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INSIDE TODAY’S EDITION

Auto Guide 2025: Your car care companion hits the road

JOSHUA SPECHT
Minden Press-Herald

Whether you’re an everyday commuter, a weekend road-tripper, or someone who just wants to keep their ride running reliably, this week’s edition of the Minden Press-Herald brings you something worth holding onto: our 2025 Auto Guide — your car care companion under the hood and behind the wheel.

This special section is packed with practical advice, service reminders, expert tips, and local resources tailored for drivers right here in Webster

Parish. From tire care and oil changes to understanding what that blinking dashboard light really means, the Auto Guide is built to help you stay ahead of the curve — and out of the repair shop.

We know how important your vehicle is — whether it’s getting you to work, hauling the kids to school, or heading out for a much-needed getaway. That’s why we’ve made it our mission to put together a guide that speaks to everyday drivers, not just gearheads.

Inside, you’ll find: Smart maintenance tips to extend the life of your vehicle

What to look for when buying new or used in today’s auto market

A spotlight on trusted local mechanics, service shops, and dealerships

Insight into vehicle technology trends and safety features in 2025 models

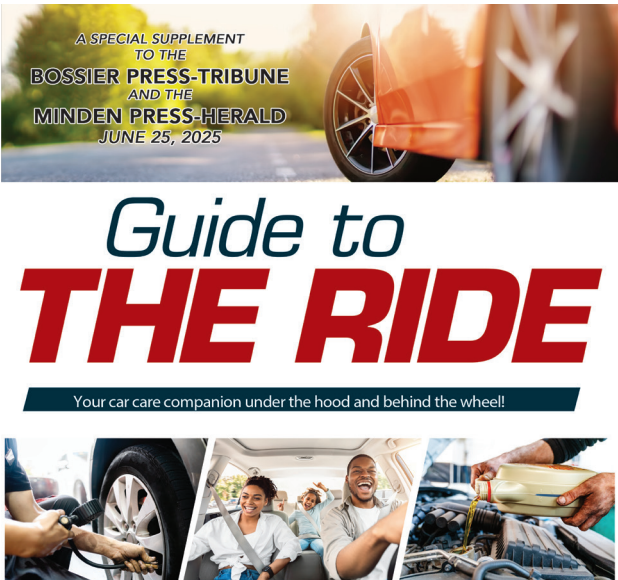
Seasonal advice to prepare your car for summer road trips and extreme weather

We’re proud to partner with many of our area’s top automotive professionals who are committed to keeping our community moving. Their support and service are part of what makes this guide more than just a

collection of tips — it’s a trusted local resource.

As always, we’re committed to bringing you content that’s relevant, helpful, and grounded in the needs of our readers. The Auto Guide is one more example of that mission in action.

Pick up your copy of the Minden Press-Herald this week — or flip through the E-Edition at press-herald.com — and keep the 2025 Auto Guide close by. Whether you’re popping the hood or planning your next upgrade, let this special section be your companion on the road ahead.



COMMUNITY

Sneed Weekend draws community together with health fair, football camp and fun

AMBER MCDOWN
Minden Press-Herald

Community members of all ages came out to celebrate hometown NFL star L’Jarius Sneed during a three-day weekend of events in Minden, which included a health fair, youth football camp, and car show with a basketball tournament.

The weekend kicked off Thursday with the Game Plan for Health event at David Raines Community Health Center. Nearly 100 people received wellness checks, sports physicals, and free food.

Friday’s youth football camp at Minden High School drew a large crowd. Before the camp began, one of the coaches told attendees that Sneed had been called back to NFL training camp and wouldn’t make it. Moments later, Sneed surprised the kids by ap-



L’Jarius Sneed speaks to participants during his youth football camp at Minden High School on Friday, part of a weekend of community events hosted by the NFL star and Minden native.

pearing on the field, met by cheers from the young athletes. Throughout the camp, he encouraged them with the phrase, “Be great today!”

On Saturday, the Sneed Reach 1 Foundation hosted a car show and 3v3 basketball tournament at the Minden REC Center. While attendance was lighter than

earlier events, organizers said those who came enjoyed good food, music from a live DJ, and a fun, relaxed atmosphere.

“I want to start with the youth, that’s my biggest drive. It’s what I love,” Sneed said. “These kids are such a blessing, just to see all these smiles, them calling my name ‘Sneed.’ That’s what I do

it for, just to give these kids hope and let them know that they can do it as well. I’m a normal person, just like them.”

Sneed, a Minden High School graduate, former Louisiana Tech Bulldog, and two-time Super Bowl champion, currently plays cornerback for the Tennessee Titans.

CRIME

7 pounds of marijuana found during I-20 traffic stop

STAFF REPORT
Minden Press-Herald

A Louisiana State Police traffic stop early Thursday morning led to the arrest of a Jonesboro man after authorities discovered approximately seven pounds of marijuana in his vehicle.

According to a report from Louisiana State Police, a trooper stopped Latrevious Williams, 35, on June 19 around 2:26 AM on Interstate 20 near mile marker 44. The stop was initiated due to Williams driving in the left-hand lane, following another vehicle too closely, and having only one functioning tail lamp.

After making contact with the driver, the troop-

er observed what were described as “numerous indicators of criminal activity.” Williams then signed a Louisiana State Police consent-to-search form. A search of the vehicle followed, during which the trooper located a trash bag containing approximately seven pounds of marijuana on the back seat.

Williams was arrested and booked on multiple charges, including driving on the right side of the road exceptions, following too closely, driving under suspension, no required tail lamps, and possession with intent to distribute marijuana.

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

CRIME

Man arrested for attempted vehicle theft, resisting officer

STAFF REPORT
Minden Press-Herald

A 38-year-old man was arrested early Sunday morning following an attempted vehicle theft at an apartment complex on

Lewisville Road.

Minden police were dispatched around 4:29 AM on June 22 in reference to a male subject reportedly pulling on the door handle of a running

See, **CRIME**, Page 3

GOLF

UCAP Charity Golf Tournament raises funds for local assistance programs

AMBER MCDOWN
Minden Press-Herald

The 2025 UCAP Charity Golf Tournament was held June 21-22 at Pine Hills Country Club, marking one of the United Christian Assistance Program’s largest annual fundraising events.

The tournament, played in a two-man scramble format, supports UCAP’s mission of providing food, rent and utility assistance, clothing, and emergency aid to individuals and families in need. Operated entirely on donations, UCAP has helped more than 25,000 people since

its founding.

Alongside the annual Hungerfest, the golf tournament serves as a primary source of funding for the nonprofit.

This year’s tournament featured multiple flights of competition. In the Championship Flight, first place went to Anders and Wells, second to McGuire and Basinger, and third to Grubbs and Neatherland. In the President Flight, Founds and Vaughn took first, followed by Brown and Willet in second, and Mills and Carahan in third.

The First Flight saw Wade and Still take top

honors, with Brennan and Murry in second and Clark and Reeves in third. In the Second Flight, Glover and Branch claimed first place, followed by Perryman and Perryman in second, and Dumas and Valentine in third.

In the Third Flight, Scaggs and Scaggs finished first, Marvin and Simonton took second, and Irby and Clanton rounded out third. Finally, in the Fourth Flight, Carruth and Smith earned first place, Bellamy and Bellamy came in second, and Branch and Odom placed third.



Golfers gather at Pine Hills Country Club during the 2025 UCAP Charity Golf Tournament, one of the organization’s largest fundraisers supporting assistance programs for the Minden community.

Proceeds from the tournament will help UCAP continue its mission of serving those in crisis within the Minden community.



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WEBSTER & MORE

EDUCATION

Juneteenth celebration draws crowd to MLK Drive in Minden

AMBER MCDOWN
Minden Press-Herald

Music, community pride, and messages of hope filled the air along Martin Luther King Drive on Thursday evening as Minden residents gathered for a Juneteenth celebration. The event drew a crowd and featured a variety of food trucks, local vendors, musical performances, and presentations.

Under sunny skies, attendees browsed vendor booths offering everything from house plants to community resources, while the scent of festival foods drifted through the street.

Avionna Smallwood, the reigning Phi Delta Kappa Miss Juneteenth, delivered a heartfelt address to the crowd. “Juneteenth is a day to celebrate freedom just like celebrating your birthday ... it’s a day to remember that everyone deserves to be treated with kindness and respect,” she said.

Sponsor Amanda Thomas praised Smallwood’s service and spirit. “Avionna has done a terrific job, and we are just so proud and thankful to have her,” Thomas said.

Smallwood is scheduled to crown her successor at a ceremony on June 20 at 6 PM at Webster Junior High School.

Therah Newman and John Gill Jr. performed Hold On, drawing cheers and applause from the audience.

Mayor Nick Cox took the stage to deliver an official proclamation on behalf of the City of Minden. “Every year this gets bigger and better,” Cox said. “I’ve enjoyed watching this event grow because it’s very important.”

He ended the proclamation, saying, “I encourage all citizens to join in the observance of this significant day through reflection, education, community engagement, honoring the legacy of those who fought for freedom and for justice.”

Adding a creative voice to the program, Tatiana Mason, the first recipient of the Kevin Washington Memorial Scholarship, read her original poem Forever More, which ended with the line, “we are the reason hope will never die.”

Cortney McCall, incoming principal of Webster Junior High School, was introduced by Oreata



Mayor Nick Cox presents a Juneteenth proclamation during Thursday’s celebration on MLK Drive in Minden, highlighting the event’s growth and encouraging community reflection and engagement.

Banks as “a minister ... a family man ... someone who loves children ... someone who loves to give back to the community.”

McCall recited I, Too by Langston Hughes and followed with the statement,

“Juneteenth is more than a holiday, it is a powerful reminder that freedom for African Americans was never given, but always fought for.”

Event organizers Breiesha Gilbert, Javelin Hardy, Angela Moody, Brenda-

vion Morgan, James Tims, Reginald Bridges, Walter Woo Morgan, Oreata Banks, and Chequilla and Michael Walker want to recognize and thank the many vendors who participated, helping to make the celebration both fes-

tive and meaningful.

The annual gathering continues to grow in both size and spirit, drawing residents from across the community to honor the significance of June 19 and its enduring legacy of freedom.

AMBER MCDOWN/PRESS-HERALD PHOTO

RIBBON CUTTING

T&B Mechanical Solutions in Minden open for business



AMBER MCDOWN/PRESS-HERALD PHOTO

A ribbon cutting ceremony was held Friday, June 20, for T&B Mechanical Solutions, one of Minden’s newest businesses, located at 200 Miller Street. Owner Jacob Thornton said the shop specializes in a wide range of mechanical repairs. “Boats, side-by-sides, four-wheelers, cars, trucks. I work on all of it. Diesel engines, gas engines, pretty much anything,” he said. Thornton partnered with Greg and Charlotte Jones, who purchased the property and building to help launch the business. “Seeing how Jacob works and approaches the business end — everything is done up front and with a great price,” said Greg Jones. “I consider this an investment in the community.”

T&B Mechanical Solutions can be reached at (318) 382-3611 or (318) 835-8096.

CRIME

Minden woman arrested in child death case

STAFF REPORT
Minden Press-Herald

A Minden woman has been arrested in connection with the death of a 2-year-old child earlier this year.

After the autopsy was completed, Keatavia Morris, 23, turned herself in at the Minden Police Department on June 18 and was arrested on a warrant for two counts of child desertion and one count of negligent homicide, ac-

cording to police.

The charges stem from an incident that occurred on April 30 at a residence in the 1300 block of Young Street. As previously reported, the Minden Police Department responded to a call at approximately 10:45 AM regarding an unresponsive 2-year-old girl. The child was transported to the emergency room in a private vehicle, where efforts to revive her were unsuccessful.

According to Minden

Police Chief Jared McIver, initial findings indicated that the 2-year-old and a 10-month-old child had been left unattended inside the home, strapped in car seats. Investigators believed the older child may have slipped into a slouched position in the car seat, potentially restricting her breathing.

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

Miss Webster Parish

Open to girls ages 0-15 years

JULY 12 @10:00 AM
MINDEN COMMUNITY HOUSE
ENTRY FEE IS \$60.00
\$10.00 PHOTOGENIC(OPTIONAL)

Contestants are judged on Natural Beauty.
Pageant dress or Sunday best dress may be worn.

Great pageant for beginners.

Contact Renee Thomas for Entry form.
318-780-4879
Deadline to enter July 8

WEBSTER & MORE

OBITUARIES



Roger Hurtle

Graveside services for Roger W. Hurtle will be held on Wednesday, July 2, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. at Gardens of Memory Cemetery in Minden, Louisiana under the direction of Rose Neath Funeral Home in Minden, Louisiana. Bro. Jeff Smart will be officiating.



Leonard Doy Miller

Funeral services for Leonard Doy Miller were held Tuesday, June 24, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. at First Baptist Church in Minden, Louisiana with Bro. Leland Crawford officiating. Interment followed at Gardens of Memory in Minden, Louisiana under the direction of Rose Neath Funeral Home in Minden with military rites. The family received friends Monday, June 23, 2025, from 5:00 until 7:00 p.m. at



Dr. Billy Jack Talton

Dr. Billy Jack Talton, Professor Emeritus at Louisiana Tech University and a world-renowned figure in powerlifting, died peacefully at his home in Dubach, Louisiana, on June 18, 2025, with his loving wife, Carolyn, by his side. He was 85.

Born to Oltavone and George Talton on March 16, 1940, in Minden, Louisiana, Billy Jack played football and graduated from Minden High School. During this period, he became interested in lifting weights to gain strength. In 1958, legendary coach Joe Aillet recruited Billy Jack to play football at Louisiana Tech University, where he excelled as an athlete and continued his passion for weight lifting.

Upon graduation, Bastrop High School hired Billy Jack to teach and coach where from 1962-1967. Here, he developed the idea of competitive powerlifting as a motivator to include not only football players but also other students who perhaps were underserved by other high school sports.

Following his tenure at Bastrop, Billy Jack continued coaching at Captain Shreve High School from 1967 to 1970. Between 1970 and 1972, he coached at Northwestern State University while pursuing a doctorate.

He went on to join the staff at Cedar Creek High School, where he coached and taught from 1972 to 1974.

Louisiana Tech brought Billy Jack back in 1974, where he became a faculty member in Health and Physical Education. Soon afterward, several students approached him about forming a university powerlifting team. The team competed in its first national collegiate championship in 1976 and, by 1987, won its first National Championship. With a team that evolved from the Dungeon Dogs to the Iron Dogs, Billy Jack would build Louisiana Tech into a national powerlifting powerhouse. At the same time, he led the team to 22 national championships until his retirement in 2001. In 2012, the fitness room in the Lambright Sports and Wellness Center was named the Billy Jack Talton Fitness Room in his honor.

Recognized as the “Father of Powerlifting,” Billy Jack served in many areas within the sport, including National Meet Director, IPF International Official, Official for the Paralympic Games, International Official for the

Mr. Hurtle was born on February 3, 1932, in Orange, Massachusetts and went to be with the Lord on June 5, 2025, in Minden, Louisiana. He served his country in the United States Air Force.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Jeanne L. Hurtle, daughters, Jeanne Marie Lawe and Cheryl Anne Doren, son Roger W. Hurtle, Jr.

Special thanks to Minden Medical Center staff, Dr. Gregory Phillips, and Bristol Hospice for the care given to Mr. Hurtle.

Rose Neath Funeral Home in Minden.

Leonard was born February 14, 1941, in Minden, Louisiana and went to be with the Lord on June 15, 2025, in Minden, Louisiana. Leonard served his country in the United States Army and retired as a Brigadier General.

He is preceded in death by his parents Doy and Jewel Miller and sister, Wanda Smith.

He is survived by his wife, Carolyn Miller of Minden; sons, Doy Michael Miller (Lynn) of Pennsylvania and Mark Leonard (Amy) Miller of Minden; sisters, Cynthia Spears of Minden, Sherry Wilkerson (Tommy) of Bossier City; brother, Tony Miller, (Laurie) of Ohio; grandchildren, Jake, Sammy, Shelby, Cameron, Erin (fiancé Pierce), and Kathryn, and numerous nieces and nephews.

Special Olympics, and a host of powerlifting administrative positions. A ten-time Collegiate Powerlifting Coach of the Year honoree, he was recognized as the founder of Louisiana High School Powerlifting, inducted into the Ark-La-Tex Sports Museum Hall of Fame, named an inaugural inductee into the USAPL Louisiana Hall of Fame, honored as the USA Powerlifting Federation 1st Annual Coach of the Year, and inducted into the US Powerlifting Hall of Fame.

A true pioneer beloved by the hundreds upon hundreds of students he mentored and coached through the years, Billy Jack remained in close contact with scores of athletes who soared to incredible heights under his tutelage. Always willing to regale groups, small and large, with stories from his legendary career, his signature intensity, dry wit, and robust laugh remained a gift to those around him. His life pushed limits with a legacy built upon profound strength, tenacity, grit, and the pursuit of excellence.

Billy Jack is survived by his wife of 62 years, Carolyn Flanagan Talton; daughter Tanya McGowan White (husband Ricky); son Billy Jack Talton, II (wife Vickie); granddaughter Evangelina Talton, grandson Sean McGowan (wife Katie); grandson Brian McGowan (wife Calyn); grandson Trey Talton; sisters Susan Byrd (husband Larry) and Sharon White (husband Jimmy); nephew John McLeMore; nieces Jennifer Cox (husband Ronnie), Patricia Phillips, Carolyn Frances Crouch, Ann Crouch, and Kristen Fairchild; great-granddaughters Sammi McGowan; Juliette McGowan and Caroline McGowan; and the family of Vickie Talton – Bertha Leticia Mejia (mother), Carlos Rameriz, (brother), Vanessa Lopez (sister) and Isauro Vasquez (brother).

Visitation is scheduled for Friday, June 27, 2025, from 5 P.M. to 7 P.M. in the Temple Baptist Church Fellowship Hall located at 1515 S. Service Road W in Ruston, Louisiana. Visitation will resume on Saturday, June 28, 2025, beginning at 1:00 p.m. with the service to follow at 2:00 P.M. Officiating the service will be Dr. Reggie Bridges and Bro. Dale Oden. Following the service, all are welcome to attend the burial at Kilpatrick’s Memorial Gardens on Highway 544 in Ruston under the direction of Kilpatrick Funeral Homes in Ruston, LA.

Serving as pallbearers are Bo Harris, Dr. Butch Dunn, Wade Hooper, Taurus Johnson, Gordon Boogarets, Jack Talton, Sean McGowan, and Brian McGowan.

Through the Louisiana Tech Foundation, Memorials honoring Billy Jack Talton will be sent to the Louisiana Tech University Athletics Museum.

Online condolences may be sent to the family at www.kilpatrickfuneralhomes.com.

DEPENDABLE CAREGIVER
SEEKING WORK.

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

Leave message if no answer.

CRIME

Continued from Page 1

vehicle. The suspect was described as wearing a white T-shirt and light-colored pants.

Upon arrival, officers located a man matching the description who was seen loosening a light fixture. Officers gave loud verbal commands for the man to approach and remove his hands from his pockets. He complied and was detained for questioning.

The man identified himself as Andolini Ray. During the interview, dispatch provided officers with a still image from surveillance footage showing a man in a white T-shirt and white pants reaching for the door handle of a remote-started car.

Ray claimed he had been visiting a friend and was walking through the complex when he became involved in a verbal altercation with another man, whom he alleged had made racist remarks. He said the image showed him near the car because the other man was inside it at the time.

However, police confirmed through dispatch that the vehicle’s owner was not inside the car during the reported in-

cident. Based on this and other evidence, Ray was placed under arrest for attempted theft of a motor vehicle.

As officers attempted to place him into a patrol unit, Ray reportedly refused to comply with commands and tensed up. Officers used minimal force to secure him in the vehicle.

A complainant later told police that her husband had remote-started his vehicle to prepare for work and, upon stepping outside, noticed his work boots were missing. He reportedly found them near Ray and observed him near the vehicle before contacting authorities.

All incidents were captured on surveillance footage, according to the report.

Ray was transported to the Minden Police Department and booked on charges of attempted theft of a motor vehicle, resisting an officer, and theft. He was later transferred to Bayou Dorcheat Correctional Center due to the felony nature of the charges.

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

CRIME

Man arrested following early morning altercation with brother on Hinton Street

STAFF REPORT
Minden Press-Herald

A Minden man was arrested in the early morning hours of June 13 after reportedly assaulting his brother during a dispute over missing tools.

Officers were dispatched at approximately 2:04 AM to a residence in the 900 block of Hinton Street in reference to a physical altercation between two brothers. The caller reported being attacked while asleep and was found by officers standing in the street with significant bleeding around his neck and upper chest area.

The man told police he had been asleep when his brother, Grant Neal, 38, suddenly entered his room and began striking him. He said Grant accused him of stealing tools, and although he was unsure what weapon may have been used, he believed it could have been a cane or a similar object. He told officers that Grant stays at the residence a few times a week and that several teenagers were also inside at the time.

Officers entered the residence due to safety concerns and located Grant, who exited the home holding miscellaneous objects. He was taken into custody without incident. After being advised of his

rights, Grant stated that he had come to retrieve tools and discovered some were missing from a toolbox mounted on his truck. He admitted to confronting his brother, and that the two began physically fighting, though he did not specify who initiated the altercation.

Inside the residence, officers observed blood droplets throughout several rooms. The brother’s bedroom was described as disheveled, with numerous sharp objects such as knives, drill bits, and razor blades found in the area. Officers believe the brother’s injury beneath his chin may have been caused during the struggle when he came into contact with one of these objects. It was not confirmed whether the injury was deliberately inflicted.

Grant was arrested and transported to the Minden Police Department, where he was booked on one count of simple battery. During transport, he requested medical attention, stating he had suffered a head injury and was experiencing medication withdrawal. Medics responded, but Grant declined treatment.

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

MPD

Minden police lieutenant on leave, facing disciplinary hearing over property damage charge

AMBER MCDOWN
Minden Press-Herald

A Minden Police Department lieutenant is on administrative leave and facing both criminal and administrative proceedings following a charge of simple criminal damage to property.

Lt. Christopher Hammontree, a 16-year veteran of the department, was already on administrative leave for a separate reason when he was charged Wednesday and released on his own recognizance, according to Minden Police Chief Jared McIver.

McIver confirmed that his department has completed a preliminary in-



MCIVER

ternal investigation. He said he has submitted a disciplinary recommendation to the Minden City Council, which has the authority to either uphold, overturn, or alter the recommendation.

“What they will do now is for them to decide when they convene,” McIver said in a phone interview. “It’ll be totally up to them.”

He added that the department must hold its personnel to a high standard.

“We’ve got a standard that should be above that of the normal public,” McIver said.

McIver declined to dis-



cuss further details about the charge or administrative leave status, stating that the matter remains in its early stages.

Hammontree is expected to appear before the Minden City Council for a disciplinary hearing, though a specific time for the session has not been

announced. McIver said it would be up to the mayor and council to determine the format of the hearing.

Mayor Nick Cox said a decision on disciplinary action will most likely be reached during the next city council meeting which will be held on Monday, July 7.

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OPINION

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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 is Correct to Assist Israel in the Elimination of Iran’s Nuclear Threat

Presidential historians traditionally look for signal and defining moments in a presidential administration as a method by which to rank and place that president in history. President Trump has just had one. What happened?

In a secret operation that can only be described as outstanding, President Trump ordered Operation Midnight Hammer in which the U.S. Central Command conducted precision strikes in the middle of the night against three Iranian nuclear facilities in Fordow, Natanz and Isfahan, in order to destroy or severely degrade Iran’s nuclear program. Transporting these enormous “bunker buster” bombs that were dropped was a large B-2 bomber strike package.

By all accounts, the result has been that the U.S. has, indeed, either completely obliterated or severely degraded the Iranian nuclear program.

President Trump explained his decision stating that “for decades we have watched Iranian leaders and their supporters chant ‘death to Israel’ and ‘death to America.’ We have watched the Iranian government, funding its proxies such as Hezbollah, Hamas, and the Houthis, deploy terrorism across the world.” Now, with the Israeli attack already well underway, the U.S. not only aided Israel, one of its closest allies in the

world, but also eliminated the same nuclear threat to our own country.

We should also recall that there is proof that Iran has tried to assassinate President Trump—that Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has intelligence that Iran ‘wants to kill’ Trump and was behind both assassination attempts on him.



ROYAL ALEXANDER

the U.S. in another foreign war. From what I’ve read, this only means that, in addition to the military equipment and intelligence with which we already provide Israel, we are assisting Israel with the use of these devastating bunker-buster bombs, reaching those deep places underground where Iranian scientists are working to enrich uranium with the goal of creating nuclear warheads. Israel doesn’t possess a bomb with the capacity to reach that far down, and these Iranian nuclear facilities must be destroyed.

President Trump now stands as a colossus on the

world stage. However, while he has re-asserted American military and foreign policy dominance with this strike in Iran, he also remains open to a negotiated end to this conflict.

As we watch this Iranian conflict unfold, I can’t help but recall the Afghanistan debacle under President Biden. The arbitrary and capricious U.S. withdrawal from Afghanistan stunned and angered many of our allies. Remember, our allies over the last 20 years had made enormous investments, blood and resources, in the stabilization and peaceful coexistence of that country to prevent the very thing from happening that did happen—Afghanistan transitioning back to being a terrorist haven which threatens the entire civilized world, as well as the mass exodus of fleeing Afghans seeking emergency naturalization and settlement in the countries of our allies.

As the Afghanistan debacle unfolded, with our government leaving billions of dollars of American military equipment behind to the Taliban, and as those huge American planes were taking off from that airport, loaded with people who were literally falling off of the airplanes as they took off, I remember thinking we are watching Afghanistan again devolve dangerously into a terrorist magnet ruled by the Taliban, and we are witness-

ing once again the timeless and immutable principle of history and nations that strength deters bad actors while weakness begets war.

I also recall that such an epic disaster in Afghanistan underscores the essential lesson of history that the only way to ensure peace is through strength. As President Reagan said, “we know only too well that war comes not when the forces of freedom are strong, but when they are weak. It is then that tyrants are tempted.”

President Trump has seized this moment. In so doing he has not only left a powerfully positive and indelible mark on his presidency, but he has also likely redirected the course of the world. There is no force as great as that of unharnessed nuclear power and to allow a nuclear weapon to be developed and possessed by such a radical group of religious zealots as those that comprise the Iranian government—a weapon it would also, no doubt, share with other terrorist groups—is simply too grave a risk to the world.

Our prayers are with you, Mr. President. Please continue to decisively and permanently end this nuclear threat now.

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

INSPIRATION

‘I will think about it tomorrow’

Scarlett O’Hara, in Gone With The Wind, often said “I will think about it tomorrow.”

Tomorrow never comes!

Before we know it, tomorrow becomes today, and yesterday is but a fog and tomorrow may never come.

Change can happen so fast that it will literally knock us off our feet!

Today is the only time promised and it may be gone before close of day because we don’t want to accept it but we may soon be on the other side and just as tragic our loved ones may go first -- so if you want to make today count do it now. It’s far better than shedding tears of regret when it’s too late to hug, to hold a hand to reminisce of days past and gone -- times that only the two of you two can relive in words, in quiet talking, bringing a glow, a sparkle to your loved ones eyes and melt your hearts, removing anger, hurt

feelings and lost regret of what may never come.

Do it now -- so there are no regrets.

If you have sisters or brothers spend some time with them, whether on the phone or in person, because they are the only ones who grew up in your home, who knew your parents, and have a clue where you are coming from.



SARAH HUDSON PIERCE

If you have no immediate family reach out, embrace others into your life, because sometimes we can adopt others into our lives in a way that is sometimes closer than the blood that runs through our veins. We all need somebody

-- someone to care-- someone to take our calls regardless of when they are placed. We need someone who will go out on a limb and form a “two way loving relationship.”

If you still have secret dreams of what you want to do with your life, write it down, make a goal list, because there’s something special about achieving your dreams even late in life.

You might keep your goal list secret because what Erma Bombeck wrote is still true: “It takes courage to be a dreamer. If you take your dream out of the box and show it to someone they might drop it.”

We need someone to love, something to do and something to hope for.

That’s a magic mix.

If you combine someone to love, something to do, something to hope for will come automatically as you care for those people in your

life and take time to work on your dreams.

Life is simply too short not to be happy. We should shoot for the stars, and draw others into your life by being open and vulnerable to being hurt!

Making dreams come true is so much better than “living in the gray areas of life knowing neither victory nor defeat” to paraphrase a quote from President Theodore Roosevelt.

The risk is worth the effort. I’ve been hurt less than I’ve been loved!

I am just grateful for the joy that I possess in being me, knowing that Jesus is the same yesterday, today and forever and He always gets me to the right place at the right time even though I might have to tread water from time to time!

CONTACT SARAH AT SARAH9957@AOL.COM

203 GLEASON ST.

A Quarter Century of Purpose: Reflecting on 24 Years at Specht Newspapers

I consider myself very fortunate to do what I get to do each and every day. I love it! It’s a part of me. And I don’t keep that a secret. Over the years, I’ve shared my feelings many times in my columns.

Speaking of those newspaper columns—having the opportunity to share, from my personal perspective, the many positive events and the tremendous, exponential growth happening across our region is a privilege I take seriously and treasure deeply. I consider it an honor.

I sincerely appreciate the kind and supportive words of encouragement from so many of you in our readership. Whether I see you in public, receive your emails, or get your calls, it means a lot when something I’ve written touches or inspires you.

Again—and I believe I speak for our entire staff when I say this—we are truly privileged and deeply blessed to do what we do every day as your hometown newspaper for Webster Parish.



RANDY BROWN

to this community and to you—our loyal readers and advertisers.

That said, nearly every day brings something new, fun,

and exciting. We’re able to attend so many incredible events and tell so many inspiring stories. Two weeks from today—on July 3, 2025—I’ll celebrate 24 years with Specht Newspapers. Wow. Twenty-four years! Can that really be true? Time has passed so quickly—and I’ve always believed that’s how it should be when you truly enjoy what you do.

Since I was about 10 or 12 years old, working for my dad, I’ve believed that a job isn’t just a job. When you truly enjoy what you do, it’s not work.

Again, I love what I do as part of the this newspaper. And I feel immensely blessed and extremely fortunate to do this work every single day. Over the past 24 years, I’ve met so many amazing and

inspiring people, and I’ve had the privilege of working with some incredibly talented team members. What a privilege. What an honor.

And in about six weeks—on Aug. 1, 2025—I’ll celebrate my 11th year as publisher of the Bossier Press-Tribune, our sister newspaper. Again, wow. Has it really been 11 years? I often reflect on how much my life, our industry, and our world have changed in these 24 years. And recently, I’ve been thinking about how much has changed just in the past 11 years since I became publisher of the Bossier Press-Tribune.

Change, whether we like it or not, is inevitable. It’s constant. But one thing that never changes is our commitment to you—our read-

ers and our advertisers.

As I now step into my 25th year at this company—and soon into my 12th year as publisher—I can say with certainty, on behalf of myself and our entire staff, that we remain fully committed to bringing you the news, sports, and stories of the events that shape life in this community each and every day.

It’s our mission. It’s our passion. It’s our life. It’s what we do. And I’m one lucky guy with a front-row seat to all the truly great and amazing things happening locally.

RANDY BROWN IS EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT OF SPECHT NEWSPAPERS, INC., AND PUBLISHER OF THE MINDEN PRESS-HERALD.

SPORTS

Russell Hedges, Sports Editor
rhedges@spechtnewspapers.com

FOOTBALL



More than 300 campers participated in the L'Jarvis Sneed Youth Football Camp last Friday at The Pit.

RUSSELL HEDGES/PRESS-HERALD

Sneed ready to get back on the field

RUSSELL HEDGES
Minden Press-Herald

After missing almost the entire 2024 season, Tennessee Titans cornerback L'Jarvis Sneed is eager to play again.

"It's exciting for me," the former Minden High star told local media at his third annual youth camp at his alma mater last week. "I'm ready to get back on the field. That's my life. That's what I do for a living. Missed a whole year. I have to remind everybody who L'Jarvis Sneed is."

After being drafted by Kansas City in the fourth round in 2020 and helping the Chiefs win two Super Bowls in his four years, the former Louisiana Tech star was traded to the Titans for third- and seventh-round draft picks in March.

He signed a four-year contract extension worth



Former Minden star L'Jarvis Sneed stops for a photo before his youth football camp last Friday at The Pit.

RUSSELL HEDGES/PRESS-HERALD

\$76.4 million.

Sneed started the first five games before suffering an injury while taking a helmet to the thigh in Week 6 against the Indianapolis Colts

According to media reports, the injury was first diagnosed as a bruise. But further tests showed it was a more serious quadriceps

strain.

Sneed was placed on injured reserve on Nov. 22 and didn't play again.

According to media reports, he underwent surgery that included a bone marrow aspirate injection.

During his talk with the media at his camp, Sneed said he's as healthy as he has been and that

he's ready to come out and show what he can do.

At Kansas City, Sneed was considered among the top lockdown corners in the league.

"He's coming back injury-wise," Titans Head Coach Brian Callahan told Jim Wyatt of titansonline.com in May. "So, the rehab process is ongoing. He's in a good spot, excited about where he's at."

Sneed was in high spirits at his camp, which attracted more than 300 participants. That's up from 250 last year and 100 in the first year, Sneed said.

He said he appreciates the responsibility he has as a role model.

"The kids look up to me," he said. "They want to play on a big stage like me. Just a blessing to come back and be a role model for these kids. Show them the way that it can be done."

HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL

North Webster runner-up in its 7v7 tournament

RUSSELL HEDGES
Minden Press-Herald

Last Saturday was a very good day in Springhill for the North Webster Knights.

The first Main Street Invitational 7v7 HS Tournament was a success despite ongoing construction projects and upgrades including a new field house.

To top it off, the host Knights made it to the championship game of the 10-team event, falling to Booker T. Washington 22-15.

In pool play games, North Webster defeated Woodlawn 19-7 and Homer 24-7. The Knights also lost to Magnolia, Ark., 17-10 and LaGrange 18-11.

The Knights started the single-elimination tournament with a 29-18 victory over Huntington. They avenged the loss to Magnolia in the semifinals 23-2.

BTW defeated Calvary Baptist 28-20 in the other semifinal.

"Congratulations to the

BTW LIONS for winning the Inaugural Main Street Invitational," North Webster Head Coach Christopher Wilson wrote on his Facebook page.

"Thanks to every team, coach, fans that came up and supported today! It was an outstanding turnout and we look to continue to grow and hopefully continue hosting this event to showcase all of the greatness of not only North Webster community but all the athletes of Louisiana!"

In a post on the North Webster Knights Football Facebook page, Wilson wrote that three Knights received scholarship offers from Louisiana Christian — Donte Owens, Ja'Myrian Jackson and Jameson Harden.

Owens had nine interceptions last season and was named second-team All-State by the Louisiana Football Coaches Association.

Jackson was named first-team All-District 1-3A at linebacker.

MISCELLANEOUS

Former Tech star Vickie Johnson to be inducted into LSHOF

RUSSELL HEDGES
Minden Press-Herald

Former Louisiana Tech women's basketball star Vickie Johnson will be inducted into the Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame Saturday night in Natchitoches.

Johnson is one of nine competitors' ballot inductees in the 2025 class.

Johnson, a former Coushatta High star, ranks among the greatest play-

ers in Louisiana Tech Lady Techster program history under coach Leon Barmore. She was an WNBA All-Star in 13 seasons in the league.

She ended her pro career winning the WNBA's Kim Perrot Sportsmanship Award in 2008.

Former LSU head football coach Nick Saban, and LSU and NFL standout Andrew Whitworth are among the other inductees.

OUTDOORS

Three Louisiana lakes in top 10 for best fisheries

GLYNN HARRIS

Louisiana is known as the "Sportsman's Paradise" with good reason. Although we're not at the top for deer, turkey and duck hunting, we hold our own rather well. With our proximity to the Gulf and its great salt-water fishing along with top-notch lakes and rivers within the state, we often turn heads when it comes to fishing.

An organization, Fishmasters.com, recently did a yeoman's job in selecting the top 30 lakes in states across the country. These lakes were chosen after talking with local anglers and followers on social media. The list was compiled not just about popularity but about where people actually go to fish and what they catch.

Louisiana's top 30 lakes, as compiled by Fishmasters.com, cover lakes all over the state. What attracted my attention was how the organization shined the spotlight on lakes in north Louisiana. A few of note included Bussey Brake, a lake that has recently caught on fire for the number of lunker bass it is producing. It sits at number 16 and if the list were more recent, Bussey might be higher.

Black Lake in Natchitoches Parish was listed as number 12 and Bistineau at number 11. What especially caught my attention was the top ten lakes that included those in north Louisiana. Number 1 was no surprise, Toledo Bend with Caney Lake coming in at number 2 and D'Arbonne at number 3. What really pleased me was the lake sitting at number 7, Lake Claiborne.



GLYNN HARRIS

The sun rises over Lake Claiborne, the state's seventh best fishing lake, according to Fishmasters.com.

When I lived in Homer during the late 1960s, the big news was that a new lake was being planned and drawn up for the hills of Claiborne Parish. State Senator, Danny Roy Moore, a civil engineer working with Representative John S. Garrett drew up plans for the lake and were able to secure funds to construct the 6500 acre lake.

The lake was completed and water coursed over the spillway for the first time on May 17, 1968.

Before the lake filled, I would drive out before work and enjoy some exciting early morning duck hunts on the potholes that would eventually be inundated by 30 feet of water.

Once the lake filled, Lake Claiborne became a school bass para-

dise and fishing for bass that churned the surface chasing shad became my go-to sport.

A lot has happened to Lake Claiborne over the past 57 years since it filled. The lake's popularity started waning somewhat with the construction of Caney Lake, which became known as the big bass capitol of Louisiana. The state record 15.97 pounder was caught by Greg Wiggins on Caney, a record that has stood for over twenty years. Catching a four or five pounder on Claiborne was about the high standard.

Over the past decade, Lake Claiborne has quietly and steadily been making a comeback and much of the success today has to do with the introduction of Tiger Bass, a hybrid cross

between native largemouth bass and Florida strain largemouth bass. Tiger bass are known for their faster growth rates compared to pure strains of largemouths. During a recent tournament held on the lake, the top eight fish averaged nearly 8 pounds each with the largest weighing in at over 11 pounds.

"Lake Claiborne doesn't try to impress," quoting Fishmasters.com. "It delivers, especially for those who know how to read the water and come ready to fish."

Area fishermen should be proud to know that four of our north Louisiana lakes are in the top ten for the state, Toledo Bend, Caney, D'Arbonne and rather surprisingly, Lake Claiborne.

Fishing Report

BUSSEY BRAKE – Bass have been good with several fish weighing in double digits caught early mornings on topwaters and on soft plastics and spinners later. Crappie are on the flats and some big ones are biting on shiners or jigs. The bream are bedding around the edges of the brush. For latest information, contact the Honey Hole at 323-8707.

OUACHITA RIVER – High water but on a slow fall. Some bass caught in the cuts and in the back water on buzz baits and spinner baits. Crappie are fair; bream are biting in the backwaters. For latest information, contact the Honey Hole Tackle Shop at 323-8707.

LAKE D'ARBONNE – Water is high with lots of current. Gates are open. Bass fishing has been best up Corney Creek on crank baits and soft plastics. Crappie are suspended on the flats and taking jigs and shiners. 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 fair to good on jigs and shiners. Bass are around the banks

and hitting topwaters early while later hitting hit jigs, spinners and soft plastics. Bream are on the beds and worms and crickets are working on them. Stripers are schooling and hitting shad imitations. For latest information, call Kel's Cove at 927-2264 or Terzia Tackle at 278-4498.

CANEY LAKE – Bass are best early morning around the grass on topwater lures. Later in the day, soft plastics and crank baits are taking some fish on secondary points. Some schooling activity is being noted with fish hitting shad imitations. Crappie are around the deep tops and jigs and shiners are taking some big ones. Bream both chinquapins and bluegills are on the beds and hitting crickets and worms. 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 are biting. No report on others. For information, contact the marina at 318/878-0101.

LAKE YUCATAN – The water is scheduled to crest this weekend but is still too high for access to landing. No fishing this week. For info call Surplus City Landing at 318/467-2259.

Good News

GOOD NEWS

Living the Beatitudes Daily

In studying through Matthew's Gospel, I 'camped' in Chapters 5-7 - The Beatitudes - for a while. By reading them over and over, I thought the teachings would 'stick to me' and that would be enough. But the more I studied them, the more I realized Jesus wants us to incorporate them into our daily living as we follow Him. That sounds like work to me!

Oh, but the blessings that come from obeying the Master's teaching! Soon after Jesus' baptism and his victory over Satan in the wilderness, He began his public ministry. The 'hour' had struck, the call to action had come, and He must go forth on His crusade. (Barclay). He knew His mission and He was ready for the challenge. Matthew records how Jesus began calling His disciples together (3:18-22). His promise was to make them

"fishers of men and not just fishermen." Others began to follow to hear his teachings and witness the miracles that He did. Our first recorded teaching sessions are referred to as The Beatitudes. This was His message He wanted to pass on to the disciples, and they would pass on to others. This might be considered the 'ordination sermon' for the disciples. In this Sermon on the Mount we find the His core and foundational teachings He shared with the disciples. Matthew and Luke give us their 'take' of the Mount Sermon, with some variation. Both accounts are rich in tips for godly living and service for us today.

It is said by scholars, "Matthew collected Jesus' teachings into one whole pattern; Luke

took the pattern, broke it up and scattered the pieces all over his gospel." We know this was not just one sermon He preached, but a summary of the consistent teaching to His disciples. Today we might use the 'retreat' concept for a Master teacher to use to teach concepts and truths for His team to use in future assignments. Jesus chose the hillside.

When Jesus went up the hill to teach, His disciples followed Him. He sat down and began to teach. (Master teachers sat and their followers sat around them, eager to hear every word). As He looked around, He made eye contact with them and began to share Himself. Imagine Jesus saying: "This is very important and I don't want you to miss any

of it." When Jesus opened His mouth, it was more than idle talk. This expression was used to speak of a solemn, grave and dignified utterance. He was really opening His heart and fully pouring out His mind. These were the men He chose to be His right-hand team in His task of taking the Good News to the world. It has been referred to as 'nothing less than the concentrated memory of many hours of heart-to-heart communion between the disciples and their Master.' And then Jesus began teaching....

"Blessed are the poor in spirit; Blessed are those who mourn; Blessed are the meek; Blessed are they who hunger and thirst for righteousness; Blessed are the merciful; Blessed are the pure in heart; Blessed are the peacemakers; Blessed are those who are persecuted for righ-

teousness' sake; Blessed are those who are insulted and falsely accused. Rejoice and be glad when you are persecuted because of Me, for your reward will be great; You are blessed", Jesus said.

This passage is worthy of our dwelling at length to fully comprehend what the Master Teacher is conveying to His disciples. Our assignment is to incorporate these challenges into our daily lives, putting to test each one as we allow the Lord to direct our paths. . And then our lives will be truly 'salt and light' to share with a hopeless and sin-sick world. (Robert Schuler spoke of them as being "Be-happy-attitudes").

BILL CRIDER IS CHAPLAIN OF MINDEN MEDICAL CENTER



Bill Crider

THE UPWARD LOOK

Prospering

"And he will be like a tree firmly planted by streams of water, Which yields its fruit in its season; And its leaf does not wither; And in whatever he does, he prospers." Psalm 1:3 NASB



Max Hutto

The result of staying away from sin and delighting in the Bible is a continual, flourishing relationship with God. These righteous ones are blessed by God and will see God at work in their lives. They will be like the tree that is carefully planted and cared for. It stays green even during a drought because it is planted close to

its water source. At the appropriate time the tree bears fruit. The righteous will prosper in their relationship with God as He works to carry out His purpose for their lives.

Lord Jesus, I am mindful of Your work in my life. During the good times and the rough times, help me to draw strength from You by staying true to Your Word, the Bible.

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

INSPIRATION

Together

In Matthew 22 a lawyer tried tempting the lord by asking him a question "which is the greatest commandment?" The Lord answered him (Matthew 22:37-40 NLT)"You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your mind.' This is the first and greatest commandment. A second is equally important: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' The entire law and all the demands of the prophets are based on these two commandments." I read this word and I marvel at the power of God and his divine wisdom. Jesus gave us two commandments to be the backbone of our entire belief system. At the heart of

those commandments stands one word and that word is love. We live in a world that is wrapped in chaos and struggling to find peace. We rely on the people around us to give us the solution but God already has. The solution to our problems has always been love over hate, faith over fear, and togetherness over separation. I would like to encourage everyone this week to give your worries to God and lift up everyone around you in his love.




Bernard Harris

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

2025 - 2026
BUDGET
EXPENDITURES:
2025 2026
-
BUDGET
Collections
\$405,800 Superintendant Salary
\$32,429
Service Charges
Miscellaneous
Interest Income
DHH Safe Drinking Water Fund Sales Tax (Commercial Accts) Waterworks
CASH
Waterworks (LAMP &E. Jones) Beginning Fund Balance
\$3,500 Other Salaries
\$87,796
\$1,000 IRA - Employee
\$1,025
\$1,000 Payroll Tax
\$9,198
\$10,956 Employee Benefits
\$47,767
\$1,200 Utilities
\$34,000
\$33,000 Office Supplies & Postage
\$6,500
\$1,940 Audit & Accounting
\$6,000
\$125,000 Office Publications
\$400
Insurance
Dues/Certifications
\$30,000
\$1,000
Uniforms
\$2,300
TOTAL R/O REVENUE
\$583,396 | Miscellaneous
\$5,000
Gasoline
\$3,500
Vehicle Maintenance
\$2,000
Maintenance & Repair
\$35,000
Vehicle Fund LAMP
\$5,000
Chemicals & Supplies
\$80,000
Add'l Transfer to SOM
\$15,000
Sales Tax (Commercial Accts)
\$1,500
DHH Safe Drinking Water Act
\$10,408
Contingency
\$167,573
Page 4 of Ordinance No. 126-V; 2025 - 2026 Budget
TOTAL R/O EXPENDITURES
\$583,396
SECTION IV.
TOWN OF SIBLEY
ORDINANCE NO. 126-V
SEWER OPERATING & MAINTENANCE
REVENUE:
2025-2026
2025-2026
EXPENDITURES:
BUDGET
BUDGET
Collections
Add'l Transfer from R/O
Miscellaneous
Interest Income
\$165,000 Superintendant Salary
\$16,215
\$15,000 Payroll Tax
\$1,241
\$500 Employee Benefits
\$4,643
\$300 Utilities
\$31,000
Beginning Fund Balance
\$30,000 Office Supplies & Postage
\$500
Audit & Accounting
\$1,000
TOTAL SOM REVENUE
\$210,800 Insurance
\$4,000
Dues/Certifications
\$200
Uniforms
\$500
Miscellaneous
\$3,000
Gasoline
\$1,500
Vehicle Maintenance
\$2,000
Maintenance & Repairs
\$40,000
Chemicals & Supplies
\$11,000
Lab Fees
\$6,000
Bond Payments
\$34,950
Contingency
\$53,051
TOTAL SOM EXPENDITURES
\$210,800
Page 5 of Ordinance No. 126-V; 2025 - 2026 Budget
SECTION V.
FIRE DEPARTMENT
TOWN OF SIBLEY
ORDINANCE NO. 126-V
2025 - 2026
2025-2026
REVENUE:
EXPENDITURES:
BUDGET
BUDGET
Fire Insurance Rebate
Sales Tax
Fire District #2
Interest Income
Beginning Fund Balance
TOTAL FIRE DEPT REVENUE
\$11,000 Utilities
\$4,000
\$72,000 Audit / Accounting
\$1,850
\$70,000 Insurance
\$40,000
\$1,000 Miscellaneous
\$2,000
\$493,072 Contract Labor - Cleaning
\$775
Supplies
\$10,000
\$647,072 Gasoline
\$2,000
PIAL Rating
\$25,000
Maintenance & Repairs
\$25,000
Fire Truck Expense
\$6,000
Truck Lease Payment
\$77,372
Firefighter Annual Reimbursement
\$25,000
New Fire Truck
\$110,000
Contingency
\$318,075
TOTAL FD EXPENDITURES
\$647,072
Page 6 of Ordinance No. 126-V; 2025 - 2026 Budget
SECTION VI.
SALES TAX
TOWN OF SIBLEY
ORDINANCE NO. 126-V
2025-2026
2025-2026
REVENUE:
EXPENDITURES:
BUDGET
BUDGET
Collections
\$360,000 Salaries
\$90,528
DOTD
\$3,100 Payroll Taxes
\$6,926
Interest Income
Beginning Fund Balance
\$500 Employee Benefits
\$4,000
\$396,000 Audit / Accounting
\$1,900
Insurance
\$7,000
TOTAL SALES TAX REVENUE
\$759,600 Uniforms
\$1,600
Miscellaneous
\$1,000
Capital Outlay
\$68,000
Streets
\$40,000
Government Capital - Tractor
\$7,071
Government Capital - Property
\$40,575
Transfer to General Fund
\$144,000
Transfer to Police Department
\$36,000
Transfer to Fire Department
\$72,000

Contingency
\$239,000
TOTAL ST EXPENDITURES
\$759,600
Page 7 of Ordinance No. 126-V; 2025 - 2026 Budget
TOWN OF SIBLEY
ORDINANCE NO. 126-V
SECTION VII.
If any provision or item of this ordinance or the applicatoin thereof is held invalid such invalidity shall not effect any other provisions, items or applica-
tions of this ordinance or of the original ordinance, which could be given
effect without the invalid provisions, items or applications
and to this end the provisions of this ordinance are hereby declared sever-
able.
SECTION VIII
This ordinance shall be effective on July 1, 2025.
This ordinance was introduced on May 12, 2025, a public notice was pub-
lished in the Minden Press Herald on May 21, 2025 and a Public Hearing
was held on June 9, 2025. This ordinance was read,
considered and adopted on June 9, 2025 at an open regular session of the
Board of Aldermen.
Upon a motion made by Keith Merritt seconded by John Langford the fol-
lowing vote was taken:
YEAS: 5 - Wayne Bolton, Pam Chanler, Richard Davis, John Langford,
Keith Merritt
NAYS: 0
ABSENT: 0
ABSTAIN: 0
original signed Robert Smart
Robert Smart, Mayor
Attest
original signed Sherry McCann
Sherry McCann, MMC - Town Clerk
Page 8 of Ordinance No. 126-V; 2025 - 2026 Budget

June 25, 2025
Minden Press Herald

ORDINANCE NO. 147- H

AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING COMPENSATION FOR MUNICIPAL
ELECTED OFFICIALS AND MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES FOR THE TOWN
OF SIBLEY, LOUISIANA, AND PROVIDING IN CONNECTION THERE-
WITH
BE IT ORDAINED AND ENACTED by the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of
the Town of Sibley, Louisiana, in regular session duly convened on June 9,
2025 as follows, to-wit:
SECTION I.
Effective July 1, 2025, the compensation and salary of the Mayor, Board of
Aldermen, Chief of Police and Town Clerk is hereby set, as required by La.
R.S. 33:404.1 and 404G as follows:
Mayor
Alderman
\$26,000 annually
\$6900 each annually
Police Chief
\$24,164 annually
Town Clerk
\$50,347 annually
SECTION II.
All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby
repealed.
SECTION III.
If any provision or item of this ordinance or the application thereof is held
invalid such invalidity shall not affect any other provisions, items or applica-
tions of this ordinance or of the original ordinance, which could be given
effect without the invalid provisions, items or applications and to this end the
provisions of this ordinance are hereby declared severable.
Page 1 of 2 of Ordinance No. 147- H
SECTION IV.
This ordinance shall be effective on July 1, 2025.
This ordinance was introduced on May 12, 2025, a public notice was posted
on May 13, 2025 and published in the Minden Press Herald on May 21,
2025 and a Public Hearing was held on June 9, 2025. This ordinance was
read, considered and adopted on June 9, 2025 at an open regular session
of the Board of Aldermen.
the Upon a motion made by Pam Chanler, seconded by Wayne Bolton fol-
lowing vote was taken:
YEAS: 5-W. Bolton, P. Chanler, R. Davis, J. Langford, K. Merritt
NAYS: 0
original signed
Robert Smart
Robert Smart,
Mayor
Attest:
ABSENT: 0
original signed Sherry McCann
Sherry McCann, MMC, Town Clerk
Page 2 of 2 of Ordinance No. 147-G
ABSTAIN: 0

June 25, 2025
Minden Press Herald

PUBLIC NOTICE

Minden Planning Commission Meeting
July 3, 2025 – 10:00 a.m.
Pelican Room - Minden City Hall

On the agenda is a request from Jim Huffman with Huffman Manor for a
zoning variance on
property owned by him located at 1114 Broadway Street. The property is
zoned R-1
(Residential).
The purpose of this zoning variance request is to use the property as a
boarding house and event
venue.
All interested parties will be given a chance to be heard.

June 18, 25, 2025
July 2, 2025
Minden Press Herald

PUBLIC NOTICE

Minden Planning Commission Meeting
July 3, 2025 – 10:00 a.m.
Pelican Room - Minden City Hall

On the agenda is a request from Jimmy Adams for a zoning variance on
property owned by him
located at 308 Emerald Drive. The property is zoned R-2 (Residential).
The purpose of this zoning variance request is to operate an ATV and lawn
mower repair
business at this address.
All interested parties will be given a chance to be heard.

June 18, 25, 2025
July 2, 2025
Minden Press Herald

Notice

The Town of Sibley declared the item referenced below as surplus at its
June 9, 2025 meeting and has authorized the LPS Municipal Surplus Prop-
erty Program to sell the property through online auction. Unless extended,
bidding will end on Friday, July 11, 2025 at 5:00 p.m. Bidders must go to
https://lamats.net/surplus and access the designated link to register and to
place bids. The Town of Sibley reserves the right to review and approve all
high bids and to relist or dispose of the item if not sold.

2004 Ford F-250 Pickup Truck

June 25, 2025
Minden Press Herald

Liquor Permit

We are applying to the Commission on Alcoholic Beverage Control of the
State of Louisiana for a permit to sell beverages of high and low alcoholic
content at retail in the parish of WEBSTER at the following address:

Name of Corporation: Seafood Empire LLC

Address: 302 E. Union Street Minden, LA 71055

Print Name: Carlton D. Myles

Phone Number: 318-617-2898

June 25, 2025
Minden Press Herald

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

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