



# MINDEN PRESS-HERALD

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SNEED CAMP 2024



L'Jarius Sneed, two-time Super Bowl champion and Tennessee Titans cornerback, coached youth participants at the 2nd Annual L'Jarius Sneed Football Camp held at Minden High School on June 22. Over 300 kids attended the event, learning football skills and life lessons.

AMBER MCDOWN/PRESS-HERALD PHOTOS

## L'Jarius Sneed holds 2nd annual football camp at Minden High School

AMBER MCDOWN  
Minden Press-Herald

The 2nd Annual L'Jarius Sneed Football Camp took place at Minden High School on June 22, drawing over 300 youth participants. Two-time Super Bowl champion L'Jarius Sneed, alongside volunteers from across the nation, provided hands-on football training to the attendees. Sneed's family, friends, and numerous community members also contributed to the camp's success. The event concluded with autograph sessions and photo opportunities.

When asked about his motivation for starting the camp, Sneed said, "The kids and just to give back to my community. It's a way I can give back and empower them. I play football in the NFL, and I know a lot of kids in Minden, Louisiana, want to play NFL one day, so I try to bring it back home every year."

Sneed emphasized the broader lessons he hopes the kids learn at the camp. "They're learning skills about life, not just about football, about God; about keeping Him first. What it took me to get here — the hard work and dedication, putting school

first and getting good grades — it's not just a football camp. I try to empower them to be the best person they can be. The football camp is just a way to get them to come."

Reflecting on his NFL career, Sneed shared how it has shaped him as a mentor. "It's helped me to become the person who I'd never thought I'd be. Like this camp. I never thought L'Jarius Sneed would be right here giving back to the kids. I never thought I'd be the blueprint to show them the way. It's a blessing."

Sneed offered advice to young

athletes: "Keep God first. Never leave God, and always believe in yourself; never leave yourself. Don't let nobody tell you that you can't do all this."

Looking ahead, Sneed hinted at more community initiatives. "There's a couple surprises that I have going on. It's going to be pretty nice."

Sneed and his family expressed gratitude to Mayor Nick Cox, Minden High School, Marketing Manager Clint Reyes, the security detail, and everyone who helped make the camp a success.

## CRIME

### Minden police arrest Dubberly man after altercation at Wendy's

**STAFF REPORT**  
Minden Press-Herald

On June 19 around 8 PM, Minden police officers responded to an active fight at a Wendy's restaurant located in the 400 block of Homer Road. Upon arrival, officers were let into the locked restaurant by a bystander and observed a male, later identified as Byron Fizer, 34, of Dubberly, speaking loudly and erratically to other employees, pushing some away as they attempted to calm him down.

Officers positioned themselves behind the front counter to make contact with Fizer, who was unaware of their presence. He was given several loud verbal commands to step outside and talk, which he eventually complied with. Outside, during the field interview, Fizer's speech remained erratic, and he rambled about random topics without forming complete sentences, making the interview unproductive.

During this time, one of the officers spoke with the restaurant manager, who stated she did not want to press charges and only wanted to send Fizer home for the day. Officers advised Fizer he would be frisked for weapons and sent home due to his behavior. However, Fizer began reaching into his pockets, pulling out random items and clutching an unknown item in his left hand. He was given loud verbal commands to release it but refused and

See, **CRIME**, Page 3

BUSINESS

## Greater Minden Chamber welcomes Home Federal Bank with ribbon cutting



WILL PHILLIPS/PRESS-HERALD PHOTO

The Greater Minden Chamber along with local community members and leaders welcomed Home Federal Bank to Minden with a ribbon cutting held at their Minden branch, which is located at 412 Homer Road.



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# WEBSTER & MORE

## COMMUNITY

### Webster Parish COA hosts Summer Celebration for seniors

AMBER MCDOWN

Minden Press-Herald

The Webster Parish Council on Aging (COA) hosted a Summer Celebration on June 21, featuring a musical performance by Marcie Baker of Plano, Texas, and Karen Guice, the outreach coordinator for COA. Seniors enjoyed a summer luncheon and door prizes during the event.

Baker, who holds positions on both the board

for the Senior Ms. Texas America Pageant and the board of Spectacular Follies, has been involved with senior events for many years. She served as president of the Cameo Club for six years.

“Life has been so great since I turned 60, and I’m 70 now,” Baker said. “I love Minden. This is my third time coming. I just love the people here. They’re just so sweet and accommodating.”

The Council on Aging regularly organizes fun events for older adults and offers a variety of services aimed at improving the lives of seniors in Webster Parish. For more information, call COA at (318) 371-3056.

In addition to events like the Summer Celebration, the COA provides resources and support to help older adults in the community stay active and engaged.



## CRIME

### Minden teen arrested for simple battery

STAFF REPORT

Minden Press-Herald

Minden police officers responded to a domestic disturbance at the intersection of High and West Street around 11:30 PM on June 20. The incident involved Tyler Samson, 18, who was reported to have become violent with family members.

The complainant, Samson’s mother, stated that the trouble began when Samson attempted to wrestle a phone from his grandmother, leading to a physical altercation. Samson’s uncle, who is wheelchair-bound due to unrelated injuries, tried to intervene verbally. Samson then reportedly attacked his uncle, caus-

ing further injury to the uncle’s already damaged knee, which had approximately 35 stitches. The uncle managed to fend off Samson, and the grandmother was able to calm Samson down and convince him to seek medical help.

However, during the drive to a medical facility, Samson again became

aggressive, threatening to punch his mother. She pulled over and called 911.

To verify the events, an officer visited the 700 block of Rebecca Street and confirmed the mother’s account with the grandmother and uncle. Both family members expressed a desire for Samson to be jailed, cit-

ing his abusive behavior and substance abuse. The grandmother reported that Samson had been misusing his prescribed medication and trading it for marijuana.

When officers asked for permission to search Samson’s room for drugs, he denied consent. Despite this, officers arrested Samson for simple

battery based on the family’s testimonies. He was transported to the Minden Police Department and charged with two counts of simple battery.

*All subjects are considered innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.*

## BUSINESS

### Welcome Keith Cox, CEO, Minden Medical Center

WILL PHILLIPS

Minden Press-Herald

The Board of Trustees of Minden Medical Center and Allegiance Health Management are pleased to announce the appointment of Keith Cox to the position of chief executive officer, effective June 10, 2024. Cox is replacing Jim Williams, who moved to Allegiance Health Management as regional

chief financial officer in October of 2023.

Cox proudly served in the Louisiana Army National Guard. After his service he attended Northwestern State University of Shreveport where he received his nursing degree. Following his passion for business he moved into the business development department as a clinical liaison. He decided to

further his education and graduated from Centenary College in 2005 with his Master’s degree in Business Administration.

Lifecare Hospitals of Shreveport is where Cox began his senior level management career as COO and was promoted to CEO. Cox was also the CEO at Pathway Rehabilitation Hospital in Bossier and Intensive Specialty Hospital in Shreveport.

“I have known Keith for 25 years or more. We ran competing hospitals for years and remained friends. He has incredible leadership skills and is great with communicating with his providers. I’m looking forward to Keith growing MMC and its services,” Scott W. Prouty, COO, Allegiance Health Management.

“Patients entrust us with their healthcare,” as

stated by Cox “whether it is a focus on wellness, healing or end of life transition. We want you to know we are here for you. You as a patient, family, friend and our community deserve for all of our staff – all positions, all shifts, all locations and settings – to bring our best talents, skills and best efforts each day. I am looking forward to helping support this team in

making that happen.”

Cox lives with his family in Benton. He and his wife have three children. When asked what he loves to do, quickly he stated hunting, fishing and cooking were on the top of the list. He also mentioned loving to travel. Please welcome Mr. Cox to the hospital and our community.

## WPSO

### Webster Parish Sheriff’s Office participates in gas leak simulation drill

AMBER MCDOWN

Minden Press-Herald

The Webster Parish Sheriff’s Office recently teamed up with Energy Transfer LP staff for a simulated gas-leak emergency drill. Energy Transfer LP specializes in the transportation, storage, and terminaling of natural gas, crude oil, NGLs, refined products, and liquid natural gas.

“There’s a lot of pipelines in the parish and they’re located in both heavily populated and rural areas,” Sheriff Jason Parker stated. “We have to be prepared to imme-

diately take action, and that’s what this training session was designed to study.”

During the drill, each department’s responsibilities were reviewed to enhance understanding of their roles in emergency scenarios. Parker emphasized the importance of collaboration between private and public entities in preventing a pipeline failure from escalating into a disaster.

“If the event involved Energy Transfer, they have a response plan that would involve our department and other affected law enforcement agen-

cies,” Parker explained. “We would join with fire departments from Minden and nearby communities, Homeland Security and state agencies to incorporate a coordinated response.”

Sheriff Parker highlighted that ensuring the safety of Webster Parish residents requires constant preparedness and training for unforeseen events.

“We are constantly training and planning, and I believe that helps us improve in the ways important to the safety of the people of Webster Parish,” Parker concluded.

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# WEBSTER & MORE

OBITUARIES



## Robert Brian Eaton

Robert Brian Eaton was born in England on January 5, 1957, to Jo Ann Shaver Eaton and Kenneth Edward Eaton. Robert left this earth Thursday, June 13, 2024, in Minden, Louisiana.

Curious from birth Robert began taking things apart and putting them back together from an early age. If his mom wanted something to stay in one piece she had to hide it from him. According to his report cards “Robert’s conduct must improve” and unfortunately for Ms. Watson he never stopped causing trouble in the best ways possible. For example, according to him he threw a paper plane at President Johnson when he visited First Baptist Church in Minden. He lived many lives in his 67 years, and he loved to tell his story. From racing cars with the likes of Davey Allison and Dale Earnhardt Sr. to creating numerous inventions, finding collectibles in unusual places, running the prettiest beads welding, songwriting for the likes of Brad Paisley, watching catfish walk on land, and so much more.

Robert always said he wanted to change the world and he did so with his kindness. He would go out of his way for both strangers and friends. If he saw a way he could help he would. A “man’s man” with a heart of gold. His hands were calloused and his tongue sharp from spending his days working at his mechanic shop which also seemed to serve as a community hub for his many daily visitors. Tammy and Robert opened their hobby store, Bobbies Hobbies, together in 1994. Robert planned to retire to the store when he was done working on automobiles in order to focus on his passion for R/C planes, model trains, and (smaller) automobiles. His breadth of knowledge ranged more topics than we’d be able to fit in this obituary. Honestly, anything anyone could try to write pales in comparison to the force that he was in life.

Robert leaves behind the light of his life, his daughter, Dorian Elaine Eaton and his wife and partner of 50 years, Tammy Gaile Eaton, along with countless friends who will feel a huge hole in their daily lives. Robert was a secret socialite who was not a fan of crowds but loved people wholeheartedly. You can’t go anywhere in Minden without someone knowing him and to know him was a gift. He will be missed by many including his Broken Bean Coffee Club and the Lunch Bunch.

So, when you miss him do something kind for some-

one else in remembrance of him. Tell a story about your friend while you’re at it. “Remembering a man’s stories makes him immortal, did you know that?” -Daniel Wallace

Perhaps the best way to honor him is by letting him close these meager paragraphs with a poem he wrote.  
Remember Me  
When you stand next to a flower and watch that bee  
When you see the beauty in a Dogwood Tree  
Enjoy the moment and think of me.  
When you see a beautiful cloud in the sky,  
When it floats ever so slowly by  
Enjoy the moment and think of me.  
When you hear the wind whisper through the Pines  
When the wind plays a tune on those chimes,  
Enjoy the moment and think of me.  
When the flowers so colorful start to bloom,  
When the robin comes home and in his nest makes room.

Enjoy the moment and think of me.  
When the warm afternoon rain falls so softly  
When the hawk flies slowly, ever so lofty  
Enjoy the moment and think of me.  
When you see the sunrise to wake a new day  
When you look out the window and see children at play  
Enjoy the moment and think of me.  
When you stand there and watch the sun set  
When you lay down your head for a good night’s rest.  
Enjoy the moment and think of me.

Robert B. Eaton  
12/16/2006  
He was preceded in death by his mother, JoAnn Hollier; father, Kenneth Eaton; brother, Tim Eaton; and his aunt, Louise McGuire. Left to cherish his memory are his brothers, Rick and Rodney Eaton; his sister, Yvonne; and numerous nieces, nephews, and extended family.

Serving as honorary pallbearers will be Dwayne Anders, Kevin Anders. Kary Bryce, Ronnie Bullock, Wayne Chance, Derek Hopkins, Henry Laurence, Eddie Robertson, Jerry Smith, Sherburne Sentell, and Sherb Sentell, III.

A celebration of life was held at the Minden Country Club located at 688 Pine Hills Drive, Minden, Louisiana, June 22, 2024, at 2:00 PM.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a monetary donation to ease the family’s financial stress and burden during this most difficult time. The store, Bobbies Hobbies, and shop, ER Automotive, were closed during Robert’s final battle. Bills continue to amass, including medical costs, and final expenses. Your generosity and love are heartfelt and will never be forgotten.



## Mildred Maxine Adcock

Mildred Maxine Adcock, age 86, of Minden, LA passed peacefully from this life into the arms of Jesus on June 20, 2024, at home surrounded by family.

Maxine was born July 21, 1937, in Chase, LA, daughter of Velma Ophelia Goodman and John William “Bill” Guthrie.

She was a longtime resident of Minden, LA where she was raised worshipping in the First Pentecostal Church of Minden with Pastor T.W. Barnes. She married Pete Adcock of Rayville, LA in 1956 in Bosco, LA

Pete joined the Marine Corps and served for 26 years with Maxine and the family moving often and residing in Louisiana, South Carolina, North Carolina, Illinois, California and Maine.

After moving back to Louisiana, Maxine and Pete operated Pete’s Dairy Cream in Rayville and Cotton’s Louisiana Fried Chicken in Minden.

Maxine was preceded in death by her parents; a very special stepmother, Carrie Mae Guthrie, siblings, Opal Brooks, Cotton Guthrie, Odean Roberts, Joe Guthrie and Sammie Guthrie; one daughter-in-law Dawna Lisa Adcock.

She is survived by one daughter, Cindy and husband, Rev. Steve Bertrand of Jonesport, ME; one son, Rev. Keith Adcock and wife, Pamela of Minden, LA; three grandchildren, Rachel Adcock of Minden, Anna Pucket and husband Ryan of Minden, and Andrew Bertrand of Jonesport, ME, and fiancée, Hannah Emerson of Livermore, ME and one great grandson, Abel Palmer Puckett of Minden; siblings Mary Elizabeth Whitehead and husband Rev. James Whitehead of Natchitoches and John William Guthrie, Jr. and wife Shirley of Minden, special care-giver Sandra Stone, faithful, furry companion Abby, and numerous nieces, nephews, and a host of friends

A time for visitation was Monday, June 24, 2024, 5:00pm - 8:00pm at Rose Neath Funeral Home in Minden. A graveside Celebration Of Life was Tuesday June 25, 2024 at 10:00am at Gardens of Memory Cemetery in Minden.



## Wills Successions

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## CRIME

Continued from Page 1

backed away, raising his right hand with what appeared to be a used glass pipe.

Officers gave loud verbal commands for Fizer to turn around and place his hands behind his back. Fizer refused, resisted, and threw the glass pipe. During a brief altercation, both Fizer and an officer fell to the ground. Fizer slapped the officer’s arms, leading another officer to drive-stun Fizer in the left rib cage with a Tas-

er. Despite this, Fizer continued his resistive behavior and was drive-stunned again before being effectively detained. He was then placed in a patrol unit and transported to the Minden Police Department for booking.

Fizer was charged with two counts of resisting arrest with force or violence and one count of battery of a police officer.

*All subjects are considered innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.*

## COMMUNITY

## Krewe des Ambassadeurs coronation set for August 3

**AMBER MCDOWN**  
Minden Press-Herald

Krewe des Ambassadeurs, a Mardi Gras krewe that hosts a variety of events, is set to hold its royal coronation on August 3.

The 2024-2025 Mardi Gras season will kick off with Coronation XXIII, themed “Louisiana Saturday Night,” at Sam’s Town Hotel & Casino in Shreveport. Doors open at 7 PM, with the presentation beginning at 8 PM. Tickets are priced at \$75.

The outgoing XXII

Royalty, consisting of Captain Tim Borst, King Thomas Adams, Queen Alicia Adams, Duke and Duchess of Prosperity Brandon McEachern and Lindsay Liles, Duke and Duchess of Hospitality Kane and Amanda Wallace, and Duke and Duchess of Philanthropy Josh and Amanda Adams, will be presented and pass their duties to the new Royalty for the upcoming Mardi Gras season.

For more information about Krewe des Ambassadeurs, visit their Facebook page.

## LIONS CLUB

# Heflin couple shares insights on hosting exchange students at Lions Club meeting

**AMBER MCDOWN**  
Minden Press-Herald

Clint and Micaela Brunson of Heflin were the guest speakers at the noon Lions Club meeting on June 20, discussing their experiences as hosts for exchange students. The Brunsons, honored as the 2023 Host Family of the Year by the International Cultural Exchange Services (ICES), began hosting in 2019 to recapture the lively atmosphere they enjoyed when their children and friends filled their home.

“We got into this a few years ago when my sweet wife came to me and said, ‘I want a baby...or we can adopt or we can get into the exchange program,’ and I said, ‘Well, you might want to get those exchange people on the phone,’” Clint Brunson shared with a laugh. The couple agrees that hosting exchange students has enriched their lives significantly, creating lasting relationships that span the globe.

Hosting an exchange

student offers various benefits, such as being a role model, sharing American culture, learning about different cultures, and creating lasting memories. According to the Brunsons, any type of family can host an exchange student, including those with or without children, single parents, grandparents, and same-sex couples. Hosts must be at least 25 years old, complete an application, and ensure that all household members aged 18 or older pass a background check. While there are no strict financial requirements, applicants must not be on public assistance.

Hosts provide students with a home, their own bed, transportation, and meals. Students arrive with their own medical insurance and funds for personal expenses. A coordinator assists the host family and student to ensure a good match and address any issues or questions.

“If you want to host,



you can host. We will help you find a perfect match for your home,” said Micaela Brunson. Exchange students, aged 14 to 18, come from a wide variety of countries, such as Spain, Turkey, and Vietnam. They typically arrive in July or August and leave in May or June after the school year ends. All

students speak English to some degree.

If a student and family are not a good fit, or if the family can no longer host, a coordinator will find an emergency placement for the student. “There are ways to move things around to accommodate both parties,” Clint Brunson explained.

“We have about 20 students from different countries — boys and girls — who are still needing a home for this upcoming year,” Micaela Brunson noted. She recently became a coordinator for ABC Education Group and believes that the cultural exchange program benefits every-

one involved.

For more information on hosting foreign exchange students, visit the ABC Education Group website at [www.abceducationgroup.com/](http://www.abceducationgroup.com/). Micaela Brunson is also available on her Facebook page to answer questions about hosting exchange students.



OPINION

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OPINION

Is There Anything Wrong with Posting the Ten Commandments in Louisiana Public Schools?

This past week the Louisiana Legislature passed into law a bill that requires the displaying of the 10 Commandments in every public-school classroom in the state. Our young people are trying to survive the cultural cesspool that modern American society has become and being reminded of the eternal principles of morality and faith, and encouraging respect for parents, can only benefit them.

Naturally, the atheist and “civil liberties” groups like the ACLU (which hasn’t found a conservative civil liberty to champion in decades) immediately vowed to sue arguing the display constitutes an “establishment” of religion, notwithstanding the fact that the 10 Commandments also provide the general foundation for American civil and criminal law.

These groups quote Thomas Jefferson, that there should remain “a separation between church and state.” Well, all that our Framers intended by the Establishment Clause was that there be no official state religion of the kind the Pilgrims fled when they settled in America. That is all. The Framers never intended for there to exist this outright hostility to all notions of religion and faith in public life. However, that’s what we have.

Jefferson absolutely favored free exercise of religion and cited as one of his proudest accomplishments the religious freedom law he wrote for his native state of Virginia. Jefferson opposed a mandated state religion. Beyond that, he supported the broadest definition of religious liberty possible.

Back to the new law. It should be unnecessary but perhaps the way to avoid having the law struck down is by including other historical displays such as the Declaration of Independence, the Mayflower Compact, and the Northwest Ordinance. Perhaps, the Jewish Torah and Muslim Koran as well. By surrounding the 10 Commandments display with other religious and historical displays, it would be imbued with academic, educational, and historical value outside of any religious context.

The current U.S. Supreme Court has been more accommodating of free exercise of religion, including the case of Kennedy v. Bremerton, the “praying football coach” who was fired from his job at a public high school after he briefly knelt after games to offer a prayer of thanks. The Court ruled in his favor, finding that the coach had never attempted to force his players to join him, or based playing time upon player participation in the prayer. Rather, in firing the coach the school district had unconstitutionally punished him “for engaging in a brief, quiet, personal religious observance.”

I note that for decades the Supreme Court employed the “Lemon test” in establishment of religion cases. (Lemon v. Kurtzman). The test applies three principles: 1) Whether the “religious” action or display had a clear secular purpose. 2) Whether the primary effect of the action or display would advance or inhibit religion. 3) Whether the action or display would create an excessive government entanglement with religion. Let’s do a quick analysis: I would argue the display has a clear secular purpose in that the 10 Commandments have great historical, academic, and educational (and, depending upon how the display is prepared and posted, even artistic) significance aside from any religious connotation. Second, I don’t think a display of the 10 Commandments in Louisiana public schools has the primary effect of advancing religion. I think it primarily contributes to students’ education about American and world history as well as the study of the Bible as an academic pursuit. Finally, it

would not create an excessive entanglement with government because a display of this type would simply be present to be noticed or not noticed by uninterested students. It’s no more an entanglement of government with religion than a rendition of the Mona Lisa hanging on the same school wall.

Well, the Lemon test is complicated and confusing and has now been rejected by the Supreme Court which ruled that, instead, the establishment clause “must be interpreted by ‘reference to historical practices and understandings.’” I much prefer the new standard because America has many historical practices involving faith and religion in the public square as well as the understanding that such practices are based not only on faith and religion but on our nation’s culture, history, and tradition.

Even if this new law is struck down, it nonetheless has great symbolic value in having existed in the first place. Essentially, the new law—however long it may last—sends an unmistakable message about the values of Louisiana and what we think is important to emphasize in public education.

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

Bringing the Ten Commandments

President Ronald Reagan quoted II Chronicles 7:14 in his 1981 Inaugural address when he said “If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land.”

I don’t have words to express my shock when I heard that Louisiana Governor Landry issued a declaration that the classrooms in Louisiana will have the Ten Commandments in full view.

It doesn’t take a genius to know that our nation has slid a long ways when every day or so we hear of one more mass shooting.

When I was a child we sat up and took notice to our old fashioned ministers.

It isn’t my imagination that we have sled a long ways.

Has life really changed so much?

I reflected back to the Donna Reed days that I sense are over, along with full-service stations, fathers who came straight home

from work to read the evening paper – also a relic of the past – before the entire family sat down to their regular evening meal once called supper.



SARAH HUDSON PIERCE

I ask, “Where do we go from here? How do start back – how do we put the home back together – return service with a smile to even the local gas pumps? How do we go back once we’ve crossed the picket lines or is it up to the next generation to figure that one out?

How do we arrange to keep Johnny and Susie out of jail – off of the streets and out of trouble?

In a dark period of my life, I saw a plaque in my Aunt

Ruth’s house. It read “A journey of a thousand miles begins with the first step.”

Change always begins with the first step.

We can only go back one person at a time – as we reach out – reach up – embrace those within our midst – and turn our lives – our hearts over to a Higher Power and be unafraid to confess that belief to those within our midst.

It does little good to voice simple platitudes – written words of comfort that lack the sustenance or the strength to bond together the family unit that has become unglued.

Where we start can only begin within – and must radiate outward to include and draw others into our family circles – because its still true “It takes a whole village to raise a child” – not just a Mom and Dad or only one parent – who perhaps received little nurturing within their own childhood days.

But with all of this said, I must confess that I feel a spirit of hope – of caring that

is pervading the atmosphere wherever I go.

I sense a hunger that cannot contain itself – that will not be satisfied with falsehood – of keeping barriers intact but must be communicated in order to keep our senses on – in order to maintain one’s equilibrium.

After all Anais Nin’s words still ring true: “We are each of us, angels flying with only one wing and we can only fly while embracing each other.”

This feeling of caring can strengthen the home one person at a time but how do we go back once we have crossed the picket line?

Could it be that we have left God out of the home and the school, unaware that we better look up before it is too late.

Because Jesus is the same yesterday, today and forever He can still move mountains,.

He is still in control.

CONTACT SARAH AT SARAH9957@AOL.COM

FROM THE BACK PORCH

The little country church

We grew up in the country where we attended a little white church. We attended on Sunday morning, often on Sunday evening and on what we called “protractive” meetings, better known now as revivals. The term protractive referred to extended or drawn out, thus the name related to the revival meetings which sometimes lasted as long as two weeks.

During these times, Daddy would let us come in early from the field work in order to get ready for the “tractive” meetings, as they were called. As I remember, my main thing to get ready was to polish my shoes, usually white sandals. We would have visiting preachers that the adults were anxious to hear. Not that they didn’t go to hear their own

pastors, it was just always interesting to hear others.

We got to church, which was not air conditioned, and made sure all the windows were open to create a breeze. That, and cardboard fans, provided by the funeral home, or politicians, was the only cooling system we had.

During our regular Sundays, if it was extremely warm, our teachers would take us outside to sit on the steps for our classes.

After quite some time it was

decided the building needed to be replaced and updated so plans were made for a new brick one. Work was soon begun on it and after many years the little while church was no longer in place. During the building process, the congregation continued to manage its services on site.

At some point along the way, as a teenager, I was teaching the Primary Sunday School Class. I tried to add activities to make it more interesting for the youngsters. We planned a picnic lunch and since there were no shade trees, we spread our lunch in the shade of the building on the extra building blocks. A few parents joined us and we all enjoyed the outing.

Later, there were several young married ladies and we

began to assume some of the duties. One took on the task of preparing and printing the weekly bulletin. As I had just begun writing and being published, I submitted a bit of poetry which was added to the back of the bulletin each week.

As the years rocked on, some of us kept volunteering for other activities. Our pastor’s wife wanted to present a short play, following a study of Corrie Ten Boom’s life. A friend took the leading role and I was assigned the role of her mother. We made our costumes and that night had our makeup done. I needed facial wrinkles and gray hair to look the part. We had fun and it was a hit, (Especially since it was something new for our church.)

Later, it was decided that the church need more rooms. so an addition was made, consisting of a kitchen and fellowship room where the congregation enjoyed many get togethers, from pot-luck meals to banquets for the youth and wedding receptions for ones who grew up in the church. An additional upgrade has since been made as it still serves its people of the community.

The little white church served it’s purpose as it gave birth to many committed Christians, some of whom continue to serve Him in the larger, newly-designed facility.

FANNIE MOORE LIVES IN SHONGALOO.



FANNIE MOORE



SPORTS

Russell Hedges, Sports Editor  
rhedges@spechtnewspapers.com

FOOTBALL

L’Jarius Sneed Camp

Two-time Super Bowl champion L’Jarius Sneed hosted his second youth football camp last Saturday at Minden High School. The former Minden High, Louisiana Tech and Kansas City Chiefs star corner-back signed with the Tennessee Titans during the offseason.

Photos by Amber McDown/Press-Herald



ATHLETICS

Legendary GSU coach Ellis inducted into Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame

**BRAD WELBORN**  
NSU Assistant Sports Information Director  
**CURTIS FORD**  
GSU Associate AD for Athletic Communications

Legendary former Grambling State baseball coach Wilbert Ellis was inducted into the Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame last Saturday night in Natchitoches.

He was one of 12 inductees in the Class of 2024. Among the others were former Saints quarterback Drew Brees and former LSU women’s basketball star and three-time Olympic gold medalist Seimone Augustus.

Willis, the recipient

of this year’s Ambassador Award, spent 43 years coaching the Tigers, assuming the head coaching role in 1977 upon the retirement of Ralph Waldo Emerson Jones.

He amassed a 701-478-2 career record in 26 seasons as head coach, retiring following the 2003 season. Ellis, who had his No. 31 jersey retired last season, led GSU to three SWAC championships and guided the Tigers to three NCAA Tournament appearances.

A trusted advisor for countless coaches and administrators, Ellis reflected on those that he learned from and now join in the state’s most elite sports group.

“Eddie Robinson would say don’t cry,” Ellis joked during a press conference in Natchitoches last Thursday. “It’s pretty hard not to but I think I’m alright. I’ve been honored to go into a few of these but when you think about it being your own state its something to be proud of.

“I knew I wanted to be a coach from the time I was nine. I just wanted to form a group and see what we could do to win some games. My dad said you might win ball games, but can you win lives. And thankfully through the grace of God we’ve been able to do that.”

Ellis offered credit to Fredrick Hobdy and Jones,

two more pillars of Grambling for being mentors and guides through his career and life.

Ellis is only the second recipient of the Ambassador Award. It was created by the Hall’s parent organization, the Louisiana Sports Writers Association, and was first presented to network broadcaster Tim Brando as part of the LSHOF Class of 2020.

The award honors long-term exemplary contributions to the perception of Louisiana by an individual who has ties to the state’s sports landscape.

Ellis becomes the 13th member of the Hall of Fame affiliated with Grambling State.

BASEBALL

June a busy month for parish players

**RUSSELL HEDGES**  
Minden Press-Herald

The 2024 high school baseball season ended in late April or early May for most area teams. But it didn’t take long for parish players to get back on the field to prepare for the 2025 season.

This is basically baseball’s offseason even though it comes directly after the previous season.

While there are games, the final score is not the most important thing. Some veterans have to prepare to play a different position and of course there are new starters that coaches must evaluate.

Minden played several games early this month. The Tide were scheduled to play a couple of more Monday and Tuesday.

Minden has six players back, including All-District 1-4A shortstop Bryson Ranger, from a team that went 26-12 last season and finished one victory short of making the state tournament.

The Tide faced 1-4A rival North DeSoto in two five-inning games on June 11.

Landon Brewer, a standout last season, allowed just one hit, struck out 10 and walked one in a 1-0 victory in the second game. Landyn Huddleston, another returning starter, had a double and drove in the only run.

Huddleston also went 3-for-3 against Lakeside on June 6. Brewer, Ranger and Bray Winston all had two hits.

Lakeside has played 14 games since May 27, according to its GameChanger site. The Warriors last games were June 18, a doubleheader sweep of North Webster.

Lakeside has four play-

ers back from last season’s team that went 16-15 and reached the quarterfinals of the non-select Division IV playoffs.

Rising senior Peyton Gray, a second baseman and pitcher, and rising senior Jon Jon Dick, a catcher, were first-team All-District 1-2A selections last season.

Infielders Eli Campbell and Gage Williams, and outfielders Brock Case and Jake Glass were second-team selections.

Of course, the returning players did not play in all the summer games as some also play on travel teams.

Williams, a rising sophomore, had three hits in a 6-3 victory against North Webster on June 18. Dick went 2-for-3 with a home run.

Dakota Chreene, a pitcher and infielder, had three hits and Maddox Cascio hit a home run against Doyline on June 12. Glass went 3-for-4 and Dick had two doubles against Cedar Creek on June 11.

Lakeside loses top pitchers Jordan Isbell and Hunter Sutton to graduation. The Warriors have used a variety of pitchers.

Hayden Williams pitched a five-inning three-hitter with eight strikeouts and no walks on May 28 against North Webster.

Glenbrook rising senior Easton Sanders and Minden 2024 graduate Brody Bowers have played with the Bossier Phillies 180 team, which was 12-2-1 this through last Saturday.

Bower pitched a six-inning one-hitter with 10 strikeouts and no walks in a 9-0 win over Benton’s 18U team on June 2.

Sanders, a first-team Class 1A selection, pitched a four-hitter with nine strikeouts and two walks against Texarkana Legion 18U.

OUTDOORS

My dad, they called him ‘Doc’

GLYNN HARRIS

He was no doctor. His formal education ended when he graduated from high school after the 11th grade; more than 65 years ago, there was no 12th grade. As a kid, Thomas Ernest Harris, born March 5, 1909, was given the nickname by an older gentleman who for some unknown reason, began calling him “Little Doc”.

The Doc Harris I knew growing up was a dad that I cherished and wanted to emulate. His career with the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries working in Predator Control, made me the envy of kids at school. I got to go with my daddy to run his traps where we would find a variety of wildlife such as wolves and bobcats in his traps. When I told classmates about what dad had trapped, I’m sure my chest stuck out a bit as I noticed their envy.

Dad enjoyed squirrel hunting but never had the passion for deer hunting. Yet on his one and only deer hunt, he brought home a trophy 9 point buck weighing over 200 pounds.

Working for Wildlife and Fisheries, one of his annual tasks was to assist at wildlife management areas, checking in hunters and recording the deer taken.

One year, his assignment was on a wildlife management area in Sabine Parish and after checking in the hunters, there was a lull before they began trickling back with their deer. Dad, not being a deer hunter, didn’t have a deer rifle but one of the guys working with him at the check station had brought his 3030 but had no plan to use it that day, asking dad if he’d like to use it.

Dad borrowed the rifle,



Doc Harris with the only deer he ever killed on the only deer hunt he ever made.

walked out back behind the check station and took a seat on a log, probably enjoying the coolness of a fall morning. His enjoyment came to an abrupt end when this big buck stepped out of the thicket in front of him, dad shot, brought down the only buck he would ever take on the only deer “hunt” he would ever make.

Before starting work as a trapper, he held a variety of jobs, one of which was a salesman for Watkins Products. He’d sometimes take me with him as he drove around the countryside visiting with folks and I never remember him as a high pressure salesman. He would sit and visit and tell tales with customers and if they were interested in what he was selling or if they weren’t, he enjoyed just sitting and visiting.

Once I went along with him and at one of his stops, while visiting, the customer he was talking with pulled

out a plug of Brown’s Mule chewing tobacco. He cut off a chunk, handed it to daddy who followed suit. Being the curious kid I was, I asked if I might try it – I was maybe 6-7 years old.

Daddy thought it was a good time to teach his young son a lesson on the evils of tobacco, so he cut a piece off, handed it to me with the expectation of watching me retch and turn green and never want to fool with tobacco again. To his surprise, I loved it and instead of being repelled by the nasty stuff, I wanted more.

Daddy grew up on his dad’s farm in Goldonna. After his Naval career ended, he met and married a pretty young lady from the neighboring village of Readhimer and together, they raised three children, me, my brother Tom who was two years younger than me and our sister, Linda. Daddy was a Christian, deacon and

Sunday School teacher and faithful church member.

The daddy I knew was a mixture of seriousness and fun, mostly fun. He could turn any project into fun and that’s why today, my memories of my daddy were basically all good ones.

On the day he died from lung cancer in 1976, I had taken my mom to visit him in the Veteran’s hospital in Shreveport. For a few moments, he and I were in the room alone when he told me he had overheard his doctor tell a colleague that his condition was terminal. He told me to take mom back home, that he was tired of fighting it and was ready to go meet Jesus. I got a call from the hospital that night telling me daddy had passed away.

Having just experienced Father’s Day, I had to write this column in my daddy’s memory and honor. How blessed I am to have been raised by a daddy like Doc Harris.

Fishing Report

**BLACK BAYOU** –Bream are bedded and biting crickets and worms around the trees. Lots of moss and pads. Crappie best fishing shiners or jigs in holes in moss. Bass best on top-water lures early mornings. Contact Honey Hole Tackle Shop 323-8707 for latest information.

**BUSSEY BRAKE** – Summer pattern is starting and bass are scattered but some big ones can still be caught on fake frogs early and soft plastics later. Crappie fishing has been good fishing around deep brush. Bream are on the beds and hitting worms and crickets. For latest information, contact the Honey Hole at 323-8707.

**OUACHITA RIVER** – The water is falling. Crappie are best fishing shiners or jigs in the sloughs. Bream are beginning to bed in the backwaters. Bass fishing has been fair to good fishing the mouth of sloughs. For latest information, contact the Honey Hole Tackle Shop at 323-8707.

**LAKE D’ARBONNE** – Bass have been best early morning on topwaters with soft plastics, swim baits and crank baits working best later. Crappie are good on the flats and are hitting shiners and jigs in 14-16 foot water. Bream are on the beds and taking crickets or worms. Catfishing is good fishing cold worms off the banks. For latest information, call Anderson Sport Center at 368-9669 or Honey

Hole Tackle Shop at 323-8707.

**LAKE CLAI-BORNE** – There have been some reports of stripers starting to school and hitting shad imitation lures. Bass fishing is best fishing around the boat docks and piers with spinners, crank baits and soft plastics. Crappie have moved deep and are best around submerged brush on shiners and jigs. Bream should still be around shallow bedding areas and hitting worms and crickets. For latest information, call Kel’s Cove at 927-2264 or Terzia Tackle at 278-4498.

**CANEY LAKE** – Bream fishing for chinquapins and bluegills has been good around shallow bedding areas. Big oversized plastic worms and crank baits are picking up some good sized bass in deeper water around the secondary points especially at night. Crappie are best fishing jigs or shiners around submerged tops. For information contact Caney Lake Landing at 259-6649, Hooks Marina at 249-2347, Terzia Tackle at 278-4498 or the Honey Hole Tackle Shop at 323-8707.

**LAKE POVERTY POINT** – Fishing overall has been quite slow this week. For latest reports, call Poverty Point Marina at 318/878-0101.

**LAKE YUCATAN** – The water is falling, the road is open. No fishing reports so far but should start to improve. For info call Surplus City Landing at 318/467-2259.



# Good News

GOOD NEWS

Thousands of books have been written about it. Talk-show hosts and guests talk about prayer quite often. Small children know the “Now I lay me down to sleep” prayer – but that may be the only prayer they know! Seasoned church leaders may simply repeat a well-rehearsed prayer they learned years ago. Others seem to be trying to impress the Heavenly English Teacher by using supercilious adjectives and adverbs when praying. And then there are those historians who pray through the Bible, recount a list of facts (of which the Lord is already aware), or men who have long lists of names and events to mention while “he has the attention of God”. And some can stand and share stirring testimonies of “mountains that were moved” as a result of a simple

prayer. There are many references to prayer in the Bible. Some of the great prayers of the Old Testament inspire us to the heavens still today. Prayers of the Apostles and disciples also stir our soul’s spirit. Jesus’ prayers were simple, yet so powerful. In fact, His disciples were so impressed with his prayers and his teachings about it, they begged him to teach them to pray, thus, we have “The Model Prayer” (Matt.6:9-15)! Yes, believers know the power of prayer. We know the power of electricity as well, but sometimes fail to ‘turn on the switch’. We know the Model Prayer



Bill Crider

## Because of Prayer

and most of us can recite it “with our eyes closed”. I mean, we quickly skim over it, and seldom take time to concentrate on the powerful implications of Jesus’ teaching. (Matt 6:9-15; Luke 11:2-4). Consider reading the remarks about this prayer in a couple different commentaries to see what some theologians have to say concerning the depth and penetrating teachings of the prayer. Talk to men and women of faith (that you know) and listen to the miracles they have experienced that came about “because of prayer”. The young couple who miraculously was spared in an accident or whose child was healed from a dreaded disease – the elderly widow that has lived by faith all these years following her husband’s death, etc. They all can testify it was

only “because of prayer” they have survived. Yes, there are great dividends attached to sincere and heartfelt prayers. Jesus said, “If you have a tiny measure of faith (as a small mustard seed), you can speak to mountains (impossible challenges, unsolvable problems, or broken relationships, etc) and God can use your faith to move these ‘barriers’ out of your way.” (Luke 17:6). Yes, all because of prayer, God can perform these miracles. The man that lives by faith will see the Hand of God moving in many ways in many directions. And it’s all because of his prayers of faith. Read some biographies of Bill Bright, Lee E Thomas, Fannie Crosby, William C Peel, George Mueller, Amy Carmichael, Corrie ten Boon, William Carey, Billy Graham and other such powerful

witnesses. They all reveal that such ‘power’ came to them all because of the prayers – totally committed to their faith that God will answer ‘according to His holy will’. Matt.7:7-8 is a familiar teaching: “Ask and it will be given you; seek and you shall find; knock and the door shall be open to him; for everyone who asks receives; he who seeks finds; and to him who knocks, the door will be opened.” And the doors of Heaven will be opened and all sorts of blessings will come pouring down upon us. And it’s all “because of prayer”. **BILL CRIDER IS CHAPLAIN OF MINDEN MEDICAL CENTER**

### THE UPWARD LOOK

## Fathers, Provoke Not

*“Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.” Ephesians 6:4 NASB*



Max Hutto

Do not provoke and exasperate your children to anger and rebellion. Too often parents lash out in anger or frustration at their child, escalating a tense situation with harsh and berating words. Bullying and browbeating a child leads the child down a path of despair, resentment, anger, and devastation. While it is vitally important

that parents discipline and correct a child, discipline and correction must not be done in anger but with love that nurtures and instructs. Lord Jesus, I need wisdom to know how to discipline my children in ways that build them up, training them to obey and follow You. Help me to be an example to my children of Your grace, mercy, and love. **MAX HUTTO IS A BAPTIST MINISTER AND A RESIDENT OF MINDEN. MORE INFORMATION CAN BE FOUND AT WWW.UPWARDLOOK.ORG.**

### INSPIRATION

## Conviction vs. Condemnation

Conviction and Condemnation may seem to be similar words by their definition but to God, they are miles apart. However, many of us as believers don’t understand the difference. The goal of this writing is to clarify that difference through scripture. John 3:17-18 New International Version says: “17 For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him. 18 Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because they have not believed in the name of God’s one and only Son.” While John 16:7-8 New Living Translation says: “7 But in fact, it is best for you that I (Jesus) go away, because if I don’t, the Advocate won’t come. If I do go away, then I will send him to you. 8 And




Bernard Harris

when he comes, he will convict the world of its sin, and of God’s righteousness, and of the coming judgment.” These two scriptures make distinct separations defining condemnation as judgment and conviction as instilling a strong belief in God’s righteousness. The death of our savior on the cross saves us from condemnation and the judgment that the enemy tries to place on us and gives us the gift of the holy spirit that convicts us and steers us away from the grip of sin. In closing I encourage everyone to pray for God’s conviction to combat the enemies of condemnation.

**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](http://www.press-herald.com)

## Classified Rates

Pricing is easy!

\$7.75

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

## Garage Sales

No word limit.

\$11

One Day

\$16.50

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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](mailto: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

### NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

The Minden Housing Authority will hold a Public Meeting on July 29, 2024, at 9:30 AM at 1209 East Street, Minden Louisiana, to receive comments on the following:

Revised 2021 Capital Fund 5-Year Action Plan Budget/2021 Annual Statement

Revised 2022 Capital Fund 5-Year Action Plan Budget/2022 Annual Statement

Revised 2023 Capital Fund 5-Year Action Plan Budget/2023 Annual Statement

All documents will be on display and available for viewing for 45 days starting June 5, 2024 at the office of the Housing Authority at the same address above, Monday through Thursday, between the hours of 9AM and 3PM.

June 5, 2024  
June 12, 2024  
June 19, 2024  
June 26, 2024  
July 3, 2024  
July 10, 2024  
July 17, 2024  
July 24, 2024  
Minden Press Herald

### PUBLIC NOTICE

The amended budget of the Webster Parish Clerk of Court covering fiscal year 2023/2024 has been adopted after a public hearing held on June 13, 2024. A summary of the budget is available for public inspection at the Webster Parish Clerk of Court during normal business hours. This notice serves as certification that all statutory requirements have been met in accordance with RS 39:1307.

June 26, 2024  
Minden Press Herald

### PUBLIC NOTICE

The budget of the Webster Parish Clerk of Court covering fiscal year 2024/2025 has been adopted after a public hearing held on June 13, 2024. A summary of the budget is available for public inspection at the Webster Parish Clerk of Court during normal business hours. This notice serves as certification that all statutory requirements have been met in accordance with RS 39:1307.

June 26, 2024  
Minden Press Herald

### PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY OF MINDEN, STATE OF LOUISIANA, TAKEN IN SPECIAL SESSION HELD ON JUNE 17, 2024

The Minden City Council met at City Hall in Minden, Louisiana, beginning at 8:00 a.m. with the following members present: Mayor Nick Cox, Levon Thomas, Latasha Mitchell, Michael Roy, and Andy Pendergrass. Absence(s): Carlton Myles. Mayor Cox welcomed everyone to the meeting. Prayer was offered by Andy Pendergrass and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Levon Thomas. It is noted for the record that Mayor Cox allowed both council and public comments prior to every vote.

Regarding Item (1) Appeal – Termination of City of Minden Employees. Former Airport Manager Steven Burdeaux, and at the request of counsel for Steven Burdeaux, Mayor Cox asked for a motion to retire to executive session to discuss a proposed settlement of the subject matter which gave rise to the appeal. Upon motion by Michael Roy and duly seconded by Latasha Mitchell, the council voted unanimously to retire to executive session. At 8:08 a.m., the council retired to executive session.

At 8:34 a.m., Mayor Cox declared the executive session closed and the regular session reconvened. City Attorney Jimbo Yocom announced that an agreement between the City of Minden and Steven Burdeaux had been met and that the appeal was withdrawn by Steven Burdeaux. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Nicholas A. Cox, Mayor  
ATTEST:

Melaney Langford, City Clerk

June 26, 2024  
Minden Press Herald

Town of Cotton Valley  
Monthly Meeting  
Meeting Date: June 11, 2024

Meeting was called to order by Mayor Ashley Williams Jones Invocation and Pledge was led by Alderman Reggie Shaw and in unison. Roll call by municipal clerk, Tiffany Parish

1. Alderman R. Shaw (present)
  2. Alderman J. Carter (present)
  3. Alderman E. Parish (present)
  4. Alderman C. Lewis (present)
  5. Alderman D. Hawkins (present)
- We have a quorum (5) present (0) absent.

Motion to accept the June 2024 agenda. Motioned by Alderman R. Shaw and 2nd by Alderman J. Carter. **Motion Passed**

Motion to accept May 2024 meeting minutes, motioned by Alderman D. Hawkins and 2nd by Alderman E. Parish. **Motion Passed**

Motion to pay June 2024 bills, motioned by Alderman R. Shaw and 2nd by Alderman J. Carter. **Motion Passed**

Committee Report: Mayor's Report: LMA district meeting in Haughton June 25th at 6:00p.m. Final audit completed. Citizens' input on the current agenda matters only. None

### Old Business

#### New Business

1. Johnnie Douglas – Police Department
2. Oliva Carter – Domestic Violence Shelter – Grand opening July 26, 2024, at 11:00 a.m.
3. Proclamation Honoring C.L. and Mary Jo Guillot
4. Resolution to approve 2024 millage rate of 6.84. Motion by Alderman J. Carter and 2nd by Alderman D. Hawkins. **Motion Passed**
5. Approve Resolution to Change Town Hall operating hours. Motion by Alderman J. Carter and 2nd by Alderman C. Lewis. **Motion Passed**
6. Approve Resolution to move funds from DRA grant account & Grant Funds account from checking to a savings account. Motion by Alderman R. Shaw and 2nd by Alderman J. Carter. **Motion Passed**
7. Approve Resolution to increase salary for Municipal Clerk. Motion by Alderman R. Shaw and 2nd by Alderman J. Carter. **Motion Passed**
8. Approve Resolution to agree for Municipal Clerk to start looking for a vehicle for Town Hall use. Motion by Alderman R. Shaw and 2nd by Alderman J. Carter. **Motion Passed**

**Police Report** – Donald Dillard – Chief requested that Matt Hortman and Trevor Chachere be taken on the reserve list. Minden police department donated two (2) vehicles to CVPD. **Adjournment** – Motion made by Alderman J. Carter and 2nd by Alderman D. Hawkins, meeting adjourned.

June 26, 2024  
Minden Press Herald

### Public Notice

In accordance with HUD's Quality Housing and Work Responsibility Act of 1998 (H.R. 4194), the Webster Parish Office of Community Services will hold a public hearing for the development of the Annual Plan.

Comments, suggestions and/or recommendations will be accepted. The hearing will be held on July 26, 2024, at 4:30 PM, at 208 Gleason Street, Minden LA 71055.

June 26, 2024  
Minden Press Herald

### Public Notice

In accordance with HUD's Quality Housing and Work Responsibility Act of 1998 (H.R. 4194), the Webster Parish Office of Community Services will hold a public hearing for the development of the 5 Year Plan.

Comments, suggestions and/or recommendations will be accepted. The hearing will be held on July 26, 2024, at 4:30 PM, at 208 Gleason Street, Minden LA 71055.

June 26, 2024  
Minden Press Herald

ADOPT DON'T SHOP

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

We are pleased to present to you the Annual Water Quality Report for the year 2023. This report is designed to inform you about the quality of your water and services we deliver to you every day. Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water.

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

Our Water System Grade for 2023 is 80/100 - B. Our water system report card can be found @ [www.idh.la.gov/watergrade](http://www.idh.la.gov/watergrade).

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

**Microbial Contaminants** – such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.  
**Inorganic Contaminants** – such as salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial, or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.  
**Pesticides and Herbicides** – which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff, and residential uses.  
**Organic Chemical Contaminants** – including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems.  
**Radioactive Contaminants** – which can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

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

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits of contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

We want our customers to be informed about their water utility. If you have any questions about this report, want to attend any scheduled meetings, or simply want to learn more about your drinking water, please contact, Terry Sanders @ 318-371-9488.

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

The Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals-Office of Public Health routinely monitors for constituents in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. The tables that follow show the results of our monitoring during the period of January 1 to December 31, 2023. Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate the water poses a health risk.

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

**Parts per million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (mg/L)** – one part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in \$10,000.  
**Parts per billion (ppb) or Micrograms per liter (ug/L)** – one part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000.  
**Picocuries per liter (pCi/L)** – picocuries per liter is a measure of the radioactivity in water.

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

**Action level (AL)** – the concentration of a contaminant that, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow. **Maximum contaminant level (MCL)** – the "Maximum Allowed" MCL is the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLG's as feasible using the best available treatment technology. **Maximum contaminant level goal (MCLG)** – the "Goal" is the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to human health. MCLG's allow for a margin of safety. **Maximum residual disinfectant level (MRDL)** – the highest level of disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants. **Maximum residual disinfection level goal (MRDLG)** – the level of drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

**Level 1 assessment** – A study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system.  
**Level 2 assessment** – A very detailed study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why an E. coli MCL violation has occurred and/or why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system on multiple occasions.

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

Compliance Period	Analyte	Type
-------------------	---------	------

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

Disinfectant	Date	Highest RAA	Unit	Range
Chlorine	2023	1.2	ppm	0.5 - 2.35
MRDL	MRDL G	Typical Source		
4	4	Water additive used to control microbes		

Regulated contaminants that were detected follow. Chemical Sampling of our drinking water may not be required on an annual basis, therefore, information provided refers back to the latest year of chemical sampling results. The State of Louisiana regularly monitors source water per State and Federal Regulations. Treated water samples are monitored to further evaluate

compliance.

### Source Water Regulated Contaminants –

**CARBON TETRACHLORIDE**, Collection Date 7/24/2023, Highest Value 0.77, Range 0-0.77 Unit ppb, MCL 5, MCLG 0, Typical Source is Discharge from chemical plants and other industrial activities.

**FLORIDE**, Collection Date, 7/24/2023, Highest Value 0.1, Range 0.1, Unit ppm, MCL 4, MCLG 4, Typical Source is erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories  
**Source Water Radiological Contaminants** COMBINED RADIUM (-226 & -228, Collection Date 7/24/2023, Highest Value 0.966, Range 0-0.966, Unit pCi/L, MCL 5, MCLG 0 Typical Source is erosion of natural deposits  
**RADIUM-226**, Collection Date 7/24/2023, Highest Value 0.966, Range 0-0.966, Unit PCi/L, MCL 5, MCLG 0

**Lead & Copper** COPPER, FREE, date 2020-2023, 90th Percentile-0.2; Range-0.1 - 0.3; Unit-ppm; AL-1.3; Sites Over AL-0, typical source is corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits, leaching from wood preservatives  
**LEAD**, date 2020-2023, 90th percentile 0, Range 1, Unit ppb, AL 15, Sites Over AL 0

**Disinfection Byproducts:** **Total Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)**, sample point, Fincher Creek@Harris Rd, Period-2022-2023; Highest LRAA-4; Range-7.9; Unit ppb; MCL-60; MCLG-0, typical source is by-product of drinking water disinfection.

**THM**, sample point Fincher Creek@Harris Rd, Period-2022-2023; Highest LRAA-13; Range-1.48-24.6; Unit-ppb; MCL-80; MCLG-0, typical source is by-product of drinking water chlorination.

**THM**, sample point Hwy 80@Beck Curve Rd, Period-2022-2023; Highest LRAA-13; Range-1.44-24.6; Unit-ppb; MCL-80; MCLG-0, typical source is by-product of drinking water chlorination.

**Source Secondary Contaminants:** **ALUMINUM**, Collection date-7/24/2023, Highest Value-0.01, Range 0 - 0.01, Unit, MG/L, SMCL, 0.2

**CHLORIDE**, Collection date-7/24/2023; Highest Value-16; Range-0 - 16; Unit-MG/L; SMCL-250  
**IRON**, Collection date- 7/24/2023; Highest Value-0.06, Range-0.01-0.06, Unit-MG/L; SMCL-0.3  
**PH**, Collection date-7/24/2023; Highest Value-8.23; Range-7.73-8.23; Unit-PH; SMCL-8.5

**Treated Secondary Contaminants** **IRON**, Collection date 7/24/2023, Highest Value 0.03, Range 0.03, Unit MG/L, SMCL 0.3  
*Environmental Protection Agency  
Required Health Effects Language*

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

*There are no additional required health effects notices*

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

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

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

Gilgal Water System, Inc., P O Box 544  
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318-299-2188 (message phone only)

June 26, 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**

# CRYPTO FUN

Determine the code to reveal the answer!

Solve the code to discover words related to the beach.  
Each number corresponds to a letter.  
(Hint: 2 = **S**)

- A.      2   10   4   2   25   24   4   14**

Clue: Warm light

- B.      2   25   5   23   14**

Clue: Coastline

- C.    11   5   18   13   24   4   12**

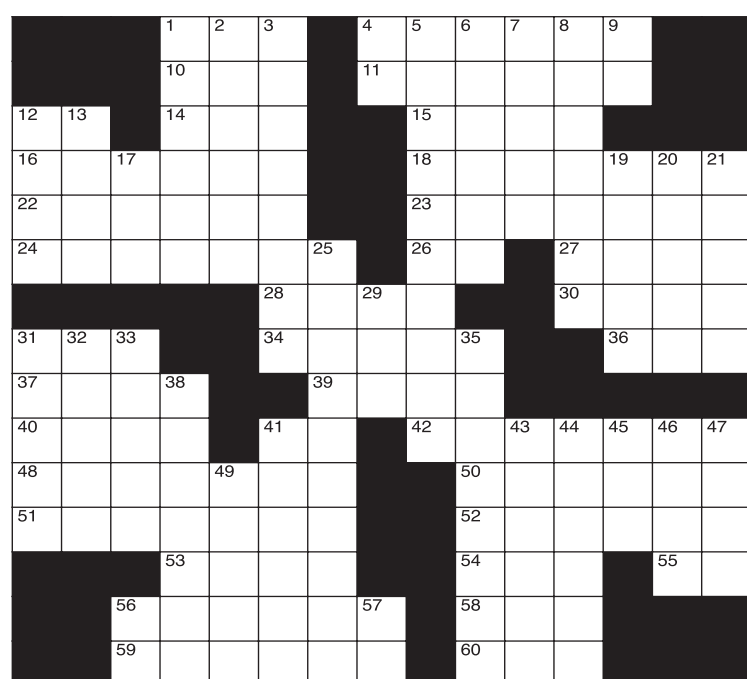
Clue: Water hobby

- D.      22    18    26    14    2**

Clue: Ocean swells

Answers: A. sunshine B. shore C. boating D. waves

# FUN & GAMES



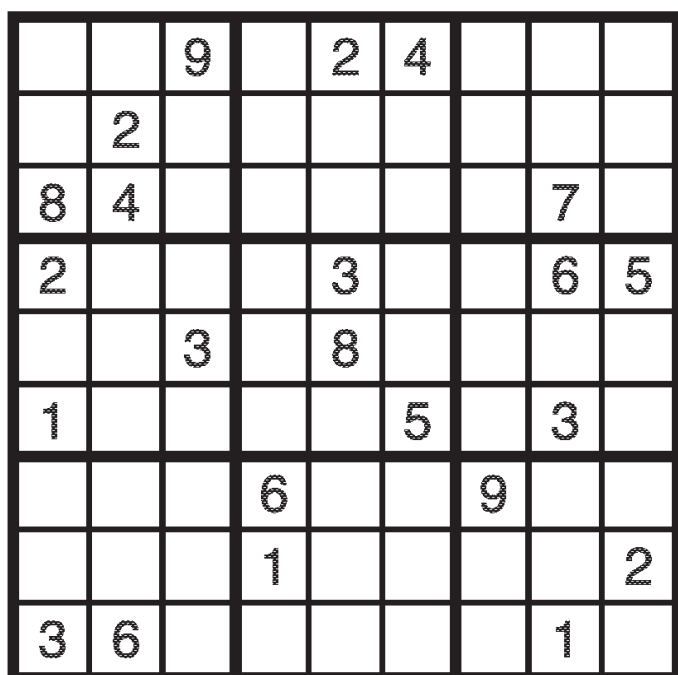
## CLUES ACROSS

1. Small Eurasian deer
4. Irish county
10. A major division of geological time
11. Broadway actor Lane
12. Canadian province
14. It causes fainting (abbr.)
15. Two
16. A notable one is blue
18. Utter repeatedly
22. Rings
23. Sullies
24. Occurs
26. Publicity
27. Near
28. Tools of a trade
30. Offer in good faith
31. "American Idol" network
34. Garments
36. Soviet Socialist Republic
37. Retired NFL DC Dean
39. Hot meal
40. A type of gin
41. Percussion instrument
42. A \$10 bill
48. About ground
50. Medicine man
51. Seedless raisin
52. National capital of Albania
53. Appendage
54. OJ trial judge
55. By the way
56. Bicycle parts
58. Barbie's friend
59. In a way, stretched
60. Commercials

## CLUES DOWN

1. Make up for
2. American songbird
3. Pay
4. International organization
5. Engravers
6. Declared as fact
7. Criminal
8. Jewelry
9. Hospital worker (abbr.)
12. Nonsense (slang)
13. Town in Galilee
17. Value
19. Another name
20. Sheep in second year before shearing
21. Town in Surrey, England
25. Appropriate during a time of year
29. Creative output
31. Recesses
32. District in N. Germany
33. Rider of Rohan
35. The official emblem of the German Third Reich
38. One who puts down roots
41. Scribe
43. Painted a bright color
44. Tycoons
45. Actress Thurman
46. Walking accessory
47. Crest of a hill
49. Member of a North American people
56. Type of computer
57. U.S. State (abbr.)

# SUDOKU



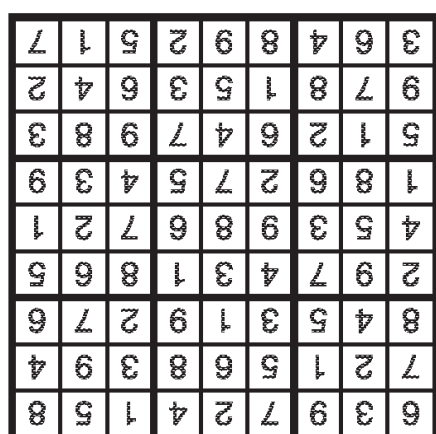
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**Level: Advanced**

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**ANSWER:**

# PUZZLE SOLUTION



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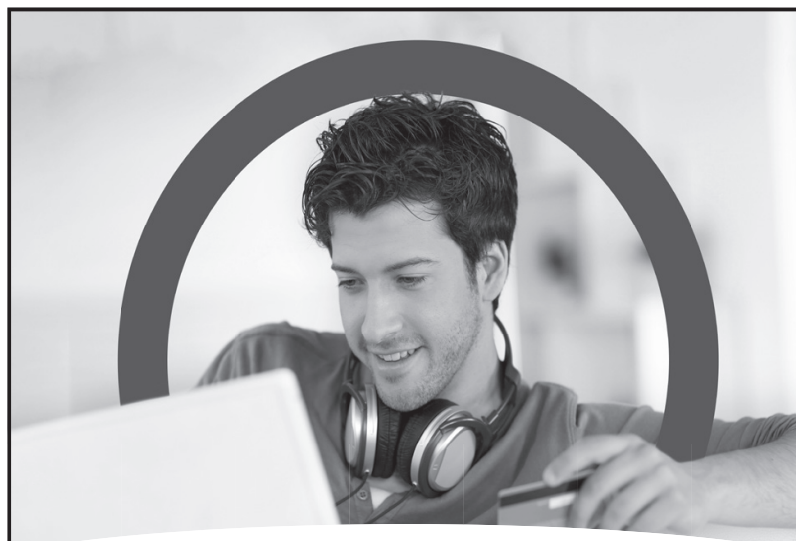
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# BUY SEASONAL FRUITS

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

Early July is probably one of the best times of the year to enjoy seasonal fruits and most of these are locally available. So what fruits are in season and how do we make good choices when buying them? Strawberries have finished their season but there may be still a few blackberries and blue berries ripening. The blackberries are nearing the end of their season, but blue berries include some late varieties that should be available for several more days. With blackberries, look for berries that are solid black in color and firm to slightly soft to the touch. Blue berries should reach a solid blue color before picking and will be firm to the touch.

While local peaches have been on the market for several days, the majority (if not all) were the cling type fruit. But I've been waiting for the freestone varieties which to me have a superior flavor and which (as the name indicates) have a pit or stone that separates rather easily (at full ripeness) from the fleshy part that we eat. When you make a purchase, make sure there are no soft spots or bruises unless you're buying some over-ripes for immediate processing or fresh eating. The fruits you take home should be fully colored and firm. Usually in less than a week on the counter the flesh of the fruits will soften and you can either process or eat.

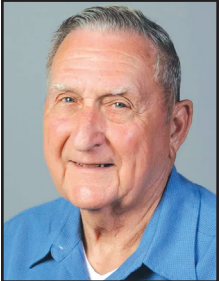
Cantaloupes should now be available. What you want to look for is a nice fruity aroma and a stem scar that doesn't have any part of the vine still attached. A distinct yellow color is also the trademark of most varieties of fully mature melons. Do inspect for punctures to the skin and for any distinct bruises. A slight pressure from the thumb on the melon will further reveal a little "give" to the flesh which in-



icates a preferred softness to the inside tissues of the fruit.

The other seasonal fruit that many are currently enjoying is the watermelon. There are many varieties from which to choose. Some of the smaller "ice box" types are the size of or a bit larger than a cantaloupe which makes them perfect for a single meal for around two to four people. And there are the mammoth sizes that can reach far in excess of 100 pounds. However, most people seem to opt for melons in the 30 to 50 pound range. Then you have to decide on whether to buy a seedless melon or one that contains numerous seed. I prefer the seeded types as I think they tend to have a little better texture than the seedless.

Now how do you know when you're getting a good melon? While "plugging" to remove a core of the flesh is seldom practiced any more, the most reliable test is to check the ground spot. If it's green or white, it's probably not fully ripe. If it's dark yellow, it may be over-ripe and the flesh will be spongy or watery. If it's a light yellow, it's likely at its prime.



JOE W. WHITE, Ph.D.

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