

Penny Record

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Week of Wednesday, June 22, 2022



After three weeks of being closed to roadway traffic, the East Roundbunch swing bridge was being repaired and a new master control panel tested by technicians Tuesday afternoon. RECORD FILE PHOTO: Mark Dunn

East swing bridge repair saga continues

Dave Rogers
For The Record

After three weeks of being closed to roadway traffic, the East Roundbunch swing bridge was being repaired and a new master control panel tested by technicians Tuesday afternoon.

The outlook for reopening was good and it can't come soon enough for Peggy Albair.

Her restaurant, Peggy's Place, is at the north end of the popular shortcut from Texas Avenue in Bridge City to the plants on Chemical Row, also known as FM 1006.

The bridge, which used to bring Albair a packed-house lunch and dinner business, has been mostly closed since early in 2017.

"It's affected my business tremendously," she said. "If they'd have built a big bridge, we wouldn't be having this problem."

The swing bridge's roadway that crosses the Cow Bayou is built on a center pier and rotates horizontally to a 90-degree angle to allow barge traffic to pass.

It is operated from a non-moving control room at the center of the bridge, with the touch of a button. Or at least that's the way it works when it's working, according to Orange County Engineer Corey Oldbury.

It was working pretty consistently in April, when it was opened 90 times (3 per day) to let

EAST SWING Page 3A

3rd Coast 10K Relay 'builds city'

Dave Rogers
For The Record

The folks at 3rd Coast Movement are stepping out in a big way for Bridge City.

The personal fitness training center is holding a Team 10K Relay fundraiser Saturday, beginning at 9 a.m. at its location at 300 E. Roundbunch Road.

From two to 10 runners can be on a team, with an entry fee of \$20 each due the day of the event.

Proceeds are going to a Public Outdoor Recreation Project for Bridge City.

"We do an annual 10K run just to give back to the community," says Maggie James, a fitness coach at 3rd Coast.

"Last year, we did one to help a veteran fix his house from Hurricane Laura. We wanted to do something bigger that can be enjoyed by the whole community this year."

Chris Auster and his wife, Carrie Pugh Auster, own the business which has operated since 2011. James and Andreas De La

Puente are fitness coaches. "We set out to create a way of fitness that fits into people's lives, honors them as individuals, and puts them around people who love to have a laugh while getting fit," the owners said.

"Eleven years later, we offer the most health- and wellness-focused small group sessions, personal training and nutrition consulting in Southeast Texas.

"We know that fitness is hard work and have an expert guide you is key. It is our life's work and passion to be that guide for you."

Chris Auster has more than 10 years' experience in one-on-one and small group training and is a CrossFit Level 3 instructor. He also has certifications in nutrition, mobility and weightlifting.

Carrie Pugh Auster is a CrossFit Level 2 instructor and Nutrition Level 2 coach also certified to teach CrossFit Kids and CrossFit Gymnastics.

3rd Coast 10K Page 3A

BCISD bears it as insurance costs soar

Dave Rogers
For The Record

Gulf Coast homeowners are getting hammered this year when renewing their property and casualty insurance and the Bridge City school district is no different.

Insurance carriers are socking it to their customers in the areas hard-hit by hurricanes and tropical storms in recent years.

After watching its property insurance bill practically double from \$418,000 in 2019 to \$820,000 in 2022, the district's board members held their noses and signed off on a bill of \$1 million, 87 thousand dollars for the upcoming school year at Monday night's meeting.

That's a sky-rocketing increase of 260% over four years.

"(Insurers) aren't bidding for business in this region. (Insurance) costs keep going up," Dr. Mike Kelly, superintendent, said.

"It's been a very frustrating time trying to find insurance," Melinda James, the district's business manager, reported to



School board member Thad Hill, center, visits with Will Clayton, left, and Richard Crump of Claycomb Associates Architects after Monday night's BCISD meeting. RECORD PHOTO: Dave Rogers

board members.

"Our location is dictating what they'll provide for us. Basically, what they're doing is putting the risk from the insurance company on FEMA or somebody else that will come in during a storm.

"You know we just got our final FEMA check for (Hurricane) Ike last year."

Hurricane Ike hit Bridge City in 2008.

Kelly said the district had no choice but to ac-

cept the \$1 million-plus rate, since the 2022 policy expires June 30. But the second-year Cardinal education boss said he'll look for help from state and national officials.

"I've got a draft of a letter and an email I'm working on that will go to our senators, our representatives. Property taxes in the coastal region are out of control and we need to let them know."

He asked the district's board members, school

leaders and all others at the Monday meeting to contact their elected officials.

Bridge City is unique among Orange County school districts, James said, because its insurance year runs from July through June. Other schools don't renew until September, she said.

That means it's too soon for group problem-solving with neigh-

BCISD Page 2A

Judge Gothia to be roasted, toasted Aug. 4

Margaret Toal
For The Record



Gothia

Seven years have passed since Bridge City had a good roasting and as the summer of 2022 grows into a scorcher, it's County Judge John Gothia who is going to face the heat.

On August 4, the Bridge City Chamber of Commerce is having a "celebrity roast" of the head of county government. "Tables are going fast," said Chamber Director Mandy Lyda.

Gothia is a longtime Bridge City resident who has been active in the Orange and Bridge City chambers of commerce before successfully running for Precinct 3 County Commissioner. When

the county judge resigned suddenly, Gothia was appointed to the position and then won election.

Gothia was instrumental in getting Bassmaster and other professional fishing tournaments to Orange County; so the audience should expect some fish jokes.

This will be the tenth celebrity roast fundraiser for the Bridge City chamber and the first since 2015, when Bridge City Mayor Kirk Roccaforte took the jokes and teasing.

Gary Stelly of kogt.com

will serve as master of ceremonies for the event. Roasters will be Precinct 1 County Commissioner Johnny Trahan; Ida Schossow, head of the Greater Orange Area Chamber of Commerce and a neighbor of Gothia; David Jones, owner of Gopher Industrial; and banker Joe Love.

Lyda said sponsor tables are \$600 to seat eight. Individual tickets are \$65. The event will be at 6 p.m. August 4 at the Bridge City Community Center off West Roundbunch Road. Tickets include dinner and adult beverages.

Gothia joins an exclusive group of roastees. The Bridge City Chamber's first celebrity roast was of lawyer H.D. Pate in 1996.

Then came State Representative Ron Lewis in 1997, and noted Cajun W.T. Oliver in 1998.

Lyda said the chamber then skipped a couple of years and in 2000 roasted Lester "Buckshot" Winfree. Ninth Court of Appeals Judge Don Burgess was in the hot seat in 2002. A few years went by for the next one in 2009 with then-County Judge Carl Thibodeaux honored. Gisela Houseman was roasted in 2011, Ross Smith in 2013, and Roccaforte in 2015.

Tickets and tables can be reserved through the Bridge City chamber at 409-735-5671, or email Lyda at director@bridgecitycoc.com.

OC sales tax revenue mixed in latest report

Margaret Toal
For The Record

Sales across Orange County were mixed in April with some cities seeing a slight drop in sales tax revenues for the month. The Texas Comptroller's Office announced the payments this past week.

The city of Orange had the biggest overall increase in sales taxes, while Orange County also saw an increase. Bridge City had a slight drop for the month, but is still ahead for the year to date.

According to the U.S. Department of Labor Statistics, the inflation rate for April was at 8.3 percent. Consumers will pay more sales taxes as prices go up. However, the state, cities, and the county do not collect sales taxes on gasoline and fuels. Those items have separate taxes.

Payments sent to the entities that collect sales taxes are:

The city of Bridge City with a 1.5 percent sales tax collected \$162,478 for the month, a decrease of 1.98 percent from \$165,773 collected during April

2021. The city is up a healthy 8.9 percent for the year to date with a total of \$1.13 million compared to \$1.04 million last year.

The city of Orange with a 1.5 percent sales tax was up 29.36 percent in sales tax receipts for April 2022. The city received \$705,964 compared to \$545,700 last year. The city's total for the year to date is \$3.9 million, or 14.64 percent more than the \$3.4 million last year.

Pinehurst has a 1.5 percent sales tax and has slight drops for the month and for the year to date.

The city collected \$54,350 for April, a drop of 4.62 percent from \$56,983 last year. For the year to date, the city has collected \$334,484 compared to \$351,706 last year, a decrease of 4.61 percent.

The city of Vidor has a 1.5 percent sales tax and received \$266,495 for the month of April, a decrease of 4.40 percent from \$278,780 in April last year. For the year to date, the city is down slightly with \$1.75 million total compared to \$1.76 million last year.



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Area educators experience 'externship' to bring real-world work experience back to classroom

By: Angela Fortson

Thank an educator for a job well done and you are likely to hear about the real-world work experience that led to that success. In local high schools, educators are taking a break from their classrooms to gain real-world work experience through an externship program. The program is designed to provide educators with a hands-on approach to learning in the workplace. The program is designed to provide educators with a hands-on approach to learning in the workplace. The program is designed to provide educators with a hands-on approach to learning in the workplace.

A wide variety of career options will be available. Educators will gain real-world work experience through an externship program. The program is designed to provide educators with a hands-on approach to learning in the workplace. The program is designed to provide educators with a hands-on approach to learning in the workplace. The program is designed to provide educators with a hands-on approach to learning in the workplace.



Area educators receive real-world work experience through an externship program. The program is designed to provide educators with a hands-on approach to learning in the workplace.

Students and teachers are taking a break from their classrooms to gain real-world work experience through an externship program. The program is designed to provide educators with a hands-on approach to learning in the workplace. The program is designed to provide educators with a hands-on approach to learning in the workplace. The program is designed to provide educators with a hands-on approach to learning in the workplace.

BCISD

Being able to find out how a business operates is a key skill for students. The program is designed to provide educators with a hands-on approach to learning in the workplace. The program is designed to provide educators with a hands-on approach to learning in the workplace. The program is designed to provide educators with a hands-on approach to learning in the workplace.

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More About State Government

BY: CLAY FARRER
The Record



Clay Farrer is the author of the article.

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Explore ORANGE TEXAS

East Roundbunch bridge closed From Page 1



East Roundbunch bridge remains closed for additional repairs. PHOTO: Dave Rogers

barges come to and fro, mostly business for the Knife River road materials site alongside Highway 87 and Cow Bayou, or Burton Shipyard, which is just around a turn in the bayou from Peggy's Place.

In May, the bridge was opened 66 times for barges.

Over the off-and-on course of five years, the Texas Department of Transportation tore down and replaced the swing bridge after engineers had ruled it unsafe.

Weather (three natural disaster hurricanes and tropical storms) and the COVID-19 shutdown interrupted work on what was expected to be a \$9 million replacement and mechanical updating of the bridge.

The last cost listed was \$11 million.

TxDOT initially tried to get Orange County to take possession of the bridge in 2021, but a series of problems closing the gate automatically delayed the OK by OC.

"We all know that bridge is a lemon," Orange County Commissioner Johnny Trahan declared when the subject came up at a commissioners court meeting in December 2021.

"If we had taken ownership of this bridge three months ago, we'd have been out way in excess of several hundred thousand dollars just to keep this

bridge open," Orange County Judge John Gothia said then.

Oldbury didn't disagree. "I really don't feel it's in our best interest to have this bridge, but we're stuck with it," he said.

At its best, it still costs the county about \$150 to \$200 in labor costs each time it opens and shuts the bridge.

A Road & Bridge worker is on call 24/7 to drive to the bridge and push the buttons and each time they answer the call, the county pays them four hours of salary, Oldbury said.

When the swing bridge would almost close, leaving an unsafe gap, the county had to send a crew of four to manually close it.

But things had been going well this spring. Until they didn't.

"We've had some problems, but we've never had to shut it down for weeks like we have this month," Oldbury said. "This was much worse."

And the cause of the June 2022 shutdown?

"A person on property near ours was clearing some land, they hit a tree, it went into some power lines and bounced up and hit a high line. So we had 69,000 volts go through a transformer and it blew the main brainbox of the bridge," he told County Commissioners on June

14. "Talk about a snakebit project. This is a snakebit project," Trahan said.

"There have been a lot of questions why we didn't replace this bridge some other way," Gothia said. "It was not our choice. It was not our option. This bridge is an historical bridge. It had to be replaced as it was because it's listed by the Texas Historical Commission."

But is it? A spokesman for the Texas Historical Commission told The Record last Friday that there were only two swing bridges listed in the state, and only one is in Orange County.

That would be the Cow Bayou swing bridge on Texas 87, about a mile and a half east of the East Roundbunch Bridge.

The bridge on Texas 87 was opened in 1940. Clark Slacum, Oldbury's predecessor as County Engineer, told reporter Margaret Toal the East Roundbunch was constructed in Orange County in 1961, after being moved from another location.

"If TxDOT would take over the (E. Roundbunch) bridge, that would be super," Oldbury said.

"They do have FM 1442 across 87 halfway down East Roundbunch to Osborne. That's where it stops being TxDOT's road and begins being ours."



The Bridge City Chamber of Commerce has announced that Global Green Insurance Agency has been named Business of the Month for June 2022. Emily Siau was presented the award, sponsored by Energy Country Ford, by Ambassador Candace Mulhollan at the June Networking Coffee hosted by MCT Credit Union. Pictured are: Candance Mulhollan and Emily Siau.

Texas judge won't let prosecutor cancel scheduled execution

JOLIE MCCULLOUGH
The Texas Tribune

A Texas state district judge on Tuesday rejected a prosecutor's request to cancel the scheduled October execution of John Ramirez, whose death last year was halted in part of a yearslong back-and-forth between the Texas prison system and the U.S. Supreme Court over religious rights of condemned prisoners.

Nueces County District Attorney Mark Gonzalez sought to have the execution canceled, saying one of his employees wrongfully asked a court to set the date in April, after the nation's high court directed the state prison system to let the prisoner's

pastor touch and pray over him at his execution. Gonzalez said he is ethically opposed to the death penalty and did not want an execution warrant for Ramirez issued.

Along with Ramirez's defense attorney, he sought to withdraw the new execution date two days after it was requested.

But in a Zoom hearing Tuesday, state District Judge Bobby Galvan said Gonzalez is "the captain of the ship," and what his staff does is on him.

"I've really thought about this a lot," Galvan said. "I respect y'all's opinion on this, but I'm not going to withdraw the warrant."

Gonzalez argued that,

as the county's elected prosecutor, he has the authority to request the cancellation.

"The main issues in this motion, your honor, are that the only legitimate voice for the state of Texas would be my office," he said.

After the ruling, Ramirez's attorney, Seth Kretzer, said it was unprecedented for a judge to deny a motion to withdraw a death warrant that has the support of the prosecution and the defense. Ramirez, 37, was sentenced to death in Corpus Christi for the robbery and murder of store clerk Pablo Castro in 2004. Court records state Ramirez stabbed Castro 29 times during a robbery.

3rd Coast 10K Relay From Page 1

James and De La Puente are both CrossFit Level 2 instructors and James is credentialed for CrossFit Kids and CrossFit Gymnastics.

"We call our project 'Build Your City' and every fundraiser we have will go toward that until we get the money we need," Chris Auster said.

Auster makes the 10K relay event, a distance equivalent of 6.2 miles, sounds easy.

anybody has ever walked, jogged or run a 5K, you can do this," he said.

"Some people have leg problems, so they can row, bike or ski ERG instead."

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From the Creaux's Nest

HOT-HOT AND MORE HEAT

We could very well break heat records this week with **temperatures climbing to 103**. We need rain bad but none is in sight. Things in the garden will burn up but the heat is also a danger for people with the heat index over 105. Stay cool. **Come along, I promise it won't do you no harm.**

JANUARY 6 HEARING CONTINUES

All the evidence presented has shown how overwhelmingly guilty **Donald Trump** is. Holding **Trump** accountable and disqualifying him from future office would not be a partisan act but one needed to preserve the **Republic**. As **Judge Luttig** put it at Thursday's hearing, the clear and present danger now is because "to this very day the former president and his allies and supporters pledge that in the presidential election in **2024**, if the former president or his anointed successor as the **Republican Party** presidential candidate were to lose that election, they would attempt to overturn that **2024 election** in the same way that they attempted to overturn the **2020 election**."

Cowboy Church Trail Boss Turns Over Reins

Pastor Dale Lee is turning over the reins to another trail boss at the **Cowboy Church of Orange County**, when his retirement becomes effective June 30. The **Cowboy Church of Orange County** first met as a congregation on October 14, 2007, in a big blue-roofed horse barn on Hwy 62. By 2009, the church's growth supported the construction of the **6000 sq ft structure at 673 FM 1078** where it meets today, on land donated by the **Harris family**. The church has since built an arena, and doubled the main building square footage in 2019 with the addition of a children's building. **CCOC Arena** serves the community with weekly **Team Roping Practice** open to the public. **Cowboy Church of Orange County Children's Church** sponsors both a yearly **Truck or Treat and Easter Egg Hunt**, all free and open to everyone. The community is invited to **Pastor Dale's** retirement celebration at 2 p.m. on Sunday, June 26 at the church. **Boots and hats welcome**, but never required! **Pastor Dale** has done to ride the range with. As he heads to the sunset, **may all his days be good ones**. We have all been blessed with his presence.

TURNING BACK THE HANDS OF TIME

15 Years Ago-2007

We send congratulations to **Judge Pat and Rosalie** on the birth of their **seventh grandchild**. **Abigail Elizabeth Clark** arrived Monday, June 11, in Houston. The little lady clocked in at **7 pounds, 1 ounce** and was **19 inches tall**. She is the **fourth child** for **Pat Jr. and Rachel**. They have one set of **twins**. Pat Jr.'s mother is also a twin, with sister **Mary Ann**, so the tradition continues. For now, **Abigail** is the star of the show. ****Saturday morning early, we went down to the **Bridge City Farmer's Market**. Among the many people loading up with fresh produce was **Sid Caillvet, Jr. and Peggy**, who did a good amount of buying. She had to pull money out of **Sid**, one dollar at a time. ****The gal having the most fun, however, was **Barbara Winfree**, who was a vender of fresh corn, unique squash, shelled peas etc. She wasn't wearing her famous necklace from **'Buckshot'** around her neck. I didn't realize she could be so **hot of life at 6:45 a.m.** ****What's the odds that a county would have **two Roy Dunn's and both of their first-born's would be named Mark?** **Margaret Toal** is publishing a story on **Judge Dunn's son**, who is now **Dr. Mark Dunn** and **Roy and Phyl's Mark** will soon be the **father of a doctor**. ****I know exactly where I was **50 years ago**, June 26, 1957, when **Hurricane Audrey** came ashore. It was such a **disaster at Cameron and surrounding areas** that words just can't really describe it. Death was everywhere. Thousands of **cattle and other animal carcasses** were strewn all around. **People were killed by the hundreds**. It just doesn't seem that it was that long ago. ******Lester 'Buckshot' Winfree** celebrates a birthday June 24. ****Our good friend, **Mary Alice Cole Hartsfield**, celebrated her birthday on Sunday. ******Ruth Graham, 87, wife of Rev. Billy Graham**, was laid to rest Sunday, June 27. ******Andy Cokinos died** June 13. He was born Sept. 1, 1921. We knew **Andy** well. He did to ride the range with. ******Tyler and Ashley Bearden** are expecting their **first born** on Wednesday, June 20 I believe that will be **Carlis and Brad Roy's first grandchild** and the **fourth** for the **Sharon Bearden family**. A pair of twins and two singles. **Bridge City's Johnny Dishon** played for the **South 3-A All Stars Saturday at Round Rock, in the Coach's All Star game**. **Dishon got a single** for an **RBI** and was **walked with the bases loaded**. A **pitcher error scored the runners on second and third**. **Johnny scored from third on a hit and the South won 7-2**. ****In the **4-A, 5-A All Star game, LCM's Jake Rowell** had the **hit that drove in the winning run**.

The **South won 7-6**. A good day for the **South** and our **Orange County boys**.

45-Years Ago-1977

Hank Eckhardt named **Police Chief** at Bridge City, replacing **Chief Wilson Roberts**. Word going around is that **Roberts** will become an **investigator for District Attorney Sharon Bearden**. ****The Bridge City Rotary Club installs officers **H.D. Pate, president, Rev. Don Richey, Bill Weisman and Rev. Ed Robinson, vice-presidents and Bill Nacol, sergeant-at-arms. Directors are Robert (Bobby) Cormier, Jim Moss, Lynn Emerson, C.W. (Bubba) Hubbard. Lew Malcolm, from Orange Rotary, installed the new officers. Outgoing president Roy Dunn** will serve on the board. ******Sharon and Bill Peveto** are owners of **Bridge City Rental**. ******Larry Ward and Bill Godwin** are new owners of **Bridge City Building Supply, formerly Fields Lumber**. ****When **Ed and Joan Lovelace** returned from California, they received the news that **Joan's mother** had suffered a heart attack. ******Paul Wise** is the new manager of **Kresge's**. He hails from **Fort Smith, Arkansas**. ******Benny Mazzola** is named temporary chairman of the new **Orange Optimist Club**. ****Three water district employees resign. **Dist. Mgr. Clarence Buford, asst. mgr. Walter Dupuis and sec. Helen Burrow** all quit. Other employees are expected to follow. It's **not clear** what the dispute was that led to the **resignation** of those longtime employees. ******Doris Land** has joined **Mary Callahan** as dispatcher for the **Bridge City Fire Department**. ******Mary Patillo** is named by **Judge Grover Halliburton** to replace her husband, **Buck** as **president of the Orange County Senior Citizen Chapter**. ******Sweet Patsy Fisette** is in **Orange Memorial** for treatment of arthritis (Editor's note: **Patsy passed away** several years ago. She was a wonderful lady. As far as we know her longtime husband **Harold** is still around town).

50 Years Ago-1972

James Watson Colvin, II, son of Mr. and Mrs. Jim 'Rocky' Colvin, was born a couple weeks ago on May 24, weighing in at **8 lbs., 1 oz.** **Rocky** is a former **NFL pro football player**. Today, in 1972, **Rocky** is sales manager for **Butler-Baker Motors** in Orange. I wonder what became of that baby, now 50 years old. I've also lost track of **Rocky**. Does anyone know his whereabouts? If so let us know. ******Bridge City High school** athletes run a thank you ad in the **OVN**. It reads, "Thanks to **Mr. and Mrs. Bill Godwin** for allowing us to share a vacation trip with you. It was an experience we will never forget." The ad was signed by **Mike Hill, Mike VanBreeman, Chuck Majors, Mark Dunn, Lanston Fall and Danny Blacksher**. I remember every one of these great youngsters. All 65 youngsters who attended the **FCA Conference** in Colorado, back home spreading the **Word about Christianity** stand apart. **God** offers everyone a turning point. **Mark Dunn**, Bridge City athlete and journalist student wrote a long article titled, "A Special Kind of Man," with pictures of the **Estes Park, Colorado FCA trip**. ****Eleven-hundred attended the conference, high school, college, pro athletes and coaches from around the nation. Inspiring speeches were shared by **Coach Tom Landry** and 30 other speakers. All American athletes are quoted in **Dunn's** column. This article, **50 years later**, would be worth reprinting. ******Coach Chief Wilson** announced new coaches for **Bridge City**. **Van Wilhelm**, backfield coach and **Don Calvert**, who will be head basketball coach will work with ends in football. **Troy Woodall**, former basketball coach, will head up physical education at **Hatton Elementary**. **Wilhelm, 26**, played high school football for **Wilson at Amarillo**. He was head football coach at **Hooker, Oklahoma**.

100 Years Ago-1922

Just for kicks, lets see what was happening in 1922. Eight buses carried workers from Orange to the oilfields. Oilmen crowded local hotels. The **Holland Hotel** used cots in the lobby. The population of the city of **Orange** jumped from 10,000 to over 20,000 overnight. **General John Pershing** traveled in a special car to inspect the **Orange oilfield**. **Sheriff Helton** built a special jail just for the oilfield. The first plank was set for the **Orange oilfield plank road**, to be built. The Orange oilfield received worldwide fame. ******Rev. Billy Sunday** staged a bout with the devil in **Orange County**. ******Branch Richey** and his **St. Louis Cardinals** held a week of spring training in **Orange**. ****Bread prices dropped from seven cents a loaf, to a nickel a loaf. ******Orange Mayor Bill Lea and Police Chief Denmon** declared war on criminals. **Orange** was warned to watch for arrivals, by boxcars, from the **Mexia oilfields**. **Gov. Neff** declared **Martial Law on Mexia**. The outlaws were expected at the **Orange oilfield** when it was discovered that several hundred railroad tickets were purchased from **Mexia to Orange**. **Sheriff Helton** denied that **Texas Rangers** were needed. ****The **Orange oilfield boom** is in full swing. One of the colorful men that become **rich overnight** was **Oscar Chesson**. The owner of a 46-acre track **turned down a half-million dollars** for his land. He turned down the offer because he had **two sick pigs** and he didn't want to clear out **15 goats**. 'The Wonder Well,' **Humble's Chesson #5, produces 15,000 barrels of oil a day**. His income is **\$3,000 a day** (Editor's note: it's an interesting story which we have run before and might do so again in the future). ****Meanwhile, Sheriff Helton denied that a request for Texas Rangers, made by **County Attorney R. Lee Davis and Sol White**, was needed. **Helton** said he needs more cooperation and less criticism. All was well until the Sheriff and Davis met in the **Holland Hotel Barber Shop**. Helton allegedly gave **Davis a tongue lashing**. **Davis** filed a **complaint against the Sheriff** for abusive language. That brought **charges against Davis** that the **County Attorney** had accepted \$7 from **Charles Luke** for dismissing a case. He challenged **Davis** to refute the statement. **Davis** did by asking everyone to **read the Twenty-Eighth Psalm of the Holy Bible** (Editor's Note: Those were interesting and colorful times when **'Black Gold'** was discovered at the **Orange oilfield**).

A FEW HAPPENINGS

Father Joseph Daleo is retiring after 25 years as pastor of **St. Mary Church** and **51 years as a priest**. The church will have a reception for him Sunday, June 26, from 5 to 7 p.m. in the Parish Hall. ****I heard **Shirley Zimmerman** was in town last week. They have been staying in Oklahoma but still have their home here. ****Tax Assessor **Karen Fisher** loves taking cruises. She just returned from her yearly trip. ******John and Joyce Dubose** attended a week long convention in Galveston. It was like a vacation for **Joyce, John**, a workaholic, hasn't overdone vacations in their many years of marriage. ****People celebrating anniversaries this week included **Wendy and Billy Young**, who marked 35 years of marriage on Monday. Also **Renee and Larry Fisher** had their 35th on the same day. The **Fishers** have been traveling the East Coast and enjoying cool ocean breezes in Maine while eating lobster. Another stop included **Newport, Rhode Island**, and the fabulous **Vanderbilt summer home The Breakers**. ****Here's a **sport's trivia** I bet **Coach Josh Smalley** didn't know. **Dizzy Dean** and **brother Paul** both were **pitching for the St. Louis Cardinals**. Once after **Dizzy pitched a one-hitter** in the first game of a **double header**, **Paul went one better by tossing a no-hitter in the nightcap**. **Dizzy** told the press, "Shucks, if I'd known **Paul was gonna pitch a no-hitter, I'd pitched one too**." In the **1934 World Series**, **Dizzy** was asked how the **Cardinals** would fare against the **Detroit Tigers**. **Dean** replied, "Me and **Paul** will win two games apiece." The **Cards** won games **1, 2, 6 and 7** all games pitched by the **Dean brothers** to take the series 4 games to 3. They are the **only brothers to ever win all games in the World Series**. Now, if you'll ask **Josh** he will say he knew that. ****I understand **Coach Sam Moore** is back living in Bridge City but still coaching in Sulphur. His team had a great year and made it all the way to state baseball finals. ******Gary and Allisha Bonneaux** are trading the heat and humidity of Orange for the heat and humidity of tropical forests in **Costa Rica**. They've seen a lot of wildlife, the flora a fauna type, including sloths. A visit to a chocolate factory was included. ******Pam Frederick Williams** managed to get a visit to **Yellowstone National Park** for four days before the devastating flood damaged parts of it. Trips to **Jackson Hole and Cody, Wyoming**, were also part of her itinerary. ******West Orange Alderman Lanie Brown and Elizabeth McCarty** have done more than travel through **Egypt** looking at pyramids. Their adventures have included a hot air balloon ride over the **Valley of the Kings**, snorkeling in the **Red Sea**, and riding camels on Wednesday for a true "hump day." ******Orange City Councilor Caroline Hennigan** along with husband **Mike Hennigan** escaped the city heat for gulf breezes at their **Crystal Beach** cabin.

BREAUX BIRTHDAYS

A few folks we know celebrating birthdays in the next few days. **June 22:** Hppy birthday to **Paul Richardson, Gean Hammett, Caitlin Wells and Charlene Braus**. ******June 23:** Folks celebrating today are **Ken Johnson, Sissy Braus and Jaden Trahan**. ******June 24:** **Dwayne's** better half, **Kathy Marsh**, celebrates today. Also sharing birthdays are **Blake Amy, Elise Becker, Amanda Adams and Barbara Garza**. ******June 25:** They youngest of **Mark's** grandchildren, **Rowan Knox Greeson**, is two-years-old today. Happy Birthday also today to **Gary Stelly, Chris Humble, Cher Becker and Linda Taylor**. On this day in 1950, the **Korean War** started. ******June 26:** Celebrating today are **Claudine Hogan, Sherby Dixon, Bridgett Teaff, Becky Hodgkinson and Judy Cagle**. ******June 27:** Happy Birthday to **David Welch, Lynn Nell Guidry, Kristin Lollar, Judy Lewis, David Ball, Dorris Norwood, Jeri Whitmire** and our friend **Jody Raymer**. ******June 28:** Celebrating today are **Kelly Kimbrough, Kathy LeBlanc, Leighia Barron, Kourtney Derouen, Karen Tomlin and Brett Barclay**. ****(Let us know if you or someone is celebrating by calling 409-735-5305.)

CAJUN STORY OF THE WEEK

Gostoe Thibodeaux walked into **Tee-Boy's Bar & Grill** and took himself a seat at da bar next to a very attractive woman. He gave her a quick glance den he causally looked at his watch for a moment.

Agnes, da pretty woman, axe, "Is your date running late?"

"No," **Gostoe** replied, "Me, I jus got dis state-of-da-art watch and I was jus testing it."

Agnes, her was intrigued and she say, "A state-of-da-art watch?" "Wat's so special about it, hanh?"

Gostoe Thibodeaux explained, "Well, it's like dis, it uses **Alpha waves** to talk to me telepatically."

Agnes axe, "Well, wats it telling you now?"

"Well, Babe, it says you're not wearing any panties."

Agnes, she giggled and wearing a big smile, replied, "Well, it must be broken because me, I'm wearing panties."

Thibodeaux smiled, taped his watch four or tree times and said, "Dis damn ting's an hour fast."

C'EST TOUT

SPECIAL FOLKS WHO MADE BRIDGE CITY HOME

ANE Insurance is celebrating their **10th Anniversary** in Bridge City. **ANE Insurance** is owned by **Ellen Nickum**, the wife of **Bill Nickum of Bill Nickum State Farm**. The couple came to Bridge City in the early 1960's and have spent their lives serving the Bridge City community as loyal members of various civic organizations and service groups. **ANE Insurance** specializes in home, auto and life insurance. Their slogan, "**Insurance Made Simple**" is appropriate, finding the right policy for their clients from an array of insurance products. Congratulations to **Ellen Nickum on ANE Insurance's 10th Anniversary** and thank you for your many years of service and friendship. We go back a long way with the **Nickum's**. Over the years they have been a great asset to the **Bridge City** community. As for that "pretty girl from **Rye**" she can tell you quite a story of her humble beginnings. ****That's all for me today. **Take care and God bless**.

DPS Director says officers in Uvalde could have taken down gunman within 3 minutes had commander not hesitated



Department of Public Safety Director Steve McCraw testifies before the Texas Senate committee on June 21, 2022. PHOTO: Jordan Vonderhaar for The Texas Tribune

ZACH DESPART
The Texas Tribune

Department of Public Safety Director Steve McCraw told a state Senate committee Tuesday that the law enforcement response to the Uvalde school shooting was an “abject failure” and police could have stopped the shooter at Robb Elementary School three minutes after arriving were it not for the indecisiveness of the on-scene commander, who placed the lives of officers before those of children.

McCraw said the inexplicable conduct by Uvalde school district police Chief Pete Arredondo was antithetical to two decades of police training since the Columbine High School massacre, which dictates that officers confront active shooters as quickly as possible.

“The officers had weapons; the children had none,” McCraw said. “The officers had body armor; the children had none. The officers had training; the subject had none. One hour, 14 minutes and 8 seconds. That’s how long children waited, and the teachers waited, in Room 111 to be rescued.”

The revelations detailed by McCraw completed a remarkable shift in the police response narrative state officials have given since the May 24 shooting. Twenty-seven days after Gov. Greg Abbott said the shooting “could have been worse” but for officers who showed “amazing courage by running toward gunfire,” his state police director described stunning police incompetence that bordered on cowardice.

Arredondo, who testified in closed ses-

sion to a House committee on Tuesday, told The Texas Tribune that after he and another officer determined the doors to the adjoining classrooms containing the shooter were locked, the best course of action was to wait for more officers, firepower, keys and a breaching tool.

McCraw laid out a starkly different set of facts: That officers with rifles arrived within minutes and the classroom doors could not have been locked from the inside. Reporting by The Tribune revealed that ballistic shields and a breaching tool, called a Halligan bar, were also quickly on scene.

McCraw said though the state police are a far larger agency than the six-person Uvalde Consolidated Independent School District department, Arredondo

was the rightful incident commander because he was the most senior first responder who had immediate jurisdiction over the district’s campuses. He said Arredondo could have transferred command to another agency, such as state troopers who arrived, but never did so.

Acting against the orders of an incident commander during an emergency can be dangerous and chaotic, McCraw said, responding to a question about why his troopers did not take charge. But he said the failure of one police agency means all law enforcement performed unacceptably that day.

“I don’t mean to be hyper-critical of the on-scene commander,” McCraw said. “But those are the facts... this set our profession back a decade.”

Deaths & Memorials

Joyce Eileen Kleinknecht, 94, Orange

Joyce Eileen Kleinknecht, 94 of Orange, passed away on June 18, 2022 in Orange.

Funeral services will be 2:00 p.m., Friday, June 24, 2022 at Claybar Funeral Home Orange. Burial will follow at Hillcrest Memorial Gardens in Orange.

Visitation will be at 1:00 p.m., Friday, June 24, 2022 at Claybar Funeral Home Orange.

Born in Wadesville, Indiana, on April 8, 1928, she was the daughter of Harry and Velma Morrow. She was a longtime member of First United Methodist Church in Orange and was involved in missions at church. Joyce worked as a RN for many years, after retiring she went into real estate. She was involved with the Red Cross for many years and also transported cancer patients to Houston for treatment. She loved to travel the world and brought great light to those who knew and loved her.

She got great joy from her grandchild-

dren and great-grandchildren. She will be dearly missed by her family (who knew her as “Keink”) and friends.

She is preceded in death by her husband, Karl Kleinknecht; son, Keith Kleinknecht, newborn daughter, Karen Kleinknecht, and newborn great-grandchild, Kaleb Weeks.

She is survived by her sons, Kent Kleinknecht of Los Angeles, and

David and wife Nancee Kleinknecht of Bridge City; two grandchildren, Michele Weeks and Melissa and husband Keith DuBois; eleven great-grandchildren, Kaden Weeks, Kolten Weeks, Abigail Weeks, Isabella Weeks, Kason Monceaux, Gracie Hebert, Kaitlyn Hebert, Tanner Hebert, Kayson DuBois, Kenadie DuBois, and Kenson DuBois; brother, Jim Morrow and wife Jackie; as well as numerous nieces, nephews, friends, and other loving family.

Serving as pallbearers will be Kaden Weeks, Kolten Weeks, Tanner Hebert and Keith Dubois.



Joyce Kleinknecht

‘Walking His Way’ walking club meets Tuesdays, Thursdays

Walking His Way walking club meets on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8 am to 10 am in First Baptist’s Family Life Center located at 200 W Roundbunch Rd. in Bridge City. The climate is perfect so come join us to lose those pounds and for a healthy body. A fast lane and slow lane are available. There is no charge for this opportunity, only fellowship.

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THE RECORD'S ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE: Local additions shape summer lineup



Country music star Cody Johnson returns to Southeast Texas for another Thanksgiving weekend performance at Ford Park in Beaumont on Saturday, Nov. 26. Tickets went on sale June 10 at all Ticketmaster outlets. RECORD PHOTO: Tommy Mann Jr.

Local additions shape summer lineup

TOMMY MANN JR.
For The Record

Big additions to the concert schedule will surely have fans excited as events featuring Cody Johnson, Gary Allan, Jamey Johnson and more are on tap for Southeast Texas and Southwest Louisiana, along with the other events across the region listed below.

- **June 24** Kid Rock, Foreigner, Cynthia Woods Mitchell Pavilion, The Woodlands
- **June 24** Keshi, Rei Brown, House of Blues, Houston
- **June 25** Boz Scaggs, Golden Nugget Casino, Lake Charles, La.
- **June 25** Tom Keifer, L.A. Guns, Faster Pussycat, Warehouse Live, Houston
- **June 25** Chicago, Brian Wilson, Al

Jardine, Blondie Chaplin, Cynthia Woods Mitchell Pavilion, The Woodlands

- **June 26** 5 Seconds of Summer, Cynthia Woods Mitchell Pavilion, The Woodlands
- **June 30** Pop Evil, Oxymorons, Zillion, Warehouse Live, Houston
- **June 30** Midland, Party by the Pool, L'Auberge Casino Resort, Lake Charles, La.
- **July 2** Daughtry, Golden Nugget Casino, Lake Charles, La.
- **July 2** Rod Stewart, Cynthia Woods Mitchell Pavilion, The Woodlands
- **July 8** Hank Williams Jr., Golden Nugget Casino, Lake Charles, La.
- **July 8** Maverick City, Kirk Franklin, Cynthia Woods Mitchell Pavilion, The

Woodlands

- **July 12** Hanson, House of Blues, Houston
- **July 15** The Kenny Wayne Shepherd Band, House of Blues, Houston
- **July 15** Tom Segura, Golden Nugget Casino, Lake Charles, La.
- **July 16** Zebra, Rise Rooftop, Houston
- **July 16** Santana, Earth, Wind and Fire, Cynthia Woods Mitchell Pavilion, The Woodlands
- **July 21** Train, Jewel, Blues Traveler, Thunderstorm Artis, Cynthia Woods Mitchell Pavilion, The Woodlands
- **July 22** Travis Tritt, Golden Nugget Casino, Lake Charles, La.

• **July 24** Styx, REO Speedwagon, Loverboy, Cynthia Woods Mitchell Pavilion, The Woodlands

- **July 26** Howard Jones, House of Blues, Houston
- **July 27** Bowling for Soup, Less Than Jake, House of Blues, Houston
- **July 30** Rick Springfield, Golden Nugget Casino, Lake Charles, La.
- **July 30** Ted Nugent, Warehouse Live, Houston
- **July 31** Sum 41, Simple Plan, Magnolia Park, House of Blues, Houston

• **Aug. 1** The Pretty Reckless, The Warning, Lillith Czar, House of Blues, Houston

• **Aug. 6** Wiz Khalifa, Logic, 24KGoldn, Cynthia Woods Mitchell Pavilion, The Woodlands

• **Aug. 12** Stoney LaRue, Golden Nugget Casino, Lake Charles, La.

• **Aug. 13** Boys II Men, Golden Nugget

Casino, Lake Charles, La.

• **Aug. 14** Rick Springfield, Men at Work, John Waite, Smart Financial Center, Sugar Land

• **Aug. 17** Echo and the Bunnymen, House of Blues, Houston

• **Aug. 19** Gary Allan, Golden Nugget Casino, Lake Charles, La.

• **Aug. 19** Motley Crue, Def Leppard, Poison, Joan Jett and the Blackhearts, Minute Maid Park, Houston

• **Aug. 19** Incubus, Sublime with Rome, The Aquadolls, Cynthia Woods Mitchell Pavilion, The Woodlands

• **Aug. 19** Wang Chung, A Flock of Seagulls, The English Beat, Dramarama, more, Arena Theatre, Houston

• **Aug. 21** Rob Zombie, Mudvayne, Static-X, Powerman 5000, Cynthia Woods Mitchell Pavilion, The Woodlands

• **Aug. 26** Luke Bryan, Riley Green, Mitchell Tempenny, Cajundome, Lafayette, La.

• **Aug. 28** One Republic, Needtobreathe, Cynthia Woods Mitchell Pavilion, The Woodlands

• **Sept. 1** Imagine Dragons, Macklemore, Kings Elliot, Cynthia Woods Mitchell Pavilion, The Woodlands

• **Sept. 2** Five Finger Death Punch, Megadeth, The Hu, Fire From the Gods, Cynthia Woods Mitchell Pavilion, The Woodlands

• **Sept. 4** Korn, Evanescence, Cynthia Woods Mitchell Pavilion, The Woodlands

• **Sept. 8** The Killers, Johnny Marr, Toyota Center, Houston

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Pastor: Kelly Sharpton
Email: lks454@aol.com

Harvest Chapel A Full Gospel Church
1305 Irving St. • West Orange • 409-238-3056
Sunday Worship 10 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.
Nightly Service 6 p.m.
Wednesday Night Service: 6 p.m.
Pastor: Ruth Burch

Triangle Baptist Church
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Sunday worship: 10:30 a.m.,
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Wednesday Schedule 6:30 p.m.
Prayer Meeting
Youth & Children's Activities
Pastor: Keith Royal

Orange County Church Directory
List Your Church Services Here Each Week
Just \$10 Per Week Call 409-735-5305

In-person Sunday Worship & Children's Church 10:30 a.m.
Video Worship Services posted on our YouTube Channel
673 FM 1078 • Orange • 409-718-0269
Small Group Bible Studies: Mens 6 pm Mon., Ladies 10 am Tues. and 6:30 pm Wed. (with child care), Co-Ed 9:15 am Sun., Youth Supper & Bible Study Wed. 6:30 pm. For CCOC Arena activities see FB page "Cowboy Church of Orange County Arena & Rodeo"

Starlight Church of God in Christ
2800 Bob Hall Road • Orange • 886-4366
Pastor: Ernest B Lindsey
Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Worship 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.
Wed. Bible Study - 6 p.m. Worship 7:30 p.m. VIM Youth 6 p.m.
Intercessory Prayer Daily 9:00 a.m.
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Evening Worship - 6:00 pm
Wednesday: Mid-Week Service - 6:00 pm
Children & Youth Activities - 6:00 pm

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Sunday school 9:30 a.m., Praise Worship 10:45 a.m.
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Rev. Mark Bunch Email: office@stpaulfamily.org

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Local motorcycle groups hosts '500 For Life'



Van Jordan and J. W. Dalton are with Cowboy H.O.G. Chapter 4974 and encourage support of '500 for Life' rally this Saturday. **RECORD PHOTO**

OCSPORTS BEAT DAN PERRINE For The Record



Dan Perrine

The local chapter of Cowboy H.O.G. is sponsoring a rally on Saturday, June 25, to promote motorcycle safety and awareness. The rally being called 500 for Life will start in Orange at the Community Church and conclude at the Cowboy Harley Davidson dealership in Beaumont. Cowboy Harley Davidson is co-sponsoring the event along with Columbanus Motor Sports of Orange.

Van Jordan the director for Cowboy H.O.G. Chapter 4974 of the Golden Triangle came up with the idea of 500 for Life. "We're trying to bring awareness to everybody that's here in the Golden Triangle and the United States about watching out for motorcycles because even though we're a little entity on the road we're a big part of the road because we

ride not just every other day, we ride every day, 365, the whole year round," Jordan emphasized.

Harley Owners Group or H.O.G. are motorcyclists working to spread the word of caution to motorists driving automobiles for them to be aware of motorcycles to help save lives. They recommend the slogan adopted years ago by the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) in its annual campaign "Share the Road: Look Twice for Motorcycles" which calls attention to the safety precautions motorists must take to protect motorcyclists.

Jordan said the various H.O.G. chapters are partners with M.A.D.D., Mothers Against Drunk Drivers, and TxDOT to promote safety for motorcycles. The bottom line Jordan pointed out is there are too many deaths involving motorcycle accidents in Texas and in the nation.

State officials report that 519 motorcycle riders died in motor vehicle crashes in

'500 FOR LIFE' Page 3B

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New era begins as Hiawatha Hickman starts tenure as Mustang A.D.

DAN PERRINE
For The Record

A new era in West Orange-Stark Mustang football begins this year with Hiawatha Hickman as the athletic director and head football coach. West Orange-Stark has the highest winning percentage in Texas high school football, and Coach Hickman looks to continue the tradition and improve it.

Hickman, age 46, grew up in Silsbee where he played and coached football for the Tigers against the Mustangs during three decades. He replaces Cornel Thompson who stepped down as the athletic director and head football coach at the end of last year.

Upon his graduation from Silsbee High School Hickman attended McMurry University in Abilene, Texas. He played in the defensive line at McMurry from 1994 to 1998 and was a two-time all-conference defensive tackle there.

After graduating from McMurry University Hickman returned to Silsbee where he served from 1999 to 2015 first as the defensive line coach before being elevated in 2006 to the defensive coordinator position for ten years.

In 2016 Hickman got the call from West Orange-Stark to come coach under then head coach Cornel Thompson. "I had known Coach Thompson for years coaching against him and playing against him. He said he tried to hire me when he was at Palestine, he tried to hire me here, so when the head coaching job at Silsbee did not go my way I decided to come over here and take the D-Line job with Coach Thompson," Hickman indicated.

The move to West Orange-Stark proved to be a learning experience. Coach Hickman explained, "You come to a place like this you can't help but learn from a guy like Coach Thompson. He taught me so much." Hickman also earned his Master's Degree after coming to West Orange-Stark.

The timing was great for Hickman and the Mustangs. Hickman reminded, "It just happened to be probably the best football group they've ever had here, and I was fortunate to come in and coach some really good defensive linemen, win a state championship, and play in another state championship game which was a great move, great for my career."

Cornel Thompson announced in December 2021 he would be retiring from his position as athletic director and head football coach for West



Hiawatha Hickman is the new athletic director and head football coach at West Orange-Stark High School.

RECORD PHOTO: Dan Perrine

Orange-Stark. The West Orange-Cove Consolidated Independent School District Board of Trustees then opened the position up for applicants, and Hickman applied.

Superintendent Dr. Rickie Harris announced Hickman as the lone finalist on January 20, 2022. The Board of Trustees approved Harris' recommendation of Hickman as the new athletic director at their meeting four days later.

Achieving the position of athletic director was a career goal for Hickman although at first he was not considering applying for the job. "I had built some collateral with people in the building, and the superintendent and my principal said you need to get in on this. I applied and it just kind of started going my way and when I looked up I was a finalist for the job," Hickman recalled.

Hickman's first reaction to being named the lone finalist by Superintendent Dr. Harris was ecstatic. "Then as I settled down a little bit I realized I'm fixing to take over the winningest football program in the state of Texas. But you know football is football. You've just got to keep doing what we're doing and try to take things a little bit forward. I'd be a fool to come in here and try to change this thing," Hickman admitted.

The timeline for Hickman to take on the role full-time shows he will transition from serving as assistant principal and coach at the high school through June 2022. Beginning July 1 Hickman will take on the Athletic Director and Head Football Coach position full-time for West Orange-Stark. Hickman will become the fourth Athletic Director/Head Football Coach in the 46-year history of the Mustangs.

The bottom line Hickman points to for continued success by the Mustangs in football are the players. Hickman stated, "My number one thought and this won't change ever is as long as these kids here in West Orange walk

through these doors you're going to have a chance to win. People all over the state of Texas know that. It's my job to try to take this program forward."

Talent is never a problem for the Mustangs on the football field. Getting the kids motivated to play hard and their best is an assignment Hickman and his coaches will tackle this summer and into the new season. "We've kind of changed the way we work out, we hired a strength and conditioning coach, we're doing some different training. With these kids it's got to vary, not the same thing every day, and that's what we've done," Hickman pointed out.

West Orange-Stark got a new artificial turf last season for Leroy D. Breedlove Field at Dan R. Hooks Stadium which the kids love to play on. The synthetic turf allows for practice on the field even when it has rained with no concern of tearing the field up prior to actual games like when it was only grass.

Another motivating factor could be the new locker room started at the field house. The decades old dressing room has been completed gutted, and Hickman is being somewhat closed mouth on details but promises it will be state of the art when completed.

A fulltime academic instructor has been hired to help the kids and motivate them with their classes. Hickman added, "This should help the kids when it comes to qualifying for college and being eligible. When our kids leave here and go to the next level it should be a smooth transition."

The ultimate goal for Hickman and his coaches are to prepare their student athletes for the rest of their lives. "We've got the bodies, we've got the athletes, now let's just train them and get them where they need to be to go to the next level, and the ones that don't go to the next level we're going to train them and teach them how to be men, teach them how to be great fathers and how to be great people," Hickman promised.

Roughly 100 kids have come out for the first two weeks of summer workouts at West Orange-Stark and seem to be buying into the new workout program started by Coach Hickman. They work with weights in the outstanding Cornel Thompson Strength and Conditioning Center located in the field house which has artificial turf making football drills possible there as well.

For the first time in over

a decade the West Orange-Stark Mustangs are performing 7-on-7 drills at Dan R. Hooks Stadium. Coach Hickman believes it will help develop new quarterbacks for the Mustangs in preparation for a more up tempo offense he plans to use this football season.

The position of athletic director means Hickman is in charge of all the athletics at West Orange-Stark and that includes the girls sports too. Hickman evaluated, "That's one of the things I've been challenged with around here. We've been good at football, and one of the things we've got to do is get everything else caught up. The junior high, the girls athletics we've got to get everything on the same plane as football."

Girls have come out for the summer workouts in their largest numbers since Hickman has been at West Orange-Stark. Thir-

ty to thirty-five girls workout on the weights at eleven o'clock after the boys have completed their workouts, and have expressed to Hickman their excitement with the exercise program being used.

Hickman is reaching out to the middle school athletes to get them involved. He has hired new personnel to teach the kids, and he looks to upgrade the facilities on the campus.

The district passed a substantial bond issue a few years ago which has led to impressive renovations being done to all of the athletic facilities. The artificial turf was installed on the football field last year.

A much larger two-level press box is being built at the football stadium. There will be elevator access to the press box that will include special seating for the school board

HICKMAN Page 4B

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'500 For Life' rally Saturday From Page 1B



Van Jordan and J. W. Dalton are with Cowboy H.O.G. Chapter 4974 and encourage support of '500 for Life' rally this Saturday. **RECORD PHOTO**

2021. That total represents a seven percent increase over the previous year. Even though motorcycles comprise less than 2 percent of vehicles on Texas roadways, accidents involving motorcycles accounted for 12 percent of the fatalities in 2021.

The reality of the danger facing motorcyclists on the road from other vehicles has been made evident locally already this year with eight fatal accidents involving riders in the Golden Triangle. Three of the fatalities were members of Cowboy H.O.G. Chapter 4974.

Back on December 30, 2021 in Beaumont, Van Jordan's nephew Corey Stinnett, age 33, while riding his motorcycle to work was struck by a vehicle and killed. His family constructed a memorial to Corey with his motorcycle on a trailer and a plaque with the reminder Look Twice.....Save a Life.

The hope of the Stinnett family and Cowboy H.O.G. Chapter 4974 is to take the rolling memorial for Corey to different locations to share Corey's story and the impact his life had. "We feel like if it could just save one life, at that point it's been worth it, and we're hoping it will save many more to bring awareness to the real life tribute to Corey," J. W. Dalton with the local H.O.G. chapter stated.

Less than five months after Stinnett's death Wayne Prosperie of Mauriceville was killed on May 14. Prosperie was hit by a vehicle while on his motorcycle in Port Arthur.

The third fatal accident occurred near Bridge City less than a week later. William Wantuck was killed when he was riding his motorcycle to work on the morning of May 19, and he crashed with a Dodge SUV that cut in front of him on State Highway 87. The driver of the SUV also died later in the hospital.

Sandra Womack is the treasurer for Cowboy H.O.G. Chapter 4974. She has been riding motorcycles since 1999. "As the years have gone on I've noticed more people do not pay attention because they're either on their phone, they're talking to people in the car, they may be eating food, and just not paying attention," Womack observed.

The goal of 500 for Life is to bring awareness to the public of the vulnerability of motorcyclists on the road. Womack commented, "Motorcycle riders are everywhere and more and more people are now starting to ride due to the cost of gas for their vehicle so they're riding motorcycles. People just need to pay attention."

When there is a collision involving a motorcy-

cle frequently the driver of the other vehicle responds they did not see the motorcycle. "Drivers should have the habit to look twice, make sure the way is clear, and do what you need to do to avoid hitting motorcyclists," Womack reminded.

The responsibility for safe driving is shared by the motorcyclists too. Womack said it is the duty of the motorcyclists to



A memorial to Corey Stinnett with his motorcycle on a trailer serves as a rolling tribute to him and to promote the need for motorists to be aware of motorcyclists when driving their vehicles. **RECORD PHOTO**

ride correctly, pay attention to the law, and do what they are supposed to do.

Safety classes are offered for motorcycle drivers. Jordan said they are extremely helpful in teaching traffic laws, safe motorcycle driving, and always having an escape route on your motorcycle in the case of an emergency.

Motorcyclists ride on the left side of the roadway in an attempt to be more visible to drivers looking in the side mirrors of their vehicles. "We just want people to be aware we're out there, and don't make us a fatality because we

want to get home to our family just like they do," Womack concluded.

The goal is that more than 500 motorcyclists will take part with the 500 for Life motorcycle rally on Saturday, June 25, according to Dalton. "We're striving to get 500 motorcycles or three-wheelers combined to help the awareness as far as safety within our community for motorcyclists," Dalton indicated.

Response to the call for support of 500 for Life has been very good. Dalton informed, "The Columbanus dealership in Orange has partnered up, we've got people coming from

Baton Rouge, Houston, Lafayette, and several other areas to come ride with us."

The plan is to ride from Orange to Beaumont joined by various law enforcement agencies. Dalton said the Orange County Sheriff's Office, the Pinehurst Police Department, the Vidor Police Department, Rose City marshals, and the Beaumont Police will take part in the rally by providing escorts.

Those interested in participating in 500 for Life should go to the Community Church on Martin Luther King Jr. Drive in Orange beginning at 8:00 AM on Saturday, June 25, to check in. A meeting for all the riders to receive a blessing will be held at 10:15 AM. Kick stands up will follow at 10:30 AM as the motorcyclists ride to the Cowboy Harley Davidson dealership off Interstate 10 at College Street in Beaumont.

There will be a program featuring special guests at Cowboy Harley when all the motorcyclists arrive there. Motorists in cars and pickups are invited to show their support by following along behind the motorcycles. Jordan reiterated, "Look Twice, Save a Life."

DAR meets 3rd Tuesday in BC

The Daughters of the American Revolution William Diamond Chapter of Orange County meets the third Tuesday of the month at St. Paul Methodist Church in Bridge City.

DAR promotes local community service, education, historical preservation, and patriotism.

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Plans, Premonitions, and Paying dues

OUTDOORS Capt. Chuck Uzzle For The Record



Chuck Uzzle

Very seldom, if ever, will you run into anyone who doesn't like it when everything happens just right. Fishermen especially love it when they plan for a day on the water and everything from the weather to the fish ends up working in their favor. On occasion those types of trips happen and they help to erase the memory of the bad ones from the past. For many of the folks who fish with me the hope of catching just the right day is a high priority, especially the ones that travel great distances to get here. When you base an entire trip on one day the stress of having everything go just as planned is real for both the anglers and the guide because nobody wants to make that trip home disappointed.

In order to offer up the greatest opportunities for customers most guides spend off days doing some sort of scouting, either on their own or using information from other guides they fish with. The constant up to the day reports helps to keep customer trips as productive as possible and also helps to eliminate bad water where valuable time can be lost during a charter. Every so often as a guide you owe it to yourself to get away from the same water you've been fishing and check out some other locations. Call it a hunch, call it a premonition, call it what you will, it's a great feeling when you find the kind of fish you are hoping to find and it spells success for your clients. In many cases the new productive water you find may

even offer up an entirely new or different pattern than the one you had been fishing previously. Regardless of the pattern you found it now offers up another option that may be just what you need to be successful and also give you another option if you get limited by some other factors such as weather. Having a quality alternate plan in your hip pocket certainly puts a guide at ease and contributes to a more enjoyable day on the water for everyone.

A perfect example of this type of situation happened to me recently as I was scouting for an upcoming trip where my customers wanted to try and catch some redfish on fly tackle. The conditions here on Sabine and Calcasieu have been the same as everywhere else with really high water levels all over the place. High water in our marshes is not very conducive to sight fishing and that had me worried. Fortunately I was able to locate an area where several good schools of fish were actively schooling and giving up opportunities to be cast at. I spent enough time in the area to catch a couple of fish and then I left them to go check out a few more stretches of water before calling it a day and feeling good about having a solid plan.

The next day I met my anglers who had made the trip from Arizona to see some family and friends as well as go fishing. Both were very excited to chase some fish they had never caught before and were just really happy to see some different sights. It's always a pleasure to have folks on my boat who are enthusiastic and willing to learn, both anglers fit that description with room to spare. After a short boat ride we arrived at the area where the redfish had been so coopera-



Paying your dues from atop a poling platform brings greater appreciation.

tive and just like you would hope for the plan began to unfold perfectly. Very little, if any wind, made detecting those schooling fish very easy to spot as they were already cruising the shallow water and aggressively feeding. We could not have asked for any better situation.

I climbed up on the poling platform and began to push the boat across the big flat to get us into position to take a shot at one of the schools of redfish and it didn't take long before we were rewarded for the effort. This pattern held up for a while and made it nice for everyone. Once a school would finally separate or leave it was just a matter of scanning the surface before finding another group of willing redfish to pursue. Around lunch time we were greeted with a light breeze that made the temperatures more than comfortable but a little less than ideal for casting a flyrod. Both anglers were flexible enough to pick up my spinning rods and finish out the day throwing artificial stuff with great success. The day was first

rate and the game plan had worked to perfection.

Now chasing these redfish in shallow water is not for everyone, it takes some patience and a plan. Paying your dues on a poling platform in order to set your clients up with the best chance of success is an art. There are plenty of guides along the lower Texas coast who will attest to that fact. TSF Mags own Scott Sommerlatte is one of the best and he has spent a lifetime poling anglers along flats from Mexico to Florida. The art of poling a skiff and reading water is not for the lazy or those afraid of the work that must be invested to be successful. There is actually something almost elegant and gentlemanly about pushing a skiff into position for the perfect cast. Contrast the quiet and stealth like approach of the skiff to those who run fiberglass rocket ships propelled by a zillion horse outboards while steering them from a structure that looks like it was constructed by a scaffold crew and you can see where I'm coming from. Blasting into a marsh pond and herding fish up compared to truly stalking a fish is entirely different mindset. Those that embrace the poling skiff and pay their dues will know a greater sense of satisfaction than those who choose the "invasive" techniques of horsepower and altitude could ever imagine.

We have finally reached the halfway point of the year and some of the best fishing imaginable is on the horizon, unfortunately so are the crowds. Please keep a full tank of courtesy on your boat and respect the other anglers. Also if you get the opportunity take a kid fishing. No school right now means open schedules and endless opportunities to share a day on the water with a kid and introduce them to our sport. Enjoy your time out there and be safe.

Hickman takes over at WOS From Page 2B

and what is being called the Mustang Club that will have catered food provided for club members. Hickman hopes the press box will be ready by September.

Shortages of certain construction material caused by the global pandemic have delayed the completion of construction of the new \$16 million gym. The gym will be the home for Mustang boys basketball and girls volleyball and basketball to play their games.

Completion of the gym is relying on the delivery

of the needed material including doors which are only produced by one company. The doors have been back ordered for eight months to finish the building hopefully by the end of September or in October.

The gym when completed can also be used for concerts, banquets, and future graduation ceremonies at the high school. Hickman envisions future basketball tournaments being hosted at the Mustang gym. "It's going to be second to none when it comes to basketball, con-

certs, and other events. We'll have the overhead screen and big scoreboard. The superintendent had a vision to do this at this place. The kids are excited about it, the community is excited about it," Hickman indicated.

The outlook for the Mustangs in football is continued success under Coach Hickman, his objective is to improve the entire athletic program at West Orange-Stark. "We're trying to grow the complete program, especially on the girls side," Hickman insisted.

Hickman feels West Orange-Stark will be strong again this season in football. "Our kids are buying in to what we're doing. Scheme wise offensively we're going to bring a little bit more tempo and try to speed it up a little bit. We've got a new system in where we're going to signal plays in with no huddle and do some things like that to bring some tempo. We've got speed, that's been one of our big motto of the spring and summer is to put pressure on people. We are the pressure," Hickman concluded.

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A Gardeners Best Friend: Mulch (Part 2)

JOHN GREEN
Orange County
Master Gardener

Hello fellow gardening enthusiasts! Last week I discussed organic mulch basics, including why using mulch in our gardens is important, as well as the numerous types of mulch. Some gardeners make their own mulch at home utilizing a compost bin or two, then building compost by adding yard debris, grass clippings, leaves, limbs, used potting soil, dead plant materials, livestock manure, topsoil, hay, and straw. They continue adding debris to the compost bin, building in layers of green and brown materials, then turning its' contents every few weeks allowing it to decompose over time. In 6 to 12 months the compost will have completed the decomposition cycle and a rich, dark crumbly compost will be ready to add to vegetable beds and flower gardens.

My preference is much faster, depending on the gardening project, is to purchase mulch in bags or bulk (delivered). Bags of mulch are easy to handle and can be readily moved around using a wheelbarrow or garden cart. The price for a bag of mulch is low and can often be purchased while on sale during spring and summer months at many hardware and farm supply stores. Most large box stores provide customers the option to purchase mulch and other spoil amendments in bulk (truck load) and having it delivered. If mulch is readily available, then you may ask, how do you decide



Bags of mulch are easy to handle and can be readily moved around using a wheelbarrow or garden cart. The price for a bag of mulch is low and can often be purchased while on sale during spring and summer months at many hardware and farm supply stores.

which type of mulch is right for you?

Choosing the right type of mulch to use in your garden isn't a difficult decision to make and there is no wrong answer as all organic mulches will eventually provide some benefit to the soil. I'll help you navigate the most common types of mulch available and provide you some of the pros and cons of the most common mulches sold locally. Keep in mind almost any vegetative organic matter can be used as mulch. We reviewed organic mulches previously, so let's continue the discussion with synthetic mulches and where they can be used.

Rubber Mulch is heavier than wood mulches, last-

ing 10-20 years. It will not decompose, so there is no benefit to the soil or its microorganisms. Rubber mulches retain heat and are not the best choice for Southeast, Texas gardens. If used, you will need to fertilize more often.

Black plastic sheeting over the soil surface of your garden will retain moisture underneath from evaporating, while smothering weeds which try to sprout. Weeds will grow in areas the plastic doesn't cover. It's good for large vegetable gardens, raising the soil temperature 3-5F to a depth of about 6 inches, warming soils sooner in spring, allowing for earlier harvesting of vegetables.

Foundation Plantings a

6-inch space from your homes' foundation should remain free of plants and

mulch. This will help keep insects out of the house. Placing inorganic mulches, such as pea gravel, crushed limestone, river rock, or lava rock in this area, will help to keep the area free.

Trees and Shrubs if you find it necessary to mulch around trees and shrubs, then please use mulch effectively so the plants and tree are not competing for water and nutrients resources available. Large bark, wood chips or river rock make good mulches for trees and shrubs but do not layer more than 3 inches of mulch so the tree and shrubs surface roots will not grow up into the mulch.

Flower Beds (Annuals and Perennials) utilize chopped leaves, shredded bark, and compost. Fine textured mulches which are easy to spread and incorporate are best in these areas. Apply a layer 2 -3 inches thick. Begin with a layer of compost then add one of the other mulches which provides plants the nutrients they need.

Vegetable Gardens enjoy dried grass clippings, newspaper, cardboard, compost, and hay or straw (seed and weed free of course). Once your garden is planted, lay out the newspaper/cardboard around your plants, cover with compost, then the hay or grass clippings.

Containers consider decorative glass marbles, pebbles, clay balls, or water and nutrients scattered on the surface of the potting soil creates a finished look and helps retain moisture. Get creative with glass pebbles which add a unique appearance to your container. Once finished wash them and store them away for another use.

If you have specific gardening questions or need more information, contact the Orange County Master Gardeners Helpline: (409) 882-7010 or visit our website: <https://txmg.org/orange>, Facebook: Orange County Texas Master Gardeners Association or Email: extension@co-orange.tx.us.

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VBS at Old First Orange Baptist July 11th - 14th

Old First Orange Baptist Church will be holding Vacation Bible School July 11th - 14th from 9am to noon for 4 year olds through 6th grade. The Family Kick-off and registration will be held Sunday, July 10th from 3 to 5 pm at the church located at 7925 IH 10 East in Orange. For more info check their Facebook page or call the office at (409) 745-1901.

OPC Master Gardener training classes

The Orange County Master Gardener training classes will begin Thursday August 26, 2022 at 6:00 pm at the Expo Center on 1442. The requirements for the certification are 50 hours of education and 50 hours of volunteer time. The classes will meet on Thursdays with speakers and programs about gardening that counts for the 50 hours of education. There are several field trips planned as well. The volunteer time can be done by working at the Master Gardener greenhouse, working at the yearly plant sale and other AgriLife programs throughout the year.

The cost of the class is \$150 which includes a book, background check, supplies, speaker fees and a banquet on the last day of class December 8, 2022.

You can sign up at the AgriLife office at the Expo Center and get an application and pay the fee.

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For Rent 2 br, 1bath, Orangefield ISD, 1st, last + deposit required. \$800 monthly, \$500 deposit, C/AH, WD hookup. 281-948-5327 application required.

FOR SALE

409-886-7183
409-735-5305

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Free kittens, there are four precious 5 week old babies ready for caring families and loving homes. If interested please contact Pam Webb at 409-474-1241

For sale AKC German Shepherd puppies. Ready to go, discount for blind, military or police. Please call 409-553-1053

Tiny Black Poodle Puppy, 7 weeks old, darling little 1.2 lb girl, CKC registered, Vet approved, shots and groomed, potty training started. Only 1 available \$2000 Located in BC. Please call 409-504-8879

HELP WANTED

The Record Newspapers is hiring for a newspaper carrier. This is a Wednesday job only. Must have a dependable transportation, valid driver license, and insurance. It is a commercial route and has a lot of stops. This job is perfect for somebody looking to make extra money on the side. Please only serious inquiries. Apply in person at 333 W. Roundbunch Bridge. Call 409-735-5305 for more information.

GARAGE SALE

Big Garage Sale on Sat., June 25th from 8 am to 2 pm at 1301 Turner Drive in Bridge City. Lots of glassware, cookware, household items, holiday decor, furniture and etc.

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THE STATE OF TEXAS

TO: The Unknown Heirs of the Estate of Bonnie Catherine Green, Deceased

Respondent, NOTICE:

YOU HAVE BEEN SUED. You may employ an attorney. If your or your Attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 A.M. on the Monday next following the expiration of 20 days after you were served this citation and petition, a default judgment may be taken against you.

The petition of Tanya Lunsford, et al, Petitioners, was filed in the 360th District Court of Orange County, Texas on the 6th day of June, 2022, against the Unknown Heirs of Bonnie Catherine Green, Deceased, Respondent(s), numbered 22195-C. The Suit requests:

DEFENDANTS BE CITED TO APPEAR AND ANSWER HEREIN

The court has authority in this suit to enter any judgement which will be binding on you.

ISSUED AND GIVEN under my hand and seal of said Court at Orange, Texas on June 20, 2022.

VICKIE EDGERLY, District Clerk,
 Orange County, Texas

Vickie Edgerly

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NOTICE: Vehicle stored at Gilbeaux's Towing and Transport Inc. 05849 VSF 16527 Hwy 62 S. Orange, TX 77630 PH (409) 886-0007

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AT THE BEACH

ACROSS

1. Like a certain eagle
5. *Beach-goer's protective acronym
8. "To ____ and to hold"
12. Arabian bigwig
13. Indian lentil staple
14. Wild West grazer
15. TV prize
16. Between Illinois and Nebraska
17. Quick and light on one's feet
18. *Wooden walkway by the beach

CROSSWORD													
1	2	3	4		5	6	7		8	9	10	11	
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20. Not this
21. Unwritten examinations
22. Cherry middle
23. Relating to a rib
26. *Beach suit type
29. Kanye's genre
30. Pool hall mishap
33. 52 cards
35. *Sunny Dutch Caribbean vacation destination
37. Be unwell
38. Eagle's home
39. Precedes carotene?
40. Twisted or meandered
42. Chill, with 'out'
43. Seat by day, bed by night
45. Modifies
47. *Just out of the water
48. Parallel grooves
50. Arrival times
52. *Wave rider
56. Nitrogen, in the olden days
57. In ____ of
58. Hipbones
59. Parcel of land
60. Et alibi
61. Auctioneer's exclamation
62. A.C.T. section
63. Tie the knot
64. *Casual beach tops
- DOWN
1. British Broadcasting Corporation, colloquially
2. Shells in a magazine
3. Capital of Peru
4. Fungus damage (2 words)
5. *Same as sandbar
6. Catch for a ratchet's notch, pl.
7. Criticism
8. *Water at its highest (2 words)
9. The largest continent
10. Retired electric Chevy
11. Compass dir.
13. Hindu Festival of Lights
14. Dyed fabric
19. Type of TV show
22. Eating contest staple
23. *Decapod on a beach
24. *Propelled like a paddle board
25. Plural of sputum
26. Type of bin in a grocery store
27. Bundle of axons
28. Slipperier
31. *Building material found at the beach
32. Jack Ryan's and Jason Bourne's org.
34. Barrels of beer
36. *Hasselhoff's beach TV show
38. Improvise
40. Exercise group
41. Upbraiding
44. Annoy
46. Lao Tzu follower
48. Hotel room option
49. Metallica's "Don't ____ On Me"
50. Poet Pound
51. To perfection (3 words)
52. A bunch
53. *End-of-day summertime soother
54. Rub the wrong way
55. Pops
56. Cash dispenser

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