

MINDEN

PRESS-HERALD

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75 CENTS

Webster Parish School Board Adopts Balanced Calender

WILL PHILLIPS
Minden Press-Herald

In the monthly Webster Parish School Board meeting the board voted and passed to change the school year for the district into a balanced calendar.

In short, the balanced calendar would take some time from summer vacation, shortening it from 11 weeks to 7 weeks, and would add longer breaks of two weeks in between the nine week periods that class is in session.

"The summer vacation has been reduced by four weeks. Which means that our students, as well as our nine-month employees, will still enjoy a seven-week summer vacation. Then the other four weeks that have been there are taken and they're redistributed into the calendar year to help form those three intersession periods," said Johnny Rowland, Superintendent of the Webster Parish School Board.

"We certainly will have changes and adaptations we have to make, but that's what we're charged to do, see where we can make it better, and then make those changes."

Specifically, the 2021/2022 school year will start in August, and the first 9 week period will begin, followed by a two week intersession period from Oct. 11 through Oct. 22. The intersessions for the winter and spring nine week periods is Feb 14 through Feb. 25 and April 11 through April 22 respectively.

Breaks will still be allotted for Thanksgiving, still receiving a week long break, and Christmas/New Year's, still being a two

week long break. This, on top of other, single day holidays such as Martin Luther King Jr. Day, Labor Day, etc.

Part of the reason for this change to the traditional calendar is that it will allow the parish to better respond to students who are falling behind during the school year.

"We have so many students with a pandemic that are behind and we really have to put our major focus on those kids," said Rowland.

"Over time, we want to become like other schools that have this calendar where they provide a lot more enrichment opportunities for kids because they've spent the time with those kids closing the gaps. We want to just make it better every year."

The intersession periods will allow teachers the chance to provide instruction to kids who are falling behind sooner, rather than waiting annually for summer vacation to offer remediation.

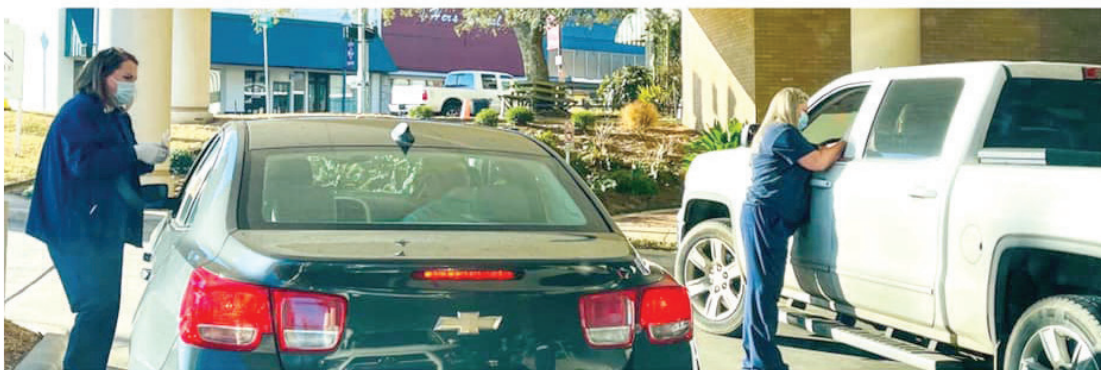
"We are excited about the possibilities surrounding what the intersession periods could mean for our students. For example, each intersession period is after a roughly nine-week period, and so then what our teachers and administrators will be able to do is actually analyze the data from that nine-week period and see where our deficiencies are, and then, go to those students that have the most needs and offer the opportunity for those students to ob-

See, **CALENDER**, Page 2



ROWLAND

Saving lives in more ways than one



COURTESY PHOTOS

Over 150 people received their first dose of the COVID-19 vaccine at Minden Medical Center last Thursday at their drive-thru vaccination clinic as well as coming out to participate in a blood drive that was going alongside it. "Thank you to everyone who came out to donate blood or get their vaccine (some people did both) and to our awesome MMC vaccine team members!" a statement from Minden Medical Center reads.

The next COVID-19 vaccine clinic is taking place Thursday, March 11, from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. at Minden Medical Center. To check current vaccine eligibility guidelines in Louisiana and to pre-register, visit www.vaccine.mindenmedicalcenter.com.

North Louisiana Rural Opioid Summit Scheduled for March 11

MINDEN, La. — Jermaine Galloway will be the featured speaker at the Second Annual North Louisiana Rural Opioid Summit. The free event is scheduled for March 11, 2021, from 8AM to 2PM at First Baptist Church of Minden at 301 Pennsylvania Avenue.

Galloway is a former Texas law enforcement officer who has nearly 20 years of experience in alcohol and drug education, enforcement and prevention. His presentation focuses on items that are popular in drug culture. Vapes, clothing and over-the-counter drugs

offer clues about possible drug use. At 6-foot-9, Galloway was given the nickname "Tall Cop."

The event is free and open to everyone. It will provide important information about drug culture for law enforcement officers, healthcare workers, educators, parents and oth-

ers. In Louisiana, nearly 1,500 people died of drug-related issues in 2019. Nearly 600 of those deaths involved opioids. Knowing what to look for may have prevented many of those deaths.

Those attending the event will be served lunch. Registration

is required, and all COVID-19 protocols will be in place. For more information or to register, go to nlaros.org. Claiborne Memorial Medical Center and Claiborne Addiction Recovery Center are sponsoring this event.

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SECOND FRONT

EDUCATION

LSU suspends two athletic officials for mishandling of sexual assault

KATHERINE MANUEL
LSU Reveille

BATON ROUGE--Two LSU Athletics employees were suspended without pay after a law firm's report into LSU's alleged mishandling of sexual assault complaints was released Friday.

Scott Schneider, a representative from the law firm, Husch Blackwell, presented the investigation to the LSU Board of Supervisors.

Schneider said the university was understaffed and unequipped to handle complaints under Title IX, a federal law meant to reduce sexual harassment and assault on college campuses. The law firm's 150-page report outlined summaries of the cases that it investigated, current Title IX policies at LSU and recommendations for changes.

"This is an example of serious institutional failure," LSU Interim President Thomas Galligan said.

Galligan said the university had suspended Executive Deputy Athletic Director Verge Ausberry for 30 days without pay and Senior Associate Athletic Director Miriam Segar for 21 days without pay. Both employees will undergo sexual violence training during this time.

"We've been forced to take a hard look, and let's be perfectly clear, we don't like what we see," Galligan said.

A USA Today report in November found that Ausberry knew in 2018 that former LSU football player Drake Davis had punched former LSU women's tennis player Jade Lewis. Lewis's case of sexual violence is outlined in the report.

According to WBRZ reporter Michael Cauble, Ausberry told him his entire career "has been dedicated to LSU," and he regrets that his actions fell short of "protecting student interests."

"I accept the conclusions and decisions rendered by the university and absolutely respect the commitment to putting the welfare of all students first," Ausberry said.

Davis acknowledged in court in 2019 that he had



Protestors marched on LSU's campus in November following a USA Today article about mishandled sexual misconduct cases.

KRISTEN YOUNG/LSU REVEILLE

punched the woman. He was expelled from LSU that July.

The USA Today report also detailed complaints about Darius Guice, a former star running back for LSU. They included an allegation that he had raped another female athlete. LSU took no action after that complaint.

Guice's lawyer has denied the allegations. But Guice was released by the NFL team in Washington, D.C., after the USA Today report described these and other allegations against him.

The Husch Blackwell report does not recommend that anyone at LSU be fired. It advised university leadership to read the report and decide "what, if any discipline is warranted for employees."

"If the leadership of the University decides to discipline employees, one of the important lessons from this review is that institutional policies and processes should be followed," the report said. "In addition, those employees should be entitled to full due process protections, including the ability to say this review 'got it wrong.'"

The report listed 18 recommendations for the university, including staffing the Title IX office appropriately, implementing targeted training for athletes and regularly measuring the climate and the effectiveness of the policies.

"We think it is critically important for the University to regularly measure whether these interventions are succeeding as well as the overall effectiveness of the University's comprehensive Title IX program," the report read.

The report recommended that "the rules must apply to everyone," and said LSU needs to ensure that the Title IX policies and processes are followed and are applied to everyone.

Schneider said the most important recommendation is for appropriate staffing of the Title IX Office. He said the reporting line to the general counsel needs to "change immediately."

Schneider said that one in four college-age female students experience some sort of sexual assault or sexual misconduct while they are undergraduate students. He said LSU is no exception to that.

One assault survivor and LSU alumna, Caroline Schroeder, spoke at the meeting and said she has personal experience with the Title IX process at LSU.

"I want to express how little faith I have in the board to make the right decision," Schroeder said.

Schneider said the Husch Blackwell report was "clear" with LSU and highlighted that the university did not have a Title IX coordinator until 2014.

"From a historical perspective, LSU has been very slow to develop policies and infrastructure and personnel that was really required and highlighted starting in 2011 with the 2011 'Dear Colleague letter,'" Schneider said, referring to a directive that the Obama administration sent to universities nationwide to improve their handling of assault claims.

Calender: State Superintendent applauds change

Continued from Page 1

tain immediate intervention then," said Rowland.

"Because how many years have we offered summer remediation? When you offer summer remediation you're trying to provide something for students. It's going to be hard for them to really remember what they did the first nine weeks and try to intervene in June. So we think, you have a better chance of providing those intensive interventions at the end of a nine-week period."

Students would then be offered a voluntary, self-paced and live instruction course taking place during the intersession period that would allow them to get caught up. These opportunities will also be available virtually. For the live instruction, transportation to sites where these courses take place will be provided, and school meals will be provided as well.

More than helping students catch up, Rowland's vision for the intersession periods is one where on-level and gifted students can further their academic pursuits.

"What we want to try to do is have on-site intensive intervention for those kids that need it most, but we also want to provide some self-paced opportunities for those kids that are on level, either reviewing what they've done or trying to front-load them for the next nine weeks. Then we have our gifted kids. We have some phenomenal gifted teachers in the district. We want to have things for that group of students to do as well during that time that are built within the Google classroom," said Rowland.

"We want to try and have something for all of our kids. Even though we know that this is really meant for the ones that

need it most, we just see an opportunity to provide something for everybody."

Commending the change, State Superintendent of Education Dr. Cade Brumley stated, "I recently learned that you recommended a balanced calendar for the upcoming year to your School Board. I was impressed to hear that the Webster Parish School Board passed that motion. Congratulations."

"Our home state - Louisiana - has long desired to have improved educational outcomes. Sometimes, however, making changes to secure better outcomes for children is a difficult process. I am using this opportunity to thank you and your Board for making a courageous decision that has the potential to improve outcomes."

"In a quick review of data in Webster, I notice that only 30% of Kindergartners enter school with the necessary skills to be successful on day one. I also found that third grade mastery rates for reading and math were 40% and 35%, respectively. Those numbers do not shift much in the eighth grade where reading mastery rates hit 48% and math rates are 17%. Clearly, we have room for improvement and that requires a challenge against the status quo."

"The Board's adoption of this new calendar will certainly receive both praise and criticism. What I have found, however, is that a balanced calendar leads to some important outcomes such as improved attendance, reduced behavior referrals, and bolstered teacher morale once it's incorporated."

"Please accept my appreciation for your willingness to try alternative approaches to improve outcomes for kids - it is what they deserve."

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OPINION

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USPS NUMBER 593-340
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OTHER OPINION

Malkin: Missing Marizela: Ten years

March 5, 2011. I remember the moment like it was yesterday when my family contacted me in a panic to let me know that my 18-year-old cousin and goddaughter, Marizela “EmEm” Perez, had gone missing. “Help.” It’s the text you get in the middle of the night that doesn’t seem real. Ten years ago this week, EmEm vanished from the University of Washington campus in the middle of a sunny afternoon. She was last seen walking away from a Safeway grocery store in the U District and into the dread void of uncertainty. Once again, as I have done faithfully and heartachingly for the last decade, I must report that there is still no news on her whereabouts. Nothing. In 2019, I finally received some Seattle Police Department documents in response to a public records request about her case. But nothing in the trove shed light on any potential investigative leads.

In my home office, I keep a bulging file called “Find Marizela.” There are handwritten notes of conversations with police, carefully constructed timelines, social media archives and holiday photos gathered around the piano singing Christmas hymns and carols. There’s also a stack of missing person flyers emblazoned with the headline, “HAVE YOU SEEN ME?” illustrated with screenshots from the Safeway surveillance video. Pale and fleeting, EmEm looks

like a ghost—drained of the beautiful, bubbly energy she embodied as a child who loved baking cookies and playing board games with me.

The description on the flyer reads:

“Asian female, 5’5” tall, 110 lbs, skinny build, asymmetrical bob with short bangs and brown/red highlights hairstyle, tattoo on left inner arm with the words ‘lahat ay magiging



MICHELLE MALKIN

m a a y o s’ (all will be well), last seen wearing a dark jacket with hood over a light color sweater with hood, denim jeans, light brown suede laced boots, possibly wearing green eye contacts, carrying a denim drawstring backpack with rainbow butterfly screenprint, with a Macbook Pro laptop.”

Ten years. The first weeks after she disappeared are now mostly a blur, but a few memories are indelible. I remember breaking down while a teenage girl sang “If I Die Young” by The Band Perry at my then-7-year-old son’s talent show on the night before I flew out to Seattle to be with Marizela’s parents:

If I die young, bury me in satin
Lay me down on a bed of roses

es Sink me in the river at dawn
Send me away with the words of a love song

Lord make me a rainbow, I’ll shine down on my mother

She’ll know I’m safe with you when she stands under my colors...

...Gather up your tears, keep ‘em in your pocket

Save them for a time when you’re really gonna need them, oh

I won’t forget the kindness of strangers and old friends who volunteered to help us search local parks and public streets. I remember feeling lost and desperate in Discovery Park, staring out toward Puget Sound, praying to God, asking: “Where? How? Why?”

For all the negativity that surrounds the reputation of the national media, I have nothing but praise and thanks for the local reporters — Christine Clarridge at the Seattle Times and Shomari Stone at KOMO, in particular — who covered Marizela’s story with compassion and context. Clarridge highlighted Marizela’s case, as well as the plight of other families with missing young adults, in a searing front-page feature on what parents go through in cases where the police have not found evidence of foul play. Suicide was a primary assumption on the part of the police. EmEm did have a history of depression. But the case of young Joyce Chiang — whose death in 1999 was reclassified as a homicide in 2011 by Washington police who mistakenly insisted

the case was a suicide — shows the dangers of locking into assumptions without thoroughly exploring all leads.

Ten years on, the investigation into Marizela’s disappearance has all but come to a halt. But if you live in the Washington area and have any relevant information about her whereabouts, please contact the Seattle Police Department at (206) 625-5011. And for those who have to go through this same hell, a hell I wish on no one, I leave you with five hard-learned lessons from a decade’s worth of unknowing:

- 1) Document everything.
- 2) Take an immediate and full inventory of your loved one’s internet footprint — every email account, Facebook, Flickr, Twitter and social networking account.
- 3) Don’t assume the police are pinging cell phones, obtaining internet or phone records or obtaining surveillance camera video. Don’t assume anything.
- 4) Make sure your loved one’s info gets into the NAMUS (National Missing and Unidentified Persons System) database immediately.
- 5) Don’t be afraid to be a squeaky wheel.

If you don’t speak up for your missing loved one, no one will.

MICHELLE MALKIN’S EMAIL ADDRESS IS MICHELLEMALKININVESTIGATES@PROTONMAIL.COM.

OTHER OPINION

McHugh David: The continued bloat of big bills

Debate rages in Washington, D.C. over a \$1.9 trillion stimulus package that would include, well - a lot of money going to a lot of different folks.

Including \$1,400 to individuals who earn less than \$75,000, and \$2,800 to couples earning less than \$150,000. Parents, who meet the income requirements, will also receive \$1,400 per child.

The individual, income-based payments have been a huge push for passage of the bill, because while the average salary in America is \$94,700 - that number is hugely skewed by larger incomes.

Median income is, actually, \$68,703. So, over half of wage-earning citizens earn less than the threshold and qualify for the payment.

So, of course, most people are pushing for the bill, and many others who don’t even qualify are pushing for the pas-



sage because \$1,400 in pockets can stimulate the economy.

The problem begins with the extraneous payments to entities such as local governments and school boards, many of whom haven’t even spent the first round of their funding from May of 2020, much less the December package which was passed before former President Donald Trump moved out of office.

Why is the bill so big? First, the explanation - sometime back, congress and the senate

believed it was best to combine bills together if they served the same function, instead of debating individual bills in a ‘line item’ function, bundle them together.

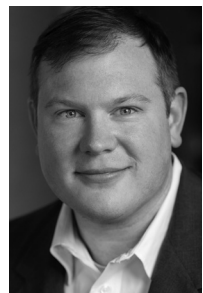
Second, the why is simple - it’s the Democrats’ platform and the pendulum almost always swings back. President Joe Biden is no stranger to such things, as then-President Barack Obama’s ‘Obamacare’ package was rushed through the House, Senate, and then signed before the Republicans

took back the legislature.

The most fiscally responsible thing to do would be to break out each expenditure into a different vote, and see where exactly that falls.

But that won’t happen, because the bill sizes serve partisan necessity everytime there’s a bundle. And that needs to end.

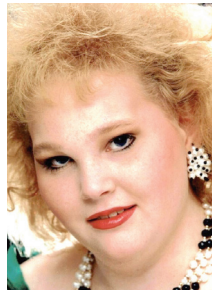
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MCHUGH DAVID

WEBSTER & MORE

OBITUARIES



Melisha Marlene Smith

Melisha Marlene Smith was born May 28, 1971 and passed from this life on March 4, 2021 at age 49. Her parents are Melvin and Melba Smith of Minden. She worked with her brother Mel Smith of Mel Smith's Marine. Melisha was multi- talented. God's gifts to her was her love for music, artistry, and personality. She loved everybody and wished them well. She was raised in Emmanuel Missionary Baptist Church, where she served as a Sunday School teacher and played the piano. She loved the LMBIS choir and faithfully served for 12 years before travel was prohibited because of COVID-this last period was cancelled. She worked at KASO radio on the weekends as a D.J. when she would come home from College. Her near blindness limited her abilities but with friends and

family she seldom expressed her grief. Melisha had COVID, brain tumors, and died with a blood clot in her lungs and spent 39 days of hospitalization before God called her home. She loved Brooke and Taylor almost as much as she loved Mel, and their little babies-Gracelyn, Presley, Mason McEachern, and Cash Roden. I hope God lets her see them from heaven...She has too many family members to name, but you all know who you are. She will see us all on that great reunion day, Praise God! Funeral services will be held Sunday, March 7, 2021 at 2:00 p.m. at Calvary Missionary Baptist Church in Minden, Louisiana with Rev. Larry Earhardt officiating and her present pastor, Jared Pickett assisting. Interment will follow at Gardens of Memory in Minden, Louisiana under the direction of Rose-Neath Funeral Home in Minden.

*Rose-Neath Funeral Home
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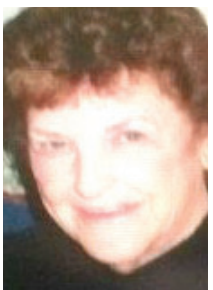


George Kenneth Stewart

George Kenneth Stewart was born on April 9, 1940 in Bradley, Arkansas. He left this world on March 4, 2021 from his home in Dubberly, Louisiana surrounded by family. Ken is survived by his wife of 59 years, Dawn Glass Stewart, and their children, Shannon Stewart Brown and husband Johnny; Kenneth Michael Stewart and Erin. Ken adored his grandchildren, Savannah Brown Jones and husband Blake, John Curtis "JC" Brown, Krystopher Stewart, Ashton Stewart, Dylan Stewart and Cole. In addition, he is survived by his sister, Ruby Mitchell Dodez and sister-in-law, Myra Glass Jones who lived with Ken and Dawn. He had numerous nieces and nephews. Ken is preceded in death by his dad, Melvin "Curly" Stewart, mother, Tina Reed Stewart Carter and brothers, Dugan and Etsel. Ken grew up in Doyline, Louisiana. He graduated from Doyline High School where he was a proud member of the basketball team. He received a scholarship to

Northwestern State University where he played football until he joined the Navy in 1959. He was a member of Brushwood United Methodist Church. Ken was a real cowboy. He loved his horses especially Gorgeous George who he named after himself. Ken was his grandchildren's biggest fan. He never missed a barrel race, basketball game or football game. Ken left this world with the peace of knowing that he and the Good Lord had it all right. Ken said his final days were his happiest and most peaceful. He will be missed by the ones he has left behind, but he is rejoicing with the loved ones that went before him. Graveside services will be held Sunday, March 7, 2021 at 2:00 p.m. at Brushwood Cemetery in Dubberly, Louisiana under the direction of Rose-Neath Funeral Home in Minden, Louisiana. Officiating will be Rev. Brock Childers. The family will receive friends from 5:00 until 7:00 p.m. Saturday, March 6, 2021 at Rose-Neath Funeral Home in Minden, Louisiana.

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211 Murrell Street
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(318) 377-3412*



Martha Yocom Durrett

Funeral services for Martha Yocom Durrett will be held Tuesday, March 9, 2021 at 2:00 p.m. at City On A Hill Pentecostal Church in Minden, Louisiana with Rev. Jimbo Yocom and Rev. Keith Adcock officiating. Interment will follow at Gardens of Memory Cemetery in Minden, Louisiana under the direction of Rose-Neath Funeral Home in Minden. The family will receive friends 1:00 p.m. Tuesday at the church prior service time. Martha was born September 22, 1928 in Camden, Arkansas and entered into rest March 5, 2021 in Minden, Louisiana with her daughter and son-in-law by her side. She was preceded in death by her parents, W.E. and

Gladys Yocom; husband, Louis D. Durrett; son, Billy Dean Durrett; brothers, Clarence and Thomas Yocom, and her little buddy, Zoe. She is survived by her daughter, Darlene Durrett Tarver and husband Garland; nephew, Jimmy Yocom; grandchildren, Brandi Bailes and Dusty Durrett, great-grandchildren, Britton, Nate, Sage, and Wynter Bailes, and numerous relatives and friends. The family extends thanks to special friend and family caregiver, Becky Holliday and other caregivers, Debbie Hudson, Jean Smith, Renee Cross, and Mary Cummings. Rose-Neath Funeral Home 211 Murrell Street Minden, Louisiana 71055 (318) 377-3412



Tommy G. Harris

Funeral services for Tommy G. Harris will be held Tuesday, March 9, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. at Doyline First Baptist Church in Doyline, Louisiana with James Lee officiating. Interment will follow at Doyline Cemetery under the direction of Rose-Neath Funeral Home in Minden, Louisiana. The family will receive friends Monday, March 8, 2021 from 5:00 until 7:00 p.m. at Rose-Neath Funeral home in Minden. Tommy was born August 28, 1953 in Minden, Louisiana and entered into rest March 5, 2021 in Doyline, Louisiana. He was a member of First Baptist Church Doyline where he served as a Sunday School teach-

er and a deacon. He loved his church and his church family. Tommy worked tirelessly on missionary work locally and Nicaragua, Guatemala. He was an avid gardener and loved sharing his produce. Tommy enjoyed fishing and hunting and was full of football knowledge. He loved his Frannie, kids, and grandkids unconditionally and enjoyed making memories each year by going camping. He was always willing to lend a helping hand no matter how big or small the task. He was the man for the job. Tommy will always be remembered as you entered Doyline for the "Welcome to Doyline" monument he built for the community. He was preceded in death by his parents, John and Bernice Harris and brother, Billy Harris. He is survived by his wife, Francey Harris; children, Brad Harris, Sarah Harris, Colby Harris and Brittany, Hannah Arizmendez and Johnathon, Hope Monk and Cory, and Laura Smith and Brad; grandchildren,

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Julia Harris, Emmett Arizmendez, Isabel Valenzuela, Ivy Monk, Hampton Harris, Farrah Monk, C.T. Harris, Emerson Arizmendez, John Monk, Hank Harris, Heath, Monk, and Everett Arizmendez; six brothers and sisters, and many nieces, nephews, and other loving family. Pallbearers will be Shane Harris, Terry Harris, Phillip Harris, Josh Powell, Cory Monk, and Roger Brown. Special thanks to Laura Bolton of Regional Hospice and Terry Harris and Missy Gulley for their help during a difficult time.

INSPIRATION

March is brain injury awareness month

For over thirty years the Brain Injury Association of America (BIAA) has led the nation in observing Brain Injury Awareness Month by conducting public awareness campaign in March of each year.

The theme for the campaign is Change Your Mind providing an awareness platform for educating the general public about the incidence of brain injury and the needs of people with brain injuries and their families and Individuals.

I shall never forget when I first became aware of just how important it is that I share my story of my mother's tragic accident, when she lapsed into a coma at the age of two, while her parents were living in an

underground dugout in Woods County, Oklahoma where their family was in the Land Rush of Oklahoma in 1908.

I was overawed, after sharing my mother's story, at a Christian writer's conference in 2010. A young woman approached me

and told me how grateful she was that I had told my story that day because her daughter had been in an automobile accident that caused her to be disabled for life yet she was soon to become a new mother.

A year later I saw her again and she said that somehow it was working

out with their family and the new grand baby.

It helps knowing someone else has experienced what you are going through.

Not long after that experience I was sitting in a doctor's waiting room next to a young woman. Being the perpetual story teller that I am, I began sharing my story about my mother's brain trauma.

I noticed she became speechless while I told my story.

After I finished she said "there's a reason you just told me that story. I am helping my sister-in-law, who was brain damaged in an auto accident to raise her teenage daughter."

ter."

She confirmed how important sharing my mother's story really is.

It took me a long time to find out what happened to my childlike mother but one thing I will always know she loved me so much and wanted to do better but didn't know how. I shall never forget her blinding tears when we went to an orphanage.

I would probably not be here today had it not been for my parent's neighbors matching them up after my maternal grandfather died leaving my thirty-nine year old mother with no family support system. My paternal grandmother also had just passed away leaving my already ill father with no one to care so it was an easy match.

But anyway my sister, Alice, and I came into this world in a most unusual setting and we both vividly remember the taunts and stares of other children because of our funny clothes and everything that goes with being poor.

Children can be cruel. I don't think anyone knew what had happened to mother but the school yard bullying hurt us both to the core.

Being a child is hard enough but standing out in a crowd hurts.

What I am here to say is that what happens to someone else can just as easily happen to you. To think not is to be naive.

I recall one summer in the early 80's when three young people in this area had accidents that caused them to lapse into a

coma resulting in permanent brain damage.

Sometimes just hearing someone else's story gives us the courage to go on. We should not be so afraid to reach out, to share where we came from.

After all "we are all angels flying with only one wing and we can only fly embracing each other."

Whatever happens to us can be a tool we can use to lift other's to their feet, out of depression and lead us onto a brighter day.

Where will my story leads I do not know but one thing I know is that Jesus is the same yesterday, today and forever and He always gets me to the right place at the right time.

CONTACT SARAH AT SARAH9957@AOL.COM



SARAH HUDSON-PIERCE

GAS IN LOUISIANA

Gas prices continue to rise as oil production cuts are extended

GAS BUDDY

Special to the Minden Press-Herald

Louisiana gas prices have risen 4.2 cents per gallon in the past week, averaging \$2.45/g today, according to GasBuddy's daily survey of 2,436 stations in Louisiana. Gas prices in Louisiana are 27.3 cents per gallon higher than a month ago and stand 36.4 cents per gallon higher than a year ago. The cheapest station in Louisiana is priced at \$2.17/g today while the most expensive is \$2.89/g, a difference of 72.0 cents per gallon.

"OPEC surprised oil markets last week by extending oil production cuts for another month, ignoring the resurgence in global demand as economies recover from COVID-19. Markets responded by pushing oil prices up some 12%. As a result, motorists should prepare for further gas


price increases in the weeks and potentially months ahead, with a \$3 per gallon national average potentially less than a month away," said Patrick De Haan, head of petroleum analysis for GasBuddy.

The national average price of gasoline has risen 3.4 cents per gallon in the last week, averaging \$2.77/g today. The national average is up 29.8 cents per gallon from a month ago and stands 41.1 cents per gallon higher than a year ago.

"At the start of this year, it was somewhat outlandish to predict a \$3 per gallon national average for the summer driving season, but thanks to the speed of recovery from the pandemic pushing demand higher and OPEC's reluctance to raise oil production, we're on the cusp of making that a reality. It's extremely frustrating as

a consumer to feel helpless as prices soar and as millions remain unemployed, so the only advice I can offer consumers is prepare for further increases, and to mitigate rising prices, shop around for the low prices every time you need to refuel. I'm hopeful OPEC will see the error in their ways at next month's meeting, but with demand exceeding supply, the longer the imbalance continues, the longer it will take for any rise in oil production to offset it," said De Haan.

GasBuddy is the authoritative voice for gas prices and the only source for station-level data spanning nearly two decades. GasBuddy's survey updates 288 times every day from the most diverse list of sources covering nearly 150,000 stations nationwide, the most comprehensive and up-to-date in the country.



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ARREST

Man taken down by Minden Police, along with help from local citizen, for shop lifting

STAFF REPORT
Minden Press-Herald

In a Facebook video that got some traction over the weekend, one Layton Manshack, 32, of the 200 block of Fern Road in Coushatta, LA, was seen being arrested by a Minden Police Department Officer at the Minden Wal-Mart. In the video the arrest is seen to have escalated to the point where Manshack

had to be held down by both the officer and citizen Dale Moseley.

Providing some details as to what happened beforehand, Police Chief Steve Cropper said, "One of my officers was just doing a routine walk-through at Wal-Mart due to the fact that a lot of people shoplift, and they observed two white males

and a white female," said Cropper.

"They were up in front of him, and one of the males turned around and saw the officer behind him and so he kind of started walking fast, trying to get away from the officer, acting suspicious, had his hands around his waist wrapped around his



CROPPER

waist."

The officer had previously served in the Red River Sheriff's Office and knew he was from down in that area, and so he had some knowledge of his background according to Cropper.

"And so he approached him, asked him what his name was, and then he immediately gave him the wrong name, gave him his brother's name. So they knew he was ly-

ing to them. So they felt like he was up to no good, so he tried to detain him. At that point, the guy began to fight him, and they actually had to take him down about three times and after the third time, we had a local citizen that was actually there shopping by the name of Dale Moseley. He jumped in there and began helping my officer take this guy into custody," said Cropper.

"My officer was very grateful. He stepped up where a lot of people wouldn't, and helped get the guy in custody."

After the Layton was restrained, they ran his name to find that he is a fugitive from both the Red River Sheriff's Office and the Bienville Sheriff's Office. He was also charged with resisting an officer and resisting an officer with violence.

LEGISLATURE

Group of Louisiana legislators calls for end to state's COVID-19 restrictions

(The Center Square) - A group of Louisiana legislators is asking Gov. John Bel Edwards to lift rules meant to control the spread of COVID-19.

Rep. Rick Edmonds, a Baton Rouge Republican, sent the Democratic governor a letter making the request, which is endorsed by 33 Republicans, including 30 members of the state House and three state senators. The Louisiana Legislature has 144 members.

Edwards issued an executive order this week that loosened the state's COVID-19 restrictions, but businesses and events still are under capacity limitations and a statewide mask mandate remains in place. Meanwhile, the governors of Texas and Mississippi announced this week they would lift all COVID-19 mitigation measures in their states.

"Our businesses, both large and small, will continue to fight against COVID-19," the letter read. "We are certain that their continued commitment and direction as it

relates to capacity issues and enforcement of other virus safety precautions will be done safely and professionally without any additional government mandates. With access to vaccinations on the rise, hospitalizations on the decline, and a variety of better treatment options, now is time to end the mandates."

Ending the mitigation measures would go against the federal government's recommendations. Edwards largely has followed federal guidelines regarding COVID-19 since the pandemic began, spanning the administrations of President Joe Biden and former President Donald Trump.

Edwards hasn't read the letter, but he has consistently relied on recommendations from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control, the Louisiana Department of Health, and other medical experts, none of whom have recommended removing the mask mandate, spokeswoman Shauna Sanford said by email.

When he announced

the less restrictive mitigation rules that would be in place over the next four weeks Tuesday, Edwards pointed to factors that indicate Louisiana is making progress in getting the pandemic under control. For example, hospitalizations and the percentage of COVID-19 tests that come back positive are both about one-third what they were during the state's post-holiday surge in early January.

Edwards, however, also noted the presence of new, more dangerous variants of the coronavirus that causes the illness. While more than a million COVID-19 vaccine doses have been administered in the state, according to the most-recent report from the Louisiana Department of Health, only about 405,000 people out of a population of more than 4.6 million have been fully vaccinated.

"We're certainly moving in the right direction," Edwards said. "We still have a lot of work to do before we get out of this pandemic."

Edwards has imposed

the mitigation mandates through executive orders, which has been a sticking point for many legislators who want more of a say in the decisions. A majority of House members signed a petition to suspend the rules, but a

judge ruled the state law the members attempted to invoke unconstitutional.

That decision was appealed to the Louisiana Supreme Court, which sent the case back to the district court. The higher

court ruled that the lower court should have decided whether House members fulfilled the statute's requirements before ruling on its constitutionality.

CEO of MMC to speak at this weeks Minden Lions Club



FILE PHOTO

Williams has been Minden resident for the past 14 years joining Minden Medical Center as its Chief Financial Officer in 2007. He was promoted to Chief Executive Officer in September 2019 after having spent 2 years in a regional financial role for the parent company. Williams, a native of Mississippi, started his career in public accounting where he became a CPA. He has spent the last 24 years in Healthcare. In his tenure at Minden Medical Center, Williams has served on the Chamber Board, where he is currently serving a second term, been a past member of the Lions Club, completed Leadership Webster and always been a very active member of our community.

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BASKETBALL

Will Phillips
Minden Press-Herald

The Doyline Panthers Basketball team finally saw an end to its long standing win streak during their playoff game last Saturday against JS-CLA. The streak for the Panthers had been going on since November 14, 2019. Coach Michael Normand took the time to talk about the playoff games as well as some of his thoughts regarding seeing the streak finally come to an end.

When analysing why he believed his team was having issues in the play-offs, Coach Normand looked back on their first playoff game against Floriene last Tuesday.

“We came out and had early foul trouble against Floriene, and actually one of my best players had a little ankle, Juicy Clark, for the first quarter. He came back out and we were able to kind of regroup and pull away in the second half,” said Normand.

He noted that first time nerves were playing a role in his team’s

ability to play at peak performance, though it was something they were able to correct in the later quarters.

“You know, for the first several of my kids, we’re young. It was their first playoff experience as far as actually being in the game. So sometimes, you know, those bright lights and the pressure of the playoffs kind of makes players a little nervous. And so that first game Tuesday night in the first half, we didn’t really play very well, but then we kind of settled down, and then in the second half we were able to pull away.”

Coach Normand noted that this occurred in Friday night’s game as well, but they weren’t able to make up the lost ground in the back half like before.

“I don’t know if it was the same exact thing Friday night, but we kind of dug a hole early. We made them run in the third quarter, but hon-



NORMAND

estly, they were too big for us to handle,” said Normand.

“There’s no shame in losing to them, they’re a good ball team. It is what it is. We put up a fight.”

Friday’s loss also marks an end to an impressive streak carried out by the Panther’s over the past few years. Coach Normand spoke proudly of his team and their ability to accomplish such a feat.

“We were on a forty-five-game winning streak. We hadn’t lost the game since November 14th of 2019, which was four hundred and seventy-eight days since we had lost the game. So, you know, and that’s what I tried to tell my boys. Be proud of what you accomplished, because I don’t know where that ranks up in the history of Louisiana sports, but I’m sure it’s somewhere up there to go that long between games.”

In a sense the ongoing streak also brought along



with it additional pressure to keep it going each and every game.

“They have to answer that bell every night and withstand the pressures, because you’re the defending state champion and you’re on this long streak, everybody’s coming after your scalp. Everybody wants to be the team to knock you

off. So you’re getting everybody’s A-game. Everybody’s pumped up to play. Every crowd is pumped up to be against you. So to answer that bell every night, you know, that’s a tall task for a young team,” said Normand.

“Somebody only has to be right one time, but we have to be right every

time.”

While the season may be over for the Panthers, Coach Normand ensures that they are going to come back even better than before next year. “The one thing I can promise you is that we will do everything we can to come back bigger, faster, stronger,” said Normand.

ATHLETICS

LA Tech baseball, softball facilities officially open

Special to then Minden Press-Herald

Two ribbon cuttings opened two new LA Tech Athletics facilities Friday, almost 22 months after an EF-3 tornado plowed through Louisiana Tech University’s campus and the surrounding community.

Gov. John Bel Edwards cut the ribbon that officially opened J.C. Love Field at Pat Patterson Park and Dr. Billy Bundrick Field, just in time for the Diamond Dogs and the Lady Techsters to take their respective fields for weekend series.

“As I’ve watched this facility grow throughout the past year, I’ve come to realize the energy this section of the Tech campus holds,” said Dr. Les Guice, President of Louisiana Tech. “It is the gateway to our campus.

It symbolizes the loyalty of our alumni and friends and the commitment of our students.”

Both the Origin Bank Baseball Complex and the Origin Bank Soccer and Softball Complex have the potential to make a significant economic impact on Ruston, Lincoln Parish, and the surrounding area, Guice said. The baseball facility will host the Conference USA baseball tournament this year, bringing teams and their fans from throughout the region to stay and play in Ruston.

“We certainly could not have gotten this facility off the ground without the commitment of our special guest, Gov. John Bel Edwards,” Guice said. “He was here the day after the tornado, and his support for Louisiana Tech has never wavered. He has



been the personification of loyalty for us, and we consider him a member of our Tech Family.”

Baseball and softball players have not played a game on their home turf – with fans in the stands – since April 2019. Vice President and Director of Athletics

Dr. Eric Wood applauded the perseverance of these student-athletes.

“They have competed and represented our University with pride and excellence, despite not being able to play a home game in two years,” Wood said. “These facilities are a

testament to their grit and determination, and I know they will continue to compete on their field and in the classroom.”

These facilities will help create enthusiasm among prospective student-athletes everywhere, Wood added.

“In particular, the softball and soccer complex is one of a kind in this region,” he said. “This is an eagerly awaited day for all of us, and it’s a milestone for Louisiana Tech. I know all our fans are eager to cheer on our Bulldogs and Lady Techsters in these parks.”

OUTDOORS

WINTER STORM BRINGS NEW BIRDS

GLYNN HARRIS

Special to the Minden Press-Herald

When snow falls in our part of the world, it changes our outlook on everything. While we hope and pray we don't lose power or water, the little kid in us grownups comes out to play.

The internet was rampant with videos of kids and grownups and their parents, even grandparents in some cases, fashioning snowmen, converting garbage can lids, plywood boards and other things not necessarily designed for sliding down hills into sleds. Not many folks in our area actually own real sleds because except for once every decade, they stay stored in the attic or garage, gathering dust.

I for one have outgrown the surging desire to slide down a hill on a sled-type apparatus. One reason is if I slid down a hill without breaking a limb, I'd have to consider how the heck I'd be able to get back to the top of the hill. Therefore, I relegated the hill sliding to the young and instead, focused on something far less painless, except for perhaps putting a dent in my wallet. I spent my time during our week of living in the tundra concentrating on feeding birds.

Because of their high rate of metabolism, birds have the need for replenishing the energy spent on just staying alive. Their search for food soars to feverish heights when snow and ice cover their main food sources.

One of the first things I did when forecasters told us the storm was coming for real was to check my generator to be sure I had plenty of fuel in the event of loss of power. The second thing I did was to go to the store before the first flakes began falling and stock up on plenty of bird seed, and I'm glad I did because the buffet I laid out for them was an instant hit.

My bird feeder in the yard became immediately encapsulated in snow, rendering it inaccessible to birds. I came up with a plan that worked like a charm, although I'm still trying to clean up the mess the hungry birds made. I placed the bird seed on the floor of my covered back porch.

The usual bird species were there, including such varieties as northern cardinals, blue jays,

American goldfinches, pine siskins, purple finches, white throated sparrows, chipping sparrows et al.

Down through the years when we get a big winter storm, there are a couple of species I spot feeding with my regular visitors, birds I never see in my yard at any other time. I was looking out the window and telling my wife about these two species and before I finished my sentence, I looked out and there was one, an Eastern Towhee on our porch.

The towhee, according to my field guide is described thusly..."Common in the undergrowth of eastern woods, scratching among dead leaves on the ground under dense thickets." This is why I don't see them at other times in my thick-et-free yard. They are handsome cardinal-sized birds adorned with a dark hood, back and tail, rusty sides with a white belly.

The second bird that is absent except when ground is snow covered is the Fox sparrow and we had several of these visit our porch. One of the larger sparrows, the Fox is identified by a rust colored back and similar colored heavy streaks on the breast. The main identifying factor is a dark spot in the center of the breast.

So there you have it. No sledding down hills for me but the profusion of birds dining on what I offered them was not only rewarding; it kept me from trying to figure out how I was going to get back up a hill I foolishly sledded down.

FISHING REPORT

BUSSEY BRAKE – High water and cold temperatures have slowed fishing significantly this week. Look for better results as conditions improve. For latest information, contact the Honey Hole Tackle Shop at 323-8707.

BLACK BAYOU – No report. Contact Honey Hole Tackle Shop 323-8707 for latest information.

OUACHITA RIVER – The river is high and rising. No fishing report this week. For latest information, contact the Honey Hole Tackle Shop at 323-8707.

LAKE D'ARBONNE – Folks who know crappie fishing, especially those with Live Scopes have been able to locate



GLYNN HARRIS/COURTESY PHOTO

The Fox Sparrow is another bird that comes to feed only when there is snow cover.

some good fish mostly in the channels. Last weekend's big crappie tournament was won with a two pound average. Some bass have been hitting jigs and soft plastics reeling very slow as they aren't responding to much movement because of cold water. Bream are slow while catfishing should be good on cold worms and night crawlers. For latest reports, call Anderson's Sport Center at 368-9669 or Honey Hole Tackle Shop at 323-8707.

LAKE CLAIBORNE – High water has closed the lake except for idle speed only. Even so, some are still catching crappie mostly in deep water but some are starting to move as spawning time gets closer. Some are biting around the lights at night also. Bass have been fair but catfishing is improving. No report this week on bream or stripers. For latest information, call Tim Loftin at Kel's Cove at 927-2264.

CANEY LAKE – The crappie are beginning to move up with some caught 5-10 feet deep in 25 foot water. The channel that runs beneath Highway 4 bridge is producing some big fish on shiners and jigs. Some are also being caught on yo-yos fished from the piers. Bass fishing has slowed this week. Some catfish are being caught on night crawlers. No report on bream just yet. For latest information contact Bateaux on Caney Lake at 259-6649, Hooks Marina at 249-2347, Terzia Tackle at 278-4498 or the Honey

Hole Tackle Shop at 323-8707.

LAKE POVERTY POINT – Crappie are showing signs of moving to the banks with a whopper 3.08 pounder caught this week. Best fishing has been in 6-10 foot water on shiners or


jigs. No report on bass or bream. For latest reports, call Poverty Point Marina at 318/878-0101.

LAKE ST. JOHN – The water is high and fishing overall is slow. For information, call Ken Mahoney at 318-201-3821.

LAKE YUCATAN –

The water is very high and rising. No fishing this week. For information, call Surplus City Landing at 318/467-2259.

LAKE BRUIN – No report. For information, call 318/766-0075.



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Officer Jermaine Galloway

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The summit is hosted with funding from a \$1.2 million dollar federal "Rural Communities Opioid Response Program (RCORP)" grant.

SUDOKU

SUDOKU

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

Level: Beginner

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!

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

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

NORTHERN

A A I X V S T Q O M J H F C A

Y W R U R A S P N L J H F D B

Z X E V T R I O Q O M K I Y L

S N L H E F D S R B E Z C R O

Y A A C W C H V E C U A T O B

R Q N G A R N O K D R N L T S

K I D A I P H A C D O F D I T

C A Z K I H E M I S P H E R E

X W E K V R C N L L E U R R R

S R E Q O N A I F M L K J E I

S T H G I L H M M F E A D T B

Monday's unlisted clue: EVEREST

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

Tuesday's unlisted clue hint: THE AURORA BOREALIS

Alliance
Cape
Cardinal
Cross

Europe
Flicker
Hemisphere
Ireland

Lobster
Marianas
Michigan
Pike

Rhodesia
Shrike
Territory

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3/9

HISTORY

Continued from Page 10 known as Sputnik 9), the mannequin was accompanied by a dog, reptiles, mice, and guinea pigs.

1959 - The Barbie doll goes on sale. The American toy company Mattel claims that more than one billion Barbie dolls have been sold so far, with about 3 dolls being sold every second.

1931 - The electron microscope is invented. German physicist Ernst Ruska is credited with the invention of the microscope. His first instrument allowed a resolution of 50 nanometers (billionths of a meter).

COMICS

BABY BLUES | RICK KIRKMAN AND JERRY SCOTT



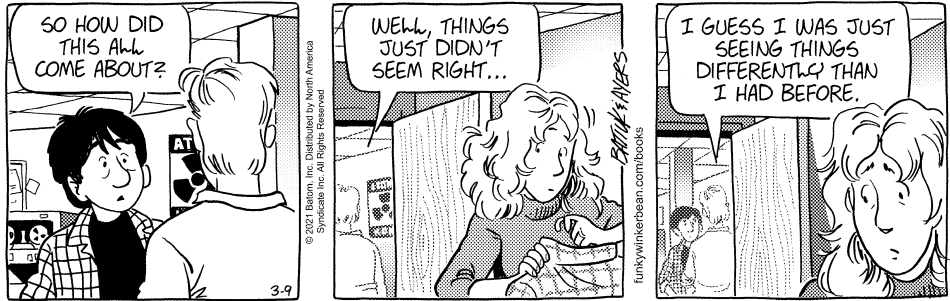
BLONDIE | DEAN YOUNG AND JOHN MARSHALL



BEETLE BAILEY | MORT & GREG WALKER



FUNKY WINKERBEAN | TOM BATIUK



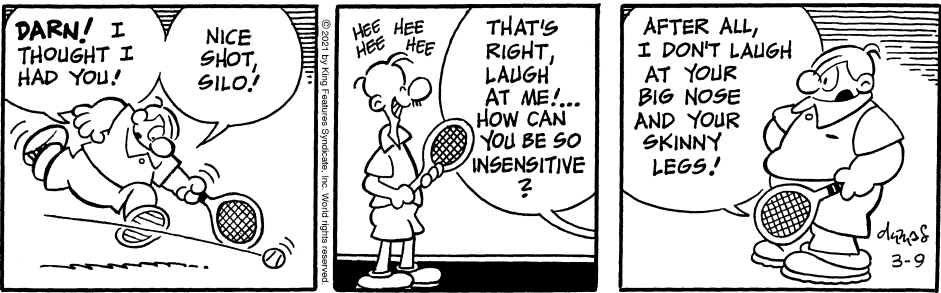
HI AND LOIS | BRIAN WALKER, GREG WALKER AND CHANCE BROWNE



HAGAR THE HORRIBLE | CHRIS BROWNE



SAM AND SILO | JERRY DUMAS



MOTHER GOOSE & GRIMM | MIKE PETERS



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NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that, in accordance with L.R.S. 3:1609 and LAC 7:XV.314 (A), the Louisiana Department of Agriculture & Forestry, Louisiana Boll Weevil Eradication Commission, has established a boll weevil eradication zone, the Louisiana Eradication Zone, consisting of all the territory within the state of Louisiana. Notice is further given that all producers of commercial cotton in Louisiana are required to participate in the boll weevil eradication program, including cost sharing, in accordance with the Boll Weevil Eradication Law and regulations. This includes, but is not limited to, reporting of cotton acreage and destruction of cotton plants and stalks by December 31 of each crop year. A copy of the law and rules and regulations may be obtained from the Boll Weevil Eradication Commission, 5825 Florida Blvd. Ste. 3002, Baton Rouge, La. 70806, telephone number (225) 922-1338. Notice is also given that the planting of noncommercial cotton is PROHIBITED in Louisiana unless a written waiver is obtained from the Commissioner of Agriculture & Forestry in accordance with LAC 7:XV.319(C). To request a waiver, submit a written application to the Department of Agriculture and Forestry, at the address provided in this notice, stating the conditions under which such written waiver is requested.
March 9, 2021
March 16, 2021
March 23, 2021
Minden Press-Herald

GOVERNING THE TOWN OF COTTON VALLEY AND THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE SALE OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

WHEREAS, the Town of Cotton Valley ("Town") has conducted an election pursuant to La. R.S.

26:581, et seq., and the voters have approved the sale of alcoholic beverages of both high and low alcoholic content, for consumption both on and off the premises of sale, within the limits of the Town. WHEREAS, the Mayor and the Board of Aldermen of the Town desire to enact certain rules and regulations regarding said sales of alcoholic beverages. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and the Board of Aldermen of the Town of Cotton Valley, Louisiana, in due, legal and regular session convened, as follows: ARTICLE A-IN GENERAL. Section 3.1 - Definitions. The following words, terms, and phrases, when used in this Chapter, shall have the meanings ascribed to them in this Section, except where the context clearly indicates a different meaning: Alcoholic beverage means any fluid or solid which is capable of being converted into fluid suitable for human consumption and containing more than one-half of one percent alcohol by volume, including malt, vinous, alcoholic or intoxicating liquor, beer, porter, ale, stout, fruit juice, cider or wine. Alcoholic beverage handling employee means any alcoholic beverage permit holder or employee, agent, partner, or other person connected with or employed by an alcoholic beverage permit holder, who physically handles, sells or serves any alcoholic beverage or container thereof, for consumption on the premises, including, but not limited to, waiters, waitresses, barmaids, bartenders and managers. Alcoholic beverage permit or permit means a permit required by and issued pursuant to the provisions of this Chapter. Beverage of high alcoholic content means alcoholic

beverage containing more than six percent alcohol by volume. Beverage of low alcoholic content means alcoholic beverages containing not more than six percent by volume. Chief of Police as used in this Chapter shall be the person holding the office of chief of police or the person designated by him to act for him. Motor vehicle means a motorized vehicle designed to convey person from one place to another on public streets and highways. Open container means any container or receptacle containing any alcoholic beverage; wherein the stamp or seal has been broken, or any container, bottle or can that contain any alcoholic beverage that has been opened subsequent to the filling of such can, bottle or container by the manufacturer, brewery or distillery of such alcoholic beverage. Alcoholic beverages contained in drinking glasses, cups, including plastic glasses and Styrofoam cups, regardless of whether such containers have a top affixed thereto, shall be deemed an open container.
March 5, 2021
March 9, 2021
March 12, 2021
March 16, 2021
March 19, 2021
March 23, 2021
March 26, 2021
March 30, 2021
April 2, 2021
Minden Press-Herald

CITIBANK, N.A. SUIT NO. 79,046 VERSUS 26TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT JERRY R. LEMAY A/K/A JERRY RAE LEMAY A/K/A JERRY RAY LEMAY and VESTA C. LEMAY WEBSTER PARISH, LOUISIANA NOTICE

Please take notice that VESTA C. LEMAY, has been named Defendant in the above-styled cause of action. VESTAC. LEMAY, or if deceased, their heirs, or anyone knowing the whereabouts of same, must contact the LAW OFFICE OF MARK D. FREDERICK at 2800 Youree

Drive, Suite 400, Shreveport, Caddo Parish, Louisiana, 71104, or at the telephone number of (318) 868-7300. Respectfully submitted, LAW OFFICES OF MARK D. FREDERICK
March 9, 2021
March 16, 2021
Minden Press-Herald

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING WEBSTER PARISH POLICE JURY

March 2, 2021
MEMBERS PRESENT: Jim Bonsall, President; Nick Cox, Vice President; Steve Lemmons, Steve Ramsey, Randy Thomas, Daniel Thomas, Beverly Kennon, Allen Gilbert, Vera Davison and Ed Jordan
Absent: Bernard Hudson and Bruce Blanton
Mr. Jim Bonsall called the meeting to order and asked Mr. Nick Cox to open the meeting with prayer. Mr. Allen Gilbert led in the Pledge of Allegiance. Mr. Bonsall then asked for additions to the agenda. Mr. Steve Lemmons moved, seconded by Mr. Steve Ramsey to add Village of Dubberly Resolution for cleaning brush and ditches and Village of Dubberly Resolution for overlay for Brushwood Drive. Motion carried unanimously. There were no comments from the audience concerning the agenda. Mr. Nick Cox moved, seconded by Ms. Vera Davison to approve invoices for payment pending review by President, Jim Bonsall. Motion carried unanimously. Mr. Ed Jordan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen Gilbert to adopt the minutes of the February 2, 2021 Road Committee, Finance Committee, and Regular Meeting. Motion carried unanimously. Mr. Steve Lemmons moved, seconded by Mr. Randy Thomas to approve to appoint Angela F. Hall as Registrar of Voters for Webster Parish. Motion carried unan-

imously. Mr. Randy Thomas moved, seconded by Mr. Steve Ramsey to approve the Resolution of Support for Rural Broadband for Webster Parish. (Yes 9) (No 1, Daniel Thomas) and 2 Absent. Motion carried. Mr. Steve Lemmons moved, seconded by Mr. Ed Jordan to approve the Resolution for the Village of Dubberly to clean brush and ditches for inside city limits of Dubberly. Motion carried unanimously. Mr. Steve Lemmons moved, seconded by Mr. Steve Ramsey to approve the Resolution for the Village of Dubberly to overlay Brushwood Drive where the road crew left off last year using Municipality Funding. Motion carried unanimously. COMMENTS: Serena Gray WPCVB (Tourism) Col. Thompson and Kyle Robertson WP Assessor/ Denise Edwards Jason Parker W.P. Sheriff Brian Williams WPPJ OEP/ Homeland Security Director Angie Chapman WP 911 Director John Barr Senator John Kennedy COMMITTEE REPORTS: Mr. Steve Ramsey moved, seconded by Mr. Steve Lemmons to approve the action taken at the Road Committee Meeting held earlier today. Motion carried unanimously. Mr. Nick Cox moved, seconded by Mr. Ed Jordan to approve the action taken at the Finance Committee Meeting held earlier today. Motion carried unanimously. Ms. Vera Davison moved, seconded by Mr. Steve Ramsey to approve the action taken at the Administrative Committee Meeting held earlier today. Motion carried unanimously. Mr. Jim Bonsall then gave Presidents' closing remarks. There being no further business to bring before the Jury, the meeting adjourned. Lisa C. Balkom Jim Bonsall

Secretary-Treasurer President
March 9, 2021
Minden Press-Herald

PUBLIC HEARING Village of Dixie Inn, LA

The Village of Dixie Inn will hold a public hearing at 1:30 p.m. on March 16, 2021 at Village Hall. The purpose of the meeting is to obtain views on the housing and community development needs of the City and to discuss the submission of an application for funding under the State of Louisiana's FY 2022/2023 Community Development Block Grant (LCDBG) Program. Information regarding the amount of funds available for proposed community development and housing activities; the range of activities available that may be undertaken, including the estimated amount of funds proposed to be used for activities that will benefit persons of low and moderate incomes; the plans of the City for minimizing displaced persons as a result of activities assisted with such funds and the benefits to be provided by the Village to persons actually displaced as a result of such activities; and the Village's past performance on LCDBG projects funded by the State of Louisiana will be presented. All residents, particularly low and moderate income persons and residents of slum and blighted areas of the Village of Dixie Inn are encouraged to attend this meeting. Accommodations will be made for persons with disabilities and non-English speaking individuals provided that a three day notice is received by the Village. Those citizens unable to attend this hearing may submit their views and proposals until March 15, 2021, in writing to Dana James at the following address: Village of Dixie Inn, 60 Shell St., Minden, LA 71055.
March 9, 2021

Minden Press-Herald
PUBLIC HEARING
City of Minden, LA

The City of Minden will hold a public hearing at 10:30 a.m. on March 16, 2021 at City Hall. The purpose of the meeting is to obtain views on the housing and community development needs of the City and to discuss the submission of an application for funding under the State of Louisiana's FY 2022/2023 Community Development Block Grant (LCDBG) Program. Information regarding the amount of funds available for proposed community development and housing activities; the range of activities available that may be undertaken, including the estimated amount of funds proposed to be used for activities that will benefit persons of low and moderate incomes; the plans of the City for minimizing displaced persons as a result of activities assisted with such funds and the benefits to be provided by the City to persons actually displaced as a result of such activities; and the City's past performance on LCD-BG projects funded by the State of Louisiana will be presented. All residents, particularly low and moderate income persons and residents of slum and blighted areas of the City of Minden are encouraged to attend this meeting. Accommodations will be made for persons with disabilities and non-English speaking individuals provided that a three day notice is received by the City. Those citizens unable to attend this hearing may submit their views and proposals until March 15, 2021, in writing to Kathy Newer at the following address: City of Minden, PO Box 580, Minden, LA 71058.
March 9, 2021
Minden Press-Herald

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Heath, Attorney at Law, PLLC, dba Lexington Law Firm (LA-SCAN)</p> <p>Have 10K in Debt? Credit Cards. Medical Bills. Personal Loans. Be Debt</p>	<p>Free in 24-48 Months. Call NATIONAL DEBT RELIEF! Know Your Options. Get a FREE debt relief quote; Call 1-844-290-9978 (LA-SCAN)</p> <p>Over \$10K in debt? Be debt free in 24-48 months. Pay nothing to enroll. Call National Debt Relief at 1-855-794-1033 (LA-SCAN)</p> <p>SAVE YOUR HOME! Are you behind paying your MORTGAGE? Denied a Loan Modification? Threatened with FORECLOSURE? Call the Homeowner's Relief Line now for HELP! 1-866-470-1641 (LA-SCAN)</p> <p>For Sale ENJOY 100% guaranteed, delivered to-the-door Omaha Steaks! Get 4 FREE Pork Chops and 4 FREE CHICKEN BREAST Order the Omaha Steaks Classic - ONLY \$129.99. Call 1-844-897-8143 and use code 66762SXC or visit www.omahasteaks.com/dinner702 (LA-SCAN)</p> <p>HughesNet Satellite Internet 25mbps starting at \$49.99 per month! Get More Data FREE Off-Peak Data. FAST download speeds. 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