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# MINDEN PRESS-HERALD

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2022

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## MLK PARADE

# 35th Annual MLK/Black History Parade and Youth Rally

WILL PHILLIPS

Minden Press-Herald

This weekend the MLK Day Celebration Committee held their annual MLK/Black History Parade and Youth Rally which saw over 60 entrants for the parade representing a wide array of local organizations, businesses, and community leaders.

Later, after the parade the Youth Rally, MC'd by Reginald Bridges, took place in front of Minden City Hall, during which the recipients of the MLK Endow a Dream Scholarship were announced. The 2022 recipients of this scholarship included Ava Taylor, Mya Taylor, Ada Kennon-Gilbert, Brianna Davis, Shahira Williams.

Soon after Bridges presented L'Jarius JJ Sneed with a plaque as a token of appreciation for him accepting the title of Grand Marshall for the 35th Annual MLK/Black History Parade.

The rally also saw a surprise visit from a community organization that has been making headlines in the Shreveport/Bossier Area, Dads On Duty. This group of black fathers saw rising violence within the schools their children attend, and saw an opportunity to take a more active role in ensuring that the

campuses are a safe space for students to pursue an education. They used this opportunity to reach out to the Minden community with the idea of expanding their program here as well.

The Youth Rally also saw a Battle of the Bands take place between the Minden High School, Woodlawn High School, and Bastrop High School Marching Bands. The sounds of brass instruments and drum beats echoed throughout downtown Minden as the bands went back and forth displaying the full extent of their musical prowess.

Being judged exclusively based on their performance in the parade itself, the awards for Best Band Performance are as follows: Third place went to Minden High School, Second Place went to Woodlawn High School, and First Place went to Bastrop High School, with Best Drum Line going to Huntington High School.

The Annual MLK/Black History Parade and Youth Rally provides an opportunity for the people of Minden to come together and focus on the history of black people in America, the challenges they still face in the modern day, and the future of true equality that we should all aspire to create.



WILL PHILLIPS/MINDEN PRESS-HERALD  
The 35th Annual MLK/Black History Parade and Youth Rally took place this past Saturday, with over sixty entrants taking part in the parade. A Battle of the Bands was conducted at the rally by Minden High School, Bastrop High School, and Woodlawn High School competing to see who has the best sound. The rally also provided recognition not only to students through the granting of their Endow a Dream Scholarships, but also to community organizations such as Dads on Duty whose members take time out of their day to make the world a better and safer place for their kids. Chief's Star JJ Sneed was also present as the Grand Marshall for the event, being awarded a plaque as a thank you for taking time out of his busy schedule to support the local events of his hometown.



## EDUCATION

# Lakeside students get perfect LEAP scores

AMBER MCDOWN

Minden Press-Herald

During the past testing period, two Lakeside students were able to achieve the impressive feat of getting a perfect score on a section of the Louisiana Educational Assessment Program (LEAP) test.

"Each year, students in grades 3 through high school take state tests [LEAP] to measure their knowledge and skills in each subject area or course and their readiness for the next level of study," according to the

Louisiana Believes website.

Kamryn Goodson's perfect score was on the English II portion of the test. This test was given over the course of three days and measures a student's ability to understand what they read and express that understanding in writing. Kamryn is a student of Mr. Beavers' English class.

Ethan Patterson received his perfect score on the Algebra 1 section. This test was also given over three days and measures conceptual under-

standing, procedural skill and fluency, and application of algebraic concepts. Ethan is a student of Coach Gray's algebra class.

This is very exciting news, not only for the students and their parents, but for their classmates and teachers. "Lakeside has never had a perfect LEAP score before, and now we have had two in the same testing window!" exclaims the post on Lakeside's Facebook page. Congratulations to Kamryn, Ethan and Lakeside Jr/Sr High.

## EMPLOYMENT

# Town and Country honors employee milestones

AMBER MCDOWN

Minden Press-Herald

Town and Country Health and Rehab honored employees who have reached milestones in length of continuous service at their annual Service Award Ceremony last Friday. "It's not common for people to stay with such longevity in places—and by that I mean even three years," said Brooke Snyder, Administrator for Town and Country.

The past two years were noted as being difficult, as employees worked to keep residents safe during a pandemic. "Your

loyalty and hard work have set an example for everyone," said Janet Dumas who spoke on behalf of the other employees. "It's tough to stay put in the same place for a long time; however, maybe the word 'tough' wasn't in your dictionary."

Mrs. Shirley Bates, who spoke on behalf of the residents said, "This is, to me, not like a nursing home. I mean, y'all treat us so good. You do a very good job. You work together, and that means a lot."

Honored for three years of service were Shane Farley, Calandra Howard, Betty Patterson,

Stephanie Shyne, and Kasean Tyree; for five years were Jimmy Adams and Kenosha Coleman; for ten years was Annette Eason; for fifteen years were Cherelle Harris and Latasha Shyne; for twenty years was Lakita Edwards, and for twenty-five years of service was Starla Layton.

"You have been a central part of Town and Country's journey and success," said Ms. Dumas. "We are grateful for the dedication and passion you have shown all these years—to our residents and the other staff members."

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# WEBSTER & MORE

## GOVERNMENT

### Kennedy calls on Biden administration to continue exporting American LNG

WASHINGTON – Sen. John Kennedy (R-La.) today joined more than 20 fellow senators in urging Energy Secretary Jennifer Granholm to support continued exports of liquefied natural gas (LNG). The letter comes in the wake of Democrat senators’ asking Granholm to limit American LNG exports.

“... the Energy Information Administration (EIA) recently reported several power plants that burn fuel oil had to be reactivated in January to help meet demand, due to natural gas pipeline constraints. Obstructing new LNG exports could also have the unintended effect of increasing global LNG prices, which would correlate to increased energy costs for customers in the United States,”

wrote the senators.

“Geopolitically, NATO member states and countries such as South Korea and Japan rely on the relative certainty associated with the U.S. LNG regulatory model. ... We encourage your department to issue non-free trade agreement export licenses in a timely manner to ensure the global market continues to view U.S. LNG as a dependable source of energy and a reliable alternative to strategic competitors like Russia,” the senators continued.

“Increased production and export volumes of U.S. natural gas encourage developing nations to use a cleaner fuel source. Investing in domestic oil and gas production creates U.S. jobs. It lowers domestic and global

emissions. It also increases U.S. energy security and makes us essential to the energy security of others. We ask that you please consider these factors in your ongoing efforts to facilitate the supply of energy commodities to our allies and partners, while simultaneously securing clean and reliable energy domestically,” concluded the senators.

The senators also directed the letter to Secretary of State Antony Blinken and Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen.

Louisiana produces more LNG than any other state and accounted for 55 percent of U.S. LNG exports in 2020. That production played a significant part in turning America into the world’s largest LNG exporter.

## FOOD INDUSTRY

### FDA Alerts the Public to Potentially Contaminated Products from Family Dollar Stores in Six States

Today, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration is alerting the public that several categories of FDA-regulated products purchased from Jan. 1, 2021, through the present from Family Dollar stores in Alabama, Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri and Tennessee may be unsafe for consumers to use. The impacted products originated from the company’s distribution facility in West Memphis, Arkansas, where an FDA inspection found insanitary conditions, including a rodent infestation, that could cause many of the products to become contaminated. The FDA is working with the company to initiate a voluntary recallExternal Link Disclaimer of the affected products.

“Families rely on stores like Family Dollar for products such as food and medicine. They deserve products that are safe,” said Associate Commissioner for Regulatory Affairs Judith McMeekin, Pharm.D. “No one should be subjected to products stored in the kind of unacceptable conditions that we found in this Family Dollar distribution facility. These conditions appear to be violations of federal law that could put families’ health at risk. We will continue to work to protect consumers.”

This alert covers FDA-regulated prod-

ucts purchased from Family Dollar stores in those six states from Jan. 1, 2021, through the present. Some examples of these products include human foods (including dietary supplements (vitamin, herbal and mineral supplements)), cosmetics (skincare products, baby oils, lipsticks, shampoos, baby wipes), animal foods (kibble, pet treats, wild bird seed), medical devices (feminine hygiene products, surgical masks, contact lens cleaning solutions, bandages, nasal care products) and over-the-counter (OTC) medications (pain medications, eye drops, dental products, antacids, other medications for both adults and children).

Consumers are advised not to use and to contact the company regarding impacted products. The agency is also advising that all drugs, medical devices, cosmetics and dietary supplements, regardless of packaging, be discarded. Food in non-permeable packaging (such as undamaged glass or all-metal cans) may be suitable for use if thoroughly cleaned and sanitized. Consumers should wash their hands immediately after handling any products from the affected Family Dollar stores.

Consumers who recently purchased affected products should contact a health care

professional immediately if they have health concerns after using or handling impacted products. Rodent contamination may cause Salmonella and infectious diseases, which may pose the greatest risk to infants, children, pregnant women, the elderly and immunocompromised people.

Following a consumer complaint, the FDA began an investigation of the Family Dollar distribution facility in West Memphis, Arkansas, in January 2022. Family Dollar ceased distribution of products within days of the FDA inspection team’s arrival on-site and the inspection concluded on Feb. 11. Conditions observed during the inspection included live rodents, dead rodents in various states of decay, rodent feces and urine, evidence of gnawing, nesting and rodent odors throughout the facility, dead birds and bird droppings, and products stored in conditions that did not protect against contamination. More than 1,100 dead rodents were recovered from the facility following a fumigation at the facility in January 2022. Additionally, a review of the company’s internal records also indicated the collection of more than 2,300 rodents between Mar. 29 and Sep. 17, 2021, demonstrating a history of infestation.

## BLOTTER

Recent arrests in Webster Parish		
Shad Sawyer, 46, of the 000 block of Sunset Villa, ws arrested on multiple warrants.	of the 200 block of hall Street, was arrested for driving while intoxicated third offense, driving under suspension, and improper lane usage.	session of a schedule II substance, and possession of drug paraphernalia.
Adam Theriot III, 38, of the 900 block of Hinton Street, was arrested for obstructed windshield. Driving under suspension, possession of a schedule II substance with intent to distribute, and possession of drug paraphernalia.	Jamarquez Pleasant, 23, of the 1400 block of Pearl Street, was arrested for disturbing the peace through public intoxication,	Jeffrey Southern, 50, of the 800 block of Bear Creek Road, was arrested for aggravated flight from an officer, no driver’s license, possession of schedule II substance with intent to distribute, possession of a schedule II substance, possession of a schedule I substance, and possession of drug paraphernalia.
Sean Simmons, 22, of the 800 block of Clay Street, was arrested for blue headlights, driving under suspension, and possession of drug paraphernalia.	Jessica Durbin, 39, of the 100 block of Nelson Drive, was arrested for obstruction of justice, possession of a schedule I substance, and possession of controlled dangerous substances in the presence of a minor.	James Pittman Jr., 40, of the 100 block of Banks Street, was arrested for following too close, window tint, driving under suspension, possession of a schedule II substance with intent to distribute, possession of a schedule II substance, possession of a schedule I substance, possession of drug paraphernalia, a warrant, and being a fugitive of Lincoln Parish.
Dominecia Flournoy, 19, of the 300 block of White Oak Drive, was arrested for possession of a schedule I substance.	Charles Reynolds, 23, of the 1600 block of Clay Street, was arrested for possession of a schedule I substance, possession of a firearm in the presence of controlled dangerous substances, and being a fugitive from Caddo Sheriff’s Office.	Jonathan Joiner, 22, of the 400 block of West Todd Street, was arrested for criminal trespassing.
Tiki Burns, 47, of the 400 block of Goodwill Street, was arrested for failure to appear in court.	Kelly Harris, 43, of the 100 block of Camp Street, was arrested for driving under suspension.	Felicia Charles, 35, of the 100 block of Francis Street, was arrested for cruelty to juveniles.
Willie Lane, 37, of the 100 block of Middle Landing Road, was arrested for failure to appear in court.	James Collins, 46, of the 1800 block of Fire-tower Road, was arrested for domestic abuse battery and simple battery.	Renee Colston, 32, of the 900 block of Brackin Street, was arrested for possession of a schedule II substance.
Kevin Bass, 26, of the 1200 block of Dorcheat Road, was arrested for failure to appear in court.	Kimber Turner, 35, of the 300 block of Centerpark Drive, was arrested for improper lane usage, no driver’s license, pos-	
Archie Franklin, 46,		

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# WEBSTER & MORE

OBITUARIES



## Sharon Douglass Guin

Graveside services for Sharon Douglass Guin will be held Tuesday, February 22, 2022, at 1:00 p.m. at Union Cemetery in Bodcaw, Arkansas under the direction of Rose-Neath Funeral Home in Minden, Louisiana. Officiating will be Rev. Revel Kidd.

Sharon was born October 23, 1946, in Smackover, Arkansas and entered into rest February 18, 2022, in Minden, Louisiana. Sharon loved people and making



## James Edward Bishop

Funeral services celebrating the life of James Edward Bishop will be held Monday, February 21, 2022, at 11:00 a.m. at First Baptist Church in Minden, Louisiana with Rev. Leland Crawford and Rev. Steve Gilley officiating. Interment will follow at Gardens of Memory in Minden, Louisiana under the direction of Rose-Neath Funeral Home in Minden. The family will receive friends from 4:00 until 6:00 p.m. Sunday, February 20, 2022, at Rose-Neath Funeral Home in Minden

James Edward Bishop was born on October 25, 1935, in Minden, Louisiana and went to be with the Lord on February 19, 2022, in Minden, Louisiana. He was preceded in death by his father, F.L. Bishop, his mother, Myrtle Bishop, and his son, Gregg Allen Bishop. He is survived by his wife of 66 years, Trudy Brooks Bishop, his daughter, Terri Bishop Sibley and husband Wayne Sibley, granddaughter, Heather Sibley Poe and husband Joshua Poe, grandson, James Walter Sibley and wife Lauren McDonald Sibley, great grandchildren, Hannah Grace Poe, James David Poe, Joshua Michael Poe, Isaac Richardson, Ian Richardson, Isla June Sibley, and sister, Sue Bishop of Banner Elk, NC.

James was a graduate of Minden High School and Louisiana Tech. He served in the National Guard for a time after college. He started his career in forestry with

friends. She loved her family and her pets, and Christmas was her favorite time of the year with all the family gathering.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Gary Guin and her father, Jessie Douglass.

She is survived by her mother, Margie Buck and husband David of Hope, Arkansas; son, Doug Black and wife Jennifer; daughter, Kim Whitlock and husband Jeff all of Minden; grandchildren, Colby Whitlock, Sydney Mouser, Phoenix Johnson, and Tyler Moses, and four great-grandchildren.

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

the Louisiana Forestry Commission. He then joined his father in operating the Mobil Oil Distributorship in Minden and later he taught forestry with the Vocational Technical school system while still operating the Mobil Distributorship. At some point, he opened a carpet store for a brief time, then returned to work for the Vocational Technical school as a guidance counselor and eventually became an assistant director where he worked until his retirement. After retirement he was offered a part-time position as property manager.

He was a wonderful husband, father, grandfather, and great-grandfather. He had a wonderful sense of humor and never met a stranger. He was always cutting up and it seems everyone loved him. He loved to have fun and tell his jokes and stories. His stories were so good, and he didn't care if you had heard them before—he loved to hear them again. He was an avid reader—always checking books out of the library by the stacks. He always was doing something here on the “farm”—driving the tractor, keeping the grass cut, cutting trees, chopping wood, and moving buildings. In his younger days, he got his pilot's license and had a part ownership in a plane. He and his son started a Christmas tree farm on the property where their house now sits.

James loved his family, but more than that, he loved the Lord Jesus Christ. He was a great man of faith, a mighty man of valor. He will be missed, but we know that we will see him again in Heaven.

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



## Colby D. Foster

Memorial services for Colby D. Foster will be held Saturday 26, 2022, at 10:00 a.m. at Pine Grove United Methodist Church in Minden, Louisiana.

Colby was born September 26, 1993, in Minden, Louisiana and entered into rest February 13, 2022, in Minden, Louisiana.

He was preceded in death by his grandparents, Mary Aultman and Paul B. Aultman and Donald E. Foster, Sr.

He is survived by his parents, Angela Aultman Walker and Donald and Melissa Foster; grandmother, Bobbie Foster; sister, Linda Toler, Niki Weaver, and Julia Weaver; brother, Chris Holder; and several nieces, nephews, and cousins.

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## Terry Lynn Strnad

Terry was born May 16, 1959, in Dallas, Texas and entered into rest February 17, 2022, in Shreveport, Louisiana.

Terry was a nurse for more than 30 years and loved caring for her patients dearly. She was a sports mom and very active in attending all their activities. When not watching her children in sports she was watching the LSU Tigers, the Texas Rangers, and ice skating. Terry had a green thumb and could grow anything, but her great-

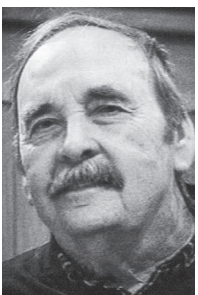
est joy was spending time with her children and grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her father, Jack Strnad, brother, Jackie Strnad; life and long-time companion, Tommy Hadwin.

She is survived by her mother, Shirley Strnad; her five children; countless grandchildren; one great-grandchild; and brother, John Strnad.

A memorial service will be held at a later date for Terry Lynn Strnad, 62, of Dubberly, Louisiana.

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## Glenn Dewitt Osbon

Glenn Dewitt Osbon was born April 30, 1945, to Lucille McManus Osbon and Dewitt Osbon of West Monroe, LA. He entered into rest on February 20, 2022, at Willis Knighton Bossier. He suffered from heart disease for many years, and unfortunately succumbed to this. Glenn was raised in the Luna community outside of West Monroe, LA. As a young boy, he worked odd jobs to make money and was always known as a hard worker. At 14 years old, he left home to make his own way. He obtained his GED while working a full-time job, then went on to further his education at Vo-Tech. He received his welding certification while raising a family at a young age. He met Margaret Ellen Pearson, the love of his life, when he was 18 years old, in her hometown of Minden, LA. They married on July 26, 1963, and they had four children. He always tried to instill good work ethics in all of his children. He worked for J.B. Lee Tractor Company as a Diesel Mechanic. From 1966 to 1978, he worked at Louisiana Army Ammunition Plant (LAAP) as a Diesel Mechanic. He then went into business for himself and owned Osbon Welding and Contracting in 1978. After a successful run as a Sole Proprietor, he incorporated his business into OWC, Inc. in 1992. He was not just the owner of a small business, but a hands-on-hard worker. He did not watch his employees work but was right alongside them getting his hands dirty on every job. He could operate any piece of machinery God ever made, from a skid steer to a bulldozer. He enjoyed going to dirt track races and Nascar races. Many people enjoy traveling as a hobby, but his major joy in life was operating heavy equipment and coming to his office daily, overseeing every operation of business. He made many friends over the course of his life and met all kinds of people. He was a devout Christian and a member of First Assembly of God in Minden. He loved his church family and was always willing to help those in need. He had a very strong faith in God and always gave God the glory for all he had accomplished in his life.

Glenn was preceded in death by his parents, Lucille McManus Osbon and Dewitt Osbon; sisters, Carrie Lee Downs, Hazel Ball, and Ruby Nell Bearden; brother, Jerold Osbon; sisters-in-law, Ruby Pearson Osbon, Mary Sue Miller, and Lula Mae Pearson; brothers-in-law, Billy “Pete” Pearson and Larry Pearson and grandson-in-law, Connor Zaldivar.

He is survived by his wife of 58 years, Margaret Pearson Osbon; three sons, Donny Osbon and wife Roslyn of Haughton, Darryl Osbon and wife Kayla of Minden, Paul Osbon and wife Kasey of Greenwood; daughter, Susan Jordan and husband Jason of Bossier City; grandchildren; Ryan Osbon and wife Rebecca of Bossier City, Haley Franco and husband Andy of Richardson, TX, Bethany Allgood and husband Carson of Frisco, TX, Andrew Osbon of Minden, Morgan Fowler and husband Ben of Shreveport, Kelsey Holomon and husband Will of Minden, Karlee Zaldivar of Minden, Ainsley Osbon of Haughton, Anniston Jordan of Bossier City, Olivia and Ava Osbon of Greenwood, and Abram Jordan of Bossier City; great-grandchildren, Adelaide and Oakley Allgood, Claire Osbon, Bennett Fowler, and two on the way, Brooks Foster Franco and Hayes Brady Holomon; brothers, Dave Osbon and wife Dottie, Windell Osbon and wife Judy, Edward Osbon; sisters, Imogene Wilson and husband Ernest, Audrey Irwin and husband Barry; sisters-in-law, Betty Shaw, LeAnn Pearson, and Linda Pearson; brother-in-law, Doug Pearson; and a host of nieces and nephews.

Pallbearers will be Mark Osbon, Matt Osbon, Will Holomon, Ben Fowler, Carson Allgood, Andy Franco, Ryan Osbon, and Andrew Osbon.

Funeral services celebrating the life of Glenn Dewitt Osbon will be held Wednesday, February 23, 2022, at 10:00 a.m. at First Assembly of God in Minden, Louisiana with Bro. Dee Anders officiating. Interment will follow at Minden Cemetery under the direction of Rose-Neath Funeral Home in Minden, Louisiana. The family will receive friends from 5:00 until 7:00 p.m. Tuesday, February 22, 2022, at Rose-Neath Funeral Home in Minden.

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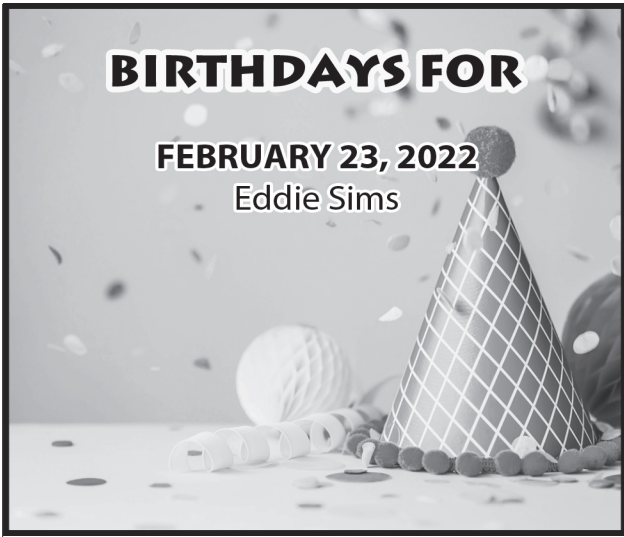


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### BIRTHDAYS FOR


**FEBRUARY 23, 2022**  
Eddie Sims



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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](mailto:obits@press-herald.com).

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# OPINION

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HERE ARE OUR GUIDELINES:

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

## How the liberal health care agenda undermines employer-based health coverage

NINA OWCHARENKO SCHAEFER  
Special to the Minden Press-Herald

Negotiations on “Build Back Better,” the Biden administration’s trillion-dollar social welfare package, have collapsed. But the exercise demonstrated that the Left has not abandoned its quest to supplant private health insurance with government-run health care. That’s disturbing for several reasons. The majority of Americans get their health care coverage from their place of work, and employer-based health plans tend to offer patients greater access to a broader range of health care providers and services. While most Americans still get their health coverage through employer-based plans, the number doing so is declining. In 2000, two-thirds of non-elderly Americans got their coverage through their employers. By 2018, that number had declined to 58 percent. The decline in employer-based coverage was most prevalent among those earning less than four times the federal poverty level (\$51,520 in 2021).

>>> U.S. Health Care Policy: 2022 Will Be a Really Confusing Year

While several factors have contributed to this trend, government policies have played a key role. The Left’s bid to cripple the private health insurance market took a big step forward with passage of Obamacare.

Among other things, the Affordable Care Act introduced middle-class subsidies for government-run health care. Between 2014, when the law took full effect, and 2016, enrollment in employer-based coverage dropped by 3.6 million. The Build Back Better proposal would have altered the health coverage landscape once again. It would have created a new government-run health program, made existing Obamacare subsidies more generous and extended them to more people, regardless of income. It also proposed easing the requirements to qualify for subsidies for those with access to employer-based coverage.

These and other changes would have steered more people out of their existing coverage and toward the government-run plan. The Congressional Budget Office estimated that the policies embedded in the Build Back Better plan would result in 2.8 million fewer people with employer-based coverage. And that’s problematic. Employer-based health plans typically offer more medical providers to choose from and access to more medical services than government plans do. A 2021 Kaiser Family Foundation survey found that “Sixty-seven percent of covered workers in firms offering health benefits work in firms that offer one or more PPOs.” In contrast, a

Heritage Foundation report found that last year only 15 percent of Obamacare plans offered PPOs (down from 57% in 2014). Job-based coverage has also been a testing ground for innovative strategies for health care delivery, improving outcomes and controlling costs. For example, employer coverage has been a catalyst for the rise in Health Savings Accounts. According to a recent employer survey, enrollment in HSA-style plans, which combine a high deductible insurance plan with savings account mechanism, has grown from 3 percent in 2006 to 40 percent in 2021.

Employers have also launched initiatives to promote wellness and expand access to care. Today, 59 percent of all employer-based plans include wellness programs, such as smoking cessation, weight loss, or other lifestyle or behavioral coaching. Many are looking to continue and expand ways to improve access to care for workers. A recent survey of large employers found that 76 percent of employers plan to keep telehealth benefits put in place during COVID; over half are considering adding on-site clinics. New initiatives focused on price transparency and value-based purchasing are also on the rise. These favorable developments do not mean there are no problems with employer-based coverage. The unlimited, tax-free

benefits contribute to rising premiums and costs. Its design disproportionately benefits highly compensated employees with large tax liabilities. Moreover, tethering health care coverage to the place of work denies personal ownership, limits coverage portability, and does not easily accommodate a changing labor market, leaving many out altogether. These shortcomings can be overcome by modernizing employer-based coverage through consumer-centered reforms. And that’s a far wiser course than the government-based approach of the Left. Build Back Better was just the tip of the iceberg in the Left’s drive to undermine the private health insurance market and herd everyone into government-run health programs. Broader efforts, like “Medicare for all” and the so-called “public option,” would ultimately eliminate employer-based coverage as we know it.

The private, employer-based market is where the majority of American get their health care and is still the strongest barrier against full-blown, government-run health care.

NINA OWCHARENKO SCHAEFER IS WELL KNOWN AS A CHAMPION OF PATIENT CHOICE AND ROBUST COMPETITION IN AMERICA'S HEALTH INSURANCE MARKETS. SHE IS SENIOR RESEARCH FELLOW, HEALTH POLICY AT THE HERITAGE FOUNDATION.

OTHER OPINION

## An opportunity roadmap for poverty relief

RAHEEM WILLIAMS  
Special to the Minden Press-Herald

The South is the fastest growing region in the country. The pull of our warm winters, friendly people, and low cost of living has drawn millions over the last few years. However, an old foe that we have attempted to fight for decades continues to afflict our people.

Rampant, inescapable poverty has been a staple of urban and rural areas in the South for generations. Government has long purported to be the solution to this problem, but after years of government programs and promises of a better tomorrow, our fellow man continues to be stuck in the cyclical nature of poverty. The status quo and government solutions have failed.

It’s time to change focus and realize that while our safety net programs are well intentioned, they often act as snare nets

trapping people in poverty with no means to escape. Safety net programs should catch people when they fall and put them back on their feet. The Pelican Institute for Public Policy has joined together with the Texas Public Policy Foundation (TPPF) and Georgia Center for Opportunity (GCO) to forge a new path forward to bring poverty relief to our friends and neighbors, beginning now.

The Alliance for Opportunity has one core goal: lift one million people out of poverty over the next 10 years. This will be accomplished through the removal of barriers to opportunity and prosperity while the focus of poverty relief programs is shifted to be consumer focused and geared toward helping people find meaningful work opportunities.

The Alliance has targeted three key areas to unlock opportunity for those in poverty. We must keep vulnerable Americans on track, remove

barriers to work, and address poverty perpetuated by the justice system. States need to make it simple to find work and start a business by lowering regulatory burdens associated with occupational licensing. It’s also necessary to break the school-to-prison pipeline by improving and expanding access to youth apprenticeship programs and auditing government sponsored employment programs for effective outcomes. Similarly, we need a criminal justice system that protects the public from violent criminals without locking the poor into poverty for petty infractions. Finally, we must have a social safety net that functions effectively when Americans need it but doesn’t discourage work.

Policy experts from GCO, Pelican, and TPPF have published a detailed policy agenda with recommendations for action. Although currently focused on our three states, the

agenda has relevance across the southern states. These proposed changes will require cooperation from state houses to Congress to community stakeholders with the goal of helping our neighbors at the forefront.

The opportunity roadmap set forth by the Alliance for Opportunity will not be an easy path, but bold reforms never are. Poverty relief can’t wait. It’s time to take action and unlock opportunity for people across the South and finally address this issue that has afflicted countless individuals for generations. We welcome feedback from and collaboration with all interested parties regardless of political affiliation. We look forward to engaging stakeholders and community leaders across the ideological spectrum to advance good policy wherever, whenever possible.

RAHEEM WILLIAMS IS THE DIRECTOR OF THE KANE CENTER FOR OPPORTUNITY POLICY.

EDITORIAL ROUNDUP

## Wall St. Journal: Less police, increased crime in Seattle

Democrats elsewhere may be fleeing the defund the police movement, but it lives on in Seattle. Business owners told the City Council last week what the resulting breakdown in law and order means in daily life, and it deserves more attention.

Wednesday’s hearing came days after the Seattle Police Department released its 2021 year-end crime report, which showed a 20% surge in violent crime to the highest levels in 14 years. Aggravated assaults rose 24% in 2021 from 2020, and robberies 18%.

The official statistics show a 9% increase in property crime, but business owners testified that the real numbers are much higher. Many victims no longer bother to call the cops. Responses to 911 calls can

take hours, and criminals are released soon after they’re arrested. Businesses say they fear their insurance costs will spike if they report what’s really going.

Seattle’s soft-on-criminals policy predates 2020, but after the murder of George Floyd the City Council voted two years in a row to cut police funding. Since Jan. 1, 2020, some 357 cops have retired or quit. It’s nearly impossible to recruit officers to work in a city infamous for its hostility to the police.

The lawlessness now hampers Seattle’s economic recovery. “Major employers signal that it’s not the pandemic that’s keeping them away, but it is their ability to keep their employees safe,” testified Lisa Howard, executive director of

the nonprofit Alliance for Pioneer Square.

Tariqa Waters said crime has forced her to open her art gallery by appointment only. “My building has been broken into multiple times. My personal health and safety has been put on the line more times than I can count removing human waste and needles,” she said. “I’ve also been threatened with racial slurs and assault weapons.”

Dan Austin, owner of Peel and Press pizzeria, described two break-ins since May 2020 that cost his business \$22,000. In one incident, the criminal was out on bail when he broke into Mr. Austin’s restaurant, was released again, and went on to burglarize others. “It’s just repetitive,” he testified. “Every

time I watched another business get victimized, I felt re-victimized.”

Mr. Austin said in an interview that he also discovered that someone was camping out under the wooden deck at Peel and Press. He called the police, but “they literally said, ‘No, we can’t handle it until you’ve told him to leave and he’s refused,’” Mr. Austin recalled. Erin Goodman, executive director of the SODO Business Improvement Area, described how one local business has “been broken into more than 20 times in a single month.”

The testimony revealed business desperation, but don’t expect help from Seattle’s politicians. In response to a business owner’s question about how to address gun violence,

City Council President Debora Juarez said, “I don’t have an answer for you” about “what’s going to happen to stop people from getting a gun and coming into your store.”

She admitted that black Seattle residents want some assurance of safety. But she added that “to be frank with you, I don’t also believe that hiring way more police or addressing every issue with a gun and a badge works either. Because we know who gets affected the worst. It’s people of color. They get killed.”

In other words, as criminals terrorize Seattle, its leaders still think police are the problem. The lawlessness will persist until Seattle voters stage a revolt.



SPORTS



COURTESY PHOTO

Minden softball beats Byrd, 18-2

The Minden High School softball team scored nine runs in the first two innings as the Crimson Tide rolled to an 18-2 win at Bryd on Friday. Minden now stands at 3-0 on the season after also sweeping Doyline in a season-opener doubleheader.

Lady Panthers edged out of Class B playoffs

T. SCOTT BOATRIGHT  
Minden Press-Herald

The Doyline High School Lady Panthers kept things tight Thursday night before falling 61-59 at 15th-seeded Castor in Louisiana High School Athletics Association first-round girls playoff action. Doyline, the 18th seed,



closed out its season at 21-11 while Castor advanced to the second round.

Tech sets two school records at C-USA Indoor meet

Minden Press-Herald Sports Service

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. — Louisiana Tech freshmen Daniel San Juan and senior Riley Killian joined Johannon Murray in breaking the school record in their respective events over the weekend at the Conference USA Indoor Track and Field Championships. “Our athletes competed hard over the last two days,” said LA Tech head coach Gary Stanley. “While we certainly wanted to score more points, we did break three school records. But, of course, the most important thing coming up is the final exams next week. “Fortunately, our teams are built more for outdoor track and field, and that starts in 4 short weeks.” Day two of the C-USA Indoor Championships began with the rest of the men’s heptathlon, where San Juan finished in fifth place. He earned a career-high of 4,865 points. Killian shaved close to seven seconds off of her previous school record



PHOTO BY MICHAEL WADE/COURTESY LA TECH COMMUNICATIONS

Louisiana Tech freshman Daniel San Juan broke the school record and set a personal record in the heptathlon with a score of 4,865 for a fifth-place finish at the Conference USA Indoor Chapiionships held over the weekend.

of 10:16.35. Her current record time of 10:09.02 was the 23rd fastest time to cross the finish line in the 3,000m. LOUSIANA TECH C-USA INDOOR CHAMPIONSHIPS NOTABLES • Murray broke her own school record in the pentathlon by 199 points with a total score of 3549, which earned her a podium finish of third place. (Personal Record) • San Juan broke the LA Tech chool record in the heptathlon with a score of 4865, which was the fifth-best score of the meet. (PR)

• Raven Alexander placed fourth in the women’s long jump with a jump of 5.91m. (PR) • Maya Perry-Grimes placed sixth in the long jump with a jump of 5.90m. (PR) • Tech’s Distance Medley Relay team ran 10:37.10, which put

them in eighth place. • Killian breaks the school record in the 3k with a time of 10:09.02. Which was the 23rd fastest time on the track. (PR) • Leah Scott finished in seventh place in the triple jump with a jump of 12.36m.

• Johnie Jean-Jacques finished fifth in the shot put with a throw of 16.55m. • Murphy Bavinga jumped 14.51m in the triple jump and finished seventh. • Kayla Watson finished seventh in the women’s 60m hurdles with a time of 8.79. • Urijah Williams finished seventh in the men’s 60m hurdles with a time of 8.49. (PR) • Seth Boullion finished fifth in the men’s 400m with a time of 48.07. (PR) • Faith Tarver PRed in the 400m with a time of 57.57. • Nariah Parks PRed in the 400m with a time of 58.94. opponents and will rotate in new cross-division opponents to begin a two-year intra-division cycle. The Conference USA Indoor Championships conclude the 2022 indoor season for Tech. LA Tech’s outdoor season opener is set for March 19 at the Jim Mize Track & Field Complex for the first and only home meet of the season for the Tech track teams.



PHOTO COURTESY OF GSU COMMUNICATIONS

Grambling State’s John Garcia batted .600 over the weekend with six runs batted in as the Tigers defeated Jackson State and Arkansas-Pine Bluff while falling to UNO at the Andre Dawson Classic in New Orleans,

GSU baseball opens season at 2-1; Diamond Dogs sweep Wichita St.

T. SCOTT BOATRIGHT  
Minden Press-Herald

NEW ORLEANS — Grambling State University opened the 2022 baseball season with a loss sandwiched between a pair of wins at the Andre Dawson Classic in New Orleans. GSU opened the tourney with a 10-1 win over Jackson State on Friday before falling to the University of New Orleans 12-2 in seven innings on Saturday. The Tigers roared back on Sunday, defeating the University of Arkansas-Pine Bluff 11-7. Against Jackson State, Shemar Page (1-0) got the start on the mound for GSU, working 6.1 innings, surrendering just two hits and striking out nine batters. GSU starting pitcher Connor Rudy was saddled with the loss against UNO after allowing eight runs (three earned) on four hits in 1.0 innings pitched. John Garcia had the hot bat for the G-Men, going a combined 6-of-10 at the

plate in the three games with six RBIs. Next up for the G-Men is a three-game series against Florida A&M at the Garr Lucas Classic in Lawrence, Georgia starting on Friday. WICHITA STATE AT LA TECH Louisiana Tech led all of game three and completed the opening series sweep of Wichita State 5-3 on Sunday at J.C. Love Field at Pat Patterson Park. I thought we played extremely hard and that’s who we are,” said LA Tech coach Lane Burroughs. “I thought we competed our tails off. Very, very pleased with our pitching. Friday night we had fourteen strikeouts over zero walks. We talk about dominating average plays and we did that. Just one error and it was a throwing error that just got away from him.” Next up for the Diamond ’Dogs will be hosting LSU for the first time since 1987. First pitch is set for 6:30 p.m. as LSU visits the Love Shack on Wednesday.

Hoops roundup: Grambling splits at SU; Dunkin’ Dogs win, Techsters falter

T. SCOTT BOATRIGHT  
Minden Press-Herald

RUSTON — Keaston Willis scorched the nets and Texas-San Antonio with a season-high 30 points, to spark Louisiana Tech to a 95-71 win over the Roadrunners on Karl Malone Court inside the Thomas Assembly Center on Saturday. LA Tech (19-7, 10-4 C-USA) opened the game with a 21-3 run and never looked back after that in the win over UTSA (9-19, 2-13 C-USA). Willis attributed 12 of those points on four of his eight successful 3-point attempts during that run. The Bulldogs totaled a season-high 21 assists as 10 different Bulldogs scored, going 32-of-60 from the field (53.3 percent) with 13 of those being threes. Cobe Williams was the only other LA Tech player scoring in double figures with 19 points. • The Lady Techsters concluded their Texas road trip in a split as they fell to UTSA Saturday afternoon inside the Convocation Center by a final score of 59-49. Despite the loss the Lady Techsters stand only a game back of the C-USA West Division lead. LA Tech (15-10, 7-7 C-USA) had to battle from behind most of the game but managed to take its first lead of the game on a 15-0 run during the third quarter. Keiunna Walker topped



PHOTO BY SADIE PATTON/LA TECH COMMUNICATIONS

Louisiana Tech’s Keeston Willis (30) ignited for 30 points to lead the Bulldogs to a 95-71 home win over Texas San Antonio on Saturday.

the Lady Techsters with a team-high 15 points to go along with five rebounds, three assists, and two steals. Walker has scored in double figures in 26 straight games and is now the only conference USA to do so in every game this season. GSU at SOUTHERN (W/M doubleheader) • Grambling State’s men’s basketball team saved its best for last on the road Saturday as the Tigers rallied late to defeat Southern 68-65. GSU trailed 66-65 with 11.7 seconds remaining and with the ball, but turned the ball over and Texas Southern got a layup by Yahuza Rasas with one second left. Tra’Michael Moton’s 3-point attempt as time expired nearly went in as TSU escaped with the victory. Cameron Christon,

who fouled out with 3:34 remaining, led Grambling State with 14 points and one rebound. Eric Parrish registered 13 points, four rebounds, two steals and one assist, while Chanse Robinson, playing in just his second game of the season, scored 10 of his 11 points in the first half, along with three boards and one assist. • The GSU women went cold in the second half as they fell 59-49 at Southern on Saturday afternoon at the F.G. Clark Activity Center. Grambling State (10-15 overall, 7-7 SWAC), which has now dropped three straight and was seeking its first regular-season sweep of Southern since the 2008-09 season, led 36-34 with 1:52 left in the third quarter. But Southern (11-14, 9-5) outscored the Lady Tigers 25-13 over the final 11:52 to earn the win.



FUN & GAMES

CROSSWORD

ACROSS

1 “Coffee Cantata” composer

5 TV alien

8 — Hari

12 Wrinkly fruit

13 Shell game item

14 Airline to Tel Aviv

15 Harvest

16 Actress Cruz

18 Foreign correspondents?

20 November tally

21 Fury

22 Chaps

23 Fleeting

26 Thoughtful

30 Oklahoma tribe

31 Upper limit

32 Long. crosser

33 Quintets

36 Honeycomb units

38 Apt. divisions

39 “— voyage!”

40 Brownstone feature

43 Gridiron infraction

47 Partial shadow

49 Surrealist Joan

50 Shake — (hurry)

51 Long time

52 Actor Estrada

53 TV/radio host John

54 Baseball execs

55 Toy block name

DOWN

1 Baby-feeding finale

2 Baseball’s Tommie

3 Family

4 Woodstock attendee

5 Pie fruit

6 Sediment

7 Summer cooler

8 Honeydews

9 Oodles

10 Carton sealer

11 Pub orders

17 Tied

19 Canine greeting

22 Tex- — cuisine

23 Conk on the head

24 Hwy.

25 Bit of physics

26 — de deux

27 Unwell

28 Batman portrayer

29 UFO fliers

31 Rx writers

34 Slop container

35 Clock radio toggle

36 Anti

37 Nail polish

39 Hot dog side dish

40 Quarrel

41 Prefix with conference

42 Singles

43 High school dance

44 Old Italian money

45 Advanced math

46 Music’s Ono

48 Plead

Solution time: 22 mins.

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

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			

SUDOKU

SUDOKU

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

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

ANSWER:

COMICS

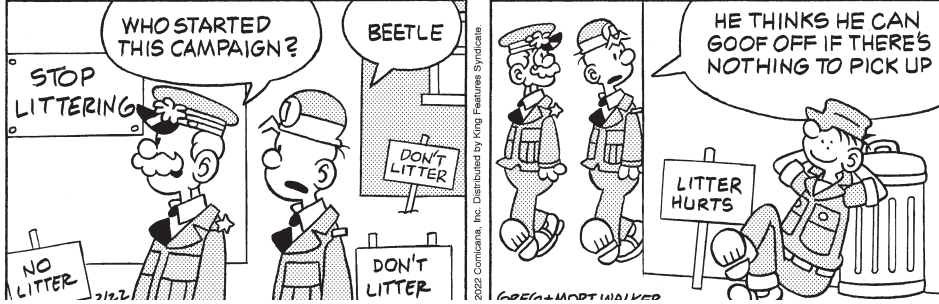
BABY BLUES I RICK KIRKMAN AND JERRY SCOTT



BLONDIE I DEAN YOUNG AND JOHN MARSHALL



BEETLE BAILEY I MORT & GREG WALKER



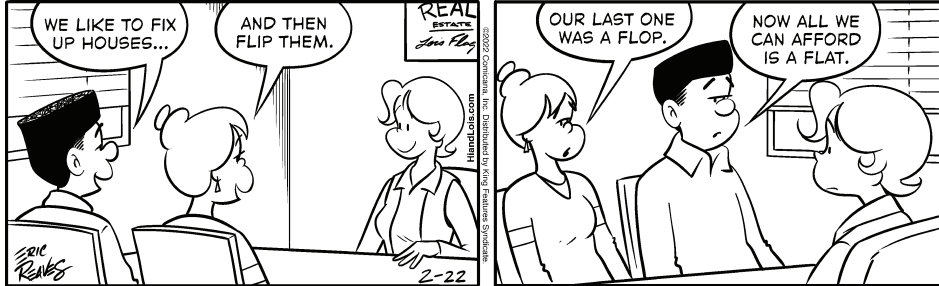
FUNKY WINKERBEAN I TOM BATIUK



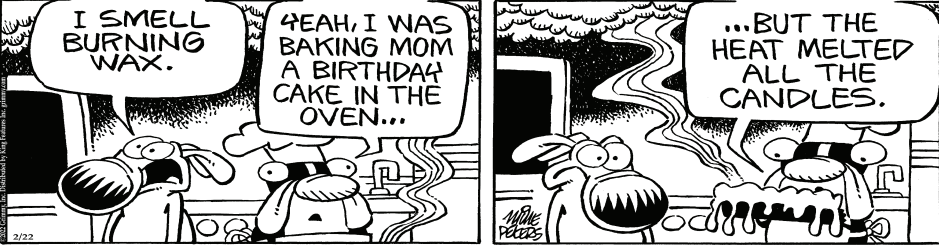
HAGAR THE HORRIBLE I CHRIS BROWNE



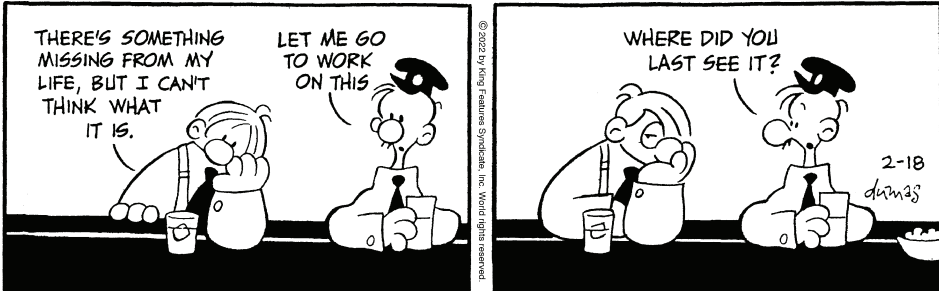
HI AND LOIS I BRIAN WALKER, GREG WALKER AND CHANCE BROWNE



MOTHER GOOSE & GRIMM I MIKE PETERS



SAM AND SILO I JERRY DUMAS



CRYPTOQUIP

2-22

CRYPTOQUIP

MB CR CLVCWF VDMR JFLF  
PCWF BLDP C VFLUCMR  
WGLCEAF JDDW, UOFR UOCU

Yesterday’s Cryptoquip: IF A FILM VAULT THROWS AWAY ALL ITS VERY SUBSTANDARD WESTERNS, IT HAS ELIMINATED BAD OATERS.

Today’s Cryptoquip Clue: D equals O

FUN & GAMES



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\$11

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“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.

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[lbalkom@sudden-linkmail.com](mailto:lbalkom@sudden-linkmail.com)

February 1, 2022

INVITATION FOR BID

Two (2) New 2021 or Newer Tandem Diesel Trucks to Pull Dump Trailer  
Purchase option: governmental/municipal lease for 24 month and 36-month purchase lease option

The Webster Parish Police Jury solicits sealed bids for the following:  
2-Two (2) New 2021 or Newer Tandem Diesel Trucks to pull a Dump Trailer

The proposals must be in the hands of the undersigned no later than 2:00 p.m., Tuesday, March 1, 2022 in the - in the Courthouse House Annex meeting room of the Webster Parish Police Jury, 401 Main Street, Minden, Louisiana 71055. The bid forms and specification sheets are available at no charge in the office of the Secretary-Treasurer, Webster Parish Policy Jury. Successful bids will be approved at the Regular Meeting, Webster Parish Police Jury on April 5, 2022.

The Webster Parish Police Jury is a tax-exempt governmental agency.

The Webster Parish Police Jury abides by the requirements of the Louisiana Bid Law.

ALL BIDS SUBMITTED MUST BE CLEARLY MARKED. Webster Parish Police Jury – “BID ENCLOSED”

The Webster Parish Police Jury is a tax-exempt governmental agency. The Webster Parish Police Jury complies with the State of Louisiana Public Bid Law as stated in LA R.S. 38:2211. The Webster Parish Police Jury reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to waive informalities or to accept the bid, which may best serve its interest.

February 4, 2022  
February 8, 2022  
February 18, 2022  
February 22, 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](http://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 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

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 Corporate Principal and Surety, 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

Wilson’s Bistineau Inn is applying to the Office of Alcohol & Tobacco Control of the State of Louisiana for a permit to sell beverages of high and low alcohol content at retail in the Parish of Bossier at the following address: 630 Horseshoe Bend Rd Doyline, LA 71023  
Wilson’s Bistineau Inn  
Russell Adams, owner/operator

This is to be added to our existing local permit.

February 22, 2022  
February 25, 2022  
Minden Press-Herald

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Notice is hereby given that the Webster Parish School Board will receive sealed bids from LA licensed general contractors until 2:00 P.M., Thursday, March 24, 2022, for:

JOB #2021-14 ALTERATIONS TO BROWNING ELEMENTARY SCHOOL SPRINGHILL, LOUISIANA

Bids will be accepted until the date and time specified and will be publicly opened and read aloud at that time in the School Board’s Office, 1442 Shepard Street, Minden, Louisiana 71055. All submittal packages will be stamped or marked to acknowledge timely receipt. Sole responsibility for proper mailing or delivery of any bid in compliance with this advertisement is that of the bidder. Bids received after the date and time of opening will not be considered.

A non-mandatory Pre-bid Conference will be held at 10:30 A.M. on Monday March 14, 2022 at the jobsite: 505 Herrington Dr., Springhill, Louisiana 71075. Bidders must check in at the office.

All bids must be accompanied by bid security equal to five percent (5%) of the base bid and all alternates and must be in the form of a certified check, cashier’s check or bid bond written by a company licensed to do business in the State of Louisiana.

Complete bid documents may be obtained from Yeager, Watson & Associates, LLC, 118 S. Trenton St., Ruston, LA 71270-4432, (318) 202-5708, upon receipt of deposit of \$100.00 for each set of documents. The deposit is fully-refundable to all plan holders upon return of the documents, in good condition, no later than fifteen (15) days after receipt of bids. The deposits for all other sets of documents will not be refunded. Bid-related materials and electronic submittal of bids may be found at: [WWW.CENTRAL-BIDDING.COM](http://WWW.CENTRAL-BIDDING.COM). For questions relating to the electronic bidding process, please call Central Bidding at (225) 810-4814. Electronic bid documents are also available for a purchase price of \$20 from the architect’s

office or by membership to following Plan Rooms: LAGC, ConstructConnect, Dodge, or ISqFt.

The Webster Parish School Board is an equal opportunity agency dedicated to a policy of non-discrimination regarding Title VI, the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX, and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.

The Webster Parish School Board reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

/s/ Johnny Rowland  
/t/ Johnny Rowland, Secretary Treasurer Webster Parish School Board

February 22, 2022  
March 1, 2022  
March 8, 2022  
Minden Press-Herald

ESTATE SALES

HUGE MECHANIC TOOL SHOP SALE  
2304 Tilman in Bossier City. Friday February 25th from 10:00-6:00 and Saturday February 26th from 9:00-4:00. Includes lawn equipment, hunting and fishing gear!

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.

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

SCHOOL ZONES ARE HANDS FREE

Webster Printing Company is seeking a Layout Design Person for a part-time position. Please contact WALTER at (318) 377-8518 for more information. WPC WEBSTER PRINTING COMPANY



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