

The Penny Record

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Week of Wednesday, August 11, 2021

'Excited, hopeful' describes 21-22 school start

DAVE ROGERS
For The Record

School bells rang Wednesday morning, signaling the start of the 2021-22 school year for about 10,000 students on the south and east ends of Orange County.

The first day of school for Bridge City, Orangefield and West Orange-Cove school districts is Aug. 11 and Little Cypress-Mauriceville schools open up Aug. 16.

How many show up was the big question going in.

"The biggest challenge right now is we don't know what to expect as far as students," Mike Kelly, Bridge City superintendent, said Tuesday afternoon.

"With COVID the way it was from spring of 2020 through the spring of 2021, we had remote learning last year, so we had a lot of students who stayed home and went remote.

"Enrollment had been on an increase for the last few years. A demographic study we had done showed a definite increase. We feel like our enrollment is going to have a nice increase.

"But with COVID, things went backward. And now the TEA [Texas Education Agency] has stopped funding remote learning, and with the delta variant ramping up, we don't know exactly how many students are going to be here."

Orange County had recorded 70 new cases of COVID-19 this past week, according to the state, and had 36 of its residents hospitalized with COVID-19, Joel Ardoin, county Emergency Management Coordinator, said.



Mike Kelly

Ardoin said the county had 327 confirmed and probable active COVID-19 cases.

According to the state, the Trauma Service Area nine-county region including Orange County recorded 24.1% of all available hospital beds were filled with patients positive for COVID-19 on Monday, Aug. 9. The seven-day average for TSA R was 20.4% for Aug. 3-9, with all seven days above a 15% hospitalization rate.

Famously, Texas Gov. Greg Abbott was crushed by critics on the right wing of the Republican party when he ordered the close of businesses as a public health matter in response to the COVID outbreak in the spring of 2020. After fully reopening the state, he vowed last Thanksgiving to bring back capacity rollbacks if COVID patients made up 15% or more of those hospitalized for seven straight days.

Then, with COVID hospitalizations going back up

SCHOOLSTARTS Page 3A

Pillsbury earns Texas' top aviation award



Orange County Airport Manager Missy Pillsbury, center, was named the Texas General Aviation Airport Manager of The Year at last week's Texas Aviation Conference last week in San Marcos. Pillsbury, a longtime tax office employee, has been Airport Manager since 2014 and took over as full reins of the operation in 2018. The state has more than 400 general aviation airports but Pillsbury's nomination, sent in by the airport's base pilots, flew to the top of the heap. "Orange County is a good little airport but until Missy came it had no life... Her passions for the airport, its pilots/aircraft owners, instructors and visitors have brought this facility back to life," said the nominating letter. Pictured: Orange County Commissioners Robert Viator, Kirk Roccaforte, Johnny Trahan, Missy Pillsbury and Orange County Judge John Gothia

It's back to school for Windee Jenkins

PENNY LELEUX
For The Record

Monday was 'Meet the Teacher' day at Orangefield with first day of class for students on Wednesday.

Windee Jenkins, a paraprofessional at Orangefield ISD for 16 years has worked on all three campuses.

"We help the special needs teachers with the children," said Jenkins. "We're an extension to the teacher."

She has also driven a special needs bus for the district for 14 years.

Jenkins also coached jr. high sports for four years in the mix - volleyball, basketball and track. She coached until her sons came of age for extracurricular activities.

Jenkins has been married for 26 years to former Orangefield Ag teacher and current Justice of the Peace Pct. 2 Chad Jenkins.

An interesting little side note: former JP Pct 2 Roy "Derry" Dunn was not only Chad Jenkins predecessor as judge but was also the one who gave him his first job as a teacher 28 years ago at Little Cypress-Mauriceville



Windee Jenkins, Orangefield ISD paraprofessional is excited to welcome students to the elementary classroom for the 2021-2022 school year.

CISD where he spent his first year and a half of teaching, before going to Orangefield ISD the beginning of the 1994-1995 school year.

The couple has three boys: Tanner, 24; Tyler, 23; and Trever, 19. All three boys took after their dad, with an interest in agriculture. The youngest just received a scholarship to show cattle for

Trinity Valley Community College in Athens, Texas.

For the last five years, Windee Jenkins has been at Orangefield Junior High School. Friday, they moved her back to the elementary.

"They needed me here," she wrote in a text message setting up the interview. She added, "Little kids always love you."

At the elementary school, her students will range from 3 years old in PreK through 5th grade. Right now, they have 10 students enrolled. Jenkins said that could change at anytime over the next couple of weeks.

Their classroom is set up in stations around kidney

BACK TO SCHOOL Page 3A

McDowell named Chief at BCPD

Staff Report
For The Record

The City of Bridge City has appointed Tod McDowell as Chief of Police.

McDowell has worked for the Bridge City Police Department for 27 years and has been in law enforcement a total of 34 years.

He will fill the position vacated by Paul Davis who retired in June. He has worked in all phases of law enforcement. In addition to his duties as Captain in charge of the Support Division, he is the Emergency Management Coordinator for the City.



Tod McDowell

McDowell has extensive training in ICS classes required by FEMA for disaster relief. "We feel Mr. McDowell is the perfect candidate to move the department forward," said City Manager Jerry Jones. "His wealth of experience and training in the law enforcement field will be a valuable asset for the Bridge City Police Department."

Old ties help make valuable Entergy connection

DAVE ROGERS
For The Record

After 35 years of doing everything from climbing poles to dealing with government leaders on its behalf, Johnny Trahan has a long history with Entergy Texas.

And a new connection with Orange County history. Southeast Texas' power company, Entergy Texas, announced late last month its intention to build a \$1 billion clean energy Advanced Power Station in Bridge City.

That news came approximately two and a half years after Trahan, newly retired as Entergy's customer service manager, made a pitch on behalf of Orange County,



Johnny Trahan

where he was a newly elected County Commissioner.

"I don't know how much difference it made," Trahan aw-shucked. "But I had a friend of mine still working for Entergy tell me they were doing a ribbon-cutting for a new plant in Montgomery County and, 'You might want to show up, because I hear they're going to do another one in Southeast Texas.'"

"I figured it couldn't hurt, so [County Judge John Gothia] and I decided to go. We

even talked to Sallie Rainer [Entergy Texas president and CEO] and told her Bridge City would be a great place to build."

Gothia said the trip to Willis, Texas, for the groundbreaking in early 2019 was key.

"They'd have never thought of us if we hadn't gone," he said. "This is a good thing for us."

Entergy's investment decision announcement included a reminder that it first had to gain the approval of the Public Utility Commission of Texas before turning a shovel.

If the PUC approves, construction could begin in 2023 and the plant could be

in service in 2026.

The 1,215-megawatt plant will be capable of powering more than 230,000 homes and use a combination of natural gas and hydrogen.

Hydrogen produces zero carbon emissions as a fuel source for electric generation.

"It's a pretty unique plant from what I read about it," Trahan said.

"I didn't think about it at the time, but hydrogen is a byproduct of a lot of plants in this area, and a power plant gives us a little more security if we have another hurricane.

"The biggest thing, though, is we can get power to future developments around here."

Rainer noted the helpful

supply of hydrogen and her company's focus on long-term goal of decarbonization and long-term sustainability.

"Southeast Texas is well positioned to play a key role in the transition to increased use of hydrogen in electric generation," she said.

The new power station would be built adjacent to its current Sabine Power Station, which was built almost 60 years ago. The new plant would replace some of the older plant's production as it is taken off-line.

That old plant was built before the incorporation of Bridge City and the land it and the new plant will sit upon is part of Port Arthur's extra-territorial jurisdiction.

Hence, the regular county taxes paid on the plant will go to Jefferson County, though Orange County "will get an in-lieu-of-taxes payment and the Bridge City school district will get taxes," Gothia said.

If Chevron Phillips Chemical and its partners ultimately decide to build a \$6 billion ethylene plant in Orange, that would make two 10-figure investments in the county.

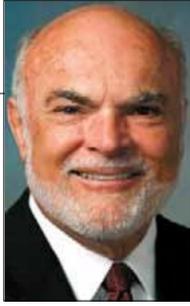
But those are hardly the only big developments on the horizon.

Orange County is set to hear an Aug. 24 tax abatement request concerning the

ENERGY Page 3A

My 5-Cents

State Senator Robert Nichols



The Battle of Nacogdoches occurred 185 years ago this week. On August 2, 1836, a group of Texas settlers defied an order from a Mexican Army commander and did not surrender their weapons. This battle is often referred to the opening gun of the Texas Revolution. The revolutionaries were successful in this first conflict and cleared East Texas of military rule, allowing citizens to meet in convention without military intervention.

Here are five things happening around your state:

1. Texas Historical Commission approves plan for Alamo Exhibition Hall and Collections Building

Last week, the Texas Historical Commission approved the final plans for an Exhibition Hall and Collections Building at the Alamo site in San Antonio. This plan expands the capacity for artifacts and documents by 500 percent. The Alamo will break ground on the new 24,000 square foot building on August 17th and the building is scheduled to open in summer 2022. This part of the plan is a new addition to the historical Alamo site and part of an overall comprehensive plan to rebuild historic buildings and enhance the experience at the Alamo. The rest of the plan includes restoring the 1836 battlefield footprint, preserving the 300-year-old church and long barrack, building a new visitor's center, and renovating Alamo Hall, among other projects. These projects will serve to further educate Texans and all Americans who visit the historic battleground and will

honor all the brave Texans who fought and died there in the name of Texas independence.

2. Battleship Texas progress Work continues on the Battleship Texas.

Volunteers and staff have been working to restore and reassemble the AA guns. Though there is extensive rust damage, the organization overseeing the work has found an efficient and successful method to make it easier for them to be broken down, cleaned, and reassembled. Work has also started on the ship's propeller. The propeller had to be removed and hoisted for work to begin. Next, conservation work has begun on the bell from the original Battleship Texas, which predated the current dreadnought. The bell sat atop the original battleship in 1895. Texas Parks and Wildlife Department has been integral in the restoration efforts in addition to the work of the Battleship Texas Organization.

3. Senator Nichols receives award for broadband work

Digital Texas, a coalition of 40 philanthropic, non-profit, and advocacy organizations across the state, honored me and 19 other elected officials and staff with awards for our work on enhancing broadband access and passing House Bill 5 during session. Governor Abbott made broadband access an emergency item for the legislative session, and we received broad, bipartisan support for this legislation. House Bill 5 was one of the most important bills I worked on and I'm proud of what we accomplished. I'd like to thank Digital Texas for honoring myself and one of my staff members with this award and all of my fellow honorees for their hard work. I'd like to especially thank

the House bill author Rep. Trent Ashby and the Temple Foundation for helping make this legislation a reality.

4. TEA reminds parents to check in with administrators about student progress

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the disruptions it caused, the legislature passed SB 1697 which gives parents the flexibility to decide if their student needs to repeat a course or grade. As the school year approaches, it's time to consider where your student is academically. The pandemic and distance learning had an adverse impact on most students. TEA is using the resources at their disposal to support parents making this decision. If any Texas parent decides that it is best for their child to repeat a grade or course, they must inform their school in writing before the start of the school year. As planning for the upcoming year has already begun, it's important to reach out to your school as soon as possible.

5. New technology developed in Orange County for cleaning up oil spills

Oversea, LLC of Orange, Texas has produced a new form of oil collection technology called the Balaena. The Balaena Express vessel has been in development for about 10 years and draws from experiences the team had cleaning up the Alvenus oil spill in 1984 and the Macondo spill in 2010. The vessel is different from other skimming technology because it uses ambient water to transfer the floating oil. It can be both a stationary skimmer and a self-propelled recovery vessel. It can store and transport the oil collected and discharge the recovered oil to transport barges if the spill is larger than its capacity. I applaud this important development in oil spill technology and look forward to its use in the future.

Four LSCO forever-Gators retiring . . .



Lamar State College Orange held a retirement reception this week for four Nursing faculty members. Lorrie LeBlanc, Denise Lumpkin, Charlene Paulk, and Kathryn Smith together gave a combined 67 years of service to the Nursing Program at LSCO. LSCO President Tom Johnson thanked the forever-Gators for their many years of service and wished them well in retirement.

Pictured from Left to Right: Charlene Paulk, Lorrie LeBlanc, President Tom Johnson, Denise Lumpkin, and Kathryn Smith.

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of Orange County, Texas

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School starts From Page 1

statewide in July, he not only changed his stance but barred local governments, like counties and school districts, from limiting occupancy or requiring masks or vaccinations.

While the state – in the form of the governor – has made it illegal for schools to require its students or employees to wear masks, the state – through the TEA – has said it will no longer pay for remote schooling, so in-person learning is the rule for Texas schools as this school year begins.

Students that test positive for COVID-19 will receive remote learning, however, while they quarantine.

But no longer will students have to quarantine solely because of being in contact with contagious students.

Kelly, the BC superintendent, notes a big difference this school year is that schools are not required to do contact tracing when one student tested positive.

“Last year, if a volleyball player has a [COVID] positive test and we find there were five other girls in contact with them, they all had to quarantine,” he said. “We had to reschedule games if we didn’t have enough students to play.”

“Now, if a volleyball player comes up positive, that person stays home for 10 days, but any of the close contacts, they just need to watch themselves for symptoms.”

“Otherwise, it’s like pre-COVID. If you don’t have enough students to play a game, you have to forfeit.”

Kelly said any contact tracing is up to local health departments as it stands now.

“What the TEA found, from state-wide data, was that there were very few students contracting COVID at school,” he said.

“When we’d send students home to quarantine [because of close contact with a stu-

dent who had tested positive for COVID-19], the chances were slim to none that those students would end up with COVID.”

At Valley Mills, the school district near Waco where Kelly was superintendent before being hired by Bridge City last March, he said, “out of about 400 students quarantined over course of a year because of close contact, we had one student out of 400 that came down with COVID.”

“What I am seeing is a lot of excitement about the return to school. And, hopefully, a return to normalcy.”

ID.

“At BC, I think we had three students out of everybody that we quarantined positive. That was the kind of data that was presented over the state.”

“The bottom line was there were very few students contracting COVID at school.”

One reason for that probably has to do with the exacting standards for cleanliness schools like Bridge City undertook to fight COVID.

“COVID hasn’t been pleasant, but not everything has been bad,” Kelly said.

“There are some things that came out of this that will stick. I think they will help with common cold, the flu, things that continue to happen.”

“But I hope that the precautions coming out of this will continue to lessen those things as well.”

For BC that includes hand sanitizers at all entrances. Custodial staff cleans entrances, including door handles, every hour, desks are wiped off at least twice a day, as is playground equipment. Employees use misters to spray the buildings, rugs are

cleaned once a day.

“All of the things we were doing last year, all of the precautions we were taking to mitigate the [COVID] spread, we will continue to do those,” Kelly said.

“And all of those things that we did to encourage social distancing, even riding with windows down on our buses, we’re keeping those in place, but requiring a mask is not one of them.”

As is the case every sum-

mer, Kelly says school administration keeps “extremely busy.”

“There’s just a lot of district planning. We’ve had some facilities studies, some demographics studies, just trying to see what’s next.”

“You always kind of have to be two or three years ahead. If not, you’re behind.”

Because of COVID-19, the new 2019 coronavirus that hit the United States at the start of 2020, plans have been made, then remade constantly the last year and a half.

Here’s hoping things are different.

“When COVID first started, superintendents had a TEA COVID call with the Commissioner of Education every day, five days a week at 3 o’clock,” Kelly said. “The TEA came out with a ton of guidance, the UIL came out with a ton of guidance.”

“It’s not that way this time around, they’re providing a lot less guidance. What I am seeing is a lot of excitement about the return to school.”

“And, hopefully, a return to normalcy.”

Entergy connection From Page 1

new Eagle Point medical complex which hopefully could provide details about the much-wanted project.

And the City of Orange’s Economic Development held a public hearing Aug. 3 regarding a \$300,000 grant to a new Little Cypress housing development that could translate to 182 new homes.

When asked, Gothia said he knew nothing about the details of a tax abatement deal being negotiated with NXO JV, LLC, the new group formed by the doctors and developers “considering an estimated \$24,370,000 investment.”

The medical center and healthcare complex will be located on land donated by the Houseman Companies near the intersection of In-

terstate 10 and Highway 62.

Previously, the city has pledged a \$1.4 million expenditure for a roadway and granted a 10-year decreasing tax abatement starting at 100% the first two years and stair-stepping down to 20% for Year 10.

The targeted completion date was pushed back to 2023 in the city’s latest contract with NXO JV.

“I don’t know what the next move is. They have not given it to us,” Gothia said.

“Apparently the group is getting pretty close to where they need to be in putting this thing together. I think we’re all very excited that at one point it’s going to happen. We need it.”

The state requires the establishment of a Reinvest-

ment Zone before tax abatements can be granted. In this case, since the property is in the City of Orange city limits, the city’s Reinvestment Zone will do for other jurisdictions that decide to give a tax break to the new healthcare plant.

“I’m sure they will be going to all the entities for that at some point,” Gothia said.

At its Aug. 10 meeting, Orange City Council voted on an EDC proposal of a \$167,000 incentive that would pay a third of a \$500,000 addition to Free State Cellars winery in North Orange.

The winery is planning a 1,000-square foot event lawn, with a pavilion, a pond and dock, parking lot and arbor.

Back to school From Page 1

shaped tables, rather than typical desk configurations. Special needs classes deal with more life skills and teaching in ways that is more suited to the way the students learn according to their abilities.

“You have a bad day; they make you have a great day. They fight every day for the things we take for granted,” said Jenkins. “It reminds you so much, just how precious life is. It’s a rewarding position to be in. You know every day you are going to make a difference in somebody’s life.”

For some, just learning to tie their shoe can be a major accomplishment that takes most of the year.

She loves when students can accomplish things they were never expected to, such as read. Jenkins said they manage to get about 50 percent of the students to accomplish skills beyond what doctors and parents expected was possible.

“It just took a little longer on some of them. You just have to give them their time,” she said. “They’re determined. They are gonna do

it.”

Victories are celebrated with food. “They love to eat.”

Her favorite day at the jr. high, before COVID-19 shut everything down, was Friday. They had a bakery in class and on Fridays, the student made cupcakes and mini-Bundt cakes and sold them to the teachers. Those that could read, would read out the recipes and those that couldn’t read would work on their math skills by measuring out ingredients. It was a joint effort by everyone to help make money for the class.

Jenkins said she isn’t sure how much cooking will be done with the elementary student, “I’m sure we’ll do some cooking.”

One program she started that will continue at the elementary is her Secret Santa

program for the teachers.

“They fill out what their favorite food is, their favorite cookie, favorite drink,” Jenkins said when the day comes, everything is brought into one room and the kids sort it out.

“They get dressed up and start singing down the hallway,” Jenkins said they deliver the gifts loaded in a decorated cart. “They enjoy giving the presents to the teachers. They get to bring a smile to someone else’s face.”

Jenkins isn’t nervous about the last-minute switch of campuses. “I’ve been here before. The kids just love you. They make it easy to adjust.”

How long will Jenkins continue at her job? “As long as I can,” she said.

Jenkins will be celebrating her 46th birthday Thursday.



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From The Creaux's Nest

SENATE PASSES BIPARTISAN INFRASTRUCTURE BILL (MAJOR VICTORY FOR BIDEN)

The Senate voted to approve a roughly \$1 trillion bill to revamp the nation's infrastructure on Tuesday, delivering a bipartisan breakthrough on legislation that includes key portion of **President Biden's** domestic agenda. The final vote was 69 to 30, with **19 Republicans** and **30 Democrats** voting yes. **Vice President Kamala Harris** presided over the final vote. The bipartisan bill represents the first part of a two-track process, with the second being the broader piece of legislation with a price tag of \$3.5 trillion. That package can pass with only the support of **Democrats** using a process known as budget reconciliation. All **50 Democrats** must remain united for the measure to be adopted, since no **Republicans** are expected to support it. This is a blueprint for **President Biden's** larger domestic economic agenda, and includes funds to expand **Medicare** and child care and combat climate change. The budget also includes resolution for the **Senate Judiciary Committee** to work on developing a solution for "lawful permanent status for qualified immigrants. **Biden** added more jobs in the first six months than any other president in history. **Experience matters.** **Biden** served 36 years in the **Senate** and eight years as **Vice President**.

PATSY PECK A SPECIAL PERSON REMEMBERED

I was shocked to learn of the passing of **Patsy Peck**. What a wonderful person. In the years I had known her, she never greeted me without a smile. I'm sure she treated others the same. She was very kind and caring. Our friend Karen Jo, who made several of Patsy's travel vacation trips, once told me Patsy was always concerned for others. On trips she spent her time making sure everyone was happy. I don't know how good a cook Patsy was but I do know she made the world's best banana pudding. On production day, a long day for the staff of this paper, Patsy often brought a big bowlful of pudding. It didn't last long with this bunch. Patsy was so kind, she really cared, and it wasn't just a front for her. She came from and had a great family. Her dad, Pappy Ellis, was a real kick. Life had often been difficult for her but her faith always sustained her. To know her was to respect her. She knew a lot of people besides her church family. I'm told she was loyal to a fault. Patsy had that special quality. She was like a ray of sunshine. To many who knew and loved her, she left a void by her passing. That ray of sunshine will come through when we think of her and give thanks to have known such a wonderful person. Please see obituary.

TED TOWNES SERVICE TO BE HELD

We were sorry to learn that Ted Townes, age 62, had passed away on Aug. 9 at his home. I had known Ted and the Townes family for over 50 years as family friends. Bill, Ted's dad, was a Kroger store manager for several years before opening two King Saver Supermarkets. Ted's mom, Elaine, owned Elaine's Flower Shop in Bridge City. Ted was a student trainer under Coach Moe Litton while in high school and after attending Lamar, was certified as a trainer and coach and worked for the Montgomery School District as both. He left coaching to join the family business as store manager. Ted served 15 years as a deputy sheriff, retiring as a corporal in 2019. He is survived by wife Lydia, sons Tyler, twins Chad and Brad and daughter Tara and his brother David. What I best recall about Ted was his work ethic. He was always a hard worker and instilled that into his children. Funeral service will be held 2:00 p.m., Saturday, August 14, at First Baptist Church in Bridge City. Our deepest sympathies to his family and friends. May he rest in peace.

TURNING BACK THE HANDS OF TIME 10 Years Ago-2011

We were sad to learn about the death of **Mildred Hatton**, 91, who passed away August. 5. Funeral services were held Monday at St. Paul United Methodist, the church she attended many years and served as church secretary for 24 years. We had known **Ms. Mildred** for many years and knew her to be a sweet, wonderful lady. The community has lost a great person, always a lady, always so kind.***** **TIDBITS AROUND THE NATION:** For the first time in 45 years **Jerry Lewis** will not be the host **Labor Day Muscular Dystrophy Telethon**. He was **abruptly fired** and will no longer serve as **national chairman**. In 50 years, **Lewis** has raised \$2.5 billion. During the height of its popularity the Telethon featured stars like **Sammy Davis Jr., Liberace, The Supremes, Johnny Cash, Frank Sinatra** and a host of others. Interest has been falling in the 20-hour show, which will be shaved down to **six hours**. The **Internet** has emerged as a **better generator of donations**. **Lewis** and his followers are unhappy with the move. No more **"You'll Never Walk Alone."** That's how it goes when the time comes to **turn old folks to pasture**. Not fair but a fact of life.*******Bob Dylan** will release a batch of unfinished **Hank Williams** songs on Oct. 4 called **"The Lost Notebooks of Hank Williams."** **Dylan, Merle Hag-**

gard, Jack White, Lucinda Williams, Norah Jones, Sheryl Crow and other musicians have created the music for **Hank's unpublished lyrics**. **Hank's granddaughter Holly, Vince Gill, Rodney Crowell, Alan Jackson and Patty Lovelace** are helping to select the lyrics from the stockpile of notes left in a briefcase when **Hank** died in 1953.*******Rapper Lil Wayne** is accused of stealing the song **"Bedrock,"** and is being sued for \$15 million. The song peaked at No. 2 on Billboard. Now folks, stealing a rap song is a first for me, I thought they made that stuff up as they went along.*******Astronaut Buzz Aldrin** was bilked out of **money made off his name**. He has filed a lawsuit against his **stepdaughter Lisa Cannon**. What next?*******Eighty-two percent**, in a Time/CBS poll, **disapprove of Congress**. Four out of five people said that the debt ceiling debate was more about gaining political advantage than doing what was best for the country. The polls showed **Republicans in Congress** shoulder more of the blame than **President Obama**.*******Coaches vote Oklahoma No. 1** for the first time in many years. **Texas A&M is ranked higher than Texas**. A&M is No. 9, U.T. is No. 24. Alabama, Oregon, LSU and Florida State round out the top five.***** **The Bridge City Jr. All-Star girls** have made it to the **Little League World Series**. They were undefeated in Regional play and Tuesday earned a berth at the LLWS after a **ten inning shut-out** with a final score of 1-0. They will leave for Kirkland, Wash. Saturday and have their first game Sunday. Members of the team include: **Kellyn Cormier, Katelyn Dickerson, Brooke Derouen, Bailee Bacon, Sabryn Crain, Faith Kaufman, Kaleigh Carter, Skylar Kahla, Haley Mills, Kasey Frederick, Katelyn Dickerson, Ashlyn Mitchell, Harleigh Myers and Hannah Faulk**. The girls are coached by **Hilton Bacon and Coach Justin Frederic**. **Julie Kahla is the team manager**.*******Jaden Dillon**, former **Bridge City star** and **McNeese pitching ace**, has transferred to **A&M Kingsville** where he's getting a **full baseball ride**. This summer he pitched in an **East Texas League** and constantly pitched **92-94 miles per**. From start to finish, we wish this young man the best.*******The Wednesday Lunch Bunch** dined at **Robert's Restaurant and Steak House** last week. Always a great meal at **Robert's**. The girls, **Judge Janice, Brandy Slaughter, Donna Scales, Christy Kourey and Shirley Zimmerman** added spark and beauty to the gathering.*******Miss Pearl Burgess, Orange County's Poet Laureate**, has written a great poem on the **Depression Years**. Good timing for the times we're facing. At age 90, **Ms. Pearl** hasn't lost her edge. I wish I was as sharp.*****I found out a very interesting fact about **Judge David Peck** which **Nicole** wrote about in this issue. By the way **Judge Peck, Elvis** died Aug. 16, 1977. That was 34 years ago and I know he was one of your heroes in your prime.*******District Clerk Vickie Edgerly** just returned from a long weekend in Austin where she visited **son Ryan and his wife Erica**. The main purpose of the visit was to spend time with **two-year-old Hazen**. **Hazen**, who is named after her father **Hazen Kenney**. **Vickie** says she sure misses little **Hazen** wrapping his arms around her legs and telling her "I love you **MeMom**." *****A few folks celebrating their special day this week. Our friend **William "Bill" Smith**, the old train engineer, the boy from Arkansas, marks another birthday on Aug. 10. *****Monty Eshbach**, a special youngun to **Ms. Dot**, will celebrate Aug. 13, also our great pal and **Met Life Insurance** guy **Clint Landry**. *****Bill Triggs and Charlotte Conn**, both mark their birthdays on Aug. 14. *****Pretty Kristie Gunn** celebrates on Aug. 15. **Chris and Cindy's little girl** is a big girl now. ***** **FaceBook** friends having birthdays are **Jason Broussard, Jennifer Cohnour and Myra Sanders**, Aug. 10*****Marilyn Trevino, Lyndon Sharpton and Stephanie Latiolais**, Aug. 11*****Angel Birdwell, Darrell Quebodeaux, Kevin Philen and Pat Caillavet**, Aug. 12. *****Wendell Adkins and Shawn Hanson**, Aug. 13. *****Kent Hutchison** celebrates Aug. 14. *****Kelley Penney, Cheryl Engle and Phyllis Hennigan**, Aug. 15. *****Brandi Clark** celebrates on Aug. 16.

GONE BUT NOT FORGOTTEN Obituaries Aug. 11, 2021

Tommy Mack Madden Sr., 67, of Orange passed away on Sunday, July 31. A graveside service was held on Saturday, Aug. 6. He had lived most of his life in the Orange area and was employed at American Glass Company. He is survived by his wife Theresa Nell Madden; daughters, Tina Marie Pachuca, Jennifer Smith and Hollie Odom; sons, Tommy Madden Jr., Burley Johnson, Robert Johnson; 20 grandchildren and 19 great grandchildren.***** **Sonny Simmons**, 58, died Friday, Aug. 5. Funeral services were held Monday, Aug. 8. Sonny was a blacksmith for Gulf Co for 26 years. He is survived by his wife Ronda Simmons; son Bryan Simmons; daughters Sunny Daugnty, Beth Boudreaux, Amy McCurley; parents Harold and Wanda Simmons; eight grandchildren and numerous nieces and nephews.

23 Years Ago, 1998

Four year old little **Erica Edgerly** wins the **Miss South Texas America Petite Princess 1998** title. She also won **Most Photogenic** and the **Spirit Trophy**. She has a seven year old brother, **Alex**, and a 20 month old sister **Macy**. Their parents are **John and Stephanie Edgerly**. **Grandparents Flo and Gene** usually attend the pageants if it's not during **Judge Flo's deer hunting season**. (Editor's note: The kids are grown now. **Erica** is 27, **Alex**, 30 and **Macy** is nearing 25).*******Becky and Dr. Mark Messer** have moved into their new home in Waterwood.*******Charlotte and Dow Gene Anderson** went to a fishing lodge in Canada recently. No phones, no television, no honeymooning. The lodge rooms were divided only by hospital room curtains. They **caught 962 fish** and could bring only four back to the United States.*****This year marks 25 years **Nancy Vincent** has been with Orange Savings Bank. She received a Rolex watch. (Editor's note: Thirteen years have gone by which would now make 38 years with the bank. She must have been a teenager when she started. She retired a few years ago.)*******Glenn Sterling** returns to work this week after being hospitalized with a heart problem.)

43 Years Ago-1978

County Judge Pete Runnels declares Sunday, Aug. 20 as "LCM Country Music Day." Singer **Don Williams** and the **Oak Ridge Boys** will appear for a big show at Bear Stadium. The money raised will fund the **LCM's band trip** to the Fiesta Bowl. The trip will cost \$40,000. **Williams** and the **Oak Ridge Boys** are new on the music scene but are getting very popular.*****A beautiful lady, **Ann Guidry, wife of Andy Guidry**, died Aug. 14. She left behind her

beautiful children, **Paula, Jennifer, Jeffrey, Paul, Richard and David**.*******Pop Stewart**, 75, owner of **LouAnn's** dies.*******Major Inman** elected mayor of Orange over **Davis Cooper**. *******Howard Morse** and **Dr. J.E. Barnett** are added to the Bridge City State Bank board of director's as advisory members. (Editor's note: **Howard** served on the board until his death.*******Joe C. Majors III, "Chuck"** to most, has been accepted to the University of Texas Dental School in Houston. (Editor's note: **Chuck** went on to become a dentist. He is now in practice in Caldwell, Texas. He's the son of **Dr. Joe and Mary Majors**.*******Roy and Phyl Dunn** hosted the monthly **"Gourmet Club"** at their home then the group took in Sartin's at Sabine Pass.

A FEW HAPPENINGS

Congratulations to police officer **Tod McDowell**, who was named new **Bridge City Police Chief**. He has been in law enforcement 34 years, 27 years in local police work. I ran my traps and found that **Chief McDowell** is considered a good choice. I didn't get any negatives. We wish him the best.*****Our own crack reporter **Dave Rodgers** had back surgery last week but he managed to get copy out. He is back on the beat this week. We treasure his dedication.*****Here is some free, proven advice. If you are hearing impaired and need a hearing aid its wise to contact a reputable dealer who has qualified technicians and computer equipment to check your degree of hearing loss. **Hearing aids**, like all appliances, will require adjustments, cleaning and new parts due to wax built-up etc. **Be sure you can get on the spot service**, not have to wait three or four weeks for your aids to return from repair from wherever. There is no such thing as one set of aids fits all. In fact, **I require two different sizes** because one ear passage is smaller than the other. The cheap brand is a waste of money. I use **Brown Hearing Center** right here at home. **Eddie, Nancy** and staff of technicians have many years of experience and can have your hearing aids cleaned and like new in one hour or less. It's worth stopping by **Brown** for advice before you make **"A one set fits all"** purchase.*****A few folks we know celebrating birthdays in the next few days. On **Aug. 11**: Our longtime friend, a native of Arkansas, longtime train engineer, former city councilman, the guy who started **Central Office Supply, Bill Smith** turns 91. My records show **Bill** celebrates sometime on Aug. 10 or Aug. 11. Also celebrating today is **Darrell Quebodeaux**.*******Aug. 12**: Truly one of my favorite people, a special lady, a special teacher, **Wendi Jenkins**, head of the **Jenkins** clan, celebrates today. Also happy birthday to **Traci Miguez** and **Pat Caillavet**.*******Aug. 13**: A special friend, the **MED-Life** man, raised in West Orange, **Coach Chad's** dad, **Clint Landry**, celebrates today. Also **Monty Eshbach**, one of **Dot's** boys I've been wishing **Monty** a happy birthday since he was 16-years-old. Celebrating today is **Hilary Walker**.*******Aug. 14**: Happy Birthday to **Diane Justice, Bill Triggs, Lindsey Schaffer and Britanie Long**. Also Happy 45th Wedding Anniversary to **Judge Don and Bobbie Burgess**.*******Aug. 15**: A Happy Birthday wish to **Kristie Gunn**, who I remembers as a baby, and today is a talented, beautiful lady. Also celebrating is **Tiffany Schlicher, Brandi Arnold** and **Norma Smith**.*** On this day in 1765 Arcadians (Cajuns) were exiled from Nova Scotia.*******Aug. 16**: **Brandi Clark** and **Gwen Boehme** celebrate.*****Aug. 16, 1948, Babe Ruth**, 52, died of cancer. On this day in 1977, **Elvis**, age 42, died at his home in Memphis of a drug overdose.*******Aug. 17**: Happy Birthday to **Nancy Finchum, Shandi Conner, Dagma Hood, Johnny Stimac, Jordan New** and **Brenda Gage**.*****We have rebuilt our home four times over the years due to storm damage but at least we had something left. After a fire like the one that totally destroyed **Greenville, California**, there is nothing left. I'll take our hurricanes every time. **Al Gore** predicted 20 years ago that we would see this day come from **global warming**. He was made fun of. I won't be here to see it but many of you will see **global warming** make the earth far worse.*****Our friend **Cherry Stout** came home Sunday after triple bypass surgery several days earlier. **Cedric** said the three cuts, in different places, has left her very uncomfortable. Otherwise she's a tough **Cajun girl**. Best wishes for a speedy recovery.*****It seems **Florida** governor **Ron DeSantis** and **Texas** governor **Greg Abbott** have a few things in common. First they both take their lead from **Donald Trump** about the vaccine, they both say "It's their body, it's their choice what they want to put in it." **The insincerity of that statement is that they are both against women's right to choose.**

CAJUN STORY OF THE WEEK

Calvin Badaux him, would take off some time and his wife **Agnes** wouldn't hear from him for weeks. He wouldn't keep a job or give her any money so **Agnes** her filed for a divorce charging non-support. **Da case** came up in **Judge Oris Comeaux's** court. **Da judge** award **Agnes** da divorce and he said to **Calvin**, "Mr. **Badaux**, I have decided to give **Agnes \$400 a moun'h** for support." **Calvin** say, "Well dats fine **Judge**, **thank you**, **thank you** very much and once in a while I'll try to chip in a few bucks myself."

C'EST TOUT

Forecast: Active Season for Hurricanes

The federal government continues to expect another active **Atlantic hurricane season in 2021**; seven to 10 hurricanes forming, according to an updated forecast. The average season spawns seven hurricanes and peaks in **August, September** and **October**. If predictions hold true, it will be a record sixth straight year of above normal activity. **Fifteen to 21 named storms will develop**. That number includes tropical storms, which have wind speeds of 39 mph or higher. Storms become hurricanes when winds reach 74 mph. Of the predicted hurricanes, three to five could be major, with wind speeds of **111 mph or higher**. The forecast is a slight increase from the one released in May, when forecasters said **six to 10 hurricanes** and **13 to 20 total named storms** would form this year. Already this year, five named storms have formed. Historically, only two named storms form on average by early August. After a record-setting start, the **Atlantic 2021 hurricane season** does not show any signs of relenting as it enters the peak months ahead. New storm **Fred** is expected to enter the **Gulf** next weekend and bring winds and rain to northern **Florida**. **Atlantic sea water** temperatures are not expected to be as warm as they were during the record 2020 season, when 30 named storms formed. **Hurricane forecasters** agree that 2021 will experience higher activity. The season runs through Nov. 30. **Here's hoping we'll dodge the bullet in 2021**.*****My time is up. Thanks for your time. Take care, stay safe and get vaccinated. **God bless.**

Deaths & Memorials

Ted Neal Townes, 62, Bridge City

Ted Neal Townes, 62, of Bridge City, passed away on August 9, 2021, peacefully at his home.

A memorial service will be 2:00 p.m., Saturday, August 14, at First Baptist Church in Bridge City. Officiating will be Reverend Mike Wood.

Born in Port Arthur, Texas, on September 11, 1958, he was the son of Bill Joe Townes and Elaine (Campbell) Townes. Ted was a 1977 graduate of Bridge City High School and a 1981 graduate of Lamar University. He coached at Montgomery High School prior to joining his father in opening King Saver Grocery stores in Orange, Texas as well as Galveston, Texas. Ted later worked for 10 years at TDCJ at the Stiles Unit as an Athletic Director. He retired as a Corporal with 15 years of service with the Orange County Sheriff's Office in 2019.

Ted otherwise known as "Pop" to his grandbabies was a jokester and always kept people laughing. He was a huge Dallas Cow-



Ted Townes

boys fan and loved watching them play. Ted loved his family dearly and left a lasting impact on many lives. He will be deeply missed by those who knew and loved him.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Bill and Elaine Townes. He is survived by his loving wife of 5 years, Lydia Townes; children, Tyler Townes (Kaylee) of Port Arthur, Chad Townes (Amanda) of Duval, Washington, Brad Townes of Groves, Tara Glapion (Jonathan) of Nashville, Tennessee; stepchildren, CJ Welch (Alicia) of Silverdale, Washington, and Cameron Welch of Bridge City; 7 grandchildren; and brother, David Townes of Chapin, South Carolina.

The family would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to Kindred Hospice especially Heather and Kerry. Also, a special thanks to Tracy Wofford and Jade Hollier for their excellent care they provided for Ted and his family during this difficult time.

Cremation will be under the direction of Claybar Funeral Home.

Jim Simon, 65, Bridge City

Jim Simon, 65, of Bridge City, passed away on August 3, 2021, in Port Arthur.

Funeral services will be held 10:00 a.m., Monday, August 9, at Claybar Funeral Home in Bridge City. Burial will follow at Hillcrest Memorial Gardens in Orange. Visitation will be from 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., Sunday, August 8, at Claybar Funeral Home in Bridge City. Born in Port Arthur, Texas, on November 4, 1955, he was the son of D. E. Simon and Eva Mae (Girard) Simon. Jim was a hardworking mechanic for BCISD before retiring after 30 years of service. However, that didn't stop the need to keep his hands busy, after retiring he began to work for the county as a mechanic, additionally, he drove for Meals on Wheels and aided in the Disaster Relief during the hurricanes. Jim's perfect day was a meal at The Waffle House, traveling all over, especially if there was a car show happening, and if he could get in time serving others that was the biggest bonus. He was an excellent cook, he enjoyed feeding anyone he could, the kind of



Jim Simon

man that never met a stranger and loved being generous, willing to give the shirt off his back to help someone. Jim was a huge family man as well, spending time with his loving wife of 44 years, or spending time with his family and friends that referred to him as "Hamburgers". Jim will be deeply missed by all those that held him dear.

He was preceded in death by his parents, D. E. and Eva Mae Simon; and brothers, Arthur Simon, Steve Simon and John Simon. He is survived by his loving wife, Linda Simon; children, Christina Richey and husband Patrick of Bridge City, Jessica Simon and J. D. Dixon of League City; grandchildren, Aiden Richey, Eva Richey, and Hayden Dixon; siblings, Raymond Simon and wife Betty of Orange, Chester Simon of Vidor, and Edward Simon and wife Vickie of Orange; as well as many nieces and nephews.

Serving as pallbearers will be Edward Simon, Raymond Simon, Chester Simon, Chad Simon, Patrick Richey, and James Broom. Honorary pallbearers are Aiden Richey and Hayden Dixon.

Patricia "Patsy" Jean Peck, 73, of Orange

Patricia "Patsy" Jean Peck, 73, of Orange, passed away on August 3, 2021, in Houston. Cremation will be under the direction of Claybar Funeral Home in Orange. A small private family gathering will be held to celebrate the life and legacy of Patsy.

Born in Pasadena, Texas, on April 12, 1948. She was the 2nd child and eldest daughter to Charles Leroy Ellis and Juanita LeDoux Ellis. She retired from Orange County and went on to work for many years as a travel agent, where she took great joy in making people's dream vacations come true.

A beautiful person inside and out with a smile and personality that could light up a room. That was Patsy. To know her was to love her. Her laugh and outlook on life was infectious. If you looked in Webster for the definition of nurturer, you would find Patsy's photo. It was the core of who she was. Whether it was family, friends, or at work, she could be found going above and beyond to take care of the people in her life. She loved unconditionally no matter the circumstances. She dealt some tough blows in her lifetime, but never let it stop her from providing a lifetime of love, care, and devotion to those she loved always fighting to advocate for her family.

She was the best Granny and Mom who adored her daughters and grandchildren and loved making memories with them. She was an amazing strong and kind-hearted woman who was loyal to a fault as she always put her family's needs above her own. She was truly a woman of God exuding light and love to all who crossed her path.

The beach was her happy place where she



Patricia Peck

experienced peace and joy. She inherited the love of the beach from her mother and enjoyed many days laughing and relaxing at her friend's beach house with an amazing group of ladies who loved her with all their hearts.

Life will never be the same without her. Our hearts are broken, and life just doesn't seem fair. We will miss her terribly. She was a spark to all who knew her and never failed to leave us all cracking up even though we're not sure she even realized how funny she actually was.

She has finished her race and is home with Jesus. As a friend wrote, "it is we who are left behind who will have to adapt! I know she would say don't fret over me, I'm fine!" That was Patsy. A treasure. One of a kind.

Patsy is preceded in death by her parents, Charles and Juanita Ellis; and her daughter, Crystal Strohmaier. She is survived by her daughter, Jayne Wittschen and husband Kevin of Cypress; grandchildren, J.T. Clanton, Lauren Michelle, Dane Wittschen, and Jace Wittschen; great-grandchildren, Harmony Beck and AnnaLise Beck; and siblings, Chuck Ellis (Maridee), Donna Ellis-Cotten (Charlie), Gary Ellis (Diann) and Darla Brack (Dan).

Patsy's greatest concern was making sure her grandchildren would be taken care of when she was gone. She always stood in the gap for others in every area of her life. Now, it's our turn to stand in the gap for her. We ask that you send her family love, prayers, and words of encouragement as they learn a new way of living on this earth. In doing that, we will honor Patsy's life of selflessness that she lived, and her legacy of love will live on.

Ronald J. "Ronnie" Primeaux, Jr., 61, B C

Ronald J. "Ronnie" Primeaux, Jr., age 61 of Gulfport, passed away on Sunday, August 1, 2021 at Memorial Hospital at Gulfport. He was born on October 13, 1959 in Abbeville, LA to Ronald J. Primeaux, Sr. and Verna Gale Schexneider.

Ronnie worked in the Oilfield industry. He loved music, especially Rock-N-Roll music. To laugh and have fun, that was Ronnie! More than anything, he deeply loved his family with a sincere heart.

Ronnie is preceded in death by his parents. Survivors include his daughter: Amber Primeaux of Port Barre, LA; grandchildren: Tristin Gautreaux, Kayence Gautreaux and Peyton Gautreaux; sisters: Rachel Primeaux of Austin, TX, Jennifer "Jenny" Schneider of Metairie, LA, Cindy Feltner of New Braunfels, TX and Sharon Fouquier of New Iberia, LA;



Ronald Primeaux

along with several nieces and nephews.

A Memorial Service will be held at a later date. Memorial donations in his name can be made to the American Liver Foundation, Charitable Giving, PO Box 299, West Orange, NJ 07052 or online at liverfoundation.org

The family would like to extend a thank you to the ER and ICU Staff of Memorial Hospital at Gulfport. Thank you for your loving care of Ronnie in his final days and hours. The family is forever grateful. Special thanks to Fred Ober for looking out for Ronnie. We appreciate all you did for him.

Ronnie was a beloved father, brother and friend. He will be greatly missed. May he rest in peace.

Bradford-O'Keefe Funeral Home, Howard Avenue in Biloxi, is honored to serve the Primeaux family.

Miriam Singh, 59, Bridge City

Subathra Rani Singh, 59, of Bridge City, entered her Savior's loving arms on August 1, 2021, in Beaumont. Funeral services will be 10:00 a.m., Saturday, August 14, at Claybar Funeral Home in Bridge City. Officiating will be Reverend Dr. Samuel Karunanithi. Visitation will be from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., Friday, August 13, at Claybar Funeral Home in Bridge City.

Born in Madurai, India, on June 25, 1962, she was the daughter of RJ Swaminathan and Vijayarani. Subathra, who went by Miriam, was a kind woman who loved the Lord, her children, family, church, and friends.

Miriam worked for herself cleaning houses for many years, as well as taking care of the elderly. She enjoyed going to church, singing, dancing, & playing the tambourine. She was always praying for those she loved. Miriam was ready to help others whenever asked and was a caring and fun person to be around. In 2013, Miriam received her U.S. Citizenship and that was one of her greatest accomplish-



Miriam Singh

ments. She touched many lives and will be dearly missed by those who knew and loved her. She was preceded in death by her parents, RJ Swaminathan and Vijayarani; and niece, Aquila Jacqueline Peace Karunanithi. She is survived by her children, Ranjit Singh of Bridge City and Sharon Singh of Port Arthur; sister, Anusuya Karunanithi and husband Reverend Samuel; and nieces and nephews, Joy Jacob and Chance Perry, Grace Abrahams and Loewen, Stephen Samuel and Jenilee, and Joseph Samuel and Deann.

Also by her great nieces and nephews who lovingly knew her as their "Chithi": Chloe & Ewei Jacob and Scarlet & Lucy Perry, Isaac & Ellie Abrahams, Judah, Levi, Benjamin, & Shiloh Samuel, and Elijah, Rebecca, & Hannah Samuel as well as by numerous other loving family and friends here and abroad. Serving as pallbearers will be Ranjit Singh, Chance Perry, Loewen Abrahams, Stephen Samuel, Joseph Samuel, and Jedidiah Courts.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made to Living Word Church in Orange.

Soap Making Class

The Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Office is having a Home & Body Essentials DIY Class. Come and ENJOY a fun day learning to make Home and Body products such as soap, sugar scrub and more. The class will be on Saturday, August 14th, from 10 am to 2 pm and is \$25 per person. It will be held at the Extension Office at the Orange County Convention and Expo Center on FM 1442. Class is limited to 15 participants so call to reserve your spot at 409-882-7010.

Free Diabetes Classes

The Texas A&M AgriLife Extension of Orange County will be holding free Do Well Be Well with Diabetes classes. Join us in learning how to prevent and control your type 2 diabetes, eat healthy and much more to control your diabetes. The series will last for 5

classes on October 5th, 7th, 12th, 14th, and 19th and will be from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM. They will be held at the Raymond Gould Community Center at 385 Claiborne St, Vidor, TX. To get the full educational benefit, you need to attend all 5 classes if possible. Call the Extension Office at 409-882-7010 to sign-up for this series.

BC-OF Rotary Club presents Guys Game Night

The Bridge City - Orangefield Rotary Club presents Guys Game Night to take place on Thursday, August 26th at 6:30 pm at the Bridge City Community Center. Come join us for Fins, Feathers and Foore, it will include prizes and a live auction between rounds.

Please contact Eric at 409-313-0412 or Jerry at 409-735-6801 for more information and tickets.

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- AICD (Automatic Implantable Pacemaker Defibrillator)

Nabeel Abdullah, M.D.
F.A.C.C.
Board Certified in
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Echocardiography,
& Internal Medicine,
Specialized in
Interventional Cardiology

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ORANGE COUNTY CHURCH DIRECTORY

Have you ever seen the belly of the whale?

Pastor Charles Empey
Columnist
For The Record

Jonah 2:1 "Then Jonah prayed unto the Lord his God out of the fish's belly..."

This world dishes up some very interesting stuff. Don't misunderstand me, I love life and having a heart created by the Lord in His saving grace, I am always learning how to negotiate all of those interesting problems the devil, or the world throws at me or something of my own doing. As much as we find sweet times in daily life from time to time, so do we encounter problematic ones. Every now and then you get one of those problems that identifies with the dilemma Jonah found himself in. It looks hopeless and you begin to reflect on your days gone by and admit you haven't been very faithful and responsive to God's will. Jonah had been instructed of God to sail to Nineveh and deliver the one plan of salvation from sin and condemnation. Jonah disliked Ninevites for good reason. They were Gentiles who had not been very kind nor receptive to Jonah and his nation. They were a cruel



Pastor Charles Empey

and nasty people. So, Jonah refused to obey God and decided to sail to another city, Tarsus, and hold up there. On the trip God made a storm come up and Jonah knew he was the cause of this dangerous storm. He told those running the ship that it was his fault and to throw him overboard. They did. The storm stopped, but Jonah was swallowed by what was most likely a Sperm Whale in whose stomach a man can survive for a time. Now this is a problem, wouldn't you say? How do you get out of this one? The Sperm Whale goes deeper in the ocean than the other whales. Jonah said it took him to the roots of the mountains...the lowest place probably on earth. In this case he was most likely in the whale's stomach on the bottom of

the ocean.

Now, I'll pause in the story to ask you...Have you ever been in the belly of the whale kind of situation? You saw no way out, or you feared there was no way out. Maybe you just got yours or your wife's or child's tests back and it is cancer or some other disease that is declared incurable. Maybe it is a foreclosure on your house and you are about to lose your home. Maybe you have just received notice from your employer that you are about to be laid off or dismissed. These are "in the whale's belly" kind of stuff. You need this to change quickly. Jonah only had so much time to live before getting out of the whale of a problem he was in. These problems I have listed, and you can think of others, that puts you "in the belly of the whale" problems that have a time factor attached to them. They need immediate attention...immediate deliverance or it will be devastating. Here it is...back to the story. Jonah 2:1 "Then Jonah prayed unto the Lord his God out of the fish's belly..." I would not be far wrong to assume Jonah was rather loud with his prayer, but he knew that there wasn't one person nor one thing that would ever be

available to deliver him out of the belly of the whale except the Almighty God, the creator of the whale and the ocean. All through the Bible it is declared by writer after writer that the Lord God is the deliverer of His children. Like Jonah, like me who has the pronouncement of two stage four cancers upon me, or maybe you who have a similar dilemma. Where do you go? Jonah is only one of many examples of whale size problems recorded in Scripture. Every time when that person or persons of God called upon Him, He delivered them. I can vouch for God that He is not through delivering the outcry of His children, those who are truly born again into His family through His Son, Jesus Christ the Lord (John 3:1-7; Phil. 4:13). He has sustained me through two major surgeries that were performed at the same time, removing the two areas of established cancer. He has delivered me in other times of my life before on numerous occasions. Just call out, and then be patient and wait and watch. In my congregation and every congregation I have had the privilege of pastoring there is testimony after testimony of their cry to God in prayer

when in a whale swallowing kind of situation. I hear testimony after testimony of people from other congregations and walks of life who cried unto the Lord and the whale spit them out into deliverance onto shore line sunshine. Jonah 2:10 "And the Lord spake unto the fish, and it vomited out Jonah upon the dry land." Chapter 3:1-3 "And the word of the Lord came unto Jonah the second time, saying, 2 Arise, go unto Nineveh, that great city, and preach unto it the preaching that I bid thee. 3 So Jonah arose, and went unto Nineveh, according to the word of the Lord." He went

and delivered God's plan of salvation and the city was converted.

Note that the one big caveat to be taken away from this lesson is that when God answers your prayers and makes the whale spit you out (the problem solved), go and do His bidding. Obey Him. Be a living testimony unto Him, maybe like you never were before. After all, He has just delivered you out of a "whale swallowing" situation.

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

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ORANGE COUNTY HAPPENINGS ...

Soap Making Class

The Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Office is having a Home & Body Essentials DIY Class. Come and ENJOY a fun day learning to make Home and Body products such as soap, sugar scrub and more. The class will be on Saturday, August 14th, from 10 am to 2 pm and is \$25 per person. It will be held at the Extension Office at the Orange County Convention and

Expo Center on FM 1442. Class is limited to 15 participants so call to reserve your spot at 409-882-7010.

Bridge City - Orangefield Rotary Club presents Guys Game Night

The Bridge City - Orangefield Rotary Club presents Guys Game Night to take place on Thursday, August 26th at 6:30 pm at the Bridge City Community Center.

Come join us for Fins, Feathers and Fooore, it will include prizes and a live auction between rounds. Tickets are \$60.00 and sponsorships are available as well, no-one under 21 permitted, dinner and alcohol will be served.

Please contact Eric at 409-313-0412 or Jerry at 409-735-6801 for more information and tickets.

Daughters of the American Revolution meetings

The Daughters of the American Revolution William Diamond Chapter of Orange County meets the third Tuesday of the month at St. Paul Methodist Church in Bridge City at 1:00 p.m. To become a member, a woman must be 18 years or older who can prove lineal, bloodline descent from an ancestor who aided in achieving American Independence. She must provide

documentation, as well as the Revolutionary War service of her Patriot ancestor.

DAR promotes Patriotism, Historical Preservation, Educational, Veterans and Women's issues. For additional information contact Bertie Herman, Regent, at 409-735-5253 or 409-960-4560

Dementia Care Givers' Support Group

The Dementia Care Givers' Support Group meets at St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church, Canticle Building,

4300 Meeks Drive in Orange on the following days and times: Second Wednesday of every month at 10:00 a.m., and Second Thursday of every month at 6:30 p.m..

Orange Al-Anon meetings

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

33rd O.C.A.R.C. event yields quality fish

FISHING
CAPT. DICKIE COLBURN
For The Record



Dickie Colburn

The 33rd annual O.C.A.R.C. weigh-in started a little differently for me than the previous thirty-two and it wasn't for the better. No sooner had I parked my truck than I noticed a young woman nearby crying on her cell phone with her two sweating toddlers and an irate wiener dog only making the situation worse. The young Mother had a flat on her mini-SUV with no idea what to do. After getting everyone a bottle of water, including Fritz the wiener dog, we managed to locate the instructions as well as the spare. That alone is a challenge when everything you touch is hot and the jack, which was buried beneath the floor, did not even resemble the one depicted in the manual. I won't mention the make of automobile as it has a very good reputation, but woe be unto anyone that has to change a flat. I returned to my truck and found that my generic jack worked just fine. By the time we got her family back on the road, the young Mom was still crying, the dog was still barking and we all looked like we had fallen out of the boat!

The rest of the evening was hot, but enjoyable. In spite of the heat, the winning weights were predictably very good. The white perch category check went unclaimed, but that is not unusual this time of the year.

No entrant had a better day than Ricky Adams as he earned \$250 for the Gopher sponsored Appaloosa red with 14 spots and \$750 for his winning 4.52-lb. trout sponsored by Dow. Any trout approaching the five pound mark is worthy of a second look right now. Louie Peco's winning bass was no less impressive. His 5.12-pound largemouth earned him \$750 compliments of Dominion, Inc. The heaviest redfish was worth \$300 and Cody Lopez earned that check with a 6.81-pound red. Andy Allen rounded out the big four with a very solid 4.47-pound flounder that netted him a \$300 check and Jerry Myers won \$100 in doing justice to the "Sarge's" Catfish category with a beautiful 19.05 fish.

Branden Jones took home \$100 for his .39- pound perch as did Greg Savage with a .96-pound croaker, and Austin Clark with a 13.39-pound black drum. Lela Hyatt cashed a \$50 check for her 1.17-pound "Don Hubbard" mudcat and Jody Jackson took home \$100 for his 8.29-pound grinnel. The Borel family has owned that division for years and it was unusual for them not to win it again. That category is now titled the "Janae Borel Grinnel" in memory of their daughter. I haven't talked with Director, John Thomas, as to the final number of fishermen and the amount raised to help support the special needs clients at the center, but there was a good

COLBURN Page 3B

Most MLB teams improve with trades except Astros

KAZ'S KORNER
Joe Kazmar
For The Record



Joe Kazmar

At the end of last month, our Houston Astros had a commanding six-game lead over the second-place Oakland Athletics in the American League West Division so they went for the jugular and bolstered their only apparent weakness—the inconsistent bullpen.

The Astros traded red-hot utility infielder Abraham Toro and a few minor league prospects to Seattle for closer Kendall Graveman and Rafael Montero and picked up Yimi Garcia and got J.F. Moton from Cleveland for their fastest outfielder Myles Straw.

Most of the teams that either were leading their respective division or were in contention for a wild card berth showed an immediate improvement.

Houston's closest competition—the Oakland A's—upgraded their depth with the acquisitions of outfielder Starling Marte, catcher/designated hitter Yan Gomes and infielder/outfielder Josh Harrison. Although the A's streak of consecutive months with a winning record was snapped at 10 in July (11-13), they have won eight of their last 10 games.

The Philadelphia Phillies got the Texas Rangers best starting pitcher Kyle Gibson and closer Ian Kennedy and surrendered their top prospect Spencer Howard plus a couple of young prospects and won eight in a row going into last night's action to secure their first-place position over the Atlanta Braves in the NL East Division.

The Braves, who also were active at the trade deadline, traded for outfielders Joc Pederson, Eddie Rosario from Cleveland, Adam Duvall from the Miami Marlins and Jorge Soler from Kansas City plus right-handed pitcher Richard Rodriguez from the Pittsburgh Pirates. The Braves have won



The Astros traded red-hot utility infielder Abraham Toro and a few minor league prospects to Seattle for closer Kendall Graveman and Rafael Montero and picked up Yimi Garcia and got J.F. Moton from Cleveland for their fastest outfielder Myles Straw. Incidentally, Toro was hitting a torrid .425 last weekend for Seattle, his new team.

seven of 10 games to hang in the NL East pennant race.

The New York Yankees, who were able to obtain sluggers Mike Rizzo from the Chicago Cubs and Joey Gallo from the Rangers, remained in the AL East wild card race with an 8-2 record in their last 10 games going into Monday's action. Rizzo became just the seventh player in history to homer in his first two games as a Yankee.

The Cincinnati Reds, who are trying to overtake the Milwaukee Brewers in the NL Central Division, dealt to improve their shaky bullpen with LHP Justin Wilson and RHP Luis Cessa from the Yankees for a player to be named and RHP Mychal Givens from the Colorado Rockies for two minor

league pitchers.

Houston is another story. Their trades for four relievers apparently weakened their offense immensely.

Between the trades and injuries, the Astros were missing five starters from their usual lineup with Straw and Toro traded and Alex Bregman, Yuli Gurriel on the IL and the major league's leading hitter Michael Brantley recovering from an awkward collision at second base Sunday. Incidentally, Toro was hitting a torrid .425 last weekend for Seattle, his new team.

The Astros four new relievers haven't seen too much save situations with the team winning only three

KAZ'S KORNER Page 2B



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Alligator Snapping Turtles Seized in Illegal Trafficking Case Returned to Natural Habitat

Staff Report For The Record

AUSTIN — Twenty-one adult, and six juvenile, alligator snapping turtles were recently released back into East Texas as part of a coordinated effort among Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD), U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), Stephen F. Austin State University, Sabine River Authority, Northeast Texas Municipal Water District, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Houston Zoo, and the Turtle Survival Alliance, among others, after being seized in an illegal trafficking attempt.

In 2017, Texas Game Wardens, in coordination with the Service's Office of Law Enforcement, investigated

the poaching of alligator snapping turtles. Large turtles up to 150 pounds were being poached in Texas and transported into Louisiana, which is a federal Lacey Act violation. Alligator snapping turtles are a popular food item with a restricted limit of one per day in Louisiana. This has led to a smaller population of the species in Louisiana, along with poaching in Texas where harvest is illegal.

The turtles were transported to East Texas from the Natchitoches National Fish Hatchery in Louisiana, where they were being held following their seizure by law enforcement in 2016.

"Alligator snapping turtles have been protected in Texas since the 1970's," said Meredith Longoria, Deputy



Twenty-one adult, and six juvenile, alligator snapping turtles were recently released back into East Texas after being seized in an illegal trafficking attempt.

Director of the TPWD Wildlife Division. "We have a unique opportunity to not only return these turtles to their range in Texas from which they were taken, but also to learn more about

their habits and their biology so that we can more effectively conserve Texas populations to ensure their viability for generations to come."

"I am very proud of the

Service's role in helping to rescue these alligator snapping turtles from the illegal wildlife trafficking market and return them back to where they belong in East Texas," said Amy Lueders, the Service's Southwest Regional Director. "I also want to acknowledge the teamwork of everyone who made this return possible: from our own Service law enforcement, hatchery and ecological services staff to the TPWD, river authority, university and non-profit organization staff who provided their time, funding and logistical support to get these living dinosaurs back into the wild. The success of this project demonstrates our shared commitment to protecting and conserving wildlife in Texas."

TPWD Nongame and Rare Species Program staff have worked with turtle researchers across Texas and the Turtle Survival Alliance to support the development of a genetic analysis on all of the turtles that were released in order to determine the river basin where they originated. In addition, veterinarians evaluated each turtle to ensure the health of the species and fitted each with radio telemetry tags to allow researchers to monitor the turtle's survival, habitat use, and movement throughout their lives.

More information about nongame and rare species in Texas, including species listed as threatened or endangered, can be found on the Wildlife Diversity page of the TPWD website.

Kaz's Korner From Page 1B

games since the trading deadline.

One of the big reasons is that the starters have been giving up runs early, and with more players in the lineup from Class AAA Sugarland than from Houston, catching up has been almost impossible. The Astros bullpen has been used with the team behind much more than protecting a lead.

Houston continued their season-long malady of doing well against the top teams and getting whopped by the cellar-dwellers. Minnesota, 19 games behind at the bottom of the AL Central, visited Minute Maid Park and captured three-of-four from the Astros. Last night the Colorado Rockies came to town 20 games behind in the NL West.

The division lead of the Astros has dwindled to only two games ahead of Oakland. Houston hopes to get some of its injured players healthy so they can stave off the A's and their current hot hand during this last quarter of the 2021 season.

KWICKIES...

And while on the topic of the Astros, six members of the organization were inducted into the club's Hall of Fame, most of whom were around before the team really got good. Cesar Cedeño, Billy Wagner, Roy Oswalt and Lance Berkman were honored, plus Bob Watson and former owner Judge Roy Hofheinz who were inducted posthumously before Saturday's game against Minnesota. Watson was named the Astros first African-American general manager in 1994.

I enjoyed watching the Americans win the Olympics more than I first thought, especially when the USA defeated Japan for the gold in women's basketball. Diana



Bridge City native Matt Bryant who was selected by Trinity Valley Community College to its Hall of Fame recently. Bryant went on to have a great kicking career in the NFL before retiring at the tender age of 43.

Taurasi and Sue Bird became the first basketball players to win five straight Olympic gold medals. I got a kick out of when the much shorter Japanese guards were pressing and Taurasi merely held the basketball over her head like the Statue of Liberty as the guards jumped unsuccessfully trying to get the ball.

It was no big surprise that five-time Most Valuable Player Peyton Manning was elected on the first ballot to the NFL Hall of Fame in Canton, Ohio Sunday. He was among a conglomeration of 19 inductees to highlight the week of festivities.

The college football world was saddened with the passing of Bobby Bowden, the longtime coach of Florida State. His successor, Jimbo Fisher noted, "He was so normal. He could make you feel like you knew him for 20 years in the first two minutes you ever talked to him."

A tip of the Korner Kap to

Bridge City native Matt Bryant who was selected by Trinity Valley Community College to its Hall of Fame recently. Bryant went on to have a great kicking career in the NFL before retiring at the tender age of 43.

JUST BETWEEN US...

Just like it's been over the decades at this time of the year, the Texas A&M Aggies are preparing for the national championship in their final

workouts this month. However, this year they should have a legitimate shot at this dream, finishing fourth in last year's final NCAA poll with a 9-1 record and bringing back several of their defensive stalwarts. And with Head Coach Jimbo Fisher about to begin his fourth season at College Station, if things work out for him the same way they did at Florida State, a national championship is very possible. Fisher's 2013 team won the national title in his fourth year at FSU and would like nothing better than to turn the trick at Aggieland. It looks to me like they will have to do the job strictly with defense, because A&M lacks a quarterback with any game experience. But stranger things have happened.

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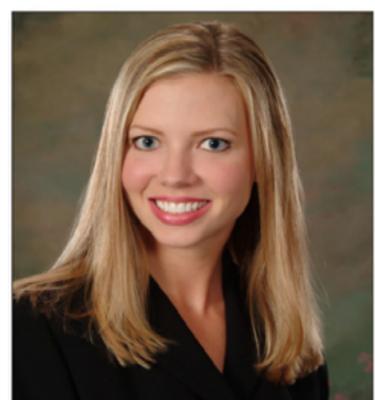
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A fire engine stands ready at the Trail Creek Fire in Montana. (Photo by Stuart Morris, Texas A&M Forest Service Wildland Firefighter)

Texas A&M Forest Service continues to help western states battle wildfires

Laura Muntean
Media Relations
Texas A&M AgriLife

The Texas A&M Forest Service continues to send firefighters, overhead and equipment to respond to wildfires burning across the country.

There are 100 large fires burning across the U.S., nearly all of them in the west, according to the National Interagency Fire Center. More than 21,000 wildland firefighters and overhead support are committed to these incidents.

Since June, 174 of Texas' agency personnel have responded to wildfire incidents in other states. Currently, more than 50 agency employees are assisting with suppression efforts in California, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Oregon and Washington.

"Our experienced personnel will continue to bolster wildfire response across the country," said Al Davis, Texas A&M Forest Service interim director. "We are privileged to be in a position to

assist our counterparts in the west, just as they have assisted us in the past."

Texas A&M Forest Service personnel are highly skilled and well-trained to meet the needs of these incidents. Firefighters are held to rigorous fitness standards, ensuring they can work 16-hour days in adverse conditions while hiking through rugged terrain.

Agency staff who respond to incidents, including firefighters and overhead support, must complete required training and educational courses throughout the year to maintain their qualifications.

Preparedness levels

Due to significant wildfire activity occurring in multiple geographic areas across the country and heavy commitment of shared resources to large fires nationally, the National Multi-Agency Coordinating Group raised the National Preparedness Level to Level 5 on July 14. This is the earliest in the year that

the Preparedness Level has been raised to Level 5 in a decade.

Preparedness Levels are dictated by vegetative fuel and weather conditions, wildfire activity and fire suppression resource availability throughout the country. Level 5 is the highest level of wildland fire activity and indicates heavy resource commitment to wildfires nationally.

The state of Texas is currently at Level 1. Wildfire activity continues to trend below normal across the state. Conditions are forecast to become warmer and drier. However, fire potential is anticipated to remain low due to recent rainfall, increased fuel moistures and cooler temperatures.

Texas A&M Forest Service remains dedicated to protecting Texas' residents, property and natural resources from wildfire and all-hazard incidents, even as national activity increases. The agency is continuing to monitor conditions and assess needs locally.

Watson returns to practice with Texans after almost a week

Staff Report
For The Record

Deshaun Watson returned to practice with the Houston Texans on Monday after not taking part in workouts for almost a week, the Associated Press reports.

Watson reported to camp on time and was on the field for the team's first five days of practice, participating in individual drills only. When the players wore pads for the first time this season last Tuesday, he did not participate and was not on the field.

He continued to be absent from practice until Monday when he trotted onto the field with the rest of the team. He only worked during individual drills and went into the indoor practice facility after the first five periods of work. He returned to

the field near the end of the two-hour practice and watched as his teammates went through 11-on-11 work.

Coach David Culley refused to say why Watson stopped practicing with the team last week, and he wasn't available to answer questions regarding his return Monday because he spoke before practice.

Watson's future is uncertain after he asked for a trade in January before 22 women filed lawsuits alleging that he sexually assaulted or harassed them in March. Houston police and the NFL are investigating the allegations, but no charges have been filed.

Watson still wishes to be traded and reported to training camp solely to avoid being fined. He would have faced fines of \$50,000 a day if

he didn't report.

Watson signed a four-year, \$156 million contract extension with the Texans last off-season and led the NFL in yards passing last season. But he became unhappy with the direction of the team and requested a trade in January after the Texans, who won the AFC South in 2018 and '19, sank to 4-12 last season.

General manager Nick Caserio signed veteran Tyrod Taylor to a one-year deal in March to give the team an insurance policy at quarterback if Watson can't or won't play this season. The Texans selected Stanford's Davis Mills in the third round of this year's draft, and he and Jeff Driskel, a recent free-agent signee, will likely compete to back up Taylor if Watson isn't an option.

Colburn From Page 1B

crowd on hand and Thomas does his sponsor work well in advance. Well done! No more procrastinating.

The Orange County CCA Chapter will host their annual banquet at the Convention Center on Hwy 1442 tomorrow night at 6:00 p.m. The event not only raises money for countless saltwater projects, but provides a powerful voice for saltwater anglers. Great food, auction and raffles make for a very enjoyable evening. Your ticket includes your CCA membership dues. For last minute information

regarding tickets call Lou Moore at 409-988-4849 or Scott Bandy at 409-988-3667. After a year of Tuesday evening qualifiers, the Sabine River Shootout series will host its Championship event this Saturday. All entrants must have fished at least eight events to qualify. Entry fee is \$80 with a \$40

side pot. Weigh-in is set for 2:15 p.m. Just finding time to even go fishing can be a chore, but if you aren't paying attention to Solunar tables and tide charts, you could be fighting a losing

battle. Because the heat and unpredictable thunderstorms already minimize quality time on the water, there is a real need to at least fish the prime hours if possible. The local bass bite, while most of them are small keeper size fish, continues to be the best bet for a successful trip right now. Small topwaters and Whacky worms are providing the best numbers with the better fish falling for jigs and crawfish imitations pitched around structure like matted grass and pilings.

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON TAX INCREASE

A tax rate of \$0.54200 per \$100 valuation has been proposed by the governing body of ORANGE COUNTY.

PROPOSED TAX RATE	\$0.54200 per \$100
NO-NEW-REVENUE TAX RATE	\$0.52173 per \$100
VOTER-APPROVAL TAX RATE	\$0.62529 per \$100

The no-new-revenue tax rate is the tax rate for the 2021 tax year that will raise the same amount of property tax revenue for ORANGE COUNTY from the same properties in both the 2020 tax year and the 2021 tax year.

The voter-approval rate is the highest tax rate that ORANGE COUNTY may adopt without holding an election to seek voter approval of the rate.

The proposed tax rate is greater than the no-new-revenue tax rate. This means that ORANGE COUNTY is proposing to increase property taxes for the 2021 tax year.

A PUBLIC HEARING ON THE PROPOSED TAX RATE WILL BE HELD ON August 17, 2021 AT 10:00 AM AT 123 S 6th St. Orange, TX 77630.

The proposed tax rate is not greater than the voter-approval tax rate. As a result, ORANGE COUNTY is not required to hold an election at which voters may accept or reject the proposed tax rate. However, you may express your support for or opposition to the proposed tax rate by contacting the members of the Orange County governing body at their offices or by attending the public hearing mentioned above.

YOUR TAXES OWED UNDER ANY OF THE RATES MENTIONED ABOVE CAN BE CALCULATED AS FOLLOWS:

$$\text{Property tax amount} = (\text{tax rate}) \times (\text{taxable value of your property}) / 100$$

FOR the proposal:
AGAINST the proposal:
PRESENT and not voting:
ABSENT:

The 86th Texas Legislature modified the manner in which the voter-approval tax rate is calculated to limit the rate of growth of property taxes in the state.

The following table compares the taxes imposed on the average residence homestead by ORANGE COUNTY last year to the taxes proposed to be imposed on the average residence homestead by ORANGE COUNTY this year.

	2020	2021	Change
Total tax rate (per \$100 of value)	\$0.54200	\$0.54200	No increase
Average Homestead taxable value	\$98,166	\$108,069	Increase of \$9,903 or 10.09%
Tax on average Homestead	\$532.06	\$585.73	Increase of \$53.67, or 10%
Tax levy on all properties	\$33,352,584	\$31,673,692	Increase of \$1,678,892, or 5%

For assistance with tax calculations, please contact the tax assessor for ORANGE COUNTY at 409-882-7971 or, or visit www.co.orange.tx.us for more information.



LSCO reels-in first female team members

Lamar State College Orange announced that with they have reeled in their first female anglers to the LSCO Fishing Club. Pictured is Taylor Schroeder and Gabrielle Woods with Fishing Club sponsor, Thera Celestine.

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August: it's time to switch gears

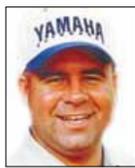


Getting your dog ready for the upcoming season is a high priority right now.

Outdoors Captain Chuck Uzzle For The Record

I know it's tough to even imagine it, especially when the mercury is threatening to burst out the top of the thermometer, but hunting season is right around the corner. August is the month that gets everything kicked off, hunters and fishermen alike can see the light at the end of the summer tunnel. For the fishermen it's just now getting right on Sabine lake and especially over on Calcasieu where the trout and redfish are doing their typical summer shuffle in the middle of the day all over the open lake. Shad, shrimp, and mullet are looking for places to hide as the clock starts to tick around lunch time. The lake gets slick and the fish are easy to spot once they really get wound up, it is the prelude to the much anticipated fall months that all Sabine lake regulars look forward to.

Hunters on the other hand have a little time to go before they take up the challenges of another season. Already you can see the bowhunters are out in force, Precision Archery in Bridge City has been hopping for the last couple of weeks with hunters getting a jump on the ar-



chery only season. It is well worth the time and effort to start preparing early, there is nothing worse than to not be ready when opening day rolls around. Get your bow out and start shooting soon, everybody can use the practice. This is the perfect time to get all those little things fixed and put in working order, new arrows, broadheads, strings, or whatever else you need to be ready. Spend some time now while you have time.

Waterfowl hunters are quietly rejoicing at the beautiful lush marshes that came compliments of early season rains. By the looks of things it appears that the habitat for holding ducks is head and shoulders above what it was last year. In the past few seasons most of the ducks that came into our area never stayed for any length of time due to poor forage and high salt content in the marshes, as

of right now that does not appear to be a problem. Only time will tell if the good fortune persists. Most duck and goose hunters are already starting to exercise their dogs, daily walks and general obedience training are great ways to start off. Remember the heat is really tough on dogs so be careful not to over do anything, slow steady increases in activity will pay big dividends during the season.

The dogs are not the only ones who need a little workout, hunters must start get-

ting themselves in shape as well. Physical shape is a must, be ready for the rigors of the hunting season so you can enjoy it instead of working at it. Another type of shape that is just as important is shooting shape. Get out to the local gun range and shoot, then shoot some more. Practice with sporting clays for waterfowlers is the best way to insure a more productive season. Most hunters wait until the very last minute to do any pre-hunt shooting, opening morning is not the time to be working on your technique or follow through. Rifle hunters can take some time to check out their weapons as well, by becoming comfortable with your firearm again you can really put some odds in your favor.

The month of August is finally here and the great days of fall and winter are not nearly as far off as they seem right now. Take this time to get yourself ready for the upcoming hunting season and be sure not to miss out on any of the good fishing that is sure to be in store for us. We still have plenty of heat left to get through, but the good stuff is really close.

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14-year-old becomes youngest to swim length of Lake Tahoe

**Staff Report
For The Record**

RENO, Nev. — A 14-year-old California boy has become the youngest person to swim the entire 21.3-mile (34-kilometer) length of Lake Tahoe and complete the alpine lake's coveted Triple Crown, the Associated Press reports.

James Savage of Los Banos completed the trip across the scenic lake, which straddles the California-Nevada line, in 12 hours on Aug. 1.

According to AP, he earlier swam the other two legs of the Lake Tahoe Triple Crown, all 10 miles (16 kilometers) or longer.

Savage and his mother, Jillian, agreed the physical training was a lot easier than the mental endurance it takes to complete such a long-distance swim. The trip across the lake started in South Lake Tahoe, California, and ended in the Nevada town of Incline Village.

She said she knew after the first mile that he would get the job done.



James Savage, 14, of Los Banos, Calif. as he swam the entire 21.3-mile length of Lake Tahoe from South Lake Tahoe, California to Incline Village, Nevada. He became the youngest person ever to make the swim and complete the coveted Tahoe Triple Crown. He completed the two other legs of the triple crown earlier, each 10 miles are longer. The photo was taken by his mother Jillian Savage.

"I had no doubts whatsoever," Jillian Savage told the Tahoe Daily Tribune.

"He's been swimming almost every day, six, seven days a week since he was 8. With open water, it's just what he

does. But mentally, even though it takes a whole bunch of us to make the swim possible, he's really out there by himself."

James Savage said he enjoys swimming in pools, but

they're pretty much "all the same."

"Open water, you can swim in oceans, lakes, and you get to travel around," he said.

Last August, at age 13, Savage became the youngest to

complete the 12-mile (19-kilometer) "true width swim." It's also known as the "Godfather" swim because it starts on Tahoe's west shore at the site of a mansion in Homewood, California, featured in the movie "The Godfather: Part II."

He also swam the 10-mile (16-kilometer) Vikingsholm route that traverses the southern portion of Lake Tahoe, known for its pine tree-lined beaches and ski resorts.

And at age 8, he swam from Alcatraz to San Francisco.

The latest swim was piloted by Captain Tom "Reptile" Linthicum of Lake Tahoe Marathon Swim Federation. The team also included an official observer and pace swimmer. Jillian Savage served as kayaker for the trip.

Mom's biggest worry originally was he might abandon the trip after a few hours if it became monotonous.

"It's not like he can sit and talk to us when he gets bored. His face is in the water and so really, he's by himself," Jillian Savage said.

"But this time, he kept telling me, 'Mom, I feel so much better mentally prepared this time.' And he went out, and he just did such a great job," she said.

With the title of the youngest person to ever achieve the Triple Crown, James said he isn't sure what he wants to do next.

His mom says he'll likely set his sights high.

"When he started this whole open water thing and he told me, 'Mom, I want to swim from Alcatraz,' and we kind of laughed in his face," she said.

"We let him do it kind of hoping and thinking it would be a one and done, and he got out and he said, 'I want to do this again. When's the next one?'" she said. "And it just kept going and going and going and his feats kept getting bigger and bigger and bigger, and I'm kind of afraid to see what he wants to do next. But whatever it is, we'll make it happen."

Save our pollinators, save our world

**Laura Muntean
Media Relations
Texas A&M AgriLife**

Pollinators serve a great purpose in the agriculture world. Without them, humans and animals would have little to no food at all.

Texas A&M AgriLife researcher Juliana Rangel, Ph.D., director of the Texas A&M Honey Bee Lab and associate professor of apiculture in the Texas A&M College of Agriculture and Life Sciences Department of Entomology, explains the incredible impact that such typically small animals and insects play in the role of our food supply.

Pollination's unique role in providing food and producing food

To put it in perspective, Rangel explained how about 75% of plants rely on either animal or insect pollination. Pollination, the transfer of pollen from the male germplasm of a flower to the stigma of another flower, often creates a seed that will later turn into a crop like a fruit, vegetable or nut. The other 25% of pollination typically comes from natural elements like wind and water.

Pollination plays a dual role in the circle of life. It both provides pollinators with food during the process and humans with food as a result of the process.

During the pollination process, animals and insects collect pollen from a flower. The pollen itself acts as a source of protein as well as nutrients like amino acids, lipids, minerals, vitamins and essential elements, said Rangel. They receive their carbohydrates from floral nectar.

This hunt for food from the pollinators, in turn, pollinates the plants to make the food that we then consume. Without their hard work, things like almonds, some apples and citrus, cotton and many other agricultural crops would have little to none in the way of yield that would benefit the human population.

The weight of feeding the world may actually lie on the back of tiny insects – honeybees.

"Honeybees are arguably the most notable pollinator simply due to numbers and their ability to be easily managed," said Rangel.

Pollinator impacts in agriculture

Although there are thousands of native bees in the



Honeybees on Texas sunflower. (PHOTO: Laura McKenzie/Texas A&M AgriLife Marketing and Communications)

Americas, including bumblebees and carpenter bees, honeybees dominate the pollinator industry and pollinate most of the crops throughout the U.S.

Based off the last published study on the economic value of honeybee pollination, honeybees contribute an estimated \$16 billion annually to the U.S. economy. This estimate is measured through their contributions to agricultural crops like almonds, apples, peaches, strawberries, citrus, cotton seed and other crops.

"Cotton alone experiences a 15%-25% increase in yield when honeybees are used for pollination," she said.

Save the bees and other pollinators

There are several ways to help pollinators including planting pollinator-friendly gardens, mowing a little less often, using fewer pesticides and supporting research at the university level.

If you are interested in pollinator gardens, "consider purchasing seed mixes that are native to your area and come with a plethora of flowers that will bloom year-round," Rangel said.

Although managed bees can receive supplemental food, wild bees rely solely on pollinator-friendly flowers. Often when purchasing plants, specific flowers and mixes will be labeled as pollinator-friendly and will be much preferred and beneficial to the pollinators themselves.

"You'll want to provide big patches of similar flower options, so they can feed more pollinators," Rangel said. "Offer plant diversity too. Different pollens have different types of amino acids and proteins for a diverse diet and proper nutrition."

She also advised homeowners to consider not mowing as often and not using weed killers. The small flowers that pop up in the yard, which are often considered weeds to homeowners, are

ble," she said. "Communicate with your neighbors and let them know you will be spraying, so they can protect their hives, if they have them, as much as possible."

Protecting the future honeybees and pollinators

Alternative ways to protect pollinators include supporting research at the university level that invests time and energy into research. Rangel's own lab, the Texas A&M Honey Bee Lab has dedicated honeybee research within the Department of Entomology. It encompasses two facilities, a molecular lab on

the main campus of Texas A&M University that focuses on genetic studies and the Janice and John G. Thomas Honey Bee facility on the RELLIS campus that includes even more research.

Depending on the year and the projects happening, the facility's apiary may house anywhere from 40-80 honeybee colonies with the research focused on honeybee health and how to improve it.

Current studies are looking at the nutritional ecology of honeybees and whether or not honeybee foragers actively collect different types of pollen based on the colony's nutritional needs. The focus is on how honeybees regulate their pollen intake and how they choose to feed based on whether or not they are infected by various

pathogens. If this is the case, essentially bees would be partaking in self-assessed precision nutrition, selecting specific pollens depending on whether or not they are infected with pathogens.

If interested in beekeeping, Rangel suggests taking the time to truly educate yourself on the logistics and time that it will take to have successful hives. And for more on beekeeping, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service offers an online course for beginner beekeepers at tx.ag/Beekeeping101.

To learn how you can foster opportunities for honeybee research, you can contact Jansen Merrill with the Texas A&M Foundation or the Texas A&M Honey Bee Association.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS BUDGET AND PROPOSED TAX RATE

The BRIDGE CITY ISD will hold a public meeting at 6:00 PM, August 23, 2021 in the Bridge City ISD Administration Building, 1031 W. Roundbunch Road, Bridge City, Texas. The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the school district's budget that will determine the tax rate that will be adopted. Public participation in the discussion is invited.

The tax rate that is ultimately adopted at this meeting or at a separate meeting at a later date may not exceed the proposed rate shown below unless the district publishes a revised notice containing the same information and comparisons set out below and holds another public meeting to discuss the revised notice.

Maintenance Tax	\$0.9219/\$100 (proposed rate for maintenance and operations)				
School Debt Service Tax	\$0.092/\$100 (proposed rate to pay bonded indebtedness)				
Approved by Local Voters					
Comparison of Proposed Budget with Last Year's Budget					
The applicable percentage increase or decrease (or difference) in the amount budgeted in the preceding fiscal year and the amount budgeted for the fiscal year that begins during the current tax year is indicated for each of the following expenditure categories.					
Maintenance and operations	1.90% increase				
Debt Service	1.08% decrease				
Total expenditures	2.27% increase				
Total Appraised Value and Total Taxable Value					
(as calculated under Section 26.04, Tax Code)					
	Preceding Tax Year	Current Tax Year			
Total appraised value* of all property	\$1,397,225,195	\$1,512,381,296			
Total appraised value* of new property**	\$16,549,489	\$32,921,781			
Total taxable value*** of all property	\$1,201,529,172	\$1,294,373,824			
Total taxable value*** of new property**	\$14,232,561	\$28,312,734			
*Appraised value is the amount shown on the appraisal roll and defined by Section 1.04(8), Tax Code.					
** "New property" is defined by Section 26.012(17), Tax Code.					
*** "Taxable value" is defined by Section 1.04(10), Tax Code.					
Bonded Indebtedness					
Total amount of outstanding and unpaid bonded indebtedness* \$12,267,770					
*Outstanding principal.					
Comparison of Proposed Rates with Last Year's Rates					
	Maintenance & Operations	Interest & Sinking Fund*	Total	Local Revenue Per Student	State Revenue Per Student
Last Year's Rate	\$0.9664	\$0.11	\$1.0764	\$4,300	\$4,723
Rate to Maintain Same Level of Maintenance & Operations Revenue & Pay Debt Service	\$0.92639	\$0.0914	\$1.02553	\$4,368	\$4,632
Proposed Rate	\$0.9219	\$0.092	\$1.0139	\$4,240	\$4,824
*The Interest & Sinking Fund tax revenue is used to pay for bonded indebtedness on construction, equipment, or both. The bonds, and the tax rate necessary to pay those bonds, were approved by the voters of this district.					
Comparison of Proposed Levv with Last Year's Levv on Average Residence					
	Last Year	This Year			
Average Market Value of Residences	\$166,223.00	\$183,697.00			
Average Taxable Value of Residences	\$141,223.00	\$161,397.00			
Last Year's Rate Versus Proposed Rate per \$100 Value	\$1.07640	\$1.0139			
Taxes Due on Average Residence	\$1,520.12	\$1,636.40			
Increase (Decrease) in Taxes		\$116.28			
Under state law, the dollar amount of school taxes imposed on the residence homestead of a person 65 years of age or older or of the surviving spouse of such a person, if the surviving spouse was 55 years of age or older when the person died, may not be increased above the amount paid in the first year after the person turned 65, regardless of changes in tax rate or property value.					
Notice of Rollback Rate: The highest tax rate the district can adopt before requiring voter approval at an election is \$1.4803. This election will be automatically held if the district adopts a rate in excess of the rollback rate of \$1.04803.					
Fund Balances					
The following estimated balances will remain at the end of the current fiscal year and are not encumbered with or by a corresponding debt obligation, less estimated funds necessary for operating the district before receipt of the first state aid payment.					
Maintenance and Operations Fund Balance(s)	\$18,000,000				
Interest & Sinking Fund Balance(s)	\$650,000				

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NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of **ROBERT MONTGOMERY JACKSON III**, Deceased, were issued on the 4th day of **AUGUST, 2021**, in Cause No. **P18954**, pending in the County Court at Law of Orange County, Texas, Probate Division to: **BOBBI LYNN JACKSON DEULEY**.

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.

Bobbi Lynn Jackson Deuley
 20485 N. Hillcrest Dr.
 Porter, TX 77365

DATED the 5th day of August, 2021.

Eric Peveto
 Eric Peveto

Attorney for:
 Bobbi Lynn Jackson Deuley
 State Bar No.: 24004859
 118 Border Street
 Orange, TX 77630
 Phone: (409)883-0220
 Email: emily@pevetolawfirm.com

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of **LARRY JAMES O'KELLEY**, Deceased, were issued on **AUGUST 6, 2021**, in Cause No. **P19133**, pending in the County Court at Law of Orange County, Texas, to: **Jeanette Yvonne O'Kelley**.

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.

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

DATED the 6th day of August, 2021.

Stephen Howard
 Stephen Howard

Attorney for:

Jeanette Yvonne O'Kelley
 State Bar No.:10079400
 903 W. Green Avenue
 Orange, TX 77630
 Phone: (409)883-0202
 Fax: (409)883-0209
 Email: steve@stephenhoward.lawyer

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 - Witnessed
 - Aroma
 - Nary a soul
 - *Line of _____
 - Spanish earthen pot
 - Pinocchio and the like
 - Bean house
 - Antonym of descent
 - Cycle taxi
 - Greek "t"
 - 50-50
 - Not happening
 - Newbies
 - Bert Bobbey's twin
 - Like a neon sign
 - "Clueless" catch phrase
 - Not a desktop
 - Metal-bearing mineral
 - "Chim Chim Cher-ee" setting
 - Relating to nose
 - Actors' group
 - Sink hole
 - Golf club handle
 - *3-point score
 - Make a canyon, e.g.
 - Not written
 - Racing sled
 - "Purple People _____" song, inspiration for Vikings defensive line name
 - Like H. C. Andersen's duckling
 - Poet Pound
 - *AFC counterpart
 - Dreaming stage of sleep
 - Daytime entertainment
- DOWN**
- Hodgepodge
 - Oil cartel
 - Palm reader, e.g.
 - Old and mentally infirm
 - Weather-related Doppler tool
 - Programs, for short
 - Insignificant
 - Hammer or sickle
 - Europe's highest volcano
 - Born, in bio
 - Marinara fruit
 - Ornamental hair net
 - *Grabbing penalty
 - Breath freshener
 - *Pre-game encouragement
 - Rose oil
 - One's assertion
 - Collectible in a cabinet
 - *Fourth down option
 - Colonoscopy tract
 - Ancient assembly area
 - B in IBS
 - *Start of a football play
 - Goo on a trunk
 - *Scrimmage-related penalty
 - Plant louse
 - Yule firewood
 - By word of mouth
 - Candle shape
 - English in Spanish
 - Mourner's song
 - Camelot, to Arthur
 - Tennis great Steffi
 - College officer-training prog.
 - *Number of downs to get a first down
 - Anis-flavored aperitif
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 - *Lambeau Field jump
 - Poetic "even"

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A	S	C	E	N	T		P	E	D	I	C	A	B					
T	A	U		T	O	S	S	U	P		N	O	G	O				
T	Y	R	O	S		N	A	N		A	G	L	O	W				
A	S	I	F		L	A	P	T	O	P		O	R	E				
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 Rev. 1: 5 & 6 Ecclesiastes 8: 4

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