhill and officers picked her up on a warrant, booked her and she posted bond about a week prior, he said.

"We got a phone call saying they needed Veronica right now," he said. "I get her in there, and Probation and Parole had her on a violation for leaving the state without notifying them."

Las Vegas police traveled to Springhill, Lynd says, and asked him to bring in Webb.

"They interviewed him, but he never confessed to anything," Lynd said. "He was arrested on a pretty good list of charges."

The two await extradition to Las Vegas to face the above charges.

SCORES

Continued from page 1

met mastery and above.

Grade 6 – 59 percent met basic and above, 26 percent met mastery and above.

Grade 7 – 58 percent met basic and above, 22 percent met mastery and above.

Grade 8 – 55 percent met basic and above, 32 percent met mastery and above.

Cut scores are the points on the test's scale that indicate whether students have generally demonstrated performance on tasks throughout the tests.

According to the presentation, "states use the same process and formulae for converting raw scores into scale scores. They also use the same cut scores. This

means that 'level 4,' or 'mastery,' represents a comparable level of performance in all participating states."

Once the cut scores are determined, then the state produces reports for parents and teachers, school and district performance scores, guidance for principals and teachers setting evaluation targets, school and district letter grades, charter school

renewals and scholarship school eligibility based on SPS or grades, and student and family eligibility for school choice.

High school performance scores and letter grades will be released no later than the week of Oct. 26-30. Elementary and middle school performance scores and letter grades will be released in December.



Michelle Barr
ISSO Certified Instructor/Judge
BHS Stage II
PATH Registered Instructor

(225) 964-7222
Michelle@rightlead.com
www.rightlead.com

17237 Hwy 80 East
Minden, LA 71055



Daniel Davidson mans the control post Tuesday evening coordinating where fire departments are and directing them to locations. Bruce Franklin/Press-Herald

FIRE

Continued from page 1

The state had an airplane flying overhead to help alert firefighters to changes in wind direction.

Flames were reportedly jumping from the tops of 50-foot tall trees and residents in Castor had ashes falling in their yards.

Conly said Bienville Parish had 4 different fires at one point.

Tuesday, the National Weather Service in Shreveport issued a fire warning for northern Bienville Parish and southern Webster Parish.

Although dozens of Bienville Parish residents

had to evacuate, Webster Parish residents were not affected.

"It's mainly a Bienville Parish fire, so far no residents in Webster Parish have been injured or evacuated," Bobby Igo, Webster Parish Sheriff's Office chief deputy said Tuesday evening.

One home and storage shed was lost in the fire along Sheppard Town road Conly said and no injuries were reported.

Garrett Road resident Cynthia Morris sat with her husband Dale and dog Sassy alongside of the Road and watched the smoke billow in the distance.

Morris was one of the dozen displaced by the fire.

"It ain't a good feeling knowing I can't go home," she said. "As a kid, I lost

everything – twice – to a fire and know what it's like."

Morris said she planned on staying with her brother in Haughton Tuesday night.

The American Red Cross responded Tuesday night offering food and drinks to the firefighters and assisted displaced families.

"Red Cross volunteers have come together to support our firefighters battling these fires and to care for our neighbors affected by them," Michelle Davison, executive director for the Red Cross in north Louisiana said.

As of Wednesday morning, officials said the fire had been contained and the evacuation order had been lifted.

Firefighters from Webster, Bienville, Bossier and Red River parishes responded to the fire.

Great News!

November 16,
2015



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WEBSTER & MORE

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CAMEOS OF MINDEN

School memories of teachers, friends last a lifetime

JUANITA AGAN
Special to the Press-Herald

One of my most precious memories would be of our school days in the thirties. Perhaps time has a way of coloring those memories, but I like them anyway.

When the day started out wet and rainy and it was continuing to rain at about eleven o'clock, school officials would decide on a "Rainy Day Schedule."

They would ring the bell on top of the old 1910 school building. This

is the bell that is outside the current Minden High School building and is called "The Victory Bell" now.

The sound of that bell could be heard all over Minden. It let the mothers know that school would not let out for lunch but would have abbreviated classes and let out about 1:00 for the day. Mothers knew not to come after their children at dinner time, but wait and come at 1:00 when school let out. Remember?

Election Time

Recently Mary Louise Adkins Adams and I remembered the way we elected our Homecoming Queens back in the thirties and early forties. She was Homecoming Queen in the fall of 1942. She remembered that you could buy a ticket for a penny, and the most tickets sold (the most pennies raised) determined the Homecoming Queen. We think this practice ended about the middle forties, since later it was just by vote.

I told her that I remembered how pretty she looked that night in a beautiful black velvet dress trimmed in white Irish Linen lace.

With her coloring she truly looked like a queen. I was working at Adress by that time and her father, Leon Adkins, was my boss.

Last Day

I remember how we longed for the last day of school, even longed for the holidays such as Christmas and Thanksgiving. But at the end of summer we could hardly wait for school to begin again. We wondered what subjects we would study and who our teachers would be. It seemed that we rushed life along, wanting to be grown and out on our own.

But I can never forget the feeling of loneliness following graduation from high school. We had eagerly anticipated graduation and now it was past and we wondered what was next. There was no money for college for most of us. The boys used their GI Bill after they came back from World War II to further their education.

Some of the graduates' families had money and they, of course, knew they would be going on to college. I received a scholarship to Northwestern, that was known as Normal back then. It was for \$20.00 for a year.

That was no help if you had no money to go with that. I was disappointed but I knew that I could not go. I was fifteen when I finished high school. Later I was able to go to business college, take all the accounting courses offered in addition to the typing, shorthand, and Business English.

My Teachers

Most of the teachers were wonderful people. I remember Miss Mary Annie Wall. She was one of our English teachers who taught Grammar one semester and Literature the next semester. She had eye problems, and her eyes were crossed. You were not certain if she were looking at you when she called

on someone to answer unless she used your name. I remember her teaching us the meter of poetry which is really the "beat" of poetry, and as she illustrated Iambic Pentameter she would beat out the words of the poem with a pencil on her desk. "The Stag' - at eve' - had drunk' - his fill' - where danced' - the moon' on Monan's rill' - and deep his midnight lair had made' in lone Glenartney's hazel shade.' "- and on and on she went, beating out the meter of the poetry. This was from Sir Walter Scott's "The Lady of the Lake." She later left Minden High School to teach at Northeast in Monroe. She made such an impression on me that I still remember what she taught and listen for the "beat" or the "meter" of a poem.

Coach Brown

I have written about my love for both Mrs. R. A. Baker, and Mrs. E. L. Lyon. Coach "Cracker" Brown taught "Problems of Democracy" in addition to some other subjects. His main job was a coach.

He left Minden to go to Northwestern which was Normal back then as a football coach. The "Problems of Democracy" book was big and thick, almost like a big dictionary. A boy constantly made fun of my "hand-me-down" clothes and I got tired of that.

One day as Coach Brown stood at the door waiting for all the class to come in, I stood, raised that book high over my head and came down on that boy's head, clobbering him.

He was holding his head and bawling and blubbering and told Coach Brown that I had hurt him, had about killed him.

I loved it when Coach Brown said "I have watched how you constantly made fun of Juanita and I think you got what you had coming. Thank you, Juanita. Now boy quit blubbering and shut up." He did, and that was the last of his making

fun of me. I was so skinny, and was not but about thirteen but I gave that lick all the strength I could manage.

I never did that before or after that, but I guess he just pushed me "over the edge." The boy is dead now but I still remember the shame I felt when he continued to call attention to my clothes. At the time of his death he was an admitted homosexual with a live-in male lover, maybe he hated girls back then, too..

Miss Shealy

Miss Kuma Shealy was a wonderful teacher, and I loved her. There were others that I remember feeling the same about — Miss Ruby Craton, especially.

My Algebra teacher was Miss Bettie Nolen. She was a typical old maid, but with such a sweet, sweet personality.

Her hair was piled high on her head like Mrs. Tucker on the lard bucket. She held it in place with with hairpins that were tortoise shell pins.

During the day the pins would slip loose and drop down. Gradually the hair loosened and softened around her face. She had a way of saying things that has remained in my memories. One thing she said was when someone could not understand a principle that she tried to teach them.

She would turn away and say "well, you have to have something up there to hook it on to", which, I think, meant if you did not have a brain you could not learn. And sometimes she would look at a problem we had solved on our paper and she would say "well, you have that 'all piggledy wiggledy'."

I had two years of Algebra under her teaching and I loved her. In later years she would see me on the street in Minden and she would walk up and put her arm around my

waist and pull me close up for a hug.

Favorite Tales

One of her favorite stories was the fact that she had taught Huey P. Long when he was young. She was at least in her fifties when she taught me.

Mr. R. L. Laney was the director of the A Capella choir. He enabled us to go to rally, and to perform over a Shreveport radio station.

He did not stay in Minden very long, but he was a good music teacher. He taught me how to sing alto. Earle Cooke who was Music Director at Minden High School for many, many years was a soloist in that choir along with many others that I remember. George Calvit calls it "The Acca Polka Choir" - close but not quite.

The faculty all wanted us to learn and they tried every way to encourage us. When I consider how little their salaries were I know that teaching was just a "calling" to them, since they could not be in it for the money. Those were the golden years and they were made possible by the wonderful teachers we had.

Hillary Clinton's book is entitled "It Takes a Village to Raise a Child" and Minden did help raise all of us. There were so many good people to set examples of living for us. Oh yes!

I remember a few that were not so good. I could write a few stories on my experiences with one or more characters (which you might find funny), but the good far outweighs the bad.

Juanita Agan submitted a weekly column to the Press-Herald for more than 15 years until her death in 2008. She was a resident of Minden since 1935. The Press-Herald is republishing select articles from Mrs. Agan's Cameos column every Wednesday.



AGAN

OBITUARIES

Leslie L. 'Bud' Avant Jr.

Funeral services for Leslie L. "Bud" Avant Jr. will be at 10 a.m. Friday, Oct. 16, 2015 at Cotton Valley First United Pentecostal Church with the Rev. Kenneth DeHart and Daniel Maddry officiating. Interment will follow at Cotton Valley Cemetery in Cotton Valley under the direction of Rose-Neath Funeral Home in Minden. The family will receive friends from 4 until 7 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 15, 2015 at the church.

Bud was born Oct. 16, 1926 in El Dorado, Arkansas and entered into rest Oct. 12, 2015 in Minden. He served his country during WWII in the United States Navy. Bud enjoyed fishing, hunting and spending time with his children and grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his wife Esther Rose Avant and his son Leslie L. "Buster" Avant III.

He is survived by daughter Beverly Lopez of Minden, sisters Ann Russell and husband Bill of Longview, Texas, Martha Wilkins of Grand Prairie, Texas, brothers Jerry Avant of Longview, Texas, Charles Avant and wife Linda

of Alba, Texas, Grady Maddry and wife Cathy of Cotton Valley, three grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

Pallbearers will be Christopher Parker, Craig Canter, Leslie Avant IV, Don Lewis, Daniel Maddry and Grady Maddry.

Mary Moon Wilson Herriage

Funeral services for Mary Moon Wilson Herriage will be at 10 a.m. Thursday, Oct. 15, 2015 at First Baptist Church West Chapel in Minden with the Rev. Leland Crawford officiating. Interment will follow at Minden Cemetery in Minden. The family will receive friends from 5 until 7 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 14, 2015 at Rose-Neath Funeral Home in Minden.

Mary was born March 25,

1923 in Snyder, Texas and entered into rest Oct. 11, 2015 in Minden, Louisiana. She was a beautician for over 60 years, loved to travel and take trips with her church group. She was an active member of First Baptist Church where she taught and shared Jesus with everyone she met. Mary loved to crochet and embroidery and made every family member a tablecloth. She loved spending time with her family and friends.

She was preceded in death by her husbands A.D. Wilson, and Charlie Herriage and grandson Kyle Nation.

She is survived by her sons Gary Wilson and wife Clara of Calloway Corners, Brad Herriage and wife

Rhonda of Minden, daughter Kay Nation of Minden, brother Will Moon of Abilene, Texas, grandchildren Robin Nation, Justin Nation, Chip Herriage, Spencer Herriage, Lenore McLaughlin,

Kevin Wilson, Deena Coyle, Dolly Brasier, and Carla Hubbard, and great-grandchildren Brandon McLaughlin, Miranda McLaughlin, Embeth Coyle, Reagan Coyle, Myla Hubbard, Brenan Hub-

bard and Della Brasier.

Pallbearers will be Justin Nation, Chip Herriage, Spencer Herriage, Bryan Coyle, Corey Hubbard and Sean Brasier.



AVANT



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OPINION

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EDITORIAL
ROUND UP

The viral video

Texarkana Gazette, Oct. 10, 2015

It wasn't that long ago that a fraternity chapter at the University of Oklahoma got into deep trouble when a video surfaced showing some members singing a song that was racially insensitive at best.

Not long after another fraternity at the University of North Texas got into trouble when a video that surfaced after an alleged hazing ritual prompted allegations not only of hazing, but of homophobic conduct as well.

You would think someone would be paying attention. Apparently not. Now a fraternity at Indiana University has been shut down by its national office after a video showing a member engaged in a sex act with a woman later identified as an "exotic dancer" went viral.

The short clip — less than a minute — was originally thought to show a hazing ritual and speculation was that the fraternity member was a pledge forced to perform the act. A subsequent investigation by the fraternity's national office revealed he was a 21-year-old active.

But that didn't matter. The national headquarters said the chapter had violated the fraternity's code of conduct, engaging in activities "contrary to the ideals and principals" of the organization. Their charter was revoked.

Many of our readers have sons away at college. And some are members of fraternities. For most, fraternity life is a fine experience and creates lifelong bonds with their fellow members. But guys in their late teens and early 20s do not always make the best decisions. These incidents and hundreds like them over the past several years show that clearly.

We don't condemn the fraternity system as so many have. Instead, we think it's time these college students took an important lesson to heart.

It's not the 1980s. Times have changed. And you just can't get away with a lot of things society used to accept with a wink, nod and "boys will be boys."

Parents, too, have a role in this. Many are footing the bill for an education or at least contributing to the tab. Incidents like this, depending on the severity, can lead not only to a young fellow having to find a new place to live, but also to suspension or expulsion from school and even criminal charges. And in some hazing cases, injury or death.

Time to face the facts. Just about everything you do these days will be made public. The national news is just a smartphone away. Think twice, three times before you do anything you don't want exposed to the world.

In other words, "Animal House" is a fun film but it's not a template for college life. Not anymore.

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.



MINDEN PRESS-HERALD

203 GLEASON STREET, MINDEN, LOUISIANA 71055
318-377-1866 • www.press-herald.com

USPS NUMBER 593-340

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

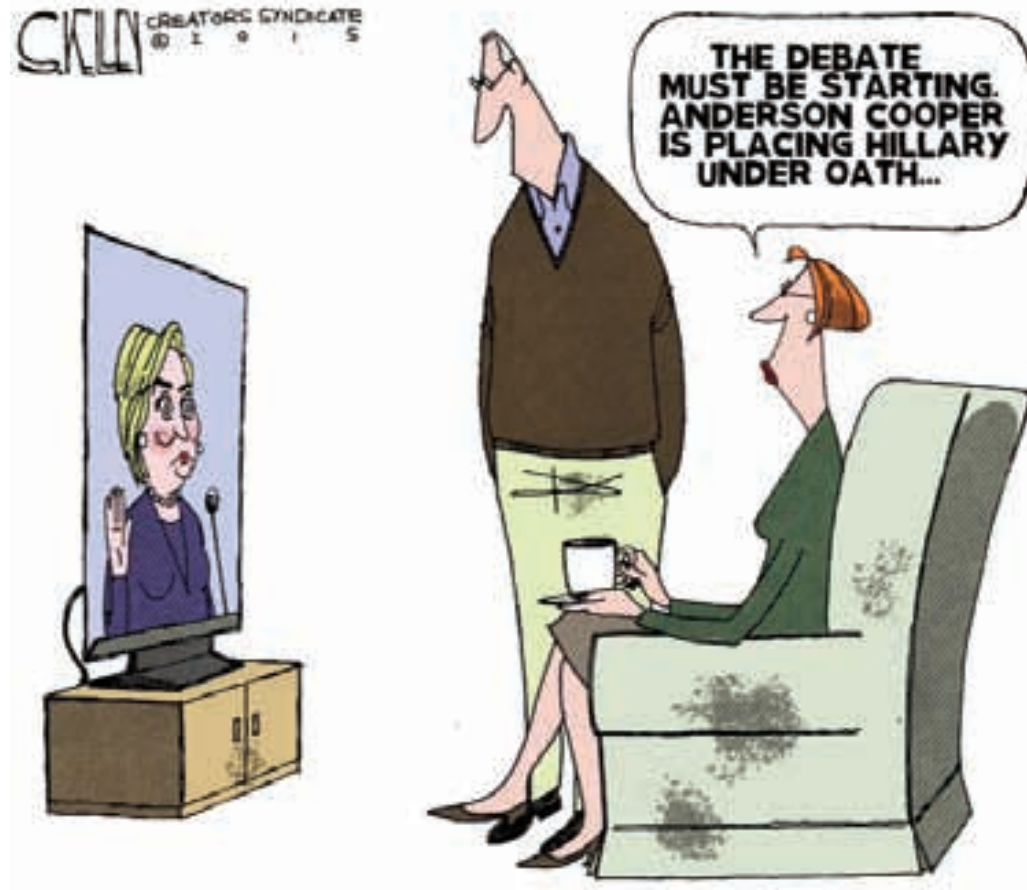
JORDAN WILSON, *Community Editor*
community@press-herald.com

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

Wealth, poverty and politics

Dr. Thomas Sowell, my colleague and friend, told me several years ago that he wasn't going to write any more books, but that was two books ago, and now he has just published his 45th. The man writes with both hands, as can be seen from his website (<http://tsowell.com>), which lists his 45 books, 19 journal articles, 71 essays in periodicals and books, 34 book reviews, and occasional columns written in The Wall Street Journal, The New York Times, The Washington Post, the Los Angeles Times, The



WALTER WILLIAMS

Washington Star, Newsweek, The Times (Britain) et al. Plus, he writes a semiweekly column for Creators Syndicate.

"Wealth, Poverty and Politics: An International Perspective" is a true gem in terms of exposing the demagoguery and sheer ignorance of politicians and intellectuals in their claims about wealth and poverty. Sowell discusses a number of factors that help explain wealth and income differences among people and nations around the world. They include geographical, cultural, social and political factors, which Sowell explains in individual chapters. Readers will benefit immensely from the facts and explanations laid out in those chapters, but here I want to focus on what I think is his most important chapter, "Implica-

tions and Prospects."

How many times have we been told that the rich are prospering at the expense of the poor? Sowell points out that most households in the bottom 20 percent in income have no one working. How can someone who isn't producing anything have something taken from him?

What about the supposed "paradox of poverty" in a rich society such as ours? Sowell says that this is a paradox only to those who start out with a preconception of an egalitarian world in defiance of history and have a disregard for the arbitrariness of government definitions of poverty. Poverty occurs automatically and has been mankind's standard fare throughout its entire history. It is high productivity and affluence that are rare in mankind's history and require an explanation.

Government definitions of poverty make talking about income gaps and disparities meaningless. If everyone's income doubled or even tripled, poverty would certainly be reduced, but income gaps and disparities would widen.

One of the biggest problems in analyzing poverty is the vision that the poor are permanently poor. A University of Michigan study followed specific working Americans from 1975 to 1991. It found that particular individuals who were in the bottom 20 percent in terms of income saw their real incomes rise at a much higher rate than those in the top 20 percent. An IRS study, covering the period from 1996 to 2005, found a similar result. Workers whose incomes were in the bottom

20 percent saw their incomes rise by 91 percent. Over the same span, those in the top 1 percent saw their incomes fall by 26 percent. The outcomes of both studies give lie to the claim that "the rich are getting richer and the poor are getting poorer."

Sowell argues that another source of confusion in discussions of economic differences is the failure to distinguish between income and wealth. The use of the term "the rich" to describe people in higher income brackets is just one sign of confusion. Being rich means having an accumulation of wealth rather than having a high income in a given year. This distinction is not just a matter of semantics. Calls for raising income tax rates to make "the rich" pay their undefined "fair share" are an exercise in futility because income taxes do not touch wealth. Higher income taxes are a tax on people trying to accumulate wealth.

There are many other tidbits of information in "Wealth, Poverty and Politics," such as the impact of age on income. For example, only 13 percent of households headed by a 25-year-old have been in the top 20 percent, whereas 73 percent of households headed by someone 60 or older have been.

Dr. Sowell's new book tosses a monkey wrench into most of the things said about income by politicians, intellectuals and assorted hustlers, plus it's a fun read.

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

EDITORIAL
ROUND UP

When hatred fails

The Dallas Morning News, Oct. 12, 2015

It's a strange thing about hate. It operates best in the shadows and the dark. It never seems so powerful as when it's anonymous and hidden.

But demand that it show its face and give us its name and, more often than not, it will squirm and lose its voice.

Last week, after calls went out across social media for people to rise up and participate in armed protests at mosques and Islamic centers around the country, we saw what happens when hatred fails to muster people to answer its call.

The so-called "global rally for humanity" that stirred so much attention on the internet turned out in reality to be a series of pathetically local gatherings for a small sample of humans who despise other humans.

"Stand up against evil Islam with like-minded patriots from central Florida," demanded a Facebook site for a group staging a rally in Ocala, Florida. "Feel free to bring your favorite anti-Islam signs, shirts, flags, etc."

In this case, etc. meant a firearm.

Similar Facebook pages popped up around the country with full-throated support from the anonymous community of internet bigots that are attracted this sort of junk.

But when the time came to actually step away from the keyboard and stand in the sun in front of a mosque, well, it was anything but a rousing success.

In Amarillo, police reported that more than 100 people showed up in response to call for a rally against the Khursheed Unissa Memorial Community Center.

Alas, all 100 were there in support of the center. The Amarillo Globe-News did report that "one late-comer" arrived ready to protest.

In Richardson, about a dozen people managed to muster up for the global rally. They were met by counter-protesters. Unlike several of the anti-Islam protesters, none of the counter-protesters carried arms.

In Houston, there was no need for a counter-protest because none of the promised protesters bothered to show up at all.

In Seattle and Dearborn, Michigan, Jewish, Christian and Muslim people came together for inter-faith dialogue despite the fizzling of the so-called global rally.

Hatred is a seductive thing. It pretends to offer us solutions. It plays on our fears and prejudices. It makes us feel justified when we succumb to our darker selves.

That's true whether it is the radical jihadist who convinces himself that people deserve to die because they are Christian, Jew or American or whether it is the internet troll who would stir people to take up arms to march in front of their local mosque with signs denigrating the faith of 1 billion people.

But, in the end, hatred is empty. What it offers serves no one.

It needs the foothold it gains in the dark to ever come out of its shadow. That's why it must always be confronted and rejected in the full light of day.

That's what happened last weekend. And it's worth celebrating.

WEBSTERLIFE

facebook.com/mindenph

Around Town

Oct. 13-31

First United Methodist's "Pumpkin Patch" featuring 1,500 pumpkins will be open throughout the month. "Football in the patch" will be from 5 until 7 p.m. Oct. 17, The LSU game will be shown via projector. There will also be games and food. Attendees should bring own chairs. "Pumpkin Shine" will be Oct. 24 from 3 until 5 p.m. with food and carnival games. For more information contact First United Methodist's main office.

Oct. 17

University Health, David Raines Clinic and the Central Community Association will sponsor a "Free Health Fair" from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. at the Central Community Center. Free screenings include screenings for cholesterol and glucose, dental and vision and blood pressure. There will also be presentations by a registered dietitian and information about emergency preparedness. Flu shots will be available (free with insurance card, small fee without). Door prizes will be given away. For more information contact Sharon Wallace at 318-840-1165 or Jeanette Williams at 318-227-1062 or 318-840-3488.

Cancer Survivor Pageant at 5 p.m. at the American Legion Hall at 119 Pine Street in Minden. Call 318-639-5035 for more information.

A Sarepta High School Reunion will take place at 11 a.m. at the Sarepta Community Center. For more information call 318-847-4109 or 318-847-4559.

Oct. 18

A Love Day Celebration honoring First Lady Annie Shelton will be at Union Grove Baptist Church at 3 p.m. Guest Evangelist will be Evangelist Mary Davis.

Pleasant Grove Missionary Baptist Church's 146th anniversary will be celebrated at 3 p.m. with guest speaker Pastor Reggie Lofton Sr.

Mount Pilgrim Baptist Church's congregation will celebrate Pastor Billy Jay Hawkins and Mrs. Hawkins' 33rd pastoral anniversary at 3 p.m. Special guest will be the Rev. James C. Smith and Galilee Baptist Church.

Oct. 19

The Webster Parish School Board personnel committee will meet at 5 p.m. in the board room at Central Office, located at 1442 Sheppard Street, to discuss the contract of Superintendent of Schools Dr. Dan Rawls and any other personnel matters.

Billy and Betty Brown celebrate 50 years of marriage



Billy and Betty Brown celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary with family and friends on Sept. 26, 2015 at their home in Minden.

They were married at 8 p.m. on Sept. 24, 1965 at First Methodist Church in Minden. The Rev. Edwards R. Thomas officiated the ceremony. Their reception was at 613 Cline St. at the home of the bride's parents.

Betty's parents are Stella M. Stevens McNeil and the late Loren J. Stevens.

Billy's parents are the late Calvin A. Brown and Jewell Upshaw Brown.

Edwards - Voorhies engaged to marry



Mr. and Mrs. Ernie Velasco of Shreveport and Mr. and Mrs. Doug Voorhies of Lumberton, Texas are proud to announce the engagement of their daughter Christy Voorhies to Matthew Edwards, both of Minden.

Matthew is the son of David and Cindy Edwards, also of Minden.

The wedding is slated for Nov. 7 at 10 a.m. at North Acres Baptist Church with reception to follow. Bro. Steven Smithson will be officiating.

Christy is a member of Sigma Kappa Delta and Phi Theta Kappa honor societies and is on track to complete her degree in 2016. She works as an administrative assistant for Devin and Jodie Martin.

Matt attended Bossier Parish Community College and is the youth pastor at Christian Church at Minden.

After a honeymoon in Natchez, Mississippi the couple will reside in Minden.

Wildflower Photography/Courtesy Photo

MINDEN PRESS-HERALD'S PUMPKIN PATCH

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SPORTS

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SPORTS briefs

MLB

Cubs clinch NLCS appearance with win

CHICAGO — When it was over, Anthony Rizzo jumped around Wrigley Field and hugged everyone in sight. The moment was in his grasp, and he was determined to hold onto it for as long as possible.

The All-Star slugger endured several seasons of losing with the Chicago Cubs before they finally got into the playoffs again, and he was more than ready to enjoy the franchise's first appearance in the NL Championship Series in more than a decade.

"Obviously times weren't easy the last few years, but with all the talent we had and all the talent we were building, everyone knew that the Cubs were coming," a drenched Rizzo said as he celebrated Chicago's clinching 6-4 victory over St. Louis in the NL Division Series on Tuesday, "and we're here, and hopefully we can keep this thing going."

Rizzo, Javier Baez and Kyle Schwarber homered as the Cubs finished off the rival Cardinals with their third consecutive win, leading to a wild scene on the inside and outside of their century-plus-old neighborhood ballpark. It was the first time they had clinched a postseason series at Wrigley, and the North Siders savored the accomplishment — at least for one night.

NBA

Former star Odom, found unresponsive

LAS VEGAS (AP) — Former NBA and reality TV star Lamar Odom was hospitalized after he was found unconscious at a Nevada brothel, authorities said.

The former Los Angeles Laker and member-by-marriage of the Kardashian family was in a Las Vegas hospital Tuesday night and there was no immediate word on his condition, officials said.

The Nye County Sheriff's Department was called at about 3:15 p.m. Tuesday to Love Ranch in Crystal, Nevada, about 70 miles outside of Las Vegas for a report of an unresponsive man needing an ambulance, Sheriff Sharon A. Wehrly said in a statement.

The 35-year-old was stabilized and taken to Desert View Hospital in nearby Pahrump, the statement said. Officials then tried to have him airlifted to Las Vegas, but the 6-foot-10-inch Odom was too tall for the helicopter that was available and he was driven by ambulance to Sunrise Hospital and Medical Center.

Dennis Hof, who owns the Love Ranch and other legal brothels in Nevada, said his staff had picked up Odom from a home in Las Vegas on Saturday.

"He just wanted to get away, have a good time and relax," Hof told The Associated Press in a phone interview.

Hof said Odom was "happy, he was sleeping every night," while visiting, but two women went to check on Odom Tuesday afternoon after not hearing from him since early morning, and found him face down and unconscious.

Hof said Odom had been taking herbal Viagra and had drunk part of a bottle of cognac since arriving, but had no knowledge of his use of any other drugs.

HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL

Apaches on the road again



BLAKE BRANCH
blake@press-herald.com

The Glenbrook Apaches are getting ready to make their third trip to Mississippi of the season. In the previous two tries, Glenbrook didn't fare too well, but head coach Caleb Carmikle thinks this time the Apaches are better equipped.

"I think we're definitely prepared for it," Carmikle

said. "We've learned a lot of lessons this year, and we have the experience of traveling long distances. I think we've grown up a lot since our last long trip like this."

Even if the Apaches bring their best to Natchez, Mississippi Friday, the task will still be daunting, as the Trinity Episcopal Saints have been a thorn in the side of MAIS opponents for



CARMIKLE

decades. "I did a little bit of research on every team on the schedule when I got here," Carmikle said. "From my time at Arkansas Tech I know the Natchez area pumps out a lot of college talent. I know Trinity has a good tradition and have been winning football games for a long time in this association."

Practice has been upbeat this week for the Apaches coming off another loss, this time at the hands of Union Christian Academy. The Apaches fell short as a team, and will need to shore up the issues that plagued them in

that game to have a shot in this one.

"They showed up ready to work," Carmikle said. "We had a good day of practice with our install. We're working on executing in certain situations."

On film, Carmikle said the challenge looks steep.

"They're extremely athletic," Carmikle said. "They have skill guys who can straight up go. They aren't really one-dimensional either. If they have a weakness it might be up front."

The trenches is where the Apaches may be able to get going this week. Carmikle said if possible he would

like to control the clock this week with the running game.

"Crucial to our success is holding our blocks, finishing those blocks," Carmikle said. "We have to hold those blocks to the whistle and give our running backs lanes to run through. If we can do that and control the line of scrimmage it gives us the opportunity to throw the football. They're faster than us, but if we're methodical in what we do we'll have a chance to drive the field and hopefully punch it in."

The Apaches and Saints will kickoff in Natchez Friday at 7 p.m.

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

Leppert leading the way for Weevils

BLAKE BRANCH
blake@press-herald.com

MONTICELLO, Arkansas - Fans of the University of Arkansas-Monticello Boll Weevils got their money's worth last week, as fifth-year senior signal-caller Hunter Leppert led a furious air attack with 392 yards and five touchdowns in a 51-10 homecoming win over Southern Nazarene University.

Leppert, a business marketing major with a minor in coaching, was deadly accurate on Saturday, completing 25 of 32 passes for a 78 percent completion percentage. For his efforts, Leppert was named GAC Co-Player of the Week.

"My offensive line did a great job, because they blitzed a pretty good bit," Leppert said. "I had all day and when you have all day, it's pretty easy. They pressed our receivers a lot

and we have one of the top receiving cores in the conference. We just exposed them really. It was just me putting the ball where it was supposed to be for those guys to make the plays."

Leppert was the starting quarterback as a freshman when the Glenbrook Apaches earned their only football state championship in 2008. He then transferred to Minden High School where he led the Tide for two years, setting or tying a handful of passing records.

Plagued by injury throughout high school and then suffering a pair of ACL tears during his first two seasons at Arkansas-Monticello, Leppert came back strong following a year away from the game as a medical redshirt and had a stellar 2014 season.

Leppert believed his career was over, but he received some good news

over the summer, a fifth-year of eligibility.

"I was given the chance to come back and play one more year and I couldn't say no," Leppert said. "I love the game, I had to come back. This year hasn't been that good to us, we've lost a lot of close games, but we finally got it turned around and got a win this past week."

Leppert said one of the best parts of being back on the field is the support he gets from his hometown.

"Minden is one of those towns where no matter where you go people remember who you are," Leppert said. "You always feel at home when you come back and even when you're away people give you support. It's crazy how you can be somewhere else but the people back home are still paying attention. I'm glad to be from there (Minden)."



Courtesy Photo

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

Passing game coming along for LSU



BATON ROUGE — No. 6 LSU and eighth-ranked Florida both will likely have a Harris behind center when the unbeaten Southeastern Conference teams clash at Tiger Stadium on Saturday.

While there will be questions about how well Gators backup Treon Harris will fill in for suspended starter Will Grier, LSU coach Les Miles is starting to get some answers about how competent his passing attack can be with first-year starter Brandon Harris.

Because South Carolina was able to contain star running back Leonard Fournette for much of last Saturday's game, LSU needed more production Harris — and got it. He completed a career-high 18 passes on 28 attempts for a career-best 228 yards and two touchdowns. The passing game was the reason LSU took a 17-10 lead into halftime.

"If teams stack up on Fournette, the opportunity to score in the air will be there," Miles said. "If there are a lot of guys in the box, there will be the opportunity



Courtesy Photo

to make the throw. Brandon is beginning to understand the position. Quarterback is all about control. It is a much more cerebral position."

Fournette finished with 158 rushing yards, but that was a season low for him and more than half came on an 87-yard touchdown in the third quarter. Outside of that carry, Fournette picked up just 71 yards on 19 attempts.

The Tigers actually had more passing yards (135)

than rushing yards (103) in the first two quarters against South Carolina. Harris was a perfect 5-of-5 for 93 yards in the second half when LSU wore down the Gamecocks defense with its deep running back corps.

"We knew the whole week with the coverage South Carolina was playing we were going to have to be sharp," Harris said.

"They've got a four-man rush, so you've got to hold the back and just let those

windows open up.

"That game didn't do anything for my confidence. These coaches have a lot of confidence in me. We haven't trailed until this game, so there hasn't been really a need to throw the ball. We don't need to say we need to pass the ball more. We've done everything we had to do and we're 5-0."

LSU's offense looks like it could be exceedingly hard to stop if its passing

game performs well. Fournette has cracked the 1,000-yard rushing mark in just five games. Freshman backup Derrius Guice led the Tigers with 161 yards rushing against South Carolina.

"The performance we had Saturday against an SEC team is going to open some eyes," said wide receiver Malachi Dupre, who caught a career-best six passes for 74 yards and a touchdown. "They will realize we can be balanced. Opponents do respect our passing game because they know the capabilities of Brandon and our receiving group."

LSU entered its game against South Carolina averaging an SEC-worst 95.5 yards passing per game, and the Tigers' numbers through the air against the Gamecocks stood in stark contrast to their totals a week earlier in a victory over Eastern Michigan, when Harris finished 4-of-15 for 80 yards, in part because of several drops by receivers.

"Just because we had a good performance (against South Carolina), we can't let it sit in our heads," Dupre said. "That's just like how we couldn't let a performance like (the previous week), which wasn't a good one, sit in our heads. We have to keep improving."

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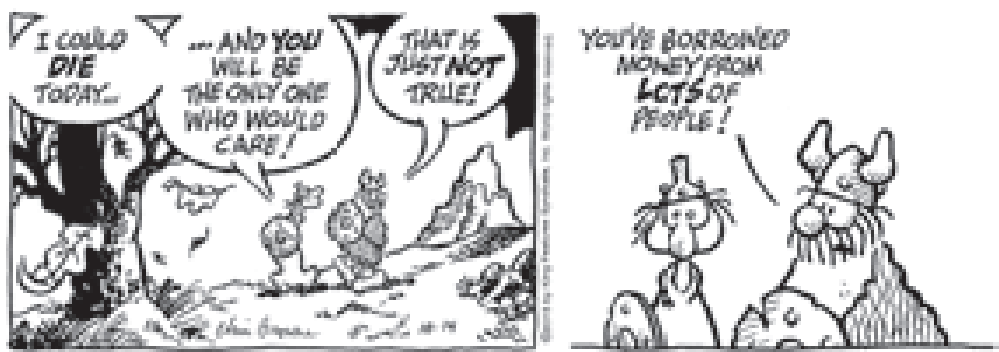
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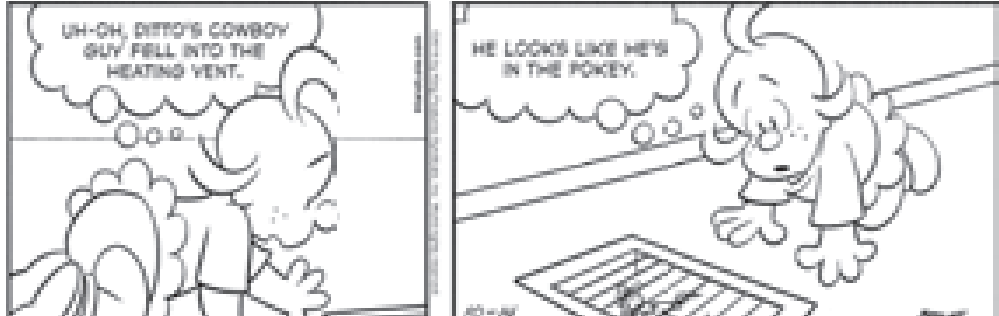
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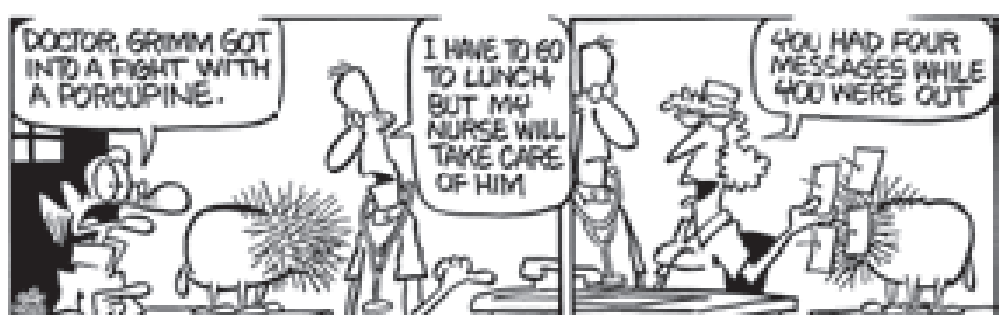
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CRYPTOQUIP

NA N VLRHA-QNBPHWU QENWA.
MTREZ AGX MTLPLXI KX
VTWZ TV BNEEHWU AGXHL

KTII AGX ATQ KNWNWN?

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: IF A PERSON DOESN'T LET YOU EXPRESS VARIOUS FEELINGS, I IMAGINE YOU MIGHT HAVE MIXED EMOTIONS. Today's Cryptoquip Clue: A equals T

CROSSWORD

- | | | | |
|---|--|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| ACROSS | 26 Undulating | 41 Golf prop | 14 "— Lang Syne" |
| 1 Unruly bunch | 27 Superlative | DOWN | 15 Genetic abbr. |
| 4 Min. fraction | suffix | 1 Syrup flavor | 19 To the — degree |
| 7 Bear lair | 28 Artless | 2 Elliptical | 20 Has permission |
| 8 Parish-ioner's donation | 30 Knock | 3 Game like pinochle | 21 Cold fish? |
| 10 November birthstone | 33 Fictional sleuth, anagram of 13-Across | 4 Vision | 22 Ancient Greek state |
| 11 Shocked | 36 Polar peak | 5 Community spirit | 23 Volcanic flow |
| 13 He played Paul Drake on "Perry Mason" | 37 Boring tool | 6 Fellow e.g. | 24 Emote |
| 16 Common bill | 38 States with certainty | 8 Language of Sri Lanka | 25 Agent, for short |
| 17 Resigns | 39 Gunky stuff | 9 — de corps | 26 Hardly macho men |
| 18 Participated in track | 40 NYC old transit letters | 10 Pair | 28 More pleasant |
| 19 — and void | | 12 Instruct | 29 In different places |
| 20 Mineral in sheets | | | 30 Scalawag |
| 21 Filled fully | | | 31 Dumb-struck |
| 23 Disinclined | | | 32 Capital lead-in |
| 25 "Swat of Swat" | | | 34 Jeans maker Strauss |
| | | | 35 Entice |

Solution time: 24 mins.

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Yesterday's answer 10-14

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Health & Breast Cancer awareness month

leukemia



There are several different types of leukemia. In general, leukemia is grouped by how fast it gets worse and what kind of white blood cell it affects.

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Colon



Colon cancer is the third most commonly diagnosed cancer in both men and women. It is also the third leading cause of cancer death.

Colon cancer mortality is highest in both African American men and women, 50% higher than in whites.

It has been predicted that about 49,700 people will die of the disease in 2015.

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Ovarian



Epithelial Ovarian Cancer (EOC) accounts for a majority of all ovarian cancers. It is generally thought of as one of three types of cancer that include ovarian, fallopian tube, and primary peritoneal cancer that all behave, and are treated the same way, depending on the type of cell that causes the cancer. The four most common cell types of epithelial ovarian cancer are serous, mucinous, clear cell, and endometrioid.

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cancer



The most common cancer in men in the United States is prostate cancer. In women, the most common cancer is breast cancer.

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CANCER



The most common cancers in 2015 are expected to be breast cancer, lung and bronchus cancer, prostate cancer, colon and rectum cancer, bladder cancer, melanoma of the skin, non-Hodgkin lymphoma, thyroid cancer, kidney and renal pelvis cancer, endometrial cancer, leukemia, and pancreatic cancer.

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leukemia



Leukemia is a cancer of the white blood cells. There are four major type of Leukemia: Acute Myeloid Leukemia, Chronic Myeloid Leukemia, Acute Lymphocytic Leukemia, and Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia.

Help find a cure for leukemia today by donating or volunteering!

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lung



The risk for developing lung cancer increases with quantity, duration, and intensity of smoking. A two-pack-a-day smoker is 20 times more likely to develop lung cancer than a non-smoker. Lung cancer is the deadliest type of cancer for both men and women. Each year, more people die of lung cancer than breast, colon, and prostate cancers combined. Lung cancer is more common in older adults. It is rare in people under age 45.

Quit Smoking Today!

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Skin



Moles, freckles, spots, and growths on the skin are usually harmless, but not always. Anyone who has more than 100 moles is at greater risk for melanoma. The first signs can appear itchy or more itchy moles. That's why it's so important to get to know your skin very well and to recognize any changes in the moles on your body.

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arthritis



Arthritis is inflammation of one or more joints, which results in pain, swelling, stiffness, and limited movement. There are over 100 different types of arthritis.

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breast



Breast cancer is a disease in which malignant (cancer) cells form in the tissues of the breast. It is considered a heterogeneous disease—differing by individual, age group, and even the kinds of cells within the tumors themselves. No woman wants to receive this diagnosis, but hearing the words "breast cancer" doesn't always mean an end. It can be the beginning of learning how to fight, getting the facts and finding hope.

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multiple myeloma



Multiple myeloma is a cancer of your plasma cells, a type of white blood cell present in your bone marrow. Plasma cells normally make proteins called antibodies to help you fight infections. In multiple myeloma, a group of plasma cells (myeloma cells) becomes cancerous and multiplies, raising the number of plasma cells to a higher than normal level.

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ovarian



Epithelial Ovarian Cancer (EOC) is the most common type of ovarian cancer. It is generally thought of as one of three types of cancer that include ovarian, fallopian tube, and primary peritoneal cancer that all behave, and are treated the same way, depending on the type of cell that causes the cancer. The four most common cell types of epithelial ovarian cancer are serous, mucinous, clear cell, and endometrioid.

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cancer



Cancer is the second most common cause of death in the U.S., exceeded only by heart disease. No matter what your age, gender or race, you could be at risk for developing cancer.

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ALS



Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS), is a disease in which specific cells in the brain and spinal cord slowly die.

ALS causes the body to gradually become more disabled. Over time, ALS makes it difficult to walk, speak, eat, swallow, and breathe.

In most cases, death will occur within 3 to 5 years after symptoms begin. However, some people do live for many years, even decades.

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childhood



Cancer is relatively rare in children. Most cancers (98%) develop in adults, especially in people past middle age. Cancer in children most often forms in the parts of their bodies that are still growing and changing, such as their blood system, brain, and kidneys. In general, cancers that occur in children are not "caused" by the same things as adult cancers. For this reason, they grow and spread differently than adult cancers.

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prostate



Early prostate cancer usually causes no symptoms. Often it is diagnosed during the workup for an elevated PSA noticed during a routine checkup.

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lung



Although lung cancer is the leading cause of cancer death in the U.S., it is also one of the most preventable kinds of cancer. At least four out of five cases are associated with cigarette smoking.

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Cervical



Cervical cancer is one of the most common cancers in women worldwide.

Most cervical cancer is caused by a virus called human papillomavirus, or HPV. Not all types of HPV cause cervical cancer.

Cervical cancer can often be successfully treated when it is found early, usually through a Pap test, which are routine in the United States.

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breast



Risks factors for breast cancer include a family history, atypical hyperplasia, delaying pregnancy until after age 30 or never becoming pregnant, early menstruation (before age 12), late menopause (after age 55), current use or use in the last ten years of oral contraceptives, and daily consumption of alcohol.

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leukemia



When you have leukemia, the bone marrow starts to make a lot of abnormal white blood cells (leukemia cells). They grow faster than normal cells and they don't stop growing when they should.

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breast



Breast cancer occurs when abnormal cells grow out of control in one or both breasts.

Ductal Carcinoma is the most common type of breast cancer.

Your risk for breast cancer increases with age.

If found early, breast cancer can often be successfully treated, and it isn't always necessary to remove the breast.

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prostate



About 1 man in 7 will be diagnosed with prostate cancer during his lifetime. Prostate cancer occurs mainly in older men. About 6 cases in 10 are diagnosed in men aged 65 or older, and it is rare before age 40. The average age at the time of diagnosis is about 66. Prostate cancer is the second leading cause of cancer death in American men, behind only lung cancer. About 1 man in 38 will die of prostate cancer. Prostate cancer can be a serious disease, but most men diagnosed with prostate cancer do not die from it. In fact more than 2.9 million men in the United States who have been diagnosed with prostate cancer at some point are still alive today.

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breast



According to the American Cancer Society, breast cancer risk is approximately doubled among women who have one first-degree relative (mother, sister or daughter) with the disease. However, more than 85 percent of women with breast cancer have no family history.

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