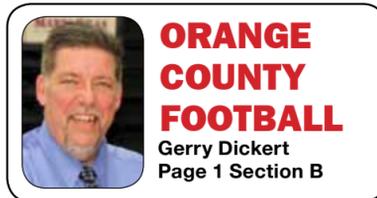


ORANGE COUNTY FISHING
Capt. Dickie Colburn
Page 1 Section B



KAZ'S KORNER SPORTS COMMENTARY
Page 3 Section B



ORANGE COUNTY FOOTBALL
Gerry Dickert
Page 1 Section B

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Week of Wednesday, October 14, 2020

Election 2020 opens with long lines in county

DAVE ROGERS
For The Record

The final numbers weren't expected until after this newspaper's deadline Tuesday, but all involved agreed it was a record-setting first day for early voting in Orange County.

"We had a record turnout for the first day of early voting in Orange County," David Covey, county chairman for the Republican Party, said Tuesday evening.

"Of course, this was the first time they ever had a third week [of early voting.]"

Texas Gov. Greg Abbott, a Republican, approved an extra week of early voting back in the spring when he was following President Donald Trump's orders to shut down the state's schools and non-essential workplaces because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Members of his own party unsuccessfully brought suit to strip away that third week

now that Texas is following Trump's orders to reopen the state.

According to Elections Administrator Tina Barrow, Orange County set a record for voting turnout with 32,294 voters in the election of November, 2016, when Trump was elected president.

Seventy-point-three percent of those voters, 22,730, took advantage of early voting in 2016. First-day early voting turnout was 2,527 voters in 2016, which was the biggest single early voting turnout.

"I don't know how many we have had," Barrow said at 5 p.m. Tuesday, "but the lines are pretty long. It's pretty energizing. I like to see everybody out."

Early voting in Orange County is taking place through Oct. 30 at four locations – the Orange Public Library, the Orange County Convention & Expo Center,

the Orange County Airport and the Gould Community Center in Vidor.

All four had long lines Tuesday when the polls opened at 7 a.m. and again at midday. At the library and Expo Center, those waiting to vote could queue up inside

air-conditioned buildings while the lines extended out the doors at both the Airport terminal meeting room and Gould Center, smaller buildings.

At the library in downtown Orange, the line to vote serpentine through several

rows of bookshelves and chalk marks on the floor indicated much more space inside was available.

At 2 p.m. at the library, a woman reported she had been in line since 1 p.m. and she still had 30 or so people in line between her and the

door to the community room where voting booths were set up.

At the Expo Center at 1 p.m., a husband and wife debated if it had taken them 20 or 30 minutes in line before

LONGLINES Page 3A

Hargrave settles into LSCO Security beat

DAVE ROGERS
For The Record

Talk about hitting the ground running.

Joey Hargrave took over as Safety and Security Coordinator at Lamar State College Orange in the middle of the 2020 coronavirus pandemic, then saw his new campus hit by back to back hurricanes.

"It's been busy," Hargrave, a lifelong Bridge City native, said Tuesday, being careful to avoid the two overturned trees across the sidewalk not far from his office door.

"But working for the school means we get to spend our time helping people who are good people," he said. "We're not dealing with crime day to day."

Along with his Safety and Security responsibilities, Hargrave will serve as the school's Lead Title IX Investigator.

He was a member of the Bridge City Police Department for 26 years before retiring in 2010 and working a short time for the Bridge City school district.

Twice, he was named Orange County Law Enforcement Officer of the Year.

Looking for a different way to give back to his community, he went to LSCO's nursing school and spent a couple of years working as an LVN at the Medical Center of Southeast Texas.

Then former Orange County Sheriff Keith Merritt called him back to law enforcement to help with the technology side of the job.

"They needed someone



Bridge City native Joey Hargrave jumped from the Orange County Sheriff's Office to become the new Safety and Security Coordinator at Lamar State College Orange.

RECORD PHOTO: Dave Rogers

with administrative experience that was familiar with computer software," he said.

At the Sheriff's Office, Hargrave ranked as a lieutenant and said he worked on the transition to Spillman Law Enforcement software and was responsible for the OCSO camera system, which included deputies' body cameras and dashboard cameras.

"At the city [Bridge City] over the years, being small we had to wear a lot of hats, and we installed several [computer] systems, sort of learning as you go."

Hargrave mentions his wife, Ramona, has run a

computer-based business, a medical transcription company, for 20 years.

Hargrave moved to LSCO in the Sheriff's Office transition as Lane Mooney replaced a retiring Merritt as Sheriff.

He brings a Master Certification as a Peace Officer and a Law Enforcement Instructor's License.

"It's a different world we live in nowadays," he said.

One of his first orders of business for the college is updating radio communication systems and security cameras.

"Safety and security is what I do here," Hargrave said. "We have nine or 10

buildings and we keep up with burglary and fire alarms, make sure the students are safe.

"There's an emergency phone in each building that automatically rings the phone to the security office. We help folks who have locked their keys in their car, jump batteries and unlock doors when employees forgot their keys."

LSCO's security guard staff is made up of retired policemen.

"Not a whole lot happens here that we haven't encountered."

Besides being a one-time

HARGRAVE Page 3A

FEMA: Laura, Delta debris don't mix



Contracted haulers are prowling Orange County streets to pick up the last of an estimated 800,000 cubic yards of debris left by Hurricane Laura in late August.

RECORD PHOTO: Dave Rogers

DAVE ROGERS
For The Record

Here's a note for anyone in Orange County that had double damage from back-to-back Hurricanes Laura and Delta.

If you have debris to bring to the edge of the road for pickup by the county's debris haulers, be sure to keep the Laura junk separated from the Delta stuff.

And don't forget, your debris from each storm is to be sorted in four piles: one for construction and demolition materials; one for green waste -- tree limbs, etc.; one for white goods -- household appliances; and another for hazardous waste.

And four times two equals eight.

"I know people sometimes think we're crazy when we tell them that," County Judge John Gothia said.

"That's a FEMA rule."

The county expects to be

reimbursed by FEMA for about \$7 million being spent to remove some 800,000 cubic yards of hurricane debris left by Laura, which struck locally on Aug. 27 with at least one gust measured at 104 mph, Gothia reported after the storm.

Delta blew through Orange County Friday, Oct. 9, and like Laura, did its worst damage in western Louisiana.

Gothia said the highest winds he had seen reported in the county from Delta were in the mid-80s. And damage was relatively light.

"In all our riding around and from reports, there's not enough out there to do it," Gothia said of hiring debris haulers just to clean up after Delta.

"We can handle it in-house. The cities are going to work on their stuff and the counties are going to work

FEMA Page 3A

\$70M grants on city, county wish lists

DAVE ROGERS
For The Record

Melinda Smith was a busy lady Tuesday.

In five hours in downtown Orange, the grants consultant from Traylor & Associates presented \$70 million worth of competitive grant proposals to the Orange City Council and the Orange County Commissioners.

The city voted to go forward with three draft applications for separate \$10 million paydays from the Department of Housing and Urban

Development's Block Grants-Mitigation.

One would be for improvements to harden the city's wastewater treatment plant to keep sewage from backing up during storms or other power outages.

The second would build new wells and storage tanks to ensure the city maintains water pressure and capacity.

The third would be for an elevated city facility to serve as an operations center for rain or shine.

"This is a program that's new to Texas," Smith said of the CDBG-Mitigation

grants. "It's the pot of money we've all been waiting for."

Because many more applications will be submitted statewide than can be accommodated, all proposals will be scored and awarded based on that.

Jim Wolf, the city's public works director, said he is hopeful that Orange will land at least one of the items on its wish list.

Because the money comes from HUD CDBG funds, it must have an impact on low-to-moderate income tracts.

Orange County does not have much LMI, which hurts

its chances.

Traylor told Commissioners last month the rules of this program are "not advantageous to counties at all," and cautioned that Orange County was 20 points behind on the scoring before it began.

She said she "the most competitive application" would cover drainage near Interstate 10.

The \$40 million project she proposed included large detention ponds at Claiborne West Park, Adams Bayou and Cole Creek.



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TEXAS NEWS

Early voting begins in Texas' competitive 2020 election

PATRICK SVITEK
THE TEXAS TRIBUNE

Early voting kicked off Tuesday for a high-stakes Texas election that has Republicans battling to maintain their dominance statewide in a raft of down-ballot races centered on the suburbs — all amid a pandemic that has upended political normalcy.

Democrats enter the early voting period brimming with optimism. Statewide, they believe their presidential nominee, Joe Biden, has a real shot at winning Texas and that their U.S. Senate candidate, MJ Hegar, is gaining momentum at the right time. The confidence increases farther down the ballot, where they are targeting 10 GOP-held U.S. House seats and driving to reclaim the Texas House majority they lost in the 2002 election.

While Republicans may not be as openly concerned with President Donald Trump or U.S. Sen. John Cornyn, they concede they are in for a battle down-ballot.

"The fight in Texas without a doubt is on the local level, it's your down-ballot races where you see most of the spending and most of the political activity," said Matt Langston, a Texas Republican consultant. "The big question: Are these campaigns gonna be able to execute in the final three weeks of the election? ... This is a very strong turnout operation. Republicans have always done extremely well. 2020 is gonna put it to a test."

Both sides are bracing for massive turnout, and voter registration numbers have been soaring. The secretary of state's office said Monday that Texas now has 16.9 million registered voters, up by nearly 300,000 just since Sept. 22, when the office last announced a total. The registration deadline was Oct. 5, and applications are still being counted, making it possible that the final count for the November elections will top 17 million. That would be close to 2 million more voters than

were registered for the 2016 election.

Looming over the typical political questions about the November election is months of legal debate and drama over how Texans will be able to vote due to the pandemic. Democrats unsuccessfully sought to expand mail-in voting, which Republican leaders resisted. Gov. Greg Abbott instead extended the early voting period by six days and gave voters more time than usual to turn in their mail ballots in person if they prefer.

Abbott's decision drew a lawsuit from some prominent members of his own party, including Allen West, chairman of the Republican Party of Texas, and state Agriculture Commissioner Sid Miller. Last week, the Texas Supreme Court sided with the governor, keeping the prolonged early voting period intact.

Abbott's legal woes did not end there, though. Earlier this month, he said there could be only one drop-off site per county for mail ballots, prompting multiple lawsuits by Democrats and voting rights advocates. A federal judge ruled against Abbott on Friday, though a federal appeals court reversed that decision later in the weekend, leaving little time for further litigation before early voting starts Tuesday.

On top of it all, a federal judge struck down Texas' new ban on straight-ticket voting last month. Days later, the 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals reinstated the 2017 state law, and the election is proceeding without the option.

"I think that the court battles have certainly been confusing," said Carol Donovan, the chairwoman of the Dallas County Democratic Party. "It seems like just as soon as you say, 'Oh my goodness, we have straight-ticket voting again,' the 5th Circuit slaps it down."

The pandemic also has forced changes to the way candidates campaign.

Across the board, Republicans have been more willing to

resume in-person campaigning, while Democrats are still keeping their campaigns more virtual. The Democratic nominee for U.S. Senate, Hegar, recently said she has multiple in-person trips "on the books, but we're doing it in a relatively low-key ... way."

"I am trying to make sure that we act in a way that's responsible," Hegar told reporters during a call earlier this month. "So I do in-person events that are not rallies ... that would risk infecting my supporters, press, staff, the people that come to an event like that. I am doing in-person things like meeting with elected officials like mayors, and unions."

The most enticing opportunity for Democrats in November is at the very top of the ticket, where Biden appears to be within striking distance of becoming the first Democratic presidential candidate to carry the state since 1976. For months, polls have pointed to a close White House race in the state, though some of the latest nonpartisan surveys have given Trump a little breathing room. Still, all evidence suggests Trump will carry the state by less than his 9-point margin in 2016, which was the slimmest spread for a GOP nominee in Texas in two decades.

Despite the polling, some of Trump's top boosters in Texas have raised the prospect that he could best his 2016 margin this November here. They include Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick, who chairs Trump's reelection campaign in the state, as well as West, the GOP chairman.

"I think that the president will be able to at least maintain that 8- to 9-point advantage he had in Texas and maybe even exceed it because we're seeing much success in registering new voters, registering new Republican voters and definitely even some people that" previously voted Democrat, West said in an interview last month at The Texas Tribune Festival. Speaking more broadly about Republican prospects, West

said he was "not overconfident, but I'm confident that we're gonna do very well come November."

Whether the Biden campaign is playing to win in pricey Texas remains an open question, and the clock is ticking. While the campaign had over \$6 million in TV time reserved in the state at one point, it has since altered its reservations and it has not shared with reporters the extent of its investment in the state between now and Nov. 3.

On Tuesday, the first day of early voting in Texas, the Biden campaign dispatched the nominee's wife, Jill Biden, to Dallas, El Paso and Houston. She will be the highest-profile surrogate to make an in-person trip to the state during the general election, following a visit last week by Doug Emhoff, the husband of Biden's running mate, California U.S. Sen. Kamala Harris.

After the presidential contest, Cornyn's reelection race is the next big attraction on the statewide ballot. The third-term GOP incumbent is being challenged by Hegar, a former Air Force helicopter pilot, in a contest that has not matched the excitement of Beto O'Rourke's 2018 near-miss challenge to U.S. Sen. Ted Cruz, but nonetheless remains competitive.

Republicans have long been optimistic that Cornyn would outrun Trump in Texas and secure reelection, if not overwhelmingly, and polls have generally confirmed that. However, there have been ample signs recently that the race is intensifying, especially after Hegar announced she raised \$13.5 million in the third quarter. Cornyn has not yet revealed his haul for the period, but he has said she outraised him for the period and "basically wiped out" the large cash-on-hand advantage he has had since the beginning of the cycle.

"We're kind of going dollar-for-dollar right now," Cornyn said during a Republican Jew-

ish Coalition event last week.

Late last week, Cornyn went negative for the first time on TV, debuting an ad that bashes Hegar as "too liberal for Texas." Meanwhile, a pro-Cornyn super PAC that has been attacking her online is set to move its campaign to TV on Tuesday.

Moving beyond statewide elections, the opportunity for Democratic inroads opens up widely, starting with a plethora of U.S. House contests that have captivated national attention.

The Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee has designated 10 GOP-held seats as pickup opportunities, an ambitious battle plan that has only grown since the committee set up shop in Texas early in the election cycle. National Republicans, meanwhile, are working to flip back the two Texas seats they lost in 2018.

In reality, though, the battlefield looks narrower, with almost all outside national spending concentrated on five races: the reelection campaign of Rep. Lizzie Pannill Fletcher, D-Houston, a GOP target, as well as four Democratic targets: Rep. Chip Roy, R-Austin, and the seats of retiring Reps. Will Hurd, R-Helotes; Kenny Marchant, R-Coppell; and Pete Olson, R-Sugar Land.

By all appearances, the most competitive contests as early voting begins are for Hurd's and Roy's seats. In Hurd's district, which was once the only real swing seat in Texas, Republican Tony Gonzales and Democrat Gina Ortiz Jones are locked in an all-out brawl over health care, their district roots, how they are campaigning during the pandemic and Gonzales' affiliation with President Donald Trump, who has endorsed him.

Roy and Democrat Wendy Davis, meanwhile, are battling over their support for law enforcement and Roy's skepticism of coronavirus shutdowns and other pandemic measures. On Friday morning, Davis launched a TV ad in which she says the country needs "crimi-

nal justice reform, but I don't support defunding the police." Later in the day, Roy released an ad seeking to get a hold of the pandemic debate.

"Some say it's a hoax, others say, 'Shut it down,'" Roy says in the spot. "Two extremes, both wrong."

The other down-ballot attraction is the fight for the Texas House majority, a major prize ahead of the 2021 redistricting process. Democrats are currently nine seats away from the majority in the 150-member House, after picking up 12 in 2018. And while they have to defend those freshmen, they are exuding confidence about being overwhelmingly on offense.

Democrats entered the cycle with their sights set on as many as 22 pickup opportunities, and they are not backing away.

"The battlefield remains wide open," said Keir Murray, a spokesperson for the Texas House Democratic Campaign Committee. "We take nothing for granted, but we're optimistic about our prospects for November, and our candidates have their feet on the gas pedal and are gonna fly as fast as they can through the tape, the finish line, on Nov. 3."

The latest campaign finance reports were released last week in the state House battle, and they showed a gusher of cash pouring into the fight from state and national groups. Across the 34 seats believed to be in play — a number that also includes now-Democratic districts where Republicans hope to prevail — Democrats raised \$6.7 million to Republicans' \$5.3 million in monetary donations, while Republicans edged Democrats \$10 million to \$9.1 million when in-kind contributions were factored in. Republicans ended the period — early July through Sept. 24 — with more cash on hand, \$9.9 million to \$6.2 million for Democrats.

Early voting ends Oct. 30.

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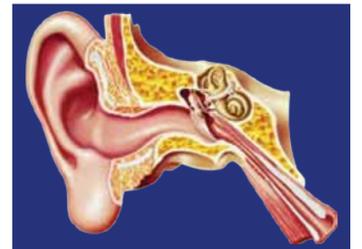
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Long lines as voting begins From Page 1

they were able to vote. "It surprised me it moved as quick as it did; it was nice," said Douglas Harrison, a newcomer to Orange County.

"It's my first time voting here. We moved here from Houston and it was extremely fast, from where I'm concerned. They have managed it very well."

Jack Smith, Orange County's Democratic Party chairman, said he recognized plenty of Democrats out voting early Tuesday at the library.

The city of Orange's city attorney, Smith was busy for an hour or so at the city council meeting held at the council chambers next door to the library.

Covey said he spent some of his day at the Expo Center. "I was in the parking lot holding a Trump sign," he said, "and everybody came out and gave me a thumbs up. People said they'd been waiting to vote for a long time."

A problem with mail-in votes has already happened in Orange County, Covey revealed, though hardly the voter fraud that Republicans in Washington and Austin had predicted.

In Orange, the culprit was Hurricane Delta, the storm that blew through last Friday afternoon with wind gusts of up to 100 mph.

"They delivered the mail with the ballots in it Friday, right before the hurricane came in," Covey said. "I've



Voters line up between the bookshelves at the Orange Public Library. RECORD PHOTO: Dave Rogers

talked to several dozen people who had their ballots soaked by the storm before they could get to the mailbox.

"All they have to do is bring what's left of their ballots to the Elections Administration office and they'll take care of it."

One caller to The Record Tuesday night said he hadn't been out of his home for three months because of COVID fears and high-risk medical problems and wasn't planning to break that streak if at all possible.

"I've been voting since 1952, and it's not like I'm trying to do something wrong," he said. "It doesn't make any sense. It seems like they're trying to make it harder for all people to vote."

Mail-in ballots (previously called absentee ballots but now available to all voters 65 and over who request them) went out later than normal

this year because of legal challenges to a 2017 Texas law that eliminated straight-ticket voting.

Barrow was interviewed before the issue of the hurricane-swept ballots reached The Record and could not be reached for comment afterward.

"We haven't had any big problems, just small things," she said at 5 p.m.

She allowed that legal challenges to the conduct of the election plus the needs brought on by more early voting days and the fact that some veteran poll judges and workers had opted out this year because of COVID concerns made her job "very tiring. But we'll get through it," she said.

And Barrow added the big turnout has its pluses.

"More people voting makes the day go faster for the people working," she said.



OES completes fundraiser projects

The last two years, the students of Orangefield Elementary have participated in the Adventure Dash Fun Run fundraiser. The proceeds from the 2019 Fun Run went towards building a new outdoor basketball court, which was recently completed. The court includes eight basketball goals as well as areas for Four-Square and Hopscotch.

Hargrave settles in From Page 1

student at LSCO, Hargrave has also served for several years as an adjunct instructor in the LSCO Criminal Justice program. He works with students during their internships with law enforcement agencies.

"It's a pretty good program," he said. "Like anything else, you can only learn so much out of a book.

"I learned a lot about law enforcement in school at the Lamar Police Academy but I didn't learn how to be a police officer until I got into the car with someone who had been doing the job."

Another product of both police departments and two-year colleges is LSCO President Tom Johnson.

"Dr. Johnson's a go-getter

who doesn't slow down. He sets a good example for others to follow.

"Lamar State College Orange has always been a great institution and I have continued to watch it grow and succeed since I first stepped foot here in 1980. I am thrilled and excited to be here."

FEMA: Laura, Delta debris From Page 1

on theirs."

Gothia said under current FEMA guidelines for Texas entities to be eligible for federal "public assistance" reimbursement, there must be at least \$39 million in damage statewide.

"We're not close," the judge said.

Only President Donald Trump could make the decision to allow hurricane recovery efforts from Laura and Delta to be combined for the purpose of reimbursement.

"There's some discussion that he's having about whether he wants to combine the two but that's up to him. We haven't seen anything from him. Until we do, we've got to operate on the fact that we, for sure, are going to be paying for that one on its own," Gothia said.

Orange County was received FEMA's "public assistance" reimbursements for tens of millions of dollars after Tropical Storm Harvey and its 60-odd inches of rain in 2017, but was turned down for public assistance reimbursement after Tropical Storm Imelda topped 40 inches of rain and flooding in 2019.

So separate stacks it is for Laura and Delta.

"We've got to do our best to keep the debris separate,"

the judge said. "We can't risk getting paid the \$7 million from Laura."

Original estimates of debris from Laura was 300,000 cubic yards.

Joel Ardoin, emergency management coordinator for the county, said at Tuesday's meeting of commissioners court that 532,000 cubic yards had been picked up and hauled to two county sites and 260,000 cubic yards remained.

Trucks were racing about Orange County Saturday, a day after Delta passed, picking up mostly vegetative waste.

"We only have a month to wrap up this debris mission," Ardoin said. "We need everyone to know a deadline is looming to set Laura debris out for pickup."

Exactly what that deadline was kicked until the commissioners' next meeting, Tuesday, Oct. 27.

The county's disaster declaration for Hurricane Laura could be extended at that meeting; it is otherwise set to expire Oct. 30.

Commissioners voted to extend the disaster declaration for Hurricane Delta through Oct. 27.

Also commissioners must decide Oct. 27 on extending free five-day-per-week access to the county landfill. They

voted Tuesday to keep it free and operating from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesdays through Saturdays until Oct. 27. They also waived building permit fees related to hurricane damage through Oct. 27.

Gothia said he had done all he could do toward following the governor's recent decree to allow bars to reopen with 50 percent capacity as of Wednesday, Oct. 14.

He said Tuesday he was waiting to hear back from the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for the OK.

"I'm sent in [the paperwork] and I'm just waiting to hear it's been approved by TABC," he said.

"We want them open. But we want to be sure they do it correctly. They must follow GA 32, Governor's order 32 on how they operate their bars, or the TABC will shut them down."

Daughters of the American Revolution meetings held

The Daughters of the American Revolution William Diamond Chapter of Orange County meets the third Tuesday of the month at St. Paul Methodist Church in Bridge City at 1:00 p.m. Any woman who can establish a direct family line to a patriot in the American Revolution can join. The Daughters of the American Revolution promotes Patriotism, Education and Historical Preservation. We had members that can help you find your Patriot. If you need any questions answered you can call Jackie Hucakbay, Regent @ 409-719-6478 or Registrar, Katy Latiolais @ 409-720-9834.

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From The Creaux's Nest

ENOUGH ALREADY

Like many of you I'm sure I'm storm weary. **Storm fatigue** is a common theme along the **Gulf Coast** after a season in which **10 storms** made landfall on U.S. soil, breaking a century old record. One word to describe this season is historic. **AccuWeather senior Meteorologist Mike Doll** said, "You just don't see storms roll in like this." There is some good news however; a cold wave could sweep through late next week. Air in the **Gulf** should stabilize and depress any developing storm activity. That would spin the calendar into mid to late **October**. The official end of the season in **Nov. 30**, but late season storms are rare. Last week **Delta** gained strength as it churned across the **Gulf** making landfall in **Creole, LA**. The storm didn't bring the damage **Laura** did. For areas still recovering from **Laura, Lake Charles** and surrounding parishes, it was devastating. It was a second glancing blow for **Orange County**. Twice we have dodged the heart of the storm but we were still left with considerable damage. Many roof repairs and just as bad, the loss of electric power. **Laura** kept me from home ten days, now **Delta** left me without power. I witnessed a display of fireworks that started with a few sparks and soon developed into a full display of fire racing down the wires. **The sparks made it into trees, catching a large limb on fire**. If not for the rain it could have taken the forest over. I had never seen such a display. The downside is only three houses in the neighborhood were affected so here I sit with no way to finish this column or send it. I'm long handing it in hopes I can get it typed and sent before deadline. **I had predicted a busy storm season but nothing like this**. I'm ready for a nine-month break before we welcome the new season. I don't know how many more of these I can take or the community can stand. ****I have to move on. **Come along, I premise it won't do you no harm**.

DID TRUMP EARN A SECOND TERM

The time to choose our president has arrived. **Early voting began Tuesday and continues until Oct. 30 and the General Election is on Nov. 3**. The past four years have been long and chaotic. It seemed each day or at least once a week, our president showed little respect for the rule of law. From day one **Donald J. Trump**, a newcomer, an outsider, with no government experience, assumed the posture that **"I alone can do it,"** and cast aside valuable advice. To many who supported him, **Donald Trump** has been a big disappointment. His handling of the coronavirus has so far led to **218,486 deaths and 7.9 million cases in the United States** that with proper leadership was mostly avoidable. Instead, **Trump zeroed in on his own ambition to get re-elected**. By now most voters are aware of the many disasters **Trump** brought to the presidency. One in which the country is more deeply divided than any other time in our history since the **Civil War**. **Trump** has coddled militia and white supremacist groups to build his base of support. He makes racist comments that give them unprecedented support and allows them to take the law in their own hands with the comfort that they have the president's blessing. **Four more years of Trump would lead to further disarray and a divided nation** with the extremist gaining irrevocable power. That is a fear but just one of several. There is **Trump's** affiliation with **Russia's Putin**, who is more than an adversary. **Russia** is a deep routed enemy of the **United States**, but **Putin** seems to have an unbreakable hold on the **U.S. president**. How he obtained that hold is unknown to anyone but the two people involved. **Trump** was helped in his election in **2016**, and **Russia is fully involved in his 2020 re-election**. The **Russian government** undoubtedly has plenty to do with the egging on of the militia groups in an attempt to weaken democracy and cause chaos that would lead to civil war spilling out on the streets. **The most dangerous aspect of Trump's re-election would be a near dictatorship hold on the country**. Think about it, he would never again need anyone's vote, he would not need the congress or the senate, he would rule by executive order. **He would not need the senate to confirm appointments; he would appoint them as acting directors, avoiding conformation**. He already controls the Justice Department with the attorney general in his pocket. With the FBI director, CIA director, the head of Homeland Security, the Port Office and now a **six to three Supreme Court, gives him complete control of the country** with the exception of one safeguard, the Pentagon. If he would get control of the military no telling which direction down the dirt road he could take the country with **Putin waiting in the shadows**. Never in my lifetime has the country been so close to establishing a true dictatorship. **Trump** has shown that our constitution and democracy means less to him than any president before him so here we are **20,000 lies** later. It's time to retire him while we can still get the country back on an even keel. **Trump was given a chance and he failed. All major newspapers in Texas warn about his re-election, and strongly endorse V.P. Joe Biden**, who brings experience and qualifications to the office.

TURNING BACK THE HANDS OF TIME 10 Years Ago-2010

Russell Dillon, new owner of the **Orange Sears** store, is holding a big grand opening this Saturday, Oct. 16. Bargains throughout the store. **Russell** invites everyone to come visit and check out the store improvements. ****We

received a pleasant surprise last week when our sweet-heart **Dot Esbach** came by for a visit. We got caught up on all the happenings. **Dot** also brought us a copy of the 1955 **"Bi-City Banter"** published in **Bridge City** at the time. Interesting reading. **Dot** misses her world traveling buddy **Marie**, who died a couple of years ago. (Editor's note: **Dot** also left us a few years ago.)****Speaking of traveling, **Patsy Peck** hosted a trip to **Boston, Mass.** through her company **Traverus**. The folks returned Sunday and all raved about the trip, the historical sites seen, the visit to the bar **Cheers**, the good weather and how well **Patsy** had organized the tour. Those attending were **Vera Milne, Jo Ann Riggs, Mary Lobb, Jenny Stark, Chandra Best, Carol Cash, Rebecca Flickinger, Louis and Carolyn Jeanis, Phyllis Stephenson, Linda McFadden, Sharon Davis, Ellen Ray, Janice Odell, Glenda Mello, Pat Richard, Johnnie "Jeff" Hattman**, who is in her mid-80's but didn't let that stop her. Also attending were **Betty Harmon**, who while away, got a call from **Corky** wanting to know where the can opener was. He also ruined the microwave. **Gisela Houseman**, who first flew to **Chicago** and **New York** and met up with the gals in **Boston** and **Karen Jo** and **Robert Vance** who celebrated their wedding anniversary in **Boston**. I believe it was their 36th.****Some special folks celebrating birthdays this week. Our buddy **Harry Stephens**, who married child bride **Margie**, will notch another year Oct. 14. *****Judge Carl Thibodeaux**, who just returned from a Catholic retreat, celebrates on Oct. 15. It won't be as big a party as last year when he was roasted at a **Bridge City Chamber event**.***Also **Sue Collins**. What a gal. ****Another year older is **Dr. Wesley Palmer, Bob Puentes** and **Jason Yeaman**, also our good buddies **Darrell Segura** and **Curney Lormand**.*****Jerry Hughes** celebrated Monday, **Columbus Day**. No, he didn't come with **Columbus**, he arrived shortly afterwards. ****The **Veteran's Memorial Park** near the **Neches River** is being turned over to **Jefferson County**. That is a good thing. The park was put together by our late friend **W.T. Oliver** and a host of vets, who put a lot of hard work into building it, now they are up in age or gone. **The county will keep it up**. ****A whole bunch of **good ole' Catholic boys** attended a retreat in **Beaumont**. **Judge Pat** got to meet and share time with **Leary Judice** and his uncle, **Jivin' Gene Bourgeois**. I'm surprised he hadn't met them before. I believe **Judge Thibodeaux** was on the panel also. **All great folks**.

GONE BUT NOT FORGOTTEN 10 Years Ago-2010

Leona Alta (Greer) Lyons, 92, of Orange, died Tuesday, Oct. 5. Funeral services were held on Friday, October 8. Leona is survived by her daughter, Rosa Crownover of Orange; and son, Oscar C. "Buddy" Lyons, Jr. and his wife, Barbara of Bridge City. She is also survived by her five grandchildren; fifteen great-grandchildren and two great-great-grandchildren.******Brenda Fay Bullock**, 49, of Orange, passed away Tuesday, Oct. 5. Brenda worked as a security officer for the Port of Orange. She is survived by her husband, Howard Bullock; mother, Ella Collins; daughters, Kristi Metz and Amy Smith; sister, Carolyn Kirbow; brothers, Gary Thibodeaux, Joe Almaguer and Philip Almaguer and five grandchildren.******Lena "Prissy" Tullis**, 45, died Monday, Oct. 4. Memorial services were held Thursday, Oct. 7. She is survived by her son Richard Whitmore; daughters Jessica Bargonetti and Pam Whitmore; mother Barbara Hardy; brother Billy McInnis; sisters Louise Womack, Martha Smith, Debra Bertrand, Sam Finn and Mary Rogers and seven grandchildren.

22 YEARS AGO-1998

It just doesn't seem to have been 22 years ago since some of the following events happened. **The city of Bridge City hired a new public works director**. **Donald Fields** reported to work Oct. 19. He and his wife **Lucy** have three children. **Fields** came to **Bridge City** from the city of **Port Arthur** where he served as administrative coordinator, street superintendent and maintenance director. **Jeff Ellington**, at the time, was **Bridge City city manager**. (Editor's note: **Fields** went on to serve as city manager. He has since left and was replaced by **Jerry Jones**. Side note wife **Lucy** now serves on the city council.)****The **Orange County Navigation and Port District** hired a new port director. **Eugene J. Bouillion Jr.** reported to work Oct. 19. Board president **Lester Winfree** announced a reception would be held Dec. 17 for the new director in conjunction with the Port Christmas party. **Bouillion** replaced **Roger Richard** who left in January for a position at the **Port of Baton Rouge**. This will be **Bouillion's** first director position. He is a native of **Crowley, La.** but has spent much of his life in the **Golden Triangle**. He's a **Notre Dame High School** grad and has a bachelor's degree from the **University of Southwestern**. He had wanted to return down south, in the land where **God put down the crawfish and Cajun cooking**. He and his wife have a 21-year-old son who attends **LSU** and a daughter, a senior at **Little Cypress-Mauriceville High School**.******Orange County's Wes McClelland**, singer, songwriter signed a recording contract. Born in 1972, he went through the **West Orange school system** and was a **1990 grad**. He recorded three contemporary **Christian songs** in **Nashville**. With the help of his brother-in-law, attorney **Alan Sanders**, he negotiated a contract. One of the songs he wrote was **"Cow Creek Party"**. (Editor's note: I wonder what became of that talented guy.)******Maw-Maw Judice** celebrated her **90th birthday** on Sunday, Oct. 17. ****Orange native, **A&M coach R.C. Slocum** had the biggest win of his career. The **Aggies beat Nebraska** 28- 21. ******Bridge City's Matt Bryant** scored the winning points in **Baylor's** 31-24 win over **Kansas**. **Matt** kicked a field goal and four extra points, the margin of victory. ******Ken Rainwater** passed away. He left behind a million **Rainwater** stories. **Eddie Sutton** was his caregiver. (Editor's note: **What a twosome**.)******Bridge City** football star **Shane Dronett** had a big day for **Atlanta Falcons**, causing a fumble and also recovering one. (Editor's note: **Shane** had a great pro career before taking his own life years ago.)******West Orange-Stark** star **Kevin Smith** had a good day in the **27-14 Cowboy win over the Panthers**.******Orange native Wade Phillips' Buffalo Bills** beat the **Colts** 31- 24.******Diana Smith Guidry**, 36, lost her life in a motorcycle accident. She left behind four children, daughters **Rachel** and **Claire** and sons **Charlie** and **Jordan**. **Diana** was the daughter of **Hubert "Snuffy" Smith** and wife **Rachel**. She was also survived by brothers **John, Kenneth** and **Grady**. (Editor's note: **Rachel's** parents have since passed. She had a child that had been in a wheelchair most of his life with a crippling illness. I wonder what became of him?)******Mike and Elicia Dillon** announced the birth of their son, **Jared Royce Dillon**, born at 2:59 a.m., Oct. 6, in **Port Arthur**. He weighed seven pounds, 11 ounces and

was 20 inches long. His grandparents are **Jimmy and Patsy Dillon** and **Bonnie Turnbull**.

A FEW HAPPENINGS

In the past, over the years I've often called a county commissioner for information or help with a problem and told, **"I'll get back with you"** and never heard from them. That is not the case with **Commissioner Kirk Roccaforte**. He gives you an answer or says, **"I'll get right back with you," and he does**. **Kirk** has a sincere interest in all the constituents. This year there is no straight party voting so regardless of party you can vote for **Kirk**. He deserves your vote of confidence even without an opponent.****A few folks I know celebrating their special day I the next few days. **Oct. 14: Harry Stephens** has a birthday on this day. I'm not sure of his age but he was in the Marines in 1959. He's weathered well.******Oct. 15: Judge Carl Thibodeaux** was a youngster over 45 years ago when I first met the young pharmacist. Today he is an elder statesman after serving as the longest serving county judge. These days he's **Municipal Judge in West Orange**, where he started his political career as its mayor. Best wishes **Judge** for many more healthy years.******Oct. 16: Wayne Mulhollan** celebrates a birthday on this day. ******Oct. 17: A** great bunch of great folks celebrate on this day. **Linda Heard, Johnny Dubose, Sue Collins, Bob Puntis** and **Dr. Wesley Palmer**. **Alan Jackson** turns 62 today. ******Oct. 19: Phillip Todora** celebrates a birthday today.******Oct. 20: A** beautiful woman we've known as a pup **Judge Joy Dubose Simonton** shares a his birthday week with brother **Johnny**. The two special folks are the children of **Joyce** and **John Dubose**. Also a happy birthday to **Jason Yeaman** and **Kim Ezell**.******Judge Mary Coney Barrett** is **Trump's** third **Supreme Court** nominee. The committee vote is expected around Oct. 22. It is likely to split down party lines 12-10, and then go to full senate where she will need at least a majority to be confirmed. **GOP** leaders have their eyes set on quickly confirming **Barrett** before the Nov. 3 election that could give the high court a conservative bend for decades. There is little **Democrats** can do to stop them. This will be the first time in **United States** history that a judge is appointed while the presidential election is in progress.

BREAUX BIRTHDAYS

Birthday wishes in the coming week to **John Heyduck, Ronny Arnold, Stacy Rhodes, Trey Miller, Jerry Evans, Olivia Hubbard, Becky Lafleur, Jennifer Peveto, C.J. Benoit, Sue Freeman, Kory Freeman, Allison LeBlanc, Derek Borel, Nancy Newton, Barbara Harmon, Brad Brown, Channing Larkin, Pam Bowman, David Sargent, Cheryl Royal, Lynn Bates, Mary Kendrick, Dina Defrates, Emily Hughes, Julie Prosperie, Phillip Todora, Beth Baas**.

CELEBRITY BIRTHDAYS

Celebrities celebrating birthdays in the coming week. **October 14: R&B singer Usher**, 42; Fashion designer **Ralph Lauren**, 81; Wrestler **Stacy Keibler**, 41.******October 15: Guitarist Tito Jackson**, 67; Actor **Paul Logan**, 47.******October 16: Rock singer John Mayer**, 43; Actors **Angela Lansbury**, 95 and **Caterina Scorsone**, 39.******October 17: Rapper Eminem**, 48; Country singer **Alan Jackson**, 62; MMA fighter **Holly Holm**, 39.******October 18: Actors Zac Efron**, 33 and **Jen-Claude Van Damme**, 60.******October 19: Boxer Floyd Mayweather, Sr.**, 68; Actors **John Lithgow**, 75 and **Jon Favreau**, 54.**** **October 20: Rapper Snoop Dogg**, 49; Actors **Jennifer Freeman**, 35 and **John Krasinski**, 41.

CAJUN STORY OF THE WEEK

Neighbor Cox's nephew, Ernie Cox, in Lafayette, has a neighbor named **Dudley Thibodeaux**, a bachelor, ladies man about town, sharp dresser, spit shine shoes and form fitting clothes. **Dudley's** only problem is that he suffered from migraine headaches so he went to see **Dr. Bigneaux**. Da doctor him, tell **Dudley** dat da only ting dat will cure dem migraines is castration. **Poor Dudley**, he say no to dat, him but his headaches continued to persist. Finally **Dudley** just couldn't stand da pain no more so he went back to see **Dr. Bigneaux**. **"Doc,"** he say, "Me, I hate to lose my manhood but if dat da only way to get rid of these migraines, I jus got to do it I guess." **Dr. Bigneaux** say, "Well, castration is da only way I know me." A few weeks after da procedure, **Dudley** put on some clothes and go shopping at **Abadalla's Men's Department Store**. Da clerk told him he needed a size 36-inch waist pants. **"Oh no, said Dudley, dats too loose, me I like my pants tight, tight."** Da clerk him he say, "Sir, don't you know if you wear you pants too tight it will cause you to have migraine headaches." **Dudley** passed out him.

C'EST TOUT Militia planned to put Whitmer on trial

A team of militia operatives is charged with conspiring to kidnap **Gov. Gretchen Whitmer** in a plot in which they considered storming the state **Capitol** in a commando raid that would use **Molotov cocktails** to keep police cars at bay, according to court records. **Members of the group bought weapons**, conducted surveillance and held training and planning meetings, but they were foiled in part because the **FBI infiltrated the group** with informants, according to a criminal complaint. Six were charged with federal kidnapping offenses, and a least seven others face state charges. Organizers of the domestic terror plot talked about **"murdering tyrants"** or **"taking" a sitting governor**, according to the affidavit. The **FBI** monitored a meeting June 20 in Grand Rapids, the affidavit says. **Discussions included using 200 men to "storm" the Capitol building** in Lansing, kidnap hostages including **Whitmer** and try the governor for treason. **The group purchased an 800,000 volt Taser** and night goggles for use in the kidnapping plot, according to court records. Members of the plot said they wanted to complete the kidnapping before the election Nov. 3, according to affidavits. More than a dozen people from several states met in Dublin, Ohio, on June 6 and talked about creating a society that followed the **U.S. Bill of Rights**, in which they could be self-sufficient. After that meeting, the militia group in Michigan was contacted. Once kidnapped, **Whitmer would be moved to a "secure location" in Wisconsin** for trial. Plans included planting a bomb under a nearby bridge to divert law enforcement, according to the affidavit. ****My time is up. Thanks for yours. My lights came on in time for me to meet my deadline. **Stay safe and God Bless**.

Deaths & Memorials Sudie "Sue" Kay, 82, Bridge City

Sue Kay, 82, of Bridge City, passed away on October 8, 2020 in Beaumont. Born in Florien, Louisiana, on May 23, 1938, she was the daughter of Fred Alexander Salter and Inez (Mahaffey) Salter. Sue was a homemaker, which meant she had all the time in the world to cook and perfect every recipe she had. Everyone loved her thanksgiving dinner and they always left with a full belly. When Christmas came, she made the best candy and a piece was never left behind. Sue adored her family more than anything and was also known as "Maw Maw" to her precious grandchildren and great grandchildren. She left an impact on many lives and will be dearly missed by all who knew and loved her. She was preceded in death by her parents, Fred and Inez Salter; sister, Norma Salter Scog-

gins; and first husband, Don Harrington. She is survived by her loving husband of 52 years, S.P. Kay; children Jeanie Rhea and husband Steve of DeRidder, Louisiana, Jill Sons and husband John of Sulphur, Louisiana, Donna Clawson and husband Steve of Big Lake, Louisiana, and Kathy Monceaux and husband Jeff of Bridge City; grandchildren, Michael Rhea and wife Kelli, Troy Sons and wife Stephanie, Steven Sons, Loren Brouillette and husband Houston Wurtle, Carly Gintz and husband Brad, Kyle Kresser and wife Brandy, Kasey Monceaux, and Bailee Monceaux; 14 great grandchildren; and sister, Shirley Salter Lanclous of Lafayette, Louisiana. Cremation will be under the direction of Claybar Funeral Home.

Mark Anderson, incumbent for BCISD

Statement of candidacy by Mark Anderson for BCISD school board:

My name is Mark Anderson, and I am seeking re-election to the Bridge City Independent School District Board of Trustees Place 7. I am the President of Anderson Surveying and Mapping; a family-owned Bridge City business my father and I started in 1979. I have been honored to work for and serve my hometown of Bridge City for over four decades. My service to the City began in the early '90s when I was elected to serve on City Council. Since then, I have dedicated my life to serving the citizens of Bridge City.

In 2005, I was elected to serve as your BCISD Trustee for Place 7. The last fifteen years have been the most rewarding, challenging, and enjoyable years. I have worked hard every day to ensure the students of BCISD are put first in every decision I make as your BCISD Trustee. During the last fifteen years, the district has overcome many challenges, including numerous



Mark Anderson

hurricanes and a pandemic. BCISD has maintained its commitment to provide the best educational experience to our students and to create a working environment that fosters cooperation and rewards excellence for our faculty, staff, and administration throughout the challenging times we have faced. If re-elected as your BCISD Board of Trustee for Place 7, I will continue to fight to make BC schools the best in Texas!

My service to our beloved City continues in other positions I currently hold. I am also honored to serve as a member of the Wellspring Community Federal Credit Union Board, a member of the Bridge City Chamber of Commerce, the National Society of Professional Land Surveyors, and Leadership of Southeast Texas Alumni. I am an active member of St. Paul United

Methodist Church in Bridge City, where I currently serve on the Staff-Parish Relations Committee. In 2019/2020, I was selected to attend Leadership TASB; a unique board development program designed to take experienced board members to a new level of service and leadership by exposing them to a variety of issues, people, activities, and locations during a year-long program. Successful completion of the program earns a designation of Master Trustee, which I have proudly earned.

I am a 1977 graduate of Bridge City High School and have always called Bridge City my home. My wife, Kelli, and I have four children, Chelsea, Karli, Erin, and Lauren. We also have two grandchildren, Andi Kate and Hayes. I would be honored to continue to serve as your BCISD Place 7 Trustee. Absentee voting is Tuesday, October 13 thru Friday, October 30, and the general election is on Tuesday, November 3. Vote for Mark Anderson, number one on the ballot, with a proven record of service to his community.

Mike Reed statement of candidacy for Bridge City City Council Place 2

Statement of candidacy by Mike Reed incumbent candidate for Bridge City City Council Place 2:

My name is Mike Reed, and I'm seeking your vote for City Council Place 2. I am 69 years of age, and my wife Debbie and I have 3 sons and 2 daughters, 14 grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren of which we are so very proud. I am also a long-time member of Second Baptist Church here in Bridge City. My political approach is a simple one, to do whatever it takes to make the City of Bridge City the best place to live and a great place to raise a family.

Prior to coming to Bridge City, I proudly served in the U.S. Navy for 4 years as an Electrician's Mate 3rd Class. All 4 years of my service were aboard the nuclear aircraft carrier USS Enterprise, including two deployments to Viet Nam. I put down my roots here in 1974 after being honorably discharged from the Navy.

I've worked as an electrician at Crown Zellerbach (Print Pak on FM 1006) for nearly 10 years and 3 years at City Service (PCD2) in Lake Charles, La. After that I worked for the U.S. Department of Transportation, National Defense Reserve Fleet located in the Neches River at Beaumont as the High Voltage Electrical Supervisor and retired from there with 27 years of service. My wife and I are currently school bus drivers for Bridge City ISD. I've driven for BCISD for 14 years and train new drivers for the district.

I've got the experience needed to be an asset to the City of Bridge City having served on



Mike Reed

City Council from 2006-2015 in Place 2. During my tenure, I've worked hard with the entire City team to bring the City through some of its most challenging times, including the rebuild after Hurricane Ike where all but 15 homes in the City were devastated, and the flooding we experienced with Tropical Storm Harvey. Most recently I was fortunate enough to have assisted the National Guard after Hurricane Laura, helping coordinate and provide for the distribution of meals and supplies to our citizens in need. My role was that of liaison between the City, BCISD, and the National Guard.

I currently serve as City Council Place 2 after having

been appointed in 2019 to complete an unexpired term. Between my terms on the Council I served the City on the Board of Adjustments. I am now asking the voters to allow me to continue to serve all the citizens in this great city. I will continue to promote the safety and welfare of our citizens and visitors.

It is my heart-felt desire to promote the continued progress of the City. Therefore, I'm asking for your continued support in my effort to serve all the citizens of Bridge City. Please be sure and go to the polls this November 3rd and vote for #1 on the ballot, Mike Reed for Place 2 on City Council. You can also vote early from October 13th through October 30th. Please vote. Thank you for your continued participation in making Bridge City the best place to live and raise your family.

Christmas Open House

Please come join us on
Mon., Oct. 26 thru Thur., Oct. 29
8 am till 5 pm

- Christmas Shopping
- Refreshments to enjoy
- Register for Door Prizes

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Monday thru Thursday 9 am - 2 pm

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ORANGE COUNTY CHURCH DIRECTORY

Nothing Is for Nothing

ACCEPTING LOSS AND FINDING PEACE

Vaneetha Rendall Risner
Regular Contributor
desiringGod.com

I brace myself as I walk into the house and hold the door frame. It's a tiny step, if you could even call it that, but I can't do it without help anymore. I almost lose my balance. My husband steadies me. Last month it wasn't a problem, but now it is.

When I get into the house, I plop down into a chair in frustration. I sigh heavily. Losses are constant nowadays, and I scarcely remember doing things that were effortless before my post-polio diagnosis. Painting into the night. Making a new gourmet meal that everyone loved. Going for walks and enjoying the outdoors with friends. None of that is part of my life anymore.

Some days those things don't bother me, but others, like today, it's easier to dwell on what I've lost. The can't do anymores keep stacking up, and I wonder how I will get used to this life of continual loss. I know some people do, and sometimes with incredible grace. I want to be one of those people who accept everything easily, never seeming to question what's given or taken away, grateful for everything they have.

As I grieved the life I used to have, I silently asked, "Lord, show me what to do with this. I don't want to let this frustration overwhelm me. I want peace." Immediately, the familiar words came to mind: "in acceptance lies peace."

Ways to Forfeit Peace

The four words are from a poem by Amy Carmichael entitled "In Acceptance Lieth Peace," which she wrote after a broken leg left her bedridden, and in great pain, for the rest of her life. In the poem, Carmichael detailed the futile ways we often deal with loss.

The first approach is to avoid



any reminders of the past, trying to forget the hurt and move on. The second is to stay so busy that there's no time to think about anything else. The third is denial, putting up a facade and pretending that there never was any pain. The fourth is to grimly resign ourselves to a life of unceasing misery. I wonder which of those four feels most familiar for you. The fifth and final approach is to accept this new way of living, knowing that God will walk us through.

Though the first four options sound depressing, I confess I have tried them all. While they promised relief from the pain, they left me numb, strangling any hope for healing and joy. Life was reduced to mere existence as I plodded along from day to day, hoping the dull ache would go away.

Indispensable Hardships

But acceptance is different. It stops the turmoil, and leads to peace. This peace can only be found in Christ, in surrendering to his will, in trusting that every experience is part of his plan. He keeps us in perfect peace when we trust him and focus

our minds on him (Isaiah 26:3).

Elisabeth Elliot would agree. In a letter to her parents shortly after her husband Jim was murdered in 1956, she wrote,

I know you are all wondering how I am getting along. I can only say that the peace I have literally passes all possible understanding. . . . "The Lord Jehovah is my strength and song." I have learned, I believe, the lesson which Amy Carmichael speaks of in her poem — "In acceptance lieth peace." How true. I accept, gratefully, from the hand of God, this experience.

Gratefully accepting everything from God's hand, including losing your husband, makes no sense apart from Christ. But because of her faith in a sovereign God, Elliot was able to experience God's peace in tragedy. And almost fifty years later, she wrote,

God included the hardships of my life in his original plan. Nothing takes him by surprise. Nothing is for nothing. His plan is to make me holy, and hardship is indispensable for that as long as I live in this hard old world. All I have to do is accept it. (Be Still My Soul, 32)

All I have to do is accept it. It sounds simple. And in many ways, it is. But this acceptance is not fatalistic surrender. The kind of acceptance that leads to peace requires faith and trust in God. It involves looking at life through the eyes of faith, faith in an all-powerful, extravagantly loving, and incomprehensibly wise God who is engineering every detail of my life.

Our powerful, loving, and wise God doesn't make mistakes. So if he has allowed something into my life, it is the very best thing for me, all things considered. It will maximize my joy and deepen my faith. One day in heaven I will see how everything that God brought into my life was love.

Dailiness of Loss

While I am convinced of God's love and purpose in my pain, I must repeatedly remind myself of these truths. Doubt and discouragement creep in as I struggle with the dailiness of loss and pain, with no apparent reprieve.

At the beginning of any trial, I often feel buoyed by God's Spirit, able to face the struggle ahead courageously. But after a while, I grow weary and impatient. I forget that the Lord is in my suffering and will walk with me through it. I must deliberately turn to God and ask him to help me — to accept the situation, to know his presence in it, and to have strength to endure it. In essence, to trust him.

Only then can I truly find peace — a peace beyond understanding that guards my heart and mind in Christ (Philippians 4:7), that keeps me from fear (John 14:27), that transcends the troubles of the world (John 16:33). That is a lasting peace.

In All My Circumstances

Like many others, I have felt weary during this pandemic, wondering how long it will last. I am anxious for it to end and

have this all-encompassing cloud lifted, so that I can resume life as it was before. I must constantly remind myself of the beauty and peace in joyful acceptance. These circumstances are not random or out of God's control, but are all part of a loving Savior's design. He is in all my circumstances and is using them to change me into the likeness of Christ.

My husband and I went out to the front porch to talk and watch the sunset. As I walked through the doorway again, I was grateful. Looking around, I asked God to give me eyes of faith. I was reminded of all that God has done through my pain. Although I may always miss what I have lost, I do not long to have that life back. God is in my

present life, and it is only here, in today's circumstances, that I can meet him.

I am embracing this life God has given me, deeply aware that in acceptance lies peace. In this joyful acceptance I find the Savior himself, who will one day transform my enduring suffering into my eternal joy.

Vaneetha Rendall Risner is a freelance writer and regular contributor to *Desiring God*, who blogs at dancetheinrain.com. She is married to Joel and has two daughters, Katie and Kristi. She and Joel live in Raleigh, North Carolina. Vaneetha is the author of the book *The Scars That Have Shaped Me: How God Meets Us in Suffering*.

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Bite changes a little after Delta

CAPT. DICKIE COLBURN
For The Record

If you were one of the few that stayed home and rode out Laura, you probably considered Hurricane Delta to be little more than a pre-game warm-up. That is not to say that it wasn't a little scary at times, but the loss of power proved to be the biggest inconvenience for folks still in the process of putting things back together.



Dickie Colburn

Delta's wind certainly blew hard enough to peel blue tarps off a number of roofs, but Laura had already eliminated an incredible number of trees and wooden fences all over Orange. The following morning was spent picking up scattered debris that had been piled on curbs and shutting down generators one more time.

It is much easier to take care of those kinds of chores when there isn't a cloud in the sky and a light north wind is already drying things out. What a difference a single day makes!

I talked with some worn out returning Sulphur evacuees that were here in Orange filling up gas tanks and all but ready to move somewhere a little further north like Canada. "We haven't been able to do much more than tear down the rest of our home and just got power back last week," said

an obviously frustrated Dad with four small kids, a parakeet, a gold fish and three barking dogs packed in his Tahoe.

"We have been living in two travel trailers, running two generators and I feel guilty because I get to go to work every day, catch a little news on the television and shower before I go home. My wife is a basket case and I may have to put our lab's shock collar on the kids if this goes on much longer."

Because we were fortunate enough to deal with only a weaker portion of Delta, runoff has not impacted area fishing as badly as did Laura. The trout bite on the north end of the lake has slowed down, but the redfish and even a few flounder have shown no intention of moving south thus far.

Scott Tanner and Bill Mosely limited on reds and kept two very nice flounder fishing Gulp Curly tail grubs on quarter ounce jig heads Sunday evening. They were fishing drains on the Louisiana side and Billy said they probably caught twenty reds that were in the slot.

Chad Kemp said they caught small trout under the birds in the lake before running to the jetties. It proved to be a good move as they cleaned ten trout up to four pounds that evening. "The water didn't look that good, but the fish were there," said Chad. We were throwing purple Lil' Johns right up against the rocks, but the fish wouldn't hit until the lure was four to six feet deep."

"The white perch haven't slowed down, but my bass bite has certainly changed," reports James Hughes. Hughes guides for two corporations and spends most of his time on the Louisiana side of Toledo Bend.

COLBURN Page 3B

WOS prevails as OC teams hit Week 8

GERRY DICKERT
For The Record

Week Seven of this crazy 2020 high school football season is in the books and what is likely the least crazy scenario is playing itself out as West Orange-Stark continued its unbeaten streak to three games in District 11-4A, Division II play with a win over Silsbee this past Friday night.



Gerry Dickert

In fact, the Mustangs and Orangefield were the only Orange County team to escape with a win this past Friday with WO-S taking a 35-34 decision over the Tigers and the Bobcats edging Liberty 14-6.

Bridge City lost a 35-34 heartbreaker to Hardin-Jefferson and Little Cypress-Mauriceville stays winless this season after falling to Huffman Hargrave 14-10.

Week Four of the district season sees cross-county rivals Orangefield and West Orange-Stark teeing it up at Dan R. Hooks Stadium in West Orange this Friday, while Silsbee travels to Bridge City. Hardin-Jefferson visits



Mustang Bryson Jordan blocks for quarterback Jerren Terrell as he looks for an open receiver. Terrell finished the game with 175 passing yards and 3 touchdowns.

RECORD PHOTO: Meri Elen Jacobs

Chambers County to take on Hampshire-Fannett and Liberty gets a bye week to try to figure out how to haul themselves out of the district cellar.

The Mustangs are still the team to beat after improving their record to 3-0 in district play while Silsbee and Hardin-Jefferson are now battling to

keep pace with both teams at 2-1 in league play.

How are the Mustangs doing it? With dominance on both sides of the ball. WO-S leads the district with an average of 425 yards of total offense

ORANGE COUNTY Page 3B

Kaz's Fearless Football Forecast . . .

★ **WEST ORANGE-STARK over ORANGEFIELD**—

Both local teams are coming off impressive wins last week as the Mustangs surprised Silsbee 36-6 while the Bobcats upset Liberty 14-6. The 'Stangs had better be ready to stop a grueling ground attack while Orangefield had better be ready for anything.

★ **SILSBEE over BRIDGE CITY**—

The Cards are facing their third straight team that has been softened up by the Mustangs the week before. But the Tigers are mad and should take out their wrath on the Redbirds.

★ **VIDOR over LCM**—

Both of these Orange County rivals are coming off hard-luck losses last week. Huffman, trailing 10-7, scored a

touchdown in the final minute of their game to down the Battlin' Bears 14-10 while the Pirates were overtaken by Splendora 21-14. The homefield may be the only advantage Vidor boasts.

★ **DEWEYVILLE over SABINE PASS**—

This is the Pirates' homecoming and they should please the exes with a big win Friday night.

★ **AREA HIGH SCHOOLS**—

Longview over Beaumont West Brook, Port Arthur Memorial over Baytown Goose Creek, Beaumont United over Galveston Ball, Huffman over Lumberton, Splendora over Livingston, Carthage over Jasper, Center over Shepherd, Hampshire-Fannett over Hardin-Jefferson, Anahuac over KIPP Genera-

tions, East Chambers over Buna, Kirbyville over Hardin, Woodville over Tarkington, Anderson-Shiro over Corrigan-Camden, New Waverly over Hemphill, Newton over Warren, Joaquin over West Hardin, Garrison over Shelbyville, San Augustine over Timpsion, Lovelady over West Sabine, Tenaha over Mount Enterprise, Burkeville over High Island, Evadale over Hull-Daisetta, Beaumont Legacy Christian over League City Bay Area Christian, Beaumont Kelly over Carrollton Prince of Peace.

★ **COLLEGE**—Louisiana-Lafayette over Coastal Carolina (Today); Arkansas State over Georgia State (Thursday); SMU over Tulane and BYU over Hous-

KAZ'S FEARLESS Page 2B



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Dak Prescott's record-setting season ends sadly

KAZ'S KORNER JOE KAZMAR For The Record

The Dallas Cowboys were in a scoring dogfight Sunday afternoon with the winless New York Giants in a game where the loser would pretty much be out of the post-season playoff picture. Dallas had posted only one win—a "miraculous" comeback against Atlanta that should have been a loss which would have made Sunday's meeting a battle of two winless teams.

Cowboys quarterback Dak Prescott was looking for an open receiver mid-way in the third quarter and when he couldn't find one, pulled the ball down and took off and got that important first down.

But when he was taken down by Giants veteran defensive back Logan Ryan, Dak's ankle snapped and he was writhing in pain as TV images showed his right foot bent at an awkward angle away from his leg.

The team said that Prescott had a compound ankle fracture and also dislocation of the ankle which was successfully repaired with surgery Sunday night. The young quarterback reportedly left the hospital on Monday and will be recovering for the next four to six months.

The game was tied at 34-34 as the Cowboys moved meticulously downfield behind veteran backup quarterback Andy Dalton, who was let go by Cincinnati after they drafted LSU Heisman Trophy winning quarterback Joe Burrow and picked up by the Cowboys.

Dalton pin-pointed two passes that wide receiver Michael Gallup made two spectacular sideline catches on this final drive.

Dalton worked the clock perfectly and with three seconds left, kicker Greg Zuer-



Kazmar

lein booted a 34-yard field goal giving the Cowboys a 37-34 victory. Zuerlein also kicked the game-winning field goal against Atlanta, earning the nickname "Greg The Leg".

Prescott was drafted in 2016 by Dallas in the fourth round—the same draft where the Cowboys made running back Ezekiel Elliott the fourth pick of the first round—to back up starting quarterback Tony Romo, who had become the highest paid Cowboys player ever in 2013.

But when Romo went down with a back injury in the pre-season, Head Coach Jason Garrett elected to go with his rookie Prescott, who led the team to a franchise-best 11-game winning streak.

After Romo was healthy, Garrett kept Dak as his starting quarterback, who went on to start every game in his career—69 straight including Sunday's game and has guided his team to victory in 42 times. Romo ended up in the TV broadcast booth where he is doing a heck of a job.

Only Seattle's Russell Wilson and Tampa Bay's Tom Brady have won more games since 2016, according to ESPN's First Take program Monday morning. Dak has had 10 games with a 90-plus quarterback rating since 2016, the most in the NFL and also is the only player in NFL history with 425-plus passing yards in three straight games.

Dak was on pace for a career season, already completing 151 of 222 passes (68%) for 1,856 yards, nine touchdowns and four interceptions so far this season.

One of the Monday morning armchair quarterbacks

pointed out that Dak is playing under a 2020 franchise tag worth \$31.4 million after turning down a long-term contract reportedly worth \$177 million, which is considerable much less than the contracts signed by Kansas City's Patrick Mahomes and Houston's Deshaun Watson.

He also predicted that Dak Prescott may never play another down for the Dallas Cowboys because idiot owner Jerry Jones may be gunshy of signing a quarterback to a long-term deal after getting burned by the Tony Romo ordeal.

I believe that Dak will get his big contract—especially if the Cowboys have a sub-par season without making the playoffs—and picks up in 2021 with the Cowboys where he left off on Sunday!!!

KWICKIES...New York Yankees ace pitcher Gerrit Cole needs to spend some of those hundreds of millions the team paid him to buy the best television available so he can watch the Houston Astros—the team he didn't want to play for any more—in the American League Championship Series against the team he couldn't beat—the Tampa Bay Rays—and maybe he'll pick up some valuable pointers for next season. He also should buy a comfortable chair, because he'll have a lot of baseball to watch from his penthouse suite.

I was saddened to hear Monday morning of the passing of former Houston Colt .45's and Astros star Joe Morgan, who died at the age of 77.

Dallas Cowboy's injured quarterback Dak Prescott also became the second quarterback in franchise history to catch a touchdown pass. He did it Sunday before fracturing his right ankle and ties the feat by Danny

White back in 1985.

LSU became the first defending national championship team in nine years to fall out of the Associated Press' Top 25 College Football Poll after what many Tiger fans say was their "worst effort ever." And it was my wife Susan's alma mater—the Mizzou Tigers—who knocked them out, 45-41. The top three teams—Clemson, Alabama and Georgia—remain the same while Notre Dame moved up one notch to No. 4, Mack Brown's North Carolina jumped three places to No. 5. Idle Ohio State is still No. 6, Oklahoma State came up from tenth to No. 7, Cincinnati also jumped three spots to No. 8, idle Penn State is still No. 9 and Florida dropped from fourth to No. 10. The Texas Aggies catapulted ten places from No. 21 to No. 11 and SMU came up one to No. 17. Oklahoma and the Texas Longhorns are both out of the Top 25.

Former LSU coach Les Miles, who tested positive for COVID-19 earlier this month, will be back on the Kansas sidelines in Saturday's game at West Virginia.

The Los Angeles Lakers defeated the Miami Heat 106-93 in Game 6 Sunday to become the NBA champions, led by LeBron James, who has been on championship teams with three different franchises.

The Houston Texans finally got into the winning column Sunday with a convincing 30-14 victory over the Jacksonville Jaguars, who also have only one win so far in 2020. After receiving grades of "F" in the first four games from the Houston Chronicle, the paper gave them a "B" overall under interim coach Romeo Crennel, who was named last week after Bill O'Brien was fired.

JUST BETWEEN US...

Kaz's Fearless Football Forecast From Page 1B

ton (Both Friday); Virginia Tech over Boston College, Miami over Pittsburgh, Temple over South Florida, Navy over East Carolina, North Carolina State over Duke, Virginia over Wake Forest, Syracuse over Liberty, Clemson over Georgia Tech, Tennessee over Kentucky, Texas State over South Alabama, UAB over Western

Kentucky, Arkansas over Ole Miss, Texas A&M over Mississippi State, Cincinnati over Tulsa, UCF over Memphis, Army over UTSA, Notre Dame over Louisville, Florida over LSU, Middle Tennessee State over North Texas, Charlotte over Florida International, Marshall over Louisiana Tech, Missouri over Vanderbilt, Ala-

bama over Georgia, Southern Mississippi over UTEP, Georgia Southern over UMass.

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Tennessee over Houston, Baltimore over Philadelphia, Pittsburgh over Cleveland, Detroit over Jacksonville, Carolina over Chicago, At-

lanta over Minnesota, Indianapolis over Cincinnati, New England over Denver, NY Giants over Washington, Miami over NY Jets, LA Rams over San Francisco (All Sunday); Buffalo over Kansas City and Arizona over Dallas (Monday Night). Bye Week for Las Vegas, LA Chargers, New Orleans and Seattle.

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Orange County Football From Page 1B

while allowing just 121 yards of offense to its opponents so far this season.

In spite of its 1-2 won-loss record in district, the Bridge City Cardinals are getting it done on offense, averaging a second-best 337 yards of offense, while Orangefield is the second-best defense in the league right now, allowing 158 yards of offense to its opponents.

Mustang quarterback Jerren Terrell owns first place in the passing category, completing 40 of 84 passes for 764 yards and 10 touchdowns so far this year. His top receiver, Jalen Thompson, is second in the district with 11 catches for 301 yards. That would be the most yards receiving in the district were it not for his teammate Jayson Zeigler Jr. also hauling in 301 yards receiving on 11 catches, making the Mustang duo the most dangerous in the region.

Silsbee's Raymond Baltrip edges the Mustangs duo with one more catch at 12 for 152 yards, while Hamshire-Fannett QB D'onte Zeno is second in passing with 43 completions on 72 attempts for 715 yards and three touchdowns.

Hardin-Jefferson's Jaiden Porter leads the district in rushing with 443 yards on 69 carries with nine touchdowns, while Liberty's Alijah Terrell has 62 carries for 417 yards and three TDs. Orangefield's Hunter Ashworth is currently fourth in rushing in the district, carrying the ball 68 times for 361 yards and four touchdowns, while WO-S rusher Elijah Gales is fifth with 27 carries for 334 yards and four TDs.

Tyler Washington of Orangefield is still the interceptions leader with four picks this season, followed by Silsbee's Kevin Martin's three.

Mustang Angel Ibarra is the top-scoring kicker in the league with 36 total points off 24 extra-point kicks and four field goals.

West Orange-Stark 36, Silsbee 6

It was a no-doubt statement about who can dominate District 11-4A, Division II when the Mustangs walked to a 36-6 win over Silsbee this past Friday night at Tigers Stadium.

The Mustangs got off to a quick start, scoring on a three-yard touchdown to cap a five-play, 55-yard drive with 3:12 left in the first quarter.

It appeared the Tigers would make a game of it when they matched that score with one of their own when Camron Wilson hauled in a 30-yard TD pass to tie the game at 6-6 with 10:00 left in the first half.

That's when the Mustangs decided enough was enough, picking up a couple of points with 4:41 left to the halftime break with a safety to give WO-S an 8-2 lead.

Jerren Terrell hit Jalen Thompson for a 32-yard touchdown pass with 2:44 left in the second quarter, then Terrell found Jallen

Brown on a 19-yard pass completion to put the Mustangs in the driver's seat at 22-6 headed into the break.

The Ponies added two more touchdowns in the third quarter when Jamaal Shaw broke loose and went 53 yards for a rushing touchdown just 16 seconds into the second half. Terrell and Thompson hooked up again, this time for a big 48-yard strike for a touchdown, capping a four-play, 59-yard drive for the 36-6 final.

Terrell completed 8 of 23 passes for 175 yards and three TDs with no interceptions, while Thompson led all receivers with 84 yards on three catches and two scores. Jallen Brown and Jacob Dominguez each had 43 yards receiving.

Jayson Zeigler Jr. got the job done in the backfield, rushing for 93 yards on six carries with a score, while teammate Jamaal Shaw added 80 yards and a TD on seven carries.

The Tigers' best offensive performance came from Antonius Arline who had 22 carries for 71 yards, while quarterback Raymond Foster completed 6 of 19 passes for 80 yards and a TD.

Overall, the Mustangs dominated on offense, collecting 367 total yards vs. Silsbee's 139.

Huffman Hargrave 14, Little Cypress-Mauriceville 10

It appeared that Little Cypress-Mauriceville had finally found the answer to claiming its first win of the season, in the district-opener no less, taking the undefeated Huffman Falcons to the wire this past Thursday night.

But it was Huffman that walked away with the 14-10 victory after a remarkable kickoff return late set up the Falcons for the win.

Huffman, now 5-0 overall and 1-0 in District 10-4A, Division I play, took an early 7-0 lead in the first half, taking an interception and a fourth-and-one conversion to set up a 10-yard touchdown run by Justin O'Neal.

Da'Marion Morris took some revenge for the Bears, snagging his second interception of the night to set up a great offensive possession that resulted in a 23-yard TD pass from Ashton Landry to Keaton Rives for a 7-7 tie.

LC-M, still looking for its first win of the year at 0-4 overall and 0-1 in district, kept their second-half momentum going with a 64-yard drive that put them at the Falcons' 25-yard-line. Justin Raney booted the field goal and the Bears owned a 10-7 lead with just over eight minutes left in the game.

The celebration was short-lived for the Bears when Huffman returned the ensuing kickoff 60 yards. Four plays later, Huffman QB Luke Thomas crossed from five yards out

ORANGE COUNTY FOOTBALL Page 4B

Colburn From Page 1B

"When the lake level stabilized a little and the mornings were cool enough to wear a jacket, my clients were wearing two to four pound bass out on shaky head worms and crankbaits every day. It was incredibly easy."

"The weather warmed up and that bite just died for me," he added. "The majority of my clients aren't skilled enough to fish deep water stuff so I am in trouble when it comes to executing a Plan B," he added. "I think that deep water bite is back on again, but I can't say for sure."

Hughes said his saving grace has been a better than average white perch bite. "I love to eat crappie," he pointed out, "but I don't fish for them. I have a young guide that occasionally helps me out and he has been keeping my guys happy fishing brush piles. They limited four days in a row on some really pretty fish."

I hope your repairs are going well and you can find a little time to take advantage of a bite that will continue to improve. In the meantime, wear your mask and stay as safe as possible!

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Defensive players Floyd Mouton and Jailen Brown stop Silsbee's Antonius Arline. RECORD PHOTOS: Meri Elen Jacobs



Mustang Floyd Mouton hits quarterback Raymond Foster before he could ever get his eyes on the field. Foster threw for 80 yards, but was a -27 yards on the ground.

Orange County Football From Page 3B

to ensure the win.

Landry completed 7 of 15 passes for 75 yards, adding 100 yards on 20 carries for the Bears. His favorite aerial targets were Brendon Pollock with four catches for 31 yards and Nicholas Granger with two for 21 yards.

The Bears are back in action this Friday with a district showdown against Vidor at Pirates Stadium. The Pirates are 2-2 overall and 0-1 in league play after falling 21-14 to Splendora this past week.

Orangefield 14, Liberty 6

It took a sly kickoff return and two fourth-and-one conversions but the Orangefield Bobcats got the job done in a 14-6 district win over Liberty this past week.

The Bobcats got their scoring started after recovering a Liberty fumble to set up a 17-play, 81-yard drive that was capped by a 28-yard TD pass from Gunner Jones to Mason Sampson for a 7-0 lead.

The Panthers got a fumble of their own, converting that Orangefield turnover into points just two plays after that turnover to pull to within 7-6 after a missed PAT attempt.

The Bobcats answered with some tricky kickoff magic as Tyler Washington took the

reverse all the way to the Liberty 24 yard line.

It took two fourth-and-one conversions to get the Cats into the end zone, including the final play that went one yard when Jones took the keeper for the 14-6 lead before two for 21 yards.

Neither team would get close to the end zone in the second half with the exception of Liberty driving to the Bobcats 35 yard line late in the game. Tyler Shearin ensured the victory when he hauled in an interception for the Bobcats to end the threat.

Ashworth led the Bobcats with 80 yards on 19 carries, while Liberty's Kaden Nolan threw for 86 yards to lead the Panthers.

Hardin-Jefferson 35, Bridge City 34

In spite of leading early, Bridge City was unable to hold on as Hardin-Jefferson clinched a district victory with a touchdown with under a minute to go for a 35-34 decision.

At one point, the Cardinals were up 10-0 and led 20-7 at the halftime break but the Hawks kept pecking back at BC, closing to gap to 34-28 with about two minutes to go, then tying the game with 25 seconds at 34-34. The extra-

point kick was the difference as the Hawks escaped with their second district win of the year.

For Bridge City, it was the Ethan Oceguedra show as he scored three passing touchdowns, going 8 of 19 for 151 yards in the air with one interception. He added 119 yards on 10 carries while J.S. Bearson led all rushers with 141 yards on 23 carries and a score for the Cards.

Austin Richardson was the top Bridge City receiver with two catches for 85 yards while J.T. Fielder added 51 yards on five catches for the Cards.

Junior Harrison Gauthier dominated on defense, collecting five solo and six assisted tackles, while Richardson and Trey Hebert each had eight total stops for the Cardinals. Isai Cantu got through the line to record a sack for the Cards while Deegan King, Richardson and Gavin Garrett each had an interception for BC. Senior Cody Howard caused and recovered a fumble for BC.

A STUDENT'S PERSPECTIVE

Series on Mental Illness Present in Society-Part 2

MADDY SMITH
Columnist
For The Record

Living with depression isn't something that comes easy no matter how severe it is or becomes. You wake up and immediately think about how you can't wait to get back into bed to go back to sleep. Sleep and isolation has become your motivation to get up in the morning. As you get up to get ready to go to school, you notice the sadness wash over you in a strong wave as if reintroducing itself to you even though you have met too many times. Your feet drag on the cold tile floor and you shiver due to the lack of warmth surrounding you. When your bathroom is covered with mirrors, it becomes a dreadful task of looking in the mirror and not recognizing yourself. You notice your bloodshot eyes and how puffy they are. You notice the dark circles underneath your eyes that are always there now. The baggy clothes you wear do well to hide how skinny you've become because of your irregular eating habits. You look past it all like you do every morning and continue on with your day like normal.

It's been an hour so your friend should be arriving at your house soon to pick you up for school. You sit and wait downstairs in the silence of your home because no one is home. Your thoughts race like they always do. You begin to get sucked into them until you are snapped out of your thoughts by your phone ringing. You prepare yourself and put on a smile and add some happiness into



Maddy Smith

walk to the car you look anywhere but the car just in case they tell that something is wrong just by looking into your eyes. You arrive at school and hope that nothing goes wrong so that your day can be as peaceful as possible. Your classes come and go slowly. All day, you use all your energy to calm your nerves and breathing pattern. It's hard to focus now as well as making decisions.

Weeks go by and nothing has changed. If anything, it has gotten worse. Nothing satisfies you anymore like it used to. Going out with friends isn't as pleasurable if you can only think about going back home and lying in bed or hoping something doesn't trigger a panic attack in public. However, used to the only thing that would

motivate you to get out of bed is now something you fear. Going to sleep isn't something you want to do anymore. It's the most vulnerable time for you and your thoughts. It's the time that all the thoughts you have suppressed all day finally break through the barrier. All you want to do is be able to go to sleep. Maybe it will relieve some of the pain that is constantly filling you up. But it has become the most difficult task for you to achieve.

Your friends have begun distancing themselves from you because of your mood swings. You feel so many emotions all at once along with constantly felling sad that it becomes so overwhelming that you have been angry and irritated. Because your friends don't like this they avoid you. You begin falling into an even deeper hole than you were in before. In your mind you beg them not to leave you, not to abandon you for people who aren't as irritating as you are. Questioning yourself and

MADDY SMITH Page 6B

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GARAGE SALE

Garage Sale this Fri., 10/16 and Sat., 10/17 from 9 am to 2 pm at 4 Regency Place Boulevard in Orange. Bedroom suite, antique teacher's desk, chairs, kitchen utensils, small appliances, many misc. items. No credit cards.

CEMETERY PLOT

Two Cemetery Plots for sale. Located at Hillcrest Memorial Cemetery. Please call 409-313-4404

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Missing off of Caldwell in Bridge City, Female white cat with grey face. She answers to Pearl. We miss her. Please call us if you find her at 409-474-1241.

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Styled: In the Interest of Diana Marie Whitson, A Child

NOTICE BY PUBLICATION
THE STATE OF TEXAS

To: KEVIN WAYNE WHITSON,, Respondent,

You have been sued. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 A.M. on the Monday next following the expiration of twenty days after you were served this citation and petition, a default judgment may be taken against you. The petition of VICTORIA BUCHANAN and KEVIN L. BUCHANAN II, Petitioners, was filed in the County Court At 128th Judicial District Court of Orange County, Texas on August 18, 2020, against ANGELA DEAN WHITSON and KEVIN WAYNE WHITSON, numbered A200509-D and entitled "In the Interest of DIANA MARIE WHITSON, a child." The suit requests the Termination of the parental rights and granting of the adoption of a child. The date and place of birth of the child/ren who is/are subject of the suit:

Name of Child	Date of Birth	Place of Birth
DIANA MARIE WHITSON	07/17/2018	Beaumont, Texas

The court has authority in this suit to render an order in the child's interest that will be binding you, including the termination of the parent-child relationship, the determination of paternity and the appointment of a conservator with authority to consent to the child's adoption.

ISSUED AND GIVEN under my hand and seal of the Court at Orange, Texas, on September 30th, 2020.

Vickie Edgerly
Clerk of the District Court of Orange County, Texas
By Vickie Edgerly
Vickie Edgerly, District Clerk
Orange County, Texas

CITATION BY PUBLICATION

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

STEVEN WYNN TOAL, Deceased
Cause No. P18856
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 OCTOBER 6, 2020, requesting that the Court determine who are the heirs and only heirs of Steven Wynn Toal, 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 October 8, 2020.

BRANDY ROBERTSON,
County Clerk, Orange County, Texas
By: Angelique Cook, Deputy
Angelique Cook

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Maddy Smith: Mental Illness Part 2 From Page 4B

the way you act has brought you to the realization that no one likes you and you need to change even if it's fake.

You don't know who you are anymore. You don't look the same or sound the same or feel the same. You feel heavy with fear, sadness, anger, longing, and jealousy. You sound so different you begin to wonder if you are the same person you were a few months ago. You look different, ugly. You're pale and skinny. The tiredness in your eyes is something that you have learned to mask well but your darks under eyes are a dead giveaway. You feel worthless, like you don't matter

or your life doesn't matter. A terrifying thought makes its way into your mind: who is going to pull me out and how quickly can they get to me?

Mental illness is something very relevant in society today especially in teenagers. Approximately 9% of children from the ages of 2-17 have been diagnosed with ADHD, 8% of teenagers aging 13-18 have been diagnosed with an anxiety disorder, 8% of teenagers from 12-17 have had major depression episodes, and 2.7% of teenagers from 13-18 suffer from eating disorders that can include bulimia, anorexia, and binge eating. The list of mental

illnesses that can affect everyday life goes on and on. These articles are meant to help those that don't understand fully what a certain mental illness looks and feels like. Everybody deals with mental illness in a different way and show different signs.

Maddy is a student at Little Cypress-Mauriceville High School. She is a talented young writer whose columns offer unique insights from the perspective of a local high school student. Intended primarily for young people, all of The Record readers are welcome to enjoy our columns by Maddy Smith.

Household Hazardous Waste Collection Oct. 24

On Saturday, October 24, from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m., the South East Texas Regional Planning Commission (SE-TRPC) is hosting a free Household Hazardous Waste and Scrap Tire Collection Event.

The event will be held in the Bridge City Intermediate School parking lot, located at 1029 W. Roundbunch Road, in Bridge City. The event is open to all southeast Texas residents.

During this free event, the SETRPC collects items that could pose health and environmental risks if disposed of improperly. According to Bob Dickinson, Director of Transportation and Environmental Resources Division, "The average home can accumulate

100 pounds of hazardous waste in a garage or in the cabinets at home. It's imperative that Southeast Texans take a proactive approach in properly disposing these items not only to protect their own health but the quality of life in our region."

The SETRPC will accept household hazardous items including paints, cleaners, antifreeze, car batteries, used oil, insecticides, swimming pool chemicals, and much more. "It's not acceptable to throw batteries, paint, or other hazardous waste in a trash can.

For more information about items accepted during this event call 409 899-8444 ext. 7520.

LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE TO CREDITORS	NOTICE TO CREDITORS	NOTICE TO CREDITORS	NOTICE TO CREDITORS	NOTICE TO CREDITORS	NOTICE TO CREDITORS	NOTICE TO CREDITORS	NOTICE TO CREDITORS
<p>Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of RENA JOAN PADGETT, Deceased, were issued on the September 27, 2020, Cause No. P18837, pending in the County Court at Law of Orange County, Texas, to: Allyson Mize.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>c/o: James R. Dunaway Attorney at Law P.O. Box 100 Orange, TX 77631-0100</p> <p>Dated the 8th day of October, 2020.</p> <p><u>James R. Dunaway</u> James R. Dunaway Attorney for: Allyson Mize State Bar No.: 06208000 P.O. Box 100 Orange, TX 77631-0100 jrdunaway@sbcglobal.net</p>	<p>Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of WILLIAM MILTON HAYES, Deceased, were issued on the September 16, 2020, Cause No. P18777, pending in the County Court at Law of Orange County, Texas, to: Deborah Lynn Goforth.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>c/o: James R. Dunaway Attorney at Law P.O. Box 100 Orange, TX 77631-0100</p> <p>Dated the 28th day of September, 2020.</p> <p><u>James R. Dunaway</u> James R. Dunaway Attorney for: Deborah Lynn Goforth State Bar No.: 06208000 P.O. Box 100 Orange, TX 77631-0100 jrdunaway@sbcglobal.net</p>	<p>Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of MARY ELIZABETH JONES, Deceased, were issued on the AUGUST 3, 2020, Cause No. P18699, pending in the County Court at Law of Orange County, Texas, to: Blendia Gail Jones Arrington.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>c/o: James R. Dunaway Attorney at Law P.O. Box 100 Orange, TX 77631-0100</p> <p>Dated the 8th day of October, 2020.</p> <p><u>James R. Dunaway</u> James R. Dunaway Attorney for: Blendia Gail Jones Arrington State Bar No.: 06208000 P.O. Box 100 Orange, TX 77631-0100 jrdunaway@sbcglobal.net</p>	<p>Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of MILLARD M. COX aka MILLARD COX, Deceased, were issued on the September 27, 2020, Cause No. P18798, pending in the County Court at Law of Orange County, Texas, to: Karen Sue Cox Duplechin.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>c/o: James R. Dunaway Attorney at Law P.O. Box 100 Orange, TX 77631-0100</p> <p>Dated the 8th day of October, 2020.</p> <p><u>James R. Dunaway</u> James R. Dunaway Attorney for: Karen Sue Cox Duplechin State Bar No.: 06208000 P.O. Box 100 Orange, TX 77631-0100 jrdunaway@sbcglobal.net</p>	<p>Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of VIRGINIA N. COX aka VIRGINIA NELL COX, Deceased, were issued on the September 27, 2020, Cause No. P18797, pending in the County Court at Law of Orange County, Texas, to: Karen Sue Cox Duplechin.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>c/o: James R. Dunaway Attorney at Law P.O. Box 100 Orange, TX 77631-0100</p> <p>Dated the 8th day of October, 2020.</p> <p><u>James R. Dunaway</u> James R. Dunaway Attorney for: Karen Sue Cox Duplechin State Bar No.: 06208000 P.O. Box 100 Orange, TX 77631-0100 jrdunaway@sbcglobal.net</p>	<p>Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of SAMUEL JOSEPH KHOURY A/K/A SAMUEL JOSEPH KHOURY, SR., Deceased, were issued on the September 9, 2020, Cause No. P18813, pending in the County Court at Law of Orange County, Texas, to: Christy Khoury.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>c/o: Paul M. Fukuda Attorney At Law 312 Border Street Orange, TX 77630</p> <p>Dated the 1st day of October, 2020.</p> <p><u>Paul M. Fukuda</u> Paul M. Fukuda Attorney for: Christy Khoury State Bar No.: 00789915 312 Border Street Orange, TX 77630 Phone: (409)883-4357 Fax: (409)883-6263 Email: pfukudalawofice@yahoo.com</p>	<p>Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of BILLY FRANK SMITH, Deceased, were issued on the September 23, 2020, Cause No. P18833, pending in the County Court at Law of Orange County, Texas, to: Johnnie Marie Smith.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>c/o: Paul M. Fukuda Attorney At Law 312 Border Street Orange, TX 77630</p> <p>Dated the 1st day of October, 2020.</p> <p><u>Paul M. Fukuda</u> Paul M. Fukuda Attorney for: Johnnie Marie Smith State Bar No.: 00789915 312 Border Street Orange, TX 77630 Phone: (409)883-4357 Fax: (409)883-6263 Email: pfukudalawofice@yahoo.com</p>	<p>Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of ALBERT DANA GORE, Deceased, were issued on the September 28, 2020, Cause No. P18814, pending in the County Court at Law of Orange County, Texas, to: Charles Lee Duhon.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>c/o: Tommy Gunn Attorney at Law 202 S. Border Street Orange, TX 77630</p> <p>Dated the 6th day of October, 2020.</p> <p><u>Tommy Gunn</u> Tommy Gunn Attorney for: Charles Lee Duhon State Bar No.: 08623700 202 S. Border Street Orange, TX 77630 Phone: (409)882-9990 Fax: (409)882-0613 Email: tommy@gunn-law.org</p>



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KEEPING SOUTHEAST TEXAS INFORMED



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COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

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