

WEBSTER & MORE

OBITUARIES



Dustin Dean Cook

May 25, 1970 – February 20, 2025

Dustin Dean Cook was born on May 25, 1970, in Minden, Louisiana, to his surviving parents, Ellis Edward “Cookie” Cook and Jo-Ann Lanouette Cook. He grew up in Minden, graduating from Minden High School before continuing his education at Blue Cliff Massage Therapy School and the Bossier Police Academy. He served on the Minden Police Department and also trained at Fort Leonard Wood Army Training Center, where he became a certified heavy equipment operator. However, he was best known for his years as the right-hand man at Cook’s Plumbing, working alongside his father and his best buddy, Robert Koontz, providing service to Minden customers throughout the years.

Dustin’s greatest joy in life was his children—Braden Cook (Ariana), Charlene Cook, Deede Johnson, and Robert Acosta (Savannah)—and his beloved granddaughter, Daisy. He was deeply proud of each of them and cherished his role in shaping their lives. Braden’s mother, Beth Culbertson, also shared in raising Braden, and Dustin remained close to his children throughout his life. They, in turn, treasured him for his unwavering love, kindness, and infectious laughter.

A passionate competitor, Dustin found joy in the NWLA Pool Players League, where he shared his love for the game with Sharon and the children, playing and competing together.

Dustin is also survived by his sisters, Cheri McDonald (Tim) and Melissa Morgan (Jack), as well as his nieces, nephews, his fellow pool league members, and many other family members and friends who will miss him dearly.

He is preceded in death by his grandparents, Roland Lanouette, June and Richard Smith, Elaine Hammon-tree Cook Krouse, and Howard Cook.

Through his hard-fought battle with congenital liver disease, Dustin was blessed with the love and support of his wife, Sharon Cook, who stood faithfully by his side. The family would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to the compassionate teams at Overton Brooks VA, DeBakey Houston VA, New Orleans VA, and the Tulane Transplant Institute for their care and support. In his final act of generosity, Dustin chose to donate his body to science, ensuring that his legacy continues to help others.

Dustin will be remembered for his big heart, strong work ethic, and the deep love he had for his family and friends. His presence will be deeply missed, but his spirit will live on through the laughter, respect, and love he shared with those around him.

A memorial service will be held at a later date in June 2025.

MISS MINDEN 2025

Miss Minden 2025 Nilah Pollard inspires community with ‘Share A S.M.I.L.E.’ initiative

AMBER MCDOWN
Minden Press-Herald

Nilah Lear Pollard, a junior social work major at Northwestern State University, was crowned Miss Minden 2025 on January 18. Originally from Jackson, Mississippi, Pollard has spent most of her life in Shreveport and now resides in Benton, Louisiana. With aspirations beyond pageantry, she plans to graduate next year, pursue a master’s degree at Jackson State University, and begin a career as a high school social work counselor.

Pollard’s journey to the Miss Minden crown began with a phone call from her former director, Mr. Baker, who encouraged her to compete. After witnessing the work of her predecessor, she was inspired to represent Minden, a city known for its rich history and vibrant culture.

“I’m grateful for that call because it gave me the opportunity to connect with this wonderful community and strive to leave a meaningful impact,” Pollard said.

Pollard credits her aunt, Monica, as her greatest inspiration. A former pageant queen herself, holding titles such as Miss Hospitality and Miss Jackson State University in 2003, Monica has instilled in

Pollard the importance of dedication, positivity, and community service.

“She has taught me to give 110% to whatever I do, maintain a positive attitude, and use my God-given gifts to serve my community,” Pollard shared.

One of Pollard’s most memorable moments as Miss Minden so far was seeing her grandmother’s excitement about her feature in the Minden Press-Herald.

“She eagerly awaited the newspaper’s arrival and even considered driving to Minden to get a copy when it was delayed. Hearing her excitement reminded me how much this opportunity means to my family and the strong support they provide,” she said.

Pollard’s community initiative, Share A S.M.I.L.E., is an acronym for Sacrifice, Mission, Inclusion, Love, and Encouragement. The idea was born out of prayer and a desire to bring positivity to those in need.

“Recognizing the struggles many people face, I wanted to use my gifts to make a positive impact,” Pollard said. “Through this reflection, I developed Share A S.M.I.L.E., which allows me to bring positive change to my community and beyond.”

To promote her initiative, Pollard has launched

“Encouragement of the Week” messages on Instagram Reels, where she shares uplifting content and challenges viewers to spread kindness.

“The positive feedback has been overwhelming, with many people reposting the videos to spread the message. I’m excited to continue growing this platform and inspiring others!” she said.

Pollard believes that every person has unique gifts that can be used to serve the community.

“I want to encourage individuals to serve with the gifts they have been given. Every person is passionate about something, and that passion can be used to uplift the broken and build the community. In every act of kindness, I encourage people to smile, knowing it may inspire others to do the same,” she explained.

Pollard has experienced firsthand how a simple smile can transform a situation. During her first Miss Louisiana competition, she felt nervous about the different phases of the event. However, moments of laughter shared with fellow contestants helped ease her anxiety.

“Our photographer, Steven Palowsky, played a key role by creating joyful moments—every time



he took out his camera, smiles naturally followed,” she recalled. “Those moments helped me relax and contributed to a wonderful experience.”

For those looking to support her mission, Pollard encourages individuals to start with what they are passionate about.

“Find what you are passionate about and start there with serving the community. Not every person you come in contact with will share their struggles with you, but if you choose to treat everyone with kindness and serve with a smile, you can be sure that someone will reap the benefit and be encouraged to share their smile, too,” she said.

As Pollard prepares for the Miss Louisiana competition, she remains committed to making a difference in Minden and beyond, one smile at a time.

POWER

Continued from Page 1

to lighten the load on our monthly budgets and give our businesses a real shot at thriving. When July and August roll around, and those first adjusted bills land in our mailboxes, we’ll see the change for ourselves. This is a mo-

ment we’ve long awaited, a step we’ve championed because it matters to all of us.

This isn’t just about saving money. It’s about reshaping Minden’s future. Lower electricity costs will make our city more welcoming to families

looking to put down roots and entrepreneurs ready to invest. Together, we’re sharpening our edge, ensuring Minden is known not for its struggles but for its resilience and determination. Picture a city where the lights burn bright without draining

our wallets, where businesses flourish free from crushing overhead, and where our neighbors no longer look elsewhere for a better deal. That’s the Minden we’re building as a team.

As June approaches, we’ll keep everyone in the

loop every step of the way. This victory belongs to all of us, and we want everyone to feel part of it. As a community, neighbors, leaders, and friends who have all felt the weight of these rates, we’re dedicated to seeing this through.

Minden, this is our mo-

ment to claim the fairness we deserve, and to build a brighter, more affordable tomorrow. Let’s stay tuned for updates as we approach the switch to LEPA. Relief is coming, and we’re excited for what lies ahead as we continue moving forward, together!

DC

Continued from Page 1

Robertson Lift Station Replacement Project – A \$1.15 million initiative to replace an aging lift station, ensuring reliable wastewater management.

Water Quality Cleanup and Resilience Project – Louisiana Tech University and Sparta Foundation Inc. are leading a \$16.6 million project to combat environmental contamination affecting the Sparta Aquifer, a crucial water source for Northern Louisiana.

The team traveled to D.C. as part of Louisiana takeover week. “Because it was Louisiana takeover week, there were little breakout groups all over the Hilton Hotel, where suites would be rented and people from different Louisiana cities and regions,” said Cox. He stressed the importance of these networking op-

portunities, stating, “We met with a lot of people. I’m just telling you that a lot of people maybe wouldn’t get the value of it, but there’s no price tag you can put on networking. That’s how the cookie crumbles. That’s how the eggs are scrambled.”

Something else Cox emphasized was the significance of Speaker Mike Johnson’s familiarity with Minden. “When in our history as a city has the Speaker of the House known the mayor’s name?” Cox remarked “The number three and the free world knows the City of Minden and knows a good bit of the people too. What an opportunity. If there’s ever been a time that Minden needs to find its way in DC, it’s now.”

Mayor Cox’s trip to Washington D.C. was not just about meetings and presentations; it was also about making meaningful connections. Dur-

ing a meeting with the Economic Development Administration, Cox was surprised to discover a unique link to Minden. “My name is Angela Ewell Madison, and my grandfather was John Ewell. Ewell Park was named after my grandfather. I spent every summer growing up at my grandparent’s house in Minden,” Cox recalled her saying. “That was a pretty neat experience.”

Reflecting on the value of the connections made, Cox shared, “I was in the airplane flying over all these cities and towns on the way home and it got me thinking. All these towns and cities and these federal agencies took time for Minden and made us feel like we were important, cared about our needs, and helped us make connections. It’s humbling.”

Mayor Cox also learned valuable insights about navigating the complex

federal funding landscape. “So the way it works up there is like you may meet with 12 federal departments. All 12 of them have funding, and all 12 of them might want to fund your project or they might not,” Cox explained. He emphasized the importance of persistence and strategic planning, saying, “You can pitch the same projects to 12 different agencies and there are layers under those agencies. There are like 490 federal departments right now. There’s a ton of them. So you identify what projects you have and try to find a federal agency that could help you.”

One key takeaway was the concept of the “capital stack,” which involves securing partial funding from one agency before approaching others to complete the financial package. “Probably the best thing that I learned, the whole trip as far as

from a very practical standpoint, was a term that I had never really thought about. They really like it when you get like half of your project funded by one agency, and then you go to the other agency and layer your project. They call it the capital stack,” said Cox.

Mayor Cox understands that success in Washington D.C. is not instant but rather the result of patience and persistence. “In this situation, you plant seeds, you let them sit there and germinate, then you get some sprouts, then you might get a plant. Then if it’s good and it really grows, you might get a fruit. That’s kind of how this is. It’s not like we went down there and brought back pocketfuls of cash. It takes a long time for these things to materialize, but we planted the seeds and we’re going to try and get these trees to grow,” said Cox.

Reflecting on the overall impact of the visit, Cox concluded, “I can tell you, from Baton Rouge to Washington, DC, people are more and more knowing that Minden Louisiana exists. That’s half the battle. I can guarantee you who doesn’t get anything, the ones that never show up.”

Mayor Cox’s proactive approach and strategic networking efforts have laid a solid foundation for Minden’s growth and development. His visit to Washington D.C. has not only put Minden on the map but also opened doors to potential funding opportunities and strengthened the city’s connections with key federal agencies and lawmakers. As the city moves forward with its ambitious infrastructure projects, Mayor Cox remains optimistic about Minden’s future and its place on the national stage.

DEPENDABLE CAREGIVER SEEKING WORK.

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

Leave message if no answer.



Customer Service Representative / Contract Packaging Services Coordinator

Aeropres is an innovative national manufacturer of environmentally friendly aerosol propellants. We operate gas plants in California, New Jersey, Illinois, & Louisiana. We are currently seeking a Customer Service Representative / Contract Packaging Services Coord. to join our Team located in Sibley, Louisiana. As a valued Team Member at Aeropres you will receive competitive pay and a comprehensive benefits package including 401(k) with company contributions and matching.

Key responsibilities of this position include direct contact with the purchasing personnel of our customers. This will require the ability to answer specific questions or forward the customer to the appropriate personnel to address the request. Coordinate all freight shipments in and out of the Sibley plant, and the daily activities of the special contract packaging services. Month end plant inventory and fuel/fuel tax preparation are important requirements of this position. The ideal candidate will be proficient with Excel based files and maintenance of data records. Provides business support which includes preparing reports, processing and tracking orders, data input, record filing, reporting, and responding to inquiries. Coordinates and prioritizes daily tasks, is expected to make some non-routine decisions requiring good judgment and interpretation.

The qualified candidate will possess a high school diploma or equivalent and have at least two years of experience in customer service. This position requires proficiency in Microsoft Office, attention to detail, effective communication skills and collaborative interaction with customers and co-workers. With on-site training the ideal candidate will be able to perform simple mathematical calculations to compute product loads, fuel reports and other statistical reports as needed. SAP software experience is preferred. Must have the ability to work well within a team and build relationships both internally and externally. Have the self-awareness to use actions that indicate consideration of others and be aware of your impact on others.

Candidates must be able to pass background check, physical, alcohol and drug tests and all pre employment requirements.

Qualified applicants should submit resume to:
Aeropres Corporation, 1324 N. Hearne Avenue, Suite 200, Shreveport, LA 71107 – Attn: Human Resources or email HRDept@aeropres.com

We are an equal opportunity employer. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, disability, or veteran status. Aeropres is dedicated to a culturally diverse, drug-free workplace.

OPINION

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

RANDY BROWN
Executive Vice President
& Publisher

JOSHUA SPECHT
Editor

AMANDA ANDERS
Accounting/
Circulation Manager

AMBER MCDOWN
Reporter

WILL PHILLIPS
Reporter

RUSSELL HEDGES
Sports Editor

NATHAN MILLS
Advertising Manager

CURTIS MAYS
Advertising Executive

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

Telephone: (318) 377-1866.

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

Subscription rate: \$40 per year.

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

THE MINDEN
PRESS-HERALD
WELCOMES
LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

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

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

OPINION

VP Vance’s Historic ‘Iron Curtain’ Speech
Will Be Remembered

Echoing Winston Churchill’s ‘Iron Curtain’ speech that ushered in the Cold War and framed the geo-political landscape, Vice President J.D. Vance just delivered a speech in Munich, Germany that I believe will be viewed as historic.

In the speech, VP Vance robustly reinforced to that group of snobby, Leftist elites what many of us simply consider to be core national values. Specifically, Vance issued a clarion call to world leaders to end both mass illegal migration as well as the brutal political censorship that suppresses reporting on this issue and many other crucial public policy issues, which has created an ‘Iron Curtain’ barring free speech throughout Europe.

He stated, ‘if you’re running in fear of your own voters, there is nothing America can do for you.’ Wow, I thought. He is making the argument for America First to all the “free” nations of the world. It reminded me of President Reagan demanding that Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev “tear down this wall.” It again reminded me of Winston Churchill during World War II exhorting the British people to stand firm against tyranny and the Nazi menace and to ‘never surrender.’

Unconcerned with gentle diplomacy VP Vance emphasized that suppression of, and attacks on, free speech are the biggest

security threats of all. He singled out examples of censorship that included raids and arrests for so-called “hate speech” as well as broad social media restrictions generally. (Recall Elon Musk being threatened with a criminal indictment for “hate speech” simply because he allowed an address by President Trump to be viewed worldwide on his X platform).



ROYAL
ALEXANDER

that don’t support traditional democratic values. He described how national leaders are usually focused on “external threats” to the security of their countries. However, Vance contended, the greatest threat is not Russia or China but “the threat from within” represented by the abandonment of fundamental European values which are “values shared with the United States of America.”

He also conceded America’s faults saying “... I will admit that sometimes the loudest voices for censorship have come, not from within Europe, but from within my own country,”

targeting the censorship that took place during the Biden Administration when officials “threatened and bullied social media companies to censor so-called misinformation” including denials that COVID-19 came from a laboratory in Wuhan, China.

Vance also underscored the sea change that has occurred with the 2024 election. “Just as the Biden Administration seemed desperate to silence people from speaking their minds, so the Trump administration will do precisely the opposite.”

Again, Wow. That is leadership!

Vance highlighted examples of political censorship “where EU-commissioned commissars warned citizens that they intend to shut down social media during times of civil unrest the moment they spot what they judge as quote, ‘hateful content.’”

He directly called out Germany, stating German police forces raided the homes of citizens suspected of posting anti-feminist comments. These raids were justified, Vance stated, under the claim they were “combatting misogyny on the internet.”

Regarding Sweden, Vance described a conviction involving a Christian activist who participated in “Quran burnings that resulted in his friend’s murder.” Vance then read the judge’s ruling which stated, “Sweden’s laws to supposedly protect

free expression, do not in fact grant a free pass to do or say anything without risking offending the group that holds that belief.” If that’s so then Sweden doesn’t actually protect freedom of speech.

Vance recalled an event from two years prior where an individual was arrested for silently praying outside of an abortion clinic. “After British police spotted him and demanded to know what he was praying for ... he replied simply that it was on the behalf of his unborn son he and his former girlfriend had aborted years before.” He was fined over 9,000 pounds, the BBC reported in 2024.

Vance asserted that “you cannot win a democratic mandate by censoring your opponents or putting them in jail, whether that’s the leader of the opposition, a humble Christian praying in her own home, or a journalist trying to report the news.”

In retrospect, I’m not even sure VP Vance’s intended audience was the often weak and risk-averse world leaders in that conference room. I think it was the people of Europe he was speaking to and what a message of hope it is for them.

SHREVEPORT ATTORNEY, ROYAL ALEXANDER, WORKED IN D.C. IN THE U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FOR NEARLY 8 YEARS FOR TWO DIFFERENT MEMBERS OF CONGRESS FROM LOUISIANA.

INSPIRATION

Oh, to See Ourselves as Others Do

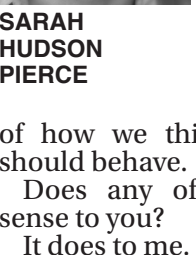
The poet Robert Burns said “Oh the gift that God could give us, to see ourselves as others see us” which leads me to ask would we really want to know how others see us which may be up for further discussion” because there will always be people who pick on each other.

But for now I would like to ask what happens when we major in the minors, by that I mean when we pick on our spouses, our parents, our children or our friends for what we perceive as faults -- when we cannot back off and leave well enough alone --- when we keep on nit-picking at someone maybe we need to ask ourselves if this is what is really bugging us or is there a deep seated problem that we cannot articulate?

I am thoroughly convinced that there are many of us who could benefit from some deep soul searching or counseling to help us arrive at a mutually satisfying solution to problems that plague us, that keep us awake day and night, when we cannot let go -- and just laugh at our

own pettiness.

Though not a psychologist I think that many of our personal problems arrive from a lack of self-worth, of wanting to be in control, from not feeling pretty enough or deeply loved by our friends and family -- of our spouses, so we criticize each other, trying to make them fit our mold



SARAH
HUDSON
PIERCE

of how we think people should behave.

Does any of this make sense to you?
It does to me.

It is really hard to get to the root of our problems -- to learn to control our tongues, our actions and just learn to love each other unconditionally.

There’s one thing I know for sure -- no one likes to be belittled or made to believe

that “it’s our way or the highway!”

I also believe that many of the crises that occur in churches, in work-places and in government often arise from problems within the home -- between husbands and wives, when we can’t gain control in our homes we may try to control others who we feel we can get away with our destructive behavior.

We find it hard to see our problems for what they are .

We want to cast blame on someone else instead of letting well enough alone.

No one wants to be bossed around.

It doesn’t set well with any of us. especially between husbands and wives.

We each deserve to do our own thing unless we infringe on someone’s rights.

Maybe this is where many of these issues arise -- from someone feeling like that they are not being consulted in major decisions -- and of course most of these decisions seem to most always seem to come back to money.

Though only an arm chair psychologist I find myself sometimes caught in the middle and just want to give a friend or loved one the idea that maybe counseling might be in order because it is most often hard to see the real root of our problems.

Harmony is so much more important than conflict.

I hope something I’ve said helps someone who reads my insights.

It’s so much better to take care of those we have in our relationships than to cast care to the wind and not show understanding to those we cherish most.

It is like a good friend one time wrote “if you criticize your friends you will find yourself all alone.”

That’s some of the best advice I’ve heard.

Maybe we just need to ask God for wisdom.

We mostly want to just be loved unconditionally!

CONTACT SARAH AT SARAH@AOL.COM

203 GLEASON STREET

Proud Moments for Minden: Celebrating Community Excellence

This week, two significant moments in Minden remind us of what makes our community truly special. These moments are a testament to the incredible people, businesses, and organizations that continue to drive Minden forward, and it’s an honor to witness them firsthand.

The first proud moment comes with the publishing of Profile 2025, featured in this edition of the Minden Press-Herald. This annual special edition takes a deep dive into the accomplishments, growth, and milestones of our community, showcasing the stories of Minden that often go unrecognized. It highlights the heart and soul of our town—the individuals and organizations who make Minden a place of pride.

I’m incredibly proud of our team for putting together an edition that captures the essence of Minden’s journey. As our editor, Joshua Specht, pointed out, our commitment to being a reliable news source for Webster Parish

extends beyond just print. With Profile 2025, we’ve ensured that our community’s achievements are available to readers both in print and online, making sure everyone can access and celebrate the people and stories that shape Minden.



DAVID
SPECHT

The stories inside Profile 2025 will resonate with everyone who calls Minden home. From local business owners to community leaders, this edition underscores our shared values and collective spirit. We invite you to dive into these pages, reflect on how far we’ve come, and take pride in the accomplishments we’ve made together.

The second proud moment

arrives just around the corner—on Thursday, February 27, 2025—when the Greater Minden Chamber of Commerce hosts its 83rd Annual Awards Gala at the Minden Civic Center. This year’s theme, Let the Good Times Roll, celebrates the businesses, organizations, and individuals who are making an impact on our community. It’s an evening to honor those who go above and beyond to help our area thrive.

The evening promises to be filled with excitement and anticipation as we await the announcement of winners in categories such as Business of the Year, Small Business of the Year, and Community Partner of the Year. The finalists for Business Person of the Year also represent the caliber of leaders who help shape our economy and community.

Business of the Year: Clement Industries, Inc., Harper Chevrolet GMC, and Interstate Building Materials.

Small Business of the Year: Brick Street Coffee, Minden Ath-

letic Supply, and Minden Family Pharmacy.

Community Partner of the Year: Living Word Minden, Pearls of Purpose, and Webster Parish Council on Aging.

Business Person of the Year: Kathryn Cropper, Mandi Hart, and Sara McDaniel.

These finalists represent the best of Minden—a community that thrives through hard work, dedication, and innovation. Their efforts are not only transforming local business landscapes but also ensuring that Minden continues to grow and prosper. I encourage everyone to be part of this exciting event and to support these outstanding individuals and businesses.

As we celebrate these two moments—one reflecting on our past and the other looking ahead to future successes—let’s not forget the power of relationships and community. Minden’s strength lies in its people, its businesses, and its unbreakable sense of unity. We are all in this

together, and each of us plays a vital role in shaping the future.

Let’s continue to support and uplift each other as we enter the next chapter of our community’s story. Whether it’s celebrating a successful year or honoring the leaders who are making a difference, these moments help us realize that Minden is a community worth investing in—one that continues to grow, innovate, and lead by example.

As we celebrate these milestones, let’s keep the momentum going. Thank you to everyone who contributes to the success of Minden, whether it’s through your business, volunteer work, or simply being a part of this vibrant community. We look forward to seeing even more success in 2025, and beyond. Let’s continue to let the good times roll!

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

SPORTS

Russell Hedges, Sports Editor
rhedges@spechtnewspapers.com

HIGH SCHOOL BOYS BASKETBALL

Playoffs next for
Crimson Tide, Panthers

RUSSELL HEDGES
Minden Press-Herald

The Minden Crimson Tide closed the regular season last week a 60-46 victory over the Benton Tigers at Benton.

According to Geaux-Preps.com, Minden (21-3) is No. 2 in the non-select Division II power rankings. The regular season officially ended last Saturday.

The top four teams in the final official rankings receive byes in the first round of the playoffs.

Pairings were scheduled to be announced Tuesday with most first-round games played Friday.

Minden will host a second-round game next week. The day wasn't set at press time but it will likely be Tuesday.

At Benton, Cameron Parker led the Tide with 22 points. Darnell Morris added 12 and Carmelo Smith 11.

Minden trailed 23-18 after the first quarter. Both teams cooled off in the second, but the Tide went into halftime with a 29-28 lead.

Minden began to pull away in the third quarter, outscoring the Tigers 19-10. Morris and Parker scored seven points each.

Maddox Martinez led Benton (9-17) with 16 points.

Doyline is the only other Webster Parish team that



DOUGLAS BLOW/SPECIAL TO THE PRESS-HERALD
Christian Lofton and the Minden Crimson Tide are getting ready for the playoffs.

will make the playoffs.

The Panthers (22-8) are No. 12 in the Class B power rankings and will host a

first-round game.

Doyline closed the regular season with a 100-87 loss to Georgetown last

week.

North Webster closed its season with a 54-41 loss to Southwood last week.

HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS BASKETBALL

Minden, North Webster pull
upsets in first round of playoffs

RUSSELL HEDGES
Minden Press-Herald

The Minden Lady Tiders and North Webster Lady Knights both pulled upsets in the first round of the playoffs last week.

Minden, the No. 24 seed, rallied past No. 9 Northwest 57-55 in a non-select Division II game in Opelousas. North Webster, the No. 17 seed, edged No. 16 Avoyelles 40-38 in a non-select Division III game in Moreauville.

Minden (15-11) was scheduled to visit No. 8 Bastrop in the second round. The Lady Rams (19-8) defeated No. 25 Cecilia 59-39 in the first round.

North Webster (15-13) was scheduled to No. 1 seed Oakdale (22-5) in the second round. The Lady

Warriors had a first-round bye.

At Northwest, Minden rallied from a 19-point halftime deficit.

Brooklyn Jefferson kept her outstanding junior season going with 27 points.

According to The Lafayette Advertiser, the game was tied at 55 with 4.8 seconds left and Northwest in possession. Jefferson stole the inbounds pass, missed inside, got the rebound and made the putback for the gamewinner.

Down 37-18 at the half, the Lady Tiders cut the lead to five after three quarters.

Shelby Glenn hit two of her three 3-pointers in the third and scored eight points. Markeithdra Willis also made a 3 and scored seven. Jefferson was 4-of-

6 from the free throw line and scored eight.

Jefferson scored 10 in the fourth quarter. Travesti Byrd scored four big points.

In addition to her 27 points, Jefferson had 25 rebounds, seven steals and two blocks. She was 13-of-16 from the line.

Glenn finished with 11 points. She also had five assists, six steals and seven rebounds.

"It was a great team win," Minden Head Coach Cindee Wright-Clark said.

Byrd had nine points, seven rebounds, four assists and six steals. Willis had seven points, eight rebounds, and three assists.

Alexi Hatter had five rebounds and two points. Maddison Crawford had five rebounds and one

point.

Northwest finished 21-7.

At Avoyelles, Nazaria Caldwell led North Webster with 23 points. Shakyra Hawkins added nine. Makiyah White chipped in six.

The Lady Knights trailed 28-24 at the half. The game became a defensive battle in the second half,

North Webster outscored Avoyelles 7-4 in the third quarter to cut lead to one. Caldwell scored six in the fourth quarter. White had a two-point basket and Hawkins made a free throw.

Sanaa Harrell led the Lady Mustangs (10-16) with 16 points. She hit three 3-pointers in the first half and scored 12.

HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL

Parish teams
post victories

RUSSELL HEDGES
Minden Press-Herald

All four parish teams that played last week picked up at least one win.

The Lakeside Warriors and Minden Crimson Tide played a very competitive three-game series. The teams split a doubleheader at Minden. The Warriors won the first game 6-3 and the Tide took the second 5-4. Lakeside won the third game 9-8 last Saturday.

Minden also fell to Haughton 8-1 last week. Lakeside lost to Ouachita Christian 3-1.

Glenbrook dropped the first two games of a three-game series against Calvary Baptist 6-1 and 7-3. The Apaches rebounded with a 6-2 win in the final game.

North Webster went 1-2 in the Logansport tournament, falling to Red River 11-0 and Jennings 10-7 and defeating Logansport 10-5.

Doyline's only scheduled game last week was postponed.

Lakeside's Gage Williams went 3-for-4 with a double in the 6-3 victory over Minden. Eli Campbell's two-out, two-RBI single in the fifth gave the Warriors the 6-3 lead.

Campbell pitched a

complete game.

Minden's Bray Winston went 2-for-4. Jaxon Smith went the distance on the mound.

Minden won the second game with a run in the bottom of the eighth. Landyn Huddleston, Hudson Brown and Jaxon Smith led off with consecutive walks. Keegan Pope's one-out single gave Minden the win.

Lakeside's Jon Jon Dick reached base four times. He went 2-for-2 and was twice hit by pitches.

In the final game, Minden scored five in the top of the seventh to take an 8-5 lead. But Lakeside answered with four in the bottom of the inning.

Noah Redding and Brock Case had consecutive singles to give the Warriors the win.

Case, Williams and Redding had two hits apiece.

Pope led the Tide with three hits and two RBI.

Sam Ricord went the distance in Glenbrook's win over Calvary. He scattered eight hits, struck out seven and walked two.

Tyler Brown had four hits in North Webster's win. Cayden Bernard and Colby Dinkins had three each.

HIGH SCHOOL SOFTBALL

Lakeside,
Glenbrook off
to strong starts

RUSSELL HEDGES
Minden Press-Herald

The Lakeside Lady Warriors and Glenbrook Lady Apaches got their seasons off to strong starts last week.

Both went 3-0. Lakeside opened the season with a 10-1 victory over Captain Shreve. The Lady Warriors defeated Parkway 10-4 and Converse 10-1 in the Lakeside round-robin tournament.

Glenbrook rolled to victories over Northwood 19-8, Southwood 25-7 and Caddo Magnet 16-1 in the Logansport tournament.

Minden dropped four games, falling to Winnfield 5-3, Logansport 16-1, Stanley 18-3 and Captain Shreve 8-4.

McKenna Chreene, who missed most of last season with an injury,

struck out 15 and walked two against Captain Shreve. She allowed just four hits. Chreene also led off the bottom half of the first with a home run.

Chreene had a home run and double against Parkway.

Moose Jernigan pitched a two-hitter against Converse.

Glenbrook's Colby Hollis and Vivian Still had four hits each against Northwood.

Hallie Harmon and Anna Grace Vining had three each.

Glenbrook hit five home runs against Southwood.

Addison Chanler, Gabi Brown, Gracie Heard, Harmon and Presli Waller all hit one.

Brown hit two home runs against Caddo Magnet. Still hit one.

OUTDOORS

These are a few of my favorite things

GLYNN HARRIS

I was drawn to a verse in the Rodgers and Hammerstein's Sound of Music that ends "These are a few of my favorite things". No, I'm not putting in a plug for the vocals of Julie Andrews. The country boy in me prefers Loretta Lynn's "Coal Miner's Daughter".

This line got me to thinking about some of my favorite things and I thought on this cold winter day I might share a few of those things that are special to me.

Any time I'm on a road trip, my first stop for refreshments is always, never debating, a bottle, not a can but a bottle of real Coke, and a pack of salted peanuts. Taking a few sips from the bottle so it won't run over, I pour in the peanuts. Nothing better; the sweetness and acidic bite of the Coke blended with the saltiness and crunch of peanuts makes any road trip – unless it's to the see the dentist for a root canal – extra special.

I love coffee and I have discovered a blend that suits my fancy just right. I stop by the Black Rifle shop for a pound of "Beyond Black" coffee. Just enough cream to lighten the color just a bit and my day gets off to a fine start.

When the weather warms, I like to take my cup to the back porch where I sit and sip and watch the birds while thanking the Good Lord for His blessings.

Back before age and infirmity kept me out of the woods, I loved to be sitting, covered in camouflage, with my back against a tree and playing mind games with a savvy old wild turkey gobbler. Hearing a thundering gobble as he responds to my calls mimicking a sweetheart of a hen turkey and then finally seeing that white head floating atop a puffed-out body, tail fan spread out, as the old boy comes in, spitting and drumming to investigate what he believes is a little hen anxious for his affection, was indeed, one of my

favorite things ever.

When the first Saturday in October came around every year, wild horses couldn't have kept me out of the woods on opening day of squirrel season. Sitting at daylight on a moss-covered fallen log resting next to a grove of hickories, oaks or beech trees, was the ticket. If these trees were bearing hickory nuts, acorns or beech mast, there was no doubt that as the sky began lightning up, squirrels would be leaving dens for breakfast.

If I was fortunate enough to down a young "frier" squirrel, my next stop was the camp where the squirrels were cleaned and a young one was cut into quarters, seasoned with salt and pepper and dusted in flour. Once the skillet of oil was hot enough, I loved to listen to the sizzle as the quarters turned brown and crispy. A plate of rice, a couple of hot biscuits and gravy made from the drippings made a breakfast fit for a king.

I declare, the hind leg of a tender young fried squirrel would put Col. Sanders to shame. A favorite thing? You betcha.

When I was growing up, there was a spot known locally as the Sand Flats where every fall and winter morning, a flight of wood ducks would leave roosts and wing their way up the creek to feed. On mornings before school, my dad would take my brother and me to the Sand Flat for the chance at downing a "squealer", as wood ducks were called. The flight only lasted half an hour but if my shot was successful, I had something to brag about to the kids at school.

When my mama slow baked a wood duck in her cast iron pot, it made the darkest and richest gravy ever. Spooning it over one of her hot biscuits alongside a slice or two of duck breast was a feast, a favorite thing, I will never forget.

Okay, enough nostalgia. I just heard Loretta Lynn crank up.



JEFF PEROT

A favorite thing to do is to watch a wild turkey gobbler come to the call at full strut.

Good News

GOOD NEWS

THIS LITTLE LIGTH OF MINE, I’M GOING TO LET IT SHINE

Every household needs (probably has) 1, 2 or more flashlights. With our weather patterns, we get to use them quite often. As a child, growing up on the country, electricity did not get to our house until the mid 40’s (I was about 6 years old) when we were able to put away the coal oil lamps and candles. We stacked the flash lights in a trusted place. We all knew where they were in case of a night storm or disturbance. My parents and grandmother had their own flash light (by the bedside). On stormy nights, you could see the light moving about as they were up ‘checking things out.’

We have a few flashlights at our house now, and we make sure we have the proper batteries for them. We use them quite often in dark recessed areas, looking for needles in a haystack situations, as well as power outages. It is important to check them out from time to time and not wait until the midnight storms come to see if they are prepared to shine. We have one in the bedroom; one in the kitchen area and a couple in a supply closet within reach, if needed.



Bill Crider

This is a good example to remind us when we hide the light God provides us to guide us through the ups and downs of everyday living. He has given us His light so that it may always be ready to shine in the world around us. If we choose to put it under the bed or hide it under a box or in a closet, it does no good for anyone. We must put the light on the candlesticks around our home, or carry it with us wherever we go, so others who are living in darkness can see this light. Jesus said: “If I am lifted up, I

will draw all people unto me.” We are to lift up the light of His love, compassion, caring spirit, good will and encouragement to others wherever we go. This light of hope, encouragement and peace is for us to take weary souls around us. John writes: “He is the Word who came and dwelt among us... He is the Light of the World... and darkness cannot extinguish this light...nothing can put it out. We must let it shine through our everyday living for the good of others (John 1) ”Let your light so shine, so that when others see it, they will not praise you but your Father in heaven, the Father of

Lights.” (Matt 5: 14-16). Prayer thought: Make me right with you, O Lord, so that I may trim my spiritual light to shine in the dark recesses of live. Use me to help others who struggle in the darkness to see in me a flicker here and there to guide them along their path way. Remind us to check the oil in our lamps and be ready at all times to SHINE FOR YOU. In Jesus’ name I pray. Amen.

BILL CRIDER IS CHAPLAIN OF MINDEN MEDICAL CENTER

THE UPWARD LOOK

Lord Himself is God

“Know that the LORD Himself is God; It is He who has made us, and not we ourselves; We are His people and the sheep of His pasture.” Psalm 100:3 NASB



Max Hutto

In an emphatic statement, David categorically declares that the Lord Himself is God. It is the Lord God that is to be worshiped and served in gladness and joy. It is the Lord God who is the Creator. It is the Lord God who made us, who sustains us, guides us, and calls us to worship Him. It is the Lord God who desires us to be His people, the sheep

of His pasture. It is because He is the Lord God that we gather together to worship, to sing His praise, and to obediently follow His commands.

Lord God, I unequivocally and boldly declare that You are my God, my Lord, my Shepherd. Because of Your mercy and grace, I worship and serve You, my Savior.

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

INSPIRATION

Burn Bright

Fire is one of the most essential elements of life capable of great comfort but also devastating destruction. As humans, we share many similarities with fire. For example, we like fire, must breathe, be nurtured to grow, be protected from the elements, and are all fated one day to be extinguished. Every moment of our existence like the fire has the potential to be bright and warm and a guiding light to others but only if we allow it to.



Bernard Harris


This is not a new concept; God gave it to us in the form of a command. Mathew 5 14-16 says Ye are the light of the world. A

city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven. I write this message not to discourage or flatter but to encourage and inspire. God has made us provide comfort, warmth, and ultimately guidance.

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

Come

WORSHIP



FIRST
ASSEMBLY OF GOD
MINDEN

How can we pray for you?

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

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
301 Pennsylvania Avenue • Minden, LA

CLASSIFIEDS

PLACE YOUR AD
classifieds@press-herald.com

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

Classified Rates

Pricing is easy!

\$7.75

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

Garage Sales

No word limit.

\$11

One Day

\$16.50

Two Days

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

* Garage Sale ads must be prepaid.

Deadlines

Ads

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

Public Notices

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

Payments

Cash Checks, Billing

Real Estate Notice

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

Grow Your Business

Call to place your ad!

377-1866

LEGALS

Notice

5095928

Town & Country Health & Rehab is an Equal Opportunity Employer. We recruit, hire, train, and employ without discrimination due to race, religion, age, sex, . national origin, ances-. try, disability, marital status, obligation to serve in the Armed Forces of the United States, or any other characteristic protected by applicable Federal of State law.

February 5, 12, 19, 25, 2025
Minden Press Herald

Sheriff's Sale

REGIONS BANK DBA REGIONS MORTGAGE VS. EDWARD NUNNERY SHERIFF'S SALE In the Twenty-Sixth Judicial District Court of Webster Parish, Louisiana, No. 81841. By virtue of a WRIT OF SEIZURE AND SALE issued out of the Twenty-Sixth Judicial District Court of Webster Parish, Louisiana, in the above styled and numbered suit and to me directed, I have seized and taken into my possession and will offer for sale at public auction to the last and highest bidder for cash WITH the benefit of appraisal and according to law at the principle front door of the Courthouse in the City of Minden, Webster Parish, Louisiana, on WEDNESDAY, April 2, 2025, During the legal sale hours, the following property, to wit: Begin at Northwest corner of the Northeast Quarter of the Southwest Quarter, Section 31, Township 23 North, Range 10 West, Webster Parish, Louisiana, 04 minutes econds West 436.03 feet along a possession. Es es to an existing iron pipe at a fence corner for the point of beginning; thence continue along the possession fence North 86 degrees 57 minutes 51 seconds east feet to a fence corner; thence run South 11 degrees 04 minutes 11 seconds ion fence to an m pipe former *** North right-of-way Porterville Road; thence run North 72 degrees 49 feet 241.36 feet along said omer, the run North 13 right 30 seconds to a along a possession fence to the point of beginning. Containing improvements belonging. or less, and pether rights reto Improvements thereon bear the Municipal No. 662 Porterville Road, Sarepta, LA 71071. SOLD SUBJECT TO ANY SUPERIOR LIENS, MORTGAGES OR PRIVILEGES THERETO. Said property seized is that of the defendant and will be sold to satisfy a judgment rendered in our Honorable Court. JASON R. PARKER Sheriff & Ex-Officio Auctioneer Webster Parish, Louisiana Pam Brantliu Pam Brantley - Deputy

February 26, 2025
March 26, 2025
Minden Press Herald

Minutes

PROCEEDING OF THE VILLAGE OF HEFLIN, STATE OF LOUISIANA, TAKEN IN REGULAR MEETING HELD ON FEBRUARY 6, 2025.

The Heflin Town Council met at Town Hall, Heflin, Louisiana beginning at 7:20 p.m. with the following members present: Mayor Ralph James council members Matt Austin, Robert Stachowicz, Chief of Police Paul Migues, Water System Operator Jesse Williamson and Village Clerk Sherry Limosnero. Absent council member Hallie DeMoss. The meeting was opened with prayer offered by Matt Austin, and Robert Stachowicz led the Pledge of Allegiance. Mayor Ralph James welcomed everyone to the meeting. Upon motion by Matt Austin and duly seconded by Robert Stachowicz, the council adopted Minutes from December 2024 at Council Regular Meeting held on January 13, 2025, as presented; the motion was approved unanimously. Robert Stachowicz moved to accept December 2024 Operating Financial Statements as presented; the motion was duly seconded by Matt Austin. The motion was approved unanimously. Upon motion by Matt Austin and duly seconded by Robert Stachowicz, the council unanimously approved Water System Reports for December 2024. Robert Stachowicz moved to accept the December 2024 Police Department Reports as presented; the motion was duly seconded by Matt Austin. The motion was approved unanimously. Matt Austin moved to accept the December 2024 ARP Report as presented; 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: 1/16/2025 Adopted: 2/6/2025 Publish: Minden Press Herald

February 26, 2025
Minden Press Herald

SMALL ADS WORK



CLEMENTINE HUNTER

FIND HER REMARKABLE ARTWORK & INSPIRING LIFE STORY AT THREE LOUISIANA STATE MUSEUMS





THE CABILDO
A LOUISIANA STATE MUSEUM



LOUISIANA SPORTS HALL OF FAME & NORTHWEST LOUISIANA HISTORY MUSEUM
A LOUISIANA STATE MUSEUM



CAPITOL PARK MUSEUM
A LOUISIANA STATE MUSEUM



LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR
BILLY NUNGESSER



LOUISIANA
Feed Your Soul.
ExploreLouisiana.com

Plan Your Visit at
LouisianaStateMuseums.org

BLJJ ROOFING
LARRY BURRELL - OWNER
639-0090
FREE INSPECTIONS

THE Tree Guys
Licensed & Insured Arborists
Locally Owned & Operated
Minden, LA
Jon Conway & Kevin Crawford
601 Howell St. • Minden, LA 71055
Jon (318) 517-3069
Kevin (318) 780-0765 
jon.thetreeguys@gmail.com • Like Us on Facebook @thetreeguys18

Mobile Powerwash Service
"CLEAN YOUR HOME WITH POWER"
• Houses • Mobile Homes
• Driveways • Pool Decks, etc.
BILLY'S INDUSTRIAL CLEANING
CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED
318-965-9002 OR
CELL 318-455-4685

"Come Ride With Us"
Webster Parish Police Jury
Office of Community Services
PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

Medical appointments, work, shopping, banking or visiting. From Springhill to Shreveport and all points in between we will get you there with dependable, courteous services.
For information or to schedule a ride
318-377-7022 - Minden
318-539-5696 - Springhill
Handicap & wheelchair accessible
Equal opportunity employee/services
Monthly Bus Passes Available

MITCHELL DIRT & ASPHALT
• Asphalt & Concrete Paving
• Dirt Work & Hauling
• Demolition

Contact Keith
377-8594 or 470-0812

DALE'S PAVING INC.
ASPHALT & CONCRETE
747-3140
WWW.DALESPAVING.COM
• Asphalt Paving • Concrete Paving
• Crack Sealing • Seal Coating
• Parking Lot Overlay
 Like us on facebook 

Locally Owned & Operated
SPEER ROOFING & Construction, LLC

Serving Minden and surrounding areas since 2004!
Owner **Daniel Speer**
Free Estimates
Phone (318) 371-0008

Pruitt Home Renovations
Your Local One Stop Home Improvement Contractor
• Licensed and Insured •
For a FREE estimate, just give us a call!
Abraham Pruitt **Teddy Pruitt**
(318) 382-3272
 find us on facebook @pruithomerenovations

Lic. Master Plumber 4306
The Community Plumber LLC

(318) 382-3272
Pruitt Family Owned Business

Have you been thinking about
DIGITAL MARKETING?

Let us take the guesswork out of it with:

DIGITAL Ads
Landing Pages
Sales Funnels
Retargeting

Minden Press MEDIA
mindenpressmedia.com



**Your Ad | Two Newspapers |
Two Websites | All Business**

Minden Press MEDIA



**Scan the QR Code
to get started**

Vote For Your Favorites!



Name: _____

Telephone number: _____

Entry Deadline February, 26, 2025 - 4 p.m.

Everyone has an opinion and now it's time to give yours. Vote for your favorite business in Webster Parish! The winners will be announced in the Readers' Choice edition on Wednesday, April 9, 2025. You may drop the ballot off at the Minden Press-Herald office at 203 Gleason Street in Minden or mail it to the Minden Press-Herald, P.O. Box 1339, Minden, LA 71055. Only one ballot per person will be permitted.

No reproductions or faxes will be accepted.

YOU CAN ALSO VOTE ONLINE AT:

<https://survey.alchemer.com/s3/8177380/Minden-Press-Herald-2025-Reader-s-Choice-Ballot-copy>

1. Favorite Ambulance Service	47. Favorite Landscaping/Lawn Care Provider
2. Favorite Apartment Complex	48. Favorite Lawn Equipment Dealer
3. Favorite Appliance Store	49. Favorite Lawyer
4. Favorite Auto Body Shop	50. Favorite Liquor Store
5. Favorite Auto Parts Store	51. Favorite Lunch Location
6. Favorite Bank	52. Favorite Manufactured Home Dealer/Supplier
7. Favorite Barber Shop	53. Favorite Mini Storage
8. Favorite BBQ	54. Favorite Mechanic
9. Favorite Beauty Shop	55. Favorite Mexican Restaurant
10. Favorite Breakfast Restaurant	56. Favorite Middle School
11. Favorite Car Wash/Detail	57. Favorite New Auto Dealer
12. Favorite Casino	58. Favorite New Vehicle Salesperson
13. Favorite Catering	59. Favorite Nonprofit
14. Favorite Chicken	60. Favorite Nursing Home/Assisted Living
15. Favorite Church	61. Favorite Oil Change Location
16. Favorite Clothing Store	62. Favorite Pawn Shop
17. Favorite Coach (ANY SPORT)	63. Favorite Pediatrician
18. Favorite Contractor	64. Favorite Pest Control Provider
19. Favorite C.P.A.	65. Favorite Pet Groomer
20. Favorite Crawfish	66. Favorite Pharmacy
21. Favorite Customer Service (any business)	67. Favorite Physician/Surgeon
22. Favorite Dance Studio	68. Favorite Pizza Restaurant
23. Favorite Daycare Provider	69. Favorite Place to Stay Overnight
24. Favorite Dentist	70. Favorite Plumber
25. Favorite Drive Thru Restaurant	71. Favorite Principal
26. Favorite Electrician	72. Favorite Public Official
27. Favorite Elementary School	73. Favorite Real Estate Office
28. Favorite Evening Meal Restaurant	74. Favorite Restaurant
29. Favorite Event Destination/Venue	75. Favorite Roofing Company
30. Favorite Eye Care Provider	76. Favorite School Teacher
31. Favorite Financial Advisor	77. Favorite Seafood Restaurant
32. Favorite Florist	78. Favorite Shoe Store
33. Favorite Funeral Home	79. Favorite Small Business
34. Favorite Furniture Store	80. Favorite Tanning Salon
35. Favorite Gas Station	81. Favorite Tax Preparer
36. Favorite Gift Shop (Non-Florist)	82. Favorite Tire Store
37. Favorite Glass Shop - (Non-Eyewear)	83. Favorite Used Auto Dealer
38. Favorite Grocery Store	84. Favorite Used Vehicle Salesperson
39. Favorite Hamburger	85. Favorite Veterinarian
40. Favorite Hardware Store	
41. Favorite Healthcare Provider	
42. Favorite Heating & Air Provider	
43. Favorite High School	
44. Favorite Home Health Agency	
45. Favorite Insurance Agent	
46. Favorite Jeweler	

**WINNERS
WILL BE PUBLISHED
IN THE APRIL 9TH
EDITION OF THE
MINDEN
PRESS-HERALD!**

GARDENING WITH DR. JOE WHITE

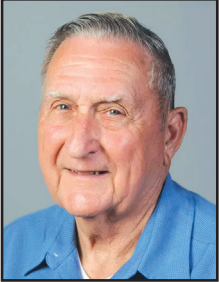
CHOOSE PLANTS WITH FRAGRANCE FOR YOUR LANDSCAPE

JOE W. WHITE, PH.D.
Extension Horticulturist, (ret)
LSU AgCenter
February 2025

While not necessary, please know that the ideal time for planting woody ornamentals (with few exceptions) is during winter season. And near the end of February the ideal time has just about expired. That doesn't mean you can't plant at other times of the year and be successful, but your chances of giving a plant a good start is best during the dormant season. So, you have some spaces in your landscape where you would like to have another plant. And you want one which will work with your garden design. Here in the South we have a relatively long warm season

and therefore families tend to spend a lot of time outdoors on patios, decks and porches. Why not give them a treat by installing a plant that has a pleasing fragrance near these locations? Most persons want to maximize color, especially seasonal color, but others are beginning to realize that foliage texture is also important to the overall look. The other element that is often over looked is fragrance. Since that quality is only common to a relatively few plants, you may have to do a good bit of searching to find a plant that will deliver that desired fragrance. Also consider the mature size and structure of the plant you choose to buy. Some varieties of roses have a nice fragrance, but they need full sun for best performance and often have to be located some distance away from the house. The

gardens of the American Rose Society are located in Greenwood just a little west of Shreveport and they have literature that will help you if you select roses to produce the fragrance you want. On one of their lists, they name Chrysler Imperial, Double Delight, Fragrant Cloud and Angel Face as fragrant roses. Sweet Olive, bush honeysuckle, gardenias and dwarf gardenias are other plants that can perfume the air near the outdoor spaces that you frequent. Some of the citrus species have the capability of providing a nice fragrance, but most are not winter hardy. One of my favorites which is not included in the foregoing lists is the Night Blooming Jessamine (*Cestrum nocturnum*) which produces a powerful perfume that permeates the air in a rather large area. Also not winter hardy, it can be pruned almost to the ground and covered with a heavy mulch before low temperatures arrive and will grow into a large plant during the next growing season after the mulch is removed. It's also a good candidate for pot culture. It will do well in either full sun or partial shade. Under good environmental conditions it will become 12 feet tall, but more commonly it stays at a height of 6 feet. This plant has shiny foliage and its perfume is produced from tiny tube-like white flowers.



JOE W. WHITE, Ph.D.



Celebrate in Jackson Square

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

LouisianaStateMuseum.org/Celebrate

