

MINDEN PRESS-HERALD

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2023

MINDEN, LOUISIANA

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75 CENTS

FISHING

A great turnout for junior fishing tournament

AMBER MCDOWN

Minden Press-Herald

The North Louisiana Junior Fishing League had a great turnout for the January 21 tournament on Cypress Lake with 51 teams of anglers competing. Webster Parish was represented with teams from both Glenbrook and Lakeside competing to see who could hook the biggest bass.

Peyton Campbell and John Hollis Robinson of Lakeside came in 13th place with 2.65 lbs. Ryan Reagan and Hudson Glasscock of Glenbrook came in 9th place with 4.23 lbs. The winning team was Brook Beaty and Caleb Coburn of Calvary with 9.91 lbs. Prizes were provided by Bass

Pro Shops.

North Louisiana Junior Fishing League is closely associated with the North Louisiana High School League, and their goal is to get 5th through 8th grade youth interested in competitive bass fishing.

Future tournaments are scheduled for February 11 at Caddo Lake, March 11 at Cross Lake, and April 15 at Toledo Bend. The championship will be held on May 20 at Lake Bistineau.

For more information on the North Louisiana Junior Fishing League, see their website at nlj-fishingleague.com or their Facebook page facebook.com/junior-fishingleague.



AMANDA ANDERS/PRESS-HERALD PHOTOS

Glenbrook School and Lakeside Jr/Sr High School both represented Webster Parish in the North Louisiana Junior Fishing League on January 21.



COMMUNITY

We're Here collecting hygiene products for nursing homes

AMBER MCDOWN

Minden Press-Herald

We're Here, a local non-profit organization, is collecting personal hygiene products to be distributed to res-

idents of area nursing homes.

The mission of We're Here is to teach youth the life skills necessary to become powerful assets to society and community leaders. They strive to not only help

people who are experiencing hardships but also to inspire a desire to help others and "pay it forward."

For the current campaign, they are requesting donations of shampoos and conditioners,

soaps and shower gels, combs and brushes, lotions, and deodorants as well as monetary donations. All items will be given to the residents of local nursing homes.

Items can be dropped

off in the collection boxes located at several locations: Say Grace, b1 Bank, Citizens Bank, and Security Finance through February 3. We're Here encourages you to fill the box!

If you would like to

make a monetary donation or if you have questions, call Patrick White at (318) 517-5670 or email him at patrick@wereherewecare.com. The website is www.wereherewecare.com/.

RECREATION

Minden REC hoping to score some tournaments

AMBER MCDOWN

Minden Press-Herald

Softball and baseball registration are open at the Minden REC, and Assistant Director Mike Aguilar is hoping that this will be another great season. Last year the Minden girls, known as Team Louisiana, won the Dixie World Series championship in the Angels X-Play division which was held in Alexandria.

"We're really proud of our 9- and 10-year-old World Series Champions that won it and our 11- and 12-year-old girls that were the runner ups," said Aguilar. "And our 11-year-old boys, who are now 12, finished third in the World Series in West Monroe last year. So we had a really good year last year."

In 2022, Minden hosted the 8U AA Coach Pitch District IV Tournament and the 12U O-Zone District IV Tournament. Plans are in the works to secure more tournaments for Minden this year.

"The state tournament director was here last year, and he was thor-

oughly impressed with the fields and the facilities," Aguilar said. "We did a banquet for the kids. Everybody loved it. We brought in \$41,000 in just gate money, approximately, for the city. And that doesn't even count hotels and restaurants, gas and snacks. I don't know what the full economic impact was."

"We are going to be bidding on the 9- and 10-year-old softball Angels division, the 13- and 14-year-old — which is the Belles division. We're also going to bid on the Sweeties, which is the 6-year-old division. For the boys' side, we're going to do the 12U O-Zone division. We're going to go down there and hope for the best."

Team sports have been shown to promote health not only physically, but mentally and emotionally as well. "Being on a team gives kids a sense of belonging," said Event Coordinator Zita Williams.

If you'd like your child or grandchild to participate, but they don't want to play baseball or softball, other sports are



COURTESY PHOTO

Last year's 9- and 10-year-olds won the Dixie Softball World Series. Register now for baseball and softball leagues at the Minden REC.

available now. Soccer registration is open, and basketball has been going for a few weeks. And there are leagues for the adults too.

"In March we'll start our men's basketball league

as well," Aguilar said. "We had about six teams last year, and they're eager to go. And now that we're getting more adults involved, we're planning on having another softball league probably in July or

August. It was fun for all of us."

The Minden REC offers a wide variety of activities to help get you moving including hip-hop line dancing (starts in March), yoga, water aerobics,

pickleball, and more. The \$20 annual membership is all inclusive except for sports leagues.

For more information, check out their website: mindenrec.org.



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INDEX
Obituaries 3 Classifieds 9
Editorials 4 Crossword 8
Sports 5 B&S 10

WEBSTER & MORE

MUSIC

Piney Woods Jamboree brings Branson-style entertainment to Webster Parish

Mark Eubanks of the Piney Woods Jamboree is passionate about music and producing great shows for audiences. “I’ve been playing for 53 years — 43 of those years professionally,” Eubanks said. “My mom said I started at two years old, beating on Folgers coffee cans with pencils. I don’t get tired of music.”

The Piney Woods Jamboree Band is chock full of talented musicians. “The band are all studio and road-quality musicians,” said Eubanks. “They all play three to five instruments apiece. They can swap around if they want to.”

The Piney Woods Jamboree Band consists of Brett Traylor of Haughton, Louisiana, on piano; Gene Simmons of Dierks, Arkansas, on steel; Tommy Amason of Fordyce, Arkansas, on bass; Ronnie Hearnberger of Springhill, Louisiana, on keyboards; Zane Glasscock of Magnolia, Arkansas, on lead guitar; David Mann of Warren, Arkansas, on lead guitar; Mike White of Shongaloo, Louisiana, on guitar and fiddle, and Mark Eubanks of Springhill, Louisiana, on drums. Together with the support staff, they have created an avenue to bring Branson-

style shows to Springhill, Louisiana, on the second Saturday of each month (except in May).

This band does an impressive amount of work to prepare a new show with different headline performers each month. Eubanks described his part of the process, saying:

“I get the music together, and contact all the ones who are going to be singing and say, ‘give me four songs, the artist and the version that you’re doing, and the key that you want to do them in.’ I do that for each person and then send it out to all my musicians.”

The musicians then have about two to three weeks to look over it and study it.

“Meanwhile, I’m putting the show together — how it’s going to go, who’s going in what order. I’ve got a comedian who comes out of Hot Springs each month — Mickey ‘Shinbone’ Shinn of Malvern, Arkansas — who used to be in Branson. When that’s all put together, I send them out a copy of the set list so they can look and be familiar with the flow of the show. They roll in on the day of the show at noon and set up, and from one o’clock



COURTESY PHOTO

The Piney Woods Jamboree delivers great music and entertainment every month to north Louisiana from the stage of the Frank Anthony Community Activity Center in Springhill.

to five o’clock we put anywhere from 24 to 27 songs together and put the show together. Then at seven o’clock we do the show. That’s how good they are.

To keep things fresh, Eubanks enjoys thinking of monthly themes.

“I tend to try to theme shows. For the February show, we’re looking to theme it with country love songs, because that’s going to be Valentine’s. It doesn’t necessarily have

to be per se a love song, maybe like Rascal Flatts’ song ‘What Happens When You Play a Country Song Backwards’ — you get your wife back, you get your dog back, you get your trailer back — it’s funny. Or it could be like Willie Nelson’s ‘Always on My Mind.’ The April show might be an Easter theme — looking more toward country gospel,” he said.

The Piney Woods Jamboree is held at the Frank

Anthony Community Activity Center (FACA) in Springhill. Each show will start with a prayer and a rendition of the National Anthem, something that Eubanks feels strongly about.

Another thing that Eubanks strives for is the comfort of his audience. While the FACA has a seating capacity of about 900, they usually set up enough for only 600-700 people to give plenty of

room to walk between rows of seats. Concessions are available and reasonably priced. And there is even a 31-unit RV park next to the FACA for people who want to stay close by. Admission is \$10. The doors open at 6 p.m., and the show starts at 7 p.m.

For upcoming events, check out the Piney Woods Jamboree Springhill Facebook page.

TOURISM

Johnnye Kennon graduates from the Certified Travel Specialist

New Orleans, La. (Jan. 20, 2023) – The Louisiana Travel Association (LTA) celebrated the graduation of Johnnye Kennon, Administrative Assistant of the Webster Parish Convention & Visitors Commission. “I was exposed to a lot of new ideas and learned so much from established leaders in the tourism industry. I believe I will benefit from this program for years to come.”

The graduating class of CTS also includes: John Adams, with Louisiana’s Cajun Bayou; Kacy Young, with Natchitoches Convention & Visitors Bureau; Stevie Robinson, with Acadia Convention & Visitors Commission; Katelyn Romero, with McIlhenney Co. – Tabasco; Kathleen Abels, with Livingston Parish Convention & Visitors Bureau; Pam Strickel, with Ruston-Lincoln Convention & Visitors Bureau; Christine Friedman, with Atch-

afalaya Basin Landing; Melissa Trahan, with Visit Lake Charles; Bailey Vidrine, with Iberville Parish; Victoria Leger, with Alexandria/Pineville Area Convention & Visitors Bureau; and Evon J. Rodgers, with Alexandria/Pineville Area Convention & Visitors Bureau.



afalaya Basin Landing; Melissa Trahan, with Visit Lake Charles; Bailey Vidrine, with Iberville Parish; Victoria Leger, with Alexandria/Pineville Area Convention & Visitors Bureau; and Evon J. Rodgers, with Alexandria/Pineville Area Convention & Visitors Bureau.

“CTS has been a tremendous opportunity for those interested in learning more about Louisiana’s tourism industry, and we are proud of the 2022 graduating class,” said Kim Dodd Boasso, LTA President and CEO. “Through our partnership

with the Louisiana Office of Tourism, we are able to train our state and regional travel counselors, as well as our front-line employees in hotels, attractions and restaurants.”

About the Louisiana Travel Association

LTA is a trade association leading and strength-

ening Louisiana’s vibrant tourism industry through advocacy, education and promotion on behalf of our members. Tourism generated \$16.8 billion for Louisiana in 2021 and is the 5th highest employer in the state. For more information, visit LouisianaTravelAssociation.org.

BANKING

GBT Bank names Lisa McCollough as Chief Retail Banking Officer

STAFF REPORT
Minden Press-Herald

GBT Bank has announced the promotion of Lisa McCollough from VP/Treasury Management to Chief Retail Banking Officer.

“With over 20 years of banking experience, Lisa’s excellent customer service and management skills will be an asset to our organization,” said Mike Hipp, President of GBT Bank. “Lisa has worked throughout the retail side of the bank and her experience will help establish objectives, direction, and strategic

initiatives to help coordinate the day-to-day retail operations of each branch.”

Among McCollough’s duties, she will ensure that GBT Bank’s employees have the proper training, and placement, and are given the ability to properly serve customers within each of GBT Bank’s markets.

Hipp added, “We look forward to the opportunities that she brings in providing leadership and customer service skills to our organization.”

Founded in 1948, GBT Bank is headquartered in



Gibbsland, Louisiana with 13 locations in North Louisiana. For more information, please contact Phillip Smart, (318) 843-6228 or psmart@gbt.bank.

BLOTTER

Recent Arrests in Webster Parish

Steven Nipper, 39, of the 100 block of Robertson Drive, was arrested for failure to appear in court.

Kwesi Corley Jr., 22, of the 800 block of Harris Street, was arrested on a warrant.

Sylvester Coleman Jr., 29, of the 400 block of Fourth Street, was arrested for public drunkenness, possession of a schedule I substance, and possession of drug paraphernalia.

Sherrie Harris, 39, of the 600 block of Stone Street, was arrested for failure to appear in court.

Anisha Carter, 35, of the 700 block of Carolina Street, was arrested for failure to appear in court.

Mary Alfred, 23, of the 1600 block of Dorcheat Road, was arrested for disturbing the peace and resisting with force or violence.

James Copenhaver, 24, of the 2500 block of Harvard Avenue, was arrested for possession of a schedule I substance and possession of drug paraphernalia.

Andrea Brown, 40, of the 300 block of Parr Road, was arrested for possession of a schedule II substance and theft.

Alan Gonzales, 26, of the 9000 block of Mackey Circle, was arrested for no license plate light and possession of a schedule I substance.

Lacey Holleman, 29, of the 500 block of Oakland Bridge, was arrested for failure to appear in court and being a fugitive of Union Parish.

Davenport Megail, 28, of the 300 block of Pershing Avenue, was arrested for battery of a dating partner and cruelty to juveniles.

Devon Stiles, 22, of the 100 block of NE 1st Avenue,

was arrested for theft of a motor vehicle.

Cantu Fabio, 69, of the 100 block of Scopena Circle, was arrested on a warrant.

Willie Moore, 41, of the 500 block of Penal Farm Road, was arrested for domestic abuse battery.

James Roton Jr., 50, of the 600 block of Doc Steed Road, was arrested for probation and parole hold.

Terry Douglas, 30, of the 200 block of Ward Street, was arrested for failure to appear in court.

Kenneth Wyatt, 55, of the 100 block of Skip Road, was arrested for being a fugitive of Caldwell Parish.

Dehkobe Debose, 22, of the 1400 block of Lewisville Road, was arrested for careless operation of a motor vehicle, no driver’s license, and failure to register vehicle.

WEBSTER & MORE

COMMUNITY

Free tax preparation through local VITA site

STAFF REPORT
Minden Press-Herald

With the many new changes in tax laws over the last 3 years, many people are uncertain about how to file their tax returns. The economic conditions that exist today, requirements by the IRS to receive stimulus checks and paying high fees for preparation of returns is not an option. So, what do you do? For the eight consecutive years, Greater Saint Paul Baptist Church has partnered with the Internal Revenue Service, United Way of Northwest Louisiana and Creighton Hill Community Development Corporation to offer free tax preparation and electronic filing to any person or family who earned \$58,000 or less per year. Taxes are prepared by IRS certified tax preparers and submitted electronically to the IRS. If



you have a bank account, the IRS will deposit your return directly into your bank account. If you have no account, your refund will be mailed directly from the IRS. State tax returns will also be prepared and filed electronically. CHCDC VITA SITE has received the highest possible score, 100%, for the service provided to Webster Parish and surrounding parishes since its beginning. The Volun-

teer Site Coordinator Pastor Royal Scott, attributes the success of the site to the well trained and dedicated volunteers that love what they do and their high integrity. "This is a ministry for us and we receive great joy in helping people". The location for these services is Greater Saint Paul Baptist Church 510 High Street in Minden. The site will be open Monday, Wednesday, Thurs-

day and Friday from 3:00 until 7:00 p.m. Because of Covid-19 you must call for an appointment and masks are required. It is closed Tuesday and Sunday. The services will begin January 30th and will close April 18th. To schedule an appointment call 318- 949-5768 or 913-269-5493 between 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. or email us at chcdcvida@yahoo.com.

COMMUNITY

Mt. Lebanon annual meeting 2023

Special to the Minden Press-Herald

The public is invited to attend Mt. Lebanon Historical Society's annual meeting on Sunday, February 19 at 2:30 at Mt. Lebanon Baptist Church. We are honored to have Dr. Cheryl White as our speaker. Her topic will be The Yellow Fever Epidemic of 1873. Dr. White is a professor of history at Louisiana State University at Shreveport, where she teaches medieval Eu-

rope and Church history. She holds the endowed Hubert Humphreys Professorship and the Yancey Strain Endowed Curatorship for oversight of the LSUS Spring Street Museum. Dr. White, with Father Peter Mangum and Ryan Smith, is the co-author of the 2021 book Shreveport Martyrs of 1873, and a brand-new book - just released!

- entitled Shreveport Martyr Father Louis Gergaud. She chairs the Historical Commission in the Cause of Beatification and Canonization for the five Servants of God of Shreveport, and she features in the award-winning documentary, The Five Priests. Mt. Lebanon was the first permanent settlement in what is now Bienville Par-

ish. Mt. Lebanon church was built in 1857 and is on the National Register of Historic Places. It was the birthplace of the Louisiana Baptist Convention. Directions to the church: On Interstate 20, take the Athens - Gibsland exit and travel through Gibsland. Continue south on Highway 154 for about 3 miles until you reach a caution light. Turn right. The church will be directly ahead on the left.



WHITE

T-BUBBA

Continued from Page 1

and win Super Bowl MVP with the Washington Redskins. "Then I have the LSU enigma that is Cecil Collins. He played running back with possibly the best three running backs at the same time LSU ever had with Kevin Faulk and Rondell Mealey. A lot of people think that Cecil was the best of the three. His combination of speed and power is something we may never see again. "Last but not least will be Evangel, Florida Gator and Miami Hurricane QB Brock Berlin. The man went 45-0 with three state titles at Evangel. Still ranks as a top 10 QB high school recruit of all time. Brock Berlin was a 2-year starter for the Miami Hurricanes, leading them to two bowl wins. He went

undrafted but was able to make a few NFL teams. "I am super excited about this week's show because of the guests. Mr. Mark Chreene has really helped me with my show," said T-Bubba. After this packed show, T-Bubba is heading to Mobile, Alabama, for the Reese's Senior Bowl. "This is a huge event with a lot of big name players and coaches from the NFL and college going to be there. With my credentials I will be able to watch all the practices and player interviews." Venturing into the world of online content creation so young, some may wonder how this affects T-Bubba's day-to-day life. He expressed the sentiment that the experiences he's had conducting interviews has really helped him to more easily socialize, even with those

older than him, and has also widened the breadth of his social circles as well. "I say that it has helped me socialize with the high school athletes at my school, Glenbrook, but also with high school athletes all over. Like Homer's Walteze Champ who became a viral sensation with the picture of him, has turned out to be a good friend of mine. Jonathan Bradford aka J2 at Minden is my dude. So I would say this has helped me become closer to athletes in our area," said T-Bubba. With such a successful start and access to these opportunities, T-Bubba was asked what his plans for the future were. If he planned on continuing his program even after graduating high school, remaining independent, or trying to work under a

bigger sports news organization? "I will continue to do interviews and stuff as long as it continues to be fun for me. I would really love to go to work for ESPN one day. That is my dream. Hopefully, by the time I am 22 or so, I will have a resume full of stuff where most people that age will just be starting out," said T-Bubba. For those interested, they can catch T-Bubba's radio show on KASO AM 1240 from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. and can listen to it live on KBEF.com. If you want to stay even more updated on T-Bubba and his future ventures, you can find him on most any social media, including t-bubbasportstalk5054 on YouTube, tbubba894 on Twitter, tbubba894 on TikTok, and T-Bubba's Sports Talk on Facebook.

OBITUARIES

FANNIE MAE COLLINS GASKINS

Celebration of Life Services for Mrs. Fannie Gaskins was held Saturday, January 28, 11:00 AM at Rabbooni Kingdom Church International with Pastor Aaron Johnson officiating. Fannie Mae Collins Gaskins was born on Monday, November 24, 1958, to the late Charlie and Heressie Singleton Collins of Minden, Louisiana. Fannie is the "younger" twin. Fannie accepted Christ at an early age at Faith Temple Church under the leadership of Elder Eddie Houston, Jr. During her adult years, she joined Soul Saving Station (New York), Church of God in Christ under the leadership of Pastor Richard L. Bryant where she was a faithful, dedicated, dependable and loyal member. Fannie was elevated to the mother's board in 2019. Mother Fannie loved her church and was a meticulous, efficient and an invaluable person to the church. Mother Fannie loved to worship and praise the Lord with her whole heart. Mother Fannie was all about family and saving souls; she loved to minister to people - whenever she would meet someone, she would first ask, "Do you have a church home"? Mother Fannie served on many auxiliaries: she was Pastor Aide leader, President of the Floral Committee; she also worked on the Hospitality Committee and the Mother Board. Mother Fannie also ran the Soup Kitchen with her husband Phil. Fannie was philanthropic in her own right and raised money to support her efforts by doing fundraisers, such as West Point parking, bake sales, fish fry's and selling baked goods at the Flea Market in Stormville. She also

ran a vocational bible school during the summer. In 1979 Fannie joined the Air Force Reserve from Barksdale Air Force Base. While deployed to Lowery AFB, she met her husband, Philip Gaskins, whom she wed on March 10, 1981. Her military career spanned the United States and abroad. Whatever Mother Fannie put her hands to, she did it to the best of her ability with lots of love and compassion and she did it all to the glory and honor of God! Her influence will forever remain in the lives of all who knew her. Fannie entered into permanent rest on Wednesday, November 11, 2023. Her untimely departure left us with a void that cannot be filled with anything other than God. Fannie is predeceased death by her parents Charlie and Heressie Singleton Collins, brother John Willie Hunt and sister Ivery Jean Qualls. She leaves to cherish her memory; her loving and devoted husband, Phillip Gaskins Sr. of 41 years; her sons: Silento (Danielle) Thomas of Newburgh; Phillip Jr. of Charlotte, NC and a daughter: Erica Thomas of Hyde Park. Sister: Annie Faye Collins(Edward)-Thomas (twin sister) of Minden, LA; brother: Larry Singleton of Houston, TX. Six (6) Grand children: Asia (Frank), Phoenix, Rashon, Fja, Mekhi, Michael, Jr. One (1) Great-grand Melania Special friends: Martha Mustafa Gakou and Kevin McArdle. Fannie Mae Collins Thomas Gaskins will be dearly missed, but will live forever within our hearts, memories and on social media as we move forward to carry on her legacy. Visitation was held Friday, Friday, January 27th in the chapel of Kennon's Mortuary from 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM. Services were entrusted to Kennon's Mortuary. Email condolences may be sent to kennonsmortuary@yahoo.com



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LIONS CLUB

Nominations being accepted for Man of the Year

AMBER MCDOWN
Minden Press-Herald

The Minden Lions Club is accepting nominations for the Minden Man of the Year award. The Lions Club has been sponsoring this award since 1946, and it has been awarded to many well-known community figures. If you know a man who is dedicated to serv-

ing the community, be sure to nominate him so that he might be recognized. The deadline to enter will be February 22, and the winner will be announced during the Chamber Awards Gala on March 28. To nominate someone, or to see a list of the previous Men of the Year, go to tinyurl.com/yad48hna.

EDUCATION

Two Webster Parish educators to counsel new teachers as part of statewide initiative

WEBSTER PARISH, La. — Lakeside Jr./Sr. High School English Teacher Josh Beavers and Minden High School English Teacher John Dillon were selected to be part of a new statewide initiative to help new teachers with issues they may face in the classroom. The New Teacher Experience is a pilot program in Louisiana that has a goal to retain teachers. "The state saw the need that basically a lot of the support that they need ... They don't know how to handle a classroom as far as what to do in their curriculum," said Josh Beavers. "They have issues, and administrators are extraordinarily busy with all of the things they have to do. Other teachers are very, very busy. They have their grading. They have their home life, so some teachers are just left in the wilderness." "When you start off, you take everything personally. Everything the kids do or say that's disruptive, that's insulting," said John Dillon. "You start to realize all the problems the kids live with and deal with, sometimes on a day-to-day basis. Then, you realize that if you were

made to do this job, you're going to change who you are, change how you approach the kids and change how you approach everything in the classroom." Teachers who were interested in becoming mentors had to apply with the state. They were selected to take part in this pilot program. The inaugural group consists of about two dozen veteran teachers from all over Louisiana. Each teacher will work with a number of new teachers each month. The group will hold virtual meetings, so they can all share their experiences and solutions to cope with challenges. The first meetings will be held this month. Louisiana education leaders hope that this program will help build the confidence in new teachers and improve their students' achievements. The program is also designed to retain new teachers, so they do not leave after just a few years in the classroom. For more information on the state's New Teacher Experience program, visit louisianabelieves.com/academics/new-teacher-experience.

Jeanne L. Hurtle

Graveside services for Jeanne L. Hurtle will be held Wednesday, February 1, 2023, at 10:00 a.m. at Gardens of Memory in Minden, Louisiana with Father Kallookalam officiating. Jeanne was born September 18, 1933, in Fort Monroe, Virginia and entered into rest January 28, 2023 in Minden, Louisiana. She was preceded in death by her daughters, Jeanne Marie Lawe and Cheryl Anne Doren, and her son Roger Wayne Hurtle, Jr. She is survived by her husband, Roger W. Hurtle, Sr. Rose-Neath Funeral Home 211 Murrell Street Minden, Louisiana 71055

Send us your news at newsroom@press-herald.com

OPINION

MINDEN
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THE MINDEN
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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

The sky’s the limit on our \$31.4 trillion national debt

There is no sense in pointing fingers because both national parties have participated in the fiscal irresponsibility that has gotten us to this point. However, now our nation's leaders are going to have to stop kicking the can down the road and actually address this critical economic and national security issue.

Where are we? Right now, our national debt is approximately \$31.4 trillion. The interest payment alone to support this monumental debt is \$400 billion annually out of the American economy. That's merely to service the debt! None of the principal is being paid down. And this debt, which used to be justified with the feeble explanation that the debt "is just money we (U.S.) owe ourselves" is no longer true. If we stay on the path we are on now, by the early 2030s a majority of these interest payments will be annually transferred to foreign debt holders.

As E.J. Antoni at the Heritage Foundation notes, these "exploding annual deficits and debt are the direct result of runaway spending by a profligate Congress and president with no regard for Americans' financial security."

He makes another critical point as well—"just to emphasize that the burgeoning debt is

a spending problem and not a revenue problem, tax receipts are at a record high by any measure—in nominal terms, in real terms and as a percentage of gross domestic product. The government has never collected more money, but is still managing to spend it all, and then some." (Emphasis added). That's insane governmental malpractice, but that's not all.

President Biden has demanded a "clean" debt ceiling increase with no conditions or requirements attached. That's mind boggling. It's also reckless and will increase, not lessen, as Biden claims, the economic pain of average Americans.

Every time we raise the debt ceiling, and an enormous gusher of new debt dollars pours into our national economy, we are increasing the level of inflation because way too many dollars are chasing way too few goods.

However, as Daniel Heninger of the Wall Street Journal notes, this time the debt ceiling debate is different. "The pan-

demic put the federal government inside everyone's head, and what the government did was spend, spend, spend, money, money, money. These spending rivers included a bipartisan Covid-relief bill of \$2.2 trillion; the American Rescue Plan's \$1.9 trillion, and then a bipartisan infrastructure bill of \$1 trillion. Mr. Biden's 2023 budget proposal was for \$5.7 trillion. In December he signed a \$1.7 trillion spending bill."

It's simply an ocean of federal debt spending.

But why is this time different? Because now, Henninger observes, "...Americans have one other mega-detail on their minds: an inflation spike that can't be separated from the spending spike."

Most Americans don't want to see the credit rating—as well as our international prestige—of the U.S. downgraded or weakened by the conclusion that America is going to default on its bills and obligations. However, most Americans are suffering acutely at the gas pump, grocery store and in virtually every aspect of their lives with the governmentally self-inflicted hidden tax of inflation which has dramatically shrunk the purchasing power of their dollars.

So, if, and only if, the debt ceiling increase is agreed to, it

must be linked to structural reforms which actually begin the process of reducing the national debt and the annual budget deficit so that the nation's budget is placed on a trajectory such that in the not-too-distant future, tax revenues are balanced with spending outlays, as is the case with the budget of every American family. These reforms should include programmatic funding cuts as well as the very reasonable capping of discretionary spending at fiscal year 2022 levels while simultaneously implementing pro-growth policies that serve to offset the debt ceiling increase. A great place to begin would be rescinding unspent Covid funds as well as the highly partisan trillion-dollar spending on Green New Deal "projects."

What we are doing now—brazenly defying the fiscal laws of gravity—is utterly unsustainable. On a bipartisan basis, we must quickly and permanently put our nation back on a path of fiscal responsibility by shrinking the size of the federal government and fostering an environment of economic freedom and growth.

ROYAL ALEXANDER IS A SHREVEPORT ATTORNEY.

INSPIRATION

Everyday should be kidnapping awareness day

It was June 21, 1967, fifty-six years ago, a day I will never forget, though it took my daughter asking me to tell it to her again, that inspired me to share an experience that might save a life!

Nineteen years old, I was at a bus station in Little Rock, Arkansas on the way to get married on June 24th, when a young man followed me up to the ticket stand and asked me where I was going.

Almost speechless, I replied I was going to Stamps, Arkansas.

The woman behind the desk noticed and asked me to stay and go with her to have coffee.

When it was time to get on the bus, the man followed close behind, boarding the same bus as I did sitting close to the front, not far from where I sat.

When we arrived at my bus stop, out in the middle of nowhere, he also got off the bus right behind me.

Had it not been for Charles,

my future husband, who was waiting to pick me up at four o'clock, in the morning, I might not be here today to tell a story that needs to be told, because we never know who might be following us.

As parents we cannot watch our children close enough because we never know when a kidnaper might be lurking, waiting to snatch a child or adult.

According to a recent study every 40 seconds a

child goes missing somewhere in the United States. There are more than 460,000 missing children each year. Of those missing children, almost 1,500 of them are kidnapped.

Not long ago it was reported on the evening news, that there

were two young children, from different families, who were separated from their parents, while out in public, and were found by total strangers who helped them to be reunited with their parents which leads me to a point I want to drive home by telling a story of a young girl who wasn't found for eighteen years.

Jaycee Lee Dugard, a kidnaper victim, was snatched in 1991, when she was eleven years old, while waiting for her school bus with her stepfather in full view but out of reach.

She was held captive, in the kidnapper's backyard shed, for eighteen years before she was discovered on August 26, 2009. She gave birth to two daughters by the time she was in her early teens.

Having grown up in an abusive orphanage I endeavor to make the public aware of what often goes on behind closed doors so we won't blindly support lost causes.

I speak for those who have no voice. You can easily find Jaycee on the web, and learn about the cause she supports.

It's not what happens to us but how we grab hold of it and work it into the canvas of our lives.

We each have a story that can make a difference. One way of sharing is by picking up our pens to tell our stories.

The famous motivational speaker, Anthony Robbins, said "a life worth living is worth recording."

Your experience may save a child from being kidnapped.

We never know how many times God steps out of the woodwork protecting us and helping us share our experiences that may help save another's life!

A childhood is too precious to be stolen!

CONTACT SARAH AT SARAH9957@AOL.COM

OPINION

Here are a few thoughts on life and living it to its fullest

As the years pass by, sometimes we think too quickly, we may tend to contemplate some truths we have heard along the way.

We may ponder on the truths, or speculations, and try to come to some conclusions that make each day easier, or more bearable. One of my clippings I have saved through the years contains thoughts by Marriage and Family therapist David McMillan. He included these in his Strategies for Living, aired several years ago. (These were his statements, but comments added were mine.)

We might give them some thought and reach a conclu-

sion for ourselves. Perhaps these will resonate and get one to thinking.

* We cannot avoid death, but somehow we have discovered how to avoid life.

Do you find yourself avoiding doing the things that would make your life more meaningful? Do you come to the end of a day and can't remember what you have accomplished that day? Did you talk to a friend, send a card to a sick friend, or make

a long-needed phone call? Did we avoid living that day?

* The only path to happiness is a life of purpose and meaning,

Did our hours have purpose and meaning today? Can you name one thing that meant something to you or someone you know and love?

* There is never enough money for all that we desire, but there are ample funds for all that we require.

How many of you were window shopping, wanting to buy that new item that caught your eye, but hesitated because the utilities had not yet been paid this month? Were you admiring

your neighbor's new car and wishing you had a new one? Perhaps not, but most likely you sat down to a good meal for which you had ample funds to provide.

*In every moment we are either living or dying, there is nothing in between.

What were you doing today?

*Money has the potential to destroy lives, incite war and distract us from what is most important in life.

People may wrongly quote "money is the root of all evil", while it should be "the love of money is the root of all evil".

What are our feelings about money? Do we believe

we have ample for the things we need, or are we always reaching for a little more?

Perhaps we should take the time to analyze our feelings as to whether we have enough. When you come to the end of the day, do you feel you have been deprived of something or do you feel content and happy about how your day has gone?

McMillian sums it all up with this * In the end, it is the quality of our life and not the quantity.

So let's make every day count.

FANNIE MOORE LIVES IN SHONGALOO.



FANNIE MOORE

SPORTS

Panthers' Normand nabs 700th win

T. SCOTT BOATRIGHT
Minden Press-Herald

Doyline High School basketball coach Michael Normand netted a milestone win Friday night at home against Castor.

The Panthers defeated 79-51 to help Normand his 700th coaching victory.

Normand does have a state title his belt after leading the Panthers to the 2020 Class B State Championship with an 85-83 win over Simsboro.

That was Doyline's first state since the 1967 season.

The Panthers look just as strong this season and lead the 1-B race at 21-2 overall and 2-0 in district play and is ranked by Geaux-Preps.com's power ratings at No. 6 looking toward the Division V Nonselect School boys' playoffs.



Doyline High School's Michael Normand (holding plaque) was honored Friday night after this Panthers helped him earn his 700th career coaching victory with a 79-51 home win over Castor.



PHOTO BY DOUGLAS BLOW

TIDE TURNS TO DISTRICT HOOPS SCHEDULE

The Minden High School basketball teams are moved into the heart of their District 1-4A basketball seasons with action continuing this week against Bossier and Booker T. Washington. Pictured is the Crimson Tide's Stafford going high to make a dunk in a recent game against Evangel Christian.

Minden's Sneed

injured during

Chiefs AFC title win

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — The Kansas City Chiefs lost cornerback L'Jarius Sneed to the concussion protocol and versatile linebacker Willie Gay Jr. to a shoulder injury, depriving their defense of two key playmakers in their AFC title game against the Cincinnati Bengals on Sunday night.

The Chiefs also lost wide receivers Kadarius Toney to a twisted ankle and Mecole Hardman while getting tackled early in the second half.

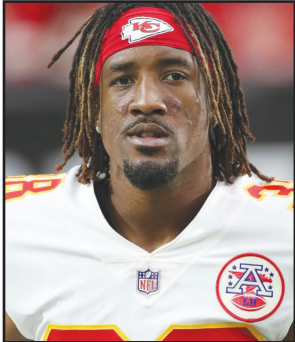
Sneed, a former standout at Minden High School and Louisiana Tech, was hurt while trying to tackle Samaje Perine low on the fourth play of the game.

His helmet and shoulder appeared to hit Perine's knee as he stopped him for a 6-yard gain, and Sneed lay motionless for a moment.

He finally rolled over onto his back and was checked out by trainers before walking off the field on his own.

The Chiefs announced in the second quarter that Sneed was ruled out for the rest of the game.

Sneed typically defends the opposing slot receiver, and that means Chiefs defensive coordinator Steve Spagnuolo planned to have him cover dan-



SNEED

gerous Bengals pass catcher Ja'Marr Chase much of the night. His injury also meant the Chiefs would be relying on three rookie cornerbacks — Trent McDuffie, Jaylen Watson and Josh Williams.

Sneed picked off three passes, forced three fumbles and also had 3 1/2 sacks this season.

Bengals quarterback Joe Burrow, who led LSU to a national championship, was sacked five times, threw two interceptions and was unable to drive his team downfield late in the fourth quarter of the AFC title game.

That gave the Chiefs a chance in the closing seconds, and Patrick Mahomes made the Bengals pay, setting up Harrison Butker's last-second field goal for a 23-20 victory Sunday night.

The Bengals came in having beaten the Chiefs by three points three straight times, including last year's AFC title game.

Dunkin' Dogs hold off Roadrunners, 66-55

Press-Herald Sports Service

SAN ANTONIO — The duo of Isaiah Crawford and Cobe Williams accounted for over half of Louisiana Tech's scoring on Saturday, combining for 37 points to help lead the Bulldogs to a 66-55 victory over UTSA inside the Convocation Center.

Not only did the tandem do the bulk of the scoring, they also combined for 13 rebounds, seven assists, and three steals as LA Tech (12-10, 5-6 C-USA) snapped its two-game losing streak and picked up its first road win since Jan. 5.

Neither team could put the ball through the hoop in the early going, combining for 18 straight misses and the score being stuck on 5-4 for almost six minutes.

The offense slowly started to kick in for both teams. First it was UTSA (7-16, 1-11 C-USA) who built a 14-10 advantage with 5:54 to go in the first half. It was the 'Dogs turn after that, making their largest scoring run of the contest with 10 straight points, including back-to-back three-pointers by Crawford and Williams.

The advantage ended up being 25-18 at halftime

and was pushed to a 32-20 lead at the 17:32 mark of the second half, but Crawford picked up his fourth foul. Then came the Roadrunners.

UTSA had its best scoring run, 7-0, to get back to within two possessions. But, keeping the home team at bay was Kaleb Stewart who scored seven of his nine points during a 6-minute stretch to push the lead back to double digits at 46-36.

The Roadrunners would not go away, heating up from beyond the arc with back-to-back triples Isaiah Abdo-Ankrah and Christian Tucker to get to cut

their deficit to four at 48-44 with 7:46 left.

After a timeout by head coach Talvin Hester, Crawford checked back in and took control. He scored nine of the team's 11 points and assisted on the other score with an alley-oop pass to Williams to put the contest away.

UTSA 66, Lady Techsters 63

RUSTON — Louisiana Tech women's basketball team fell to UTSA at home Saturday afternoon despite leading a game-high 22 points from Keiunna Walker, who moved from No. 14 to No. 11 on the all-time scoring list.

It was a hot start for both teams in the TAC, with both squads combining 18-32 from the floor in the first, including seven threes (7-13). UTSA built a 15-10 lead over the first four minutes, but a 14-5 finish gave the Techsters a four-point lead after one, 24-20.

LA Tech (12-8, 5-5 C-USA) was able to build a little breathing room (29-22) in the first minute of the second, but an 8-2 burst from UTSA (4-15, 2-8 C-USA) cut the lead to one.

Tech was able to add one to the lead at the half over the final five minutes of the half to take a two-

point edge into the break (36-34).

Both teams cooled off in a back-and-forth third quarter where no team could make much of a run, but Tech could slightly extend the lead to three heading into the final stanza (53-48).

Amaya Brannon extended Tech's lead to seven, but UTSA quickly erased the lead with a 7-0 run over the next 90 seconds to even things with seven minutes to play.

UTSA grabbed their first lead since the first quarter off a Jordyn Jenkins jumper which began a 9-0 run over the next five minutes.

SPORTS



COURTESY PHOTOS
The Minden High School Archery teams turned in a strong showing at Saturday's Benton Bull's-Eye Tournament with Warren Carey, Jaliyah Oliver, Julia Chapman and Sophie Williams each notching personal bests.

Minden High School archers on target at tourney

T. SCOTT BOATRIGHT
Minden Press-Herald

The Minden High School Archery team turned in a strong showing at the Benton Bull's-Eye Tournament held on Saturday. Junior Warren Carey turned in the top score for the Tide archers with a 259 with four 10s while freshman Sophie Williams led the

MHS girls with a 245 with eight 10s. Following are Minden High School's other archery results with 10s in parenthesis:
• Julia Chapman, Fr., 225 (3)
• Sophia Humphries, Fr., 206 (3)
• Jayliah Oliver, Jr., 197 (0)
• Jakayden Gill, Fr., 168 (1)
• N'Kayleb Reddix, Eighth grade, 163 (0)
• Sandy Shirey, Jr., 160 (3)



COURTESY PHOTO

LAKESIDE ANGLERS FINISH FOURTH

There were 118 teams competing in the fishing tournament Saturday on Caddo Lake and Lakeside's team of Jarrett Strickland and Eli Campbell finished in fourth place while also claiming third in the Big Bass competition.

Plenty of entertainment in 'Great Outdoors'

GLYNN HARRIS

I enjoy a good movie now and then. I'll sometimes even go to a concert like the one I attended a week ago when Tommy Emmanuel's amazing guitar work made me want to head home and bust my guitar over a fence post. These events serve as an avenue of entertainment; we need such occasions to get us out of our rut and offer a measure of change from the daily grind.

For sheer entertainment, though, I'll take what Mother Nature has to offer any day. Sitting and observing the things that happen naturally in the Great Outdoors offers entertainment that money can't buy. It's free; it's relaxing; it's exciting and I can't seem to get enough of sitting and watching nature do what nature does.

One of the most entertaining events I ever witnessed was provided by a bobcat. I was sitting in my stand among the hardwoods on a hill one day several years ago enjoying the peace and tranquility the setting offered.

It was obvious I had to have been hunting deer instead of squirrels because the woods seemed to be full of bushy-tails that morning; they never show up in such numbers when I have my shotgun loaded with #6s instead of the deer rifle I was packing that day.

In an instant, everything changed in the woods around me. Squirrels that had been



COURTESY PHOTO

Bobcats and squirrels can provide entertainment in the deer woods.

leisurely scurrying around one moment all went on high alert the next. I watched at least half a dozen scoot up trees and start to chatter excitedly. I knew they had seen something I hadn't detected yet. Scanning the woods, I saw movement of something brown and identified a bobcat walking slowly out in front of my stand.

I've never been one to let such opportunities go by without extending the excitement so I dug through my pack and found a predator call which sounds like a rabbit in distress and when a predator hears it, the natural instinct is to cash in on a quick and easy meal.

Here the bobcat came in response to the call, sneaking up and sitting down beneath my box stand. I enjoyed the show until he looked up, our eyes met and he knew he'd been hoodwinked. If

a bobcat can look embarrassed, that one did as he slunk back into the thicket.

On a later hunt, I attended another of nature's productions as I sat on my stand under clear skies and cool temperatures. Two young bucks, identical in size both sporting six inch spikes, entered my food plot to begin grazing on the grass I'd planted earlier. Our club rules prohibited the taking of spikes so I sat back to enjoy the show when I realized I'd been watching them for over an hour, darkness was approaching and the spikes seemed perfectly content to graze on the oats and clover.

I knew if I climbed down from my stand in full view of the deer, they'd see me and high-tail it into the brush and they'd key on my stand the next time they came to the plot.

Since it was almost

dark and I needed to get off the stand and head home, I decided on a tactic that was sure to cause the two young spikes to bolt without identifying me. I pulled out my grunt call and rattle bag and began grunting and rattling horns like mature bucks fighting, expecting the two visitors I'd been watching for an hour to scoot.

Nothing doing. The aggressive sounds I made with the grunt tube and rattle bag only fired them up. Instead of dashing away in fright, they faced each other and I got to watch a serious head-butting, pushing and shoving match. Instead of turning them away, I apparently turned them on. Such is the entertainment Mother Nature offers every time you head outdoors.

— Contact Glynn Harris at glynnharris37@gmail.com.

Fishing Report

BLACK BAYOU – No report this week. Contact Honey Hole Tackle Shop 323-8707 for the latest information.

BUSSEY BRAKE – Crappie fishing has been fair to good on jigs or shiners. Bass have been fair around brush and structure. For the latest information, contact the Honey Hole at 323-8707.

OUACHITA RIVER – The water is rising with current and fishing has been slow this week. No reports on crappie or bass. For the latest information, contact the Honey Hole Tackle Shop at 323-8707.

LAKE D'ARBONNE – Crappie fishing has been fair with best catches made on jigs or shiners fished just off the channel. Bass had been best fishing the points on crank baits. Catfish are biting cold worms fished off the banks; bream are slow. For the latest information, call Anderson Sport Center at 368-9669 or Honey Hole Tackle Shop at 323-8707.

LAKE CLAIBORNE – Crappie fishing continues to be good with shCCrappie fishing continues to be best with shiners having the edge over jigs this week. The fish are still fairly deep. No report this week on bass, bream, stripers or catfish. For the latest

information, call Kel's Cove at 927-2264 or Terzia Tackle at 278-4498.

CANEY LAKE – Jigging spoons and tail spinners are picking up a few bass and yellow bass bouncing these lures off the bottom in deep water. Soft plastics and deep diving crank baits have been producing some around humps just off the channels. Crappie fishing continues to be best fishing the deep tops on shiners or jigs. No report on bream or catfish. For information contact Hooks Marina at 249-2347, Terzia Tackle at 278-4498 or the Honey Hole Tackle Shop at 323-8707.

LAKE POVERTY POINT – Crappie fishing has been good this week around the boat slips and on the south end on shiners or jigs with some bigger fish caught during the afternoons. Catfishing continues to be good. No report on bass or bream. For the latest reports, call Poverty Point Marina at 318-878-0101.

LAKE YUCATAN – After a rise in water level There is a slight rise in water levels this week. Windy stormy conditions have kept most fishermen off the lake this week. For information, call Surplus City Landing at 318-467-2259.

— Glynn Harris

Good News

GOOD NEWS

God’s Still Working On Me!

This Gaither song has been sung for years! And there is so much truth in it for us to glean. “God’s still working on me; I’m not the man that I ought to be”. He has made all of His other creations complete, but He’s still working on you and me! There is something about man’s heart that the Lord is not totally satisfied with – we need Him to walk with us each step of life, to keep us on the narrow road, and to clean up our thoughts, attitudes and desires. And then, maybe then, He will stamp us ‘complete’. And when He does, we will be transported to our heavenly home. Truth is, we will always need Him to direct our paths (Prov 3:5-6).

Sometimes it is good to be sensitive to the surrounding of God’s great creation like trees, water, wildlife, birds, butterflies, clean air and even the silence of early dawn! Just to observe and sense God at work ‘tending His garden, feeding His birds, checking things out’ is enough to want to say, “Praise the Lord,

How great Thou art!

My wife, Sondra, and Glen Harris – MPH, have taught me a lot about birds, their habits and their nature. Some swarm, some flit about or migrate through, and some show other peculiar habits. Some like certain seed while others are not selective at all. Blue Jays are not afraid of anything, pigeons are a nuisance, and blackbirds are thieves. Just as the hundreds of species and families of birds inhabit our yards and woods, there are as many insects to reckon with. And when we have counted all of them, we can start on the animals and fishes. After that, let’s take inventory to the skies and timberland. We



Bill Crider

can start counting the stars and the trees. (How many kinds of tree can you list? 5, 25, 101...?) For just as He watches the sparrows, the stars, the crickets and the snail, He is watching over us as well! Incredible is our Father! Yes, How Great ‘Thou Art!’

Even as we observe all of this, we are reminded by the Psalmist how we are made in a wonderful and magnificent manner”(119) In fact, we are made in the very image of God, our Creator.(Endowed with His Spirit). (Gen 1) We are not just rubber-stamped, but intricately made by the Master Designer. The children’s song is so true: “Search all the world over, there’s no one like me/you.” In fact, God made us a little lower than angels (Psalm 8), but gave us so much more responsibility than the angels. (Heb 1-2) Scripture says that “even the angels long to look into the things concerning salvation through Jesus Christ.”(1 Pet 1). Yes, we have been given a very special gift reserved ‘just

for God’s choice creation Just for Us! “O Lord, how great Thou art!”

We can gaze into the night skies and see the stars wondering how God can number or name them. We scan the mountain ranges of the world and see breath-taking scenes that man cannot recreate. (Psalm 19) We can see the crowds pushing and shoving along on Wall Street, Tokyo or Sao Paulo and ponder this thought: ‘our God knows our names like a shepherd knows his sheep. (John 10). Just think “He is only a prayer away from each of us.” Every person, every mountain top, every bird and every tree! His presence is everywhere; we cannot escape Him. (Psm 139). To this, just about all we can say is “WOW.” Isn’t our God awesome?

So this ‘mighty tree planted by the streams of water, which yields forth its’ fruit in season and whose leaves do not wither’ is a testimony of just what our God thinks about man and the powers He has given him.

Not only has He ordered all of nature, but He also gives man that promise to be like a mighty tree that is always prospering, producing fruit and whose leaves never wilt. (Psalm1). My, how He cares for you and me!

This reminds me of the poem favored by so many through the years; Joyce Kilmer’s Trees. “I think that I shall never see a poem lovely as a tree....Poems are made by fools like me, but only God can make a tree.”

God is still at work on each of us. Some have already matured into tall, strong oaks, with deep root structure, giving shelter to many of the wilds of nature. Yet, for many of us, He still has a lot of intricate handiwork to complete. But one day, we will be like that mighty tree standing by the river of life. Yes, God’s still working on me...for only God can make a tree!

BILL CRIDER IS CHAPLAIN OF MINDEN MEDICAL CENTER

THE UPWARD LOOK

Lay Aside

“that, in reference to your former manner of life, you lay aside the old self, which is being corrupted in accordance with the lusts of deceit,” Ephesians 4:22 NASB



Max Hutto

A believer is to lay aside the old sinful lifestyle which is corrupted and decaying due to deceitful sinful passions. This process of laying aside the old ways starts at conversion, continues through life, and is finally complete when the believer is with Jesus in Heaven. While this laying aside of the old ways is incomplete and

sometimes fickle, a believer must strive to remove old sinful actions and thoughts like removing dirty clothes and exchanging them for clean holy righteous deeds and thoughts.

Lord Jesus, help me to lay aside the old sinful ways, turning away and leaving them behind. Help me to live in new life with You, doing what is right and good.

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

INSPIRATION

Conviction vs. Condemnation

Conviction and Condemnation may seem to be similar words by their definition but to God, they are miles apart. However, many of us as believers don’t understand the difference. The goal of this writing is to clarify that difference through scripture. John 3:17-18 New International Version says: “17 For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him. 18 Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because they have not believed in the name of God’s one and only Son.” While John 16:7-8 New Living Translation says: “7 But in fact, it is best for you that I (Jesus) go away, because if I don’t, the Advocate won’t come. If I do go away,

then I will send him to you. 8 And when he comes, he will convict the world of its sin, and of God’s righteousness, and of the coming judgment.” These two scriptures make distinct separations defining condemnation as judgment and conviction as instilling a strong belief in God’s righteousness. The death of our savior on the cross saves us from condemnation and the judgment that the enemy tries to place on us and gives us the gift of the holy spirit that convicts us and steers us away from the grip of sin. In closing I encourage everyone to pray for God’s conviction to combat the enemies condemnation.



Bernard Harris

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

Come

WORSHIP

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

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ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ

CRYPTO FUN

☾ ☾ ☾ ☾ ☾ ☾ ☾ ☾ ☾

Determine the code to reveal the answer!

Solve the code to discover words related to Lyme disease.
Each number corresponds to a letter.
(Hint: 26 = A)

A. 10 26 6 26 5 18 11 22

Clue: Lives on another organism

B. 11 18 19 21

Clue: Arachnid parasite

C. 23 6 26 5 5

Clue: Makes up a lawn

D. 16 17 20 20 14

Clue: Flows through vessels

Answers: A. parasite B. tick C. grass D. blood

SUDOKU

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

Level: Beginner

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!

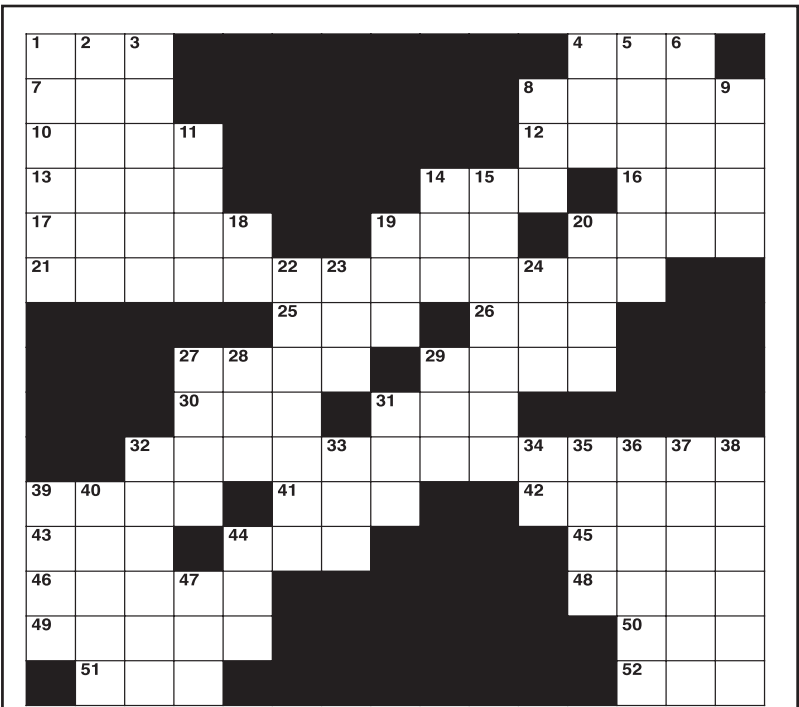
Here's How It Works:

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!

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

ANSWER:

FUN & GAMES



CLUES ACROSS

1. Runs PCs

4. An entertaining, eccentric person

7. Small, faint constellation

8. Indigo bush

10. Not excessive

12. African antelope

13. A way to fly a glider

14. Tough softly

16. In the course of

17. Early Mesoamerican people

19. A way to drop down

20. Mistake!

21. Housing developments

25. Baseball stat

26. No (Scottish)

27. Type of cuisine
29. British Army infantrymen (abbr.)

30. Marry

31. Buffer solution

32. Legendary rock band

39. Recording industry show

41. A way to consume

42. Lake in Botswana

43. Political action committee

44. Field force unit (abbr.)

45. Very eager

46. Excessive fluid accumulation in tissues

48. Nocturnal insect

49. Challenged to perform

50. Thus far

51. Famed NYC arena

52. Commercials

CLUES DOWN

1. Small, purple-black fruit

2. Baltimore ballplayer

3. Highly seasoned sausage

4. Split pulses

5. Northwestern Mexico town

6. Edible fruit

8. Upper-class southern young woman

9. Sums up

11. The most worthless part

14. Dash

15. Sufferings

18. Clearinghouse (abbr.)

19. Indian title of respect

20. Poems meant to be sung

22. Actor Cooper

23. Luke's mentor ___-Wan
24. Clumsy person

27. Figures

28. Polish Baltic coast peninsula

29. Old cloth

31. Explosive

32. Automobiles

33. 007's creator

34. The Volunteer State

35. Old Irish alphabet

36. Japanese city

37. Portrayed emotion

38. Observers

39. Mimicked

40. Polite reference to a woman

44. Male parent

47. Peter Griffin's daughter

PUZZLE SOLUTION

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

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.

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CASA

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LOUISIANA

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Classified Rates

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\$7.75

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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.

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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

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 MILLAGE 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

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January 25, 2023
February 1, 2023
February 8, 2023
Minden Press-Herald

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

PLEASANT VALLEY WATER SYSTEM
Owner

1098 Greene Road
Address

Minden, LA 71055
City, State, Zip

Separate sealed BIDS for the construction of **CONTRACT I- NEW WATER WELL NO.7**

will be received by the **PLEASANT VALLEY WATER SYSTEM** at the Webster Parish Police Jury Meeting Room, 401 Main Street (West Entrance), Minden, LA 71058 until **10:00 A.M. THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2023**, and then at said office publicly opened and read aloud as permitted by public bid law. This is in accordance with La. R.S. 38:2212 (A)(1)(b), the provisions of La. R.S. 38:2212.

Each bidder must have an active Unique Entity ID (SAM), as verified on www.sam.gov, prior to beginning of construction.

The CONTRACT DOCUMENTS may be examined at the following location(s): Cothren Graff Smoak Engineering, Inc., 6305 Westport Avenue, Shreveport, LA 71129.

Copies of the CONTRACT DOCUMENTS may be obtained at the office of COTHREN, GRAFF, SMOAK ENGINEERING, INC. upon payment of \$35.00 for each set, which is refundable to prime bidders within 10 days after receipt of bids. Owner reserves the right to reject any and all bids for just cause.

January 25, 2023
February 1, 2023
February 8, 2023
Minden Press-Herald

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

PLEASANT VALLEY WATER SYSTEM, INC.
Owner

1098 Greene Road
Address

Minden, Louisiana 71055
City, State, Zip

Separate sealed BIDS for the construction of **Contract II- Water Distribution Improvements**

will be received by the **PLEASANT VALLEY WATER SYSTEM, INC.** at the Webster Parish Police Jury Meeting Room, 401 Main Street (West Entrance), Minden, LA 71058 until **10:00 A.M. THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2023**, and then at said office publicly opened and read aloud as permitted by public

bid law. This is in accordance with La. R.S. 38:2212 (A)(1)(b), the provisions of La. R.S. 38:2212.

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January 25, 2023
February 1, 2023
February 8, 2023
Minden Press-Herald

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

PLEASANT VALLEY WATER SYSTEM
Owner

1098 Greene Road
Address

Minden, LA 71055
City, State, Zip

Separate sealed BIDS for the construction of **CONTRACT III- BOOSTER STATION IMPROVEMENTS**

will be received by the **PLEASANT VALLEY WATER SYSTEM** at the Webster Parish Police Jury Meeting Room, 401 Main Street (West Entrance), Minden, LA 71058 until **10:00 A.M. THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2023**, and then at said office publicly opened and read aloud as permitted by public bid law. This is in accordance with La. R.S. 38:2212 (A)(1)(b), the provisions of La. R.S. 38:2212.

Each bidder must have an active Unique Entity ID (SAM), as verified on www.sam.gov, prior to beginning of construction.

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January 25, 2023
February 1, 2023
February 8, 2023
Minden Press-Herald

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

PLEASANT VALLEY WATER SYSTEM, INC.
Owner

1098 Greene Road
Address

Minden, Louisiana 71055
City, State, Zip

Separate sealed BIDS for the construction of **Contract II- Water Distribution Improvements**

The Hefflin Town Council met at Town Hall, Hefflin, Louisiana beginning at 7:51 p.m. with the following members present: Mayor Ralph James council members Matt Austin, Hallie DeMoss, Robert Stachowicz, Police Chief Paul Migue, Water System Operator Jesse Williamson and Village Clerk Sherry Limosnero.

The meeting was

opened with prayer offered by Matt Austin and Robert Stachowicz led the Pledge of Allegiance. Mayor Ralph James welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Upon motion by Matt Austin and duly seconded by Robert Stachowicz, the council adopted the Minutes from December 8, 2022 at Council Regular Meeting held on January 5, 2023 as presented; the motion was approved unanimously.

Robert Stachowicz moved to accept the December 2022 Operating Financial Statements as presented; the motion was duly seconded by Hallie DeMoss. The motion was approved unanimously.

Upon motion by Hallie DeMoss and duly seconded by Matt Austin, the council unanimously approved Water System Reports for December, 2022.

Matt Austin moved to accept the December, 2022 Police Department Reports as presented; the motion was duly seconded by Robert Stachowicz. The motion was approved unanimously.

Upon motion by Robert Stachowicz and duly seconded by Hallie DeMoss, the council unanimously approved the A.R.P. Report for December, 2022.

Upon motion by Hallie DeMoss and duly seconded by Matt Austin, the council unanimously approved Robert Stachowicz as Mayor Pro Tem for the Village of Hefflin.

Matt Austin moved to accept **RESOLUTION 001-23 GBT BANK AUTHORIZED SIGNATURES AND REMOVALS OF SIGNATURES FOR THE VILLAGE OF HEFLIN** as presented; the motion was duly seconded by Hallie DeMoss. The motion was approved unanimously. Said RESOLUTION 001-23 is attached to and made a part of these minutes.

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

Attest by: Sherry Limosnero LCMC, Village Clerk
Respectfully posted: 1/19/2023
Adopted:

February 1, 2023
Minden Press-Herald

Anyone knowing the whereabouts of any family or friends of CYNTHIA B. FRANKLIN with regard to "Lakeview Loan Servicing LLC versus Cynthia B. Franklin" is asked to contact Jack W. Slaid, Attorney at Law at (318) 382-1177 or at 1374 Homer Road, Suite 200, Minden LA 71055.

February 1, 2023
February 8, 2023
Minden Press-Herald

Family Dollar Stores of Louisiana, LLC d/b/a Family Dollar #31654 is applying to the Office of Alcohol and Tobacco Control of the State of Louisiana for a permit to sell beverages of low and light wine alcohol content at retail in the Parish of Webster at the following address: 21565 Highway 371, Cotton Valley, Louisiana, 71018.

Family Dollar Stores of Louisiana, LLC Family Dollar #31654 Officers: Peter A. Barnett, Todd B. Littler, Roger W. Dean, Jonathan L. Elder, John S. Mitchell, Jr., and Harry R. Spencer Manager: Meshell Turner

February 1, 2023
Minden Press-Herald

The Village of Dubberly will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, February 13, 2023 at

6:15 p.m. to discuss the renewal of the ordinance between the Village of Dubberly and CenterPoint Energy for the collection and payment of franchise fees in the village limits of Dubberly.

February 1, 2023
Minden Press-Herald

TNT Storage, LLC, owner of Germantown Storage, (318-377-9733) located at 609 Germantown Rd., Minden, LA, will have four 10 x 10 units to auction on www.StorageAuctions.com starting on 2-1-23 at 10:00 am and ending on 2/16/23 at 10:00 am. Germantown Storage #174: Sharon Cameron-bookshelves, rolltop desk, stuffed animals/toys, filled with boxes, #175: Sharon Cameron-refrigerator, greenery, curtain rods, lots of boxes, #177: Sharon Cameron-bike, plastic chair, boxes, bags.

February 1, 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 6 x 12 unit, two 8 x 10 and one 8 x 28 to auction on www.StorageAuctions.com starting on 2-1-23 at 10:00 am and ending on 2/16/23 at 10:00 am. Hilltop Storage - Pine St. #27 Material Reader-4 tires, bookshelf, tubs, clothes, #82 Material Reader-table, benches, Tv, boxes, #84 Material Reader-corner shelf, ironing board, refrigerator, #91 Tisha Eason-power cords, table saw, weights, weed eater, ironing board, bike, tools

February 1, 2023
Minden Press-Herald

VILLAGE OF DOYLINE COUNCIL MEETING

January 9, 2023

THE COUNCIL MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND BOARD OF ALDERMEN FOR DOYLINE, LOUISIANA WAS HELD AT THE DOYLINE VILLAGE HALL ON MONDAY, JANUARY 9TH, 2023 AT 6:00 PM, PURSUANT TO DUE NOTICE.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT WERE STEVEN BRIDWELL, RACHAEL MUNIZ AND JAKIE DANIELS.

THE MEETING WAS PRESIDED OVER BY MAYOR CHRISTIE GATES.

THE MEETING WAS OPENED WITH PRAYER BY JAKIE DANIELS AND THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE WAS LED BY STEVEN BRIDWELL.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY STEVEN BRIDWELL AND SECONDED BY JAKIE DANIELS TO APPROVE THE DECEMBER 2022 COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES.

THE MOTION CARRIED: AYES: 3 NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 0 ABSTAIN: 0

A MOTION WAS MADE BY JAKIE DANIELS TO APPROVE THE DECEMBER 2022 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, SECONDED BY STEVEN BRIDWELL.

THE MOTION CARRIED: AYES: 3 NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 0 ABSTAIN: 0

A MOTION WAS MADE TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 2023-1 TO REQUEST STREET REPAIRS FROM THE WEBSTER PARISH POLICE JURY FOR COLLEGE & WILLIS TO WILLIS AND JOHNSON BY STEVE BRIDWELL AND SECONDED BY JAKIE DANIELS.

THE MOTION CARRIED: AYES: 3 NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 0 ABSTAIN: 0

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JOHNNY MONTGOMERY (ABSENT), MAINTENANCE REPORT

MIKE DUNAWAY, SEWER OPERATOR (ABSENT)

JAMES HILL, CLERK'S REPORT

ROBBY HAYDEN, POLICE CHIEF

A MOTION WAS MADE BY STEVEN BRIDWELL TO ADJOURN THE MEETING, SECONDED BY JAKIE DANIELS.

THE MOTION CARRIED: AYES: 3 NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 0 ABSTAIN: 0

JAMES HILL, VILLAGE CLERK

CRYSTAL GATES, MAYOR

February 1, 2023
Minden Press-Herald

I, Sheila Jenkins #420940, have applied for clemency for my conviction of Distribution of Cocaine; Second Degree Murder. If you have any comments, contact the Board of Pardons (225) 342-5421.

February 1, 2023
February 8, 2023
February 15, 2023
Minden Press-Herald

SHERIFF'S SALE

SPECIALIZED LOAN SERVICING, LLC VS. SHARON BROWN WALLACE AND KENNETH RAY WALLACE

In the Twenty-Sixth Judicial District Court of Webster Parish, Louisiana, No. 80166

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 WITH the benefit of appraisal and according to law at the principal front door of the Court-house in the City of Minden, Webster Parish, Louisiana on WEDNESDAY, February 8, 2023, During the legal sale hours, the following property, to wit:

A LOT LOCATED IN THE NORTHWEST QUARTER OF THE SOUTHWEST QUARTER (NW/4 OF SW/4) OF SECTION 31; TOWNSHIP 18 NORTH, RANGE 8 WEST, WEBSTER PARISH, LOUISIANA, DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: BEGIN AT THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF THE AFORESAID FORTY; THENCE RUN NORTH A DISTANCE OF 650 FEET AND TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING OF THE LOT TO BE HEREIN DESCRIBED; THENCE CONTINUE NORTH ALONG THE FORTY LINE AND ALONG THE EAST RIGHT OF WAY OF LOUISIANA HIGHWAY NO. 531 A DISTANCE OF 200 FEET; THENCE RUN EAST A DISTANCE OF 300 FEET; THENCE RUN SOUTH A DISTANCE OF 200 FEET; THENCE RUN WEST A DISTANCE OF 300 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING,

TOGETHER WITH ALL IMPROVEMENTS THEREON AND ALL RIGHTS THERETO BELONGING; subject to restrictions, servitudes, rights-of-way and outstanding mineral rights of record affecting the property.

That certain manufactured home/mobile situated on the above described property, being a 1999, 80 x 28 Signal Homes, Inc., Beacon, Serial No. SG010447A/B99, which said manufactured home/mobile home was immobilized pursuant to Affidavit to Immobilize Mobile Home dated August 19, 1999 and filed for record as Instrument No. 430941 of the records of Webster Parish, Louisiana.

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 4, 2023
February 1, 2023
Minden Press-Herald

GRAPHIC DESIGNER NEEDED

Designer: Experience in; Adobe Creative Suite (Photoshop Illustrator - In Design), Familiar with Mac computers. Position is part-time or full-time and they should email their resume to: design.webster-printing@gmail.com and/or websterprinting-minden@gmail.com

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Attorney
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BLACK HISTORY EXPO

February 18, 2023

10AM - 1 PM

Homer City Hall

Needed: Vendors, Writers, Talent

Contact: Rev. David Browder (318) 294-8399

Or davidlbrow@gmail.com

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