

# MINDEN PRESS-HERALD

WEDNESDAY, JULY 12, 2023

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## COMMUNITY



The sponsors and volunteers of the event came together to put on a special evening that not only gave back to the community of Minden, but also brought the city's residents together for a good time and a good cause.

## Duck Derby a good time for a good cause

**PRESLEY TYLER**  
Minden Press-Herald

Monday at 5 PM marked Minden's fifth annual Duck Derby Extravaganza where local residents gathered downtown on the brick road of Main Street to enjoy a fun-filled evening. The event, hosted by the Greater Minden Chamber and Goex Industries, was an exciting way to help give back to the community.

Stephanie Barnette, president and CEO of the Greater Minden Chamber, was in charge of run-

ning the extravaganza and all the evening's activities.

"The Chamber has a great committee and board of directors who work tirelessly months ahead of time, and so far the crowd is great and we're really excited," said Barnette regarding the beginning of the event.

The proceeds from the extravaganza will go to the Greater Minden Chamber to help fund the organization's community programs.

"The earnings help fund our Christmas

events and the Christmas events that go on in Minden, also our 15 under 40 event in the fall and our Quest for Youth Leadership program in the fall. It helps fund everything we do really, so throughout the year we have different community events and have different programs," said Barnette.

This year was the fifth Duck Derby Extravaganza, and the organization hopes that the event will keep growing.

"Our hope is that the

event gets bigger every year. We try to plan a little extra something, and this year we have a lot more children's events and more things planned," says Barnette.



**BARNETTE**

spitting competition, a hula hoop competition, a water balloon toss competition, a "celebrity"

food eating competition, the Duck Derby Race, a dance competition, and a firework show to conclude the evening.

The main event, the rubber duck race, had three winners who received cash prizes. Allen Gilbert won first place, receiving the grand prize of \$1,000. Jeff Lee won second place and received \$500. Linda Ovitt won third place and received \$250. The duck race began at 7:35 PM with eight different heats,

See, **DERBY**, Page 3

## WPPJ

### WPPJ seeks solutions for residents left without water after recent storms

**AMBER MCDOWN**  
Minden Press-Herald

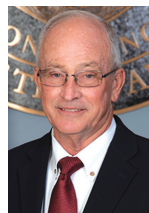
The July 5 meeting of the Webster Parish Police Jury was relatively brief and routine with the majority of the time spent discussing water sectors and the recent storm damage.

The emergency declaration is still active and will continue to be for the next month or so. The application for the debris site has been renewed, and the public works department has permission to burn debris which has been collected.

So far 21 citizens have registered storm damage through the Damage.La.gov site. Due to the relatively low amount of damage, Webster Parish will not qualify for individual assistance, but Brian Williams of the Office of Emergency Preparedness and Homeland Security encourages everyone who did have damage to report it through the above website in order to provide information for other potential benefits.

The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Pro-

See, **WPPJ**, Page 3



**BONSALL**

## CITY COUNCIL

### Council hires new fireman; while bringing light to I-20

**WILL PHILLIPS**  
Minden Press-Herald

The July city council meeting was a brief affair, with a majority of the meeting being dedicated to the handling of condemned properties. The agenda items of note from the meeting were that of a new fire department hire, an agreement between the city of Minden and the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development to get new lighting out on I-20, and the adoption of policies that were recommended during the city's last audit.

The Minden Fire Department had a new hire approved during the meeting, that being Joshua Butts. This hire now makes the fire department fully staffed.

"I looked over Josh-

See, **COUNCIL**, Page 3

## FLAG RENEWAL



On July 4, a flag dedication ceremony was held at Eagle Park to renew the flags which have been displayed for the past year. The event was also used to recognize the services of Roy Kirkham and Terry Snook.

### Flags renewed during flag dedication ceremony

**AMBER MCDOWN**  
Minden Press-Herald

On July 4, the annual flag changing ceremony was held at Eagle Park on Turner's Pond. Jerry Madden led the ceremony and members of the American Legion as well as representatives of the Army, Air Force, Navy, and Marines lowered the old flags and

replaced them with new ones.

Mayor Nick Cox spoke, saying, "I pass Eagle Park every day, and I think about all those local heroes that served our country. I'm so glad to live in the United States, and I'm also so proud to live in the City of Minden, a place where we take pride in those heroes

who served so willingly and a place that values the way our flags look."

The ceremony included the singing of the National Anthem, a prayer, the Pledge of Allegiance, a reading of the American's Creed, and the presentation of the memorial wreath to the accompaniment of Taps played on a trumpet.

See, **RENEWAL**, Page 3

## WPSB

### School board declines to pay ELA more money

**AMBER MCDOWN**  
Minden Press-Herald

During the July 10 meeting of the Webster Parish School Board, one major decision was made, another was tabled until next month, and several other proposals were approved.

Perhaps the biggest decision of the evening was to decline ELA Group's request for \$974,728.69. ELA Group is the company that has been building the multipurpose building at Minden High School. The project was originally projected to be completed by November 2022, but the building is still not finished. ELA Group cited unexpected excessive groundwater issues as the cause of the delay, and stated that prices for materials and subcontractor services have gone up significantly during that time, with subcontractors and vendors now refusing to proceed without the price

### Details Inside

Tables decision on raises until August.

See **Page 3**

increases. ELA Group has already received approximately \$600,000 beyond their original bid in change orders for the project. The board unanimously voted to decline to give ELA Group more money, which means that ELA Group will need to cover the additional costs.

Probably the most anticipated item on the agenda, step increases for employees whose salaries had been frozen, was tabled until next month. While three board members — Jana Watson, Jonathan Guthrie, and Ronnie Rhymes — wanted to vote on the raises tonight, they were outvoted by the rest of the board. Finance Director Crevonne Odom had requested that the board wait until August to

See, **SCHOOLS**, Page 3



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# WEBSTER & MORE

RAFFLE

## 30 Guns in 30 Days fundraiser supports Special Response Team

AMBER MCDOWN  
Minden Press-Herald

The Minden Police Association (MPA) is holding a 30 Guns in 30 Days fundraiser during the month of August to help pay for equipment and additional training for the Minden Police Department's Special Response Team (SRT).

The Special Response Team is headed by Lt. Cheatham and Lt. Curry, and is essentially a SWAT team which takes on some of the most dangerous duties police officers face.

"We want our guys to be safe," said Sgt. Shane Griffith. "They run all the high-risk search warrants and narcotics warrants. If we have a major crime, they'll run all of that."

The raffle will run August 1 through August 30, with a gun being given away each day. Plus, on the first four Wednesdays of the month, a 35-quart Yeti cooler will also be given to that day's lucky gun winner.

It will cost \$100 to enter the raffle, but that entry makes you eligible to win

every day, even if you've already won one.

"In a lot of raffles like this, once you're picked, your name comes out. But that's not the case with this one," said Griffith. "Your name goes back in the hopper."

There will be a wide variety of guns raffled off: AR style, pistols, deer rifles, shotguns, .22s, and others. The Minden Police Association purchased the guns from Jaxon Rowell, the owner of a local gun shop called Hope Creek Munitions. Some of the Yeti coolers were provided compliments of Ace Hardware and Mel Smith's Marine.

"It's going to a good cause," Griffith said. "Our SRT team will still be training in our schools to keep our kids safe. They'll be training in every school in the parish. They'll be available to other agencies — smaller agencies — that don't have an SRT team for high-risk warrants or if a school situation were to happen."

The drawings will be aired live on the MPA Facebook page, and the prizes can be claimed ev-



AMBER MCDOWN/PRESS-HERALD PHOTO

The raffle will run August 1 through August 30, with a gun being given away each day. Plus, on the first four Wednesdays of the month, a 35-quart Yeti cooler will also be given to that day's lucky gun winner.

ery Friday after the first drawing from 10 AM until noon at the Minden Police Department. All winners must pass a fed-

eral background check to claim their firearms.

You can purchase a ticket from any SRT member, from the police sta-

tion, or online through the Minden Police Association's Facebook page. They will accept cash, checks, or credit cards

(there's an additional \$5 fee for credit cards), but remember, "if your check bounces, we're coming to get you."

FAN DRIVE

### Walkers show appreciation for fan donations

Special to the Minden Press-Herald

Michael and Chequella Walker would like to thank everyone for the fans and donations to their 7th annual Fan Drive. Fans are still coming in.

The fan drive aims to address the urgent need for cooling appliances

during the scorching summer months, particularly for individuals and families who are facing financial hardships. This fan drive comes at a time when extreme temperatures can have serious implications for vulnerable populations, including the elderly, young children, and individuals

with health conditions. By providing cooling relief, the Walkers hope to alleviate discomfort and promote the well-being of the community as a whole.

You can still donate by contacting either one of the Walkers: Michael Walker at (318) 210-1799 or Chequella Walker at (318) 707-3532.

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OPINION

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OPINION

Recent U.S. Supreme Court decision ends institutional racism in college admissions

The case is Students for Fair Admissions v. President and Fellows of Harvard College, et al.

In its landmark ruling, the Court held that by prohibiting the use of race in college admissions—broadly known as Affirmative Action but more accurately described as reverse discrimination—the Court returned the nation to the fundamental principle of equality for all, declaring that racial discrimination cannot be employed now—today—in order to fix or remove past racial discrimination.

The Court reasoned that the promise of equal protection simply cannot be reconciled with the use of discrimination by race to make amends for discrimination by race. As Chief Justice John Robert’s wrote in the opinion, “The way to stop discrimination on the basis of race is to stop discriminating on the basis of race.”

In so doing, the Supreme Court returned to the clear meaning of the 14th Amendment.

In this context, what does the 14th Amendment provide? That no State shall “deny to any person . . . the equal protection of the laws.”

What was the Court’s reasoning?

As the Court itself notes, “the 14th Amendment provides that no State shall “deny to any person . . .

the equal protection of the laws.” Proponents of the Equal Protection Clause described its “foundational principle” as “not permitting any distinctions of law based on race or color.”

Accordingly, the Court has held that the Equal Protection Clause applies “without regard to any differences of race, of color, or of nationality”— it is “universal in its application.” Because “the guarantee of equal protection cannot mean one thing when applied to one individual and something else when applied to a person of another color.”

This means that “a law which operates upon one man,” should “operate equally upon all.” That is why the 14th Amendment guarantees “that the law in the States shall be the same for the black as for the white; that all persons, whether black or white, shall stand equal before the laws of the States.”

So, why was the Court’s decision necessary?

Because two well-known American institutions of higher learning, University

of North Carolina and Harvard, have for many years used race as a critical if not determinative factor for admission to their institutions.

In the opinion, Chief Justice Roberts wrote that it’s simply not possible “to derive equality from inequality” by racially discriminating against a Vietnamese American student, for example, in order to admit an African American student simply because of their races. The Constitution “does not permit any distinctions of law based on race or color.”

Justice Clarence Thomas, someone who has actually lived through the inequality the 14th Amendment was enacted to prevent, cites the powerful dissent of Justice Harlan in another case, Plessy, that “our Constitution is color-blind, and neither knows nor tolerates classes among citizens.”

I think most of us consider this goal of equal protection of the law as a bedrock American principle and that our nation is a meritocracy—meaning the success we have in life is based upon our merit and nothing else; that all we are guaranteed in this country is an equal opportunity, not a legally mandated equal result.

It is said that the law “is not a respecter of persons” meaning that we are all the same in the eyes of our blindfolded Lady Justice.

In our country, success and status are not based upon nobility, heredity, government favoritism or skin color. They are based upon effort, drive and sweat equity. I once heard this concept succinctly stated with the expression that in America “the dream is free. The hustle is sold separately.”

So, the holding in this case remains faithful to the Constitutional promise of equality and equal protection of the laws, which itself directly reflects the Declaration of Independence and Jefferson’s profound and unprecedented principle that “all men are created equal.” We also recall Lincoln’s words in the Gettysburg address that we are a nation “conceived in liberty and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal.”

This decision firmly places our country back on the bedrock of equality, as powerfully called for by Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. when he heralded that he had “a dream ... that one day my children will be judged not by the color of their skin but by the content of their character.”

All Americans should celebrate the end of the use of race in college admissions.

ROYAL ALEXANDER IS A SHREVEPORT ATTORNEY.

INSPIRATION

When all else fails who can we turn to?

Most if not all of us will find ourselves backed into a corner, sometimes of our own making but we want to blame others for our bad luck when in reality we often do not realize that we bring many of our misfortunes upon ourselves by either not being careful, a good manager or being arrogant.

Bankruptcies can happen to us simply because we want to keep up with or ahead of the Jones, not realizing that money doesn’t bring happiness! Living like the rich and famous can actually do more to drive wedges between people than to heal wounds.

The people I have known who were most caring tended to live “the purpose driven life” as outlined in Rick Warren’s book.

It is really hard for us to see our own mistakes but easy to see the faults of others.

What we most often do not see are our own faults. When we find fault, when we nit-pick, we will usually find many of the same faults in our own lives!

To think not is to be naive. It is hard to count our blessings

when we are picking on others that we think aren’t living up to our expectations.

We need to be careful when judging because we might find the rugs being jerked out from under our own feet so quickly -- as night follows day.

It is easier to be grateful while we feel loved, within our families and friends than to retrieve our blessings, including family members

who could be snatched in the twinkling of an eye.

What happens to another can happen to us.

A total stranger approached me when we lived in Plain Dealing. Out of the blue she said “I never could understand people who write poetry but now that my brother was lost at sea, nev-

er to return, now I am writing poetry.”

I knew what she was talking about because I wrote poetry to survive emotionally.

It takes a lifetime of experience to learn how to cope and to reach out to others, to understand each others viewpoint.

Sometimes we never will.

I heard a woman say “when they are lowering me in my grave I will sit up in the coffin and say “hey wait a minute, I have it all figured out.”

We will never have it all figured out.

I believe that many of our accidents are brought upon us when we become arrogant and let our pride blind us to the truth that “pride goes before destruction and a haughty spirit before a fall.”

We need to turn our problems over to God because He can handle situations and move mountains that we can’t budge. He can move them at lightning speed that would astound even the non-believer!

We all need someone to care. It’s been said that when we

point a finger at others there are three fingers pointing back at us.

Back to the bottom line. We need to be grateful and try to turn our problems over to God because it is still true that we are rich if we have someone to love, something to do and something to hope for.

The people I love to talk to and write tributes for are those dear sweet people who made a difference in my life as a child, who led me to a brighter day,. who led me to Christ.

Where would I be today without those caring friends from my childhood?

Turning our problems over to God gives us a peace that passes understanding and strengthens our faith, knowing He is in control!

He can do all the things for us that are out of our control!

When will we ever learn?

CONTACT SARAH AT SARAHPP9957@AOL.COM

OPINION

Brown: My dad loved rooting for LSU

Wow! That is about all that I can say regarding our LSU baseball team’s outstanding run in the post season tournament for the Regional, Super Regional and College World Series. A few days after the LSU baseball team won its seventh national title (second only to the University of Southern California baseball team with 12 national titles), I read on the dandydon.com daily LSU related sports blog where the overall viewership for the 16-game College World Series baseball tournament was significantly up from 2022. Viewership for the three game Finals series featuring Florida and LSU was up 75% from last year’s two-game Finals between Ole Miss and Oklahoma. The final game of the championship series was the most-watched Mens College World Series game on record for the ESPN platforms - averaging 3.58 average million viewers (with 4.2 million viewers at its peak). Wow!

Obviously from the TV ratings mentioned above, so many of us were glued to the television and other media devices for a few days

while our LSU baseball team made their fantastic national championship run. At times like these, even marginal sports fans seem to really get into the game (no pun intended). Even my wife, who becomes a major sports fan when I am excited about a particular sporting event, was cheering and rooting hard for the LSU Tigers. While she holds degrees from LSU



RANDY BROWN

Shreveport and has spent the majority of her life in Louisiana, she also holds a degree from the University of Tennessee. So, the recent LSU vs. Tennessee baseball games were close to causing a house divided...LoL. Heck, she even turned into somewhat of an arm chair coach during the final three game championship

series. She yells louder than me. I thought it was great! At times like these, I can’t help but to think of my Dad. Dad was always watching and cheering during any and all sporting events involving anything and everything related to LSU sports. I really miss him. On the very day that LSU won the 2023 College World Series, my Dad had been gone for three years. Wow! Three years? In so many ways, I can’t believe that three years have already passed since I lost my Dad. My life has changed in so many ways during the past three years. And as I am choking back tears while writing this part of my column, I am so very thankful for where my life is now in coming from where I was after losing my father. Our God is so good. I thank God each and every day for what he has done for me. And, I thank God each and every day for my wonderful wife and family. Now, back to LSU sports. I remember so many events related to my Dad and LSU sports. I have referred to several of these great moments in LSU sports history in my columns over the years. These

moments give me precious memories of my father that will forever be ingrained in my mind. A few of these moments stand out in my mind. One of my first memories is “the night when time stood still” in 1972 as LSU quarterback Bert Jones led LSU to a 16-10 last second victory over Ole Miss. Of course back in those days, every game was not televised. So, Dad and I listened to the game on his Channel Master clock radio. Dad was a Channel Master electronics and consumer products distributor. So, that is the brand that we owned at home back then in terms of televisions, radios, outdoor television antennas, etc. Anyway, what a memory! I also remember Dad and I watching Warren Morris hit the game winning ninth inning “walk off” grand slam as LSU beat the University of Miami 9-8 to win the 1996 College World Series. Then, there was the 2007 National Championship football game when LSU beat Ohio State 38-24. And, the 2009 College World Series when LSU beat Texas 11-4 in Game 3 to win its sixth national college baseball title. During that

series, Dad was calling me before every game (as he almost always did) to see what time I would be there to watch the game with him. Dad’s last ever LSU game to watch was the 2019 National Championship football game when LSU and quarterback Joe Burrow beat Clemson 42-25 to win the title and cap a perfect 15-0 season. Boy, did we have fun during that season, even though we had to watch some of the games from Dad’s hospital room. Yes, the recent LSU College World Series championship run brought back so many memories for me. What a wonderful time in LSU sports as three months ago, coach Kim Mulkey and her LSU basketball team also won the national championship. And, what a wonderful time in my life, as I have so much to be thankful for and so many precious memories of my father that will be with me forever. Geaux Tigers!

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



SPORTS

Russell Hedges, Sports Editor  
rhedges@spechtnewspapers.com

FOOTBALL

# Super Bowl champ Sneed stays busy in offseason

## Webster Parish pros set to report to NFL camps

RUSSELL HEDGES  
Minden Press-Herald

For former Minden High star and current Kansas City Chiefs cornerback L’Jarius Sneed, it’s been quite an off season. About three weeks after Sneed helped the Chiefs defeat the Philadelphia Eagles 38-35 in the Super Bowl on Feb. 12, he was honored with a parade in Minden. Just a few weeks ago, he received his Super Bowl ring in a private ceremony in Kansas City. Late last month, he was one of more than a dozen NFL players from Northwest Louisiana who took part in the 318 Takeover Youth Football Camp in Shreveport. Some 600 youngsters participated in the free camp for two hours on a sweltering evening at Independence Stadium. Former North Webster star Devin White of the Tampa Bay Buccaneers

was also on hand. Former NFL running back Charcandrick West, a Springhill High product, was among the list of guest instructors. Sneed and the rest of the pros, including Dallas Cowboys quarterback Dak Prescott, went from group to group interacting with the campers and offering encouragement. There were plenty of breaks for water and energy drinks. “It means a lot,” said the soft-spoken Sneed. “Coming from where we came me from and giving back to the kids.” Sneed said the ring ceremony was “crazy” and emotional. “But it was a celebration too though,” he said. In addition to celebrating the championship, Sneed said he has been just “trying to get healthy, trying to get my body back right.” Sneed suffered a hip injury in the Chiefs’ victory over Denver in the AFC Di-

visional playoffs on Jan. 1. But he played in the NFC Championship Game against Jacksonville and had nine tackles. He had seven tackles in the Super Bowl. Sneed participated in the Chiefs’ Organized Team Activity in May in a limited way and watched from the sideline in the three-day mandatory minicamp because of knee swelling last month. Sneed and the other Kansas City veterans are scheduled to report to camp July 22. White, who has requested a trade, is scheduled to report to Tampa Bay’s camp July 25. He attended the Bucs’ minicamp in June but watched from the sidelines. White, the No. 5 pick in the 2019 draft, is playing on the fifth-year option of his contract. According to media reports, he hasn’t been satisfied with the renegotiation of his contract.



RUSSELL HEDGES/PRESS-HERALD  
Former Minden star L’Jarius Sneed encourages campers during the 318 Takeover Youth Football Camp last month at Independence Stadium.



RUSSELL HEDGES/PRESS-HERALD  
Former Louisiana Tech star L’Jarius Sneed is expected to report to the Kansas City Chiefs’ fall training camp on July 22 along with the team’s other veterans.



RUSSELL HEDGES/PRESS-HERALD  
Former North Webster star Devin White was one of more than a dozen pros who were part of the 318 Takeover Youth Football Camp in Shreveport last month.

DIXIE YOUTH BASEBALL

# Minden 11U All-Stars vs.Franklinton

The Minden All-Stars defeated Franklinton 3-2 in pool play last week in the Dixie Youth Baseball 11U State Tournament at Tinsley Park in Bossier City. Final results of the tournament weren’t available at deadline. Photos by Russell Hedges/Press-Herald





SPORTS

Russell Hedges, Sports Editor  
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OUTDOORS

A snake that validated a marriage

GLYNN HARRIS

When Kay and I were dating, a snake may have figured into her decision to marry me. She and daughter, Melissa were visiting me in my mobile home when she looked out the window and there was a big snake in the yard. Summoning me, I reached in the closet, picked up my .22 rifle, opened the window and put a bullet into the serpent's head. She told me later that my heroic action regarding the snake prompted her decision to want to marry me, which she did.

Thirty-nine years of wedded bliss later, another snake incident occurred that validated her decision that she'd married the fellow who would take care of her, at least as far as protecting her from snakes was concerned. Sunday afternoon, I was gathering household garbage to take to the dumpster, she was checking her flower beds out front when she called my attention to a snake, not just any snake but a deadly coral snake crawling through her flower beds.

My machete was in the corner in the garage, I retrieved it and I walked over to where she was pointing and sure enough, I immediately recognized a coral snake crawling along. A couple of quick whacks and the deed was done.

A few days earlier, a friend had reported on social media of an encounter his six year old daughter had with a coral snake.

He reported that she had found the brightly colored snake in the front yard, picked it up to bring to show him where he was sitting on the back porch. She told him it bit her finger, he immediately identified it as a coral snake and headed with her to the



This coral snake was found last week in this writer's front yard.

doctor. A helicopter ride to the hospital followed, and thankfully, the snake had apparently not been able to release much venom. She recovered nicely but leaving her and her dad with quite a story to tell. Not many people are bitten by a coral snake are so fortunate.

After I posted a photo on Facebook of the snake in our yard, there was a flood of responses that varied from a couple who were not in favor of killing any snake to upwards of 80 who were relieved that I had put this poisonous snake out of its misery. Most respondents had never seen a coral snake with a few reporting encounters a time or two; finding coral snakes are relatively rare occurrences.

Okay, so just what is a coral snake and why are most people so interested in them? I did a Google search on coral snakes and confirmed much of what I already knew. The number one criteria in identifying a coral snake from other similar species is the little rhyme that says..."Red and yellow, kill a fellow; red and black, venom is lack." The one in our yard had the telltale markings where the narrow band of yellow was touching the wider band of red. There was no doubt about this snake's identity; it was a coral snake and at about 30 inches long, a mature one at that.

Unlike other poisonous snakes which are pit vipers, coral snake venom is neurotoxic which affects the way the brain com-

municates with muscles, slurring speech, affecting movement and ultimately ceasing cardiac or respiratory function.

Coral snakes are related to mambas, cobras and sea snakes. Differing from pit vipers, coral snakes do not strike but because of such small mouths, they latch on and chew, releasing the toxic venom. Fortunately, no deaths have been reported since 1967 when antivenin was developed.

I love living in the country. I love to watch the deer over in the pasture, see an occasional fox and turkey. But coral snakes? No thank you, even if dispatching one affirms the fact that Kay married the right guy, at least as far as protecting her from snakes is concerned.

Fishing Report

**BLACK BAYOU** -- Crappie fishing has been good around the trees on shiners or jigs. Bream are fair to good. Bass best on spinners. Contact Honey Hole Tackle Shop 323-8707 for latest information.

**BUSSEY BRAKE** -- Big bass continue to be caught on a variety of lures including the Bel-lows Shad lures, Bandit crank baits around the trees and brush. The crappie are scattered around the brush. Bream have slowed. For latest information, contact the Honey Hole at 323-8707.

**OUACHITA RIVER** -- Bass are best fishing in the cuts where there is a bit of current. Topwater lures, crank baits and spinners best. Crappie are best fishing shiners or jigs in the river lakes. Bream are fair. For latest information, contact the Honey Hole Tackle Shop at 323-8707.

**LAKE D'ARBONNE** -- Crappie fishing has been best fishing the flats in 8-12 foot water and around the Hwy 33 bridge in 12-14 foot water on jigs and shiners. Bass fishing has been good early mornings fishing topwater lures around the grass. Later in the day, look for them in deeper water where Carolina-rigs, crank baits and spinners are working best. Bream are on starting to slow down off the beds on 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** -- Night fishing has been best for crappie fishing shiners under the lights around the piers and boat houses. Bass fishing has been fair to good fishing soft plastics or spinners around the piers. Some stripers are beginning to show up in the coves and hitting shad imitation lures. Bream are fair. Some nice catfish have been caught on noodles baited with live bream. For latest information, call Kel's Cove at 927-2264 or Terzia Tackle at 278-4498.

**CANEY LAKE** -- Bass fishing has been best at night with Carolina rigs and deep diving crank baits along with soft plastics picking up some fish in the 7-8 pound range. Crappie are fair around the deep brush on shiners or jigs. The bream bite is slowing as the spawn is about over and they've moving from the shallow spawning areas. 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 are slow to fair. Crappie are best on the south end on shiners or jigs. 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 slight rise with lots of catfish and some slab crappie being caught. For information, call Surplus City Landing at 318/467-2259.

# Auto Guide 2023

The '24 car lineup hits the showroom soon!

Our edition publishes July 26<sup>th</sup> in both the

Minden Press-Herald & Bossier Press-Tribune.

Call Nathan, Randy or Jacie to be part of this special edition.

(318) 377-1866 or (318) 747-7900 x111

# CALL TODAY!

A look at what makes Webster Parish a great place to live, work, worship, and play.

A Special Supplement to the Minden Press-Herald

Publishes July 26th

Call

Jacie or Nathan to be part of this Special Edition.

(318) 377-1866 (318) 747-7900



# Good News

GOOD NEWS

## PUTTING LIFE’S PUZZLE TOGETHER

Many folks enjoy puzzles and work them daily –cross-word, jig-saw, Sudoku and others. These are mind-benders, stress-relievers, and brain teasers. You know the frustration that comes after spending time on working a puzzle only to see the last piece is missing, or the last row of numbers do not equal the right total, etc. This is where we find ourselves in life often times. We have placed the pieces of our lives in the wrong places and they just don’t fit.

We rush to do our thing, satisfy our desires, climb our own mountains, paint our own life’s portrait, just ‘do it our way’! One day, we wake up and realize ‘life has passed me by and I missed many opportunities. (Like the Prodigal Son -Luke 15). Then we play the ‘what if’ game: If I had just placed a piece here and one there... if I had not put my ‘two cents in the conversation,” then life’s puzzle would be complete. But we fail to let

the pieces drop when it was their time or in the right place. (spending quality time with family, neglecting church attendance , building meaningful relationships, failing to spend quality time with children, not practicing good health measures, not practicing good money management skills, etc). Maybe I was just too busy ‘chasing life that I let it slip right past me.’ Maybe, even today, we are still chasing dreams that have long passed us by!

The Bible is full of special words of encouragement, hope and assurance to help us live a complete life in Christ. Only He can put all the pieces together for us to show the completed beauty we were meant to become. (Psalms 46:10): Be still and



Bill Crider

know that I am God; (Matt 6:33): Seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness and then all these THINGS will be added unto you. (Matt 6:19-20): Lay not treasures where moth and rust corrupts it, where thieves steal it, but layup heavenly treasures where none of this can touch it. (Prov 3: 5-6): Trust in the Lord with all you heart and lean not unto your own understanding; In all your ways, acknowledge Him and He shall direct your paths. There are many more promises to help us work our life’s puzzle under the leadership of the Lord.

Bible study, a consistent prayer life, and mediating on God’s presence, all entwine to pull the puzzle pieces together (with a magnetic pull), making them fit exactly. They provide intuition of the mind to connect the right pieces for painting the picture God has in mind for us. If we could only see the portrait God paints on

the upper side of our lives, we would be able to fit these pieces together easier and more willingly. But that is not the usual way life unfolds.

If we would look at our lives as a puzzle and see the ‘missing or mis-placed pieces’, and allow God to direct us from here on....we would see some connections come about, bringing harmony to the puzzle’s shape and order. By doing this, we allow Him to fit the pieces together according to His divine plan. As we walk by faith, God guides each piece into its’ proper place – and thus, our life’s puzzle takes form. Of course, the last pieces are totally in His hands for we have not reached the point when they are to be “dropped into place.”

These scriptures will guide us in this process. Add to the list as you discover other words of encouragement in your Bible study time.

1. Acknowledge God as your personal Father who

- deeply loves you.
2. Be still and recognize that God is your Heavenly Father and has a plan for your life.
  3. Seek first His kingdom and His righteousness
  4. Instead of storing up earthly treasures and ‘things’, replace them with heavenly treasures
  5. Allow Him to direct your paths – every path, every day
- By putting such directives into practice, repeating them daily and praying for Divine Guidance, we will begin to see the puzzle pieces of our lives fall into place. Life will take on a godly character and His love will began to shine through. And the beauty of your completed puzzle will be seen by those around us and know that “God is at work in you” and will praise His holy name. (Matt 5: 14).

BILL CRIDER IS CHAPLAIN OF MINDEN MEDICAL CENTER

### THE UPWARD LOOK

#### Have No Part

*“Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them.” Ephesians 5:11 ESV*



Max Hutto

The believer is not to participate or have any part in doing dark, sinful, evil, and wicked acts. Instead of producing good fruit, these works of darkness only yield rotten, vile, putrid devastation. The children of the Light cannot walk in the light and continue to take part in the works of darkness. By living in Christ and shining forth His light,

the dark deeds of evil will be exposed by the stark contrast of light versus dark, holiness versus wickedness.

Lord Jesus, I need help putting aside all the useless works of darkness in my life. Instead, help me to live in Your light, following You by obeying Your Word, the Bible, and doing what pleases and honors You.

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

### INSPIRATION

#### Strong Words

While sitting down to write In this article, my biggest struggle is trying to find a topic. I always try to pray for guidance and clarity. This in turn enables me to speak and write in God’s voice and wisdom. The word God has placed on my heart for this article happens to be about the tongue. Our Scripture today comes from Proverbs 18:21 “The tongue can bring death or life; those who love to talk will reap the consequences.” First, I would like everyone to think about the conversations, they have had recently. Second, I want you to focus on the nature of those conversations. Third, I want




Bernard Harris

you to ask yourself an honest question. Would God approve of what I said and how I said it? This question is a question that constantly burdens my heart. We were given great power when God gave us a voice. We have the ability to build-up and inspire or tear down and destroy. We must take care that we facilitate the former and not the latter. I would like to encourage you to pray God’s guidance over your words and strive to speak life over death.

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

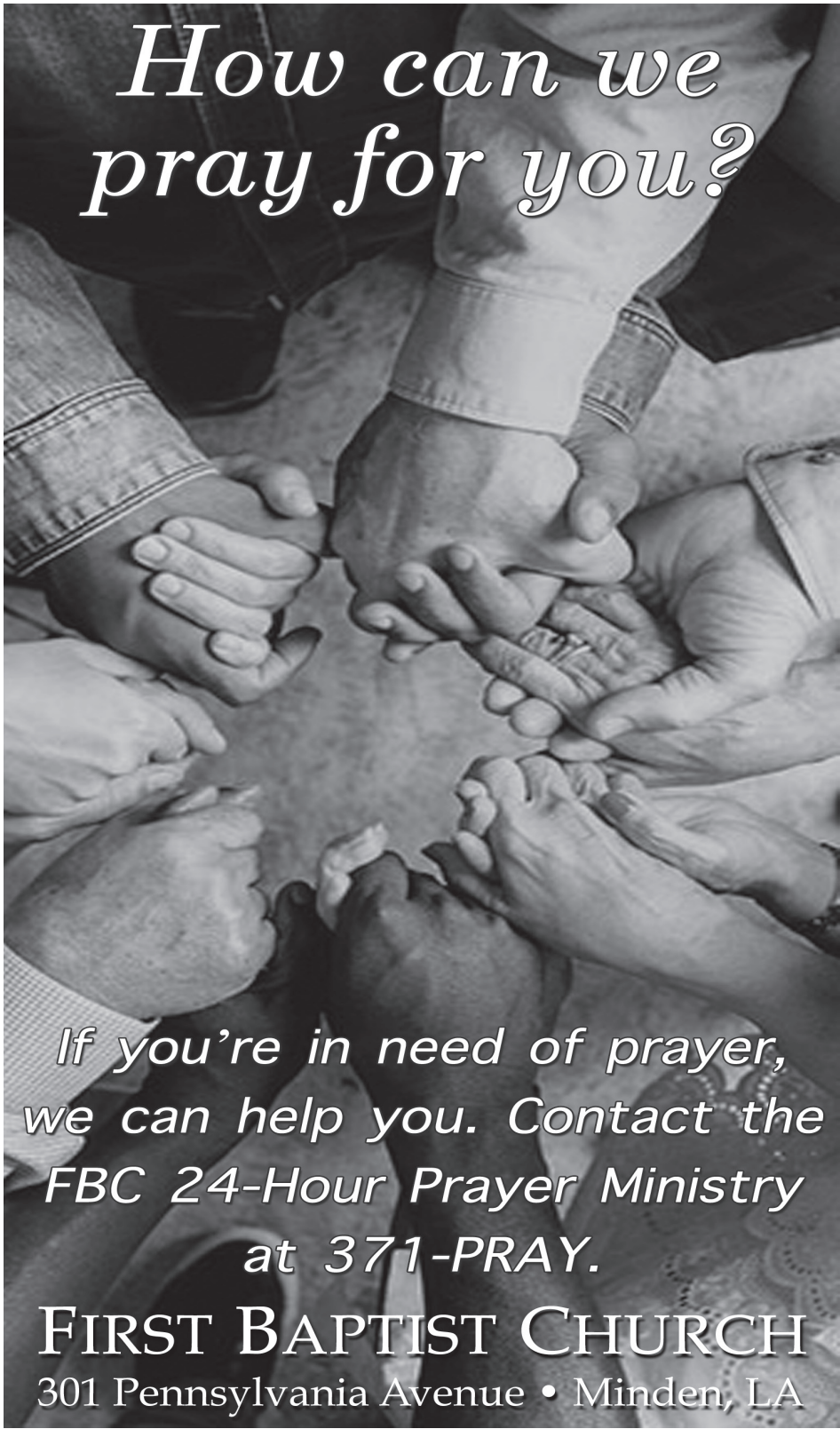
Come

WORSHIP



FIRST  
ASSEMBLY OF GOD  
MINDEN

How can we  
pray for you?



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

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH  
301 Pennsylvania Avenue • Minden, LA



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ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ

CRYPTO FUN

☞ ☾ Ω \* ♂ 🌀 ~ ★ +

Determine the code to reveal the answer!

Solve the code to discover words related to peanuts.  
Each number corresponds to a letter.  
(Hint: 3 = O)

A. 14 23 3 22 16 21

Clue: We stand upon it

B. 14 23 3 12 8 4

Clue: Measured progress

C. 18 3 3 21

Clue: Sustenance

D. 1 23 3 8 6 20 16

Clue: Essential nutrient

Answers: A. ground B. growth C. food D. protein

SUDOKU

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

Level: Beginner

Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

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

ANSWER:

Natchitoches-NSU Folk Festival

July 22, 2023

Prather Coliseum

STATE OF LOUISIANA

NEW ORLEANS JAZZ & HERITAGE FOUNDATION, INC.

StAC

Survivor Benefit, Arts Council

NATCHITOCHES

WHERE HISTORY LIVES

LOUISIANA

Feed Your Soul

NATCHITOCHES

Convention and Visitors Bureau

NATIONAL ENDOWMENT OF THE ARTS

ARTS • ARCHAELOGY • HISTORIC PRESERVATION • CBOPL

LOUISIANA OFFICE OF CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

LOUISIANA ENDOWMENT FOR THE HUMANITIES

FUN & GAMES

	1	2	3	4	5	6		7	8	9	10	11	12	
13								14						15
16			17					18						19
20		21				22				23		24		
25					26					27		28		
29				30				31		32		33		
		34	35							36		37		
38	39									40				
41					42					43				
44				45		46		47				48	49	50
51			52		53		54					55		
56				57		58				59				
60			61		62					63				64
65		66						67				68		
	69									70				

CLUES ACROSS

1. Colas

7. Single-celled animals

13. The rear car of a train

14. Endangered

16. It cools your home

17. Helper

19. "The First State"

20. More aged

22. Partner to cheese

23. Type of wrap

25. From a distance

26. Satisfies

28. "Dallas Buyers' Club" actor Jared

29. God of battle (Scandinavian)

30. Cooking utensil

31. Soviet Socialist Republic

33. Able to perform

34. Big man on campus

36. Second epoch of the Tertiary period

38. Porticos

40. Alban and Peter are two

41. Gets up

43. Humble request for help

44. One-thousandth of an inch (abbr.)

45. Unhappy

47. Hint or indication

48. A way to plead

51. Digits

53. Broadway actress Daisy

55. Jewish calendar month

56. Author Gore \_\_

58. Peacock network

59. White poplar

60. Promotional material

61. A period of calm

64. Take too much

65. Emit energy

67. Something you can take

69. Mended with yarn

70. Inconsistent

CLUES DOWN

1. Calm down

2. One quintillion bytes (abbr.)

3. One who pretends

4. Hang glide

5. Distinctive practice

6. Mariner

7. Peaks

8. Queens ballplayer

9. Geological times

10. Twofold

11. Atomic #13

12. Tranquillizing

13. Metric weight unit

15. Indicates

18. Unwanted rodent

21. Partly cooked with hot water

24. One who can be recommended

26. Resembles a bag or pouch

27. Midway between south and southeast

30. Sets up for a photo

32. California white oak

35. More (Spanish)

37. After B

38. Decorated tea urn

39. Island

42. Car mechanics group

43. Wordplay joke

46. Cut a rug

47. Prickly plant

49. Speech in praise of a deceased person

50. European buzzard

52. Influential linguist

54. West African languages

55. Siskel's partner

57. Skinny

59. Oblong pulpit

62. Consumed

63. Small, mischievous sprite

66. Powerful lawyer

68. Indicates position

PUZZLE SOLUTION

	P	E	P	S	I	S		A	M	E	B	A	S		
C	A	B	O	O	S	E		P	E	R	I	L	E	D	
A	C		S	A	M	A	R	I	T	A	N		D	E	
R	I	P	E	R		M	A	C		S	A	R	A	N	
A	F	A	R		S	A	T	E	S		L	E	T	O	
T	Y	R		P	A	N		S	S	R		F	I	T	
		B	M	O	C				E	O	C	E	N	E	
S	T	O	A	S						B	E	R	G	S	
A	R	I	S	E	S				P	L	E	A			
M	I	L		S	A	D			C	U	E		B	E	G
O	N	E	S		E	A	G	A	N		E	L	U	L	
V	I	D	A	L		N	B	C		A	B	E	L	E	
A	D		P	E	A	C	E	T	I	M	E		O	D	
R	A	D	I	A	T	E			U	M	B	R	A	G	E
	D	A	R	N	E	D			S	P	O	T	T	Y	

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Qualify today for the Government Free Internet Program

YOU QUALIFY for Free Internet if you receive Medicaid, SNAP, WIC, Housing Assistance, Veterans Pension, Survivor Benefits, Lifeline and Tribal.

maxsip

CONNECTS

CALL TODAY (844) 621-9931

Bonus offer: 4G Android Tablet with one time co-pay of \$20

ACP program details can be found at [www.fcc.gov/affordable-connectivity-program-consumer-faq](http://www.fcc.gov/affordable-connectivity-program-consumer-faq)



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!

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

\* Garage Sale ads must be prepaid.

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Payments

Cash Checks, Billing

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

SHERIFF'S SALE

CLICK N CLOSE, INC. VS. FELICIA ANN COVINGTON

In the Twenty-Sixth Judicial District Court of Webster Parish, Louisiana, No. 80755

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-OUT the benefit of appraisal and according to law at the principal front door of the Courthouse in the City of Minden, Webster Parish, Louisiana on WEDNESDAY, August 16, 2023, During the legal sale hours, the following property, to wit:

Tract 1:

Begin at the Northwest corner of the East half of Southwest Quarter of Section 8, Township 23 North, Range 10 West, Webster Parish, Louisiana, thence run East 410 feet to the point of beginning; thence continue East 100 feet; thence run South 660 feet; thence run West 100 feet; thence run North 660 feet to the point of beginning, together with all buildings and improvements located thereon and all rights thereto belonging.

Tract 2:

Begin at the Northwest corner of the East half of Southwest Quarter of Section 8, Township 23 North, Range 10 West, Webster Parish, Louisiana; thence run East 510 feet to the point of beginning; thence continue East 50 feet; thence run South 660 feet; thence run West 50 feet; thence run North 660 feet to the point of beginning; together with all buildings and improvements located thereon and all rights thereto belonging.

Tract 3:

Begin at the Northwest corner of the East half of Southwest Quarter of Section 8, Township 23 North, Range 10 West, Webster Parish, Louisiana; thence run East 560 feet to the point of beginning; thence continue East 100 feet; thence run South 660 feet; thence run West 100 feet; thence run North 660 feet to the point of beginning; together with all buildings and improvements located 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

July 12, 2023  
August 9, 2023  
Minden Press-Herald

“NOTICE”  
RICHARD DOUGLAS MORGAN

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

Lot 160, Block E. located in the East Side Subdivision, Unit No. 2, in the Southwest Quarter of Section 12, Township 23 North, Range 11 West, Webster Par-

ish, Louisiana, as per map and plat thereof recorded in Map Book 2, Page 53-A of the records of said Parish, together with all improvements located thereon and all rights thereto belonging; said property bearing the municipal address of: **501 4th Street SE, Springhill, LA 71075; Webster Parish Parcel No. 124627**

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 the property.

Your interest in the property will be terminated if you do not redeem the property by making all required payments to the tax collector or file a lawsuit in accordance with law within Sixty (60) days of the date of the first publication of this notice, or the recording of an act transferring ownership, if later.

Jason Parker, Webster Parish Sheriff and Ex-Officio Tax Collector  
410 Main, Post Office Box 887  
Minden, Louisiana 71058  
Telephone # (318) 377-1515

July 12, 2023  
July 19, 2023  
Minden Press-Herald

PUBLIC NOTICE

Minden Planning Commission Meeting

August 3RD, 2023 – 10:00 a.m.

Pelican Room - Minden City Hall

On the agenda is a request from Perryman Realty, LLC, for preliminary approval of a lot split on property owned then facing Highway 531 and Carey Lane.

Legal Description:

Tract A: A 0.96 acre, more or less, tract of land located in the Northeast Quarter of the Northwest Quarter (NE/4 of NW/4), Section 25, Township 19 North, Range 9 West, Northwestern Land District, Louisiana Meridian West, Minden, Webster Parish, Louisiana, including a portion of Lot No. 1, Unit No. 1, Beaver Creek Subdivision, as per map and plat thereof on file and of record in the Office of the Clerk of Court of Webster Parish, Louisiana, in Map Book 4, at Page 35, being more particularly described as follows: Begin at the Northwest Corner of the Northeast Quarter of the Northwest Quarter, said Section 25, being a point lying in the surface of Louisiana Highway No. 531, for the Point of Beginning, and run East for a distance of 290.40 feet to a set 1 inch iron pipe; thence run North 86 degrees 46 minutes 06 seconds East for a distance of 49.77 feet to a set 1 inch iron pipe; thence run South for a distance of 119.53 feet to a set 1 inch iron pipe; thence run North 87 degrees 46 minutes 31 seconds West for a distance of 340.35 feet to a point in the surface of Louisiana Highway No. 531, and on the West line of the Northeast Quarter of the Northwest Quarter, said Section 25; thence run North for a distance of 129.94 feet to the Point of Beginning. Tract B: A 2.44 acre, more or less, tract of land located in the Northeast Quarter of the Northwest Quarter (NE/4 of NW/4), Section 25, Township 19 North, Range 9 West, Northwestern Land District, Louisiana Meridian West, Minden, Webster Parish, Louisiana, including a portion of Lot No. 1, Unit No. 1, Beaver Creek Subdivision, as per map and plat thereof on file and of record in the Office of the Clerk of Court of Webster Parish, Louisiana, in Map Book 4, at Page 35, being more particularly described as follows: Begin at the Northwest Quarter of the Northeast Quarter, said Section 25, being a point lying in the surface of Louisiana Highway No. 531, and run South for a distance of 129.94 feet along the West line of said "forty", to a point in said road surface, for the Point of Beginning; thence run North 87 degrees 46 minutes 31 seconds East for a distance of 340.35 feet to a set 1 inch iron pipe; thence run South for a distance of 226.85 feet to a set 1 inch iron pipe on the south line of said Lot No. 1; thence run South 44 degrees 07 minutes 37 seconds West for a distance of 409.42 feet to a found 1/2 inch iron rod marking the Southwest Corner of said Lot No.

1, and located on the apparent East right of way of Louisiana Highway No. 551; thence run North 00 degrees 07 minutes 16 seconds West for a distance of 487.46 feet to a set 1 inch iron pipe; thence run West for a distance of 54.00 feet to a point on the West line of said "forty", and located on the West line of the Northeast Quarter of the Northwest Quarter, said Section 25; thence run North for a distance of 20.06 feet along said West line, to the Point of Beginning. Tract C: A 1.25 acre, more or less, tract of land located in the Northeast Quarter of the Northwest Quarter (NE/4 of NW/4), Section 25, Township 19 North, Range 9 West, Northwestern Land District, Louisiana Meridian West, Minden, Webster Parish, Louisiana, including a portion of Lot No. 1, Unit No. 1, Beaver Creek Subdivision, as per map and plat thereof on file and of record in the Office of the Clerk of Court of Webster Parish, Louisiana, in Map Book 4, at Page 35, being more particularly described as follows: Begin at the Northwest Corner of the Northeast Quarter of the Northwest Quarter, said Section 25, being a point lying in the surface of Louisiana Highway No. 531, and run East for a distance of 290.40 feet to a set 1 inch iron pipe; thence run North 86 degrees 46 minutes 06 seconds East for a distance of 49.77 feet to a set 1 inch iron pipe, for the Point of Beginning; thence continue North 86 degrees 46 minutes 06 seconds East for a distance of 202.52 feet to a found 5/8 inch iron rod on the Southwest-erly right of way of Carey Lane; thence run along a curve to the left having a radius of 272.63 feet and an arc length of 106.48 feet, being subtended by a chord of South 35 degrees 12 minutes 53 seconds East for a distance of 105.80 feet along said right of way, to a found 1/2 inch iron pipe; thence run South 44 degrees 07 minutes 37 seconds West for a distance of 378.04 feet to a set 1 inch iron pipe on the South line of said Lot No. 1; thence run North for a distance of 346.38 feet to the Point of Beginning.

All interested parties will be given a chance to be heard.

July 12, 2023  
July 19, 2023  
July 26, 2023  
Minden Press-Herald

TNT Storage, LLC, owner of Germantown Storage, (318-377-9733) located at 609 Germantown Rd., Minden, LA, will have one 10 x 10 unit to auction on [www.StorageAuctions.com](http://www.StorageAuctions.com) starting on 07-12-23 at 10:00 am and ending on 7/27/23 at 10:00 am. Germantown Storage #129 Kalandra Wright - Couch, Dresser, Chest of Drawers, Bed, Fridge, Washer, Dryer, Table and Chairs.

July 12, 2023  
Minden Press-Herald

TNT Storage, LLC, owner of Dorcheat Storage, (318-377-9733) located at 1002 Dorcheat Rd., Minden, LA, will have one 10 x 10 unit to auction on [www.StorageAuctions.com](http://www.StorageAuctions.com) starting on 07-12-23 at 10:00 am and ending on 7/27/23 at 10:00 am. Dorcheat Storage #17 Tamisha Kelly - Dresser, End Table, Chest of Drawers, Mattresses, Boxes.

July 12, 2023  
Minden Press-Herald

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Ameer Issa (D.B.A) Sibley Rd Chevron  
Ameer Issa - Owner

July 12, 2023  
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The Water We Drink  
CENTRAL WATER SYSTEM  
Public Water Supply ID: LA1119003

We are pleased to present to you the Annual Water Quality Report for the year 2020. This report is designed to inform you about the quality of your water and services we deliver to you every day (Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua potable. Tradúzcalo a habla 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 #3	Ground Water
WELL #2	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 'LOW'. 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 SAMUEL MIMS at 318-382-9556.

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. CENTRAL 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, 2020. 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 disinfectant 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				
No Violations Occurred in the Calendar Year of 2020							
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	HighestRAA	Unit	Range	MRDL	MRDLG	Typical Source
CHLORINE	2020	1.8	ppm	0.03 - 3.57	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	11/4/2019	0.0094	0.005 - 0.0094	ppm	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
FLUORIDE	11/4/2019	0.71	0.31 - 0.71	ppm	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories

Treated Water Regulated Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Value	Range	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source
No Detected Results were Found in the Calendar Year of 2020							

Source Water Radiological Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Value	Range	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source
GROSS BETA PARTICLE ACTIVITY	11/4/2019	1.94	0 - 1.94	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 organ. 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 2020							

Lead and Copper	Date	90th Percentile	Range	Unit	AL	Sites Over AL	Typical Source
COPPER, FREE	2016 - 2018	0.2	0 - 0.5	ppm	1.3	0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives
LEAD	2016 - 2018	3	0 - 4	ppb	15	0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits

Disinfection Byproducts	Sample Point	Period	Highest LAAG	Range	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source
TOTAL HALOACETIC ACIDS (THAAs)	BOGALEWS FLUSH VALVE	2020	26	0 - 29.6	ppb	60	0	By-product of drinking water disinfection
TOTAL HALOACETIC ACIDS (THAAs)	BIRSON ROAD	2020	25	0 - 24.4	ppb	60	0	By-product of drinking water disinfection

TTTH	BOGALEWS FLUSH VALVE	2020	39	0.37 - 43.7	ppb	80	0	By-product of drinking water chlorination
TTTH	BIRSON ROAD	2020	38	0 - 37.9	ppb	80	0	By-product of drinking water chlorination

Source Secondary Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Value	Range	Unit	SMCL
ALUMINUM	11/4/2019	0.013	0 - 0.013	MG/L	0.2
PH	11/4/2019	8.9	8.8 - 8.9	PH	8.5

Treated Secondary Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Value	Range	Unit	SMCL
No Detected Results were Found in the Calendar Year of 2020					

+++++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).

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 water 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 CENTRAL 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. Please call our office if you have questions.

July 12, 2023  
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Continued on Next Page...







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# COMMITTED — TO — MINDEN

Home Federal Bank has made a home in Minden. And our decision to establish roots in Minden was not solely a business decision but also a personal one for me. As a Minden native, I was driven by the desire to bring Home Federal Bank to my hometown, allowing the community to bank with the people they know, love, and trust. It all began with a loan production office in the heart of Webster Parish. Now, I am thrilled to announce our plans to develop a state-of-the-art, full-service banking center right here in Minden. Home Federal Bank’s commitment to Minden is strong and the future is bright. We look forward to serving you.

*— Jim Barlow, President*



**MINDEN HELOC SPECIAL**  
*SPECIAL PROMO RATES*  
*LENDER PAID CLOSING COSTS\**

\*This limited offer applies to homeowners with residential real estate located in Webster Parish, Louisiana. Offer applies to Home Equity Lines of Credit (HELOC) up to \$150,000. Lender-Paid-Closing-Costs offer valid with minimum loan advance at closing of \$10,000. Promotional rates are based on credit score and loan-to-value percentage. Early closure fee of \$300. If line of credit is closed within first three (3) years. Annual HELOC Fee of \$50. Floor rate is 4.25% and ceiling rate is 21%. Other restrictions and limitations may apply. Offer is valid through 10/31/23. All loans are subject to credit and collateral approval. NMLS# 503926.



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