PRESS-HERALD TUESDAY. MARCH 22, 2022 75 CENTS

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LEGISLATURE

SCHOOLS

WPSB approves 'Balanced Calendar'

Some express childcare concerns, while others like balanced format

AMBER MCDOWN Minden Press-Herald

The Webster Parish School Board approved the Balanced Calendar for the 2022-2023 school year during this month's school board meeting. Eight

employees of the school dis-

trict presented feedback about

using the Balanced Calendar

in the current school year. The feedback was mostly positive, and everyone agreed that the Balanced Calendar should be used again next year.

'The Balanced Calendar has helped by spacing traditional, long summer vacations into shorter, more frequent breaks with intercessions throughout the school year, " said Yolanda Palmer, Federal Programs Supervisor. "The goal of the Bal-anced Calendar is to reduce summer learning loss by continuing instruction throughout the year."

The summer break is reduced from about eleven weeks down to about six weeks. During the school year, there is an intercession, or two-week break, about every four to six weeks. At this time, the first three days of each intercession are used for intensive small-group tutoring in an effort to help students reach



academic goals. "My teachers have loved intercession," said Michelle Finley, Principal of E.S. Richardson Elementary. "Most have worked during inter-

cession tutoring. The kids have all come. They're happy. It's going great. Everyone seems refreshed when they come back. I've heard nothing but positives

See, CALENDAR, Page 3

Horton defends **'Don't say** gay' bill

STACEY TINSLEY Specht Newspapers

District 9 State Representative Dodie Horton (R - Haughton) has filed a bill that would ban any discussion of sexual identity and related topics for students from kindergarten through eighth grade.

House Bill 837 states:

No teacher, school employee, or other presenter



shall cover the topics of sexual orientation or gender identity in any classroom discussion or instruction in kindergarten through

HORTON

grade eight.

No teacher, school employee, or other presenter shall discuss his own sexual orientation or gender identity with students in kindergarten through grade twelve.

Horton states nothing in the proposed legislation refers to any particular group or lifestyle choice.

"Simply put, my bill is an attempt to protect our most innocent from indoctrination of any kind. Sex education, according to current law cannot be taught in LA public schools until the 7th grade. This is a fact that seems to be left out of many reports. Our educators are tasked with teaching an approved state standard and classroom time is very limited. So, to veer off the approved and properly vetted curriculum is a distraction most educators do not wish to address. My bill seeks to protect our children from undue influences and personal preferences or ideologies. Parents should also be confident that only the approved curriculum is being taught to their children," Horton said. "Secondly, our teachers should always refrain from sharing their own sexual preference or sharing their sexual orientation. Again, they are to teach the approved state standard that has been vetted and voted on by our educational professionals. For example, if a student in a math class asked a question about Christianity to their Muslim teacher, we would expect that teacher to NOT address that issue and to get the class focused back on math. However, if that teacher chose to turn math class into a philosophy class, debating the merits of Christianity vs. Islam, that teacher should be disciplined according to that school board's policy. Regardless of the topic, no teacher should use their position to push their own personal beliefs or ideology on the impressionable minds of their students," she concluded.

Police arrest Dubberly man for drugs during traffic stop

STAFF REPORT Minden Press-Herald

ARREST

A Dubberly man was arrested by Minden Police last Friday for drug possession and intent to distribute.

Michael Allen Bradley (40) was spotted by police driving down the double yellowlineonMorrisDrive. When the

officer pulled him over, Bradley was unable to provide a driver's license, insurance, or registration.



The officer recognized Bradley from prior drug violation arrests. He then requested permission to search the vehicle and was denied. "I had Bradley step to the front of my hood with [another officer]," the arrest record stated. "I retrieved K9 Tigo from my patrol vehicle. K9 Tigo alerted to the presence of illegal narcotics in the vehicle." Bradley requested, and was granted, the opportunity to call his boss to collect his work vehicle. During a search of the vehicle, the officers lo-cated "a total of 13.92 grams of methamphetamine in several baggies, 11.82 grams of marijuana in two bags, 1.92 grams of powder cocaine in 2 baggies, 2 oxycodone/ acetaminophen pills, 1 oxycodone hydrochloride 30 mg pill, 1 alprazolam pill, a used needle, 2 meth pipes, 1 THC wax pipe, a digital scale and a push rod." There was also an unknown substance that will have to be sent to the lab for testing. According to the report, as Bradley was being arrested, his boss showed up to get the vehicle, but "when he saw Bradley was getting arrested for drugs, he left the scene." The vehicle was towed by a wrecker service. Bradley was arrested and booked on possession of methamphet-amine (with intent), possession of powder cocaine, possession of oxycodone, possession of alprazolam, possession of drug paraphernalia, and improper lane usage.



COURTESY PHOTO

Josh Sims, NASCAR pit reporter for FOX conducts a broadcast from the Daytona 500 in 2022.

Grandson of Minden natives becomes first Black pit reporter for NASCAR

AMBER MCDOWN

Minden Press-Herald

Josh Sims, the son and grandson of Minden natives, has made news recently for becoming the first African-American pit reporter for NASCAR. While Josh was raised in New Jersey, he treasures his memories of spending summers in Minden with his brother, Jason, his mother, Gloria Bell Sims, and his grandparents Sylvester and Naomia Bell.

"When we were kids growing up, me and my brother and my mom and dad would go down there, basically for an entire

month around August every year, and spend time with my grandparents, my uncle, and my cousin," Josh said. "To be

able to go down to Louisiana every year and be immersed with your grandparents and your extended family was just really cool and eve opening for me. And it was



the simple things that were really fun, like going out to eat with them or hanging out at the house watching movies. Doing simple stuff with family—having picnics, going to church. I mean, all that stuff was just really fun for me. Just getting to spend time with them really meant a lot."

Josh was always athletic and enjoyed sports, but he also loved writing. "There's two things I was big on growing up: I was always into sports and I always loved writing. I had a little notebook, and I used to write these make-believe stories and just kind of jot stuff down," he said. "And, I actually did a lot of that writing when I was in Louisiana during summers. I knew—when I didn't grow to be 6-foot-6 and wasn't going to make the NBA--that I needed another career path. And, I was always into sports and I was always into

See, SIMS, Page 2





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Tomorrow's High Temp 🚺



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WEBSTER & MORE

INSPIRATION

When God kept the lights on just long enough

I shall never forget our historic snow storm that blanketed our nation in February, 2021, and I wonder if our intermittent cold weather could be leading to an ice storm like the one in the last week of March of 1994 while we were living in Plain Dealing, Louisiana.

All day long I eagerly anticipated hearing Art Buchwald's television interview with Barbara Walters.

As our lights flickered I was granted the opportunity to hear the famed

syndicated columnist, Art Buchwald, speak of his painful childhood, after his mother's hospitalization that lasted thirty-five years in a mental hospital and of his stay in seven foster homes, to which he rebelled and ran away at the age of seven-

teen when he lied to join the Marines. His two sisters were with him, for the interview, because he wanted the world to know he had lied for most of his life saying she had died in child birth rather in a mental hospital.

I listened as he ended his segment of a Prime Time interview on that Thursday night less than two minutes before our lights officially died. I was uplifted in the dark as I recalled what he said: "It helps in becoming a journalist if one is first a foster child." This affirms my theory of the power of deep pain to spark our creativity.

As limbs cracked and popped on the pine trees from the monumental ice storm my spirit soared! I saw my life, my work, flash before my eyes! It all came together within my mind. I sensed a method to the With no heat my youngest son, Jeremy, and I put on extra warm ups and caps and savored the moment by telling stories for the next two days.

Today we both remember that special shared ice storm.

When the lights came on I savored my early morning coffee along with my newspaper and I picked up my pen to write more appreciative of what we can learn during the ice storms of our lives because we will all have them.

> It's not what happens to us but how we grab hold of those periods of deep pain and use them as the back drop to support us in our weakest moment. Later that year

I interviewed the late Jasmine Morelock Field, Shreveport artist and author,

on my cable television talk show hosted by Time Warner. She used the story of the murder of her daughter to minister to people because she saw her story as the tool that God gave her to help hurting people.

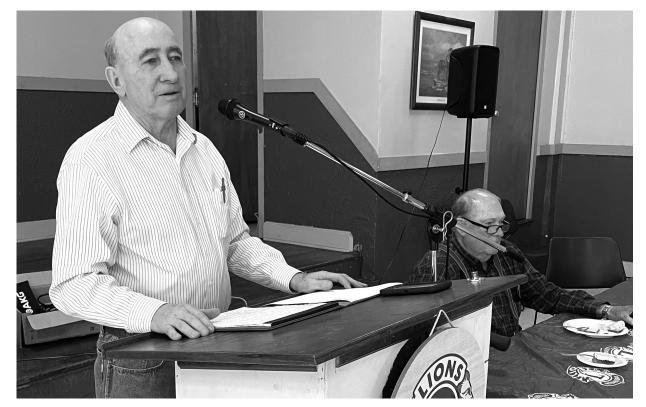
The late Ann Welsh Gardner, artist, voiced the same feelings when she said "When our life is easy we become complacent, fat and lazy but when we hurt we choose our medium."

For Ann and Jasmine their mediums were the canvas and the pen.

For me my tool is writing when I'm in deep moments of despair and when I am on an emotional high and can't sleep.

Again, it's not what happens to us but how we turn it around, choosing our medium, sharing our stories, giving others

MINDEN LIONS CLUB



WILL PHILLIPS/MINDEN PRESS-HERALD

Talking Bricks with Minden Lions

Avid brick collector Dan Strange of Minden was the guest speaker at the Thursday Noon minden Lions Club, using the opportunity to educate the Lions on rare bricks, their history, collectability and composition. Dan currently has more than 3,600 bricks in his personal collection. Due to his history with bricklaying, he has always had an interest in bricks. He acquired his first brick from Northwestern State when one of the original buildings was demolished and the bricks were sold as souvenirs. Dan joined the International Brick Collectors Association (IBCA) in 2004 and attended his first brick swap October 2005.

SIMS

Continued from Page 1 writing. With that, covering sports journalism just seemed to go handin-hand."

"Now, I didn't think I was going to go the TV route," he continued. "That came later in life after I did a couple internships at a newspaper and a radio station and kind of figured out exactly what I liked about the industry and what I didn't. And then, going into my senior year, I was unsure of what I wanted to do next. I knew I liked journalism, and my parents really encouraged me—'Hey, why don't you take a shot at TV? You've talked about it before, but you've never really went for it.' So, I took the

and look at the numbers and how rare it is to actually make it big. I think the important thing is for those young people to see people in other fields-for young Black men and women to be able to see doctors, lawyers, broadcasters, dentists-all these things so they have something to strive for, because what is glorified is athletes. You see them. You see them on TV. The money, the fame, everything like that, but what we don't see is the others out there that are just as successful or more successful, but who don't have that platform. I think it is important for those young Black men and women to see that, so they know it's attainable and there's

a season ago or several seasons ago. You're watching it all play out in front of you, and the pace at which it happens is just really compelling, because things change at the drop of a hat, and a lot of these kids-especially in the Truck Series-are so young that you're getting to experience one of the biggest moments in their lives up until a certain point. And all of that stuff, coupled together-the race, the storylines, the live feed, the aspect of watching things happen—really intrigues me, and it's really fun to be a part of that and help tell those stories during a race or even after a race." As the first Black pit re-

porter for NASCAR, Josh is drawing attention from other Black fans of the sport. He really hadn't given it much thought until people started approaching him. "I think I've realized that representation matters," he said. "For me to be at the track and have people of color come up and say, 'Hey, I've been watching vou, and I'm so happy you're in this position. We love to see what you bring to the sport,' and that really stands out to me more than anything because I'm aware of the position that I'm in, but

I'm also focused on trying to be the best reporter that I can be. What I also know now-that I've been seeing more people come up to me-is that I do have a platform, and it is important what I'm doing and that , hopefully, through them seeing me doing this and doing my job well-which is always my goal-that they see this as something attainable for them, whereas before they didn't think they could be if they were a young Black man or woman. If they didn't think they could be a pit reporter, not maybe seeing someone else doing it and they think, 'Hey, I could do that too, because Josh can do it.' I think that's



HUDSON-

PIERCE

madness, the chaos of my childhood, one of lack, of living in an orphanage after my father's death and the head injury that permanently incapacitated my mother to ever be able to function as a mother.

So life's tragedies have graced my face as I've learned to grab hold of my pain, of feeling the flesh ripped from my bones from one tragedy after another. I've learned to make the most of it, to turn it around, seizing the moment, of even an ice storm. the courage to share their pain!

It adds so much meaning to our lives to reach out, to allow others to know that they are not alone, that it is OK to let others know of their serious depression rather than going off the deep end with no turning back. God always pulls me through, even keeping the lights on just long enough!

Without Him I can do nothing.

CONTACT SARAH AT Sarahp9957@Aol.com

GRE, and I applied for ot grad school, and the rest

is history." When asked if he had any advice for young people today who seem to be focused only on sports as a career goal, Josh said, "I think the most important thing is to have a backup plan. Yes, we all want to encourage people to go for their goals and work hard to achieve something-and, in a sense, don't let anyone tell you what you can't put your mind toward-but you do have to be realistic other options."

When asked what was the most interesting part of working as a pit reporter for NASCAR, Josh said, "I think the part that interests me most is just the live-reporting aspect, because every race is just packed with so many storylines, so many different things going on that it's just really interesting to go into a race and have these ideas: this driver runs well here, this driver doesn't, this driver may have some kind of beef that's left over from really important."

"Josh is a rising star and has earned a great deal of respect, not only among our FOX NASCAR team but within the NASCAR industry as a whole," said Lindsey Mandia, FOX Sports Vice President, Production. "We expect him to have an immediate impact on our shows and are thrilled to have him on board."

Tune in to the NAS-CAR Camping World Truck Series this season to check out Josh Sims.

BLOTTER

Recent Arrests in Webster ParishWilliam Stamper, 18, of the 300 block of Burrow Lane, was arrested for failure to appear in court.Tychristopher Har- ris, 22, of the 800 block of Claiborne Street, was arrested on a warrant.Dantavious Shyne, 31, of the 500 block of Marion Street, was arrested for failure to appear in court.Justin Bailey, 33, of the 200 block of Clark Street, was arrested on a warrant.	Jamecia Taylor, 40, of the 500 block of Sunset Lane, was ar- rested for battery, on a warrant, and for failure to appear in court. Bravion Shyne, 24, of the 500 block of Marion Street, was arrested on multiple warrants. Robert Loud, 56, of the 200 block of Leroy Hillman Road, was arrested on a warrant. Micky Malham, 50, of the 200 block of N Middle Landing, was arrested on a warrant.	of the 900 block of Center Street, was arrested for reckless operation of a motor vehicle, possession of drug parapherna- lia, possession of a schedule I substance, and driving with an expired inspection sticker. Luke Thompson, 18, of the 200 block of Mary Drive, was arrested for being a fugitive of Hardin County. Michael Bradley, 40, of the 2400 block of Harvey's Barber- shop Road, was ar- rested for possession of schedule I sub-	of the 800 block of Peach Street, was ar- rested for resisting an officer through false identification. Dequandelyn Ad- ams, 44, of the 400 block of S Gum Street, was arrested for be- ing a fugitive of the WPSO. Aldravion Taylor, 19, of the 200 block of Kemon Pit Road, was arrested for resisting an officer. Kameron Heggar, 20, of the 600 block of Military Road, was arrested for being a fugitive of Caddo and Bienville Sheriff's Of- fince.	arrest, possession of a schedule II sub- stance, and posses- sion of drug para- phernalia. Albert Taylor IV, 22, of the 200 block of Kennon Pit Road, was arrested on a warrant. Charlene Mills, 46, of the 800 block of Carolina Street, was arrested for failure to appear in court. Timothy Grim, 52, of the 900 block of East Street, was ar- rested for obscenity. Johnathan Watts, of the 400 block of Old Sarepta Church Toad, was arrested on pwul	of issuing worthless checks. Barry Pegg, 60, of the 300 block of Jr. Edwards Road, was arrested for three counts of contempt of court. Cory Hudson, 38, of the 000 block of East Road, was arrested on multiple warrants. Timothy Clark, 34, of the 100 block of McDade Street, was arrested for criminal damage to property. Jessica Vollmer, 33, of the 400 block of Highway 802, was ar- rested on two counts of insuing worthlese	arrested for posses- sion of a schedule III substance, and pos- session of drug para- phernalia. Dustin Mclemore, 36, of the 2900 block of Highway 163, was arrested for attempt- ed theft and resisting an officer. Dion Brooks, 50, of the 100 block of Circle Drive, wasa ar- rested for possession of a schedule I sub- stance, possession of a schedule II sub- stance, three counts of resisting by force,
Street, was arrested	0	rested for possession	fugitive of Caddo and	the 400 block of Old	Highway 802, was ar-	stance, three counts
rested for failure to appear in court. Quantrell Walker, 35, of the 600 block of Lewisville Road, was arrested for failure to appear in court.	Clyde Jones, 48, of the 100 block of Milton Drive, was ar- rested on multiple warrants. Hayley Day, 19,	of a schedule IV sub- stance, possession of drug paraphernalia, improper lane usage, and driving under suspension.	bendral School Itolad, was arrested for driv- ing with an open con- tainer. Dontrell Talley, 28, of the 2000 block of Hall Street, was ar- rested for resisting	Shellie Lane, was ar- rested for failure to appear in court. Lakisha Davis, of the 100 block of Shane Drive, was ar- rested on four counts	of the 2100 block of Old Arcadia Road, was arrested on mul- tiple warrants. Murphy Hall, 41, of the 600 block of E South Street, was	Dequandelyn Ad- ams, 44, of the 400 block of S Gum Street, was arrested for issu- ing worthless checks, and improper super- vision of a minor.

WEBSTER & MORE



CALENDAR

Continued from Page 1

from my staff or from the students. I've heard nothing negative from parents either, and we have over 375 students."

The intercession breaks have presented some problems for parents. Finding childcare for those two-week breaks can be a challenge. Members of the school board are open to hearing about those problems and hope some people will also present solutions. A survey will be forthcoming.

One parent had already sent a message stating that the intercession tutoring would be easier

to accommodate if the tutoring lasted all day instead of only half days.

Another member of the community, Ms. Smith, asked what children were doing all day during these breaks. She shared stories of parents having to bring small children to work because they had no childcare.

In response, Board Member Frankie Mitchell said, "We're going to have to get our community people—our churches, our sororities, our fraternity-to fill in what we need, the help we need for our kids to be successful. No one can do everything. The churches can't do everything. But we can come together as a team. Our goal is to get our kids back on line."

Some adjustments have been made to the calendar to improve the way it works for students. The school year will start a little earlier, on Aug. 4. This will allow the first semester to be completed in December instead of rolling into January. The last day of school will be June 6, 2023. This has been coordinated so that graduation will not interfere with college orientations.

It was decided that more than one year would be needed to assess the effectiveness of the Balanced Calendar in helping students to get back to where they need to be academically. "The intervention data that is being analyzed is reflecting individual student growth," said Ms. Palmer. "However, one year of data is not enough to determine the success or failure of the Balanced Calendar."

The vote was unanimous to use the Balanced Calendar again. President Fred Evans ended the discussion by saying, "You never make progress unless you change."

The school board's next meeting will be on April 4th at 6:00. The public is welcome to attend.

OBITUARY

Edward "Monroe" Hudson



Edward Earl Hudson was born on August 11, 1940 to the late Dave Hudson and Tishie Warren Hudson in Shreveport, Louisiana at Confederate Hospital. The third of nine children, Monroe, as he was affectionately called, ran the family farm with his brothers throughout his childhood.

He accepted Christ at a young age at Growing Valley Baptist Church

and received his early education at Growing Valley Elementary School until 7th grade. His secondary education was completed at Webster High School (Class of 1960). Monroe was a two-sport athletic standout! He along with his brother, Dave, and cousins Bunny Ray, LD, and Orail led the basketball and baseball teams to state championships in 1960! He was attended and played basketball at Southern University in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. In 1962, he married Mary Speech and to that union three children were born: Jacqueline Hudson Ivey, Reginald Bernard Hudson and Sharon Hudson. Monroe secured a job at the paper mill in Springhill, LA as a line worker. Because of his work ethic and dedication, he was promoted to maintenance. During this time, Monroe realized that he could earn an income pursuing his passion; in 1967, with the rest of the Hudson Boys (Bunny Ray, L.D. and Edward), Monroe started officiating games throughout the State of Louisiana and East Texas. Also during this time, Monroe transitioned from the paper mill and began working at the Shell Plant (Louisiana Army Ammunition Plant). In 1975, he married Remonia Goree and to this union one child was born DeVaria "Dee" Hudson Ponton and three bonus children were embraced: Fanese Williams Cowan, Genna Williams Dunmyer and Michele Williams Ford. After over 35 years of dedicated service at the shell plant and over 30 years officiating, Monroe retired to spend his days "spoon heeling" with his friends, gathering at White's Barbershop for the latest news and having uplifting conversations under the trees.

God rewarded Monroe and called him to His Kingdom on Saturday, March 12, 2022. Awaiting his arrival were his parents Dave and Tishie Hudson, siblings: Etherline Hudson Kemp, Carrie Hudson Walker and Clem Hudson and children: Jacqueline Hudson Ivey and Reginald Bernard Hudson.

Monroe was well known and abundantly loved. He frequently communicated with his class brothers and sisters and enjoyed meeting his siblings for morning coffee. He would often drop gems to his children to prepare them for life. A common word of advice from him, "The world is FULL of phonies." He encouraged his children to be themselves, to be kind, to be giving and to work hard. A flip phone connoisseur, Monroe didn't believe he needed a smartphone or the internet. If he wanted to know something, he could still find it out by dialing up one of his children and have them get on their "little horn." One discovery is when he learned that he was a Facebook favorite as the star of #DaddyChronicles, a look into his conversations and interactions with his daughter, Dee. His words and actions provided laughter and many stated that he inspired them to be a better father. Monroe's reach was far beyond his living room.Monroe leaves to cherish his memories and carry out his legacy: his children: Sharon Hudson (Latarice), DeVaria "Dee" Hudson Ponton (David), Fanese Williams Cowan, Genna Williams Dunmyer (John) and Michele Williams Ford (Torrance); three brothers: Dave Hudson, Bernard Hudson and Lee Hudson (Vernia); two sisters: Lillie Doris Hudson and Peggy Hudson Morris; eighteen grandchildren; thirtytwo great-grandchildren; former spouses: Mary Speech Hudson and Remonia Goree Hudson; a special friend, Doris Marzett and a host of nieces, nephews, extended family and great friends. Services were entrusted to Benevolent Funeral Home in Minden, LA. A Celebration of Life to honor the legacy and impact of Monroe was held on Saturday, March 19, 2022 at Growing Valley Baptist Church.

LEGISLATURE

Senate committee approves continued help for Louisiana college students

(The Center Square) - The Senate Education Committee approved a bill to tweak eligibility requirements for Louisiana's TOPS scholarship

program, a merit-based program that provides tuition to state colleges and universities. Senate Bill 178, sponsored by Rep. Cleo Fields, D-Baton Rouge, would waive or modify eligibility requirements for TOPS for students who live in parishes affected by Hurricane Ida.

The bill extends deadlines for required ACT scores to universities, maintains eligibility for students who transferred to out-of-state schools or attended homeschooling because of the storm, and provides similar provisions for continuing eligibility for those already enrolled in the program.

The bill essentially codifies existing exemptions created by a proclamation by Gov. John Bel Edwards in October to keep the exceptions in place when the proclamation expires.

Sujuan Boutte, executive director of the Louisiana Office of Student Financial Assistance, explained the bill Wednesday to committee members.

"It provides for exceptions for initial eligibility, that's going to be dealing with high school students," she said. "And it provides for exceptions for continuing eligibility, that would be for those students who were in college when Hurricane Ida hit."

and Zeta. Sen. Mark Abraham, R-Lake Charles, questioned the number of students affected by the storm.

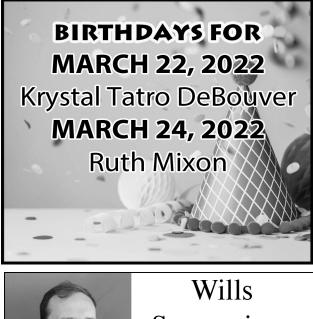
"Students that were eligible to receive automatic exceptions was 24,851 students," Boutte said. "Seven thousand thirty-five of those students would have been 2021 graduates. ... They still have this year to accept their TOPS awards."

Of the 24,851, the department has paid out awards to 18,769, meaning most took advantage of the program despite complications from Hurricane Ida.

"We don't see 6,082 of those students yet," she said, adding the department is still receiving bills from universities for the spring. More than 1,500 of those students remain eligible for TOPS for another year, she said.

"Bottom line ... you helped students. You gave them a break when circumstances were dire, the majority of those students did find a way to enroll in school and did receive their TOPS," Boutte said. "Those that did not, the break that you're giving them, is you're not canceling them. You're allowing them to get themselves together and their home situation together and return to school without fear of losing their TOPS. That's basically what this does."

Affected parishes listed in SB 178 include Jefferson, Lafourche, Livingston, Plaquemines,





Successions

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Boutte said lawmakers provided similar exceptions for hurricanes Katrina, Rita, Laura, Delta

St. Charles, St. Helena, St. James, St. John the Baptist, Tangipahoa and Terrebonne.



JPINION

Joshua Specht, Editor jspecht@press-herald.com

OTHER OPINION

MINDEN Press-Herald

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POSTMASTER:

Johnson: Washington Democrats' spin over inflation and gas prices is outrageous

During remarks on the House floor, U.S. Representative Mike Johnson (LA-04) said Washington Democrats' blame game is in "full swing" over inflation and rising gas prices.

"Washington Democrats' latest fiction might be their greatest yet," Johnson said. "That the past year of steady, unrelenting price increases for gas and consumer goods is actually Vladimir Putin's fault."

"But Vladimir Putin didn't kill the Keystone pipeline-Joe Biden did," Johnson continued. "Vladimir Putin didn't ban drilling for oil on federal lands—Joe Biden did. Vladimir Putin didn't pass trillions upon trillions in unnecessary government spending in a single year-Joe Biden and the Washington Democrats did."

"What is so hard about just being honest with the American people?" Johnson concluded. "President Biden should accept responsibility for the past year of rising prices and pledge to do everything in his power to make it easier, not harder, for America to produce more oil and gas. This would lower prices for the American people and make our country and Europe less dependent on foreign energy."

On Wednesday evening, Johnson an

hour of House Republican floor speeches on America's energy crisis. "The

led

average price for a gallon of gas reached \$4.32 on Sunday. That is the highest price is U.S. history.

"Last Thursday, we also learned that U.S. inflation soared 7.9% over the past 12 months. The largest spike in consumer prices in 40 years.

"And now, the Washington Democrats' blame game is in full swing:

At first, according to Democrats, inflation wasn't happening.

Then, inflation was merely

'transitory.'

Then, inflation somehow only hurt rich folks.

"But Washington Democrats' latest fiction might be their greatest yet:

"That the past year of steady, unrelenting price increases for gas and consumer goods is actually Vladimir Putin's fault.

Vladimir Putin didn't kill the Keystone pipeline—Joe Biden did.

Vladimir Putin didn't ban drilling for oil on federal lands—Joe Biden did.

Vladimir Putin didn't pass trillions upon trillions in unnecessary government spending in a single year-Joe Biden and the Washington Democrats did.

"What is so hard about just being honest with the American people?

"President Biden should accept responsibility for the past year of rising prices and pledge to correct course.

"The President should do everything in his power to make it easier, not harder, for America to produce more oil and gas. This would lower prices for the Ameri-

can people and make our country and Europe less dependent on foreign energy.

"Instead, President Biden says he actually 'can't do much right now' about skyrocketing gas prices...

"Now that the Biden Administration and Congressional Democrats know they are in a tight spot, here's the thing: they are trying to convince the American people that an American President can't control gas prices in the United States, but Russia's can.

"Good luck with that."

Representatives Dan Meuser (PA), Tom Tiffany (WI), Doug LaMalfa (CA), Brian Babin (TX), Tim Burchett (TN), Jerry Carl (AL), John Rose (TN), Andrew Clyde (GA), Scott Franklin (FL), and Michelle Steel (CA) joined Representative Johnson to deliver remarks on the House floor.

CONGRESSMAN JOHNSON IS THE VICE CHAIRMAN OF THE HOUSE REPUBLICAN **CONFERENCE, A MEMBER OF THE HOUSE** JUDICIARY AND ARMED SERVICES COMMITTEES, AND A FORMER CONSTITU-TIONAL LAW LITIGATOR.

OPINION

ERIC D. HARGAN Special to the Minden Press-Herald

As we move through National Kidney Month, we should keep focused on one of the worst kidney diseases out there: diabetes. Millions of American diabetic patients require regular treatment with insulin, and the prices for many types of insulin can be quite high. In response, President Joe Biden announced in his State of the Union speech that he would be working on capping the price of insulin at \$35 per month for everyone. Those of you in the field may have been jolted by this choice of pricing, because the Trump Administration set that exact same dollar amount, 35, on insulin for Medicare patients under a Part D voluntary model in 2020. Now, that was not the only attempt in 2020 to lower insulin costs. Community health centers were also required to provide insulin at near cost to their patients. This requirement on community health centers was overturned by the Biden Administration less than six months ago, and now com-

munity health centers are under no such requirement. Administration the So. seems to be going one step forward, one step back on

this issue of lowering insulin

\$35 insulin? Why didn't we think of that?

costs for patients. The details are, naturally, lacking on what exactly President Biden meant by this national price cap on insulin. In this light, it is worth noting that President Biden seems to be following a proposal by Senator Warnock, which would fix the price of insulin at \$35 nationwide, including by private insurers. This legislative proposal is just one of many out now discussing setting fixed prices. Indeed, setting fixed prices on goods seems to be in the air, as it was during the last period of painfully high inflation, the 1970's. When prices are rising quickly, as now for the first time in decades, people instinctively wish for prices to return to stability, and think maybe the solution is just to pass a law fixing prices by force. But in debating the issues on insulin pricing, what is often little understood is that there are different kinds of insulin, and that these

kinds of insulin have wildly different costs. Certain insulins have been engineered to have significant advantages over others and are often much higher-priced. Much effort and ingenuity has been put into developing these new varieties of insulin, and all that effort has come at a cost. In addition, fixing insulin prices nationally may undermine the current system of private negotiations and the progress towards more and better generics. And will the \$35 solution offered be the oldest and cheapest, and not necessarily the best, insulin? Now, everyone wants diabetes patients to have access to useful insulin to help them live longer, healthier lives. There is no "anti-access" lobby trying to prevent patients from obtaining medicine. The question is, as it usually is: How? How best to obtain and keep access to ever-better medical goods and services? Is fixing prices for goods nationally the best way to do so? Or, on the contrary, will this action slow continuing research and development into medical solutions in this area? If

fixing prices is likely to slow or stop progress in this area, are we so satisfied with the current state of the insulins we have that we have agreed not to progress, and that the diabetic patients needing insulin now have the best solution they ever will?

Anyone looking to balance current needs with future ones needs to balance ac cess now with access tomorrow. We do need to use the technologies we currently have to help our citizens. Otherwise, why have them? But at the same time, we must realize that the tools we have now are not perfect, and we can do better. That realization must drive us to make sure that our system continues to drive towards better solutions, including ever-better technologies. While the cost of drugs is high, the cost of fixing the price of drugs may be higher still.

MIKE JOHNSON national

Send address changes to Minden Press-Herald, P.O. Box 1339, Minden, LA 71058-1339.

THE MINDEN **PRESS-HERALD** WELCOMES **LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.**

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

ERIC D. HARGAN (@ERICDHARGAN) FOUNDED THE HARGAN GROUP AND WAS THE DEPUTY SECRETARY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AFTER SERVING AS ACTING SECRETARY.

OPINION

Through insurance reform, Louisiana lawmakers could prove they're listening

GREG LAROSE

Special to the Minden Press-Herald

After the catastrophic hurricane season of 2005, Louisiana leaders at the federal, state and local levels were aligned in the goal to ensure the state would be better prepared for future catastrophes. Flood protection would be enhanced, building codes would account for the increasing intensity of storms, and insurance companies would be quicker to respond and adequately compensate property owners for their losses.

The past two hurricane seasons have proven officials have not lived up to their word. Some claims of progress are valid in the first two areas, given the billions our government and the private sector have spent to build smarter and stronger. But hur-

vealed the major gaps that persist in property insurance reform. Many months later, thousands of homeowners are still displaced or living in structures needing repairs while their damage claims are needlessly delayed.

ricanes Laura, Delta and Ida re-

Members of the Louisiana Legislature have brought forward proposals to address a situation that can accurately be labeled a crisis. Now they need courageous colleagues who are willing to do what's right rather than cave to the influence of the deep-pocketed insurance lobby.

A number of the measures target insurance adjusters, who were either difficult to reach or not equipped to make important decisions regarding homeowners' claims.

Proposals from Rep. Chad Brown of Plaquemine and Sen. Jeremy Stine of Lake Charles would create an adjuster registry that would allow homeowners to search online to determine whether their adjuster is legitimate and qualified.

Sens. Joe Bouie of New Orleans and Gary Smith of Norco want to limit the number of adjusters handling a property claim to three. Numerous horror stories have emerged after Ida involving customers who were forced to deal with a clown car of adjusters, none of whom could provide satisfaction.

There are also proposals to require insurers to cover evacuation costs when leaving is strongly recommended - and not just mandatory. These bills from Rep. Laurie Schlegel of Metairie and Sen. Kirk Talbot of River Ridge could ultimately save lives when you consider folks who, without being able to tap into the insurance they pay for, wouldn't have the resources to leave home.

Some of the proposals also benefit insurers by making sure their customers are well informed about their policy decisions.

Bills from Sen. Jay Luneau of Alexandria and Rep. Matthew Williard of New Orleans would make homeowners aware of surprise deductibles. After a storm, policyholders often find out they have to pay for a certain portion of their repairs out of pocket if their coverage includes a named storm deductible. If the cost of the deductible is out of reach for the homeowner, their insurance policy is basically pointless. The proposals would require the customer to provide written consent for named storm deductibles in order for their policy to take effect.

Lawmakers will also revisit auto insurance this session, following unfilled promises of socalled tort reform two years ago. Advocates claimed changes in the law would reduce rates 25%. Instead, they have increased almost 20%.

Here's hoping the Legislature wakes up to the fact that our approach to insurance reform is forcing people to leave Louisiana - not just think about it but actually pack up and leave.

When you literally cannot rebuild your home, how are you going to stay? If you can't afford to insure your vehicle, why stay?

When the people you elect to represent your best interests routinely act on behalf of power industry groups instead, why bother?

GREG LAROSE IS EDITOR OF THE LOUISI-ANA ILLUMINATOR. HE CAN BE REACHED AT GLAROSE@LAILLUMINATOR.COM.

Sports Crimson Tide takes two over teams from Arkansas

T. SCOTT BOATRIGHT Minden Press-Herald

Offense wasn't a problehe Minden Crimson Tide took a pair of wins in the North Webster tournament last week, defeating Bearden, Arkansas, 15-0 in five innings on Thursday and 13-3 over Fourke, Arkansas, on Friday.

Minden totaled 19 hits against Bearden while Tide pitcher Jakobe only allowed two to the Bearcats. Andrew Cooper led Minden at the plate against Bearden, going 3-for-3 with two doubles and four RBIS. The Tides' Price Miller also went 3-for-3 with two doubles and two RBIs.

Jackson earned the win and struck out 10 Bearden batters while going 3-for-4 at the plate with a double.

Brody Bower and Elliott Sheppard each added two hits for Minden.

In the win over Fourke, Bower earned the win while striking out eight batters.

Bower provided much of his own offense against Fourke, going 3-4 at the plate with four RBIs.

Elliot Sheppard added a 2-for-3 performance at the plate for the Tide with two RBIs while Landyn Hud-dleston also went 2-for-2.



Minden's Landyn Huddleston went 2-for-2 at the plate on Friday to help the Crimson Tide defeat Fourke, Arkansas 13-3.

COURTESY PHOTOS



Parish b	aseball	power rankings
(Rankings/info	ormation prov	vided by GeauxPreps.com)
TEAM	RECORD	CLASS/POWER RANKING
Minden	8-4	4A/12th (19.7000)
North Webster	8-6	3A/11th (18.1667)
Lakeside	7-5	2A/28th (15.0000)
Doyline	4-5	B/15th (17.0000)

Parish softball power rankings

ТЕАМ	RECORD	CLASS/POWER RANKING
Minden	12-3	4A/Second (24.000)
North Webster	6-8	3A/27th (17.4286)
Lakeside	2-10	2A/32nd (16.9000)
Doyline	6-4	B/13th (21.8000)

Minden softball continues strong start

The Minden High School sotball team continued its strong start as the Lady Crimson Tide rolled to 12-3 on the season with Saturday wins over Captain Shreve and Simsboro.

Diamond 'Dogs falling in finale at UTSA after winning first two games

Minden Press-Herald Sports Service

SAN ANTONIO, Texas — Louisiana Tech's baseball team dropped its series finale 13-3 at UTSA Sunday afternoon at Roadrunner Field.

LA Tech (14-6, 2-1 C-USA) jumped on top early but UTSA's (12-7, 1-2 C-USA) two-out fourth inning rally lifted them to victory.

"Very fortunate to get out of here with two wins on the series," said Tech coach Lane Burroughs. "We did not play good. I don't remember being run-ruled, so that's embarrassing. One thing that we have prided ourselves on was playing well on Sunday's and we have not done that."

Philip Matulia collected the first RBI of the game, singling with two outs in the first inning to score Taylor Young.

In the bottom of the second, UTSA shortstop Matt King collected a bases clearing triple followed by a Garrett Poston sacfly to go ahead 4-1. King finished the day going 3-for-3 with two doubles, a triple and four RBI.

Ian Bailey was 2-for-4 at the plate sending a solo shot over the left field wall for his eighth of the year. Bailey also got



the two-out rally going in the fourth inning driving in his second run of the game.

"We aren't getting much out of the middle of our order," Burroughs said. "We were in advantage counts all weekend and we go big fly balls pull side in the infield. We haven't looked very tough when it comes to Su/ndays.

Give those guys credit. They came out and I didn't think they had much energy either, but we kind of let them in the ballgame."

Roadrunner second baseman Leyton Barry was 3-for-5 at the plate and added to the fourth inning rally with a tworun double extending the lead 8-1. Barry ripped another RBI double in the eighth tacking onto the lead.

Cole McConnell was 2-for-3 at the plate, launching his fourth long ball of the year and RBIs 23 and 24.

"We left a small army on the bases and I think we punched out around



PHOTO COURTESY OF LA TECH ATHLETICS

The Louisiana Tech baseball team defeated Texas-San Antonio 6-5 on Friday and 5-4 on Saturday before falling to the Roadrunners 13-3 Sunday in the final game of the Conference USA series.

40 times this weekend," Burroughs said. "If you want to be a championship club and you want to be top level in the league, that just cannot happen. I have no problem losing, but the way we lost today — I have a serious problem with it. We will correct it. That's my job. We will figure it out and move forward."

Right-hander Jarrett

Whorff was the losing pitcher moving to 1-3 in 2022. Whorff lasted 3.2 innings giving up nine runs. Jackson Lancaster, Tanner Knight and Cade Hodges pitched in relief giving up four runs while only two were earned.

Tech will travel down to Baton Rouge to meet LSU for the second time in 2022 in game set for a 6:30 p.m. start on Tuesday.

Sports Iowa St. edges LSU out of NCAA's Men's Tourney

MILWAUKEE (AP) — Iowa State turned to Tyrese Hunter at the very end, and the freshman delivered.

When it comes to Milwaukee in March, the Cyclones know exactly what to do.

Hunter scored 23 points and Iowa State shined in Milwaukee once again, using its hard-nosed defense to beat No. 6 seed LSU 59-54 in the first round of the NCAA Tournament on Friday night.

"People say freshman this, freshman that, but at the end of the day, I'm a basketball player that's out there with other basketball players just trying to compete and win," said Hunter, who made two late 3-pointers to put LSU away. "I just go out there



and do my thing."

Izaiah Brockington added 19 points as the 11th-seeded Cyclones (21-12) got their first win in the NCAA tourney since 2017 — also in Milwaukee. They held the Tigers to 37% shooting and forced 19 turnovers, stopping a three-game slide.

Hunter, who grew up in nearby Racine, made six of his seven 3s in the second half, sending coach T.J. Otzelberger to one sweet victory. The 44-year-old Otzelberger grew up in Milwaukee, went to Wisconsin-Whitewater and began his coaching career at Catholic Central High School in Burlington. Otzelberger was hired

after Iowa State won just two games last season. "You don't have the

type of turnaround that we have had this season if the young men in your program don't buy in immediately, don't work extremely hard and don't fight through adversity," Otzelberger said.

The Cyclones' faith in Otzelberger is most evident on the defensive end, where they are almost always in the right spot, making life difficult for their opponent and honoring their coach's roots.

"I wasn't fortunate enough to be all that good of a player, so it was my only way to ever find my-

self on the court," Otzelberger said.

Tari Eason scored 18 points for LSU, and senior Darius Days had 14. But they didn't get much help. "The give really fought

"The guys really fought hard," Days said. "There's not really too much to say other than that."

It was the first game for the Tigers (22-12) since coach Will Wade was fired last weekend amid allegations of NCAA violations. Associate head coach Bill Armstrong also was let go. An LSU fan in the

stands behind the team's bench held up a sign that read "Win For WADE" as the game got started.

Kevin Nickelberry was elevated to interim coach, and the Tigers turned in their usual stellar effort on defense. But they struggled on the other side. The team also received a technical for having too many players on the court at one point in the second half.

"I said all week it's just basketball, but the distractions were a lot," Nickelberry said, "and these guys still fought through those distractions, went out and gave LSU a chance to win tonight."

Iowa State, which shot 36% from the field, opened a 50-39 lead on Brockington's 3 with 7:09 left. But LSU responded with an 11-1 run.

After Days' foul shot got the Tigers within one, Hunter connected on a long 3 to give the Cyclones some room. He nailed another one from a similar spot with 19 seconds left, lifting his team to a 59-54 lead.

"Tonight happened to be Tyrese's night," Otzelberger said, "and the ball found him. Our guys knew he had the hot hand."

In between all the missed shots and turnovers, each team had its moments. Hunter had an acrobatic layup early on, and then beat the shot clock with a 3-pointer for a 24-12 lead with 6:37 left in the first half.

But LSU came right back. Eric Gaines had a huge block on a driving Brockington with 4:35 left, part of a 7-0 run for the Tigers to close the first half.

The halftime numbers were bleak; Iowa State was 9 for 27 from the field, and LSU was 7 for 27 with 10 turnovers.

Pointer powers Lady Tigers past Jackson State

BATON ROUGE. (AP) — Khayla Poynter couldn't help but contemplate the possible end of her college basketball career when LSU fell behind Jackson State by 10 points with less than five minutes to go in their first-round NCAA Tournament matchup.

She wound up extending three fingers above her head in triumph as a jubilant crowd showered her with cheers.

Poynter capped a 26-point performance with a tiebreaking 3-pointer in the final minute, and No. 3 seed LSU outscored Jackson State 19-3 during the final 4:42 to escape



MULKEY

Faustine Aifuwa had 17 points, 14 rebounds and seven blocked shots for LSU, which made six of its last eight shots after having missed 15 of 18 right before its final, game-flipping flourish. "We love to have a big post presence because she bails us out a lot," Cherry said of Aifuwa. "She really

The Tigers appeared in

control in the third quar-

ter when Pointer hit a la-

yup, followed shortly after

by two free throws, to give

LSU its largest lead at 47-

30. But Jackson State re-

sponded with 10 straight

points that included Luck-

ett's second-chance layup

Pointer briefly stemmed

the tide with a layup, but

Jackson State eventually

took a 54-52 lead with an

8-0 run that began with

3s by Dayzsha Rogan and

Jariyah Covington and

concluded with a layup by

They never stopped be-

lieving," Reed said, but

also lamented her team

missing 10 of 29 free

throws, with three of those

in the final three minutes.

"You make free throws, I

think it's a different ball

game. But nevertheless,

I'm extremely proud of

LSU guard Alexis Mor-

ris, playing for the first

time in three games be-

cause of a Feb. 24 knee

sprain, cut Jackson State's

lead to 58-57 at the end of

the third by making three

free throws after being

fouled along the perim-

eter by Williams-Holliday.

get the win, I think we

played very good and very

hard," Williams-Holliday

said after what ended up

being her final college

The score was tied at

21 in the second quarter

when Aifuwa's putback ignited a 20-7 run to fin-

ish the half. Cherry scored

eight straight during the

surge, with Pointer setting

up two of those baskets in

LSU was ahead 41-28 at

game.

transition.

halftime.

"Even though we didn't

"They never gave up.

and a 3.

Woodard.

our players."

was a game-changer."



GSU falls in finale, wins series over Panthers

The Grambling State University baseball won the first two before falling in the finale of a Southwestern Athletic Conference home series against Prairie View A&M on Sunday. GSU won 9-3 on Friday and 10-1 on Saturday before the Panthers roared back to win Sunday's contest by the score of 8-3. GSU now stands at 7-13 overall and 2-1 in the

SWAC's West Division. The Tigers will next play at Northwestern State University at 6 p.m. today.

with an 83-77 victory on Saturday night.

"I've said, 'Oh my god,' probably the past 10 minutes since the horn," Pointer said, adding that she could not help but wonder late in the game whether the night would end with her and fellow seniors in tears and taking off their jerseys for the last time.

"A lot of that's going through your mind at that time, but you just stay confident," Pointer said. "We just kept going at it."

Jailin Cherry scored 24 for LSU (26-5), hitting several key baskets during the stirring comeback that halted Jackson State's winning streak at 21 and prevented what was nearly the first victory by a No. 14 seed or a Southwestern Athletic Conference team in the women's NCAA Tournament.

Miya Crump scored 21 points for Jackson State (23-7), which erased a 17-point deficit in the third quarter and pulled further ahead in the fourth.

Ameshya Williams-Holliday also had 15 points and 12 rebounds.

Jackson State had tied the game at 77 when Daja Woodard put back Keshuna Luckett's missed free throw with 1:10 to go.

As time ran out, Hall of Fame coach Kim Mulkey, who left Baylor to oversee a remarkable turnaround for LSU, hugged Jackson State coach Tomekia Reed and appeared to tell her, "I don't know how we won."

Mulkey said she also told Reed that she's a "heck of a coach and that her kids played their hearts out," as well as, "You ain't going to be at Jackson State long if they don't pay you."

"And I'm not her agent. I'm not her best friend," Mulkey added. "I just know talent."

LA Tech softball sweeps past FIU

Minden Press-Herald Sports Service

RUSTON — Amanda Gonzalez homered and Audrey Pickett dominated to lead Louisiana Tech to a 2-0 win and a three-game sweep over FIU in Conference USA action at Dr. Billy Bundrick Field on Sunday.

Gonzalez, who reached base safely in 9-of-10 plate appearances over the three games, hit a towering solo shot to dead centerfield to give the Lady Techsters an early 1-0 lead in the first inning.

Pickett (11-4) then made it stand up, pitching a completegame 4-hit shutout for her second win of the series in the circle.

"I was most proud of our defense," said Tech head coach Josh Taylor. "We didn't commit an error over the last 19 innings of this series and that was the difference. Audrey pitched lights out all weekend. She was really, really good.

"And Amanda ... what a way to respond. I told her (after this game was over) that she was awful Friday in those first three innings (committing three errors), but she responded. She was solid defensively the rest of the series, and came up with so many big hits."

Tech saw four of its first five hitters record a hit to start the game, but the Lady Techsters managed only a single run on Gonzalez's fourth home run of the year. The home run came one pitch after Sierra Sacco was called out for leaving first base early on a stolen base attempt.



PHOTO COURTESY OF LA TECH ATHLETICS

Audrey Pickett pitched a four-hit shutout Saturday to lead the Louisiana Tech softball team to a 2-0 win over Florida International University.

Pickett got into some trouble in the first and third innings, but worked out of it both times. FIU had runners on second and third with no outs only two batters into the contest.

However, a line drive was caught by Gonzalez who then turned a double play at second base.

FIU loaded the bases in the third inning with two outs, but Pickett induced a ground ball out to Gonzalez from Golden Panthers cleanup hitter to keep the one-run lead intact.

Tech added a single run in the bottom of the fourth inning on an infield single by Sacco, scoring Katelin Cooper from third base.

Pickett retired the final 11 batters of the game to pick up the win.

Tech will next travel to Texas-El Paso for a three-game series Friday through Sunday.

Grambling softball downed by SU

Minden Press-Herald Sports Service

BATON ROUGE — The Grambling State University softball team dropped a three-game Southwestern Athletic Conference (SWAC) matchup against rival Southern University Saturday and Sunday afternoon. The Lady Tigers fell 7-6, 3-1, and 6-1.

The Lady Tigers will travel to Monroe, La. to take on the University of Louisiana at Monroe at 6 p.m. today. Dacia Richard (3-5) took the loss for the Lady Tigers in the seies opener, Sherrell Matthews (4-1) suffered her first loss for GSU in Game 2 and Payton Shells (1-2) took the loss for Grambling State in the series finale.

FUN & GAMES

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COMICS

BLONDIE I DEAN YOUNG AND JOHN MARSHALL







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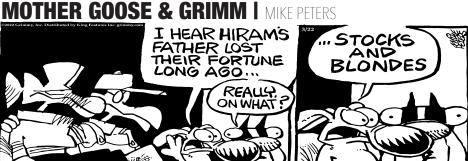




HI AND LOIS I BRIAN WALKER, GREG WALKER AND CHANCE BROWNE WHAT KIND







SAM AND SILO I JERRY DUMAS







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CRYPTOQUIP

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Fun By The Numbers

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

Here's How It Works:

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

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

Classified line ads are published	Tuesday, Wednes	day and Friday in	the Minden Press	s-Herald, Bossier	Press-Tribune and	l online at www.p	ress.herald.com
	1FDLE40S6VHA06882	cause; such actions	opening thereof. The	of the bid opening to	and all bids for just	Statutes. No bidder	DELIVERY
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Classified	LA, 71055. If all	Louisiana Revised	days from the date	fails to consummate	with Title 38 of the	working days after	NEEDED New
GIASSIIIEU	current charges are	Statutes. No bidder may withdraw his/	of the bid opening to consummate the sale.	the sale within the time	Louisiana Revised	the actual date of the	Higher Pay
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Rates	by 03/30/2022 a	working days after	fails to consummate	will be offered to the second highest bid-	her bid within five (5)	highest bidder shall be given ten (10) working	Bill & Ralph's
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Pricing is easy!	March 18, 2022	given ten (10) working	second highest bid-	tions must contact the	highest bidder shall be	If said highest bidder	
	March 22, 2022	days from the date	der. Any person with	City of Minden at (318)	given ten (10) working	fails to consummate	La. 71071
	Minden Press-Herald	of the bid opening to	disabilities requiring	<u>377-2144</u> no later than	days from the date	the sale within the time	Accepting Ap-
		consummate the sale.	special accommoda-	seven (7) days prior to	of the bid opening to	allowed, the property	plications For
\$7.75		If said highest bidder	tions must contact the	bid opening.	consummate the sale.	will be offered to the	Delivery Route
•	City of Minden	fails to consummate the sale within the time	City of <u>Minden at (318)</u>	The Oursey beyond	If said highest bidder	second highest bid-	Drivers with
Per Day - Up to 20 words!	GENERAL	allowed, the property	<u>377-2144</u> no later than seven (7) days prior to	The Owner hereby notifies all bidders	fails to consummate the sale within the time	der. Any person with disabilities requiring	a CDL(Class
Aditional words are only 30	INFORMATION FOR	will be offered to the	bid opening.	that in regard to any	allowed, the property	special accommoda-	A) Drivers
~	BIDDERS	second highest bid-	bid oponing.	contract entered into	will be offered to the	tions must contact the	
cents more!	Bids 08/09/10 and	der. Any person with	The Owner hereby	pursuant to this adver-	second highest bid-	City of <u>Minden at (318)</u>	License.
	11 - 2022	disabilities requiring	notifies all bidders	tisement, that Minority	der. Any person with	377-2144 no later than	Free Medical
		special accommoda-	that in regard to any	Business Enterprises	disabilities requiring	seven (7) days prior to	Insurance for
Garage Sales	Purpose of Bid: The	tions must contact the	contract entered into	will be afforded equal	special accommoda-	bid opening.	Driver, Family
No word limit.	City of Minden, Louisi-	City of Minden at (318)	pursuant to this adver-	opportunity to submit	tions must contact the		Medical Insur-
No word mint.	ana seeks sealed bids	377-2144 no later than	tisement, that Minority	offers in response to	City of <u>Minden at (318)</u>	The Owner hereby	ance available.
	to sell used and/or damaged equipment.	seven (7) days prior to bid opening.	Business Enterprises will be afforded equal	this invitation and will	377-2144 no later than	notifies all bidders	Dental and
<u>_</u>	damaged equipment.	bid oper illing.	opportunity to submit	not be discriminated against on the grounds	seven (7) days prior to bid opening.	that in regard to any contract entered into	401K Benefits,
\$11	Bid Opening: April	Execution of Agree-	offers in response to	of race, color, sex, na-	bid oper illing.	pursuant to this adver-	
	04, 2022 - 10:00 a.m.	ment: The Bidder	this invitation and will	tional origin or disability	The Owner hereby	tisement, that Minority	Hourly plus
T	at the Cypress Confer-	whose bid is accepted	not be discriminated	in consideration for an	notifies all bidders	Business Enterprises	Incentive Pay,
One Day	ence Room, Minden	will be notified by	against on the grounds	award.	that in regard to any	will be afforded equal	Yearly Safety
	City Hall, 520 Broad-	phone.	of race, color, sex, na-		contract entered into	opportunity to submit	Bonus Pay,
\$16.50	way Street, Minden,		tional origin or disability	City of Minden	pursuant to this adver-	offers in response to	Monthly
·	Louisiana 71055	Termination for	in consideration for an		tisement, that Minority	this invitation and will	Safety/Perfor-
Two Days	Standard Farmar pa	Default: The City of	award.		Business Enterprises	not be discriminated	mance Pay.
	Standard Forms: no special form required.	Minden reserves the right to enforce the	City of Minden	Michael Fluhr	will be afforded equal	against on the grounds	-
Receive a FREE Garage	special lottinequileu.	performance of this		Interim City Clerk	opportunity to submit offers in response to	of race, color, sex, na- tional origin or disability	Apply at Bill &
0	The information for	contract in any manner		March 15, 2022	this invitation and will	in consideration for an	Ralph's Con-
Sale Kit with your two day	Bidders will also be	prescribed by law or	Michael Fluhr,	March 22, 2022	not be discriminated	award.	tact Mickey
ad!	available online at	deemed to be in the	Interim City Clerk	March 29, 2022	against on the grounds		Hodges at
	www.BidExpress.	best interest of the City		Minden Press-Herald	of race, color, sex, na-	City of Minden	(318)539-2071
	com. If bidding online,	of Minden in the event	March 15, 2022		tional origin or disability		mickey.hodg-
* Garage Sale ads must be	all interested Bidders	of breach or default of	March 22, 2022		in consideration for an		es@billandral-
prepaid.	must register for the	this contract.	March 29, 2022		award.	Michael Fluhr	phs.com
propula.	project online. If Bid-	March 16, 2022	Minden Press-Herald	Bid # 10 - 2022	City of Mindon	Interim City Clerk	pris.com
	ders encounter any problems accessing	March 16, 2022 March 22, 2022		ADVERTISEMENT	City of Minden	Marah 15, 2022	
	Bid Express, please	March 29, 2022		FOR BIDS		March 15, 2022 March 22, 2022	NEXTIER NOW
Deadlines	contact Bid Express, ,	Minden Press-Herald	Bid # 09 - 2022	The City of Minden	Michael Fluhr	March 29, 2022	HIRING IN
	888-352-2439.		ADVERTISEMENT	seeks sealed bids to	Interim City Clerk	Minden Press-Herald	PLEASANTON,
			FOR BIDS	sell Scrap Metal:	······································		ТХ
A de	Delivery of Bids:			con corap motal.	March 15, 2022		Looking for
Ads	Sealed envelopes	Bid # 08 - 2022	The City of Minden	Qty. 2 – 6 ton Central	March 22, 2022		Experienced
Line ads and display ads must	containing bid docu-	ADVERTISEMENT	seeks sealed bids to	Air and Heat units	March 29, 2022	LAND FOR SALE	•
1 .	ments must be clearly	FOR BIDS	sell a Transformer:	Qty. 2 – 12.5 ton Cen-	Minden Press-Herald	Buy land or	wireline person-
be submitted by noon two	marked:	The Other (Minister)	Obs. d. Missting	tral Air and Heat units		lease land for	nel with a Loui-
days before publication.	"Bid 08-2022 (44,800	The City of Minden seeks sealed bids to	Qty. 1 – Westing-	Qty. 3 – Influent Screw		hunting. MC	siana Blasters
• •	kva transformer) or Bid 09-2022 (20,000 kva	sell a Transformer:	house 20,000 KVA Three Phase Type SL	Pumps (each approx.	Bid # 11 - 2022	(318) 465-4733	license.
	transformer or Bid 10-		Auto Transformer,	3.5 tons)	ADVERTISEMENT	<u></u>	- Wireline Su-
Public Notices	2022 (Scrap Metal) or	Qty. 1 – Westing-		Qty. 1 – 60 HP Motor, ID # 605-41074235-	FOR BIDS	EMPLOYMENT	pervisors
	Bid 11-2022 (Copier)",	house 44,800 KVA	Serial # RCP -13281	004R-13		BOX TRUCK	- Wireline Gen-
Public notices must be sub-	be addressed to the	Three Phase Type SL		Qty. 1 – 75 HP Motor ,	The City of Minden		
mitted two days prior to	City Clerk of the City of	Auto Transformer,		ID # A12L3080155R-1	seeks sealed bids to	DRIVER New	eral Operators
publication date depending	Minden and delivered		Sealed bids marked "	Qty. 1 – 75 HP Motor,	sell aCopier:	Higher Pay	- Wireline Op-
1 1 0	to the City Clerk's Of-	Serial # RLP -13271	Bid 09 - 2022 - 20,000	ID # J02-BF64A-M	0	Scale!	erators
on the length. Notices may be	fice located at Minden		Transformer" shall be	Qty. 1 – 100 HP	Qty. 1 – Ricoh Aficio	Bill & Ralph's	Position Re-
emailed to classifieds@press-	City Hall, 520 Broad- way Street Minden	Sealed bids marked "	addressed to the City	Motor, ID # 9983A/	MP 5001 Copier (could	Inc.	quirements:
herald.com	way Street, Minden, Louisiana 71055.	Bid 08 - 2022 - 44,800	Clerk of the City of Min- den, and delivered to	U03U010R0102-6	be used for parts)	118 B & R	Valid Drivers
		Transformer" shall be	the City Clerk's Office	Qty. 1 – 100 HP Motor, ID # K0782001312-		Drive, Sarepta,	License, Wire-
				11 / # NU/ O/ UU 131/-		la 71071	



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 knowlingly accept any advertising for real estate, which is in violation of th elaw. All persons are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised are available on an equal opportunity basis.

Grow Your **Business**

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PLACE YOUR AD **TODAY!** 377-1866 Questions will be answered in writing and both questions and answers will be distributed to all Bidders who are on record as having received this Invitation for Bids. Addenda: If it becomes necessary to revise any part of this Invitation for Bids or if additional data is necessary to enable an exact interpretation of provisions,

Questions: Questions

concerning the bid

must be in writing to

the City Clerk's office.

such addenda will be provided by mail or fax to all bidders who have requested this Invitation for Bids.

Withdrawal or Modi-

fication of Bid: Abid may be withdrawn by written request received prior to the submission deadline. Modifications to bids received prior to the submission deadline will be accepted. Modifications shall be submitted in a sealed envelope clearly marked ie: "Modification to "Bid 11 - 2022 -Copier". No telephone or faxed bid, change in bid, or withdrawal of bid will be accepted.

Pricing Structure: Bidders should submit a bid price (at least minimum bid) with the responsibility for the transportation of the material(s) from the designated location in its entirety.

Successful Bid-

der: The bid will be awarded to the highest responsible Bidder (Ridder possessing the skill, ability and integrity to complete the job) and eligible Bidder (Bidder meeting all the requirements set forth in the bid document).

Rejection of Bids: The Owner reserves the right to reject any and all bids for just

the City Clerk's Office located at Minden City Hall, 520 Broadway Street, Minden, Louisiana 71055 not later than 10:00 A.M. local time, on April 04, 2022. Any bid received after the specified time and date will not be considered. The sealed bids will be publicly opened and read aloud shortly after the 10:00 A.M. submission deadline on April 04, 2020, at the Cypress Conference Room located at Minden City Hall, 520 Broadway Street, Minden, Louisiana 71055.

Clerk of the City of Min-

addressed to the City

den, and delivered to

Bidders should submit a bid price (at least minimum bid of \$ 30,000.00) under the consideration of be responsible for transportation of the equipment from the City's location at no cost. Bid will be awarded to the Bidder with the highest price. The information for Bidders may be

obtained at the City Clerk's office located at Minden City Hall, 520 Broadway Street, Minden, Louisiana 71055.

The information for

Bidders will also be available online at www.BidExpress. com. If bidding online, all interested bidders must register for the project online. If bidders encounter any problems accessing Bid Express, please contact Bid Express 888-352-2439 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. No bidder may withdraw his/ her bid within five (5) working days after the actual date of the

Street, Minden, Loui unreadable plates siana 71055 not later than 10:00 A.M. local

004-04

Sealed bids marked

Qty. 2 - Motors.

located at Minden City

time, on April 04, 2022.

Any bid received after

the specified time and

date will not be consid-

ered. The sealed bids

will be publicly opened

and read aloud shortly

after the 10:00 A.M.

submission deadline

on April 04, 2020, at

the Cypress Confer-

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at Minden City Hall,

Minden, Louisiana

a bid price (at least

minimum bid of \$

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at no cost. Bid will be

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with the highest price.

The information for

obtained at the City

Clerk's office located

520 Broadway Street,

at Minden City Hall,

Minden, Louisiana

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www.BidExpress.

com. If bidding online,

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with Title 38 of the

Louisiana Revised

Statutes. No bidder

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the actual date of the

opening thereof. The

highest bidder shall be

given ten (10) working

days from the date

888-352-2439.

71055

Bidders may be

71055

520 Broadway Street,

Bidders should submit

Hall. 520 Broadway

" Bid 10 - 2022 -Scrap Metal" shall be addressed to the City Clerk of the City of Minden, and delivered to the City Clerk's Office located at Minden City Hall, 520 Broadway Street, Minden, Louisiana 71055 not later than 10:00 A.M. local time, on April 04, 2022. Any bid received after the specified time and date will not be considered. The sealed bids will be publicly opened and read aloud shortly after the 10:00 A.M. submission deadline on April 04, 2020, at the Cypress Conference Room located at Minden City Hall, 520 Broadway Street, Minden, Louisiana

Bidders should submit a bid price (at least minimum bid of \$5 per hundred pounds) under the consideration of be responsible for transportation of the equipment in its entirety from the City's location at no cost. Bid will be awarded to the Bidder with the highest price

71055.

The information for Bidders may be obtained at the City Clerk's office located at Minden City Hall, 520 Broadway Street, Minden, Louisiana 71055.

The information for Bidders will also be available online at www.BidExpress. com. If bidding online, all interested bidders must register for the project online. If bidders encounter any problems accessing Bid Express, please contact Bid Express 888-352-2439

The Owner reserves the right to reject any

Copier" shall be addressed to the City Clerk of the City of Minden. and delivered to the City Clerk's Office located at Minden City Hall, 520 Broadway Street, Minden, Louisiana 71055 not later than 10:00 A.M. local time, on April 04, 2022. Any bid received after the specified time and date will not be considered. The sealed bids will be publicly opened and read aloud shortly after the 10:00 A.M. submission deadline on April 04, 2020, at the Cypress Conference Room located at Minden City Hall, 520 Broadway Street. Minden, Louisiana 71055.

Sealed bids marked

" Bid 11 - 2022 -

Bidders should submit a bid price (at least minimum bid of \$ 50.00) under the consideration of be responsible for transportation of the equipment from the City's location in its entirety at no cost. Bid will be awarded to the Bidder with the highest price.

The information for Bidders may be obtained at the Citv Clerk's office located at Minden City Hall, 520 Broadway Street, Minden, Louisiana 71055.

The information for Bidders will also be available online at www.BidExpress. com. If bidding online, all interested bidders must register for the project online. If bidders encounter anv problems accessing Bid Express, please contact Bid Express 888-352-2439.

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

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Parish Head

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applications

for the immedi-

ate opening

for the position

of cook at the

Mother Goose

Land Center.

Applicants must

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school diploma

with experience

working in food

service. Ap-

Office at 111

Minden, LA.

La. 71071

A CDL preferred but not required for all posi-

line Experience

required. Class

tions, Louisiana Blasters license is a plus. Apply Now: https:// nextierofs.com/ jobs

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.

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Sibley, Louisiana 71073 Fax (318) 377-0361 Phone (318) 377-0345

March 14, 2022

The Sibley Town Council met in regular session on Monday, March 14, 2022 at 6pm in the Sibley Town Hall Meeting Room.

Members present were Mayor Pro-Temp Robert Smart, Aldermen: Helen Chanler, Richard Davis and Alan Myers. Mayor Jimmy Williams and Alderman Wayne Bolton were absent. Mayor Pro-Temp Smart opened the meeting in prayer; then led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Helen Chanler motioned to accept the minutes to the February 14, 2022 Regular Meeting as read, Richard Davis seconded. Motion carried.

Richard Davis motioned to add Resolution No. 2022-06 addressing the 2021 Annual DEQ Permit. Helen Chanler seconded. Motion carried unanimously

There were no Public Comments.

Richard Davis motioned to adopt Resolution No. 2022-04, supporting the development of a passenger rail through the Town of Sibley, Alan Myers seconded. Motion carried.

Alan Myers motioned to adopt Resolution No. 2022-05, requesting assistance from the Webster Parish Police Jury with Sibley's Annual Clean-Up Day on April 9, 2022. Helen Chanler seconded, motion carried.

Helen Chanler motioned to adopt Resolution No. 2022-06 submitting the Town of Sibley's 2021 Municipal Water Pollution Prevention Environmental Audit Report to the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality. Richard Davis seconded. Motion carried.

Richard Davis gave the Sibley Volunteer Fire Department's monthly activity report

Officer Jeremy Gros gave the Sibley Police Department's monthly activity report. The board acknowledged receipt of the February 2022 Financial Reports

Alan Myers motioned to adjourn, Helen Chanler seconded, motion carried.

Meeting adjourned.

Robert Smart

Attest

Sherry McCanny MCOUM

MAYOR Jimmy William (M-F 8am-6pm ET) (LA-SCAN) TOWN CLERK rry McCann, LMMC Get the educa-

ALDERMEN Wayne Bolton Helen Chanler Richard Davis Alan Myers Robert Smart

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Attorney

(LA-SCAN)

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tion: 1-888-521-0958 John C. Heath, Attorney at Law, PLLC, dba Lexington Law Firm. (LA-SCAN)

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Mayor Pro-Temp March 22, 2022 Minden Press-herald



PROCLAMATION NUMBER 41 JBE 2022

SPECIAL ELECTION – JUSTICE OF THE PEACE, JUSTICE OF THE PEACE DISTRICT 3, PARISH OF WEBSTER

- WHEREAS, a vacancy exists in the office of the Justice of the Peace, Justice of the Peace District 3, Parish of Webster, because no one qualified for this office during the January 26-28, 2022 qualifying period for the March 26, 2022 special primary election; and
- WHEREAS, Louisiana Revised Statute 18:621 requires the Governor to call a special election to fill a vacancy in the office of a judge when more than twelve (12) months of the term remain unexpired, in accordance with the provisions of La. R.S. 18:621, and/or the dates for elections set forth in La. R.S. 18:402.

NOW THEREFORE, I, JOHN BEL EDWARDS, Governor of the State of Louisiana, by virtue of the authority vested by the Constitution and the laws of the State of Louisiana, do hereby order and direct as follows:

- SECTION 1: A special primary and general election for the unexpired term shall be held throughout the jurisdiction of the Justice of the Peace District 3, Parish of Webster, for the purpose of electing a justice of the peace to fill the vacancy in the office.
- SECTION 2: Any qualified person desiring to become a candidate for the office shall file a notice of candidacy, accompanied either by a qualifying fee or a nominating petition, as required or authorized by law, with the appropriate election official in the manner and form, and under the providues and conditions, provided by La. R.S. 18:41, et seq., and all other applicable provisions of the Louisiana Election Code, La. R.S. 18:11, et seq., during the period commencing Wednesday, July 20, 2022, and ending at 4:30 p.m. Friday, July 22, 2022.
- SECTION 3: The special election for the unexpired term shall be held and conducted under the applicable provisions of the Louisiana Election Code, La. R.S. 18:1 et seq.
- SECTION 4: The primary election shall be held Tuesday, November 8, 2022, and the general election shall be held Saturday, December 10, 2022, at the times and places and in the manner, prescribed by law.
- SECTION 5: The Secretary of State, Commissioner of Elections, Parish Board of Election Supervisors, Clerk of Court, Registrar of Voters, and all other persons charged with any power, function, right, duty or responsibility in conducting elections in the jurisdiction of the Justice of the Peace District 3, Parish of Webster, are hereby authorized, requested, directed and empowered to excrise every lawful function and to do every act necessary to conduct the special election, to cause the returns to be made, to canvass and promulgate the results, and to perform all related and incidental functions.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have set my hand officially and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of Louisiana in the City of Baton Rouge, on this 16th day of March, 2022.

GOVERNOR OF LOUISIANA

ATTEST BY THE SECRETARY OF STATE

SECRETARY OF STATE

March 22, 2022 Minden Press-herald

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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