

MINDEN PRESS-HERALD

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INSIDE TODAY’S EDITION

The people have spoken: 2025 Readers’ Choice is here!

JOSHUA SPECHT
Minden Press-Herald

The wait is over! One of our most anticipated and beloved annual features is finally here — the 2025 Minden Press-Herald Readers’ Choice Awards. This special edition, now available in today’s newspaper and live on our website, is a true celebration of the people, places, and businesses that make our community shine.

Each year, we ask you — our readers, neighbors, and supporters — to cast your votes and help us recognize the very best that Minden and the sur-

rounding areas have to offer. From the best place to grab a burger to your favorite healthcare provider, these awards reflect your voice and your experience. And we take great pride in presenting this section as a snapshot of local excellence.

Inside this 24-page feature, you’ll find the winners and finalists in dozens of categories — restaurants, service providers, teachers, coaches, churches, salons, and more. Whether you’re looking for your next go-to lunch spot or a top-rated mechanic, this guide is your inside scoop on

who’s doing it right in our community.

This isn’t just another special section — it’s a tribute to our community’s spirit and the hard work of those who go above and beyond every day. I want to extend my heartfelt thanks to all of our readers who participated in the voting process. Your dedication and engagement are what make this publication, and this community, so special.

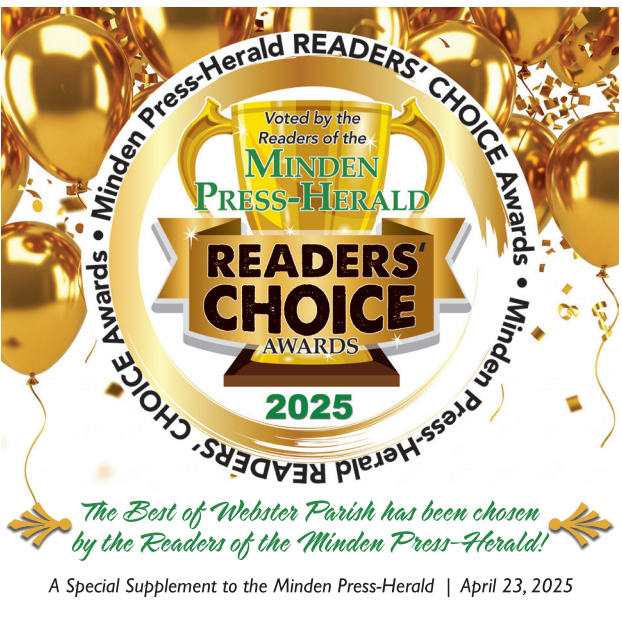
To every business and individual recognized in this year’s Readers’ Choice Awards: congratulations. Your com-

mitment to quality and service hasn’t gone unnoticed. And for those who didn’t make the list this year, keep reaching — our community is always watching and cheering you on.

You can flip through the full section in today’s printed edition or view it online now at press-herald.com.

Thank you for continuing to trust the Minden Press-Herald as your local news source — and thank you for lifting up those who help our community grow.

Let’s celebrate the best of the best, together.



CELEBRATION

Minden kicks off America 250 celebrations with ceremony honoring Paul Revere’s ride

AMBER MCDOWN
Minden Press-Herald

A ceremony held in downtown Minden on Wednesday marked the 250th anniversary of Paul Revere’s ride and served as the city’s official launch of the nationwide America 250 initiative, commemorating the lead-up to the United States’ 250th birthday in 2026.

“As far as we know, Minden is the first city to celebrate the Two Lanterns,” said Jerry Madden, former president of the Galvez Chapter of the Louisiana State Society of the Sons of the American Revolution and current Louisiana State assistant secretary and DAR/SAR liaison. “This is the first time this will happen in 250 years. I’m glad you are here; you are a part of history.”

The ceremony began with a presentation of colors by the Minden High School ROTC and the Pledge of Allegiance, which was led by DAR Dorcheat-Bistineau Regent Cindy Madden. The Minden High School



AMBER MCDOWN/PRESS-HERALD PHOTOS

Mayor Nick Cox delivers a proclamation during a ceremony in downtown Minden on April 16, 2025, commemorating the 250th anniversary of Paul Revere’s ride and launching the city’s participation in the America 250 initiative.

band followed with a rendition of The Star-Spangled Banner.

Madden spoke about the historical significance of Paul Revere’s midnight ride. LASSAR Color Guard Commander Ted Brode of West Monroe concluded the historical segment by firing a musket.

Mayor Nick Cox then read a proclamation in support of the Two Lights

Initiative, encouraging unity and remembrance.

“The call to unity and the call to serve each other is no less relevant today than it was then,” Cox said. “A national initiative has been proposed that two lights be displayed in public spaces across the county for all to see. I call on the citizens to unite in our shared history by honoring the sacrifices of those who fought for our

independence and honoring the values that we still hold dear today.”

Following the reading, Cox presented the proclamation to Madden.

The Minden High Crimson Chorus performed “America the Beautiful,” and Brother Wayne Carter offered a closing prayer.

The Two Lights Initiative is part of the larger See, **AMERICA**, Page 3

CRIME

Minden High student arrested after classroom incident involving bottle of urine

STAFF REPORT
Minden Press-Herald

A Minden High School student was arrested April 15 after reportedly entering a classroom and throwing a bottle of urine that struck multiple students, according to Minden Police Chief Jared McIver.

At 8:17 AM on April 15, 17-year-old LaMario Elkins Jr. entered the school in uniform, then changed into an all-black outfit and ski mask in a restroom before proceeding to a classroom, McIver said. Once inside, Elkins allegedly threw the bottle of urine, striking several students.

Elkins attempted to flee the campus but was apprehended outside by two school resource officers and a third Minden police officer. The incident stemmed from a dispute with one of the students targeted in the attack, McIver said.

“In the first few minutes, no one knew if this was a student or a random person off the street,” McIver said. “Thankfully, the school did everything they were supposed to do. Looking at the videos — students, teachers, staff — everyone at Minden High

did well.”

“Because of the training that everyone had in place, we were able to apprehend him before he could leave the property,” McIver added.

Elkins, 17, will be charged as an adult. Charges include terrorizing, resisting an officer, and aggravated battery.

Webster Parish Schools Superintendent Johnny Rowland issued a statement confirming the incident and the student’s arrest.

“A 17-year-old high school student entered a classroom this morning at Minden High School and poured a substance on another student. Thankfully, no students were injured, and the student in question has been arrested,” Rowland said. “Student safety is of paramount importance, and we are appreciative of the quick reaction of the administration and staff, as well as the presence of our school resource officer (SRO) on campus who immediately intervened.”

No additional details have been released.

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

COMMUNITY

Living dramatization of The Last Supper presented at First Methodist Church Minden

WILL PHILLIPS
Minden Press-Herald

A moving portrayal of Jesus’ final meal with His disciples unfolded at First Methodist Church Minden last Thursday, as the congregation presented a living dramatization of The Last Supper in the sanctuary.

Inspired by Leonardo da Vinci’s iconic 1494 painting—originally commissioned for a convent

dining room in Milan—the performance reimagined the solemn moment not as a historical reenactment, but as da Vinci envisioned it in 15th-century Italy. At the heart of the scene was Jesus’ haunting revelation: “One of you will betray me.”

The dramatization explored the tension and introspection that followed, with each apostle voicing his inner turmoil—sharing doubts, reflections,

and questions with each other, the audience, and their Lord.

This meaningful production is a long-standing tradition at First Methodist Church, first brought to life in 1989 after Col. Andrews, then serving at the Louisiana Army Ammunition Plant, introduced the script. The backdrop, originally painted by Damon Kearney with contributions from Cheryl Kearney and Wanda Kendrick,



once again helped set a contemplative tone for the evening.

As part of its Holy Week

observance, the church reopened its doors to the entire community, offering a night of reflection

on faith, betrayal, and redemption through powerful storytelling, music, and visual artistry.



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press-herald.com/submissions

WEBSTER & MORE

EDUCATION

Career expo draws students parishwide to Lakeside High School

AMBER MCDOWN
Minden Press-Herald

The Lakeside Career Expo, held April 15 at Lakeside High School, attracted junior high and high school students from across Webster Parish, offering them insight into a wide array of career paths. The event, sponsored by the Webster Parish School Board's career and technical education program, Jump Start, featured a large number of vendors representing education, manufacturing, healthcare, emergency services, finance, automotive, and local businesses. "We are very pleased

with the outcome of our first expo," said Lesa Ward, Lakeside High School teacher and FBLA sponsor. "We reached out to the area parish's businesses and they did not disappoint! We feel that, through this endeavor, we have planted many seeds to 'JumpStart' our students into thinking about their future careers." Colleges in attendance included Southern University, Bossier Parish Community College, and Northwest Louisiana Technical Community College. Manufacturing representatives from Fibrebond, Claiborne Electric, and Brown Electric

participated in the event. Healthcare organizations such as Minden Medical Center, Minden Family Dental, and Town & Country Nursing Home were also represented. First responders included personnel from the Louisiana State Police, Webster Parish Sheriff's Office, and Minden Police Department. Local businesses such as Under Dawgs, Minden Farm and Garden, and Minden Floral showcased career options, alongside finance institutions like b1BANK, State Farm, and Northwestern Mutual. Automotive vendors included Harper Motors,



Dixie Overland, and Hercules AG & Outdoor. Students engaged with representatives to learn about various industries and explore potential job opportunities. The event

saw high attendance and participation from both students and vendors. Plans are in the works to make next year's event even bigger and better. Any vendors who wish

to participate in the next Lakeside Career Expo should contact Lakeside Jr/Sr High School for details.



SPORTS

Easton Hoyt Pro/Am to bring thousands of archers and visitors to Northwest Louisiana

AMBER MCDOWN
Minden Press-Herald

The Archery Shooters Association (ASA) Easton Hoyt Pro/Am Tour will return to Camp Minden April 24-27, 2025, bringing thousands of professional and amateur archers, spectators and sponsors to Webster, Caddo and Bossier parishes. Hosted by the Shreveport-Bossier Sports Commission in partnership with Visit Shreveport-Bossier and the Webster Parish Convention and Visitors Commission, the four-day event marks the fourth year of a 10-year contract between the ASA and Camp Minden. A highlight of the weekend will be the Pro Pressure Point Shoot Down, held Saturday, April 26, at 3 PM at the Bossier Civic Center. Top-ranked archers will compete in the public finale, following two days of qualifying rounds at Camp Minden. The 2024 tournament attracted 1,237 shooters from 41 states and three countries, with 89 percent traveling from out of state and 136 representing Louisiana. The event generated an estimated \$2.4 million in economic impact from visitor spending. ASA and local organizers estimate the 10-year contract could total nearly \$25 million in local economic activity. "Hosting this event for the fourth year gives Shreveport-Bossier a chance to showcase our outdoor beauty and what makes our region special," said Stacy Brown, President and CEO of Visit Shreveport-Bossier. "With over 1,200 registered shooters and their families from around the world, it's a great opportunity to boost our economy while giving visitors a taste of our vibrant culture, local cuisine, and unique attractions." In preparation for 2025, several enhancements

have been completed at Camp Minden to improve the competition experience. New access roads and five 20-foot bridges will ease mobility, and vendors now have access to electrical and water hookups. A 60-yard competition lane has been added, and the kids' range has been moved farther from the road for safety. Additional upgrades include debris clearing, drainage improvements, and enhanced internet access at the tournament village. These enhancements not only improve the archery event but also strengthen Camp Minden's ability to serve as a regional response site during emergencies. "This marks the fourth year of a 10-year contract for the ASA event, with organizers and their sponsors estimating the economic impact to total nearly \$25 million over the life of the agreement. Local businesses such as hotels, restaurants, gas stations, RV parks, and various merchants—are expected to experience a significant boost in revenue during the four-day competition," said the Director of Community Affairs for Webster Parish Tourism. All tournament activities, except for the Saturday Shoot Down, will take place at the Camp Minden Training Site. The event is free and open to the public. Spectators will need a valid driver's license for entry. Media are invited to visit Camp Minden on Thursday, April 24, from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM. Interviews with event organizers will be available. With over 25 years of experience in national archery competitions, the ASA continues to build on its reputation as a leader in the sport. Organizers encourage local residents and visitors to attend and experience one of the premier events in competitive archery.

GRADUATION TAB 2025

The Minden Press-Herald Special Graduation Tab
Coming May 14. - Deadline to get your ad in is May 7.

FULL COLOR

Full Page - 10" wide x 9.5" tall - \$950
Half Page - 10" wide x 4.65" tall - \$550
Quarter Page - 5" wide x 4.65" tall - \$275
Eighth Page - 5" wide x 2.25" tall - \$140

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WEBSTER & MORE

OBITUARIES



John Michael (Mike) Basham

John Michael (Mike) Basham, age 71, passed away on April 18, 2025, at home. Funeral services were on Tuesday, April 22, 2025, at 2:00 p.m. at Taylor Baptist Church, Taylor, Louisiana. The family requested that the visitation be observed from 12:00 to 2:00 p.m. before the service. Interment was held at Woodard Cemetery in Taylor, Louisiana. Rev. Kenny Rowe and Mike’s nephew, Brad Waller, will officiate the service. Mike was hard-working and began his career as a teen at Woodard Walker Lumber Company (later Wilamette Industries). He remained in the lumber industry, starting his own business in 1983, B&S Hardwood, Inc where he worked until he retired. Mike loved the outdoors. Fishing was his favorite hobby. He loved fishing, boating, and spending time on the lake with his family and friends. His favorite job of all was being PopPay to Taylor, Kendal, Jeri, and Eli. His grandchildren were his world. He could always

be found supporting them at every school program, sports event, or family gathering. His children, grandchildren, nieces and nephews knew that they could always count on him. Mike is preceded in death by his father, John Basham, his sister Diann Gosdin, mother-in-law, Dot Dowling Lawrence, father-in-law, Tommy Lawrence, and brothers-in-law, Carl Pickering and Shawn Nowlin. His survivors include his wife of 48 years, Donna Lawrence Basham; sons, Jason Basham and Kevin Basham and wife Brittani; mother, Marie Basham; grandchildren, Taylor, Kendal, Jeri, and Eli Basham; sisters in law, Debbie Waller and Dorothy Nowlin; nieces and nephews, Bruce and Jennifer Neaville, Chris and Phoebe Purvis; Brad and Michelle Waller, Noah Nowlin, Lucas Nowlin, Ryan and Dawn Gosdin, and Pat Gosdin as well as numerous great nieces and nephews. He leaves behind a legacy of compassion, service, and strength that will carry on in our hearts forever. Special thank you to friends Annie Mae Harris and Beverly Cooper for their love and care. Pallbearers will be Brad Waller, Noah Nowlin, Lucas Nowlin, Ryan Gosdin, Pat Gosdin, Logan Gosdin, Bubba Holmes, and Bobby Reno. Honorary pallbearers, Chris Purvis, James Crow, and Bobby Taylor.



Odell George Vining

Odell George Vining, 76, of Minden, Louisiana, went to be with his Lord and Savior on April 17, 2025, in Shreveport. A memorial service will be held Thursday, April 24, 2025, at 11:00 a.m. at First Baptist Church West Chapel in Minden with Bro. Leland Crawford officiating. Visitation will begin at 10:00 a.m., one hour prior. Odell was born May 19, 1948, in Delhi, LA. On August 8, 1969, he married the love of his life, Mary Ann. He worked as a machinist for over 40 years and was a devoted husband, father, and grandfather. He especial-

ly loved spending time outdoors, hunting, fishing, and supporting his grandchildren in all their activities. He deeply cherished his Sunday School class and church family. Odell was preceded in death by his parents, George and Melba Vining, and his sister, Charlotte Vining. He is survived by his loving wife of 55 years, Mary Ann; sons, Odell Vining Jr. (Mary) and Scott Vining (Anne); brothers, Gary Vining (Martha) and Kendall Vining (Beverly); and six grandchildren: Michael, Faith, Luke, Cade, Anna Grace, and Joseph Vining. His grandchildren were his pride and joy, and they lovingly called him “Pawpaw.” The family is grateful for the cards, prayers, and support during this time. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to First Baptist Church Minden or a charity of your choice.

CRIME

Heflin men convicted in methamphetamine conspiracy case

STAFF REPORT
Minden Press-Herald

Two Heflin men have been convicted by a federal jury of conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute methamphetamine following a multi-agency drug investigation centered in Webster Parish. Jaworski Batton, 41, and Cody Gibson, 40, were found guilty after a trial presided over by United States District Judge Elizabeth E. Foote, Acting United States Attorney Alexander C. Van Hook announced. Evidence presented during the trial showed Batton and Gibson conspired with co-defendant Demetric Carey in a drug

trafficking operation that was the focus of an Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force (OCDETF) investigation led by the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA). The task force targeted suspected narcotics activity in the Webster Parish area. Agents obtained a court order to intercept communications on Carey’s cell phone. Intercepted messages between Carey and Batton led agents to surveil Batton at a retail store in Bossier City, where he was reportedly en route to collect methamphetamine. Louisiana State Police stopped Batton’s vehicle and found marijuana and metham-

phetamine in a backpack inside the car. In a separate incident, intercepted communications between Carey and Gibson revealed plans to meet in Minden for a drug transaction. A Webster Parish Sheriff’s deputy conducted surveillance of the meeting and recorded video evidence of an exchange of money for methamphetamine. Investigators also documented several additional communications over several months in which Carey sold Gibson methamphetamine in distribution-level quantities. Batton and Gibson each face a mandatory minimum sentence of 5 years and a maximum of 40 years in prison, along with a fine of up to \$5 million. Sentencing is scheduled for July 15, 2025. Ten additional defendants have pleaded guilty in connection with the same OCDETF case and are awaiting sentencing. Those individuals are: Demetric Carey, Derrick Carey, Antario Hawk, Eugene Henderson, Damien Rasco, Dana Ray, Holly Reynolds, Corey Russell, Lloyd Smith, and Norell Washington. The case was investigated by the DEA, Louisiana State Police, and Webster Parish Sheriff’s Office. It was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorneys J. Aaron Crawford and William C. Gaskins.

MINDEN LIONS CLUB CHICKEN CHARBROIL

SATURDAY, APRIL 26 FROM 9AM- UNTIL SOLD OUT
LOCATION: WALMART PARKING LOT
PLATES: \$10 EACH
PLATES INCLUDE: HALF OF A CHICKEN, CHIPS, ROLL AND A BROWNIE.



AMERICA

Continued from Page 1

America 250 campaign, organized by the U.S. Semiquincentennial Commission to celebrate the nation’s founding. The initiative will culminate on July 4, 2026, the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. The April launch centers on Paul Revere’s ride and encourages communities across the country to display two lights on April 18 and participate in acts of service on April 19.

CRIME

Man claiming ‘superpowers’ arrested after returning to bank

STAFF REPORT
Minden Press-Herald

A 59-year-old man was arrested Tuesday afternoon after allegedly returning to a Minden bank from which he had been asked to leave and exhibiting signs of intoxication. According to Minden Police, Artie Brown III was taken into custody at approximately 3:44 PM on April 15 and charged with public drunkenness and remaining after being forbidden. Officers initially responded to Capital One Bank around noon following a report of a man in a red shirt who had entered the business and was sleeping on the furniture. Upon arrival, police made contact with Brown, who appeared to have just awakened and had glassy eyes. When asked if he was all right and why he was at the bank, Brown claimed to have an appointment with the manager but could not provide a name or time for the meeting. A bank employee re-

quested Brown be removed from the property, and he complied at the time. However, police were called again about 30 minutes later after Brown reportedly returned and was seen hiding in the ATM room and eating chips. Upon the second contact, officers noted that Brown had difficulty balancing, was slurring his speech, and was unable to follow instructions during a field sobriety test. Officers also observed nystagmus in both eyes. Before being placed in a patrol unit, Brown was searched, and small plastic bags were found in his possession. Brown told officers the substance that had been in the bags was not marijuana, but “the stuff that gave him superpowers.” Brown was transported to the Minden Police Department for booking and advised of his rights. All subjects are considered innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

CRIME

Man charged with aggravated second-degree battery in stabbing incident

STAFF REPORT
Minden Press-Herald

A Minden man was arrested Friday night following a stabbing incident in the parking lot of a local discount store, according to police. The Minden Police Department responded to a call around 9:32 PM on April 18 at the 1400 block of Shreveport Road, where officers found a stabbing victim who indicated the suspect had fled the scene. Officers located a man emerging from a wooded area behind the store near the 300 block of Weston Street. After being ordered to the ground at gunpoint, the suspect, identified as Jaquario McGlothen, 35, of Minden, was taken into custody without incident. An investigation revealed that McGlothen

and the victim were involved in a physical altercation in the store’s parking lot. During the altercation, the victim sustained two stab wounds—one to the left arm and another to the left cheek. Two Family Dollar employees witnessed the incident and reported that McGlothen was the predominant aggressor in the confrontation. McGlothen was evaluated by emergency medical personnel for minor facial injuries but declined treatment. He was transported to the Minden Police Department for booking and later transferred to Bayou Dorcheat Correctional Center. He is charged with aggravated second-degree battery. All subjects are considered innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

RIBBON CUTTING

Lagniappe Medical Clinic open for business



The Greater Minden Chamber invited the local business community to welcome Dr. Cara Permenter, Dr. Kim Reagan, and Dr. Danielle Thomas and congratulate them on opening Lagniappe Medical Clinic. The clinic is located at 817 Sheppard Street, and their phone number is 318-371-3838.

WILL PHILLIPS/PRESS-HERALD PHOTO

OPINION

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**THE MINDEN
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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

Trump Administration Freezes Over \$2 Billion as Harvard Persists in Its Anti-Semitism

The Trump Administration announced last week it was freezing \$2.26 billion in grants and \$60 million in contracts that were to be awarded to Harvard University after the school refused to comply with the Trump Administration's demands that it dismantle so-called diversity programs and limit student protests, without which the violence and antisemitism toward its Jewish students will continue. I hope the Trump IRS withdraws the school's tax-exempt status next.

President Trump has been clear that his Administration will not tolerate Jewish students (or students of any faith) being harassed and discriminated against in violation of federal and constitutional law. Harvard, unfortunately, is only one of the numerous so-called "elite" American colleges and universities that have tolerated such discrimination.

In response to this demand by the Trump Administration, Harvard President Alan Garber idiotically wrote in a campus-wide message that "the University will not surrender its independence or relinquish its constitutional rights." (Mr. Garber, I know a way to avoid this "surrender" you fear. How about not annually accepting billions of taxpayer dollars?). The Trump Education Department soon responded: "Harvard's statement today reinforces the troubling entitlement mindset that is endemic in our nation's most prestigious universities and colleges—that federal in-

vestment does not come with the responsibility to uphold civil rights laws."

This development follows a Trump Administration initiative begun two weeks ago reviewing the approximately \$9 billion dollars in annual federal funding Harvard receives with demands Harvard must meet to continue its financial relationship with the United States government.



ROYAL ALEXANDER

reforms to admissions and hiring systems that prioritize merit-based criteria over race-or gender-based preferences." (The Epoch Times, April 15, 2025). Harvard, hopelessly Leftist and confused, resisted these calls for reform. As a result, the Trump Administration then brought the hammer stating that "the United States has invested in Harvard's operations because of the value to the country of scholarly discovery and academic excellence. But an investment is not an entitlement. It depends on Harvard upholding federal civil rights laws, and it only makes sense if Harvard fosters the kind of environment that produces intellectual creativity and scholarly rigor, both

of which are antithetical to ideological capture." (The Epoch Times).

The school must also overhaul its international admissions process to screen out applicants deemed "hostile to American values" or "supportive of terrorism or anti-Semitism." Harvard must also commission an external audit of faculty, students, staff, and leadership to assess "viewpoint diversity" across all departments and academic units.

The audit must include specific programs that "fuel anti-Semitic harassment or reflect ideological capture." The audit must also produce a report identifying any faculty who "discriminated against Jewish or Israeli students" or "incited students to violate Harvard's rules" following the Oct. 7, 2023, Hamas-led massacre in Israel, which triggered a wave of campus protests across the United States. (The Epoch Times).

The Trump Administration position warms my heart.

Recall that three college presidents, including Harvard's, were grilled in a congressional hearing about the massive protests on their campuses where chants calling for the genocide of Jews, "intifada," and "from the river to the sea" were heard. All three awkwardly dodged the question or claimed such conduct did not violate their school policies as such, and whether the characterization of such vile hate speech violated school policy depended on the "context." Again, the indication was

that only if gatherings of students chanting genocidal slogans crossed into "conduct" might it be prohibited.

Again, this is the intellectual rot that has poisoned our American institutions of "higher learning" for decades—masquerading as political correctness—coming home to roost. This is where we are with the Woke American Left. There can be no dissenting thought, no genuine exchange of ideas. Rather, you are either Woke, or you are silenced. Censored. Cancelled. Free speech in the context of genuine academic freedom is largely non-existent in American higher education. Many of us have observed this academic censorship for years but the virulent antisemitism we are currently witnessing on college campuses receiving taxpayer-funding is a disturbing reminder.

Harvard boasts an endowment of over \$50 billion. The last thing the federal government should be doing with our hard-earned taxpayer dollars is further funding this school and others like it. A hundred times more so when the school is hopelessly engaged in this kind of anti-American behavior, intolerance, and discrimination.

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

Life is difficult but it is so worthwhile

Now at seventy-seven I know "life is difficult" as the famed author M. Scott Peck wrote in The Road Less Traveled.

It's February, 1962. As a fourteen year old girl, I sat on the floor in front of the cast iron wood stove, inside our unpainted, mostly unheated cabin in the woods near Noel, Missouri. As I put kindling in the stove, I stirred the coals and watched the flame ignite. Looking deep within the fire, I vowed then and there that "I will rise up from whence I came."

Not knowing exactly what that would entail, change came at lightning speed!

Less than six weeks later I became a Christian and was asked a couple of weeks later by the minister Fred Webb, of Grove, Oklahoma, who baptized me, if I would like to go to a Christian orphanage near Tulsa, Oklahoma.

He assured me that I would have immaculate surroundings and plenty of

food and clothing and that I would be sent to school.

Having gone to bed hungry for years, after and even before our father died in 1958, I grabbed the brass ring and my sister and I went into the orphanage.



SARAH HUDSON PIERCE

it for me! Now at seventy-seven

I know "life is difficult" as the famed author M. Scott Peck, wrote in The Road Less Traveled but I cherish my memories!

God has always taken care of me and has always provided sometimes even more

than I need.

Life isn't easy in our world, though it never has been I suppose.

Sixty-two years later I still struggle but I He cares for me more than I can articulate.

At thirteen I almost drowned and actually went down five times before the Easter siblings, from South West City, Missouri, came to rescue me when they saw I wasn't clowning around!

I know what it feels like to almost drown but I know God will pull me through the tight places because He always does.

I would encourage you to pour your own thoughts out upon the page and do it and do it until it becomes a habit because writing can be one of the greatest forms of creative therapy there is.

Not only is writing very therapeutic it is the only way I know to leave your own story as well as a legacy for

your family to have for generations to come.

If we don't tell our stories in our words they will never be told.

The motivational speaker, Tony Robbins, said "a life worth living is worth recording."

I treasure the family stories I've found within my old trunk because these stories have helped me to make some sense of my life.

Not only will you be your own therapist but you may be providing the rope that others need to survive as they reach out through the pen upon the page.

And remember that it all works out and that we do get what we say and we should begin immediately thanking Him in advance for what He is about to give us because it works that way.

It is all good. We get what we say!

CONTACT SARAH AT SARAH@AOL.COM

203 GLEASON STREET

Why Paul Revere Still Matters—Even in Minden

Last week, the City of Minden kicked off its local participation in the America 250 celebrations—a national observance leading up to the 250th anniversary of the founding of the United States. The ceremony, held in front of Minden's Historic Depot Museum, honored the anniversary of Paul Revere's legendary midnight ride, with students, veterans, and community leaders all taking part.

You may be asking yourself, Why does Paul Revere's ride matter to Minden? After all, we're more than a thousand miles from Boston, and the events of 1775 can seem like a world away.

But here's why it matters: 250 years ago, a spark was

lit. It was a spark that would ignite a revolution. And like all great beginnings, it started with bravery, conviction, and a willingness to stand for something greater than oneself.



DAVID SPECHT

Paul Revere's ride wasn't just a warning to "the British are coming." It was a call to action. It was a symbol of courage during a time of uncertainty. A reminder that ordinary citizens—farmers, tradesmen, shopkeepers—were about to rise up and declare their

right to be free.

Here in Minden, we may not have been there in 1775, but we are the beneficiaries of what that moment—and those that followed—made possible. Every freedom we enjoy today, from worship to speech to voting, traces its roots back to the decision of a people to break away from tyranny and build something new.

And that's worth commemorating—not just in Boston or Philadelphia, but in communities like ours all across the country.

The upcoming 250th anniversary of the United States is not just a history lesson. It's a moment for reflection. A time to ask ourselves what we're doing with the freedom

"Here in Minden, we may not have been there in 1775, but we are the beneficiaries of what that moment—and those that followed—made possible."

we've inherited. A chance to remember that great nations aren't built by perfect people, but by people willing to sacrifice, serve, and believe.

As we inch closer to July 4, 2026, Minden will continue to celebrate our nation's founding. But more than that, we'll honor the

spirit of citizenship, courage, and community that carried those early Americans through uncertainty—and carries us still.

So yes, Paul Revere's ride matters. It reminds us that history isn't something that just happened. It's something we are living out every day, in how we care for one another, serve our town, and uphold the ideals passed down through generations.

Let's continue to celebrate it—not just for the past, but for the future we're still building together.

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 BASEBALL

Minden sweeps Cecilia in first round

RUSSELL HEDGES
Minden Press-Herald

The No. 14 seed Minden Crimson Tide swept No. 19 Cecilia in the first round of the non-select Division II playoffs last week at home.

The Tide (21-14) will visit No. 3 Lutchter (23-11) in the second round. Game One of the best-of-three series is scheduled for Friday at 6 p.m. Game Two is scheduled for Saturday at noon. Game Three, if necessary, is set for 3 Saturday.

Cecilia closed its season 17-16.

The Tide scored three runs in the bottom of the sixth to rally past Cecilia in Game One.

Minden scored all three runs with two outs. Bryson Ranger got the

rally started with a single.

Landon Brewer, Hudson Brown and Jaxon Smith drew consecutive walks to get the Tide with-in one.

Keegan Pope hit a ground ball and reached on an error. Brewer and Jamall Carey, running for Brown, both scored.

Cecilia put a runner on base with one out. But Smith induced a pop-out and flyout to end the game.

Smith pitched a two-hitter. He struck out 11 and walked only one.

Brown went 2-for-2. Topher Wilson had a single.

The Tide had six hits and took advantage of 11 walks and four errors in Game Two.

Minden also got its second outstanding pitch-

ing performance of the series. Ranger pitched a two-hitter. He struck out two and walked one in the five-inning game.

Minden was the designated visiting team. The Tide scored three runs in the top of the second. They made it 6-0 with three more in the third.

After the Bulldogs scored their only run in the bottom of the third, Minden scored three in the fourth and took the 12-1 lead with three more in the fifth.

Pope went 2-for-2 with three RBI. Smith went 2-for-4 with an RBI.

Ranger had a two-RBI single that gave the Tide a 6-0 lead in the third. Rider Miller had two RBI. Brown drew three walks. Landyn Huddleston and Brewer drew two each.

HIGH SCHOOL SOFTBALL

Glenbrook cruises to win in first round of playoffs

RUSSELL HEDGES
Minden Press-Herald

The No. 10 seed Glenbrook Lady Apaches rolled into the second round of the select Division IV playoffs with an 18-3 rout of No. 23 Hanson Memorial last week at Glenbrook.

The Lady Apaches (24-8) were scheduled to play No. 7 Sacred Heart (20-8) in Ville Platte in the second round Tuesday.

The Minden Lady Tiders and North Webster Lady Knights saw their seasons come to an end.

Minden, the No. 16 seed, fell to No. 17 Rayne 6-3 in a non-select Division II first-round game at home. North Webster, the No. 25 seed, lost to No. 8 French Settlement 15-0 on the road.

The Lady Tiders finished 14-17. The Lady Knights finished 7-11.

Lakeside (25-5), the No. 2 seed in non-select Division IV, received a first-round bye. The Lady Warriors were scheduled to host No. 15 Ringgold (15-10) in the second round Monday.

At Glenbrook, the Lady Apaches trailed 2-1 after the first inning then put 15 on the board in the bottom of the second. After Hanson Memorial scored one in the top of the third, the game ended after Glenbrook scored two in the bottom of the inning.

Gabi Brown went 2-for-3 with a home run and three RBI. Anna Grace Vining went 2-for-2 with three RBI. Ellie Earnhardt went 2-for-3 with four RBI.

Gracie Heard and Had-

ley Haynes also went 2-for-3.

Savannah Mangrum pitched the first two innings and Rebecca Mosley pitched the third.

At Minden, the Lady Tiders trailed 3-1 after four innings then tied the game with two in the bottom of the fifth.

But the Lady Wolves scored two in the top of the sixth then added one in the seventh.

Lizzie Balkom went 3-for-4 with two doubles. Lindsay Ryan went 2-for-3 with a double and two RBI. Leigha Kennon-Gilbert went 2-for-4.

Ryan pitched all seven innings. She allowed four hits and struck out nine. None of the Lady Wolves' runs were earned as errors hurt the Lady Tiders.

Lakeside rolls in first round of playoffs

RUSSELL HEDGES
Minden Press-Herald

The No. 13 seed Lakeside Warriors swept No. 20 Crowley in the first round of the non-select Division III playoffs last week at Lakeside.

The Warriors won the first game 15-5 and the second 8-2.

Lakeside (20-14) will visit No. 4 Westlake (22-10) in the second round next week. The Rams received a first-round bye.

Game 1 is scheduled for Thursday at 6 p.m. Game 2 is set for Friday at 4. Game 3, if necessary, is scheduled for Friday at 6:30.

Crowley finished 16-17.

The Warriors trailed 5-4 after three innings in Game One. They scored six in the bottom of the fourth and five in the fifth.

All nine batters in the lineup had hits. Noah Redding went 2-for-2 with a double. Eric Jones went

2-for-2. Jon Jon Dick went 2-for-4 with a double and two RBI.

Drake Chreene went 2-for-4. Brock Case had a double. Peyton Gray had a single and two RBI. Gage Williams, Eli Campbell and Jake Glass all singled.

Williams went the distance. He allowed five hits, struck out two and walked one.

Campbell, Glass, Jones and Redding led off the fourth with consecutive singles. Gray's sacrifice fly gave the Warriors the lead for good.

Dick's two-out double scored two runs. The last two runs were the result of an error.

Lakeside took advantage of an error and two walks to score its first run in the fifth.

After Redding scored on an error, Case's RBI-double made it 13-5. Case scored on a wild pitch. Chreene's RBI-single with

one out brought the game to an end.

Gray pitched a complete game in the Game Two. He scattered six hits, struck out two and walked none.

Gray also had a big day at the plate. He went 3-for-5 with a double and an RBI.

Dick went 2-for-3 with two RBI. Case, Williams and Campbell all went 2-for-4. Williams and Case both doubled. Campbell stole home to put the Warriors up 4-1 in the third.

Chreene had a hit. Glass drew three walks.

The Warriors were the designated visiting team. They led 2-1 after two innings then put two on the board in the top of the third.

After two scoreless innings, Lakeside tacked on two more in the sixth for a 6-1 lead. The Warriors added two more in the seventh.

HIGH SCHOOL TRACK AND FIELD

Parish athletes post high finishes in Haughton meet

RUSSELL HEDGES
Minden Press-Herald

Athletes from Webster Parish schools posted high finishes in the Haughton Buccaneer Relays last week at Haughton.

North Webster's Xaelin Gladney won the boys 200 in 22.54 seconds. Calvary Baptist's Kolby Thomas was second in 22.59.

Gladney also finished third in the 100 in 11.30. North DeSoto's Braylen Delton won in 11.23.

Minden's Demetrius Robinson was second in the boys shot put with a throw of 41 feet, 8 inches. Parkway's Devon Oliver won with a 47-9.

North Webster's Xhailor McGlothlin finished third in the girls 200 in 26.49. Airline's Jaycie Wallace won in 25.74.

Lakeside's Lexi Bradley finished second in the girls 3,200 in 13:39.44 and third in the 800 in 2:34.36.



ROBERT SUMMERLIN/
PRESS-HERALD

Lakeside's Lexi Bradley finished second in the 3,200 in the Haughton Buccaneer Relays.

Parkway's Ember Pierce won the 3,200 in 12:21.63. Parkway's Lauren Taylor took the 800 in 2:31.53.

The North Webster foursome of Tatyana Law-

son, De'Maiyh Moore, McGothan and Kylee Sanders was second in the girls 4X100 relay in 49.49. Airline won in 48.09.

The Lakeside foursome of Bradley, Angel Collins, Annie Cooper and Bailey Mangrum finished second in the 4X800 relay in 11:09.01. Haughton won in 11:04.47.

Lakeside's McKenzie Chase took second in the girls pole vault. She and three other competitors cleared 8-6. Haughton's Julianna Boyett won on fewer misses.

District meets are next week.

The District 1-4A meet is Thursday at North DeSoto.

The District 1-3A meet is Wednesday at West Monroe. The District 3-2A meet is Wednesday at Mansfield.

The District 1-1A meet is Tuesday at Lakeside. The District 1-B meet is Wednesday at Castor.

OUTDOORS

Mize's new book breaks down humor writing

GLYNN HARRIS

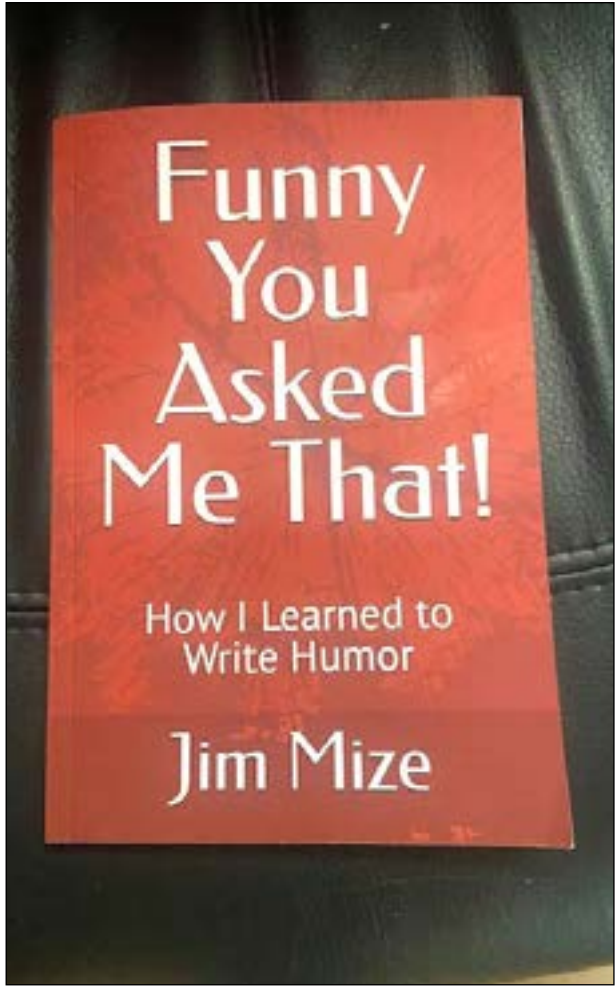
Our beloved state of Louisiana is low on the list for some things but we have one thing we can claim that no other state has. We have the only modern day Will Rogers as senator representing Louisiana. Senator John Kennedy often appears in clips on national news channels for his comments that have the nation laughing.

Here's an example. While appearing with a panel of Senators on a show recently, he was asked to comment on the behavior of a member of an opposing party. He kept a straight face while other members of the panel were laughing when he said "She's the reason they put instructions on shampoo bottles."

Kennedy is a master of the quip and was using one of the several techniques humor writers employ to bemuse their readers.

I received a book in the mail "Funny You Asked Me That!" from my friend, humor writer Jim Mize who writes from his cabin in the mountains of South Carolina. Included in the book are several of his humor columns but what I have found intriguing is he explains techniques he uses to create the humor that caused me to laugh.

In the book's preface, Mize writes "Within these chapters, you will find discussions of techniques, samples and opinions of humor from a student who has spent almost fifty years on the subject and is yet to



GLYNN HARRIS

Jim Mize has written a book on the techniques used for humor writing.

graduate."

When I was growing up, I loved to read the outdoors magazines such as Outdoor Life, Field and Stream and Sports Afield. As soon as I got my hands on a copy, I'd head to the back pages first to read the humor columns of Ed Zern and Patrick McManus. In Mize's book, he is also a fan of these two great humor writers and has learned a lot from them, in person or

by correspondence, of how they do what they do.

Another of his favorite humor writers, also mine, is the late Lewis Grizzard who wrote for an Atlanta newspaper. Here's something Mize included in the book that Grizzard wrote. "In the south, there's a difference between 'Naked' and 'Nekkid'. Naked means you don't have clothes on while Nekkid means you don't have any

clothes on and you're up to something."

Mize's humorous writings have appeared in Gray's Sporting Journal, Field and Stream, South Carolina Wildlife, In-Fishermen, Great Days Outdoors and several other national magazines.

On a personal note, I occasionally include a bit of humor in the columns I write. If bits of humor in my columns are created by some of the techniques Mize writes about, such as misdirection, tension, timing et al, it's strictly by accident. This is one reason I am enjoying Mize's book so much; it shows me when I try to write something funny, that there's a reason a particular column might produce a chuckle or at least a smile and head nod.

Mize has produced a collection of humorous books that each hold special niches in my personal library. His first one, "The Winter of our Discontent" may be my favorite. Others of his include "A Creek Trickles Through It", "Hunting With Beanpole", "Fishing With Beanpole" and "The Jon Boat Years". For autographed copies of any of his reasonably priced books, they are available at www.acreek-tricklesthroughit.com.

I am a lifelong fan of reading and hearing funny stuff and if you are, get your hands on one of Jim Mize's books. Also be sure to keep your television on to news channels to see and hear what Senator John Kennedy might say next.

Fishing Report

BUSSEY BRAKE – Lots of big bass are being caught around shallow brush flipping jigs and soft plastics. Crappie have slowed down a bit and some have moved from the shallows to deeper water. For latest information, contact the Honey Hole at 323-8707.

OUACHITA RIVER – High water and rising. No fishing report. For latest information, contact the Honey Hole Tackle Shop at 323-8707.

LAKE D'ARBONNE – Bass fishing has been good early mornings on topwater lures with soft plastics, jigs and chatter baits working best later in the day away from the banks. Crappie are still mostly on the banks spawning although some have begun to move out to deeper water. Jigs and shiners are taking some nice fish. Bream are bedding shallow and hitting worms and crickets and catfish are good fishing off the banks. For latest information, call Anderson Sport Center at 368-9669 or Honey Hole Tackle Shop at 323-8707.

LAKE CLAIBORNE – Crappie fishing has been good in the shallows on spawning fish with some begin-

ning to move to deeper water. Jigs and shiners are best for crappie. Bass are mostly shallow and will hit jigs, spinners and soft plastics. Bream are on the beds and worms and crickets are working on them. No report on stripers or catfish. For latest information, call Kel's Cove at 927-2264 or Terzia Tackle at 278-4498.

CANEY LAKE – Crappie fishing has been good in the shallows as the spawn is kicking in. Shiners and jigs are bringing some good ones in. Bass are still on the banks and responding to Yellow Magics and Sinko's fished wacky style. Bream both chinquapins and bluegills are on the beds and hitting crickets and worms. No report on catfish. 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 – Catfish and bream are biting. Crappie are fair with no report on bass. For information, contact the marina at 318/878-0101.

LAKE YUCATAN – Water rising rapidly. No fishing report. For info call Surplus City Landing at 318/467-2259.

Good News

GOOD NEWS

TWAS THE WEEK AFTER EASTER!

Have you wondered what the disciples (and other believers) did the week after they witnessed the Resurrection of our Lord? Were they bold enough to share what they had witnessed, sensed and experienced? Did they go back home and share with their families and friends all of this? Were there times when they were 'just overwhelmed by it all'?

Do you think they grouped together through the week, re-living the things Jesus had done and taught them? I do! I think the Spirit of God was so strong among them they became bonded like never before. They prayed together, shared together, witnessed to others around them, and drew on the power of the Holy Spirit. The early church was being birthed. (Mark 16:20; John 20: 19-31).

The disciples had their work cut out for them: "to go into all the world." Now that might have posed a problem for some then as well as now! But remember if

God calls, He prepares, and that means He opens doors that have been locked tightly. No boundaries were placed on this call to "Make Disciples"! And just how is that done?

We know we cannot do it ourselves. It is not like taking a cookie-cutter and suddenly you have a dozen disciples around you. No, this takes time, lots of prayer, preaching and teaching the Word, total commitment to go and being faithful to all of His commands. Often times, those who need the Good News are not willing to receive it. But when the Holy Spirit does His work in the heart and mind of those who hear the Word, the planted seed begins to grow - a 'disciple' is in the making.

Baptism is a 'sealing event.' It is an outward expression of what has already happened in the heart. It is a public testimony to

everyone that a person believes "Jesus died for his sin, Jesus was buried like a dead man, but He arose from the grave and sits at the right hand of The Father." So baptism is a picture of what has already happened: we "bury the old sinful life (when we are plunged under the water) and we are raised to new life in Christ." He said, 'do your homework.... all those things you have heard Me say and do, teach them to others, challenging them to obey my commands.'

Jesus concluded his earthly ministry by this everlasting, powerful promise: "I will be with you always, to the very end of the age. Amen." (Matt. 28: 16-20). Mark 16:19-20 tells that Jesus was 'taken up into heaven and sat at the right hand of God.' And the disciples did go out and preached everywhere. The Holy Spirit guided them and confirmed His word



Bill Crider

by the signs that accompanied it. Luke 24: 50-52 tells that after Christ ascended to the Father, the disciples returned to Jerusalem with great joy and stayed continually at the temple, praising God. John's Gospel records many events the Risen Lord shared with His disciples after His Resurrection.

John 21 shows Him ministering and teaching among the disciples before His ascension to the Father. As John concludes his Gospel, note what he said about Jesus and His teachings: "If all of the things Jesus did were written down, the world would not have room for the books that would be written." What an affirmation to the Resurrected Lord.

Now what will we do as a result of Sunday's observance of the Resurrection of Jesus? Will we go or stay put? Will we be a silent witness or be bold under the leadership of the Holy Spirit? Will we make witnessing intentional or leave it to 'chance'?

If you are still unclear how all

of this worked out in the lives of the disciples, turn to the Book of Acts and see what happened when the Holy Spirit invaded their lives and took control. In the days between the Resurrection and the Day of Pentecost, the disciples had much to think and pray about, but they had much to do as well. And the Scriptures indicate they did not sit down and wait. They selected among them one to replace Judas. They also went about seeking to fulfill the Great Commission.

This is still His mandate for us today. The Great Commission has not been repealed or overruled...yet! What will you do now that we are on this side of the cross, the resurrection and the Great Commission? Let us go, teach, reach, baptize and make disciples- beginning here in Minden and then to the far corners of the world.

BILL CRIDER IS CHAPLAIN OF MINDEN MEDICAL CENTER

THE UPWARD LOOK

Crucified with Christ

"I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself up for me."
Galatians 2:20 NASB



Max Hutto

When Jesus Christ was crucified on the cross, He was there as the atoning sacrifice for sin, my sin and yours. He died, taking the wrath of God for our sin. He took our place, our punishment. He was our substitute, dying in our place. Freely, lovingly He gave Himself for me and for you. It is

by grace, God's grace, that through placing our faith, our total and complete trust, solely in what Jesus did on Calvary, we can be saved, redeemed, made righteous through the blood of Christ.

Lord Jesus, I am in awe and amazed that You died for me, taking my place and giving me life. I worship You, my Savior and Lord!

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

INSPIRATION

Greatest story ever

Most lessons in life are taught by stories. Stories that evoke laughter, sadness, anger, and even hope. But these are only a sampling of the emotions elicited by the writers of stories. It has been my experience that stories are written with the expressed purpose of making the reader feel something. The medium used to present the story is also relevant. Whether its books, movies, or songs they are all still stories even though the way in which the stories are processed and interpreted has been varied. The point I was trying to reach is that the greatest story ever told in mediums is also written to inspire us to feel. We get to feel mercy



Bernard Harris


for an imperfect world, peace during our greatest struggle ,and even love for a God that we've never seen except for in the lives and hearts of the people around us.

God has called us not to Suppress emotions but rather to feel them and learn from them. When we feel peace, love, joy, hope, mercy, and all the other beautiful emotions we feel God's gifts. As I close this writing, I would like to encourage everyone regardless of their situation or emotional state to turn to the greatest story ever written.

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

Come

WORSHIP



FIRST
ASSEMBLY OF GOD
MINDEN

How can we
pray for you?



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

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
301 Pennsylvania Avenue • Minden, LA

CLASSIFIEDS

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

LEGALS

SHERIFF'S SALE

HOME FEDERAL BANK
VS.
BHB RENTALS LLC, AND PHUOC V BUI
AND HUYEN T BUI
In the Twenty-Sixth Judicial District Court of Webster Parish, Louisiana, No. CV81953.
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 appraisalment and according to law at the principle front door of the Courthouse in the City of Minden, Webster Parish, Louisiana, on
WEDNESDAY, April 30, 2025,
During the legal sale hours, the following property, to wit:
SEE ATTACHED PROPERTY DESCRIPTION
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.
Publication Dates: March 26, 2025 April 23, 2025
JASON R. PARKER
Sheriff & Ex-Officio Auctioneer
Webster Parish, Louisiana
Pam Brantlers
Pam Brantley - Deputy
DEPUT ULEMA
Tract 1:
WEBSTER PARISH
Begin at point where the East right-of-way line of Louisiana Highway No. 7 intersects the South line of Southwest Quarter of Northeast Quarter (SW/4 of NE/4), Section 16, Township 18 North, Range 9 West, Webster Parish, Louisiana; thence run in a Northerly direction along the East right-of-way line of said highway to a point where Highway No. 7 Intersects the South line of Webster Parish Road No. 19-A, THE POINT OF BEGINNING of the property herein being described; thence run East along the South line of Webster Parish Road No. 19-A 290 feet; thence run in a Southerly direction parallel to Highway No. 8 & a distance of 210 feet; thence run West and parallel with the South line of Webster Parish Road No. 19-A a distance of 290 feet to the East right of way line of Highway No. 7; thence run in a Northerly direction along the East Right of way line of Highway No. 7 a distance of 210 feet to the POINT OF BEGINNING, together with all Improvements thereon and all rights thereto belonging.
The municipal address of the above described property is 595 North Main Street, Sibley, Louisiana, 71073. Tract 2:
M
Begin at the point where the East right of way line of Louisiana Highway No. 7 intersects the South line of Southwest Quarter of Northeast Quarter (SW/4 of NE/4), Section 16, Township 18 North, Range 9 West, Webster Parish, Louisiana; thence run in a Northerly direction along the East right of way line of said highway to a point where Highway No 7 Intersects the South Line of Webster Parish Road No. 19-A, thence run East along the South line of Webster Parish Road No. 19-A 290 feet, the POINT OF BEGINNING OF THE PROPERTY herein being described; thence continue East along the South line of Webster Parish Road No. 19-A 130 feet; thence run in a Southerly direction parallel to Highway No. 7, a distance of 210 feet; thence run West and parallel with the South line of Webster Parish Road No. 19-A a distance of 130 feet; thence run in a Northerly direction parallel to Highway No. 7 a distance of 210 feet to the POINT OF BEGINNING, together with all improvements located thereon and all rights thereto belonging. The municipal address of the above described property is 102 North East 5th Avenue, Sibley, Louisiana 71073.
LESS AND EXCEPT
Begin at a point where the East right of way line of Louisiana Highway No. 371 (formerly La Highway No. 7) Intersects the South line of the Southwest Quarter of the Northeast Quarter (SW/4 of NE/4), Section 16, Township 18 North, Range 9 West, Webster Parish, Louisiana; thence run in a Northerly direction along the East right of way line of said Highway to a point where Highway No.371 intersects the South line of the NE 5th Avenue (formerly Webster Parish Road No. 19-A); thence run East along the South line of the NE 5th Avenue 310 feet to the POINT OF BEGINNING of the tract herein descried; thence continue East along the South line of the NE 5th Avenue 110 feet; thence run in a Southerly direction parallel to Highway No. 371 a distance of 210 feet; thence run West parallel with the South line of NE 5th Avenue a distance of 110 feet; thence run in a Northerly direction parallel to Highway No. 371 a distance of 210 feet to the POINT OF BEGINNING, together with all improvements thereon and all rights thereto belonging, net excepted herein. The municipal address of the property being conveyed herein is 135 NE 5th Avenue, Sibley, Louisiana, 71075.

March 26, 2025
April 23, 2025
Minden Press Herald

SHERIFF'S SALE

PLANET HOME LENDING INC
VS.
CRYSTAL DANIELLE HARRISON
In the Twenty-Sixth Judicial District Court of Webster Parish, Louisiana, No. 81404.
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 WITHOUT the benefit of appraisalment and according to law at the principle front door of the Courthouse in the City of Minden, Webster Parish, Louisiana,
on
WEDNESDAY, May 28, 2025,
During the legal sale hours, the following property, to wit:
A tract of land located in the Southeast Quarter of the Southwest Quarter (SE/4 of SW/4), Section 25, Township 20 North, Range 9 West, Webster Parish, Louisiana, more particularly described as commencing at Spike located at the Southwest corner of the Southeast Quarter of the Southwest Quarter (SW/cor. of SW/4 of SW/4), of said Section 25, and run East 120 feet; thence run North 30 feet to " rebar for the Point of Beginning of tract herein described: Thence run East 171.5 feet to a 1/2" rebar; thence run North 19° 58' East 217.7 feet to a " rebar; thence run North 78° 09' West 251.19 feet to " rebar; thence run South 256,2 feet back to the Point of Beginning, being the same property as shown by plat of survey dated May 17, 1995, prepared by Doyle P. Sanders, Registered Land Surveyor, attached to Registry Number 394792, Conveyance Book 819, Page 353, records of Webster Parish; along with the North 30 feet of Dogwood Trail (Webster Parish Road 111), together with all buildings and improvements thereon, including, but not limited to that certain 2001 Skyliner, Sky 4700CTG, 14 feet by 56 feet, Serial Numbers C2-53- 0306-NA/B, and HUD Numbers ULI 515869 and UL1515870, immobilized to the land by an act filed January 5, 2001, under Registry Number 442174, being municipally known as 1954 Dogwood Trail, Minden, Louisiana 71055
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 Brantle
Pam Brantley - Deputy

April 23, 2025
May 21, 2025
Minden Press Herald

EARLY VOTING SCHEDULE
for the
March 29th
Election

REGISTRAR OF VOTERS OFFICE
WEBSTER PARISH COURTHOUSE
410 Main St., Minden
Saturday, March 15 – Saturday, March 22, 2025
Excluding Sunday
8:30 AM until 6:00 PM
SPRINGHILL CIVIC CENTER
101 Machen Dr., Springhill
Saturday, March 15 – Saturday, March 22, 2025
Excluding Sunday
8:30 AM until 6:00 PM

To view your sample ballot and obtain additional information regarding voting and elections visit www.GeauxVote.com or contact your local Registrar of Voters office at 377-9272.

April 16, 23, 2025
Minden Press Herald

Public Notice

Minden Planning Commission Meeting

May 1, 2025 – 10:00 a.m.

Pelican Room - Minden City Hall

On the agenda is a request from Elizabeth Custer for a zoning variance on property owned by her located at 1201 Broadway Street. The property is zoned R-2 (Residential).
The purpose of this zoning variance request is to use the property as a short term stay lodging house.
Legal Description: LOT 80 X 120.8 FT. OUT OF LOT #174, THE WEST 1 FT. OF THE SOUTH 120.8 FT. OF LOT #175, WILLIAMSON JONES SURVEY & A PORTION OF 30 FT. ALLEY ADJ. (BEING A LOT FRONTING 111 FT. ON NORTH BROADWAY X 120.8 FT. ON ALLEY IN NE/4 OF SW/4 SEC. 22-19-9)
All interested parties will be given a chance to be heard.

April 16,23,30, 2025
Minden Press Herald

Minden Housing Authority
1209 East Street
Minden, LA 71055
Phone: (318) 377-2707 Fax: (318) 639-9504
Email: mattie@mindenhousing.org

City of Minden Low Rent/Public Housing Waiting List

Applications for the Low Rent/Public Housing for Minden Housing Authority will be available
ONLINE ONLY starting Monday, May 5, 2025, and ending Thursday, May 8, 2025 @ 11:59 P.M.
This is to get place on the waiting list for Minden Housing Authority in Minden, Louisiana only.
The website to apply is <https://mindenha.housingmanager.com/>

You must create an account online to apply!!

Mattie Blackmon
Housing Supervisor

April 23, 30, 2025
Minden Press Herald

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER
Monitoring Requirements Not Met for Dixie Overland Water System

Our water system did not fulfill our monitoring requirements over the past year. Even though this was not an emergency, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened and what we did to correct the situation.

We are required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not our drinking water meets health standards. During the period of June 1 through September 30, 2024, mailing issues prevented our samples from reaching the laboratory by the deadline so the samples were unable to be analyzed.

Necessary action has been taken to prevent this violation from recurring and we are scheduled to collect the required samples this year.

Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.

For more information, please contact [name of water system contact] at [phone number of water system].

Minutes

April 14, 2025
The Sibley Town Council met in regular session on Monday, April 14, 2025, at 6pm at Sibley Town Hall.
Members present were Mayor Robert Smart; Aldermen: Wayne Bolton, Pam Chanler, Richard Davis, John Langford and Keith Merritt.
Mayor Smart opened the meeting in prayer; then led the Pledge of Allegiance.
Richard Davis motioned to adopt the minutes to the March 10, 2025, Regular Meeting as read, Wayne Bolton seconded. Motion carried.
No New Items were added to the agenda.
There were no Public Comments.
Keith Merritt motioned to enter a Public Hearing for proposed Ordinance No. 143-A titled AN ORDINANCE AMENDING PREVIOUS ORDINANCE 143 PROVIDING FOR THE COLLECTION OF SALES AND USE TAX ON "DIGITAL PRODUCTS" AND PROVIDING FOR THE ASSESSMENT COLLECTION AND PAYMENT THEREOF Richard Davis seconded. Motion carried.
Richard Davis motioned, seconded by John Langford, to exit the public hearing and re-enter the regular meeting. Motion carried.
Pam Chanler motioned, seconded by Richard Davis, to adopt proposed Ordinance No. 143-A titled AN ORDINANCE AMENDING PREVIOUS ORDINANCE 143 PROVIDING FOR THE COLLECTION OF SALES AND USE TAX ON "DIGITAL PRODUCTS" AND PROVIDING FOR THE ASSESSMENT COLLECTION AND PAYMENT THEREOF; Roll call vote: YEAS: 5-Wayne Bolton, Pam Chanler, Richard Davis, John Langford, Keith Merritt
NAYS: 0
ABSENT: 0
ABSTAIN: 0
Motion carried. Ordinance No. 143-A was adopted.
Proposed Ordinance No. 102-C-1 titled AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE 102-C RELATING TO THE SEWER TAP INSPECTION FEE FOR THE TOWN OF SIBLEY, LOUISIANA, AND PROVIDING IN CONNECTION THEREWITH was introduced and upon a motion by John Langford and a second by Pam Chanler, a public hearing was set for May 12, 2025 during the May 2025 Regular Meeting.
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1
Wayne Bolton motioned to adopt Resolution No. 05-2025, the Louisiana DEQ Municipal Water Pollution Prevention Audit. Pam Chanler seconded. Motion carried.
Assistant Chief Richard Davis gave the March 2025 Activity Report for the Sibley Volunteer Fire Department.
Assistant Chief Clint Meshell gave the March 2025 Activity Report for the Sibley Police Department.
The Board acknowledged receipt of the March 2025 Financial Report.
Keith Merritt motioned to adjourn; John Langford seconded. Motion carried.
Meeting adjourned.
original signed
Robert Smart
Robert Smart
Mayor
Attest
original signed Sherry McCann Sherry McCann Town Clerk

April 23, 2025
Minden Press Herald

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE
May 12, 2025
Posted April 15, 2025
A public hearing will be held during the Regular Town Council Meeting on Monday, May 12, 2025 at 6pm at the Sibley Town Hall, 345 N. Main St., Sibley, Louisiana for the purpose of considering the adoption of: 1.
Proposed Ordinance No. 102-C-1 titled:
AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 102-C RELATING TO THE SEWER TAP INSPECTION FEE FOR THE TOWN OF SIBLEY, LOUISIANA, AND PROVIDING IN CONNECTION THEREWITH
The Public is invited to attend.
This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer

Ordinance No. 143-A

TOWN OF SIBLEY
AMENDED ORDINANCE NO. 143-A
AN ORDINANCE AMENDING PREVIOUS ORDINANCE 143 PROVIDING FOR THE COLLECTION OF SALES AND USE TAX ON "DIGITAL PRODUCTS" AND PROVIDING FOR THE ASSESSMENT COLLECTION AND PAYMENT THEREOF
WHEREAS, the Town of Sibley had previously authorized at a special election held on October 2, 2010 the implementation of a one-half of one percent (1/2%) sales and use tax upon certain properties, sales, and assets within the town limits for the Town of Sibley; and
WHEREAS, the Louisiana Legislature in its third extraordinary session in 2024 enacted legislation authorizing broader taxation of digital products within the municipalities in the State of Louisiana; and
WHEREAS, as a result thereof, it is necessary for the Town of Sibley to amend previously enacted Ordinance 143 to broaden the definition of "digital product" set forth in LA R.S. 47:301 to result in taxable transactions throughout the sales tax statutes; and accordingly:
BE IT ORDAINED AND ENACTED by the Mayor and Board of Alderman of the Town of Sibley that Ordinance 143-A be and it is enacted amending and reenacting previous Ordinance 143 in the following respects:
A. To authorize a levy of a one-half of one percent (1/2%) sales and use tax upon the sale at retail, the use, the lease or rental, the consumption, and the storage for use or consumption of in an addition to tangible personal property, also "digital products" (as defined hereafter) and accordingly, the previous Ordinance 143 is amended in the following respects:
B. Including in all respects and wherever located the sales and use tax on digital products defined as follows:
C. (a) "Digital product" means digital audiovisual works, digital audio works, digital books, digital codes, digital applications and games, digital periodicals and discussion forums, and any other otherwise taxable tangible personal property transferred electronically, whether digitally delivered, streamed, or accessed and whether purchased singly, by subscription, or in any other manner, including maintenance, updates, and support.
(b) For purposes of this Paragraph, the following terms have the meanings ascribed to them in this Subparagraph:
(i) "Digital audiovisual works" means a series of related images that, when shown in succession, impart an impression of motion, together with accompanying sounds. "Digital audiovisual works" include but are not limited to motion pictures; musical, videos, news, and entertainment programs; and live events.
(ii) "Digital audio works" means works that result from the fixation of a series of musical, spoken, or other sounds that are transferred electronically, including prerecorded or live songs, music, readings of books or other written materials, speeches, ring tones, or other sound recording.

(iii)"Digital books" means works that are generally recognized in the ordinary and usual sense as books and which are transferred electronically, including works of fiction, nonfiction, and short stories.
(iv)"Digital code" means a code that provides the person who holds the code a right to obtain one or more digital products. A digital code may be obtained by any means, including tangible forms and electronic mail, regardless of whether the code is designated as a song code, video code, or book code. The term "digital code" includes codes used to access or obtain any digital products that have been previously purchased and promotion cards or codes that are purchased by a retailer or other business entity for use by the retailer's or entity's customers. "Digital code" does not include any gift certificate or gift card with monetary value that may be redeemable for an item other than a digital product.
(v)"Digital applications and games" means any application or game, including add-ons or additional content, that can be used by a computer, mobile device, or tablet notwithstanding the function performed.
(vi)"Digital periodical and discussion forum" means a digital newspaper, digital magazine, other digital periodical, chat room discussion, weblog, or any other similar product.
(c) "Digital product" shall not include any of the following:
(i)Any intangible such as a patent, stock, bond, goodwill, trademark, franchise, or copyright.
(ii) Telecommunications services and ancillary services as those terms are defined in Subparagraphs (27)(b) and (x) of this Section.
(iii)Internet access service charges.
(iv)The representation of a work product resulting from a professional service, as described in Subparagraph (16)(d) of this Section, in an electronic form, such as an electronic copy of an engineering report prepared by an engineer that primarily involves the application of human effort, and the human effort originated after the customer requested the service.
(v)A product having electrical, digital, magnetic, wireless, optical, electromagnetic, or similar capabilities where the purchaser holds a copyright or other intellectual property interest in the product, in whole or part, if the purchaser uses the product solely for commercial purposes, including advertising or other marketing activities.
(vi)Cable television services, direct-to-home satellite services, video programming services, or satellite digital audio radio services.
(d) The sale of a digital code that may be utilized to obtain a digital product shall be taxed in the same manner as the digital product.
(e) For purposes of taxes imposed under this Chapter and Chapters 2-A and 2-B of this Subtitle, whenever the words "property" or "personal property" are used, those terms shall be construed to include any digital product unless any of the following circumstances apply:
(i)It is clear from the context that the term "personal property" is intended only to refer to tangible personal property.
(ii)It is clear from the context that the term "property" is intended only to refer to tangible personal property, immovable property, or both.
(iii) To construe the term "property" or "personal property" as including any digital product would yield unlikely, absurd, or strained consequences. La. R.S. 47:301(32).
D. Section 6 of the previous Ordinance 143 (dealing with vendor's compensation) be and the same is repealed and eliminated.
The effective date of this amendment shall be
E. Severability:
May 1
2025
If any section, sentence, clause or phrase of this ordinance is for any reason held to be invalid or unconstitutional by a decision of any court, such a decision shall not effect the validity of the remaining portions of this ordinance.
F. All other ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed and amended.
G. In all other respects, unless amended herein, the terms and provisions of previous Ordinance 143 shall remain in full force and effect, but any of the terms and provisions of the previous Ordinance 143 in conflict herewith are hereby repealed and amended.
This ordinance was read by sections and as a whole and on motion of Pam Chanler seconded by Richard Davis was passed and adopted by the following yeas and nays.
ATTES:
YEAS: 5-Wayne Bolton, Pam Chanler, Richard Davis, John Langford, Keith Merritt
NAYS: 0
ABSENT: 0
original signed Sherry McCann
SHERRY MCCANN,
TOWN CLERK
original signed
Robert Smart
MAYOR ROBERT SMART

April 23, 2025
Minden Press Herald

Minutes

Town of Cotton Valley Monthly Meeting
Meeting Date: April 8, 2025

Meeting was called to order by Mayor Bruce Lee
Invocation and Pledge was led by Alderman Reginald Shaw and in unison.
Roll call by municipal clerk, Tiffany Parish
Alderman R. Shaw (present)
Alderman J. Carter (present)
Alderman T. Brown (present)
Alderman C. Lewis (present)
Alderman D. Hawkins (present)
We have a quorum (5) present (0) absent.
Motion to amend the agenda to remove line item #9 of the agenda. Motion by Alderman R. Shaw and 2nd by Alderman J. Carter. Motion Passed
Motion to accept the April 2025 agenda. Motioned by Alderman R. Shaw and 2nd by Alderman J. Carter. Motion Passed
Motion to approve March 2025 meeting minutes. Motion by Alderman J. Carter and 2nd by Alderman D. Hawkins. Motion Passed
Motion to pay April 2025 bills. Motion by Alderman J. Carter and 2nd by Alderman T. Brown. Motion Passed
Committee Report: Easter Egg hunt this Saturday the 12th at 1:00 everyone will need to be here around 11:00. The town clean-up day will be April 26th starting at 9:00 a.m.
Mayor's Report:
Citizens' input on the current agenda matters only. None
Old Business
Approve Ordinance 25-03, Establishing a spending limit for the mayor. Motion by Alderman R. Shaw and 2nd by Alderman J. Carter. Motion Passed
New Business
Introduction of Ordinance 25-04, Purchase property from Unites Methodist Church for use as a Town Hall and Community Facility and other matters related thereto. Motion by Alderman R. Shaw and 2nd by Alderman C. Lewis.
Introduction of Ordinance 25-05, Prohibiting the use of Tow-Owned Equipment and Vehicles for personal use. Motion to Table by Alderman D. Hawkins and 2nd by Alderman R. Shaw. Motion Passed
Approve resolution authorizing the purchase of a new complete fiberglass chloring building and the purchase of parts and equipment for installation per estimate #15986 from Underground Utility Supply in the amount of \$19,560.96. Motion by Alderman R. Shaw and 2nd by Alderman D. Hawkins. Motion Passed
Approve resolution identifying Parcel #121417, 773 Crow Street as surplus property. Motion by Alderman J. Carter 2nd by Alderman C. Lewis. Motion Passed
Approve resolution identifying Parcel #121590, 755 Crow Street as surplus property. Motion by Alderman J. Carter and 2nd by Alderman T. Brown. Motion Passed
Approve resolution declaring 2014 Black Chevy Tahoe VIN 1GNLC2E05ER160801 as surplus property. Motion by Alderman T. Brown and 2nd by Alderman J. Carter. Motion Passed
Approve resolution declaring Portable Trash pump as surplus property. Motion by Alderman R. Shaw and 2nd by Alderman J. Carter. Motion Passed
Approve resolution declaring 2013 Silver Chevy Impala, VIN 2G1WF5E33D1217246 as surplus property. Motion by Alderman J. Carter and 2nd by Alderman R. Shaw. Motion Passed
Approve resolution declaring 2014 White Chevy Impala, VIN 2G1WD5E39E1163796 as surplus property. Removed line item.
Approve resolution to hire Jonathan Modisette as a part-time (16 hours week) police officer for Town of Cotton Valley. Motion by Alderman J. Carter and 2nd by Alderman T. Brown. Motion Passed
Approve resolution to hire Ladarryl Dewayne Armstrong as a part-time (32 hours week) police officer for the Town of Cotton Valley. Motion by Alderman J. Carter and 2nd by Alderman R. Shaw. Motion Passed
Approve resolution for Cameron Smith as a reserve police officer. Motion by Alderman R. Shaw and 2nd by Alderman J. Carter. Motion Passed
Police Report – William Ingersoll – All is good. Need to get some mace for the department.
Adjournment – Motion made by Alderman J. Carter and 2nd by Alderman D. Hawkins, meeting adjourned.
Tiffany Parish-Municipal Clerk
4/14/25

April 23, 2025
Minden press Herald

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Ornamental Flowers
Use in Landscape



Speaker: Mr. Mark Wilson
LSU AgCenter

Where: Webster Parish Library
521 E and W Street
Minden, LA



Time: 12 pm-1 pm

When: April 29, 2025

Open to the Public
No Pre-Registration

It is the policy of the Louisiana Cooperative Extension Service that no person shall be subject to discrimination on the ground of race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age or disability.

If you have a disability which requires special assistance for you to participate in the meeting, please contact: John Monzingo or the Claiborne Parish Extension Service at 318-927-3110 at least 3 days prior to the meeting.

GARDENING

SUGGESTED CULTURE FOR TOMATOES

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

It may have been a long time since you tasted a juicy tomato right out of a garden. This is why gardeners are eager to get tomato transplants in the ground as soon as the weather allows. Home gardeners are not always successful in producing an abundance of this favorite vegetable for a variety or reasons not all of which we can control. But an effort should be made to do those things that can improve success with this crop.

Your first step to achieving success is to choose an ideal site...or at least the best you can offer. It should provide full sun (or a minimum of six hours daily), good fertile soil that has both good surface and internal drainage and a convenient source of water. If there is any question about the level of fertility, get the soil tested and make the needed adjustments. Without a soil test, the next best approach is to use a complete fertilizer with a proper balance for tomatoes. Those with a ratio of the primary elements that is best would be one with a ratio of 1-2-2 Or 1-3-3 such as 5-10-10, 6-12-12 or 8-24-24. Side dressing with a high nitrogen fertilizer after the first green tomatoes are the size of a golf ball is a practice that will increase yields and may be repeated every three weeks afterward. Use two level tablespoons per plant and mixed into the soil surface about six inches from the plant's stem.

Planting on raised rows assures good surface drainage if the garden is flat. Black plastic mulch over the soil speeds its warming which increases the rate of plant growth and thus earlier production. The mulch also slows loss of soil moisture, prevents weed growth, keeps plants cleaner and helps prevent soil fungus from contaminating the plants.

Space holes one and a half to two feet apart, mix in the appropriate amount and kind of fertilizer and set plants at a depth that brings the soil up to near the lowest leaves. Wrap the bottom of the stem with aluminum foil from three inches above the soil to two inches below the soil to help prevent cut worm damage. The final step is to pour around a half pint of starter solution next to the stem to encourage fast establishment and rapid growth.

Since there is always the possibility of a late freeze, you may want to plant only part of the plants that you have and save the rest

to plant when you're sure there will not be any more late freezes. You can also protect the ones you planted earlier and shorten the time until you pick that first tomato. Early transplants may still be tender and need to be made garden-ready by gradually increasing light levels and not watering them much for about a week.

Supporting tomato vines offers many advantages. Season-long pest control is necessary for maximum production and blemish-free fruit.

Supports for the growing plants can range from some types of fencing to wire cages to stakes made of wood or metal.

JOE W. WHITE, Ph.D.

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