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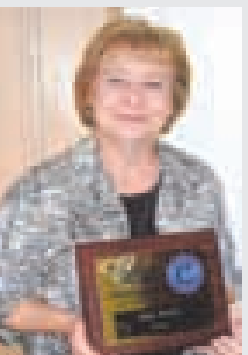
November 10, 2015 | 50 Cents

TUESDAY

INSIDE
today



Corrections employee arrested for DWI
NEWS PG.3



Minden Civitans installation banquet
LIFE PG.5



Tough style helped Vitter rise, becomes hurdle
OPINION PG.4

WEATHER

TOMORROW'S OUTLOOK



74 **48**
HIGH LOW

Cloudy early with thunderstorms developing later in the day.

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Vol. 47 No. 91



EDUCATION



Parent Rebecca Bower shares her concerns with school officials as superintendent of schools Dr. Dan Rawls listens during a town hall meeting Monday hosted by the Webster Parish School Board. Michelle Bates/Press-Herald

Concerns arise over school changes

Second town hall meeting is tonight at WJHS

MICHELLE BATES
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Several questions surrounding issues at J.E. Harper Elementary School topped a town hall meeting at J.A. Phillips Middle School Monday, many dealing with proposed classroom and gymnasium sizes at Webster Junior High School.

If a proposition on the Nov. 21 ballot is approved by voters, the Webster Parish School Board will move forward with renovations and new construction at Phillips and Webster to house the kindergarten and first grade students at Harper. Sixth graders at Phillips will be moved to Webster.

Parents, teachers and administrators alike questioned architect Perry Watson, of Yeager, Watson and Associates LLC, and superintendent of schools Dr. Dan Rawls regarding the issue over a variety of concerns.



Architect Perry Watson explains the changes that will take place at J.A. Phillips Middle School during a town hall meeting Monday. Michelle Bates/Press-Herald

Dr. Beverly Smith, principal at Phillips, says one of the main concerns she's heard is about where to seat parents and grandparents when the schools hold various programs, such as Veterans Day programs.

The new gymnasium that will be added at Webster is about the size of the current gym at Phillips with restroom facilities. However, the current gymnasium at Webster will house all three grades in event they all need

to come together. For instance, when students meet in the gym in the mornings, there's enough room for all of them with the proposed addition of stackable bleachers and portable padding under the goal end.

"That gym is longer than most gyms and you've got quite a bit of run-over at the ends," he said. "We don't intend for those bleachers to be open during a junior high

See **MEETING**, Page 3

Authorities searching for missing teen



Authorities say Noah Heidelberg was last seen Oct. 10. Webster Parish Sheriff's Office/Courtesy Photo

BRUCE FRANKLIN
bfranklin@press-herald.com

The Webster Parish Sheriff's Office is seeking assistance to find a missing 16-year-old boy from Minden.

Noah Heidelberg hasn't been seen since Oct. 10 when he ran from his home, offi-

cials said.

Police describe Heidelberg as 6-foot tall and weighs 160 pounds and has brown hair and brown eyes.

If anyone has any information about the missing child they are asked to call the Webster Parish Sheriff's office at 318-377-1515.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Brunch to kick off Fasching

Deadline to purchase tickets is today at 3 p.m.

BRUCE FRANKLIN
bfranklin@press-herald.com

Tickets are still on sale for Minden-South Webster Chamber of Commerce's annual Fasching Brunch on Wednesday at Orleans on Main in downtown Minden.

During the brunch, Minden Mayor Tommy Davis will issue a proclamation kicking off Fasching, which officially starts on Nov. 11 at 11:11 a.m.

The brunch will be catered by Hugh Wood and will feature Lt. Gov. Jay Dardenne as the keynote speaker and Liz Swain, Executive Director of Shreveport's Downtown Development Authority, will serve as master of ceremonies.

Historian John Sanders will also speak on the history of the Germantown Colony.

Tickets are \$30 and must be purchased at the Chamber office by 3 p.m. Tuesday. Sponsors for the event include State Farm Agents Laura Horton and Jeanne Martin as title sponsor, Citizen's National Bank as gold sponsor and Terry Gardner and TG Companies, LLC as host.

ELECTION 2015

Proposition to fund school reconstruction, renovations

MICHELLE BATES
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Voters will be asked to pass a proposition that will extend a general obligation bond for bonding district 6, which if passed, will give the Webster Parish School Board enough money for reconstruction and renovations at two schools.

If passed, this means the school board will begin renovations and new construction at J.A. Phillips Middle School and Webster Junior High School. Kindergarten and first grade students now housed at J.E. Harper Elementary will be moved to Phillips and sixth grade students now at Phillips will be moved to a new wing at Webster Junior High.

The proposition is a 20-year general obligation bond extension on property taxes constituents in the bonding

district already pay. It is a 29-mill property tax that currently will sunset in 2031; however, with the extension, it will sunset in 2036.

"GO (general obligation) bonds in Louisiana are issued for capital improvements and are



SCHLEUTER

secured by and payable from a property tax levied each year at a rate sufficient to pay all outstanding GO bonds," bonding attorney Grant Schleuter, of Foley and Judell, LLP, said. "Upon approval of the voters and issuance in early 2016, these bonds would mature over a 20-year term with final maturity in 2036."

Schleuter says the bonding district currently has the following GO bonds: Series

2004, 2005, 2006, refunding 2012, refunding 2013 and 2014, adding on Oct. 6 the state bond commission approved the ballot proposition and the issuance of the bonds following voter approval.

In a letter from the school board's buildings and maintenance committee, they explain the changes that will take place upon approval.

See **PROPOSITION**, Page 2

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SECONDFRONT

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AROUND THE STATE

Edwards, Vitter tangle in first debate of runoff campaign

MELINDA DESLATTE
Associated Press

BATON ROUGE — Republican U.S. Sen. David Vitter sought to draw policy contrasts Monday with his Democratic opponent in the Louisiana governor's race, state Rep. John Bel Edwards, as the two men faced off for the first time in the runoff campaign.

But Vitter also was pressed to talk about his 2007 prostitution scandal, allegations he paid a firm to secretly film political opponents and attack ads, in a volley of questions from reporters at the Press Club of Baton Rouge.

The runoff election is Nov. 21.

DISTINGUISHING DIFFERENCES

Vitter, who is lagging in the polls, said he and

Edwards have "starkly different" voting records and political philosophies, as he sought to portray Edwards as a liberal, out of step with values in the conservative state. He said Edwards was allied with unions and trial lawyers, opposed charter school expansion and would work against Louisiana business interests.

"His campaign, quite frankly, is built on some sort of a myth that he's a conservative," Vitter said.

Edwards said he has a record in the state Legislature of working with members of both parties and said he operates in the "center of the political spectrum." He suggested Vitter was divisive and described himself as someone who would unite the people of Louisiana.

"We cannot have someone who comes from a dysfunctional Washington political environment," Edwards said.



ATTACK ADVERTISING

Candidates and outside groups lodged a barrage of attack ads ahead of the primary election, but Edwards had largely stayed out of the fray until the runoff. His campaign recently unveiled an ad striking at Vitter for his eight-year-old prostitution

scandal.

Edwards defended the move.

"I am a patient man, but after weeks and weeks and weeks of negative ads that are just flat out false, filled with lies and distortions about me and my record, I decided it was time to fight back, and I fought back

against lies with the truth," Edwards said.

Vitter apologized in 2007 for a "very serious sin" after he was linked through phone records to Washington's "D.C. Madam." Echoing a new ad he released Monday, Vitter said he "failed my family."

"I pledge to voters to work hard every single day to regain their trust and confidence," he said.

CAMPAIGN TONE

Vitter resisted suggestions that he set the attack-heavy tone for the election, saying he's been struck by candidates and outside groups "in harsh and negative ways" for months.

But Edwards said Vitter crossed the line when a private investigator working for the Vitter campaign was accused of secretly filming a state senator, the Jefferson

Parish sheriff and others at a Metairie coffee shop. The man was arrested and faces a misdemeanor charge.

Vitter called it a "silly coffee shop incident."

"That person in the coffee shop was doing nothing improper, nothing illegal," he said.

Edwards replied: "It's serious. And it shows the desperation that's at work."

Vitter said the investigator was researching "what I think was an illegal scheme" to pay for false statements against Vitter. He said he's contacted federal authorities, but he refused to provide further details of his allegations.

Edwards said he had no idea what Vitter was talking about, but he said it appeared designed to "divert people's attention away from the fact that David Vitter paid for a private investigator to go into a coffee shop and spy on a sheriff."

PROPOSITION

Continued from page 1

"This is not a new property tax," it reads, "but an extension to an existing property tax. The millage will stay the same and you will pay the same as you have always paid. To be perfectly fair with you, it will extend the collection of the existing property tax by five years. We know and understand that times are tough, and we want to be able to provide our children the best learning environment that we can afford without being overly unfair to the taxpayers."

If the proposition is passed, two wings will be built, one wing at Phillips and one wing at WJHS.

A kindergarten wing will be built at Phillips with renovations of classrooms and expansion and construction of restrooms in the existing building for first grade. Air conditioning will also be added to the current gym.

The plan calls for 18 classrooms, 12 in the new kindergarten building and six from two existing open plan classroom areas.

At Webster, a new building will be constructed to house the sixth grade students; in addition, an auxiliary gym will be constructed for physical education and activities. Renovations and upgrades will take place for existing areas as well as nine additional classrooms and a computer lab.

Parking at both schools will be expanded to handle the additional faculty and

staff.

Harper will be closed with future educational use in mind.

The board asked the bond commission for \$7 million because of changes to the project, superintendent of schools Dr. Dan Rawls said.

"The scope of the project changed after several discussions with school staff," he said. "Mainly the project needs to include a gym for the sixth grade."

The original cost estimate given to Rawls in May was for \$6.5 million. This included \$2.483 million for the kindergarten building at Phillips and \$50,000 for restroom renovations for elementary grades. At Webster, the new sixth grade wing would cost \$2.483 million, for a total of \$5,016,200. Related costs include fur-

Proposition

Shall School District No. 6 of the Parish of Webster, Louisiana, incur debt and issue bonds not exceeding \$7,000,000, in one or more series, to run not exceeding 20 years from date thereof, with interest at a rate not exceeding 8% per annum, for the purpose of acquiring and/or improving lands for building sites and playgrounds; including construction of necessary sidewalks and streets adjacent thereto; purchasing, erecting and/or improving school buildings and other school related facilities within and for the District, INCLUDING, TO THE EXTENT FEASIBLE, THOSE SPECIFIC SCHOOL PROJECTS SET FORTH IN THE "CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN" APPROVED BY THE WEBSTER PARISH SCHOOL BOARD, and acquiring the necessary equipment and furnishings therefore, title to which shall be in the public, which bonds will be general obligations of the District and will be payable from ad valorem taxes to be levied and collected in the manner provided by Article VI, Section 33 of the Constitution of the State of Louisiana of 1974 and statutory authority supplemental thereto, with no estimated increase in the millage rate to be levied in the first year of issue above the 29 mills currently being levied to pay General Obligation Bonds of the District?

niture and equipment allowance at \$150,000, technology allowance at \$90,000, Architectural and engineering fees and associ-

ated bond election costs at \$500,000 and contingency allowance at \$500,000, for a total of \$1.24 million

The overall budget total is \$6,256,200. This total also includes architect fees, reproduction costs and contingency.

EARLY VOTING
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A STATE HOLIDAY
8:30 A.M. UNTIL 6:00 P.M.

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COURT WATCH

Man pleads guilty to battery

MICHELLE BATES
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An accused batterer has entered a plea of guilty to domestic abuse battery of a household member.

Albert Sneed II, 27, of the 900 block of Lee Street, entered a plea of guilty in front of 26th Judicial District Judge Mike Nerren. He was sentenced to six months in the Webster Parish Jail, suspended with one year of active supervised probation, according to court records.

He was sentenced to 30 days in the Webster Parish Jail with credit for time served, anger management classes and \$500 plus court costs within 90 days.

He must make full restitution to the victim for medical bills and have no contact.

Sneed turned himself in to police Wednesday, Oct. 7.

On Friday, Oct. 2, the vic-

tim told police she and Sneed got into an altercation, and Sneed reportedly struck her in the head and face during the argument. Minden Police Chief Steve Cropper said at the time of his arrest, the victim reported he dragged her from her car and back into the residence after she escaped the initial altercation.

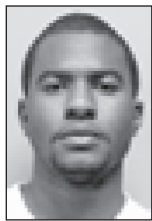
"The altercation apparently started inside the house," the chief said at the time of his arrest, "She got outside to her car and he drug her back inside the

house."

The victim then reportedly went to her mother's home following the altercation, and the victim's mother called police. When police arrived at the victim's mother's home, Cropper said they noted scratches on her back and she had a swollen face.

She sought medical care to rule out any fractures to her face, Cropper said.

He was originally charged with second-degree battery and domestic abuse battery.



SNEED

OBITUARY

Bronwyn Durham Smotherman

Bronwyn Cecelia Durham Smotherman of Minden passed away on Saturday, Nov. 7, 2015 as a result of an automobile accident.

Bron was predeceased by her father, Wayne J. Durham, Jr. and her parents-in-law George and Marguerite Smotherman.

Bron is survived by her husband Gregory G. Smotherman of Minden and three children: Wesley Jolly, his wife Megan and their children Grace, Hunter, Lillian, and AnnaLisa; her daughter Carrie Jolly Barham, her husband Thomas and their children Adam, Cameron and Mason; and her daughter

Margot Smotherman Herriage and her husband Spencer.

Also surviving Bron are her mother Marie Miller Durham and her brothers Mark Wayne Durham, his wife Lana, and Jay Scott Durham, his wife Vicki, all of Alexandria and several nieces.

Bron was a graduate of Louisiana College. She received her Masters Degree from Northwestern State University in education. She taught Gifted and Talented and French in both Rapides Parish and Webster Parish before retiring.

From childhood, Bron had a strong faith in her Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. She was active as a child in every area of church life at Emmanuel Baptist Church in Alexandria. After their move to Minden, Bron and Greg were active

members of First Baptist Church in Minden where she sang in two choirs, participated in every mission opportunity, had a faithful prayer ministry and was the bestower of warm hugs and outpouring love to all that she met. In addition, Bron and Greg were active members of Gideons International and the Christian Motorcycle Club of Minden.

Funeral arrangements for Bronwyn Durham Smotherman are at 10 a.m. Thursday, Nov. 12, 2015 at First Baptist Church in Minden with the Rev. Leland Crawford and the Rev. Steve Gilley officiating. Interment will follow at Gardens of Memory in Minden. The family will receive friends from 5 until 7 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 11, 2015 at Rose-Neath Funeral Home in Minden.

MEETING

Continued from page 1

ball game. They'll be banked up and flat."

Along those same lines is cafeteria space at both schools. Parent Rebecca Bower says Webster students are already scarfing down their meals with only a 15 minute lunch shift.

Watson says the current "cafetorium" will be expanded by about one-third into the lobby of the school to accommodate an additional 40 to 50 students at one time. Webster's cafeteria/auditorium is sunken, and has a café-type layout.

The classrooms were another concern as the sixth graders will be moving from 18 classrooms to 11 total, with two earmarked as special education classes. Rawls

says the new classrooms will be 24x30, or 720 square feet total, adding that not all of the classrooms at Phillips are in use now.

"We had a meeting after all the numbers were analyzed," Watson said. "You've got one class coming up that's second or third grade now that's a big one. But on average, between 180 and 200 is the norm. We're not discounting one class that's bigger."

Bower says her concern is there appears to be no room for growth or fluctuation in class sizes. Watson answered saying population has been stable or declined.

Another concern as well is room for administration when moving the sixth grade. Watson told audience members the design of the sixth grade wing allows the school board to keep the sixth grade separate with their own administration if so desired. On the other hand, Harper

principal Janene Ashley will be picking up additional students with the pre-K staying at Phillips.

"There's a formula that we use that determines how many teachers you get and how many administrators you get," Rawls said, adding the formula is based on the number of children at one school. "We'll follow that rule. In most cases, if they get a dean of students they are certified administrators. That's something we've looked at school by school."

Other concerns were about accommodations for special needs kids and special education classrooms. Concerns were also raised

about traffic issues as well.

"My biggest concern as a parent and a taxpayer is that we get this right this time," Bower said. "I think some people don't realize that the sixth grade wing was supposed to happen in 2005. I guess, for me, I'd like to know that when something happens and something goes over-budget, what's going to get cut? As much as I appreciate the building committee trying to be smart with our money and do it well, I would rather have this done right and not have to revisit this issue in five or 10 years."

The board will host another town hall meeting at 6 p.m., Tuesday, Nov. 10, at Webster Junior High School.

"MY BIGGEST CONCERN AS A PARENT AND A TAXPAYER IS THAT WE GET THIS RIGHT THIS TIME."

REBECCA BOWER PARENT

WEBSTER CRIME

Corrections employee arrested on DWI charge

MICHELLE BATES
michelle@press-herald.com

A David Wade Correctional Center employee has been arrested by the Webster Parish Sheriff's Office for his second offense of DWI.

Louis Charles Hamilton, 46, of the 3700 block of Jones Road in Houghton, was charged with DWI (second offense), open container and improper lane usage. Bond was set at \$1,550.

According to the police report, Capt. Robert Hayden initiated a traffic stop on Highway 163, southbound, after he observed a vehicle driving across the centerline and across the



HAMILTON

white fog line between D&H store and Princeton General Store.

Hamilton reportedly pulled over into the parking lot of the general store, and when Hayden made contact with him, he asked him to exit the vehicle. Reports indicate Hayden noticed Hamilton seemed unsure of his steps and swayed standing upright.

Standard field sobriety tests were conducted, to which police say he performed poorly. Hamilton was placed under arrest. During a search of the vehicle, a bottle was found of what appeared to be brandy was opened and partially empty.

Deputy Coby Barton transported Hamilton to the Webster Parish Courthouse. Police say he voluntarily submitted to a breathalyzer test, which showed his blood alcohol content as .177 percent. The legal limit is .08.

COURT WATCH

Hearing to be reset in Vegas for man in duffel bag slaying

LAS VEGAS — A preliminary hearing is expected to be reset Tuesday in Las Vegas for a man facing murder, kidnapping and other charges in the death of a 71-year-old woman whose body was found in a duffel bag in an underground utility vault.

A court official said Monday a postponement for 33-year-old Jamar Webb will allow time to name a lawyer to represent him in the death of Young Suk Sanchez.

Webb arrived in custody Oct. 24 from Louisiana, where a court clerk in Webster Parish said Webb's girlfriend, 23-year-old Veronica Houck, was sentenced Monday to four years in prison for violating felony probation on a May 2013 identity theft conviction.

Houck and Webb were neighbors of Sanchez at a Las Vegas extended-stay motel where police say Sanchez was killed Aug. 18.

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Mark Wilson, MD is bringing his passion for athletics and excellent surgical skills in **ORTHOPAEDICS & SPORTS MEDICINE** to Minden where he will offer individualized care for a wide range of patients including high school and college athletes to those considering joint replacement. Dr. Wilson will be practicing the latest techniques in arthroscopic surgery for joint preservation, cartilage restoration, ligament reconstruction, instability repairs and joint reconstruction of the shoulders, hips and knees.

"Tenacious" is the one word Dr. Wilson uses to describe himself. Running his first marathon at 16, his determination has followed him throughout his career. He understands how important an active lifestyle is and plans to incorporate his extensive training into the treatment of his patients so that they can "get back to work, sports and life."

Dr. Wilson is joining Michael Austin PA-C to form Wilson Orthopaedics & Sports Medicine. New patients are welcome to their clinic located at 216 West Union, Suite A in Minden. Appointments may be made by calling (318) 299-6334.

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PERSONAL
Dr. Wilson is a true sports enthusiast. He also enjoys camping, hiking, fishing, watching airplanes with his children Evan and Ella and attending their activities with his wife, Jill, including soccer and t-ball games.

Dr. Mark D. Wilson
Orthopaedics & Sports Medicine

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OPINION

www.press-herald.com

PERSPECTIVE

Live boldly

I am reading, actually re-reading, a small book titled, *The Last Lecture*, by Randy Pausch with Jeffery Zaslow. This small volume contains lots of ideas to think about and as I go back through the pages, I am reminded of so many things that I just take for granted.

Pausch was a professor at Carnegie Mellon, an institution that had a lecture series called "The Last Lecture". This was a challenge to the speaker to give a lecture as if he knew it would be his last. The series was later re-named "Journeys".

What would he say? What did he want to leave for the ones listening to his words?

I'm sure it took a lot of soul searching to come up with ideas for the speech.

By the time Pausch was invited to give his Last Lecture, he had been diagnosed with pancreatic cancer. Nevertheless, believing he might be one of the lucky ones who survived this disease, he accepted the challenge to do the lecture. However, before his assigned slot in the schedule came up, he was informed by his doctors that he had three to six months left to live.

Pausch had to convince his wife this was something he really wanted to do. Even though it would take up so much of his time to prepare, time she felt should be spent with family, she finally agreed.

Can you imagine knowing you had no more than six months, and possibly as few as three, to live?

As I considered this, it made me wonder how I would feel. What would I want to do with my last few months on earth? What would I want to leave those left behind?

Knowing that I would never have any profound thoughts to leave I could only think about the little things that had meant something to me.

First, I went all the way back to my childhood. What did I play, how did we celebrate, what were some things I enjoyed in school? I would talk about these.

I always enjoyed school and as I progressed into high school, I participated in many activities. I was active in sports, basketball and softball and enjoyed extracurricular activities including Student Council, Future Homemakers of America, and 4-H.

So, in addition to doing well academically, I enjoyed all that school had to offer. I would share some of these things.

I would want to let them know how much I love each of them. Watching the children grow up brought lots of pleasure and, later I often longed for those simpler times.

However, I really don't want to go back because these youngsters have brought us some beautiful grandchildren and now they are filling our home with precious great grand-children.

We've been able to see each of our children and grandchildren come to know the Lord and witnessed their baptisms into the family of faith. Now the great grands are finding their way and so far, two have joined that faith family.

So, I suppose if I had to leave something for them, it would be to let them know their need for a Savior. They need to know life will have trials, some small and some not so small. But if they remain strong in their faith, they will be able to overcome.

Most of all, I would assure them that all too soon this will pass by. Take one day at a time. Do your best at whatever you do, and try to enjoy life as it comes. Take time to laugh.

Quoting Pausch. "We cannot change the cards we are dealt, just how we play the hand." So look your hand over carefully and study each move.

Then step out boldly, and live. Fannie Moore is a journalist who lives in Shongaloo where she enjoys writing on a variety of subjects.



FANNIE MOORE

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BEN CARSON EMBELLISHES HIS PERSONAL BIOGRAPHY



HILLARY CLINTON LIES ABOUT THE BEGHAZI TERRORIST ATTACK AND HER PERSONAL EMAIL SERVER



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The hotel occupancy proposal means economic development Bossier and Caddo parishes

A YES vote for the Hotel Occupancy Proposal on November's ballot is a vote to ensure that local entities receive funding which will aid in our area's economic development activities, strengthen the tourism industry and work to expand air service to the Shreveport-Bossier area. The local Shreveport Bossier economy will get a boost from these additional dollars which will be distributed to three local organizations: the Independence Bowl Foundation, the Shreveport-Bossier Sports Commission (SBSC) and Regional Air Service Alliance



LISA JOHNSON

(RASA). These organizations will pump these dollars back into our economy to market our area to sporting events and to expand national air service to our area. Business travel is a vital piece of the local economy that supports Barksdale Air Force Base, Benteler Steel, the National Cyber Research Park, and businesses throughout both parishes. As part of the Chamber's dedication to advocate for members' interests, we commissioned a survey in order to help identify the direct impact of enhanced air services. Over 40% share the need for enhanced air services at the Shreveport Regional Airport. Increased direct flights and frequency, more destinations, and competitive airfare pricing were among the list of specific needs from respondents. In fact, each daily flight with a 50-seat aircraft provides an

economic impact of \$4,000,000 annually to Bossier and Caddo Parishes. Passage of the Hotel Occupancy Proposal means overnight guests in Bossier and Caddo parishes would pay an extra 1.5% tax on hotel and motel room nights. This tax averages out to approximately \$1.10 per room per night; and is not expected to impact our area's competitive room rates. Supporting the Hotel Occupancy Proposal will result in a \$31 million per year economic impact for Northwest Louisiana. This is an opportunity that locals can't afford to have defeated. By voting YES for the Occupancy Proposal, you will be voting to support our local economy. Lisa Johnson, President CEO, Bossier Chamber of Commerce



JOHN STOSSEL

PERSPECTIVE

Beat the elite

We love to complain about elites, people who seem to have a special advantage, privileges in life. I get annoyed by the Kardashians and other spoiled rich kids. They didn't work for their wealth. They don't contribute.

Still, those elites are mostly harmless.

But there's one group of truly dangerous elites: politicians. Spoiled party kids may have stupid ideas, but they can't impose them on the rest of us. Politicians can, and do. It's an important distinction to remember.

In Thomas Sowell's book "The Vision of the Anointed" (which should have been titled "Conceit of the Self-Anointed"), Sowell points out that politicians use "the word 'ask' — as in 'We are just asking everyone to pay their fair share.' But of course governments do not ask, they tell. The IRS does not 'ask' for contributions."

A rare presidential candidate who understands the importance of that difference is Sen. Rand Paul, who will appear on my TV show Friday. Paul points out that free markets get people to create things without force, and markets are much more efficient than governments.

"The Soviet Union was brought down because they couldn't determine one simple thing — the price of bread," says Paul. "They had all these planners, but nobody can determine the price of bread. Only the market can."

Sadly, Paul hasn't inspired voters with that message, while his fellow senator, self-proclaimed socialist Bernie Sanders, draws huge, cheering crowds. Front-runner Hillary Clinton doesn't call herself a socialist — but she often acts like one.

"There's an irony here," says Paul, "because many of these people say, 'I'm pro-choice. No — they're very anti-choice when it comes to market decisions. Producing stuff, buying stuff, selling stuff — you're not allowed to do it. They're the anti-choice party. That's what socialism is.'"

People defend government spending out of concern for the poor, but what we get from government often has little to do with helping those at the bottom.

"We just discovered," says Paul, "that they spent \$800,000 developing a televised cricket league for Afghanistan ... and they spent \$150,000 for yoga classes for federal employees."

This habit of taking money and power from citizens all over America and letting Washington elites decide how to use it doesn't exist just among Democrats. Paul sees it among Republican supporters of Donald Trump, too. Their attitude, says Paul, is "nobody quite knows exactly what economic system that celebrity is for, but trust him because he's smart and all-powerful — give him more power and he'll fix everything."

By contrast, Paul says, "I'm not running to run the economy or the country."

I worry that, to most people, that sounds like a politician not "doing his job." People do seem eager to vote for a politician who will "lead," and "take charge."

But I don't want to be led. I'm not a child. I don't need elites in Washington, D.C., to boss me around and then tax me for it.

I wish voters would read Matt Ridley's new book, "The Evolution of Everything." He points out that when it comes to the innovations that make the most difference in our lives — medicine, smartphones, search engines, even language — it's not the elite planners who bring progress.

"It comes from the bottom up," says Ridley. "What happens in technology or morality or culture or any other aspect of human life is that ordinary people interacting with each other is the source of most innovation, most change in the world."

These good things happen in a decentralized, unplanned way all around us — and it's been that way since humans first evolved.

Ridley says, "We give far too much credit to the people who are in charge, the people who seem to be on top of things and running things. They're just taking the credit."

Politicians should admit that more often. But that would require them to be humble. Loudly pretending to be in charge is their specialty.

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

Time to relook at the Pledge of Allegiance

To the Editor:

With our United States "Veterans Day" coming soon it's time to relook our Pledge of Allegiance to God and country and our flag which represents both. I recall a version quoted then in January 1966 by Red Skelton. I had to search far and wide to locate it as he spoke it. My hope is this newspaper will print it and hope and pray that all will read it.

"I, me, an individual, a committee of one. Pledge, dedicate all of my worldly goods to give without self pity. Allegiance, my love and my devotion. To the flag, our standard, Old Glory, a symbol of freedom. Wherever she waves, there's respect

because your loyalty has given her a dignity that shouts freedom is everybody's job! United, that means that we have all come together. States, individual communities that have united into 48 great states. Forty-eight individual communities with pride and dignity and purpose; all divided with imaginary boundaries, yet united to a common purpose, and that's love for country. And to the republic, a state in which sovereign power is invested in representatives chosen by the people to govern. And government is the people and it's from the people to the leaders, not from the leaders to the people. For which it stands, on nation, one nation meaning "so blessed by God."

Indivisible, incapable of being divided. With Liberty, which is freedom - the right of power to live one's own life without threats, fear or some sort of retaliation. And Justice, the principle or quality of dealing fairly with others. For all, For all which means, boys and girls, it's as much your country as it is mine."

Since I was a small boy, two states have been added to our country and two words have been added to the pledge of Allegiance...UNDER GOD. Wouldn't it be a pity if someone said that is a prayer and that would be eliminated from schools too?

Jack L. Daniels
CWO USA Ret.
DeRidder, La.

WEBSTERLIFE

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Around Town

Minden Civitans installation banquet

Nov. 10

The Webster Parish School Board will host a town hall meeting at 6 p.m. at Webster Junior High School to inform the public about the renovation and construction that will take place at the school to house the sixth grade students.

The Hwy 80 Alliance will host a meet and greet with James Graham, Economic Development Director for Minden, in the B.F. Martin Community Life Center at 5:30 p.m. and the November business meeting will be held at 6 p.m. Immediately following the meet and greet, Graham will share his new economic development agenda during the business meeting. For more information contact Stephanie Winzer at slwinzer@hotmail.com or 318-453-0559.

Nov. 15

Rocky Mount Baptist Church's 111 year anniversary will be at 2:30 p.m. with guest speaker the Rev. Devince Taylor of Galilee Baptist Church.



Above are civitan officers and board members for 2015-2016. From left, front row are Bill Langley, Bill Barnett and Danna Hassell. Back row are Jeff Clemons, Joe Holley, Roger Grubbs, Steve Bryan and Ed LaBruyere. Right Judy Grubbs was awarded the 2014-2015 Civitan of the Year award.
Courtesy Photos

SPECIAL TO THE PRESS-HERALD

The Minden Civitans held their annual installation banquet recently at the Exacta Inn. Presiding over the banquet was President-elect Jeff Clemons. Special guest attending was Janis Bryan, past governor for the Magnolia district.

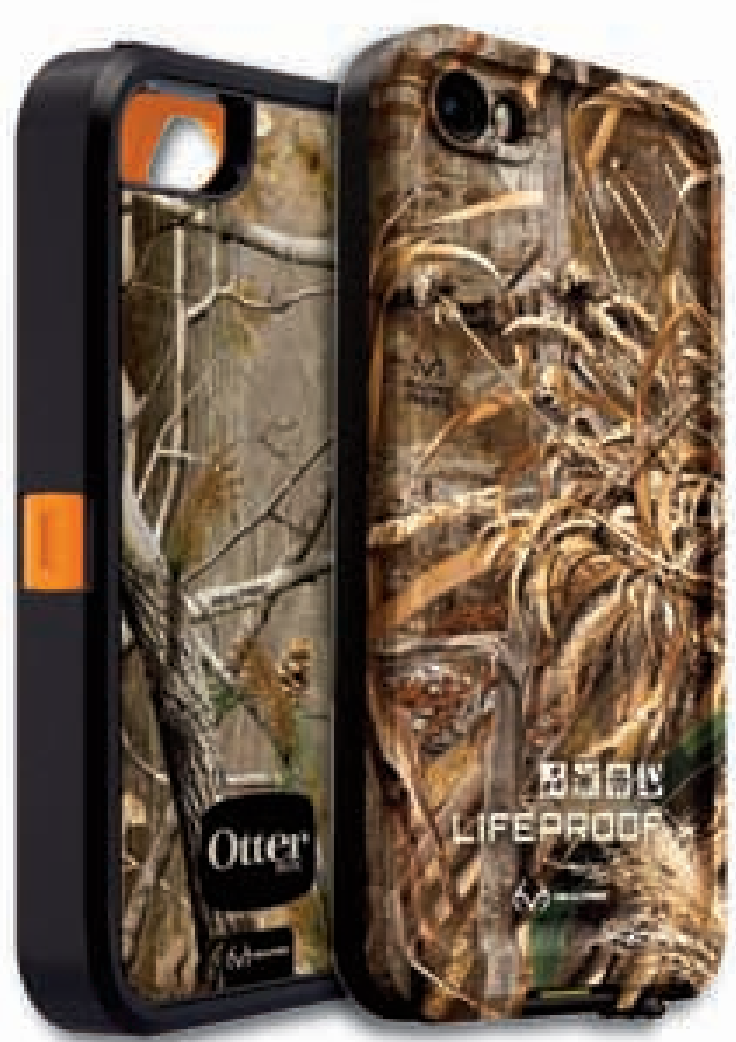
After a delightful meal, Neal Stapleton was presented a plaque for his service as president of the Minden Civitans. Janis Bryan then presented Judy Grubbs with the "Civitan of the Year" award. In closing, Bryan swore in the new officers for the 2015-2016 year.

Jeff Clemons will serve as president, Steve Bryan as president-elect, Roger Grubbs as secretary, Ed LaBruyere as treasurer, Bill Barnett as chaplin and Bill Langley as sergeant-at-arms.

The Minden Civitans welcome any new members with weekly meetings held every Tuesday at noon at the Exact Inn.



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SPORTS briefs

NFL

Bears top Chargers in final moments

SAN DIEGO — Zach Miller leaped, snagged Jay Cutler's pass with his right hand and tumbled into the end zone.

A big-time play in another close finish for the Chicago Bears, who beat the staggering San Diego Chargers 22-19 on Monday night.

"Jay made a great throw and I was able to go up and get it. After that, I went unconscious," Miller said about his game-winning catch with 3:19 left.

Miller's TD reception and a 2-point conversion run by rookie Jeremy Langford, subbing for the injured Matt Forte, gave the Bears (3-5) their first lead of the night.

Cutler calmly led the Bears on the winning 10-play, 80-yard drive after the Chargers opened a 19-14 lead on rookie Josh Lambo's 22-yard field goal. Two plays before the TD throw to Miller, Cutler was hit and still completed a 12-yard pass to Alshon Jeffery on third-and-6.

"The safety flew over the top and it was just a matter of waiting for Zach to get past the linebacker," Cutler said. "I left it high on him, and he made a heck of a catch. It couldn't have happened to a better guy. For him to come up with a catch, it was something special."

NBA

Curry has season low, Warriors win

OAKLAND, Calif. — Stephen Curry overcame his worst shooting night of the season to score 22 points and Golden State beat Detroit to remain the NBA's only undefeated team.

Curry missed five of his first seven shots and finished 7 of 18 from the floor while being held under 30 points for only the third time this season. The reigning MVP also had five assists and five rebounds.

Klay Thompson added 24 points, Harrison Barnes had 12, Andre Iguodala scored 13 and Leandro Barbosa had 10, including five straight to help the Warriors pull away in the fourth quarter.

NBA

Wiggins' career high leads Wolves

ATLANTA — Andrew Wiggins tied a career high with 33 points, Karl-Anthony Towns added 17 and Minnesota blew a 34-point lead before snapping Atlanta's seven-game winning streak.

Jeff Teague finished with 24 points and Millsap had 22 for the Hawks.

The Timberwolves avoided what would have been the franchise's biggest blown lead in a loss.

It marked the first time in Wiggins' two-year career that he's had consecutive 30-point games. His 3-pointer early in the third made it 81-47.

HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL

Battle of the Panthers

STANLEY EDGES DOYLINE IN EARLY SEASON MATCHUP



Doyline's Xavieon Jackson goes to work in the post during the Panthers' 59-48 loss to Stanley. Blake Branch/Press-Herald



BLAKE BRANCH
blake@press-herald.com

DOYLINE — The Doyline Panther basketball team jumped out to an early lead against the Stanley Panthers Monday night, but weren't able to keep up as the visiting Panthers used a furious, second quarter rally to take a big lead and win, 59-48.

Doyline (2-3) came out under control and on fire from both ends, leading by four points at the end of the first quarter.

In the second quarter, the turnover bug bit the home-standing Panthers and Stanley got hot from behind the arc. By the end of the half, Doyline trailed by 15.

A furious rally led by big man Xavieon Jackson

and quick combo guard Tyreck Wilson got the Panthers to within just four points of the lead in the fourth quarter, but Stanley would settle in and regain control, extending their lead back to double digits for a final score of 59-48.

Tyreck Wilson had 20 points to lead the Panthers, followed by Xavieon Jackson with 12 points and Jatavion Jackson with 11. Desmond Jackson added three points and Cameron Smith had two points.

Dodson Tournament Results

Over the weekend, the Panthers played in the Dodson tournament, losing in the championship game to Atlanta. The Panthers won 63-61 in overtime against Calvin and handled Dodson, 67-39, to get to the title game.

Tyreck Wilson and Jatavion Jackson averaged 14 points per game in the tournament and Xavieon Jackson averaged 13 points. Decarri Markray scored 15 points in the championship game.

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

College athletes showcasing power

COLUMBIA, Mo. — College athletes are learning the power of teamwork goes beyond scoring touchdowns and winning conference titles.

The Missouri football team banded together to add some high-profile heft to a campus protest that resulted in Monday's resignation of Tim Wolfe, the president of the state university system. Wolfe was under scrutiny for how he handled complaints about racism and other student-welfare issues, and he was out of a job just two days after the football players indicated they wouldn't practice or play unless changes were made.

That plan included skipping Saturday's game against BYU in Kansas City, which would have cost the school more than \$1 million.

It was an extraordinary declaration of solidarity coming at a time when the leaders of college sports are adjusting to more empowered and outspoken athletes than they've seen in years, emboldened by court victories against the NCAA — and now with the ability to vote on NCAA legislation — and more vocal than ever thanks to social media.

"These black football players understood that they have the power," said Shaun Harper, executive director for the Study of Race and Equity in Education at the University of Pennsylvania. "That is so rare. I don't know another class of black people on a university campus that has as much power as these guys, who generate millions of dollars for their

institutions and billions of dollars for their athletic conferences. Not in our modern history have we seen black students collectively flex their muscle in this way."

Harper authored a 2013 study on black male athletes and racial inequities in Division I sports. According to the study, blacks make up 63 percent of Missouri's football and men's basketball players, but less than 3 percent of the total undergraduate population.

Because they are often sheltered and controlled within athletic departments, black student-athletes aren't always aware of their power, Harper said.

"Hopefully, this situation raises their consciousness about their authority," he said. "If black men on

these teams and at other places that are like Mizzou do what these guys just did, it could be a form of activism that procures lots of benefits for them as well as for the black student collective they represent."

The rise of the empowered college athletes goes beyond race but there is no denying black athletes have been leading figures in some of the most significant recent examples.

Two seasons ago at Grambling, a historically black school, players refused to play a game against Jackson State because they were upset about the firing of a coach, long bus trips to games and poor facilities. The university then committed more than \$30,000 to make improvements to the weight room.

LOUISIANA OUTDOORS

'Big Brow' meets his match in Karlee Ables

For the past four years, Ronnie Ables, who lives in Calvin, has been after a particular impressive buck that has been hanging around his 130 acre Weyerhaeuser lease near his home in Winn Parish.

The buck has earned the name, "Big Brow" because of the impressive brow tines he sports on his headgear.

On Tuesday, October 13, Ables and his 9 year old daughter, Karlee, a 4th grader at Calvin Elementary School, were sitting in a box stand overlooking a thick and tangled clear cut where he had carved out two shooting lanes.

Just before dark, two bucks stepped onto one of the shooting lanes to feed on corn and rice bran Ables had placed there. One of the bucks was a nice 8 point but standing beside him was the buck he'd been after. He nudged Karlee who had just awakened from an impropriety nap, told her to get ready because "Big Brow" was on

the lane.

One shot behind the shoulder of her .308, was right on the money and the buck only traveled some 30 yards before expiring.

"This is a buck we'd been after for several seasons and I really wish we could have gotten him a year ago when he had double drop tines. This year, he had only one two-inch drop tine but his rack was impressive anyhow," Ables said.

The buck had actually been showing up on the trail camera of a friend who hunted property across the road from Ables since the deer was a year and a half years old.

"After a couple of years, the buck moved to my clear cut and has been showing up in trail photos regularly for the past four

years," he noted.

Ables has a special set-up for Karlee when they hunt together. He has a device that allows her rifle to be held in a vice-like apparatus that holds the gun steady.

"As soon as we saw the buck and Karlee got ready, she had to wait until the 8 point stepped away from the big buck. She did a great job showing lots of patience even though she was getting more excited and nervous while having to wait for a clear shot," Ables explained.

After taking the shot, the pair climbed down to see if she'd hit the buck. By then it was already getting dark and Ables, who didn't bring a light, had to wait for his son to bring a light and look for the deer.

"We found blood and knew she'd made a good hit. The deer only traveled 30 yards and when Karlee finally saw him, she was jumping and hollering and grinning," he said.

We asked Karlee about her

feelings when she walked up and saw how big her buck really was.

"I was kinda scared at first but then I got real excited. When I shot, I didn't even feel the gun kick," Karlee said.

The buck, which was taken to Simmons Sporting Goods in Bastrop and entered in the store's popular big buck contest where it scored 148 6/8 inches. It sported a rack of 13 points, had an inside spread of 17 inches with eye-popping bases of over 6 inches each with the mass extending over the entire rack. The buck weighed 208 pounds and Ables believes he was either 6 1/2 or 7 1/2 years old.

"I told Karlee that she's taken a buck bigger than one her daddy ever got or hopes to get. Her success will probably go down-hill from here," Ables said, "with her first buck being such a whopper."

Glynn Harris' column is sponsored by D.C. Pawn of Minden

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CRYPTOQUIP

MT BGSE FTH STINMG MBG
NEOTE OZNMG KGDMOF,
FTH KBTHSQ ITDKZQGO
ITDKHSMZDC MBG CHNOQ
INMNSTC.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: IF SUPERMAN NEEDS TO PONDER SOMETHING SIGNIFICANT, I RECKON HE PUTS ON HIS THINKING CAPE.
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: F equals Y

CROSSWORD

ACROSS
1 Iron and Ice
5 Plasma TV maker
8 Fed. agent
12 Doofus
13 Be sick
14 Smidge
15 Private employer?
16 Pregnancy photo feature
18 Sugar pill
20 Pudgy plus
21 "Fringe" actress Graynor
22 In the past
23 Chowder base
26 It's served with chips
30 "Amazing!"
31 Oslo's land (Abbr.)
32 — sec (soon)

DOWN
1 "Pronto!"
2 Lass
3 Madame Bovary
4 Hidden filming device
5 Synagogue leader
6 "Bye!"
7 Cleric's tunic
8 Small ape
9 Grimace
10 24-hr. cash sources
11 Scruff

33 Marilyn Monroe flick
34 Dilapidated
35 Razz
36 Ray gun's sound
37 Not silently
38 Little digits
39 Novelty dance of the '50s
40 Rim
41 Support peak
42 Fair-hiring org.
43 Regrets

17 Stretching discipline
19 Verbal stalls
22 — Lingus
23 Male swan
24 "Hulk" Ferrigno
25 Spa sounds
26 Thwack
27 Roar
28 Pen filler
29 Remit assent
34 Real stinkers?
35 Neat
36 Painter Vermeer
37 Care
39 Nada
40 Short-ened wd.
41 Maui feast
42 As soon as
43 Water sport
44 Notion
45 Swelled heads
46 Faction
48 Witch

Solution time: 22 mins.

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

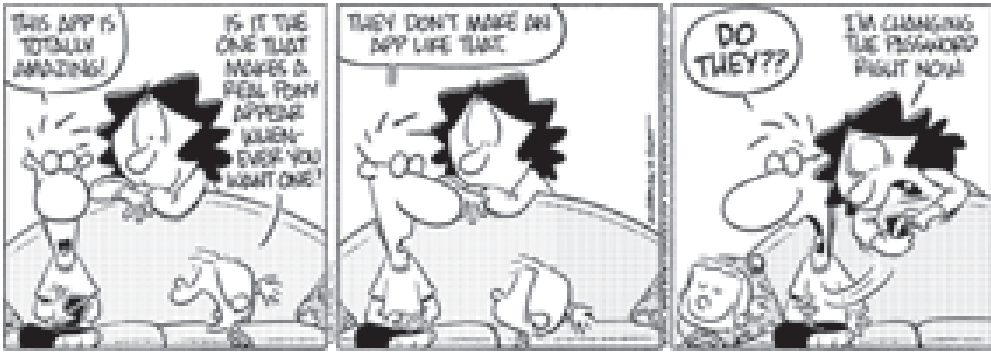
Yesterday's answer 11-10

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

COMICS

facebook.com/mindenph

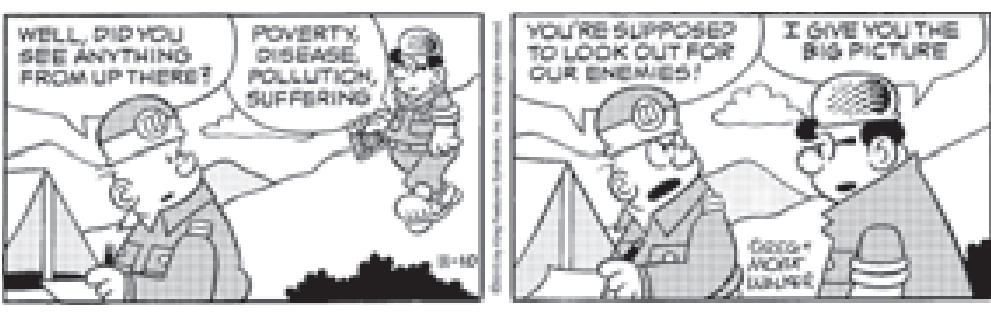
BABY BLUES | RICK KIRKMAN AND JERRY SCOTT



HAGAR THE HORRIBLE | CHRIS BROWNE



BETLE BAILEY | MORT & GREG WALKER



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



BLONDIE | DEAN YOUNG AND JOHN MARSHALL



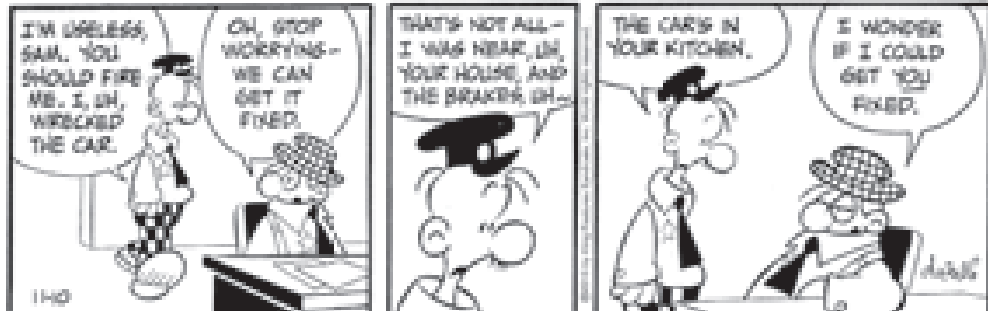
MOTHER GOOSE & GRIMM | MIKE PETERS



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1 2 3 LEFT 4

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