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75 CENTS

CRIME

Police Chief asks to “please stop the violence” after most recent shooting

Special to the Minden Press-Herald

On December 11, 2021, at approximately 11:59 pm., Minden Police Officers were dispatched to the South Fairview St. area in reference to a shots fired call. Upon Officers arrival, witnesses informed that the shots were fired at a particular home. Officers made contact with the occupants of the home, checking for any injured victims, no one within the home were injured. One occupant indicted that he had just arrived home from work, approximately an hour earlier, was sitting in his room, when he heard loud shots coming from the street, so he got down on his floor. The second occupant indicted that he was asleep on the couch, when he was awakened by gunshots coming from outside in the street. He immediately got down on the floor. Officers recovered over 40 spent shell casings from outside in the street, three different calibers casings were recovered, indicating that there were at least three different shooters.

On December 13, 2021, at approximately 11:00 pm., Minden Police Officers were dispatched



CROPPER

to the Pine St. / Methodist Camp St. area, in reference to a shots fired call. The complainant informed Officers that the shots were directed towards a home on Pine St. Upon the arrival at the home on Pine St. Officers discovered that the vehicle parked in the driveway of the residence had been struck by gunshots. On contact with the two occupants of the home, they indicated that they were asleep inside the residence, and did not hear the gunfire. Officers recovered five spent shell casings.

I am reaching out to the people of Minden, asking for peace. The occupants of these two homes are relatives of the person arrested and charged in the Homicide of I.Q. Harrison. The suspect acted alone, there is no evidence in this case indicating any other family member or party being involved. The person that committed this crime will be held accountable.

These random shootings need to stop; bullets sprayed in neighborhoods do not have a name attached to them. Innocent men, woman, and children are subject to be shot and killed. I am asking, Please stop the violence.”

EDUCATION

Local teacher awarded WEEF Scholarship



WILL PHILLIPS/MINDEN PRESS-HERALD

Glenbrook 4th/5th/6th grade social studies teacher, Mrs. Beth Clark, was awarded the WEEF (Webster Education Endowment Fund) Scholarship today. Greater Minden Chamber President, Jana Morgan and board members, presented Mrs. Clark with \$1000 check. Glenbrook School Library also gave an “in-kind” grant of \$700. Mrs. Clark will be using these funds to purchase a non fiction social studies library to supplement the curriculum. She plans to apply for the grant again until she has non fiction social studies books for all grade levels that she teaches. Congratulation, Mrs. Beth Clark!

COVID

Edwards overrules House committee to require COVID vaccinations for K-12 students

(The Center Square) – Gov. John Bel Edwards announced Tuesday he is overriding a bipartisan House committee vote that strongly opposed adding COVID-19 vaccines to Louisiana K-12 school immunizations lists.

Edwards sent a letter Tuesday to the House Committee on Health and Welfare, notifying chair Rep. Larry Bagley, R-Stonewall, he is authorizing the Louisiana Department of Health to proceed with the effective school vaccine mandate.

“While I understand that any issue around COVID-19, especially those that involve our children, can be divisive, I ask that you and your colleagues work with me to get more people in Louisiana vac-

cinated,” Edwards wrote.

The committee voted 13-2 last week in opposition to the governor and Health Department’s student immunization plan.

Nearly two dozen legislators testified before the committee, along with House Speaker Clay Schexnayder, R-Gonzales; Attorney General Jeff Landry; Massachusetts vaccine skeptic Robert Kennedy Jr.; and an estimated 200 parents and state residents who submitted public comment requests – the vast majority of whom opposed the vaccine mandate.

Edwards, a Democrat, strongly supports COVID-19 vaccines and said children will not be forced to receive them “if their parents object in writing.”

Edwards’ letter likened

the vaccinations to those that eradicated diseases that harmed children in the past and now are part of the required immunization list for attending school.

“It is worth noting that while many of the diseases on the public health immunization schedule were once both rampant and deadly, they are no longer serious risks for school age children in Louisiana,” he said. “This is true because almost everyone was vaccinated against these diseases, many as a condition for attending elementary school.

“One can only imagine where we would be as a state if the same over-heated rhetoric from last week’s meeting was applied to Polio or Measles,”

Edwards added.

The House committee hearing was the first public opportunity lawmakers had to confront the governor’s administrative rule. Many charged Edwards was improperly bypassing the Legislature by attempting to enact an overly broad regulation.

The rule process quietly began in September and managed to avoid any previous public hearings or public comments during the required comment period, despite its controversial nature. Critics alleged the process was designed to avoid backlash.

If finalized, the regulation would apply to 16- and 17-year-olds and extend to students as young as age 5 pending FDA approval. Rep. Julie Emer-

son, R-Carencro, said the way the rule is written, the Legislature would not have an opportunity to weigh-in in the future.

Edwards said he is taking action to save lives.

“First and foremost, I am allowing this rule to go into effect because it will save lives and help Louisiana to emerge from this pandemic,” he said. “This rule explicitly provides that any student may be exempted by submitting ‘a written statement from a physician stating that such vaccination is contraindicated for medical reasons, or the individual or his parent or guardian submits a written dissent.’”

Many lawmakers said they were pro-vaccine last week but adamantly opposed vaccinating chil-

dren. Some questioned whether the written opt-out exemption would be too narrow to opt-out in practice.

When Rep. Kenny Cox, D-Natchitoches, pressed for specific COVID-19 statistics regarding children, a Health Department epidemiologist testified that 125,000 children had tested positive in Louisiana during the pandemic. Eighteen had died, she said, of whom 14 had comorbidities.

If the rule is finalized, Louisiana will join California as the only states to require COVID-19 vaccinations for K-12 in-person learning.



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WEBSTER & MORE

COVID

Gas prices continue to fall ahead of holidays; close to highest ever on Christmas

BOSTON (December 16, 2021) -- Santa came early this year, delivering lower gas prices just in time for Christmas with the national average price of gasoline down 10 cents per gallon since Thanksgiving, according to GasBuddy, the leading fuel savings platform.

The national average on Christmas is projected to decline from today's \$3.32 to \$3.25 per gallon. Just a penny away from 2013's Christmas tally of \$3.26 per gallon, the priciest

Christmas on record, there remains a chance prices in 2021 could still land just above the previous Christmas record.

While the drop in prices is good news, prices remain relatively high, increasing 45% from 2020's \$2.25 per gallon. Prices at the pump are expected to continue to fall into the New Year, providing some much needed relief to drivers in 2022.

"We got a Christmas gift that few should complain about: falling

gas prices at a time of year when millions of Americans are spending their hard earned dollars on gifts for their loved ones. The last thing they should have to worry about is expensive gasoline," said Patrick De Haan, head of petroleum analysis at GasBuddy. "While we might scrape by a razor under 2013's tally of \$3.25/gal on Christmas, the good news is prices should continue to moderate heading into the last moments of 2021."

HEALTHCARE

Medicaid now certifies kids for free lunch in 8 more states

BATON ROUGE, La. (AP) — The U.S. Department of Agriculture has added eight states to the 19 where students receiving Medicaid coverage will be automatically added to the program offering free or reduced-price school lunches.

Alabama, Illinois, Kansas, Louisiana, Maryland, Minnesota, North Carolina, and South Carolina are now part of a demonstration program started in fall 2012, a news release said Tuesday.

"Providing reliable access to nutritious meals has never been more important as Louisiana continues to recover from the effects of recent hurricanes, floods and the pandemic," said John Dupre, state director of child nutrition programs for the Louisiana Department of Education.

USDA said Tuesday's action expands demonstration projects that have certified more than 1 million students for free means and nearly 260,000 for reduced-price meals since the 2012-2013 school year.

"Direct certification works to decrease errors in school meal program administration and ensures children in need aren't mistakenly left behind," said USDA Food and Nutrition Service southwest regional administrator Bill Ludwig.

The 27 states now involved represent about 75% of students nationwide, the agency said.

Direct certification makes it easier for children from low-income households to receive free and reduced-price

school meals.

Historically, most students who receive such meals have applied for the program. Families participating in a few other programs, such as the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program or Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, also get the free or lower-cost meals.

"Adding Medicaid to the list of benefit programs that can 'directly certify' a student to receive free or reduced-price meals is a win-win for students, families, and school officials. This means less paperwork for families and fewer school meal applications for school districts to process and verify," the news release said.

GOVERNMENT

Landry sues governor over vaccine requirement for schools

BATON ROUGE, La. (AP) — Attorney General Jeff Landry and a Republican state lawmaker filed a lawsuit Wednesday seeking to block Gov. John Bel Edwards' plans to add the COVID-19 vaccine to Louisiana's immunization schedule for schools and colleges.

The lawsuit from the GOP attorney general and Bossier City Rep. Raymond Crews came a day after the Democratic governor notified House lawmakers that he's going against their wishes to enact the rule mandating some students get the vaccination for the 2022-23 school year or file paperwork to opt out of the immunization requirement.

Landry argues that Edwards' action violates constitutional provisions that give lawmakers the power to enact laws rather than the governor. The attorney general suggests the rulemaking process outlined in state law that allows a governor to override a legislative rejection of a regulatory proposal is unconstitutional.

"The Louisiana Constitution grants the governor the power only to enforce the law, not to make it," the lawsuit says.

Edwards sent a letter Tuesday to the House Health and Welfare Committee, notifying them that he will overrule their 13-2 bipartisan vote

against the plan and enact it against their wishes. Crews is a member of that House committee and voted not to add the COVID-19 vaccine to the immunization schedule.

The governor's office defended its actions as following the law.

"We've not reviewed the attorney general's full filing, but the Louisiana Department of Health is well within its legal authority on adding the COVID vaccine to the immunization schedule, where it will be treated like all other vaccines and parents may choose to opt their children out of it," Edwards spokesperson Christina Stephens said in a statement.

Edwards and his public health advisers have repeatedly argued that the vaccine is safe and effective and getting more children vaccinated would help save lives.

In his letter to the committee, the governor said 19 children have died from COVID-19 in Louisiana since March 2020, and he said no one in the state has died from receiving the vaccine. And he's stressed that Louisiana's law provides broad exemptions to the immunization schedule.

Already, many of Louisiana's colleges have begun requiring the vaccine — or an exemption request.

Under Edwards' plan,

the addition of the COVID-19 vaccine to the state immunization schedule will only apply to age groups for whom the U.S. Food and Drug Administration has given full approval for the shots. Currently, that's students 16 and older.

But that would broaden to cover younger children if the FDA grants full backing to the vaccine for more age groups.

Across a daylong committee hearing last week, some lawmakers and members of the public repeated misinformation about the risks of the coronavirus illness and the vaccine. Other lawmakers called the governor's plan governmental

overreach that meddles in family decision-making. They said they had been inundated with complaints about adding the COVID-19 vaccine to the immunization schedule for schools.

Landry, who is considering a run for governor in 2023 when Edwards is term-limited, has repeatedly clashed with Edwards across their two terms, including in several lawsuits. Landry also has successfully challenged some of President Joe Biden's vaccine mandates.

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WEBSTER & MORE

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KSLA NEWS 12

JEFF CASTLE

Limited shower activity is expected Friday, but expect to see widespread rain arriving on Saturday. We will end the weekend on a dry note. Temperatures will run near record highs on Friday, but a cold front will bring in much cooler weather over the weekend. Saturday looks warmest in the morning. Highs will only be near 50 by Sunday.

FRI

20%

TEMP

79

WIND

S 7

SAT

100%

TEMP

65

WIND

NW 8

SUN

0%

TEMP

50

WIND

NE 6

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OBITUARIES

Paul T. Warren

A Catholic Memorial Mass will be held Thursday, December 16, 2021, at 10:00 a.m. at St. Paul Catholic Church in Minden, Louisiana with Father Pike Thomas officiating. Interment will follow at 11:30 a.m. at Bistineau Cemetery in Heflin, Louisiana under the direction of Rose-Neath Funeral Home in Minden, Louisiana. The family will receive friends Wednesday, December 15, 2021, from 5:00 until 7:00 p.m. at Rose-Neath Funeral Home in Minden.

Paul was born August 10, 1958, in Minden, Louisiana and entered into rest December 13, 2021, in Heflin, Louisiana. Paul was a plant operator for International

Paper Company in Mansfield. He was an avid deer hunter and fisherman.

Paul was preceded in death by his father, A.J. Warren. He is survived by his mother, Rene Warren of Shreveport; son MacKenzie Warren and wife Courtney of Heflin; daughter, Lindsey Powell and husband Scott of Heflin; grandchildren, Nettie Powell and Grey Warren; sisters, Mandy Warren, Teresa Collier, Ellen Carlisle, and Amy Dean all of Shreveport; brother, Jack Warren of Heflin, and a number of nieces and nephews.

Honorary pallbearers will be Steve Ramsey, Dayton Carlisle, Don Tharpe, Hewitt White, William Brown, and his International Paper Company family.

Rose-Neath Funeral Home
211 Murrell Street
Minden, Louisiana 71055
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WORK FORCE

Health worker vaccine mandate blocked in half the states

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — A federal appeals court panel on Wednesday lifted a nationwide ban against President Joe Biden’s vaccine mandate for health care workers, instead blocking the requirement in only certain states and creating the potential for patchwork enforcement across the country.

The decision by the New Orleans-based 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals kept a preliminary injunction in place for 14 states that had collectively sued in federal court in Louisiana. It altered a Nov. 30 ruling by U.S. District Judge Terry Doughty, who originally applied his order nationwide.

A separate preliminary injunction on appeal before the St. Louis-based 8th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals applies to 10 additional states. That means the vaccine requirement for Medicare and Medicaid providers is blocked by courts in about half states but not in the other half.

“This vaccine rule is an issue of great significance currently being litigated throughout the country. Its ultimate resolution will benefit from ‘the airing of competing views’ in our sister circuits,” the ruling from three 5th Circuit judges said.

At issue is a rule published Nov. 5 by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid that applied to a wide range of health care providers that receive federal Medicare or Med-

icaid funding. It required their workers to receive the first dose of a COVID-19 vaccine by Dec. 6 and be fully vaccinated by Jan. 4. It was projected to affect more than 17 million workers in about 76,000 health care facilities as well as home health care providers.

The agency said on Dec. 2 that it would not enforce the vaccine rule while court injunctions were in place. It was not immediately clear Wednesday whether the agency would continue to suspend the rule for all states or seek to go ahead with it in states no longer subject to the injunctions.

About 85% of adults nationwide already have received at least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine. But Biden contends his various workforce vaccine mandates are an important step to drive up vaccination rates and contain the virus outbreak, which has killed about 800,000 people in the U.S.

Courts that have blocked the mandates for health workers, federal contractors and medium-to-large-sized businesses all have said the Biden administration likely exceeded the executive powers spelled out in law. The administration has continued to say it is on firm legal ground.

In upholding Doughty’s injunction for the states that sued, the 5th Circuit panel said it appears likely that opponents of the health worker vaccine mandate will prevail as

the case moves through the courts. However, the panel also said there are significant differences between the health care vaccine mandate and another vaccine mandate — blocked previously in a separate ruling upheld by the 5th Circuit — that applied to all businesses employing more than 100 people.

Among the key differences, the court said, is that “the targeted health care facilities, especially nursing homes, are where COVID-19 has posed the greatest risk.”

Wednesday’s 5th Circuit ruling was issued by judges Leslie Southwick, nominated to the court by President George W. Bush; and James Graves and Gregg Costa, both nominated by President Barack Obama.

The 5th Circuit decision blocks the health worker vaccine mandate in Alabama, Arizona, Georgia, Idaho, Indiana, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Montana, Ohio, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Utah and West Virginia. The separate case pending before the 8th Circuit blocks the mandate in Alaska, Arkansas, Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, New Hampshire, North Dakota, South Dakota and Wyoming.

Also Wednesday, the Cincinnati-based U.S. 6th Circuit Court of Appeals said a three-judge panel — rather than the entire court — would rule on a challenge to the Biden administration’s mandate

that all private employers with at least 100 workers require them to be vaccinated or wear masks and face weekly tests.

That decision is a victory for the Biden administration, which had pushed back against efforts to have all the judges in the panel initially involved. Eleven of the 16 full-time judges in the 6th Circuit were appointed by Republicans.

The vote in the 6th Circuit was split, with eight judges wanting the entire panel to hear the case and eight wanting it to stay with three judges. Judge Karen Nelson Moore wrote that the three-judge panel already has devoted time to the case and switching now would “subvert our normal process.”

Chief Judge Jeffrey Sutton disagreed, arguing in a dissent, “there is something to be said for putting all hands on deck, particularly when it comes to handling the stay motion.” In his dissent, he laid out a case against the administration’s authority to issue the mandate.

At least for now, the earlier ruling from the 5th Circuit remains in place and the broader business vaccine mandate is on hold nationwide. The federal government has asked for that order to be dissolved. Determining which judges will decide that issue could set the stage for a ruling in the matter.

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BORDER CONTROL

Court won’t allow reversal of Trump remain-in-Mexico policy

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — A federal appeals court has dealt another blow to the Biden administration’s attempt to undo former President Donald Trump’s policy requiring people seeking asylum in the United States to remain in Mexico while their asylum claims are processed.

In a Monday night ruling, the 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in New Orleans upheld a Texas-based federal judge’s decision maintaining Trump’s policy, formally known as the “Migrant Protection Protocols.”

White House press secretary Jen Psaki declined Tuesday to say whether the administration would appeal to the Supreme Court and referred such inquiries to the Justice Department. She reiterated that President Joe Biden continues to believe the program is “ineffective” and “inhumane.”

Biden’s administration had appealed the August decision, but also began working with Mexico to reimplement the policy while the legal battle continued. Earlier this month, U.S. authorities sent the first two migrants back to Mexico under the reinstated policy.

“We note that decision this morning and obviously would reiterate that, while this is a program that we disagree with, the injunction dictating court-ordered implementation remains in effect, so we continue to comply with it in good faith,” Psaki said.

Monday’s ruling by three 5th Circuit judges said the administration’s move to end the policy was arbitrary and violated a federal immi-

gration statute requiring detention of those in the country illegally pending removal proceedings. If there is no capacity to detain them, Judge Andrew Oldham wrote for the panel, the statute allows the Department of Homeland Security to return them to “contiguous territories” while proceedings are pending.

Biden suspended the program on his first day in office in January and Homeland Security Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas formally ended it in June. But the state of Missouri and Texas sued to reinstate it. Texas-based U.S. District Judge Matthew Kacsmaryk issued an injunction keeping the policy in play, saying the administration failed to follow required procedures for ending it and did not have capacity to detain all asylum seekers.

Mayorkas issued a revised version of the policy Oct. 29, but Monday’s ruling said the revision “simply reaffirmed the Termination Decision that the States had been challenging all along.”

When he issued the Oct. 29 policy revision, Mayorkas said the “Remain in Mexico” policy likely contributed to a drop in illegal border crossings in 2019 but with “substantial and unjustifiable human costs” to asylum-seekers who were exposed to violence while waiting in Mexico.

The panel that issued Monday’s ruling included Oldham and Judge Kurt Engelhardt, both nominated to the court by Trump, and Judge Rhesa Barksdale, nominated by President George H.W. Bush.

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- All obituaries must be typed to avoid any errors.
- Deadline for obituaries is 3:00 p.m. two days prior to the publication date.
- A proof can be provided via email if requested.
- Obituary cost is \$40/per 400 words and includes a single photo. Payments can be made over the phone once the obit is received. All obituaries are subject to prepayment.
- 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

OPINION

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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.

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OTHER OPINION

Bob Dole, statesman, politician, soldier and citizen

WILLIAM HAUPT III
The Center Square

Former Republican presidential candidate Sen. Bob Dole arrives at the Quicken Loans Arena before the evening session of the opening day of the Republican National Convention in Cleveland, Monday, July 18, 2016. Bob Dole, who overcame disabling war wounds to become a sharp-tongued Senate leader from Kansas, a Republican presidential candidate and then a symbol and celebrant of his dwindling generation of World War II veterans, has died. He was 98.

“The proudest moment in my life, I’ll remember most is the sight of all the wheelchairs on the White House lawn, when President Bush signed the Americans With Disabilities Act into law.” – Bob Dole

Fairy tales show children how to behave growing up and how to get along with others. They learn good societal behavior from adult role models. As adults, we need heroic role models as well. Heroes reveal qualities we need for communion with others. They educate by example, give us hope when we are down, show us a better way. Above all, heroes teach us how to become better citizens.

Last week, America lost one its most “uncelebrated” heroes, long-time statesmen, politician, soldier and most importantly, citizen, Bob Dole, at age 98. A disabled veteran, state and federal senator, and Republican nominee for president in 1996, he served America faithfully for almost eight decades. Bob Dole was a citizen who did all of the things a good citizen should do for his country and more.

Capitol Hill icon and former U.S. Sen. Bob Dole, R-Kan., is best remembered as the Republican Leader of the Senate for 11 years, and three terms as Senate Majority Leader. His colleagues remember him as a leader who stood by his principles and his party. He was a man who never abandoned his convictions, yet was able to “cross the aisle” and broker major accomplishments when

others refused to budge.

Bob Dole’s passion for public service began when he was attending the University of Kansas on an athletic scholarship taking pre-med classes. He played basketball, football and he was a track star also. But during his second year in college, with America at war, Dole abruptly quit school to join the army and fight in WWII. And this decision changed the direction of his life and future forever.

Serving as a lieutenant in the 10th Mountain Division, in April 1945, while engaged in combat near Bologna, Italy, Dole was seriously wounded by a German shell that shattered his collarbone and spine. Dole recalled, “I was face down in the dirt, and thought my arms and legs were missing.”

Dole nearly died from his injuries. It took three years of surgeries and physical therapy for him to be able to dress, eat or even walk. He lost the use of his right arm and hand and his left hand was totally numb. He received two Purple Hearts and the Star Of Valor for attempting to save a fellow soldier.

Bob Dole spent a career in public service when others would have felt that they had done enough. Determined to complete college and return to public service, he earned an undergraduate and a graduate degree in law. And in 1950, Dole was elected to serve in the Kansas State Legislature.

“I lived by this theory, if I can’t use my hands, well, I better learn to use my head.” – Bob Dole

Dole was elected to Congress in 1969 and served for 36 years. He was the GOP Senate Leader for 11 years and three years as Senate Majority Leader. Dole said he reminded himself everyday that his job was, “Not to vote no against all the hard things and then vote yes for all the easy things. Too many politicians do that. Then they go out and make speeches about how tough they are.”

As President Gerald’s Ford vice presidential running mate in 1976 after they lost to Jimmy Carter and Walter Mondale, Dole analyzed their presiden-

tial campaign this way: “President Ford was supposed to take the high road, and I was supposed to go after the jugular. Well, I did. I went after my own.”

At age 73, in May 1996, Dole resigned as Senate Majority Leader to run for president. Dole faced questions about his age, and his potential inability to serve a full term due to his war injuries. When he fell off the stage and into the dirt in Chino, California, he was ridiculed by media and Bill Clinton supporters.

With his poll numbers slipping, Dole launched a round-the-clock marathon of events over the final 96-hour stretch before Election Day 1996. When one reporter asked him if he had enough clean clothes to continue at that pace, Dole quipped back, “We’re going to stop at an underwear factory.”

While media paints a colorful picture of Dole’s career as a tough deal maker and failed presidential candidate, few mention why he chose to continue to work in public service after the end of WWII.

Dole seldom mentioned his war injuries while in office. But they drove his passion to improve the lives of other veterans and the disabled, and to keep alive the memories of those who died for us.

In that first Senate address, Dole told the story of a paraplegic who was referred to the state-federal vocational rehabilitation office, which enabled him to get a job, and a new home. He told Congress, “This took place because the federal government initiated vital, vocational rehabilitation programs.”

This set the tone for Bob Dole’s “real agenda” for his remaining years in Congress and long after.

To people with disabilities, Dole was a bona fide hero. Dole’s effort to secure bipartisan support for the 1990 Americans with Disabilities Act is his greatest achievement. He convinced John McCain and Orrin Hatch and liberal Democrats, Ted Kennedy and Tom Harkin, to cosponsor the bill as well. He worked tirelessly to pass the

bill, which President George H. W. Bush signed into law.

“I found out if you have a disability people look at you differently without your uniform.” – Bob Dole

Journalist Richard Cramer wrote, “People had problems when Reagan was elected and needed government help. During the Reagan years, Bob Dole was responsible for the 1981 tax cuts, the rescue of Social Security and helped Americans with many key issues during the Reagan years.”

Dole played a pivotal role in creating the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. holiday. He told opponents: “To those who would worry about cost, I suggest they go back to their pocket calculators and estimate the cost of 300 years of slavery!” President Reagan signed the bill into law on Nov. 2, 1983.

In 2012, Dole returned to Washington in support of the U.N. Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. Dole created the Dole Foundation for the employment of people with disabilities.

Dole was the driving force behind the construction of the World War II Memorial on the National Mall. In 2004, in failing health, from his wheel chair, he stood up speaking to tens of thousands of 80 and 90 year old veterans: “Physical and moral courage makes heroes out of all of us boys.”

Republican U.S. Sen. Mitch McConnell told Congress, “While Dole championed Republican ideals; he remained committed to caring for the vulnerable, from veterans to people with disabilities.”

The virtues that led Bob Dole to raise his right hand, enlist in the Army, and fight until he could not raise that hand again are the same values that compelled him to raise his left hand for every cause he believed in while in Congress and after leaving government, during sickness and health. He will be remembered as a true public servant and American hero.

“Americans of every generation have laid down their lives for people they never knew or will ever see again. That’s America!” – Bob Dole

DiamondJacks’ returning? It’s a marriage of convenience at best

When voters in St. Tammany Parish rejected the idea of locating a casino there, it set into motion the possibility of DiamondJacks, or whatever it is called now, to reopen in Bossier City.

Peninsula Pacific Entertainment, a California-based developer, was waiting for voter approval to build a \$325 million, 120-acre hotel and casino near Slidell. Voters rejected the “Camellia Bay” project, 63%-37%.

Now, they have 60 days to reopen in Bossier City, or risk losing their casino license, according to multiple reports. The situation begs the question, “Do we really want them



DAVID SPECHT

casino boat on the Bossier side of the Red River. Claiming itself a victim of pandemic-related shutdowns, DiamondJacks closed its doors in 2020.

back?”

When casino gaming came to northwest Louisiana in the 90s, the Isle of Capri, which is now the shuttered Diamond-Jacks, was the first

casino complex has been the first thing people see as they begin to drive on the north end of the Arthur Ray Teague Parkway. It’s not exactly the image of a progressive, growing community that leaders want to portray.

Meanwhile, the other five casinos in the SBC, plus Harrah’s Louisiana Downs, have continued operations, making sacrifices and hard choices to ride out this unforeseen market adjustment. In fact, they have also given back to the community as they could through events, donations, sponsorships, etc.

Why would we want to split the gaming pie seven ways just

because voters in St. Tammany left Peninsula Pacific Entertainment at the altar?

While we may not be able to keep DiamondJacks from reopening, which is almost guaranteed to be temporary. We can avoid offering incentives and infrastructure to assist the process.

I am not one to hold grudges, but I know marriage of convenience when I see one. Let’s be faithful to those who stayed faithful to us. We owe our other casino partners that much.

DAVID SPECHT IS PRESIDENT OF SPECHT NEWSPAPERS.

EDITORIAL ROUNDUP

Terris Todd: Black fathers matter so very much

Black fathers get a bad rap. Society has painted us with a broad brush, stereotyping us as missing in action and unresponsive to our children’s needs. At times, we’ve been labeled as uninterested in our children’s everyday lives.

Dads, we know that is far from the truth. It’s time to stand up and put the lie to these gross mischaracterizations.

Yes, deadbeat dads exist throughout the country, and it is crippling our next generation. In 1990, about 3.4 million black families in the United States were headed by single mothers. By 2020, that number had increased to 4.25 million, according to a recent article published by Statista Research Department.

But one thing I’m thankful for during this holiday season is that dads are increasingly showing up, and family dynamics appear to be turning around. Black fathers and father figures have stepped up their influence

over children. The statistics have held steady since 2016.

Countless fathers have returned to once-fatherless homes. Those are real success stories. Fathers must start sharing our own success stories, to overcome society’s debilitating stereotypes and encourage others to do the same.

For decades, the ongoing narrative has never fully captured black fathers in our true essence, nor has it told of the positive impact we’ve had in our children’s growth and development over time.

Men, don’t discredit the influence you’ve had on your children—they have success

stories of their own and they can thank you for guidance and discipline.

We continue to see our children achieve success as class valedictorians, studying medicine in universities across the country, and flying military aircraft.

The truth of the matter is, when fathers or father figures are actively engaged in a child’s everyday life, it provides a sense of security, confidence and belonging.

As a father, and as the son of a single parent, my life was changed dramatically when my dad called me to reconcile our relationship. It happened three years after I confronted him about being absent from critical moments growing up. I realized that we both needed that moment of reconciliation.

There were many assumptions and unanswered questions that needed to be resolved. I am thankful that we were able to bring closure before he sud-

denly passed away.

The strength that I received from knowing he was proud of my accomplishments revealed why I believe fathers are the answer to a generation on the brink of being lost in this world.

Through my journey of reconciliation with my father, I realized that a father has, at minimum, three responsibilities in a child’s life: He affirms; he provides; he protects.

When my oldest daughter was born, she was completely unaware of her life’s purpose.

As her father, I affirmed her. I disciplined and set the course to build her confidence in keeping her from going astray.

Once my two younger daughters were born, I provided their needs: spiritual, emotional, physical, mental, and financial support.

Most importantly, I have since their birth, protected my daughters through prayer.

Fathers, we must admit that being in our children’s lives is

a wonderful thing. As they mature and accomplish great success because of our presence, it provides us with a level of gratitude that cannot be explained with words.

God has designed for our families to be the support system we need in life and to create the balance a child needs to grow into productive and successful adults.

When a father is removed from being the leader of the family, it makes the overall success of the child more difficult.

Fathers, do whatever it takes to be engaged in your children’s lives. The reward on the other side of your pain is much greater than you could ever imagine.

Fathers, you matter!

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TERRIS TODD

LIFE

FROM THE BACK PORCH

It’s Fruit Cake Making Day

Today is Fruit Cake Making Day at our house. It’s an annual event, usually done Thanksgiving Week, but we’re a bit behind schedule this year. I don’t have a real excuse for running late other than it took me a while to gather the ingredients this year. The candied fruit that I use was not available in the grocery stores, so I had to order it from Amazon. (Do you sometime get the feeling that almost everything now has to come from Amazon?)

The Day of the Cake is a day set aside for only that. Nothing else is planned as it is a time consuming project. It takes a while to gather the ingredients, using pecans, walnuts, candied red and green cherries, candied pineapple, raisins and dates. And after the mixture is put in the oven, it cooks for three hours at a low temperature. I use the same recipe that Mama and Grannie Wise used those many years ago, however I have made a few adjustments .But it still results in two moist cakes, a large one and a smaller cake. Mama found the recipe on the box of Crustene

shortening. I don’t know the year because I can’t remember when she first made them, but it must have been 75 or 80 years ago. Shortening came in a 3-lb. box and the recipe was printed on the flap that folded in. (I still have that box top flap with the recipe and Ma-ma’s handwriting on the back.) For many years, Mama would go to Grannie’s while we were at school and they would make their cakes together, chopping, mixing, baking (with a wood burning stove) and visiting. The recipe called for items they had never heard of, such as citron, candied orange peel, and such. Not to be outdone, those enterprising women substituted what they had, using pear preserves, figs and other fruits they had available. Sometimes they added chopped orange slice candies. When the cakes were done, they were wrapped with a cloth flour sack and stored till Christmas. After I started making the fruit cake, I adjusted it for the ingredients that were available in the grocery stores and were to our liking. When it was the way we liked it best, I used that method every

year afterwards. Since making the cake is such an involved process, I usually finish my early morning tasks; cooking breakfast, cleaning the kitchen and getting ready to begin chopping and mixing. With weakened wrists, I must rely on Hubby to help stir the thick mixture, so it is a shared experience. When we take that beautiful cake out of the oven, we can both be proud of our handiwork. In spite of the long history of the fruit cake and all the work that goes into baking it, our children will not touch it. If I remember correctly, when they were very young, they would eat some but I suppose their tastes have changed. I used to share it with my brothers and sister and a niece who all liked it but never made one. But, now, it is just the two of us, so I sometimes offer a piece to some friends. So many people frown and say they don’t like fruit cake. I just say they’ve never tasted mine or they would change their minds. The day is dawning, time is passing and I must be about the business of making fruit cake.

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



FANNIE MOORE

INSPIRATION

In tornado’s wake, a church and pastor turn to God, service

(AP) — After riding out the violent tornado that devastated their town in a tunnel under their church, the Rev. Wes Fowler and his family emerged to devastation stretching for blocks: Crackling power lines, piles of rubble and calls for help they couldn’t pinpoint in the darkness. Later, safe back at home, his daughter had a question that left him stumped: “My little girl asked me, ‘Why would God let this happen?’” said Fowler, senior pastor at First Baptist Church in Mayfield. While he believes God did allow the tornado to happen, he had no answer as to why the western Kentucky community where he was baptized, grew up and chose to raise his family wasn’t spared from the Friday night storms that left dozens dead and communities reeling across at least five states. But he felt he knew what to do next: glorify God amid the suffering, and serve those in need. “It’s easy to serve the Lord when things are good,” Fowler said. “It’s more challenging to serve him when times are bad, and I think that’s really when people are looking to see if our faith is genuine, if our faith is true.” Despite suffering damage to their own church buildings, First Baptist staff and volunteers mobilized to provide whatever they can to help survivors cope with the disaster’s aftermath and stay afloat — gift cards, food, generators, water, a listening ear and more. Blake Schuecraft, associate pastor, said church leadership formed three teams in the wake of the storm: One to help affected members of the congregation, which numbers around 350 on Sundays; a second to focus on patching up and cleaning the First Baptist campus; and a third to serve the broader community of about 10,000 people and coordinate offers of aid. A Georgia ministry

showed up with generators ready to serve coffee to the community, and first Baptist invited them to use their space, Schuecraft said. He has fielded offers of help from churches as far away as New York as well as individuals in Florida and Illinois: “Some people are just loading up what they have and bringing it here.” The congregation, whose founding dates to before the Civil War, was about two months from moving into its newly remodeled, nearly century-old sanctuary when the tornado hit. Some of its stained-glass windows blew out and a wall was cracked, delaying its reopening. But it faired the best of the First Baptist structures. Across the street in the church’s children’s building, the decorated Christmas tree in the foyer was miraculously untouched, but glass shards, soggy ceiling tiles and other debris were strewn across the floor as workers scrambled to cover holes in the roof of the congregation’s temporary worship space. Outside and in front of one of the dust-covered entrances, coffee dispensers, creamers and sweeteners lined folding tables beneath a towering cross in a shattered second-story window. Debbie Samples, a member of First Baptist for about 20 years, spent hours Monday brewing pot after pot of coffee that was handed out in Styrofoam cups to community cleanup crews and to neighbors through the rolled-down windows of cars creeping through the devastated downtown. That small offering of comfort was a familiar act of service for Samples, who often provides meals to the bereaved and those in need through one of the church’s ministries. Heartbroken by the destruction, Samples wanted to help any way she could. “This church has been a vital part of our lives, but it’s not just the building — it’s our church family,” Samples

said. “It’s who calls on us or who we call on when things are down ... it’s Christ, and we hope that we can shine for him through this.” Samples said she hunkered down with more than a dozen family members and neighbors in her basement late Friday as the tornado roared through like a freight train. They have a standing invitation to take cover there, the only home with a basement in her neighborhood. Located a couple of miles outside Mayfield, the area was not hit by the twister — so she gasped when she saw the scope of the destruction in town. “Pictures do not do justice to what we see,” Samples said. “It’s worse than we could ever imagine.” Fowler, too, recalled the terror of that night, when he and his wife used their bodies to cover their three children in the tunnel as the ceiling shook violently, enveloping them in a cloud of dust. “It probably lasted ... 30 seconds or more. It felt like it lasted five minutes,” Fowler said. “The kids were crying, and I was telling them verbally, ‘We’re going to be OK. We’re going to be OK.’ ... But in my mind I was thinking we might not be OK.” In the moment, they focused on staying alive. Once safe, their conversation turned to God. Days later, as the afternoon sun shone through damaged stained glass in the empty sanctuary, Fowler still had no answer to his daughter’s question. He believes in a sovereign God but could come up with no theological reasoning for why the tornado delivered such a deadly blow to Mayfield and not some other town. “I had to look at my little 8-year-old girl, who looks to me for answers,” he said, “and I had to say ... ‘I don’t know. I don’t know.’”

DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

STRANGER FROM A STRANGE LAND

Are You Sure You’re Okay?

The Winter Solstice is upon us. December 21. The day the sun’s highest elevation is at its lowest. That time of year when nights are longest and days are shortest if measured by sunlight. But the season gives us holiday lights for illumination. Minden really shines this time of year with its impressive



DIRK ELLINGSON

light displays for blocks downtown. I never tire of them and wish they were up year-round. One of Kansas City’s great holiday traditions is the Plaza lights. The Country Club Plaza is a posh shopping area of grand sculpture fountains (Rome houses more but Kansas City claims more working fountains than any city in the world) and Seville, Spain inspired architecture. Even if you can’t afford pricey Plaza merchandise, you can window shop and enjoy blocks of festive lights for free. Tourist attractions and traditions hold little interest for me after seeing them a time or two. I miss much about Missouri although not so much the Plaza lights. I enjoy colorful Christmas decorations but Plaza lights bring recollections of pokey traffic dodging inattentive pedestrians and trying to find parking. Scrooge accusations? Guilty as charged. I was captivated by the Minden holiday lights before I moved here. For a town this size, it’s quite the ambitious presentation. I’m starting my sixth winter residing in Minden and I still love those lights. The Nutcracker soldiers particularly. It’s not as big a display as the 280,000 bulbs on the Kansas City Plaza yet I still regard it a holiday treat. Natchitoches, Louisiana is known for its Christmas lights along the bank of the Cane River Lake this time of year. Their holiday display includes more than 300,000 lights so even more than the Kansas City Plaza. Natchitoches might be known foremost for being the film site of Steel Magnolias. My favorite Natchitoches fact? It’s Louisiana’s oldest permanent settlement. It was established in 1714. New Orleans was founded in 1718. Natchitoches the city was established a century later in 1819, seven years after Louisiana statehood. But the settlement, not to be confused with the city, was estab-

lished four years before New Orleans by Louis Juchereau de St. Denis, a French-Canadian soldier and explorer. Trick questions make for interesting trivia. The Christmas lights of Natchitoches reflecting off the Cane River are very pretty. Among sessions we didn’t bother

moving here in December 2015 was our artificial Christmas tree. In Missouri, I only recall a real tree during the early years of my childhood. We subsequently employed the same plastic model for years and I don’t recall my family ever bothered to purchase new ornaments. We were champions of frugal tradition. I did badger my mom Becky into investing in a shepherd for our Christmas manger. Unbeknownst to me, our crèche was a Matthew gospel model. Wisemen but no shepherds. Those guys are exclusive to Luke. I noticed neighbor kid family Christmas tableaux with Magi and shepherds. We got a shepherd to keep up with the Joneses. But he was brightly painted whereas our original figurines were finished in a dark varnish. That shepherd never quite fit in. Fake trees take up storage space in the off-season. But plastic trees are not the fire hazard you have to keep watered, they don’t drop needles, and you don’t have to fool with their inevitable annual disposal. Of course, they don’t naturally smell like pine, fir, or spruce trees. The real fire hazard was back in the day before plastic trees and electric lights. Candles and drying wood make for a dangerous mix and fires spoiled many a holiday season. The Babbs Switch Fire in Oklahoma killed 36 people at a school Christmas Eve celebration in 1924. Paper decorations spread the fatal blaze that started with candles on a Christmas tree. We had neighbor friends in Independence, Missouri who each year displayed and decorated the real deal. I liked to go to their house and smell the pine scent. Touch the branches. Look below for the water level at the trunk. I also enjoyed the archival photographs on holiday display of their little son Aaron and daughter Katie over the years terrified to sit on Santa’s lap. It was often

the same old morose Santa Claus. Despite a sour visage, the guy was hired year after year. I have a friend in Independence who doubles as Santa without costume or makeup. Santa Ray’s always cheerful in the role. There were no pictures of Aaron or Katie with Santa Ray. If so, everyone would have been smiling. We converted to real Christmas trees after relocation south. We first bought one at Lowe’s in Bossier City, then patronized the local Hollis Tree Farm where you select your own tree and they saw it down for you to take home. Disposal’s not a problem because we live near a forest. I like that real tree smell. Climbing’s not a feline temptation now that our cats are no longer kittens. But they still bat the low hanging ornaments. There’s a Beavercreek subdivision resident with an amazing Christmas display of Minden notoriety. One of those incredible shows accompanied by a specially allotted musical track on your vehicle’s FM radio dial. Most seem to love it and some drive out of their way for the experience. Last year, one neighbor had the temerity to lodge social media complaints about dangerous nocturnal rubberneck parking but that person was electronically shouted down. Another Scrooge accusation? Maybe but I see his/her point. I can testify Beavercreek subdivision is a dangerous racetrack. I stop to see that illuminated yard art every year, but I don’t turn off my car and I cautiously watch my rearview mirror as much as the light display. I prefer a string of multi-colored lights. Iridescent over consistency. We’ve outdoor lights but I’m uneasy about my stepdaughter Amanda climbing on the roof to hang them as she did last year. It’s not worth the risk when you’ve better lights to see in downtown Minden. But once they’re up, I’m in no hurry to turn them off and take them down. The longest I remember a childhood neighbor leaving lights up was March. People began to complain but I liked the look. What’s good for December is good for June even though there’s considerably less dark night to light.

WRITTEN BY DIRK ELLINGSON

Send us your news
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SPORTS

Eight Apaches earn all-district honors

T. SCOTT BOATRIGHT
Minden Press-Herald Sports Service

Glenbrook High School had a surprising first year of playing Louisiana High School Athletics Association football as the Apaches finished 8-2.

While the Apaches are not eligible for postseason play in their probationary first year of LHSAA competition, it shouldn't be surprising they are still strongly represented on the All-District 1-1A team with eight players filling 10 different slots on the squad.

Junior Maddox Mandino earned three of those selections as he received first-team honors on offense as a Athlete and on defense as a defensive back while also being named to the all-district second team as a defensive back.

Glenbrook's Cale Hollis was named as the first team all-district tight end while Hayden Harmon earned first team honors as a linebacker.

Five Apaches joined Mandino with second-team honors, with receiver Cason Clemons, offensive tackle Garrett Brown and running back DJ Carter representing Glenbrook on the offensive side, linebacker Landry Powell being picked on the defensive side and Ty Feaster earning accolades as the second-team kicker.



MINDEN PRESS HERALD PHOTO BY T. SCOTT BOATRIGHT
Glenbrook tight end Cale Hollis is one of four Apaches who earned first-team All-District 1-1A honors this season.

LA Tech adds playmakers in early signing class

Minden Press-Herald Sports Service

RUSTON — Sonny Cumbie's reputation precedes him.

The first-year Louisiana Tech head coach has always been a part of up-tempo offenses and hard-hitting defenses.

And on Wednesday during the first day of National Signing Day, Cumbie and Co. added some perfect pieces to his playmaking puzzle in Ruston.

In total Tech inked 11 future Bulldogs, including four wide receivers, two experienced offensive linemen, one tight end, one strong-legged kicker/punter, one linebacker, one cornerback and a partridge in a

No wait. Right time of year. Wrong storyline.

And a quarterback who was the Gatorade Player of the Year in the state of Louisiana this season.

Not a bad pre-Christmas haul for the Dogs.

"I think our long-term solution is recruiting high school kids and developing those kids within your program," said Cumbie. "That comes down to coaching. We want to lean heavily on high schools particularly in Louisiana and east Texas and in areas of Mis-



issippi and Arkansas as well and then other areas where we have connections.

"You aren't looking at it as a short-term roster flip. I think there are a lot of talented pieces in place (on this roster). We want to be selective in the guys we take now and then be deliberate in our roster decisions moving forward."

Highly-touted signal caller Landry Lyddy (Calvary Baptist) chose the Bulldogs over a plethora of programs, sticking with his commitment to become a Bulldog despite a late push from a number of schools including former WAC rival Boise State.

The 2021 Louisiana Gatorade Player of the Year passed for over 4,000 yards and 53 touchdowns while leading the Cavaliers to the Division IV state semifinals.

"Landry Lyddy is one

of the all-time passers in Louisiana high school history, and there is no doubt he will continue that success as a Bulldog," said Cumbie. "We are excited to have a young man who has a strong arm and a lightning quick release. He is very accurate with the football. The kid is a winner. He has won a lot of football games and has played a lot of snaps in high school."

Lyddy will have plenty of talent to throw the ball to as the Bulldogs loaded up on young, speedy, play-making receivers, including Cyrus Allen (Landry Walker HS), Zion Claville (Huntington HS), Keshlon Jackson (Lake Charles College Prep), O'Ryan James (Elder HS) and Kendrick Rucker (Huntington HS).

"When you look at our roster, I think it shapes up to have a really talented (wide receiver) room," said Cumbie. "You look

at these players that were committed to us and guys we had the ability to sign. You just don't turn down great players.

"These are younger, very talented guys that can come in and learn from some of our older talented guys and continue to push them. The best way to build a roster is through competition. Guys who want to come in and compete and guys who aren't afraid to come in and compete. I'm excited about this group of playmakers."

The Bulldogs also added a pair of offensive linemen transfers in local product and Memphis transfer Isaac Ellis (Carroll HS) and junior college transfer Landon Nelson (Iowa Western CC/Underwood HS).

"These guys have a lot of experience," Cumbie said. "The experience at offensive line, you can't put a premium on that. There is a big difference between an 18-year-old freshman offensive lineman and a 22-year-old on the defensive line and vice versa. These are guys that have been in a lot of battles and had a lot of success. We are excited to have them come and compete on our offensive line."

On the defensive side of the football, Tech gained a pair of playmakers in linebacker Zy Ford (East Webster (Miss) HS) and cornerback Jhamal Shelby, Jr. (St. Augustine HS).

"Zy is a very, very physical kid. He has a ton of energy and loves football," Cumbie said. "He has a very, very high ceiling. He is physical and plays downhill. He played running back also in high school which is where people usually put their best players in high school so you know he is a talented young man."

"Coach (Brock) Hays had a relationship there at St. Aug and knew a lot about Jhamal. We knew the background of his character and type of young man he is. Just watching tape, he is a corner that has great length. His man skills are very good. I think receivers have a hard time running by him because of his length."

Buck Buchanan (Marshall (Texas) HS) was the lone specialist signee in Wednesday's class as the dual threat (punter, kicker) possesses a strong leg and provides the Bulldogs a weapon in a number of areas of special teams play.

"He has a very, very

powerful leg when it comes to kickoffs and punting," Cumbie said. "Hopefully he can also factor in when it comes to the field goal and PAT game. There are several special teams' coaches from across the region that we talked to. It was unanimous. They said, 'Sonny, you better get in there and you better make sure Buck stays a Bulldog.' The kid is really, really talented."

Cumbie was quick to praise the job by his staff for working hard during the transition between the previous staff and the current one that occurred leading up to signing day.

"A lot of these guys were recruited by the previous staff," Cumbie said. "The first thing was to secure those guys and make those guys feel comfortable. Sherman Wilson and our recruiting department and Coach (Anthony) Camp and Coach (Brock) Hays and some of the other coaches — coach (Paul) Turner and Coach Teddy (Veal) — they did a nice job of communication during the transition."

"It's always hard. Change can be difficult. We just wanted to build those relationships as fast as we could."

Cowart paces GSU with 17 points, but Tigers fall at UAB

Minden Press-Herald Sports Service

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. — The Grambling State University men's basketball team couldn't overcome a sluggish first half, losing a tough road bout to the University of Alabama at Birmingham, 79-61, at Bartow Arena on Tuesday evening.

Shawndarius Cowart led the Tigers' offensive charge, scoring a team-

high 17 points while snagging a game-high seven rebounds to go along with one rebound and one steal.

Two other Tigers, Prince Moss and Terreon Randolph, scored in double-figures. Moss contributed 13 points with four rebounds, two assists and one block and one steal. Randolph tossed in 11 points accompanied by four rebounds, one assist,

one block and one steal.

Grambling State shot 32.8 percent (21-for-64) from the floor and 75 percent (15-for-20) from the free-throw line

The Tigers recorded 34 points in the paint, 12 second-chance points, 14 points off 10 UAB turnovers, 12 fast-break points and 17 bench points

Grambling State did win the battle on the boards outrebounding UAB 45-41.



PHOTO COURTESY OF GSU ATHLETICS
Grambling's Danya Kingsby (3) defends against UAB Tuesday night.

Good News

GOOD NEWS

HOW THE GREAT GUEST CAME (Edwin Markham)

Before the cathedral in grandeur rose
At Ingelburg where the Danube goes;
Before its forest of silver spires
Went airily up to the clouds and fires;
Before the oak had ready a beam,
While yet the arch was stone and a dream
There where the altar was later laid,
Conrad, the cobbler, plied his trade.
It happened one day at the year's white end
Two neighbors called on their old-time friend;
And they found the shop, so meager and mean,
Made gay with 100 boughs of green.
Conrad was stitching with face ashine,
But suddenly stopped as he twitched a twine;
"Old friends good news! At dawn today,
As the cocks were scaring the night away,
The Lord appeared in a dream to me,
And said, "I am coming today -- your Guest to be!"
So I've been busy

with feet astir,
Sweeping the floor with branches of fir.
The wall is washed and the shelf is shined,
And over the rafter the holly twined.
He comes today, and the table is spread
With milk and honey and wheaten bread."
His friends went home; and his face grew still
As he watched for the shadow across the window sill.
He lived all the moments o'er and o'er,
When the Lord should enter his lowly door --
The knock, the call, the latch pulled up,
The lighted face, the offered cup.
He would wash the feet where the spikes had been,
He would kiss the hands where the nails went in,
And then at the last would sit with Him



Bill Crider

And break the bread as the day grew dim.
While Conrad, the cobbler mused, there passed his pane
A beggar drenched by the driving rain,
He called him in from the stony street
And gave him shoes for his bruised feet.
The beggar went and there came a crone,
Her face with wrinkles of sorrow sown.
A bundle of fagots bowed her back,
And she was spent with the wrench and rack.
He gave her his loaf and steadied her load
As she took her way on the weary road.
Then to his door came a little child,
Lost and afraid in the world so wild,
In the big, dark world.
Catching it up,
He gave it the milk in the waiting cup,
And led it home to its mothers arms,
Out of the reach of the world's alarms.
The day went down

in the crimson west
And with it the hope of the Blessed Guest.
And Conrad sighed as the world turned gray;
"Why is it, Lord, that your feet delay?
Did you forget that this was the day?"
Then soft in the silence a Voice Conrad heard:
"Lift up your heart, for I kept my word.
Three times I came to your friendly door;
Three times my shadow was on your floor.
I was the beggar with bruised feet;
I was the woman you gave to eat;
I was the child on the homeless street."

This is one of my favorite Christmas poems. It reminds me that often we entertain 'angels unaware', especially at this special time of the year. As we celebrate the Advent Season, a time of preparation and expectancy, may we search our souls and confess our sinfulness to God, our Father, through Jesus Christ, and draw nigh

unto Him. When we do that, we are assured He is drawing nearer to us as well.
Looking back over this Advent season, we should pause and take precious moments of soul-searching to see if God did not bring into our lives several potential encounters to 'entertain'. Perhaps your prayer has been to "tell this Good News to as many folks as possible, like the shepherds did after they saw the new King." Could one have been the plumber who came to get you 'out of a bind' with company driving into town? Or maybe one encounter was the young man hitch-hiking that you sped by without stopping; yet you felt that knot in your stomach when you realized 'he may have been on his way home for Christmas.' What an opportunity you just missed.
Thirdly, you may have prayed to share your personal testimony of how God has blessed you this year (a struggle with the Covid, a desert-experience with

financial hardships, or you may have been struggling with family issues)...then someone calls in the middle of Christmas lunch to 'sell you an igloo in Alaska'. Yes, a telemarketer who called on Christmas Day (of all times). These may have been the 'visitors' God sent your way this Christmas season in answer to your prayers. If we are not careful, we might be like Conrad and lose the wondrous opportunity to share the love of Jesus - the Spirit of Christmas - with someone who is desperately seeking Him.
Let's seek to seize the appointments God brings our way, and not live with disappointment later...that we missed the blessings God sent our way.

BILL CRIDER IS CHAPLAIN OF MINDEN MEDICAL CENTER

THE UPWARD LOOK

Enlighten Everyone

"To me . . . this grace was given, to preach . . . Christ, and to bring to light for everyone what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God, who created all things," Ephesians 3:8-9 ESV

God had given Paul the task to preach God's amazing plan to offer salvation to everyone through Christ. Paul was to enlighten, to make known, to explain the gospel to all people. Before He created the universe God had planned to send His Son to be the Savior. This gospel of grace had been hidden from previous generations until the coming of Christ.

Now this good news must be shared with all people that Christ, the Light of the world, had come to a dark and needy world to bring salvation, hope, and joy.



Max Hutto

Lord Jesus, during the Christmas season help me share with others this wonderful good news of great joy that Christ our Savior has come.

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

INSPIRATION

The Reason for The Season

It's the Christmas season and everyone is in the spirit. Gifts are being purchased, lights are being strung, and hallmark movies are being watched. While all these things are the traditions commonly known for this season, they are not the reason. Jesus and his birth are the reason for the season. Jesus came with one intention and that was to be born, suffer, and ultimately die for our sins. In all the hustle and bustle of this season, we sometimes forget to acknowledge the sacrifices that were made for us and the



Bernard Harris

ones we love. The world we live in due to societal changes and the influence of current events has tried to actively remove Christ from Christmas and that should never be acceptable to us as Christians. That's why I want to conclude this message by encouraging everyone to share the story of Jesus and his sacrifice the true reason for the season.

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

How can we pray for you?

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

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

301 Pennsylvania Avenue • Minden, LA

Come WORSHIP

FIRST ASSEMBLY OF GOD MINDEN

FUN & GAMES

CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- 1 Coffee flavor
6 Smidgen
9 Trendy
12 James — Garfield
13 Storefront sign abbr.
14 Chemical suffix
15 “Fences” actress Davis
16 Auto safety feature
18 Chinese dumpling
20 Sty cry
21 Cleric’s garment
23 Football’s Par-seghian
24 Author Joyce Carol —
25 Piglet’s pop
27 One-eighty
29 Steve of “The Office”
31 Appeared to be
35 Intimidate with “out”

- 37 Kentucky Derby winner — Ridge
38 Encrusted laugh
43 Collar
44 Met melody
45 Moolah
47 Icon lineup
49 Temple leader
52 Pinafore letters
53 Cravat
54 Where the elated walk
55 Talk and talk
56 Snake’s warning
57 “Phooey!”

DOWN

- 1 Dallas hoopster, briefly
2 Japanese sash
3 Prying aid
4 Angelic ring
5 Range brand
6 —
7 “East of Eden” twin
8 Broad-band letters
9 Custom
10 Foolish
11 Job benefits
17 Temporary car

- 19 Without question
21 Alphabet starter
22 Mauna —
24 Mined-over matter
26 Undo, as a law
28 Theater worker
30 “Acid”
32 Hotel amenity
33 Actress Longoria
34 Wee dollop
36 Household tasks
38 Heath-cliff’s love
39 Bakery lure
40 News-stand
42 Egret’s cousin
45 Banquet platform
46 Lion’s pride?
48 “Butter” K-pop band
50 Iota
51 Apr. addressee

Solution time: 25 mins.

| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| S | U | C | H | | S | E | C | | A | P | B | S |
| A | S | E | A | | H | E | H | | C | O | A | L |
| T | E | L | L | T | A | L | E | | R | E | L | O |
| | | | T | A | G | | R | O | O | M | I | E |
| S | H | E | E | P | | M | O | M | S | | | |
| L | E | E | R | | C | A | K | E | S | A | L | E |
| O | A | R | | A | L | L | E | N | | F | A | D |
| B | R | O | W | N | A | L | E | | R | A | I | D |
| | | | A | T | M | S | | D | I | R | T | Y |
| C | A | R | D | I | B | | G | O | D | | | |
| H | E | A | D | | A | I | R | E | D | A | L | E |
| E | R | I | E | | R | O | I | | L | O | O | P |
| F | O | L | D | | S | U | M | | E | L | L | A |

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|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | | 6 | 7 | 8 | | 9 | 10 | 11 |
| 12 | | | | | | 13 | | | | 14 | | |
| 15 | | | | | | 16 | | | | 17 | | |
| | | 18 | | | | 19 | | | | 20 | | |
| 21 | 22 | | | 23 | | | | 24 | | | | |
| 25 | | | 26 | | 27 | | 28 | | | | | |
| 29 | | | | 30 | | | 31 | | | 32 | 33 | 34 |
| | | | 35 | | | 36 | | | 37 | | | |
| 38 | 39 | 40 | | | | 41 | | 42 | | 43 | | |
| 44 | | | | | 45 | | | | 46 | | | |
| 47 | | | | 48 | | | | 49 | | | 50 | 51 |
| 52 | | | | 53 | | | | 54 | | | | |
| 55 | | | | 56 | | | | 57 | | | | |

SUDOKU

SUDOKU

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

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!

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

ANSWER:

COMICS

BABY BLUES I RICK KIRKMAN AND JERRY SCOTT



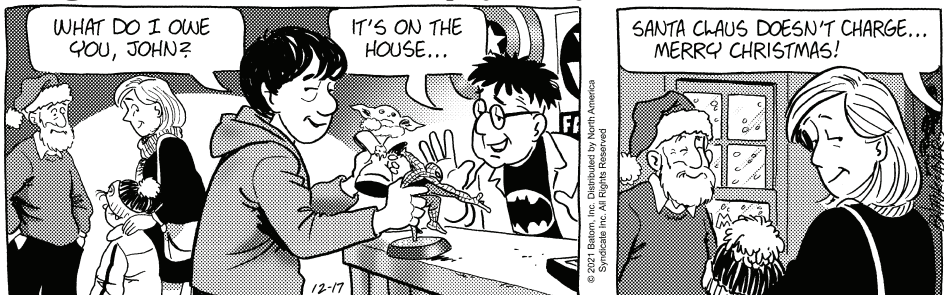
BLONDIE I DEAN YOUNG AND JOHN MARSHALL



BEETLE BAILEY I MORT & GREG WALKER



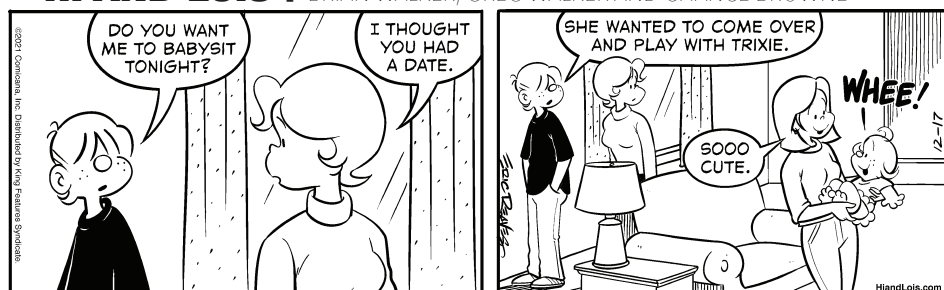
FUNKY WINKERBEAN I TOM BATIUK



HAGAR THE HORRIBLE I CHRIS BROWNE



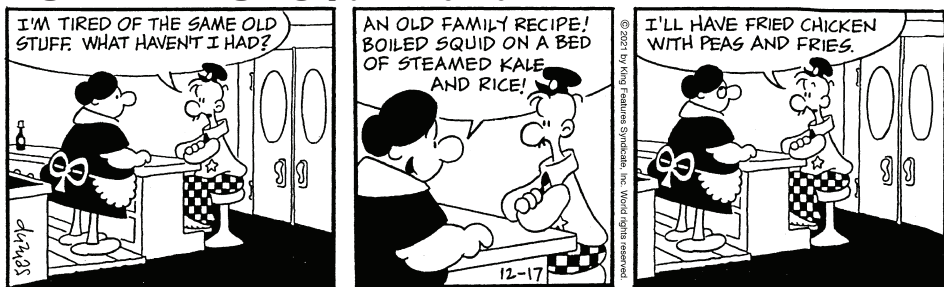
HI AND LOIS I BRIAN WALKER, GREG WALKER AND CHANCE BROWNE



MOTHER GOOSE & GRIMM I MIKE PETERS



SAM AND SILO I JERRY DUMAS



CRYPTOQUIP

12-17

CRYPTOQUIP

HOZHT GPHXK HKEL ZVKNU Z
LNW MTK ZVHKYNUCYW YKACH
MZDO, XTCCHC-XKACDCG

UKDUPYYZH: “EZXTK OZE.”

Yesterday’s Cryptoquip: IF YOU SAID SOMETHING SUCH AS “THESE GAMING CUBES ARE REALLY BEAUTIFUL,” YOU LAUDED THE DICE.

Today’s Cryptoquip Clue: O equals M

FUN & GAMES

CLASSIFIEDS

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

PLACE YOUR AD TODAY!

classifieds@press-herald.com

Classified Rates

Pricing is easy!

\$7.75

Per Day - Up to 20 words!
Additional words are only 30 cents more!

Garage Sales

No word limit.

\$11

One Day

\$16.50

Two Days

Receive a **FREE Garage Sale Kit** with your two day ad!

* Garage Sale ads must be prepaid.

Deadlines

Ads

Line ads and display ads must be submitted by noon two days before publication.

Public Notices

Public notices must be submitted two days prior to publication date depending on the length. Notices may be emailed to classifieds@press-herald.com

Payments

Cash Checks, Billing

Real Estate Notice

“All real estate advertised here is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act, which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin, or intention to make any such preference, limitation, or discrimination. We will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate, which is in violation of the law. All persons are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised are available on an equal opportunity basis.

Grow Your Business

Call to place your ad!

PLACE YOUR AD TODAY!

377-1866

PROCEEDING OF THE VILLAGE OF HEFLIN, STATE OF LOUISIANA, TAKEN IN A PUBLIC HEARING HELD ON DECEMBER 2, 2021

The Heflin Town Council met at Town Hall, Heflin, Louisiana beginning at 7:00 p.m. with the following members present: Mayor Todd Leake council members Matt Austin, Hallie DeMoss, Ralph James, Chief of Police Paul Migues, Water System Operator Jesse Williamson and Village Clerk Sherry Limosnero.

Mayor Leake opened Public Hearing for Operating 2022 Budget for the Village of Heflin, for the calendar year beginning January 1, 2022 and ending December 31, 2022.

The following Ordinance 2022 Budget, having been previously introduced on November 4, 2021. Mayor Leake Offered 2022 Budget to the public for final adoption, and will be submitted for official vote at a Regular December 2, 2021 Meeting.

Council comments were heard, public comments opened, hearing was adjourned.

Attest by: Sherry Limosnero Village Clerk, LCMC Respectfully posted: 12/9/2021 Adopted: Minden Press Herald

December 17, 2021 Minden Press-Herald

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

The Heflin Town Council met at Town Hall, Heflin, Louisiana beginning at 7:20 p.m. with the following members present: Mayor Todd Leake council members Matt Austin, Hallie DeMoss, Ralph James, Chief of Police Paul Migues, Water System Operator Jesse Williamson and Village Clerk Sherry Limosnero.

The meeting was opened with prayer offered by Ralph James 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 November 4, 2021 at Council Regular Meeting held on December 2, 2021 as presented; the motion was approved unanimously.

Hallie DeMoss moved to accept the November, 2021 Operating Financial Statements as presented; the motion was duly seconded by Ralph James. The motion was approved unanimously.

Upon motion by Ralph James and duly seconded by Matt Austin, the council unanimously approved Water System Reports for November, 2021.

Matt Austin moved to accept the November, 2021 Police Department Report as presented; the motion

was duly seconded by Hallie DeMoss. The motion was approved unanimously.

Upon motion by Hallie DeMoss and duly seconded by Ralph James, the council unanimously adopted an OPERATING BUDGET for 2022 as presented. Said operating budget 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 Hallie DeMoss.

Attest by: Sherry Limosnero Village Clerk, LCMC Respectfully posted: 12/9/2021 Adopted: Minden Press Herald

December 17, 2021 Minden Press-Herald

SHERIFF'S SALE

FLAGSTAR BANK VS. ROBERT ELI MOSLEY, IV A/K/A ROBERT E. MOSLEY, IV A/K/A ROBERT MOSLEY, IV AND AMY HERLANT MOSLEY A/K/A AMY H. MOSLEY A/K/A AMY MOSLEY A/K/A AMY NAVARRE MOSLEY A/K/A AMY N. MOSLEY

In the Twenty-Sixth Judicial District Court of Webster Parish, Louisiana, No. 78558

By virtue of a WRIT OF SEIZURE AND SALE issued out of the Twenty-Sixth Judicial District Court of Webster Parish, Louisiana, in the above styled and numbered suit and to me directed, I have seized and taken into my possession and will offer for sale at public auction to the last and highest bidder for cash WITHOUT the benefit of appraisal and according to law at the principal front door of the Courthouse in the City of Minden, Webster Parish, Louisiana on WEDNESDAY, December 22, 2021, During the legal sale hours, the following property, to wit:

A tract of land in Government LOT 3, Section 31, Township 17 North, Range 10 West, Webster Parish, Louisiana, and more particularly described as:

Begin at the Southeast corner of LOT 3, Section 31, Township 17 North, Range 10 West, Webster Parish, Louisiana; thence run North 22 degrees East 450.7 feet to the Northeast corner of Tract 2 of the property described herein. From said point of beginning, run West 1,001 feet to the East line of the property owned by Wayne Edward Jerdan; thence run North 104.35 feet; thence East 1,043 feet; more or less, to the meander line of Lake Bistineau; thence South 22 degrees West 112.7 feet to the point of beginning together with all improvements thereon and all rights thereto belonging, bearing GEO: 103368;

And begin at the Southeast corner of Lot 3, Section

31, Township 17 North, Range 10 West, Webster Parish, Louisiana; thence run North 22 degrees East along the meander line of Lake Bistineau a distance of 563.4 feet to the Northeast corner of Tract 3 above described, the point of beginning of the property herein described. From said point of beginning, run West 1,043 feet to the East line of the property now or previously owned by Wayne Edward Jerden; thence run North 104.35 feet; thence East 1,085 feet, more or less, to the meander line of Lake Bistineau; thence South 22 degrees West along the meander line of Lake Bistineau a distance of 112.7 feet to the point of beginning, together with all improvements thereon and all rights belonging, including the right of access granted by that certain right of way agreement, dated September 13, 1982, recorded in Conveyance Book 576, Page 669, in the Office of the Clerk of Court of Webster Parish, together with all lands and improvements located thereon, bearing GEO: 101188.

SOLD SUBJECT TO ANY SUPERIOR LIENS, MORTGAGES OR PRIVILEGES THERETO.

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

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

Linda Vaughan - Deputy

November 19, 2021 December 17, 2021 Minden Press-Herald

SHERIFF'S SALE

CALIBER HOME LOANS, INC. VS. STON GOLDEN AND STEPHANIE K. GOLDEN

In the Twenty-Sixth Judicial District Court of Webster Parish, Louisiana, No. 79116

By virtue of a WRIT OF SEIZURE AND SALE issued out of the Twenty-Sixth Judicial District Court of Webster Parish, Louisiana, in the above styled and numbered suit and to me directed, I have seized and taken into my possession and will offer for sale at public auction to the last and highest bidder for cash WITHOUT the benefit of appraisal and according to law at the principal front door of the Courthouse in the City of Minden, Webster Parish, Louisiana on WEDNESDAY, January 19, 2022, During the legal sale hours, the following property, to wit:

A certain tract or parcel of land situated in the Northeast Quarter of the Southwest Quarter (NE/4 of SW/4) and the Southeast Quarter of the Southwest Quarter (SE/4 of SW/4) of Section 4, Township 18 North, Range 8 West, Webster Parish, Louisiana, and being more particularly described

as follows, to-wit: Commencing a found axle marking the Southwest corner of the Northeast Quarter of the Southwest Quarter of Section 4, Township 18 North, Range 8 West, Webster Parish, Louisiana, proceed North along the West line of said Northeast Quarter of the Southwest Quarter of Section 4, a distance of 210.00 feet; thence proceed East parallel to the South line of said Northeast Quarter of the Southwest Quarter of the Southeast Quarter of the Southwest Quarter of Section 4, a distance of 371 feet, more or less, to the center line of a parish asphalt road; thence proceed North 65 degrees 13 minutes 58 seconds East along and with the center line of said parish asphalt road, a distance of 210.25 feet; thence proceed North 80 degrees 00 minutes East along and with the center line of said parish asphalt road, a distance of 65.69 feet; thence proceed North parallel to the West line of said Southeast Quarter of the Southwest Quarter and Northeast Quarter of the Southwest Quarter of Section 4, a distance of 271.51 feet, more or less, to a point lying parallel to the South line of said Northeast Quarter of the Southwest Quarter of the Southeast Quarter of Section 4 from the point of beginning; thence proceed West parallel to the South line of said Northeast Quarter of the Southwest Quarter of Section 4, a distance of 255.60 feet to the point of beginning, containing 1.85 acres, more or less and being subject to all rights-of-way, easements and servitudes of record for usage. Property situated in the Parish of Webster, State of Louisiana.

SOLD SUBJECT TO ANY SUPERIOR LIENS, MORTGAGES OR PRIVILEGES THERETO.

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

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

Linda Vaughan - Deputy

December 17, 2021 January 14, 2022 Minden Press-Herald

The Webster Parish School Board is posting a Request for Proposal(RFP) for E-Rate Category 2 for FY 2022. You can access the RFP by going to www.websterpsb.org and navigating to Departments, Technology, E-Rate Category 2—2022

December 17, 2021 December 21, 2021 December 28, 2021 January 4, 2022 January 7, 2022 January 11, 2022 January 14, 2022 January 18, 2022 January 21, 2022 January 25, 2022 Minden Press-Herald

Webster Parish Public Transportation Fare Schedule January 1, 2022

| Origination / Destination | Round Trip FARE | FARE |
|---|-----------------|---------|
| Springhill/Cullen/Sarepta to Shreveport | \$25.00 | |
| Shongaloo to Shreveport | \$25.00 | |
| Cotton Valley to Shreveport | \$25.00 | |
| Minden/Sibley to Shreveport | \$20.00 | |
| Doyline to Shreveport | \$20.00 | |
| Heflin to Shreveport | \$20.00 | |
| Dubberly to Shreveport | \$20.00 | |
| Sibley to Shreveport | \$20.00 | |
| Cotton Valley to Minden | | \$2.50 |
| Sarepta to Minden | | \$2.50 |
| Shongaloo to Minden | | \$2.50 |
| Cotton Valley to Springhill | | \$2.50 |
| Sarepta to Springhill | | \$2.50 |
| Shongaloo to Springhill | | \$2.50 |
| Shongaloo to Minden | | \$3.50 |
| Springhill to Minden | | \$3.50 |
| Sarepta to Minden | | \$3.50 |
| Doyline/Heflin/Dubberly to Minden | | \$2.00 |
| Sibley/Minden to Minden | | \$2.00 |
| Springhill to Springhill | | \$2.00 |
| MONTHLY BUS PASS | | \$60.00 |

Equal Opportunity Program/Employer

Auxiliary Aids And Services Are Available Upon Request To Individuals With Disabilities

December 14, 2021 December 17, 2021 December 21, 2021 December 28, 2021 Minden Press-Herald

CITY OF MINDEN IS HIRING:

Full-time Research and Marketing Associate

The Research and Marketing Associate is responsible for collecting economic and business related statistical information; inventory of available commercial real estate including vacant land within the City of Minden; develop and/or maintain the Department's social media presence and website; provide assistance at workshops and conferences, special events, and meetings that are either sponsored, approved and/or attended by the Department Director; provide administrative and clerical assistance to the Director.

Education/Experience/Job Requirements:

- * College degree preferred. High school diploma or GED supplemented by courses in Economics, Business Administration, Public Administration, Urban Planning or a related field.
- * Strong capability at problem-solving.
- * Good oral and writing communication skills.
- * Mathematically proficient particularly with financial data.
- * Highly proficient at computer office machines especially software involving: Microsoft Office Suite products including Excel, PowerPoint, Publishing, Word, and Access.
- * Good organizational skills a must.
- * Must have a car and a valid driver's license.

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.

CITY OF MINDEN IS HIRING:

Full-time Utilities Clerk I

This person works in the light & water utilities office at City Hall collecting payments of utilities for City of Minden citizens.

Education/Experience/Job Requirements:

- * High school diploma or GED required.
- * Three to six months experience in related field, i.e. cashier, bank teller, etc.
- * Ability to communicate effectively verbally and in writing.
- * Must be able to make calculations rapidly and accurately, accurately count money, make change, write receipts, and key punch payments on computer.

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.

CITY OF MINDEN IS HIRING:

Part-time School Crossing Guard

This position keeps our school children and pedestrians safe while crossing in school zone areas.

Education/Experience/Job Requirements:

- * Must be able to work one to one and half hours in the morning and in the afternoon when school is in session.
- * Ability to communicate with children and pedestrians in a courteous, appropriate manner.
- * Current and valid Louisiana driver's license required.

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.

The Health Plan With The Most Adult Dental & Vision Coverage

For better adult dental and vision benefits, switch to Louisiana Healthcare Connections during Healthy Louisiana Open Enrollment (October 15-November 30).

Their dental benefit covers up to \$750 a year plus plaque removal and deep cleaning—in addition to fillings, x-rays, bi-annual exams and more. And their adult vision benefit includes an annual exam with no copay along with a free pair of glasses.

For more information about Louisiana Healthcare Connections, visit www.chooselouisianahealth.com.

To switch to Louisiana Healthcare Connections during open enrollment:

CALL 1-855-229-6848

VISIT myplan.healthy.la.gov

GET the free Healthy Louisiana mobile app for your Apple or Android



1-866-595-8133 (TTY: 711)
Monday-Friday, 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.
LouisianaHealthConnect.com

2021
Healthy Louisiana
Open Enrollment
October 15 through
November 30

| | | | |
|---|--------------|--|--|
| VILLAGE OF HEFLIN | | | |
| BUDGET | | | |
| ADOPTING THE AMEND BUDGET FOR THE VILLAGE OF HEFLIN, LOUISIANA/ | | | |
| FOR THE CALENDER YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2021 | | | |
| | | | |
| BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Alderman of the Village of Heflin, | | | |
| Parish of Webster, State of Louisiana that the budget for the calendar year | | | |
| beginning January 1, 2021 and ending December 31, 2021 | | | |
| be and it is hereby adopted as follows: | | | |
| SECTION I. | | | |
| | | | |
| Revenue: | 2021 Budget | | |
| | | | |
| Utilities & Franchise Tax Payments | \$ 15,000.00 | | |
| Insurance Premium Tax Payments | \$ 24,000.00 | | |
| Police Department Income (fines) | \$ 15,100.00 | | |
| Civic Center & Town Hall South Rental | \$ 1,500.00 | | |
| Water Dept. Ins. & Accounting fee Payment | \$ 13,000.00 | | |
| Coke Machine | \$ 900.00 | | |
| AMS COURT MONEY | \$ 25,799.55 | | |
| C.D. | \$ 30.00 | | |
| Miscellaneous | \$ 1,500.00 | | |
| TOTAL GENERAL FUND REVENUE | \$ 96,829.55 | | |
| | | | |
| General Fund Expenditures: | 2021 Budget | | |
| Town Clerk | \$ 5,700.00 | | |
| Payroll Taxes | \$ 4,700.00 | | |
| Office supplies | \$ 1,800.00 | | |
| Printing & Public Notices- | \$ 2,000.00 | | |
| Dues & Subscriptions | \$ 1,000.00 | | |
| Insurance & Bonding | \$ 7,000.00 | | |
| Utilities | \$ 12,000.00 | | |
| Building Maintenance | \$ 1,500.00 | | |
| Grounds Maintenance | \$ 6,500.00 | | |
| Audit & Accounting fee | \$ 1,500.00 | | |
| Legal Fees | \$ 1,800.00 | | |
| General Fund Expenditures: | | | |
| | | | |

| | | | |
|--|--------------|--|--|
| Yearly P.O. Box rental/postage | \$ 400.00 | | |
| Capital Improvements | \$ 11,000.00 | | |
| Coroner's Office fees- | \$ 200.00 | | |
| Miscellaneous | \$ 2,500.00 | | |
| Conference travel and lodging | \$ 5,000.00 | | |
| Sub – Total General Funds Expenditures | \$ 64,600.00 | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| Police Department Expenditures: | 2021 Budget | | |
| | | | |
| Chief of Police Salary | \$ 4,800.00 | | |
| Salary Supplement from State | | | |
| P/T Police Officer | | | |
| Court Cost | \$ 3,000.00 | | |
| Police Department expenses | \$ 6,000.00 | | |
| | | | |
| Sub – Total Police Department Expense | \$ 13,800.00 | | |
| | | | |
| TOTAL GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES | \$ 78,400.00 | | |
| | | | |
| SECTION II. | \$ 18,429.55 | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |

| | | | |
|--------------------------------|--------------|--|--|
| WATER REVENUE & OPERATING FUND | | | |
| | | | |
| Revenue: | 2021 Budget | | |
| | | | |
| Collections | \$ 52,791.00 | | |
| | | | |
| Grant | | | |
| Service Charges | | | |
| Interest Income - CD | \$ 100.00 | | |
| Interest Income - SV | \$ 50.00 | | |
| TOTAL R/O REVENUE | \$ 52,941.00 | | |
| | | | |
| Expenditures: | 2021 Budget | | |
| | | | |
| Operator's Salary | \$ 9,142.56 | | |

| | | | |
|--|-------------|--|--|
| Clerk's Salary | \$ 2,770.44 | | |
| Contract Labor – meter readings | \$ 480.00 | | |
| Payroll Taxes | \$ 2,250.00 | | |
| Sales Taxes | \$ 110.00 | | |
| DHH-Annual Safe Drinking Water Fee | \$ 2,000.00 | | |
| Utilities | \$ 5,500.00 | | |
| USPS – box rental | \$ 117.00 | | |
| Office Supplies | \$ 1,200.00 | | |
| USTI (Asyst comuter system annual fee) | \$ 800.00 | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |

| | | | |
|--|--------------|--|--|
| Expenditures: | 2021 Budget | | |
| | | | |
| USTI (Billing paper) | \$ 120.00 | | |
| Water System Supplies (Chlorine) | \$ 1,378.00 | | |
| LRWA annual dues | \$ 350.00 | | |
| VOH Insurance | \$ 15,000.00 | | |
| CPA fees | \$ 1,875.00 | | |
| Maintenance & Repairs | \$ 5,700.00 | | |
| Improvements | \$ 2,000.00 | | |
| Kosen Equipment – generator | \$ 1,200.00 | | |
| WaterTests | \$ 800.00 | | |
| LWRA annual class and hotel accommodations | \$ 455.00 | | |
| LADOT Annual Right of Way | \$ 50.00 | | |
| Grant Repairs | | | |
| Certificate Renewal | \$ 50.00 | | |
| | | | |
| TOTAL R/O EXPENDITURES | \$ 52,941.00 | | |
| | | | |

| | | | |
|--|--|--|--|
| SECTION III. | | | |
| This operating budget will be effective on. JANUARY 1, 2021 | | | |
| This operating budget was introduced on. NOVEMBER 5, 2020 | | | |
| This operating budget was read and considered on DECEMBER 3, 2020 | | | |
| at an open regular session of the Board of Aldermen. Upon a motion | | | |
| made by MATT AUSTIN , seconded by RALPH JAMES . | | | |
| the following vote was taken at an open regular session DECEMBER 3, 2020 | | | |
| | | | |
| YEAS: 2 | | | |

| | | | |
|---------------------------------------|------------|--|--|
| NAYS: 0 | | | |
| Absent: 1 | | | |
| Abstain: 0 | | | |
| | | | |
| Attest: | TODD LEAKE | | |
| | MAYOR | | |
| | | | |
| SHERRY LIMOSNERO, VILLAGE CLERK, LCMC | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |

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