

MINDEN PRESS-HERALD

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MINDEN AIRPORT



The Minden Airport saw sixteen Chinooks carrying 400 plus military members flying or for refueling this past Wednesday as a part of a training exercise conducted by the 101st Airborne Division.

WILL PHILLIPS/ PRESS-HERALD PHOTO

COMMUNITY

Minden hosts breakfast for local ministers, city officials

AMBER MCDOWN
Minden Press-Herald

The City of Minden hosted a breakfast on August 13 at the Minden Community House to bring together local ministers and city officials to discuss challenges facing the community. The event aimed to foster dialogue and develop collaborative solutions between city leaders and religious representatives.



The gathering was attended by ministers from various Minden churches and local government and law enforcement officials, including Councilmen Pendergrass, Roy, and Myles; Fire Chief Williams; Sheriff Parker; Police Chief McIver; Kathy Babers, representing Speaker Mike Johnson's office; and several city department heads.

"You all are the leaders," said Mayor Nick Cox. "This room represents a minimum of 12,000 people in leadership. What you all do for our city matters. The role that you all See, **MINISTERS**, Page 3

Chinooks refuel at Minden Airport during major military training exercise

WILL PHILLIPS
Minden Press-Herald

The Minden Airport saw Chinooks carrying hundreds of military personnel on Wednesday as a part of the 202st 101st Airborne Division's (Air Assault) recent training event. The exercise spanned through various locations in Mississippi and Louisiana and was designed to assess the di-

vision's ability to conduct large-scale, long-range air assault operations in conjunction with training scenarios to test their communication, logistical resupply, and tactical abilities.

"What they're doing is seeing how many troops they can move 500 nautical miles in one span of darkness. The Minden Airport was selected as one of their refuel-

ing points," said Airport Manager Molly Fowler.

During the event, sixteen Chinooks came to the Minden Airport for refueling, carrying 400 plus military members. For the exercise, the airport sold roughly 35,000 gallons of fuel for the Chinooks, which is a sizable amount even compared to the airport's monthly sales.

"To put it into per-

spective, we sell roughly 5000 gallons of jet fuel per month, and that's a good month. So 35,000 in a day, that's really good," said Fowler.

Fowler also spoke of how this event has deepened the city's relationship with those in charge of running the operations. "They said they love working with the City of Minden, so they're going to make us a regu-

lar stop, so we should see this at least once or twice a year from here on out."

The 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) is a part of the Army's effort to pioneer the evolution of vertical envelopment with modern equipment and well-trained soldiers and to prepare the nation to win in any future military combat environment or conflict.

COMMUNITY

Seeds Women's Center to hold annual fundraising banquet, announces new building purchase

AMBER MCDOWN
Minden Press-Herald

Seeds Women's Center will host its annual fundraising banquet on Tuesday, October 8 at the Minden Civic Center. The event is set to begin at 6 PM. and will include a meal and two guest speakers. While tickets for the event are free and available through Eventbrite, the center is also offering table sponsorships to support its mission.

The fundraiser comes at a pivotal time for Seeds Women's Center, which has experienced significant growth over the past year. The center, which provides pregnancy and family support services, is in the process of purchasing a new building located at 308 Pine Street, known as the Ward Building. According to Amber Bradford, director of the center, the new space will

See, **SEEDS**, Page 3

PRAYER



AMBER MCDOWN/PRESS-HERALD PHOTO

Attendees of the 9th Annual Prayer in the Park bow their heads in prayer at Academy Park on August 17, seeking blessings for the new school year, the town of Minden, and the nation.

9th Annual Prayer in the Park unites Minden community

AMBER MCDOWN
Minden Press-Herald

A spirit of unity and prayer filled Academy Park on August 17 during the 9th Annual Prayer in the Park event. Local Christians gathered to seek divine guidance for the upcoming school year, the well-being of the town, and the country's future.

The event began with an opening prayer by Bro. Chet Johnson, setting the tone for the morning. John Gill Jr. followed with a soulful rendition of "Falling in Love with Jesus," providing a heartfelt mo-

ment of worship.

Officer Brandy Powell, a school resource officer, addressed the crowd with a message of vigilance. She stressed the importance of community responsibility for children's safety and well-being, reminding everyone that "it takes a village to raise a child." Powell offered her support to parents, ensuring that she is always available to help protect students.

Reverend Dr. Grady Smith, the principal of Woodlawn High School in Shreveport, delivered a stirring message about the need for love and care in the lives of

children, particularly in light of the violence he has seen claim the lives of many students. He emphasized that Minden holds something special, urging the community to safeguard it by embracing the next generation with love and support.

Michael Walker, the event organizer, thanked everyone who attended and contributed to the day's success. He praised the efforts of Bro. Chet Johnson, Officer Brandy Powell, John Gill Jr., and Dr. Smith for their roles in the event. Walker also extended

See, **PRAYER**, Page 3

AIRPORT

Springhill Airport receives \$2.8M for improvements: FAA and Louisiana DOTD Aviation partner for major upgrades

AMBER MCDOWN
Minden Press-Herald

The Springhill Airport is set to receive nearly \$2.8 million in funding for critical infrastructure upgrades, thanks to a partnership between the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (DOTD) Aviation. The investments are part of a broader effort to enhance local airports across the state.

U.S. Senator Bill Cassidy announced the funding as part of the FAA's allocation of \$4.1 million in federal grants to Louisiana. Of this, \$1.8 million is designated for the Springhill Airport runway and taxiway rehabilitation project, with the FAA covering 90% of the costs. The Louisiana DOTD Aviation will provide the remaining 10%, bringing the total for the pavement improvements to over \$2 million.

In addition to the runway work, the airport will benefit from another \$764,000 from Louisiana DOTD Aviation to upgrade airfield lighting. This project will replace outdated electrical systems with new, energy-

efficient LED lighting, improving both reliability and efficiency.

Local companies are set to benefit as well. Benton & Brown, a Minden-based contractor, will handle the asphalt rehabilitation, while Bossier City's Wilhite Electric will oversee the airfield lighting project.

"That's nearly \$2.8 million being invested in the people of northwest Louisiana!" said Steven Burdeaux, the new manager of the Springhill Airport. The improvements will increase safety, attract more traffic, and reinvest in the people of Webster Parish.

Sen. Cassidy emphasized the importance of local airport improvements in his statement, noting, "Improving local airports is crucial to attract businesses, investors, and families to Louisiana. With funding from the Infrastructure Law, we're making our communities more inviting for new opportunities and building an economy for 2050."

Springhill is one of several airports in the state benefiting from this round of funding, with

See, **AIRPORT**, Page 3



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WEBSTER & MORE

LIONS CLUB

Children’s pastor speaks at Lions Club: Shares insights on Kids Outdoor Zone

AMBER MCDOWN
Minden Press-Herald

Andy Partington, children’s pastor at First Baptist Church, was the guest speaker at the Lions Club on August 1. Partington shared information about a children’s program he is involved with, Kids Outdoor Zone (KOZ), which focuses on reconnecting boys with outdoor activities.

“It is my feeling and my conviction that boys are under attack in this world,” Partington said, emphasizing the challenges boys face today, including internet influences and societal expectations. “We don’t want boys to be boys anymore. Manhood has been under attack. Everyone wants a boy to not run around in the wild and skin his knees... and that steals his identity.”

Partington shared his personal experiences

growing up in a household where his parents were not deeply involved. By age 16, he was living in abandoned houses. “It was the blind leading the blind,” he said. He also cited statistics showing how boys from fatherless homes often struggle.

KOZ, founded by Austin-based travel and adventure writer T.J. Greaney, aims to help boys, especially those from fatherless homes, by teaching outdoor skills. “For boys who are 8-18 years old, we get outside... and we teach them outdoor skills,” Partington said. The program includes activities such as fire-building, shelter-making, fishing, and hunting.

Partington highlighted the impact of nature on children, noting that outdoor settings help boys focus and provide opportunities to share the Gospel. “When you get them outside and there is



an open flame, and they can hear nature around them, their concentration centers. They can listen. That’s where we share the good news of the Gospel. That’s where we share the

Bible.”

“We have seen hungry boys start to grow into the men that God wanted them to be, and that has been an adventure,” he said

For more information on KOZ, check out their website at www.kidsoutdoorzone.com/.

The Lions Club meets at noon every Thursday to hear interesting speakers

at the American Legion Memorial Hall, located at 119 W. Pine Street. Joining the Lions Club is a great way to give back to the community and make a difference in Minden.

RIBBON CUTTING

Chamber welcomes Yeske Pools to the community



The Greater Minden Chamber and local business community members welcomed Nathan Yeske and his business, Yeske Pools, into the area with a ribbon-cutting. Yeske Pools specializes in installing aesthetically pleasing stock tank pools that have all the benefits of an in-ground pool without all the excessive expenditures. Those who are interested can contact Yeske Pools by calling their number at 512-564-0467 or by visiting their website at yeskepools.com.

WILL PHILLIPS/ PRESS-HERALD PHOTO

COMMUNITY

The Colorful Cottages of Minden tour coming September 21

AMBER MCDOWN
Minden Press-Herald

On September 21, Minden and Simply Southern Cottage will host Cottages & Bungalows magazine for a one-day event celebrating the town’s historic charm. The event, titled “The Colorful Cottages of Minden,” promises a day full of unique experiences centered around the town’s well-preserved cottages and local flair.

Attendees will have the opportunity to meet Wendy from Chair Whimsy and interact with the editor-in-chief of Cottages & Bungalows. The event will also feature a vintage market at Academy Park and a

curated market at The Villas at Spanish Court, offering a wide selection of goods. Additionally, food trucks will be stationed along West Union Street, providing a variety of options for visitors.

One of the event’s main attractions includes tours of several iconic properties in Minden, such as the Fuller White House, Phillip’s Cottage, and the personal home of Sara McDaniel, owner of Simply Southern Cottage. McDaniel expressed her excitement for the event, sharing that a portion of the proceeds will go toward supporting the mission of Phillip’s Cottage.

McDaniel encouraged participation, noting that

even if guests have already toured the featured homes, they can still enjoy shopping at the markets and visiting the food trucks at no cost. She added, “This is gonna be a perfect day in Minden and we can’t wait to see you.”

The event provides an excellent opportunity for both locals and visitors to explore Minden’s architectural heritage while enjoying the lively atmosphere of markets and local cuisine. To purchase tickets for the tour, go to Cottages & Bungalows+Simply Southern Cottage Present: The Colorful Cottages of Minden on Facebook.

EDUCATION

Omega Lamplighters to host back-to-school party for Minden High School students

AMBER MCDOWN
Minden Press-Herald

High school students in the Minden area are invited to celebrate the start of the new school year at a back-to-school party hosted by the Omega Lamplighters of Minden. The event will take place on Saturday, August 24

from 7 PM to 11:30 PM at the Minden Forestry Building.

Security will be on-site and concessions will be available for purchase. Students are reminded to bring their school IDs for entry.

The event is open exclusively to high school stu-

dents, with a \$5 entry fee. Organizers are encouraging students to join the Lamplighters in kicking off the new school year with plenty of energy and excitement.

For more information, students can connect with the Omega Lamplighters of Minden.

WPL

Webster Parish Libraries seek local organizations for 2024 Trunk-or-Treat

AMBER MCDOWN
Minden Press-Herald

Webster Parish Libraries are calling on local organizations and businesses to join their 2024 Trunk-or-Treat event, which promises to be a magical experience. This year’s theme, “A Hogwarts Trunk or Treat: Chamber of Secrets Edition,” was inspired by one of the library’s most popular book series.

Partnering with Visit

Webster Parish (Webster Parish Tourism), the libraries are preparing two events. The Springhill Library will host on October 22 from 4 PM. to 6 PM, with a rain date set for October 23. The Minden Library will follow with their Trunk-or-Treat on October 28 from 5 PM to 7 PM, and a rain date of October 29.

Local organizations and businesses are encouraged to participate in this opportunity to

connect with the community. Registration is required, and spots are limited. Those interested can visit the Webster Parish Libraries’ website for more details and to complete the sign-up form.

The libraries are excited to bring the magic of Hogwarts to Webster Parish and look forward to welcoming the community to this special event.

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WEBSTER & MORE

OBITUARIES



Dennis Keith Terral

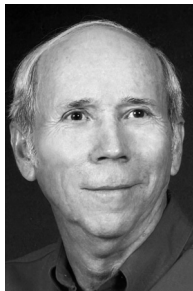
Dennis Keith Terral 74, of Minden, Louisiana was born April 12, 1950, in Minden and entered into rest August 11, 2024 in Bossier City, Louisiana.

Keith was preceded in death by his parents, Frank and Lola Terral, sisters, Wylma Brown, Betty McCart-

ney, and Katie Block, brothers, Jerry Terral, Larry Terral, and Bobby Terral, and brother-in-law, B.J. McDaniel.

He is survived by his sons, Colter Terral and Cody Terral, daughter, Carmen Cottrell, sisters, Brenda McDaniel and Renee Brogdon (Carl), two grandchildren and a host of nieces, nephews, and friends.

Keith will be laid to rest by his parents and brothers at Beulah Cemetery in Farmerville, Louisiana and a memorial service will be held at a later date for family and friends.



Donald R. “Don” Thomas

Funeral services celebrating the life of Don Thomas was held Monday, August 19, 2024, at 11:00 a.m. at Evergreen Union Church in Minden, Louisiana with Bro. Dick Lintelman officiating. Interment followed at Evergreen Cemetery in Minden under the direction of Rose Neath Funeral Home in Minden. The family received friends from 5:00 until 7:00 p.m. Sunday, August 18, 2024, at Rose Neath Funeral Home in Minden.

Don was born November 5, 1932, in Haynesville,

Louisiana and met his Savior August 17, 2024, in Minden, Louisiana. He served his country in the United States Air Force, and he retired from LAAP as an electrical control supervisor. Don loved flying his plane, watching Nascar races, (especially Jeff Gordon) and was an avid Saints fan. He loved working on electronics and could repair anything

Don was preceded in death by his parents, William and Ovie Blackwell Thomas.

He is survived by his wife, Carolyn Martin Thomas and numerous cousins, nieces, nephews, and friends.

In lieu of flowers donations may be made to: Evergreen Cemetery Fund 6068 Hwy 159, Minden, LA 71055 or White Hall Cemetery Fund c/o Connie Winn, 230 Dr. Worley Road, Haynesville, LA 71038.

MUSIC

First Baptist Church choir to record album of music

AMBER MCDOWN
Minden Press-Herald

The music department at First Baptist Church of Minden is preparing for a major project as the choir will soon record an album of religious music. The recording, scheduled for August 29-31, follows a year of planning and collaboration involving churches nationwide.

Scotty Blackwell, the church's music director, said the project began when he received a call from Phil Barfoot, CEO and president of CCT Music/ Celebration Concert Tours International, based in Franklin, Ten-

nessee. Barfoot wanted to create a collection of choral music relevant to church members of all ages, with songs that deliver powerful messages.

Five worship pastors from across the U.S. were involved in the selection process, gathering favorite songs from their congregations. After reviewing over 60 songs, the list was laboriously narrowed to 12, representing a wide range of genres, from rock and Nashville grunge to ballads and worship music.

“It really took the form of a true album,” Blackwell said. “There were multiple genres in the

same album, so everybody got a taste of their favorite thing. People are going to be spellbound when they hear the album.”

After selecting the songs, top arrangers in Nashville helped refine them, and a “rough” demo album was created to be used by the choirs to prepare. The choir at First Baptist has been rehearsing since June. “The choir loves each song for its own identity and what it says,” he said.

The album will be released on CD and QR card formats, with proceeds going toward recouping project expenses and

funding future initiatives. Featured songs include “Dead Man Rising,” “I Will Dwell,” “Because of Jesus,” and “In the Room.” “Every song on this album is unbelievable, I mean, off the charts good,” said Blackwell.

Blackwell has nothing but praise for the talent found in Minden. “This church and this community has an immense amount of talent.”

The project is expected to showcase the unique voices of the First Baptist choir and bring powerful messages of redemption to listeners.

BLOTTER

- Recent Arrests in Webster Parish**
- Calan Novak, 23, of the 1100 block of Orchard Lane, was arrested on a warrant.
 - Terry Douglas, 30, of the 200 block of Ward Street, was arrested on multiple warrants.
 - Torry Capers, 22, of the 300 block of Weston Street, was arrested on a warrant.
 - Mallory Merritt, 26, of the 100 block of Milton Drive, was arrested for possession of a schedule II substance.
 - Jeremy Clash, 31, of the 600 block of Constable Street, was arrested for failure to appear in court.
 - Roshun Huey, 35, of the 1500 block of Shreveport Road, was arrested for driving under suspension.
 - Darren Grigsby, 53, of the 700 block of Clay Street, was arrested on a warrant.
 - Christopher Matlock, 41, of the 500 block of Constable Street, was

- arrested for resisting by failure to ID, and being a fugitive of Topeka.
- Lapatrack Lister, 45, of the 100 block of N. Talton Street, was arrested for resisting by failure to identify.
- Chametenla Jones, of the 700 block of Pecan Street, was arrested for aggravated assault with a firearm and illegal use of a weapon.
- Zikedrick Morgan, 20, of the 300 block of S. Talton Street, was arrested for disturbing the peace and resisting an officer.
- Lisa Gipson, of the 500 block of Richardson Street, was arrested for domestic abuse battery with child endangerment.
- Tnesha Malone, 27, of the 100 block of Lewis Way, was arrested for criminal trespass.
- Curtis Rabb, 30, of the 100 block of Country Lane, was arrested for disturbing the peace.
- Decarlos Thomas, of the 600 block of Con-

- stable Street, was arrested for disturbing the peace and fugitive of an outside agency.
- Dameionia Gilbert, 34, of the 600 block of Chestnut Street, was arrested on multiple bench warrants.
- Wesley Barnes, 39, of the 300 block of E. Roosevelt Drive, was arrested on a warrant.
- Lish Island, 52, of the 200 block of McKinney Lane, was arrested for access device fraud.
- Davaris Moore, 32, was arrested for simple obstruction of a highway and disturbing the peace.
- Terry Jones, 65, of the 100 block of St. Rest Street, was arrested for possession of a schedule II substance, failure to signal, and failure to yield at a yield sign.
- Kevin Johnson Jr., 20, of the 300 block of Parkway Street was arrested for intimidating a witness.
- Shicarrion Noles, 25, of the 100 block of

- Stanley Street in Minden, was arrested for aggravated assault.
- Shelbert Henderson, 67, of the 100 block of Grice Lane, was arrested for theft.
- Jesse Switsky, 44, of the 400 block of Summit Street, was arrested for failure to appear in court.
- Jesse Hollingsworth, 61, of the 1300 block of Young Street, was arrested for driving under suspension.
- Aaron Wright, 24, of the 800 block of Horton Street, was arrested for driving under suspension and general speeding.
- Zachariabe Walker, 28, of the 300 block of Shane Drive was arrested for driving while intoxicated first offense and improper lane usage.
- Janie Robinson, 37, of the 300 block of Winford Street, was arrested for driving while intoxicated first offense and obstruction of public passage.

DEPENDABLE CAREGIVER SEEKING WORK.

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MINISTERS

Continued from Page 1

fill, it matters.”

Mayor Cox provided updates on the city, including the recent passage of the city’s first balanced budget in years and plans to allocate \$2.5 million for road work. However, he noted that roadwork on state highways requires coordination with the state. Cox also mentioned that bids will soon be requested for a new animal shelter.

Police Chief McIver discussed the presence of student resource officers in Webster Parish schools, which has been well-received by teachers and students. He also expressed interest in partnering with the sheriff’s office to enhance security at churches.

When questioned about arrests for failure to identify, Chief McIver explained that officers may request identification for various reasons. Refusal to provide said information or providing false information could be considered resisting an officer under state law LRS 14:108.

In response to concerns about racial profil-

ing, McIver stated, “We 100% do not condone racial profiling whatsoever.” McIver concluded by saying, “If you ever have an issue, you can reach out to me.”

Chief McIver also addressed the possibility of a ride-along program, inviting ministers and public officials to participate. One pastor suggested that pastors could offer mental and spiritual support to officers during ride-alongs, a proposal McIver welcomed, acknowledging the emotional toll of police work.

Mayor Cox concluded the meeting by stressing the importance of open communication in addressing the city’s challenges. “Some of the things that happen in our city are not the most comfortable or the prettiest things, but it’s good that we can come together and talk about it,” he said. “We’re working together to solve our problems. And that’s the kind of city we want to live in — a city where we can help one another.”

Breakfast was provided by Geaux Fresh, with coffee from Brick Street Coffee.

SEEDS

Continued from Page 1

allow the organization to better serve the community.

“This building is twice the size of our little blue house,” Bradford said. “With our center growing, we are facing the challenges of renovating the building to meet our needs, covering higher utility costs, and stocking more supplies.”

Seeds Women’s Center plans to close on the building in November. Funds raised from the banquet will go toward the building’s renovation. Bradford emphasized that the center is more than just a pregnancy center. “Our goal is to help women and

families choose to parent their child and then to help them raise that child. It takes a village to raise a child, and we are the village at Seeds.”

The center is encouraging community members to get involved by sponsoring tables at the banquet or pledging donations. For more information or to become a sponsor, contact Seeds Women’s Center at 318-639-0907 or email Bradford at A.Bradford@nwlpcc.org.

With the anticipated move, Seeds Women’s Center hopes to continue providing hope, love, and understanding to families throughout Minden and beyond.

PRAYER

Continued from Page 1

his gratitude to community supporters, including Walmart Academy #87, Coke Plant, and key individuals like Kyle Allums, Dominique Walker, and his wife, Chequella Walker, who has been instrumental in all their events de-

spite not being able to attend.

“We had a great turnout today, and I’m already looking forward to next year,” Walker said.

The 9th Annual Prayer in the Park continues to be a reminder of the power of collective prayer and action in the Minden community.

AIRPORT

Continued from Page 1

other recipients including the Shreveport Downtown Airport, Ruston Regional Airport, and Vivian

Airport.

These improvements mark a major milestone for the Springhill Airport and are expected to boost local economic develop-

ment while enhancing the quality of life for residents and visitors alike.

With local contractors taking on the projects, the airport’s upgrades stand

as a testament to reinvesting in the community, ensuring that the benefits of the funding will ripple through Webster Parish for years to come.

OPINION

MINDEN
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OPINION

Significant Changes in Felony Sentencing in Louisiana

Governor Jeff Landry has moved at a dizzying legislative pace since being elected governor and one very significant change made to Louisiana law is what is referred to as "Truth in Sentencing."

What is Truth in Sentencing?

The long and short of it is that for years Judges, District Attorneys and Defense Attorneys have essentially had to estimate the actual amount of time a convicted individual would be incarcerated. Louisiana was said to have a "high rate of indeterminacy" in sentencing and the stated purpose of the new law is to simplify time computation by the Louisiana Department of Corrections.

Currently, the rule of thumb was that a conviction or plea that did not involve a Crime of Violence under Louisiana law would have an inmate serve approximately 1/3rd of their given sentence. So, for example, with a nonviolent crime like Simple Burglary, the accused could either plead to or be convicted of and sentenced to, hypothetically, 6 years in prison. The individual would serve approximately 1/3rd of the 6 years, or two years. On the other hand, if an individual pled to or was convicted of a crime of violence, they would serve ap-

proximately 2/3rds of the 6 year sentence, or 4 years.

That has now all changed. In the 2024 Special Session of the Louisiana Legislature, the relevant statute, LA. R.S. 15:571.3, was amended and re-enacted. The relevant part of the statute is referred to as Diminution of Sentence for good time served. The new law changed the amount of good time credit (i.e. reduction) that can be earned to a maximum of 15% for all offenses except when the individual is what is known as an Habitual Offender or the crime involves a sex offense. (which are not allowed to earn any good time). Unlike before, the new law does not differentiate between violent and nonviolent offenses. Again, the declared purpose of this change is to provide truth, or greater accuracy, in sentencing.

So, what is the crux of the new law? Well, these changes only apply to offenses that were committed on or after August 1, 2024, and the Good Time Rates after that date will be 85% for all offenses except, again, sex offenses and habitual offenders who will not be eligible for any good time served. Sex and habitual offenders will earn credit for any time served prior to their conviction but will not earn any additional good time credit. One caveat is that offenders may earn up to 12 months of additional credit for the completion of treatment and rehabilitation programming as provided for in LA. R.S. 15:828. Finally, the new law clarifies that when an offender has served 85% of their sentence they will be released on Unsupervised Parole for the remainder of their sentence.

Let me also share two other categories of offense that have been amended. The first is Drug Court Screening and Eligibility, with Act 572 providing that a defendant who meets the eligibility and suitability criteria can be offered by the court an opportunity to participate in the program and undergo treatment. Second, Act 648 provides that in a felony case, the court shall not/may not terminate probation early, or as "unsatisfactory," and release the defendant if the conviction was for operating a vehicle while intoxicated, vehicular homicide, or First Degree vehicular negligent injuring.

One other issue I am asked about frequently. Posses-

sion of a Firearm by a Convicted Felon. The new law mandates that a consecutive (it's usually concurrent) sentence be imposed if a person convicted was on probation or parole at the time of the new offense.

That's quite a change!

I believe the goal of ensuring truth in sentencing is good public policy. I think a defendant, as a matter of due process of law, must be informed of what time they will actually serve for their offense. I also feel it is important, as a matter of both the legal process and judicial efficiency, that judges, DAs, and criminal defense attorneys know exactly what a sentence entails in order to know how to proceed in a case whether it be a plea or a trial.

I will be curious to see how these changes impact crime and incarceration in Louisiana. Whether additional statutory tweaks will be needed remains to be seen but the effort to increase both the constitutionally required 'fair warning' and notice of what is prohibited under law, resulting in what penalty, is laudable.

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

Seasons come and seasons go

Last week I shared about the first born. This week we will share about the middle child, which will be a little more difficult. For several reasons.

The second child arrived in October, on a Sunday afternoon, coming to join the older sister who was excited to welcome a baby brother.

Your arrival added so much to our family and we made every effort to provide a loving home for you and your sister. It is my hope that during those years you stored up memories that brought delight when they were recalled during your later years.

Experts tell us the middle child has the hardest time in life. While that may or may

not be true, I'm sure you probably felt that way many times. However, your daddy and I tried to show each one of you how much you were loved, and one was not loved more than the other.

We watched you grow up much too quickly, playing baseball, riding bikes, learning to swim and become attached to a kind of music we could never understand. We took you to church and wanted to be assured

that you knew a loving God and that you made a place in your heart for Him. Sunday School and Youth Activities, along with summer camp, were a part of your life.

You always exhibited a sense of strong independence and perhaps this was hard for us to accept, still longing to be the axis of your universe. However, we realized that we could not hold onto forever. We had to let you live your own life and we could not make those life-altering choices for you.

As we watched you grow up, we could still see that small, chubby baby with the long black hair as the doctor brought you to my room and said, "Here's Elvis." We knew the time was passing by too

quickly.

You and your sister were soon joined by a younger brother. I think you and big sister conspired against him but later it became the other way around. That is probably the way it always is. Who knows.

The years passed by all too quickly.

Then, one day, all too soon, you left us. You were pursuing one of your favorite past times, riding your motorcycle. The truck driver swore he didn't see you.

Our life has never been the same.

Enjoy every season of your life as they come and go too quickly,

FANNIE MORE LIVES IN SHONGALOO.



FANNIE MOORE

INSPIRATION

My angel experience when I was stuck in the ditch in 1996

From the backwoods of Arkansas, before going into an orphanage, to today, I am constantly amazed at the times God has stepped out of the woodwork, making His presence known, giving me an opportunity to let the world know He is in control and He is the one who takes care of me, although people often say "take care of yourself." God has always protected me, sometimes coming to me in the form of angels to save me from disaster.

The experience I wish to share happened to me during the first week of January, 1996. I was returning home from taking my youngest son to school in Searcy, Arkansas.

It was about one o'clock

in the morning when I must have dozed and found myself in the median, stuck in the mud, not far from Arkadelphia, Arkansas. (I had to get home to go to work that morning.)

Immediately, I began turning my lights off and on, not knowing where my emergency lights were. I pleaded "Dear God, please send someone to help me and not hurt me."

Within minutes a car pulled over and young a young man asked me if he

could go get help.

Yes, I responded. Within minutes he was back. He walked over to the passenger side and said he would stay and make sure I was OK while help came.

Within minutes a car load of three or four teenagers drove up and walked over to my car.

Immediately the young man jumped out of his vehicle and told them "You can leave. The police are on their way."

The boys jumped back in their car, like they had been shot, and sped off!

Moments later the police arrived to pull me out of the mud.

I began trying to find something to give the young man for helping me, maybe

one of my books, knowing he wouldn't want money.

As he was hurrying to leave, I begged him "But sir, at least tell me what is your name?" He simply replied "My name is Richard, I must be on my way!"

Twenty-five years later this memory is as clear as a bell.

I shall always believe Richard was an angel, while a real person, or an angelic being, a messenger, a protector, sent my way by God not only to take care of me on that cold, rainy night, but to allow me to see God step out of the woodwork to protect me as He always does.

No matter what we are going through, we need to know to not give up, to keep on keeping on, because He is in control. My life has

been orchestrated by one difficulty after another but somehow it all works out for which I am forever grateful.

Sometimes He puts people in our corner, as angels, to give us the courage to make it to the other side. The older I am, the more my faith is affirmed, that Jesus is the same yesterday, today and forever. He always gets me to the right place at the right time, pulling me out of the ditches, making His presence known, knowing He is in control, taking care of me, simply because He loves me.

CONTACT SARAH AT SARAH9957@AOL.COM



SARAH HUDSON PIERCE

SPORTS

HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL



The Minden Crimson Tide scrimmaged Parkway in the spring. Friday they will host Benton, another 1-5A team, in their fall scrimmage.

RUSSELL HEDGES/PRESS-HERALD

Scrimmages next for parish teams

RUSSELL HEDGES
Minden Press-Herald

The preparation for the start of the 2024 season continues this week with scrimmages. Glenbrook travels to Shreveport Thursday to take on Green Oaks at Northwood’s Jerry Burton Memorial Stadium. The parish’s other three teams have scrimmages Aug. 23. Minden host Benton, North Webster visits Magnolia, Ark., and Lakeside is at Cedar Creek. Scrimmages generally get underway at about 6 p.m. They usually include a set of plays by the first- and second teams or JV — and sometimes freshmen — followed by a live 12-minute quarter. Formats vary, though. Sets of plays can be a specific number or time frame. Some have a goal-line segment. Regardless, it’s a welcome change for players to go up against someone besides their teammates. Coaches get a chance to see how newcomers are mixing in with veterans. Scrimmages also provide video for evaluating performance.

Scrimmage schedule
THURSDAY Glenbrook vs. Green Oaks at Northwood
FRIDAY Benton at Minden North Webster at Magnolia, Ark. Lakeside at Cedar Creek

For new Lakeside head coach John Ware and North Webster head coach Christopher Wilson, it will be the first time to see their teams in game-type situations. Neither team scrimmaged in the spring. Of course, players who are battling injuries of any nature are usually kept out of scrimmages so some teams may not be at full strength. As always, coaches and officials will be keeping a close watch on players because of the heat. Teams are getting a bit of a break this week with high temperatures moderating from near 100 or more to the low to mid-90s. Minden and Benton were District 1-4A rivals before the Tigers moved up to District 1-5A in 2020. The Benton defense should provide a good test for the Tide offense with

two first-team and one second-team All-District players returning. The Tigers offense features sophomore quarterback Malachi Zeigler and 6-foot-7 lineman Witt Van Hoy, a TCU commit. Benton is coming off a 5-6 season. The Tigers won four of their last five regular-season games. Minden went 3-8 last year. The Tide have a good mix of veterans and newcomers led by quarterback Hudson Brown, running back Dunovan Robinson, offensive lineman Jonathan Bradford and defensive lineman Demetrius Robinson. Glenbrook’s opponent Green Oaks, a member of District 1-2A, is coming off a 3-7 season. Glenbrook went 8-3 last season in Reagan Smith’s first season as head coach. Quarterback Easton Sand-

ers returns but the Apaches lost several key players off last year’s team. North Webster’s opponent Magnolia is coming off a 5-5 season. Like North Webster, the Panthers have a new head coach, former Captain Shreve head coach Adam Kirby. Kirby led the Gators to the District 1-5A championship last season. North Webster has a solid group of returning starters off last season’s 7-5 team led by All-District 1-3A running back Braedon Robertson. Lakeside’s opponent Cedar Creek, a member of District 1-1A, is coming off a 4-7 season. Lakeside went 3-7 last season as injuries took their toll in the last six games. The Warriors have an experienced quarterback in Brock Case. Eli Santelices, a receiver and defensive back, is also back. After the scrimmages, the next step in the preseason process are the jamborees. Minden, North Webster and Lakeside are competing in the Pineland Jamboree at The Pit Aug. 30. Glenbrook is hosting a jamboree the same night.

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

Tech coach pleased with team’s second scrimmage

RUSSELL HEDGES
Minden Press-Herald

Louisiana Tech held its second scrimmage of fall camp last Saturday, and Head Coach Sonny Cumbie was generally pleased with what he saw. “I think for one the competition between both groups was better,” Cumbie said during an interview posted on Tech’s website following the scrimmage. Cumbie liked how the offense performed early in the scrimmage in the red zone segment. “We started the scrimmage fast,” he said. “And I think the defense responded when we went to the driving portion, in terms of making us drive the length of the field. “I think there was cleaner execution, better ball security. I think defensively we’ve done a really good job throughout the course of fall camp of creating takeaways, whether it’s been creating fumbles or making interceptions. I think from an overall competition standpoint it was a very good back and forth. And for me, that’s what you’re shooting for.” Louisiana Tech, coming off back-to-back 3-9 seasons, opens the 2024 campaign Saturday, Aug. 31, at 7 p.m. against Nicholls in Joe Aillet Stadium.

Season opener
SATURDAY, AUG. 31 Nicholls at Louisiana Tech, 7 p.m.

Of course, in an intra-squad scrimmage it can be hard to judge progress. Cumbie said a defensive lineman came up to him before the scrimmage and said that the defense was “going to get after you guys.” I said, ‘Hey, I’m on your side,’ ” Cumbie said. “It’s one of those things where it’s offensively, defensively sometimes it’s a no-win situation. You always want to do well on both sides of the ball. But I was most proud with how the guys competed. I think we got out of this healthy, which is our No. 1 goal.” Another goal was to see who among the backups will be ready to play if called on. “I feel really good about our 1s,” Cumbie said. “And we’ll watch the film and evaluate I guess some of the borderline positions in terms of depth and who’s going to be that next guy in with our 2s and 3s, which we all know there will be a point in time when those guys will be in.” After more than two full weeks of practice, one position Cumbie is high on is running back.

“I’m really excited about AG — 25 — Amani Givens, Fred Roberson, and also the guys that have been here, Marquis (Crosby), Donerio (Davenport) and Wigs (Omiri Wiggins). So I think that’s a really strong position for us.” He also likes the way No. 1 quarterback Jack Turner has performed. “Jack’s had a really good camp,” Cumbie said. “He’s putting the ball where it needs to be in some tight spots. He’s done a nice job of reading, makes plays with his feet, does a good job in the quarterback running game.” The competition for the No. 2 spot has been close between two red-shirt freshmen from Texas — Evan Bullock and Blake Baker. “Evan and Blake have been back and forth,” Cumbie said. “It’s hard to find separation because they’re both playing really well.” Defensively, Cumbie said one goal is to develop depth at the cornerback position. “I think that’s one area in terms of the depth that we’ve got to continue to

grow,” he said. “And at linebacker, besides Zach (Zimos), behind Kolbe (Fields), and finding those next guys that go in.” One area in which the Bulldogs struggled last season was getting to the quarterback. Cumbie believes that will change this season under new Defensive Coordinator Jeremiah Johnson. “I think the guys are playing at a faster pace, less thinking,” he said. “They’re really able to attack in terms of their assignment. I think we have some guys that can rush the passer.” “I think Jessie Evans is going to be a really good pass rusher. I think Zeke Campbell has the ability to do that. And I think putting them in positions now and some things we’re doing with our front to where they’re playing fast and reacting. “There’s obviously a scheme and a designed call of where they’re supposed to go. All of the hesitation that’s been created by us as coaches has been taken out and now they’re able to play fast. So I think some of the things we do with our front and our linebackers, changing up the looks for the center and the offensive line are going to allow those guys to pin their ears back and rush the passer at times.”

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

Three Tigers named to ESPN Preseason All-America Team

LSU ATHLETIC COMMUNICATIONS

BATON ROUGE — LSU offensive tackle Will Campbell and linebacker Harold Perkins have been named first-team preseason All-America by ESPN.com. Offensive tackle Emery Jones was named to the ESPN.com preseason second-team. All three Tigers named to the ESPN.com team are juniors and they all enter their third season as starters for a Tiger program that has had back-to-back 10-win seasons. Campbell and Jones form the nation’s top offensive tackle tandem, while LSU’s offensive line is considered to be among the best in the nation. The Tigers return four starters from last year’s squad that was one of three finalists for the Joe Moore Award (Nation’s Top Offensive Line). It’s the third first-team preseason honor for Campbell, who has also been tabbed by both Walter Camp and Sporting News on their All-America squads heading into 2024. Perkins has been named second-team preseason All-America by Walter Camp and Sporting News. Campbell enters 2024 with 26 career starts at left tackle and helped

pave the way for one of the most prolific offenses in college football history last season. Of Campbell, ESPN.com said, “He’s a polished pass protector and didn’t allow a sack last season in 491 pass-blocking situations, according to Pro Football Focus. Campbell’s power and strength also make him an excellent run blocker.” Perkins has built the reputation as a game-wrecker on defense, tallying 26 tackles for loss and 13 sacks in his first two years at LSU. ESPN.com said of Perkins, “After considerable debate about where he should play, he will return to inside linebacker while also moving outside and rushing the passer on third down. The 6-1, 225-pound junior had 7.5 sacks as a true freshman in an edge rusher role. He moved inside as a sophomore, and while his sack numbers dipped somewhat, he matched his freshman total with 13 tackles for loss. Wherever Perkins lines up, quarterbacks have to be wary of him.” LSU is one of only four teams with at least two players named first-team preseason All-America by ESPN.com. They are joined by Georgia (3 on first-team), Michigan (3), and Alabama (3).

LSU ranked No. 13 in AP preseason poll

RUSSELL HEDGES
Minden Press-Herald

The LSU Tigers are ranked No. 13 in the Associated Press Preseason Top 25. LSU is coming off a 10-3 season. The Tigers open the 2024 season Sunday, Sept. 1, at 6:30

p.m. against No. 23 USC in Las Vegas. LSU was ranked No. 12 in the coaches poll. Georgia is No. 1 in the AP Top 25. Rounding out the top 10 Ohio State, Oregon, Texas, Alabama, Ole Miss, Notre Dame, Penn State, Michigan and Florida State.



LSU offensive tackle Will Campbell was one of two Tigers named to the ESPN Preseason All-America first team.

COLLEGE BASEBALL

Fouts promoted to Associate Head Coach at Tech

BRANFORD CLAY
Louisiana Tech Associate Director Strategic Communications

RUSTON — Louisiana Tech baseball Coach Cooper Fouts has been promoted to Associate Head Coach, the school announced last week. Fouts, in his three seasons working with the pitchers, has coached two All-Americans (Ethan Bates and Ryan Harland), three All-Region selections, six All-Conference USA selections, five arms taken in the MLB Draft (Ryan Jennings, Kyle Crig-

ger, Cade Gibson, Landon Tomkins, and Sam Brodersen), and two undrafted free agents (Jarret Whorff and Jackson Lancaster). Head Coach Lane Burroughs on Fouts: “Cooper brings an energy and passion to his unprecedented work. He’s one of the hardest-working coaches I’ve ever been around. He has been loyal to Louisiana Tech Baseball and brings it every day. Coop never has a bad day and his enthusiasm for his craft whether it’s recruiting, coaching, or building relationships is unmatched.”

SPORTS

BASEBALL

Bower helps Bossier get shutout in American Legion World Series

RUSSELL HEDGES
Minden Press-Herald

Brody Bower, a 2024 Minden graduate, helped the Bossier Phillies get a shutout in the American Legion World Series last Sunday in Shelby, N.C.

Bower started and pitched 2 1/3 innings in a 1-0 victory over Billings, Mont. He allowed one hit, struck out three and walked one.

At the deadline for this edition, Bossier was 1-1 in the Stripes division. The eight-team World Series is divided into two divisions. The other one is Stars.

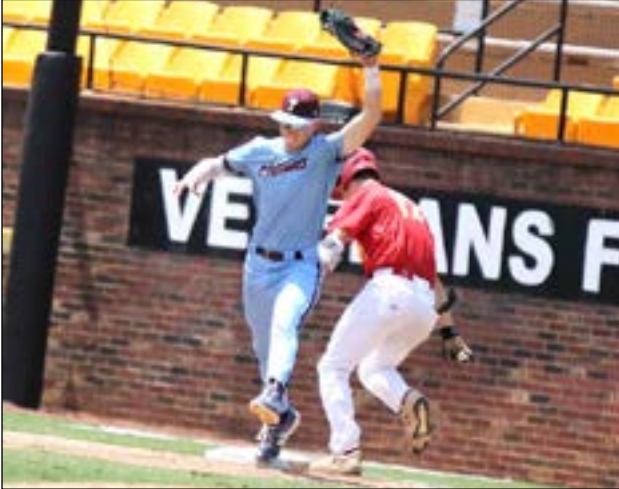
The champions of each division were scheduled to play the runners-up in the other divisions in the semifinals Monday. The winners were scheduled to meet in the championship game Tuesday.

Bossier's game against Billings was suspended in the third inning Saturday night because of inclement weather.

The Phillies scored their only run on a two-out single by Hudson Brignac in the fifth.



GINGER SWANSON/SPECIAL TO THE PRESS-HERALD
Brody Bower, a 2024 Minden graduate, helped the Bossier Phillies defeat Billings, Mont., 1-0 in the American Legion World Series last Sunday in Shelby, N.C..



GINGER SWANSON/SPECIAL TO THE PRESS-HERALD
Bossier Phillies first baseman Easton Sanders, a Glenbrook senior, gets an out during an American Legion World Series game last week.



GINGER SWANSON/SPECIAL TO THE PRESS-HERALD
Hudson Brignac, a 2024 Benton graduate, bats against Billings, Mont., in the American Legion World Series last week.

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

LSU sells out of season tickets for 100th year in Tiger Stadium

LSU ATHLETIC COMMUNICATIONS

BATON ROUGE – LSU's 100th year of football in Tiger Stadium has already reached a milestone as the school announced a sellout of season tickets with 71,250 being sold for 2024.

The 71,250 season tickets sold this year are the most for LSU since 2017. It also ranks as one of the highest totals in school history. LSU has sold 70,000 or more season tickets six times with the school record of 74,350 set in 2014. LSU's current season ticket capacity of 71,250 is due to an increase in individual game ticket options being offered so that more fans can experience Tiger Stadium.

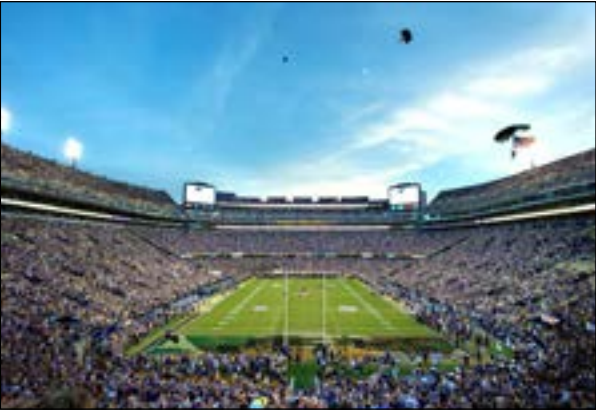
LSU celebrates its 100th year of Tiger Stadium in 2024 with a season-long celebration in Death Valley. Tiger Stadium will feature new LED lights, a new sound system, as well as a bigger and better video board in the north end

zone and two new screens in the corners of the south endzone.

Some of the highlights of the 2024 home schedule include Ole Miss on Oct. 15 when LSU will officially celebrate the 100th year of Tiger Stadium; Alabama on Nov. 9 for what has become one of the most anticipated games in college football each year; and SEC newcomer Oklahoma making its first visit to Death Valley on Nov. 30.

LSU is still offering single-game tickets for home games against Nicholls, UCLA, South Alabama, Ole Miss, Vanderbilt, and Oklahoma. Single-game tickets and ticket packages other than season tickets can be purchased at www.LSUTix.net.

LSU opens its third season under head coach Brian Kelly on Sunday, Sept. 1 when the 13th-ranked Tigers face No. 23 USC in Las Vegas. LSU opens its home schedule on Sept. 7 when the Tigers welcome Nicholls to Tiger Stadium.



CHAD KEITH/SPECIAL TO THE PRESS-HERALD
LSU has sold out of season tickets for the 100th year of football in Tiger Stadium.

OUTDOORS

Mellie Martin trains hounds, bloodhounds

GLYNN HARRIS

Glenn Wheeler is a longtime friend of mine. As a fellow outdoor journalist, our friendship developed over the years through our association with outdoor writer conferences. In addition to being a journalist, Wheeler is also Sheriff of Newton County Arkansas and from time to time, his duties involve trying to locate a missing person. This is where Mellie Martin enters the picture.

Martin, who along with husband Jay, own and operate Dubach Heat and Air but her sideline involves raising and training hounds, not just any hounds. Her focus is on bloodhounds. A few weeks ago, Martin learned of a missing person in Newton County Arkansas and offered to bring her hounds there to assist. Here's where I entered the picture. Martin conveyed a message from my friend Sheriff Wheeler that piqued my interest enough to try and learn about raising and training bloodhounds.

"As a member of the Delta Elite K9 Search and Rescue team, I have been involved in raising and training bloodhounds for the past eight years," Martin said. "My interest in bloodhounds was the result of an incident where a special needs child left home and met with a tragic accident. I thought that if the child could have been found and rescued before the accident happened, the result would not have ended in tragedy."

The more she learned about bloodhounds and what they can do, the more intrigued she became so she began raising and training bloodhounds some eight years ago. What she has learned about these remarkable dogs is fascinating.

"Bloodhounds have about 270 million scent re-



Mellie Martin raises and trains bloodhounds to help in search and rescue.

COURTESY PHOTO

ceptors in their noses compared to about 5 million we humans have. These dogs can be trained to find a specific person even after they have been gone two or three days," she said.

"Each person's scent is individualized in the same way that no two people have the same fingerprint. Before a search begins, an article, such as a cap or pillow case that no one else has used is presented to the dog and it is homed in only on that one person."

Martin says she is called on average about two times a month to bring her dogs to where a missing person has been reported. Not only do they search for run-aways but also criminals who may

be on the run.

"We don't compete with law enforcement agencies that utilize dogs; we work with them. Our area of responsibility involves serving all of Louisiana north of Alexandria over to East Texas and just south of Little Rock, AR as well as portions of Mississippi. We wait for law enforcement agencies to contact us before offering the services of our dogs," Martin said.

Martin's work with her dogs is on a strictly volunteer basis where no fee is charged. I am reminded of the similarity of what she does with her dogs and the organization deer hunters utilize to find wounded deer.

"My most rewarding event took place in south Arkansas when an elderly and sickly gentleman had been missing for 36 hours and family assumed he had probably passed away somewhere. My dogs were able to locate him, alive but dehydrated, and when we came back with him riding with us on a side-by-side, I joined with the family shedding happy tears. Just seeing that dog I have trained find someone in such a situation is so rewarding," she said.

To learn more about what has been done and can be done with bloodhounds, go on-line to Delta Elite K9 Search and Rescue Team.

Fishing Report

BLACK BAYOU – Fishing is slow. A few crappie have been caught 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 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 drawdown, 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 CLAI-

BORNE – 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 slow. No report on Stripers. For latest information, call Kel's Cove at 927-2264 or Terzia Tackle at 278-4498.

CANEY LAKE – Bass fishing has been fair early mornings fishing topwater lures around the grass. Some are also being caught at night on plastic worms and deep diving crank baits. 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 fair 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

TURNING ON THE GOSPEL LIGHTS

Growing up on the 1940's on a farm, I remember well when we 'got electricity.' And I remember life before then (B.E.) too. The oil lamps (and stove) smoked up the house. We took a lamp wherever we went at night, even to the outhouse. I watched my parents 'trim the wicks, pour the oil, and light the match.' Magic! But this was nothing to compare with the electric lights that were to come.

When I first heard that Abe Lincoln learned to read by a candle or the kind of lamp we used, I was encouraged that someday I might be President like him. But then we 'got electricity.' That dashed my political hopes. (I am not complaining, believe me!)

It was in the summer of 1945 when we officially got 'hooked up.' Living so far out in the country, it took time to work out all the details. We were living on Uncle Joe Evans' place, Route 2, Baskin, LA. It was 'way out in the country.' When it was dark on that hill -IT WAS VERY DARK! We had a few oil lamps to use throughout the old dog-trot house. Standing in the yard, looking in, you could see the lamps 'walking through the

house at night.' (Like a ghost moving about!)

The light poles had to be snaked from the gravel road up the narrow trail to the house. They were moved on a home-made sled/slide, pulled by two mules. It was quite a production. This might be compared to moving some of the large buildings from Fibre-bond onto Highway 80 and I-20. Everything stopped for the action! When they were unloading the poles, the mules jumped, causing the logs to roll off the slide, penning my daddy to the ground. When the logs were lifted, it was evident that Daddy had a broken leg in two places.

Bad news for a farming family in the summer! After spending a month or so in Conway Hospital in Monroe, he came home with a hard cast on his leg and a month-long beard. We hardly

knew him. Who was this strange ghost-like man? And we have a surprise for him too!

The 'electrical project' that he begun was completed by our neighbors who came to our rescue. The poles were positioned, cables were strung and the power turned on. That summer was the beginning of many 'miracles' for our family. In a few years, we enjoyed a series of 'new inventions' such as a refrigerator, radio, and later a washing machine. We grounded the small radio by connecting a wire to the window screen to get better reception. WSM (Nashville) on Saturday night, KWKH during the week, and XERF in Del Rio, TX were some of our favorite stations. We were in a dream - world it seemed.

Each room in the house was lighted by a single light bulb hanging down in the center of the room. Since this was an expensive commodity, Daddy was always coming through the house turning off lights, reminding us of the cost. Lights were out at 9 p.m. except on Saturday. We could stay up until 10:00. Later when television invaded our home, these times were stretched a bit.



Bill Crider

Until electricity 'invaded the country side, the only bright lights at night were car lights along the dusty country roads, casting a halo in the darkness. But now there was light on the outside and inside of the house. Modern technology! This event was much like the one mentioned in Acts 13:45-49. (a light had come to the Gentiles).

The Jewish leaders refused the message of Paul and Barnabas. Yes, they refused the lamplighters and continued to walk in darkness. Paul told the Jews, "It is necessary that this Good News from God should be first given to you. But since you have rejected it, and shown yourselves unworthy of eternal life, well, we will offer it to the Gentiles. For this is as the Lord commanded: I have made you (Paul and Barnabas) lights to the Gentiles that you may bring salvation to the ends of the world."

Jesus had turned on Paul's witnessing light and it could not be hidden nor snuffed out. When the Jewish leaders rejected Jesus and crucified him, Paul answered the call to 'show the Gentiles this special light of salvation.' So, he turned the light on brighter and brighter for the

Gentile world to see. He continued to 'light up the world with the Gospel' wherever he went even to Greece and Rome.

In our world today, we must be about 'turning this Light on' in every area of life. Let God's love shine through us so when others see our good works it will bring glory to our Heavenly Father. (Matt 5 14-16). We do this by serving Jesus, obeying the Great Commission and living each day lighting candles around us. There are many folks still groping in darkness, wandering as sheep without a shepherd. But we must let this 'eternal flame' burn on the hillsides of life, in the valleys of grief and pain, in the courtrooms of injustice and the classrooms across the land. They must shine in the dark corners of our personal lives as well. We need to let them burn as brightly as we possibly can these days of spiritual darkness. We must bring hope to this lost and sinful world. Let's turn some lights on in Minden this week!

BILL CRIDER IS CHAPLAIN OF MINDEN MEDICAL CENTER

THE UPWARD LOOK

Put on His Armor

"Put on the full armor of God, so that you will be able to stand firm against the schemes of the devil." Ephesians 6:11 NASB



Max Hutto

The believer is a soldier in the midst of a spiritual battle. He must be fully armed, equipped, and prepared in order to stand firm against evil. Notice that it is not his armor, his own strength, that he is to put on. It is God's armor. It is the armor that God provides which the believer must put on and use to stand firm against the onslaught of the devil

and his forces. The devil is a cunning schemer who is wicked and vile and will use his wiles, his subtle tricks and schemes, in an attempt to destroy a believer.

Lord Jesus, I must face this battle in Your strength and clothed in Your armor. Teach me how to stand firm in righteousness, to hold the faith, and to proclaim Your Word.

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

INSPIRATION

Working for the lord

Have you ever felt like you're just getting by at work? Have you ever made the statement I'm just here to get paid? If you answered yes to either of those questions it may be time to invite God to work. Colossians 3:23-24 NIV says "Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving." We must remember that there is no small job. Every job and every interaction allows us to glorify God. We have to treat every day as a new opportunity to minister to those around us.




Bernard Harris

As I end this article I would like to leave everyone with three points. Firstly, if we have a healthy and prosperous job God provides that job. Secondly, we should try to find something positive every day on the job even when it seems there is nothing positive. And lastly, the position you have is the position God gave you, and should enjoy and appreciate it until God moves you.

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

Come

WORSHIP



FIRST

ASSEMBLY OF GOD

MINDEN

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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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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:

WEBSTER PARISH LIBRARIES DOYLINE BRANCH

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 withdrawn 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 bids will need to pay an annual fee to <http://surety2000.com/>

WEBSTER PARISH LIBRARY

August 14, 2024
August 15, 2024
August 28, 2024
Minden Press Herald

PROCEEDING OF THE VILLAGE OF HEFLIN, STATE OF LOUISIANA, TAKEN IN REGULAR MEETING HELD ON AUGUST 8, 2024.

The Heflin Town Council met at Town Hall, Heflin, Louisiana beginning at 8:07 p.m. with the following members present: Mayor Ralph James council members Hallie DeMoss, Robert Stachowicz, Chief of Police Paul Migue, Water System Operator Jesse Williamson, and Village Clerk Sherry Limosnero. Absent council member Matt Austin.

The meeting was opened with prayer offered by Hallie DeMoss, and Robert Stachowicz led the Pledge of Allegiance. Mayor Ralph James welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Upon motion by Robert Stachowicz and duly seconded by Hallie DeMoss, the council adopted the Minutes from July 2024 at Council Regular Meeting held on August 8, 2024, as presented; the motion was approved unanimously.

Upon motion by Robert Stachowicz and duly seconded by Hallie DeMoss, the council unanimously approved Financial Statements as presented; the motion was duly seconded by Robert Stachowicz. The motion was approved unanimously.

Upon motion by Robert Stachowicz and duly seconded by Hallie DeMoss, the council unanimously approved Water System Reports for July 2024.

Hallie DeMoss moved to accept the July 2024 Police Department Reports as presented; the motion was duly seconded by Robert Stachowicz. The motion was approved unanimously. Robert Stachowicz moved to accept the July 2024 ARP Report as presented; the motion was duly seconded by Hallie DeMoss. The motion was approved unanimously. Hallie DeMoss moved to make a motion to table this discussion of RESOLUTION 2024-001 until the next meeting. "In the meantime, we will get more information so we can better discuss the issue." The motion was duly seconded by Robert Stachowicz. The motion was approved unanimously.

Council comments were heard, public comments were heard. There being no further business to come before this Council, meeting adjourned by Council Member Matt Austin

Attest by: Sherry Limosnero, LCMC, Village Clerk
Respectfully posted: 8/13/2024
Adopted:

August 21, 2024
Minden Press Herald

AT&T Mobility, LLC is proposing to construct a 255-foot overall height self-support lattice telecommunications tower located near 218 Shirley Drive, Minden, Webster Parish, Louisiana (32° 37' 58.2" N, 93° 17' 51.2" W). The proposed tower is anticipated to utilize FAA Style E (medium intensity, dual red/white strobes) lighting.

Further, in accordance with Article XII, Section 10 of the Constitution of Louisiana, and notwithstanding any language herein to the contrary, any mineral rights granted by the Mineral and Energy Board to the tract(s) advertised herein are subject to the surface usage for integrated coastal protection or hurricane and flood protection projects promulgated, funded and effected through the State of Louisiana, the Louisiana Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority, the Louisiana Office of Coastal Protection and Restoration, and the Department of Energy and Natural Resources and its divisions, whether solely or in conjunction with other state, local or federal governmental agencies or with private individuals or entities.

Bids may be for the whole or any particularly described portion of the land advertised, but no bids will be accepted that does not equal the **Minimum Royalty** as set forth in La. R.S. 30:127 or which are not in compliance with the provisions of Sub-part A of Chapter 2, Title 30 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, as amended, other applicable laws or the guidelines established by the Board through the Office of Mineral Resources. The Minimum Royalty is not to be construed as an amount acceptable to the Mineral Board, it being the policy of the Mineral Board to reject any bid which does not reflect tract potential. The Board considers bonus, royalty percentage, and also compares royalty granted to landowners

August 21, 2024
Minden Press Herald

THE September 11, 2024 MINERAL LEASE SALE NOTICE OF PUBLICATION OFFICE OF MINERAL RESOURCES ON BEHALF OF THE STATE MINERAL AND ENERGY BOARD FOR THE STATE OF LOUISIANA BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA 70821

Notice is hereby given in conformity with La. R.S. 30:126 that sealed bids will be received in the Office of Mineral Resources, LaSalle Office Building, Baton Rouge, Louisiana (P. O. Box 2827, Baton Rouge, LA 70821) on or before **12:00 noon on Tuesday, September 10, 2024** for a lease to explore, drill for and produce oil, gas and any other liquid or gaseous minerals in solution and produced with oil or gas on the following described tracts (**Tract Nos. 45840 through 45850, inclusive**). The sealed bids shall be opened publicly on **Wednesday, September 11, 2024** in the LaSalle Office Building, 617 N. 3rd Street, Capitol Complex, Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

The descriptions for the Tract(s) nominated below were, for the purpose of acquiring a mineral lease(s) or a geophysical agreement(s), provided and corrected exclusively by the nominating party. Therefore, any mineral lease(s) or geophysical agreement(s) awarded by the Louisiana State Mineral and Energy Board (Mineral Board) from the Tract(s) listed below are without warranty of any kind, either express, implied or statutory including, but not limited to, title or the implied warranties of merchantability and fitness for a particular purpose.

An error or omission in the nominating party's Tract description may require that a State mineral lease(s) or geophysical agreement(s) be modified, canceled or abrogated due to the existence of conflicting leases, operating agreements, private claims or other future obligations or conditions within the Tract(s) described. In such case, however, the Mineral Board shall not be obligated to refund any consideration paid by the Lessee prior to such modification, cancellation or abrogation including, but not limited to, bonuses, rentals and royalties.

Tract(s) available for leasing may be situated in the Louisiana Coastal Zone as defined in Act 361 of the Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature of 1978 (promulgated as LSA-R. S. 49:213) and may be subject to the guidelines and regulations promulgated by the Office of Coastal Management of the Department of Energy and Natural Resources for operations in the Coastal Zone.

Further, in accordance with Article XII, Section 10 of the Constitution of Louisiana, and notwithstanding any language herein to the contrary, any mineral rights granted by the Mineral and Energy Board to the tract(s) advertised herein are subject to the surface usage for integrated coastal protection or hurricane and flood protection projects promulgated, funded and effected through the State of Louisiana, the Louisiana Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority, the Louisiana Office of Coastal Protection and Restoration, and the Department of Energy and Natural Resources and its divisions, whether solely or in conjunction with other state, local or federal governmental agencies or with private individuals or entities.

Bids may be for the whole or any particularly described portion of the land advertised, but no bids will be accepted that does not equal the **Minimum Royalty** as set forth in La. R.S. 30:127 or which are not in compliance with the provisions of Sub-part A of Chapter 2, Title 30 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, as amended, other applicable laws or the guidelines established by the Board through the Office of Mineral Resources. The Minimum Royalty is not to be construed as an amount acceptable to the Mineral Board, it being the policy of the Mineral Board to reject any bid which does not reflect tract potential. The Board considers bonus, royalty percentage, and also compares royalty granted to landowners

in the area.

Multiple portion bids on the same tract may be accepted by the Mineral Board, even though they overlap. In the case of overlapping portion bids on the same tract, each of which is otherwise acceptable to the State, the Mineral Board has the sole discretion, to determine which one of the multiple bids on the same tract is most advantageous and in the best interest of the State. The Mineral Board may base its decision on factors such as but not limited to the royalty, per acre cash payment, bonus, any additional consideration. The selected bid, (referred to as "Bid A"), will be given priority in having a lease issued. The Mineral Board will also indicate the acceptability of other portion bids on the same tract, if any, in the order of their acceptance (referred to respectively as "Bid B", "Bid C", etc.). Once the plat of "Bid A" 's portion has been rendered as accurately as possible, "Bid B" will be contacted and given an option to take a lease on the remaining portion of his portion bid acreage not overlapping "Bid A" 's bid portion, at "Bid B" 's per acre bid price (both as to bonus and rental); and thereafter, each successive bidder whose bid is otherwise acceptable will be given the option to take a lease on whatever portion remains of his portion bid acreage at his respective per acre bid price, less and except any prior portion bid acreage on which the successful bidder has opted to take a lease.

The Mineral and Energy Board does not obligate itself to accept any bid, and that acceptance is at the sole discretion of the Mineral Board which reserves the right to reject any and all bids or to grant a lease on any portion of the tract advertised and to withdraw the remainder of the tract.

Additional requirements to be included in all sealed bids submitted to the Office of Mineral Resources and additional tract information associated with each tract advertised can be found at the Office of Mineral Resources website titled, "Notice of Publication" located at: <http://www.dnr.louisiana.gov/index.cfm/page/1300>. It is the bidders' responsibility to properly complete the bid package pursuant to the requirements stated in both the public notice and the Notice of Publication.

The rights to geothermal resources, free sulphur, potash, lignite, salt and other solid minerals are to be excluded from any oil or gas mineral lease and any bid purporting to include those rights will be disregarded as to the extent of those rights only.

If you require accommodations due to a disability in order to attend or participate in a meeting, please notify the Office of Mineral Resources at P.O. Box 2827, Baton Rouge, LA 70821-2827 or 225-342-4615 at least two (2) working days before the meeting date.

INLAND TRACTS (Tract Nos. 45840 through 45848 inclusive, herein cannot specify a lease primary term exceeding three (3) years).

TRACT 45840 - Webster Parish, Louisiana All of the lands now or formerly constituting the beds and bottoms of all water bodies of every nature and description as to which title is vested in the State of Louisiana, together with all islands arising therein and other lands formed by accretion or by reliction, where allowed by law, excepting tax adjudicated lands, and not presently under mineral lease on September 11, 2024, situated in Bienville Bossier and Webster Parishes, Louisiana, and more particularly described as follows: Beginning at a point on the East boundary of State Lease No. 19542, as amended having Coordinates of X = 1,725,506.71 and Y = 643,364.02; thence East 5,112.39 feet to a point on the West boundary of State Lease No. 21962 having Coordinates of X = 1,730,619.09 and Y = 643,364.02; thence along the boundaries of said State Lease No. 21962 the following courses: South 01 degrees 21 minutes 41 seconds West 2,773.69 feet to a point having Coordinates of X = 1,730,553.19 and Y = 640,591.11 and South 00 degrees 27 minutes 40 seconds West 5,345.17 feet to its Southwest corner having Coordinates of X = 1,730,510.17 and Y = 635,246.11, also being a point on the North boundary of State Lease No. 21997, as amended; thence along the boundaries of said State Lease No. 21997 the following courses: North 89 degrees 03 minutes 22 seconds West approximately 5,334 feet to a point and South 00 degrees 21 minutes 11 seconds West approximately 5,423 feet to its Southwest corner and a point on the North boundary of State Lease No. 21979 having Coordinates of X = 1,725,143.18 and Y = 629,910.84; thence

Coordinates of X = 1,741,228.60 and Y = 656,500.90; thence South 00 degrees 23 minutes 24 seconds West 10,825.78 feet to a point being the Northeast corner of State Lease No. 21901, having Coordinates of X = 1,741,154.94 and Y = 645,675.37; thence North 89 degrees 01 minutes 55 seconds West 5,441.86 feet along the North line of State Lease No. 21901, to a point being the Northwest corner of State Lease No. 21962, having Coordinates of X = 1,735,713.86 feet and Y = 645,767.31; thence North 88 degrees 14 minutes 59 seconds West 5,036.34 feet along the North line of State Lease No. 21962 to a point being the Northwest corner of State Lease No. 21962, having Coordinates of X = 1,730,679.86 and Y = 645,921.14; thence North 89 degrees 26 minutes 53 seconds West 5,161.97 feet to the point of beginning, (This tract includes only waterbottoms claimed and owned by the state and specifically excludes any land which the state may claim or own and to which the mineral rights are vested in the state), containing approximately **1,251 acres**.

NOTE: Bidders are hereby advised that certain areas in Lake Bistineau are the subject of dual claims to mineral ownership or mineral rights to certain accreted lands by the federal government and, therefore, title to such accreted lands is in dispute. Any bids accepted by the state mineral board which result in a state mineral lease being given places the successful bidder on notice that the State's title to that acreage, whether the whole or a part of the lease awarded, may be challenged. Accordingly, all leases awarded by the state mineral board are without warranty of any kind, either express, implied, or statutory, including, but not limited to merchantability and fitness for a particular purpose. Should the awarded lease be subsequently modified, cancelled, or abrogated in any way as a result of the above mentioned or any other challenge, or conflicting private claims which affect or may affect all or any portion of the leased tract, the successful bidder/Lessee, their successors, or assigns shall not be relieved of the obligation to pay any monies due prior to the modification, cancellation, or abrogation, including, but not limited to, bonus, rental and royalty, nor shall the State be obligated to refund those monies paid.

TRACT 45841 - Bienville Bossier and Webster Parishes, Louisiana All of the lands now or formerly constituting the beds and bottoms of all water bodies of every nature and description as to which title is vested in the State of Louisiana, together with all islands arising therein and other lands formed by accretion or by reliction, where allowed by law, excepting tax adjudicated lands, and not presently under mineral lease on September 11, 2024, situated in Bienville Bossier and Webster Parishes, Louisiana, and more particularly described as follows: Beginning at a point on the East boundary of State Lease No. 19542, as amended having Coordinates of X = 1,725,506.71 and Y = 643,364.02; thence East 5,112.39 feet to a point on the West boundary of State Lease No. 21962 having Coordinates of X = 1,730,619.09 and Y = 643,364.02; thence along the boundaries of said State Lease No. 21962 the following courses: South 01 degrees 21 minutes 41 seconds West 2,773.69 feet to a point having Coordinates of X = 1,730,553.19 and Y = 640,591.11 and South 00 degrees 27 minutes 40 seconds West 5,345.17 feet to its Southwest corner having Coordinates of X = 1,730,510.17 and Y = 635,246.11, also being a point on the North boundary of State Lease No. 21997, as amended; thence along the boundaries of said State Lease No. 21997 the following courses: North 89 degrees 03 minutes 22 seconds West approximately 5,334 feet to a point and South 00 degrees 21 minutes 11 seconds West approximately 5,423 feet to its Southwest corner and a point on the North boundary of State Lease No. 21979 having Coordinates of X = 1,725,143.18 and Y = 629,910.84; thence

North 89 degrees 44 minutes 58 seconds West 5,361.79 feet along the North boundary of said State Lease No. 21979 to the Southeast corner of State Lease No. 18181 having Coordinates of X = 1,719,781.27 and Y = 629,934.28; thence along boundaries of said State Lease No. 18181 the following courses: North 06 degrees 47 minutes 36 seconds East 3,403.33 feet to a point having Coordinates of X = 1,720,183.85 and Y = 633,313.72, North 00 degrees 17 minutes 43 seconds East 2,092.48 feet to a point having Coordinates of X = 1,720,194.63 and Y = 635,406.17 and North 89 degrees 27 minutes 06 seconds West 1,590.68 feet to a point of intersection with the South boundary of State Lease No. 16531 having Coordinates of X = 1,718,604.02 and Y = 635,421.39; thence along the South and East boundaries of said State Lease No. 16531 the following courses: South 89 degrees 41 minutes 11 seconds East 1,508.58 feet to a point having Coordinates of X = 1,720,112.58 and Y = 635,413.13, South 89 degrees 41 minutes 11 seconds East 387.43 feet to a point having Coordinates of X = 1,720,500.00 and Y = 635,411.01, North 4,588.99 feet to a point having Coordinates of X = 1,720,500.00 and Y = 640,000.00 and North 00 degrees 01 seconds East 687.54 feet to the South boundary of said State Lease No. 19542 having Coordinates of X = 1,720,500.00 and Y = 640,687.54; thence along the South and East boundaries of said State Lease No. 19542 the following courses: North 89 degrees 57 minutes 41 seconds East 4,994.99 feet to a point having Coordinates of X = 1,725,494.99 and Y = 640,690.91 and North 00 degrees 15 minutes 04 seconds East 2,673.14 feet to the point of beginning, (This tract includes only waterbottoms claimed and owned by the state and specifically excludes any land which the state may claim or own and to which the mineral rights are vested in the state), containing approximately **372 acres**.

NOTE: This tract encompasses an area beneath which is located on the Bistineau Gas Storage Pool in the Silgo formation of the Pellet Porosity. Accordingly, any mineral related activity, including, but not limited to, the exploration and drilling for, and the production and storage of oil, gas and other liquid or gaseous minerals, conducted under a valid mineral lease which may be obtained from the State, shall be subject to any state-wide orders issued by the Louisiana Office of Conservation pertinent to conducting such operations in this area and upon this tract, including particularly, but not limited to, the following: Order Nos. 287, 287-A, 287-A-1, 287-B, Supplement to 287-B, 287-B-1, 287-B-2, 287-B-3, and 287-B-4. The successful bidder on this tract shall contact the operator of the Bistineau Gas Storage Pool and the Office of Conservation prior to initiating and conducting any of the aforementioned activity hereon.

NOTE: Bidders are hereby advised that certain areas in Lake Bistineau are the subject of dual claims to mineral ownership or mineral rights to certain accreted lands by the federal government and, therefore, title to such accreted lands is in dispute. Any bids accepted by the state mineral board which result in a state mineral lease being given places the successful bidder on notice that the State's title to that acreage, whether the whole or a part of the lease awarded, may be challenged. Accordingly, all leases awarded by the state mineral board are without warranty of any kind, either express, implied, or statutory, including, but not limited to merchantability and fitness for a particular purpose. Should the awarded lease be subsequently modified, cancelled, or abrogated in any way as a result of the above mentioned or any other challenge, or conflicting private claims which affect or may affect all or any portion of the leased tract, the successful bidder/Lessee, their successors, or assigns shall not be relieved of the obligation to pay any monies due prior to the modification, cancellation, or abrogation, including, but not limited to, bonus, rental and royalty, nor shall the State be obligated to refund those monies paid.

STATE AGENCY

TRACTS (Tract Nos. 45849 through 45850 inclusive, herein cannot specify a lease primary term exceeding three (3) years).

TRACT 45849 - Webster Parish, Louisiana A certain Tract of land, excluding the beds and bottoms of all navigable waters, belonging to and not presently under mineral lease from Department Of Culture, Recreation & Tourism-Office Of State Parks on September 11, 2024, being more fully described as follows: Beginning at a point having Coordinates of X = 1,725,465.00 and Y = 645,326.77; thence North 6,793.18 feet to a point having Coordinates of X = 1,725,465.00 and Y = 652,119.95; thence East 7,060.00 feet to a point having Coordinates of X = 1,732,525.00 and Y = 652,119.95; thence South 4,654.70 feet to a point having Coordinates of X = 1,732,525.00 and Y = 647,465.26; thence South 47 degrees 53 minutes 47 seconds West 3,189.51 feet to a point having Coordinates of X = 1,730,158.60 and Y = 645,326.77; thence West 4,693.60 feet back to the point of beginning, containing approximately **511 acres**. The description is based on information provided by the State Agency regarding location and ownership of surface and mineral rights.

NOTE: The Lessee shall not enter nor conduct any activity on the property without prior written consent of the Lessor.

August 21, 2024
Minden Press Herald

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LIVE EACH DAY LIKE THE HIBISCUS

HEATHER KIRK-BALLARD
LSU AgCenter Horticulturist

With several hundred types of hibiscus, one could write a book on this plant alone – and many have done so. The name hibiscus gets its origins from the ancient Greek word “hibiskos,” which means marsh mallow or white mallow. Greek physician Dioscorides, who served in the Roman army, is credited with giving the plant this name.

Dioscorides also was a botanist and pharmacologist, as many ancient experts wore several hats in those days. Before the wide use of chemically synthesized pharmaceuticals, physicians had to utilize natural compounds mainly derived from plants. It was not until the early 1900s that we saw a shift away from medicinal plants to pharmaceutical drugs across the world.

Dioscorides wrote a five-volume Greek encyclopedia on herbal medicine titled “De materia medica,” which was read and followed for more than 1,000 years. So, as you can imagine, hibiscus has been used for medicinal reasons since the beginning of recorded history. Teas are made from hibiscus flower and can be found as a flavoring in common beverages.

Hibiscus is, of course, a member of the mallow family, which is made up of many species native to temperate, subtropical and tropical regions throughout the world, including North America. Some species are tropical and act as annuals in our climate while others are hardy and grow as herbaceous perennials. Many types grow as woody shrubs and, sometimes, small trees.

One interesting fact on the Malvaceae, or mallow, family is that both cacao and cotton are members. These two plants are two of the most economically important crops globally. I personally could not do life without them. Okra also is a member. While okra may be of lesser economic importance, many of us in Louisiana use it as a key ingredient in one of our favorite dishes: gumbo (which, by the way, is a West African word meaning okra).

The mallows I really want to discuss are the beautiful flowering types, such as the hardy hibiscus or swamp rose mallow, tropical hibiscus, Turk’s cap and althea, also known as rose of Sharon. Tropical hibiscus is also called Chinese hibiscus. It’s native to tropical Asia and grows well in hardiness zones 9 to 11. Growing to an average height of 6 feet and width of 4 feet, it is widely used as a tropical blooming shrub in landscapes of the South.

As the name suggests, tropical hibiscus are not fully hardy unless in zone 10 to 11. They can be used as patio plantings and protected each winter. In the landscape, it will need to be protected in zones 8 to 9. What’s so great about this shrub is its



Allen Owings/LSU AgCenter file photo
Aphrodite althea is a Louisiana Super Plant and a member of the hibiscus family.



Heather Kirk-Ballard/LSU AgCenter
Turk’s cap is native to North America and comes in colors of red and light pink.



Heather Kirk-Ballard/LSU AgCenter
Hibiscus Luna Pink Swirl is a Louisiana Super Plant and member of the mallow family.

glossy, deep green foliage and, of course, its large, showy, funnel-shaped flowers that come in single and double forms in every color combination you can imagine. So much breeding has gone into hibiscus, you might spend a lifetime trying to collect every type. Unfortunately, blooms only last one to two days at most. Some breeding and specialty hybrids can have longer-lasting blooms.

Next is the hardy hibiscus, sometimes called swamp rose mallow, that is native to wetlands of Louisiana. There are many types of hardy hibiscus. This refers to it being winter hardy and being a warm-season deciduous perennial that returns each spring. Growing best in well-drained but moist soils, these grow upwards of 3 to 4 feet and 2 to 3 feet wide. They prefer full sun for the best flower production.

Luna series hibiscus is a cultivated hardy hibiscus that is a Louisiana Super Plant. It comes in shades of pink, white, red, rose and a pink-and-white swirl. Flowers are often referred to as “dinner plates” because they are large and flat. They make an excellent cut flower, even if for just one day.

Althea, or rose of Sharon, is another great member of the mallow family. Sometimes spelled as althea, this plant is a deciduous shrub growing to an average of 8 feet by 4 feet wide. It is native to Europe but is widely distributed in the South, being an heirloom to many gardens. Aphrodite althea is also a Louisiana Super Plant selection. It has light pink, ruffled petals with a dark red eye center. Flowering begins in early summer and continues throughout the fall. It makes a great accent plant for the landscape. Growing upwards of 10 feet, these can be used in the landscape like a small tree. Prune in late winter to encourage more blooms that form on new wood.

Lastly, there is Turk’s cap, another member of the mallow family and another North American native that is widely grown in the southern United States. It is herbaceous perennial with semi-woody stems. Most common varieties produce striking red, twisted flowers that never fully unfurl. Light pink varieties can also be found. Hummingbirds and butterflies love this plant, which produces red fruit in the fall. It is an excellent addition to pollinator gardens.

Hibiscus species are great additions to the landscape and for growing in containers. They produce gorgeous flowers loved by humans and wildlife alike. We can admire and learn lessons from the hibiscus. There is a saying from an anonymous author: “Live each day of your life just like a hibiscus lives its day.” And might I add to that – bloom as if it were your last.



HEATHER KIRK-BALLARD

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