

# MINDEN PRESS-HERALD

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 14, 2023

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## SESSION WRAP UP

### Results of the 2023 Legislative session

**STAFF REPORT**  
Minden Press-Herald

The Louisiana Legislature adjourned its 2023 regular session on June 8, with a number of bills passing or failing in the final minutes of the session. The following are a few of the high-profile bills that have been closely watched by the citizens of Louisiana.

#### WHAT PASSED:

- Life in prison for dealing fentanyl: House Bill 90 aims to impose life imprisonment for fentanyl dealers, ranging from five to 40 years for dealing up to 28 grams and potentially life imprisonment for dealing 250 grams or more.

- ‘Don’t say gay’ bill: House Bill 466 prohibits discussions on gender and sexual identity in K-12 school classrooms.

- Ban on gender-affirming care for minors: House Bill 648 bans gender-affirming care for minors.

- Construction and infrastructure: House Bill 2 outlined construction and infrastructure projects for the next year.

- Foreign land ownership ban: House Bill 537 prohibits the Chinese government and its citizens from purchasing land in Louisiana. This bill passed after Republicans introduced amend-

See, **SESSION**, Page 2

## GRILLING ON MAIN 2023



AMBER MCDOWN/PRESS-HERALD PHOTO

Grilling on Main was another big success this year, even with all the thunderstorms Saturday afternoon. Adults and kids all had a great time showing off their grilling skills to the judges and public.

### Grilling on Main awarding great cooks

**AMBER MCDOWN**  
Minden Press-Herald

Grilling on Main was held this past weekend and, even though a series of thunderstorms swept through the area on Saturday, participants created some fantastic barbecue. The contest was judged by Barbecue Competitors Alliance (BCA), and brought in many competitors from the surrounding areas as well as local cooks, all of whom wanted to show off their skills.

For the People's Choice Award, the winners were Daryl Walker of Sweetie's Bar-B-Q in 3rd place,

Duane Anderson of Real Smoke BBQ in 2nd place, and Scotty Bryce of East Texas Smokers in 1st place. There were 29 teams competing for People's Choice this year.

For the Chicken competition, the winners were George "Tator" Hickman of Southern Pride BBQ in 10th place, Howard Suggs of Shake A Bone BBQ in 9th place, Micah Boudreaux of Boukita BBQ in 8th place, Brady Baudin of Sweet Bayou BBQ in 7th place, Scott McCullough of BTI Smokers in 6th place, Gerry Vallee of Vallee AC Cold Smoke in 5th place, Jason White

of Cajun Juju in 4th place, Scotty Bryce of East Texas Smokers in 3rd place, Daryl Walker of Sweetie's Bar-B-Q in 2nd place, and Duane Anderson of Real Smoke BBQ in 1st place.

For the Ribs competition, the winners were Danny Titus of Road-toad's Smoke "n" BBQ in 10th place, Mike Steele of Pig and Cows Gone Wild in 9th place, Jason White of Cajun Juju in 8th place, George "Tator" Hickman of Southern Pride BBQ in 7th place, Bob Zannini of Galaxy BBQ in 6th place, Gerry Vallee of Vallee AC Cold Smoke in 5th place, Scotty Bryce of East Tex-

as Smokers in 4th place, Benjy Lewis of Bayou BBQ in 3rd place, Duane Anderson of Real Smoke BBQ in 2nd place, and Brady Baudin of Sweet Bayou BBQ in 1st place.

For the Brisket competition, the winners were David Hamelin of Code Blue Smoke in 10th place, Micah Boudreaux of Boukita BBQ in 9th place, Gerry Vallee of Vallee AC Cold Smoke in 8th place, Benjy Lewis of Bayou BBQ in 7th place, Brady Baudin of Sweet Bayou BBQ in 6th place, Mike Steele of Pig and Cows

See, **GRILLING**, Page 3

## CITY COUNCIL

### New Main Street Director hired

**WILL PHILLIPS**  
Minden Press-Herald

Some of the first items that the mayor and council tackled in the monthly Minden City Council meeting were appointments and hiring of a new city police officer. The first appointment was that of a new Minden Main street director, Taylor Wren.

"I think it's good for the future of Minden to have someone who takes over as Main Street director and really makes that their own position.

Our Main Street is one of the lowest hanging great things about Minden. It's a great fruit that

we have to really show off in our city. If you are visiting Minden that's what you see and what you appreciate," said Mayor Nick Cox.

The council voted unanimously for Wren to take up the position.

After a seat on the Minden Downtown/Residential Historic Commission was left open due to a resignation from Logan McConathy, the council voted unanimously for Ricky Thomas to fill the seat for the remainder of the term which lasts until the end of this year.

The council also voted

See, **COUNCIL**, Page 3

## COMMUNITY

### Commemorate Juneteenth with a day of freedom and festivities

**AMBER MCDOWN**  
Minden Press-Herald

On Saturday, June 17th from 10 AM until 4 PM, residents of Minden and surrounding communities are invited to gather on Martin Luther King Drive to celebrate Juneteenth, a day commemorating the emancipation of enslaved African Americans. The event, organized by local community groups, promises a day filled with history, entertainment, and activities for all ages.

Participants can expect a rich program of events, including educational displays on Juneteenth history, musical performances, and a tantalizing array of food vendors.

The festivities will also showcase a variety of pop-up shops, boasting a wide range of merchandise such as clothing, jewelry,



and other unique items. Visitors will have the opportunity to support local artisans and small businesses while indulging in retail therapy.

"It's not just for one part of the city," said organizer Michael Walker. "It's for the whole city of Minden, and we want everyone to come celebrate."

For more information about the event, contact Mr. Michael Walker at (318) 210-1799 or Mrs. Oreata Banks at (318) 617-3836.

## CHARITY CLASSIC 2023



AMBER MCDOWN/PRESS-HERALD PHOTO

Competitors in the Minden Foundation Charity Classic had a great time playing golf with their friends while raising money to help people in Minden.

### Minden Foundation 2023 Charity Classic raises funds for those in need

**AMBER MCDOWN**  
Minden Press-Herald

The Minden Foundation, a nonprofit organization dedicated to providing charitable assistance within the Minden area, successfully held its annual Charity Classic raffle and golf tournament June 2-3. The event, which fea-

tured a variety of fundraising activities, aims to maintain a fund that supports families facing financial hardships due to unforeseen circumstances.

The Minden Foundation primarily focuses on providing aid for needs that are not specifically met by other charities or organizations. These may

include assisting families affected by house fires, floods, or debilitating illnesses.

This year's Charity Classic served as a significant source of fundraising for the Minden Foundation. The event featured a golf tournament and a raffle. The generous contributions from participants and

donors played a crucial role in the success of the fundraiser.

The Minden Foundation expresses its gratitude to all those who purchased tickets and helped make the fundraiser a resounding success.

The Minden Founda-

See, **CLASSIC**, Page 3



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# MINDEN FAMILY DENTAL

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**Zach M. Goodman D.D.S.**



Volume **54** Number **68**  
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**High Temp 87°**

Tomorrow's  
**Low Temp 61°**

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



# WEBSTER & MORE

WEDDING CELEBRATION



## White-Brown

Dr. Barzanna A. White and Randall E. Brown were united in holy matrimony on April 18, 2023. The bride is the daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Joe White of Shreveport, LA. The groom is the son of the late Mr. and Mrs. Murell Brown of Marshall, TX (formerly of Shreveport, LA).

The quaint afternoon private wedding ceremony was held in the Great Smoky Mountains at Chapel at the Park in Gatlinburg, Tennessee.

The bride is the System School Psychologist, BJA Grant Director, and Prevention Coordinator for Caddo Parish Schools and also teaches on the adjunct faculties of both LSU Shreveport and Centenary College of Louisiana. The groom is the

Regional Publisher and Executive Vice President of Specht Newspapers, Inc. (publishers of the Bossier Press-Tribune, Minden Press-Herald and BIZ. Magazine).

The bride holds a Bachelor of Science in Psychology and a Specialist in School Psychology from LSU in Shreveport. She completed her Ph.D. in School Psychology at the University of Tennessee in Knoxville, Tennessee. The groom holds a Bachelor of Science in Business from LSU in Shreveport and a Master of Business Administration from Centenary College of Louisiana.

This is an unbelievable love story several years in the making, as the couple started dating after meeting in the band while in

high school at Captain Shreve in Shreveport. After dating exclusively from 1987 until 2009 (22 years), careers and life unfortunately got in the way and the couple went their separate ways. Then in the April of 2022, God miraculously brought the couple back together, as only HE can do. Love that was always present from the very start of their relationship bloomed in a magical way like the couple had never experienced before. This time, with God in complete control, they knew it was for real and became engaged just three months later in July of 2022.

There are many blessings to celebrate during this time in their lives. Happiness and love exists in all aspects of their lives.

## SESSION

Continued from Page 1

ments to address concerns raised by Chinese Americans who opposed the bill.

- Age verification for social media: Senate Bill 162 aims to regulate minors' social media use by potentially requiring age verification on platforms like Facebook and Instagram, starting next year. The bill draws inspiration from a controversial law enacted in Utah.
- Bills listed that have passed still require Gov. John Bel Edwards' signature to become law.
- WHAT FAILED:
  - 'Constitutional carry': House Bill 131, which aimed to eliminate permitting requirements for carrying concealed firearms, failed in a Senate committee. The bill's sponsor, Rep. Danny

McCormick, chose to table it rather than accept what he perceived as unfriendly amendments, such as mandatory safety courses for handgun purchasers.

- Pay raises for teachers: Proposed pay raises for teachers and support staff were changed to one-time stipends in the final minutes of the session.
- Healthcare budget: \$100 million was cut from the Louisiana Department of Health's budget. It is unclear at this time where those cuts will be made.
- Abortion ban clarifications: Several bills that aimed to add exceptions to Louisiana's strict abortion ban for rape or incest victims, as well as bills addressing how miscarriages and ectopic pregnancies are treated

under the ban, failed. Consequently, the existing strict abortion laws in Louisiana remain unchanged.

- Abolishing the death penalty: House Bill 228 failed to advance in a House committee.
- Raising the minimum wage: House Bill 374, proposing an increase to \$10 per hour starting in 2024, was voted down by the House Labor and Industrial Relations Committee.
- Making youth court records public: House Bill 321 sought to make certain juvenile court records public.
- Hemp industry: House Speaker Clay Schexnayder abandoned his effort to modify regulations governing the hemp industry due to pushback from colleagues.

## LOOKING FOR A NEW CAREER?

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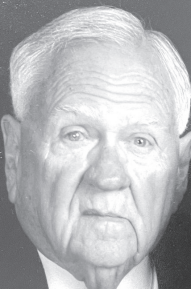
# WEBSTER & MORE

## OBITUARIES



### Annie Thomas Phillips

Annie Thomas Phillips (also known as Ollie Mae) was born on October 18, 1932 to Roberta Thomas and Cap Roosevelt Allums in Dubberly, Louisiana where she later attended Central Public School. Annie confessed Christ at an early age at Mt. Nebo Baptist Church of Dubberly, Louisiana. During her membership, Annie was President of the Usher Ministry for many years. Annie was united in marriage to Elijah Carter and later married William Phillips. Both preceded her in death.



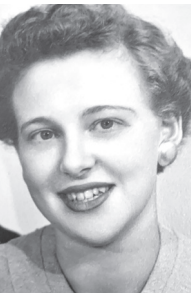
### Charles B. Camp

Funeral services for Charles B. Camp were held Thursday, June 8, 2023, at 10:00 a.m. at Rose-Neath Funeral Home Chapel in Minden, Louisiana with Bro. Bill Crider officiating. Interment followed at Gardens of Memory in Minden, Louisiana. The family received friends Wednesday, June 7, 2023, from 6:00 until 7:00 p.m. at Rose-Neath Funeral Home in Minden. Charles was born January 23, 1934, in Claiborne Parish and entered into rest June 5, 2023, in Minden, Louisiana. Charles worked for International Paper Company for 31 years. He loved to hunt and fish with his sons

Annie was also a member of Ada Chapter #71 Order of Eastern Star. She was employed by Emmanuel Baptist Church, Minden, Louisiana and retired after twenty-five years of service. On May 26, 2023, Annie was called to her eternal home. She is preceded in death by her mother and father; sisters, Rosetta Bailey and Wilean Moses, brother, Rudolph Bailey and granddaughter, Angela Thomas. Annie leaves to cherish her memories three daughters, Dorothy Robinson (Archie), Beverly Jones (Obie), Minden, LA; Ollie Faye Gaskin, Shreveport, LA; one son, Jerald Thomas (Ernestine), Mayview, MO; eight grandchildren, eighteen great-grandchildren, and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends. Funeral service was held on Saturday, June 3, 2023 at Mt. Nebo Baptist Church of Dubberly, LA. Interment was at Mt. Pisgah Cemetery of Homer, LA. Services were provided by Benevolent Funeral Home, Minden, LA.

and attend Razorback football games with family and friends in Little Rock. Charles was preceded in death by his parents, M.J. and Grace Camp; sisters, Patricia Camp and Joan Bolling. He is survived by his wife of 68 years, Rolene Camp; sons, Roland Camp (Valinda) of Camden, AR and David Camp of Shreveport; sister, Dorothy Thomas of New Mexico; seven grandchildren and ten great-grandchildren. The pallbearers will be Tyler Camp, Benjamin Camp, Justin Green, Bryce Holeman, Braden Holeman, and Bill Frye.

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



### Billie Jean Green

Memorial services for Billie Jean Green, 88, of Minden, Louisiana were held Saturday, June 10, 2023, at 11:00 a.m. at St John's Episcopal Church in Minden, Louisiana with Father Wayne Carter officiating. Billie Jean was born December 28, 1934, in Natchitoches, Louisiana and entered into rest June 5, 2023, in Bossier City, Louisiana.

Billie Jean was predeceased by her husband, Bill Green and son Carl Everett Green. She is survived by her sons; William Marti Green and wife Mary Beth of Clemson, S.C., and Joseph Henry Green of Minden; three grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren. Rose-Neath Funeral Home 211 Murrell Street Minden, Louisiana 71055



### Terry Lynn Gantt Peterson

Funeral services celebrating the life of Terry Lynn Gantt Peterson will be held Wednesday, June 14, 2023, at 10:30 a.m. at Brushwood Methodist Church in Dubberly, Louisiana. Interment will follow at Brushwood Cemetery in Dubberly, Louisiana under the direction of Rose-Neath Funeral Home in Minden, Louisiana. The family will receive friends from 9:30 am. until service time Wednesday at Brushwood Methodist Church. Terry was born June 1, 1964, in Homer, Louisiana and entered into rest June 10, 2023, in Houston, Texas. Terry was a self-employed Real Estate Appraiser. Her greatest

joy was her granddaughter Adalyn and was affectionately known as "Mimi". She was also excited and looking forward to the newest one on the way. She was preceded in death by her father, Tom Gantt and her brother, Tommy Gantt. She is survived by her husband, Rodney Peterson; mother, Elizabeth Gantt Sayers; son, Kyle Peterson and wife Morgan and granddaughter, Adalyn; father-in-law and mother-in-law, David and Fran Peterson; brother-in-law, Shea Peterson and wife Brooke; sister-in-law, Rhonda Wright; nieces, Ruby and Lyla Peterson, and numerous aunts, uncles, cousins, and friends. Memorials may be made to St. Jude's or donor's choice. Rose-Neath Funeral Home 211 Murrell Street Minden, Louisiana 71055 (318) 377-3412

## GRILLING

Continued from Page 1

Gone Wild in 5th place, Scotty Bryce of East Texas Smokers in 4th place, George "Tator" Hickman of Southern Pride BBQ in 3rd place, Jason White of Cajun Juju in 2nd place, and Howard Suggs of Shake A Bone BBQ in 1st place. Scotty Bryce was named Grand Champion of the competition, finishing with 22 points. BCA also chose winners from the local contestants. In the Local Chicken competition, JD Cottle of Pop's Cook Shack came in 3rd place, Slade Frith of Ace Hardware came in 2nd place, and Scott McCullough of BTI Smokers came in 1st place. In the Local Ribs competition, Mark Griffith of G-Team BBQ came in 3rd place, JD Wood of Woody's Smokin' Que came in 2nd place, and Jordan Cupples of Roosters came in 1st place. In the Local Brisket competition, JD Cottle, of Pop's Cook Shack came in 3rd place, Scott McCullough of BTI Smokers came in 2nd place, and David Hamlin of Code Blue Smokers came in 1st

place. The final award of the evening was the Gardner Award, given in memory of Mayor Terry Gardner who first brought the grilling competition to Minden seven years ago. This award was presented to Scott McCullough by Terry's wife, Debbie Gardner. On Friday the main competitions were those of the Cornhole Tournament and the Little Grillers competitions. After a fierce Cornhole Tournament that evening, three teams came out on top, with 3rd place going to Mick Watson and Mike Osborn, 2nd place going to Brian and Jaxon Smith, and 1st place going to Jacob White and Trace Francis. In the Little Grillers competition, the kids and young teens get a taste of the namesake of Grilling on Main, taking part in a grilling competition among their peers. For the Little Grillers Senior Division, Kaycee Cottle was the winner. In the Junior Division, 2nd place went to Cruz Bryce with 1st place going to Peyton Lewis.



### Brenda Heard Bruner Moerchen

Brenda Heard Bruner Moerchen, 72, passed from this earth on Friday, June 9, 2023, in Mansfield, Louisiana.

Brenda was preceded in death by her parents, J.D. and Janice Heard and her beloved husband, Jim Moerchen. Left to cherish her memory are her brother, Buddy Heard and wife Ann, her children; Tina Anderson and husband Brian, Dawn Bruner and special friend David Sanders, Matt Moerchen and wife Tori, and Brenda Moerchen-Martinez and husband Byron. She will also be missed by her grandchildren; Andrew Holford, Jordan Young, Riley Young, Tyler Anderson, Victoria Martinz, Carlos Milligan and Katelyn Daniel. She left 4 great grandchildren and many uncles, aunts, nieces, nephews and friends. Brenda spent most of her life in Minden but lived in west Texas as a child. As an adult, she lived in Baton Rouge and Wauwatosa, Wisconsin. She met Jim in Shreveport and was willing to follow him anywhere. She enjoyed spending her time helping others and playing cards or dominoes with friends. She was a little competitive! In the last few months, she formed a special relationship with some ladies at Mansfield Nursing Center. They were known as the "Golden Girls."

A memorial will be held Saturday, June 17, at 10:00 a.m. at Eastside Missionary Baptist Church in Minden. In lieu of flowers, Brenda wanted donations made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.



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### James Ronald (Ron) Garcia



A fine young man who had many friends.

Army of the United States  
Rank: Specialist Four. Combat Engineer  
Unit: A CO, 20TH ENG BN, 937TH ENG GROUP  
12/20/1943-06/17/1967  
Age at Loss: 23  
Location: Pleiku Province, South Vietnam

## CLASSIC

Continued from Page 1

tion extends its sincere appreciation to the following generous contributors of items for the raffle: Mike Harper, Jeremy Uthphall, Dr. Zach Goodman, Braley Raborn, Parish Design Co., Kelly Warren, Kerry Easley, David Schoonover, RV Works, Hugh Wood, David Fox, Andy Pendergrass, Lindsey Collins, Sara McDaniel, Dakota Haynes, Sheriff Jason Parker, Adam Hurley, Dr. Sanders Graf, Minden Family Pharmacy, Baked with Love - Macarons & More, Joan Almond, Chatty Bakes, and Geaux Fresh. Their selflessness and support were instrumental in the success of the auction. The golf tournament,

a highlight of the Charity Classic, witnessed fierce competition among talented participants. Winners were recognized in various flights based on their performance. The Minden Foundation congratulates the following golf tournament winners:  
4th Flight:  
1st place: Ullich and Branch  
2nd place: Gulley and Mourad  
3rd place: Goodman and Cupples  
3rd Flight:  
1st place: Haynes and Cupples  
2nd place: Wise and Wise  
3rd place: Schoonover and Fussell  
2nd Flight:

1st place: Mandino and Baten  
2nd place: Ward and Rogers  
3rd place: Woodard and Mitchell  
1st Flight:  
1st place: Pendergrass and Vining  
2nd place: Hilton and Smith  
3rd place: Woodard and Donner  
President's Flight:  
1st place: Harper and Founds  
2nd place (tie): Gray and Best, Corley and Randle  
Championship Flight:  
1st place: Michael and Morgan  
2nd place: Grubbs and Hodge  
3rd place: Wells and

Anders

The Minden Foundation commends all participants for their exceptional sportsmanship and congratulates the winners for their outstanding performances. The Minden Foundation operates as a tax-exempt organization under Section 501(c)(3) status granted by the Internal Revenue Service. The foundation's commitment to assisting those in need remains steadfast, thanks to the unwavering support of the Minden community and its generous donors. For more information about the Minden Foundation and its charitable initiatives, please visit their website [minden-foundation.org](http://minden-foundation.org).

## COUNCIL

Continued from Page 1

to hire a new Minden police officer, that being Jordan Greer. "I looked through his file, and he has an impressively high score on his test. He is POST certified. I've personally known him for years, and I think he'll be a great addition to the team," said Cox. Later during the meeting the council voted to pass an item that would essentially consolidate the city's various public works departments into one centralized public works office. "The council and I have met, and others throughout the city's public works department, and we are very interested in consoli-

dating some of our public works departments into one facility. Right now we have people in the steam plant, people at the water plant, we have people just spread throughout the city," Mayor Cox explained. "It's just become very clear that for our future it'd be great to consolidate and have one central station for, not all public works at first, but a good chunk of them right off the bat." After that, the council reviewed an item that would allow the mayor to enter into a Software-as-a-Service agreement with Kologik, LLC for Minden Police Department software.

"The police chief has come to us and has stated that the software he uses right now does not make his department compliant, and it kicks him out of eligibility for a lot of the grants that they could be getting to help with our police department," said Mayor Cox. Lastly, staying in line with their previously mentioned goal of mapping out a plan to help guide the course of Minden's future, the council voted unanimously to enter into an agreement with Louisiana Economic Development (LED) for an updated Louisiana Development Ready Communities certification plan.

"We did this when Tommy Davis was the mayor in 2013, and it was a plan that would stretch out from 2013 to 2018. Well that plan is obviously antiquated. It doesn't cost any money. It's promoted by LED and it allows us to do strategic planning with the state to look at our future," said Mayor Cox. The monthly Minden City Council meeting takes place on the first Monday of each month starting at 6 PM at Minden City Hall. For those who can't attend in person, the meetings are live streamed at the City of Minden's Facebook page and YouTube Channel titled "City of Minden - Feels Like Home."



OPINION

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www.press-herald.com  
USPS NUMBER 593-340

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

Telephone: (318) 377-1866.

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

Subscription rate: \$40 per year.

**POSTMASTER:** Send address changes to Minden Press-Herald, P.O. Box 1339, Minden, LA 71058-1339.

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

**HERE ARE OUR GUIDELINES:**

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

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

OPINION

Devastating boycotts teach corporate elites: Go woke? Go broke!

I have often pondered the principles of marketing.

Whether we are talking about McDonalds, Coca Cola, the NFL, Target, or Anheuser-Busch—and its previously popular Bud Light beer—I would think the most important consideration would be to successfully target (no pun intended) the most likely consumers of the product and then do everything to gain, keep and increase the greatest market share possible.

In other words, as has always been the case in the corporate world before the “social justice” and Woke movements, the fundamental fiduciary duty to shareholders was to maximize profits. Period.

Well, corporate America has changed, and not for the better.

What we are seeing and hearing as Target, Anheuser-Busch, and others lose billions and irreparably damage their brands is the economic “roar” of millions of Americans that we will no longer accept corporate elites shoving cultural imperialism down our throats.

Millions of tolerant, patriotic Americans have finally said enough-- “stop force feeding us liberal sexual orthodoxy.”

As a result of these boycotts, Target and Anheuser-Busch have now lost a combined \$40.8 billion in market value over their LGBTQ Pride-focused marketing campaigns. (S. Perry. The Daily Signal, 6-6-

23). In short, they are bleeding value with no end in sight.

Why have American consumers responded in this way?

Because we’re sick of being bombarded by and graphically exposed to—and we are way past being asked to merely accept alternative lifestyles—“Pride” and transgenderism.

We fundamentally reject the idea that young children are prepared to receive or process any information about human



ROYAL ALEXANDER

sexuality or have even the slightest capacity to decide—often without their parent’s knowledge—whether they should amputate their own

bodies at age 6 because a boy may think for a while that he’s a girl.

Or be forced to tolerate Target’s policy of allowing our young daughters to be followed into the girl’s bathroom by a full-grown man who “identifies” as a woman.

Or the farce that biological men who are “transitioning” to “female” can fairly be allowed to compete against biological females.

Well, the roof blew off when Target “released nationwide

Pride-focused merchandise targeting children, including ‘tuck friendly’ swimsuits for boys who identify as girls, but have not yet amputated their sexual organs. For good measure, it also offered kid-friendly products designed by a self-identified “trans Satanist.” (S. Perry, The Daily Signal, 6-6-23).

We really shouldn’t be surprised by Target’s action. After all, this is the same company that was caught partnering with an organization—the Gay, Lesbian, and Straight Education Network (GLSEN)—that hides children’s gender transition from parents and advocates teaching gender ideology at all grade levels. (N. Silverio, Daily Caller, May 26, 2023).

So, why do millions of Americans object to such offensive products and messaging?

It’s because we reject the cold, sterile, and godless view of life, faith and family which distorts gender and biology beyond all recognition. Quite to the contrary, we view ourselves as made in the image and likeness of God and are the creation of the Creator who defined us, body and soul.

And we believe that while the two genders are morally equal in every sense, males and females are vastly different physiologically and acting as though they are the same is not only a Big Lie but it’s a cruelty to confuse the most vulnerable among us about themselves in

order to advance a toxic ideology through chemical castration or genital mutilation in order to fill the bank accounts of doctors and hospitals who profit from the billion dollar Sex Change Industrial Complex. According to research, the U.S. sex reassignment surgery market size was estimated at \$ 1.9 billion in 2021 and was expected to reach \$2.1 billion in 2022.

That’s why parents are so concerned about the targeting of young adolescents on social media to confuse and then persuade them that they are transgender. Parents feel that their children are under siege, and as children have become more isolated and more tied to their telephone screens, there’s been an explosion of children identifying as transgender.

These children are vulnerable to messages that say their problems fitting in can be solved by recognizing that they were born in the wrong body. Tragically though, the puberty blockers and surgeries being handed out to adolescents will cause a lifetime of physical health problems which has led to laws against gender assignment surgery.

May the boycotts continue until this lesson is learned.

ROYAL ALEXANDER IS A SHREVEPORT ATTORNEY.

INSPIRATION

Keep it simple, stupid

The late beloved Claudia Harvill, who was a very successful real estate business woman, was known to often say “keep it simple, stupid,” which leads me to the heart of my subject of simplicity!

I think most of us destroy ourselves by fear of public opinion, of going in too many directions, trying to keep up with the Jones, of trading what we want most for what we want now, of having to have too many things regardless of who gets hurt in the process which leads me to one of my heroes of the past.

Henry David Thoreau, born in 1817 and the author of Walden’s Pond, said “I went to the woods because I wished to live deliberately, to front only the essential facts of life, and see if I could not learn what it had to teach, and not, when I came to die, discover that I had not lived.”

He learned a great truth desperately needed today. He went apart for a year or so by himself to stay in a log cabin, located by Walden’s Pond, near Concord, Massachusetts.

I’ve been fortunate to spend

time inside the replica of the cabin while visiting my oldest son, Perry, who lives near Boston.

It is a beautiful, peaceful setting.



SARAH HUDSON PIERCE

with simplicity when I ponder how much creative time is wasted in the pursuit of getting more and more yet never satisfying the yearning deep within.

From my understanding he only took with him one rock and threw it away because of the time it took to dust it off and put it back in place.

Absurd? Perhaps that is a bit extreme but it teaches a valuable lesson we should heed today.

I think some solitude in the

woods, with no media, would be beneficial to troubled teens who are always hooked up to background noise.

Why are we so scared to hear ourselves think?

I sense it takes a lifetime of practice of going apart, of getting into touch with ourselves, to hear our own thoughts but it’s in this space that we grow and become all we can become!

We must simplify lest we become lost in our pursuits.

It’s easy to lose our creativity if we are frenetic. We must focus on our talents -- not put too many irons in the fire or we will be robbed of our quality time, preventing ourselves from centering down, getting into tune with ourselves.

We must hone our talents, sharpen our skills, polish our gift or we will become rusty in our crafts.

To become focused we must simplify or we will burn our energy.

We must look not to one side or backward in regret at lost opportunities, lest we become scattered and never achieve our dream. If we try to do all

things equally well we won’t become all that we can be. Our creativity will be lost in the mundane things in life, of keeping our bodies fed, of caring for our grounds, of making our house a showcase.

If we leave our one small gift to take care of itself it will die!

To be gifted we must work at our talents daily and make our field of endeavor our focal point, our obsession. In return we will then make a meaningful contribution to those we touch.

It won’t come easily.

It’s more fun to work with our one talent knowing that “there will always be those greater and lesser than ourselves,” to quote Max Ehrmann, who wrote Desiderata.

The Bible still teaches that if we bury our talent that it will die and “we will have lived in the gray areas of life, knowing neither victory nor defeat,” to quote President Theodore Roosevelt.

CONTACT SARAH AT SARAH9957@AOL.COM

OPINION

Brown: Ronnie Coker won the day

On Monday afternoon June 5, 2023, our community lost a man that made a tremendous impact upon countless lives in our community when Ronnie Coker, long time educator and highly accomplished baseball coach, passed away from colon cancer at the age of 58. Upon hearing of his passing, I immediately began to flash back in time, as my thoughts quickly turned back to the impact that Ronnie Coker made upon my life.

With his outstanding success in winning state high school baseball championships as a player at Minden and as a coach, I was well familiar with Ronnie Coker long before I ever met him. My grandfather in Minden never missed a Minden High School game of any kind in any sport (football, basketball, baseball, etc.). So, I actually attended several of the baseball games during the Minden High School state championship baseball dynasty when Ronnie was

on the team. And, I vividly remember Ronnie’s success as a baseball coach in winning state high school baseball championships at both Parkway and Captain Shreve (my alma mater).



RANDY BROWN

Not long after Ronnie began his position as athletic director at Airline High School, I was on the home sideline shooting photos during an Airline football game. I noticed this guy pacing up and down the sideline as the ball moved up and down the field. He was really into the game. So, I asked myself, who is this guy? And, I made it a point to introduce myself. Upon the introduction, I met the infa-

mous Ronnie Coker. From that first introduction, I came away motivated, enthused and

fired up, like I was ready to “Win The Day.” And, we quickly became friends.

As Airline was usually my beat when I was helping out our sports department with shooting football photos, I quickly got to know Ronnie and most always sought him out as soon as I got to the game. He was always excited to see me and encouraged me tremendously in what I was doing and in his support and enthusiasm for the Bossier Press-Tribune. Over the years, I attended many football games and other events at Airline High School (from scholarship signings to basketball games, baseball games, assemblies and graduations). As such, I always made it a point to seek out Ronnie Coker at these events because I knew that I would come away ready to conquer the world as a result.

A few months after Ronnie’s can-

cer diagnosis, I was fortunate and blessed in being able to accompany our sports editor, Russell Hedges, to Ronnie’s house for lunch. Ronnie told me exactly what he wanted me to bring him for lunch and that is exactly what I ordered. We had a great visit and conversation. We talked briefly about his treatment and in typical Ronnie Coker fashion, he abruptly said “I don’t want to talk about that anymore, I want to talk about you.” That was Ronnie Coker, that is who he was. That is what he did. It was never about him, it was about the people in his life. And, as was said at his funeral service last Saturday, he had a gifted way of making you feel special, making you feel important and making you feel like you can always “Win The Day!”

The people that we cross paths with on our daily walk is no mere accident. There is a reason that we meet the people that we meet. Meeting a man like Ronnie Coker

is a true testament as to how God clearly and distinctly orchestrates and directs the paths of our lives. Ronnie Coker had a very sincere, dedicated and important mission in leading others to Christ. For sure, Ronnie Coker knew where he was going. And as my Dad always used to say, I know where I am going and I will be waiting for you to get there too. Believe, have faith and totally trust and turn your life over to Jesus Christ is the truly right path for us all. In this, we will Win The Day. To me, beyond all that Ronnie Coker accomplished with his many athletic successes, this was his main message. And, on June 5, 2023, Ronnie Coker Won The Day! When we get to heaven, there is no doubt that Ronnie Coker will be there to tell us that we Won The Day!

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



SPORTS

Russell Hedges, Sports Editor  
rhedges@spechtnewspapers.com

HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL

# Three parish players make first-team LSWA All-State

## Six make Louisiana Baseball Coaches Association teams

RUSSELL HEDGES  
Minden Press-Herald

Three parish players have been named first team on two Louisiana Sports Writers Association's All-State teams.

Glenbrook's Maddox Mandino and Easton Sanders made the Class 1A team.

North Webster's Collin McKenzie made the Class 3A team.

Also, Glenbrook's Tony Sanders was named the Coach of the Year on the Class 1A team.

Sanders led the Apaches to the semifinals of the select Division IV playoffs. Glenbrook was eligible for the LHSAA playoffs for the first time. The Apaches finished 24-9.

Mandino, a University of Louisiana at Lafayette signee who played multiple positions, was selected as an infielder.

He batted .466 with 12 doubles, six triples, four home runs and 26 RBI.

Sanders, a rising junior pitcher and infielder, made the team at utility. He was 6-1 with a 2.763 ERA. He had 54 strikeouts in 38 innings.

Sanders also batted .354 with seven doubles, four home runs and 31 RBI.

McKenzie, a 2023 graduate, made the team as an infielder.

He batted .549 with 50 hits, including 13 doubles and one triple, and 28 RBI.

McKenzie was also a pitcher. He went 4-3 with a 3.355 ERA and had 62 strikeouts in 56 1/3 innings.

Mandino, Sanders and McKenzie along with Glenbrook's Cason Clemons and Hayden Harmon (1A) and Lakeside's Jon Jon Dick (2A) also made Louisiana



RUSSELL HEDGES/PRESS-HERALD  
Glenbrook rising junior Easton Sanders has been named first team on the LSWA and LBCCA Class 1A All-State teams.



RUSSELL HEDGES/PRESS-HERALD  
Glenbrook's Maddox Mandino, a 2023 graduate, has been named first team on the LSWA and LBCCA Class 1A All-State teams.



RUSSELL HEDGES/PRESS-HERALD  
Glenbrook's Tony Sanders has been named Coach of the Year on the LSWA Class 1A All-State team.



VALLLETTE WEAVER/SPECIAL TO THE PRESS-HERALD  
North Webster's Collin McKenzie, a 2023 graduate, has been named first team on the LSWA and LBCCA Class 3A All-State teams.

Baseball Coaches Association's All-State teams.

Harmon, a 2023 graduate, made the team at pitcher. He was 8-1 with an ERA of 2.724. He struck out 83 in 61 2/3 innings.

Harmon was also honorable mention on the LSWA team.

Clemons, a 2023 graduate, made the team at infielder. He batted .322 with seven doubles, one triple

and 12 RBI.

Dick, a rising junior, made the team at designated hitter. He batted .434 with 15 doubles, one triple, one home run and 32 RBI.

He was also honorable

mention on the LSWA 2A team.

Doyline's Noah Spears was named honorable mention on the LSWA B team.

Spears had a 1.891 ERA. He struck out 95 in 70 1/3

innings.

Spears pitched a perfect game with 18 strikeouts in a 3-0 victory over Simsboro in the first round of the non-select Division V playoffs.

OUTDOORS

# Thoughts for boys with BB guns

GLYNN HARRIS

The orchard oriole is a bird that has always fascinated me. The black and burnt orange color combinations of the male balanced with the olive green and yellow of the female make for an extremely attractive pair.

The song, a lilting melody usually sung from the highest branch of a tall tree is appealing. The nest is an unusual swinging basket that can withstand the most violent summer storm; most impressive.

That's why to this day, I still don't know what possessed me as a youngster of eight to take aim with my BB gun at the beautiful male oriole singing from the top branch of a big oak in my grandma's yard.

It was a quick, careless shot; I even shot left-handed to assure I'd miss. Maybe it was the curiosity and impulsiveness of a typical eight year old boy that made me do it.

Maybe I thought there is no way I could hit that bird with my Daisy Red Rider, it being up so high and my shooting left handed. But I did. My heart sank as the oriole tumbled from the branch to land fluttering at my feet. I never told anyone about it; I was too ashamed at what I'd done.

I grew up during an age when if you lived out in the country and you were a boy, you bird hunted. Starting out with a double-barreled sling shot made from a forked branch, two strips of rubber cut from an inner tube and a square of leather cut from a shoe tongue to hold a rock, we spent long summer days bird hunting. There were very few species that were off-limits to us. Orioles,



CARLA JOHNSTON  
The orchard oriole is a beautiful little bird that deserves protection from boys with BB guns.

however, were.

We didn't decimate bird populations because those old sling shots weren't very accurate. However, when we graduated to Red Riders, that was a different story.

Looking through the eyes of age and experience, I feel pangs of guilt about my bird killing as a youngster. Regular readers of my columns will attest to my fascination with watching, feeding and identifying birds today.

Back then, I didn't know any better; that's what we all did. Most boys growing up today have traded

their BB guns for video games and such electronic gadgets but for those still clinging to their BB guns, all I can offer them a plea to pass up shots at song birds. One reason is that song birds are protected and you break the law when you shoot a song bird.

Here it gets difficult to try and impress youngsters to hold off on shooting song birds when their dads did it, their granddads did it and this writer did it.

We as parents need to feed these young minds, these inquisitive and curious minds, with positive ethically correct teaching

about shooting and hunting. Things such as shooting safety and marksmanship are important. So are ethics and teaching about when to hold back and let something go.

Although I have wished many times that I could give that little oriole its life back but that's impossible.

The only thing I might hope to accomplish by sharing my story is that younger might think twice before drawing a bead on a song bird.

I still get flashbacks today every time I see or hear an oriole.

## Fishing Report

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

**BUSSEY BRAKE** – Big bass are being caught flipping the brush along with spinners and square billed crank bits. Top-water lures working best early mornings. Crappie are scattered; bream are on the beds and hitting worms and crickets. For latest information, contact the Honey Hole at 323-8707.

**OUACHITA RIVER** – Crappie fishing has been good in the river lakes on jigs and shiners. Bream are on the beds in the woods. Bass are fair on crank baits. For latest information, contact the Honey Hole Tackle Shop at 323-8707.

**LAKE D'ARBONNE** – The Majestic Big Bass classic was a big hit with lots of big bass, topped off by one over 11 pounds caught during the event. Bass have been best on spinners and crank baits along shallow grass lines. Crappie are on the edge of the flats. 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** – Bass have been good on swim baits with good fishing for them at night with soft plastics and spinners. Bream fishing has been best up Isaac Creek on crickets and worms. Crappie fishing has been best up the creeks on shiners or jigs. No report on catfish or stripers. For latest information, call Kel's Cove at 927-2264 or Terzia Tackle at 278-4498.

**CANEY LAKE** – Crappie are best on shiners around the lights. The bream are bedded and hitting crickets and worms Deep diving crank baits and Carolina rigged worms are picking up some nice-sized bass on the deeper drops while swim baits are working fairly well along the grass lines. Crappie fishing has been best at night on. 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** – Catfish and bream are biting. Bass and crappie slow to fair. 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 on a slow fall and fishing is good for barfish, bass, catfish and crappie. For information, call Surplus City Landing at 318/467-2259.



# Good News

GOOD NEWS

## IT’S VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL TIME AGAIN!

When the last school bell rings and the buses unload the children at the end of the school year, that is the signal for many churches to get ready for Vacation Bible School. Of course, the planning process really had already begun – months before. Usually in June, churches provide this exciting ‘week-long’ adventure filled with a variety of activities for children ranging from Older Preschoolers (4-5 year olds) through grade 6, and sometimes for youth. Some will remember when churches planned for adult VBS as well.

Did you ever wonder how all of this got started? How was it organized and developed over the years? Well, this is what history tells us about Vacation Bible School. In the summer of 1884, in Hopedale, Ill a public school teacher (who also taught children’s Sunday School) felt limited by time constraints in her classroom to teach the children Bible stories. So she started a daily Bible study, using a nearby local school adjacent to a city park. It attracted about

40 students for four weeks.

In 1898, in New York City, Virginia Hawes, director of the children’s work in Epiphany Baptist Church, saw a need for a Bible School for all the children of the streets that summer. Their parents were working, leaving them with little to do than ‘swarm the streets.’ Her first ‘school’ was housed in a beer joint which she helped clean up each day to get ready for the children. Her school consisted of Bible Study, music, games and refreshments. Soon the news spread throughout the country.

Soon Robert Boville (Baptist Mission Society) became aware of Mrs. Hawes efforts and established several schools in New York City, staffing them with seminary students. By 1920, churches across the country were hosting this summer “vacation



Bill Crider

tion Bible school”, attracting thousands of children, involving many adults and youth as teachers and leaders. Curriculum guides were published along with ideas for Bible stories, mission studies and projects, music to accompany the themes of the week, and other details. This made it easy for parents and youth to plan for a most meaningful week.

Today, in most evangelical churches, VBS is a given each summer. Of course, it gets squeezed sometimes with other camps, vacations, little league, swimming lessons, etc. Churches have become creative by scheduling it at various times during the summer, during holidays when children are out of school, etc. The important thing is this: IT HAPPENS.

Many adults can testify to the importance of VBS to them. Many became Christians as a direct result of that ‘special week when they were young.’ Others count the great privilege of teaching young minds about God, Jesus, God’s great love and salvation as ‘very special.’ I did not attend VBS when I

was a child but have been involved in it each summer for 50 plus years. It has been most rewarding.

One of the great blessings of my life was to serve the Baptist Convention of Illinois and have the responsibility to enlist and train Sunday School and Vacation Bible School workers throughout the state. I worked with associational leaders to enlist and train teams for each association of churches. They, in turn, would train local leaders from each church to use the curriculum, to plan for activities and to follow up in visiting families and children who made decisions for Christ. Not only that, the last two weeks of May was spent in the Chicago area training college students who had volunteered to assist churches throughout the summer with their VBS, Backyard Bible Studies, Mission VBS (parks, apartments, and resort areas.) We welcomed several hundred college students from across the country who would spend 6-8 weeks in the state, helping small churches and other groups with these pro-

grams designed for children and youth. How rewarding at the end of the summer to hear testimonies of ‘how much VBS meant to me.’

In the spring of 1982, the National VBS Training for SBC churches was held in St Louis and I had the honor of being ‘commencement speaker’ to the 300 state VBS leaders who gathered there for their training. They in turn, returned to their respective states and conducted training sessions throughout each state.

Some churches have already experienced VBS this summer; others will plan for it later. If your church is not planning to conduct a summer VBS, perhaps you could help schedule some during those special weeks this fall when the schools have those long breaks. You will receive a great blessing for sure. I have never heard a teacher nor pupil say “I wish I had not attended VBS.”

BILL CRIDER IS CHAPLAIN OF MINDEN MEDICAL CENTER

### THE UPWARD LOOK

#### Partners

*“... God’s wrath comes on those who are disobedient. Therefore do not be partners with them.” Ephesians 5:6c-7 NIV*



Max Hutto

The lifestyle of the disobedient is incompatible with the lifestyle of a believer in Christ. The believer is warned to not partner, partake, or participate with those who are rebelling against God and His Word, with those whose lifestyle is full of immorality, impurity, and greed, with those who are under God’s wrath as a consequence of their disobedience. A

believer is not to participate or share in the practices of the old sinful lifestyle, but he is to live in holiness and righteousness, being obedient to God’s Word.

Lord Jesus, as I live in this world, help me to avoid being intertwined with wickedness. Fill my life with Your Word, Your truth, and Your righteousness.

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

### INSPIRATION

#### Let’s Take A Walk

In the book of Mark, Jesus encountered a rich young ruler. This young man inquired as to how he could gain eternal life and Jesus answered his question with a question. Have you kept all the commandments? The young man declared yes since I was a boy. Satisfied with this answer Jesus gave this young man a task: sell all you own, give it to the poor and follow me. The rich young man wasn’t up for this task so he inquired no more and left sad and wanting. We all have things that we hold precious but the question we should all ask ourselves is do these things take



Bernard Harris

precedence over God and his call on your life? God has called us all to do something for his kingdom and sometimes that requires us to give up some of our earthly goals, desires, and possessions. My question to you today is are you willing and ready to make the sacrifice and dive in? There are so many beautiful things to be seen while you walk with Jesus and follow his teachings. So will you follow Jesus or be left wanting?

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







CLASSIFIEDS

Classified line ads are published Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday in the Minden Press-Herald, Bossier Press-Tribune and online at [www.press-herald.com](http://www.press-herald.com)

Classified Rates

Pricing is easy!

\$7.75

Per Day - Up to 20 words!  
Additional words are only 30 cents more!

Garage Sales

No word limit.

\$11

One Day

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Two Days

Receive a FREE Garage Sale Kit with your two day ad!

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Payments

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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

Call to place your ad!

PLACE YOUR AD TODAY!

377-1866

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

VILLAGE OF DIXIE INN (hereinafter referred to as the "Owner").

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

VILLAGE OF DIXIE INN Love Louisiana Outdoors Project Dixie Inn Park- Restroom and Picnic Shelters

Proposals shall be addressed to the VILLAGE OF DIXIE INN and delivered to the Village of Dixie Inn Town Hall, 60 SHELL STREET, MINDEN, LA 71055 not later than 2:00 P.M., JULY 11, 2023. Sealed bids shall be marked as "Sealed Bid" - VILLAGE OF DIXIE INN Love Louisiana Outdoors Project to be financed by the State of Louisiana Love Louisiana Outdoors Program. All bids must be submitted on the proper bid form. The Contractor shall display his Contractor's license number prominently on the outside of the envelope. Any bids received after the specified time and date will not be considered. The sealed bids will be publicly opened and read aloud at 2:00 P.M., JULY 11, 2023 at the Village of Dixie Inn Town Hall, 60 Shell Street, Minden, Louisiana 71055.

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

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

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

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

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

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

The Contractor Classification for the project is:

BUILDING CONSTRUCTION

Attention of Bidders is particularly called to the requirement as to conditions of employment to be observed and minimum wage rates to be paid under the Contract, Section 3, Segregated Facilities, Section 109, Executive Order 11246, and all applicable laws and regulations of the Federal government and State of Louisiana and bonding and insurance requirements.

The successful bidder must submit executed copies of Certification Regarding Equal Employment Opportunity, Section 3 and Segregated Facilities, Section 3 Plan with Tables A and B, Certification Concerning Labor Standards and all subcontractors' certifications prior to contract execution.

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

after normal award of contract.

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

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

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

June 7, 2023  
June 14, 2023  
June 21, 2023  
Minden Press-Herald

June 5, 2023  
ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS  
WEBSTER PARISH POLICE JURY  
CULLEN SENIOR CENTER RENOVATIONS

The proposals must be in the hands of the undersigned no later than 9:00 a.m., Wednesday, July 5, 2023- in the Courthouse House Annex meeting room of the Webster Parish Police Jury, 401 Main Street, Minden, Louisiana 71055. The bid forms and specification sheets are available at no charge in the office of the Secretary-Treasurer, Webster Parish Police Jury. Successful bids will be approved at the Regular Meeting, Webster Parish Police Jury on July 5, 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

June 7, 2023  
June 14, 2023  
June 21, 2023  
June 28, 2023  
Minden Press-Herald

I, John Hays, 535664, have applied for clemency for my conviction of ILL Possession Stolen Things. If you have any comments, contact the Board of Pardons (225) 342-5421.

June 7, 2023  
June 14, 2023  
June 21, 2023  
Minden Press-Herald

I, Michael Milligan, 625741, have applied for clemency for my conviction of Schedule II. If you have any comments, contact the Board of Pardons (225) 342-5421.

June 7, 2023  
June 14, 2023  
June 21, 2023  
Minden Press-Herald

PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY OF MINDEN, STATE OF LOUISIANA, TAKEN IN REGULAR SESSION HELD ON JUNE 1, 2023

The Minden City Council met at City Hall, Minden, Louisiana, beginning at 6:00 p.m. with the following members present: Mayor Nick Cox, Carlton Myles, Levon Thomas, Latasha Mitchell, Michael Roy, and Andy Pendergrass. Absent: None. Mayor Cox welcomed everyone to the meeting. Prayer was offered by Andy Pendergrass and Carlton Myles led the Pledge of Allegiance. It is noted for the record that Mayor Cox allowed both council and public comments prior to every vote.

Upon motion by Carlton Myles and duly seconded by Andy Pendergrass, the council unanimously adopted the minutes of the Minden City Council Regular Session held on May 1, 2023, as presented. Abstention(s): None. Michael Roy moved to name the Minden Press-Herald as the Official Journal of the City of Minden, Louisiana. The motion was duly seconded by Latasha Mitchell and the vote was unanimously in favor.

Abstention(s): None. Absence(s): None.

Michael Roy moved to appoint Taylor Wren as Main Street Director for the City of Minden. The motion was duly seconded by Carlton Myles and the vote was unanimously in favor. Abstention(s): None. Absence(s): None.

Upon motion by Andy Pendergrass and duly seconded by Michael Roy, the council unanimously approved the appointment of Ricky Thomas to the Minden Downtown/Residential Historic Commission to fill the unexpired term, as presented. Abstention(s): None. Absence(s): None. Andy Pendergrass moved to confirm Jordan Greer as a full-time police officer in the Minden Police Department, subject to passing all applicable tests. The motion was duly seconded by Carlton Myles and the vote was unanimously in favor. Abstention(s): None. Absence(s): None.

The following action was taken regarding condemned property:

Helen J. Drake Estate c/o Charles Minifield Post Office Box 1398 Minden, Louisiana 71058

422 East Union Street Lot Fronting 100 ft. on Union Street Out of Lot #2, Warsaw Addn. in NW/4 of NE/4 Sec. 27-19-9

Attorney Nelson Smith presented a written curator report stating that correspondence was sent to Charles Minifield, counsel of record, and Cassandra Drake, heir of Helen J. Drake, and that, to date, he has received no response from any heirs. Proof of receipt of this correspondence was provided. Carlton Myles moved to authorize Mayor Cox to issue an order declaring the property condemned and further order the demolition of any structures located thereon and the cleaning of the lot within 30 days of June 5, 2023. The motion was duly seconded by Michael Roy and the vote was unanimously in favor. Abstention(s): None. Absence(s): None.

Upon motion by Michael Roy and duly seconded by Carlton Myles, the council unanimously adopted a Resolution Authorizing Credit Card Signatory Power for Certain City of Minden Personnel, as presented. Abstention(s): None. Absence(s): None.

Upon motion by Michael Roy and duly seconded by Carlton Myles, the council unanimously adopted a Resolution to Amend the City of Minden 2022/2023 Budget, as presented. Abstention(s): None. Absence(s): None.

Levon Thomas moved to approve the revisions to the Building Rental Agreements, as presented. The motion was duly seconded by Latasha Mitchell and the vote was unanimously in favor. Abstention(s): None. Absence(s): None.

Michael Roy moved to award Bid No. 02-2023, Minden Airport Improvement Program, to the lowest qualified bidder meeting all requirements, Cleve Batte Construction. The motion was duly seconded by Latasha Mitchell and the vote was unanimously in favor. Abstention(s): None. Absence(s): None.

Upon motion by Carlton Myles and duly seconded by Latasha Mitchell, the council unanimously authorized the City Clerk to advertise for bids for the used fire department custom heavy rescue truck, as presented. Abstention(s): None. Absence(s): None.

Andy Pendergrass moved to authorize Mayor Cox to enter into an Agreement for Engineering Services with Cothren, Graff, Smoak Engineering, Inc. for the Centralized Public Works Office, as presented. The motion was duly seconded by Michael Roy and the vote was unanimously in favor. Abstention(s): None. Absence(s): None.

Upon motion by Levon Thomas and duly seconded by Michael Roy, the council unanimously authorized Mayor Cox to enter into a Software-as-a-Service Agreement with Kologik, LLC for Minden Police Department software, as presented. Abstention(s): None. Absence(s): None.

Upon Motion by Michael Roy and duly seconded by Carlton Myles, the council unanimously authorized Mayor Cox to enter into an agreement with Louisiana Economic Development for an updated Louisiana Development

siana Development Ready Communities Certification Strategic Plan, as presented. Abstention(s): None. Absence(s): None.

City Clerk Michael Fluhr presented the Budget/Financial Report for the month of April 2023. No motion was required.

The police report for the month of April 2023 was unanimously accepted, as presented, by motion of Latasha Mitchell and second by Michael Roy. Abstention(s): None. Absence(s): None.

Announcements were heard, council comments were heard, and the meeting was adjourned.

Nick Cox, Mayor

ATTEST:

Michael Fluhr, City Clerk

June 14, 2023  
Minden Press-Herald

DECLARATION OF ELECTION RESULTS

Be it known and declared that the governing authority of the Parish of Webster, State of Louisiana (the "Parish"), did meet in open and public session to examine the official certified tabulations of votes cast at the special election held in the Parish on Saturday, March 25, 2023, and did examine and canvass the returns of the said election, there having been submitted at said election the following proposition, to wit:

PROPOSITION (LIBRARY MALLAGE CONTINUATION)

Shall the Parish of Webster, State of Louisiana (the "Parish"), continue to levy and collect a special tax of twelve and thirty-nine hundredths (12.39) mills on all the property subject to taxation within the Parish (an estimated \$3,220,400 expected at this time to be collected from the levy of the tax for an entire year), for a period of ten (10) years, beginning with the year 2025 and ending with the year 2034, for the purpose of acquiring, constructing, improving, furnishing, equipping, operating and/or maintaining public libraries in Webster Parish, said millage to represent a thirty-nine hundredths of a mill (.39) increase (due to reappraisal) over the 12 mills tax authorized to be levied through the year 2024 pursuant to an election held on May 3, 2014?

There was found by said count and canvass that there was a total of 1,433 votes cast IN FAVOR OF Proposition and a total of 371 votes cast AGAINST Proposition, as hereinabove set forth, and that there was a majority of 1,062 votes cast IN FAVOR OF Proposition as hereinabove set forth. Therefore, it has been declared by the governing authority of the Parish that the proposition as hereinabove set forth was duly CARRIED by a majority of the votes cast by the qualified electors voting at the said special election held in the Parish on Saturday, March 25, 2023. Results by precinct are available from the Secretary-Treasurer of the Police Jury during regular business hours or via the Louisiana Secretary of State's website ([voterportal.sos.la.gov](http://voterportal.sos.la.gov)). The actual cost of the election as determined by the Louisiana Secretary of State in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 8-A of Title 18 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, as amended, is \$59,051.53.

Parish of Webster, State of Louisiana

June 14, 2023  
Minden Press-Herald

PUBLIC NOTICE  
Minden Planning Commission Meeting  
July 6, 2023 - 10:00 a.m.  
Pelican Room - Minden City Hall

On the agenda is a request from Thomas Jerry McFarland for preliminary approval of a lot split on property owned him at the corner of Country Club Circle and Lewisville Road.

Legal Description: TRACT A: A 0.17 acre, more or less, tract of land located in the Northeast Quarter of the Northwest Quarter (NE/4 of NW/4), Section Township 19 North, Range 9 West, Northwestern Land District, Louisiana Meridian West, Minden, Webster Parish,

Louisiana, more Particularly described as follows:

Begin at the Northwest Corner of the Northeast Quarter of the Northwest Quarter, said Section 15, and run South 00 degrees 59 minutes 00 seconds West for a distance of 60.00 feet to a found 5/8 inch iron rod; thence run East for a distance of 139.68 feet to a set 1/2 inch iron rod, for the Point of Beginning; thence continue East for a distance of 49.16 feet to a found 5/8 inch iron rod; thence run South 14 degrees 51 minutes 43 seconds West for a distance of 159.43 feet to a found 3/4 inch iron rod; thence run North 87 degrees 31 minutes 35 seconds West for a distance of 45.50 feet to a set 1/2 inch iron rod; thence run North 13 degrees 59 minutes 52 seconds East for a distance of 156.27 feet to the Point of Beginning. Tract B: A 1.10 acre, more or less, tract of land located in the Northeast Quarter of the Northwest Quarter (NE/4 of NW/4), Section 15, Township, 19 North, Range 9 West, Northwestern Land District, Louisiana Meridian West, Minden, Webster Parish, Louisiana, more particularly described as follows:

Begin at the Northwest Corner of the Northeast Quarter of the Northwest Quarter, said Section 15, and run South 00 degrees 59 minutes 00 seconds West for a distance of 504.75 feet to a set 1/2 inch iron rod, for the Point of Beginning; thence run South 83 degrees 41 minutes 33 seconds East for a distance of 384.93 feet to a found 1/2 inch iron pipe located on the West right of way of Lewisville Road; thence run South 26 degrees 37 minutes 00 seconds West for a distance of 124.25 feet along said right of way, to a set 1/2 inch iron rod; thence run West for a distance of 330.00 feet to a found 1 inch iron rod; thence run North 00 degrees 59 minutes 00 seconds East for a distance of 153.05 feet to the Point of Beginning. Tract C: A 1.37 acre, more or less, tract of land located in the Northeast Quarter of the Northwest Quarter (NE/4 of NW/4), Section 15, Township 19 North, Range 9 West, Northwestern Land District, Louisiana Meridian West, Minden, Webster Parish, Louisiana, more particularly described as follows:

Begin at the Northwest Corner of the Northeast Quarter of the Northwest Quarter, said Section 15, and run South 00 degrees 59 minutes 00 seconds West for a distance of 60.00 feet to a found 5/8 inch iron rod, for the Point of Beginning; thence run East for a distance of 139.68 feet to a set 1/2 inch iron rod; thence run South 13 degrees 59 minutes 52 seconds West for a distance of 156.27 feet to a set 1/2 inch iron rod; thence run South 87 degrees 31 minutes 35 seconds East for a distance of 45.50 feet to a found 3/4 inch iron rod; thence run South 14 degrees 51 minutes 43 seconds West for a distance of 78.51 feet to a found 5/8 inch iron rod; thence run South 00 degrees 28 minutes 59 seconds East for a distance of 229.49 feet to a found 5/8 inch iron rod; thence run North 83 degrees 41 minutes 33 seconds West for a distance of 137.75 feet to a set 1/2 inch iron rod; thence run North 00 degrees 59 minutes 00 seconds East for a distance of 444.75 feet to the Point of Beginning.

This property was adjudicated to the Police Jury on 05/24/201. The three year redemption period has passed. Tax sale title to 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 within 60 days from the date of this publication unless you redeem the property or you may otherwise challenge in a court of competent jurisdiction the potential sale or donation.

Webster Parish Police Jury  
401 Main St.  
Minden, LA 71055  
318-377-7564

June 14, 2023  
Minden Press-Herald

INVITATION FOR BID

The City of Minden solicits sealed bids for the following:

(1) Used Fire Department Custom Heavy Rescue Truck

The proposals must be in the hands of the undersigned no later than 10:00 a.m. July 07, 2023 in the City Clerk's Office - Minden City Hall, 520 Broadway Street, Minden, Louisiana 71055. The bid specification sheet is available at no charge in the office of the City Clerk, City of Minden. Bid opening will be on July 07, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. in the Cypress Room at Minden City Hall, 520 Broadway Street, Minden, LA 71055.

The City of Minden is a tax-exempt governmental agency.

ALL BIDS SUBMITTED MUST BE CLEARLY MARKED: Bid # 05-2023, City of Minden - Fire Department Rescue Truck - "BID ENCLOSED"

The City of Minden complies with the State of Louisiana Public Bid Law as stated in R.S. 38:2238.1.

The City of Minden reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to waive informalities or to accept the bid, which may best serve its interest.

June 14, 2023  
June 21, 2023  
June 28, 2023  
Minden Press-Herald

SUCCESSIONS OF DELMA LOUIS BRANTLEY SR. AND SUSIE LEE HARRISON BRANTLEY

PROBATE DOCKET 1308

26TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

WEBSTER PARISH, LOUISIANA

NAME OF CREDITORS:  
WARREN LAW FIRM  
WEBSTER PARISH CLERK OF COURT  
UNION GROVE WATER SYSTEM  
RONDA SUE BRANTLEY MILLER  
STEVEN LOUIS BRANTLEY  
WESLEY ADAMS

BRANTLEY JAMES DELMA LOUIS BRANTLEY

TOTAL: \$37,999.69

If there are any other creditors for the succession of Delma Louis Brantley, Sr., and Susie Lee Harrison Brantley please contact Warren Law, LLC at 318-377-8150.

June 14, 2023  
Minden Press-Herald

Romano C. Dillard Arturo P. Dillard Raymond B. Dillard Veanette R Rashaunda Dillard Tayama Thomas Shine Donald L. Thomas, Jr. Toronto Thomas Opal Land Company, LLC Frankie Dionne Nelson Frank J. Dillard, Jr. Debbie Jackson Frankchesca Myles Precious Moore Frankey Deavalon Dillard Frank Anthony Dillard Larvano Grider Aaron Cornelious Elmer Grider Jerry Jacob

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

Legal Description: LOT #26 & EAST 30 FT. OF LOT #25, BLK. "12", HARRELL HTS.

Assessment # 115519, as per the assessment in the records of the Tax Assessor of Webster Parish, Louisiana.

This property was adjudicated to the Police Jury on 05/24/201. The three year redemption period has passed. Tax sale title to 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 within 60 days from the date of this publication unless you redeem the property or you may otherwise challenge in a court of competent jurisdiction the potential sale or donation.

Webster Parish Police Jury  
401 Main St.  
Minden, LA 71055  
318-377-7564

June 14, 2023  
Minden Press-Herald

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The City of Minden is a tax-exempt governmental agency.

ALL BIDS SUBMITTED MUST BE CLEARLY MARKED: Bid # 05-2023, City of Minden - Fire Department Rescue Truck - "BID ENCLOSED"

The City of Minden complies with the State of Louisiana Public Bid Law as stated in R.S. 38:2238.1.

The City of Minden reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to waive informalities or to accept the bid, which may best serve its interest.

June 14, 2023  
June 21, 2023  
June 28, 2023  
Minden Press-Herald

Bid Specifications Sheet

(1) Used Fire Department Custom Heavy Rescue Truck

- 2009 or newer Custom Chassis Heavy Rescue Truck
- 200 HP or greater engine
- Electric reel
- Light tower
- Awning
- On-board generator
- On-board hydraulic power unit for rescue tools
- (6) person minimum seating in cab
- Rooftop coffin-style storage compartments
10. Maximum height of 11' and length of 35'

June 14, 2023  
June 21, 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

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

Not US citizen, I am American State National.

June 14, 2023  
Minden Press-Herald



The Water We Drink

SIBLEY WATER SYSTEM

Public Water Supply ID: LA1119027

We are pleased to present to you the Annual Water Quality Report for the year 2022. This report is designed to inform you about the quality of your water and services we deliver to you every day (Este informe contiene informaci3n muy importante sobre su agua potable. Tradúzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien). Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water.

Our water source(s) are listed below:

Source Name	Source Water Type
WELL NO. 5 HWY 371 INDUSTRIAL PARK	Ground Water
WELL #1 SE 4TH AVE	Ground Water
WELL #4 5TH STREET	Ground Water
WELL #3 LORI LANE	Ground Water

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally-occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity. Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

*Microbial Contaminants* – such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.

*Inorganic Contaminants* – such as salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial, or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.

*Pesticides and Herbicides* – which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses.

*Organic Chemical Contaminants* – including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems.

*Radioactive Contaminants* – which can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

A Source Water Assessment Plan (SWAP) is now available from our office. This plan is an assessment of a delineated area around our listed sources through which contaminants, if present, could migrate and reach our source water. It also includes an inventory of potential sources of contamination within the delineated area, and a determination of the water supply's susceptibility to contamination by the identified potential sources. According to the Source Water Assessment Plan, our water system had a susceptibility rating of 'MEDIUM'. If you would like to review the Source Water Assessment Plan, please feel free to contact our office.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. If you have any questions about this report, want to attend any scheduled meetings, or simply want to learn more about your drinking water, please contact JIMMY WILLIAMS at 318-377-0345.

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. SIBLEY WATER SYSTEM is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

The Louisiana Department of Health routinely monitors for constituents in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. The tables that follow show the results of our monitoring during the period of January 1st to December 31st, 2022. Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk.

In the tables below, you will find many terms and abbreviations you might not be familiar with. To help you better understand these terms, we've provided the following definitions:

*Parts per million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (mg/L)* – one part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in \$10,000.

*Parts per billion (ppb) or Micrograms per liter (ug/L)* – one part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000.

*Picocuries per liter (pCi/L)* – picocuries per liter is a measure of the radioactivity in water.

*Treatment Technique (TT)* – an enforceable procedure or level of technological performance which public water systems must follow to ensure control of a contaminant.

*Action level (AL)* – the concentration of a contaminant that, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.

*Maximum contaminant level (MCL)* – the "Maximum Allowed" MCL is the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCL's are set as close to the MCLG's as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

*Maximum contaminant level goal (MCLG)* – the "Goal" is the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to human health. MCLG's allow for a margin of safety.

*Maximum residual disinfectant level (MRDL)* – The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

*Maximum residual disinfection level goal (MRDLG)* – The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

*Level 1 assessment* – A study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system.

*Level 2 Assessment* – A very detailed study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why an E. coli MCL violation has occurred and/or why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system on multiple occasions.

During the period covered by this report we had the below noted violations.

Compliance Period	Analyte	Type
11/30/2022	LEAD & COPPER RULE	LEAD CONSUMER NOTICE (LCR)

Our water system tested a minimum of 2 samples per month in accordance with the Total Coliform Rule for microbiological contaminants. With the microbiological samples collected, the water system collects disinfectant residuals to ensure control of microbial growth.

Disinfectant	Date	Highest RAA	Unit	Range	MRDL	MRDLG	Typical Source
CHLORINE	2022	1.2	ppm	0.33 - 4.18	4	4	Water additive used to control microbes.

In the tables below, we have shown the regulated contaminants that were detected. Chemical Sampling of our drinking water may not be required on an annual basis; therefore, information provided in this table refers back to the latest year of chemical sampling results. To determine compliance with the primary drinking water standards, the treated water is monitored when a contaminant is elevated in the source water.

Source Water Regulated Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Value	Range	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source
BARIIUM	6/7/2021	0.23	0 - 0.23	ppm	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits

Treated Water Regulated Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Value	Range	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source
No Detected Results were Found in the Calendar Year of 2022							

Source Water Radiological Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Value	Range	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source
COMBINED RADIUM (-226 & -228)	6/7/2021	0.785	0 - 0.785	pCi/L	5	0	Erosion of natural deposits
GROSS BETA PARTICLE ACTIVITY	6/7/2021	3.08	0 - 3.08	pCi/L	50	0	Decay of natural and man-made deposits. Note: The gross beta particle activity MCL is 4 millirems/year annual dose equivalent to the total body or any internal organs. 50 pCi/L is used as a screening level.

Treated Water Radiological Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Value	Range	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source
No Detected Results were Found in the Calendar Year of 2022							

Lead and Copper	Date	90th Percentile	Range	Unit	AL	Steps Over AL	Typical Source
COPPER, FREE	2020 - 2022	0.1	0 - 0.3	ppm	1.3	0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives

Disinfection Byproducts	Sample Point	Period	Highest LRAA	Range	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source
TOTAL HALOACETIC ACIDS (HAAs)	9090 HWY 371	2022	3	3.2 - 3.2	ppb	60	0	By-product of drinking water disinfection
TTTH	9090 HWY 371	2022	6	6.3 - 6.3	ppb	80	0	By-product of drinking water chlorination
TTTH	CORPORATE DRIVE	2022	2	1.8 - 1.8	ppb	80	0	By-product of drinking water chlorination

Source Secondary Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Value	Range	Unit	SMCL
ALUMINUM	6/7/2021	0.02	0 - 0.02	MG/L	0.2
CHLORIDE	6/7/2021	18	0 - 18	MG/L	250
PH	6/7/2021	5.97	5.24 - 5.97	PH	8.5
SULFATE	6/7/2021	16	0 - 16	MG/L	250

Treated Secondary Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Value	Range	Unit	SMCL
IRON	7/5/2022	1.22	0.29 - 1.22	MG/L	0.3
MANGANESE	7/5/2022	0.04	0.02 - 0.04	MG/L	0.05

\*\*\*\*\*Environmental Protection Agency Required Health Effects Language\*\*\*\*\*

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

Additional Required Health Effects Language:

Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potentially-harmful, bacteria may be present. Coliforms were found in more samples than allowed and this was a warning of potential problems.

There are no additional required health effects violation notices.

\*\*\*\*\*

Thank you for allowing us to continue providing your family with clean, quality water this year. In order to maintain a safe and dependable water supply we sometimes need to make improvements that will benefit all of our customers.

We at the SIBLEY WATER SYSTEM work around the clock to provide top quality drinking water to every tap. We ask that all our customers help us protect and conserve our water sources, which are the heart of our community, our way of life, and our children's future. Additional information on the water system can be found at [www.lidh.la.gov/watergrade](http://www.lidh.la.gov/watergrade). Please call our office if you have questions.

June 14, 2023  
Minden Press-Herald

Gilgal Water System, Inc.  
Public Water Supply ID: 1119034  
The Water We Drink

We are pleased to present to you the Annual Water Quality Report for the year 2022. This report is designed to inform you about the quality of your water and services we deliver to you every day. Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water.

Our water sources are: Well #3 & #4 on Sanders Rd. in Claiborne Parish and Well #5 on Backwoods Rd. in Claiborne Parish. The source for the water in the above wells is ground water in the Carrizo-Wilcox Aquifer.

The sources of drinking water, both tap water and bottled water, include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of land and through the ground, it dissolves naturally-occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity. Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

*Microbial Contaminants* – such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.

*Inorganic Contaminants* – such as salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial, or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.

*Pesticides and Herbicides* – which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff, and residential uses.

*Organic Chemical Contaminants* – including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems.

*Radioactive Contaminants* – which can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

Gilgal Water System has A Source Water Assessment Plan (SWAP). This plan is an assessment of a delineated area around our listed well sites through which contaminants, if present, could migrate and reach our source water. It also includes an inventory of potential sources of contamination within the delineated area, and a determination of the water supply's susceptibility to contamination by the identified potential sources. According to the Source Water Assessment Plan, Gilgal has a susceptibility rating of 'MEDIUM'. You may review this plan if you like. Just contact our office with your request.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits of contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health. We want our customers to be informed about their water utility. If you have any questions about this report, want to attend any scheduled meetings, or simply want to learn more about your drinking water, please contact, Terry Sanders @ 318-371-9488.

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. Gilgal Water System is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to two minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

The Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals-Office of Public Health routinely monitors for constituents in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. The tables that follow show the results of our monitoring during the period of January 1 to December 31, 2022. Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate the water poses a health risk.

In the tables below, you will find many terms and abbreviations you might not be familiar with. To help you better understand these terms, we've provided the following definitions:

*Parts per million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (mg/L)* – one part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in \$10,000.

*Parts per billion (ppb) or Micrograms per liter (ug/L)* – one part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000.

*Picocuries per liter (pCi/L)* – picocuries per liter is a measure of the radioactivity in water.

*Treatment Technique (TT)* – an enforceable procedure or level of technological performance which public water systems must follow to ensure control of a contaminant.

*Action level (AL)* – the concentration of a contaminant that, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.

*Maximum contaminant level (MCL)* – the "Maximum Allowed" MCL is the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCL's are set as close to the MCLG's as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

*Maximum contaminant level goal (MCLG)* – the "Goal" is the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to human health. MCLG's allow for a margin of safety.

*Maximum residual disinfectant level (MRDL)* – The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

*Maximum residual disinfection level goal (MRDLG)* – The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

*Level 1 assessment* – A study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system.

*Level 2 Assessment* – A very detailed study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why an E. coli MCL violation has occurred and/or why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system on multiple occasions.

During the period covered by this report we had the below noted violations.

Compliance Period	Analyte	Type
11/30/2022	LEAD & COPPER RULE	LEAD CONSUMER NOTICE (LCR)

Our water system tested a minimum of 2 samples per month in accordance with the Total Coliform Rule for microbiological contaminants. With the microbiological samples collected, the water system collects disinfectant residuals to ensure control of microbial growth.

Disinfectant	Date	Highest RAA	Unit	Range	MRDL	MRDLG	Typical Source
CHLORINE	2022	1.2	ppm	0.33 - 4.18	4	4	Water additive used to control microbes.

In the tables below, we have shown the regulated contaminants that were detected. Chemical Sampling of our drinking water may not be required on an annual basis; therefore, information provided in this table refers back to the latest year of chemical sampling results. To determine compliance with the primary drinking water standards, the treated water is monitored when a contaminant is elevated in the source water.

Source Water Regulated Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Value	Range	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source
BARIIUM	6/7/2021	0.23	0 - 0.23	ppm	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits

Treated Water Regulated Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Value	Range	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source
No Detected Results were Found in the Calendar Year of 2022							

Source Water Radiological Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Value	Range	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source
COMBINED RADIUM (-226 & -228)	6/7/2021	0.785	0 - 0.785	pCi/L	5	0	Erosion of natural deposits
GROSS BETA PARTICLE ACTIVITY	6/7/2021	3.08	0 - 3.08	pCi/L	50	0	Decay of natural and man-made deposits. Note: The gross beta particle activity MCL is 4 millirems/year annual dose equivalent to the total body or any internal organs. 50 pCi/L is used as a screening level.

Treated Water Radiological Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Value	Range	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source
No Detected Results were Found in the Calendar Year of 2022							

Lead and Copper	Date	90th Percentile	Range	Unit	AL	Steps Over AL	Typical Source
COPPER, FREE	2020 - 2022	0.1	0 - 0.3	ppm	1.3	0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives

Disinfection Byproducts	Sample Point	Period	Highest LRAA	Range	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source
TOTAL HALOACETIC ACIDS (HAAs)	9090 HWY 371	2022	3	3.2 - 3.2	ppb	60	0	By-product of drinking water disinfection
TTTH	9090 HWY 371	2022	6	6.3 - 6.3	ppb	80	0	By-product of drinking water chlorination
TTTH	CORPORATE DRIVE	2022	2	1.8 - 1.8	ppb	80	0	By-product of drinking water chlorination

Source Secondary Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Value	Range	Unit	SMCL
ALUMINUM	6/7/2021	0.02	0 - 0.02	MG/L	0.2
CHLORIDE	6/7/2021	18	0 - 18	MG/L	250
PH	6/7/2021	5.97	5.24 - 5.97	PH	8.5
SULFATE	6/7/2021	16	0 - 16	MG/L	250

Treated Secondary Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Value	Range	Unit	SMCL
IRON	7/5/2022	1.22	0.29 - 1.22	MG/L	0.3
MANGANESE	7/5/2022	0.04	0.02 - 0.04	MG/L	0.05

During the period covered by this report we had the below noted violations.

Compliance Period	Analyte	Type
11/30/2022	LEAD & COPPER RULE	LEAD CONSUMER NOTICE (LCR)

Our water system tested a minimum of 2 samples per month in accordance with the Total Coliform Rule for microbiological contaminants. With the microbiological samples collected, the water system collects disinfectant residuals to ensure control of microbial growth.

Disinfectant	Date	Highest RAA	Unit	Range
Chlorine	2022	1.5	ppm	0 . 0 9 - 2.47

MRDL	MRDL G	Typical Source
4	4	Water additive used to control microbes

During the compliance monitoring periods of (10-1-2022 through 10-31-2022 and 11-1-2022 through 11-30-2022) the Gilgal Water System failed to provide the minimum residual disinfectant level in the treated water supplied to customers. The violation occurred because the treated water chlorine residual was less than 0.5 milligrams per liter in over five percent of the samples collected in the water system in two consecutive months.

Our water system tested a minimum of 2 samples per month in accordance with the Total Coliform Rule for microbiological contaminants. With the microbiological samples collected, the water system collects disinfectant residuals to ensure control of microbial growth.

Disinfectant	Date	Highest RAA	Unit	Range
Chlorine	2022	1.5	ppm	0 . 0 9 - 2.47

MRDL	MRDL G	Typical Source
4	4	Water additive used to control microbes

Regulated contaminants that were detected follow. Chemical Sampling of our drinking water may not be required on an annual basis, therefore, information provided refers back to the latest year of chemical sampling results. To determine compliance with the primary drinking water standards, the treated water is monitored when a contaminant is elevated in the source water.

**Source Water Regulated Contaminants - FLORIDE**, Collection Date, 8/6/2020, Highest Value 0.1, Range 0.1, Unit-ppm, MCL 4, MCLG 4, Typical Source is erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories

**Treated Water Regulated Contaminants** – No Detected Results were found in Calendar Year 2022.

**Source Water Radiological Contaminants** – No Detected Results were found in Calendar Year 2022.

**Treated Water Radiological Contaminants** - No Detected Results were found in Calendar Year 2022.

**Lead & Copper, Copper Free**, date 2018 - 2020, 90th Percentile-0.2; Range-0 - 0.3; Unit-ppm; AL-1.3; Sites Over AL-0, typical source is corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits, leaching from wood preservatives

**Disinfection Byproducts:**

**Total Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)**, sample point, Fincher Creek@ Harris Rd, Period-2022; Highest LRAA- 4; Range-3.8-3.8; Unit ppb; MCL-60; MCLG-0, typical source is by-product of drinking water disinfection.

Total Haloacetic Acids (HAA5), sample point, Hwy 80 @ Beck Curve Rd, Period -2022; Highest LRAA- 4; Range- 4-4, Unit ppb; MCL-60; MCLG-0, Typical source is by-product of drinking water disinfection.

**TTTH**, sample point Fincher Creek@Harris Rd, Period-2022; Highest LRAA-19; Range-19.2-19.2; Unit-ppb; MCL-80; MCLG-0, typical source is by-product of drinking water chlorination.

**TTTH**, sample point Hwy 80@Beck Curve Rd, Period-2022; Highest LRAA-20; Range-19.5-19.5; Unit-ppb; MCL-80; MCLG-0, typical source is by-product of drinking water chlorination.

**Source Secondary Contaminants:**

**Aluminum**, Collection date-8/3/2020, Highest Value-0.01, Range 0 - 0.01, Unit, MG/L, SMCL- 0.2

**Chloride**, Collection date-8/6/2020; Highest Value-16; Range-0 - 16; Unit-MG/L; SMCL-250

**PH**, Collection date-8/6/2020; Highest Value-8.6; Range-7.73-8.6; Unit-PH; SMCL-8.5

**Treated Secondary Contaminants** – **Iron**, Collection date-

8/26/2022; Highest Value-0.03, Range-0-0.03, Unit-MG/L; SMCL-0.3

*Environmental Protection Agency  
Required Health Effects Language*

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons, such as, persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

*There are no additional required health effects notices*

*There are no additional required health effects violation notices.*

Thank you for allowing us to continue providing your family with clean, quality water this year. In order to maintain a safe and dependable water supply we sometimes need to make improvements that will benefit all of our customers.

Gilgal Water System works around the clock to provide top quality drinking water to every tap. We ask that all our customers help us protect and conserve our water sources, which are the heart of our community, our way of life, and our children's future. Please call our office if you have questions.

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