

# County Record

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Week of Wednesday, February 2, 2022

## Precinct 2 candidates meet voters

DAVE ROGERS  
For The Record

The five men seeking to be the next Orange County Commissioner for Precinct 2 agreed their widespread slice of the county needs better representation.

In last Friday's Candidate Forum at Little Cypress Intermediate School, they agreed drainage, roads, economic development and equity are concerns for a huge precinct that stretches from the eastern edges of Vidor through the Orangefield school district north to the Jasper and Newton County

there as soon as he could and wound up on the school board.

All five candidates are running in the March 1 Republican Primary. Unless one of them gets more than 50 percent of that vote, the top two vote-getters on March 1 will be in a runoff May 24.

Moderator Kevin Steele and event organizer Leo LaBauve III sorted through questions submitted prior to the program by an audience that half-filled the school cafeteria.

It was an interesting blend



Micah Covey, left, assists candidates Robby Lunsford, Jude Graffagnino, Matt Chandler and Shawn Hare as they draw for spots in the lineup of Friday night's Candidate Forum for Orange County Precinct 2 Commissioner.

RECORD PHOTO: Dave Rogers

lines.

And they all have experience working with the public.

Judge Graffagnino, a third-term Orangefield school board member, pointed out that he was one of two candidates who brings experience holding elected office.

The other is Matt Chandler, pastor of Orange's Life Church. He previously served on Pinehurst City Council and was that city's youngest Mayor Pro-Tem at 27.

But Chris Sowell can count four years as president of the Mauriceville Heritage Association, north Orange County's biggest non-profit.

And Shawn Hare spent a year working on Capitol Hill for U.S. Sen. Arlen Specter of Pennsylvania.

Meanwhile, Robby Lunsford, who says, "I'm not a politician. I'm a blue collar worker who wants to help my community," is currently employed with the Orange County Road & Bridge Department.

So he knows roads and drainage.

Scoring at home (coming), Sowell graduated from Little Cypress-Mauriceville High School while Lunsford, Hare and Chandler graduated from Orangefield High School. Graffagnino, whose wife and son-in-law work for Orangefield schools, got

of questions.

One asked the candidates, "Do you believe in the biblical definition of marriage as between one man and one woman for life?"

All said, "Yes," "Absolutely," or "I do," with Chandler adding, "I'll take it a step further: I believe in one man by birth and one woman by birth."

And the members of the audience shouted and clapped their approval.

Steele asked the candidates if their current jobs were funded by tax dollars.

All said no.

Graffagnino pointed out school board members in Texas are prohibited from receiving money to serve and Chandler said when he used to serve on the Pinehurst council, pay was \$20 per monthly meeting.

Lunsford obviously misunderstood the question.

"I work for Orange County, so, no, no tax dollars."

The Commissioner's pay starts at \$74,256 per year. That money comes from the Orange County budget. At least four-fifths of Orange County's annual budget of about \$50 million is funded by property, sales or use taxes.

Another question Steele asked the candidate quintet was, "Are you in favor of tax

CANDIDATES Page 3A



Program Director of Workforce Education Thera Celestine at Lamar State College Orange is welcoming new students to the school's Commercial Driving Program. She is standing in the new school bus purchased through a grant for the training.

RECORD PHOTO: Dan Perrine

## LSCO launches new workforce Commercial Driving Program

DAN PERRINE  
For The Record

Education used to be primarily reading, writing, and arithmetic. Lamar State College Orange has added to those three alliterate terms to include riding the roads for real cash.

The newest additions to the college's truck driving academy arrived at the campus the last Friday in January. A brand new bus, an 18-wheeler big rig, and a dump truck joined the fleet of vehicles used for the Commercial Driving Program offered at the college.

The 77-passenger yellow bus is the latest model of

school transportation. The 2013 Cascadia truck has a sleeper cab and came with a full length trailer to haul behind it. A 2001 Sterling dump truck rounds out the newly purchased vehicles that were added to the 2004 Volvo truck with a 28-foot box trailer that was the original vehicle used for the truck driving school.

Three years ago Lamar State College Orange (LSCO) was contacted by local industry requesting them to consider creating a truck driving program. In the meantime shipping crates have been stacking up at various ports because of a

lack of trucks and drivers to carry to other destinations. Many local schools have found it difficult to get qualified volunteers to drive buses for their districts.

Working with the local industrial partners the college has started a training plan for commercial truck drivers and bus operators. LSCO President Dr. Tom Johnson said listening to the community and meeting local needs is what the college is doing. "Someone can come here, they can learn a skill, a craft, or a trade in a short period of time and be able to make a livable wage and go right to work, and

that's what makes Lamar State College Orange so special. Whatever our community needs we deliver," Johnson added.

The program started with one simple day cab truck, one instructor, and one student. A need for expansion was recognized leading to a grant between LSCO, Lamar State College Port Arthur and Lamar Institute of Technology that totaled \$781,000 split between the three schools.

Director of Community and Workforce Education Thera Celestine with LSCO

LSCO COMMERCIAL Page 3A

## BC Chamber honors Isaacs, CASA

DAVE ROGERS  
For The Record

For all they do for the community, the Bridge City Chamber of Commerce recognized Melissa Isaacs as Citizen of the Year and CASA of Sabine Neches Region Business of the Year at its 61st Annual Banquet Monday night.

The Chamber numbers 179 business members, including 13 new members signed up in 2021, said 2021 Board President Rani Dillow.

The Ministerial Alliance works with 20 area churches to serve as a central agency to provide assistance with food, utilities, rent, gasoline, medicine and other items to 1,400 families each year.

Isaacs has served as Executive Director since 2013. She has a team of about 35 volunteers who serve each month.

She oversaw the construction of a new 3,500-square

foot building that includes a huge warehouse, comfortable lobby, and offices. Annually, the Alliance accepts donations of Christmas toys for families in need and this past year provided to 420 children in 165 families.

CASA - Court Appointed Special Advocates - was created in Orange County to place children who are under the supervision of the court system or in the care of foster parents back in a safe family home, or an alternate permanent home.

The national CASA Association is a network of more than 900 CASA programs in 49 states. Without CASA, a child spends an average of two years bouncing from place to place in the foster care system.

CASA of the Sabine Neches Region recruits, trains and supports volunteers to serve as Court Appointed Special Advocates. As trained advocates, the volun-



Melissa Isaacs, center, was named Citizen of the Year at the 61st Annual Banquet of the Bridge City Chamber of Commerce Monday night. Presenting the award are 2021 Chamber President Rani Dillow and Dana Young, representing U.S. Rep. Dr. Brian Babin.

RECORD PHOTO: Dave Rogers

teers are appointed by judges to be a voice for abused and neglected children in court.

Codie Vasquez is the executive director for the Sabine Neches Region and she re-

ceived the award alongside board members Robert Currie and Cil Dixon.

Dana Young, representing

BC CHAMBER Page 3A



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# BC welcomes new city manager Feb. 7

From the Mayor's desk  
Bridge City Mayor David Rutledge

Here's just a few of the happenings at City Hall.

City Hall will be closed this month on Monday, February 21st in observance of Presidents' Day. When I was in school (way back in ancient times!) we observed February 12 as President Lincoln's Birthday and February 22 as President Washington's Birthday. I guess they consolidated them so we would only have one holiday in the month.

Either way, it's probably good for us to remember these two and all the other chief executives for their contributions to our country and our citizens. Through their leadership and foresight, we have become the greatest country on the planet. That's something we should all celebrate.

This must be the time for transitions. Here at City Hall we've had a couple of folks move on and others

come in. Ricky Waldrep, one of our long-time employees, retired on Monday, January 31st. Ricky worked in our Utility department with steadfast dedication for 20 years to provide necessary services to all our citizens. We want to acknowledge and thank him for his service to our City and wish Ricky and his wife Charlotte all the best in a well-deserved retirement.

As I talked about last month, our long-time City Manager, Jerry Jones was retiring on January 14th after 21 years of service to the people of the City and a total of 51 years of service in municipal work. We marked that day with a reception in his honor at City Hall. If you missed his retirement party, you missed a few stories that he may not have wanted to get out, but we told them anyway. I hope we sent him out in style. We will miss



having him around and having his counsel on all matters concerning the City.

On Tuesday, February 1st we welcomed our new City Manager. We stole Brent Walker from the City of Dalhart, Texas up in the Panhandle. I think the temperature was 11 degrees the morning Brent left Dalhart, so I don't know how much of it was us stealing him and how much it was him being a willing hostage. (SHHH-HH.....! Don't tell him about our summer weather; let him find out on his own. Otherwise, he might want to rethink his decision.)

During his tenure in Dal-

hart, Brent was Assistant City Manager for them the past 4 years where he was involved in day-to-day activities of all City businesses including Public Works, Finance, Administration, and Public Safety.

Before that Brent was the Finance Director there in Dalhart for 5 years where he oversaw Administration, IT, and HR departments as well as managing the \$12 million City budget. He brings a lot of varied and valuable experience to the job, and we're looking forward to working with him as our City moves forward.

We're going to hold a "meet and greet" reception for him here at City Hall on Monday, February 7th from 2 to 4 pm. Please stop by, introduce yourself, have a few refreshments, and welcome our new City Manager.

That's all for this month. If you get a minute, please stop by and visit with our new City Manager on Monday and welcome him to "Bridge City, the Gateway to Lake Sabine."

## YOU ARE INVITED!

Hello friends, come out and meet your Candidate for Pct. 2 Commissioner Orange County, Texas

My wife, Carolyn and I would like to cordially invite you to a spaghetti meal on Sunday, February 6th at The Venue at Duhon Square by Tuffys from 2:00 pm to 5:00 pm.

God bless & we'll see you there!



Carolyn & Robert "Robby" Lunsford

## The Record Newspapers

of Orange County, Texas

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](http://TheRecordLive.Com).

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## Shaun McConnell wins Chili Cook-off at Columbanus

Chili by Shaun McConnell, left, was both the judge's and people's champ at Saturday's Chili Cook-off in Orange.

Mark Frey of Columbanus MotorSports, joined by his store's yet-to-be-named fox mascot, said the event raised several hundred dollars for United Way of Orange.

RECORD PHOTO:  
Dave Rogers

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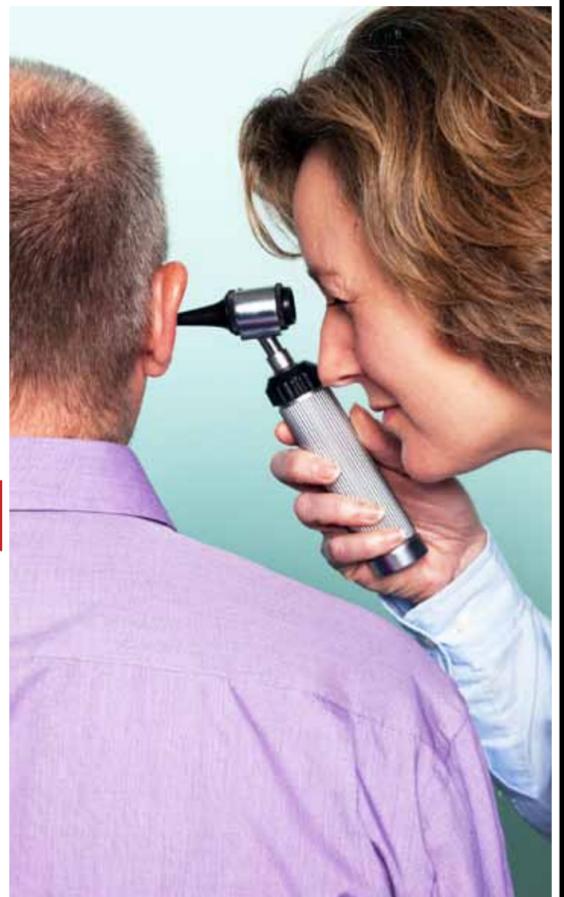
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## Candidates meet voters From Page 1

abatements?" Sowell, Graffagnino and Chandler all said they were wholeheartedly in favor of the process of enticing new business to locate in Orange County by not charging property tax for up to 10 years.

"I was told part of the reason Buc-ee's did not come here was because the Commissioners Court did not give them a 10-year tax abatement," Sowell said. "He said, 'Precinct 2 will be here for 900 years. Ten years of tax abatement is worth every penny of the new tax dollars, school tax dollars and the new jobs that will bring.'"

"Abatement is a very small price to pay to get businesses that will create jobs," Graffagnino said.

Hare wouldn't go all in. "I'm for tax abatements with moderation," he said. "I think sometimes they get a little bit out of hand."

"Precinct 2 in Orange County is in a prime location, right on the border of Louisiana," Hare said. "There's a 20-mile food and

beverage desert around us, which gives us an opportunity to grow with a lessened tax abatement."

"The only concern I have is, from talking to local business owners who've been here 50 years or 20 years is, 'Where's my tax abatement?' They didn't get a tax abatement."

Lunsford said he was unprepared to answer the abatement question.

Graffagnino said in his opening statement that, "It's amazing to me that five men stood up to tackle our neighbors' problems."

"I think people are afraid to think outside the box sometimes, but I think that's what's needed in Orange County," Graffagnino said. "With the big projects coming down the pipe, we're going to have to come up with some answers about how to diversify and how to spend that money. Why don't we see if we can get people on I-10 to stop off and leave us some of their money?"

Sowell also mentioned the interstate as a great financial

prospect for Precinct 2. "There's a lot of growth and it needs to be county-wide," Sowell said. "On I-10, there's no city water or sewer from FM 1442 to FM 1130. That's why you don't see any growth along the interstate. 'I've already been in contact with the state and local officials to start getting that taken care of.'"

Lunsford pledged to be a quick study and tireless servant if elected.

"My goal is to serve you as full-time commissioner," he said. "I will work relentlessly to study and learn so that I can offer you the best representation possible."

"I will give you honesty and I will keep you informed."

Chandler is taking his shot in Orange County.

"I truly believe Orange County can be the best place to live, work, pray and worship," he said.

"There seems to have been a gap for awhile with our local officials and the county, and I'm going to change that."

## BC Chamber bestows honors From Page 1

U.S. Rep. Dr. Brian Babin, presented Isaacs and Vasquez certificates of Special Congressional Recognition in addition to the Chamber awards presented by Dillow.

Beth Arnold was named 2021 Ambassador of the Year and Jerry Jones, recently retired city manager for Bridge City, received a recognition for two decades of service to the chamber.

Zach Johnson, representing Texas House Speaker Dade Phelan, presented Jones an extra-large gavel that had been used by Phelan in the Texas House of Representatives.

About 200 members and guests attended the banquet held at the Bridge City Community Center. Tuffy's provided the meals, with Market Basket and Tejas Liquor handling the beverages.

Dillow, of Westin Mortgage Group, gave her final report on 2021:

She talked about events that raised money for others, a Christmas Tree silent auction raised money for the scholarship program for high



Court Appointed Special Advocates of Sabine Neches Region was named Business of the Year at Monday night's Bridge City Chamber of Commerce banquet at the Bridge City Community Center. From left to right, 2021 Chamber President Rani Dillow, Robert Currie, CASA Executive Director Codie Vasquez, Cil Dixon and Dana Young.

school seniors, Designer Purse Bingo that raised over \$16,000, the second annual Photo with Santa event at Bridge City's Tree Lighting in the Park where children exchanged new toys for the Ministerial Alliance for snaps with St. Nick, an event recognizing first responders

and the 11th Annual Christmas Light Parade, which also benefited the Ministerial Alliance. In addition to that, the Chamber also hired a new Director in Mandy Lyda and repaired the Chamber building, adding a storage building and trees.

## LSCO drives workforce program From Page 1

worked on writing the grant which allowed each campus to purchase equipment. "This was a once in a lifetime grant because there have been no other grants that have ever allowed purchases of vehicles, and this grant has allowed me to purchase vehicles so this is a very unique grant," Celestine stated.

Lamar State College Orange used its \$295,000 portion of the grant to purchase the training vehicles which has allowed the college to expand its driving courses. LSCO now offers Class-B school bus and dump truck driver training and has hired two additional Class-A instructors and a Class-B instructor to lead the school bus driving program.

Already 50 graduates have completed the training at the LSCO driving academy in Class-A commercial driver's licenses alone. Some of those graduates are working on the roads across the nation and others are employed locally in jobs involved with driving a truck.

The school is turning out safe drivers for the road. Celestine reminded, "The goal is just to put these students to work. That's what we do, train them so that they're able to go to work and they're able to drive on the road safely. We don't want any accidents to happen, so we design our program around safe drivers. We have to drive on the road, you have to drive on the road, we don't want to have accidents to happen, so our goal is for them to go to work and to go to work safely."

Celestine believes expansion will be coming soon to the LSCO Commercial Driving Program because of new federal requirements starting February 7 from the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration. Applicants that want to obtain a Class A or a Class B license for the first time, or anybody wanting to upgrade an existing Class B to a Class A commercial driver's license, or anybody that wants to obtain a school bus passenger endorsement can no longer just go to the Texas Department of Public Safety to get their permit. "They have to go through a training program. That is going to help our program tremendously," Celestine predicted.

The driving school is divided between Class B and Class A training. Class B is for dump truck and school bus drivers and Class A is for commercial truck drivers.

Class B currently has six students enrolled at a cost of \$2,500 for 160 hours of instruction over about four to six weeks. The instruction is unique because most of the

students are already working driving buses and need classes that fit around their work schedules.

Thinking outside the box LSCO designed its schedule to be 9 AM to 1 PM Monday through Friday. This allows the students to work driving buses in the morning and in the evening while going to driving class in the middle of the day.

After the current class graduates the college will accept new students to register for the driving classes every Monday. The intention is to always have six students in the course for the Class B license.

The course for the Class A has a tuition of \$3,800 for 240 hours. New students are accepted into the program every Monday with classes

five days a week.

There are two instructors and now two vehicles for training. When a student tests out a new student is accepted into the program.

The instructors for the driving school are all trained and experienced in operating the vehicles at LSCO. Stephanie Duhon has extensive training as the Class B instructor. Duhon is an active school bus driver for a local school district.

The program director for the Class A instruction is

Timothy Miller who has a background in driving trucks for over 20 years. Miller did onsite training for the company he previously worked for about ten years. Two part-time instructors Robert Sanders and Marlon Hartman have a combined 80 years of service working at another truck driving school.

The Commercial Driving Program at LSCO has received recognition from the commissioner of higher education in Austin and other community colleges in the

state of Texas. "What's happening here is making an impact not only locally, but it's the new era of the Golden Triangle that's happening right now," Dr. Johnson concluded.

Signing up to take the bus or truck driving programs is easy. Prospective students can just go to the LSCO website and click on the Community and Workforce Education link in the center of the page to register for the Commercial Driving Program.

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**ORANGE COUNTY**



## From The Creaux's Nest

### BRADY RETIRES MOST DECORATED PLAYER IN LEAGUE HISTORY

**Tom Brady** is retiring from the NFL after 22 seasons. The seven-time **Super Bowl** champion officially announced his retirement on Tuesday via social media. "I have always believed the sport of football is an 'all-in' proposition, if a 100% competitive commitment isn't there, you won't succeed, and success is what I love so much about our game," **Brady** wrote. "There is a physical, mental, and emotional challenge EVERY single day that has allowed me to maximize my highest potential. I have tried my very best these past 22 years. There are no shortcuts to success on the field or in life. This is difficult for me to write, but here it goes. I am not going to make that competitive commitment anymore. I have loved my NFL career, and now it is time to focus my time and energy on other things that require my attention. **Brady's** career has been nothing short of legendary. He spent 20 years with the **Patriots** before departing the franchise in free agency in the spring of 2020. At that point, he elected to sign with the **Tampa Bay Buccaneers** and even as he entered his mid-40's, showed that he was still capable of winning at a high level. In his first season in **Tampa**, the **Buccaneers** went on to win **Super Bowl LV** over the **Kansas City Chiefs** for the seventh title of **Brady's** career. When taking a macro view of **Brady's** career, it's as decorated as anyone in league history. His seven **Super Bowls** are the most all-time, as are his five **Super Bowl MVP** awards. **Brady** has thrown more completions, passing yards, and touchdowns than any other quarterback that has come before, and he is also the winningest player in NFL history with 276 total wins. And that's just the tip of the iceberg in what consists of a mountain of accomplishments for **Brady**. While it may have seemed like **Brady** was destined to play forever, he is finally closing the book on his playing career, as the greatest player the NFL has ever seen, he is now hanging up his cleats. When he started in 2000, as the 199<sup>th</sup> pick overall for **New England**, youngsters who will graduate from high school were not born yet. **Brady** was a star throughout their entire childhood.

### LSCO ONE OF OUR GREAT ASSETS

**Lamar Orange** has been a major player since **Senator Carl Parker** was able to pass a bill making the **Orange County** college part of the **Texas State** system. The school has been a blessing with continuing yearly growth. Since the schools first president **Joe Ben Welch**, followed by **Dr. Mike Shahan**, we have watched as the school made one good step after another. We then were really blessed when someone had the foresight to hire **Dr. Tom Johnson**, the right leader at just the right time. Everyday **President Johnson** brings enthusiasm to his job and a bag full of ideas on how to grow the college to fill the educational needs of our community. Besides being a real optimist, **Dr. Johnson** rejoices in his daily chores and accomplishments. The future of **Lamar State College Orange** under **Johnson's** leadership has set goals that will meet the needs of the area in what will soon be a booming economy. **Dr. Johnson** wants to lead the way by developing educated workers for all crafts to healthcare. As of late, **Lamar** has purchased a new bus because school administration told him of a bus driver shortage. Also there is a need for dump truck drivers that will grow as industry expands, so **Dr. Johnson** acquired a dump truck and is training and graduating drivers. Please don't anyone tell him we have a shortage of helicopter pilots or before long, we might see a chopper taking off and landing as **Dr. Tom** stands by and smiles at the sense of another accomplishment. I agree with **Sen. Parker's Editorial** in this issue, that times are just right for the county to bust at the seams. I don't believe we fully realize the future growth that is coming or the pressing need for housing that will materialize. We are blessed to have county government with the leadership of Judge **John Gothia** and dedicated experienced commissioners, who bring their particular experiences, to make a well rounded court. Fortunately we have great schools, industries, cities, port, drainage district, etc.

### OUR CONDOLENCES

We were sorry to learn of the passing of Jim Hughes. James Matthew Peter Hughes, 54, left us on January 21. Services were held January 24, at St. Mary Catholic Church, his lifelong church. We had known him since he was a toddler. His mom and dad, Martha and Bill Hughes, were family friends going back 50 years. A group of about 12 couples, all of us with children, took one evening each month to dine together and fellowship in someone's home. I've never known two finer parents than the Hughes. They raised a houseful of Catholic children. Bill died many years ago. Martha remarried only to lose that husband also. Sadly, five months ago, Martha lost another of her sons, William Robert Hughes, Jr. and now she endures the loss of a second son. Our hearts go out to this wonderful woman and her family. God bless and may Jim rest in peace. Please see obit.

### FACTS OUT OF THE PAST

**Fact #1:** He was born **Leslie Lynch King, Jr.**, but was abandoned, along with his mom, by his father. **Gerald Rudolph Ford, Sr.** gave him his name the rest is history. After a football career at Michigan that produced two national championships, in 1932 and 1933, the All American center, **Gerald Ford Jr's** number 48 was retired. It was the last number retired at Michigan. He was elected to the United States Congress, served 25 years and this common man just happened to become president of the United States. He never was elected by the people to serve as vice-president or the 38th president of the U.S. He died Dec. 26, 2006, at age 93.\*\*\*\***Fact #2:** Sen. **John F. Kennedy** announced his candidacy for the Democratic presidential nomination 47 years ago on Jan. 2, 1960. \*\*\*\* Five years later to the day, in 1965, the New York Jets signed Alabama quarterback **Joe Namath** for \$400,000. I wonder what he would have brought on the market today. Less quality players make more than that per game.

### TURNING BACK THE HANDS OF TIME 15 Years Ago-2007

#### SADDAM MEETS HIS MAKER

The United States military turned **Saddam Hussein** over to the Iraqis. A militant group of Shiites hung him. They taunted him first. He was tried and convicted for ordering the death of 148 Shiites after an attempt to kill him in 1982. At that time, Saddam was at war with the U.S. enemy in the Mid-East, Iran. **George G.W. Bush** was vice-president in an administration that helped Saddam. Saddam's mistake came with the invasion of Kuwait. Bush launched 'Desert Storm' in 1991. For nine years, United Nations inspectors searched for weapons of mass destruction. Saddam insisted he didn't possess any. President George W. Bush, now in office, just said Saddam wouldn't come clean. The U.S. is now involved in one of our country's biggest mistakes.\*\*\*\*We were saddened by the death of our longtime friend **Bob Lumpkin**, 76, who passed away Dec. 27. Services were held Dec. 30. Bob was a super guy and you could always go to the bank on his word. He did to ride the range with.\*\*\*\*We also send our sympathies to **Richard Broussard** and children **Reb and Melissa** on the death of his wife and their mother. **Betty Broussard**, 65, died Dec. 28. Services were held at Stringer's Funeral Home in Buna on Sat. Dec. 29. Betty was **Vivian Dorman, Margaret Conway, A.J. Broussard** and the late **Louis Dugas'** sister-in-law.\*\*\*\* \*\*\*\*Another Orange County Star: In 1892 **Janette Sebring Lowrey** was born in Orange and attended Orange school. **Margaret Toal** had been researching her life for 15 years. She was one of the best selling writers of children's books, including 'Pokey Little Puppy' and the 12 original 'Little Golden Book' series. Margaret published the story 15 years ago in the **County Record**.

#### 45 Years Ago-1977

**Cecil Wingate** passed away January 1. He was a book-keeper, honest and decent, a family man who fathered 18 children. Services held at St. Mary Catholic Church in Orange.\*\*\*\*In the past year, among the concerts **Mark Dunn** attended and covered for the Opportunity Valley News were **Paul McCartney, Neil Young, James Taylor, Leon and Mary Russell, Peter Frampton, Bob Dylan, Eric Clapton** and many more. His old man was threatening to cut the concert budget at the newspaper. \*\*\*\***Barbara Mandrell** will entertain at the VFW on January 11. Advance tickets are \$5.\*\*\*\* **Sam Naifeh**, president of Orange County Parks board, announced that **Bubba Hubbard** would be added to the board.

#### 50 YEARS AGO-1972

**Bill Sexton**, a noted criminal attorney, will not be a candidate for 128<sup>th</sup> District Court. He is expected to undergo surgery in February to correct passage in a heart valve. Announced candidates are former district judge **Frank 'Dub' Hustmyre** and attorney **Graham Bruce. Hustmyre** was the very first judge of the 128<sup>th</sup> District Court when it was created.\*\*\*\*J.L. 'Pete' **Runnels** filed for the office of county democratic chairman. **Runnels**, 28 years old, is a graduate of Stark High School and Sam Houston State. He and wife **Carol** have two sons. He's the sports editor of **The Opportunity Valley News**. He will challenge county chairman, former district attorney **James 'Jim' Morris**. (Editor's note: In a real upset **Pete** won the election.)\*\*\*\***Sheriff Buck Patillo** is seeking a second term. Prior to defeating **Sheriff Chester Holts** in 1968, **Patillo** served 25 years as constable for Pct. 3.\*\*\*\***C.F. Tinsley** is a candidate for constable in Pct. 3. He served nine years as deputy constable under **Patillo**.\*\*\*\***James McNicholas**, former Beaumont mayor, will oppose incumbent **D. Roy Harrington** for state senator. **McNicholas** lost to **Harrington** 10 years ago by a narrow margin.\*\*\*\*Attorney **Paul Owens** is in St. Luke's hospital and is expected to undergo surgery soon.\*\*\*\***Oscar Payne** passed away last week.\*\*\*\***Cpl. M.W. Cormier**, stationed in Kaneohe Bay, Hawaii, is home on a 10-day leave to visit parents **Mr. and Mrs. Milton Cormier**.\*\*\*\* **Odes** and **Judy Gordon** are proud parents of a baby girl. They named her **Tammy Lynn**.

#### 75 Years Ago-1947

District Judge **F.P. Adams**, appointed **Jim Houlihan** as the very first, fulltime auditor in Orange County. (Editor's note: There have been several since auditors are appointed by district judges. None that I can remember would win a popularity contest.)\*\*\*\*County Clerk **Joe Runnels** wore coveralls so he and his staff could clean up their office. **Joe** said, "This office hasn't been cleaned for nine years."\*\*\*\*Movie goers were watching **Walter Brennon** in the **Adventures of Tom Sawyer** at the **Royal**.\*\*\*\***Alan Ladd** in 'O.S.S.' at the **Gem** and **Jeanne Crain** in 'Margarie' at the **Strand**.

#### K.C. CHIEFS vs LCM

**Kansas City Chiefs vs LCM Coaching Staff** happened 49 years ago, **Feb. 3, 1973**. The basketball game was played at LCM. The basketball players from the **Chiefs** were **Mike Livingston, Emmit Thomas, Jim Kearney, Dave Hill, Bobby Bell, Buck Buchanan, Otis Taylor, Wilbur Young** and **Morris Strout**, who stood 6' 10." **LCM Coaching Staff** consisted of **Melvin Allison, Johnny Taylor, Ellis Boyd, Don Truitt, Jim Leo, Ernie Procella, Hubert Hancock, Bill Tillman, Larry Warner, Bert Reaves, Sandy**

**Engleberg, Jerry McDonald, Bill Parker and Gary Clark. Jim Crossland**, athletic director and head football coach, did not play in the game. I don't know who won the game. Thanks to **Donnie Harmon** for a copy of the program. I don't know how many 60-year-olds-plus, remember this game but I bet **Mayor Randy Branch** does. The game had 89 local sponsors and was a good money maker for the Boosters Club.

#### ELIJAH MITCHELL PRIDE OF ERATH

Pronounced 'Erat' by the Cajuns who have a hard time pronouncing th's at the end of a word. **Elijah** is a running back for the **49ers**. Despite all his NFL success he hasn't forgotten his roots. **Erath** is a town of 1,982 residents in Vermillion Parish, six miles from **Abbeville**. The high school has an enrollment of 572 students. A large billboard outside of **Champagne's Supermarket**, **Erath's** only grocery store, proclaims **Mitchell** as a hometown hero. Signs with his likeness are in front yards. Most residents remember him as the polite, friendly teenager who became an **All State** running back. He turned down major college recruiters to stay close to home choosing to play for the **LSU's Ragin Cajuns** in Lafayette. In his final high school season he rushed for 2,900 yards with 41 touchdowns. After college **Elijah** moved away from Cajun country for the first time. In 2021, he was drafted 194<sup>th</sup> pick by the **49ers**. With 963 rushing yards in 11 games he shattered the rookie franchise record. The entire community looked forward to producing a **Super Bowl** champion. Their hopes were shattered last weekend when the **49ers** lost to the **LA Rams**, however, **Mitchell**, the shy kid from **Erath**, is just getting started. He got to just one game away in his first season in the pros. Many in the area have never seen a homegrown youngster with so much speed and power. **His childhood story is an amazing one**. Until now the most famous athlete from **Erath** was jockey **Randy Romero**, Kentucky Derby winner. A sign outside of town with his name welcomes visitors to town. Also I might mention, it's the hometown of 96-year-old **Marilyn Landry Roccaforte**, Cotton Picking champion in 1940.

#### BREAUX BIRTHDAYS

A few folks we know celebrating their special day in the next few days. **Feb. 2:** Happy Birthday to the old Aggie **Don Kachtick**, who survived coach **Bear Bryant's** 'Do or Die' camp in Junction. Also celebrating are **Daric Rogers, Kelly McBride, Vance Thomas** and **Fred Dobmann**.\*\*\*\***Feb. 3:** Celebrating today is attorney **Nolan LeBlanc**. He doesn't need an excuse to celebrate he does that every weekend anyway. Also having a birthdays are **Jesse Byrd, Stephanie Carpenter** and **Michael Hillard**.\*\*\*\***Feb. 4:** Happy Birthday to **Eric Eshbach**. He was just a pup when we first recognized his birthday. Also celebrating are **Shirlene Broussard**, who turns 76, **Bella Peveto, Mike Boyd, Lisa Ludwig, Brad Freeman** and **Mel Moreau**.\*\*\*\***Feb. 5:** Happy Birthday to **Madi Johansson** and **Madison Johansson**.\*\*\*\***Feb. 6:** A special lady, the daughter of our late friend **Neighbor Cox, Karen Duplejian**, celebrates today. We miss **Cox** a lot and miss seeing **Karen**, who lives in Lufkin. Also celebrating birthdays are **Melissa Monteaux, Cindy Lessard, Harold Collins** and **Grant Jones**.\*\*\*\***Feb. 7:** Happy Birthday to **Ryan Holland, Michael Johnson, Jeanna Campbell, Jeremy Sleeman** and **Darlene Brown**.\*\*\*\***Feb. 8:** A lovely young lady, **Delilah Ballou** turns 14-years-old today. She is **Mark Dunn's** oldest granddaughter. Also celebrating are **Barbara Fix** and **Kaitlynn Elzell**.

#### CELEBRITY BIRTHDAYS

**Feb 2:** Reality Star **Duane Chapman**, 70; Model **Christie Brinkley**, 69; Actors **David Jason**, 83; **Emily Rose**, 42.\*\*\*\***Feb. 3:** Actors **Morgan Fairchild**, 72; **Nathan Lane**, 66; **Isla Fisher**, 46.\*\*\*\***Feb. 4:** Rock Singer **Alice Copper**, 74; Boxer **Oscar de la Hoya**, 49; Pop Singer **Gavin DeGraw**, 45.\*\*\*\***Feb. 5:** R&B Singer **Bobby Brown**, 53; Country Singer **Sara Evans**, 51; Actor **Michael Sheen**, 52.\*\*\*\***Feb. 6:** Voice Actress **Kathy Najimy**, 66; Rock Singer **Axel Rose**, 61; Pop Singer **Rick Astley**, 57.\*\*\*\***Feb. 7:** Comedian **Chris Rock**, 57; Actors **Ashton Kutcher**, 44 and **James Spader**, 62; Country Singer **Garth Brooks**, 60; Basketball Player **Steve Nash**, 47; **Feb 8:** Actors **Seth Green**, 48; **Cecily Strong** 38; Metal Singer **Vince Neil**, 61; Composer **John Williams**, 90.

#### CAJUN STORY OF THE WEEK

Tee Nonc Boudreaux him, got to Tee Boy's Bar and Grill early on a Saturday morning and start drinking. Tee Nonc sit dere on dat stool all day him. He drunk one of dem drinks after anutta. Bout four o'clock, he stagger out of Tee Boy's. Down da street he stumble into St. Mary's Church and sat himself down in da confessional and he don't say nutten him.

Father Guidry, wat is listening to confessions, cough to attract Tee Nonc's attention but Nonc still don't say nutten. Father Guidry him, knock on da wall t'ree times to get Nonc to say something. Nonc him, is so drunk he nearly is asleep, say to Father Guidry, "Say you, dere's no use knocking, dere's no paper in dis one neither."

#### C'EST TOUT THREAT TO DEMOCRACY ON DISPLAY

**Trump** was in Texas over the weekend raising cash for a race he may not run.. "Milking the Cash Cow," and talking his trash. His latest pledge is if he is ever president again, he will pardon all those who took part in the **Jan. 6 Insurrection of the U.S. Capital** that he promoted. My bet that the day will come when it will be difficult to find someone who will admit they ever voted for **Trump**. I doubt that prison is in his future, (it should be,) but an indictment is just as well. Bet the farm he will never again be in a position to overthrow our government and do away with our democracy. In the meantime, **he's pressing civil disobedience**, a form of civil war. He's a very sick person with a sick ego, who longs to be a dictator. He is endorsing candidates who support his ideas, like seizing voting machines and any other way to steal elections and set **Trump** up to take over the **Pentagon** and set up his dictatorship. **Don't believe that is not possible**. It's time for the **American** people to wake up, take off the blinders. Sunday in **Conroe**, **Donald** called his cult supporters to arms. What other proof do you need? It's time to stop this guy.\*\*\*\*Well, that about does it for me. Thanks for your time and until next time; take care and God bless.

# Deaths & Memorials

## Ann Lou Matson Gauthier, 82, Orange

Ann Lou Matson Gauthier, 82, of Orange, passed away on January 25, 2022 in Orange. Funeral services will be 11:00 a.m., Monday, January 31, 2022, at Claybar Funeral Home in Bridge City.

Officiating will be Reverend Jon Brinlee of Winfree Baptist Church in Orange. Burial will follow at Hillcrest Memorial Gardens in Orange. Visitation will be from 10:00 a.m., Monday, at Claybar Funeral Home in Bridge City. Ann Lou Matson Gauthier was born August 13, 1939, in Jasper, Alabama. She married Marvin "Tony" Gauthier at a young age in Mississippi, and then moved to Texas and raised their three children, Bruce, April and Clint.

She was very artistic and creative. She loved to sew, refinish furniture, oil paint, and later on designed and made beaded jewelry from vintage beads. She also enjoyed working in her flower garden when she could. One of her favorite things to do was flea marketing.



Ann Gauthier

It was like a treasure hunt for her, and she could always find a bargain. She was a member of Winfree Baptist Church and volunteered part time in the office. She made many friends there.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Tony Gauthier, her parents, Lou Emma and Fayette Matson; brothers, George and Roy Matson; and sisters, Mary Butler and Betty Taylor. She is survived by her children, Bruce Gauthier and wife Susan of Bridge City, April Porterfield and husband Hal of Hemphill and Clint Gauthier of Orange; grandchildren, Clint Gauthier, Jr. and Lindsay Harrison and husband Scott; four great-grandchildren, Presleigh, Maison, Savannah and Paislee.

The family would like to thank the staff of Southeast Texas Hospice for their great care and compassion. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Humane Society of Southeast Texas.

## JoAnn Price, 87, formerly of Orange

JoAnn Price, 87, of Euless, Texas, passed away January 22, 2022, in Euless. She was born November 17, 1934, in Texarkana, Texas, and was the only child of Wilson Edward Kelley and Josephine Christine Kelley. She was a graduate of North Texas State College where she received her degree in Education. While at NTSC, she met her husband, Othal Ray Price, who was also a student there. Ray and JoAnn married on November 28, 1957. Most of their life together was lived in Orange, Texas.

JoAnn taught kindergarten students for many years at the Presbyterian Day School in Orange. After that, she taught first grade students for many years at Sims Elementary School in Bridge City. Many people have commented about her love for the children she taught.

As a child growing up in Texarkana, JoAnn was very involved in church activities including scripture memory and singing spiritual songs. She was also active in Girl Scouts and later volunteered as an adult Girl Scout leader. JoAnn was a committed Christ follower and while in Orange was an active member of



JoAnn Price

the First Baptist Church of Orange.

JoAnn had an outgoing sanguine personality. Her laughter was loud and heard frequently. She loved traveling and camping and her family was always ready to get away for the weekend in their travel trailer. Her strong creative nature was expressed through painting, drawing, interior decorating, landscaping, and other kinds of art and design. She also enjoyed singing and playing the piano.

In 1991, her mother had a stroke and was paralyzed from the neck down. JoAnn became her primary caregiver and for the next 13 years provided excellent care until her mother died in 2004 at the age of 95. Over that time, JoAnn's eyesight and hearing continued to decline but her love for her mother was so strong that she never gave up. If she were here today she would say that it was her joy to be able to care for her mother the way she did.

Preceded in death by Ray in 2007, JoAnn is survived by her son and daughter-in-law, Eddie and Kay Price; 6 grandchildren; and 5 great grandchildren.

## James Matthew Peter Hughes, 54

James (Jim) Matthew Peter Hughes, 54, of Orange, passed away on January 21, 2022, in Port Arthur.

Funeral liturgy will be 11:00 a.m., was held Monday, January 24, at St. Mary Catholic Church in Orange. Officiating will be Father Joseph Daleo. Burial will follow at St. Mary Cemetery.

Visitation was held prior to service with a recitation of the rosary at St. Mary Catholic Church in Orange.

Born in Orange, Texas, on December 18, 1967, Jim was the son of William Robert Hughes, Sr. and Martha (Monroe) Hughes. He attended St. Mary Catholic School through 8th grade and was a 1986 graduate of West Orange-Stark High School. Jim was also a Troop 1 Eagle Scout who loved spending time outdoors. After high school, Jim attended Texas A&M University where he received his Bachelor of Science Degree in Construction Science and proudly held the title of Fightin' Texas Aggie, Class of 1990.

His career as a professional construction manager included positions in both FL and TX estimating and managing projects for municipalities, industrial plants and com-



James Hughes

mercial buildings. Jim was married to Kaala Hughes for the last 5 years and loved being "Jim Pop" to their 3 grandchildren. He was previously married to the late Nancy Smith for 11 years.

Jim was an avid boater, fisherman, and hunter. He enjoyed camping out and cooking with friends. He loved sports and especially football. Jim was a longtime member of St. Mary Catholic Church and enjoyed praying at Eucharistic Adoration every chance he got. He loved dogs, loved his country and especially enjoyed reading US & world history. He loved his family dearly. He will be missed by all who knew and loved him.

He was preceded in death by his father, William Robert Hughes, Sr.; brother, William Robert Hughes, Jr.; and niece, Tiffani Danielle Hughes.

He is survived by his mother, Martha Hughes; siblings, Cynthia "Cindy" Hughes, Theresa Hughes Blankinship and husband Brian, and Kenneth Hughes and wife Kelly; sister-in-law, Anna Hughes; 13 nieces and nephews; 4 great nieces and nephews as well as numerous other family and friends.

## Essie Bellfield, 89, Orange

"May The Work I've Done Speak For Me..."

With humble acceptance of God's will, we announce the passing of Ms. Essie Lagard Bellfield, 89, of Orange, Texas departed this life Sunday, January 23, 2022.

Funeral service will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, February 5, 2022, at Community Christian Church located at 3400 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive, Orange Texas with interment to follow at Hollywood Cemetery under the direction of Calvary Mortuary Staff.

A viewing will be held from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. Saturday, February 5, 2022, at the church.

A wake will be held from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. Friday, February 4, 2022, at Salem United Methodist Church located at 402 W. John

Avenue, Orange, Texas.

Essie's love and memories will remain in the hearts of her daughter, Magna Carta Bellfield Barnett; the son she never had, Richard Spector; and a host of other relatives and friends.

Masks are required for the services, but for those who are avoiding large gatherings, Friday night's wake will be livestreamed on Salem United Methodist Church's You Tube channel. Go to youtube.com and search for "salemtv livestreaming ministry." The service will be short, Pastor Develous Bright said, followed by shared blessings and memories. Community Church staff said they hoped to livestream Saturday's funeral service.

## Orange Trash-Off scheduled for Feb. 26

It's Trash-Off time once again! The 27th annual Community Trash-Off is scheduled for Saturday, February 26, 2022 from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at the City of Orange Boat Ramp, located on Simmons Drive in Orange, Texas with a rain date of March 5, 2022.

This year's Community Trash-Off is generously presented by INVISTA and hosted by Shangri La Botanical Gardens and Nature Center in collaboration with the City of Orange.

Orange County residents are encouraged to come out, take pride in their community, and help clean up trash from area neighbor-

hoods and waterways. Show your community pride and join us for a morning of good CLEAN fun.

Participating teams and individuals will enjoy a free pizza lunch after the event. To register a team or individual, visit shangrilagardens.org to complete registration and waiver forms. Teams are limited to 3-5 members, but groups are encouraged to register several teams.

For more information, contact Amara Townsend at atownsendr@shangrilagardens.org or at 409.670.9113.

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  - Biventricular Pacemaker
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Making decisions that have an impact on someone's life is not easy, but it's a responsibility that I take very seriously and with great sincerity. Exercising discretion and judgment opens one up to criticism from others, and rightly so. I take pride in my job and respect the gravity of my position. Being a Justice of the Peace is not just a job for me, it's a commitment I've made to Orange County.

I would greatly appreciate your support in the upcoming election to keep me as your Justice of the Peace. Choose #1 on the Ballot.

I greatly appreciate your support, but more importantly I need YOUR VOTE!

\*\*The only candidate that subscribes to the Code of Fair Campaign Practices.

Pol. Ad. Pd. for by Robert L. Simonton, Treasurer

Orange County Church Directory

# Can I Be Holy Without Happiness?

**David Mathis**  
Executive Editor  
desiringGod.org

Newly engaged, I was searching for a good book on marriage. I remember coming across one, commended as a modern classic, with this memorable question on the cover: "What if God designed marriage to make us holy more than make us happy?"

Hmm. I didn't like that way of framing it. Why pit holy against happy? Granted, it's a "what if" teaser on the cover. Still, this didn't seem like a worthwhile risk to me, even if the tagline was taking aim at a common idol in our generation.

Of course, at one level, I understand, and grant, that many people have a superficial definition of, and associations with, happiness. To the degree that "happiness" refers to our experiencing momentary, superficial, comfort-based, suffering-free, pleasant feelings — and requires no new birth — then yes, true holiness, on God's terms, will often (if not relentlessly) be at odds with such "happiness." However, I'm not ready to cede the word happiness to such thin, shallow assumptions. That is not what we find when we come to the Scriptures. Nor do we find a holiness in tension with true happiness. In fact, the two are tied together intimately.

**Strange Notions of Holiness**

Some of us, favored beyond words to be raised in Christian families and faithful churches, have needed to have our concept of holiness renovated after coming to genuine faith as teens or

adults. Looking back, and being sober-minded, the fault was likely not our parents' or our church's (for many of us) but our own: we were dead in our sins (Ephesians 2:1, 5), alive in the flesh but lifeless in spirit; we needed to be born again. And when God made us alive in Christ (Ephesians 2:5), we began to see our Creator and his world with new eyes, and eventually also his holiness, and our call to be holy as he is.

The challenge to come awake to real holiness is not unique in our generation. Three hundred years ago, a young Jonathan Edwards (1703–1758) encountered such a barrier, and found it, with God's help, to be surmountable. Writing about the 16-year-old Edwards, biographer George Marsden says,

Self-discipline had failed as much as it had succeeded. Self-examination was not encouraging either. As early as he could remember, he had resented much of the endless tedium of his parents' teaching and discipline. Holiness seemed "a melancholy, morose, sour and unpleasant thing." He did not find delight in lengthy church services. He still had a rebellious nature. He was proud. He had a difficult and unsociable personality, and he did not have signs of charity that were evidence of grace. He struggled with sexual lusts which, despite prodigious efforts, he could not wholly control. (Jonathan Edwards: A Life, 36)

Here Marsden surmises Edwards's thoughts as a teen (in quotes) based an admission Edwards made later in life, when writing on "the beauty of holiness": "We drink in strange notions of

holiness from our childhood, as if it were a melancholy, morose, sour, and unpleasant thing" (The Works of Jonathan Edwards, 13:163).

Edwards is not alone, in his generation or ours. Many of us, in our own unbelief, have imbibed "strange notions of holiness" that seem at odds with happiness, however thinly sliced and temporal our idea of happiness. Having been born again, we need to consider holiness afresh, starting with God's own holiness, then ours.

**Holiness Himself**

Holiness begins with God. He is its epicenter. In fact, we might think of holy as an adjective for God himself. We would be hard pressed to take our bearings from any place better than Isaiah's astounding glimpse of God in his holiness in Isaiah 6. In God's presence, we overhear the seraphim call to each other, ascribing to God his infinite worth,

*"Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory!" (Isaiah 6:3)*

Perhaps you've heard that God's holiness refers to his otherness or separateness — that he is set apart from his creatures and their sin and their world. They are common; he is holy.

Otherness does get at an important aspect of God's holiness, but it doesn't include a vital dimension of what holiness is, as seen in the worship of the seraphim. When they say, "Holy, holy, holy," they are not just crying, "Separate, separate, separate." They call out in worship; they are praising God as holy, and delighting in

him as holy. They are not disinterested. He is not just other, but good. The seraphim have seen and perceived God's infinite intrinsic value and worth, and now declare, in the awe of glad worship, "Holy, holy, holy."

And before the seraphim, and redeemed humans, see and perceive it, God himself perfectly sees and perceives his own value and worth. In other words, God is happy in himself. He is the blessed, happy God (1 Timothy 1:11; 6:15). As Edwards, having put away his formerly "strange notions," came to see it,

God's holiness is his having a due, meet, and proper regard to everything, and therefore consists mainly and summarily in his infinite regard or love to himself, he being infinitely the greatest and most excellent Being. (Works, 20:460).

At the heart of God's own holiness is his perfect regard or love to, or happiness in, himself. Before God is holy with respect to his creation, he is holy with respect to himself — meaning he perfectly sees, perceives, enjoys, loves, and delights in own perfections as "infinitely the greatest and most excellent Being." Far from holiness in God being in tension with his own blessedness or happiness, they are inextricably linked. The holy God is first and foremost happy in himself.

**Heart of Holiness**

What about "holiness," then, in us, his creatures? Unavoidably, holiness refers to our living in this world, our words, our actions, and whether they accord with the value and worth of God. However, we should ask,

What is the heart from which springs such external manifestations of creaturely holiness? The essence of holiness in redeemed humans is the heart that regards, loves, and delights in God according to his worth.

us, soul and body, begins with souls happy in God, leading to bodily words and works that conform and testify to his worth.

**Happy and Holy**

Back to that book tagline that seemed to play off holiness against happiness. I wanted to ask, Why split friends into enemies? Why give place to that ancient scheme, that what God requires of his creatures must inevitably soil our happiness?

There is a kernel of truth we can acknowledge: God cares more about our holiness than the "happiness" that comes from mere temporal comforts. If our definition of "happiness" takes its bearings from secular society, as merely our experiencing momentary, superficial, comfort-based, suffering-free, pleasant feelings that require no new birth, then yes, God does indeed care more about our holiness than that. But I'm not ready to let the world have the word happiness without a fight.

When we see true happiness as deep, thick, enduring, God-rooted joy in God — dazzling in the radiance of the person and work of Christ — we find that such happiness, far from having nothing to do with holiness, is the heart of what it means to be holy.

Which dispels our strange notions of holiness as melancholy, morose, sour, and unpleasant. Come, see holiness as beautiful, desirable, and wonderful.

True holiness in the world begins with true happiness in God. And those truly happy in him will be holy.

**Holiness with Hands and Feet**

Holiness also is to be lived in the world. The holiness that has its essence in our hearts is to be expressed and extended into words and actions that make God's otherwise unheard and unseen value known to other humans. Just as God's own happiness in himself "went public" in his creating the visible, audible, tangible world, so God means for our happiness in him to "go public" in his created world through our audible words and visible, fruitful lives.

True happiness in God is the heart of true holiness in us. And genuine holiness in

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## 20th Anniversary crab trap pickup

Staff Report  
For The Record

AUSTIN —This February marks 20 years for the Texas Abandoned Crab Trap Removal Program. Every year countless volunteers spend 10 days on the water searching the Texas bays and shorelines for abandoned crab traps. When left in the water, these crab traps foul shrimpers' nets, snag anglers' lines, "ghost fish," and create unsightly views. To date, they've hauled off more than 40,000 of these derelict traps.

From Friday, Feb. 18 — Sunday, Feb. 27, Texas coastal waters will be closed to crabbing with wire mesh crab traps to

CRABTRAPPICKUP Page 2B

## Fact: Rams, Bengals Super Bowl Rumor: Brady is retiring

KAZ'S KORNER  
JOE KAZMAR  
For The Record



Joe Kazmar

If a person got to watch only the first halves of Sunday's two NFL Conference Championship games, he would swear the Kansas City Chiefs would be playing the San Francisco 49ers

in Super Bowl LVI on Feb.13 at SoFi Stadium in Inglewood, California.

However, both the Chiefs and the 49ers stumbled and lost their respective halftime leads and

will now be at home watching the upstart Cincinnati Bengals meet the Los Angeles Rams in the Super Bowl. The Bengals stunned the Chiefs 27-24 in overtime while the Rams nipped the San Francisco 49ers 20-17.

For the second year in a row the game will be played in the home stadium of the NFC champion. Last

year the Tampa Bay Buccaneers played Super Bowl LV on their home grounds and won.

If the Las Vegas Boys are correct, it will happen again, with the Rams an early four-point favorite over Cincinnati in a game predicted to be high-scoring

KAZ'S KORNER Page 3B

## Gulf Coast Fishing Reports

Weekly Fishing Reports compiled by Texas Parks and Wildlife Department.

### • SABINE LAKE

GOOD. 59 degrees. Another cold front rolling through but fishing should pick up by the weekend. Limits of redfish in the Besie Heights marsh in the ditches using artificial one-eighth ounce jig heads, and z-man red shad. Keying on glass minnows and mullet. Sheepshead and drum are good using shrimp under a popping cork near clamshell and oyster. East Pass and Black Bayou holding redfish, sheepshead and drum biting on live shrimp under a popping cork and free-lining. Redfish are good off the buoys in the flats in the river. This is because they use clamshells to hold the buoys, barnacles grow attracting worms which brings the baitfish. Where you find baitfish, you will find the fish.

Report by Captain Randy Foreman, Captain Randy's Guide Service Sabine Lake.

### • BOLIVAR

GOOD. 43 degrees. Speckle trout and slot redfish are good on the beachside of Bolivar Jetty when the sun warms the water using popping cork with live shrimp. Moses lake still holding trout and redfish on soft plastic when weather permits.

### • TRINITY BAY

GOOD. 56 degrees. Exxon A-lease is good for sheepshead on live shrimp. The occasional redfish from the same area, speckled trout and black drum. Shorelines both East and West have been decent for speckled trout, for anglers drifting with soft plastics and live shrimp. Burnett, Scott, Tabbs Bay are holding lots of speckled trout biting on live shrimp and soft plastics. Sheepshead are plentiful, with the occasional redfish. Report by Captain David Dillman, Galveston Bay Charter Fishing.

### • EAST GALVESTON BAY

GOOD. 60 degrees. Waders are having the best luck on nice sized speckled trout and slot reds using artificials. Bull reds are also being caught in the same area. Report by Captain David Dillman, Galveston Bay Charter Fishing.

### • GALVESTON BAY

GOOD. 59 degrees. Increased number of sheepshead being landed by anglers using live shrimp, thrown tight to the rocks. Few bull reds being and increasing

GULFCOAST FISH Page 2B

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Steve was born in Dayton, Ohio moving to Lumberton in 1980. He graduated from Lumberton High School in 1990 and began his automotive career. In 2019 Steve married his wife Vicki. The couple have four children, Steve's two sons, Koleton, 21, and Konner, 19, and Vicki's two children Karly, 28, and Reid, 24. "I developed an interest in cars at the age of 16" Steve says, "and have been working on the automotive industry in different capacities ever since." Steve's hobbies are fishing and hunting. His favorite shows currently are Yellowstone and Blacklist, and most fishing and hunting shows.

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# When "cheating" pays off

## OUTDOORS Capt. Chuck Uzzle For The Record



**Chuck Uzzle**

"If you're not cheating you're not trying" is a popular line used by many to describe the overwhelming desire to win at all costs which basically sums up a large portion of the population. Cheating permeates just about every facet of our lives in one way or another.

Millions of people right now are trying to figure out how to "legally cheat" on their income taxes so they can balance out their debt with the government. Athletes in all the major sports and beyond are looking for that competitive edge by bending the rules or circumventing legislation in order to get ahead and perhaps "get paid" with a huge contract. The public outcry against offenders who get caught is often loud and seems to never die down.

The recent Hall of Fame ballots in baseball are a prime example as the greats of the "steroid era" continue to slip farther away from induction as penance for their past transgressions. All the

previous examples of cheating are slanted towards the negative, but what if you could cheat and it was actually a good thing? What would you say to that?

In general the act of cheating is frowned upon but on occasion its actually quite productive and can sometimes lead to an entirely different approach to a problem. One of the most fulfilling things I personally take from guiding other fishermen is watching them learn a new technique and become successful while using that technique.

I also thoroughly enjoy it when clients teach me a new technique or share their thoughts on a new or better way to catch fish. I have seen some truly innovative techniques to catch fish that I would have never thought of in a million years come from my customers. Most of these innovative techniques come as a result

of these other fishermen struggling with a certain style of fishing so they adapt their own version to make it work for them.

In a sense this could be called "cheating" because it's a way to get around a conventional method. I say if it helps you catch fish and it's a legal method then you can call me a "cheater" too.

Easily the most difficult method of fishing that the average angler struggles with is trying to gather a feel for using a suspending bait or plug like a Corky. I can't tell you how many times I've been asked "how do you fish a Corky?" or another similar bait.

I usually smile and try to explain it to the best of my ability because I can remember being in the same situation and being just as frustrated. It took me a while to figure out the technique and I still struggle from time to time, especially when the bite is very subtle. During such times when the fish are finicky and the bite is light I have seen many anglers basically give up in frustration as they watch their partners cash in seemingly on ev-

ery other cast. Instead of giving up it may be time to try another technique that duplicates the same presentation in a more user friendly fashion.

My own personal solution to the "corky dilemma" was to use a twitch bait like a Rouge, Thunderstick, Rapala, or Yo Zuri version. The twitch bait was a perfect compromise as it would take the guess work out of the retrieve and had a built in pause which was hard for those fish to resist. I have saved myself many days on the water by making this simple switch, in fact there are plenty of times I actually prefer throwing these plugs to other variations.

One extra benefit the twitch bait provides is the fact that it floats, a benefit not lost on those who provide lures for their clients. Shelling out 9 dollar plugs to multiple anglers while drifting shell can get expensive in

a hurry if you think about it. Twitch baits will generally float to the surface if you break them off so they can usually be retrieved and retied for another tour of duty. I had the good fortune to watch the twitch bait do its magic one January day in ultra clear water while fishing on Calcasieu with my good friend Johnny Cormier.

The scattered shell we were drifting was easily visible with the bright sun and the redfish and trout stuck out like neon signs in the night. Johnny and I were able to watch how these fish reacted to the different lures we offered up and it was highly educational and entertaining.

After running the gamut on lure choice we settled on the twitch bait because it continued to provide the most consistent strikes after we bumped the shell and let the plug stop and begin to float back towards the surface, it was violent. We also watched the plugs float back to surface after breaking them off against the sharp

shell, it was eye opening to say the least.

Now the twitch bait is not the only improvised offering that fishermen use but at this time of the year these baits are at the forefront while Texas anglers really focus on chasing big fish. Anglers will be bombarded with stories focusing on suspending plugs and trophy trout from every direction in the coming weeks as the coastal community focuses on a singular goal.

As fishermen we all have things in common and catching fish is perhaps tops on that list. Just remember that there is no perfect way to go about catching fish and if you need to come up with your own version to "cheat" the system go ahead because it just may be the technique we have all be searching for. Results speak for themselves and as long you enjoy what you are doing and it's legal, by all means get after it.

In fact I encourage you all to think outside the box as long you promise to share with the rest of the class.

## Crab Trap Pickup From Page 1

facilitate the annual volunteer crab trap cleanup. Any traps left in bays — including traps tied to docks — will be assumed abandoned and considered "litter" under state law. This allows volunteers to legally remove any crab traps they find.

As always, volunteers are needed to assist in the coast-wide effort to remove the numerous traps that have been lost or abandoned since last year's cleanup. To facilitate volunteer efforts, several sites along the coast will have clean-up events on Saturday, Feb. 19 from 8 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. These sites are denoted as "facilitated" in the list below. Registration with partner organizations may be required. Additionally, at all sites, dumpsters or collection areas marked with banners will be available to

receive traps for the duration of the closure. Volunteers may focus their efforts on Feb. 19 or work at their own pace anytime during the closure, but traps cannot be removed prior to Feb. 18 or after Feb. 27.

The Coastal Conservation Association Texas, Coastal Bend Bays & Estuaries Program, Galveston Bay Foundation, San Antonio Bay Partnership, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service are providing continued support to the crab trap removal program. Numerous other organizations and companies also are volunteering their services.

To participate, volunteers may pick up free tarps, gloves, and additional information at their local TPWD Coastal Fisheries field stations. TPWD requests that

volunteers who remove traps record and submit information about the number of traps they collect as well as documenting any sightings of diamondback terrapins.

All other legal means of crabbing will not be affected during the closure period for wire crab traps. For more information, contact your local TPWD Coastal Fisheries office or Holly Grand at (361) 825-3993 or crabtrap@tpwd.texas.gov.

To learn more about the Texas Abandoned Crab Trap Removal Program's history click on the link.

Images of previous abandoned crab trap clean ups can be found on the TPWD Flickr page. Also available is a YouTube video produced by TPWD.

## Gulf Coast Fishing Report From Page 1

numbers of large black drum. Report by Captain David Dillman, Galveston Bay Charter Fishing.

### • West Galveston Bay

GOOD. 59 degrees. Anglers drifting the open bay with soft plastics are having limited success, due to the windy conditions. Those fishing in protected waters are faring well. Report by Captain David Dillman, Galveston Bay Charter Fishing.

### • Texas City

GOOD. 60 degrees. Slot red-

fish and trout are good around Mosquito Inland on mirror dine lures and soft plastics. The afternoon bite is good when it warms up. Sheepshead are good around the sunken ship in Seawolf Park. Report by Captain Raymond Wheatley, Tail Spotter Guide Service LLC.

### • Freeport

GOOD. 63 degrees. The winter patterns have started with low tides keeping the fish in deeper water. Limits of trout with a few redfish using down south lures three-eighth ounce jig heads. Sheepshead are good on oys-

ter and mud. Flounder are good on lures. Report by Jake Brown, Flattie Daddy Fishing Adventures.

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# Kaz's Korner From Page 1B

with the over/under set at 49 total points to be scored by both teams combined.

Sunday's two Conference Championship games were the first since 2009 that didn't feature either Tom Brady or Aaron Rodgers at quarterback. This was the first playoff game that Kansas City Chiefs' quarterback Patrick Mahomes lost to a quarterback that wasn't named Tom Brady.

Perhaps the Cincinnati victory might not have been such a big upset as one might think because the Bengals NEVER have lost an AFC Conference Championship game, advancing from both previous appearances only to lose both Super Bowls to the San Francisco 49ers.

LA Rams head coach Sean McVay used to work for 49ers head coach Kyle Shanahan in Washington and had lost seven of ten games—including the last six—until Sunday's victory.

The Bengals' Joe Burrow is the first quarterback drafted No. 1 overall to reach a championship game in his second season and has a chance to become only the third quarterback to win an NCAA national championship (at LSU) and a Super Bowl, joining Joe Namath (Alabama and the New York Jets) and Joe Montana (Notre Dame and San Francisco 49ers). It appears the name must be Joe!!

McVay looks like a genius by trading for quarterback Matthew Stafford from the Detroit Lions for Rams quarterback Jared Goff and first-round draft picks in 2022 and 2023. Stafford's tremendous performance as a Ram this season could very well earn him a ticket into the Hall of Fame when his active career is over.

Both games Sunday were very similar as the starting quarterbacks—Mahomes for Kansas City and Jimmy Garoppolo for the 49ers—had great first halves and then died on the vine when the going got tough late in the game.

But the poor quarterback play was the result of tremendous defensive rushes put on both passers that led to either sacks or interceptions due to hurried throws before getting steamrolled. Mahomes threw two interceptions in the overtime period while Garoppolo slung the ball just before being slammed to the turf by Rams Aaron Donald that was intercepted by defensive back Travin Howard to secure the Rams' win.

Cincinnati's overtime victory came the same way its division title came about—a field goal by rookie kicker Evan McPherson—who has kicked four field goals in each post-season game, an NFL record. His 12 field goals in one post-season are second only to Adam Vinatieri's 14 in 2006 with the Indianapolis Colts.

Sunday's playoff games didn't come without a distraction—usually by Cowboys' Idiot owner Jerry Jones—but this time about Tom Brady.

ESPN ran an exclusive story (rumor) Saturday that

Brady was about to announce his retirement from the Tampa Bay Buccaneers.

This might happen, but it won't occur until after Friday, according to MY sources. When Brady signed his last contract, \$25 million was diverted into a signing bonus in which he received \$5 million up front.

The stipulation of the deal was that he would get \$15 million of the remaining \$20 million if he still was a member of the Bucs on Feb. 4, 2022. And even though Brady has more money than he knows what to do with, nobody should pass up an easy \$15 million. This bonus deal was done to keep Brady's salary cap at just around \$10 million.

It's a sure bet Brady already has his eye on what he will be doing after retirement. He's a genius working with contracts, helping the team to obtain good (higher priced) players than the salary cap allowed when he was at New England.

He diverted much of his salary into bonus money he would receive after his playing days were over.

I wouldn't be a bit surprised if he becomes the general manager of an NFL franchise or gets a position with the NFL in some capacity in the next couple of years.

### KWICKIES...

It looks like to me the Houston Texans are about to travel from the toilet to the sewer with their proposed selection of a new head football coach. It's rumored that the favorite candidate might be longtime NFL back-up quarterback Josh McCown, who has never coached above the high school level, to replace fired David Culley after less than one year. It looks like General Manager Nick Caserio hasn't learned his lesson about candidates with no NFL head coaching experience. Perhaps he enjoys picking one of the first five players in the NFL draft.

The best thing that ever happened to the Cincinnati Bengals was their decision to fire Marvin Lewis, who had been their head coach for 16 years, went to the playoffs seven times and had zero wins in the playoffs. Zac Taylor took over and in two seasons the Bengals went from worst to first and is getting his team ready for the Feb. 13 Super Bowl.

The Minnesota Vikings must wait until after the Super Bowl to interview the Rams offensive coordinator Kevin O'Connell and defensive coordinator Raheem Morris for a second time.

And while on the subject of searching out new NFL head coaches, the Las Vegas Raiders are expected to hire New England Patriots long-time offensive coordinator as their new head man.

The Houston Astros' Triple AAA franchise at Sugar Land has changed its nickname from the Skeeters to the Space Cowboys.

### JUST BETWEEN US...

For the past week the area newspapers, radio and television airwaves have been

overloaded with comments about how the selection of West Orange-Stark's new football coach went down. One has to feel sorry for the new man—Hiawatha Hickman—and what he and his family had to endure during the selection process at the

last West Orange-Cove school board meeting. More than a dozen people were hand-picked for the search committee, but they reportedly met only once. But when the coaching prospects were dwindled to four people—none of which were

publicly identified—and the Mustang fans' popular choice—Toby Foreman—was not on the list, many fans at the board meeting went ballistic because of the lack of transparency from those in charge. Many felt like the Gestapo had been

reincarnated and are still hot under the collar. Hickman can pacify most of them if he can continue the successes of Steve McCarty, Dan Hooks and Cornel Thompson over the past 45 years.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ **Shawn** ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

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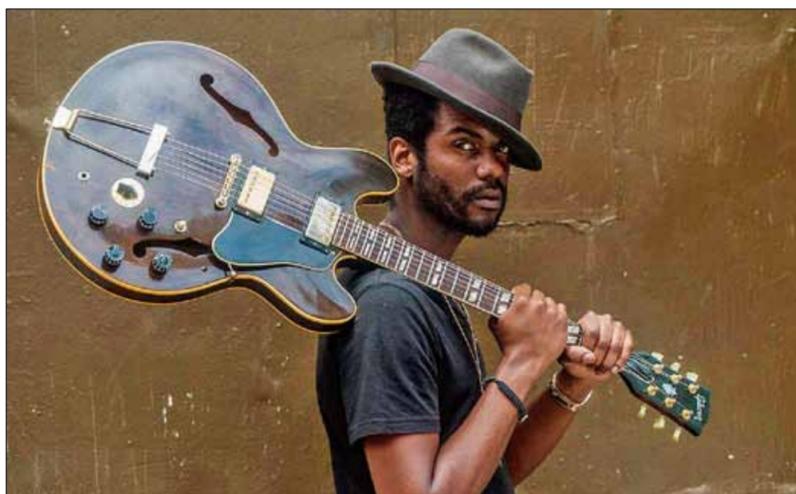
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CMYK

# Entertainment Guide: Upcoming area concerts



Gary Clark Jr. will be back in Southwest Louisiana for a concert February 5 at the Golden Nugget Casino in Lake Charles, La., for ages 21 and older.

### Tommy Mann Jr. For The Record

The 2022 music schedule is filling up fast with numerous big events recently announced, including the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo schedule featuring artists such as Keith Urban, Gwen Stefani, Bun B, Journey and George Strait, and several big shows in the Lake Charles-area. Check it out and make plans now.

**Feb. 3 Authority Zero**, Scout Bar, Houston

**Feb. 4 Tool**, Blonde Redhead, Toyota Center, Houston

**Feb. 5 Gary Clark Jr.**, Golden Nugget Casino, Lake Charles, La.

**Feb. 6 Marisela**, Jefferson Theatre, Beaumont

**Feb. 8 Steve Vai**, House of Blues, Houston

**Feb. 10 Travis Tritt**: Solo Acoustic, Jefferson Theatre,

Beaumont

**Feb. 10 Otep**, The World Over, Scout Bar, Houston

**Feb. 11 Erasure**, 713 Music Hall, Houston

**Feb. 12 Patti LaBelle**, Stephanie Mills, After 7, Smart Financial Center, Sugar Land

**Feb. 14 Killswitch Engage**, House of Blues, Houston

**Feb. 16 Kansas**, Jefferson Theatre, Beaumont

**Feb. 16 Bad Bunny**, Toyota Center, Houston

**Feb. 17 Bad Bunny**, Toyota Center, Houston

**Feb. 19 Night Ranger**, Golden Nugget Casino, Lake Charles, La.

**Feb. 19 Underoath**, Spiritbox, Every Time I Die, Revention Music Center, Houston

**Feb. 19 Big Head Todd and The Monsters**, House of Blues, Houston

**Feb. 19 AFI, Cold Cave**, White Oak Music Hall, Houston

**Feb. 22 Theory of a Deadman**, White Oak Music Hall, Houston

**Feb. 25 Ghost**, Volbeat, Smart Financial Center, Sugar Land

**Feb. 25 Eyehategod**, Capra, White Oak Music Hall, Houston

**Feb. 25 Dark Tranquillity**, Kataklysm, Scout Bar, Houston

**Feb. 27 Nelly**, Mardi Gras of Southeast Texas, Beaumont

**Feb. 27 Gladys Knight**, Arena Theatre, Houston

**Feb. 27 Loudness**, Warehouse Live, Houston

**Feb. 28 Cody Johnson**, Houston Rodeo, NRG Stadium, Houston

**March 1 Keith Urban**, Houston Rodeo, NRG Stadium, Houston

**March 2 Tim McGraw**, Houston Rodeo, NRG Stadium, Houston

**March 3 For King and Country**, Houston Rodeo, NRG Stadium, Houston

**March 4 Ricky Martin**, Houston Rodeo, NRG Stadium, Houston

**March 4 Maxwell**, Anthony Hamilton, Joe, Toyota Center, Houston

**March 4 Johnny Mathis**, Golden Nugget Casino, Lake Charles, La.

**March 5 John Pardi**, Houston Rodeo, NRG Stadium, Houston

**March 6 Los Tucanes de Tijuana**, Houston Rodeo, NRG Stadium, Houston

**March 7 Luke Bryan**, Houston Rodeo, NRG Stadium, Houston

**March 8 Marren Morris**, Houston Rodeo, NRG Stadium, Houston

**March 8 Sevendust**, Tetrarch, Dead Poet Society, House of Blues, Houston

**March 9 Kane Brown**, Houston Rodeo, NRG Stadium, Houston

**March 10 Journey**, Houston Rodeo, NRG Stadium, Houston

**March 10 The Dear Hunter**, White Oak Music Hall, Houston

**March 11 Doug Stone**, The Oaks Event Center, Vidor

**March 11 Bun B, Slim Thug, Lil Flip, Lil Keke**,

Z-Ro, Houston Rodeo, NRG Stadium, Houston

**March 11 Candlebox**, Golden Nugget Casino, Lake Charles, La.

**March 12 Parker McCollum**, Houston Rodeo, NRG Stadium, Houston

**March 12 Casey Donahew Band**, Golden Nugget Casino, Lake Charles, La.

**March 12 Dua Lipa**, Toyota Center, Houston

**March 13 Dierks Bentley**, Houston Rodeo, NRG Stadium, Houston

**March 14 Sam Hunt**, Houston Rodeo, NRG Stadium, Houston

**March 15 Gwen Stefani**, Houston Rodeo, NRG Stadium, Houston

**March 16 Khalid**, Houston Rodeo, NRG Stadium, Houston

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- Campise Insurance Agency – James Campise
- Hayes Concrete Construction – Donald Hayes
- Brighter Beginnings Day Care
- Catt Law Firm – Michael Catt
- Hayes R.V. Park



- Straight Up Insulation – Albert Marks
- Performance Service – Rusty Robinson
- Istre Electric – Blake Istre
- Mann Contracting – Clint Mann
- Owen's Insurance
- Sweet Bee Farm and Apiary

Political Advertisement Paid for by Chris Sowell Campaign

# Strawberries: home grown always sweetest



Orange County gardeners should start planning this seasons strawberry garden now.

**John Green**  
Orange County  
Master Gardener

Hello fellow gardening enthusiasts! We have been lucky this past week experiencing mild seasonal temperatures including a couple nights of below freezing temperatures (barely below). This got me thinking about cold-hardy plants which do well in our going environment. Strawberry plants came to mind since they are cold hardy and now is the time to plant them. Late January through mid-March is the ideal time to plant this low spreading fruit. They can be planted as early as six weeks before our last frost, which in Southeast Texas is around March 10th.

Spring-bearing strawberry varieties, such as "Chandler", "Sequoia", and "Douglas" are better suited to our local climate. It's best to avoid ever-bearing and day-neutral varieties, as they enjoy cooler temperatures. Growing strawberries is easy but planning and site preparation are the keys to success, so let's get started! The following information will help you get started growing strawberries. Use the tips listed for growing the best strawberries ever.

## Strawberry Growing Tips:

### Garden Planning:

- Set new plants out in early spring, 4 to 6 weeks before predicted last frost.
- For the best harvest, start a new beds or rows yearly. Remove previous strawberry beds which have fruited.
- Strawberry plants bear fruit their second season.
- It's best to have at least two strawberry beds.

### Site Preparation:

- Ensure the planting site provides strawberry plants with a minimum of 8 hours of full sun light. Excellent drainage and good air circulation are also necessary.
- Before planting strawberries, amend the soil with compost, and aged manure if available. Also add a complete fertilizer (5-10-10) using ½ lb. for a 25-foot row.
- Strawberries require acidic soil with a pH between 5.5 and 6.5.
- Do not guess you soils pH, instead contact the Orange County AgriLife Extension office (409) 882-7010 for assistance and more information on capturing soil samples for analysis. Soil

analysis results are usually provided quickly and provide necessary to amend soil correctly.

### Bareroot Planting

- Space rows 4 feet apart.
- Soak the plants' roots in water for 30 minutes before planting.
- Trim roots of new plants to approximately 4 to 5 inches in length.
- Place plants 12" to 18" apart in each row.
- Dig each planting hole deep enough to cover the roots but not the plants' crown.
- Lightly tamp soil against the roots and then add 1 or 2 cups of water mixed with a diluted soluble fertilizer (add one heaping handful of 5-10-10 fertilizer into a 5-gallon bucket and fill with water).
- Planting diagram shows correct root placement at soil level.

### Plant Care

- 1st year (Spring): Keep bed free of weeds and remove blossoms to prevent fruiting. This encourages production of healthy daughter plants.
- 5 to 6 weeks after spring planting: Train daughter plants to take root in a 9-by-9-inch spaced row system.
- Late spring into summer: Side-dress with ammonium nitrate (1/8th lb. per 25-foot row), 5-10-10 (3/4th lb. per 25-foot row), or manure tea (1/2 to 1 pint per plant). Side-dress each plant again 1 month later.
- Late fall or winter: Once a few freezes have occurred, mulch with 3" to 5" of pine needles.
- 2nd year, Late spring: Gradually remove mulch, but protect blossoms from late frost with mulch cover as necessary.
- Provide 1 inch of water each week while the fruit is developing until harvest.
- Cover the patch with

strawberry netting to keep birds out.

• Summer: Once harvest is complete, remove plants or till the plants into the soil and plant a cover crop, Prepare the bed for new plants next spring.

### Harvesting

- Strawberries will ripen about 1 month after the plants bloom. Expect 2 to 3 weeks of harvesting for each variety.
- Pick the plants clean every 2 or 3 days. Avoid the green-tipped berries as they're not fully ripe.
- When harvesting, don't leave berry remnants on the plants since this encourages the plant to rot.

For more information or

to have all your gardening questions answered, contact the Orange County Master Gardeners: Website: <https://txmg.org/orange> Facebook: Orange County Texas Mas-

ter Gardeners Association Helpline: (409) 882-7010 Email: [extension@co.orange.tx.us](mailto:extension@co.orange.tx.us).

# WOS baseball to host 'Legend's Weekend' Feb. 12

Staff Report  
For The Record

The West Orange-Stark Baseball Program and the WOS Baseball Boosters are excited to announce the upcoming Alumni event: Legend's Weekend – Honoring our Past and Supporting our Future. This annual event will host WOS baseball alumni with a fun-packed day. The event will be on Saturday, February 12, 2022, and activities will include an alumnus home run derby, an alumnus vs. WOS baseball game, and a silent auction during the day. Head Baseball Coach, Sergio Espinal, stated, "this day is an important part of our tradition of connecting with our alumnus and allowing them an opportunity to come home to Ronnie Anderson Field. I am looking forward and ex-

cited about their return." Schedule of activities: Registration begins at 10:00 a.m. – Field opens for warm-up and stretching; Batting practice at 11:00 a.m.; Alumnus Home Run Derby at Noon (12:00 p.m.); Alumnus vs. WOS Game at 1:00 p.m. and finally during these events, a silent auction will be conducted closing during the fifth inning of the game. Coach Espinal indicated, "to develop and maintain a successful program, it takes support and commitment from not only our parents, staff, and administration but most importantly from our community. We welcome you to the ballpark, and we will practice social distancing, so please bring and wear a face mask. We hope to see you at the ballpark."

## "Everybody Reads The Record" IN PRINT & ONLINE

# THE RECORD Community Classifieds

Your ads published in both newspapers,  
the County Record and the Penny Record  
plus on our web site [TheRecordLive.com](http://TheRecordLive.com)

- Just \$10 For A 30 Word Ad In Both Papers And The Web
- Classified Newspaper Deadline: Monday 5 P.M. For Upcoming Issue
- You Can Submit Your Ad ANYTIME Online At [TheRecordLive.com](http://TheRecordLive.com)

## Call 735-5305

• Penny Record Office: 333 West Roundbunch, Bridge City  
• County Record Office: 320 Henrietta, Orange  
Note: Offices Closed On Wednesday

- Garage Sales
- Birthdays
- For Sale
- Weddings
- Rentals
- Memorials
- Services
- Engagements

### APPLIANCES

**HARRY'S APPLIANCES** - Used appliances starting at \$99.95, 302 10th. St. (10th. & main) Orange, We also buy used appliances, Call or come by 409-886-4111.

### FOR RENT

**House for Rent** at 201 Azalea in Orange, 4 BR, 1 Bath with CA/H and fenced backyard. \$900 month plus deposit. Please call 409-250-0943

**House for Rent** at 1918 Bowie in West Orange, 3 BR, 2 Bath home. \$800 month plus deposit. Please call 409-250-0943

**House for rent NOW**, 2 BR/1 BA w/LR, K, DR & AC/H. Hardwood floors, freshly painted, quiet area, LCM Schools, bus stops out front & never flooded. Stove, Fridge, water, trash & yard work furnished. NO Smoking/No Pets/NO HUD, call 409-883-3619

**For Rent** 2 bedroom, 1 bath in Orangefield School District. \$850 month, \$500 deposit. Call for more info 409-313-4338

### AUTOS

**For sale** a 2008 Chrysler Crossfire, Limited Edition w/ power, leather, telescopic wheel, 58,000 miles, Mercedes Running Gear, 3.2 V6, 215 HP, K&N Filter System. \$10,000 Nego. Call 409-670-8120 or 409-882-1321

**FOR SALE**  
409-886-7183

**American Legion Post 49**  
409-886-1241  
Hall Rental

### TRACTOR WORK

- Bush Hogging
- Water
- Dirt & Shell
- Sewer
- Electrical

**LOCAL**  
409-670-2040

### LEGAL NOTICES

CITATION BY PUBLICATION (OTHER) - COPUBWD

**THE STATE OF TEXAS**

To: The Unknown Heirs at Law of Deborah Ellis (Deceased)

You have been sued. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 A.M. on the Monday next following the expiration of 20 days after you were served this citation and petition, a default judgement may be taken against you.

The petition of Homebridge Financial Services, Inc., Petitioner, was filed in the 163rd District Court of Orange County, Texas on the 10th day of November, 2021, against The Unknown Heirs At Law of Deborah Ellis, Respondent, numbered 210495-C. The suit request:

Defendants to be cited to appear and answer herein as to the following property:

LOT 15, BLOCK 3, CHARLEMONT PLACE, A SUBDIVISION TO THE CITY OF ORANGE, ORANGE COUNTY, TEXAS, ACCORDING TO THE MAP OR PLAT RECORDED IN VOLUME 5, PAGE 61, MAP RECORDS OF ORANGE COUNTY, TEXAS

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

ISSUED AND GIVEN under my hand and seal of said Court at Orange, Texas, this January 11, 2022.

VICKIE EDGERLY, District Clerk  
Orange County, Texas  
*Vickie Edgerly*

PROCESS BY PUBLICATION (OTHER)

**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA**  
**ROCKINGHAM COUNTY**

To: James Villadsen, the Respondent herein:

TAKE NOTICE that a pleading has been filed against you in the above-entitled action. The nature of the relief being sought is as follows: PETITION FOR LEGITIMATION

The petition of JARED PARKER ASHLEY, Petitioner, was filed in the GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE SUPERIOR COURT DIVISION on December 20, 2021, against Cristin Villadsen, James Villadsen and Liam Alfred Ashley, a minor child, numbered 21 SP 171 and entitled Notice of Service of Process by Publication. The suit requests Petition for Legitimation.

You are required to make defense to such pleading not later than forty days from the date of the first publication and upon your failure to do so, the Petitioner will apply to the Court for the relief sought.

This the 20th day of December, 2021.

KHAN LAW FIRM, PLLC  
Rachel Stariha, Esq. (N.C. Bar #54569)  
Shahzad Khan, Esq. (N.C. Bar #53515)  
Attorneys for Petitioner  
502 S. Scales Street  
Reidsville, NC 27320  
336-905-4705  
shahzad@thekhanlawyers.com

**NOTICE OF ONLINE AUCTION**  
[www.renebates.com](http://www.renebates.com)

Rene Bates Auctioneers, Inc. will be conducting an **ONLINE SURPLUS AUCTION** for the County of Orange Texas.

**Open Date: Monday: January 31, 2022 at 10:00 a.m.**  
**Close Date: Friday: February 11, 2022 at 12:00 p.m.**

A detailed list of items will be available with instructions for registration at [www.renebates.com](http://www.renebates.com).

Any questions relating to this sale should be directed to Orange County Purchasing Department at 409-882-7901 or 409-882-7903.

The County Of Orange Texas encourages and welcomes your participation.

Orange County Purchasing  
714 Polk Street  
Orange, Texas 77630

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of JOHN ALLEN SCHULZE, Deceased, were issued on January 26, 2022, in Cause No. P19265, pending in the County Court at Law of Orange County, Texas, to: Gregory York Garrett.

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 31st day of January, 2022.

*James R. Dunaway*  
James R. Dunaway

Attorney for: Gregory York Garrett  
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 DOROTHY J. LEE, Deceased, were issued on January 26, 2022, in Cause No. P19287, pending in the County Court at Law of ORANGE County, Texas, to: Dennis Grover Lee and Ronald Jerry Lee.

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

c/o: Tommy Gunn  
Attorney at Law  
202 S. Border Street  
Orange, TX 77630

Dated the 26th day of January, 2022.

*Tommy Gunn*  
Tommy Gunn

Attorney for: Dennis Grover Lee and Ronald Jerry Lee  
State Bar No.: 08623700  
202 S. Border Street  
Orange, TX 77630  
Phone: (409)882-9990  
Fax: (409)882-0613  
Email:tommy@gunnlaw.org

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of EUNICE C. BURNS, Deceased, were issued on January 26, 2022, in Cause No. P19281, pending in the County Court at Law of ORANGE County, Texas, to: Edgar H. Burns, Jr.

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

c/o: Tommy Gunn  
Attorney at Law  
202 S. Border Street  
Orange, TX 77630

Dated the 26th day of January, 2022.

*Tommy Gunn*  
Tommy Gunn

Attorney for: Edgar H. Burns, Jr.  
State Bar No.: 08623700  
202 S. Border Street  
Orange, TX 77630  
Phone: (409)882-9990  
Fax: (409)882-0613  
Email:tommy@gunnlaw.org

### ESTATE SALE

**Estate Sale**  
575 Larry Ward  
Bridge City  
Sat., 2/5 from 8 am to 4 pm and Sun., 02/6 from 12:30 pm to 4 pm. Small and large furniture, kitchen items, home decor, baby items, etc. Must pickup same day.

Smoking meats will make it good, Seasoning will make it better. JB's Barbeque Sauce will make it "Better Than You Like It!" 409-886-9823

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### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of JERRY LOUIS TANTILLO, Deceased, were issued on January 26, 2022, in Cause No. P19305, pending in the County Court at Law of Orange County, Texas, to: Jackie Tantillo

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: Paul M. Fukuda  
Attorney At Law  
312 Border Street  
Orange, TX 77630

DATED the 31st day of January, 2022.

*Paul M. Fukuda*  
Paul M. Fukuda

Attorney for: Jackie Tantillo  
State Bar No.: 00789915  
312 Border Street  
Orange, TX 77630  
Phone:(409)883-4357  
Fax: (409)883-6263  
Email: pfukudalawoffice@yahoo.com

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: Paul M. Fukuda  
Attorney At Law  
312 Border Street  
Orange, TX 77630

DATED the 31st day of January, 2022.

*Paul M. Fukuda*  
Paul M. Fukuda

Attorney for: Susan M. Wilson  
State Bar No.: 00789915  
312 Border Street  
Orange, TX 77630  
Phone:(409)883-4357  
Fax: (409)883-6263  
Email: pfukudalawoffice@yahoo.com

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: Paul M. Fukuda  
Attorney At Law  
312 Border Street  
Orange, TX 77630

DATED the 31st day of January, 2022.

*Paul M. Fukuda*  
Paul M. Fukuda

Attorney for: Stephanie Curphey  
State Bar No.: 00789915  
312 Border Street  
Orange, TX 77630  
Phone:(409)883-4357  
Fax: (409)883-6263  
Email: pfukudalawoffice@yahoo.com

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of DON M. WILSON a/k/a DON MICHELL WILSON, Deceased, were issued on January 26, 2022, in Cause No. P19306, pending in the County Court at Law of Orange County, Texas, to: Susan M. Wilson.

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: Paul M. Fukuda  
Attorney At Law  
312 Border Street  
Orange, TX 77630

DATED the 31st day of January, 2022.

*Paul M. Fukuda*  
Paul M. Fukuda

Attorney for: Susan M. Wilson  
State Bar No.: 00789915  
312 Border Street  
Orange, TX 77630  
Phone:(409)883-4357  
Fax: (409)883-6263  
Email: pfukudalawoffice@yahoo.com

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: Paul M. Fukuda  
Attorney At Law  
312 Border Street  
Orange, TX 77630

DATED the 31st day of January, 2022.

*Paul M. Fukuda*  
Paul M. Fukuda

Attorney for: Stephanie Curphey  
State Bar No.: 00789915  
312 Border Street  
Orange, TX 77630  
Phone:(409)883-4357  
Fax: (409)883-6263  
Email: pfukudalawoffice@yahoo.com

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: Paul M. Fukuda  
Attorney At Law  
312 Border Street  
Orange, TX 77630

DATED the 31st day of January, 2022.

*Paul M. Fukuda*  
Paul M. Fukuda

Attorney for: Gregory York Garrett  
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 GLENDA FAY TAFT, Deceased, were issued on January 26, 2022, in Cause No. P19305, pending in the County Court at Law of Orange County, Texas, to: Stephanie Curphey.

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: Paul M. Fukuda  
Attorney At Law  
312 Border Street  
Orange, TX 77630

DATED the 31st day of January, 2022.

*Paul M. Fukuda*  
Paul M. Fukuda

Attorney for: Stephanie Curphey  
State Bar No.: 00789915  
312 Border Street  
Orange, TX 77630  
Phone:(409)883-4357  
Fax: (409)883-6263  
Email: pfukudalawoffice@yahoo.com

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: Paul M. Fukuda  
Attorney At Law  
312 Border Street  
Orange, TX 77630

DATED the 31st day of January, 2022.

*Paul M. Fukuda*  
Paul M. Fukuda

Attorney for: Gregory York Garrett  
State Bar No.: 06208000  
P.O. Box 100  
Orange, TX 77631-0100  
jrdunaway@sbcglobal.net

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: Paul M. Fukuda  
Attorney At Law  
312 Border Street  
Orange, TX 77630

DATED the 31st day of January, 2022.

*Paul M. Fukuda*  
Paul M. Fukuda

Attorney for: Gregory York Garrett  
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 JOHN ALLEN SCHULZE, Deceased, were issued on January 26, 2022, in Cause No. P19265, pending in the County Court at Law of Orange County, Texas, to: Gregory York Garrett.

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 31st day of January, 2022.

*James R. Dunaway*  
James R. Dunaway

Attorney for: Gregory York Garrett  
State Bar No.: 06208000  
P.O. Box 100  
Orange, TX 77631-0100  
jrdunaway@sbcglobal.net

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 31st day of January, 2022.

*James R. Dunaway*  
James R. Dunaway

Attorney for: Gregory York Garrett  
State Bar No.: 06208000  
P.O. Box 100  
Orange, TX 77631-0100  
jrdunaway@sbcglobal.net

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 31st day of January, 2022.

*James R. Dunaway*  
James R. Dunaway

Attorney for: Gregory York Garrett  
State Bar No.: 06208000  
P.O. Box 100  
Orange, TX 77631-0100  
jrdunaway@sbcglobal.net

**FOR SALE**  
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**EVERYONE READS THE RECORD ONLINE & IN PRINT WEEKLY!**

NOTICE: Vehicle stored at Gibbons's Towing and Transport Inc. 058449 VSF 16527 Hwy 62 S. Orange, TX 77630 PH (409) 886-0007

Total charges cannot be computed until the vehicle is claimed, storage charges will accrue daily until the vehicle is released. Must demonstrate proof of ownership and pay current charges to claim vehicle!!  
[www.tdlr.texas.gov](http://www.tdlr.texas.gov)

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