

# MINDEN PRESS-HERALD

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2023

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75 CENTS

## PARADE

# Citizens celebrate Black History Month

WILL PHILLIPS  
Minden Press-Herald

The 2023 MLK/Black History Parade rolled this past Saturday in downtown Minden. The parade began and ended on Main Street near the Water Tower and First United Methodist Church. Retired City Attorney L. Charles Minefield served as this year's Grand Marshal.

Parade entries competed for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Place in the following categories: Best Decorated Car/Truck, Best Decorated Float, Best Band Performance and Most Spirited Group. The judges had a tough job in deciding the winners.

For Best Decorated Car/Truck 1st Place went to Tiny Miss North Webster Lower Elementary, 2nd Place went to Jamaria "Juicy" Clark, "Mr. 3000," and 3rd Place went to Trail Babes & Bandits.

For Best Decorated Float, 1st Place went to Abdul Temple #94, 2nd Place went to Academy of Pearls, Alpha Kappa Alpha, and 3rd Place went to Louisiana Panthers.

For Best Band Performance 1st Place went to Huntington High School Juke Box Band, 2nd Place went to Minden High School Band of Pride, and 3rd Place went to Bastrop High School Band.

For Most Spirited Group, 1st Place went to Gibsland Coleman Bulldog Cheerleaders, 2nd Place went to Rare Breed Motorcycle Club, and 3rd Place went to Lee Lodge

#221.

Outstanding Participation went to Huntington High School.

At the conclusion of the 35+ entry parade, a crowd pleaser, the Annual Battle of the Bands featured Minden High School, Bastrop High School and Huntington High School competing for bragging rights as winner.

"Kay O" of Rare Breed Motorcycle Club of Houston, Texas motivated the young people to be the best they can be and never give up no matter what they face in life.

Local vendors were on hand offering various food options, crafts, sweet treats, and important information regarding health insurance.

The Endow A Dream Scholarship recipients were also announced. This year's scholarship winners are Brellyn Winzer, Jackson, Jasmine Sneed, and Alex Martin.

Following the Parade and Battle Bands, the Annual Youth Rally featured the honoring of local Trail Blazers who have made historic accomplishments and/or service to our community. This year's honorees were Cassandra Swan - Health Care, Rev. Billy J. Hawkins - Ministerial, Frankie Mitchell - Education, and Joe Cornelius - Community Service, Walter Morgan, Jr. -Entrepreneurship, Jamaria "Juicy" Clark - Mr. 3000, High School CareerPoints scored, and L. Jarius Sneed - Super Bowl LVII Championship.



WILL PHILLIPS/PRESS-HERALD PHOTOS

**Saturday the local community came out to join in Minden's 34th Annual Martin Luther King Celebration. The celebration included a parade through downtown, a Battle of the Bands, as well as a Youth Rally where scholarships were presented and local "Trail Blazers" were recognized.**

## BOOK LAUNCH

# Local business leader releases new leadership, personal development book

MINDEN, La. — A 30-year veteran of business ownership and health & personal development coach has just released his guide to helping others learn "new tricks" in their own lives.

David Specht, president of Specht Newspapers and health & personal development coach with Specht Health Coaching, has released Old Dogs, New Tricks 2.0. It captures three decades worth of leadership lessons dedicated to helping others learn how to lead and inspiring them to grow.

"This book represents lessons learned across my career in leadership of a small business. Some of these lessons were fun, but most were painful, and I want you to avoid that same pain," said Specht.

The book will help all ages break out of their habits and ruts with:

- Leadership lessons
- Tips on helping others reach their full potential
- Common personal development mistakes
- Actionable steps to make changes

"This was a book I had written in 2015, but it was written for the wrong reasons and launched without a plan. My whole life has changed from that first version to Old Dogs, New Tricks 2.0, and that change inspired me to step back into personal development and helping others," David explained.

David says this book is for people who know they aren't done learn-



ing and growing, who want to do better in leading their team, and who want to improve their finances and health.

"Old Dogs, New Tricks 2.0 is all about improving yourself, learning, inspiring others, finding your purpose and taking action," he said. "You're nowhere near done. Let my book help you learn to lead your team, your family, and yourself again."

Old Dogs, New Tricks 2.0 is available now on Amazon, Barnes & Noble, and Apple Books.

In addition, early adopters get free access to the 12-part life purpose development course, "Step Into Purpose," a \$299 value. Visit [spechtthealth.com/odnt](https://spechtthealth.com/odnt) for more details on this offer.

"Step Into Purpose is a course that helps my readers take the next step in transforming their lives," said David. "I always say 'Applied knowledge is power.' The combination of Old Dogs, New Tricks 2.0 and Step Into Purpose will help you gain and apply that knowledge."

## BUSINESS

# The Villas at Spanish Court are open for business

AMBER MCDOWN  
Minden Press-Herald

The Villas at Spanish Court are finally completed and ready for guests. The Villas, located on Union Street near Minden High, were built around 1931 by F.C. McClanahan.

"According to a news clipping from 1931, they were the most state-of-the-art apartments in the state of Louisiana," said Sara McDaniel, owner of the Villas and Simply Southern Cottage. A former owner had stated that the villas fell into disuse in the 1980s. They had sat vacant until McDaniel breathed new life into these quaint apartments, turning them into stylish short-term rentals with designer decor.

"They all have a name," said McDaniel as she gave the grand tour. "This one is Laura. It was sponsored by Laura Ashley, so that means that there's Laura Ashley wallpaper, the art, the pillows, the rug, the

bedding, the kitchen dishes. All that is sponsored by the Piper, which also contains designer rugs from McDaniel's own collection, and some are more beachy and tropical like the Cindy. All of the units have WiFi and access to a patio with a fire pit and string lights.

"I can't decide which one's my favorite," McDaniel said.

Some of the units are more calm and neutral like the Piper, which also contains designer rugs from McDaniel's own collection, and some are more beachy and tropical like the Cindy. All of the units have WiFi and access to a patio with a fire pit and string lights.

"I can't decide which one's my favorite," McDaniel said.

Because these buildings had been vacant for about 40 years, a huge amount of work was required to bring them back to life. "It had asbestos, lead paint, there was a lot of termite damage, so we had to rebuild the studs," said McDaniel.

"That's one reason why this is so expensive, because you have to remediate the right way."

Much effort went into saving or replicating the historic architectural features of the buildings such as the fireplaces, cabinets, doors, and mantels. She was able to save the original bathtubs and tilework.

McDaniel is also really excited about her great staff. "We have such an amazing staff," she said. "I got so lucky. I hired a recruiter and did a nationwide search for an innkeeper/property manager, and I found somebody in Heflin. And she's perfect! The moral of that story is 'look in your own backyard.'"

The Villas at Spanish Court have been featured projects over the past year in both Cottages & Bungalows magazine as well as American Farmhouse Style magazine. In fact, the Piper is showcased on the front cover of the February/March 2023 issue of Ameri-

can Farmhouse Style magazine and "The Laura" is on the cover of the February/March 2023 issue of Cottages and Bungalows.

McDaniel is planning to have an open house on March 24 and 25. "Chef Jodie Martin and Chef Blake Jackson from Shreveport are teaming up for 'S'mores & More' on March 24th, which will be an exclusive private event to tour the villas. There will be a progressive, charcuterie dinner through each of the eight villas capped off with a s'mores station. Landry's Vineyards will be on hand for a wine tasting. Ryan Miller, the 2021 recipient of the American Songwriter of the Year award, will provide live music. All proceeds from this event will support the 2024 Minden St. Jude Auction. The next day, 12 to 6 p.m., I will be hosting another Simply Southern Saturday, and people will be able to tour the villas. Saturday proceeds will sup-



AMBER MCDOWN/PRESS-HERALD PHOTO

**The Villas at Spanish Court, located on Union Street just down from Minden High, is the latest in designer short-term rentals. These fully-refurbished historic homes are now accepting reservations from people all over the United States and even a few in Minden.**

port Louisiana Family and Teen Challenge. We'll have door prizes at both events including a Villas weekend getaway, Mellanni sheet sets, and more," said McDaniel.

Bookings recently opened and McDaniel has reservations from North Dakota, Montana, Texas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, and

even a few staycations from right here in Minden so far.

"I am thrilled and honored to provide a boutique-style short term rental experience in our town," says McDaniel.

To reserve your stay at The Villas at Spanish Court, visit [mindenstays.com](https://mindenstays.com).



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Tomorrow's  
**High Temp 82°**

Tomorrow's  
**Low Temp 54°**

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INDEX		
Obituaries	3	Classifieds 8
Editorials	4	Crossword 7
Sports	5	B&S 9



# WEBSTER & MORE

CRIME

## Webster Sheriff announces arrest of BDCC Deputy

STAFF REPORT  
Minden Press-Herald

Sheriff Jason Parker announced this evening the arrest of a corrections deputy for attempting to transport narcotics into the Bayou Dorcheat Correctional Center.

Corrections deputy Eric W. Robinson, 56, of Minden, was arrested on 1 count of introducing contraband into a correctional facility (R.S. 14:402) and malfeasance in office (14:134).



PARKER

Sheriff Parker said Robinson was arrested as he attempted to enter the facility with 5 bags of synthetic marijuana, also known as ‘mojo’ in his possession.

He was immediately terminated upon his arrest.

Parker said the arrest was the result of an ongoing investigation by the Webster Parish Sheriff Office Narcotics and Investigation Divisions.

“Our investigators worked diligently and

thoroughly to gather the facts and evidence to make an arrest and to stop these drugs from entering our facility. No one is above the law, and we certainly will enforce the law equally to all, including our own employees. It is a disappointment to have to arrest one of your own because we hold ourselves to the highest standards of integrity and character. As sheriff, I will continue to uphold these standards and be accountable to the citizens of Webster Parish,” said Parker.

FUND-RAISING

## Glenbrook kickball tournament scores \$3,500 for St. Jude



AMBER MCDOWN/PRESS-HERALD PHOTO

Glenbrook School held a kickball tournament on February 8 to raise money for the 2023 Minden St. Jude Auction which supports the St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital in Memphis, Tennessee. Though the original date was rescheduled due to inclement weather, the students were fired up and ready to make the most of this opportunity to do some good for others. The kickball tournament raised \$3,500 for St. Jude, but this was just the school’s final push at fundraising. Altogether, the students, families, and staff of Glenbrook School raised a grand total of \$42,000.

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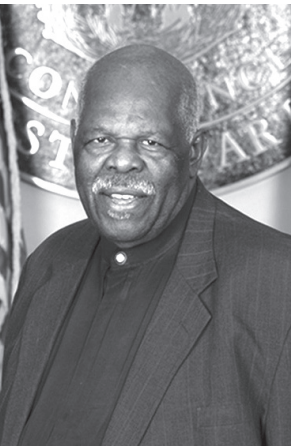
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# WEBSTER & MORE

OBITUARIES



## Remembering Bernard Hudson

Bernard Hudson was born in Minden, Louisiana on September 28, 1946 to the late Dave Hudson and Tishie Warren Hudson. He accepted Christ at an early age at Growing Valley Baptist Church under the pastorate of the late Reverend J.H. Dixon and served as Chair of the Memorial Day/Veterans Program, Assistant Graveyard Marshal, and a Trustee Board Member.

As a child, he attended Growing Valley schools and later went to Union Elementary in Doyline. He played football and was a proud graduate of the Webster High School Class of 1966. After graduation, he enlisted in the United States Army for four years, received the National Defense Service Medal and the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal in Korea and achieved the rank of Sergeant. Following his service, he attended Delgado Community College in New Orleans where he also worked as a security guard and received a degree in Criminal Justice. As a proud graduate of Webster High, he continued to host many of his high school class's

events.

Bernard loved his Growing Valley community and people. Regardless of where his travels took him, he was destined to return. He was always helping someone in and outside of the community, and he never met a stranger. He was "Louisiana Famous" for hosting his annual National Night Out community events at his home, and he has been described on many occasions as doing everything for so many and expecting nothing in return.

Bernard was also a hard and dedicated worker at all his jobs. He worked at Atlas Refinery, the Kansas City Southern Railroad, the Louisiana Army Ammunition Plant and was the first Black person in the apprentice program at The International Paper Mill. The one place that he absolutely loved talking about the most was his time at General Motors as a maintenance millwright. Engines were started for the first time on his final line where he conducted the road tests. Because of his dedication to GM, anyone who knew him knew that he only drove AND rode in GM-made vehicles! He was a leader at UAW 2166 and remained at GM until his retirement in 2012 when the plant closed. Even the plant manager described him as someone he looked up to himself.

During his time at GM and especially with his newly found spare time, he became a member of several organizations. He was a District 7 Volunteer Fire Department Commissioner, a board member of the Carter Federal Credit Union, served as a member of The Pleasant Valley Water System and the School Board and was a Webster Parish Reserve Deputy. As an experienced and dedicated elected member of the Webster Parish Police Jury, his campaign slogan was... "I can't change the direction of the wind, but I can change the set of my sails." He faithfully served Dis-

trict #5 from 2016 until his untimely death. Because of his above and beyond service to the community and these organizations, he received numerous appreciation plaques and "Citizen of the Year" awards.

On Wednesday, February 1, 2023, while in his home surrounded by his loved ones, Bernard was called home to be with the Lord. There to greet him were his parents, Dave and Tishie Hudson; siblings, Clem Hudson, Etherline Hudson Kemp, Edward ("Monroe") Hudson, and Carrie Hudson Walker; and sisters-in-law, Mae Hudson and Willene Hudson. He is now at peace and rests in the loving arms of his Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

His memory will be cherished by his children, Aileen Thomas (Skip) of Houston, TX; Rodney Ary (Tiko) of Baton Rouge, LA; Allyson Hudson of Minden; LaTori Combs (Kelly) of Dubberly, LA; Joshua Hudson of Minden; sisters, Lillie Doris Hudson of Los Angeles, CA and Peggy Hudson Morris of Minden; brothers, Dave Hudson and Lee Drue Hudson (Vernia) of Minden; brother-in-law Henry Lee Walker; grandchildren, Nicholas, Jaida, Khalia, Desirae, KJ, Jaylen and Kash; a special niece, LaTrisha ("Toot") West; special friend, Evelyn Parish of Minden and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

Mr. Hudson was honored with a "Celebration of Life" ceremony on Saturday, February 11, 2023. Many spoke about his kind and giving heart and how he never met a stranger and Mayor Cox presented a Webster Parish resolution. As a veteran, he was also given full military honors and the flag was presented to his oldest child, Aileen Thomas, whom he actually just met only a few years ago. His oldest granddaughter, Jaida, sang a solo and his niece, LaTrisha, gave a beautiful family tribute. He will be missed by all who knew him.



## John "Jack" Paranuk, Jr

John "Jack" Paranuk JR Passed away on February 10th, 2023, at his home in Jacksonville, Arkansas. John is preceded in death by his first wife, Linda Mae Evans, daughter Shirley Lynn Paranuk, and son Leon Bodie Paranuk. He is also preceded in death by his sister Delores Sandusky of New Jersey, brother Gene Paranuk of Virginia and grandson Aiden Paranuk of Arkansas.

John is survived by his wife of 45 years, Joan Paranuk, brother Robert "Ears" Paranuk (Joann) of New Jersey, sister Nadja Goncey of Arkansas, son John Paranuk

III (Kay) of Louisiana, daughter Lisa Paranuk-Overton (John) of Georgia, son Lonnie Paranuk of Arkansas, daughter Sasha Mares Paranuk of Arkansas, and over 20 grandchildren and great grandchildren. John was a retired veteran of the United States Airforce where he served for 20 years as a Flight Engineer. After retirement in 1975, John began another adventure that started with college and then working in several engineering departments for chemical agencies. After his final retirement, at the age of 73, he moved to Jacksonville, AR and dedicated his time to carpentry, poetry, painting, and family. A memorial service will be held in Minden Louisiana at 2:00 PM on 25 February 2023 at the Rose Neath Funeral home.

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



## Elenora Asher Lee

Funeral services for Elenora Asher Lee will be held Tuesday, February 21, 2023, at 11:00 a.m. at Rose-Neath Funeral Home Chapel in Minden, Louisiana with Rev. Leland Crawford and Rev. Bill Crider officiating. Interment will follow at Gardens of Memory Cemetery in Minden, Louisiana. The family will receive friends at 10:00 a.m. Tuesday prior to the service.

Elenora P. Asher Lee was born in Checota OK at home on June 5, 1926, to Elmer and Gladys Edwards Asher. She was married to Grady Lee Sr on November 14, 1944, In Muskogee Ok.

She was preceded in death by her husband of 62 years Grady Lee, Sr. her son, Grady Lee Jr., brothers-in-law Harvey Lee, Joe Lee, and Jack Cage and sister-in-law Genice Cage, and son-in-law Stephen Ponder; her parents, Elmer and Gladys Asher; brother Clyde Asher

(Billie) sisters, Pearl (Dean Rodgers) and Faye Asher Ausbrooks.

She is survived by sisters-in-law Josephine Lee and Nell Lee, brothers-in-law Vernon Ausbrooks and Robert Lee and Al, daughters Sharon Asher Russell (Chuck), Gale Straley (Harry), Teri Ponder (Rob) and daughter-in-law Jhan Lee, and numerous grandchildren, great and great great- grandchildren.

The family would like to thank her wonderful sitters who took such good care of her, Virginia Blaylock, Barbara Boswell, Brenda Anders, Lisa Browning and Judy Kirkham. Also, the loving nurses, aides, and therapists at Old Brownlee Community Care Center; St. Joseph's Hospice and The Carpenters House; the nursing staff on the third floor of Willis Knighton-Bossier and certainly Dr. Rodswan and Dr. San Pedro for your loving care of our Mother in her last days. We are eternally grateful! May God bless each of you!

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



## Evelyn McKinnon

Evelyn McKinnon went home to be with her Lord on Saturday, February 18, 2023, in French Settlement, Louisiana. Throughout her 89 years, she was a loving daughter, devoted wife of 43 years to Ardell McKinnon, attentive mother, adoring Nanny, loyal sister, proud "Aunt" or "Aunt Liz", and influential "Mz. 'Kinnon" to the many children who she cared for in her home. She is preceded in death by her husband, parents, daughter Connie McKinnon, sister Virginia Weaver (Dale), sister-in-law Mildred Stallsworth, and the grandchildren lost too soon whom she finally gets to meet in Glory.

Evelyn Irene was born on December 26, 1933, in Wray, Colorado, to Marvin and Della Elzey, later also becoming a devoted daughter to Tony Stallsworth. She grew up there on the farm(s), graduating from Westminster High School and completing a trade school business program before her family moved to Arkansas. There, she met and married Ardell, settling together in Minden, Louisiana, shortly after. Her home was a labor of love, with the doors always open to company and the kitchen inviting with plenty to share. She spent four decades of Sunday mornings with the five year olds at First Baptist Church of Minden. Weekdays

filled her home with children - her own, and the others she also called "hers". Saturdays were for shopping, and any spare afternoons were spent walking, visiting, and serving her neighbors around Loop Road. Traveling adventures filled her summer vacations and retirement years, with all 50 states and beyond represented in the collection of spoons and albums she proudly displayed. An avid reader, her sewing machine never sat idle for long; neither did her green thumb. From swinging a double-sided axe at the age of 5, to the detailed Christmas stockings she created for each new member of the family, to know her was to admire her. She leaves behind a legacy of sacrificial hard work, generous hospitality, and a whole lot of sweet tea and buttermilk pie.

To her surviving loved ones - her daughter, Debra Matherne (Owen), her son, Delvin McKinnon (Linda), her grandchildren, Valerie, Zachary, Seth, Hannah, Joseph, Philip, John, and David, her great-grandchildren, Bradson, Blaze, Caleb, Cameron, Evelyn, James, Clara, Genesis and Adelyn, her sisters, Norma Dowings, Patsy Brandt (Dave) , and KayTaverner (Everett), her brother, Larry Stallsworth, and her many nieces and nephews: always remember she "loved you the mostest."

Join us in remembering and honoring Evelyn's life at Rose Neath Funeral Home in Minden, Louisiana. Visitation will be held on Thursday, February 23, 2023, from 5pm to 7pm. Visitation will continue on Friday, February 24, at 8am, followed by the funeral service at 10am and graveside service at The Garden of Memory.



## Wills Successions

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BLOTTER

**Recent Arrests in Webster Parish**

Christin Morgan, 34, of the 7000 block of Highway 154, was arrested for two counts of possession of a schedule II substance and two counts of possession of a schedule IV substance, possession of a schedule V substance, and on multiple warrants.

Gyevotae Simpson, 33, of the 600 block of Horton Street, was arrested for simple assault.

Wesley Griffith, 40, of the 100 block of Oak Tree Lane, was arrested for failure to appear in court.

Whitney Henderson, 39, of the 800 block of Carolina Street, was arrested for failure to appear in court.

Hayley Day, 21, of the 900 block of Center Street, was arrested on multiple warrants.

Timothy Dawson, of the 100 block of Roosevelt Street, was arrested for theft and simple battery.

Sylvester Coleman Jr., 30, of the 400 block of East Street, was arrested on a warrant.

Jennifer Smith, 41, of the 600 block of Caney Lake Road, was arrested for being a fugitive of Arkansas.

Terry Douglas, 30, of the 200 block of Ward Street, was arrested for a probation violation.

Lance Shawna, of the 13400 block of Highway 371 was arrested for a probation violation.

John Franklin, 49, of the 800 block of Carolina Street, was arrested on a warrant.

Drake David, 22, of the 400 block of Oak Street, was arrested for simple theft.

Eric Robinson, 56, of the 700 block of Shreveport Road, was arrested for possession of a schedule IV substance, four counts of possession of a schedule II substance, two counts of possession of a schedule I substance with intent to distribute, introduction of contraband into a correction center, two counts of criminal conspiracy to bring controlled dangerous substances into a correction center, possession of drug paraphernalia, and malfeasance in office.

Larry Willis, 57, of the 200 block of Fort Street, was arrested for failure to appear in court.

Ebony Eason, 28, of the 100 block of Angalee Street, was arrested for failure to appear in court.

Jakoren Jones, 28, of the 600 block of Goodwill Road, was arrested for possession of a schedule I substance with intent to distribute and possession of drug paraphernalia.

Andy George, 66, of the 1300 block of Rex Avenue, was arrested on a warrant.

Gerald Barricre, 59, of the 200 block of Timothy Church Road, was arrested for first degree rape of a juvenile.

EDUCATION

## Webster Parish Schools a job well done

Special to the Minden Press-Herald

causes.

Over the years, the students of Webster Parish have contributed hundreds of thousands of dollars to the children of St. Jude. We have been blessed as a community as St. Jude has served many of our families over the years. It's mind boggling when you think about the scores of administrators, counselors, teachers, support staff, parents, and most importantly children, that worked to make this happen! But, I'm not surprised. This is just one example of the numerous, fantastic initiatives and endeavors our school system carries out on a daily basis for our students and our communities. It's satisfying to know this will continue to happen for years to come because of the quality people we have in our district!

In closing, as a life-long resident of Webster Parish and product of the Webster Parish school system, I am extremely proud! I am also THANKFUL! I am thankful our School Board shows time and time again through their service, that they have a servant's heart for our students and employees. I am thankful for what YOU have done, what YOU are doing, and what I know YOU will do in the future!

I NEVER CEASE TO BE AMAZED!

JOHNNY ROWLAND, JR., SUPER-INTENDENT

Dear Webster Parish Students, Employees, Parents, and other Stakeholders:

The phrase, "I never cease to be amazed" is commonly used in our society, and often it is used in a negative context due to decisions that are made, behaviors that are exhibited, or actions that are carried out. However, this past Friday as I observed several of our schools' administrators, counselors, teachers, secretaries, and students present generous checks to the children of St. Jude at the annual St. Jude auction, I kept thinking how I truly never cease to be amazed in regards to what the City of Minden/Webster Parish, and more specifically, what the Webster Parish school system does for the children of St. Jude on an annual basis. Once again, over \$2,000,000 was raised during the St. Jude auction. Our school system raised over \$125,000, which is a new record. St. Jude Children's Research Hospital opens its arms free of charge to our world's most valuable natural resource, our children. It provides healthcare to ALL children with the most critical diagnoses, no matter gender, socioeconomic status, cognitive ability, or race. For this, I consider support of St. Jude to be the noblest of



OPINION

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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 death of academic freedom through DIE Movement: Diversity, Inclusion, Equity

It's interesting to view modern events in the context of history. When we do, we are often surprised by the irony in some of the changes.

In the 1960's in America, it was college campuses that were at the heart of the battle for free speech and academic freedom. College students regularly protested, picketed and engaged in "sit ins" on their college campuses demanding the right to be heard. One historic example is student protests regarding the Vietnam War. As a result, colleges and university administrations were often forced to compromise to meet these demands.

The exact opposite is occurring on college and university campuses today.

Whatever term is used to describe today's suppression of and hostility to academic freedom—political correctness, the cancel culture or the woke movement—the result is the same. These institutions are now opposing academic freedom at every turn while striving to cement divisive, identity-focused politics on campus.

How so?

Creeping like bacteria into the fertile grounds of Leftist college faculty and administrators is an ideology that is described as Diversity, Inclusion, and Equity (DIE). However, it's critical to note that the three words that make up DIE have been tortured to mean exactly the opposite of what we would think. DIE seeks to dis-

tort and control the meaning of words and when that happens, thought itself is controlled.

As Matthew Spalding has described it, DIE "is especially toxic. It divides us by social identity groups, ranks those groups on privilege and power, and excludes those who fail to honor the new orthodoxy. Rather than being equally endowed with innate dignity and fundamental rights as human beings—best judged by our character and not skin color—we are supposed to discriminate and confer status based on race, sex and cultural affinity." (Wall Street Journal, Feb. 10, 2023).

Poison.

This is especially bad in the context of colleges and universities.

As Matthew Spalding further notes "wherever this agenda is allowed to take root, free expression and academic integrity are doomed."

Under the DIE creed, diversity doesn't refer to celebrating our National Creed, E Pluribus Unum, a Latin phrase meaning 'Out of Many, One' signifying that America's strength comes from the diverse cultural, religious, ethnic, racial and intellectual differences



ROYAL ALEXANDER

being melded into One Nation striving to Perfect Our Union by advancing our fundamental constitutional principles of "Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness."

On the contrary, to the Left, DIE means diversity in all things except thought, with free expression rigidly controlled by the Thought Police.

But there is more.

The Heritage Foundation undertook a study entitled "Inclusion Delusion: The Antisemitism of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Staff at Universities." The study first notes that the number of people devoted to DIE efforts has grown to about 45 people at the average university and then examines whether these large DIE staff are, in fact, creating a tolerant and welcoming environment on college campuses. Interestingly, the study also specifically examined the extent to which DIE staff at universities express anti-Israel attitudes that are so out of proportion and imbalanced as to constitute antisemitism.

What was the conclusion of the Heritage study?

That "university DIE staff are better understood as political activists with a narrow and often radical political agenda rather than promoters of welcoming and inclusive environments. Many DIE staff are particularly unwelcoming toward Jewish students and the political activism of DIE staff may help explain the rising fre-

quency of antisemitic incidents on college campuses. Rather than promoting diversity and inclusion, universities may be contributing to an increase in anti-Jewish hatred by expanding DIE staff and power." (Jay Greene, Ph.D. and James Paul, Dec. 8, 2021).

Wow.

Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis' administration has pushed back hard against DIE.

To ascertain funding at its state colleges and universities, Gov. DeSantis scrutinized what funds were used for DIE. He discovered that numerous DIE staff members are on the payrolls of Florida's colleges and universities and that DIE "may be better understood as jobs programs subsidizing political activism without improving campus climate," not fostering a welcoming environment for all students.

This kind of censorship simply cannot be allowed if our Republic—and the freedoms guaranteed by our Constitution—are to endure. The greatest virtue of free thought and free speech is that all kinds of ideas are thrust into the rough and tumble of the marketplace of ideas where the best idea prevails.

DIE must be opposed and defeated, and die.

ROYAL ALEXANDER IS A SHREVEPORT ATTORNEY.

INSPIRATION

What's so wrong with being a whistle blower?

As an activist, who witnessed and experienced child abuse in an orphanage, I must take a stand for those who have no voice.

The Bible says "It were better for him that a millstone were hanged about his neck, and he cast into the sea, than that he should offend one of these little ones" which I think applies to anyone who is helpless, such as children, the elderly or those who are mentally challenged.

According to Safe Horizon, which is the largest non-profit victim services agency in the Burroughs of New York City, one in ten children are being abused.

How would you like to be a defenseless child who has no voice? Recently I was talking to someone who thinks we shouldn't be whistle blowers, ones who take a stand on such issues as child abuse which really agitated me, causing me to respond that if we don't report child abuse we are just as guilty as if we had molested or abused the child ourselves!

If not, why not?

I can't help but ask why would anyone not want child abuse exposed?

After being in a loving foster home, I could hardly believe the abusive orphanage where I landed. Rather than be a victim, I decided in October, 1962, at the age of fourteen, that I

would make it my mission to expose what often goes on behind closed doors.

I was shocked when a ten-year-girl asked me to step into the bathroom with her at church. In horror I watched her unveil massive layers of blackened bruises beneath her clothing.

Without hesitation I told her "tomorrow we will go to the school nurse." I knew I'd gone against the home.

I nervously watched the clock at school, dreading my punishment. Still I felt proud of what I'd done. Just as soon as I arrived back at the home, I boldly hurried off the bus and told the superintendent who was waiting for us.

Instinctively I knew he was looking for the one who had reported an employee.

I was verbally slapped in the face when he said me he'd tell my housemother because the nurse had kept my name anonymous when she visited the home.

She lectured me for hours, telling me how she had beat-



SARAH HUDSON PIERCE

en her daughter with a garden hose so severely she had to be put to bed. She didn't dare lay a hand on me because she knew I would report her.

My punishment was to be one month's grounding -- and I wouldn't be able to bathe or wash my hair. I was to wear the same dirty clothes to school and church for the duration of my grounding.

I suppose she thought this would make me look stupid.

Sixty-one years later I smile because it backfired on her the following Sunday morning when she suddenly remembered that was to be the day of "Open House," when the home showcased our immaculate cottage to display our "wonderful home-like" environment to the many church members who might choose to visit the orphanage and leave a contribution to the "worthy cause" so they might be hoodwinked into feeling good about their generosity as they recalled our plastic smiles and well-groomed appearance.

Never did my housemother fly so fast to see that the older girls helped me wash, set and dry my hair in a day before blow-dry hair styles.

Though more than half of a century has passed and the abusive housemother was finally fired the following year, and my own sadistic house-

mother was later fired, I'm proud of the shy, undersized, awkward fourteen year-old girl from the backwoods of Arkansas, who took justice into her own hands back then and continues to do so, being the activist that I am, as I strive to be an advocate, a voice to speak out for those who appear to have no voice!

Even though the orphanage has moved and changed their name court records show abuse still reins while they home school their children which makes it harder to report the abuse.

One house father is serving time in prison for repeatedly raping and sodomizing a young girl in 2003.(She was unable to report the abuse until she went home.)

In 2010 I compiled and published a book of true stories written by these adult children (many in their 50's and 60's) because they wanted to finally be heard to give some closure to what went on back then and perhaps to prevent future abuse.

If we don't protect children who will?

CONTACT SARAH AT SARAHPP9957@AOL.COM

OPINION

A 'Journey' back in time through music

As I have mentioned so many times in my newspaper columns, I love music. As such, I love concerts. The same holds true for my fiancé. Since last April, we have attended the following concerts: Whiskey Myers, Jake Owen, Elton John, Luke Bryan and Chris Stapleton.

Furthermore, we have seen the Eagles twice since last May. Three of the concerts listed above were local. We traveled to Houston to see the Eagles last May. And, we traveled to the Dallas area to see Jake Owen, Elton John and the Eagles (for the second time). I feel like I am leaving out some concerts but anyway, you can get the point from reading above. We love concerts.

This past weekend, we attended two concerts in Bossier City at Brookshire's Grocery Arena. On Friday night, we saw the legendary country group Alabama. And on Sunday night, we saw the phenomenal rock



RANDY BROWN

group Journey. Both shows were well attended. However, I was surprised that there were not more people at the Alabama concert. Both groups are celebrating their 50th anniversaries. That makes me feel old since I have been a huge fan of both groups since they first achieved massive popularity.

So, this past weekend was a journey back in time (no pun intended). Listening to the songs played by both groups, as they basically took the audience on a chronological tour of their entire music libraries over the past 50 years, my mind flashed back over the past 50 years of my own life. My fian-

cé and I had so much fun remembering the past together, our past together, as a result of these songs. I have always related popular songs that I like to where I was and what I was doing the first time that I heard the song. That is just what I do, I relate music to events in my life. I am sure that so many of you do the same thing.

For example, on Sunday night, I vividly remembered that I was in high school and water skiing with my cousin and his family on Lake Erling outside of Springhill in the summer of 1979 the very first time that I heard the car radio playing Journey's mega hit "Lovin', Touchin', Squeezin'." And on Friday night, I remembered that I was in college and stacking refrigerators with a forklift in my Dad's appliance warehouse on Dalzell Street in Shreveport (now Great Raft Brewing) in 1981 when I first heard Alabama's "Old Flame" playing on a radio in the warehouse. So, I

had several flashbacks listening to all of the songs played by both groups this past weekend.

And, I had yet another nostalgic flashback "journey back in time" event on Sunday afternoon as my fiancé and I resumed cleaning out my parents house, as we are currently going through yet another room in the house (we are taking it one room at a time). At my parents' house, we have found countless photos and keepsake items which I consider priceless (just as I mentioned in my column from last week in writing about all of the priceless keepsake items that we discovered during my recent move from my townhouse).

At Mom and Dad's house last Sunday, we found a great wedding photo of my parents from February 1960 (they would have been married for 63 years as of this past February 5). We also found several family photos and other items that are extremely important to me. I did

not recognize myself in one of the photos. Did I really look that young?

So, I have been living in the 1960's, 70's, 80's and 90's for the past several days.

And since I have been in flashback/journey back in time mode, I am feeling a great sense of peace and tranquility. And, the best news of all (news which brings all of my recent day nostalgic flashbacks and tranquil sense of peace harmoniously full circle), we now have a revised wedding date set for April 18, 2023 in the Great Smoky Mountains at a chapel in Gatlinburg. Yes, I have recently experienced a journey back in time. Life is wonderful. And, I am in a great place.

RANDY BROWN IS VICE PRESIDENT OF SPECHT NEWSPAPERS, INC., AND PUBLISHER OF THE MINDEN PRESS-HERALD.



SPORTS

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HIGH SCHOOL BOYS BASKETBALL

Doyline at home in first round of playoffs

RUSSELL HEDGES  
Minden Press-Herald

The Doyline Panthers are headed to the non-select Division V playoffs. According to Geaux-Preps.com, the Panthers (25-3) were No. 6 in the non-select Division V power ratings. Official playoff pairings were scheduled to be released Monday afternoon. If Doyline remains No. 6, the Panthers will host a first-round game Friday. The only other parish team that could be in the playoffs is Glenbrook. The Apaches (6-16) were No. 25 in the select Division IV power ratings. The top 24 teams in the final ratings make the playoffs. This is the first year non-select teams will be competing in five divisions instead of the traditional seven classes.



The District 1-B champion Doyline Panthers are headed to the Division V playoffs.

COURTESY PHOTO

Last June, the LHSAA Executive Committee voted to change the definition of a select school. That caused many non-select

schools to move into the select category. Last year, Doyline lost to Lacassine 74-66 in the Class B quarterfinals.

The Panthers closed the regular season last week with a 78-55 homecoming victory over Georgetown.

HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS BASKETBALL

Minden, Glenbrook fall in first round

RUSSELL HEDGES  
Minden Press-Herald

The Minden Lady Tid-ers and Glenbrook Lady Apaches fell in the first

round of the playoffs last week. Minden, the No. 25 seed, lost to No. 8 Bastrop 56-20 in a non-select Divion II game at Bastrop.

Minden, which was back in the playoffs after a one-year absence, finished 11-15 against state schools. Glenbrook, the No. 23 seed, lost to No. 10 Hanson

Memorial 46-29 in a select Division IV game. The Apaches closed their season 6-15. Glenbrook made the LHSAA playoffs in its first year of eligibility.

HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL

Parish teams headed to tournaments

RUSSELL HEDGES  
Minden Press-Herald

The 2023 high school baseball season is under-way. North Webster is sched-

uled to play North Caddo on the road at 5 p.m. Thursday and host the Titans at 1 p.m. Saturday. Minden is scheduled to play in the North DeSoto tournament.

NewMinden head coach Cody Davis was scheduled to make his debut Monday when the Tide faced North Webster. Lakeside and Doyline are scheduled to play in the

Many tournament. Glenbrook is scheduled to play in the Sulphur tournament. **Note: For a season preview go to press-herald.com.**

HIGH SCHOOL SOFTBALL

Minden, North Webster, Lakeside post victories

RUSSELL HEDGES  
Minden Press-Herald

The Minden Lady Tid-ers and North Webster Lady Knights won games last week as the season got underway.

Minden defeated Caddo Magnet 14-9 in a District 1-4A opener. The Lady Tid-ers also lost to Airline 6-0 and 12-2 and Pineville 12-0. The second Airline game and the Pineville game were part of the North DeSoto tournament. North Webster defeated Logansport 19-9 in the Logansport tournament. The Lady Knights also fell to Benton, Evangel Christian and Stanley.

Lakeside defeated Soutwood 12-0. The Lady Warriors put up some runs but lost to Logansport twice, Summerfield and Stanley. Doyline lost to Loyola 11-5 and Choudrant 14-0. Minden's Jacey Adams went 4-for-4 with three doubles and two RBI against Caddo Magnet. Kylie Ryan went 4-for-4 with two doubles and two RBI. Leigha K-Gilbert went 4-for-5 with two doubles

and an RBI. Gabby Morrison went 2-for-4 with a double and two RBI. Kaylin Williams had a triple and one RBI. Brooklyn Edwards had a double and one RBI. Annabelle Toland drew three walks. Lindsay Ryan started and went three innings. She allowed three hits and struck out three. Kylie Ryan allowed one hit in four innings and struck out three. Adams had two doubles in the second game against Airline. Kylie Ryan had a triple. North Webster's Savannah Cooper went 5-for-6 with two doubles against Logansport. Paige Timmons went 3-for-4 with two doubles. Anna Ray had three hits and two RBI. Aniyah Davis had a home run, triple and four RBI. Landree Andrews had a double and two RBI. Emma Newsom pitched a three-hitter. Lakeside's McKenna Chreene pitched a one-hitter against Southwood. Mackenzie McCoy went 3-for-3. Hallie Sutton went 3-for-3 with a double against Logansport.



Minden's Jacey Adams heads to second base after the first of her two doubles against Airline last week at Airline.

OUTDOORS

Protecting your camp during the off-season

GLYNN HARRIS

It was finally the week-end. Spring turkey season had arrived and all Neal Windley of Norfolk, Va., wanted to do was get to his farm, change into his camouflage and get into the woods. What he found when he arrived not only put a halt to his weekend of hunting, it also cost him thousands of dollars in repair and prevention. "Windley's hunting camp was demolished. Windows were broken, a television and other items were missing and the once clean and comfortable house had been turned into a disaster area. Sadly, that was not the first time this had happened. Vandals had trashed his camp two other times. Sweeping up glass and filling out police reports were not what he had in mind when he and a good friend originally bought the land in the early 1990s." The above report was part of a news release I received from the National Wild Turkey Federation. The report from the NWTF gives sobering evidence that all too often, hunters head for camp after a long hiatus to find just what Neal Windley found. The first thing I did after reading the NWTF press release was call a fellow club member to see if he's checked on our camp lately. I breathed sigh of relief when he reported he was there this past weekend, and everything was as we had left it. The second thing I did was call the Lincoln Parish Sheriff's office to talk with an agent to see if there have been incidences of hunting camp vandalism and/or theft recently. I learned that there are several things hunting



The hunting camp is a fine gathering place during hunting seasons but can be a target for thieves during the off season.

GLYNN HARRIS

camp owners can do during the off-season to keep criminals from trashing or stealing from your hunting camp. First, if your camp has a locked gate, be sure to keep the gate locked. This won't necessarily prevent theft but it makes it harder for thieves to cart off large items. Another important thing is don't leave valuable items, such as 4-wheelers, guns, cookers, lanterns, etc. at the camp. Take them home for the off-season. You or somebody in your hunting club should check on your camp regularly. Also, you might get a neighbor who lives near the camp and who you trust to keep an eye out for what may be going on when you're not there. One of the problems is that the Sheriff's office will get a re-

port in the fall when hunters arrive at the camp and it may have been broken into in late spring. That time lag really hampers what can be done. Make an inventory of everything of value in your camp, just like you should be doing in your home. Write down serial numbers, description of each item, and where practical, put some identifying mark on the item in a concealed area so thieves won't be as likely to find and remove it. Take photos of valuable items to aid in identifying them should they be stolen. Some other suggestions, offered by the NWTF, is to give the appearance that someone is home. Leave a radio or television playing, put your lights on a timer or leave an unused vehicle in

the driveway to discourage trespassers and thieves. Another way to keep your hunting camp safe is to make the local authorities aware that the camp will be unoccupied for a designated period of time. Talk to the sheriff's department, U.S. Forest Service and local law enforcement agents in the area. Each of these offices makes regular patrols and can help protect your hunt camp. Also leave keys to your property's gates with someone in authority to help them watch your place while you are away. Follow these suggestions and you stand a better chance of finding your hunting camp this fall just as you left it.....except of course for dirt dobber nests and the occasional mouse.

Fishing Report

**BLACK BAYOU** – Crappie are improving around the trees on jigs or shiners. No report on bass or bream. Contact Honey Hole Tackle Shop 323-8707 for latest information.

**BUSSEY BRAKE** – Some nice bass are being caught flipping the trees with jigs and creature baits. Crappie are fair to good on jigs and shiners around brush. For latest information, contact the Honey Hole at 323-8707.

**OUACHITA RIVER** – The water is high and very little fishing reported this week. For latest information, contact the Honey Hole Tackle Shop at 323-8707.

**LAKE D'AR-BONNE** – Crappie are beginning to move into a pre-spawn mode with some good fish caught in 12 foot water along the edges of the channels. Bass are beginning to move up as well and some good fish have been caught fairly shallow on spinners, crank baits and topwater lures. Bream are not yet ready but lots of catfish were caught fishing cold worms and night crawlers off the banks. For latest information, call Anderson Sport Center at 368-9669 or Honey Hole Tackle Shop at 323-8707.

**LAKE CLAI-BORNE** – Bass fishing has improved with some nice fish in the 6-7 pound range being caught on crank baits, spinners, topwater lures and Rat-L-Traps fairly

shallow. Crappie fishing continues to be fair to good with jigs and shiners picking up some fish in deep water. Catfishing is good on a variety of baits. No report on bream or stripers. For 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. Bass are beginning to move into the coves and pockets and are hitting soft plastics, jigs and crank baits. Carolina rigs are picking up some nice bass fishing underwater humps and drop-offs. Crappie still in deep water around brush and hitting 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** – Catfishing is good. Some big crappie to 2 1/2 pounds have been caught mostly on jigs around the boat slips. Bass are starting to improve on a variety of lures. No report on bream. For latest reports, call Poverty Point Marina at 318/878-0101.

**LAKE YUCATAN** – The water is on a slow fall and there has been very little fishing this week. For information, call Surplus City Land-ing at 318/467-2259.



# Good News

GOOD NEWS

## LITTLE BY LITTLE

“Life by an inch is a cinch – life by the yard is hard!” We’ve heard that all our lives perhaps. But it has great applications today in many ways. We are an impatient people though, we want what we want and want it NOW. Often times in life, we are told “to wait.” And we don’t like that expression! We have become addicted to the ‘drive-through syndrome’ and expect everyone (including God sometimes) to hurry things up. It is difficult to wait even on the Lord. Read the Lord’s instructions to the Children of Israel as He prepared them to conquer the Promised Land. (Exo-

dus 23: 30) “Little by little I will drive them (your enemies) out from before you, until you have increased.” This was for a purpose – so that the people would depend upon the Lord daily. The Lord wanted them to learn to trust Him, and grow in the process....little by little. God made it clear that there would be many enemies for them to face and it would



Bill Crider

take time to drive them all out of the land. But over a period of time, they would realize God’s promise was being fulfilled....little by little. Oftentimes we become discouraged and disheartened when problems persist and we don’t seem to be making progress in solving or moving past them. Like old wounds that take forever to heal, life’s issues often require from us large spans of time to conquer or put behind us. And we may feel like the tortoise, barely moving ....little by little. But we are – on God’s time table. We may think we are ‘wast-

ing time’ but it is really part of God’s plan to make sure we have a complete victory or a sound foundation to build upon. Like building a home, progress is slow sometimes. But we can be assured that the Lord is at work, doing a thorough job....even if it is little by little by our standards! As we learn to ‘wait on the Lord’ (Psm 27:14) and allow Him to bring to pass ‘those things He has planned for us’ (Jer 29:11), we learn valuable life-lessons that will be with us forever. So, little by little we grow in love, commitment and in praise for the glory of God.

So let us thank our Father for teaching us so thoroughly, and let’s trust His timing and training methods to meet our needs at the right time. And let’s remember, God is never late nor early...He is always right on time. (Some thoughts taken from Every Day in His Presence, Charles Stanley, page 48).

BILL CRIDER IS CHAPLAIN OF MINDEN MEDICAL CENTER

## THE UPWARD LOOK

### Speak the Truth

*“Therefore, having put away falsehood, let each one of you speak the truth with his neighbor, for we are members one of another.” Ephesians 4:25 ESV*



Max Hutto

Paul begins to describe how this new life of holiness and righteousness is applied in a daily walk with Christ. First he notes that a believer is to stop lying and speak the truth. Lying is a characteristic of the old sinful nature and is prevalent and pervasive in society. Today’s culture is absorbed and consumed with

lying, telling falsehoods and giving misleading and deceptive impressions. As a member of the body of Christ, the believer is to put away this old behavior and speak the truth to others. Lord Jesus, let only what is true be uttered by my mouth. May my words be truthful and my life filled with integrity that brings glory and honor to You. MAX HUTTO IS A BAPTIST MINISTER AND A RESIDENT OF MINDEN. MORE INFORMATION CAN BE FOUND AT WWW.UPWARDLOOK.ORG.

## INSPIRATION

### Freedom in forgiveness

I’ll start this writing with a testimony. I forgave someone the other day in person and verbalized that forgiveness and it was amazing. It was as if years of confusion, frustration, and anger melted away for both of us. I feel that it provided a freedom that we were both seeking. Think about all the time someone has hurt you or let you down. Think about how and why they did what they did. Now think about all the times you did the same. Did you desire forgiveness? Did you receive it? Ephesians 4:31-32 says “ Get rid of all bitterness, rage, anger, harsh words, and slander, as well




Bernard Harris

as all types of evil behavior. Instead, be kind to each other, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, just as God through Christ has forgiven you.” I think what God was trying to show me this week it that the lack of forgiveness is a prison for both parties. Don’t let all the negativity of this world lock away your heart. I want to encourage everyone to show the rest of the world the same forgiveness that Christ shows you everyday. BERNARD HARRIS III IS A HAUGHTON FIREMAN AND A LOCAL RESIDENT OF MINDEN

Come

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**CRYPTO FUN**

Determine the code to reveal the answer!

Solve the code to discover words related to gardens.  
 Each number corresponds to a letter.  
 (Hint: 18 = L)

**A.     26   18   5   10   8   11**

*Clue: Living organisms*

**B.     11   25   6   18**

*Clue: Upper layer of Earth*

**C.     8   6   18   18   6   10   22**

*Clue: Cultivating land*

**D.     5   20   12   10   9**

*Clue: Modify*

Answers: A. plants B. soil C. tilling D. amend

# SUDOKU

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

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

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### NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that, in accordance with L.R.S. 3:1609 and LAC 7:XV.314 (A), the Louisiana Department of Agriculture & Forestry, Louisiana Boll Weevil Eradication Commission, has established a boll weevil eradication zone, the Louisiana Eradication Zone, consisting of all the territory within the state of Louisiana.

Notice is further given that all producers of commercial cotton in Louisiana are required to participate in the boll weevil eradication program, including cost sharing, in accordance with the Boll Weevil Eradication Law and regulations. This includes, but is not limited to, reporting of cotton acreage and destruction of cotton plants and stalks by December 31 of each crop year. A copy of the law and rules and regulations may be obtained from the Boll Weevil Eradication Commission, 5825 Florida Blvd., Ste. 3002, Baton Rouge, La. 70806, telephone number (225) 922-1338.

Notice is also given that the planting of noncommercial cotton is PROHIBITED in Louisiana unless a written waiver is obtained from the Commissioner of Agriculture & Forestry in accordance with LAC 7:XV.319(C). To request a waiver, submit a written application to the Department of Agriculture and Forestry, at the address provided in this notice, stating the conditions under which such written waiver is requested.

**February 8, 2023  
February 15, 2023  
February 22, 2023  
Minden Press-Herald**

### SHERIFF'S SALE

**PNC BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION VS. BOBBY JUNIOR MCKAN, JR.**

In the Twenty-Sixth Judicial District Court of Webster Parish, Louisiana, No. 80460

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 appraisal and according to law at the principal front door of the Court-house in the City of Minden, Webster Parish, Louisiana on **WEDNESDAY, March 29, 2023**. During the legal sale hours, the following property, to wit:

**THE LAND REFERRED TO HEREIN BELOW IS SITUATED IN THE PARISH OF WEBSTER, STATE OF LA AND IS DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:**

**The East 180 feet of the South 24 feet of Lot 40 and the East 180 feet of the North 68 feet of Lot 39, A.J. Maddry Addition to the City of Minden located in the Southeast Quarter of the Northeast Quarter of Section 22, Township 19 North, Range 9 West, Minden, Webster Parish, Louisiana, as per map and plat thereof on file and record in Map Book 2, Page 62 Map Records of Webster Parish, Louisiana, together with all improvements thereon and all rights thereto belonging with GEO # 110874**

**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

**February 22, 2023  
March 22, 2023  
Minden Press-Herald**

### ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Notice is hereby given that the Webster Parish School Board will receive sealed bids from LA licensed general contractors until **2:00 P.M., Tuesday, March 28, 2023, for:**

**JOB #2022-15 SOFT-BALL IMPROVEMENTS FOR LAKESIDE JR./SR. HIGH SCHOOL SIBLEY, LOUISIANA**

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

A non-mandatory **Pre-bid Conference** will be held at **10:00 A.M. on Monday, March 20, 2023** at the jobsite: **9090 Hwy 371, Sibley, Louisiana 71073**. Bidders must check in at the office.

All bids must be accompanied by bid security equal to five percent (5%) of the base bid and all alternates and must be in the form of a certified check, cashier's check or bid bond written by a company licensed to do business in the State of Louisiana.

Complete bid documents may be obtained from Yeager, Watson & Associates, LLC, 118 S. Trenton St., Ruston, LA 71270-4432, (318) 202-5708, upon receipt of deposit of \$100.00 for each set of documents. The deposit is fully-refundable to all plan holders upon return of the documents, in good condition, no later than fifteen (15) days after receipt of bids. The deposits for all other sets of documents will not be refunded. Bid-related materials and electronic submittal of bids may be found at: [WWW.CENTRAL-BIDDING.COM](http://WWW.CENTRAL-BIDDING.COM). For questions relating to the electronic bidding process, please call Central Bidding at (225) 810-4614. Electronic bid documents are also available for a purchase price of \$20 from the architect's office or by membership to following Plan Rooms: LAGC, ConstructConnect, Dodge, or iSqFt.

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

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

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

**February 22, 2023  
March 1, 2023  
March 8, 2023  
Minden Press-Herald**

### RESOLUTION

A RESOLUTION DECLARING CERTAIN DIXIE INN FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NUMBER 7 PROPERTY AS SURPLUS AND FIXING THE TERMS OF SALE.

WHEREAS, The following Fire Department vehicle has been taken out of service and has no foreseeable use in the future:

1. 1984 Mack 4,000 gallon Tanker Truck

BE IT RESOLVED that:

The above-mentioned Dixie Inn Fire Protection District Number 7 vehicle has been declared no longer needed for public purpose and has been

authorized to be sold at public auction.

The minimum bids will be established by auction (scheduled March 2, 2023 at Lawler Auction Company, 7781 Highway 1 North, Shreveport, LA 71107).

The high bidder will be responsible for removal of the surplus property.

The aforesaid resolution having been submitted to a vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

YEAS: Four  
NAYS: None  
ABSENT: One  
ABSTAIN: None

Whereupon, the resolution was declared adopted on the 19th date of October, 2021.

s/ Mike Burton,  
Chairman

**February 22, 2023  
Minden Press-Herald**

### RESOLUTION

A RESOLUTION DECLARING CERTAIN DIXIE INN FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NUMBER 7 PROPERTY AS SURPLUS AND FIXING THE TERMS OF SALE.

WHEREAS, Fire Department equipment has been taken out of service and has no foreseeable use in the future:

BE IT RESOLVED that:

The Dixie Inn Fire Protection District Number 7 has a lengthy list of equipment that has been declared no longer needed for public purpose and has been authorized to be sold using GovDeals online auction (<https://www.govdeals.com>).

The minimum bids will be established by the auction (starting March 6, 2023 and closing March 13, 2023.)

The high bidder will be responsible for loading and transportation of the surplus property. Property must be removed within 10 days of the auction closing.

The aforesaid resolution having been submitted to a vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

YEAS: Three  
NAYS: None  
ABSENT: Two  
ABSTAIN: None

Whereupon, the resolution was declared adopted on the 25th day of August, 2022.

s/ Mike Burton,  
Chairman

**February 22, 2023  
Minden Press-Herald**

If anyone knows the whereabouts of any heirs of John McGuire and/or any heirs of Marie Umphries Miller please contact Pamela Breedlove, Attorney at Law at 318-423-0845.

**February 22, 2023  
Minden Press-Herald**

### SHERIFF'S SALE

**LAKEVIEW LOAN SERVICING, LLC VS. SHELENA R. SELLERS, INDIVIDUALLY AND AS SURVIVING SPOUSE IN COMMUNITY WITH RICHARD R. GREENE, JR.**  
In the Twenty-Sixth Judicial District Court of Webster Parish, Louisiana, No. 80327

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 appraisal and according to law at the principal front door of the Court-house in the City of Minden, Webster Parish, Louisiana on **WEDNESDAY, March 29, 2023**. During the legal sale hours, the following property, to wit:

Commencing at the intersection of the North side of

Monroe and the West side of College (Union) Streets and run South 75 degrees West a distance of 132.5 feet; thence run North 17 degrees West 280 feet to the Point of Beginning; Thence run North 75 degrees East 106 feet; thence run North 22 degrees West 99 feet; thence run South 75 degrees West 217.5 feet; thence run South 17 degrees East 98.5 feet more or less; thence run North 75 degrees East 119 feet to the Point of Beginning located in the Southwest Quarter of the Southwest Quarter of Section 22, Township 19 North, Range 9 West, Minden, Webster Parish, Louisiana, together with all improvements thereon and all rights thereto belonging.

ALSO the perpetual use of the alley 12 feet wide commencing on Monroe Street entering the property described hereinabove from the street, as more fully described hereinabove from that street, as more fully described in a deed from Minden Sanitarium to A.B. Moreland recorded in Conveyance Book 33, Page 216 of the Conveyance Records of Louisiana in which deed the alley is more particularly described as follows:

Beginning at the intersection of Monroe and College (Union) Streets and run 75 degrees West along Monroe Street 132.5 feet to the point of beginning; thence run North 17 degrees West 280 feet; thence run North 75 degrees East 12 feet; thence run South 17 degrees East 280 feet; thence run South 75 degrees West 12 feet to the point of beginning located in 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

**February 22, 2023  
March 22, 2023  
Minden Press-Herald**

### DRIVERS

**Delivery Drivers Needed New Higher Pay Scale! Bill & Ralph's Inc. 118 B & R Drive, Sarepta, La. 71071 Accepting Applications For Delivery Route Drivers with a CDL(Class A) Drivers License. Free Medical Insurance for Driver, Family Medical Insurance available. Dental and 401K Benefits, Hourly plus Incentive Pay, Yearly Safety Bonus Pay, Monthly Safety/Performance Pay. Apply at Bill & Ralph's Contact Mickey Hodges at (318)539-2071 [mickey.hodges@billandralphs.com](mailto:mickey.hodges@billandralphs.com)**

### FOR SALE

**MOBILE HOME \$39,000**  
Mobile home for sale. 2 bedroom / 2 bath. 9 years old. Buyer must move. (318) 517-7126

### Minutes of the

Webster Parish Tourism Commission Regular Meeting

**Wednesday, January 25, 2023  
Greater Minden Chamber, 110 Sibley Road, Minden, LA 71055**

The Webster Parish Convention and Visitors Commission meeting was called to order at 8:30 AM. Attending the meeting were Ty Pendergrass, Tracy Campbell, Sara McDaniel, Nicky Patel, Karen Calvert, Derek Melancon and Administrative Assistant Johnnie Kennon.

Ty Pendergrass called the meeting to order.

Johnnie Kennon led the prayer and Derek Melancon led the pledge of allegiance.

### Financial Report

The profit loss statement was presented by treasurer, Tracy Campbell. Derek Melancon made the motion to accept the financial report and Karen Calvert seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

### New Business

Derek Melancon made the motion to approve that Webster Parish Convention & Visitors Commission host the reception for the Annual ASA Tournament at Camp Minden with expenses not exceeding \$6,000. Nicky Patel seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Tracy Campbell made the motion to approve the Advertising Grant for the Piney Hills LA Master Gardeners in the amount of \$2,000 for Trail & Trellises Garden Tour. Karen Calvert seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

During comments from the commissioners, Karen Calvert announced that she is immediately resigning from the commission. Karen said her time on the commission was well spent and she wishes the commission success in all future endeavors.

Chairman, Ty Pendergrass, called for public comments. Hearing none, the meeting was adjourned.

**February 22, 2023  
Minden Press-Herald**

### SECTION 00020 ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Separate sealed bids addressed to the City of Minden (herein referred to as Owner) will be received by the Owner for the construction of the project described as follows:

### 2022-2023 STREET IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT

Bids shall be addressed to the City of Minden and delivered to the City Clerk's Office located at 520 Broadway Street, Minden, Louisiana 71055 no later than **9:00 A.M.**, local time on **Monday, March 6, 2023**. Shortly after the deadline for bid submission, bids properly received will be publicly opened and read aloud in Minden City Hall Pelican Room located at 520 Broadway Street, Minden, Louisiana. Any bid received after the above time will not be accepted under any circumstances and will be returned unopened. Faxed bids cannot be accepted and will be discarded. Owner is not responsible for the timely delivery of bids by USPS or any other carrier.

The Contract Documents may be examined at the following locations:

City of Minden  
Department of Public Works  
520 Broadway  
Minden, LA 71055

Riley Company of Louisiana, Inc.  
112 East Mississippi Avenue  
Ruston, LA 71270

Copies of the Contract Documents may be obtained at the office of the engineer, Riley Company of Louisiana, Inc., 112 East Mississippi Avenue, Ruston, Louisiana 71270, telephone (318) 251-0238, fax (318) 251-0239 upon payment of \$60.00 for each set. Deposit is fully refundable to all bona fide prime bidders who submit a bid upon return of the documents in good condition no later than ten (10) days after receipt of bids. Deposit is 50% refundable to all others.

Contract documents will also be available online at [www.BidExpress.com](http://www.BidExpress.com). Contractors are provided the option to submit bid for public contracts through a uniform and secure electronic interactive system as stated in Louisiana Bid Law R.S. 38:2212.1. Electronic bids may be submitted at [www.BidExpress.com](http://www.BidExpress.com). If bidding online, all interested parties must register with Bid Express. If bidders encounter problems accessing Bid Express, please contact Bid Express at 888-352-2439.

The Owner reserves the right to waive any informalities or to reject any or all bids in accordance with state bid law.

Prime bidders for this work must be licensed under the classification of Highway, Street, and Bridge Construction. Any subcontractor submitting a sub-bid in excess of \$50,000 to a prime bidder is required to be licensed in accordance with the State of Louisiana requirements.

An acceptable Bid Bond, Cashier's Check, or Certified Check, payable to the Owner in an amount not less than 5% of the total and, must accompany the bid. Failure to do so will cause bid to be rejected. Negotiable Bid Bonds will be returned to the unsuccessful bidders as soon as possible or not more than 60 days after the opening of bids. Bidders failing to provide a bid bond will be considered a "no bid".

**Bids shall be in a sealed envelope marked "DO NOT OPEN - SEALED BID - CITY OF MINDEN 2022-2023 STREET IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT - BID NUMBER 01-2023 - ATTN: CITY CLERK." Bidder shall include their full company name, address, and license number, as issued**

**by the State of Louisiana Contractors Licensing Board on the outside of the envelope containing said bid documents.**

An acceptable Performance Bond and Payment Bond equal to 100% of the contract price will be required of the successful bidder.

No bidder may withdraw his/her bid within forty-five (45) days after the actual date of the opening thereof.

Bidders will also be in compliance with all applicable laws and regulations of the Federal Government, State of Louisiana, and meet all bonding and insurance requirements.

Michael Fluhr, City Clerk

**February 8, 15 and 22, 2023  
Minden Press-Herald**

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9.72 Acres located on Pine Street, Minden, LA. - \$70,000.00 Call Chad between 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday thru Friday 318-371-2225.

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Books from home or collections. 40 years of accounting experience. Quickbooks preferred for bookkeeping. No preference for collections. Call Linda for more information (318) 268-6359.

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**3 bedroom/2 bath mobile home for rent. \$650/month plus \$300 deposit. Call (318) 658-3791**

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WPSB

# School expenditures approved in February 2023

AMBER MCDOWN  
Minden Press-Herald

During the February 6, 2023, board meeting, the Webster Parish School Board approved numerous expenditures to help maintain and improve campuses across Webster Parish.

Lakeside Jr/Sr High will be paying an invoice for \$3,600 to Mechanical Cooling for a new HVAC compressor motor protection and related parts. Central Elementary will accept the proposal from

Fitzgerald Plumbing of \$12,600 for boring under the concrete drives to install 2-inch water lines to the existing fire sprinkler system on the stage. Both of these will be paid out of the Consolidated District 3 Maintenance Fund.

Using the Doyline Maintenance Fund, Doyline High will be paying an invoice from Mechanical Concepts in the amount of \$2,525.60 for repairs to the HVAC system, and they will also be accepting a proposal of \$4,870.93 from Mechan-

ical Concepts for replacing the defective coil and evaporator core in the nurse’s station. Doyline High will also be purchasing field conditioner, sure dry, and mound clay from Minden Farm and Garden for \$2,570. And Doyline High will be accepting a proposal of \$5,500 from Lynch’s Lawn & Fence for a sidewalk and landing.

The District 6 ½ Cent Sales Tax Fund will be used to accept a proposal from Mechanical Cooling services in the amount of \$122,800 for replacing all

the HVAC front end controls on buildings A, B, C, and D at Webster Jr High.

North Webster Jr High will be accepting a proposal from Gentry & Holder Floors in the amount of \$2,700 to screen and recoat the gym floor. North Webster Jr High will also be purchasing a 14’ x 28’ custom built portable building from Christ Built Construction for \$28,950. This building will be used as a concession stand for the football complex. And JnJ Fencing will be paid \$15,619.97 for

reconstructing selected fencing at the Sarepta Sports Complex. These purchases will be paid out of the Sarepta Maintenance Fund.

North Webster Lower Elementary will be paying Southern Pipe \$5,649.96 for replacing a 100-gallon hot water heater, using the Shongaloo Building Fund.

And in Springhill, the Springhill Maintenance Fund will be used to pay Mechanical Cooling \$1,750 for replacing multiple bleeder valves on the

HVAC water lines at North Webster High.

The Webster Parish School Board continually seeks to improve and maintain their campuses across the parish to give students excellent environments to learn in. School board meetings are open to the public.

The next meeting will be held at the school board office on March 13, 2023, at 6 p.m.

GROWTH

## New housing development coming to Minden

AMBER MCDOWN  
Minden Press-Herald

A new housing subdivision, named Millwood Landing, will be coming soon to the Minden area. The project is being developed by Micah Hanson, Senior Vice-President at b1Bank, and Chad Still, owner of Timberland Services LLC.

“Chad Still and I started a real estate holding company in 2008. We’ve purchased and sold several properties through the years,” said Micah Hanson. “The housing supply in Minden is limited. The diverse geography, Kisatchie National Forest and Camp Minden are all unique attributes of South Webster Parish. However, this can create obstacles for new home builders.”

Millwood Landing will be sited on Hwy 532, between I-20 and Hwy 80. This location was carefully selected with several factors in mind.

“The property location was chosen due to its proximity to the city of Minden and its ease of access to Interstate 20,” Hanson said. “Allowing homeowners who may work either to the east or west of Webster Parish a quick commute each day.

“This is considered Minden and is outside the city limits. Electricity will be provided by Entergy via underground service. CenterPoint Energy will provide natural gas. Water will be provided by the Dixie Overland Water System.”

The property name was chosen as a salute to the new sawmill that Hunt Forest Products is building in Bienville Parish.

“The new lumber mill currently under construction in Taylor, Louisiana, is something we feel will spur economic growth in the Minden area. We choose this name to give recognition for the positive impact this new industry will have,” Hanson said.

Millwood Landing will



consist of 52 lots, each at least 1 acre in size, as well as green areas and a small family park. Pricing is going to start in the low \$60,000’s and go to the high \$70,000’s.

Once the weather allows road construction to begin, the roads should be finished in 60-90 days. After that, the lots will be surveyed and available for sale.

“We have a list of potential buyers to contact on a first come first serve basis,” Hanson said. “Anyone with interest can contact either of us directly. We are also available to give tours of the site to anyone before the work begins. This will answer any questions that potential buyers may have concerning the “buildability” or appearance of the lots.

“We are currently working with our attorney on the subdivision covenants. We’ll begin preselling lots once covenants are finalized and filed.”

Once you purchase a lot, you can hire your preferred construction company to build your new home.

“Purchasers will be able to use their own contractors,” Hanson said. “Plans will have to be approved by the Architectural Control Committee before construction begins. We also have talked to several local builders considering lots for spec house construction.

“Our intentions are to develop a clean, safe, family-friendly atmosphere for homeowners of all ages,” said Hanson.

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The Healthy Options allowance\* can help you pay for the things you need to be your healthiest. These include rent or mortgage, utilities, bathroom safety devices, healthy food, over-the-counter health items and more.

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