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# County Record

Vol. 61 No. 9

The Community Newspaper of Orange, Texas

Week of Wednesday, July 29, 2020

## BC schools first to return to class

DAVE ROGERS  
For The Record

The Bridge City Cardinals are set to be Orange County's canaries in the coal mine as they head back to their classrooms Monday.

The school district's Aug. 3 return to the classroom is nearly two weeks ahead of any of its neighbors and a brave venture, given this year's Covid-19 pandemic.

"We are looking forward to the start of the 20-21 school year," was the word from Todd Lintzen, superintendent.

While students in Texas have the option to start the school year on campus or online, Bridge City announced a couple of weeks ago that students must attend class on-campus to participate in extracurriculars like sports, band or cheer.

Other districts have followed their lead, the justification being if a person is willing to gather with others for an after-school practice, then attending class with others should not be a no-no. Other schools will be watching closely.

Little Cypress-Mauriceville school district had announced it was starting on Aug. 3 but backed off that with Monday night's vote to return to Aug. 17, which had been its first choice.

"When we first changed

the calendar to an earlier start date, there was not a virtual option, Stacey Brister, LCM superintendent, said.

"We were cautioned by the Commissioner of Education to build in extra days to ac-

commodate the need to close school for the virus. Now that the virtual option is possible, we should not need to 'close' as we did when this option didn't exist."

Both Orangefield and West Orange-Cove school

districts are set to return to class Aug. 12.

As of Tuesday, about 80% of students registering at LCM schools have opted to start their year on-campus,

SCHOOLS Page 3A

## Pinehurst admin calls out firefighters

DAVE ROGERS  
For The Record

Liar, liar, pants on fire. At least it wasn't a house. After Chief Shon Branham and seven other members of the Pinehurst Volunteer Fire Department resigned in a show for the TV cameras Monday, new City Administrator Jerry Hood held a press conference Tuesday and called Branham a liar and his department unqualified to administer medical services.

"No, but you are," was essentially the chief's response. "Those are all blatant lies on me," Branham fired back Tuesday night. "I don't appreciate that."

"I am the most truthful person you will ever meet. I will not have my integrity put to question like that."

Branham has been chief of the Pinehurst VFD for seven years and a firefighter for 26 years, he said. He joined the Bridge City VFD in 1989 and

worked a total of 17 years in two terms with that department.

He's been reaching out to area media outlets since July 1, when Hood put new policies in place that limited the types of emergency calls Branham and his firefighters could respond to, other than fires.

"I am both disappointed and disheartened in the blatantly false information [Branham] has been relaying to the media, and more importantly, the citizens of Pinehurst," Hood said, reading from a prepared statement.

Fred Hanauer, Pinehurst police chief and emergency management coordinator, was by his side in front of three hometown radio and newspaper representatives.

Hood, who took the job in mid-June after his brother Robbie Hood left it to become city manager at Vidor, wanted to stress that Pinehu-

PINEHURST Page 3A

## Door-knocking starts for 2020 Census

DAVE ROGERS  
For The Record

Answer the door. Answer the questions. Do your part for Orange County.

The U.S. Census Bureau is sending mask-wearing people door-to-door to socially distance while helping fill in the blanks for those citizens who have so far not self-registered online or via mail.

The answers generated by the once every 10 years census are used by businesses to decide where to build factories, offices and stores. Local governments use the census for public safety and emergency preparedness.

More than \$675 billion annually is distributed in federal funds, grants and support to states, counties and communities based on cen-

sus data.

That money is spent on schools, hospitals, roads and other public works programs.

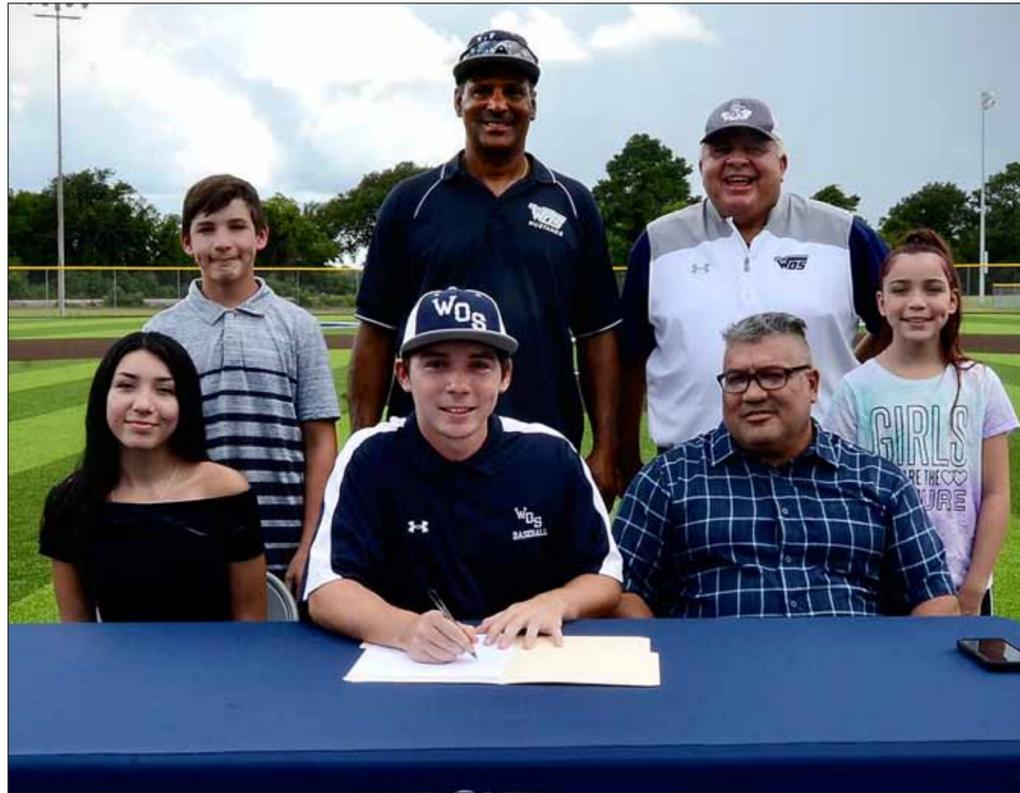
"There's money and power in this," Dr. Albert Thigpen of Complete Count Port Arthur told a recent meeting of the Press Club of Southeast Texas. "This determines how many representatives we have in government."

"The census affects funding for first responders like firemen and paramedics, hospitals, housing assistance, even better roads."

Joining Thigpen in the presentation via Zoom was Dr. Delena King, the Census Bureau's senior partnership specialist for Southeast Texas.

DOOR KNOCKING Page 3A

## WOS baseball players signs with Ranger . . .



William Robles, a West Orange-Stark baseball player, has received a baseball scholarship and signed with Ranger College in Ranger, Texas. "This is a very competitive Division I Junior College Baseball Program in Texas, I am very proud and excited for William. He has the ability to do well and play at the next level," said WOS Head Baseball Coach, Sergio Espinal.

Ranger College is the fifth fastest-growing two-year college in the nation. The main campus is located in Ranger, Texas, with bustling satellite campuses in Brown County and Erath County. Ranger College is fully accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS). William Robles said, "I had no idea this could happen to me. I am so grateful to WOS Baseball and Coach Espinal. I will be the first generation in my family to go to college on a scholarship. I can't express how much this means."

## Doctor cuts insurance waste with new model

DAVE ROGERS  
For The Record

Tired of paying big insurance premiums only to sit in a crowded waiting room to see a doctor for less than 10 minutes once or twice a year?

Dr. Amy Townsend says she has a better way.

Her Magnolia Direct Primary Care medical practice is located at 2845 Texas Ave, Suite 100, next to Orange County Building Materials in Bridge City.

It doesn't run on insurance.

"Insurance is why healthcare is so expensive," she says. "There's just this tremendous waste in healthcare. All of the bureaucracy needs to go away."

Direct primary care, Townsend explains, "is really a grass roots effort for physicians to change the model of healthcare, to function outside of insurance."

Direct Primary Care practices require small monthly fees up front, but patients are



Dr. Amy Townsend opened her Magnolia Direct Primary Care in Bridge City in March. Direct Primary Care is a new business model for physicians that operates outside of the insurance system. Patients pay a monthly fee and pay nothing out of pocket for preventive, wellness and chronic care. PHOTO: Dave Rogers

not charged out of pocket for each appointment. Patients are allowed to see their provider as often as they like for preventive, wellness and chronic care.

"This is like a gym membership or Netflix. You pay a monthly membership fee for everything we do in primary care," Townsend said.

"It allows a physician to remove a lot of waste -- instead of having 10-12 people in your office doing insurance coding. We're really trying to disrupt a system that's broken."

Without all the costly red tape, there's more time and lower costs for patients.

"Part of the problem with

health insurance is there is zero transparency on what the cost of a procedure is," Townsend said. "It's basically just putting your trust in insurance companies. It's 'Let's have this stuff done and I'm hoping it's going to cover it and I'm not going to end up with this bill at the end.'"

"But more and more people are finding that insurance companies are denying things and they are getting these surprise bills, things they weren't even anticipating."

"Again, the way that this is structured is to give a very transparent, every up-front pricing. People know what they're going to pay."

She says her practice will never have more than 500 patients, while the average doctor working under the insurance model may have as many as 3,500 patients.

"This model changes everything," Townsend said. "Not only for the patients; it

DOCTOR CUTS Page 3A



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**COVID-19 IN TEXAS**

# Texas attorney general says local health authorities cannot “indiscriminately” shut down schools

Aliyya Swaby  
The Texas Tribune

Local health officials do not have the authority to shut down all schools in their vicinity while COVID-19 cases rise, Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton said in nonbinding guidance Tuesday that contradicts what the Texas Education Agency has told school officials.

After Texas ordered schools to reopen their classrooms this fall, county and city public health officials began to push back, ordering all public and private schools

in their areas to stay closed through August and in some cases September.

The officials cited a state law giving health officials authority to control communicable diseases. But Paxton said in the letter that “nothing in the law gives health authorities the power to indiscriminately close schools — public or private — as these local orders claim to do. ... It does not allow health authorities to issue blanket quarantine orders that are inconsistent with the law.”

The governor’s executive order allowing all school dis-

tricts to operate overrules local mandates to close, Paxton said. Local health officials have some authority to order schools closed if people in it are infected by COVID-19, but not as a preventive measure.

Paxton’s statement could impact at least 16 local authorities, many in the most populous counties, that have issued school closure mandates in the last month. The guidance is non-binding, but local health authorities could face lawsuits especially now that Paxton has weighed in. Paxton’s office declined to

comment on whether it would sue local health officials that don’t retract mandates, saying it could not comment on hypothetical or potential litigation.

Earlier this month, Texas revised its statewide order that schools open classrooms to give officials more local flexibility on how long to continue with entirely remote education, especially in areas where the virus is spreading quickly. Districts can now limit in-person instruction for up to eight weeks with state approval. The Texas Education

Agency’s guidance says that schools may ban in-person classes if ordered to do so “by an entity authorized to issue an order under state law.” And the agency confirmed to The Texas Tribune earlier this month that school districts under such mandates would not lose state funding if they closed classrooms. But it was confusing to education officials and school communities exactly which entities were allowed to issue orders, and when state guidance trumped local law.

Gov. Greg Abbott’s office did not respond to a request

to clarify this earlier this month.

The confusion resulted in anger and panic in some communities that wanted their schools to reopen. Families protested outside the Tarrant County administration building Monday demanding that officials allow their schools to hold in-person classes before Sept. 28, according to The Dallas Morning News.

Paxton said religious private schools were exempt from following the order in guidance released earlier this month.

## Texas adds 600+ unreported coronavirus deaths

**Texas adds over 600 previously unreported coronavirus deaths due to change in how deaths are tallied**

**9,781\***

Texans are in the hospital for the coronavirus as of July 27 — 788 less\* than a week ago. They occupy 18%\* of hospital beds.

\*The number of current hospitalizations and hospital bed counts is incomplete as of July 23.

**4,267**

new cases were reported on July 27. There were 58,907 viral tests reported on July 26. That made the positivity rate — the percentage of positive cases to viral tests conducted over seven days — 13.2%.

**5,713\***

Texans have died as of July 27 — 44 more deaths reported than the day before and 1,062 more than a week ago.

\*The state added 631 previously unreported deaths on July 27 when the state began counting deaths based on death certificates. These are not included in the weekly increase.

5,030 people who tested positive for the virus had died. With Monday’s update, the new figure is roughly 5,700.

After the number of infections in Texas soared to new highs in June and early July, the rate of deaths in Texas has been accelerating. It took 53 days to get from the first death to 1,000 deaths and 39 days to get from 1,000 to 2,000 deaths. On July 10, the state surpassed 3,000 deaths — 24 days after 2,000 deaths were reported. And it took only 10 more days for Texas to reach 4,000 deaths.

While Texas continues to report daily deaths in the triple digits, the number of new daily cases seem to be stabilizing. In the past week alone, state data appears to show new daily infections leveling off, albeit at nearly record highs.

The state recorded its largest number of daily new cases July 15, at 10,791. On Sunday, that number was 5,810.

Staff Report  
The Texas Tribune

After months of undercounting coronavirus deaths, Texas’ formal tally of COVID-19 fatalities grew by more than 600 on Monday after state health officials changed their method of reporting.

The revised count indicates that more than 12% of the state’s death tally was unreported by state health officials before Monday.

The Texas Department of State Health Services is now counting deaths marked on death certificates as caused by COVID-19. Previously, the state relied on local and regional public health departments to verify and report deaths.

Public health experts have

said for months that the state’s official death toll is an undercount. State health officials said Monday that the policy change would improve the accuracy and timeliness of their data.

Texas law requires death certificates to be filed within 10 days.

“This method does not include deaths of people who had COVID-19 but died of an unrelated cause,” the Texas Department of State Health Services said in a news release.

Hispanic Texans are overrepresented in the state’s updated fatality count, making up 47% of deaths, according to health officials, while they make up about 40% of the state’s population. White Texans account for 35% of

deaths while Black Texans make up 14% of deaths. Before Monday, the state’s racial and ethnic breakdown of deaths had large gaps, with up to 18% of deaths last month recorded as “unknown.”

Men are more likely to have died from the coronavirus, according to the updated state figures, making up 60% of deaths. And about 180 deaths, or 3% of the total, occurred among Texans younger than 40. About 2,000 people who died were 80 or older, making up the largest age bracket of COVID-19 deaths.

The first death linked to the coronavirus in Texas occurred March 16 in Matagorda County. As of Sunday, state officials said about

## The Record Newspapers

of Orange County, Texas

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## Pinehurst addresses former firefighters

From Page 1

rst citizens had never been without fire or medical coverage.

"At no time," he said, adding that the City of Orange was providing fire services for Pinehurst while Acadian Ambulance Services continued providing medical services.

Medical calls were the issue, both sides agree.

After Vidor dropped Acadian as its emergency medical provider at the end of June, Pinehurst was required to switch its nighttime dispatching services from Vidor to Bridge City.

Hood said Tuesday that during the spike of Covid-19 in Orange County Hanauer

had suggested that the fire department limit its responses to only life or death emergencies to avoid exposing firefighters and the public to exposure to the virus.

"Chief Branham chose not to honor that request, citing that he had no choice but to respond to these calls due to an agreement with Acadian Ambulance Service," Hood said.

"Upon meeting with Acadian officials, it was determined that there was no such agreement in place. Furthermore, Acadian officials advised that the fire chief [Branham] determines which calls they choose to respond to; that it is not dictated by

[Acadian]."

Hood said more digging raised more questions.

"Although Pinehurst is listed as a first responder organization with the Texas Department of State Health Services, there [were] only two members of the Pinehurst Fire Department listed as first responders who hold a basic EMT certification or above," Hood said.

"Former Chief Branham does NOT hold the necessary certifications to provide life-saving care for all medical calls he requested to respond to.

"Most [Pinehurst] first responders who did not possess the proper certification and who have no formal medical training with the exception of CPR training, were running emergency traffic (with emergency lights and sirens) to medical calls, often arriving minutes after Acadian Ambulance was on scene.

"Some of these responded

to nursing homes and medical clinics where trained medical staff was already on scene and AFTER they were cancelled by the ambulance service."

Mayor Dan Mohon participated in the conference via short conference call that reassured citizens they remain covered for emergencies. He did not address the particulars of the beef between Hood and the former volunteers.

"In the 26 years I've been a firefighter and the seven years I've been a fire chief, there's been nothing wrong with the services I've provided," Branham said.

"It started when this city administrator took his seat. The whole thing could have been resolved, but the city administrator has this power thing going on.

"When you have an entire fire department quit on you after one month, there's a problem."

## School reopenings

From Page 1

an official there said. No numbers were available for other districts.

As the schools have awaited and looked for guidance from Gov. Greg Abbott and Education Commissioner Mike Morath in this uncertain environment created by a deadly respiratory virus, administrators have had to

ments from Gov. Abbott, TEA, CDC, UIL and local authorities.

"I'm confident we can make this school year a great one for our students."

At Bridge City, Lintzen says his staff is ready to go.

"Our administrative team has worked throughout the summer to prepare our

## "Prepare to meet the change as we face this new year."

be nimble to adapt to sudden changes.

Monday, for example, the governor declared that the STAAR tests will not be used intended, to determine promotion from 5th and 8th grade, but would figure in schools' accountability rating.

"Prepare to meet the change as we face this new year," Brister told her district's parents. "Each week we are met by new require-

school district to educate our students in the best environment possible during this health crisis," the BCISD bossman said.

"Our district stands ready to provide either onsite instruction or remote instruction. We want to provide our students with the best possible education to ensure that each child within our school district has the opportunity for a bright future."

## Door knocking starts

From Page 1

"We need to get a complete and accurate count of everybody who lives in Southeast Texas, so we can keep money in Southeast Texas," King said.

Between now and the end of October, census takers – known in the biz as enumerators – will be making the rounds with their official lanyard IDs and blue and white "Census" bags.

In Orange County, only 51.7% of the residents have self-registered to be represented. The numbers are 57.5% for the state of Texas, 54.8% for Jefferson County.

"All over the country, people are trying to figure out how to get the response rate up," King said, mindful that the Covid-19 pandemic has delayed the census effort.

Thigpen mentioned that youngsters have been seriously undercounted in the past.

"In 2010, we lost five million kids under 10 because the parents did not list them," he said. "We want a complete head count of everybody."

The census is based on a snapshot from April 1, 2020. The residents will be asked how many people lived in their homes on that "Census Day" and details about them.

The census, a count of every living person in the United States, is required by the U.S. Constitution to be conducted every 10 years.

It is against the law for the Census Bureau to publicly release people's responses in any way that could identify them or their household.

Census Bureau information cannot be shared with anyone, not the police, not immigration officials.

"Census workers can be fined \$250,000 for violating confidentiality," Thigpen said.

"By now, everybody should have been contacted, but because of Covid-19, we are sending out a sixth mailing to every house that hasn't responded," King said.

People can fill out and return those mailings.

Others wishing to eliminate the need for a door-to-door visit may do so by filling out the census questionnaire online at my2020census.gov.

An employee of The Record Newspapers needed six minutes to go to my2020census.gov and fill out all the asked-for info for his two-person household.

The Census Bureau is joining up with Orange pastors.

The census tract including homes located south of Interstate 10 and between 16th St. and the Sabine River was one of the most under-reported in the 2010 census and is getting special attention this time around.

As of Monday night, Bridge City had the best census response of Orange County cities at 56.5%, followed by Pinehurst at 51.6% and Pine Forest at 51.3%.

Orange was the next city at 49.9%, followed by West Orange (49.3%), Vidor (46.7%) and Rose City (32.4%).

## Doctor cuts waste

From Page 1

allows me to spend more time with patients. Visits can be 30 or 60 minutes long, not the average of seven minutes for the usual outpatient practice."

Townsend knows about "usual outpatient practices."

She observed them up close the first two years after she earned her medical degree from UTMB, then completed her family residency in 2006.

"I worked in a private practice for two years and I felt, because of insurance, I couldn't give patients what they needed," she recalled.

"I actually transitioned to do hospital medicine. I saw patients at the hospital and took care of them at the hospital. I could get things done in the hospital."

Townsend worked as a hospitalist for much of the past decade but also worked for several years in hospital administration for Christus Southeast Texas and other hospitals. She was a regional vice president for Christus in 2015-16.

She opened her practice in Bridge City last March.

"I started planning this two years ago," she said.

"And it's challenging to get people to see that it can be done better. As soon as you tell them it's not within the insurance system, they think that it's going to be unaffordable.

"And this, actually, for a lot of people because their deductibles are so high, it's more affordable."

Townsend points out that membership in her practice doesn't cover hospital care or other catastrophic problems.

"Direct primary care is not a replacement for catastrophic healthcare," she said. "This allows the patient direct access to primary care. But we encourage patients to have some kind of catastrophic insurance plan.

"A lot of times those can be purchased at much reduced prices that a regular insurance policy."

She also said that she will work with patients who may already have insurance policies to provide the best outcomes, physically and fiscally.

"Some people have such high deductibles they choose to pay out of pocket for some things rather than have it filed on their insurance," Townsend said.

"I can order a routine lab panel and if someone has a high deductible like \$5,000, they may pay \$500 or \$600. But if you pay out of pocket, it's literally like \$40."

Townsend says she is available 24-7 for her patients.

"I want them to communicate with me. I don't want them to have to go to urgent care," she said.



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## From The Creaux's Nest

### PLAYING THE HAND DEALT ME

I never thought I'd find myself and the country in this shape during my late years. I sit here in lockdown because my family and doctor feel I'm at too high a risk to be running around in the middle of the deadly coronavirus. As a youngster I was raised in the **Great Depression** by a single mom, in a one-room shack with no utilities. We were very poor and often had nothing to eat. We had no real furniture. I slept on a corn shuck pallet. I have been very fortunate since those early days but I see now where **50 million people** are out of work. **The fallout will be terrible.** Many families will lose their homes, millions more won't be able to pay rent and be forced into moving in with family, others will be homeless. Many small family businesses are going to belly up, others, headed for old age, go through their life savings relying on Social Security and Medicare. Some elderly will fare better than young families. **Some youngsters are facing the hardship I did.** Because of domino affect we're a long way from being normal. Again, fortunately the congress has helped relieve the pain on the short term. However, the money will dry up and that's where a lot of hurt begins. **It's unfortunate because it could have been avoided.** In a few days, it will be eight months since the **first coronavirus was diagnosed in Seattle.** A few days later we learned we had 15 cases. **By November,** we're facing **200,000 deaths and five million cases,** many with terrible side affects Patients suffer **covid-19** symptoms for months with fatigue, aches and breathing difficulty. **The opinions in this column are my own.** Just like every columnist and talk show host in the country I write what I believe to be true. **Every citizen will have to decide what kind of country they want or want to leave to their children and grandchildren.** As for me, I miss the outside world, my friends, work and especially my grandchildren. None of us asked for this **but that's the hand dealt us.** I have a lot to say so I'd best be on my way. **Hop on, come along, I promise it won't do you no harm.**

### HISTORY REPEATS ITSELF HOOVER—TRUMP

There are distinct similarities between **President Hubert Hoover** and **President Donald Trump.** Both men were wealthy New York business men; neither had ever been elected to any public office. Both bought their way out of serving in the military. Both administrations were mired with scandal. Neither president listened to advisors. Scientist warned **Trump** that a pandemic was heading our way. Instead of heeding the advice **Trump** went into denial and refused to act for the first 70 days. He failed to lead and the virus overran the country. **President Hoover** was advised by his economist as well as others that the crash was coming. He ignored the advice that led to the great depression, forever branded as **Hoover's Depression.** Many took their own lives after losing all their wealth, jumping out of high rise buildings to their deaths. In **Trump's** case, failed leadership has led to the deaths of many citizens. **The economy is a disaster** with many deaths still to come. Many years down the road this crisis will be referred to as the **Trump virus** that killed a quarter of a million United States citizens. One big difference between the **New York businessmen** is that **Hoover** was orphaned at the age of 9 and with no family he went on to become very wealthy. He lost most of his money by his own depression. On the other hand **Trump** was born into wealth. He failed in business five times and each time he was propped up by his father. He left banks and individuals holding the bag. When his father **Fred** died, **Donald** inherited most of his wealth. After only one term in office **Hoover** was soundly defeated by **FDR** and took the senate and congress down with him, carrying only a handful of states. The same fate may also await **Donald J. Trump** as the country sinks into a deeper and deeper hole. I've lived through the most of **Hoover's** hard times during the depression. I came along when **Franklin D. Roosevelt** did. He had the depression to deal with, **Pearl Harbor** and **WWII.** He was elected to four terms and served 12 years and one month. **Harry S. Truman,** vice-president, served for seven years, 11 months. My entire childhood was spent with only two presidents. In 1952, **Ike** beat **Attlee Stevenson** to become the **32<sup>nd</sup> president.** That was the first time I voted in a presidential race and I have voted in everyone since. I just pray to live to vote in the most important presidential election in my life time to elect the **46<sup>th</sup> president** of the United States. No one has ever sought the office with more government experience than **Joe Biden,** with over 40 years in the **U.S. Senate** and 8 years as **vice-president** in a successful administration. The choice is obvious, **Biden** has earned it. The country can't take four more years of failed administration. **For years it will be debated who was the worse president.** Today **Hubert Hoover** is, but because of so many Americans dying in a crisis that could have been avoided if not for failed leadership, I believe in time **Trump** will surpass **Hoover** and win the title as the worse president ever.

### REMEMBERING SHERIFF FONTENOT

**Huel Ray Fontenot,** 80, passed away July 23. Ironically his death was the day before his late wife **Mary's** birthday. I had really gotten to know **Huel** through **Mary** and we remained friends. He was elected sheriff for two terms. He had spent most of his adulthood in law enforcement. He graduated from the **DPS Academy** in 1965. He was a state

trooper for 14 years before serving as a peace officer in other locations. I recall meeting with him at the home that had totally been washed away by hurricane **Ike.** They lost everything. His attitude was, even though he was in his late 60's, they would just have to start over. **Mary** died a few years later. They had one child **Amy,** who married her high school sweetheart **Chad Hanks.** **Huel** had three children from a previous marriage. At the time of his death he was happily married to **Donna,** who he loved very much. He had been battling cancer but what took his life was a fall a few days before his death. I'm glad to have known him and send condolences to his family and friends. May he rest in peace. Please see obituary.

### TURNING BACK THE HANDS OF TIME 10 Years Ago-2010

I recall those early days in my life, long before air conditioning, long before youngsters were spoiled and walked from an air-conditioned house to a car with cool air blowing. That wasn't the only difference in my two daily workouts and the athletes of today. For our two tuff workouts we were not allowed any water, only salt tablets. They said water would give us stomach cramps. It was so hot we welcomed sweat to cool off. We didn't have much to throw up after the first time. I'm surprised those coaches didn't kill us from dehydration. Today there are trainers who do not allow such treatment. They have learned a lot and require regular water breaks. \*\*\*\*We were saddened by the death of **Bessie Huckaby,** 67, who passed away Monday, Aug. 2. Funeral services were held Thursday, Aug. 5, at **Claybar Funeral Home** in Orange with the **Rev. Jay Thomas** officiating. An Eastern Star service followed. Burial will be at Orange Forest Lawn Cemetery in West Orange. She is survived by husband **C.J. Huckaby,** sons and daughter-in-law, **Kevin** and **Dana Bourque,** **Terry** and **Laura Huckaby,** **Brent Huckaby** and granddaughters **Brittany Bourque** and **Ashlyn Huckaby.** \*\*\*\* It's always good to have one of our local youngsters attain national attention, gain fame and wealth. **Earl Thomas** was raised a poor boy in Orange. Over the weekend, the former **West Orange-Stark and UT star** signed a 5-year, \$12 million guaranteed contract. However, he could earn a \$21.1 million maximum value in five years if he makes all the incentives. **Earl,** a rookie, was picked 14th overall and will be a starter for the **Seattle Seahawks.** \*\*\*\*For the first time since 2004, the **"Big Three"** auto makers are all making a profit and have gone a long way in repaying their bail out **U.S. loans.** Plants are re-opening and **100,000 workers are back** on the job. Without the auto bail out we would have been hit with a big depression. Think about it, the rubber, glass, battery, parts workers etc., plus all the dealership employees in the country. Now we need to bail out the small business people in this country. They are the big employer. \*\*\*\* Our own native son **Coach Bum Phillips,** who will be 87 on Sept. 29<sup>th</sup>, will have his autobiography out in two weeks. **Phillips was born in Orange.** His son, **Cowboy coach Wade Phillips,** was also born here and had his first coaching job at **Stark High.** \*\*\*\* Happy birthday to some special folks. **"Sleepy"** celebrates on Aug. 6 and is Alaska bound. **Coach Dwight Thacker** turns another peg. What a guy. \*\*\*\***Bill Smith,** a great guy, marks another year. \*\*\*\***President Barack Obama** turns 49 years old Wednesday, Aug. 4. \*\*\*\*Welcome to Orange County **Phillip Ledoux,** new area game warden, who recently graduated and will be stationed in the area.

### 45 Years Ago-1975

**Betty Harmon** finally gets **Corky** to spring for a new home. (Editor's note: That's when the **Harmons** moved off of **Camellia St. in Roselawn** and moved to **Sunset.**) \*\*\*\***Red Garrett** and **J.D. Stanfield** are re-elected to city council. \*\*\*\***Joe Grossman,** after many years with **Nacol Jewelry,** has opened his own store in Sulphur, La. (**Joe** passed away a few years ago.) \*\*\*\***Cecil Scales** says he has a joint checking arrangement with his wife. If he's not home by midnight, she starts checking the joints. \*\*\*\***Roy S. Repasky,** 21, who graduated from the **Houston Police Academy** is now working as a **Houston** patrolman on the 2 p.m. to 10 a.m. shift. He's a 1977 Bridge City graduate. \*\*\*\***Air Force Sgt. Thomas Segura,** of Bridge City, is promoted to **Staff Sergeant.** He and wife **Becky,** also in the **Air Force,** are stationed at **Camp Polk** in North Carolina. **Tommy** is a 1971 BC grad. \*\*\*\*On July 26, **Gordon Baxter** celebrated 30 years on the air. \*\*\*\* **Judge Harold Beeson** and wife **Sheila** have a new baby girl. The baby was 14 days late and weighed in at 7 lbs., 14 ounces. \*\*\*\***Lefty Frizzell** died on July 20, at age 47. He made a lot of great records and had a lot of ups and downs in his short life. \*\*\*\***Wally Fowler** is visiting Orange this week. He says he and **Roy Dunn's** friendship goes back to 1948 when they were with the **Dudley J. Leblanc Hadacol Caravan.** **Wally** was with the **Oak Ridge Boys.** Many stars performed on that show such as **Hank Williams, Mickey Rooney, Ernest Tubbs, Red Foley** and others.

### 70 Years Ago-1950

Orange Jaycee members are **Roy Wingate, J.D. Hudson, Dick Dibie, Lee Barron, Edward Darrol, Hansen York, Bob Naczi, Ben Caple, Richard Gordon, Fred Finger, Gordon Johnson, Rom Reddy, Herbert Frames, Sterling Bunkley, Paul Skinner, Bill Haggerty, Ed White, Hal-dor Rigbsy, Orval Stoffer, C.C. Bourne, Charles Ezell, Dorrance Williams, Vaughn Seastrunk, Lance Wingate, Bill Wade, Pat Wilson, Hoyt Smith, John Dahlean, Leland Morrow, Jack Price, Marcus Burroughs, Eugene Pollard, Frank Warren, Art Hill, Jim Rather** and **Bob Whitehead.** \*\*\*\***Bob Whitehead,** who is 24 years old and former coach at **Carr Junior High,** will be the new **Orange Recreation Director.** He will succeed **J.B. Peddy Whitehead** went on to be Orange mayor.

### NATION HONORS JOHN LEWIS CIVIL RIGHTS LEADER

Civil Rights leader **John Lewis** crossed the **Edmund Pettus Bridge,** in **Selema, Alabama,** one last time. This time the state troopers saluted, mourners cheered, sang and cried as a horse drawn wagon carried the **Congressman's flag draped casket.** Fifty-five years ago he had been beaten and left bloody with a cracked skull. Today he lies in state in the **Rotunda of the United States Capital.** **John Lewis is the first Black legislature to be so honored.** He was America's moral compass in congress. **USA TODAY** has on the newsstand a 40 page print edition, **"The last of the Lions"** in **Lewis's** honor. His life story included being jailed over 40 times defending his beliefs in **Civil Rights.**

### A FEW HAPPENINGS

Two icons of entertainment, **Olivia de Havilland** and **Regis Philbin,** contributed decades of entertainment in Hollywood and television. **Olivia** is best known for her role, in 1939, as **Melanie Hamilton** in **"Gone with the Wind"** died Sunday at age 104. She was one of the last stars of classic films of the 1930's. She won Oscars in 1946 for **"To Each His Own"** and in 1949 for **"The Heiress."** \*\*\*\***Regis Philbin** was made for TV, he was more than a host, he was best at being himself. He logged the most hours in the history of television with over 17,000 hours, beating out his friend **Hugh Downs.** **Regis** had a lot of stops in his career. He died Friday at age 88, one month before his 89<sup>th</sup>. (Editor's note: I have an original copy of the movie **"Gone With the Wind"** that has now been banned from resale outlets. \*\*\*\* A few folks we know celebrating birthdays in the next few days. **July 29,** finds **Sally Andrews, Johnathan Snipes, Hannah Clayton** and **Lisa Faulk** celebrating another year. \*\*\*\***July 30,** **Keith Gros** and **Amber's** middle son **Liam** turns 2-years-old. He will celebrate with brother's **Luke,** 3 and **Rowan,** 6 weeks \*\*\*\***July 31,** our buddy **Stump Weatherford** notched another year as did **Amber Weidner.** \*\*\*\***Aug. 1,** Celebrating today are **Dr. Pauline Hargraves** and **Wayne Morse,** who we have lost track of \*\*\*\***Aug. 2,** A special friend, **Judge Derry Dunn,** celebrates today also **Jean Lapeyrolerie, Sherri Vincent, Bailee Moore** and longtime friend **Joyce Dubose** celebrate birthdays. **Joyce** and **John** also celebrate 51 years of marriage. \*\*\*\***Aug. 3,** **Kaylon Brack, Diana Tally** and **Lacy Monceaux** all celebrate. On this day in 2007, **Tony Houseman** passed away. \*\*\*\***Aug. 4,** Celebrating a birthday with former **President Barack Obama** is **Debbie Wilbur, Judy Leonard** and **Kody Fissette.** Please see complete list. \*\*\*\***Early Voting in Texas** will begin on August 13, about 74 days away. Voting begins three weeks ahead of the November 8th **General Election.** In some places in the county, early voting starts as early as 45 days away. \*\*\*\*The **October Surprise** in this election will probably be that a vaccine for **covid-19** has been developed. **Remember vaccine is not a vaccination.** My bet is that the vaccine won't be available to the public before at least **March or April of next year.** To prove a vaccine is safe takes at least six months trial run. Don't believe the October surprise when it's pitched.

### BREAUX BIRTHDAYS

Folks having birthdays in the next week. **Yvonna Boehme, NaNa Foster, Sherri Christiansen, Ayden Sanders, Cody Hollis, Joe Elam, Elizabeth McBride, Marilyn Snider, Ruth Stone, Dena Cox, Ethel Hicks, Jarrod Vogt, Jeannette Edwards, Ann Collins, Claire Williams, Frances Reid, Cetha Haure.**

### CELEBRITY BIRTHDAYS

**July 29:** **Dak Prescott** 27, Football Player; **Wil Wheaton,** 47, Actor; **Martina McBride** 53, Country Singer. \*\*\*\***July 30:** **Arnold Schwarzenegger** 72, Actor; **Lisa Kudrow** 56, Actress; **Terry Crews** 51, Actor; **Hilary Swank** 45 Actress. \*\*\*\***July 31:** **Mark Cuban** 61, Entrepreneur; **Zac Brown** 41, Country Singer; **Dean Cain** 5, Actor; **JK Rowling** 54, Author. \*\*\*\***August 1:** **La'Porsha Renae** 25, Singer; **Elijah Kelley** 33, Actor. \*\*\*\***August 2:** **Sam Worthington** 43, Actor; **Nick Diaz** 36, MMA Fighter. \*\*\*\***August 3:** **Tom Brady** 42, Football Player; **Martha Stewart** 78, Entrepreneur; **Tony Bennett** 93, Singer **Isaiah Washington** 56, Actor. \*\*\*\***August 4:** **Daniel Dae Kim** 51, Actor; **Billy Bob Thornton** 64, Actor; **Jeff Gordon** 48, Race Car Driver; and also celebrating a birthday is the 44<sup>th</sup> President of the United States **Barack Obama** 58.

### CAJUN STORY OF THE WEEK

One of **Taunt Blanche's** former girls in the sticks, **Agnes "Cutie Pie" Marceaux,** walks into da Abbeville welfare office wit nine kids trailing her. "Wow," says **Shriley Boudreaux,** da social worker, "Are dem all yours?" she axe. "Mais Yea, dey all mine," **Agnes** answer. Den she says **"Sit down LeRoy."**

All da chilluns rush to a seat. Da social worker says, **"Me, I'll need all your chilluns names."**

"Well, to keep it simple, I named all da boys **LeRoy** and da girls **Leighroy."**

**Ms. Boudreaux,** da case worker, axe, **"Are you serious, dey all named Leroy?"**

"Dey sure are," said **Agnes,** wen it's time to get dem out of bed, I yell **LeRoy.** Wen it's time for supper, I just yell **LeRoy** and dey all come running. If I need to stop da kids from running in da street, I just yell **LeRoy** and all of dem stop. It's the smartest idea I ever had me, naming all dem **Leroy."**

**Ms. Boudreaux,** da social worker, shakes her head, wrinkled her forehead and axe, **"But Agnes, wat if you just want one of dem kids to come and not da whole bunch?"**

**Agnes** answer, **"Well den, I call dem by dere last names."**

### C'EST TOUT

#### Does Cohen Have Another Shoe to Drop

**Michael Cohen,** **President Donald Trump's** former attorney and fixer, was released to home confinement after a federal judge in New York found he was sent back to prison to deter him from writing a tell-all book about **Trump.** The judge ruled **Cohen** was sent back to prison to stop his exercise of First Amendment Right to publish a book. He ordered **Cohen** to be released. The judge's ruling confirms **Bill Barr's Justice Department** and **Bureau of Prisons** can't stop **Cohen** from publishing his book. The self-described fixer for **Trump** sued **Attorney General William Barr** accusing him of retaliating against him after he revealed his intention to write an unflattering book about **Trump.** **Cohen's** book will describe first hand experiences with **Mr. Trump.** For example: the narrative will describe certain Semitic remarks against prominent **Jewish** people and also racist remarks about **Black** leaders. **Cohen** is serving a three-year sentence after pleading guilty to coordinating payoffs to buy silence about film star **Stormy Daniels** and **Playboy** model **Karen McDougal.** What's left to expose? Most everything has already been played out on TV and social media. **Cohen** has to have a hook, a bombshell. What **Trump** and the administration would fear the most is **any mention of abortion.** **No doubt they will sue to stop the book sale** before the election. \*\*\*\*That's it for today. Stay inside if possible, wear your mask if going out and wash your hands frequently. **Take care and God bless.**

# Deaths & Memorials

## Huel Ray Fontenot, 80, Orange

Huel Ray Fontenot, 80, of Orange, passed away on July 23, 2020, in Houston. Funeral services will be at 3:00 p.m., Sunday, August 2, 2020, at Claybar Funeral Home in Orange. Officiating will be Chaplain Mike Eaves. Visitation will be from 12:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m., Sunday, August 2, 2020, at Claybar Funeral Home in Orange. Born in Liberty, Texas, on June 11, 1940, he was the son of Oliver Huel Fontenot and Ida Cora (Abshier) Fontenot. Huel led a dedicated life dressed in blue, passionate about his work in law enforcement for over 30 years. He graduated from the DPS Academy in 1965. He served as a State Trooper for 14 years. He also served as a police officer in West Orange, Pinehurst, and was a deputy constable. He was elected and served two terms as the Sheriff of Orange County. As sheriff, he started the DARE Program and become the first sheriff in Texas to graduate from the Law Enforcement Management Institute of Texas from Sam



Houston University. Huel was a 32nd Degree Mason for Masonic Lodge 126 since 1970. He continuously made lasting impacts on the lives of everyone he met and will forever be remembered in the hearts of those he leaves behind. He was preceded in death by his second wife, Mary Fontenot; parents, Oliver and Ida Fontenot; and daughter, Kelly Fontenot. He is survived by his loving wife, Donna Fontenot; children, Randall Fontenot and wife Diane of Copperas Cove, Donna Grisham of Temple, and Amy Hanks and husband Chad of College Station; step children, Andy Walton and wife Misty of Normangee, Derek Walton and wife Mandy of Knoxville, Tennessee, and Brandi Carter of Bridge City; 13 grandchildren; 5 great-grandchildren; brother, Jackie Fontenot and wife Marie of Anahuac; and nieces & nephews, Nick Esparza, Kayla Matheson, Scott Goodman, Denisha LaFleur, and Rebel Cool-

## Ervin A. Brody, 97, Bridge City

Ervin A. Brody, 97, of Bridge City, TX, passed away on July 22, 2020 at 6:55 am at his home in Baytown, TX. He was surrounded by family at the time of his passing. Funeral service was held on Tuesday, July 28, 2020 at 10:00 am with a visitation beginning at 9:00 am at Earthman Funeral Home in Baytown, Texas. Burial was followed at Houston National Cemetery. Arrangements were under the direction of Earthman Baytown Funeral Home, 3919 Garth Rd., Baytown, TX 77521; (281) 422-8181. TO view the online obituary and post a tribute for the family, visit [www.earthmanbaytown.com](http://www.earthmanbaytown.com). Ervin, proudly served his country in the United States Army. He is a WWII veteran, Pearl Harbor survivor, Purple Heart recipient and a 4th Degree Knight. Ervin loved traveling,



racing pigeons, spending time outside gardening and going to the casinos. His life was meaningful and he was loved by all. Ervin will be greatly missed by his family and friends. He was preceded in death by his parents, Joseph and Martha Brody, his loving wife Phyllis Brody and son, Joseph Brody. He is survived by; five children, Bill Brody (Josline Brody), Bette Brody (Brian Kasch), Keith Brody, James Brody (Lois Perry), and Susan Brody Perrin (Christopher Perrin); daughter-in-law, Rafaelina Brody; 3 grandchildren, Eric Kash, Kelsie Hoievina LaParade, and Keaton Holievina; 4 great-grandchildren, Javian Holievina, Mya Holievina, Cameron Holievina, Layne Holievina and long time family friend Thomas Zulager.

## Russell Ray Fitzpatrick, 80, Orange

Russell Ray Fitzpatrick, 80, of Orange, passed away on July 24, 2020, in Beaumont. Funeral services was at 2:00 p.m., Tuesday, July 28, at Claybar Funeral Home in Orange. Officiating was Reverend Tom Haas. Burial was followed at Orange Forest Lawn in Orange. Visitation was held before the service from 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m., Tuesday, at Claybar Funeral Home in Orange. Born in Crab Orchard, West Virginia, on July 20, 1940, he was the son of John W. Fitzpatrick and Pearl (Hicks) Fitzpatrick. Russell was a product developer and chemist for BF Goodrich for 38 years. He was one of a kind man and worked on and developed many of the products that we use today including, sticky notes, golf balls, and tires. Russell and his beloved wife traveled the United States for 19 years in their RV. He spent a lot of time as an avid bird watcher, photographer, and loved fishing and hunting. He was a long-time and faithful member of Grace Lutheran Church where he made many friends. Russell was a charter member of Big Marsh Hunting Club, Rainbow Room volunteer, Golden Triangle Audubon Society, National Audubon Society, and a part of Cornell Lab of Ornithology. He



adored his family more than anything and was a wonderful husband, father, and grandfather, and uncle. Russell will be dearly missed by all who knew and loved him. He was preceded in death by his parents, John and Pearl Fitzpatrick; and sister, Carol Ann Fitzpatrick Ball. He is survived by his loving wife of 41 years, Donis Fitzpatrick; children, Lorie Corkins and husband John, Rhonda Trahan, Brenda Thompson and husband Kenneth, and Glenda Sullivan and husband Mike; grandchildren, Megan Rickert, Amanda Rickert, Jonathan Bankston, and Jenny Melendez and husband Abel; great grandchildren, Abel Melendez, Alden Melendez, Abbie Melendez, Zoey Bankston, and Lorelai Bankston; and numerous nieces and nephews. Serving as pallbearers will be Mike Sullivan, Johnny Corkins, Abel Melendez, Hollis Hickman, Buddy McAnally, and Earl Evans. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made to Golden Triangle Audubon Society at 6088 Babe Zaharias Dr, Beaumont, Texas 77705 or Grace Lutheran Church at 2300 Eddleman Rd., Orange, Texas 77632.

## Jackie Lee Mathews, 77, Orange

Jackie Lee Mathews, 77, of Orange, Texas, passed away on July 23, 2020, in Orange. A Mass of Christian Burial was at 10:00 a.m., Tuesday, July 28, 2020, at St. Henry Catholic Church in Bridge City. Officiating was Father Michael Strother. Burial was followed at Hillcrest Memorial Gardens in Orange. Visitation was held from 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., with a recitation of the Rosary at 7:30 p.m., on Monday, July 27, 2020, at Claybar Funeral Home in Orange. Born in Orange, Texas, on February 16, 1943, he was the son of Victor Mathews and Agnes Jane (LeBert) Mathews Nelson. Jackie knew everyone in town from working as a mailman for the Bridge City Post Office for 38 years. He was very outgoing and loved to talk! Jackie was an active member of St. Henry Catholic Church for over 50 years, where he previously served as a Catechist, Eucharistic Minister, and played the guitar in the church's choir. He was passionate in his faith and loved talking about Jesus Christ and the Bible with anyone at any time. Jackie found great joy in golfing



with his family on weekends. He was an avid reader and a big-time movie buff, and an extreme fan of the Beatles, along with his cousin, Jimmy. Jackie will be missed by all who knew and loved him. He was preceded in death by parents and his wife, Janice Jeannette Mathews. He is survived by his children, Michelle A. Counts and husband Bobby of Orange, Danielle L. Mathews of Orange, Jason C. Wall and wife Heather of Bridge City, and Amanda A. Globke and husband Leland of Dickinson; and his grandchildren, Robert "Gage" Counts, Christian K. Wall, Carly J. Counts, Alexis N. Wall, Zachry I. Globke, Ava A. Globke, Landon J. Sweet, Nina R. Globke, Hadley B. Wall, and Parker A. Wall. Serving as pallbearers will be Christian Wall, Jason Wall, Bobby Counts, Leland Globke, Zachry Globke, and Jesse Fuselier. Honorary pallbearers are Parker Wall, Landon Sweet, and Gage Counts. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made to Catholic Charities, 2780 Eastex Freeway, Beaumont, Texas 77703.

## N. Margaret Becker "Marge", 87, Bridge City

N. Margaret Becker "Marge", 87, of Bridge City, passed away on July 26, 2020, at her home. Funeral services will be 10:00 a.m., Wednesday, July 29, 2020, at First Baptist Church in Bridge City. Officiating will be Pastor Keith Royal. Burial will follow at Oak Bluff Cemetery. Visitation will begin at 9:00 a.m., prior to the service, at First Baptist Church in Bridge City. Born in Port Arthur, Texas, on December 4, 1932, she was the daughter of Talmadge Hargett and Hattie Lillian (Clark) Hargett. When you think of a pure heart with sound intentions, Marge's was the picture-perfect example. She took great joy in helping others in any way she could, living a life dedicated to service of those around her. Marge's "Mother of the Year" title was rightfully earned time and time again, nurturing and loving over 100 foster children, while simultaneously providing for her own family. She was an incredible woman, leaving a lasting impression on everyone she encountered throughout her well lived life, especially her children. Marge's kids, foster or biological, never had to wonder if they were loved, because she unceasingly showered them in affirmations of love and warmth, continuing even after they left home. She practiced and taught reflexology for over 15 years, worked in interior design briefly and was a substitute teacher for Bridge City School District for a time as well. Marge



often visited and volunteered for nursing homes, sharing her light with her friends in the home and cheering up everyone with her positive attitude and warm heart. She enjoyed traveling with her family and making new memories in whatever place they ended up, Switzerland, Alaska, Mexico City, and San Diego to name a few. The time she was able to spend with her family and the memories she could make were of utmost importance to her life. Marge was an incredible mother to all those who entered her home, a loving wife to her husband of 66 years, the best "Maw-Maw" her grandchildren and great grandchildren could ask for, and an amazing friend to all those who she encountered. Although she is no longer here to share her joy and warmth, it can be assured that her light will spread through generations to come. She was preceded in death by her parents, Talmadge and Hattie Hargett; loving husband of 66 years, Pat Becker; sister, Lillian Hargett; and brothers, Robert Hargett, John Hargett, and Larry Hargett. She is survived by her children, Pat Becker, Jr. and wife Helen of Groves, Sharon Harkness and husband Larry of Buna, and Randy Becker, Sr. and wife Penny of Bridge City; grandchildren, Talmadge Becker and wife Jamie, Elise Becker, Jessica Jones and husband Jake, Randy Becker Jr and wife Jamie, Angela Webb, and Jessica Harkness; and 5 great-grandchildren.

## Billy Ray Fisher, 81, Orange

Billy Ray Fisher, 81, of Orange, Texas, passed away on July 27, 2020, at his home. Funeral services will be at 10:00 a.m., Friday, July 31, 2020, at Claybar Funeral Home in Orange. Officiating will be Mr. David Wagner. Burial will follow at Autumn Oaks Memorial Park in Orange. Visitation will be held from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., Thursday, July 30, 2020, at Claybar Funeral Home in Orange.



his hands and particularly enjoyed woodworking. Billy even built the house that he and his family spent many happy years in. He will be missed by all who had the pleasure of knowing and loving him. He was preceded in death by his parents, Monroe and Lois Fisher; his son, Brian Fisher; and his sister, Norma Payne.

He is survived by his loving wife of 53 years, Shirley Lois (Henderson) Fisher of Orange; his daughter, Teri Rainey and husband David Rainey, Sr. of Orange; his grandchildren, David Rainey, Jr., Matthew Rainey, and Jacob Rainey; and his siblings, Johnette Jackson of Hemphill, Truman Fisher of Vinton, Louisiana, and Brenda Hebert of Orange. Serving as pallbearers will be David Rainey, Jr., Matthew Rainey, Jacob Rainey, Dale Henderson, Kevin McCugh, and Randy Oswald. Honorary pallbearers are Lovell Sullivan and Ordean Williams.

## Roger Futch, 90, Orange

Roger Gardner Futch, 90, passed away on Tuesday, July 28, 2020 in Orange, Texas. Visitation will begin at 1:00 p.m. followed by services at 2:00 p.m. on Friday, July 31, 2020 at Claybar Funeral Home in Orange, Texas. Burial will follow at Evergreen Cemetery. He was born June 22, 1930 to Donald Eugene Futch, Sr. and Willie Kate (Gardner) Futch. He is survived by his wife Betty Nell (Prince) Futch, Children Katie Futch Swope, Kim Futch Mitchell and husband Robert, and Karen Futch McClelland and husband Randall Mac. Grandchildren Brandy Swope, Connie Swope, Amber Sharp and husband Daniel, Erin Mitchell and



fiance' Cody Robinson, Baylee McClelland, Dalton McClelland and wife Carey. Great Grandchildren Leyton Sharp, Reagan Swope, Hattie Belle and Emmie Claire McClelland. Brother Don Futch Jr. and many nieces, nephews and extended family. He is preceded in death by his parents, twin brother at birth, sister in law Addie Prince Futch and Keith Parish. Roger was an Air Force veteran and retired from DuPont Sabine River Works after 37 years of service. Face masks will be required.

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**“Everybody Reads The Record!”**  
IN PRINT AND ONLINE

# COVID-19 cases in Texas nursing homes more than doubled in July

Sarah Champagne  
The Texas Tribune

COVID-19 infections have exploded in Texas nursing homes this month, with 8,291 confirmed cases through Monday — four times more than the number of cases recorded in all of June, according to the state's health agency.

More than three quarters of Texas' 1,215 nursing homes have reported at least one coronavirus case since the beginning of the pandemic, up from just over half at the end of June.

It's the same story in the state's assisted living facilities, which reported 924 cases to the Texas Department of State Health Services through Monday, compared with 267 in

June. Of Texas' 5,713 deaths, one-third have been nursing home residents. Nationally, more than 40% of COVID-19 deaths are linked to senior-care centers, according to a New York Times analysis.

The dramatic increase in the number of new COVID-19 cases across Texas is what has led to the surge in nursing homes, said Chris Van Deusen, a spokesperson for the Texas Department of State Health Services.

On Monday, the Texas Health and Human Services Commission released its first list of COVID-19 cases and deaths with details about individual Texas nursing homes — after insisting for months that the information was not subject to public disclosure because of privacy laws. The state attorney general's

office recently ruled that the agency is required to release the information.

Texas initially required all nursing home residents and staff members to be tested, but it has since switched to less sweeping, targeted testing.

By June 11, Texas had completed an initial, monthlong round of mandatory testing in all Texas nursing facilities. On July 10, a new round of targeted testing was announced in partnership with a CVS Health company called Omnicare, with a goal of processing 100,000 tests in the first month. Health and Human Services Commission inspectors are identifying facilities with outbreaks that are in need of testing, said Kelli Weldon, press officer for HHSC. Individual facilities can also ask for testing.

So far in July, the state has tested residents and staff members at 148 facilities, with 93 more facilities scheduled through the end of the month, Weldon said. That's about 7% of all Texas long-term care facilities, including nursing homes and assisted-living facilities.

Weldon said testing is conducted at facilities with at least one confirmed coronavirus

case. This testing can be requested from the facilities or through the Quick Reaction Force testing teams operated in collaboration with the Texas Division of Emergency Management, which can complete a testing "mission" within two to four days of a request, TDEM spokesman Seth Christensen said.

The state has been slow to put coronavirus protections in place at nursing homes and assisted living facilities, said Tina Tran, the state director of the AARP. She says the AARP has heard from families that still are not able to get information in a timely manner about active cases in Texas facilities.

Last week, the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services committed to sending testing devices to nursing homes. The agency has allocated 57 of those devices so far to Texas facilities that have reported at least three confirmed COVID-19 cases, one case among their staff or one death in the previous week.

But with more than 1,200 nursing homes and 2,000 assisted-living facilities in Texas, 57 devices are "not nearly enough," Tran said.

## The Farmer's Wife ...

LOU HARRIS  
For The Record



her. When the queen dies, the colony dies. When you apply the bait, do not disturb the mound. Apply the bait and walk away. The colony should die in 3-4 days.

Hello Everyone,  
I hope this week finds everyone well. Sometimes it is easy to get focused on what is happening around us. If you to listen to the outside world, you will live fearful and worried. But, if you choose to think the way God Thinks, you can live above the stress and pressure of the world. God has promised to give us perfect peace when we keep our minds focused on Him.

Isaiah 55:9. "As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and My thoughts than your thoughts."

Have a good and blessed week everyone.

July 19 - August 4

July 29- August 1,2 - good for above ground crops. Prepare seed beds, transplant and destroy weeds.

August 3,4 - good for root crops. Kill pest

Fire Ants

Fire Ants are a very large problem in Texas. There are four kinds of Fire Ants that live here with Red Fire Ants being the most cause for concern. Imported Fire Ants spread by crawling, drifting down stream, traveling on moving vehicles or through shipments of soil from nursery or nursery stock. They are not picky. Imported Fire Ants will attack anything that disturbs their mound.

The best time to attack fire ants is early in the morning or late in the evening. The best way to kill fire ants is a bait, they will take the poison bait back to the queen and feed it to

### Recipes of the Week

#### Potato Casserole

1 lb pkg thawed hash browns

- 1 can Cream of Chicken soup
- 1 pt. sour cream
- 1 small onion
- Salt and pepper to taste
- 2 c grated cheddar cheese
- 1 stick butter, melted
- 2 c crushed corn flakes

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Prepare a large casserole dish. Mix first 5 ingredients and pour evenly in casserole dish. Spread cheese over top. Pour melted butter over corn flakes and mix. Spread over cheese. Cover and bake for 60 minutes.

#### Boudain Dip

- 2 links of boudain - I like DJ' s.
- 12 oz. Sour cream
- 2 Tbsp Mayonnaise
- Dash of hot sauce
- Good pinch of Cajun seasoning

Remove boudain from casing and crumble in a microwave safe bowl. Microwave until boudain is warm, about 1 minute. Add sour cream, mayonnaise and seasoning. Continue heating at 15 second intervals until dip is thoroughly heated. Serve with crackers or chips.

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# New name for an old rig

**CAPT. DICKIE COLBURN  
For The Record**

Larry Roman held up a hand-sized goggle eye for me to admire before slipping it in his livewell. "If I didn't know better I would think we were just fishing a four-inch piece of worm on a sixteenth ounce jig," he announced in a sarcastic tone.



Dickie Colburn

The basis of his tongue-in-cheek comment was that we were fishing what is now officially termed a Ned rig and we were fishing it in fresh water. More precisely, the water would probably lean more toward brackish than fresh depending on run off and strength of incoming tides.

Due to thunderstorms that had already forced us back to the launch twice that morning, we decided to stay in Cow Bayou rather than chance the longer run to Sabine Lake. Recent afternoon thunderstorms have been laced with some pretty serious lightning and I am not nearly as mad at the fish as I once was!

Back to the "Ned" rig. First of all, while the lure was officially named by a finesse fisherman in the mid-west, it is nothing new to local fishermen that have spent any time at all bouncing between the lake and bayous or river on any given day.

Since as far back as 1960 I thought I was fishing with a jig head and plastic tail. We fished different weights and types of tails for everything from small trout to bass, but we never referred to the lure as anything other than a jig.

I haven't tried the Ned rig on either of the impoundments, but it is apparently saving the day when the bass grow a little finicky. I think it is a little more versatile than a drop shot rig and sinks a little faster than a Wacky worm, but it is finesse fishing nonetheless. In fact, it is much more akin to fishing a three or four inch tube jig and I would still be hard pressed to fish it ahead of the tube!

If you have ever chased trout and still have a few jigs and tails in your favorite colors, there is no need to rush out and purchase any additional tackle in order to try this technique. The only change necessary to fish it more effectively is to drop down to a 1/16h or 1/8"th ounce head.

Because we were fishing out of Larry's boat, he was armed with the components recommended for assembling the Ned rig, but I had mistakenly thought we would spend the day on the Louisiana shoreline trying to fool a few redfish or flounder as well as trout. The price I paid for that miscalculation was that my arsenal consisted of a one gallon Ziploc bag filled with jig heads, tails and a few Swim baits.

We would, however, soon discover that having the parts recommended for assembling a Ned rig provided no advantage. After clipping a little lead off the head of an eighth ounce jig and an inch of plastic off the head of a purple-char-

COLBURN Page 3B

# Cheap entertainment comes easy

**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 Instagram 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.



Chuck Uzzle

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



One never know what can be seen at the boat launch but it's always entertaining.

morning I 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 guy's 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 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 se-

UZZLE Page 3B



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# 2020 College Football Season Still Up In The Air

**KAZ'S KORNER**  
**Joe Kazmar**  
**For The Record**



JOE KAZMAR

Last week more than two dozen Division I conferences lobbied the NCAA's highest governing body to delay a decision on fall football championships until a majority of the leagues determine whether to even have regular-season competition because of the COVID-19 pandemic, according to an Associated Press article.

The NCAA Board of Governors agreed that it must continue to thoughtfully and aggressively monitor health conditions around the country and its implementation of the pandemic's guidelines issued last week.

The College Commissioners Association, comprised of commissioners from all 32 Division I conferences sent a letter to the NCAA's board saying it was "concerned to learn the board is contemplating taking action soon to cancel all fall season NCAA championships" because of concerns related to COVID-19, according to the article.

The board's next meeting is scheduled for Aug. 4 and

the CCA's letter recommended delaying any decision on fall championships to allow more conferences to make their own decisions regarding regular-season play.

However, in major college football, the NCAA has no say. The conferences control the

College Football Playoffs and the bowls. The NCAA does sponsor playoffs in the second-tier of Division I football (FCS) and in Division II and III.

Any college or university that participates in football this fall will see some kind of financial shortfall for the 2020-2021 school year because of the pandemic.

The ones that will really feel the financial pinch are the smaller Division I schools like Lamar and McNeese State who depend on large payouts when they play what I call their "sacrificial lamb" games against larger schools.

These smaller schools generally get crushed on the field but use that huge pay-

day to finance their sports program for the entire year. This money plus the home game receipts for football, basketball and sometimes baseball generally fulfill their annual athletic budgets.

The NCAA already shortened its member schools \$375 million in scheduled payouts due to the cancellation of the NCAA Basketball Tournament last spring. Schools have been preparing for the worst since the spring when the cancellation of the tourney resulted in a drop of distributed revenue from \$600 million to around \$225 million.

Among the conferences that have already decided to postpone fall sports with the hope of making them up in the second semester include the Ivy League, the Patriot League, the Southwestern Athletic Conference, the Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference and the Colonial Athletic Conference.

"The top 10 FBS conferences in Division I football's top tier are in the process of adjusting schedules and hoping to play a regular season that has billions of dollars in media rights deals attached

to it," the article states. "The hope among college sports leaders is that the pandemic can be better controlled across the country before they must make a final call on fall sports seasons, which is about a month away from scheduled starts," the article concluded.

**KWICKIES...**

I remember way back when I was wearing a crewcut and covering the West Orange Chiefs, the big man on the campus (especially on the football field) was Butch Campbell, who was a scoring machine from his halfback position. A few years later Butch became the "big man" on the Lamar Orange campus, beginning his tenure with the Physical Education Department and later becoming Director of Security. Forty-four years later Butch hung it up for good with his well-deserved retirement. Now he's like the rest of us—just a big man.

NFL players have been warned of high-risk activities involving more than 15 people and can be disciplined for actions away from their training facility.

After concluding a three-

game weekend series at Philadelphia, the Miami Marlins had 12 players and two coaches who tested positive for COVID-19. And because so many Marlins players were quarantined in Philadelphia, Monday's home opener against the Baltimore Orioles was postponed. The Phillies' game against the New York Yankees was also postponed so the Philadelphia players can be tested and the visitor's clubhouse could be fumigated.

Michael Thompson won the PGA Tour 3M Open with a two-stroke victory with birdies on two of the final three holes. Runner-up was Adam Long with 267. It was the second career win for Thompson, who pocketed \$1.188 million for his effort.

And closer to home involving another Michael, former West Orange-Stark star Michael Arnaud, had his best tournament of the year by tying for second place in the Korn Ferry Tour Price Cutter Charity Championship presented by Dr. Pepper. Michael had rounds of 66-65-70—201 to finish in a three-way tie for second place.

I remember not too long ago when a team would have

one or maybe two offensive linemen who weighed over 300 pounds. If you look at the Houston Texans' 16 players trying to make this season's roster as offensive linemen, only two were UNDER 300 pounds, and their weights were 295 and 296.

In an effort to find a player to replace former All-Pro safety Earl Thomas III, the Seattle Seahawks had to give up their next two first-round draft picks to sign Jamal Adams. It would have been so much easier and much cheaper too if the Seahawks merely extended Earl's contract last season like he wanted and maybe would have gone somewhere in the 2019 NFL Playoffs.

**JUST BETWEEN US...**

The Houston Astros had big innings in the middle of their first three games which resulted in two wins and a blown save by their bullpen Sunday. But all news wasn't good after ace Justin Verlander won the season's opener Friday. He left the game after only 73 pitches with tightness in his right elbow which could very well spell the end of the season for the game's active strike-out king.

## Game Warden Field Notes

The following items are compiled from recent Texas Parks and Wildlife law enforcement reports.

### The Other Side of Nowhere

A Big Bend Ranch State Park Police Officer and a Presidio County game warden were patrolling River Road at night through Big Bend Ranch State Park when the officers noticed a car parked in the Closed Canyon Trail parking lot after the park closed. In the car, they saw a park pass for that day, a car rental agreement, a jug of water and snacks, but the driver was nowhere to be found. The Closed Canyon Trail is short and stops at the Rio Grande after several steep pour offs. The last pour off is about 60-feet tall. The officers hiked the trail in the dark and far as they could safely go and called out for anyone still down there with no luck. The next morning, another park police officer was informed about a possible lost

hiker. He checked the parking lot and saw that the car was still parked there undisturbed. The three officers headed back to the Closed Canyon Trail that afternoon with rappelling equipment to search farther down the trail. When they reached the first of the three steep pour offs, the officer called out for the hiker who excitedly responded for help. The park police officer was able to rappel down to the hiker who had descended all the pour offs and was at the riverbank. When they reached him, the hiker was dehydrated, exhausted and had injured his ankle. The hiker told the officers that he had gone down the trail alone in the afternoon, fell into a deep-water hole and was unable to climb out. Panicked, he decided to continue down the trail thinking it would lead him back to the parking lot. Temperatures that day were around 106 degrees and he drank river water to try to keep hydrated. He hiked along the riverbank but was unable to navigate the steep canyon walls of Colorado Canyon. The officers requested a helicopter to help extract the hiker, but due

to bad weather it wasn't available until the next morning. So, with the help of an additional game warden, two state park rangers, a U.S. Border Patrol agent and a Presidio County Sheriff's Deputy, the team of officers were able to assist the hiker to climb back over the pour offs and navigate the rest of the trail back to his car. Presidio and Terlingua Emergency Medical Services arrived and gave the hiker medical care and he was then taken to the local hospital for further treatment.

### Unsynchronized Swimmers

A Stephens County game warden received a 911 call from local dispatch involving four people who were stranded in the middle of the Hubbard Creek Reservoir and their boat had washed ashore. The caller was in the boat but was unable to get it started to reach the stranded swimmers. The caller had never been on the lake before and did not know where she was to give directions to the warden. One of the occupants had gotten into the water while the boat was floating in

See Game Warden Field Notes Page 3B

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## Game Warden Field Notes From Page 2B

the middle of the lake to swim without a life jacket and the boat floated too far away for her to reach. Then, her husband, unable to crank the boat, jumped in the water and swam to her with a small ring buoy. The boat continued to float further away when another occupant on board saw the couple struggling in the water and swam out to them to assist with no lifejacket. By the time he reached them, the boat had tripled in distance from the original swimmer. A fourth occupant from the boat decided to swim out to the three swimmers trying to stay afloat with life jackets for them, however, the boat was now about 350 yards away and he was unable to reach them. When the warden arrived, he was able to get the location of the boat and swimmers thanks to landmarks on the lake. The boat was located aground near an island and the three stranded swimmers were about 450 yards away. The swimmers were exhausted and panicked, but all accounted for. Once they were on the boat, they found the fourth swimmer who had multiple lifejackets attached to him but had exhausted himself trying to get to his friends. Everyone in the water was worn out and frightened, but safe and refused medical attention. Once they were accounted for, the warden helped them get their boat back to where they had launched.

## Lost and Found

A recent game warden academy graduate was enjoying a weekend of camping and fishing at Fayette Lake before reporting to his first duty station later this month in Starr County. One Sunday morning, the new game warden came across a small aluminum boat that was abandoned at the dam. He called local dispatch and gave them the boat registration numbers, then towed it back to the Oak Thicket boat ramp and secured it. When the local game warden arrived, a park worker told him that a boat had been stolen during the night from one of the campers. After talking to the campers, it became apparent their missing boat was the same one the new game warden had found on the other side of the lake that morning. The campers were overjoyed and grateful for the recovery of their boat.

## Does Your Mother Know That You're Out?

While patrolling the Sabine River late one night, a Gregg County game warden and an

Upshur County game warden saw two individuals fishing near a public boat ramp. When the wardens made contact, they noticed one of the individuals grew visibly irritated and evasive. Fictitious information was offered to the wardens as local law enforcement arrived to assist. The subject was placed in handcuffs for safety precautions. Once in handcuffs the individual began complying with the officers and provided their real identification information. Concealed drug paraphernalia was later found in the subject's underwear. It was later discovered that the individual was evading a felony parole warrant for injury to a child. The subject's parents arrived to assist and thanked the wardens for helping them regain some control of their child. The subject was released to another agency, who transported them to the Gregg County jail. Additional charges pending investigation.

## Linked by Ink

Two Liberty County game wardens completed an investigation that began in mid-February of this year when they were notified about some potential hunting without landowner consent. A hunting lease member contacted the wardens when they captured a picture of a man on their game camera and on their property without permission. The picture was clear enough to see the very distinctive tattoos the man had. After a few weeks of

talking to local residents, the wardens were able to identify the name of a possible suspect. They ran the name through the Liberty County Sheriff's Department to check for priors and they discovered that he had been through the system and they had pictures of his tattoos on record. After a quick comparison of the tattoos, the wardens had enough probable cause to get an arrest warrant for the suspect. He was soon arrested on the Class "A" Misdemeanor charge of Hunting Without Landowner Consent and a brief interview was conducted at the Sheriff's department. During the interview, the suspect admitted to the crime. Case pending.

## It's Tradition

A Lubbock County game warden was traveling to Buffalo Springs Lake when he came across a group of five young men shooting skeet on a county road. While approaching the group, he noticed numerous empty shell casings on the road. When the warden questioned the group about what they were doing, one of the individuals admitted they were skeet shooting, but did not know the owner of the field they were shooting across and into. At one point, a family member of one of the young men became frustrated and said, "we have done this for years." Citations were issued to the individuals for Discharge of Firearm on Public Roadway and Trespass by Projectile.

## Online Fishing Education Expanded by TPWD

Staff Report  
For The Record

With more Texans heading to the water during quarantine to recreate and physical distance naturally, the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department has seen an uptick in fishing license purchases compared to this time last year. Recognizing this, TPWD has expanded its outdoor education curriculum to include online classes open to new anglers wanting to learn about fishing before heading to Texas waterways.

"The TPWD Angler Education Program is rising to the challenge to find new ways to deliver valuable educational content in online and safe physical distancing settings," said Karen Marks, Aquatic Education Manager for TPWD. "The agency is teaming up with Fishing's Future to provide online instructor workshops for teachers and youth group leaders. Volunteer instructors are also offering online fly fishing and basic fishing classes that are an interactive online experience class and include Basic Knots, Fish ID, Basic Tackle. Online Scout programs include the Cub Scout "A Bear Goes Fishing" classes."

The aquatic education program typically has 600 volunteers each year that contribute 20,000 plus hours and reach more than 65,000 people per year. From April to June of this year, about 60 percent of classes were conducted online while other events were small and hosted by nature centers, parks, and scout camps. Classes ranged from basic angler skills, to fly tying and fly-casting clinics, and a class on fishing for

flounder.

"For the in-person events, safe physical distancing practices are put into place and great effort is made to secure plenty of equipment so no one has to share and pass items around," said Marks. "In addition, exceptional care is taken to prepare a safe place to hold the class, including vigorous cleaning of the space and equipment prior to and after the class to disinfect." There are multiple benefits for those who choose to venture out on the water.

The Recreational Boating and Fishing Foundation recently launched their "Get on Board Campaign."

## Colburn From Page 1B

treuse Lil John, I was in business.

By the time we called it a day, I had caught and released our only four reds and boxed far more fat goggle-eyes than Larry. He probably caught a few more bass, but not enough to make me ask for the real Ned rig or a different color!

Because the rig fishes so much better on a lighter head it is much easier fished on a spinning rod than even a light action casting rod. A stiff wind that adds to the difficulty most days also makes the spinning rod a more fisherman-friendly option.

I fished it on a medium light 7-foot spinning rod with a Stradic 2500 reel filled with 15 pound braid. The lure was tied on a loop knot at the end of four feet of eight-pound monofilament. Not unlike a tube, the Ned rig fishes through standing grass better than you would expect. On this particular day, most of the bites occurred as soon as the lure cleared the thicker grass.

I don't know if anything other than a straight tail grub works, but I found no other reason to try anything else. It's yet another good reason for saving those worms that are too torn up to Texas rig.

If you are not too discriminating as to what you catch... give the Ned rig a shot!

## "Everybody Reads The Record!" In Print and Online



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## Uzzle From Page 1B

cured 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 secretive or private about theirs. I think by sharing your failures as well as your success stories enables you to learn more about whatever your interests are because others around you will certainly have common experiences that may provide solutions. It would be a shame to continue to struggle with a particular problem, technique, or 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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# Former WOC administrator heads Hispanic outreach

DAVE ROGERS  
FOR THE RECORD

Dr. Lona Alexander-Mitchell, who served as assistant principal at West Orange-Stark High School in 2002, has been named Title V Project Director at Lamar State College-Port Arthur.

Alexander-Mitchell, a native of Port Arthur, will be in charge of Camino a la Excelencia (Pathway to Success), an outreach to Hispanic students as well as first-generation students considered to be in at-risk categories. "It's going to give the college an opportunity to do some things for students," she said.

Forty-five percent – nearly half – of Port Arthur residents of school age (5 to 17) speak Spanish, according to a five-year study released in 2018 by the U.S. Census Bureau. The same report showed only half of Port Arthur's Hispanics graduate from high school, with fewer than 5% completing a four-year college degree.

Hispanics are the largest ethnic group attending Lamar State College Port Arthur, making up 34.1% of the enrollment in 2018-19, compared to 29.4% Black and 28.2% White.

"We've got some really good programs we're going to put into place to offer better access to what students need to be successful," Alexander-Mitchell said. "We're



Dr. Lona Alexander-Mitchell, a former assistant principal at West Orange-Stark High School, has returned to her hometown to head up Lamar State College Port Arthur's Camino a la Excelencia (Pathway to Success), an outreach to Hispanic students as well as first-generation students in at-risk categories.

RECORD PHOTO: Dave Rogers

starting a parents' academy and invite them in to see the school and what's available to their children. We'll have Tutor.com open to all students with 24-hour access, and we'll have career coaching. It's a really good tool."

Those programs will be run out of LSCPA's coming-soon Excelencia Center at the Ruby Fuller Building. Repairs to the structure flooded by Tropical Storm Harvey in 2017 are in the works.

Funding for Camino a la Excelencia comes from a \$2.8 million U.S. Department of Education Title V

grant available to Hispanic-serving institutions.

LSCPA is classified a Hispanic-serving institution by the government because it is an accredited, degree-granting institution of higher learning with 25% or more Hispanic enrollment.

"There's funding out there through the Department of Education to help and Dr. Millsap [Pamela Millsap, Lamar's Vice President for Academic Affairs] and her team put together a grant proposal that rated among the top 30 submitted," Alexander-Mitchell said.

More than 250 higher education institutions applied for Title V grants in 2019. LSCPA's application was one of only 43 accepted and the college was awarded \$2.8 million, to be distributed over five years.

The Excelencia staff includes Sheila Trahan, the college's retired Dean of Technical Programs, and success coach Trenida Lewis.

For more information about LSCPA's Title V initiatives, call 409-984-6225.

Alexander Mitchell, a Lincoln High School graduate, says she took a typing class at LSCPA when she was younger. But now she hardly recognizes the downtown campus.

"This place has – Wow! – it's shot up," she said.

She returns to Port Arthur from Aldine, one of three public school districts she has served as director of special programs in the past two decades, building and leading early childhood and afterschool programs and career and technical education.

Alexander-Mitchell earned a bachelor's degree in elementary education from Wiley College, a master's in educational supervision from Lamar University and a doctorate in educational leadership from Texas Southern.

She began her education career as a teacher at Port Arthur's St. Mary's Catholic School. She taught math and was curriculum coordinator

at Beaumont's Dunbar Elementary before moving to Port Arthur ISD as director of special programs.

She was assistant principal at West Orange-Stark High School, then principal of Beaumont's Fehl Elementary before joining Aldine ISD for the first of two tenures, as director of consolidated federal programs then Title I director, a program later known as No Child Left Behind.

Back in Beaumont, Alex-

ander-Mitchell helmed an award-winning afterschool 21st Century Community Learning Center program for six years before returning to Aldine ISD in 2014, as director of special programs. There, she managed Perkins Act CTE (career and technical education) programs to prepare students for occupations requiring more than a high school degree but less than a four-year college degree.

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## Are You Eligible for This COVID-19 Study?

A new COVID-19 study is currently enrolling patients, and researchers believe it has the potential to change the course of the virus around the world.

The study is examining the effects of Colchicine, a widely available and inexpensive anti-inflammatory drug on one of the most common, and most debilitating side effects of SARS-CoV-2—acute respiratory distress syndrome (ARDS).

ARDS is caused by an intense inflammatory response that results in what's called a cytokine storm. Cytokines are molecules that signal to inflammatory cells that there's a problem within the body that needs their attention. Any normal immune response involves cytokines. In a cytokine storm however, they're released in larger numbers than necessary, resulting in an immune response out of proportion to the threat at hand, whereby immune cells attack healthy tissues.

Cytokine storms in COVID-19 are common and potentially do more damage than the virus itself, causing some patients to develop pneumonia or ARDS, which are life-threatening lung conditions. Many such patients require admission to ICU wards to be provided with respiratory support via mechanical ventilation.

One research team believes they may have the solution, however. Dr. Jean-Claude Tardif, director of the Research Centre at Montreal Heart Institute, professor of medicine at the University of Montreal, and primary investigator of the study, believes that these cytokine storms seen in COVID-19 patients are manufactured by a tiny inflammatory cell part, or organelle, called inflammasome. Colchicine, targets that one tiny organelle.

Dr. Tardif and his team are currently enrolling patients with a positive COVID-19 diagnosis for a Colchicine study. If his hypothesis is correct, it could change the way COVID-19 is treated globally. Colchicine is a widely available, inexpensive

drug that has already been in use for years in the treatment of conditions like gout, familial Mediterranean fever (FMF) and viral pericarditis. The side effect profile is well-known and side effects are rare.

The groundbreaking study

is called COLCORONA.

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### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of **BERT L. DAVIS**, Deceased, were issued on the **JULY 22, 2020**, in Cause No. **P18772**, pending in the County Court at Law of Orange County, Texas, to: **KAREN ANNETTE OWENS, f/k/a KAREN ANNETTE BRYANT**.

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 July, 2020.

*Tommy Gunn*

Tommy Gunn  
Attorney for: Karen Annette Owens, f/k/a Karen Annette Bryant  
State Bar No.: 08623700 202  
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### CITATION BY PUBLICATION

The State of Texas  
To any and all Unknown Heirs and all Persons Interested in the Estate of

**JOHN A. OGNOSKIE, Deceased**  
Cause No. **P18807**  
in County Court at Law, Orange County, Texas

The alleged heir(s) at law in the above numbered and entitled estate filed AN APPLICATION TO DETERMINE HEIRSHIP in this estate on JULY 28, 2020, requesting that the Court determine who are the heirs and only heirs of John A. Ognoskie, Deceased, and their respective shares and interests in such estate.

The court may act on this application at any call of the docket on or after 10:00 a.m. on the Monday next after the expiration of 10 days from the date of publication of this citation, at the County Courthouse, 801 W. Division., Orange, Texas 77630.

All persons interested in this case are cited to appear before this Honorable Court by filing a written contest or answer to this Application should they desire to do so. To ensure its consideration, you or your attorney must file any objection, intervention or response in writing with the County Clerk of Orange County, Texas.

Given under my hand and the seal of the County Court at Law, Orange County, Texas at the office of the Orange County Clerk in Orange, Texas on July 28, 2020.

**BRANDY ROBERTSON**,  
County Clerk, Orange County, Texas  
By: *Samantha McInnis*, Deputy  
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- ACROSS**
1. On a cruise, 2 words
  6. Horse poker
  9. Deadly slitherers
  13. Way to curl hair
  14. "Today is gone. Today was fun. Tomorrow is another \_\_\_\_"
  15. Islam's Supreme Being
  16. Subway coin
  17. Salve for Tin Woodman
  18. Grim Reaper
  19. "A \_\_\_\_'s Fine-Something-That-All-People-Need."
  21. "Christmas Day will always be, just as long as we \_\_\_\_"
  23. Structure named for 31st President
  24. Indoor allergy trigger
  25. Ship pronoun
  28. H. H. Munro's pen name
  30. Something or anything
  35. Madam, to a cowboy
  37. Dr. Jones, to his friends
  39. Best not mentioned
  40. Not in favor of
  41. Myths and legends, e.g.
  43. Mav/Etre d's list
  44. France's longest river
  46. "I Can Read \_\_\_\_ My Eyes Shut!"
  47. Use a beeper
  48. In direct line of descent
  50. Italian car maker
  52. Equinox mo.
  53. Coral barrier
  55. Not a friend
  57. "From there to here, From here to there, Funny \_\_\_\_ are everywhere."
  60. "Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot, Nothing is going to get better. \_\_\_\_"
  63. Canine foe
  64. However, poetically
  66. Full

### NOTICE OF APPLICATION OF ENTERGY TEXAS, INC. FOR APPROVAL OF A TARIFF CONSISTENT WITH THE COMMISSION'S ACCOUNTING ORDER IN DOCKET NO. 50540

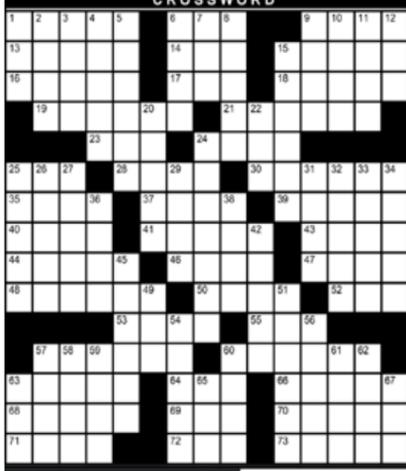
On July 24, 2020, Entergy Texas, Inc. ("ETI") filed an Application with Public Utility Commission of Texas ("Commission") for approval of a tariff consistent with the accounting order issued by the Commission in Docket No. 50540. In Docket No. 50540, ETI sought and the Commission issued an accounting order establishing the regulatory accounting treatment applicable to the tax effects resulting from a mark-to-market tax accounting method election ("PPAs") (the "ETI MTM Tax Position"). In addition, the Commission approved a methodology by which ETI will provide to customers the benefits associated with the ETI MTM Tax Position. Under this methodology, ETI will provide to customers guaranteed credits associated with the ETI MTM Tax Position regardless of the final determination on that tax position by the taxing authorities. Moreover, to the extent the taxing authorities ultimately accept ETI's MTM Tax Position, the Company will provide additional credits to customers. In the instant proceeding, ETI seeks Commission approval of the MTM Rider in the form approved by the Commission in Docket No. 50540, through which ETI will provide to customers credits consistent with the terms of the Commission's accounting order. This filing was made pursuant to Sections 14.001, 14.151, 32.001, and 36.001 of the Texas Utilities Code. The Commission has assigned Docket No. 51095 to the Application.

**Effect on Customer Classes**  
All of ETI's Texas retail customers will ultimately be affected if the Commission grants the relief requested in this Application in that such customers will receive credits in accordance with the methodology approved in the Commission's accounting order in Docket No. 50540.

**Contact Information**  
Persons with questions or who want more information on this Application may contact Entergy Texas at Attn: Customer Service—ETI Accounting Order, 350 Pine Street, Beaumont, Texas 77701, or call 1-866-981-2602 during normal business hours. A complete copy of this application is available by mail or email upon request.

Persons who wish to formally participate in this proceeding, or who wish to express their comments concerning this Application should contact the Public Utility Commission of Texas, Office of Customer Protection, P.O. Box 13326, Austin, Texas 78711-3326, or call (512) 936-7120 or toll-free at (888) 782-8477. Hearing- and speech-impaired individuals with text telephones ("TTY") may contact the Commission at (512) 936-7136. A deadline for intervention will be established for this proceeding. All communications should refer to Docket No. 51095.

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## ORANGE COUNTY CHURCH DIRECTORY

## Faithfulness in Forgotten Places

## Why Small Obedience Matters to God

Scott Hubbard  
Editor  
desiringGod.org

When the Holy Spirit cultivates his fruit in our lives, he often works in ways we would never pray for (Galatians 5:22-23). To grow the fruit of love in us, he may give us an enemy; to grow the fruit of peace, he may allow conflict to come near. And to grow the fruit of faithfulness, he may send us to forgotten places.

Forgotten places are those corners of the world where no one seems to be watching, where our efforts go unseen, unthanked. Perhaps we labor among diapers and dishes, cucumbers and emails. Or maybe, more painfully, among unfruitful mission fields, rebellious children, or spouses whose love has cooled. All of us live in forgotten places sometimes; some live there all the time.

## Drudgery as a Disciple

We should beware of underestimating the spiritual strain of such monotonous and seemingly unrewarded toil. The daily duties in forgotten places may be small, but pile them up over months, years, or decades, and you may start to sympathize with Oswald Chambers when he writes,

We do not need the grace of God to stand crises, human nature and pride are sufficient, we can face the strain magnificently; but it does require the supernatural grace of God to live twenty-four hours in every day as a saint, to go through drudgery as a disciple, to live an ordinary, unobserved, ignored existence as a disciple of Jesus.

Chambers may overstate his case — but not by much. In truth, the forgotten places can feel like a wilderness, and many days come when we find ourselves searching for something to keep us going, some water

from the rock to sustain us in this desert (Psalm 105:41).

We will find it, not in the forgotten places themselves, but in the God who sent us here, who is with us here, and who promises to reward us here.

## God's Providence

At times, we may stare at the responsibilities in front of us and wonder how we landed here. How did we wander into this wilderness of drab days and hidden obedience? We have become familiar with the backward glance, wondering if we missed a turn somewhere. How clarifying, then, to remember that our life situation is not ultimately a matter of chance, nor of any mistakes we have made, nor even of the string of events leading up to the present, but of God's providence. The tasks in front of us are, at least for today, God's assignment to us.

To be sure, God's providence does not nullify the decisions — and perhaps the mistakes or sins — that led us to this station in life, nor does it discourage us from striving after better circumstances: we are more than twigs in the stream of God's purposes. But God's providence does teach us to see, as the Heidelberg Catechism puts it, that "leaf and blade, rain and drought, fruitful and barren years, food and drink, health and sickness, riches and poverty, indeed, all things, come to us not by chance but by his fatherly hand." No matter how we got here, the forgotten places are ultimately from our Father's hand.

Over and again, God describes our own plans and efforts as significant, but his as decisive — even over the most personal matters of life. He determines when and where we live (Acts 17:26). He assigns to us a measure of faith (Romans 12:3). He apportions spiritual

gifts as he wills (1 Corinthians 12:11). He entrusts to us a number of talents — whether five, two, or just one (Matthew 25:15). He gives us a specific ministry (Colossians 4:17). He even calls us to a particular life (1 Corinthians 7:17).

In time, this forgotten place may give way to somewhere different — and depending on the circumstances, we may be wise to seek that change. But for now, we can look at the responsibilities in front of us and say with relief, "My Father's hand has led me here."

## God's Pleasure

God not only sends us to the forgotten places, however; he also meets us there. When we labor in obscurity, he is near (Psalm 139:5). When our work escapes the notice of every human eye, it does not escape his (Luke 12:7). He catches every whispered prayer, every Godward groan. He stands ready at every moment to mark the smallest tasks we perform in faith.

The wise man tells us why: "Lying lips are an abomination to the Lord, but those who act faithfully are his delight" (Proverbs 12:22). God delights not mainly in the greatness of the work, but in the faithfulness of the worker. What else could explain the New Testament's insistence that even the lowest, most invisible members of society are "serving the Lord Christ" when they walk faithfully in their callings (Colossians 3:24)? The smallest duties done in faith become duties done for Christ.

The missionary Hudson Taylor was fond of saying, "A little thing is a little thing, but faithfulness in little things is a great thing." Cooking a meal, filling a spreadsheet, buying groceries, wiping a child's nose — these are little things. But if done faithfully for Christ's sake, they become greater than

all the triumphs and trophies of an unbelieving world. They become the delight of our watching Lord.

## God's Promise

Once we have traced God's providence in the past and felt his pleasure in the present, he would have us consider the future, when all our obedience will be rewarded.

When many Christians imagine judgment day, we assume the spotlight will fall on the grand acts of sin and righteousness. And surely it will — but not only. Remarkably, when Jesus and the apostles speak of that day, they often focus on life's ordinary moments.

"On the day of judgment people will give account for every careless word they speak," Jesus tells us (Matthew 12:36). On the other hand, God will reward his people for the smallest good works they do by his grace: for giving to the needy (Matthew 6:4), for praying in the closet (Matthew 6:6), for fasting in secret (Matthew 6:18), even for giving a cup of cold water to one of Christ's disciples (Matthew 10:42).

The apostle Paul similarly writes that "we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may receive what is due for what he has done in the body, whether good or evil" (2 Corinthians 5:10). But then in Ephesians he clarifies the kind of good he has in mind: not just extravagant good, impressive good, or above-average good, but "whatever good" (Ephesians 6:8). Come judgment day, every scrap of unseen obedience will find its fitting reward.

Living and dying in forgotten places, then, is no infallible index of our labor in God's eyes. Many saints, in fact, will not know the true worth of what they've done for Christ until Christ himself tells them (Matthew 25:37-40).

## Exceptional in the Ordinary

Chambers, after remarking on the grace required to endure drudgery as a disciple, goes on to write, "It is inbred in us that we have to do exceptional things for God; but we have not. We have to be exceptional in the ordinary things, to be holy in mean streets, among mean people, and this is not learned in five minutes."

Again, Chambers may slightly overstate his case. God sometimes does call us to do exceptional things for him: to adopt children, to launch ministries, to plant churches, to move overseas. But the point still holds, because none of us will do anything exceptional unless

we have first learned, through ten thousand steps of faithfulness, to be exceptional in the ordinary.

We are not on our own here. Faithfulness, remember, is a fruit of the Spirit. And to bear that fruit in us, he would have us treasure up the providence, the pleasure, and the promises of God that hem us in behind and before, and follow us into every forgotten place.

Scott Hubbard is a graduate of Bethlehem College & Seminary and an editor for desiringGod.org. He and his wife, Bethany, live with their son in Minneapolis. His article was published on the website desiringGod.org.

**Saint Paul's Episcopal Church**  
1401 WEST PARK AVE., ORANGE, TX  
Rev. Keith Giblin, Vicar of Saint Paul's  
8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist: Rite I (1st & 3rd Sundays)  
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)  
Supper & Book Study in Parish Hall (following Service)  
Contact us: 883-2969 or email, office@stpaulschurch.us  
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6446 Garrison at Hwy. 408 Orangefield  
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We are a KJV independent Baptist Church

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

**St. Paul United Methodist Church**  
1155 W. Roundbunch • Bridge City • 409.735.5546  
Sunday Morning Traditional Worship: 8:30 a.m.,  
Sunday school 9:30 a.m., Praise Worship 10:45 a.m.  
(Nursery provided)  
Wednesday SPICE 5:30 p.m. Includes meal, bible studies,  
children and youth activities. (Nursery provided).  
Rev. Mark Bunch Email: office@stpaulfamily.org

**GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
945 W. Roundbunch • Bridge City • 409-735-4573  
Worship Services: Tradition 9 a.m., Sunday School 10:15 a.m.,  
Contemporary Service 11 a.m., Tuesday Bible Study 10 a.m.,  
Wednesday 'Compassionate Friends' 10 a.m.,  
Thursday Bible Study 10:00 a.m.  
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Lead Pastor Rev. Brad McKenzie  
Worship Director: Alyssa Click  
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.  
Worship Service 10:45 a.m. / Wednesday Service 7 p.m.  
Ofcnazarene.org or find us on Facebook

**First Christian Church** Disciples of Christ  
611 N. 9th St. • Orange  
Sunday School 9 a.m.  
Sunday Morning Worship 10:00 a.m.  
Wednesday Night Supper 4:45 p.m.  
Wednesday Bible Study 5:30 p.m.

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**Cove Baptist Church**  
1005 Dupont St. • Orange  
Sunday: Life Groups 9:15 AM / Worship 10:30 AM  
Sunday Evening: 5 PM  
Wednesday Evening 6 PM / Wed. Youth Meeting 6 PM  
Charles Empey - Interim Pastor  
We Love You And God Loves You.

**Harvest Chapel**  
A Full Gospel Church  
1305 Irving St. • West Orange • 409-313-2768  
Sunday Worship 10 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.  
Nightly Service 6 p.m.  
Wednesday Night Service: 6 p.m.  
Pastor: Ruth Burch

**First Baptist Church**  
200 W. Roundbunch  
735-3581  
www.fbcbc.org  
Sunday schedule: Bible study 9:15 a.m.,  
Sunday worship: 10:30 a.m.,  
Adult, Youth, Children  
Discipleship Classes, Sun. 5:30 p.m.  
Wednesday Schedule 6:30 p.m.  
Prayer Meeting  
Youth & Children's Activities  
Pastor: Keith Royal

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH ORANGEFIELD**  
9788 F.M. 105 Orangefield 409.735.3113  
Sun: Bible Study 9:30 a.m., Worship Service 10:30 a.m.,  
Wednesday evening services: Youth and Children 6:00 p.m.,  
Praise and Prayer 6:00 p.m.,  
Pastor Cody Hogden  
Email: office@fbcof.com / Website: www.fbcof.com

**Colony Baptist Church**  
13353 FM 1130 • Orange  
PASTOR SAM ROE  
Music Director: Tim McCarver  
Sunday School: 9:30 am  
Sunday Service: 10:30 am / Sunday Evening: 6 pm  
Wednesday Bible Study: 6 pm

**COWBOY CHURCH OF ORANGE COUNTY**  
673 FM 1078 • Orange • 409-718-0269  
Sunday Services: 10:30 AM  
Bible Studies for Men and Women • Monday 6 p.m.  
Co-Ed Bible Study • Sunday 9:15 a.m.  
Ladies Bible Study • Tuesday 10:00 a.m.  
Bible Studies & Youth Activities • Wed. 6:30 p.m.

**Starlight Church of God in Christ**  
2800 Bob Hall Road • Orange • 886-4366  
Pastor: Ernest B Lindsey  
Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Worship 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.  
Wed. Bible Study - 6 p.m. Worship 7:30 p.m. VIM Youth 6 p.m.  
Intercorsory Prayer Daily 9:00 a.m.  
www.slccgicorange.org

**Faith United Methodist Church**  
8608 MLK • Orange • 886-1291  
Pastor: Valerie Sansing  
Sunday Worship 10:00 a.m.  
Nursery Provided.  
(www.faithorange.org)

**First United Methodist Church Orange**  
502 Sixth Street 886-7466  
9:00 a.m. Contemporary Worship in the Family Life Center  
11:00 a.m. Service - Traditional Worship in the Slade Chapel  
Sunday School For All Ages 10:00 a.m.  
www.fumcorange.org  
Pastor: Rev. Lani Rousseau  
Director of Music and Fine Arts: Caroline Dennis

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