

MINDEN PRESS-HERALD

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BACK TO SCHOOL





School is back in session



Pictured above are students in one of Glenbrook School's kindergarten classes with their teacher Mrs. Polly Pendergrass. According to Glenbrook Head of School Darden Gladney, "We are excited to begin the 2024-25 school year. An increase in our student population has called for an increase in the number of faculty needed. Mrs. Morgan Hollingsworth is a former Glenbrook teacher who is returning after a seven-year absence to teach 2nd grade. Mrs. Jessica Kratzer has come to us from the Bossier Parish school system and will be teaching math classes. Coach Tyler Cox will not only teach but will fill the role of Head Softball Coach as well as Assistant Football Coach. Also joining the Glenbrook faculty this year is Mrs. Johnna Jinks serving as Assistant Head of School for Curriculum and Instruction. Coach Josh Legendre has been promoted to the position of Assistant Head of School/Dean of Students."



"We were excited to welcome our students back to school today for a JAW-SOME year! Students seemed excited to be back on campus, and are most excited about the new basketball court that is almost complete. The playground is a huge motivator for elementary students. After visiting all classrooms multiple times today, I can say that everyone has had a great day. We can't wait to see the growth our students will show in May," said E.S. Richardson Elementary School Principal Michelle Finley.

SCAM

Community seminar educates on latest scams and prevention tips

AMBER MCDOWN
Minden Press-Herald

A community seminar titled "It's a Scam!!" was held on Tuesday, August 6, at the First Baptist Church Family Life Center. The event aimed to educate the public on the latest scams and provide tips on how to avoid becoming a victim.

The seminar featured a panel of experts, including moderator Tracy L. Campbell from Meriwether Wealth & Planning, Jack E. Byrd, Jr. from b1BANK, Sheriff Jason Parker, Police Chief Jared McIver, and Karen Guice from the Webster Parish Council on Aging.

Attendees had the opportunity to hear from professionals about the tactics used by scammers and learn effective strategies for protecting themselves. The panel emphasized that many intelligent, well-educated people fall for scams and advised not to let the embarrassment of becoming a victim prevent reporting to law enforcement. Chief McIver noted that no amount is too small to report, as information gathered could help solve other cases.

"In the last 60 days, I have counseled people who have been scammed and lost money or people who have called up with questions and we were able to stop the scam," said Jack Byrd. "In the last 60 days, just



Panelists at the "It's a Scam!!" seminar held on August 6 at the First Baptist Church Family Life Center educate the community on the latest scams.

in the Minden market, it's somewhere close to a quarter of a million dollars."

Sheriff Parker shared a story of a man he knows who was scammed for \$60,000. "Through the dark web, he [the scammer] found his [the victim's] information and paid \$1,500 for the information to scam this fine man out of \$60,000."

The basics to avoiding scams include:

- If it sounds too good to be true, it probably is; be skeptical.
- Protect your personal information, do not give out PINs, passwords, social security numbers, etc., and shred documents containing sensitive data.
- Go directly to the source; do not use links or phone numbers provided in unsolicited texts, emails, or phone calls.

When in doubt, ask

someone else before you act.

Never send money via gift card, wire transfer, or cash apps to someone you have never met face-to-face.

Be skeptical about prize notifications and never deposit unsolicited checks.

Check for skimmers on credit card machines.

Don't believe caller ID and verify through other sources before sending money.

Don't post vacation pictures on social media until you return.

Review your credit reports annually.

Chief McIver advised, "If you post pictures on Facebook, post them when you get back, because that sends the message that you're not at home."

Attendees were also advised to use credit rather than debit whenever possible due to bet-

ter protections available for credit cards. Set up transactional alerts and monitor checkbooks for stolen checks.

Karen Guice highlighted that seniors are frequently targeted because they tend to trust more, like to help people, are less likely to report scams, and are perceived to have money. "It's such a horrible situation for seniors who have worked all their lives to have what they have, and for scammers to take most of it," she said.

"Do your due diligence," said Tracy Campbell.

A free lunch was provided to all participants, courtesy of First Baptist Church of Minden, Meriwether Wealth & Planning, b1BANK, Webster Parish Sheriff's Office, Minden Police Department, and the Webster Parish Council on Aging.

WPPJ

WPPJ approves financials, appointments, and upcoming events

AMBER MCDOWN
Minden Press-Herald

The Webster Parish Police Jury met for its regular meeting on August 6, with all members present and all agenda items passed unanimously.

The jury approved invoices and minutes from various meetings. Jennie Henry of Allen, Green & Williamson presented the audit of the financials, noting increases in ad valorem tax and sales tax revenues. She highlighted that American Rescue Plan funds remain available but must be obligated by year's end. An added note in the financials regarding funds from an opioid settlement was explained, specifying that these funds will be dispersed over 18 years and must be used for opioid abatement.

Board appointments for the Evergreen Fire Protection District were approved: April Shaw was reappointed as chairman, and Emmett Jones as a member, both for 2-year terms expiring December 21, 2026. The jury also approved precinct survey forms for Webster Parish's voting precincts, with no changes from last year.

A donation of immovable property to the St.

James Water System was approved for audit purposes. Attorney Patrick Jackson explained, "It was in our name only, but it's not our property. We had to be the sponsor for the grant, much like we have to be sponsors for many federal grants."

A meeting was announced for Tuesday, September 2 at 10:30 AM to consider adopting a resolution ordering and calling an election to authorize the levy of an ad valorem tax for courthouse buildings maintenance, a measure that comes up every 10 years.

During the committee reports, Johnnye Kennon of Webster Parish Tourism announced several upcoming events, including Webster High School celebrating its founding 102 years ago, the Pinney Woods Jamboree in Springhill featuring the brother of Charley Pride, Food Truck Night at Miller Quarters Park on August 19, Camp Minden's 1st Annual Charity Gala on August 24, the Classic Car Show on September 14, the Springhill Rodeo on September 21-23, the Jet Rally Air Show at Minden Airport on September 21, and the 2nd

See, **WPPJ**, Page 3



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WEBSTER & MORE

COMMUNITY

Walkers host MHS Freshman Class of 2028 Breakfast



COURTESY PHOTO

Michael and Chequella Walker hosted a breakfast for the Minden High School Freshman Class of 2028 in Academy Park to celebrate this new step in the students' lives. The event, attended by parents and grandparents, aimed to start the school year on a positive note.

"Small steps towards big dreams started today for these incoming freshmen, and we were elated to be a part of this momentous occasion," the Walkers said. They expressed gratitude to everyone who participated and wished the students a successful year.

The Walkers closed with a spirited "Roll Tide Roll," encouraging the freshmen as they embark on their high school journey.

CRIME

Minden men arrested in connection with 2nd degree rape of 14-year-old

STAFF REPORT
Minden Press-Herald

Minden police officers arrested two men on August 2, in connection with the 2nd degree rape of a 14-year-old girl that reportedly took place at the swimming pool of Chateau Normandy Apartments on July 29.

Ladorious Burks, 23, of the 300 block of Miller Street, was detained and charged with 2nd degree rape following an investi-

gation. Dehkobe Debose, 24, of the 1400 block of Lewisville Road, was also arrested on August 2. Debose faces charges of accessory after the fact to 2nd degree rape for allegedly being present during the crime and failing to prevent it.

The victim was taken to a local hospital by a parent, where an examination confirmed the assault. The victim later provided additional details and identified her assail-

ants during an interview at the Gingerbread House in Shreveport, a nonprofit organization that supports child abuse victims through the criminal justice process.

Burks is being held at Bayou Dorcheat Correctional Center on a \$500,000 bond, while Debose is being held on a \$250,000 bond. The investigation is ongoing.

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

WPPJ

Continued from Page 1

Annual Witch's Ride on October 24.

Brian Williams of the Office of Homeland Security reported that five tornadoes had touched down in Webster Parish

during Hurricane Beryl, with winds up to 110 mph. Williams also noted upcoming US Army training in the area, including refueling tasks involving 16 Chinook helicopters at Minden

Airport.

The next meeting of the Webster Parish Police Jury will be held on September 3 at 10:30 AM at the Webster Parish Courthouse Annex. The public is welcome to attend.

CRIME

Minden police arrest man for using counterfeit bill

STAFF REPORT
Minden Press-Herald

A Minden police officer was dispatched to the area of Circle K in reference to a man attempting to use a counterfeit \$100 bill. Upon arrival near Shreveport Road and Roosevelt Drive, the officer located a man matching the description provided.

The officer made contact with the man, identified as Lejerick Bryant, 34. Upon arrival of a second officer, Bryant's informa-

tion was run for warrants and identification verification. The second officer made contact with the Circle K clerk, who provided the counterfeit \$100 bill, which was clearly marked as fake.

The clerk informed the officer that Bryant had attempted to purchase multiple items with the counterfeit bill. After being advised of his rights per Miranda, Bryant claimed he found the bill in the Circle K parking lot and

did not know it was fake. He initially said the bill was balled up, then later stated it was flat and face-up.

Bryant was transported to the Minden Police Department, booked, and placed in a holding cell before being transferred to BDCC. He has been charged with monetary instrument abuse, a felony.

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

CRIME

Intoxicated man arrested on multiple drug charges

STAFF REPORT
Minden Press-Herald

On August 1, two Minden police officers were dispatched to the 800 block of Cline Street in response to an intoxicated individual refusing to leave the property. The officers arrived on the scene and observed a man, later identified as Calvin McEachern, 50, walking away from the residence. The officers activated their overhead lights and initiated contact with him.

McEachern appeared intoxicated, holding an empty Busch Light beer can. During the conversation, it was revealed that he was involved in a romantic relationship with the resident at that address. McEachern began placing his hands in his pockets, prompt-

ing one of the officers to instruct him to place his hands on the hood of the patrol unit for a frisk. Despite multiple orders to keep his hands on the hood, McEachern continued reaching toward his pockets before eventually complying.

The officer noticed McEachern's right hand was clenched in a fist while his left hand was flat on the hood. Upon ordering McEachern to flatten his hands, the officer observed an object reflecting light. The officer retrieved a plastic bag from McEachern's hand, which contained multiple narcotics.

McEachern was immediately placed in handcuffs and advised of his Miranda rights. During a search, the officer found another bag containing methamphetamine and a needle syringe.

McEachern was transported to the Minden Police Department for booking and later transferred to BDCC. The narcotics were identified as 1 gram of methamphetamine, 2 amphetamine pills, 1 buprenorphine hydrochloride pill, 1.5 alprazolam pills, and 1.5 grams of natural marijuana.

McEachern faces charges of possession of a Schedule I (marijuana), possession of a Schedule II (methamphetamine), possession of a Schedule II (amphetamine), possession of a Schedule III (buprenorphine hydrochloride), possession of a Schedule IV (alprazolam), possession of drug paraphernalia, and disturbing the peace/intoxication.

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

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SPRING Home Improvement

DISCOVER
The Guide for Outdoor & On the Go in Greater Shreveport Area

Outdoor Life 2023

Home of the Brave
A Special Supplement - June 2023 - Six of Nine Newspapers

2024 Profile

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Northwest Louisiana MEDICAL DIRECTORY 2024

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WEBSTER & MORE

OBITUARIES



Phillip D. Brunson

Funeral services for Phillip D. Brunson will be held Thursday, August 15, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. at Rose Neath Funeral Home Chapel with Bro. Bill Crider officiating. Interment will follow at Bistineau Cemetery in Heflin, Louisiana. The family will receive friends Wednesday, August 14, 2024, from 5:00 until 7:00 p.m. at Rose Neath

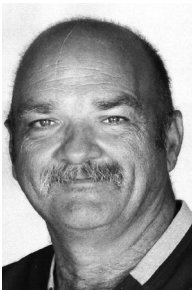
Funeral Home in Minden. Phillip was born June 24, 1943, in Ringgold, Louisiana and entered into rest August 11, 2024, in Minden, Louisiana. He was preceded in death by his parents, Lloyd and Gene Brunson and brother Carey Ken Brunson. He is survived by his wife, Pam Brunson; sons, Shawn Brunson and Blake Hutchison; daughters, Kimberly Kirsopp and Erin Dudley; brother, Gerald Brunson; grandchildren, Carleigh Zachry, Kendall Carter, Abigail Kirsopp, Emerson and Colt Dudley and greatgrandchildren, Sutton Carter, Eadlyn Zachry, and Stetson Carter.



Charlotte A. Flynn

A visitation for Charlotte A. Flynn was held Tuesday, August 13, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. at Living Word Worship Center with funeral services celebrating the life of Charlotte Flynn to follow at 11:00 a.m. with Pastor David Divelbiss, Pastor Devin Martin, and Pastor Trey Waller officiating. Interment followed at Gardens of Memory Cemetery in Minden, Louisiana under the direction of Rose Neath Funeral Home in Minden, Louisiana. Charlotte was born March 1, 1940, in Long Beach California and was promoted to heaven August 10, 2024, in Minden Louisiana and is now enjoying a great reunion

with her family and friends. She served as an Ombudsman for Northwest Louisiana for over 15 years. Charlotte loved hosting and cooking for family and friends and will be greatly missed by all who knew her. Charlotte was preceded in death by her husband James F. Flynn, son, George Richard Werner, III, stepson, Jimmy Flynn and parents John W. Waller and Bernice Thomas. She is survived by her daughter, Paige Werner Divelbiss and husband David Divelbiss, stepson, Danny Flynn, granddaughters, Dustin Gray and husband Wesley Gray and Kayla Rodriguez and husband Joshua Rodriguez, and great-grandchildren, Jaxon and Poppy. In lieu of flowers the family ask In remembrance of Charlotte Waller Flynn's life, that any charitable donation be made to Destiny Church International, Inc. P.O. Box 1162, Minden, Louisiana, 71058 or online <https://destinych.churchcenter.com/giving/to/special>.



John Dawson Carlisle

John Dawson Carlisle, age 56, was born on March 14, 1968, in Shreveport, Louisiana to Clyde “Buster” Carlisle and Frances H. Carlisle. He passed away, unexpectedly, on August 8, 2024, doing what he loved most, coaching. John began as a sports broadcaster with the Clarksville, Texas radio station. Not only did he broadcast games, but he could give the stats on all players of many sports, from memory, acquiring the nickname, “Stats!” John served as a coach at several schools in Texas, with any sport he was asked to coach. He ended his coaching career at Richard’s ISD, Richards, Texas, coaching volleyball. John had a heart as big as Texas and he always wanted to help anyone. He was a friend to all. He loved the Lord, his family, his friends, and southern gospel music, especially the Gaithers! John was preceded in death by his father, Clyde “Buster” Carlisle and his sister, Carol Carlisle Duhon. Survivors are his mother, Frances H. Carlisle; sister, Debbie Brown and husband Teddy; brother, Randy Carlisle and wife Tammy; sister, Becky Bezet and husband Randy. His nephews, Jacob Brown and wife Rachel, Eric Brown, Randall Carlisle and fiancée Emilee Jackson, Josiah Bezet and wife Alexandria; nieces, Lindey Brown, Bethany C. Lindsay and husband Evan, and Hannah Bezet; great nieces and nephews are Hudson, Will, and Anna Beth Brown, Cooper and Mabry Brown, and Addison Lindsay. One Aunt survives John, Jeanne Carlisle Conly, and numerous cousins. In lieu of flowers, please give to the charity of your choice.

EDUCATION

Webster Ready Start: Raising funds for our children’s futures

WILL PHILLIPS
Minden Press-Herald

During the Minden City Council workshop that takes place before the monthly city council meeting, the mayor invited representatives from Webster Ready Start to talk to the council about their program and to raise awareness for the fundraising efforts that they are undertaking to help get as many children as possible quality early childhood education. “Our Webster Ready Start network is a network of early learning centers and Head Start programs, and our pre-school classes at five of our elementary schools. Webster Parish is a lead agency, which means we are a liaison between the State Department of Education and all of these network partners that Head Start serves,” said Janene Corley Supervisor for Webster Ready Start. Currently, the Ready Start network serves 11 early learning centers in

the district. Recently, state funding for programs such as this has been cut. Those funds would allow Ready Start to grant scholarships to children in the local community ensuring that they get a proper pre-kindergarten education. “Our blueprint when we first started this endeavor was to get the message out to provide high-quality child care for children to get them kindergarten-ready,” said Olivia Sebald, community liaison for Ready Start. “With state funding being cut, we have now started our local fundraising. We can’t do this alone. We need all the help that we can get. “One of the things the state wants to see is an investment from the local community. They want to know that we are invested as well. So the districts that are showing that are the ones that they are going to pour money into.” Sebald also went on to say that the state is currently matching funds

with the money that Ready Start raises. So for every dollar that is donated, the state will, in turn, provide a dollar as well. Last year was the program’s first attempt at local fundraising, and they were able to raise \$2,750, mostly through small personal donations and from local small businesses. This led to the state matching and a total of \$5,500 raised, which is roughly enough to provide one child with a scholarship. This year Ready Start is being more ambitious and trying to raise enough to provide scholarships for at least five students. “Our goal is to continue to increase that. We know we can’t reach the \$5800 ... on our own, but we would like to see that grow every year. We would be able to do five scholarships this coming year. It would be a great start to be able to show that this is a community that has bought into this. That we do care, we do understand that the first years of childhood are the

most important years,” said Sebald. They plan to do this by reaching out to bigger businesses in the local area, but first they are trying to get the word out about their endeavors to people such as the mayor and city council so they, in turn, could reach out to the people they know to have more credibility and so that, in general, more people were aware of the important work they are doing to get children much needed early childhood education. “A lot of it is just making sure people know who we are and what we do so we have some credibility when we reach out,” said Sebald. “Our goal is to make sure that every child in Minden enters school ready to learn.” The superintendent of the Webster Parish School Board was also present at the meeting in order to share his passion for early childhood education and elaborate on why, exactly, programs like these are so important for the children

and families of our parish. “For me personally, I am extremely passionate about early childhood education,” said Superintendent Johnny Rowland. “Data shows, research shows, that the most critical years in a child’s educational journey is going to be birth until 2nd to 3rd grade. Those are by far the most critical years. So if a child reaches third grade with a solid foundation and base established, they are essentially fine. “Wouldn’t it be awesome if we could impact as many kids as we could to do what we can so when they enter kindergarten, they are on grade level?” Rowland went on to stress how much of an impact this could have on families who are struggling economically, and that it would be amazing to see the community band together to help the families and children who need it most. “You don’t have to be a rocket scientist to understand that when you’re

living in that household — and we aren’t saying that the parents are not trying, or that the parents are not working, or that the parents are not striving — your priorities are different. Because, instead of reading a book to your child at night, we’re trying to figure out what we’re going to eat tonight and how we’re going to survive,” said Rowland. “So whatever we can do through our early childhood network to help with some of that, we want to do.” Webster Ready Start took this opportunity to raise awareness for their fundraising efforts. They have been and will continue to reach out to local businesses to get more children into their program. For those feeling more proactive about helping Ready Start, you can reach out to them either by phone at 318-377-3099, email at readystart@websterpsb.org, or by visiting their office located at 1442 Sheppard Street in Minden.

SCHOOLS

Webster Parish Schools and Glenbrook School seeking substitute teachers

AMBER MCDOWN
Minden Press-Herald

Webster Parish Schools and Glenbrook School are actively recruiting substitute teachers for the up-

coming academic year. Webster Parish Schools are offering daily pay rates of \$100 for applicants with a high school diploma or equivalent, \$125 for those with a bachelor’s degree,

and \$150 for candidates with an educational degree. Interested individuals can fill out the WPSB Support Staff Application online or at the district office located at 1442 Shep-

pard St., Minden. A mandatory substitute training session will be held on Thursday, September 12, from 9:00 to 10:00 AM at the district office. Glenbrook School is

also hiring substitute teachers for grades pre-Kindergarten through 12th. Applicants can receive an employment application by emailing employmentopportunities@glenbrookschool.com.

Both institutions encourage potential candidates to apply and make a difference in the lives of students in the community.

CRIME

Sibley woman charged with aggravated domestic abuse battery

STAFF REPORT
Minden Press-Herald

On August 5, two Minden police officers were dispatched to Sibley Road

near Meyers Street in reference to an active domestic disturbance. Upon arrival, officers made contact with the

victim, who reported that Valerie Crow, 38, of Sibley, had tased him four times during a verbal altercation over money.

According to the victim, Crow tased him in the arm, face, and right hip. Crow was read her Miranda rights on body

camera. She admitted to becoming enraged and tasing the victim several times. Crow was charged with

aggravated domestic abuse battery. *All subjects are considered innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.*

AIRPORT

Increased air traffic in Minden due to 101st Airborne Division training operations

STAFF REPORT
Minden Press-Herald

Residents in Minden should prepare for increased air traffic as the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) begins a major training operation on Tuesday evening, August 13. The division will be conducting a large-scale exercise that will include the use of Minden Airport

and Camp Minden as key sites. This exercise, spanning various locations in Louisiana and Mississippi, is designed to test the division’s ability to conduct large-scale, long-range air assault operations. The training will focus on communication, logistical resupply, and tactical capabilities. While the

primary activities will occur on military installations and local airfields, residents in Minden may notice a significant uptick in helicopter traffic and noise, particularly around the Minden Airport and Camp Minden. Troops and aircraft will establish Forward Arming and Refueling Points (FARPs) in the area,

where military helicopters will be refueled and resupplied before returning to their base at Fort Campbell, Kentucky. The Minden area will experience heightened aircraft activity from August 13 through August 18, with similar operations taking place in other locations such as Monroe and Alexandria during

this period. “We’re alerting the public to prepare nearby communities for an increase in noise due to rotary wing aircraft conducting training flights over the next few days,” said Lt. Col. Martin Meiners, spokesman for the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault). He stressed that the division’s prior-

ity is the safety of soldiers and local residents, expressing appreciation for the support from local leaders and the National Guard. The 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) continues to advance the Army’s efforts in vertical envelopment, preparing to succeed in future combat scenarios.

OPINION

MINDEN
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OPINION

God and Faith in America
Some misuse ‘faith’ statements to score political points

I read an interesting article this past week entitled “America Isn’t Sacred, Only God Is.” The article was written by Brian A. Graebe, a Catholic priest. The article makes the point that the frequent use by our elected leaders of godly language in civil or governmental matters is misplaced.

For example, Fr. Graebe states that President Biden used the word “sacred” four times in a recent speech, referring to the “sacred” task of “perfecting our nation,” the equally “sacred,” in Biden’s view, “cause of our country” and the “sacred” ideals of our founding documents. Graebe responded that while “the aforementioned may be important, praiseworthy and deserving of respect. None are sacred.” (Wall Street Journal, 08-02-24).

The article offers an additional, similarly erroneous example. After Jan 6th, then-House Speaker Nancy Pelosi referred to the U.S Capitol as a “temple of democracy.” Fr. Graebe points out that “a temple is a place to worship God ... and while the U.S. Capitol is famous, iconic and worthy of protection and respect, it isn’t a temple and democracy isn’t a religion.” (WSJ).

The gist of his article is that “an increasingly irreligious culture seeks to appropriate the words of faith” and that

is what I found interesting.

Pres. Reagan’s famous “Shining City on a Hill” remains a powerful illustration of what he believed America was, is, and could be. But the reason the illustration is such an inspiring and enduring image is not because the lofty and beautiful city



ROYAL ALEXANDER

That is what imbued it with hope and promise.

We used to know that. We used to designate as sacred only those rarities in life that truly are.

I think of the language of George Washington’s Farewell Address to the nation:

“Of all the dispositions and habits which lead to political prosperity, religion and morality are indispensable supports. In vain would that man claim the tribute of patriotism, who should labor to subvert these great pillars of human happiness, these firmest props of the duties of men and citizens. The mere politician, equally with the pious man, ought to respect and to cherish them. ... And let us with caution

indulge the supposition that morality can be maintained without religion. Whatever may be conceded to the influence of refined education on minds of peculiar structure, reason and experience both forbid us to expect that national morality can prevail in exclusion of religious principle.”

I think of Thomas Jefferson in the Declaration of Independence: he states that America takes its separate and equal station in the world, to which it is entitled by “the laws of Nature and of Nature’s God.” He also emphasized our being endowed “by our Creator with certain unalienable rights.” He powerfully closes the Declaration by “appealing to the Supreme Judge of the World for the rectitude of our intentions” and does so “with a firm reliance on the protection of divine Providence.”

I think of John Adams, in his explication of public and private virtue, stating that “our constitution was made only for a moral and religious people. It is wholly inadequate to the government of any other.”

I think of Benjamin Franklin who stated: “I have lived a long time, Sir, a long time, and the longer I live, the more convincing proofs I see of this truth—that God governs in the affairs of men. And if a sparrow cannot fall

to the ground without His notice, is it probable that an empire can rise without His aid?”

Throughout American history, these principles have resonated with us because we know the source from which they flow, God Almighty. If that has changed because we have drifted from these principles—and replaced them with secularism and atheism—we should recognize that drift and return to them. In fact, we must. America is unique, not sacred but we remain blessed, strong, and prosperous when we remember that God is.

As our increasingly irreligious—even anti-religious—culture misappropriates the symbols and the vocabulary of religion in an effort to demonstrate an alliance with a God of their own construction, which is then used to “sanctify” their political agenda by suggesting that ‘God is on their side,’ I think it’s worth remembering President Reagan’s admonition that ‘the question isn’t whether or not God is on our side. The question is whether or not we are on God’s side?

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.

FROM THE BACK PORCH

A Letter to My First-Born Child

While looking through my files for some information on Hubby’s family that a member had requested, I came upon copies of “Letters to our Children.” These were written for Christmas gifts one year and I decided to alter them a bit and share them.

“Dear First Born,
You came to us in December and spent the next 18 years in our home. The first born in a family brings delight but some experts tell us we experiment in raising the first child. I know your Daddy and I were so young and so inexperienced in child rearing, that those years may have been more difficult than necessary. But as you learned when your

first child was born, they do not come with instructions. You just give a lot of love and learn as you go.

Those 18 years in our home were happy ones for us and I hope that many memories were made during this time that today are treasures for you just as they are for us. As you grew and changed, so did our home, but our love was always there.

As you grew older and we seemed to be not as lenient



FANNIE MOORE

as some of your friends’ parents, it was because we loved you. We knew what was out there in that big world and we wanted to protect you from it even though we also realized we could never do so. At some point, we would have to let you go and find out for yourself what was out there.

We carried you to church from the time you were born. (You were about two weeks old) and tried to instill in you a love of God and a desire to be one of His children. We watched you participate in church and school activities and were so proud of all your accomplishments.

Then one day you met that perfect someone and decid-

ed the time was right to start a home of your own. We were reluctant to let you go, not because we did not trust your judgment in the choice of a mate, but because we realized that no longer would you be ours alone.

You two soon blessed us with two beautiful grandchildren and now they are making you happy as you did us and continue to do so.

Time passes rapidly and often we are too busy to express our love and appreciation for you.

But just remember, First Born, that you were the first culmination of the love your Daddy and I shared.”

FANNIE MORE LIVES IN SHONGALOO.

FROM THE PUBLISHER

Why Fall is My Favorite Season: A Love Letter to Football

We’re often asked throughout the year which season is our favorite. For me, the choice is easy: fall. And with fall comes football, a season I eagerly anticipate every year.

Now that I’m married, some might wonder if my wife is at risk of becoming a “football widow.” Well, not really—though my multitasking skills are certainly put to the test as I balance my “honey-do list” with my football-watching activities. Fortunately, my wife has grown into more of a fan lately, which helps ease the situation. I also try not to be completely glued to the television during football season, though having sports apps on my phone has come in handy—sometimes too much. I once walked into a big aisle end-cap display in a store while checking scores on my phone!

Watching football has always been a cherished activity for me, especially since it was something my dad and I did



RANDY BROWN

And football season is almost here. After a long, hot summer, fall is finally approaching, bringing with it the excitement

of football. I’m counting down the days until the LSU Tigers kick off their season on Sunday, September 1, at 6:30 p.m. against USC at Allegiant Stadium in Las Vegas. It promises to be an exciting game, and I can’t wait!

I’ve been a football fan all my life. I played football from my youth through middle school, until I became more interested in music and band. Realizing I couldn’t do it all and still keep my grades up, I chose band, but my love for football never waned. I’ve always been a huge fan.

One of my earliest football memories is flying to New Orleans with my mom and dad when I was six years old to see the New Orleans Saints play the Baltimore Colts and QB Johnny Unitas at the old Tulane Stadium. It was 1967, the Saints’ inaugural season, and I still vividly remember standing with my dad by the tunnel, waiting

to see Johnny Unitas emerge.

A few years later, I watched the Dallas Cowboys play their traditional Thanksgiving Day game in 1974—the game where Clint Longley came in for an injured Roger Staubach and threw a bomb to Drew Pearson for a touchdown with less than 30 seconds left. The Cowboys won 24-23 against the Washington Redskins. I’ve been a Dallas Cowboys fan ever since, and I was thrilled by their championships in 1971, 1977, 1992, 1993, and 1995. Watching what Dak Prescott and the Cowboys have accomplished in recent years has been incredible. I truly believe the “Big Game” is in their future.

Of course, I also root hard for the New Orleans Saints. I was ecstatic when they won the Super Bowl in 2009—finally! Although the Saints appear to be in a rebuilding phase this year, I’m cheering them on and wishing them great success.

As a lifelong and die-hard LSU fan, I’m still reveling in the glory of our national championships in 2003, 2007, and the magical 2019 season. This season’s schedule looks tough, but expectations are high, and everything is looking good. We have hopes for a great LSU football season under head coach Brian Kelly, now in his third year.

Finally, I can’t wait to be on the sidelines taking photos at high school and middle school football games. The season kicks off in just about three weeks! If you see me at a local game, please stop by and say hello—it always means so much to me. So here’s to fall, and here’s to football!

RANDY BROWN IS PUBLISHER OF THE MINDEN PRESS-HERALD.

SPORTS

Russell Hedges, Sports Editor
rhedges@spechtnewspapers.com

OPINION

When it comes to volleyball, parish schools should consider following Doyline’s lead

RUSSELL HEDGES
Minden Press-Herald

High school volleyball has been growing in popularity in North Louisiana and across the nation, and now Doyline High is joining the fun.

Doyline is the first school in Webster Parish to have a team. The Lady Panthers begin play Sept. 5 at District 1, Division V opponent Downsville. Their first home game is Sept. 23 against Wossman.

Starting a program is no easy task. Doyline players, parents and coaches have spent much of the summer trying to raise money

to support the team. They have sought sponsors and donations of equipment.

Earlier this month, the team held a bake sale at the Doyline Country Store.

Volleyball has provided girls with more opportunities to compete in athletics. During the fall, girls also compete in cross country and swimming.

According to the National Federation of State High School Associations, girls volleyball has consistently ranked among the top three most popular girls sports along with basketball and track and field.

According to a 2022-23 NFSHS sport’s partici-



COURTESY PHOTO
Members of the Doyline volleyball team recently held a bake sale to raise money for the first-year program.

tion survey, 470,488 girls at 16,610 schools nationwide played volleyball. That made the sport the second most popular sport just behind track and field with 486,355.

According to the survey,

5887 girls from 263 schools in Louisiana participated. That’s up from 200 schools and 4,100 participants in the 2012-13 survey.

In 2014, Airline became the first school in Bossier Parish to have a team. With Bossier starting play this season, all five schools in Class 4A and above will be fielding teams.

Bossier City hosted a Nations League tournament in 2022 that included the U.S. Women’s National Team.

Volleyball has long been popular in South Louisiana and teams from that part of the state dominate the playoffs. But Bossier Parish

schools have been consistently competitive within their districts and perennial playoff participants.

The other schools in Webster Parish should consider following the lead of Doyline and their parish neighbors.

Yes, there will be challenges. As mentioned above, funding a program is one of the main ones. Doyline’s 13-game schedule includes an extensive amount of travel.

Finding quality coaches who can teach the game is another. And of course, coaches have to be paid.

But the more opportunities for girls to participate in sports the better.

HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL

Doyline’s Spears commits to NSU

RUSSELL HEDGES
Minden Press-Herald

Doyline senior pitcher Noah Spears has committed to Northwestern State, according to a post on the Doyline Athletics Facebook page.

The 6-foot-7 Spears had an ERA of 1.40 last season pitching against some of the Panthers’ toughest opponents. He had 101 strikeouts in 75 innings.

Spears also batted .393 with five doubles, five triples, four home runs and 27 RBI.

He was named honorable mention on the Louisiana Sports Writers Association Class B All-State team. He was also named

to the Louisiana Baseball Coaches Association Division V All-All-State first team and All-Region I first team.

Spears played in the LBCA Underclassmen State Games in Monroe in June. The event featured many of the top underclassmen from around the state.

Spears has been a mainstay of Doyline baseball since his junior high years. As a sophomore he pitched a perfect game with 18 strikeouts in a playoff game.

Spears is the second senior to commit in Webster Parish. Glenbrook’s Easton Saners is a Louisiana Tech commit



COURTESY PHOTO
The Bossier Phillies participate in pregame ceremonies last week at the American Legion state tournament in Lafayette.

BASEBALL

Bower, Sanders help Bossier win Legion regional

RUSSELL HEDGES
Minden Press-Herald

Brody Bower, a 2024 Minden graduate, and Glenbrook senior Easton Sanders are headed to the American Legion World Series with the Bossier Phillies.

Both played key roles in helping the Phillies win the Mid-South Regional tournament held Aug. 7-11 in Washington, Mo.

Sanders pitched 6 2/3 innings in Bossier’s 5-3 victory over Tupelo, Miss., in the championship game. He scattered seven hits, struck out nine and

walked one.

Bower pitched a complete game in a 6-2 victory over Tupelo on Day 4. It was Tupelo’s first loss.

Bower scattered eight hits, struck out three and walked one.

Sanders had an RBI in the game.

Sanders started in Bossier’s 7-1 victory over Columbia, Tenn., on Day 3. He went 2 1/3 innings. He allowed two hits and no runs with two strikeouts and two walks.

Bower pitched three scoreless innings of relief in a 5-2 loss to Bryant, Ark., on Day 2.

OUTDOORS

Making sense of our senses

GLYNN HARRIS

Fortunately for us humanoids, we come equipped with a variety of things that help us navigate the world, especially when you like to hunt and fish. It’s our senses; those inborn things that give us the ability to see, to hear, to feel.

Take squirrel hunting for example. You’re sitting in the woods on a cool fall morning and you hear a variety of sounds, like birds singing, leaves falling, the rustle of trees when there is a breeze. Then you detect something different. You hear the sound of tiny claws on bark or the soft “whack....whack” of something eating a hickory nut. You don’t need to see it; you already know it’s a squirrel.

Fishing for an unseen quarry lurking beneath the surface calls into play most of our senses. We hear surface feeding fish, we see our line twitch when a fish takes the lure.

It’s the sense of touch, the ability to feel what’s going on down there out of sight that may be of utmost importance. Fishing rods made of graphite and boron used by most anglers today are super-sensitive scientific marvels allowing the angler to feel the gentle pick-up when a bass inhales a plastic worm. Even with these sensitive fibers working on the side of the angler, though, sensitivity to touch is of utmost importance.

Some fishermen have a sense of touch that is more acute than other anglers. Mike Lowrance, a Murfreesboro, TN angler, is one of those. He has become a nationally-known specialist at catching fish by “feel”. He competes in national tournaments matching his skills, cast-for-cast, with the best in the business and he is able to hold his own



GLYNN HARRIS
The sense of touch is perhaps the most important sense in fishing for bass.

with any of them.

Lowrance’s secret is that he has perfected the fine art of super-sensitivity more so than most anglers.

“I am of the opinion,” says Lowrance, “that my senses are no better than anybody else’s. The big difference is that when I’m fishing, I don’t let anything distract me. My attention is on what I’m doing while others may be distracted by something else. They only feel about 40 percent of what they should because they’re not paying attention.

“I cannot use a closed face reel....it has no feel. I prefer a revolving spool reel and I’ve learned you have to keep your finger in contact with the line at all times.

“When you use your line as the sensitivity de-

vice, you’re feeling it all, right down to the vibration of the lure. You know what your lure is doing. You can feel if you’re running it properly. I feel I have a quicker response with the line than the rod. As a matter of fact,” he added, “I know I do.”

One of Lowrance’s secrets is that he uses a line that has a smooth finish and that lays down smooth and flat on the spool. While he uses graphite rods because of their quickness and fast response, the line is of more importance to Lowrance.

“The rod is the casting equipment. I feel the fish with the line,” he said.

Hearing about Mike Lowrance and his ability to fish by feel, I couldn’t help but speculate that most

anglers would do a better job at what they do if they forced themselves to concentrate more on feel.

Try to imagine how it would be to spend a day anchored at a favorite worm hole wearing a blindfold. After a period of adjustment where you cast out into blackness and felt the lure settle to the bottom, it is logical to imagine that your sensitivity would begin to improve as you are forced to rely strictly on the message the line is conveying to you as you slowly work the plastic worm over structure.

Mike Lowrance developed his sensitivity in this manner, after a fashion. He did it, however, out of necessity rather than choice.

Mike Lowrance is totally blind.

Fishing Report

BLACK BAYOU – Crappie are fair around the trees. Contact Honey Hole Tackle Shop 323-8707 for latest information.

BUSSEY BRAKE – Hot weather has slowed things a bit. Bass best early mornings on topwaters and big plastic worms later in the day. Crappie fishing has been fair fishing around deep brush. Bream fishing has slowed. For latest information, contact the Honey Hole at 323-8707.

OUACHITA RIVER – Crappie fishing has improved around deep brush in the river. Bass fishing has improved fishing shad imitation lures in the cuts. For latest information, contact the Honey Hole Tackle Shop at 323-8707.

LAKE D’ARBONNE – Bass have been best early morning on topwaters. swim baits and square billed crank baits fished around the edge of the grass. Soft plastics and crank baits working best later. When lake begins draw-down, moving water should turn them on. Crappie are good on the flats in 12-14 foot water and along the edges of the channels and hitting shiners and jigs. Bream are off the beds and scattered. 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 CLAIRBORNE – Bass fishing is best at night fishing

soft plastics and dark spinners and crank baits around lighted piers. Some have been caught early mornings on topwater lures fished along the edges of grass. Crappie are in deep water and are best around submerged brush on shiners and jigs. Bream are scattered and fair on crickets and worms. Stripers should be schooling. For latest information, call Kel’s Cove at 927-2264 or Terzia Tackle at 278-4498.

CANEY LAKE – Bass fishing has been good early mornings fishing topwater lures around the grass. Some are also being caught at night on Ole Monster plastic worms and deep diving crank baits with some big fish reportedly caught. During the day, deep diving crank baits and soft plastics fished on underwater humps is best. Bream fishing has slowed as the fish are scattered. 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 while others are slow. For latest reports, call Poverty Point Marina at 318/878-0101.

LAKE YUCATAN – The water is at a standstill with slow fall expected. Fishing overall is quite slow. For info call Surplus City Landing at 318/467-2259.

Good News

GOOD NEWS

School Time – Prayer Time

Remember when we began each school day (and assemblies) with prayer? I taught in one school where student-led Scripture reading and prayer was heard over the intercom from the principal's office each morn at 8:00 AM. Today, probably more prayer takes place than we imagine, though not in a formal manner – especially on test days. Students cannot be prohibited from praying silently. But more and more, prayer is being distanced from our schools in the culture-clash of our society. This is why there is an increasing need to surround our schools, teachers, administrators, parents, and students with daily prayer. Prayer walks and drives are very effective as well as prayers offered from the comfort of our homes. The important thing is to PRAY.

Although it soon might be illegal to conduct prayer walks or drives around our schools, we need to consider every angle when it comes to praying for

our children, teachers, staff and parents on a continual basis. Most teachers would appreciate knowing they are being prayed for daily as they spend time with our children. Parents surely would not protest such interest in their children and teachers – would they?

Prayer is our most effective tool for any need. We praise and honor God when we pray. He hears our prayers of thanksgiving and supplication. When we come in a spirit of confession and contrition, He forgives and cleanses us. We are encouraged then to ‘boldly come before His throne of grace with confidence.’ (Heb 4: 16). Jesus tells us in Matt 7:7 to “ask and it shall be given us; seek and you shall find; knock and

the door shall be opened.” Matt 18:19 & 21:22 are quotes from Jesus about ‘asking and receiving’ from God. But prayer is much more than an “ask/receive” mentality.

What prayers would you lay before the Lord today on behalf of our children? What about our teachers and staff? Our administrators and school board members need our prayers too! (They make so many far-reaching decisions. Let's not forget to pray God's wisdom upon them.) What about the school bus drivers, cafeteria and custodial staff? Pray for the helpers at the crosswalks, helping students cross the streets safely. Remind the Lord how important they all are to the total process. Let's keep the prayer lines open until every child is safely home each day. See! The need just gets bigger and bigger!

In the evening, pray for parents spending time with the children, around the supper table, helping with lessons, rehashing

the day, and as they pray with them before bedtime. And when we rise to meet the day, pray for the children making their way to school, in the early morning. The cycle repeats itself daily! Get the picture of what Paul meant when he wrote that we are to “pray without ceasing?” (1 Thess 5:17).

Consider conducting a ‘prayer-walk at the school nearest to you.’ It may be your individual project, it may include a few others, or your church groups may want to gather on a Sunday afternoon and circle the school. Prayer drives are being used quite effectively as well. Maybe a small group can ride together (praying with eyes open of course) as you circle the school. Be sure to include the athletic events as well as other extra curricula activities. These intentional prayer times are important to the Lord, as well. He honors our fervent prayers.

Those unable to prayer-walk or prayer-drive might consider

writing notes of encouragement and commendation to the teachers and staff. How uplifting to one's spirit it is to receive such a power-booster. (Enclose a brief prayer as well). Some might provide treats for the teachers from time to time (brownies, pies, cookies, etc). These all are tangible reminders throughout the year that ‘we care for them.’

You've heard this: “Well, I can't go and I can't give; All I can do is pray”! Great! It is in praying we unlock the doors to heaven. It is like giving food to a starving man or a cup of cool water to the thirsty woman. Prayer releases the power of God. (James 4:2). Let's pray for our schools and teachers! Let's do it for our children.

BILL CRIDER IS CHAPLAIN OF MINDEN MEDICAL CENTER



Bill Crider

THE UPWARD LOOK

His Strength

“Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of His might.” Ephesians 6:10 NASB



Max Hutto

In the final section of this letter, Paul describes the strategies and resources needed to win spiritual battles. A believer cannot stand up against the old sinful nature, the sinful world culture, and the schemes of the devil in his own strength. Facing temptation and sinful desires in his own meager power will lead to failure. It is only through the Lord, His strength,

His mighty power, that victory over sin can be achieved. Paul urges the believer to stand firm by relying solely and completely on the Lord. There is victory in Jesus.

Lord Jesus, give me strength as I face the schemes of evil. My own strength is weak and fails, but I can find victory over sin in my life through Your mighty power and strength.

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

INSPIRATION

Rejoicing in persecution

Have you ever been persecuted for doing the right thing? Have you ever felt that no matter what you do someone will find fault? I know I have, and I know many others have as well. This message will be a simple one about rejoicing through persecution. Following the death and resurrection of Jesus, the apostles went out into the world fulfilling his commission. They healed the sick and banished impure spirits, which attracted much acclaim. The high priest grew jealous of the apostles and their achievements. They attempted to imprison the apostles only to find them freed the next morning by an angel of God. They later found them teaching in the temple court and brought them before the Sanhedrin for questioning. Acts 5:28-29 chronicles this conversation. 28 “We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name,”




Bernard Harris

he said. “Yet you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and are determined to make us guilty of this man's blood.”29 Peter and the other apostles replied: “We must obey God rather than human beings!” They were later beaten as punishment and told never to teach in Jesus's name again. However, they didn't comply with this command; instead they went away rejoicing having been persecuted in Jesus' name. They continued to teach throughout the city in the days to come. As I conclude this article I encourage everyone to stand strong on their faith and rejoice in times of persecution because it's all for God's glory.

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

Come

WORSHIP



FIRST

ASSEMBLY OF GOD

MINDEN

How can we pray for you?

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

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

301 Pennsylvania Avenue • Minden, LA

CLASSIFIEDS

Classified line ads are published Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday in the Minden Press-Herald, Bossier Press-Tribune and online at www.press.herald.com

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Pricing is easy!

\$7.75

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

Payments

Cash Checks, Billing

Real Estate Notice

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

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377-1866

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

CITY OF MINDEN
Owner

520 BROADWAY
Address

MINDEN, LA 71055
City, State, Zip

Separate sealed BIDS for the construction of **Minden Animal Control Facility**

will be received by the **CITY OF MINDEN** at the **CITY HALL CONFERENCE ROOM, 520 BROADWAY, MINDEN, LOUISIANA 71055** until **9:00 a.m., Tuesday, August 27, 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, prior to beginning of construction.

A mandatory pre-bid conference will be held at 10:00 A.M. on the 8th day of August, 2024 at the City Hall Conference Room located 520 Broadway Street, Minden, Louisiana, 71055.

Copies of the CONTRACT DOCUMENTS may be obtained at the office of Building and Inspections Department located in the City of Minden at 520 Broadway Street, Minden, LA, 71055. Owner reserves the right to reject any and all bids for just cause.

Bids shall be in a sealed envelope marked "DO NOT OPEN – SEALED BID – MINDEN ANIMAL CONTROL FACILITY – BID NUMBER 05-2024 – 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 31, 2024
August 7, 2024
August 14, 2024
Minden Press Herald

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE ASSESSMENT LISTS HAVE BEEN PREPARED SHOWING THE ASSESSMENT OF ALL REAL AND PERSONAL PROPERTY IN AND FOR THE PARISH OF WEBSTER. THE SAID LISTINGS WILL BE EXPOSED IN THE ASSESSOR'S OFFICE FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION AND CORRECTION FOR A PERIOD OF 15 DAYS BEGINNING THE 29TH DAY OF AUGUST 2024.

ANY TAXPAYER DESIRING TO EXAMINE HIS/HER ASSESSMENT IS REQUIRED TO CALL THE ASSESSOR'S OFFICE DURING THE SAID 15 DAY PERIOD. THE BOARD OF REVIEW WILL MEET OCTOBER 1, 2024, AT 10:30 AM. APPEALS MUST BE SUBMITTED TO THE BOARD OF REVIEW, EITHER BY CERTIFIED MAIL OR HAND DELIVERED, AT LEAST 7 DAYS PRIOR TO ACTUAL BOARD OF REVIEW HEARING DATE WHICH IS BY SEPTEMBER 24, 2024.

PLEASE NOTE: YOU MUST SUBMIT ALL INFORMATION CONCERNING THE VALUE OF YOUR PROPERTY TO YOUR ASSESSOR BEFORE THE DEADLINE FOR FILING AN APPEAL WITH THE BOARD OF REVIEW. THE FAILURE TO SUBMIT SUCH INFORMATION MAY PREVENT YOU FROM RELYING ON THAT INFORMATION SHOULD YOU PROTEST YOUR VALUE.

DENISE G. E DWARDS, CLA
ASSESSOR OF WEBSTER PARISH

August 7, 2024
August 14, 2024
Minden Press Herald

MINUTES
JULY 1, 2024
VILLAGE OF DOYLINE

Meeting was called to Order by Mayor Gates. Invocation was offered by Jackie Daniels and the Pledge of Allegiance by Steven Bridwell. Attendance was taken, present were Mayor Gates, Chief Hayden, Myra Kilburn, Steven Bridwell, Jackie Daniels and Rachael Muniz, Mike Dunaway, absent.

Mayor Gates asked if there were any amendments to the Agenda. There were not. Motion was made by Rachael Muniz to accept the June Minutes as offered, seconded

by Steven Bridwell, motion carried. Motion was made by Jackie Daniels, seconded by Rachael Muniz to accept the June financials as offered, motion carried.

Motion was made by Rachael Muniz, seconded by Steve Bridwell to accept the 24-25 Budget originally introduced on June 3, 2024, motion carried.

Discussion was held regarding potential amendments to Ordinance #4-2-1 and 4-2-2. Rachael Muniz suggested the amendment to these Ordinances remove the wording of specific breeds of dogs and that we research the current price of catching and housing such animals to the Village of Doyleine. No vote was taken.

It was announced that the contract for the new Water Well at the Sewer Pond had been accepted and work is scheduled to begin on or about July 15, 2024.

The Millage Rate for 2024 was introduced. Tabled until August Meeting in order to invite Mrs. Edwards to join us for clarification.

Mayor Gates reported the sewer filter replacements had not been found. She suggested a letter be written to John French, Engineer, regarding this matter. The Clerk reports things are going well and nothing extraordinary to report; as does Chief Hayden.

Motion was made by Steven Bridwell, seconded by Rachael Muniz to adjourn, motion carried.

August 14, 2024
Minden Press Herald

Announcement of Public Meeting

Notice is hereby given that at its meeting to be held on Tuesday, September 3, 2024 at 10:30 a.m. at its regular meeting place, the Police Jury Meeting Room, Webster Parish Courthouse Annex, 401 Main Street, Minden, Louisiana, the Police Jury of the Parish of Webster, State of Louisiana, plans to consider adopting a resolution ordering and calling an election to be held within the Parish of Webster, State of Louisiana to authorize the levy an ad valorem tax therein.

August 14, 2024
Minden Press Herald

ORDINANCE NO. 1145 OF 2024

AN ORDINANCE LEVYING TAXES OF 5.05 MILLS AS GENERAL ALIMONY TAX ON ALL TAXABLE PROPERTY LOCATED IN THE CITY OF MINDEN, LOUISIANA FOR THE YEAR 2024. THOSE TAXABLE PROPERTIES DESIGNATED AS A PART OF THE MINDEN DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT WILL BE ASSESSED WITH AN ADDITIONAL 1.89 MILLS, MAKING A TOTAL OF 6.94 MILLS ON THOSE PROPERTIES LOCATED IN SAID DISTRICT.

SECTION 1: BE IT ORDAINED AND ENACTED BY THE COUNCIL, of the City of Minden, Louisiana, in regular session convened on August 5, 2024, that under the provisions of Article VII, Section 23 B of the Constitutional and statutory authority supplemental thereto, the Council of the City of Minden, State of Louisiana, a tax millage of 5.05 which is hereby levied and imposed by the City of Minden on all taxable property, both immovable and movable, as shown by the tax records of the parish, affecting property assessed within the corporate limits of the City of Minden for the Year 2024, being 5.05 mills, Mill Key #5225001 as general alimony tax.

SECTION 2: BE IT ORDAINED AND ENACTED BY THE COUNCIL of the City of Minden, Louisiana, in regular session convened on August 5, 2024, that under the provisions of Article VII, Section 23 B of the Constitutional and statutory authority supplemental thereto, the Council of the City of Minden, State of Louisiana, is authorized to levy and collect with the City of Minden, State of Louisiana, those properties designated as a part of the Minden Downtown Development District will be assessed with an additional 1.89 mills, Mill Key #5225003, making a total of 6.94 mills on those properties located in said district.

SECTION 3: BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, the property administrative officials of the Parish of Webster, State of Louisiana, be and they are hereby empowered, authorized, and directed to spread said taxes, as hereinabove set forth, upon the assessment roll of said Parish for the year 2024, and to make the collection of the taxes imposed for and on behalf of the taxing authority, according to law, and that the taxes herein levied shall become a permanent lien and privilege on all property subject to taxation as herein set forth, and collection thereof shall be enforceable in the manner provided by law.

SECTION 4: BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that all ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

WHICH ORDINANCE was read in full, and, upon motion and second of Andy Pendergrass and Carlton Myles, respectively, passed on the 5th day of August, 2024, by the following vote:
AYE(S): 5
NAY(S): 0
ABSENCE(S): 0
ABSTENTION(S): 0

Nicholas A. Cox,
Mayor

Melaney Langford,
City Clerk

August 14, 2024
Minden Press Herald

PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY OF MINDEN, STATE OF LOUISIANA, TAKEN IN REGULAR SESSION HELD ON AUGUST 5, 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. The meeting began with a Public Hearing on the proposed 2024-2025 City of Minden Budget. An invitation was extended for comments and/or questions on the proposed budget. No comments were offered. Mayor Cox declared the Public Hearing closed and the Minden City Council Regular Session convened. Mayor Cox welcomed everyone to the meeting. Prayer was offered by Michael Roy and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Andy Pendergrass. It is noted for the record that Mayor Cox allowed both council and public comments prior to every vote.

Michael Roy moved to adopt the minutes of the Minden City Council Regular Session held on July 1, 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 a Resolution Adopting the City of Minden 2024-2025 Budget, as presented. Absention(s): None. Absence(s): None.

Latasha Mitchell moved to authorize the City Clerk to advertise for bids for the 2024-2025 Street Improvements Project, which includes the following streets: East and West Street, Guy Miller Road, Jennifer Circle, Kitchens Court, Laurel Circle, Mignon Street, and Woodhaven Drive. The motion was duly seconded by Andy Pendergrass and the vote was unanimously in favor. Absention(s): None. Absence(s): None.

Carlton Myles moved to award Bid No. 04-2024 – Minden Public Works Facilities to the lowest qualified bidder meeting all requirements, Perryman Welding. The motion was duly seconded by Levon Thomas 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 appointed Tommy Davis to the Minden Municipal Fire and Police Civil Service Board, as presented. Absention(s): None. Absence(s): None.

City Clerk Melaney Langford presented the Budget/Financial

Report for the month of June 2024. No motion was required.

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

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

Interim Airport Manager Molly Fowler announced that the 101st Airborne Division of the United States Army will be hosting a military training operation at the Minden Airport.

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

Nicholas A. Cox,
Mayor

ATTEST:

Melaney Langford,
City Clerk

August 14, 2024
Minden Press Herald

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

SEALED BIDS WILL BE RECEIVED BY THE Webster Parish Library Board, at the Ferguson-Stewart Building, 1st Floor, 521 East & West Street, Minden, LA, 71055 until: 2:00 p.m. (CST) September 17, 2024, for:

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DOYLINE, LOUISIANA Prevot Design Project No. A0500.01

Bid Documents are available in electronic form free of charge. Contact Mark Prevot at Prevot Design Services to obtain these files (318-227-9244 EXT 115 or mprevot@prevotdesign.com).

All additional inquiries shall be directed to:

Mark Prevot Prevot Design Services, APAC 601 Spring Street, Suite A, Shreveport, Louisiana, 71101 (318) 227-9244 phone mprevot@prevotdesign.com

Work on this Project includes all work as indicated in the Construction Documents (Bid Documents), which includes Drawings, Project Manual and Addenda (if any).

A MANDATORY PRE-BID CONFERENCE will be held at 10:00 a.m. (CST) September 4, 2024, at the Ferguson-Stewart Building, 1st Floor, 521 East & West Street, Minden, LA, 71055.

NOTE: BIDS SHALL ONLY BE ACCEPTED FROM CONTRACTORS WHO ARE LICENSED UNDER LOUISIANA CONTRACTORS LICENSING LAW. CONTRACTORS REQUIRED FOR THIS PROJECT SHALL BE MAJOR CLASSIFICATION AS GENERAL CONTRACTORS ONLY.

Bids must be accompanied by a bid security equal to five percent (5%) of the Total Bid (including any Alternates). Bid Security must be in the form of a cashier's check, certified check or a satisfactory bid bond written by a company with a current A. M. Best Rating of 'A-' (Excellent), Financial Size Category 'VII' with a 'Stable' Outlook and licensed in the State of Louisiana.

The successful bidder will be required to furnish the following bonds written by a company with a current A. M. Best Rating of 'A-' (Excellent), Financial Size Category 'VII' with a 'Stable' Outlook and licensed in the State of Louisiana: Performance Bond in an amount equal to one-hundred percent (100%) of the contract amount; and Payment Bond in an amount equal to one-hundred percent (100%) of the contract amount.

The Contract Time shall be Three Hundred Sixty-Five (365) calendar days. Liquidated Damages shall be One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) for each consecutive calendar day that the Work is not completed beyond the Contract Time after the date of commencement of the Work fixed in the Notice to Proceed, subject to such adjustments of the Contract Time as may be made according to the terms of the Contract Documents. Said sums shall in no event be construed to be a penalty; but only as damages fixed and agreed upon in advance.

No bid may be with-

drawn for a period of forty-five (45) days after actual date of the opening thereof. The Owner reserves the right to reject any and all bids with just cause. Bids which deviate from the Construction Documents will not be considered. In accordance with Act No. 590 of the 2008 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature bids may be submitted electronically at 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. Contractors who submit electronic bonds will need to pay an annual fee to <http://surety2000.com/>

WEBSTER PARISH LIBRARY

August 14, 2024
August 21, 2024
August 28, 2024
Minden Press Herald

SHERIFF'S SALE

21ST MORTGAGE CORPORATION VS. KENDRICK OS-HAY JACKSON, INDIVIDUALLY & AS SURVIVING SPOUSE IN COMMUNITY WITH LISA ANN JACKSON AKA LISA ANN PENNINGTON JACKSON

In the Twenty-Sixth Judicial District Court of Webster Parish, Louisiana, No. 81521.

By virtue of a WRIT OF SEIZURE AND SALE issued out of the Twenty-Sixth Judicial District Court of Webster Parish, Louisiana, in the above styled and numbered suit and to me directed, I have seized and taken into my possession and will offer for sale at public auction to the last and highest bidder for cash WITH the benefit of appraisal and according to law at the principal front door of the Courthouse in the City of Minden, Webster Parish, Louisiana on WEDNESDAY, August 21, 2024. During the legal sale hours, the following property, to wit:

A 0.83 acre, more or less, tract of land located in the Northeast Quarter of the Southwest Quarter (NE/4 of SW/4), Section 26, Township 19 North, Range 9 West, Minden, Webster Parish, Louisiana, being a portion of Lot No. 39, Deerfield Subdivision, Unit No. 2, as per map and plat thereof on file and of record in the Office of the Clerk of Court of Webster Parish, Louisiana, in Map Book 4, at Page 17, being more particularly described as follows:

Begin at a found, small iron pipe, located on the apparent East right of way of Deerfield Boulevard, being the Northwest Corner of Lot No. 40, Deerfield Subdivision, Unit No. 2, for the Point of Beginning, and run North for a distance of 140.69 feet to a set 1/2 inch iron rod at the intersection of said East right of way, and the apparent South right of way of U.S. Highway No. 80, and run along said apparent South right of way for the next two (2) calls; thence run South 82 degrees 21 minutes 00 seconds East for a distance of 230.61 feet to a set 2 inch iron pipe; thence run South 67 degrees 06 minutes 00 seconds East for a distance of 88.41 feet to a set 1/2 inch iron rod; thence run South for a distance of 75.47 feet to a set 1/2 inch iron rod at the Northeast Corner of said Lot No. 40; thence run South 89 degrees 58 minutes 40 seconds West for a distance of 310.00 feet to the Point of Beginning.

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

CRYPTO FUN

Determine the code to reveal the answer!

Solve the code to discover words related to the dog days of summer.
Each number corresponds to a letter.
(Hint: 11 = **M**)

A. 12 8 11 15 10

Clue: Water vapor in the air

B. 3 13 22 6 11 9

Clue: Warm and moist

C. 3 8 11 11 22 5

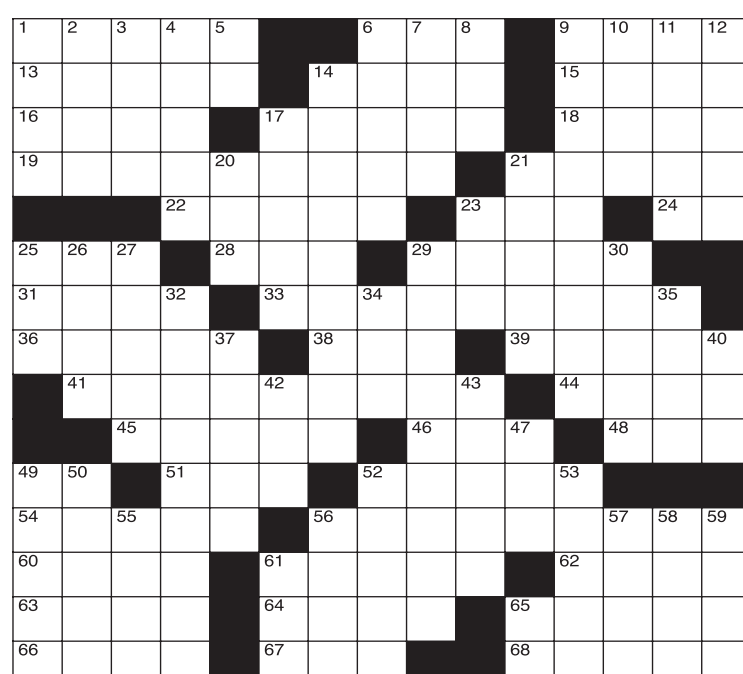
Clue: Hot season

D. 3 4 9

Clue: Atmosphere seen from earth

Answers: A. humid B. steamy C. summer D. sky

FUN & GAMES



CLUES ACROSS

1. Russian painter
6. Very fast jet
9. Phillippine municipality
13. Intestinal
14. Small freshwater fish
15. Algerian coastal city
16. Vomit
17. Famed astronomer
18. Ghanaian currency
19. Improved the condition of
21. Int'l association of interpreters
22. Infections
23. Dish made with lentils
24. Thou
25. Former CIA
28. Unit used to compare power levels
29. Members of Pueblo people
31. Myanmar monetary units
33. Polished
36. Signed a contract
38. Nothing
39. Once-ubiquitous department store
41. Neural structures
44. Thick piece of something
45. Slang for trucks with trailers
46. Longing
48. Senior officer
49. Levels of frequency
51. Bird's beak
52. Move rapidly downwards
54. Koran chapters
56. Stretches out
60. Top of the human body
61. A Chinese temple and Indian town are two
62. Fertility god
63. Sea eagle
64. Dry
65. Zodiac sign
66. "Horizon Call of the Mountain" character
67. Have the ability to
68. Take somewhere

CLUES DOWN

1. "Iron Man" actress Leslie
2. Wings
3. Adjust the spacing
4. They're usually locked
5. Atomic #43
6. Wise individuals
7. Horse mackerel
8. Pearl Jam's debut album
9. Confines
10. Colorless crystalline compound
11. Unsatisfactorily
12. Plant of the parsley family
14. Determines time
17. Causes the birth of
20. Small ornament on a watch chain
21. Richly decorated cloth tapestry
23. Vito Corleone was one
25. Igbo musical instrument
26. Put in harmony
27. Japanese alcoholic drinks
29. Tinseltown
30. Closes tightly
32. Songs sung to one's lover
34. One thousandth of an inch
35. Small drink of whiskey
37. Political divisions in ancient Greece
40. Helps little firms
42. Baby's eating accessory
43. Very long periods of time
47. Small block of wood
49. Town in Surrey, England
50. Enquiry
52. Murdered
53. Bura- : Chadic language
55. Crater on Mars
56. Mammal genus
57. Sock
58. Make
59. Stony waste matter
61. Partner to cheese
65. Pound

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

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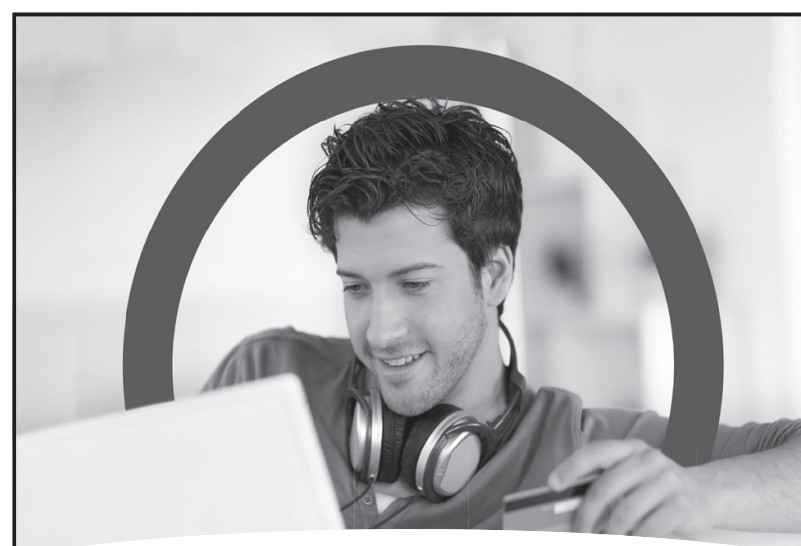


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GARDENING WITH DR. JOE WHITE

ROSE AND PEACH TIPS

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

While pruning most woody plants is best done by or before the middle of July when it's desired to reduce plant size or re-shape the canopy, roses and peaches are best pruned in August. The reason for this is to prevent late season growth in the case of peaches to avoid damage to any new growth. Roses benefit from the stimulation of the plant, removal of dead or damaged canes and to prepare them for an impressive bloom in late September or in October.

Some home owners and gardeners actually do minimal pruning throughout the growing season, but February is the ideal time to do major pruning. It's not at all uncommon to see roses that were severely pruned in February to be higher than your head by August. Therefore, it's the time to get rid of the excess growth and fertilize now also to encourage a spectacular fall bloom.

Pruning roses in August should be much less severe than that done in February so somewhere around a 30-to-36 inch height when you finish is suggested. If possible, keep no more than five or six thumb-sized canes which you should cut back to the preferred height at a point just above an outward facing bud or node. Remove all other growth.

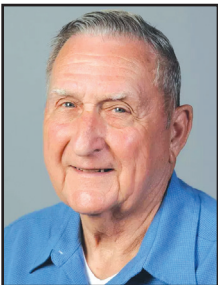
Once you have completed the necessary pruning, collect all of the wood re-

moved and burn it if that's an option. So far as fertilizer is concerned, you can use a general-purpose type at the rate of a quarter pound per plant, but using a product formulated for roses is often a better choice. Do stay at least a half foot away from the plant with your application. While shallow incorporation into the soil is often done, it's better to put it on the surface and cover with a thick mulch.

Of course, it's important to continue your efforts to control weeds, insects and diseases.

In our region peach trees are pruned to the open center system of branch structure. If they are pruned to that system from the time they are planted, the center of the tree typically remains open for better sun exposure and better pesticide coverage. The vigorous growth these trees are capable of making in a single year often results in

new water sprouts and other similar growth which are both unproductive wood. Do leave a few short leafy twigs along the primary branches to protect from sun scald, but all of the other new wood in the center of the tree should be removed. The only other pruning that may be necessary is to sever one large branch to keep the canopy semi-open, to restore and improve the balance of the tree and to keep the vertical height low enough to make harvesting the fruit a bit easier.



JOE W. WHITE, Ph.D.



89th Annual Louisiana Shrimp and Petroleum Festival slated for Labor Day Weekend

Louisiana's oldest chartered harvest festival is scheduled to celebrate 89 years of tradition and family fun

Morgan City, Louisiana - Louisiana's oldest chartered harvest festival is scheduled to celebrate 89 years of tradition and family fun this upcoming Labor Day Weekend, August 29 - September 2, 2024. Music on the Heritage Stage, great Louisiana cuisine, free children's activities, traditional events such as the Blessing of the Fleet and Water Parade and Fireworks on the River makes this one of Louisiana's most unique and most family friendly festivals in the South.

The Louisiana Shrimp & Petroleum Festival will be held in Morgan City, only 90 miles from New Orleans, Baton Rouge and Lafayette. All festivities are held within the Downtown Historic District and are free to the general public. Great food, continuous free live music and children's activities as well as both traditional and new events will highlight this five-day extravaganza.

The 60th Labor Day Art Show & Sale will start on Wednesday, August 28th and continue through Saturday, September 21, 2024, in the downtown Everett Street Gallery. Hours to view the exhibit during the Festival are 1:00PM to 5:00PM on Thursday & Friday and from 11:00AM to 5:00PM. Saturday through Monday.

Thursday, August 29th, is the official ribbon cutting that will open the Festival at 5:15PM on Second Street under the U.S. 90 bridge. Also, on Thursday, Mitchell Brothers Amusement rides and games will begin at 5:00PM and continue through Monday at 9:00PM. Bracelets will be offered Thursday, August 29th from 5:00PM to 9:00PM and Monday, September 2nd from NOON - 9:00PM and will be \$35.00.

Indulge your taste buds and satisfy your appetite at the Annual Cajun Culinary Classic, a showcase of local "home style" cooking featuring delicious Cajun and Creole dishes as well as a variety of desserts and

other cuisines. The Cajun Culinary Classic is open 5:00PM to 11:00PM on Friday, 11:00AM to 11:00PM on Saturday and Sunday and 11:00AM to 7:00PM on Monday. Local non-profit groups, food vendors, and civic organizations benefit from the proceeds.

The 47th Annual Shrimp & Petroleum Marketplace will open Friday, August 30, 2024 at 5:00PM. under the U.S. 90 bridge and continue through Monday, September 2nd at 5:00PM. The event features artists and crafters mostly from south Louisiana with unique merchandise and artistic masterpieces for sale.

Children's Day Activities will take place on Saturday, August 31st from 8:00am to 10:30am in Lawrence Park. Registration will begin at 8:00am until 8:30am for the Children's Day King and Queen. Kids must be between 8 years - 12 years old to enter. King and Queen will be announced at 8:45am. From 9:00am to 10:30am will be Children's Day Game & Activities. Children must be Ages 0 Years - 12 Years can participate in the games. All events are free for participants.

The Children's Day Mini Street Parade will begin at City Hall at 11 a.m. on Saturday, August 31, 2024. Decorated bicycles, wagons, strollers and four wheelers are welcome to participate. Registration begins day of at 10:00AM in front of City Hall.

The Children's Village will officially open with a ribbon-cutting ceremony by our 89th Louisiana Shrimp and Petroleum Festival Royal Court on Saturday, August 31st, at 1:00PM. The Children's Village is a playland featuring games, prizes, face-painting and more. This event is free to all children. The Children's Village will be open Saturday, August 31st, and Sunday, September 1, 2024, from 1:00PM to 5:00PM. The village will close during the Street Parade on Sunday, September 1, 2024, beginning at 3:00PM.



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