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75 CENTS

MMC

Clap out for COVID Recovery



Minden Medical Center staff gathered in the lobby for a Clap Out to celebrate the recovery of Cassandra Abbot from COVID-19, who had been in the hospital for 45 days since August 4th and on a ventilator since August 5th.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Tensions flair after City Council Special Session, budget fails for a 4th time

WILL PHILLIPS
Minden Press-Herald

Another Special Session was held in order to attempt to pass the City's Budget. Monday's meeting comes nearly a month after concerns regarding the budget were brought forth by Mr. Edwards, and based on the measure failing to pass for the fourth time, it's clear that there has yet to be a compromise amongst the City Council.

The vote failed with two being in favor, Councilmen Michael Roy and Pam Bloxom, and three opposed, those being Councilmen Wayne Edwards, Terika Williams-Walker, and Vincen Bradford.

The meeting itself took about 20 minutes, with the rest being devoted to public comments, as well as some input from the council regarding their inability to compromise regarding the budget.

It wasn't until after the meeting as people were

beginning to leave that shouting ensued. Mayor Terry Gardner appeared to back up, pushing his chair into Councilman Bradford. Councilman Bradford got upset, accusing the Mayor of having intentionally bumped his chair into him, the conflict having to be diffused by authorities asking them to calm down and separating the two.

Minden Police Association President Jason Smith also joined in on the conflict, exclaiming, "You don't have a rational or intelligent thought anywhere in your head," towards Mr. Bradford, seemingly frustrated with how the events of the night played out. Afterward, the shouting simmered down and the present returned to leave.

The Minden City Council Meeting takes place on the first Monday of each month starting at 5:30 a.m. The meetings are held at Minden City Hall and are open for the public to attend.

ARRESTS

Undercover Criminals: Webster Parish Sheriff's Office locates suspects hiding under blankets

WILL PHILLIPS
Minden Press-Herald

Earlier this week Webster Parish Detectives were sent out to the 300 block of Airport Road in Springhill to locate a warranted subject through the Claiborne Parish Sheriff's office identified as Christopher Nippers.

Upon their arrival, detectives announced their presence and instructed anyone in the residence to come to the door. Detectives heard multiple people running to the back of the residence.

After attaining a warrant and entering the residence, "multiple people were located in the residence concealing themselves from law enforcement," according to the booking report.

One individual named Janice Jordan was located by a lieutenant, "under a mattress hiding with covers over her. (The lieutenant) instructed Janice to come out multiple times, but Janice refused to comply. While attempting to apprehend Janice, Janice forcefully struck the lieutenant multiple times on their arm and face with her feet and hands."

After her apprehension, it was found that she had outstanding warrants, and she admitted to knowing Nippers was inside the residence.

Nippers himself was also, "Located by detectives in a rear bedroom hiding under a blanket. Christopher was instructed by detectives multiple times to come out from under the covers, but Christopher refused," the report stated.

Detectives eventually removed the blanket and instructed Nippers to place his hands behind his back. He initially refused, but after a second command he complied with the deputies' requests.

A third subject named Morgan Bailey, 37, was also located hiding inside of the bathroom inside the residence. "Bailey initially refused to exit the bathroom area after multiple commands by detectives. After a period of time Morgan exited the bathroom and initially refused to get on the ground after a verbal command was given by detectives," the booking report stated.

She eventually complied and was taken into custody.

Bailey was charged with resisting an officer and accessory after the fact. Jordan was charged with distribution of a schedule II substance, resisting by force, and being an accessory after the fact. Nippers was charged with resisting an officer, on top of the warrants that led to this altercation.

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Tomorrow's
Low Temp 70°

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SECOND FRONT

HURRICANE SEASON

Edwards' Ida-related order also prevents evictions statewide

(The Center Square) – When Gov. John Bel Edwards issued an executive order suspending legal deadlines in the aftermath of Hurricane Ida, he also implemented a statewide eviction moratorium without expressly stating it.

“Yes, evictions are included in the proclamation,” the governor’s office confirmed in an email.

The order was issued amid widespread power outages and storm damage in southeast Louisiana. Referring to affected residents, Edwards said in a news release, “We need for them to be focused on recovery and not whether they will be held to a court deadline.”

The expansive exercise of executive powers – first for COVID-19 and now for natural disasters – is a cause for concern, according to some legal experts.

“No one would question that a hurricane constitutes an emergency, and I would think that court proceedings constitute state business. So he is probably acting within the limits of his conferred emergency powers,” said Luke Wake, an attorney at the Pacific Legal Foundation.

“But I think we ought to

be concerned about Governors invoking these sort of emergency powers on a recurrent basis, especially when done on a statewide basis where in fact the affected areas may be more localized,” he said.

Wake and the Pacific Legal Foundation, a public interest law firm, previously represented a group of Louisiana landlords who challenged the federal eviction ban.

Before Hurricane Ida, Louisiana property owners were subjected to the eviction moratorium for nearly a year before the U.S. Supreme Court ruled the coronavirus-related policy was unconstitutional. The moratorium had been extended multiple times but was struck down Aug. 26.

Ida made landfall in southeast Louisiana on Aug. 29, and Edwards’ executive order effectively created another statewide eviction moratorium until Sept. 24, though it may be extended if deemed necessary. Edwards since has declared a state of emergency for Tropical Storm Nicholas.

Edwards, a Democrat, had praised the Biden administration’s eviction moratorium, which was implemented through the Centers for Disease Con-

trol and Prevention. The governor’s office publicized the Louisiana Rental Assistance Program as providing funding relief for renters and landlords during the eviction ban.

The state rental assistance program, however, has issued a fraction of available funds. As of Wednesday, \$29.2 million of \$161 million has been disbursed since March.

Landlords were saddled with taxes, insurance premiums, mortgage payments and repair costs since September 2020, regardless of whether tenants paid rent. The new statewide eviction freeze could present additional problems.

The order applies to legal proceedings in all state courts, administrative agencies and boards. It invokes emergency powers under the state Homeland Security and Emergency Assistance Disaster Act and suspends deadlines relating to Louisiana’s Code of Civil Procedure.

Under Louisiana law, landlords must follow specific civil procedures when attempting to evict a tenant, such as obtaining a court order.

According to Louisiana Realtors, a Baton Rouge-based real estate associ-

ation, suspending legal deadlines undermines a landlord’s ability to obtain an eviction order from a court in all 64 parishes until the suspension is rescinded.

“However, the suspension of deadlines applies to legal proceedings and would not prohibit the posting of an eviction notice or the commencement of legal action to obtain an eviction order,” the organization said after the governor’s executive action.

Confusion occurred last year when Edwards suspended legal deadlines because of the COVID-19 pandemic. The Republican-controlled Louisiana Legislature passed Act 162 in response. It allows for deadlines that would have expired during the suspension period to expire on the date immediately following the end of the suspension period.

“That Act was specific to the Governor’s orders issued in response to COVID-19 but would likely be used as guidance in this instance as well,” Louisiana Realtors said.

The question of when the temporary eviction block will be lifted is important to landlords and renters. Previous executive orders, such as Ed-

wards’ statewide indoor mask mandate, have lasted longer than the initial timeline.

Edwards implemented the statewide mask mandate Aug. 2. It is still in effect despite an initial Sept. 1 expiration date.

Louisiana congressman Troy Carter, a Democrat representing New Orleans, has been an outspoken proponent of the federal eviction moratorium. He also urged Edwards to suspend evictions after Ida.

“Without a statewide moratorium, we face a situation where people in half the state are displaced after a hurricane and people in the other half of the state face being displaced during a raging pandemic,” he wrote in a letter to the governor.

“While I will continue fighting in Congress to extend the national moratorium, I hope you will do everything you can on

the state level to protect Louisianans now,” Carter wrote.

The Pacific Legal Foundation filed two lawsuits against the national moratorium; one arguing the ban on evictions lacked statutory authority and another claiming the policy violated a constitutional separation of powers.

Wake said state-level emergency powers have the potential for similar overreach.

“In any event the real opportunity for abuse comes with orders that are issued on an indefinite or continuing basis, as we saw in many states through the pandemic,” Wake said. “That is why [Pacific Legal Foundation] has urged state legislatures to consider emergency management reforms to impose firm temporal limits on emergency powers as the best check against autocratic rule.”

OBITUARIES



Gabriel Ian Tyler

Funeral services for Gabriel Ian Tyler will be held Saturday, September 18, 2021, at 10:00 a.m. at City On Hill Pentecostal Church in Minden, Louisiana with Rev. Jeff Ramsey officiating. Interment will follow at Gray Cemetery in Sibley, Louisiana under the direction of Rose-Neath Funeral Home in Minden, Louisiana. The family will receive friends Friday, September 17, 2021, from 5:00 until 7:00 p.m. at the City On A Hill Pentecostal Church.

Gabriel was born January 14, 2019 in Minden, Louisiana and entered into rest September 9, 2021 in Chicago.

He was preceded in death by his great grandparents, Patsy Ramsey, Donald Sackett, and Kenneth and Beryl Tyler.

He is survived by his parents Ian and Gabrielle Ramsey Tyler of Minden; grandparents, Jeff and Cindy Ramsey of Minden, David and Dianna Tyler of Las Vegas New Mexico, and Clifford and Donna Rice of Casper, Wyoming; great grandparents, Verval Ramsey of Minden, Betty And Wayne Gray of Sibley, and Meredith Sackett of Casper, Wyoming; brothers, Christian, Collin, and Caleb Tyler; numerous aunts, uncles, and cousins; and special friend and caregiver, Jasmine Spencer.

Pallbearers will be Stewart Tyler, Joseph Adler, Jeff Ramsey, Jr., and Roger Gray.

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



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OBITUARIES



John Henry Lyles, III

John Henry Lyles, III, passed away peacefully in his sleep on Monday, August 30, 2021, in Vero Beach, Florida, following a recent cardiac event. He was known as Jay to his family and friends. Jay was born in Minden, Louisiana, on January 10, 1980, to John and Linda Lyles. He was the brother to Shelley Spence and Chris Lyles. He was married to Katrina Collins and was a stepfather to Emily and Allie Collins.

Jay was a 1998 graduate of Sibley High School. He attended Northwestern State University in Natchitoches, Louisiana, for two years before transferring to Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge. As a high school sophomore, he was selected to represent his class at the Hugh O’Brian (HOBY) Youth Leadership program. He later went on to serve as a volunteer for HOBY Louisiana from June 2000 through 2018.

At NSU, Jay was an active member of Phi Kappa Phi fraternity and majoring in Journalism and Political Science. He was chosen by The Fund for American Studies

to study Political Economics and Ethics at Georgetown University and to intern at The Washington Times. He was also awarded a tuition scholarship to study Free Economics and Political Systems at Charles University in Prague, Czech Republic.

After transferring to LSU, he graduated Magna Cum Laude with a Bachelor’s degree in Mass Communication. In 2004, he completed his Master’s degree in Public Administration. Jay later enrolled in law school at Southern University Law Center and pursued legal studies from 2010 through 2011.

In 2006, Jay announced that he would be running for Louisiana State Representative of District 68 in 2007. It was a hard fought battle with the victor being Steve Carter.

Throughout his life, Jay would acquire the titles of friend, reporter, entrepreneur, marketing guru, financial professional, political consultant, political candidate and accomplished writer. He was an avid reader, and he loved LSU sports, tailgating and Louisiana politics.

Jay was preceeded in death by his paternal grandparents, John and Hazel Lyles of Shreveport, Louisiana, and by his maternal grandfather, Earl Carson Davis of Minden.

He is survived by his parents, John and Linda Lyles of Minden, his wife, Katrina Collins Lyles, and stepdaughters Emily and Allie Collins of Vero Beach, Florida, his

grandmother, Azalea Davis of Minden, his Uncle Earl D. Davis of Minden, and his wife and daughter, Diane and Yvonne, his sister, Shelley, and her husband Brad Spence of Ennis, Texas, his brother, Chris Lyles, and his wife, Laura, and their sons, Carson and Cooper Lyles of Natchitoches, Louisiana. Other precious family members include his Aunt Zee Wilson and cousins Cathy Wilson and Cindy Windgate and family, of Florida, his Aunt Diane Lyles and cousins Jonathan Lyles and family, Melissa Lyles Vezinat and family of Baton Rouge, cousin Catherine Friday and her husband Jason of Colorado, Laura Beth Lyles of Austin, Texas, and many other aunts, uncles and cousins.

A memorial service will be held Saturday, September 18, 2021, at 2PM at Pine Grove United Methodist Church in Minden. The family is requesting those attending Jay’s service, to please wear red, white and blue or LSU colors, and to also bring a small item, picture or note that reminds you of Jay to add to our “memory box.”

In lieu of flowers, memorials can be given to our local 4-H club or Pine Grove Methodist Church.

Webster 4-H Foundation
1202 Homer Road
Minden, LA 71055
Pine Grove Methodist Church
P.O. Box 1496
Minden, LA 71055



Archie Lovett McDow, Jr.

Mr. Archie Lovett McDow, Jr. age 80 of Winnsboro, passed away on Friday, September 10, 2021 in Tyler

surrounded by family. He was born on March 4, 1941 in Minden, Louisiana to the late Archie McDow, Sr. and Hazel Burrough McDow.

Poppy was a retired fork lift operator and was preceded in death by his wife, Veronica McDow and daughter, Mitzi Elizabeth McDow.

He is survived by his son, Drew McDow of Winnsboro; daughter, Lisa Alilano and husband, Alex of

Poetry, Texas; four grandchildren, Sara Day, Malorie Thomas, Braden McDow, Nicci Atilano and four great grandchildren, Elyzabeth, Gage, Natalie, and Abigale.

A Memorial Gathering will be held on Wednesday, September 15, 2021 from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm at Beaty Funeral Home-Winnsboro 816 W. Broadway Winnsboro, TX.



Donald Vernon Smith

Graveside services for Donald Vernon Smith will be held Saturday, September 18, 2021, at 10:00 a.m. at Fellowship Cemetery in Dubberly, Louisiana under the direction of Rose-Neath Funeral Home in Minden, Louisiana with

Bro. Bill Crider officiating.

Don was born April 17,1951 and entered eternal rest September 12, 2021. His lifetime occupation was an electrician for Sale Electric.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Vernon and Avis Smith.

He is survived by his brother, Gary Smith (Sandra); nephew, Phillip Smith (Maricel); niece, Kitty Currie (John); great nephew, Matthew Currie; great nieces, Britni Smith, Emily Humphreys (Luke), Jessi-

ca Korthauer (Ryan); great great niece, Emma Humphreys; great great nephew, Hank Humphreys, and many special family and friends.

Pallbearers will be Phillip Smith, Matthew Currie, Ronnie Sale, Jim Thomas, Kris Gorman, and Sammy Gorman.

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



Bobbye Nelson

Bobbye Gwen Talley Nelson, 87, of Minden, moved from this earthly life to her eternal home in Heaven on Tuesday, September 14, 2021. Born March 27, 1934, in Emerson, AR to parents Marvin Andrew Talley and Eva Louella Campbell Talley, Bobbye was a graduate of Springhill High School, attended business college for two years and became much beloved in Minden for the daycare service she operated in her home for many years.

Mrs. Nelson’s visitation will begin at noon Saturday, September 18, 2021 at First Baptist Church Minden, followed by a 2:00 p.m. service. Bro. Leland Crawford will officiate, assisted by Bro. Stephen Laughlin. Following the funeral service, interment will be at 4:00 p.m. at Western Cemetery in Emerson, Arkansas.

Bobbye was married to the late Dennis Hayes Nelson, the love of her life whom she absolutely adored. She was also preceded in death by her parents and by her sister, Dorothy Lynn Talley Morgan.

“Miss Bobbye” --as she was affectionately known to her children and so many others -- is survived by her daughters Faith Gilbert (Andy) of Minden and Erin White (Joey) of Homer, and her son Loyd Nelson (Laura) of Okaloosa; grandson Weston White of Homer, granddaughters Chandler Beard (Jesse) of Monroe, Eleanor Gilbert of Dallas, TX, Meredith Spillers (Chase) of Minden and Abigail Gilbert of Minden; and great grandchildren Lucy Beard and Judah Beard of Monroe.

Bobbye was a faithful member of First Baptist Church for more than 50 years. She served many years as a Sun-

day morning greeter, and loved giving and getting hugs as the church members arrived for Sunday services. She taught Sunday School, was a dedicated prayer warrior and sang in the Sanctuary and Senior Adult Choirs. “Miss Bobbye” had a great love of music, and enjoyed seeing her children grow their talents in piano, guitar, and voice. She knew that these gifts would serve her children well for the remainder of their lives, and this has certainly held true. Each of her grandchildren inherited and nurtured musical talent and -- to their Grandmother’s delight -- they have all put those talents to great use in the service of Jesus Christ. It was very clear to everyone who knew Bobbye that she devoted her life to serving her family and The Lord. She was also a gracious host, a wonderful cook (her Sunday dinners were legendary with her family!) and she absolutely loved growing flowers and keeping the yard looking beautiful.

After working for the City of Minden, Miss Bobbye began in 1975 the work which would endear her to so many Minden families. She opened a daycare in her home on Rathbun Drive, and this turned out to be her calling as she was able to put her great love for children to use while still being home for her family. The first child enrolled in the daycare was Karrie Hodges (Woodard), whose family became one of several extended families of the Nelsons. Over the next 25 years, Miss Bobbye took care of dozens of children, and she was very proud that many of them went on to become doctors, successful business professionals, nurses, teachers and attorneys. Most of all, she was proud they turned out to be fine young people. Bobbye always remarked that she had the privilege of serving the best children and parents in Minden.

In 1986, tragedy struck the Nelson family when Mr.

Dennis, a respected banker in Minden, drowned while fishing. It was a crushing blow to Bobbye and her family, but she remained strong as the matriarch of the family, held tightly to her faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, and guided her three children through college and on to successful careers.

In her last few years of running the daycare service Miss Bobbye had the privilege of looking after all five of her grandchildren. The last in the line of grandchildren was Abigail, who was Miss Bobbye’s final daycare child before she retired in the year 2000.

For Bobbye Nelson’s family and friends there will be a great void as we long for the big heart-felt hugs, the beautiful flower gardens, the delicious food and the joyous laughs that were all part of who Miss Bobbye was. But we know Heaven is just a bit brighter today, and we have the great comfort of knowing we will get to be with her again in the twinkling of an eye.

Pallbearers for the service will be Weston White, Jesse Beard, Chase Spillers, David Dumas, Sid Simms and Jason Woodard with honorary pallbearers Dr. Keith Morgan, Dr. Ricky Jones, Don Campbell and Billy Reeve.

A sincere thank you is expressed to Dr. Cliff Salmon and staff, Regional Hospice, and to Bobbye’s caregivers Wendy Pyles, Julie Noble and Tina Woodard. The family would also like to thank Judy Willett who was Miss Bobbye’s hair stylist for over 30 years. Her final days were made sweeter by these special people.

The family requests that memorials be made to the Music Ministry of First Baptist Church Minden.

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

OPINION

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OPINION

U.N. climate report makes clear the sky is not falling

The U.N.'s Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change has issued its latest report purporting to analyze the state of the climate and trying to model and project the climate future. Well, the apocalyptic climate change religionists won't be pleased.

In the simplest terms, the conclusions from this report are not nearly as dire as have been predicted by politicians or the national and international media who believe in a man-made doomsday climate future as an article of faith and that a new Inquisition is justified for non-believers. I will be curious to see the conclusions of independent climate scientists regarding the Report.

In the meantime, let's review some of the more relevant issues and conclusions of the Report. The Report, entitled AR6, is nearly 4,000 pages long and authored by several hundred government appointed scientists who have researched and attempted to model the status of our climate, including analysis of past climate occurrences.

As we know, in any type of numerical or statistical measurement the number or values "plugged in" the formula almost always determine the outcome. Polling in a political campaign is a good example. The poll may be well-intentioned and conscientiously conducted but if the wrong samples of people, i.e. demographics, are used the outcome of the poll won't be accurate.

Similarly, there has always been a real difficulty in accurately applying the sophisticated computer modeling used to measure climate scenarios. In fact, these varying climate models have been referred to as the "model muddle." In one example, models that are used to attempt to project rainfall and future temperatures remain ill-equipped to do that because some models focus specifically on greenhouse gases while others disagree on

the baseline temperature of the earth's surface.

It's also been discovered that this modeling cannot accurately account for the global climate in the past, without which present and future climate data cannot be measured. In other words, as an expert has pointed out "the models fail to explain why rapid global warming occurred from 1910-1940, when human influences on the climate were less significant."



ROYAL ALEXANDER

detail in current modeling approaches makes them 'not fit' to describe regional climate." (Tim Palmer, Royal Society research professor in Climate Physics; and, Bjorn Stevens, Managing Director, Max Planck Institute of Meteorology). Koonin further notes that the Report, "choosing to focus on climate change in recent decades, obscures or fails to mention that while the global rise in sea level has been increasing over the past 50 years, it was increasing almost as rapidly 90 years ago before decreasing strongly for 40 years."

The Report, itself, expresses low confidence in most hurricane trends over the next 100 years and it remains unclear whether there is any trend beyond the natural variability in Atlantic hurricanes. "In other words, we have no scientific proof that humans have made hurricanes worse." (Koonin).

Further, a summary of a recent U.S. government climate report makes the point that heat waves across the United States have been more frequent since 1960 but are no more

common today than they were in 1900.

The U.N. is necessarily an international organization (we can save for another day what real value it has) with a distinctly Leftist bent intent on leading 21st century crusades to punish and destroy free thinkers who reject its climate ideology. Yet, this Report has now determined that its doomsday CO2 emissions projections are "unlikely" for several reasons including the fact that estimations reflecting the average global temperature in 2100 are only about 2.5 degree Celsius warmer than in the late 1800s.

For these reasons, Koonin concludes, "it is absurd to suggest that an additional degree of warming over the next century will be catastrophic" and, in fact, "... even 1.5 degrees of additional warming by 2100 will have minimal net economic impact."

Additionally, the production of fossil fuels has been attacked relentlessly, worldwide, supposedly to combat the eons-old cyclical warming and cooling of our planet. However, according to Dr. Patrick Moore, a Greenpeace co-founder, "there is no scientific proof that human emissions of carbon dioxide are the dominant cause of the minor warming of the Earth's atmosphere over the past 100 years ... no actual proof, as it is understood in science, actually exists."

As former U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo stated when President Trump wisely pulled the U.S. out of the Paris Climate Accord "due to the crushing economic burden that would have been placed on the backs of American workers and our economy," even as the U.S. "has reduced all types of emissions, even as we grow our economy and ensure our citizens' access to affordable energy. Our results speak for themselves: U.S. emissions of criteria air pollutants that

impact human health and the environment declined by 74% between 1970 and 2018. U.S. net greenhouse gas emissions dropped 13% from 2005-2017, even as our economy grew over 19 percent."

Additionally, as Heritage Foundation's Nicolas Loris explains, "while the climate is indeed changing and human activity is playing a role, the chances of looming climate catastrophe are simply unrealistic and not grounded in reality. To have any impact whatsoever on climate, the entire world would either have to quickly change the way it consumes energy or simply remain undeveloped. Both options are devoid of reality."

Loris further notes that under the Paris Climate Accords, "Americans would pay more for food, health care, education, clothes, and every other good and service that requires energy." This would also include:

An overall loss of nearly 400,000 jobs, half of which would be in manufacturing;

An average total income loss of more than \$20,000 for a family of four;

And an aggregate GDP loss of over \$2.5 trillion. (Loris).

As my former boss, the late U.S. Congressman and Public Service Commissioner, Clyde Holloway, would say, "Yes, we'll protect the environment but the worst environment is to be cold and hungry and have no job."

We should ignore the hysterics of politicians and the media elite and continue to follow hard science, while we scientifically monitor our environment and remain faithful stewards of it. And, a free, strong and largely uninhibited American economy is still the best way to prepare for and address any environmental issues that may actually arise.

ROYAL ALEXANDER IS A SHREVEPORT-BASED ATTORNEY.

OPINION

FEMA bows to the realities of post-storm aid with chain saws

FEMA isn't usually known for its flexibility, so it has been a pleasant surprise to see the agency make a temporary change in its rules for reimbursing people who purchase generators or chain saws.

The rules are usually fairly restrictive, limiting reimbursements to cases where someone is using life-supporting equipment, like an oxygen tank.

But in the wake of Hurricane Ida, which assaulted our coast with unusual ferocity, the agency changed its view.

"Outages are much more widespread and long-lasting," said Nate Custer, a spokesman for the agency.

That's good news for com-

munities where power outages lasted a week or longer and the heat and humidity in the days after the storm were unforgiving.

The lights are back on in densely populated New Orleans, Metairie and Baton Rouge, but smaller communities like Houma could be in the dark until the end of the month. And there isn't another cool front anywhere on the horizon.

Under the revised FEMA rules, people who purchased or rented generators and/or chain saws immediately before or after Ida's landfall can seek reimbursements. The allowance for generators is \$800 and it's \$250 for chain saws.

Beneficiaries have to live in one of the 25 parishes impacted by the storm and they must make their purchase between Aug. 26 and Sept. 25. That's a generous time span and takes into account the thousands still sweltering and waiting on relief in the communities south of New Orleans, and just east of Baton Rouge, where in some cases the entire power distribution system will have to be replaced.

"The good news is that FEMA will reimburse those that purchased generators and chain saws before Hurricane Ida made landfall," U.S. Rep. Garret Graves, R-Baton Rouge, said.

Hurricane Ida was for the

most part a storm where people stayed put and hoped for the best, then cleaned up the mess and helped their neighbors. But the heat and the darkness seemed to go on forever.

Government bureaucracies don't change quickly, but FEMA is a different agency from the one that failed so publicly during Hurricane Katrina 16 years ago. That's good news for Louisiana, which endured the most powerful storm since the Civil War in 2020 and again last month. A warming planet promises to deliver more of the same in the years ahead.

FROM THE BACK PORCH

Fall is a Season for Fun

Fall is on its way. As I look out my kitchen window, I'm beginning to see evidence of its approach. The leaves of the sweet gum trees across the road are yellowing as they prepare for a cooler, restful season. As the wind whips through the branches, the yellow leaves drift down, where they will soon become a part of the winter ground cover. In the past few days, cool breezes have given a hint of what is to come. I sat on my porch for a while, relishing the refreshing cool air as it made its way all around me. It reminded me of many times we had enjoyed the fall season, RVing, especially trips to the Smoky Mountains around Pigeon Forge and Gatlinburg. There, streams rushed over the rocks, winding around to lower levels. Floating on the clear waters were leaves of a myriad of shapes, sizes and colors. One could sit and enjoy the peaceful atmosphere, forgetting everything else except the beauty and tranquility of some of God's most amazing creations. The roads through the mountains carried one to places that were formerly inhabited by its earliest settlers. Small churches were located among the hills which at one time had provided places for families to come together to worship the Great Creator. A place where they could cast their worries aside, forgetting the hard lives they had to endure to settle in this new area. Catching up on news of their neighbors and enjoying a time of fellowship as well as worship. There were times we traveled into North Carolina in search of the apple orchards where we found acres of apple trees bearing the colorful fruit; red, green and yellow. Roadside stands had bushels of apples available to purchase. Pumpkins, sweet potatoes, apple cider, syrup and other offerings were there to intrigue the shoppers, tempting them to take home more than just apples. Demonstrations of cider making were available and the visitors were encouraged to try their hands at pressing the apple juice from the fruit. I took a turn and then tasted the juice which I had just pressed. These were some remarkable experiences for us. However, we were aware that one didn't have to go to the moun-

tains to enjoy the cool and colorful fall season. Many happy excursions were available to us near our home place. As children, we were taught to enjoy every season of the year, however, the fall brought a time when most of the farm work was finished for the year. So we had opportunities to traipse through the woods in search of the natural bounty provided for us. Mama and Daddy would take us along as we looked for grapes, muscadines, and persimmons. Muscadines and grapes were harvested so Mama could make jelly; the persimmons just to be eaten. You certainly didn't want to bite into one that wasn't ripe, it was tart and made your mouth feel like it was drawing up. . We were shown the inside of the seeds where there would be tiny white objects in the shape of knives and spoons. There was an old saying that if the seed contained a knife, it would be a bad winter. A spoon indicated a milder one. (I later showed these to my students when I was teaching. They were amazed to see them.) Later, in a different wooded area, we would gather chinquapins. A type of chestnut, these little nuts were protected by a spiny covering that turned brown and opened up when they were ripe. Before eating all of them, we sometimes used some of them to play Hully Gull. One took a handful of nuts in both hands and shook them to rattle. The other player was to guess how many there were. If he guessed correctly, he won the handful of chinquapins. Fall on the farm also meant it was time to harvest the cane and take it to the syrup mill. Daddy would let us go with him to a neighbor's house where the cane was squeezed and the juice boiled down to make delicious ribbon cane syrup. At the end of the day we would go home with buckets of syrup that we enjoyed year-round, lasting till next year's crop was ready. Fall is a special season, one that brings cooler weather and fond memories. We will certainly welcome it when it gets here.



FANNIE MOORE

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

HURRICANE IDA

Oil-soaked birds found near oil spill at refinery after Ida

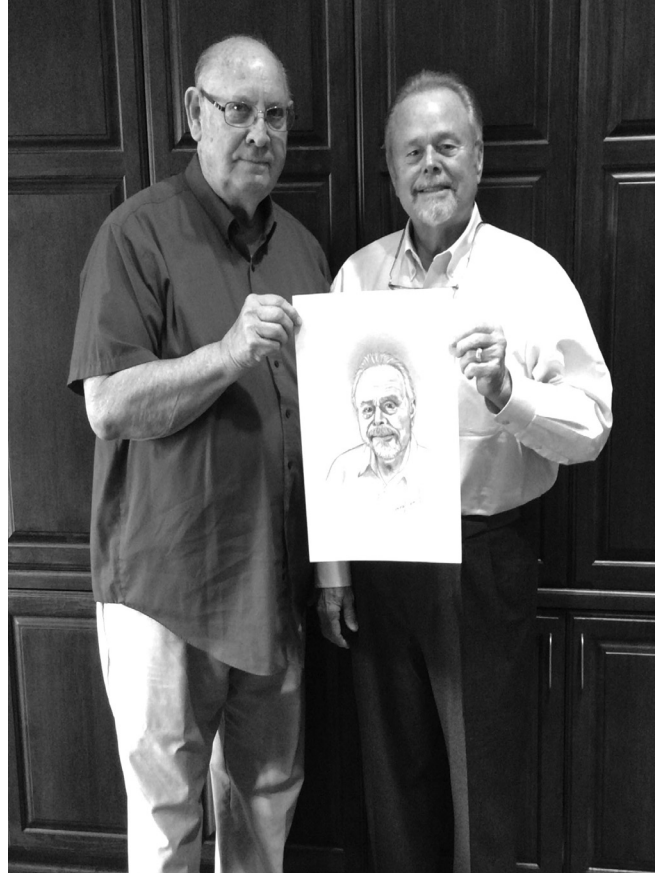
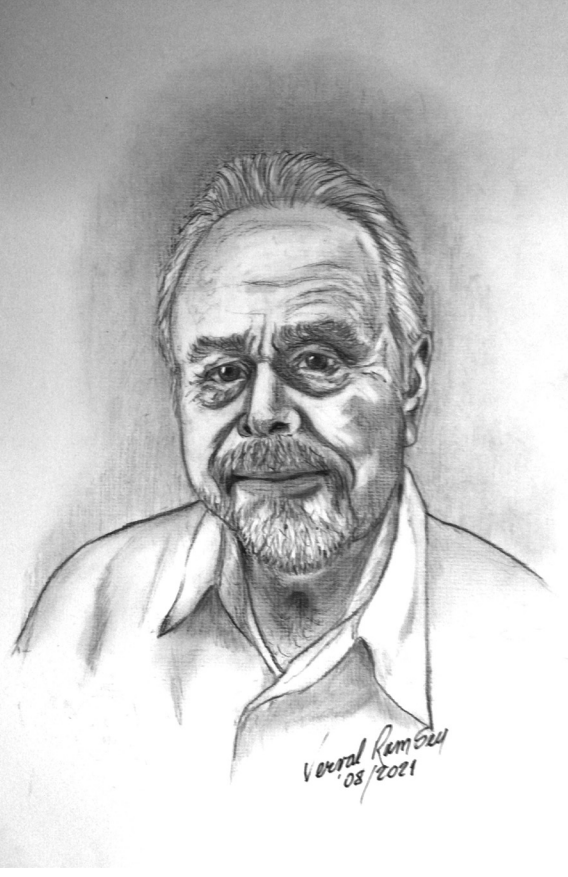
WASHINGTON (AP) — Louisiana wildlife officials say they have documented more than 100 oil-soaked birds after crude oil spilled from a refinery flooded during Hurricane Ida. The Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries said Thursday that a growing number of oiled birds had been observed within heavy pockets of oil throughout the Phillips 66 Alliance Refinery in Belle Chasse, Louisiana, as well as nearby flooded fields and retention ponds along the Mississippi River. Jon Wiebe, a biologist running the state restoration program, said 10 oiled birds have been captured and transported to a rehabilitation location for cleaning. Five additional dead birds were recovered and bagged as evidence, he said. Wiebe said efforts to capture and save more birds are ongoing. The affected species include black-bellied whistling ducks, blue-winged teal and a variety of egrets. Other animals were also seen covered in oil, include alligators, nutria and river otters. A summary issued Thursday by the Environmental Protection Agency said it had received 43 notifications of significant inland oil spills and chemical releases in its jurisdiction after Ida. The agency's compliance arm has issued 10 requests to facility operators seeking information to determine whether federal environmental laws were violated during the storm, potentially triggering penalties and fines. That is a small fraction of the 1,539 reports of pollution a U.S. Coast Guard hotline has received since the Category 4 storm made landfall Aug. 29 at Port Fourchon, the primary port for the offshore oil and gas industry. The Coast Guard said Thursday it was actively supervising the cleanup and mitigation efforts at 564 sites. Another 197 reports were listed as unverified because there was no remaining evidence of pollution. The Associated Press first reported the spill at the Alliance Refinery on Sept. 1 after reviewing aerial images captured by a National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration aircraft. In the days after the hurricane, Phillips 66 repeatedly sought to downplay reports of damage at the company's sprawling refinery. Asked about reports of levee failures near the refinery the day after Ida hit, Phillips 66 spokesman Bernardo Fallas told AP there was "some water" in the facility and stressed that operations were shut down in advance of the storm. Asked two days after the storm about potential environmental hazards emanating from the

facility, Fallas referred a reporter to a statement on the company's website saying its response is focused "on ensuring the safety and well-being of our employees and our surrounding communities." On Day Three, after the AP sent Phillips 66 aerial photos showing extensive flooding at the refinery and what appeared to be petroleum in the water, Fallas conceded the company could have "discovered a sheen of unknown origin in some flooded areas" of the refinery and that all pollution had been "secured and contained within refinery grounds" at that time. A Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality assessment team sent to the refinery last week reported a sizable spill of heavy crude oil at the site was being addressed with booms and absorbent pads. A levee meant to protect the plant had breached, allowing floodwaters to flow in during the storm and then back out as the surge receded. Despite the gap in the levee remaining open for days after the storm, Fallas once again asserted Thursday no oil spilled beyond the land owned by Phillips 66. "The breach has been secured," Fallas said Thursday. "Clean-up crews continue to remove oil and sheen contained within some flooded areas of the refinery. There has been no offsite impact. We continue to work with all appropriate regulatory agencies." No estimate for how much oil might have spilled from the refinery has yet been made public by state or federal regulators. When fully operational, the Alliance Refinery can process more than 255,000 barrels of crude oil per day into gasoline and other petroleum products. The company listed the aging refinery for sale last month, before the storm hit, citing poor market conditions. The facility remained shut down Thursday, with no timetable to reopen. Following inquiries from AP, Fallas also confirmed Thursday that a Phillips 66 pipeline in an uninhabited area outside Paradis, Louisiana, leaked during Ida. Records show the company reported to the Coast Guard on Aug. 31 that 2,700 barrels of isobutane, a liquified flammable gas often used to fuel camping stoves, had spilled. "The site was isolated and brought under control last week," Fallas said Thursday. "The product vaporized to the atmosphere when it was released; there was no impact to soil or water. The pipeline remains shut down while repairs are underway."

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LOCAL ARTIST

Local Artist Creates Charcoal portrait of Minden Mayor



Local artist Verval Ramsey created and gifted mayor Terry Gardner with a charcoal portrait earlier this week.

COURTESY PHOTO

WHERE YA FROM

Nolen Brown – The Pied Piper of Claiborne Street

Music is the soundtrack of our lives. It can touch our souls and instantly change our mood. When the melody and lyrics are just right, it is the best therapy for whatever ails you.

Northwest Louisiana has produced a lot of famous musicians and entertainers, but one often overlooked contribution, is the songwriter. My favorite songwriters are storytellers. It is gift to be able to grab the listener’s attention, create an image that can tug on your heartstrings or tickle your funny bone. And, they do it in less than 3 minutes!

One of my best friends was also one of the best songwriters around. His name was, Nolen Brown. He was born in Dubach and he lived in Minden most of his life. Nolen passed away in 2018, leaving behind his wife of 60 years, Omega. His has two daughters. Schelley runs the Dorcheat Historical Association Museum, and Lauri lives on Lake Bistineau with her family. Sadly, they lost their son, Jeff, way too soon.

Their granddaughter, Aubrie has inherited her grandfather’s musical talents. One of the most precious memories, I have, is the first time I ever met Aubrie. She couldn’t have been more than five years old. She sang Nolen’s song, “Box of Christmas Kisses” to the delight of Christmas shoppers at South Park Mall in Shreveport.

Nolen was a prolific writer and never far from his guitar. He must have it in his blood. He is cousins with Micky Gilley and is related to Myra, who scandalously married Jerry Lee Lewis when she was 13! Nolen has no such scandal, but he has hundreds of songs to his writing and creative credit.

Nolen never moved to Nashville, but was a staff writer for Acuff-Rose (now Sony/ATV) in the 1960’s and 70’s. His songs recorded by Roy Orbison, Bobby Bare, Joe Stampley, Mickey Gilly, Jim Mundy and Tony Douglas. He never gave up on having a hit song. With a little luck that may still happen.

Ann Stuckey, own-

er of the publishing company “LakeSong”, is currently pitching three of Nolen’s songs. If anyone can do it, Ann can! She is the widow of hit songwriter/performer Nat Stucky, and is having success getting Nat Stuckey penned songs recorded by other top country artists. “Pop a Top” (Alan Jackson), “Sweet Thang” (Loretta Lynn), and “On the Other Hand” (Randy Travis) are just a few. She has added Nolen Brown songs, “Six Months, No Interest” and, “I’ve Seen As Much As Any Man” to her catalogue. We’re keeping our fingers crossed!

I got to travel to Nashville with Nolen and Omega a number of times. We went to The Bluebird Café, which is Nashville’s premiere showcase venue for up and coming songwriters and performers. Most songwriters have to line up hours before the show to get a spot on the show. But not Nolen. The owner always gave Nolen carte blanche to perform whenever he was in town.

Nolen made quite the

impression in Nashville. And it’s not hard to see why. Nolen was a pure, uncomplicated country music writer. You could tell Nolen was a great songwriter after hearing just one song. And when that song was over, you’d want to hear another, then another. He was that good.

One, unforgettably sad Nolen Brown song is called, “The Grass Beneath the Swing.” It paints the picture of a backyard swing set where the grass has worn away by the singer’s daughter. The singer blames himself for buying the car she was in when she was killed. Sadly, the singer notes that, “Now, there’s grass beneath the swing.” You’ll need a box of Kleenex to get through this one.

My favorite Nolen Brown song is, “The Wind Still Blows in Tulsa”. It is the first person account of bewildered man whose wife has left him and, sadly, the only thing he knows is - the wind still blows in Tulsa!

Nolen had most of his songs demo’ed in Nashville, meaning

they are virtually ready for the radio. When the singer and musicians interpret the lyrics and melody, it’s magic.

“Looking Like a Little Rain in Little Rock” is one of those songs. Nolen’s songs have some creative lyrics and unique rhyming schemes. Even the title grabs your curiosity.

Some of his songs might fit into, what is called, novelty songs. “A Bull Named Disaster” is one. It is a clever idea and great twist at the end. It tells, in stunning detail, the story of a guy who wants to be a rodeo star. The bull he draws (Disaster) is impossible to ride. It turns out he becomes famous after all - but on a funniest video!

Another novelty song is the light-hearted, “Checking Out the Checker in the Check-out Line.” He writes that the grocery store girl is so good looking, he doesn’t mind letting people cut in line ahead of him. A very cute, memorable feel-good song.

Nolen interprets his boyhood experiences in some of his other songs. “Mr. Joe’s Ice

Cream Truck,” is a real touching story song. Anyone who remembers loving to chase the ice cream truck when they were a kid.

Nolen was still cranking out great songs till the end of his career. “That’s God,” and “Second-Hand Smoke,” are styled for contemporary country radio.

Nolen’s passion was songwriting. He did it as long as he could. Over the years, he co-wrote a lot of songs. He had some great songs co-written with another Minden native, Jerry Strickland.

Nolen and I wrote a few songs together, too. I am proud of our song, “Simple Things.” We also wrote, “Dark Side of the Moon,” and a funny one about medication called, “Side Effects.” I was fortunate to have a song-writing partner, but I was blessed to have a friend in Nolen.

He may be gone, but he has left a legacy that won’t be forgotten.

SUBMITTED BY NORTH LOUISIANA
MUSICAL HISTORIAN JOHNNY
WESSLER.



COURTESY PHOTO/JOHNNY WESSLER

Nolen and Omega Brown surround their two daughters, Lauri and Schelley and granddaughter, Aubrie



COURTESY PHOTO/JOHNNY WESSLER

Nolen on stage of the historic Bluebird Café in Nashville, Tennessee.

STRANGER FROM A STRANGE LAND

The Stepford Rebel's Latest Read

The Stepford Rebel's wife belongs to a book club. Their latest read was "The Sword and The Shield: The Revolutionary Lives of Malcolm X and Martin Luther King Jr." by Peniel E. Joseph. This dual biography seemed a surprising selection that made me inquire further.

"Members take turns picking a book," the Stepford Rebel explained.

"Who suggested this one?" I asked.

"Well, there is one black lady in the group. My wife works with her but she didn't pick it. It was another girl probably trying to impress her."

I was even more surprised my friend, although not a member of the book club, chose to read the book too.

"You know much about Malcolm X?" he asked me.

I told him I read a biography and saw the Spike Lee film starring Denzel Washington. I recalled a Good Times episode where the black rights advocate son Michael assailed racism on IQ tests and gave a sample question from an African American version alternative that asked the birth surname of Malcolm X. I knew it was Little.

"Michael Evans?" the Stepford Rebel said. "I thought in the Norman Lear universe you're Maude Findlay and I'm Archie Bunker."

"God will get you for that Stepford Rebel," I thought.

My friend had filled the Joseph book with colorful Post-it notes. He flipped it open to one and read aloud. "They each brilliantly diagnosed flaws within American democracy, yet they em-

brace different strategies for black liberation at this point – with King maintaining faith in legal and political solutions to combat racial injustice and Malcolm relying on the growing strength, political sophistication, and worldliness of the black community as the true measure of power."

King had faith in changing the system through patience and kindness. Malcolm believed it was rigged and deserved neither.

"Which crusader do you think was correct?" I asked my friend.

"I guess Martin Luther King."

"Because he was a Christian and Malcolm was a Muslim?"

"No, I don't think so," the Stepford Rebel said. "Malcolm's conversion to Islam actually made him a better more moral person. But he got into a violent sect. He was killed by his own guys from the Nation of Islam."

"King got the national holiday," I said. "I guess they chose the preacher who made us white folks less uncomfortable."

"But the author says the two had more in common than most people think," the Stepford Rebel said. "Some thought King's protest of the Vietnam War hurt his civil rights work in our country. But he saw it all as a global stew of human rights violations. I'll bet you didn't know King made people more uncomfortable with his speeches after Malcolm X was killed."

"So did they let you participate in the Book Club?"

"No, it's for the girls

only."

"Too bad. Sounds like you could've offered insightful contributions."

"You got that right."

The Stepford Rebel showed me another marked page. "In a 1964 speech in Omaha, Nebraska where he was born, Malcolm X said he considered anything south of Canada as the South."

"I guess that makes me a southerner."

The Stepford Rebel read another passage from the Jo-

seph book. "But if Malcolm X had remained, until his death, eternally skeptical of American democracy's capacity to guarantee racial and economic justice, King maintained defiant faith in the capacity of massive civil disobedience to bend the will of presidents and political leaders."

"Maybe progress in race relations is like continental drift," I said. "It's so slow it's hard to chart. But it is happening."

"Here is my favorite quote," the Stepford Rebel said. "In 1965, King preached in Montgomery, Alabama that 'the arc of the moral universe is long but it bends toward justice.' So, there you go."

I had heard the quote but didn't know where and when King uttered it. It's a nice thought but there is so much evidence to the contrary. "That's a beautiful hope," I conceded.

"But you don't believe it?"

"No, but I guess it's essential for you believers in a loving God."

"Of course, God loves us."



DIRK ELLINGSON

"Both King and Malcolm X were assassinated. That doesn't seem just. And race relations are still a problem. But if you want to cite that a prison sentence for the guy who crushed George Floyd's windpipe is the moral universe bending to justice, I can't argue with you."

"Damn right. God's will's being done even if you don't recognize it."

I never agree with the Stepford Rebel's simple take on theodicy but I no longer pursue it because I know how these conversations end. It's what my Democrat friend in Republican Kansas calls screaming into the abyss.

Sometimes I believe my friendship with the Stepford Rebel is strong and other times fragile.

He did persuade me to visit the Webster Parish Library and check out the book. What startled me most was Joseph's citation of a James Baldwin

article in Esquire four years after King's death titled "Malcolm and Martin."

Baldwin wrote, "What made him (Malcolm X) unfamiliar and dangerous was not his hatred of white people but his love of blacks." I never thought of it that way. As Joseph then explained, "The world recognized Malcolm primarily as a honed political sword, cutting a wide swath through America's racial wilderness, whereas Baldwin remembered him as a master teacher who believed in black dignity even when most Negroes would not dare to."


It's rare to startle me twice in a single sentence. Citing our country as a "racial wilderness" a century after the Emancipation Proclamation (Abraham Lincoln wrote the government "will do no act or acts to repress such persons")

and nearly two after the Declaration of Independence (Thomas Jefferson, a slaveholder, wrote that "all men are created equal") is shocking but true. You could argue we're still in a wilderness.

The second element of the sentence that shocked me is Malcolm X being a "teacher who believed in black dignity even when most Negroes would not dare to." Dare to? What's daring about the assumption of dignity? But I guess it was. Maybe still is. I hope not.


I think I've read one more book recommendation of the Stepford Rebel than he has of mine. Maybe not. He surprises me once in a while with his erudition and sensitivity. But he wouldn't want that getting around.

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



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Tide, Knights showdown highlights prep schedule

BY T. SCOTT BOATRIGHT
Minden Press-Herald

Webster Parish bragging rights will be at stake tonight at North Webster plays at Minden in a showdown of local powers.

In parish other action, Lincoln Prep comes to Glenbrook while Lakeside plays at West Ouachita after not playing last week after its game was canceled due to COVID-19 protocols at Block.

Minden stands at 1-1 while North Webster is 2-0.

“You don’t have to try to get the team ready for this game,” said Minden head coach Spencer Heard. “They’re naturally fired up for this one every year.

Lincoln Prep has been put into the position of nomad and will play Friday’s “home” game on the road in Minden at the home field of their opponent — the Glenbrook Apaches. A new school and field are being built for Lincoln Prep, but the Panthers haven’t been able to arrange a nearby field for their home opener.

“We had to go ahead because no one could come up with a decision about possibly playing it at GSU (where Lincoln Prep had played some games last season),” Hall said. “I had to tell them that I couldn’t wait any longer.”

It’s tough enough his Panthers will be having to play on the road for a



COURTESY PHOTO

The Glenbrook Apaches get a bonus home game this weekend as Lincoln Prep comes to Minden.

third straight week. He also knows he’s in for a challenge against the Apaches, a team that is in its first season as a member of the Louisiana High School Athletic Association.

The Apaches are led by former Parkway and

D’Arbonne Woods head coach David Feaster, who Hall said has quickly turned the Apaches into a competitive team.

“He looks like he’s added some athletes and has made the most out of what he had to work with,” Hall said. “We’ve

looked at film and it looks like he’s got a good squad. They play hard and they’re well-organized.”

Glenbrook coach David Feaster knows his team will be tested, too.

“They’re certainly tough but don’t at least

they don’t have the numbers we faced last week (against Calvary),” Feaster said. “But they have really good size up there. We’ll be mismatched there. Their lines are impressive.”

Chances are this showdown could be high scor-

ing. Lincoln Prep is averaging 45 points per game after road wins at Beekman Charter (44-6) and Ringgold (46-0) while Glenbrook is on pace for 36.5 points per contest after defeating River Oaks 59-28 before falling at Calvary Baptist 58-14.

Louisiana Tech set to host Southern Methodist

BY T. SCOTT BOATRIGHT
Minden Press-Herald

A familiar face comes to Joe Aillet Stadium Saturday as former Bulldogs head coach Sonny Dykes leads his Southern Methodist Mustangs against Louisiana Tech.

Both teams teams at 1-1 on the season

“This week is certainly going to be a challenge with SMU coming into town,” said Tech coach Skip Holtz during his weekly press conference. “Sonny has done a great

job building that program from where it was when he took over about three years ago. You look

right now and he has his best team since he’s been there. They’ve added some really talented transfers on this team and they are a very senior-laden team right now on both offense and defense. They return about 19 starters out of their top 22 from a year ago. They played 10 games and were 7-3 last year. They’ve added a transfer quar-



COURTESY PHOTO

Louisiana Tech head coach Skip Holtz leads this Bulldogs against Southern Methodist on Saturday at Joe Aillet Stadium.

terback from Oklahoma that’s playing really well with his arm and with his feet. They’ve got all five of their offensive linemen are back. Three of them are all-conference players. Their tailback last week rushed for 141 yards on 10 carries. He averaged 14 yards a carry against North Texas. He’s a very explosive running back with a really solid,

big, senior-laden upfront. They’re running the ball really, really efficiently.

“The quarterback threw for over 300 yards. They have a first team all-conference wide receiver. They have a transfer from Oklahoma who was all-Big 12 as a tight end who is a big target for them. He has three touchdown catches through two games. They’re av-

eraging 45 points right now through tow games. They’re a very explosive offensive football team. You can see coach Dykes handprint all over it and what they’re doing offensively has really been impressive.

Holtz said his offense will be tested against the Mustangs.

“Defensively, they’re every bit as impressive,”

Holtz said. “They’re averaging 45 points a game. On defense, they’re only giving up 10. They hired Jim Leavitt as their defensive coordinator from FAU who was a head coach at South Florida. He was very successful with the 49ers and was a coordinator at Oregon, Colorado and FAU.

“They’re playing really hard for Coach Leavitt. The defense is not really complicated with what they do, but they line up and they play it and they’re really physical at their game.”

Holtz is hoping to build off a 39-26 home win over Southeastern Louisiana last weekend.

“It was nice to win. They say don’t ever take winning for granted. Fifty percent of the teams in the country lost last week. I’m excited we were able to get a win. A week earlier, we had a lead at Mississippi State and weren’t able to hold onto it. I was proud of the way the team was able to finish the game

on Saturday. It certainly wasn’t a perfect game as we talked about in the past. We are really a work in progress with so many new faces and what we’re trying to do. There were a lot of good things in this game.

Holtz is hoping to see his defense to turn in a stronger showing.

“Starting on the defensive side of the ball, Bee-Jay Williamson played really well. He was all around the ball. He created two fumbles. He had two interceptions. One of them he scored on. He had a great individual performance. Levi and Ben Bell continued to be really solid up in front on the defensive line. Our linebackers are playing really well right now when you talk about Trey Baldwin, Tyler Grubbs and Maki Carabin. They’re really doing some good things.

Defensively, it certainly wasn’t our best effort. We got on our heels a little bit. We have to do better against SMU.”

G-Men face another tough road task taking on Houston

BY T. SCOTT BOATRIGHT
Minden Press-Herald

Cleaning up the little things and increasing offensive output are the focus for Grambling State University's football team this week as the G-Men prepare to hit the road to take on the University of Houston at TDECU Stadium.

Both teams stands at 1-1 on the young season. Houston fell in its season opener at Texas Tech before defeating Rice last weekend.

The Tigers are coming off a 37-0 loss at Southern Miss last weekend, a game that USM led only 10-0 at intermission before pulling away in the second half.

Grambling State managed only nine first downs and a mere 141 yards of total offense in the loss, leaving head coach Broderick Fobbs looking for more against Houston.

"We played well in the first half but we made some timely mistakes with penalties," Fobbs said. "We came out and competed hard against a good Southern Miss



Aldon Clark (above) is one of two quarterbacks likely to play for Grambling this weekend at Houston.

COURTESY PHOTO

team. Now we'll go back and look at the film, make the adjustments

we need to make and prepare for a very good Houston football team."

The two teams have met twice in their history with the Cougars win-

ning both, including a 47-0 victory in 2014 that remains the largest win

in TDECU Stadium history. It was also their first win at the facility.

Grambling State played two quarterbacks at USM — Elijah Walker and Aldon Clark. Walker started the game and went 8-of-13 passing for 30 yards while Clark went 8-of-19 passing for 60 yards with one interception.

"There's not a question of our kids playing hard; we just need to play better," Fobbs said. "On offense, we didn't match anything to put on the board. In games of that magnitude, in order to apply pressure that are FBS teams, you've got to score points and you've got to put the pressure back on them. We just neglected to do that."

"I feel really good about our kids, our players. I thought our defense played lights out for two-and-half quarters. They just wore us down once we got late to the third quarter and into the fourth quarter. We're a work in progress and we're excited about playing this week against another big opponent."

Winston praises Payton as Saints assistants deal with COVID

FORT WORTH, Texas (AP) — Jameis Winston sees a silver lining in a COVID-19 outbreak that has sidelined six offensive assistants for the New Orleans Saints.

It's coach Sean Payton. "We got to experience one of the best offensive mind head coaches ever in the game one-on-one like a staff meeting running the team," the veteran quarterback said Wednesday after another practice for the displaced Saints on the TCU campus in Fort Worth, Texas. "I've never been in that room of watching tape with Sean, of going through situations with Sean and hearing how he would like something done."

"I do care about the health of our coaches, and I want them to get them back. But if they just want to let him run the meetings, I would really enjoy it."

Payton said a group of his offensive coaches, along with the team's nutritionist and a player, have tested positive for COVID-19. New Orleans was starting its third week of practice in the Dallas area because of damage in southeast Louisiana from Hurricane Ida.

The 16th-year coach didn't identify by name any of those who had tested positive. But Payton later indicated those missing from in-person preparations included an offensive line coach, a receivers coach, a running backs coach and two tight ends coaches. Payton said all are vaccinated.

Two people familiar with the situation told



The Associated Press on Tuesday that six offensive assistants had tested positive. That person spoke to the AP on condition of anonymity because the team and NFL at that point had not made a public statement about the matter.

Later Tuesday, Michael Thomas — who already was ineligible to play the first six games while on the club's physically unable to perform list — was

placed on New Orleans' COVID-19 reserve list.

The outbreak put the Saints in the NFL's enhanced mitigation protocols, meaning mandatory masking inside facilities, daily testing and grab-and-go meals.

Payton said players didn't break into the smaller position groups they would under normal conditions. The coach said receivers, running

backs and quarterbacks met. Winston, who has repeatedly praised Payton, enjoyed it.

"You have so many voices from different coaches and different agendas that a coach might want to get done throughout the day," said Winston, who threw five touchdown passes without an interception in his New Orleans debut, a 38-3 victory over Green Bay last weekend. The Saints (1-0) visit Carolina (1-0) on Sunday.

"When you've got the main guy, the guy who really runs the show, our primary leader running the show and voicing to you what he wants, how he wants it, why he wants it, that's what you live football for," Winston said.

The names of most others who tested positive

were not expected to be released in the short term because of federal medical privacy laws.

It is unclear how long those who tested positive will remain isolated from the team before they may return to the field or in-person meetings.

"Protocol obviously is enhanced with the team and the staff, and that's part of it, and then those that have tested positive, like everyone else, test daily now," Payton said. "They're going to need two negative tests essentially before they can be back in the building and working."

"And so we don't know the timing or the timeframe on that."

The positive tests occurred after the victory over the Packers in Jack-

sonville, Florida, where the game was moved from the Superdome because of Hurricane Ida.

The Saints spent the first week after the pre-season practicing at AT&T Stadium, the home of the Dallas Cowboys, before moving to TCU last week to start preparations for the opener. There's no clear indication when the Saints will return to their facility in suburban New Orleans. Now, there's a COVID-19 issue.

"I think it fell right into how we've been adjusting here in Dallas," Winston said. "One thing I admire about our head coach, he doesn't blink an eye. He really embraces those situations. He voices to us how we should embrace it. We just team up with him and we roll with him."



Week Two Winners

1st Place Marty Fletcher

2nd Place Earl Tims, Jr.

3rd Place Rita Hoenke

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CELEBRATION
OCTOBER 8-9, 2021**

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SATURDAY
8AM -7PM**

Please wear your mask while the mandate is in place.

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Cotton Valley, LA 71018
Webster Parish**

Good News

Send us your news
newsroom@press-herald.com

THE UPWARD LOOK

Citizens and Family

“So then you are no longer foreigners and strangers, but fellow citizens with the saints, and members of God’s household,”
Ephesians 2:19 HCSB

Foreigners do not have rights and privileges of citizens and are considered as temporary strangers in a foreign land. Before their life-changing encounter with Christ, Gentiles had been alien strangers to God and His Kingdom. Having been reconciled with God through faith in Christ, the Gentile believers were now full citizens of the Kingdom of God. They

were now saints made holy through the cleansing blood of Christ. They were now family members with all of God’s children.



Max Hutto

Lord Jesus, because of my faith in You, I am now part of Your family, the church. Help me to live a holy righteous lifestyle befitting a citizen of Your Kingdom.

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

LET NOT YOUR HEART BE TROUBLED

God Owns Everything

I fell and hurt my back very badly on June 14. I didn’t have my telephone so I crawled to my golf cart, crawled up my steps, and called my daughter. She took me to the emergency room. An x-ray was taken which showed no fractures. The pain lasted for six weeks, but finally got all right.



Mack Ford

ple asked me to continue. I just had my 94th birthday. I sometimes tell people that I own this property, but I’m wrong. God says he owns all the gold and silver, and the cattle on a thousand hills. If you think you own something, God only lets you claim it.

Come soon Lord Jesus.

MACK FORD IS A LOCAL RESIDENT OF WEBSTER PARISH

INSPIRATION

Focus

Most who study the Bible have heard the story of Peter’s desire to walk on the water with Jesus. However, I’m not here today to retell that story, I’m here to bring awareness to its meaning. Many people have gleaned many things from this story. For some, it is the ability to do the impossible through God, and for others, it is the fact the apostles didn’t recognize the Messiah right away. Those are two great messages to receive from this story but not the only messages. In Matthew 14:22-31, Peter asked to walk on the water and he did until he saw the turmoil around him and began to sink. It wasn’t for the wind and waves that Peter sank but it was him taking his eyes off of Jesus. The les-



Bernard Harris

son that Jesus seeks to teach us is faith and a firm focus on him, his will, and his word that will not only help you live a Godly life but also maintain one. We often focus so much on the turmoil of the world around us that we take our eyes off of God standing before us and the beautiful path he has paved for us and we sink. As I close this message I would like to implore everyone who reads this message to keep their eyes on Jesus and his promises. God is always in control, we need only a little faith.

BERNARD HARRIS III IS A HAUGHTON FIREMAN AND A LOCAL RESIDENT OF MINDEN

How can we pray for you?

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SUDOKU

SUDOKU

9					2	7	1	
		4					5	
						9		
6	4			7	8	5	2	
	7	5						
8			3					
					6	3		
2							7	6
				1	3		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	8	4	3	1	7	6	9	5
9	7	1	5	6	4	8	3	2
5	6	3	9	8	2	7	4	1
7	4	9	1	5	3	2	6	8
6	3	8	4	2	9	5	7	1
1	2	9	8	7	6	3	4	9
8	9	6	7	4	5	1	2	3
3	5	2	6	9	1	4	7	8
4	1	4	3	2	7	1	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 • — FIRM

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

Thursday's unlisted clue: SQUASH

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions - forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.
Friday's unlisted clue hint: NOT PUBLIC

Accounting
Brokerage
Business
Consulting

CPA
Family
Hold
Insurance

Law
Lobbying
Marketing
Publishing

Remain
Rival
Standing

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9/17

meant that the Union had won the battle.

HISTORY

Continued from Page 1 na during the First Sino-Japanese War.

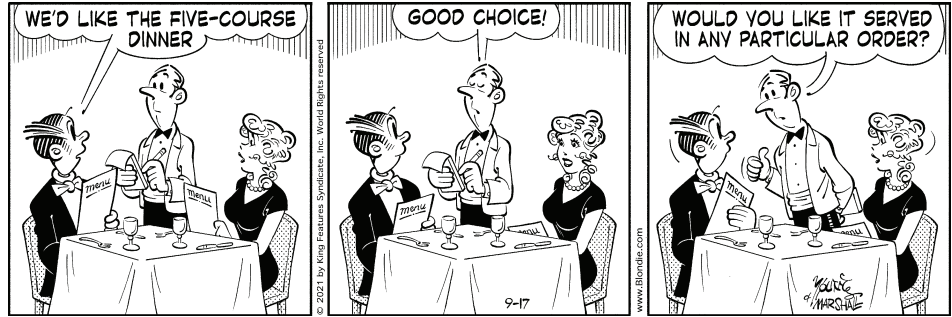
1862 Bloodiest Single Day of the American Civil War takes place The Battle of Antietam was fought near the Antietam Creek in Sharpsburg, Maryland. Thought to be the deadliest single day of the American Civil War – at least 4000 soldiers on both sides died – the battle ended Confederate General Robert E. Lee incursion into the North. While there were no clear victors, many believed that the withdrawal of Confederate soldiers from the battlefield before the Union Army did

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



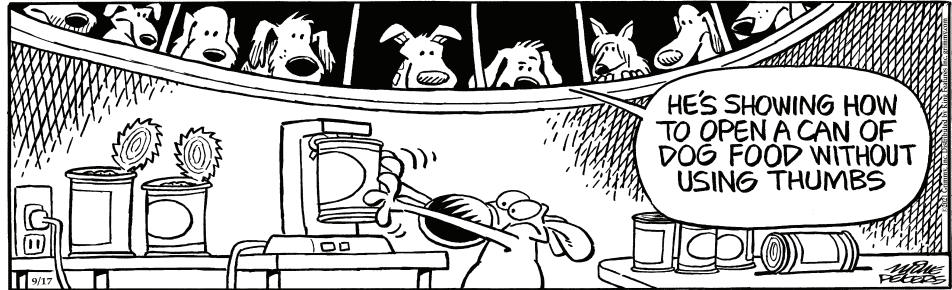
HAGAR THE HORRIBLE | CHRIS BROWNE



SAM AND SILO | JERRY DUMAS



MOTHER GOOSE & GRIMM | MIKE PETERS



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Cash, Checks, Billing

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377-1866

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE WEBSTER PARISH POLICE JURY WILL MEET ON THE 5th DAY OF OCTOBER, 2021 11:00 AM, IN THE POLICE JURY MEETING ROOM, WEBSTER PARISH COURTHOUSE ANNEX, 401 MAIN STREET, MINDEN, LA 71055 TO HEAR ANY AND ALL PROTESTS FROM TAXPAYERS ON THEIR 2021 ASSESSMENTS.

THE BOARD OF REVIEW SHALL CONSIDER THE WRITTEN OR ORAL PROTESTS OF ANY TAXPAYER DESIRING TO BE HEARD THAT HAS TIMELY FILED HAND-DELIVERED OR CERTIFIED MAIL PROTESTS NO LATER THAN SEPTEMBER 28, 2021.

DENISE G. EDWARDS, CLA
WEBSTER PARISH ASSESSOR

September 17, 2021
September 24, 2021
Minden Press-Herald

PROCEEDING OF THE VILLAGE OF HEFLIN, STATE OF LOUISIANA, TAKEN IN REGULAR MEETING HELD ON SEPTEMBER 2, 2021

The Heflin Town Council met at Town Hall, Heflin, Louisiana beginning at 8:08 p.m. with the following members present: Mayor Todd Leake council members Matt Austin, Hallie DeMoss, Chief of Police Paul Miguez, Water System Operator Jesse Williamson and Village Clerk Sherry Limosnero. Absent council member Ralph James.

The meeting was opened with prayer offered by Matt Austin and Hallie DeMoss led the Pledge of Allegiance. Mayor Todd Leake welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Upon motion by Matt Austin and duly seconded by Hallie DeMoss, the council adopted the Minutes from August 5, 2021 at Council Regular Meeting held on September 2, 2021 as presented; the motion was approved unanimously. Hallie DeMoss moved to accept the August, 2021 Operating Financial Statements as presented; the motion was approved unanimously. Matt Austin. The motion was approved unanimously.

Upon motion by Matt Austin and duly seconded by Hallie DeMoss, the council unanimously approved Water System Reports for August, 2021. Hallie DeMoss moved to accept the

August, 2021 Police Department Report as presented; the motion was duly seconded by Matt Austin. The motion was approved unanimously.

Matt Austin moved to accept to open new account at Gibbsland Bank & Trust for American Rescue Plan money with two signers on the account. The motion was duly seconded by Hallie DeMoss as presented; the motion was approved unanimously. Said letter to Gibbsland Bank & Trust is attached to and made a part of these minutes.

Council comments were heard, public comments were heard. There being no further business to come before this Council, meeting adjourned by Council Member Matt Austin.

Attest by:
Sherry Limosnero
Village Clerk, LCMC
Respectfully posted: 8/14/2021
Adopted:
Publish:
Minden Press Herald

September 17, 2021
Minden Press-Herald

TNT STORAGE, LLC, (318-377-9733) owner of Sibley Self Storage, located at 5578 Hwy 164, Sibley, LA will have an auction to take place on www.StorageAuctions.com ending on September 28, 2021 at 10:05 am: #10 Jeanecia Bolen - stereo equipment, 3D Bluray player. TV, Microwave, Fan, Nike shoes, clothes. #21 William Terry - Power wheel toys, bicycle, couch, bed frame, lawn chair, clothes.

September 17, 2021
Minden Press-Herald

PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY OF MINDEN, STATE OF LOUISIANA, TAKEN IN SPECIAL SESSION HELD ON SEPTEMBER 13, 2021.

The Minden City Council met at City Hall, Minden, Louisiana, beginning at 4:00 p.m. with the following members present: Mayor Terry Gardner, Wayne Edwards, Terika Williams-Walker, Vincen Bradford, Michael Roy and Pam Bloxom. Absent: None. Mayor Gardner welcomed everyone to the meeting. It is noted for the record that Mayor Terry Gardner allowed both council and public comments prior to every vote.

Michael Roy moved to adopt a Resolution Adopting the City of Minden 2021/2022 Budget, as presented. The motion was duly seconded by Pam Bloxom and the vote was as follows: Ayes:

Michael Roy and Pam Bloxom. Nays: Wayne Edwards, Terika Williams-Walker and Vincen Bradford. Absent: None. Abstain: None. The motion failed.

Pam Bloxom moved to authorize the Mayor to poll utility customers through a mail out regarding a proposal to attach a \$5.00 surcharge on all utility bills in order to fund a salary increase for Fire and Police personnel. The motion was duly seconded by Michael Roy and the vote was as follows: Ayes: Wayne Edwards, Michael Roy and Pam Bloxom. Nays: Terika Williams-Walker and Vincen Bradford. Absent: None. Abstain: None. The motion carried.

Public comments were heard, council comments were heard and the meeting was adjourned.

Terry L. Gardner,
Mayor

ATTEST:

Michael Fluhr,
Acting City Clerk

September 17, 2021
Minden Press-Herald

REALLY NICE MOBILE HOMES FOR RENT

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EMPLOYMENT

Looking for workers for City on the Hill Learning Center. Must love children and pass background check. Come to office for application.

The 26th Judicial District Court is accepting applications for the position of {b}Judicial Secretary/ Receptionist {b}for the Webster Parish office located in Benton. Applicants must have two years' experience in a legal field, or a bachelor/ associate degree or paralegal certificate may be substituted for the required experience.

Applicants must have typing and phone skills and some computer knowledge. All applicants must apply by September 20, 2021. Please submit your resume to Ms. Melissa W. Fox, Court Administrator, P. O. Box 310, Benton, LA 71006 or electronically to mfox@26jdc.com. The 26th Judicial District Court is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

SUBSCRIBE TO THE MINDEN PRESS-HERALD CALL 377-1866

Presbyterian Village of Homer is accepting applications for CNA's Part-Time Days, Evenings and Graveyard shifts available. Must be CNA Certified. Contact: Cathy Franklin CNA Supervisor at (318) 927-6133

CITY OF MINDEN IS HIRING:

City Clerk / Tax Officio – Full-time
This is a high-level administrative position involving the receipt, disbursement, and accounting of all funds of the City of Minden. Responsible for planning, directing, and supervising the complete financial operations of the City, including the maintenance of the appropriate accounting records, journals, ledgers, and other materials needed to reflect fiscal transactions and provide an accurate financial picture of the city at all times.

Education and/or Experience:
• Graduation from a standard high school, supplemented by college level courses in accounting, business administration or public administration. Business, Accounting or Public Administration Degree preferred.
• Up to seven years of responsible administrative or accounting work related to municipal or banking operations;
OR an equivalent combination of training and experience.

To see a brief job description of any of our openings, or if you would like to apply, please go online www.mindenla.org/job-listings/ or come by Minden City Hall, 520 Broadway St. Minden, LA to apply in person. Background checks and drug screens will be given. The City of Minden is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

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SHONGALOO'S 5 MILE RUMMAGE SALE
Sat. Sept.18, 2021
22nd Annual 5 Mile Rummage Sale in Shongaloo on Hwy. 159 and just off 159, from New Shongalooto to the AR State Line.
Watch for balloons and signs!!! Lots of sales and lots of stuff!!! All you bargain hunters come shop and have a wonderful day. Many stops! You could find just what you are looking for. Having something special you are looking for and finding it is the most fun of the day!
Remember...Our Trash...Your Treasures!!! Great prices!!! Come rummage and have fun with us!!!

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Estate Sale: Sept. 17th & 18th. 8am-6pm. Household goods, collectibles, toys, & games. 885 Marathon Rd, Cotton Valley

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