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TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2022

MINDEN, LOUISIANA

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75 CENTS

ST. JUDE AUCTION

Over \$2.4 Million Raised

WILL PHILLIPS
Minden Press-Herald

The Minden St. Jude Auction came back bigger and better than ever this year, raising a whopping \$2,415,317 for the Children's Research Auction over the course of the event's four days, outpacing previous year's records by nearly a million dollars.

A large part of setting this year's record so far above and beyond was due to the late Alford Davis, who generously donated a hefty sum of \$674,072 in his will to the Minden St. Jude Auction, the largest single donation the auction has ever received. As a token of gratitude, the organizers of Minden St. Jude dedicated this weekend to the life and memory of Mr. Davis.

This year also saw the return of the beloved Chili Cook-Off. While the weather was not ideal, the head cooks and their teams persevered and the chili enthusiasts came out in stride, raising \$8,200 for St. Jude, which translates to roughly 1,640 chili tasting cups sold.

The winners for the St. Jude Chili Cookoff are as follows. In the main competition the judges selected Big Jon's Big Eats with Head Cook Jon Roger with Team Member Nancy Roger as the winners for the 2022 St. Jude Chili Cookoff. The winner of Best in Show was "Bayou Boujee" with Brooke Smith as Head Cook and Team Members Lacy

Berry and Kathy Dick. For People's Choice the public voted for Heat Stroke with Head Cook Tyler Mandino as their chosen winner.

Early Saturday morning runners from all around gathered in the First Baptist parking lot to take part in either the 5k, 10k, Half-marathon, or Fun-Run. The 5k and Fun Run were accompanied by color throws, painting the participants in all manner of vibrant colors before and during the run.

The Male 5K winners were Nathan Vogel with a time of 17:29 in first place, Tyler Davis with a time of 19:49 in second place, and Jairo Aguinaga with a time of 20:01 in third place. Aguinaga chose to donate his winnings back to the auction.

The Female 5K winners were Isabelle Russell with a time of 20:24 in first place, Vivian Still with a time of 22:42 in second place, and Avery Dixon with a time of 24:31 in third place.

The Male 10K winners were Jack Eaton with a time of 38 minutes in first place, Heath Hunt with a time of 41:54 in second place, and Kailon Caldwell with a time of 43:56 in third place.

The Female 10k winners were Linzie Hebert with a time of 43:24 in first place, Angel Turnbow with a time of 44:15 in second place, and Crystal Gantt with a time of 46:47 in third place.

The Male Half Marathon winners were Brandon Graham with a time



This year saw the full return of the Minden St. Jude Auction and it's associated events, with the auction raising an overwhelming 2.4 millions dollars, shattering the records of all previous years.

of 1:15:07 in first place, Joshua Acosta with a time of 1:19:41 in second place, and Cameron O'Reilly with a time of 1:29:13 in third place.

The Female Half Marathon winners were Alexandra Hall with a time of 1:22:26 in first place, Shelley Armstrong with a time of 1:30:00 in second place, and Allison Mayfield with a time of 1:31:01 in third place.

The winners for the four team categories are as follows. Social Team went to Calendar Tribe, School Team went to Glenbrook Apaches, Church Team went to Trinity United

Methodist, and Business Team went to Minden Family Dental.

Last year's auction unfortunately had cutbacks that had to be made to adhere to safety precautions for the pandemic, but even last year, Minden's giving spirit was on full display. This year, with

nothing holding them back, the Minden St. Jude Auction was able to become a relentless force for good, raising over two million dollars for the hospital. This feat was only possible due to the countless hours and hard work donated by the auction's volunteers, as well

as the generous contributions in the form of raffles, pledges, donations, and of course bids from all who tuned in either live or in person, and as a result, Minden once again showcased what can be accomplished when people work together for the greater good.

WILL PHILLIPS/MINDEN PRESS-HERALD

CRASH

Minden man killed in Webster Parish crash, speed suspected to be a factor

Minden - On Sunday, February 13, 2022, just before 11:00 a.m., Troopers assigned to Louisiana State Police Troop G began investigating a single-vehicle fatality crash on Dorcheat Road, just south of Benson Road. This crash claimed the life of 28-year-old Colby Foster.

The initial investigation revealed Foster was driving a 2007 Dodge Nitro southbound on Dorcheat Road. For reasons still under investigation, the Dodge ran off the road and over-corrected. As a result, it traveled across Dorcheat Road and en-

tered a ditch, where it overturned and struck a tree.

Foster, who was restrained, suffered fatal injuries as a result of this crash. He was pronounced deceased at the scene by the Webster Parish Coroner.

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

Louisiana State Troopers wish to remind mo-

torists to obey all speed limit signs and avoid all distractions. Speeding reduces a driver's ability to steer safely around curves or objects in the roadway, extends the distance necessary to stop a vehicle, and increases the distance a vehicle travels while the driver reacts to a situation. Speeding and other aggressive driving behaviors are among the leading causes of highway crashes and fatalities.

In 2022, Troop G has investigated three fatal crashes, resulting in three deaths.

CRIME

Former tax preparer from Minden sentenced to Federal Prison

Special to the Minden Press-Herald

United States Attorney Brandon B. Brown announced that Deborah Cooksey, 56, of Minden, Louisiana, was sentenced today by United States District Judge Donald E. Walter to 24 months in prison, followed by 1 year of supervised release, for filing false tax returns. Cooksey was also ordered to pay restitution in the amount of \$547,043.

Deborah Cooksey was indicted in March 2021 and on September 22, 2021, pleaded guilty to one count of filing false tax returns. Cooksey was the owner and operator of Cooksey's Tax and Notary Services, LLC, in Minden, Louisiana, whose primary business was the preparation and electronic filing of individual income tax returns. She received all

fees from the preparation and filing of client's individual tax returns into a business account under the name of Cooksey's Tax and Notary Services. Cooksey did not report all fees earned from the preparation and filing of client's individual tax returns during the tax years 2013 and 2014. On April 15, 2015, Cooksey personally prepared and electronically filed her 2013 U.S. Individual Income Tax Return, Form 1040, which was verified by a written declaration that it was made under penalties of perjury with the Internal Revenue Service (IRS). She reported Schedule C income of \$522,662 on her 2013 Form 1040 tax return. These gross receipts and income reported on her Schedule C were false and in truth and in fact, Cooksey knew her true Schedule C gross income

for 2013 was \$1,356,682. Because Cooksey understated her gross receipts and income on her Schedule C, there are taxes due and owing for 2013.

As part of her plea agreement, Cooksey agreed to be permanently enjoined from preparing, assisting, advising, or counseling in the preparation of, or filing federal tax returns for anyone other than herself. She is also prohibited from maintaining any association with a tax preparation business, instructing, teaching or otherwise training any person in the preparation of federal tax returns.

The case was investigated by the IRS-Criminal Investigation and was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorneys Mary J. Mudrick and Mike Shannon.

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WEBSTER & MORE

GAS BUDDY

Gas prices continue to rise in Louisiana

(February 14, 2022) - Average gasoline prices in Louisiana have risen in the last week, averaging \$3.21/g today, according to GasBuddy’s survey of 2,436 stations in Louisiana. Prices in Louisiana are 21.6 cents per gallon higher than a month ago and stand \$1.03/g higher than a year ago. The cheapest station in Louisiana was priced at \$2.59/g yesterday while the most expensive was \$3.84/g, a difference of \$1.25/g.

“The jump in gasoline prices has continued unabated as oil prices continue to push higher, reaching \$94 per barrel last week on continued

concern over the possible imminent threat that Russia may invade Ukraine,” said Patrick De Haan, head of petroleum analysis at GasBuddy.

The national average price of gasoline has risen 4.6 cents per gallon in the last week, averaging \$3.47/g today. The national average is up 16.5 cents per gallon from a month ago and stands 97.2 cents per gallon higher than a year ago.

“Not only are oil prices up, but the bulk of the nation is starting the multi-month transition to summer gasoline, further adding to the rise at the pump. In addition, cold weather in Texas last week caused some power

outages at major refineries, further weighing on markets. I see no other potentials in the short term but additional price increases unless Russia does an about-face on Ukraine. Even then, we’ll still see seasonality push prices up, so motorists should be ready to dig deeper,” said De Haan.

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

US suspends Mexican avocado imports on eve of Super Bowl

MEXICO CITY (AP) — Mexico has acknowledged that the U.S. government has suspended all imports of Mexican avocados after a U.S. plant safety inspector in Mexico received a threat.

The surprise, temporary suspension was confirmed late Saturday on the eve of the Super Bowl, the biggest sales opportunity of the year for Mexican avocado growers — though it would not affect game-day consumption since those avocados had already been shipped.

Avocado exports are the latest victim of the drug cartel turf battles and extortion of avocado growers in the western state of Michoacan, the only state in Mexico fully authorized to export to the U.S. market.

The U.S. government suspended all imports of Mexican avocados “until further notice” after a U.S. plant safety inspector in Mexico received a threatening message, Mexico’s Agriculture Department said in a statement.

“U.S. health authorities ... made the decision after one of their officials, who was carrying out inspections in Uruapan, Michoacan, received a threatening message on his official cellphone,” the department wrote.

The import ban came on the day that the Mexican avocado growers and packers association unveiled its Super Bowl ad for this year. Mexican exporters have taken out the pricey ads for almost a decade in a bid to associate guacamole as a Super Bowl tradition.

This year’s ad shows Julius Caesar and a rough bunch of gladiator fans outside what appears to be the Colosseum, soothing their apparently violent differences by enjoying guacamole and avocados.

The association did not immediately respond to a request for comment on the ban, which hits an industry with almost \$3 billion in annual exports. However, avocados for this year’s Super Bowl had already been exported in the weeks prior to the event.

The U.S. Embassy wrote that “facilitating the export of Mexican avocados to the U.S. and guaranteeing the safety of our agricultural inspection personnel go hand in hand.”

“We are working with the Mexican government to guarantee security conditions that would allow our personnel in Michoacan to resume operations,” the embassy wrote in its social media accounts.

Because the United States also grows avocados, U.S. inspectors work in Mexico to ensure exported avocados don’t carry diseases that could hurt U.S. crops.

It was only in 1997 that the U.S. lifted a ban on Mexican avocados that had been in place since 1914 to prevent a range of weevils, scabs and pests from entering U.S. orchards.

The inspectors work for the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Animal and Plant Health Inspection Services.

It is not the first time that the violence in Michoacan — where the Jalisco cartel is fighting turf wars against a collection of local gangs known as the United Cartels — has threatened avocados, the state’s most lucrative crop.

After a previous incident in 2019, the USDA had warned about the possible consequences of attacking or threatening U.S. inspectors.

In August 2019, a U.S. Department of Agriculture team of inspectors was “directly threatened” in Ziracuaretiro, a town just west of Uruapan. While the agency didn’t specify what happened, local authorities say a gang robbed the truck the inspectors were traveling in at gunpoint.

The USDA wrote in a letter at the time that, “For future situations that result in a security breach, or demonstrate an imminent physical threat to the well-being of APHIS personnel, we will immediately suspend program activities.”

Many avocado growers in Michoacan say drug gangs threaten them or

their family members with kidnapping or death unless they pay protection money, sometimes amounting to thousands of dollars per acre.

On September 30, 2020, a Mexican employee of APHIS was killed near the northern border city of Tijuana.

Mexican prosecutors said Edgar Flores Santos was killed by drug traffickers who may have mistaken him for a policeman and a suspect was arrested. The U.S. State Department said investigations “concluded this unfortunate incident was a case of Mr. Flores being in the wrong place at the wrong time.”

The avocado ban was just the latest threat to Mexico’s export trade stemming from the government’s inability to rein in illegal activities.

On Thursday, the U.S. Trade Representative’s Office filed an environmental complaint against Mexico for failing to stop illegal fishing to protect the critically endangered vaquita marina, the world’s smallest porpoise.

The office said it had asked for “environment consultations” with Mexico, the first such case it has filed under the U.S.-Mexico-Canada free trade pact. Consultations are the first step in the dispute resolution process under the trade agreement, which entered into force in 2020. If not resolved, it could eventually lead to trade sanctions.

Mexico’s government has largely abandoned attempts to enforce a fishing-free zone around an area where the last few vaquitas are believed to live in the Gulf of California, also known as the Sea of Cortez. Nets set illegally for another fish, the totoaba, drown vaquitas.

And on Monday, Mexican fishing boats in the Gulf of Mexico were “prohibited from entering U.S. ports, will be denied port access and services,” the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration said, in response to years of Mexican boats illegally poaching red snapper in U.S. waters in the Gulf.

BLOTTER

Recent arrests in Webster Parish

Anthrous Sewster, 58, of the 100 block of Eisenhower Street, was arrested for failure to appear in court.

Christopher Eason, 32, of the 600 block of South Street, was arrested for resisting arrest.

Elmo James Winzer Jr. 43, of the 800 block of highway 3000, was arrested for being a fugitive of Ouachita Parish Sheriff’s Office.

Aderrius Mitchell, 20, of the 400 block of East Union Street, was arrested on a warrant.

Cortoria Willis, 20, of the 400 block of 5th Street SE, was arrested for failure to appear in court and being a fugitive of the Webster Parish

sheriff’s Office.

Charles Miller, 41, of the 700 block of East Street, was arrested for possession of a schedule II substance.

Jaqueline Lockett, 44, of the 800 block of Shiloh Road, was arrested for general speeding, reckless operation of a motor vehicle, running a stop sign, resisting an officer, and battery of a police officer.

Qualisa Moore, 42, of the 13000 block of Highway 154, was interfering with an investigation and resisting an officer.

Jakorian Greenard, 19, of the 100 block of Bailey Street, was arrested on a warrant for principal and armed robbery.

Paige Barnette, 29, of the 3200 block of First

Street, was arrested for telephone communication harassment.

Keiran Janegzko, 20, of the 1900 block of Alfred Lane, was arrested on two counts of simple burglary of a vehicle.

Roger Brown, 60, of the 200 block of Melvin Thomas Road, was arrested for driving while intoxicated.

Anita Silk, 53, of the 100 block of Simmons Trail, was arrested for disturbing the peace and no driver’s license.

Jeffery Shaver, 40, of the 100 block of Frances Ave, was arrested for cruelty to a juvenile.

Jeremy Clark, 28, of the 600 block of Constable Street, was arrested on a warrant.

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WEBSTER & MORE

3 DAY PLANNING FORECAST

FIRST ALERT WEATHER

KSLA NEWS 12

TUE

TEMP 71

WIND S 11

WED

TEMP 76

WIND E 6

THU

TEMP 65

WIND SE 7

Tuesday will be a picture perfect day with highs in the low 70s and feeling like spring. Sunny skies come to an end as Wednesday our next weather maker moves in. Strong to severe storms are possible late Wednesday and through Thursday morning.

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

GOVERNMENT

Senators introduce bill to prevent ‘crack pipe’ funding

(The Center Square) – U.S. Sens. Marco Rubio, R-Fla., and John Kennedy, R-La., introduced new legislation Thursday that would block American Rescue Plan taxpayer dollars from being used to purchase and distribute crack pipes.

The Cutting Rampant Access to Crack Kits (CRACK) Act of 2022 comes after the Washington Free Beacon reported federal taxpayer dollars had gone to a program that provides syringes and pipes to drug users as a form of “harm reduction.”

“The Biden administration wants to spend millions of dollars helping drug users smoke crack and meth, but there is no safe way to smoke these dangerous drugs,” Kennedy said. “Sooner or later, these drugs kill people. Why wouldn’t the president spend this money to help people get off crack

and meth or to stop these drugs from crossing the border into our country in the first place?”

The three-year, \$30 million harm reduction grant program in question was funded through President Joe Biden’s American Rescue Plan, the \$1.9 trillion COVID-19 relief bill passed by Democrats in March of last year. The grant includes, among other things, syringes and “safe smoking kits/supplies” as an approved use of federal funds. The Washington Free Beacon reported that a Health and Human Services official told them the smoking kits include pipes.

“I’m grateful to partner with Sen. Rubio to make sure taxpayer dollars from the American Rescue Plan Act don’t end up funding crack pipes,” Kennedy added.

After the story broke, the Department of Health

and Human Services released a statement saying crack pipes would not be included in the program. White House Press Secretary Jen Psaki has disputed the crack pipe story, saying pipes were never part of the program.

Critics argue that pipes are often included in smoking kits and say the administration has shifted its stance after the pushback. They also point out groups and local governments have distributed pipes in the past as part of smoking kits.

One group, the National Drug Policy Alliance, released a statement disapproving of the administration’s decision to “remove” pipes as an approved use.

“Harm reduction works to meet people where they are at, and keep people free of diseases and alive so they have a chance of recovery and healing,”

NDPA wrote on Twitter. “That’s why [HHS] and [the White House Office of National Drug Control’s] decision today to remove pipes from safe smoking equipment is deeply disappointing. This is a missed opportunity to be preventative of more deaths due to overdose. Giving clean drug-using equipment such as a pipe [and] syringe reduces transmission of disease including Hep. C [and] HIV. When this is done in a supportive setting, we can link people who use drugs chaotically to other services including treatment, doctors, [and] getting access to naloxone.”

“Giving clean drug-using equipment such as a pipe [and] syringe reduces transmission of disease including Hep. C [and] HIV,” the group added.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

City Council Agrees on Redistricting

WILL PHILLIPS
Minden Press-Herald

The Minden City Council met Friday morning to draw up the lines that make up the border of each one of Minden’s five districts. This process takes place once every 10 years after updated census data becomes available.

Over the course of ten years, districts tend to fluctuate in population and demographic makeup. Redistricting takes place to ensure that districts remain relatively the same in regards to these statistics.

Over the past decade, 2010 to 2020, the total population of Minden changed from 13082 to 11928, a difference of 1154. In District A, the population changed from 2645 to 2409, District B changed from 2575 to 2148, District C changed from 2502 to 2107, District D changed from 2614 to 2533, and District E changed from 2746 to 2731.

To summarize, districts B and C lost the most population while A remained largely the same, with Districts D and E seeing the most gain.

To offset these imbalances and make sure that the populations of each district largely remain the same, the changes can be summarized as District C receiving census blocks from Districts B and C, District C receiving Census Blocks from District D, and District D receiving census blocks from District E.

To be more specific Dis-

trict C gained the blocks from District D extending from the right side of Constable Street, starting at the intersection of Goodwill Road and Constable Street and extending down to the intersection of Constable Street and South Ash Street, ending along the left side of Goodwill Street. District C also gained blocks from District B extending from the left side of High Street from the intersection of Bayou Avenue and high Street down to the intersection of High Street and Reynolds Street, ending along the right side of Morrow Street.

District B gained blocks from District D extending from the intersection of Bridwell Street and Park Highway, down to Goode Ave until it intersects with Elm Street. It follows Elm Street until it intersects with Ferguson Street, and follows Ferguson Street until it intersects with Webb Ct, and follows along Webb Ct until it meets East and West Street. It follows East and West Street until it intersects with Fort Ave, and then continues up along the right side of Fort Ave until it meets Beck Street, at which point it continues along the south side of Beck Street until it meets Lewisville Road. Finally, it continues up along the left side of Lewisville Road until it intersects with Chandler Street, and continues along Chandler Street until it transitions back to Bridwell Street.

District D gained blocks from District E extending from the intersection of Emerald Drive and Lewisville Road, continuing

along the left side of Lewisville Road until it intersects Lakeshore Drive, and follows along the north side of Lakeshore Drive until it meets North Elm Street. It continues along the right side of N Elm Street down until it intersects with W Todd Street, and follows along the northside of W Todd until it intersects with Gladney Street. It follows along the left side of Gladney until it intersects with Berry Drive, following along the south side of Berry Drive until it intersects with Park Highway, and then continues along the left side of Park Highway until it intersects with Emerald Drive. It continues along the south side of Emerald Drive until it circles back around to Lewisville Road.

So what does this change? As mentioned prior, these changes were enacted in order to bring each District more in line with its overall population and demographic makeup from the previous decade.

With the implementation of these changes, the change from each district is as follows.

District A saw none of it’s borders moved, so it remained the same, seeing a small decrease in population from 2645 to 2409. District B now sees a shift in population from 2575 to 2278. District C now sees a shift in population from 2502 to 2300. District D now sees its population shift from 2614 to 2433. Finally, District E now sees its population shift from 2746 to 2508.

In line with the goals of redistricting, the demographic makeup of each district remained in line with where they were a decade ago, with District D seeing the most notable change out of the districts.

Districts A, B, and C remain with an overall higher percentage of African-American residents, the specifics being 82%, 69%, and 77% respectively. Districts C saw a slight increase from 74% in 2010, with Districts A and B seeing a decrease from 86% and 74% in 2010 respectively.

As mentioned, District D saw the most notable shift in demographic makeup, with the overall percentage of Caucasian residents decreasing from 76% in 2010 to 63% in 2020 and the percentage of the African-Americans population increasing from 21% in 2010 to 31%.

District E also saw a statistically significant decrease in its overall Caucasian population, decreasing from 92% to 82% with the African-American population increasing from 5% in 2010 to 12%.

These changes will be implemented before the City Council Elections taking place later this year, so residents should be sure to check if they remain within their districts or have been moved into another. A detailed map visualizing the changes in the borders of each district can be found on our website at www.press-herald.com

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Ossie Houston

FEBRUARY 17, 2022

Anna Miller
Lou Ethel Wright

NEW Obituary Submission Guidelines

- 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.

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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.

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

OTHER OPINION

Joe Rogan, Spotify, and the cancel culture

In the last two weeks we have seen another clear example of how the Cancel Culture suppresses and silences speech and seeks to destroy those with whom it disagrees.

Joe Rogan, former UFC fighter, actor, and sports commentator, hosts a daily show and podcast entitled The Joe Rogan Experience. Spotify, an audio streaming platform (i.e., songs, podcasts) hosts the Rogan program and the approximately 11 million people who listen or watch the program daily. On the show, Rogan invites guests of literally all kinds, from business and industry, entertainment, and all across the political spectrum. Recently, he hosted Dr. Robert Malone, a very experienced, highly esteemed virologist.

As a Doctor of Virology, Dr. Malone has been an integral part of creating the Covid vaccines being used in America. And, on the Rogan program, Dr. Malone, who invented the mRNA technology in Covid vaccines, had the audacity to question the “mainstream” narrative regarding Covid treatments. Malone was not responded to on the merits of his informed viewpoint, but was rather shouted down, attacked, and ostracized for these dissenting views, as was Joe Rogan. This, notwithstanding that the CDC itself has admitted that cloth masks generally don’t work, and vaccines do not prevent transmission as we know from the recent surge of Omicron among the vaccinated and the unvaccinated. <https://time.com/6130704/breakthrough-infections-omicron/>.

As a result of the sharing of this speech and these ideas of Dr. Malone—labeled “disinformation” and “conspiracy theories,” music artist Neil Young demanded his music be removed from Spotify. A sprinkling of other musicians have now done the same.

My point is this: a highly experienced researcher, scientist and medical doctor, whose specialty lies at the very heart of the debate regarding Covid treatments, has shared a viewpoint (obviously credible and well supported given his profession) that runs counter to the New Revealed Wisdom, a ‘wisdom’ of the experts on the China Virus who have been proven wrong time and time again over these past two years.



Another recent report from the health and science experts at Johns Hopkins concluded that the destructive shutdown of our economy “didn’t work, should be ‘rejected out of hand’ in the future”.

<https://padailypost.com/2022/02/07/johns-hopkins-study-finds-lock-downs-didnt-work-should-be-rejected-out-of-hand-in-the-future>.



ROYAL ALEXANDER

educated expert opinion which happens to run contrary to the Left’s efforts to ignore the science and to weaponize the China Virus not primarily to achieve better health for American adults and children, but rather as a tool to control the American people. So those like Neil Young and others who are clearly NOT experts and who are pontificating far afield from any known knowledge base, want him canceled and silenced. This is the literal madness of the Cancel Culture of Wokism.

(I simply can’t resist reflecting on that timeless Southern Anthem “Sweet Home Alabama” by the rock band, Lynyrd Skynyrd, and the lyric—in response to Neil Young insulting the South in a song—“... Well I hope Neil Young will remember a southern man don’t need him around anyhow.” Well, freedom-seeking men and women wherever they live “don’t need him around anyhow,” either!)

Well, Spotify—after being threatened and browbeaten into pressuring Rogan to retract or apologize for that segment—reversed itself. After hearing from many Rogan listeners, Spotify decided to allow the airing of these thoughts, opinions, and ideas as well as not wanting to risk the millions of advertising dollars it receives from the Rogan program. This is a victory of free speech and the free market!

(And now, unofficial reports are that Rogan’s daytime viewership is surging to new heights precisely because of this controversy. All the while his chief attacker in the MSM, scandal plagued CNN, continues to hemorrhage daytime views, now reporting barely 500,000 daytime views.)

Well informed Americans must be allowed to vote with their dollars in the marketplace of ideas and to receive information from news sources of their choice among the greatest possible variety of sources.

I want to again note that our 1st Amendment prohibits the restriction of speech by our government, but government censorship is not the only kind. Private sector suppression of speech is just as threatening, chilling, and destructive. This is particularly true where Big Tech platforms become news editors and ‘state actors’ and make common cause with the Deep State and presidential campaigns, such as in the suppression of the New York Post article on the Hunter Biden laptop. <https://www.foxnews.com/media/big-tech-and-media-suppression-hunter-biden-laptop-story-lingers-year>.

[According to post elec-

tion surveys, media suppression of news damaging to the Biden campaign regarding the Hunter Biden laptop scandal could well have made the difference in the outcome of the presidential election. About 17 percent of Democrats indicated they would not have voted for Biden had they known the full story on the laptop issue. “Had one of six voters not voted for Biden in the swing states, or voted for Trump instead, the election would have turned out differently.”

<https://www.timesfree-press.com/news/opinion/freepress/story/2020/nov/26/cooper-biden-voters/536784/>.]

The internet and social media have become the modern-day public fora, a role served by city center squares, public parks, and country fairs 30 years ago, and American principles of freedom should adhere there as well.

This kind of censorship simply cannot be allowed if our Republic—and the freedoms guaranteed by our Constitution—are to endure. The greatest virtue of free thought and free speech is that all kinds of ideas are thrust into the rough and tumble of the marketplace of ideas where the best idea prevails. It is this collision of, this testing of, speech and thought in a free and open exchange that produces the best results—and leads the nation to wise and popular policy results on challenging national issues.

In memory of the over 850,000 who have died from the coronavirus, (https://www.upi.com/Top_News/US/2022/01/16/United-States-surpass-es-850000-COVID-19-deaths-800000-daily-cases/2211642348674/) and with more Americans dying under the Biden Administration than the Trump Administration—which was gifted three vaccines by the Trump administration (<https://nypost.com/2022/01/02/with-more-covid-deaths-in-2021-when-does-trump-get-his-apology/>) we must be vigilant in demanding that the free flow of information in the Public Fora is never suppressed again.

As many wise Americans have noted, just as freedom is not free, eternal vigilance is the price of liberty.

ROYAL ALEXANDER IS A SHREVEPORT ATTORNEY.

EDITORIAL ROUNDUP

Wall St. Journal: What the truckers’ protest mean for us

Canadian truckers opposed to a Covid-19 vaccination mandate used their rigs on Monday to block the Ambassador Bridge connecting Windsor, Ontario, and Detroit, the busiest international land-border crossing in North America.

This latest act in a week-long show of civil disobedience is more akin to political life in France or the U.S. That it happened in restrained Canada is a signal to the political class across the West: Large swaths of humanity are done with Covid-19 restrictions, mandates and excessive meddling in their lives. They want to go back to making their own health-risk assessments.

The Ambassador Bridge, which carries some \$323 million in goods daily in cross-

border trade and an estimated \$137 billion last year, reopened Tuesday morning. Yet truckers continue their protest in Ottawa, which is disturbing the peace and worse in that usually peaceable Canadian capital.

The truckers should be prosecuted if they break the law, as we argued for Occupy Wall Street and Black Lives Matters protesters on the left. But as the Omicron virus shows itself to be less lethal and positive test rates fall, the truckers are sending a message to democratic governments that it’s time for the pandemic emergency orders to end.

For two years the truckers were classified as “essential” workers and therefore exempt from vaccine mandates. An estimated 85% of them are vacci-

nated. Yet Liberal Party Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, who heads a minority government, has chosen this moment to order that truckers be vaccinated if they want to cross back into the country from the U.S.

The Canadian left is sneering at the truckers and their supporters, suggesting they’re nothing more than right-wing Trumpians. Mr. Trudeau has smeared them as “a few people shouting and waving swastikas.” But the push-back against Covid-19 overreach has gone global. In January police fired water cannons at an estimated 50,000 European protesters in Brussels registering their exhaustion with restrictions and mandates. Since December protesters have gone to the streets elsewhere in Europe and

in New Zealand and Australia.

A majority of Canadians don’t support the Ottawa protests, according to polls. But a recent survey by the Angus Reid Institute found that a majority favors lifting restrictions, suggesting the Trudeau mandate, which went into effect on Jan. 15, was a political miscalculation. By energizing a significant part of the electorate, until now less present in public discourse, he has set off a backlash, deepened Canadian polarization, and raised the stakes in a showdown with the truckers.

Mr. Trudeau insists he has the power to require that truckers show vaccination at the border and will therefore stand his ground. Meantime, Canada’s provincial premiers are gradually easing Covid rules. On

Tuesday Saskatchewan Premier Scott Moe announced that the province’s vaccine passport, negative test requirement and mask mandate will be lifted by the end of the month. Also on Tuesday, Joel Lightbound, a Liberal Party member of Parliament from Quebec, criticized Mr. Trudeau for a Covid-19 agenda that he said is dividing the country and damaging public confidence.

The lesson for the Covid-19 police is that when you’ve lost even Canadians, arguably the most law-abiding people on the planet, you’ve lost the political plot. Time to adopt a new strategy more tolerant of the need to return to life not dominated by pandemic fear and government commands.

SPORTS



COURTESY PHOTOS

Glenbrook Elementary fifth and sixth graders earn victories

The Glenbrook School fifth and sixth grade softball team played River Oaks from Monroe and Family Community Christian School from Winnsboro on Saturday, picking up wins in both games. Pictured above is Gabrielle Goodman gets a fist bump after securing her spot on first base. Pictured below is Audrey Frye pitching in the cold and rainy weather.



LA Tech’s Lofton named to Naismith Midseason Team

Minden Press-Herald Sports Service

RUSTON — Louisiana Tech forward Kenneth Lofton, Jr. is one of 30 student-athletes selected to the Midseason Team for the Naismith Trophy College Basketball Player of the Year. Lofton, Jr. ranks seventh in the country in Player Efficiency Rating (33.1), seventh in double-doubles (14) and rebounds per game (11.0), 40th in field goal percentage (54.8) and 91st in scoring (17.3). The Port Arthur, Texas, native has scored in double figures 20 times this season while recording a team-high seven 20-point scoring performances. He also has two 30-point scoring performances, going for 36 points and 17 rebounds at North Carolina State and 31 points and 14 rebounds at Santa Clara. He has been on a tear as of late, registering a double-double in five straight



KENNETH LOFTON, JR.

games while averaging 20.0 points, 12.6 rebounds and 4.4 assists per game during that span. Lofton was three assists shy of tallying a triple-double at FIU with 21 points, 13 boards and seven assists.



COURTESY PHOTO

Parish prep teams set for start of softball season

The Minden Lady Crimson Tide (above) will begin the 2022 softball season today on the road at Doyline. North Webster will also be on the road today to face Airline while Lakeside begins the season on Thursday at home against Summerfield.

Chronic Wasting Disease found in La.

GLYNN HARRIS
Special to the Minden Press-Herald

It was inevitable. Until the last couple of weeks, Louisiana deer hunters have held their collective breaths that Chronic Wasting Disease that has surrounded our state would not make an appearance in Louisiana deer. The disease has been found in deer in Texas, Arkansas and Mississippi and it was only a matter of time before it showed up in Louisiana deer. It's here now. A buck deer taken in Tensas Parish has tested positive for the dreaded disease. What is Chronic Wasting Disease, or CWD? The disease results from mutated proteins, or prions, found throughout the nervous system of cervids — that includes animals such as deer, moose, and elk. The disease is always fatal and is highly transmissible between cervids. We visited with Deer Study Leader for the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Jonathon Bordelon, for his comments about what deer hunters in our state can expect going forward. “Although deer seasons have come to a close in Louisiana for the 2021-22 time frame, there is the possibility of a baiting and feeding ban for the 2022-23 season in the areas affected,” Bordelon said. “Tensas Parish with those adjoining Tensas, Madison and Franklin, are likely to see these restrictions for next season. “In addition, export restrictions will likely be put in place. For example,” Bordelon continued, “it is likely that should a deer be taken in the restricted areas, only meat, skull capA



COURTESY PHOTO

A deer, much like this buck, that was found recently in Tensas Parish tested positive for the fatal Chronic Wasting Disease disease. Discovery of the disease in north Louisiana could result in baiting and feeding bans. dand antlers and jaw bones may be removed from the restricted area.” An internet search of the disease and its impact on overall deer populations is telling. For example, CWD has an extended period of incubation averaging 18-24 months between infection and the onset of noticeable signs. During this time frame, animals look and act normal. The most obvious sign of CWD is progressive weight loss. Other behavioral changes reported include decreased social interaction, loss of awareness and loss of fear of humans. Diseased animals also may exhibit increased drinking, urination and excessive salivation. The disease was first identified in captive deer in a Colorado research facility in the late 1960s and

in wild deer in 1981. Since 2000, at least 28 states have produced positive tests in free-ranging animals. Nationwide, the overall occurrence of CWD in free-ranging deer is relatively low. However, in several locations where the disease is established, infection rates may exceed 10% with some localized areas reporting more than 25%. What effect can exposure to CWD have on humans? To date, there have been no reported cases of CWD in people. However, some animal studies suggest that CWD poses a risk to certain types of non-human primates, such as monkeys, that eat meat from CWD-infected animals. These studies raise concerns that there may also be a risk to people, although this has not been established. Bordelon noted another risk of the disease when feeding and/or baiting is allowed to attract deer. “These mutated proteins can remain active for years and not only are items used to feed deer may be affected, but also plants that grow on areas where the prions are present may also be incorporated into some plants,” he said. One slight bit of encouragement is that since 2018 between 500 and 600 deer have been tested in Tensas Parish with only this one deer being positive so far. “However,” Bordelon cautioned, “when you find one, you’re likely to find more.” Chronic Wasting Disease; I suppose it’s something deer hunters in Louisiana will have to deal with from now on. GLYNN HARRIS’ OUTDOORS APPEARS TUESDAYS OR FRIDAYS IN THE MINDEN PRESS-HERALD.

FISHING REPORT

BLACK BAYOU - Fishing is slow. No report this week. Contact Honey Hole Tackle Shop 323-8707 forthe latest information. **OUACHITA RIVER** - Crappie fishing is best fishing the deep tops, 15-foot deep in 18-25 foot water on shiners or jigs. Bass are fair in the run-outs from river lakes to river with spinners, crank baits and soft plastics working best. For the latest information, contact the Honey Hole Tackle Shop at 323-8707. **LAKE D'ARBONNE** - In spite of cold temperatures and clear skies, quite a few big bass were caught this week by professional anglers who were here for the Major League Fishing event. They were caught around piers, in open water and around structures on a variety of lures. Crappie fishing has been best in the channel fishing 20 feet deep in 25-30 foot water on jigs or shiners. Bream fishing is slow while catfish are still biting cold worms fished off the banks. For the latest reports, call Anderson's Sport Center at 368-9669 or Honey Hole Tackle Shop at 323-8707. **LAKE CLAIBORNE** - Crappie fishing has beQuite a few crappie are being caught in deep water out from the dam mostly on shiners. Also some are around deep brush with some good catches made at night around the lighted piers. Bass fishing is reported to be fair this week. No report on bream, catfish or stripers. For the latest

information, call Misty at Kel's Cove at 331-2730 or Terzia Tackle at 278-4498. **CANEY LAKE** - Bass fishing has taken the spotlight this week as the Knock Out Round for the 30 remaining professional anglers fishing the Major League Fishing event fished Caney on Wednesday. It is likely that some impressive weights will come in as last week, a bass over 9 pounds was reported by a local angler. Crappie fishing has been fair to good with best fishing down by the dam in deep water with shiners producing best. No report on bream or catfish. For information contact Hooks Marina at 249-2347, Terzia Tackle at 278-4498 or the Honey Hole Tackle Shop at 323-8707. **LAKE POVERTY POINT** - atfishing has been good on cold worms for pan-sized fish and larger. Crappie are off and on with some caught on shiners or jigs around the boat slips. Bass are fair. For the latest reports, call Poverty Point Marina at 318-878-0101. **LAKE ST. JOHN** - The water is low; launching boats is a near impossibility. Some hybrid stripers are being caught off the piers. For information, call Ken Mahoney at 318-201-3821. **LAKE YUCATAN** - The water is due for a 10-foot rise this weekend and as a result, few anglers are fishing this week. For information, call Surplus City Landing at 318-467-2259.

— Glynn Harris

FUN & GAMES

CROSSWORD

ACROSS

1 Erstwhile acorns

5 Moment

8 Chart toppers

12 You love (Lat.)

13 Bill's partner

14 Shrek, for one

15 TV drama starring Claire Danes

17 Bump into

18 Olympics chant

19 Mornings (Abbr.)

20 Job benefits

21 Trendy

22 Narc's org.

23 Thesian

26 Biblical cover-up

30 Campus digs

31 Custard ingredien

32 Okla-homa tribe

33 Crush

35 Plumber's tool

36 Sticky stuff

37 Hearty brew

38 June birthstone

41 Buddy

42 QBs' goals

45 Missile shelter

46 Out of danger

48 Winter blanket

49 Year in Madrid

50 — Raton

51 Adoles-cent

52 Aachen article

53 "Ameri-can —"

2 Novelist Oz

3 — Sutra

4 Compass dir.

5 Rascal

6 Eternities

7 Massa-chusetts cape

8 Classic Culin

9 Media exec

10 Arduous journey

11 Tennis match

16 Hideaway

20 Cribbage scorer

21 Like garden veggies

22 Use a shovel

23 TV spots

24 — au vin

25 Capote nickname

26 E-I con-nection

27 JFK info

28 Fine, at NASA

29 Service charge

31 Author Umberto

34 Texter's chuckle

35 — gin fizz

37 Knight wear

38 "Hey, you!"

39 Bonn article

40 Lotion ingredient

41 Dog biscuit shape

42 Walked (on)

43 Erte's style

44 Barking critter

46 Pos-sessed

47 Justice Dept. agency

Solution time: 22 mins.

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

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			

SUDOKU

SUDOKU

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

Level: Beginner

Here's How It Works:

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

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

ANSWER:

Fun By The Numbers

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

COMICS

BABY BLUES I RICK KIRKMAN AND JERRY SCOTT



BLONDIE I DEAN YOUNG AND JOHN MARSHALL



BEETLE BAILEY I MORT & GREG WALKER



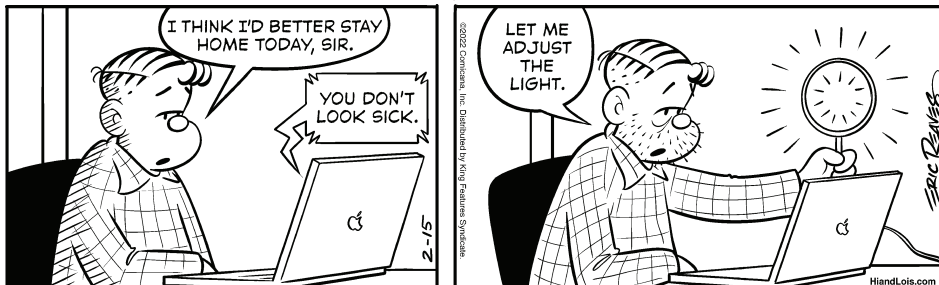
FUNKY WINKERBEAN I TOM BATIUK



HAGAR THE HORRIBLE I CHRIS BROWNE



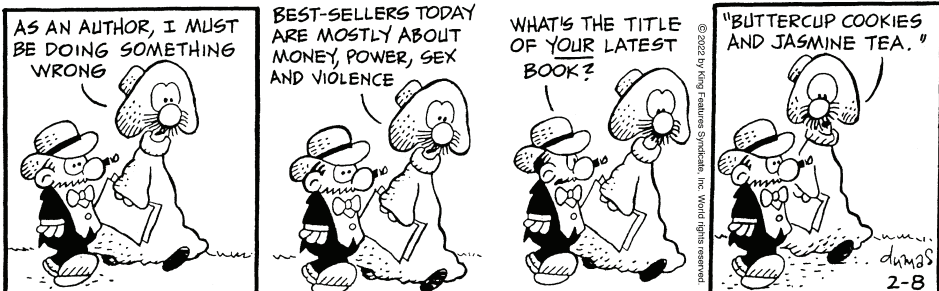
HI AND LOIS I BRIAN WALKER, GREG WALKER AND CHANCE BROWNE



MOTHER GOOSE & GRIMM I MIKE PETERS



SAM AND SILO I JERRY DUMAS



CRYPTOQUIP

2-15

CRYPTOQUIP

W O L H K L R H V H Q C R F V R X
Q H N L F W T N K Z A C Q Q R H C L
N K Q H N D H V W ' T Z F X N D F N ' Z

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: EVERYBODY ON MY BLOCK IS SOLVING ALGEBRA AND CALCULUS PROBLEMS LIKE MAD. IT'S MATH HYSTERIA!

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: L equals P

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

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

PLACE YOUR AD TODAY!

classifieds@press-herald.com

NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that, in accordance with L.R.S. 3:1609 and LAC 7: XV.314 (A), the Louisiana Department of Agriculture & Forestry, Louisiana Boll Weevil Eradication Commission, has established a boll weevil eradication zone, the Louisiana Eradication Zone, consisting of all the territory within the state of Louisiana.

Notice is further given that all producers of commercial cotton in Louisiana are required to participate in the boll weevil eradication program, including cost sharing, in accordance with the Boll Weevil Eradication Law and regulations. This includes, but is not limited to, reporting of cotton acreage and destruction of cotton plants and stalks by December 31 of each crop year. A copy of the law and rules and regulations may be obtained from the Boll Weevil Eradication Commission, 5825 Florida Blvd. Ste. 3002, Baton Rouge, La. 70806, telephone number (225) 922-1338.

Notice is also given that the planting of noncommercial cotton is PROHIBITED in Louisiana unless a written waiver is obtained from the Commissioner of Agriculture & Forestry in accordance with LAC 7: XV.319(C). To request a waiver, submit a written application to the Department of Agriculture and Forestry, at the address provided in this notice, stating the conditions under which such written waiver is requested.

**February 8, 2022
February 15, 2022
February 22, 2022
Minden Press-Herald**

ACTION FOR DIVORCE

SUPREME COURT
STATE OF NEW YORK
COUNTY OF RENSSELAER
NAME: Michael Eric Halachik
PLAINTIFF, against
NAME: Sara Ann Halachik
DEFENDANT.

SUMMONS
INDEX NO.: 2021-270009
Date Filed: September 17, 2021

To the above-named defendant: YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED to answer the complaint in this action and to serve a copy of the answer on the Plaintiff within twenty (20) days after the service of this summons, exclusive of the day of service, where service is made by delivery upon you personally within the state, or within thirty (30) days after completion of service where service is made in any other manner. In case of your failure to appear or answer, judgment will be taken against you by default for the relief demanded in the complaint.

**February 1, 2022
February 8, 2022
February 15, 2022
Minden Press-Herald**

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

VILLAGE OF DIXIE INN (hereinafter referred to as the "Owner").

Sealed bids marked "Sealed Bid" VILLAGE

OF DIXIE INN Community Development Block Grant Project to be financed by the State of Louisiana CDBG Program will be received by the Owner for the construction of the project described as follows:

VILLAGE OF DIXIE INN FY 2021 LCDBG WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT IMPROVEMENTS

Proposals shall be addressed to the VILLAGE OF DIXIE INN and delivered to the **Village of DIXIE INN Town Hall, 60 SHELL STREET, MINDEN, LA 71055** not later than **2:00 P.M., THURSDAY, MARCH 10, 2022**. Sealed bids shall be marked as "Sealed Bid" – VILLAGE OF DIXIE INN Community Development Block Grant Project to be financed by the State of Louisiana CDBG Program. All bids must be submitted on the proper bid form. The Contractor shall display his Contractor's license number prominently on the outside of the envelope. Any bids received after the specified time and date will not be considered. The sealed bids will be publicly opened and read aloud at **2:00 P.M., Thursday, March 10, 2022 at the Village of DIXIE INN Town Hall, 60 Shell Street, Minden, Louisiana 71055**.

The Information for Bidders, Form of Bid Proposal, Form of Contract, Plans, Specifications, and Forms of Bid Bond, Performance and Payment Bond, and other contract documents may be examined at the Village of Dixie Inn. Copies may be obtained at the office of the Engineer, COTHREN, GRAFF, SMOAK ENGINEERING, INC., upon payment of \$50.00 which amount constitutes the cost of reproduction and handling. This payment will not be refunded.

The Owner reserves the right to reject any and all bids for just cause; such actions will be in accordance with Title 38 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes. All bidders must sign: (1) the Bid, (2) Certificate of Corporate Principal and Surety, (3) any Addenda issued, and (4) Bid Bond which always must accompany the bid in the correct amount.

A Corporate Resolution authorizing a representative of the corporation to sign the bid must accompany the bid, if the bidder is a corporation.

Each bidder must deposit with his/her bid, security in the amount, form, and subject to the conditions provided in the Information for Bidders. Sureties used for obtaining bonds must appear as acceptable on the U.S. Department of Treasury Circular 570.

No bidder may withdraw his/her bid within thirty (30) days after the actual date of the opening thereof.

Each bidder must have an active DUNS number, as verified on www.sam.gov, prior to the beginning of construction.

The Contractor Classification for the project is:

MUNICIPAL AND PUBLIC WORKS

Attention of Bidders is particularly called to the requirement as to conditions of employment to be observed and minimum wage

rates to be paid under the Contract, Section 3, Segregated Facilities, Section 109, Executive Order 11246, and all applicable laws and regulations of the Federal government and State of Louisiana and bonding and insurance requirements.

The successful bidder must submit executed copies of Certification Regarding Equal Employment Opportunity, Section 3 and Segregated Facilities, Section 3 Plan with Tables A and B, Certification Concerning Labor Standards and all subcontractor's certifications prior to contract execution.

The successful bidder will be required to execute the Owner's Standard Form of Agreement/ Contract for construction together with the Performance and Payment Bonds within ten (10) working days after normal award of contract.

The Contractor shall begin mobilization and procurement of materials within ten (10) working days of the receipt of the Notice to Proceed.

Please notify the Owner seven (7) days in advance of the scheduled bid opening if special accommodations specified under ADA are required.

The Owner hereby notifies all bidders that in regard to any contract entered into pursuant to this Advertisement, that Minority Business Enterprises will be afforded equal opportunity to submit offers in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, sex, national origin or disability in consideration for an award.

**February 8, 2022
February 15, 2022
February 22, 2022
Minden Press-Herald**

PROCEEDING OF THE VILLAGE OF HEFLIN, STATE OF LOUISIANA, TAKEN IN REGULAR MEETING HELD ON FEBRUARY 3, 2022.

The Hefflin Town Council met at Town Hall, Hefflin, Louisiana beginning at 7:45 p.m. with the following members present: Mayor Todd Leake council members Matt Austin, Hallie DeMoss, Ralph James, Chief of Police Paul Miguës, Water System Operator Jesse Williamson and Village Clerk Sherry Limosnero.

The meeting was opened with prayer offered by Hallie DeMoss and Matt Austin 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 January 6, 2022 at Council Regular Meeting held on February 3, 2022 as presented; the motion was approved unanimously.

Hallie DeMoss moved to accept the January, 2022 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 January, 2022. Matt Austin moved to accept the January,

2022 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 Law Office of Christopher Stahl as Village Attorney for 2022.

Ralph James moved to accept Wise, Martin, & Cole LLC, as the Village of Hefflin's Official Auditor for 2022. The motion was duly seconded by Matt Austin as presented; the motion was approved unanimously.

Upon motion by Matt Austin and duly seconded by Hallie DeMoss, the council unanimously adopted Always Best Quality Maintenance LLC, as the Village of Hefflin landscaper for 2022.

Hallie DeMoss moved to accept Minden Press Herald as the Village of Hefflin's Official Journal for 2022. The motion was duly seconded by Ralph James as presented; the motion was approved unanimously.

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

Attest by:
Sherry Limosnero
LCMC, Village Clerk
Respectfully posted:
02/09/2022
Adopted:
Publish:
Minden Press Herald

**February 15, 2022
Minden Press-Herald**

PUBLIC NOTICE

(NOTICE OF INTENTION TO INTRODUCE BILL – HLS 22RS-576)

Public notice is hereby given, as provided by Section 13, Article III of the Louisiana Constitution and R.S. 47:1907.1, that there will be introduced at the forthcoming session of the Legislature of Louisiana, to be convened on March 14, 2022, a bill relative to authorizing assessors in this state to increase their annual salary compensation in an amount up to five percent annually for each of the next four years; and to provide for related matters.

**February 15, 2022
February 18, 2022
Minden Press-Herald**

NOTICE

Estate of Halestine Webb-Boyd
c/o Felecia Edmond
508 Morrow Street
Minden, LA 71055

THIS NOTICE BY PUBLICATION IS NOTIFICATION THAT YOUR RIGHTS OR INTEREST IN THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED PROPERTY LOCATED IN WEBSTER PARISH, LOUISIANA MAY BE TERMINATED BY OPERATION OF LAW IF YOU DO NOT TAKE FURTHER ACTION IN ACCORDANCE WITH LAW:

Lots 16 and 17, Block 12, Harrell Hts., City of Minden, Webster Parish Louisiana together with all improvements thereon and all rights thereto belonging. Ref. Book 354, Page 598)

Assessment #110 000, as per the

assessment in the records of the Tax Assessor of Webster Parish, Louisiana.

This property was adjudicated to the Police Jury on May 22, 2015. The three year redemptive period has passed. Tax sale title to the above described property has been sold for failure to pay taxes. You have been identified as a person who may have an interest in this property. Your interest in the property **will be terminated** within 60 days from the date of this publication unless you redeem the property or you may otherwise challenge in a court of competent jurisdiction the potential sale or donation.

Webster Parish Police Jury
410 Main St.
Minden, LA 71055
318-377-7564

**February 15, 2022
Minden Press-Herald**

MISC.

Bossier Sheriff Office to petition the court for permission to dispose of seized & found property

In accordance with article 228.3 of the Louisiana Code of Criminal Procedure, and due to current storage concerns, the Bossier Sheriff's Office intends to petition the 26th Judicial District Court for permission to dispose of property seized as evidence in numerous criminal investigations and items of found property where no owners have been found or any claims have been made for the return of the property.

EMPLOYMENT

Presbyterian Village of Homer is hiring CNA's all shifts, LPN's all shifts, and weekend RN's. For more information, please call (318)927-6133 and ask for Alex Vansickle for RN/ LPN/ CNA applications.

Maintenance Supervisor

Presbyterian Village of Homer, a Skilled Nursing & Rehabilitation Facility in Homer, Louisiana, is now taking applications for the position of Maintenance Supervisor. Individuals must apply in person at **3700 US Hwy 79 South in Homer, Louisiana.**

Applicants should possess the following skills:

- Minimum of a high school education or equivalent
- At least two (2) years job experience in a similar environment working with preventive maintenance of equipment and appliances
- General knowledge of basic plumbing, electrical, carpentry, grounds maintenance, vehicles, etc., and the skills for repair, maintenance, or installation of such things
- Ability to manage one (1) or more departments and to supervise a crew of workers (train new employees, schedule job assignments, procure goods and services, etc.)
- Ability to communicate effectively with others
- Strong work ethic and time management
- Team-oriented mindset and good interpersonal skills
- Ability to develop and maintain positive, productive relationships with outside vendors, contractors, service workers, and suppliers
- Adequate and reliable, personal transportation
- Understanding that being on-call around the clock (after hours and on weekends and holidays) for potential facility and grounds maintenance emergencies is a necessary job requirement

For more information, please call Jimmy Williams, Administrator at **(318) 927-6133**.

SCHOOL ZONES ARE HANDS FREE

EMPLOYMENT

BOX TRUCK DELIVERY DRIVER New Higher Pay Scale! Bill & Ralph's Inc. 118 B & R Drive, Sarepta, La. 71071 Accepting Applications For Box Truck Delivery Driver Must have at least a Class D License. Training for CDL-A will be available, if interested, but not mandatory. Free Medical Insurance for Driver, Family Medical Insurance available. Dental and 401K Benefits, Hourly plus Incentive Pay, Yearly Safety Bonus Pay, Monthly Safety/Performance Pay. Apply at Bill & Ralph's Contact Mickey Hodges at (318)539-2071 mickey.hodges@billandralphs.co DELIVERY DRIVERS NEEDED New Higher Pay Scale ! Bill & Ralph's Inc. 118 B & R Drive, Sarepta, La. 71071 Accepting Applications For Delivery Route Drivers with a CDL(Class A) Drivers License. Free Medical Insurance for Driver, Family Medical Insurance available. Dental and 401K Benefits, Hourly plus Incentive Pay, Yearly Safety Bonus Pay, Monthly Safety/Performance Pay. Apply at Bill & Ralph's Contact Mickey Hodges at (318)539-2071 mickey.hodges@billandralphs.co

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PETS

2 dogs looking for a new home. Roxie, female, 3 years, mostly lab with some pit, bigger dog, mostly black with white. Riley, male, 4 years, mostly jack russell with some beagle, medium sized dog, mostly brown with white. Both fixed with shots and chipped. Need a yard to run around in! Text Gloria at (318) 455-7983 for pics. Lives in Stonewall.

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FSBO in Hefflin.'99 Bucaneer 28'x52' mobile home. Fenced yard, shop, above ground pool, 2.96 acres. \$70,000. Call (318)529-9296 (318)525-4896

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German Shepherd puppies for sale. Call (318) 779-4391

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