

MINDEN PRESS-HERALD

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 20, 2024

MINDEN, LOUISIANA

PRESS-HERALD.COM

\$1.00 DOLLAR

CRIME

Police stop leads to arrest and multiple charges

STAFF REPORT

Minden Press-Herald

A routine patrol on Miller Street turned eventful for Officer O'Connor on March 16, 2024, when he observed a gray Kia failing to signal 100 feet prior to a stop sign at the intersection of Miller and Bayou. The vehicle turned left onto Bayou and then attempted to turn right onto

Goodwill, activating the right turn signal during the turn.

Upon initiating a traffic stop, Officer O'Connor approached the driver and requested the driver's license, proof of insurance, and registration. The driver, identified as Nicholas Jones, 35, stated he did not have his driver's license and claimed the vehicle was not his.

Jones provided his name and date of birth but was unable to produce a license. When asked about the presence of weapons or illegal drugs in the vehicle, Jones denied having any.

Officers Sparks and Thompson arrived on the scene, and Officer O'Connor requested dispatch to check for active warrants on Jones

through Minden, Webster, Bossier, and Shreveport. He also requested information on Jones's driver's license status.

During the interaction, Officer Sparks spoke with Jones, who then voluntarily surrendered a small amount of natural marijuana. Subsequently, Officer Sparks and Officer Thompson conducted a search of the vehicle and

found a silver handgun under the driver's seat. As Officer Sparks stood up, Jones fled from the scene into the parking lot of an adjacent storage building.

After a brief pursuit, officers apprehended Jones and took him into custody. Jones was charged with possession of a schedule I substance (natural marijuana) under 14 grams, possession of a schedule

II substance (methamphetamine), possession of drug paraphernalia, possession of a firearm by a convicted felon, possession of a firearm in the presence of a controlled dangerous substance, resisting an officer, driving with a suspended driver's license, no turn signal, expired inspection sticker, and being a fugitive from Bossier Parish.

WPSB

School Board approves land exchange and teacher pay stipend distribution

AMBER MCDOWN

Minden Press-Herald

The Webster Parish School Board convened a special called meeting on March 18, discussing a proposed land exchange with the City of Minden and the distribution of the Louisiana Department of Education (LDOE) differentiated teacher pay stipend. All board members were present.

Paul Kitchens of Kitchens Law Firm presented details of the proposed land exchange, involving Griffith Stadium and a city water plant building on Constable Street. The exchange would see the City of Minden transferring ownership of Griffith Stadium to the school district in exchange for the property on Constable Street. Both properties now encompass 3.84 acres. Kitchens stated, "The concept is that there would be no money paid by either side because of the exact equivalency of the acreage." The board voted unanimously to adopt a resolution authorizing Superintendent Rowland to finalize the exchange of deeds. Notably, the parking lot of Griffith Stadium will not be part of the exchange, but the board intends to formalize arrangements for its continued use for baseball games.

Additionally, the board approved an invoice for field dirt for the batting cage at Lakeside Jr/Sr High School. Jonathan Guthrie of District 4 expressed gratitude to Glen Warren, CW&W Contractors, and Monday's Oilfield for their donations of several loads of dirt for

See, **SCHOOLS**, Page 3



KITCHENS

PAGEANT



AMBER MCDOWN/PRESS-HERALD PHOTOS
The 18th annual Springtime Cuties pageant, held at the Minden Community House on March 16, celebrated the beauty and poise of a bevy of young ladies.

18th Annual Springtime Cuties Pageant showcases young beauty and poise

AMBER MCDOWN

Minden Press-Herald

The 18th annual Springtime Cuties pageant, held at the Minden Community House on March 16, celebrated the grace and elegance of young ladies from infants to high school students. Event organizer Mychele Price curated a lively and enjoyable ex-

perience, ensuring that every participant had a chance to shine in various categories.

Many young girls aspire to participate in pageants, and Springtime Cuties offers them that opportunity. For those who take pageantry seriously, it's a great platform to hone their skills before entering scholarship page-

ants.

The event drew a crowd of proud parents, grandparents, relatives, and friends who filled the Community House. The girls delighted in showcasing their beautiful dresses and outfits, with each participant receiving commendation for their efforts.

In the 0-24-month

See, **CUTIES**, Page 2

GOLF

Golf enthusiasts tee off in March Madness Tournament at Pine Hills Country Club

AMBER MCDOWN

Minden Press-Herald

Golf aficionados converged at Pine Hills Country Club on Saturday, March 16, for a day of competitive play at the March Madness Golf Tournament. The event featured a 2-man, 27-hole scramble, shamle, and 4-ball format, promising both a challenging and enjoyable experience for participants.

In the Championship Flight, the leaderboard was tightly contested, resulting in a tie for first place between Kevin Anders and Peyton Wells, as well as Ronny Neely and Denny Parker. Mark Bradshaw and Houston Bradshaw secured the third spot, showcasing their skills on the greens.

The Presidential Flight saw another tie for first place, with Stan Sullivan and Sanjay Patel sharing the top honors with Mike Mills and Jay Kumar. Bobby Logan and Hayston Breedlove clinched the third position, rounding out the flight's winners.

In the First Flight, Johnny Deloach and Nick Richeleau emerged victorious, claiming the first-place title. Wesley Mandino and Shane Rollins, David Dumas and Rob Valentine, and Bobby Taylor and Justin Smart all tied for second place, demonstrating their prowess on the course.

Event organizers expressed their excitement over the tournament's success, extending their

See, **GOLF**, Page 3



COURTESY PHOTO

Golfers compete in the March Madness Golf Tournament at Pine Hills Country Club, showcasing their skills in a challenging 27-hole scramble, shamle, and 4-ball format.

CRIME

Minden man arrested on warrants and drug charges

STAFF REPORT

Minden Press-Herald

On March 17, Sergeant Tewell responded to a call regarding a wanted individual at the intersection of Walter Lyons and Camp Street. Upon arrival, Sgt. Tewell identified the subject as Mauricio Murphy, 34, wanted

on six outstanding warrants through the Minden Police Department.

After confirming Murphy's identity, Sgt. Tewell placed him under arrest, reading him his Miranda Rights and securing him in the patrol unit. While collecting Murphy's belongings, Sgt. Tewell

noticed a purple bag near Murphy's bicycle. Inside the bag, he discovered a glass pipe commonly used for smoking methamphetamine.

Despite Sgt. Tewell not revealing the contents of the bag to Murphy, the suspect denied ownership of the glass pipe. Further

search of Murphy's possessions revealed a plastic cigarette package containing a white substance suspected to be methamphetamine. A field test confirmed the substance's identity.

Murphy was transported to the Minden Police Department and booked on pos-

session of a schedule II substance and possession of drug paraphernalia, in addition to the outstanding warrants which included two counts of entry or remaining after forbidden, theft, speeding, no drivers license, and no insurance.



MINDEN FAMILY DENTAL
Minden, Louisiana

Family Dentistry • New Patients Welcome • Most Insurance Accepted

• SAME DAY PERMANENT CROWNS NOW AVAILABLE •

MINDEN FAMILY DENTAL

116 Homer Rd. | Minden, LA 71055 | 318-377-9411

Zach M. Goodman
D.D.S.



Volume 55 Number 12
©2022 Specht Newspapers, Inc.

Tomorrow's
High Temp 77°

Tomorrow's
Low Temp 63°

Sign up for daily news updates at
www.press-herald.com

INDEX
Obituaries 3 Classifieds 8
Editorials 4 Crossword 10
Sports 5 B&S 11

WEBSTER & MORE CUTIES

Continued from Page 1

division, Elora won the titles of Most Beautiful, Best Personality, and Most Photogenic. In the 2-year-old division, Jersey captured the same titles. James Ann claimed the titles of Most Beautiful and Best Personality in the 3-year-old division, while Journi won Most Photogenic. Peyton, in the 4-5-year-old division, won Most Beautiful and Most Photogenic, with Chloe taking home the Best Personality award. The 6-year-old division saw Kaliyah winning Most Beautiful and Vada winning Best Personality. Anniston swept the 7-year-old division, winning Most Beautiful, Best Personality, and Most Photogenic.

In the 8-9-year-old division, Channing secured Most Beautiful and Most Photogenic, while Josie won Best Personality. Jasmine took home Most Beautiful and Best Personality in the 13-year-old-and-up division. The Outfit of Choice competition featured Elora, Mazlea, and Journi as runners-up in the 0-3-years-old division, with Jersey winning. In the 4-6-year-old division, Peyton, Chloe, and Kaliyah were runners-up, and Blakely emerged as the winner. Anniston, Channing, and Josie were runners-up in the 7-9-year-old division, with Bailey clinching the win. Top Five honors were awarded to James Ann, Peyton, Anniston, Channing, and Jasmine. Kaliyah was crowned Springtime Cutie Supreme, while Elora, Vada, and Josie won Springtime Personality Supreme in their age groups. Mazlea, Chloe, and Bailey each claimed Springtime Beauty Supreme titles in their age groups, while Journi, Blakely, and Channing took home Mini Supreme titles. Jersey, Peyton, and Anniston secured Grand Supreme titles in their age groups. Mazlea received the Angel Award for her precious performance. Two girls received perfect scores, with Jasmine crowned Face of 2024 and James Ann named the overall winner, earning the title of 2024 Springtime Cuties Mega.



CRIME

Webster Parish drug investigation leads to arrest of Minden man

STAFF REPORT
Minden Press-Herald

A lengthy investigation by the Webster Parish Sheriff's Office narcotics division into illegal drug activities culminated Thursday morning with the arrest of a Minden man on multiple distribution charges. Derian Dequan Reed, 42, residing in the 1100 block of Tillman Drive, was apprehended after attempting to flee from officers executing a search warrant at his residence. Reed was subdued by the Minden Police Department's K9 officer Braum during his escape attempt. Sheriff Jason Parker stated that Capt. Bobby Igo III and Sergeants Shawn Jenkins and Josh McCormick had been investigating Reed's alleged involvement in illegal

drug distribution for an extended period. Deputies, with the assistance of MPD's Special Response Team, served the warrant around 11 AM. "Our unit had been investigating this individual for quite some time, and we had built a solid case to obtain a warrant," Parker said. "We contacted MPD, and Chief [Jared] McIver didn't hesitate to provide us with any support we needed. We worked very well together to apprehend this person." During the search of the residence, officers reportedly discovered a variety of drugs, approximately \$11,000 in cash, which Parker said is consistent with drug sales, and three firearms. "Along with the narcotics, we found a .40 caliber pistol on the nightstand in his bedroom, an AR-type

rifle under the bed, and another handgun on a coffee table," Parker said. "This person is dangerous." Reed is facing multiple charges, including possession of methamphetamine (176 grams) with intent to distribute, possession of cocaine (27.8 grams) with intent to distribute, possession of marijuana (135.3 grams) with intent to distribute, possession of synthetic marijuana (100 grams) with intent to distribute, possession of ecstasy (146.2 grams) with intent to distribute, possession of fentanyl (15 grams) with intent to distribute, possession of a firearm by a convicted felon, possession of a firearm in the presence of a controlled dangerous substance, an outstanding warrant for distribution of metham-



phetamine, and resisting an officer. "It's always good to see the hard work of investigators pay off with an arrest like this one," Parker said. "Thanks to the cooperation of MPD, this arrest was successful, none of our officers or deputies were injured. And, this guy is out of business."

COUNCIL

Dixie Inn council meeting highlights fiber optic installation and traffic enforcement

AMBER MCDOWN
Minden Press-Herald

The Village of Dixie Inn convened for its regular council meeting on March 12 at the Village Hall located at 60 Shell Street in Dixie Inn. The meeting addressed key developments, including the installation of fiber optic lines by AT&T in the area. Alderman Lance Milligan expressed gratitude for the long-awaited internet service upgrade, stating, "I'm grateful that we're finally getting the internet that we have very much deserved for a long time. Thank goodness for

the GUMBO grant, the legislation, and everybody that made it happen." Milligan, one of the first residents to sign up for the new fiber optic service, praised it as "the best thing on the market, hands down." While fiber optic lines are not yet accessible to all residents in Dixie Inn, Mike Griffith from the Webster Parish Police Jury assured, "We're going to have a map from the jury that will let everybody know who's got it and who doesn't. We'll make contact with those people who don't. We just want to make sure that nobody gets overlooked.

We want to make sure everybody has the same opportunity." Current AT&T customers are expected to qualify for lower rates than non-AT&T customers. In a related development, AT&T installed a new cellular tower on Homer Road in Minden last spring, paving the way for future fiber optic services in Minden. The council also passed Ordinance No. 132, enabling the enforcement of certain traffic violations by automated means. Dixie Inn police officers using Light Detection and Ranging (LiDAR), either handheld or trailer

mounted, can now use photographic evidence to impose civil penalties on drivers who disregard speed limits and stop signs. Speeding fines will range from \$100 to \$150, with the vehicle owner responsible for the civil-violation penalties (fines). However, if the owner was not the driver, the owner must provide a signed affidavit identifying the person who was in possession of the vehicle at the time of the violation. A current bill (SB21) in the legislature that would prohibit automated speed-enforcement

devices is not expected to pass. Notably, a police officer stopping a vehicle and issuing a citation falls under a criminal penalty, while the discussed automated system that mails evidence to the owner pertains to a civil penalty. In light of Webster Parish Deputy Sheriff Sgt. Aaron Barnes's serious injuries after being struck by a vehicle on January 30, the Dixie Inn Police Department emphasized the enforcement of LRS 32.125. This law mandates that all drivers yield right-of-way to emergency vehicles by pulling over

to the right side of the road and stopping until the emergency vehicle has passed. If the emergency vehicle is parked on the side of the road, other drivers must make a lane change into a non-adjacent lane if possible. If a lane change is not possible, the driver must slow to a reasonably safe speed. The Village of Dixie Inn holds its council meetings on the second Tuesday of each month, with the next meeting scheduled for April 9 at 5 PM. The public is welcome to attend.

CRIME

Noise complaint escalates to arrest in Webster Parish

STAFF REPORT
Minden Press-Herald

A noise complaint at a large party in an unincorporated area of Webster Parish escalated into a confrontation that led to the arrest of a resident on charges including multiple counts of aggravated assault with a firearm. Webster Parish Sheriff Jason Parker said Steven Charles Toms, 47, was arrested early Thursday and taken to Bayou Dorcheat Correctional Center after deputies charged Toms with violation of the parish's noise ordinance and five counts of aggravated assault with a firearm. The incident began with complaints about loud music from an outdoor

party. Deputies arrived to find a large crowd and hazardous parking. Toms, the party host, had not obtained a permit for the event, which was advertised as "It's Up," featuring a DJ and a notice to "BYOE" (Bring Your Own Everything), with admission fees being charged. Parish ordinance requires permits for gatherings of 250 or more, with appropriate security. Despite the flyer mentioning "Security Strictly Enforced," no security was present when deputies arrived. When deputies requested the music be turned off, Toms became aggressive, demanding they leave his property. Parker stated, "Our deputies did not pull their weapons in response be-

cause of the large crowd, including many juveniles, present in the immediate vicinity. We did an amazing job of maintaining order and de-escalating what had the potential to be a dangerous or even deadly situation." After shutting down the party, deputies later obtained an arrest warrant for Toms, following a post-incident review and discussions with the District Attorney's office. A search warrant executed at Toms' residence led to the recovery of the 9MM handgun involved in the incident. Parker commended his deputies, saying, "No one was hurt, and that's always the goal in a situation like this. Our guys resolved a situation that could have gotten out of hand."

CAREGIVING SERVICE

Tender Touch SERVICES, LLC

FOCUSED ON DIGNITY AND INDEPENDENCE

121 SIMS STREET, SIMSBORO, LA, UNITED STATES, 71275

TENDERTOUCHESSERVICESLLC.COM

LaTonya C. Jackson

Owner/Manager Insured/Bonded

(318) 737-6764

Michelle Hunter

Assistant Manager

(318) 436-9878

ELDERLY CARE • MEAL PREP

RUN ERRANDS • LIGHT HOUSEKEEPING

COMPANIONSHIP • HONEST • DEPENDABLE

NOT ACCEPTING INSURANCE

PRIVATE PAY ONLY

WEBSTER & MORE

OBITUARIES



Johnny Ray Rowland, Sr

Quartzsite, AZ - Johnny Ray Rowland, Sr. passed away Saturday, March 9, 2024, after a courageous battle with cancer. He was 74 when he went to his Heavenly home.

There was a memorial service in Mr. Rowland's honor Sunday, March 17, 2024, at 3 pm at Brushwood Methodist Church, 6320 Brushwood Drive, Dubberly, LA. His sons, Johnny Ray Rowland, Jr. and Jason Bryan Rowland officiated.

Mr. Rowland was born on September 6, 1949, in Minden, LA to Irvin William (I.W.) Rowland and Allene Cooke Rowland.

He was preceded in death by his parents and grandparents, B.F. Rowland and Ola Hood Rowland, and William Richard Cooke and Era Batton Cooke.

Although Mr. Rowland had been a resident of Quartzsite, AZ, he spent the majority of his life living on the family farm in Dubberly. Mr. Rowland was reared in a Christian home where he and his family were members and regular attendees of Brushwood United Methodist Church. While living on the Rowland Farm, Mr. Rowland and his older sister, Kay, enjoyed the peace and tranquility of country living, but also learned to appreciate the value of hard work. Together, they understood the meaning of phrases such as: "cotton pickin' time", "hay hauling", "grading eggs", and "tending to the cows". Later, Mr. Rowland along with Kay and her husband, George, would become 3rd generation descendants to make the Rowland Farm their home.

Mr. Rowland was a product of the Webster Parish School System as he attended Dubberly High School from grades 1-12. He was valedictorian of the Dubberly High School class of 1967 and earned All-State honors as a member of the Dubberly High School Class

C State Championship Basketball Team. In addition to being an outstanding student/athlete, Mr. Rowland was a gifted public speaker as evidenced by his winning multiple speech contests while in high school.

After graduation from high school, Mr. Rowland attended Northeast Louisiana University and Louisiana Tech University, and it was during this time he decided to pursue his passion for singing and entertaining as his career path. A talented singer, Mr. Rowland thoroughly enjoyed performing and recording music across much of the country. However, he also loved the outdoor lifestyle and was an avid gun enthusiast. From this love, Mr. Rowland would create and produce, "The Shootin' Show" which aired on the Outdoor Channel for several years. Later, he would develop the .460 Rowland, a handgun cartridge that equaled or surpassed the performance of the .44 magnum. Through these pursuits and many others, Mr. Rowland lived a colorful and adventurous life while maintaining a personable disposition and kind spirit.

He is survived by his wife Lori Jakl Rowland of Quartzsite, AZ; children: Johnny Ray Rowland, Jr. and wife Sherri of Dubberly, Jason Bryan Rowland and wife Marla of Benton, Allena Rowland, Zane Rowland, and Annah Rowland all of Quartzsite, AZ; three granddaughters: Madison Rowland of Haughton, Morgan Rowland Hall and husband Gray of Minden, and Rheagan Rowland McMinn and husband Brooks of Benton; 3 great grandchildren: Remi McMinn, Garrison Hall and Allyn McMinn; one sister: Kay Rowland Simolke and husband George of Dubberly; nephew Albert Simolke of Haughton; niece Shelley Simolke Christy and husband Jay of Minden; great nephew Parker Christy and wife Kelly of Minden; great niece Amelia Christy of Shreveport; and cousins: Eneile Cooke Mears, Sue Rowland Grisham, Charlie Mack Rowland, Bill Stahl, Jan Greer Trump, and Dennis Rowland.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Janet Thompson Children's Ministry at Brushwood Methodist Church.



Wills Successions

Warren Law LLC
219 Main Street
Minden, La
318-377-8150
Call for a free information packet.

GOLF

Continued from Page 1

congratulations to all the winners. They also thanked various individuals and businesses for their contributions, including Josh Hilton with Smokin J's for breakfast, Lance McGuire for drinks and donuts, Mike Elshout for drinks, Michael Elshout for cooking sliders and Hugh Woods for prepar-

ing sliders and pulled pork, Bo Branch for drinks, and Wesley and Peyton for course set up. The tournament committee was also commended for their efforts in organizing the event. Looking ahead, organizers invited golfers to join them for their Par 3 tournament scheduled for April 13th, anticipating another memorable day on the course.

SCHOOLS

Continued from Page 1

the project.

Regarding the distribution of the LDOE's differentiated teacher pay stipend, totaling \$144,340, the board considered four options mandated by the LDOE. These options include: Option 1 for Teachers in Critical Shortage per BESE, Option 2 for Highly Effective Teachers based on fiscal year 2022-2023 evaluations and assessments, Option 3 for teachers working in schools with an economically disadvantaged rate of 85% or more, and Option 4 for teachers in leadership positions. Up to 303 teachers in Webster Parish may be eligible.

After consulting with the Teacher Advisory Council, the board decided to utilize all four options to ensure the

maximum number of teachers could receive the stipend. They also opted for multiple payments, meaning teachers qualifying for more than one option would receive the stipend for each area they qualify for. The exact number of eligible teachers is yet to be determined, but it is estimated that each teacher could receive around \$470 per qualified option. For instance, a teacher qualifying for both Option 1 and Option 3 would receive a stipend of \$940. Susan Addington of District 12 was the sole dissenting vote against this distribution method.

The next regular meeting of the Webster Parish School Board is scheduled for April 1 at 6 PM at the school board office, and it is open to the public.



Richard (Rick) Beard

Richard (Rick) Beard, 71 years of age of Dixie Inn, Louisiana passed away on March 13, 2024. Richard was born on December 9, 1952.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Paul Wallace Beard and Laquitta Joy Fuller Beard and the mother of his children, Cathy Beard Miller.

Rick is survived by his loving daughters, Natalie Beard Frost and Rachael Beard Matthews, sister, Paula Beard Lucas of Princeton, brother, Randy Beard of Sib-

ley and Loving Companion, Judy McKenzie. Rick leaves numerous friends and family members that were a very Special part of his life that he loved dearly as they did him. He was Uncle Rick to every Child that ever graced his water park theme Bayou Home designed with them in mind. Rick was symbolic of everything Special about entertaining on Da Bayou leaving us all with Precious Memories to fondly reminisce.

Rick was an Honorable, Hardworking, Knowledgeable Man's Man with a Gentle Heart and Soul that touched and influenced the Very Lives that Shared in his Amazing Journey Through Life. Rick was a legend in his own Time and Ours and will be Deeply missed by All that knew and Loved Him Dearly.

CRIME

Houma man arrested in Lakeshore drive burglary

STAFF REPORT
Minden Press-Herald

A Houma man was arrested on March 13 in connection with a burglary that occurred on Lakeshore Drive last November. Minden Police Officer Clingon traveled to the Livingston Parish

Sheriff's Office to serve an active felony warrant on Keith Brooks, 43, for aggravated burglary.

The burglary took place on November 23, 2023, when the resident's former house cleaner organized the crime. The cleaner had been fired approximately six months

prior. She called two friends from the Baton Rouge area to pick her up, and together they drove to Minden and burglarized the residence, stealing several guns and other items. The stolen guns were later sold in the south.

The woman is currently

in custody at Bossier Max for Bossier warrants. The other man, Joseph Rogers, is still at large in the southern area.

Anyone with additional information on this case is urged to contact the Minden Police Department.

COMMUNITY

Ron Anderson applauds Project Reclaim Youth Aides

AMBER MCDOWN
Minden Press-Herald

Ron Anderson, executive director of Project Reclaim, recently praised the efforts of several young ladies serving as Youth Aides in the Project Reclaim after-school program. Among those recognized were Ms. Fuller, Ms. Harrison, Ms. West,

and Ms. Bennett. Anderson expressed his admiration, stating, "Congratulations to our Youth Aides in the Project Reclaim after-school program. Please let them know how proud of them you are when you see these young leaders!"

Project Reclaim is a leadership academy that targets elementary,

middle, junior, and high school youth. The program's primary objective is to nurture participants into exemplary leaders by fostering an understanding of leadership, academic excellence, and the importance of respectful relationships. Through a curriculum that includes leadership training, life

and social skills development activities, and hands-on media training in TV production and post-production editing, alongside parental involvement activities, Project Reclaim empowers youth to strive for excellence. For more information, visit their website at prstars.org.

COMMUNITY

DAR inducts four new members

Special to the Minden Press-Herald

Dorcheat-Bistineau Chapter Daughters of the American Revolution inducted four new members on March 5, 2024, at the Webster Parish Library's Stewart Center. Each member was introduced and presented with a gift bag. We are also working with 11 prospective members to complete their documentation and applications. Our new members are:

Elaine Burns is a descendant of Thomas Everett who was born in 1742 in Virginia. He served as a Private during the Revolution from 1775 through

1780. At the age of 91, he applied for a pension and received \$62 per year until his death in 1837 at the age of 97.

Cindy Walker and her daughter Cara Buie are descendants of John Richardson, born 1753 in South Carolina. He served as an Ensign in Gregory's Company, 10th Regiment. The 10th Regiment became part of the Continental Army in 1777, and after participating in several battles the remaining members disbanded at Valley Forge.

Lydia Pruitt, daughter of our member Kay Pruitt, is a descendant of John Chambliss who was born before 1730 in Virginia. In

1773, he received a land grant of 250 acres in Craven County, South Carolina. John was too old to serve in the military, so he supported the Revolution by providing beef and ammunition to the local troops.

This month's speaker was Dorcheat-Bistineau member Linda Watson, who gave a presentation about Marquis de Lafayette. He was from one of the wealthiest families in France, and at the age of 17 he used his money to purchase and outfit a ship, recruit men, and sail to the colonies to support the Revolution.

Our chapter members participate in a nation-

wide DAR project called Service to America, where members participate in community service projects. Maggie Salter assisted with Club Day at Glenbrook. She helped students make valentine cards to deliver to 3 veterans' homes.

Hostesses for this month's meeting were Linda Watson and Libby Watkins. Our April meeting will be held at the Moreland House in Homer. This home was built in 1852 and has recently been restored by Dr. John Moreland and Sara McDaniel of Simply Southern Cottage in Minden. They will tell us about the history of

the house and give us a tour. This will be the first time the public has been allowed to tour the restored home. Our chapter will also host Claiborne Chapter DAR, and our tour will be followed by lunch in Homer. Dr. John Moreland and Dorcheat-Bistineau members Cindy Madden, Ashln Benamati Thompson, Judy Reese, Jamie Fortenberry, Harol Thompson, Sue Kinsey, and Liz Custer are all descendants of Joseph Benson Moreland and Mary Amanda Phillips Moreland who built the house. There are many other descendants from Claiborne Chapter DAR as well.

Dorcheat-Bistineau

DAR is a vibrant, growing service organization which meets in Minden. Any woman age 18 years or older who can prove lineal, bloodline descent from an ancestor who aided in achieving American independence from Great Britain during the Revolutionary War (1775-1783) is eligible to join DAR. For more information, contact Cindy Madden, Regent of Dorcheat-Bistineau Chapter at darcindymadden@gmail.com. Please like our Facebook page: Daughters of the American Revolution – Dorcheat-Bistineau Chapter.

Submit your news at
press-herald.com/submissions

OPINION

MINDEN
PRESS-HERALD
203 GLEASON STREET
MINDEN, LOUISIANA 71055
318-377-1866
www.press-herald.com
USPS NUMBER 593-340

RANDY BROWN
Executive Vice President
& Publisher

JOSHUA SPECHT
Editor

DAWN WALLACE
Accounting/Bookkeeping

AMBER MCDOWN
Reporter

WILL PHILLIPS
Reporter

RUSSELL HEDGES
Sports Editor

JEAN BAILEY
Classifieds/Public Notices

AMANDA ANDERS
Circulation Manager

JACIE BRENT
Advertising Manager

NATHAN MILLS
Regional Marketing
and Advertising Specialist

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

Telephone: (318) 377-1866.

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

Subscription rate: \$40 per year.

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

THE MINDEN
PRESS-HERALD
WELCOMES
LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

HERE ARE OUR GUIDELINES:

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

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

OPINION

Former President Trump Correct to Keep Focus on NATO Freeloaders

President Trump is one of the most creative leaders we may ever see and the manner in which he brings attention to issues—whether in a statesmanlike way or with his inimitable bombast—he nevertheless is always successful in doing so.

Recall that while president, in 2018, Trump called out other world leaders who are part of the NATO Alliance and browbeat and shamed them into upping their contributions to the Alliance to the required 2% of each nation's gross domestic product (GDP). As noted by The Heritage Foundation in 2018 regarding Trump, "… he has said Germany is a "captive" to Russia due to its oil and gas deals, and that he expects NATO countries to "immediately" increase defense spending to relieve some of the unfair burden on the U.S. After all, how many times have Europeans broken the promise to increase defense spending? The reality is, most NATO allies are free riders on American defense. And in spite of that, some NATO countries (like Germany) harbor deep anti-American attitudes, not just anti-Trump attitudes." (K. Holmes, The Heritage Foundation, July 12, 2018).

That was a fair assessment in 2018 and it is why people still trust Trump in 2024. And the Trump approach worked.

"In 2016, non-U.S. NATO

members spent \$262 billion on defense; in 2020, they will spend \$313 billion. Regardless of whether this increase resulted from changing threat perceptions, or Trump's laser-like focus on inadequate defense spending, … the results speak for themselves. The \$50 billion increase is equivalent to the entire defense budget of France." (D. Kochis, The Heritage Foundation, Nov 3, 2020).

Well, Trump has recently made a similar statement and the Washington Post is, unsurprisingly, outraged.

While in Conway, South Carolina, Trump stated to an



ROYAL ALEXANDER

exuberant and receptive audience that he had once suggested to a foreign leader that he would "encourage Russia to do whatever the hell they want" to NATO member countries who are not spending the required amount on their own defense. Trump stated that one of the presidents of a big country stood up and said, "well, sir, if we don't pay and we're attacked by Russia, will you protect us?" Trump said he responded "You didn't pay. You're delinquent. No, I would not

protect you. In fact, I would encourage them to do whatever the hell they want." (M. Levine, Washington Post, Feb. 10, 2024). The Post correctly noted that "Trump has long been a fierce critic of U.S. participation in the alliance, frequently hammering European countries on their share of defense spending, and appeared to be referring to indirect funding as part of participation in the alliance."

And that is the only reason there has ever been any movement by these NATO nations toward paying anywhere close to what they owe for their own defense.

NATO remains critical to American national security interests, but we can no longer be expected to bear the lion share of the burden as we have for decades. That is why The Heritage Foundation contends that "to sustain the alliance, America's NATO allies must be prepared to step up to the plate, and fully participate in burden sharing with the U.S." (N. Gardiner, Feb 7, 2024).

That is also why, The Heritage Foundation urges, "this cannot be a two-tier alliance, where the United States carries the overwhelming military load for the defense of the free world. Last year, only 11 NATO members spent the 2 percent of GDP on defense (Estonia, Finland, Greece, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Ro-

mania, the Slovak Republic, the United Kingdom, and the United States) agreed to almost a decade ago—and almost two years after Putin invaded Ukraine. This is unacceptable. It leaves the alliance dangerously vulnerable when it should be projecting strength and resolve." (Id.)

There is a balance that must be achieved here and the only national or world leader who has made any progress in correcting this inequity is Trump.

America is the world's only true superpower, but it cannot carry the weight of defense of the free world on its own. Trump's statements are necessary "tough love" threats directed to our free-loading allies, and when he was President, these statements were effective in dramatically increasing defense spending among our European allies.

But, Trump's essential point is that all NATO must pay their fair share for their own defense, a defense that is now provided primarily by the U.S. and hardworking taxpayers in Louisiana and throughout America.

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

Jeff Benson Lives On Through Our Memories

It's not what happens to us but how we use that experience to our advantage. Sometimes we just have to work around it, chisel out an attitude that helps us to see life through new lenses.

It hurts. Jeff Benson died. I cried when I read the news online last night.

Jeff Benson and I had a special bond that began on September 29, 2015 when I received a response from him by email while he was having cancer tests run at MD Anderson in Houston, Texas after I had sent him my story Lost and found in Houston. It was a story that I had re-written from 1983 when I got lost in Houston while moving to Plain Dealing, Louisiana.

He was startled that I would send that story at that time. He wrote "It's odd that you write about this city and submit it as this moment...I am actually at this minute in Fulshear which is a suburb of Houston while I see some doctors at MD An-

derson Cancer Center." Then he went on to say "thought you might be interested in that coincidence. I know how you are about those types of things." That really got my attention because I didn't know he was in Houston when I sent the story to him. I see this as a "God Wink" experience when we see God stepping out of the woodwork making His presence known.



SARAH HUDSON PIERCE

I began earnestly praying for Jeff morning, noon and night somehow believing that he would live through this ordeal.

I didn't want to let him go. He made a difference in my life and in the newsroom. He lives on through the voice-

es he left behind.

It's still early to make a lot of sense out of the news I received last night but I know that there is a purpose in everything whether we understand it or not.

We have to chisel out an attitude to sustain us throughout life.

Sometimes it takes years for us to let go of our pain and use it to help other people.

Jeff did that. He was "calm in the newsroom storm."

Having never worked in a newsroom I can only imagine the tension of meeting deadlines, of having to churn out stories online to fill space, to make the most urgent stories heard first.

It must be hard not being able to simply listen to your own muse in your quiet moments of inspiration.

I have always said that I really wouldn't want to work in a newsroom. It must be a nightmare to have to meet so many

deadlines.

I think it would jangle my nerves.

I get on my own nerves with my hyper-activity.

I can only imagine what goes on there.

We can't all be Erma Bombeck. She covered the laundry room beat. We can't all cover the world news. There's enough other people who talk non-stop. Peter Jennings and Dan Rather taught us how to do that but we can all find out our corner, our own place, carving out a niche that only we can fill.

We can be a voice for those who have no voice. We can make a difference by being an advocate for those who live in fear -- the children who are being abused behind closed doors -- the homeless.

We can only do this if we have somehow been there -- to be able to step into another's shoes.

CONTACT SARAH AT SARAH9957@AOL.COM

KEEP THIS IN MIND

The Importance of Keeping Tabs on the Louisiana Legislative Session

As we find ourselves one week into the current regular legislative session, it's crucial to underscore the significance of paying attention to what's happening under the Capitol dome. You see, what transpires during these sessions isn't just political jargon or bureaucratic red tape—it directly impacts our lives, our businesses, and our families.

First and foremost, let's talk about bills. These proposed laws can have far-reaching consequences, touching every aspect of our daily existence. From education and healthcare to taxes and infrastructure, the decisions made at the state level

have a tangible impact on our communities.

So, what can we do to ensure that our voices are heard and our interests are represented? Here are a few key steps to consider:

Keep an Eye on Local Representatives' Bills: Start by paying attention to the bills filed by your local representatives and senators. These are the individuals who have been elected to represent your



DAVID SPECHT

interests, so it's essential to track their legislative activities and any proposed changes or amendments.

Stay Informed Through Trusted Sources: In today's digital age, information is abundant—but not all sources are created equal. Avoid falling prey to clickbait or sensationalism by relying on trusted news sources, like our very own newspaper. We're committed to providing you with the facts, straight from the source.

Be Proactive: Get Involved: Remember, your elected officials work for you. If there's legislation that you feel strongly about—whether in support or opposition—

don't hesitate to reach out to your representative. Calls, emails, and letters can make a real difference, and elected officials often pay closer attention to the concerns of their constituents than to the voices of lobbyists.

By staying informed and actively participating in the legislative process, we can help shape the policies that govern our state. Whether it's advocating for better schools, safer roads, or a stronger economy, our voices matter.

Together, we can work towards better outcomes for ourselves, our communities, and our beloved state of Louisiana.

As a reminder, the current session convened on Monday, March 11, 2024, and is set to adjourn no later than 6:00 pm on Monday, June 3, 2024. Let's make the most of this time and ensure that our voices are heard loud and clear.

Until next time, stay informed, stay involved, and let's make a difference together.

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



Advanced
EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICE

EMS

**MORE THAN
A JOB
A CALLING**

Make Your One Call Count!



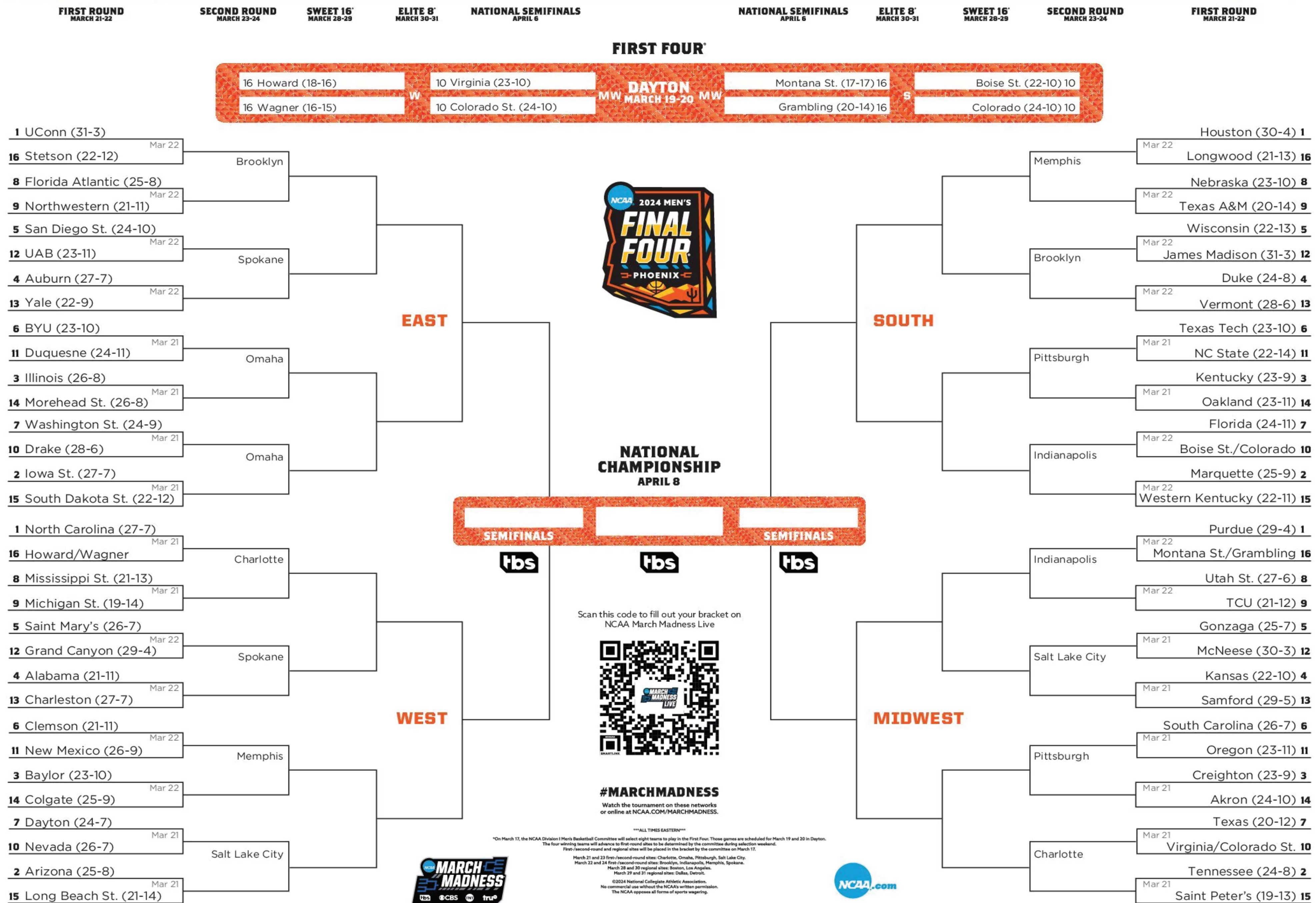
25426 Hwy 371
Sarepta, LA
(318) 539-5499

900 Shreveport Rd.
Minden, LA
(318) 382-0380

108 Machen Square
Winnfield, LA
(318) 628-4195

7919 Hwy 165
Columbia, LA
(318) 649-2940

2024 NCAA® DIVISION I MEN'S BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP



TIP OFF MARCH MADNESS WITH SOME FAVORITES!

LOCALLY OWNED & OPERATED

MIKE'S
Spirits
&
Hugh Wood
SPECIALTY
MEATS & CATERING

COLD BEER

Hugh Wood
SPECIALTY
MEATS & CATERING
318-707-2749

214 Homer Rd. • 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

No word limit.

\$11

One Day

\$16.50

Two Days

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

* Garage Sale ads must be prepaid.

Deadlines

Ads

Line ads and display ads must be submitted by noon two days before publication.

Public Notices

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

Cash Checks, Billing

Real Estate Notice

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

Grow Your Business

Call to place your ad!

PLACE YOUR AD TODAY!

377-1866

SHERIFF'S SALE

WELLS FARGO BANK NA VS. TRACEY LEIGH SINGLETON IMP-SON

In the Twenty-Sixth Judicial District Court of Webster Parish, Louisiana, No. 81240.

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, April 24, 2024, During the legal sale hours, the following property, to wit:

That certain piece or parcel of ground, together with all buildings and improvements thereon, and all the rights, ways, privileges, servitudes, appurtenances and advantages thereunto belonging or in anywise appertaining, situated in: Lot Number Seventeen (17) Caney Lake Subdivision, Unit No Two (2), as per plat and map thereof on file and of record in Map Book 3, Page 68 of the records of Webster Parish, Louisiana.

1012 Brenda Circle, Minden, LA

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 20, 2024 April 17, 2024 Minden Press Herald

SHERIFF'S SALE

REGIONS BANK VS. HAYLIE DANIELLE BENOIT, AKA

In the Twenty-Sixth Judicial District Court of Webster Parish, Louisiana, No. 81258.

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, April 24, 2024, During the legal sale hours, the following property, to wit:

LOT FORTY-ONE AND FORTY-TWO (41 & 42) OF BABB ADDITIONS, A SUBDIVISION IN THE CITY OF MINDEN, WEBSTER PARISH, LOUISIANA, AS PER MAP AND PLAT THEREOF ON FILE AND OF RECORD IN MAP BOOK 2, PAGE 82, OF THE OFFICIAL RECORDS OF WEBSTER PARISH IN THE OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF COURT OF SAID PARISH, TOGETHER WITH ALL BUILDINGS AND IMPROVEMENTS THEREON AND ALL RIGHTS THERETO BELONGING. (ASSESSMENT #112765).

1006 WATTERMAN ST., MINDEN, LA 71055

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 20, 2024 April 17, 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 duplexs (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

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING WEBSTER PARISH POLICE JURY March 5, 2024

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jim Bonsall, President; Steve Ramsey, Vice President; Beverly Kennon, Mike Griffith, Steve Lemmons, LaTanya Grigsby, Allen Gilbert, Bruce Blanton, Nancy Hines, Randy Thomas, Daniel Thomas and Adam Lee

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.

There were no comments from the audience concerning the agenda.

Mr. Adam Lee moved, seconded by Mr. Bruce Blanton to approve invoices for payment pending review by juror Adam Lee. Motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Nancy Hines moved, seconded by Mr. Steve Ramsey to adopt the minutes of the February 6, 2024 Road Committee, Finance Committee and Regular Meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Daniel Thomas moved, seconded by Mr. Randy Thomas to approve Board Appointments to the Sarepta Fire District #5 to reappoint Mr. Roger Schumacher to a 2-year term, term to end December 31, 2025. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Steve Ramsey moved, seconded by Mr. Mike Griffith to approve to Declare Emer-

gency for LCDBG-Saltworks Water System by Resolution. Motion carried unanimously.

COMMENTS: Melinda Davidson WPOCS Director Wanda Finely WP Headstart Savannah Jones WP Library Director Serena Gray WP CVB (Tourism) Christie Cox Allen Moseley/Coroner Shakera Williams LSU Ag/Extension Service Brian Williams OHSEP Director

Dorothy Henderson, resident from District #11 had questions about the Saltworks Water System Resolution. Discussion followed.

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.

Ms. Beverly Kennon moved, seconded by Mr. Adam Lee 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 Jury, the meeting adjourned.

/s/ Lisa C. Balkom Secretary-Treasurer

/s/ Jim Bonsall President

March 20, 2024 Minden Press Herald

PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE OF LA STATE CIVIL SERVICE STATUS

Public Notice is hereby given that during the 2024 Legislative Session beginning March 11, 2024 and ending June 3, 2024, a bill in collective efforts with Louisiana Housing Council will be introduced on behalf on the Minden Housing Authority to provide status relative to LA Civil Service for employees of the housing authority and to provide related matters.

March 20, 2024 March 27, 2024 Minden Press Herald

TOWN OF SIBLEY PUBLIC NOTICE

April 8, 2024 Posted on March 13, 2024

The Town of Sibley Board of Aldermen will hold a public hearing on Monday, April 8, 2024 at 6pm at the Sibley Town Hall, 345 N. Main St., Sibley, La. to discuss the following:

1. Proposed Ordinance titled "AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE DECLARATION OF PROPERTY KNOWN AS THE LANE MEADOWS SUBDIVISION AS SURPLUS PROPERTY, NOT NEEDED OR USEABLE FOR PUBLIC PURPOSES, PROVIDING FOR THE SEVERABILITY OF THE DIFFERENT SECTIONS HEREOF AND PROVIDING FOR THE REPEAL OF ALL CONFLICTING ORDINANCES."

For more information, please call 377-0345.

The public is encouraged to attend.

Sherry McCann, Town Clerk

March 20, 2024 Minden Press Herald

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Sealed bids will be received for the State of Louisiana by the Division of Administration and shall be directed to the Office of Facility Planning and Control, 1201 North Third Street, Claiborne Office Building, Suite 7-160, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, 70802 or P.O. Box 94095, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, 70804-9095. The deadline for receipt of bids is 2:00 PM on Thursday, April 18, 2024, at which time bids will be opened and read aloud in a public meeting in the Claiborne Office Building, Conference Room 1-145.

ANY PERSON REQUIRING SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS SHALL NOTIFY FACILITY PLANNING AND CONTROL OF THE TYPE(S) OF ACCOMMODATION REQUIRED NOT LESS THAN SEVEN (7) DAYS BEFORE THE BID OPENING.

FOR: Road Repairs Lake Bistineau State

Park Doyline, Louisiana PROJECT NUMBER: 01-107-18-02, F.01004440

Complete Bidding Documents for this project are available in electronic form. They may be obtained without charge and without deposit from Mohr and Associates, Inc.. Printed copies are not available from the Designer but arrangements can be made to obtain them through most reprographic firms. Plan holders are responsible for their own reproduction costs.

Questions about this procedure shall be directed to the Designer at:

Mohr and Associates, Inc. 1324 North Hearne Avenue, Suite 301 Shreveport, LA 71107-6529 Telephone: 318-470-0638 E-mail: Donald F. Barker, III (dbarker@mohrandassoc.com)

All bids shall be accompanied by bid security in an amount of five percent (5.0%) of the sum of the base bid and all alternates. The form of this security shall be as stated in the Instructions to Bidders included in the Bid Documents for this project.

The successful Bidder shall be required to furnish a Performance and Payment Bond written as described in the Instructions to Bidders included in the Bid Documents for this project.

A PRE-BID CONFERENCE WILL BE HELD AT 11:00 AM on Thursday, April 04, 2024 at Lake Bistineau State Park, Entrance Station, 103 State Park Road, Doyline, LA 71023.

Bids shall be accepted from Contractors who are licensed under LA. R.S. 37:2150-2192 for the classification of Highway, Street, and Bridge Construction. Bidder is required to comply with provisions and requirements of LA R.S. 38:2212(B)(5). No bid may be withdrawn for a period of forty-five (45) days after receipt of bids, except under the provisions of LA. R.S. 38:2214.

The Owner reserves the right to reject any and all bids for just cause. In accordance with La. R.S. 38:2212(B)(1), the provisions and requirements of this Section and those stated in the bidding documents shall not be waived by any entity.

When this project is financed either partially or entirely with State Bonds or financed in whole or in part by federal or other funds which are not readily available at the time bids are received, the award of this Contract is contingent upon the granting of lines of credit, or the sale of bonds by the Bond Commission or the availability of federal or other funds. The State shall incur no obligation to the Contractor until the Contract Between Owner and Contractor is fully executed.

Facility Planning and Control is a participant in the Small Entrepreneurship (SE) Program (the Hudson Initiative) and the Veteran-Owned and Service-Connected Disabled Veteran-Owned (LaVet) Small Entrepreneurships Program. Bidders are encouraged to consider participation. Information is available from the Office of Facility Planning and Control or on its website at <https://www.doa.la.gov/doa/fpc/>.

STATE OF LOUISIANA DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATION FACILITY PLANNING AND CONTROL ROGER E. HUSSER, JR., DIRECTOR

March 20, 2024 March 27, 2024 April 3, 2024 Minden Press Herald

NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY AND WEBSTER PARISH POLICE JURY

The Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality and Webster Parish Police Jury (Respondent), Agency Interest Number 85534, have entered into a proposed settlement agreement, Settlement Tracking No. SA-MM-23-0068, concerning the State's allegations of environmental violations by Respondent at its facility in Webster Par-

ish, Louisiana, which allegations are set forth in Consolidated Compliance Order & Notice of Potential Penalty, Enforcement Tracking No. MM-CN-19-01163, and other violations included in the settlement and which are not in the Consolidated Compliance Order & Notice of Potential Penalty.

The Department of Environmental Quality will accept comments on the proposed settlement for the next forty-five (45) days. The public is invited and encouraged to submit written comments to the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality, Office of the Secretary, Legal Division, Post Office Box 4302, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70821-4302, Attention: Jay L. Glorioso, Attorney. All comments will be considered by the Department of Environmental Quality in reaching a decision on whether to make the settlement final.

Terms and conditions of the proposed settlement agreement may be reviewed on the Department of Environmental Quality's website at www.deq.louisiana.gov, by selecting About LDEQ, Enforcement, and Settlements. The document may also be viewed at, and copies obtained from, the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality, Public Records Center, Room 127, Galvez Building, 602 North Fifth Street, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70802. To request a copy of the proposed settlement, submit a completed Public Record Request Form (DEQ Form ISD-0005-01). The form and instructions for completion may be found on the DEQ Website at the following address: <http://deq.louisiana.gov/assets/docs/General/PublicRecordsRequestForm.pdf> or by calling the Customer Service Center at 1-866-896-5337.

Pursuant to La. R.S. 30:2050.7(D), the Department of Environmental Quality may hold a public hearing regarding this proposed settlement when either of the following conditions are met: 1) a written request for public hearing has been filed by twenty-five (25) persons, by a governmental subdivision or agency, or by an association having not less than twenty-five (25) members who reside in the parish in which the facility is located; or 2) the secretary finds a significant degree of public interest in this settlement.

For further information, you may call the Legal Division of the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality at (225) 219-3985.

March 20, 2024 Minden Press Herald

Notice is hereby given that the Webster Parish Landfill, LLC., intends to submit to the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality, Office of Environmental Services, Waste Permits Division, a petition for exemption of LAC 33:VII. Subpart §803. A. 2.a.

Comments concerning the facility may be filed with the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality at the following address:

Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality Office of Environmental Services Waste Permits Division Post Office Box 4313 Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70821-4313

March 20, 2024 Minden Press Herald

SHERIFF'S SALE

LAKEVIEW LOAN SERVICING, LLC VS. PATRICK ANDREW KING AND RACHEL KING, A/K/A RACHEL ELIZABETH MILLER KING, RACHEL ELIZABETH MILLER, RACHEL ELIZABETH KING

In the Twenty-Sixth Judicial District Court of Webster Parish, Louisiana, No. CV80496

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 WITHOUT 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 27, 2024 During the legal sale hours, the following property, to wit:

A 1.83 acre, more or less, tract of land located in the Northwest Quarter of the Southeast Quarter (NW/4 of SE/4) and the Southwest Quarter of the Southeast Quarter (SW/4 of SE/4), all in Section 4, Township 20 North, Range 9 West, Webster Parish, Louisiana, more particularly described as follows:

Begin at an existing 3/4 inch iron pipe at the Southeast corner of the Northwest Quarter of the Southeast Quarter, (SE/c of NW/4 of SE/4), also begin at the Northeast corner of the Southwest Quarter of the Southeast Quarter (NE/c of SW/4 of SE/4), said Section 4 for the Point of Beginning and run South 195.14 feet to an existing 1/2 inch iron rod to the apparent North right-of-way of Blue Run Road; thence run North 83 degrees 18 minutes 22 seconds West 196.65 feet along said apparent right-of-way to a set 5/8 inch iron rod; thence run North 3 degrees 06 minutes 05 seconds West 381.12 feet to an existing 2 inch iron pipe at a cross-tie fence corner; thence run North 89 degrees 51 minutes 28 seconds East 209.39 feet to an existing 2 inch iron pipe at a cross-tie fence corner; thence run south 1 degree 47 minutes 31 seconds East 208.96 feet to the Point of Beginning, as per Plat prepared by Paul W. Culeppper, Registered Land Surveyor, dated March 10, 2010, Drawing #10-047C, together with all buildings and improvements located thereon, having a municipal address of 1162 Blue Run Road, Minden, Louisiana 71055, formerly and historically described as:

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

Pam Brantley - Deputy

March 20, 2024 Minden Press Herald

One acre in the Southeast corner of the Northwest Quarter of the Southeast Quarter (SE/c of NW/4 of SE/4) of Section 4, Township 20 North, Range 9 West, Webster Parish, Louisiana, and one acre in the Northeast corner of the Southwest Quarter of the Southeast Quarter (NE/e of SW/4 of SE/4) of Section 4, Township 20 North, Range 9 West, Webster Parish, Louisiana, together with all improvements thereon and all rights thereunto belonging, being the property acquired by W.A. Smith from the Webster Parish School Board by Deed recorded in Volume 256, Page 311, Conveyance Records of Webster Parish, Louisiana, and acquired by Lionel & Lou Myles from W.A. Smith and Sallie Roberts Smith by Deed recorded April 10, 1984 recorded in Volume 609, Page 718, Conveyance Records of Webster Parish, Louisiana (Assessment #104847).

Which has the address of 1162 Blue Run Road, Minden, LA 71055

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

February 21, 2024 March 20, 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 27, 2024, During the legal sale hours, the following property, to wit:

2018 GMC ACADIA VEHICLE BEARING VIN 1GK-KNPLS3JZ21089

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 20, 2024 Minden Press Herald

SUBSCRIBE to MPH at (318) 377-1866

SCHOOL ZONES ARE HANDS FREE

Town Of Sibley
P.O. Box 128
345 N. Main Street
Sibley, Louisiana 71073
Phone (318) 377-0345 Fax (318) 377-0361

March 11, 2024

The Sibley Town Council met in regular session on Monday, March 11, 2024 at 6pm at Sibley Town Hall.

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

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

Alan Myers motioned to accept the minutes to the February 12, 2024 Regular Meeting as read, Helen Chanler seconded. Motion carried.

Richard Davis motioned to accept the minutes to the February 22, 2024 Special Meeting as read, Wayne Bolton seconded. Motion carried.

There were no New Items and No Public Comments.

Richard Davis introduced proposed Ordinance titled AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE DECLARATION OF PROPERTY KNOWN AS THE LANE MEADOWS SUBDIVISION AS SURPLUS PROPERTY, NOT NEEDED OR USEABLE FOR PUBLIC PURPOSES, PROVIDING FOR THE SEVERABILITY OF THE DIFFERENT SECTIONS HEREOF AND PROVIDING FOR THE REPEAL OF ALL CONFLICTING ORDINANCES and motioned to set a public hearing for April 8, 2024 at 6pm during the Regular Meeting of the Sibley Board of Aldermen at the Sibley Town Hall, 345 North Main St., Sibley, LA. Alan Myers seconded. Motion carried.

Keith Merritt motioned to adopt Resolution No. 06-2024 accepting the 2023 Municipal Water Pollution Prevention Environmental Audit Report. Richard Davis seconded. Motion carried.

Richard Davis motioned to adopt Resolution No. 07-2024 requesting assistance from the Webster Parish Police Jury with the installation of culverts for Sibley citizens for 2024. Wayne Bolton seconded. Motion carried.

Assistant Fire Chief Richard Davis gave the February 2024 activity report for the Sibley Volunteer Fire Department.

Assistant Police Chief Clint Meshell gave the February 2024 activity report for the Sibley Police Department.

The Board acknowledged the receipt of the February 2024 Financial Reports.

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

Meeting adjourned.

Attest:

Robert Smart
Robert Smart
Mayor

Sherry McCann
Sherry McCann
Town Clerk

March 20, 2024
Minden Press Herald

Any Small Jobs

Eloy Sosa

ES Home Remodel & Small Repairs

(318) 505-3318

- Painting
- Siding
- Backsplash

- Drywall
- Dump Trailer Rental
- Flooring

**DEPENDABLE CAREGIVER
SEEKING WORK.**

Have references if needed.
Call **318-224-3813**
or **318-268-8842.**

Leave message if no answer.

Clement Industries

MIG Welder –
Aluminum and Steel
Positions

- Experience with flux-core wire welding or hard-wire
- Must pass welding test
- Capable of lifting 70 lbs.
- Physical and drug screen

Apply at
hr@clementind.com
Or in person, no phone calls

HAVE YOUR
PET SPAYED
OR
NEUTERED

SCHOOL
ZONES
ARE
HANDS
FREE

LOUISIANA
IS A
TRIP. TAKE ONE TODAY.



Come feed your soul in Louisiana with a one-of-a-kind, close-to-home, far-from-ordinary road trip you'll never forget. Louisiana is a trip. Plan one today with a wide collection of itineraries at **LouisianalsATrip.com**.

FEATURING: POVERTY POINT STATE PARK



PROTECT
WHAT MATTERS MOST

Whether you are home or away, protect what matters most from unexpected power outages with a Generac Home Standby Generator.

\$0 MONEY DOWN + LOW MONTHLY PAYMENT OPTIONS

Contact a Generac dealer for full terms and conditions

**REQUEST A FREE QUOTE
CALL NOW BEFORE THE
NEXT POWER OUTAGE**

(855) 649-6863

FREE 7-year Extended Warranty* – A \$735 Value!

*To qualify, consumers must request a quote, purchase, install and activate the generator with a participating dealer. Call for a full list of terms and conditions.

GENERAC®





Pruitt
Home

Renovations

Your Local One Stop Home Improvement Contractor

• Licensed and Insured •

For a FREE estimate, just give us a call!

Abraham Pruitt Teddy Pruitt

(318) 382-3272

find us on facebook @pruithomerenovations

The
Community
Plumber LLC

Lic. Master Plumber 4306

(318) 382-3272

Pruitt Family Owned Business

Bossier Business
Suites

BBS

BOSSIER BUSINESS
SUITES

Central Bossier Location
Professional Co-Op Office Suites
\$650+ all utilities included
Call for information 318-469-6296
Find us on Facebook at: <https://www.facebook.com/bbs.properties.2023>

THE
Tree
Guys

Licensed & Insured Arborists

Locally Owned
& Operated

Minden, LA

Jon Conway & Kevin Crawford

601 Howell St. • Minden, LA 71055

Jon (318) 517-3069

Kevin (318) 780-0765

jon.thetreeguys@gmail.com • Like Us on Facebook @thetreeguys18

Mobile Powerwash
Service

"CLEAN YOUR HOME
WITH POWER"

Houses • Mobile Homes

Driveways • Pool Decks, etc.

BILLY'S
INDUSTRIAL
CLEANING

CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED

318-965-9002 OR
CELL 318-455-4685

FOUNDATION REPAIR &
HOUSE LEVELING, L.L.C.

Houses
Leveled

Pier and
Beam
Repaired

Wood
Floors
Replaced

Pier & Beam
Specialist

We
repair
moisture,
termite
and
water
damage.

Kenneth Gardner

Locally owned and operated
for over 30 years

318-218-9642

7545 Grimm Road
Shreveport, LA 71107

Locally Owned & Operated

S

SPEER
ROOFING
& Construction, LLC

Serving Minden
and surrounding
areas since 2004!

Free Estimates

Owner Daniel Speer Phone (318) 371-0008

"Come Ride With Us"

Webster Parish Police Jury
Office of Community Services
PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

For information or to schedule a ride
318-377-7022 - Minden
318-539-5696 - Springhill

Handicap & wheelchair accessible
Equal opportunity employee/services

Medical appointments,
work, shopping, banking or
visiting. From Springhill to
Shreveport and all points in
between we will get you
there with dependable,
courteous services.

Monthly
Bus Passes
Available

BLJJ ROOFING

LARRY BURRELL - OWNER

501-352-2393

General Liability & Workmens Comp
Member of Better Business Bureau
Member of Chamber of Commerce

To Advertise
on this page
call
377-1866
or
747-7900

MITCHELL
DIRT & ASPHALT

> Asphalt & Concrete Paving

> Dirt Work & Hauling

> Demolition

Contact Keith
377-8594 or 470-0812

Your Ad |

Two Newspapers |

Two Websites |

All Business

Minden
Press
MEDIA

Scan the QR Code to get started

Have you been thinking about
DIGITAL MARKETING?

Let us take the
guesswork out of it
with:

DIGITAL ADS
Landing Pages
Sales Funnels
Retargeting

Minden
Press
MEDIA
mindenpressmedia.com

Vote For Your Favorites!

https://survey.alchemer.com/s3/7745497/Minden-Press-Herald-2024-Reader-s-Choice-Ballot



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

SUGGESTIONS FOR MARCH GARDENERS

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



March is typically the last month for a killing frost or perhaps even a freeze, but weather this year has been everything but typical. So go ahead and start a garden and hope for a more normal spring. There's lots to do in spring gardens and possibly I will mention some of the things you may consider.

ORNAMENTALS

This is a good time to set out strong transplants of cool season annuals. Why not try some of the Louisiana Super Plants? There are several good species from which to choose. While it may not be the best time to plant some of these, it's worth a try. However, I would suggest that you should also include species that previously have done well for you.

Prepare hanging baskets for later planting in vertical garden space. Later, place those that need full sun where they will get it and do likewise for those that need semi-shade of deep shade. Finish planting trees and shrubs that you didn't get to earlier to give them a better chance to become established before the stress of summer.

VEGETABLES

Plant Silver Queen or other "regular" varieties of sweet corn about the middle of the month and thereafter at two-week intervals until mid-April. Then the soil should be warm enough to plant some of the newer supersweet cultivars. Always plant three rows together for suitable pollination and ears full of kernals. Several other vegetables can be planted

this month, but delay planting the more cold-sensitive until the latter part of the month. Direct-seeded species often come up too thick and need to be thinned early to reduce competition. This practice usually results in faster growth and increased yields. When possible, use LSU recommended varieties for greater garden success, but don't necessarily limit your planting to only these. Make use of mulches to reduce weed problems and provide a more even supply of moisture to your plants.

FRUITS

Fertilize blackberries, the sooner the better. Spray blooming pear trees with either a copper-based chemical or an antibiotic to help control fire blight...a serious bacterial disease. Control weeds under mature fruit trees with appropriate herbicides rather than by disturbing the soil. When strawberries are producing, frequent light applications of a soluble fertilizer should increase yields.

LAWNS

Mow winter species of

lawn grass relatively short to reduce the competition to permanent turf grasses that are starting to grow. Remove leaves and other debris from lawn surface and add to compost pile. Treat lawn with pre-emergence herbicide now (if not already done) to kill sprouting summer annual weeds. Also treat lawn with post-emergence herbicides to kill existing weeds. Increase inventory of appropriate fertilizers for applying in mid-

April. A 15-5-10 analysis is usually a good choice for lawns. Several fire ant killers are effective, but are slow to do the job. So, the earlier you can apply them, the better off you will be.

GENERAL

Check out and repair or replace irrigation equipment in lawns, flower beds, vegetable gardens and landscape areas. Also inspect orchards and vineyards for the same reason.



JOE W. WHITE, Ph.D.

DEPENDABLE CAREGIVER SEEKING WORK.

Have references if needed.
Call **318-224-3813**
or **318-268-8842.**

Leave message if no answer.



LOOKING FOR A NEW CAREER?

DAVID WADE

CORRECTIONAL CENTER JOB FAIR

TUESDAY, APRIL 9, 2024
9:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M.

WEBSTER PARISH LIBRARY
THE STEWART CENTER
521 EAST AND WEST STREET
MINDEN, LA 71055

IMMEDIATE OPENINGS FOR CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS

- HIRED ON THE SPOT
- EXCELLENT RETIREMENT
- AFFORDABLE HEALTH PLAN
- SNACKS WILL BE SERVED

Call **318-927-0400**
FOR DETAILS