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County Record

Vol. 61 No. 4

The Community Newspaper of Orange, Texas

Week of Wednesday, June 24, 2020

Commissioners salute retiring Sheriff Merritt

DAVE ROGERS
For The Record

County Commissioners gave a lotta love to outgoing Sheriff Keith Merritt at Tuesday's meeting downtown.

Then they gave him a bill. The bill was for \$407 as Merritt purchased his service weapon, a 40 caliber Glock, a customary procedure for retiring Sheriff's Office employees.

"The Sheriff has done a great job," Commissioner Theresa Beauchamp said as a plaque noting Merritt's 25 years of service to the county as deputy, constable, and



Merritt

since 2009, Sheriff. It was the last commissioners court meeting of Merritt's tenure, as his retirement begins

July 1.

"We appreciate your service, your time and your kindness," Beauchamp said.

In the absence of County Judge John Gothia, who was ill, Judge Pro-Tem Johnny Trahan read Merritt's official letter of resignation before it was accepted early in a two-hour-plus meeting that

included a 50-item agenda.

"There comes a time when you have to go," Merritt said, "and I've got to go."

Then he noted he and wife Marlene wouldn't be leaving Orange County for their golden years.

"I'm not going anywhere. Any time you need me, call."

After Merritt's resignation was final, commissioners met behind closed doors for only a couple minutes before reopening the meeting to vote 4-0 to have Sheriff-elect

Lane Mooney serve the remaining six months of Merritt's third four-year term.

Next in the domino sequence was accepting Mooney's resignation as Precinct 4 Constable. Then another quick closed meeting

before they announced Constable-elect Matt Ortego would take Mooney's job six months early.

Mooney and Ortego will be sworn in at midnight

RETIRING SHERIFF Page 3A

Mooney 'ready to roll' as OC top lawman

DAVE ROGERS
For The Record

Lane Mooney says he's "ready to roll" as Orange County's new Sheriff.

As such, he promises to go right to work for the taxpayers after he takes his oath of office at midnight as Tuesday, June 30 turns into Wednesday, July 1.

"We have to swear in everybody that's on shift that night," he said referring to Sheriff's Office employees — the deputies and corrections officers — all of whom serve at the pleasure of the Sheriff and have to be re-sworn every four years.

So then it's time to celebrate? Hardly, Mooney explained.

"After that, we'll go to the house, because at 6 o'clock in the morning I have to be back at the Sheriff's Office to swear in the oncoming shift for the jail and the patrol division."

Mooney, 55, and a native

of Vidor, defeated a fellow longtime lawman, Rob Strause, in a tight Republican Primary race in March. More than 13,000 votes were cast county-wide and Mooney garnered 52 percent of the vote to 48 percent for Strause.

"It was kind of touch and go," Mooney remembered. "I felt like we would win, but I expected it would be close."

With no Democrats filing for the Sheriff's Office, Mooney faces no opponent in November's general election. He's been Sheriff-In-Waiting ever since, with Keith Merritt's third four-year term as top lawman not due to expire until Dec. 31.

But Merritt announced earlier this month he was resigning at the end of the month, in part, because he was confident Mooney was ready to take over.

So Mooney, who resigned Tuesday as Constable for Precinct 4, has reached his

MOONEY Page 3A

Orange County bids Sheriff Merritt farewell...



Orange County Commissioners Kirk Roccaforte, left, Theresa Beauchamp, Johnny Trahan and Robert Viator present retiring Sheriff Keith Merritt with a token of their appreciation for 25 years as a county law enforcer.

Coronavirus patients crowd some Texas ICUs

SHANNON NAJMABADI
SARAH R. CHAMPAGNE
THE TEXAS TRIBUNE

As the number of patients hospitalized with the coronavirus has reached record highs 12 days in a row, Gov. Greg Abbott and other health officials have stressed that the state has "abundant" capacity to care for them.

Statewide, there were 14,260 available hospital beds and nearly 1,500 intensive care unit beds as of Tuesday.

But regionally, some hospital officials are reporting that intensive care units — for seriously ill patients, like those on ventilators — are near or over capacity, and local leaders have warned that hospitals could get overwhelmed if the number of infections keeps climbing.

In the hard-hit Houston region, hospitals have begun moving coronavirus patients from crowded ICUs to other facilities. A local children's hospital said this week it is admitting transfer patients,

with and without the virus, to help other facilities manage their capacity.

"We appear to be nearing the tipping point," Dr. Marc Boom, head of the Houston Methodist hospital system, wrote in an email to employees Friday. "Should the number of new cases grow too rapidly, it will eventually challenge our ability to treat both COVID-19 and non-COVID 19 patients."

Elsewhere, counties like Travis and Harris, which includes Houston, have eyed local convention centers or stadiums as temporary hospital overflow facilities — reviving plans mapped out early in the pandemic that were largely abandoned due to lack of need at the time.

The number of patients hospitalized with the virus in Texas has more than doubled since the beginning of the month, reaching 4,092 Tuesday. The figure began rising in early June, a month after Abbott let a stay-at-home order expire and allowed businesses to begin re-

opening.

The governor struck a newly urgent tone Monday in a televised press conference to say COVID-19 was "spreading at an unacceptable rate" and that multiple metrics to gauge the virus' spread and severity had significantly increased. Epidemiologists have attributed upticks in infections and hospitalizations to changes in behavior, including lax mask use and less social distancing.

Abbott spokesperson John Wittman said hospitals in Houston and Austin have been "emphatic" that beds will be available for coronavirus patients. He also said the governor has made clear that "he will utilize tools as necessary to ensure hospitals will provide beds for anyone who tests positive for COVID-19."

"To be clear, in Houston, the percentage of beds occupied by COVID patients is currently 12.9%. In Austin, the percentage of beds occupied by COVID patients is

10.2%," Wittman said.

Carrie Williams, a spokesperson for the Texas Hospital Association, also said Texas has enough hospital capacity, though she added that hospitalizations numbers are "definitely a concern."

"Right now we're in good shape, but if this trend continues, it's not sustainable," she said.

Regional shortages

While large swaths of the state are not reporting surges in hospitalized coronavirus patients, health experts and local officials predict a coming crush in some urban areas if the growth in cases doesn't slow down.

"What we had before was a ripple compared to what we're about to experience," said Dr. David Persse, health authority for the Houston Health Department.

In the Houston region — which has seen one of the

TEXASICU'S Page 3A



Matt Ortego, left, and Lane Mooney will be taking new offices next week, Mooney as Orange County Sheriff and Ortego replacing Mooney as Precinct 4 Constable.

RECORD PHOTO: Dave Rogers

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CORONAVIRUS IN TEXAS

Texas delays health guidelines for reopening schools this fall

Aliyya Swaby
The Texas Tribune

Texas public schools will be required to provide in-person instruction for students this fall, but state education officials have delayed releasing final public health guidelines for keeping them safe on campuses during the pandemic.

"We are unable to give final guidance today on on-campus instruction. We are actively monitoring the situation, and we will try to get out final information as quickly as possible," Texas Education Commissioner Mike Morath said during a Tuesday briefing of school superintendents who had been expecting him to outline the agency's reopening guidelines.

A draft document found on the Texas Education Agency's website Tuesday showed agency officials are envisioning a largely hands-off approach to helping school districts bring students back to campus this fall, imposing few mandatory safety precautions but recommending that staff and students wear masks, sanitize their hands regularly and stay 6 feet away from one another.

The light-handed oversight role parallels the state's overall approach to the coronavirus pandemic under Gov. Greg Abbott, with local officials, parents and students expected to devise their own strategies for protecting their health.

"These are draft documents. They were posted in the staging portion of the TEA website by mistake as part of an internal document review," the agency said in a statement. "As we continue to closely monitor the public health situation, we are, in fact, still soliciting feedback on this guidance. No final



Students gather in an auditorium before class. PHOTO CREDIT: Miguel Gutierrez Jr./The Texas Tribune

decisions have yet been made. Additional guidance will be provided soon."

Local school officials have been waiting on state guidance so they can begin making decisions as they plan for the start of a new school year. "I understand the pause in releasing those guidelines considering what's going on with what seems to be a resurgence, particularly in our large, urban areas," HD Chambers, superintendent of Alief Independent School District, told the Texas Tribune. "At some point, we gotta know because we have to make decisions."

And state Democrats have excoriated Abbott for deciding to reopen schools amid rises in COVID-19 cases. "The decision to reopen comes despite severe concerns from students, teachers, and parents that returning to school may not be safe in the fall," a working group of state House Democrats said in a statement Tuesday. "The announcements also coincide with an outbreak of COVID-19 that has led to nearly two weeks of record hospitalizations and rising cases that even Gov. Abbott decreed 'unacceptable.'" Education officials did re-

lease final guidelines Tuesday afternoon saying that after campuses reopen, they will count students taking virtual classes in the attendance figures used to determine state funding. Districts can choose to provide live virtual instruction or instruction that is not delivered in real time, including prerecorded video lessons or paper assignments. The state will not penalize school districts for major decreases in student attendance for the first 12 weeks of the year.

State funding is typically based on classroom attendance, and many districts feared they might see dramatic drops in state money with parents saying they will not feel comfortable sending their children to school in person, especially as cases continue to rise in Texas.

Reopening schools is a large part of Abbott's plan to jumpstart the economy, as Texans returning to their workplaces seek safe places to leave their children. But since Abbott first allowed businesses to reopen, the numbers of new cases and Texans hospitalized have reached record heights.

Abbott has urged Texans to wear masks and practice

social distancing but has declined to issue a statewide requirement or shut down businesses again. He told lawmakers last week that masks and testing would not be required in schools in the fall.

Many of the public health guidelines in the TEA's draft document are suggestions and not mandates for how school districts can keep communities safe during the coronavirus pandemic. According to the draft, Texas will require school districts to publicly post summaries of their plans to prevent the spread of COVID-19, based on the guidance, though the plans are not subject to government approval. And school districts are required to separate students who show COVID-19 symptoms at school until they can be picked up by a guardian, and clean the areas used by anyone potentially infected.

According to the draft guidance, school districts should require staff and students to "self-screen" for COVID-19 symptoms, including taking their own temperatures, before going to school each day. And school leaders should ask students at the beginning of each week whether they have symptoms of COVID-19 or have had close contact with someone who tested positive.

"Regularly performing a forehead temperature check of otherwise asymptomatic students in school is not recommended, but the practice is also not prohibited by this guidance," the draft document states.

Some school districts, especially larger ones in urban and suburban Texas, have already decided to offer hybrid programs, teaching some students in person and some remotely.

Texas will continue to fund school districts serving

students remotely. School districts providing live virtual instruction to students must track how many students are engaged each day and will not receive funding for students who do not participate remotely.

Those that choose to offer remote instruction through worksheets and prerecorded videos must first get state approval of their instructional plans, due on a rolling basis starting July 15. They must track students' daily progress through their interactions with their teachers or completion of assignments. Districts can also choose to offer a combination of both types of remote instruction in order to meet more students' needs. They must keep

the grading policies for students learning remotely the same as those for students learning on campus.

This year, school districts scrambled to get computers and Wi-Fi hotspots out to the students who needed them most and lost track of thousands of students, including the most vulnerable. Texas required districts to sign a form saying they were providing remote instruction in order to continue receiving funding — much less stringent than the plan in the finalized guidance.

Texas is working to help school districts provide more technology for students who don't have it at home, Morath said Tuesday.

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Texas ICU's From Page 1

steepest increases in hospitalizations statewide — the Texas Medical Center anticipates intensive care unit capacity there could be surpassed in two weeks. Infectious disease expert Peter Hotez predicted over the weekend that Houston could become the “worst affected city” in the country and may be rival Brazil, the world’s fastest-growing hot spot.

“We are stretched,” said Dr. Faisal Masud, director of the Critical Care Center at Houston Methodist. While the hospital is able to take COVID-19 patients from smaller facilities, if the upward trajectory continues, it, too, could become overwhelmed, Masud said.

“We were already quite full with people who need care,

and now we’re adding big numbers of COVID-19 patients,” he said.

At Lyndon B. Johnson Hospital in Houston, ICU patients exceeded bed capacity, and patients were temporarily moved to other units or to other hospitals, said a Harris Health System spokesperson. At Ben Taub Hospital, also in Houston, 76% of ICU beds were full as of Monday. Patients have been transferred from both facilities to other Houston hospitals, including St. Joseph Medical Center, Houston Methodist Hospital and Texas Children’s Hospital, over the last week.

Experts at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center forecast a coming wave of hospitalizations in North Texas before July 4.

Hospitals in the North Texas region had more than 5,000 beds available as of late last week and can surge to around 8,500, according to Stephen Love, head of the Dallas-Fort Worth Hospital Council.

“Pre-surge state”

As the outbreak began in March, Abbott directed hospitals to pause elective procedures and suspended regulations that limit how many beds can be in each room. The steps were taken to accommodate a potential surge in COVID-19 patients. But instead, some hospitals saw little traffic for weeks. Without lucrative elective procedures, revenue plummeted. Medical staff members were furloughed.

By late April, when there were less than half the hospitalized patients as there are now, Abbott allowed hospitals to resume elective procedures as long as 15% of beds were reserved for coronavirus patients.

Some hospitals now have more than 15% of beds filled by COVID-19 patients. The state’s tally of hospitalized people is likely an undercount because the state only includes lab-confirmed coronavirus cases and not patients suspected of having the virus.

Abbott said he “was as-

sured and reassured consistently” by hospital executives across the state that “they had the capability and the flexibility” to treat all coronavirus patients. “They know how to ratchet back on the number of people who are being admitted for nonessential surgical procedures, to make sure that beds are going to be available for anybody who tests positive for COVID-19.”

Texas officials said Monday that all hospitals are in a “pre-surge state” — still using their staffed beds and not yet turning to emergency ex-

pansion plans — and that the state stands ready to assist them.

The number of available beds statewide, which is updated daily by the Department of State Health Services, included on Monday 1,303 pediatric beds and 380 psychiatric beds housed in general hospitals, said agency spokesperson Chris Van Deusen. The available bed numbers don’t include beds at psychiatric facilities, alternate care sites or those that “could be brought online but aren’t actually staffed yet,” he said.

Retiring Sheriff Merritt From Page 1

Tuesday night, which is also when Merritt’s resignation takes effect.

“Because his term ends at 12 o’clock, they said they needed to do the swearing in at that time,” Mooney said when asked about the unusual hour to show up for a new job.

In the matter of dollars and cents, the county accepted a sales tax payment from the state of \$482,819 for April 2020, and Karen Fisher, tax assessor-collector, announced the county took in \$427,562 in property tax payments for April 2020.

The county OK’d the payment of \$66,451 in bills for June 16 and \$446,295 for June 23 bills.

The latter included \$118,000 for a three-month payment to the Orange County Appraisal District and \$81,550 for group health insurance for retired em-

ployees over 65 for July 2020.

Pennee Schmitt, county auditor, announced line item transfers of \$1.8 million from one county account to another to cover needs through the end of the fiscal 2020 year, Sept. 30.

An example of one such transfer was from Sheriff Office salaries to Sheriff Office overtime, since the 136-member department has 20 openings and has been authorizing lots of overtime to compensate.

Schmitt also set up a special budget for a \$356,000 federal CARES Act grant for transportation the county received.

The county agreed to a third-year contract with Weaver and Tidwell to provide auditing services with a note to start early next year seeking a cheaper vendor.

The commissioners approved a five-year agreement

to spend \$130,000 per year to move the county’s financial software the cloud.

Lisa Reeves, management information systems director, said the change would be better than the current situation of spending \$100,000 per year to maintain its own servers, and the change was also needed to keep data safer.

Clark Slacum, county engineer, reported the Road and Bridge department had taken receipt of a \$376,000 Gradall excavator and a mini-excavator paid for by federal coastal protection funds.

He added that his department was making good progress on road repair, having finished 4.2 miles of the 19 miles of road on its 2020 wish list before being slowed by recent rain.

Mooney ‘ready to roll’ From Page 1

dream job since he started at the Lamar Police Academy in the late 80s.

“Since I started in law enforcement in 1988 and one of my long-term goals was to be a constable and eventually sheriff,” he said.

Mooney is expected to bring a lot of new faces with to the Sheriff’s Office with him, beginning with his new chief deputy, Keith Reneau.

Reneau had been with the Pinehurst Police Department.

There is typically a fair amount of turnover when a new Sheriff takes over, and, according to a source in the know at the Sheriff’s Office, Mooney notified 14 current employees that he did not plan to retain their services.

But on top of that, Merritt said on the day he resigned that 19 of his employees had left since Jan. 1 of this year.

Nine deputies with a total of nearly 250 combined years of service took their county retirement between Jan. 2 and June 12, including his chief deputy, John Tarver and two division heads.

The latest to retire, on June 12, was Mooney’s opponent in the March primary,

Strause. He has gone to work for the West Orange Police Department, he said.

In response to a Texas Public Information Act request, the county reported that its 2020 budget includes 136 positions, with 63 peace officers, 49 jailers, nine dispatchers and 15 non-law enforcement personnel.

A total of 20 of those 136 jobs were not filled as of Tuesday.

“I’m bringing in some of my own people,” the soon-to-be Sheriff said. “I’m surrounding myself with good loyal people. They all have their areas of expertise.”

Mooney promised to announce his new hires July 1.

“I want to bring back the reserve division,” he said. “That will give us extra manpower if we need it.”

Reserve deputies are unpaid volunteers, but perform most of the same duties as regular sheriff’s deputies.

“Before I became constable four years ago, they were short-staffed at the Sheriff’s Office and they’ve remained that way.”

Mooney’s old job as constable won’t remain vacant long.

Matt Ortego, who ran uncontested for Precinct 4 Constable in March, will take his oath of office also as July 1 dawns Wednesday morning. Judge Rodney Price, Precinct 4 Justice of Peace, will officiate.

Both Mooney and Ortego were officially voted into office early by the Orange County Commissioners Court Tuesday, but it’s not official until July 1’s swearing-in.

“I’m ready to roll,” Mooney said. “I’m excited. Everybody’s ecstatic, ready to hit the ground running.”

After the Lamar Police Academy, Mooney worked as an unpaid reserve officer for the City of Vidor before spending about 14 years as a Vidor Policeman.

He worked 12 years as an Orange County Sheriff’s deputy, working his way up from patrol to be assistant leader of the county’s SWAT Team. He has worked for the state narcotics task force and has been handler for three different drug dogs.

He’s also a non-commissioned officer in the Texas State Guard.



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From The Creaux's Nest

IT AIN'T OVER TILL IT'S OVER

Regardless of how much **President Trump** tries to dismiss the seriousness of the pandemic, it's still very active. As tired as I am, and many other people are, the scientist say it will be with us for quite sometime. The **President's** theory is if we would just stop testing we wouldn't have as much virus. If that were correct, we could stop testing for cancer and it would go away. **Trump** has put pressure on red state governors to open states before the pandemic subsides. We need to open, but with caution, not to satisfy the whims of an upcoming national election. In **Texas** we never have gotten a true case count. Many more people have died than the state wants us to know. Even today, the only numbers available are hospital records. If someone dies from **Coronavirus** but hasn't been tested, they are not counted. I'll tell you something else, some well known **Orange County** citizens have had the virus. Some were hospitalized. I won't name them but chances are you would know them. Now here is my own speculation, I believe at least three people have died from the virus; two were listed as pneumonia and one congestive heart failure. They had not been tested. **Our local government is not to blame for lack of reporting.** State stone-walling is a political rush to the finish line. I pray that the end will come next week, but I'm not going to lie to myself. We have to proceed with caution. I'm so ready for it to go away. I'm tired of home; I miss work and really miss my friends and the **Lunch Bunch**. I know I'm in the highest risk and am smart enough not to run out in the traffic. Special thanks to **Mark** and the staff for holding **The Record** together and doing such a good job. These are difficult times for all of us. My hope is that soon we will all be normal again or at least when it will be safe for old guys. **Come along, I promise it won't do you no harm.**

TURNING BACK THE HANDS OF TIME 10 Years Ago-2010

Joe Chenella, assistant superintendent at **Bridge City ISD** after 48 years, tendered his resignation Tuesday. Back in 1962, when **Joe** came to the district we were all much younger. Many of our children were just starting school many others would follow. I believe the only school buildings were the small high school on Texas Avenue, and Hatton School on Roundbunch. **Sims School** and every school built after have been built since **Joe** arrived. Over the years, **Joe** worked his way through the ranks and on occasion served as an interim superintendent. An unusual coincidence: **Judge Roy Derry Dunn** and **Roy L. Dunn** – both have eldest sons named **Mark**. **Judge Roy's** son is **Dr. Mark Dunn**, who completed his residency in family medicine Tuesday in Oregon. He and wife **Kristi** and their four children will live in Sherwood, Ore., where **Dr. Dunn** will be in practice. **Roy L. Dunn's** son **Mark**, is the father of **Dr. Amber Dunn**, who completed her internship last week in Cleveland, Ohio, where she will specialize in anesthesiology. **Judge Dunn** and wife **Jane** attended a ceremony for son **Mark** in Portland. On June 23, **Sybil Burgess**, 80, passed away. We had known this lovely lady more than 50 years. Congrats to **Bridge City** grad and now **McNeese** pitcher **Jaden Dillion**, given "Honorable Mention" to the Louisiana Sports Writer's "All Louisiana College Baseball Team." **Jaden**, a great youngster, was the **Cowboy's** ace pitcher with an 8-0 win record. He appeared in 20 games. I know his dad, sign man **Jimmy** and family are proud of his accomplishments and also extremely pleased with **Jaden's** success. Also proud of **Jaden** is **Coach Sam Moore**, who helped develop him into an all-around pitcher who constantly throws over 90 mph. We have watched **Jaden** work out several times at "The Zone," **Coach Moore's** baseball academy. Later this year legendary jockey **Randy Romero**, the pride of Erath in Vermilion Parish, will be inducted into the **National Museum of Racing Hall of Fame**. In 25 years he won 4,285 races. His new book, "Randy Romero's Remarkable Ride" has been released by **Pelican Publishing**. The 1978 movie, "Casey's Shadow" filmed in Louisiana, is based on **Lloyd Romero** and his family. **Randy's** dad, a state trooper, who was hit by a drunk driver and permanently disabled, turned to horse training to earn a living. The rest is history. West Orange Mayor **Roy McDonald** puts another notch on the yardstick of life. **Kee-Ke Dupuis'** lovely wife **Nancy** celebrates another one. Last week, **Mark Chesnutt** released his new album "Outlaw," a collection of songs popularized by **Willie Nelson**, **Waylon Jennings**, **Kris Kristofferson**, **Johnny Cash**, **David Allan Coe**, **Billy Joe Shaver**, **Guy Clark**, **Jerry Jeff Walker** and **Hank Williams Jr.** It's a different style of song for **Chesnutt** but I understand it's a good selection – not just the top sellers. One of **Chesnutt's** three kids is named **Waylon Nelson**. That shows his respect for the great artists. **Gov. Dolph Briscoe**, 87, who served as Texas governor from 1972-78 passed away Sunday. He was the first Texas governor to serve a four-year term. He lost to **John Hill**, who in turn was defeated by **Bill Clements**, the first Republican governor since Reconstruction. Our friend **Van Choate**, who owns **Catfish Kitchen** in Beaumont, is opening a restaurant – the **Cajun Eatery** in Bryant, Ark.

40 Years Ago-1980

Orange Community Players present the first annual Edgar awards. "Miracle Worker" captured a series of awards for best production, best direction, best actress

and top supporting roles. **Louis Dugas** received the producer's award, **Charles Ferguson**, director award and **Diana Hill** best actress award for her role as **Annie**. **Mal Smith** received the best actor award for his role in "Same Time Next Year." Best supporting actor went to stage newcomer **Gregg Torbert**, the son in "Miracle Worker." **Angela Hill** took best supporting actress for her portrayal of **Helen Keller** in "Miracle Worker." **Faye Speer** won the **Golden HAB** prize for her efforts backstage in several productions. Technician trophies went to the man and wife team of **Claude** and **Jean Hamerly**. Highlight of the evening was the presentation of a special board award to past **OCP** president **Bob Jones**, active in the playhouse for 18 years. Special "Edgar" awards went to **Betty and Edgar Brown III** for the family's contributions to **OCP**. **Dr. David Olson** was installed as president of the **Bridge City Rotary Club** at a banquet at the **Wayside Inn**. **Ken Wyatt** was named **Rotarian of the Year** having five years perfect attendance. **Orange Mayor Major Inman** installed the officers. Other special guests were **Jim Stelly** and **Floyd Austin**. **C.R. Nash** is outgoing president. **Glenn** and **Debbie Huckabay** are the parents of a baby girl, **Courtney Leagh**.

45 Years Ago-1975

A big "Sundown to Sunup" gospel show featuring **Wally Fowler**, **J.D. Sumner** and the **Stamps**, at the **Sheriff's Posse Rodeo Arena** sponsored by **Sheriff's Posse**. **Barbara Rannels Waites** served as master of ceremonies. **Shelia Miller Beeson**, married to **Judge Harold of Rose City**, is big and pregnant, baby due July 7. A surprise birthday party was put together June 25, for ole' **Uncle Gordon** by his wife **Diane Baxter**. **Bax's** birthday is on **Christmas Day**. He usually shares his birthday with **Christ, Flo Edgerly** and a world full of kids honoring **Santa Claus**. She assembled a lot of very talented people to celebrate his birthday and a half. They sang up all the songs they knew, **Dan Green** played his 11-string guitar. **Skipper Free**, **Beeson**, artist **Frank Gerriets**, the **Dunns**, **Louise Green** and a house full of others' free spirits sang with zest, their voices echoing down **Village Creek** from **Bax's** cabin. On July 4th, **Keble Free** marries pretty **Rita Faiday** in City Park off MacArthur. The **Rev. Jimmy Botner** performed the honors with a "free" watermelon party to follow. (Editor's note: **Keble** has done stranger things in the years we've known him).

HONEYCUTT'S HEAD TO INDIAN COUNTRY

Last week I read **Dave Rogers'** story about two **Orange** missionaries working 16 years in the **Navajo Nation Reservation** in northeastern tip of New Mexico. I came away with the feeling of what great ministry work **Ricky and Lavern Sterling** are doing. I've always been fascinated by the **American Indian** and the history of the different tribes. I've traveled the area around Farmington and visited with some of the natives. I've never had any desire to be a missionary in any foreign land but I believe if I were younger I would enjoy getting to really know the **Indian** customs. My friends, **Pam and Rusty Honeycutt**, are headed to the reservation next week. **Rusty** and a couple of friends from other states will join him to work on a children's church. **Pam** tells me that there are some of the older **Indians** who still practice the customs and speak the **Navajo** language. The preacher speaks to the children in English then also repeats the message in their native tongue. While there **Pam** and other ladies do the cooking. The **Honeycutt's** are members of **Cowboy Church**.

DAK BECOMES HIGHEST PAID COWBOY

On Monday, **Dak Prescott**, **Cowboy Quarterback**, signed a one year deal for \$31.4 million, making him the highest paid **Cowboy** ever. The two sides have until July 15 to agree to a long term contract. **Prescott, 26**, who has several relatives in the **Orange** area, is entering his fifth **NFL** season and has started all 64 regular season games. The **Cowboys** chose him in the fourth round of the 2016 **NFL** draft. He set career highs last season with 4,902 passing yards and 30 touchdowns. **Note of interest:** Last week the **NFL** had more players testing positive for **Covid-19** than in any week since the pandemic began, six **Cowboys** and **Texans**; one **49er**; two **Buccaneers** and one assistant coach. College football also has its share of cases. **LSU** has 30 in quarantine; **Clemson**, 28; **Alabama**, 8; **Texas**, 13; **Houston**, 6; **Kansas State**, 14; and more cases are expected throughout the country. Even high school football has been affected.

CAN "TIZ THE LAW" BECOME 14TH TRIPLE CROWN WINNER

Last Saturday, "Tiz the Law," with **Manuel Franco** aboard, won the 152nd running of the **Belmont Stakes**. "Tiz the Law" will go on to compete in the **Triple Crown**; the **Kentucky Derby**, Sept. 5 and the **Preakness**, Oct. 3. "Tiz the Law" will not have run a 1 1/2 mile race in the **Belmont**, like all but one of the 13 previous **Triple Crown** champs. The **Belmont** was shortened to a 1 1/3 mile track in the first race in the series. The horse also will not have to endure the traditional grind of three races in five weeks like the others endured. If this horse wins the **Triple Crown**, he would have pulled off one of the most monumental feats in racing history. There are always fresh horses filtering into the **Triple Crown** fray to test the potential champions. Keeping a horse both sound and sharp from June through early October is no small feat, with numerous workouts and a prep race involved. Today, the top challenger to "Tiz the Law" appears to be **Santa Anita Derby** winner "Honor A.P.", who will prep on the West Coast. **Honor** will be shipped in for the "Run for the Roses" for what could be an epic showdown. Regardless, if "Tiz the Law" wins, there shouldn't be one of those silly asterisks we have seen too often next to a champion's name in all sports.

A FEW HAPPENINGS

We were sorry to learn of the death of **Mike Sehon**, who passed away June 19. **Mike** would have been 61-years-old July 6. Our condolences to **George, Janelle** and all the family. Please see obituary. **Sheriff Keith Merritt** turned in his resignation Tuesday. We can't praise him enough for the great job he and his staff has done over the last ten years. New sheriff **Lane Mooney** will be sworn in June 30, at midnight, on the steps of the sheriff's office. We wish **Keith** and **Marlene** the best in retirement and great years ahead. A few folks we know celebrating birthdays in the next few days. **June 24: Dwayne's** bridge **Kathy**

Marsh celebrates today. **Dwayne** could hardly wait to make her his bride. **Amanda Adams**, mother of twins **Lucas** and **Mason**, celebrates today as does **Blake Amy**. **June 25:** On this day in 1950 the **Koran War** began. Celebrating birthdays today are **Gary Stelly** of radio fame. Before Hurricane Rita, **Gary** wrote a weekly column for "The Record." **Rita** made him famous and we haven't had a column since. Also celebrating is former Pct. 1 constable **Chris Humble**, **Elise Becker** and **Cher Becker**. **June 26: Mark Viator, Sherry Dixon** and **Judy Cagle** celebrate today. **June 27:** Our buddy **Jody Raymer**, long time wed to pretty **Beverly**, celebrates today. We have misplaced their phone number since we have been in lockdown. Thanks for the card. Also celebrating on this day is **Claudine Hogan**, writer **David Ball**, who writes many great stories for "The Record," and longtime friend **Dorris Norwood**, **Judy Lewis** and **Lynn Nell Guidry**. **June 28:** Happy birthday to **Kathy LeBlanc** and **Kourtney Derouen**. **June 30:** Happy birthday to a great guy and good mayor, **Roy McDonald**, also celebrating is **Mary Beth McClure** and our ace reporter **Dave Rogers**. They all share birthdays with **Mike Tyson** who turns 54. Please see complete birthday list. **President Trump** went to Yuma, Arizona, Tuesday to inspect his monument, a 200 mile section of border wall. The wall **Trump** promised his supporters in the 2016 campaign was a 2100 mile wall that **Mexico** would pay for. If a plaque is placed on that wall that reads, "Built under the Administration of **Donald J. Trump, 45th President**," that will be the giveaway that **Trump** doesn't plan on being back next year to complete the wall. Also while in Arizona, **Trump**, who is not a person of faith, attended a church in Phoenix for a political rally. **Trump's** coming out party in Tulsa Saturday was like amateur night in Dixie. The show and turnout was a dud.

BREAUX BIRTHDAYS

Celebrating birthdays on **June 24**, are **Barbara Garza**, **Wesley Smith**, **Ronnie Broussard** and **Judy Gerrald**. **June 25:** **Erin McFarlane** and **Linda Taylor** celebrate. **June 26:** **Phyllis Davis**, **Sherby Dixon**, **Bridgett Teaff** and **Barbara Whitrock** all celebrate. **June 27:** **Shanna MacCammond**, **Shanna Scott**, **Kristin Lollar** and **Jeri Whitmire** have birthdays. **June 28:** **Al Baas**, **Leighia Barron**, **Tina Bernard** and **Connie Berry** are a year older. **June 29:** Celebrating are **Cobey Sonnier**, **Rebecca Griffin**, **Katie Keneson**. **June 30:** **Deanna Shuford**, **Sonya Jarreau**, **Eula Waters** and **Betty Derrick** celebrate. Happy birthday to all.

CAJUN STORY OF THE WEEK

Da **Comeaux** brothers, **Joe** and **Earl**, los dere jobs wen da **Tyson** poultry processing plant shut down las mon'h in Church Point. Dey were sitting at **Fred's Lounge**, in Mamou, drinking a cold one and trying to figure out wat dey was going to do for a living dem. **Joe** suggest dey probably could get hired to help clean da oil spill.

Earl said, "Mais Let's go."

Joe said, "We gotta go to our houses, pick up some clothes and tell our wives we gonna be gone a longtime. Till da cleanup is finished."

Wen dey got to da employment office in New Orleans **Joe** said, "We da **Comeaux** brothers, from Mamou, us and we want a job."

Dey sent dem to da job site. Da bossman told dem to go to da marshes and help clean da Pelicans.

Earl say, "We can do dat us."

Dat afternoon, da boss came by an he started screaming and cussing.

Joe and **Earl** had cleaned, skinned and dressed turty-seven of dem pelicans before dey got fired.

C'EST TOUT MARY TRUMP'S "DANGEROUS" UNCLE

President Donald Trump's niece, **Mary Trump**, is preparing to publish a book about her family and the man she describes as her "dangerous" uncle. The publisher **Simon & Schuster** says it will be a "revealing, authoritative portrait of **Donald J. Trump** and the toxic family that made him." The **President** commented on reports of the book in an interview with **Axios**, published Sunday, saying **Mary** was "not allowed to write a book" because she signed a nondisclosure agreement with the family. He also forcefully denied a specific claim involving his relationship with his Father. **Mary Trump's** "Too Much and Never Enough" is scheduled to publish on July 28. "She's not allowed to write a book," **Trump** told **Axios' Jonathan Swan**, adding that she "signed a nondisclosure" when he settled a lawsuit brought on by her and her brother, **Fred Trump III**. The settlement **Trump** was referring to was an issue over his father's estate. He was executor of the estate. **Mary's** father, **Fred Trump Jr.**, died at the age of 42 in 1981 because of alcoholism. When **Fred Trump** died in 1999, **Mary Trump** and **Fred Trump III** contested the will, saying they should have received what would have been their father's share of the will had he outlived his father. The case was settled privately supposedly for pennies on the dollar. **Donald Trump** said the nondisclosure agreement was a "very powerful one" and "covers everything." **The Daily Beast** reported last week that **Trump** had told his inner circle that he's having his lawyers look into what they could do to legally threaten his niece over the book. The book will detail claims that **Trump** "dismissed and derided" his own father when the elder **Trump** started succumbing to **Alzheimer's** in the 1990s, according to **Simon & Schuster**. The **President** contradicted this claim in his interview with **Axios**, saying "it's totally false" and was "actually the opposite." The publisher **Simon & Schuster** has released a statement describing "Too Much and Never Enough" as a "revealing, authoritative portrait of **Donald J. Trump** and the toxic family that made him." How **Trump** uses money, non-disclosure agreements, and intimidation to muzzle the people close to him. **Trump's** niece says she leaked tax documents to help The New York Times investigate the president's finances. I thank you for your time. **Take care and God bless.**



Deaths & Memorials

Michael Terry Sehon, 60, Beauxart Gardens

Michael Terry Sehon, of Beauxart Gardens, passed away on Friday, June 19, 2020 at Christus Hospital - St. Elizabeth in Beaumont. "Mike" as he was best known, was born on July 6, 1959, to his parents George "T-Ray" Sehon, Sr. and Mary Verdine Sehon at St. Mary Hospital in Port Arthur, Texas.



Left to cherish his memory are his daughters, Dawn Michelle Exline and her husband, Josh of Beauxart Gardens; Christine McGill and her husband, Scott of Winchester, Tennessee; grandchildren: Rowan, Willow and Koen Brandenburg and Kenzie McGill.

Mike is survived by his siblings: Glenda Sellers and her husband Pete, of Lumberton; Pamela Chapman and her husband, Butch of Beauxart Gardens; George Sehon, Jr. and his

wife, Susan Janelle of Bridge City; and Paul Sehon and his wife, Debbie of Spring. He is also survived by an aunt, Emma Lou Sehon, of Nederland; uncles, LeRoy Miller and his wife, JoAnne, of Katy; Louis O'Neal Miller, of Round Rock; and Nathan G. Miller, of LaBelle; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Preceding Mike in death are his parents, George "T-Ray" Sehon, Sr. and Mary Verdine Sehon.

Mike loved the outdoors and was an avid fisherman and hunter. He spent many years being a caregiver for his mom prior to losing her just 6 months ago. To honor Mike's life, the family will hold a memorial on Sunday, July 5th, time and location to be determined.

Cremation services have been entrusted to Broussard's in Nederland.

Winford B. Smith, 90, Orange

Winford B. Smith, 90, of Orange, Texas, passed away on June 19, 2020. A graveside service was held Tuesday, June 23, 2020, at Hillcrest Memorial Gardens in Orange. Born in Lindsay, Oklahoma, on May 16, 1930, he was the son of George and Alice Smith. Winford was a member of First Baptist Church in Orange. He proudly served his country in the United States Army during the Korean conflict, serving the rank of Master Sergeant. Winford was a long-time member of the Texas Restaurant Association. He began his career in Lake Charles at Magabar. In 1963, Winford joined the restaurant business and was the regional manager of the Pitt Grill Restaurants in the states of Texas and Louisiana. In 1972, he was co-owner of Gary's Coffee Shop Restaurants in Orange, Bridge City, and Vidor. Winford and his wife, Mary Jane, became the owners in the late 1980's. He was a very kind and loving son, husband, father, brother, uncle, grand-



parent, great-grandparent, boss, and friend. He loved spending time with family, working outdoors on his land and in his gardens, and with his cows, horses, and dogs. Winford will be dearly missed by all who knew and loved him. He was preceded in death by his loving wife, Mary Jane Evans Smith; his parents, George and Alice Smith; and his siblings, Olivine Smith Indermuehle, Faye Smith Burton, Joseph B. Smith, Hulan Smith, and Geraldine Smith Hicks. He is survived by his children, Kathy Klinkhammer, and husband Fred of Houston, Jan Rice and husband Leonard of Austin, and Martha Dickey of Orange; his grandchildren, Brent Dickey, Kayla Dickey Little and husband Joey, Trey Rice, Dustin Rice and wife Callie, and Kendall Klinkhammer; his great-grandchildren, Braydon Little, Lorn Little, and Dax Dickey; and his siblings, Ralph Smith, Jim Smith, and Mary Smith Botkin.

Representatives call on ICE to release migrants in detention centers as coronavirus cases surge

STACY FERNANDEZ
THE TEXAS TRIBUNE

U.S. Reps. Joaquin Castro, D-San Antonio, and Sylvia Garcia, D-Houston, called on Immigration and Customs Enforcement on Monday to release detainees at risk of catching the new coronavirus and to increase testing at its facilities.

The Texas lawmakers, in a call with reporters Monday, described a pair of immigration detention centers as prison-like after they visited the South Texas ICE Processing Center in Pearsall and the South Texas Family Residential Center in Dilley.

As cases surge in Texas and the pandemic rages on, the representatives said ICE should release all detainees who are not a safety risk and who are more vulnerable to contracting the virus.

"The conditions are bad. These people are living in a petri dish," said Castro, chairman of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus, which hosted the call.

In late April, the U.S. District Court for the Central District of California directed ICE to release minors to the custody of their parents or guardians as long as they are not viewed as a flight risk or danger to themselves, an ICE official said in a written statement. ICE did not comment on whether it would release any other groups of people.

Across the nation, detention centers have become hot spots for the coronavirus, putting immigrant families and ICE officers at risk of contracting the virus.

Last month, the GEO Group — which runs the immigration detention center in Pearsall — came under fire for a lack of transparency in its efforts to prevent the spread of the coronavirus within its facilities and the outside community. In early May, the immigration detention center was linked to more than 90% of Frio County's confirmed COVID-19 cases.

"ICE barely lifts a finger to make sure that these folks are safe," Castro said.

Unlike other hot spots like nursing homes and prisons, ICE has yet to conduct comprehensive testing for staff and detainees, nor does it have a directive to do so from the White House, Castro said. One of the detention centers has a rapid COVID-19 testing machine, but it's constantly passed around



U.S. Reps. Joaquin Castro, D-San Antonio, and Sylvia Garcia, D-Houston, visited the South Texas ICE Processing Center in Pearsall and another immigration detention center.

PHOTO CREDIT: Robin Jerstad for The Texas Tribune

among centers, Castro said. He argued that by now, the immigration detention centers should each have at least one machine so they can test detainees, ICE employees and anyone else who enters the facility.

"The conditions are terrible for these folks," Castro said, adding that ICE isn't "doing their job and are doing a disservice to their employees and to the people who are

detained and imprisoned at these facilities by not taking proper medical precautions."

As of Monday, the South Texas ICE Processing Center in Pearsall was at 30% bed capacity, and the South Texas Family Residential Center in Dilley was at 7% bed capacity, an ICE official said in a statement. Testing is done on a case-by-case basis.

"ICE demonstrated today with the Hispanic Caucus that the agency's top priority is to provide the health, welfare and safety of the residents and detainees in custody," an ICE official said in a written statement.

Garcia said she's not convinced recommended health protocols are being followed within the detention centers, though ICE employees told her they were.

While detainees wore cloth masks, Garcia said, they were mostly crowded in rooms where they couldn't practice social distancing. The detainees she spoke with told her the masks weren't distributed until about two weeks ago, ahead of the the visit, and that mask mandates are rarely enforced for detainees or staff, she said.

Who will eat at the table of the King of kings in heaven?

PASTOR CHARLES EMPEY For The Record



Pastor Empey

Our text is II Samuel 9:13 " So Mephibosheth dwelt in Jerusalem: for he did eat continually at the king's table; and was lame on both his feet."

Mephibosheth was the son of Jonathan. He was King Saul's son. King Saul was David's enemy because he knew that God had set David up to replace him as king. Saul had attempted to kill David many times. At one point he chased David all over the countryside of trying to kill him and his men. So, when Saul died it was expected that someone next in his family, especially a son or grandson, would take his place. Not David. Now, Jonathan, Saul's son, was David's best friend, but he had been killed in battle, leaving his son Mephibosheth. Mephibosheth was then in line for the throne from Saul, but God had ordained David to take that place. It would have been the normal of that day to have Mephibosheth killed and remove any threat to David and his family, but instead David decided to demonstrate mercy and forgiveness and have him found and brought to him. He sent someone to find him. Mephibosheth was not a healthy person. He had been injured as a child and was terribly crippled, unable to walk and was being hidden and cared for. But the one sent to find him declared David's mercy and forgiveness and desire to bring him to his table to care for him the rest of his life. So, this very crippled and desolate man, instead of having to hide the rest of his life with a death threat hanging over him and remain a societal reject with minimal to poor care, is now being brought to the King's table to live out his life in the King's luxury.

What is the lesson here? First of all, David is an Old Testament type of Christ Jesus, the King of kings. Second of all, Mephibosheth is a type of you and I whom Jesus the King of kings came to gather at His heavenly table through His sacrifice on the cross and victory over death and the grave. Jesus said clearly

that He had come to save and heal and deliver to heaven sinners...those crippled unto death by sin. So, His message was "Whoever will may come" and be saved, reserved for a place at His table in heaven.

Jesus recognizes and has put in His Word in Romans 3:23 that "All have sinned and come short of the glory of God." No one ultimately qualifies because all are crippled and dead in sin to ultimately die lost and rejected and cast into a place where no one gets done dying...the eternal death of hell. It is called the second death. God says that we all deserve such because we are all sinners against Him (Rom. 5:8-10). But He has sent out His Holy Spirit to search us out under the preaching of the Gospel, just as David sent his servant out to search for Mephibosheth, to call to Him and be saved by the Savior, King Jesus and be assured of a place at His table in heaven. Mephibosheth was saved from an assured misery of consequence and common destiny of that day for a son or grandson of a deceased King to be killed by a predecessor and not to forget his lame and poor life he would have to live out to a miserable death. David called him from that life to his kingly table and lifestyle. Jesus, the King of kings and Lord of lords, came and laid His life down to make way for you and I, as sinful as we are, as deserving of death and hell as we are, to come to Him, repenting from that fallen life of sin, and be saved by Him from our sin and condemnation and be assured of our place at His table in heaven.

No one will be rejected who will stop and call to Him to be their Lord and Savior from sin...their King of Righteousness. He will write you down immediately and have your seat at the table ready.

Charles Empey is the Pastor of Cove Baptist Church, Orange, TX.

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ORANGE COUNTY CHURCH DIRECTORY

What If the Worst Comes?

HOW GOD CALMS A FEARFUL HEART

Courtney Reissig
Guest Contributor
desiringGod.org

Bad news is all around us. If you scroll through your social media feeds, turn on the actual news, or even walk through the checkout line at the grocery store, you are confronted with bad news: wars and threatened wars. Murder. Injustice. Grief. In normal circumstances, bad news was already all around us. Now, in the midst of a pandemic, bad news is our near-constant friend.

We have become accustomed to this kind of bad news in our connected society. Its distance from us helps us cope with it a little better. We may be saddened at first glance or listen, but then we move on with the scroll of our thumb. The sheer volume of bad news numbs us to the horror of bad news.

Another kind of bad news is harder to cope with, though: the bad news that is personal. It is unexpected. It can be life-shattering. A routine doctor's visit sends you to the hospital. A wife comes home to find her husband gone, taking his love and possessions with him. A phone call tells us of the death of a parent, a friend, a sibling. A once secure job vanishes in the midst of economic upheaval. In one instant, the world becomes confusing and filled with terror. Life changes with the presence of bad news.

Blindsided by Bad News

I've had my fair share of bad news in my adult life. I've been in the ultrasound room when the technician is unable to find a heartbeat. I've taken a child to the doctor, only to discover that he actually needs surgery, or prolonged therapy, or a hospital admission. I've listened to doctors explain the fragility of my own life. I've received disappointing emails and rejection letters. That's why this verse has been my mantra these last two years:

He is not afraid of bad news; his heart is firm, trusting in the Lord. (Psalm 112:7)

But even with all of these unexpected deliveries of bad news, there is one I was not prepared for: "You have cancer." I've spent

the better part of the last decade trying to come to terms with what seems like an endless cycle of bad news. This was one that left me reeling, grasping for faith when the future seemed bleak.

I might be able to handle a hard situation when I have mentally prepared for it, but when I am blindsided by bad news, I find I have no footing. I have faced a number of circumstances that are utterly frightening, even for the most faith-filled among us. Maybe you have too — a life-threatening medical diagnosis, a sudden need for surgery, illness after illness, multiple false alarms. God continues to force me to reckon with my heart's response to bad news.

Breaking Point

One particular moment last year was my breaking point. We had a scare with one of our boys that could have resulted in emergency surgery. I couldn't bring myself to even imagine that he would walk out of that hospital without surgery. I was prepared for the worst, because so often it seems like we are dealt the worst-case scenario. After months of hospital visits, surgeries, surprise tests, and doctor's bills, I was convinced that, yet again, our family would be back in the hospital.

But we weren't. I still can't stop replaying that moment in my head. I want the kind of trust the psalmist has in Psalm 112 — to not be afraid of bad news, but instead cast myself on the Lord. Little by little, God is working this into me. With every doctor's visit, where I'm anxiously holding my breath as the doctor looks over my child, I'm forced to believe this again.

Then God gave me another chance to live this verse out, but this time I didn't walk out of the doctor's office with good news. I walked out with a cancer diagnosis and a sudden surgery. In those scary days and weeks as I waited for final pathology and recovered from surgery, God worked this psalm into my heart again. "He can be trusted. Bad news may come, but he can be trusted." While I may have believed the worst, I can see now that in these persistent sufferings God is work-

ing something deeper into me that I wouldn't have understood if I had never been blindsided by suffering.

God can be trusted. Even when bad news comes. That is the hard part about this psalm — it forces us to reckon with the uncertainty of life. But it does so from the vantage point of trust.

World of Our Own Making

The psalmist speaks from experience. He sees the good fruit that trusting in the Lord produces in a person. He prospers in the land (Psalm 112:2-3). And because he has trusted in the Lord, his life has a direct blessing on those around him (Psalm 112:9-10). The psalmist can make a bold statement like the one in Psalm 112:7 because he has seen what a life of trust does in a person. And he wants us to have that life as well.

I have spent a lot of time creating scenarios in my head, so that when bad news arrives I am prepared. But what the psalmist is saying is entirely different than a prepared trust.

Anyone can have a prepared trust rooted in a controlled environment (or one we imagine is controlled). It's only when the unforeseen comes that you realize you actually were trusting in a world of your own making, and not the God who is sovereign over it all. When I manufacture scenarios in my head, I am unable to live a fruitful life the psalmist talks about: a life of trust in the Lord that leads to a life of blessing toward those around me.

Our Fixed Reality

To get to this point does not mean we pretend like the worst can't happen to us. It just means we are trusting in a fixed reality that can't be moved when the bad news comes.

We know the world is a dangerous place. We know that life in a fallen world means our worst nightmare can happen at any moment. The antidote to fearing the worst is not ignoring this reality. That won't support us when we get that phone call or diagnosis. The psalmist's heart is instead

rooted in God, who is unchanging. So, come what may, he will trust.

Bad news may come, but we won't fear because of who God is, not because of what we can control. The psalmist is able to remain firm because of something outside of himself. The bad news may come, but he is anchored in the Lord. His trust rests on God, so even when the storms of bad news rage all around him, he is steady and safe.

God's Unchanging Word

What is it about the Lord that helped the psalmist trust in him when he thought of bad news? In the beginning of the psalm, he tells us that the blessed life is one spent delighting in God's commands (Psalm 112:1). This is a message woven through the book of Psalms. Psalm 1 begins,

Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers; but his delight is in the law of the Lord. (Psalm 1:1-2)

The psalmists don't gloss over the reality of life in a broken world. They often confront this life head-on. Sometimes they do it with a stream of questions poured out to God. Sometimes they do it with resolute trust. Sometimes they mix it all up, because life can be a jumbled mess of trust and grief. But the bedrock foundation that keeps them going is their delight in God's word.

They meditate on it. They know it. They are sustained by it. And as a result, they do not fear when bad news comes. They do not make shipwreck of their faith when suffering plagues them. And they hope in God, knowing they will one day praise him, even if they aren't right now (Psalm 42:5, 11; 43:5).

Kinship in Suffering

I wish I could say I had turned a corner in my fear of bad news. I am getting better, but my heart still seems to stop when I step into a doctor's office. Maybe it always will. Cancer seems to do that to a person. The world is a scary place, and even though I

trust God to remain faithful in whatever storms come, I don't love bad news. I'm sure you don't love it either.

But the Psalms can help us know we aren't alone. We aren't the first to have received a hard diagnosis or an uncertain outcome. We aren't the first to be staring down the tunnel of suffering, wondering how God will work it all out. But we are joined to a great cloud of witnesses who found him sufficient to keep them all the way to the end. That's our anchor when bad news scares us.

When we are afraid of the outcome of the diagnosis, we remember that God is good to all (Psalm 145:9). When the fears do not leave us, we recall Psalm 46:1: "God is . . . a very present help in trouble." When it doesn't seem like we will walk before the Lord in the land of the living (Psalm

27:13), we remember how the Psalms start out: "The Lord knows the way of the righteous" (Psalm 1:6). The way they cope is by knowing God, and the way they know God is by knowing his word.

Bad news is all around us. It is coming for us. And with it comes a whole host of fears. But as Psalm 2 reminds us, there is a King ruling over all things. He delivers us from fear and gives us words to cope in our wrestling. Bad news might scare us, but it will never ultimately destroy us.

Courtney Reissig (@cortneyreissig) is a wife and mother in Little Rock, Arkansas, and author of *Teach Me to Feel: Worshiping Through the Psalms in Every Season of Life*. The above article was published on desiringGod.org, June 22, 2020.

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Rev. Keith Giblin, Vicar of Saint Paul's

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Morning Prayer: Rite I (2nd, 4th & 5th Sundays)
10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist: Rite II (Family Service)
5:30 p.m. Evening Prayer: Rite II (Wednesday)
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Jon Brinlee, Pastor

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Morning Worship - 10:30 am
Evening Worship - 6:00 pm

Wednesday:
Mid-Week Service - 6:00 pm
Children & Youth Activities - 6:00 pm

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Rev. Mark Bunch Email: office@stpaulfamily.org

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Ofcnazarene.org or find us on Facebook

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www.slccgicorange.org

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Catching fish is never a given

CAPT. DICKIE COLBURN
For The Record



Dickie Colburn

One day this past week we caught some very solid trout on one specific lure and they would not hit anything else. That has seldom if ever been my experience when trying to dupe saltwater fish with a piece of plastic.

When I decided to switch gears and guide on Sabine Lake rather than Toledo Bend, I foolishly believed that my investment in everything from boat to tackle would be far less. In looking back to 1982, that assumption was reasonably accurate at the time.

I would no longer need to carry a dozen rods, eight tackle boxes and dozens of plastic bags filled with everything from crankbaits to soft plastics in a plethora of colors. Bay boats were far cheaper than the bass boat I was running and even troll motors and depth finders were more of a luxury than a necessity.

Because redbird, trout and flounder are not nearly as aggressive or even as curious for that matter, there would be no need to fill every storage compartment with lures. As matter of fact, if you had a few spoons and plastic grubs in white-pink tail, chartreuse and a dark color of choice....you were adequately equipped.

Before I could even buy my first bay boat, however, saltwater fishing was starting to evolve. Local bass fishermen frustrated by a tough bite on Rayburn that was yielding only small fish and higher gas prices, opted to stay home and test local waters.

Virtually overnight, drifting the Causeway reefs in Sabine Lake for larger trout caught fire and converted bass fishermen introduced the plastic worm as a better way exploit the deep shell. That instantly translated to more colors and different lengths. Some innovative angler soon discovered that trout would occasionally fall for the same topwater lures and crankbaits that the bass liked and I suddenly found myself back digging through my bass tackle as much as ever before!

There is no doubt that a serious bass fisherman has to carry a broader array of tackle to consistently catch fish for several reasons. Most importantly of all, he or she is dealing with a fish that does not depend on tide changes or the migration of a specific food source to investigate a fake meal.

Every rod is a tool designed to best exploit a specific technique and lures are designed to more closely mimic the actions of a certain bait fish. Lure size, color, and design are all critical factors.

Thankfully, the three saltwater fish we pursue the most are not that picky when the feeding bell goes off. At least that has been my experience until the trip last week.

I don't think it is a reach to guesstimate, however, that

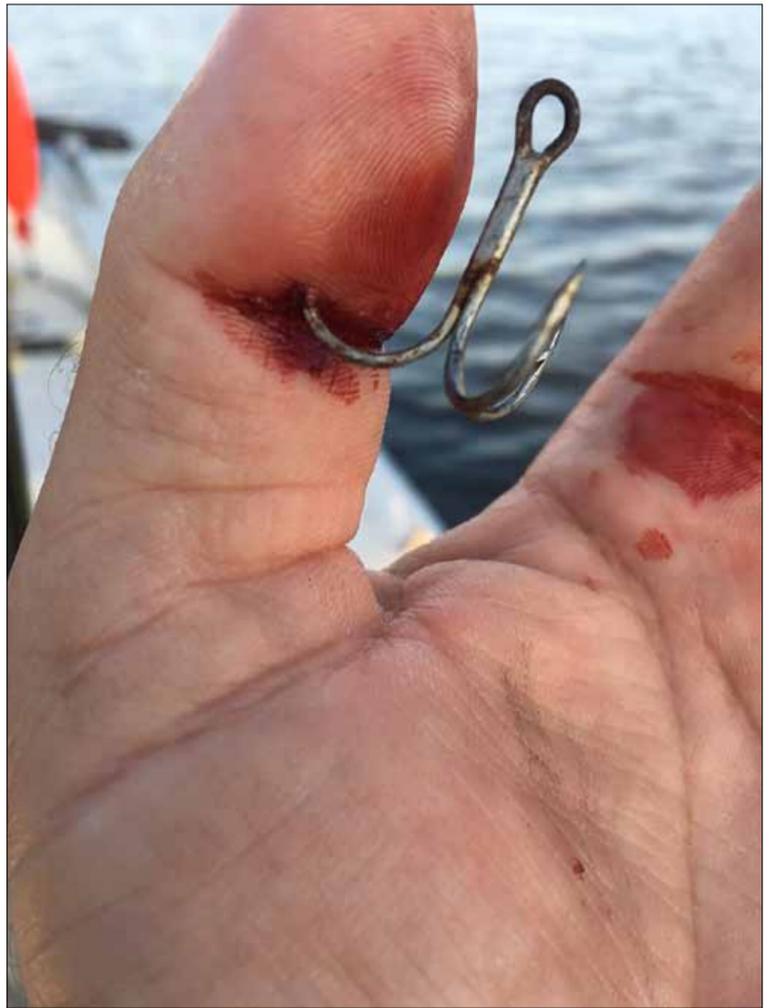
COLBURN Page 2B

Epic fails in the great outdoors



Chuck Uzzle
CAPT. CHUCK UZZLE
OUTDOORS
For The Record

For some unknown reason society has always been interested in and amused by the misfortunes of others. Television has had countless shows dedicated to "bloopers" and other gaffes made by everyday people doing everyday things and the masses tune in weekly to get another dose of these antics. I'd be willing to bet you most fishermen you know are at least familiar with the Bill Dance blooper videos, a compilation of outtakes and blunders that fishermen can certainly relate to and laugh at as well. I can remember walking through a Bass Pro Shop and turning a corner to see the display for Dance's blooper video for sale. There was a TV playing highlights of the video and I stood there for a moment by myself watching only to look around 5 minutes later to see a crowd had gathered around and almost everyone was laughing or at least relating to many of the events on the screen. Fast forward to today's ultra high tech world of instant social media gratification and you can take the Bill Dance example and multiply by millions. Funny videos that get posted to places like YouTube, Twitter, or In-



A treble hook in the thumb is a common "epic fail" among fishermen. Like the one above in Capt. Chuck's hand.
RECORD PHOTO: Capt. Chuck Uzzle

stagram go viral almost instantly and the entire electronic world rejoices. The "old school" blooper is now more commonly referred to as an "epic fail". The thought of these unfortunate mishaps being shared with the world got me thinking about

some of my own "epic fails" and all I could do was look back and laugh.

I don't know a fisherman who has not had a mishap at the boat launch or at least seen their share of mishaps at the launch. A Saturday afternoon at a busy launch

can provide some cheap entertainment. I've seen some funny stuff that made me laugh and cringe all at the same time. One morning after a duck hunt on a cold December morning I

UZZLE Page 3B



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 <p>'18 RAM 1500 SLT TRUCK CREW CAB 8 5.7L 8 Cyl. Engine, Automatic Transmission, EPA-Est MPG6: 16/23, Exterior Color: Brilliant Black Crystal Pearlcoat, Interior Color: Diesel Gray Black, Mileage: 41432, VIN: 1C6RR7LT9J5289355, Stock #: P2214 \$23,834</p>	 <p>'19 FORD F-150 XLT SUPERCREW CAB 8 5.0L 8 Cyl. Engine, Automatic Transmission, EPA-Est MPG6: 18/23, Exterior Color: White, Interior Color: Medium Earth Gray, Mileage: 26734, VIN: 1FTEW1E58KCC37941, Stock #: P2206 \$33,249</p>	 <p>2017 TOYOTA RAV4 LE SUV 4 2.5L 4 Cyl. Engine, Automatic Transmission, EPA-Est MPG6: 23/30, Exterior Color: Silver, Interior Color: Black, Mileage: 39000, VIN: 2T3ZFREV6HW312829, Stock #: P2220 \$17,227</p>	 <p>'15 CHEVY EQUINOX LTZ SUV 6 3.6L 6 Cyl. Engine, Automatic Transmission, EPA-Est MPG6: 17/24, Exterior Color: Tungsten Metallic, Interior Color: Jet Black, Mileage: 47021, VIN: 2GNFLDE31F6439369, Stock #: P2215 \$15,753</p>

'Tiz The Law' nabs first leg of Asterisk Triple Crown

KAZ'S KORNER Joe Kazmar For The Record

I was amazed last Wednesday when I saw an article previewing the Belmont Stakes running Saturday without any fans,

Wait a minute!! The Belmont Stakes in normally the final leg of horse racing's Triple Crown, following the Kentucky Derby and the Preakness,

The key word is "normally". Since the coronavirus pandemic nothing has been normal, especially in sports which has been shut down just like everything else.

So instead of the three Triple Crown races being run in a period of five weeks, the pandemic has forced the series to run out of order over 15 weeks. Winning the 2020 Triple Crown will be a tough assignment, being almost an impossible task.

Rather than the usual 1 1/4-mile Kentucky Derby on the first Saturday in May, then the Preakness at a mile and three-sixteenths two weeks later, then the Belmont Stakes at 1 1/2 miles three weeks after that, Saturday's Belmont was set a mile-and-an-eighth.

The Kentucky Derby won't be run for 11 weeks (Sept. 5



JOE KAZMAR

and the Preakness four weeks after that (Oct. 3).

The 10-horse Belmont field, rescheduled from June 6, was led by heavily-favored Tiz

The Law, a three-year-old that was the only member of the field that had even run in a Grade I race and this horse ran in two.

But the only weakness the rail birds could find with Tiz The Law was that he was bred in New York, The last New York-bred horse that won the Belmont was Forester and it happened in 1882.

On Saturday I did what I've been doing for the last 40 years and made the 15-minute trip to Vinton to place a small wager at Delta Downs. I hate to bet the favorite—especially when the odds are 4-5, but I did it anyhow.

I hooked up the favorite with No. 9 Dr. Post on an exacta bet, mainly because he was trained by Hall of Famer Todd Pletcher, and won enough money to pay for the small amount of gas I burned on the short round trip.

Tiz The Law won the 152nd running of the Belmont Stakes by 3 3/4-lengths, earn-



Tiz The Law won the 152nd running of the Belmont Stakes by 3 3/4-lengths, earning the top share of the \$1 million purse,

ing the top share of the \$1 million purse, but paid a skimpy \$3.50 to win, \$2.90 to place and \$2.60 to show

on a traditional \$2 bet. The top four horses (Tiz The Law, Dr. Post, Max Player and Pneumatic) all earned Kentucky Derby qualifying points.

The Belmont was Tiz The Law's fifth victory in six career starts with his next planned outing being the Travers on Aug 8 at Saratoga, his home track. It's where he won his first race last August. Then comes the Kentucky Derby on Sept. 5 and the Preakness on Oct. 3 to close out the Triple Crown.

Instead of running in the Derby five weeks after his

Florida Derby victory, Tiz The Law had to wait 12 weeks for the Belmont to open the Triple Crown series.

The bay colt, which was purchased for a meager \$110,000, plans on finishing the year in the Breeders' Cup Classic at Keeneland on Nov. 7.

KWICKIES...

Dallas Cowboys' quarterback Dak Prescott reportedly signed a \$31.4 million franchise tender Monday as he and the Cowboys remain at an impasse on a long-term extension, according to ESPN's First Take Monday morning. The two sides have until July 15 to work out a

long-term deal. He earned \$2 million last season after making \$630,000 in 2018, \$540,000 in 2017 and \$450,000 during his rookie season in 2016.

Webb Simpson won the rain-delayed PGA Tour RBC Heritage Sunday by one stroke over Abraham Ancer at Hilton Head Island, S.C. by firing a seven-under 64 to become the new

FedEx Cup points leader. But the big news was that Dylan Frittelli tied the RBC Heritage record by starting the day in 47th place and finishing tied for eighth after tying the course record with a nine-under-par 62 on Sunday.

The Philadelphia Phillies shut down their spring training complex last weekend after five players tested positive for COVID-19. The Texas Rangers, San Francisco Giants and the Toronto Blue Jays also shuttered their respective training sites. And while on the subject of players testing positive for COVID-19, former Houston Texans defensive back Kareem Jackson, Dallas Cowboys running back Ezekiel Elliott and

Denver Broncos outside linebacker Von Miller are among NFL players who have tested positive. Jim Kiick,

who helped the Miami Dolphins achieve the only perfect season in 1972, died Saturday at 73 after a battle with Alzheimer's disease. Kiick was part of a formidable backfield that included Pro Football Hall of Fame fullback Larry Csonka, his best friend.

Former U.S. Women's Open champion Michelle Wie West gave birth to daughter Makenna Kamalei Yoona West Friday. Michelle's husband is Jonnie West, the son of NBA legend Jerry West.

JUST BETWEEN US...

I was saddened to learn of Andy Conner's passing last week.

Although he was not supposed to live beyond the age of three due to Down Syndrome, Andy fooled everyone by living 61 years. He was proud to be a member of the Men's Golf Association

at Sunset Grove Country Club for many years and rarely missed its monthly breakfast meeting on the third Saturday of every month. Andy was cremated and his ashes will join those of his

Dad's Ray Conner in Pennsylvania. Memorial contributions can be made in Andy's name to the OCARC.

Statewide Dove Banding Underway to Monitor Populations

Staff Report For The Record

AUSTIN — From June to August each year, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) staff place leg bands on thousands of mourning and white-winged doves to monitor the factors that influence populations. Information from hunter-reported bands, or "recoveries", provide estimates of harvest and survival rates, which are used with data from the Harvest Information Program, Parts Collection Survey and other harvest surveys to help manage populations and set annual hunting regulations.

The Harvest Information Program (HIP) is a national program that estimates migratory game bird harvest and hunting activity by asking hunters a series of questions about their experience the previous season. The Parts Collection Program uses wings from harvested



Mourning Dove. PHOTO: Texas Parks and Wildlife Depart.

birds to determine species, sex and age composition, while other harvest surveys are sent out to help fine-tune harvest estimates across the state.

"Doves are the most popular game bird in the country, and Texas leads the nation in overall harvest and hunter numbers, so it's critical that we understand how harvest affects dove populations,"

notes Owen Fitzsimmons, TPWD's Webless Migratory Game Bird Program Leader. "Much of the information we use to manage these species comes from hunters, so I urge all hunters to report any bands they find and be as responsive and accurate as they can when responding to any harvest surveys or HIP questions during their license purchasing process."

Texas hunters can look forward to the following dove season dates:

- North Zone – Sept. 1 – Nov. 12, 2020; Dec. 18, 2020 – Jan. 3, 2021.
- Central Zone – September 1 – November 1, 2020; December 18, 2020 – January 14, 2021.
- South Zone – September

14 – November 1, 2020; December 18, 2020 – January 23, 2021.

Special White-winged Dove Days – September 5, 6, 12, 13 (shooting hours are from noon to sunset)

Daily bag limits for all zones is 15 in the aggregate, with no more than two white-tipped (white-fronted)

doves. Specific regulations apply to the Special White-winged Dove Days.

For the third year in a row, South Zone regular dove season will open on September 14. Prior to 2018, federal frameworks allowed the South Zone regular season

DOVE BANDING Page 3B

Colburn From Page 1B

eighty percent of the lures and different colors I carry are carried out of self-defense. It is the kiss of death to be relegated to spectator status while anglers a short distance away catch fish after fish on a color or lure you don't have on board!

In this instance it was a crankbait that proved to be a game changer. We were determined to stay in one small area based on a report from the previous day, but our morning consisted of nothing but wasted casts.

Enter a Sexy Shad crankbait that would dive between ten and twelve feet on twelve pound monofilament. I had already tried everything from Traps to Swimming Images when Darwin dug out the deep diving crankbait.

After we quickly boxed two limits of trout in the two to three pound class, we tried other lures just to see if the fish were really that picky. They were!

Over the next hour or so we would occasionally pick the crankbait back up and they continued to hit it when they would hit nothing else. I don't know if it was the depth, color, size or all three, but we continued to catch fish on that one lure.

Once again, I spent most of the afternoon robbing a tackle box full of "just the right" crankbaits. Tomorrow they'll want a plastic tail!

The Upper Coast Kayak Anglers will host the first of a series of Kayak tournaments out of the S.A.L.T. Club this Saturday.

This is a single redfish event, but that one redfish could prove to be very valu-

able. Not only will the winning fish possibly qualify for any one of several different categories, but it will also earn some angler a good start for angler of the year. The AOY will win a Hobie Kayak, H&H rod and reel combination and a Yeti Hard Haul cooler.

For more information contact Brent Louviere at 409-550-6363.

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Backyard Living: Perfecting Your Next Ribeye Steak

Larry Johnson
For The Record



Besides a great looking lawn, nothing showcases the backyard quite like a cookout. But anything worth doing is worth doing right. So when it comes to grilling your next ribeye steak, take a cue from world class chefs who are all turning up the heat.

"All my chef buddies are cooking on high, intense heat, getting their cast-irons blistering and getting their grills ripping hot to keep everything from sticking and to get that super fast char," says former "Iron Chef Showdown" winner, David Bancroft. "The chef's secret is to really push that boundary on temperature and finding confidence there."

As host of the new Exmark Original series "Prime Cuts," Bancroft spends a lot of time talking to some of the world's best grill chefs. In a recent episode, he teamed up with the 2017 James Beard Award winner, Best Chef Midwest, Chef Kevin Nashan to show viewers how to prepare the perfect ribeye steak.

Nashan shared his secrets for ribeye success: he likes to use the heart of the ribeye over a really hot grill, adding a little oil "as an insurance policy," for a little sear, and then finishing it off in the oven.

He accompanies his cut with a little grilled Napa cabbage, pickled mustard seeds, mustard jus made from the trim of the meat, tater tots and sauce gri-

che. "No one thinks to grill cabbage, but cabbage can stand up to the heat of the grill, plus it has a little horseradish nature to it, and of course ribeye and horseradish go hand-in-hand," says Nashan.

To watch the complete "Prime Cuts" episode, plus bonus content, complete recipes, cooking prep tips and more, visit Exmark.com/Backyard. As part of a unique multimedia destination called Backyard Life, which has a focus on giving home and acreage owners tips and know-how to make the most of their outdoor experience and live more life outdoors, you can also access content on lawn-and-garden, outdoor cooking and living and rural lifestyles.

As you heat up the grill, stoke the fire and throw on a prime cut, Bancroft encourages you to do so with confidence.

"The common trend here with all the chefs cooking in the backyard is getting confident with your cooking vessels," says Bancroft. "Know what your temperatures are, know your hot spots, know your cold spots and get confident."

From ribeye to fish, with a few pointers and the right attitude, you can nail your next feast on the grill.

Uzzle: Epic Fails From Page 1B

watched a pair of hunters prepare to load their boat on the trailer like they'd done a million times, or at least that's what I thought. It became very apparent one of the hunters had minimal experience as he was being coached along at every step of the loading process. All appeared to going well until it was time to winch the boat onto the trailer. This particular ramp was a little steep and that means added stress on the strap and winch itself so you can almost see what was in store. After attaching the strap to the boat and beginning to turn the winch handle for some reason the novice let go of the handle and paid dearly for it. Apparently the lock mechanism that keeps the winch from unwinding had not been engaged and now the tension on the winch was released allowing the handle to spin backwards violently and to just absolutely beat the hell out of this guys knuckles about a half dozen times before he knew what happened. At this point I am now cringing because I know it hurts some kind of bad but I can't help laughing either. Difficult lesson learned and that was certainly an "epic fail".

Another less painful example that comes to mind involves a good friend of mine who was night fishing by himself. It seems my friend had purchased a high dollar flashlight of which he was both very proud and fond of. The light was a magnificent piece of machinery and the brightest thing you'd ever seen this side of the sun. During the night my friend felt that feeling we all know, you know the one you get when nature calls and it cannot be put on hold. Yep, that's the one. Well my friend decided to answer the call and in the process of that he dropped his shiny new light on the deck of the boat where



When one runs out of water and has to pull the boat back with an ATV would be considered an "epic fail."
RECORD PHOTO: Capt. Chuck Uzzle

it promptly turned itself on, bounced twice and went overboard. All the while this is happening my half clothed friend is in the process of "answering the call" and can do absolutely nothing but watch as the brilliant beam of light disappears into the depths. Yes, this would be considered an epic fail.

I personally have had my share of these moments as well. I've done the simple ones like being so excited to go fish a new area that after making a 30 minute boat ride to the spot I realized I left my tackle bag in the truck. I've launched my boat and not had it secured to the trailer and watched it float out into the bay while I had to swim after it. There was the time I fished with clients using their boat and buried it in the marsh when I took a wrong turn and spent 2 hours pulling it out to water deep enough to float. There were a couple of times I got hit in the back of the head by clients casting jigs at schooling fish where I nearly blacked out. The list goes on and on as do the lessons learned.

Most folks who fish can relate to some of these examples, some will admit their mistakes while others will tend to be a little more se-

area when the solution was right there to be had if only you had shared your experience with others be it good or bad.

The information pipeline that we all love to hate and hate to love is a powerful thing. Social media in all its glory can share both positive and negative images so fast to so many that it will literally astonish you. Use the technology wisely and enjoy it but be smart. I've seen plenty of cases where some folks were so anxious to electronically post what they did that they neglected to realize they had actual broken a law. Make no mistake about it, game wardens and other law enforcement agencies use social media to build cases and gather evidence. If you don't think getting a ticket or getting in trouble with the law over something you did to yourself like posting photos or videos for the world to see is just plain stupid then I have just words for you, epic fail.

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Dove banding underway in Texas From Page 1B

to open on the Friday closest to September 20, but on a date no earlier than September 17.

TPWD worked with the US Fish & Wildlife Service to adjust federal regulations to allow the earliest opening date in decades, September 14th, to open up more of early September for South Zone hunters.

This comes after other recent federal changes including the expansion of the special white-winged dove area to include the entire South Zone in 2017 and lengthening of the season from 70 days to 90 in 2016.

"The opening day change actually started a couple of years back, but September 14 falls on a Monday this year so people are starting to notice," said Fitzsimmons.

"These recent changes are huge for our hunters. By fixing the opener on the 14th every year and using our 4 Special White-winged Days, South Zone hunters now have guaranteed hunting opportunity every weekend in September and, depending how the calendar falls, start a week or so earlier than they ever have in the past.

It's not the Friday opener most are accustomed to but given that over 80% of dove harvest occurs the first few weeks of the season, it's important to us to try and give South Zone hunters as much opportunity in September as possible."

More information about dove season dates can be found online in the Outdoor Annual. Please note that specific regulations regarding

means and methods and bag limits will not be posted until mid-August as per usual practice surrounding new license sales.

The 2020-21 Outdoor Annual will only be available digitally for the upcoming hunting and fishing season. Hunters will have the ability

to print copies of relevant portions of the Outdoor Annual before heading to the field.

All hunting, fishing and boating regulations can be found in the online version of the Outdoor Annual or in the mobile app, available free on iOS and Android.

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Orange County Happenings & Events

Food Safety Conference July 28

The Texas A&M AgriLife Extension is holding a Food Safety Conference. It will be held on July 28, 2020 from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. This was previously scheduled for August 4th but had to be changed. There will be a continental breakfast and lunch provided. The conference will have: Hand's on Activities, Round Table Talk, and Active Shooter Scenarios. Some topics that will be covered are: Rodent Control, Vent-a-hood Maintenance, and there will be Health Department Speakers. The conference is free to attend but a Food Handlers' Course is offered from 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm. The Food Handlers' Course will cost \$20 if you choose to attend the course. To register go to Orange.agrilife.org and click on the Food Safety Registration Tab.

First Baptist Bridge City 80th Anniversary July 11

First Baptist Church, Bridge City, invites you to join us in celebrating our 80th anniversary. We will begin with a Night of Worship (N.O.W.) on

Saturday, July 11th, at 6 p.m. This will be a time of praising the Lord through songs. Then on Sunday, July 12th, we will continue to celebrate through Bible study at 9:15 a.m. and through testimonies and songs from former and current members, as well as the sharing of God's Word by current pastor Keith Royal at 10:30 a.m.

First Baptist Church has a rich heritage in our community. In 1940, twenty-eight charter members organized a Baptist church in the community of Prairie View. Though worshippers had met for services in the area since 1877, the community had lacked an organized church. When Central

Baptist Church, Port Arthur, led a Vacation Bible School for the community, interest in forming a church led local residents to organize.

J.B. Perry was the first pastor for the congregation, which was known as Blandale Baptist Church. Churches in Orange and Port Arthur helped through donations and service. When Prairie View changed its name to

Bridge City, Blandale Baptist Church became Bridge City Baptist Church in 1943 and then First Baptist Church in 1948. The church has had 12 pastors and has been active in the community serving families in financial need and during storms. Focus on missions led to the establishment of

Second Baptist Church and Liberty Baptist Church. First Baptist continues to serve as a spiritual and social leader for Bridge City, a community with which it is inextricably connected.

BC/OF Ministerial Alliance relocates

The Bridge City / Orangefield Ministerial Alliance has moved to their temporary location until the new building is complete. Our temporary location at Fellowship Baptist in Bridge City located at 1965 Miller Dr. (Off 408) in Bridge

City. The hours of operation are Monday & Wednesday from 9am-12pm. For more information please contact our office at 409-735-8296.

Orange County Beekeeping Group

The Orange County Beekeepers Group is a group of local beekeepers interested in spreading information about honeybees and the pollination service they perform. The group also strives to aid and assist fellow beekeepers, any new beekeepers, and the general public. For information or assistance with honeybee removals, please contact Len VanMarion 409-728-0344 or Brian Muldrow 713-377-0356.

Dementia Care Givers' Support Group

The Dementia Care Givers' Support Group meets at St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church, Canticle Building, 4300 Meeks Drive in Orange on the following days and times: Second Wednesday of every month at 10:00 a.m., and Second Thursday of every month at 6:30 p.m..

Orange Al-Anon meetings

Al-Anon can help if someone close to you has a drinking problem. Al-Anon meets Sundays & Wednesdays, 7:00 p.m., North Orange Baptist Church, 4775 N. 16th St. (Rear), Orange, TX 77632. Call Angela at 474-2171 or Jane at 409-670-2887 for more info. Calls are kept Confidential.

Bridge City Al-Anon Meetings

Al-Anon meetings are held on Thursday evenings at 7 p.m. in the Library at St. Henry's Catholic Church Education building, located at 475 W. Roundbunch Road, Bridge City. For more information, please contact Cindy at 409-749-9036 or Mike at 409-718-0333.

Orange County Beekeepers Info

The Orange County Beekeepers Group works with the Orange County Ag Agent to expand beekeeping opportunity in Orange. We also strive to aid and assist fellow beekeepers, any new beekeepers and the general public. Officers of the Orange County Apiary Committee are normally in attendance to answer questions and assist Orange County residents. For information or assistance with Honeybee removals please contact the Orange County Agrilife office 409-882-7010, Len VanMarion 409-728-0344 Texas Master Beekeeper, Christie Ray 409-550-9195 owner of QueenBee Supply in Orange or Brian Muldrow 713-377-0356, owner of Muldrow Bee Farm.

Pinnacle Music Academy

Pinnacle Academy offers private music lessons for Piano,

Vocal, Guitar, Drums, Bass Trumpet, Ukulele, and more for all ages. Learn all musical styles including Pop, Rock, Country, Metal, Jazz, Blues, and Hip Hop. Pinnacle Academy is located at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 945 W. Roundbunch, Bridge City. Come and discover this opportunity to learn an instrument in the local area. For more information, call 409-241-3920 or visit www.PinnacleMusicAcademy.com.

Cove Baptist Church

1005 Dupont Drive - Orange

We are meeting in worship again and all are invited to come and worship with us at 10:30 AM each Sunday.

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GARAGE SALE

Large 3 Family Garage Sale Fri., & Sat., June 26th & 27th from 8 am to 3 pm at 399 Lake Street in BC. A little bit of everything and we need it all gone.

Garage Sale at 6320 Chasse Gardens in Orange, 77632 on Fri., & Sat., June 26th & 27th from 8 am to 1 pm. Mens tools, fishing equipment, furniture, house decor and much more.

Garage Sale this Sat., June 27th from 7 am to 2 pm at 5315 Oakwood Circle, Orange (off 1442). Toys, girls clothes & shoes 2T-5T, stroller, pack-n-play, mens & ladies clothes, aluminum tool box, gps, household and kitchen items, Christmas items and much more.

Garage Sale this Saturday., June 27th from 8 am to 1 pm at 2009 Thousand Oaks. Home decor, kitchen items, bedding, clothes, shoes, jewelry, misc. items priced to sell.

2 Family Garage Sale with \$1.00 deals this Sat., June 27th from 7 am to 11 am at 1300 Dawnwood, across from LCM High School. Nearly everything sells for \$1.00.

American Legion Post 49 Hall Rentals Call for info @ 409-886-1241

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NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of **MAXWELL BRENT PELHAM**, Deceased, were issued on **JUNE 17, 2020**, in Cause No. **P18755**, pending in the County Court at Law of Orange County, Texas, to: **Maggie Florence Pelham**.
All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

Donald Craig Nugent
c/o: Stephen C. Howard
Attorney at Law
903 W. Green Avenue
Orange, Texas 77630

DATED the 17th day of June, 2020.

Stephen Howard
Stephen Howard

Attorney for:
Maggie Florence Pelham
State Bar No.:10079400
903 W. Green Avenue
Orange, TX 77630
Phone: (409)883-0202
Fax: (409)883-0209
Email: steve@stevewhoward.lawyer

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters of Administration for the Estate of **JERRY PAUL HIPSLEY**, Deceased, were issued on the **JUNE 17, 2020**, in Cause No. **P18592**, pending in the County Court at Law of Orange County, Texas, to: **Jeremy Hipsley**.

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

c/o: **Tommy Gunn**
Attorney at Law
202 S. Border Street
Orange, TX 77630

Dated the 17th day of June, 2020.

Tommy Gunn

Tommy Gunn
Attorney for:
Jeremy Hipsley
State Bar No.: 08623700 202
S. Border Street
Orange, TX 77630
Phone: (409)882-9990
Fax: (409)882-0613
Email:tommy@gunn-law.org

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of **MELBA R. SCARLETT**, Deceased, were issued on the **JUNE 22, 2020**, in Cause No. **P18707**, pending in the County Court at Law of Orange County, Texas, to: **Doylene Arabie**.

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

c/o: **Tommy Gunn**
Attorney at Law
202 S. Border Street
Orange, TX 77630

Dated the 22nd day of June, 2020.

Tommy Gunn

Tommy Gunn
Attorney for:
Doylene Arabie
State Bar No.: 08623700 202
S. Border Street
Orange, TX 77630
Phone: (409)882-9990
Fax: (409)882-0613
Email:tommy@gunn-law.org

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of **JANICE MENARD**, Deceased, were issued on the **JUNE 9, 2020**, in Cause No. **P18730**, pending in the County Court at Law of Orange County, Texas, to: **Glen Menard, Dean Menard, Neal Menard, Donna Stevenson and Alane McClain**.

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

c/o: **Tommy Gunn**
Attorney at Law
202 S. Border Street
Orange, TX 77630

Dated the 9th day of June, 2020.

Tommy Gunn

Tommy Gunn
Attorney for:
Glen Menard, Dean Menard, Neal Menard, Donna Stevenson and Alane McClain
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The Farmer's Wife ...

LOU HARRIS
For The Record



Hello Everyone,
I hope this week finds you better than last week.

I was sitting here thinking if we would ever see a light at the end of the tunnel. I opened my favorite book and Psalm 18: 28 was right there, " You, Lord keep my lamp burning, my God turns my darkness into light." God's constant presence lights our way through the darkness into the light. Our Living God will always be our strength, our refuge, our sustainer and our deliver. Until next time, may you live in God's glory.

Roses

Roses like plenty of sunlight, good drainage and a loose soil that drains well. You can grow most roses in South East Texas .

Roses prefer an open area with 8-10 hours of sun. Morning sun dries the dew quickly and cuts down on fungus. Your soil should have a 60-70 ph.

Annual pruning and cleanup is easier if your roses are easier to get to. Summer temperature and reflection off buildings can limit rose production. Avoid planting near trees and shrubs where their roots have to compete for water and nutrients.

- June 24 through 30

- June 24,25,30 is best days for planting. Good time to prepare seed beds, good time to irrigate, kill weeds and destroy roots.

- June 26,27 is a good time to kill pest,cultivate and Do Not Plant

- June 28-29 Best time to plant flowers.

- If you want your hair to grow fast, cut it on the 24 of June.

Recipes of the Week

Ambrosia Cake

1 Angel Food Cake
2 c. Sour cream
1 20 oz. can crushed pineapple,drained
1/4 c. brown sugar, packed
1 4oz. can mandarin oranges, drained
Evenly cut 3 horizontal layers of the cake. Stir together sour cream, pineapple and

brown sugar. Place a layer of cake on serving plate. Top with 1/3 of mixture. Repeat the next 2 layers. Arrange Orange sections over top.

Chill before serving. Keep refrigerated.

Coca-Cola Chicken

1 chicken, cut up or 4 boneless breast or 6 Thighs
1/2 Tsp. Garlic powder
1 c ketchup
1 c. Coca-Cola
1 Tblsp Worcestershire

Wash chicken and pat dry. Season with garlic powder,salt and pepper to taste. Place pieces in a large frying pan. Combine ketchup, Coca-Cola and Worcestershire and pour over chicken. Simmer, covered about an hour or until tender. Serve over rice.

Mow like a pro

If you're a homeowner who already has a nice lawn but you are looking to take its appearance to the next level, striping is a quick and easy way to do it, according to experts.

"All we're doing with our equipment is we're making our grass lay down in two different directions so that it looks nice and intentional," says Brian Latimer, a landscaping expert and 2020 Exmark partner. "It's simple to do, but gives the lawn a nice, professional, crisp look,"

Latimer, who also happens to be a professional bass angler on the FLW tour, shared his lawn striping secrets in a recent episode of "Done-in-a-Weekend Projects," an Exmark Original Series. In the episode, Latimer notes that while having a striping kit can help you achieve the right look, it isn't necessary, and you can stripe your lawn whether you are working with a 21-inch walk-behind mower or a 60-inch riding mower.

Another thing to consider, according to Latimer, is the type of grass you plant. Typically, the wider blade grasses, such as Kentucky bluegrass and fescue stripe better and are generally easier to mow. Whereas some of the grasses that you mow a lot closer, like centipede grass and Bermuda grass, are tougher to mow and don't show their stripes quite as well. He suggests that for these grasses, it is best to use a striping kit.

Whatever type of mowing equipment or grass you have, you can achieve more visually defined lawn stripes by making multiple passes.

First Baptist Church BC celebrates 80 years

First Baptist Church, Bridge City, invites you to join us in celebrating our 80th anniversary. We will begin with a Night of Worship (N.O.W.) on Saturday, July 11th, at 6 p.m. This will be a time of praising the Lord through songs. Then on Sunday, July 12th,

we will continue to celebrate through Bible study at 9:15 a.m. and through testimonies and songs from former and current members, as well as the sharing of God's Word by current pastor Keith Royal at 10:30 a.m.



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SE TEXAS R.A.I.N.



COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

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