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TUESDAY, JULY 12, 2022

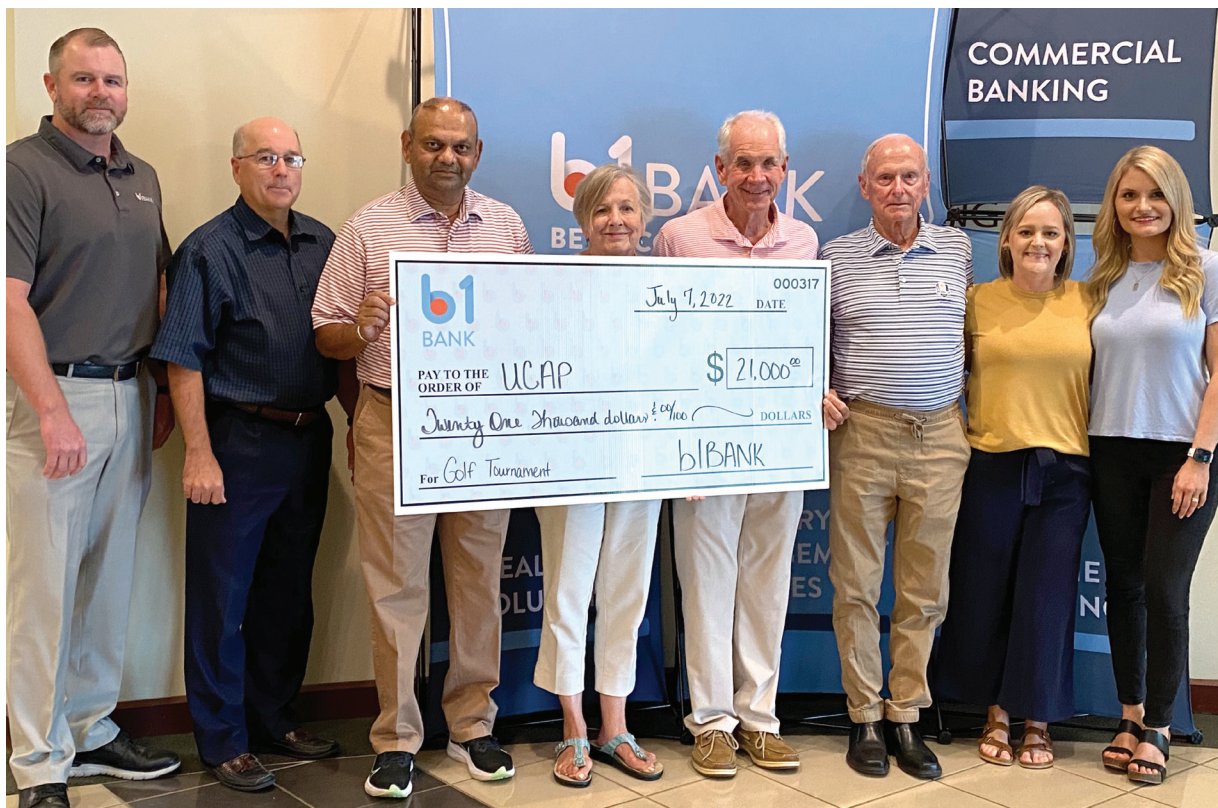
MINDEN, LOUISIANA

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75 CENTS

CHARITY

b1Bank presents UCAP with tournament earnings



COURTESY PHOTO

b1Bank presented UCAP with a check for the money raised at the UCAP golf tournament fundraiser, of which they were the title sponsor. Seen above are Micah Hanson and Mike Burton of b1Bank; Jay Kumar, Charlotte Jones, Fred Cabaniss and John Earnhardt with UCAP; and Lindy Ray and Morgan Monday of b1Bank.

GAS BUDDY

Gas prices high, but dropping

STAFF REPORT

Minden Press-Herald

Prices at the gas pumps may still be high, but they're lower than they were in June. The average price for a gallon of regular gasoline in the United States this year hit a peak of \$4.33 in June, 2022. As of July 11, 2022, that price has gone down to \$3.3831 per gallon per Trading Economics.

According to GasBuddy.com, a gallon of regular fuel is currently ranging between \$4.06 and \$4.36 in Minden, which is higher than the U.S. average price.

Gas prices began to soar in January 2022, surpassing the excessively high prices of fuel during the beginning of the Iraq War. Between September 2012 and June 2014, the highs for gas prices ranged between \$3.5048 and \$3.1355 per gallon. Americans just thought they were paying a lot for gas then.

The cost of crude oil is going down and so is the

demand as more people stay off the roads to save some cash. With U.S. refineries working at about 94% of capacity, the lower demand is helping them to keep up.

Some of the factors for these high prices include Russia's invasion of Ukraine, the production decisions of OPEC, and the rate at which U.S. oil and natural gas producers increase drilling, per the U.S. Energy Information Administration. According to that same source, "We expect the gasoline wholesale margins (the difference between the wholesale gasoline price and Brent crude oil price) to fall from \$1.17/gal in May to average 81 cents/gal in 3Q22, and we expect retail gasoline prices to average \$4.27/gal in 3Q22. Diesel wholesale margins in the forecast fall from \$1.53/gal in May to \$1.07/gal in 3Q22, and retail diesel averages \$4.78/gal in 3Q22."

In June, President Biden called for a three month long federal tax



"holiday" on fuel, which would lower the price per gallon by 18 cents/gal on regular fuel and 24 cents/gal on diesel fuel. He has also called on state and local governments to reduce taxes on gasoline during this time period. In Louisiana, that would be about another 20 cents/gal.

This is strictly a short-term measure and is for

gasoline only. A barrel of crude oil makes more than just gas. Other resources that are made from oil include kerosene, asphalt, naptha for livestock, waxes, and plastics. The prices of oil affect more than gasoline prices, and the prices of diesel affect the cost of every item that is delivered by truck.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

HALFWAY TO 2023

Special to the Minden Press-Herald

It is very hard for me to say it, but 2022 is half over! In June I finished my third legislative session as Louisiana State Senator serving District 36 which includes much of Bossier, Bienville, Claiborne and all of Webster Parish. I feel like you, District 36 and I had a successful session this year. The 2020 and 2021 sessions were productive but now seem so long ago, I blame it on the COVID fog. Many legislative veterans say the 2022 legislative session was the first "normal" session since my class of 2020-2024 got elected. Normal in the sense that the Capitol was open to the public and they showed up. As usual a bunch of lobbyists hovered over us as did the huge group of folks that make a living watching, working and helping legislators along the way.

The pace of things picked up early this year and it was anything but normal since we convened in Baton Rouge on February 1st in a special called redistricting session where we reviewed the many possible district maps to be used for the next 10 years for Louisiana's House and Senate, Louisiana's six U. S. Congressional districts, state-wide Board of Elementary and Secondary Education, Public Service Commission and our Supreme court district maps based on the newest 2020 federal census data which was received late due to COVID issues. There was much work to be done as the population of Louisiana had not grown much but had shifted from north to south and grown substantially in the Lafayette to Slidell areas along I-10. Caddo Parish lost and Bossier Parish gained substantial numbers while the rest of northwest Louisiana population generally declined and those changes needed to be reflected in new district lines to insure a representative government. Our newly drawn state maps are still the subject of litigation and I should not publicly comment further at this time but will when it is safe to do so.

The Redistricting Session was supposed to be the culmination of many months of work by a joint legislative committee but it ended up being only a stop on the way to the courthouse. The Legislature did successfully pass reformed maps for all of the above bodies but the Governor immediately vetoed the Congressional map and several pri-

vate and political parties vowed to sue and fight the House, Senate and Congressional maps to be redrawn. Our First Extraordinary Session of 2022 ended on February 18th.

The legislature met again and gavelled into our regular scheduled legislative session on March 14th with an order to adjourn no later than June 6th at 6 PM. This being an even numbered year indicates the session could not consider any tax or revenue bills which are handled only in odd numbered years. Even without taxes and revenues to write bills about, legislators filed over 1,500 bills to be considered. We

already had plenty to do but on March 29th we recessed our regular session and called a special veto session on March 30th to take votes to determine if the legislature could override the Governor's veto of our "new" Congressional map. Both houses of the legislature were successful in securing enough votes to override the Governor's veto of that map so it was back on the table and the veto session was adjourned and regular session resumed. You've likely been hearing about the ongoing legal battle over this Congressional map and it is being talked about at three levels of the federal court system so stay tuned, things are hopping and both sides of the argument are working hard.

Our 2022 regular legislative session ended as required on June 6th and as I said earlier it was a successful session for me and Senate District 36. As a conservative Republican I was on the majority team with these stated priorities and a short comment about what we actually accomplished:

- 1) Investing in Critical Infrastructure Priorities. We made the largest state investment in infrastructure since the 1980's without raising taxes.
- 2) Increasing Parental Control of Child's Education. We believe no child should be trapped in a failing school. We passed bills to reduce bureaucratic hurdles to a high-quality education.
- 3) Protecting the Right to Life of the Unborn. We worked across the aisle and built bi-partisan support for legislation that both protects life and protects mothers.
- 4) Simplify our Tax Code and Streamline Sales Tax Collections. We passed an improved plan for centralized sales tax collection to help our small businesses and improve collec-

See, **MILLS**, Page 2



MILLS

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

WEBSTER & MORE MILLS

Continued from Page 1

tions from online sales. 5) Eliminating Waste, Fraud and Abuse in Government Programs. We passed three bills that will ensure taxpayer dollars support those most in need and would incentivize return to work for the unemployed. 6) Pushing Back Against Government Overreach. We supported legislation to prevent any federal takeover of our election system and stood in opposition to the Governor's failed attempt to mandate the COVID vaccine on students. 7) Cutting Government Red Tape for Workers. We passed legislation to reduce the occupational licensing burdens for skilled workers which will help Louisiana workers, families and employers. 8) Supporting Louisiana energy jobs. Our country needs Louisiana oil and gas now more than ever. We passed legislation that promotes investment in Louisiana energy.

9) Ensuring Fairness in Women's Sports. Male athletes have inherent physical and hormonal advantages over their female counterparts. Senate Bill 44 passed again this year and was signed into Louisiana law. 10) Holding Insurance Companies Accountable. Far too many Louisiana residents are still fighting with insurance companies over damages from prior year storms. We worked across party lines to pass several laws to hold insurance companies accountable after natural disasters. 11) Conservative Fiscal Policy and Smart Investments. We invested both federal and surplus state dollars into projects that will generate returns for future generations. That would include our Rainy Day Fund, Unfunded Accrued Liabilities, new Higher Education Investments, Workforce Training, Broadband Expansion, Public School Teacher and Support Worker Pay

Raises. I want to again thank my Legislative Assistant, Ms. Brenda Autry for her dedicated service to our District. Without her 'holding down the fort' I could not have been able to stay in Baton Rouge as many days as I did this year. She is based out of our District Office which is located at 105 Harvey's Way, Minden, LA 71055 on the campus of Northwest Louisiana Community Technical Community College and can be reached at (318) 371-5200. When able, I spend my days in our Bossier City satellite office which is located in the Bossier Crossroads Shopping Center at 1700 Old Minden Road, office 168 with phone number of (318) 798-3080. It was the honor of my lifetime to be elected and it is a continuing honor to serve the good people of Louisiana Senate District 36.

LOUISIANA SENATOR ROBERT MILLS, DISTRICT 36

MINDEN LIONS CLUB

Dillon talks birds to Lions



COURTESY PHOTOS

Minden Lions enjoyed an educational and, at times, humorous presentation on birds during Thursday's club meeting. MHS English teacher and Nature Club sponsor John Dillon provided the program entitled, "Don't Be a Dodo: Myths, Misinformation, and Mumbo Jumbo About Birds." John spoke about the lore and science surrounding birds and cleared up many misconceptions about our feathered friends (e.g. those aren't actually buzzards... they're turkey vultures, and birds don't fly South for the winter, they fly North for the summer). He also offered the Lions advice on selecting the best bird seeds, provided organic substitutes for chemical herbicides, and how to make the perfect hummingbird food. John was invited and introduced by Lion Henry Bridges.

TRAINING

Police train in spotting deception



COURTESY PHOTOS

On July 5 and 6, Minden police officers received Criminal Patrol / Drug Interdiction training. Officers learned the techniques that criminals use to transport and conceal narcotics as well as how to detect deception while conducting roadside interviews. The training was provided by Highway Interdiction Training Specialists. "Training like this greatly improves officers' skills and enhances the capabilities of the entire department," the Minden Police Association posted. This training session was sponsored by the Minden Police Association, Ace Hardware, Mike's Hometown Spirits, and T-Bubba's Sports Talk.

GOVERNMENT

Louisiana Supreme Court rejects request to enforce state's abortion ban

(The Center Square) — The Louisiana Supreme Court rejected a request from Attorney General Jeff Landry to enforce the state's abortion ban as a legal challenge moves forward in Orleans Parish Civil District Court. Justices voted 4-2 to deny a request from Landry and Louisiana Department of Health Secretary Courtney Phillips to lift an order by Orleans Civil District Court Judge Robin Giarusso issued last week that prevents the state from enforcing its ban on abortions.

The Shreveport abortion clinic Hope Medical Group for Women, physicians, Medical Students for Choice and others challenging the law allege it's unclear both in terms of exceptions and when it takes effect, while Landry argues the plaintiffs are "willfully misreading clear terms in the law in an attempt to manufacture arguments that the statutes are unconstitutionally vague."

A hearing in the case is scheduled for Friday morning. Louisiana is one of 13 states with "trigger laws" that automatically ban abortion in response to the U.S. Supreme Court overturning Roe v. Wade.

Justices Jefferson D. Hughes III, Piper D. Griffin, James T. Genovese, and Scott J. Crichton joined in the majority to deny Landry's motion to reinstate Louisiana's abortion ban "at this preliminary stage of proceedings, while Hughes

argued that intervening now is "procedurally premature."

Justices William J. Crain and Jay B. McCallum argued in dissent that the plaintiffs have failed to show irreparable injury from the law, while it's obvious abortion is irreversible.

"I believe the circumstances of this case compel us to review the propriety of the temporary restraining order. The plaintiffs have asserted that they, as doctors, will suffer irreparable harm if the 'triggering' statutes that prohibit abortions go into effect," Crain wrote. "The contrasting interest is that alleged life will be terminated if the prohibitory statutes do not go into effect."

"While whether these doctors will suffer irreparable harm by being prohibited from performing abortions is debatable, terminating alleged life during the period of the temporary restraining order is irreparable."

McCallum wrote that "there has not been a showing that immediate irreparable injury would result before the opposition could be heard and, accordingly, the (temporary restraining order) was improvidently granted."

Chief Justice John Weimer recused himself.

Landry responded to the Supreme Court's decision on Twitter.

"We have fought for 50 years to overturn Roe - we will have the patience of Job, but make no mistake we will prevail!" he posted. "Louisiana

Supreme Court is delaying the inevitable. Our Legislature fulfilled their constitutional duties, and now the Judiciary must. It is disappointing that time is not immediate."

Louisiana Right to Life Executive Director Benjamin Clapper also weighed in with a prepared statement.

"The Louisiana Supreme Court let Louisiana citizens down by not decisively defending our laws from pro-abortion delay tactics," he said. "Echoing Justice Crain's compelling words, every day this temporary restraining order remains in place leads to more babies lost from abortion."

Pro-choice advocates like state Rep. Royce Duplessis, D-New Orleans, championed the decision.

"I think it's a massive win for the women of Louisiana," Duplessis said, according to WDSU. "It's a sign of justice and a beacon of hope for reproductive rights here in Louisiana."


More than a dozen physicians, including former Department of Health Secretary Rebekah Gee, have submitted sworn affidavits in support of the preliminary injunction blocking the state's abortion ban, with many arguing the law breeds fear of prosecution and inhibits state medical schools from property training OB/GYN residents, the Louisiana Illuminator reports.

WEBSTER & MORE

3 DAY PLANNING FORECAST

FIRST ALERT WEATHER

KSLA NEWS 12



TEMP

100

WIND

NE 6

TUE

10%

WED

20%

THU

20%

TEMP

98

WIND

S 3

TEMP

95

WIND

S 3

Temperatures will cool down slightly through the middle part of the week. We should at least get out of the triple digits for a couple days. There could be a stray shower or two Wednesday and Thursday.

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

CRIME

Deputies find Webster man hiding under pile of clothes after domestic battery

STAFF REPORT
Minden Press-Herald

Steven Parker, 33, of the 2100 block of Dorcheat Road, was arrested for domestic abuse battery after hitting his partner with a frozen Powerade bottle.

Webster Parish sheriff’s deputies were dispatched to a residence on Dorcheat Road in reference to a physical domestic. Upon their arrival they met with the individual who had called to notify the sheriff’s office of the dispute, stating that he

called because, “Steven Parker hit [the victim] with a frozen Powerade bottle.”

When deputies searched the residence, “Steven was found in the back room hiding under a pile of clothes.”

The victim stated that “Steven hit her in the back of the head with something, and then poured water on her.”

Parker admitted post Miranda that he did pour Powerade on the victim and her phone. Steven was also found to have an active warrant

through Webster for possession of a controlled dangerous substance.

The victim refused to press charges, but told deputies “that there is a history of violence in the relationship, and the severity of the violence is getting worse, and more common.”

Parker was arrested for domestic abuse battery and the active warrant. He was then transported to BDCC and booked without incident.

GOVERNMENT

Louisiana regulators unsure whether to accept \$121M settlement offer from Entergy

(The Center Square) — Entergy is proposing to send about \$121 million to Louisiana to settle allegations it overcharged ratepayers with inflated costs from a nuclear plant in Mississippi, though some utility regulators aren’t convinced it’s a good deal.

Entergy is proposing to spend \$588 million to settle numerous allegations it overcharged ratepayers through a variety of tax maneuvers, incentive pay for executives and other issues at its Grand Gulf, Mississippi nuclear power plant that sells wholesale power to multiple states, The Advocate reports.

The Mississippi Public Service Commission announced last week it agreed to a \$300 million settlement to end the state’s part in 13 rate proceedings before the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, finalizing a dispute that began in 2017.

The deal will use \$200 million to offset high fuel prices that the company planned to pass on to customers, and \$35 million in lump sum bill credits to Entergy Mississippi customers amounting to a one-time credit of

\$80. Another \$50 million in bill credits were also made in prior refunds as part of the FERC proceedings, according to an Entergy statement.

The proposed settlement would send \$95 million to the Louisiana Public Service Commission and \$116 million to the New Orleans City Council, which regulate Entergy Louisiana and Entergy New Orleans respectively. Another \$142 million would go to Arkansas, according to the settlement.

It remains unclear how much, if any, would be returned to Louisiana customers, but it is possible customers could win a larger settlement and other concessions if regulators continue to pursue claims through the FERC.

Early recommendations in the case suggest Entergy should repay more than the settlement provides, though the FERC hasn’t made a final determination, the Advocate reports.

Louisiana Public Service Commissioner Craig Green told the news site it’s “premature” to comment on the offer, which commissioners are reviewing and plan to discuss at the commission’s

July 27 meeting.

“It is important to note, though, that this was a unilateral, take-it-or-leave-it offer from Entergy and they have not engaged our legal counsel, or any regulatory body actively involved in the litigation, to afford them the opportunity to negotiate a more fair compromise,” Green said.

“And while financial settlements could benefit customers in the short term, the reason we take on these legal battles at FERC is to ensure that the practices of utilities we regulate are aligned with what is best for their customers long term,” he said. “I personally want to ensure any settlement, or decision not to settle, focuses on that principle.”

Commissioner Foster Campbell was also skeptical about the deal when contacted by The Advocate.

“I don’t have a lot of faith in their generosity,” he said.

New Orleans City Council Member JP Morrell described the proposal in a recent statement as a “ridiculous attempt by Entergy to sandbag the city council and mislead the other regulatory agencies in Louisiana

and Arkansas into a bad settlement.”

“As utility bills continue to spiral out of control in New Orleans, for Entergy and Entergy New Orleans to try to manipulate us into taking less than ratepayers are entitled to is beyond offensive,” he said.

Entergy did not admit any wrongdoing as part of the settlement, and argued it’s simply attempting to mitigate costs from the ongoing FERC dispute.

“Entergy has long maintained that the disputed positions regarding the taxing, financing, accounting and operating of Grand Gulf before FERC are proper, well-reasoned and in the best interest of its customers and the company. Entergy also believes Grand Gulf has provided consistent value for its customers through its operations over the years,” an Entergy statement read. “However, Entergy officials explained that the ongoing cost of the dispute at FERC and the uncertainty it created for customers, employees and stockholders led the company to seek a resolution.”



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JULY 13, 2022

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Kerstin Wiles
Kyliegh Mingo



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- 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.
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OPINION

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OTHER OPINION

Auditing the Federal Reserve would keep them honest

WILLIAM HAUPT III
The Center Square

“Real patriotism is a willingness to challenge the government when it is doing wrong.” – Ron Paul

Many people have a delusion the Federal Reserve is a federal agency that controls our money. Yet the Federal Reserve is a private corporation run by bankers. And it operates in the best interests of bankers not the American people. The age old question is: Why is the corporation that controls our money, one run by bankers appointed by a president, not accountable to Congress or the people?

The U.S. did not have a central bank until the 19th century. Our founders were opposed to central banks since the British had tried to force the colonies to allow the Bank of England to manage their money. Therefore they gave the Treasury Department the authority to manage our money supply.

Since Jesus expelled the money changers from the Temple, the efficacy of central banks has been tested. They were created to protect a nation's money from politicians when the value of currency was tied to precious metals. The flaw with the system will always be isolating them from politicians.

In reaction to the panic of 1907, J.P. Morgan petitioned Congress to pass the Federal Reserve Act and establish a central bank for America. But the caveat was its chairman would be chosen by the president. And the Fed fiscal policies today reflect the policies of the party in control of Washington.

During WWI, countries threw caution to the wind and abandoned the “gold standard” to print more money to fight the war. And in doing so, this devalued and inflated the currency.

“Without the gold standard, there is no way to protect savings from confiscation through inflation.” – Alan Greenspan
Once politicians learned to

use central banks to finance their political wish-lists, the banks became fiscal political whips for aggressive politicians. When Franklin Roosevelt needed money to finance his New Deal, he turned to the Federal Reserve. By the end of WWII, the Federal Reserve became dependent and reactionary to political influence instead of steadfast guardians of money supplies.

This was blatantly obvious in 2013 when Barack Obama picked Janet Yellen as Chair of the Fed. Yellen supported liberal economic policies financed with low interest rates. With his recovery going in reverse, Obama needed a chairman who'd keep interest rates artificially low until he left office.

I give myself an “A-” for the economic decisions I made during my first four years.” – Barack Obama

By keeping interest rates too low too long, Yellen devalued the U.S. dollar compared to those of nations like China and Japan. This increased our trade deficit and made it less feasible for foreign nations to do business with us. Yellen had the Obama economy on life support for four long years.

President Donald Trump replaced Janet Yellen with Jerome Powell when her term was up. With a robust economy, high wages and the lowest unemployment in 60 years, for the first time in a decade the Fed ditched their politically motivated low interest rate policy, raising rates four times under Trump.

During the onset of the pandemic, with no help from the Fed, Trump passed legislation to keep the economy afloat. Powell remained out of sight and out of mind when he was needed most.

“The Fed can destroy the economy simply because they don't like the president.” – Donald Trump

Biden inherited an economy in recovery, and all he had to do was count his blessings. In-

stead, he appointed progressive Janet Yellen to run the Treasury and influence Powell to return the U.S. to the Obama “easy money” years. This enabled Biden to grow government without increasing taxes.

After a year in office, with the Fed financing his out of control spending, Biden has painted himself into an economic corner. The Fed has stood idly by while America has a 9.2% Jimmy Carter style inflation rate. Energy prices have doubled since Biden took office. Consumer goods, if you can find them, are up 44%. Biden also created a labor shortage making it more profitable not to work at all.

When currencies were pegged to precious metals, there was little inflation since politicians could not print money. This protected a nation's currency from disingenuous politicians and it allowed consumers and the markets to control the nation's money supply through supply versus demand.

“Politicians are never satisfied simply allowing the supply to meet the demand.” – David Graeber

Through evolution, a central banking system that once protected the people's money from greedy politicians morphed into a financial vehicle to regulate the economy to satisfy political economic policies. Central bankers today act more like politicians than watchdogs monitoring our currency.

After the 2008 financial collapse, the Government Accountability Office (GAO) got a rare chance to peek behind the iron curtain at the Federal Reserve. Although the review was limited, the GAO was able to audit the agency's emergency loan programs. And what GAO auditors found was troubling.

It revealed that the Fed loaned \$16 trillion in bailouts to businesses and banks with zero input from Congress. As soon as the GAO report was released, the Fed refused to allow

a scheduled audit on how they make interest rate decisions. They claimed that the audits would be politically motivated.

Brad Lumas wrote, “Money is a politician's best friend.” Politicians have proven they are addicted to money long before they file papers to run for office. If the purpose of the Federal Reserve is to protect our money supply from political influence, then why are its president and members chosen by the president? What employee is going to ultimately risk getting their boss “P-Oed” at them?

Chairman Powell claims he walks a tight rope between low unemployment, and a hot economy and inflation. But he stood by as Biden spent our nation into double digit inflation and didn't do a thing.

“This inflation is transitory. It will improve as the economy improves, just wait and see.” – Joe Biden

The way to limit political influence on the Fed is with annual GAO audits. The Fed's objection that this would compromise their independence and subject its actions to political scrutiny is ludicrous. The Fed was created by Congress and its charter is governed by Congress. The Fed must prove they act independently and that their decisions are based on factual data with no political influence.

Any company that does business with the government is audited by the GAO to insure its integrity. Why is the Fed treated differently? Annual GAO audits of the Fed would help Congress and people understand the decisions the Fed makes and those that they don't make. This would also help the public understand why the Fed does nothing while Biden is destroying the value of our currency.

“Corruption and fraud are characteristics which exist everywhere. It is regrettably the way human nature functions. What successful economies do is keep it to a minimum.” – Allen Greenspan

OTHER OPINION

What good does it do to have a voice if we don't use it?

Patrick Henry said “I disapprove of what you say but I defend to my death your right to say it.”

He also said “Give me liberty or give me death.”

Freedom of speech. What good does it do to have a voice if we don't use it?

Only in America do we still have the inalienable right to voice our opinions without fear of what will happen to us for daring to speak out, or to express in print, our secret thoughts and silent fears.

Only in America.

We must take a stand.

I once knew a minister's wife who was chastised, at a Christmas party, for admitting in print who she had voted for. Another time she was bullied by a church member, in a public gathering, by one who shouted “I sure hope your writing doesn't hurt you as a minister's wife.”

That minister's wife was me.

Where do we get the idea that we have all of the answers -- that we are right on every issue -- that we can control what others say -- that no one else could be correct?



SARAH HUDSON-PIERCE

experienced in a church run orphanage but I made a promise at the age of fourteen, that when I got out of there, that I would let everyone know what often goes on behind closed doors because I've seen chil-

dren run away, in the night, not knowing what else to do to protect themselves.

How would you like to be a child with no voice?

Someone has said I'm an activist. That's what I am. It's my mission to tell it like I see it if for no other reason than it heals the pain of what I experienced as a child. As I reach out I hope to give others the courage to express themselves out loud and upon the page.

Writing is therapy and a means to give others courage to speak.

I am grateful God gave me a voice and I plan to express myself so long as I can hold a pen, though I must type it really fast while I can still read what I've scribbled in the middle of the night.

I sensed, as a child, living on a country road, in a densely wooded area, that I had a story that needed to be told, being born to a mother who was dis-

abled for life, having suffered a brain trauma, at the age of two when she fell through the roof of the underground sod dugout house where she was born in 1906 dugout during the days of the Land Rush before Statehood, in Woods County, near Alva, Oklahoma.

Oh, what a story. I am just grateful that by the grace of God I was born into this great country where we still have freedom of speech, freedom of press and freedom of religion as well as the right to own property embodied in “life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness” which are ours as long as we don't infringe on each others' rights.

May we never slip so far into apathy that we lose our inalienable rights that our forefathers fought for!

CONTACT SARAH AT SARAH957@AOL.COM

EDITORIAL ROUNDUP

WSJ: SCOTUS's unanimous ruling is a victory for liberty

The Supreme Court set off political fireworks this year with divided opinions on gun rights, abortion, religious liberty and more. So it's worth highlighting the Court's unanimous June decision that reinforces a core tenet of the U.S. legal system (Ruan v. U.S.)

Two doctors were charged with violating the Controlled Substances Act for allegedly dispensing opioids illegally. The law makes it a federal crime “for any person knowingly or intentionally . . . to manufacture, distribute, or dispense” a controlled substance, except as authorized.

Prosecutors accused Xiulu Ruan of running a pill mill in Alabama that issued nearly 300,000 prescriptions for controlled substances including opioids and benzo-

diazepines in four years, and Shakeel Kahn of writing prescriptions in exchange for payments. The government argued that the doctors dispensed drugs outside what a “reasonable” doctor would consider proper medical practice.

The doctors argued in defense that they had dispensed the drugs as they believed they were authorized to do under the law. Yet the government claimed that a requirement of scienter—that is, the intent or knowledge of wrongdoing—would make it too hard to convict errant doctors. Lower courts dispensed with this requirement in their jury instructions.

Both doctors were convicted and sentenced to more than two decades in prison.

In their appeal, they argued that the government should have been required to prove mens rea—that is, a guilty mind. The Supreme Court ruled unanimously for the doctors.

Writing for the majority, Justice Stephen Breyer notes that the “Government's standard would turn a defendant's criminal liability on the mental state of a hypothetical ‘reasonable’ doctor, rather than on the mental state of the defendant himself or herself,” adding that the regulatory language defining an authorized prescription is “ambiguous” and “open to varying constructions.”

“The Government argues that requiring it to prove that a doctor knowingly or intentionally acted not as autho-

rized will allow bad-apple doctors to escape liability by claiming idiosyncratic views about their prescribing authority,” Justice Breyer writes; “this kind of argument, however, can be made in many cases imposing scienter requirements, and we have often rejected it.”

Justice Samuel Alito, in a concurrence joined by Justices Clarence Thomas and Amy Coney Barrett, agreed to vacate the convictions. But he wrote that under the language of the law the doctors should have been allowed to make a good-faith defense rather than require the government to prove beyond a reasonable doubt that the defendants knowingly or intentionally acted in an unauthorized manner.

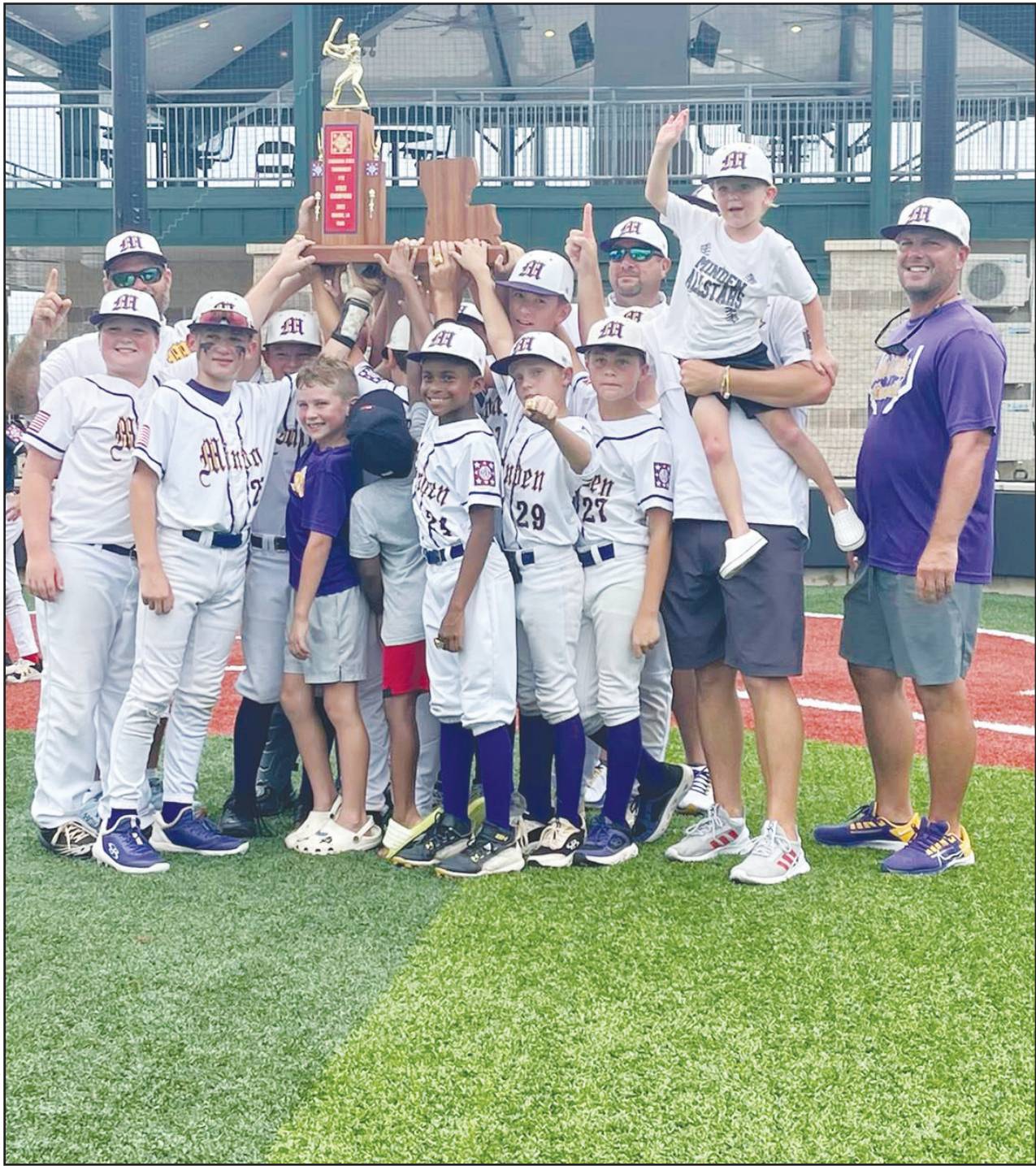
By slapping down the gov-

ernment, the Court is sending a powerful message to prosecutors who often charge unsympathetic defendants with insufficient evidence to prove the accused knew what they were doing was wrong. The ruling could affect prosecutions of opioid distributors and retailers, but the principle applies to other crimes such as fraud.

Despite their ideological differences, the nine Justices agree that the government must prove a defendant knew he was committing a crime. This is crucial to defending against unjust prosecution, and the ruling is a victory for liberty.

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

SPORTS



COURTESY PHOTO

DIXIE WORLD SERIES-BOUND
11U All-Stars win state championship

The Minden 11u Dixie All-Star baseball team won a state championship in Monroe on Saturday to advance to the Dixie World Series to be played July 21-24 at Osterland Recreation Center in Monroe. Minden defeated Monroe 16-11 in the title game after defeating Gonzalez 20-0, Sabine 402 and Jackson Parish 8-3 to go unbeaten in the state tournament. Team members are Cason Gibson, Kaiden Kinsey, Davis Powell, Jaxon Branch, Craten Ware, Sawyer Harris, Weston Duck, Ryder Malone, Andrew Locke, Brayden Watkins, Holden Williams and Noah Smith. The Minden 11U coaches are Steven Williams, Marcus Gibson and Greg Powell.

Louisiana’s Lake Yucatan full of both ups, downs

GLYNN HARRIS

It was probably 20 years ago when I made my first and only visit to a Louisiana lake that has its ups and downs. I’m talking about Lake Yucatan, one of the many oxbow lakes in close proximity to the Mississippi River. My friend Mike Gammill from Oak Grove took me to the lake to give the crappie a try. We didn’t catch many but I was impressed by the size of the slabs we caught.

Looking at a map of Yucatan, it resembles a long and narrow question mark and what sets the lake apart from other oxbow lakes along the big river is the fact it is an “active” oxbow. This means that when the river rises or falls, the same thing happens to Yucatan because at the lower end of the lake, there is a two-mile long chute that connects the lake to the Mississippi River.

This rise of water levels in Yucatan produced when the river is high creates several situations for the lake. First, when the lake is very high, you can forget about fishing because access to the lake is next to impossible. While anglers wait for the water to fall, however, the mighty Mississippi is improving the quality of fish in the lake by pushing a boat load of nutrients into the lake which has the capacity to improve the size and quality of the fish along with replenishing the lake’s fish population.

For years, I have written and broadcast fishing reports from lakes around north Louisiana with Yucatan on my list of lakes I call each week. James Lachney from Gilbert who owned Yucatan Landing was my contact and he was always on the ball about keeping me abreast of what was happening on the lake.



COURTESY PHOTO

Lake Yucatan is known for its ability to produce bragging sized crappie.

Because of a health condition that curtailed his ability to see after the property, Lachney sold the business to his nephew, Gene Lachney, who is set to retire from the National Guard in a couple of years with Gene’s parents, Terry and Juanita Lachney running the landing until he retires. Today, my contact is Gene’s mom, Juanita who keeps me up to date on what is going on at the lake. “The water level is low and on a slow fall right now and we had a wonderful weekend for the July 4 holiday with all the campers filled and people from all over catching fish. The lake has been producing fine catches of not only big crappie but lots of bass, catfish and barfish,” she said.

“The lake is on a slow fall and this seems to be the absolute best time to catch fish. The water levels totally depend on what the Mississippi River is doing and when they get heavy rains up north to swell the river, we get high water here and sometimes we have to shut everything down and move out until the river and the lake levels start receding,” she added. To keep up with the conditions for Yucatan Lake, all one needs to do is go on Facebook and search for Yucatan Landing where not only photos of proud anglers showing off their catches, there is also a graphic showing the stages of the Mississippi River and when it reveals that the river is falling, so is the lake.

However when the line on the graph zoom upward, you can forget about fishing until water levels drop. Although you can’t fish the lake then, just know that the waters of Lake Yucatan are being replenished by fish and nutrients that are destined to keep the fishing up and going. Yucatan Landing is located some five miles from the village of Newellton in Tensas Parish. For information on fishing conditions, camping sites available and other amenities, visit the Yucatan Landing page on Facebook or call the landing at 318-467-2259. — Contact Glynn Harris at glynnharris37@gmail.com.

Lewis returns
to Grambling
soccer program

Minden Press-Herald Sports Service

GRAMBLING — Grambling State University head women’s soccer coach, Justin Wagar has announced the addition of Jazmyne Lewis as the Associate Head Women’s Soccer Coach.



Lewis returns to Grambling State after previously serving as an assistant coach from 2018-19 and helped guide the team to a 2018 Southwestern Athletic Conference (SWAC) regular season championship. “She’s a talented coach who really helps the team both on and off the field to keep things running smoothly,” Wagar said. “She leads good coaching sessions and is a positive role model and leader for our soccer program. I’m thrilled to have the opportunity to work with Coach Lewis again. She is a valuable addition to our program and adds a lot to our coaching staff.”

Lewis, who also coached the Lady Tigers to a 2017 conference tournament runner-up finish, was a four-year letterman at Grambling State from 2013-17. She served as a team captain during her junior and senior seasons.

In addition, Lewis graduated in 2017 with a bachelor’s degree in Sports Management and earned her master’s of science degree in Public Administration at Grambling State in 2019.

Prior to her return, Lewis served as a Veteran Service Representative at the Jackson Regional Office of Veteran Affairs.

A native of Atlanta, Lewis graduated from Northgate High School in 2013. While attending Northgate, she competed as a varsity defender from 2009-2013. For club ball, she represented the Concord Fire, Southern Soccer Academy and West Georgia Soccer Academy during. Her Concord Fire team captured the state cup during her senior year.

Fishing Report

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.

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.

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.

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

LAKE POVERTY POINT – Catfish have been good while bass, bream and crappie are slow to fair. For the 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 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

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.

— Glynn Harris

SPORTS

Grambling Legends Hall of Fame adds 11

First in-person induction ceremony since 2019 held Saturday

T. SCOTT BOATRIGHT
Minden Press-Herald

The Grambling Legends Hall of Fame held its first induction banquet since 2019 Saturday night at the Fredrick C. Hobdy Assembly Center as 11 names were added to the organization's list of legends.

The Legends Hall of Fame Class of 2022 consists of Clemente Gordon, Andrew Jackson, Robert Taylor and Rodney Tureaud representing the sport of football; Shiakeia Carter, Joseph Jones and Joseph Simpson representing basketball; Dr. James Hammond and Juan Watkins representing baseball; and Yolande Small representing track and field.

Conrad Hutchinson, Jr. former director of the Grambling State University World Famed Marching Band was posthumously in the contributor category.

Hammond, a three-year letterman, was the first honoree and remembered Grambling President/Head Baseball Coach Ralph Waldo Emerson Jones.

"Prez used to tell us at times of great challenge on the diamond — he'll yell out of the dugout, 'Son, do you love Grambling?' — The answer then and now is yes, I love Grambling, the place where everybody is somebody - Grambling State University."

Watkins, a four-year starter who pitched while also playing centerfield and left field, came up next.

"As a young boy, I came to Grambling State University and left as a man," Watkins said. To everyone at this university that has played a role — a part — in my life, I say thank you. Now I know why they say Grambling State University is a place where everybody is somebody."

The third to be inducted was Carter, who led the Lady Tigers to three Southwestern Athletic Conference women's basketball championships.

Carter ranks second in total steals for the Lady Tigers' basketball program with 469, and held the top mark until 2019



MPH PHOTO BY T. SCOTT BOATRIGHT

Pictured from left to right are 2022 Grambling State Legends Hall of Fame inductees Rodney Tureaud, Jaun Watkins, Shiakeia Carter, James Hammond, Jeanette Hutchinson, Yolande Small, Robert Taylor, Andrew Jackson and Joseph Simpson.

when it was taken by Shaklyla Hill.

"Grambling made me see something in me where I knew I could exist outside of Cleveland (Texas)," Carter said. "My community and Grambling taught me the value of true relationships. I'm a better coach today because I understand true relationships based on love, support, kindness and loyalty are essential. Therefore, my path in life has centered around building up others."

Jones was unable to attend events during the Legends induction ceremony and was represented by his daughter Jayla, who delivered a message from him.

"As a student athlete, I was able to be part of the basketball program from 1972-75," Jones said via his daughter. "It was a great honor to form lifelong friendships with my teammates. We may not communicate daily, but we can call on each other in any situation, good or bad."

"To the coaching staff at GSU, thank you for

guiding me and supporting me both on and off the court. I earned some great lessons and was afforded a great life along the way."

Simpson, who transferred to GSU from Cal-Berkley, was philosophical in his speech.

"We think about what could have been, what should have been, what would have been. Then we come to the realization that it is what is," Simpson said. "What's been done is done. But sometimes you get an opportunity after that happens. I would like to take this opportunity to thank so many people. So many people that supported me. ...

"Treat people right. Love one another. Treat people like you want to be treated, and if you do that, everything just falls into place."

Small thanked the late Ed Stephens, GSU's track coach who recruited her, and her teammates during her induction speech.

"I was very young when I graduated high school," Small said. "And coming

from the islands, I was unsure of what to expect. So I went where I had friends which happened to be at Grambling. It was the greatest decision of my life."

Gordon was the Southwestern Athletic Conference Offensive Player of the Year in 1989, leading the Tigers to the league titles, before being drafted by the Cleveland Browns in the 11th round of the 1990 NFL Draft.

He was also drafted by the Chicago White Sox in the 51st round of the 1990 MLB June Amateur Draft.

Gordon went to play Arena League from 1991 to 2000 during his career with the Cincinnati Rockers, Miami Hooters, Connecticut Coyotes, Charlotte Rage, Florida Bobcats and Orlando Thunder. Gordon threw for 4,947 yards in his career, completing 419 of 813 passes with 79 touchdowns and 21 interceptions.

He also ran for 99 yards in 29 attempts with five rushing touchdowns.

Gordon thanked the GSU signal callers who

came before him for providing inspiration.

"I'd like to thank the guys who were there before me," Gordon said before rattling off a list of GSU quarterbacking greats. "(James) 'Shack' Harris, Doug Williams, Matthew Reed, Hollis Brent and all the quarterbacks that put in the work and paved the way for me to be the player that I was."

Gordon surprised many in attendance concerning his age when he first fell in love with football.

"A lot of y'all don't know I didn't step onto a football field until the 11th grade," Gordon said. "Before that I played basketball and baseball. That was it."

Jackson thanked his family, co-workers and GSU coaches and staff members for making him the man is.

"There are so many people I can thank for where I am in my life today," Jackson said. "Be it my professional life, my family, so many people in life. Because I didn't get

here by myself. I promise you I didn't."

Taylor, who was a two-time Southwestern Athletic Conference first teamer and helped lead the Tigers to back-to-back Southwestern Athletic Conference titles in 2000 and '21, was a man of few words giving his speech.

"Through the sport of football I learned to be a leader," Taylor said. "I learned to take care of myself and be a nurturer."

Turead joked about Robinson "misleading:" him while recruiting the running back who became a SWAC Running Back of the Year and an All-American that came to Grambling and found himself as a freshman playing in a fully-loaded GSU rushing corps.

"I was led astray," Turead said as laughter broke out in the audience. "Bamboozled, etc., etc. — I won't use the rest of them."

Hutchinson's wife Jeanette ended the inductions by praising her late husband's genius at everything he did.

LA Tech football adds LSU, La.-Lafayette to future schedules

Minden Press-Herald Sports Services

RUSTON — The Louisiana Tech football team is scheduled to play a road game against LSU in Baton Rouge on Sept. 6, 2025 season, officials from both schools announced Friday morning.



This will mark the 21st all-time meeting between the two programs with the last matchup

coming in 2018 in Tiger Stadium.

The Bulldogs are also scheduled to visit Tulsa, Oklahoma, for a matchup with the Tulsa Golden Hurricane on Saturday, Sept. 27 as part of the 2025 slate.

Tech's new date with

LSU will force a previously scheduled home game with North Carolina State to be moved as the Wolfpack will now visit Ruston during the 2034 season.

Louisiana Tech and UL-Lafayette are slated to face off in a future home-and-home foot-

ball series, officials from both Universities announced on Friday.

The two sides are set to meet on Sept. 26, 2026, at Joe Aillet Stadium in Ruston and again on Sept. 8, 2029 at Cajun Field in Lafayette.

Tech and ULL programs have met a total of

87 times, the most meetings of any Bulldogs pponent.

The Bulldogs lead the all-time series, 48-33-6, having won eight straight over the Ragin' Cajuns. The last matchup came in 2015 with LA Tech prevailing, 43-14, in Ruston.

Zion Williamson, Pelicans aim to end 'negative' narratives

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — A few months after Zion Williamson was left entirely out of Pelicans promotional material regarding ticket renewals, the injury-riddled star forward was back to being celebrated Wednesday as a supremely influential figure in New Orleans' future.

"The last few months were a roller-coaster of emotions," Williamson said. "The world just ran with narratives, and so when my family was going out in public, they're getting harassed by people about

why we don't like New Orleans or why we don't want to be here, when that's not the case at all.

"I wasn't able to play because my foot was broke," Williamson continued. "Every time I checked my phone it's always something negative. Even when you're trying to make positive of the situation, it was very tough."

So the Pelicans used the occasion of Williamson signing a \$193 million, five-year contract extension — which could be worth up to \$231 million if

the explosive, 6-foot-6, 280-pounder lives up to the potential he's displayed when healthy — to try to dispel past notions of distrust and start a new narrative.

"This is a really momentous occasion for all of us," said David Griffin, the Pelicans' executive vice president of basketball operations. "This is an opportunity for us as an organization to really put to bed a lot of things that were said."

"So many things that are talked about are just words," Grif-

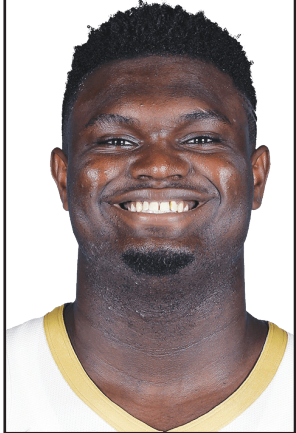
fin continued as Williamson nodded in agreement beside him. "What Zion Williamson did today is express his commitment to this team and to this city and to this community. ... So the noise that's on the periphery of all of that is completely irrelevant."

Williamson appears healthy now, cleared by the club to engage in basketball activities without restrictions. Recently, he and his stepfather, Lee Anderson, have been running basketball camps for kids at a New Or-

leans YMCA, where Williamson formally signed his contract while campers stood behind him and applauded.

It also was Williamson's 22nd birthday, and he commented, while grabbing Griffin's shoulder and smiling, that it was his best birthday yet.

"Thank y'all for really sticking with me the past year," Williamson said to the Pelicans' brass. "It was a tough year, and then for the Pelicans to come give this birthday gift, I'm not going to let 'em



Zion Williamson

down. I'm not going to let the city down, I'm not going to let my family down, and most of all, I'm not going to let myself down."

FUN & GAMES

CROSSWORD

ACROSS

1 Swear

5 Understood

8 Six-pack units

12 Slightly

13 French assent

14 October birthstone

15 Sultry Horne

16 Annoying

18 Michelangelo works

20 Pumped (up)

21 Medit. nation

22 “— Blue?”

23 Cook in the oven

26 Sun spot

30 Take courses?

31 Pie — mode

32 Felon’s flight

33 Fake ally

36 Cavorts

38 Mel of baseball

39 UFO crew

40 Top floor

43 Cargo

47 First-termers

49 Contrite one

50 Staffer

51 Brit. record label

52 Actress Fisher

53 Colonial flag maker

54 “Norma —”

55 Harbor arrival

DOWN

1 Baby elephant

2 Cab alternative

3 Trig function

4 Equilibrium

5 Really dig

6 Belonging to us

7 Dead heat

8 Universal

9 Per person

10 Handle ride

11 Santa’s

17 Docile

19 Chicago winter hrs.

22 Altar in the sky

23 Ump

24 Rowing need

25 Packed away

26 Aviate

27 Carrier to Amsterdam

28 Napkin’s place

29 Ambulance initials

31 Invoice fig.

34 Loud sounds

35 Engrave

36 GPS suggestion

37 Egyptian deity

39 Golfer Els

40 Miles away

41 Half a sextet

42 Turner and Danson

43 Disaster aid org.

44 Get over-emotional

45 Prefix with pad or port

46 Snare

48 Mal de —

Solution time: 22 mins.

L	I	P		C	O	B	B		H	E	A	R
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SUDOKU

SUDOKU

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

Level: Beginner

Here’s How It Works:

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

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

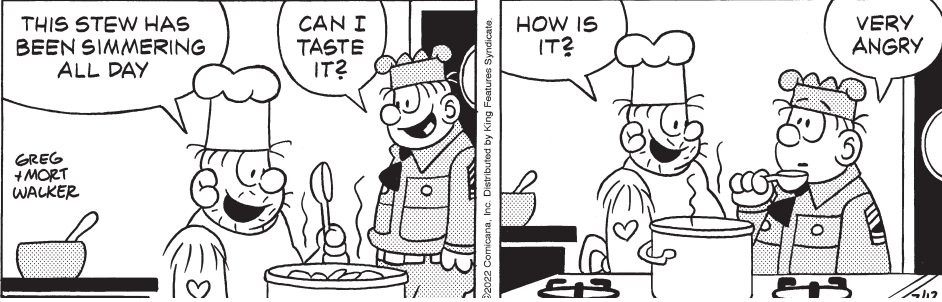
ANSWER:

COMICS

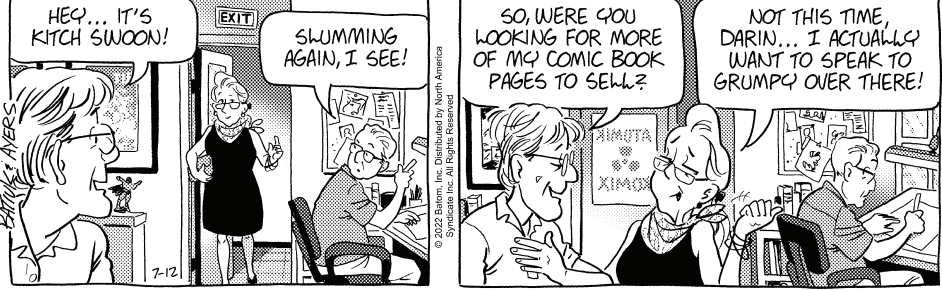
BLONDIE I DEAN YOUNG AND JOHN MARSHALL



BEETLE BAILEY I MORT & GREG WALKER



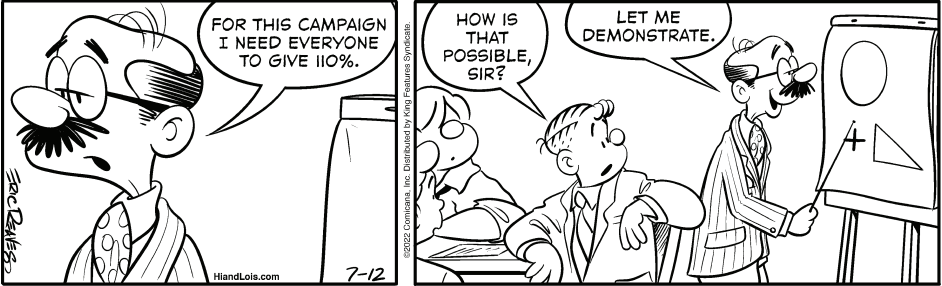
FUNKY WINKERBEAN I TOM BATIUK



HAGAR THE HORRIBLE I CHRIS BROWNE



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



MOTHER GOOSE & GRIMM I MIKE PETERS



SAM AND SILO I JERRY DUMAS



CRYPTOQUIP

7-12 CRYPTOQUIP

R B R C V Y E H O B P Y K B C S S O J
H S E C U U V J D B E H C R J E Q B E Q S Z
K J S P J J I D E Y S J E I Q S Z N J N K J E H :

“UYN NY SOEBI H.”

Yesterday’s Cryptoquip: IF A MARKET WERE RUNNING A TWOFORER ON SPRINGY BOUNCING STICKS, A SIGN MIGHT SAY “BOGO POGOS!”

Today’s Cryptoquip Clue: R equals P

FUN & GAMES

CLASSIFIEDS

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

Classified Rates

Pricing is easy!

\$7.75

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

Garage Sales

No word limit.

\$11

One Day

\$16.50

Two Days

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

* Garage Sale ads must be prepaid.

Deadlines

Ads

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

Public Notices

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

Payments

Cash Checks, Billing

Real Estate Notice

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

Grow Your Business

Call to place your ad!

PLACE YOUR AD

TODAY!

377-1866

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

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

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

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

A non-mandatory **Pre-Bid Conference** will be held at **10:00 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. Bid-related materials and electronic submittal of bids may be found at: WWW.CENTRAL-BIDDING.COM. For questions relating to the electronic bidding process, please call Central Bidding at (225) 810-4814. Electronic bid documents are also available for a purchase price of \$20 from the architect's office or by membership to following Plan Rooms: LAGC, ConstructConnect, Dodge, or iSqFt.

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

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

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

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

PUBLIC NOTICE

Sealed Bids for the **Sewer System Infrastructure Rehabilitation, Camp Minden Training Site, Minden, LA**

71055 will be received at Bldg A100 Room 100, 100 Louisiana Blvd., Camp Minden, Minden, LA 71055, until **1:00 p.m. CT on Tuesday, August 16, 2022**, and immediately opened thereafter.

ANY PERSON RE-QUIRING SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS SHALL NOTIFY CAPTAIN QUATIARA BREWER OF THE TYPE(S) OF ACCOMMODATION REQUIRED NOT LESS THAN SEVEN (7) DAYS BEFORE THE BID OPENING.

Complete Bid Documents for this project, including Plans and Specifications, have been prepared by Forte & Tablada, Inc. These plans and specifications are available through the listed contact for a plans and specifications deposit of \$100.00 from Forte & Tablada, Inc. Deposit on the first set is fully refundable to all Prime Bidders upon return of the documents, in good condition, no later than ten (10) days after receipt of bids. Plans and Specifications are also available in electronic form and may be obtained without charge and without deposit. Questions about this procedure shall be directed to the Designer at: **Forte & Tablada, Inc., 920 Pierremont Road, Suite 520, Shreveport, Louisiana 71106. Phone: 318-798-3344 Attention: Linsey Olivier, Project Engineer, Email Address: lolivier@forteandtablada.com.**

A MANDATORY PRE-BID CONFERENCE and site visit is scheduled for **1:00 p.m. CT on, Thursday, August 4, 2022, at the Camp Minden Training Site, 100 Louisiana Blvd. (Building A100 Room 120), Camp Minden, Minden, LA 71055. Attendance at this Conference is mandatory.** Prospective bidders must attend the entire mandatory Pre-Bid conference in order to submit a bid. The Pre-bid conference shall be conducted within appropriate guidelines concerning COVID-19 at the time of the conference.. The Military Department and Camp Minden point of contact is **CPT Quatiara A. Brewer, email quatiara.a.brewer.mil@army.mil** 100 Louisiana Blvd, Camp Minden, Minden, LA 71055 (318) 299-4525. The Forte & Tablada, Inc. Minden point of contact is Linsey Olivier, Project Engineer, 920 Pierremont Road, Suite 520, Shreveport, Louisiana 71106 (318)-798-3344 Email: lolivier@forteandtablada.com

BIDS SHALL BE ACCEPTED ONLY FROM CONTRACTORS THAT ATTEND THE ENTIRE MANDATORY PRE-BID CONFERENCE.

ANY PERSON RE-QUIRING SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS SHALL NOTIFY CAPTAIN QUATIARA BREWER OF THE TYPE(S) OF ACCOMMODATION REQUIRED NOT LESS THAN FIVE (5) DAYS BEFORE THE MANDATORY PRE-BID CONFERENCE.

All Bids must be accompanied by Bid Security equal to five percent (5%) of the Base Bid and Additional Bid Items (ABI) and must be in the form of a certified check, cashier's check or bid bond.

Bids shall be accepted from Contractors who are licensed under LA. R.S. 37:2150-2192 for the classification of

Municipal and Public Works Construction. Bidder is required to comply with provisions and requirements of LA R.S. 38:2212(B)(5).

The successful Bidder will be required to furnish a Performance and Payment Bond written by a company licensed to do business in the State of Louisiana, equal to 100% of the Contract amount, including Additional Bid Items (ABI), if required.

No Bid may be withdrawn for a period of forty-five (45) days after receipt of Bids except under the provisions of LA R.S. 38:2214.

Electronic Bid Documents may be submitted by Contractors to the Construction & Facilities Management Office by submitting their bid along with their bid security to <https://www.central-auctionhouse.com/>. Electronic bids must be submitted so as to be posted prior to **1:00 p.m. CT on Tuesday, August 16, 2022.** Hard copies of the contractor's electronically submitted packet must be sent to Captain Quatiara Brewer, 100 Louisiana Blvd, Camp Minden, Minden, LA. 71055, 318-299-4204. Contractors MUST attend the mandatory Pre-Bid conference scheduled for **1:00 p.m. CT on Thursday, August 4, 2022,** at the listed above location in order to submit an electronic bid.

The Owner reserves the right to accept or reject any and all Bids for just cause. In accordance with directives and guidance published by Facility Planning and Control, the Louisiana Revised Statutes, the provisions and requirements of those stated in the advertisement for bids and those required on the bid form shall not be waived. The Louisiana Military Department Deputy Director for Contracting and Purchasing and the State Contracting Officer do not possess authority to waive any informality incidental thereto. The Owner shall incur no obligation to the Contractor until the Contract between Owner and Contractor is fully executed.

The Louisiana Military Department is a participant in the Louisiana Initiative for Small Entrepreneurships (SE) Program (the Hudson Initiative) and the Veteran-Owned and Service-Connected Disabled Veteran-Owned Small Entrepreneurships Program (the Veteran Initiative). Bidders are encouraged to consider participation.

July 12, 2022
July 19, 2022
July 26, 2022
Minden Press-Herald

PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY OF MINDEN, STATE OF LOUISIANA, TAKEN IN REGULAR SESSION HELD ON TUESDAY, JULY 5, 2022.

The Minden City Council met at City Hall, Minden, Louisiana, beginning at 5:30 p.m. with the following members present: Wayne Edwards, Vincen Bradford, Michael Roy and Pam Bloxom. Absent: Terika Williams-Walker. Vacancy: Office of the Mayor. City Attorney Jimbo Yocom addressed the council to the fact that there is currently no duly appointed Mayor Pro Tem for the year 2022 and considering both the office of

Mayor and Mayor Pro Tem are vacant, the council will need to appoint a representative among themselves to chair this meeting. City Attorney Yocom also requested that the printed agenda be amended to add: Elect a Mayor Pro Tem for the remainder of the Year 2022; Adopt a Resolution giving the 2022 Mayor Pro Tem signatory power; and Appoint an interim Mayor to serve for the remainder of the present term. Michael Roy moved to appoint Councilman Wayne Edwards to chair this meeting. The motion was duly seconded by Pam Bloxom and carried unanimously. City Attorney Jimbo Yocom turned the meeting over to Councilman Wayne Edwards.

Councilman Wayne Edwards called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone to the council meeting. Prayer was offered by Pam Bloxom and Wayne Edwards led the Pledge of Allegiance. It is noted for the record that Councilman Wayne Edwards allowed council comments concerning each agenda item prior to each vote.

Pam Bloxom moved to amend the printed agenda to add: Elect a Mayor Pro Tem for the remainder of Year 2022. The motion was duly seconded by Michael Roy and carried unanimously.

Michael Roy moved to amend the printed agenda to add: Adopt a Resolution giving the 2022 Mayor Pro Tem Signatory Power. The motion was duly seconded by Pam Bloxom and carried unanimously.

Pam Bloxom moved to amend the printed agenda to add: Appoint Tommy Davis as Interim Mayor to serve for the remainder of the present term. The motion was duly seconded by Michael Roy and the vote was as follows: Ayes: Michael Roy and Pam Bloxom. Nays: Wayne Edwards and Vincen Bradford. Absent: Terika Williams-Walker. Abstain: None. The motion failed for lack of a unanimous vote required in order to amend the printed agenda.

Vincen Bradford moved to elect Wayne Edwards, Council Representative for District A, as Mayor Pro Tempore for the remainder of the Year 2022. The motion was duly seconded by Michael Roy and carried unanimously.

Michael Roy moved to adopt a Resolution authorizing Wayne Edwards as Mayor Pro Tem, Michael Fluhr as Acting City Clerk/Tax Office and Terika Williams-Walker, Council Representative, to sign checks drawn by this municipal corporation on any financial institution in custody of City of Minden funds., effective upon adoption, as presented. The motion was duly seconded by Pam Bloxom and carried unanimously. Said resolution is attached to and made a part of these minutes.

Upon motion by Pam Bloxom and duly seconded by Michael Roy, the council adopted the minutes of Council Regular Session held on June 6, 2022, as presented, by the following vote: Ayes: Wayne Edwards, Michael Roy and Pam Bloxom. Nays: Vincen Bradford. Absent: Terika Williams-Walker. Abstain: None. The motion carried.

The following action was taken regarding condemned properties: Dianna Nicole Jones

998 Germantown Road
Minden, LA 71055

901 Park Highway – District D
Lot #10, E/2 of Lot #11, W/2 of Lot #11, & Lot #12, Blk. "8"
Goode Annex, strip 7 x 150 ft. (Adj.) (formerly an alley) in NW/4 of NE/4 Sec. 22-19-9 & strip fronting 24 ft. on Park Hwy. x 150 ft. (adj. Lots #10, 11 & 12 Blk. "8") (Formerly an alley) in NW/4 of NE/4 Sec. 22-19-9

With no one present representing the property owner at the time this item was heard, Michael Roy moved to authorize the Mayor to issue an order declaring the property condemned and further order the demolition of any structures located thereon and the cleaning of the lot within 30 days of this date. The motion was duly seconded by Pam Bloxom and the vote was as follows: Ayes: Wayne Edwards, Michael Roy and Pam Bloxom. Nays: Vincen Bradford. Absent: Terika Williams-Walker. Abstain: None. The motion carried.

Upon the recommendation of Building Official Brent Cooley and Mayor Terry L. Gardner, Michael Roy moved to reappoint Ms. Joean McWoodson to the Minden Planning Commission, whose term will expire July of 2027. The motion was duly seconded by Pam Bloxom and carried unanimously.

Vincen Bradford moved to adopt a Resolution reappointing Gary Moreland as Director and Tyler Wallace as Alternate Director on the Board of Directors of Louisiana Energy and Power Authority. ("LEPA"), whose terms will expire in July, 2027, as presented.

The motion was duly seconded by Michael Roy and carried unanimously. Said resolution is attached to and made a part of these minutes.

Pam Bloxom moved to adopt a Resolution authorizing Michael Fluhr as Acting City Clerk/Tax Office and Terika Williams-Walker, Council Representative, to sign checks drawn by this municipal corporation on any financial institution in custody of City of Minden funds., Effective upon adoption, as presented. The motion was duly seconded by Vincen Bradford and carried unanimously. Said resolution is attached to and made a part of these minutes.

(removes Mayor Terry L. Gardner and Heather Feeback)

Michael Roy moved to adopt a Resolution Authorizing the Execution of a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement by and between Minden Economic Development District No. 1, State of Louisiana, and McClung's Service Station, Inc. relating to the Collection, Use and Expenditure of Certain Sales Tax Increment Revenues Collected in said Minden Economic Development District No. 1, and Providing for other Matters in Connection Therewith, as presented. The motion was duly seconded by Vincen Bradford and carried unanimously. Said resolution is attached to and made a part of these minutes.

Upon motion by Vincen Bradford and duly seconded by Pam Bloxom, the council voted unanimously in favor of adopting the new job descriptions and department positions of Full-Time Dispatcher and Administrative Assistant in the Minden Police Department, Dept. 10,

as presented.

Michael Roy moved to authorize the Mayor to retain the services of a consulting firm to evaluate city employee salaries and sign all necessary documents pertaining thereto. The motion was duly seconded by Vincen Bradford and carried unanimously.

Upon motion by Pam Bloxom and duly seconded by Michael Roy, the council voted unanimously in favor of awarding Bid No. 15-2022, Repair and Paint Tank No. 1 (500,000 gallon downtown tank) to the lowest qualified bidder meeting all requirements.

Michael Fluhr, Acting City Clerk, presented the Budget/ Financial Report for the month of May, 2022. No motion was required.

Upon motion by Vincen Bradford and duly seconded by Michael Roy, the council unanimously approved the Police Report for May of 2022, as presented.

Public Comments were heard, Council comments were heard and the meeting was adjourned.

Wayne Edwards,
Mayor Pro Tem

ATTEST:

Michael Fluhr,
Acting City Clerk

July 12, 2022
Minden Press-Herald

If anyone knows the whereabouts of Linda Kay Porterfield please contact Pamela Breedlove, Attorney at Law at 318-423-0845.

July 12, 2022
Minden Press-Herald

Flash Market, LLC, d/b/a Flash Market #294 is applying to the Office of Alcohol & Tobacco Control of the State of Louisiana and the City of Minden for a permit to sell beverages of high and low alcohol content at retail in the Parish of Webster at the following address: 917 Homer Road Minden, LA 71055
Flash Market, LLC
Flash Market #294
Owner/Member - Transit Energy Group, LLC

July 12, 2022
July 15, 2022
Minden Press-Herald

EMPLOYMENT

The Town of Plain Dealing is currently accepting application for an Police Officers. Applicants should submit application between the hours 8:00 and 4:30 Monday thru Thursday and 8:00 until 11:30 on Friday. Post Certification is a plus. For more information Please contact the town Hall at 318-326-4234.

GARAGE/ESTATE SALES

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167 Lucy Street, Cotton Valley, LA. July 16th and 17th. 7 am till 6pm and bedroom furniture, kitchenware, piano, home décor, women's clothes, shoes, and more.

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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The Head Start Center in your area is accepting applications for enrollment of children who will be 3 or 4 years of age on or before September 30th of this year. The Head Start Program has been recognized by the State of Louisiana for providing high quality services for all children, including children with disabilities.

For more information, you may call or visit:

Head Start Administration Office
111 Murrell Street
Minden, La 71055
318-377-7022

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Attorney
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