

MINDEN PRESS-HERALD

WEDNESDAY, MAY 17, 2023

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GOVERNMENT

Bills under consideration during this legislative session

AMBER MCDOWN
Minden Press-Herald

State Representative Dr. Wayne McMahan provided an update on the Louisiana legislative session recently.

According to McMahan, the state is still recovering from the COVID-19 pandemic. There is a need to fill the nursing workforce gap, especially in rural areas where hospitals are struggling to get back on their feet. Mc-

Mahan is hoping that the state can start working to fill nurse slots in hospitals, rural communities, and regional hospitals.

The legislature is still trying to decide what to do with the surplus federal funds.

"We're still trying to decide on how we're going to be able to utilize the funds we have. We still have federal money from COVID and from hurricane monies that have us looking at somewhere around a \$1.5

to \$1.7 billion surplus this year," said McMahan.

House Bill 1, which is proposing not to go over the spending cap, has been passed by the House, but there is still some uncertainty as to how the funds will be utilized. If a significant amount of debt can be paid down with the surplus funds over the next two years, the state could free up money to support teachers and increase their pay raises. The Senate is still

looking at the possibility of going over the spending cap, but the leadership on both sides needs to come together and agree on the best course of action. To go above the spending cap, both the House and the Senate must have a two-thirds



MCMAHEN

vote.

Carbon capture is another issue that is being considered in the state. Speaker Schexnayder has presented House Bill 571 concerning carbon capture, which is a huge opportunity for the state to employ people, have resources come in, and create jobs moving forward. However, there is still some uncertainty about how landowners will react to the proposed legislation.

"The concern is that people who have oil royalties might have oil under that plume. I think that that carbon dioxide storage plume would be 5000 to 8000 feet below the ground. And still there might be oil reserves underneath that. There's a way that they can drill through that plume and go down and extract the oil. I think it's a process that's going to cost more

See, **SESSION**, Page 3

SCHOOL BOARD

WPSB expenditures approved in May

AMBER MCDOWN
Minden Press-Herald

During the May 1 school board meeting, the Webster Parish School Board approved a number of expenditures to help maintain and improve campuses across Webster Parish.

The board approved payment of an invoice from Mechanical Concepts for replacing a defective Daikin coil and TXV in the girl's restroom on the 2nd grade wing at Central Elementary School in the amount of \$2,929.95 using the Consolidated District 3 Maintenance Fund.

The board also approved payment of an invoice from Mechanical Concepts for repairing a fan motor, inverter board, and wiring harness to Daikin Compressor on the junior high wing at Doyline High School in the amount of \$5,571.52. This was paid out of the Doyline Maintenance Fund.

The board gave permission to declare two unused portable buildings at Doyline High School as surplus and allow said buildings to be advertised for sale and sold to the highest sealed bidder.

Using the District 6 1/2 Cent Sales Tax Fund, the board approved payment of an invoice from Fitzgerald Contractors for repairing a leak on a 1 1/4" water line at Phillips Elementary School in the amount of \$2,228.50. The board also approved the purchase of a pressure washer from Tractor Supply for Richardson Elementary School for \$649.99.

The Sarepta Maintenance Fund will be used to pay Wooten Construction LLC to "finish out" the concessions building at North Webster Junior High School football field in the amount of \$18,000.00. The board also approved the proposal from Wooten Construction LLC to repair and reseed the football playing field at the North Webster Junior High School football field in the amount of

BIRDIES FOR BABIES



AMBER MCDOWN/PRESS-HERALD PHOTOS

The Birdies Fore Babies golf tournament was a big success this weekend, raising over \$20,000 for Seeds Women's Center.

Community comes together to support Seeds Women's Center at golf tournament fundraiser

AMBER MCDOWN
Minden Press-Herald

The local community rallied together in support of Seeds Women's Center at the Birdies Fore Babies golf tournament fundraiser on May 13, raising an im-

pressive grand total of \$20,910. The event, held at the Pine Hills Country Club, saw an outpouring of generosity from sponsors, volunteers, and participants alike.

Seeds Women's Center, a small yet remark-

able pregnancy center, provides vital services to families in the community. The funds raised during the tournament will be directed towards sustaining and expanding these essential initiatives, ensuring

See, **GOLF**, Page 3

COMMUNITY

Brunch club helping local businesses

AMBER MCDOWN
Minden Press-Herald

On May 12, the Opossum Posse held a southern garden party and high tea outside of the parTEA Room at Red Blooms on Main Street in Minden. Over 30 women showed up in brightly colored attire with over-the-top hats to enjoy tea, talk, and bottomless mimosas.

This brunch club was started by Sarah Overall and Amber Bryant in February with just eight members. Since then the club has grown to 35 members.

When founding this club, Overall let her mother's spirit and way of life guide her.

"This 'Brunch Club' thing I co-founded this year with @amber_b101 is one way to keep my mom's spirit alive and shining bright in mine, my sisters, and our

friends' lives," said Overall. "Yesterday was full of all things Southern and kind-hearted women clinking champagne. Joie de Vivre — the only way our Mother taught us to do life!"

This club has some basic rules.

"Rule number one: It will always be a Friday," said Overall. "Rule number two: There will always be a theme. Rule number three: There will always be a hat or a headpiece involved. And rule number four: You just have to be a legit kind human. That's pretty much it."

Women come from all over the state to enjoy each others' company and to help out the economies of the towns they visit.

"The purpose of this is also to support local small businesses," Overall said.

See, **BRUNCH**, Page 2



AMBER MCDOWN/ PRESS-HERALD PHOTO

A brunch club called the Opossum Posse visited Minden this weekend, bringing cheer and magnificent hats to the downtown area. The group encouraged their members to make donations to the Minden Foundation and to shop locally.

Jessica Stewart Gorman named executive director for the Dorcheat Museum

AMBER MCDOWN
Minden Press-Herald

During the Dorcheat Museum's Night at the Museum on May 8, Shelley Francis announced that she is stepping down as executive director, and Jessica Stewart Gorman will be taking her place.

Francis has been working at the Dorcheat Museum since 2007. After stepping down from the position of executive director, she will become vice president on the

board of directors.

Gorman first came to Francis' attention when she came in asking permission to work on cemetery headstones at the Minden Cemetery. This eventually led to her taking on a role at the Minden Cemetery Association and working as a volunteer at the museum. After some consideration, Gorman accepted



GORMAN

Francis' offer to start working at the Dorcheat Museum as her assistant.

"She knows more than I ever thought about knowing about Webster Parish history," said Francis. "She's the only person I know that I can sit and talk with about people who have been dead for 150 plus years. We also know where they're buried, where they lived, and

who their mama was."

Gorman is a native of Minden, and she has been interested in genealogy since she was about 10 years old when she would look through a copy of her family history that had been put together by a relative.

"I was fascinated by the idea that I was related to all those people who lived so long ago," said Gorman. "As a teenager, I became more interested when my dad was working on our Stewart gene-

alogy. I started out like most people, wanting to just put together a family tree and find out who I'm related to."

But the more she discovered, the more interested she became.

"The longer I researched, the more I developed an interest in who these people were and what their lives were like," said Gorman.

During the COVID pandemic, Gorman took

See, **MUSEUM**, Page 2



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Zach M. Goodman
D.D.S.



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Tomorrow's
Low Temp 68°

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WEBSTER & MORE

LIONS CLUB

Chapman chronicles historical football stats at Lions Club

AMBER MCDOWN
Minden Press-Herald

Jake Chapman was the guest speaker at the noon Lions Club meeting on May 11. Chapman has been broadcasting the Minden High School football games for 13 years now, along with Mark Chreene who has been doing it for 23 years. After so many years of closely following the games, both men have become historians of the team.

“We wanted to add a little bit of flavor to our broadcast,” said Chapman. “Instead of just calling it play-by-play and analyzing each play, we wanted to add some stats so we could have some comparative analysis. Was someone having a good game, a good season? If someone made a spectacular run, could we say, ‘That’s the longest run in 65 years?’”

Using a program called StatPro, they were able to get statistics going back to 2008. But that encompasses only a small portion of Minden High football history. Was Michael Carr’s 270 yards rushing a record for Minden High? No one knew for sure. Questions like this are what inspired Chapman



CHAPMAN

to begin researching the team’s history more thoroughly.

Chapman spent hundreds of hours looking through newspaper articles from across the state, gleaning tidbits of knowledge and compiling them. Before about 1954, coverage of the games was spotty at best. Many articles would just say who had won, and maybe give the final scores. Occasionally they would mention specific plays. Each piece of quantitative data was carefully documented by Chapman.

Minden High has been fielding a football team since 1901, though the first record of a game Chapman has been able to unearth was a game between Minden and Homer published in the Homer Guardian Journal on November 17, 1909. Homer won 47 to 5.

Many things have changed over the years including the name and colors of the team. From 1909 until the early 1920s, they were just known as the Minden High School Football Team. In an article from 1923, Chapman found a reference about the Minden team that said “to carry the green and white colors.” He

found the Minden team referred to as “the green and white machine,” “the greenbacks,” and “the greenies” up until 1934. For a brief period, they were known as the Minden Crimson Avalanche and, shortly thereafter, they became the Minden Crimson Tide. Chapman knows of only one college team and one high school team that uses this mascot.

All this research has been assembled into books that they sell to benefit the home team.

“We’ve put together a football record book,” said Chapman. “We have two editions that are out now, and we’re working on a third. In 2015, we released the first edition. It had about 186 stat categories. Three years after that we released the second edition that had 205 stat categories. What I’ve got going right now will have 246 stat categories,” Chapman said.

“We’ve donated about \$4,000 to the Minden football program through the sales of this stat book.”

Chapman hopes to make the third book available for sale through Amazon in the near future. To hear Chapman and Chreene’s football broadcasts, tune in to FM 104.5 KBEF radio during football season.

MUSEUM

Continued from Page 1

the opportunity to continue her studies in genealogy, completing the certificate program on American Genealogical Studies from the National Genealogy Society. She also completed a course in Forensic Genealogy from the National Institute for Genealogical Studies. Gorman was recently accepted as a member of the North Louisiana Historical Association.

Gorman is also the person who has been uploading all the museum’s events to their You-

Tube channel as well as keeping the social media posts updated. She has written one book, and is working on a second one about Webster Parish’s history. The first book is available for sale now for \$25. The proceeds will go toward expanding the museum.

“We have an entire building next door that needs to get finished so that we can highlight each community and town in Webster Parish the way it should be,” said Francis.

The museum needs to raise at least \$50,000 beyond their normal oper-

ating costs to complete this project. Their next big fundraiser will be a cake auction on September 11, with the theme being “Lights, Camera, Auction!” However, the museum will happily accept donations at any time.

The Dorcheat Museum is a hidden gem in Webster Parish. They are located at 116 Pearl Street, and they are open Tuesday through Friday 10 AM till 4 PM (closed for lunch 1 PM till 2 PM). They are also happy to open outside of their normal hours upon request.

SCHOOLS

Continued from Page 1

\$8,000.00.

Mechanical Cooling Services will be paid \$3,672.00 for replacing the Spyder controls for a VAV at North Webster Lower Elementary School using the Shongaloo Building Fund.

Finally, using the Springhill Maintenance

Fund, Mechanical Cooling Services will be paid \$2,500.00 for replacing a defective hot water circulation pump, \$1,150.00 for replacing an air valve VAV, and \$4,400.00 for replacing a circulating pump on a boiler at North Webster High School.

The Webster Parish

School Board continually seeks to improve and maintain their campuses across the parish to give students excellent environments to learn in. School board meetings are open to the public. The next meeting will be held at the school board office on June 12, 2023, at 6 PM.

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

BRUNCH

Continued from Page 1

“Mrs. Kathy [Cropper] owns the tea room, and every piece of food that you’re eating today was curated by a local person here in Minden, so you’re supporting local businesses by having this party. We want businesses to thrive wherever we have them.”

She directed the partygoers to a number of local

businesses in the downtown area where they might spend their money to expand this support.

The Opossum Posse also encourages donating to local charities. For this occasion, the Minden Foundation was selected, and QR codes were posted prominently to make donating quick and easy. The Minden Foundation maintains a fund to

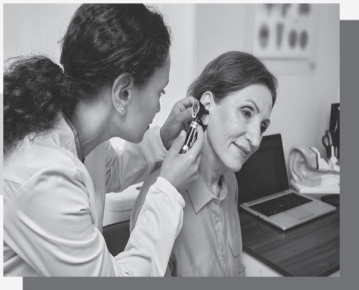
provide charitable assistance, within the Minden area, primarily for those needs not specifically met by other charities or organizations.

Clearly, the Opossum Posse is filled with women who are just as beautiful on the inside as they are on the outside. Entry to this club is by invitation only, and there is already a waiting list.

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-Helen Keller



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WEBSTER & MORE

OBITUARIES



Barry Wayne Teague

Barry Wayne Teague was known by those who loved him as B, Uncle Barry, B Dub, and Papoo. He was genuine, funny, charming, kind, gentle in spirit, selfless, and he always saw the good in people.

Barry married his high school sweetheart, Pamela Woodard, in 1975. Together they built a family and life anchored by love and faith. Barry spent three decades in pharmaceutical sales. He continually prioritized his family, passing on promotions in favor of coaching little league and cheering for his sons, Chad and Clay, at their many ballgames and swim meets. Barry was a natural athlete. He played football and was a state champion pole vaulter for Minden High School. He passed to his boys a love of the outdoors - he taught them how to drive a four-wheeler, hunt, fish, play golf, throw a fastball, and snow ski. He was gifted with the ability to repair anything around the house, and his sons watched and learned from him over the years.

Barry was born and raised in Minden, Louisiana, to Ora and Wilfred Teague. Wilfred was a proud firefighter for the Minden Fire Department after his service in the U.S. military. To the Woodard family, led by the late Jerry and Jack Woodard, he was a fourth son. Barry was always surrounded by friends who were like brothers to him. He spent time each fall at the Bohemian deer camp with his favorite chocolate Labrador Buck, golfing on Sunday afternoons with lifelong friends, many afternoons on the Burke porch, and summers at the beach with Lisa and Mark Woodard. Friends who knew him in these spaces were better for it.

Barry looked forward to the annual Minden Char-

ity Classic Golf Tournament and St. Jude Auction. He spent his Sundays at First Baptist Church Minden for 65 years until his recent move to Broadmoor Baptist Church in Shreveport. He was an ordained deacon, Sunday school teacher, trumpet player in the choir, and Royal Ambassador teacher and coach. Barry was a quiet servant of the Lord. He led by example, never needing to preach. He was quick to offer a helping hand and walked beside many through tough times.

Barry adored his grandchildren - Jack, Peyton Anabelle, and Adelyn Grace. They called him Papoo. He took them on golf cart rides and made them belly laugh playing the trumpet. He also made the best Coke floats and ice cream sundaes, which earned him the nickname Barry Queen.

Barry passed away on May 2, 2023, at the age of 69. He was preceded in death by his parents Ora and Wilfred Teague and his sister-in-law, Susan Woodard Burke. He is survived by his beloved wife, Pam, his cherished sons Chad (Anna Marie, The Woodlands, TX) and Clay (Sarah, Shreveport, LA), and his treasured grandchildren, Jack (15), Peyton Anabelle (12), and Adelyn Grace (10).

He is also survived by true lifelong friends and brothers-in-law, Mike Woodard (Laura, Minden, LA), Pat Woodard (Kelly, Minden LA), Mark Woodard (Lisa, Shreveport, LA), Greg Burke (Jennifer, Shreveport, LA), a sister Brenda Moore (Bennie, Sterlington, LA), "his girls" Reagan Burke Spengler and Mallory Burke Wilson, and a host of nieces and nephews.

The family will host a memorial service to celebrate Barry's life in the chapel at First Baptist Church, Minden, LA, on Friday, June 2, at 10:30 a.m.

In lieu of flowers, please donate to the Minden Foundation, St. Jude, or Ronald McDonald House.

When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. Isaiah 43:2



Rocky Lynn Benoit

Rocky Lynn Benoit was born on November 25, 1959 and adopted by Rufus and Stella Benoit in Jennings, Louisiana. Rocky passed away peacefully on May 7, 2023 in Houston, Texas after a valiant battle with cancer. He is preceded in death by his parents.

While attending college at Louisiana Tech, he met the love of his life Tammie Tharpe Benoit. They married in 1983 and he began his long-standing career with Amaco /BP relocating to Lafayette, LA, Houston, TX and Durango, CO. His faith is what defined him. Over the years he held many church leadership positions such as serving on the Deacon board, participating in mission work, teaching children's ministry, and leading men through a Bible Study Fellowship program for over 13 years.

His family was his greatest treasure. His wife Tammie has been his rock for nearly 40 years-full of love, commitment and adventure. He loved his two sons, Weston and Will more than anything. He was so proud of the legacy they have created and the men of God they have become. He was overjoyed to finally have two daughters join the family and often sided with Danielle and Cat over his own sons.

His faith in Jesus was a guiding principle for the family over the years. He started every morning with

a hot cup of coffee and God's Word. As an avid fisher and outdoorsman, Rocky would often be found relaxing in his brown leather chair researching lures, rods and fishing conditions. He created so many family traditions we look forward to continuing, such as watching White Christmas while working on a puzzle during the holidays, enjoying his prized chicken and sausage gumbo recipe, and digging into a bowl of Bluebell during a game of dominos.

His memory is cherished by his lifelong love Tammie Benoit, his two children and six grandchildren: Weston Benoit, wife Cat and sons Boone, Bode, Teagan and Tate; Will Benoit, wife Danielle and sons Beckham and Levi; and sister Kim Babineaux Leblanc. We are also grateful to the dearest of friends and family for their prayers and love over the years.

Rocky's family invites you to attend a visitation from 1:00-3:00pm and celebration of life at 3:00 p.m. on Friday, May 12, 2023 at First Baptist Church of Haughton, 105 E Washington Ave, Haughton, LA 71037. An additional visitation will be held May 13, 2023 from 1:00-3:00pm at Miguez Funeral Home, 114 E Shankland Ave Jennings, LA 70546 and burial directly after at Greenwood Cemetery. Memorial donations to honor Rocky may be made to For All Mankind Movement www.goFAMM.org, Bible Study Fellowship www.bsfinternational.com or First Baptist Church of Haughton Children's Program fbhaughton.org.

You may offer condolences to the family and sign the on-line guest book by visiting www.hillcrestmemorialfh.com.



Kevin L. Savage

Kevin L. Savage entered this world on August 25, 1960 in Lake Charles, La to Teddy W. Savage and Pauline Frederick Durham Savage. He entered into Eternity on Sunday, April 30, 2023 at age 62.

A celebration of his life will be Saturday, May 20, 2023 at University church of Christ, 2045 E. 70th St., Shreveport, La . Services will begin at 10:30 in the Fellowship Bldg.

Kevin was preceded in death by his parents, his brother, Jerry, his Grandparents, both maternal and

paternal.

He is survived by his sisters, Delores Leggett, Barbara Woodard and Sandi Savage. He has one daughter, Rhian-na Danielle Anderson (Flandrick) and was Pap-paw to Hazelyn and N'Lea. He also has a plethora of cousins, nieces and nephews that will miss him.

After the service in Shreveport, Kevin will be buried in the Cotton Valley, LA Cemetary, between his parents. His family would like to take this opportunity to thank the nurses and staff of Shreveport Manor Rehabilitation Center for the love and care shown to Kevin. Bristol Hospice was also so very attentive and informative with their End of Life care. He knew he was loved by those in attendance to him.

Debbie Johnson Sistrunk

Graveside services for Debbie Johnson Sistrunk will be held Wednesday, May 17, 2023, at 11:00 a.m. at Minden Cemetery in Minden, Louisiana under the direction of Rose-Neath Funeral Home in Minden, Louisiana. Bro. Scott O'Rear will be officiating. The family received friends Tuesday, May 16, 2023, from 4:00 until 7:00 p.m. at Rose-Neath Funeral Home in Minden.

Debbie was born March 5, 1954, in Minden, Loui-

siana and entered into rest May 13, 2023, in Minden, Louisiana.

She is survived by her husband, Thomas G. Sistrunk of Minden; sons, Wesley Johnson of Houston and Brandon Sistrunk and wife Kristina of Haughton; and grandchildren, Camden, Preston, and Piper.

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

SESSION

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to do, so landowners are concerned about what's going to happen with their land," said McMahon.

House Bill 103, introduced by Representative Muscarello from Hammond, has been passed; it adds financial literacy as a required course for high school students. This bill is a step in the right direction as it teaches high school students how to conduct family business, balance a checkbook, invest, and other things that were not taught in school in a defined method in years past.

Chad Brown's bill, which provides for electronic signing for judges, has been reported favorably and is on its way through the system.

Senator Gary Carter has established the state minimum wage to \$10 an hour in 2024 with this bill, and it increases to \$14 an hour in 2028. The

bill has come out of the senate committee this week and will be on the Senate floor this coming week. It was a close vote, but there is still work to be done on it.

Representative Mike Huval, who chairs the Insurance Committee, presented House Bill 601. The bill pertains to providing a process by which policyholders can move their claim forward by fulfilling clearly outlined obligations in the claim process. The insurance committees are working hard to find better opportunities for Louisiana to have more opportunities for different insurance companies and also to expedite the process and recover what's owed to you.

In conclusion, the legislative session in Louisiana is still ongoing, and there are many bills on the table. Further updates will appear in future Minden Press-Herald articles.

Helen Mangrum

Graveside service for Helen Mangrum was held Monday, May 15, 2023, at 11:00 a.m. at Gilgal Cemetery in Minden, Louisiana under the direction of Rose-Neath Funeral Home in Minden, Louisiana.

Helen was born December 12, 1942, in Tulsa, Oklahoma and entered into rest May 11, 2023, in Arcadia, Louisiana.

She was preceded in death by her parents, children, Eric Jason Mangrum and Stacey Elaine Kellogg, brother, Roy Vaughn and sister, Vena Foster.

She is survived by her husband, Tom Mangrum, grandchildren, Nicholas Wade Turner, Raylee Byrum, Juliette Kellogg, and Charlton Kellogg Jr, great-grandchild, Athena Kellogg, son-in-law, Charlton Kellogg Sr, and mother-in-law, Louise M. Foster.

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Allen Ross Culpepper



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Xuan Loc, Long Khanh Province,
South Viet Nam
Distinguished Service Cross, Bronze Star
21 July 1944 – 18 May 1969

GOLF

Continued from Page 1

continued assistance for families in need.

Expressing her heartfelt gratitude, Amber Bradford, the director of Seeds Women's Center, shared, "We are overjoyed at how our community can be so supportive of our small pregnancy center that is doing some really amazing things! The earnings from our tournament will go directly to our center to continue to help families in our community."

Among the event's standout supporters were ACE sponsors United Rentals and the Women's Clinic in Minden. Their commitment to the cause exemplifies the spirit of community involvement

and dedication to helping those in need. Numerous other sponsors and volunteers also played a pivotal role in making the tournament a resounding success.

United Rentals, in addition to their generous sponsorship, provided a delicious lunch for all participants. Minden Coca-Cola, another invaluable sponsor, donated refreshing drinks to keep everyone hydrated throughout the event. Their support and contribution further underscore the community's commitment to supporting families, mothers, and the noble cause of saving babies.

Seeds Women's Center has been a beacon of hope for families in the area, of-

fering a range of free services such as pregnancy tests, ultrasounds, and parenting classes. Notably, the center has recently introduced fatherhood classes, empowering fathers to play an active role in their children's lives. To celebrate the culmination of these classes and the building of a supportive brotherhood, Seeds Women's Center will hold a Dad Class graduation on Tuesday, June 20, at 6:00 PM. The event will take place at Emmanuel Baptist Church in Minden, and the entire community is invited to join in the celebration.

Amber Bradford extended a warm invitation, stating, "We would like to invite the community to

come and celebrate with the dads to show support for completing their classes and for building a brotherhood together." Those interested in contributing to the event by donating gifts or making monetary donations for the dads can contact Amber Bradford at (318) 639-0907.

The overwhelming success of the golf tournament fundraiser serves as a testament to the compassion and unity that thrives within the Minden community. Minden has once again proven itself to be a compassionate and supportive town, ready to extend a helping hand when it's needed most.



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OPINION

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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

Biden risks America’s national security in debt ceiling fight

As the federal government once again speeds toward the fiscal cliff of its \$32 trillion debt borrowing limit, concerned Americans witness the same old song and dance.

Political theater and bluster, dire warnings, the supposed “guarantee” of a “financial apocalypse” if America defaults on its debt obligations.

Then, as night follows day, the debt borrowing limit is raised again, the “crisis” is averted and D.C. goes back to what it was doing before and does constantly, spend, spend, spend—until the next debt ceiling fight.

As Thomas Jefferson predicted, “future American leaders would be tempted to borrow to enhance their short-term popularity, while burdening a future generation with debt.”

Enough!
This is completely unsustainable.

Let’s really consider this: how is a debt default ultimately worse than this ever-increasing ocean of debt?

Some respond “America’s standing in the world will be tarnished, its financial status and prestige will be damaged.”

Really?
Millions of Americans are equally—if not more worried—that all those things will happen when the federal government bankrupts our country. Maybe if the U.S. defaults on some

of its financial obligations our federal officials will be forced to recognize we have way too many of them.

During this debate it’s important to note the deceitfulness of national Democrats on this issue:

“As for Social Security and Medicare, one of the more cynical strategies governments use to resist



ROYAL ALEXANDER

to cut. Called the “Washington Monument Strategy” or “Firemen First Strategy,” they defund the parks, the firemen, the police, trash collection, school lunches, aid to the elderly. In other words, hand over the money, or grandma and the kids get it.” ((Heritage Foundation, Peter St. Onge and Richard Stern, May 10, 2023).

And why do national Democrats attempt to obscure in this fashion?

Because they want to hide from taxpayers “all the other trillions of government spending that doesn’t poll well: outrageous pensions where government workers make twice what the rest of us make and retire at 42 with benefits we’ll never dream

of. Or the trillions spent on crony boondoggles ...” (Heritage).

So, considering the precarious financial position America is in, is a partial default—and it won’t be allowed to last longer than a few days—really worse than the continued reckless and dangerous over-spending that has led to a 32 trillion-dollar national debt?

In FY 2022, American taxpayers spent \$475 billion in interest payments on the national debt—a figure that is expected to rise to \$640 billion in the current fiscal year, FY 2023. (Fox Business).

What, by the way, are Republicans demanding in their debt ceiling bill?

The Wall Street Journal: “The House GOP bill would raise the debt ceiling by \$1.5 trillion in exchange for returning spending levels to the days of yore known as fiscal 2022 and capping spending levels at 1% growth for a decade.” (WSJ, 5-12-23).

I’m focused on debt in this article but what else is in the Republican bill? “... sensible fixes to the country’s byzantine process for permitting projects, and to require that able-bodied, prime-age adults with no children work or volunteer part time in return for Medicaid or food stamps.” (WSJ).

Do we see how little Republicans are seeking in their bill, in return for raising the debt ceiling not a few

hundred billion dollars but \$1.5 trillion?

Democrats’ response is that the tax cuts that Republicans legislated under President Trump are to blame for all of these deficits, and it’s not fair to cut a single dime in spending after Republicans “drained all of that revenue from the Treasury.”

In fact, that is the opposite of the truth.

The Republican tax cuts boosted economic growth, which increases peoples’ income and therefore the taxes they owe. According to the Treasury itself, “total revenue has increased from \$4.05 T in 2015 to \$4.90 T in 2022.”

We have to stop this insanity.

As former Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Mike Mullen has warned, “long-term debt is the single greatest threat to our national security. High debt not only crowds out resources that strengthen our security, but it also narrows our tools for dealing with unfriendly nations, leaves our economy more vulnerable to actions of other countries, and weakens our global standing and prestige.”

All concerned Americans should support the House Republicans’ attempt to begin to get America’s fiscal house in order.

ROYAL ALEXANDER IS A SHREVEPORT ATTORNEY.

INSPIRATION

Divine alignment — our GPS system

Squire Rushnell, author of four God Winks books as well as one titled Divine Alignment has a most interesting belief that I am intrigued by.

He teaches that we have a built in GPS system in our soul that can be activated and used through prayer to God who is in control of the universe.

This is a powerful, uplifting thought.

Having read his God Wink books, which I learned about through my long lost cousin, Barbara Behrens, of Woods County, Oklahoma, I have a better understanding of how God has worked in my life since I was a child, who later went to an orphanage after our father died at home

in 1958.

Having communicated with the author on numerous occasions I am more recently coming to understand where my God Wink



SARAH HUDSON PIERCE

experience comes from. It gives me peace when I know that I can go directly to my Father who loves me, who is never too busy to take my calls and wants me to have everything I need even more than I can comprehend!
Wow!

He never places a “Do Not Disturb” sign on his door. He never gets a private listing and He knows my path long before I do.

When I wake up in the night I feel so at peace with God as I plug into Him with my simple rayers that give me strength to go on!

Squire calls this our GPS system!

When I look at the computer I see God at work again in the universe.

I believe God had a hand in the invention of the computer and even cell phones that can transmit images across the ocean.

At other times God causes our paths to cross with someone we’ve been thinking about or causing events

to transpire in our lives that has no human explanation!

We could call these experiences miracles!

Man is just not smart enough to do that.

It takes a God who knows our every need to assist us to our goals!!

There’s so much to be said for all of this but just reading Squire’s books helps me comprehend the mysteries of my life that are hard to explain as we see our lives unfolding as in tune to s mysterious force in the universe!

There’s so much more to be said about this!

Without God I can do nothing!

CONTACT SARAH AT SARAH9957@AOL.COM

OPINION

The Advocate: Abortion ban shouldn’t block needed medical care

Louisiana is considered among the most anti-abortion states in the nation, so there was little suspense over what would happen should the U.S. Supreme Court reverse its landmark Roe v. Wade ruling and allow states to impose their own restrictions. A near-total ban on the procedure, signed by the late Democratic Gov. Kathleen Blanco, was already on the books when a draft of the court decision was leaked a year ago; even so, lawmakers rushed to pass new legislation in anticipation of the reversal that would soon come.

We’re now seeing, from reporting here and in other states that have outlawed abortion, the real-world implications of the Louisi-

ana approach: Either the laws themselves or fear of prosecution against medical providers can keep some women from getting the medical care they need for miscarriages and nonviable pregnancies, not only compounding the heartbreak of these situations but putting women’s lives in danger. We also worry that threats against doctors and other providers for doing their jobs could drive many out of state, thus exacerbating challenges to health care access.

We don’t believe this is something most voters in our state support. And we urge lawmakers to pass several proposed laws to ensure that women have access to

vital health care when — and as quickly — as they need it.

Several bills on the subject are scheduled to go before the House Committee on Administration of Criminal Justice Wednesday:

House Bill 522 by Rep. Aimee Adatto Freeman, D-New Orleans, would require one physician signature to deem a pregnancy “medically futile,” rather than the current two — a difficult standard in underserved areas.

It would also delete the chilling possibility of a prison sentence for anyone who performs an abortion, a position supported by 59% of Louisiana voters in a recent poll taken by JMC Analytics for Lift Louisiana. Freeman’s bill would leave potential

fines on the books.

House Bill 461 by Rep. Mary DuBuisson, R-Slidell, would clarify that miscarriages do not fall under the abortion ban.

House Bill 598 by Rep. Candace Newell, D-New Orleans, is another medical clarification. It specifies that nonviable ectopic pregnancies can be treated using the drug methotrexate, which keeps a fetus from growing, without violating the abortion ban.

Also on the committee agenda are two bills that would add rape and incest exceptions to the state’s abortion ban, House Bill 346 by Rep. Delisha Boyd, D-New Orleans, and House Bill 549 by Rep. Cedric Glover, D-

Shreveport. We support this change — as does Gov. John Bel Edwards, a longstanding abortion opponent — and believe it’s in line with mainstream conservative thought on how the state should approach these tragic situations. The JMC poll found 70% support for this position.

None of these bills would change the main substance of the abortion ban. What they would do is ensure that pregnant Louisianans be treated as safely and humanely as possible when they find themselves facing some of the most difficult circumstances imaginable.

We hope lawmakers on all sides of the larger abortion debate think of them before casting their votes.

SPORTS

Russell Hedges, Sports Editor
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HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL



Reagan Smith (right) has been named head coach at Glenbrook. Athletic Director James Thurman (left) made the announcement last week.

Reagan Smith takes reins at Glenbrook

New head coach has championship pedigree

RUSSELL HEDGES
Minden Press-Herald

Reagan Smith has been named head football coach at Glenbrook.

Athletic Director James Thurman made the announcement last week in a post on the Glenbrook Apache Athletics Facebook page.

Smith has been an assistant coach or coordinator at West Monroe, Evangel, Logansport, Parkway and North Caddo. He was part of three state championship teams (West Monroe 2009, Evangel Christian 2010, Logansport 2016).

Smith has coached numerous athletes who went on to play collegiate football, including 9 players who are current or former NFL players.

"I am thankful, excited, and very happy to come full circle as the next head coach at Glenbrook School," Smith said in a statement

on the Facebook page. "I started my coaching career here at Glenbrook in 2008. Now I get to start my head coaching journey in the same special place.

"I want to thank Head of School, Mr. Darden Gladney, Athletic director James Thurman and all of the other stakeholders for trusting me with this tremendous opportunity. Together, with the Glenbrook School community, I look forward to maximizing our program."

Smith has been the offensive coordinator at North Caddo the past four seasons under Head Coach Johnny Kavanaugh.

The Titans won three straight District 1-2A championships from 2019-21. Until the 2019 and 2021 season, North Caddo had never won back-to-back district titles.

The Titans reached the quarterfinals of the playoffs for the first time.

Lady season, North Caddo went 7-4, falling to Parkview Baptist in the second round of the select Division III playoffs. The Titans averaged 37.5 points per game.

The 2019 district title was the school's first since 2004.

With Smith as offensive coordinator, Parkway went 5-5 in 2017 despite losing to of the nation's top players to injuries in the first two weeks of the season, quarterback Justin Rogers and receiver Terrace Marshall Jr.

Smith served as offensive coordinator and line coach at Logansport from 2014-16. In 2016, the Tiggers won the Class 1A state championship, going 14-0 and averaging 40.8 points per game.

He was an assistant at Evangel Christian, his alma mater, from 2010-13.

In 2009, Smith was an assistant at West Monroe,

which won the Class 5A state championship with a 15-0 mark under Head Coach Don Shows, a member of the Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame.

In 1996, Smith helped Evangel go 15-0 and win the Class 3A championship.

Smith was scheduled to with the team Monday during school and introduced at the Athletic Banquet Monday night.

Summe workouts begin on Tuesday, June 6, and will take place on Tuesday through Thursday at 8 a.m.

Smith replaces David Feaster, who resigned after four seasons to take the offensive coordinator position at Louisiana Christian.

Feaster guided the Apaches to an 11-1 mark last season. In its first year of eligibility for the LH-SAA playoffs, Glenbrook reached the select Division IV quarterfinals, falling to eventual state champion Ouachita Christian 28-27.

HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL

Glenbrook falls in semifinals

RUSSELL HEDGES
Minden Press-Herald

A great season ended in disappointing fashion for the Glenbrook Apaches last week at the Ochsner LHSAA Baseball State Tournament at McMurry Park in Sulphur.

Glenbrook, the No. 3 seed, fell to the No. 2 seed Ascension Catholic Bulldogs 4-1 in the semifinals of the select Division IV playoffs.

Glenbrook closed its season 24-9. Ascension Catholic lost to No. 1 seed Ouachita Christian, a team Glenbrook defeated 9-1 in the regular season, 8-0 in the title game.

The game was the final one for six seniors who have meant a lot to Glenbrook's program — Maddox Mandino, Hayden Harmon, Turner McLelland, Cason Clemmons, Toby Haulmark and Rhett Turner.

Glenbrook won an MAIS state championship in 2021 and made the transition to the LH-SAA in 2022. This season, the seniors helped the Apaches reach the state tournament in the program's first year of eligibility for the playoffs.

The game started two hours later than it was supposed to. Inclement weather caused the 11 a.m. games to be delayed, pushing back the start of the 2 o'clock games.

Then there was a delay of about two hours starting about 5:30 when another thunderstorm rolled through.

Brown both went 2-for-3 with a double each. McLelland, Jackson Waller and Harmon had one single apiece.

Glenbrook starter Easton Sanders pitched a solid 3 1/3 inning. He allowed four hits, struck out seven and walked one.

After giving up a run on a one-out double in the fourth, he gave way to Harmon, who pitched complete games in the first two playoff victories.

Harmon promptly squelched any notion of a Bulldogs rally with back-to-back strikeouts.

Harmon allowed two hits in 1 2/3 innings.

Mandino entered the game in the sixth with a runner at first and no outs. He didn't allow a hit and struck out two of the three batters he faced.

Ascension Catholic starter Bryce Leonard went six innings. He gave up all seven hits, walked five and struck out six.

Glenbrook got off to a good start.

Mandino, the game's first batter, smacked a double to center field. He advanced to third on a Cason Clemmons' groundout.

After Sanders drew a walk, Mandino scored on a sacrifice fly by McLelland.

Garrett Brown then doubled down the left-field line, putting runners at second and third with two outs. But Bryce Leonard induced a groundout.

Ascension Catholic tied it with a run in the bottom of the inning. Bryce Leonard drew a one-out walk, stole second and scored on a double by Jackson Landry with the count full.

Sanders got the Apaches out of the inning with consecutive strikeouts.

In the fifth, the Apaches got the second out when the teams came back from the weather delay.

But the Bulldogs took advantage of two singles, a hit-by-pitch and a wild pitch to score the last two runs.

Besides the seventh, Glenbrook also left the bases loaded in the third.

They also left runners at third in the first and sixth. A runner also reached third in the fifth.

After Sanders drew a walk, Mandino scored on a sacrifice fly by McLelland.

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HIGH SCHOOL SOFTBALL

Three Minden players make All-District 1-4A first team

RUSSELL HEDGES
Minden Press-Herald

Minden junior pitcher Kylie Ryan, junior catcher Jacey Adam's and sophomore infielder Leigha Kennon-Gilbert were named to the All-District 1-4A first team.

Minden went 20-12 overall and finished second to non-select Division II champion North DeSoto with a 7-1 mark.

Ryan went 16-10. She had 191 strikeouts and an ERA of 3.392.

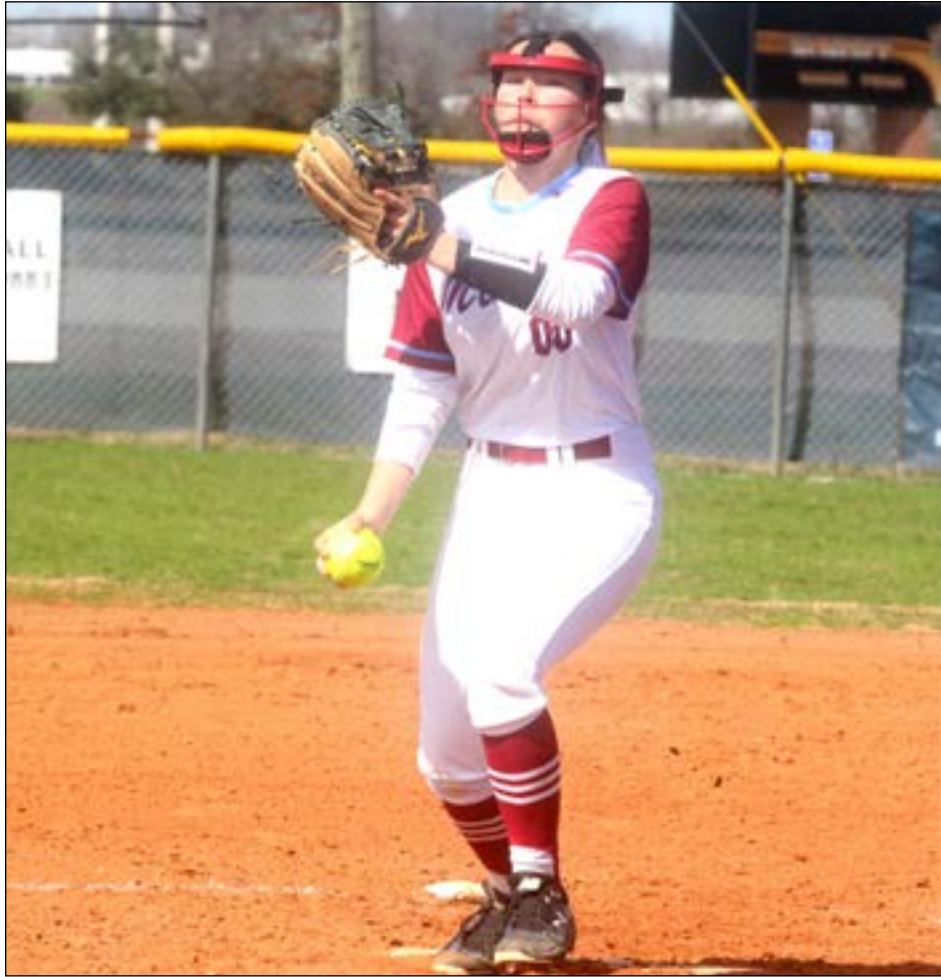
She also batted .468 with 11 home runs and 46 RBI.

Adams batted .422 with three home runs and 38 RBI. Kennon-Gilbert batted .573 with seven home runs and 36 RBI.

Senior outfielder Kaylin Williams and senior infielder Gabrielle Morrison were named to the second team.

North DeSoto senior pitcher Aly Delafield was named MVP. North DeSoto's Tim Whitman was named Coach of the Year.

North DeSoto went 35-2 and won its third straight state championship. The Lady Grifins won Class 4A titles in 2021 and 2022.



Pitcher Kylie Ryan was one of three Minden players to make the All-District 1-4A first team. She went 16-10 with an ERA of 3.392 and 191 strikeouts. She also batted .468 with 11 home runs and 46 RBI.

Lakeside puts six players on All-District 1-2A first team

RUSSELL HEDGES
Minden Press-Herald

Six Lakeside players have been named first team on the All-District 1-2A team selected by the district's coaches.

They are pitcher McKenna Chreene, catcher Emily Jones, infielder Hallie Sutton, outfielders Païton Levesque and

Mackenzie McCoy and designated player Raleigh Harris.

Chreene appeared in 29 games and started 26. She had 198 strikeouts in 139 2/3 innings with a 3.48 ERA.

She also batted .510 with 18 doubles, three triples, three home runs

See, **LAKESIDE**, Page 6



McKenna Chreene was one of six Lakeside players named to the All-District 1-2A first team.

SPORTS

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LAKESIDE

Continued from Page 5

and 29 RBI.

Jones batted .350 with 10 doubles, one triple and 12 RBI.

Sutton batted .500 with 11 doubles, four triples, three home runs and 35 RBI.

Levesque batted .378 with three doubles, two triples and 14 RBI.

McCoy batted .516 with

13 doubles, two triples, four home runs and 28 RBI. She also scored 44 runs.

Harris batted .381 with three doubles, two home runs and 21 RBI.

Lakeside's second-team selections were infielders Rainie Hughes and Laiklyn Squyres, outfielder Martha Vanchiere and designated player McKensie Hamiter.

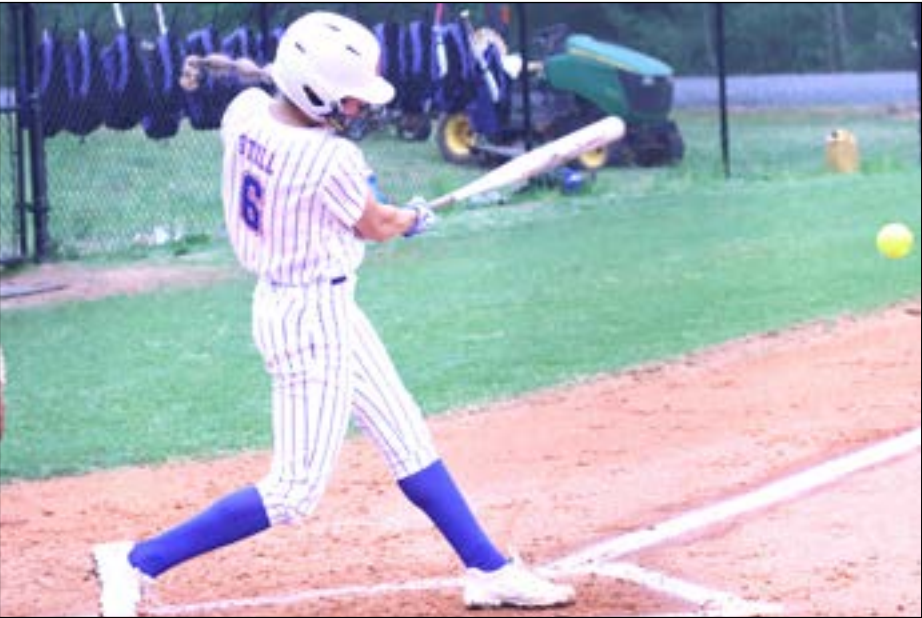
The Lady Warriors went 20-11, a 14-win improvement over the 2022 season, and reached the second round of the non-select Division IV playoffs.

Kynzee Anderson of state champion Calvary Baptist was named the MVP. Calvary's Tiffany Wood was named Coach of the Year.



VALETTE WEAVER/SPECIAL TO THE PRESS-HERALD
Lakeside's Hallie Suttin and Mackenzie McCoy (right) were both named to the All-District 1-2A first team.

HIGH SCHOOL SOFTBALL



VALETTE WEAVER/SPECIAL TO THE PRESS-HERALD
Glenbrook catcher Vivian Still was named the co-MVP on the All-District 1-1A team. She batted .457 with eight doubles, seven triples, 10 home runs and 41 RBI.

Glenbrook players share MVP honor on All-District 1-1A team

RUSSELL HEDGES
Minden Press-Herald

Glenbrook's Sarah Margaret Mosley and Vivian Still were named co-MVPs on the All-District 1-1A team.

Glenbrook, which went 15-12 overall and won the district at 4-0, had seven other players named to the first team.

They were pitcher Rebecca Mosley; infielders Gabi Brown, Hallie Harmon, Ellie Earnhardt and Anna Grace Vining; and outfielders Colby Hollis and Hadley Haynes.

Sarah Margaret Mosley, an outfielder and pitcher, batted .412 for the full season with 10 doubles, one triple, one home run and 22 RBI.

Still, a catcher, batted .457 with eight doubles, seven triples, 10 home runs and 41 RBI.

Rebecca Mosley went 15-11.

Brown, who was also named second team at pitcher, batted .478 with eight doubles, two triples, seven home runs and 28 RBI. Harmon batted .352 with eight doubles, three home runs and 28 RBI.

Earnhardt batted .276 with one double, one triple and 18 RBI. Vining batted .317 with one double, two triples and 12 RBI.

Hollis batted .246 with four doubles, one triple, two home runs and 22 RBI.

Haynes had eight RBI and scored 17 runs.

Glenbrook's other second-team selections were infielder Kynzie Smith and utility Peyton Malone.

Honorable mention selections were infielder Baylee Bosall, outfielders Amelia Lott and Izzy McMillian, and utility Izzy Gray.



VALETTE WEAVER/SPECIAL TO THE PRESS-HERALD
Glenbrook outfielder and pitcher Sarah Margaret Mosley was named the Co-MVP on the All-District 1-1A team. She batted .412 with 10 doubles, one triple, one home run and 22 RBI.

North Webster puts five on All-District 1-3A first team

RUSSELL HEDGES
Minden Press-Herald

Five North Webster players were named to the All-District 1-3A first team.

They were pitcher Emma Newsom, catcher Kerianne Allen, infielder Aniyah Davis, outfielder Aneka Coleman and utility Paige Timmons.

The Lady Knights went 13-15 overall and finished second to Sterlington in

the district at 5-1.

Newsom went 5-5 for the full season and struck out 58 in 58 innings.

Allen batted .288 with three doubles, two triples and 18 RBI.

Davis batted .369 with three doubles, one triple four home runs and 22 RBI.

Coleman batted .439 with nine doubles, four triples, three home runs and 27 RBI. She also scored 43

runs.

Timmons batted .337 with six doubles, one triple, two home runs and 27 RBI.

North Webster's second-team selections were infielder Adryana White, outfielder Landree Andrews and utility Carlie Campbell.

Sterlington outfielder Hope Tucker was named the MVP. Sterlington's Jennifer Hickman was named Coach of the Year.

OUTDOORS

Two 'B's make for a buster of a weekend

GLYNN HARRIS

We finally got some decent weather. Things fell in shape, weatherwise, for something I've been waiting for. Bream fishing.

There is a pond where I have fished for the past 40 or so years that never lets me down. I started fishing there when the owner's wife and I worked together and I got permission to visit the pond. Back then, I used a boat parked on the shore of the pond to paddle around and fish for bass. Today, the old boat still rests on the pond's shore but I no longer have the agility to handle a boat so instead, when I head for the pond, I'm armed with ultra-light gear and a cage of crickets.

The current owners of the pond have placed a chair beneath the shade of a big oak with shadows that cover an area just off shore where this time of year, big bluegills and chinquapins have fanned out beds for spawning. It's an ideal set-up for me because all I have to do is take a seat under the shade of the oak, toss out a cricket on a hook and watch the bobber jiggle and slide under. In all the years I have fished this spot, I have yet to come home empty handed.

Such was the case this past week when I took my seat, cast out into the bedding area and was greeted immediately with what I came for. The bluegills and chinquapins were hungry and it didn't take long for me to catch all the fat bream I wanted to clean.

Then it was back home with my filet knife resulting in a nice pile of snowy



Two 'B's made for weekend fun, bream and a good book.

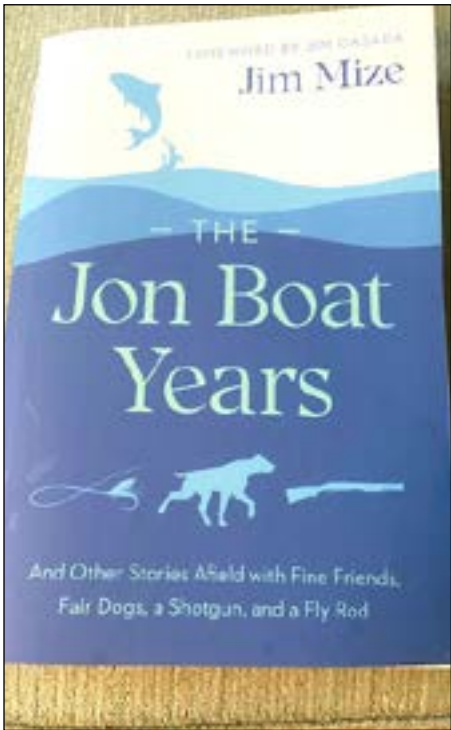
white filets along with a couple I scaled and saved for frying whole that resulted in a lunch after church on Sunday to die for.

After my wife and I enjoyed our first fish fry of the year, and after my traditional Sunday afternoon nap, it was time to settle down, pick up a book I recently received and relive the adventures of an award winning author. Jim Mize is best known as a writer of humor material and he is one of the best; I have several of his books that validate that fact.

Mize's latest book, The Jon Boat Years, while adding splashes of humor reveals just what an accomplished writer he is. The foreword written by renowned author, Jim Casa-

da, gives a hint of what the reader will encounter when pouring over some 190 pages covering 50 stories Mize has crafted. "The Jon Boat Years is a striking example of what used to be called a 'read' book or bedside companion. It's a work for a restful hour beside a cheery fire on a winter's evening or perched on a porch rocking chair while a summer shower hammers on a tin roof overhead. You move from one little gem to the next like a flow of a gentle run in a trout stream. At one moment you are enthralled and then, transitioning to another tale, you find yourself enchanted once again. Always, though, you are deeply engrossed in what you are reading."

Mize's stories are



GLYNN HARRIS

grouped into nine sections including Across Generations, Fishing with Others, Fishing Odd Hatches, A Whiff of Skunk, The Colorado Years, Pondering Deer Stuff, In Pursuit of Bearded Birds, Of Ducks and Dogs and Up-land Birds. If this doesn't get your attention, I'm not sure what will.

To order your copy, and if you love good writing about the outdoors, as I'm sure you do, go to Mize's website, acreektrickles-throughtit.com. The Jon Boat Years sells for \$21.99 plus \$5 shipping and handling. I can assure you, you won't be disappointed.

Two B's - Big Bream and good Book. It was a combination that made this weekend extra special to me.

Fishing Report

BLACK BAYOU - Bream are on the beds and hitting worms and crickets. Crappie are good fishing around the trees and brush. Bass are fair on spinner baits. Contact Honey Hole Tackle Shop 323-8707 for latest information.

BUSSEY BRAKE - Big bass in the 10 pounds and better continued to be caught with white spinners, jigs and Sinkos working best. Crappie are back in the brush and are hitting jigs and shiners. Bream are on the beds in the shallows. For latest information, contact the Honey Hole at 323-8707.

OUACHITA RIVER - Fishing for bass is good in the river lakes as the water is falling. Crappie in the same areas in the back water. Catfishing is good. For latest information, contact the Honey Hole Tackle Shop at 323-8707.

LAKE D'ARBONNE - Bass are in post spawn mode and hitting on secondary points of soft plastics, spinners and crank baits. Most of the crappie have spawned and are moving out to deeper water. Shiners and jigs are picking up some good fish. Bream are on the beds and hitting worms and crickets. Catfish continue to be 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 - The bream bite is on as they have moved to shallow spawning areas and are hitting crickets. Crappie fishing has been best up the creeks on shiners or jigs. Bass are in a post spawn mode and hitting a variety of lures on secondary points. No report on catfish or stripers. For latest information, call Kel's Cove at 927-2264 or Terzia Tackle at 278-4498.

CANEY LAKE - Bass fishing has been best with some good fish caught on swim baits. Crappie have moved back to the deeper submerged tops and hitting shiners or jigs. The bream are bedded and hitting crickets and worms. No report on 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 with mostly smaller sized fish being caught. The bream are bedding and hitting worms and crickets. Crappie are best fishing just off the banks on shiners or jigs. No report on bass. For latest reports, call Poverty Point Marina at 318/878-0101. For information, call Surplus City Landing at 318/467-2259.

LAKE YUCATAN -The water is rising and except for barfish and catfish, fishing is slow. For information, call Surplus City Landing at 318/467-2259.

Good News

GOOD NEWS

TO OUR GRADUATING SENIORS

Getting to know God is a life-long journey; now your long journey really begins! Up to now, life has been pretty much ‘ordered under the direction of your parents, teachers and peers.’ From this day forward, you will be held accountable as an ‘adult’ and will have to face the consequences of your own actions and decisions. Wow, that can be scary. But this is what you get when you kiss childhood goodbye, graduate and declare your ‘freedom.’

For many graduates, your school, church, sports and extra curricula have taken center-stage over the years. Perhaps some have struggled in balancing their Christian witness and values with those all around. But one CAN live a Christian life and MAKE AN INFLUENCE on others at any level of maturity. Some of our brightest leaders

today were outstanding leaders among their peers in school. Their examples of courage, loyalty and integrity were reflected in all they did in school. Like them, your Christian influence has to be more INTENTIONAL. Many special Scriptures offer God’s



Bill Crider

promises to those who abide in His presence! (1 Chron 22:19): “Set your heart and soul to seek the Lord your God.” There are dials in life (like a compass) that serve as guides along the way. Some young adults choose paths leading to carnal and worldly pit holes; while others may choose the high road, climbing upward paths to a rewarding life of service and com-

mitment to the Lord. While the first one seems glamorous and fun-filled, it only leads to dead-ends, loneliness and empty dreams. The latter choice leads along the “pastures green and quiet rivers winding around the mountains of blessed rewards.” Paul writes young Timothy (1 Tim 4:15) “Mediate on these things: give yourself entirely to them, that your progress may be evident to all.”

As you mature in your faith and draw closer to the Father (through the Son), you will better grasp how deeply He loves you and understand the wonderful plans He has for your life. In Jer. 29:11, God reveals His plans for each of us. It is a plan to prosper, to give us a hope for the future. Of course, this is conditioned on the promise that ‘we seek Him, call upon Him and pray for His leader-

ship in our lives.’ He promises that “I will be found”...by all who seeks Me in this manner. (Jer. 29:12-13).

Jesus confirmed His desire to guide us all the way through life’s ups and downs with these words of encouragement: “Seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things (whatever you need in life) will be given unto you.” (Matt 6:33). So, are you seeking information about God? It is time to move up to the next level of “getting to know Him in an intimate way.” He wants you to experience His eternal presence. He can satisfy the deepest parts of your being and heal the wounded areas of your heart. (Charles Stanley, Every Day in His Presence, page 153).

As you remove the cap and gown and move on to the ‘rest of your life,’ remember Jesus’

words in Matt 5:14-16: “You are the light of the world. (Like) a city that is set on a hill; it cannot be hidden. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.” May God’s eternal blessings fall upon you, today and throughout your life time! Deposit Proverbs 3: 5-6 into your memory bank, and pull wisdom from His unlimited supply. Go, soar as the eagles! Remember you can always ‘come home’ to get recharged, encouraged and affirmed by family and friends. And may the Spirit of the Lord be ever with you!

BILL CRIDER IS CHAPLAIN OF MINDEN MEDICAL CENTER

THE UPWARD LOOK

Apostles and Prophets

“And He gave some as apostles, and some as prophets, and some as evangelists, and some as pastors and teachers,” Ephesians 4:11 NASB



Max Hutto

Apostles and prophets had a foundational role in establishing and grounding the early church in the truths of God. An apostle was a messenger sent by Christ. Specifically an apostle was one who had seen the risen Christ and had been sent by Him to proclaim the gospel message. The Twelve, Paul, Barnabas, and few others were called

apostles. A prophet was gifted to reveal and declare the word of God, exhorting the young church in the doctrines and teachings of Christ and in how to live for Christ.

Lord Jesus, You gifted certain believers to be apostles and prophets to guide the early church. Now guide me through Your Word, the Bible, to know truth and to walk in Your ways.

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

INSPIRATION

The Dilemma of the Gifted

While watching a popular science fiction movie this week I made an observation that simply couldn’t be ignored. One of the main characters posed a question about the morality of our decisions. He presented his struggling friend with a gift, a pen to be more specific. Upon presenting this very lofty gift he posed a question. He asked what could you use this pen for? He then quickly stated that he could write something beautiful or severely injure someone if he pleased. This brings me to the point of my message. God has blessed us with so many gifts and so much potential but it’s up to us to decide how we use those gifts to affect the world around us. In closing, I would like to issue a challenge in the form of Scripture.



Bernard Harris

I would like you to read Colossians 3:16-17 and strive to apply your gifts to it daily. “Let the message about Christ, in all its richness, fill your lives. Teach and counsel each other with all the wisdom he gives. Sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs to God with thankful hearts. And whatever you do or say, do it as a representative of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through him to God the Father.”

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

Come

WORSHIP

How can we pray for you?

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

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
301 Pennsylvania Avenue • Minden, LA

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Classified Rates

Pricing is easy!

\$7.75
Per Day - Up to 20 words!
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Real Estate Notice
“All real estate advertised here is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act, which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin, or intention to make any such preference, limitation, or discrimination. We will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate, which is in violation of the law. All persons are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised are available on an equal opportunity basis.

Grow Your Business
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377-1866

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS WEBSTER PARISH POLICE JURY

The Webster Parish Police Jury solicits sealed proposals for: **SALE OF PROPERTY: 6955 Hwy 531 Hefflin, LA 71039**

The proposals must be in the hands of the undersigned no later than **10:00 a.m., Thursday, May 25, 2023- in the Court-house House Annex meeting room of the Webster Parish Police Jury, 401 Main Street Minden, Louisiana 71055.** The bid form and notice are available at no charge in the Webster Parish Policy Jury office. Successful bids will be approved at the Regular Meeting. Webster Parish Police Jury on June 6, 2023.

The Webster Parish Police Jury is a tax-exempt governmental agency.

The Webster Parish Police Jury abides by the requirements of the Louisiana Bid Law.

ALL BIDS SUBMITTED MUST BE CLEARLY MARKED.

Webster Parish Police Jury

/s/ Lisa Balkom Secretary-Treasurer

May 3, 2023
May 10, 2023
May 17, 2023
May 24, 2023
Minden Press-Herald

SHERIFF'S SALE B1 BANK VS. BRAEDYN ALLEN FRYE

In the Twenty-Sixth Judicial District Court of Webster Parish, Louisiana, No. 80563

By virtue of a WRIT OF SEIZURE AND SALE issued out of the Twenty-Sixth Judicial District Court of Webster Parish, Louisiana, in the above styled and numbered suit and to me directed, I have seized and taken into my possession and will offer for sale at public auction to the last and highest bidder for cash WITH the benefit of appraisal and according to law at the principal front door of the Court-house in the City of Minden, Webster Parish, Louisiana on WEDNESDAY, June 21, 2023, During the legal sale hours, the following property, to wit:

Lot 54, Pleasant Lake Estates, a subdivision of Webster Parish, Louisiana, as per plat recorded in Map Book 3 "A", Page 102 of the Conveyance Records of Webster Parish, Louisiana.

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

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

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

Linda Vaughan - Deputy

May 17, 2023
June 14, 2023
Minden Press-Herald

The Minden City Marshal's Office (Ward 1) Webster Parish will receive bids for the Purchase of a new 2023 Tahoe (black) until 12:00 pm, May 24, 2023 at 520 Broadway Minden, Louisiana 71055. Specifications may be obtained by calling the Minden City Marshal's Office at (318) 371-4210. The Minden City Marshal's Office reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

Dan Weaver
Minden City Marshal (Ward 1)
May 10, 2023
May 17, 2023
May 24, 2023
Minden Press-Herald

SHERIFF'S SALE

HSBC BANK, USA, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION AS TRUSTEE FOR WELLS FARGO HOME EQUITY ASSET-BACKED SECURITIES 2006-2 TRUST, HOME

EQUITY ASSET-BACKED CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2006-2 VS. KAMITHIA DEHSAY PENTON

In the Twenty-Sixth Judicial District Court of Webster Parish, Louisiana, No. 80607

By virtue of a WRIT OF SEIZURE AND SALE issued out of the Twenty-Sixth Judicial District Court of Webster Parish, Louisiana, in the above styled and numbered suit and to me directed, I have seized and taken into my possession and will offer for sale at public auction to the last and highest bidder for cash WITH the benefit of appraisal and according to law at the principal front door of the Court-house in the City of Minden, Webster Parish, Louisiana on WEDNESDAY, June 21, 2023, During the legal sale hours, the following property, to wit:

LOT TWENTY-SIX (26) of PINE HILLS SUBDIVISION, as per plat and map of record in the Office of the Clerk of Court, Webster Parish, Louisiana, in Map Book 2, Page 122, together with all improvements thereon and all rights thereto belonging; subject to restrictions, servitudes, rights-of-way and outstanding mineral rights of record affecting the property.

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

May 17, 2023
June 14, 2023
Minden Press-Herald

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

June 12, 2023
Posted May 9, 2023

A public hearing will be held during the Regular Town Council Meeting on Monday, June 12, 2023 at 6pm at the Sibley Town Hall, Council Meeting Room, 345 N. Main St., Sibley, Louisiana for the purpose of considering the adoption of:

1. Proposed 2023 Amendment to Ordinance No. 126-S titled **AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING THE BUDGET FOR THE TOWN OF SIBLEY, LOUISIANA, FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2023.**
2. Proposed Ordinance No. 126-T titled **AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING THE BUDGET FOR THE TOWN OF SIBLEY, LOUISIANA, FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2024.**
3. Proposed Ordinance No. 147-F titled **AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING COMPENSATION FOR MUNICIPAL ELECTED OFFICIALS AND MUNICIPAL**

SIBLEY ORDINANCE NO. 154

AN ORDINANCE TO APPROVE THE MERGER OF SALTWORKS WATER SYSTEM, INC., INTO THE TOWN OF SIBLEY, WEBSTER PARISH, LOUISIANA AND TO PROVIDE IN CONNECTION THEREWITH.

WHEREAS a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement has been signed by the Town of Sibley and SALTWORKS WATER SYSTEM, INC. ("SALTWORKS") in which it was contemplated that SALTWORKS merge into the Town of Sibley in order to consolidate operations and administration for Sibley providing potable water unto members of SALTWORKS; and WHEREAS this merger is deemed to be favorable unto and provide benefits to both the residences of Sibley and the members of SALTWORKS; and WHEREAS the consolidation of SALTWORKS into Sibley serves the public purpose and is the uniform best interest of both the members of SALTWORKS and of Sibley; and WHEREAS notice was given to the public of the filing of this proposed ordinance and an opportunity for a public hearing was provided to the public as required by law;

THEREFORE, BE ORDAINED AND ENACTED by the Board of Alderman of the Town of Sibley, Louisiana in Regular session convened on the 8th day of May, 2023 as follows:

SECTION 1: The merger of SaltWorks Water System, Inc ("SALTWORKS") into the Town of Sibley be and the same is approved.

SECTION 2: Both SALTWORKS and the Town of Sibley agree to cooperate in the undertaking or to assist in the transfer of assets and responsibilities as set forth herein.

SECTION 3: SALTWORKS agrees to transfer and consolidate its water system and all assets into the Town of Sibley who agrees to own and operate the former SaltWorks Water System infrastructure and to provide customers of SaltWorks with safe drinking water.

SECTION 4: SALTWORKS does hereby agree and authorize the Town of Sibley to construct, purchase, and implement said project and to use the available land and rights of way as owned by SALTWORKS.

SECTION 5: SALTWORKS agrees and does transfer by donation ownership to the Town of Sibley of all of its assets which includes but not limited to ownership of existing water facilities/ improvements/ assets, pumps, tanks, water lines and all other appurtenances together with all rights of way, easements, ownership of land, and together with all other present assets or cash on hand.

SECTION 6: The Town of Sibley accepts the transfer of all assets by SALTWORKS and further accepts all debts, liabilities, and the cost and expenses of future maintenance and agrees to expeditiously provide potable water to the customers of the former SALTWORKS.

SECTION 7: Both the Town of Sibley and SALTWORKS shall engage in such correspondence and notification of the members and customers of the former SALTWORKS notifying them of the merger being referred to herein.

SECTION 8: All of the future income in connection with providing potable water to the former customers of SALTWORKS shall be the sole responsibility of the Town of Sibley and all other deeds, transfers, assignments, or conveyances necessary in order to consummate this merger shall be signed and enacted both by SALTWORKS as well as representatives and officers of the former SALTWORKS.

SECTION 9: Mayor Jimmy Williams be and he is hereby authorized to appear for and on behalf of the Town of Sibley to execute such documents that may be necessary in order to complete the merger and to satisfy the requirements set forth herein.

SECTION 10: This ordinance shall become effective thirty (30) days after it has been published one (1) time in the official journal of the Town of Sibley, Louisiana.

Which Motion was made by Robert Smart, seconded by Helen Chanler and passed by the following yea and nay vote:

Yays: 5 - Wayne Bolton, Helen Chanler, Richard Davis, Alan Myers, Robert Smart
Nays: 0
Absent: 0

Town of Sibley
By: Jimmy Williams Mayor Jimmy Williams
Sherry McCann Sherry McCann, Town Clerk

May 17, 2023
Minden Press-Herald

Town Of Sibley
P.O. Box 128
345 N. Main Street
Sibley, Louisiana 71075
Phone (318) 377-0365 Fax (318) 377-0361

May 8, 2023
The Sibley Town Council met in regular session on Monday, May 8, 2023 at 6pm in the Sibley Town Hall Meeting Room.

EMPLOYEES FOR THE TOWN OF SIBLEY, LOUISIANA, AND PROVIDING IN CONNECTION THEREWITH

The Public is invited to attend.

May 17, 2023
Minden Press-Herald

Kamithia Deshay Penton and/or Anyone knowing their whereabouts, Please contact Richard E. Griffith, Attorney at Law, at 839 Kings Highway, Suite 200, Shreveport, Louisiana 71104, or (318) 222-0337.

May 17, 2023
Minden Press-Herald

Cotton Valley Cemetery Association, Inc. Annual Meeting will be held June 8, 2023, 7:00 p.m., Fellowship Hall, First Baptist Church, 120 Baptist Drive, Cotton Valley, LA.

May 17, 2023
May 24, 2023
May 31, 2023
Minden Press-Herald

TNT Storage, LLC, owner of Hilltop Storage - Homer Rd., (318-377-9733) located at 1109 Homer Rd., Minden, LA, will have one 6 x 10 unit to auction on www.StorageAuctions.com starting on 5-17-23 at 10:00 am and ending on 5-31-23 at 10:00 am. Hilltop Storage - Homer Rd #101 Antonio Jenkins - appears to be an above ground swimming pool and pool stakes, lots of children's toys, misc. items

May 17, 2023
Minden Press-Herald

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

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

Helen Chanler motioned to accept the minutes to the April 10, 2023 Regular Meeting as read, Richard Davis seconded. Motion carried.

Richard Davis motioned to accept the minutes to the April 20, 2023 Special Meeting as read, Wayne Bolton seconded. Motion carried.

No New Items were added to the agenda.

No Public Comments.

Robert Smart motioned to leave the Regular Meeting to enter into a Public Hearing for proposed Ordinance No. 154 titled **AN ORDINANCE TO APPROVE THE MERGER OF SALTWORKS WATER SYSTEM, INC., INTO THE TOWN OF SIBLEY, WEBSTER PARISH, LOUISIANA, AND TO PROVIDE IN CONNECTION THEREWITH.**

Alan Myers motioned to re-enter into the Regular Meeting, Richard Davis seconded. Motion carried.

Robert Smart motioned to adopt proposed Ordinance No. 154 titled **AN ORDINANCE TO APPROVE THE MERGER OF SALTWORKS WATER SYSTEM, INC., INTO THE TOWN OF SIBLEY, WEBSTER PARISH, LOUISIANA, AND TO PROVIDE IN CONNECTION THEREWITH.** Helen Chanler seconded. Roll call vote:

YEAS: 5 - Wayne Bolton, Helen Chanler, Richard Davis, Alan Myers, Robert Smart
NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 0 ABSTAIN: 0

Ordinance No. 154 is adopted.

Richard Davis motioned to introduce and set a public hearing on Monday, June 12, 2023 at 6pm during the June 2023 Regular Meeting at Sibley Town Hall, 345 North Main St., Sibley, LA for the proposed ordinances:

1. 2023 Amendment to Ordinance No. 126-S titled **AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING THE BUDGET FOR THE TOWN OF SIBLEY, LOUISIANA, FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2023.**
2. Ordinance No. 126-T titled **AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING THE BUDGET FOR THE TOWN OF SIBLEY, LOUISIANA, FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2024.**
3. Ordinance No. 147-F titled **AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING COMPENSATION FOR MUNICIPAL ELECTED OFFICIALS AND MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES FOR THE TOWN OF SIBLEY, LOUISIANA, AND PROVIDING IN CONNECTION THEREWITH.**

Wayne Bolton seconded, motion carried.

Fire Chief Alan Myers gave the April 2023 activity report for the Sibley Volunteer Fire Department.

Officer Clint Meshell gave the April 2023 activity report for the Sibley Police Department.

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

The mayor announced that the Annual Clean-Up Day was a success and gave appreciation to Police Jurymen Steve Ramsey for his assistance. He, also, announced that the Splashpad is open for the summer and playground equipment is being donated to the town for a future playground by the splash pad but at present, there is no timeline on this project. He gave an update on the trip to the state legislature on discussions for more funding for street projects.

Richard Davis motioned to adjourn, Alan Myers seconded. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned.

Attest:

Jimmy Williams Mayor

Sherry McCann Sherry McCann Town Clerk
May 17, 2023
Minden Press-Herald

State of Louisiana
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
PROCLAMATION NUMBER 73 JBE 2023

SPECIAL ELECTION - JUSTICE OF THE PEACE, JUSTICE OF THE PEACE DISTRICT 3, PARISH OF WEBSTER

WHEREAS, a vacancy exists in the office of the Justice of the Peace, Justice of the Peace District 3, Parish of Webster, because no one qualified for this office during the January 25-27, 2023 qualifying period for the March 25, 2023 special primary election; and

WHEREAS, Louisiana Revised Statute 18:621 requires the Governor to call a special election to fill a vacancy in the office of a judge when more than twelve (12) months of the term remain unexpired, in accordance with the provisions of La. R.S. 18:621, 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, by virtue of the authority vested by the Constitution and the laws 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 justice of the peace 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 for the unexpired term 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 12th day of April, 2023.

GOVERNOR OF LOUISIANA

ATTEST BY THE SECRETARY OF STATE

SECRETARY OF STATE
May 17, 2023
Minden Press-Herald

Public Notice
CITY OF MINDEN

The City of Minden will begin a systematic flow test of all Minden fire hydrants as required by Louisiana Property Insurance regulations. Testing will start in the area of the city roughly bordered by an area defined as:

Lewisville Road to the Eastern City limits and from Berry Dr./Kennon Street South to Sheppard Street

This work is scheduled to begin on Monday, May 15, 2023 and continue in the above-noted area for up to 45 days. Utiliserve will be the contractor performing the work and will be working out of appropriately marked vehicles.

This operation may result in some temporary discoloration in your water supply. If this occurs, please open your **cold** water faucets and flush until the water clears.

If additional information is needed you may contact City Hall at 377-2144 and ask for the Light & Water Department.

We appreciate your patience and cooperation.

May 17, 2023
Minden Press-Herald

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