

# MINDEN PRESS-HERALD

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FLAG RAISING



The American Legion along with participation from the VFW Auxiliary hosted a flag raising ceremony at Eagle Park in celebration of the Fourth of July. The ceremony included the singing of the National Anthem, a prayer, the Pledge of Allegiance, recognition from the city by Mayor Nick Cox, and the presentation of the memorial wreath by DAR Chapter Regent Cindy Madden.

WILL PHILLIPS/PRESS-HERALD PHOTO

CITY GOVERNMENT

## ARPA Budget and City Budget discussed in Council Workshop

WILL PHILLIPS  
Minden Press-Herald

In the workshop held each month before the Minden City Council meeting, the city councilmen, department heads, and the mayor all gathered at City Hall to discuss the upcoming budget. This included both an update on where the money from ARPA was being used and going over wishlists that the city's departments submitted to see what could be done with what was left in the budget.

Mayor Nick Cox shared during the meeting that for the first time in many years, the city would see a surplus in its budget. That means the amount of money the city is receiving is greater than what the city is spending.

"If we adopt the baseline budget as it stands right now, and I think it's for the first time in many years, we would not have to actually pull out of reserves and have \$450,000 to the good," said Mayor Cox.

At the start of the meeting, the group briefly went over how the money the city received as a result of the ARPA was being used. A large part of the money has gone to the consolidated public works building. According to the mayor, phase one of development is almost done, with the city working on getting phase two of the project out for bid.

Around the same time, the city should also have plans ready to start working on their plans for the animal shelter, ideally with both projects going out for bid around the

same time. Some potential money from the ARPA may be freed up for other projects with the city applying for grants to alleviate the cost of working on the Shreveport Road water main. "We've applied for a DRA grant with a pretty good match on our part," said Cox.

"So instead of that project being \$650,000, if we could get this DRA grant, which they're pretty optimistic we're going to get, our match would be \$155,000, so that would free up a half million to put towards some higher and better purpose in the city."

Another area where the city is investing is in its airport. Being one of the departments that has the capacity to generate revenue for the city, in the past the council had agreed to invest in more hangars.

"A lot's been transitioning at the airport. I will candidly tell you that Tyler, I, and Russell Poole, we're learning a lot about the airport and we've got a good perspective on how all that's working. Councilman Roy met with us out there too," said Cox.

"There is money for airport hangars already in the plans. So we were able to shuffle some things around and with the city's match, I believe we're going to be able to build three very nice-sized hangars and really do some good at the airport."

"The council's objective in the airport project was to take an area of the city that has revenue-generating potential and increase

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WPL

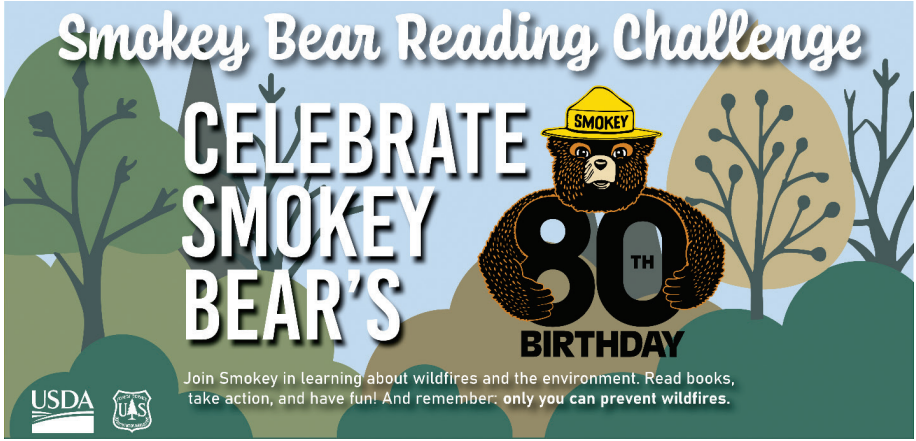
## Celebrating Discovery Camp 2024 Triumphs at Webster Parish Libraries

Special to the Minden Press-Herald

As Webster Parish Libraries' Discovery Camp 2024 draws to a close, we are thrilled to reflect on the extraordinary journey of reading and discovery our campers embarked upon this summer. With the deadline of July 6th fast approaching, we urge all participants to ensure their reading achievements are logged either on Beanstack or their paper logs to be eligible for recognition.

This summer has been an overwhelming success. Cassidy Duck, the Youth Services Coordinator, shared her enthusiasm, saying, "It's been an unforgettable summer here at Webster Parish Libraries. The energy and dedication shown by our campers have been truly inspiring."

For those aiming to



COURTESY PHOTO

The Minden Motel will soon begin a new life as a senior citizen apartment complex. The new owners plan to start renovations as soon as the purchase is complete.

attend our Completion Party, logging a minimum of 10 books is the ticket to join in the festivities. These readers will be honored for their commitment to exploring new worlds through books with a certificate. Additionally, those who have read an impressive 50 books or more will receive a special accolade—a medal presented

by the iconic Smokey the Bear himself.

If you participated in the reading challenge at the Minden, Heflin, Sibley or Doyline branch, your Year End Party will be held on Thursday, July 18th from 12:00 - 1:00 PM at Webster Parish Libraries Minden branch located at 521 East and West Street Minden, LA 71055. If you participated

in the reading challenge at the Springhill, Cotton Valley or Sarepta branch your Year End Party will be held on Friday, July 19th from 12:00 - 1:00 PM at the Webster Parish Libraries - Springhill branch located at 1000 South Arkansas Street Springhill, LA 71075.

We can't wait to see you!

BUSINESS

## Webster Printing Company to relocate, sharing offices with Minden Press-Herald

Minden, LA - In a strategic move aimed at enhancing operational efficiency and fostering closer collaboration, Webster Printing Company will relocate from its current location at 716 Broadway Street to the offices of the Minden Press-Herald at 203 Gleason Street in Minden, Louisiana. This transition is expected to be completed by early August.

Walter Bass, General Manager of Webster Printing Company, expressed his enthusiasm about the upcoming move. "The decision to relocate was driven by our goal to streamline operations and improve our service delivery. Sharing space with the Minden Press-Herald offers numerous logistical advantages and opens up opportunities for greater collaboration,"

Bass stated. He added that the move is anticipated to have a positive impact on both employees and clients, ensuring a seamless continuation of services.

David Specht, President of Specht Newspapers, Inc., which owns both the Minden Press-Herald and Webster Printing Company, highlighted the benefits of this new arrangement. "Inviting Webster Printing Company to join us at Gleason Street aligns with our vision of creating a synergistic environment where both entities can thrive. This partnership will undoubtedly strengthen our relationship and allow us to leverage each other's strengths," Specht said. He emphasized that the community can look forward to improved efficiency and enhanced service.

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# WEBSTER & MORE

WPPJ

## WPPJ approves special election for Council on Aging millage proposition

AMBER MCDOWN  
Minden Press-Herald

The Webster Parish Police Jury (WPPJ) held its regular meeting on July 2, with all members present and unanimous approval of all agenda items.

The meeting began with a public hearing to address comments regarding a millage proposition for the Webster Parish Council on Aging (COA). The proposition proposes a 1.75 mills tax on all taxable property in the parish, expected to generate

an estimated \$500,000 annually from 2025 to 2034. The funds will support the construction, improvement, maintenance, operation, and programs for the elderly through the Webster COA. No public comments were made during the hearing.

Routine matters were handled before moving to the approval of a contract between WPPJ and Carlisle Thompson, LLC, effective June 23, 2024, through June 22, 2025. The jury also approved a cooperative agree-

ment and ordinance for the Webster Adjudicated Property Program with E&P Consulting Service, LLC, to manage the sale of adjudicated property. This service aims to return these properties to the tax rolls for economic benefit. “We’re still going to have some part in this. Anybody who has questions about a particular property, we’re still going to be able to do what we’ve been doing. They’re just supposed to be experts at selling,” said WPPJ President Jim Bonsall.

The board then approved a Call for Public Hearing for September 3 at 10:30 AM to discuss proposed millage rates for WPPJ. Assessor Denise Edwards explained the impact of reassessment, stating, “Whenever the assess-value goes up, the millage rate goes down because you’re supposed to stay revenue neutral.” Edwards noted that the jury could opt to roll forward to the previous year’s millage rate, potentially providing an additional \$157,000 to offset

high inflation. “This period behind us, expenses have grown faster than any other time that I can remember. I’m a taxpayer too, so I can see both sides of it,” Bonsall added.

The jury approved funding of \$350 spent on water sampling at McIntyre Road creek bank. While initially proposed to be funded by District 6, Steve Ramsey of District 11 suggested it come from the general fund. The board unanimously decided to fund it from the general fund.

Cothren, Graff, Smoak Engineering, Inc. will start the bidding process for the new Webster Parish Women’s Jail.

The final item approved was Resolution 003-2024, ordering a special election to authorize the millage increase for the Council on Aging.

The meeting concluded with brief committee reports. The next WPPJ meeting is scheduled for August 6 at 10:30 AM at 401 Main Street, and the public is invited to attend.

MMC

# Minden Medical welcomes Dr. Michelle Pittman

WILL PHILLIPS  
Minden Press-Herald

Bringing a wealth of experience and knowledge with her, Dr. Michelle Pittman is happy to announce her affiliation with Minden Medical Center as a board-certified general

surgeon. Her practice includes treatment of surgical diseases of the abdomen, such as gallbladder and bowel problems, as well as different kinds of hernias.

She has a special interest in surgeries necessary to treat breast cancer. She performs upper and low-

er endoscopies to examine the stomach and the colon for digestive tract disorders.

Dr. Pittman finished her medical school training at LSU in Shreveport, followed by a surgical residency at LSU and Henry Ford Hospital in Detroit. She completed additional

training with a Fellowship in Trauma and Surgical Critical Care at the University of Tennessee. Due to her interest in bringing quality surgical care to areas of need, Dr. Pittman has spent the last decade in rural and smaller city settings ranging from Louisiana to Arkansas to

New Mexico and Arizona. She continues to teach Advanced Trauma Life Support at LSU in Shreveport.

Having grown up in the small town of Dubberly, Dr. Pittman’s lifelong dream has been to provide quality medical care in the Minden area. She is

excited to be part of Minden’s medical community helping to provide that care.

Her office is located in Minden at 812 Broadway Street in the Surgery and Endoscopy Associates office. To make an appointment call 318-377-4534.

GOVERNMENT

## Holli Vining begins new term as Webster Parish Clerk of Court

AMBER MCDOWN  
Minden Press-Herald

Holli Vining was re-elected as Webster Parish Clerk of Court on October 14, 2023. Vining was recently sworn in for her new term, which will extend until June 30, 2028. Her career with the Clerk of Court’s office began in 1990 and, since her first election as Clerk of Court in 2004, she has taken immense pride in her achievements.

“Being sworn in to my 7th term in office is an incredible honor!” Vining expressed. “I’ve committed myself to the Clerk of Court’s office for nearly 34 years and it has been extremely rewarding to feel like I’ve made a difference and that I am given the opportunity to continue to provide these services to the citizens of Webster Parish.”

Running unopposed in the election, Vining attributed this to her dedicated service and efforts to enhance the office’s operations. “Through

my 20 years of service as Clerk of Court I have worked hard to make this office one that Webster Parish is proud of. I have employed a dedicated, hard-working staff who is welcoming and helpful to the public and I am proud of them every day. I have also created an office that is transparent, accurate, cost-efficient, and technology-driven and I think the public has recognized that.”

Vining’s previous term saw numerous key achievements aimed at improving service delivery. “During my previous term I was able to accomplish many things to better serve the public. I’ve overseen the scanning and indexing of thousands of criminal and civil records and implemented electronic filing of civil records. I’ve also worked with Clerks across the state to develop and implement a statewide portal where the public can search civil, criminal, marriage, and land records free of

charge. A big improvement I was able to provide to the Clerk’s office during my previous term is that I partnered with two other Clerks’ offices to develop our own case management software. Rather than the ‘big-box’ system that has been previously used, this system is tailored to the needs of our office while being more efficient for my staff, user-friendly, and cost-efficient for the office which will have an impact for years to come.”

Looking ahead, Vining’s priorities and goals for her new term focus on enhancing public access and record preservation. “It is always a priority for me to continue to look for new ways to better serve the public by making my office user-friendly and accessible. Those priorities go hand-in-hand with the preservation of parish records. It is my goal to have every record in the Clerk’s office scanned and available electronically by the

end of this term.”

Vining also plans to introduce several innovations to keep the Clerk of Court’s office at the cutting edge of technology. “I look forward to continuing to keep my office at the forefront of technology. Some of those innovations include offering electronic marriage certificate applications and same-day alerts for property record filings. I also intend to work with our Judges’ office and District Attorney’s office to implement a paperless workflow.”

The local website, websterclerk.org, provides additional information and resources about the Clerk of Court’s office.

Holli Vining’s continued leadership promises to bring further advancements and efficiency to the Webster Parish Clerk of Court’s office, ensuring it remains a model of public service and innovation.

**Notice is hereby given pursuant to Article 7, Section 23(C) of the Louisiana Constitution and R.S. 47:1705(B) that a public hearing of the Town of Sibley will be held at its regular meeting place at the Sibley Town Hall located at 345 North Main St., Sibley, LA on Monday, August 12, 2024 at 6:00pm to consider levying additional or increased millage rates without further voter approval or adopting the adjusted millage rates after reassessment and rolling forward to rates not to exceed the prior year's maximum. The estimated amount of tax revenues to be collected in the next year from the increased millage is \$76,295, and the amount of increase in taxes attributable to the millage increase is \$4,083.**

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EDUCATION

## NLTCC launches new plumbing program

July 3, 2024 – Northwest Louisiana Technical Community College (NLTCC) is excited to announce the start of its new Plumbing Program in partnership with the Plumbing-Heating-Cooling Contractors of Louisiana (PHCCLA). The inaugural class of students will begin on August 12th on the NLTCC Shreveport campus and will provide a fantastic opportunity for those interested in a career in plumbing.

The plumbing program is a 48-credit hour technical diploma that combines classroom theory education with hands-on activities. This blend of learning methods ensures students understand the fundamental principles of plumbing while gaining practical skills through lab sessions and on-the-job training with paid apprenticeship opportunities. The curriculum is designed to meet industry standards,

ensuring graduates are well-prepared for the workforce. Upon completion of the 48-credit technical diploma and 3,500 apprenticeship on the job training hours, graduates will be eligible to take the Residential Plumber license test. Students can also return to NLTCC’s Plumbing year III and IV Workforce Program that will give them the opportunity to prepare for the Journeyman license while completing the remaining 3,500 apprenticeship on the job training hours required for the test.

NLTCC offers various credentials throughout the plumbing program, including:

- Construction Laborer, Certificate of Technical Competency, OSHA-10 Certificate
- Plumber Helper Level I, Certificate of Technical Studies
- Plumber Helper Level II, Certificate of Technical Studies
- Plumbing, Technical

Diploma

A career in plumbing offers numerous benefits, especially in Louisiana, where plumbers are in high demand. In fact, more than 114,500 workers will be needed by 2028. The average technician’s salary in Louisiana is more than \$54,620 with benefits. It’s a stable career with excellent job security, competitive wages, and opportunities for advancement. With the skills and credentials gained from NLTCC’s program, graduates will be well-equipped to enter this rewarding field.

If you are interested in learning more about the Plumbing Program at NLTCC or the available financial aid opportunities, visit <https://bit.ly/NLTCCPlumbing> for more information or call 318-676-7811 to speak to a member of the student services team.

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WEBSTER & MORE

OBITUARIES



Mitzi Hanson Gaddy “Mimi”

Mitzi Hanson Gaddy “Mimi” entered this world on September 27, 1969, and went to her Heavenly home on July 3, 2024, at the young age of 54. She was a loving daughter, wife, mother, grandmother, sister, and Mimi to so many. Mitzi enjoyed life and everyone who she encountered usually became a lifelong friend. She loved hard and always had something to give to everyone out of her Jeep. Mitzi loved working in her garden, spending time with her family, and making sure the chicken plant was running like it should at all times. She spent almost 30 years of her life at House of Raeford in Arcadia. She never sat still, she was always fixing something, loved to talk, and loved helping others. Mitzi loved volunteering any of her free time at Med-Camps, CASA, and FLOCK. She will be greatly missed by every single person that

knew her. Mitzi is preceded in death by her father, Lavernon Hanson; Grandparents, Vernon and Lila Hanson, AG “Buddy” Canterbury and Viola Canterbury; Niece, Elizabeth Roberts Jones; Nephew, Blake Simonton. She is survived by her husband, Glynn Gaddy; Daughters, Amber Alford (Thornton), Lauryn Gaddy; Grandson, Grayor Roberts; Her Mother, Judy Hanson; Siblings, Sherry Jones (Spike), Timmy Hanson (Pam); Mother-In Law, Ladell Smythe; Sister-In-Law, Megan Pope (Willie); Nieces and Nephews, Brooke Duck (Corey), Kassi Faircloth (BJ), Dustin Jones (Caroline), Alys-sa Farr (Hoss), Caylum Lewis; numerous great nieces, nephews, aunts, uncles, and cousins. A very special thank you to Minden Medical Center, Willis-Knighton North, and LOPA. All services will be at Kilpatrick’s Rose Neath Funeral Home, Minden, LA. Visitation was Monday July 8, 2024, from 5:00PM-7:00PM. Funeral was Tuesday July 9, 2024, at 10:00AM. Serving as pallbearers will be: Thornton Patterson, BJ Jones, Ben Booth, Scotty Booth, James Ray Dick, Bobby Godina



Robert “Bob” Lee Miller, Sr.

Funeral services for Robert “Bob” Lee Miller, Sr. will be held Wednesday, July 10, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. at Rose Neath Funeral Home in Minden, Louisiana with Bro. Jeff Flenniken officiating. Interment will follow at Bistineau Cemetery in Heflin, Louisiana. The family will receive friends from 5:00 until 7:00 p.m. Tuesday, July 9, 2024, at Rose Neath Funeral Home in Minden. Bob was born December 6, 1946, in Champaign, Illinois and entered into rest July 3, 2024, in Shreveport, Louisiana. He was preceded in death by his parents, Albert

Dean and Martha Joan Miller, granddaughter, Sydney Edwards and niece, Amy Jo Smith. He is survived by the Mother of his children, Fonda Carlisle of Sibley, sons, Robert Lee Miller, Jr. (Christy) of Heflin, Kevin Matthew Miller (Salena) of Heflin, David Marc Woods (Stacy) of Sibley and Aaron Dean Miller of Haughton; daughters, Breia Miller of Heflin and Christa Miller (Skylar) of Sibley; grandchildren, Kayla Banaka (Nick), Heather Daniel (Michael), Benjamin Bell, Kinley Bell, Ashton Bradley and Hazelynn Bradley, great grandchildren, Riley Daniel, Kingston Daniel, and Vivian Williams, brothers, James “Jim” Miller (Jacqueline) of Tolono, Illinois, Dave Miller (Kay) of Oakland, Illinois, and Dale Miller of Macon, Missouri; nieces Anna Flowers, Jackie McElroy, Mary Summers, Kim Mahaffey, and Carol Frazier, and nephews Jacob Miller and James Miller.



Donna Veitch Pate

Funeral services celebrating the life of Donna Veitch Pate will be held at Rose Neath Funeral Home in Minden, Louisiana Monday, July 15, 2024, at 11:00 a.m. Visitation will be held prior to the services at 10:00 a.m. Funeral services will be led by Bro. Bill Crider. Donna was born on August 6, 1958, in Minden, Louisiana. She entered into rest in Shreveport, Louisiana July 4, 2024, after a lengthy illness. Donna was preceded in death by her father, Donald Ray Veitch. She is survived by her mother, Georgia Faye Veitch of Minden, daughter Michelle Guthrie Gray and husband Will of Sibley (grandson Peyton), brother Ronnie Veitch of Homer, sister Vickie Bennie of Buna, Tx, niece Stephanie Martinez and husband John of Wallisville, TX, nephew Jason Veitch and wife Kagnee of Haughton,

and niece Jennifer Veitch and Billy of Minden, along with very special great nieces and nephews. Donna grew up attending church at First Baptist Minden and came to know the Lord Jesus Christ while attending Bistineau Baptist Church later in life. Donna graduated from Minden High School in 1976. She then went on to graduate from Louisiana Tech in 1986 with an Associate’s Degree in General Studies followed by a Bachelor’s degree in General Studies from LSU-S in 1994. She retired from the Department of Children and Family Services as an Economic Supervisor for Claiborne Parish in 2014. Pallbearers will be: Peyton Gray, Will Gray, John Martinez, Chris Townsend, Jason Veitch, and Ronnie Veitch. The family would like to thank Dr. Scott Phillips and Brint Fegley, ACNP for their care of Donna over the years. The family would also like to thank our angel on Earth, Ms Tina Myles for her care of Donna over the past few weeks.

CRIME

Shongaloo man arrested on drug charges

STAFF REPORT  
Minden Press-Herald

On July 2, a Minden police officer patrolling the area of Winford Street observed Lonnie Minnifield, 64, of Shongaloo, walk-

ing down the wrong side of the road. Recognizing Minnifield as having an active warrant, the officer initiated a stop due to the traffic infraction and the high crime nature of the neighborhood.

For officer safety, a quick pat-down was conducted. The officer then asked Minnifield for permission to search his person, which Minnifield consented to. During the search, 0.2 grams of crack

cocaine was found in Minnifield’s ball cap. Minnifield was transported to the Minden Police Department. There, he was booked and later transported to BDCC.

DRAWDOWN

LDWF Schedules Drawdown for Lake Bistineau

STAFF REPORT  
Minden Press-Herald

The Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (LDWF) has requested that the Department of Transportation and Development (DOTD) begin a drawdown of Lake Bistineau in Webster, Bossier, and Bienville parishes on Monday, July 29, 2024 for the purpose of reducing further expansion of giant salvinia. The drawdown will also benefit fisheries populations. LDWF will continue to monitor giant salvinia conditions in the lake in case adjustments to this date are necessary. Once the water control structure is open, the lake should dewater at a rate of 4 to 6 inches per day until it reaches a potential maximum draw-

down level of 8 feet below pool stage. This dewater rate could be impacted, however, by local rainfall in the surrounding watershed. The drawdown gates are scheduled to be closed on November 15, 2024 to allow the lake to refill in time for part of waterfowl season and early spring recreational activities. Herbicide applications will continue, even during the drawdown period. LDWF began herbicide efforts in early April and have continued to put significant resources toward the giant salvinia issue. During the early June 2024 evaluation of the lake, it was estimated that approximately 640 acres of matted salvinia were present on the lake in various locations. While this estimate is less than the

June 2023 estimate, very warm temperatures have allowed salvinia to expand on the lake even in the presence of continued herbicide applications. Regular herbicide applications will be conducted in order to maintain as much public access and recreation on the lake as possible during the summer and prior to the start of the drawdown. During the drawdown, an estimated 10,000 acres of water will remain in the lake. Boaters can still access the lake during the drawdown from the following public boat launches: Port of Bistineau Launch, Bossier Public Launch, Grice’s, and Bayou Dorcheat Public Launch. Boaters are advised to use caution during the low water period, as boat lanes will not pro-

vide normal clearance of underwater obstructions. The drawdown is a necessary component of LDWF’s integrated management plan to control overabundant aquatic vegetation growth and to improve the Lake Bistineau sport fishery. An annual cycle of high and low water fluctuation can provide beneficial effects similar to a natural overflow lake system. The Lake Bistineau Waterbody Management Plan can be viewed at: <https://www.wlf.louisiana.gov/resources/category/freshwater-inland-fish/inland-waterbody-management-plans> For additional information regarding the drawdown, contact Jeff Sibley, LDWF Biologist Manager, at [jsibley@wlf.la.gov](mailto:jsibley@wlf.la.gov) or 318- 371-5294.



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BUDGET

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that, and I think we really will. Not only do I think we’ll increase the money from rentals, but we’ll also increase the money from fuel sales. The third component to that is we also get rated by the FAA according to how many aircraft are in our airport.” Moving on to the city’s annual budget, the council and mayor started discussing the departments’ wishlists and which requests would be approved. Most of the meeting was spent talking about one department in particular, the REC Center. The REC Center had a lot of requests, including automatic readers for the splash pads, batting cage pavilion covers, sheltering pumps from the outside, etc. The main discussion centered around which projects should get approved, with Councilman Andy Pendergrass being adamant that the priority should be improving the complex for the kids who use it, using the batting cages as a prime example. “If you go around to any other complex, we’re the only ones who

don’t have a covered batting cage. I mean, you can imagine right now being out there practicing in the cage how hot it is. Plus, when it rains or something like that, nobody can practice at all. But if that was covered, teams would at least be able to practice in the cages,” said Pendergrass. “I don’t feel great about waiting. I spend a lot of time out there, and a lot of the money has been spent at the REC to make the REC employees’ lives easier, but I haven’t seen a whole lot of money allocated to make the experience of the kids better.” Ultimately, the compromise was that most of the projects that were listed for the REC Center were approved, which would benefit both the kids’ experience and that of the people working there. The meeting to approve the budget is set to take place next month in August when the council will vote to either move forward with the budget or send it back for fine-tuning. The meeting will take place at City Hall on the first Monday of the month starting at 6 PM and is open for the public to attend.

WPC

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vices resulting from this strategic relocation. Randy Brown, Vice President of Specht Newspapers Inc. and Publisher of the Minden Press-Herald, elaborated on the anticipated advantages of the move. “Having Webster Printing Company under the same roof will streamline our day-to-day operations and foster a culture of collaboration. This integration will allow us to share resources more effectively and improve our overall productivity,” Brown explained. He assured that careful planning is in place to ensure a smooth transition for both companies, minimizing any disruption to their respective services.

Adding to the positive news, the former Webster Printing Company building on Broadway Street is under contract and will soon welcome a new business to downtown Minden. This development is expected to bring further economic growth and vibrancy to the area. The community can stay updated on the progress of the move through regular announcements and updates from both Webster Printing Company and the Minden Press-Herald. This relocation marks a new chapter for both entities, promising a future of enhanced co-operation and improved service delivery for the residents of Minden and the surrounding areas.

COMMUNITY

Summer of the Stars at Project Reclaim off to a blazing start

AMBER MCDOWN  
Minden Press-Herald

Project Reclaim’s Summer of the Stars program has begun, offering education on computers, fitness, leadership skills, and more. “Our young leaders at Project Reclaim are having a busy summer! From yoga classes, weekly sessions by Dr. Joe Bolger, Project Reclaim TV and being featured on billboards on the Homer Road and Highway 80 in Dixie Inn, they are doing a great job! So proud of them all!” said Ron Anderson, executive director for Project Reclaim. Bonvenu Bank (formerly Citizens Nation-

al Bank) sponsored a Chick-fil-A party for the kids and parents on June 27. The kids had a great time. Project Reclaim, based in Minden, serves youth throughout the parish. It is a leadership academy targeting elementary, middle, junior, and high school students. The main goal is to help participants become the best leaders by learning about leadership, performing well academically, and respecting relationships with others. For more information or to register, email [ProjectReclaimOfLouisiana1@gmail.com](mailto:ProjectReclaimOfLouisiana1@gmail.com) or call (318) 423-4987.

OPINION

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**THE MINDEN PRESS-HERALD WELCOMES LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.**

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

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

OPINION

Recent Supreme Court Decisions Attack the ‘Deep State,’ Will Help Restore the Constitutional Order

Two recent U. S. Supreme Court cases will help return our national government to the correct constitutional order. These two cases involve, firstly, the immunity of a president from criminal prosecution and, secondly, the practice—now ended by the Supreme Court—of having federal courts defer to agency interpretations of that agency's rules and regulations.

The first case is Trump. v. United States and involves the charges brought against Pres. Trump for his alleged actions on Jan. 6, 2020. Jack Smith, the highly partisan Special Counsel (who's very appointment as special counsel is legally suspect) alleged that Pres. Trump supposedly conspired to overturn the election by “spreading knowingly false claims of election fraud to obstruct the collecting, counting and certifying of the election results.” Trump argued, in response, that a president has absolute immunity from criminal prosecution for actions performed within the “outer perimeter” of his official responsibilities and that the allegations fall within the core of his official duties.

This case is especially significant because of the lawfare waged against President Trump—i.e. the weaponizing of our courts and legal system to try to damage a political opponent as Pres. Biden has orchestrated against Trump—that the Supreme

Court, for the first time in our nation's history, was forced to address the issue of presidential immunity from criminal prosecution.

So, what did the Court do? The Supreme Court laid down “a rule for the ages.” The Court stated that “under our constitutional structure of separated powers, the nature of Presidential power entitles a former President to absolute immunity from criminal prosecution for actions within his core constitutional duties and ... presumptive immunity from prosecution for all of his official acts” (i.e., “outer perimeter”). The Court also held that “unofficial” acts enjoy no immunity.

Obviously, the need for immunity from criminal prosecution stems from the fact that a president must often make snap, real time judgments with incomplete information on a host of issues affecting many things, including national security. We cannot have a president looking over his shoulder—overwhelmed with worry—that some action he feels needs to be taken on behalf of the country may subject him to



ROYAL ALEXANDER

criminal charges after his presidency. (Biden and Pres. Obama should be grateful for this ruling, as well).

The Supreme Court sent the case back to the federal district court to determine what alleged acts of Pres. Trump on Jan. 6 were “official” and “unofficial” acts.

I think there will be very little left of these charges against President Trump once the district court jumps through the legal and analytical hoops the Supreme Court laid out in this decision.

The second case is Loper Bright Enterprises v. Raimondo, Secretary of Commerce. In its decision the Supreme Court overruled a 1984 decision, Chevron, that required federal courts to defer to an agency's “reasonable interpretation” of an ambiguous statute that those agencies administer. The reason this is so important is because the enormous federal agencies in our country impose the actual law we live under, and that is wrong. These career bureaucrats were elected by no one.

The Loper Court held that “the Administrative Procedure Act requires courts to exercise their independent judgment in deciding whether an agency has acted within its statutory authority, and courts may not defer to an agency interpretation of the law simply because a statute is ambiguous.”

It's important that a federal court, and not an administra-

tive law judge (ALJ) in the very agency itself, decide these cases because an ALJ employed by and within a given agency is invariably going to favor the position of the agency. A given agency simply cannot be allowed to serve as “judge, jury and executioner” in our constitutional scheme.

The dissent in the case argued it is a mistake not to defer to agency interpretation of rules and regulations because “some interpretive issues arising in the regulatory context involve scientific or technical subject matter. Agencies have expertise in those areas; courts do not.” To which Chief Justice Roberts succinctly replied “agencies have no special competence in resolving statutory ambiguities. Courts do.”

These two cases are helping restore the appropriate constitutional order. They continue the critical process of removing power from unelected government bureaucrats who falsely believe they have the power to do many things—including exercise legislative policy making authority in their various agencies—that the Constitution expressly reserves to the Congress.

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

Have We Switched The Price Tags?

As we hear of almost daily mass shootings maybe we need to look at our lives and ask ourselves if we have lost our sense of priorities? Have we switched the price tags in our lives? Is it possible to go back once we've crossed the picket line?

There was a book written by Tony Campolo titled Who Switched the Price Tags? The story was told of some pranksters slipping into a department store right at closing time and playing a joke that caused great alarm the next day!

When the customers came in there was quite a stir as it came to their immediate attention that something had gone wrong somewhere!

The items that were assumed to have high prices such as wide screen televisions and entertainment centers were found with ridiculously low price tags and the items such as jig saw puzzles were marked with sky-rocket prices.

What had gone wrong? Surely this must be a joke.

Who played this prank can only be assumed but a great lesson came out of the story as it spread across the nation.

So many people talk about how we have lost our values in our society as we scramble working long hours to pay for the nicest homes and conveniences and in the end have little time to enjoy them at the end of the day.



SARAH HUDSON PIERCE

our children.

How often our children's needs are short changed when they are pushed out of our sight from dawn until dusk while we strive after the dollar?

What has happened to our price tags?

Could it be in this mad race that we have lost more than we have gained?

I particularly notice the senselessness of this race when I see backed up traffic by the

fast food places.

Did the Waltons or Andy Griffin families eat this type of meal?

It saddens me to see what we have lost as we have gone past the picket line demanding our rights but of course I know how important it is for us to honor the rights of those in our families.

What the answer is may be easier to say but harder to follow as children wander aimlessly into unwed homes seldom committing as in days gone by.

Is it ever too late to go back once we have crossed the picket line? It is interesting to note that the reader may still purchase Who Switched The Price Tags from Amazon from anywhere from one penny to seventy-three cents. Maybe this tidbit tells the moral of this story better than I can ever do with my own words. To bring my story home maybe we need to ask ourselves when selecting gadgets for our children “Would they rather have this or some unencumbered time?”

It's still true that you can't schedule quality time.

It's so easy to leave God out of our busy schedules. What children need most cannot always be articulated.

While in the orphanage, I remember how I would turn my back when I saw another child being hugged by their parents. Who can put a price tag on hugging or the ritual of kneeling with your parents in prayer? Some things cannot be bought or sold.

We aren't aware of how quickly each day passes until our children are grown and our quality time has been used up in the mundane things that matter very little in the final analysis.

Someone said “life is what happens” but is that how we should live?

Sometimes less is more.

Where this will all lead we can only assume but I know it has to start one person at a time. Jesus is the same yesterday, today and forever and He always gets me to the right place at the right time.

CONTACT SARAH AT SARAH9957@AOL.COM

FROM THE BACK PORCH

Summertime means ‘filling the freezer’

At this time of year I would usually be busy filling my freezer, but not this year. I have only put in a few bags of tomatoes so far.

After damaging my teeth in a fall about two years ago (fell forward on Main Street) I have been unable to bite thus I have not put up any corn on the cob, which is my favorite. I have put up peas, okra, blueberries and peaches. We usually drove over to Ruston for peaches or friends picked us up good peaches from Nashville, Arkansas. She called this afternoon to see if I wanted any of them this year. They are great for peach cobbles.

Blueberries make good cobbles or blueberry bread.

When I go to the grocery store, I can add to the freezer with frozen vegetables, pie crusts, and ice cream. Frozen meals make a good addition, as do meats and other items on sale.

Before the last fall, I would prepare meals ahead of time and place them in the freezer to have on hand when company came in. But this was

what lead to the accident which required a three-week hospital stay. Hubby went to the freezer to get out a large bowl of chicken and dressing and he dropped it on the way back in. I went out to help him clean it up and when I tried to stand up, my legs gave way and I fell backward, fractured back and pelvis, and got a huge bump on the head.

Since that time, our children have threatened me and dared me to go back down the steps or to carry anything to the freezer.

My nephew has since been bringing me tomatoes and brown yard eggs. I later

learned that he had a fall probably worse than mine. He was home alone, which thankfully I was not.

He called me the Fourth to let me know his mother (my sister in law) had passed away. She was the last of our generation, (other than Hubby and I) She and I were not only kin by marriage, we were good friends.

We were newly-weds when Hubby came home from Germany where he had been serving Uncle Sam. We decided to make a trip to Nashville, TN, After my brother got off work that afternoon, we loaded up and drove all

night. It was such a fun trip as we saw things completely new to us: things we had only heard about.

We lived as close neighbors, raising our children together. They grew up not only as cousins but as friends. One of their most talked about memories is hauling hay, with Aunt Mary driving the big hay truck.

This is a time to not only fill your freezer, but fill you chest of memories. There will be a time when those memories will be all you have.

FANNIE MOORE LIVES IN SHONGALOO.



FANNIE MOORE

SPORTS

Russell Hedges, Sports Editor  
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YOUTH BASEBALL

Minden 7U All-Stars runners-up in state tournament, qualify for World Series

RUSSELL HEDGES  
Minden Press-Herald

The Minden 7U All-Stars are headed to the World Series. Minden finished runner-up in the Diamond Youth Baseball 7U State Tournament Sunday in Tioga. With the runner-up finish, Minden qualified for the DYB 7U Regional World Series to be held July 17-21 in Laurel, Miss. Minden defeated Tioga

11-7 in the first round of the 12-team, double-elimination tournament Friday. After losing to Ville Platte in the second round Saturday, Minden won three straight games to reach the championship game, defeating the Vernon Nationals 6-5, Alexandria 13-11 and Benton 11-7. That set up a rematch with Ville Platte. Ville Platte won and finished the tournament 6-0.



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE MINDEN REC DEPARTMENT  
The Minden 7U All-Stars are headed to the World Series.

COLLEGE BASEBALL

Tech’s Gaspard stepping down

RUSTON — After more than three decades of an illustrious coaching career, Louisiana Tech Associate Head Coach Mitch Gaspard has announced his retirement. The school made the official announcement on Wednesday, marking the end of an era for the Bulldogs’ baseball program. Gaspard joined the Louisiana Tech coaching staff in the summer of 2019 as the associate head coach, following a tenure as a volunteer assistant coach at the University of Georgia. During his time with the Bulldogs, Gaspard made a significant impact, especially as the hitting coach, where he helped develop five All-Americans: Parker Bates, Hunter Wells, Tay-

lor Young, Ethan Bates, and Cole McConnell. Additionally, 14 players earned All-Conference USA selections under his guidance. Gaspard’s influence was pivotal in Louisiana Tech’s success over the past five years. The Bulldogs won three Conference USA titles and made NCAA Regional appearances in 2021, 2022, and 2024, demonstrating the program’s consistent excellence. The Port Arthur, Texas native concludes his coaching career with an impressive overall record of 444-331, leaving an indelible mark on the Louisiana Tech baseball program and the broader baseball community.

ANALYSIS



ROBERT SUMMERLIN/BOSSIER PRESS-TRIBUNE  
Louisiana Tech quarterback Jack Turner fires a pass during an April practice at Freedom Fields. Tech is coming off its second consecutive 3-9 season.

The Question

Can North Louisiana’s Division I teams turn things around in 2024?

Last year was not a good one for Division I college football teams in North Louisiana. Louisiana Tech finished 3-9 in Sonny Cumbie’s second year as head coach. Grambling State went 5-6 which led to the departure of Head Coach Hue Jackson and the hiring of Mickey Joseph as his replacement. ULM went 2-10 and will go into the 2024 season with a 12-game losing streak. Head Coach Terry Bowden was fired after three seasons and Bryant Vincent was hired as his replacement. Northwestern State suspended its season after the off-campus shooting death of player Ronnie Caldwell in October. Head Coach Brad Laird resigned and Blaine McCorkle was hired to get the program back on track. Laird is now the head coach at Natchitoches Central. So with less than a month until fall practice begins, what are the prospects for those teams in the 2024 season? Athlon Sports predicts Louisiana Tech will finish seventh in 10-team Conference USA. The magazine/website also says this will be a make-or-break year for Cumbie. Jack Turner appears to be locked in as the starting quarterback. Last season, the 6-foot-5 Turner saw action in eight games and completed 84-of-148 passes for 1,017 yards with five TDs and five inter-

ceptions. The return of Marquis Crosby, who rushed for almost 1,000 yards in 2022, will be a boost. Crosby missed all of last season because of an injury. Tech will be looking for major improvement on defense after allowing 33.4 points per game last season. Defensive back Michael Richard, the CUSA Freshman of the Year, returns. Joseph could be the right man to turn Grambling State’s fortunes around after four straight losing seasons. He was the associate head coach and wide receivers coach at LSU from 2017-21. In 2022, he was the interim head coach at Nebraska. GSU will be looking for its first winning season since 2019. The Tigers came close to a winning season last year. GSU suffered three losses of five points or less, including a 27-22 defeat at the hands of rival Southern in the Bayou Classic. So the Tigers could be on the verge of a breakthrough in the SWAC West Division after finishing 4-4 and in fourth place last year. Northwestern State Head Coach Blaine McCorkle faces major challenges, especially in light of how

last season ended. There will be many new faces as McCorkle seeks to rebuild. The Demons haven’t finished above .500 since 2008 so a winning season would be a major accomplishment. ULM hasn’t had a winning season since 2012, but the Warhawks did have a couple of 6-6 seasons during that span. ULM won its first two games last season then lost its last 10. Vincent comes to ULM after a season as the offensive coordinator at New Mexico. The Lobos ranked 19th in the nation in rushing offense. Vincent served as the interim head coach at UAB in 2021 and led the Blazers to a 7-6 season, including a victory in the Bahamas Bowl. Before that he was the offensive coordinator for four years at the school. The Warhawks will be looking for improvement on both sides of the ball after averaging just 17.33 points per game and allowing 34.92 last season. It won’t be long until these teams get a chance to start turning things around. In season openers, Northwestern State visits Tulsa Aug. 29, ULM hosts Jackson State Aug. 29, Louisiana Tech hosts Nicholls Aug. 31 and Grambling State visits Louisiana Aug. 31.

RUSSELL HEDGES IS SPORTS EDITOR OF THE MINDEN PRESS-HERALD.

GLYNN HARRIS OUTDOORS

When it comes to children and grandchildren, my cup is definitely full

I am no longer eligible to attend the “young adults” Sunday School class at church. If we had a “senior” choir, I would likely be the oldest one there, bifocals, hearing aides and all. My walking cane would be close at hand to prevent me from tumbling into the soprano section. I’m relieved that our church has an elevator; I can only look wistfully at those long stairs. Let’s face it; Father Time has caught up with me and he and I have become close friends. Having said all that, one of the fortunate things old guys like me have is a vast store of memories we can take from the shelf, dust off and relive. Among my favorites are being dad to a pair of exceptional daughters, Cathy and Kayla. They’re grown and have children and grandchildren of their own. While they were growing

up, my memories look back on those days when as little fellows, I introduced them to some of the things I love, and that includes taking them with me to the pond, baiting their hooks and watching their eyes grow wide when they caught a fish. When Kay and I married – we’ll have our 40th wedding anniversary July 11 – she brought to our marriage a bonus daughter for me in 10 year old Melissa. It was the same with her, taking her fishing, teaching her to drive, everything I taught Cathy and Kayla. As rewarding and satisfying as has been being there as these three daughters of mine were growing up, it’s a toss-up as to whether interacting, rearing and raising these girls was as satisfying or sometimes even more so than when they began to fill my coffer with grandchildren. Kayla has four; Cathy and Melissa each have three. Ah, grandchildren. The Good Lord has blessed me with these ten and being a part of their lives as

they have grown up has added a quality to my life that is hard to describe. There, however, is a problem. Today, Kayla’s four are scattered from Missouri to North Carolina while one of Cathy’s girls lives in Missouri and the other is teaching school in Hawaii. Her special needs son lives with her and her husband near Baton Rouge. I’m thankful for Melissa who with her husband, lives just 50 miles away near Minden and I have access to her three, at least for awhile until they grow up and head into the world on their own. Her oldest just graduated from high school and is headed for college in Texas. One will be a senior this school year while the youngest will enter seventh grade. I still have access to these three for a brief window of time and am soaking up the hours I get to spend with them. Just last weekend, the three were here for a few days with us and I jumped at the opportunity to do some special things with them, things that Ruston

has available I was sure they would enjoy. That included a trip to a blueberry farm north of town where I turned them loose in the blueberry patch where they filled buckets with blueberries. Next stop was to get peaches and not only were they able to bring ripe peaches back home, they enjoyed sitting in the shade with peach ice cream. While this is not my typical outdoors column where I write about hunting and fishing, it’s just that my heart has been full of late as I look back on my life and how God has blessed me with three daughters I had the privilege of mentoring as they grew up. The cherry on top is having the same opportunities with their offspring that has allowed me to keep doing what I love to do, at least for awhile longer. Thank you Lord for kids and grandkids.

GLYNN HARRIS’ OUTDOORS APPEARS EACH WEEK IN THE MINDEN PRESS-HERALD.



HARRIS

FISHING REPORT

BLACK BAYOU –Lots of moss and pads. No report this week. Contact Honey Hole Tackle Shop 323-8707 for latest information. BUSSEY BRAKE – Summer pattern is starting and bass are scattered. Topwater lures best early and soft plastics later in the day. Crappie fishing has been good fishing around deep brush. Bream fishing has slowed. For latest information, contact the Honey Hole at 323-8707. OUACHITA RIVER – Crappie fishing has been quite good fishing shiners or jigs in the sloughs. Some bream are still bedded in the backwaters. Bass fishing has been 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 fished around the edge of the grass with soft plastics, swim baits and crank baits working best later. Crappie are good on the flats and along the edges of the channels and hitting shiners and jigs. Bream are fair to good 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 CLAIBORNE – Bass fishing is best early mornings on topwater lures with night fishing best fish-

ing dark colored plastic worms and spinners. Crappie have moved deep and are best around submerged brush on shiners and jigs. Better fishing has been late afternoons. Bream are fair 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 is beginning to slow down as the weather and water temperatures are heating Bream up. Night fishing for bass has been fair to good on plastic worms and crank baits fished in deeper water around the secondary points. 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 – Catfishing has been good with some crappie caught on the south end in 14 foot water on shiners or jigs. Bass are fair early mornings on topwater lures. For latest reports, call Poverty Point Marina at 318/878-0101. LAKE YUCATAN – The water is at standstill but a slight rise is coming next week. Catfishing has been good; others slow. For info call Surplus City Landing at 318/467-2259.

# Good News

GOOD NEWS

## PSALM 51: THE PSALMIST DEALS WITH CONFESSION

We all have experienced ‘feeling guilty’ & we don’t like it. No one! But a proper sense of guilt can be a blessing, like an early warning system that something is not right. When God’s Spirit warns/confronts us about our sinful behavior, if we ignore it, serious consequences always follow. Sometimes we feel responsible & guilty when something bad happens though we are not directly involved. But when we ignore warnings of our sinful actions, we reap terrible consequences as a result of our behavior.

Behind Psalm 51 lies a story of sinful behavior and guilt. King David expressed the depths of his guilt surrounding his adulterous affair with Bathsheba. He knew only the Lord could forgive and restore him. He expresses his repentant plea for divine cleansing. This Psalm can help us face our own sinful behavior & turn to the Lord for His forgiveness.

The Psalms do not have a chronological structure like most of Books of the Bible. This psalm has a subscription that reveals 3 bits of background information: 1) musical notation; 2) attribution; 3) historical background. The musical notation is for the choir director (how it was intended to be sung in worship or if director was to take cues from the other two pieces of information.) 2) This psalm is attributed to King David. It was personally written by him; it was part of his collection, very

intimate, first-person and written in confessional language. The psalm also connects with personal events in David’s life – “when Nathan came to him after David had gone to Bathsheba.” 2 Sam. 11-12.

David had become king over all the tribes of Israel. He was a man of great faith in the Lord, whereby an everlasting covenant had been established. Many scholars point out that this is a foreshadow of the future coming of the Messiah – Jesus (2 Sam 7:12-16). Yet, even David was led to spiritual disaster. This all happened while his army was away engaged in battle. He chose to stay home that spring. This was unusual for a warrior king, but we see how this event was unfolding. Bottom line: he committed adultery with Bathsheba while her husband was away fighting David’s war. When he tried to cover it up by sending for her husband (to cover his tracks), her husband refused to spend a few days at home with his wife. He told the king, “How could I do such a thing when king’s army is fighting for their lives”? So, David sent him back to the front lines so that he may be killed. This would solve the



Bill Crider

problem that was developing.

But God knew what was happening and sent prophet Nathan to confront the king. But David had a solution to his problem. He sent for Bathsheba to become his wife. (After all, he was doing the right thing, wasn’t he?) But he was so guilty of vile sins and spiritual rebellion against God. And Nathan had an assignment from God. So, he confronted David, face to face. The king admitted his guilt and confessed his sin (2 Sam). Psalm 51 presents a later, fuller confession, revealing his inner struggle with is guilt. Psalm 32 expresses what may be David’s joy over having been forgiven of these sins.

Psalm 51 is a classic penitential psalm, offering expressions of contrition and repentance. Already he was famous as a warrior-king; “Saul has slain his hundreds, but David has slain thousands!” And remember Goliath? He led his army into battle against all tribes surrounding them & had a stunning list of victories. But even kings can succumb to temptation. Though the story tells us David confessed and God forgave, he still experienced multiple consequences for his sin. Their child died; David experienced treachery in his own family, God announced that these were judgments because of David’s sin. 2 Samuel tells what happened to his life because of the sin; Psalm 51 tells what happened in his heart.

51: 1-5: How does one approach God when he knows he has sinned against his holy Lord? He knew what he deserved; he knew God should not even listen to his confession, but this was the only thing David knew to do! He must confess and beg of God’s mercy. Notice his plea included three terms to describe how he approached God: “Be gracious, show your faithful love and your abundant compassion.” He wasn’t pleading for God’s justice; he knew what he deserved –death – separation from God forever. David repented of his sin (not just surface sin but penetrating sin): “blot out my rebellion (iniquity/sin). I willfully shot this sinful arrow knowing it was not pointed toward your goal for my life.”\* This always disappoints God. He was stacking up evidence against himself to demonstrate how guilty he was. He admitted his rebellion and guilt. “It’s always in my mind, I am always confronted with it day and night.”\*

Psalm 51: 6-13 points out the importance of the condition of the heart, not just obeying rules. David knew what God desired to teach: integrity in the inner self, heart and soul. On his own, he did not have the needed wisdom deep within, so he prayed that God in His grace would give him such wisdom. He was looking for restoration after his sin.

David was confessing, knowing God promised to forgive and cleanse. (We often sin be-

lieving it will bring happiness.) David would tell you – IT DOES NOT -just sorrow. Now he was begging God to restore his happiness. “Give me my strength back.” David’s plea before God was this: “ Create a clean heart (make me like I was when I was innocent before You); renew that fresh spirit I once knew!” He wanted that special relationship with God again. He was not saying “God will abandon him forever”; what he feared was that God would alienate him from His presence and power. He prayed that God would “restore the joy of Your salvation to me.” David’s sin had robbed him of that joy in his relationship with God. He also prayed for a willing spirit. David was asking God to empower him to His holy ways to others who are rebellious. “So they, too, may return to You.” He had experienced God’s grace and now he wanted to bear witness to His salvation. Isn’t there a lesson here for us about having a contrite heart, having our sins forgiven and our joy restored? Read prayerfully Psalm 51 several times this week, seeking God’s Spirit to illumine truths that you might need to confront. (\*The New Bible Commentary -Eerdmans)

**BILL CRIDER IS CHAPLAIN OF MINDEN MEDICAL CENTER**

### THE UPWARD LOOK

#### Slaves Obey

*“Slaves, obey your human masters with fear and trembling, in the sincerity of your heart, as to Christ.” Ephesians 6:5 HCSB*



Max Hutto

The third and final relationship Paul considers under the overarching principle of submitting to one another is that of slave and master. In our day we could apply this relationship to employee and employer. A slave was to submit, to obey, respect, and honor his master. A slave was to faithfully, sincerely, responsibly, and consistent-

ly perform his assigned task, while being mindful that ultimately he was serving Christ in all that he does.

Lord Jesus, help me to bring honor and glory to You by being a good employee, submitting to and respecting my employer and faithfully doing my very best at whatever task I have been given.

**MAX HUTTO IS A BAPTIST MINISTER AND A RESIDENT OF MINDEN. MORE INFORMATION CAN BE FOUND AT [WWW.UPWARDLOOK.ORG](http://WWW.UPWARDLOOK.ORG).**

### INSPIRATION

#### Strong Words

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



Bernard Harris

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

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

Come

WORSHIP

How can we pray for you?

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

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH  
301 Pennsylvania Avenue • Minden, LA

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### 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

### NOTICE OF INTENT

Pursuant to La. R.S. 13:782, the Clerk of the 26th Judicial District Court of Webster Parish gives notice of intent to amend his/her compensation in accordance with law. This office is a self-funded entity which receives no tax dollars for operation.

July 3, 2024  
July 10, 2024  
Minden Press Herald

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

**Tax Bill 108843**  
OCCUPANT/TENANT; GIBSLAND BANK & TRUST, MELINDA SAID, MELISSA ROGEE, MELANIE STEPHENS, JASON CARRIS  
---LOT 1, BLK 8 & LOTS 9 & 10, BLK 9, CW THOMPSON SUBDIV. & STRIP 20 X 175 FT. ADJ. LOT 1, BLK "8" (FORMERLY AN ALLEY) IN NW/4 OF SW/4 SEC. 21-18-10 Improvements thereon bear Municipal No. 395 Watson St., Doyline, LA 71023

**TAX SALE TITLE TO THE ABOVE-DESCRIBED PROPERTY HAS BEEN SOLD FOR FAILURE TO PAY TAXES. YOU HAVE BEEN IDENTIFIED AS A PERSON WHO MAY HAVE AN INTEREST IN THIS PROPERTY. YOUR INTEREST IN THE PROPERTY WILL BE TERMINATED IF YOU DO NOT REDEEM THE PROPERTY BY MAKING ALL REQUIRED PAYMENTS TO THE TAX COLLECTOR LISTED BELOW OR FILE A LAWSUIT IN ACCORDANCE WITH LAW WITHIN 60 DAYS OF THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE. OR THE RECORDING OF AN ACT TRANSFERRING OWNERSHIP, IF LATER.**

**WEBSTER PARISH SHERIFF'S OFFICE**  
PO BOX 877  
MINDEN, LA 71058  
(318) 377-1515

July 3, 2024  
July 10, 2024  
Minden Press Herald

**WEBSTER PARISH WOMEN'S JAIL**  
WEBSTER PARISH, LOUISIANA

**ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS**

Sealed Bids for the construction of the **WEBSTER PARISH WOMEN'S JAIL** will be received, by **WEBSTER PARISH POLICE JURY**, at the office of the **WEBSTER PARISH POLICE JURY**, 401 Main Street, West Entrance, Minden, Louisiana 71058, until 2:00 PM local time on **TUESDAY, JULY 30TH**, at which time the Bids received will be publicly opened and read. The Project consists of constructing **Webster Parish Women's Jail**.

Bids will be received for a single prime Contract. Bids shall be on a lump sum and unit price basis, with additive alternate bid items as indicated in the Bid Form.

In accordance with Act No. 590 of the 2008 Regular Session of the

Louisiana Legislature, bids may be submitted electronically at <https://www.bidnetdirect.com>. Vendors/Contractors who decide to submit electronic bids will also have to pay an annual fee for digital signatures as required by state law.

The Issuing Office for the Bidding Documents is: **COTHREN, GRAFF, SMOAK ENGINEERING, INC., 6305 WESTPORT AVENUE, SHREVEPORT, LA, 318-687-3732, D. B. Graff, dbgcgs@bell-south.net, Engineer.** Prospective Bidders may examine the Bidding Documents at the Issuing Office on Mondays through Fridays between the hours of **8:00 AM – 5:00 PM**, and may obtain copies of the Bidding Documents from the Issuing Office as described below.

Bidding Documents also may be examined at the **Webster Parish Police Jury**, on Mondays through Fridays between the hours of **8:00 AM – 3:00 PM**; and the office of the Engineer, **Cothren, Graff, Smoak Engineering, Inc.**, on Mondays through Fridays between the hours of **8:00 AM – 5:00 PM**.

Printed copies of the Bidding Documents may be obtained from the Issuing Office, during the hours indicated above, upon payment of a deposit of **\$100.00** for each set. Bidders who return full sets of the Bidding Documents in good condition (suitable for re-use) within 30 days after receipt of Bids will receive a full refund. Non-Bidders, and Bidders who obtain more than one set of the Bidding Documents, will receive a refund of \$.50.00 for documents returned in good condition within the time limit indicated above. Checks for Bidding Documents shall be payable to **"Cothren, Graff, Smoak Engineering, Inc."**. Upon request and receipt of the document deposit indicated above plus a non-refundable shipping charge, the Issuing Office will transmit the Bidding Documents via delivery service. The shipping charge amount will depend on the shipping method selected by the prospective Bidder. The date that the Bidding Documents are transmitted by the Issuing Office will be considered the Bidder's date of receipt of the Bidding Documents. Partial sets of Bidding Documents will not be available from the Issuing Office. Neither Owner nor Engineer will be responsible for full or partial sets of Bidding Documents, including Addenda if any, obtained from sources other than the Issuing Office.

Bid security shall be furnished in accordance with the Instructions to Bidders.

"Section 746 of Title VII of the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2017 (Division A - Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2017) and subsequent statutes mandating domestic preference applies an American Iron and Steel requirement to this project. All listed iron and steel products used in this project must be produced in the United States. The term "iron and steel products" means the following products made primarily of iron or steel: lined or unlined pipes and fittings, manhole covers and other municipal castings, hydrants, tanks, flanges, pipe clamps and restraints, valves, structural steel, reinforced precast concrete, and construction materials. The deminimis and minor components waiver apply to this contract."

**WEBSTER PARISH POLICE JURY**

By: Title: Date: **June 25, 2024**

July 3, 2024  
July 10, 2024  
July 17, 2024  
Minden Press Herald

**TAKEN IN REGULAR SESSION HELD ON JULY 1, 2024**

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

minutes of the Minden City Council Regular Session held on June 3, 2024, as presented. The motion was duly seconded by Latasha Mitchell and the vote was unanimously in favor. Absention(s): None. Absence(s): None.

Upon motion by Michael Roy and duly seconded by Andy Pendergrass, the council unanimously adopted the minutes of the Minden City Council Special Session held on June 17, 2024, as presented. Absention(s): None. Absence(s): None.

Michael Roy moved to name the Minden Press-Herald as the Official Journal of the City of Minden, Louisiana. The motion was duly seconded by Carlton Myles and the vote was unanimously in favor. Absention(s): None. Absence(s): None.

Andy Pendergrass moved to amend the term of Minden Main Street Program/Downtown Development Commission member Claudine Thomas to expire on September 8, 2024, as presented. The motion was duly seconded by Carlton Myles and the vote was unanimously in favor. Absention(s): None. Absence(s): None.

Upon motion by Carlton Myles and duly seconded by Levon Thomas, the council unanimously approved the reappointments Ricky Thomas and Charlotte Jones to the Minden Downtown/Residential Historic Commission to fill the expired terms, as presented. Absention(s): None. Absence(s): None.

Michael Roy moved to approve the promotion of Minden Fire Department Captain Tony Hall to the rank of Battalion Chief, as presented. The motion was duly seconded by Carlton Myles and the vote was unanimously in favor. Absention(s): None. Absence(s): None.

Michael Roy moved to approve the promotion of Minden Police Sergeant Jason Smith to the rank of Police Lieutenant, as presented. The motion was duly seconded by Levon Thomas and the vote was unanimously in favor. Absention(s): None. Absence(s): None.

The following action was taken regarding condemned property:

Fountain of Praise United Worship Center 1211 Parkwood Street Arcadia, Louisiana 71001

518 Constable Street Lot Fronting 95.2 ft. on Marshall St. x 145 ft. out of Lots #1 & 2, Blk. "J", Justice Hts. Addn., & Lot Fronting 155.3 ft. on Marshall St. x 142.25 ft. on Constable St. out of Lots #6, 7 & 8, Blk. "K", Justice Hts. Addn.

Attorney Paul Kitchens of Kitchens Law Firm presented a written curator report stating that correspondence was sent via Certified Mail, Return Receipt Requested and regular U.S. mail to Fountain of Praise United Worship Center. Mr. Kitchens did get in contact with Cynthia Alexander Pearson and Ricky Pearson, both Registered Agents and Officers for Fountain of Praise United Worship Center. With no party representing the property owner present at the time that this item was heard, Latasha Mitchell moved to authorize Mayor Cox to issue an order declaring the property condemned and further order the demolition of any structures located thereon and the cleaning of the lot within 30 days of July 1, 2024. The motion was duly seconded by Michael Roy and the vote was as follows: Aye(s): Levon Thomas, Latasha Mitchell, Michael Roy, and Andy Pendergrass. Nay(s): Carlton Myles. Absention(s): None. Absence(s): None.

The following action was taken regarding condemned property:

Morris Freeman, Jr. 432 Pershing Street Minden, Louisiana 71055

1300 Apple Street Und. 1/2 Int. in & to: Lots #1 & 2, Blk. "7", Noira Addn.

With no party representing the property owner present at the time that this item was heard, Latasha Mitchell moved to authorize Mayor Cox to issue an order declaring the property condemned and further order the demolition of any structures located thereon and the clean-

ing of the lot within 60 days of July 1, 2024. The motion was duly seconded by Carlton Myles and the vote was unanimously in favor. Absention(s): None. Absence(s): None.

The following action was taken regarding condemned property:

Charlotte Scott 504 Walnut Street Minden, Louisiana 71055

1301 Apple Street South 95 ft. of Lot #8, Blk. "2", Noira Addn.

With no party representing the property owner present at the time that this item was heard, Latasha Mitchell moved to authorize Mayor Cox to issue an order declaring the property condemned and further order the demolition of any structures located thereon and the cleaning of the lot within 60 days of July 1, 2024. The motion was duly seconded by Carlton Myles and the vote was unanimously in favor. Absention(s): None. Absence(s): None.

The following action was taken regarding condemned property:

Bernice Clark c/o Donna Bradford 16662 U.S. Highway 80-East Minden, Louisiana 71055

1019 Lee Street The South 35 ft. of Lot #7 & All of Lot #8, Blk. "5", Southside Addn., Less That Portion to Dept. of Hwy.

With no party representing the property owner present at the time that this item was heard, Carlton Myles moved to authorize Mayor Cox to issue an order declaring the property condemned and further order the demolition of any structures located thereon and the cleaning of the lot within 30 days of July 1, 2024. The motion was duly seconded by Latasha Mitchell and the vote was unanimously in favor. Absention(s): None. Absence(s): None.

The following action was taken regarding condemned property:

Prescott Thomas 1005 West Street Minden, Louisiana 71055

1003 West Street Lot Fronting 50 ft. on West St. x 200 ft. in NW/4 of NW/4, Sec. 28-19-9 & Lot 50 x 100 ft. in NW/4 of NW/4, Sec. 28-19-9

Jason Thomas and Clotier Thomas were present representing Prescott Thomas' property. They asked for more time to demolish the structure themselves. Latasha Mitchell moved to authorize Mayor Cox to issue an order declaring the property condemned and further order the demolition of any structures located thereon and the cleaning of the lot within 90 days of July 1, 2024. The motion was duly seconded by Michael Roy and the vote was unanimously in favor. Absention(s): None. Absence(s): None.

The following action was taken regarding condemned property:

Stanley D. Anders 305 West Todd Street Minden, Louisiana 71055

305 West Todd Street Lot #15, Blk. "E", Lakeside Subdiv. in SE/4 of SW/4, Sec. 15-19-9

With no party representing the property owner present at the time that this item was heard, Michael Roy moved to authorize Mayor Cox to issue an order declaring the property condemned and further order the demolition of any structures located thereon and the cleaning of the lot within 45 days of July 1, 2024. The motion was duly seconded by Latasha Mitchell and the vote was unanimously in favor. Absention(s): None. Absence(s): None.

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

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

The Police Report for the month of May 2024 was unanimously accepted, as presented, by motion of Carlton Myles and second by Latasha Mitchell. Absention(s): None. Absence(s): None.

Special Guests Senator Adam Bass, Representative Wayne McMahen, and Lobbyist Caroline Mladenka spoke to the council about their work during the 2024 Regular Legislative Session. Announcements and council comments were heard. The meeting was then

adjourned.

Nicholas A. Cox, Mayor

ATTEST:

Melaney Langford, City Clerk

July 10, 2024  
Minden Press Herald

### ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

**CITY OF MINDEN**  
Owner

520 BROADWAY  
Address

MINDEN, LA 71055  
City, State, Zip

Separate sealed BIDS for the construction of **MINDEN PUBLIC WORKS FACILITIES OFFICE BUILDING** will be received by the **CITY OF MINDEN** at the **CITY HALL CONFERENCE ROOM, 520 BROADWAY, MINDEN, LOUISIANA, 71055** until **9:00 A.M., Monday, August 5, 2024**, and then at said office publicly opened and read aloud as permitted by public bid law. This is in accordance with La R.S. 38:2212 (A)(1)(b), the provisions of La R.S. 38:2212.

Each bidder must have an active Unique Entity ID (SAM), as verified on [www.sam.gov](http://www.sam.gov), prior to beginning of construction.

The CONTRACT DOCUMENTS may be examined at the following location(s): **Cothren Graff Smoak Engineering, Inc., 6305 Westport Avenue, Shreveport, LA 71129.**

Copies of the CONTRACT DOCUMENTS may be obtained at the office of **COTHREN, GRAFF, SMOAK ENGINEERING, INC.** upon payment of \$75.00 for each set, which is refundable to prime bidders within 10 days after receipt of bids. Owner reserves the right to reject any and all bids for just cause.

Contract documents will also be available online at [www.BidExpress.com](http://www.BidExpress.com). Contractors are provided the option to submit bid for public contracts through a uniform and secure electronic interactive system as stated in Louisiana Bid Law R.S. 38:2212.1.

**Bids shall be in a sealed envelope marked "DO NOT OPEN - SEALED BID - MINDEN PUBLIC WORKS FACILITIES OFFICE BUILDING - BID NUMBER 04-2024 - ATTN: CITY CLERK". Bidder shall include their full company name, address and license number, as issued by the State of Louisiana Contractors Licensing Board, on the outside of the envelope containing said bid documents.**

July 10, 2024  
July 17, 2024  
July 24, 2024  
Minden Press Herald

TNT Storage, LLC, owner of East 80 Storage, (318-377-9733) located at 14963 Hwy 80 East, Minden, LA, will have one 5 x 10 unit, one 10 x 10 units to auction on www.StorageAuctions.com starting on 7/10/24 at 10:00 am and ending on 7/25/24 at 10:00 am. East 80 - #58 Vickie Lovato - Recliner, couch, rug, and dresser; #62 Angela Gipson - Four Good-year tires w/rim, backpack gas blower, weed eater, 3 tires on Honda Rims, Igloo water cooler and misc. items; 136 Tioka Boston - 2 Wheel chairs, lots of boxes; #144 - 8 Tires, misc rims, tools, toys, bike, baseball ceiling fan, misc baby items, household items.

July 10, 2024  
Minden Press Herald

Small Ads Work

TNT Storage, LLC, owner of Germantown Storage, (318-377-9733) located at 609 Germantown Rd., Minden, LA, will have one 10 x 10 units to auction on www.StorageAuctions.com starting on 7/10/24 at 10:00 am and ending on 7/25/24 at 10:00 am. Germantown Storage - #88 Adrian Combs - Couch, Tv, Dresser, table, bed, household items,

July 10, 2024  
Minden Press Herald

TNT Storage, LLC, owner of Hilltop Storage - Pine St., (318-377-9733) located at 303 Pine St., Minden, LA, will have one 10 x 15 units to auction on www.StorageAuctions.com starting on 7/10/24 at 10:00 am and ending on 7/25/24 at 10:00 am. Hilltop Storage - Pine St. #72 Shayla Dudley - furniture, table, totes, household items,

July 10, 2024  
Minden Press Herald

Cheryl Porter Dunlap  
Luther Eugene Dunlap

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

Legal Description: Lots #16 & 17, Blk. "D", Unit #2, Cypress Isle Lake Estates Subdiv

Assessment #102101, as per the assessment in the records of the Tax Assessor of Webster Parish, Louisiana.

This property was adjudicated to the Police Jury On 5/23/2014. The three year redemptive period has passed. Tax sale title to the above described property has been sold for failure to pay taxes. You have been identified as a person who may have an interest in this property. Your interest in the property will be terminated within 60 days from the date of this publication unless you redeem the property or you may otherwise challenge in a court of competent jurisdiction the potential sale or donation.

Webster Parish Police Jury  
401 Main St.  
Minden, LA 71055  
318-377-7564

July 10, 2024  
Minden Press Herald

HAVE YOUR PET SPAYED OR NEUTERED

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](mailto:hr@clementind.com)  
Or in person, no phone calls

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• Siding

• Backsplash

• Drywall

• Dump Trailer Rental

• Flooring

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ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ

CRYPTO FUN

☰ ☾ ☱ ✨ ♂ ≡ ~ ★ +

Determine the code to reveal the answer!

Solve the code to discover words related to headaches.  
Each number corresponds to a letter.  
(Hint: 6 = A)

A. 25 6 3 18

Clue: Uncomfortable feeling

B. 10 15 6 20

Clue: Top of body

C. 6 26 23 6

Clue: Sensory stimulus

D. 23 15 14 3 15 4

Clue: Freed from symptoms

Answers: A. pain B. head C. aura D. relief

SUDOKU

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

Level: Beginner

Fun By The Numbers

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

Here's How It Works:

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

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

ANSWER:

Aging in Place?

Consider an AmeriGlide stair lift to keep you safe on your stairs.

Benefits of an AmeriGlide stair lift:

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✔ Enjoy a comfortable ride up and down all of your home.

✔ Enjoy comfortable, safe and easy access to all of your home.

✔ More affordable than options such as moving.

Custom fit to your staircase

Indoor and Outdoor options

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Call today to get your **FREE**, no obligation quote in minutes!

# FUN & GAMES

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9	10									
11					12								13						
14									15						16		17		
	18									19								20	
					21		22						23						
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42				43			44			45									
46										47		48							
49					50	51					52		53	54	55				
	56						57		58									59	
					60				61										
					62									63					

CLUES ACROSS

1. Commoner

5. Tea leaf

11. They save you a table

14. Submissions

15. Secretly revealed

18. Personification of the sea (Norse)

19. Unreal

21. No seats available

23. Bangladeshi currency

24. Leaders

28. Famed garden

29. Denotes past

30. Not living

32. Midway between south and southeast

33. Small island (British)

35. Woman (French)

36. Wife

39. Two-toed sloth

41. Blood group

42. Soaks

44. Biu-Mandara language of Cameroon

46. Japanese prefecture

47. Place to be during a rock concert

49. Fully grown humans

52. Emaciation

56. Sparkling

58. Fruits you peel

60. Derived from a noun

62. Popular items to grill

63. Port in Yemen

CLUES DOWN

1. Before

2. Actress Dunham

3. This (Spanish)

4. Director Peter

5. Dominant

6. English artists' society (abbr.)

7. NY Giants legend

8. It's in the ground

9. No No No

10. Pesky insect

12. Danish-American muckraking journalist

13. Kids love to do it

16. Good Gosh!

17. Fakes

20. A citizen of Denmark

22. Mystic syllable

25. Commercial

26. Letter of the Hebrew alphabet

27. Helpers

29. Water (French)

31. Young woman

34. Red-brown sea bream

36. Messenger ribonucleic acid

37. Comprehends

38. Walk with confidence

40. Home of the Flyers

43. Appetizer

45. News organization

48. Source of the Nile

50. A way to march

51. Soluble ribonucleic acid

53. Egyptian bull-god

54. Children's author Blyton

55. Baseball pitching stat

57. Rude young person

58. Table napkin

59. Monetary unit in Asia

61. One-time AL MVP Vaughn

PUZZLE SOLUTION

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

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GARDENING WITH DR. JOE WHITE

# INCLUDE COLOR IN SUMMER LANDSCAPES

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

Although the last several days have been hot and rain is certainly much less than the early summer, it's not been as hot as some of our past summers. Anyway, those annual flowers that were planted in the spring for summer color may not be as pretty as they were when they began blooming. Here in the South our residents seem to enjoy being outdoors during the summer months grilling, playing, swimming, etc. And while we are outside we also enjoy our gardens and the many colors they provide. So, it's easy to understand that when those colors begin to fade, we look for ways to restore some of that color.

Of course there are several ways to "renovate" your planting. One of the possible solutions is to re-work the beds by removing plants that are no longer attractive and appear to be struggling just to stay alive. Some gardeners just get rid of all existing plants regardless of their condition. Once beds are empty of all plants (including weeds) the soil can be loosened to admit more air and a fertilizer of proper analysis and in the right amount can be mixed into the soil. It's also never a bad idea to add some organic material. Pre-moisten the bed until it's a bit wet to a 6-or-8-inch depth at a minimum. After the bed has had time to drain, you are now ready to install your plants. Plant them slightly deeper than they were in their little pots. Be sure they are the kind of flowers that can withstand summer temperatures. Some suggestions could include lisianthus, celosia, marigolds, zinnias, salvia, portulaca, angelonia, pentas, cleome,

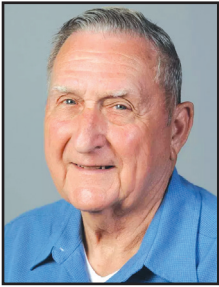


lantana and gaillardia. Of course, this is only a partial list of the species that are available at local nurseries and garden centers. How long these plants will last depends on the weather and the care they receive.

Another way to get summer color in your landscape is by using pots of colorful containers filled with appropriate plants. Some gardeners like to buy either seed or transplants and create their own special color mixes for such containers. An advantage here is that you can tailor-make each pot for either sun, shade or semi-shade locations. If the planted container plus its "cargo" are not too heavy, you can move them around as the seasons change and thus keep them where they perform best. Yet another advantage for growing flowers in containers during the summer is that they can provide accent for special occasions or events, moved

out of sight when they are no longer attractive or if some of the plants die.

With high temperatures likely to continue, potted plants will require a lot of watering. This is where moderate size pots come in handy as they're easier to handle than larger ones and don't dry out as fast as small ones. The lower soil volumes in containers allows fertilizers to be used to maintain good growth and flowering and to compensate for the nutrients that are lost due to the need for frequent watering.



JOE W. WHITE, Ph.D.



LOUISIANA  
STATE  
MUSEUM

## Celebrate in Jackson Square

Think outside the ballroom and celebrate surrounded by Louisiana's historical treasures, or revel amid Carnival costumes and festive traditions. Let us help you plan your next soirée at the Cabildo or the Presbytère!

[LouisianaStateMuseum.org/Celebrate](https://LouisianaStateMuseum.org/Celebrate)



# NLTCC launches new plumbing program

July 3, 2024 – Northwest Louisiana Technical Community College (NLTCC) is excited to announce the start of its new Plumbing Program in partnership with the Plumbing-Heating-Cooling Contractors of Louisiana (PHCCLA). The inaugural class of students will begin on August 12th on the NLTCC Shreveport campus and will provide a fantastic opportunity for those interested in a career in plumbing.

The plumbing program is a 48-credit hour technical diploma that combines classroom theory education with hands-on activities. This blend of learning methods ensures students understand the fundamental principles of plumbing while gaining practical skills through lab sessions and on-the-job training with paid apprenticeship opportunities. The curriculum is designed to meet industry standards, ensur-

ing graduates are well-prepared for the workforce. Upon completion of the 48-credit technical diploma and 3,500 apprenticeship on the job training hours, graduates will be eligible to take the Residential Plumber license test. Students can also return to NLTCC's Plumbing year III and IV Workforce Program that will give them the opportunity to prepare for the Journeyman license while completing the remaining 3,500 apprenticeship on the job training hours required for the test.

NLTCC offers various credentials throughout the plumbing program, including:

- Construction Laborer, Certificate of Technical Competency, OSHA-10 Certificate
- Plumber Helper Level I, Certificate of Technical Studies
- Plumber Helper Level II, Certificate of Technical Studies

- Plumbing, Technical Diploma

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