

MINDEN PRESS-HERALD

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ECONOMY

Manchac Consulting Group proposes roadway extension for Minden

WILL PHILLIPS
Minden Press-Herald

Representatives from the Manchac Consulting Group presented a potential project to the mayor and Minden City Council, that being a proposed route for a new highway corridor in the City of Minden. This highway corridor would be an extension of Harvey's Way roadway to connect to U.S. 80 and Industrial Road. They elaborated on the potential benefits introducing this new roadway would bring for the City of Minden, including traffic congestion alleviation, pedestrian and cyclist accessibility, and a boon to the local economy.

"Minden, Louisiana, currently faces significant traffic congestion due to the lack of efficient transportation infrastructure. The existing roadways are unable to handle the increasing volume of vehicles, leading to long delays and frustration among commuters," resources from the Manchac Consulting Group stated.

"The congestion also impacts the local economy as businesses struggle with transportation logistics. Residents experience increased stress and frus-

See, **ROADS**, Page 3

COMMUNITY



Babbs Park was filled with colorful candy filled eggs at the YWSC's Easter Egg Bash.

WILL PHILLIPS/PRESS-HERALD PHOTO

Young Women's Service Club hosts Easter Egg Bash filled with fun and community spirit

WILL PHILLIPS
Minden Press-Herald

Candy-filled eggs were scattered across Babbs Park Sunday afternoon for the Easter Egg Bash hosted by the Young Women's Service Club. Along with the main event of an easter egg hunt, there were additional activities for families to enjoy,

including face painting services, bounce houses, and refreshments, and a snow cone trailer.

The free refreshments and even the egg hunt itself was able to be provided free to the community thanks to generous support of local sponsors. The YWSC thanks b1BANK for sponsoring the bounce houses, Carter for spon-

soring the candy, Debbie Callender realtor for LaState Realty for sponsoring the face painting, Laura Horton for sponsoring refreshments, Home Federal Bank for sponsoring the Easter bags, Hugh Wood Catering and Specialty Meats for sponsoring the hot dogs, and Gibleland Bank and Trust for Sponsoring the snow

cone trailer.

Through the work of the YWSC volunteer's who put on the event as well as the generosity of organizations and businesses supporting this local event in their community, the Easter Egg Bash was held, giving families and their children the opportunity to take part in a cherished Easter tradition.

CRIME

Minden man arrested on outstanding warrant and drug charges

STAFF REPORT
Minden Press-Herald

On March 11, a Minden man was arrested on an outstanding warrant and drug charges. While patrolling the private property of Minden Motel, an officer observed a black male wearing dark-colored clothing. Upon making eye contact with the male subject, the officer recognized him as Kenyaskey Moore, 39, who had an active felony warrant through the Minden Police Department. Moore attempted to provide a false name, Travski Moore, and a false date of birth. Moore was taken into custody without incident.

During a search of Moore's person, the officer found a Newport pack containing a clear plastic baggie of suspected methamphetamine and another clear plastic baggie containing suspected crack cocaine. Additionally, a glass pipe with suspected narcotic residue was found in Moore's hoodie pocket. Moore was then transported to the Minden Police Department and placed into a holding cell.

At the police department, Moore was served a warrant for aggravated battery and received charges for possession of schedule 2 substances (crack cocaine and methamphetamine), possession of drug paraphernalia, and resisting an officer. He was subsequently transported to the Bayou Dorcheat Correctional Center.

WPPJ

Webster Parish Police Jury approves appointments and emergency declaration

AMBER MCDOWN
Minden Press-Herald

The Webster Parish Police Jury (WPPJ) convened for its regular meeting on March 5, with all members present and all agenda items receiving unanimous approval.

Among the approvals was the reappointment of Mr. Roger Schumacher to a 2-year term at the Sarepta Fire District #5, effective until December 31, 2025.

The jury also passed a resolution declaring an emergency for LCDBG-Saltworks Water System. Following the recent combination of the Sibley and

Saltworks water systems, Saltworks lost its water supply. Despite drilling two test wells, both were dry in the approved area. WPPJ President Jim Bonsall explained, "We declared an emergency to get a well drilled outside that area. If Sibley was to have a well go down for any reason, they might be short on water to supply everybody, so that's what that is about."

During the committee reports, Melinda Davidson of the Webster Parish Office of Community Services announced that through the Section 8 program, they have successfully housed 10 families. Wanda Finley of the HeadStart program reported that they have begun recruiting for the upcoming school year.

See, **JURY**, Page 3

RIBBON CUTTING



AMBER MCDOWN/PRESS-HERALD PHOTO

Mayor Nick Cox, alongside community leaders and volunteers, celebrates the unveiling of Seeds Women's Center's new Pamper Pantry, a vital resource providing free essential items for the community, generously supported by the Krewe des Ambassadeurs.

Seeds Women's Center unveils Pamper Pantry

AMBER MCDOWN
Minden Press-Herald

Seeds Women's Center held a ribbon-cutting ceremony on March 6 to inaugurate its new Pamper Pantry, generously provided by the Krewe des Ambassadeurs. The pantry offers essential items free of charge to the community, including sanitary napkins,

tampons, diapers, wipes, and informational materials about Seeds Women's Center. The Krewe has committed to supplying these items for the next several months.

The event was attended by a host of community leaders, volunteers, and elected officials who came together to celebrate Seeds Women's Center's dedication to

serving the community. Mayor Nick Cox expressed his unwavering support, stating, "I've always been a big supporter of Seeds. This is a great organization. We need more places like this in our country, so we're doing our part in our city by supporting what you all do. It's a very impactful thing. We can see the results."

Amber Bradford, the director of Seeds Women's Center, highlighted the pressing need the Pamper Pantry addresses, stating, "We learned in the last year that there is a huge need in our community. A lot of the women that we serve do not have the funding to purchase those

See, **PANTRY**, Page 2



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WEBSTER & MORE

EDUCATION

NLTCC automotive technology students thrive in Shreveport police internship program

KELSEY MESHELL

Special to the Minden Press-Herald

Northwest Louisiana Technical Community College (NLTCC) is leaving a positive mark on the Shreveport community through its recent partnership with the Shreveport Police and Fire Departments. This collaboration, which began in October 2023, has created an exciting opportunity for Automotive Technology students at NLTCC to gain hands-on experience by working on police and fire department vehicles.

The program allows students to intern with experienced auto technicians at the Shreveport Police and Fire Departments. This real-world experience takes place during the last six months of their studies, offering invaluable training and skills that will ease their transition into the workforce.

The first students to join the internship, Kevin Barrera and Toby Conly, have been doing well and enjoying their time in the

program. Kevin, who is from Honduras, recently began his internship with the police department. Reflecting on his experience, he shared, “Some new things that I have learned is that we all must work hard to earn trust and to have better chances in life. I am hoping to be able to stay on with the police department.”

Toby Conly, a local from Shreveport, has been a part of the police department since December. Recently, Toby was offered a full-time position with the Police department upon graduation. In the future, Toby looks forward to, “Having the best benefits and retirement that you can get.”

Trimel Williams, Assistant Superintendent of Vehicle Maintenance for the Shreveport Police Department, only had great things to say about the internship so far. “Our first interns, Toby Conly and Kevin Barrera, are great students who seek knowledge and experience in the Automotive field. They have a great attitude,



personality, and work ethic. We service over 500 units. Working with our fleet will give them a great experience in the real world. This program has been and will be a great success with many more years to come.”

The opportunity to participate in internships

is a valuable addition to NLTCC’s Automotive Technology program. Also included in the program are specialized classroom instruction and practical shop experience, which prepares students for entry-level service and maintenance roles in the automotive

industry. The program covers the safe use and maintenance of tools and equipment, as well as instruction in diagnosing and repairing engines, fuel systems, drive trains, electrical systems, brake systems, and suspension systems.

To learn more about

NLTCC’s programs or schedule a tour, visit nltcc.edu or call 318.371.3035 to speak to a member of the Student Services team. Enrollment is currently open, with classes beginning March 18th.

EDUCATION

Richardson Elementary School’s Jonathan Washington named Employee of the Month

AMBER MCDOWN

Minden Press-Herald

At the recent Webster Parish School Board meeting held on March 4, Jonathan Washington, the newly appointed dean of students at Richardson Elementary School, received the prestigious Employee of the Month award. The honor was bestowed upon him by Kevin Thompson of Taylor and Sons. Prior to assuming his current role at the beginning of this school

year, Washington served as the assistant principal at Minden High School.

“Mr. Washington has been a true asset to our campus since starting in August. He supports our teachers and handles discipline issues with our students fairly and consistently. His SBLC paperwork, meetings, and follow-up are extremely professional and well-versed. He has stepped in many times to assist teachers with disruptive students, often keeping

them with him. Mr. Washington is knowledgeable about our community and knows many of the parents of our students. He has helped anytime we have teachers working after hours, volunteering their time to decorate or prepare for other activities. He has been a great addition to our campus.”

To find out who will be named Employee of the Month next, attend the next regular school board meeting on April 1 at the school board office.



PANTRY

Continued from Page 1

things that they need.” She also emphasized that the pantry can serve as an emergency stopgap when stores are closed. “I thank you all for your support,” said Bradford. The community is encouraged to

contribute to the pantry.

Seeds Women’s Center has experienced an 87% increase in people utilizing its services since last year, reflecting the growing need in the community. The center is currently seeking a larger

building to accommodate this surge. Seeds offers a range of free services such as pregnancy tests, ultrasounds, and parenting classes. For more information or to donate, visit their website at www.seedswomenscenter.com.

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PUBLIC NOTICE



The full text of the Acts from the 2024 First Extraordinary Session of the Louisiana Legislature may be viewed on the website of the Official Journal of the State at www.theadvocate.com.

Prepared by
Secretary of State Nancy Landry
pursuant to Act 802 of the 2010 Regular Session
of the Louisiana Legislature.

WEBSTER & MORE

OBITUARIES



Tony Thrash

Tony Thrash, age 75, went to join our Lord and Savior, Saturday, March 2, after a few years of declining health.

On behalf of the family, we would

like to thank the medical staff of Minden Medical Center who cared for our uncle in his last days on this earth. Friends who took time to visit and left notes, they meant very much to us. His smile and infectious laugh will be missed by all. Tony never met a stranger and remembered everyone he met. A private memorial service will be held at a later date.



Jean B. Taylor

Graveside services for Jean B. Taylor will be held Wednesday, March 13, 2024, at 11:00 a.m. at Gardens of Memory in Minden, Louisiana with Bro. Steve Gilley officiating. The family received friends Tuesday, March 12, 2024, from 4:00 until 7:00 p.m. at Rose Neath Funeral Home in Minden, Louisiana.

Jean was born March 16, 1931, in Daisy, Arkansas and entered into rest March 9, 2024, in Minden, Louisiana.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Lyndon L. Taylor, parents, Ira and Lola Barentine, granddaugh-

ter, Lori Pullman and great-grandson, Kyle Knotts.

She is survived by her daughters, Lynda Gordon (Paul Gordon) of Dubberly and Karen Pullman (Guy Cade) of Minden; son Barry Taylor of Minden; god-daughter, Dixie St. Germain of Minden; grandchildren, Stephanie Knotts, Randy Gordon, Ronny Gordon, Jeremy Pullman, and Justin Cruise; great-grandchildren, Kimber Richards, Kason Knotts, Trent Gordon, Harley Gordon, and Liam Gordon; great great-granddaughters, Olivia and Addie Richards; sister, Patricia Williams of Broken Bow, OK, and devoted caregiver, Donna Watson of Sibley.

The family would like to thank Stacy Thomason and the staff of St. Joseph Hospice for their care of their loved one.

EDUCATION

Webster Parish shines at Louisiana District Literary Rally

AMBER MCDOWN
Minden Press-Herald

Students from Webster Parish showcased their academic prowess at the Louisiana District Literary Rally, hosted at Louisiana Tech University. Glenbrook School stood out by securing the Sweepstakes Award for the 17th time in 18 years, with 40 out of 47 participating students placing 1st – 4th, along with two students receiving a Superior rating in the music division.

Minden High School excelled among public schools, earning 27 placements and the District II overall winners award. Twelve Minden High students achieved first place in their individual exams. Superintendent Johnny Rowland of the Webster Parish school district said, “They give up most of their day to do this, and we’re very grateful to them for representing the parish so well.”

The Louisiana Literary Rally, with roots dating back over a century to 1909, has evolved into a statewide competition. Top qualifiers from ten district rallies progress to the State Rally at LSU, providing Louisiana’s brightest students a platform to demonstrate their knowledge and skills on a broader stage.

Glenbrook School Winners (Division V):

- Cade Vining 1st
- Gwenyth Lott 3rd
- Grant Harrington 4th
- Nolan Still 1st
- Brayson Cummings 1st
- Mason Farnell 3rd
- Kyla Whitt 2nd
- Scarlett O’Glee 1st
- Jackson Lott 3rd
- Lindsey Stanford 4th
- Garrett Brown 1st

Kadyn McKinney 1st

Madeline Farnell 2nd

Ayden Rose 1st

Madison Gray 3rd

Colby Hollis 4th

Olivia Downer 4th

Chase Sentell 3rd

Macee Smith 1st

Jackson Waller 2nd

Gracie Williams 1st

Addison Lee 1st

Sophie Spillers 1st

Mollie Thurman 1st

Amrey Lowrey 2nd

Joshua Chandler 2nd

Allison King 1st

Makenzie Branton 2nd

Connor Williams 2nd

Landry Powell 1st

Leslie Shoemaker 1st

Mattie Fowler 1st

Spencer Brantley 2nd

Vivian Still 4th

Rebecca Mosley 2nd

Abigail Clark 1st

Gabrielle Brown 3rd

Sophie Downer 2nd

Ella Heflin 3rd

Landry Merritt 2nd

Scarlett O’Glee Superior

Madeline Farnell Superior

Minden High School Winners (Division II):

ALGEBRA I

Maggie Pesnell 1

BIOLOGY

Wyatt Haley 2

BIOLOGY II

Ava Woods 3

BUSINESS COMPUTER APPLICATIONS

Jaydee Tuttle 1

CHEMISTRY

Parker Davidson 1

CIVICS

Logan Klimkiewicz 2

ENGLISH I

Jake Boyce 2

ENGLISH IV

Janey Smith 2

ENGLISH LITERATURE

Alec Simpson 1*

ENGLISH PRONUNCIATION

Kalyn Williams 1*

ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE

Dimiyah Seets 3

FAMILY & CONSUMER SCIENCE

Travesti Byrd 1

FINANCIAL LITERACY

Kailand Fields 1

FINE ARTS SURVEY

Kan Sangmuang 1

GEOMETRY

Emma Woods 2

INTRO. TO BUS. COMPUTER APPLICATION

Hailey Miller 1

JOURNALISM I

Maygan Dison 1

NUTRITION & FOOD

Shamara Moore 1

PHYSICS

Landon Greer 2

PRINCIPLES OF BUSINESS

Chelsey Frazier 1

SPANISH I

Tamera Marquez 2

SPANISH II

Carlie Cupples 2

SPELLING 10

Tophier Wilson 2*

SPELLING 11

Porter Neal 2*

U.S. HISTORY

Luke Butcher 2

WORLD GEOGRAPHY

Emma Herring 2

WORLD HISTORY

Lorelai Beavers 2

North Webster High School (Division III):

ACCOUNTING

Kadi Colvin 1

AGRISCIENCE I

Terris Alexander Luna 3

AGRISCIENCE II

Ian Oglee 3

AGRISCIENCE III

Daniel Slade Lockey 4

ENGLISH LITERATURE

Samuel Brice Baker 1*

ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE

Amiyah White 2

FAMILY & CONSUMER SCIENCE

Taylor Roberson 1

FINANCIAL LITERACY

Zoe Oremovic 1

FINE ARTS SURVEY

KeAdrian Thirdegill 3

FRENCH II

Callie Lewis 2

FRENCH III

Maximiliana Thumfart 1

NUTRITION & FOOD

Camryn Nail 2

PRINCIPLES OF BUSINESS

Nathan Birdsong 2

PSYCHOLOGY

Gabriella Bree Lyons 3

U.S. HISTORY

Ayden Deshote 4

Doyline High School (Division V):

SPANISH II

Jazmine Torres 1

U.S. HISTORY

Ashlyn Thomason 1

WORLD GEOGRAPHY

Erin Gannon 4

Lakeside High School (Division III):

ACCOUNTING

Gavin Woodall 2

ADV. MATH-FUNCTIONS & STATISTICS

Ethan Patterson 3

ADVANCED MATH-PRE CALCULUS

Cameron Murray 1

AGRISCIENCE I

Ashlyn Ricketson 1

BUSINESS COMPUTER APPLICATIONS

Joshua Hasty 1

CIVICS

Caden Doyle 3

COMPUTER SCIENCE

I Hayden Burrell 2

ENGLISH II

Baylee Stricklin 4

ENGLISH III

Alyssa Chang 3

ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE

Landon Finley 1

FAMILY & CONSUMER SCIENCE

Chloe Monroe 2

FINANCIAL LITERACY

Charlene Randall 2

INTRO. TO BUS. COMPUTER APPLICATION

Nyla Braggs 3

JOURNALISM I

Kamryn Goodson 1

PRINCIPLES OF BUSINESS

Abby Miller 1



Wills Successions

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ROADS

Continued from Page 1

tration due to daily traffic jams, while the lack of efficient transportation options affects accessibility to essential services and amenities.”

Regarding this issue, the resources explained four key ways that this roadway would mitigate these issues, including congestion alleviation, safety measures and emergency response, pedestrian and cyclist accessibility, and integration with existing road networks.

“One of the primary aims of the new highway corridor is to alleviate traffic congestion in Minden, Louisiana. Implementing efficient traffic management solutions, in the design, will contribute to reducing congestion and improving traffic flow,” the documents read.

“Ensuring the safety of road users and implementing effective emergency response protocols is paramount. The proposed corridor will enhance this initiative. The highway corridor project will prioritize pedestrian and cyclist accessibility and safety. Designing dedicated pathways, pedestrian-friendly elements, and safe cycling lanes will encourage sustainable modes of transport and enhance overall road user safety.

“Seamless integration with existing road networks is essential for the success of the new highway corridor. Coordination with local authorities and comprehensive planning will ensure smooth connectivity and minimize disruptions to the existing transportation infrastructure.”

The Manchac Consulting Group also highlighted the positive economic impacts that this roadway could bring to Minden, referencing not only how the project itself would lead to new opportunities in the construction industry, but also that the increased access to existing businesses would spur the local economy as well as increase opportunities for new businesses to be developed.

“The construction of a new highway corridor will create employment opportunities in the construction industry, leading to a boost in local employment rates. Additionally, the improved accessibility will attract new businesses to the area, stimulating economic growth and creating further job opportunities,” the document stated.

“Existing businesses along the new highway corridor may experience increased customer traffic and visibility, potentially leading to expansion and the creation of new jobs within these establishments. The new highway corridor will open up previously inaccessible areas, providing prime locations for new businesses to establish themselves. This will lead to increased economic activity and di-

versification of the local economy, contributing to sustainable growth.”

Another benefit that was mentioned was that of how it could make the city more attractive to businesses seeking to come here as well as stimulating tourism by making Minden more accessible to visitors.

“Enhanced connectivity will make the city more attractive to potential investors and trade partners. This will lead to an influx of investments, technology transfers, and collaborative opportunities, further boosting the economic landscape of Minden, Louisiana,” the documents read.

“The new highway corridor will enhance connectivity to regional and national markets, facilitating the movement of goods and services. This improved access will lead to increased trade activities, benefiting local businesses and promoting economic development.”

They also went into detail regarding how the addition of this roadway could see the increase in property values in the surrounding area. “The construction of a new highway corridor will stimulate additional infrastructure development, such as improved roads, utilities, and public facilities. This will enhance the overall livability of Minden and attract further investments in the city’s infrastructure,” the documents read.

“The presence of a well-designed highway corridor will positively impact property values in surrounding areas. Improved accessibility and connectivity will make these properties more desirable, potentially leading to an increase in real estate values and overall economic prosperity.”

The cost of this project is estimated to be \$6.5 million, with a majority of the costs being construction totalling around \$5.5 million, along with some additional costs for surveys, engineering, and ROW acquisition totaling around \$1 million. Most of the cost of the project would be covered by grants, however the City of Minden would still be responsible for roughly 20%-25% of the total cost.

The mayor and city council are still deliberating whether or not this project will be a worthwhile investment for the City of Minden, however the project has already received letters of support from other governmental bodies and organizations such as the the Webster Parish Office of Community Services, Webster Parish Police Jury, Minden Medical Center, Minden Chamber of Commerce, Louisiana Economic Development and more. Whether or not the project goes through depends on whether or not the City of Minden sees that the benefits of undergoing such a project outweigh the costs.

JURY

Continued from Page 1

Savannah Jones of Webster Parish Libraries shared details about the upcoming Discovery Camp to be held this summer, offering four weeks of STEM activities, which she described as “fun, education-based learning.”

Serena Gray from the Webster Parish Convention and Visitors Com-

mission reported on the upcoming installation of a new kayak launch dock in Sibley, seeking volunteers for the project. The commission is also planning a litter clean-up campaign and celebrated the success of the recent Too Cool Adventure Race, which drew in tourists and showcased local amenities.

Shakera Williams of the LSU Ag Extension Office introduced the new 4-H agent, K’Lanie Gordon, who announced that 4-H registration is open until April 15, with Camp Week scheduled for May 20-23. Williams also reported on the success of the recent Buds & Blooms event and the upcoming Trails and Trellises event, with funds

from both benefiting the 4-H program. “When you’re giving to the Master Gardeners, you’re also giving to 4-H youth development,” said Williams.

The WPPJ meets on the first Tuesday of each month at 10:30 AM in the Webster Parish Courthouse Annex located at 401 Main Street, welcoming public attendance.

OPINION

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

OPINION

Texas Frames School Choice Debate as President Reagan Did

Given the political and cultural similarities between Louisiana and Texas, I have watched with interest the Texas school choice debate. This past week, several Republican state representatives who had opposed Texas Gov. Greg Abbott's school choice legislation have now either been defeated or are looking like they might be in their respective runoffs. Gov. Abbot's proposal principally involves the use of Education Savings Accounts (ESAs). The 2023 ESA bill would have been worth approximately \$10,500 per student. Regarding Texas voters, the Wall Street Journal has stated "sixty percent of Republican primary voters said they would be less likely to vote for an incumbent who rejected school choice last year..." In response to a ballot question in 2022, 88% of GOP primary voters indicated that they support parents' "right to select schools, whether public or private, for their children, and the funding should follow the student." (WSJ, Mar. 1, 2024). The WSJ continued, "the larger case for choice is moral when so many public schools are failure factories that can cripple students for life. The state reports that fewer than half of students across all grades and subjects met grade level requirements in 2022-23. The Houston schools superintendent said last year that

111 of that district's schools merit a "D" or "F" grade. That should be a scandal." Often, sadly, the most important part of school choice isn't affording parents the option to choose a quality, safe school for their children to attend, but, rather, creating an escape hatch for their children to be able to flee a failing, dangerous school. In support of this movement that is rapidly spreading to states all over America, I have noted before that the virtues and benefits of school choice apply to Louisiana as well. Louisianans have long recognized that the state's education will not improve until parents can choose what's best for their children, which includes embracing educational freedom, reversing our history of imposing onerous regulations on school choice participation and, most importantly, allowing ESAs to liberate parents and students alike to take charge of their education in new and ambitious ways. (R. Cambre, The Heritage Foundation, Jan 30, 2024). In explaining why parents embraced school-choice

policies in the wake of the pandemic-era school closures ... "parents were left hungry for alternatives, especially amidst bitter disagreements over masking and Woke ideology. This was all immensely practical. It wasn't about moral imperatives or market abstractions. It was about empowering families to put their kids in schools that address their needs, reflect their values, and do their job." (Bedrick and Burke, The Heritage Foundation, May 31, 2023). Yes, Dr. Fauci's Wuhan Lab-China Virus created a great deal of awareness on the part of parents that had previously been absent, and it has changed the school choice debate. "Parents want to pass on their values and culture to their children and they expect schools to aid—or at least avoid undermining—this process. Yet increasingly, parents are wary of schools that seem to be pushing an ideological agenda that is antithetical to their own values, such as teaching children that people are "oppressors" or "oppressed" based on their immutable racial characteristics or that "gender" is a "spectrum" that is unconnected to biological sex. Highlighting the gap between what parents want and what district schools are doing bolsters support for school choice because it is a solution to an immediate and deeply felt

problem." (Id. The Heritage Foundation). What Texas is doing is a reflection of a larger distinctive, national trend toward school choice in public school education. It is long overdue and will have an immeasurably valuable impact on the lives of children, many of whom are the most economically and socially vulnerable. Texas is following in the grand tradition of President Reagan in promoting school choice, school safety—which rests on a foundation focused on the basics such as religious freedom in schools, school discipline and character development—as well as academic rigor in history, reading, writing, arithmetic, and government. As we all recall, President Reagan demanded that 'Mr. Gorbachev, Tear Down This Wall' separating Freedom from Communism. But President Reagan was just as determined to 'tear down the wall' that separates America's children from educational success. Texas is one of the states that is leading the way.

SHREVEPORT ATTORNEY, ROYAL ALEXANDER, WORKED IN D.C. IN THE U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FOR NEARLY 8 YEARS FOR TWO DIFFERENT MEMBERS OF CONGRESS FROM LOUISIANA.

INSPIRATION

The Little Cabin in the Woods

I wake up in the middle of the night wondering what happened to the old unpainted cabin in the woods located about two and half miles from Noel, Missouri. It was the last house where I lived before going into an orphanage at the age of fourteen. I wonder. Though we only lived there for less than a year I'm captivated by that time that we lived there. We were so poor and we only moved there because my mother could hardly stand paying twenty-five dollars a month out of our meager income for rent. Somehow she raked up four hundred dollars to buy this non-insulated house without indoor plumbing. We had to depend upon a cistern in the yard for our water but mother wouldn't allow us to drink it because her mother died of typhoid fever that was known as "the germ in the water." Nonetheless I will always remember my mother who only stood four feet eleven inches

tall, walking down that rocky road to our closest neighbor's house, pulling a little red wagon with an old five gallon milk can to bring back the water. With all of my mother's disabilities one thing remained clear. She didn't want us to die of typhoid fever. I also remember sitting on the top of that covered cistern while I stared into the woods, daydreaming of no telling what -- maybe of what lay ahead. Even though we went to bed hungry most every night, I am not obsessed with food, perhaps because God delivered me from that fear when I became a Christian.. I remember staring down into the woods behind our

house where there was an old barn where a family of hobos lived, unknown to everyone, until the owner who sold us this place, crept upon them coming out of the barn. The family was so pitiful. From my understanding the parents never sent their children to school for fear of losing them because their two older children were taken away by the courts. Long story short I later learned that when the Jesse James movie was filmed, in Noel and that the town built a make shift log cabin for the movie and later on this family was allowed to move into the house. I wonder what happened to the children. I have uncovered a few details too sparse to write about but one thing I know is that life can be so uneven and that we shouldn't judge lest we find ourselves in those same predicaments. One evening thev mother came begging at our door and

my mother would somehow find a can of milk or something to give them. There was one little room that my sister called a lean to. I decided that would be my room, although I could feel icy wind coming through the cracks. How many nights I slept there I don't recall but this shack will always be filled with memories. In recent years I've made a journey back there to rekindle my memories which I want to keep alive and keep spinning into stories so long as I live because I know our stories have meaning and I know that God has been good to me and has pulled me through all of the tight places and for this I am forever grateful and for this peace that passes understanding. I will pick up on this story later being the perpetual story teller that I am.

CONTACT SARAH AT SARAH@9957@AOL.COM

KEEP THIS IN MIND

Every Vote Matters: The Case for a National Primary System

As the nation braces for the culmination of the presidential primary season, with President Joe Biden and former President Donald Trump emerging as the presumptive nominees for their respective parties following Super Tuesday, it's imperative to reevaluate our primary system. With the Louisiana primary slated for March 23, it's clear that all other primaries leading up to this point have seemingly become a "formality." This raises significant concerns about the fairness and efficacy of our current primary process and underscores the need for reform. The staggered schedule of state-by-state primaries, while intended to allow for

a thorough vetting of candidates and their platforms, often results in disproportionate influence wielded by early-voting states. By the time many states, including Louisiana, cast their ballots, the field has typically been narrowed down to a select few candidates, leaving voters feeling as though their voices are merely ceremonial rather than consequential. This is why I advocate for the implementation of a na-

tional primary system for presidential elections. Under such a system, all states would hold their primaries on the same day, ensuring that every voter across the country has an equal opportunity to participate in the democratic process. No longer would voters in early-voting states hold outsized sway over the nomination process, and no longer would voters in later-primary states feel marginalized or overlooked. The benefits of a national primary system are manifold. Firstly, it would increase voter turnout and engagement by empowering voters to participate in a meaningful way, knowing that their votes carry the

same weight as those cast in any other state. This would foster a sense of inclusivity and civic responsibility, vital components of a healthy democracy. Additionally, a national primary system would compel candidates to campaign and engage with voters in all states, rather than focusing disproportionately on a select few. This would lead to a more representative and inclusive primary process, where candidates must appeal to a diverse range of voters from across the country. Of course, transitioning to a national primary system would present logistical challenges and require careful planning and coordination. However, with ad-

vancements in technology and voting infrastructure, these challenges are not insurmountable. In conclusion, the Louisiana primary, along with all other primaries, serves as a reminder of the need for reform in our primary system. A national primary system would level the playing field, increase voter engagement, and promote a more inclusive and representative system. As we look ahead to the future of our electoral process, let's ensure that every vote truly matters.

DAVID SPECHT IS PRESIDENT OF SPECHT NEWSPAPERS, INC., PUBLISHER OF BIZ. MAGAZINE, BOSSIER PRESS-TRIBUNE, AND MINDEN PRESS-HERALD.



DAVID SPECHT

SPORTS

Russell Hedges, Sports Editor
rhedges@spechtnewspapers.com

HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL



DOUGLAS BLOW/PRESS-HERALD
Minden's Brooklyn Jefferson has been named to the All-District 1-4A girls basketball first team.



DOUGLAS BLOW/PRESS-HERALD
Minden's Darnell Morris has been named to the All-District 1-4A boys basketball second team.

Minden players make All-District 1-4A teams

RUSSELL HEDGES
Minden Press-Herald

Minden sophomore Brooklyn Jefferson has been named to the All-District 1-4A girls first team. Senior Kierra Harrison was selected to the girls second team. Junior Darnell Morris was selected to the boys second team. Jefferson and Harrison helped the Lady Tiders go 13-11 overall in Cindee Wright-Clark's first year

as head coach. Minden finished tied for third in the district at 4-3 and made the playoffs. Jefferson and Harrison both averaged in double figures in scoring and rebounding in district play. Morris averaged 11.6 points, 5.6 rebounds, 2.9 assists and one steal. He helped Minden go 15-9 overall. The Crimson Tide finished one game behind tri-champions Evangel Christian, Huntington and Bossier in Jacob Brown's

first year as head coach. Minden made the playoffs for the first time since 2016 and hosted a play-off game for the first time since 2011. The Tide defeated Leesville in the first round before falling to eventual semifinalist Carroll in the second. Cameron Parker, Maurice Rabb, Carmelo Smith, Kameron Harris and JeKoye Knowles were honorable mention. Parker averaged 10.1

points and 1.4 steals. Rabb averaged 9.1 points, 6 rebounds and 1.6 steals. Smith averaged 6.6 points and 4.7 rebounds. Harris averaged 6.6 points, 4.4 rebounds and 1.5 blocks. Knowles averaged 5.7 points, 1.4 assists and 1.6 steals. Sophomore Kyndal Graham of district champion Huntington was named the girls MVP. Senior Javon Johnson of Bossier was named the boys MVP.

HGH SCHOOL TRACK AND FIELD

Doyline's Harris wins three events in Viking Relays

RUSSELL HEDGES
Minden Press-Herald

Doyline's Izayla Harris won three events and finished second in another in the Airline Viking Relays last week in Bossier City. Harris won the 100-meter dash in 12.20 seconds, the 200 in 25.64 and the 400 in 1:00.25. She finished .36 ahead of Airline's Kezyriah Sykes in the 100, 1.66 ahead of Magnolia School of Excellence's Desiray Markson in the 200 and 4.25 ahead of Airline's Tomya Grider in the 400. Harris is the reigning Class B state champion in all three events. She finished second in the triple jump with a leap of 35 feet, 9 inches. Jonesboro-Hodge's Ciara Gray, who finished second in the event in the Class 2A state meet last year, won with a 37-5. North Webster finished fourth in the girls division with 46 points. Airline won with 138.5. Houghton was second with 97 and Haynesville third with 61. North Webster was seventh in the boys division with 32 points. Airline won with 149.

Avante Curry finished second in the boys 300 hurdles in 42:57. Airline's Jeremiah Boudreaux won in 39.17. Bryan Briggs was second in the discus with a 108-8. Haynesville's Germerian Williams won with a 114-4. Kedrien Cody finished fourth in the 110 hurdles. Jamyrian Jackson was fourth in the javelin. Ramzee Lewis was second in the girls 3,200 in 17:37.65. Houghton's Izzy Leal won in 14:14.62. North Webster took second in the girls 4X100 relay in 51.08, third in the 4X200 in 1:48.96 and third in the 4X400 in 4:56.35. Airline won the 4X100 in 48.33, the 4X200 in 1:46.38 and the 4X400 in 4:18.15. North Webster's 4X100 team was comprised of Tomiyah Hawthorne, De'Maiyh Moore, Anekah Coleman and Tatyana Lawson. The 4X200 team was comprised of Xhailor McGlothan, Moore, Kylee Sanders and Lawson. The 4X400 team was comprised of Yakima Valentine, Naja Willis, Germaya Harris and Ja'chiya Harris Coleman finished fourth in the 100.

Glenbrook athletes fare well in Many meet

RUSSELL HEDGES
Minden Press-Herald

Chase Sentell was one of several Glenbrook athletes who enjoyed success in the Many Raising Cane's Small School Classic last week. He won the triple jump with a leap of 42 feet, 1 inch. Sentell also finished second in the 110 hurdles in 17.06 and third in the

long jump with a 20-4.5. Johnathan Bryant won the shot put with a 37-11. Connor Bolton was second in the boys 400 in 59.41. Mattison Fowler was third in the girls 800 in 2:59.39. Hadley Haynes took third in the 100 hurdles in 19.73. Olivia Downer was fourth in the triple jump.

Lakeside's Chase named 1-2A girls MVP

RUSSELL HEDGES
Minden Press-Herald

Lakeside's McKenzie Chase has been named the

MVP on the All-District 1-2A girls team selected by the district's coaches. Her teammate Lexi McIntosh also made the first

team. Lakeside's Kylee Taylor made the second team. Rainie Hughes was an honorable mention selection.

The other first-team selections were Calvary Baptist's Addison Stevenson and Katelynn Jenkins and Loyola's Emily Rowe.

OUTDOORS

Upcoming turkey season triggers memory

GLYNN HARRIS

Hunting wild turkeys in spring has always been my favorite thing to do in the realm of hunting. It started for me in 1992 when on my very first time to hunt turkeys, I was able to take a fine gobbler on a guided hunt in Alabama and I was immediately hooked. With the age factor along with joints that no longer function as they should, I have had to give up the sport I love and rely on memories of special hunts. With that in mind, here's an account I previously shared with you of memories of my most special turkey hunt. This is the time of year when guys and gals of my ilk crawl out of warm beds early mornings to head for the woods. Granted, no hunting season is open now and we're not out there to circumvent the law; we're going out to "listen", as you'll overhear us talking about what we did on early pre-spring mornings. We're going out to "listen" for a gobbler. Season was still a few weeks away, but there's something about getting to hear a gobbler sound off from his roost tree that gets the juices flowing and serves to fire us up for what we hope to hear opening morning. Not only is it possible to locate where gobblers are roosting, you can also find tracks, droppings, strut marks and such to find where birds are hanging out. Such was the case for me on March 19, 2008 when I stumbled upon the mother lode of turkeys. After an early morning of listening for a gob-



GLYNN HARRIS
Two decoys knocked off their stakes and the downed gobbler that ultimately paid the price for it.

bler when the woods were silent, I drove up to a well site back in the woods on my hunting club. I didn't need to hear a gobbler that morning; when I rounded the curve leading to the well site, I saw turkeys – a whole bunch of turkeys including several strutting gobblers. When they saw me, they took off but no problem; I knew where I'd be set up on opening morning. The next afternoon, I set up my ground blind in a thicket next to the well site, cleared brush so I could see the area where the turkeys had gathered the day before. Granted, it was hard to sleep that night as my mind kept running the tapes back of the sight I had seen two days prior. March 21 was opening day and I arrived at my blind well before daylight, I decided to sweeten the pot by placing "Pretty Boy", my strutting tom decoy on the well site with a submissive hen crouching in front of the tom. Then I waited for

daylight with high expectations of what I hoped would happen. Once the eastern sky began to illuminate the woods and the cardinals and barred owls began their morning chorus, I heard a gobble from the woods directly in front of where I sat. Waiting a couple of minutes, I stroked a few sweet yelps on my slate call and was greeted with an immediate gobble. Then I just sat back and waited to see what would happen next. In less than ten minutes, I saw a white head pop up on the far edge of the well site 100 yards away. Then another head and then a third head as three gobblers began looking for the "hen" they thought they'd heard. What happened next was what turkey hunters dream about; all three gobblers spied Pretty Boy and the little hen and it became a foot race to see who could get there first to chase away what they envisioned to be a gobbler that had invaded their territory.

One gobbler won the race and immediately attacked the fake gobbler, sending him careening off the stake where I had placed him. All three proceeded to give the fake a thrashing like I'd never seen with a chorus of clinks and rattles as their beaks and spurs pummeled the hard plastic. One of the gobblers separated from the other two, I got a bead on him and dropped him. I expected the other two to hightail it when I shot but no; they jumped on the flopping bird I had shot and began pecking and spurring their fallen cohort unmercifully. I could have easily taken both the other gobblers but I had my limit for the day and all I could do was sit back and enjoy the show until a vehicle approached and they scattered. Spring turkey hunting can be disappointing but it can provide thrills and excitement, the likes of which I never experienced before or since that special morning in the turkey woods.

Fishing Report

BUSSEY BRAKE – Bass fishing continues to improve with some big fish in the 10-11 pound range being caught flipping jigs and soft plastics around brush. Crappie are beginning to move to the shallow flats and are improving on jigs and shiners. For latest information, contact the Honey Hole at 323-8707.

OUACHITA RIVER – Water is still high and muddy but some good catches of crappie and bass are being made back in the sloughs. Bass are fair. For latest information, contact the Honey Hole Tackle Shop at 323-8707.

LAKE D'ARBONNE – Crappie are continuing to improve as they are moving into shallow water to begin spawning as soon as water temperatures bump up a few degrees. Bass are on the banks early and secondary points later where jigs and soft plastics are starting to produce. No report on catfish or bream this week. For latest information, call Anderson Sport Center at 368-9669 or Honey Hole Tackle Shop at 323-8707.

LAKE CLAIBORNE – Crappie are starting to move to the back of the creeks where spawning will take place in a week or two. Bass

are moving shallow with some good fish caught on spinners and jigs. No report on stripers or catfish. For latest information, call Kel's Cove at 927-2264 or Terzia Tackle at 278-4498.

CANEY LAKE – Bass are being caught on soft plastics and jigs as they are beginning to move from deeper water to mouth of the creeks. Crappie are starting to move to the mouth of the creeks setting up for the spawn as water temperatures continue to warm. 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 – Crappie fishing has been good as they're starting to move to shallow spawning areas. Catfishing is good. No report on bass. For latest reports, call Poverty Point Marina at 318/878-0101.

LAKE YUCATAN – The water is falling slowly. Catfish and buffalo are being caught on trotlines and in nets. Crappie are not ready just yet but as water temperatures continue to rise, they'll be ready to bite jigs or shiners. For information, call Surplus City Landing at 318/467-2259.

Good News

GOOD NEWS

WATER, WATER EVERYWHERE – BUT THE GAME PLAYS ON!

These spring rains remind me of growing up ‘way back in the country’. We lived way off the main road so the road-grader hardly ever made it to level the gravel, fill in the pot holes and keep it in a manageable state. When the early rains came, water quickly filled the ditches and worked its’ way up the sides of the road until the crayfish could dance all across from one ditch to another. Oh, but the water didn’t stop there – it rose higher and higher. Sometimes it was knee-deep above the road. No mail, no school bus, just the noise of restless chickens and animals...and lots of fish swimming everywhere.

On those mornings Daddy would put his high-top boots

on, gather us one-by-one on his shoulders and walk us across the swollen water to catch the school bus. It was waiting down the road on higher ground. In the afternoon he would be waiting, if needs be. On ball game nights, (especially tournament play) when high waters threatened, players living in the ‘back-woods’ would spend the night with families living on higher ground. This would make for easy pick up on Saturday morning for the early games. It was just another version of March Madness before that phrase was



Bill Crider

coined. Nothing would stop the big games! It was always exciting to see the big schools play. Ouachita and Winnsboro High Schools brought more players than we had in the entire school – it seemed. It was impressive to see these teams with matching sports coats to wear; Ouachita wore red & white; Winnsboro wore black & gold! What sharp-looking young men! And remember the coveted Sportsmanship Award given to the team exhibiting ‘best sportsmanship in the tourney’? (Wish teams today would show a little class in their dress, personal appearance and sportsmanship on the court)! After all, they do represent their school, com-

munity and family; shouldn’t that be enough to muster special pride? Personal and school ‘pride’ should not supersede common sense. This reminds me of the advice we heard from parents and teachers: “Pretty is as pretty does! Remember who you are and whose you are! I remind you that you represent this family and the family name – keep it respectable!” I suppose this was the way our parents ‘translated Paul’s teachings’ that speak along these lines. Col 3:23; 1 Thess 4: 11-12; 2 Thess 1: 12b; Eph 4: 1-6; Phil 1:21; 27a; 4:1b; 4:4-9. He had many words of advice for Christians- how to behave, treat others and represent Christ in our every-day conduct.

Take note of some of the well-coached teams during the big tournament: those showing class and sportsmanship, players working together as a team, and displaying leadership qualities. There is only one big trophy for the survivors, but many can walk away “winners” because of how they play the game. So it is when we live the Christian life. Paul reminds us that regardless what arena of life we “play”, we are Ambassadors for Christ. (2 Cor 5:20).

BILL CRIDER IS CHAPLAIN OF MINDEN

MEDICAL CENTER

THE UPWARD LOOK

Wives Submit

“submitting to one another out of reverence for Christ. Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord.” Ephesians 5:21-22 ESV



Max Hutto

With the overarching principle of submitting to one another, Paul writes of three important relationships beginning with that of husband and wife. The wife is to submit voluntarily to her husband in a way that glorifies and honors Christ. This submission does not mean that a woman is inferior to a man, nor is it forced or demanded by a tyranni-

cal and dictatorial husband. It is an understanding of the role of the wife in her response to the loving, caring, and selfless giving of her husband who seeks her best interest in Christ.

Lord Jesus, may my home be a loving and compassionate example of Your grace, mercy, and love as we seek to follow Your lordship.

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

INSPIRATION

Life’s Composition

I would like everyone to think of the last time they prepared anything using a recipe. Did you follow it to the letter or did you take some creative liberties? Have you ever wondered could this recipe be better? I’ll confess that I have been guilty of making some substitutions. For example, the substitution of yogurt or pudding for milk in most cake recipes imparts significantly more moisture creating a more robust texture. I’ve said all this to plant the idea in your mind that maybe we can change the composition of our lives. We spend so much time trying to make our lives into what we feel they should be that we rarely ask God what he wants our lives to

consist of. We live in a world where it’s become easy to put God on a shelf for a rainy day and if we aren’t careful we will forget to include God altogether. Therefore I’m ending this writing with a challenge. I would like everyone to find something in their lives that is non essential and replace it with more God time. I hope you all have a very blessed week.




Bernard Harris

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

Come

WORSHIP

FIRST
ASSEMBLY OF GOD
MINDEN

How can we
pray for you?

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

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
301 Pennsylvania Avenue • Minden, LA

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

Classified Rates

Pricing is easy!

\$7.75

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

Garage Sales

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\$11

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Public notices must be submitted two days prior to publication date depending on the length. Notices may be emailed to classifieds@press-herald.com

Payments

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Real Estate Notice

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

Grow Your Business

Call to place your ad!

PLACE YOUR AD TODAY!

377-1866

The Minden Housing Authority Low Rent/ Public Housing will close its Waiting List starting Thursday, February 29, 2024, until further notice.

February 28, 2024
March 6, 2024
March 13, 2024
Minden Press Herald

1NK1X4TX6NR979735

2022 KENWORTH IS STORED AT 1422 SIBLEY RD, MINDEN, LA, 71055

IF ALL CURRENT CHARGES ARE NOT PAID AND VEHICLE CLAIMED BY THE OWNER BY MARCH 21, 2024 A PERMIT TO SELL MAY BE OBTAINED.

March 6, 2024
March 13, 2024
Minden Press Herald

PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY OF MINDEN, STATE OF LOUISIANA, TAKEN IN REGULAR SESSION HELD ON MARCH 4, 2024

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

Carlton Myles moved to adopt the minutes of the Minden City Council Regular Session held on February 5, 2024, as presented. The motion was duly seconded by Michael Roy and the vote was unanimously in favor. Abstention(s): None. Absence(s): None.

The following action was taken regarding condemned property:

Willie Combs, Jr.
217 Main Street
Minden, Louisiana
71055

217 Main Street
Lots #58 & 59, Williamson Jones Survey of Minden in NE/4 of NE/4 Sec. 28-19-9, Strip 20 x 130 ft. Adj. on West Side of Lot #58, Strip 10 x 120 ft. Adj. on South Side of Lots #58 & 59 & Strip 10 x 130 ft. Adj. on East Side of Lot #59 in NE/4 of NE/4 Sec. 28-19-9 (Formerly Alleys)

With no party representing the property owner present at the time that this item was heard, Carlton Myles moved to authorize Mayor Cox to issue an order declaring the property condemned and further order the demolition of any structures located thereon and the cleaning of the lot within 60 days of March 4, 2024. The motion was duly seconded by Latasha Mitchell and the vote was unanimously in favor. Abstention(s): None. Absence(s): None.

The following action was taken regarding condemned property:

Essie Lee Carter Newman
c/o Debra Sinville
Post Office Box 19423
Shreveport, Louisiana
71149

1105 Linden Street
Lot #10, Blk. "U",
Rosedale Subdiv.

With no party representing the property owner present at the time that this item was heard, Carlton Myles moved to authorize Mayor Cox to appoint a curator in this matter. The motion was duly seconded by Andy Pendergrass and the vote was unanimously in favor. Abstention(s): None. Absence(s): None.

The following action was taken regarding condemned property:

Lela Mae Washington Edwards
500 Front Street
Minden, Louisiana
71055

406 Plateau Street
Lot #1, Blk. "5", Harrell Heights & Strip 6 x 42 ft. Adj. (Formerly an Alley) in SW/4 of NW/4 Sec. 27-19-9

Tonkon Williams was present representing Lela Mae Washington Edwards' property. Carlton Myles moved to authorize Mayor Cox to issue an order declaring the property condemned and further order the demolition of any structures located thereon and the cleaning of the lot within 120 days of March 4, 2024. The motion was duly seconded by Michael Roy and the vote was as unanimously in favor. Abstention(s):

None. Absence(s): None.

The following action was taken regarding condemned property:

Rosa Jackson
604 Lee Street
Minden, Louisiana
71055

604 Lee Street
South 25 ft. of Lots #6 & 7 & North 23 ft. of Lots #26 & 27, Blk. "11", Harrell Heights (Being a Lot 48 x 80 ft.)

Eloise Sanders was present representing Rosa Jackson's property. Andy Pendergrass moved to table this matter until the Minden City Council April Regular Session. The motion was duly seconded by Michael Roy and the vote was unanimously in favor. Abstention(s): None. Absence(s): None.

Upon motion by Latasha Mitchell and duly seconded by Andy Pendergrass, the council unanimously awarded Bid No. 01-2024 – Construction of Minden Utilities & Control Center Office to the lowest qualified bidder meeting all requirements. Testament Construction Services, LLC. Abstention(s): None. Absence(s): None.

Upon motion by Andy Pendergrass and duly seconded by Carlton Myles, the council unanimously voted to table awarding Bid No. 02-2024 – Street Improvements Project until the Minden City Council April Regular Session. Abstention(s): None. Absence(s): None.

Latasha Mitchell moved to adopt a Resolution Declaring Certain City of Minden Property as Surplus and Fixing the Terms of Sale, as presented. This resolution is to surplus water meters. The motion was duly seconded by Michael Roy and the vote was unanimously in favor. Abstention(s): None. Absence(s): None.

Michael Roy moved to adopt a Resolution Rescheduling the Minden City Council April 2024 Regular Session, as presented. This resolution reschedules the Minden City Council April Regular Session from April 1, 2024 to April 2, 2024. The motion was duly seconded by Latasha Mitchell and the vote was unanimously in favor. Abstention(s): None. Absence(s): None.

Upon motion by Andy Pendergrass and duly seconded by Michael Roy, the council unanimously authorized Mayor Cox to execute an Engagement Agreement to retain the services of Katherine W. King of Kean Miller, LLP to serve as "outside counsel" for the City of Minden under the supervision of the City Attorney, subject to attorney review. Abstention(s): None. Absence(s): None.

Carlton Myles moved to authorize Mayor Cox to execute an Exchange Deed for the exchange of property between the City of Minden and the Webster Parish School Board, subject to attorney review. The motion was duly seconded by Latasha Mitchell and the vote was unanimously in favor. Abstention(s): None. Absence(s): None.

Michael Roy moved to decommission and level the Clerk Street Water Plant, subject to attorney approval. The motion was duly seconded by Levon Thomas and the vote was unanimously in favor. Abstention(s): None. Absence(s): None.

Upon motion by Carlton Myles and duly seconded by Latasha Mitchell, the council unanimously confirmed Branthony Brown as a full-time police officer in the Minden Police Department, subject to passing all applicable tests. Abstention(s): None. Absence(s): None.

City Clerk Melaney Langford presented the Budget/Financial Report for the month of January 2024. No motion was required.

Fire Chief Brian Williams presented the Fire Report for the month of February 2024. No motion was required.

The Police Report for the month of January 2024 was unanimously accepted, as presented, by motion of Michael Roy and second by Latasha Mitchell. Abstention(s): None. Absence(s): None.

Announcements and council comments were heard. The meeting was then adjourned.

Nick Cox, Mayor

ATTEST:

Melaney Langford,
City Clerk

March 13, 2024
Minden Press Herald

PUBLIC NOTICE

Minden Planning Commission Meeting

April 4, 2024 – 1
0:00 a.m.

Pelican Room - Minden City Hall

On the agenda is a request from Braley Raborn (owner of BAR Interests, LLC.) for a zoning change from R-2 (Single Family Residential) to R-4 (Multi Family Residential) on property owned by him located on Beck Street.

The purpose of this zoning change request is for the proposed construction of multiple duplex (3 units) on the property.

Legal Description: 0.77 ACRES - TRACT 334.80 X 135 X 60 X 5 X 28.53 X 75.11 X 35 X 193.17 X 119.56 X 109.85 X 89.84 X 45 X 90 X 104.98 X 149.84 FT. IN SW/4 OF NW/4 SEC. 22-19-9, LESS LOT FRONTING 44 FT. ON BECK AVE. SOLD, LESS LOT 45 X 90 FT. SOLD, LESS LOT 45 X 110 FT. SOLD (2.06 ACS), & LESS 1.29 ACS SOLD

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

March 13, 2024
March 20, 2024
March 27, 2024
Minden Press Herald

PUBLIC NOTICE

Minden Planning Commission Meeting

April 4, 2024 – 10:00 a.m.

Pelican Room - Minden City Hall

On the agenda is a request from Jitendra Kumar for a parking variance on property owned by him located at 806 Homer Road.

The purpose of this parking variance is to reduce the number of parking spaces that is required.

Legal Description: 0.42 ACRES - LOT 71.01 X 19.11 X 233.28 X 70.19 X 248.45 FT. IN SE/4 OF NW/4 SEC. 23-19-9 (BEING 244.70 X 525.44 X 224.71 X 327.39 X 19.11 X 233.28 X 70.19 X 248.45 X 780.22 FT. IN NE/4 OF SW/4 & SE/4 OF NW/4 SEC. 23-19-9, & LESS LOT 244.70 X 525.44 X 224.71 X 256.38 X 20 X 780.22 FT. IN NE/4 OF SW/4 SEC. 23-19-9 SOLD)

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

March 13, 2024
March 20, 2024
March 27, 2024
Minden Press Herald

SHERIFF'S SALE

HOME FEDERAL BANK VS. GREGORY DALE WINGFIELD

In the Twenty-Sixth Judicial District Court of Webster Parish, Louisiana, No. 81248.

By virtue of a WRIT OF SEIZURE AND SALE issued out of the Twenty-Sixth Judicial District Court of Webster Parish, Louisiana, in the above styled and numbered suit and to me directed, I have seized and taken into my possession and will offer for sale at public auction to the last and highest bidder for cash WITH the benefit of appraisal and according to law at the principal front door of the Court-house in the City of Minden, Webster Parish, Louisiana on WEDNESDAY, March 20, 2024. During the legal sale hours, the following property, to wit:

2014 DODGE RAM 2500 VEHICLE BEARING VIN 3C6LR4AT-4EG236194

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

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

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

Pam Brantley - Deputy

March 13, 2024
Minden Press Herald

SHERIFF'S SALE

HOME FEDERAL BANK VS. GREGORY DALE

WINGFIELD

In the Twenty-Sixth Judicial District Court of Webster Parish, Louisiana, No. 81248.

By virtue of a WRIT OF SEIZURE AND SALE issued out of the Twenty-Sixth Judicial District Court of Webster Parish, Louisiana, in the above styled and numbered suit and to me directed, I have seized and taken into my possession and will offer for sale at public auction to the last and highest bidder for cash WITH the benefit of appraisal and according to law at the principal front door of the Court-house in the City of Minden, Webster Parish, Louisiana on WEDNESDAY, March 20, 2024. During the legal sale hours, the following property, to wit:

2007 CHEVROLET C15 VEHICLE BEARING VIN 3GN-FK16347G244405

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

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

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

Pam Brantley - Deputy

March 13, 2024
Minden Press Herald

SHERIFF'S SALE

CARRINGTON MORTGAGE SERVICES, LLC VS. RYAN J. MULLINS

In the Twenty-Sixth Judicial District Court of Webster Parish, Louisiana, No. CV81118

By virtue of a WRIT OF SEIZURE AND SALE issued out of the Twenty-Sixth Judicial District Court of Webster Parish, Louisiana, in the above styled and numbered suit and to me directed, I have seized and taken into my possession and will offer for sale at public auction to the last and highest bidder for cash WITH the benefit of appraisal and according to law at the principal front door of the Court-house in the City of Minden, Webster Parish, Louisiana on WEDNESDAY, March 20, 2024. During the legal sale hours, the following property, to wit:

1 Acre begins at the NE Corner of West 2/2 of SW/4, of NE/4, Sec. 33, Twp. 17N, R 9W, Webster Parish, Louisiana, and run South 806.5 feet thence run South 48 degrees 05 minutes West 117.3 feet; thence run South 51 degrees 16 minutes West 210 feet to the Point of Beginning; thence run North 38 degrees 44 minutes West 210 feet; thence run South 51 degrees 16 minutes West 207.42 feet, thence run South 38 degrees 44 minutes East 210 feet, thence run North 51 degrees 16 minutes East, 207.42 to the POB, containing once acre, more or less, together with all improvements thereon.

Together with a 2016 SOEN Tan Mobile Home, VIN #SFW018222TX, Title #F530607

2070 Franklin Rd., Heflin, La 71039

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

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

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

Linda Vaughan - Deputy

February 14, 2024
March 13, 2024
Minden Press Herald

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Excluding Sunday
8:30 AM until 6:00 PM

SPRINGHILL CIVIC CENTER
101 Machen Dr., Springhill
Saturday, March 9th - Saturday, March 16th
Excluding Sunday
8:30 AM until 6:00 PM

To view your sample ballot and obtain additional information regarding voting and elections visit www.GeauxVote.com or contact your local Registrar of Voters office at 377-9272.

March 13, 2024
Minden Press-Herald

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A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

C R Y P T O F U N

☐ ☾ ☼ ✱ ♂ ≡ ~ ☆ +

Determine the code to reveal the answer!

Solve the code to discover words related to employees.
Each number corresponds to a letter.
(Hint: 25 = **C**)

- A. 16 19 13 7 14 13**
Clue: Employee
- B. 19 4 4 26 25 14**
Clue: Place to do business
- C. 25 3 6 26 25 20 14**
Clue: Office desk configuration
- D. 6 19 15 15**
Clue: Supervisor

Answers: A. worker B. office C. cubicle D. boss

SUDOKU

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

Level: intermediate

Here's How It Works:

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

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

ANSWER:

Fun By The Numbers

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

FUN & GAMES

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

CLUES ACROSS

1. Influential American political family
5. ___ Chantilly, ___ de Menthe
11. Within
12. Pleasure seekers
16. Computer manufacturer
17. Home to college sports' Flyers
18. Fungal disease
19. Sleepwalk
24. Spielberg sci-fi film
25. Seasonable
26. Taxis
27. Radio direction finder (abbr.)
28. Thin, narrow piece of wood
29. "Mystic River" actor Sean
30. Ingenuous
31. Musical composition
33. Turkish surname
34. High or hilly area
38. Wilco frontman
39. Pour it on pasta
40. Electric car company
43. Sea eagle
44. Walk with difficulty
45. Sign of healing
49. Boy
50. Protein-rich liquid
51. Washington city
53. Individual portion of TV series (abbr.)
54. Thought over
56. Scads
58. News agency
59. Standard
60. Deadlock
63. Pre-Columbian empire
64. Removed
65. French commune

CLUES DOWN

1. Large, dangerous animals
2. Straighten out
3. Family tree
4. Large stinging paper wasp
5. European river fish
6. Cut down in size
7. Denotes past
8. Larry and Curly's partner
9. Samoyedic ethnic group
10. Male parent
11. Specific gravity
12. Demeaned oneself to
13. Rigidly
14. Yankovic is a "weird" one
15. Belonging to me
16. Path
17. Airborne (abbr.)
18. Level
19. Atomic #94
20. Born of
21. Midway between northeast and east
22. Northeastern bank
23. Defunct airline
24. Having no purpose
25. A low wall
26. Swedish city
27. Earn a perfect score
28. Atomic #81
29. Beginner
30. Give off
31. Incorrect letters
32. Telecommunication service provider (abbr.)
33. Idyllic
34. Popular beer
35. A way to fine
36. Evildoer
37. More withered
38. Seventh note of a major scale
39. Commercial
40. Abnormal breathing
41. Moved more quickly
42. City of Angels
43. Partner to Pa
44. Equally

PUZZLE SOLUTION

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



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Name: _____

Telephone number: _____

Entry Deadline April 2, 2024 - 4 p.m.

Everyone has an opinion and now it's time to give yours. Vote for your favorite business in Webster Parish! The winners will be announced in the Readers' Choice edition on Wednesday, May 1, 2024. You may drop the ballot off at the Minden Press-Herald office at 203 Gleason Street in Minden or mail it to the Minden Press-Herald, P.O. Box 1339, Minden, LA 71055. Only one ballot per person will be permitted. **No reproductions or faxes will be accepted.**

1. Favorite Ambulance Service	47. Favorite High School
2. Favorite Apartment Complex	48. Favorite Home Health Agency
3. Favorite Appliance Store	49. Favorite Insurance Agent
4. Favorite Auto Body Shop	50. Favorite Jeweler
5. Favorite Auto Parts Store	51. Favorite Landscaping/Lawn Care Provider
6. Favorite Bakery	52. Favorite Lawn Equipment Dealer
7. Favorite Bank	53. Favorite Lawyer
8. Favorite Barber Shop	54. Favorite Liquor Store
9. Favorite BBQ	55. Favorite Lunch Location
10. Favorite Beauty Shop	56. Favorite Manufactured Home Dealer/Supplier
11. Favorite Breakfast Restaurant	57. Favorite Mini Storage
12. Favorite Buffet Restaurant	58. Favorite Mechanic
13. Favorite Car Wash/Detail	59. Favorite Mexican Restaurant
14. Favorite Casino	60. Favorite Middle School
15. Favorite Catering	61. Favorite New Auto Dealer
16. Favorite Chicken	62. Favorite New Vehicle Salesperson
17. Favorite Church	63. Favorite Nonprofit
18. Favorite Clothing Store	64. Favorite Nursing Home/Assisted Living
19. Favorite Coach (ANY SPORT)	65. Favorite Oil Change Location
20. Favorite Contractor	66. Favorite Pawn Shop
21. Favorite C.P.A.	67. Favorite Pediatrician
22. Favorite Crawfish	68. Favorite Pest Control Provider
23. Favorite Customer Service (any business)	69. Favorite Pet Groomer
24. Favorite Dance Studio	70. Favorite Pharmacy
25. Favorite Daycare Provider	71. Favorite Physician/Surgeon
26. Favorite Dentist	72. Favorite Pizza Restaurant
27. Favorite Donuts	73. Favorite Place to Stay Overnight
28. Favorite Drive Thru Restaurant	74. Favorite Plumber
29. Favorite Electrician	75. Favorite Principal
30. Favorite Elementary School	76. Favorite Public Official
31. Favorite Evening Meal Restaurant	77. Favorite Real Estate Office
32. Favorite Event Destination/Venue	78. Favorite Restaurant
33. Favorite Eye Care Provider	79. Favorite Roofing Company
34. Favorite Financial Advisor	80. Favorite School Teacher
35. Favorite Fitness Center	81. Favorite Seafood Restaurant
36. Favorite Florist	82. Favorite Shoe Store
37. Favorite Funeral Home	83. Favorite Small Business
38. Favorite Furniture Store	84. Favorite Tanning Salon
39. Favorite Gas Station	85. Favorite Tax Preparer
40. Favorite Gift Shop (Non-Florist)	86. Favorite Tire Store
41. Favorite Glass Shop - (Non-Eyewear)	87. Favorite Tuxedo Rental
42. Favorite Grocery Store	88. Favorite Used Auto Dealer
43. Favorite Hamburger	89. Favorite Used Vehicle Salesperson
44. Favorite Hardware Store	90. Favorite Veterinarian
45. Favorite Healthcare Provider	91. Favorite Walk-In Quick Care Medical
46. Favorite Heating & Air Provider	

GARDENING WITH DR. JOE WHITE

KEYS TO A NICE LAWN

JOE W. WHITE, PH.D.
Extension Horticulturist, (ret)
LSU AgCenter
March 2024

Southerners are people who generally love the outdoors which is why they build patios, decks, pergolas and gazebos so they can spend their time in the outdoors in comfort. Of course, they want the surrounding landscape to be attractive and that includes the lawn.

If you decide your lawn needs to be renovated, the first thing you need to do is collect a pint soil sample that represents the top six inches of soil all over the lawn area. Have that sample tested which you can do with the help of your most convenient LSU Extension Agricultural office. Services of the agent are free and the cost of having the soil test is minimal.

A second step should be to get rid of any lingering grass and all weeds. Roundup or any other herbicide that contains glyphosate will do the job without leaving any harmful residue in the soil. This feature allows time for scratching up the surface of the ground to encourage the sprouting of unseen weed seed in the top of the soil. The herbicide is only effective on existing plants.

Once you have the results of the soil test, you will

know what improvements need to be made to support a healthy, vigorous turf. It's best to mix any needed additions into the soil surface. If you have plans to install an in-ground sprinkler system, complete that project before you try to establish your new lawn grass.

After all of the preparation is done, you are now ready to choose which grass species you want for your lawn. If the lawn gets full sun exposure, any southern lawn species will

intense heat arrives may be suitable. Mid-April is the recommended time to fertilize lawns, but March is the best time to apply the slow-acting fire ant killers. And while you're at it, apply some pre-emergence herbicide to kill sprouting crabgrass and some post-emergence herbicides to kill existing weeds.

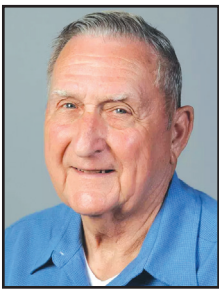
Since each species of grass will maintain a nice appearance if mowed at the recommended height, find out what that height is



work. If the lawn receives partial shade, forget growing Bermuda grass. However, if the lawn is only partially shaded and that condition doesn't last most of the day, St. Augustine, Centipede or Zoysia are good choices. When heavy shade exists, forget any kind of turf grass and instead plant a shade-tolerant ground cover or in a worse-case scenario, use an artificial turf.

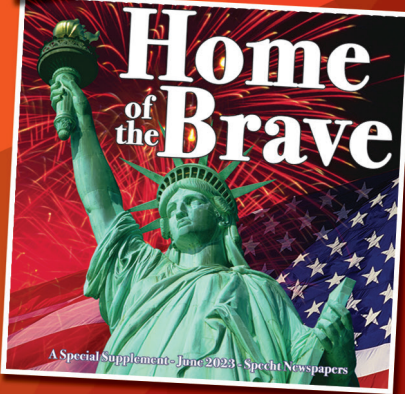
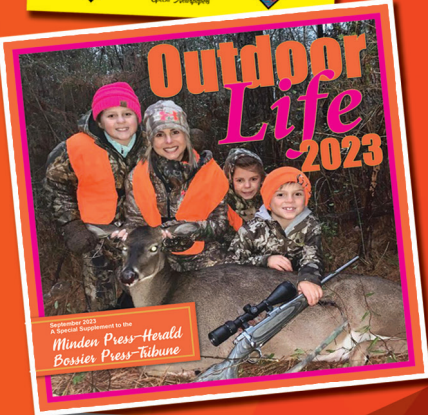
Installing new turf is best done during April and May, but early June before

before the mowing season. Your local LSU agents can supply you with that information.

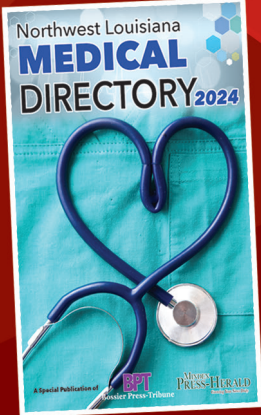


JOE W. WHITE, Ph.D.

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