

County Record

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Week of Wednesday, September 8, 2021

CLEAT's backing bolsters OC deputies

DAVE ROGERS
For The Record

If you're scoring at home on the secretive backroom meetings between Orange County and its sheriff deputies, well, chalk up one for the deputies.

County Judge John Gothia said Tuesday afternoon that Commissioners Court had agreed to extend the pre-impasse deadline for an additional 15 days to Sept. 22 and proposed three dates, at 2 p.m. Sept. 13, 2 p.m. Sept. 15 and 2 p.m. Sept. 16 for open-to-the-public negotiations.

Tuesday's announcement came after the issuance of two grievances against Orange County and Sheriff Lane Mooney by CLEAT, the Combined Law Enforcement Association, which represents the deputies' group, known as the Orange County Sheriff's Office Employees Association.

The first grievance on Sept. 1 said Mooney made a unilateral decision in early August to do away with the deputies' long-held benefit of take-home vehicles, but let it be known that the take-home vehicles benefit would be reinstated if the association signed off on the county's proposed agreement.

Senior staff maintained its take-home vehicles, the grievance said.

"My response to that," Mooney said, "is right now, I do not have a comment on it. But I will in the future."

The second grievance on Sept. 3 accused the county and sheriff of violating Chapter 174 of the Texas Local Government Code by failing to conduct negotiations in open meetings.

It also said the county and



Gothia

sheriff are interfering with the deputies' freedom of association rights, saying Gothia issued a take-it-or-leave-it agreement and then "continuously contacted Association members hounding them to rush a vote on the proposal."

It says along with Gothia's pressure to accept an agreement presented outside of open meetings, that Mooney has threatened "to eliminate, alter or change long-standing benefits."

The grievance says the sheriff and his personal staff has "let it be known" any officer signing their name to a grievance would be terminated.

Additionally, the document signed by Dustin Bock, the OCSOE President, says Mooney and his staff have threatened to prohibit off-duty jobs and switch all deputies to eight-hour shifts, both of which would take a big bite out of deputies' wallets.

The deputies' association has between 150 and 175 members.

Tuesday's Commissioners Court meeting lasted nine minutes, except for a 55 minute-long closed meeting "regarding ongoing deliberations concerning a new Collective Bargaining Agreement."

It was the second week in a row for a closed-door executive session with the same heading, and the agenda item included, again, the note that

OC DEPUTIES Page 3A

Ida evacuees find comfort in Orange County



Pastor Lloyd Austin of Beaumont's Universal Church of the Living God plays saxophone along with recorded spiritual and secular music during an "Uplift Their Spirits" event at Orange's Church of God Monday. Austin, who regularly plays his sax at his church, said the difference between playing in church and at the offering of free food for those chased to Texas by Hurricane Ida, was "We are praising God in church. Out here, we're just trying to make people have a good time."

RECORD PHOTO: Dave Rogers

Hurricane Ike

City officials recall hurricane and aftermath 13-years ago this week

DAVE ROGERS
For The Record

Kirk Roccaforte, longtime Bridge City mayor, recalls his first look at his hometown after Hurricane Ike made landfall on Sept. 13, 2008.

The mayor and other key city personnel spent the night of Sept. 12-13 in a school building in Little Cypress, away from the storm's worst but close enough to get back in a hurry.

"When I topped Cow Bayou Bridge, all I saw was water.

"It was a really sinking feeling. I didn't know what was going to happen. I didn't know if we could survive this one."

Jerry Jones, city manager for Bridge City since 2000, says only 16 homes were untouched by what was measured as a 13-foot storm surge.

That's out of about 3,000 homes, Jones recalls.

"Texas Avenue was all water, like a big lake," Jones recalls of his trip into town after the winds died down.



A home located on Strapper Street in Bridge City is completely destroyed by the storm surge of Hurricane Ike 13-years ago this week. RECORD File PHOTO: Mark Dunn

Even then, a heavy dump truck was required to make it over the Cow Bayou bridge over Orange, he said.

"The water was halfway

up the truck when we got to the bridge," Jones said. "We made it to City Hall, and we got some people off the roofs of their homes.

"We had no power or a really long time. Towers in the marsh twisted over. All the

HURRICANEIKE Page 3A

Lyda named new BCCC director

PENNY LELEUX
For The Record

Mandy Lyda is in her third week as the new director of Bridge City Chamber of Commerce. She's been busy learning all the procedures and gearing up for upcoming events, the first of which will be the monthly coffee to be held next Tuesday at COS Printing in Texas Ave at 8 a.m.

Lyda is an Orange County native. She was raised in Mauriceville and graduated from Little Cypress-Mauriceville High School. Lyda moved away from the area for 20 years when she and her husband ministered in several locations in Texas.

"Over the last year, we moved back and moved to Bridge City," said Lyda. Her husband's name is Chris.

They have two children. Her daughter, Raema, 15, attends Bridge City High School. Malachi, her son, is in the seventh grade.

Besides ministry, Lyda



The Bridge City Historical Museum is housed inside the Chamber of Commerce building. Admission is free of charge. Pictured is new BC Chamber director Mandy Lyda. RECORD PHOTO: Penny LeLeux

worked with investments and annuities in Jasper before moving to Bridge City.

She chose to apply for the chamber job because, "this one allows me to be a mom," she said. "I want to do things

with my children. The timing of the day allows me to do that and I love office work."

Her children are very involved in sports and other activities. The chamber

hours fall right in line with school hours, allowing her to participate in all their activities, yet still take care of all the chamber business.

MANDY LYDA Page 3A

COVID-19 takes aim at local schools

DAVE ROGERS
For The Record

School boards and message boards have all seen an overload of angst over COVID-19, cases of which are skyrocketing among school-aged youngsters.

While four parents opposed to schools imposing a mask mandate appeared at an Orangefield board meeting in August, others are voting for everyone to wear a mask.

Or to just stay at home. "A concerned parent" emailed her plea to a Little Cypress-Mauriceville board meeting a week ago.

"My son tested positive today for Covid after one week of school ... It is so disheartening to know that the safety and well being of our youth is not as important to the

school district as a whole." A Facebook post in a Bridge City group took aim at BCISD.

The aunt of a student there wrote that her nephew reports the student sitting next to him "coughed really bad" since school started. That student, along with the teacher and her nephew had all tested positive for COVID-19 a couple weeks into the school year, she said.

"I am so disgusted with the school district," she said.

There has been an 860% increase in the number of COVID cases reported in only the four weeks since Orange County resumed posting its weekly count of COVID positives on the Facebook page of its Office of Emergency Management.

The number of new cases for those aged 5-18 was 291

in the week of Aug. 24-30. Only 34 cases among that age group were noted for the week of Aug. 3-9.

Of course, the coming together of hundreds of youngsters per campus with the opening of schools has much to do with the increase.

According to dashboards posted on their district websites, Bridge City had 98 new cases last week among students and staff, with 45 cases reported on Monday, which also includes those from between 3 p.m. Friday through 3 p.m. Monday.

Orangefield, with a smaller enrollment, reported 39 new cases, while LCM logged 107 new cases for the week ended Sept. 3.

West Orange-Cove does not publish information about COVID cases on its website, though all the

schools turn in required reports to the state, which run a week behind in posting to the Department of State Health Service website.

WOC Superintendent Dr. Rickie Harris joins the other Orange County superintendents in agreeing that the most important numbers are ones no one requires, the percent of active COVID cases among its students and staff.

Christina Anderson, COVID coordinator at WOC, reported Friday that her district's weekly percentage was 5.321%, up slightly from last week's 5.218%.

Orangefield Superintendent Shaun McAlpin said his district's percent of active COVID cases was 4.9%. Bridge City's number was 5.1% with LCM at 2.8%

Abbott signs Texas voting bill into law

Alexa Ura
The Texas Tribune

Though delayed by Democratic quorum breaks, Texas has officially joined the slate of Republican states that have enacted new voting restrictions following the 2020 election.

Gov. Greg Abbott on Tuesday signed into law Senate Bill 1, sweeping legislation that further tightens state election laws and constrains local control of elections by limiting counties' ability to expand voting options. The governor's signature ends months of legislative clashes and standoffs during which Democrats — propelled by concerns that the legislation raises new barriers for marginalized voters — forced Republicans into two extra legislative sessions.

SB 1 is set to take effect three months after the special legislative session, in time for the 2022 primary elections. But it could still be caught up in the federal courts. Abbott's signature was both preceded and followed by a flurry of legal challenges that generally argue that the law will disproportionately harm voters of color and voters with disabilities.

On top of two federal lawsuits filed last week, three new lawsuits, including one in state district court, were filed Tuesday shortly after it became law.

While SB 1 makes some changes that could expand access — namely increasing early voting hours in smaller, mostly Republican counties — the new law otherwise restricts how and when voters cast ballots. It specifically targets voting initiatives used by diverse, Democratic Harris County, the state's most populous, by banning overnight early voting hours and drive-thru voting — both of which proved popular among vot-



Gov. Greg Abbott signs into law Seante Bill 1.

ers of color last year. The new law also will ratchet up voting-by-mail rules in a state where the option is already significantly limited, give partisan poll watchers increased autonomy inside polling places by granting them free movement, and set new rules — and criminal penalties — for voter assistance. It also makes it a state jail felony for local election officials to proactively distribute applications for mail-in ballots, even if they are providing them to voters who automatically qualify to vote by mail or groups helping get out the vote.

"One thing that all Texans can agree [on] and that is that we must have trust and confidence in our elections. The bill that I'm about to sign helps to achieve that goal," Abbott said before signing the bill. "The law does, however, make it harder for fraudulent votes to be cast."

Abbott signed the bill surrounded by Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick and the bill's lead authors Sen. Bryan Hughes, R-Mineola, and Rep. Andrew Murr, R-Junction, as well as other Republican lawmakers.

Texas Republicans began the 2021 legislative session staging a sweeping legislative campaign to pass new voting restrictions and election rules, proposing significant changes to nearly the entire voting process and

taking particular aim at local efforts to make voting easier. It was formally touched off by Abbott early this year when he named "election integrity" one of his emergency items for the legislative session despite no evidence of widespread voter fraud. Republican lawmakers framed their push for SB 1 as an effort to safeguard elections from fraud and to standardize election practices.

SB 1 makes up Republicans' third attempt to pass the far-reaching changes to elections, denounced by advocates for voters with disabilities, voter advocacy groups and civil rights organizations with histories of fighting laws that could harm voters of color. Democrats echoed that opposition as they fled the state this summer and left the Texas House without enough members to conduct business for weeks.

The law already faces two legal challenges from Harris County and a coalition of community and advocacy groups that argue SB 1's rewrite of Texas voting laws

creates new hurdles and restrictions that will suppress voters and violates the U.S. Constitution and numerous federal laws.

Abbott's signature Tuesday drew three more lawsuits that also argue the changes to elections in SB 1 are unlawful because they will disproportionately burden voters of color and voters with disabilities.

Another legal challenge was filed in state district court in Harris County and raises claims that the law runs afoul of the the Texas Constitution, including its protection against racial discrimination.

In forcing two special sessions, Democrats gave advocates and local election officials more time to push for fixes to the initial legislation. That included a crucial change to a portion of the law that now requires voters to provide their driver's license number or, if they don't have one, the last four digits of their Social Security number on applications to vote by mail and on the envelope used to return their completed ballot.

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CMYK

OC deputies bolstered by CLEAT From Page 1

court may convene a closed session if Commissioners unanimously vote and the court's attorney, Assistant District Attorney Denise Gremillion, issues a written determination that "deliberation in an open meeting would have a detrimental effect on the court in said negotiations."

Besides the five Commissioners Court members, Mooney, Gremillion and the county's Human Resources Director Lori Ardoin, took part in both meetings. There was no representation from the deputies' association.

Asked about it on Aug. 31 and again Tuesday,

Gothia said that talks began with the association's leaders in April on a new deal to replace an expiring set of work rules (CBA) signed in September 2019.

"We met several times at their requests in informal meetings," the judge said. "I have seven [versions] of contracts on my desk, changes we've made. We sent them

the last contract last week and haven't heard back."

Gothia cited a lot of turnover with the deputies' association.

"We originally started with one organization [TMPA] representing them and in the last couple of weeks they've changed [to CLEAT]," he said.

"Dustin Bock is the third or fourth OCSOEA president we've dealt with."

Bock was unavailable to comment Tuesday, though his words were clear on the two notices of grievance, which carried his signature.

And he did send members of the Commissioners Court a letter on the association's behalf thanking them for the extension of the pre-impasse deadline.

"I would like to reiterate that our goal of an extension request was to facilitate face-to-face negotiations," he said in the letter.

"You are aware that there have been several telephone discussions between the par-

ties. I know you are also aware that these telephone discussions were not the appropriate or legal way to negotiate as required."

The Aug. 31 closed session regarding the CBA ended in a seven-day extension to Sept. 7.

Gothia explained that he needed to know how much to budget for the deputy pay and benefits before presenting the budget for a vote Sept. 14.

Charley Wilkison, executive director of CLEAT, was happy with Tuesday's turn.

"The bottom line is all the wrong things that were done are correctable," he said. "The county made an effort once we called them on it. They said, 'Yes, we'll meet.'"

"When someone pays to join CLEAT, it [CLEAT's backing] doesn't go away. We will sue them to the end of the world if we need to.

"But that's not what we want."



Ida evacuees find comfort here

Damion Henson, left, serves ice cream to Dawn Monroe during Monday's "Uplift Their Spirits" event at Orange's Church of God. Monroe evacuated with 13 family members from her home in LaPlace, Louisiana, in advance of Hurricane Ida. Pastor Demetrius "Demo" Moffett's church on 16th Street had operated as a Red Cross shelter hosting more than 50 who fled the Category 4 hurricane and now look at a long rebuilding challenge. **RECORD PHOTO: Dave Rogers**

Hurricane Ike remembered From Page 1

lines were down."

Along with Texas Avenue resembling a lake, Jones has another roadway remembrance from the wake of Ike.

"When people started gutting their houses, it was a mess," he said. "They had to take all the Sheetrock out, and people put everything on the side of the road.

"Pretty soon, there was just one path, room for one car at a time, on the roads."

A mandatory evacuation had been called on Sept. 11, but folks hurried home to start the long rescue of their homesteads.

"The citizens, No. 1, were the deciding factor," Roccaforte said. "They came back and went to work. They didn't back up.

"Our school officials got the schools back up and brought the kids back to town. That was the beginning of the recovery process.

"But in the end, it was everyone working together – the citizens, the school district, all the surrounding communities. Everybody came together."

Jamey Harrison was superintendent of the Bridge City Independent School District then. Now he's assistant director of the University Interscholastic League, the governing body for Texas school extracurricular activities.

He told The Record in years past that school officials quickly sized up what was at stake.

"We thought if we didn't get the doors open quickly enough, we would risk losing a large number of students and a large number of citizens," he said.

"Getting to a place that's normal for kids is important."

The district was ready to reopen in three weeks, though a two-day delay was required to find FEMA personnel a site besides the high school to operate out of.

Jones recalls that the city had to use bucket loaders to scrape anywhere from four inches to a foot of mud and marsh grass off the streets.

"It was so slick you couldn't drive on it," he said.

The city was able to use generators to keep its water system running before Entergy could recharge the area's power lines.

"We set up a generator at our public works plant, and most everybody in town, we were cooking for them," Jones said.

FEMA trailers eventually popped up everywhere, as residents needed a place to live when they weren't rebuilding their homes.

"We allowed them to park in driveways so people could get back and start building

back.

"It was hard to get contractors to work on your home. We were in our travel trailer for a year."

Jones said the City of Bridge City hired out of town contractors from Dallas to do the repairs at City Hall, the Library and Community Center.

While Harrison remembered a pep rally at Walmart before the Bridge City football team boarded a bus for its first post-hurricane football game as a big thing for the city, Jones remembers no big celebration for the city as a whole.

"I think by the time we got through, we were too tired to have a celebration," he said.

Roccaforte, now an Orange County Commissioner representing Bridge City, had one big thought about Ike to share.

"We continue to have way too many disasters," he said, "but Ike was a lesson learned up-front.

"We've met some challenges much better in the recent disaster, because of what we learned getting through Ike.

"That's the only good thing I can say about it. Bridge City has recovered and flourished, and it continues to grow, even as we speak today."

Mandy Lyda BCCC director From Page 1

She said in the past, she has taken an interest in the chamber, but hadn't done a deep dive into the inner workings of the organization.

"I'm excited to be a part of that and bring our community together," she said. "I'm learning what all the position is." She is starting to learn who the big wigs and important people are in town. She has been getting invaluable assistance from the current chamber president Rani Dillow and chamber ambassador Lucy Fields.

Currently COVID is not affecting chamber events.

"As far as I know, everything is cranking back up, the monthly coffees on the second Tuesday at 8 a.m., then we have our National Night Out on the 5th," said Lyda. "Going forward, the

Christmas Trees...the parade is already up and running."

Lyda hasn't learned all the details of the parade and Christmas Tree auction, but she knows planning is underway and will take place per tradition. She is currently working on updating forms for this year. If anyone is interested in taking part of upcoming events, Lyda said to please contact her at the chamber office at 409-735-5671.

The National Night Out is 6-8 p.m., Oct. 5 at the Bridge City Community Center. The event is free to the public and there will be lots of giveaways, activities for youngsters and food. There are still a few booth spaces available. Contact Lyda if you would like to participate.

The chamber's new web-

site is now up and running.

"The website is beautiful. Everything is working great," said Lyda. "There are lots of pictures of the museum and building. We would love for people to come in and look and see what's all here. The website also shows the director and board of directors."

Lyda is currently working on getting the events calendar up to date. Check out the new website at bridgecitycoc.com.

The Bridge City Chamber of Commerce and the Bridge City Historical Museum.

are located at 150 W. Roundbunch Road. The hours of operation are 8 a.m.- 3 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 8 a.m.- noon on Friday.

Lyda is excited to start serving the community and invites everyone to come by.

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From The Creaux's Nest

Abbott's Approval Rating Lowest Ever

A couple of weeks ago I wrote that Texas Gov. Greg Abbott seemed to be losing favor with women voters. I found that women, especially those with school age children, are unhappy with his handling of COVID-19. Those I spoke with accused Abbott of playing politics with their children's health with his mask mandate. A Texas Politics Project Poll, done before the new state law that allows anyone to sue doctors, cab drivers or others who help provide an abortion after six weeks, found 52 percent of Texans believe Texas is headed in the wrong direction. Political polarization and the governors respond to the February ice storm were sited as short comings for Abbott. His handling of COVID-19 closely mirrored his overall approval number of 53 percent disapproval and only 39 percent approval. This poll was taken before the law known as Senate Bill 8 went into effect Wednesday. The abortion law empowers private citizens to sue anyone who aids and abets anyone seeking an abortion. That issue has yet to be polled in Texas. Nationwide citizens approve by 70 percent of a woman's right to choose. That one issue alone could be a drag on Abbott's re-election. Abbott and friend, Florida governor Ron DeSantis seem to be in a race to curry the Far Right Trump base support in a 2024 presidential race. Both are vying for Trump's endorsement. A Cuban battle is also going on between the Florida governor and Senator Cruz as to who will be the first U.S. Cuban president. My bet is that none of those three can be elected president. Women and Independents will decide elections in midterm and in the 2024 general elections. Intelligent suburban women will make a stand against the end run by Abbott of abortion. Planned Parenthood says, "Like Trump's assault on women, there is a bounty on women in Texas." Women's groups say there is no bottom for today's GOP. Congressional candidates throughout the country will have to stand on one side or the other. Already some Republican incumbents are fearful of running for or against the Texas model abortion bill that has no room for incest, rape, fetal defects or any other reason. The bill might be a heavy load to carry. I heard a Republican say, "That's one issue we could do without. Of all the big issues, from voting rights to open gun carry, the abortion issue will be the one that will carry the most emotion and the issue women will go to war over." On Tuesday Abbott signed a voting restriction law. On its surface it is a racial bill aimed at black, brown, elderly and handicapped voters. It is estimated that it will cost Democrats two million votes in the General Election turnout. It is called voter suppression.

THIS WEEK MARKS SEPTEMBER HISTORICAL EVENTS

Major events in the first two weeks of September

The biggest was 9-11, in 2001. This week marks the 20th anniversary of that terrorist attack. Do you recall where you were or what you were doing at the time. Dwayne Marsh and I watched the two planes hit the Twin Towers and all the other events of that day on a black and white television.***This week on Sept. 13, also marks 13 years since Hurricane Ike blew in and washed Bridge City and Cove away in 2008. Also on Sept. 8, K-Dan's Grocery caught fire and was later rebuilt.***Sixty-four years ago this week, Bridge City High School opened. The school's first graduating class was in 1958. Austin Floyd served as principal from 1957 to 1962. Eight years later, Bridge City High won the county's first football state championship.***On Sept. 8, 1938, 83 years ago, the Rainbow Bridge opened to traffic. I first crossed it with my father in 1940.*** Hurricane Ida, which blew in the first week of Sept., 2021, will be added as one of the most destructive storms from the Gulf Coast to Boston.

CONDOLENCES

Craig Boudreaux, 59, passed away August 28. Funeral services were held Saturday, September 4. Craig was a former Marine and was retired as a deputy sheriff after serving 31 years. He loved life and was way too young to leave us. He was held in high esteem by everyone who knew him. Please see obituary.***Services will be held this Friday, September 10, for Nolan Wayne Deviller, 69, who passed away September 3. Raised in Bridge City, a BC grad, he made many friends along the way. Visitation will be Thursday from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at Claybar Funeral Home in Bridge City. Please see obituary.

Mary Majors, 96, Remembered

Mary passed away August 31. Funeral services were held Saturday, September 4, in Caldwell, Texas. We had known Mary and Dr. Joe Majors since the mid 50's. The best I recall, Dr. Majors might have been the first dentist in Bridge City. The Major's were active in the community for all those years until retirement several years ago. They raised their family here, daughter Marcy, Dr. Chuck and Bo. Mary was a beautiful lady, kind and caring. We are honored to have known this special family. Please see obituary.

TURNING BACK THE HANDS OF TIME 10 Years Ago-2011

NBC's Andrea Mitchell, 64, chief foreign affairs correspondent and host of her own show on MSNBC, announced at the end of the show Wednesday that she has breast cancer. The well known, popular reporter is married to Alan Greenspan, former chairman of the Federal Reserve System. **** Matt and Melissa Bryant are the proud parents of twins, adding to the Bridge City Bryant clan. The twins, William Triton weighed four pounds, seven ounces and Isabella Tristan weighed in at three pounds, seven ounces. Melissa and the kids are doing well but remain under care. Meanwhile, dad went to work Sunday and kicked two field goals for the Falcons in a losing effort. In 2008, the Bryant's lost three-month-old Matthew Tyson to sudden infant death syndrome. **** Doug Harrington is due to start taking treatments in Houston this week. The slab for their new home in Spring, Texas has been laid but for the next few weeks, while he takes treatments, they will be living in a motel.**** There is something wrong with you if you were not impressed and touched by the ceremonies marking the 10th anniversary of Sept. 11, 2001. A resilient nation reflected on its losses. Grieving families joined leaders past and present to pay homage to those lives that ended so violently in New York, and at the Pentagon and Pennsylvania. Bells rang across the land, millions gathered in churches to remember, question, pray and hope. I was touched by the appearance at Shanksville of President George W. Bush, former President Bill Clinton and Vice-president Joe Biden. President Obama quietly made all three sights but it was Vice-president Biden who carried the day. "Never before in our history has America asked so much, over such a sustained period, of an all volunteer force," Biden said. What came to my mind as I watched the day's events was how all this tragedy was implemented by one mind, using only 19 suicide volunteers. Osama Ben Laden, an engineer, had plotted the destruction that changed our lives forever. We will not soon recover from not only the loss of life but from the financial burden that has been placed on our country. The killing of Bin Laden, ordered by the President of the United States, served as a closure. The rat is dead. It's amazing that so little is mentioned about the killing of the worse enemy we have ever had. I'm from the WWII generation, I can't help but think how big a story it would have been if we had looked for Hitler for 10 years and finally found and killed him.

GONE BUT NOT FORGOTTEN Obituaries 10 Years Ago-2011

LaDoris "Doris" West, 75, of Orange, passed away on Friday, Sept. 9. Funeral service was held on Tuesday, Sept. 13. She retired from Little Cypress Mauriceville ISD as a cafeteria manager. She is survived by her daughters; Leila West, Jane Campbell, Mary Picard; son, Wiley West; nine grandchildren and six great grandchildren and one on the way.**** Dorothy "Dotty" Gray Zervavy, 85, of Bridge City, passed Tuesday, Sept. 6. A graveside service was held on Friday, Sept. 9. She was a nurse and had worked in several states and throughout the world. She is survived by children, Dorothy Maria "Didi" Zervavy Allen, Mary Zervavy Johnston, Tom Zervavy, and Marcia "Squeak" Zervavy Scott; step daughter, Iris Hannah Baumann; eleven grandchildren, two step grandchildren; six great grandchildren.**** Milton Dale Elton Johnston, 75, of Orange, passed away on Tuesday, Sept. 13. Graveside service will be held on Wednesday, Sept. 14. He served in the Army and was retired from Temple-Inland Mill as a supervisor. He is survived by his wife Wanda Faye Johnston; sons, Dale Michael Johnston, Gary Don Johnston; brother, John Frank Johnston; three grandchildren and one great grandchild.

14 YEARS AGO-2007

Hurricane Humberto catches area by surprise. When citizens went to sleep Wednesday night they believed a tropical storm would hit near Galveston. John Sinar, 80, of Bridge City, died when his aluminum patio cover fell on him at approximately 5:53 a.m. Thursday morning, Sept. 13, breaking his neck. Margie Stephens, a neighbor, performed CPR for over an hour to no avail. He was pronounced dead at the scene by Justice of the Peace Janice Manard. Orange attorney Jim Dunaway lost his office building due to an electrical surge fire during the storm. Everything was lost.****Bridge City High School celebrated its 50th birthday. Of the first class in 1957, Dr. James "Jimmy" Jones and Raylene McKinney Terrell were named co-parade marshals. Dr. Jones was in the first graduating class in 1958. His school life began at the old Prairie View School. Dr. Jones is president of the BHS Alumni.****Bill and Ellen Nickum are honored with being named Senior Couple in Action by the Bridge City Women in Action organization. June Gregory, a member of the organization said, "Just spend five minutes with the Nickum's and you will know exactly why they were chosen.****Jerry Hussey gave up his position of mayor of Pinehurst to become Precinct 2 constable, replacing the late Parker P.T. Thompson, who died of leukemia and bone cancer last week. He was nominated by Commissioner Owen Burton, who said he has known Hussy since the fifth grade.

23 Years Ago-1998

Tropical storm Frances will long be remembered in Orange County as the storm that never hit but wouldn't go away. According to drainage district manager Ron Sigler, all major drainage arteries are filled and backing up. Orange County got 16-inches of rain despite Frances making landfall 300 miles away at Port O'Connor. Twenty inches of rain to the north will also dump on us. Cow Bayou, normally 30 to 40 feet wide at the county line, is 600 feet wide. Prisoners have filled over 10,000 sandbags and according to Judge Carl Thibodeaux the bags are available to the citizens. **** Joey and Ramona Hargrave are going to have a little one. Joey has been playing dad to many youngsters after thinking he would never have children of his own. He finally figured out how it was done.****Dr. Chuck and Joann Majors are also expecting a baby boy in February. ****Dr. David and Barbara Olsen were shooting a video to send to Fred Gregory who is in Houston taking daily cancer treatments. **** Funeral services were held for Rev. Ed Robinson, 61. The former Bridge City pastor had lived in Jasper for the last eight years. He was also a former Channel 4, KJAC News anchorman. ****The Bridge City Cardinals storm Kelly 35-7 in a really hog wild game. Fullback Daniel Kibodeaux toted the mail for Les Johnson's Cards, 33 totes for 169 yards. Out of the Wing-I, the Cards ran 74 ground

plays. ****The Orangefield Bobcats defeated East Chambers 34-6. Running back Beaux Deville and quarterback Gary Naquin ran up 409 total yards, Danville 166 yards.

43 Years Ago-1978

Sue Pate is unanimously elected committee woman to the State Democratic Executive Committee. Essis Bellfield was chosen alternate committeewoman to the national convention.****Jeannie Fusilier turns 18 years old. ****Mel Kemp becomes Mrs. Joey Campbell. ****Suzanne Halliburton is covering Little Cypress-Mauriceville sports for the Dunn family newspapers. ****The Bridge City EMS ambulance service is now in full 24-hour operation. It's the only city owned ambulance service in the Golden Triangle. Volunteer staffers are James Rucker, Debbie Perry, Betty Frederick, Jane Kovatch, Pam Wells, Penny Mullins, Mike Faulk, Jim Nuber, Rickey Land, Perry Silkwood, Doug Boeham, Steve Baker, Randy Rucker, Jeannene Bean, Paul Dodd, Richard Solomon, Woody Dorman, Don Breaux, Carl Leblanc, Tommy Downey and Laurie Vice. (Editor's note: I recall a lot of those good folks.)

44 Years Ago-1977

Dena Addison was crowned Miss Bridge City by Denise Lormand, former queen.****Saturday, Sept. 26, will be proclaimed Wayne Peveto Day by Price Daniel, Jr., Speaker Bill Clayton, Sen. Carl Parker and state representatives from throughout the state will attend. According to Roy Dunn, co-chairman of the event, entertainment will be furnished by Don Jacobs, Brad Love and Billie Jo Spears. The event will start at 7 p.m. at the DERA clubhouse. Barbecue and all the trimmings will be served. Commissioner's Court and all county cities have proclaimed Saturday Wayne Peveto Day.****The annual ball game between Sen. Carl Parker and his Renegades and Roy Dunn and the Rotarians has been held. Sen. Parker was at his best with his fast and curve balls. Attorney Don Burgess caught for the Rotarians until he completely gave out and was laid to rest under an automobile and fed cold soda pop. He was replaced by Judge Grover Halliburton, who showed he wasn't a pro prospect. The score was 3-1 when Dunn stepped up and slapped a homerun with two on base. The baseball commissioner H.D. Pate called the game before Dunn got to home plate, allowing only the first two runs. The game ended tied 3-3.

A FEW HAPPENINGS

A few folks we know celebrating this week. Sept. 8: Darla Cricchio, Charlie Bollich and Ronnie Bullion.****Sept. 9: Today would have been my buddy Millard "Neighbor" Cox's 98th birthday. I miss him every day. Celebrating birthdays today are Janet Leleux, Sharon Gearhart, Pamela Smith and Jesse Thurman.****Sept. 10: Kelly and John Kimbrough celebrate their wedding anniversary today. Times change, on this anniversary he will probably be doing the color on Friday Nigh Football. Celebrating birthday is my friend Tanyia Birdwell. She'll do to ride the range with. Also celebrating is Lisa Whitman, Ratany So and Jamie Oliphint.****Sept. 11: Happy Birthday to Chris Kovateh, Donna Lanthier and Shannon Sparks.****Sept. 12: Bridge City Penny Record office manager, Jack of all Trades, Brenda Lund celebrates today as does Dustin James, Bryan Riedel, Buffy Bean and Cynthia Claybar.****Sept. 13: A very special lady, Mark's youngest daughter, mother of Phyl and Roy's four grandchildren, Jenna Dunn Ballou celebrates today. Celebrating also is Paige Psencik, Kade Hanks and Connie Swope.****Sept. 14: Friend for over 70 years, Fadra Thibeaux, celebrates today. Once named Mother of the Year in Jefferson County she raised nine children, three sets of twins, three singles. A lot of diapers to wash before pampers. Also celebrating birthdays are Lori Lista, Greg Choate, Nikki Wingate and Kim Norris.

CELEBRITY BIRTHDAYS

Sept. 8: Pop Singer Pink, 39; Politician Bernie Sanders, 77; Actors Johnathan Taylor Thomas, 37 and David Arquette, 47.****Sept. 9: Country Singer Hunter Hayes, 28; Jazz Singer Michael Buble, 44; Actors Adam Sandler, 53 and Hugh Grant, 59.****Sept. 10: Show Host Bill O'Reilly, 72; Actors Colin Firth, 61 and Ryan Phillippe, 47.****Sept. 11: Pop Singer Harry Connick Jr. 54; Actors Taraji P. Henson, 51 and Elizabeth Henstridge, 34.****Sept. 12: Pop Singer Jennifer Hudson, 40; Country Singer Kelsea Ballerini, 28; Basketball Player Yao Ming, 41; Actor Emmy Rossum, 35.****Sept. 13: Producer Tyler Perry, 52; Rascal Flats Guitarist Joe Don Rooney, 47; Reality Star Michelle Duggar, 55.****Sept. 14: Actors Andrew Lincoln, 48 and Sam Neill, 74.

CAJUN STORY OF THE WEEK

Theophile Gaspard showed up at the pool hall sporting two black eye.

"Mais, what happened to you?" Tee-Neg asked. "Well, you know how Camilla has been trying to get me to go to mass wit' her. I went, me. Boy, Tee-Neg, dat is a dangerous place, yeah.

"I was sitting in de pew and dere was dis big fat lady sittin' in front of us and when she got up from kneelin' down, her dress, it was caught in her butt. You know, like de cow eatin' de cabbage. Well, me, I help her. I pull it out."

"Man, dat lady turn aroun' and ka-pow, she hit me hard right in my eye."

"So how you get de other black eye?" asked Tee-Neg. And Theophile say, "Well, me, I figure she don't want it out, so I push it back in like it was."

C'EST TOUT

Only 13 years ago, Sept. 13, Hurricane Ike came blowing in and brought the worse water surge we have ever witnessed. Those of us who had not evacuated were stranded in Bridge City, cut off from the mainland for days. It's amazing today to see the town that wouldn't die. Improvements, new schools, new businesses, new homes and new streets are making a good community better. Many of the old residents have moved away but now younger families are moving in.**** At press time we learned of the death of longtime legendary lawyer and philanthropist Walter Umphrey. He led the Texas trial team that secured billions in a landmark settlement with Big Tobacco and who donated millions of dollars to charitable causes over the course of his lifetime, has passed away. The 85-year-old died of natural causes.**** Don't put off getting a vaccination shot until it's too late. Many more people are dying from the effects of COVID-19 than are being reported. Orange County is one of the worse in the state in fighting the pandemic. Thanks for your readership. Take care and God bless.

Deaths & Memorials

Mary Emma (McLain) Majors, 96 FORMERLY OF BRIDGE CITY

Mary Emma (McLain) Majors, 96, was born in Red River County in Texas, the daughter of the late Bert and Vada McLain. She left this world peacefully in the early hours of August 31.

Visitation and Funeral Services were held on Saturday September 4, 2021 in the chapel of Phillips & Luckey Funeral Home in Caldwell, Texas.

Mary attended Texarkana High, where she met the man who would become her husband and the love of her life, Joe Majors, Jr. They each went on to earn degrees from The University of Texas. Mary's degree in Home Economics would come in handy as Joe pursued his Dental Degree from Baylor Dental School and in life as they began their family. They spent the biggest part of their lives in Bridge City, Texas, where they would raise their three children.

The couple became a mainstay at St. Paul's Methodist Church for 49 years before relocating to the BCS area in 2006 after Hurricane Ike destroyed the family home. Later they became members of A & M United Methodist Church in College Station. Mary and Joe lived a full life before and after retirement. They loved to travel, cruise and enjoyed square and round dancing with clubs. They were Life Masters in the American Contract League and members of duplicate bridge clubs in College Station. She was active as long as she could be with United Methodist women. Mary loved to sew, quilt, and knit. She often had a knitting project going; hats and mittens for preemie newborns, Sweaters for the Mission, and Cancer Caps for those who lost hair and would feel more beautiful with one of her pieces of art. Mary would spend her final years at Arbor Oaks Retirement community in Bryan, Tx. She enjoyed her new friends, putting puzzles to-



Mary Majors

gether, playing chicken foot or bridge, and she likely directed anyone who got out of line!

As her health declined, God seemed to bring her children back to serve her all in unique ways. Bo, the youngest, would leave the priesthood to move back to the area to serve as a licensed social worker. He was able to spend more time with his mom since his early years and spoke to her each night.

He enjoyed their long talks and fondly remembered her sitting by his side as a child for all those piano lessons. Chuck, the middle son, practiced dentistry only two blocks from her until just a month ago and would take a brisk walk and have lunch with her daily during the week. He was the plumber, clock winder, and neat freak regularly cleaning out her refrigerator from Styrofoam container take over.

Marcy cannot be celebrated enough for her service to her mother. She would retire and become Mary's primary caregiver when she no longer drove. She was her grocery shopper, delivery person, regular dinner guest, chief bottle washer, and drug runner! Seriously, Mary could get pretty bossy about those medications! In addition to her parents,

Mary is preceded in death by her husband, Dr. Joe C. Majors, Jr., three sisters, Betty, Vivi, Billy, and her grandson Samuel Rogers III.

Survivors include her daughter, Marcy Rogers of Bryan; son, Dr. Joe C. (Chuck) Majors III and wife JoAn of Caldwell, and Bo Majors of Austin, Tx. Also, by grandsons Deano Divers, J.C. Majors IV, granddaughters Kelli and husband Matt Houston, Katy and husband Joe Williamson and Stacy and husband Chad Davis, and seven great-grandchildren and many nieces and nephews. Express condolences at PhillipsandLuckey.com.

Craig William Boudreaux, 59, Bridge City

Craig William Boudreaux, 59, of Bridge City, passed away on August 28, 2021, in Port Arthur.

Funeral services were held at 2:00 p.m., Saturday, September 4, 2021, at BridgePoint Church in Bridge City. Officiating was Reverend Richard Landry. Burial followed at Hillcrest Memorial Gardens in Orange. Visitation was held from 12:00 p.m. from 2:00 p.m., Saturday, September 4, 2021, at BridgePoint Church in Bridge City. Born in New Iberia, Louisiana, on October 5, 1961, he was the son of Robert Boudreaux and Frances (Bowman) Boudreaux. Craig lived a full life with the heart of a hero. He served bravely in the United States Marines and went on to work the Orange County Sheriff's Department as Corporal and retired after 31 years of service to his community. He always looked forward to "Beer Mondays" with his friends, sharing stories and cracking jokes for hours on end. Craig took great joy in cooking with his "gourmet" recipes, and grilling. He could throw just about anything together and make it taste good. He was incredibly active and enjoyed going to the gym and staying loyal to his workout regimen. Craig loved riding his Harley and looked forward to attending Bandera every year with his brother. He would give the shirt off his back to anyone who needed at any given time and always made those around him feel special and loved. He was very close to his mother and was the best son she could have ever asked for. He often completed to do lists to help his mother out, doing everything he could to make her happy. Craig was an in-



Craig Boudreaux

credible father to his son, whom he was endlessly proud of. Every year he made sure to plan and carry out a father-son road trip, that will remain in Colton's heart forever. Craig was a firm believer in road maps and not using a GPS, no matter how convenient it might've been at times. He believed Neosporin and a bandaid would cure anything, especially his toecap. LLC. (Live Like Craig) His life long dream was to live in Costa Rica on the beach and drink cold beer. We can only hope there is clear water, white sand beaches, and an ice cold beer waiting for him in heaven.

He was not a regular church goer, but lived his life as a Christian. He was preceded in death by his father, Robert "Pop" Boudreaux; and grandparents, Otis & Inez Boudreaux and Helen & George Savoy.

He is survived by his mother, Frances Boudreaux; son, Colton Boudreaux; siblings, Angie Boudreaux Barrows of Bridge City, Stuart Boudreaux and fiancé Hope Simon of Bridge City; nieces and nephews, Kyndall Boudreaux, Kayla Rippeon, Brock Barrows and fiancé Karissa and Bree Barrows Sweat and husband Alex; mother of his child, Crystal Yocham; and his New Orleans Lady, Wendy Reed.

Serving as pallbearers will be Colton Boudreaux, Stuart Boudreaux, Gary LaChance, Paul Neely, Chris Hall, Mark Jones, Brad Crone and Marty Klucik. Honorary pallbearers are his Brothers in Blue, Beer Monday Crew, Carroll LeBlanc, Mickey Brones and Ronnie Richard. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made to St. Jude's at www.stjude.org.

Randolph (Randy) R Reed, 69, Bridge City

Randy Reed, 69, passed away on August 24, 2021 in Las Vegas, Nevada after an illness. Randy was born in Oceanside, California and moved to Bridge City, Texas as a young child. He grew up in Bridge City and graduated from Bridge City High School in 1970. He worked at DuPont in Orange and owned a Dive Shop in Bridge City. He was an avid scuba diver and explored sunken treasure sites. He never met a stranger and would give all that he had to help someone in need. He is preceded in death by his mother, Betty Reed and his grandparents, Tessie and Randolph Reed, Sr.

He is survived by his children: Kristina (Reed) Clavijo(husband Andres Clavijo) of Lancaster NY and his son Joshua Reed of Dover, New Jersey, his father Randolph (Randy) Reed, Jr of San Antonio, TX, his sister Christy (Reed) Robbins and her husband James R (Dicky) Robbins of College Station, TX, his sister Kellie Reed of Hondo, TX, his brother Ricky Reed of Killeen, TX, and his grandchildren Carly and Rosalyn Clavijo of Lancaster, NY.

A private family ceremony will be held and his ashes placed in the ocean to honor his life.

Daniel Fells Jr., 71, Bridge City

Daniel Fells Jr., 71, of Bridge City, Texas, passed away Wednesday, August 25, 2021 at Christus St. Elizabeth Hospital in Beaumont, Texas. He was born on May 20th, 1950 in Port Arthur, Texas to Daniel David Fells Sr. and Lois Elaine Vincent Fells.



Daniel Fells Jr.

Dan was a lifelong resident of Port Neches and Bridge City. He graduated from Port Neches Groves High School in 1968, and shortly thereafter he became an electrician and educator for Apprenticeship IBEW Local 479. During that time he was a volunteer firefighter for the Bridge City Fire Department, and later he became the Administrator of Oak Groves Nursing Home.

Dan is survived by his son Daniel Chester

Fells and his daughter DonNiece Fells Mann and husband Chace Mann of Bridge City. He has four grandchildren, Naomi Fells, Taya Fells, Elijah Mann, and Isaiah Mann of Bridge City.

He is preceded in death by William Loren Fells, father Dan Fells Sr. and mother Lois Elaine Vincent Fells.

He is survived by two sisters Rhonda Hudgins of Lumberton and Cheryl Jones and husband Gaylon Jones of Bridge City.

He leaves behind numerous nieces and nephews and friends.

Dan was a loving father, grandfather, brother, and friend and helped so many people. He will be dearly missed by all who knew him. A celebration of life was held at Orange Boating Club Friday Sept., 3rd, 6:00 p.m.

Robert Hugo "Buddy" Stelter, 83, Orange

Robert Hugo "Buddy" Stelter, 83, of Orange, Texas died September 2. He was born in Mart, Texas on January 26, 1938 to Freda Steinke Stelter and Adolf Stelter.



"Buddy" Stelter

Robert graduated from Little Cypress High School in 1956. He graduated from Tyler Junior College in 1958 and Texas Lutheran College in 1960. He attended these colleges on basketball scholarships.

Upon graduation he returned to Orange and was employed by Firestone Petrochemical for 42 years.

In 1959 he married Ann Armstrong. They had two sons, Robert "Bob" Stelter and Richard "Dick" Stelter. He has four grandchil-

dren: Lauren Stelter (husband Bryson Spurling), Stephen Stelter, William Stelter (wife Casey), and Carol Ann Stelter. He has one great-grandchild, Maddox Spurling. Robert was a member of Trinity Lutheran Church where he served as Sunday School Superintendent. He served on the church council. His current church home is Good Shepherd Lutheran in Bridge City.

He loved his family and friends and will be missed by those who knew him.

Memorial contributions should be directed to Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 945 W. Roundbunch Road, Bridge City, Texas 77661. Private graveside memorial pending. Cremation will be held under the direction of Claybar Funeral Home.

Wayne Devillier, 69, Orange

Nolan Wayne Devillier, 69, of Orange, passed away on September 3, 2021, in Orange. A Mass of Christian Burial will be at 10:00 a.m., Friday, September 10 at St. Henry Catholic Church in Bridge City. Officiating will be Father Earnie Carpio. Burial will follow at Hillcrest Memorial Gardens in Orange. Visitation will be from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., Thursday, at Claybar Funeral Home in Bridge City. A Rosary will be held at 7:00 p.m., Thursday, at Claybar Funeral Home in Bridge City.



Wayne Devillier

Born in Eunice, Louisiana, on November 30, 1951, he was the son of Nolan Joseph Devillier and Mary Nell Tate. Wayne was raised in Bridge City, and graduated from

Bridge City High School.

He was a devout Catholic and a dedicated member of St. Henry Catholic Church.

Wayne was a proud business owner of the Hitching Post in Bridge City for 45 years.

He will be missed dearly by those who knew and loved him.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Nolan and Nell Devillier; sisters, Ginger Gunter and Kathy Walker.

He is survived by his sister, Gwen Titus and husband Tony of Bridge City; nieces, Shelly Hollier, Kim Titus - Sergeant, Missy Daville, Terri McGavock, and Nikki Pruet; nephews, Chuck Wilson and Scott Wilson; 24 great nieces and nephews; and 15 great-great nieces and nephews.

Russell Richard Dickerson, 86, Orange

Russell Richard Dickerson, 86, of Orange, passed away on September 3, in Beaumont. Graveside services will be 10:00 a. m., Thursday, September 9, at Hillcrest Memorial Gardens in Orange.



Russell Dickerson

Born in Floyd County, Virginia, on March 15, 1935, he was the son of Albert Dickerson and Gladys (Agnew) Dickerson. Russell lived an interesting and fully active life. Not only was he a self-employed Heavy Equipment Operator and served in the Navy; he loved fish, shrimp, deep sea fishing with his cousin Butch Myers, and just sitting in a boat while fishing with his son. Richard was a man that could fix anything and enjoyed working on cars, especially hot rods. He was the most dependable man there was, he always came to the rescue when any-

one needed something. Richard meant a lot to many people and will be deeply missed by those that held him close.

Richard was preceded in death by his parents, Albert and Gladys Dickerson; wife, Jane Dickerson; siblings, Howard Dickerson, Jim Dickerson, Wayne Dickerson, Albert Dickerson, Jr., Helen Howell, Lucille Dickerson, Roger Dickerson, as well as his infant brother, Raymond Dickerson.

He is survived by his children, Russell Richard "Ricky" Dickerson, Jr., and Edith Reese and husband Ned; grandchildren, Janey Schwegel and husband Michael, Stacy Trammell, and Blaine O'Quinn; and great-grandchildren, Naomi Fells, Taya Fells, Tegan Schwegel, Aiden Taylor, Jaxon Taylor, and Sophia Trammell.



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When the storm becomes fearful



Pastor Charles Empey

Pastor Charles Empey
Columnist
For The Record

Luke 8:23-25 "But as they sailed he fell asleep: and there came down a storm of wind on the lake; and they were filled with water, and were in jeopardy. And they came to him, and awoke him, saying, Master, master, we perish. Then he arose, and rebuked the wind and the raging of the water: and they ceased, and there was a calm. And he said unto them, Where is your faith? And they being afraid wondered, saying one to another, What manner of man is this! for he commandeth even the winds and water, and they obey him."

How are you handling life lately? Have you been a little nervous at least about world affairs and where our country stands in security? Do you have other problems (storms) looming over your life? Are you having fearful moments as the storm rages in the world and especially with our own country? Maybe you are facing cancer or other disease of some sort that is overwhelming you, threatening your future. Storms of life are often more than a hurricane, tornado or tropical storm. Sometimes it is much more personal...so personal that it seems to dwarf the rest of the world's problems.



It got real personal with the disciples in our Bible account on a day in their's and Jesus' life. They sailed away in a calm weather, nice day, but it was after they were out in the Sea of Galilee that it got real serious. Suddenly there was a storm that came up that overtook any other problems any of them might have been having in life. They were facing death in a storm. It didn't take them long to recognize that this was something that was way beyond their capability to resolve. They were facing drowning and not seeing their families on earth again. They called upon Jesus and He stepped to the front of the boat and stopped the winds immediately and they were saved. The storm in their life was handled by Jesus.

The last phrase of the last paragraph is the answer to your storm. "The storm in their life was handled by Jesus."

Are you running out of doctors? Are you running out of counselors? Have you been told by the medical profession or legal profession, there is nothing that can be done, we've done all we can? That leaves you in your storm, feeling threatened, because you still feel in danger, Maybe life-threatening danger.

In the New Testament you see Jesus summoned at different times for different crises. It was always something that they nor anyone else could resolve. So they summoned Jesus to come to the bow of their boat of life and calm the storm. It is a popular saying, "Jesus is the answer." Most certainly He is.

Acts 4:12 says, "Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved." This remains true today. Here, it is speaking specifically of being saved in

soul from sin and hell. But I feel safe in saying that He is available to all who have called upon Him, believing He is their personal Savior, to call upon for all else to be saved from in their life. This has been my experience as a believer. When I was nineteen years of age, I believed upon Him as my personal Savior from sin and hell and have relied upon Him for everything else since then, calling upon Him many, many more times for so much more in life to be saved from. His final thing to save me from in life is death, and He promised that when death comes it will not touch me.

Through life from financial storms to health storms, and then there are the "children" storms, and you name it that I have called upon Him and He first gave me peace, then He resolved the storm.

He gives me peace first,

because I come to Him literally trusting Him to calm the storm, meet the need. He has delivered me from cancer before, and more recently two stage 4 cancers. He has delivered me and so many more from hurricanes and tropical storms, as well. I have been threatened by man, disease and finance storms. He has never quit riding in and sleeping in the bottom of my boat of life from that first day I invited Him into my life by faith as my Savior and, listen to me....THE LORD OF MY LIFE. He is the Lord (Master) of my life and is always ready to administer His expertise in my deliverance. He has promised to deliver me at every beckoning call right through the veil of death. Paul declares in I Corinthians 15 our victory over death in Christ, as He has conquered death and the grave in His resurrection. Washed my sins away on the cross and destroyed, yea, claimed power and victory over death and the grave. He has given every true believer that. I have entrusted Him with my family, finances and health and anything else that becomes a storm in my life. I call upon Him and He gives me peace and then the victory.

May I say, also, He hasn't always calmed the storm in the way I thought He would nor in the time I thought He should. All He has asked of

me is to trust Him as He brings the calm to it and my boat of life to dock in peace.

True story...I heard about a tug boat that was ushering coal barges down a river. He looked ahead and saw the water up to the bottom of the bridge. He released the barges and suddenly was caught up in the current and was swept toward the bridge. At the bridge he and his tug went completely under the water and bridge and out the other side. Spectators said that they thought he was a gonner. But out the other side the tug popped up upright and the Captain still at the helm and his two 1800 horse power engines still running. The baluster of a tug boat, the cement in the bottom of the boat keeps it balanced to always remain or return immediately upright. Our faith in our personal "storm chaser", Jesus, is always well spent in the midst of our storms of life. He will keep you upright in it all. Just call upon Him, give Him the details and ask Him to resolve it, trusting Him to do it perfectly...maybe not what you think is perfect, but what is His holy perfection. We can live in peace in the midst of a crazy world and when on top of that our personal world goes crazy.

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

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www.fbcbc.org
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Adult, Youth, Children
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Wednesday Schedule 6:30 p.m.
Prayer Meeting
Youth & Children's Activities
Pastor: Keith Royal

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Pastor: Valerie Sansing
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Wednesday evening services: Youth and Children 6:00 p.m., Praise and Prayer 6:00 p.m.,
Pastor Cody Hogden
Email: office@fbcof.com / Website: www.fbcof.com

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Jon Brinlee, Pastor
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Trout Bite Steadily Improving

FISHING
CAPT. DICKIE COLBURN
For The Record



Dickie Colburn

"We had kinfolk from Kansas drive down this weekend just because I promised them we would catch speckled trout without ever launching a boat," said Paul Withers. "I never thought about the possibility of a tent or volleyball goal every fifty feet which demolished my Crystal Beach program!"

"We managed to find a little more space at McFadden Monday morning and they were able to take home a couple of bags of fillets. There aren't many speckled trout or reds in Kansas so their fish fry will be a treat."

"I begged them to stay one more day knowing the beach would green up and flatten out Tuesday morning, but there was no way, said Withers. "We stayed on Crystal Tuesday and a neighbor and I caught two to four pound trout all morning long"

We are going to see more of those kind of days with a north wind becoming the prevailing wind on a more frequent basis. Paul said that if you just want to enjoy fewer but more violent strikes, tie on a chrome/chartreuse Top Dog, but if you prefer a strike on every cast go with a half-ounce gold spoon. For this program, a conventional wobble spoon with a treble hook works just fine.

As predicted by many of the local anglers that have been homesteading the jetties and lower ship channel for months, the trout bite in the lake improved following the hurricane.

COLBURN:FISHING Page 2B

NFL season kicks-off tomorrow

KAZ'S KORNER
Joe Kazmar
For The Record



Joe Kazmar

Looking at the National Football League from my point of view, the picture isn't too pretty for our two franchises in the Lone Star State—the Houston Texans and the Dallas Cowboys—especially the Texans.

We'll be able to see what the Cowboys look like tomorrow night when they lock horns with the World Champion Tampa Bay Buccaneers to open the 2021 NFL season. If they look competitive, they could very well be a factor in the NFC East Division.

One of the big question marks—has quarterback Dak Prescott fully recovered from his season-ending injury from 2020—could be answered quickly tomorrow night.

And will ageless Tom Brady be able to lead his team to a second-straight Super Bowl? Luckily, he has a great supporting cast surrounding him which should make the job much easier.

Sunday's Houston Chronicle had a special section devoted mainly to the Houston Texans, and also had a poll from its sports writers who cover the



One of the big question marks—has quarterback Dak Prescott fully recovered from his season-ending injury from 2020—could be answered quickly tomorrow night.

NFL on how they expect the teams to fare after Game 17 in early January.

Strangely enough, not one of the beat writers thought Tampa Bay would be good enough to make it past being named the division champions. Each writer did pick the Buccaneers to win the NFC South Division, but none had

them as their projected NFC champion. All but one jumped back on the Kansas City Chiefs' bandwagon to win the Super Bowl.

The beat writer who follows the Texans almost exclusively was rather

KAZ'S KORNER Page 2B

Kaz's Fearless Football Forecast...

★ **CARTHAGE over WEST ORANGE-STARK**

The Mustangs game against Cooper has been canceled and Carthage has an open date creating an opportunity for two possible state championship games. The Mustangs need another game with an opponent that is as strong or stronger than Nederland and Carthage fills the bill.

★ **HUFFMAN over BRIDGE CITY**

The Cardinals also need to play a high-profile opponent and found one in Huffman. Hopefully the Redbirds will play as well or better than in last week's victory over Tarkington.

★ **LITTLE CYPRESS-AURICEVILLE OVER KATY JORDAN**

Most teams in the Katy ISD are very competitive, but we don't know much about this one. If the Battlin' Bears continue to improve each week, they should come out on top tomorrow (Thursday) night.

★ **ORANGFIELD over LIVINGSTON**

We underestimated the Bobcats' talent level last week and believe they will continue this great play Friday at McClain Stadium.

★ **VIDOR over BRAZOSPORT**

The Pirates are shooting for their third victory in as many games but may find a stubborn opponent,

★ **UTSA over LAMAR**

★ **LSU OVER MCNEESE STATE**

Both teams must have been looking past their opponent last week and paid for it with a loss. LSU was favored by 2 1/2 points over UCLA and were completely outclassed while the Cowboys were favored by a touchdown over West Florida and also were upset 42-36.

AREA HIGH SCHOOLS—

Port Arthur Memorial over Crosby, Montgomery over Beaumont United, Beaumont West Brook over Houston Lamar, Port Neches-Groves over Tomball, Baytown Lee over Lumberton, Evadale over Merryville (La.).

COLLEGE—Duke over North Carolina A&T, Utah State

SEE KAZ'S FEARLESS FORECAST Page 2B



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Colburn: Fishing

From Page 1B

Ronnie Frederick and Bill Bates found limits two days in a row drifting the Causeway reef and several anglers reported finding more Texas legal trout fishing in the lake under the birds.

Frederick was not bumping the bottom as most local anglers do. Even when it was the accepted technique he fished suspended lures or tails that he could swim on a lighter head. I cannot tell you how many times he returned with limits when the rest of us failed to catch fish at all.

"I am still doing the same thing," said Frederick, "but I now spend more time catching than hunting fish thanks to the new electronics. Can you imagine what we would have done with these electronics when the reefs were just covered with big trout? How many times a day did you throw a marker over the side and hope you could drift it again without company?"

I won't include his name as he doesn't care to stir the pot, but an old friend and great crappie guide, says the white perch bite never slowed down for him last weekend. He noted, "I had a corporate group out of Houston cancel because of Covid and that might have kept more folks at home."

His modest complaint was that more and more weekend fishermen simply ride the lake looking for brush piles that they didn't build. "That's not like finding your own piece of natural structure," he pointed out.

His solution thus far has been to simply add more brush piles. It's a lot of work," he added, "but the way I build them they are easy to re-brush when needed." He also said that he is still fishing minnows exclusively and the fish he has kept have averaged about a pound apiece.

"I think everyone in the club was either fishing Indian Creek or drifting on McGee's," reported Brandon Cook. "We only had fifteen boats show up as a lot of our members are helping relatives devastated by the hurricane, but ten of the teams brought in five fish limits and the big bass weighed 7.4-pounds.

"We caught a lot of our bass on a small watermelon or pumpkin brush Hog," said Cook, "but the winning big bass ate a five inch finesse worm. We caught and released a boat load of Kentucky bass so they must be doing well!"

"Now that they are getting power back on in more areas we won't be fishing tournaments for a while," added Cook. "We have a family living with us right now that doesn't even have a home to return to!"

Reverend Bobby Daniel, minister at the First Presbyterian Church, will drive down to the hardest hit parishes in a week or so with gift cards and donations to help folks struggling to start all over again. The church will also be providing on-campus housing for PDA volunteers still helping Lake Charles area residents re-build.

If you would like to help these folks and need more information, you can call me at 409-313-3120 or the church office at 409-883-2097.

Kaz's Korner

From Page 1B

kind to the team when he predicted they would better last year's 4-12 record by giving them an extra victory with a 5-12 final record. Many football writers think Houston will have trouble garnering one win this season.

This is my annual Figerin' Filbert prediction of how each division will end up in January:

AMERICAN FOOTBALL CONFERENCE

South Division

Tennessee Titans
Indianapolis Colts
HOUSTON TEXANS
Jacksonville Jaguars

North Division

Cleveland Browns
Pittsburgh Steelers
Baltimore Ravens
Cincinnati Bengals

East Division

Buffalo Bills
New England Patriots
Miami Dolphins
New York Jets

West Division

Kansas City Chiefs
LA Chargers
Las Vegas Raiders
Denver Broncos

NATIONAL FOOTBALL CONFERENCE

East Division

DALAS COWBOYS
Philadelphia Eagles
Washington No-Names
New York Giants

North Division

Green Bay Packers
Chicago Bears
Minnesota Vikings
Detroit Lions

South Division

Tampa Bay Buccaneers
New Orleans Saints
Atlanta Falcons
Carolina Panthers

West Division

LA Rams
Seattle Seahawks
Arizona Cardinals
San Francisco 49ers

After the Wild Card, Division Champions and AFC champion has been decided, the Kansas City Chiefs and the Green Bay Packers will be playing in the Super Bowl and the Chiefs will come out on top.

I believe the quarterbacks—KC's Patrick Mahomes and



Patrick Cantlay is \$15 million richer after claiming the FedEx Cup Sunday by beating challenging Spaniard Jon Rahm by three shots and winning his fourth PGA Tour tournament this season.

Green Bay's Aaron Rodgers--are quite comparable talent-wise. But I believe the Chiefs' head coach Andy Reid has a big advantage and should lead his team to the Lombardi Trophy.

KWICKIES...

Someone quipped after LSU was upset by UCLA 38-27 Saturday night that if someone sees LSU coach Ed Orgeron on a pogy boat in the near future it might be because his Tigers still have a very porous defense, like they did last year and he received his pink slip. This season depends on his future at the school.

I was impressed by the way Alabama covered its 20-point spread against Miami. Now the big question is the Crimson Tide that good or was Miami over-rated? I think it's a little of each.

The Houston Astros continue to lose games in the late innings because of a bullpen that's great in one game and lousy in another. With the lead they have built in the AL West standings, the Astros should be coasting during this final month of the season. The Oakland A's also are having a tough time as the Seattle Mariners have moved into second place in the standings. I believe Houston gave up too much offense to trade for those four "shut-down" relievers that aren't shutting down anything.

Patrick Cantlay is \$15 million richer after claiming the FedEx Cup Sunday by beating challenging Spaniard Jon Rahm by three shots and winning his fourth PGA Tour tournament this season.

JUST BETWEEN US...

The high school picks were hard to do this week because so many school districts are closed and I wasn't sure which games were still on for Friday night and which schools picked up another game. The college picks were much easier because several mediocre teams were playing Top 25 schools for what I refer to as their "sacrificial lamb" games where the small school get mutilated by the bigger one for a nice payday for the losing school.

Kaz's Fearless Football Forecast

From Page 1B

over North Dakota and Boise State over UTEP (all Friday); Alabama over Mercer, Oklahoma over Western Carolina, Clemson over South Carolina State, Ohio State over Oregon, Georgia over UAB, Texas A&M over Colorado, Iowa over Iowa State, Cincinnati over Murray State, North Carolina over Georgia State, Wisconsin over Eastern Michigan, Florida over South Florida, Miami over Appalachian State, Southern Cal over Stanford, Indiana over Idaho, Penn State over Ball State, Michigan over Washington, Texas over Arkansas, Utah over BYU, Arizona State over UNLV, Virginia over Illinois, Army over Western Kentucky, Syracuse over Rutgers, Notre Dame over Toledo, Purdue over UConn, Air Force over Navy, Liberty over Troy, Maryland over Howard, Au-

burn over Alabama State, South Carolina over East Carolina, Tennessee over Pittsburgh, Georgia Tech over Kennesaw State, Wake Forest over Norfolk State, Oklahoma State over Tulsa, Virginia Tech over Middle Tennessee, South Alabama over Bowling Green, West Virginia over Long Island, Western Michigan over Illinois State, Marshall over North Carolina Central, Central Florida over Bethune-Cookman, North Carolina State over Mississippi State, Texas State over Florida Atlantic, Southern Mississippi over Grambling, Louisville over Eastern Kentucky, Memphis over Arkansas State, Missouri over Kentucky, Ole Miss over Austin Peay, Florida State over Jacksonville State, Michigan State over Youngstown State, Minnesota over Miami, O.,

Northwestern over Indiana State, Northern Illinois over Wyoming, Kansas State over Southern Illinois, California over TCU, Houston over Rice, Louisiana Tech over Southeastern Louisiana, SMU over North Texas, Vanderbilt over Colorado

State, Texas Tech over Stephen F. Austin, Tulane over Morgan State, Louisiana-Lafayette over Nicholls State, New Mexico over New Mexico State, Nebraska over Buffalo, Washington State over Portland State, Arizona over San Diego State, Fresno State

over Cal Poly, Nevada over Idaho State, Oregon State over Hawaii.

Pro Picks

Tampa Bay over Dallas (Thursday Night); Houston over Jacksonville (Upset Special), Seattle over Indianapolis, Atlanta over Philadelphia, LA Chargers over Washington, Buffalo over

Pittsburgh, San Francisco over Detroit, Minnesota over Cincinnati, Carolina over NY Jets, Tennessee over Arizona, Kansas City over Cleveland, New England over Miami, Denver over NY Giants, Green Bay over New Orleans, LA Rams over Chicago (all Sunday); Baltimore over Las Vegas (Monday Night).

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★ Friday Night Football Highlights ★



The Mustang defense, led by Demetrius Hunter and Bryson Jordan stuff LCM's Da'Marian Morris.
RECORD PHOTO: Meri Elen Jacobs



WOS quarterback Landon Heath looks for a receiver downfield as the Mustangs roll to a 30-20 win over the Little Cypress-Mauriceville Bears.
RECORD PHOTO: Meri Elen Jacobs



Mustang runningback Jamaal Shaw takes the handoff from quarterback Landon Heath. Shaw was the leading rusher for the Mustangs.
RECORD PHOTO: Meri Elen Jacobs

6th Annual Michael Hoke Outdoor Awareness for Kids

The Texas A&M AgriLife Extension office is having The 6th Annual Michael Hoke Memorial Outdoor Awareness for Kids. This program teaches kids about the outdoors. It is for ages 8 to 14 and is on September 18th from 9 am to 2 pm with check-in starting at 8:30. Cost of this program is \$10. The location will be at Claiborne West Park at 4105 North St. Vidor, TX. We recommend closed toe shoes only, no sandals. To register go to Orange.agrilife.org and click on the registration link. Deadline to register is September 10th, 2021. If you have any questions call the Extension office at 409-882-7010.

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Rotarians name Bridge City 'Student of the Month'

The Bridge City/Orangefield Rotary Club presented Kinley Dupuis their Bridge City September Student of the Month Award. Upon graduation Kinley intends to pursue an Engineering degree from A&M University. Accompanying Kinley in her award presentation are Tim Wooley (BCHS Principal), proud parents Nikki Dupuis and Philip Dupuis, Kinley (Student), Lisa Huckaby (HS Counselor), Dr. Mike Kelly (BCISD Superintendent) and Meg Brown (Rotary President).



Rotarians name Orangefield 'Student of the Month'

The Bridge City/Orangefield Rotary Club awarded Koltin Marshall as their Orangefield September Student of the Month. Upon graduation Koltin plans to attend A&M University and pursue a Chemical Engineering degree. Pictured with Koltin are Shaun McAlpin (OF Superintendent), Britni Briggs (Counselor), Casey Marshall (Mother), Koltin (Student), Robbie Marshall (Father), Rea Wrinkle (OFHS Principal), and Meg Brown (Rotary President).



Lamar State College - Orange President Dr. Tom Johnson meets with Lamar University President Jamie Taylor

LSCO hosts Lamar University President Dr. Taylor

Dr. Tom Johnson, President of Lamar State College Orange (LSCO), and his wife, Karen Johnson, hosted new Lamar University President Dr. Jaime Taylor and his wife, Stacy Taylor, on the campus of Lamar State College Orange, for Dr. Taylor's first official visit to LSCO.

"We couldn't be more thrilled that Dr. Taylor has joined us in Southeast Texas to transform lives through education. Dr. Taylor is a product of a two-year school like myself, and has shared his passion for two-year degrees with me. We are honored to host him and his wife, Stacy, here at their first visit to our beautiful college on the Sabine," said Dr. Tom Johnson.

Dr. Jaime Taylor was the sole finalist after a national search to replace retiring Lamar University President, Dr. Ken Evans. Dr. Taylor comes most recently from Marshall University in Huntington, West Virginia, where he served since 2018 as Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs. Previously, he had spent most of his career at Austin Peay State University in Clarksville, Tennessee. Dr. Taylor has extensive experience partnering with two-year colleges during his time in Tennessee.

"I foresee our colleges working incredibly well together in the many years to come. This is the beginning of a beautiful partnership," said Dr. Johnson.

Applications sought for Texas Game Warden Cadet classes

Staff Report For The Record

AUSTIN –The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) is currently accepting applications for their 65th Texas Game Warden Cadet class.

As fully commissioned peace officers, game wardens are responsible for the enforcement of Texas laws across the state including water safety, natural resource protection and environmental management. Unconstrained by city or county jurisdictions, Texas Game Wardens patrol the state's natural waterways, oversee hunting and fishing regulation, and often support local landowners. More widely known, are the specialized skills that have made them a reliable resource for disaster response.

"Texas Game Wardens have a long and proud tradition of protecting and conserving the State's valuable natural resources. That includes our waterways, landscapes, and the wildlife we enjoy daily," said Col. Chad Jones, TPWD Law Enforcement Director who stressed that the role of a game warden goes beyond the badge.

"Not only are game wardens trained in a number specialized fields like search and rescue and disaster response, we are members of the community. We are out in our neighborhoods hosting fishing events, educating boaters, and encouraging another generation of Texans to enjoy and preserve the outdoors."

For those interested in becoming a Texas Game Warden, applications are being accepted from Sept. 7 to Oct 8. Applicants must be 21 years of age with a bachelor's degree from an accredited college. For a list of require-

ments, please visit the TPWD Game Warden recruitment webpage.

All cadets who are accepted to the program are required to live at the Game Warden Training Center near Hamilton, Texas for the duration of the 33-week training period, set to begin Oct. 2022. Follow this link to watch a video encapsulating the Texas Game Warden training experience. For more information, check the game warden career webpage or contact Texas Game Warden recruiter Chelsea Bailey at chelsea.bailey@tpwd.texas.gov.

Bridge City ISD Earns State's Highest Fiscal Accountability Rating

Bridge City Independent School District officials announced that the district received a rating of "A" for "Superior" under Texas' School FIRST financial accountability rating system. The "Superior" rating is the state's highest, demonstrating the quality of Bridge City ISD's financial management and reporting system. A public meeting will be held at the BCISD Administration Building, 1031 W. Roundbunch Rd. on Monday September 20, 2021 at 6 p.m. to present the School FIRST rating.

Michael Hoke Outdoor Awareness for Kids Sept. 18

The Texas A&M AgriLife Extension office is having The 6th Annual Michael Hoke Memorial Outdoor Awareness for Kids. This program teaches kids about the outdoors and other activities. It is for ages 8 to 14 and is on September 18th from 9 am to 2 pm with check-in starting at 8:30. Cost of this program is \$10. The location will be at Claiborne West Park at 4105 North St, Vidor, TX. We recommend closed toe shoes only, no sandals. To register go to Orange.agrilife.org and click on the registrations link. Deadline to register is September 10th, 2021. If you have any questions call the Extension office at 409-882-7010.



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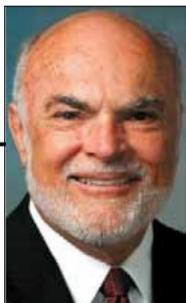
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My 5-Cents

State Senator Robert Nicholds



We continue to hold our friends in Louisiana in our prayers after Hurricane Ida made landfall as a Category 4 hurricane this week. Texas was proud to send a Chinook helicopter, 14 crew members, 30 fire engines, and 132 firefighters to aid in hurricane recovery efforts.

Here are five things happening around your state:

1. COVID-19 antibody treatment center opens in Nacogdoches

The Texas Division of Emergency Management in conjunction with Nacogdoches County, the City of Nacogdoches, and Nacogdoches Medical Center launched a new COVID-19 therapeutic infusion center in Nacogdoches. The center uses Regeneron's monoclonal antibodies to treat outpatient cases of COVID-19. Importantly, patients need a referral from a doctor to receive the treatment. This treatment is available at no cost to the patient. This new center ensures that East Texans have access to high quality treatment options at no cost. The Regeneron treatment is shown to prevent a patient's symptoms from worsening to the point of

hospitalization. There are also more than 200 private health providers across the state who provide the antibody infusion treatment, including 15 in Senate District 3. To find a provider near you, visit www.meds.tdem.texas.gov.

2. Hogg Foundation awards \$3.75 million in grants

The Hogg Foundation announced grants to five organizations for the second phase of the Well-Being in Rural Communities initiative. The grants totaled \$3.75 million. One of the awardees was Better Together, a group in Nacogdoches dedicated to improving the mental and physical health of all residents in Nacogdoches County. The grants are designed to support collaborative approaches to well-being in rural communities. During the first phase of the program, awardees were successful in completing baseline assessments of communities needs, developing identities and brands, and elevating themselves to a

leadership role in their communities.

3. Funding for securing the border passed House, Senate

House Bill 9 was finally passed by the Senate this week, sending the measure to Governor Abbott's desk. The legislation appropriates \$1.8 billion for securing our southern border. This bill appropriates funds for activities related to the border crisis in the Office of Court Administration, the Texas Military Department, the Department of Public Safety, the Department of Criminal Justice, the Commission on Jail Standards, the Department of State Health Services, and programs within the Governor's Office. There are ongoing threats of property crime, human trafficking, violent crime, to public health, and violations of sovereignty and territorial integrity. These funds will provide additional appropriations for overtime and staffing related to border security efforts.

4. Election integrity bill going to Governor

After hours of debate during regular session and two special sessions, Senate Bill 1, the election integrity bill, is finally passed and headed to the Governor's desk. It was named an emergency item by the Governor at the beginning of regular session and has been on the call for both special sessions. Ensuring the security and validity of our elections are central to the democratic process.

Voting is a sacred right and any form of illegal voting is a violation of that right. This bill expands voting access by expanding voting hours and ensures voters in line at closing time during early voting can vote. It also gives disabled Texans more options when voting. This bill makes it easier to vote and harder to cheat. I was proud to vote for this legislation and look forward to the Governor signing it into law.

5. Bail reform legislation passes

Another priority bill that was held up during the regular session and both special sessions was Senate Bill 6, the bail reform bill. SB 6 is the enacting legislation for Senate Joint Resolution 3, which proposed a constitutional amendment codifying the changes in the bail system made in the bill. While SB 6 did pass and will become law with Governor Abbott's signature, the SJR did not receive a two-thirds vote of the House, so the measure will not be on a constitutional ballot election. SB 6 prohibits the release of violent offenders on personal bonds or the release of offenders who are charged with additional crimes while out on bail. It also requires more judicial training, data collection, and that officials examine a defendant's criminal history before setting bail. The bill is also known as the Damon Allen Act, named after State Trooper Damon Allen who was ambushed, shot, and killed following a traffic stop. His accused murderer had been previously convicted of assaulting a sheriff's deputy and was out on bond on an aggravated assault of a public servant charge.

Teal season opens this Saturday

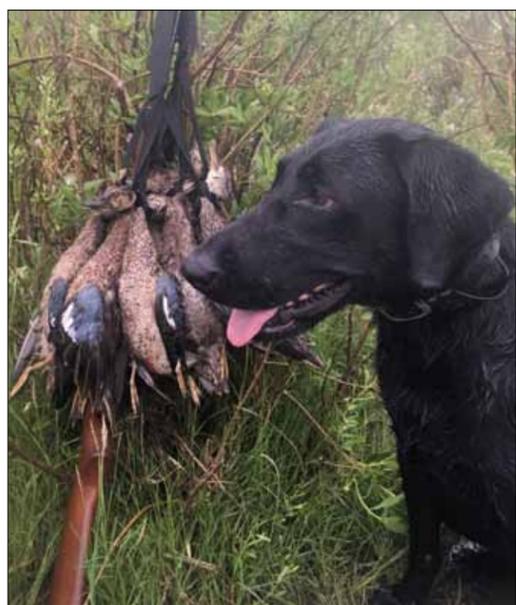
Outdoors Captain Chuck Uzzle For The Record

In what has become a highly anticipated yearly ritual, wingshooters from all over Texas will make their way to the fields and marshes as the 2021-2022 waterfowl hunting season officially gets underway Saturday.



The teal season opener has become a real gathering of sorts, almost a social get-together if you will. Hunters eagerly awaiting each new hunting season head to the fields for their first taste of what is in store and this one looks promising thanks to some recent rains. Both fields and marshes are abundant with life and fresh growth, a plus for some and a curse for others.

The early teal season is a great September option for waterfowlers who want to get a jump on their hunting opportunities. The 16 day season opens statewide on Saturday and runs through Sept. 26th. Shooting hours are 30 minutes before sunrise to sunset and the bag limit is 6 teal, any species. Heavy rains in recent weeks have made



Texas waterfowl season officially opens with early teal on Saturday the 11th.

the marshes flush with new vegetation and fresh water, both of which should really help the hunters as well as

the birds. With the promise of years first cool fronts coming in September it is under-

standable that the hunters have high hopes. So far nature and the weatherman have cooperated, at least up until this point. Now all we need is some cooperation from the birds and no crazy weather that would cause catastrophic changes in the outlook. September has been an active month historically in the Gulf of Mexico, hopefully we will spare any problems.

The outlook for Teal hunters is outstanding as the numbers of birds is close to an all time high. Local scouting reports have been favorable as a huge push of birds made their way into our part of the state during the past full moon. The first cool front will help usher more teal south as they continue along their migration towards Mexico and beyond. Rice fields and areas along the prairies that are holding water are seeing huge concentrations of teal while the same can be said for the coastal marshes. I wouldn't

be surprised at all to see the public hunting areas along the coast do very well for this weekends opener, especially after a recent scouting trip I made.

A few things to remember about the early teal season that shouldn't be ignored. First and foremost is safety for everyone involved in the hunt. It's warm outside and that means all the creepy crawlies will still be hanging around. Alligators and snakes will certainly make their presence felt so be on the lookout, especially if you bring a dog. Mosquitoes will be another concern and with the West Nile Virus lurking around it's important to take proper precautions so don't leave home without repellent.

Now as far as hunting goes don't make it too complicated, teal are usually rather easy to decoy so scouting is more important than decoy placement or calling. Be in an area where the birds want to be and you should be fine. If you feel like calling a whistle is the best call you can have on your lanyard, a few easy "peeps" on a whistle is often all you need to get teal to commit to your spread. The shooting can be fast and furious at times so always be aware of those around you, no bird is worth an accident. The forecast is good for opening morning so hopefully the birds cooperate, there are certainly enough of them out there to make this one a memorable opening day.

Vegetable Pressure Canning Class

The Texas A&M AgriLife Extension of Orange County is having a Vegetable Pressure Canning Class. It will be held on September 25th starting at 10:00 am at the Extension Office on FM 1442, Orange, TX. The cost will be \$20 per person. Deadline to register and pay is September 17th. Call the Extension office to register at 409-882-7010. Class size is limited.

Benefit for cancer survivor John Gradnigo

A benefit for John Gradnigo, Sr., cancer survivor, will take place in the corner of the Kroger Parking Lot at 16th Street and Park in Orange on Sept. 25. We will have Link on a bun w/ chips and water for \$5.00 or Turkey Leg w/ bread and water for \$10.00. Please come out and support this event.

Thank your participation in advance, The Gradnigo family and friends.

Free Cooking Class

Celebrate Fall with a free cooking class under the pavilion at The Field of Plenty located at 2120 Wickard in Orange. Class will start at 10:00 on Saturday, September 25. The Field of Plenty is directly behind Orange Christian Service which is on West Park.

Participants will learn ways to cook healthy vegetables for their family, taste all that is cooked, receive a folder of healthy vegetable recipes. Masks are requested. Seating is limited to 10. RSVP to (409) 233-7927.

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Part Time job at The Record Newspapers. We are hiring for a bulk delivery person, 1 day a week (Wed.). Must have a dependable vehicle, insurance and a valid drivers license. Please apply at 333 W. Roundbunch in Bridge City from 10 am to noon, M-F or call for more info.

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NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of **DE'ADRIAN WOOD**, Deceased, were issued on **AUGUST 12, 2021, in Cause No. P18865**, pending in the County Court of Orange County, Texas, to: **Raymond Allen Wood**.

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

c/o:
Raymond Allen Wood
3210 Lakeview Cutoff Road
Vidor, TX
77662

Dated the 23rd day of August, 2021

Raymond Allen Wood
Raymond Allen Wood
3210 Lakeview Cutoff Road
Vidor, TX
77662

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409-670-2040

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of **ANNIE MAURINE FORREST CATHEY**, Deceased, were issued on **AUGUST 23, 2021, in Cause No. P19125**, pending in the County Court of Orange County, Texas, to: **Kyndal Anne Watkins**.

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

c/o:
Kyndal Anne Watkins
4410 N. Tram Road
Vidor, TX
77662

Dated the 23rd day of August, 2021

Kyndal Anne Watkins
Kyndal Anne Watkins
4410 N. Tram Road
Vidor, TX
77662

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of **DE'ADRIAN WOOD**, Deceased, were issued on **AUGUST 12, 2021, in Cause No. P18865**, pending in the County Court of Orange County, Texas, to: **Raymond Allen Wood**.

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

c/o:
Raymond Allen Wood
3210 Lakeview Cutoff Road
Vidor, TX
77662

Dated the 23rd day of August, 2021

Raymond Allen Wood
Raymond Allen Wood
3210 Lakeview Cutoff Road
Vidor, TX
77662

"Everybody Reads The Record!"

PUBLIC NOTICE OF REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR GRANT APPLICATION / ADMINISTRATION SERVICES RFP-2021-07-FEMA-BRIC

The Orange County Drainage District seeks to contract with one, or more, grant application and administration service providers ("Respondents") to provide grant application and administration services for application and administration of a contract, if awarded, from the Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities ("BRIC") funding opportunity administered by the Federal Emergency Management Agency ("FEMA"). Interested Respondents may find copies of **RFP-2021-07-FEMA-BRIC** ("RFP") on the District's website at: <https://www.ocddtx.com/purchasing/> (search under "Current Procurement Opportunities") and at <http://civcastusa.com> (search for "Orange County Drainage District"). Each Respondent shall submit five (5) physical copies of its proposal to Mr. Joe Escobedo, District Purchaser, at the Orange County Drainage District located at **8081 Old Highway 90, Orange, Texas 77630** ("District Office"). To be eligible for consideration, the District must receive proposals no later than **Tuesday, September 7, 2021, at 12:00 pm (Noon)** at the District Office. The District will publicly open the submitted proposals on **Tuesday, September 7, 2021, at 2:00 p.m.** at the District Office. Section 3 Residents and Business Concerns, Minority Business Enterprises, Small Business Enterprises, Women Business Enterprises, and labor surplus firms are encouraged to submit proposals. The Orange County Drainage District is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of **LINDA LEE HARRIS**, Deceased, were issued on **February 14, 2019, in Cause No. P18366**, pending in the County Court of Orange County, Texas, to: **Cherry Lynn Kerr**.

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

c/o:
Cherry Lynn Kerr
865 West Circle Drive
Vidor, TX
77662

Dated the 23rd day of August, 2021

Cherry Lynn Kerr
Cherry Lynn Kerr
865 West Circle Drive
Vidor, TX
77662

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409-735-5305 or 409-886-7183

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of **Don Edward Schram**, Deceased, were issued on **November 30, 2020, in Cause No. P18677**, pending in the County Court of Orange County, Texas, to: **Mary Ann Landry Schram**.

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

c/o:
Mary Ann Landry Schram
565 West Bolivar
Vidor, TX
77662

Dated the 8th day of December, 2020

Mary Ann Landry Schram
Mary Ann Landry Schram
565 West Bolivar
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FOR SALE
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Everybody Reads The Record!

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of **ELSA BETH VIDRINE**, Deceased, were issued on **AUGUST 3, 2021, in Cause No. P19123**, pending in the County Court of Law of Orange County, Texas, to: **Robert Earl Vidrine and Christopher Todd Ferguson**.

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

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

DATED the 3rd day of September, 2021.

Stephen Howard
Stephen Howard
Attorney for:
Robert Earl Vidrine and Christopher Todd Ferguson
State Bar No.:10079400
903 W. Green Avenue
Orange, TX 77630
Phone: (409)883-0202
Fax: (409)883-0209
Email: steve@stevehoward.lawyer

DOMESTIC CITATION BY PUBLICATION (OTHER)- COPUBWD THE STATE OF TEXAS

TO: the Unknown Heirs at Law of Sidney M. Rodgers, Deceased, and the Unknown Heirs at Law of Clarence Rodgers, Deceased.

Respondent, NOTICE

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 20 days after you were served this citation and petition, a default judgment may be taken against you.

The petition of Wells Fargo USA Holdings, Inc., Petitioner, was filed in the 163rd District Court of Orange County, Texas on 9th day of September, 2019, against Unknown Heirs of Sidney M. and Clarence Rodgers, Respondent, numbered 190368-C. The suit request:

Plaintiff Wells Fargo USA Holdings, Inc., its successors and assigns, by and through its attorney of record, Thuy Frazier of McCarthy & Holthus, LLP, 1255 West 15th Street, Suite 1060, Plano, Texas 75075, brought suit in rem, against Thomas Rogers, Carylon Rodgers, Tommy Rodgers, Kathy Rodgers-Reed, Nadine Rodgers, Penny Rodgers, and any other person(s) claiming any right, title, or interest through Sidney M. Rodgers and/or Clarence Rodgers, as heir(s)-at-law, to 1107 8th Street, Orange, Texas 77630 and legally described to wit:

Being a tract of land, 50 feet X 240 feet out of the East 1/2 of large Lot Number Eleven, (11) in the West 1/2 of Block "G" described as follows: Beginning at the Southeast corner of said Lot Number Eleven, (11), which is also the Northeast corner Lot Number Six (6) in said Block "G" at a point in the West boundary line of a 60 foot street running through the center of Block G, 200 feet North of the North. Boundary line of John Street; THENCE West parallel with John Street, 240 feet to stake; THENCE North, 50 feet to stake; THENCE East 240 feet to said street; a stake; THENCE South along said street 50 feet to the Place of Beginning. Being the same property described in Deed from George E. Holland to S.S. Taylor, date March 3, 1921, of record in Volume 34, Page 136, Deed Records of Orange County, Texas, to which reference is made.

TRACT TWO: All that certain piece or parcel of land lying and being situated in the City and County of Orange, and State of Texas, and being a part of the Nathan Cordrey Headright Survey, and also being a portion of the East one-half of Lot Number Eleven, (11) in the West one-half of Block "G" of Amended Sheldon Survey of the City of Orange as per map thereof recorded in Book "K", Page 47 of the Deed Records of said County, and being 50 X 250 feet out of said East 1/2 of Lot Number Eleven, (11), facing 50 feet on Curtis Street, and running back 250 feet, and better described as follows, to-wit:

BEGINNING at point on the South line of Curtis Street 140 feet West of the north East corner of the East one-half of said Lot Number Eleven, (11), at the intersection of Eighth Street and Curtis Street; THENCE West Fifty (50) feet along Curtis Street; THENCE South, Two Hundred and Fifty (250) feet at right angles with Curtis Street, and parallel with Eight Street, a stake for corner; THENCE East 50 feet; THENCE North, parallel with Eight (8th) Street and 140 feet distance therefrom, to the Place of Beginning on Curtis Street

SAVE AND EXCEPT: All that certain piece or parcel of land lying and being situated in the City and County of Orange, and State of Texas, and being a part of the Nathan Cordrey Headright Survey and also being a portion of the East 1/2 of Lot Number Eleven, (11) in the West 1/2 of Block "G" of the Amended Sheldon Survey of the City of Orange, Texas, as per map thereof recorded in Book "K" Page 47 of the Deed Records of said Orange County, and being 50 X 200 feet out of said East 1/2 of Lot Number Eleven, (11) facing 50 feet on Curtis Street and running back 200 feet, and better described as follows, to-wit:

BEGINNING at a point on the South line of Curtis Street 140 feet West of the Northeast corner of the East 1/2 of said Lot Number Eleven, (11), at the intersection of the 8th Street and Curtis Street; THENCE West 50 feet along Curtis Street, set stake for corner; THENCE South, 200 feet, at right-angles with Curtis Street and parallel with 8th Street, set stake for corner; THENCE East 50 feet.

THENCE North, parallel with 8th Street and 140 feet distance therefrom, to the Place of Beginning on Curtis Street. TRACT THREE All that certain tract or parcel of land being the South 100 feet of that certain 50 foot X 250 foot tract of land situated in the East 1/2 of Large Lot Number Eleven (11) in the West 1/2 of Block "G" of the Amended Sheldon Survey of the City of Orange, in Orange County, Texas, described in deed from J.D. Province, et ux to J.N. Sims and Lee Woodworth, dated August 17, 1921, of the record in Volume 34, Page 136, Deed Records of Orange County, Texas, to which reference is made for more particular description, and said South 100 feet being more particularly described as follows:

BEGINNING at Southeast corner of said 50 feet X 250 foot tract of land; THENCE East 50 feet to the Southeast corner thereof; THENCE North, 100 feet along the East line of said 50 foot X 250 foot tract; THENCE West 50 feet to the West line thereof; THENCE South, 100 feet to the Place of Beginning.

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

ISSUED AND GIVEN under my hand and seal of said Court at Orange, Texas, this August 11, 2021.

VICKIE EDGERLY, District Clerk
Orange County, Texas
Vickie Edgerly

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Rev. 1: 5 & 6

Psalms 74: 5
Ecclesiastes 8: 4

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