

INCREDIBLE DEALS \$ INSIDE

Happy Thanksgiving

MINDEN PRESS-HERALD

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November 26/27, 2015 | 50 Cents

THURSDAY/FRIDAY



INSIDE today



Minden tops Haughton

SPORTS PG.6



Dominick - Madden united in marriage

LIFE PG.5



A cowardly way to fire a coach

OPINION PG.4

WEATHER

SATURDAY'S OUTLOOK



66 HIGH 57 LOW

Overcast with rain showers at times. Chance of rain 60%.

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specht NEWSPAPERS, INC.

Vol. 47 No. 103



Jerri de Pingre, right, President of the Minden-South Webster Chamber of Commerce hands out 'Shop Small Saturday' promotional items to Fannette's manager Whitney Floyd and Cindy Calhoun. Bruce Franklin/Press-Herald

SHOP SMALL SATURDAY

Campaign promoting small, local businesses

MICHELLE BATES michelle@press-herald.com

Small businesses are getting a promotion boost through a national campaign by American Express that teamed up with the Minden-South Webster Chamber of Commerce to promote "Shop Small Saturday".



DE PINGRE

Jerri de Pingre, chamber executive director, says this campaign is the perfect way

to promote small, locally-owned businesses as the Christmas shopping season begins this weekend. Set for Saturday, Nov. 28, she says it does not just include businesses downtown. They are all over the community, she said.

"I thought it would be a great way to help our retail businesses, our small businesses to bring back some of that Christmas shopping that we're losing to out of town," she said. "That was my motivation. This is a way to get those people to come back and shop locally on this des-

See LOCAL, Page 3



Catherine Hunt, left, of the DBA Minden Facebook Page hands out 'Shop Small Saturday' promotional items to Samantha Beck of Habacu's Mexican Restaurant. Courtesy Photo



Ann Demaline, administrative assistant at TG Garden and Gifts, assists Linda Miller, designer, with a Christmas wreath of holly berries in preparation for Shop Small Saturday. TG Garden and Gifts will be open from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. Saturday. Michelle Bates/Press-Herald

DOWNTOWN

Annual Christmas parade is Saturday

MICHELLE BATES michelle@press-herald.com

Santa will be ushering in the Christmas season this Saturday during Minden's annual Christmas parade.

The parade will be at 6 p.m. in downtown Minden with lineup beginning at 3 p.m.

The parade will begin at the church and make the loop around the Webster Parish Courthouse and return to the church.

"The Minden Evening Lions Club is excited to bring the annual Christmas parade for the 35th year," Jessica Lewis, parade coordinator, said. "This year, we have several new participants featuring local nonprofits, churches and local schools. The parade will begin with our grand marshal, Sandra Samuel, supporting Webster's CASA office and will end with Santa."

Tommy McMurray, secretary of the Minden Evening Lions Club, says there will be

See PARADE, Page 2

STATE

Lawmakers to decide on using 'rainy day' fund

BATON ROUGE — Ballots have gone out to state lawmakers, asking them to decide whether Louisiana should tap its "rainy day" fund to rebalance this year's budget.

Gov. Bobby Jindal is asking House and Senate members to use \$28.2 million from the fund to help close a midyear deficit and keep public colleges from facing cuts.



JINDAL

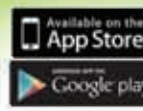
To use the Budget Stabilization Fund, as it's officially known, requires support from two-thirds of lawmakers in both chambers.

Ballots are due by 5 p.m. on Dec. 8.

See FUND, Page 2

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SECOND FRONT

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Thanksgiving travel 2015: Cheap gas but fears of terrorism

LOS ANGELES — That other Thanksgiving tradition — congested highways and jammed airports — is getting underway with gas prices low and terrorism fears high. An estimated 46.9 million Americans are expected to take a car, plane, bus or train at least 50 miles from home over the long holiday weekend, according to the motoring organization AAA. That would be an increase of more than 300,000 people over last year, and the most travelers since 2007.

Among the reasons given for the increase: an improving economy and the cheapest gasoline for this time of year since 2008.

On Tuesday, some travelers were gearing up for an early exit.

"There's a little bit of a tie-up here, but I'm sure once we get going, things will be great," Mark Sullivan said as he waited at New York's Port Authority bus terminal. He was traveling to see family in Springfield, Massachusetts.

Anyone trekking to a major airport should factor in 50 extra minutes on the road, according to the traffic data company INRIX — and that's just getting to the airport, never mind getting through security.

Though there have been no changes to the nation's terror alert status, the recent attacks in Paris, West Africa and elsewhere prompted the

State Department to warn American travelers about the risks overseas.

On Tuesday, the head of the Transportation Security Administration, Peter Nef-

fenger, boasted that the U.S. has the world's best aviation security and assured the public that TSA is "taking every measure to protect the millions of air travelers in the

coming weeks." At the Phoenix airport, Teri Robert said the notion of flying from Arizona to West Virginia to see family gave her pause, but in the end she

decided she had to go. "I'm not going to let the terror alerts and things stop me, because then they win," she said.

Airfares have increased

just 69 cents on average since last year, according to the Airlines Reporting Corp., which processes ticket transactions for airlines and travel agencies.

PARADE

Continued from page 1

no space reservations. All entrants need to be there around the same time in order to get a space.

Parade entrants are asked not to dress up as Santa Claus as he will already be in the parade to kick off the Christmas season, Lewis said.

McMurray says the parade will be at night, and floats and vehicles will have some kind of lighting. All floats are encouraged to play Christmas music if possible.

For those who wish to throw candy or other trinkets, McMurray says walkers must be present.

"You must have adults walking on both sides of the float," he said. "Instruct all your throwers to throw the candy way back, not in the street. Throw it back over the people's head and over the sidewalk."

If entrants are performing groups, such as a dance line or marching band, they will not be allowed to stop, he said. This will impede traffic, he added. If for any reason the parade does stop, throwers are asked to refrain from throwing candy or trinkets as a safety precaution.

Last year, roughly 50 to 60 entrants signed up to participate in the parade, he said.

FUND

Continued from page 1

It's the last piece of Jindal's plan to address a \$487 million deficit in this year's \$25 billion budget.

Lawmakers already agreed to the rest of the governor's recommendations, though they acknowledged the rebalancing plan leaves hefty problems for Gov.-elect John Bel Edwards when he takes office in January.

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/mindenph

For News Updates

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AROUND THE STATE

Jeb Bush names Louisiana campaign team

BATON ROUGE — Republican presidential candidate Jeb Bush has named his Louisiana steering committee and finance chairs, ahead of the state's March 5 primary.

Leading the fundraising efforts for the former Florida governor in Louisiana are New Orleans real estate developer, Joe Canizaro, Lockport shipbuilder Boysie Bollinger and Ruston transportation company owner James Davison.

On the Bush steering committee are St. Tam-

many Parish President Pat Brister, state Sen. Conrad Appel of Metairie, state Rep. Nancy Landry of Lafayette and former state Commissioner of Elections Suzie Terrell.

Advisers for the Bush campaign in Louisiana are long-time GOP political consultants Jason Hebert and Scott Hobbs.

Louisiana's term-limited governor, Bobby Jindal, ended his bid for the 2016 Republican presidential nomination last week.

AROUND THE STATE

Error causes delay for Bienville Parish property taxpayers

ARCADIA — The deadline for Bienville Parish property taxpayers has been extended after an error in the millage rate.

The sheriff's office tells KSLA-TV that tax notices for 2015 won't go out until the middle of December. Since the notices are going out late, the parish will not start charging interest until Feb. 1.

The Bienville Parish

Sheriff's Department is responsible for collecting the property taxes. The millage rate is used to calculate the tax amount based on the property value.

Anyone with any questions can contact the sheriff's department at 318-263-2215 or the Bienville Parish tax assessor at 318-263-2214.

AROUND THE STATE

Suspect in Winnsboro murder case found dead

MONROE, La. (AP) — The search for a Winnsboro murder suspect has ended with the accused apparently taking his own life at a Monroe motel.

KNOE-TV reports it happened Tuesday morning at the Economy Inn. Police were called about a shooting there and when they arrived they found Mario Doyle dead from a self-inflicted gunshot wound to the head.

Doyle was accused of fatally shooting 28-year-old Calvin Toles Sunday night at a birthday party. Two others were also injured, including a child. The child was most recently listed in stable, but critical condition.

The Franklin Parish Sheriff's Office had issued a warrant for Doyle's arrest on charges of murder and attempted murder and had been searching for him.



Jeremy Holley, director of operations at TG Garden and Gifts, places an item on a top shelf in preparation for Shop Small Saturday. Michelle Bates/Press-Herald



IT'S ALL ABOUT SHOPPING LOCAL AND SUPPORTING SMALL BUSINESSES. THESE PEOPLE WORK HARD TO BRING QUALITY MERCHANDISE AT AN AFFORDABLE PRICE AND WE (ME, ELAINE AND TAMMY EATON) JUST WANT TO HELP IN ANY WAY POSSIBLE. THAT'S WHY WE STILL HAVE THE DBA PAGE - TO HELP PROMOTE DOWNTOWN MINDEN AND THE SURROUNDING AREA.



CATHERINE HUNT, DBA MINDEN

LOCAL

Continued from page 1

gnated day."

She likes this campaign for two reasons, she said. Minden businesses get national exposure, and it gives the chamber an opportunity to help their members in a small way.

"It's a national promotion sponsored by American Express," she said. "Chambers of commerce, economic development, any entity can go online and apply to be a facilitator for Shop Small Saturday. It's a national program, so it's a designated day all over the country."

Businesses promoted through the chamber in this program include Say Baby, Easley's Photography and Fine Arts, Beyond the Alley Boutique, Minden Embroidery, Antiques and Art on Main, Sunni's Tanning, Gorilla Tech, Fannette's Flowers and Gifts, Belle of the Bal', Pink Pratique, AJ Price, South Beach Tanning, Minden Floral, TG Garden

and Gifts and Southern Sass.

Businesses promoted downtown through the DBA Minden in this program include Bobbie's Hobbies, City Art Works, Gray's Jewelry, Heavenly Treasures, Hers Bridal and Special Occasions, 2 Lucky Vapor, Merle Norman in Minden, Sew Blessed Stitches and The Vault.

de Pingre' says they are promoting their member businesses every way they can.

"If the stores use all the materials provided, it could be a good way to help generate interest and get people through their doors," she said. "The nice thing about this is it's free. Nobody had to pay anything for any of this."

Shop Small Saturday is generally on the Saturday after Thanksgiving. Last year, according to figures from American Express, \$14.3 billion was spent in small businesses on Shop Small Saturday.

American Express began sponsoring Shop Small Saturday in 2010.

LOCAL DEALS AND STEALS

Shop local in historical down town Minden on Small Business Saturday. Join downtown merchants for Small Saturday Specials. Participating shops include;

ANTIQUES AND ART ON MAIN-In store specials. Select vendors will have 20%- 40% off. Enjoy some hot apple cider and other goodies while you shop.

BOBBIE'S HOBBIES (205 Dixie St.) will have in store discounts all day and a drawing for a Shop Small Tote Bag filled with the winner's choice of either Art Supplies or Modeler's Accessories. Facebook check-ins will get a extra 10% off their purchase.

BEYOND THE ALLEY BOUTIQUE will have a drawing for \$25 gift certificate.

CITY ART WORKS in resident artists and artist guild will have a Christmas Shop with their crafts & art work on sale.

FANETTE'S CHILDRENS/BRIDAL 20% off entire store and register to win a door prize!

GORILLA TECH AND REPAIR will have in store discounts.

GRAYS JEWELRY 30% off Sale.

HEAVENLY TREASURES will host an Christmas Open House with small refreshments and door prizes from 2 p.m until 6.

HERS BRIDAL AND SPECIAL OCCASIONS In store specials and in stock wedding dresses \$35.

2 LUCKY VAPOR STORE Starter Kits starting at \$59.99.

MERLE NORMAN MINDEN (1150 Homer Road) in store specials.

MINDEN FLORAL SHOP (802 Homer Road)

PINK PRATIQUE MASTECTOMY BOUTIQUE will have a \$10 sale rack with store-wide discounts 25% to 50% off.

SAY BABY (200 Sibley Road)- in store specials and with every purchase register for a drawing for a necklace.

SOUTHERN SASS BOUTIQUE will feature a Side Walk Sale.

SEW BLESSED STITCHES will have a Christmas Open House with small refreshments and drawings throughout the day.

SUNNI'S TANNING SALON (1162 Homer Road) will have 20% off products and \$10 off memberships plus Christmas stocking stuffers like scarfs, boot socks, jewelry and other items.

SOUTH BEACH TANNING (908 Homer Road) is carrying the Young Living essential oils and will have tons of prizes! They will have grab bags which include: sample oils, sugar scrubs, Hempz peppermint lotion, tanning lotions and a few of them just might have gift certificates for spray tans or regular tanning sessions!

THE VAULT will serve hot cocoa for their customers. Get your name in a drawing for a \$30 gift certificate with any purchase.

All stores are located on our brick Main Street with the exception of Bobbie's Hobbies, Merle Norman, Fanette's, Sunni's, South Beach, Minden Floral & Say Baby. For the latest deals, like Dba Minden on Facebook.

Sign up for daily news updates online at www.press-herald.com

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BIRTHDAYS FOR
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 2015
 Brenda Noble
 Benton Huckaby
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2015
 Branthony Brown
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 2015
 Trey Songz • Adam Hicks • Jon Stewart
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 2015
 Laura Marano • Russell Wilson • Howie Mandel

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OPINION

www.press-herald.com

PERSPECTIVE

Keep Thanksgiving about family and leave the shopping for later

Thanksgiving Day is the one national holiday that is just about family and friends. No decorations, no gifts, no commercialism, no pressure involved. It's the only holiday of which the basis is about family and friends coming together to share in a meal. It's universal and has no religious affiliation.

Nothing is required, just good conversation, good food and love. But what should be required is a day off from work.

In recent years, however, Black Friday, the biggest shopping day of the year, has been creeping into Thanksgiving. Stores such as K-Mart, Target, Sears, Kohl's, and JC Penney have opened on Thanksgiving, promising great deals. Many department stores and chains, however, opted out of opening on Thanksgiving, paying fines to the mall owners, but giving their employees a chance to be with family.

For stores such as Dillard's, which employs thousands of employees, staffing might not be a problem, but there are many stores in the mall that are family-owned, have five or fewer employees and don't run big-box specials.

There's a movement to stop malls from requiring stores to be open. It also asks that consumers give the gift of family to these employees and not shop on Thanksgiving.

Small Business Saturday is a great alternative to shopping at the mall in general this weekend. Local stores will be closed on Thanksgiving and will appreciate your patronage later.

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Thanksgiving...

It's not about what's on the table.
It's about what's around the table.



DAVE GRANLUND © www.davegranlund.com

PERSPECTIVE

A cowardly way to fire a coach

Unless something dramatic occurs in the next few days, LSU coach Les Miles will likely lose his job following this weekend's contest against Texas A&M in Baton Rouge.

It's so clear, a blind man could see it coming evidenced by Miles' demeanor Monday at his weekly news conference, which was broadcast live by ESPN2. I suppose the boys from ESPN showed up anticipating Miles might take the podium to announce his resignation or declare the bout with the Aggies to be his last in light of a three-game losing skid including another loss to archrival Alabama.

But who could blame the Mad Hatter for looking dejected? After all, his likely exodus as the head man at one of the most coveted coaching jobs in the country has been playing out in the press since Scott Rabalais of The (Baton Rouge) Advocate penned a column last week saying Miles' future at LSU was in doubt.

Specifically, Miles' job status would be determined by how the Tigers performed at Ole Miss this past weekend (38-17 loss) and against Texas A&M in the season final. Meanwhile, one member of the LSU Board of Supervisors was quoted in another news report saying Miles might be fired even if he won the last two games of the regular season.

Make no mistake, Rabalais' column and two more pieces published by him regarding Miles' pending ouster didn't appear in print because Rabalais alone thought it was a topic worth exploring. That information was fed to Rabalais on purpose. It doesn't really matter who leaked it, or planted it. What's done is done.

Yet, the mere idea that the administration at LSU opted to use a sportswriter to get rid of its head football coach — to do its dirty work — was deplorable. Second rate. Bush league. Spineless.

All of those words come to mind in searching for a proper

description to capture how LSU President F. King Alexander and athletics director Joe Alleva have handled the business of running Miles off the reservation. Especially the word spineless.

Though all Tiger faithful are familiar with it, it's worth revisiting Miles' mark as LSU's head coach since taking over in 2005 after Nick Saban bolted for the Miami Dolphins in the NFL.

Miles has guided the Tigers to a 110-32 record from 2005 through 10 games into the 2015 season. He's 60-27 in Southeastern Conference play, including conference titles in 2007 and 2011. He won the national championship following the 2007 season behind a 38-24 manhandling of Ohio State, though it goes without saying that Miles' 2007 squad was littered with talent recruited by his predecessor.

Miles' Tigers, though, haven't been the same since Jan. 9, 2012. That was the night that Alabama, coached by the man who put LSU football on the map again, Saban, blanked the Tigers 21-0 in the national title contest at the Superdome in New Orleans. I was there. It was painful to watch.

The loss to Alabama, in hindsight, has never been forgotten. It was a loss of plutonic proportions, especially in light of the manner in which LSU zipped through the 2011 regular season unbeaten, dispatching every opponent, except one, in razor-like fashion. The exception was a 9-6 overtime win over Alabama in Tuscaloosa in November. That game, by the way, was the last time Miles' Tigers have bested Saban's Crimson Tide.

While Miles has posted an impressive record over the past 10-plus years, his SEC mark since the 2011 season has been lacking: 6-2 in 2012; 5-3 in 2013; 4-4 in 2014; and 4-3 thus far in 2015. The three conference losses this year have all occurred in the past three weeks, the first three losses in a row in Tiger Town since Gerry DiNardo's last year as head coach in 1999.

than any other college football program in the country.

You may recall as well that Miles landed the No. 1 recruit in the country in 2014. His name? Leonard Fournette, who through the first seven games of this season was the odds-on favorite to win the Heisman Trophy. Then the Alabama game came along. Another loss and Fournette's chances of winning the Heisman went up in smoke.

The loss to Alabama would have been easier to swallow if Miles hadn't insisted — once again — on trying to run the ball down after down after down when everyone in the country knew that sticking with the running game was a lost cause. Even Booger McFarland, the former LSU great from Winnsboro, Tweeted about it as it all unfolded before our eyes.

Perhaps it's time for a change in the head coach at LSU. Lord knows Miles isn't likely to deviate from his three yards and a cloud of dust mentality. If he was inclined to make a change, the losses in conference play — 12 of them over the past three years — would have prompted him to do something different by now. I suppose being threatened with the loss of a job might do it.

There's something inherently wrong, though, with the course of action Alexander and Alleva have taken to force Miles out. If the decision had already been made to fire him, the least Alexander and Alleva could do was man up, pull Miles behind closed doors and handle their business like men. The public execution we've witnessed thus far was a cowardly way to do it.

It's been unfair to Miles, to the players and the university as a whole.

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

PERSPECTIVE

The agriculture attitude

Thanksgiving — let's eat! America's most food-focused holiday traces its roots back to the abundant feast that Pilgrims and Indians enjoyed together in the fall of 1621. Not even half of the 100 or so Mayflower Pilgrims and crew who had arrived at Plymouth Rock the previous December survived their grim first year in the New World ("new," of course, only to those undocumented immigrants — not to the local citizens).

Still, to celebrate and offer thanks for their survival, the English migrants planned a communal meal following the fall harvest. And in appreciation to the Wampanoag for teaching them to raise corn and gather the region's seafood, they also invited Massasoit, the tribal leader, to join them. He did, surprising the hosts by arriving with 90 members of his community. But they didn't come empty-handed; instead they brought much of the fare for what became a sumptuous, three-day banquet featuring venison, duck, goose, wild turkey, eel, mussel, lobster, gooseberries, plums, cornmeal pudding, popcorn balls (who knew!), barley beer and fortified wine. And you thought you overate at Thanksgiving!

But this was not the first precursor of our annual November Food-a-Palooza. Texans assert the tradition began near El Paso in 1598, when the Manso and Piro tribes roasted fowl and fish for a lost and bedraggled group of Spanish colonizers. Floridians insist that the firstest-of-all Thanksgivings was in 1565, when the Timucuanos shared a stew of salt pork and garbanzo beans with Spanish settlers at St. Augustine.

Interesting tidbits, but today the Big Question is not who held the first celebratory feast of thanks, but what exactly are we celebrating? America certainly has an abundance of food (even though many Americans do not), yet we face a momentous choice: a food future rooted in the ethic of sustainable agriculture (emphasis on "culture") or in exploitative agri-industry.

The conglomeratized, Wall Streetized, monopolized, globalized, chemicalized and plasticized model of treating dinner as just another manufactured product is presently dominant. Big Food has gained this control, not because its product is superior, but because, for the past 70 years, the corporate powers have ruthlessly abused their financial, marketing and political muscles to bully and shove aside anyone in their way.

What better symbol of agri-industry's vision of "food" than that ubiquitous Thanksgiving "Butterball" turkey. In a succession of corporate deals, the brand has passed from Swift & Co. to ConAgra to Smithfield Foods and now to the shipping giant Seaboard Inc. Whatever its industrial flag, the Butterball has been hoisted onto our tables by huge advertising budgets and promotion payments to supermarkets. The bird itself has been grotesquely deformed by industrial geneticists to have breasts so ponderous that the turkeys can't walk, stand or even reproduce on their own (thus earning the nickname "dead-end birds"). Adding torture to this intentional deformity, the industry sentences them to dismal lives in tiny confinement cages inside the sprawling steel and concrete animal factories that scar America's rural landscape — monuments to greed-based corporate "husbandry."

As the eminent farmer-poet-activist Wendell Berry tells us, eating is a profound political act. It lets you and me vote for the Butterball industrial model or choose to go back to the future of agriculture, which is the art and science of cooperating with, rather than overwhelming, nature. That cooperative ethic is the choice of the remarkable Good Food Uprising that has spread across the country in the past 30 years. Now the fastest growing segment of the food economy, it is creating the alternative model of a local, sustainable, small-scale, community-based, organic, humane, healthy, democratic — and tasty — food system for all.

Agri-industry doesn't care whether it makes food or widgets, for it's run by people who are dedicated solely to making money. In contrast, those involved in agriculture love what they do and care deeply about making the very best food they can. Their attitude is summed up by Lee Jones, a sustainable farmer in Ohio. Asked what he'd be if he weren't a farmer, Lee replied: "Disappointed."

This Thanksgiving, let's support, celebrate and share the amazing bounty that dedicated farmers like Lee Jones produce — for us, for the land and for the future.

Happy Thanksgiving, everyone!



JIM HIGHTOWER

WEBSTERLIFE

facebook.com/mindenph

Around Town

Nov. 29
Mt. Comfort Baptist Church will be hosting its Deacon and Deaconess program 11 a.m.

Galilee Missionary Baptist Church G.W. Shaw Memorial Fellowship Program will be at 3 p.m. Serving as guest speaker will be Pastor Carol Jackson.

Dec. 5
A Christmas Bazaar Fundraiser for Ross Aldridge will be from 9 until 5 p.m. at the CAC building in Springhill. For more information contact Lisa Balentine at 318-564-0978 or Nan Stephens at 318-578-4800.

Dec. 6
Terry Combs will be preaching his first sermon at Mt. Comfort Baptist Church at 2:15 p.m.

Dec. 12
The St. James Baptist Church will be hosting a "Community Connection" concert at 5 p.m.

Dec. 12
The St. James Baptist Church will be hosting an Auxiliary Day program on at 3 p.m.

Class of 1970 will be sponsoring a 45th class celebration at the forestry building at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$15. For more information call 377-3652 or 377-3357.

Dominick - Madden united in marriage



MRS. LEAH NICOLE MADDEN

Miss Leah Nicole Dominick of Mira, Louisiana and Mr. Jake Conrad Madden of Minden were united in marriage at six o'clock in the evening on Saturday, Nov. 7 at Couch Chapel at First United Methodist Church of Shreveport. The ceremony was officiated by Dr. Jonathan Beck. Ceremony music was performed by E. Ray Peebles, organist. Floral arrangements were designed by Missy Moore at New Beginnings of Vivian, Louisiana. Photography was provided by Legacy Photography and Graphic Design of Shreveport.

The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jay Dominick of Mira, Louisiana. The groom is the son of Mr. John Madden of Minden and Ms. Andrea Madden of Shreveport.

Given in marriage by her parents and escorted by her father, the bride wore an ivory gown designed by Lazaro. The ball gown featured a sweetheart neckline, sheer alencon lace bodice, dropped waist and a voluminous layered organza skirt with a chapel train. The bride carried a beautiful bouquet of vendela roses, hydrangeas and peonies with pearl accents.

The bride was attended by her maid of honor, Christine Huddleston. Bridesmaids were Kaci Anderson, Caroline Caldwell, Bailee Hurley and Olivia Showalter. Emily Bryan, cousin of the bride, served as junior bridesmaid. Levi Madden served as best man. Groomsmen were Jake Byrd, Brandon Dominick, Greg Greathouse, Adam Hurley and Jake Slocum. Joseph Adcock served as an usher.

A reception followed at Shreveport Country Club. Entertainment was provided by the band, Harmon Drew Super Group, of Minden. The bride's cake was created by Silver Palate and the groom's cake was created by Georgie Girl Cakery. Food was provided by Shreveport Country Club. Wedding details were coordinated by Missy Moore of Vivian.

Following a honeymoon in Canada, the couple will make their home in Minden.

Are you or someone you know getting married? Is your church or organization hosting a local event? Call the Minden Press-Herald at 377-1866 to learn how to get the word out in the Webster Life section!

Meet Santa

Santa will be at Old Beck House Christmas Tree Farm & Gift Shop from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 28 rain or shine.

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TEACHER OF THE WEEK



Congratulations to Doyline High School's Curt Allen. He is this week's MPH/Minden Athletic's Teacher of the Week. Mr. Allen is a third grade teacher at Doyline High School. He has been teaching for seven years, always searching for new resources to make sure students are taught with the best strategies available. Not only does he teach, Mr. Allen has coached softball in the past. Currently, he is the Quiz Bowl Sponsor, is a key member of Campus Leadership Team, and a SBLC member. He is present at every sporting event when DHS Panthers are playing. Mr. Allen gives 110% in everything he does and is an asset to our school and our students.

The Press-Herald's Teacher of the Week feature is brought to you every other Friday by Minden Athletic.

SPORTS

www.press-herald.com

SPORTS briefs

COLLEGE FB CFB Playoff teams see big shake-up

Oklahoma moved into third and Iowa was fourth in the new College Football Playoff rankings as Notre Dame slipped to No. 6.

Clemson and Alabama remained the top two teams in the third-to-last committee rankings.

The Sooners (10-1) seem to be in solid shape with only one game left in their season. Oklahoma will play at Oklahoma State on Saturday with a chance to win the Big 12. The Cowboys dropped to 11th after losing its first game of the season. The committee does not seem to be hung up on the Sooners' October loss to Texas.

"They have performed at a high level since then, so they've overcome that loss with their play on the field and the success they've had and the wins they've accumulated, with now six wins over teams with .500 or better records," committee chairman Jeff Long said.

Long said the committee took into account that Oklahoma quarterback Baker Mayfield sat out the second half against TCU.

Notre Dame (10-1) also plays its last game of the season Saturday, a possible resume-builder against Stanford, which is ninth in the rankings.

Unbeaten Iowa (11-0) and No. 5 Michigan State (10-1) can setup a possible playoff play-in game in the Big Ten championship if both win this weekend.

NFL Manziel parties his way to the bench

BEREA, Ohio — Dropped from starter to third-stringer — without playing a game.

Johnny Manziel partied his way out of the lineup during Cleveland's bye week.

Browns coach Mike Pettine benched the polarizing quarterback on Tuesday for his off-field behavior, a move that could signal Manziel's days with the team are numbered.

Pettine said Josh McCown will start Monday night's game against Baltimore in place of Manziel, who was recently handed the starting job but couldn't keep it while the team had a week off.

Manziel's benching comes in the wake of a video surfacing of him holding a bottle of champagne and rapping profane lyrics last weekend in an Austin, Texas, nightclub.

He had promised not to bring any embarrassment to the team during its week off, and did just that and Pettine, who has been supportive of Manziel in the past, has had enough.

"Everyone in this organization wants what is best for Johnny just like we do for every player in our locker room. I'm especially disappointed in his actions and behavior because he has been working very hard," Pettine said.

"The improvements from last year to this year have been tremendous, but he still has to consistently demonstrate that he has gained a good understanding of what it takes to be successful at the quarterback position on this level," he said. "It goes well beyond the field."

HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL FINISHING STRONG

MINDEN BOYS TOP HAUGHTON THANKS TO FOURTH-QUARTER SURGE



BLAKE BRANCH
blake@press-herald.com

The Minden Crimson Tide and Minden Lady Tider basketball teams were back in action Tuesday night inside The Palace for a pair of early season rivalry games with the Haughton Buccaneers and Haughton Lady Bucs.

The Crimson Tide played for the first time this season with the additions from the Tide football team that was recently eliminated from the second round of the Class 4A playoffs.

The Tide showed improved defense and scoring on their way to a 70-59 win.

"I thought we did some positive things tonight," Minden head coach Alan Shaw said. "We struggled against their press in the third and early fourth quarter and got down, but we fought back and made a big run their with our defense making some plays and hitting some free throws down the stretch. We'll continue to grow and get better each day that we practice and each game we play."

Minden led at the half 34-25 behind a bevy of steals converted into layups on the other end.

Haughton countered with a big run of their own, taking what was once a 12-point deficit and turning it into a two-point Buccaneer lead in the fourth quarter, 56-54.

Minden turned the heat back up and forced some timely Haughton turnovers. The Tide closed the game on a 16-3 run that had the home fans roaring as the final seconds ticked away in the win.

Sakari Batton had 16 points to lead the Tide, followed by Zi'Kerrion Baker with 10 points, 10 rebounds and five steals. Aaron Moses added 10 points as well.

Lady Tiders
The Minden Lady Tiders jumped out to an early 14-1 lead despite 20 first-half turnovers.

The Lady Tiders were in cruise control for most of the second half on their way to a convincing 71-55 win.

"I thought really from the tip that we played really good defense," Lady Tider head coach Jacob Brown said. "We were able to put a little pressure on them and force some steals. There were a couple breakdowns, but good, hard defense is something we can hang our hat on."

Brown said he was pleased with the offensive ball movement as well.

"We had some good practices and it carried over into our game tonight," Brown said. "We were willing to make the extra pass and turn the offense."

Bre Rogers and Sha'Terra Batton led the way for Minden with 16 points each, followed by Tiaga Pugh with 14 points and 15 rebounds and Marlena Hill with eight points and 13 rebounds.

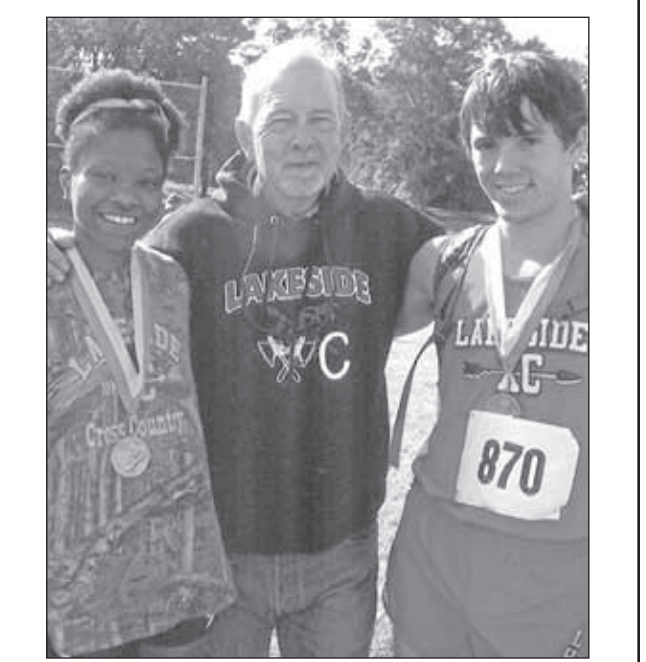
What's next?
The Tide and Lady Tiders will have a short layoff and get back on the court Dec. 1, at Lakeside in a big-time rivalry game.



Douglas Blow/Courtesy Photos

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Minden Press-Herald and Howard Lumber ATHLETE OF THE WEEK



Congratulations to Lakeside's Alisa Lander and Eric Greene. Lander and Green swept the 2A State Championships at the state meet, bringing home both individual titles for the Warriors.

The Press-Herald's Athlete of the Week feature is brought to you every other Thursday by Howard Lumber in Minden.

COLLEGE FOOTBALL Miles quiet on job security



BATON ROUGE — LSU coach Les Miles considers talk about his job security "off limits" right now and he has no interest in retiring.

Miles also said Monday that Louisiana has become "home" to him and his family as he nears the end of his 11th season with the Tigers.

But LSU is on a skid like no other under Miles, raising questions about his future.

The Tigers have lost three straight for the first time since he arrived in 2005. Those losses have dropped LSU, which entered November unbeaten and firmly in contention for the College Football Playoff, to 7-3 and out of the Top 25.

"I think the question's valid," Miles said of questions about his job. "At some point in time there's a me in this. Not while I'm coaching. This will always

be about our players."

Miles did not say whether he's met with top LSU athletic department officials about his future.

The 62-year-old Miles is 110-32 at LSU with one national championship in the 2007 season. If LSU wants to fire Miles this year, the university would have to pay a buyout of about \$15 million. That figure lowers to \$12.9 million after Jan. 1.

The group that would likely foot the bill to buy out Miles — a private, nonprofit athletic fundraising arm called the Tiger Athletic Foundation — has not been in talks with anyone about firing Miles.

"There has been no meeting and there will not be," said TAF executive committee member Charlie Weems, a Shreveport attorney who also is a former chairman of the LSU Board of Supervisors. "We support LSU Athletics, but hiring and firing decisions are made solely by those LSU officials charged with that responsibility."

Miles' status. Miles, meanwhile, said this isn't the first time there have been reports that he was leaving LSU.

Those past reports, Miles said, "had me in (another) job not long ago, either, as I recall, and on a plane that I was not on."

The coach held a team meeting before practice on Monday afternoon, as he does every game week. During the meeting, he urged his players to focus on Saturday night's game against Texas A&M, not his job status, receiver Malachi Dupre said.

"He didn't allude much to his situation. I know he realizes that we're hearing a lot, just like everyone else is," Dupre said. "He doesn't want it to create that much of a distraction. I feel the players on the team are doing a great job of not letting it affect our play or our preparation."

Miles said he met with his assistants Monday morning. "They kind of understand this is not about me. This is about the team," Miles said. "This is about preparing to beat an opponent and enjoying the young men that we coach."

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THE BIBLE SPEAKS

Relevant Sardis message

After leaving Thyatira, the one bearing the messages to the seven churches would next reach Sardis, a wealthy city and the first place on earth to mint coins. Sardis was unique in that there is no mention of persecution, false doctrine, or other struggles. That may well have set them up for their dangerous position.



KATHY IRIZARRY

works perfect before God.

Note the existing problem in the Sardis church. "These things saith he that hath the seven Spirits of God, and the seven stars; I know thy works, that thou hast a name that thou livest, and art dead. Be watchful, and strengthen the things which remain, that are ready to die: for I have not found thy

Remember therefore how thou hast received and heard, and hold fast, and repent. If therefore thou shalt not watch, I will come on thee as a thief, and thou shalt not know what hour I will come upon thee. Thou hast a few names even in Sardis which have not defiled their garments; and they shall walk with me in white: for they are worthy. He that overcometh, the same shall be clothed in white raiment; and I will not blot out his name out of the book of life, but I will confess his name

before my Father, and before his angels. He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches" Revelation 3:1-6.

Those in Sardis depended on reputation rather than on fact. They were hypocrites. While they had been spiritually alive at one time and still pretended to be so, at the writing of this message they were dead and in danger of having their names blotted from the book of life. It was time for them to wake up to their condition, intentionally

strengthen those aspects of their Christian walk that still remained, and repent of their waywardness. To do otherwise would leave them unprepared for Jesus' return which for them would come as a thief.

Jesus presented Himself to Sardis as the one with the seven Spirits of God and the seven stars. The perfect Holy Spirit is offered to us by Jesus who also holds the angel messengers to the churches. Jesus rules over all both on earth and in heaven.

He both deserves our worship and can be trusted. What He promises to the overcomer gives reason to rejoice. Jesus will give white raiment, a demonstration of His righteousness as well as forgiveness of sins, and He will retain our name in the book of life. But there's still more, He will personally confess our name before His Father! Talk about a thanksgiving day!

Kathryn Irizarry is a member of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

ALONG THE WAY

Thanksgiving prayer of Peter Marshall (1947)

Few remember that Peter Marshall was the Chaplain of the US Senate in the years after WW2. When the Senate was in session, he would offer a timely prayer each morning.



BILL CRIDER

Born in Scotland, his family emigrated to the U S A and became a citizens in 1927. He was pastor of the New York Avenue Presbyterian Church, Washington D.C. when he served two terms as Senate Chaplain. As we turn attention toward the 'all-

important focus of being thankful" perhaps our hearts can be stirred anew by the inspiring words of this respected clergyman!

"Our Father in heaven, if ever we had cause to offer unto Thee our fervent thanks, surely it is now, on, the eve of our Thanksgiving Day, when we, the people of this Nation, are comfortable, well-fed, well-clad, and blessed with good things beyond our deserving. May gratitude, the rarest of all virtues, be the spirit of our

observance.

Let not the feasting, football, and festivity end in forgetfulness of God. May the desperate need of the rest of the world, and our own glorious heritage, remind us of the God who led our fathers every step of the way by which they advanced to the character of an independent nation.

O Lord, lift from our hearts all the discouragement, cynicism, and distrust of one another that destroy our faith in the little people who make up this Republic and eat at the very foundations of our democracy. Give to our leaders faith in our way of life, so that, instead of indicting other philosophies,

we shall inspire our own. Give them faith in the people, in their deep desire to do whatever is for the good of all, in their willingness to make personal sacrifices for a good cause.

May we have courageous leadership, based on faith and not on fear – leadership that goes out in front and is not forever running to catch up! Increase our faith in Jesus Christ our Lord. Help us to be good men, that we may become good leaders. For this day, before we reach any decisions, make us willing to ask, "What would Jesus do?" Deliver us from the error of seeking and expecting Thy guidance in our public lives while we

close the door to Thee in our private living.

We have asked for Thy guidance in difficult decisions many times, yet it has not always come when we thought it should come. Many of the situations and relationships which we have asked Thee to change have remained the same. Forgive us for thinking, therefore, that Thou art unwilling to help us in our dilemmas, or that there is nothing Thou canst do.

Remind us, Our Father, that when we plug in an electric iron and it fails to work, we do not conclude that electricity has lost its power, nor do we plead with the iron (to do something). We look at

once to the wiring to find what has broken or blocked connection with the source of power. May we do the same with ourselves, that Thou mayest work through us to do Thy will? This we ask in Jesus' name. Amen"

What a prayer to absorb on this Thanksgiving Day, not just for our political leaders, but for each of us – Joe Citizen. Send this to your elected leaders with a personal note pledging your prayer support for them as we all move forward together and seek to heal this land – in the name of Jesus.

THE UPWARD LOOK

Thankful for the inheritance



MAX HUTTO

"Giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified us to share in the inheritance of the saints in light." Colossians 1:12 NASB

Paul continues his thoughts and prayers for the believers in Colossae by giving thanks to God. He is grateful to God for the great inheritance of salvation that He gives to all believers. An inheritance is not earned but is a gift. God has given the greatest gift of forgiveness of sins and eternal life through His Son, Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. This inheritance is not

only Heaven someday, but it is an abundant, joyful, and loving life that is lived each day in a relationship with the Lord.

Lord Jesus, I am grateful for the great inheritance of the gift of salvation. Help me to live this day in the wonderful light of Your love and grace.

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

"Men ought always to pray." Luke 18:1

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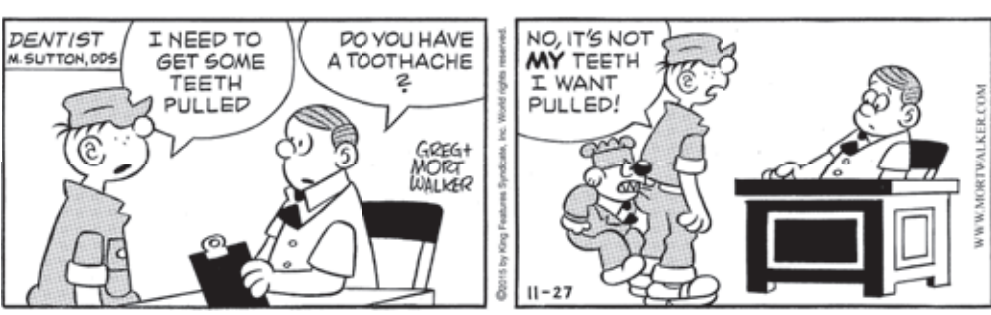
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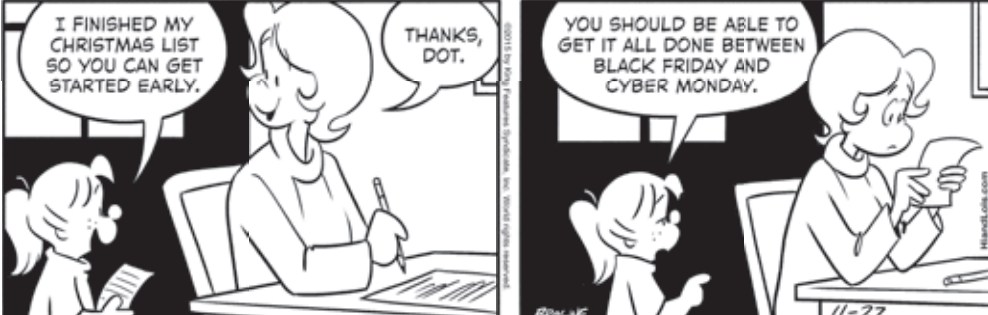
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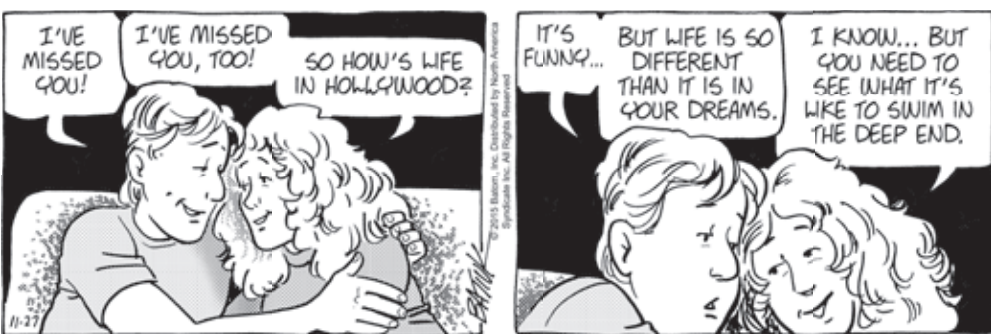
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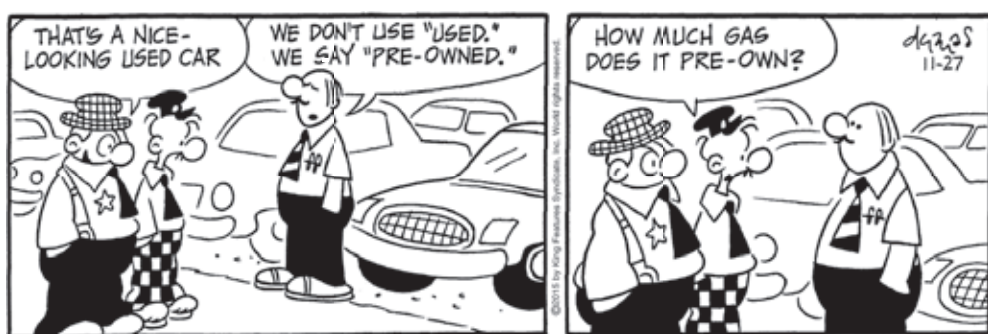
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Turkey Trivia

★ The taste of turkeys has to do with their age. An older male is preferable to a younger male, because the young "tom" is stringy. Conversely, younger female hens are preferred to older ones.

★ Sleepy after the big meal? Turkey contains an amino acid called "Tryptophan". Tryptophan sets off a chemical chain reaction that calms you down and makes you sleepy.

★ Turkey, like poultry, is lower in cholesterol than beef and many other meats. The dark meat (thigh, legs,) contains more fat and cholesterol than white meat. So, that's why dark meat tastes so good!

★ Ninety percent of American homes eat turkey on Thanksgiving Day. Fifty percent eat turkey on Christmas.

★ Benjamin Franklin was one person who argued vehemently on behalf of the turkey being the national symbol of America. However, as most know, the bald eagle won out.

★ The fleshy growth from the base of the beak, which is very long on male turkeys and hangs down over the beak, is called the snood.

★ Male turkeys make the commonly known "gobble" sound, particularly during breeding seasons to attract a mate. Females, however, cluck.

★ America doesn't consume the most turkey per capita; Israel does.

We wish you and your loved ones a very Happy Thanksgiving!



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