



MINDEN PRESS-HERALD

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 29, 2023 MINDEN, LOUISIANA PRESS-HERALD.COM \$1.00 DOLLAR

FUND RAISING

Hungerfest cake auction raises dough for those in need

AMBER MCDOWN
Minden Press-Herald

On March 23 at the First Methodist Church, the United Christian Assistance Program (UCAP) held its annual Hungerfest Dessert Auction for the first time since the pandemic started. This event is a fundraiser which is used to help replenish funds that UCAP has spent helping people in Minden.

UCAP's mission is to offer emergency assistance to those in need in south Webster Parish. They receive no government assistance, but rely solely on area churches, local organizations, and individuals for support. They tend to receive plenty of donations of food and clothing, but it's cash that is always needed.

"Mainly right now it's for utilities," said Charlotte Jones of UCAP. "Last year we spent something like \$55,000 on utilities and maybe another \$5,000 on rent and emergency lodging."

Elected officials such as Mayor Nick Cox, former Mayor Tommy Davis, and Assessor Denise Edwards as well as many community leaders turned out to have an entertaining



AMBER MCDOWN/PRESS-HERALD PHOTOS

UCAP's Hungerfest and Cake Auction raised over \$8,600 on March 23 to help people in need around south Webster Parish.

evening bidding on hand crafted delectables and enjoying the antics of the two auctioneers, Dr. Richard Campbell and Tracy Campbell. A misplaced head nod or a scratched nose could easily end with a new cake to take home. But the bidders weren't shy about helping this good cause, and one cake went for over \$300. Tracy Campbell even managed to sell an empty platter as a "fat free, sugar free, everything free cake" for \$400.

By the end of the evening, UCAP had raised over \$8,600 to help people



in need of emergency assistance.

"We would like to express our appreciation to everybody that got in-

involved and bought cakes and baked cakes and served at the function. We're just grateful to this community," said Jones.

WEATHER

Historic home possibly struck by lightning



AMBER MCDOWN
Minden Press-Herald

The storms that swept through northwest Louisiana on Friday evening caused some extra work for emergency personnel around Minden and the rest of Webster Parish.

The Minden Fire Department's first call this evening was for a possible lightning strike on the 3-story white house across from the library.

"It is still under investigation, but it was likely to have been a lightning

strike," said Minden Fire Chief Brian Williams.

They were called away immediately afterwards to deal with a downed tree on Wilderness Trail.

While Minden has not experienced a great number of emergency calls this evening, other departments in the parish are attending many other calls, mostly dealing with downed trees.

At the time of this writing, there is still at least one more band of storms expected through the area.

CRIME

Multiple shootings at Ewell Park

STAFF REPORT
Minden Press-Herald

Around 8 PM on Sunday, March 26 four people in Ewell Park were shot.

"There were multiple victims and multiple shooters," said Minden Police Chief McIver.

The victims, Lyauna Kingsby, Dmarrion Webb, Royquez Shehee, and Howard Collins Jr, were all taken to the hospital for medical

treatment.

"As of 1:30 AM, one victim was in ICU, one was in surgery, one was in the ER, and one released," said McIver. "There were multiple suspects, and we are currently still investigating and working on arrest warrants."

This investigation is still in the initial stages. We will update the on-line story as more information becomes available.

ELECTION

Webster Parish voters approve library funding renewal — Jerri Lee elected school board member for District 9

AMBER MCDOWN
Minden Press-Herald

On Saturday, March 25, Webster Parish residents voted to renew the current operating millage for Webster Parish Libraries, and the residents of District 9 elected Jerri Lee to represent them on the Webster Parish School Board.

It was crucial for the library to get this renewal on their operating millage of 12.39 mills for the next ten years because those monies make up 97% of the library revenue used to provide services to all residents throughout the parish. The renewal passed with 79% (1,433) of the votes.

"As a library system, success is measured by the ability to positively impact the lives of the people you serve," said Savannah Jones, Director of Webster Parish Libraries. "This impact extends well beyond the individuals who regularly visit their local libraries, and the ultimate goal is to strengthen and empower surrounding communities. Your local libraries are doorways that lead to new opportunities, whether it is by putting people on the path to literacy, advancing technological know-how in a technology-driven world, or by providing the means to advance one's career. Libraries are community

hubs that connect people to people and people to resources. It's a vital support system and one that cannot exist without the support of the people it serves."

"When our libraries are put on the ballot for continued funding, the value of our libraries in the eyes of the people we serve is directly reflected by the outcome," said Jones. "The results determine not only the library system's future, but the future of all local communities and the people within them. Our libraries serve as a driving force toward success starting with the individual. All people, regardless of situational circumstances,

have access to the tools necessary for academic and personal growth. Not only does this growth directly benefit the individual, but it indirectly develops a stronger, thriving parish."

"We know how important it is for people to stay connected within our communities. Our libraries provide a means to make those connections possible through the resources and services offered. In my opinion, Webster Parish Libraries serve as a catalyst that not only brings people, of all ages and backgrounds, together, but connects them to resources needed for success," said Kim Sen-

tell, Director of Marketing for Webster Parish Libraries. "Strong communities are made up of prospering individuals; libraries enhance the likelihood of prosperity by providing necessary tools that many may not otherwise have access to. Our library staff and board of directors are passionate about making sure our libraries meet the needs of our parish residents. Knowing that our communities support their libraries is touching beyond words. With the passing of the funding renewal, we can begin writing the next chapter for your libraries. We look forward to growing along with our local communi-

ties in the years to come."

The school board election was held to find a replacement for Frankie Mitchell. Mitchell had decided not to run for reelection last November but since no one else ran for the seat, the position was left vacant. Mitchell volunteered to remain on the board until after this election so that her district was not left unrepresented. In the race between Jerri Lee and Jo Ann McWoodson, Lee won with 93% (193) of the vote.

These results are considered unofficial. The numbers should be officially verified by the end of the week.

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D.D.S.



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High Temp **82°**

Tomorrow's
Low Temp **54°**

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WEBSTER & MORE

COMMUNITY

AKA celebrates young black excellence at Heritage Fest

WILL PHILLIPS
Minden Press-Herald

The Iota Rho Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc hosted the 39th Annual Heritage Festival at Webster Jr High School this past Saturday. This event gives the sorority a platform each year to spotlight the talents of youth in the areas of art, dance, music, speech, and quiz bowl. The purpose of this event focuses on the sorority's national initiative to "Uplift Our Local Community" by celebrating excellence and stimulating effective culture.

"We invited the youth to come and present their talents. What makes this event so special is getting to see the kids participate in events again. It's been a while since we've hosted this event due to COVID. We've been doing it virtually, but now we get to see the kids all dressed up and performing in person which is outstanding and magical. It gives us a chance to make them feel special and let them know they're important," said Dr. Adrienne Moore, President of AKA Iota Rho Omega Chapter in Minden.

The festival featured a wide array of categories for students to participate in, spanning through the



arts like dancing, drawing, etc., as well as categories like quiz bowl for the students to flex their smarts.

In the Art Category, for Grades 3-5 the winners were Kimberly Maceda in 1st Place, Kimberly Maceda 2nd Place, and Mahaelee Seamster in 3rd Place. In Grades 6-8 the winners were Jamarcus McFann in 1st Place, Stephanie Maceda in 2nd Place, and Zakhyia Rich in 3rd Place. In Grades 9-12 the winner was Jordyn Larry in 1st Place.

In the category for Music, the winner was Carington Hill in 1st Place.

In the Speech Category in the Poetry Division the winners were Madison Ball in 1st Place, Jaiden Jackson in 2nd Place, and Kaden McDonald and Kadence Bailey in 3rd Place.

In the Dance Category in the Solo Division the winner of First Place was La Keondra Jenkins. In the Group Division the winners were the Min-

den Tideline in 1st Place, AKAdemy of Pearls in 2nd Place, and Minden Tideline in 3rd Place.

In the Quiz Bowl Category the winners were Jasmine Sneed in 1st Place, Wil'lecia Johnson and Addison Walker in 2nd Place, and Shadavion Martin in 3rd Place.

Just before the events ended, AKA took the time to share their love and appreciation for Adell Oliver, a former teacher at Webster Jr High who is the one credited for creating the Annual Heritage Festival that so many have come to enjoy for the past 39 years.

"I want to thank all the parents and the wider community who came out and supported the event and the students. We also want to thank the teachers who went above and beyond, because a lot of teachers not only came out to show their support, but brought some of their students as well," said Dr. Moore.

Vote For Your Favorites!

<https://survey.alchemer.com/s3/7279505/2e5555709fb7>



Name: _____

Telephone number: _____

Entry Deadline
April 17, 2023
4 p.m.

*Favorite Restaurant _____

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 Readers' Choice edition on Friday, April 26, 2023. You may drop the ballot off at the Minden Press-Herald office at 203 Gleason Street in Minden or mail it to the Minden Press-Herald, P.O. Box 1339, Minden, LA 71058. Only one ballot per person will be permitted. No reproductions or faxes will be accepted.

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<div>Favorite Auto Body Shop</div>	<div>Favorite Dentist</div>
<div>Favorite Manufactured Home Dealer/Supplier</div>	<div>Favorite Apartment Complex</div>
<div>Favorite Bakery</div>	<div>Favorite Auto Parts Store</div>
<div>Favorite Lawyer</div>	<div>Favorite Drive Thru Restaurant</div>
<div>Favorite Buffet Restaurant</div>	<div>Favorite Electrician</div>
<div>Favorite Breakfast Restaurant</div>	<div>Favorite Elementary School</div>
<div>Favorite Barber Shop</div>	<div>Favorite NEW Auto Dealer</div>
<div>Favorite Beauty Shop</div>	<div>Favorite USED Auto Dealer</div>
<div>Favorite Bank</div>	<div>Favorite Florist</div>
<div>Favorite C.P.A.</div>	<div>Favorite Evening Meal Restaurant</div>
<div>Favorite Chicken</div>	<div>Favorite Furniture Store</div>
<div>Favorite Ambulance Service</div>	<div>Favorite Gas Station</div>
<div>Favorite Heating & Air Provider</div>	<div>Favorite Gift Shop (Non-Florist)</div>
<div>Favorite Shoe Store</div>	<div>Favorite Principal</div>
<div>Favorite Casino</div>	<div>Favorite Fitness Center</div>
<div>Favorite Car Wash/Detail</div>	<div>Favorite Seafood Restaurant</div>
<div>Favorite Real Estate Office</div>	<div>Favorite School Teacher</div>
<div>Favorite Tuxedo Rental</div>	<div>Favorite Coach (ANY SPORT)</div>
<div>Favorite Tanning Salon</div>	<div>Favorite NEW Vehicle Salesperson</div>
<div>Favorite Pawn Shop</div>	<div>Favorite Pediatrician</div>
<div>Favorite Funeral Home</div>	<div>Favorite Grocery Store</div>
<div>Favorite Contractor</div>	<div>Favorite Mexican Restaurant</div>
<div>Favorite Hardware Store</div>	<div>Favorite Men's Apparel Provider</div>
<div>Favorite Health Care Provider</div>	<div>Favorite Daycare Provider</div>
<div>Favorite High School</div>	<div>Favorite Glass Shop (not eyewear)</div>
<div>Favorite Hotel/Motel</div>	<div>Favorite Oil Change Location</div>
<div>Favorite Insurance Agent</div>	<div>Favorite Pharmacy</div>
<div>Favorite Lawn Equipment Dealer</div>	<div>Favorite Pet Groomer</div>
<div>Favorite Jeweler</div>	<div>Favorite Pest Control Provider</div>
<div>Favorite Landscaping/Lawncare Provider</div>	<div>Favorite Roofing Company</div>
<div>Favorite Eye Care Provider</div>	<div>Favorite Pizza Restaurant</div>
<div>Favorite Liquor Store</div>	<div>Favorite Physician/Surgeon</div>
<div>Favorite Lunch Location</div>	<div>Favorite Plumber</div>
<div>Favorite Middle School</div>	<div>Favorite Public Official</div>
<div>Favorite Appliance Store</div>	<div>Favorite Women's Apparel Provider</div>
<div>Favorite USED Vehicle Salesperson</div>	<div>Favorite Crawfish</div>
<div>Favorite Tire Store</div>	<div>Favorite Tax Preparer</div>
<div>Favorite Dance School</div>	<div>Favorite Customer Service (ANY BUSINESS)</div>
<div>Favorite Veterinarian</div>	<div>Favorite Mini Storage</div>
<div>Favorite Nursing Home</div>	<div>Favorite Event Destination (or venue where events are held)</div>
<div>Favorite Mechanic</div>	<div>Favorite Doughnuts</div>
<div>Favorite Financial Advisor</div>	<div>Favorite Home Health Agency</div>
<div>Favorite Church</div>	
<div>Favorite Hamburger</div>	
<div>Favorite Walk-In Quick Care Medical</div>	

WEBSTER & MORE

OBITUARIES



Delores (Dee) Basco

In loving memory of Delores (Dee) Basco. Born June 28, 1952, in Big Springs, Texas. She died March 20, 2023. Funeral services were held Saturday, March 25, 2023, at Evergreen Union Church in Minden, Louisiana with Bro. Floyd Smith officiating. Burial followed at Evergreen Cemetery. Celebrating her life is her husband Neyland, children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren and innumerable family and friends.

She was preceded in death by her parents Jerry and NoraDel, her early life was spent traveling the world during her father's Air Force career. After a career as a nurse, her life was spent in tireless support of her husband, children and family. Always a champion of her children, countless "surrogate" children and grandchildren. With her sharp wit and direct honesty she

supported and encouraged her family in every aspect of life.

Throughout her life she maintained a passion for art and creativity. Many of her pieces were invited to hang in galleries across the country. She shared her passion with her family by teaching, sharing ideas, and often helping to create projects. She loved painting, decorating homes, and encouraging bold creativity. She inspired many of her children and grandchildren to pursue hobbies and careers in creative arts and music.

Her passion for caring for people and family also inspired many of her children and grandchildren to pursue careers in healthcare. Always ready to help friends and family, one could never doubt that you would be fiercely supported, encouraged, and protected with honest and compassionate love.

Please join us in continuing to celebrate Dee's life as a dedicated wife, mother, friend and inspiration to countless others.

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



LTC (Ret.) LEE DRUE HUDSON

Lee Drue was born in Minden, Louisiana, on June 22, 1949 -- the 7th of 9 children born to the late Dave Hudson and Tishie Warren Hudson. He accepted Christ at Growing Valley Baptist Church under the guidance of the late Pastor Jessie H. Dixon.

He remained a faithful and active Christian servant throughout his travels across the country and overseas. After moving back to Minden in 2015, he reunited with the Growing Valley Missionary Baptist Church where he remained an active and faithful member as long as his health allowed.

He attended Growing Valley schools until he went to Union Elementary School in Doyline, Louisiana. After eighth grade graduation, he attended Webster High School in Minden. He was a proud member of the Class of 1968 of Webster High. He was a popular student, served the class as Sergeant at Arms, and was voted most versatile by the senior class. He was also captain of the football team.

Lee Drue was a 1972 graduate of Southern University in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, which he attended on a football scholarship, achieving the honor being selected "Mr. Jaguar" of the 1972 football team. He received a

Bachelor of Science Degree in Accounting from Southern. While attending Southern, he became a member of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity.

Lee Drue participated in the Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC) while attending Southern University. Upon graduation, he was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the United States Army as a Transportation Officer. He ultimately achieved the rank of Lieutenant Colonel, retiring after 20 years of honorable service. During his twenty years of service, he received the Bronze Star, Legion of Merit, Meritorious Service Medal-4, Army Commendation Medal-3, Army Unit Commendation, National Defense Service Medal-2, Southwest Asia Service Medal with 2 SB, Armed Forces Reserve Medal, Overseas Service Ribbon- 2, and the Kuwait Liberation Medal.

After his retirement from the army, he worked as a Director of Security at East Lake Golf Course in Atlanta, Georgia, for Allied Barton Security Company until he fully retired in 2013.

In 1972, Lee Drue married Vernia Dean Allen from Minden. On September 2, 2022, they celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. They had two children- Leonard Hudson (who preceded him in death) and Adrienne Hudson.

Lee enjoyed golfing and grilling as often as possible. On Sunday, March 12, 2023, Lee passed away quietly in his home.

His memories will be cherished by his wife, Vernia Dean Hudson; his daughter, Adrienne Hudson; sisters, Lillie Doris Hudson of Los Angeles, CA, and Peggy Hudson Morris of Minden; brother, Dave Hudson of Minden; mother-in-law, Velmer Allen; brother-in-law, Vincent Allen (Judy); sister-in-law, Wilma Allen; all of Minden; and a host of nieces, nephews, relatives, and friends.

Travis Gene Morgan and Mona Moise Morgan

The families of Travis Gene Morgan and Mona Moise Morgan, will inter their ashes at Pilgrim's Rest Cemetery, Palm Sunday, April 2, 2023, at 2:00 pm. Gene died August 9, 2021 in Bardstown, KY and Mona died November 10, 2022 in Ashland, KY.

Gene Morgan was born in 1926 in Shongaloo, Louisiana to Victor and Winnie Morgan. He is survived by his sister Nell Morgan Bauer, of Carthage, TX. Gene and Mona are also survived by their two children, Kathleen Morgan Filkins and David Gene Morgan, by their

granddaughter Rachael Turner (Justin), and their two great-grandchildren Wyatt and Garrett Turner.

Mona Moise Morgan was born in Baton Rouge, Louisiana in 1930 to Harry Moise and Mildred Bruce. Gene and Mona met at the Methodist Student Union while attending L.S.U.; they married in 1948 and their union lasted over 70 years. After living in Louisiana, Texas, Mississippi, Indiana, and New Jersey, the Morgans final home was in Kentucky.

Morgan and Moise family members will gather at Pilgrim's Rest where the service will be officiated by the Reverend James Sewell of Nashville, TN, a long-term family friend. After the service, family and friends will gather at the Huffman House in Minden, Louisiana. Bailey Funeral Home is in charge of the interment.

Sue Martin Kemmerly

Sue Martin Kemmerly passed away suddenly in Minden, Louisiana on Monday, March 20, 2023. Sue was born in Arcadia, Louisiana, to Aline and Pete Martin on September 1, 1940, grew up in Jonesboro-Hodge, and spent most of her adult life in Minden.

Sue was preceded in death by her mother, Aline Martin Parker, her father, Pete Martin, her sister, Gloria Martin Pyle, and her grandson, William Reece Kemmerly. She is survived by her son, Dave Kemmerly (Felicity) of Franklin, Tennessee, Kelly Woodard (Pat) of Minden, Louisiana, and four grandchildren, Noah Woodard, Katharyn Woodard, Alden Kemmerly, Emerson Kemmerly, and nephew, Scott Pyle.

EDUCATION

Employees will choose school calendar

AMBER MCDOWN
Minden Press-Herald

A special meeting of the Webster Parish School Board was called to discuss the protocols for adopting a new school calendar for the 2023-2024 school year. Prior to this meeting a workshop was held with the Calendar Committee which consists of Charles Strong, Jonathan Guthrie, Margaret Edens, and Jerry Lott, though all of the school board members contributed to the discussion.

Testing data was released during the March 13 school board meeting that shows improvement in overall scores for the parish, with most students getting back to pre-COVID levels. The balanced calendar is considered a factor in this success.

Funding for the intersession activities was a concern. The district has only one more year

of the federal funds (ESSER) which have been being used for intensive instruction during the intersession breaks. These funds have already been approved to be used in a similar fashion next year, but they are not scheduled to be available after that. If the balanced calendar continues to be used beyond next year, there are plans being made to replace those funds with other Title funds.

"I think that we could figure out a way to do it that wouldn't bankrupt the system," said Superintendent Rowland.

If the traditional calendar is selected, amendments will need to be filed with the federal government to change what activities, etc. the ESSER funds can be used for. "But we'll probably be leaving money on the table," said Business Director Crevonne Odom.

It was quickly estab-

lished that the decision for which calendar to choose — the balanced calendar for the third consecutive year or a return to the traditional calendar — should be determined by a survey of all Webster Parish school employees. Edens stated, "I think these calendars are great, and I think I have an idea what they're going to choose. But the point is, they are going to choose for themselves and we're not."

President Strong would like to find a way to include all stakeholders in this decision, including the families who are part of the school district.

"I would like to see a greater, more active level of cooperation between all stakeholders," said Strong. "All stakeholders. And that certainly includes our employees. It also includes families. Right now, that is the missing puzzle piece to me. I would like to spend

extra time thinking about how we can bring them into the picture so they can have their rightful say."

The determination of how to include parents in decisions such as which calendar to choose was not made by the end of the meeting, but it is something the board is still considering.

The survey will be in a Google Forms format, and it will be set up to keep all information anonymous. A district email address will be required to access the survey so each employee can vote only once.

The board voted to use the survey to allow the employees of the district to vote on which calendar to use next year. The survey will open on March 21 and close at 4 PM on March 23.

The next school board meeting is scheduled for 6 PM on April 3. The public is welcome to attend.

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21 July 1944 – 18 May 1969

CRIME

Minden man and juvenile charged with arson and attempted murder

STAFF REPORT
Minden Press-Herald

On March 15, a Minden man and a juvenile were arrested on arson and attempted murder charges after starting a fire at the shop of Dwayne Anders Construction on Pine Street. The two suspects — a sixteen year old and Devon Jones, 18, of Minden — used flammable liquids they found in the shop to set fire to a 30-foot long span inside and another 10- to 12-foot long area in the back of the building.

"They used about four cans of accelerant that they got out of the shop and poured it over the back of the building," said Dwayne Anders of Dwayne Anders Construction. "This is my shop, and I was here. I have security cameras here, and I saw a couple of cameras black out, and I thought I'd had a couple of cameras go out. I looked again, and it was not completely black. At first I thought it was foggy, but I looked out the front window and it was clear out there. I went to the cameras and zoomed in, and I could see flames on the floor. I knew at that point I had a fire in the shop. And I got out there and I found those three cans, four cans all piled up together and burned. That's when I called the police."

Detective Lt. Kenny James was the first to arrive.

"When we arrived on scene, the torch was still going, the shop was still filled with smoke," said Detective James. "I called the fire department, and they came out and assessed it. Chief Brian Williams

called the fire marshals in. They did the investigation and determined it was arson. During the investigation we retrieved video from different sources around the building, and found the two suspects on video. We identified them through the SRO at Minden High, and arrested them for arson, attempted 2nd degree [murder] because there were two occupants in the building, and trespassing."

Mr. Anders was impressed with the work of all the departments involved:

"They stayed here from 9:30 till about 2:30 in the morning investigating, looking for evidence. And I just can't say enough about them. I mean, they really worked hard to try to figure out who did it and get some data to help capture them. I was just super happy with the city police and the fire department and the State Fire Marshal. They were very professional and put the time in to figure it out. They just did an awesome job."

Fortunately for Mr. Anders, the damage wasn't great with, he is estimating, less than \$1,000 in damages.

"I got real lucky. The stuff they were trying to burn didn't burn really fast so it didn't spread. If it had been over five or six feet, it could've been that whole end of the building."

Jones was booked and transported to the Bayou Dorcheat Correctional Center. The juvenile was sent to the Ware Youth Center.

All subjects are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

OPINION

MINDEN
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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

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OPINION

It is reckless and dangerous to indict Trump for political reasons

U.S. Supreme Court Justice Robert H. Jackson once described the tremendous power possessed by prosecutors and how critically important is the virtue of discretion in the exercise of that power, whether it pertains to a former president or any other American citizen.

“With the law books filled with a great assortment of crimes, a prosecutor stands a fair chance of finding at least a technical violation of some act on the part of almost anyone. In such a case, it is not a question of discovering the commission of a crime and then looking for the man who has committed it, it is a question of picking the man and then searching the law books, or putting investigators to work, to pin some offense on him.”

The plan of the Manhattan District Attorney, Alvin Bragg, to indict President Trump on these facts presents the most dangerous kind of legal abuse. It's the weaponization of our legal system against a political enemy when the majority of Americans would only support the indictment of a former president—who is also running for president again—for serious offenses based upon solid, indisputable evidence and within the statute of limitations.

We should note that DA Bragg's potential indictment of Trump follows numer-

ous campaign trail boasts during his pursuit of the DA position of his plans to prosecute Trump. (NY Post).

The charge against Trump appears to be falsifying business records to pay an alleged mistress, a misdemeanor. DA Bragg is threatening to increase it to a felony by alleging it was an illegal campaign finance donation to Trump's 2016 presidential campaign because it somehow helped Trump's campaign for the allegation not to be exposed. That's laughable.

Federal law allows a candidate to contribute an unlimited amount of money to their own campaigns and it's a real stretch to suggest Pres. Trump, a multi billionaire, was hiding a campaign expenditure with the payment. Much more likely is that Trump was trying to shush the alleged mistress to spare himself the public embarrassment of that allegation.

Recall that federal prosecutors already looked at this and didn't indict and neither did the Federal Election Commission (FEC) find a campaign violation. This alleged "crime" also occurred approximately 7 years ago

which means that under the statute of limitations it's too late to bring this charge anyway.

No matter. The second most laughable part of this story is that a key witness in this case is Michael Cohen, a former Trump lawyer, who was previously convicted of perjury. Of lying under oath. Do you see the complete lack of credibility in the desperation to "get Trump" at all costs?

Let's remember all of the efforts to destroy Pres. Trump:

Two failed impeachment efforts, the completely unjustified and unprecedented raid of President Trump's Mar-a-Lago home in Florida, The Russia Collusion Hoax and the literal attempt by the top leadership at the FBI to remove a duly elected president based upon total fabrications that have since been conclusively proven to be lies.

What about the Steele dossier lie—the false and misleading information used to secure FISA warrants funded by Hillary Clinton with campaign donations—and the fraudulent and hugely distracting two-year, \$32 million taxpayer-inquisition by Robert Mueller that yielded nothing?

You know what really highlights the great partisan dishonesty here?

First, the galactic double

standard with respect to Hillary Clinton's mishandling and destruction of classified information before her 2016 campaign for president: her wiping of her server and the destruction of her blackberries with hammers.

Yet, she was never prosecuted.

Second, the deliberate effort by the FBI to aid Joe Biden by suppressing the Hunter Biden "laptop from hell"—falsely deeming it "foreign disinformation"—even though we later learned that the FBI had been in possession of the laptop for about a year and knew it was credible.

Harvard Law Professor Alan Dershowitz, a lifelong liberal Democrat who has voted against Trump every opportunity he has had, stated that this proposed indictment of Trump is the "worst abuse of prosecutorial discretion" in the 60 years he has practiced criminal law.

For the sake of the country this must stop.

Americans must come together to oppose leftist prosecutors who flout legislatures, who weaponize the law against their political opponents, and who attack our democracy as though they are the source of society's laws, rather than We the People.

ROYAL ALEXANDER IS A SHREVEPORT ATTORNEY.

INSPIRATION

Everyday should be coffee drinking awareness day

There are so many things I could write about -- like what it was like not to have electricity, running water or what it was like to ride to town in a horse drawn wagon until 1955 -- or what it was to grow up in an abusive orphanage but maybe this will perk your interest. It was in March 2014 that a decision was made by the International Coffee Organization to initiate the first International Coffee Day in March in Milan. Since then there are too many coffee awareness days to celebrate lets just say everyday should be a coffee awareness day.

I cherish my fond memory of drinking coffee that goes way back to when I was just able to sit in a high chair. My dad would fill my coffee cup half full with fresh cows milk, from the cow he

had just milked before we got of bed.

This is as much a tribute to my father as the coffee itself -- my father, who died when I was ten.

My story isn't about statistics but I will add that one survey noted that three quarter of American adults drink coffee and 53% drink at least one cup per day. Unlike myself, I drink at least three big cups every morning.

I must mention that about twenty five years ago I got spoiled when I discovered hazel nut.

Then about five ago years



SARAH HUDSON PIERCE

ago I couldn't find it in my favorite store so I checked around and couldn't find it in any of our neighboring stores. I went online and found out how to buy coffee straight from the company. I ordered enough to last at least six weeks. About a year later I finally I noticed about four or five cans on the shelf. I bought them all and my children stocked up on it too anytime our coffee could be found.

You caught me --- yes all three of my children are daily coffee drinkers. My daughter began drinking her share of coffee when she was about three years of age, just like me, only coffee and cream.

If you want to have good conversations around the table keep a pot brewing.

In many ways one of my

dearest friends, the late Joyce Moore, shared so much back and forth conversation, with me around the table laden with a steaming pot of coffee. She helped me in many ways to to grow and find myself after the age of thirty. Coffee helped us to open up and have good conversation and she helped me to trust and be myself.

She always said "our friends help us test the waters" and we did it better over coffee.

"They" say that coffee will stunt a child's growth.

Well look at me now at the age of seventy-five I feel great!

CONTACT SARAH AT SARAH9957@ AOL.COM

OPINION

The Advocate: Lawmakers should free State Museum from politics

Louisiana has a treasure trove of cultural and historic institutions, but you'd never know it by the way the Office of State Museum runs nine state-owned entities entrusted to it. That's the big take-away from a recent performance audit by Legislative Auditor Mike Waguespack.

OSM, also known as the Louisiana State Museum, operates five museums in New Orleans, one in Baton Rouge and three others across the state. It's part of the state Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism, which is led by Lt. Gov. Billy Nungesser. In a scathing report on the museum's management, Waguespack outlined a series of operational shortcomings.

For example, OSM has not had a permanent museum director appointed via the process outlined in state law since May 2016. It has had 11

directors since 2004 — seven who served on an interim basis and three since Nungesser took office in 2016. Waguespack notes that the director's position has "little autonomy and is political in nature." Nungesser, as lieutenant governor, appoints all 21 members of the State Museum Board.

The report says OSM also suffers from low employee morale and lacks a comprehensive strategic plan, a detailed budget and sufficient marketing resources. Waguespack suggests the museum prioritize hiring a new director. The heart of the problem, however, is the political nature of the museum's governance.

That wasn't always the case. In the early 1970s, then-Gov. Edwin Edwards appointed an independent board and allowed it to hire a director based on qualifi-

cations — a novel concept in Louisiana. The board hired 32-year-old Robert Macdonald, who served 11 years as museum director (1974-1985) and oversaw some of its best years.

Under Macdonald, the museum achieved American Alliance of Museums accreditation, hosted enormously popular exhibitions such as "The Sun King: Louis XIV and the New World," and restored the Old U.S. Mint in New Orleans, the Old State Capitol in Baton Rouge and the State Exhibit Museum in Shreveport. The board also created the Louisiana Museum Foundation in 1981 to expand private support.

Sadly, most of that success has gone away, a victim of political meddling.

In response to the audit, Nungesser suggested merging his nine museums with nine overseen by Secretary

of State Kyle Ardoin and creating regional entities to manage them. Ardoin, who oversees the Old State Capitol, declined. "We will not be altering how the museums under our agency are managed," he said. "We are proud of the work our museum staff has done across Louisiana."

Any meaningful reform must include taking OSM out from under the thumb of politicians. That will require legislation — itself a major political hurdle.

One promising option, which Macdonald first suggested in a 2004 analysis, is for the state to consider a public-private partnership. He cites as an example New York City's Cultural Institutions Group, a collaborative of private nonprofits that manage 34 publicly owned entities, including the Bronx Zoo, Carnegie Hall, the Metropolitan Museum of Art

and the Lincoln Center — to name just a few.

The Audubon Nature Institute uses the same model to manage several popular public entities in New Orleans. BREC operates a superb array of parks and attractions in Baton Rouge. Though their governance differs slightly, Audubon and BREC share a key attribute: Each has a dedicated property tax millage. Citizen engagement likewise helps insulate both from political interference.

"People need to take leadership. They need to come forward and demand better," Macdonald said recently. "There are good examples around the country of how this can be done. Louisiana can take the best of them and come up with a plan for how to move forward."

If citizens lead, the politicians will follow.

SPORTS

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HIGH SCHOOL BOYS BASKETBALL

A Celebration of Champions

Former Sibley players look back on two seasons of remarkable success

SHAWN WHITE
Special to The Press-Herald

JHow many teams can you say had a 100-game winning streak?

The UConn Women had a streak of 111 games from Nov. 23, 2014, through March 31, 2017. The Kentucky Wildcats had a home streak of 129 games from January 4, 1943 to January 8, 1955.

You can add the Sibley Raiders from 1978-80 to that list. They won 100 consecutive games over the seasons. What they all have in common is that they are all celebrated. That's what happened at the Minden Recreation Center last Saturday night.

The 1979 team achieved the national record for the best perfect season, finishing 59-0 and capping it off with a second consecutive Class B state championship.

They had broken the previous record that was held by Snook, Texas, at 52-0.

Unless the LHSA changes the rules, this record has no threat of being broken as teams are no longer allowed to play that many games. According to MaxPreps, the Raiders 100-wins holds the seventh longest winning streak in prep high school history.

After getting drubbed in the Haughton Tripleheader by Haughton 69-53, little did Northwest Louisiana basketball know was about to hit it. The streak began with a win on Jan. 5, 1979 with a 69-38 win over Cotton Valley in the Sarepta tournament.

The Raiders capped the new streak with a win over Shongaloo in the tourna-



Members of the 1978-79 and 1979-80 Sibley teams were honored during a banquet last Saturday night at the Minden Rec Center.

ment finals. The Raiders would win the next 24 games giving Sibley its first state championship with a 41-36 victory over Midland in the Class B finals.

"When we won our first championship," Carl Miles said, "then we were undefeated. We came back that second year and we started winning like 20 games in a row to 25 games in a row."

"Right there then, we were onto something. Teams we were supposed to lose to we began to beat. We saw the chemistry that we had; it was just something wonderful and special. We are going to ride it out as long as we can."

Sibley rolled through the 1980 season, going 58-0 while taking its second state championship with a win over Holy Rosary 72-61 in the 1980 Class B title game.

"It's kind of mind boggling," Deware Jones said. "We didn't recognize what we were doing when we did it. We now recognize that we really did something. It means that we have a record of 58-0 and no one will ever be able to break that because they can't play that many games anymore."

"So we are proud of that. We've got something that no one can ever take away from us. We want everyone here to know what we've done."

The Raiders went into the 1981 season looking like the streak would not end. They entered their own invitational tournament with a 15-0 record.

Win No. 98 came as the Raiders rolled over Sarepta 77-37. Win No. 99 came with a quarterfinal 82-51 win over Ringgold.

The Raiders were one win away from a streak in triple digits. Sibley faced Benton in the semifinals. The Tigers had given the Raiders' trouble earlier in the week on Tuesday as Myles had to hit clutch free throws in the final minute to get the 50-44 win.

The Raiders now faced the 100-victory mark on Nov. 23, a Saturday afternoon. Sibley got that 100th win 74-56. Myles scored 29. Jimmy Germany netted 21. Charlie Sheppard scored 18.

"We were in a state of shock," Myles said. "We were at 100 and we were like 'Wow, we did it.' It was like we got 100 games, what do we do, we are going to keep going."

"When we got to 50 we knew it was something special," Russel Miles said. "We could possibly take

it up to 70, 80, 90, or 100 games and we did."

"We were determined to not lose," Jones said. "We were raised together and all we had to do was concentrate and do what we do. We started out at two feet tall playing together. We were not worried about any of those. We complemented each other and we did what we had done all our lives."

The finals were that Saturday night against the archrival Doyline Panthers. The battle of the two unbeaten was set as Sibley had come in 18-0 and a streak of 100 while Doyline had a 9-0 record. According to the Shreveport Times article "Sibley Streak Ends" on Nov. 23, 1980, Sibley was behind late in the game and was down by five.

Sibley came back to

within two but a late rally would not be allowed by the Panthers. Doyline would prevail 64-62, not only ending the streak but also taking the Sibley tournament title.

The Raiders had run into a hot Panthers team that was led by Anthony Walker's 36 points. Sheppard had led the Raiders with 22 points. Myles added 21 and Germany chipped in 15. The rivalry had a new flavor to it between the two schools.

"It was heartbreaking," Myles said. "But every good thing must come to an end. It was heartbreaking. We took it with our chin up. We knew it was going to happen, but we never knew who or when it would happen. Sad it had to be Doyline, but hey can't win them all."

The Raiders avenged the loss the next weekend in the Shongaloo tournament which Sibley won.

If you talk to the members of this legendary squad, though, they will all point the credit to the Louisiana Hall of Fame coach Don Stahl.

Stahl came to Sibley when the forced integration of Heflin, Dubberly, and Central occurred. He had been the head coach of a very successful Heflin.

Stahl actually reached a milestone during the streak as win No. 62 was his 500th victory.

The coach was even mentioned in the March 10, 1980 edition of Sports Illustrated in the Faces In The Crowd section announcing the Raiders 71st win in the streak. Stahl would go on to accumulate a 824-435

See, **SIBLEY**, Page 6

HIGH SCHOOL TRACK AND FIELD

Parish athletes post high finishes in Bossier meet

RUSSELL HEDGES
Minden Press-Herald

North Webster freshman sprinter Jkobe Lawson continued the outstanding start to high school career with first- and second-place finishes in the Don Millen Bossier Bearkat Relays last week at Benton's Tiger Stadium.

After coming up just short in the 100-meter dash, Lawson came back to win the 200 in 22.80 seconds.

Haughton's John Hudson Brown finished second in 23.19. Earlier in the day, Brown edged Lawson by a mere .03 in the 100. Lawson ran an 11.29 to Brown's

11.26.

Lawson also helped the Knights finish fourth in 4X100 and 4X200 relays. In both events, he teamed with Avante Curry, Braedon Robertson and Jameson Harden.

They ran a 45.12 in the 4X100 and a 1:33.09 in the 4X200. Haughton won both

events in 43.15 and 1:31.47, respectively.

Glenbrook's Chase Sennell finished second in the 110 hurdles in 17.31. Haughton's Tyler Stewart won in 16.92.

The Lakeside foursome of Omero Urbina, Jaylon Jackson, Jordan Case and JaCoby Curry finished

fourth in the 4X400 relay in 3:43.45. North DeSoto won in 3:35.57.

North Webster finished seventh out of 15 teams that posted scores.

In the girls division, North Webster's Naveah Watts finished second in the 100 in 13.05. Airline's Jaycie Wallace won in 12.83.

Watts teamed with De-maiyh Moore, Tomiyah Hawthorne and Markiau Scott for a fourth-place finish in the 4X200 relay. They ran a 1:48.68. Airline won in 1:44.77.

North Webster's Anekah Coleman took third in the 27.74. Airline's Ke'Zyriah Sykes won in 26.69.

HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL

Lakeside gets win over Minden; North Webster has good week

RUSSELL HEDGES
Minden Press-Herald

In a battle of parish teams, Lakeside defeated Minden 5-2 at Lakeside last week behind some strong pitching performances.

Warriors starter Jordan Isbell allowed three hits and no earned runs in four innings. Cooper Chase allowed one hit and walked one in two innings of relief. CJ Watts pitched the seventh for the save. He didn't allow a hit and walked one.

Lakeside took a 1-0 lead in the bottom of the second on Matthew Aguilera's two-

out single.

Minden tied it in the top of the third on a sacrifice fly by Jakobe Jackson.

The Warriors regained the lead with two in the bottom of the inning on a Jon Jon Dick sacrifice fly and a Cade Boley single with two outs.

The Tide got within one on Landyn Huddleston's steal of home in the top of the fourth.

Chase, who doubled to start the inning, scored on a passed ball in the bottom of the fourth.

The Warriors' final run came in the sixth. Cour-

tesy runner Eli Santileces scored on a passed ball with two outs. Dick led off the inning with a double.

Brandon Winston had two of Minden's five hits, including a double.

Brody Bower scattered six hits and allowed no earned runs.

Lakeside also dropped a tough 7-6 decision to Byrd in eight innings and fell to Claiborne Christian 4-1.

Jon Jon Dick had two doubles against Byrd. CJ Watts had two hits against Claiborne Christian.

Lakeside entered this week 10-8.

North Webster had a good week, going 3-1. The Knights defeated LaSalle 10-2, Plain Dealing 19-1 and Stanley 11-6 and lost to Family Community 9-7.

Collin McKenzie went 4-for-5 against LaSalle. He also allowed just three hits and struck out nine in 5 1/3 innings.

Cooper Sanders had three hits, including two doubles, against Stanley. McKenzie and Sawyer Wages also had three hits each.

North Webster entered

See, **BASEBALL**, Page 6

HIGH SCHOOL SOFTBALL

Successful week for parish teams

RUSSELL HEDGES
Minden Press-Herald

Four parish teams notched at least two wins last week.

The Glenbrook Lady Apaches had a very busy week. They played six games and went 3-3.

Glenbrook started with lopsided District 1-1A vic-

tories over Plain Dealing, 18-2, and Ringgold, 24-4.

The Lady Apaches fell to St. Mary's 4-2 then went 1-2 in the Quitman tournament, defeating Summerfield 16-6 and losing to Oak Grove 10-3 and Cedar Creek 18-5.

Vivian Still, Hallie Harmon and Colby Hollis had three hits apiece in the

three-inning game against Ringgold.

Harmon and Still both hit home runs. Harmon had five RBI. Izzy McMillon had a home run and two RBI.

Hollis hit a home run against Oak Grove. She also had a triple, double and four RBI against Summerfield. Harmon had two

hits and three RBI.

Glenbrook entered this week 11-9.

Minden went 3-1. The Lady Tiders defeated Bossier 17-0 and Woodlawn 16-0 in District 1-4A games. They also defeated Calvin 13-3 and lost to Quitman 13-1 in the Quitman tour-

See, **SOFTBALL**, Page 6

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Minden Press-Herald & Holcomb's

Athlete of the Week



Jkobe Lawson
North Webster High

The freshman won the 200-meter dash and finished second in the 100 in the Don Millen Bossier Bearkat Relays.

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

SPORTS

Russell Hedges, Sports Editor
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SIBLEY

Continued from Page 5



SHAWN WHITE/SPECIAL TO THE PRESS-HERALD
A table with Sibley state championship trophies and other memorabilia was set up in the Minden Rec Center for A Celebration of Championships last Saturday.

record over his career.

“Coach Stahl was an absolute genius,” Sheppard said. “He had us ready. He had us prepared. We have to give him all the credit for the success we had. You can’t go and win if you’re not prepared.”

“Coach Stahl was a disciplinarian but in a good way,” Jones said. “He was rough but you will come out successful because he knew what he was doing. He was very strict in a good way. He made sure that we did what we were supposed to do as far as running. He got us into shape. He taught us a lot of plays. That was important to us.”

Stahl even after the streak knew his team was strong and felt his “team’s reputation works to its advantage in the form of a psychological advantage over opponents” according to a Dec. 15, 1980 article by Phil Wehrle of The Times.

Stahl was quoted saying “We stress to the kids that we are used to winning,” he said. “This is no place for losers. Sometimes I think we have a 10-point advantage against some teams before we ever start the game. We’ve beaten five or six teams that were more talented than us.”

One of the key players in the 100 game streaks was Willie Jackson. The Louisiana High School Hall of Famer didn’t run the whole 100-game gambit but ended with the 58-0 state championship.

Jackson headed to play at Centenary , which was a Division I school at the time, and won the TAAC Player of the Year three consecutive years.

Jackson credits his success and his drive to his coach’s values that were instilled in him.

““Tough,” he said. “He was one of a kind. He was a disciplinarian but he loved you. He had tough love. We need a lot of that today. He could be your friend but he also was going to push you to be the best that you could be and that’s important. He was a father figure to us all. We knew when we got around him we were going to do our best. That’s what he expected throughout our lives.”

Jackson continued about how the two were a lot alike.

“Discipline, playing hard. Everything we learned from Coach Stahl. That’s what it was all about. I had a work ethic because I had a passion. I wanted to be the best that I could

possibly be.

“I didn’t want the other person in front of me to outplay me. In some respect, I was just like Coach Stahl. I didn’t want anyone to beat me. I took that because he was a winner. I just wanted to be a winner all time. He instilled in us that if you play hard good things will happen.

The Sibley High School Raiders are now the rejuvenated Lakeside Warriors. The old Sibley High School still partly exists as Sibley City Hall now.

The halls where these players roamed are partly gone and now is a town park. The brotherhood of the Sibley basketball 1979-81 is still strong though

“It’s like none other,” Sheppard said. “We’ve always been close. We grew up together in the same community. It’s like a brotherhood in itself. It was easy to come together and play because we’ve known each other. We played sandlot. We play pick-up ball. We did all that together. It was easy to play organized ball. We still communicate today.”

The Sibley Raiders may not claim any more titles or extended winning streaks, but they will always have 100 reasons to celebrate.

BASEBALL

Continued from Page 5

this week 14-4.

Minden opened District 1-4A play with an 18-0 victory over Booker T. Washington. Brandon Winston had two hits, including a home run, and three RBI.

Minden entered this week 12-7.

Glenbrook went 1-3. The Apaches fell to Ruston 16-7. Then they traveled to Zachary and played three close games against the Broncos, winning the first 5-3 and losing the second 9-7 and third 4-3.

Hayden Harmon allowed just four hits in six innings in the first game against Zachary.

Cason Clemons had two hits.

Landry Powell went 3-for-4 with a home run and triple in the second game. Easton Sanders hit a two-run home run.

Zachary scored a run in the bottom of the seventh to win the third game.



VALLETTE WEAVER/SPECIAL TO THE PRESS-HERALD
Lakeside’s Cooper Chase scores a run during a 5-2 victory over Minden last week at Lakeside.

Maddox Mandino worked three innings without allowing a hit.

Glenbrook went into this week 13-8.

Doyline went 1-2. The Panthers dropped a pair of District 1-B games to

Weston before defeating Bossier 15-0 in four innings.

Benton Bates had three RBI and Dakota Stewart two against Bossier. Kenneth Lee and Bates combined on a one-hitter.

SOFTBALL

Continued from Page 5

Frederick 11-1.

McKenna Chreene pitched a three-hitter with 13 strikeouts against Loyola.

Laiklyn Squyres went 4-for-4 with two triples and three RBI. Chreene also went 3-for-4 with a double.

Hallie Sutton allowed five hits and struck out eight against Calvin. She also went 4-for-5 with three doubles and four RBI.

Chreene had three hits. Emily Jones had two doubles and four RBI.

Lakeside entered this week 13-10 overall and 5-1 in district.

Lakeside went 2-1. The Lady Warriors defeated Loyola 12-2. They split games in the Quitman tournament, defeating Calvin 13-3 and losing to St.

man tournament.

Landree Andrews had three hits, including two doubles, and three RBI against North Caddo. Anna Ray went 3-for-4 and Paige Timmons hit a home run against Carroll.

Emma Newsom didn’t allow a hit in four innings. Charlie Campbell completed the no-hitter in the fifth.

Anekah Coleman, Campbell and Aniyah Davis all had three hits against Wossman.

Timmons went 2-for-2 against Calvin.

North Webster entered this week 8-14 overall and 3-1 in district.

Doyline dropped the only game it played, falling to Quitman 12-2 in a District 1-B game.

The Lady Panthers entered this week 4-8 overall and 0-2 in district.

OUTDOORS

Silverfin the new ragondin?

GLYNN HARRIS

Remember “ragon-din”? I didn’t think so. Several years ago, the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries in an effort to find a market for an exotic wildlife species threatening our coastal marsh introduced a wild game food source that was readily available and virtually free for the taking. Add to that the fact that ragondin is delicious and nutritious and Louisiana residents should jump all over it and add it to their list of favorite wild game to eat.

It didn’t work; Louisiana folks, well-known for being willing to eat just about anything, turned their noses up at eating ragondin, which is actually a nice name for nutria, or nutria-rats. I have eaten nutria and to tell the truth, it’s good. I admit, however, it wasn’t easy getting the image of those ugly creatures with big yellow buck teeth out of my mind. Thus, nutria continue to munch away at our coastline largely because Louisiana residents weren’t willing to munch on ragondin.

Today there is another creature threatening to do harm to Louisiana’s fisheries and the LDWF is once again attempting to get residents to give this new delicacy, “silver fin”, a try.

Silver fin, like ragondin, is a nice way of saying “carp”, not just any carp but two species of Asian carp, exotic species that are competing with our native fish. These two, the bighead carp and the silver carp, are already in plentiful supply in the Mississippi River and all tributaries and distributaries of the river. Both species



COURTESY PHOTO
Silver Carp have the nasty habit of leaping into the air at the approach of boats creating hazards for boaters.

are filter feeders, competing with such species as paddlefish and shad and the young of all species of recreational and commercial fish.

The more popular of the two, the silver carp, is the fish you’ve seen on outdoor fishing shows jumping out of the water at the approach of an outboard engine and slamming into boats and boaters, sometimes inflicting injuries and damage to boat windshields and electronic equipment.

They can weigh up to 60 pounds and a flying carp smashing into a boater going 50 mph can deliver a blow like a Mike Tyson haymaker. On a writer’s trip to south Louisiana several years ago, I had a 30 pounder smash into the windshield of the boat I was riding in inches from my face. After recovering from the shock of nearly having to replace my dentures, I thanked the

Lord for strong plexiglass.

In an effort to slow the spread of these fish – they can’t be eradicated - the LDWF called on renowned Chef Philippe Parola, to find ways these fish can be prepared so our residents will fill their freezers and frying pans with “silver fin”. Hopefully this experiment will work better than trying to get nutria into our crock pots.

I haven’t had the opportunity to taste silver fin but from the video clip I saw, the flesh is white and tender and can be prepared into tasty looking dishes.

The only problem is that both the bighead and silver carp have “floating” bones that are not easily separated from the flesh. This calls to mind a fish I used to catch and try to eat, the chain pickerel or better known to north Louisiana anglers as the jackfish. Jacks are delicious but the flesh is filled

with small bones which meant we usually released them rather than have to wrestle with all the bones.

I recall watching Ruston’s super-chef, the late Mrs. Ethel Stone, taking jackfish filets, bones intact, and using her pressure cooker to virtually dissolve the bones and making some croquettes or fish cakes, much like those made with salmon or crab meat. They were delicious.

Chef Parola uses two methods of dealing with silver fin bones. One method, steaming the filets, leaves the bones in the flesh but makes them easier to remove. The other method, deboning, is more complicated but can be done.

So Louisiana, are you ready to do your part in creating a new market for a troublesome fish? If so, give silver fin, the ragondin of the river, a try. You go first; I’ll wait.

Fishing Report

BLACK BAYOU – Crappie have moved up closer to the banks with best catches made around brush 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 on soft plastics 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 with reports of crappie being caught up the bayou on shiners or jigs. No report on bass. For latest information, contact the Honey Hole Tackle Shop at 323-8707.

LAKE D’ARBONNE – This recent cold snap have moved crappie back into deeper water but as it warms up, they’ll be back in the shallow spawning areas. Bass fishing has been moving in and out depending on weather but should be back in the shallows as the big females are getting ready to move in. Bream should be showing up around shallow bedding areas soon and 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 have moved back from the beds but will

be moving back in as the weather starts to warm. A few good ones to over 9 pounds have been caught this past week. Crappie are still best fishing around brush with jigs and shiners picking up some fish as they too will be moving in to spawn as water temperatures warm up. No report on bream or catfish. For latest information, call Kel’s Cove at 927-2264 or Terzia Tackle at 278-4498.

CANEY LAKE – Although this cold snap has slowed fishing, 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 but will be moving in to spawn as the weather warms. 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 fishing has improved. No report on bream. For latest reports, call Poverty Point Marina at 318/878-0101.

LAKE YUCATAN – The water is falling but is still over the road for the next week or so. No fishermen this week. For information, call Surplus City Landing at 318/467-2259.

Good News

GOOD NEWS

MARCH MADNESS IS HERE AGAIN

When March appears, farmers across the South have their farm equipment ready to roll. Gardeners are getting early gardens planted. Shrubs and fruit trees are trimmed and ready for spring. Weed-N-Feed is the ‘fertilizer-of-choice.’ Yes, March Madness has returned. Before the end of the month, Mowers will be humming, trees will be budding and blooming, pollen will be filling up our sinuses and doctor’s offices will be full OF eye-watering patients wanting relief. As we suffer through the month, sports fans around the nation are focusing on a different kind of March Madness – Basketball playoffs.

We spend countless hours watching the upsets, ‘can-you-believe-it’ shots and plays, coaches throwing

coats and chairs, tears and cheers, and a few nets being cut from the rim. This is all part of the phenomenon – March Madness. Each year the men’s championship game will feature men’s teams that have to ‘come through’ Kansas, North Carolina, Michigan, Duke or Kentucky to wear the crown. Of course, the women hopefuls will have to reckon with the South Carolina Gamecocks. As March marches on across the calendar, we will bid ‘good-bye’ to basketball and refocus on College Baseball. Look out for May and June Madness!

We know from ancient

history, armies rested during the winter months, regained strength, worked on weapons so they would be ready to resume troop assignments come spring. Paul was shipwrecked and had to spend winter on a small island of Malta (Acts 28) on his way to Rome to face Caesar. But come spring (March), the crew was ready to sail. Other Biblical references to spring all point toward “new beginnings, rebirth of nature, birds and mammoths. A new hope and possibilities is birthed in the mind and heart of all mankind. It’s as if a ‘new day was dawning.’

Come spring, the Passover nears (celebration of the Exodus from Egypt). Also, the parallel time when Jesus was crucified, buried and arose from the grave – the Christian celebration of

Easter. And with the Easter message, new life is offered through faith in the Resurrected Lord. At this time, we see many signs of nature bringing ‘new life,’ shining through thatches of dead grass.

Flowers are blooming, trees are budding, birds are nesting, and animals are bringing forth their young offspring. Grasses begin to green the countryside. Spring fever is felt by everyone. Dogwoods (my favorite) have begun to show their colors. Yes, our God is renewing nature all around us. And when this orchestra plays their symphony to God, It is a tribute to His Glory and Majesty! March madness beyond compare! It makes us want to sing...

This is my Father’s world, and to my listening ears

All nature sings and round me rings, the music of the spheres.

This is my Father’s world; I rest me in the thought,

Of rocks and trees, of skies and seas; His hand the wonders wrought!

This is my Father’s world, the birds their carols raise –

The morning bright- the lily white declare their Maker’s praise.

This is my Father’s world; He shines in all that’s fair;

In the rustling grass I hear Him pass, He speaks to me everywhere.

(M.D.Babcock-F.L. Sheppard)

BILL CRIDER IS CHAPLAIN OF MINDEN MEDICAL CENTER



Bill Crider

THE UPWARD LOOK

Corrupting vs Edifying

“Let no unwholesome word proceed from your mouth, but only such a word as is good for edification according to the need of the moment, so that it will give grace to those who hear.” Ephesians 4:29 NASB



Max Hutto

An unwholesome word is worthless, rotten, putrid, and foul. It corrupts and tears down the hearer and the speaker, causing heart-felt pain and agony. This corrupting and destructive speech is another characteristic of the old human nature that must be laid aside and removed from

the believer’s life. Instead the believer’s speech must edify, build up, and encourage the hearer, sharing and giving grace to others.

Lord Jesus, help me control my tongue to say things that are helpful and encouraging to others. Let my words be filled with Your truth and overflowing with Your grace, mercy, and love.

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

INSPIRATION

Glory Days?

I would like to start this message by stating the fact that we all have a past. We can’t change it or relive it, but we can learn from it. This topic has been weighing heavy on my heart lately and it made me ask myself one specific question. Why do we call days past our “glory days”? I ask this question because to

call it that is not fair especially to God. He doesn’t allow us to remember our past to lust after it or live in it he does it so we can learn from it and grow. However, I’ve found the most important reason is to glorify him. We glorify God and inspire others through our testimony a retelling of our past and how it led to our present life of serving him and building his kingdom. But that’s still not a reason to call them “glory days”. To live in the past is to neglect the present and possibly hin-



Bernard Harris

der the future. If the title of “glory days” should be bestowed on any point in time it should be the present. I say this because the present is where God is making you better through his glory. Every day you wake up and step out into the world is another opportunity for a deeper relationship with God and the people he has called you to reach. So, in closing I say all this to say don’t live in the past but use it in the present to guide yourself and others to the future God has planned.

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

Come

WORSHIP

How can we pray for you?

If you’re in need of prayer, we can help you. Contact the FBC 24-Hour Prayer Ministry at 371-PRAY.

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Owner

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City, State, Zip

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 publicly opened and read aloud as permitted by public bid law. This is in accordance with La R.S. 38:2212 (A)(1) (b), the provisions of La R.S. 38:2212. Each bidder must have an active Unique Entity ID (SAM), as verified on www.sam.gov, prior to beginning of construction.

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

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

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

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

CYPRESS WATER SYSTEM
Owner

129 Willow Street
Address

Heflin, Louisiana 71039
City, State, Zip

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

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 publicly opened and read aloud as permitted by public bid law. This is in accordance with La R.S. 38:2212 (A)(1) (b), the provisions of La R.S. 38:2212. Each bidder must have an active Unique Entity ID (SAM), as verified on www.sam.gov, prior to beginning of construction.

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

Copies of the CONTRACT DOCUMENTS may be obtained at the office of COTHREN, GRAFF, SMOAK ENGINEERING, INC. upon payment of \$ 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

Village of Dixie Inn
Regular Session
March 14, 2023

NOTICE: THESE MINUTES HAVE NOT BEEN FORMALLY APPROVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL.

The Mayor and Board of Aldermen for the Village of Dixie Inn met in regular session on March 14, 2023 at 5:00 p.m. in the Village Hall, Dixie Inn, Louisiana with the following members present: Mayor Donna Hoffoss, Aldermen Nell Finlay, Judy McKenzie, and Lance Milligan.

The meeting was called to order and the invocation and pledge

of allegiance were given.

There were no public comments.

Mayor Donna Hoffoss welcomed guests.

A motion was made by Nell Finlay and seconded by Lance Milligan to adopt the minutes of the Regular Session of February 14, 2023. Vote on the motion was unanimous.

Financial statements were presented and discussed. A motion was made by Judy McKenzie and seconded by Lance Milligan to adopt the financial statements for February 2023. Vote on the motion was unanimous.

Department Reports:

Mike Chreene reported the new sewer treatment plant for Village of Dixie Inn water system had been delivered. The plant is currently being assembled. Work is also expected to start on the equalization tank mid-March '23.

Chief James Edwards reported all is well with the Police Department. He noted local businesses may soon see an influx of customers due to an upcoming National Archery Tournament taking place April 27-30th, 2023 at Camp Minden. Chief Edwards sent letters to local businesses advising them to prepare as they see fit.

Mayor Donna Hoffoss reported that the village's new trash cans had arrived from the Love Louisiana Grant. Mayor Hoffoss also applied for a grant from Keep Louisiana Beautiful to purchase a new trailer for the Maintenance Department.

New Business

A motion was made by Lance Milligan and seconded by Judy McKenzie to allow Mayor Hoffoss to search for a different fuel company for the village's credit business. Vote was unanimous. A motion was made by Judy McKenzie and seconded by Lance Milligan to replace Mike Griffith on Webster Parish Fire District #7 with James Edwards for the rest of Mr. Griffith's term. Vote was unanimous.

There being no old business, a motion was made by Nell Finlay and seconded by Lance Milligan to adjourn.

Attest:

Donna Hoffoss
Mayor

March 29, 2023
Minden Press-Herald

LEGAL NOTICE

Stephen Craig Gorham; Peyton Shane Waters Gorham; Paige Faith Gorham; Newt Brown Contractor, L.L.C.; Alpha Railroad and Piling, Inc.; Benton & Brown, L.L.C.; And all other parties in interest

THIS NOTICE BY PUBLICATION IS NOTIFICATION THAT YOUR RIGHTS OR INTEREST IN THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED PROPERTY LOCATED IN WEBSTER PARISH, LOUISIANA MAY BE TERMINATED BY OPERATION OF LAW IF YOU DO NOT TAKE FURTHER ACTION IN ACCORDANCE WITH LAW.

Re: (GEO # 103516)

A 1.222 acres, more or less, tract of land located in the Northwest Quarter of the Northwest Quarter (NW/4 of NW/4) of Section 15, Township 18 North, Range 8 West, Webster Parish, Louisiana, referred to as "Tract No. 2" and being more particularly described as: Being the South 1.222 acres (397.13 feet by 134.04 feet by 397.13 feet by 134.04 feet) of the South Half (S/2) of the following described tract:

Begin at the Northeast corner of the Northwest Quarter of the Northwest Quarter (NE/C of NW/4 of NW/4) of Section 15, Township 18 North, Range 8 West, Webster Parish, Louisiana; thence run South 89°40'00" West for a distance of 397.13 feet; thence run South for a distance of 804.23 feet; thence run North 89°40'00" East for a distance of 397.13 feet; thence run North for a distance of 804.23 feet back to the Point of Beginning, containing 7.33 acres, more or less, together with all buildings and improvements located thereon.

Tax sale title to a 100% interest in the above-described property has been sold for failure to pay taxes. You have been identified as a person who may have an interest in this property. Your interest in the property will be terminated if you do not file a lawsuit in accordance with law within 60 days of the date of the first publication of this notice.

Webster Parish Sheriff's Office
Webster Parish Court-house
401 Main Street, 2nd Floor
Minden, Louisiana 71055
(318) 377-1515

March 29, 2023
Minden Press-Herald

FAIR HOUSING

IT'S RIGHT!
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Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968, as amended, makes discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin illegal in connection with the sale or rental of most housing and any vacant land offered for residential construction or use.

Fair Housing is a national policy of the United States. It is the law and it is your right. Today, more than ever, America is closer to upholding the inalienable right of ALL its citizens to live WHERE they choose, WHEN they choose, or for AS LONG as they choose and can afford to do so. Yet, this year, as many as two million people who want to rent or buy a home will be discriminated against because of race, color, religion, sex, handicap, families with children, or national origin.

YOU can do something about housing discrimination.

The City of Minden supports fair housing. Complaints may be filed locally with Municipal Court or by reporting violations to the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Toll-Free, 1 - 800 - 669-9777.

March 29, 2023
Minden Press-Herald

SHERIFF'S SALE

B1 BANK VS. REBECCA AARA-GON

In the Twenty-Sixth Judicial District Court of Webster Parish, Louisiana, No. 80443

By virtue of a WRIT OF SEIZURE AND SALE issued out of the Twenty-Sixth Judicial District Court of Webster Parish, Louisiana, in the above styled and numbered suit and to me directed, I have seized and taken into my possession and will offer for sale at public auction to the last and highest bidder for cash WITHOUT the benefit of appraisal and according to law at the principal front door of the Court-house in the City of Minden, Webster Parish, Louisiana on WEDNESDAY, May 3, 2023, During the legal sale hours, the following property, to wit:

Lot No. 57, Block 1, Premier Park Subdivision, being a part of the West

Half of Southeast Quarter (W 1/2 of SE 1/4), and a part of the East Half of Southwest Quarter (E 1/2 of SW 1/4), lying East of (old) State Route 90, all in Section 17, Township 21 North, Range 10 West, Webster Parish, Louisiana, being a lot North Side 80.0 feet; East Side 78.2 feet; South Side 120.2 feet; and West Side 75.0 feet, as recorded in Map Book 2, Page 22.

320 McArthur Loop, Cotton Valley, Louisiana 71018

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

Said property seized is that of the defendant and will be sold to satisfy a judgment rendered in our Honorable Court.

JASON R. PARKER
Sheriff & Ex-Officio Auctioneer
Webster Parish, Louisiana

Linda Vaughan - Deputy

March 29, 2023
April 26, 2023
Minden Press-Herald

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STATE OF LOUISIANA

PARISH OF WEBSTER

VILLAGE OF DIXIE INN

RESOLUTION #0103142023

WHEREAS, the Village of Dixie Inn, Louisiana requests assistance from the Webster Parish Police Jury to allow for the purchase of equipment to be used to keep the streets, right-of-way, and drainage ditches cleared and cleaned in the Village of Dixie Inn, Louisiana, and

WHEREAS, the total project cost will be deducted from allotted annual municipality funding, and costs over the allotted annual municipality funding will be paid by the municipality, and

WHEREAS, the total estimated project cost is unknown, and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, this resolution be adopted and sent to Webster Parish Police Jury to be placed on the agenda prior to the Jury's regular meeting in April 2023.

THUS, DONE UPON MOTION BY Lance Milligan, duly seconded by Judy McKenzie, and carried by the foregoing resolution was adopted by the Village of Dixie Inn in regular session convened on March 14, 2023.

YEAS: (3) NAYS: (0) ABSTAIN: (0) ABSENT (0)

Donna Hoffoss, Mayor

I, Alicia Ware, Clerk of the Village of Dixie Inn, do hereby certify that the above and foregoing is a true and correct copy of a resolution adopted by the Village of Dixie Inn in regular session convened on March 14, 2023.

Given under my official signature and seal of office on this 14th day of March 2023.

Alicia Ware

Alicia Ware, Clerk
Village of Dixie Inn

March 29, 2023
Minden Press-Herald

State of Louisiana
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
PROCLAMATION NUMBER 32 JBE 2023

SPECIAL ELECTION – CONSTABLE, JUSTICE OF THE PEACE DISTRICT 3, PARISH OF WEBSTER

WHEREAS, a vacancy exists in the office of the Constable, Justice of the Peace District 3, Parish of Webster, due to the resignation of the Honorable "Chris" McGarity, effective October 3, 2022; and

WHEREAS, La. R.S. 18:602 requires the Governor to call a special election to fill the vacancy in an office of a member of a parish or municipal governing authority when more than eighteen (18) months of the term remain unexpired in accordance with the provisions of La. R.S. 18:602 and/or the dates for elections set forth in La. R.S. 18:402.

NOW THEREFORE, I, JOHN BEL EDWARDS, Governor of the State of Louisiana, do hereby order and direct as follows:

SECTION 1: A special primary and general election for the unexpired term shall be held throughout the jurisdiction of the Justice of the Peace District 3, Parish of Webster, for the purpose of electing a constable to fill the vacancy in the office.

SECTION 2: Any qualified person desiring to become a candidate for the office shall file a notice of candidacy, accompanied either by a qualifying fee or a nominating petition, as required or authorized by law, with the appropriate election official in the manner and form, and under the procedures and conditions, provided by La. R.S. 18:461 *et seq.*, and all other applicable provisions of the Louisiana Election Code, La. R.S. 18:1 *et seq.*, during the period commencing Tuesday, August 8, 2023, and ending at 4:30 p.m. Thursday, August 10, 2023.

SECTION 3: The special election shall be held and conducted under the applicable provisions of the Louisiana Election Code, La. R.S. 18:1 *et seq.*

SECTION 4: The primary election shall be held Saturday, October 14, 2023, and the general election shall be held Saturday, November 18, 2023, at the times and places and in the manner, prescribed by law.

SECTION 5: The Secretary of State, Commissioner of Elections, Parish Board of Election Supervisors, Clerk of Court, Registrar of Voters, and all other persons charged with any power, function, right, duty or responsibility in conducting elections in the jurisdiction of the Justice of the Peace District 3, Parish of Webster, are hereby authorized, requested, directed and empowered to exercise every lawful function and to do every act necessary to conduct the special election, to cause the returns to be made, to canvass and promulgate the results, and to perform all related and incidental functions.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have set my hand officially and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of Louisiana in the City of Baton Rouge, on this 13th day of March, 2023.

GOVERNOR OF LOUISIANA

ATTEST BY THE SECRETARY OF STATE

SECRETARY OF STATE

March 29, 2023
Minden Press-Herald

RECEPTIONIST
Clement Industries Inc.
11653 Hwy 371 S Minden, LA
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- Filing
- Keep front area clean and orderly
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CRIME

Minden man drinks bottle of vodka, then resists arrest for DWI

STAFF REPORT
Minden Press-Herald

Webster Parish Sheriff’s Office deputies arrested Robert Beil Jr. after he was found to be far too intoxicated to drive and then resisting arrest.

Deputies observed a 2009 Jeep sitting on the shoulder of Boothville Road and investigated.

“I then made contact with the driver identified as Robert Beil Jr. I could see several open containers of alcoholic beverages through the window. I asked him to step out of the vehicle. I observed him to have bloodshot watery eyes and could smell an overwhelming odor of alcoholic beverages coming from his breath as he spoke,” the booking report read.

“I asked him if he had been drinking. He stated that he had drunk a bottle of Takka vodka. I then conducted SFST (Standardized Field Sobriety Test) with him. Beil could not complete the tests due to his level of intoxication.”

At this point, deputies attempted to make an arrest which Beil resisted by dropping to the ground and jerking away from the deputies whenever they tried to apprehend him.

“I instructed him several times to get back into the patrol car. He jerked away and refused to get in. I had to physically force him into the car,” the report read.

Once they were finally able to get him in the car, deputies searched through his vehicle, locating a small jar of marijuana in the center console and a pipe containing marijuana residue. Beil was then transported to the WPSO to be given the opportunity to provide a breath sample, but he was too incoherent to do so.

Beil was later transported to BDCC on the charges of driving while intoxicated second offense, driving with an open container, possession of a schedule I substance, possession of drug paraphernalia, and resisting an officer.

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Humana is a Coordinated Care PPO SNP plan with a Medicare contract and a contract with the state Medicaid program. Enrollment in this Humana plan depends on contract renewal. Applicable to HumanaChoice SNP-DE H5216-330 (PPO D-SNP). **At Humana, it is important you are treated fairly.** Humana Inc. and its subsidiaries comply with applicable federal civil rights laws and do not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, ancestry, ethnicity, marital status, religion or language. **English:** ATTENTION: If you do not speak English, language assistance services, free of charge, are available to you. Call **1-877-320-1235 (TTY: 711).** **Español (Spanish):** ATENCIÓN: Si habla español, tiene a su disposición servicios gratuitos de asistencia lingüística. Llame al **1-877-320-1235 (TTY: 711).** **繁體中文 (Chinese):** 注意：如果您使用繁體中文，您可以免費獲得語言援助服務。請致電 **1-877-320-1235 (聽障專線：711)**。

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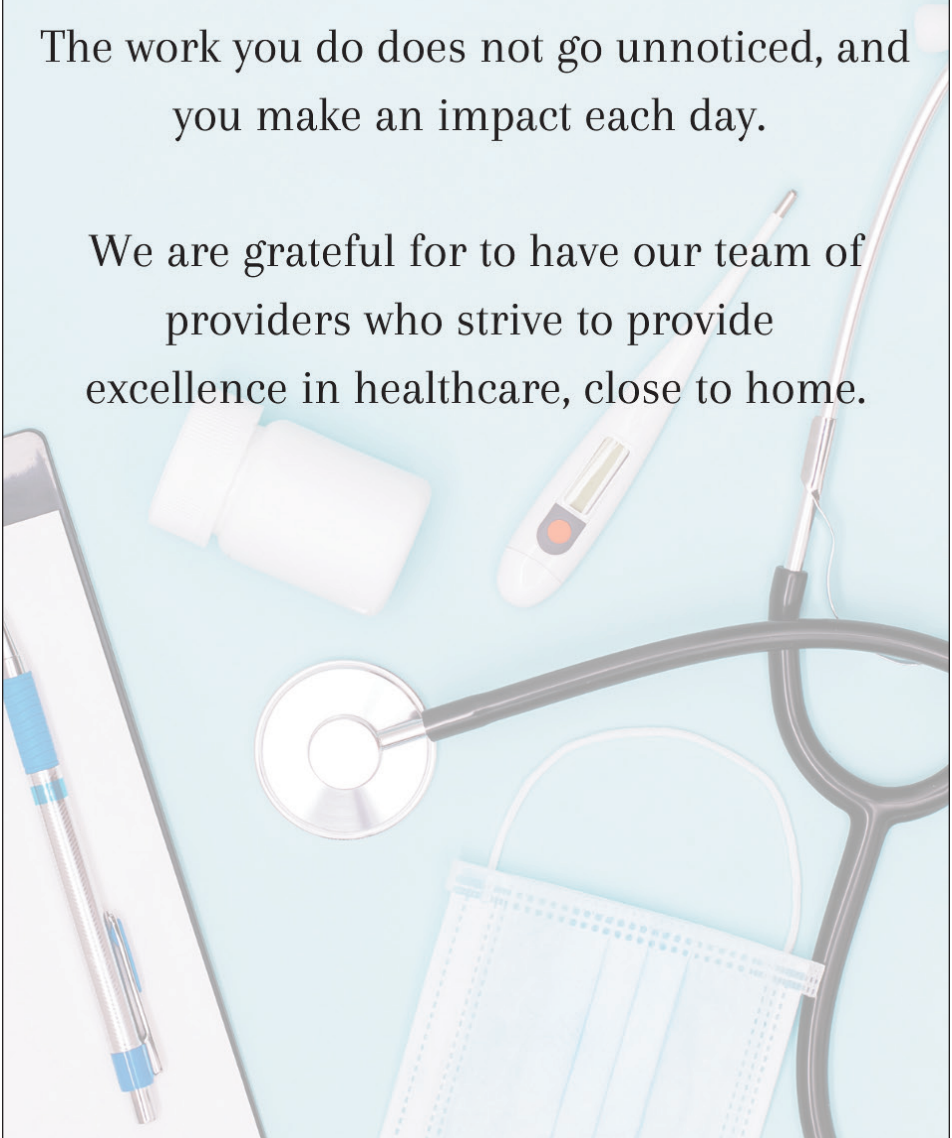


Doctor's Day 2023

Thank you, to all of our providers, for your service and dedication to keeping our community healthy.

The work you do does not go unnoticed, and you make an impact each day.

We are grateful for to have our team of providers who strive to provide excellence in healthcare, close to home.



On National Doctors' Day, we salute the caring physicians who follow a special calling to help others and serve the greater good. Their contributions to the world of medicine and the well-being of our community are an inspiration, and we greatly appreciate their hard work and tireless dedication.

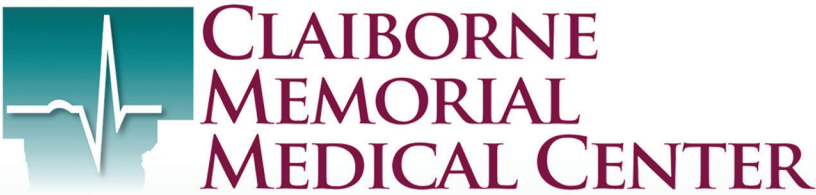
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