

County Record

Vol. 62 No. 48

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Week of Wednesday, May 4, 2021

Levee system construction flooded with new jobs

Margaret Toal
For The Record

Construction of the flood protection system for Orange County will create 5,000 to 10,000 jobs with the project to include moving more than five million cubic feet of dirt, enough to fill the Astro-dome three times.

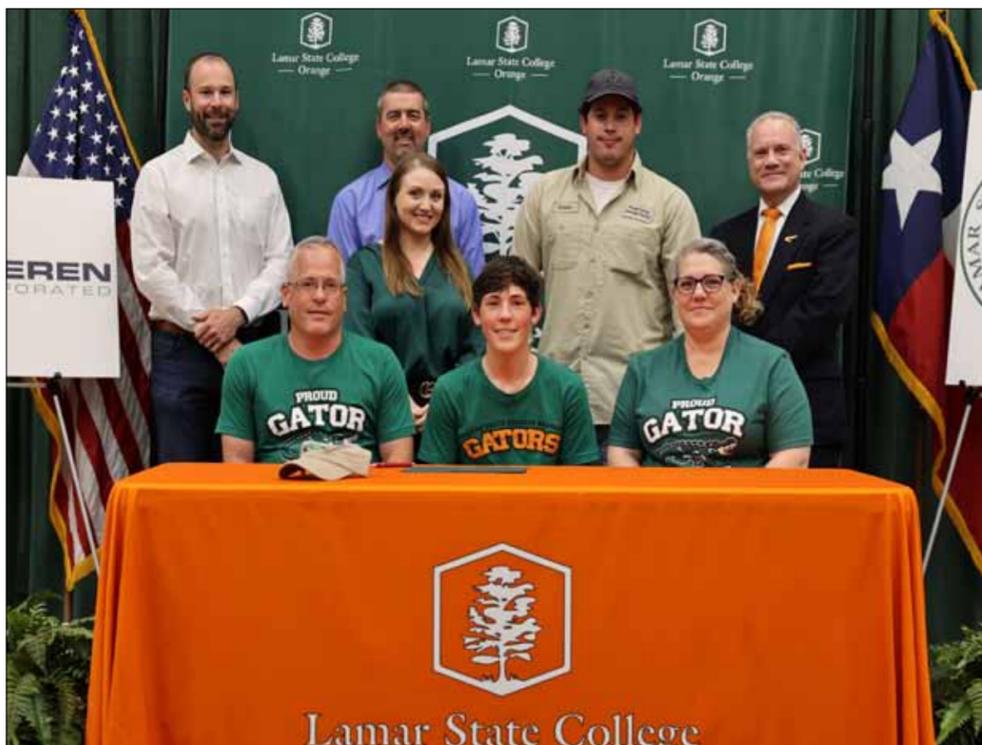
The money is now in place and construction is set to begin in 2024. The total project is expected to be finished in four years.

Congress in 2018 approved federal money for the Orange County sys-

tem, which will cost about \$2.39 Billion. On Friday, the Gulf Coast Protection District, a specially-formed state district, signed an agreement to pay the 35 percent match for the federal 65 percent. Precinct 3 County Commissioner Kirk Roccaforte is Orange County's member of the district's board of directors.

The protection district is using Texas money that voters in a state constitutional amendment election in 2019 agreed to

LEVEE JOBS Page 5A



Peter Cloeren, Stefan Cloeren, and Stephen Sandberg from Cloeren Incorporated were among local industrial scholarships awarded. Above: Cloeren Inc. Scholarship Recipient, Jaiden Hood

LSCO 'Signing Day' scholarships awarded

Staff Report
For The Record

Lamar State College Orange held its second annual Career and Technical Education (CTE) Signing Day, Sunday, awarding twenty-six students technical scholarships sponsored by local industry and foundation partners.

The event, patterned after a high school student

"signing" his/her intent to play college sports, featured technical program scholarship awards from Chevron Phillips Chemical Company, the Donald T. Boumans Foundation, Invista Orange, Cloeren Incorporated, the Nelda C. and H. J. Lutchter Stark Foundation, and the LSCO Foundation. The incoming and current students who earned these scholar-

ships, when called to the stage, signed their scholarship award certificate with their families, scholarships sponsors, and LSCO President, Dr. Thomas Johnson, by their side.

"Thanks to our generous local industry and foundation benefactors, our current and incoming LSCO students' futures will be much brighter.

These technical scholarships represent a permanent investment in our students, which in turn, impacts our local community. We are so proud to celebrate these students and their achievements and we can't wait to watch them succeed in the coming Fall semester at LSCO," said LSCO Presi-

LSCO Page 3A



Orange County Judge John Gothia, center, spoke at the Friday, April 29 signing at the Orange County Expo Center as Orange County of a partnership agreement between the US Army Corps of Engineers and the Gulf Coast Protection District for the S2G Program's Orange County Coastal Storm Risk Management Project. RECORD PHOTOS: Dave Rogers



Sheila McCarthy, right, architect for the US Army Corps of Engineers, helps folk locate their property and the latest proposed alignment for the Orange County Coastal Protection System at an open house meeting at the Bridge City Community Center on Tuesday, April 26.

Planes, Trains and Crawfish

Dave Rogers
For The Record

You can fly in, ride the (miniature) rails or just back up your pickup and find plenty to do this week in Orange County.

Fly-In and Drive In takes place at the Orange County Airport, Depot Day Annual Community Festival is at the Orange Train Depot and Mauriceville Crawfish Bash at the Mauriceville Community Center all beginning at 10 a.m. Saturday.

Crawfish Bash is at 7441 Cohenour Road under a new 6,000 square foot pavilion roof featuring free crawfish and

Kids Zone games for children under 12.

Chris Sowell, president of the Mauriceville Heritage Association, said more than 20,000 pounds of crawfish have been ordered for the all you can eat dining that runs from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Crawfish tickets for teens and adults are \$35 in advance in advance and available on the website crawfishfest.org. They are \$40 at the gate Saturday.

"We have 25 teams signed up to cook," he said, "and the judges will announce the winner at 6 p.m."

The Crawfish Bash had

a record turnout last year, Sowell said, after the event was canceled in 2020 because of the coronavirus pandemic.

Besides the new pavilion - which replaced a 3,600 square-foot on after its roof blew away during 2020's Hurricane Laura - improvements include the parking lot and a Friday night DJ and dancing.

The gates are open from 5 p.m. to 10 p.m. Friday, with crawfish and beer available along with fare from food trucks. Saturday's activity, which runs to 10 p.m., features live music.

Chris Hantz will per-

form from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Texas Thunder is next at 1:30 p.m. to 3 p.m. Dwayne Dopsie and the Zydeco Hellraisers take the stage from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. and Ryan Foret and Foret Tradition wind up the day with a performance at 6:30 p.m.

Proceeds from the Mauriceville Heritage Association to fund scholarships, sponsorships for the Mauriceville Youth Football Association and Orange County Livestock Association, the MHA's Senior Citizen Dinner and Mauriceville

OC Events Page 3A

THC surveys historic sites near planned OC levee system

Margaret Toal
For The Record

Almost all of the property with historic value that will be affected by the levee-seawall-pump station system are along, or near, the Sabine River in the city of Orange.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has been working with the Texas Historical Commission to survey and preserve historic sites that will be affected by the flood prevention system

to be built around the southern side of the county and up along part of the eastern side.

In a survey completed last year, the Historical Commission reported reviewing 1,140 resources in the county and checking them for age and historical significance. Some of the sites could be added to the National Historic Register, according to the survey.

The report says, though, that the petrochemical

plants along FM 1006 and the Sabine River on the southern part of the county are not necessarily historical. The plants listed

Buildings and railroad tracks on Front Street along the Sabine River in Orange and have historic significance that should be considered in the design of the levee-seawall-pump system being designed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in Orange County.

RECORD PHOTO: Margaret Toal



are DuPont Sabine River Works, Firestone, Chevron-Phillips, Spencer, and Allied. Some of the plants have changed owners and names since the report.

The plants could be historically significant if brought into a story line of industry in the county running from shipbuilding and lumber in the 19th Century to petrochemicals in the 20th Century.

Of course one of the his-

THC Page 2A



Bridge City plans EOC storm prep center

THC survey From Page 1

FROM THE MAYOR'S DESK

Mayor Rutledge For The Record

Here's a few things happening around Bridge City City Hall this past month.

We're working with our engineers / project managers to finalize the details on the new water well for our Sunnyside facility. The bids have been received and reviewed, and the council has awarded the job to the lowest bidder. Final documents are being prepared, and the successful contractor is being contacted. Work should start soon on this project, and we're all excited to get this going. We've been working hard for the past three plus years to get all grants and



Mayor Rutledge

funding lined up on this, and now it's going to finally happen. We're also forging ahead with pursuing grants and funding for providing more capacity for our water systems in other areas of the city. With these enhancements, the city will be well poised for water supply and storage capacity for years to come.

The City is also working with the engineers and grant administrators to retrofit some of our sewer and water systems to make them less vulnerable to impact from future storms. This will help us to continue to strive to provide uninterrupted water and sewer service during emergency events. My personal goal is to not have any city-

the next fiscal year. Once they have a draft put together, they'll present it to Council for further discussions and workshops. Once that is done, Council will approve the final version. The City Staff puts in numerous hours, in all departments, preparing a budget that covers the needs of the City while keeping fiscal responsibility

My personal goal is to not have any city-wide "boil water notices" due to storm effects. Our City crews have worked hard to make that goal reachable.

wide "boil water notices" due to storm effects. Our City crews have worked hard to make that goal reachable, and they've done a great job on getting closer to that target.

Another project we've been dreaming about and planning for over the past couple of years is to develop a "hardened" emergency operations center (EOC). Hurricanes Rita, Ike, Harvey, and Laura have shown us over the last 17 years that it's much easier to prepare for, respond to, and recover from a major storm event if our City functions and personnel are operating from a central place. We know we can better serve our citizens during these emergencies if we don't have to worry about securing our operations facilities or getting enough employees in to work or relocating to other living spaces. We're pursuing multiple funding avenues to make this happen. I'll keep you posted.

Before long City Council will be working on several items, some routine, some not. Over the next few months, City Staff will be preparing the budget for

at the forefront of the discussions. I'll fill you in later on some of the other things we're working on.

And speaking of the budget, some of you may already know this, but I want to share it with the rest of you. This will be the last budget for our long-time Finance Director, Karen Morgan. After 25 or so years of working for the City, Karen is retiring. She has been a tremendous asset for Bridge City, keeping track of all the expenses and revenues, the grant money and grant reports that must be written, presenting a clearly explained and detailed budget for Council to review, and all the other things she works tirelessly to provide to Council and Staff. All of us that hang around City Hall are happy for Karen, but we're surely going to miss her a lot. We'll give her a little send off on May 27 from 2:00-4:00, and you're all invited to come by to tell her thanks and goodbye.

That's about it for now. See you around town. Take good care of "Bridge City, the Gateway to Lake Sabine."

BC native, Collins gets Lifetime Achievement Award



Bridge City High School alumnus, Gary Collins, receives the Fuller Center Lifetime Achievement Award at "Men with Caring Hearts 'Havana Nights' Gala."

Staff Report For The Record

The Fuller Center held their Men with Caring Hearts "Havana Nights" themed gala at Boca West Country Club, Boca Raton Florida. Gary Collins was honored with the Lifetime Achievement Award for his tireless work with children's charities. He is a graduate Bridge City High School, the University of Texas, and Texas A&M University.

Gary serves as the vice-chairman of the South Florida Golf Club Managers Charity Committee and heads the 100-Hole Challenge/Marathon Golf effort. The 100-Hole Challenge has raised over 2.5 million dollars for children's charities. Every year for the last 12 years,

Gary has played, in ONE day, between 100 and 154 holes!

Gary is a partner in Master Club Advisors, an executive search and consulting firm serving private clubs throughout the United States. Many of his relatives still live in Bridge City. Gary's father, Bill Collins, was a legendary Gulf Coast angler. His mother, Jo Ann Collins, was heavily involved in civic and church activities in Bridge City until she moved to Florida.

Gary's sister, Linda, as well as many aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces, and nephews still reside in Bridge City. His cousin, Patty Collins, has served on the Bridge City ISD School Board and is currently running for city council.

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OC events this weekend

From Page 1

ille's Christmas Tree Lighting.

Depot Days are back on the spring calendar this year after rainouts pushed it to the fall in 2021.

Again, last year was the best attended edition of this annual fundraiser for the upkeep of the 1910 Southern Pacific depot.

"We love to do it for seeing the children have so much fun," said Rose Simar, manager of the depot at 1210 Green Ave.

A petting zoo, pony

rides the favorable word of mouth from three years ago should make 2022 another event to remember.

Besides enticing visiting pilots with free lunch and reduced fuel prices, Pillsbury has lined up a visit by "The Ninety-Nines," an international organization of licensed women's pilots that has a mission of promoting the advance of aviation and a passion for flying.

The US Coast Guard will show off its MH-65



Pony rides are among several activities geared to children at the Depot Day Annual Community Festival set for 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday at the Orange Train Depot, 1210 Green Ave.

rides and a mini train all are musts for the families that attend this 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. event with little ones.

A balloon artist and a bouncy house add to the attraction.

Admission is free but there's a \$1 charge per ride.

Door prizes provided by event sponsors include gift cards, gift baskets and a pair of bicycles.

The Orange Blossom dancers, a dance troupe for seniors, and the Orange Community Players will perform and entertain, while food and craft vendors will be stationed in and around the depot.

A historic portrait station will be available and model train sets will be on exhibit.

Simar notes that the old depot, bought and resurrected with leadership from Orange native Carrie Wolliver, was saved from the scrap heap to serve primarily as a museum spotlighting Orange history from cattle to timber to shipbuilding to petrochemicals.

Now, though, Simar says the Depot is booked every weekend, hosting "everything from gender reveal parties to funeral receptions."

Orange County Airport is hosting its second modern day Fly-In, says Missy Pillsbury, Airport Manager.

The 2019 event was an overwhelming success for visiting pilots as well as the Orange community.

"We had over 1,500 people come out for our first one," said the woman recently named Texas General Aviation Manager of the Year.

Local pilots and a many from other airports showed off their planes during the 2019 event. That will be the case again in 2022, plus there will be displays by law enforcement and the military and plane rides.

Admission is free. Food trucks will be on site, too. "A Fly-In is not an air-show," said Ron Huebel, one of the local private pilots who helped play host. "It's just a way to show off the airport."

"We had 57 pilots who flew in for our first one."

Fly-Ins set for 2020 and 2021 were canceled because of COVID-19. But



Arron Conner calls out Bingo numbers as Stacy Juneau, right, assists during Purse Bingo Night hosted by the Bridge City Chamber of Commerce on Thursday, April 28. The Bridge City Chamber of Commerce raised more than \$20,000 with its fund-raising Purse Bingo Night at the Orange County Expo Thursday night April 28. A capacity crowd of 500 bought seats to play for purses and door prizes. The Chamber plans to hold another Purse Bingo Night Nov. 3, said Chairman Rani Dillow. RECORD PHOTO: Dave Rogers

LSCO 'Signing Day'

From Page 1

dent Thomas Johnson.

In attendance to congratulate their scholarship recipients were Craig Lemons and Vicki Derese from Chevron Phillips Chemical Company, Wendell Tilley and Lacey Lemoine from Invista Orange, Peter Cloeren, Stefan Cloeren, and Stephen Sandberg from Cloeren Incorporated, Clyde "Tad" V. McKee III from the Nelda C. and H. J. Lutchter Stark Foundation, and Former Orange Mayor Brown Claybar from the LSCO Foundation.

SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS:

Chevron Phillips Chemical Company Scholarships

Hallie Boudreaux, Process Technology, Lamar State College Orange, Lake Charles, LA

Stephen Cook, Process Technology, Lamar State College Orange, Orange, TX
Ian Garnica, Business Management, Bridge City High School
Donald T. Boumans Foundation Scholarships

Jacob Burman, Process Technology, Little Cypress-Mauriceville High School
Alana Craig, Business Management, Lamar State College Orange, Orange, TX
Karel Green, Business Management, Lamar State College Orange, Orange, TX
Invista Orange Scholarships

Lacy Bell, Business Management, Lamar State College Orange, Orange, TX
Preslie Brumley, Licensed Vocational Nursing, Lamar State College Orange, Vidor, TX

Quinton Garrett, Process Technology, Lamar State College Orange, Orange, TX
Gregory Harmon, Business Management, Lamar State College Orange, Orange, TX
Alberto Munguia, Process Technology, Lamar State College Orange, Bridge City, TX
Cloeren Incorporated Scholarships

Hunter Bellanger, Mechatronics, Bridge City High School
Jordan Bennett, Mechatronics, Lamar State College Orange, Vidor, TX
Isabell Gomez-Chapa, Mechatronics, West Orange-Stark High School
Robert Hebert, Mechatronics, Deweyville High School
Jaiden Hood, Mechatronics, Port Neches-Groves High School
Ty Jones, Mechatronics, Vidor High School
Nelda C. & H. J. Lutchter Stark Foundation Scholarships

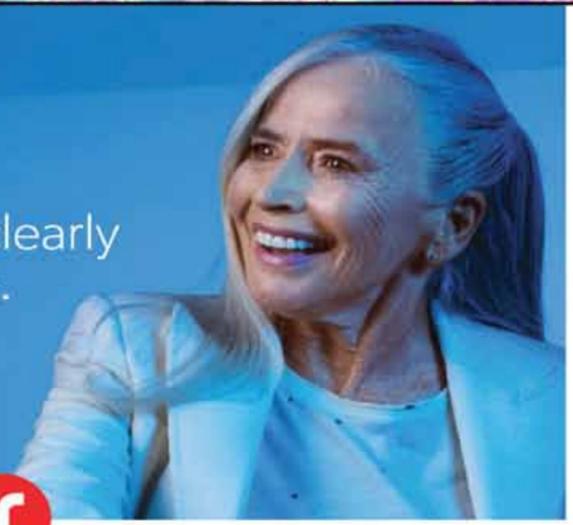
Kelly Babin, Court Reporting, Lamar State College Orange, Bridge City, TX

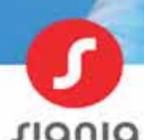
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From the Creaux's Nest

WE COULD SEE IT COMING HIGH COURT MAY OVERTURN ROE

The U.S. Supreme Court has taken a preliminary vote to overturn Roe v. Wade, the 1973 decision that has for 49 years guaranteed women the right to abortion, according to a draft opinion. The opinion, published late Monday, was authored by Justice Samuel Alito. Politico reported that a person familiar with the deliberations has said four other conservative appointees, Clarence Thomas, Neil Gorsuch, Brett Kavanaugh and Amy Coney Barrett, voted with Alito during a conference meeting in December, shortly after the case was argued. A draft opinion is not binding and any of the justices could change their vote before it's officially published, likely in the next two months. Under Alito's draft, the court would not only roll back the time frame in which a woman can access abortions, it would strip it entirely. States could still allow abortions, but more than two dozen including Texas would be set to immediately outlaw the procedure. Roe was decided in 1973 by an overwhelming 7-2 opinion, with five conservatives Republicans joining two Democratic appointees. Most of the country still supports a right to the procedure, according to polling, but it has been under relentless attack for years by social conservatives, including many in the Texas Legislature and Gov. Abbott. Texas currently prohibits abortions after about six weeks of pregnancy through an enforcement loophole passed last year and upheld by the Supreme Court in December. Already politicians were seizing on the report to raise money and energize their supporters on either side of the hot-button issue. It's impossible to know what efforts are taking place behind the scenes to influence any justice's vote. If Roberts is inclined to allow Roe to survive, he need only pick off one other conservative vote to deprive the court of a majority to overrule the landmark abortion case. Otherwise women's rights would go back 50 years, back to alleys and clothes hangers.

TURNING BACK THE HANDS OF TIME

15 Years Ago-2007

Inez Runnels, 83, a wonderful lady, served her time here and on Sunday, April 29, crossed over to the other side, where she will join her husband Joe, family, siblings and her Lord. She came to Orange as a young bride and saw much of Orange County's history made. A successful businesswoman, she served as first lady of Orange when husband Joe was mayor. She saw her son Pete become county judge. She also took pride in her two daughters, Barbara and Kay, as well as her grandchildren. She was a compassionate woman who saw good in everyone. She loved to travel and never missed an opportunity to do so. Mrs. Runnels established the first driving school in Texas and was longtime owner of Runnels Tire Co. This great lady will be missed by everyone who knew her. I always believed Don Breaux was stretching the truth a little when it comes to his orange crop. Last week, Don brought us some of the Orange County orange crop and they were exactly as he said; the juiciest, sweetest oranges we have ever eaten. (Editor's note: I believe Don lost that tree to a freeze.) A lot of Orangeites will remember Marty Conway who was so active in community service. Well, a bunch of years ago she and R.J. divorced, he flew the coop and she moved to Beaumont and remarried. Now Ms. Craig is running for Beaumont city council. If you don't like Marty, you wouldn't like anyone. Apparently, the Enterprise doesn't know her. They didn't endorse her. Didn't endorse our buddy, Esther Benoit, from Port Arthur, for mayor either. Shows you what they know. Congressman Nick Lampson, who is recovering from major heart surgery, is being mentioned as a possible challenger against U.S. Senator John Cornyn. His favorable and unfavorable is tied at 40 percent. Lampson is gutsy; he took on Tom DeLay and won in a strong Republican District 22. He faces an uphill battle for being re-elected however. He's the number one target for the GOP. He faces even longer odds against Cornyn, who already has \$4 million in the bank. Nick is not that well known statewide and it would take \$4 million just to buy name identity. The Wednesday Lunch Bunch will dine at Robert's, 12 noon. Last week Justices of the Peace Janice Menard and Derry Dunn each brought their staff. Judge Rodney Price came from Vidor. The only JP missing was Judge Joe Parkhurst, who was in the hospital having gall bladder surgery.

45 Years Ago-1977

The Horseman Store, the area's largest western wear store is celebrating its anniversary with a big sale. Doug Harrington, Doug, Jr., Dow Gene Anderson and Dr. David Olson donated the ducks that W.T. Oliver and his Bridge City gumbo team used to make the wild duck and oyster gumbo. The gumbo won Best Overall at Gumbo Cook-Off. In a duel between Bridge City and Bridge City, Louisiana, Oliver

and team bested the Louisiana folks with Oliver's famous chicken and sausage gumbo brew. Members are Ethel and Lawrence Faux, Ann Lieby, Barbara Gillis, C.R. Nash, Ann Oliver and Roy Dunn, who served as first assistant. Congrats, to Bridge City High seniors who have received scholarships. They are Tim Fennel, Rotary Club; Jean Lapeyrolerie, Texas State Teachers Association; Denise Lormand, B&PW; Pam Spurlock and Sue Ellen Johnson, nursing scholarship from the Pilot Club. The famous Wayside Inn Dinner House specializes in shrimp, fried chicken, large steak, with homemade pies served on Sunday. The Inn is located at 420 E. Roundbunch Rd. in Bridge City.

50 Years Ago-1972

The Liberal Wing of the Democratic Party in Orange County took some unexpected losses. They had supported Frank Hustmyre and urged Gov. Smith to appoint him to the post the day Judge Neff retired for the 128th District Court, one week before the primary election. The move backfired. The day after the election, Judge Hustmyre quit with a statement, "The voters of Orange County, by virtue of my decisive defeat at the polls, have evidenced a strong dissatisfaction with my appointment to the 128th District Court. I have written a formal letter of resignation to Gov. Smith. The unexpired term runs until Dec. 31. Graham Bruce said he would accept an appointment to fill the term, which he did. Hustmyre, despondent over the loss, ended up taking his own life. Att. Jim Dunaway is the only member of the law firm still living and still practicing law. (Personal note: I met Dunaway the very first day he joined the Hustmyre, Harris, Darman law firm. New comer Conservative Wayne Peveto, defeated Liberal State Representative Clyde Haynes, who ranked 17th out of 177 in seniority. Haynes was well liked statewide, carried his home area, the Vidor boxes, Peveto carried the rest of the county. The sheriff's race had four candidates, Sheriff Allen "Buck" Peveto, John Toney, Verdis Wagner and Max Boatman, who will face Patillo in runoff. In a three way race for democratic chairman Dennis Wick was eliminated. Pete Runnels will face incumbent James Morris. Jim Sharon Bearden defeated Stephen Burg for county attorney. Gordon Dunn defeated Claude Broussard for county commissioner, Pct. 2. Asa Mansfield beat Bill Kleinschmidt to remain commissioner of Pct. 3. There are several runoff races.

A FEW HAPPENINGS

Tony and Nancy Dallas went to Portland, Oregon, on the weekend to see son Chad play minor league baseball. Chad was drafted last year by the Toronto Blue Jays. Daughter Leigh Ann Dallas, who works for the city of Orange, decided to surprise them and made a last-minute flight. While cleaning out the home of her parents, Don and Alice Cole, both gone now, Alice Hartsfield came across a very old wooden wheelchair, like the one FDR used. She contacted Constable Brad Frye, who is on the Orangefield school board and who owns the Paul Cormier Museum. Alice told Brad her family would like to donate the chair to the museum. Brad arranged for Jessie Freemont to pick up the gift. Jessie was excited and said it would be cleaned up and on display this week. If you haven't visited the museum, you will be pleasantly surprised. If you ever have out-of-town guest there are three great museums in the area, all different, entertaining and educational. The Gulf Coast Museum in Port Arthur, Stark Museum in Orange, plus "Mr. Paul" Museum, that he spent many years accumulating art for, has been donated to OFISD. If you have museum pieces to donate they would love to have them. Dayle Foreman and Margaret Toal from Orange County attended the induction ceremony for bestselling writer Mary Karr and singer-songwriter Rodney Crowell into the Southeast Texas Hall of Fame at the Museum of the Gulf Coast. Guests watching the ceremony included Jo-El Sonnier, who drove with his wife to the event. He's already in the Hall of Fame. Dayle's book, "C'est La Vie" was on sale in the museum's gift shop next to one of Karr's books. Karr grew up in Groves and is considered one of the country's greatest memoirists. Her books have been on the New York Times best sellers lists. Crowell grew up in Crosby and after reading Karr's "The Liar's Club," wrote a memoir about his childhood entitled "Chinaberry Sidewalks." He invited Karr to write songs with him and she sometimes sings in his band. They performed Saturday night at a benefit gala in Port Arthur. Saturday's running of the 148th Kentucky Derby will be aired on NBC at 5:57 p.m. This year's field is considered among the more competitive. Twenty horses will start their 1-1/4 mile journey in the world's most famous horse race. The first leg of thoroughbred horse racing's Triple Crown. Trainer Bob Baffert, who won three of the last four Derby races won't be there. His last year's winner, Medina Spirit, win was overturned when the horse tested positive. The favorite is Epicenter, who won four of his last five races, including the Louisiana Derby. Crown Pride, a Japanese bred horse that will be ridden by Cajun jockey Chris Lemaire, is a good 20-1 long shot. I like Talba, 12-1, because of jockey Mike Smith and also Messier, 8-1, because of jockey John Velazquez. The last two horses are being trained by Baffert's former assistant Tim Yakteen. They finished first and second in the Santa Anita Derby. The weather will be a big factor. I'll wait to place my bet. A few folks we know celebrating birthdays and remembering others. May 4, Happy Birthday Laurie Miller, Julia Hoke and Jenna Dismukes. May 5: Today is Cinco De Mayo, a Mexican holiday celebrated in the United States. Celebrating birthdays today are Bridget Gunn Toohey, Brad Broussard, Matt Williams, Butch Myers, Lindsey Dardeau and Ricky Ziblott. May 6: Celebrating birthdays today are Debbie Gregg, Beverly Millsap, Brandon Bond, James Scales. Today would have been Essie Bellfield's birthday. Also our friend H.D. Pate died on this day in 2019. May 7: Happy Birthday to longtime friend Joe Chenella and also educator Gina Mannino, Andrea Beadle, Josh Sanders, Connie Angelle and Earl Thomas. Judge Grover Halliburton died on this day in 2004. May 8: Happy Mother's Day to all moms. Happy Birthday to Patty Cook, Ginger Hogden, Debra Trundle who all celebrate today. May 9: Our longtime friend Ray Cotton

turns 92 today. Happy Birthday also to Laura Ashworth, Justin Dupuis, Doug Havens, Lynn Scales and Dalton Gilliam. May 10: Celebrating today are Sharon Wooley, Katie Hubbard, Stacie Dayden and Gerald Taylor. NOTICE: If you or anyone you know is celebrating a birthday or anniversary let us know so we can let everyone else know. Call 409-735-5305 or email us at therecordlive.com. Orange County Health Inspector James Scales doesn't have to worry about a future toilet paper shortage. He got lots of rolls for his birthday, perhaps to help him get revenge for the people who recently "tee-peed" his yard. The toilet paper came as gifts for the surprise birthday party his mother, Donna Dorman Scales, threw for him on Saturday. The COVID pandemic two years ago made her cancel plans for his 40th birthday, so she gave a 40th, 41st, and 42nd party all together. Of course his nieces Stella and Indie attended. No word, yet, on whether Stella ate all of "Burlie's" cake. (We hear they are not spoiled by grandmother and uncle.) Texas A&M AgriLife Extension and Committee on Aging invites all Senior Citizen's to join us for our 53rd Annual Senior Citizens Rally Day. This year's theme is Kentucky Derby: Big Hats & Bow Ties, A Race for Better Health. We encourage our Senior Citizens to dress up in Kentucky Derby Theme clothing, but it is not required. Rally Day is free to all and will be held, Tuesday, May 10th and will start at 9 am and end at 1 pm at the OC Expo Center. There will be entertainment by Britt Godwin, Health Vendors, door prizes, bingo, free lunch and fun for all Senior Citizens. Please bring any old eye glasses you may have lying around and donate them to the Lions Eye Bank of Texas. There will be recognition of Best Dressed in Theme, Traveled the Farthest, Oldest Veteran, and Newest Newlyweds. For further information on our Senior Citizen Rally Day, call the AgriLife Extension Office at 409-882-7010. Gov. Greg Abbott and Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick endorsed Attorney General Ken Paxton in runoff against Land Commissioner George P. Bush. The two Republicans filed briefs urging the Texas Supreme Court to take up Paxton's challenge to the appellate court ruling. The whistle blower suit was brought by four of the former eight employees who accused Paxton of bribery and abuse of power for helping his friend Nate Paul. Paxton has been under indictment on charges of felony securities fraud for five years with out going to trial. Abbott and Patick's request would again delay Paxton going to trial. These three guys run our state. Good or bad it's time for Texas voters to take note. On the national front here are a few excerpts of former Secretary of Defense Mark Esper's forthcoming book, "A Sacred Oath: Memoirs of a Secretary of Defense During Extraordinary Times." Former President Donald Trump suggested shooting racial justice protesters when the demonstrations neared the White House, Mark Esper writes in a new memoir. "Can't you just shoot them? Just shoot them in the legs or something?" Trump asked the newly appointed Esper in an Oval Office meeting June 1, 2020, the Cabinet member wrote. Special thanks to Judge Chad and Windie Jenkins for providing me a special treat of their homemade, smoked pork sausage. I'm not sharing. Special thanks also to Windie for going through the trouble of getting it to me. That is really good stuff. Naomi and Wynonna Judd were among the most popular duos of the 1980's, scoring 14 number one hits during their nearly three decade career. On the eve of their induction into the Country Music Hall of Fame, Naomi, who had been battling mental illness, died at the age of 76 of apparent suicide. Naomi had a special knack for putting words into song. "Love Can Build a Bridge," "Mama He's Crazy," "Grandpa Tell Me About the Good Old Days," "Love is Alive." The single mom from Kentucky took her and her two girls a long way up the ladder of life. Daughters Ashley and Wynonna praised their mom after her long mental fights. "Don't You Think It's Time." Naomi apparently thought so.

CAJUN STORY OF THE WEEK

(Run in 2007)

Ray Leleux, from da barbershop, and Kee-Kee Dupuis, from da fillum-up station, decided dey needed some time off dem. Dey plan and go to central Texas on a camping trip. After dark dey go to look around and came up on da Brazos River but dey had no idea on how to get across it on da utter side. Standing on da bank was two of them Texas Aggies who wanted to cross da river dem too. LuLu called over to da Aggies, "We want to cross to da utter side but don't know wat to do no, you got any idea?" Da Aggies dem talked it over and replied, "I'll shine my flashlight over da river and you can walk across da beam of light" LuLu looked at Kee-Kee and dey boat tink of dat some more. Finally LuLu called back to da Aggies, "I don't tink so, me and Kee-Kee, we not stupid us, you tink we gonna start walkin' across on dat beam of light and wen we get to do middle, you gonna turn da light off."

C'EST TOUT

May 8, 1846, 176 years ago The Forgotten War That Shaped America

Few Americans and not many Texans are familiar with the Battle of Palo Alto. It's the first major engagement in one of the most significant wars in North American history. A few miles north of historical Brownsville, near the mouth of the Rio Grande river, Palo Alto is one of three battlefield sites in the area. Resaca de LaPalma and Fort Texas, changed to Fort Brown, in downtown Brownsville. Interesting wars to read about and how the United States in North America became the size it is today. Sunday is the 176th anniversary of the U.S.-Mexican War. The date will go unnoticed for the most part, even though the U.S. victory in the two-year struggle added more than half a million acres of land to the American West and Southwest. When the two nations signed the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo on Feb. 2, 1848, ending the war, the United States more than doubled in size, adding California, Nevada and Utah, most of Colorado, New Mexico and Arizona and parts of Oklahoma, Kansas and Wyoming. With the U.S. annexation of Texas finally settled, Mexico's loss included roughly half of its national territory. Despite its significance, the United States-Mexican War remains America's "forgotten war." Read us cover to cover. Thanks for your time, have a nice week. Take care and God please bless America.

Levee construction jobs projected From Page 1



Turnout was high to the first of three open houses last week to update the community about the Orange County levee system being slated for 2028 completion. Visitors to the Bridge City Community Center checked out maps of the latest alignment to see how it might affect their neighborhoods. **RECORD PHOTO: Dave Rogers**



About two dozen residents listened Thursday, April 28 as the US Army Corps of Engineers and Orange County Drainage District hosted an open house at the Orange American Legion hall to explain plans and progress for the S2G Program's Orange County Coastal Storm Risk Management Project. **RECORD PHOTO: Dave Rogers**

move from state "rainy day" savings to help with flood protection. The protection district will then oversee the operations of the flood protection system, which will include seven or eight pump stations, along with numerous floodgates. Representatives from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers gave the information April 28 during a public meeting in Orange to show plans for the preliminary designs and operations. The corps and local officials hosted three of the information meetings and County Judge John Gothia estimated a total of about 200 citizens attended.

The jobs created will include drivers and crews for the hundreds of dump

trucks that will be needed. The corps of engineers is hoping to purchase dirt within the county. Roads damaged because of the construction will be repaired when the job is finished.

Construction is set to begin in 2024 and be completed in 2028. The current plans call for about 15 miles of earthen levees, mostly in marsh areas, plus another 10 feet of concrete seawall. The seawall area will be in Orange along the Sabine River. The levees will begin in the Bessie Heights area outside Bridge City on the west side off the county and follow the southern side of the county.

The southern side includes the large complex of petrochemical plants along FM 1006, the road

known locally as "Chemical Road." Gothia said the system will help protect the hundreds of jobs in the plants and the families those jobs support.

The Orange County Drainage District has been working with the corps of engineers on the project. In the Orange information meeting, Drainage District Director Don Corona said most of the earthen levees are in marsh areas and not on private property.

The current plans have the city of Orange area along the Sabine River with a concrete seawall that will be constructed in the river adjacent to the banks. Spaces with gates will be created for the shipyards along the river. The latest seawall plan

will also leave the county's administration building intact. County officials had been planning to build another administration building at a new site because the wall would go through the current building.

The concrete seawall will be 11 to 15 feet high around downtown Orange, depending on the sea level of the land when it is built. Corona said the wall's design is like a "thread through a needle" around the river.

Corps representatives said the wall may include a riverwalk or area so people can still see the Sabine. Some areas in the country have had sections of clear walls that provide a view.

The corps is adjusting plans to keep the Orange Boat Ramp area off Simmons Drive open for recreation. Currently, the boat ramp area will be on the river side of the seawall with a floodgate that can be closed and complete the wall when needed.

The flood protection system will go along the area of the Sabine River northward and end at Interstate 10. Orange City Councilor Terrie Salter was at the information meeting giving support to help allow the Blue Bird Fish Camp restaurant and store continue in business.

Several floodgates are included in the project with major ones at Cow Bayou and Adams Bayou. Other gates will be across roads and railroad tracks.

The corps of engineers is working with major

construction companies that responded to its "request for proposals" on the project. The corps will negotiate a construction contract for the project. If an agreement cannot be negotiated, then the corps will seek bids.

A call for local subcontractors has already been made with informational meetings scheduled.

The concept for the flood protection system began after Hurricane Ike in September 2008 sent a storm surge into the Gulf of Mexico. The surge flooded the southern part of Orange County.

Then-County Economic Development Director Bobby Fillyaw, working with Orange County Commissioners Court, got grants for a countywide flood protection system study. The study by Carroll and Blackman engineers of Beaumont was presented in September

2012. Those plans were given to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in Galveston in 2013.

The corps of engineers used the Carroll and Blackman information to make preliminary designs for an Orange County protection system and the plans were shown to the public at the OC Expo Center in April 2016.

The corps completed its feasibility study of the project in 2018 and Congress approved funding in February 2018.

The Texas Legislature set up the state constitutional election to help pay for the flood protection system with the election in November 2019. In February 2020, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers announce Stantec and Jacobs would be designing the Orange County protection system.

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118th Miriam Lutchter Stark Contest in Reading and Declamation winners

Staff Report For The Record

The Board of Directors and administrative staff of the Nelda C. and H.J. Lutchter Stark Foundation congratulate the winners of the 2022 County Finals of the 118th Miriam Lutchter Stark Contest in Reading and Declamation.

Recently, students who had previously won first place at the various local level competitions held at each of the five Orange County public high schools competed in the categories of Declamation and Interpretive Reading at the County Finals held at the Lutchter Theater.

Vidor High School's Ashley Callahan won 1st place in Declamation, and Triston Tinkle of Vidor High School won 1st place in Interpretive Reading. Both students received a \$5,000 scholarship for their 1st place awards. For her Declamation, Callahan presented "Close Your Eyes and Listen to the Silent Screams" by Elie Wiesel. Tinkle's reading was "Beethoven" by Shane Koyczan.

Second place in Declamation went to Sadie Prouse of Orangefield High School for her delivery of the Shuttle "Challenger" Disaster Address by Ronald Reagan. Orangefield High School's Shelby Eason took 2nd place in Interpretive Reading with her reading of



2022 Stark Reading Contest County Finals Winners are from L-R: Shelby Eason - 2nd Place in Interpretive Reading, Triston Tinkle-1st Place in Interpretive Reading, Ashley Callahan - 1st Place in Declamation, Sadie Prouse - 2nd Place in Declamation.

"The Scarlet Ibis" by James Hurst. Each second-place winner received a \$2,500 scholarship. Both first and second-place winners were also presented with plaques.

Clyde V. McKee III, Stark Foundation President and CEO, presented all County Final contestants with commemorative watches, which is a long-held tradition of the Stark Reading Contest.

More than 115 students participated in the school levels of this year's Stark Reading Contest, which is sponsored by the Nelda C. and H.J. Lutchter Stark Foundation. "I want to congratulate the county winners, all local level winners, and all finalists

for their outstanding accomplishments, as this year was a truly fantastic contest" said Stark Reading Contest Coordinator, Hannah Danielson. "All participants, from the school preliminaries to the County Final, should be applauded for their hard work and effort. The time and work of the local school directors help make this contest possible. The support of Mason Franco (West Orange-Stark H.S.), Ron Chevalier (Orangefield H.S.), Melanie Claybar (Little Cypress-Mauriceville H.S.), Adam Conrad (Vidor H.S.) and Hannah Landry (Bridge City H.S.) is critical in making this program a success."

Each first-place winner will receive a \$5,000 scholarship award for their County Finals win; second-place winners each receive a \$2,500 scholarship award.

The Miriam Lutchter Stark Contest in Reading and Declamation is sponsored by the Nelda C. and H.J. Lutchter Stark Foundation as part of its continuing mission to enrich the community and encourage education. The aim of the Stark Reading Contest is to enhance the literary and forensic quality and skills of the students. The Contest has continued annually since its inception in 1904 and offers educational opportunities and experiences.



The Bridge City Chamber of Commerce has announced that Adam Ortolon, Employee of Market Basket, has been named April Employee of the Month. Pictured left to right: BCCC representative Candace Mulhollan, Alfred Ortolon, Adam Ortolon and Sarah Ortolon.



The Bridge City/Orangefield Rotary Club has announced Lexi Millwood as their April Bridge City High School Student of the Month. Lexi has a 4.25 GPA and plans to attend Lamar University. Pictured are Michael Millwood-Father, Dr. Mike Kelly-BCISD Superintendent, Lexi-Student, Chloe Tucker-Counselor, Tim Woolley-BCHS Principal, Meg Brown-Rotary President.



The Bridge City/Orangefield Rotary Club announced Coby Coulter as their April Orangefield Student of the Month. Coby has a 3.5 GPA and plans to attend Lamar University. Pictured with Coby are his mother, Heggie Coulter, Britni Briggs-OFHS Counselor and Meg Brown-Rotary President.

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Wednesday Night Service: 6 p.m.
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Adult, Youth, Children
Discipleship Classes, Sun. 5:30 p.m.
Wednesday Schedule 6:30 p.m.
Prayer Meeting
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Orange County Church Directory
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Small Group Bible Studies:
Mens 6 PM Monday, Ladies 10 AM Tuesday, Co-Ed 9:15 AM Sunday
Youth Supper & Bible Study Wed. 6:30 PM
See Facebook "Cowboy Church of Orange County Arena & Rodeo"

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Pastor: Ernest B Lindsey
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OC baseball, softball moving on to playoffs

OC SPORTS BEAT
DAN PERRINE
For The Record

Many fans look at the fortunes of their favorite teams winning and losing as matters of life and death. The Bridge City Cardinals really did have a life or death issue during the last twelve months or so.

Junior Shaun Hallman was a starting offensive lineman for the Bridge City football team two seasons ago and a power hitter for the Cardinals' baseball team in 2021. Teammate Draven Marlow this past week identified during Seniors Night that Shaun's two-run homer in last year's playoff

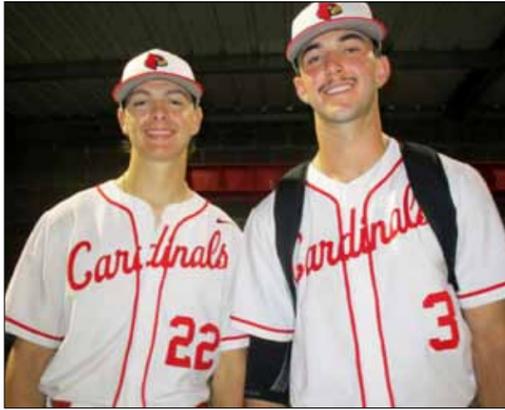


Dan Perrine

game against Hampshire-Fannett to force extra innings was the biggest thrill of his being a member of the Cardinals' baseball team.

Towards the end of last year's baseball season Hallman began feeling pain in his left knee which made it difficult for him to play. Shaun had his knee checked by doctors and a cancerous tumor was found to be causing the pain.

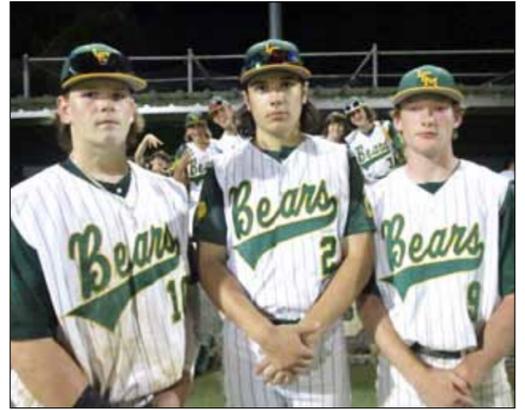
Hallman spent last summer and much of the year since then at the Texas



Justin Abate and Ethan Ocegüera both hit homeruns to help Bridge City beat LCM and make the Cardinals the second place team in the district. RECORD PHOTOS: Dan Perrine

Medical Center in Houston having an operation to remove the tumor, knee replacement surgery, and post cancer radiation

treatments. "I finally got to come back and be out here with all my friends and play and watch the game I love," Shaun re-



Dean Reynolds, in the middle, pitched a complete game for LCM while Marco Bandiero and Ashton Landry hit RBI doubles for the Bears in their 4-2 win over Silsbee.

sponded.

This last week Hallman was excited and a little surprised to actually be able to play in Bridge City's

game with West Orange-Stark on Tuesday, April 26. "Shaun's story is

OC Baseball Page 2B

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Orange County teams post-season From Page 1B



A year after being diagnosed with cancer in his left leg Bridge City's Shaun Hallman is back on the field and played in a game last week for the Cardinals.

a very, very special story. I'm so proud of him, his comeback, what he went through, what he battled through, and just to see how he has rehabbed and got back on the field and played in a varsity game is remarkable," Coach Chad Landry exclaimed.

The baseball season is not done yet for Bridge City, and Hallman is looking forward to being with his Cardinal teammates as they attempt to make a playoff run. Sadly the knee replacement surgery has eliminated Shaun being able to play football again next season, but as only a junior he will have another year of Bridge City baseball when he is a senior. "Next year I'm just looking forward to get back into shape and come out here for baseball and give it all I can," Shaun concluded.

The Bridge City Cardinals enter the post season as the District 22-4A runners-up after winning their last three district games. The winning streak started with the Cardinals shutting out Lumberton 9-0, followed by a 16-1 win at West Orange-Stark, and the third win was 9-2 in Bridge City against the Little Cypress-Mauriceville Bears.

Ethan Ocegüera continued his string of outstanding pitching for the Cardinals with a complete game that included seven strikeouts, with no walks allowed, and one hit batter. Ocegüera had a no-hitter through five innings before the Bears scored two unearned runs in the sixth.

Bridge City jumped ahead in the first inning with three runs that included only two balls hit out of the infield. John Van Huis walked to begin the inning and Ocegüera followed with a bunt single.

A pop fly to center was dropped, but the Bears were able to get a force out at second base. A wild pitch scored Van Huis with the first run, a bases loaded walk to JS Bearden drove in the second, before another wild pitch

brought in the third run. The inning ended on a routine fly to right.

The Cardinals got two runs in the second on a two-run homer by Justin Abate that also scored Van Huis who had been hit by a pitch. Van Huis had a clutch two-out hit to right in the third that scored Bearden and Brice Swanton to make the score 7-0 after three.

Ocegüera hit a homerun in the fourth, and the Cardinals added their final run in the sixth. Little Cypress-Mauriceville took advantage of an error, a bunt single by Parker Seago, a ground ball through the hole to left by Ashton Landry, a balk by Ocegüera, and a fielder's choice to score two runs in the top of the sixth.

The 9-2 victory did not clinch second place for the Cardinals. They needed some help from the Vidor Pirates later on Friday night. After blowing an early 6-0 lead at Silsbee, the Pirates scored in the top of the ninth to edge the Tigers 7-6 which was Vidor's fourth straight win moving the Pirates into a tie for fourth place with Little Cypress-Mauriceville and allowing Bridge City to step ahead of Silsbee by one game to grab second place.

Little Cypress-Mauriceville secured at least a tie for fourth place in the district on Tuesday with a 4-2 win over the Silsbee Tigers. The Bears got a strong pitching performance from Dean Reynolds who pitched a shutout for the first six innings of the game.

Reynolds escaped the first inning when the Tigers loaded the bases with one out, but a short flyout and a fielder's choice to Bear second base man Gage Griffith ended the threat with no runs scoring. Silsbee got two runners on with two out in the sixth before Reynolds got his third and final strikeout of the game to end the inning.

In the seventh the Tigers scored their two runs and had a runner at first with two outs. A ground ball through the middle looked to be headed towards centerfield, but shortstop Parker Seago went far to his left to field the ball and rifled a throw to first in time to retire the batter for the final out preserving the two-run victory.

The Bears scored all four of their runs in the first against Tiger ace starting pitcher Logan Simmons. Seago got the rally started when he was hit by a Simmons pitch. Ashton Landry drove him home for the first LCM run with a double off the

left field fence.

Reid Peco followed with a single that moved Landry to third. Reynolds singled and Landry scored to make it 2-0 in favor of the Bears. Griffith sacrificed both runners into scoring position for the first out of the inning.

Marco Bandiero hit an opposite field fly ball to left that appeared to confuse the Silsbee outfielder as the ball landed behind him. Peco scored easily from third and Reynolds raced home when the throw in from the outfield eluded all of the Tigers and went to the backstop. The rally could have been more except Bandiero was stranded at third when Blaze Compton hit a line drive right at the Silsbee shortstop that a couple of feet either way would have been a single.

The Bears' thrill of victory was dampened somewhat by the agony of a 3-1 defeat by the Orangefield Bobcats across the county at Vidor by the Pirates. Had the district champion Bobcats beaten Vidor on Tuesday night Little Cypress-Mauriceville would have clinched out right the final seed in the district.

Vidor scored solo runs in each of the first three innings and got three solid innings from pitcher Logan Morris. Pirate ace Reagan Hallmark relieved Morris to begin the fourth and saved the game for Vidor.

Orangefield had some opportunities to score more runs in the game, but the Bobcats hit into multiple double plays to spoil potential rallies. The loss snapped the Bobcats' ten game winning streak in district.

The Pirates are the hottest team in District 22-4A with the playoffs starting this week. Vidor won five of six games in the second half of the district schedule to tie Little Cypress-Mauriceville for fourth place with joint 6-6 records.

A play-in game was held Saturday, April 30, in Vidor. The pitching matchup was a repeat of the March 25 game won by LCM 4-1 at Vidor with Reagan Hallmark starting for the Pirates against the Bears' Reid Peco.

Things did not go well for Peco who gave up five

runs in the first inning, one in the second, and was pulled after Reagan Weiblinger hit a grand slam in the third to make the score 11-2 in favor of Vidor.

Blaze Compton and Ashton Landry had key hits for the Bears in the fourth to narrow the deficit to five runs. The Pirate bats did not let up scoring five more runs in the fifth and sixth innings combined to close out the game 16-6 with the ten-run rule.

The West Orange-Stark Mustangs concluded their season losing to Bridge City on Tuesday and Lumberton on Friday. Tyrone Wilson and Grayson Gregory both pitched five good innings in the games they started for the Mustangs.

Coach Sergio Espinal reflected on the past season for West Orange-Stark baseball. "We made improvements throughout the year. We gained experience and learned what it takes to be competitive in this district. We are still playing catch up with our defensive skills and pitching. Our hitting struggled most of the season because of a lack of experience and the great pitching in our district. I am very proud of our players, no one quit on the varsity team, and we finished the season with both jr and varsity teams," Espinal stated.

The district champion Orangefield Bobcats (10-2) play the Liberty Panthers in the bi-district round of the state playoffs. Games 1 and 2 will be Friday starting at 5:00 PM at Goose Creek Memorial High School. At third game if necessary will be Saturday 1:00 PM at Port



Lady Cardinal pitcher Carson Fall won both playoff games against Hardin-Jefferson striking out 26 Lady Hawks in the two games played on the same day.

RECORD PHOTO: Dan Perrine

Neches-Groves High School.

The Bridge City Cardinals (8-4) will play the Huffman Hargrave Falcons in the first round of the post season. The first game will be Friday in Bridge City at 7:30 PM. The second game will be played Saturday also in Bridge City at 2:00 PM with a third game to follow there if necessary.

Orange County Softball Teams

The Bridge City Lady Cardinals opened the state softball post season against the Hardin-Jefferson Lady Hawks who needed to win a play-in game against Livingston to make the playoffs. Two games were played at Anahuac on Thursday, April 28.

The Lady Cardinals

grabbed a three-run lead in the fourth inning of the first game. Marlie Strong hit a homer in the sixth, one of her three hits in the game, to put Bridge City up 4-0, and Bridge City added a fifth run in the seventh. Hannah Murchison smashed two hits including a double and Brooklyn Drodody had two hits.

Carson Fall struck out 15 and held the Lady Hawks scoreless until the bottom of seventh when they scored three runs to make things interesting. The Lady Cardinals hung onto the 5-3 win in the first game.

In the second game Bridge City was the designated home team and took the first lead scoring three runs in the second. Nicole Sasser had a key hit in the three-run rally and

Perrine: Page5B



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Astros rate April as sub-par despite 11-10 record

KAZ'S KORNER Joe Kazmar For The Record

More than half of the 30 major league baseball teams would be very happy with a .524 winning percentage for the month of April, but not our Houston Astros who finished the strike-shortened month with an 11-10 record.

Of course, one must understand the Astros are the defending American League pennant winners and losers in six games to the Atlanta Braves in the 2021 World Series.

Houston's record would have been much better if the entire starting lineup was healthy and the bats didn't fall asleep for most of the month.

But that's the way it happened and it's like the Civil War—history!

Houston was on the road twice as much as at Minute Maid Park but that's still not a valid excuse. They started the season strong against the Angels in Anaheim and enjoyed being in first place for that opening week.

But they were forced to play without the services of sparkplug Jose Altuve, who strained a muscle and was on the Injured List for most of April. In fact, he just returned from a rehab stint with Class AAA Sugar Land and should see action in the three-game series at home against Seattle which began Monday night in Houston.

About halfway through the month, All-Star closer Ryan Pressley had problems with his velocity and went on the IL where he remained through this writing on Monday.

To make matters worse, the Astros' best hitter Michael Brantley was slowed down with what the team referred to as "health and safety protocols" which means he probably tested positive for COVID-19 and swapped positions with slugger Yordan Alvarez, who played his left field post while Brantley assumed the designated hitter role when he played.

Most of the offensive players didn't even hit their weight—Chas McCormick .200, Altuve's replacement Niko Goodrum .111, catchers Martin Maldonado .095 and Jason

Castro .065, Aledmys Diaz .160, just to name a few of the weakest batting averages.

But there is good news about the first month of the season as ace starting pitcher Justin Verlander appears to be 100 per cent after his Tommy John surgery, giving up only 14 hits and five runs in 26 innings so far this season with an ERA of 1.73 and leads the



Joe Kazmar

major leagues with an 0.69 WHIP and a .161 opponent's batting average.

Verlander is scheduled to pitch today at 1:10 p.m. in the final day of the three-game series against the Seattle Mariners.

Last week's four-game series against the Texas Rangers was for the cellar and the Astros lost by winning three games and keeping the home team Rangers at the bottom of the AL West Division.

But 72-year-old manager Dusty Baker—he'll turn 73 in June—never looked back. He still is on a mission to accomplish two great feats—be only the 12th manager in major league history to reach 2,000 wins (and he only needed two going into Monday) and manage a World Series winner, which he almost did last year.

Dusty was only the third manager to be hired at the age of 70 or older. He led the Astros to the seventh game of the American League Championship in his first season and then to the World Series last year.

Baker has won more games than any manager in major league history who hasn't won a World Series and also is the only one to win division titles with five different teams. Only two others—Billy Martin and Davey Johnson—have led four different clubs to the postseason.

According to Sunday's edition of the Houston Chronicle, ten of the 11 managers to win 2,000 or more games are enshrined in the Hall of Fame at Cooperstown, N.Y.—about 100 miles from my hometown of Schenectady. All of them won at least one World Series title.

"You don't have to ask Baker which accomplishment would mean more to him. That he now can't capture a World Series without getting to 2,000 wins pretty much makes that a moot point," the article pointed out.

KWICKIES...

Houston was the site of last weekend's PGA Tour Champions Insperty Invitational played at The Woodlands Country Club Tournament Course and won by Steven Alker. He came back from a two-hour suspension of play due to lightning Sunday to go six-under on six straight holes after the delay and shoot a six-under 66 to win the first-place trophy and \$345,000 in prize money

by beating Steve Stricker by two strokes.

And while on the topic, Spaniard Jon Rahm won the PGA Tour Mexico Open at Vidanta by a single stroke over Tony Finau and Brandon Wu and pocketed the \$1,314,000 winner's share.

The NBA conference semifinals are under way with Golden State leading Memphis 1-0 through Sunday and top-seeded Phoenix playing the Dallas Mavericks in the Western Conference while the Milwaukee Bucks lead the Boston Celtics 1-0 while the Miami Heat takes on Philadelphia in the Eastern Conference. Just for the record, I like the Phoenix Suns to win it all later this month.

There hasn't been much news yet about Saturday's Kentucky Derby that will be run at Churchill Downs where the favorite has won for the past few years. It could happen again this year, but don't count on it!

The New Orleans Saints and safety Tyrann Mathieu agreed to a multi-year contract Monday. Mathieu was born and raised in New Orleans and hopes to end his brilliant career there after being a Super Bowl champion, four-time All-Pro, played in three Pro Bowls and was named to the 2010's All Decade NFL Team.

JUST BETWEEN US...

According to Mel Kiper, Jr., ESPN's draft guru, he rated both the Dallas Cowboys and New England Patriots with his worst grades of C-plus. However, the Houston Chronicle's grading system was much harsher in Monday's edition with the Miami Dolphins scoring F-plus with the San Francisco 49ers and Las Vegas Raiders grading out at D-plus. Our Houston Texans came out with an A as General Manager Nick Caserio addressed every need except an edge rusher. The New York Jets led the way with an A-plus by nabbing three starters in the first round. The Dallas Cowboys still got their C-plus from both entities.



Lady Bear Cami Shugart delivers a pitch in the first game of their playoff series with Huffman. RECORD PHOTO: Dan Perrine

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Youngster enjoys an afternoon fishing.

School's Out, Fishing's In

OUTDOORS Capt. Chuck Uzzle For The Record

For the majority of our area students school is almost over for the year and the much anticipated free days of summer are now upon us. This time of the year that is tailor made for taking a youngster fishing. During the school year everyone is confined to schedules that only allow free time on the weekends, which coincidentally is when everyone else is free. The crowds are much larger on the weekends and who knows if the fish have figured out what Saturday and Sunday mean. It is awfully difficult to get the fish biting and your free time to happen at the same time.

With a wide open calendar and a little bit of flexibility in schedules, parents can treat their kids to a great day on the water during this time of the year.

Weather patterns begin to stabilize as the long summer season here in east Texas takes command. Lighter winds mean more comfortable outings as well as plenty

more options for places to fish. During the spring most fisherman are confined to areas that aren't whitecapping so a large portion of our local waters tend to be "off limits" unless you can stand some rough seas.

Several seasonal programs come into play during this time of the year which can really produce some super fishing. One of the more popular ways to catch fish is to use live bait, either under a cork or fished on the bottom. Fishing live bait on



Chuck Uzzle

Sabine Lake means mostly throwing shad or mullet because they are much easier to come by. Most local anglers who throw live bait have become handy with a cast net in order to catch their bait, this can be a great way to get a kid involved. I know I have spent several hours just explaining what different kinds of fish or other critters are to children on my boat during the last couple of years.

Another summer program that hopefully comes back into play this year is chasing schooling fish. Last year we had a tough summer chasing flocks of gulls that normally point out the schooling fish. Under normal conditions the

speckled trout and redfish will drive the brown shrimp to the surface as they gorge themselves on the free marsh buffet. This wide open action is just what the doctor ordered when it comes to getting kids interested in the sport of fishing, lots of fish and very little down time. If you happen to get in on some of that crazy action you will understand what I am talking about.

Whatever way you decide to chase fish this summer please be sure and take a kid along, they will always remember the trip. Get some good information and ask questions so your time on the water can be as good as it possibly can. After all catching fish is just a small part of the game when you think about it, being with your kids and spending some quality time together is what it's all about.

'RAWA' Save Fish and Wildlife, Add Jobs and Grow Businesses

Staff Report For The Record

AUSTIN –The Recovering America's Wildlife Act (RAWA) is currently racing through Congress with unprecedented bipartisan support. RAWA could bring \$50 million to the state to help protect wildlife, restore land and give Texans more ways to enjoy the outdoors. Help is needed to get RAWA to the finish line. The public is encouraged to contact their U.S. senators and representatives to vote "yes" for this important legislation.

On a national level, RAWA would provide \$1.4 billion in dedicated annual funding for proactive collaborative efforts by state and tribal wildlife conservation initiatives to support at-risk wildlife populations and their habitats. The funding would come from existing revenues without new taxes or government programs.

State agencies throughout the country have identified 12,000 species in need of conservation assistance in federally approved State Wildlife Action Plans. These plans would help guide spending from RAWA. Additionally, tribal nations would receive \$97.5 million annually to fund proactive wildlife conservation efforts on tens of millions of acres of land. At least 15 percent of the resources would be used to

recover species listed as threatened or endangered.

"The litany of ways natural resources bolster the Texas economy and improve our quality of life is seemingly endless," said Carter Smith, Executive Director of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department. "Studies show property values can increase up to 20 percent when adjacent to natural areas. Natural buffers make coasts and communities more resilient to intense storms and flood events, thereby protecting our citizens and saving billions of dollars in recovery costs. While it would do much to protect fish and wildlife that need it most, the Recovering America's Wildlife Act would also mean a long-term investment in the public health and well-being of all Texans, as well as stewardship of our home ground."

According to the Outdoor Industry Association, the Texas outdoor recreation economy annually generates 327,000 jobs, \$14.4 billion in wages and \$3.5 billion in state and local tax revenue. People travel from all over the world to see Texas' iconic landscapes and unique wildlife, generating nature tourism revenue. Additionally, RAWA would send \$50 million in grant funds flowing across Texas to nonprofit organizations, nature centers, universities, landowners,

fish and wildlife management agencies and many others for projects to conserve vulnerable wildlife before they become endangered.

Unfortunately, the outdoor recreation industry depends on many fish and wildlife species that are declining including birds, mammals, reptiles, amphibians, invertebrates, plants and more. If RAWA passed, it could bring additional resources toward projects involving much loved animals like the monarch butterfly, brown pelican, and the ocelot. It would also allow for additional research projects including but not limited to horned lizard reintroductions, bracted twist-flower conservation and surveys for new bee species.

Passage of RAWA would provide the funding needed to greatly expand habitat restoration on public and private lands, which in turn will support wildlife and critical habitat animals use to feed, nest, and live and help reverse course for declining wildlife species.

The Recovering America's Wildlife Act is strongly supported by the Texas Alliance for America's Fish and Wildlife, a statewide coalition of more than 165 diverse organizations and businesses, the National Wildlife Federation, The Wildlife Society, and the American Fisheries Society.

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GOACC names Student, Employee of the semester at LSCO

Staff Report For The Record

ORANGE, TX – The Greater Orange-Area Chamber of Commerce, along with their Ambassadors and the staff of Lamar State College Orange, named LSCO's Student and Employee of the Se-

mester recently. Jessica Butchee, of Buna, was named the Greater Orange-Area Chamber of Commerce Student of the Semester and received a \$250 scholarship. Jessica earned a spot on the Fall 2021 President's List with a 4.0 grade point average and is a natural leader

amongst her peers. Stephanie Jones was named the Greater Orange-Area Chamber of Commerce Employee of the Semester. Stephanie has worked at Lamar State College Orange for almost 22 years. She serves as Executive Assistant to the President.



Jessica Butchee, of Buna, was named the Greater Orange-Area Chamber of Commerce Student of the Semester and received a \$250 scholarship.

Linda Platt-Bryant for WOSCCISD board

The following is a political statement read by Linda Platt-Bryant:

It is a privilege to announce my candidacy to run for a fourth term on the West Orange-Cove CISD School Board and continue my commitment to our students, faculty, staff, and community.

My enthusiasm and passion for service to this school district community is because I believe that collaboration between the teachers, parents, and administrators is vitally important in creating the best possible schools for our children. In WOC-CISD, we have a "platform to excellence" for students to achieve in the graduation goals of College,

Technical Trade, Military, and Career Readiness. So, I strongly encourage "positive parent involvement" in your students' classrooms, extra-curricular activities, and your community:

- 1986 Alumni – West Orange-Stark High School
- 1990 Graduate – Prairie View A&M University
- Life Member – Texas



Platt-Bryant

Parent Teacher Association
WOC-CISD Delegate for Texas Association of School Boards

Member – WOCCISD Education Foundation
2015-2019 – WOCCISD School Board Secretary
Class of 2020 – Master Trustee-Leadership Texas Association of School Boards
2020 to Present - WOC-CISD School Board President

My son, Jared K. Dupree, is a Class of 2017 honor graduate from West Orange-Stark High School and a Class of 2021 graduate from The University of Texas at Austin. I encouraged and supported him to achieve his best in the classroom, extra-curricular activities, and organizations. He is currently employed with the City of Houston Police Department in the 255th Class of Police Officer Cadets. A

good education is the key to preparing our children for a challenging future.

Like many other public school district boards in Orange County, I have had the pleasure of being a "strong team member" to new and improved school programs, facilities, and services provided for our students, parents, educators, and administration.

In WOCCISD, we continue to look at new ways and technologies to be competitive and innovative in our schools within the financial budget set forth and be accountable to the financial responsibility of our service to children.

Our school district has strong leadership, and we are continuing in a positive direction to achieve our mission and current strategic goals set forth by our Superintendent and Administration, which is "always doing what's best for kids". I appreciate the Community, Administration, Faculty, Staff, Parents, and Students and ask for your vote to be re-elected as a School Board Trustee in the West Or-



Stephanie Jones was named the Greater Orange-Area Chamber of Commerce Employee of the Semester. Stephanie has worked at Lamar State College Orange for almost 22 years.

Perrine: OC Sports From Page 2B



Nicole Sasser of the Lady Cardinals sparked Bridge City to victories in the playoff series with Hardin-Jefferson.

RECORD PHOTO: Dan Perrine

Amaris Larkin drove in two runs.

The Lady Cardinals scored another run in the third to take a 4-0 lead before Hardin-Jefferson tallied once in the fourth and once in the sixth to cut the Bridge City advantage to two runs. An insurance run was added by the Lady Cardinals in the sixth to make the final score 5-2, and give Bridge City a sweep of the series.

As she has been all season, Fall was outstanding in Game 2 striking out 11 in the victory. The Lady Hawks managed just four hits and one walk in this game.

Next up for the Bridge City Lady Cardinals are the Wharton Lady Tigers. The series will be played at Goose Creek Memorial High School. Game 1 will be Friday at 6:00 PM with Game 2 at 12 Noon on Saturday and Game 3 to follow if necessary.

The Lady Bears of Little Cypress-Mauriceville entered the post season as the second seed from their district and faced the

third seeded team from District 21-4A. There was a three way tie for first place in 21-4A between Liberty, Hamshire-Fannett, and Huffman forcing a playoff between the three teams resulting in Huffman being the third seed.

Game 1 of the series was played Thursday on the Little Cypress-Mauriceville campus. Cami Shugart of the Lady Bears hooked up with Kylan Padgett of the Lady Falcons for a pitchers' duel with LCM's Lexi Moss getting the only hit for either team through the first four innings.

Huffman's Kaci Gobert led off the top of the fifth with a fly ball to center that cleared the fence for a homerun giving the Lady Falcons a 1-0 lead. Two more runs were tacked on in the seventh to give Huffman a 3-0 win and put them one win away from advancing to the second round of the playoffs.

LCM Coach Dena Adkins felt several balls struck by the Lady Bears could have fallen for base hits and was still optimistic going to Huffman hoping for two Lady Bear wins. "If a couple of those balls go a different way or they take a wrong step or a late step on the ball it's a different ball game. We left a few people stranded and had a few scoring opportunities that we just left them out there. Huffman's a solid team and their defense won that game," Adkins analyzed.

The Lady Bears opened the scoring in the second game with a homer by Keylie Washburn in the top of the first. Huffman answered by scoring eight

runs in the bottom half of the inning taking full advantage of four errors by LCM to go ahead 8-1 after one.

Shugart was struck in the ribs by an errant throw and was moved to shortstop for the remainder of the game. The Lady Falcons scored seven more runs and won the game 15-1 eliminating Little Cypress-Mauriceville from the playoffs.

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

2 Burial plots for sale in HillCrest Memorial Gardens Orange Texas Lot 172 Block C Spaces 2 & 3 in Garden of Christ \$4000.00 for both lots. Call 409-882-8964

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NOTICE TO CREDITORS

NOTICE is hereby given that original Letters of Administration for the Estate of **CHARLES MICHAEL HAVARD, SR.**, Deceased, were issued on the **APRIL 20, 2022**, in Cause No. **P19338**, pending in the Probate Court at Orange County, Texas, to: **Charles M. Havard, Jr., Independent Administrator.** The post office address of the Independent Administrator is:

Charles M. Havard, Jr.
 c/o Jason M. Byrd
 The Byrd Law Firm
 448 Orleans
 Beaumont, TX 77701

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.

Dated the 20th day of April, 2022.

Jason M. Byrd
 JASON M. BYRD

State Bar No.: 24036303
 448 Orleans
 Beaumont, TX 77701
 Phone: (409)924-0660
 Fax: (409)924-0035
 Attorney for Applicant

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The American Legion, Post #49 located at 108 Green Ave. in Orange will be having a fish Fry lunch on Thursday, May 5th. The meal will consist of Fried Fish, Potato Salad, Coleslaw, Green Beans with Pickles, Onions, Bread and Dessert for \$10.00 each. If you wish to place an order, please do so on Wednesday, May 4th or for orders to go on Thursday, May 5th call before 9 am. The number to call is 409-886-1241.

First Saturday at First Baptist Church is giving away baby food and diapers in the church parking lot Saturday, May 7 from 10 am to 12 pm. Jars of fruit, vegetables, and meat for babies as well as toddler finger food will be given away until it is all gone. Diapers in all sizes will be free for anyone who drives up during that time. If you know of someone pregnant, tell them about this opportunity; we want them to benefit from this giveaway. Just as in the past, we still have Bibles for children and adults. Don't miss this chance, tell someone.

The Orange County Historical Society will have a program on the second Tuesday in May (5/10/22) starting at 5:30 p.m. in the City of Orange Public Library. Note the change in date and time which will be permanent. The program will be a show and tell type. Those wishing to participate should prepare to give a short speech about an article or articles, place or historical even related to Orange County. This will be our first program in quite awhile, so let's work toward making it special. Refreshments will be served. Feel free to wear a mask if you

think there is a need. The public is invited.

Tickets also available at the door.

6478 or Bertie Herman, Regent, at 409-960-4560.

The regular board meeting of the Friends of the Orange Depot will be held on Thursday, May 12, 5:30 pm at the Depot at 1210 Green Avenue in Orange. Among other items, on the agenda will be a report on Depot Day, annual community festival, which will be held on Saturday, May 7, 10am-2pm. New volunteers are always welcome at our meetings. For more information or to rent the depot for a special event, please call 409-330-1576, or visit the website www.orangetxdepot.org.

Walking His Way walking club meets on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8 am to 10 am in First Baptist's Family Life Center located at 200 W Roundbunch Rd. in Bridge City. The climate is perfect so come join us to lose those pounds and for a healthy body. A fast lane and slow lane are available. There is no charge for this opportunity, only fellowship.

The Dementia Care Givers' Support Group meets at St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church, Canticle Building, 4300 Meeks Drive in Orange on the following days and times: Second Wednesday of every month at 10:00 a.m., and Second Thursday of every month at 6:30 p.m..

The Daughters of the American Revolution William Diamond Chapter of Orange County meets the third Tuesday of the month at St. Paul Methodist Church in Bridge City. DAR promotes local community service, education, historical preservation, and patriotism. To become a member a woman must prove blood line descent from an ancestor who aided in achieving American Independence. For more information contact Jackie Huckabay, Registrar, at 409-719-

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

LEGAL NOTICES

OBITUARIES- BIRTHS ENGAGEMENTS WEDDINGS ANNIVERSARIES
 Please call us at 409-735-5305 or 409-886-7183

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