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**FRIDAY, JULY 8, 2022** 

MINDEN, LOUISIANA

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75 CENTS

Covering all of Webster

Parish

**CITY COUNCIL** 

# No mayor, no pro tempore: council finds themselves in "legal quagmire"

### WILL PHILLIPS Minden Press-Herald

Last night's city council meeting was a non-typical one to say the very least. Most obviously, the late Terry Gardner's untimely passing left a vacancy in the position of mayor. While there is typically a contingency plan in place for such circumstances, regarding the position of mayor pro tempore, at the

start of this city council meeting, Minden did not have one.

This put the council in what City Attorney Jimbo Yocom called a "legal quagmire," because any laws or ordinances ad-

dressing what to do in the absence of a mayor presume that the position of mayor pro tempore is filled. Since Minden at this time did not, it put the council in a weird spot.

Before the meeting was called, Yocom took the time to explain the peculiar situation the council was in that evening, while

cant.

"As a result it's left us in kind of a legal quagmire. The law presumes there is a mayor pro tem available. So each of the procedures that are outlined within our ordinances, our charter, and within Louisiana law, are based completely on the presumption that there is a mayor pro tem to call meetings. Considering that we have no clear legally designated

mayor pro tem, it leaves us in quite a predicament. The issue is that the mayor and/or the mayor pro tem are the one vested with the legal ability to call a council meeting. Since we have neither available,

then this is the only meeting that is a meeting that has been lawfully called with an agenda."

So as Yocom stated, without a mayor or pro tempore, at this time there was no one with the legal authority to actually call meetings. Luckily, this meeting had been called and the agenda made by Terry Gardner before his passing, meaning that the council was given one last legal meeting to correct the situation and elect either an interim mayor or mayor pro tempore. This would require the council to unanimously vote to add these items to the agenda, then vote on the added items when they actually arose on the agenda itself. "The only way an agenda can be amended is by unanimous agreement of the council members present. Tonight's agenda was set by Mayor Gardner prior to his untimely passing, so we have a legal meeting with a legal agenda. The Council tonight has the ability - legally — and the option to amend the agenda upon the unanimous vote of all four council members present. "If they amend the agenda to add the line items for the appointment of an interim mayor that will serve as the office of mayor for the remainder of the year until election time, then they can do so, and that person will be lawfully appointed. Once the office is declared vacant by the secretary of state, the council has 20 days to make such an appointment, after which time the governor is the one, the proper person, to make an appointment.

# **4TH OF JULY DAR Celebrates Independence Day**



Members of American Legion Post 74, VFW Post 2885, and other area veterans participated in the annual Independence Day Flag Ceremony at Eagle Park in Minden. Cindy Madden led the Pledge of Allegiance, Jake Chapman led the Star Spangled Banner, Tommy McMurray led the prayer, and Jerry Madden gave the program with Charles Waters acting as trumpeter for the ceremony. Madden stated that they changed the starting time to 9 a.m. from 5 p.m. due to the high summer heat, and saw a better turnout as a result. "Attendance was good and we had people that had never been before come out, and they were glad to see it done," said Madden.



also spreading some positivity about the state of the city.

"This is a precarious time, a time of uncertainty, but Minden is still strong, its people are still strong, and its government is still strong. The council is functioning in every capacity that it should. Our department heads are working, and the city is still moving forward, because we're a community of people who care about one another and rely on each other. Greater are the things that bind us than the things that divide us," said Yocom.

He first explained the absence of mayor and mayor pro tempore, and the legal implications of their vacancies.

"Obviously, with Mayor Gardner's passing, it leaves a vacancy in the office of mayor, so that office is presently vacant, and has been declared vacant by the secretary of state. Our custom of the council has been that, each year, a different council member would serve as what is called the mayor pro tempore, or what our charter calls the president of the council, and that would rotate district by district at the beginning of the year in January of this year. The council failed to elect a mayor pro tem for this term or this year. Consequently, the position of mayor pro tem is also va-

See, COUNCIL, Page 2

The American flag raised in the ceremony was donated by Hayden Haynes, Chief of Staff for Congressman Mike Johnson in Washington in Memory of Hayden's grandfather from Minden, James "Jimmy" Miller, with the flag being flown to honor his memory.

"A young scout did our memorial wreath to honor those who have gone before us," said Madden. Spencer Creech, son of Donna Sutton, and C.A.R. state officer and member of Fort Jesup Society, placed the wreath at the flagpole during the playing of Taps. He was later presented with an American Legion Certificate of Appreciation.

During the ceremony, in order to remind those in attendance of the price paid by our forefathers to live in the country we have today, Madden presented a story recapping what happened to the 56 men who signed the Declaration of Independence, and what happened in their lives, and the prices they paid in order to attain the American freedoms that people enjoy today.

"We want to thank all of those that participated in or helped in any way with the program, and in particular we want to thank all of the veterans who took the time to take part in our flag ceremony," said Madden.

### CRIME

### Fentanyl intoxication leads to infant's death

#### **STAFF REPORT**

Minden Press-Herald

A Minden woman has been charged with negligent homicide after a forensic autopsy indicated the cause of death was Fentanyl intoxication.

On May 29, Stephanie Lowery (26) and the baby's father accompanied their infant to Minden Medical Center's emergency room after waking

unresponsive. The parents stated that they had given the baby a pacifier and then placed the baby in bed with them before falling asleep. When the father woke

up about an hour later,

the pacifier was still in

the baby's mouth. When

the mother awoke, she

The infant's body was

sent to Little Rock, Ar-

would not respond.

autopsy, and the results were reported back to the Minden Police Department on June 22.

Lowery returned to the police department on June 27 for a second interview. The arrest record states: "During this interview, she indicated that she and the baby's noticed that the infant father were crushing a pill laced with Fentanyl and snorting it. The mother remembered the up and finding the infant kansas for a forensic baby's father crushing a

pill for her, but could not remember if she snorted it or not, prior to her going to sleep."

COURTESY PHOTO

Lowery was arrested and charged with negligent homicide. Charges against the father are pending. He is currently in a rehabilitation facility in Florida. Both are considered innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.







Tomorrow's High Temp

Tomorrow's Low Temp

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INDEX			
Obituaries	3	Classifieds	8
Editorials	4	Crossword	7
Sports	5	B&S	10

#### MINDEN PRESS-HERALD | MINDEN, LA

# WEBSTER & MORE COUNCIL

### Continued from Page 1

That deadline for us is July 18, so the council has until July 18 to make that appointment," said Yocom.

'Tonight though is the only clearly legal meeting in which time they can make the appointment, so they have to amend the agenda to set an appointment. They also have the option tonight to amend the agenda to add the appointment of a mayor pro tem to serve out the remainder of their term. If they do that, and the mayor pro tem is appointed, then that individual would be vested with the power to call a second meeting to address any issues whether it's the appointment of an interim mayor, or any issues that might arise.

"If neither occurs then, until the governor steps in or until the August meeting — whichever occurs first — there will be no one with a clearly designated power to do those things. So it's quite a predicament, and the council has been fully briefed and informed on all the consequences and all the options and variances before them," said Yocom.

So, to recap all that's been stated, the council was left with an opportunity of one last legal meeting to officially designate an interim mayor or pro tempore so that more meetings could be called and checks and contracts could be signed. Adding these items onto the agenda requires a unanimous vote of the present council members.

If these were not done, there would be no one able to act in that capacand this would not an appointment from the governor.

In regards to the meeting itself, while typically the mayor or mayor pro tempore would be the one to preside over the meetings, the council is able to, in their absence, elect one of their own to act as chairman of that meeting. Wayne Edwards was the one voted on to do so.

The items of adding a vote for mayor pro tempore and granting them signatory powers were added to the agenda, but the item of voting on an interim mayor was not.

Member Council Bloxom of District E proposed a motion to add an agenda item appointing former mayor and interim city council member of District D, Tommy Davis, as interim mayor. This did involve a minor procedural mishap, given that the motion should've been simply to add the item to vote on an interim mayor, and not necessarily state who that would be. Ultimately this was negligible given that the vote did not pass, with Council Members Bloxom and Michael Roy of District D in favor, and **Council Members Wayne** Edwards of District A and Vincen Bradford of District C being opposed, wishing to table the item for later.

Edwards stated their reason for waiting to decide on an interim mayor was that they wanted the full council to be present, and Council Member Terika Williams-Walker was not there for this meeting, Edwards stated that, at this time, she was out of the country. Regardless, the city

only needed a mayor pro tem or an interim mayor to function in the short term. With those items added to the agenda, the meeting went forward with these items being the first to be voted on.

Michael Roy nominated Wavne Edwards to take up the position of mayor pro tempore with Bloxom providing a second for the motion. Edwards was unanimously voted in for the position. The council also unanimously voted to provide him signatory powers as well. This likely came to the relief of many given that there was now someone to sign payroll checks for city employees as well as sign contracts on behalf of the city enabling them to move forward with their projects.

This also allows future meetings to be called, with one to be held soon where the council will attempt to agree on someone to take up the spot of interim mayor. As Yocom stated earlier in the meeting, even if the council is unable to come to a decision on who that should be, after July 18 the power to appoint one is then given to the governor. So an interim mayor will take up the position shortly; the only question for now is whether or not they will be appointed by the council or the governor.

The Minden City Council meeting takes place on the first Monday of each month starting at 5:30 p.m. located at City Hall. These meetings are open for the public to attend and can be viewed on the City of Minden's Facebook page or their You-Tube channel titled City of Minden - Feels Like Home.

### **BLOTTER**

### **Recent arrest** in Webster Parish

Melinda Patton, 34, of the 1300 block of Sheppard Street, was arrested for possession of a schedule I substance, two counts of possession of a schedule II substance, possession of a schedule III substance with intent to distribute, and for failure to appear in court.

Tyrece Gore, 34, was arrested for possession of a schedule II substance, possession of legend drug, resisting arrest, and being a fugitive of West Monroe.

Deshunski Scott, 45, of the 200 block of Southern Creek Circle, was arrested for driving while intoxicated second offense, general speeding, and driving with an open container.

Tyrone Ford, 38, of the 100 block of Clerk Street, was arrested for resisting arrest.

Jackey Key Jr., 45 of the 600 block of South Street, was arrested for driving while intoxicat-

### CRIME

### Minden man arrested for living in ambulance

### **STAFF REPORT**

Minden Press-Herald

A Minden man was arrested on Tuesday for using a vehicle without permission.

The police had been contacted by an employee of Advanced Ambulance after the employee noticed Gerald Beene (56) and his dog entering and leaving in a vehicle that was parked in their parking lot. The vehicle was shown on the security cameras leaving at 3:09 a.m. and returning at 5:33 a.m.

ed, driving with an open container, and improper lane usage.

Gerald Beene, 65, of the 1200 block of Shreveport Road, was arrested for unauthorized use of a movable, unauthorized use of a motor vehicle, theft, and on multiple warrants.

LaJerick Bryant, 32, of the 100 block of Jacob Lane, was arrested on a warrant.

Michael Parks, 66, of the 500 block of Ceaser Road, was arrested for simple burglary and possession of a schedule II controlled dangerous substance.

Kobe Sheppard, 19, of the 300 block of Willis Road, was arrested for theft.

Melissa Wheeler, 46, of the 500 block of N Main Street, was arrested for battery of a dating partner.

Demario Walker. 35. of the 500 block of Sullivan Street, was arrested for criminal neglect of familv.

#### Christopher Williams, 28, of the 2000 block of Franklin Road, was arrested for indecent behavior with a juvenile.

Steven Cooper, 42, of the 600 block of Highway 531, was arrested for theft of a motor vehicle.

Ashtin Jones, of the 4600 block of Parkridge Drive, was arrested for two counts of possession of a schedule I substance and two counts of possession of a schedule II substance.

Dusty Montgomery, 29, of the 4500 block of Highway 615, was arrested for two counts of aggravated assault, reckless driving, domestic abuse aggravated assault, aggravated criminal damage to property, and a hit and run.

Justin McCaleb, 29, of the 300 block of Weston Street, was arrested on multiple warrants.

Monika Cody, 40, of the 900 block of 1st Street SE, was arrested for three counts of medicaid fraud.

the employee said that

Beene stated that he was on the property with his dog named White Man, he had used the vehicle to drive down toward Ringgold to pick up someone, he had taken the keys from the vehicle when he returned it. and the keys had been left of the back porch of a man's residence.

Items from the ambulance were taken as evidence. Beyond his former warrants, Beene is being charged with unauthorized use of a moveable and unau-

someone had been living in one of the ambulances that was parked on the south side of the property.

"I then looked inside the unit and found it to be in total disarray," stated the arrest report. "I observed pornographic magazines, used condoms, dirty syringes, clothes and misc. items. I reviewed the camera footage and was able to identify the subject as Gerald Beene."

The officer reported Beene's identity to the police department and discovered that Beene came out to investigate, was already in a holding

cell for outstanding warrants. When questioned,

thorized use of a motor vehicle.

have been resolved until

When the police

### AWARD

# **Phillip Carroll receives Lifetime Achievement Award**

### AMBER MCDOWN Minden Press-Herald

Phillip Carroll recently received the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Springhill-North Webster Chamber of Commerce. This award is presented to people whose exceptional contributions and leadership have significantly improved their communities.

Carroll has spent over half of his life serving the north end of the parish as a school teacher, guidance counselor, and pastor. He was also a veteran of the Vietnam war.

"He's spent 40 years in the public school system as a teacher and then as a guidance counselor up in Springhill," said his daughter Sara McDaniel. "His name is Phillip Carroll, but everybody's kids called him PCarroll in school, so those kids who went to high school in the '70s, late '80s, and early '90s knew him as PCarroll. He was very active in student council and doing extra-curricular activities and, again, just loving those students so well and pouring into them so

that they would be able to succeed in life — helping them to get into college or taking the vocational track — then pushing them toward where they needed to be."

Carroll's work as a guidance counselor also contributed greatly to his community. He helped many students to deal with family issues as well as educational issues, providing guidance and the direction needed to work through the circumstances. "He just wants you to succeed," said McDaniel. "And he just wants you to know the love of Christ. That's it. There's no other underlying agenda. So he was that sounding board — and is that sounding board for so many people over the years."

"He has also always been a bi-vocational pastor, so he's always been an actual pastor or a youth pastor," McDaniel continued. "He's 76 this year, and he's still a youth pastor. He'll stay up till midnight playing volleyball with these kids. He just has a servant's heart and just continues to serve and serve and serve. He

blesses the community. He is so well-loved, and he loves others as well. His whole life he's given himself to the ministry and service work - telling people about Jesus and how much he loves Him and how much Jesus loves us. He's just given his whole life to service."

The anonymous nomi-

"Phillip has spent his career and life supporting, teaching, leading, and guiding countless numbers of children and youth not only in the right career path but also the path toward salvation. I believe his dedication and continued service to our towns, communities

letter

nation

Award for giving over 40 years of service to communities in the north end of Webster Parish.

stated,

and kids deserves this recognition."

Receiving this award came as a surprise to Mr. Carroll. His daughter Sara McDaniel was scheduled to be the keynote speaker at the event, and Carroll had been told that his other daughter, Lori Cline, was coming to town to support her

sister at the event. Unbeknownst to him, Lori was actually there to present him with this award. His son, Steven Carroll, was unable to attend but provided a video for the presentation. Carroll's family are delighted to see him receive this recognition for all the work he has done over the decades.

COURTESY PHOTOS

Phillip Carroll, shown here with his daughters Lori Cline and Sara McDaniel, received the Lifetime Achievement

# Webster & More

### **OBITUARIES**



### Lonnie M. Simpson

Services celebrating the life of Lonnie M. Simpson will be held Friday, July 8, 2022, at 10:00 a.m. at First Baptist Church Minden, Louisiana. Interment will follow at Cotton Valley Cemetery in Cotton Valley, Louisiana under the direction

of Rose-Neath Funeral Home in Minden, Louisiana. The family will receive friends from 5:00 until 7:00 p.m. Thursday, July 7, 2022, at Rose-Neath Funeral Home in Minden.

Lonnie was born on March 26, 1937, in Benton, Louisiana and was called home by his Lord on July 3, 2022.

He graduated from Cotton Valley High School in 1956 and headed to Northwestern State University. He graduated with a Bachelor's degree in elementary education. He began his teaching career at W.G. Stewart Elementary in 1960 as a 6th grade teacher. He loved teaching and loved all of his students. He later earned his Master's degree and a +30 degree. He became a school principal at E.S. Richardson Elementary, moved to Sibley High School and finished his career at his beloved Stewart Elementary. He loved all the parents, teachers, staff and children that walked the halls of Stewart.

He loved horses and spent many happy times riding with friends and the Piney Hills Riding Club. He instilled that love to his granddaughter, Hannah. They spent many Saturdays' riding. He also served as a Gideon and visited local prisons with a prison ministry. He served on the board of the Germantown Historical Museum and volunteered at UCAP and Meadowview Nursing Home.

He was preceded in death by his wife of 58 years, Hannah Thompson Simpson; his parents Gussie Mae Jordan Simpson and Ira Simpson; and sister Rhonda Simpson Thomas.

He is survived by his daughter and son-in-law Stacey and Norman LaFargue; granddaughter, Hannah Marie Marks and his special great grandson, Tripp Thompson Day.

A special thank you goes out to the tremendously kind and loving staff at The Chateaus at Montclair. Thank you as well to the staff of Passages Hospice for their care.

Honoring Lonnie as pallbearers will be Marty Chapman, Charles Beck, Randall McGraw, Kevin Marks, Art Martin, and Allen Mosley.

I fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. 2 Timothy 4:7

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



### Patrick Halliburton

Patrick Halliburton, aka" Just Pat", 33, of Minden, Louisiana passed away on June 21, 2022. In honor of him, he was cremated. We will hold a celebration of life on a later date. Pat enjoyed mowing and taking

care of our yard, doing anything outside. Enjoyed spending time with his family and friends. He had a big heart and would stop what he was doing to go help someone if they needed.

Those left to cherish his memories include his parents-mother Sherry Merritt; father Tommy Merritt of Athens, Louisiana; Father Doug Halliburton of Texas. His siblings include Mikel (Codie) Merritt of Homer, Louisiana; Tommy and Junior Merritt of Athens, Louisiana; Duke Winzer of Athens, Louisiana; Corey Fergueson of Colorado and Belinda Powell of DeRidder, Louisiana. His children are Chloie Tacker of Texas; Blair and Kaiden Cole of Sarepta, Louisiana and Skylynne Taylor of Minden, Louisiana. His grandparents are Harry and Joyce of Olive Hill, Kentucky and Barbara Wisniewsky of Shreveport, Louisiana, numerous nieces and nephews, very close friends and family, Fiancé Tiffany Todd, her daughter and their family dog of Minden, Louisiana

### Melba Gray Cutrer

We are sad to announce that on July 7, 2022, we had to say goodbye to Melba Gray Cutrer.

She was born in Simsboro, Louisiana on December 22, 1935.

She is survived by her husband of 65 years, Robert Cutrer, her daughters Paula Cutrer Smith (Chester) Donna Cutrer Moreno (Louis), her grandchildren, Amber Kennedy Martin (Jamie) and Zachary Cary (Lisa), as well as 5 great grandchildren.

She is also survived by her three siblings, Carolyn Gray Yeich (Steve), Jerry Gray, and Betty Gray Aswell (Thomas).

In Lieu of flowers, please make a donation to St. Judes Children's Hospital or Lakeview United Methodist Church in Minden, Louisiana.

A graveside service will be held at Simsboro Cemetery, Monday, July 11, 2022, at 10:00 a.m. under the direction of Rose-Neath Funeral Home in Minden, Louisiana. Officiating will be Pastor Kathy Wafer. The family will receive friends from 4:00 until 6:00 p.m. Sunday, July 10, 2022, at Rose-Neath Funeral Home in Minden.

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





## **NEW Obituary Submission Guidelines**

• All obituaries must be typed to avoid any errors.

• Deadline for obituaries is 3:00 p.m. two days prior to the publication date.

• A proof can be provided via email if requested.

• Obituary cost is \$40/per 400 words and includes a single photo. Payments can be made over the phone once the obit is received. All obituaries are subject to prepayment.

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

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

# Biden administration wants to prohibit new oil and gas leases in the Gulf of Mexico

(The Center Square) — The Biden administration has released a preliminary proposal that could prohibit oil and gas leases in the Gulf of Mexico for the next five years, though it will undergo a lengthy public comment period and congressional review before it's finalized.

"From day one, President Biden and I have made clear our commitment to transition to a clean energy economy," Interior Secretary Deb Haaland said in a statement Friday. "Today, we put forward an opportunity for the American people to consider and provide input on the future of offshore oil and gas leasing. The time for the public to weigh in on our future is now."

The Department of Interior on Friday released a draft plan for proposed lease sales for the outer continental shelf for the next five years, as required by the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act adopted in 1978.

The federal law requires a five-year plan to allow oil and gas companies to bid for drilling and extracting in offshore waters, and the proposal announced Friday will replace an Obama-era plan that was implemented Thursday.

"The Proposed Program includes no more than 10 potential sales in the Gulf of Mexico and one potential lease sale in the northern portion of the Cook Inlet Planning Area offshore Alaska, which is the same as in the five year program finalized in 2016," according to an Interior announcement.

"These potential lease sales, including in the GOM, could be further refined and targeted, based on public input and analysis, prior to program approval," the announcement read. "The Final Program also may include fewer potential lease sales, including no lease sales."

The possibility of no lease sales stands in stark contrast to a 2018 proposal from the Trump administration that included 47 lease sales across 25 of 26 outer continental shelf planning areas, which was never implemented following a deluge of public comments.

House Committee on Natural Resources Ranking Member Bruce Westerman, R-Ark., blasted the Biden administration for releasing the notice on the eve of a holiday weekend, and for the potential

in 2017 and expired on impact of the proposal on Americans struggling with sky-high energy prices.

> "DOI's statement that the final plan may contain zero lease sales is deeply concerning and would be unprecedented. This administration continues demolishing access to American resources, and we are paying the price at the pump, at the grocery store, and in our family budgets," Westerman said. "There is absolutely no reasonable explanation why we cannot tap into our resources here at home and at least have a plan heading in the right direction to ease soaring energy costs. This administration adds a new dimension to incompetence and worse than that, they are unwilling to listen to anyone who can help them do the right thing."

Westerman stressed that the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act directs the Department of Interior to develop a plan that will "best meet national energy needs for the five year period following its approval."

Louisiana Congressman Garret Graves noted that federal officials "literally had years" to craft a new five-year plan and the failure to do so before the previous one expired will have a serious negative impact on how Louisiana funds hurricane, coastal and flood protection projects.

"This is the first time there has ever been a lapse in the program," he said. "Their self-imposed delays are contributing to higher prices, less certainty and more dependence on Iran, Venezuela and others."

The Interior announcement aligns with an executive order signed by President Biden shortly after taking office that halted new leases on federal lands and offshore waters, an element of a broader agenda to wean America from its reliance on fossil fuels.

Louisiana Attorney General Jeff Landry has led a dozen states and the petroleum industry in challenging the Biden administration's energy policies through multiple ongoing lawsuits.

The Interior's preliminary plan now must go through a 90-day public comment period. Once an updated plan is published, Congress and the president will have another 60 days to review and take action.

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MINDEN



Joshua Specht, Editor jspecht@press-herald.com

### **OTHER OPINION**

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### **POSTMASTER:**

# Supreme Court strikes several blows for liberty

Included in the historic and dizzying litany of U.S. Supreme Court decisions the last ten days are rulings on 2nd Amendment rights and free exercise of religion.

These decisions, when analyzed in conjunction with landmark pro-democracy decisions defending the rights 'of the people' through their elected representatives to choose to protect pre-born human life and requiring that the U.S. Congress determine major environmental policy-not unelected bureaucrats unaccountable to the people-the Supreme Court has returned "We the People" to a constitutional republic and a 'government by consent of the governed.'

Let's begin with the 2nd Amendment case.

The Supreme Court held that New York's handgun licensing regime was unconstitutional. Why? Because NY was forcing its citizens who wished to apply for and receive a permit to carry a handgun to prove that they had "proper cause" to carry the handgun and that the applicant had demonstrated a "special need for self-defense."

The Supreme Court flatly said "no." What was the Court's reasoning?

The Court refused to leave in the hands of NY state bureaucrats the discretion to determine to grant or disallow a citizen's Žnd Amendment right 'to keep and bear arms' based on what the bureaucrat deems to qualify as a "special need" for self-defense.

The Court held that "the Second and Fourteenth Amendments protect an individual's right to carry a handgun for self-defense outside the home." The Court underscored this point adding that "individual self-defense is the central component of the Second

insanity. Amendpreme Court decision I adm e n t right." Why is this im-

dress today is one involving free exercise of religion and the "praying football coach." portant? At a time when the

are

specting

What are the facts? Coach Joseph Kennedy was fired from his job as a high school football coach in the Bremerton School District after he knelt at midfield after games to offer a quiet, personal prayer of thanks. The high school is a public high school-making him a government employee-in

"do something," but it is deep-ly misplaced. What we need

Law-abiding gun owners

everywhere already obey our

gun laws but criminals-by

their nature—are never going

to comply. The result is that

the good guys are disarmed

while the bad guys are, free

and unopposed, able to inflict

their violence and death on

the innocent. This is societal

The second important Su-

is criminal control.

Washington state. The Bremerton School District argued that as an employee at work Coach Kennedy's prayer was "state speech" and thereby violated the Constitution's promise of no government "establishment of religion." However, the Supreme Court held that in firing Coach Kennedy it had unconstitutionally punished him "for engaging in a brief, quiet, personal religious observance" after each game.

The Court held that Coach Kennedy's ritual after football games is private conduct. The Court noted that Coach Kennedy never attempted to pressure or coerce his players or spectators to join him. He had also never offered his prayers while acting within the scope of his duties as a coach or conditioned playing time based upon participation in his prayer. He merely engaged, for approximately 30 seconds after each game, in his own brief and personal religious observance.

The Court reasoned that finding this private conduct unconstitutional would be to discriminate against religion. That's right, of course, because as any fair reading of American history makes clear, what the Framers of our Constitution were concerned about was the establishment of a state religion of the kind they fled when the Pilgrims came to America in the first place. That is why the Framers would not recognize the hostility to religion that is so common in America today.

For citizen patriots loyal to our Constitution, these last 10 days have marked a thrilling return to constitutional principles, to the rubric that the responsibility of a Supreme Court Justice is to interpret the law, not make it.

### **ROYAL ALEXANDER IS A SHREVEPORT ATTORNEY**

### FROM THE BACK PORCH

Just in time for the Fourth of July!

We had our first good watermelon of the season. We had bought two at the store earlier and neither of them was ripe. Then lucky us, we found a watermelon truck at the Farmers' Market, and bought a huge melon that looked so good. Not so lucky us, as when we cut it, it was mushy, way over ripe. I was so disappointed as I just knew we were in for a treat for days to come. So, I had given up on finding a good watermelon when my son came by one FANNIE MOORE day and left me one. He had purchased several at the point of origin- the watermelon patch. It turned out to be very sweet and good and just in time for the Fourth of July. My daddy always raised a big patch of watermelons and his plan was to have one ripe by the fourth of July. He almost always made it,

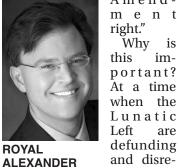
# It's watermelon time

We always enjoyed our watermelons. We would eat the juicy fruit directly from the rind which we cut in half. We each took a spoon and ate till it was gone leaving quite a bit of juice. One of the boys

v-shape on one side, making a perfect place to sip the juice from. The melons were like every-

get old enough, six to eight, Daddy always asked them to help him gather melons and load them onto a trailer. He would carry them to Springhill the next day and sell every one of them. He always would take his pocketknife guaranteed to replace any and cut a that were not ripe enough. I don't remember if he ever had to replace any but if so, there were few. He allowed the kiddos to gather a trailer load and set up their own stand in our yard at a crossroad. They could keep everything they earned, splitting it equally between them. They were thing else so excited when the few cars passing began to stop. One man told them he was going to town but would stop on the way back and buy one. Doubting mama thought they'd never see him again, but true to his word, he came back by and made a purchase. This was a good experience for the little ones.

The pasture where the hogs were adjoined the watermelon patch, divided by a net wire fence. He always let the grands "help" him and they had a ball. Our son was remembering this recently and one could tell it was a good memory of them and their PopPaw. They would get a melon, take it to the fence, drop it to break it open, and then if it was a good one, they would delve into it with their hands (dirt and all) and get the "heart" out to eat. The hogs got the rest of it.



the police, and police cover-

age and response times are

negatively impacted; when

bail to keep dangerous crimi-

nals off the streets is being

reduced and ended in many

jurisdictions; and prisons

are being emptied of lethal

threats to society; this Su-

preme Court decision reaf-

firms the principle that the

right to keep and bear arms is

The cry for "gun control" af-

ter these mass shootings (and

these shootings are primar-

ily a heart problem not a gun

problem) is an easy solution

for politicians with a desire to

an individual right.

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

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

### 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. in fact, I can't remember a time when we didn't have one ripe by the desired date.

we raised; we used as much of everything as we could. The rinds were then peeled, cut into small strips and miraculously turned into preserves. Mama could work her magic in the kitchen, and these preserves were no exception. Out of all the different jellies and preserves she made, the watermelon rinds were my favorite.

Later in the season, Daddy began feeding his hogs When the grands began to the melons left in the field.

They got to help every day, so, for both Daddy and the grands, it was a win-win situation.

Now, every year when we start searching for the perfect melon, I think of Daddy and his desire to have a ripe melon by the Fourth of July.

Daddy, we had one this year. Just not one of yours.

### FANNIE MOORE LIVES IN SHONGALOO.

### OPINION

# Leaving 'home' isn't what it is cracked up to be

When you leave home to go out of town, how anxious are you to return? For sure, I love trips out of town. However, I am always glad to get back home. Home is home. And, Northwest Louisiana is my home. I have always lived here. I love it here. And, after being away, I can't wait to get back. In short, I never want to leave home for too long. I am here because I want to live here.

About a year ago, I read a column written by Garey Forster of The Advocate in Baton Rouge. In his column titled: "There's a leaving Louisiana crisis, and nobody's doing anything about it,"

Forster talks about Lousiana's vast natural resources (oil, natural gas, seafood, agriculture and more). All of these resources are among the many reasons that we all love Louisiana. However, Forster's column also makes a point that Louisiana's people are our most valuable resource. This is so very true. He further states that people are leaving Louisiana in big numbers and no one is doing anything about it. And, I agree with this, 100%.

Forster's column caused me to spend a considerable amount of time thinking about this. In doing so, I soon remembered that I had written a somewhat similar column a few years ago. I always save all of my computer documents in specific folders on my desktop. However, I somehow could not find the specific column that I am referring to above. From memory, I remember pointing out in my column just how many of my high school friends left Northwest Louisiana for college and never returned. They even knew way back then that they were going to leave and never call our region home again. Up to this

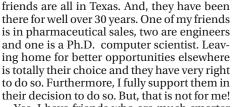
very day, they only return to visit family, etc. Through the years, they have quite often asked me if I was leaving too. My standard and consistent answer was always, "No, I am never leaving." Yes, I knew even way back then that Northwest Louisiana is where I want to be. I was born here. I was raised here. And, I have spent all of my 60 years here. Sure, I have had oppor-

tunities to leave through the years, but this is my home. This is where I belong. I am here and I am not leaving.

RANDY

BROWN

In reality, my friends obviously did not feel the same way. Four of my close high school



Yes, I have friends who are much smarter than me. for sure. I am not that smart, but I hung around with smart people hoping and praying that some of it would rub off on me. Since my high school days, I have always wondered why my friends were so anxious to leave Northwest Louisiana? And, so many times I have thought of what things would have been like if there were enough opportunities present for people like my friends to stay here as opposed to permanently moving away.

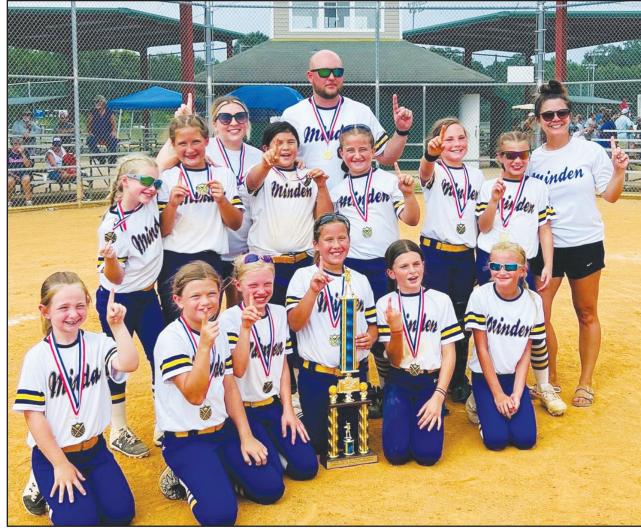
We have seen so many of our young people in Northwest Louisiana leave. They never return home to establish their careers and to live their lives. They leave for college, never to return in terms of calling this area home again. Forster points out in his column that we need to find out from our major employers what the state of Louisiana can do to keep our young people here. He suggests that our state legislature needs to get involved and

thereby adopt major policy reforms aimed at attracting investments and jobs. Again, I totally agree with this. Louisiana's long time demographic trend of declining population can not be allowed to continue. I love talking about a bright future for Northwest Louisiana and our state as a whole. However, if this trend continues for too much longer, our future will grow dim rather quickly due to the fact that we now face major economic competition from practically every other state in the South.

However, I also want to make it clear that I realize such efforts and attempts have been made in the past on behalf of our state government, local government, Chambers of Commerce and various economic development entities. So many people have worked so very hard to address all of the points made above. Much has been accomplished. However, I think we can all agree that there is still much more work to do. So, where do we begin? Let's get started with the next steps. We can't give up!

#### RANDY BROWN IS EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT OF SOECHT NEWSPAPERS, INC., ABD PUBLISHER OF THE MINDEN PRESS-HERALD.

# Sports



COURTESY PHOTO

# **Dixie Angels headed to state tourney**

The Minden10U Dixie Angels won their X-Play district tournament and will be heading to the State Tournament in Alexandria on July 15. Pictured from left to right on the bottom row are Kynlee Wood, Addi Ramsey, Emmaline Harmon, Peyton Wood, Madisyn Jernigan and Karlee Brewer. On the second row are Ellie Kate Perryman, Ella Wood, Kenzie Pamintuan, Layla Holford, Brayleigh Lewis, Lola Huddleston. On the top row are coaches April Pamintuan, Marcus Harmon, and Amber Huddleston. Not pictured is Coach Chase Huddleston.

# Catfisher Keith Johnson at it again

### **GLYNN HARRIS**

He's back setting lines in the Missouri River again and he's picking up right where he left off a decade ago

Keith Johnson moved to Ruston after living in Missouri for a few years but a job — and four grandchildren - called him back to the St. Louis area a year ago. Johnson recently published a photo of himself holding a 70-pound blue cat he had caught doing



# **G-Man becomes** Globetrotter



COURTESY PHOTO

Grambling State University dunk specialist Prince Moss (22) averaged 7.3 points, 4.2 rebounds, 1.0 assists and 1.0 steals as a senior graduate studentathlete during the Tigers' 2021-22 season.

# Grambling's Moss drafted by legendary Harlem team

Minden Press-Herald Sports Service

GRAMBLING — Grambling State University former student-athlete Prince Moss was selected with the third pick in the recent 2022 Harlem Globetrotters draft.

Moss, who not only was a standout on the basketball court, but also a tremendous high jumper for the Tigers' outdoor track and field team, was selected the first of four men's basketball players to be taken and one of three who have concluded their college careers.

"This young man turned his high-flying dunks into highflying jumps," Globetrotters coach "Sweet" Lou Dunbar said.

In his final collegiate season, Moss played in 28 games, averaging 26.0 minutes. He shot 34 percent from the floor, averaging 7.3 points, 4.2 rebounds, 1.0 assists and 1.0 steals. In his career, he played in 118 games, averaging 8.0 points and 3.5 boards. In addition, Moss most recently competed in the NCAA Division I East Preliminaries in the high jump where he finished 19th.

In April, Moss played in the first nationally televised HBCU All-Star Game as a member of Team Clarence "Big House" Gaines.

Founded in 1928, the Harlem Globetrotters' history is deep-rooted in black culture with many of its former members being alumni of historically Black colleges. Some of their most noteworthy HBCU alums include Fred "Curly" Neal (Johnson C. Smith), Nat "Sweetwater" Clifton (Xavier University of Louisiana), and Hubert "Geese" Ausbie (Philander Smith). Of the players on the current Harlem Globetrotters roster, six of them attended historically Black colleges including former CIAA Player of the Year with Elizabeth City State Angelo Sharpless.

it just like he did 10 years ago.

As a young adult, Johnson got his training from one of the best back in the day. The late I.B. Emmons demonstrated and taught the proper way to prepare fishing lines to attract some of Lake D'Arbonne's big flathead (Opelousas) catfish.

Johnson was a good student and after moving his family to the outskirts of St. Louis, Missouri, he discovered some waters there he felt could produce some of the same quality catfish he'd seen Emmons haul into the boat years ago. After a 10-year hiatus, he is back setting lines in the Missouri River again.

Visiting with Keith, who happens to be my sonin-law, he shared how he used what he had learned about fishing D'Arbonne to convert the Missouri into a haven for catfish.

"After moving up here and hearing what good catfishing the Missouri River offered, I talked to some fishermen and did some said. "I was convinced that if those big old "Ops" would bite on D'Arbonne,

Keith Johnson landed this whopper 70-pound blue catfish on the Missouri River.

here in this river if I used the same techniques I.B. taught me. However, this river has quite a bit of current so I knew I'd have to make some adjustments."

"The tackle and bait is the same we used in Louisiana; a heavy line, sinker and I've been using 9-0 Mustad saltwater hooks. I catch some bluegills, put them in the live well to keep them fresh, and bait my hooks with them. This river has wing dams and it's typical to find log drifts up against the dams. Knowing that catfish like wood as well as the slower moving water under these drifts, I've been able to pick my spots and set my hooks there, and it's paid off pretty well."

I'd say it's paid off pretty online research," Johnson well. During a three-week period when he first tried catfishing the river, he caught 12 flathead catfish they ought to do the same with the largest weighing

more than 40 pounds. "From what I've been able to learn, I have been

fishing the river at a prime time; June and July are usually the best months," Johnson said. "Fishing success will drop off between now and when cooler weather arrives in fall when it should pick up again."

While most of the fish he has caught have been hooked by dangling his bait off the bottom near deep water, the largest was caught in five feet of water; the fish was buried up in a root ball and waiting for a bream to swim by.

Fortunately for Johnson, one of the bream the big cat chomped down on concealed a Mustad hook.

The 9-0 hooks he uses have been sufficient so far in landing the dozen flathe

"I came to this one line, pulled it up and the hook was straightened," Johnson said. "The fish that tied into

this rig had also pulled the line so tight it had cut into the wood of a log it was lying across. I'd love to get a look at the whopper that was able to do that."

There is the possibility that last week, Johnson may have been able to get a look at the one that straightened his hook 10 years ago. Fishing the river with his son-in-law, Josh Ortego, Johnson was able to haul in and belly hug a whopping 70-pound blue cat, a fish he photographed and returned to the river to fight again.

Being away from his now favorite catfishing hole for 10 years, Johnson hasn't missed a beat as he's applying the lessons taught on catfishing Lake D'Arbonne to continue to haul in big catfish.

– Contact Glynn Harris at glynnharris37@gmail. com.

### Fishing Report

latest reports, call Anderson's Sport Center at 368-9669 or Honey Hole Tackle Shop at 323-8707.

LAKE CLAIBORNE - Bream are still hanging around shallow beds and fishing is fair to good on crickets and worms. Crappie fishing has been best fishing around the lighted piers at night using shiners with some hanging around deep brush and hitting jigs and shiners. Bass have been schooling some and hitting topwater lures. Also fishing around and under the boat docks on soft plastics is working. No report on catfish. For the latest information, call Kel's Cove at 927-2264 or Terzia Tackle at 278-4498

CANEY LAKE - The bass are schooling with some caught on topwater lures with soft plastics taking some beneath the breaking schools. Crappie are around the deeper tops in 16-18 foot water and have been fair on shiners and jigs. Bream fishing is still fairly good around the lake on crickets or worms. No report on catfish. For information contact Hooks Marina at 249-2347, Terzia Tackle at 278-4498 or the Honey Hole Tackle Shop at 323-8707

LAKE POVERTY POINT - Catfish have been good while bass, bream and crappie are slow to fair. Forthe latest reports, call Poverty Point Marina at 318-878-0101.

LAKE ST. JOHN - Catfishing is while bass, bream and crappie are rather slow. For information, call Ken Mahoney at 318-201-3821.

LAKE YUCATAN - The water continues on a slow fall and fishing has been improving daily with plenty of crappie, barfish, bass and catfish being caught. For information, call Surplus City Landing at 318-467-2259.



Lakeside Baseball

Jon Jon Dick has had a strong summer for Lakeside baseball, shown recently in wins over Lakeside and North DeSoto. He threw a shutout against Doyline in a 5-0 win while also homering against North DeSoto.

The Press-Herald Athlete of the Week feature is brought to you every other Friday by **Under Dawgs.** 

BLACK BAYOU - Bream and crappie fishing is still fair to good around the trees and bushes. No report on bass. Contact Honey Hole Tackle Shop 323-8707 for the latest information.

OUACHITA RIVER - Bass fishing has been fair to good on a variety of lures. Bream are still hitting crickets and worms. The crappie bite has slowed with fair catches on shiners or jigs. For the latest information, contact the Honey Hole Tackle Shop at 323-8707.

LAKE D'ARBONNE - Bass fishing has been fair to good with topwater lures taking fish early with soft plastic working best later in the day. Crappie are fair with best catches made on shiners or jigs fished along the edges of the channels in 18-foot water. Bream are still fair to good fishing worms and crickets around shallow beds. Catfish are biting cold worms fished off the banks. For the

# Good News

**GOOD NEWS** 

Bet most of us remember some special things that happened in the summertime when we were young. Some memories have lodged firmly in my memory-bank all these years. It's like a 'standing invitation to go back and relive some of them.' Growing up in the country, in a family of10 (including Granny Crider), we spent most of our summer- time outside, except to eat and sleep. There was not enough room in the little 'shotgun' house for all of us to be in it at the same time, except when we were grouped to eat or sleep. Talking about a 'close-knit' family - we were when inside, but when we were outside, we scattered out in the community.

Most of the time our crops (cotton and corn) were 'laid by' by July 4. We would 'resume' our work in the fields at harvest time. While there was a pause from working daily in the fields, Daddy found plenty of work for the children. We use this heated time in July to cut fire wood. We needed short sticks of wood

for the cook-stove and a longer stick for the fireplace. Nevertheless, it took many days to cut, split and haul the wood to the house. We did not have a tractor for many years, so

hooked we the horses to a sled and transported split wood to the house where we

stacked in the

two piles: one for the kitchen and one **Bill Crider** for the fire place. Ready for winter now! But

we always paused on July 4 and "celebrated". No parades, soap-box speeches, no politicians asking for votes; just taking a break from the fields.

We celebrated July 4 eating watermelon and homemade ice cream. (This is like heaven we thought.)Our ice cream was made in a freezer from Sears & Roebuck. It was hand-cranked, making 6-quarts of the best ice cream a kid ever had to eat. We lined up to have our turn cranking the machine. We use cracked ice bought from the iceman who made runs through the country each week with large square blocks of ice wrapped in a thick tarp or covering. We usually bought 25 or 50 lb squares, then wrap it in an old quilt and

SUMMERS OF YESTERDAY

put it in the icebox (no refrigerator yet). There had to be plenty of sweet milk, fresh cream, vanilla sugar, extract (from Watkin's the peddler and ice cream salt. (Long range

planning for sure). But the results was glorious, heavenly and the fulfillment of special dreams - for this country boy!

Watermelons were kept under the beds - the coolest places in the house. We ate them to the edge of the pink, and Mama would call a halt! She wanted the white rind to make watermelon rind preserves or melon pickles. These were saved for Christmas cooking, mainly fruitcakes.

Firecrackers were special too. Usually each of us boys could have a package of fireand maybe one Roman candle. Boy, oh boy, was that ever special. But when they exploded, that was it, it was all over until next year! Toys were generally 'hand-made or created out of cast-a-ways. Each boy had his own 'vehicle'...ala an old worn out automobile tire. We would 'run our cars all over the yard' having the time of our lives. Younger children were satisfied with a 'stick horse' made from broom handles. We had a flying jennie, a see-saw, a set of stilts (tom-walkers), a tireswing hanging from the limb of a large oak tree in the yard. We played baseball all summer with the neighbor kids, usually on Sunday afternoon. Granny Crider would wrap a nice rounded rock in old cloth, several times, tighten it and sew it for

crackers each to shoot,

a 'firm baseball'. During these 'dog days of summer', we enjoyed a dip in Turkey Creek. It was not the most inviting place for swimming, but it was near and the water was 'wet'....muddy and brown, but wet. After we made sure the snakes were somewhere else, we would strip and dive in. One Sunday afternoon, some girls sneaked up and stole our clothes, taking them a great distance before dropping them and running away. Benson was brave enough to chase them and bring our clothes back. After that, we were more careful.

There were always peas to shell, beans to snap, corn to shuck, gardens to gather, fig to pick, berries in the pasture to pick, tators to dig and a multitude of chores. But this was just a part of our everyday life on the farm. Summer time meant going bare-footed most of the time, no shirt or cap for the most part.

At night it was still hot at 10:00 (our bed time) since we began our daily chores early (milking cows, feeding the hogs and chickens, et) and then get to the field. We all had mosquito nets over each bed, plus all the windows were raised to let the night breeze come through if there were any blowing. Grandma would line the three youngest boys up, lying across the bed and with a 'funeral-home' fan, she would fan and sing us to sleep almost every night. When I hear the hymn "In The Garden", I am reminded of her dedicated love for us.

Other shades of fun during the heat of the summer included playing with June bugs and lightning bugs. Tying strings around them and following them around the vard at night was a special adventure. Putting lightening bugs in a glass jar and watch them 'light the path around the dark yard at night' was amusing for us. These were a few of our creative toys to entertain us during those long hot days and nights of summer.

Now we sit inside where it is always cool, drink cokes and play electronic games or talk on our I-phones. My, how things have changed in the past 65 hot, sweaty summers!

### **BILL CRIDER IS CHAPLAIN OF MINDEN MEDICAL CENTER**

### THE UPWARD LOOK

### Three In One

"There is one body and one Spirit, just is one God who reveals Himself with

as also you were called in one hope of your calling; one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all who is over all and through all and in all." Ephesians 4:4-6 NASB



three distinct personal attributes. The unity of the Trinity is the source and foundation that undergirds the unity of all believers into one body, one hope, one faith, one baptism.

Lord God, despite my limited and feeble understanding, by faith I accept and acknowledge that You are one God in three persons, the Blessed Trinity!

### INSPIRATION

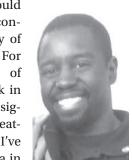
I would like everyone to think of the last time they prepared anything using a recipe. Did you follow it to the letter or did you take some creative liberties?

Have you ever wondered could this recipe be better? I'll confess that I have been guilty of making some substitutions. For example, the substitution of yogurt or pudding for milk in most cake recipes imparts significantly more moisture creating a more robust texture. I've said all this to plant the idea in **Bernard Harris** your mind that maybe we can change the composition of our lives. We spend so much time trying to make our lives into what we feel they should be

### Life's Composition

that we rarely ask God what he wants our lives to consist of. We live in a world where it's become easy to put God on a shelf for a rainy day and if we aren't care-

> ful we will forget to include God altogether. Therefore I'm ending this writing with a challenge I would like everyone to find something in their lives that is none essential and re-



unity, Paul lists seven components that unite all believers. These seven include the

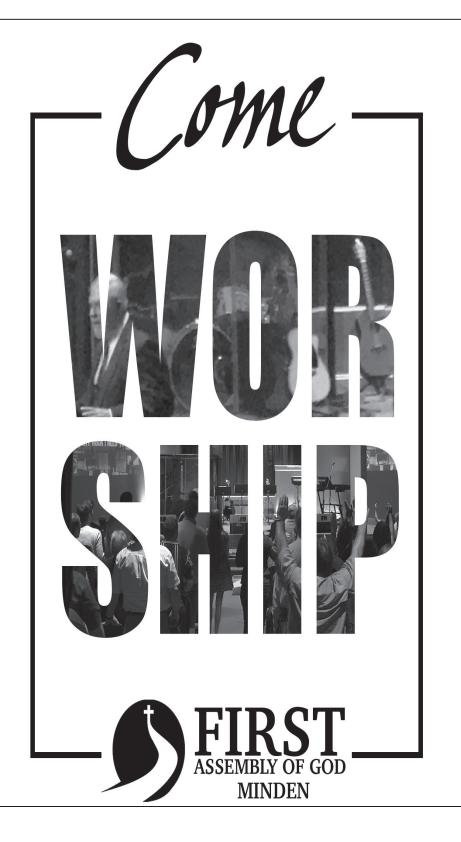
Appealing for spiritual

three persons of the Trinity: one Spirit, one Lord, and one God the Father. While difficult for our human minds to comprehend and understand, God



MAX HUTTO IS A BAPTIST MINISTER AND A RESI-DENT OF MINDEN. MORE INFORMATION CAN BE FOUND AT WWW.UPWARDLOOK.ORG. place it with more God time. I hope you all have a very blessed week.

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



How can we pray for you? If you're in need of prayer, we can help you. Contact the FBC 24-Hour Prayer Ministry

at 371-PRAY. FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH 301 Pennsylvania Avenue • Minden, LA

# FUN & GAMES

### CROSSWORD

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### COMICS

#### **BLONDIE I** DEAN YOUNG AND JOHN MARSHAL IS IT ME, OR DOES IT SEEM LIKE MOST OF THE MOVIES ANYMORE THERE DO SEEM TO BE & LOT OF I SEE YOU'VE NOTICED, TOO SUPERHERO Ì, MUSCULAR 11,00 1 mg IN MOST OF THE PREVIEWS THESE DAVS MOUTE MARSHA **BEETLE BAILEY I** MORT & GREG WALKER IT'S BASED BUT THERE'S A BIG STOP HORSING WHY DO WE TALK ABOUT ENGINES IN TERMS OF DIFFERENCE BETWEEN AROUNDAND ON THE STRENGTH A CLYDESDALE PUSH! HORSEPOWER? OF A HORSE AND A COLT $\infty$ GREG +MORT WALKER 7/8 0 KERBEAN I TOM BATILIK HOW DID THINGS I bought six He was very GO WITH THE BAND DIRECTOR? band turkeys! persuasive... MA 000 000 田 000 000 7-8 HAGAR THE HORRIBLE I CHRIS BROWNE THERE YOU ARE! I SENT YOU OUT FOR CREAM! BRING ME A WHITE RUSSIAN .. HOLD THE VODKA AND KAHLUA! HI AND LOIS | BRIAN WALKER, GREG WALKER AND CHANCE BROWNE I'D REALLY LIKE TO BE ABLE TO PARK THE CAR IN HERE BUT THIS IS THE BEST PLACE FOR HOW MUCH NOTHING. BAND PRACTICE. YOU TO WASH SOMEDAY



))\@

SER Raks

34				35				36			
37			38				39				
			40				41		42	43	44
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32

### **SUDOKU**

31

SUDOKU									
	8		7			2	3		
		socoode						7	
			9		4			5	
			5					2	
	3				7		aaaada		
		5		9		7		4	
				8	rooode				
			2			sscool			
	7								
Level: Advanced									

### Fun By The Numbers

33

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!

6	S	9	G	4	ε	8	L	aadd	
8	G	mugu	6	٢	S	9	с†	3	
S	L	7	mh	8	9	S	6	S	
7	8	٢	3	6	mak	G	9	S	
9	mah	ç	L	S	4	6	Э	8	
2	6	£	8	9	G	L	manh	<b>7</b>	
ç	9	8	4	muh	6	ε	S	L	
L	7	6	S	Э	8	mak	G	9	
much	3	2	9	G	٢	t	8	6	
ANSWER:									

# SAM AND SILO I JERRY DUMAS



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UKITIUQUI

#### JZENLW OLEL EFYYTYK Z TS Ζ WOHSLE HY IAETYKG DHFYXTYK IWTXNI, Ζ ITKY JTKVW ΙZG

### "DHKH AHKHI!"

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: PROLONGED, BITTER RIVALRY BETWEEN TWO MEN WHO ARE PEDDLING MOSTLY THE SAME WARES: A VEND-ETTA. Today's Cryptoquip Clue: Y equals N

FUN & GAMES

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ment Solution (Software) This is a cooperative proposal request for participating school

boards in Avoyelles, DeSoto, Lincoln. Sabine, and Webster parishes

All proposers are hereby notified, that a Request for Proposal is being used in lieu of an Invitation to Bid. Sole responsibility for proper delivery of a proposal is that of the proposer.

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All responses to proposals shall be submitted online through the Central Bidding website only to:

Juanita Duke. Chief **Financial Officer** Lincoln Parish School Board

Ruston, LA 71270 No proposals will be

received after the date and hour specified. The right is reserved to reject any and all proposals and to waive any informalities in accordance with R.S. 38:2211.

et seq.

/s/ Mr. Ricky Durrett, Superintendent LINCOLN PARISH SCHOOL BOARD

/s/ Mr. Johnny Rowland, Jr., Superinten-JASON R. PARKER dent Sheriff & Ex-Officio WEBSTER PARISH Auctioneer Webster Parish. SCHOOL BOARD Louisiana July 1, 2022 Linda Vaughan -July 8, 2022 Deputy Minden Press-Herald June 10, 2022 July 8, 2022 Minden Press-Herald Anyone knowing the whereabouts of Phillip Howell whose last SHERIFF'S SALE known address was 252 Galaxy Street, D<u>EUTSCHE</u> BANK NATIONAL Hot Springs, Arkansas STRUST COMPA-71913, is asked to NY, AS TRUSTEE contact Jack W. Slaid, FOR HSI ASSET Attorney-at-Law at SECURITIZA-(318) 382-1177 or at TION CORPO 1374 Homer Road. RATION TRUST Suite 200, Minden, LA 2006-WMC1, MORTGAGE 71055. PASS-THROUGH CERTIFICATES, July 1, 2022 SERIES 2006-July 8, 2022 WMC1 Minden Press-Herald VS. CYNTHIA D. SCOTT SHERIFF'S SALE In the Twenty-Sixth Judicial District U.S. BANK, N.A. Court of Webster AS TRUSTEE, SUCCESSOR Parish. Louisiana. No. CV79643 IN INTEREST By virtue of a TO WACHOVIA WRIT OF SEIZURE AND SALE issued BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION AS TRUSTEE, out of the Twenty-SUCCESSOR Sixth Judicial BY MERGER TO District Court of FIRST UNION Webster Parish, NATIONAL BANK AS TRUSTEE FOR Louisiana. in the above styled and **MID-STATE TRUST** numbered suit and to me directed, I Ŝ. have seized and WESLEY T. MCEACHERN taken into mv possession and A/K/A WESLEY will offer for sale at public auction to MCEACHERN AND BROOKE the last and highest **MCEACHERN** bidder for cash WITH the benefit of In the Twenty-Sixth appraisement and Judicial District according to law at Court of Webster the principal front door of the Court-Parish, Louisiana, No. 79991 house in the City of Minden, Webster By virtue of a Parish, Louisiana WRIT OF SEIZURE on WEDNESDAY, July 13, 2022, AND SALE issued During the legal out of the Twenty-Sixth Judicial sale hours, the District Court of following property, Webster Parish, to wit: Louisiana, in the above styled and House and lot at numbered suit and 404 Patrick Street more particularly to me directed, I have seized and described as foltaken into my lows: possession and The South One will offer for sale at Hundred (100) feet of a tract of land public auction to the last and highest

Minden, Webster Parish, Louisiana on WEDNESDAY, July 13, 2022, During the legal sale hours, the following property, to wit: Beginning at a point 1,245 feet East of the Southwest Corner of the Southeast Quarter of Section 25, Township 20 North, Range 9 West. Webster Parish: Louisiana. in the center of the blacktop road, thence run North 210 feet to the point of beginning; thence continue North 340 feet; thence run West 164 feet; thence run South 340 feet: thence run East 164 feet to the point of beginning, together with all improvements located thereon and all rights thereto belonging And the following servitude or easement for the purpose of ingress and egress and utility service. Beginning at a point 1215.00 feet East of the Southwest corner of the Southeast Quarter of Section 25, Township 20 North, Range 9 West, Webster Parish, Louisiana in the center of the black top road; Thence run North 550.00 feet; run thence

East 30.00 feet; run thence South 550.00 feet; to the center of the blacktop road; thence run West 30.00 feet; to the point of beginning SOLD SUBJECT

TO ANY SUPE-RIOR LIENS, MORTGAGES **OR PRIVILEGES** THERETO. Said property seized is that of the

defendant and will be sold to satisfy a judgment rendered in our Honorable Court.

acquired by J. C.

Southeast Corner of said tract, and run North 100 feet thence West 70 feet to the Northeast Corner of the lot sold by J.C. Norman to Van H. Norman, thence South 100 feet along the East boundary line of Van H. Norman. thence East 70 feet to the Point of Beginning, together with all improvements thereon and all rights thereto belonging, all situated in the City of Minden Webster Parish, Louisiana; and Begin at the Northwest Corner of the Northwest Quarter of Southwest Quarter (NW/Cor. of NW/4 of SW/4) of Section 23 Township 19 North, Range 9 West, Webster Parish, Louisiana, thence run East 424 feet to the West Line of the J.C. Norman property, thence run South 201 feet along said West line to the Point of Beginning of hte property herein described, thence run East 100 feet, thence run South 100 feet, thence run West 100 feet, thence run North 100 feet to the Point of Beginning with all improvements thereon. The property herein Conveyed is the South 100 feet of that property acqur-ied by J.C. Norman from J.T. O'Rear on October 13, 1923, as per deed recorded in Book 61, at Page 103, Conveyance Records, Webster Par ish, and corrected by instrument filed for recorded under Register Number 324,428 and recorded in Book 71, at Page 511 of said Records, to which correction instrument a plat of the property is attached; subject to restrictions, servitudes, rights-of-way and outstanding mineral rights of record affecting the property. SOLD SUBJECT TO ANY SUPE-**RIOR LIENS,** MORTGAGES **OR PRIVILEGES** THERETO. Said property seized is that of the defendant and will be sold to satisfy a judgment rendered in our Honorable Court JASON R. PARKER Sheriff & Ex-Officio Auctioneer Webster Parish. Louisiana Linda Vaughan -Deputy June 10, 2022 July 8, 2022 **Minden Press-Herald** SHERIFF'S SALE **GIBSLAND BANK &** TRUST COMPANY VS. **GREGORY WADE** BEENE In the Twenty-Sixth Judicial District Court of Webster Parish, Louisiana, No. 79716 By virtue of a WRIT OF SEIZURE AND SALE issued out of the Twenty-Sixth Judicial District Court of Webster Parish, Louisiana, in the above styled and numbered suit and to me directed, I have seized and taken into my possession and will offer for sale at public auction to the last and highest bidder for cash  $\underline{\text{WITH}}$  the benefit of appraisement and according to law at the principal front door of the Courthouse in the City of Minden, Webster Parish, Louisiana on WEDNESDAY, August 10, 2022 During the legal sale hours, the following property, ing to wit

Beginning at the Northeast corner of the South 1/2 of the Northwest 1/4 of Southeast 1/4 of Section 14 Township 19 North, Range 10 West; run South 120 ft to the East line of the Northwest 1/4 of Southeast 1/4; thence run South 75 degrees West 230 ft more or less to a fence marking the West right of way line of U.S. Hwy 371; thence run South 77 ft more or less along the West right of way line of Hwy 371 to a fence extending westerly to the East right of way line of the Old Minden-Cotton Valley Rd; thence run westerly along the iron fence 238.40 feet, more or less. to the East right of way line of the Old Minden- Cotton Valley Rd; thence continue northwesterly along the east right of way line 460 ft more or less to the North line of the South 1/2 of the Northwest 1/4 of southeast 1/4; thence run Easterly on the North line of the South 1/2 of Northwest 1/4 of Southeast 1/4 600 ft, more or less, to the point of beginning, and less and except the following tracts: A. A 0.77 acre, more or less, tract of land conveyed by

Todd Anthony Butler to Jacquelyn J. Roton by cash deed recorded in Book 1126, page 694, of the Conveyance Records of Webster Parish, Louisiana the description of which is incorporated by reference.

B. A .55 acre tract of land described in that certain act of donation recorded in Book 971, page 29, of the Convey ance Records of Webster Parish, Louisiana.

That certain manufactured home/ mobile situated on the above described property, being a 2001 Cappaert/ Impact Serial No CHVM0101248177-BATON ROUGE. 26AB, which said LOUISIANA manufactured home/mobile home was immobilized pursuant to Afparticular reference fidavit to Immobilize to the provisions of Mobile Home dated Title 30 of Louisiana March 26, 2001 and filed for record **Revised Statutes of** as COB 921, page 1950, a public hearing 86 to the records will be held in the of Webster Parish, Hearing Room, 1st Louisiana. Floor, LaSalle Building, 617 North 3rd SOLD SUBJECT TO ANY SUPE-Street, Baton Rouge, RIOR LIENS. Louisiana, at 9:00 MORTGAGES a.m. on TUESDAY, **OR PRIVILEGES** JULY 26, 2022, upon THERETO. the application of Said property DORCHEAT OIL & seized is that of the GAS, LLC. defendant and will At such hearing be sold to satisfy a the Commissioner of judgment rendered in our Honorable Conservation will con-Court sider evidence relative to the issuance of JASON R. PARKER Orders pertaining to Sheriff & Ex-Officio the following matters Auctioneer relating to the Davis Webster Parish, Louisiana Zone Unit and Cook Zone Unit, in the Ada Linda Vaughan -Field, Webster Parish, Deputy Louisiana. 1. To grant permission July 8, 2022 to the applicant to August 5, 2022 Minden Press-Herald commingle downhole and to produce gas and condensate from the Davis Zone Unit PROCEEDING OF and Cook Zone Unit THE VILLAGE OF in the Dorcheat Oil & **HEFLIN, STATE OF** Gas, LLC (originally LOUISIANA, TAKEN J. S. Rushing), Cook IN REGULAR MEET-No. 1 (SN 31158) and ING HELD ON JUNE Cook No. 1-D (SN 9, 2022. 34499), located in Section 28, Township The Heflin Town 18 North, Range 8 Council met at Town West. Hall, Heflin, Louisiana 2. To continue in full beginning at 8:00 force and effect the p.m. with the following provisions of Office of members present: Conservation Order Mayor Todd Leake No. 99-B-4, effective council members Matt November 1, 1954. Austin, Hallie DeMoss, 3. To consider such Ralph James, and other matters as may Village Clerk Sherry be pertinent. Limosnero. Absent The Davis Zone Police Chief Paul (DAVIS SUF) was Migues and Water System Operator Jesse Williamson. fective July 6, 1945. The meeting was opened with prayer of-(COOKK SUF) was fered by Ralph James and Hallie DeMoss led the Pledae of fective July 6, 1945. Allegiance. Mayor Todd Leake welcomed for inspection in the everyone to the meet-Office of Conservation in Baton Rouge

duly seconded by Matt http://dnr.louisiana. Austin, the council gov/conshearings adopted the Minutes from May 5, 2022 interest therein shall take notice thereof. at Council Regular Meeting held on June BY ORDER OF: 9, 2022 as presented: the motion was ap-**BICHARD P IFYOUR** proved unanimously Matt Austin moved COMMISSIONER OF CONSERVATION to accept the May 5, 2022 Operating Financial Statements as Baton Rouge, LA presented; the motion 6/20/22:6/23/22 was duly seconded by Ralph James. The IN ACCORDANCE motion was approved WITH THE AMERIunanimously Upon motion by CANS WITH DIS-Ralph James and duly ABILITIES ACT, seconded by Hallie IF YOU NEED AS-SISTANCE AT THE DeMoss, the council **HEARING, PLEASE** unanimously approved Water System Reports CONTACT THE OFfor May 5, 2022. FICE OF CONSERVA-Hallie DeMoss **TION-ENGINEERING** moved to accept the **DIVISION AT P.O.** 

Upon motion by

Hallie DeMoss and

and Shreveport,

All parties having

lck

Louisiana

May 5, 2022 Police Department Report as presented; the motion was duly seconded by Matt Austin. The motion was approved unanimously.

Matt Austin moved to approve CW&W CONTRACTORS, INC. TO DEMOLISH HEFLIN GYM as presented; the motion was duly seconded by Matt Austin.

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

Attest by: Sherry Limosnero LCMC, Village Clerk Respectfully posted: 06/30/2022 Adopted: Publish<sup>.</sup>

July 8, 2022 **Minden Press-Herald** 

> ADA FIELD 22-352 and 22-353

LEGAL NOTICE STATE OF LOUISI-ANA, OFFICE OF CONSERVATION.

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

June 28, 2022 July 8, 2022 July 12, 2022 Minden Press-Herald

MINUTES OF THE **REGULAR MEETING** WEBSTER PARISH POLICE JURY July 5, 2022

Cox, Vice President;

July 8, 2022 Minden Press-Herald **MEMBERS PRES-**ENT: Jim Bonsall, President: Nick

### ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

**BOX 94275 BATON** 

**ROUGE, LA 70804** 

9275 IN WRITING

WITHIN FIVE (5)

WORKING DAYS OF

THE HEARING DATE.

Notice is hereby given that the Webster Parish School Board will receive sealed bids from LA licensed general contractors until 2:00 P.M. Wednesday July 27, 2022, for:

> JOB #2022-04 A NEW COMPLEX FOR MINDEN HIGH SCHOOL SOFTBALL MINDEN, LOUISIANA

Bids will be accepted Minden Press Herald until the date and time specified and will be publicly opened and read aloud at that time in the School Board's Office, 1442 Sheppard Street, Minden, - 4 -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

Steve Lemmons, Steve Ramsey, Randy Thomas, Beverly Kennon, Vera Davison, Bruce Blanton, Ed Jordan, **Daniel Thomas and Bernard Hudson** Absent: Allen Gilbert Mr. Jim Bonsall called the meeting to order and asked Nick Cox to open the meeting with

prayer. Mr. Bernard Hudson led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Bonsall then asked for additions to the agenda. There were no comments from the audience concerning the agenda

Ms. Vera Davison moved, seconded by Mr. Steve Lemmons to approve invoices for payment pending review by Juror Vera Davison. Motion carried unanimously

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.

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advertisement is that In accordance with of the bidder. Bids the laws of the State received after the date of Louisiana, and with and time of opening

> will not be considered A non-mandatory Pre-bid Conference will be held at 10:00 A.M. on Wednesday July 13, 2022 at the Webster Parish School Board office 1442 Sheppard St. Minden, Louisiana 71055. 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. Bidrelated materials and electronic submittal of bids may be found at: WWW.CENTRAL-BIDDING.COM. For questions relating to

the electronic bidding originally fully defined process, please call in Order No. 99-A, ef-Central Bidding at (225) 810-4814. Elec-The Cook Zone tronic bid documents are also available for a originally fully defined purchase price of \$20 in Order No. 99-A, effrom the architect's office or by membership to following Plan A plat is available Rooms: LAGC, ConstructConnect, Dodge,

or ISqFt

Mr. Ed Jordan moved, seconded by Ms. Beverly Kennon to adopt the minutes of the June 7, 2022 Road Committee, Finance Committee and Regular Meeting. Motion carried unanimously

Ms. Denise Edwards, Assessor spoke to the jury about the millage rates for Webster Parish for 2022.

Mr. Nick Cox moved, seconded by Mr. Bruce Blanton to adopt the Millage Rates for Webster Parish for 2022 and approve Webster Parish Resolution 008-2022. Motion carried unanimously

COMMENTS: Savannah Jones WP Library Serena Gray WP C.V.B. (Tourism) Carl Thompson WP Assessor, Denise Edwards Christie Cox WP Coroner/Allen Mosley Lainey Smith LSU Ag/Extension Office Brian Williams **OHSEP** Director Angie Chapman W.P. 911 Director

Mr. Steve Ramsey moved, seconded by Mr. Steve Lemmons to approve the action taken at the Road **Committee Meeting** held earlier today. Motion carried unanimously

Mr. Nick Cox moved, seconded by Ms. Vera Davison to approve the action taken at the Finance Committee Meeting held earlier today. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Jim Bonsall then gave Presidents' closing remarks.

**Continued on** Next Page....

There being no further business to bring before the Jury, the meeting adjourned.

Lisa C. Balkom Secretary-Treasurer

/s/ Jim Bonsall President

July 8, 2022 Minden Press-Herald

Notice

White Oak Title, LLA Pintail Land Company, LLC Carson Ellis Hinton Dorothy Boyett Hinton

THIS NOTICE BY PUBLICATION IS NOTIFICATION THAT YOUR RIGHTS **OR INTEREST IN** THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED PROP-ERTY LOCATED IN WEBSTER PARISH LOUISIANA MAY BE TERMINATED BY OP-ERATION OF LAW IF YOU DO NOT TAKE FURTHER ACTION IN ACCORDANCE WITH LAW:

Lots #5 and 6 BLK "G". Justice HTS. ADDN. IN NW/4 of NE/4 Sec. 21-19-9, Less 50 ft. off West End of Lots 5 and 6

Assessment #111954 as per the assessment in the records of the Tax Assessor of Webster Parish. Louisiana.

This property was adjucated to the Police Jury on 5/17/2018. The three year redemptive period has passed. Tax sale title to the above described property has been sold for failure to pay taxes. You have been identified as a person who may have an interest in this property. Your interest in the property will be terminated within 60 days from the date of this publication unless you redeem the property or you may otherwise challenge in a court of competent jurisdiction the potential sale or donation.

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

July 8, 2022 **Minden Press-Herald** 



# **Receptionist/Helper** Wanted.

Fast-paced, multitasker with excellent organizational skills. Must have some computer knowledge, be able to work well with customers, and be detail-oriented. If this is you,

call 377-8518 and ask for Walt



### Webster Printing Company.

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> > PROBLEM

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### Notice

#### Willa Cato

THIS NOTICE BY PUBLICATION IS NOTIFICATION THAT YOUR RIGHTS **OR INTEREST IN** THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED PROF ERTY LOCATED IN WEBSTER PARISH LOUISIANA MAY BE TERMINATED BY OP-ERATION OF LAW IF YOU DO NOT TAKE FURTHER ACTION IN ACCORDANCE WITH LAW:

Lot Fronting 29 ft. on Morrow St. x 191 ft. IN NE/4 of NW/4 Sec. 28-19-9

Assessment #110426 as per the assessment in the records of the Tax Assessor of Webster Parish, Louisiana.

This property was adjucated to the Police Jury on 5/22/2015. The three year redemptive period has passed. Tax sale title to the above described property has been sold for failure to pay taxes. You have been identified as a person who may have an interest in this property. Your interest in the property will be terminated within 60 days from the date of this publication unless you redeem the property or you may otherwise challenge in a court of competent jurisdiction the potential sale or donation.

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

July 8, 2022 Minden Press-Herald



FOR SALE RUSTON PEACHES AND PRODUCE 318-235-3228 Every Wed. 8am-til sold out. Corner of Hwy 80 & 371 beside DD's Liquor. GARAGE/ESTATE SALES **ESTATE SALE** by ToTheAtticAndBack Estate Sales in Haynesville, LA, Friday thru Sunday, July 8, 9 & 10. Address is: 2113 Spring St., Haynesville, LA, 71038. For hours, pictures, and details please visit http://www. estatesales.net, and click on "Huge Haynesville Sale". 458-4282

> Presbyterian Village of Homer is hiring CNA's all shifts. \_PN'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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