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S-HERALD

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 2021

MINDEN, LOUISIANA

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COMMUNITY

Lions give to pups in need



Members of the Minden Lions Club recently made a donation of dog and puppy food to the Webster Humane Association Inc., a local non-profit animal rescue organization. WHA relies on volunteers and foster homes to provide temporary shelter for stray and abandoned pets. To volunteer or to make a donation to the Webster Humane Association, please call (318) 377-7433.

Pictured are Lion Jerry Madden, District 8L Governor; Lion Charles Purdy, club secretary/treasurer; Stephanie Gantt, WHA volunteer and donation coordinator; Lion Tracy L. Campbell, club president; and Lion Jake Chapman, immediate club past president.

GOVERNMENT

Fiscal watchdog gives Louisiana low marks for financial transparency

(The Center Square) -Fiscal watchdog Truth in Accounting has knocked Louisiana's annual financial report with several low-transparency findings.

State governments recomprehensive lease annual financial reports every year that are audited by certified public accountants and serve as bedrock public information regarding each state's financial condition.

The open-government nonprofit said these "important-but-obscure" documents often fail best practices found in the private sector. Its latest analysis, Financial Transparency Score 2021, explores fiscal year 2020 state data to "encourage the publication of transparent and accurate government financial information."

Louisiana's annual report, the group said, falls short with respect to accessibility, navigation, external auditors and pension data timing. In each area researchers assigned a score of 1 or 2 out of 10 possible points.

When incorporating high marks for the accuracy of all financial information presented, the single most important criterion, and for including off-balance sheet liabilities, which many states hide, Louisiana's overall transparency score was 79 out of 100.

The lackluster score appears slightly better in context, as widespread transparency issues led the Chicago-based watchdog to determine a score of 80 or above was "noteworthy."

"Overall the 50 states' transparency scores worsened compared to the previous years," researchers said. "Every state received funds from the CARES Act in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, which highlighted weaknesses that existed in states' unemployment insurance."

Other factors preventing states from receiving better scores included timeliness in reporting and the use of outdated pension information, they said.

Louisiana's pension information received low marks for timing and non-independent review, meaning government employees audited pension data, not external auditors.

The state's annual financial report was not easily accessible online, the group found, nor was it easily searchable when it was reviewed.

Utah, Maryland and South Dakota ranked highest with scores of 88, 87 and 87, respectively. North Carolina, Georgia and Colorado ranked last with scores of 54, 54 and 46, respectively.

Truth in Accounting

emphasized the importance of accurately reporting financial information, where Louisiana excelled and the bottom three states received "flunk opinions" from their initial annual report audits.

The group also highlighted the problem of hidden liabilities, or expenses that show up in yearly financial reports but are kept out of balanced budget deliberations in state legislatures and off-the-books in local governments.

Accounting changes have made the practice more difficult in recent years, researchers noted.

"However, only states reported 95 percent or more of their retirement liabilities, which is down from 34 states last year. In FY 2020, total hidden debt among the states amounted to \$197 billion," they concluded.

THANKSGIVING CRASH

Sibley man succumbs to injuries suffered from **Thanksgiving Webster** Parish crash

Dixie Inn - On Thursday, November 25, 2021, just before 6:00 p.m., Troopers assigned to Louisiana State Police Troop G began investigating a one-vehicle fatality crash on LA Hwy 528, just west of US Hwy 371. This crash ultimately claimed the life of 58-year-old Floyd Gray

The initial investigation revealed a 2019 Ford pickup, driven by Gray, was traveling east on LA Hwy 528. For reasons still under investigation, Gray left the roadway, traveled through a ditch, became airborne, and overturned.

Gray, who was restrained, was transported to Minden Medical Center with life-threat-This ening-injuries.

morning, Gray succumbed to his injuries and was pronounced dead at the hospital.

Impairment is not suspected to be a factor in this crash; however, routine toxicology samples were taken and submitted for analysis. The crash remains under investigation.

While the cause of this crash remains under investigation, distracted and inattentive driving continues to be a leading cause of crashes in our state. Louisiana State Police urges all motorists to stay alert while driving. A lapse in one's awareness can have deadly consequences.

In 2021, Troop G has investigated 34 fatal crashes, resulting in 36 deaths.

GAS BUDDY

Gas price declines slowly pick up momentum

(November 29, 2021) Louisiana gas prices have fallen 2.0 cents per gallon in the past week, averaging \$3.08/g today, according to GasBuddy's daily survey of 2,436 stations in Louisiana. Gas prices in Louisiana are 8.4 cents per gallon lower than a month ago and stand \$1.26/g higher than a year ago. The lowest price in the state today is \$2.69/g while the highest is \$3.69/g, a difference of 100.0 cents per gallon.

"Gas price declines are slowly picking up momentum. With oil's recent fall and the jury out on a new Covid variant, Omicron, we could be in store for lower prices based on many countries turning back to travel restrictions, limiting oil demand and potentially accelerating the drop in gas prices," said Patrick De Haan, head of petroleum analysis for GasBuddy.

The national average price of gasoline has fallen 3.4 cents per gallon in the last week, averaging \$3.37/g today. The national average is down 1.4 cents per gallon from a month ago and stands \$1.26/g higher than a year ago.

"There remains a very high level of uncertainty ahead of us as OPEC has also delayed its meetings to await more market movements and information on Omicron. But so far, Americans can expect the new variant to push gas prices even lower. Beyond the next few weeks, it remains nearly impossible to predict where oil and gas prices will head, though turbulence is guaranteed," 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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WEBSTER & MORE

BLOTTER

Recent Arrests in Webster Parish

Timothy Grim, 51, of the 900 block of East Street, was arrested for failure to appear in court, resisting an arrest, theft, disturbing the peace through language, and remaining on premises after being forbidden.

Lynnell Jones, 31, of the 800 block of Fincher Road, was arrested for failure to appear in court.

Christy Turner, 44, of the 700 block of Gladney Street, was arrested for resisting arrest.

Tajuan Abbott, 24, of the 900 block of Mayfield Street, was arrested for failure to appear in court.

Maya Holmes, 19, of the 100 block of Oscar Moore Road, was arrested for failure to appear in court.

Jonathan Thompson, 41, of the 100 block of N East 3rd Street, was arrested for domestic abuse battery.

Michael Williams, 45, of the 100 block of Mattie Lane, was arrested for being a fugitive of Claiborne Sheriff's office.

Taylor Cade, 30, of the 4900 block of Haughton was arrested for domestic abuse battery and speed-

Leah Dison, 33, of the 500 block of Thorpe Lane, was arrested on a warrant.

Iames Ward III, 25, of the 500 block of Fuller Street, was arrested for domestic abuse battery.

Joshua Dick, 22, of the 17200 block of Highway 79, was arrested on a war-

Allen Bankston, 19, of the 500 block of Patrick Street, was arrested for a hit and run and careless operation of a motor vehicle.

Annette Bromsey, 30, of the 1500 block of School Street, was arrested for possession of a schedule I substance, possession of schedule II with intent to distribute, controlled dangerous substance in the presence of a minor, no child restraint, and no vehicle insurance.

1400 block of School Street, was arrested for resisting an officer, flight from an officer, and being a fugitive from Bienville

Corey Scott, 52, of the

STATE RANKINGS

Louisiana stands at 4th for most drug overdose deaths

More Americans are dying from drug overdoses than ever before, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. There were an estimated 100,306 fatal overdoses over the 12 months through April 2021 -- the most ever reported in a 12-month period and double the annual number of car accidents and firearm deaths combined.

The fatal drug overdose rate in Louisiana now stands at 47.6 deaths for every 100,000 people, the among fourth-highest all states. Nationwide, per capita fatality rate stands at 30.3 per 100,000.

The record number of

deadly overdoses marks a 29% increase from the same period a year earlier and is more than double the number reported as recently as 2014. Public health experts attribute the surge to the proliferation of fentanyl -- a synthetic opioid reported to be 50 to 100 times more potent than morphine -as well as the COVID-19 pandemic. The pandemic has isolated many Americans struggling with addiction while reducing their treatment options and care resources.

In Louisiana, drug overdose deaths are rising at a faster pace than they are nationwide. There were an estimated 2,218 fatal overdoses in Louisiana over the 12 months ending in April 2021, compared to 1,463 over the same period the year prior. The 51.6% increase ranks as the fourth largest of all 46 states that reported an increase in deadly overdoses.

All overdose data used in this story are from the National Center for Health Statistics, a division of the CDC. To account for pending investigations and incomplete counts, the numbers reported are estimates calculated by the NCHS. Population-adjusted fatality rates were calculated using population estimates from the U.S. Census Bureau's Decennial Census.

COVID

Landry challenges health department plan to require **COVID** vaccinations for school children

(The Center Square) -Louisiana Attorney General Jeff Landry sent a letter to the state Department of Health on Monday asserting the department's plan to require COVID-19 vaccinations for students is unconstitutional.

The letter also laid out steps for the Louisiana Legislature to curtail the measure, which stands to be implemented through the executive branch health agency.

Gov. John Bel Edwards, a Democrat, and statelevel health officials have embraced COVID-19 vaccinations for all eligible Louisianans. Landry, a conservative Republican, supports vaccinations while opposing government mandates.

ized, COVID-19 vaccinations would be added to returned. the list of required immu-

schools, effectively mandating them for hundreds of thousands of children.

Today I have sent a letter to the Louisiana Department of Health informing them of fatal flaws that exist with this attempted rule," Landry said in a statement. "It is my hope that our elected representatives act in protection of our medical

freedoms." The letter, addressed to Secretary Dr. Courtney Phillips, warns the Health Department is exceeding its authority by requiring "an mRNA injection that does not prevent disease" - a reference to the notion that vaccinated individuals still may get infected and transmit the virus.

Requests for comment If the new rule in final- Monday from the Department of Health were not

Landry wrote the Legis-

nizations to attend K-12 lature only has authorized the department's Office of Public Health to approve immunizations for "vaccine-preventable diseases," and Louisiana would join California as the only states in the country to mandate COVID-19 vaccinations for school entry.

"Louisiana's proposed rule goes even further than the California governor's executive order as it goes so far as to require vaccination of elementary school children, whereas California only requires COVID-19 shots for middle and high school students and is not effective until July of 2022," the letter read.

The Department of Health released a "notice of intent" Sept. 20 to amend the list of required K-12 vaccinations, as required by the Administra tive Procedures Act.

"The proposed amend-

ments add vaccines for window to request a pub-SARS-CoV-2 to the list of required vaccinations for school entry to the extent that such vaccines are approved by the Food and Drug Administration for the individual's age, and also require such vaccines, and all potential boosters, on the same basis for school attendance,"

the notice read. Neither the governor's office nor the Department of Health issued press releases or otherwise promoted key aspects of the mandate's rule-making process. According to the September notice, the

lic hearing expired Oct. 10, and a required public comment period expired Oct. 28.

Landry said Monday grandparents parents, and legal guardians of school children have been "muzzled" and kept from participating in the process.

"Coercion is not con-

sent," he said. Edwards and State Health Officer Dr. Joseph Kanter endorsed the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) formal recommendation

Nov. 3 for children ages

5-11 to receive the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine.

The recommendation followed FDA approval and coincided with the Department of Health alerting Louisiana vaccine providers to begin administering vaccinations to eligible children appropriately.

"This is exactly the news we've been waiting to hear, and I'm especially glad that the best protection we have against COVID-19 is now being afforded to our children ages 5-11," Edwards said.



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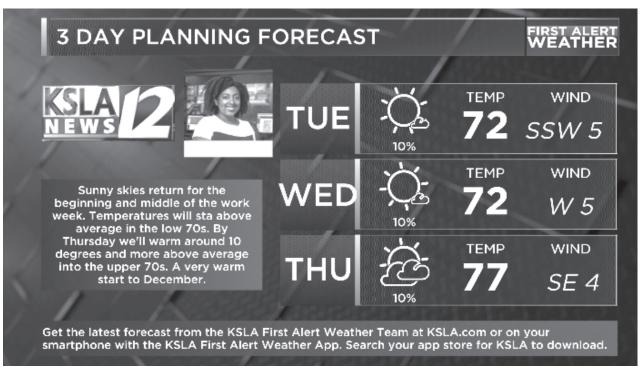




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TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 2021 | 3

WEBSTER & MORE



OBITUARIES



Dr. Andrea Nicole (Nikki) Pharr

March 13, 1978-November 24, 2021

A Christian burial service will be held in honor of Dr. Andrea Nicole (Nikki) Pharr at Rose-Neath Funeral Home of Minden, LA. The wake will begin at 10:00 a.m. and service

starts 11:00 a.m. on Tuesday, November 30, 2021, with Bishop Drew Rousse of Faith Cathedral New Iberia, LA officiating.

A native of Minden, Louisiana, Nikki was born to Donald C. Pharr and Sharon Renee Oller Pharr on March 13, 1978 and went home to be with Jesus at 07:52 p.m. Wednesday, November 24, 2021, while at home with family.

Nikki was preceded in death by her mother by her mother, Sharon Renee Oller Pharr, grandmothers, Gladys (Mimi) Walker Oller, Hazel Hanson Johnson and grandfather, John D. Pharr.

She is survived by her father, Donald C. Pharr and step-mom, Susan Delaine (Mamacita) Pharr, one brother, Donald Brandon Pharr and one sister, Robin Lynette Pharr. A nephew, Landyn (L.J.) Pharr and niece, Layla Grace Pharr and a loving family of many aunts, uncles, and cousins.

Nikki began her life in Springhill, Louisiana and at the tender age of four she traveled to the Philippines with her family on the mission field and it was there that she lost her mother. Several years later her father married the one who would nurture her through life, forever being beloved "Mamacita." She graduated from high school in St Martinville, Louisiana and continued her studies in Shreveport at Centenary College and then on to LSUS where she received her Master's Degree. Nikki obtained her PhD and opened her own counsel-

ing office in Minden then later another in Springhill, Louisiana. From cleaning tables to a gun toting security guard, Nikki paved and paid her own way through life, living every single second of it. Her will was stronger than any rock in front of her, no matter how large the rock. She was not just a dreamer chasing dreams but more like a force that grabbed each dream by its horns and wrestled it into being (and Nikki ALWAYS had a dream).

She inherited her love of adventure from her father and loved to hunt with her dad "Pop pop," "Mamacita," and her brother who was called too many things to mention here. Whether the local woods or the Rocky Mountains, it didn't matter as long as they were together.

Nikki hopped from cruise to cruise and vacationed in Ireland and Scotland and was recently planning a trip to Greece for her and her mother (secretly, of course). She and her older sister shared their passion for music and could stay on the phone for hours. They were extremely close throughout her life, but she doted on "The Frowner," which was one of the names she called her brother.

Her faith in God was strong and her sense of right, wrong, and fair play never wavered. Nikki played several musical instruments but was known best for her drumming skills and played at her church, Faith Restoration in Minden, Louisiana.

Family was everything to Nikki and she loved them extravagantly. She built her life around them and poured and poured her affection on them to the very end. She was a giver and if you were her family or her friend there is honestly nothing in the world she wouldn't do for you. Nikki and her father were like Twinkies. You usually didn't see them apart. She was her daddy's baby girl and boy how they loved each other. Her dazzling little light will forever shine.

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



Gladys Loriece

Cox

Gladys Loriece Cox went home to Jesus on Sunday, November 28, 2021 at age of 90. A celebration of her life will be held on Wednesday, December 1, 2021 at 1:00 p.m. at First Baptist Church in Cotton Valley. A graveside service will follow at the Cotton Valley Cemetery.

Loriece was born to Warren and Nellie Young on April 5, 1931 in Dodson, Louisiana. As a child, she remembered a school bus driver asking the children on her bus if they would like to go to church. She, her brothers, and sister would ride the school bus to church. This act of kindness was the beginning of a long life with the Lord and His church at the center of it.

Loriece met her husband, Clarence "Cat" Cox in 1949 on a blind date. They married on April 9, 1949 and went on to have two children, Naomi Cox Coyle and Ouida Cox Garner. Clarence and Loriece were married 72 years. After the children were born, Loriece graduated from Cotton Valley High School in 1958.

In addition to being a dedicated and loving mother, Loriece worked for Thiokol for 33 years. She served as a Town Alderman for the town of Cotton Valley for 8 years. She served the First Baptist Church as church secretary for 47 years, sang in the church choir, taught Sunday School, and worked in Vacation Bible School. Throughout her entire life, she held an unwavering faith in God, which she shared with those who surrounded her.

Loriece is preceded in death by her mother, father, brothers, and sister. She is survived by her husband-Clarence "Cat" Cox, her daughters-Naomi Coyle and Ouida Garner, two grandsons-Doug Coyle and his wife Sheli and Bryan Coyle and his wife Deena, five great grandchildren-Luke Coyle, Logan Coyle, Embeth Coyle, Landon Coyle, and Reagan Coyle.

The family would like to thank all the people who helped to make her journey to heaven easier.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests that memorial donations be made to First Baptist Church, Cotton Valley, LA 71018.

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

CRIME

Shreveport, LA Reported One of the Highest Murder Rates in the US

The U.S. murder rate is at its highest level in nearly two and half decades. There were 21,570 murders nationwide in 2020, up nearly 30% from the previous year -- the largest annual increase on record.

The rash of deadly violence came during a tumultuous year in American history. The COVID-19 pandemic led to school closures and left millions of Americans out of work. The murder of George Floyd by a Minneapolis police officer rattled confidence in American law enforcement and sparked nationwide protests. Firearm

sales soared, resulting in the proliferation of tens of millions of new guns. Here is a look at the states where gun sales are surging.

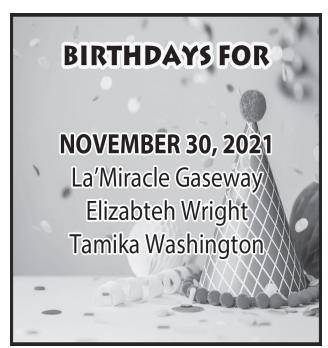
Some experts speculate that each of these factors likely played a role in the rising homicide rate. While it may be years before the precise causal factors are identified, the effects are being felt in communities across the country. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention lists homicide as a contributing factor in the historic 1.5-year decline in life expectancy in the U.S. last year -- trailing only COVID-19 and accidental deaths, like drug overdoses, in signifi-

Shreveport, Louisiana, is among the U.S. cities with the highest homicide rates. There were a total of 69 murders reported in the city in 2020, or 37.2 for every 100,000 people -- well above the national homicide rate of 6.5 murders per 100,000.

Even though homicide is the least common form of criminal violence -- accounting for less than 2% of all violent crimes -- places with high homicide rates also often have high overall violent crime rates, and Shreveport is no exception. There were

923 violent crimes reported for every 100,000 people in Shreveport in 2020, compared to 399 incidents per 100,000 nationwide.

All data used in this story is from the FBI's 2020 Uniform Crime Report. Only places with populations above 25,000 based on five-year estimates from the U.S. Census Bureau's 2019 American Community Survey were considered. Limited data was available in the 2020 UCR for areas in Alabama, Maryland, Pennsylvania, and Illinois, though these places were not excluded from analysis.





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- Obituaries may be submitted by bringing a typed copy by our office at 203 Gleason St., Minden, or emailing to obits@press-herald.com.

If you have any further questions please call our office at 318-377-1866



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OPINION

MINDEN_ Press-Herald

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Letters are published identifying name, occupation and/or title and the writer's city of residence. Letters are not to exceed 500 words.

Send letters to: Letters to the Editor, Minden Press-Herald, P.O. Box 1339, Minden, LA 71055, or email to: newsroom@press-herald.com. OTHER OPINION

Federal Appeals Court blocks OSHA overreach

As many legal scholars have believed from the beginning, Pres. Biden lacked both the constitutional and statutory authority to mandate vaccines for private workers, but he, nevertheless, ordered the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) to do so. In response, the U.S. 5th Circuit Court of Appeals recently ruled on this matter, handing down a sharp rebuke of the Biden Administration's attempt to do an end run around our legal

As you may recall, this past September Pres. Biden ordered OSHA to require private employers with 100 or more workers to require that their employees be vaccinated or tested weekly. The Biden Administration, in fact, agreed with MSNBC anchor, Stephanie Ruhle's tweet that "OSHA [is] doing this vaxx mandate as an emergency workplace safety rule" and acknowledging that this legal maneuver is the most effective "work around" (which often means it's not legal) for the "federal government to require vaccinations." Wow.

This Biden Administration action remains unsupported in virtually every way. The U.S. Constitution entrusts states with core "police powers" to address and regulate the behavior of their citizens in the interest of protecting public health and safety, among other things. Because of this, the federal government simply lacks the legal authority to take such actions.

Of course, attorneys for the Biden Administration are well aware of this limitaand get around—this limita-

private employers to comply based upon an OSHA "emergency temporary standard." What "emergency temporary" power does OSHA have? This simply means that OSHA may ignore for 6 months the Notice and Comment process which is



ALEXANDER

otherwise required by the Administrative Procedure Act. The notice and comment process is very important because it

is when all parties have an opportunity to be heard—to express their objection to or support of—a proposed government action.

In fairness, we should note that the actual purpose of this OSHA bypass—when not being used to do an end run on state power—is to allow OSHA to respond to emergencies if the agency decides that "employees are exposed to grave danger from exposure to substances Or agents determined to be toxic or physically harmful or from new hazards." Here, OSHA argued that this unilateral action was necessary to "protect employees from such danger."

However, as the 5th Circuit panel explained, OSHA was unable to prove exposure or even that Covid had infected all of the private workplaces upon which it was trying to force this mandate. The Court called this assertion by the Biden Administration and OSHA a "transparent stretch". The Court identified other legal defects as

this OSHA rule "likely exceeds the federal government's authority under the Commerce Clause because it regulates non-economic inactivity that falls squarely within the States' police power. A person's choice to remain unvaccinated and forgo regular testing is noneconomic inactivity." (We should note that in No. 45 of The Federalist, James Madison neatly summarizes this dual allocation of power: "The powers delegated by the proposed Constitution to the federal government are few and defined. Those which are to remain in the State governments are numerous and indefinite.").

The Court's ruling is music to the ears of those of us who believe in the separation of powers and the rule of law, which includes the reining in of an out-of-control federal administrative state. What the Court is explicitly telling the federal government here is that it lacks the authority to take these actions and its purported legal justification was a pretense. May the Judicial Branch continue to powerfully assert its constitutional prerogative and function in the face of an aggressively overreaching executive branch of government that believes "it knows best" regarding our health.

Well, the federal government doesn't know best. Dr. Fauci, the CDC, and the federal government's guidance on how masks and vaccines should be employed to battle the spread of Covid has changed more often than the Louisiana weather. It's enough to give us whiplash.

Rather, we, as free citizens tion on federal power which well—like the fact that after who possess autonomy and is why the Biden team at- 20 months the virus could individual rights of selftempted to characterize— hardly be described as a determination, get to make "new hazard"—but returned these kinds of vaccination tion on its power by forcing to the central premise that and other personal health

decisions and it is refreshing to see a court so firmly and clearly make that point in support of the right of medical autonomy and privacy.

This federal court decision has for now blocked the federal government's attempt to mandate by regulatory law the requirement that millions of Americans, without regard to individual health status, be jabbed in their bodies with a needle and injected with a vaccine that according to CDC can potentially cause Guillain Barren syndrome (GBS), thrombosis, myocarditis and in rare cases, deathadverse events that CDC cautions should be disclosed to providers, vaccine recipients, and the public. https://www.cdc.gov/ mmwr/volumes/70/wr/ mm7032e4.htm.

Perhaps the benefits of the vaccine still outweigh any possible adverse effects. My point is that the decision should be made by each individual and not by government mandate. That is why, in response to this Big Brother governmental overreach, we should all say in unison, "Keep your handsand needles—to yourself, Big Government. My Body, My Choice." (I heard this phrase somewhere; oh yes, but apparently it only pertains to abortion.)

During the Thanksgiving and Christmas holiday season, all Americans should give thanks for the gift of this federal court decision. What we have here is a perfect example of the working of our system of checks and balances the Framers put in place and it's deeply encouraging to see it functioning as it should.

ROYAL ALEXANDER IS A SHREVEPORT

EDITORIAL ROUNDUP

Louisiana drivers, improved road conditions are on the way

Louisiana drivers don't need outside experts to tell them that driving conditions are far from ideal. So they're unlikely to be surprised that a new report documents just how far.

According to the Reason Foundation, the state ranks 49th for urban interstate conditions and 45th for the number of structurally deficient bridges. Previously released U.S. Department of Transportation data pegged

1,634 bridges and 3,411 miles of Louisiana roads as being in "poor" condition.

A lack of resources is the main culprit, the Reason Foundation said.

But things could soon be looking up. After resisting calls to raise gas taxes to pay for road improvements our preferred solution but one that proved politically unpalatable — the Legislature this year voted to divert an annual \$300 million from

the state general fund to the

Then there's the justsigned federal infrastructure bill that allots \$110 billion nationally for roads and bridges, some existing and some additional spending, and specifies \$40 billion in new money for bridges alone. The new state investment will help here because some projects require a local match.

Louisiana may not rise

much in the national rankings because every state's conditions will surely improve, but that's really beside the point. The important comparison is what we'll have then versus what we've got now.

For drivers who navigate our substandard roads each day, there's no place to go but up.

THE [BATON ROUGE] ADVOCATE.

OTHER OPINION

Energy tax credits a giveaway to special interests

DANIEL SAVICKAS Taxpayers Protection Alliance

Lawmakers on Capitol Hill have emphasized the environmental angle of their so-called "Build Back Better" Act. Many of these provisions, however, amount to little more than taxpayer-funded giveaways to renewable energy companies. No provision epitomizes this sad reality than the possible extension of the investment tax credit (ITC) and production tax credit (PTC) for wind and solar power. These subsidies cost the federal taxpayers with billions on top of an already over-bloated package. They also continue policies that have not been necessary for years - if they

The ITC was established by Congress in 1978. In the over four decades since, this policy has supported almost exclusively solar power projects. Likewise, the PTC, passed in 1992, has been a bolster for the wind power industry. Both

tax credits had an expiration date attached to them. However, as the late economist Milton Friedman often said, "There is nothing so permanent as a 'temporary' government program." The expiration deadlines for the ITC and PTC have been extended a whopping 24 times since initially set to expire.

In the time since, almost 40 states have adopted mandates to require a benchmark for renewable energy generation within their borders. These mandates, on top of the ITC and PTC create artificial demand for wind and solar power. Further proposals to decarbonize electric power will continue to add to this artificial demand and increase the costs to taxpayers across

Government officials at all levels have been rushing to prop up these industries for years. These policies have helped sufficiently insulate wind and solar from open competition and have prevented them from failing due to lack of organic demand. If the wind and solar power industries are unable to stand after decades of such support, it is clear they are not as efficient or desirable as their proponents claim them to be. It is time the government unshackle the taxpayer from these technologies and let them succeed or fail on their own.

The cost to the taxpayers over this period has been enormous. Over the last four decades, renewable subsidies have cost Americans over \$100 billion. Shockingly, \$70 billion of that came in the last decade alone. Another extension of these policies does not paint a brighter picture for taxpayers. The Joint Committee on Taxation estimates another decade would cost another \$106 billion, with estimates ranging as high as \$260 billion. Wind and solar have bled hard-working Americans dry for long enough.

When the government picks winners and losers, it neglects to mention that there will be "losers" who face very real consequences. Amer-

ican manufacturers of raw materials will be damaged as wind and solar technologies create demand they cannot fill. China produces roughly 75% of the world's solar panels, whereas the U.S. accounts for just 1%. Artificially increasing demand will have massive job implications for those here at home.

Further, roughly half of the world's polysilicon - the primary material in solar panels - comes from the Xinjiang region of China. In that region, ethnic minorities are allegedly subject to torture and human rights abuses. There is, at present, no good way to verify whether or not these materials being imported are the product of slave labor. The potential geopolitical consequences of such a reality cannot

be overlooked. With rising prices due to runaway inflation lately, heating your home has become more expensive in America. This is why the fixation on these subsidies is particularly harmful for American families.

They will accelerate the phase-out of dependable energy sources like coal and nuclear power. They also prop up alternatives that are already more expensive. Creating a less reliable, more expensive power grid at a time like this is especially irresponsible. The distortions created by the continuation of these credits will continue to get worse, as will the potential consequences.

Given that American taxpayers have already footed the bill for trillions in record levels of spending over the last two years, no one deserves a break more than they do. The last thing the country needs is to use its hard-working families to prop up the bottom lines of special interest groups. They have been doing so for four decades. It is long past time to end this pattern. In deliberations on the social spending reconciliation package, these tax credits ought to be left out entirely.

> DANIEL SAVICKAS IS GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS MANAGER FOR THE TAXPAYERS PROTECTION

Send us your news newsroom@press-herald.com

LIFE

INSPIRATION

If we aren't thankful what else is there?

If we aren't thankful for what we possess what else is there? What good does it do to have the best of everything if we are discontented?

Having being diagnosed with post traumatic stress disorder,

along with my Alice, sister due to having grown up in an orphanage, perhaps we are a little more grateful than some of our peers.

Maybe takes emotional storms, of having the rugs jerked out from

SARAH

under our feet, to truly understand the trauma of hurting. Having stood on the edge of homelessness as a child and an adult, God has always stepped out of the woodwork to help me!

The older I get the more grateful I am for all that I possess!

If we have friends and family, a roof over our head, enough to eat and some left over, clothes to wear to keep out the cold and a few pieces to bolster our self-esteem, we are blessed beyond measure!

It's not how much we possess but what possesses us! "Things can end up owning us" rather than being things that we own!

Years ago most of our ancestors had plenty to eat as they prepared for the winter by preserving food and chopping firewood. The father made sure his family was fed and kept warm during the winter. Survival wasn't easy as some of our parents plowed behind mules

just to keep us fed.

Older people often reminisce how they seemed to have more time to enjoy family, often spending time on front the **HUDSON-PIERCE** porch talking to neighbors

> rather than watching television.

Today it seems that we are too busy struggling just to stay ahead of the "Jones," to have lost the essence of happiness, the quality of life that is embellished in The Little House On The Prairie.

But how do we go back once we've crossed the picket line? How do we reset our values? How do we restore the family to its rightful place?

"Sometimes less is more."

The more we get ahead we are often more emotionally starved than our ancestors were in the days of long ago.

Here I am telling one of my stories, which rings home to me.

I sense that the family has gone down the tube with all of the modern devices and social media, not to mention the fast food places where even the teenagers grab their meals rather than sitting around the dinner table.

Someone told me "you can't schedule quality time. It has to just happen spontaneously."

I am curious about all of the reality shows that are on television today including Duck Dynasty, Nineteen Kids and Counting and The Alaskan Bush People.

I believe that our nation is hungering for a return to the olden days, to God and familv. We innately believe that God is real and that this life is not forever. We are just "sojourners" on this earth.

With all of this said I continue to be so grateful for friends and family who have supported me, who have been placed in my life to protect me from disaster.

God has always pulled me through the tight places in my life. I know that He always will because Jesus is the same yesterday, today and forever and He always gets me to the right place at the right time.

For this I am thankful all year!

> **CONTACT SARAH AT SAR-**AHP9957@AOL.COM

SHOPPING

Project Reclaim Donates Food to local UCAP





COURTESY PHOTO/PROJECT RECLAIM

During the season of giving thanks, the members of Project Reclaim worked to collect food for them to donate to Minden's local UCAP. (Top Pictuer) Angel and Sha'Myracle Stewart after having collected the canned goods.

(Bottom Picture) Project Reclaim's Laicesha Maxey, Sha'Myracle Stewart, Angel Stewart, and Matthew Anderson delivering food donations to UCAP.

HOLIDAY LIFE

Shippers prepare for another pandemic crush of Holiday gifts

(AP) — The last holiday season was far from the most wonderful time of the year for the U.S. Postal Service: Sick and quarantined workers, a flood of packages from shoppers loath to set foot in stores and a last-minute dump of packages from overwhelmed private ship-

Postal workers who recall packages and letters piled up in distribution hubs are better prepared this time as they gear up for another pandemic crunch. But low product inventories, and port and supply chain disruptions are creating new uncertainty about getting gifts delivered.

Already, workers are seeing a surge in holiday packages that began several weeks ago.

"A lot of the workers are saying, 'Oh no. Here we go again," said Scott Adams, local president of the American Postal Workers Union in Portland.

The U.S. Postal Service and private shippers UPS and FedEx are bolstering their hiring — bringing in about 230,000 temporary workers — and taking other steps to ensure they don't become overwhelmed by packages.

Nearly 3.4 billion parcels are expected to crisscross the country this holiday season, representing an estimated increase of about 400 million compared to last year, said Satish Jindel, from Pennsylvania-based ShipMatrix, which analyzes shipping package data.

When cards and letters are included, the U.S. Postal Service said it'll be delivering more than 12 billion items.

"The pandemic is still here. The supply chain is a challenge that's going to impact how people shop and how products move," said Mark Dimondstein, president of the American Postal Workers Union, which represents more than 200,000 postal work-

Despite the precarious situation, the Postal Service, UPS and FedEx are in better shape to handle the peak volume, and several trends could work in their favor, Jindel said.

More people are shopping in stores compared to last year, and people have been placing online orders earlier because they're keenly aware of supply chain problems, Jindel said. Also, with workers returning to offices, there are fewer office supply shipments being made to homes, he said.

Most importantly, the shippers are adapting after their rough-and-tumble experience last year,

he said. U.S. Postmaster General Louis DeJoy, who faced withering criticism last year but reported on-time improvements and reduced operating losses this month, says the service is ready for the crunch.

"We are ready, so send us your packages and your mail," he said.

A year ago, more than a third of Postal Service first-class mail was late by the time Christmas arrived.

Tractor-trailers stuffed with mail were left idling outside some postal-sorting facilities. Packages and letters piled up in distribution hubs. Delays grew by days, and then weeks, in many instances.

Two things were painfully obvious. More workers and more space were needed - and both are being addressed.

To get a handle of the volume, the Postal Service is transitioning more than 30,000 non-career employees to the ranks of career employees by peak season, hiring 40,000 seasonal employees, and leasing extra space at more than 100 locations to ensure there's room for

The Postal Service in-

stalled more than 100 new package sorting machines as of early November, part of \$40 billion of planned investment over 10 years. Also, more than 50 package systems capable of sorting large packages are expected to be deployed before December. Combined, these expand capacity by an additional 4.5 million packages per day, officials said.

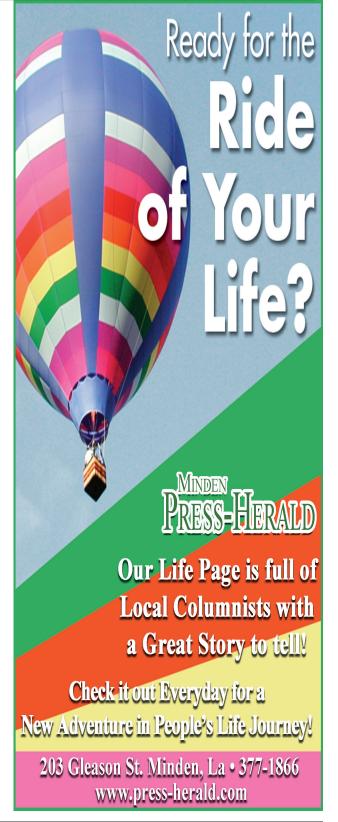
UPS, for its part, is hiring more than 100,000 seasonal employees across the country and continues to add aircraft and automation. It expects nearly 90% of its packages to flow through automated facilities by year's end.

FedEx, meanwhile, is in the process of boosting its nationwide workforce by 90,000 across its operating companies. Most of those new workers are expected to remain after the holidays, the company said.

Despite all those extra workers, the shippers agree that this is not the year for shoppers to procrastinate.

"Complete your holiday shopping as soon as possible," said Jim Mayer, spokesperson for UPS.

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SPORTS

Crimson Tide hoops teams fall to Gibsland-Coleman

T. SCOTT BOATRIGHT Minden Press-Herald

The Minden High School boys basketball team now stands at 0-4

basketball games over the holiday week.

Minden fell 69-46 to Gibsland-Coleman last Tuesday as the

after losing a pair of Bulldogs methodically dominated from start to finish, outscoring the Crimson Tide 15-6 in the final stanza to build the final 20-plus point

Then on Saturday the Tide fell 64-43 at Lakev-

Minden will next play host to Lakeside tonight in the third home game of the season for the Crimson Tide.

North Webster's boys basketball team earned a win last Tuesday as

Ringgold 55-46.

The Lady Knights also won, defeating Ringgold 38-22 last Tues-

G-Men get leg up over Southern



Grambling State's Garrett Urban (right) kicked five fields, including the game-winner with two seconds remaining, to lift the G-Men to a 29-26 win over Southern Saturday in the 48th annual Bayou Class.

Late field goal lifts Tigers over Jaguars, 29-26

T. SCOTT BOATRIGHT Minden Press-Herald

NEW ORLEANS — The Grambling State University football team had a kick during its final game of the season with interim head coach Terrence Graves Jr. guiding the Tigers on the side-

Garrett Urban booted five field goals, none bigger than his last in the game's waning seconds, as the Tigers snapped a three-game losing streak to its rival on Saturday afternoon with a 29-26 victory over Southern in the 48th Annual Bayou Classic at the Caesars Superdome.

Urban, Grambling State's Most Valuable Player, notched the game-winning field goal with two seconds remaining as the Tigers (4-7 overall, 3-5 Southwestern Athletic Conference) capped a 3 minute, 48 second drive to close out the game.

The G-Men snapped a threegame road losing streak as well as a three-game losing streak to Southern.

"We came here to do more than just have a good time," Graves said. "We came here to win this game and I felt like we had an excellent game plan. We did a good job controlling the clock and were able to use our power with the ground game, which opened up some passing lanes. I felt Garrett Urban deserved being the MVP and really this was a total team ef-

Grambling fell behind 3-0 after a Luke Jackson 49-yard field goal with 11:17 left in the opening quarter before the Tigers answered on their second offensive possession and the very next drive, going 75 yards in nine plays as Elijah Walker scored on a one-yard touchdown run to give Grambling State a 7-3 advantage with 7:23 remaining in the opening quarter.

Southern (4-7, 3-5) countered by driving 80 yards in seven plays with Devon Benn breaking free



Garrett Urban (right) hoists his Grambling State MVP Trophy after Saturday's game as GSU interim head coach Terrence Graves (right looks on).

on a 22-yard touchdown scoring scamper to give the Jaguars a 10-7 lead at the 3:54 mark of the opening stanza.

Grambling State quickly answered as Urban made good on field goals of 39 and 36 yards to put the Tigers on top 13-10 lead

with 5:41 left in the first half. Jackson's 45-yard field goal with 2:49 remaining in the second quarter tied the game at 13-13, but Grambling State finished the half strong with Urban nailing his third field goal, this time from 27 yards out, with five seconds left in the the first half to send the Tigers into

the break with a 16-13 advantage. Urban's fourth field, a 27-yarder, pushed GSU's lead to 19-13 with 1:53 left in the third quarter.

But Southern regained the lead as Ethan Howard caught a 5-yard pass from Ladarius Skelton, Southern's MVP, to put the Jaguars up 20-19 with 9:56 left in the contest.

Then it was Grambling's turn to rebound as Greg White hauled in a 23-yard scoring strike from Walker to put the G-Men back on top 26-20 with 6:27 remaining.

But the pendulum swung back

in Southern's favor with 3:55 remaining as Skelton punched in a one-yard touchdown run.

But the extra-point kick attempt by Jackson was no good, leaving the game tied at 26-26.

On the ensuing drive, Grambling's CJ Russell got things going with a 19-yard run before a 13vard reception by White pushed the ball into Southern territory.

After three consecutive timeout calls Urban sealed the game with his 25-yard field goal with two seconds left.

Grambling State finished with 21 first downs and 500 total yards of offense with Walker pacing the ground game with 168 yards on 19 carries and one score while Russell added 101 yards on 21 touch-

Walker, one of three quarterbacks the G-Men used along with Aldon Clark and John-Paul Pierce, went nine-of-20 passing for 153 yards and one touchdown.

White caught a team-high and game-high four passes for 79 yards and one score

Joshua Reed, Devanir Martin and Xavier Lodge each recorded six tackles each to lead the Tigers.



Skip Holtz served in his final game of Louisiana Tech's football team on Saturday as the Bulldogs lost their season finale at Rice. It was announced Friday that Holtz would not be continuing as head coach at Tech follow-

Bulldogs fall to Rice, 35-31

Minden Press-Herald Sports Service

HOUSTON, Texas For the seventh time this season, a Louisiana Tech football game was decided by a single possession as the Bulldogs lost to Rice, 35-31, in its season

finale on Saturday. LA Tech (3-9, 2-6 C-USA) took an early 10-0 lead after a 20-yard field goal by redshirt freshman kicker/punter Jacob Barnes and a 44-yard touchdown reception from freshman quarterback JD Head to freshman wide receiver Tre Harris. Rice (4-8, 3-5 C-USA) scored a pair of touchdowns to take the 14-10 lead at the half.

It was the final game as head Bulldog for Tech coach Skip Holtz.

Tech Vice President for Intercollegiate Athletics Eric Wood announced on Friday that Holtz would be coaching his final game for the Bulldogs against Rice.

"It was a very chirpy game," Holtz said. "There was a lot of talking going on. It was a very physical game. Both teams played extremely hard. There wasn't a bowl. There wasn't a conference, so it's playing for pride at the end of the year and both teams competed really hard. Unfortunately, we made a couple too many mistakes tonight to be able to overcome them to win." Holtz was the third-

most winningest coach in

program history with 64 victories in his nine seasons. He led Tech to seven straight bowl games and earned his 150th career win as a FBS head coach in the 45-42 victory over Southeastern on Sept. 11.

Head connected with sophomore wide receiver Smoke Harris for a 4-yard touchdown in the third quarter for the 17-14 lead. After another touchdown by the Owls, Head rushed for a 22-yard touchdown and then found junior wide receiver Griffin Hebert for the 6-yard touchdown to lead 31-21 with 13:10 left in the fourth quarter.

Rice trimmed the lead to 31-28 with just over four minutes to play. After forcing a three-and-out, the Owls returned a punt for 48 yards to the Tech 18 yard line where they went onto convert a touchdown for the 35-31 lead. Tech drove down the field to the Rice 33-yard line, but the Owls would intercept the ball to seal the victory.

Harris led the Bulldogs with six receptions. The wide receiver led the team in receptions in all 12 games this season to become the first Tech player to have the most receptions in every game since Troy Edwards in 1998.

Barnes made his lone field goal of the day, a 20-yarder, and was a perfect 4-for-4 in PATs.

He is now a perfect 72for-72 in PATs in his ca-

Jenkins' late TD propels LSU past No. 14 Texas A&M, 27-24

BATON ROUGE (AP) — A string of clutch completions by Max Johnson in little more than a minute capped coach Ed Orgeron's roller-coaster tenure at LSU with a triumphant sendoff before a jubilant Tiger Stadium crowd.

Johnson hit Jaray Jenkins with a 28-yard scoring pass down the right sideline with 20 seconds left, and LSU knocked off



No. 14 Texas A&M 27-24 on Saturday night to become bowl eligible.

"How about them Tigers baby?" said Orgeron, a Louisiana native who grew up an LSU fan and considered coaching the Tigers his dream job. "We just kept preaching to our football team to keep on fighting, keep on fighting and something good is going to happen."

LSU (6-6, 3-5 SEC) had lost a 10-point lead in the fourth quarter and and were on the brink of their first losing season since 1999 on when Johnson, who'd been sacked six times in the second half. came alive on fourth-and-6 from the LSU 19 and less than 1:30 left.

Johnson kept the Tigers alive with a decisive throw over the middle to tight end Jack Bech and then hit Jenkins for a 31-yard gain. An 11-yard pass to Malik Nabers put LSU on the 28, setting up the goahead score three plays later and setting off a wild celebration in Death Valley while Orgeron smiled from ear-to-ear on the sideline.

"That is why we all came here — to win games and to be put in these situations," Johnson said. "It was a pretty sweet feeling after the game."

LSUlinebackerDamone Clark, a Butkus Award finalist, sealed the victory by sacking Aggies quarterback Zach Calzada twice.

"I'll never forget this game. I love this team," Clark said. ""You couldn't draw up a finish for this senior class any better. We stuck and fought together until the very end."

The victory gave LSU two straight wins to close the regular season, but Orgeron said he and LSU's administration "mutually agreed he would not coach a bowl game and that offensive line coach Brad Davis would take over as interim coach.

FUN & GAMES

CROSSWORD

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- sleep 12 Farmer's
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Level: Beginner

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!

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!

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COMICS

BABY BLUES I RICK KIRKMAN AND JERRY



BLONDIE I DEAN YOUNG AND JOHN MARSHAL



BEETLE BAILEY I MORT & GREG WALKER I'LL HAVE YOU KNOW I WON A SPELLING BEE WHEN I WAS A KID!!



I'M JUST TOSSING THIS OUT THERE... YOU GUYS CAN TAKE IT OR LEAVE IT.



HAGAR THE HORRIBLE I CHRIS BROWNE WHERE DO I SIGN ?! WHERE DO I SIGN ?! CALM DOWN! IT WON'T ALWAYS BE FUN AND







MOTHER GOOSE & GRIMM I MIKE PETERS



SAM AND SILO I JERRY DUMAS









CRYPTOQUIP

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Yesterday's Cryptoquip: IF YOU PUT A BUNCH OF FOUL, CORRUPT THINGS IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER, YOU GET THE SORDID SORTED. Today's Cryptoquip Clue: N equals P



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Final Notice and Public Explanation of a Proposed Activity in a 100-Year/500year Floodplain or Wetland

To: All interested Agencies, Groups and

CFR 55.20 Subpart

C Procedures for

Making Determina-

tions on Floodplain Management and

Wetlands Protec-

tion. The activity is funded under actions

Federal Assistance for

Homeowner Recovery

Programs is proposed

The locations for pro-posed project activity

encompass various

residential properties in up to all 64 parishes

of Louisiana. Grant re-

cipients will be based

on an application and

eligibility process and

thus the specific locations of these housing

units are not known at

selection will be further

determined within the

program policies and procedures based

funds and number of applications. The LA

CD is proposing to

implement programs

to assist homeown-

owners and tenants that have been and

by disasters. These

programs are modelled after the Restore

continue to be affected

Louisiana Homeowner

Assistance Program

deployed in response

plicants and intended

recipients of current or

upcoming programs are homeowners and

rental unit owners/

tenants who are at

various stages of re-

habilitating residences

relocating. Grants may

tion financing activities

previous federal loans

assistance to eligible

homeowners to re-

build and re-occupy

units or participate in

buyout and relocation

neighborhoods, reduc-

ing blight, mitigating

against future storms

and increasing overall

resiliency. The types of construction-related

activities will consist of

either major or minor

rehabilitation, recon-

struction, elevation

or demolition within

the original footprint

of each damaged

structure or developed lot. Under the buyout

option, properties with

pre-existing structures may be retained as

greenspace following

demolition with home

eas In some cases

required with potential

outside of the footprint

expansion beyond or

new construction or

elevation may be

and utilities.

LA OCD has

proposed project

National Wetland

Inventory will be

state and federal

of this project.

owners relocated to more resilient ar-

programs with the

goals of rebuilding

their homes and rental

provide for construc-

in addition to any

or funds received

in order to provide

in existing locations or

to the Great Floods

of 2016. These ap-

ers and rental unit

on availability of

this time. Criteria for

by which Statewide

This is to give notice that Louisiana Office of Community Development (LA OCD) under Part 58 has has conducted an evaluation as required by Executive Order 11988 and/or 11990. in accordance with HUD regulations at 24

program actions, re-location of these activities to areas outwetlands would result in abandonment of in an unfinished state ment of land for the for relocation, any such land would need to be; a) outside the 100-year floodplain and wetlands, b) not other land uses, and c) not designated for farmlands, parks

recreational areas) This alternative was the following: a) this would not provide any significant benefit to the floodplain since the existing areas will remain developed rerequire displacement of homeowners that homes, c) the lack of existing infrastructure and services in areas outside the floodplain and the unfeasible costs to provide such amenities, and d) the resulting blight that homes fall further into further does not meet the overall objectives in allowing residents to rebuild their lives. homes and communi-

Alternative 2 - Alternative methods to serve include multi-family communities. The multi-family housing at a few sites within the floodplain or at sites outside of the disadvantages as into disrepair, the

of the original structure alternative to not determined that the activities could involve more than 100,000 properties and up to an estimated total of 21,250 acres with a substantial portion of these activities anticipated to be located within the 100-year floodplain. In accordance with Executive Order 11990, the total number of homes and combined acreage of these properties that are proximal to wetlands listed in the reviewed on an individual basis after being identified. However. at this time, given the nature of the proposed activities and previous correspondence with agencies for similar projects, zero acres of wetlands impact are anticipated as a result storms.

LA OCD has considered alternatives and mitigation measures to be taken to minimize adverse impacts and to restore and preserve natural and beneficial values. These included the following alternatives:

1. Locations outside of and not affecting the 100-year floodplain/wetlands;

2. Alternative methods to serve the identical project

3. Not approving action to occupancy or modify the flood-

objective; or

For each of these alternatives, various factors were considered including natural value, feasibility, technology, hazard reduction, related economic value and other environmental impacts. The evaluation of each alternative is summarized below.

Alternative 1 - In most cases, aside from the proposed buyout side of the floodplain or existing homes that are of repair as well as the purchase and developrelocation of citizens. In order to be considered currently developed for other uses (e.g., prime

rejected due to a number of factors including gardless of any action taken, b) this would may be still living in the would occur as current disrepair and abandon-ment. This alternative of the proposed action in that it does not result

the project objective are limited but could housing at specified vicinity of the affected could be located either floodplain or a combination of both. Such an alternative would conceptually allow for similar populations but with a smaller footprint. However, this alternative was rejected due to many of the same Alternative 1 regarding no real benefit to the floodplain, resulting blight in the neighborhoods as the existing home sites fall further displacement of the homeowners, and failure to meet the goals of the proposed action in helping to rebuild impacted communities to their prior state.

Alternative 3 - The approve any action. essentially a "No Action" alternative, would result in the properties remaining in disrepair. This alternative would not result in a reversion of floodplain back to its natural state. Additionally, no beneficial value would be anticipated since homes would be surrounded by other residences in most cases. If the homes are not rehabilitated. then the homes will deteriorate lowering property values and preventing homeowners from either returning to their homes or possibly causing those still living in the homes to eventually leave. The "No Action" would thus lead to eventual blight and hinder the ability of the impacted communities to rebuild and regain their identity that existed prior to the

Based on this detailed review, it has been determined that there is no practical alternative to the proposed action being located potentially in a floodplain. This includes careful consideration and rejection of the alternatives above. The proposed actions of repairing/rehabilitating existing homes will meet objectives

while not hindering the

natural values of the

floodplains.

Classified line ads are published Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday in the Minden Press-Herald, Bossier Press-Tribune and online at www.press.herald.com

Mitigating measures will be incorporated into the housing programs as part of the rebuilding process.
This includes elevation of homes within the floodplain that have substantial damage and adoption of various building codes for rehabilitation of residential structures in the floodplain. These construction measures and contractor standards outlined in the LAOCD Master Action Plan for the Utilization of Community Development Block Grant Funds, will result in more resilient and sustainable com-

LA OCD has reevaluated the alternatives to building in the floodplain and has determined there is no practicable alternative. Environmental files that document compliance with steps 3 through 6 of Executive Order 11988, are available for public inspection, review and copying upon request at the times and location delineated in the last paragraph of this notice for receipt of comments

There are three primary purposes for this notice. First, people who may be affected by activities in floodplains and those who have an interest in the protection of the natural environment should be given an opportunity to express their concerns and provide information about these areas. Second, an adequate public notice program can be an important public educational tool The dissemination of information and request for public comment about floodplains can facilitate and enhance Federal efforts to reduce the risks and impacts associated with the occupancy and modification of these special areas Third, as a matter of fairness, when the Federal government determines it will participate in actions taking place in floodplains, i must inform those who may be put at greater or continued risk.

Written comments must be received by Tina Cantrell of LA OCD at the following address on or before Jecember 10, 2021. State of Louisiana, Office of Community Development Post Office Box 94095, Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9095 and (225) 342-1731, Attention: Ms. Tina Cantrell, Environmental Specialist A full description of the project may also be reviewed from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm at 617 N. Third St. Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Comments may also be submitted via email at Tina. Cantrell@la.gov.

> November 30, 2021 Minden Press-Herald

**Any and all heirs of Russell Dale Godwin a/k/a Russell D. Godwin and/or Anyone knowing their where-abouts, Please contact Richard E. Griffith, Attorney at Law, at 839 Kings Highway, Suite 200, Shreveport, _ouisiana 71104, or (318) 222-0337

November 30, 2021 Minden Press-Herald

Quick Draw Travel Plaza & Casino LLC, d/b/a Quick Draw Travel Plaza is applying to the Office of Alcohol & Tobacco Control of the State of Louisiana and the City of Minden for a permit to sell beverages of high and low alcohol content at retail in the Parish of Webster at the following address:

November 23, 2021

November 30, 2021

December 3, 2021

December 10, 2021

Minden Press-Herald

1703 Hwy 531 Minden, LA 71055 **Quick Draw Travel** Plaza & Casino, LLC Quick Draw Travel Plaza

November 30, 2021 Minden Press-Herald

Quick Draw Travel Plaza & Casino LLC, d/b/a Quick Draw Casino is applying to the Office of Alcohol & Tobacco Control of the State of Louisianaand the City of Minden for a permit to sell beverages of high and low alcohol content at retail in the Parish of Webster at the following address:

1705 Hwy 531 Minden, LA 71055 **Quick Draw Travel** Plaza & Casino, LLC Quick Draw Casino

November 30, 2021 Minden Press-Herald

NOTICE OF PRIVATE

26TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT STATE OF LOUISI-PARISH OF WEB-STER NO. 17,264-A

SUCCESSION OF

BRYANT

NOTICE IS GIVEN that the administrator of this succession has petitioned this Court for authority to sell immovable property belonging to the succession at private sale provisions of Article 3281 of the Code of

JOE BARNETT BRY-ANT AND BONNIE YOUNGBLOOD

in accordance with the Civil Procedure for \$27,500.00 cash. The

property proposed to be sold at private sale is described as follows: with all improvements 221 Youngblood Road, located thereon and all Minden, Louisiana, right thereto belonging further described as

A 65 feet by 420 feet tract described as follows, to-wit:

Begin at the Northwest corner of the Northeast Quarter of the Southwest Quarter (NE 1/4 of SW 1/4) of Section 31, Township 19 North, Range 8 West, Webster Parish, Louisiana, and run East 210 feet: thence run South 65 feet; thence run West 420 feet; thence run North 65 feet; thence run East 210 feet to the point of beginning, together

and including the

mobile home situated thereon described as a 1987 Skyline Mobile Home bearing VIN 67530297W

Any heir or creditor who opposes the proposed sale must file an opposition within seven (7) days from the day on which the last publication of this

Barry Bryant Administrator

notice appears.

November 9, 2021 November 30, 2021 Minden Press-Herald

	own of Cotton Valley		Q ₀	of ose of
ccrual Basis	January through Dece			
Ordinary Income/Expense	Jan - Dec 22	Budget	\$ Over Budget	% of Budget
Income 41400 · Ad Valorem Tax Income	0.00	44 007 00	44 000 00	
41403 · Beer Tax	0.00	41,225.00 405.00	-41,225.00 -406.00	0.0%
41404 · Beer License 41406 · Fines & Bonds	0.00 0.00	228.00 75.500.00	-228.00 -75,500.00	0.0%
41408 · Franchise Tax LP&L & SV		15,000.00	-15,000.00	0.0%
Total income	0.00	132,358.00	-132,358.00	0.0%
Expense				
60050 · Ad Valorem Collection Fe 60000 · Advertising and Promotion		2,800.00 1,900.00	-2,800.00 -1,900.00	0.0%
60100 - Alderman Expense	0.00	6,000.00	-6,000.00	0.0%
60200 · Audit Expense 61702 · Contract Labor	0.00 0.00	8,750.00 17,100.00	-8,750.00 -17,100.00	0.0%
62500 · Dues and Subscriptions	0.00	3,950.00	-3,950.00	0.0%
62600 · Fuel 63100 · Insurance Expense	00.0 00.0	11,000.00 46,000.00	-11,000.00 -46,000.00	0.09
63410 - Legal	0.00	7,500.00	-7,600.00	0.09
64200 · Mayor Expense 84900 · Office Supplies	0.00 0.00	7,800.00 7,000.00	-7,800.00 -7,000.00	0.0 9 0.0 9
65000 · Payroll Expenses	0.00	108,000.00	-108,000.00	0.09
65500 - Payroll Taxes 66050 - Patrol Car Expense	0.00 0.00	,	-13,000.00 -5,000.00	0.09 0.09
66391 · Police Dues & Subscripti	ons 0.00	150.00	-150.00	0.09
66200 · Coroner Expense 66275 · Police Office Expense	0.00 0.00		-1,100.00 -700.00	0.09
66300 · Police Salaries	0.00	50,000.00	-50,000.00	0.0
66380 · Police Uniforms 66390 · Police Supplies	00.0 00.0		-110.00 -4,700.00	0.09
66510 · Printing & Reproduction	0.00	1,200.00	-1,200.00	0.0
66650 · Prisoner Housing 66700 · Professional Fees	0.00		-520.00 -17,000.00	0.0
67125 · Repairs and Maintenance	e 0.00	2,375.00	-2,375.00	0.0
67200 · Supplies 67300 · Telephone & Pager Expe	0.00 ense 0.00		-400. 00 -4,600.00	0.0
68400 · Travel Expense	0.00	13,300.00	-13,300.00	0.0
68450 - Uniforms 68950 - Utility Salaries	0.00		-1,300.00 -28,000.00	0.0
68999 · Utilities	0.00		-9,200.00	0.0
Total Expense	20.0	380,455.00	-380,455.00	0.0
Net Ordinary Income	0.00	-248,097.00	248,097.00	0.0
-		,	, 210,007,000	0.0
_	Town of Cotton Valle rofit & Loss Budg			
ccrual Basis	January through Dec			
	Jan - Dec 22	Budget	\$ Over Budget	% of Budge
Other Income/Expense	0011 - DOC 22	Douget	# Over budget	% or buoge
Other Income				
90000 · Other Income	0.00	6,500.00	-6,500.00	0.
Total Other Income	0.00	6,500.00	-6,500.00	0.0
Net Other Income				
	0.00	6,500.00	-8. 500.00	0.0
et Income				
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let income		Sales Tax Acct	241,597.00	0.
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tet income 12 PM Town 102/21 Pro- 102/21	of Cotton Valley - fit & Loss Budge January through Dece	Sales Tax Acct et vs. Actual mber 2022	241,697.00 Over Budget	% of Budget
2 PM Town 702/21 Procrual Basis Ordinary Income/Expense Income 3400 - Sales tax Revenue	of Cotton Valley -: fit & Loss Budge January through Dece Jan - Dec 22	Sales Tax Acct of vs. Actual or 2022 Budget \$ 6	241,597.00 Over Budget -86,000.00	% of Budget
2 PM Town 12 PM Pro 13 PM Pro 14 PM Pro 15 PM Pro 16 PM	of Cotton Valley - : fit & Loss Budge Jenuary through Dece	Sales Tax Acct et vs. Actual mber 2022	241,697.00 Over Budget	% of Budget
2 PM Town 702/21 Procrual Basis Ordinary Income/Expense Income 3400 - Sales tax Revenue	of Cotton Valley -: fit & Loss Budge January through Dece Jan - Dec 22	Sales Tax Acct of vs. Actual or 2022 Budget \$ 6	241,597.00 Over Budget -86,000.00	% of Budget 0.0
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2 PM Town 102/21 Procrual Basis Ordinary Income/Expense Income 3400 - Sales tax Revenue Total Income Nat Ordinary Income	of Cotton Valley - : fit & Loss Budge January through Dece Jan - Dec 22 0.00 0.00	Sales Tax Acctual mber 2022 Budget \$ 0 86,000.00 86,000.00 86,000.00 y - Utilities at vs. Actual	241,697.00 Over Budget -86,000.00 -86,000.00	0.0 % of Budget 0.0 0.0
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ADOPT... DON'T SHOP

Public Notice:

Project Owner: Project Name: Project Address:

Webster Village 2022, LP Webster Village Subdivision 101 Knight Street Minden (Webster Parish), LA

Total Units:

24 Unit Single-Family (3 & 4 Bedroom Units)

The project owner is proposing the rehabilitation of Webster Village Subdivision, a 24-unit mixed income single-family development. The development will consist of a community facility and supportive services which will be available for tenants. The applicant is competing for a reservation of 9% LIHTC's from the Louisiana Housing Corporation.

The total estimated development cost is \$ 5.246.803. The development will be funded with private financing and equity proceeds from the sale of Low Income Housing and Historic Tax Credits and other financing provided from the Louisiana Housing Corporation as follows (Amounts are estimated):

486,312

395,000

85,525

75,000

Attorneys

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rity Disability

or Appealing a

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& Assoc., Social

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Nationwide [Mail:

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Office: Broward

Co.(TX/NM Bar)] (LA-SCAN)

Attorneys

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Social Security

Disability or Ap-

pealing a Denied

Claim? Call Bill

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process & work

hard to help with

your case. Call

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neys Nationwide

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ton DC. Office:

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(LA-SCAN)

Attorneys

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a serious injury in

an auto accident,

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attorneys have

to get you the full

compensation

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a SIGNIFICANT

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Consultation. No

Risk (LA-SCAN)

Attorneys

Washington DC

4,204,966

\$ 5,246,803

\$

Conventional Financing Seller Mortgage LIHTC Equity Deferred Developer Fee

Total sources of funds

November 19, 2021 November 23, 2021 November 30, 2021 Minden Press-Herald

LAND FOR SALE

200 ACRE TIMBER-LAND SALE. Claiborne

Parish, LA. Multiple bid options. Excellent hunting & recreational property. Public access on Suggs Road. Sealed bid opening on December 14, 2021. For property information

text an email address. RENTAL Mobile home for rent. 2 bedroom/1 abath. \$400/month.

and a bid

package,

call (318)

548-0756 or

Call 377-7683 EMPLOYMENT Presbyterian Village of Homer is hiring CNA's all shifts, LPN's

all shifts, and weekend RN's. For more information, please call (318)927-6133 and ask for Joyce Pickens for CNA applications, and Alex Vansickle for LPN/RN applications. **VILLAGE OF** DIXIE INN, **LOUISIANA POLICE OF-**FICER - (FULL-TIME / PART-

TIME)

This is not a Civil Service position. This position helps protect and serve our village. Applicant must be P. O. S. T. Certified, minimum 1 year patrol experience, 21 years of age, computer, and office skills, have a valid LA. driver's license. and minimum high school or GED equivalent diploma. NO felony convictions. Other qualifications, information, and an application can be obtained at the Village of Dixie Inn City Hall, 60 Shell Street, Minden, LA., Mon. - Fri., 10am - 4pm. You must apply in

person with the

Mayor and Chief

of Police. Call

318-382-5086 for

an appointment.

The Village of

Dixie Inn is an

equal opportunity

employer.

DRIVERS

Delivery Drivers Needed Bill & Ralph's Inc. 118 B & R Drive, Sarepta, La. 71071 Accepting Applications For **Delivery Route** Drivers with a CDL(Class A) Drivers License. Free Medical Insurance for

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401K Benefits, **NEW PAY** SCALE! Hourly plus Incentive Pay, Yearly Safety Bonus Pay, Monthly Safety/ Performance

Pay. Apply at Bill & Ralph's **Contact Mickey**

Hodges at (318)539-2071 mickey.hodgphs.com

es@billandral-PETS 2 dogs looking for a new home. Roxie, female, 3 years, mostly

Now: 1-877-920-9734 (LA-SCAN) lab with some nosed with LUNG pit, bigger dog, mostly black with white. Riley, male, 4 may be entitled to years, mostly jack russell with some beagle, 0193 today. Free medium sized dog, mostly

brown with white. Both fixed with shots and chipped. Need a yard to run around in! Text Gloria at

> Stonewall. HOMES FOR

(318) 455-7983

for pics. Lives in

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4143 (LA-SCAN)

Education

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(M-F 8am-6pm

ÉT) (LA-SCÁN) **Financial** Services ARE YOU BE HIND \$10k OR MORE ON YOUR TAXES? Stop wage & bank levies, liens & audits, unfiled tax returns, payroll issues. & resolve tax debt FAST. Call 1-855-832-2310 (LA-SCAN)

Financial Services Denied Credit?? Work to Repair Your Credit Report With The Trusted Leader in Credit Repair. Call Lexington Law for a FREE credit report summary & credit repair consultation. 1-855-527 0217. John C. Heath. Attorney at Law, PLLC, dba

Firm (LA-SCAN) **Financial** Services Over \$10K in debt? Be debt free in 24-48 months. Pay nothing to enroll. Call National Debt Relief at 1-855-794-1033

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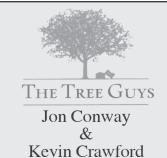
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