

The Penny Record

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Week of Wednesday, December 8, 2021

Manslaughter case goes to jury in Cane death



Valyn Faulk



Derek Cane

DEBBY SCHAMBER
For The Record

Jury selection and trial testimony began Monday in the manslaughter case of Valyn Rose Faulk, 21, of Orange, in the 128th District Court with Judge Courtney Arkeen.

Faulk is accused of killing Derrick Cane, 28, in November 2018 in the 3300 block of Martin Luther King Drive. According to court testimony, Faulk was driving a 2013 Hyundai Sonata when she struck the sanitation worker crushing and severing his legs as she struck the back of the sanitation truck.

Dean Nance, an accident reconstructionist, was contacted by the Orange Police Department to retrieve data from Faulk's vehicle. He determined the module picked up two different events from the same incident. Nance testified the information from the vehicle indicated during the five seconds before the crash, Faulk was driving 53-56 miles per hour. The posted speed limit at the crash scene is 50 miles per hour. Also during the module released information that Faulk did not apply the brakes leading up to the crash.

Detective Isaac Henry, of the Orange Police Department, arrived at the scene shortly after it occurred. Cane was awake and alert and being assisted by first responders. Henry then began to talk with Faulk about the wreck. He started by asking to see her cell phone. Faulk

indicated she was not on her phone or had been texting which he confirmed to be a true statement.

However, Henry did say the sun visor was down and the makeup mirror was open. In addition, her makeup bag was open and the contents were scattered about. A bot-

tle containing mascara was left open too. It appeared the air bag deployed and struck Faulk in the face. Her newly applied mascara was smudged on the air bag which was consistent with applying makeup while in the vehicle, according to testimony.

Later at the hospital when the detective spoke with Faulk, she claimed to only remember getting the keys and going to work that day. She also said she did not use the visor for the purpose of blocking the sun since she

CANEDEATH Page 3A

LSCO buys Procell lot, memories

DAVE ROGERS
For The Record

The latest real estate acquisition at Lamar State College Orange speaks to how fast things are moving in growing the downtown campus and its offerings.

"All we ever wanted to know was, 'Can we go faster?'" 77-year-old Quincy Procell recalled, speaking of his time at Procell Brothers Performance Center at 105 Green Avenue, the property sold to LSCO.

The lot at the corner of Green and First Street was for years headquarters for a company internationally known for its racecar engines, a company run by brothers Quincy, Mark, and Kirby Procell.

Procell engines, engineered and built originally in the family garage before demand required bigger spaces, powered race cars to 23 National Hot Rod Association world records.

The brothers' last engine-building plant was at the shop now located just east of LSCO's Shahan Center.

When Procell sold the property to LSCO recently, Quincy said he was told by college President Dr. Tom Johnson that it could be refitted to train future engine builders.

"It might even be called the Procell Building and be used for a millwright school. I told the college I'd help them set up the program," Procell said.

A millwright is defined as an industrial mechanic, a professional who operates industrial machinery found in construction sites, factories, power plants and other sectors. Duties include installing and repairing equipment.

"I was originally a millwright by trade, and I got all my brothers into the union," Quincy Procell said.



Quincy Procell opens his memory banks to a visitor at his home in West Orange recently. Procell and his brothers Mark and Kirby built race car engines that raced on tracks around the world in the late 20th century. RECORD PHOTO: Dave Rogers



John Clark, left, Quincy Procell, Mark Procell and driver Hugh Kelley pose behind their 1983 Camaro after setting a class speed record at a drag racing meet. RECORD PHOTO: Dave Rogers

The brothers would travel from job to job, often together, just as their iron worker father had moved from job to job. Sam Procell worked as a roughneck with

Bum Phillips, the Orange native who went on to be coach of the Houston Oilers.

Quincy grew up near Alexandria, Louisiana and the family finally settled in Orange in 1958, Quincy says.

He recalls one of his first jobs was building a fence

PROCELL Page 3A

BC gets jump on sports upgrades

DAVE ROGERS
For The Record

A new set of memories are in store for Bridge City students and sports fans.

The school district has ripped up the 70-year-old playing field at Larry Ward Stadium, as well as the track and nearby tennis courts.

But look for a shiny new artificial turf football field and surrounding track and new tennis courts to be unveiled in the spring – hopefully as soon as March, says Dr. Mike Kelly, schools superintendent.

"We should be finished the first week of March," he said. "Our district track meet is the second week in April. We're considering hosting a track meet on our new track March 31."

Improving Bridge City's athletic facilities is just one of three building projects Kelly and the BC school board have on their horizon, all of them paid with money from the district's fund balance.

An addition of a six-room

pre-kindergarten wing at the elementary school is soon to begin and a career and technology education building at Bridge City High will follow completion of the artificial turf for the football stadium.

Kelly introduced the idea of spending \$10 million of what politicians call "Rainy Day Fund" on construction to the public with a pair of community meetings in October.

Plans had been under way since the summer with a contractor, Hellas Construction of Spring, Texas, having given its sales pitch to a school board work session on Sept. 15.

The company was hired to do the work at the Oct. 25 board meeting, two days before the second public meeting.

Because the district can cover the costs without borrowing construction funds, no bond election was required.

The contract for the athletics re-do with Hellas

BCSPORTS Page 3A



Workers for Hellas Construction Co. move dirt in preparation for installing a new artificial turf football field at Bridge City's Larry Ward Stadium Monday, December 6. A new field is part of a \$3 million update on athletic facilities, including a new track and tennis courts. RECORD PHOTO: Dave Rogers

County, Sheriff, deputies agree on CBA

DAVE ROGERS
For The Record

Orange County Commissioners did something Tuesday their predecessors had whiffed on for over a decade.

County Commissioners Johnny Trahan, Theresa Beauchamp, Robert Viator and Kirk Roccaforte joined County Judge John Gothia in approving a collective bargaining agreement between the county, the sheriff and his deputies.

Gothia added his signature to Sheriff Jimmy Lane Mooney and Dustin Bock, president of the Orange County Sheriff's Office Employees Association, and the county had its first new CBA since 2009.

"It's a great day for every-



Gothia

body," Beauchamp said. The old agreement had existed for so long because it had an "ever-green" clause that allowed it to stay in force until a new one was agreed upon.

Former Sheriff Keith Merritt refused to take part in the bargaining after 2009, when the then-new sheriff agreed to a CBA that included a "just cause" provision, which meant he couldn't hire and fire, or discipline deputies without a review board's OK.

The new CBA has no ever-green clause. The work con-

tract for the deputies expires in two fiscal years, on Sept. 30, 2023, with a two-year grace period to replace it.

This contract still has the "just cause" provision, but if a disciplined sheriff employee who files a grievance appeals the early decisions, it will ultimately be settled by a district court judge.

Under the old CBA, the final step was binding arbitration and employers never think they get a fair shake in arbitration. During two public bargaining sessions, Gothia and the commissioners were strenuously opposed to arbitration.

"We had a contract that has not been renewed since 2009 and I wanted to acknowledge that a lot of peo-

ple went without any additional pay for a long time," Gothia said.

"But with all three parties working together to get to a common goal and make sure we can continue to protect our citizens and protect our officers as well as have reasonable benefits for them as well."

"Not everybody got what they wanted, but everybody got something in it, so that we could all settle on a place. That's what negotiation is. I'm extremely happy we're here."

Mooney was unable to attend Tuesday's meeting but Chief Deputy Keith Reneau said the sheriff was happy

CBA Page 3A

Texas Governor Series: 47th Governor of Texas, Rick Perry

CARL PARKER
For The Record



Carl Parker has practiced law in Port Arthur since 1958. He is a 1958 graduate of the University of Texas School of Law. Elected to the Texas House of Representatives in 1962 and the Senate in 1976. Parker continues to practice law while writing and sponsoring hundreds of bills.

Rick Perry (Richard Perry) was the 47th governor of Texas, serving from 2000-2015.

Perry served as the longest presiding governor of Texas after being elevated from lieutenant governor to governor upon George Bush's election as president. He is a graduate of Texas A&M. Interestingly enough, while at A&M he ran for student body president and lost to John Sharp.

Perry later defeated John Sharp in the race for lieutenant governor. He went on to unsuccessfully run for president of the United States and was later appointed Secretary of Energy. John Sharp, after his defeat for lieutenant

governor later became the chancellor for Texas A&M, a position for which he still serves.

Perry began his political career running for state representative as a Democrat from Haskell County where he was raised by a cotton farmer out in far west Texas. He later switched parties and became a Republican and successfully sought the office of land commissioner. Perry ascending to the position of land commissioner was somewhat odd due to the fact that while a state representative he advocated abolishing the position of land commissioner, having been offended by the fact the incumbent land commissioner had required farmers to reveal the kind of poison they were spraying over fields in which workers were



Former Texas Governor Rick Perry

working.

Perry began the long Republican domination of

statewide offices primarily using huge political campaign funds. It was not much

of a secret that in order to be appointed to an important statewide position by Perry, it was necessary to pony up at least \$100,000 for the Perry campaign fund. He also was noted for luring new businesses to Texas by giving state grants. A comparison of the grants and campaign contributions were extremely similar; many of the businesses receiving grants from the state fund also contributed heavily to the Perry campaign. Perry's successes in creating memorable improvements in Texas government is almost non-existent. His greatest successes were strictly political having nominated appointments to boards, commissions and boards of regents in his lengthy occupation of the governor's office.

Santa Claus makes special visit to OCARC...



Santa Claus shares a laugh with one of the OCARC clients at Tuesday's Christmas party put on by GOALS Literacy program and Lamar State College Orange. Each client received a stocking full of candy and other goodies plus gifts like computer tablets and blankets.

RECORD PHOTOS: Dave Rogers

Wesley UMC Fundraiser

Wesley United Methodist Church will be selling this year's crop of Durham/Ellis pecans and walnuts, delivery early November. Pecan halves or pieces \$10.50 per pound, walnuts \$8.50 per pound.

Call Jan 409-734-8036 or the church 409-886-7276 to place an order or for additional information.

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..

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The Record Newspapers- The County Record and the Penny Record- are published on Wednesday of each week and distributed free throughout greater Orange County, Texas. The publications feature community news, local sports, commentary and much more. Readers may also read each issue of our papers from our web site TheRecordLive.Com.

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Procell Brothers lot sold to LSCO From Page 1

around Shangri-La Gardens. "I went to Stark High and I was in the first class at Lamar Orange," he said. "We called it Tilley Tech back then."

Younger brother Mark Procell, 10 years Quincy's junior, "was the one who made it all work," Quincy said.

"He was what I call the brains behind the operation. He never knew if we had 50 cents in the bank or \$50,000. He never wanted to know.

"He said, 'All I want to know is can we go faster.'"

Drag racing was in the brothers' blood. They were regulars at the Golden Triangle Drag Strip between Beaumont and Nederland, and they traveled regularly to drag strips in the Houston area and southwest Louisiana.

Quincy and Mark each drove for about 10 years and began souping up their engines to take their share of checkered flags.

"When I started back in 1963, nobody was fixing up cars. They just drove the cars off the dealers' lots," Quincy said.

"But finally, we had to quit driving because we didn't have time to work on our own cars.

"We were too busy working on everybody else's."

Word of mouth was great, but business really took off after Quincy's wife Nancy sold the brothers on making a short promotional video they could send out when they got an inquiry.

"Besides working for Joe Blow around here, we started working for people all around the U.S.," Quincy



Quincy Procell shows off a stack of 23 certificates, each signifying world records set in National Hot Rod Association drag racing meets. **RECORD PHOTO: Dave Rogers**

said. "We built a big airboat motor for a man in Australia and one time we had a guy ask us to put a 350-horsepower Chevrolet (auto) engine in a Harley Davidson. "So we did."

The brothers worked with aftermarket auto parts manufacturers Federal Mogul and TRW to produce kits of racing parts designed to turn any of several stock engines into muscle cars.

"We sold motors in Hawaii. We sold some in Sweden," Quincy recalls.

In the early 1990s, the Procell Brothers joined with Beaumont investor Hugh Kelley to campaign a Top Al-

cohol Funny Car in NHRA drag races held around the country.

Mark and Quincy were the heart of Kelley's pit crew and they competed in the fastest of what were considered "sportsman" classes.

In 1994, at Ennis, Texas, their car clocked 5.95 seconds for the quarter-mile track, reaching a top speed of 252 mph.

In the next lane, famous driver Bob Newberry also went 252 mph, but finished in 5.94 seconds.

It was the first time in NHRA that two cars in that class had run under 6 seconds in a side-by-side race.

Twenty years ago, Mark

Procell broke his back and was partially paralyzed in an auto accident.

"Mark was a perfectionist. I would not trust anybody else," Quincy said. "That ended the run."

But now the Procell Brothers location on Green Avenue is getting ready for a new life with LSCO.

"Me and my brother have had some success coming from our garage to this," Quincy Procell said.

"What time I've got left, I want to show these young ones, 'Don't miss the boat like I did by not listening when someone is offering advice.'"

CBA agreement From Page 1

with the compromises made. Reneau said deputies are being allowed once again to drive their patrol cars home.

The deputies association filed a grievance in September against the sheriff for using the car issue as a bargaining chip to get the deputies to agree to a new contract.

Reneau said Tuesday that "about 85" of the approximate 125 eligible deputies were dues-paying members of the association but that all will be covered by the new agreement.

He said a large majority of the association's membership voted to approve the CBA.

Bock was not available for comment Tuesday.

The contract gives the deputies the same 50-cent per hour raise all other county employees received under the budget that took effect Oct. 1, as well as a "me too" agreement, meaning the deputies get the same improvements in benefits as regular county employees.

New benefits include granting the deputies a third week of vacation in their first year and a new comp time policy.

Before it had taken five years of employment to earn a third week. The county has never had a comp time poli-

cy. The deputies will be able to bank up to 40 hours of comp time.

In other action Tuesday, the county acknowledged paying \$9,917 in Nov. 30 bills and signed off on \$558,490 for the week ended Dec. 7.

A total of 45 new COVID-19 cases - 11 confirmed by lab tests, 34 "probable" quick tests -- were logged in the last week in Orange County.

Three were hospitalized, one required a ventilator. None of the 45 were vaccinated, said Joel Ardoin, the county's emergency management coordinator.

"We expected an uptick

with the holidays," he said.

Ardoin was singled out by Gothia at the start of the meeting, saying the Sabine Neches Chiefs Association had recognized the region's county judges and their emergency management coordinators.

Gothia said that Southeast Texas was the first area in Texas to set up regional testing sites, the first to set up a vaccination clinic and the first to offer an infusion center.

"There was no manual for COVID," the County Judge said, "so we basically wrote the book, with a lot of extra hours by Joel. Thank you, Joel."

Pecans and walnuts offered at Wesley UMC Fundraiser

Wesley United Methodist Church will be selling this year's crop of Durham/Ellis pecans and walnuts, delivery early November.

Pecan halves or pieces \$10.50 per pound, walnuts \$8.50 per pound.

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Cane death From Page 1

was too short and it did not work for her.

Defense Attorney Ryan Gertz argued makeup bag contents could spill regardless if left open and in the event of a wreck. He also added later, the smudges on the air bag could have occurred by Faulk wiping her tears on the air bag following the wreck.

Gertz also asked Henry if the smudges were tested to see if they were indeed mascara. The detective replied they were not tested.

Dr. Tommy Brown, forensic pathologist, testified the cause of death for Cane was due to a "crush injury with traumatic amputation of the lower extremities." While at the scene, first responders and coworkers had applied their personal belts from their pants to be used as a tourniquet. This allowed time for Cane to be flown by helicopter to a Beaumont Hospital. However, he died a short time later.

"Tourniquets prolonged his life, otherwise he would have bled out rather quickly," Brown said.

The state rested following Brown's testimony. The defense also rested, but without calling any witnesses.

Closing arguments started with Assistant District Attorney Bard Anderson making a few statements, but waiting for a rebuttal in-

stead. Gertz encouraged jurors to look closer at Exhibit 5. In this state exhibit, a police vehicle is shown driving on MLK and as they travel the sun is glaring into the windshield making it difficult to see the road. He also points out the size of the sanitation truck's lights.

"They are so small," he says as he makes his hands into a circle and points to a video where the truck is shown.

Anderson does his rebuttal by stating the part of the video in Exhibit 5 is not relevant because that part was not near the wreck scene. When the driver in the video reached the wreck scene, the vehicles were clearly seen and the sun was behind the trees.

Anderson also stated the air bag shows a face print and not what was wiped onto it.

Anderson then asked jurors if it really mattered she was doing at the time of the wreck and replied "no."

But, then he asked does it matter that she failed to apply her brakes in a timely manner. He paused and then said, "yes."

The case has gone to the jury to decide Faulk's fate. They will resume deliberations Wednesday morning.

BC upgrades From Page 1

should come in at \$3 million. In his presentations in October, Kelly said upkeep on artificial turf was actually cheaper than grass.

On Nov. 15, a contract for the elementary school addition was approved by the board and signed with Claycombe, which has recently rebuilt the Orangefield school buildings damaged by Hurricane Harvey.

That work should begin over the summer with internal renovations being completed by next fall. The building of the new wing is scheduled for completion in the fall of 2023.

The project will cost \$4.5 million, Kelly estimates figuring in higher material costs. But he says \$2.1 million of the project will be paid with federal COVID-19 relief funds called Elementary and Secondary School Relief Fund (ESSER).

Work at Larry Ward Stadium began the week after Bridge City's football season began.

"This is probably the longest part of the whole process," Kelly said this week. "They have to remove all of the natural soil and create a five-foot hole.

"Then they put in new ma-

terials at eight-inch levels and pack it in each time and test to make sure it won't sink."

Because of a lack of campus space, plans are for the CTE building to be constructed on an open area between the high school and junior high. Because that space has been used by all of BC's sports teams for practices, Kelly pushed for artificial turf on the football field. That will allow teams and the band to practice year-round, he said.

"There's never a good time to do these projects," Kelly said. "A project that takes 90-100 days, most people do them in the summer, but you may not have the crews and workers available when everybody else is building.

"We have displaced our soccer team but West Orange has graciously allowed us to host our home games over there through the end of February.

"Ideally, our soccer teams will get to play some games in March on our new field. We'll have about a month to get ready for the district track meet, and everything will be set for our kids to graduate in May."

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After graduating top of his class at Baylor Law School, Orange native Tommy Gunn began practicing law in Orange County in 1976. As an attorney he has devoted his life to providing legal assistance to Orange County residents and businesses in virtually every aspect of general law. Advocating for the good of the Orange County community, Tommy is a former President of the Bridge City Independent School District school board and a past President of the Bridge City-Orangefield Rotary Club. He is also a former Director of the Orange Chamber of Commerce and serves as City Attorney for the City of Pinehurst since 1988. At present, Tommy is a former director and Chairman of the Board of Orange Savings Bank and First Financial Bank.

Tommy Gunn

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From The Creaux's Nest

LOCAL CANDIDATE YET TO FILE FOR CONGRESS

I have a bad head cold that I picked up from one of the snotty nosed **great-grandbabies** on their Thanksgiving visit. They headed home leaving their germs, passing them to our daughter, who passed them on to my wife and it finally to me. I have used a box of Kleenex and am about to sneeze my head off. I'm not much in the mood for writing and can't think straight. Anyway, next week, on Dec. 13, all filing for elective office ends. I'm disappointed that someone from **Orange County** has not announced to run against **Congressman Randy Weber**. The window is open, it's time for us to be represented by one of our own, not someone from Alvin, in the Houston area. **Weber** doesn't have a long history of accomplishing anything. We need someone who will see that **Orange County** gets its fair share. **Weber**, instead of voting for something, has a record of voting against everything, even the things that would improve the lives of **Orange County** citizens.****I must move on. **Please come along, I promise it won't do you no harm.**

DOJ SUES TEXAS OVER GERRYMANDERING

The **Justice Department** is suing **Texas** over its new re-districting maps. The lawsuit states lawmakers intentionally discriminated against minority voters by redrawing the state's political districts. The **DOJ** filed the lawsuit in **Federal Court**, claiming that the new districts for congress and the state's House of Representatives, violate the Voting Rights Act with discriminatory intent. The move is to increase the electoral power of white voters despite massive population growth by racial minorities and Latinos. Their voter strength should have increased rather than decreased. Critics have noted that the state's **GOP Legislature** has declined any new majority, minority districts even though in the last ten years people of color are 95 percent of the state's four million population growth. **Hispanics** make up half of that. **Texas** had been found to discriminate against voters of color every decade since the voting right act went into effect. The **DOJ** lawsuit does not mention the newly drawn districts in the Texas senate but it takes aim at several seats in the Texas house. Texas was granted two more congressional seats that were added in West Texas where the population declines.

TURNING BACK THE HANDS OF TIME 10 Years Ago-2011

Filing for local offices ends Thursday, Dec. 15. I learned however, that **Judge Pat Clark** was not going to run for the **County Court at Law** seat. I can hardly remember when **Pat** wasn't a judge. Meanwhile, the **United States Supreme Court** granted a request by Texas attorney general **Greg Abbott** to block the use of interim maps, drawn by three San Antonio judges. This uncertainty leaves candidates, in state and congressional districts, uncertain of where and when. For now, we will continue to be represented by **Mike Hamilton** and **Joe Deshotel** in the **House** and **Kevin Brady** in **Congress**. At least we know those guys and what we've got. ****The long and divisive **Iraqi War** of choice, as promised, comes to an end Dec. 31. **President Obama** declared Monday, "Those days are over. **U.S. troops leave Iraq with honor.**" Nearly 5,000 U.S. youngsters were killed and over a trillion dollars spent since the invasion of Iraq nine years ago.**** If you remember the corruption in the **Bush/Cheney** years, **Ken Lay**, **Madoff**, **Enron** and all the others, you ain't seen nothing yet. If **Newt** were to be elected, he would make **Cheney** look like a choirboy.****On Dec. 2, 2011, **Jim Holmes**, a **WWII** veteran, died at the age of 96, in Tyler, Texas. He lived alone. For many years he ran a successful used car business in Orange. He moved away to be near his only daughter **Judy** and her family. During **WWII**, he served in the **Army Air Corps** as a crew chief on a B-24 bomber. His plane was shot down over Poland. He was captured and became a German war prisoner. While in prison, he kept a diary, written on paper from inside cigarette packs. He wrote until his pencil got down to only an inch long. He bound his pages inside heavy cardboard covers tied with wire. The **Germans** took everything from him but missed the books. In the 1970's, the **Opportunity Valley Newspaper** published the entire set of volumes depicting the hard life **Holmes** had endured as a war prisoner. Services were held for this hero in Tyler on Dec. 6, 2011.****For some of you who have observed our county clerk **Karen Jo Vance** wearing a boot cast, it's not because she has been kicking ass. She fell back in October and a specialist later discovered she had torn ligaments, tendons and some fractures. It caused her to miss **Patsy Peck's** great trip to Charleston. Everyone reported they had a great time. ******Major Brad Frye**, with the **Bridge City Police Department**, has been elevated in rank to assistant chief by the **B.C. City Council**. Congrats I guess, or it might mean more work for the same pay. **** Orangefield held it's first annual parade, lighting of the derrick and museum visitation. **Judge Carl Thibodeaux** read his "Cajun Night Before Christmas." I was surprised and a little disappointed that **Judge Courtney** wasn't leading the parade. She was in a pickup throw-

ing candy however but who was that leading the parade?**** Army PFC Micah "Big Mike" **Ellender**, son of **Kirk** and **Brenda Ellender**, is home on leave from Afghanistan. The 2009 Bridge City grad will return to his unit Dec. 18.****The **Masons** will lay the cornerstone for the new Orange fire station, which will be quite a show place****Saturday, in a debate, **Rick Perry** said, "All congressmen should be part-time, with half pay." He also said, "They should all have to return to their districts, get jobs and have to work like the rest of us." **I couldn't believe what I was hearing.** The guy has been eating out of the public trough for 30 years, mostly part-time, with full time pay.******CREAUX'S TIP OF THE WEEK:** To clean artificial flowers, pour some salt into a paper bag, add the flowers and shake vigorously. The salt will absorb all the dust and dirt and leave your artificial flowers like new. Really, it works like a charm.******CAJUN DEFINITION:** Creole (cree-ol). The word originally described those people of mixed French and Spanish blood who migrated from Europe or were born in Southeast Louisiana and lived as sophisticated city and plantation dwellers. The term has expanded and now embraces a type of cuisine and a style of architecture.****The 52-foot tall big Texas cowboy greeting visitors at the **Texas State Fair** with "Howdy Folks" was once a **Santa Claus** in Kerens, Texas, where he got his start in 1949. He was redone with a 75 gallon hat and size 70 boots for the 1952 State Fair. Now you know the rest of the story.****Those special folks we know who are celebrating their special day. **Danny Blacksher** is a year older on Dec. 14. ****Happy birthday to **Diane Bertrand**, who celebrates on Dec. 14 also. ****Our longtime friend **Doug Harrington** turns 73 on Dec. 15. ******Mary and Don Stanton's** little boy, **Donnie Stanton**, reaches 44 on Dec. 15. ******Macc Hughes**, a talented guy, is a year older on Dec. 15.****The first lady of Bridge City, **Shirley Roccaforte**, notches another year Dec. 15.****Our buddy **James Brabham** celebrates Dec. 16.

18 Years Ago-2003

Bridge City Chamber names longtime conservationist **Sue Bailey** as "Citizen of the Year."******Saddam Hussein** captured on Saturday, Dec. 13, in Iraq. He was hiding in a hole under a floor in a shack.******Chris Wallace**, son of longtime CBS reporter **Mike Wallace**, has left ABC to join **FOX News Sunday Show**. ****Orange native, **Wade Phillips**, is named interim head coach of the **Atlanta Falcons** after the release of **Coach Dan Reeves**. ****Another Orange Countian, place kicker **Matt Bryant**, with New York, tackled a New Orleans Saint on a kickoff return to save a touchdown. That was kickoff tackle number four for **Matt**.******Ruth Kiihnl**, 76, passed away Dec. 9. She was the wife of **Bill**, mother of sons **George** and **Ogden**, daughters **Sandra Cook** and **Kim Davis**. Twenty-one police, county and state trooper vehicles escorted the funeral procession. **Kim** is the wife of **Capt. Paul Davis** with **DPS**. ****Oklahoma quarterback **Jason White** gets the Heisman Trophy award. He beat out Pittsburgh receiver, **Larry Fitzgerald** and Mississippi quarterback, **Eli Manning**.******Betty Lou Womack** celebrates a birthday in a few days.******Doug Harrington** is bringing back his Christmas Eve tradition where a group of friends gather to eat a gallon of raw oysters. **Doug** celebrated his 65th birthday Dec. 15. ******Parker "P.T." Thompson**, constable of Pct. 2, is running for reelection. He has been constable seven years and has served with three different Justices of the Peace in Pct. 2.******Derek Bufford**, age 13, wins a third consecutive "Silver Gloves" state boxing championship. He is a Little Cypress-Mauriceville eighth grader.****

43 Years Ago-1978

Some of the folks spotted at the **Jack Tar Sugar and Spice** coffee ship were **Judge Sid Caillavet**, **Judge James Neff**, **Mead Graves**, **Father Joe Berberich**, **Henry Stanfield**, **Joe Blanda**, **Ovie Harmon**, **Tony Giarratano**, **Rev. W.W. Kennedy**, **Jimmy Conn**, **Joe Rannels**, **Chip Trahan**, **Sheriff Chester Holts**, **Joe Burke**, **Bill Stringer** and **Cecil Beeson**. (Editor's note: Those good and colorful men were some of the greatest characters I've ever known. Sadly they are all gone now.)****The smell of fresh roasted peanuts comes from **Farmer's Mercantile**. It's an annual cold weather tradition **Gus Harris** keeps a pan of peanuts roasting on the stove and invites anyone to grab up a handful.

50 Years Ago-1971

On Dec. 8, **Wayne Peveto**, age 32, announced he would be a candidate in the May 6, 1972 Democratic Primary for Texas State Representative, District 8. **Peveto**, an attorney, is a partner in the law firm of **Morris, Smith and Peveto**. His is married to the former **Sandra Rankin**, and is the father of two children. The family lives in the **McLewis** community. **Peveto** was born and raised on a rice and dairy farm. He is a 1955 Orangefield grad and holds a Bachelor of Science degree in agriculture and a Business degree from Sam Houston. **Peveto** taught school for one year in the Bancroft Common School District, then with his brother **Glen**, started the **Peveto Packing Co.** In 1965, he sold his interest to **Glen** and entered the University of Houston Law School finishing in 1967. He beat **Clyde Haynes**, from Vidor, and as the saying goes, "The rest is history, and **Wayne** made plenty of it during his six terms in office.******Citizen of the Week:** Former Orange County Sheriff **Chester A. Holts**, served for 20 years. He was appointed sheriff in 1948 after the death of **Sheriff Dick Stanfield**. Now retired **Holts** looks back on the years. He and his wife **Iva** make their home in Mauriceville where he spends most of his time truck farming, raising rabbits, hunting and fishing. Many stories could be, and have been, told about his years in office. Being a good natured man **Chester** hums a lot, one night after having picked up a drunk, **Chester** was humming while bringing him to jail. The drunk said, "Would you please turn off that damn radio so I can talk to you." Reflecting on his years in office **Holts** says, "I'm thankful for my public record. When I left office there were no major unsolved crimes. I enjoyed working with everyone at the court house but mostly the loyal dedicated peace officers who served under me. They were a great bunch of fearless men. If I had it to do over, I would do it all again." (Editor's note: **Holts** is the longest serving sheriff in Orange County history His knowledge of the criminal element and his fearless character made him an outstanding peace officer. He seldom carried a pistol. It is said that criminals liked and feared him. They considered him stern yet fair. One story that has been told often is about several officers having apprehended a man in a building who was shooting at them, after returning the fire, they were unable to convince him to surrender. Upon the arrival of **Sheriff Holts**, he simply said, "This is **Ches-**

ter, I give you three minutes to come down here so we can work this out." Within 10 minutes he was lodged in the county jail. **Mr. and Mrs. Holts**, have both passed away, as has their son **Morgan Ray** and oldest daughter **Nova Dee Strickland**. They are survived by their daughter **Wanda Beth** and all the **Holts** offspring.

A FEW HAPPENINGS

We are glad to hear that **Bobby Cormier** was home from the hospital after suffering a stroke a few weeks ago. We hear he's doing good, almost good as new.******Senator Robert Nichols** was in town Tuesday making his regular rounds. He gave me a call from our Orange office. It was sure nice to hear from him. As of now, he doesn't have an opponent. It wouldn't do any good, he takes care of business and doesn't get involved in all that trash. **Nichols** is a good story that hasn't been written. I believe he has 127 patented inventions. If I recall, his dad invented the cap pistol. I remember my first and only one. You could only put in one cap at a time. Later it was improved on and could be loaded with a roll of caps. A kid than had an automatic cap pistol.****Speaking of long ago, 163 years ago this week, in 1848, **President James K. Polk**, triggered the gold rush of '49 by confirming that gold had been discovered in California. Go west young man, the rush is on. Today, not all the gold in California is in the banks in Beverly Hills. There is still panning for gold in Northern California.****A few folks we know celebrating in the next few days. **Dec. 9:** Happy Birthday to **David Jones**, **Ann Hall**, **Barry McKenzie**, **Bobby Couthran** and **Sharon Johnson**.******Dec. 10:** Celebrating today is **Tracy Wood**, our buddy **Joshua "T-Ray" Sehon**, **David Claybar**, **Sean Ureta**, **Cindy Briggs**, **Kari Piccone**, **Michelle Watson** and **Doris Peveto**.******Dec. 11:** Happy Birthday to **Lois Johnson**, **Brandy Rainwater**, **Karissa Schamber**, **Kent Sarver**, **Leslie Lyons**, **Cody Caples**, **Kristene Cortez** and **Jo Lynn Mott**. **** **Dec. 12:** The first lady of Stark's, **Lucy Hanks** celebrates today as does a great guy **George Sehon** who is 64 today. Also celebrating are **Richard Teague**, **Tom Orozio**, **Shelly Hebert**, **Scott DeRouen** and **Zackery Anderson**. ******Dec. 13:** Happy Birthday to **Melissa Poydence**, **Melinda Swares**, **Kristy Kidwell** and **Dennis Lee**.******Dec. 14:** Celebrating today are **Keri Michutka**, **Kandy Sartin**, **Danny Blacksher**, **Hannah Carpenter**, **Danny Prosperie**. Happy Birthday and best wishes today.******Congressman Brian Babin** and **Randy Weber** both voted to defund the government. They voted against **H.R. 6119**, the bill that **Biden** signed into law to keep the government open until Feb. 18. The fund is to pay military and government employees, bills that were passed down from **Obama** and **Trump**. It has nothing to do with **Biden**. **Babin** and **Weber** were willing to let the U.S. government default and all the lights be turned off. The temporary fix was passed with bi-partisan support.****Congratulations to Coach **Cornel Thompson** and his **West Orange-Stark Mustangs** for a great football season. The loss of two way starter **Elijah Gales** who left the game with an injury. The **Mustangs** had a 7-0 lead at the time. No doubt that had a lot to do with the 31-14 loss to **China Springs**, who have knocked the **Mustangs** out of the playoffs for a second year in a row.****Congratulations also to the **Little Cypress-Mauriceville Bears** on a historic football season. First year coach **Eric Peevey** and his staff put a winning season together that made all **Bear** fans proud. The team lost to **Chapel Hill** in the fourth round of the playoffs. The **Bears** had a chance to win but were hampered with an injured quarterback **Ashton Landry**, who had delivered the mail for the **Bears** all season. The **Bears** ended the season 11-3 overall in class 4A-1. **LC-M** is already looking forward to next season.

CELEBRITY BIRTHDAYS

Dec. 8: Rapper **Nicki Minaj**, 39; Actors **Ian Somerhalder**, 43; **Kim Basinger**, 68; **Teri Hatcher**, 57.****Dec. 9: Wrestler **Kurt Angle**, 53; Football Player **Dick Butkus**, 79, Actor **Donny Osmond**, 64.****Dec. 10: Chef **Bobby Flay**, 58; Actors **Raven-Symone**, 37; **Nia Peoples**, 61.****Dec. 11: Pop Singer **Jermaine Jackson**, 68; State Actress **Rita Moreno**, 91; Actor **Mo'Nique**, 54.****Dec. 12: Gospel Singer **Dionne Warwick**, 82; Singer **Sheila E.**, 65.****Dec. 13: Pop Singer **Taylor Swift**, 33; Actors **Jamie Foxx**, 55; **Dick Van Dyke**, 97; **Christopher Plummer**, 93.****Dec. 14: Pop Singer **Teri Kelly**, 29; Actor **Miranda Hart**, 49; Pop Singer **Vanessa Hudgens**, 33.

CAJUN STORY OF THE WEEK

Alfred Meaux and T-Neg Breaux got off da graveyard shift and went to Tee-Boy's for a few beers before heading home. After a while, dey switch to drinking Jack Daniels on da rocks. Lunchtime came and Tee-Boy suggested they move to da bar to free up da table for lunch patrons.

Bot of dem stagger to da bar.

Alfred him, he point to two old drunks sitting across da bar from dem and he say to Tee-Neg, "Dat's us in 10 years." Tee-Neg answer, "Dat's a mirror you dumb ass."

C'EST TOUT RUNNING AWAY FROM GRID PROBLEMS

It came at no surprise that Texas Lt. Governor **Dan Patrick** threw House Speaker **Dade Phelan** under the bus over February's power grid failure. We predicted over a month ago that was likely to happen. **Abbott** and **Patrick** have been attempting to run away from the failure of the power grid. Speaker **Phelan** warned that the senate's re-prising plan was "an extraordinary government intervention in the free market which may have major consequences for both residential and commercial consumers going forward." State regulators argue that the state may not have the authority to reverse charges that probably would not pass the savings down to customers. Companies will not be required to weatherize their facilities until 2023. Another extreme weather freeze in the next two years could again prompt widespread outages. According to a report from a watchdog group called **Texans for Public Justice**, the industry lavished \$16.5 million on the governor, 21 percent of the total raised. **Abbott** received \$4.6 million from oil, gas and energy interest during the past-legislative session this year. A poll released last month by **U.T.** and **Texas Tribune** found 60 percent disapprove of state leaders handling of the power grid collapse That's why they are shifting the blame.****I'm out of space and time and feel like hell. Glad I made it to the end. **Thanks for coming along. Take care and God bless.**

Unique gift shop offers Alaska coffee products, candles and more

**PENNY LELEUX
FOR THE RECORD**

Did you know there is a coffee that comes from Alaska? Did you know the darker the roast, the less the caffeine? Did you know this Alaskan coffee is available in Orange?

You can find it in an outhouse display at Sweet Creations located at 3515 Mockingbird, Suite 1. Coleen James built the display with the help of her daughter with 150-year-old wood from a house in Jasper that was being demolished. She rescued the wood because it was set to be burned. James decided to add the coffee to the shop's offerings after receiving the "outhouse blend" as a gift from her little sister.

"I really liked the coffee and there are all these different blends," said James. "It just tastes different. If you like dark roast, this right here is really good. It's called Black Satin, or they have this right here, the Arctic Wolf. It's too dark for me. My favorite...is the Outhouse, Alaska's Best and the Fog Riser, because they are all medium roast."

A first-time customer, Sylvia Bland, came into the shop during the interview, specifically looking for the coffee.

Other items Sweet Creations is known for are oil lamp diffusers and oils, dip and baking mixes, candied jalapeños, salt lamps, and the 'incredible' plant stand which is an armature that

can be used to create a variety of decorations and gift items. With a little notice, James can also create a gift basket with mixes, coffee or whatever you desire.

She will be hosting a 'tasting' for the coffee and various mixes Monday, Dec. 22, 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Everything in the shop will be 20 percent off during the event.

James opened Sweet Creations 10 years ago, the last three at its current location at Mockingbird Ln. She also owns Sparkling Clean, a home cleaning service, which she started 27 years ago. Sparkling Clean covers the entire Golden Triangle, including Lake Rayburn.

Mrs. Bland asked, "Can I throw in something else? I know for a fact, because the lady across the street from me used them. They were fantastic!" Mrs. Bland said her neighbor has since passed on, but said she witnessed how well they took care of what she needed.

Like all area businesses, Sweet Creations/Sparkling Clean was hurt due to the pandemic. Sparkling Clean was only shut down about six months, but it was much longer for Sweet Creations. It has been a further struggle because both work vehicles James used for the cleaning business are out of commission. She has not had the money to replace them, so she spends a lot of time transporting workers, which cuts down on the time she can devote to the shop.

Another major inconvenience, Google has listed her business as permanently



The plant stand is one of Sweet Creations signature items. The stand, which Coleen James is holding, acts as an armature for a variety of decorating solutions. The Christmas decoration on the right is assembled on the incredible plant stand. To the right is an outhouse James built with her daughter to display specialty coffees from Alaska. Sweet Creations is open 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday. RECORD PHOTO: Penny LeLeux

closed and she has not been able to get it straightened

out. Shopping local really helps area businesses like

Sweet Creations stay in business during these trying times. You can shop there 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Tuesday - Saturday.

On a sidenote, James started cooking for the elderly on Thursdays, two years ago.

"It's my mission for the Lord, to cook for the elderly," said James. She started out cooking for 24 people, now she is up to 44 meals. She does all the cooking by herself. Her pastor helps her deliver them each Thursday.

What made her start this mission?

"I can't really tell you. Somebody woke me up in the middle of the night and said, 'Coleen you gotta help these people.'" James questioned who or what the voice was. "Like I ain't got nothing else to do."

James said she went on about her business and did not think any more about it, until it happened again. She was awakened about midnight and the voice said, "Coleen, you need to get up and help these people."

She called her pastor and told him, "Somebody's talking to me and I don't know who it is." Her pastor told her it was the Lord. She started cooking for some of her elderly cleaning clients. It grew from there and has continued. "He's helped me out through the years since my husband passed away and I just need to help someone else." She lost her husband, Johnny, eight years ago.

'Tis the season. Pay it forward. Shop Local.

Deaths & Memorials

Carol Joyce Meyers, 78, West Orange

Carol Joyce Meyers passed into the arms of her Heavenly Father on Monday morning, October 25, 2021. She joins her parents, her three sisters, and her beloved grandmothers, "Ma" Ola and Arbie.

Cremation arrangements have been entrusted to Dorman Funeral Home in Orange, Texas.

Carol was born on February 14, 1943, in Converse, Louisiana, to Helen Rogers and John Hugh "Nima" Mahfouz. She grew up a country girl in the hills and fields of Northwestern Louisiana, and was always very proud of her French Louisiana, Mediterranean, and German heritage. Upon moving to West Orange in the early 1950s, she made many life-long friends. She finished high school one year early, and still graduated third-ranking in her class. She attended the Mims School of Beauty in Port Arthur, and kept her cosmetology license active until recently. Carol married James Edward "Ed" Meyers on March 2, 1962, and together they had three children that she was always very proud of - Jan, Jon, and Joel. She used to say, "I love all my three children equally, just differently since they are all unique from one another." When her marriage ended in the late 1970's, she found a new career working out at DuPont SRW, and her co-workers became an extension of family for her. Even after she'd long retired from there, she would recount special memories like they happened yesterday. Following her retirement from DuPont, Carol's life became about service to others, and she was very happy to give of her time to Orange Christian Services and work in the Soup Kitchen at First Presbyterian Church.

In her personal time, Carol loved the beach. Whether it was going to visit friends at Crystal Beach, or going on a family vacation to Fort Walton Beach, Florida, she loved nothing more than to slip off her sandals and feel the



Carol Meyers

sand in between her toes. She was probably more at home on the beach than anywhere else in the world. She loved to travel, and was very proud that she'd been able to journey to Europe, Russia, Australia, South America, and so many other places. A lifelong dream was realized when she found herself at the peak of Machu Picchu in Peru. On a more domestic note, she made the best homemade buttermilk biscuits around, and prided herself on her cheesecakes and red velvet cakes. Her friends would often come to call for a cup of fresh Folger's coffee and a piece of cheesecake. In her many years as a member of McDonald Memorial Baptist Church, she was known to many third grade Sunday Schoolers as "Miss Carol". She also enjoyed studying the Bible with her Bible Study class, and looked forward to each new session. She looked forward to lunches and events at the Lutchter Theater with her many friends. During the holidays, she loved to just ride around Orange looking at the Christmas decorations.

Carol was very proud of the fact that she was strong-minded, independent, and in very good health until COVID took her in just a little over two weeks. As strong as she was, it was stronger, and robbed those who love her of someone so very special and precious.

Carol is survived by her three children: Jan E. Meyers of Mauriceville, Texas; Jon E. Meyers of Houston, Texas; and Joel E. Meyers of Orange, Texas. She is also survived by two grandchildren and five great-grandchildren, numerous cousins, and countless nieces and nephews. In addition, the numerous close friends she had whom she considered family are all remembering her at this time.

In accordance with Carol's wishes, there will be no memorial service. If desired, memorial contributions may be made to the Salvation Army, Orange Christian Services, or the First Presbyterian Church Soup Kitchen.

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OUR SAVIOR IS BORN

The True Meaning Of Christmas



Pastor Charles Empey

Pastor Charles Empey
Columnist
For The Record

Matthew 1:18a "Now the birth of Jesus Christ was on this wise:"

From the time of the tragedy in the Garden of Eden, God began to announce the saving of what was lost. The whole world present and future was suddenly lost in that one act of disobedience, sin. At that moment mankind was cast into a helpless situation. Fully conscious and making decisions, he still could not remedy what he had done to His very soul and the soul of every human born through Him after that. It not only took the human race into the spiritual death of every man's soul, totally separated from God and any connection with the spiritual world of God. It did, though, put him in relationship with Satan and his spiritual world and destiny called Hell. Adam and his descendants, us, were lost to God and welcomed by Satan into his own destruction. Revelation 20:10 "And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where

the beast and the false prophet are, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever." The human race was LOST.

"Lost" is a daunting term. People get lost in forests, in mountains, lost traveling and those are helpless times. You know how it feels to be lost when traveling, or if you have ever been lost at sea or in the forest, or mountains. It created all kinds of negative emotions. These are circumstances that we can help ourselves in solving, or fellow humans searched and found us. You remember when you were found or found your way out. Elation. Joy. Thanksgiving. Relief.

The "lost" that took place in the Garden had no way out, nor could we help ourselves, nor could fellow humans search and assist us in saving us. We can't save ourselves, nor others. It was a total blackout, eternally lost. Creation was even effected by man's disobedience, sin. Everything began to die physically and the animal kingdom, etc. began to turn against each other, and no longer could man live safely among the beasts of the field. Many have been domesticated today, but human and animal trust is always shaky. Man (Adam) took us all down. The human race was suddenly lost in sin on the way to hell and all creation began to groan with the agony of its effects. Death came upon it all. The worst was God's crowning creation, man and woman. They were plunging toward hell with no hope.

Then in Genesis 3:15 we

find God giving a glimpse of the plan that would change it all...the promise of a "Seed" that would bring victory over it all, including crushing Satan, that old serpent. "And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel."

Throughout the Old Testament (O.T.) God demonstrated types, examples of this Seed and His power to save such as the Ark. The world would be destroyed except for those who would get into the Ark. Sound familiar? All who are in Christ Jesus will be saved. The typology goes on and on throughout the O.T. He is pictured in the life and purpose of people, like Isaac, Jacob, David, and so many others. He is pictured in the Tabernacle and the Temple and the sacrifices offered for sin in them. The structures themselves and the materials that went into them were all picture after picture of the coming Messiah, the Seed, the Christ, meaning the anointed One...anointed of God to be the Christ, the Savior of the world. His name would be Jesus the Anointed One (the Christ). He would be God with us. Isaiah 7:14 "Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel. This O.T. passage of prophecy is fulfilled in "Matthew 1:23 "Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with

us." God promised a Messiah, His Son, Jesus, and His love for mankind is fulfilled at the Cross in Him.

He could not be born of another man, otherwise He would be no more than you and I, lost in sin. He had to be holy and with the power to actually annihilate, eradicate sin. Literally destroy it and its power over anyone who would come to Him. He had to be born of the sinless holy God. Man's bloodline is totally corrupted in sin. He can only pass on sin and corruption. So, God's plan and only plan available was that He would have to send through the birth of the human womb His only begotten Son. I John 4:10 "Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins." John 3:16-17 "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. 17 For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved."

Note in our previous passage that it is the "world" that needs to be saved. This was not an isolated incident in a Garden nearly 7,000 years ago. This spanned all time to the last human being to be born. We know that the whole world will not be saved already, but God makes His point, there is not one person that is not a sinner to one degree to another, from the least to the worst of sinners, all are lost in sin.

Note the nature of Jesus...

been put outside the Garden. Jesus took on our sin and was taken outside Jerusalem and He with our sin was nailed to the cross, and just as the blood of the O.T. sacrifices was applied as atonement for sin, so was Jesus' blood shed and applied in heaven's Tabernacle for our sin. There it was applied for whosoever will come to Him, Jesus Christ, Emmanuel, God with us, repenting from sin and believing on Him, thus receiving Him as their personal Lord and Savior.

The birth of Jesus Christ in the center of history was for all on both sides of the Cross...the O.T. believers and the N.T. believers. And by the way, for the record, "testament" means "covenant." The Old Testament (Covenant) was under the temporary blood of sacrificed animals until the New Testament (Covenant) where all from the Old and now the New are brought under the blood of Jesus Christ. The animal sacrifices covered the sin, while the sacrifice of Jesus washed their and all other believer's sins away. Revelation 1:5 "And from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, and the first begotten of the dead, and the prince of the kings of the earth. Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood," "To us a child is born."

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

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MLB Lockout: Dollar signs between millionaires and billionaires

KAZ'S KORNER
JOE KAZMAR
For The Record



Major League Baseball is on the verge of its first work stoppage since 1994--when the World Series was canceled for the first time--and will likely put a halt to all off-season activities such as signing free agents, extending existing contracts, modifying the 40-man rosters, players not being able to work out at team facilities and players having to rehab at a non-team facility.

The lockout officially began at 12:01 a.m. last Thursday, but management negotiators left the MLB Players Association's hotel nine hours before the old contract was set to expire, without giving a return date.

The union demanded a change over the declining average salary, middle-class players being forced out by teams concentrating their payrolls on the wealthy players, and veterans given their walking papers in favor of lower-paid youth, especially those teams tearing down their rosters to rebuild, according to the Associated Press last week.

On the topic of free agency, MLB wants to keep it the same or change eligibility to age 29.5 rather than six years of major league service, which it has been since 1976 while the union wants to change it to five years of service and age 29.5, whichever comes first.

KAZ'S KORNER Page 2B

★ HOMETOWN FOOTBALL HIGHLIGHTS



The Mustang defense led by Dontrey McClain, Jadon Jones and Jaielen Brown try to stop China Springs Major Bowden. The Mustangs lost, 31-14 in the regional round of the state football championship on Friday. (SEE MORE PHOTOS INSIDE)

RECORD PHOTO: Meri Elen Jacobs

Kaz's Fearless Football Forecast . . .

TEXAS SEMIFINAL PLAYOFF GAMES THIS WEEK

CLASS 6A Div. I— Strawn (14-0).

Southlake Carroll (14-0) over Duncanville (12-1), Austin Lake Travis (12-2) over Galeana Park North Shore (13-1); Div. II—Denton Guyer (13-1) over Tomball (11-3), Katy (14-0) over Austin Westlake (14-0).

CLASS 5A Div. I— College Station (14-0) over Mansfield Summit (11-3), Paetow (13-1) over Flour Bluff (12-2); Div. II—Dallas South Oak Cliff (12-1) over Lubbock Cooper (13-1), Crosby (12-2) over Liberty Hill (12-2).

CLASS 4A Div. I— Stephenville (14-0) over Wichita Falls Hirschi (12-2), Austin LBJ (14-0) over Tyler Chapel Hill (11-3); Div. II—Gilmer (13-1) over Celina (12-1), China Spring (14-0) over Cuero (12-1).

CLASS 3A Div. I— Mount Vernon (14-0) over Brock (14-0), Lorena (12-2) over Lago Vista (11-3); Div. II—Gunter (14-0) over Lubbock Roosevelt (14-0), Wascom (13-1) over Franklin (14-0).

CLASS 2A Div. II— Hawley (14-0) over Marin (11-3), Shiner (14-0) over Timpson (12-0); Div. II—Stratford (13-1) over Albany (13-0), Mart (14-0) over Falls City (13-1).

CLASS 1A (Six-Man Championship) Div. I— May (14-0) over Westbrook (10-4); Div. II—Matador Motley County (14-0) over

COLLEGE Picks
—Army over Navy,

Football Championship Subdivision (Quarterfinals)—James Madison over Montana (Friday); Sam Houston State over Montana State, North Dakota State over ETSU, Villanova over South Dakota State (all Sat.).

PRO PICKS

Minnesota over Pittsburgh (Thursday Night); Dallas over Washington, Seattle over Houston, Carolina over Atlanta, Baltimore over Cleveland, Tennessee over Jacksonville, Kansas City over Las Vegas, New Orleans

over NY Jets, Denver over Detroit, LA Chargers over NY Giants, Tampa Bay over Buffalo, Cincinnati over San Francisco, Green Bay over Chicago (all Sunday); Arizona over Houston, Carolina over Atlanta, Baltimore over Cleveland, Tennessee over Jacksonville, Kansas City over Las Vegas, New Orleans



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Orange County

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, blood-line 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

WOS Mustangs, LCM Bears fall in regional finals

**TOMMY MANN JR.
FOR THE RECORD**

The 2021 football season finally concluded for the last two teams in Southeast Texas, as the Bears and Mustangs both lost in the Regional Finals this past Friday night.

The No. 4 state-ranked West Orange-Stark Mustangs finished the season with a record of 11-2 following a 31-14 loss to the No. 5 state-ranked China Spring Cougars this past Friday night at Tomball ISD Stadium in Tomball. China Spring (14-0) moves on to the State Semi-finals to face Cuero. The Mustangs jumped out to an early 7-0 lead courtesy of a 3-yard touchdown run by Elijah Gales and, early on, it looked as if the Mustangs had the Cougars on the ropes as the WO-S defense recovered two fumbles and an interception early in the first half. However, China Spring never panicked and finally found its pace. China Spring answered the WO-S touchdown with one of its own as quarterback Major Bowden hit the left sideline and outran the Mustangs defense for a 72-yard touchdown. The Cougars stymied the Mustangs offense much of the game after Gales sustained a significant injury to his left arm late in the first quarter. China Spring lead 10-7 at the half, and Bowden added a 70-yard scamper for a touchdown in the third quarter for



Quarterback Keyshawn Robinson looks for an open receiver. The sophomore took over as the starter early in the season and finished strong. He completed 47 of 90 passes for 610 yards and 6 TD's with only 2 interceptions.

RECORD PHOTO: Meri Elen Jacobs

a 17-7 lead. WO-S answered with a 70-yard touchdown pass to cut the Cougars lead to 17-14, but that would be it for the Mustangs. Bowden added a 44 yard touchdown run and connected on a 44-yard pass to the goal line that lead to another Cougars score. China Spring amassed over 450 total yards of offense for the game with nearly 390 yards coming on the ground. The Mustangs were

limited to approximately 230 total yards on the night.

The Little Cypress-Mauriceville Battlin' Bears finished the 2021 football season with an 11-3 record, an amazing turnaround from the 1-7 record in 2020. The Bears reached the fourth round of the playoffs for only the second time in program history before losing 31-14 to the Tyler Chapel Hill Bull-



China Springs Kyle Barton is met by Jadon Jones and Company of the Mustang defense. RECORD PHOTO: Meri Elen Jacobs

dogs on Friday night at the Berry Center in Cypress. The Bulldogs jumped out to a 14-0 lead in the first quarter as freshman quarterback Demetrius Brisbon connected on a 3-yard scoring pass and then had a 1-yard touchdown run. The Chapel Hill defense added to the scoreboard with a 55-yard fumble return to make it 21-0 at the break. Bears quarterback Ashton Landry was hampered by an ankle injury he suffered the week prior, so backup Dean

Reynolds and running back Da'Marion Morris shouldered much of the load. The Bears found paydirt in the third quarter as Reynolds hit Morris for an 18-yard touchdown pass, and then Morris added a 1-yard touchdown run in the fourth to cut the Bulldogs lead to 21-14. Following a failed inside kick attempt, the Bears defense forced Chapel Hill into a fourth down-and-one at the Bears 33-yard line. Brisbon then proceeded to romp

33-yards to the end zone to extend the Bulldogs lead, 28-14. Chapel Hill added a late field goal after a turnover on downs by the Bears to claim the victory. LC-M had 350 total yards of offense, while the Bulldogs had 346 total yards. Chapel Hill advances to the state semi-finals for the first time since 2011, when the Bulldogs also won the State Championship that year. The Bulldogs will play the No. 1 state-ranked Austin LBJ Jaguars next.

Kaz's Korner From Page 1B

MLB also wants to eliminate penalties for teams signing free agents who turned down a qualifying offer. Draft pick compensation has existed since 1976.

MLB wants to keep the salary arbitration the way it is while the union wants to lower eligibility down to two years of major league service, its level from 1974 through 1986 when it increased to three years.

There are several other changes to be discussed, but one that could happen is expanding the post-season from 10 to 14 teams with wild cards increasing from two per league to four, according to the AP article.

The division winner with the best record in each league would advance directly to the Division Series and the other two division winners and wild card teams would

play in a best-of-three round. The division winner with the second-best record would choose its opponent from among the three lowest-seeded wild-card teams. The division winner with the third-best record would get to pick from among the from the remaining two wild-card teams. The top wild card would face whichever team is left over when the division winners make their choices.

However, the union would like to see 12-team expanded playoffs and possibly having just two eight-team divisions per league, subject to agreement on MLBPA economic proposals.

Rob Manfred, who succeeded Bud Selig as commissioner in 2015 following 25 years as an MLB labor negotiator, made it quite clear that he would prefer an off-season lockout to a mid-sea-

son strike.

That's because billionaire management's credit lines took a hit following income deprivation caused by the coronavirus pandemic and may not be able to withstand a lengthy work stoppage.

Major league baseball's popularity has dropped dramatically in the past couple of years, with the state of the sport that can still thrill us in October and November, but can put us to sleep April through September, while the billionaire owners figure out how to better divide all the billions which eventually always gets figured out.

It's plain to see that the sport of baseball can't hold a candle to the NFL and it pales when compared to the country-wide passion of college football, which was quite evident last weekend. And when the NBA is soar-

ing in the spring, baseball looks slow and plodding.

It will be very interesting to see just how many of the players' demands will be ratified by the money-hungry owners.

KWICKIES...It looks to me like that home-field advantage the Seattle Seahawks have enjoyed for so long might be gone, and so might Head Coach Pete Carroll.

The Seahawks were 1-4 at home until they hung on for a 30-23 victory over the San Francisco 49ers Sunday in Seattle.

It was a bad Friday night for both Orange high school teams who were the first two football teams from the city to make it to the state regional finals and both lost by identical 31-14 scores after a key player left the game with

an injury. The West Orange-Stark Mustangs lost to China Spring for the second straight year while the Little Cypress-Mauriceville Battlin' Bears were upended by Tyler Chapel Hill. But the city of Orange is very proud of both local teams.

I'm glad to see that Buck

KAZ'S KORNER Page 4B

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★ Orange County Football Highlights ★



Mustang Bryson Jordan leads the tackle on China Springs Kyle Barton. The defense played tough all night but were not able to stop the Cougars.
RECORD PHOTO: Meri Elen Jacobs



Mustang Darren Anderson catches a 70 yard touchdown pass from quarterback Keyshawn Robinson to put the Mustangs within 3 but China Springs answered with their own touchdown and the Mustangs lost, 31-14.
RECORD PHOTO: Meri Elen Jacobs



Mustangs Deshaun Brunson, Andrew Wilson and Dontrey McClain stop Cougar Major Bowden in the backfield.
RECORD PHOTO: Meri Elen Jacobs



Mustangs Dontrey McClain and Darren Anderson try to stop China Springs Major Bowden.
RECORD PHOTO: Meri Elen Jacobs



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Lady Cats rip into tournament action



The 8th grade A-team started off hot in their first game against Hardin-Jefferson. The duo of Charlee Sanches and Brooklyn Wagoner was too much for the Hawks to handle. The Lady Cats' press stifled the Hawks which allowed them to run away with a 38-9 win. Aubree Beck and Steeley Franklin's excellent defense played a vital role in shutting down the Hawks. On Saturday morning, the Cats played host to East Chambers and were forced to compete for all four quarters. Kendall Sullivan had a standout performance, shooting 75%! Her baseline drives were quick and accurate, and the Lady Bucs had no answer. Franklin led in assists, while Halle Becker had an excellent defensive performance, leading the team in steals. The Lady Cats

pulled off a true team win, and they locked down the road to the Championship with a final score of 35-29. Continuing the same pattern, the Bobcats smothered the Little Cypress Cubs with 18 total steals. The Lady Cats executed the game plan flawlessly and were able to maintain the lead throughout the entire game. Sanches was poised throughout the game while leading the team in rebounds. Brooklyn Wagoner was the leading scorer with 14 points, to help secure the first place trophy for the Lady Cats!

The Lady Cats hope to continue the streak at the LCM Tournament next weekend, and would love for their fans to come out and support them!



The 7th grade A-team took on Hardin-Jefferson for the first game on Friday night. The Bobcats went up early and never looked back! The leading rebounder and leading scorer, Madison McCormack, made sure the Bobcats stayed on top throughout the game. Coming out of the half, Olivia Smith contributed six points in the third quarter alone, which helped to seal the first win 26-15. Bracket play continued Saturday morning, as the 7th grade Lady Cats took on Liberty. The Cats got off to a rough start and

struggled to catch up throughout the game. Angelina Ragusa and Mikayla Locke fought valiantly to get the game within reach, but time ticked off quickly and they took a loss 20-15. Their last game was for the 3rd place trophy, which the Bobcats won in a dominating fashion, 39-2. Mikayla Locke scored 18 of the 39 total points, while Paisley Reeves and Briana Thibodeaux brought down the rebounds needed to keep the Bobcats on top of the Cubs.

Trio of Mustangs, Thompson top All-District

Staff Report - For The Record

West Orange-Stark senior Elijah Gales was named Most Valuable Player and Cornel Thompson Coach of the Year on the District 10-4A Division II All-District team.

Two other Mustangs – Carmello Jones and Keyshawn Robinson – were named Defensive Player of the Year and Newcomer of the Year, and 10 other Mustangs were named first-team All-District, including two in two positions.

Cristian Quiteno Polio was named first-team kicker and punter; Dakarion Judge was named first team wide receiver and first-team kick returner; and Bryson Jordan was first-team lineman on offense and defense.

Gales, Jones, Robinson were unanimous in earning superlative honors while Mustang center Demetrius Hunter and kicker-punter

Polio were unanimous first-team picks, along with Orangefield fullback Hunter Ashworth and tight end Morgan Sampson.

Other WO-S first-teamers for the Mustangs, who finished their season at 11-2, were Darren Anderson, and Bryson Jordan on offense; Andrew Wilson, Jailen Brown, Dontrey McClain, Jamaal Shaw and Jadon Jones on defense.

Seven Orangefield players were named first-team, and three Bridge City players were also on the elite squad.

Cameron Dischler, Hunter Norwood, Kolbie Sowell, Brayden Babineaux and Tyler Shearin joined Ashworth and Sampson as Bobcats first-teamers while Bridge City's first-teamers were Hunter Bellanger, Nicholas Lejeune and J.S. Bearden.

Kaz's Korner From Page 2B

O'Neil was among the six elected to the baseball Hall of Fame Sunday. He was a champion of Black ball players during his eight-decade career on and off the field. He was joined by Gil Hodges, Bud Fowler, Minnie Minoso and the only living new members Jim Kaat and Tony Oliva. Buck was a coach for the Chicago Cubs and personally picked me up at Sky Harbor Airport in Phoenix for spring training when I was playing for them in 1964.

The four teams in the semi-final round of the College Football Playoffs were selected Sunday along with all of the bowl games and their participants. No. 1 Alabama (12-1) is an early 13½-point favorite over undefeated No. 4 Cincinnati (13-0) in the Cotton Bowl while No. 2 Michigan (12-1) takes on No. 3 Georgia (12-1). The formerly undefeated Bulldogs are favored by 7½ points in the Orange Bowl. Both semifinal games will be played Dec. 31 with the Cotton Bowl kicking off at 2:30 p.m. and the Orange Bowl starting at 6:30 p.m. Both games will be televised by ESPN.

Whoever was trying to pare down the number of bowl games this year really blew it because there are 43 bowl games plus the CFP championship game Jan. 10 at Indianapolis. Seven teams from the Lone Star State received bids: UTSA vs. San Diego State in the Frisco Bowl Dec. 21, Houston vs. Auburn in the Birmingham Bowl and Texas Tech vs. in the Liberty Bowl both on Dec. 28, SMU vs. Virginia in the Fenway Bowl Dec. 29 and Texas A&M vs. Wake Forest in the Gator Bowl Dec. 31. Two teams from Louisiana also received bids: Louisiana-Lafayette vs. Marshall in the New Orleans Bowl on Dec. 18 and LSU vs. Kansas State in the Texas Bowl on Jan. 4 and Baylor versus Ole Miss Jan. 4.

Former Dallas Cowboys star quarterback and television football analyst Tony Romo was inducted last night into the College Football Hall of Fame. He played for Eastern Illinois from 2000-2002 where he was a three-time All-

American and three-time Ohio Valley Player of the Year. Tony played his high school football for Burlington High in Burlington, Wisconsin.

Some of the college and NFL coaches who either lost their jobs or found a new one last weekend included Manny Diaz, fired by the Miami Hurricanes and probably will be replaced by Oregon's Mario Cristobal, Clemson offensive coordinator Brent Venables who was hired as the Oklahoma Sooners new head coach and Carolina Panthers offensive coordinator Joe Brady, who was replaced by senior offensive assistant Jeff Nixon.

The Arizona Cardinals have won all seven road games this season while the Denver Broncos have lost 12 straight meetings with the Kansas City Chiefs.

JUST BETWEEN US...

Every offensive position on the Houston Texans plus the coaches and their overall performance received an F-minus from Monday's Houston Chronicle and was described as "horrendous" after being blanked 31-0 by the surging Indianapolis Colts Sunday at NRG Stadium. The defense was spared the below failing grade and got C's and D's. The Texans did accomplish something when they became the first NFL team to be officially eliminated from the playoffs. They also made some headway on nabbing the No. 1 overall pick in the 2022 draft in April as the Detroit Lions snapped their 15-game losing streak by making a touchdown as time ran out Sunday and upsetting the Minnesota Vikings 29-27. It was Detroit's first victory since 2010 without Matt Stafford starting at quarterback for the Lions.

It also was the seventh loss for the Vikings by one score and fourth time they were defeated on the final play of the game. Detroit needs to win one more game—assuming Houston loses its remainder—for the Texans to be a shoo-in for the top draft pick.

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OUTDOORS Capt. Chuck Uzzle For The Record

Some of the best days I have ever had as a fisherman happened in the Sabine River so to say I hold a fondness for that place would be an understatement. I have seen all manner of fish caught in those waters from bream to sharks and everything in between. I enjoy seeing other fishermen find success in the deep water and I really like it when it happens in the winter. For years we had such a solid program starting in the summer months and going all the way to January at times, depending on rain and runoff from Toledo Bend. It was nothing to fill your livewell with shad, tie up a Carolina rig, find a break or depth change, and start catching fish. For a guide it was heaven because you burned almost no gas and seemed to always catch fish. That was the perfect program until hurricane Ike showed up and turned our world upside down, literally and figuratively.

In the years after Ike we went through a huge learning process due to so many things changing along the river from the huge run off. The striped bass we had patterned up so well absolutely disappeared, I haven't seen one in years. At times we might have a flurry where some fish would get in some of the more predictable plac-



Chuck Uzzle

es but those times were few and far between. Stack up a few more storms and some untimely releases from Toledo Bend and its no wonder things are so different.

At the moment we actually having a little flashback to the "good old days" as a nice pattern has developed in the last few weeks. The folks who decided to fish, rather than hunt, have been rewarded with some solid action along the river and intracoastal canal. The standard pattern involves lots of casting and covering water but it's certainly worth the effort. Crankbaits like the classic Rat-L-Trap or Hoginar along with smaller square billed plugs and swimbait are producing some really nice fish, especially redfish. I have had reports of both trout and redfish well up the Sabine River beyond the state line bridge all the way down to both Adam's and Cow Bayou into Sabine Lake. The water condition is still excellent along most of the river and the lake so you have plenty of areas to choose from. Obviously tide changes are the key to better fishing and quality electronics will go a long towards success as well. Once you get bit fish the area thoroughly because there are usually more fish bunched



The standard pattern involves lots of casting and covering water but it's certainly worth the effort.

up. This pattern is well worth a look if you are willing to put in a little time.

Texas duck hunters will reopen their duck season as the second split will get underway on Saturday. The numbers of ducks has increased somewhat over the last week or so but is still down overall. It appears as if a little more cold weather will show up for the opener and that will be a welcome

break from the above average temperatures we have been dealing with so far. Farther up the flyway the temps finally resemble winter and that should at least move some ducks and geese towards the south but we still need all the help we can get. Hopefully the second split will take off and produce some better hunts for those that struggled during the first half of the season.

Christmas gifts available from Texas Parks and Wildlife Department

Staff Report For The Record

AUSTIN— Find the perfect holiday gift for the outdoorsy person in your life at the new Texas State Park Online Store. The store, which is found on the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department's reservation website, features the official 2021 Texas State Park ornament, plus ornaments from previous years, magnets, hiking stick medallions, stickers and much more.

For 20 years, the annual park Christmas ornament has featured some of the most recognizable Texas State Parks landscapes. The metal ornament features photo-quality artwork in stunning color with rich, laser-etched textures and detail. This year, the ornament features a longhorn from the official state longhorn herd at Lyndon B. Johnson State Park and Historic Site.

The annual Christmas ornament can be purchased exclusively online for \$19.95 each, with free shipping. Purchase by Thursday, Dec. 10 for likely arrival before Christmas. Taxes will be applied at check out.

Other items available for purchase on the new Texas State Park Online Store include the Texas State Parks Pass, which allows a carload of visitors into the park for free for a calendar year, a Bluebonnet metal bookmark, a wooden Texas State Park magnet and sticker, state park zipper pulls and key rings, hiking stick medallions and ornaments from previous years.

Stay tuned to the online store throughout the year for new items available for purchase.

Anyone visiting the Texas State Capitol during the month of December can see the Capitol Christmas Tree delivered by Eisenhower State Park staff and the 2021 Texas State Park ornament. Texas State Parks has provided Christmas trees to the Texas State Capitol for more than 40 years.

The 20-foot tree will be delivered Monday, Nov. 29 at 10 a.m. to the House of Representatives. Mamie III, named after former First Lady Mamie Geneva Eisenhower, is a Virginia Pine grown and harvested from a tree farm near Eisenhower State Park. Texas State Park Police will be escorting the tree to the Capitol when it enters Austin.

Entertainment Guide: Concert venues for holiday season and beyond



The rock band Night Ranger (pictured) is one of many new shows recently announced for 2022 at the Golden Nugget Casino in Lake Charles, La. Along with Night Ranger, other shows include Gary Clark Jr. and Candlebox.

RECORD PHOTO: Tommy Mann Jr.

TOMMY MANN JR. FOR THE RECORD

The amount of national artists performing in Southeast Texas and Southwest Louisiana for the rest of the month is amazing, and the quality of those acts is equally impressive. Take a look at the list below to schedule some weekend fun or a possible holiday present for someone special.

- Dec. 8 Sammy Hagar and The Circle, House of Blues, Houston
- Dec. 9 A Beatles vs Stones Christmas, Jefferson Theatre, Beaumont
- Dec. 11 Neal McCoy, The Oaks Event Center, Vidor

- Dec. 11 Chicago, Golden Nugget Casino, Lake Charles, La.
- Dec. 11 D.R.I., Scout Bar, Houston
- Dec. 12 Trans-Siberian Orchestra, Toyota Center, Houston
- Dec. 16 George Thorogood and the Destroyers, Jefferson Theatre, Beaumont
- Dec. 16 Robert Earl Keen, House of Blues, Houston
- Dec. 17 Little River Band, Golden Nugget Casino, Lake Charles, La.
- Jan. 7, 2022 Maddie and Tae, House of Blues, Houston
- Jan. 14, 2022 Dean Dillon, The Oaks Event Center, Vidor

- Jan. 15, 2022 Keith Sweat, Golden Nugget Casino, Lake Charles, La.
- Jan. 21, 2022 The Oak Ridge Boys, Golden Nugget Casino, Lake Charles, La.
- Jan. 21, 2022 Elton John, Toyota Center, Houston
- Jan. 22, 2022 Elton John, Toyota Center, Houston
- Jan. 28, 2022 Michael Bolton, Golden Nugget Casino, Lake Charles, La.
- Jan. 29, 2022 JoJo Siwa, Toyota Center, Houston
- Feb. 4, 2022 Tool, Blonde Redhead, Toyota Center, Houston
- Feb. 8, 2022 Steve Vai, House of Blues, Houston

- Feb. 10, 2022 Travis Tritt: Solo Acoustic, Jefferson Theatre, Beaumont
- Feb. 16, 2022 Kansas, Jefferson Theatre, Beaumont
- Feb. 16, 2022 Bad Bunny, Toyota Center, Houston
- Feb. 17, 2022 Bad Bunny, Toyota Center, Houston
- Feb. 25, 2022 Ghost, Volbeat, Smart Financial Center, Sugar Land
- March 12, 2022 Casey Donahew Band, Golden Nugget Casino, Lake Charles, La.
- March 12, 2022 Dua Lipa, Toyota Center, Houston
- March 25, 2022 Johnny Rivers, Golden Nugget Ca-

- sino, Lake Charles, La.
- March 26, 2022 Tracy Lawrence, Golden Nugget Casino, Lake Charles, La.
- March 27, 2022 Tyler the Creator, Toyota Center, Houston
- April 16, 2022 Dustin Lynch, L'Auberge Casino Resort, Lake Charles, La.
- April 23, 2022 John Mayer, Toyota Center, Houston
- April 23, 2022 Jerry Cantrell, House of Blues, Houston
- April 23, 2022 Morgan Wallen, Hardy, Larry Fleet, CajunDome, Lafayette, La.
- April 29, 2022 Justin Bieber, Toyota Center, Houston

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 Note: Offices Closed On Wednesday

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RV/Camper Space for rent at Peggy's on the Bayou. \$450 includes all utilities, water, trash and dish. Please call 409-988-3918.

HELP WANTED

Looking for qualified residential and commercial painters and helpers. \$12 - \$25/per hour Must have Drivers License, Social Security Card and transportation. Please call Brent at 409-728-8192

GARAGE SALE

Moving Sale - must sell at 4217 Briarhill (off MLK) this Fri., 12/10 & Sat., 12/11 from 7am - till. Yard tools, power tools, ladders, wheelbarrow, golf clubs, home decor & more.

Granny's Downsizing sale, inside home this Fri., 12/10, Sat., 12/11 & Sun., 12/12 from 8:30 am - until at 2578 FM 3247 in Little Cypress area, take 87 North from Orange to 3247, turn right, follow signs to left turn on 3247 (was Elmira Rd) House on right. We have 50 years of collectables, old and new, kitchen wares, appliances, cookbooks, cast iron cookware & cars. Western books, 78 albums & record player. Home interior collection, Christmas decor, handcrafts. Shoes, clothes, box of new men's caps, Angels and crosses, too much to list. 1/2 price on Sunday from 1 to 5 pm. Cash Sales only. Follow Granny's signs from Hwy 87.

FURNITURE

Recovered in 2021 Royal Blue Velvet Couch with recliners and a loveseat with 2 rocker recliners. Asking \$900 or you can make offer. Please call 409-670-8067 for more info.

BURIAL PLOT

Cemetery plot that is located at Hillcrest Memorial Gardens. Call 409-988-0684

PETS

Free kittens just in time for Christmas. Baby kittens, litter box trained, 2 calicos, 1 grey, peach & white & 1 black striped. Call for more info 409-779-9981

Year in Review

- ACROSS
- Coalition of countries
 - King trump-er, sometimes
 - Cuckoo bird
 - _____ weevil
 - Smelting waste
 - Kitchen-wear
 - Coke or Pepsi
 - Check-in via text, email, etc.
 - Settler transport
 - *2021 Super Bowl winner, two words
 - Before long, to Shakespeare
 - Jeopardy
 - Auction action
 - Puts down
 - Coroner's performance
 - Band booking
 - Snicket of "A Series of Unfortunate Events"
 - Stravinsky's "The _____ of Spring"
 - Mine passages
 - *Build Back Better _____
 - Eucharist plate
 - Table hill
 - Good review
 - "Tit for _____"
 - Buck feature, pl.
 - *First female VP
 - Evergreen creeper
 - It goes with gin, according to Snoop Dogg
 - Mongolian desert
 - *COVID-19, e.g.
 - Poison ivy or Poison oak
 - International Civil Aviation Org.
 - Distinctive smell
 - House coat
 - Asian cuisine food thickener
 - Pelvic parts
 - Gallery display
 - Self-proclaimed greatest boxer
 - Count on _____

- DOWN
- "Monty Python" broadcaster
 - Rioter's take
 - Cantina pot
 - Fasteners or holders
 - Cover story
 - *Suez _____, too tight for Ever Given
 - Like custard
 - Mythological ship
 - "High" time
 - Wayside stop
 - Thinly spread
 - Look forward to
 - *_____ Papers, leaked offshore account information
 - Banana refuse, pl.
 - Exchange for money
 - Old World lizard
 - *January 20th honoree

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of **RAYBURN MAX MATTHEWS**, Deceased, were issued on **JUNE 22, 2021**, in Cause No. **P19044**, pending in the County Court at Law of Orange County, Texas, to: **EVA DELORES MATTHEWS**.

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

c/o: **James R. Dunaway**
 Attorney at Law
 P.O. Box 100
 Orange, TX
 77631-0100

Dated the **11th** day of **August**, 2021.

James R. Dunaway
 James R. Dunaway
 Attorney for:
 Eva Delores Matthews
 State Bar No.: 06208000
 P.O. Box 100
 Orange, TX 77631-0100
 jrdunaway@sbcglobal.net

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of **MARY A. LEWIS** aka **MARY ARELLA LEWIS**, Deceased, were issued on **NOVEMBER 29, 2021**, in Cause No. **P19201**, pending in the County Court at Law of Orange County, Texas, to: **CLAUDE E. LEWIS**.

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

c/o: **James R. Dunaway**
 Attorney at Law
 P.O. Box 100
 Orange, TX
 77631-0100

Dated the **1st** day of **December**, 2021.

James R. Dunaway
 James R. Dunaway
 Attorney for:
 Claude E. Lewis
 State Bar No.: 06208000
 P.O. Box 100
 Orange, TX 77631-0100
 jrdunaway@sbcglobal.net

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of **FRANCES CROW**, Deceased, were issued on **DECEMBER 2, 2021**, in Cause No. **P19235**, pending in the County Court at Law of Orange County, Texas, to: **CHERYL BRADLEY**.

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

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

DATED the 2nd day of December, 2021.

Stephen Howard
 Stephen Howard

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

CITATION BY PUBLICATION

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

RONNA ANN DICKMAN, Deceased
 Cause No. P19284
 in County Court at Law, Orange County, Texas

The alleged heir(s) at law in the above numbered and entitled estate filed **AN APPLICATION TO DETERMINE HEIRSHIP** in this estate on **DECEMBER 01, 2021**, requesting that the Court determine who are the heirs and only heirs of **RONNA ANN DICKMAN**, Deceased, and their respective shares and interests in such estate.

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

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

Given under my hand and the seal of the County Court at Law, Orange County, Texas at the office of the Orange County Clerk in Orange, Texas on **DECEMBER 01, 2021**.

BRANDY ROBERTSON,
 County Clerk, Orange County, Texas
 By: *Samantha McInnis*, Deputy

Samantha McInnis

CITATION BY PUBLICATION

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

VICKI LYNN DRAKE BROWN, Deceased
 Cause No. P19283
 in County Court at Law, Orange County, Texas

The alleged heir(s) at law in the above numbered and entitled estate filed **AN APPLICATION TO DETERMINE HEIRSHIP** in this estate on **NOVEMBER 30, 2021**, requesting that the Court determine who are the heirs and only heirs of **VICKI LYNN DRAKE BROWN**, Deceased, and their respective shares and interests in such estate.

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

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

Given under my hand and the seal of the County Court at Law, Orange County, Texas at the office of the Orange County Clerk in Orange, Texas on **NOVEMBER 30, 2021**.

BRANDY ROBERTSON,
 County Clerk, Orange County, Texas
 By: *Samantha McInnis*, Deputy

Samantha McInnis

CROSSWORD

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- *Perseverance landing spot
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- *Kabul's organization in power
- *The Nobel _____
- Prize was awarded to Ressa and Muratov
- Snoop around
- Snowmobile brand
- Give the boot
- *"Stronger" by Cindy McCain, e.g.
- Southwestern hut
- Sushi restaurant staple
- _____ gum, food additive
- Leave out
- Home to the Leaning Tower
- Not in use
- One in mattress
- Spot for a facial
- *Actor Liotta, star in "The Many Saints of Newark"

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