

MINDEN PRESS-HERALD

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2023

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MISSING PERSON

Local law enforcement in search for Webster Parish man

WILL PHILLIPS

Minden Press-Herald

The Springhill Police Department and the Webster Parish Sheriff's Office are looking for a missing person named Billy Robertson III. He is white, male, and was born November 1989.

His family last heard report with Webster Parish SO. Springhill PD is still the lead agency. WPSO investigators are working in conjunction with SPD on the investigation, following up on tips and conducting inter-



ROBERTSON

views. The public is encouraged to please come forward if they have any information regarding the disappearance of Billy Robertson III. Please contact the Webster Parish Sheriff's Office at (318) 377-1515.

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FUNDRAISER

Lions Club fundraiser a roaring success



AMBER MCDOWN/PRESS-HERALD PHOTO

The much anticipated Minden Lions Club's semi-annual Chicken Charbroil fundraiser was a big success, selling out of the \$10 lunch plates by 12:30 PM on Saturday, September 23. Proceeds from the fundraiser help the Lions Club with their many service-related activities.

PUMPKIN PATCH



WILL PHILLIPS/PRESS-HERALD PHOTOS

With Halloween season just around the corner, it is time once again for the Minden First Methodist Church's Annual Pumpkin Patch. The patch is officially open and will be until October 28. Those interested can pick out a pumpkin from Monday through Friday, 3 PM to 7 PM. Prices for the pumpkins are based on size, with the proceeds going toward funding the church's mission trips.

VOTING

Early voting begins September 30

AMBER MCDOWN

Minden Press-Herald

Early voting for the Gubernatorial Primary elections begins this Saturday, September 30 and runs through Saturday, October 7. Election day is Saturday, October 14, 2023.

Offices up for election include Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of State, Attorney General, Treasurer, BESE (District 4), Senators (Districts 31, 33, and 36), Assessor, Police Jurors (Districts 3, 5, 8, and 10), and Alderman of the Town of Cullen.

FAIR

Webster Parish Fair Delayed

AMBER MCDOWN

Minden Press-Herald

Due to a weather delay affecting the fair

company that provides the rides, the Webster Parish Fair will not begin until Wednesday, October 4, 2023. The

downtown parade will still take place on Tuesday, October 3 at 5 PM as scheduled.

WPL

Little Free Library community paint party September 30

(Webster) - Please join your Webster Parish Libraries - Springhill Branch along with the Farm of Cultural Crossroads and the City of Springhill for a Little Free Library Community Paint Party. The party is scheduled for Saturday, September 30, 2023, from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM, at Springhill City Park.

The construction of Little Free Libraries has become creative, and many have upcycled their materials to make these eye-catching homes for

books. From top to bottom, your Little Free Library was designed, built, and prepped by Webster Parish Libraries staff member, Kelly Gamble. "Kelly Gamble has been with WPL for over twenty-seven years and began working for the library system when he was only sixteen years old. Kelly maintains all seven of our library facilities across the parish with his excellent craftsmanship and trade skill knowledge," said Savannah Jones, Director for

Webster Parish Libraries. "Kelly is a huge asset to our library system as he works behind the scenes to keep our branches operating. His experience and willingness to go above and beyond make him irreplaceable. We are thankful for Kelly and his constant contributions to our library system."

Borrowing a book can spark interactions and create a sense of camaraderie, strengthening community bonds and enhancing the overall well-being of neighbor-

hoods, so finding the perfect location was key. "I thought the Springhill City Park was the best location to place the new Little Free Library because the park is located in the heart of Springhill, and it serves as a perfect, centralized location. The Little Free Library provides the community with 24/7 access to literature by allowing visitors to take a book and leave a book," said Renee McCluskey, Branch Manager for Webster Parish Libraries - Springhill

Branch.

Little Free Libraries have transcended their physical form to become symbols of generosity, connection, and the enduring power of literature. In a time when technology can sometimes isolate us, these small structures remind us of the joy that can be found in sharing stories and fostering community bonds. "Cultural Crossroads is thrilled to again work with our library sys-

See, **LIBRARY**, Page 3

CROWNED

Kaylin Williams named 2023 Webster Parish Fair Queen

AMBER MCDOWN

Minden Press-Herald

The Webster Parish Fair Queen and Webster Parish Fair Princess pageants were held on Saturday, September 23 to select which young ladies will represent the parish during the upcoming Webster Parish Fair: riding in the fair parade, handing out awards at the livestock show, calling bingo on senior citizens day, and serving in other capacities. The Fair Queen will be awarded a cash scholarship from the Webster Parish Fair Board and the Minden Civitans Club.

Six young women, all high school seniors, were chosen by their schools to compete in the Fair Queen pageant. The schools select their representatives based on academic excel-

lence, outstanding character, and service to their schools.

Kaylin Williams and Raegan Qualls-Davis represented Minden High School, Jordan Tanner and Rainie Hughes represented Lakeside High School, Madelyn Whitehead represented Glenbrook School, and Bree Lyons represented North Webster High School.

Seniors have been chosen to represent their schools in the Webster Parish Fair for the past 70 years. While, in the beginning, the Queen was chosen randomly from the pool of girls the schools had selected, the selection process has evolved into a modern pageant with competitions in the categories of interview,

See, **PAGEANT**, Page 3



AMBER MCDOWN/PRESS-HERALD PHOTO

Kaylin Williams was pronounced Webster Parish Fair Queen on September 23. Williams, her court, and many of the Fair Princesses will appear in the Webster Parish Fair parade on October 3.



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D.D.S.



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Tomorrow's
High Temp 84°

Tomorrow's
Low Temp 61°

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WEBSTER & MORE

AWARD

Cora Lou Robinson presented with Women in Arts Recognition Award

WILL PHILLIPS
Minden Press-Herald

On Sunday, a reception was held in honor of Cora Lou Robinson, celebrating her being given the Women in the Arts Recognition Award by the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution. Friends, family, and members of the local community gathered at the Minden First Methodist Church in order to recognize her accomplishments in capturing a unique period of time in Minden's history through her paintings.

"We started the process through the National Daughters of the American Revolution to have her designated as Woman in the Arts. A lot of times they are turned down. It's a very selective process. So after we got together recommendations, a bio from her, copies of pictures, sent it all off and waited with bated breath to make sure she was approved, she was actually approved in 24 hours," said Cindy Madden.

“Not only is she an artist, which is awesome, but she did scenes of Minden, and has captured forever things in Minden that are historical and important that we don’t ever want to

forget. Very few communities have an artist that can do that."

Mary Long from Ruston, in charge of the American Heritage Committee, presented the National American Heritage Award and the Dorcheat-Bistineau Chapter Award. Along with the award, Robinson was also presented with an exclusive pin only given in this circumstance, pinned on Robinson by past Dorcheat-Bistineau DAR Chapter Regent Kathy Johnson.

Mayor Nick Cox was also at the event on behalf of the city, reading a proclamation that officially designated September 24, 2023, in Minden as Cora Lou Robinson Day.

"When I think about things like the old Minden High School or Hunter's playground, things like that, things I was never able to see myself, those images in my mind were painted by Cora Lou Robinson. She's very special in our history, so it's a real honor today to present her with this proclamation," said Mayor Cox.

Lastly, Courtney Rodgers, daughter of Robinson, shared some loving words to her mother.

“I was thinking, as we were celebrating my mom



WILL PHILLIPS/PRESS-HERALD PHOTO

Nationally recognized primitive folk artist Cora Lou Robinson was awarded the Women in the Arts Recognition Award by the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution at Minden First Methodist Church this past Sunday.

today, of one of my favorite poets, Maya Angelou. One of her quotes came to mind, 'If you're going to live, leave a legacy. Make a mark on the world that can't be erased.' My mother has done just that. Not only with her artwork, as amazing as it is, and the beautiful things that

she captures for everyone in this community, but also for the love and support she has shown those who have the pleasure of knowing her.

"Mom, you always have kind words, and you always make those around you feel so special. You always have, with your

students, your family, your friends. You have left a mark on the world with the strokes of your brush, sharing memories of times past, your many gifts and hours of service to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital and the auction, the Dorcheat Museum, the community,

and all those around you. Thank you for being you. We are blessed because of you and that can never be erased. You've made a really big mark on the world. Happy Cora Lou Robinson Day," said Rodgers.

POLITICAL DIRECTORY		
Senate	Governor	Senate
<p>#46 RE-ELECT STEWART CATHEY JR. SENATE DISTRICT 33</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ★ CHRISTIAN ★ COMBAT VETERAN ★ LIFELONG REPUBLICAN ★ BUSINESS OWNER <p>PROVEN LEADER WITH A RECORD OF RESULTS IN DISTRICT 33</p> <p>Proudly Serving People OVER Personal Agendas</p>	<p>REPUBLICAN</p> <p>Sharon HEWITT GOVERNOR</p> <p>Putting Louisiana First</p> <p>SharonHewitt.com</p>	<p>HARD WORK, DEDICATION, PERSEVERANCE</p> <p>THESE TRAITS ARE WHAT DRIVE NED WHITE TO REPRESENT THE PEOPLE OF DISTRICT 33</p> <p>NED WHITE STATE SENATE District 33 NEDWHITE.COM</p> <p><small>Paid for by Ned White for Senate</small></p>
Assessor	Attorney General	Police Jury
<p>Re-Elect Denise EDWARDS Assessor</p> <p>40 Years of Experience #51</p>	<p>MARTY MALEY</p> <p>LOUISIANA ATTORNEY GENERAL 2023</p> <p>Email: mkmaley@eatel.net Website: www.martymaley.com Marty's Cell: 225-266-5959</p> <p>* EXPERIENCE * INTEGRITY * COMMITMENT</p>	<p>Daniel Thomas</p> <p>I'm asking District 3 constituents for their vote to continue using my lifelong experience in construction and business management. Webster Parish holds my heart and is where I chose to raise my family.</p> <p>Ballot #53</p>

Only candidates paying to be on the Political Directory are listed. Not all candidates listed. Ad paid for by the candidates listed.

WEBSTER & MORE

OBITUARIES



Etta “Jo” New McCullough

Etta “Jo” McCullough, 86, died after a lengthy illness on September 16, 2023 surrounded by her family. She was born July 5, 1937 in Homer, Louisiana and grew up in Athens, Louisiana where she always talked fondly of her childhood.

Jo graduated from Athens High School, Class of 1955 and was on the lady Trojans basketball team with a state championship win. Following graduation she attended Louisiana Tech University and later transferred to McNeese University where she met her husband, Donald McCullough. While attending McNeese, she served as homecoming queen and subsequently received a B.S. degree in education.

Following her marriage to Don, they ultimately resided in Minden and called Minden home. She was a faithful member of the First Methodist Church where she served as a member of the choir and numerous other committees for many years. In addition to her



Josephine Savell

Funeral services for Josephine Savell will be held Monday, September 25, 2023, at 11:00 a.m. with a rosary at 9:30 and visitation from 10:00 until service time at St Paul Catholic Church with Father Joe Kallookalam officiating. Interment will follow at Gardens of Memory in Minden, Louisiana under the direction of Rose Neath Funeral Home in Minden, Louisiana.

Josephine was born July 29, 1923, in Bamberg, Germany and entered into rest September 20, 2023, in Minden, Louisiana.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Gottlob Schramm and Eva Schramm, husband, James D. Savell, daughters, Ruby Kathleen and Sandy Lee Savell, two



George Benton Merritt, Jr.

George Benton Merritt, Jr, better known to friends and family as Beattle or Pops, passed peacefully from a battle with cancer on the morning of September 18,2023 at the age of 71.

Beattle was born on August 1,1952, in Minden, LA. He spent his professional career working in the oil and gas industry, but we all know it was just to fund what he was most passionate about, and that was hunting, fishing, and driving all over God’s creation to eat somewhere good for lunch with his loving wife. He taught his sons and grandchildren the mechanics of sighting in a rifle,what to look and listen for while on the deer stand to be successful, where all the fish were hiding, and that only plastic worms would do the trick. He was also a real sports fan, being a great athlete himself back in the day. He will be remembered most for attending all the sporting events,plays, and dance recitals his sons and grandchildren participated in.

Beattle is survived by his wife of 33 years, Terri; his mother, Sue Merritt; his sons, Jason (Karen),Joseph, Josh (Belinda), and Jacob (Jennifer); his grandchildren,Marshall, Trent, Will, Charlie,Ethan, Ryleigh, Ryan, and Amelia; his brother, Bruce (Louise);his sister Teresa (Johnny); his sister-in-law,



Rex Allen Hightower

Rex Allen Hightower passed away unexpectedly on September, 16 2023 at the age of 48. Our family was not expecting for Allen’s life to be cut short so soon, we are all devastated by this huge loss and he will be forever missed.

Allen was born on May 28,1975 to the parents of Geraldine and Marvin Hightower in Minden, Louisiana. He graduated from Glenbrook High School where he made life long friends. He immediately began working for his family and later began his career in the Oilfield Business. He had a strong work ethic that is rarely witnessed these days.

Allen was an avid outdoorsman who loved to hunt. He loved the land and prepping for hunting season for himself and helping his friends do the same. He shared this love with all of his family and taught his children well as they share the same passion that will be passed

church involvement, she was very active in the community and served in the Young Women’s Service Club and Junior Service League, just to name a few.

She was preceded in death by her parents, L.M. “Kinney” and Ollie James New, a sister, Barbara Sue New, and husband, Donald McCullough. She was survived by her two sons, Steven McCullough of Longview, Texas, and Scott McCullough and his wife, Melanie, of Minden; four grandchildren, William Bossert and wife, Rachele, Nicholas McCullough and wife, Jaimie, Madison McCullough, and Kassidy McCullough; and three great-grandchildren, Amellia, Lincoln, and Griffin Bossert.

A graveside service of remembrance will be held at 1:00 PM on Sunday, October 1, officiated by Rev. William Douglas Peebles, at Mt. Mariah Church and Cemetery, located two miles north of Arcadia, LA on Highway 9. Following will be a reception/visitation. Pallbearers are Steven McCullough, Scott McCullough, Nicholas McCullough, Buzzy Buckner, Mickey Love, Dr. Ray Spurlock, and Kyle Robertson.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests memorials be made to the First Methodist Church in Minden, choir or children’s building funds.

sisters, and one brother.

She is survived by her son, Alan Savell (Patricia) of Minden; daughters, Eva Anita Frye, Shirley Shuler (Mike), Judy Jackson, Jenny Greene (J.D.), and Loli Johns (Jerry) all of Minden; grandchildren, Mark and Scott Vining, Ed and Daniel Shuler, Angie Jackson & C.J. Cheatham, Brandy Robinson and Charley Savell, Ashley Simpson and Luke Greene, Dusty Tucker and Destry Johns, and Darrell, Dawson, and Deanna, Johns; 28 great- grandchildren, and 12 great great-grandchildren.

Pallbearers will be Brandon Vining, Ed Shuler, Jordan Cheatham, Luke Greene, Dusty Tucker, and Charley Savell.

Honorary pallbearers will be Scott Vining, Daniel Shuler, Brian Jackson, Gavin Jackson, Chris Cheatham, Destry Johns, and Jeremy Simpson.

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

Saralja; and numerous nieces, nephews, relatives, and friends. Beattle was preceded in death by his father, George Benton Merritt, Sr., and his brother Lane.

Not being a rich man, Beattle always saw the value of working hard and playing even harder. He spent his time and money getting ready for hunting season and making sure anyone who wanted to come and hunt or fish had all they needed to be successful. He truly enjoyed nature and being as close to it as he could at all times. And some may not have known, but he wasn’t too shabby with a 35 mm camera. Some of his favorite pictures he took of the outdoors are on the walls of his room. Even before his death,Beattle wanted nothing to do with a memorial service or funeral. Like any self-respecting country boy, he wants his family to celebrate his life by throwing a BBQ and scattering his ashes in the places he loved most growing up. The BBQ is scheduled for October 21, 2023, family and friends are most welcome.

We will do our best to only celebrate his life, but it goes without saying that he will be truly missed and our hearts are full of sorrow. You could say the only ones who are relieved of his passing are the fish and deer, but they just don’t realize how good of a teacher he really was.

Love you Beattle, Love you Dad,Love you Pops!!

The Merritt Family extends their heartfelt appreciation to hospice for all their wonderful an d compassionate care for our loved one.

For those interested, memorial contributions may be made in memory of Beattle Merritt to the American Cancer Society.

down to generations to come.

Allen met his wife, Courtney Lafitte, in 2010 and they spent every moment with each other since. They shared a bond that most people can only hope to experience. Together they have a strong and beautiful daughter Hallie Hightower and he would be proud of her strength. Allen’s oldest child, Jared Hightower, shares his father’s same love of the outdoors and also is growing to become the same outgoing and respected person that his father was for his friends and the community. Both Hallie and Jared were the light of their father’s life.

Allen is preceded in death by grandparents Gerald Palmer, Katherine Palmer, Rex A Hightower, and Verna Dee Hightower

Allen is remembered by Courtney Lafitte (Wife), Jared Hightower (Son), Hallie Hightower (Daughter), Suzann Hays (Sister), Geraldine Hightower (Mother), Adam Hays (Brother-in-law), Mical Brunson (Cousin / Brother), Alan & Karen Dowden (Parents- in- law) Marvin Hightower (Father), Barry Hightower (Uncle), Eunice Ripp (Aunt)

He was also greatly loved and will be greatly missed by his many friends.



Wills Successions

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Call for a free information packet.

PAGEANT

Continued from Page 1

fitness, casual wear, and evening gown.

All of the young ladies did a wonderful job of displaying grace and poise during the competition. In the end, Jordan Tanner won the People’s Choice award, Madelyn Whitehead won the Casual Wear award, Kaylin Williams won the Evening Gown award, and Rainie Hughes won Miss Congeniality. For the title of Fair Queen, the second runner up is Rainie Hughes, the first runner up is Madelyn Whitehead, and the 2023 Webster Parish Fair Queen is Kaylin Williams.

Earlier in the day, the Fair Princess competition was held for girls ages infant-teen. The winners in the different age groups were Baby Fair Princess Parker Lovitt, Tiny Fair Princess Mia Perez, Toddler Fair Princess Rhilee White,

Miniature Fair Princess Joanna Bordelon, Petite Fair Princess Tessa Adams, Little Miss Fair Princess Savannah O’Glee, Pre-Teen Fair Princess Presley Wood, Junior Fair Princess Kynsie Smith, and Teen Fair Princess Izzy Gray.

The Fair Queen and her court as well as many of the Fair Princesses will be taking part in the Webster Parish Fair parade on Tuesday, October 3 at 5 PM. The Webster Parish Fair will begin on Wednesday, October 4.

Proceeds raised during the People’s Choice award go to the Minden Civitans Club to be used in their charitable activities including Civitan Santa which delivers gifts to children in Minden who might otherwise go without. The judges for both competitions were Cindy Mad-den, Karen Guice, and Cherry Perkins.

LIBRARY

Continued from Page 1

tem to provide another LFL to the City of Springhill,” said Elaine Eaton with Cultural Crossroads of Minden. “Partnerships like these make our community more vibrant, and we couldn’t be more thankful for the opportunity. We are excited to see the community come together to create a unique work of art,” said Eaton. “This installation is unique because it’s both a service to the community and a piece of art wrapped into one!” Elaine Eaton has served as president of Cultural Crossroads since 2020 and has been a contributing member since 2007. After graduating with her master’s degree in communication arts and returning to Minden, Elaine joined Cultural Crossroads as a volunteer in 2011. She is passionate about promoting the arts in Webster Parish.

Sparking a sense of

wonder, Little Free Libraries inspire us to embrace the magic of books and become active participants in creating vibrant, thriving communities. “The addition of the Little Free Library in Springhill by the Webster Parish Library is much appreciated and needed. This addition will add to an already community-involved library here in Springhill. The citizens of Springhill have pride in our library and our Webster Parish Library system,” said Ray Huddleston, Mayor of Springhill.

Everyone is invited to add a bit of magic and color! Help bring this project to life by “leaving your mark” on your Little Free Library with your handprint. Paint, clean-up supplies, information bags, music, crafts, snacks, and bottled water will be provided. Please join us Saturday, September 30th, beginning at 10:00 AM.

REUNION

Webster High School graduates celebrate excellence

AMBER MCDOWN
Minden Press-Herald

Webster High School’s Class of 1973 held its 50th reunion recently, with events on September 15-17.

Saturday night, there was a banquet held at the Minden Civic Center where Mayor Nick Cox read a proclamation declaring the whole week as Webster High School Class of 1973 50th Class Reunion Week.

“What a legacy. A lot of people in Minden have pride for Minden High School, but there’s no

Minden High School today as we know it without Webster High School,” said Mayor Cox. “I look around this room and see so many people that I know who have shaped this city, shaped the community, shaped the states. Only on the other side of Heaven will we know the impact that the graduates from Webster High School have had.”

The guest speaker of the evening was Mrs. Ruby Musgrow, graduate of Webster High in 1958 and an educator since 1962. Mrs. Musgrow has

taught science, primarily chemistry and physics, to generations of students in Minden, and she is still teaching even though she is now 82 years old. “I’m grateful for my Webster High School experience,” said Mrs. Musgrow. “I was a student there from 1954 until 1958, and a teacher from 1963 until 1974. I attribute the stature of Webster for many years, its golden years, largely to the vision, discernment, and determination of one man: W. Leon Hayes. It was my first life lesson from my school years that one person with

these qualities can make a difference, can change history.” Mrs. Musgrow closed her speech by noting that the newest generation has lost some of the pride and determination of previous generations, and she exhorted her former students to do what they can to help. “It’s evident that the drive to be the best has somehow been lost. Without that drive and that nurturing from people who believe in them, many of our children will not fare well in this new society.

“They need to know their true history, for we can

only know where we are and where we’re going, if we realize where we have been.

“There’s strength in numbers, so it is vital that each one of us do what we individually can.”

Near the close of the banquet presentations, Darrell Hampton revealed the audio/video upgrade which has been made to the Webster High School Cradle of Champions display that aims to teach current and future students about the achievements made by graduates of Webster High School. The video

reviewed the very beginnings of the school and followed its development into the best black high school in Louisiana.

Graduates of Webster High School have had lasting impacts on this community as well as in communities across the United States. It is a testament to how excellence can be achieved through those same qualities Mrs. Musgrow spoke of: vision, discernment, and determination.

OPINION

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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

Summary of recommendations for 2023 Constitutional Amendments

There will be 4 constitutional amendments on the ballot this Oct. 14th election and 4 more constitutional amendments on the Nov. 18th ballot.* Please know that there are often credible, principled reasons to view such measures differently. Below are my respectful recommendations:

Constitutional Amendments on October 14th Ballot

Amendment #1: Prohibiting Donations to Conduct Elections

“Do you support an amendment to prohibit the use of funds, goods or services from a foreign government or a non-governmental source to conduct elections and election functions and duties unless the use is authorized by the secretary of state through policies established in accordance with law?”

This Amendment, otherwise known as the “Zuckerbucks” bill in light of the hundreds of millions of dollars Meta Facebook founder, Mark Zuckerberg, spent trying to influence elections in 2020, is an important one. It is designed to prohibit the use of financial or other donations from outside sources such as a non-governmental source (i.e., Zuckerberg) or a foreign government to administer (i.e., influence) elections in Louisiana.

Recommendation: Yes.

Amendment #2: Protection for Worship in Churches.

“Do you support an amendment to provide that the freedom of worship in a church or

other place of worship is a fundamental right that is worthy of the highest order of protection?”

This reinforces what the U.S. Supreme Court has already provided for free exercise of religion. Namely, providing the highest level of constitutional protection for the freedom to worship—specifically in a church or another place of worship—requiring courts to apply the strictest level of judicial review (Strict Scrutiny) to challenges when government bodies restrict access to places of worship. The current constitutional protections don’t specifically single out houses of worship for this protection, but this does.

Recommendation: Yes.

Amendment #3: Surplus Spending on Retirement Debt

“Do you support an amendment to require that a minimum of twenty-five percent (25%) of any money designated as non-recurring state revenue be applied toward the balance of the unfunded accrued liability of the state retirement systems?”

This Amendment would require lawmakers to use 25% of any state surplus to pay retirement debt for the four state retirement systems. Currently, the requirement is for lawmakers to spend 10% of any state



ROYAL ALEXANDER

surplus to pay retirement debt for two state retirement systems through 2029.

Recommendation: No recommendation. Louisiana has a \$17 billion-dollar unfunded accrued liability in pension benefits, but it also has a multi-billion-dollar backlog of deficient roads, bridges, coastal restoration projects and water systems to which state dollars could flow. Voters should decide what state spending they prioritize regarding this surplus revenue.

Amendment #4: Property Tax Exemptions for Nonprofit Organizations

“Do you support an amendment to deny a property tax exemption to a non-profit corporation or association that owns residential property in such a state of disrepair that it endangers public health or safety?”

This would allow local government officials to remove a property tax exemption from nonprofit organizations that lease housing (apartments, etc.) and have repeated public health or safety violations. Otherwise, the current system of property tax exemptions for nonprofit organizations—including for those that have repeated public health and safety violations—would be maintained.

Recommendation: Yes.

Constitutional Amendments on November 18th Ballot

[Note: I will more fully address these amendments before the Nov. 18th election]

Amendment #1: Deadlines to Veto Bills and Rules for Veto Sessions

This would allow lawmakers to try to override a governor's veto without calling a separate veto session if they are already in a legislative session. It also adds further details about the deadlines for a governor to veto bills. Otherwise, lawmakers' attempts to override a governor's vetoes would occur in a separate session.

Amendment #2: Repeal of Inactive Special Funds in the Constitution

This Amendment would remove six inactive funds with zero or near-zero balances from the Louisiana Constitution. Otherwise, these six inactive funds would remain.

Amendment #3: Property Tax Exemptions for First Responders

This would allow a parish governing authority to give an extra property tax exemption to police, firefighters and certain other first responders who own homes and live in the given parish.

Amendment #4: Rule Changes for the Revenue Stabilization Trust Fund

This would tighten the rules on the allowed use of a seven-year-old state trust fund that collects dollars from corporate tax collections and oil and gas production in Louisiana making it more difficult for elected officials to spend this trust fund money.

Thank you for your consideration.

(*PAR Louisiana).

ROYAL ALEXANDER IS A SHREVEPORT ATTORNEY.

INSPIRATION

The power of the hug is essential in expressing love

French author Antoine de Saint-Exupery, author of The Little Prince wrote “One sees clearly only with the heart. Anything essential is invisible to the eye.”

Love and hugging are essential.

Having been born to poverty stricken parents who I knew loved me and then to go into a loving foster home for a couple of months before going into an orphanage I can speak from experience. To be given love until one's addicted and then to have it snatched away is one of the cruelest devastating experiences that can happen to a child or even an adult.

Having recently watched child star Margaret O'Brien, with the leading role in Lost Angels, helps me to explain just what is wrong with orphanages and why we need hugging!

When we were dropped off at camp I turned my back when I saw other children being hugged by their parents. I slept with my head under my pillow to muffle my crying at the

orphanage because we were punished for crying.

You can put a child in an institution with plenty of food and clothing but you can't expect a child to thrive in an environment where all you have are people who work for a paycheck.

Maybe there here are a few good orphanages but I believe it is rare if non-existent.

Doctor Andy Bilson, wrote “I am a social worker who has researched and campaigned for the reform of child protection systems across the globe for more than 30 years. But more importantly I am a parent. And so, without doubt, the most gut wrenching sound I've ever heard is that of silence in a ward full of



SARAH HUDSON PIERCE

children in an orphanage. Children raised in orphanages can experience delays in terms of IQ, language, speech and vocabulary”

Having grown up in an orphanage I am here to say that a child care institution is most likely devoid of the kind of emotional care that children need to thrive. I can speak from experience having witnessed and experienced the kind of abuse that leaves a child scarred for life.

I've witnessed children running away at night never to found.

Without love life is meaningless.

Had I not experienced living in a loving foster parents for two months I might not have ever experienced the kind of home that was overflowing with love, affection, the kind of care that I soaked up like a dry sponge and when I went to the orphanage all I could see and feel were cinder blocks that were as devoid of love as they were hollow.

Yes “that which is essential is invisible to the eye.”

One of those ingredients is hugging.

One of my favorite authors is the Italian born Psychologist Doctor Leo Buscaglia, author of Living and Loving, had much to say about the necessity of hugging and touching. He reports that “hugging increases hemoglobin in the blood.”

Children need love to thrive.

It is easy for me to say that there are few people who have the ability, the need, to love children for a paycheck.

It took me years to get over the lack of love in an orphanage but had it not been for drawing love into my life and turning to writing as a safety valve for my emotions I might not be here today.

I hope I give you the courage to share your story however sad it may be and to draw love into your life.

EMAIL SARAH AT SARAH9957@AOL.COM

OPINION

Authors: buy our books, but don't read, remember, learn from, or be influenced

THOMAS L. KNAPP
Special to the Minden Press-Herald

A group of 17 well-known authors -- too many to usefully list here, but you've probably heard of, and certainly live in a world influenced by, the likes of John Grisham and George R.R. Martin -- recently joined the stampede to sue artificial intelligence firm OpenAI. Following earlier plaintiffs, these authors allege that use of their work to “train” Large Language Model products like ChatGPT amounts to “systematic theft on a mass scale.”

OpenAI counters that letting its models read and learn from the authors'

books is perfectly According to Hoyle under, among other things, the “fair use” provisions of the copyright law (which courts have held protect such “reading” by search engines).

It looks like a legal thicket. But I'm not a lawyer and this column isn't legal advice. My interest in the matter stems from my standing as a lifelong reader.

I REALLY like books. Over the course of my life I've purchased thousands of volumes in print or electronic format, borrowed more from lending libraries, read a good many of them (not as many as I've tilted at, I confess), and learned a lot from them. Whatever the legal

grounds for the lawsuit, its essence comes down to a claim that the function of a reader (whether that reader is “human” or “artificial”) is to buy authors' books ... and do nothing with them except perhaps display them prettily on household shelves, if even that.

When you read a book, your brain inevitably stores a mental copy of that book, in part or whole. You remember it. If it's a well-written book and you're an attentive reader, you also learn things from, and find yourself influenced by, its content.

Those things, according to the litigious authors, constitute theft, and if you do much of them you're en-

gaged in such theft “on a massive scale.”

Oddly, nearly all of the involved authors cheerfully confess to theft of that kind on their own pars. Few if any claim complete originality for their own work, and most would get laughed out of any room they made such claims in.

Why should we care whether the brains reading, remembering, learning from, and acting on the influence of a story are made of meat or silicon?

Does -- should -- the purchase of a book confer absolute and perpetual veto power upon the author to control how readers use what they learn from that book?

If it did, none of the authors involved in this suit would have anything to sue over. We'd have never heard of them. Their works would remain unpublished and likely unwritten.

Their fear of replacement by AI is certainly understandable, but their demand for control of work they've released into the learning wild is unreasonable.

THOMAS L. KNAPP (TWITTER: @THOMASLKNAPP) IS DIRECTOR AND SENIOR NEWS ANALYST AT THE WILLIAM LLOYD GARRISON CENTER FOR LIBERTARIAN ADVOCACY JOURNALISM (THEGARRISONCENTER.ORG). HE LIVES AND WORKS IN NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA.

SPORTS

Russell Hedges, Sports Editor
rhedges@spechtnewspapers.com

COLUMN/HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL



Lakeside's Jordan Case breaks loose for a good gain against Block last week. He scored four TDs in the 41-34 victory.

North Webster, Lakeside look to extend winning streaks

RUSSELL HEDGES
Minden Press-Herald

The regular-season reaches its halfway point Friday.

North Webster and Lakeside are the parish's hottest teams at this point. Both have won three in a row.

North Webster may be the most surprising team. The Knights have already won one more game than last season.

Last week, North Webster showed it's ready to contend for the District 1-3A championship, defeating Richwood 28-6 in Monroe.

The Knights (3-1) are off to the best start in Head Coach John Ware's tenure. He is in his 12th season.

In other district openers, Glenbrook fell to Haynesville 34-14 on the road in a 1-1A battle of the unbeatens, and Minden

Friday's games

Huntington at Minden, 7
Wossman at North Webster, 7
Lincoln Prep at Lakeside, 7
Glenbrook at Arcadia, 7

lost to a talented North DeSoto squad 51-0 on the road in District 1-4A.

In a non-district game, Lakeside held off Block 41-34 at home.

North Webster's running game and defense has been impressive this season. Braedon Robertson, who scored three touchdowns last week, is having a big year.

The Knights' lone loss was to undefeated Haynesville in Week 1. But North Webster's toughest test yet could be Friday when Wossman (3-1) comes to Springhill.

Glenbrook was within two touchdowns in the second half.

Minden (0-4) shouldn't be judged by last week's game. North DeSoto is going to have many more wins by wide margins.

But if the Tide wants to make a playoff run, they need to start against Huntington (2-2) at home Friday. The Raiders have lost two straight including last week to Northwood 27-12.

Lakeside overcame five turnovers last week against winless Block. Jordan Case scored four touchdowns. He set up his first one with an interception.

The Warriors host Lincoln Prep (1-3), which has lost two in a row, Friday. The Panthers lost to Jonesboro-Hodge 40-0 last week.

Lakeside starts District 1-2A play next week at home against D'Arbonne Woods charter.

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

LSU, GSU win conference games

RUSSELL HEDGES
Minden Press-Herald

LSU pulled out a last-second 34-31 victory over Arkansas and Grambling State won its SWAC opener over Texas Southern 35-23 last week.

In another game of area interest, Louisiana Tech fell to Nebraska 28-14.

LSU 34, Arkansas 31: At Baton Rouge, Damien Ramos kcked a 20-yard field goal with five seconds remaining to lift LSU over Arkansas in Tiger Stadium.

Jayden Daniels led the Tigers (3-1, 2-0 SEC) on a nine play, 72-yard drive spanning 5:01, setting up the game-winning field goal.

Daniels completed 20-of-29 passes for 320 yards and four touchdowns.

LSU rallied from a 13-3 deficit late in the second quarter. Danika completed a 39-yard pass to Brian Thomas Jr. with just 30 seconds left in the half.

Daniels hit Thomas for another 39-yard TD on LSU's first drive of the second half.

Thomas finished with five catches for 133 yards. Malik Nabers had eight for 130 and two TDs.

Nebraska 28, Louisiana Tech 14: At Lincoln, Neb., the Bulldogs and Cornhuskers were tied at 7 at halftime but Nebraska used the ground game to pull away in the second half.

Tech (2-3) and Nebraska (2-2) went scoreless in the first quarter and then traded touchdowns in the second to make it 7-all at the midway point. However, the Cornhuskers scored 21 unanswered points in the second half.

Friday's game

Louisiana Tech at UTEP
8 p.m., CBS Sports Network

Saturday's games

LSU at Ole Miss
5 p.m., ESPN

Eastern Illinois at NSU
6 p.m., ESPN+

Grambling State vs. Prairie View A&M
6 p.m., ESPN+

Appalachian State at ULM
7 p.m., ESPN+

Nebraska outgained Tech 419-338.

The Cornhuskers had 312 yards rushing.

Tech's Paul Turner completed 27-of-42 passes for 292 yards and one touchdown with one interception.

Grambling State 35, Texas Southern 23: At Grambling, the Tigers opened SWAC play with the victory.

GSU improved to 2-2 with its second straight win. Texas State dropped to 0-4.

Chance Williams rushed for 174 yards on 19 carries and scored a touchdown.

Floyd Chalk IV rushed for 88 yards and two touchdowns. Myles Crawley completed 14-of-23 passes for 195 yards.

OUTDOORS

Gearing up for archery season

GLYNN HARRIS

Some of the year's hottest weather in Louisiana occurs during the oppressive days of August and September. Sure, fall is just around the corner but you wouldn't know it by glancing at the thermometer with temperatures typically bumping the century mark.

Even though the weather will be hot and miserable, you can bet there will be one group of folks with an eye on the calendar. You'll see them out in their back yards, sitting on make-do elevated platforms, slinging arrows at targets. They're Louisiana's bow hunters and they're doing what they have to do to get ready for the upcoming bow season which begins, if you can believe it, in just a matter of

days.

They'll be getting in condition for what one bowhunter told me is the "short" game. In golf, it's the accuracy of the putter that usually separates the hackers from the experts. In bow hunting, the archer's bow is his putter. He can't expect to score a "birdie" (or would that be a "buckie"?) if he's not proficient at shooting accurately from within the range of a bow, which is usually 35 yards or closer. Any deer outside that range is a deer to be watched, not shot at. Thus, becoming proficient with his archery equipment within ethical ranges is a must, and like in golf, there is no substitute for practice, practice and more practice, even if sweat is dripping off your nose and you're flirt-

ing with heat stroke.

Bowhunters know that the deer he'll be after in a few weeks is quite an adaptable creature. You can cut their woods and they simply move over to an adjoining tract, returning to the clear cut when they're hungry to feast on succulent new growth that explodes when the forest canopy is opened.

One factor of nature that takes deer longer to adapt to is weather changes. During years of drought, especially in growing season, fewer fawns are born, which impacts the deer situation years down the road. Fewer fawns born this year translate to fewer adult animals to hunt the next couple of seasons.

Another problem not just bowhunters but all deer hunters have faced over the

past few years has been milder than normal winters. This situation means that in general, deer have more to eat because succulent plant growth on which they feed lasts on into winter when in normal years, deer are moving about looking for something to eat. During warm weather when the rut is going on, bucks still chase and breed does, but most of the activity is at night when temperatures are more comfortable. Frustrated hunters hunker down over scrape lines and food plots only to be disappointed.

However, Mother Nature is an equalizer. Granted, the past few winters have been milder and frankly, we're due for a change. We may not get it, but darn it, we're due.

It will be interesting

to see just how the conditions of last deer season that favored deer and negatively impacted deer hunters will have a bearing on the upcoming deer season. Weather that was too warm and a bumper crop of wildlife foods throughout season meant that deer didn't have to move about to find succulent forage. Thus, fewer were harvested. I'm no wildlife biologist but if I had to wager a guess, I'd think that we should have a better season this year.

Why do I think that? Over most of the state, the deer harvest was down last season, which means that more than a few wise old bucks lived to get another year older. With another year of age, this translates out to another year of growing antler mass, the excep-

tion being a deer that is past his prime and is basically going downhill.

With the odds hopefully being more in the hunter's favor this season than last, those hunters who begin their seasons early have a better chance to collect their venison. No group of hunters in the state begins their season earlier than bow hunters. The first Saturday in October is opening day for the majority of the state although some areas will be open as early as mid-September. (Check current regulations for exact dates and areas.)

If you're a serious bow hunter, you've already been out there, slinging arrows at paper targets and tweaking your bow so that when the deer you're looking for steps out, you'll be ready.

Fishing Report

BLACK BAYOU – No report. Contact Honey Hole Tackle Shop 323-8707 for latest information.

BUSSEY BRAKE – Some are still catching nice bass around the brush on spinners and flipping jigs. The crappie are scattered around the brush. Bream have slowed. For latest information, contact the Honey Hole at 323-8707.

OUACHITA RIVER – The water level is quite low. Bass are slow to fair; some crappie are being caught around submerged tops on jigs. For latest information, contact the Honey Hole Tackle Shop at 323-8707.

LAKE D'ARBONNE – Crappie have been fair to good fishing shiners or jigs 8 feet deep in 10-12 foot water. Bass are best early mornings along the grass lines with topwater lures and jerk baits. Bream are slow. Catfish continue to be caught fishing cold worms

and night crawlers off the banks. For latest information, call Anderson Sport Center at 368-9669 or Honey Hole Tackle Shop at 323-8707.

LAKE CLAIBORNE – The lake is being lowered. Stripers are occasionally schooling and fishing with shad imitation lures picking up a few in the coves early mornings or late afternoons. Bream fishing has been slow. Crappie have been best fishing around the piers on gray jigs. 8-14 deep water with some good ones reported. Also at night fishing under the lights while the bass have been best early mornings on topwater lures and at night on dark plastic worms and spinner baits with one over 11 pounds reported. For latest information, call Kel's Cove at 927-2264 or Terzia Tackle at 278-4498.

CANEY LAKE – Bass have been best fishing at night on dark spinners and soft plastics. They are fair

to good early mornings on topwater lures with square bill crank baits, spinners and soft plastics working best later. Some bass are schooling and hitting shad imitations. Crappie have been best around the deeper tops on shiners or jigs. Bream are slow. 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 – Fishing for catfish has improved. Crappie are fair on the south end. No report on bass. For latest reports, call Poverty Point Marina at 318/878-0101. For information, call Surplus City Landing at 318/467-2259.

LAKE YUCATAN – The water level is falling and quite low. Some catfish have been reported and commercial fishermen are catching buffalo. Crappie are slow. For information, call Surplus City Landing at 318/467-2259.

Minden Press-Herald
Football Contest Winners

Week 4:

1st Place- Rita Hoenke - \$25.00
2nd Place - Barnell Johnson - \$15.00
3rd Place - Deborah Franklin - \$10.00

Good News

GOOD NEWS

We Only Die Once

Margie Jenkins has written a book by this title, in which one of her reviewers wrote: “Instead of the Lamaze method of helping with birth, your book is the LaMargie method for dying, giving psychological insight and specific steps to lessen pain and increase comfort during one of most stressful events in life.”

Of course, we all have spent time thinking, pondering over ‘our exit from this world to the next.’ Having spent a lot of time in the hospitals, nursing homes, funeral homes and cemeteries over the past 50 years, I have been brought face-to-face with many of these issues. Now that I am climbing the 80’s ladder, I catch glimpses of ‘the other side’ from time to time. Or I hear the ‘glory-bound train as it seems to get nearer to my station.’ Perhaps, I am like many of you: the ticket has been purchased and I have it handy in case of an emergency, but I am not quite ready to hand it to the conductor. “Just a little longer” the old gospel song

goes....” A few more days to help get my loved ones in.”

As we think about the end-of-life preparations, we begin to see there are many important decisions that must be made. Many are very difficult to follow through with on our own. We need a legal advisor to help with all the issues we will face. We need to work with our spouse, children, family as a whole. With all that is at stake, we need to make sure “all t’s are crossed and each I is dotted.” There may be a battle awaiting our survivors if we do not take care of such details now.

So today, get your pencil, pad and a notebook. Make a list of life-long friends you would like to thank for the ‘dear friendship that has meant so much to you during



Bill Crider

your life’; and maybe there are some fences that need mending. What a great victory it would be for each of us to seek to heal hurts and offenses, ask for forgiveness and offer love to those whom you have sensed a breach in relationship over the years. What a waste of time this has been; what a victory and sense of freedom this will give one as final plans are made. Cross it off your list to get done! Get that monkey off your back!

One of the most important things to do is prepare a last will and testament. This is the foundation for taking charge of your life and your death. There are many others directives we must consider to protect ourselves and family in these last days. These may include: Durable Power of Attorney, Durable Medical Power of Attorney for Health Care, Directives to Physicians (Living Will), DNR Directives, and others. Your lawyer will advise you on all of these.

There are all kinds of important papers floating around your house that

need to be organized and in proper files for easy finding. Financial records, various accounts, legal papers, insurance policies, long-term policies...do you know where they are for easy finding? What about your cherished possessions (whatever they are)? Who do you want to have them? What can you do now to guarantee they will be routed the way you want? Why not make a list of these and pass on to your children and grands for them to enjoy now. Wouldn’t it please you greatly to eat Thanksgiving lunch with your children this year and see your wedding china being used? And let the grands choose some things to have that are meaningful to them. What joy that will bring you NOW.

Saying ‘goodbye’ doesn’t have to be the end of the world, so to speak. With careful planning now, you may ease the pain of making rash and hasty decisions later on. Leaving a legacy for the family is so important. Many of our family members really

don’t know the struggles our generation went through to climb to this point in life. Take down the picture albums (pictures from childhood, high school events, weddings, reunions and such) and the next time the family gathers announce ‘after lunch I want us to sit down and let me tell you about some of these things.’ Maybe cry a bit, laugh a lot and hug and love on each other. What a way to begin this process.... of preparing for the end of life....and getting ready for the life to come.

Oh, what a day that will be when our Jesus we will see.... We can only imagine. This doesn’t have to be a sad, morbid time. It is like writing the closing chapter on a wonderful drama or a love story that could never be captured on the screen. I dare you to begin this journey soon!

BILL CRIDER IS CHAPLAIN OF MINDEN MEDICAL CENTER

THE UPWARD LOOK

Spirit Filled

“And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery, but be filled with the Spirit,” Ephesians 5:18 ESV



Max Hutto

What consumes and controls your life? Is it the worldly nature symbolized by being drunk with wine? Or is it the spiritual nature that is controlled and guided by the Holy Spirit? The ancient city of Ephesus was known for its worship of Bacchus with its immorality fueled by wine and drunken orgies. Paul was reminding the Ephesian believers to put away the old sin-

ful worldly ways. Instead, the believers were to be guided and under the control of God’s Holy Spirit, walking in a manner worthy of Christ, living wisely in faithful obedience.

Lord Jesus, may my life be fueled and directed by You and Your Word, the Bible. I yield my life daily to be filled, empowered, and controlled by the Holy Spirit.

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

INSPIRATION

Ceaseless Prayer

Have you ever said to yourself “I don’t know how I’m going to make it”? Well, I have on many occasions and every time I have to remind myself that God has already answered that question. It’s not found in some over-complicated explanation but rather in one simple word prayer. 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18



Bernard Harris

to Christ Jesus.” As followers of Christ, we should not only learn these words but commit them to our hearts. So, the next one you find yourself asking the hard questions, try remembering the easy answer. Pray without ceasing no matter what comes your way.

says “Always be joyful. Never stop praying. Be thankful in all circumstances, for this is God’s will for you who belong

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

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“All real estate advertised here is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act, which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin, or intention to make any such preference, limitation, or discrimination. We will not 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.

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377-1866

PUBLIC NOTICE

Minden Planning Commission Meeting

October 5, 2023 – 10:00 a.m.

Pelican Room - Minden City Hall

On the agenda is a request from Michelle Coleman for a zoning variance & setback variance on property owned by her located at 804 Harris Street. This property is zoned R-3 (Single Family Residential).

The purpose of this zoning variance request is to place a 16'x76' mobile home manufactured on June 26, 2013 on the property.

Legal Description: LOT FRONTING 74 FT. ON HARRIS ST. X 80 FT. IN NE 1/4 OF SE 1/4 SEC. 27-19-9

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

September 13, 2023
September 20, 2023
September 27, 2023
Minden Press Herald

Village of Dixie Inn
Public Hearing
September 12, 2023

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

A public hearing to discuss the FY 2024/2025 Community Development Block Grant Program (LCDBG) was held on September 12, 2023 at 4:45 p.m., at the Dixie Inn Village Hall with the following members present: Mayor Donna Hoffoss, Aldermen Judy McKenzie, Nell Finlay, and Lance Milligan.

Mayor Hoffoss discussed the village's application submission for state funding through the 2024/2025 LCDBG Program with council members and attendees at the hearing. Mayor Hoffoss asked for comments concerning the LCDBG Program. Mike Chreene suggested using the funds to replace the village's three sewer lift stations, if awarded. He added, village residents would have no need to fear being displaced because of the project, as the lift stations are already in permanent locations. Everyone in attendance agreed that replacing the lift stations would be a good use of the funding, and that it would benefit all village residents.

There being no further comments, the public hearing was adjourned.

ATTEST:

Donna Hoffoss
Mayor

September 27, 2023
Minden Press Herald

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING WEBSTER PARISH POLICE JURY
September 5, 2023

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

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

Mr. Jim Bonsall then asked for additions to the agenda.

Mr. Steve Ramsey moved, seconded by Mr. Daniel Thomas to add E911 board appointment to the agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

There were no comments from the audience concerning the agenda.

Mr. Steve Lemmons moved, seconded by Ms. Cayla Cox to approve invoices for payment pending review by juror Steve Lemmons. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Steve Ramsey moved, seconded by Mr. Adam Lee to adopt the minutes of the August 1, 2023 Road Committee, Finance Committee, and Regular Meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Mike Griffith moved, seconded by Mr. Bruce Blanton to approve the 2022 Audit of Financials presented in the August meeting by Jennie Henry, Allen, Green & Williamson, CPA for the Webster Parish Police Jury year end December 31, 2022. Motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Cayla Cox moved, seconded by Mr. Adam Lee to approve Webster Parish Police Jury Resolution 008-2023 approving the holding of an election in Shongaloo Fire Protection District No. 9 of the Parish of Webster, State of Louisiana, on Saturday, November 18, 2023 to authorize the continuation of a special tax therein. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Daniel Thomas moved, seconded by Mr. Bruce Blanton to approve Webster Parish Police Jury Resolution 009-2023 approving the holding of an election in Cullen Fire Protection District No. 6 of the Parish of Webster, State of Louisiana, on Saturday, November 18, 2023 to authorize the incurring of debt and issuance of bonds therein. Motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Denise Edwards, Webster Parish Assessor explained the Millage Rates for 2023 and asked for questions or concerns. There were none.

Ms. Vera Davison moved, seconded by Mr. Steve Lemmons to adopt the Millage Rates for Webster Parish for 2023 and approve Resolution 010-2023. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Daniel Thomas moved, seconded by Mr. Steve Lemmons to approve Recreation Funding: District #3-\$1000 Town of Sarepta and District #7-\$1000 Village of Dubberly to overlay Brushwood Drive in Dubberly. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Daniel Thomas moved, seconded by Mr. Bruce Blanton to approve Board Appointments for Evergreen Fire Protection District to reappoint Denise G. Miller to a two-year term to expire 12/31/2025. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Steve Ramsey moved, seconded by Mr. Mike Griffith to approve Board Appointment for the Webster Parish Communication District E911 to appoint Dr. Shannon Spigener to replace Mr. Ray Brown, term to expire 12/31/2025. Motion carried unanimously.

COMMENTS: Melinda Davidson WPOCS Director Wanda Finley HeadStart Director Serena Gray WP C.V.B. (Tourism) Christie Cox WP Coroner/Allen Mosley COL. Carl Thompson Webster Parish Assessor/Denise Edwards John Monzingo LSU/AG Brian Williams OHSEP Director Angie Chapman E911 Director Senator Robert Mills Judge Sherburne Sentell

Mr. Adam Bass, Candidate for State Senate addressed the jury. Ms. Dorothy Henderson, concerned citizen had questions about private property. Ms. Tan Grisby, Candidate for Police Jury District 10, addressed the jury. Ms. Nancy Hines, Candidate for Police Jury District 8, addressed the jury.

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

Mr. Mike Griffith moved, seconded by Mr. Daniel Thomas to approve the action taken at the Finance Committee Meeting held earlier today. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Jim Bonsall then gave Presidents' closing remarks.

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

/s/ Lisa C. Balkom
Secretary-Treasurer

/s/ Jim Bonsall
President

September 27, 2023
Minden Press Herald

PROCEEDING OF THE VILLAGE OF HEFLIN, STATE OF LOUISIANA, TAKEN IN REGULAR MEETING HELD ON AUGUST 3, 2023.

The Heflin Town Council met at Town Hall, Heflin, Louisiana beginning at 7:38 pm with the following members present: Mayor Ralph James council members Matt Austin, Hallie DeMoss, Robert Stachowicz, and Village Clerk Sherry Limosnero. Absent Water System

Operator Jesse Williamson.

The meeting was opened with prayer offered by Matt Austin and Robert Stachowicz led the Pledge of Allegiance. Mayor Ralph James welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Upon motion by Matt Austin and duly seconded by Robert Stachowicz, the council adopted the Minutes from July 13, 2023 at Council Regular Meeting held on August 3, 2023 as presented; the motion was approved unanimously. Robert Stachowicz moved to accept the July, 2023 Operating Financial Statements as presented; the motion was duly seconded by Hallie DeMoss. The motion was approved unanimously.

Upon motion by Hallie DeMoss and duly seconded by Matt Austin, the council unanimously approved Water System Reports for July, 2023. Matt Austin moved to accept the July, 2023 Police Department Reports as presented; the motion was duly seconded by Robert Stachowicz. The motion was approved unanimously. Robert Stachowicz moved to accept the July, 2023 ARP Report as presented; the motion was duly seconded by Hallie DeMoss. The motion was approved unanimously. Council comments were heard, public comments were heard. There being no further business to come before this Council, meeting adjourned by Council Member Hallie DeMoss.

Attest by: Sherry Limosnero LCMC, Village Clerk
Respectfully posted: 8/9/2023
Adopted:
Publish:

September 27, 2023
Minden Press Herald

Village of Dixie Inn
Special Session
September 15, 2023

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

The Mayor and Board of Aldermen for the Village of Dixie Inn met in special session on September 15, 2023 at 5:00 P.M. in the Village Hall, Dixie Inn, Louisiana with the following members present: Mayor Donna Hoffoss, Aldermen Judy McKenzie, Nell Finlay, and Lance Milligan.

The meeting was called to order.

There were no comments or additions to the agenda as presented.

Mayor Hoffoss welcomed guests.

New Business:

A motion was made by Lance Milligan, and seconded by Judy McKenzie, to change the village's phone service to First Net. Vote on the motion was unanimous.

A motion was made by Judy McKenzie to approve entering a two-year contract with True Blue Speed Enforcement/Photo Capture, that was seconded by Nell Finlay. Vote on the motion was unanimous.

A motion was made by Nell Finlay, and seconded by Judy McKenzie, to table the introduction of Ordinance 99-F, which would change overtime wages and increase longevity pay for the police department, and establish a pay scale for newly hired officers, until the next meeting. Vote on the motion was unanimous.

Mayor Hoffoss introduced Ordinance 71-J, which would increase the longevity pay to 4% for all other hourly employees.

There was no old business to discuss.

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made by Nell Finlay and seconded by Judy McKenzie. Vote on the motion was unanimous.

ATTEST:

Donna Hoffoss
Mayor

September 27, 2023
Minden Press Herald

PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY OF MINDEN, STATE OF LOUISIANA, TAKEN IN SPECIAL SESSION HELD ON SEPTEMBER 13, 2023

The Minden City Council met at City Hall, Minden, Louisiana, beginning at 8:00 a.m. with the following members present: Mayor Nick Cox, Carlton Myles, Levon

Thomas, Latasha Mitchell, Michael Roy, and Andy Pendergrass. Absence(s): 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.

Carlton Myles moved to adopt a Resolution to Amend the City of Minden 2023-2024 Budget, as presented. The motion was duly seconded by Latasha Mitchell and the vote was unanimously in favor. Abstention(s): None. Absence(s): None. Andy Pendergrass moved to award Bid No. 06-2023, 2022-2023 LCDBG Sewer Rehabilitation Project #200720366, to the lowest qualified bidder meeting all requirements. The motion was duly seconded by Carlton Myles and the vote was unanimously in favor. Abstention(s): None. Absence(s): None. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Nick Cox, Mayor

ATTEST:

Michael Fluhr, City Clerk

September 27, 2023
Minden Press Herald

Village of Dixie Inn
Regular Session
September 12, 2023

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

The Mayor and Board of Aldermen for the Village of Dixie Inn met in regular session on September 12, 2023, at 5:00 p.m. in the Village Hall, Dixie Inn, Louisiana with the following members present: Mayor Donna Hoffoss, Aldermen Judy McKenzie, Nell Finlay and Lance Milligan.

The meeting was called to order and the invocation and pledge of allegiance were given.

There were no public comments.

Mayor Donna Hoffoss welcomed guests.

A motion was made by Nell Finlay, and seconded by Judy McKenzie, to adopt the minutes of the Regular Session on August 8, 2023, and of the Special Session on August 4, 2023. Vote was unanimous.

A motion was made by Judy McKenzie and seconded by Lance Milligan to adopt the financial statements for August 2023. Vote was unanimous.

Department Reports: Mike Chreene reported all is well with the water department.

Chief Alan Davis reported all is well with the police department.

New Business

Mr. Carl Thompson addressed the council on the Webster Parish Tax Assessor's office.

A motion was made by Judy McKenzie and seconded by Lance Milligan, to adopt Resolution 0409122023, Procurement Policy, for 2024-2025 LCDBG grant. Vote was unanimous.

A motion was made by Lance Milligan and seconded by Nell Finlay to adopt Resolution 0509122023, Citizen Participation Plan, for 2024-2025 LCDBG grant. Vote was unanimous.

A motion was made by Judy McKenzie and seconded by Nell Finlay to extend the hardware warranty on body cameras at Watch-Guard in the amount of \$1,650.00 for the term October 31, 2023 through October 31, 2024. Vote was unanimous.

A motion was made by Lance Milligan and seconded by Nell Finlay to approve using Louisiana Department of Revenue's Office of Debt Recovery to collect outstanding balances owed to the village. Vote was unanimous.

Mayor Hoffoss introduced Ordinance 76-D, to establish pay for the new Chief of Police.

Mayor Hoffoss introduced Ordinance 95-A, to enter a contract with Entergy.

A motion was made by Judy McKenzie and seconded by Nell Finlay to approve the purchase of a trailer for

the maintenance department in the amount of \$6,120.50 from the Healthy Communities grant.

A motion was made by Lance Milligan and seconded by Judy McKenzie to approve the purchase of a computer for the water department with a \$2,000.00 cap. Vote was unanimous.

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

Attest:

Donna Hoffoss
Mayor

September 27, 2023
Minden Press Herald

LA Fogata Steakhouse LLC D/B/A LA Fogata Steakhouse is applying to the Office of Alcohol & Tobacco Control of the State of Louisiana for a permit to sell beverages of high and low alcohol content at retail in the Parish of Webster at the following address:

507 Main Street
Minden, LA 71055
LA Fogata Steakhouse LLC
D/B/A LA Fogata Steakhouse
Owner: Marcos Villegas Hernandez
Member: Habacu Morales

September 27, 2023
October 4, 2023
Minden Press Herald

Town of Cotton Valley Monthly Meeting
Meeting Date: September 12, 2023

Meeting was called to order by Mayor Ashley Williams Jones

Invocation and Pledge was led by Mayor Jones and in unison.

Roll call by municipal clerk, Tiffany Parish

1. Alderman R. Shaw (present)
2. Alderman J. Carter (present)
3. Alderman E. Parish (present)
4. Alderman C. Lewis (present)
5. Alderman D. Hawkins (absent)

We have a quorum (4) present (1) absent.

Motion to accept the September 2023 agenda. Motioned by Alderman R. Shaw and 2nd by Alderman J. Carter. **MP**

Motion to accept August 2023 meeting minutes, motioned by Alderman R. Shaw and 2nd by Alderman J. Carter. **MP**

Motion to pay September 2023 bills, motioned by Alderman R. Shaw and 2nd by Alderman J. Carter. **MP**

Committee Report: Hannah Powell – Sept 23 Main Street Market, Town Slogan Competition, Christmas Parade.

Mayor's Report: Fall Festival will be held at 4:00 – 7:00 on October 28th.

Citizens' input on the current agenda matters only. None

Old Business

New Business

1. Mike Griffith – Police Jury Candidate
2. Willie Robinson – Police Jury Candidate
3. George Rice – Police Jury Candidate
4. Approve Resolution to Purchase cold Mix. Motioned by Alderman R. Shaw and 2nd by Alderman C. Lewis. **MP**.

Police Report – Chief Donnie Dillard - absent.

Adjournment – Motion made by Alderman J. Carter and 2nd by Alderman C. Lewis, meeting adjourned.

September 27, 2023
Minden Press-Herald

PROCUREMENT POLICY

RESOLUTION 0409122023

BY THE
Village of Dixie Inn

WHEREAS, the Village of Dixie Inn has been afforded the opportunity to apply and participate in the State of Louisiana 2024/2025 Community Development Block Grant Program administered by the Division of Administration; and,

WHEREAS, the STATE requires the establishment of uniform procedures in compliance with OMB Circular A-102;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Village of Dixie Inn, that the attached policy entitled "Procurement Procedures Relative to the LCDBG Program" is hereby adopted.

Passed, approved and adopted this 12th day of September, 2023.

Donna Hoffoss
Donna Hoffoss, Mayor

Alicia Ware
Alicia Ware, Clerk

CERTIFICATE

I, Alicia Ware, Clerk of the Village of Dixie Inn, do hereby certify that the above and foregoing constitutes a true and correct copy of a Resolution passed, approved, and adopted by the Village of Dixie Inn on the 12th day of September, 2023.

Alicia Ware
Alicia Ware, Clerk

September 27, 2023
Minden Press-Herald

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION PLAN

RESOLUTION 0509122023

BY THE
Village of Dixie Inn

WHEREAS, the Village of Dixie Inn has been afforded the opportunity to apply and participate in the State of Louisiana 2024/25 Community Development Block Grant Program administered by the Division of Administration; and,

WHEREAS, the STATE requires Grantees to establish procedures to ensure adequate citizen participation with the program;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Village of Dixie Inn, that the attached policy entitled "Citizen Participation Plan" is hereby adopted.

Passed, approved and adopted by the Village of Dixie Inn, State of Louisiana, on the 12th day of September, 2023.

Donna Hoffoss
Donna Hoffoss, Mayor

Alicia Ware
Alicia Ware, Clerk

CERTIFICATE

I, Alicia Ware, Clerk of the Village of Dixie Inn, do hereby certify that the above and foregoing constitutes a true and correct copy of a Resolution passed, approved, and adopted by the Village of Dixie Inn on the 12th day of September, 2023.

Alicia Ware
Alicia Ware, Clerk

September 27, 2023
Minden Press-Herald

Any Small Jobs

ES Home Remodel & Small Repairs

Eloy Sosa

(318) 505-3318

Painting

Siding

Backsplash

Drywall

Dump Trailer Rental

Flooring

September 27, 2023
Minden Press-Herald

FOLLOWING IS A LIST OF PRECINCTS AND POLLING LOCATIONS THAT WILL BE USED FOR THE ELECTIONS TO BE HELD OCTOBER 14, 2023 AND NOVEMBER 7, 2023.

1	SPRINGHILL CIVIC CENTER	101 MACHEN DR	SPRINGHILL
1A	SPRINGHILL CIVIC CENTER	101 MACHEN DR	SPRINGHILL
2A	SPRINGHILL CIVIC CENTER	101 MACHEN DR	SPRINGHILL
2B	SPRINGHILL CIVIC CENTER	101 MACHEN DR	SPRINGHILL
3	SPRINGHILL CIVIC CENTER	101 MACHEN DR	SPRINGHILL
4	SPRINGHILL CIVIC CENTER	101 MACHEN DR	SPRINGHILL
5	SPRINGHILL CIVIC CENTER	101 MACHEN DR	SPRINGHILL
6	CULLEN MUNICIPAL BUILDING	405 COYLE AVE	CULLEN
8	SAREPTA COMMUNITY BUILDING	210 VINES ST	SAREPTA
9	NEW SHONGALOO CIVIC CENTER	119 HWY ALT 2	SHONGALOO
9A	NEW SHONGALOO CIVIC CENTER	119 HWY ALT 2	SHONGALOO
10	NEW SHONGALOO CIVIC CENTER	119 HWY ALT 2	SHONGALOO
11	SAREPTA COMMUNITY BUILDING	210 VINES ST	SAREPTA
12	NORTH WEBSTER UPPER ELEMENTARY	6245 HIGHWAY 160	COTTON VALLEY
13	NORTH WEBSTER UPPER ELEMENTARY	6245 HIGHWAY 160	COTTON VALLEY
14	EVERGREEN VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPT	1853 EVERGREEN RD	MINDEN
15	PLEASANT VALLEY UMC ACTIVITIES BLDG	16835 HWY 371	MINDEN
16	MINDEN COMMUNITY HOUSE	711 GLADNEY ST	MINDEN
17	J E HARPER PATHWAY TO EXCELLENCE SCHOOL	618 GERMANTOWN RD	MINDEN
17A	J E HARPER PATHWAY TO EXCELLENCE SCHOOL	618 GERMANTOWN RD	MINDEN
17B	J E HARPER PATHWAY TO EXCELLENCE SCHOOL	618 GERMANTOWN RD	MINDEN
17C	J E HARPER PATHWAY TO EXCELLENCE SCHOOL	618 GERMANTOWN RD	MINDEN
18	WEBSTER COURTHOUSE ANNEX (WEST ENTRANCE)	401 MAIN ST	MINDEN
18A	WEBSTER COURTHOUSE ANNEX (WEST ENTRANCE)	401 MAIN ST	MINDEN
22	MINDEN CIVIC CENTER	520 BROADWAY ST	MINDEN
24	MINDEN CIVIC CENTER	520 BROADWAY ST	MINDEN
24A	MINDEN CIVIC CENTER	520 BROADWAY ST	MINDEN
25	PHILLIPS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	811 DURWOOD DR	MINDEN
25A	PHILLIPS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	811 DURWOOD DR	MINDEN
26	MINDEN CIVIC CENTER	520 BROADWAY ST	MINDEN
27	MINDEN CIVIC CENTER	520 BROADWAY ST	MINDEN
28	MINDEN COMMUNITY HOUSE	711 GLADNEY ST	MINDEN
29	J E HARPER PATHWAY TO EXCELLENCE SCHOOL	618 GERMANTOWN RD	MINDEN
29A	J E HARPER PATHWAY TO EXCELLENCE SCHOOL	618 GERMANTOWN RD	MINDEN
31	MINDEN COMMUNITY HOUSE	711 GLADNEY ST	MINDEN
31A	MINDEN COMMUNITY HOUSE	711 GLADNEY ST	MINDEN
32	DUBBERLY FIRE STATION	838 HIGHWAY 532	DUBBERLY
33	MINDEN CIVIC CENTER	520 BROADWAY ST	MINDEN
34	MINDEN CIVIC CENTER	520 BROADWAY ST	MINDEN
35	SIBLEY CIVIC CENTER	127 SE FOURTH AVE	SIBLEY
36	DUBBERLY FIRE STATION	838 HIGHWAY 532	DUBBERLY
38	HEFLIN CIVIC CENTER	116 N MAIN ST	HEFLIN
39	HEFLIN CIVIC CENTER	116 N MAIN ST	HEFLIN
40	SIBLEY CIVIC CENTER	127 SE FOURTH AVE	SIBLEY
42	DOYLINE HIGH SCHOOL	376 COLLEGE ST	DOYLINE
43	FIRE DISTRICT #7, FIRE STATION #5	11217 HIGHWAY 80	MINDEN

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF ELECTION
PARISH OF WEBSTER
Holi Vining, President
Angela F. Hall, Registrar of Voters

September 27, 2023
Minden Press-Herald

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October 6th and 7th
7 am until....
Furniture, tools, odds
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Christmas decor

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dealer. Call for a full list of terms and conditions.

GENERAC

PUBLIC NOTICE

In accordance with federal regulations, the Webster Parish Police Jury Office of Community Services, Section 8 Housing Authority for Webster Parish will begin accepting pre-applications for rental assisted housing and/or placement on the waiting list for such housing.

Pre-application packets can be picked up beginning Monday, September 25, 2023, during business hours.

WE WILL ONLY BE ACCEPTING THE FIRST 100 APPLICATIONS

Completed applications will be accepted on Wednesday, November 1, 2023, at 9:00 am to 12:00 noon at the Minden office. The waiting list will close on Wednesday, November 1, 2023, at 12:00 noon or when 100 are received, whichever comes first.

No pre-application packets will be accepted other than at the times and date listed above.

Persons desiring to apply for rental assistance may obtain pre-application packets from the location listed below:

Webster Parish Police Jury
Office of Community Services
208 Gleason Street
Minden, LA 71055

ALL APPLICATIONS MUST BE TURNED IN AT WEBSTER PARISH OFFICE OF COMMUNITY SERVICES LOCATED AT 208 GLEASON STREET MINDEN, LA ON THE SPECIFIED DATE AND TIMES GIVEN

Equal Opportunity Housing/Employer/Program/Provider
Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities.

September 27, 2023
Minden Press Herald

Town Of Sibley

P.O. Box 128
345 N. Main Street
Sibley, Louisiana 71073
Phone (518) 377-0345 Fax (518) 377-0361

The Sibley Town Council met in regular session on Monday, September 18, 2023, at 6:00 PM in the Sibley Town Hall Meeting Room.

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

Mayor Williams opened the meeting with prayer and he led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Richard Davis motioned to adopt the minutes of the August 14, 2023, Regular Meeting, the August 25, 2023, Special Meeting, and the September 6, 2023, Special Meeting as read; Helen Chanler seconded. Motion carried.

No new items were added to the agenda.

No public comments.

Robert Smart motioned to enter the Public Hearing on proposed Ordinance No. 153 titled AN ORDINANCE TO ENLARGE AND EXTEND THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF THE TOWN OF SIBLEY, LOUISIANA, SO AS TO INCLUDE A TRACT LOCATED IN SECTION 9, TOWNSHIP 18 NORTH, RANGE 9 WEST, WEBSTER PARISH, LOUISIANA. Wayne Bolton seconded. Motion carried.

Wayne Bolton motioned to close the Public Hearing and re-enter the Regular Meeting; Richard Davis seconded. Motion carried.

Robert Smart motioned to consider proposed Ordinance No. 153 titled AN ORDINANCE TO ENLARGE AND EXTEND THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF THE TOWN OF SIBLEY, LOUISIANA, SO AS TO INCLUDE A TRACT LOCATED IN SECTION 9, TOWNSHIP 18 NORTH, RANGE 9 WEST, WEBSTER PARISH, LOUISIANA. Richard Davis seconded. Motion carried with the following vote:
YEAS: 5 - Robert Smart, Alan Myers, Richard Davis, Helen Chanler, Wayne Bolton
NAYS: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 ABSENT: 0
Ordinance No. 153 was adopted.

Robert Smart motioned to introduce and set a Public Hearing on Monday, October 9, 2023, at 6:00 PM during the October Regular Meeting at Sibley Town Hall, 345 North Main Street, Sibley, LA, for the proposed ordinances:

1. Ordinance 50-E titled AN ORDINANCE ADDING TO ORDINANCE 50-D PROVIDING FOR VICIOUS DOGS, DANGEROUS DOGS, AND DOGS AT LARGE WITHIN THE TOWN LIMITS OF THE TOWN OF SIBLEY AND TO DEFINE PENALTIES OF THE ABOVE-MENTIONED DOGS.
2. Ordinance No. 152-A titled AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING CERTAIN ROADWAYS WITHIN THE TOWN OF SIBLEY TO PROHIBIT THRU TRUCK TRAFFIC AND TO PROVIDE FOR A PENALTY IN VIOLATION THEREOF.
3. Ordinance No. 155 titled AN ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH PROTECTED COVENANT FOR LANE MEADOWS SUBDIVISION

Alan Myers seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Richard Davis motioned to adopt Resolution No. 2023-18 regarding a lease purchase agreement for the purpose of financing a tractor; Robert Smart seconded. Motion carried.

Robert Smart motioned to adopt Resolution No. 2023-19 regarding a lease purchase agreement for the purpose of financing a police patrol unit; Alan Myers seconded. Motion carried.

Richard Davis motioned to adopt Resolution No. 2023-20 setting the millage rate for the 2023 property taxes. Helen Chanler seconded. Motion carried with the following vote:
YEAS: 5 - Robert Smart, Alan Myers, Richard Davis, Helen Chanler, Wayne Bolton
NAYS: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 ABSENT: 0
Resolution No. 2023-20 was adopted.

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

Assistant Chief Clint Meshel gave the August, 2023, activity report for the Sibley Police Department.

Mayor Williams spoke to those in attendance about good things happening in Sibley, such as Lakeside Homecoming Parade set for Thursday, September 28th at 6 PM, and National Night Out set for Tuesday, October 10th at Sibley Town Hall.

Alan Myers motioned to adjourn the Regular Meeting; Richard Davis seconded. Motion carried.

The Regular Meeting was adjourned.

Attest:

original signed Jimmy Williams	original signed Linda Christy
Jimmy Williams Mayor	Linda Christy Deputy Clerk

ORDINANCE NO. 153

AN ORDINANCE TO ENLARGE AND EXTEND THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF THE TOWN OF SIBLEY, LOUISIANA, SO AS TO INCLUDE A TRACT LOCATED IN SECTION 9, TOWNSHIP 18 NORTH, RANGE 9 WEST, WEBSTER PARISH, LOUISIANA.

WHEREAS a petition was presented to the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the Town of Sibley, Louisiana, filed by a majority of the owners of the following described property, to wit:

TRACT A:

A 5.08 acre, more or less, tract of land located in the Northeast Quarter of the Southwest Quarter (NE/4 of SW/4), and the Northwest Quarter of the Southeast Quarter (NW/4 of SE/4), Section 9, Township 18 North, Range 9 West, Northwestern Land District, Louisiana Meridian West, Webster Parish, Louisiana, being more particularly described as follows:

Begin at a found 3/4 inch iron rod marking the Southeast Corner of the Northeast Quarter of the Southwest Quarter; also being the Southwest Corner of the Northwest Quarter of the Southwest Quarter, said Section 9, and run South 89 degrees 16 minutes 10 seconds East for a distance of 17.60 feet to a set 3/4 inch iron rod on the West right of way of U.S. Highway No. 371, and run along said

right of way for the next two (2) calls; thence run North 09 degrees 15 minutes 17 seconds East for a distance of 498.72 feet to a found 1/2 inch iron pipe; thence run North 08 degrees 42 minutes 20 seconds East for a distance of 419.73 feet to a found tall 5/8 inch iron rod, for the Point of Beginning; thence run North 81 degrees 21 minutes 32 seconds West for a distance of 210.46 feet to a found 1 inch iron pipe; thence run North 89 degrees 09 minutes 21 seconds West for a distance of 330.76 feet to a set 3/4 inch iron rod; thence run North 00 degrees 29 minutes 51 seconds East for a distance of 381.35 feet to a set 1/2 inch iron rod on the North line of the Northeast Quarter of the Southwest Quarter, said Section 9; thence run South 89 degrees 19 minutes 33 seconds East for a distance of 598.33 feet to a set 1/2 inch iron rod at the intersection of the North line of the Northwest Quarter of the Southeast Quarter, said Section 9; thence run South 08 degrees 41 minutes 31 seconds West for a distance of 415.56 feet along said right of way, to the Point of Beginning.

100 Foot Strip (U.S. Highway No. 371):

A 100 foot wide strip of land, containing 3.06 acres, more or less,

Northeast Corner of the Southeast Quarter of the Southwest Quarter, the Southwest Corner of the Northwest Quarter of the Southeast Quarter; and the Northwest Corner of the Southwest Quarter of the Southeast Quarter, said Section 9, and run South 89 degrees 16 minutes 10 seconds East for a distance of 17.60 feet to a set 3/4 inch iron rod at the intersection of the South line of the Northwest Quarter of the Southeast Quarter, also being the North line of the Southwest Quarter of the Southeast Quarter, said Section 9, and the West right of way of U.S. Highway No. 371, for the Point of Beginning; thence run South 05 degrees 23 minutes 08 seconds West for a distance of 50.17 feet along said right of way, to a set 3/4 inch iron rod; thence run North 89 degrees 16 minutes 10 seconds West for a distance of 398.98 feet to a set 3/4 inch iron rod; thence run North 00 degrees 29 minutes 51 seconds East for a distance of 988.51 feet to a set 3/4 inch iron rod; thence run South 89 degrees 09 minutes 21 seconds East for a distance of 330.76 feet to a found 1 inch iron pipe; thence run South 08 degrees 38 minutes 31 seconds West for a distance of 420.00 feet to a set 3/4 inch iron rod; thence run South 81 degrees 25 minutes 54 seconds East for a distance of 210.00 feet to a found 1/2 inch iron pipe on the West right of way of U.S. Highway No. 371; thence run South 09 degrees 15 minutes 17 seconds West for a distance of 498.72 feet along said right of way, to the Point of Beginning.

TRACT C

A 50.00 foot wide strip of land containing 1.54 acres, more or less, located in the Northeast Quarter of the Southwest Quarter (NE/4 of SW/4), the Southeast Quarter of the Southwest Quarter (SE/4 of SW/4), and the Southwest Quarter of the Southeast Quarter (SW/4 of SE/4), all in Section 9, Township 18 North, Range 9 West, Northwestern Land District, Louisiana Meridian West, partially located within the incorporated limits of the Town of Sibley, Webster Parish, Louisiana, being more particularly described as follows:

Begin at a reset 3/4 inch iron rod, marking the Southeast Corner of the Northeast Quarter of the Southwest Quarter, the Northeast Corner of the Southeast Quarter of the Southwest Quarter, and the Northwest Corner of the Southwest Quarter of the Southeast Quarter, said Section 9, for the Point of Beginning, and run South 89 degrees 16 minutes 10 seconds East for a distance of 17.60 feet to a set 3/4 inch iron rod at the intersection of the South line of the Northwest Quarter of the Southeast Quarter, also being the North line of the Southwest Quarter of the Southeast Quarter, said Section 9, and the West right of way of U.S. Highway No. 371; thence run South 05

being that part of U.S. Highway No. 371, lying within the Northwest Quarter of the Southeast Quarter (NW/4 of SE/4), Section 9, Township 18 North, Range 9 West, Northwestern Land District, Louisiana Meridian West, Webster Parish, Louisiana, being more particularly described as follows:

Begin at a set 3/4 inch iron rod, marking the Southwest Corner of the Northwest Quarter of the Southeast Quarter, said Section 9, and run South 89 degrees 16 minutes 10 seconds East for a distance of 17.60 feet to a set 3/4 inch iron rod at the intersection of the South line of said "forty", and the West right of way of U.S. Highway No. 371, for the Point of Beginning, and run along said right of way for the next three (3) calls; thence run North 09 degrees 15 minutes 17 seconds East for a distance of 498.72 feet to a found 1/2 inch iron pipe; thence run North 08 degrees 42 minutes 20 seconds East for a distance of 419.73 feet to a found tall 5/8 inch iron rod; thence run North 08 degrees 41 minutes 31 seconds East for a distance of 415.56 feet to a set 1/2 inch iron rod; thence run South 89 degrees 19 minutes 33 seconds East for a distance of 101.00 feet to a point on the East right of way of U.S. Highway No. 371, and run along said East right of way for the next three (3) calls; thence run South 08 degrees 41 minutes 31 seconds West for a distance of 429.66 feet to a point; thence run South 08 degrees 42 minutes 20 seconds West for a distance of 420.22 feet to a point; thence run South 09 degrees 15 minutes 17 seconds West for a distance of 484.21 feet to a point at the intersection of said East right of way, and the South line of the Northwest Quarter of the Southeast Quarter, said Section 9; thence run North 89 degrees 16 minutes 10 seconds West for a distance of 101.12 feet to the Point of Beginning.

TRACT B:

An 8.58 acre, more or less, tract of land located in the Northeast Quarter of the Southwest Quarter (NE/4 of SW/4), the Southeast Quarter of the Southwest Quarter (SE/4 of SW/4), the Northwest Quarter of the Southeast Quarter (NE/4 of SE/4), and the Southwest Quarter of the Southeast Quarter (SW/4 of SE/4), all in Section 9, Township 18 North, Range 9 West, Northwestern Land District, Louisiana Meridian West, partially located within the incorporated limits of the Town of Sibley, Webster Parish, Louisiana, being more particularly described as follows:

Begin at a reset 3/4 inch iron rod, marking the Southeast Corner of the Northeast Quarter of the Southwest Quarter, the degrees 23 minutes 08 seconds West for a distance of 50.17 feet along said right of way, to a set 3/4 inch iron rod; thence run North 89 degrees 16 minutes 10 seconds West for a distance of 398.98 feet to a set 3/4 inch iron rod; thence run North 00 degrees 29 minutes 51 seconds East for a distance of 988.51 feet to a set 3/4 inch iron rod; thence run South 89 degrees 09 minutes 21 seconds East for a distance of 50.00 feet to a found 5/8 inch iron rod; then run South 00 degrees 29 minutes 51 seconds West for a distance of 938.41 feet to a found 5/8 inch disturbed iron rod on the South line of the Northeast Quarter of the Southwest Quarter, also being the North line of the Southeast Quarter of the Southwest Quarter, said Section 9; thence run South 89 degrees 16 minutes 10 seconds East for a distance of 335.65 feet along said "forty" line, to the Point of Beginning.

All located in Section 9, Township 18 North, Range 9 West, Webster Parish, Louisiana. Wherein the petitioning property owners asked the Mayor and Board of Aldermen for the Town of Sibley, Louisiana, to enlarge the boundaries of the Town of Sibley, Louisiana, to include the property set forth and described in the said petition; and

WHEREAS Denise Edwards, Webster Parish Assessor, did certify that said petition contains the written consent of more than a majority of the property owners in said area to be annexed as well as the names of those owning in excess of 25% of the property within the affected area; and

WHEREAS Angela F. Hall, Registrar of Voters of Webster Parish, Louisiana, did certify that said petition contained the written consent of a majority of the registered voters within the area to be annexed; and

WHEREAS notice was given to the public of the filing of the petition by publication in the Minden Press-Herald; and

WHEREAS an opportunity for a public hearing was provided to the public as required by law;

THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED AND ENACTED by the Board of Aldermen of the Town of Sibley, Louisiana, in Regular Session conveyed on the 18th day of September, 2023, as follows:

SECTION 1:

Town limits of the Town of Sibley, Louisiana, be and the same are hereby enlarged so as to include the property described hereinabove;

SECTION 2:

That this ordinance shall become effective thirty (30) days after it has been published one time in the official journal of the Town of Sibley, Louisiana.

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- Bossier Parish Republican Party
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WELCOME TO THE FAIR



DAILY EVENTS

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 3

- FAIR PARADE DOWNTOWN MINDEN AT 5:00 P.M.
- FAIR GATES OPEN AT 5:00 P.M.
- LIVESTOCK WEIGH-IN AT 5:00 P.M.
- POULTRY AND RABBIT SHOW AT 6:00 P.M.
- LIVE ENTERTAINMENT AT 6:00 P.M. (Echota Records)

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 4

- FAIR GATES OPEN AT 5:00 P.M.
- "ARMBAND NITE"
- 4-H SWINE SHOWMANSHIP AT 6:00 P.M.
- THEN SWINE WEIGHT CLASSES (LIVESTOCK ARENA)

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 5

- SENIOR CITIZEN DAY 9:00 A.M. UNTIL 1:30 P.M. (CIVIC CENTER)
- FAIR GATES OPEN AT 5:00 P.M. "ARMBAND NITE"
- 4-H GOAT, LAMB, BEEF SHOWMANSHIP AT 6:00 P.M.
- 4-H DAIRY, AND DOUG SALE SHOWMANSHIP AT 7:00 P.M.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 6

- BUYER'S LUNCHEON AT 11:30 A.M.
- LIVESTOCK AUCTION AT 1:00 P.M. (4-H SHOW BARN)
- FAIR GATES OPEN AT 5:00 P.M.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 7

- FAIR GATES OPEN AT 12:00 P.M.
- LIVE ENTERTAINMENT (Echota Records)
- KIDS DAY! 1:00 TO 5:00 P.M.
- PIZZA EATING CONTEST AT 2:00 P.M. SPONSORED BY JOHNNY'S PIZZA

(Dates are subject to cancellation)



WEBSTER PARISH FAIR PARADE

DATE: Tuesday, October 3, 2023

START TIME: 5:00 P.M.

LINE UP: 3:30 P.M.

NAME OF GROUP:

NAME OF SPONSOR (IF ANY):

ADDRESS:

TELEPHONE:

APPROX. NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN GROUP:

DESIGNATE:

DRILL TEAM

FLOAT

BAND

MARCHING GROUP

AUTO OR TRUCK

SEND ENTRIES BY SEPTEMBER 29, 2023

MAIL TO: Sherrie McMurray
107 Methodist Camp Rd.
MINDEN, LA 71055

INFORMATION: Sherrie McMurray
PHONE: 318-294-6346
FAX: 377-4769

NOTE

THE PARADE'S PACE WILL BE SLOW ENOUGH FOR YOUR GROUP TO PERFORM ROUTINES. THEREFORE, WHEN THE PARADE IS STARTED THERE WILL BE NO STOPPING OF ANY GROUP. A CLOSE INTERVAL MUST BE MAINTAINED AT ALL TIMES. IF ANY GROUP CANNOT COMPLY WITH THIS REQUEST YOU WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO PARTICIPATE IN ANY FUTURE FAIR PARADES. IF PLANNING ON HAVING THROWS YOU MUST HAVE WALKERS ON EACH SIDE OF FLOAT FOR CROWD CONTROL. IF PARADE IS STOPPED, THEN YOU MUST STOP GIVING OUT THROWS UNTIL FLOAT IS MOVING. THANK YOU FOR YOUR COOPERATION.

MINDEN
PRESS-HERALD

5 Texas A&M vs. Arkansas

2023 FOOTBALL
CONTEST

1. Glenbrook vs. Arcadia

6. Louisiana-Lafayette vs. Minnesota

20. Patriots vs. Cowboys

10. Baylor vs. UCF

3. Lincoln Prep vs. Lakeside

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YOUR
State Representative District 10

19. Raiders vs. Chargers

HFB
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11. LSU vs. Ole Miss

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4. USC vs. Colorado

10. Baylor vs. UCF

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2. Huntington vs. Minden

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13. Alabama vs. Mississippi State

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7. Clemson vs. Syracuse

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18. Steelers vs. Texans

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8. Alabama - Birmingham vs. Tulane

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17. Bengals vs. Titans

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14. Grambling vs. Prairie View A&M

Lamplighter
MANOR GARDEN APARTMENTS

9. Houston vs. Texas Tech

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WINNING TEAMS BALLOT

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Address: _____

1. _____ 11. _____

2. _____ 12. _____

3. _____ 13. _____

4. _____ 14. _____

5. _____ 15. _____

6. _____ 16. _____

7. _____ 17. _____

8. _____ 18. _____

9. _____ 19. _____

10. _____ 20. _____

THE TIE BREAKER: TOTAL POINTS OF
South Carolina vs. Tennessee _____

CONTEST RULES

1. Locate the 20 games and circle the name of the team you think will win.

2. Print the winning team name in the blank on the ballot. BE SURE TO MATCH THE NUMBERS CORRECTLY.

3. Predict the TOTAL number of points you think will be scored in the tie breaker game and enter in the space provided.

4. Complete and cut out the entry blank and deposit at the Minden Press-Herald, 203 Gleason Street, Minden, LA or mail to Football Contest, P.O. Box 1339, Minden, LA 71058.

5. Entries must be dropped off no later than 12:00pm on Fridays. Entries received after 12:00pm on Friday will not be accepted

6. WE WILL NO LONGER ACCEPT FAXES.

7. Prizes awarded will be \$25 for first place, \$15 for second place, and \$10 for third place.

8. One entry per person per week.

9. Employees, Independent Contractors and Families of the Minden Press-Herald are not eligible.

10. NO PHOTOCOPIED ENTRIES WILL BE ACCEPTED.