



MINDEN PRESS-HERALD

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MINDEN, LOUISIANA

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75 CENTS

PARKER'S PLAN

Sheriff's Office kickstarts Parish Chaplain program at Mt. Calm Baptist Church

WILL PHILLIPS
Minden Press-Herald

Sheriff Jason Parker, in an effort to provide his deputies with the support they need in their line of work and fostering transparency within his office, called on the experience of Pastor T. Alexander Knapp of Mt. Calm Baptist Church in Minden and Pastor Lonnie Moore of Harrison Chapel in Springhill to spearhead a chaplaincy program for Webster Parish.

These chaplains were officially recognized Tuesday afternoon at Mt. Calm Baptist church and introduced to the deputies and officers they will be servicing.

Pastor Knapp spoke of his history with law enforcement and being a Chaplain in Shreveport's Police Department and International Police, conveying an understanding for what law enforcement goes through in their line of work and why a Chaplaincy program could be a benefit to them.

"I have been trying to get a Chaplaincy program in Webster Parish and also in Minden for some time," said Knapp. "When you're riding along, what people fail to realize, and even I as a pastor fail to realize sometimes, is that you guys are human just like everybody else on the street, and you go through things like everybody else."

"We want you to know that we're here. You go through personal problems. All of you do, your human," said Pastor Knapp. "Our hearts are with you,



COURTESY PHOTO

Seen pictured are the pastors who are participating in the Webster Parish Sheriff's Office new Chaplaincy Program. The pastors who are offering their time to participate in this program include T. Alexander Knapp of Mt. Calm Baptist, Lonnie Moore of Harrison Chapel, Leland Crawford 1st Baptist Church, Ronnie Osborne of 1st Baptist Church, Keith Adcock of City on a Hill, Robert Whitaker of Victory of Praise, Billy Joe Hawkins of Mt. Pilgrim, Bill Mills of Apostolic Lighthouse, Jimbo Yokum of City on a Hill, Marandalous Holland of St. James Baptist, Andre' Washington of Holy Temple, and Clarence Bryant of St. Elizabeth.

we want to be there for you."

He went on to speak of his confidence in the pastors who stepped forward to help their parish through this program.

"The Sheriff presented me with a group of guys that were awesome. And when I say these pastors are awesome, these pastors are awesome," said Knapp.

"We have guys that are Chaplains that Sheriff Parker presented to me. They have been chaplains for the military, the military police, and we have Chaplains that work in law enforcement. So we don't want you guys to think that we are not familiar with you. What we want you to know from our heart to your heart is that we are here for you guys under the direction of our Sheriff and Chief Deputy," said Knapp.

He stated that when he met the Pastors, they said, "We don't want to be a Chaplain just in name. We want to be there to offer service to our community, our Sheriff, and offer services to our police department. I thought that was awesome. They want to be active, they want to be involved."

Pastor Moore who will be managing the program for the northern side of the parish echoed Knapp's remarks and affirmed their support for the deputies and officers. "We are with you guys 100%, and I want you to know that I am very excited to be a part of this wonderful team," said Pastor Moore.

Parker later addressed those in attendance to talk about why he felt inspired to bring a Chap-

laincy program to Webster Parish and the good it could do for his office and the community.

"When I walked through the door and saw all of y'all in uniform, it brought a smile on my face, that y'all are part of the family here in the Sheriff's Office and throughout the police community here in the parish, and I'm just grateful for y'all to be a part of this," said Parker.

"I think now more than ever we need God in our hearts, in our communities and our schools, and we certainly need Him in our Sheriff's office. That's what these Chaplains bring to the table for us. Because a lot of the time we need help."

"That's what these guys are going to be here for. To stand with us and beside us," said Parker.

QUICK MMC RESPONSE SAVES MINDEN MAN AFTER HEART ATTACK



COURTESY PHOTO

Timothy Wesley seen with a gift basket he received during his rehabilitation at Minden Medical Center.

WILL PHILLIPS
Minden Press-Herald

It is something we all dread experiencing: having a heart attack or watching a loved one have a heart attack.

One day in late September, what started as arm pain for Minden native Mr. Timothy Wesley led to a massive heart attack that could have ended his life. Thanks to him recognizing his symptoms and his family's quick thinking and taking action, Mr. Wesley came to Minden Medical Center. On his way to the emergency department, the arm pain he experienced became chest pain, which led to cardiac arrest and Mr. Wesley became unresponsive. The Emergency Department jumped into action delivering immediate care to stabilize Mr. Wesley and was able to transfer him to the Heart Catheterization Lab 15 minutes after arrival. During his heart cath

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Tomorrow's
High Temp 64°

Tomorrow's
Low Temp 44°

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MMC: Quick response saves Minden man

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procedure, it was discovered one of his arteries was blocked. The Heart Cath Team, under the direction of Dr. Phillip Rozeman, opened up the artery's blood flow and placed a stent to restore vital blood flow. After Mr. Wesley was stable, he transferred to Willis-Knighton for further care and observation. Mr. Wesley does not remember much about the experience, except for the arm pain, calling his family, and then waking up at Willis-Knighton to the news that he had suffered a heart attack.

After being discharged from Willis-Knighton, Mr. Wesley returned to Minden Medical Center for inpatient rehabilitation to regain strength and function and return to normal daily living. In his therapy sessions he worked on strengthening his arms, regaining balance, breathing exercises, and getting back to his overall normal routine. After completion of inpatient rehabilitation, Mr. Wesley went on to continue the road to recovery with outpatient therapy services two days a week with a focus on building

strength and endurance safely and successfully resume normal daily living and complete tasks in the community. Mr. Wesley is a true testament to the importance of continuing therapy after discharge to maximize your strength, balance, endurance and to prevent readmissions to the hospital.

Mr. Wesley has to wear a LifeVest® which is a wearable cardioverter defibrillator (WCD) designed to monitor patients at risk of sudden cardiac death, until he gets a pacemaker, a small device that will help control any abnormal heart rhythms, in a couple of months.

Mr. Wesley experienced a type of heart attack commonly known as a "widowmaker." This type of heart attack occurs when the left anterior descending (LAD) artery, which is the largest coronary artery that supplies blood to the left, front part of the heart, is blocked. When blood, oxygen, and vital nutrients cannot reach the heart, this causes heart damage resulting in the symptoms most are familiar with. Common warnings signs of a heart attack include:

Chest discomfort in

the center or left side of the chest. The discomfort might feel like uncomfortable pressure, squeezing, fullness or pain.

Pain or discomfort in other areas like the jaw, neck, back, one or both arms, shoulders, or stomach.

Shortness of breath, which might occur with or without chest discomfort.

Feeling weak, light-headed, nauseous, or breaking out in a cold sweat.

Not all heart attacks are alike. Some may show no symptoms or be mild with minimal symptoms, while others are more sudden and severe. Know the signs and do not dismiss signs from your body that something is wrong. Most importantly, do not wait to seek medical care and call 911 if you or someone in your household is experiencing symptoms of a heart attack.

"Mr. Wesley is a great case to show the importance of recognizing symptoms that could be heart problems. It's a miracle this situation came to fruition, but it only did because [Mr. Wesley] recognized something was wrong and did something about it," said Cardiologist Dr. Phillip

Rozeman. "We are lucky here in Minden to have the ability to take care of people in our cardiac catheterization lab. We're appreciative of our relationship with Willis-Knighton, and it shows how important it is that we all work together."

"God had the right people in the right place at the right time. Everybody - from Dr. Chanler in the ER and his staff to Dr. Rozeman and his staff - everybody did a wonderful job," said Darlena Wesley, Timothy's sister. "They say, 'teamwork makes the dream work' and that is the truth! Job well done. Thank you for bringing my brother back."

Today, Mr. Wesley is home with his family, and was recently released from outpatient rehabilitation after meeting all of his goals and demonstrating ability to complete tasks as he did prior to the heart attack. He continues to remain in good health and spirits, and still comes to visit his "MMC family" during his follow-up appointments.

To learn more about the signs of a heart attack and health tips, visit the American Heart Association's website at www.heart.org.

State Releases Request for Proposal to replace 10,000 voting machines

BATON ROUGE, La. — The Office of State Procurement has issued a Request For Proposals (RFP) to secure new voting equipment to replace the state's current stock of approximately 10,000 machines. These machines have long served the voters of Louisiana without major incident. We cannot maintain the status quo, as the lifespan of these machines nears the end. It is financially and operationally prudent to procure new voting equipment so that voters continue to have confidence in their election infrastructure.

"I am excited to begin the RFP process" Secretary of State Kyle Ardoin said. "While the COVID-19 pandemic delayed the release of this RFP, we are excited to begin the process of bringing the best voting technology to Louisiana and continuing our tradition of delivering safe, secure, accurate and transparent elections."

Continuing Louisiana's reputation of election integrity is the driving force behind this RFP as the state seeks to bring the most secure and transparent voting technology to our state. This RFP allows Louisianans to continue our tradition and overwhelming preference of in-person voting. It also preserves Louisiana's leadership in elections nationwide by continuing our accurate and timely reporting of election results on election night.

Some of the specifications of the RFP are as follows:

Voter Verifiable Paper Audit Trail (VVPAT): A VVPAT system provides voters with the peace of mind that their vote is recorded accurately by allowing them to verify their vote on paper before casting their vote electronically on a voting machine. This feature will also enhance the continued accuracy of state elections by providing a mechanism for a full paper audit of each election.

Background Checks For Those Working On Project: This security measure requires proposers to disclose background checks and security training protocols for all employees who would be working on this project. This requirement is a security measure to prevent nefarious individuals from coming into

contact with Louisiana's election system.

Disclosure Of Foreign Ownership: Proposer must disclose any foreign ownership and if there is any foreign ownership, provide a detailed plan that ensures the foreign entity cannot control, influence, or direct the company in any manner that would compromise or influence, or give the appearance of compromising or influencing, the independence and integrity of an election.

Disclose All Countries In Which The Proposer Operates: The proposer must disclose all countries in which their election system and equipment is used. Additionally, the corporate structure and ownership (e.g., publicly traded corporation, privately held partnership, nonprofit), all board members or any entity with more than 10% ownership in the organization, and any ownership in the company by foreign persons or entities, regardless of ownership percentage, including but not limited to any citizens or residents of a country other than the United States must be disclosed.

Forbid Political Spending From Contract Funds: Contractor agrees not to use contract proceeds to urge any elector to vote for or against any candidate or proposition on an election ballot nor shall such funds be used to lobby for or against any proposition or matter having the effect of law being considered by the Louisiana Legislature or any local governing authority.

Follow All Applicable Laws: Proposal must be lawful. The proposed voting system shall meet all relevant requirements the Louisiana Election Code, Help America Vote Act, Louisiana Procurement Code, and Information Technology Procurement Code and any other relevant state and federal laws.

The state's Request for Proposals for new voting equipment can be found online at:

<https://www.cfrd.doa.louisiana.gov/osp/lapac/agency/pdf/7549800-02.pdf>

Responses for the New Voting System RFP will be accepted no later than 10:00 AM on March 24, 2021.

Policy Institute Releases Statewide Impact of COVID-19 on LA Families with Young Children

STAFF REPORT
Minden Press-Herald

Today, the Louisiana Policy Institute for Children (LPIC) released results from "Struggling to Recover: The Impacts of COVID-19 on Louisiana Families with Young Children" in partnership with Agenda for Children, Louisiana Department of Education, New Orleans Campaign for Grade-Level Reading, Urban League of Louisiana and Women United of Southeast Louisiana. The virtual press conference was moderated by Louisiana Parenting Education Network Director Lenell Young and featured first-hand perspectives from the following mothers of young children: Celeste Carter, Melissa Goudeau, Morgan Lamandre and State Representative Stephanie Hilferty.

"There are many unknowns still ahead, but the report results emphasize the fact that the need for quality child care still exists for families and that the time to fund child care is now," said Dr. Libbie Sonnier, executive director of LPIC. "We must work to support the child care sector through public investments to increase the availability of quality, reliable child care for working parents and maintain expand-

ed eligibility for essential workers to the Child Care Assistance Program."

The findings and conclusions from the statewide survey provide insights into the needs and challenges of families with young children across Louisiana as the COVID-19 pandemic endures, reinforcing the following:

Families with young children continue to need child care to support parent employment or education, and parents must adjust schedules to fill child care gaps.

Families are struggling to afford child care and basic necessities with child care costing the average Louisiana family of four almost \$10,000 a year.

Even in the face of reduced income, increased stress and concern about the spread of COVID-19, Louisiana working families continue to rely on child care.

Economic challenges resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic hit families of color and lower income families especially hard.

Louisiana State Superintendent Dr. Cade Brumley said, "Our desire is to empower all families through access to high-quality early childhood programs as we strive to prepare every child in Louisiana for success when entering kindergarten. Early childhood

education is the greatest educational challenge of our generation, and I appreciate our many partners advancing this cause, including the Policy Institute for gathering much-needed data to drive important decisions as we move forward."

During the first six months of the COVID-19 pandemic, families faced shifting education and care options for their children as record numbers of Louisianans filed for unemployment. To support all facets of the recovery, Louisiana must increase funding for child care assistance at the state and local levels and direct any additional COVID-19 related federal investments toward supporting child care providers with keeping their doors open and rates affordable as they balance increased health and safety requirements, higher operational costs and lower enrollment capacities.



"Women United is proud to share the Policy Institute's commitment to understanding the struggles of families with young children," said Dr. Toya Barnes-Teamer, United Way of Southeast Louisiana's Women United chair. "The pandemic intensified so many challenges - especially for parents of color - making the need for poli-

cies and programs that create more equitable access to child care greater than ever."

Throughout the pandemic, LPIC has compiled multiple reports with findings on the adverse impacts COVID-19 has had on child care providers, the financial challenges of child care facing Louisiana's working families and the necessity to get families back to work in order to restart the state's economy. The complete findings from "Struggling to Recover: The Impacts of COVID-19 on Louisiana Families with Young Children" can be found here. The statewide survey of parents and guardians of children under age five was conducted from September 21, 2020, through October 6, 2020. Questions ranged from asking about child care arrangements before and since the pandemic's onset, personal child care expenses, comfort level in sending children to child care in light of the public health crisis, family work schedules and more. LPIC plans to hold another virtual press conference to present additional findings on the ongoing adverse impacts of COVID-19 on child care providers in Louisiana in the coming months. For more information on LPIC, please visit, PolicyInstitute-LA.org.

WEBSTER & MORE




3 DAY PLANNING FORECAST

JEFF CASTLE

Sunshine and mild weather are expected as we wrap up the week. Our next weather maker brings rain back to the forecast Saturday, but sunshine and dry weather are back on Sunday. Temperatures will warm back into the 60s over the next couple of days, before cooling slightly by the end of the weekend.

Get the latest forecast from the KSLA First Alert Weather Team at KSLA.com or on your smartphone with the KSLA First Alert Weather App. Search your app store for KSLA to download.

		TEMP	WIND
FRI	 0%	61	S 5
SAT	 60%	64	S 8
SUN	 0%	56	NW 8


BIRTHDAYS FOR

SATURDAY, JANUARY 23, 2021
Jacqueline D. Lewis

SUNDAY, JANUARY 24, 2021
Adrian Beasley

THURSDAY, JANUARY 28, 2021
Anthony D. Spencer

SATURDAY, JANUARY 30, 2021
William King (72 years old)




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OBITUARIES



Thomas O. Lee

Thomas O Lee took his last breath in his earthly body on January 25, 2021 at 1:30pm. When he reached the Heavenly Gates he was greeted by our Lord Jesus and his parents, Trues and Nola Lee, his brothers Charles Lee and Boukey Lee. Tom, as he was known to all, worked for the Webster Parish Police Jury and eventually retired after 38 years.

In his younger years he worked at the

Heflin Saw Mill. He worked as a welder at Clement in Minden, and worked in the oil field for a short period of time. After retiring, Tom was the "Piddler". He fixed all things around the house. He was usually found working on the trucks and tractors or piddling with the cows or in the hay field. He loved his garden! He planted his garden with enough peas and corn for the whole family every single year.

Tom was a member of the Heflin United Methodist Church and a member of the Heflin Volunteer Fire Department since it was organized in July of 1976. He was very dedicated to the Fire Department until his health started failing.

He is preceded in death by his step-

daughter Connie Brantley and step grand- daughter Kayla Brantley, friend and the biological father of their daughter Nena, Donnie Nelson.


Left to cherish his memory, his wife Cathy Lee, daughter Nena Nelson, sister Judy Rae Barnett, brother Jerry Lee, sister-in-law Jackie Lee, granddaughter Kayelee Cruse, grandsons Justin Cruse and Niklous Meshell, step-daughter Janet Andrews, step granddaughter Valerie Brantley, step grandsons Jim and Ryan Andrews, 3 great grand- children and 1 great great- granddaughter.

His many nieces and nephews were the joy of his life. Special nieces, Tina Rozelle and Stacey Teauge, and numerous other great nieces and nephews and his special dog, Bella.

Special thanks to the 7th floor staff at Willis Knighton Piermont, Kindred Home Health. Funeral services will be held Friday, January 29, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. at Rose Neath Funeral Home Chapel in Minden, Louisiana with Rev. Joe Lynn Robinson and Rev. Deanna Mitchell officiating. Interment will follow at Bistineau Cemetery in Heflin, Louisiana. Family will receive friends from 5-7 p.m. Thursday, January 28, 2021 at Rose-Neath.

Pallbearers will be Shane Thurman, John Hays, Niklous Meshell, Cory Cruse, Justin Cruse, and Taylor Futch.

Honorary Pallbearers will be -Heflin Volunteer Fire Department and nephews.



Joan Albus

Joan was born October 15, 1930, in Kenosha, Wisconsin, to Harry and Marie Atwell. She went to her eternal home on January 25, 2021, after serving God and her family well. She was surrounded by her daughter, son-in-law, son and daughter-in-law when she passed peacefully.

Joan married James W. Albus on June 9, 1951, in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Thirteen years later, the family moved to New Orleans, Louisiana. In New Or-

leans, Joan worked for the New Orleans School System. Her love for God led her to teach children's Sunday school and Women's Bible Study throughout her life. At various times, she would also lead weekly Bible Study to the children in her neighborhood and to children in nearby housing units. Until a few years ago, she was still leading a Bible Study group in her assisted living facility. She was known as an excellent seamstress for her home, family and friends. Her creative side also showed in the oil paintings she enjoyed creating. Her family and friends were often gifted with these and crocheted blankets she enjoyed making. Later in her life, the Pregnancy Care Center of Minden was

a recipient of many baby blankets.

Joan was preceded in death by her husband, James Albus; parents, Harry and Marie Atwell; and brother, Donald Atwell. Left to cherish her memory are daughter, Kathleen Albus Bridges (Henry); son, Christopher Albus (Susan); six grandchildren, Heather Bridges Bush (Andy), Rachael Bridges, James Lee Bridges (Erin), Brian Albus (Baylie), David Albus, and Lauren Albus Thomas (Paul); seven great- grandchildren, Nate and Macy Bush, Hayden and Madeline Chreene, Braylon and Briar Bridges, and Oliver Albus; sister, Marlene Glasel (Howie) and brother, William Atwell (Barbara).

We would like to thank Dr. Chris

Earnhardt and the staff of Savannah Court for their care. We are also grateful to Passages Hospice's staff for their love and care.

A memorial service for Joan will be held at 2 PM on Friday, January 29, 2021, in the sanctuary of First Baptist Church, Minden, preceded by visitation at 1 PM. Face masks and social distancing will be implemented.

Memorials may be made to First Baptist Church, Building Fund, 301 Pennsylvania Ave., Minden, LA 71055

*Rose-Neath Funeral Home
211 Murrell Street
Minden, Louisiana 71055
(318) 377-3412*



Jerry Wayne Tarpley

Funeral services for Jerry Tarpley will be held at 11:00 a.m. Saturday, January 30, 2021 at Rose-Neath Funeral Home Chapel in Minden, Lou-

isiana. Officiating will be Pastors Ron Johnson and Matt Cate. Interment will be at 2:00 p.m. at Arlington Cemetery in Homer, Louisiana. Visitation will be at 10:00 a.m. Saturday at Rose-Neath.

Jerry was born January 18, 1943 in Homer, Louisiana to Chance (CC) and Mattie Acklen Tarpley. He went home to be with his Lord, January 25, 2021 following a short illness.

Jerry was an accomplished paper hanger and painter for over 40 years. After retirement he loved life in the

country. He enjoyed serving the Lord with friends at Emmanuel Baptist Church in Minden.

Jerry was preceded in death by his parents, his brother, Charles Tarpley; sister, Jean Hutchins and niece Darla Thibodeaux. He is survived by his wife of 53 years, Virginia Green Tarpley; his sisters, Elouise Lewis, Shirley Musgrove, Carolyn Akin and many loving nieces and nephews.

Pallbearers will be Brooks Gray, Jake Gray, Lane Goodwin, Clay Goodwin,

David Lemay, and Randy Clemons.

Friends considering memorials may be made to Emmanuel Baptist Church, 713 Homer Road, Minden, Louisiana 71055 in memory of Jerry.

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MINDEN, LOUISIANA 71055
318-377-1866
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LETTER

Local woman asks, “What’s next for America?”

Dear Editor:

I sit here at my desk and realize I’m getting older by the minute and wondering what happens next? The world has turned upside down, Everything I once knew to be honest and straight forward in life has now turned to “mush!”

Patriotism once meant honoring the flag, veterans, and country. Now I’m called a racist because I put my hand over my heart when I pledge allegiance to the flag and disagree with those that don’t. I honor those that fought and died for our country, and because I respect the previous leaders of our country and honor them by respecting their statues, I’m considered a “white supremacist!”

I’m called homophobic because I still believe the Bible that teaches sex should be between a man and a woman, not a man and man or woman and woman. I’m called a “redneck” because I speak my mind and don’t sugarcoat my thinking or speech. I feel I’m just as good as anyone else, I don’t cater to the elite in society or try to impress. That was once considered to be a good trait, because people knew just where I stood on any given subject. I personally like that trait in others... it’s called honesty!

I grew up in a family of 12... Mother, Daddy, five brothers and four sisters and of course me! We were not rich. Heck, I didn’t enjoy in-door plumbing until the age of 13. I never picked cotton but I had brothers and sisters who did. My Mother and Daddy were sharecroppers at one time and later Daddy worked for the La Wildlife and Fisheries spraying the weeds at Lake Bistineau State Park while Mother worked as a butcher in a small grocery store, both making minimum wage. There was a time, before I was born, while living in Bernice, La my Mother worked at Louisiana Army Ammunition Plant, driving from Bernice. That meant getting up very early, pushing a car down a hill

to get it to crank and praying it would keep running till she got to work. Mother’s first six babies were delivered at home by different country doctors, the fourth one delivered by a black woman that lived across the field from where we lived in Hico, La; the doctor got there late. That one baby died at nine months old due to complications of a stomach virus. So, sharing all this, can anyone believe that I would think I’m anything other than just what I am; a woman that believes in God, family and country?

I share all this because I want those that read this to understand I have never considered myself better than anyone else, nor have I ever treated anyone differently because of their skin color, religious beliefs or status. I may not agree with everyone I meet but I always thought they have rights to believe, live or worship the way they wish. Just don’t try to force me to feel the same way they feel and we will get along just fine. Of course, a good work ethic goes a long way also.

I expect no more from anyone else than I do myself. We can still treat each other kindly and respect each other without agreeing on every issue.

Now, I’m waking up in a new world where people that once felt the same way I feel have decided in order to make the world a better place we need to quit believing in the same values we were raised with, which I might add, has served me well, and just go along with status quo because we might hurt someone’s feelings.

Well, my question to those that think like that... How is it working for you? Are you getting such a feeling of euphoria you think you might get “man or woman of the year” or better still win the Publisher’s Clearing House?

I still believe that if you treat people the same way you wish to be treated and stand for what you believe in, you are a much better person for doing so When you start trying to be

something you’re not, people see right through you and lose respect for you. They will smile to your face and laugh at you behind your back! They can’t appreciate you for what you really are and don’t realize the blessing they could receive by having you as a friend.

I am saddened by the events unfolding around our country, state and community,

We have forgotten how to come together and be friends, good neighbors, good citizens and work together for making our world a better place by practicing the golden rule “love one another as God loves us!”

That doesn’t mean turning a blind eye to what we know in our hearts is wrong. It means practicing our beliefs, being good role models for those that disagree with us and what we believe, but showing by example that we can still love one another and agree to disagree. If a disagreement is such that it’s hard to overcome, present your case, then accept that maybe you will not be able to solve the problem and as the Bible tells us in Luke 9:5 shake the dust from your feet and leave that person to their fate.

I am concerned for our country, the direction we are headed, the way our government is trying to replace God with Satan, the acceptance of so many things that are against God’s teachings and the lack of working together as leaders and citizens to solve the issues. The only way to correct it is through God and voting for Godly leaders.

The Bible is being fulfilled. God told us when men speak of peace, (1 Thessalonians 5:3) sudden destruction is coming, When President Trump accomplished the peace between Israel and Pakistan and the others in that region signed on, my first thought was of that scripture. With all the acceptance of abortion right up to and after birth, pedophilia, homosexuality, sex trafficking, gender identity questioned, I cringed, cried, and prayed for

those promoting all of it, accepting and even promoting it all, poking fun at those that dare speak out against it.

I remembered attending the “Passion of the Christ” showing in Springhill, La In 2004 and feeling so broken as I watched what Jesus went through for each of us — the pain, the degradation, the hopelessness, such great sadness! He did it for every single one of us, for me, a sinner saved by His Grace! I sobbed uncontrollably through the entire movie! For days after I asked “Why did He love me so? Why me?”

When Sept. 11th 2001 happened to our Nation, I felt much the same, as I did November 2013 when our son was diagnosed with Cancer. So, much sadness, fear, hopelessness, broken!

I turned to God in each of those times and reestablished my relationship with Him. My Faith became much stronger and I felt His loving arms envelop me...like being cradled and gently rocked back and forth as He gently whispered “hold on, child, I’ve got you!”

I ask each of you reading this, to please, take this time to walk into God’s loving arms and feel His presence, His strength, His love and His Comfort, as our country goes into the unknown. I know we don’t know the day or the hour when Jesus returns to claim His children, but I feel the time is drawing nigh, If you don’t know Jesus as your personal Savior, I beg you don’t turn Him away. He is the only one that can help us through a world that has turned upside down. He loves us just the way we are and accepts us “warts” and all! Tell your family, friends and neighbors about Him, especially the lost and if they don’t respond in kind... pray for them and continue to pray for them.

God bless you all and I ask God’s blessings on our country!

Mary J. Sanders
Minden, La

The Advocate: COVID surge is troubling

Ten months into a pandemic that has cost too many lives and forced frustrating restrictions on our daily activities, one grim warning can sound like the next. Even so, the tone that Gov. John Bel Edwards took during his most recent update was stern enough to get anyone’s attention.

There has never been as much COVID-19 in Louisiana as there is right now, Edwards and one of his top health officials said. Test positivity is topping 10%, and there are more hospitalizations than during either previous spike. There’s also no indication that the current surge has peaked.

Dr. Joseph Kanter, who heads the coronavirus response for the state Department of Health, said many patients are telling their doctors that they think they were exposed at informal gatherings.

One of the saddest things they see, he said, is “when a family does not really internalize the risk until their loved one is in the ICU bed. It’s really heartbreaking.”

The bottom line, Edwards said, is that “the state remains in a precarious place. ... It is time to buckle down.”

He’s right. Nobody wants to live this way, but letting the virus spread puts the state in danger of having its resources overwhelmed, and will cost more lives.

And so Edwards announced he was extending restrictions, limiting most businesses to 50% capacity, and banning indoor service at bars. He urged employers to let their employees work remotely, if possible, and alternated between sharply scolding residents who aren’t

following the rules and appealing to them, once again, to be good neighbors.

It’s a message that’s being echoed by leaders at the local level. New Orleans Mayor LaToya Cantrell kicked off the new year by toughening restrictions amid a surge of new cases. Businesses are now limited to 25% of their pre-pandemic indoors capacity, and gatherings larger than a single typical household are banned.

“We have been repeating the same message for 10 months; nothing’s changed. We’ve seen progress when people heed the message and the warnings, and we’ve also seen impacts when they don’t,” she said.

Baton Rouge may not be far behind. Mayor-President Sharon Weston Broome warned (last week) that she could impose

new limits if residents don’t do a better job of complying, and said she’s ready to send police in to break up large gatherings.

The winter surge was long predicted, with cold weather pushing people indoors, holidays tempting family and friends to gather, concern over the economic hit businesses are absorbing, and understandable fatigue.

The good news is that vaccines are slowly being rolled out and the incoming presidential administration is promising a 100-day push to beat the virus back. So help is on the way, just not quite yet for most people.

Until then, we, like Edwards, will say it one more time: Wear masks, keep social distancing, avoid crowds. Be vigilant, and try to be patient. Times are tough, but there is an end in sight.

INSPIRATION

Changes in the Landscape

One warm sunny afternoon, we strolled out back, down toward the pine tree farm that stands where fields and pastures were once dominant.

Standing not far from our stroll was what was once a busy farmhouse that was home to our family of seven, now standing empty and deteriorating. The yard is overgrown and the place is almost unrecognizable as the once active home place.

The surrounding acres once were fertile fields producing, corn, cotton, and all manner of vegetables. Just below the fields were verdant pasture lands that provided ample grazing for the herd of cattle and horses that Daddy kept. A little stream ran through the pasture and lat-

er it ran into a pond that was built to provide a watering place for the animals.

After Daddy's passing, the fields were no longer used as farm land. Eventually Mama had to sell the cows and the one horse that was left as she was unable to take care of them. The fields became overgrown

with tall grasses that swayed in the winds. They provided cover for the many coyotes that made their home nearby. One could hear them howling in the night, and often during the day they would wander up almost to the house.

Years passed and the fields were untended. Our parents

were gone and none of the family followed in the agricultural path.

Small bushes soon turned into trees, covering the fields in an assortment of species. As the years passed, they were no longer recognizable as fields, but became a thickly wooded area.

The house was eventually deserted and thus stands in a state of disrepair.

Eventually the land was handed down to the heirs and each pursued his own way. We chose to clear the land and plant pine trees on our portion. This has been a fairly successful venture. It has been thinned whereas the

trees were given more room to grow. With the help of our son, we keep the small brush cleared by bush hogging between the trees. When this is done, one can find traces of how the land was once used as there are still small terraces there that Daddy had constructed to prevent erosion of the fields.

The stroll out back, and down memory lane, was somewhat bittersweet.

Now we are in the "golden years" and will soon be handing down this portion to our children and they in turn might hand down to theirs. It is my desire that someone will make use of the area as a site to rear a family so little ones will have places to run free and learn to treasure the outdoors as we did.

During the years, we have discarded a few items by placing them in the edge of the woods out back. As we were walking and reminiscing, we spotted an old rusted lawnmower.

Hubby remembered where we had purchased the mower, at K-Mart in Magnolia, ages ago. What I remembered was our boys commenting, "When we left home y'all bought a riding lawnmower. But we had to push that big old Yazoo mower."

And that was probably correct, but I'm sure we never thought of it like that. It was just a sign of the times. More riding lawn mowers were becoming available, so why not make it a little easier to do the task? After all, the yard was big, and we both worked so

it was only reasonable that we could make our job easier. After all, we no longer had the big boys who needed something to do.

Do you ever have the opportunity to stroll around the old home place? If so, what do you see?

If you see hard work, I hope you see it as building a good work ethic.

If you see the free times you had there, I hope you see many hours of fun that helped build an appreciation of the land and enlarge your imagination to make you the person you are now.

FANNIE MOORE IS A JOURNALIST WHO LIVES IN SHONGALOO WHERE SHE ENJOYS WRITING ON A VARIETY OF SUBJECTS.



FANNIE MOORE

LIFE DURING A PANDEMIC

No Mardi Gras parades, so thousands make 'house floats'

That morning, Megan Joy Boudreaux posted what she later called a silly Twitter joke: "We're doing this. Turn your house into a float and throw all the beads from your attic at your neighbors walking by."

But the more she thought about it, the more she liked it. She started a Facebook group, the Krewe of House Floats, expecting a few friends and neighbors to join. The numbers rose. Thirty-nine subgroups evolved to discuss neighborhood plans.

By Carnival season's official start Jan. 6, the group had more than 9,000 members, including out-of-state "expats." About 3,000, including a few as far afield as England and Australia, will have their houses on an official online map, said Charlotte "Charlie" Jallans-Daly, one of two mapmakers.

Houses are to be decorated at least two weeks before Fat Tuesday, which is Feb. 16 this year. With widespread addresses and two weeks to gawk, the hope is that people will spread out widely in time and space.

"I didn't think I was starting a Mardi Gras krewe. Here I am," Boudreaux said. "I've got myself a second full-time job."

Discussions in the Facebook groups include how-

tos, ads for props and neighborhood themes. Artists have given livestreamed outdoor lessons.

Katie Bankens posted that her block's theme was Shark Week staycation paradise. When a resident worried that she was not "crafty" enough, administrator Carley Sercovich replied that if they could play music and throw trinkets to neighbors, "you are perfect for this Krewe!"

Boudreaux also suggested that people could hire or buy from out-of-work Carnival artists and suppliers hit by the parade cancellation. A spreadsheet of artists and vendors followed. One of them, artist Dominic "Dom" Graves, booked more than 20 five-person classes in professional papier mache techniques, at \$100 a person.

Devin DeWulf, who already had started two pandemic charities as head of the Krewe of Red Beans walking club, kicked the house float idea up a few notches at the suggestion of Caroline Thomas, a professional float designer. Their "Hire a Mardi Gras Artist" crowdfunded lotteries collected enough money to put crews to work decorating 11 houses, plus commissioned work at two more houses and seven businesses.

"We've put about 40 people to work, which is nice," DeWulf said. With Mardi Gras approaching, he said a 12th lottery would be the last.

One commissioned house is rented by a pair of nuns.


Sisters Mary Ann Specha and Julie Walsh, who run a shelter for homeless women with children, had to get permission for their own crowdfunding from the motherhouse of the Sisters of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary in Dubuque, Iowa. "They loved it," Specha said.

The crowdfunded decorations may be auctioned after Mardi Gras to raise more money, DeWulf said.

Several mansions along a short stretch of St. Charles Avenue had elaborate displays with signs noting their creation by one of the city's biggest float-making studios.

Tom Fox, whose wife, Madeline, painted a Spongebob Squarepants scene and made jellyfish from dollar store bowls, said he thinks a new tradition may have begun.

"Even when Mardi Gras comes back, I think people are going to keep doing this," he said.



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FOOD FOR THOUGHT

Let down your hair: New Army rules for ponytails, nail color

WASHINGTON (AP) — Female soldiers can let their hair down, and flash a little nail color under new rules being approved by the Army. But male soldiers will still have to shave. Army leaders announced Tuesday that they are loosening restrictions on various grooming and hairstyle rules, as service leaders try to address longstanding complaints, particularly from women. The changes, which also expand allowances for earrings and hair highlights and dyes, are particularly responsive to women of various ethnicities, and will allow greater flexibility for braids, twists, cornrows and other styles more natural for their hair. The new regulations take effect in late February and come after months of study, in the wake of a directive by former Defense Secretary Mark Esper, who ordered a new review of military hairstyle and grooming policies last July. The review was part of a broader order to expand diversity within the military and reduce prejudice, in the wake of widespread

protests about racial inequality last summer. “These aren’t about male and female,” said Sgt. Maj. Michael Grinston, the Army’s top enlisted leader during a Facebook Live presentation on Tuesday about the latest changes. “This is about an Army standard and how we move forward with the Army, and being a more diverse, inclusive team.” The Army announcement has been long-planned, but it came just days after the Pentagon’s first Black defense secretary — Lloyd Austin — took over. Austin has vowed to try to root out racism and extremism in the ranks and foster more inclusion. Esper and many of the service leaders have also been taking steps to make the military more diverse, particularly in the higher ranks. As an example, Esper last summer ordered that service members’ photos no longer be provided to promotion boards. Officials said studies showed that when photos are not included “the outcomes for minorities and women improved.”

On Tuesday, Army Sgt. Maj. Brian Sanders told reporters that the panel recommending the new grooming changes considered a variety of factors, including cultural, health and safety issues. He said the tight hair buns previously required by the Army can trigger hair loss and other scalp problems for some women. And larger buns needed to accommodate thick or longer hair, can make a combat helmet fit badly and potentially impair good vision. At the same time, he said that changes, like allowing women in combat uniforms to wear earrings such as small gold, silver and diamond studs, let them “feel like a woman inside and outside of uniform.” He added, “At the end of the day, our women are mothers, they’re spouses, they’re sisters, they definitely want to be able to maintain their identity and that’s what we want to get after.” In many cases — such as the earrings — the changes simply let female soldiers wear jewelry or hairstyles that are already allowed in more formal, dress

uniforms, but were not allowed in their daily combat uniforms. Army leaders said women will now be able to wear their hair in a long ponytail or braid and tuck it under their shirt. Sanders said that allowing that gives female soldiers, particularly pilots or troops at a firing range, greater ability to turn their head quickly, without the restraints that the buns created. The new regulations also allow the exact opposite. Female soldiers going through Ranger or special operations training get their heads shaved, like male soldiers do. But when they leave training, their hair is too short, based on the Army’s previous minimum length requirements. Now there will be no minimum length rules. For men, however, the perennial request to allow beards is still a no-go. Grinston’s answer to the question from the online audience was short and direct: “No.” He noted that the Army already makes exceptions for medical and religious reasons. Also, male soldiers still can’t

wear earrings. The new lipstick and nail polish rules, however, allow men to wear clear polish, and allow colors for women, but prohibit “extreme” shades, such as purple, blue, black and “fire engine” red. Men will also be able to dye their hair, but the colors for both genders are limited to “natural” shades. Prohibited colors include blue, purple, pink, green, orange or neon. In another sign of the times, the new rules state that soldiers will now automatically receive black and coyote-colored face masks. They are also permitted to wear camouflage colored masks, but have to buy those themselves. The Army also is taking steps to change wording in the regulations to remove racist or insensitive descriptions. References to “Fu Manchu” mustache and “Mohawk” hairstyle have been removed, and replaced with more detailed descriptions of the still-banned styles. www.apnews.com

STUDENT LIFE

Lakeside Jr./Sr. High School and b1 Bank Hosts Mock Interview for Students



LAKESIDE HIGH SCHOOL/COURTESY PHOTO

Representatives from B1Bank were on hand at Lakeside Jr/Sr High School to conduct mock interviews with Mrs. Ward’s Business Math Class. The students had been preparing for their interviews by practicing good interviewing skills, writing cover letters, resumes and filling out both online and paper applications. The students involved in the interviews were: Howard Collins, Brian Sanders, Cameron Harrison, Collin Richard, Sarah Hitchens, McKenzie Citrano and Ryan Williamson. Pictured with the students are B1Bank representatives Patony Morrow, Lindsay McClaran and Lesa Ward, Business Math instructor.

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STRANGER FROM A STRANGE LAND

Mask Morality

Pandemic took a political turn in 2020, the quadrennial U.S. Presidential election during which the incumbent was actually infected and hospitalized. Rather than coming out a humbled patient empathetic to the suffering of others, he took a different tack of what the media often described as “doubling down” and claiming the COVID wasn’t so bad. If he could survive so could anyone. Although few others enjoyed his access to cutting edge care and drugs.

Regardless what you thought of the previous President, there is a political argument to not letting the coronavirus run and ruin our lives. It goes like this. Most people survive and a cold assessment of the pesky reality that some don’t is more often than not heavily represented by the weaker members of our species. The elderly. The overweight. Those with preexisting conditions like hypertension, diabetes, or respiratory troubles. Regrettable collateral damage but we can’t stop living our lives because of fear. The greater good is for the economy to prosper.

So it seemed even those with a natural proclivity towards self-preservation eschewed the masks when possible out of some combination of fatigue (this has been going on for months), skepticism (this has been going on for months and I’ve never caught COVID), and political loyalty (this has been going on for months and I’ve never caught COVID and the leaders I like say we must get business back on track). Many made the puzzling assumption that I play by the rules at work and the grocery store but I needn’t mask up after hours with friends and family. Loved ones wouldn’t infect me nor I them.

Some drivers are against seat belt requirements and some motorcyclists are against helmet laws. Don’t tread on me. America’s a land of rugged individualists. Government’s too big already. We’re adults with enough sense to make our own decisions.

Homo Sapiens have vanquished all our larger predators. Only something smaller, much smaller, has the power to take us out or at the very least, thin the herd. Microscopic viruses. Germs. Bacteria.

The United States might reach a half million fatalities before vaccinations allow us to return to normal. That’s grim but only two thirds the number of the Swine Flu a century back. We recovered then and we’ll bounce back again. Vaccinations are here and although some charge dawdling in distribution, soon all Americans who want a COVID vaccine will have one. Actually two. Whether Pfizer or Moderna, a follow up shot finishes the regimen. Unless you get the forthcoming Johnson & Johnson vaccine. Two Johnsons but just one shot.

You can make some assumptions about political preferences based on willingness to mask up and you would often be correct. It seems Republican voters are less inclined to comply or comply without complaining and Democrat voters are more inclined to wear a face covering. But like most controversial issues, it’s not as simple as masks or no masks but rather subtle demarcations of comfort level and safety. Risk lecture from a guy whose leg was snapped in a motorcycle wreck? That was 2020 me. 2021 me stays on four wheels. And even

last year’s model wore a helmet.

It’s challenging when family members have different levels of risk adversity. You’re only as safe as the most reckless member of your household and it’s easy to slip. Friction ensues when one

person scolds another on wearing a mask or one person takes chances risking their own health as well as those they come into contact.

I’ve three family members who don’t live in my house I’ve seen in the past year with different risk thresholds. All three are females and all three are younger than me so in theory, less at risk for something to go sideways should they become infected.

Woman A is diligent masking up at work and Walmart but feels no compunction about socializing with friends in public settings and their homes sans face coverings. Size of the assemblage doesn’t seem to affect her decision. Two friends or twenty friends, either is acceptable.

Woman B takes seriously the counsel of medical professionals urging caution. I’m most in step with her personal philosophy. On a trip to Missouri last June, she let me stay overnight with her family. When they visited Louisiana in November, they stayed overnight at our house. Yet unlike our summer visit, she masked up indoors as well. I did too. I forecast my summer Missouri trip was hitting a window between peaks. This was after the nasty spring of being caught unprepared and before the careless autumn of mask fatigue and colder weather kept people indoors.

Woman C is very alarmed about the global pandemic and the existential crisis it poses. She

let me visit last June but she kept me in the yard. I was not allowed in her Missouri house. I brought over pizza we ate out back but nary a hearty handclasp let alone hugging. Some criticized her as unduly alarmist. I was fine with it and because I’m a cautious creature, I agree with the sentiment of better safe than sorry. She has since moved from a red state to a blue state. You can roll your eyes but remember that shocking footage of Ozarkian revelry on the party barge? Not Missourians you want to sit nearby. See that 6-foot distance suggestion and raise it a time zone.

Besides my own safety, I’m concerned what people along the B and C spectrum think of me if I’m seen socializing with those along the A continuum even when I’m the only mask in the room. I fear less the condemnation of A because at worst, she thinks my precautions are in excess. She might call me a Fraidy Cat or something equally innocuous. Whereas B might be alarmed but willing to hear an explanation. If C has a bad reaction it’s the most dangerous indictment. You’re putting yourself and others in deadly peril. She’s not wrong.

There are more A people here than I’m comfortable with and for reasons easy to guess. It’s a red corner of a red state (remember when Reds was a euphemism for Communists?) and a whole lot of you cast your vote for Donald Trump. Missouri is also a red state but the western corner where I resided was a metropolitan area more inclined to vote Democrat. Like Louisiana generally votes Republican except for New Orleans and Baton Rouge. Webster Parish is sparsely populated. You could fit all its residents in any professional basketball arena.

Less people mean less risk. And of course, Louisiana is more likely to have warm weather and people can congregate outside. Why be so rigid on masks when the risk here is clearly less than other places in the country?

If you judge a society by how we treat our weakest members, mask up. The jury is still out on long term effects of COVID infection. Many survivors show long term problems, perhaps ones they’ll have the rest of their lives. The vaccines are here and everyone will have the opportunity to be vaccinated in the coming months. As the ex-President said presciently or prematurely depending on your perspective, “We’re rounding the corner.”

Please keep wearing your masks. Maybe you don’t like the new President or anyone telling you what to do. But visualize an elderly relative or friend at risk. It’s not a political statement. It’s a precaution. We’ll eventually learn which side was right. But terrible consequences of making a foolish choice today are worse if you decide to go unmasked (Ooops, I infected someone and they died) than if you opt to wear a face covering (Dang, I looked silly in that unnecessary paper mask). Which undesirable result would you rather have on your conscience?

Of course, like riding without seatbelts and helmets, you’ll be perfectly safe not wearing a mask. Until you aren’t. Just a while longer folks. The worst is surely over, a sentiment I would not have penned a couple months ago.

DIRK ELLINGSON IS A MINDEN, LA RESIDENT AND IS CURRENTLY A PHARMACY TECHNICIAN AT THE LOCAL WALGREENS.



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NFL

Chiefs’ Mathieu making most of opportunity in Kansas City

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — Two years ago, the Kansas City Chiefs were coming off an AFC championship heart-break against the New England Patriots that rested largely on the shoulders of their defense, which couldn’t stop Tom Brady and Co. in overtime.

Not enough talent? Maybe. Not enough playmakers? Absolutely.

Chiefs general manager Brett Veach and coach Andy Reid knew they needed to rectify the problem or risk squandering the best years of quarterback Patrick Mahomes. So they hired Steve Spagnuolo to coordinate the defense, traded for elite pass rusher Frank Clark, drafted wisely and — perhaps most importantly — outbid the Texans for safety Tyrann Mathieu.

The Honey Badger has made that \$42 million, three-year deal look like a bargain.

After helping the Chiefs win their first Super Bowl in five decades last season, Mathieu has followed up with what can only be described as the best season of his career. He has seven interceptions, including one in last week’s divisional-round win over Cleveland, and has become the biggest playmaker on a defense that suddenly seems underappreciated.

“He’s a great player,” said Bills coach Sean McDermott, whose team offense gets the next crack at the Honey Badger in the AFC championship game Sunday. “Watched his career unfold at LSU and the different places he’s been — he brings a lot of energy and juice to their team, and their defense in this case.”

The numbers alone are impressive. Mathieu has picked off five passes in the past seven games, and he returned one for a touchdown against New England earlier this season. Quarterback ratings plummet when they throw in his direction, and his versatility is evident in the fact that he has tackles-for-loss in three of his past five games.

No wonder he was voted an All-Pro for the second straight year and the third time in his career.

“Just the energy he brings, what he’s saying to guys on the sideline or in the huddle — they trust him,” Spagnuolo said. “They believe in him. The guy is a winner. He’s made plays for us, and when you get

enough guys like that you have a unit.”

It’s hard to find another guy like Mathieu, though, with his unique ability to wreak havoc from his “robber” position. He bounces around the field like a pinball, both before the snap and after, putting constant pressure on opposing quarterbacks to make sure they know where he is on any given play.

On a quarter of snaps this season, he’s lined up in the deep safety spot. In about a third, he’s lined up in the box to provide run support. On almost 40% of snaps, he has lined up in the slot, essentially becoming an extra cornerback.

In other words, Spagnuolo is using Mathieu in ways he’s never used another player in 40 years in coaching.

“I hadn’t thought about it until you just said that,” Spagnuolo said, “but I’d probably say yes, that we have gone a little more beyond, because there are some things that we do with him now that I don’t recall us doing in prior places.

“First and foremost, him from the chin to the hairline, you’re talking about an intelligent football player that loves it. You know that if you feed something to Tyrann, he’s going to get it and he’s going to know why,” Spagnuolo said. “We lay out all of these plans and you go from Monday to Saturday and into Sunday, but things change so quick on game day. The one thing about Tyrann is you can go over to him and say, ‘Let’s tweak this or do that.’ He knows exactly why and he does it.”

He gets everybody else to do it, too. The middle linebacker may call the defensive plays — for the Chiefs, that’s Anthony Hitchens — but Mathieu is often the one making sure everybody knows what is going on.

Then he takes care of his own business.

“I think any position on the field allows you the chance to make plays,” Mathieu said. “It’s all about staying committed.

“Early in the season I wasn’t making those plays,” he continued, “and as a high competitor you can get out of it thinking none of those plays is ever going to come to you. For me, it’s just about staying involved, staying committed to what my coaches want me doing.”

NBA

INGRAM, WILLIAMSON EACH SCORE 32, PELICANS TOP BEAL, WIZARDS

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — With Zion Williamson and Brandon Ingram each having their highest-scoring games of the season, there was only so much Washington’s Bradley Beal could do in response.

Ingram and Williamson each scored 32 points and New Orleans beat the depleted Wizards 124-106 on Wednesday night.

“Brandon and Zion were both very unselfish,” Pelicans coach Stan Van Gundy said with a nod to Ingram’s eight assists and Williamson’s willingness to pass instead of forcing shots when the defense collapsed on him.

“That’s something that those guys want to do,” Van Gundy said. “They helped their teammates win and they still put up big numbers.”

Beal, the NBA’s leading scorer, almost single-handedly kept the reeling Wizards in striking distance with 47 points.

“I try to come out and play with energy every night. Whatever it looks like at the end, it looks like,” Beal said. “I don’t come out and say I want to score 50 tonight. ... That doesn’t happen. A lot of the (stuff) I’m doing, I’m in awe of it half the time, too.”

Washington got as close as eight points in the middle of the fourth quarter before the Pelicans pulled away in the final five minutes, highlighted by Williamson’s soaring dunk of Ingram’s lob from behind the 3-point line.

Ingram finished with a season-high seven 3-pointers on 12 attempts, making all five he attempted in the second half.

“I got a little rhythm and I just took the shots they gave me,” Ingram said.

Williamson did most of his scoring in the paint and added eight free throws to help New Orleans win for just the second time in 10 games.

“We both know we’re great players,” Williamson said of himself and Ingram. “But if we’re going to take it to that next level, we’ve got to start running off some wins.”

Eric Bledsoe scored 18 points and Steven Adams grabbed a season-high 18 rebounds for New Orleans, which never trailed and made 17 3-pointers.

“My teammates taking all those 3s really opened up the game for me and it just really worked out,” Williamson said.

Garrison Mathews scored 15 points and Robin Lopez had 14 for Washington, which played without guard



Russell Westbrook and lost for the sixth time in seven games.

New Orleans led by as many as 26 when Ingram’s 15-foot pull-up made it 74-48. But Beal willed Washington back into the game.

Beal’s 24 points in the third quarter — during which he made four of five 3-point shots — helped the Wizards cut it to 94-80 by the end of the period.

“The winning spirit that he has is critical to our future success,” Wizards coach Scott Brooks said. “To go through it now and still not give in is huge. It’s huge for me. It’s huge for our staff and it’s huge for our team going forward. We know that we’re going to be healthy and everything’s going to be much better when we have our entire group.”

TIP-INS
Wizards: Westbrook, the Wizards’ second-leading scorer, was scratched for rest after playing a night earlier in Houston. However, Brooks did not rule out playing Westbrook on back-to-back nights later this season. ... Washington also was missing six players because of health and safety protocols. ... Brooks elected to give 6-foot-8, 216-pound Jordan Bell his first start of the season in an effort to match up better with the size of New Orleans’ frontcourt. Bell had 11 rebounds and four points.

Pelicans: Adams has now had at least 16 rebounds in a game twice this season. ... Guard Lonzo Ball did not return to the game after checking out late in the second quarter. The club said he

had a sprained ankle. ... Reserve guard Josh Hart had eight rebounds, his ninth time this season with at least that many.

HARD FOUL
The Wizards’ Alex Len was called for a flagrant foul early in the fourth quarter when he grabbed Williamson by the shoulder with his left hand and right bicep with his right hand and pulled the Pelicans star to the floor as he tried to drive toward the hoop. Williamson was briefly in a prone position before getting up with a smile.

Len wound up fouling out with 5:38 left.

UP NEXT
Wizards: Host Atlanta on Friday to open a two-game homestand.

Pelicans: Host Milwaukee on Friday in the second of five straight home games.

INSPIRATION

I read recently that hymn writer Frances R Havergal kept a ‘journal of mercies’ and would record daily her remembrances of God’s blessings in her life. Maybe the Lord was kindly reminding me to count my blessings more often since I received three such ‘journals’ this Christmas. I thought I was doing well in this area – counting off blessings and offering thanks for each of them. Perhaps others sensed I was slacking some and needed to shape up!

I am reminded of journals kept by many of the giants of the faith from yesterday. I like to read about missionaries, serv-

ing on lonely assignments, isolated from family and other leaders. Many were ‘saved’ by keeping their prayer journals and communing with the Heavenly Father day-by-day. Amy Carmichael, Andrew Murray, and George Muller are some that have dynamic testimonies. Many of David’s Psalms sound like a personal journal that many have used through the years to praise and worship the Lord. How inspiring, how pene-

trating, and how uplifting they are to us. Paul, in his epistles, mentioned how God poured out blessings on him. He seemed to have kept a journal of mercies and encouraged others to do the same. R. L. Middleton writes: “many a-complaining life could be changed into one of joy and happiness by constantly making note of God’s blessings.” Truly, God has caused all our ‘cups to overflow’ with His many acts of mercies! (My Cup Runneth Over –



Bill Crider

preface.v-vi).

In fact, the Psalmist writes: “Great are Your tender mercies, O Lord,” (119:156). Other references are scattered throughout the Bible showing His merciful kindness to us. He is referred to many times as a ‘merciful and gracious God.’ Psalm 23: 6 reminds us that ‘goodness and mercy shall follow us all the days of our lives.’

With the long, hard year of 2020 behind us, surely we all have been led to focus this year mores than ever before on God’s love, mercy, and faithfulness. As we prepare our prayer list or “journal of mercies”, let’s meditate on God’s com-

passion and faithfulness to us, His gentleness and tender kindness. Above all, may we focus on His grace and love that is revealed in Jesus our Lord!

May our lives be filled to an overflowing gratitude to God for these many blessings! I am reminded of the indwelling of the Holy Spirit, our great Comforter and Guide; the Church - the Bride of Christ and the Family of God – and I want to say “Thank You Lord for these matchless gifts.” What strength and fellowship they provide us through lonely times, in our broken moments and when life’s trials are just too much! Thank you

for all Your promises that have resuced us and kept us from ‘going under’ so many times. And for the great promises of Romans 8 - giving victory over death and its’ sting; and for Eternal Life with You forever!

Shall we consider stopping right now, and mediating on some of the bountiful blessings of God. It will change our lives, our attitudes, feelings, emotions and responses to God and others. Don’t we need a new focus on God’s mercies this year? Now is the time!

BILL CRIDER IS CHAPLAIN OF
MINDEN MEDICAL CENTER

THE UPWARD LOOK

The Church

“... gave Him as head over all things to the church, which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all.” Ephesians 1:22b-23 NASB

Christ is the head, the ruler, the authority, the leader, of the church. The church is Christ’s body, His presence on the earth. It could be illustrat-

ed as the church being the hands and feet of Jesus, carrying out His mission. The church is to witness, telling others the gospel of Jesus. The church is to worship, glorifying and praising God. The church is to minister, caring for the needs of others. The church is to teach, training disciples in

the ways of Christ. It is Christ who fills the church with holiness, power, and blessing to carry out His mission.

Lord Jesus, may Your church, and even my life, be guided and empowered to be on mission, representing You this day so that You will be glorified.

MAX HUTTO IS A BAPTIST MINISTER AND A RESIDENT OF MINDEN. MORE INFORMATION CAN BE FOUND AT WWW.UPWARDLOOK.ORG.



Max Hutto

LET NOT YOUR HEART BE TROUBLED

Condemning of the Heart

Does your heart condemn you for a long time? My heart condemned me. The verses in 1 John 3, 20-22, “If our heart condemns us, God is greater than our heart, and knoweth all things. If our heart condemns us not, then we have



Mack Ford

confidence towards God. And whatsoever we ask, we receive of Him, we keep His commandments and do those things that are pleasing in his right.” I kept reading those verses and after many more months my heart no longer condemned me. My friend, if your heart

condemns you, learn those verses and I’m sure you will be set free.

Thank you father for you blessed, inspired, and anointed word. Please bless, inspire, and anoint us.

MACK FORD IS A LOCAL RESIDENT OF WEBSTER PARISH

How can we pray for you?

If you’re in need of prayer, we can help you. Contact the FBC 24-Hour Prayer Ministry at 371-PRAY.

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MINDEN

SUNDAYS 10:30AM & 6PM | WEDNESDAYS 6:30PM
407 FORT STREET | MINDEN, LA
WE HAVE SOMETHING FOR ALL AGES

SUDOKU

SUDOKU

		9		2			5	1
4	6				7			9
		3						6
				1	3			4
			4			9		8
					9		1	
5								
3				6		8		
1			8					2

Level: Advanced

Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

2	3	6	3	2				
1	9	4	8	7	5			
3	2	7	9	6	1	8	4	5
5	8	6	3	4	2	1	9	7
6	4	2	7	8	9	5	1	3
7	3	1	4	5	6	9	2	8
9	5	8	2	1	3	7	6	4
2	1	3	5	9	8	4	7	6
4	6	5	1	3	7	2	8	9
8	7	9	6	2	4	3	5	1

ANSWER:

Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

WORD SLEUTH

WORD SLEUTH • PORTS OF JAPAN

Y R N J F C Y U Q N J F C Y V

R I O L H E B X U R O L I E B

Y O K O H A M A O M O R I Y V

S Q A A N K H E B Y W R T R O

L J G B S E B Y W U I R P O N

K I G D O A B Z U H O X A V S

Q O M K M T W T S R K N K I G

E C A Y A I O A W U A S A Q P

N L J H J K B Y K N Y T S F E

C A Y U Y A X V K I I G O U S

Q P K O N M K J H F M E C B Z

Thursday's unlisted clue: DEAN

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions - forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.

Friday's unlisted clue hint: CAPITAL OF JAPAN

Abashiri
Akita
Aomori
Kawasaki

Kuji
Kyoto
Mikawa
Miyako

Nanao
Ogi
Osaka
Otaru

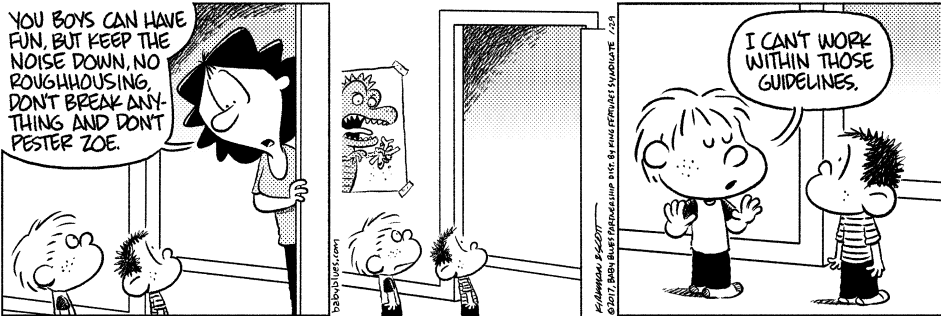
Soma
Toba
Yokohama

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1/29

COMICS

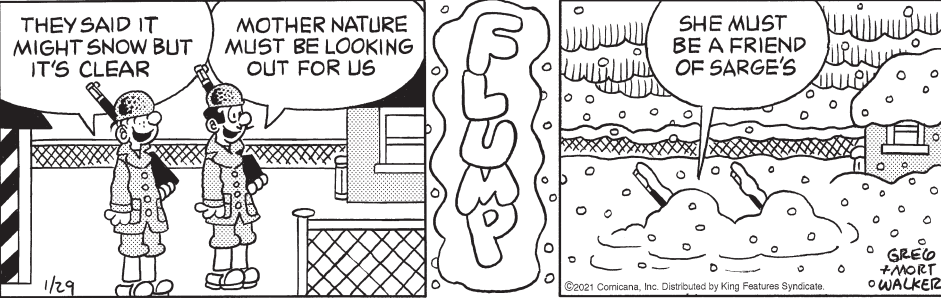
BABY BLUES | RICK KIRKMAN AND JERRY SCOTT



BLONDIE | DEAN YOUNG AND JOHN MARSHALL



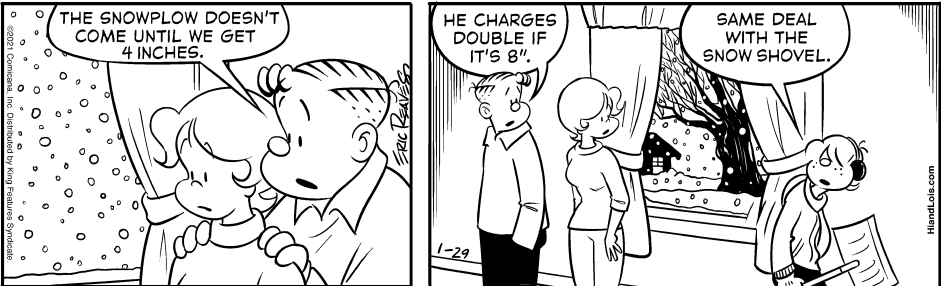
BEETLE BAILEY | MORT & GREG WALKER



FUNKY WINKERBEAN | TOM BATIUK



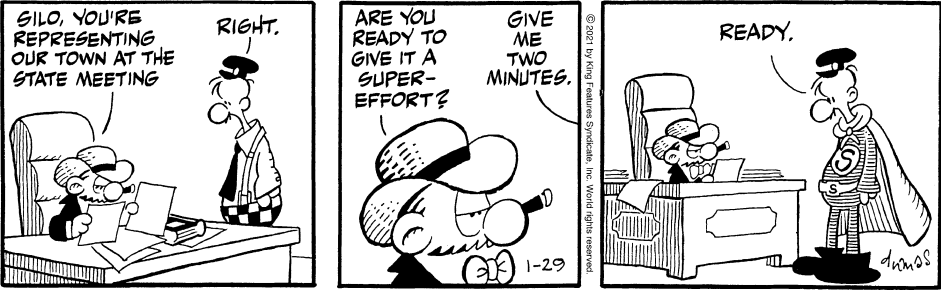
HI AND LOIS | BRIAN WALKER, GREG WALKER AND CHANCE BROWNE



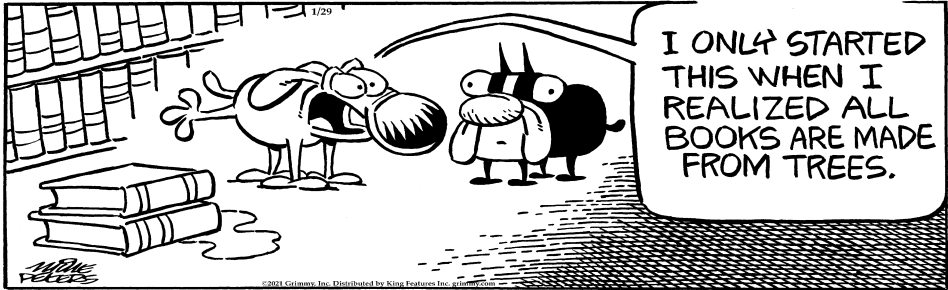
HAGAR THE HORRIBLE | CHRIS BROWNE



SAM AND SILO | JERRY DUMAS



MOTHER GOOSE & GRIMM | MIKE PETERS



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One Day

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*Garage Sale ads must be prepaid.

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SHERIFF'S SALE
U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE, FOR MANUFACTURED HOUSING CONTRACT SENIOR/SUBORDINATE PASS-THROUGH CERTIFICATE TRUST 2000-3 VS. DAVID DEVOY BRYANT, IN REM AND KAREN AB-SHURE BRYANT A/K/A KAREN ABSHURE, KAREN BRYANT

In the Twenty-Sixth Judicial District Court of Webster Parish, Louisiana, No. 78822. By virtue of a 1st AMENDED WRIT OF SEIZURE AND SALE issued out of the Twenty-Sixth Judicial District Court of Webster Parish, Louisiana, in the above styled and numbered suit and to me directed, I have seized and taken into my possession and will offer for sale at public auction to the last and highest bidder for cash WITH the benefit of appraisal and according to law at the principal front door of the Courthouse in the City of Minden, Webster Parish, Louisiana on WEDNESDAY, February 3, 2021, During the legal sale hours, the following property, to wit: That certain piece or parcel of immovable property, together with all buildings and improvements thereon, including but not limited to that certain Mobile Home, One (1) 2000, 56X28, Fleetwood Carriage Hill Mobile Home, Serial No. TXFLX86A/B01698 CG11, to-wit: Lots Eighteen (18) and Nineteen (19), Bobwhite Acres, located in the Southwest Quarter of the Southwest Quarter (SW/4 of SE/4), Section 27, Township 17 North, Range 9 West, Webster Parish, Louisiana, said subdivision on file and of record in Map Book 4, Page 63, Webster Parish, Clerk

of Courts office, having the following metes and bounds description: Begin at an existing railroad spike at the Southeast corner of the Southwest Quarter of the Southeast Quarter (SW/4 of SE/4), said Section 27, said point located in Franklin Road; thence run North 89 degrees 16 minutes 59 seconds West 287.17 feet to an existing 5/8" iron rod in Franklin Road, thence run North 0 degrees 50 minutes 35 seconds East 446.15 feet to an existing 5/8" iron rod, thence run South 89 degrees 11 minutes 25 seconds East 286.7 feet to an existing 5/8" iron rod; thence run South 0 degrees 47 minutes 00 seconds West 445.68 feet along the West side of Bistincou Baptist Church Road to the point of Beginning. Containing 2.93 acres, more or less. All as more fully shown on that Plat of Survey by Paul W. Culpepper, Registered Professional Loan Surveyor, dated August 12, 1999. Which has the address of 1386 Franklin Road, Heflin, LA 71039 SOLD SUBJECT TO ANY SUPERIOR LIENS, MORTGAGES OR PRIVILEGES THERETO. Said property seized is that of the defendant and will be sold to satisfy a judgment rendered in our Honorable Court. JASON R. PARKER Sheriff & Ex-Officio Auctioneer Webster Parish, Louisiana Linda Vaughan - Deputy January 5, 2021 January 29, 2021 Minden Press-Herald

of this front yard set-back variance is to construct a single family home with garage on the property. In an R-3 District, the required front yard setback is 20 feet. Legal Description: EAST 47.5 FT. OUT OF LOTS #9 & 10, BLK. "R", J.M. BROWN ADDN. All interested parties will be given a chance to be heard. January 15, 2021 January 22, 2021 January 29, 2021 Minden Press-Herald

PUBLIC NOTICE

Minden Planning Commission Meeting February 4, 2021 - 10:00 a.m. Pelican Room - Minden City Hall On the agenda is a request from Triple S Holdings LLC for preliminary approval of a lot split on property owned by them located at 1107, 1109 & 1111 Homer Road. Legal Description: A 1.91 ACRE, MORE OR LESS, TRACT OF LAND LOCATED IN THE SOUTHEAST QUARTER OF THE NORTH-EAST QUARTER (SE/4 OF NE/4), SECTION 23, TOWNSHIP 19 NORTH, RANGE 9 WEST, MINDEN, WEBSTER PARISH, LOUISIANA, MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: BEGIN AT THE NORTHEAST CORNER OF THE SOUTHEAST QUARTER OF THE NORTH-EAST QUARTER, SAID SECTION 23, AND RUN SOUTH 89 DEGREES 10 MINUTES 47 SECONDS WEST FOR A DISTANCE OF 541.35 FEET TO A FOUND 2 INCH IRON PIPE, FOR THE POINT OF BEGINNING; THENCE RUN SOUTH FOR A DISTANCE OF 328.24 FEET TO A SET 1/2 INCH IRON ROD LOCATED ON THE NORTH RIGHT OF WAY OF HOMER ROAD (U.S. HIGHWAY NO. 79), AND RUN ALONG SAID RIGHT OF WAY FOR THE NEXT THREE (3) CALLS; THENCE RUN SOUTH 73 DEGREES 52 MINUTES 22

WEST FOR A DISTANCE OF 47.76 FEET TO A SET 1/2 INCH IRON ROD; THENCE RUN 73 DEGREES 07 MINUTES 09 SECONDS WEST FOR A DISTANCE OF 98.05 FEET TO A SET 1/2 INCH IRON ROD; THENCE RUN SOUTH 78 DEGREES 19 MINUTES 35 SECONDS WEST FOR A DISTANCE OF 81.16 FEET TO A FOUND 1/2 INCH IRON PIPE (DISTURBED); THENCE RUN NORTH 00 DEGREES 00 MINUTES 11 SECONDS EAST FOR A DISTANCE OF 382.88 FEET TO A SET 1/2 INCH IRON ROD; THENCE RUN NORTH 89 DEGREES 00 MINUTES 14 SECONDS EAST FOR A DISTANCE OF 74.61 FEET TO A FOUND AXLE; THENCE RUN NORTH 00 DEGREES 46 MINUTES 41 SECONDS WEST FOR A DISTANCE OF 36.22 FEET TO A FOUND 2 INCH IRON PIPE; THENCE RUN NORTH 89 DEGREES 09 MINUTES 28 SECONDS EAST FOR A DISTANCE OF 144.88 FEET TO A FOUND 1 INCH IRON PIPE; THENCE RUN SOUTH 00 DEGREES 18 MINUTES 41 SECONDS EAST FOR A DISTANCE OF 36.13 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING. All interested parties will be given a chance to be heard. January 15, 2021 January 22, 2021 January 29, 2021 Minden Press-Herald

PUBLIC NOTICE

Minden Planning Commission Meeting February 4, 2021 - 10:00 a.m. Pelican Room - Minden City Hall On the agenda is a request from Jeffie R. Frazier for preliminary approval of a lot split on property owned by her located at 516 - 518 W. R. Reeder Street. Legal Description: A 0.413 ACRE, MORE OR LESS, TRACT OF LAND, BEING LOT NO. 6, BLOCK B, CRICHTON SUBDIVISION (UNRECORDED),

AND LOCATED IN THE NORTH-EAST QUARTER OF THE NORTH-WEST QUARTER (NE/4 OF NW/4), SECTION 28, TOWNSHIP 19 NORTH, RANGE 9 WEST, MINDEN, WEBSTER PARISH, LOUISIANA, MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: BEGIN AT A SET 1/2 INCH IRON ROD LOCATED ON THE EAST RIGHT OF WAY OF W.R. REEDER STREET, BEING THE SOUTH-WEST CORNER OF SAID LOT NO. 6 FOR THE POINT OF BEGINNING, AND RUN NORTH 00 DEGREES 20 MINUTES 55 SECONDS EAST FOR A DISTANCE OF 100.00 FEET ALONG SAID RIGHT OF WAY, TO A FOUND 1/2 INCH IRON ROD; THENCE RUN SOUTH 89 DEGREES 18 MINUTES 05 SECONDS EAST FOR A DISTANCE OF 180.00 FEET TO A SET 1/2 INCH IRON ROD; THENCE RUN SOUTH 00 DEGREES 05 SECONDS WEST FOR A DISTANCE OF 100.00 FEET TO A SET 1/2 INCH IRON ROD; THENCE RUN NORTH 89 DEGREES 18 MINUTES 05 SECONDS WEST FOR A DISTANCE OF 180.00 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING. All interested parties will be given a chance to be heard. January 15, 2021 January 22, 2021 January 29, 2021 Minden Press-Herald

SECTION 00 11 16 - INVITATION TO BID

The Housing Authority of the City of Minden will receive bids for the Modernization Project - Kitchens - "Sheppard Heights" for the Housing Authority of the City of Minden, LA HUD Modernization Project LA48P0 37501-19/20 until 2:00PM on February 9, 2021 at the offices of the Housing Authority of the Minden Housing Authority of City of Minden, 1209 East Street, Minden, Louisi-

ana, which time and place all bids will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bids will be considered only when the bidder certifies that he holds a current valid Louisiana contractor's license of proper Building Classification and shows his license number on the Bid Form above his signature as required under R.S. 37:2151-2163. Contractors desiring to bid shall submit with their bid evidence that they hold license of proper classification and in full force and effect. All bid documents shall be included in a sealed envelope which shall be clearly marked with the words Bid Documents, the Bidder's name and the date and time for receipt of bids and Contractor's State License Number. Failure to place all required information on the envelope will result in denial of bid. The following documents shall be included in the sealed bid package: (1) Bid Form (2) Bid Bond (3) Completed Form HUD-5369-A representations, Certifications and Other Statements of Bidders (4) Non-Collusive Affidavit (5) Completed Form HUD-2530, Previous Participation Certificate (6) Copy of Contractor's License The Owner may make such investigations as deemed necessary to determine the ability of the bidder to perform the work, and the bidder shall furnish to the Owner all such information and data for this purpose as the Owner may request. The Owner reserves the right to reject any bid if the evidence submitted by, or investigation of, such bidder fails to satisfy the Owner that such bidder is properly qualified to carry out the obligations of the Contract and to complete the work contemplated therein. Conditional bids will not be accepted. Proposed forms of Contract Doc-

uments, including plans and specifications may be examined at: Plan Room AGC Office 2025 Southern Avenue Shreveport, LA 71104 Copies of the documents may be secured by depositing \$50.00 with the Architect, Newman Marchive Incorporated, 2800 Youree Drive, Suite 310, Shreveport, Louisiana 71104 for each set of documents obtained. Deposit of the first two sets is fully refundable to all bonafide prime Bidders upon return of the complete set of documents, in good condition, no later than ten (10) days after receipt of bids. The deposit of all other sets of documents will be refunded 50% upon return of documents as stated above. General Contractors not submitting a bid on the project will be refunded 50% of the plan deposit upon return of bid documents within ten (10) days after receipt of bids. There will also be a \$15.00 handling charge for all documents not picked up at the Architect's office. Attention is called to the provisions for equal employment opportunity, and payment of not less than the minimum salaries and wages as set forth in the Specifications in accordance with the Davis-Bacon Act, must be paid on this project. All bids must be accompanied by bid security equal to five percent (5%) of the Base Bid and all additive alternates and must be in the form of a certified check, cashier's check or Bid Bond written by a company licensed to do business in Louisiana. The successful bidder will be required to furnish a Performance and a Payment Bond written by a company licensed to do business in Louisiana, each in an amount equal to 100% of the contract amount. No bids may be withdrawn for a period of thirty

(30) days after the actual date bids are opened. The Owner reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to waive any informalities incidental thereto.

Pre-Bid Conference: All prospective bidders and subcontractors are encouraged to attend the pre-bid conference to be held on February 2, 2021 - 10:00 a.m. at the Housing Authority of the City of Minden, Louisiana.

In accordance with the omnibus drug legislation enacted November 19, 1988, Drug-Free Workplace Act of 1988 (Pub. L 100-690, Title V, Subtitle D) Contractors and Grantees of Federal Agencies must certify that they will provide drug-free workplaces. This required certification is a precondition of receiving a contract with the Housing Authority.

January 15, 2021
January 22, 2021
January 29, 2021
Minden Press-Herald

SHERIFF'S SALE CITIZENS NATIONAL BANK, N.A. VS. ROBERT T. SPARKS

In the Twenty-Sixth Judicial District Court of Webster Parish, Louisiana, No. 78989.

By virtue of a WRIT OF SEIZURE AND SALE issued out of the Twenty-Sixth Judicial District Court of Webster Parish, Louisiana, in the above styled and numbered suit and to me directed, I have seized and taken into my possession and will offer for sale at public auction to the last and highest bidder for cash WITH the benefit of appraisal and according to law at the principal front door of the Courthouse in the City of Minden, Webster Parish, Louisiana on

WEDNESDAY, March 3, 2021,

During the legal sale hours, the following property, to wit:

LOT ONE (1) of the E. B. SMITH AND J. B. SMITH SUBDIVISION, located in Gov-

ernment Lot Number 9, Section 24, Township 18 North, Range 10 West, Webster Parish, Louisiana, as per plat and map of the said subdivision on file and of record in the office to the Clerk of Court in Map Book 3, Page 21, Webster Parish, Louisiana, together with all improvements thereon and all rights thereunto belonging, LESS AND EXCEPT the following described property: Begin at the northeast corner of Lot One (1) of the E.B. SMITH and J.B. SMITH SUBDIVISION, and thence proceed South 139 feet to the point of beginning; thence proceed West 20 feet; thence proceed South approximately 100 feet to the South boundary line of Lot One (1); thence proceed in a Northeasterly direction along the South boundary line of Lot One (1) to the East boundary line of Lot One (1), being the section line of Section 24, Township 18 North, Range 10 West; thence proceed North 86.8 to the point of beginning, being a lot in the Southeast corner of Lot One (1) of the E.B. Smith and J.B. Smith Subdivision, together with all improvements thereon.

AND ALSO: LOT TWO (2) of the E.B. SMITH AND J.B. SMITH SUBDIVISION LOCATED IN Government Lot no 9, Section 24, Township 18 North Range 10 West, Webster Parish, Louisiana, as per map and plat of the subdivision on file and of record in the Office of the Clerk of Court, in Map Book 3 page 21, together with all improvements thereon and all rights there unto belonging.

AND ALSO; ONE (1) 2006 Southern Homes Mobile Home, 32X80, Serial #DSDAL-47417AB SOLD SUBJECT TO ANY SUPERIOR LIENS, MORTGAGES OR PRIVILEGES THERETO.

Said property seized is that of the defendant and will be sold to satisfy a judgment rendered in our Honorable

Court.

JASON R. PARKER Sheriff & Ex-Officio Auctioneer Webster Parish, Louisiana Linda Vaughan - Deputy

January 29, 2021
February 26, 2021
Minden Press-Herald

January 26, 2021 The Sibley Town Council met in a Special Meeting on Tuesday, January 26, 2021 at 8:15 a.m. in the Sibley Town Hall meeting room. Members present were Mayor Jimmy Williams; Aldermen: Wayne Bolton, Helen Chanler, Richard Davis, Alan Myers and Robert Smart. Robert Smart opened the meeting in prayer, Richard Davis led the Pledge of Allegiance. Richard Davis motioned to adopt Resolution No. 2021-01 authorizing the mayor to complete and submit an application for grant funding from the Louisiana Government Assistance Program (LGAP) for continued rehabilitation of the town's water distribution system. Wayne Bolton seconded. Motion carried. Richard Davis motioned to adopt Resolution No. 2021-02 authorizing the mayor to complete and submit an application for grant funding from the Community Water Enrichment Fund (CWEF) for continued rehabilitation of the town's water distribution system. Helen Chanler seconded. Motion carried. Alan Myers motioned to adjourn, Richard Davis seconded. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned. Jimmy Williams Mayor Attest Sherry McCann Town Clerk This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

January 29, 2021
Minden Press-Herald

FAIR HOUSING IT'S RIGHT! IT'S FAIR! IT'S FOR EVERYONE!

Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968, as amended, makes discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin illegal in connection with the sale or rental of most

housing and any vacant land offered for residential construction or use. Fair Housing is a national policy of the United States. It's the law and it's your right. Today, more than ever, America is closer to upholding the inalienable right of ALL its citizens to live where they choose, when they choose, or for as long as they choose and can afford to do so. Yet, this year, as many as two million people who want to rent or buy a home will be discriminated against because of race, color, religion, sex, handicap, families with children, or national origin. YOU can do something about housing discrimination. The Town of Cotton Valley supports fair housing. Complaints may be filed locally with Municipal Court or by reporting violations to the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development at this Toll-Free number, 1-800-669-9777.

January 29, 2021
Minden Press-Herald

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2021 AUCTION INFORMATION

The **2021 Minden St. Jude Auction** is pivoting to a virtual-only format that will still allow us to carry out our primary mission of supporting the kids of the **St. Jude Children's Research Hospital**. Due to COVID-19 regulations, we are restricting public access to the Minden Civic Center as well as limiting the size of our amazing team of volunteers. Though we are saddened by these changes, we feel that this amazing event must continue in one form or another for the kids! THAT is what the **Minden St. Jude Auction** is all about!

For more information on 2021 Auction changes visit mindenstjude.com

AUCTION ON-AIR SCHEDULE:

The auction will run from **February 4, 2021** through **February 7, 2021**. It will be broadcast on **Suddenlink Channel 11, KASO/KBEF Radio**, and live-streamed on both **Facebook** and our website mindenstjude.com

BROADCAST SCHEDULE:

Thursday – 3:00 pm to 10:00 pm

Friday – 7:00 am to 10:00 pm

Saturday – 7:00 am to 11:00 pm

Sunday – 1:00 pm to 9:00 or 10:00 pm