MINDEN PRESS-HERALD

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22, 2023

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SCHOOL BOARD

Candice Miller awarded WPSB **Employee** of the **Month for March**

AMBER MCDOWN

Minden Press-Herald

During the March meeting of the Webster Parish School Board, Candice Miller was presented with the Employee of the Month award by Rodney Taylor of Taylor and Sons.

Miller works as a Special Education Facilitator for the district, and her recommendation letter read as follows:

"I cannot say enough about how hard she works at her job. She has been absolutely amazing to work with this year. She is infinitely patient with me and all the other folks she supervises. She's always available to answer questions including after hours. I could show you dozens of texts where she has helped me in the evenings when I was doing paperwork. She's always come to attend.



been able to handle all sorts of unexpected obstacles with the implementation of the SCR software from the state. She and the other special ed supervisors have been working practically around the clock to meet the deadlines, and she never complains. She just keeps working harder."

Congratulations,

The next meeting of the Webster Parish School Board will be April 3 at 6 PM. The public is wel**CELEBRATE**

Sibley Raiders Celebration of Champions March 25

AMBER MCDOWN

Minden Press-Herald

The Sibley Raiders will be having a Celebration of Champions on March 25 at the Minden REC to honor their historic championship basketball team.

The Sibley Raiders basketball team created some amazing records between 1978 and 1981. They were the Class B State Champions in both the 1978-79 and the 1979-80 seasons, and in 1979-80 they made a national record for completing a perfect season. By 1981, the Raiders had a winning streak of 100 consecutive wins. Their coach, Don Stahl, even earned a mention in Sports Illustrated magazine.

"It's a celebration of all we did from the years of 1978 through 1981," said Deware Jones, Sib-



The Sibley Raiders championship team will be holding a Celebration of Champions this Saturday at the Minden REC. The Raiders won two state championships, had a perfect season, and held a 100-game winning streak between 1978 and 1981.

had a consecutive winning streak of 100 games, and we won two state championships. In 1979-80 we had a perfect season, 58-0 all together, which was a national record. And that record will never be broken because they changed how many games a team can play. So we'll always hold that record. We are eligible to be

of World Records, but no one has ever applied for that. I'm thinking about doing it myself. Those are some of the accomplishments that we made, and that's what we're celebrating. We're just looking to bring everybody together and have a good time."

The celebration will take place at 1001 Recreation Drive in Minden ley Raiders guard. "We put in the Guiness Book from 6 PM until 10 PM. this event.

The dress for this banquet will be semi-formal, and tickets are on sale for \$35 at Holmont Sales and Rentals, Minden Athletic Supply, and the Minden Southwest Chamber of Commerce in Sibley. They are almost sold out already, so buy your tickets soon if you'd like to attend

CITY COUNCIL

City fills three key positions

WILL PHILLIPS

Minden Press-Herald

The March Minden City Council meeting saw the appointments of three key positions within the city: director of public works, director of parks and recreation, and fire chief.

All the appointments went smoothly with the council unanimously voting to appoint each of Mayor Nick Cox's recommendations for these positions.

Tyler Wallace was the person appointed to serve as the new City of Minden public works director. "I've seen him keep in communication between the pubworks departments. always available He's when he's needed. He has good working knowledge of all the public works departments, and I also believe he has the respect of his employees," said Cox.

For the new director of parks and recreation posi-

tion, Zita Williams was appointed. "Zita has worked at the REC center for 18 years, and I believe I've known her for 18 years. She always handles very

well. She's easy to work with but not afraid to push back when she needs to. She has a heart and a vision for the future of the REC center, and she's willing to take on the challenge," said Cox.

In regards to the new Minden fire chief, Brian Williams, who recently retired from the position of Webster Parish's District 7 fire chief, was recommended and appointed to the position.

"I believe he has the respect of the firemen and the fire department. I believe Brian has a vision for the future of our fire department. He has grantwriting experience which I think will really pay off in the future. I would like to say that, for all the positions, we had really good applicants, but I really feel strongly about recommending Brian Williams for the position of Minden fire chief," said Cox.

Outside of appointments, some important matters of city business were addressed as well. First was the renewal of a coop-

erative endeavor between the City of Minden and the Webster Parish Sheriff's Office where, essentially, the city would pay the sheriff's office \$18,000 in order for the sheriff's office to facilitate the collection of property taxes on the City of Min-

den's behalf. The original collaboration started in 2014. Beforehand, citizens would see two separate property taxes coming to them, one for the parish and one for the city. This agreement helps streamline the pro-

cess and makes the pay-

ment process simpler.

"At this point, all the collections are done through the sheriff. To help compensate him for his administration of that, we had a deal with him in the past to pay him \$18,000 a year to administer that and then remit the payment due to us. It was an old deal, so we just need to renew that. So we're really only making a one year deal that would expire at the end of his year," said

Mayor Cox. The City of Minden also agreed to a cooperative endeavor agreement with the Junior Service League-League (JSL) of Minden to use the "Girl Scout Hut" at Victory Park. It was used a few years ago by the JSL but, due to a lack of maintenance, it started flood-

ing, leading to its vacancy. The agreement between JSL and the City of Minden would allow the JSL to utilize the building as long as they were to maintain it, pay for the electricity, cover liability insurance, etc.

"Junior Service League, they have for years used what we call the Girl Scout Hut. But for the last two years they hadn't been using it because, everytime it rains, the rainwater runs through the building," said Mayor Cox.

"They approached me and said we'd like to use that building again like we used to, but what we'd like to do is to be able to do some maintenance to it where it doesn't take on water everytime it rains. Basically, we got a deal with them that says, if you maintain it, pay the light bill, insure it, take care of the liability, we'll make this cooperative endeavor for four years."

Another item of note was the passing of a motion to amend the chapter of the Code of Ordinances having to do with the cost of occupational license fees for mobile food truck operators. Essentially it would be slashing the price in half, from \$100 to \$200, in order to make the city more appealing to

food truck vendors. "The Chamber of Commerce came to us last month and asked us to look at making a specific ordinance for food trucks. To be more food truck friendly, they asked us to move the rate from what we were currently charging, which was \$200, down

to \$100," said Cox. The monthly Minden City Council meeting takes place on the first Monday of each month starting at 6 PM. There is also a workshop that takes place beforehand starting at 4:30 PM which is also open to the public. For those that cannot attend the meeting in person, the meetings are live streamed to the City of Minden's Facebook page and YouTube Channel titled "City of Minden - Feels Like Home."



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Tomorrow's High Temp 0

Tomorrow's **Low Temp** Sign up for daily news updates at www.press-herald.com INDEX Classifieds Obituaries B&S

Zach M. Goodman

WEBSTER & MORE

SCHOOL BOARD

School board discusses next year's calendar

AMBER MCDOWN

Minden Press-Herald

The Webster Parish School Board meeting on March 13 focused primarily on the school calendar for the 2023-2024 school year.

The past two years, Webster Parish schools have been using the "balanced" calendar, which included a shorter summer break to reduce "summer slide" as well as intersession breaks which not only gave extended breaks during the school year but also provided opportunities to give struggling students more intensive learning.

The balanced calendar was first approved following the shutdown of schools during the CO-VID pandemic. During COVID, students across the nation got further and further behind on their educational goals due to a number of factors including significant absences. The intention behind the use of the balanced calendar was to find ways to help students return to their pre-COVID performance on state testing.

The district now has data to show that students are improving and getting

closer to pre-COVID levels. For example, when comparing Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills (DIBELS) scores of kindergarten through 2nd grade students who attended the fall intersession, 62% of those students improved their composite scores; 100% of the kindergarten students improved, 49% of the 1st grade students improved, and 72% of the 2nd grade students improved. When comparing LEAP test scores, 100% of school indexes increased from 2021 to 2022 for the 3rd through 5th graders, and 75% of schools increased for the 5th through 8th graders. In 2022, 9 out of 14 schools in Webster Parish scored higher on the LEAP than in 2019, which was before the COVID shutdown. Overall, the district scores

Another benefit of the balanced calendar is that it gives both students and teachers more frequent breaks, so they are more prepared mentally and physically to learn and teach. In a survey that asked teachers "do you feel the balanced calendar has offered more opportunities for employees to refresh and recharge

exceeded the 2019 scores.

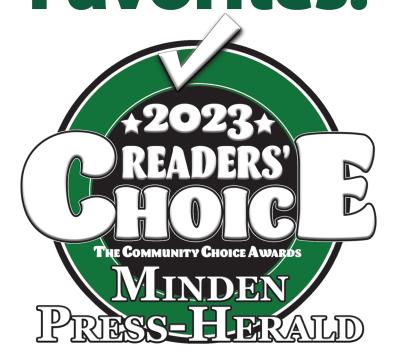
throughout the school year," almost 72% of teachers who responded agreed. The traditional calendar does not include the intersession breaks that the district has been using for remediation and enrichment classes.

Regardless of whether the balanced calendar or the traditional calendar is selected, school will still begin in early August. This is because the schools that are on the block system (four subjects per semester rather than seven, and with longer class periods) need to have 84 days of school completed before the Christmas break. The proposed balanced calendar currently has students starting school on August 3 and ending on May 28. The proposed traditional calendar has students starting school on August 10 and ending on May 14. Both calendars await set testing dates before being finalized, then they can

be voted on. The Webster Parish School Board meets at the school board office, which is located at 1442 Sheppard Street in Minden. The next meeting will be held on April 3 at



Vote For Your Favorites!



Name:		
Telephone n	umber:	
•		
Entry Deadline April 17, 2023 4 p.m.	*Favorite Restaurant	
4 p.m.	ravonile nestaurani	

Everyone has an opinion and now it's time to give yours. Vote for your favorite business in Webster Parish! The winners will be announced in the ballot off or mail it to one ballot accepted.

Readers' Choice edition on Friday, April 20 at the Minden Press-Herald office at 203 G	5, 2023. You may drop the ballot off ileason Street in Minden or mail it to			
the Minden Press-Herald, P.O. Box 1339, I per person will be permitted. No reprod	•			
Favorite Auto Body Shop	Favorite Dentist			
Favorite Manufactured Home Dealer/Supplier	Favorite Apartment Complex			
Favorite Bakery	Favorite Auto Parts Store			
Favorite Lawyer	Favorite Drive Thru Restaurant			
Favorite Buffet Restaurant	Favorite Electrician			
Favorite Breakfast Restaurant	Favorite Elementary School			
Favorite Barber Shop	Favorite NEW Auto Dealer			
Favorite Beauty Shop	Favorite USED Auto Dealer			
Favorite Bank	Favorite Florist			
Favorite C.P.A.	Favorite Evening Meal Restaurant			
Favorite Chicken	Favorite Furniture Store			
Favorite Ambulance Service	Favorite Gas Station			
Favorite Heating & Air Provider	Favorite Gift Shop (Non-Florist)			
Favorite Shoe Store	Favorite Principal			
Favorite Casino	Favorite Fitness Center			
Favorite Car Wash/Detail	Favorite Seafood Restaurant			
Favorite Real Estate Office	Favorite School Teacher			
Favorite Tuxedo Rental	Favorite Coach (ANY SPORT)			
Favorite Tanning Salon	Favorite NEW Vehicle Salesperson			
Favorite Pawn Shop	Favorite Pediatrician			
Favorite Funeral Home	Favorite Grocery Store			
Favorite Contractor	Favorite Mexican Restaurant			
Favorite Hardware Store	Favorite Men's Apparel Provider			
Favorite Health Care Provider	Favorite Daycare Provider			
Favorite High School	Favorite Glass Shop (not eyewear)			
Favorite Hotel/Motel	Favorite Oil Change Location			
Favorite Lawn Equipment Dealer	Favorite Pharmacy			
Favorite Lawn Equipment Dealer Favorite Jeweler	Favorite Pet Groomer			
Favorite Landscaping/Lawncare Provider	Favorite Pest Control Provider			
Favorite Eye Care Provider	Favorite Roofing Company			

ation ovider **Favorite Liquor Store** Favorite Pizza Restaurant **Favorite Lunch Location** Favorite Physician/Surgeon **Favorite Middle School** Favorite Plumber **Favorite Appliance Store Favorite Public Official** Favorite USED Vehicle Salesperson **Favorite Women's Apparel Provider Favorite Tire Store Favorite Crawfish Favorite Dance School Favorite Tax Preparer Favorite Veterinarian Favorite Nursing Home** Favorite Customer Service (ANY BUSINESS) Favorite Mechanic **Favorite Mini Storage Favorite Financial Advisor Favorite Event Destination** (or venue where events are held) **Favorite Church Favorite Doughnuts**

Favorite Home Health Agency

Favorite Hamburger

Favorite Walk-In Quick Care Medical

Webster & More

OBITUARIES



Benny Louis de Pingre

Benny Louis de Pingre died March 13, 2023 at Minden Medical Center. Benny is preceded in death by his parents, Major and Patricia dePingre, and his son, John Major. Benny is survived by his daughter, Kara and husband, Jordan Northcutt, his sister, Margaret dePingre Willis, his niece, Lauren and husband, Joseph Traba, his nephew, Dr. Matthew Willis and wife, Dr. Christina Rolandelli, his daughter-in-law, Emilie dePingre, and a host of extended family members, friends, and his beloved Kappa Sigma brothers.

Memorial donations can be sent to the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation at In memoriam: Benny L. dePingre and his son, John Major - Tributes (cff.org) Gardens of Memory Cemetery Graveside Service arrangements will be scheduled at a later date.

Tribute link: give.cff.org/tribute/bennydepingre

Geaux Tigers.



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CRIME

STAFF REPORT Minden Press-Herald

Deputies from the Webster Parish Sheriff's Office arrested Darryl Kemp Jr. for his involvement in an armed robbery he committed after luring the victim out using Facebook Marketplace. Deputies were dispatched out to a residence on White Sand Road in reference to the armed robbery and made contact with

"The victim stated that Darryl Kemp Jr. drove himself and 'Ben' off in a blue Ford Ranger pickup truck."

"The blue Ford Ranger was parked in the yard. The subject approached [the officer] from near where the truck was parked and stated, 'I know why you are here," the booking report

Deputies located two small bags of suspected marijuana in a trailer near the truck, where it seemed the subject attempted to dispose of them prior to contact with law enforcement. Deputies received verbal consent from the subject to search the truck, and they located a scale near the driver's side of the truck under a generator. Kemp Jr. was then transported to the sheriff's office where he was read his rights per Miranda.

"Kemp Jr. admitted to being present during the armed robbery. Kemp left the scene, drove to his house and failed to notify law enforcement of the armed robbery," the booking report stated.

Kemp was transported to the parish jail and booked on the charges of armed robbery, obstruction of justice, possession of a schedule I substance, and prohib-

would also like citizens to know that the Webster Parish Sheriff's Office has a location at their offices for conducting online trades which were setup through websites like Facebook Marketplace, Craigslist, etc. It is free for the public to use and is monitored by video surveillance.

Webster Parish Sheriff's Office arrests man for Facebook Marketplace armed robbery

the victim.

"Upon arrival, the victim stated that someone named 'Ben' pointed two pistols at him while the above subject took \$750 in cash out of his pocket. The victim stated that he met the above subject on Facebook Marketplace and provided a photograph of the above subject along with his name," read the booking report.

Deputies later located Kemp Jr. in the yard of a residence on the 1100 block of Syrup Mill Road.

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CRIME

Webster Parish woman arrested for threatening parents with scissors

STAFF REPORT

Minden Press-Herald

Deputies from the Webster Parish Sheriff's Office recently arrested Rebecca Kemp, 25, of the 100 block of Bagwell Road, in response to an altercation that transpired between her and her parents during which she threatened them with a pair of scis-

"Upon arrival, it was learned that the above subject had a pair of scissors during physical altercation. She threatened her step dad with them," the booking report read.

The report goes on to reveal that this altercation took place in the presence of Kemp's 4 year old child.

"She also physically battered her mother with the above subject's 4-year-old present. At this time, the victims wanted to get their daughter, the above subject, help," the report read.

"The above subject was released from Springhill Medical Center from protective custody, it was later learned that the victims wanted to pursue charges. The above subject was located walking from Springhill Medical Center."

Kemp was transported to BDCC and booked on the charges of aggravated assault and domestic abuse battery with child endangerment.

Gary Stephen Holloway

Gary Stephen Holloway, aged 75 and a life-long resident of Minden, LA, took his final breath on this earth surrounded by his loving family, and his first breath in Heaven sur-

rounded by his loving family, on February 27, 2023. After a long battle with diabetes and heart disease, he passed away at the Ruston Regional Specialty Hospital in Ruston, LA.

Gary was born in Ruston, LA on June 7, 1947 to Eldridge J.R. and Dewanna Lee Rentz Holloway. He was a 1966 graduate of Minden High School, where he made deep-rooted friendships that lasted a lifetime. In addition, after returning from serving his country in the Army during the Vietnam War, he returned to college to complete his education, in which he obtained a BA in Education from Northwestern State University (1973).

He served honorably in the Army for three years and in the Army National Guard from the mid 1970s to the late 1980s. In addition, Gary worked for the Webster Parish School Board, serving as the Director of Adult Education for 34 years (1974 to 2008). He gave 150 percent to both his students and coworkers, taking what was once a part-time program and succeeding in expanding its reach to help those in Webster Parish have a brighter future in which to support themselves and their families.

Gary leaves behind his children: Mia Johnson (Derrick) of Plano, Tx., Marc Holloway (Elizabeth) of Dubach, LA, Melissa Murphy (Braden) of Watson, LA, and James Johnson of Minden, LA; 8 grandchildren; 3 great grandchildren; and his brother, Robert W. Holloway (Vicki) of Minden LA. He was preceded in death by his wife, Anne Holloway of Minden, LA and his parents, Eldridge J.R. and Dewanna Holloway of Minden, LA.

A graveside memorial service was held on March 20, 2023 at 11 a.m. at the Gardens of Memory Cemetery in Minden, LA. Everyone was invited to come and pay their respects. The family asked that donations to the Wounded Warriors Project be made instead of flowers or other gifts.



Eugenia Grace "Jeannie" Zappa

Eugenia Grace "Jeannie" Zappa, 83, a resident of Homer, Louisiana, entered the Kingdom of Heaven after a brief illness on Tuesday, March 14, 2023. She was born at the Haynesville Hospital on February 3, 1940, and spent most of her life in Claiborne and Webster Parishes. Jeannie was a 1958 graduate of Minden High School where she excelled in competitive swim and basketball. After high

school, Jeannie attended Louisiana Tech University and Ayers Business School.

Jeannie worked at the Louisiana Army Ammunition Plant where she met the man who would never leave her side. After marrying, she became a homemaker and reared three amazing children, all of whom were by her side in her final days. Jeannie loved to bowl and had a passion for flying planes. She was an avid reader,

a sunbathing goddess and spent her best days at the beach collecting shells and RV'ing the country.

Jeannie is preceded in death by her mother, Eugenia Lucille Craighead Lindsey, and her father, Sam Howard Lindsey. She is survived by her husband of 54 years, Finnis Lyman Zappa, of Homer, Louisiana. She is also survived by her three children, Christopher Wade Maness of Athens, Louisiana, Wendi Zappa Plants and her husband Chris of Minden, Louisiana, Russell Todd Zappa and his wife Michelle of Benton, Louisiana; her eleven grandchildren, Christopher Wade Maness II and his wife Faith, Maegan Maness, Lauren Maness, Katelin Payne and her husband Matthew, McKenzie Easterling and her husband Nathan, Wil Plants, Audrey Plants, Jeweliette Plants, Gentry Plants, Savannah Zappa, and Isabella Grace Zappa; her eight great-grandchildren, Ashley, Tessa, Trace, Graham, Emilia, Parker, Greyson and Aiden; one sister, Betty Paul of Minden, Louisiana, and one brother, Michael Lindsey and his wife Francine of Austin, Texas; along with numerous nieces and nephews.

A memorial celebration was held at 11:00 a.m. on Friday, March 17, at the First Presbyterian Church of Athens, 15274 Highway 9, Athens, Louisiana.

The family would like to extend their deepest appreciation and heartfelt gratitude for the wonderful care and professionalism provided by the staff at the Claiborne Memorial Medical Center in Homer, Louisiana, and the MD Clinics in Minden, Louisiana.

In lieu of flowers, donations to the Athens Presbyterian Church may be made in honor of Mrs. Eugenia Grace Zappa.

EDUCATION

Webster Ready Start Registration Open

MINDEN, La. — Registration for Webster Parish's Ready Start program is now open. Webster Ready Start provides access to high-quality learning experiences and programs for children from newborn to five years old. The program helps prepare young students for kindergarten. Studies show that children prepared for kindergarten have a better chance of not repeating any grades and of eventually graduating from high school.

Registration began today with an event at the Minden Rec Center. Workers were on hand to help parents with the registration process. A similar event will be held on Friday, March 24 in Springhill. That event will

be at the Frank Anthony RV Building, located at 301 West Church Street. Parents can stop by and register their child from 9am to 2pm.

Parents attending the registration event need to have their child's birth certificate, Social Security card, an updated immunization record, parent's drivers license, two current proofs of residence (utility bill/mortgage/ lease), 2 current consecutive paychecks for each adult in the household, SNAP, Medicaid or DCFS

if applicable. If you cannot make the registration event, you can register online at WebsterReadyStart.com. You can contact the Webster Ready Start office at (318) 377-3099 if you have



any questions.

Ready Start is also a benefit to parents and businesses. Parents are able to work while their child is in the program. For local businesses, the program expands the available workforce. It also reduces the amount of time that working parents spend away from their job.

Businesses interested in becoming a Ready Start partner could receive tax credits. Plus, the program receives a dollar-for-dollar match on that invest-

Media inquiries can be sent to Ed Walsh at ewalsh@rpagency.com.

JPINION

MINDEN_ Press-Herald

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

Telephone: (318) 377-1866.

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

Subscription rate: \$40 per year.

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

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

HERE ARE OUR GUIDELINES:

Letters are published identifying name, occupation and/or title and the writer's city of residence. Letters are not to exceed 500 words.

Send letters to: Letters to the Editor, Minden Press-Herald, P.O. Box 1339, Minden, LA 71055, or email to: newsroom@press-herald.com. **OPINION**

Twitter files expose feds-social media collusion to undermine free speech

Elon Musk's purchase of as numerous actions taken Twitter will surely someday be viewed as one of the most critical blows for American freedom, maybe in a hundred years or more.

Musk, who describes himself as a "free speech absolutist", stated he would purchase Twitter to "free" the platform. Musk has correctly observed that social media in America today serves as a national "town hall" and a modern day "public square," a role previously played by public parks, local community meetings, and parish and country fairs and festivals.

However, attempting to return Twitter to a genuinely free speech platform is not even the most important accomplishment entailed in Musk's purchase of Twitter.

In my view, the most profoundly important discovery by Musk after his purchase is the extent to which Twitter and government agencies-including the upper levels of the FBI— collude to suppress and hide information critical for the American people to have and know.

Let's consider just two prominent examples: The suppression of information about The China Virus, and election fraud in the 2020 presidential election.

We have already seen the Twitter Files expose government influence used to suppress China Virus opinions and viewpoints that contradicted White House storylines as well

against accounts that posted views and data that contradict-

Free Press writer David Zweig cited "[i]nternal files" from Twitter that showed how the social media giant "rigged the COVID debate" at the behest of the federal government. "The United States government pressured Twitter and other social media platforms to ele-



ROYAL ALEXANDER

(FOX Busi-December 26, 2022). Recall the heated dis-

sent regarding the effectiveness and safety of masking children (and the population, generally) in public schools, the effectiveness of the vaccine and related mandates such as school closure, and the shutting down of the

American economy. In fact, many prominent, accomplished medical doctors and scientists strongly disputed what the Biden Administration and Dr. Anthony Fauci at the NIH, as well as Woke scientists at the CDC, were insisting was "The Truth" about the virus, but Twitter conspired to silence such dissenters as peddling "misinformation."

However, we see now that these opinions which ran counter to those of the Government-Media Thought Police, have been proven to be scientifically accurate.

Yet, because of this suppression of Free Speech, America did not "Follow the Science" in our public health response to The China Virus, and great social, educational, and economic damage has resulted.

That's scary and completely un-American.

Let's look at another deeply concerning example: the 2020 presidential election and the Hunter Biden Laptop "from hell."

The following is simply indisputable:

On October 14, 2020, the New York Post, one of the oldest and largest news organizations in the world, published its first major story on the contents of the Hunter Biden laptop which had been dropped off at a Delaware computer repair shop in April 2019 and never picked up. This Post story exposed Biden family corruption and revealed the incestuous financial relationship between then-VP Biden with his son's foreign business ventures.

Hunter Biden, although not equipped by experience, training, or sobriety to do any significant work, was being paid tens of millions of dollars from foreign companies based in places like China and Ukraine. The emails also directly implicate the "big guy" Joe Biden, himself.

The Post story exposed these

So, three weeks before the 2020 presidential election, how did Twitter-and many other social media platforms as well as the national media-respond?

The Government-Media Industrial Complex did everything in its power to suppress and stifle the Post story including removing all links readers would have used to access the Post story, attaching false warnings that the links might be "unsafe" and preventing users from sharing the links using direct message. Twitter also then locked the Post's Twitter account.

We simply cannot tolerate federal government agencies pressuring and coercing these social media giants into allowing only "government-approved" speech on their platforms. That's the furthest thing "uninhibited, robust and wide-open" debate in the "marketplace of ideas" guaranteed by the 1st Amendment.

It's censorship. It's preapproved speech and Groupthink, regulated by the Thought Police, of the kind we see in dictatorships like Iran, N. Korea, China, and Russia.

Twitter Files revelations are dramatically changing the view of millions of Americans regarding our federal government and its collusion with social media to manipulate our national debate and alter our elections.

> ROYAL ALEXANDER IS A SHREVEPORT ATTORNEY.

INSPIRATION

Every day should be child abuse awareness day

According to National Children*s Alliance more than 600,000 children are abused in the United States each year. I ask the question "how

would you like to have no

Because April has been declared Child Abuse Awareness Month I would like to ask the question -- why would anyone not want child abuse exposed?

I've turned this question over in my mind every way but loose -- and the only conclusion that I can draw is that maybe such a one doesn't want himself to be exposed for his own miscon-

Had my sister, Alice, and I, not lived in an orphanage, where sexual and physical abuse were swept under the rug, I might not be so rabid in my attack. I stood in the place of the homeless, of one abused. Because I witnessed others being assaulted, I became more vocal. Had I not been pretty much a helpless victim myself, I might still shrink into the shadows and keep my mouth shut. I say "pretty much helpless" because I possessed that rare courage to expose one who had unmercifully beaten a ten year old girl. Only God could nave given me that raw courage



SARAH HUDSON PIERCE

because I was a really shy, under-

sized girl of fourteen, who took justice into own her hands. I was on a

mission in the 60's and decided this would how

would spend my life, taking up for the children who have no voice. I could have kept my mouth shut but I can only feel good for the little girl who stood up for those

more timid than myself. In the Donna Reed days church people appeared to be more comfortable keeping their blinders on, while sweeping the dirt under the rug, as helpless victims emotionally died in despair or ran away from the home.

The orphanage tried to keep abuse away from the media. One little girl was even placed in a mental hospital, all the while hoping this would keep her mouth shut.

It took me forty-five years to find her. When I located her, she told me that she wouldn't talk to the therapists for eight months and only then when they put her under truth serum.

The doctors could tell she was telling the truth so they sent her home to her mother.

Still justice wasn't served. Where will this all end? Will children ever really be heard?

Only time will tell but I see hope on the horizon as more sexually assaulted victims are being vindicated today.

I wonder how many more cases are being unheard while these same children turn to crimes just to survive?

Looking back on my teenage years, I know that reporting the abuse helped to protect my hide, because the employees of the home feared the "powers that be" and they knew in their heart that I really wasn't scared of them.

Now it would be harder to report the abuse because the orphanage, which has moved and changed their name, nome school the children, shielding the helpless victims from the public eye.

Today, in 2018, a house parent is serving time in prison for repeatedly raping and sodomizing a young girl. She was only able to report the abuse when she visited her parents.

I can't help but question how many young children are suffering at the hands of an institution who is collecting money from the coffers of good Christian people who are trying to make a difference in a child's

The Bible still says that "the truth will set you free."

I know that God has always taken care of me. I believe He always will because Jesus is the same yesterday, today and forever and He always gets me to the right place at the right time.

This knowledge gives me comfort as I go to sleep at night.

CONTACT SARAH AT SARAHP9957@AOL.

OPINION

The Advocate: If we want kids protected, we need agencies capable of doing the work

who have died tragically, Louisiana government is stumbling toward a longterm fix for two of Gov. John Bel Edwards' biggest failures in office: child welfare and juvenile justice.

The Department of Children and Family Services failed in cases chronicled in this newspaper, in which young children got sick on momma's drug stash, and the agency did not respond effectively in time.

The virtual collapse of the juvenile justice system in a series of riots and near-riots in state facilities, from Bridge City in the south to the Monroe area in the north, is another major crisis.

Unquestionably, the pandemic negatively impacted already stressed families throughout the state, and the

Too late for a few children nation. But sheer bureaucratic inertia, despite warnings from DCFS leadership in particular, failed to result in the kind of meaningful staffing increases that might have helped in the case of abused children.

Edwards' new budget proposal plans an increase of about 70 positions in the table of organization of the department. While that might sound like a bureaucratic move, the truth is that these kinds of problems can't be addressed by new websites or other top-down responses typical of large organizations these days. They require actual, hands-on staff, doing some very hard work.

And that should make DCFS staffing one of the priorities when the Legislature goes over the budget this April.

The governor's chief budget officer is Commissioner of Administration Jay Dardenne. He told the Press Club of Baton Rouge this week that Edwards is committed to hiring more people in DCFS and the Office of Juvenile Justice. Civil Service, which oversees pay schedules, has worked closely with the Division of Administration to make the jobs more attractive, he said.

Dardenne said that there's been a good response to hiring fairs launched by DCFS, and that he wishes they'd happened sooner. That's not entirely fair to the department's leadership, as it could hardly have held such events during pandemic downs, and cries about staffing echoed in State Capitol halls long before the latest tragedies caught the attention of the public.

Still, Dardenne sounded a note of caution: "Our challenge has been to find people to take these difficult jobs and stay in them when they do take them."

He's exactly correct about the difficulties, whether it's responding late at night to a crisis situation involving a toddler or teaching young people sent into state custody that they've got to clean up their approaches to life if they want to get out of juvie.

"The proof of the pudding will be if these new employees stay on the job," Dardenne said.

That's why we hope the Legislature, recognizing the expense, looks in detail into the tables of organization for these challenged agencies. Hiring people is costly but no other response makes sense,

certainly not neglect of the staffing requirements that should be based on national norms. And this year, unlike in the relatively recent past, there's money in the coffers to do it.

In too many cases the pandemic shattered family structures, and the repercussions will be with us for a long time. It has been, like shale rock loosened by fracking, a dramatic rupture at the foundations of society.

Ultimately, more effective government remains elusive but vital in responding whether through DCFS or police work, along with nonprofit organizations and faith communities — to what threatens our state's most vulnerable residents, our young people.

SPORTS

HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL



ROBERT SUMMERLIN/SPECIAL TO THE PRESS-HERALD

Minden's Jakobe Jackson fires a pitch during a game against Haughton last week at Haughton. The Crimson Tide lost but they came back to win two games in the Red River tournament Saturday.

Glenbrook goes 4-0; all five parish teams get wins

RUSSELL HEDGES Minden Press-Herald

The Glenbrook Apaches went undefeated and all parish teeams picked up at

least one victory last week. Glenbrook started the week with wins over Southwood, 9-2, and Evangel Christian, 6-4. They closed it with victories over Welsh 6-3 and Bolton 8-4 in the Grace Christian tourna-

Cason Clemons pitched a two-hitter with 11 strikeouts against Southwood.

Easton Sanders had two doubles and three RBI against Evangel. Clemons went 3-for-4 with a double.

Toby Haulmark pitched well in relief, striking out the side in the sixth and inducing a groundout with two outs and the bases loaded in the seventh.

Sanders pitched a fourhitter against Welsh. He struck out 12 and walked

Hayden Harmon went 2-for-3 with a double. Haulmark went 2-for-2.

Maddox Mandino went 4-for-5 with two RBI against Bolton.

Harmon pitched a fourhitter with 10 strikeouts and only one walk. The hits, all singles, were hit consecutively in Bolton's three-run sixth.

Glenbrook entered this week 12-5.

Minden went 3-2. The Crimson Tide defeated Quitman 6-3 then lost to Haughton 13-5 and North Webster 9-8. They rebounded with victories over Calvin 14-1 and Red River 7-5 in the Red River tournament.

Brody Bower scattered six hits and struck out five in six innings against Quit-



RUSSELL HEDGES/PRESS-HERALD Glenbrook Head Coach Tony Sanders is shown earlier this season at

Landyn Huddleston

Haughton. His Apaches went 4-0 last week.

went 2-for-3 with two doubles and three RBI against Haughton.

Landon Brewer went 3-for-3 with two RBI and walked twice against North Webster. Jakobe Jackson had three RBI.

Hudson Brown went 3-for-3 against Calvin. Landyn Huddleston went 2-for-2 with a triple and three RBI.

Zander Rowell went 6 1/3 innings for the win against Red River. Brewer got a strikeout with two outs and the bases loaded in the bottom of the sev-

Minden entered this

week 11-6.

In addition to the victory over Minden, North Webster defeated Saline 5-4 and lost to Northwood

The Knights avenged a one-run loss to Minden in the season opener.

Dakota Davison led off the bottom of the eighth with a double and Kyle Dinkins reached on a bunt. The Tide then turned a double play but Davison scored the

tying run. Collin McKenzie then tripled. After two intentional walks to load the bases, McKenzie scored on a balk.

McKenzie went 4-for-5 and Nathan Bernard 3-for-5. Ethyn Radar had a double and three RBI.

Sanders went 3-for-3 with a double and two RBI against Saline. Kyle Dinkins got the win.

North Webster entered this week 11-3.

Lakeside split four The Warriors opened the week with a 16-1 victory over Doyline. In their first District 1-2A series, Lakeside lost the first two games against Loyola 6-2 and 9-8 and won the third 7-2,

CJ Watts had a home run, double and three RBI against Doyline. Matthew Aguilera went 3-for-3.

Cooper Chase went 3-for-3 in the first game against Loyola.

Jordan Isbell pitched a solid four innings of relief. He allowed no earned runs, walked none and struck out

Eli Musgraves went 4-for-4 in the second game. Cade Boley went 3-for-4 with a double and three

Chase, Watts and Isbell combined on a two-hitter with eight strikeouts in the victory. The Warriors capitalized on 13 walks and six

Doyline went 1-3. The Panthers defeated Haynesville 17-3 to open the week.

After the Lakeside loss, they dropped a tough 6-5 decision to Converse and lost to Hicks 6-0 in the Stanley tournament.

Noah Spears and Caysten Mingo both had two doubles and two RBI against Haynesville. Zach Normand also had two hits.

Mingo went 2-for-3 against Hicks. Kenneth Lee allowed just one hit and struck out four in four innings of relief.

Spears went the distance against Converse. He allowed just four hits and no earned runs with 13 strikeouts. Mingo had two

HIGH SCHOOL TRACK AND FIELD

North Webster, Lakeside win Don Austin meet

RUSSELL HEDGES Minden Press-Herald

North Webster and Lakeside took the team titles in the Don Austin Memorial Relays hosted by Lakeside Friday,

Athletes competed in chilly and windy conditions,

North Webster won the boys division with 100 points. Jonesboro-Hodge was second with 88, three more than Lakeside and six more than Haynesville. Homer was fifth with 62 and Minden sixth with 50.

Lakeside won the girls division with 95 points. Haynesville was second with 90, North Webster third with 88 and Minden fourth with 60.

Doyline junior won Izayla Harris won four events — the 100-, 200and 400-meter dashes and triple jump.

Harris is the reigning Class B state champion in the 100, 300 and 400.

She ran a 12.64 in the 100, 27.17 in the 200 and 1:03.61 in the 400 in the less than ideal weather.

North Webster's Anekah Coleman was second in the 100 in 13.27.

Harris finished 2.72 seconds ahead of runnerup Henniyah Walker of Haynesville in the 200. She finished 6.98 seconds ahead of runner-up Keirston Dixon of Minden in the 400.

Harris' winning triple jump was 36 feet, 4 inches. The winning jump in the Class B meet last year was 36-9.

Lakeside runners took the 800, 1,600 and 3,200. Lillian Jolly won the

800 in a close finish against Minden's Terrika Herndon. Jolly rain a 2:56.56 and Herndon a 2:56.67.

Lexi Bradley captured the 1,600 in 6:36.06. Her teammate Iris Aguinaga was second in 7:32.99.

Madison McGraw won the 3,200 in 16:23.94. Haynesville's Alayna Tabor was second in 17:31.

North Webster won the 4X100, 4X200 and 4X800 relays.

foursome Tomiyah Hawthorne, De'Maiyah Moore, Neveah Watts and Markiau Scott ran 52.36 in the 4X100.

Minden's team of Alexi Hatter, Madison Kirby, Brooklyn Jefferson and Mia Feaster was second in 54.25.

Hawthorne, and Watts teamed with Aniyah Gibson to win the 4X200 in 1:51.11. Haynesville was second in 1:52.15.

The foursome of Abigail Lorenz, SherAsia Mendenhall, and Amiyah Lewis White took the 4X800 in 13:03.31. Haynesville was second in 15:11.14.

The Minden foursome of Keirston Dixon, Kiara Dixon, Brooklyn Jefferson and Shamijah Jefferson won the 4X400 in 4:48.45.

The Lakeside team McKenzie Chase, Ty'teyanna Williams, Bailey Mangrum and Jalacia Roberson was second in 5:23.46.

Lakeside's Chase and North Webster's Allison Lorenz both cleared 7-0 in the pole vault. Chase took first via the tiebreaker.

Lakeside's Jacoby Curry, Minden's Christian Lofton and North Webster's Hayden Nance were winners in the boys individual running events, Curry won the 800 in

2:19.34. Lofton was second in 2:21.42. Curry also finished third in the 300 hurdles.

Lofton won the 1,600 in 5:43.76. North Webster's Eric Silvers was second in 5:47.88.

Nance took the 3,200 in 12:50.40. Lake-side's Drake Puckett was a close second in 12:51.10.

Webster's North Jkobe Lawson finished second in the 100 in 11.76. Homer's Eljay Curry won in 11.6

Omero Lakeside's Urbina was in the 400 in 55.43. Jonesboro-Hodge's Zion Gray won in 54.33.

See, TRACK, Page 6

HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL

Doyline's Clark leads All-District 1-B boys team

Three Minden

players All-District

1-4A second team

RUSSELL HEDGES Minden Press-Herald

Doyline senior Jamaria "Juicy" Clark of Doyline has been named the MVP of the All-District 1-B boys basketball team for the third straight year. Clark averaged 37.2

points, 7.2 assists, 6.7 rebounds and 4.3 steals for the district champion Panthers, who went 27-5 and reached the quarterfinals of the playoffs. Clark played or the

RUSSELL HEDGES

Three Minden players

Senior Stafford Bai-

have been named second

team on the All-District

ley made the boys second

1-4A basketball teams.

Minden Press-Herald

winning West team in the LHSBCA East-West All-Star Game Saturday at at Louisiana Christian University in Pineville.

Dovline sophomore Damarion McClendon was a first-team selection. Junior Broox Swain was named honorable mention.

Doyline junior Keily Sumlin was named to the girls second team. Freshman Takera Washington was named honorable mention.

HIGH SCHOOL SOFTBALL

Four parish teams post victories

RUSSELL HEDGES Minden Press-Herald

Parish teams had mixed

results last week. Minden split two District 1-4A games, falling to 2022 Class 4A state champion North DeSoto and de-

feating Evangel Christian

The Lady Tiders then went 2-1 in the Evangel tournament. The defeated Evangel again 11-7 and Converse 8-7 and lost to Ruston

Kylie Ryan went 2-for-2 with a home run and three RBI against North DeSoto. Ryan smacked a grand slam home run with two outs in the bottom of the second to give Minden a 6-o lead in the district game against Evangel. She also pitched a three-hitter.

Pitcher Lindsay Ryan

went 4-for-5 with a triple, double and four RBI in the tournament game against Evangel.

Brooklyn Edwards went 3-for-4 with a double. Kylie Ryan had a triple and double. Leigha K-Gilbert hit a two-run home run. Lindsay Ryan went

3-for-3 against Converse. K-Gilbert went 3-for-5 with a triple. Kaylin Adams went 3-for-4. K-Gilbert went 4-for-4

with two doubles against Ruston.

Minden entered this week 10-8.

Lakeside went 2-1. The Lady Warriors fell to 2022 Class 2A state Many 5-2 in Many. They picked up two wins in the Stanley tournament over Parkway 6-5 and Castor 19-14.

McKenna Chreene allowed four hits and no earned runs in six innings against Many. She issued only two walks and struck out five. She also had a hit and drew two walks.

Mackenzie McCoy went

3-for-5 with a double. Hallie Sutton hit a home run and had two RBI. Raleah Harris went 2-for-2 with

four RBI. Lakeside entered this week 10-8. Glenbrook split four

games. The Lady Apaches lost to Class 5A Ouachita Parish 11-8. They went 2-1 in the Stanley tournament, defeating Logansport 2-1 and Class 5A Parkway 15-6

and falling to Quitman 10-0. Vivian Still went 3-for-4 with a solo home run against Ouachita Parish. Gabi Brown and Sarah

Margaret Mosley both went

3-for-4 with doubles and

two RBI.

Rebecca Mosley turned in a strong performance in the circle against Logansport. She allowed five hits, walked three and struck out eight. Logansport scored its

only run on a single with two outs and in the top of the seventh. But Mosley induced a flyout to end the game. Glenbrook entered this

week 8-6.

North Webster split two District 1-3A games. The Lady Knights defeated Richwood 15-0 and fell to Sterlington 14-0. North Webster entered

this week 5-12. Doyline dropped two

game.

week 4-7.

averaged 15.4 He points, 5.2 rebounds, 2.2 games, falling to Zwolle in assists and 3.1 steals in a non-district game and district play. For the full season, he averaged 12.4 Weston in a District 1-B points, 6.3 rebounds, 1.7 Dovline entered this assists and 1.5 steals.

team.

MiJai Batton and Jay-

lin Williams were named honorable mention.

Senior Jayden Dent and sophomore Travesti Byrd were named to the girls second team.

Dent averaged 11.6 points, 9.3 rebounds, 1 assist and 1 block in district play. Byrd averaged 10.7 points, 4.6 rebounds, 3.3 assists and 4 steals.

Junior Timiah Hawkins, senior Atiyana Freddie, junior Kierra Harrison and sophomore Shelby Glenn were named honorable mention.

TRACK

Continued from Page 5

North Webster won the 4X200 relay and Lakeside the 4X400.

The foursome of Lawson, Braedon Robertson, Jameson Hardeson and Avante Curry won the 4X200 in 1:32.35. Haynesville was second in 1:32.86.

The team of Jordan Case, Jaylon Jackson, Urbina and JaCoby Curry took the 4X400 in 3:43.73. Jonesboro-Hodge was second in 3:44.99.

The North Webster foursome of Slade Lockey, Bennie Lorenz, Elijah Davis and Eric Silvers was second in the 4X800 in 10:58.34. Haynesville won

in 10:19.86.

Lakeside's Tamarjah, North Webster's Kemaurion Jefferson and North Webster's Gavin Marshall won field events.

Minden's Zander Rowell fires a pitch against Haughton last week.

Ferrell took the triple

jump with a 39-5. Jonesboro-Hodge's Gray was second with a 37-8.

Jefferson won the high jump with a leap of 5-2, two inches higher than three other competitors.

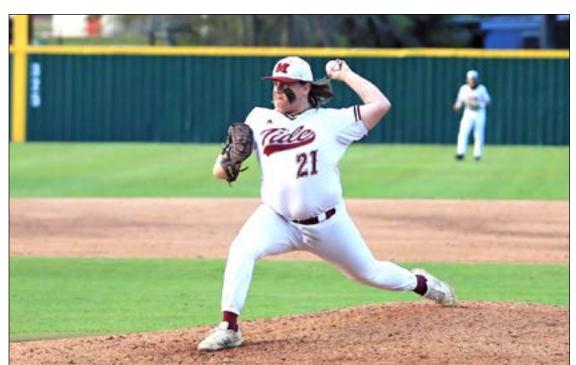
Marshall captured the pole vault with a 9-6, six inches higher than his teammate Chase McKenzie and Lakeside's Case Jordan, who was second via the tiebreaker.

HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL

Minden vs. Haughton



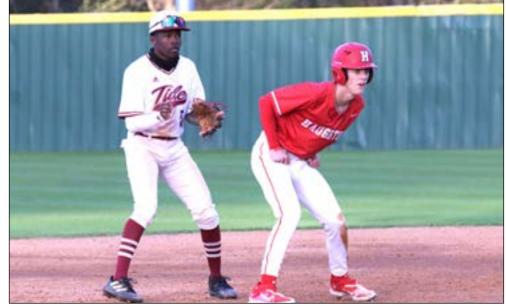
VALLETTE WEAVER/SPECIAL TO THE PRESS-HERALD Minden's Landvn Huddleston looks watches the flight of the ball



ROBERT SUMMERLIN/SPECIAL TO THE PRESS-HERALD



ROBERT SUMMERLIN/SPECIAL TO THE PRESS-HERALD Minden's Hudson Brown does his job behind the plate.



VALLETTE WEAVER/SPECIAL TO THE PRESS-HERALD Minden shortstop Brandon Winston keeps a close eye on the Haughton baserunner.

OUTDOORS

Managing deer by the numbers

GLYNN HARRIS

Deer season 2022-23 is in the history books and here's hoping that you have something to hang on the wall to show for your efforts. Don't have anything? Maybe you've been

doing it all wrong. Daniel Colvin has access to 1300 acres of family property in Union Parish, land not really known for being able to produce trophy bucks. Even so, he has mounts of 18 bucks hanging on his wall scoring between 150 and 170 inches, bucks he has taken from his Union Parish property.

Is he the luckiest deer hunter around or is he on to something that allows the growth of bucks that size on property not known for the production

of trophy bucks? "I'm serious about getting the best from the deer in my area," said Colvin. "I work at it all year long and there are several things I have discovered that have helped me and will help anyone who is interested in growing bigger deer no matter what kind of property they hunt."

Colvin is offering what he has learned to any property owner serious about improving the lot of deer they hunt.

"I'll contract with property owners to assess their land, see what I think is not helping and offer assistance in getting the right things done. If anyone is serious about wanting to grow bigger deer, the most important thing right off the bat is to control the trigger finger. You shoot a 120 inch buck and



Daniel Colvin with one of the 18 bucks he has hanging on his wall, deer he has taken from his Union Parish property.

he's never going to make it to 140," Colvin said.

Controlling what grows on the land as well as supplementing food sources to give deer the best and most nutritional foods is important, he said. Control burning and timber thinning is an easy tool to trigger growing of forage plants that deer prefer. In addition, the use of minerals is of utmost importance, he noted. The principle need for foraging animals is salt because as soon as a deer gets a belly full of browse materials, he'll head for a salt lick which aids in water reten-

"Minerals such as salt supplemented with calcium phosphorus is important because during the growing season, minerals are pulled from the bone structure to grow antlers and minerals provide those that are depleted," said Colvin.

The establishing of food plots is another matter that is often not done in the best possible method as a property owner is more likely to take advantage of a logging set to plant a food plot.

"If you plant it and fertilize a small area such as this, deer will eat it up in a month. My food plots are usually three to five acres each and it will draw the deer that are in the area. I'll often see 25-30 deer a day on my plots. These will draw in the does and when you attract them, especially during the rut, the bucks

will follow," he said. Colvin keeps records of the deer on his property and he feels this is very important so that he can know what is there. The use of remote cameras is another tool he feels is quite valuable in keeping up with individual deer and seeing what they're doing from one year to the

"I try to get my deer to imprint on a particular spot and my food plots help me accomplish that and cameras help validate it. Several of the deer I have hanging on my wall I have kept up with them for several years from what I see on cameras as well as shed antlers I find," he said.

Anyone interested in visiting further with Colvin to contract with him on their personal hunting woods can contact him by telephone at 501/554-2824 or searching for him on Facebook.

Fishing Report

BLACK BAYOU -Crappie have moved up around the trees and fishing is good on shiners or jigs. Bass are improved with slow rolling spinner baits working around the trees. No report bream. Contact Honey Hole Tackle Shop 323-8707 for latest information.

BUSSEY BRAKE

- Big bass are continuing to be caught flipping creature baits around the trees. Crappie are scattered around the brush and fair. For latest information, contact the Honey Hole at 323-8707.

OUACHITA RIVER The water is still high and except for catfishermen, few anglers have been going out. For latest information, contact the Honey Hole Tackle Shop at 323-8707.

LAKE D'ARBONNE

Some crappie have moved up and are being caught in 2-3 foot water while others are still hanging back in 8-10 foot water. Bass fishing has been good with spinners, crank baits and Carolina rigs in the shallows with mostly buck bass (males) being caught now as the big females have yet to move in. 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 CLAIBORNE Bass are starting to move to the beds with Sinko's landing some nice fish. Crappie are still best fishing around brush with jigs and shiners picking up some fish. Stripers are beginning to show up and hitting shad imitations. No report on bream or catfish. For latest information, call Kel's Cove at 927-2264 or Terzia Tackle at 278-4498.

CANEY LAKE Sight fishing for bedded bass has been fairly successful with soft plastics, topwaters crank baits, spinners and jerk baits working best. Crappie are still in fairly deep water around brush and hitting shiners or jigs. No report on bream or catfish... For information contact Caney Lake Landing at 259-6649, 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. Crappie have backed off the banks with cooler weather moving them back. Bass to around 8 pounds have been reported. No report on bream. For latest reports, call Poverty Point Marina at 318/878-0101.

LAKE YUCATAN -The water is high and over the road for the next 2-3 weeks. No fishermen this week. For information, call Surplus City Landing at 318/467-2259.

MINDEN PRESS-HERALD | MINDEN, LA WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22, 2023 | 7

Good News

GOOD NEWS

SPRING HAS SPRUNG, TIME HAS CHANGED --- AND I NEED TO CHANGE TOO!

"We are ready for spring"; agree? Well, she is here! Just look around town! Signs of a new spring are everywhere. Minden is a beautiful city! And in the spring, she shows her many colors. As days lengthen, the warm sun brings forth flowering trees and plants to charm us. And spring showers come to water the yards and gardens. Oh yes, and daylight savings time always "springs upon us"! How did that ever start anyway? Why did this ever happen? Have you ever wondered what has happened to all those hours been saved over the years? Who gets to use them? I propose that our congressmen give each senior adult an allotment of our earned "extra time". Just think of what we could do with a "day between Saturday & Sunday, or between Sunday & Monday!

In the next election year, let's see what kind of "pull" we have with the politicians.

We all know that 'spring means a renewal of nature throughout

the world'. Sometimes, there is a fresh Spirit of God moving across the fellowship



Bill Crider

in churches around. It is a response to the call for prayer and revival. What a heart- warming experience it is! Isn't it everyone's prayer that we see revival in our land and experience it in our individual life?

Of course, that would mean change, wouldn't it? Change, change, change! That is what life is all about? Well, we know the Christian life is all about "changing, being transformed into the image and likeness of Christ". How can we say we are growing in our faith when we refuse to do things that produce growth: Bible study, prayer, worship and fellowship among believers? We can't grow without changing! See the young chicks, the baby birds, the caterpillars, and even a young child-in order for them to become what God has intended requires CHANGE. We Christians must do the same.

And while we are talking about change, let's do a little introspection (looking within). Revivals begin here: with my heart, attitude, desires and habits, my demands and selfishness. We get the picture I think. Well, the important thing is this: what are we going to do about it? Are we just going to back up and let the youth and young adults receive all the blessings? No, there are too many blessings for just them to enjoy. Adults of all ages can change! We can change our world, as bad as it seems, one by one, you and me!

Let's make a commitment to allow God to change our hearts this spring. Let Him do an inside job on us like no one else can do! There are so many ways He wants us to 'touch others in His name, but there is only one starting point: at the foot of the Cross, kneeling before Him with a contrite and broken spirit. Once complete contrition is made, then He will begin the changing process in each of

Yes spring is a wonderful time for revival, a change of heart. While nature is bringing "revival" to the earth with all her beauties, can we not sense the Lord wanting to work this miracle in our lives as well? Consider the words in the Kurt Kaiser song, Pass It On:

What a wondrous time is spring, when all the trees are budding;

The birds begin to sing, the flowers start their blooming.

That's how it is with God's love once you've experienced it;

You want to sing, it's fresh like spring, you will want to pass it on.

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

THE UPWARD LOOK

Steal No Longer

Max Hutto

"He who steals must steal no longer; honest day's labor. This honest toil will

but rather he must labor, performing with his own hands what is good, so that he will have something to share with one who has need." Ephesians 4:28 NASB

Stealing, pilfering, taking something that does not belong to you, is a common and widespread characteristic of the old human na-

ture. The believer is to lay aside this sinful and deceptive practice and steal no more. Instead the believer is to live righteously by working and doing an

provide for his needs and also

allow him to share with others in their time of need. Instead of selfishness, which is at the root of stealing, a believer is to be generous to others.

Lord Jesus, help me to live righteously by working, doing something useful and beneficial for my family and others.

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

INSPIRATION

Peace

Have you ever felt broken or lost? Have you awoke to find that the day will be a little harder than you hoped? Do you ever ask yourself how will I make it

through? Well, wonder no longer because God has a solution for all your ailments! Philippians 4:4-7 (NIV) puts it all in perspective "Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving,

present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus." As followers of Christ, we must remember that God will never abandon you. We face trials

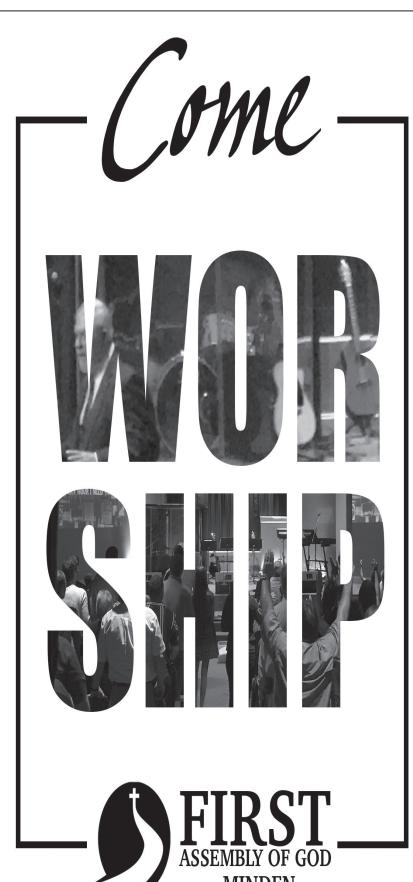
and tribulations in our lives to make us stronger as people and to strengthen our faith in God. God loves you and he wants you to call on him for all your needs. He

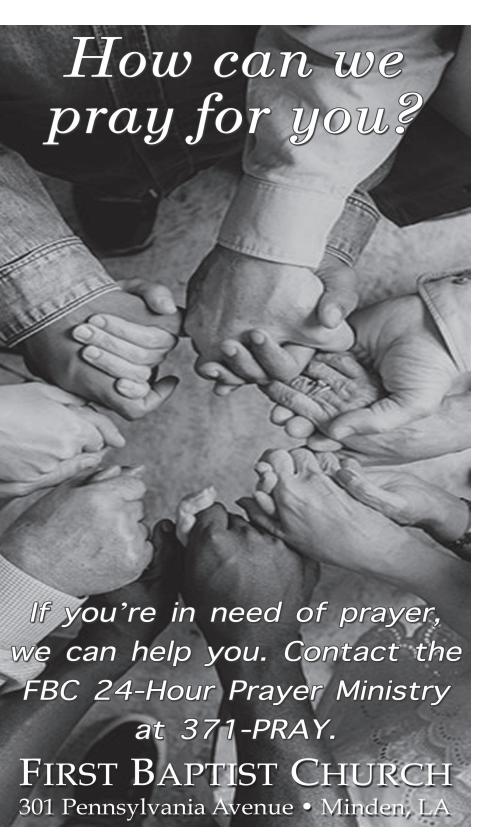
may not answer in the way and at the time you expect him to answer but he will give you the peace you need while you wait. In closing, this week's article would like to encourage everyone to follow Philippians 4 to pray and petition and seek the lord's peace in all matters of their lives.



Bernard Harris

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





Answers: A. neck B. gland C. hormones D. regulate

⊙** △ ⑧ ♣ ~ ● ዻ ♦ * ✿ × ≉ + ※ * ▲ ◎ * ♂ ★ № た ≏ Ω δ A B C D E F G H i J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

Determine the code to reveal the answer!

Solve the code to discover words related to thyroid health. Each number corresponds to a letter. (Hint: 3 = E)

3 20 Α.

Clue: Below the head

7 **13** 2 В.

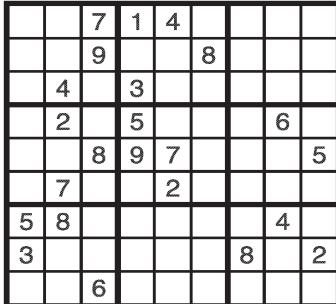
Clue: Secreting organ

15 6 5 15

Clue: Substances in tissues and blood

3 **25** D.

Clue: Control or maintain



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!

Level: Advanced

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!

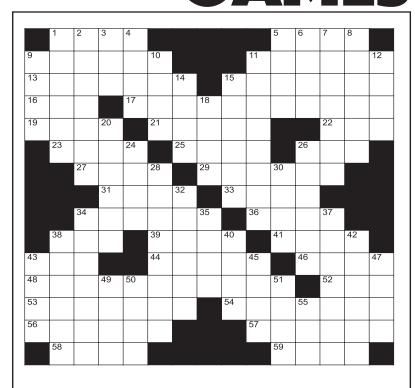
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HISWER:



those who qualify. One coupon per household. No obligation estimate valid for 1 year. **Offer valid at time of estimate only, 2The leading consumer repo r those who quality. One coupon per household. No obligation estimate valid for 1 year. ***Offer valid at time of estimate only. 21he leading consumer repor noy conducted a 16 month outdoor test of gutter guards in 2010 and recognized Leaffilter as the "#1 rated professionally installed gutter guard syster erica." Manufactured in Plainwell, Michigan and processed at LMT Mercer Group in Ohio. See Representative for full warranty details. Registration# 0366920 B# 1035795 Registration# HIC.0649905 License# ECC056678 License# RCE-51604 Registration# C127230 License# 559544 Suffolk HIC License# 52229-H Licer 2212986 License# 262000022 License# 262000403 License# 2106212946 License# MHIC111225 Registration# 176447 License# 423330 Registration# IR731 nse# 50145 License# 408693 Registration# 1374Up9953900 Registration# H-19114 License# 218294 Registration# PA069383 License# 41354 License# 7656 D 783658-5501 License# 423330 License# 2705169445 License# LEAFFNW822JZ License# WV056912

FUN &



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Slovenian mountain
- 5. Growl
- 9. Where things stand
- 11. Made a sharp sound 13. Female spirit in Irish folklore
- 15. Deteriorate with age
- 16. A way to save for retirement 17. The Big Apple
- 19. Intestinal pouches
- 21. City in New Hampshire
- 22. Giving a bad impression
- 23. Samsung laptops
- 25. Without (French)
- 26. Scientist's tool (abbr.)
- 27. System of one more computers 57. Breathes while asleep
- 29. Captures
- 31. Authentic

- 33. Female mammal's nipple
- 34. Pandemonium
- 36. Satisfy
- 38. Arrived extinct 39. Shipborne radar (abbr.)
- 41. Network of nerves
- 43. Monetary unit
- 44. Showed old TV show 46. They help you hear
- 48. One who eliminates
- 52. Congress' investigative arm
- 53. Parties
- 54. Most supernatural
- 56. Takes illegally
- 58. Sea eagles
- 59. German surname

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Looks at for a long time
- 2. Solution for diseases
- 3. Belonging to a thing
- 4. Former Packers fullback 5. Contemptible person
- 6. One billionth of a second
- (abbr.) 7. Helps
- 8. Final section of the large intestine
- 9. Invests in little enterprises
- 10. Look for
- 11. Unbeliefs
- 12. Susan and Tom are two
- 14. Female sheep
- 15. A poet writes it
- 18. Affirmatives 20. "Full House" actress Barber
- 24. Traveled rapidly

- 26. Long upholstered seat
- 28. Set wages
- 30. Peter Gabriel song
- 32. Sides of a jacket
- 34. More beautiful 35. Actress Kate
- 37. Furniture with open shelves
- 38. Indicate
- 40. The cost of a room
- 42. Gets rid of something
- 43. Impudence
- 45. No No No 47. Drunkards
- 49. Middle eastern country 50. High energy lasers (abbr.)
- 51. Primary component of

ribosomes 55. An informal debt instrument.

S Ε С т | м S S Ε Ε S S Ν О R Ε U Ε R

S



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\$16.50

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* Garage Sale ads must be prepaid.

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Cash Checks, Billing

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

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ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

VILLAGE OF DIXIE INN (hereinafter referred to as the

Sealed bids marked "Sealed Bid" VILLAGE OF DIXIE INN Love Louisiana Outdoors Project to be financed by the State of Louisiana Love Louisiana Outdoors Program will be received by the Owner for the construction of the project described as follows:

VILLAGE OF DIXIE

Love Louisiana Outdoors Project Dixie Inn Park- Restroom and Picnic Shelters

Proposals shall be addressed to the VILLAGE OF DIXIE INN and delivered to the Village of DIXIE INN Town Hall, 60 SHELL STREET, MIN-DEN, LA 71055 not later than 2:00 P.M., THURSDAY, APRIL 6, 2023. Sealed bids shall be marked as "Sealed Bid" – VILLAGE OF DIXIE INN Love Louisiana Outdoors Project to be financed by the State of Louisiana Love Louisiana Outdoors Program. All bids must be submitted on the proper bid form. The Contractor shall display his Contractor's license number prominently on the outside of the envelope. Any bids received after the specified time and date will not be considered. The sealed bids will be publicly opened and read aloud at 2:00 P.M., THURSDAY, APRIL 6 2023 at the Village of DIXIE INN Town Hall, 60 Shell Street,

The Information for Bidders, Form of Bid Proposal, Form of Contract, Plans, Specifications, and Forms of Bid Bond, Performance and Payment Bond, and other contract documents may be examined at the Village of Dixie Inn. Copies may be obtained at the office of the Engineer, COTHREN, GRAFF, SMOAK ENGINEER ING, INC., upon payment of \$50.00 which amount constitutes the cost of reproduction and handling. This payment will not be refunded.

Minden, Louisiana

The Owner reserves the right to reject any and all bids for just cause; such actions will be in accordance with Title 38 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes. All bidders must sign: (1) the Bid, (2) Certificate of Corporate Principal and Surety, (3) any Addenda íssuéd, ánd (4) Bid Bond which always must accompany the bid in the correct

amount. A Corporate Resolution authorizing a representative of the corporation to sign the bid must accompany the bid, if the bidder is

a corporation. Each bidder must deposit with his/her bid, security in the amount form, and subject to the conditions provided in the Information for Bidders. Sureties used for obtaining bonds must appear as acceptable on the U.S. Department of Treasury Circular 570.

No bidder may withdraw his/her bid within thirty (30) days after the actual date of the opening thereof.

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

The Contractor Classification for the project is:

BUILDING CONSTRUCTION

Attention of Bidders is particularly called to the requirement as to conditions of employment to be observed and minimum wage rates to be paid under the Contract, Section Segregated Facilities. Section 109. Executive Order 11246, and all applicable laws and regulations of the Federal government and State of Louisiana and bonding and insurance require-

The <u>successful</u> bidder must submit executed copies of Certifica-tion Regarding Equal Employment Öppor tunity, Section 3 and Segregated Facilities, Section 3 Plan with Tables A and B, Certification Concerning

Labor Standards and all subcontractors certifications prior to contract execution.

The successful bidder will be required to execute the Owner's Standard Form of Agreement/ Contract for construction together with the Performance and Payment Bonds within ten (10) working days after normal award of contract.

The Contractor shall begin mobilization and procurement of materials within ten (10) working days of the receipt of the Notice to

Please notify the Owner seven (7) days in advance of the scheduled bid opening if special accommoda tions specified under ADA are required.

The Owner hereby notifies all bidders that in regard to any contract entered into pursuant to this Adver tisement, that Minority Business Enterprises will be afforded equal opportunity to submit offers in résponse to this invitation and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color sex, national origin or disability in consider ation for an award.

March 8, 2023 March 15, 2023 March 22, 2023 Minden Press-Herald

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

PLEASANT VALLEY WATER SYSTEM

1098 Greene Road

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 St (West Entrance), Minden, LA 71058 until 2:00 P.M. TUESDAY, APRIL 4TH 2023, and then at said office publicly opened and read aloud as permitted by public bid law. This is in accordance with La

(b), the provisions of La R.S. 38:2212. Each bidder must have an active Unique Fntity 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

Copies of the CONTRACT DOCUMENTS may be obtained at the office of COTHREN, GRAFF, SMOAK ENGINEER ING, 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.

March 8, 2023 March 15, 2023 March 22, 2023 Minden Press-Herald

The Minden Housing Authority will hold a Public Meeting on April 17, 2023 at 10:00 a.m., at 1209 East Street, to receive comments on the 2023 Annual PHA Plan and 2023-2027 Capital Fund 5-Year Action Plan Budgets /2023 Annual Statement.

All documents are on display and available for viewing at the office of the Housing Authority, located at 1209 East Street, Monday through Thursday, between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

March 8, 2023 March 15, 2023 Minden Press-Herald

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

CYPRESS WATER

129 Willow Street Address

Heflin, LA 71039

Separate sealed BIDS for the construction of

NEW WATER WELLS

will be received by the CYPRESS WATER **SYSTEM** at the Heflin Town Hall South, 122 N. Church Street, Heflin, Louisiana 71039 until 10:00 A.M. Thursday, April 13, 2023, and then at said office pub licly opened and read aloud as permitted by public bid law. This is 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

Copies of the CON-TRACT DOCUMENTS may be obtained at the office of COTHREN, GRAFF, SMOAK ENGINEER-ING, 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.

March 15, 2023 March 22, 2023 March 29, 2023 Minden Press-Herald

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

CYPRESS WATER SYSTEM

129 Willow Street Address

Heflin, Louisiana

71039 City, State, Zip Separate sealed

BIDS for the construction of Contract II- Water <u>Distribution Improve-</u> ments

will be received by the **CYPRESS WATER** SYSTEM at the **Heflin Town Hall** South, 122 N. Church Street, Heflin, Louisi-ana 71039 until 10:00 A.M. Thursday, April 13, 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

Copies of the CONTRACT DOCU-MENTS may be obtained at the office of COTHREN, GRAFF, SMOAK ENGINEER ING, INC. upon payment of \$_75.00 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.

March 15, 2023 March 22, 2023 March 29, 2023 Minden Press-Herald

Public Notice On March 09,

2023, the Judges of the Twenty-Sixth Judicial District Court amended the 2022 Judicial Expense Fund Budget to decrease the Transfer from Child Support Fund to \$212,312.58 as well as to decrease the Beginning Fund Balance to \$1,789,041.00. Should you wish to view the Amended Budget, you may do so in Bossier Parish at 204 Burt Blvd., 5th Floor and in Webster Parish at 410 Main St,

March 22, 2023 Minden Press-Herald

VILLAGE OF DOYLINE COUNCIL MEETING

MARCH 6TH, 2023

THE COUNCIL MEET-ING OF THE MAYOR AND BOARD OF AL-DERMEN FOR DOY-WAS HELD AT THE DOYLINE VILLAGE

HALL ON MONDAY, MARCH 6TH, 2023 AT 6:00 PM, PURSUANT TO DUE NOTICE

CRYSTAL GATES, MAYOR

March 22, 2023 Minden Press-Herald

SHERIFF'S SALE

LAKEVIEW LOAN

SERVICING, LLC

SHELENA R. SELL-ERS, INDIVIDU-ALLY AND AS SUR-

VIVING SPOUSE IN COMMUNITY

GREENE, JR.

WITH RICHARD R.

In the Twenty-Sixth Judicial District

Court of Webster Parish, Louisiana,

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

to me directed, I

have seized and taken into my pos-

session and will of-

fer for sale at public auction to the last

and highest bidder for cash WITH-

OUT the benefit of

appraisement and according to law at

the principal front door of the Court-

Minden, Webster Parish, Louisiana

on WEDNESDAY

March 29, 2023

During the legal

Commencing at

the intersection of the North side of

Monroe and the West side of Col-

and run South 75

distance of 132.5 feet; thence run

North 17 degrees West 280 feet to the

Point of Beginning;

106 feet; thence run

thence run South 75 degrees West 217.5

South 17 degrees East 98.5 feet more

or less; thence run North 75 degrees East 119 feet to the

Point of Begin-ning located in the

Southwest Quarter

Quarter of Section

of the Southwest

22. Township 19

North, Range

West, Minden

Webster Parish

Louisiana, together

with all improve-ments thereon and

ALSO the perpetual use of the alley 12

mencing 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

Sanitarum to A.B.

in Conveyance Book 33, Page

Moreland recorded

216 of the Convey-

Louisiana in which

ance Records of

deed the alley is

more particularly

described as fol-

Beginning at the intersection of

run 75 degrees

West along Monroe Street 132.5 feet to

the point of begin-

ning; thence run North 17 degrees

thence run North

75 degrees East 12 feet; thence run

South 17 degrees

thence run South

feet to the point of

beginning located

in Webster Parish

with all buildings

Louisiana, together

and improvements

SOLD SUBJECT

MORTGAGES OR PRIVILEGES

Said property seized is that of the

defendant and will

be sold to satisfy a

judgment rendered

in our Honorable

TO ANY SUPE-

RIOR LIENS,

THERETO.

Court.

75 degrees West 12

West 280 feet:

Fast 280 feet:

lows:

all rights thereto

feet wide com-

belonging

Thence run North

75 degrees East

North 22 degrees West 99 feet;

feet; thence run

degrees West a

lege (Union) Streets

to wit:

sale hours, the following property,

house in the City of

numbered suit and

No. 80327

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT WERE STEVEN BRIDWELL 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 STEVE BRIDWELL.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY STEVE **BRIDWELL AND** SECONDED BY JAKE DANIELS TO ADD CONFIRMATION OF OUR NOMINEES TO THE WEBSTER PARISH BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS FOR FIRE DISTRICT #3 TO THE AGENDA.

THE MOTION CAR-RIED; AYES 2 NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 1 ABSTAIN: 0

A MOTION WAS MADE BY STEVE BRIDWELL AND SECONDED BY JAKIE DANIELS TO CONSIDER A CITIZENS' REQUEST FOR CULVERT WORK, ADDING IT TO THÉ AGENDA. (A RESOLUTION FOR SAID WORK WILL BE DRAWN UP FOR THE NEXT COUNCIL MEETING).

THE MOTION CAR-RIED; AYES 2 NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 1 ABSTAIN: 0

A MOTION WAS MADE BY JAKIE DANIELS AND SECONDED BY STEVEN BRIDWELL TO CONFIRM JAMES **EVERETT WATSON** AND FRED WEAVER AS OUR NOMINEES TO THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS FOR FIRE DISTRCT

THE MOTION CAR-RIED; AYES 2 NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 1 ABSTAIN: 0

A MOTION WAS MADE BY STEVEN BRIDWELL AND SECONDED BY JAKIE DANIELS TO APPROVE THE FEBRUARY 2023 COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES.

THE MOTION CAR-RIED; AYES 2 NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 1 ABSTAIN: 0

A MOTION WAS MADE BY JAKIE DANIFI S TO AP PROVE THE FEBRU-ARY 2023 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS SEC-ONDED BY STEVE BRIDWELL.

THE MOTION CAR-RIED; AYES 2 NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 1 ABSTAIN: 0

A MOTION WAS MADE BY JAKIE DANIELS AND SEC ONDED BY STEVE BRIDWELL TO ENACT AN AMENDE MENT TO ORDI-NANCE 1989-5A, TO INCREASE SEWER RATES.

THE MOTION CAR-RIED; AYES 2 NAYS: 0 AB ABSENT: 1 ABSTAIN: 0

A MOTION WAS MADE BY STEVE BRIDWELL AND SEC-ONDED BY JAKIE DANIELS TO ENACT RESOLUTION 2023-1A, WHICH IS A MINOR MODIFICA-TION TO RESOLU-TION 2023-1, TO REQUEST WEBSTER PARISH POLICE JURY ASSISTANCE **PERFORMING** MAINTENANCE ON **CULVERTS AROUND** OF WILLIS & COL-LEGE.

THE MOTION CAR-RIED; AYES 2 NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 1 ABSTAIN: 0

JOHNNY MONT-GOMERY (ABSENT), MAINTENANCE REPORT

SEWER OPERATOR JAMES HILL, CLERK'S REPORT

MIKE DUNAWAY.

ROBBY HAYDEN, POLICE CHIEF-CHIEF'S REPORT

THE MOTION CAR-

JAMES HILL

VILLAGE CLERK

RIED; AYES 2 NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 1 ABSTAIN: 0

A MOTION WAS MADE BY STEVE JASON R. PARKER **BRIDWELL TO AD** Sheriff & Ex-Officio JOURN THE MEET-Auctioneer ING, SECONDED BY Webster Parish, JAKIE DANIELS Louisiana

> Linda Vaughan -Deputy February 22, 2023 March 22, 2023

Minden Press-Herald

SHERIFF'S SALE

AMERIHOME MORTGAGE COM-PANY, LLC CHAD DARST AND LEAH DARST

In the Twenty-Sixth Judicial District Court of Webster Parish, Louisiana, No. 80455

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, have seized and taken into my possession and will offer for sale at public auction to the last and highest bidder for cash <u>WITH</u> the benefit of appraisement and according to law at the principal front door of the Courthouse in the City of Minden, Webster Parish, Louisiana on WEDNESDAY April 26, 2023,

During the legal

following property,

sale hours, the

to wit:

Lot 22 and the West Half of Lot 22-A, North Acres Addition, Unit No. 4, located in the Northeast Quarter of the Southwest Quarter (NE/4 of SW/4) of Section 2. Township 23 North, Range 11 West; Springhill, Webster Parish, Louisiana, as per map and plat thereof on file and of record on the Office of the Clerk of Court of the District Court and Ex-Officio recorder in and for said parish in Map book 3, Page 109;

A Tract of land being the South 40 feet of the West 150 feet of the East 10.84 acres of Government Lot 3 in the Southeast Quarter of the Northwest Quarter of Section 2, Township 23 North, Range 11 West, City of Springhill, Webster Parish, Louisiana and more particu-larly described as follows: Beginning at the Southwest corner of said West 150 feet of the East 10.84 acres of Government Lot 3, being a 5/8 inch rebar; Thence North 01 degrees 04 minutes 56 seconds East a distance of 40.00 feet along the West line of said tract being described in Book 1041, Page 43 of the Webster Parish Conveyance Records (W.P.C.R.), being a 5/8 inch re-bar; Thence South 89 degrees 06 minutes 48 seconds East a distance of 150.00 feet to the East line of said

tract described in Book 1041, Page 43 W.P.C.R., being a 5/8 inch rebar; Thence South 01 degrees 04 minutes 56 seconds West a distance of 40.00 feet to the South line of said tract. coincident with the North line of the North Acres Addition, Unit No. 3, as shown in Plat Book 3A, Page 105, being a 5/8 inch rebar; Thence North 89 Monroe and College (Union) Streets and degrees 06 minutes 48 seconds West a distance of 150.00 feet back to the Point of Beginning of Tract herein de-scribed; subject to restricitions, servitudes, rights-of-way and outstanding

> property. **SOLD SUBJECT** TO ANY SUPERIOR LIENS, MORTGAGES OR PRIVILEGES THERETO.

mineral rights of record affecting the

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

March 22, 2023 April 19, 2023 Minden Press-Herald

PAGE 008-2023

MINUTES OF THE ROAD COMMITTEE WEBSTER PARISH March 7, 2023

MEMBERS PRES-ENT: Steve Ramsey, Chairman: Jim Bonsall, Cayla Cox, Allen Gilbert, Adam

Lee, Beverly Kennon, Randy Thomas, Mike Griffith, Steve Lemmons and Daniel Thomas. Absent: Bruce Blanton and Vera Davison

Mr. Steve Ramsev called the meeting to order and asked Mr. Steve Lemmons to open the meeting with prayer. Mr. Steve

Ramsey asked for additions to the agenda. Ms. Beverly Kennon moved, seconded by Mr. Daniel Thomas to add Walter Lyons Road to the agenda. Motion carried unani-

Mr. Chris Bagwell, Permit Officer gave a report on the permits issued in February

mously.

2023 A lengthy discussion followed about pulling permits when a company isn't in compliance regarding heavy equipment loads.
Ordinance 994 will be on the April agenda for discussion

Mr. Daniel Thomas moved, seconded by Mr. Randy Thomas to approve the Mowing Contract for 2023 with North Webster Construction, LLC to include 3 rounds for 2023 at the same price as last year.
Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Allen Gilbert moved, seconded by Mr. Daniel Thomas to approve the Resolution from the City of Springhill for cold mix for 2023 using Munici-pality Funding. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr .lim Bonsall moved, seconded by Ms. Beverly Kennon to approve the Resolution from the Town of Siblev for culvert installation and ditching on Fraizer Ave, SE 5th Ave; and Natchitoches Street and SE 2nd Ave. using Municipality Funding. Motion carried unanimously.

No action taken on Harvell Day Road

Mr. Brad Graff led discussion on Lake Road. There are several base failures on the areas that were not repaired earlier by Comstock. Mr. Graff recommends that the entire Lake Road should have been soil cemented. Jim Bonsall will write a letter to LLC to discuss this

Mr. Jim Bonsall moved, seconded by Mr. Daniel Thomas to approve bids that were taken on March 1, 2023 to award Continental Drilling for Salt Works Water Sys tem, FY2021 LCDBG grant. Motion carried

matter.

Ms. Beverly Kennon discussed a littering problem on Walter Lyons Road in the parish. The permit officer and Webster Parish will look into this

unanimously.

There being no further husiness to bring before the committee, the meeting adjourned.

Lisa C. Balkom Secretary-Treasurer

Steve Ramsey Chairman

FINANCE COMMITTEE WEBSTER PARISH March 7, 2023

MINUTES OF THE

Members Present: Beverly Kennon, Chairman; Jim Bon-sall, Vice Chairman; Daniel Thomas, Steve Ramsey, Adam Lee, Allen Gilbert, Cayla Cox, Randy Thomas, Steve Lemmons and Mike Griffith Absent: Vera Davison and Bruce Blanton

called the meeting to order and asked for additions to the agenda.

Ms. Beverly Kennon

Mr. Steve Ramsey moved, seconded by Mr. Allen Gilbert to approve the January 2023 Financial State ment, Check Register and Bank Reconciliation. Motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Beverly Kennon presented the Financial Reports for the month of February 2023 to be approved at the April Meeting.

Mr. Daniel Thomas moved, seconded by Ms. Cayla Cox to

Continued on Next Page....

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Attorney

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a general practice in Baton Rouge,

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firm@gmail.com

(LA-SCAN)

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report. Call for a

free credit repair

consultation: 1-888-

521-0958 John C.

Heath, Attorney at

approve the mileage increase to .65 per mile per Louisiana Workforce Commission rates. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Randy Thomas moved, seconded by Mr. Steve Lemmons to approve a Change Order for the Webster Parish Health Unit Contract in the amount of \$3,008.50. Motion carried unanimously.

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

/s/ Lisa C. Balkom Secretary-Treasurer

/s/ Beverly Kennon Chairman

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING WEBSTER PARISH POLICE JURY March 7, 2023

MEMBERS PRES-ENT: Jim Bonsall, President; Steve Ramsey, Vice President; Cayla Cox, Allen Gilbert, Daniel Thomas, Beverly Kennon, Randy Thomas, Mike Griffith, Steve Lemmons and Adam Lee Absent: Vera Davison and Bruce Blanton

Mr. Jim Bonsall called the meeting to order and asked Mr. Steve Lemmons to open the meeting with prayer. Mr. Allen Gilbert led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Mr. Daniel Thomas moved, seconded by Ms. Beverly Kennon to approve invoices for payment pending review by juror Jim Bonsall. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Mike Griffith moved, seconded by Mr. Randy Thomas to adopt the minutes of the February 7, 2023 Road, Finance and Regular Meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Randy Thomas moved, seconded by Mr. Daniel Thomas to approve the Board Appointment for the Evergreen Volunteer Fire Protection District: Reappoint Emmett Jones to a 2-year term that expires 12/31/2024. Motion

carried unanimously

Mr. Adam Lee moved, seconded by Mr. Allen Gilbert to approve Board Appointments for the Webster Parish Fire Protection District #3: to reappoint J T Rudisill to serve a 3-year term to beginning 03/01/2023 and to expire 03/01/2025. Motion carried unani-

COMMENTS: Melinda Davidson WPOCS Director Wanda Finley WPPJ Head Start Savannah Jones WP Library Allen Moseley WP Coroner Col. Carl Thompson WP Assessor/Denise Edwards Shakera Williams LSU/AG Director Brian Williams **OEP/HS Director** Angie Chapman E911 Director John Barr Senator John Kennedy Cathy Babers Congressman Mike Johnson Jessica Gorman **Dorcheat Historical** Museum

Ms. Dorothy Henderson, resident of Webster Parish addressed the jury with questions about addressing and setting a mailbox on her property. Discussion followed.

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

Ms. Beverly Kennon moved, seconded by Mr. Randy Thomas to approve the action taken at the Finance Committee Meeting held earlier today. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Jim Bonsall then gave Presidents' closing remarks. There being no further business to bring before the Jury, the meeting adjourned.

Lisa C. Balkom Secretary-Treasure

/s/ Jim Bonsall President

March 22, 2023 Minden Press-Herald Town Of Sibley

9.0. Box 128
345 N. Main Street
Sibley, Louisiana 71073

March 13, 2023

The Sibley Town Council met in regular session on Monday, March 13, 2023 at 6pm in the Sibley Town Hall Meeting Room.

Members present were Mayor Jimmy Williams, Aldermen: Wayne Bolton, Helen Chanler, Richard Davis and Alan Myers. Robert Smart was absent.

Mayor Williams opened the meeting in prayer; then led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Wayne Bolton motioned to accept the minutes to the February 20, 2023 Regular Meeting as read, Helen Chanler seconded. Motion carried.

No New Items were added to the agenda.

No Public Comments.

Alan Myers motioned to enter into the Public Hearing on proposed Ordinance No. 109-A titled AN ORDINANCE GRANTING CENTERPOINT ENERGY RESOURCES CORP., D/B/A CENTERPOINT ENERGY LOUISIANA GAS, THE RIGHT TO CONSTRUCT, INSTALL, OPERATE AND MAINTAIN FACILITIES FOR THE TRANSPORTATION, DISTRIBUTION AND SALE OF GAS IN THE MUNICIPALITY AND FOR SUCH PURPOSES, TO USE AND EXCAVATE IN THE PUBLIC HIGHWAYS, STREETS, SIDEWALKS, ALLEYS, SQUARES, COMMONS, GROUNDS, AND OTHER PUBLICLY OWNED AREAS AND LEVYING A FRANCHISE (PRIVILEGE) TAX FOR THAT PURPOSE, Richard Davis seconded. Motion carried.

Alan Myers motioned to close the public hearing and re-enter the Regular Meeting, Wayne Bolton seconded. Motion carried.

Richard Davis motioned to consider proposed Ordinance No. 109-A titled <u>AN ORDINANCE GRANTING CENTERPOINT ENERGY RESOURCES CORP.</u>, D/B/A CENTERPOINT ENERGY LOUISIANA GAS, THE RIGHT TO CONSTRUCT, INSTALL., OPERATE AND MAINTAIN FACILITIES FOR THE TRANSPORATTION, DISTRIBUTION AND SALE OF GAS IN THE MUNICIPALITY AND FOR SUCH PURPOSES, TO USE AND EXCAVATE IN THE PUBLIC HIGHWAYS, STREETS, SIDEWALKS, ALLEYS, SQUARES, COMMONS, GROUNDS, AND OTHER PUBLICLY OWNED AREAS AND LEVYING A FRANCHISE (PRIVILEGE) TAX FOR THAT PURPOSE, Helen Chanler seconded. Motion carried with the following vote:

YEAS: 4 - Wayne Bolton, Helen Chanler, Richard Davis and Alan Myers NAYS: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 ABSENT: 1 – Robert Smar Ordinance No. 109-A was adopted.

Richard Davis motioned to adopt Resolution No. 2023-02 requesting assistance from the Webster Parish Police Jury with culvert installation and ditching on Frazier Ave., SE 5th Ave., and at Natchitoches & SE 2^{nd} Ave. Alan Myers seconded. Motion carried.

Richard Davis motioned to adopt Resolution No. 2023-03 submitting to the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality, the 2022 Municipal Water Pollution Prevention Environmental Audit Report the actions to maintain permit requirements contained in the Louisiana Pollution Discharge Elimination System permit. Wayne Bolton seconded. Motion carried.

Assistant Fire Chief Richard Davis gave the February 2023 activity report for the Sibley Volunteer Fire Department.

Officer Tony Miller gave the February 2023 activity report for the Sibley Police Department.

The Board acknowledged the receipt of the February 2023 Financial Reports.

The mayor gave updates for a tentatively set Annual Clean-Up Day for April 15, 2023.

Alan Myers motioned to adjourn, Helen Chanler seconded. Motion carried

Meeting adjourned

March 22, 2023

Attest:

Jimmy Williams
Mayor

Sherry McCann
Town Clerk

Minden Press-Herald

ORDINANCE NO. <u>109-A</u>

AN ORDINANCE GRANTING CENTERPOINT ENERGY RESOURCES CORP., D/B/A CENTERPOINT ENERGY LOUISIANA GAS, THE RIGHT TO CONSTRUCT, INSTALL, OPERATE AND MAINTAIN FACILITIES FOR THE TRANSPORTATION, DISTRIBUTION AND SALE OF GAS IN THE MUNICIPALITY AND, FOR SUCH PURPOSES, TO USE AND EXCAVATE IN THE PUBLIC HIGHWAYS, STREETS, SIDEWALKS, ALLEYS, SQUARES, COMMONS, GROUNDS, AND OTHER PUBLICLY OWNED AREAS AND LEVYING A FRANCHISE (PRIVILEGE) TAX FOR THAT PURPOSE.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE TOWN OF

CenterPoint Energy Resources Corp., d/b/a CenterPoint Energy Louisiana Gas, its successors and assigns, hereinafter called "Grantee," is hereby granted the right to construct, install, operate and maintain in this municipality, as now and hereafter constituted, pipelines and related facilities for the transportation, distribution and sale of gas ("Facilities") and for such purposes to use, and excavate in, the public highways, bridges, streets, sidewalks, alleys, squares, commons, grounds and other publicly owned areas ("Public Rights-of-Way") for a period of twenty (20) years. This franchise constitutes a permit to construct, remove, operate, and maintain the Facilities within the Public Rights-of-Way and to park vehicles in the streets and other Public Rights-of-Way when necessary for the construction, removal, operation, or maintenance of Facilities. Grantee and contractors performing work for Grantee shall not be required to obtain any permits in addition to this franchise or to pay any fee in addition to the fee stated below in order to perform such work or to park within the streets and other Public Rights-of-Way. The term shall automatically renew for one-year periods unless either party gives notice of termination at least ninety (90) days prior to the expiration of the then-current term; provided, however, that the term shall not exceed a total of sixty (60) years from the effective date of this franchise.

Grantee's facilities shall be installed and operated in a workman like manner, and this Municipality shall be held harmless from any damages caused by the negligence of Grantee's employees in the course of their employment. Grantee shall tunnel beneath paved streets, sidewalks and alleys wherever practical in laying and replacing mains. Grantee shall refill its excavations and restore sidewalks and pavements promptly, and if this is not done within a reasonable time then it may be done by the Municipality at Grantee's expense. Grantee's lines shall be laid so as not to interfere with the present sewer and/or water system, and if a new sewer and/or water line crosses Grantee's pipeline at the same level, then this Municipality may, if Grantee has not done so after reasonable notice, raise or lower Grantee's line at Grantee's expense but only under Grantee's supervision. However, if any relocation of Grantee's pipelines and/or related facilities is required as a result of any project of the United States federal government or any project financed in whole or in part by the United States federal government and by which the Town of Sibley, LA receives federal funding or monies as a part of said projects, then the Town of Sibley shall pay the Grantee the costs and expenses incurred by Grantee in relocating Grantee's pipelines and/or related facilities up to but not greater than the total finances provided to the Town of Sibley in connection with any such projects by the United States federal government requiring relocation of Grantee's pipelines and/or related facilities.

This Municipality may inspect Grantee's construction work at any time, or have said work inspected by a qualified engineer.

The point of delivery of gas to the consumer shall be at the inlet to the consumer's meter, and service pipe and facilities necessary to safely receive and utilize the gas at and beyond that point of delivery shall be furnished and maintained by the consumer, except that Grantee shall furnish and connect the gas meter. Title to all equipment installed by Grantee shall remain in Grantee, and Grantee shall have the unqualified right to use, extend, repair, replace, change, abandon or remove facilities installed under the authority of this grant or any other facilities as it may determine to be necessary or desirable from time to time in the conduct of its business. Grantee will not be obligated to commence, extend or continue any particular gas service by means of facilities installed under the authority of this grant or any other facilities except as Grantee may determine the prudent management and use of its present and future gas supply and facilities to

permit and in accordance with Grantee's applicable rates, rules, regulations, policies and procedures, including curtailment procedures, as the same may exist and be changed from time to time. Grantee may promulgate and enforce reasonable rules, regulations and requirements governing the sale, delivery, receipt and use of gas furnished by Grantee and the commencement and discontinuance of gas service.

Grantee's rates currently effective in this Municipality for gas service shall continue in effect until raised or lowered in the manner provided by law.

In consideration of this grant, beginning on the date Grantee files its written acceptance of this ordinance and thereafter for as long as this ordinance remains in effect in accordance with its terms, Grantee shall pay to the Town of Sibley three percent (3%) of Grantee's gross receipts from gas sales to residential and commercial customers located inside the city limits. Amounts due hereunder shall be computed quarterly for the periods ending March 31, June 30, September 30 and December 31, and payments shall be made within thirty (30) days after the expiration of the quarter with respect to which the payment is due.

This franchise ordinance will not be effective unless it is accepted by Grantee by written notice delivered or mailed to the Mayor within 90 days after the date of its passage and publication as required by law.

The provisions hereof are intended to be separate and severable, and the holding of any portion hereof to be invalid shall not affect the other portions.

Richard Davis motioned to adopt Ordinance No. 109-A, Helen Chanler seconded. Motion carried with the following vote:

YEAS: 4 – Wayne Bolton, Helen Chanler, Richard Davis, Alan Myers NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 1 – Robert Smart

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 13th day of March , 2023

ATTEST:

Sherry McCann, Town Clerk

Minden Press-Herald

March 22, 2023

VILLAGE OF DOYLINE AN ORDINANANCE AMENDMENT TO

ARTICLE VI; SECTIONS 6 & 7 OF ORDINANCE 5 OF 1989 ESTABLISHING NEW RATES FOR SEWER USE

BE IT ORDAINED AND ENACTED by the Mayor and Board of Aldermen for the Village of Doyline, Louisiana, the governing authority thereof, in its regular session convened on the 6th day of MARCH, 2023, that Ordinance 5 of 1989 be amended as follows:

Residential Rate

Monthly minimum per meter - \$23.00 Charge per 1000 gallons - \$4.00

Commercial Rate

Monthly minimum per meter - \$25.00 Charge per 1000 gallons - \$4.00

School Rate

Monthly minimum per meter - \$120.00 Charge per 1000 gallons - \$4.00

The above established rates shall be and are hereby ordained to be effective MARCH 21, 2023 and said rates will be changed in the future by resolution.

This amendment to ARTICLE VI; SECTIONS 6 & 7 OF Ordinance 5A of 1989 for the Village of Doyline was read and considered at an open meeting of the Village Council on MARCH 6th, 2023. Upon a motion made by Jakie Doniels, seconded by Showell, the following vote was taken:

YEAS: 2 NAYS: Ø ABSENT:| I ABSTAIN: Ø

CRYSTAL GATES

Attest:

JAMES HILL
TOWN CLERK
March 22, 2023
Minden Press-Herald

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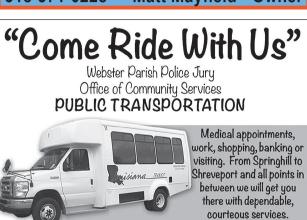
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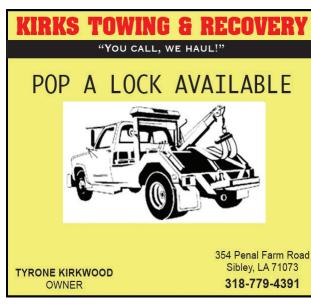
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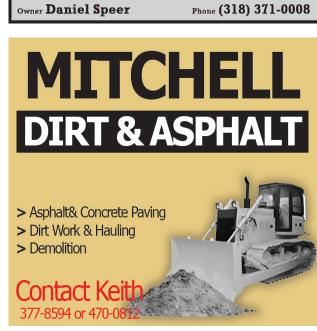






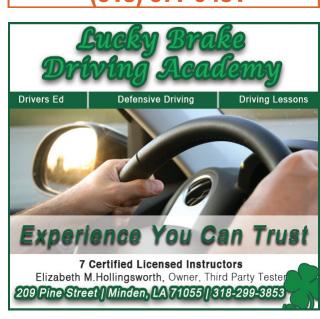






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12 | WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22, 2023

BLOTTER

Recent Arrests in Webster Parish

Jaleshia Sims, 26, of the 900 block of Carolina Street, was arrested for failure to appear in court.

Damaric Henderson, 33, of the 200 block of Washington Street, was arrested for domestic abuse battery.

Codera Brew, 34, of the 100 block of Milton Drive, was arrested for driving while intoxicated first offense, hit and run, reckless operation of a motor vehicle, driving under suspension, and on a warrant.

Marcel Williams, 39, of the 1400 block of Grisby Street, was arrested for failure to appear in court.

David Jacobson, 52, of the 1800 block of Gravier Street, was arrested for theft.

Clyde Gibson, 46, was arrested for criminal mischief misuse of 911.

Deshawn Gipson was arrested for theft.

Norrell Washington, 35, of the 100 block of Millard Fuller Road was arrested for driving under suspension and general speeding.

Kadarius Ferrell, 22, of the 600 block of Morrow Street, was arrested for possession of a schedule I substance, possession of paraphernalia, driving with an open container, and general speeding.

Daigonni Ferguson, 27, of the 1400 block of Lewisville Road, was arrested for failure to appear in court.

Jamarea Manning, 30, was arrested on multiple warrants.

Devon Jones, 18, of the 100 block of Stonewood Road, was arrested on war-

Timothy Washington, 50, of the theft of a firearm, simple battery, access device fraud, theft, and being a fugitive of the WPSO.

Justin Miller. 39, of the 100 block of White Sands Road, was arrested on multiple warrants.

Steven Hayden, of the 1300 block of Highway 163, was arrested for cruelty to a juvenile.

Ashley Dent, 39, of the 2100 block of highway 532, was arrested for failure to appear in court.

Marshall Lester, 32, of the 300 block of Lakeview Drive, was arrested on a warrant.

Shawn Dowling, of the 200 block of Lakeview Drive, was arrested on a warrant.

Justin Miller, 39, of the 100 block of White Sand Drive, was arrested on two warrants. Get \$1,800 a year to help pay for essentials like eligible groceries, rent and utilities



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