

# County Record

Vol. 62 No. 51

Distributed FREE In Orange County, Texas

Week of Wednesday, May 25, 2022

## County, OF chase \$6B gas plants

Dave Rogers  
For The Record

Orange County Commissioners voted unanimously Tuesday to establish a Reinvestment Zone south of Rose City that could lead to a \$6 billion investment by Enterprise Products Co.

The county's action on the 1,800-acre property on the Orange County side of the Neches River should help convince the Barbers Hill company to build two projects on the site: a \$5.25-billion ethane cracker and a \$975-million export terminal able to process fully refrigerated ethane onto ships.

The location is within the Orangefield Independent School District and should generate an estimated \$507 million in school taxes over the next 25 years, according to paperwork filed with the school district earlier this month.

The company and OISD agreed to partner on a "limit on appraised value" under Chapter 313 of the Texas Tax Code, which, according to the same paperwork, would save the refiner \$466 million over 25 years.

The state requires a county to establish a Reinvestment Zone before a county or city tax abate-

ment or Chapter 313 agreement comes into play.

And the reasoning behind state-supported incentives is to bring or create new businesses for the state. Enterprise Products, which already has at least three pipeline terminals or manufacturing sites on the east side of the Neches in Jefferson County, reported in its filings that it is considering other out-of-state sites in Louisiana.

"This is a great opportunity, not only for the school district but for the county," Dr. Shawn McAlpin, Orangefield schools superintendent, said.

It is expected Orange County will follow up Tuesday's action by granting a tax abatement.

In the case of a similar possible investment, both West Orange-Cove school district and Orange County granted abatements to Chevron-Phillips Chemical in 2019 following that company showing interest in building a \$6 billion plant near the Orange County Airport.

The final investment decision, first expected in 2020, was delayed by the chaos resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic, and is still pending.

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## Fire Chief search riles Orange Council member

Dave Rogers  
For The Record

The first round of interviews for hiring a new Orange Fire Chief are over and City Manager Mike Kunst said Tuesday he's doing "due diligence" before recommending his choice at a future City Council meeting.

But Council member David Bailey has spent time in two of the last three council meetings objecting to Kunst's candidate search process.

Bailey is upset both that Kunst has a non-Orange resident on his four-person committee and that Bailey is not on that committee.

The committee members, according to Kunst, are Kunst, Orange Assistant City Manager Jay Trahan, Regius Guillory, a manager at Arlanxco; and Pat Avery, the President of

the Port Arthur Chamber of Commerce.

"She is not qualified to pick a fire chief, and most importantly, she doesn't live here," Bailey said of Avery, who was head of personnel and human resources at the Mobil and Total refineries for more than 25 years.

A quick Internet search shows both Guillory and Avery live in Beaumont.

According to the city charter posted online, the city manager "shall be the chief administrative and executive officer of the City" and is "responsible to the Council for administration of the affairs of the City."

While the city manager is appointed by the city council, the charter makes it clear it's pretty much hands-off the city manager after that.

Orange Fire Page 3A

## WOCCISD District "Employees of the Year"



The 2021-2022 WOCCISD District "Employees of the Year" have been announced. They are left to right: Mariella Martinez, Auxiliary Staff Member of the Year, Jakesha Wright, Paraprofessional of the Year, Superintendent Dr. Rickie Harris, Rhoda Poe, Teacher of the Year.

## 18 children and 3 adults dead in Uvalde school shooting

Sneha Dey  
The Texas Tribune

The Texas Department of Public Safety confirmed that 18 children and three adults are dead after the shooting at Robb Elementary School in Uvalde County on Tuesday. Others were also injured.

Gov. Greg Abbott said the shooter is dead and is believed to have been killed by responding officers. The shooter acted alone, said Pete Arredondo, Uvalde Consolidated Independent School District chief of police.

"What happened in Uvalde is a horrific tragedy that cannot be tolerated in the state of Texas," Abbott said.

Two hospitals in the area are treating those injured in the shooting. Uvalde Memorial Hospital told The Texas Tribune it had received 13 children and one adult from ambulances and buses. Two patients arrived at the hospi-



Children got on a school bus as law enforcement personnel guarded the scene of a shooting Tuesday near Robb Elementary School in Uvalde. Photo Credit: REUTERS/Marco Bello

tal dead. Two children have since been transferred to San Antonio for treatment, while a third is pending transfer.

University Health in San Antonio had said it was providing care for two patients connected to the shooting. The 66-year-old

woman and the 10-year-old girl are in critical condition.

Abbott identified the shooter as Salvador Ramos, an 18-year-old Uvalde resident. The man abandoned his vehicle and entered Robb Elementary with a handgun and possi-

bly a rifle, the governor said. The shooting started around 11:32 a.m., Arredondo said.

Abbott also said that Ramos reportedly shot his grandmother before going into the school. No other

Uvalde school 3A

## Hurricanes stronger, more frequent NOAA says

Jason Beeferman  
The Texas Tribune

Hurricane season along the Atlantic Ocean is expected to be more active than usual this year, with a higher probability that major storms will make landfall in Texas and other areas along the eastern coast, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration said Tuesday.

The Atlantic hurricane season officially starts June 1, and the national

agency's findings are consistent with other scientific organizations' predictions. According to NOAA, there is a 65% chance the hurricane season will be more active than usual and only a 10% chance that this year will have below-average activity.

NOAA expects this season, which extends until Nov. 30, will have 14 to 21 named storms. Six to 10 could become hurricanes — including three to six

major ones with winds of 111 mph or higher. The average season has 14 named storms.

If the prediction comes true, 2022 will be the seventh consecutive above-average season for Atlantic hurricanes in the U.S.

Factors like La Niña, warmer sea surface temperatures and an enhanced West African monsoon will all likely contribute to an above-average season this year,

NOAA officials said. Climate change has contributed to make those phenomena more intense, NOAA Administrator Rick Spinrad said Tuesday.

While Spinrad said no single storm on its own can be evidence of climate change, the changing climate is a likely factor in having more active hurricane seasons. Climate change warms ocean temperatures, which in turn

Hurricanes Page 3A



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# Graduation 2022 Top Grads

LCM High School Graduation will be held on Friday, May 27th, at 7:00pm at the Montagne Center at Lamar University in Beaumont.

WOS High School Graduation is Friday, May 27 at 6:00PM at Dan R Hooks Stadium, Leroy Breedlove Field located at 1500 Newton St in West Orange.



**LCM Valedictorian**  
**Jacob Miller**



**LCM Salutatorian**  
**Kori Rushing**



**WOS Valedictorian**  
**Joshua Arthur**



**WOS Salutatorian**  
**Austin Russell**

### Orange County Master Gardener training classes

The Orange County Master Gardener training classes will begin Thursday August 26, 2022 at 6:00 pm at the Expo Center on 1442. The requirements for the certification are 50 hours of education and 50 hours of volunteer time. The classes will meet on Thursdays with speakers and programs about gardening that counts for the 50 hours of education. There are several field trips planned as well. The volunteer time can be done by working at the Master Gardener greenhouse, working at the yearly plant sale and other AgriLife programs throughout the year.

The cost of the class is \$150 which includes a book, background check, supplies, speaker fees and a banquet on the last day of class December 8, 2022.

You can sign up at the AgriLife office at the Expo Center and get an application and pay the fee.

### First Saturday giveaways at First Baptist Bridge City

First Saturday at First Baptist will be giving away hurricane supplies Saturday, June 4th at the church parking lot located at 200 W Roundbunch Rd in Bridge City. We will start handing out flashlights, canned food, can openers, first aid kits, and more from 10 a.m. Saturday morning until 12 noon. Be looking for the blue canopy and balloons.

# GO VOTE!

**SEN. CARL PARKER**  
**COLUMNIST**  
**For The Record**



I had an old gentleman once tell me the biggest problem in the country is ignorance and apathy, but he said, "I don't know what to do about it and furthermore, I don't really care."

As a practitioner of politics all my life, I am constantly amazed at how some citizens who claim to care about what's happening with the country waste so much effort when there are better ways to support good citizenship. As an example, the women's march and mass gathering along with demonstrations supporting Black Lives Matter expended a great deal of effort, energy and organization. Using the same amount of organizational effort and energy which would be more productive would be to

**Carl Parker has practiced law in Port Arthur since 1958. He is a 1958 graduate of the University of Texas School of Law. Elected to the Texas House of Representatives in 1962 and the Senate in 1976.**

spend time registering neighbors and encourage those who held the same opinions to vote at election time.

The excuses I hear most often are that one politician is the same as others

or my vote really won't make a difference. Every vote can make a difference. I recall when my dad ran for city council in Port Arthur back in the 50s. My dad lost by two votes. So one vote can make a difference. If you can't determine which candidate is best qualified to represent you and your interest, you have failed your job as a good citizen. It only takes a little study and reading to determine whether you agree with the policies advocated by a candidate and whether or not he possesses the knowledge and character to represent you in whatever body he seeks to be elected to.

If America is to retain the freedoms we all enjoy and often take for granted, we must as citizens ramp up what we do at election time.

### Karen Morgan, BC Director of Finance Retiring

The City of Bridge City Director of Finance is retiring after twenty-six years of service. The City of Bridge City cordially invites the public to attend a retirement reception for Karen Morgan, Director of Finance, between the hours of 2:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m., Friday, May 27 at City Hall Council Chambers, 260 Rachal, Bridge City.

**Orange County Judge John Gothia**

**MEMORIAL DAY**

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3. I often ask people to repeat words or phrases.  Yes  No
4. I have difficulty understanding conversations in a group of people.  Yes  No
5. I keep the volume on my TV or radio at a level that others say is too loud.  Yes  No
6. I feel left out in group conversations.  Yes  No
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## Gas Plants

Enterprise Products paid Orangefield ISD two checks of \$75,000, one application fee for each of its Chapter 313 filings.

Paperwork available on the OFISD website show that Enterprise only obligated itself to 10 new jobs, the minimum required to apply. It listed an average salary of \$63,000 per year.

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The application called for construction on the ethane cracker to begin in the second quarter of 2024 and for its first full year of operation to be 2028.

The export terminal plans to be online by 2025, its 313 application stated.

Those are only best case scenarios, of course. Enterprise Products could can-

cel the projects or locate them elsewhere.

"There's definitely economic opportunity if a project like this were to come to fruition," McAlpin said. "Obviously, there's economic opportunity during construction as well as after the establishment of the project."

## Orange Fire Chief search

The heading for section 3.15 of the charter is "Interference by the City Council Prohibited."

It reads "Neither the City Council, any of its members, nor the Mayor shall direct the appointment of any person to, or his removal from office by the City Manager or his subordinates, or in any manner interfere with the appointment of offices and employees of the City, and, except for the purpose of inquiry, the City Council and its members shall deal with the administrative services solely through the City Manager."

Bailey, a former chief deputy sheriff under former Orange County Sheriff Huel Fontenot, dis-

agrees.

"The two positions city council should have a say on are Fire Chief and Police Chief," Bailey said. "I don't give a damn who he hires to drive a truck."

"This isn't settled by a long shot. I haven't liked the whole process from the get-go. He disrespected me and Dave Frenzel."

The councilman said Kunst, who came to Orange from the Vidor City Manager post, is "not qualified" to hire a fire chief.

"The City of Vidor doesn't oversee a fire department," Bailey said.

Dave Frenzel, Orange's fire chief for 25 years and a member of the department for 53 years, retired earlier this year after hav-

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ing given six month's notice.

Assistant Fire Chief Lee Anne Brown retired after 30 years of service at about the same time to take a new job with Chevron Phillips.

Kunst has relied on Fire Marshal John Bilbo, a 20-year department veteran, to oversee things at the Fire Department since.

Bailey believes the department is passing over Bilbo.

"We (the city) spent well over \$22,000 training Lee Anne Brown," Bailey said. "I'm sure Chevron appreciates that."

"We spent \$21,000 on John Bilbo's education. What are we paying all that money for if we're not going to promote him?"



Kaitlyn Jenkins, Orangefield High School sophomore, has passed 6 Microsoft Office Specialist exams to become a Microsoft Office Expert. She began her certification quest her freshman year by passing the Word Associate exam as a member of Mrs. Bellard's Business Information 1 class. This year, as a member of the BIM 2 class, Kaitlyn has taken and passed five additional exams: Excel Associate and Expert, Word Expert, PowerPoint Associate, and finally the Access Expert.

## Uvalde school shooting

details were immediately available on that shooting.

Uvalde is about 85 miles west of San Antonio.

President Joe Biden has been briefed on the shooting and has spoken with Abbott to offer his assistance, White House officials said.

Robb Elementary teaches second, third and fourth grade students. The school had 535 students in the 2020-2021 school year, most of them Hispanic and considered economically disadvantaged. Uvalde itself is a predominantly Hispanic town.

Students were transported to the city's civic center, and parents have

been cleared to pick up their children. Earlier Tuesday, the Uvalde Consolidated Independent School District had placed all campuses under lockdown after gunshots were fired in the area.

With Tuesday's shooting, there have been eight shootings in Texas since 2009 in which at least four victims were killed. It is among the deadliest school shootings in the state, and the Associated Press reports it is the deadliest at a public school since the 2012 Sandy Hook Elementary shooting in Newtown, Connecticut.

Eighteen people were killed in the University of

From Page 1

Texas tower shooting in 1966. Ten people were killed and 13 others were injured southeast of Houston in the 2018 Santa Fe High School shooting.

Abbott, along with former President Donald Trump and U.S. Sen. Ted Cruz, is scheduled to talk Friday at the National Rifle Association's 2022 annual meeting. Politico reported that a spokesperson for U.S. Sen. John Cornyn said he wouldn't attend the meeting, citing an unexpected change in his schedule that occurred before the Uvalde shooting.

Alexa Ura contributed to this story.

## Hurricanes stronger

strengthens hurricanes. It also increases sea levels, which enhances storm surges. Multiple scientific studies have also found that Hurricane Harvey, for instance, could not have produced so much rain without climate change.

"We can't simply point to a particular storm, whether it's a strong storm like Ida or any others, and say, 'There, that is climate change,'" Spinrad said. "The attribution is more in the patterns, the tendencies, the mode that we're in."

Texans, especially those in hurricane evacuation zones, should start getting ready for this year's hurricane season now. NOAA recommends Americans prepare by reviewing and updating their insurance policies, developing an evacuation plan, assembling disaster supplies and

reinforcing their homes.

"We are seeing these storms develop faster," said FEMA Administrator Deanne Criswell. "They're developing more frequently, and it's giving our state and local emergency managers less time to actually warn the public."

A Colorado State University study similarly found that probabilities for major hurricanes this season are higher than average, with a 71% chance of at least one major hurricane across the continental U.S. coastline, compared to an average 52% chance. The study also found that the Gulf Coast, from the Florida Panhandle to Brownsville, has a 46% chance of at least one major hurricane this season, which is 16% higher than last century's average.

"Essentially everything is pointing toward an active Atlantic season," said

John Nielsen-Gammon, Texas state climatologist and director of the Texas Center for Climate Studies at Texas A&M University. "It doesn't guarantee one but it makes it quite a bit more likely."

Nielsen-Gammon said anywhere along the coast that's less than 25 feet above sea level is potentially vulnerable to a storm surge, and that hurricane-force winds can be felt in Texas even hundreds of miles inland.

He also warned hurricanes can bring heavy rainfall "just about anywhere" in Texas.

"We've seen extreme rainfall from tropical storms and hurricanes in places like Del Rio and Albany," he said. "They can wander just about anywhere, so the risk of flooding is just about everywhere in the state from a hurricane."

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## From the Creaux's Nest

### GUN BUYING BOOM IN U.S.

#### Shooting Leaves Many Dead in Uvalde Texas

Three days after a mass shooting in Buffalo, New York, that left 10 dead, a report was released by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, which painted a vivid statistical portrait of a nation arming itself to the teeth. Buyers capitalized on the loosening of gun restrictions by the Supreme Court, Congress and Republican-controlled state legislatures. Starting in 2009, Glock-type semi-automatic handguns, purchased for personal protection, began to outsell rifles, which have been typically used in hunting. Embedded in the 306-page document was another statistic the law enforcement officials find especially troubling. Police recovered 19,344 privately manufactured firearms, untraceable homemade weapons known as "ghost guns," in 2021, a tenfold increase since 2016. Law enforcement officials say that has contributed to the surge in gun-related killings. The numbers released Tuesday revealed an industry on the rise, with annual domestic gun production increasing from 3.9 million in 2000 to 11.3 million in 2020. Currently, there are around 400 million guns in the United States. A year ago, President Biden ordered the ATF, an undersized agency with the oversized task of enforcing the nation's gun laws and regulations, to collect and analyze 20 years of gun data after series of mass shootings around the country. The gun industry has long resisted the disclosure of some firearms data collected by ATF. A series of Republican sponsored measures, pushed by the National Rifle Association, restricts officials at the bureau from releasing trace data and other information to the public. Manufacture of the types of semi-automatic rifles and pistols previously designated to be assault weapons steadily increased, particularly AR-type rifles and pistols, which are now commonly referred to as modern sporting rifles and modern sporting pistols. Tuesday, in Uvalde, Texas, 18 children and one teacher were killed. Texas has no boundaries or gun control 'AT ALL' not even background checks.

### AROUND THE NATION

Ellen DeGeneres is taking her final bow Thursday after almost two decades. She decided it was time to end 'The Ellen DeGeneres Show.' On Thursday, May 26, she is dancing off the daytime stage with high-profile guests. Ellen, who is a lesbian and married to actress Portia de Rossi, has wide appeal. When the show began in 2003, LGBT people were few in television. Her show was enjoyed by people of all ages. Former New York mayor Bill de Blasio announced that he will run for congress in a new district in New York. Trump pays \$110,000 in penalties he racked up after being held in contempt of court for being slow to respond to a civil subpoena. He was fined \$10,000 a day. He must still submit additional paper work. A presidential straw poll in Wisconsin found Florida governor Ron DeSantis beating Donald Trump, 38 percent to 32 percent in the state. There is no doubt in my mind that DeSantis is running for the Republican nomination regardless if Trump runs or not. I don't believe he will. He can't win in a General Election but he could win the nomination. Look for Mike Pence and Ted Cruz to jump in the Primary if DeSantis does. My guess none can beat Biden. Early Voting wins the Preakness Stakes. The colt stuns heavily favored 'Epicenter' by more than a length after skipping the Kentucky Derby. 'Rich Strike,' Derby winner, will run in the Belmont Stakes but 'Early Voting' will not. We probably will never know which is best. Tucker Carlson, with the 1,000 faces and fake laugh to make light of some thing or some one is considered the poster for FOX News. What Carlson hurled at U.S. Rep. Dan Crenshaw last week, denouncing him as "Eye-patch McCain" was beyond the pale, as was his disparaging of the late U.S. Sen. John McCain, a prisoner of the war in Vietnam. Carlson gets off dissing the sacrifices of war veterans. At times he appears not to have a soul. I've followed him since he was a bow-tie wearing nerd at CNN.

### TURNING BACK THE HANDS OF TIME

#### 15 Years Ago-2007

Mr. Cox's Neighborhood is changing. Don Pate has purchased the neighborhood park that we enjoyed all these years and has started clearing off the trees. It's progress, soon Don will build some much-needed apartment houses on the spot. I hope he gets to leave some of the 100-year-old Oaks. It hadn't changed much until now. H.D., Doug, Dr. Messer, Bill Nickum and all of us are still around. We lost Bill Richter about a year ago, Margaret Richter remains. We look forward to the new neighbors. It will give Mil-

lard and Roy something different to talk about and new folks to tell stories to. Pct. 2 Constable Parker 'P.T.' Thompson is a perpetual optimist. A dedicated peace officer, who loves the law and has spent a lifetime enforcing it. His people skills have served him well. People still talk about how, every morning, he could be seen waving to parents as they brought their youngsters to school in Mauriceville. Over the years, P.T. has busted some big cases and not too many years ago, he was responsible for the freeing of a hostage at the Court House. Lera Mae Dickey and Lee Brown were named male and female 'Senior Citizen of the Year' last week. Judge Carl Thibodeaux presented the awards at a Rally Day event honoring senior citizens. Lera Mae's volunteer service has been untiring over many years. We have known Lee Brown for over 45-years, when he brought the Brown Hearing Aid Center to Orange. The Center manufactures hearing aids that are distributed around the country. He and wife Dorothy raised their family in the Christian faith in Orange County. Bridge City junior pitcher, Jason Clark, was picked by Coach Billy Bryant as his starting pitcher for game 3 of the Regional Quarterfinals against Needville Saturday. The game was do-or-die for the Cardinals. Jason responded with not only 5 1/3 innings of good pitching, he also made a great play in the outfield for the final out in the 6-3 win. Jason didn't overpower the batters, but he out-finessed them for a great win that sent B.C. into the next round against Carthage, who is 28-0. The Paul Cormier Oil Well Service 60th anniversary celebration was a big success. A great feed catered by Kenneth Smith and Danny Brack. The affair was attended by some of the world's greatest folks. Roy says his highlight of the annual event is the company of Joe Burke and also the lovely Nancy Vincent, of Orange Savings Bank. Another banker in attendance was Carlos Vasek, who along with shareholders, have sold County Banks in three counties to Walter Umphrey. The check hasn't been signed yet. One of our favorite folks Glenn Oliver, who never keeps all his eggs in one basket, 'Buckshot Winfree' and Commissioner Owen Burton came ready to eat, Johnny Montagne was having belly problems and left early. The Harmon boys, Corky, Don and Donnie, enjoyed the vittles. Donnie toted cake for the older folks. Burke wanted the largest piece. Everyone got nice, free gifts. Former Supt. Robert Montange told Orangefield stories and what the Cormier family has meant to the community. We also learned that many changes will be made in the Orangefield School District. David Fusilier, Cormier operations manager, did a great job putting the affair together and the 300 guests appreciated it. Bobby also had their new \$1.3 million drilling rig on display. Mr. Paul, 'The Boss' who has been in failing health, was enjoying every bit of the attention. Devera Cormier always brightens the day. Good folks. We were sorry to hear that Jack Gisclair passed away last week. Condolences to Flora Glen and the family. Judge Pat Clark not only turned 62 last week but also had his mom and wife in the hospital at the same time. Rosalie had kidney stone surgery. His daughter-in-law, who is pregnant again, also had to make a trip to the hospital.

### 45 Years Ago-1977

A lifetime Bridge City resident, Lawrence Helton, will manage both the Bridge City Funeral Home and Noguess Mortuary in Orange. Lawrence and his wife, the former Marie Davenport, are both 1964 graduates of Bridge City High School. Kim Daniels, after a Bridge City senior trip to AstroWorld, was rear-ended and her car totaled. It happened to be Friday the 13 and Kim was driving a new Sunbird that was a graduation gift from her parents who were just thankful that she was okay. The second annual West Orange Lion's Club fishing tournament drew 104 two-person teams. Cash prize winners Jerry Belcher and Ricky Baird took the \$500 prize with 33 pounds, 1 ounce. CB radios are the craze. Some of the handles making the rounds are; 'Annie Oakley,' 'Helping Hands,' 'Rainbow Lady,' 'Butter Cup,' 'Big Al,' 'Sandblaster,' 'Blackmax,' 'Capt. Kangaroo,' and Coach Joe Hester opens Star Trac, on 37th and Martin in Pinehurst. The convenience store and Laundromat are the area's most modern, up-to-date. Calvin Stakes, Jr. wins crawfish eating contest. The wiry guy consumed 12 pounds, 4 ounces of crawfish tails in 30 minutes. The Opportunity Valley News was presented the winning team trophy at the Houston Cajun Festival at the Astrodome. Steve Scott Worster, nine pounds, 11 ounces, was born April 28 in San Antonio to Ann and Steve Worster. Local grandparents are R.B. and Louise Worster and Uncle Gary. On Memorial Day, Ms. Louise will be 53-years-old. Scott is her first grandchild and she says it was long overdue. (Editor's note: It's hard to believe that boy turned 45 a couple of weeks ago.) His grandparents and uncle have all passed away. Dad Steve, a football star and All American at UT, still lives in the Bridge City area. His mother Ann lives in the Orange area. Wilson Roberts resigns as Bridge City Police Chief on May 12. He did a great job and was a bargain at \$1,000 a month.

### 50 Years Ago-1972

Orange attorney Jim L. Graves elected Orange Rotary Club president. He succeeds Raymond Selzer. Other new officers are Major Inman, first vice-president; Bob Rasmussen, second vice-president; Roy L. Keller, secretary-treasurer; directors are Charles McQuhae, Mickey McNamara and Bob Jones. Dewey 'Teddy Bear' Cox is re-elected business manager of Boilermakers Union. Zack's Hut, 2305 MacArthur, is featuring a man size, sirloin strip steak, 16 to 18 ounces, for \$3.25 and a 7 ounce sirloin for the lady, \$1.99. All steaks orders include baked potatoes, homemade rolls, large salad. Louvenia Hryhorchuck featured her two lovely daughters in her last political advertisement. She is in a run-off with Juanita Jordan. Harry's Appliance & Service, owned by Harry Stephens, is located at 1003 W. Park Ave., phone 886-4111. This

week Harry's is having a big sale on Maytag washers and dryers. "We'll trade - We'll deal."

### A FEW HAPPENINGS

Orangefield will represent Southeast Texas when the Bobcats begin their Class 4A series against China Spring on Wednesday. Game 1 will be played at Navasota High School at 7 p.m. After this Wednesday's game 1, Orangefield's three-game series with China Spring will continue Thursday at Grand Oaks High School at 4:30 p.m. A Game 3 would take place immediately after, if necessary. Go Bobcats. I have known Annabelle Rost since we were kids. She turned 87 on February 27. I haven't heard from her in a long time and wondered why. Many years ago, she and her husband built their home in the Cove where they raised their beautiful daughter. I just heard that she had a stroke back in October and is now a resident of Bonne Vie Nursing Care in Port Arthur. I hope someone will let her know I send my best wishes and love. I knew I would be hearing from Judge Pat Clark. He clarified that he and Sam Lucia were born on the same day. Pat and I are having similar leg and foot problems. I learned more about the care in 10 minutes from Pat than a hack-full of doctors. Speaking of that, our buddy Quincy Procell made a special trip to Bridge City to bring me some medicine he had discovered for me to try. No one I know has had more leg problems than Quincy. After several surgeries, he is exclusive on a walker. Too many years of picking up those heavy motors that the Procell's built for all those years. They were nationally known for their award winning work. I haven't gotten to thank Judge Derry Dunn for the nice tomatoes. We have really enjoyed them. The one thing I will not share is Judge Chad Jenkins' homemade from scratch, smoked, sausage. I've done away with one pack Ms. Windi made sure I received. Thanks Chad and Windi.

### BREAUX BIRTHDAYS

A few folks we know celebrating birthdays in the next few days. May 25: Happy Birthday to Jo Lynn Harris, Monica Stevens, Judy Duncan and Mark Philpott, who also celebrated he and Babette's wedding anniversary. May 26: Celebrating today is a special lady Barbara Olson, also pretty Jean Moreau, Brady Ancelet, Logan New, and Dylan Ball. On this day in 1865, the South surrendered in the Civil War. May 27: Happy Birthday to Keshia Tomplait, Robert Herin and Charlene Terro. May 28: Celebrating birthdays today are Lisa Mesch, Debbie Guidry, Maureen McAllister, Jacque Phelps, Kyle Smoke, Michael Garcia, Kelli Boehme and Judy Landry. May 29: Happy Birthday to A.J. Lemonie, Christina Cunningham, Matt Bryant and Sam Kitchell. May 30: Some very special folks celebrating today. Dr. David Olson, who just doesn't change even though he's a year older today. Also celebrating are Dr. Amber Dunn-Greesson, Judge Rex Peveto, Melissa Brisbane, Cayla Court, Nikki Barron and Nikki Fisette. May 31: Happy Birthday to Haley Duhon, Nelda Sanguin, Ronda Wilson, Brook Edwards and Larry Guyote. They all share birthdays with Clint Eastwood, who turns 90 today. Note: If you or someone you know is having a birthday or anniversary let us know at 409-735-5305 or news@therecordlive.com.

### CAJUN STORY OF THE WEEK

One of dem Yankees from Ohio drove down to Sout' Louisiana to spent a mont' bird-watching. He went to all da swamp areas by day with his benogulas. One day, while deep in da marsh area, near Intercoastal City, way back in da country his car, it quit on him. Dat Yankee try and try to start dat car, but it won't go. So dat Yankee him, he start walking. He walk and he walk for miles. Finally, he came up on a house. He was so thirsty and hungry he was ready to pass out. Agnes Boudreaux, da lady of da house, invited dat Yankee in and served him a bowl of home made Logger Head turtle soup. Dere is a small pig wat run around da kitchen. And came up to da Yankee and give him a lot of attention. Da man commented to Miss Agnes dat he had never seen such a friendly pig. Miss Agnes replied, "Oh, dat pig him, he's not dat friendly Mr., dat's his bowl you're using."

### C'EST TOUT

#### Texas Briefs

Most Texans oppose school vouchers yet Gov. Abbott touted a renewed effort to pass a private school voucher program that would hurt funding for public schools. The opposition is deep in rural Texas. A new Texas poll reveals that a majority of Texans support legalized marijuana use for medical and recreational use. The idea is backed by 83% of Texans. Sen. John Cornyn has ignored Ken Paxton as long as he can. In a phone call with reporters last week, the senior Texas senator, senator and former state attorney general himself, said, "Paxton is the chief law enforcement officer of the state of Texas and is a source of embarrassment to me that has been unresolved." Paxton has made a mockery of Cornyn's former office. After he was sworn in was only the beginning of his legal troubles. His seven top staff members have accused him of taking bribes. The FBI is now investigating him for misusing his office. Paxton is a disgrace to his Party. Thanks to Cornyn for calling him out. (Odds are he won Tuesday against George P. Bush.) Meanwhile, Texas Junior Senator Ted Cruz faces complaint for his roll in a Pennsylvania case. A Texas Bar complaint against Cruz was filed for his work on the case that sought to overturn the 2020 Presidential Election results in that state and making 'false and misleading' public statements. This is it for me for another week. Check us out on our Web-site, www.therecordlive.com, for constant changing events. Thanks for making us Orange County's best read. Take care and God bless our troops.

# Graduates: It's just you and the future

**Down Life's Highway**  
**Roy Dunn - Columnist**  
**For The Record**

This is for those youngsters who will be graduating this month, leaving the protection of home and striking out on their own.

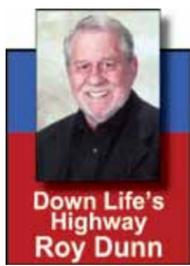
You have absolutely no idea what the future has in store. You will have great things happen, and you will also get a lot of hard bumps. The bumps will seem harder to you than they really are. Your parents, up to now, have been taking many bumps for you, sheltering you against them. Later, you will do the same for your children.

Time will help you become calloused against those hard knocks. So don't get discouraged. It takes cutting and polishing to reveal a diamond; it also takes some suffering to "bring you out." Many of life's worst heart aches come in those early years when we strike out into the world for ourselves. We stub our toes and scrape our shins on mountains made of mole hills. Keep the courage; don't get disheartened.

You will find distinct classes of people down life's highway. Some will go out of their way to help you to guide you, to share their wisdom from the bitter experiences they faced. Pay attention to these people, especially the elderly. They have learned the shortcuts to take and the pitfalls to avoid.

You will also meet some plain nasty people, varying in degree.

They are the people who make life disagreeable and wretched for themselves and can't be content to see anyone else happy. They are the ones who will kick you when you're down. They have absolutely no loyalty.



Down Life's Highway  
 Roy Dunn

They are predators, vultures eager to take advantage of your youthful innocence and lack of life experience. As far as possible, ignore these types. Don't let them make you like them -- bitter, cynical.

Just remember that no one is worth it; anger and resentment are the poisons of the mind and spirit. Keep your cool. That has served me well and it will you.

As youngsters, we have a tendency to drift away from the folks at home. You'll regret that later in life. Sometimes when it's too late to make amends, the time will come when you fully realize the heart aches and struggles endured by your parents to get you started on the right road, to give you a better edge than they had.

When you go away, write frequently. Mom and Dad can help steer you properly when you're in doubt. They may seem old-fashioned to you, but, you know what? That may possibly be because they have attained that old-fashioned quality--horse sense. Believe it or not, most of you will some day acquire this quality. But, that will occur only after you have fought through the many experiences and trials of life.

Some of you will fall more often than others. Always have the courage to get up. It's never easy, but believe me, as long as you're trying, someone will come along to help you.

Forget your mistakes. You can't do anything about spilled milk. Let them be a lesson, however, and press on to the achievements of the future.

I wish you all a good and happy life. Your opportunities are endless.

What you make of yourself is strictly up to you. This is important for you to

know.

You've been schooled and nurtured. Life is going to change, not only for you, but for your parents as well.

So, as you spread your wings and leave the nest, remember the foundation they

gave you and what their hopes and dreams are for you.

Here's hoping you take the right fork in the road.

Some day you will look back and you'll know how right I am. I've been there, I was a lad just yesterday it seems.

Life's Highway travels fast. Godspeed, and a great journey.

## Deaths & Memorials

### George Arnold Stone, BC

George Arnold Stone went to be with his Lord and Savior on May 22, 2022, surrounded by his family.

George was born on April 27, 1941, in Alexandria, Louisiana. He was the son of Arnold Stone and Georgie Elizabeth Stone. He was a member of the Bridge City High School Class of 1959. He graduated Highest Ranking Boy, was a class officer, worked on the school newspaper and played baseball. In 1963, he enlisted in the Army Reserve as a Medical Corpsman.

He retired from the Bridge City Post Office in 1992 after 27 years of service. During his time there, he delivered mail to hundreds of citizens of the small town he called home. He never met a stranger and considered his customers his friends. After retirement, he was employed with Claybar Funeral Home for 14 years.

George loved to work in his yard. His beautifully groomed landscaping was his pride and joy. He loved to hunt and fish and spend time at the lake. He loved to work with his hands and enjoyed building things for his family. He was completely devoted for 52 years to his wife, Elaine. He was an amazing husband, daddy, grandpa and great grandpa. He was a faithful servant of his Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ and was a member of Bethel Baptist in Orange, Texas.

He is preceded in death by his parents, Arnold and Elizabeth Stone and his wife, Elaine Stone.

George is survived by his children, Donna Johnson and husband Mark Johnson of Burlington, Kentucky, and Vickye



George Stone

Peck of Porter, Texas; grandsons, Christopher Johnson and wife Emily, Chase Grice and wife Christy, Andrew Grice and wife Kirsten, Walker Johnson and Taylor Grice; granddaughters, Megan Johnson, and Tara Robin and husband Scott; great grandsons, Bryson Robin, Abram Grice, Jude Grice, Kellen Robin, Lincoln Johnson, Jordy Grice and Oliver Grice; and great granddaughters, Journee Grice, Annabelle Grice, Willa Robin, Lachlynn Johnson and Penelope Johnson.

He also leaves behind a very special brother, James Stone (and sister-in-law, Sheila Stone). George and James were only 11 months apart in age. Many stories were told about their close relationship and many adventures experienced together. There was never anything one would not do for the other all the way to the end.

Funeral services for George will be held at 2:00 p.m., Saturday, May 28, 2022, at Claybar Funeral Home in Bridge City. Burial will follow at Evergreen Cemetery in Orange. Officiating will be Pastor Jim Lea.

Visitation will be from 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. Saturday, May 28, 2022.

Serving as pallbearers will be Mark Johnson, Christopher Johnson, Chase Grice, Andrew Grice, Taylor Grice and Blake Johnston.

The family would like to express their thankfulness to George's niece, Debbie LeBlanc, for all the love, time and care given to him during his final months. Also, special thanks to Intrepid Hospice nursing staff for their exceptional care.

In lieu of flowers, donations should be made to the Alzheimer's Association at [www.alz.org](http://www.alz.org).

Memorial Day Remembrances

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- Biventricular Pacemaker
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# Fig varieties best for Orange County

**JOHN GREEN  
ORANGE COUNTY  
MASTER GARDENERS**

Numerous fig varieties grow well in Southeast, Texas climate. Different stages of ripeness, figs' herald summers' arrival.

Gardeners, it certainly seems Summers arrived early this year as we've reached the lower 90's too often for us to consider this a mild spring! Several weeks remain before summer officially arrives, and while it is certainly getting hotter, this might be indicative that my all-time favorite "fruit" will be ripening sooner than usual—figs. How many of you remember picking and eating figs directly from your grandmother's fig trees when you were young?

Fig trees are easy to grow and will produce countless figs for many years. They are soft, with a sweet, creamy texture and have long been used in baking or to sweeten meats. Figs are unusual in that they are not actually fruit; they are inverted flowers. The flower (fig) is comprised of both female and male parts. They provide an excellent source of dietary fiber and minerals, such as iron, potassium, and calcium. Figs are typically consumed fresh, dried, or cooked into preserves.

Fig trees easily grow in our Southeast, Texas climate with many varieties appreciating our mild winters once established. They require at least 10 hours full sun exposure



**LSU Purple** – is a newer variety which reliably produces both an early and late crop of figs in our area with large fruits. The trees are nematode resistant.

each day while preferring a soil pH of 6.5. Select a planting location which will provide adequate sun exposure and space. Plant trees in well-draining soil amended with compost or manure. Once the tree is established, it requires little maintenance other than applying fertilizer 3 times a year prior to July with a general-purpose fertilizer, such as 8-8-8.

### Fig Varieties for Southeast Texas climate—

- **Brown Turkey** – also known as "Spanish Mission" and "Texas Ever-Bearing" fig is an easy to grow, hardy fig, which can be container grown or planted in the ground. The fruits mature to a dark brown color when ripe and could very well be the most versatile fig of all. This tree will produce at a very young age and has a small-

er stature which can easily fit into most home gardens.

- **Celeste** – a hardy fig which develops small to medium, violet-skinned fruit when mature. "Celeste" is a large fig tree that is highly productive. The flesh is rich and sweet, often used to make fig preserves. It fruits very early in the season (June), and it is one of the best figs to grow in Texas.

- **O'Rourke** – is an older variety of fig where the figs are produced on a longer stalks. The fruit is ripe when the internal color is golden with a red center. This is a personal favorite variety which we eat fresh from the tree and use to make strawberry or cherry flavored fig preserves (using Jello® gelatin).

- **Purple Passion** – a deep, dark plum-colored fig with amber flesh and extremely delicious. It is prolific, super sweet and great for eating fresh off the tree. Another of my

personal favorites! We use these figs to make fig upside down cake and to can in lemon syrup.

- **LSU Purple** – is a newer variety which reliably produces both an early and late crop of figs in our area with large fruits. The trees are nematode resistant.
- **LSU Gold** - is another new variety with yel-

low-skinned fruits.

If you have specific gardening questions or need more information, contact the Orange County Master Gardeners Helpline: (409) 882-7010.

**keri michutka**  
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT

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**Wesley United Methodist Church**  
401 N. 37th St., Orange (409) 886-7276  
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Join Us For Sunday Service at 11 AM  
Also Streamed Live On Facebook

**Deweyville First United Methodist Church**  
153 County Rd. 4145 • Deweyville • (409) 224-6484  
Sunday Worship: 9 A.M.  
Pastor: Kelly Sharpton  
Email: lks454@aol.com

**Harvest Chapel A Full Gospel Church**  
1305 Irving St. • West Orange • 409-238-3056  
Sunday Worship 10 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.  
Nightly Service 6 p.m.  
Wednesday Night Service: 6 p.m.  
Pastor: Ruth Burch

**Triangle Baptist Church**  
6446 Garrison at Hwy. 408 Orangefield  
"Come Worship With Us"  
409-920-3891  
Sunday School 10 a.m. Worship Service 11 a.m.  
Sunday Evening Service 6 p.m.  
Wednesday Service 7 p.m.  
We are a KJV independent Baptist Church

**First Baptist Church**  
200 W. Roundbunch  
735-3581  
www.fbcbc.org  
Sunday schedule: Bible study 9:15 a.m.,  
Sunday worship: 10:30 a.m.,  
Adult, Youth, Children  
Discipleship Classes, Sun. 5:30 p.m.  
Wednesday Schedule 6:30 p.m.  
Prayer Meeting  
Youth & Children's Activities  
Pastor: Keith Royal

## Orange County Church Directory

List Your Church Services Here Each Week  
Just \$10 Per Week Call 409-735-5305

In-person Sunday Worship & Children's Church 10:30 a.m.  
Video Worship Services posted on our YouTube Channel  
**673 FM 1078 • Orange • 409-718-0269**  
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"

**Starlight Church of God in Christ**  
2800 Bob Hall Road • Orange • 886-4366  
Pastor: Ernest B Lindsey  
Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Worship 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.  
Wed. Bible Study - 6 p.m. Worship 7:30 p.m. VIM Youth 6 p.m.  
Intercessory Prayer Daily 9:00 a.m.  
www.slccgicorange.org

**Saint Paul's Episcopal Church**  
1401 WEST PARK AVE., ORANGE, TX  
Rev. Keith Giblin, Vicar of Saint Paul's  
Sunday Service 10 A.M.  
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Sunday Live Stream 10 A.M. Facebook  
Contact us: 883-2969 or email, office@stpaulschurch.us  
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**Winfree Baptist Church**  
19525 Hwy 62 S • 409-735-7181  
Jon Brinlee, Pastor  
Sunday: Sunday School for all ages - 9:15 am  
Morning Worship - 10:30 am  
Evening Worship - 6:00 pm  
Wednesday: Mid-Week Service - 6:00 pm  
Children & Youth Activities - 6:00 pm

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or online on our Vimeo Page and YouTube.  
SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR ALL AGES 9:00 A.M.  
www.fumcorange.org  
Pastor: Rev. Lani Rousseau  
Director of Music and Fine Arts: Caroline Dennis

**St. Paul United Methodist Church**  
1155 W. Roundbunch • Bridge City • 409.735.5546  
Sunday Morning Traditional Worship: 8:30 a.m.,  
Sunday school 9:30 a.m., Praise Worship 10:45 a.m.  
(Nursery provided)  
Wednesday SPICE 5:30 p.m. Includes meal, bible studies,  
children and youth activities. (Nursery provided).  
Rev. Mark Bunch Email: office@stpaulfamily.org

**GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
945 W. Roundbunch • Bridge City • 409-735-4573  
Worship Services: Tradition 9 a.m., Sunday School 10:15 a.m., Contemporary Service 11 a.m., Tuesday Bible Study 10 a.m., Wednesday "Compassionate Friends" 10 a.m., Thursday Bible Study 10:00 a.m.  
Pastor Paul Zoch 409-988-3003 - golutheran.org  
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**Orange First Church of the Nazarene**  
3810 MLK Drive, Orange  
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Worship Director: Alyssa Click  
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Ofcnazarene.org or find us on Facebook

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# Orangefield advances to fourth round of playoffs

OC SPORTS BEAT  
DAN PERRINE  
For The Record

The Orangefield Bobcats advanced to the fourth round of the state baseball playoffs last week. The Bobcats used an awesome display of offense to overwhelm the Livingston Lions and sweep their best of three series in two straight games.

The series was split between two neutral sites both with artificial turf in case of rain. Game 1 was at Port Neches-Groves

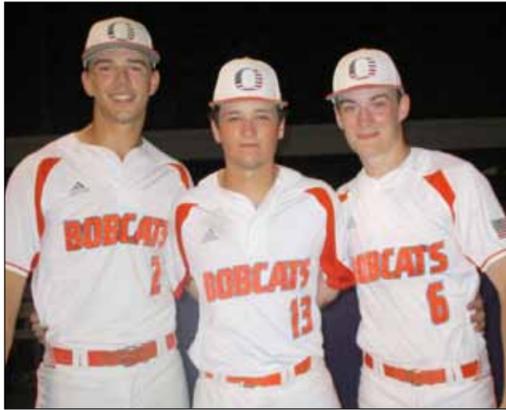


Dan Perrine

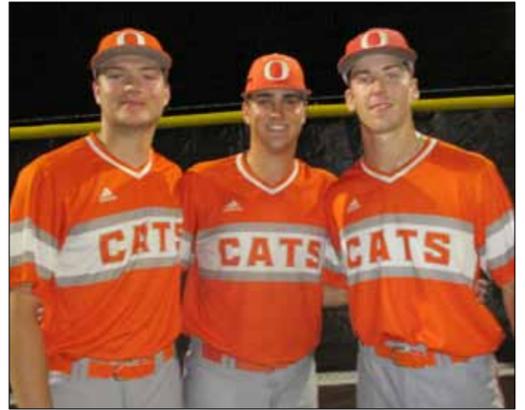
with Orangefield serving as the home team and the second game was played in Cleveland with the home team being Livingston.

Orangefield Coach Tim Erickson got what he wanted with a best of three game series because statistics showed the Li-

Orangefield Page 2B



Kolbie Sowell, Coop Longron, and Brennon Lecoq were leaders in Orangefield's win in the opening game of the playoff series with Livingston. RECORD PHOTO: Dan Perrine



Orangefield swept Livingston with Morgan Sampson, Trent Eaves, and Jason Bodin making big contributions in Game 2. RECORD PHOTO: Dan Perrine

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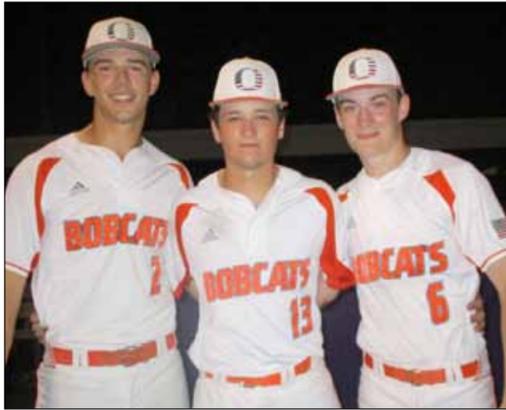


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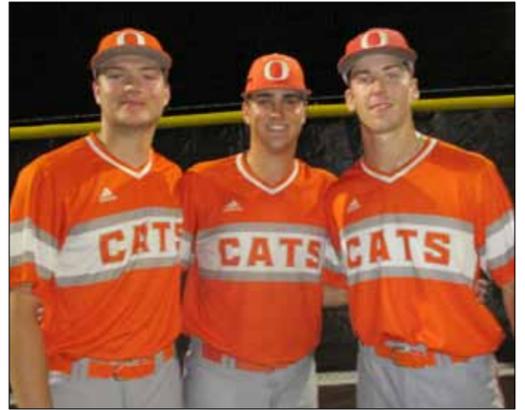
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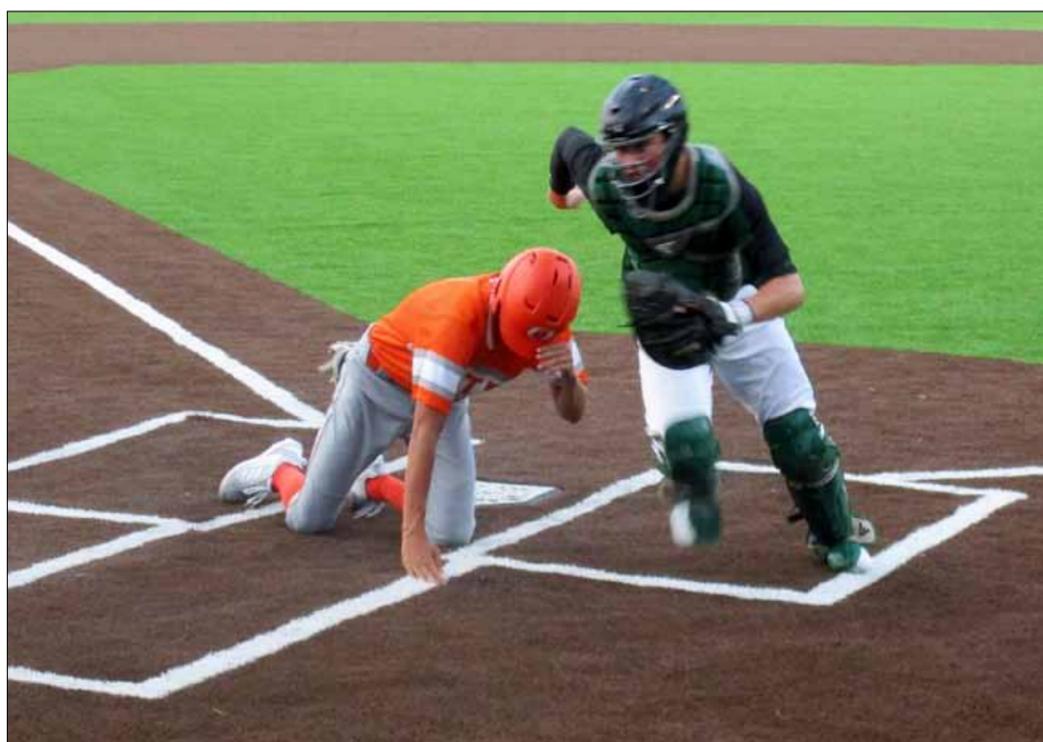
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# Orangefield advances in state baseball playoffs

From Page 1B



Caleb Fregia scores the tying run as a throw gets past the Lions' catcher in the third inning of Game 2.

RECORD PHOTO: Dan Perrine

ons' best pitcher Damian Ruiz was undefeated on the season with an earned run average of under a run a game. The Bobcats and Erickson were counting on their two main starting pitchers Coop Longron and Trent Eaves along with third and fourth pitchers Jason Bodin and Kolbie Sowell to make the difference for Orangefield over three games instead of just a single winner take all matchup.

Pitching may have been the difference for the Bobcats who got two quality starts from Longron and Eaves, but the real difference was the Orangefield bats pounded the ball scoring a dozen runs in each game. The Bobcats have rolled up 53 runs in their first six playoff games, all wins.

The first game of the series on Thursday was expected to be a pitchers' duel between the aces of the two teams. Longron for Orangefield like Ruiz of the Lions was undefeated on the season with a very low earned run average.

The Bobcats did not waste any time showing they could hit Ruiz as Kameryn Henderson tripled off the top of the centerfield fence to start the bottom half of the first inning. Henderson scored the first run of the game on a passed ball to put Orangefield up 1-0 after one inning.

In the third inning the Bobcats went ahead 3-0 scoring two runs after two were out. Kolbie Sowell grounded a single to left followed by a base hit to center by Jason Bodin to put two Bobcats on with two outs.

Trent Eaves walked to load the bases. Brennon Lecoq cleared the bases with a shot to center which unfortunately bounced

over the fence for a ground rule double. Eaves was forced to return to third base because of the ground rule which cost the Bobcats a run as he and Lecoq were left stranded when the inning ended.

Orangefield's Longron retired ten of the first eleven Lions he faced. Ruiz is not just a good pitcher, he may be the best hitter for Livingston. Ruiz started a rally in the top of the fourth with a one-out single and then stole second.

Josh Smith and Caden Vickery followed with hits scoring Ruiz to narrow the Bobcat lead to two. The Lions' Jordan Bush got an infield single to drive in the second Livingston run and make the score 3-2 with the Bobcats up by one run.

Two out magic worked again in the bottom of the fourth. Kyle Michael was hit by a pitch from Ruiz after two were out, and Kolbie Sowell made the Lions pay by homering over the left field fence his second four-bagger in back-to-back playoff games to give Orangefield a 5-2 lead after four.

Livingston answered in the top of the fifth as Tay McNeal laid down a perfect bunt for a hit to start the inning. Longron retired the next two Lion hitters before Ruiz and Josh Smith both singled again to load the bases.

Longron appeared to have ended the potential rally when he picked Smith off of first. A run down ensued that the Bobcats made a total mess of allowing the runner at third to score without even a throw home and Ruiz to score from second when a throw to first base sailed into the Livingston dugout. The Lions accepted the two gift runs making the score 5-4.

Lions' Coach Jarrad

Maddox opted to move Ruiz from the mound to centerfield apparently in order to save his arm for possible future use in either games two or three if necessary. As a result Mitchell Hathaway became the Livingston pitcher to start the bottom of the fifth.

The first Bobcat batter he faced was Eaves, and Hathaway walked him. Kane Smith courtesy ran for Eaves. Lecoq was hit by a pitch. Caleb Fregia sacrificed the runners up a base before Kane scored on a wild pitch to give Orangefield a two-run advantage 6-4 after five innings.

A new pitcher Lane Ward came in for Livingston in the bottom of the sixth. He hit three of the first four Bobcat batters he faced Michael, Sowell, and Eaves with pitches to load the bases with one out.

Lecoq delivered again with a double down the right field line to bring home Michael and Sowell. Morgan Sampson walked as a pinch hitter and Cameron Dearing courtesy ran for him. That was all for Ward who was relieved by Chevy Peters as the fourth Lions' pitcher.

Brayden Babin who courtesy ran for Eaves scored on a wild pitch. Lecoq came home on a squeeze bunt by Fregia.

in the sixth to give Orangefield a 12-4 advantage with one inning to go.

Maybe a little tired after six innings of pitching or just stiff after the long rest when the Bobcats were scoring in the previous half inning, Longron surrendered doubles to Gage Morris and Ruiz in the seventh for a Lions' run. Josh Smith added another run for Livingston with his third hit of the game to make the score 12-6 before the Bobcat pitcher got the last two outs on routine pop ups.

Coop Longron pitched a complete game for the Bobcats with no walks and seven strikeouts. He is still undefeated on the mound this year for Orangefield.

Coach Erickson of Orangefield was pleased with the pitching from Longron. "We had one little screwup on a pickoff situation that scored two runs, you take that away and it's really a dominate performance. He just keeps people off balance, he throws strikes, and the kids like playing defense behind him because he works fast. He's been like

that all year," Erickson reminded.

After the game Erickson admitted to feeling pretty good for the Bobcats' chances after winning the opener of the series. "We play three for a reason, but we want to take care of it in two," Erickson explained.

The second game was played Friday night at the beautiful Hal McClelland Sports Complex on the Cleveland High School campus. The baseball field is all synthetic surfaced with a non-symmetrical configuration that includes a 30-foot high "green monster" wall in left field only 290 feet down the line and dead center is 365 feet from home plate.

The pitchers were Trent Eaves for the Bobcats against Kasen Nelson for the Lions. It was a close game for two innings.

Livingston opened the scoring in the bottom of the first as the first three Lion batters Gage Morris, Jordan Hudson, and Damian Ruiz all reached base on a walk and two singles

Orangefield Page 4B

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# Aggie- 'Bama SEC football has already begun verbally

**KAZ'S KORNER**  
**Joe Kazmar**  
**For The Record**

Rabid college football fans in the Lone Star State and Alabama are already looking forward to October 8 when Alabama hosts Texas A&M in a Southeastern Conference grudge match at Bryant-Denny Stadium in Tuscaloosa, Ala.

The Crimson Tide is seeking revenge for 41-38 upset victory by the Aggies last Oct. 9 at Kyle Field in College Station.

Although the players on both teams have finished their final exams and are looking forward to some summer fun before the grind begins in two months, the upcoming October battle is already on their minds.

And just to fuel that desire to get back on the grid-iron practice field and start knocking heads again, head coaches Nick Saban of Alabama and Texas A&M's Jimbo Fisher have been trading barbs with one another about how the new name, image and likeness rule (NIL) influence the recruiting at both schools.

You see, Saban has been the best college recruiter of high school and junior college football talent for the past 15 years or so with the rest of the pack just hoping to have a shot at being No. 2.

But when the dust settled this year after the recruiting and signings ended, Texas A&M had out-recruited Alabama and was declared No. 1 according to 247Sports.com, ousting the Crimson Tide from their usual lofty position and finishing second. It was seven months after college athletes for the first time under NCAA rules were able to benefit financially from NIL.

Saban immediately hollered "foul" and accused Texas A&M of "buying" every player who signed with the Aggies. But he added on ESPN Radio that he did not accuse anyone of unlawful activities.

"We were second in recruiting last year; A&M was first. A&M bought every player on their team. Made a deal for name, image and likeness. We didn't buy one player," Saban was quoted in Friday's Houston Chronicle.

And of course, Aggies Jimbo Fisher didn't just sit on his hands and say "You're right, coach." He blasted Saban, "It's really despicable. Despicable... You're taking shots at 17-year-old kids and their families that they broke state laws. We never bought anybody; no rules were broken.

"It's despicable that a reputable head coach can come out and say this when he doesn't get his way... The narcissist in him does not allow those things to happen, and it's ridiculous," Fisher bellowed back. "We build him up to be this czar of football. Go dig into his past or talk to anybody who's ever coached with him."

Saban, who was Fisher's boss at LSU when they won a national title in 2003, went on to say last week that he didn't know if Alabama would be able to sustain it's stellar recruiting because more people are doing it, referring to setting up NIL deals before



Joe Kazmar

players arrive on campus, the article pointed out. Alabama promised the 70-year-old Saban a contract worth \$84.4 million that runs through 2028 while the 56-year-old Fisher is still looking for his first 10-win season with the Aggies.

There has been plenty of comments about this verbal exchange between Saban and Fisher, but old-timers say it is nothing like the feud that existed between Oklahoma coach Barry Switzer and Texas Longhorn coach Darrell Royal, who accused Switzer of sending oil businessman Lonnie Williams to spy on UT's practice and sending him intel.

On Monday morning's ESPN "First Take" program, host Stephen A Smith said that Saban made a big mistake by naming the school he was referring to because Fisher coached under him. His issue was NIL and the impact it has on recruiting, Stephen A. pointed out.

**KWICKIES...**

The San Francisco Giants have put Lufkin native Brandon Belt on the IL due to inflammation of his knee. The first baseman was just starting to raise his batting average to where it usually belongs.

The Houston Astros returned home to win three of the four-game series from the rival Texas Rangers, including another masterful performance from ace Justin Verlander, who pitched six scoreless innings Saturday to lower his earned run average to 1.22 and raise his record to 6-1 as the Astros won 2-1. Second baseman Jose Altuve hit his sixth leadoff home run Sunday and the 26th of his career. In games through Sunday, left fielder Michael Brantley has hit safely in 11 straight games and the Astros pitchers rank second in MLB with a 2.84 ERA, trailing only the LA Dodgers. The home-stand ends tonight along with the three-game series against the Cleveland Guardians (I still like Indians).

For the second straight Triple Crown horse race—Saturday's Preakness—favorite Epicenter finished second to 5-1 shot Early Voting, who will not run in the Belmont Stakes in three weeks and plans to train for the Travers Stakes at Saratoga in August.

A tip of the Korner Kap to Good Samaritan Tommy Thompson who stopped to aid a senior citizen who had a flat tire and changed it for him. And like Elvis Presley once sung "I Was the One".

The red-hot Orangefield Bobcats baseball team continues to win big, beating Livingston twice by 12-6 and 12-1 scores and advancing to the regional semifinals against China Spring..

Lamar University narrowly missed winning the Western Athletic Conference Southwest Division title by sweeping Tarleton State last weekend, but finished second to Sam Houston State, which entered Sunday with a one-game lead over the Redbirds. If the two teams tied, the

Cards would have earned the top seed by virtue of a head-to-head tiebreaker with the Bearcats. Orange native Jack Dallas earned his 13th save of the season—a school record—in Sunday's 5-4 win. The second-seeded Cardinals will meet the Seattle Redhawks (11-19) when the WAC tournament begins today in Mesa, Ariz.

**JUST BETWEEN US...**

Justin Thomas—my pick in last week's Korner to win the PGA Championship last weekend—came from seven strokes down going into Sunday's final round to defeat Texan Will Zalatoris in a three-hole playoff at Southern Hills Country Club in Tulsa, Okla. John Mahaffey, in the 1978 PGA Championship in Oakmont was the only other player to come from seven strokes on the final day. Thomas won the \$2.7 million first place money while Zalatoris picked up a cool \$1,620,000 for runner-up. After shooting 79 Saturday in his 79th major, Tiger Woods withdrew for the first time in his career in a major.

# "Ultra Hot" options

**OUTDOORS**  
**Capt. Chuck Uzzle**  
**For The Record**



Chuck Uzzle

"Be careful what you wish for because you just may get it" is what I was often told as a kid. Things that seem like great ideas at the time will often turn out to be unwanted nuisances that are worse than the original option. For months Texas anglers, myself included, cursed the constant high winds and prayed that they would stop in order to make the bay systems more user friendly. Well, the winds are showing signs of finally slowing down and with that now the temperatures will soon go through the roof. As the temps climb it will become almost impossible to spend an entire day on the water without a cooler the size of a stand up refrigerator stocked with refreshing liquids. As the mercury continues to climb fishermen will need to make some adjustments in order to combat the heat and come out a winner.

Easily the most reasonable option to deal with the heat is to go early or late and avoid the mid-day melt down. For quite some time anglers here on Sabine have been making the pre-dawn trek to the jetties and just having their way with some quality fish. This pattern is both solid and exciting as the action on good tide changes is almost non-stop on some days. The topwater bite along the rocks is as vicious as you can imagine and only magnified when it happens in the dark or during low light. Once the sun breaks the horizon you can switch over to shallow running crank baits or stick baits and continue the assault until about an hour after sunrise when this program plays out. After the sun gets up the bite usually slows considerably and makes sticking it out under the beaming sun

much less desirable. Anglers who use the inverse pattern, going at sunset and staying after dark, will also get their string stretched as the bite gets cranked up as the sun goes down. Fishing in the dark requires some preparation and more attention to detail than during daylight hours. Everything from fish to boat problems are magnified in the dark so plan accordingly and take all necessary precautions to stay safe.

Now if a stealth mission in the dark is not your idea of a good time you have other options too. For years we have made great use of the deep water patterns in the Sabine and Neches Rivers. During the summer months the run off from Toledo Bend, Sam Rayburn, and all the other miles of watershed area becomes minimal as saltwater begins to creep farther up the rivers. When these conditions exist those who know how to take advantage of

Uzzle Page 4B



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LCM has announced the selection of Rebecca Tibbits as the LCM Elementary "Teacher of the Year." She will now move forward into the regional round of the 2023 Texas Teacher of the Year contest.



LCM has announced the selection of Alyssa Click as the LCM Secondary "Teacher of the Year." She will now move forward into the regional round of the 2023 Texas Teacher of the Year contest.

## Uzzle From Page 3B

them are often rewarded with some of the easiest and most productive fishing possible. The live bait pattern really shines under these circumstances. Most local anglers will cast net live shad and

fish them on a Carolina rig along the breaks and depth changes. Underwater structure that causes eddy's or current changes will concentrate big numbers of both speckled trout and redfish into relatively

small areas. Being precise as to where you anchor in proximity to the depth change or structure is vital so paying attention to your depth finder is a must. Once you set up correctly you can absolutely wear out the fish and enjoy some truly relaxing fishing. If you set up wrong you may as well

be fishing in the desert. This deep water pattern is a favorite of mine because of how simple it is and how productive it can be. I have spent many days posted up on anchor dunking shad while catching just as many fish as the folks running by me headed for the open lake. This program works and is so

easy that it's almost funny. Easily a great way to beat the heat. Now that you are armed with plenty of options for beating the heat you can take your pick and enjoy any of them. Regardless of which pattern you choose please take proper precautions. Staying hydrated and protected from the

sun are keys along with being aware of how you feel. Many times it's after the trip before you really feel the effects of a day in extreme heat. Enjoy the consistent weather pattern and the great fishing that summer presents because it's truly a great time of the year

## Orangefield From Page 1B

resulting in a run while placing runners at second and third with no outs. Eaves bore down and retired the next three Lions on a short fly ball to right and two strikeouts to keep the score 1-0 in favor of Livingston.

The Lion outfielders robbed Orangefield of two potential base hits early with Tay McNeal making a shoestring catch in left of a liner hit by Kyle Michael in the top of the first, and in the second Ruiz racing to deepest center to grab a long fly hit by Jason Bodin. The Livingston lead lasted until the third.

The bottom of the batting order started things for Orangefield as Caleb Fregia singled to right for the Bobcats' first hit off Nelson. Kameryn Henderson executed a picture perfect bunt which he beat out for a single.

Tyler Shearin likewise bunted. The Lions appeared like they wanted to go for the lead runner at third but then saw Fregia was already approaching the base so no throw was made and all three Bobcat runners were safe.

Michael came to bat with the Livingston infield playing in and grounded to first base. The throw home eluded the catcher allowing Fregia to score, and Henderson hustled all the way from second to tally a second run to put Orangefield up 2-1 with no outs and two runners still on base.

Those two Bobcats scored when Bodin blasted another drive to center but a little more to the right out of Ruiz' range for a triple. The four runs put Orangefield up 4-1 over Livingston.

Morgan Sampson was the Bobcats' designated hitter in the second game. He started the fourth inning with a walk. Caleb Fregia chopped a grounder in front of the mound. Pitcher Nelson fielded the ball made a bad throw which allowed Sampson to score and Fregia to advance to second base.

A wild pitch moved Fregia to third before Henderson was hit by a pitch. Kameryn stole second and went to third on a passed ball that scored Fregia with the second run of the inning. Shearin hit a sacrifice fly to center that brought Henderson home to put the Bobcats up by six runs.

Michael and Sowell kept the rally rolling with base hits off Nelson before he was relieved by Mitchell Hathaway. Bodin walked to load the bases. Eaves hit a grounder to the left side

on which the Lion shortstop made a diving stop but his throw to third was not in time to get the force out on Sowell as Michael scored leaving the bases loaded.

Lecoq drew a walk to drive in Sowell with the fifth run of the inning. Sampson who started the rally ended it with a double to the base of the "green monster" in left center to score the last three runs of the eight-run inning giving Orangefield an eleven-run lead, 12-1, with the opportunity for the ten-run rule.

Eaves survived the first to pitch hitless baseball over the next three innings finishing with five strikeouts for his four innings. Bodin pitched the fifth inning and after two Lions reached base with one out he converted a grounder back to the mound into a game ending double play.

The solid pitching from Eaves and Bodin were a key to the Bobcat victory. Erickson evaluated, "Trent did not have his best stuff, but goes out and gives up one run. That just tells you how good he is, how good he can be especially whenever he's got everything

working for him, but it's good to see him get out there and compete. He struggled a little bit in the first inning, then settled in, and did real well. It was good to get Bodin on the mound because we don't want to go too long without guys getting some mound time during games."

The easy win in the second game was a pleasant change from the first two series for Orangefield according to Coach Erickson. "We had struggled in game twos, so far, 2-1 against Liberty and then had to hit a walk-off homerun in the

second round to win that one. We just wanted to come out to finish the series today, and we did a good job of that. We put pressure on them, we were able to put some bunts down, get some people on base, and come up with big hits whenever we had runners in scoring position. I think that was the difference," Erickson commented.

For the second year in a row the Orangefield Bobcats have advanced to the regional semifinals of the state baseball playoffs. In 2021 the Bobcats were defeated 3-2 in a one-game

playoff by the Rusk Eagles at Huntsville.

This week Rusk was defeated in a playoff against the China Spring Cougars that concluded on Monday. Orangefield and China Spring will play in a best of three-game series that will be played Wednesday and Thursday because of graduation ceremonies to be held for the two schools on Friday and Saturday.

Game 1 of the playoff will be Wednesday at 7:00 PM in Navasota. The second game is scheduled for Conroe Grand Oaks High School on Thursday starting at 4:30 PM.

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Pictured left to right are Darrin Bigler, Paige Bigler and Lucy Fields. Photo courtesy of Bridge City Chamber of Commerce.



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