

MINDEN PRESS-HERALD

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 11, 2023

MINDEN, LOUISIANA

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75 CENTS

MISS MINDEN

Jacie Brent crowned Miss Minden 2023

AMBER MCDOWN
Minden Press-Herald

Jacie Brent was crowned Miss Minden, and Aliyah Armstrong was crowned Miss Spirit of Fasching during the Miss Minden Scholarship Competition at the Civic Center on January 7.

The Miss Minden Scholarship Competition celebrated its 70th anniversary this year with a large and enthusiastic crowd. Gracie Reichman, Miss Louisiana 2022, served as Mistress of Ceremonies for the event.

Seven young ladies competed for the titles of Miss Minden and Miss Spirit of Fasching, and three young ladies competed for the titles of Miss Minden Outstanding Teen, Miss Spirit of Fasching Outstanding Teen, and Miss Bayou Dorcheat Outstanding Teen.

Jacie Brent swept the Miss Minden Awards, not only crowned Miss Minden, but also receiving the Miss Congeniality Award, an award which is voted on by fellow candidates for being the most thoughtful, courteous, and helpful candidate; the Hannah McFarland Style Award (named for Miss Minden 2007), which is the evening gown award; and the Talent Award for her singing performance.

As the recipient of the title of Miss Minden 2023, Miss Brent will receive a \$1,500 scholarship and \$500 for wardrobe expenses, and she will represent Minden at the Miss Louisiana Scholarship Competition which will be held in Monroe in June.

Aliyah Armstrong, as the recipient of the title of Miss Spirit of Fasching 2023, will also receive a \$1,500 scholarship and \$500 for wardrobe expenses, and she will also

represent Minden at the Miss Louisiana Scholarship Competition in Monroe this June.

The title of Miss Minden Outstanding Teen 2023 was awarded to Brittany Odom, who will receive \$250 for wardrobe expenses, and will represent Minden at the Miss Louisiana Outstanding Teen Competition which will be held in Monroe in April. Miss Odom was also awarded both the Miss Congeniality Award as well as the Talent Award for her singing performance.

The title of Miss Spirit of Fasching Outstanding Teen 2023 was awarded to Jolie Ortego. She will receive \$250 for wardrobe expenses, and will represent Minden at the Miss Louisiana Outstanding Teen Competition in Monroe in April. Miss Ortego was also awarded the Hannah McFarland Style Award for the evening gown portion of the program.

The title of Miss Bayou Dorcheat Outstanding Teen 2023 was awarded to Ainsley Doles. Miss Doles will also receive \$250 for wardrobe expenses, and will be representing Minden at the Miss Louisiana Outstanding Teen Competition in Monroe in April.

The Miss Minden Scholarship Competition bid a fond farewell to last year's title holders: Anna Claire Lemoine, Miss Minden 2022; Courtney Patterson, Miss Spirit of Fasching 2022; Olivia Blackwelder, Miss Minden Outstanding Teen 2022; and Izzy Gray, Miss Spirit of Fasching Outstanding Teen 2022.

The Young Women's Service Club, which hosts the competition, would like to thank all the sponsors and community members for supporting the Miss Minden Scholarship Competition, which is still going strong after 70 years.



AMBER MCDOWN/PRESS-HERALD PHOTOS

Jacie Brent was crowned Miss Minden 2023 on Saturday at the Civic Center in Minden. Shown here (left to right) are all the winners in the Miss Minden Scholarship Competition: Aliyah Armstrong, Miss Spirit of Fasching 2023; Jacie Brent, Miss Minden 2023; Brittany Odom, Miss Minden Outstanding Teen 2023; Ainsley Doles, Miss Bayou Dorcheat Outstanding Teen 2023; and Jolie Ortego, Miss Spirit of Fasching Outstanding Teen 2023.

RETIREMENT

Minden celebrates Fire Chief Kip Mourad's 50 years of service



WILL PHILLIPS/PRESS-HERALD PHOTO

Friends, family, community leaders, elected officials, and all manner of people made their way out to Minden City Hall Thursday afternoon in order to see off Minden's Chief of the Fire Department, Kip Mourad, at his retirement party after the 50 years of service that he has given.

Representatives from Congressman Mike Johnson's office presented Mourad with a formal letter of thanks for his years of service, as well as the gift of a flag that had been flown over the United States Capitol.

"I'm honored. I really am. To even have had the job and be doing it for this long. I've loved every second of it. It's been the greatest thing I could do in my life, other than marrying my wife and raising my kids," said Mourad.

ST. JUDE AUCTION

Wave Goodbye to Cancer is theme for the 2023 St. Jude Auction

AMBER MCDOWN
Minden Press-Herald

The Minden St. Jude Auction is just around the corner, and this year's theme is "Wave Goodbye to Cancer."

Patrick Miller of Parish Design Co. did the graphic design work that will be appearing on the shirts, banners, and other print media for this year's auction. The inspiration for the design came from a conversation with Laura Spillers and his own background as a native of Southern California.

"This year's theme, 'Wave Goodbye to Cancer,' came out of a discussion I had with Laura Spillers at the Minden Fire Station in January



2022," said Miller. "Laura and Haley Robinson work tirelessly with local firefighters and generous local businesses each year to create an amazing playhouse for the Auction. Laura mentioned that it might be fun to do a beach theme sometime in the future. My mind immediately started running through

some ideas. I am a Southern California native (Minden resident for the past 14 years) and an avid Beach Boys / surf music genre fanatic ... the task was right up my alley. Surf. Sun. Waves. Beaches. "Wave Goodbye to Cancer" was born. We introduced the

See, **AUCTION**, Page 2



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Zach M. Goodman
D.D.S.



Volume 54 Number 46
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Tomorrow's
High Temp 59°

Tomorrow's
Low Temp 36°

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WEBSTER & MORE

GOVERNMENT

Senator Cassidy visits with Minden Mayor about infrastructure bill

WILL PHILLIPS
Specht Newspapers

On Wednesday January 4, 2022, United States Senator Bill Cassidy made a trip through northern Louisiana. The Minden Press Herald sat down for an interview with Senator Cassidy during his trek through our area. During his trip, Senator Cassidy talked with the mayors of our local towns in order to find out the needs of his constituents and what he can do in his role as a United States Senator in order to provide assistance. When meeting with new Minden Mayor Nick Cox, Senator Cassidy (being one of the elected officials who negotiated the federal bi-partisan infrastructure bill) spoke of how the bill is providing much needed funding to local municipalities by helping to update sewer and water systems, roads, etc., as well as helping with important projects such as rural broadband internet development.

“65 billion dollars in the infrastructure bill is going to rural broadband. Of the 65 billion dollars being spent across the nation, the very first contract that was released using that money was released in Louisiana. Throughout the state, there have

been multiple contracts released to begin bringing broadband to areas that are currently underserved,” said Cassidy.

“An example of a parish which has done it right is Evangeline Parish in the southern part of our state. Evangeline Parish was the third worst in the nation for access to affordable high speed broadband internet. Then, they received a 35 million dollar grant from a separate pot of money. Now, they are going to go from third worst out of 3,500 parishes and counties across the United States to being among the best. That can happen for Webster Parish too, and that is my goal. I want every parish in this state to be wired for affordable high speed broadband internet.”

Cassidy elaborated on the importance of the accessibility to high speed internet in the modern day and how this access can really help smaller towns which have been struggling in recent years. “If you look at small towns, they are not doing very well right now. However, a lot of people now want to move back to small towns. They are safer and people can know their neighbors. After the COVID pandemic, people have come to appreciate

more land, but they are not going to move back unless they have access to affordable high speed internet,” said Cassidy.

Ultimately, the goal of expanding broadband internet is to make the world smaller and give people living in our communities more opportunities. “You can take advantage of living in this wonderful place, but still work even internationally. So, you need affordable high speed broadband internet in order to be able to do that. I see this as economic development for our state,” said Cassidy.

Along the same lines of making the world smaller and more accessible, Senator Cassidy also mentioned that plans for Amtrak train routes along I-20 are in the works. This will help people to commute to city centers more easily and more affordably. “We are working on establishing Amtrak train routes along the I-20 corridor. Right now, there is a train from Atlanta, Georgia that goes to Meridian, Mississippi. Then, that train turns south to New Orleans. There is another Amtrak train in Texas that goes to Marshall and Longview from Dallas and then stops. So, we are working through the infrastructure bill to



connect the two,” said Cassidy. Louisiana has already supplied 10 million dollars in matching funds in an effort to get the Amtrak project underway. And according to Senator Cassidy, there is plenty of interest from cities in north Louisiana to get the Amtrak routes up and running.

Cassidy also spoke of how there are funds in the bill to help aid in electricity costs for both municipalities and individuals. “There is money in the infrastructure bill to help upgrade electrical systems. There is also money in there to help people if they want to put up solar panels in order

to have their own electricity. There is money in the infrastructure bill to help both individuals and communities do that.

“If somebody lives in an older home and they can cut their electrical bills if they could just insulate their home to make it less drafty or easier to heat and cool, there is money in the infrastructure bill that will help those individuals as well. So from the individual to the city and also to the utility, there is a way to make electricity more affordable for each individual,” said Cassidy.

Senator Bill Cassidy (R-Louisiana) was first elected to the United States Senate in 2014. He is the

senior United States senator from Louisiana and currently serves on the Finance Committee; the Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee; the Energy and Natural Resources Committee and the Veterans Affairs Committee. Senator Cassidy is a physician who served in the Louisiana State Senate from 2006 to 2009 and in the U.S. House of Representatives (representing Louisiana’s sixth congressional district) from 2009 to 2015. More information about Senator Cassidy can be found by visiting his website at: <https://www.cassidy.senate.gov/>

GOVERNMENT

Louisiana audit finds issues with agency that provides benefits for state employees

(The Center Square) — The Louisiana Office of Group Benefits filed inaccurate financial reports for the fifth consecutive year in 2022, due in part to the lack of an “effective review and reconciliation process,” according to the Louisiana Legislative Auditor.

LLA Mike Waguespack issued a report last week that examined the fiscal year 2022 financial information, reporting and compliance at the Office of Group Benefits, which provides health and life insurance benefits to state employees, retirees, and dependents.

“For the fifth consecutive year, OGB, through the Office of Finance and Support Services, submitted annual fiscal reports to the Office of Statewide Reporting and Accounting Policy with errors requiring adjustments,” the report read.

The issues involved a custodial fund with em-

ployer contributions overstated by \$36.7 million, deductions for health and life benefits overstated by \$33.6 million and payables understated by \$3.1 million.

“Prior-year pharmacy rebates collected in the current year were not properly allocated to the custodial fund causing cash to be understated in the custodial fund and overstated in the general fund by \$32 million,” auditors wrote.

Payables in the general fund were understated by \$17.2 million, while accrual for subsidy receivables were not properly entered into the state’s annual financial report portal, which resulted in revenues and receivables in the government-wide AFR to be understated by \$30 million.

“The report used by OFSS to allocate rebates to the custodial fund did not include prior year rebates collected in the cur-

rent year,” according to the report. “In addition, OFSS does not have an effective review and reconciliation process in place to identify and correct errors, including ensuring amounts are correctly input into OSRAP’s AFR portal.”

The LLA contends officials should test AFR data and include a supervisor review to prevent errors prior to submitting reports to OSRAP.

“Failure to establish adequate controls increases the risk that errors and omissions may occur and remain undetected,” the report read.

Other aspects of OGB’s finances were materially correct.

Assistant Commissioner for Statewide Services Desiree Honore Thomas responded to the LLA report in a letter to Waguespack on Dec. 19 that blamed the issues on changes to the way OGB reports its finances. “Fiscal

Year 2021-22 was the initial year of OGB’s expenditures being captured in the LaGov system while revenues remained in ISIS and the first year that both the ‘Submitted’ and ‘Agency Other Post-Employment Benefits’ AFRs for OGB were remitted through the Office of Statewide Reporting and Accounting Policy’s AFR portal,” she wrote. “The implementation of expenditures and report-

ing in LaGov resulted in changes to OGB’s accounting structure as well as a change in revenue and expenditure processes.”

OFSS make the necessary adjustments to correct the issues, and Thomas promised officials will work to prevent similar problems in the future.

“OFSS and OGB will work together to ensure that future fiscal transac-

tions are reported correctly on the financial statements,” Thomas wrote. “Automated validation measures will be added to the AFR workbook, used as the source for OGB’s reporting, and modifications will be made to our review process to ensure all financial information is captured in both the ‘Submitted’ and ‘Agency Other Post-Employment Benefits’ AFRs.

OBITUARIES



Nancy (Mills) McWhorter

A Celebration of Life was held for Nancy (Mills) McWhorter at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, January 7, 2023 at Hill Crest Memorial Funeral Home Chapel with Pastor Scott O’Rear officiating. Interment followed at Rocky Springs Cemetery in Lisbon, LA.

Nancy was born in Galveston, TX on April 3, 1935 and passed away on January 2, 2023 in Bossier City, LA. She attended Dickinson High School and after graduation, attended University of Texas Galveston and received her Nursing Degree in 1956.

She retired from Texaco, Port Arthur/ Port Neches Medical Department after over 26 years. Her passion for cooking led Nancy to begin a recipe column in The Record (Orange, TX 1994-2008) and The Minden Press Herald from 2009-2016. She also wrote several cooking articles for the Hays Free Press in Hays County, Texas.


Nancy was a member of Belle Park Baptist Church in Haughton and a former member of First Baptist Church in Minden.

She was preceded in death by her husband Leland “Mack” McWhorter; parents, Dr. Herbert E. and Nettie Mills; and sisters, Katherine Jean (Mills) Koster and Vivian Carol (Mills) Fallis.

Nancy is survived by her children, Carol Farley and husband Herb of Haughton, LA, Lori Rasberry and husband Bryan of Bridge City, TX, and Dwight Stewart and wife Brenda of San Antonio, TX; stepson, Mike McWhorter and wife Trini of Argyle, TX; stepdaughter, Patricia Kuehn and husband Bob of Spring, TX; grandchildren, Cassie Rohrer and husband John, Ray Farley, Corey Edgerly and wife Katie, B.J. Rasberry and wife Laresa, Sheryl Ann Murillo and husband Gaby, Mick Rasberry and wife Laci and Andrzej Stewart; six step grandchildren; 28 great grandchildren; one great-great grandchild and numerous nieces, nephews and friends.

Pallbearers: Ray Farley, Gaby Murillo, B.J. Rasberry, Mick Rasberry, John Rohrer and Andrzej Stewart. Honorary pallbearers: Chayce Farley, Jordan McWhorter and Michael Williams.

The family would like to express their sincere gratitude to the staff at Savannah Court of Minden and Savannah Grand of Bossier City for their loving and compassionate care.



LIHEAP

Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program

CALL-IN DATES ARE
TUESDAY, JANUARY 17, 2023-MINDEN
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 18, 2023-SPRINGHILL

Webster Parish Community Services is offering the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP). Funds have been made available for fiscal year 2023 for non-crisis assistance as well as crisis assistance. Applicants will be served on a first come, first serve basis.

TARGET GROUP: The target group for this program are elderly, disabled, and families with children five years of age or younger.

- ♦ Target Group individuals from the south part of the parish, Minden, Sibley, Doyline, etc., may request assistance by calling 318-377-7022, **beginning at 9:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m., TUESDAY – JANUARY 17, 2023** on a first-come, first-serve basis.

ALL OTHER GROUP: Individuals who do not qualify as target group.

- ♦ Individuals from the south part of the parish, Minden, Sibley, Doyline, etc. may request assistance by calling 318-377-7022, **beginning at 1:30 P.M. until 4:00 p.m., TUESDAY, JANUARY 17, 2023** on a first-come, first-serve basis.

TARGET GROUP: The target group for this program are elderly, disabled, and families with children five years of age or younger.

- ♦ Target Group individuals from the north part of the parish, Springhill, Cullen, Cotton Valley, etc., may request assistance by calling 318-377-7022, **beginning at 9:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m., WEDNESDAY – JANUARY 18, 2023** on a first-come, first-serve basis.

ALL OTHER GROUP: Individuals who do not qualify as target group.

- ♦ Individuals from the north part of the parish, Springhill, Cullen, Cotton Valley, etc. may request assistance by calling 318-377-7022, **beginning at 1:30 P.M. until 4:00 p.m., WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 18, 2023** on a first-come, first-serve basis.

Once assistance has been requested, individuals will be notified of appointment date and time, as well as the necessary documentation required to apply by telephone.

Each individual must be a resident of Webster Parish and provide proof of eligibility. In order to be eligible, the **entire family income** must be at or below 60 per cent median income family guidelines and not have received assistance within the last 6 months. They may be eligible if residents in the home receive food stamps, Supplemental Security Income, TANF, or certain veterans’ pension payments. Besides the proof of eligibility, each applicant **must provide copies of current utility bills**. The payment of each utility bill remains the responsibility of the individual or family. This program is not responsible for utilities being shut off between the time an application is made and payment is received by the utility company. Benefit may take 30-90 days to credit to individual’s utility account.

CRISIS ASSISTANCE:

The LIHEAP program also provides energy crisis intervention to eligible households. The program provides for an energy payment **up to a maximum benefit** amount of **\$1000.00**. To be eligible for LIHEAP Crisis Assistance, the applicant’s household must meet the following requirements:

1. Income eligibility.
2. Disconnection Notice(threatened or actual interruption of service which may cause a lack of cooling/heating source.)
3. Vulnerability (mail that has been received within the last 30 days which has the same address as the utility bills.)
4. Faced with health risk and/or safety hazard.

A household can receive only **one (1)** crisis assistance benefit during a 12-month period. Services are available to all persons on a non-discriminatory basis without regard to race, color, sex, national origin, religion, age or disability. Anyone who feels they have been discriminated against should contact the Office of Community Services, 208 Gleason St., Minden, LA, phone 318-377-7022 or Louisiana Housing Corporation, 2415 Quail Dr., Baton Rouge, LA, phone 888-454-2001. Webster Parish Police Jury Office of Community Services is an equal opportunity employer/provider. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities. Call 318-377-7022, 318-539-5696, TDD 1-800-846-5277 for information.

WEBSTER & MORE

OBITUARIES



Sharon G. Sexton

Funeral services for Sharon G. Sexton were held Tuesday, January 3, 2023, at 10:00 a.m. at Rose-Neath Funeral Home Chapel in Minden, Louisiana with Rev. Max Rasberry officiating. Interment will follow at Providence Cemetery in Ringgold, Louisiana. The family received friends from 5:00 until 7:00 p.m. Monday, January 2, 2023, at Rose-Neath Funeral Home in Minden.

Sharon was born September 22, 1948, in Choudrant, Louisiana and entered into rest December 28, 2022, in Alexandria, Louisiana. Sharon was a loving wife,

mother, and grandmother. Her greatest joy was spending time with her family and making special memories that will be treasured over time.

She is survived by her husband Donavon Sexton of Jamestown; sons Daniel Herrington and wife Karen of Jamestown and Scott Herrington and wife Cyndy of Heflin; grandchildren, Jerry, Justin, Kevin, and Emily Herrington; and great-grandchildren, Merry, Oliver, and Theo.

Pallbearers will be Jerry Herrington, Justin Herrington, Kevin Herrington, Flake Sexton, Gary Bryan, and Gordon Howard. Honorary pallbearer will be James Sandidge.

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



Theresa Matthews Bunner

Theresa Matthews Bunner of Minden, Louisiana, passed away on December 30, 2022. She was born February 7, 1929, in Sarepta, Louisiana, to Marvin Wesley and Rita Denmon Matthews. She married George Ripley “Rip” Bunner on August 8, 1946. They enjoyed nearly 60 years together before he passed in 2006. From their union came a daughter, Gayle, and son George. The family moved often with Rip’s oilfield work until 1962, when they settled in Minden and he continued to work offshore, including a two-year transfer to Maracaibo, Venezuela, with the family.

Theresa retired from the Louisiana Army Ammunition Plant (now Camp Minden) as a government contract specialist. She did not slow down after retirement. She earned her real estate license, became a notary public, and learned tax preparation and handwriting analysis. Together she, Rip and son George acquired and maintained rental properties. In her spare time, she taught herself to make life-sized cloth dolls and other crafts.

She was preceded in death by her parents, husband, grandson Gregory Hamad

Hartle, sister Shirley Frazier, and brother Marvin Matthews. She is survived by her son George Bunner, Jr (Liz), daughter Gayle Hartle (Jim), sister Barnell Johnson, grandsons Robert Hartle (Joie Pickett) and Robert Wyatt (Sarah), and granddaughters Melissa Bartula (Jason), Robin Wyatt (Francisco Ponce), and numerous great- and great-great-grandchildren, nieces and nephews.

We especially want to thank niece and nephew Evelyn Lassaigue and Tom Bounds for all their support, assistance, and love for Mom. Thanks also to the caring nurses and aides at Town and Country Nursing Home, Regional Hospice, and Lori Hudson, who cared for Mom in her time of need.

Serving as pallbearers will be Robert Hartle, Robert Wyatt, Tom Bounds, Evelyn Lassaigue, Jason Bartula and Barry Johnson.

Funeral services were held Tuesday, January 3, 2023, at 10:00 a.m. at Pleasant Valley United Methodist Church in Minden, Louisiana with a graveside service at 2:00 p.m. at Andrews Cemetery in Karnack, Texas. The family received friends from 5:00 until 7:00 p.m. Monday, January 2, 2023, at Rose-Neath Funeral Home in Minden, Louisiana.

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



Gwendolyn Munn Cox

Shongaloo, LA

Funeral services for Mrs. Gwendolyn Munn Cox “Granny”, age 97, of Shongaloo, LA, was held at 2:00 pm, Thursday, January 5, 2023, at the Bailey Funeral Home Chapel with Bro. Charles Garner officiating. Interment will follow in Old Shongaloo Cemetery, Shongaloo, LA under the direction of Bailey Funeral Home.

Visitation was held Wednesday, January 4, 2023, from 5:00 pm until 8:00 pm at Bailey Funeral Home, Springhill.

Mrs. Cox was born on March 12, 1925 to Rev. John Lewis and Maude Munn in Shongaloo, LA and passed away on Saturday, December 31, 2022 in Minden, LA. She was a lifelong resident of Shongaloo, a homemaker, a faithful member of Mt. Paran Baptist Church, and the Order of the Eastern Star. She was a devoted and loving wife, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, and great-great grandmother. She loved the farm at “Munn Hill” and was known for her decorations, the 1965 Chevrolet that she drove wearing her white

gloves, and her white dresses.

She is survived by her grandson, Shane Cox and wife, Amy of Homer, LA; three great-grandchildren, Carrie Williams and husband, Josh of Athens, LA, Matthew Driskill of Ruston, Carl Driskill, Jr. of Simsboro, LA; and great great-granddaughter, Athena Williams of Athens, LA.

Mrs. Cox was preceded in death by her parents; husband of 74 years, Urel Cox; son, Claude Lewis Cox; and two sisters.

Pallbearers will be: Donnie Morgan, Pepper Branton, Charles Slack, Chris Jones, Henery Burns, Scott Mouser, A.J. “June Bug” Burns, and Troy Simmons. Honorary pallbearers will be: Tulley Moore, William Strange, Champ Branton, Johnny Benefield, Ronnie Lennard, and Paul Dean

The family asks that, in lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to St. Jude and the Wounded Warrior Project.

Sign our online guest book at www.baileyfuneralhome.net

Bailey Funeral Home
Springhill, LA
318-539-3555



Hazel Tyler

Born in Sarepta, La on July 7, 1925, to Gerden & Mary Alice Bradley, Hazel Geneva Bradley married the love of her life, Charles Ernest Tyler, on October 25, 1946, and moved to Cotton Valley, La where Ernie was the principal and head football coach at Cotton Valley High School. Together, they raised four beautiful girls, and ultimately settled in Minden, La, where Ernie concluded his career at the Webster Parish School Board and Hazel retired from the Webster Parish Food Stamp Office.

As an active member of First Baptist Church Minden for over fifty years, Hazel enjoyed serving her church as often as possible, as a greeter, in the prayer room, and raising money for youth. Hazel was fa-

mous for her cooking, especially her fried pies and homemade bread. She was happiest serving others, and her greatest joy was her family.

Hazel was preceded in death by her husband of sixty-two years, Charles Ernest Tyler, daughter Marolyn Tyler Lasuzzo, and great granddaughter Emerson Ashton Shurley.

Survived by daughters Rita Carrier & husband Barry, Mary Ann Newman and husband Dan, and Rala Tyler. Grandchildren Holli Dixon & husband Phil, John Carrier and wife Cara, Kimbi Johnson, Tyler Rominger and husband McLeod, Kori Shurley & husband Scott, Kaleb Newman and wife Gina. Great grandchildren Bradley Dixon & wife Madison, Grant Dixon & Elizabeth Dixon, John David & Jackson Carrier, Wyatt, Walker, Whit & Westin Johnson, Porter & Evangeline Rominger, Grace & Emmaline Shurley.

Pallbearers will be Hazel’s grandsons and great grandsons.



Wills Successions

Warren Law LLC

219 Main Street
Minden, La
318-377-8150

Call for a free information packet.



Jerry C. Edwards, Jr

Funeral Services for Jerry C. Edwards, Jr will be held Friday, January 6, 2023, at 10:00 a.m. at Eastside Missionary Baptist in Minden, Louisiana with Bro. Chet Johnson officiating. Interment will follow at Whispering Pines Cemetery in Minden, Louisiana. The family will receive friends from 5:00 until 7:00 p.m. Thursday, January 5, 2023, at Eastside Missionary Baptist Church.

Jerry was born February 13, 1943, in Hamburg, Arkansas and entered into rest January 3, 2023, in Minden, Louisiana.

He was preceded in death by his sons, James and Rusty Edwards.

He is survived by his wife, Martha Edwards of Minden; son, Joey Edwards of Minden; daughter, Charlotte Cobb of Minden; sisters Jeanette and Linda Roberts; brothers, Terry, John, Robert, Kenneth and Eddy Edwards; six grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

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



Mary Lane Gray

Mary Lane Gray went to meet her Savior on January 7, 2023. Funeral services will be Wednesday, January 11 at 10:00 a.m. at Heflin Baptist Church, Heflin, Louisiana. Visitation will be Tuesday, January 10 from 5:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. at Rose Neath Funeral Home in Minden, Louisiana.

Mary Lane was born January 1, 1932, in Bienville Parish, Louisiana and was the daughter of Gladys and Dick Bailiff. She was married to Billy Gray from 1953 until his death in 2010. Left to cherish her memory are her son Robert “Bob” Gray (Carla) of Heflin, Louisiana, daughter Nancy McMurrain (Howard) of Minden, Louisiana, sister Joann Lary of Montgomery, Louisiana, and grandchildren: Will Gray (Michelle), Mary Michael Fleniken (Jason), Wesley Gray, Brooks Gray, Jake Gray, Kirsten Pilgrim (John), and Ashley Sanders, along with three great grandchildren.

Mary Lane graduated from Northwestern State College in 1955 and began a 31-year teaching career that took her to North Cad-do High School, Doyline High School, and Sibley High School. Teaching was far more than a job. Mary Lane made lasting impact on her students.

For many years, she was a familiar sight at Sibley High School and later Lakeside High School baseball games coached by son Bob and Grandson Will. She was a long time, devoted member and Sunday School teacher at Heflin Baptist Church.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests that memorials may be made to the Heflin Baptist Church Building Fund.

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

Funeral services celebrating the life of Hazel B. Tyler was held Thursday, January 5, 2023, at 11:00 a.m. at First Baptist Minden in Minden, Louisiana with Bro. Steve Gilley officiating. Interment will follow at Gardens of Memory in Minden, Louisiana. The family will received friends Thursday at 9:00 a.m. until 10:45 a.m. at the church prior to the service.

The family would like to thank the nurses at Intensive Specialty Hospital in Bossier City, Willis Knighton Rehab and all the Memory Care workers at The Blake in Bossier City for the love and care they showed Hazel over the last several years.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Louisiana Baptist Children’s Home, www.lbch.org, First Baptist Minden, www.firstminden.org, or a charity of your choice.

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

OPINION

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The Minden Press-Herald is published Wednesday by Specht Newspapers, Inc. at 203 Gleason Street, Minden, Louisiana 71055.

Telephone: (318) 377-1866.

Entered as Periodicals at the Post Office as Minden Press-Herald, P.O. Box 1339, Minden LA 71058-1339.

Subscription rate: \$40 per year.

POSTMASTER: 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.

OPINION

Debate surrounding choosing of U.S. House Speaker is essential to constitutional self-government

There has been much news this past week regarding the choosing of the next Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives. U.S. Rep. Kevin McCarthy (R-CA) was considered the likely choice and has now become Speaker.

McCarthy, or any Speaker candidate, needs 218 votes to become speaker if all Members of Congress are present. Republicans have a slim majority of 222 lawmakers, so McCarthy could only afford to lose four GOP votes. The House adjourned Thursday evening after eleven attempts to elect a speaker, began its fourth day of votes Friday and McCarthy managed to gain the necessary votes in the 15th round of voting.

My point is that, in one of its frequent overreactions, the national "media" breathlessly proclaimed that "the U.S. House hasn't failed this many times to elect a speaker since the Civil War." Or that the failure to immediately elect a speaker resulted in "chaos."

I respectfully disagree with those characterizations.

The intense focus on and debate regarding who would become the House Speaker is healthy, worthwhile and to be expected. We are a constitutional republic, within which we have chosen to govern ourselves as a representative democracy. That representative

democracy is obviously based upon "representatives" and "representation."

And, it was apparent that a bloc of U.S. House members was skeptical about McCarthy for one reason or the other. I never saw any indication that the opposition to McCarthy by House Republicans was of a personal nature but was ideological and policy based.

I served in the U.S. Congress in D.C. for almost 8 years. I worked for three members of the U.S. House and interned for a fourth. So, I know from experience that the position of speaker is a powerful one — the



ROYAL ALEXANDER

second in line for the Presidency. I've witnessed up close that once the speaker is chosen, the very direction of the U.S. House is set for the entire two years of that session of the Congress.

The Speaker determines membership on critical oversight and appropriations committees, including the procedurally critical House Rules Committee, which projects receive funding, and, most importantly, what bills actually come to the floor.

So, these last few days were the time to make objections and to debate what, in this instance, the Republican majority desired in its speaker. Clearly, a large number of Republicans were satisfied with the pledges McCarthy has made and the style of leadership and direction he will provide. Yet, a comparatively small but decisive—given the small Republican majority—group of Republicans were not.

The reason this debate is worthwhile is because even that minority of 20 or so Republicans who consistently opposed McCarthy for speaker have a right—if not a responsibility—to be sure that the voice of their constituents is also heard.

What do I mean by that?

Some of the opposition to McCarthy believed he had demonstrated certain policy beliefs they strongly disagreed with. For example, some don't like the recent \$1.7 trillion omnibus spending bill (yet another) that was just rammed through Congress and demand a change to the legislative process governing that.

Some believe McCarthy has never been strong enough on illegal immigration and the invasion that is occurring on our Southern border—including the drugs and crime that come with it. Some of these members of Congress have been passion-

ate in their opposition to the weaponization of the federal government as it pertains to the partisan activities of several of our federal agencies in the last few elections. They seek a select committee of some kind to probe this issue.

Other members of this opposition simply see Congress as broken and demand that attention be given to their priorities in order for McCarthy to get their votes. Some of them demand a change to the House rules procedure regarding which bills can come to the House floor to be heard and debated, and which amendments may be offered to them. Some demand an opportunity to influence policy—a "seat at the table"—when bills are being drafted. Some demand the right for a single Member of Congress to call for a no-confidence vote to unseat the House Speaker.

It takes great courage to take on the majority of your own party. However, demands had to be made and they had to be made at the time a new speaker was being chosen. That was done and the Congress—and the American people—are better for it.

ROYAL ALEXANDER IS A SHREVEPORT ATTORNEY.

INSPIRATION

‘That which is essential is invisible to the eye’
In honor of January 21 being national hugging day in America

French author Antoine de Saint-Exupery, author of The Little Prince wrote "One sees clearly only with the heart. Anything essential is invisible to the eye."

Love and hugging are essential.

Having born to poverty stricken parents who I knew loved me and then to go into a loving foster home for a couple of months before going into an orphanage I can speak from experience. To be given love until one's addicted and then to have it snatched away is one of the most cruel, devastating experiences that can happen to a child or even an adult.

Having just watched child star Margaret O'Brien, with the leading role in Lost Angels, helps me to explain just what is wrong with orphanages and why we need hugging!

When we were dropped off at camp I turned my back when I saw other children being hugged by their parents. I slept with my head under my pillow to muffle my crying at the

orphanage because we were punished for crying.

You can put a child in an institution with plenty of food and clothing but you can't expect a child to thrive in an environment where all you have are people who work for a paycheck.



SARAH HUDSON PIERCE

and campaigned for the reform of child protection systems across the globe for more than 30 years. But more importantly I am a parent. And so, without doubt, the most gut wrenching sound I've ever heard is that of silence in a ward full of children in an orphanage. Chil-

dren raised in orphanages can experience delays in terms of IQ, language, speech and vocabulary"

Having grown up in an orphanage I am here to say that a child care institution is most likely devoid of the kind of emotional care that children need to thrive. I can speak from experience having witnessed and experience the kind of abuse that leaves a child scarred for life.

I've witnessed children running away at night never to found.

Without love life is meaningless.

Had I not experienced living in a loving foster parents for two months I might not have ever experienced the kind of home that was overflowing with love, affection, the kind of care that I soaked up like a dry sponge and when I went to the orphanage all I could see and feel were cinder blocks that were as devoid of love as they were hollow.

Yes "that which is essential is

invisible to the eye."

One of those ingredients is hugging.

My favorite author Italian born Psychologist Doctor Leo Buscaglia, author of Living and Loving had much to say about the necessity of hugging and touching. He reports that "hugging increases hemoglobin in the blood."

Children need love to thrive.

It is easy for me to say that there are few people who have the ability, the need, to love children for a paycheck.

It took me years to get over the lack of love in an orphanage but had it not been for drawing love into my life and turning to writing as a safety valve for my emotions I might not be here today.

I hope I give you the courage to share your story however sad it may be and to draw love into your life.

CONTACT SARAH AT SARAH9957@AOL.COM

OPINION

Our neighbors to the west will better if they work together

After attending the inauguration of Mayor Tom Arceneaux and our new City Council on the last day of 2022, my optimism grows for Shreveport. Early last year, some concepts in this column were shared in BIZ Magazine and the 318 Forum. This seems like a good time at the start of a New Year and new administration to reconsider these thoughts.

Watching news, reading newspapers, and scouring social media identifies deep division in our culture. People on all sides of the political divide have significant concerns about the direction of our community and country,

Our tendency is to initially blame some entity for our troubles. It could be government, political leaders, schools, universities, or political parties. However, pointing our fingers at one or more of these entities accomplishes nothing. The blame game does nothing to change things for the better.

For this column, I thought about five things to share that I could do as an individual to promote civility in areas of disagreement with others. Then I added five more ways to work with others to change the direction of our culture in a positive way. This is what we can all do to make our community a better place to live and work. On a personal level we can:

Live the truth: Integrity is a requirement for great leaders. The Bible says "the truth will set you free." The defense of freedom begins with all of us seeking truth and then living it.

Have gratitude for our blessings and share these blessings with others. My anxiety over the direction of our community is greatly allayed when I realize I live in the greatest country in the history of the world. For over 250 years, America has been the beacon of freedom.

Practice the Golden Rule: Would the world around me be better if I treated others the way I want to be treated? Would there be greater civility? Could practicing this rule as individuals or as a community change the direction of the country? What if we really took the great commandment to heart and "loved one another"? What if we really did "do unto

others as you would have them do unto you"?

Don't underestimate the potential to impact others for the good. It is easy to just throw up hands in despair at every new headline, but nothing good is accomplished with that attitude. None of us fully realize our impact on others and the world around us. When we think about it just a moment, we can all remember teachers, parents, and friends who transformed our lives. We can be those transformers for others.

Focus on creating opportunity for others. This means providing and encouraging work and innovation as keys to prosperity. Though no one can guarantee equal outcomes, equal opportunity is a founding principle. We can all work to provide excellence in education for the children of our community.

On a community and national level, we can work together to change the direction of our culture.

Strong families can turn the culture in the right direction. We can start with our own family. We can pass along the treasures of civilization and freedom to our children and grandchildren. Building families is the foundation of overcoming generational poverty. What if we could find a way to build more strong families?

Apply Biblical principles. In the Old Testament, the prophet Micah wrote, "What does the Lord require of you but to do justice and to love kindness and to walk humbly with your God?" The scriptures show the way to justice and mercy. Silencing the church and censorship were the first steps in the Communist and Nazi movements of the 20th century. We shouldn't let it happen in our community or our country.

Don't forget the foundation of our Declaration of Independence. We should live by it as individuals and as a government. The Founding Fathers wrote "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of Happiness."

Preserve the Bill of Rights. These civil liberties are our unalienable Rights. Threats to freedom of speech, press, assembly, protest, petition, and religion in the First Amendment are threats to our democracy. The same is true for the other civil liberties in Amendments Two through Ten. These rights are the bedrock of a functioning democracy. We should all work together to preserve the liberty that comes with the Bill of Rights.

Stand up for these foundation principles in our founding documents. This applies to federal, state and local government. In the classic work "Democracy in America" by de Tocqueville, he noted "Despotism may govern without faith, but liberty cannot."

We can and should speak truth to power. We can give thanks everyday for the wisdom of the founders that produced the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution. These documents have and continue to be remarkable antidotes to tyranny for 250 years.

There are individual and collective ways to provide solutions for our deep divide and seemingly endless hostility. Those solutions are found in the heart of Americans. Integrity, gratitude, charity, opportunity, and a reliance on long-standing principles applies the wisdom of the ages to our differences. As noted in an African proverb, "When spider webs unite, they can tie up a lion". We are better together.

DR. PHILLIP ROZEMAN IS A PRACTICING CARDIOLOGIST. HE HAS BEEN RECOGNIZED AS A MEMBER OF THE JA BUSINESS HALL OF FAME AND SHREVEPORT CHAMBER BUSINESS LEADER OF THE YEAR.

SPORTS

Tide falls



PHOTO BY RUSSELL HEDGES/BOSSIER PRESS-TRIBUNE
E'Kyrion Webb led Minden with 16 points during a loss to Red River last week in the Bossier Invitational.

Red River rolls to 67-56 victory over Minden

RUSSELL HEDGES
Bossier Press-Tribune

The Minden Crimson Tide fell to Red River 67-56 Thursday afternoon on Day 2 of the Bossier Invitational at Bossier.

The game was Minden's only one in the event. It is not a bracket tournament.

The Tide got down early. They made a couple of runs at the Bulldogs in both halves but couldn't pull off the comeback.

E'Kyrion Webb led Minden with 16 points. Mi-jai Batton added 13 for

the Tide while Kell Hawk chipped in with 10.

Jieron Calhoun paced Red River (8-9) with 17 points.

Jaylen McDonald scored 14, Shaylon Newton 12 and Jayden Wells 11.

Minden trailed 25-18 at the half. After Red River extended the lead to 16 in the third quarter, the Tide made a late run to get within eight going into the fourth.

But the closest they got was 47-40 early in the quarter before the Bulldogs pulled away.



Minden's Wand Mims goes up for a layup in last week's game against Red River.



Minden's Makhi Reed was a stanout lineman on both sides of the ball this past season for the Crimson Tide.

All-District accolades

Minden's Makhi Reed earns 1-4A honorable mention

T. SCOTT BOATRIGHT
Minden Press-Herald

Minden High School's Makhi Reed is the lone Crimson Tider on the Louisiana Sports Writers Associations Class 4A All-State football team, earning honorable mention.

Reed, who has been recruited by Air Force and Navy among other colleges, is a 6-2, 315 defensive lineman who totaled 51 tackles, two sacks, nine quarterback hurries, one forced fumble, two fumble returns and one blocked punt as a senior.

"It has been a blessing to coach Makhi," said Minden head coach Spencer Heard. "He played well on both sides of the ball for us —

we also used him at both offensive guard and tackle when we needed to. He always came through.

"He is a high character young man with a very strong work ethic and love for his teammates. We will miss him both on and off of the field. I know he will do great things in the future."

Two players who led their teams to Louisiana High School Athletics Association championships and a coach who returned to a title game for the first time in more than a decade headlined the LSWA's Class 4A All-State football team.

Quarterback D'Wayne Winfield of Lutchter was voted the Offensive Player of the Year, while St. Thomas More defensive back Nicholas Beckwith was selected as the De-

fensive Player of the Year.

Dennis Dunn, who led North DeSoto to its first title-game appearance, was voted Coach of the Year for the squad selected by a panel of sportswriters from across the state.

Dunn, who won nine titles at Shreveport's Evangel Christian, coached the Griffins to a 12-2 record and a runner-up finish to Lutchter and Winfield in the Division II nonselect final.

Winfield led the Bulldogs to their ninth LHSAA title with 4,657 yards of total offense and 70 touchdowns. The recent Louisiana-Lafayette commitment passed for 2,187 yards with 32 touchdowns and rushed for 2,477 yards and 38 scores.

Dunkin' Dogs edge Miners, 60-58

Minden Press-Herald Sports Service

RUSTON — Louisiana Tech picked up its 10th win of the season on Saturday afternoon, getting

Four Bulldogs reached double-digit points, led by Cobe Williams who had a game-high 17 one last defensive stop in the closing seconds to pull out a 60-58 victory overw Texas-El Paso inside the Thomas Assembly Center on Karl Malone Court.

LA Tech (10-6, 3-2 Conference USA) had the lead for almost 35 minutes, but was never able to stretch it out. On three different occasions, the Bulldogs made it a 10-point advantage with the last time coming at 51-41 with 8:20 remaining.

Their previous 10-point edge, 37-27 at halftime, quickly dwindled in the early parts of the second stanza. It was a stretch that saw UTEP (8-7, 1-3

C-USA) go on a 9-0 run as the 'Dogs missed their first five shot attempts and committed four turnovers.

The Miners ultimately tied things up at 40-40 after a made layup by Ze'rik Onyema. However, the home team found some offensive magic in Isaiah Crawford who made seven points during LA Tech's 11-1 run to push the lead back out to double digits.

UTEP chipped away again though, cutting the deficit down to one on three occasions in the final minutes. The first time getting to within one point, Keaston Willis lost his defender and drained a 3-pointer from the wing (the only one of the second half for LA Tech) to make it a 57-53 score.

Those three points were matched by three made free throws from the Miners to make it a one-

point game again. The two squads then traded layups, Quandre Bullock scoring for the Bulldogs and Calvin Solomon scoring for the Miners.

Being forced to foul with eight seconds left, Terran Williams stepped to the free throw line missing the first, but making the second to take it to a 60-58 lead. UTEP went for the win as Tae Hardy took a contested 3-point shot that was off the mark. points. Bullocks 12 points tied his career high while Keaston Willis and Dra- von Mangum each netted 10.

Williams broke the 1,000 career point barrier in the win.

"It means a lot (getting 1,000 career points)," Williams said. "It is really special. A lot of players do not reach this. It is a blessing for me to be able to do it."

It was a tale of two halves offensively for both

teams as each shot over 50 percent in the first half, but less than 40 percent in the second half.

"I thought we did a really good job of being touch and physical today," said Tech coach Talvin Hester. "Our defensive plan was good enough. Offensively, we were good in the first half. I thought the ball stopped moving in the second half, we stopped sharing the basketball. That is a well-coached team we played.

"We have been in this situation quite a bit (with these close games) We have done a lot of film more and have needed to be better in late-game situations. We had to be better down the stretch. Our looked at our guys in the eyes with eight seconds left and I said, 'No lazy basketball right now. You have to give all you got for eight seconds.' That is what we did."

Techsters tumble at Texas-El Paso

Minden Press-Herald Sports Service

EL PASO, Texas — Louisiana Tech women's basketball team battled back from a 12-point fourth-quarter deficit in El Paso Saturday afternoon, but

fell to UTEP 72-66 in a game that featured alternating runs from both squads.

Three Techsters reached double figures, led by Keiunna Walker, who had 24 points, three

assists, and two steals, followed by Salma Bates and Amaya Brannon, who had 14 and 13, respectively.

Brannon chipped in five rebounds, while Bates added four assists, three rebounds, and two steals

for Louisiana Tech. .

Tech shot it well again, hitting 53 percent of their looks, going 22-41 from the field including tying a season-high with nine threes. Tech also hit 13-16 (.813) from the line.

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Minden Press-Herald & Holcomb's
Athlete of the Week

Jamaria
Clark
Doyline
High School



The senior guard celebrated the holidays by breaking his own school record as he poured in 52 points in a win over Atlanta on Dec. 20.

The Press-Herald Athlete of the Week feature is brought to you every other Friday by Holcomb's Body Shop in Minden.

SPORTS

Cowboys fall in regular-season finale

Dallas to open playoffs at Tampa Bay

LANDOVER, Md. (AP) — Dak Prescott insisted the Dallas Cowboys were worried solely about their game against Washington and had no idea what was going on in Philadelphia with the other result they would need to win the division.

“Zero awareness of what was going on over there,” he said. “Couldn’t get off on the right foot.”

That’s an understatement. Prescott completed just 14 of his 37 passes for 128 yards, threw another interception that was returned for a touchdown and the Cowboys laid an egg in their final regular-season game, losing 26-6 to the Washington Commanders on Sunday.

Despite playing their starters with coach Mike McCarthy pledging they were playing to win, the Cowboys limped into the playoffs and a wild-card showdown at Tom Brady and the Tampa Bay Buccaneers next Monday night with Prescott on a career-long seven-game interception streak.

“That wasn’t us,” guard Zack Martin said. “Do this again, we’ll be sitting at home next week.”

Beyond getting picked off by Kendall Fuller on the pick-6, Prescott was wildly inaccurate and the Dallas offense had just 169 total yards and went 4 of 17 on third down before he was replaced by Cooper Rush in garbage time.

“This is not about one guy,” McCarthy said. “You can’t look at our offensive performance and blame it on one guy. Plenty to go around.”

Prescott used choice words to describe perhaps his worst game of the season and was at a loss to explain what went wrong.

He finished the season tied with Houston’s Davis Mills for the most interceptions in the league with 15.

“That stinks,” Prescott said. “Fourteen completions, yeah, not good enough. Period.”

This was not exactly how the Cowboys (12-5) figured things would go with a chance, albeit small, to win the NFC East if Philadelphia lost at home to the also playoff-bound New York Giants, who were resting several regulars and starting a third-string quarterback.

While the Eagles took care of their business to lock up the division title and earn the conference’s top seed and a first-round bye, Dallas lost to Washington’s third QB to start a game the season: a rookie making his NFL debut.

Sam Howell threw a touchdown pass to Terry McLaurin among his 11 of 19 passing for 169 yards and ran for another among his 35 yards rushing. The fifth-round pick out of North Carolina became the first Washington rookie QB to throw and run for

a TD in a game since Robert Griffin III in 2012.

“It is about the QB making plays they’re supposed to make, and every now and then when you need a big play, make a big play,” coach Ron Rivera said. “That’s what we need to get to.”

Howell also connected on a 52-yard completion with McLaurin, who set a career high for receiving yards in a season. Eliminated from playoff contention last week after Carson Wentz threw three interceptions in a loss to Cleveland, the Commanders (8-8-1) ended a four-game winless stretch and avoided a third consecutive losing season in as many years with Rivera in charge of football operations.

“We feel like we’re headed in the right direction,” Rivera said.

NOT-SO SPECIAL TEAMS

Prescott and the Cowboys offense weren’t solely to blame. Punter Bryan Anger dropped a snap early that set up the first Commanders touchdown, KaVonte Turpin fumbled a punt return and kicker Brett Maher missed an extra point.

RUNNING STRUGGLES

The Cowboys’ struggles on the ground since losing offensive tackle Terence Steele continued. They rushed for just 64 yards and put Prescott in some obvious throwing situations.



PRESS-HERALED FILE PHOTO

Cooper Sanders was one of four North Webster football players to earn All-District honors.

Five Knights named All-District

T. SCOTT BOATRIGHT
Minden Press-Herald

Four North Webster High School Knights have been named to the 54-member All-District 1-3A football team for 2022.

This past season District 1-3A consisted of North Webster along with Bastrop, Carroll, Richwood, Sterlington, Union Parish and Wossman,

Three Knights were picked to the offensive side of the All-District

1-3A team — receiver Cooper Sanders, offensive ineman Jacob Carter and kicker Christian Whitlock.

One Knight was selected to the defensive side of the all-district squad — defensive back Jaylon Thomas.

Frustrating Saints season ends fittingly with 10-7 loss

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — If Steve Wilks has coached his last game for the Panthers, he can walk away knowing his players didn’t quit on him.

Eddy Pineiro kicked a 42-yard field goal as time expired, and Carolina closed out its season with an opportunistic 10-7 victory over the New Orleans Saints on Sunday.

“The guys showed up today,” said Wilks, who went 6-6 as an interim coach after Matt Rhule’s firing. “We’ve dealt with so much adversity through the course of the year, and for those guys to circle the wagons once again and find a way to come together and win the football game is extremely impressive.”

The Saints finished with some wide statistical advantages, outgaining Carolina 304 yards to 203, but the game remained tight until the end because of New Orleans’ inability to score on four possessions inside the Panthers 40-yard line.

“We should have beat the brakes off somebody and didn’t,” Saints defensive end Cameron Jordan



said after New Orleans saw its three-game winning streak snapped. “Not to finish the way we wanted is going to be irksome for a while.”

The Saints (7-10) were in position to win when safety Daniel Sorensen intercepted Sam Darnold near midfield and returned it to the Carolina 35 with 1:36 to go. But New Orleans failed to move the ball on three plays and Wil Lutz missed a 55-yard field goal attempt — his second miss of the game.

Darnold moved Carolina (7-10) into field goal range in the closing minute with a first-down

scramble, followed by just his fifth completion of the game — a 21 yarder to former LSU receiver Terrace Marshall Jr.

Darnold finished 5 of 15 for 43 yards and was intercepted twice, winning despite having a quarterback rating of 2.8. But the Panthers rushed for 171 yards, led by Chuba Hubbard’s 69 yards on 21 carries.

“It wasn’t pretty, but we got it done at the end and that’s what matters,” Darnold said. “I’m just really proud of our resiliency.”

Carolina scored its only TD on a fumble by Darnold that was recovered in the end zone by Pan-

thers lineman Michael Jordan.

New Orleans’ Andy Dalton was 15 of 25 for 171 yards and one touchdown to Chris Olave. Alvin Kamara rushed for 107 yards.

The Saints took a 7-0 lead on Olave’s 25-yard TD catch on the game’s opening drive, but New Orleans squandered three subsequent scoring chances in the opening half.

“The way we started this game, it’s exactly how you want to start,” Dalton said. “We had opportunities at other points in the game, too, and didn’t take advantage of them, didn’t make the play when we needed to. ... The score should have looked a lot different.”

Lutz missed a 44-yard field goal attempt. Kamara’s run was stuffed on fourth and 1. And after Saints safety Tyrann Mathieu intercepted Darnold near the goal line, New Orleans turned it back over when Olave fumbled inside the Carolina 25-yard line.

The Panthers, who’d

been outgained 234 yards to 60 in the first half, opened the second half with a 14-play, 82-yard drive to tie it at 7 on Jordan’s recovery.

Under first-year coach Dennis Allen, the Saints ended a season with a 10 in the loss column for the first time since 2005 — the year before his predecessor, Sean Payton, was hired. (The Saints did have five 7-9 seasons between 2007 and 2016.)

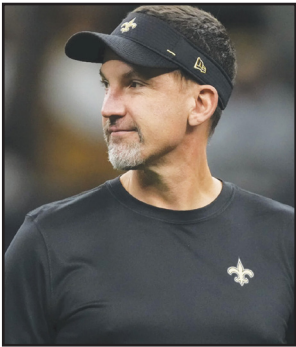
“We’re going to evaluate everything,” Allen said. “Nobody’s making any decisions on anything 30 minutes after we walked off the field.”

EJECTED

Panthers running back D’Onta Foreman and Saints defensive end Marcus Davenport each were ejected in the third quarter for throwing punches after the whistle, moments after Davenport had tackled Foreman for no gain. Foreman had 12 carries for 67 yards. Davenport was in on three tackles.

INJURIES

Panthers: Marquis Haynes appeared to hurt



ALLEN

his ankle in the first half. Left tackle Brady Christensen was taken to the locker room on a cart in the first half.

Saints: Rookie offensive tackle Trevor Penning, getting his first career start, limped off with an apparent leg injury with 1:33 to go.

UP NEXT

Panthers: Begin the off-season with uncertainty over who’ll be the coach in 2023 and a decision to make about whether to stick with Darnold at QB.

Saints: Head into Allen’s first full offseason with six offensive and defensive starters, as well as several regulars on all three units, entering free agency. The club’s future at QB also is uncertain.

Mulkey, LSU Lady Tigers, off to strong start in SEC

LEXINGTON, Ky. (AP) — Flau’jae Johnson scored 26 points, including eight during a 12-0, second-quarter run to break the game open, Angel Reese also scored 26 and No. 7 LSU blew out Kentucky 67-48 on Sunday for its best start in school history.

The Tigers (16-0, 4-0 Southeastern Conference) never trailed, but led by just 19-17 through nearly 15 minutes. Johnson fol-



lowed with six consecutive points to spark the key run for a 31-17 halftime cushion that included another layup by the freshman guard.

LSU also shut down Ken-

tucky for the final 5:52 of the half, forcing three turnovers during that stretch while taking advantage of nine missed attempts by the Wildcats. Johnson had even more late in the third quarter, draining consecutive 3-pointers during an 8-0 spurt to make it 47-26.

“After the Texas A&M game (a 74-34 rout), we really focused on how we start games and how we finish games,” Tigers coach

Kim Mulkey said. “I saw a lot of good things when the game started, and saw some good things in the second quarter and the third quarter.”

Of LSU’s best start, the coach added, “It just feels good to win,” and planned to share the milestone with her team on the flight home.

Johnson made 10 of 18 from the field and both of LSU’s 3-pointers on

seven tries and fell a point shy her career best of 27 against Northwestern State in November.

Reese, who had a school-record 28 rebounds and 26 points in a 74-34 rout of Texas A&M, was just 5 of 14 shooting but made 16 of 17 free throws for her nation’s-best 16th double-double. The Tigers outshot Kentucky just 40%-35%, but dominated nearly every other statistical cate-

gory including rebounding (45-23).

Maddie Scherr had 22 points and Robyn Benton 11 for Kentucky (8-8, 0-4), which dropped its fourth in a row and lost its second game this season in Rupp Arena, home of the men’s basketball team. The Wildcats trailed by as many as 29 early in the fourth before regrouping to out-score the Tigers 21-13 in the quarter.

Good News

GOOD NEWS

FACING THE NEW YEAR – WITH RENEWED COMMITMENT TO GROW

Luke helps us to see Jesus, not only as the Christ Child born in a Bethlehem manger, but one that is progressively revealed as the Son of Man, the Son of God, the Savior of the World and the promised Messiah. We sometimes think the beginning of the New Year is a time we can start over, set new goals, make some resolutions and hope for good things to come our way. Luke 2:52 indicates the continued development of Jesus as he ‘increased in wisdom, stature, and in favor with God and man.’ Luke 4 begins with the temptations of Jesus, soon after being baptized by John the Baptist. Matthew has an extensive description of these temptations as well. As Jesus began His public ministry, the response to His message was received differently by various groups and individuals. We’ll listen in as Jesus addresses His homefolks for the first time.

We all have gone home for reunions, homecomings, weddings or funerals and faced many folks we grew up with, or saw parents of our friends -- those who know a lot about us from the past. We never know how these folks will respond to us! Luke 4: 14-32. You may visualize the marquee in downtown Nazareth: WELCOME TO OUR HOMECOMING WEEKEND; JESUS WILL BE SPEAKING THIS SABBATH. Luke 4: 14-32 reveals details of Jesus’ message and the response of the people there.

After the ‘temptations of Jesus in the wilderness’ (being tempted by Satan), Jesus went to His home synagogue in Nazareth. Here He declared both the fact and nature of His call and ministry –to preach the

good news to the poor...to heal the brokenhearted ...to proclaim freedom to the prisoners...give sight to the blind...to release the oppressed...and to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor. (This is a good challenge for you and me as we begin this New Year: renew our commitment to the Lord; seek ways to put His teachings into action; or allow Him to redirect our intentions, desires and focus.)

Jesus declared this to his family and friends: “The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because He has anointed me to preach good news to the poor” (4:18). He did not mean the financially destitute. “Poor” indicates ‘utterly helplessness, complete destitution, afflicted, distressed.’ God is far too faithful to let any of us make it through life without confronting seasons of utter helplessness. You’ve been there; I have been there. Countless others are there now. We know some of them. Sooner or later, any healthy soul discovers that self-autonomy doesn’t cut it. Like beggars we go from person to person with our empty cup, crying: “Can’t you add anything to my life?” They might throw in a coin or two. But we may shake the cup, and the tiny echo reminds us how empty we remain. Until we allow Jesus to fill our cup daily, we simply exist. Sooner or later, God will make sure we confront the poverty of

living on the alms of others so that we may learn to feast on Him.

He continued: “To heal the brokenhearted” (4:18) This means to ‘break, strike against something...to break the strength or power of someone.’ To heal means to “cure, restore, renew.” Look how the Hebrew word, “heal,”- is used in Ex 15:26 when God introduced Himself by a new title (“I am the Lord who heals you.”) It means to mend by stitching, repairing thoroughly, or making whole again! God is focusing steadily on the object of repair...one stitch following another. But it takes time. It is painful for the healing needle as it penetrates.

Jesus continued: “To proclaim freedom for the prisoners” (4:18) Long after salvation, we may find ourselves in many ways we are still prisoners of the past. (Psm 107: 10-16, 20). We may be suffering in “iron chains, for rebelling against the words of God.” We may sincerely love God, but not appreciate the unfailing love of God like one who is finally set free from failure. Many who have been captive can testify – “He sent forth His Word and healed me, stitch by stitch.” Though Christ proclaims freedom for us, He does not impose it on us; it remains our offer to accept.

Note His next point: “Recovery of sight for the blind” (v 4:18) Though Christ would heal many from physical blindness, His intent was a far more serious kind of blindness. In 2 Cor 4:4, Paul writes: “the god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so they cannot see the Light of the Gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.”

To be blinded: “to be enveloped with smoke, unable to see clearly.” The job of the enemy is to keep us blinded to the One who walks with us through the fire. Remember, God is always with us whether our spiritual eyes discern Him or not.

“To release the oppressed” (v 18) Oppressed: ‘to be crushed or broken - to be deeply burdened, subjected to unjust or cruel exercise of authority.’ We all have cried when hearing sad stories of others who have been unable to function, thinking they have been broken by God beyond repair. God’s intent in breaking us is to bend our steel knees so we will submit to His authority and take on His yoke. His aim for us is a “full, abundant and effective life.” Being totally unable to function because our mind and emotions are in shambles is Satan’s doings. But Christ can use this to bring us to a place of accepting release by Him.

“To proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor!” (v 19). He spoke firmly as He looked into the eyes of those kinsmen and friends. He was drawing the net of response tighter and tighter. Those who gathered in that Nazareth synagogue were staring in the face of the Lord’s favor - His blessed gift of grace. And they did not like what they were hearing though! This was the Promised Messiah and yet they would not allow themselves to receive Him as such! “The year” may be translated “any definite time.” God places before us a definite period of time to accept His favor! His will is for none to perish, but that all come to repentance. (2 Pet 3:9).

The world has until His re-

turn to act. But our time table is known only by God Himself. Begging people to repent and embrace Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior is what we must keep on doing. Their eternal life in heaven is at stake. All people need the Lord! We see them every day around us: loved ones, family members, friends and work associates - they are all around us. Because we are free from our sins, we must plant seeds of love and forgiveness daily so others might embrace His freedom too. For if Christ has set us free, He can free them too! (John 8: 36).

As we begin this New Year, there may be some in your circle of influence needing to hear the voice of Jesus as He spoke at “His Homecoming.” As He laid out His purpose of coming to earth, what His message and work would be, it was not received by His own folks. But, through faith we know; Jesus is the one we need to make it through the ups and downs of life.

We need the Good News for we are the poor in spirit; we are the brokenhearted; yes, we are prisoners in many ways, we are blind and often don’t even realize it. Many of us are oppressed, broken and crushed. We need a message of hope, we need a Savior who can release us from our sins and burdens. He is here today; his name is Jesus. Won’t you make a decision to allow Him to work in your life this New Year?

BILL CRIDER IS CHAPLAIN OF MINDEN MEDICAL CENTER



Bill Crider

THE UPWARD LOOK

Continuing to Grow

“The Child continued to grow and become strong, increasing in wisdom; and the grace of God was upon Him.” Luke 2:40 NASB



Max Hutto

This Child born in a manger continued to grow physically, intellectually, and spiritually. He found favor in the eyes of God as God’s grace was evident in His life. Just as He continued to learn the truths of God, we too must strive to be life-long learners, seeking the wisdom found in the Bible and demonstrating

Lord Jesus, help me to learn from Your Word, the Bible, how I am to live my life each day. Let me grow in Your grace by sharing Your Word and love with others.

MAX HUTTO IS A BAPTIST MINISTER AND A RESIDENT OF MINDEN. MORE INFORMATION CAN BE FOUND AT WWW.UPWARDLOOK.ORG.

INSPIRATION

IT’S NOT ABOUT YOU

I have spent a lot of my life asking myself and asking GOD “why me?” I asked these questions with no regard for what others might have been going through or what Jesus went through as he hang on that cross for my future short-comings. It took me getting to a low point in my life and looking around me to see others who had worse circumstances, but a far better outlook for me to notice I was being selfish and unfair. Jeremiah 10:23 explains to us very plainly why we shouldn’t make everything in life about us. It reads “LORD, I know that people’s lives are not their own; it is not for them to direct their steps.” I chose this scripture because the lord placed a very plain and simple message in my heart “it’s not about you”. We so often get so




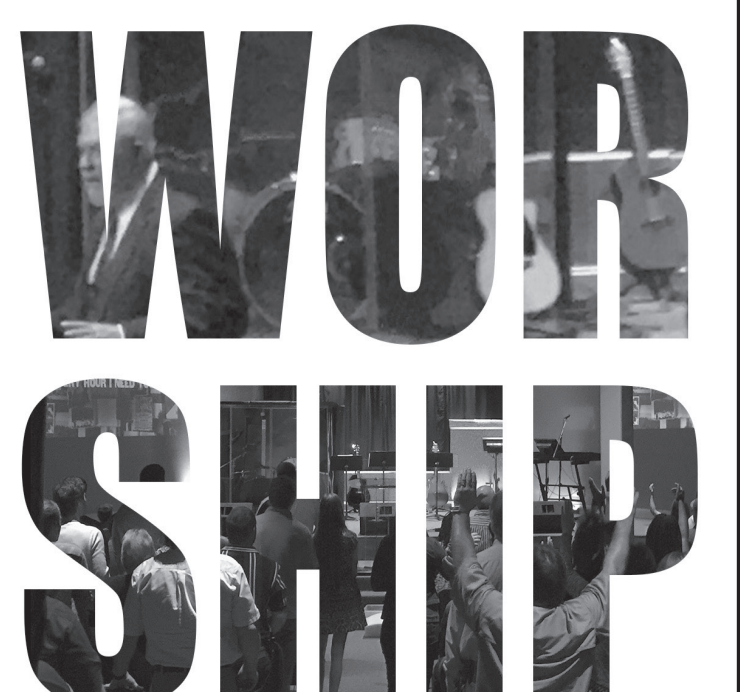
Bernard Harris

fixated on our struggles that we forget about the struggles of others. Those of us that know the word of the lord and follow him fully should have faith and take comfort in him through our struggle. However, the people who don’t know GOD don’t have that comfort he gave us a great commission involving all the world and all his people, not just a select few. So, in conclusion, my one request is that we try a little harder to lead people to the same comfort we have by being the light he called us to be and realizing it’s not about you.

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

Come

WORSHIP



FIRST ASSEMBLY OF GOD 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



CRYPTOFUN

Determine the code to reveal the answer!

Solve the code to discover words related to spring.
Each number corresponds to a letter.
(Hint: 26 = L)

A. 12 11 16 5 24 22

Clue: One of the seasons

B. 25 5 26 2

Clue: Not severe

C. 10 26 18 1 14 16

Clue: Part of a plant

D. 21 26 18 18 25 5 24 22

Clue: State of flowering

Answers: A. spring B. mild C. flower D. blooming

SUDOKU

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

Level: Advanced

Fun By The Numbers

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

Here's How It Works:

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

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

ANSWER:



Local foster youth are waiting for a volunteer **like you**

With over 5,000 Louisiana children in the child welfare system, we need volunteers more than ever. As a CASA volunteer, you will make a life-changing difference for a child who has experienced abuse or neglect in your community. Get involved today.

Find a program near you at
www.louisianacasa.org



CASA
Court Appointed Special Advocates
FOR CHILDREN
LOUISIANA

FUN & GAMES

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13
14					15						16			
17					18						19			
20					21		22				23			
				24		25				26				
27	28	29		30				31			32	33	34	
35				36			37				38			
39						40				41				
42					43				44					
45				46				47				48		
				49				50			51			
52	53	54				55				56		57	58	59
60					61				62		63			
64					65						66			
67					68						69			

CLUES ACROSS

1. Type of footwear
5. Studies a lot all at once
10. Adventure story
14. Hundred thousand
15. Former U.S. Vice President
16. Ruler
17. Indian city
18. Similar
19. Ship as cargo
20. Volcanic craters
22. Boxing’s “GOAT”
23. Bullfighting maneuvers
24. London soccer team
27. Score perfectly
30. No (Scottish)
31. SoCal hoops team (abbr.)
32. Woman (French)
35. Unwanted attic “decor”
37. Peter Griffin’s daughter
38. Broad, shallow crater
39. Large instruments
40. Low bank or reef

41. ___ and Venzetti
42. Oil group
43. Father
44. Aggressive men
45. Pairs well with green
46. Travelers need it
47. Digital audiotape
48. Midway between northeast and east
49. Chemistry descriptor
52. S. China seaport
55. Sound unit
56. Heavy cavalry sword
60. Thick piece of something
61. Spa town in Austria
63. Boyfriend
64. Norse personification of old age
65. Type of box
66. Tie together
67. Fiber from the coconut
68. Chicago mayor
69. Old English letters

CLUES DOWN

1. Type of sauce
2. Pattern of notes
3. Plant with long seedpods
4. Map out
5. Numbers cruncher
6. Make a mental connection
7. Italian tenor
8. N. America’s highest mountain peak
9. Witness
10. Arabic given name
11. Music awards
12. “ The Immoralist” author
13. Area units
21. Units of loudness
23. Political action committee
25. Bar bill
26. Witch
27. A theatrical performer
28. 2-door car
29. ___ and flowed
32. Paper-___, art medium

33. City in Georgia
34. Irregular
36. College sports conference
37. Angry
38. Partner to cheese
40. S. American mammal
41. Self-immolation by fire rituals
43. Split pulses
44. Disfigure
46. Cow noise
47. Erase
49. Chadic language
50. Reward for doing well
51. Paid TV
52. Millisecond
53. Other
54. Colombian city
57. Necklace part
58. Every one of two or more people
59. Regrets
61. They come after “A”
62. Horse noise

PUZZLE SOLUTION

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

GENERAC®

Prepare for power outages today

WITH A HOME
STANDBY GENERATOR

\$0 MONEY DOWN + LOW MONTHLY PAYMENT OPTIONS

Contact a Generac dealer for full terms and conditions

**REQUEST A
FREE QUOTE**

CALL NOW BEFORE THE
NEXT POWER OUTAGE

(855) 649-6863

A white, rectangular home standby generator unit with the Generac logo on the side. It has a control panel on top and ventilation grilles on the front. The unit is shown in a studio setting with a dark background.

FREE 7-Year Extended Warranty*
– A \$695 Value!

*To qualify, consumers must request a quote, purchase, install and activate the generator with a participating dealer. Call for a full list of terms and conditions.

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

1NK1X4TX6NR979735 is stored at 1422 Sibley Rd, Minden, LA, 71055. If all current charges are not paid and vehicle claimed by the owner by January 16, 2023 a Permit to Sell may be obtained.

January 4, 2023
January 11, 2023
Minden Press-Herald

NOTICE OF SPECIAL ELECTION

Pursuant to the provisions of a resolution adopted by the Police Jury of the Parish of Webster, State of Louisiana (the "Governing Authority"), acting as the governing authority of the Parish of Webster, State of Louisiana (the "Parish"), on November 1, 2022, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a special election will be held within the Parish on **SATURDAY, MARCH 25, 2023**, and that at the said election there will be submitted to all registered voters in the Parish qualified and entitled to vote at the said election under the Constitution and Laws of the State of Louisiana and the Constitution of the United States, the following proposition, to-wit:

PROPOSITION (LIBRARY MALLAGE CONTINUATION)

Shall the Parish of Webster, State of Louisiana (the "Parish"), continue to levy and collect a special tax of twelve and thirty-nine hundredths (12.39) mills on all the property subject to taxation within the Parish (an estimated \$3,220,400 expected at this time to be collected from the levy of the tax for an entire year), for a period of ten (10) years, beginning with the year 2025 and ending with the year 2034, for the purpose of acquiring, constructing, improving, furnishing, equipping, operating and/or maintaining public libraries in Webster Parish, said millage to represent a thirty-nine hundredths of a mill (.39) increase (due to reappraisal) over the 12 mills tax authorized to be levied through the year 2024 pursuant to an election held on May 3, 2014?

Said special election will be held at each and every polling place in the Parish of Webster, which polls will open at seven o'clock (7:00) a.m. and close at eight o'clock (8:00) p.m., in accordance with the provisions of La. R.S. 18:541.

The polling places at the precincts in the Parish are hereby designated as the polling places at which to hold the said election, and the Commissioners-in-Charge and Commissioners, respectively, shall be those persons designated according to law.

The estimated cost of this election as determined by the Secretary of State based upon the provisions of Chapter 8-A of Title 18 and actual costs of similar elections is \$50,000.

Notice is further given that a portion of the monies collected from the tax described in the Proposition shall be remitted to certain state and statewide retirement systems in the manner required by law.

The said special election will be held in accordance with the applicable provisions of Chapter 5 and Chapter 6-A of Title 18 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, as amended, and other constitutional and statutory authority, and the officers appointed to hold the said election, as provided in this Notice of Special Election, or such substitutes therefor as may be selected and designated in accordance with La. R.S. 18:1287, will make due returns thereof to said Governing Authority, and NOTICE IS HEREBY FURTHER GIVEN that the Governing Authority will meet at its regular meeting place,

the Police Jury Meeting Room, Webster Parish Courthouse Annex, 401 Main Street, Minden, Louisiana, on **TUESDAY, APRIL 4, 2023, at TEN-THIRTY O'CLOCK (10:30) A.M.**, and shall then and there in open and public session proceed to examine and canvass the returns and declare the result of the said special election. All registered voters of the Parish are entitled to vote at said special election and voting machines will be used.

THUS DONE AND SIGNED at Minden, Louisiana, on this, the 1st day of November, 2022.

ATTEST:
_____/s/ Jim Bonsall_____
President

_____/s/ Lisa C. Balkom_____
Secretary-Treasurer

January 4, 2023
January 11, 2023
January 18, 2023
January 25, 2023
February 1, 2023
Minden Press-Herald

SHERIFF'S SALE

PNC BANK NATIONAL ASSO-CIATION VS. ESTATE OF CELESTE ELAINE ALEXANDER A/K/A CELESTE ELAINE ALEXANDER EVERETT

In the Twenty-Sixth Judicial District Court of Webster Parish, Louisiana, No. CV80352

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 WITHOUT the benefit of appraisalment and according to law at the principal front door of the Court-house in the City of Minden, Webster Parish, Louisiana on WEDNESDAY, January 18, 2023, During the legal sale hours, the following property, to wit:

ALL THAT CERTAIN PARCEL OF LAND SITUATED IN THE PARISH OF WEBSTER, STATE OF LOUISIANA, BEING KNOWN AND DESIGNATED AS:

BEGIN AT AN EXISTING 1/2 INCH IRON PIPE AT THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF LOT 17, LAKE-VIEW SUBDIVISION, AS PER SUBDIVISION PLAT ON FILE AND OF RECORD IN MAP BOOK 3, PAGE 35 OF THE RECORDS OF WEBSTER PARISH, LOUISIANA, AND RUN SOUTH 19 DEGREES 37 MINUTES 18 SECONDS WEST 100.05 FEET (CALL SOUTH 21 DEGREES 25 MINUTES WEST 100 FEET) ALONG THE WEST LINE OF SAID LOT 17 TO AN EXISTING 1/2 INCH IRON PIPE; THENCE RUN SOUTH 21 DEGREES 25 MINUTES WEST 100 FEET) ALONG THE WEST LINE OF LOT 16, LAKE-VIEW SUBDIVISION TO AN EXISTING 1.72 INCH IRON PIPE, THENCE RUN NORTH 68 DEGREES 51 MINUTES 13 SECONDS WEST 199.87 FEET (CALL NORTH 68 DEGREES 35 MINUTES WEST 188 FEET) TO A SET 3/4 INCH IRON ROD THENCE RUN NORTH 15 DEGREES 12 MINUTES 34 SECONDS EAST 2.80 FEET (CALL NORTH 15 DEGREES

30 MINUTES EAST) TO A SET 3/4 INCH IRON ROD; THENCE RUN NORTH 87 DEGREES 46 MINUTES 47 SECONDS WEST 196.35 FEET (CALL WEST 200 FEET) TO A POINT IN A POND; THENCE RUN SOUTH 17 DEGREES 59 MINUTES 19 SECONDS WEST 106.95 FEET (CALL SOUTH 15 DEGREES 30 MINUTES WEST) TO A POINT IN A POND; THENCE RUN NORTH 87 DEGREES 46 MINUTES 47 MINUTES WEST 305.04 FEET (CALL WEST) TO A SET 3/4 INCH IRON ROD; THENCE RIM NORTH 0 DEGREES 16 MINUTES 06 SECONDS WEST 290 FEET (CALL NORTH) TO AN EXISTING 3/8 INCH IRON ROD; THENCE RUN SOUTH 87 DEGREES 46 MINUTES 47 SECONDS EAST 586.14 FEET (CALL EAST 585.46 FEET) TO AN EXISTING CHAIN LINK FENCE CORNER POST; THENCE RUN SOUTH 70 DEGREES 18 MINUTES 58 SECONDS EAST 217.80 FEET (CALL SOUTH 71 DEGREES 07 MINUTES EAST 223 FEET) TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING, AND ALSO ALL RIGHTS IN AND TO AN ADDITIONAL SERVITUDE OF PASSAGE AND RIGHT OF WAY, MORE FULLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:

A 20 FOOT SERVITUDE OF PASSAGE AND RIGHT-OF-WAY AND AN ADJOINING TRIANGULAR TRACT OF LAND LOCATED IN THE SOUTHWEST QUARTER OF THE NORTHWEST QUARTER (SW/4 OF NW/4), SECTION 19, TOWNSHIP 18 NORTH, RANGE 9 WEST, WEBSTER PARISH, LOUISIANA, MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:

BEGIN AT AN EXISTING 1 INCH IRON PIPE AT THE NORTHEAST CORNER OF LOT 15, LAKE-VIEW SUBDIVISION, AS PER SUBDIVISION PLAT ON FILE AND OF RECORD IN MAP BOOK 3, PAGE 35 OF THE CONVEYANCE RECORDS OF WEBSTER PARISH, LOUISIANA, SAID POINT (MATED ON THE APPARENT WEST RIGHT-OF-WAY OF HORSESHOE LOOP; THENCE RUN SOUTH 22 DEGREES 19 MINUTES 56 SECONDS WEST 20 FEET (CALL SOUTH 15 DEGREES 30 MINUTES WEST) ALONG SAID RIGHT-OF-WAY TO A SET 3/4 INCH IRON ROD; THENCE RUN NORTH 67 DEGREES 35 MINUTES 55 SECONDS WEST 149.94 FEET; THENCE RUN NORTH 68 DEGREES 51 MINUTES 13 SECONDS WEST 197.57 FEET TO A SET 3/4 INCH IRON ROD; THENCE RUN NORTH 45 DEGREES 51 MINUTES 18 SECONDS WEST 33.40 FEET TO A SET 3/4 INCH IRON ROD; THENCE RUN SOUTH 87 DEGREES 46 MINUTES 47 SECONDS EAST 30 FEET (CALL EAST) TO A SET 3/4 INCH IRON ROD; THENCE RUN SOUTH 15 DEGREES 34 SECONDS WEST 2.80 FEET (CALL SOUTH 15 DEGREES 30 MINUTES WEST) TO A SET 3/4 INCH IRON ROD; THENCE

RUN SOUTH 68 DEGREES 51 MINUTES 13 SECONDS EAST 199.87 FEET (CALL SOUTH 68 DEGREES 35 MINUTES EAST 188 FEET) TO AN EXISTING A INCH IRON PIPE AT THE NORTH WEST CORNER OF LOT 15, LAKE-VIEW SUBDIVISION; THENCE RUN SOUTH 67 DEGREES 35 MINUTES 55 SECONDS EAST 150.13 FEET (CALL SOUTH 68 DEGREES 35 MINUTES EAST 150 FEET) ALONG THE NORTH LINE OF SAID LOT 15 OF THE POINT OF BEGINNING, ALL AS MORE FULLY SHOWN ON SURVEY BY LANDMARK LAND SURVEYING, INC. DATED SEPTEMBER 6, 2007. Together with all the improvements now or hereafter erected on the property, and all easements, appurtenances, and fixtures now or hereafter a part of the property.

SOLD SUBJECT TO ANY SUPERIOR 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

December 14, 2022
January 11, 2023
Minden Press-Herald

PUBLIC NOTICE

Minden Planning Commission Meeting
February 2, 2023 – 10:00 a.m.

Pelican Room - Minden City Hall

On the agenda is a request from Justin & Amanda Greer for a zoning variance on property owned by them located at 201 Margaret Place. This property is zoned R-1 (Single Family Residential).

The purpose of this zoning variance is to be able to place a 24' x 44' metal storage building. The color of the storage building will match the house.

Legal Description:
2.58 ACRES – TRACT 24.93 X 121.92 X 139.04 X 150.15 X 235.01 X 302.47 X 425.82 FT. IN SW/4 OF NE/4 SEC. 14-19-9 & LESS 0.56 AC. DONATED

All interested parties will be given a chance to be heard.

January 11, 2023
January 18, 2023
January 25, 2023
Minden Press-Herald

SHERIFF'S SALE

JP MORGAN CHASE BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION VS. BECKY L. WALN WIFE OF/AND MARTIN D. WALN

In the Twenty-Sixth Judicial District Court of Webster Parish, Louisiana, No. CV80223

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 WITHOUT the benefit of appraisalment and according to law at the principal front door of the Court-house in the City of Minden, Webster Parish, Louisiana

on WEDNESDAY, February 15, 2023, During the legal sale hours, the following property, to wit:

Lots 187 & 188, Palmetto Beach Estates, Webster Parish, Louisiana, as per plat recorded in Book 3, Page 49 in the Conveyance Records of Webster Parish, Louisiana, together with all buildings and improvements thereon.

SOLD SUBJECT TO ANY SUPERIOR 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

January 11, 2023
February 8, 2023
Minden Press-Herald

PUBLIC NOTICE

Minden Planning Commission Meeting

February 2, 2023 – 10:00 a.m.

Pelican Room - Minden City Hall

On the agenda is a request from Webster Land Corporation for preliminary approval of a lot split on property owned by them located on Recreation Drive.

Legal Description:
SW/4 OF NW/4 & NW/4 OF SW/4 SEC. 35-19-9, LESS 1.73 AC. SOLD, LESS 4.91 AC. FOR STREET DEDICATION, LESS 3 AC. SOLD, & LESS 1 AC. SOLD, LESS 2 ACS SOLD

All interested parties will be given a chance to be heard.

January 11, 2023
January 18, 2023
January 25, 2023
Minden Press-Herald

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January 11, 2023
January 18, 2023
January 25, 2023
Minden Press-Herald

TNT Storage, LLC, owner of East 80 Storage, (318-377-9733) located at 14963 Hwy. 80 East, Minden, LA, will have one 10 x 5 unit to auction on www.StorageAuctions.com starting 1-11-23 at 10:00 am and ending on 1/26/23 at 10:00 am. East 80 - #25F Renda Brown - Vintage pyrex, pressure cooker, Antique sofa, tons of boxes

January 11, 2023
Minden Press-Herald

TNT Storage, LLC, owner of Germantown Storage, (318-377-9733) located at 609 Germantown Rd., Minden, LA, will have one 10 x 10 units to auction on www.StorageAuctions.com starting on 1-11-23 at 10:00 am and ending on 1/26/23 at 10:00 am. Germantown Storage #39 William Langley - Sectional, Dinnerware, Hunters gear, Legos, Metal Shelf.

January 11, 2023
Minden Press-Herald

TNT Storage, LLC, owner of Dorcheat Storage, (318-377-9733) located at 1002

Dorcheat Rd., Minden, LA, will have one 10 x 10 units to auction on www.StorageAuctions.com starting on 1-11-23 at 10:00 am and ending on 1/26/23 at 10:00 am. Dorcheat Storage #9 Natalie Richardson - Washer/Dryer, Armoire, Wash-tub stand, Table

January 11, 2023
Minden Press-Herald

TNT Storage, LLC, owner of Hilltop Storage - Pine St., (318-377-9733) located at 303 Pine St., Minden, LA, will have one 10 x 12 units to auction on www.StorageAuctions.com starting on 1-11-23 at 10:00 am and ending on 1/26/23 at 10:00 am. Hilltop Storage - Pine St. #4 Tolanda Miles - Couch, Table/Chairs, Bed, Chest of Drawers, Living Room Suit, TV Stand, Wall Decor

January 11, 2023
Minden Press-Herald

TNT Storage, LLC, owner of Hilltop Storage - Homer Rd., (318-377-9733) located at 1109 Homer Rd., Minden, LA, will have one 10 x 12 and one 10 x 15 units to auction on www.StorageAuctions.com starting 1-11-23 at 10:00 am and ending on 1/26/23 at 10:00 am. Hilltop Storage - Homer Rd. #131 Steven Corbit - Fishing/ Archery Equipment, Saw, Weedeater, Air Tanks, Tools: #209 Krissy Allums - Chaise Lounge, Grill, Stereo Equipment, Christmas tree, Mirror Lots of Tubs.

January 11, 2023
Minden Press-Herald

PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY OF MINDEN, STATE OF LOUISIANA, TAKEN IN REGULAR SESSION HELD ON JANUARY 3, 2022

The Minden City Council met at City Hall, Minden, Louisiana, beginning at 5:30 p.m. with the following members present: Mayor Nick Cox, Carlton Myles, Levon Thomas, Latasha Mitchell, Michael Roy, and Andy Pendergrass. Absent: None. Mayor Cox welcomed everyone to the meeting. It is noted for the record that Mayor Cox allowed both council and public comments prior to every vote. Prayer was offered by Andy Pendergrass and Carlton Myles led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Upon motion by Michael Roy and duly seconded by Carlton Myles, the council unanimously adopted the minutes of the City Council Regular Session held on December 5, 2022, as presented. Absence(s): None. Abstention(s): None.

Carlton Myles moved to elect Michael Roy as Mayor Pro Tempore for the year 2023. The motion was duly seconded by Levon Thomas and voted on as follows: Aye(s): Carlton Myles, Levon Thomas, Latasha Mitchell, and Andy Pendergrass. Nay(s): None. Abstention(s): None. Michael Roy moved to appoint Michael Fluhr as City Clerk for the term of January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023. The motion was duly seconded by Carlton Myles and the vote was unanimously in favor. Absence(s): None. Abstention(s): None.

Upon motion by Andy Pendergrass and duly seconded by Michael Roy, the council unanimously appointed Jimbo Yocom as City Attorney for the term of January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2026. Absence(s): None. Abstention(s): None.

Carlton Myles moved to adjust the time of the City Council regular meetings to 6:00 p.m. beginning on February 6, 2023 and continuing thereafter. The motion was duly seconded by Latasha Mitchell and the vote was unanimously in favor.

Absence(s): None. Abstention(s): None. Upon motion by Michael Roy and duly seconded by Levon Thomas, the council unanimously adopted Ordinance No. 1131 – Ordinance to Amend Chapter 90 – Utilities, Article IV. – Rates and Charges, Section 90-136. – Definitions and to Add Chapter 90 – Utilities, Article IV. – Rates and Charges, Section 90-138(b). – Service to Electric Vehicles through City-Owned Electric Vehicle Charging Station(s), of the Code of Ordinances, City of Minden, State of Louisiana, as presented. Absence(s): None. Abstention(s): None. Upon motion by Michael Roy and duly seconded by Carlton Myles, the council unanimously adopted a Resolution Authorizing Credit Card Signatory Power for Certain City of Minden Personnel, as presented. Absence(s): None. Abstention(s): None.

Andy Pendergrass moved to adopt a Resolution Authorizing Nick Cox as Mayor. Michael Roy as Mayor Pro Tempore, Michael Fluhr as City Clerk/Tax Office, and Melaney Langford as Assistant City Clerk 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 Carlton Myles and voted on as follows: Aye(s): Carlton Myles, Levon Thomas, Latasha Mitchell, and Andy Pendergrass. Nay(s): None. Abstention(s): Michael Roy. Absence(s): None. Michael Roy moved to adopt the Resolution for Municipal Water Pollution Prevention, as presented. The motion was duly seconded by Levon Thomas and the vote was unanimously in favor.

Upon motion by Andy Pendergrass and duly seconded by Latasha Mitchell, the council unanimously renewed the Intergovernmental Agreement with the Webster Parish Sheriff for Inmate Litter Abatement and authorized the Mayor to sign the renewal, as presented. Absence(s): None. Abstention(s): None. City Clerk Michael Fluhr presented the Budget/Financial Report for the month of November 2022. No motion was required.

The police report for November of 2022 was unanimously accepted, as presented, by motion of Michael Roy and second by Latasha Mitchell.

Fire Chief Kip Mourad presented the Annual Fire Report for 2022. Upon motion by Andy Pendergrass and duly seconded by Carlton Myles, the council unanimously approved the Annual Fire Report, as presented.

Announcements were heard, council comments were heard, and the meeting was adjourned.

Nick Cox, Mayor

ATTEST:

Michael Fluhr,
City Clerk

January 11, 2023
Minden Press-Herald

ORDINANCE NO. 1131

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 90 - UTILITIES, ARTICLE IV. – RATES AND CHARGES, SECTION 90-136. – DEFINITIONS AND TO ADD CHAPTER 90 - UTILITIES, ARTICLE IV – RATES AND CHARGES, SECTION 90-138(b). – SERVICE TO ELECTRIC VEHICLES THROUGH CITY-OWNED ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING STATION(S), OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES, CITY OF MINDEN, STATE OF LOUISIANA

AN ORDINANCE amending Section 90-136. – Definitions to add the definition
Continued on Next Page....

Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging Rate.

AN ORDINANCE adding Section 90-138(b). – Service to Electric Vehicles through City-Owned EV Charging Station(s).

WHEREAS, the City has recently implemented an Electric Vehicle Charging Station.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the City Council of Minden, in legal session convened, as follows, to-wit:

ARTICLE IV. RATES AND CHARGES

Section 90-136. – Definitions.

The following words or phrases, when used in this article, shall be defined as follows:

Commercial heating rate means the rate to be charged for electric energy for use or consumption by any commercial user, solely for the purpose of heating any iron, pressing machine, or device, when separately served and metered.

Commercial rate means the rate to be charged for electric energy to any person for use or consumption, other than when used by domestic consumers.

Domestic rate means the rate to be charged for service to any family unit for domestic consumption only, and not resold, used or consumed in the operation of any business or machinery operated for a profit.

Large consumers of water means any person using or consuming at least 125,000 gallons of water per month.

Meter rate means the rate to be charged for electric energy furnished solely for use or consumption in the operation of any electric motor by any commercial user, when separately served and metered.

Net metering shall mean the generation of electric power by an electric customer of the system and the measurement of electric energy flow both into and out of the customer's facilities for the purpose of offsetting the customer's liability for electric energy from the system by the customer's production of electric energy.

Service through a master meter means service to two or more units solely for residential purposes, furnished through a single service meter.

Small consumer of water means any person using or consuming less than 125,000 gallons of water per month.

Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging Rate means the rate to be charged for electric energy provided by the City of Minden to any person for re-charging electric vehicles.

Section 90-137. – Deposit Required.

No changes.

Section 90-138. – Electric Rates.

No changes.

Section 90-138(a). – Service to Net Metering Facilities.

No changes.

Section 90-138(b). – Service to Electric Vehicles through City-Owned EV Charging Station(s).

The usage rate for electric energy provided by the City's municipal electric vehicle (EV) charging station(s) shall prevail:

a) Commercial electric rate (per kwh for the first 50 kwh) plus Power Cost Adjustment (PCA) Rate multiplied by a factor of five (5). The so calculated rate will fluctuate monthly.

In addition to the usage rate, the following idling fee will apply:

b) A \$0.30 idling fee per minute (after a 10-minute grace period after charging is complete). The idling fee shall not exceed \$30.00.

The City shall have the right to change the above-mentioned calculation formula at any time through newly-adopted ordinances. The City will make every effort to provide uninterrupted energy service (not guaranteed in emergencies) to its EV Charging Station(s).

Section 90-138.1. – Water Service Charges.

No changes.

Section 90-138.2. – Water Meter Testing.

No changes.

Section 90-139. – Authority to Establish Charges for Special Services.

No changes.

Section 90-140. – Water Tapping Fees, Service Call Fees, Fire Hydrant Meter Fees and Violations.

No changes.

Section 90-141. – Due Date; Delinquency Penalty.

No changes.

Section 90-142. – Disconnecting Water, Electricity for Failure to Pay.

No Changes.

Section 90-143. – Charge for Disconnecting Water, Electricity.

No Changes.

Section 90-144. – Sewer Service Charges within City Limits.

No Changes.

Section 90-145. – Water and Sewer Outside City.

No Changes.

Section 90-146. – Sewer Service Charge Outside City Limits.

No Changes.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that if any provision of this ordinance or the application thereof to any person or circumstances is held to be invalid, illegal or unconstitutional, the remainder of this Ordinance and the application of such provision to other persons or circumstances shall not be affected thereby.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that all ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict with the ordinance are hereby repealed.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that this Ordinance shall be binding and shall come into effect thirty (30) days after the first publication in the official journal of the City of Minden.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that it is the intention of the City Council and it is hereby ordained that the provisions of this Ordinance shall become and be made a part of the Code of Ordinances, City of Minden, Louisiana and the sections of this ordinance may be numbered to accomplish such intention.

Which Ordinance, upon motion by Michael Roy and duly seconded by Levon Thomas, was adopted this 3rd day of January, 2023, by the following vote:

AYES: 5
NAYS: 0
ABSENCE(S): 0
ABSTENTION(S): 0

Nick Cox, Mayor

ATTEST:

Michael Fluhr,
City Clerk

January 11, 2023
Minden Press-Herald

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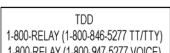
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FIRE
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AMBER MCDOWN/PRESS-HERALD PHOTOS

Early Friday morning, the Dorcheat Seafood & Grill restaurant in Dixie Inn was destroyed in a fire. At this time the cause is unknown and under investigation. “We know it’s going to be a total loss,” said Fire Chief Brian Williams. “It was fully engulfed when the first unit got on the scene, and we’ve turned the investigation over to the Louisiana State Fire Marshal.”



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